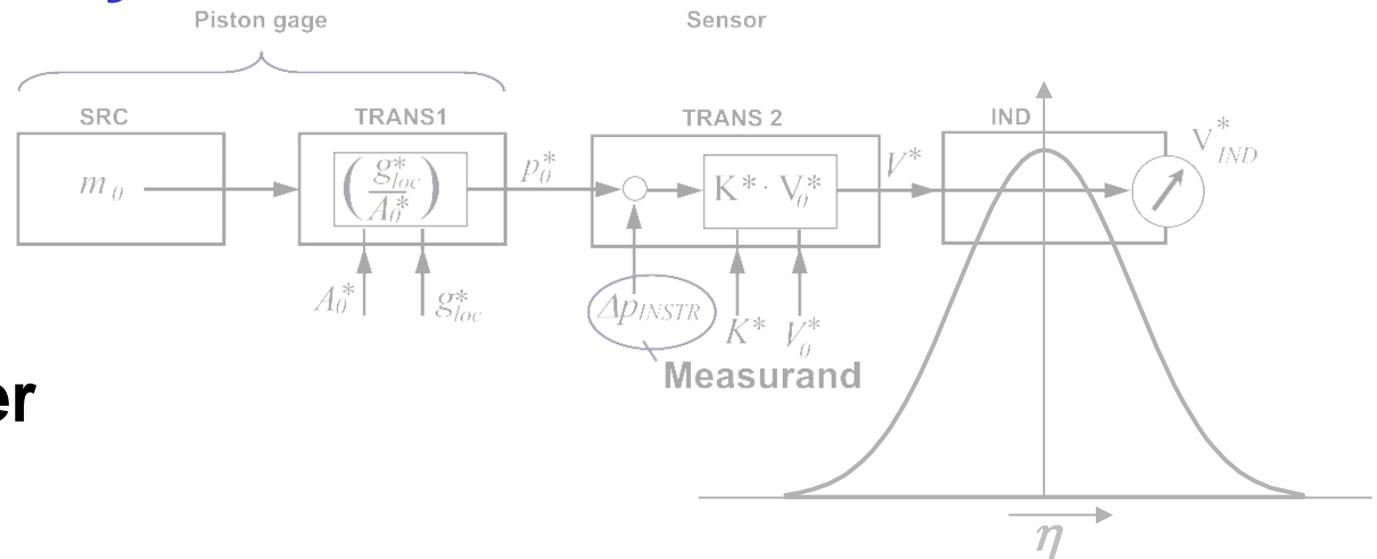


# On Modelling of Measurement-Signal Processing for Uncertainty Analysis



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*Thuringian State Bureau for Metrology and Verification, Germany*



# On Modelling of Measurement-Signal Processing for Uncertainty Analysis

## Outline:

GUM-concept

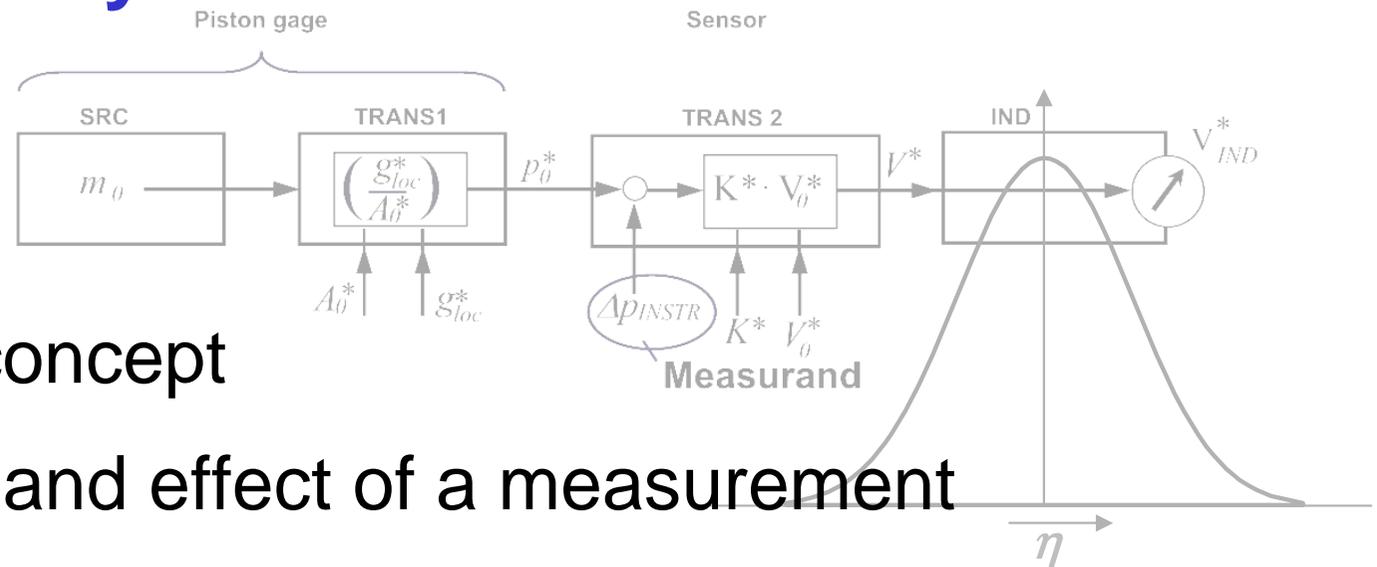
Cause and effect of a measurement

Modelling concept and procedure

Examples

Measurement method and model structure

Uncertainty contributions in signal processing



# ISO-GUM Procedure

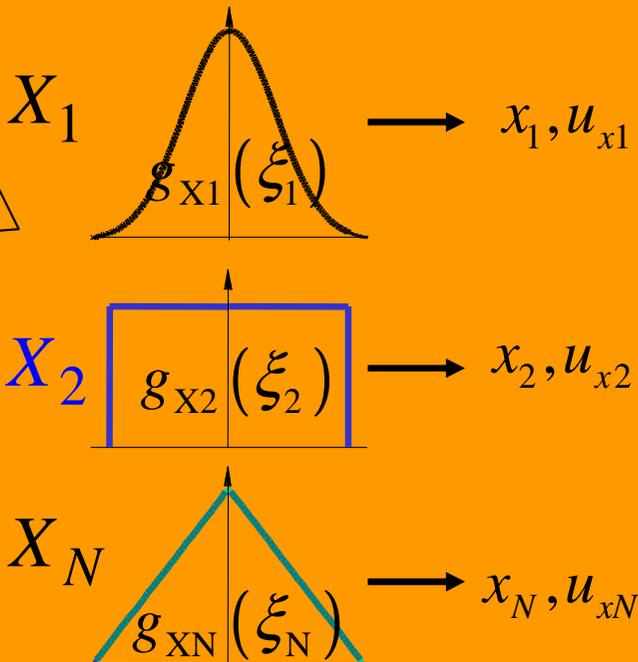
Knowledge

about the measuring process:

$$Y = f_M(X_1, X_2, \dots, X_N)$$

(Model equation)

about the input quantities:



- $X_1, \dots, X_N$  - input quantities
- $x = E[X]$  - expectation of  $X$
- $y = E[Y]$  - expectation of  $Y$
- $u_y = \sqrt{\text{Var}[Y]}$  - standard uncertainty
- $U$  - expanded uncertainty

**Gaussian uncertainty propagation**

$$y = f_M(x_1, x_2, \dots, x_N)$$

$$u_y = \sqrt{\sum_{i=1}^N \left( \frac{\partial f_M}{\partial x_i} \right)^2 u_{xi}^2 + \dots}$$

Output quantity  $Y$ :

$$y, u_y \rightarrow y, U, k_p$$

# Propagation of Distributions (PDFs)

## Draft GUM Supplement 1

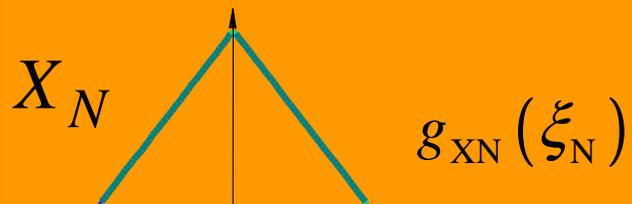
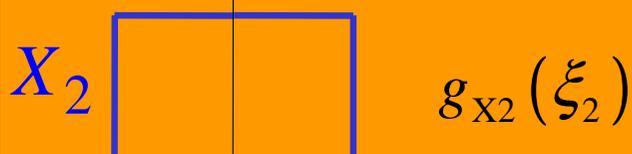
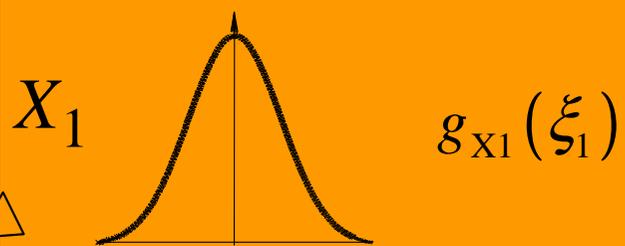
Knowledge

about the measuring process:

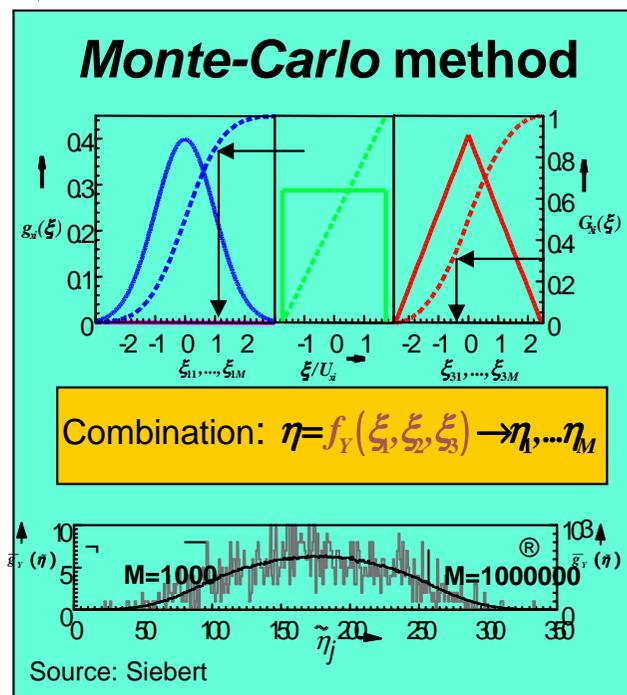
$$Y = f_M(X_1, X_2, \dots, X_N)$$

(Model equation)

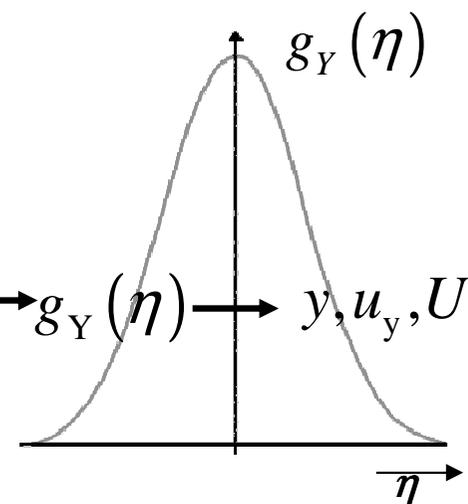
about the input quantities:



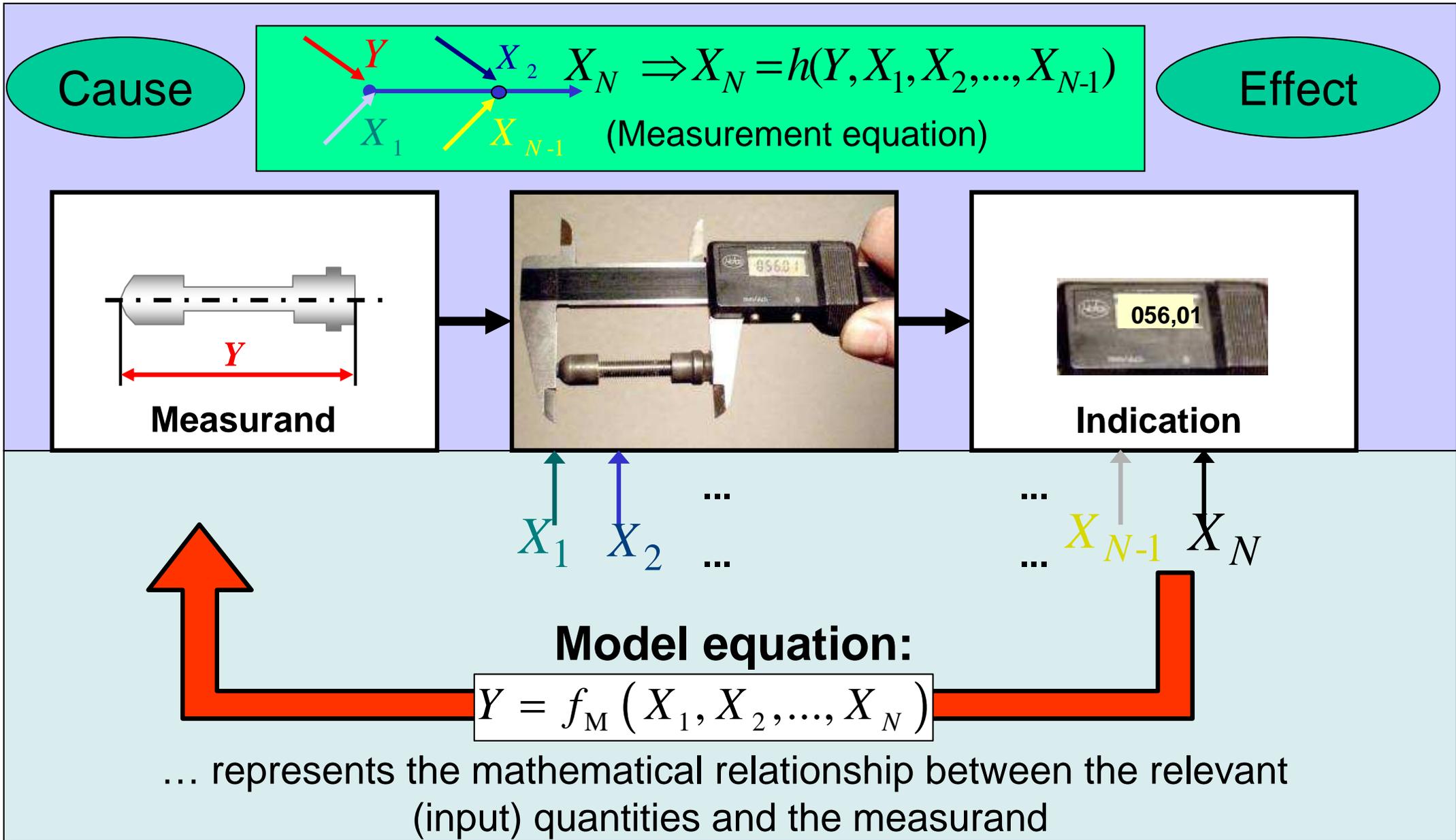
- $X_1, \dots, X_N$  - input quantities
- $\xi_1$  - possible values of a quantity  $X$
- $g_{X1}(\xi_1), \dots, g_{XN}(\xi_N)$  - PDFs for the input quantities
- $g_Y(\eta)$  - PDF for the output quantity  $Y$
- $\eta$  - possible values of a quantity  $Y$
- $y$  - expectation value of  $Y$
- $u_y$  - standard uncertainty ass. with  $y$
- $U$  - expanded uncertainty



Output quantity  $Y$ :



# From Cause-and-Effect to the Model Equation



## Analytical Models

- Algebraic equations for static problems
- Ordinary and partial differential equations for dynamic problems

## Graphical Models

- Block diagrams
- State graphs
- Petri networks

## Numerical Models

- (sequences of) data with
- Value discretisation
- or
- Time discretisation

## What is needed in practice?

A model which can be represented both, as graphical depiction and as model equation. **It should allow for...**

- Linearization (Standard GUM)
- Decomposition of the measurement in terms of functional elements
- Using a cause-and-effect approach

## It should allow for modelling of...

- Steady-state measurements, extendable to dynamic measurements
- Concentrated and distributed parameters
- Multiple input quantities

# Measuring Chain (1)

## Assumptions

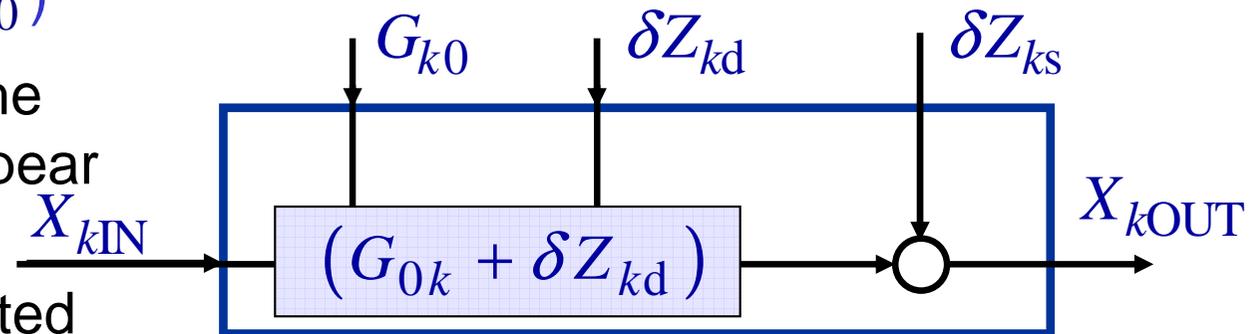
### Practical assumptions:

- At least for narrow ranges, the elements may be considered to be linear (describable by first-order Taylor-series expansion)
- The steady-state response function is related to adjusted and well-known parameters and conditions (operating point  $\underline{Z}_{k0}$ )
- Only slight deviations  $\delta\underline{Z}_k$  of the real parameters from  $\underline{Z}_{k0}$  appear
- All involved quantities are treated as random quantities

### Resulting simplifications:

Response function  $h_{0k}$  may be expressed by

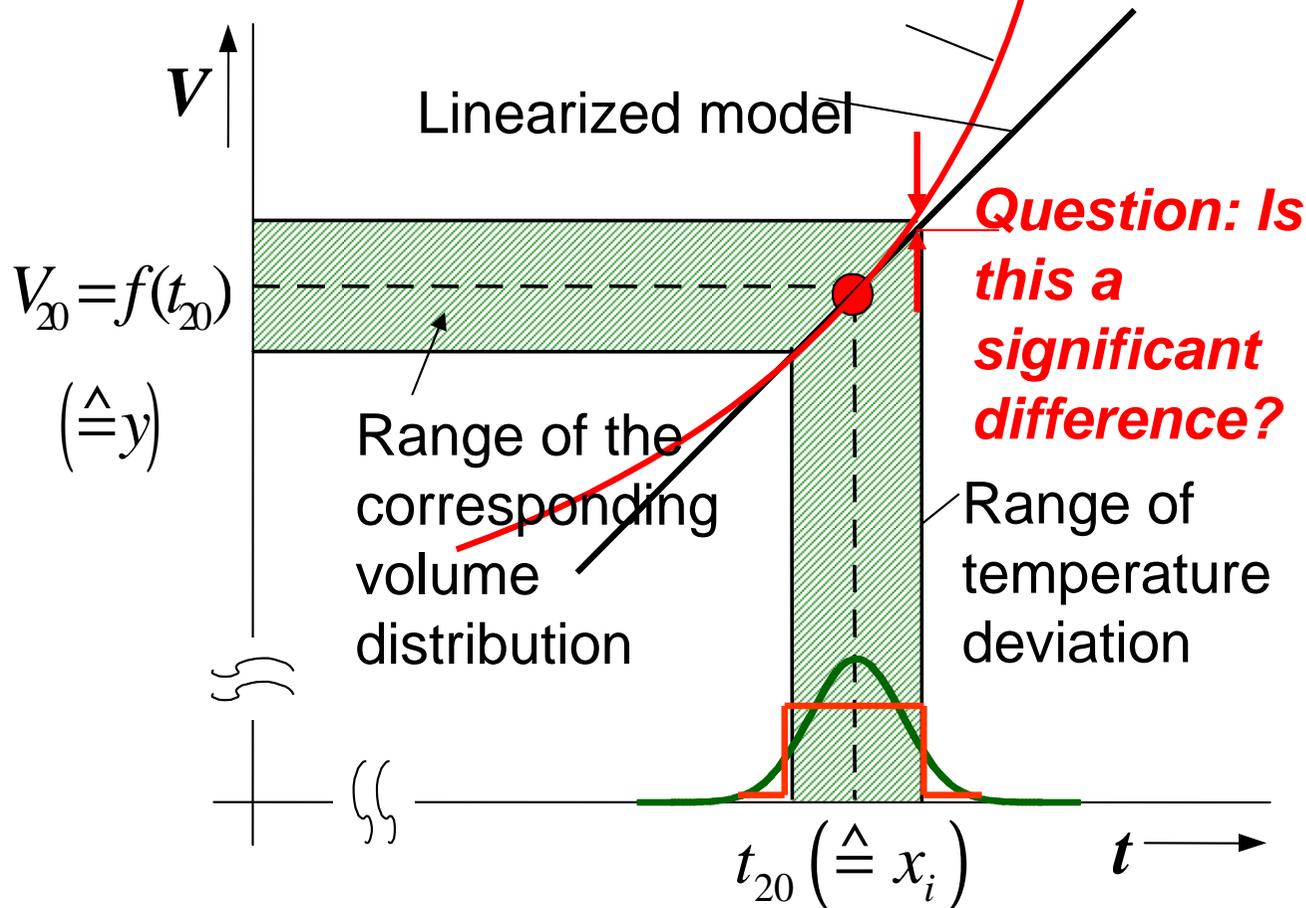
- (constant) transmission factors  $G_{0k}$  that are perturbed by
- superimposing and deforming deviations  $\delta Z_{ks}$  and  $\delta Z_{kd}$



# Measuring Chain (2)

## Linearization

**Example:** Thermal volume expansion,  $V=f(t)$



$$t_{20} = E[t] \rightarrow V_{20} = E[V] \cong f(t_{20})$$

Linearization by *Taylor series expansion*

$$V = f_M(t) = f_M(t_{20}) + \left. \frac{\partial f_M}{\partial t} \right|_{t_{20}} \cdot \delta t \dots$$

$$\dots + \left. \frac{\partial^2 f_M}{2\partial t^2} \right|_{t_{20}} \cdot \delta t^2 + \dots$$

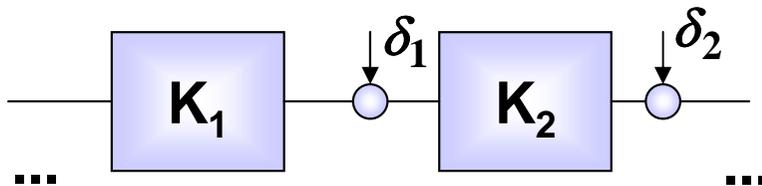
Linearization condition:

$$f_M(\xi_1, \dots, \xi_N) \cong f_M(x_1, \dots, x_N) + \sum_{i=1}^N \left. \frac{\partial f_M}{\partial x_i} \right|_{x_i} (\xi_i - x_i)$$

## Modelling Concept for practitioners

- ...gives the (non-reactive) chaining of elements in *cause-effect direction*
- ... describes disturbances and imperfections by means of **deviations**
- ... determines the structure and the chaining sequence of the model

### „Classical“ Measuring Chain

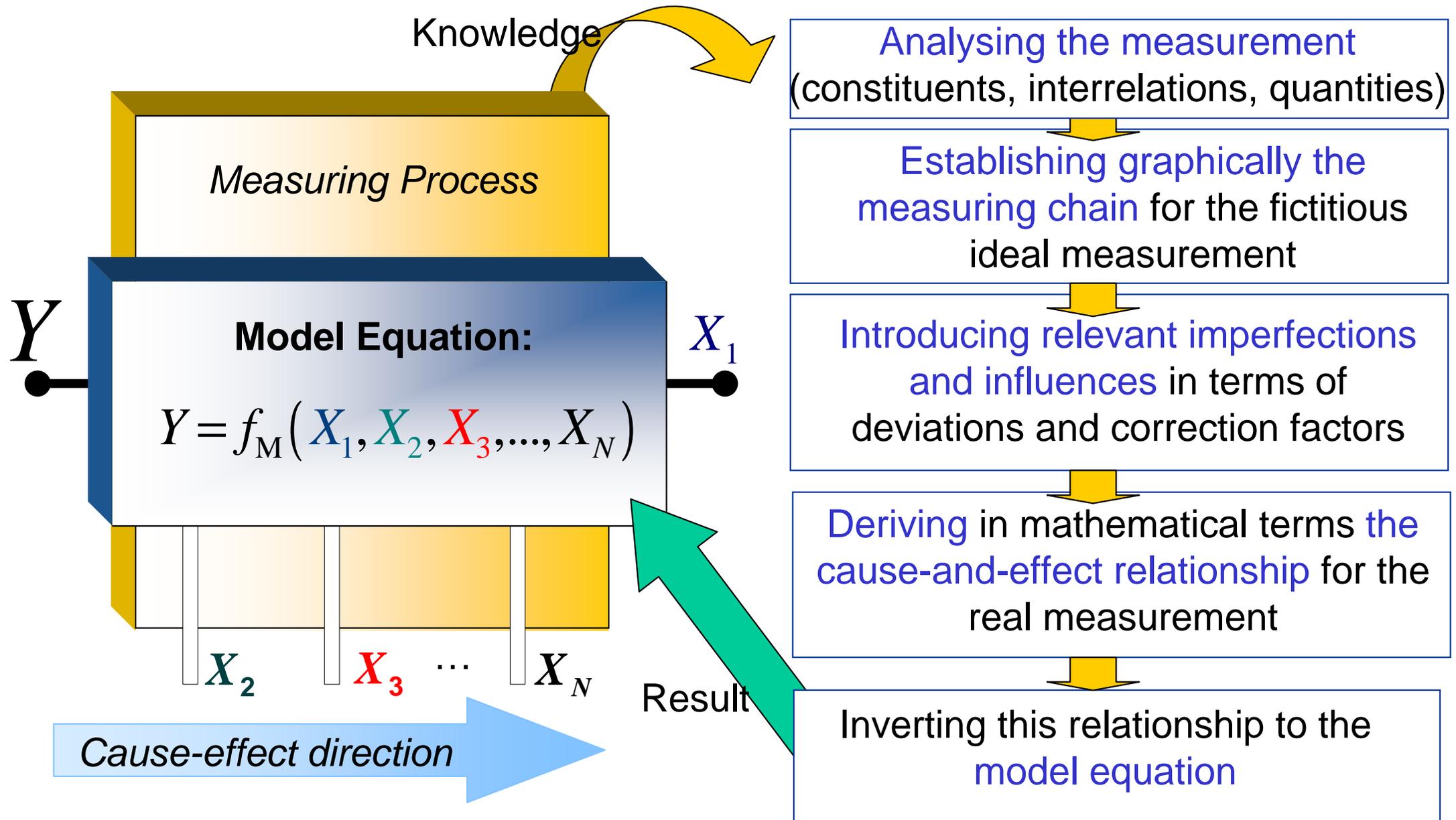


### Method of Measurement

- Direct Measurement
    - Substitution Method
  - Difference Method
- etc.

# Modelling Concept

## Basic Idea



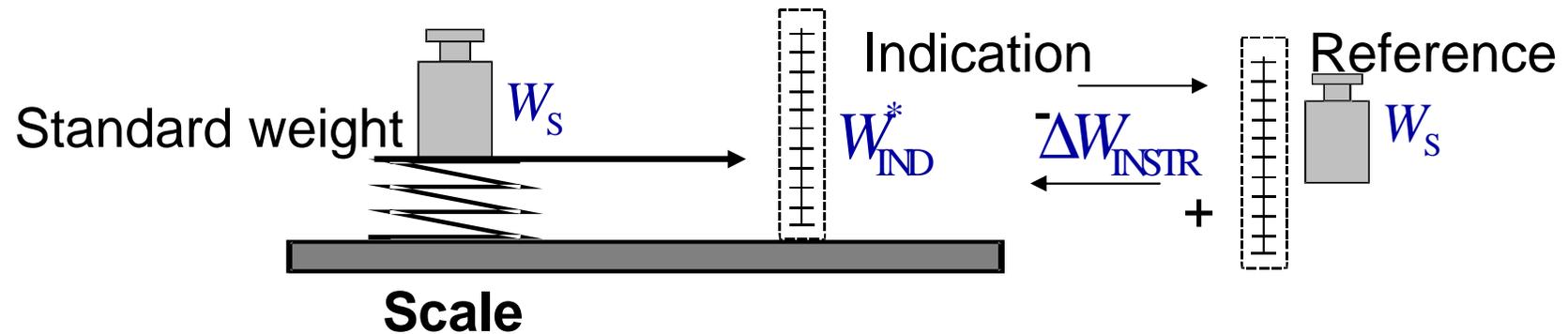
# Example: Calibration of a Scale (1)

**1st step**

## Description of the calibration:

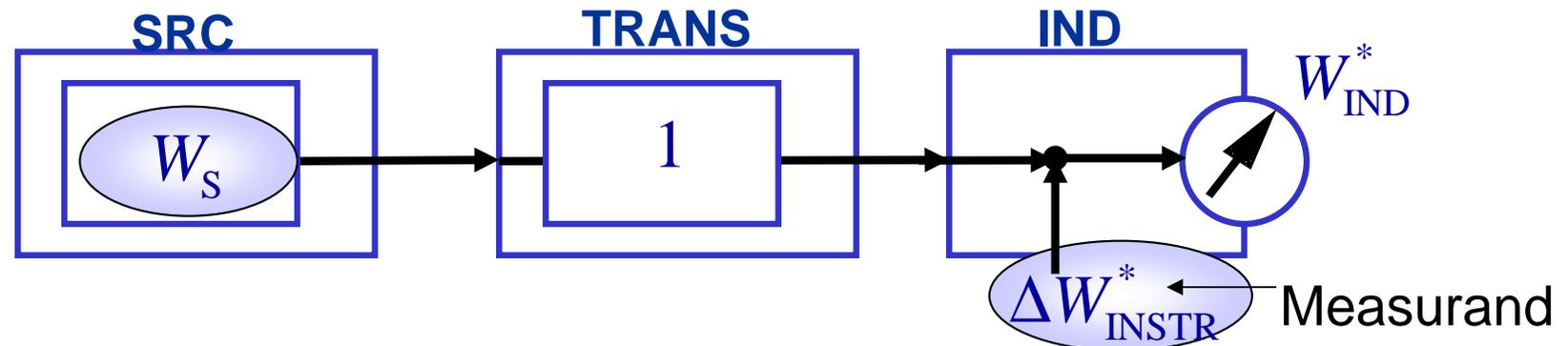
- Determination of the **instrumental error** at 10 kg load
- Causal quantity: weighing value  $W_S$
- Measurement method: direct measurement
- Constituents: standard, coupling, scale

Measurand



**2nd step**

## Cause-and-effect relationship of the fictitious ideal measurement:

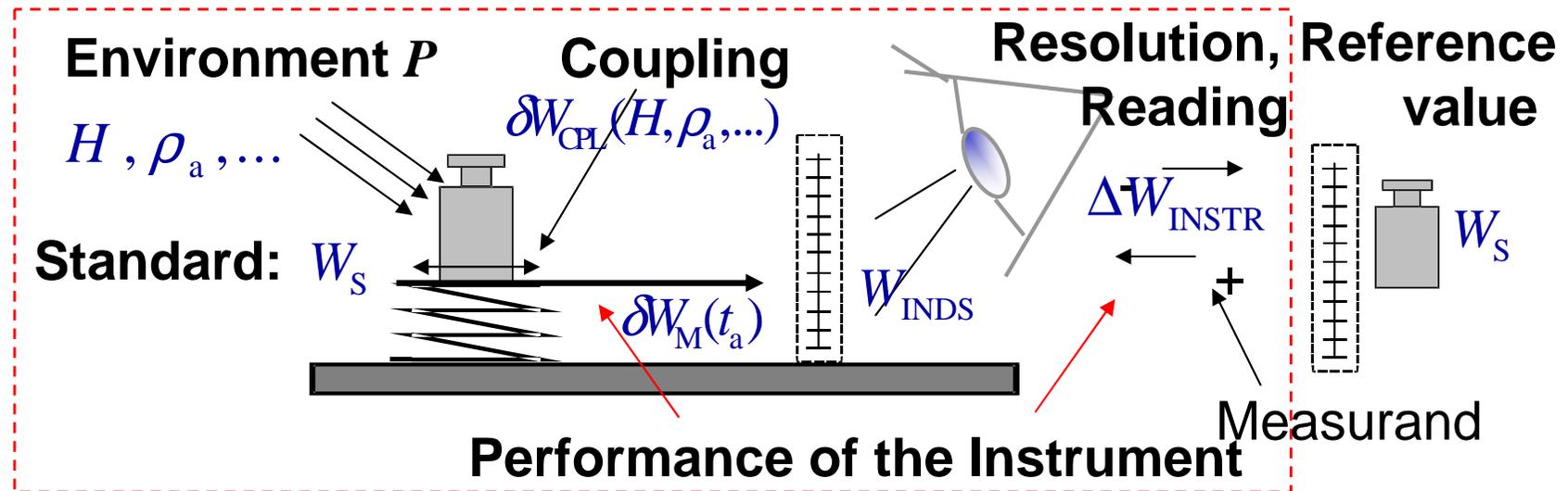


# Example: Calibration of a Scale (2)

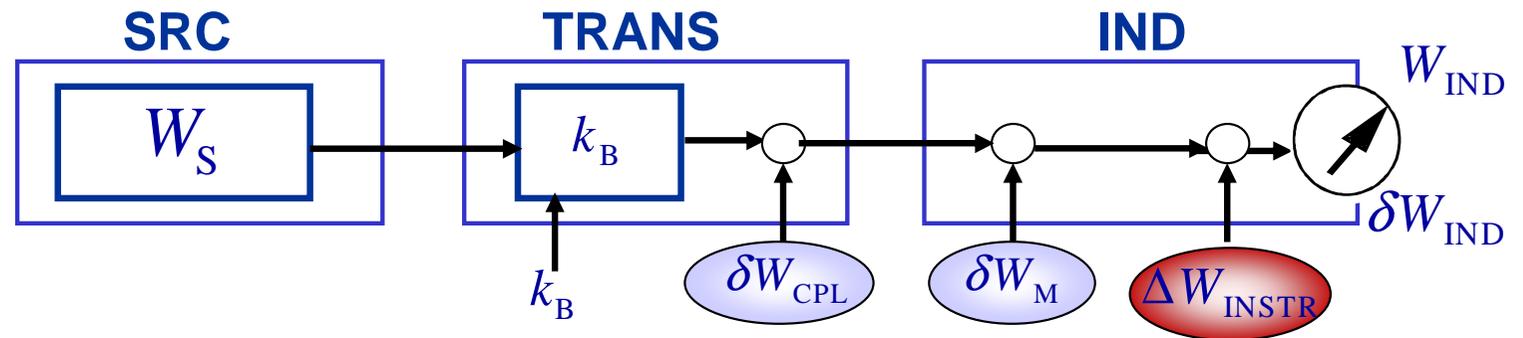
## 3rd step

a) Illustration:  
(simplified)

Cause-and-effect relationship for the real calibration:



b) Block diagram:  
(simplified)

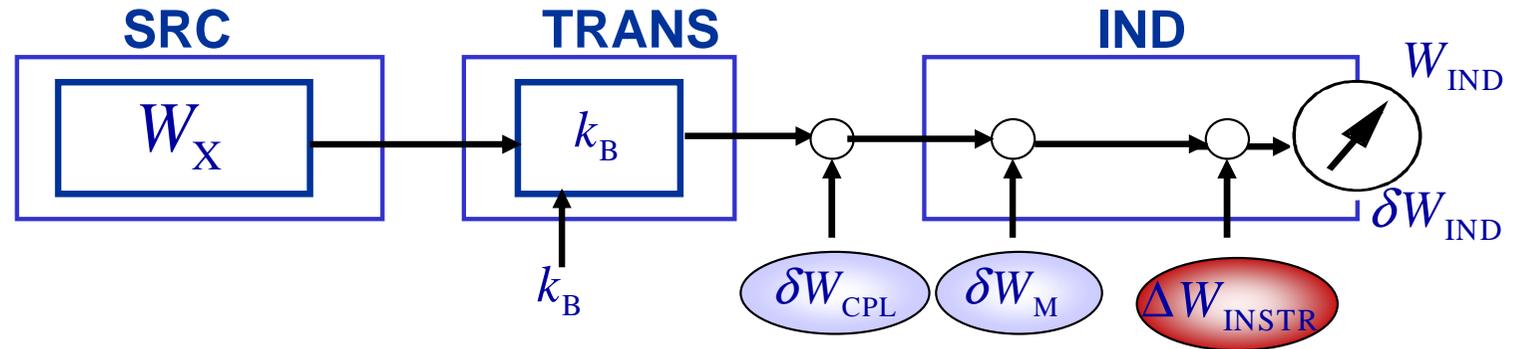


$$k_B = (1 - \rho_a \rho_X^{-1}) (1 - \rho_{1,2} \rho_{8000}^{-1})$$

$\delta W_{CPL}$  - deviation due to excentric loading, magnetic...

# Example: Calibration of a Scale (3)

b) Block diagram:  
(simplified)



c) Cause-and-effect relationship expressed in mathematical terms:

$$W_{\text{IND}} = W_S \cdot k_B + \delta W_{\text{CPL}} + \delta W_M + \Delta W_{\text{INSTR}} + \delta W_{\text{IND}}$$

**5th step**

**Inversion to the model equation:**

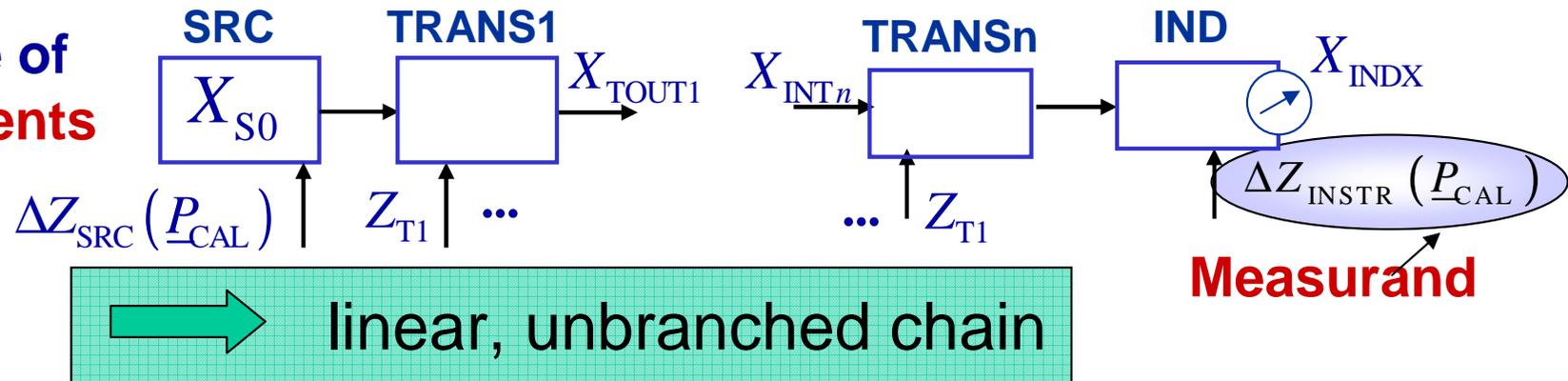
$$\Delta W_{\text{INSTR}} = W_{\text{IND}} - W_S \cdot k_B - \delta W_{\text{CPL}} - \delta W_M - \delta W_{\text{IND}}$$

... and the (unavoidably) incomplete knowledge about these quantities is to be evaluated by assigning appropriate probability density function (pdfs) to them

# Role of the Measurement Method (1)

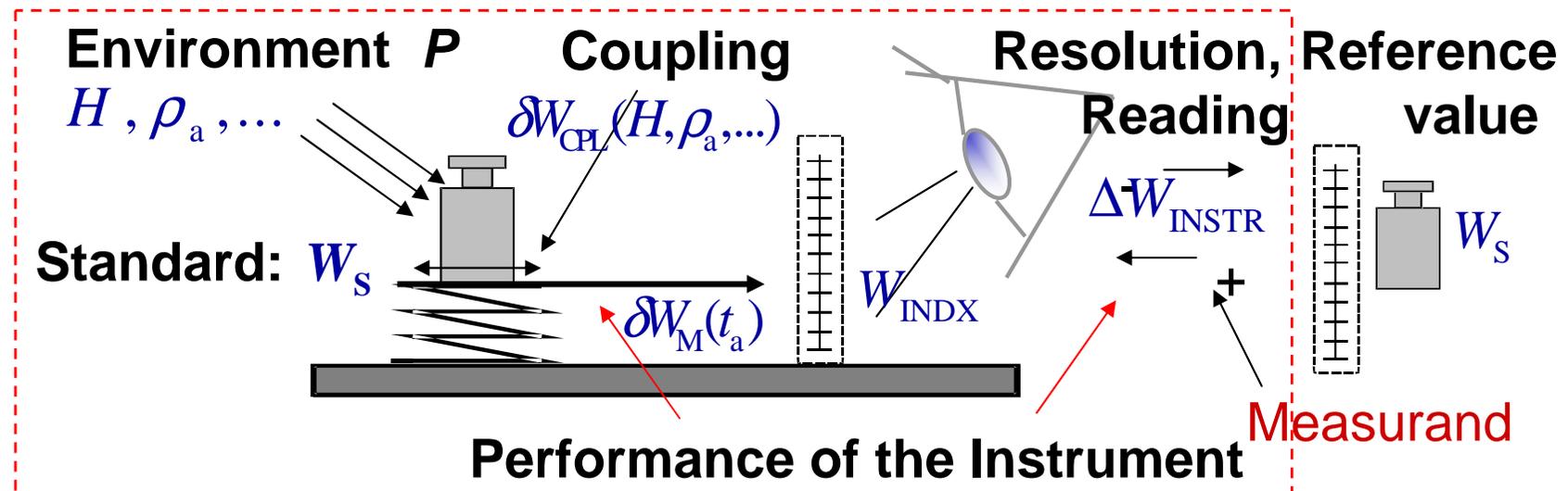
Structure and chaining sequence are determined by the method used

Generic structure of direct measurements of standards:



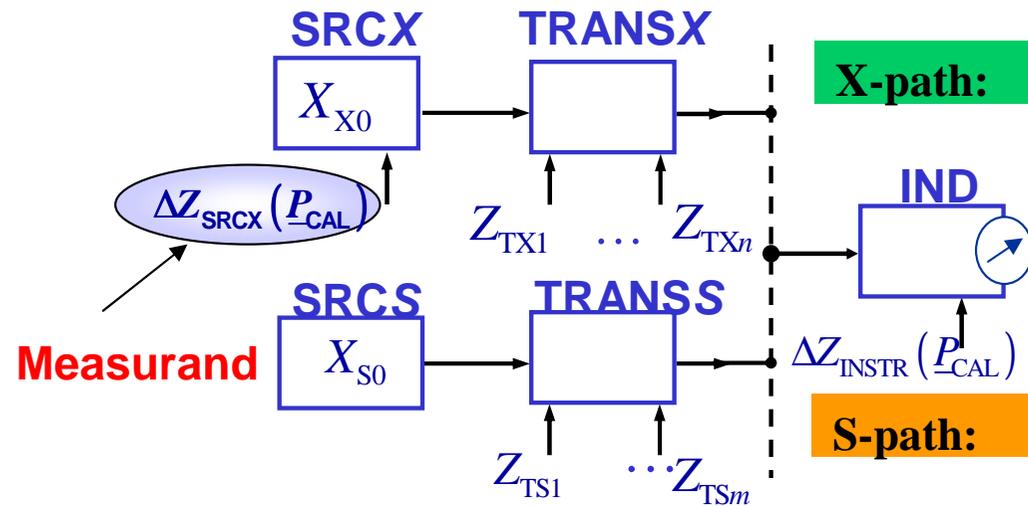
Example:

Calibration of a scale



# Role of the Measurement Method (2)

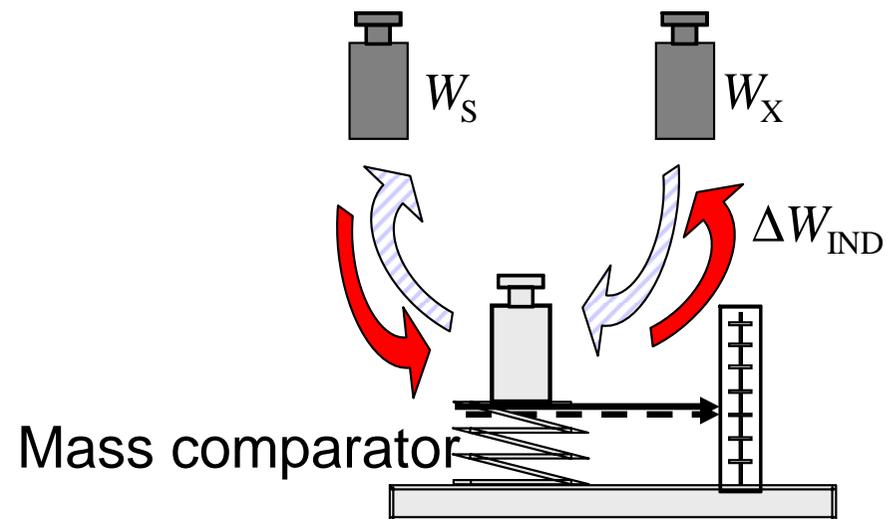
Generic structure  
of the **substitution method**:



→ conjoining chains

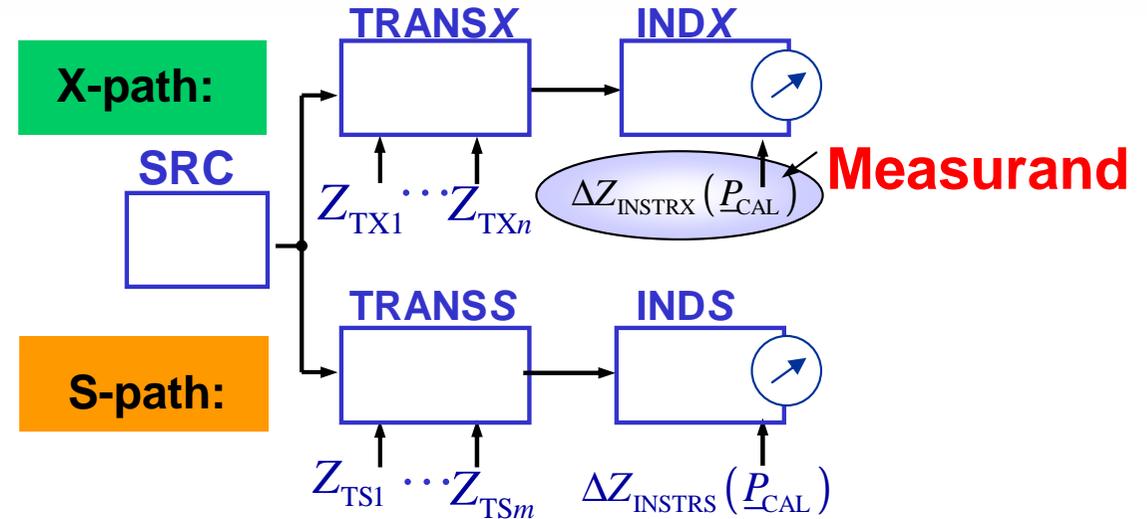
Example:

Calibration of a weight piece by means  
of a mass comparator



# Role of the Measurement Method (3)

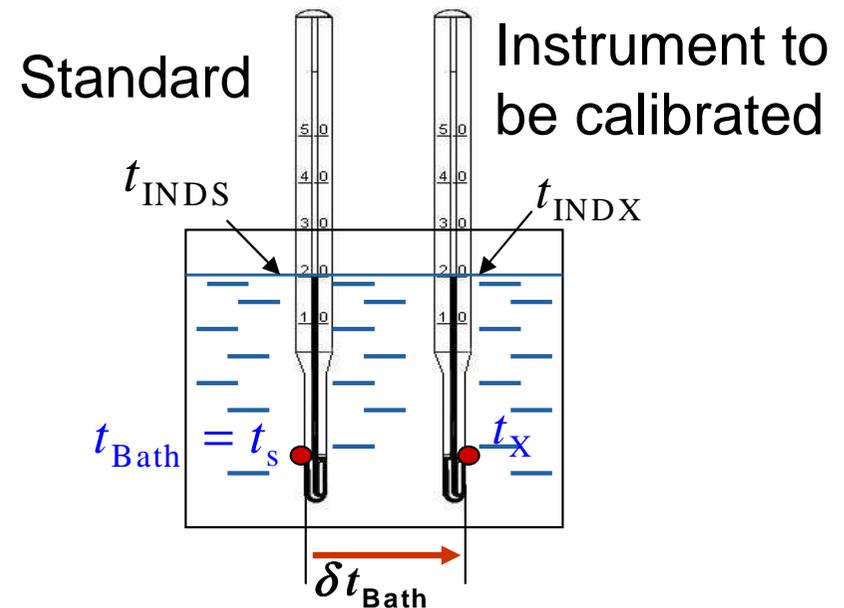
Generic structure  
of **direkt comparison**  
of indicating instruments:



➔ forking chain

Example:

Calibration of a liquid-in-glass thermometer



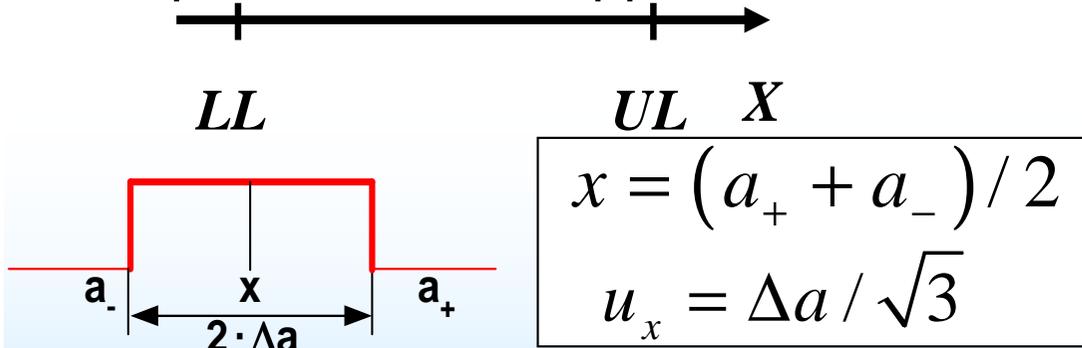
# Practical Evaluation of the Quantities (GUM)

**Knowledge** about the Quantities

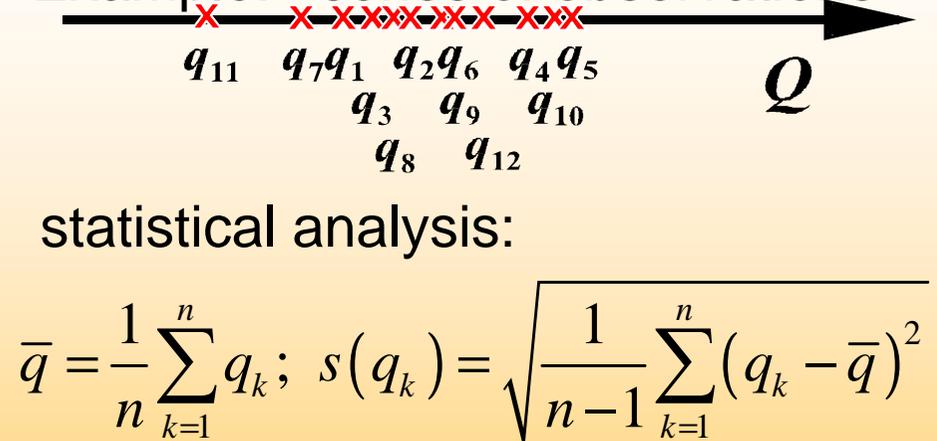
**B** non-statistical information

statistical information **A**

Example: lower and upper limits

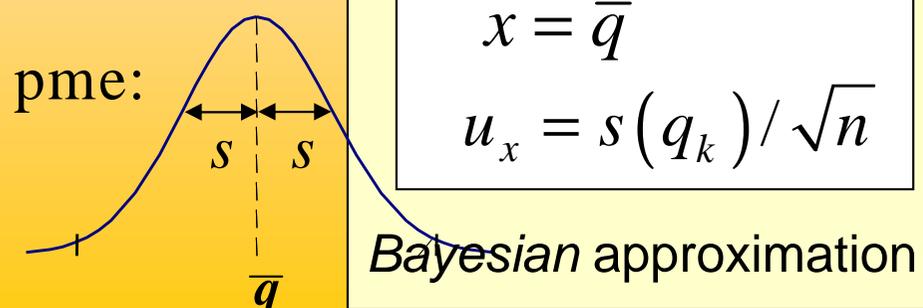
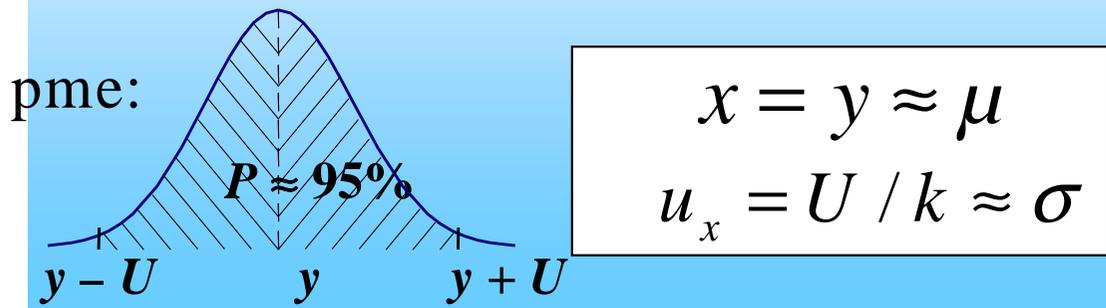


Example: series of observations

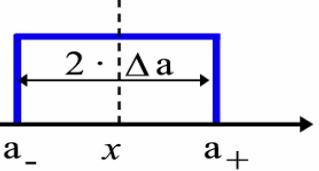
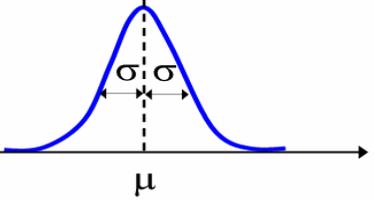
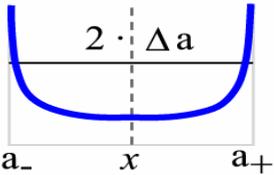
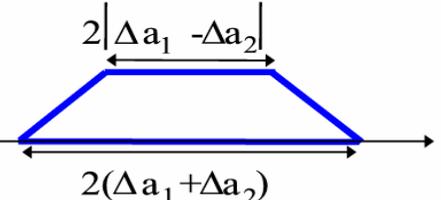


statistical analysis:

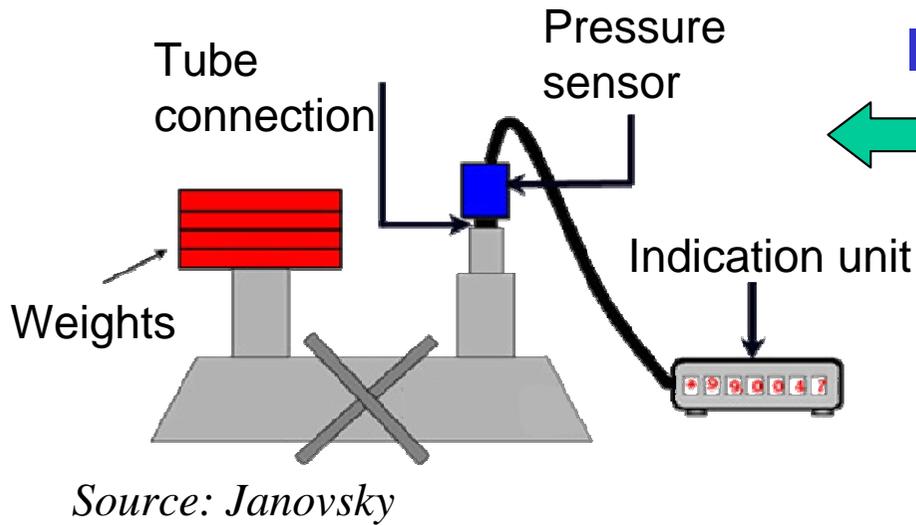
Example:  
statement in a calibration certificate



# Survey About Selected *a-priori* Distributions (PDFs) (Type-B Evaluation)

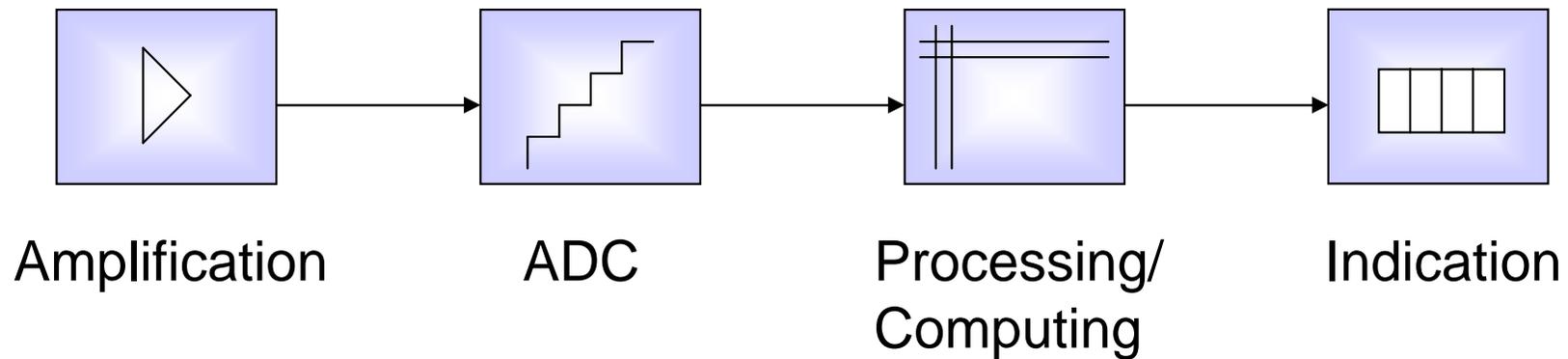
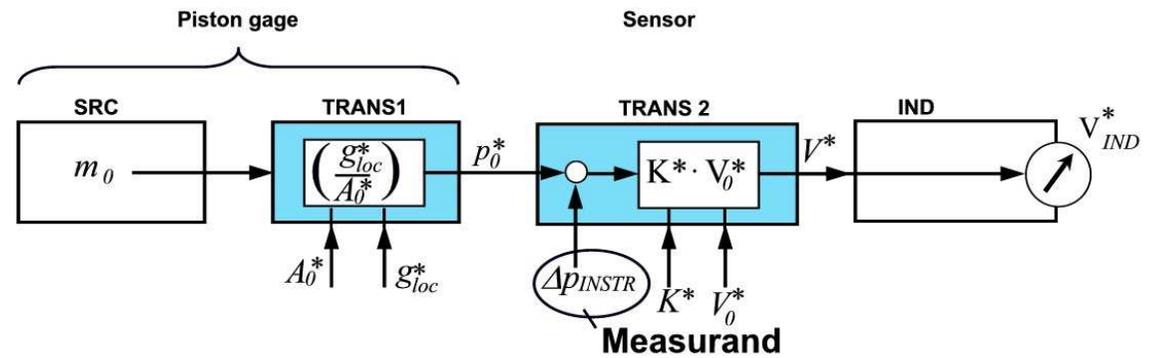
Knowledge About the quantity	pdf	Expectation value	Standard uncertainty
Possible values are contained in an interval		<p style="text-align: center;"><b>rectangular</b></p> $x = \frac{(a_+ + a_-)}{2}$	$u_x = \frac{\Delta a}{\sqrt{3}}$
Best estimate $\mu$ and standard deviation $\sigma$ are known		<p style="text-align: center;"><b>Gaussian</b></p> $x = \mu$	$u_x = \sigma$
Quantity is described as function $X = \Delta a \cdot \sin\Phi$ where $\Phi$ is unknown		<p style="text-align: center;"><b>U-shaped</b></p> $x = 0$	$u_x = \frac{\Delta a}{\sqrt{2}}$
Quantity is a sum/difference $X_1 \pm X_2$ ; knowledge about $X_1$ and $X_2$ : rectangular distributed		<p style="text-align: center;"><b>trapezoidal</b></p> $x = x_1 \pm x_2$ $\Delta a = \Delta a_1 + \Delta a_2$	$u_x = \frac{\Delta a}{\sqrt{6}} \sqrt{1 + \beta^2}$

# Measuring Chain in Digital Signal Processing



Illustration

Cause-effect principle of the fictitious ideal measuring



## Digital measurements:

- Counting errors
- Quantisation errors (error due to limited/digital resolution)
- Slope errors in analogue-digital conversion (ADC)
- Averaging errors in ADC
- Errors due to imperfect sampling
- Errors due to non-ideal software (e.g. rounding error)
- Errors due to synchronisation (jitter)

## Dynamic error contributions:

- System disturbance caused by interfering fields
- Transient effects
- Drift effects

# Digital Signal Processing: Counting Errors

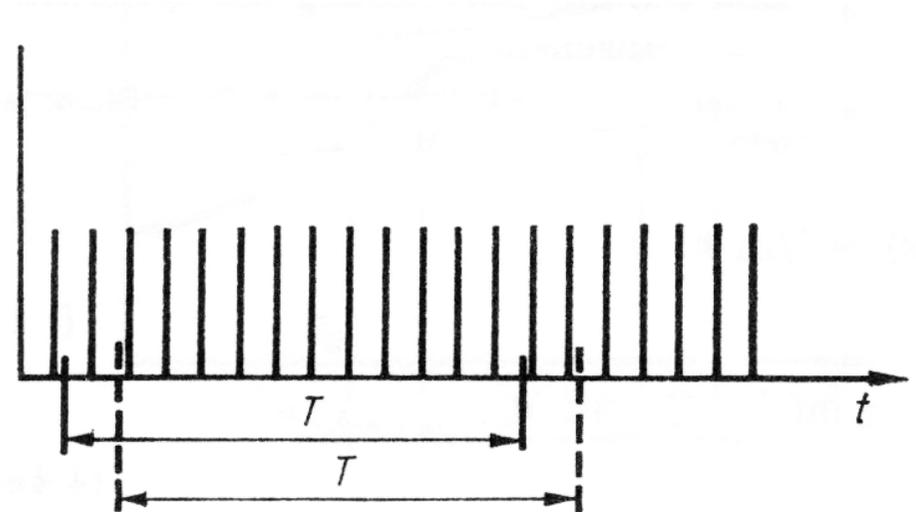
- **Application of electronic counters:**
  - frequency measurement
  - period and time-interval measurements
- **Relative error of time measurement**

$$\frac{\Delta T}{T} = \frac{1}{n} = \frac{1}{f_i \cdot T}$$

$f_i$  – frequency of pulse signal

$T$  – period of measurement signal

$n$  – number of pulses per period

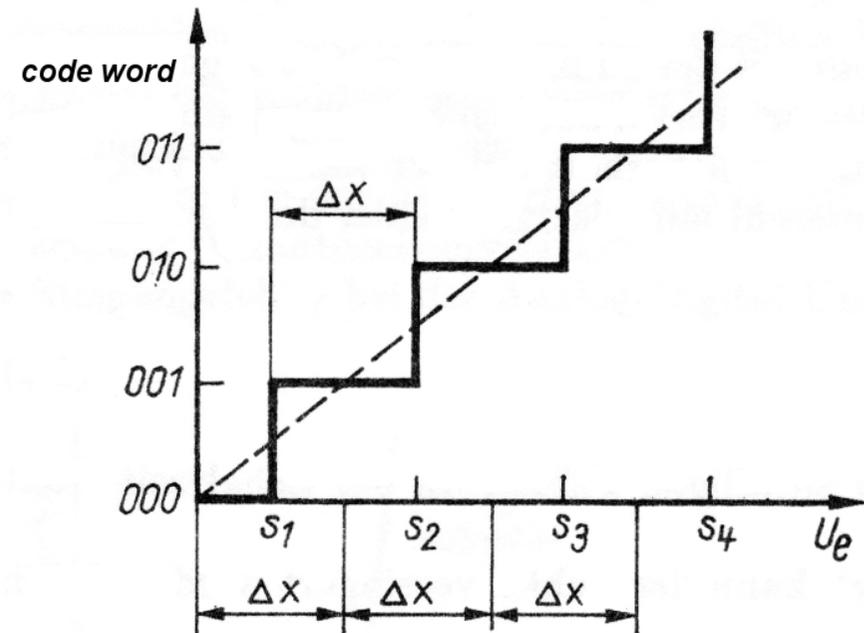


- Maximum counting error due to quantisation of time:  **$\pm 1$  digit**
- pdf for error values: **rectangular**

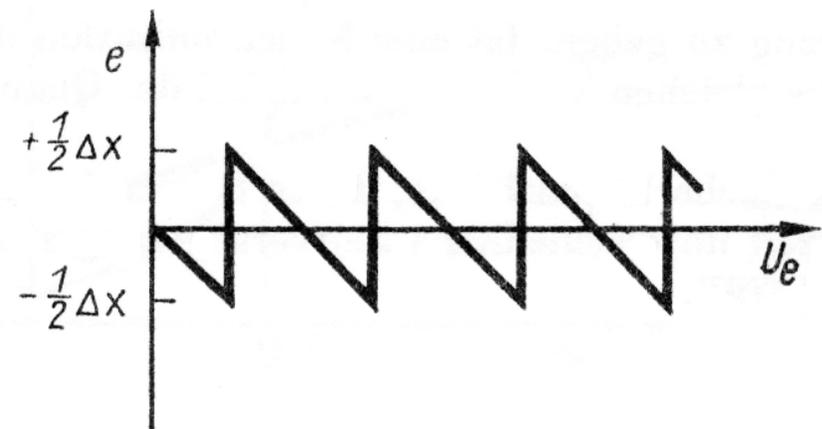
# Digital Signal Processing:

## Quantisation Errors / Errors Due to Limited Resolution

### Steplike transmission characteristic



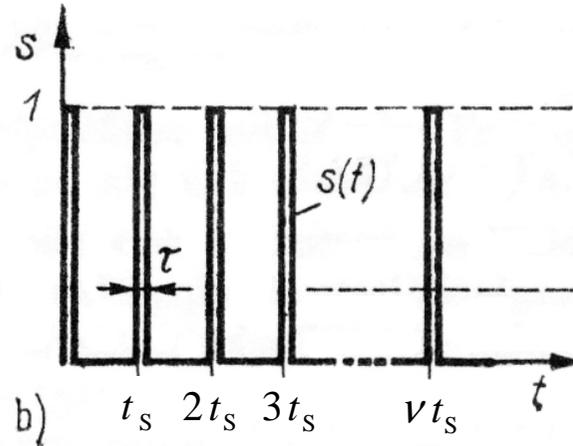
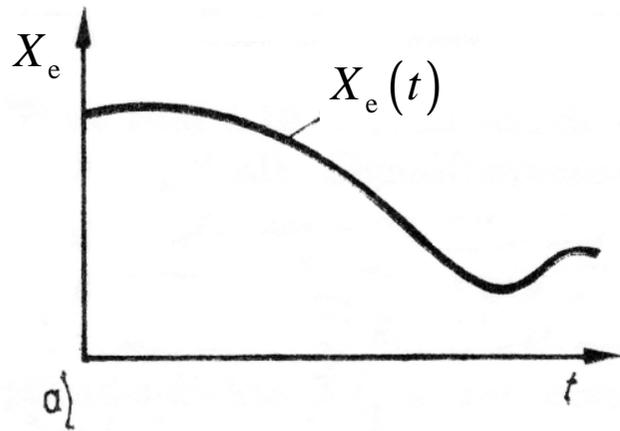
- Maximum error:  $\pm 1/2$  digit
- pdf for error values: **rectangular** (for sufficiently large numbers of quantisation steps)



Source of pictures: H. Hart

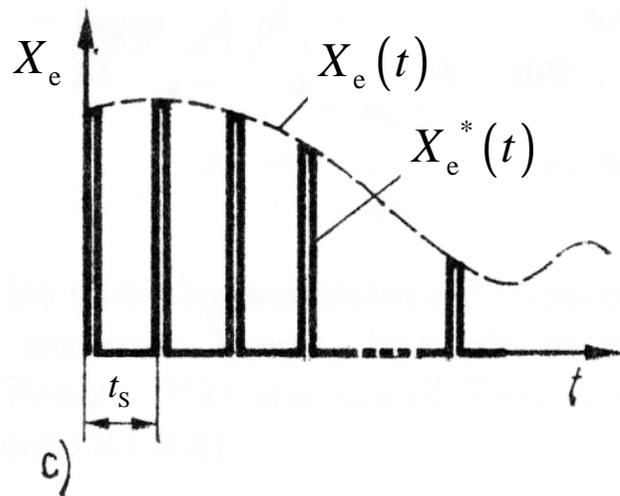
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# Digital Signal Processing: Errors Due to Imperfect Sampling (1)



Represented in time domain

- a) Input signal  $X_e(t)$
- b) Pulse sequence  $s(t)$
- c) Sampled signal  $X_e^*(t)$



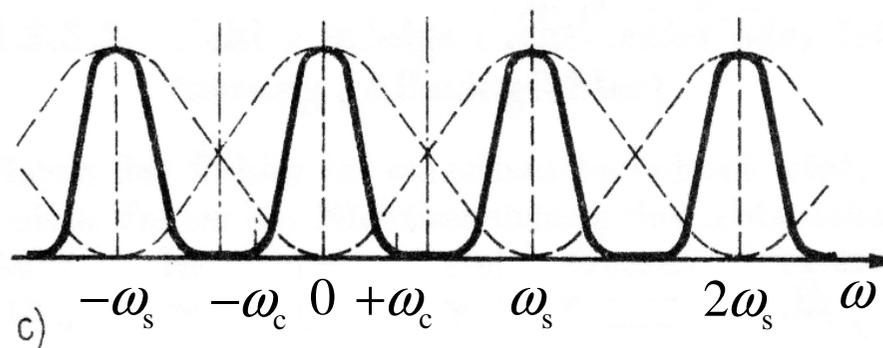
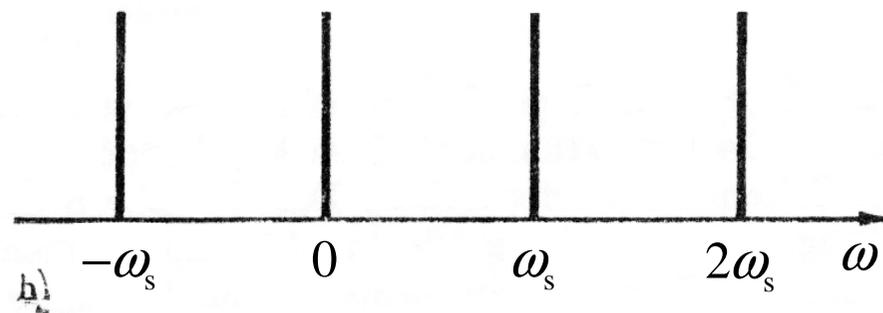
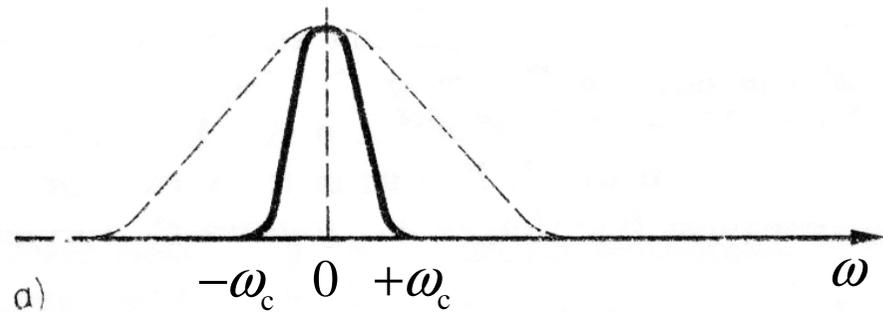
- Sampling is the reduction of a continuous signal to a discrete signal by multiplication with a pulse sequence

$$s(t) = \sum_{r=0}^{\infty} \delta(t - rt_s)$$

- Results in sampled signal ( $r$  – counting variable)

$$X^*(t) = X(t) \cdot s(t) = \sum_{r=0}^{\infty} X(rt_s) \cdot \delta(t - rt_s)$$

# Digital Signal Processing: Errors Due to Imperfect Sampling (2)



## Represented in frequency domain

- a) Spectrum of input signal  $X_e(t)$
- b) Spectrum of pulse sequence  $s(t)$
- c) Spectrum of sampled signal  $X_e^*(t)$

- Sampling leads to a periodic continuation of the baseband in frequency domain
- For accurate reconstruction of the original signal the spectrum must have a cut-off frequency ( $f_c$ ):

$$\omega_c \leq \frac{\omega_s}{2}$$

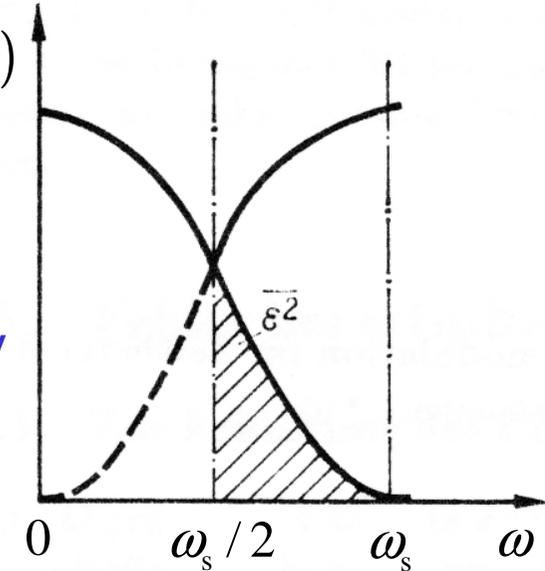
(Sampling theorem)

# Digital Signal Processing: Errors Due to Imperfect Sampling (3)

- **Error in case of ideal low-pass filtering before sampling:**  
(anti-aliasing filter)

$$S_{XX}(\omega)$$

- Ideal frequency reduction for input signal to  $\omega_c = \omega_s / 2$
- Therefore no overlay in spectrum of sampled data
- Mean-square error described by power spectrum density  $S_{XX}(\omega)$



$$\overline{\varepsilon^2} = \int_{-\infty}^{-\omega_s/2} S_{XX}(\omega) d\omega + \int_{\omega_s/2}^{\infty} S_{XX}(\omega) d\omega = 2 \int_{\omega_s/2}^{\infty} S_{XX}(\omega) d\omega$$

- **Error in case of non-ideal or nonexisting low-pass filtering (aliasing)**

- Overlay in spectrum of sampled data leads to error contribution in the frequency range  $-\omega_s / 2 < \omega < \omega_s / 2$

$$\overline{\varepsilon_a^2} = 2 \int_{-\omega_s/2}^{\omega_s/2} S_{XX}(\omega_s + \omega) d\omega = 2 \int_{\omega_s/2}^{3\omega_s/2} S_{XX}(\omega) d\omega$$

- pdf for error values:  
pme: Gaussian

Source of pictures: H. Hart

# Digital Signal Processing: Errors Due to Non-Ideal Software

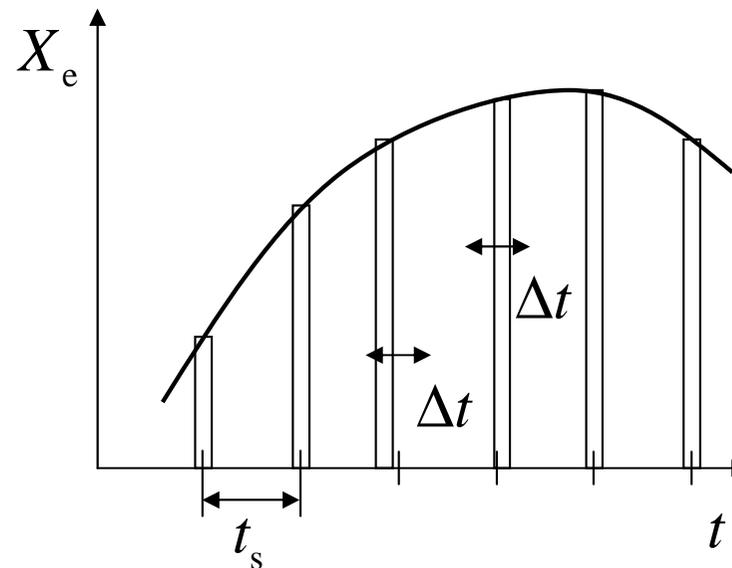


- **Error depends on the mathematical algorithms used**; Example:  
Numerical integration: rectangular or trapezoidal approximation
- Computers with higher clock speed allow for better approximations and therefore smaller error values (dynamic effects)
- Rounding errors due to limited word size:  
Additionally it depends on whether fixed point or floating point operations are used
- **pdf for error values: rectangular or to be determined by test procedures (parameters: to be determined by test procedures)**

- **Time error  $\Delta t$  due to deviations from periodic sampling** caused by perturbed synchronisation

- **Resulting error:**

$$\Delta X_e \approx \frac{\partial X_e}{\partial t} \Delta t$$



- **pdf for error values: approximately Gaussian**

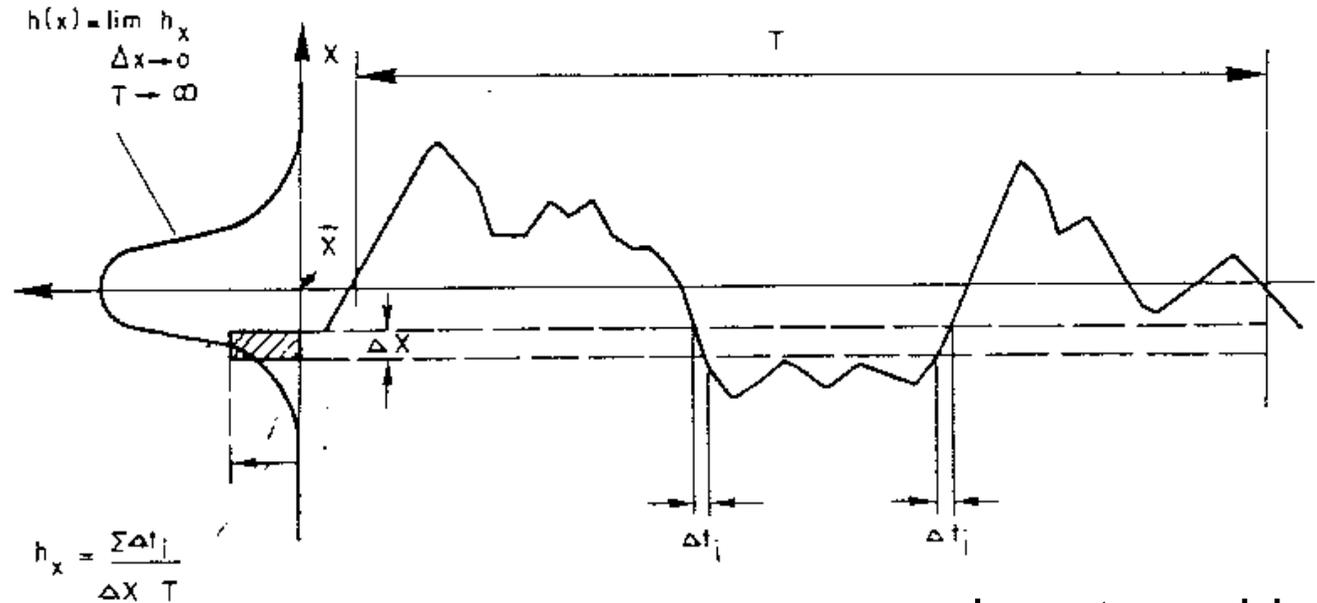
(parameters: slope, maximum deviation  $\frac{\partial X_e}{\partial t}; \Delta t$  )

# Dynamic Uncertainty Contributions

## Description of Stochastic Signals in the Time Domain (1)

- Amplitude density  
(of a stochastic signal):

$$h(X) = \lim_{\substack{\Delta X \rightarrow 0 \\ T \rightarrow \infty}} \frac{1}{\Delta X \cdot T} \sum_{i=1}^n \Delta t_i$$



- Mean value of the signal:

$$\overline{X} = \frac{1}{T} \int_0^T X(t) dt = \int_{-\infty}^{+\infty} h(X) X \cdot dX$$

- Variance/dispersion of the signal:

$$\sigma_x^2 = \frac{1}{T} \int_0^T [X(t) - \overline{X}]^2 dt = \overline{X^2} - \overline{X}^2 = \int_{-\infty}^{+\infty} h(X) (X - \overline{X})^2 \cdot dX$$

... do not provide information about the conservation tendency of the signal

Source of pictures: P. Profos

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# Dynamic Uncertainty Contributions

## Description of Stochastic Signals in the Time Domain (2)

(Auto-)Correlation function

$$\Phi_{xx}(\tau) = \lim_{T \rightarrow \infty} \int_{-\frac{T}{2}}^{+\frac{T}{2}} X(t) \cdot X(t + \tau) dt$$

... represents the intrinsic coherence of the signal

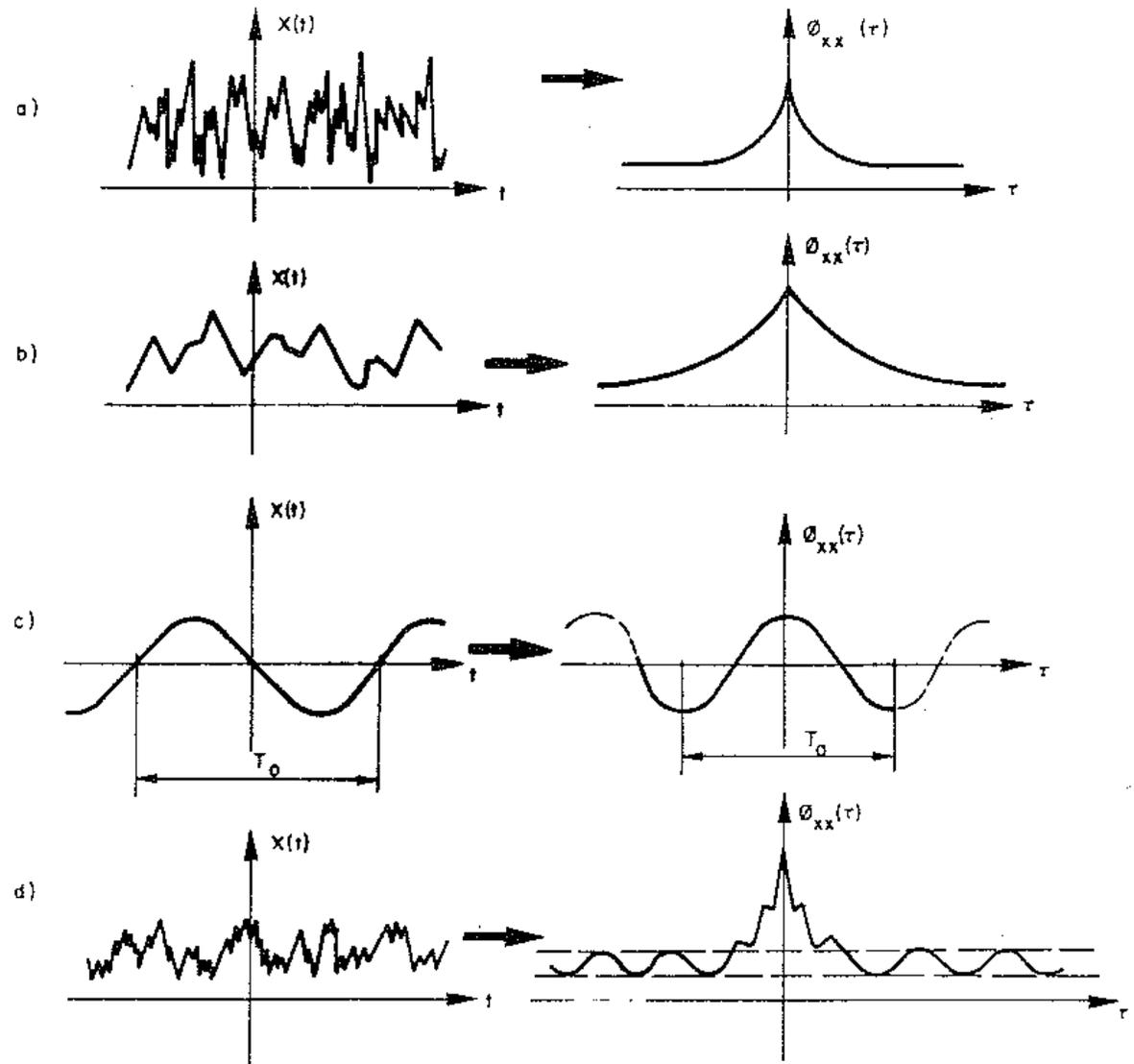
It can be demonstrated that ...

$$\Phi_{xx}(\tau) \leq \Phi_{xx}(0)$$

$$\Phi_{xx}(0) = \overline{X^2}$$

$$\Phi_{xx}(\infty) = \overline{X}^2$$

$$\Rightarrow \sigma_x^2 = \Phi_{xx}(0) - \Phi_{xx}(\infty)$$



Source of pictures: P. Profos

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# Dynamic Uncertainty Contributions

## Description of Stochastic Signals in the Frequency Domain

Fourier transformation of  $\Phi_{xx}(\tau)$  yields the so-called

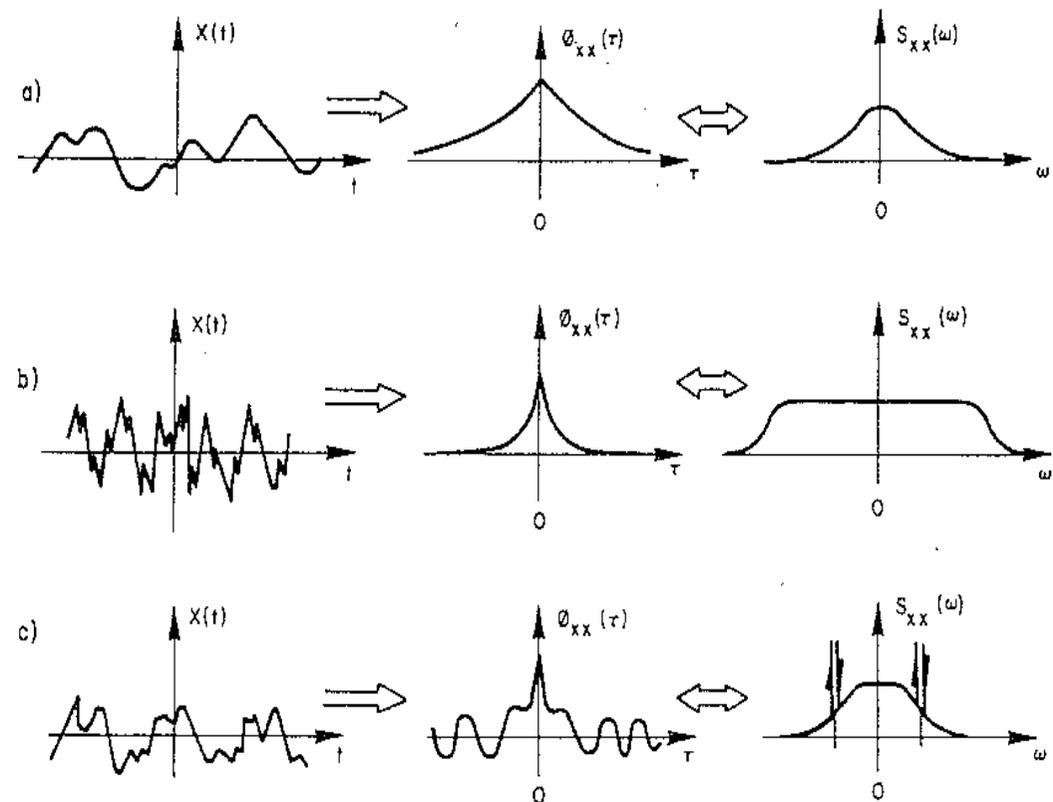
• **(Auto) Power spectrum density**  $S_{xx}$

$$S_{xx}(\omega) = \int_{-\infty}^{+\infty} \Phi_{xx}(\tau) \cdot e^{-j\omega\tau} d\tau$$

... and reverse transformation yields

$$\Phi_{xx}(\tau) = \frac{1}{2\pi} \int_{-\infty}^{+\infty} S_{xx}(\omega) \cdot e^{j\omega\tau} d\omega$$

(Wiener-Chinchine Theorem)



# Dynamic Uncertainty Contributions

## Transmission Behaviour of Systems in the Time Domain

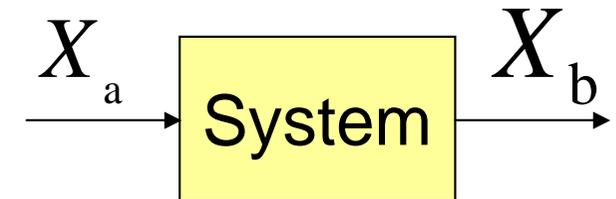
### Prerequisite: Linear(ized) systems

**Description:** by means of ordinary differential equations

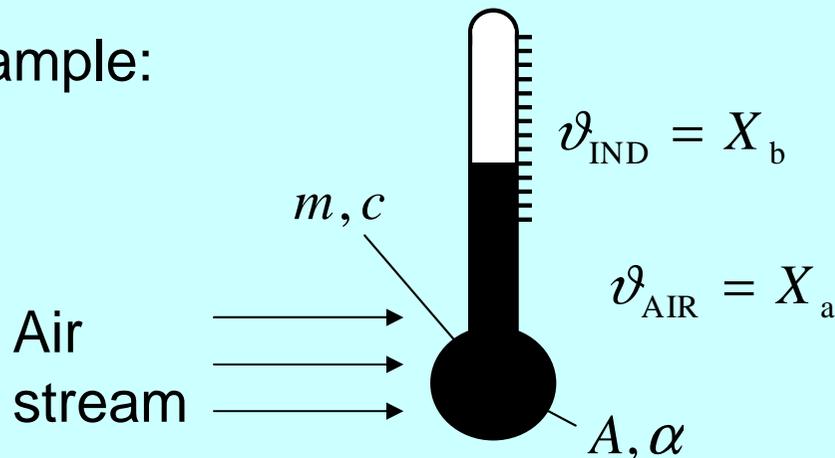
General expression:

$$a_0 X_a + a_1 X_a' + \dots + a_m X_a^{(m)} = b_0 X_b + b_1 X_b' + \dots + b_n X_b^{(n)}$$

where  $X' = \frac{dX}{dt}$



Example:



$$\alpha \cdot A \cdot (v_{\text{AIR}} - v_{\text{IND}}) = m \cdot c \cdot \frac{dv_{\text{IND}}}{dt}$$

or

$$v_{\text{AIR}} = v_{\text{IND}} + T \cdot \frac{dv_{\text{IND}}}{dt}; \quad T = \frac{m \cdot c}{\alpha \cdot A}$$

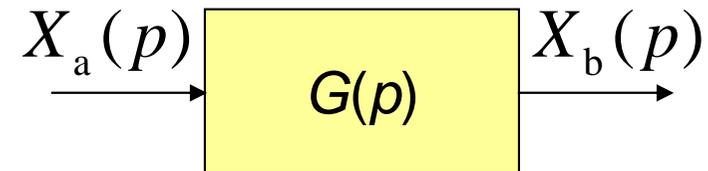
Source: H. Hart

**Description of the transmission behaviour by *transfer functions*:**

$\mathcal{L}$  - Laplace operator:

$$\mathcal{L}\{X_b(t)\} = \mathcal{L}\{X_a(t)\} \cdot G(p)$$

$$\Rightarrow X_b(p) = X_a(p) \cdot G(p)$$



# Dynamic Uncertainty Contributions

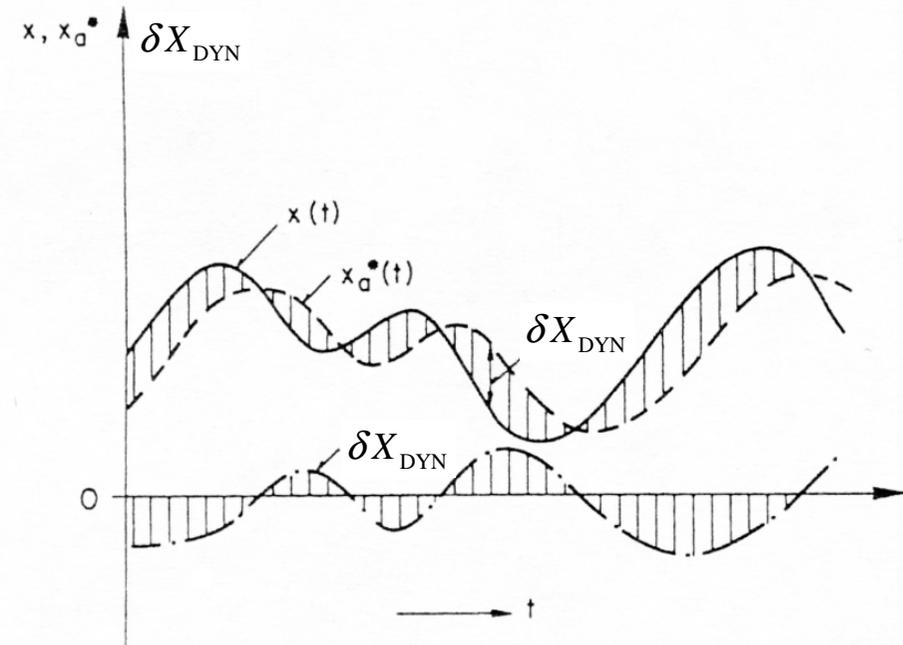
## Definition of a Dynamic Error (Source: Profos)

- **Instantaneous dynamic error:**

$$\delta X_{\text{DYN}}(t) = X_a^*(t) - X_a(t)$$

$X_a^*(t)$  - unperturbed characteristic

$X_a(t)$  - dynamically affected characteristic



- **In practice**, the instantaneous dynamic error is not very useful. Therefore, **mean values are utilized**, e.g. the following **quality criterion**:

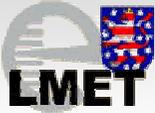
$$E_{Q,\text{DYN}} = K \int_0^{\infty} (X_a^* - X_a)^2 dt = K \int_0^{\infty} \delta X_{\text{DYN}}^2 dt$$

or the **mean-square dynamic error** :

$$\overline{\delta X_{\text{DYN}}^2} = \lim_{T \rightarrow \infty} \frac{1}{T} \int_0^T (X_a^* - X_a)^2 dt$$

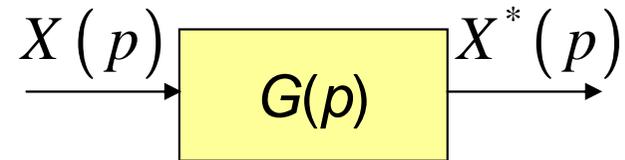
# Dynamic Uncertainty Contributions

## Evaluation of the Dynamic Error (Source: Profos)



- For linear systems holds:

$$X^*(p) = X(p) \cdot G(p)$$



- If, **in case of deterministic signals**, e.g. a step function, two out of the three quantities are known, the error is knowable:

$$\delta X_{\text{DYN}}(p) = X(p) \left[ \frac{X^*(p)}{X(p)} - 1 \right] = X(p) [G(p) - 1] \quad \text{and}$$

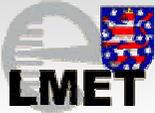
$$\delta X_{\text{DYN}}(t) = \mathcal{L}^{-1} \{ X(p) [G(p) - 1] \} \quad \text{respectively}$$

- In case of stochastic quantities/signals**, the transfer relationship is to be expressed by means of the power spectrum density:

$$S_{xx}(\omega) \cdot |G(j\omega)|^2 = S_{x^*x^*}(\omega)$$

# Dynamic Uncertainty Contributions

## Evaluation of the Dynamic Error (Source: Profos)



- **In case of (steady-state) stochastic signals**, an instantaneous dynamic error cannot be given, but the **dynamic mean-square error**:

$$\overline{\delta X_{\text{DYN}}^2} = \frac{1}{\pi} \int_0^{\infty} S_{\text{xx}}(\omega) \cdot |G(j\omega) - 1|^2 d\omega \quad \text{or}$$

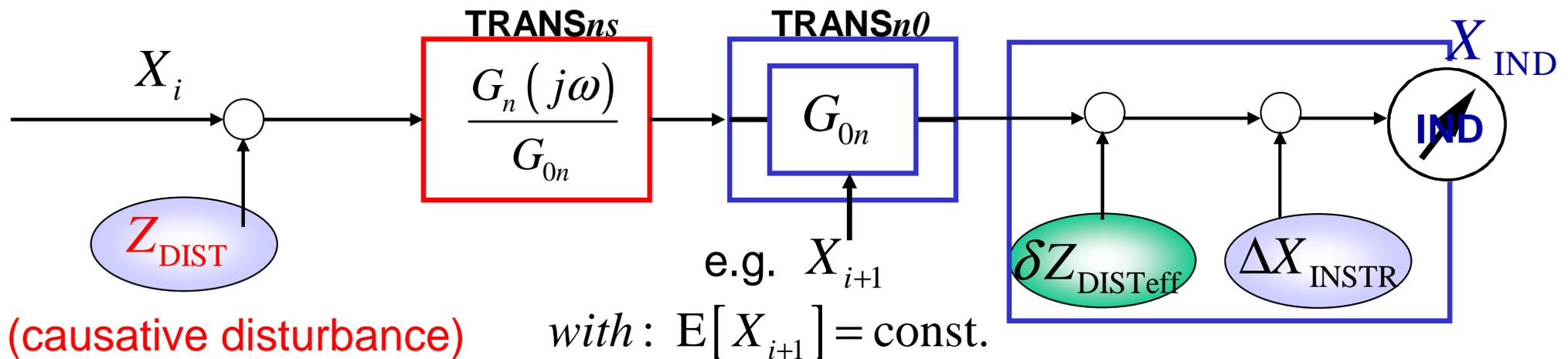
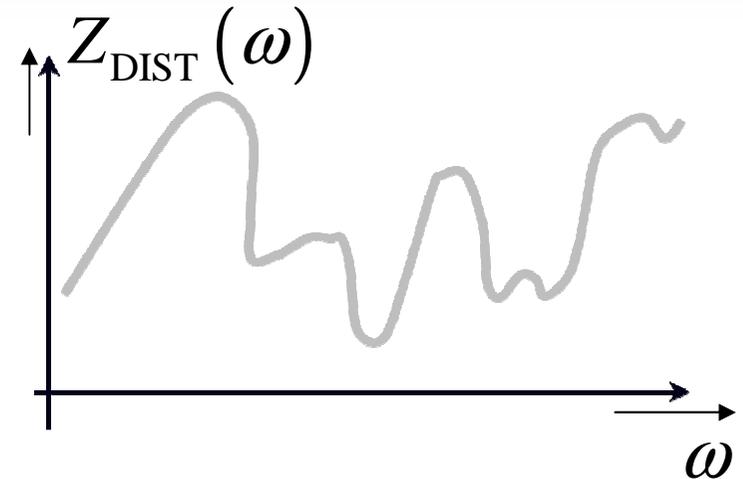
$$\overline{\delta X_{\text{DYN}}^2} = \frac{1}{\pi} \int_0^{\infty} S_{\text{x}^*\text{x}^*}(\omega) \cdot \left| 1 - \frac{1}{G(\omega)} \right|^2 d\omega$$

# Example: External Stochastic Disturbances (1)

## Special Modelling

Possible treatment:

- Separate treatment of static and stochastic errors
- Perpetuation of the model structure
- Linearization of the model (at  $Z_{k0}$ ) and introducing frequency-dependent elements  $G_n(j\omega)/G_{0n}$



Indication-effectual contribution:

$$\delta Z_{\text{DISTeff}}(j\omega) = Z_{\text{DIST}}(j\omega) \cdot \left[ \left( \frac{G_n}{G_{0n}} \right) \cdot G_{0n} \right]$$

# Example: External Stochastic Disturbances (2)

## Evaluating the Dynamic Mean-Square Error

Possible course of action:

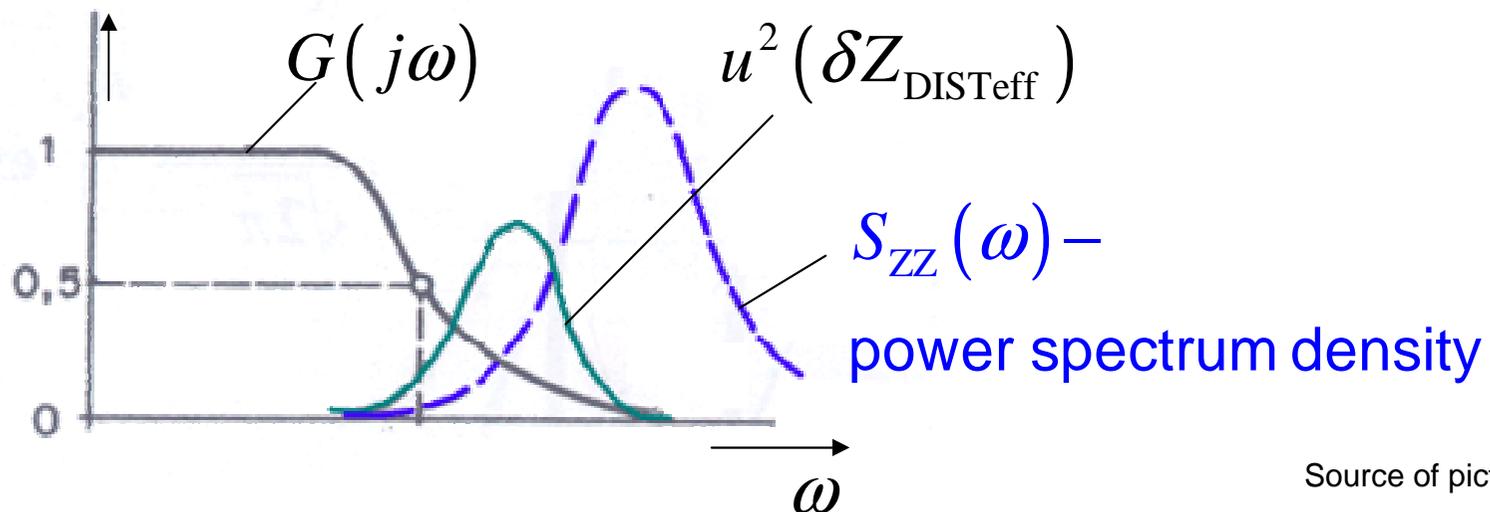
- Evaluating the dynamic mean-square error of the surrogate quantity  $\delta Z_{\text{DISTeff}}$

$$\overline{\delta Z_{\text{DISTeff}}^2} = \lim_{T \rightarrow \infty} \frac{1}{T} \int_0^T \delta Z_{\text{DISTeff}}^2(t) dt \stackrel{!}{=} \overline{u^2(\delta Z_{\text{DISTeff}})} \quad \text{(taken as variance for this quantity)}$$

- pdf: Gaussian (pme, power-limited)

$$E[\delta Z_{\text{DISTeff}}] = 0; \quad \overline{u^2(\delta Z_{\text{DISTeff}})} = \frac{1}{\pi} \int_0^{\infty} S_{ZZ}(\omega) \cdot |G(j\omega)^{-1}|^2 d\omega$$

- Meaning:



Source of pictures: P. Profos

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# Example: Transient Transmission Behaviour (1)

- Problem: Measurement or calibration setup with transients, storage effects and the like

- Example:  $\alpha A (\vartheta_X - \delta \vartheta_{\text{INDX}}) = m_X \cdot c_X \frac{\partial \vartheta_{\text{INDX}}}{\partial t} \Big|_{\vartheta_{\text{INDX}}}$

time constant:  $m_X \cdot c_X (\alpha \cdot A)^{-1}$

$$\Rightarrow \delta \vartheta_{\text{INDX}}(p) = \delta \vartheta_X(p) \cdot \frac{1}{1 + T_X \cdot p}$$

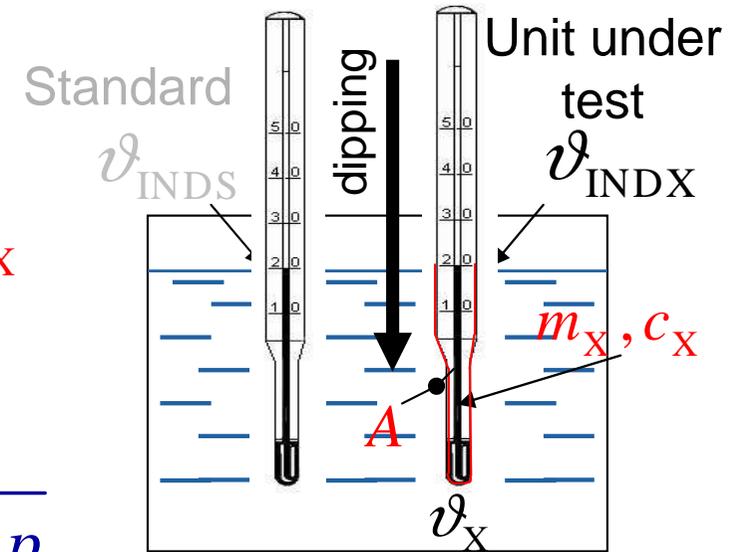
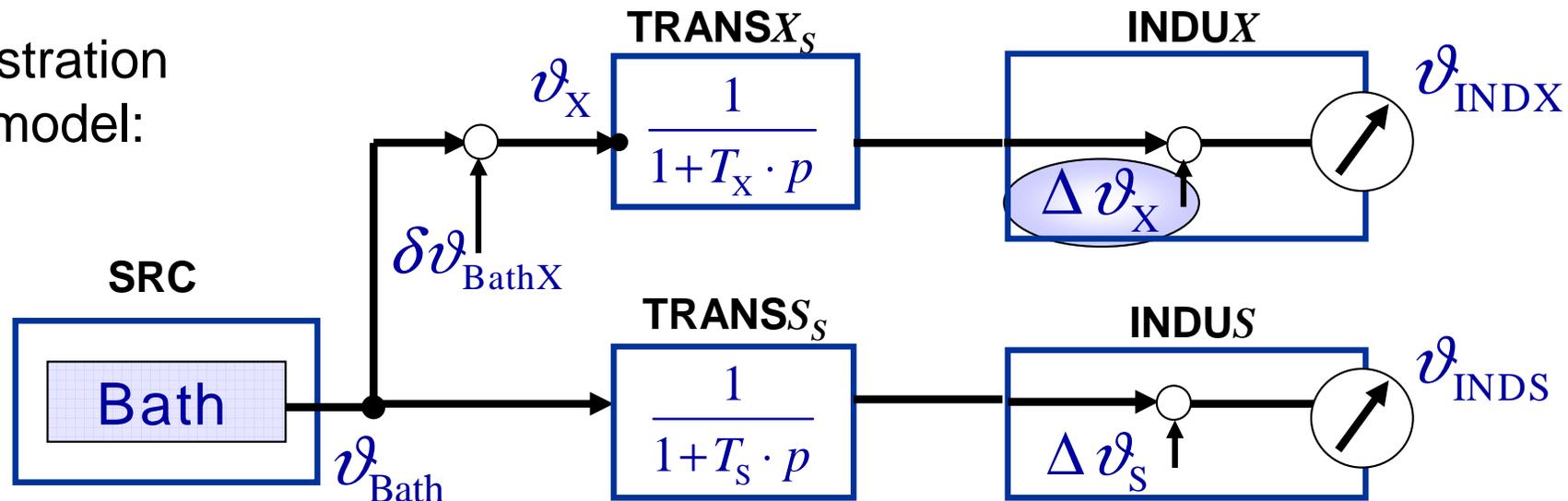


Illustration of model:

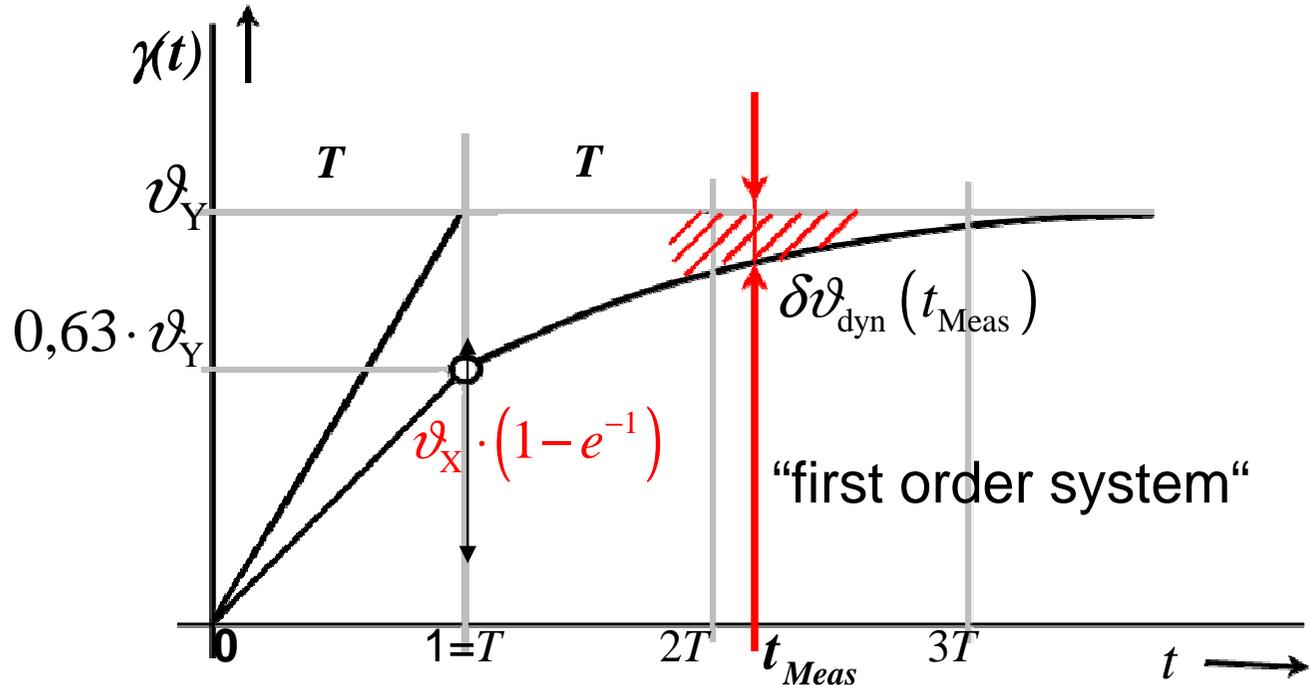


# Example: Transient Transmission Behaviour (2)

Course of action for consideration of dynamic measurement deviation

- Usual course of action:  
wait for the steady state  
( $t \gg 100 \cdot T$ )

→  $\lim_{p \rightarrow 0} G(p) / G_0 = 1$



- Alternative:  
shorter waiting ( $t > 20 \cdot T$ )  
and consideration of “remaining dynamic deviation”

- Evaluating the remaining dynamic deviation:

PDF: rectangular (pme, amplitude-limited)

Estimation value:  $E[\delta v_{\text{dyn}}] = -0,5 \cdot$

Standard uncertainty:  $u_{\delta v_{\text{dyn}}} = \frac{1}{\sqrt{12}}$

for maximum  
allowable deviation

# Conclusion

- The modelling procedure presented is **applicable to most areas of uncertainty evaluation** of measurements and calibrations
- ... is clearly structured in five elementary steps
- ... is applicable to complex problems
- ... is applicable to the modelling of dynamic system behaviour
- ... in describing dynamic system behaviour, the dynamic error preferably should be expressed by a mean-square value

 **Systematic modelling is possible** 

 **Systematic modelling constitutes an important improvement of uncertainty evaluation** 