

AC Quantum Voltmeter

Programmable Josephson Voltage Standard



Gefördert durch:
Bundesministerium
für Wirtschaft
und Technologie
aufgrund eines Beschlusses
des Deutschen Bundestages

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DESCRIPTION

The **AC Quantum Voltmeter** is a programmable Josephson voltage standard system applicable for the highest level of precision voltage measurements from DC up to kHz frequencies. It was developed by the Physikalisch-Technische Bundesanstalt Braunschweig (PTB) in cooperation with the companies esz AG and Supracon AG. It facilitates a variety of voltage calibrations and measuring functions:

- **Primary DC & AC Josephson voltage standard** up to kHz frequencies,
- Calibration of **calibrators**,
- Calibration of **secondary voltage standards**,
- Calibration of **voltmeter linearity**,
- Calibration of **thermal converters** (optional),
- **Voltage source** with ultimate precision and lowest noise level

The **AC Quantum Voltmeter** consists of the following components:

1. **10 V programmable JVS array chip**
2. **Cryoprobe** with magnetic shield
3. Compact **70 GHz microwave source**
4. **Programmable 20 channel bias source**
5. **Control electronics** with optical isolation unit
6. Nanovoltmeter as **DC null detector**
7. **Sampler** for AC voltage measurements
8. **Waveform generator** with synchronisation unit
9. **Multiplexer** with polarity switch
10. Host computer with **control software**
11. **Sensors** for temperature, humidity, and pressure
12. **Optional:** Liquid helium Dewar, GPS 10 MHz frequency reference



PROGRAMMABLE JOSEPHSON VOLTAGE STANDARD ARRAY

The centre piece of the **AC Quantum Voltmeter** is a 10 Volt programmable Josephson voltage standard circuit

- **Number of Josephson junctions:** 69632
- **Maximum output voltage:** ± 10.1 V
- **Operating frequency:** 70 GHz
- **Zero & first order Shapiro step:** 1 mA
- **Bias current:** ± 6 mA
- **Voltage increment:** 145 μ V

$V = n \times f / K_{J90}$			
V	Josephson voltage	K_{J90}	Josephson constant
n	programmable integer	f	microwave frequency



Supracon AG | An der Lehmgrube 11 | 07751 Jena | Germany
Telefon: +49 3641 2328100 | Fax: +49 3641 2328109
info@supracon.com | www.supracon.com



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SPECIFICATIONS

DC voltage up to ± 10 V

Typical calibration accuracy (direct comparison to a second Josephson voltage standard)

$$\pm 1 \text{ nV @ } 10 \text{ V} \quad \Delta V/V_{10V} = 1 \times 10^{-10}$$

Typical calibration accuracy of DC voltage standards, e.g. Fluke 732B (limited by the noise of the DC voltage standard)

$$\pm 100 \text{ nV @ } 10 \text{ V} \quad \Delta V/V_{10V} = 1 \times 10^{-8}$$

AC voltage up to 1 kHz frequencies

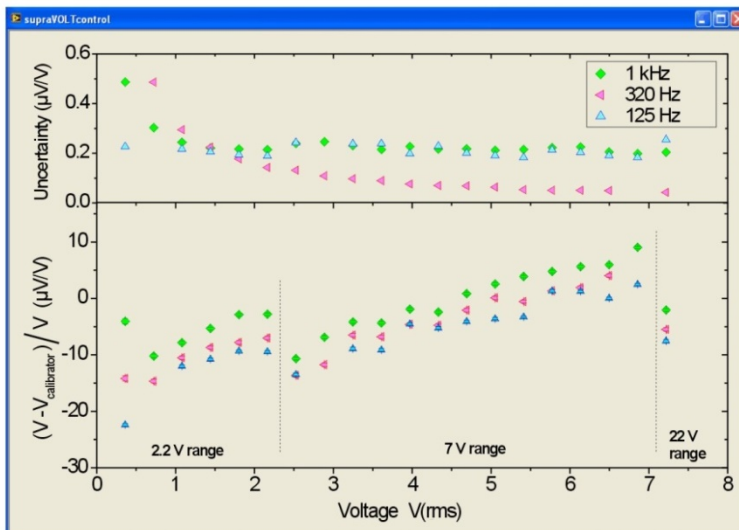
Typical calibration accuracy (direct comparison of two 4-sample Josephson waveforms)

$$\pm 200 \text{ nV @ } 20 \text{ Vpp, } 1 \text{ kHz} \quad \Delta V/V = 2 \times 10^{-8}$$

Typical calibration accuracy of calibrators, e.g. Fluke 5720A (limited by the noise of the calibrator)

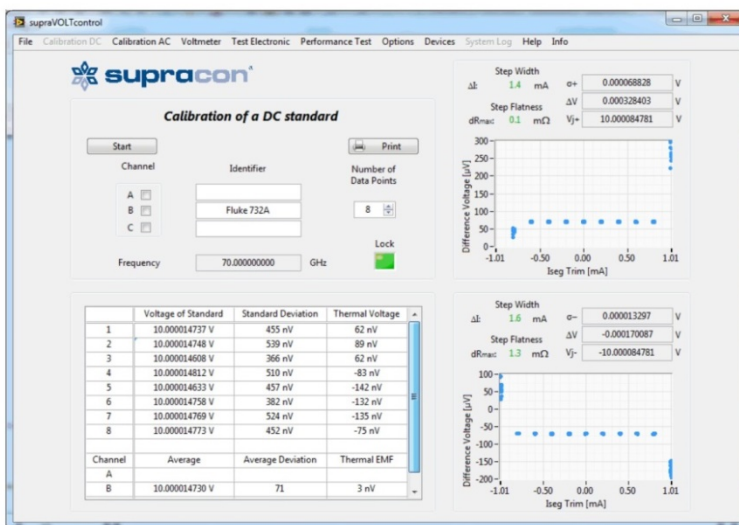
$$\Delta V/V = 5 \times 10^{-7} \text{ @ } V \leq 7.2 \text{ V(rms), } f \leq 2 \text{ kHz, } 10 \text{ second measuring time}$$

CALIBRATION MODES [Samples]



▲ AC reference standard (e.g. FLUKE 5720A)

Measured calibrator RMS voltages with type A uncertainty for three AC frequencies



▲ DC reference standard (e.g. FLUKE 732B)

Software interface for DC voltage standards

