

The Accredited Calibration Certificate for Laboratory Balances Overview, Definitions, Information



Accurate and Reliable Results

The requirements on accuracy and reliability of laboratory data are continuously growing. Leading regulatory requirements and quality management standards, such as the ISO 9000 series and GMP, call for regular calibration of inspection, measuring and test equipment. Only in this way can accurate, reliable and traceable measurement results be ensured over the long term.

Sartorius Service is accredited for compliance with ISO 17025 in many countries and is authorized to issue calibration certificates for laboratory balances. Therefore, complete traceability of your measuring equipment to your national standards and confidence in your measurement and test results are ensured.

The intention of this brochure is to explain the individual parts of the Sartorius calibration certificate and key terms. In addition, it provides information on how to interpret calibration results and the uncertainty of measurement.



The Sartorius calibration certificate is divided into two parts:

- First, we consider the official, predefined template that shows all information on the object or instrument calibrated, the measured results and the respective uncertainties of measurement.
- 2. Second, we provide a more detailed Appendix along with an interpretation of the measured results.

Official Part of the Calibration Certificate | Basic Information

The first page of the calibration certificate contains information and specifications that are important for control of inspection, measuring and test equipment and of its accuracy. Once you have received a calibration certificate, you should always check whether the documents are complete and the information entered is correct.

Description of information entered:

1 Accreditation and ILAC–MRA¹ Symbol

- Sartorius has been accredited in various countries by the respective national accreditation bodies (e.g., DAkkS, UKAS, ANAB, etc.) and is authorized to perform on-site calibration of weighing instruments.
- The ILAC-MRA recognizes the calibration certificates issued by ILAC-MRA in all ILAC member nations.

2 Calibration Marks

- Upper part: certificate number
- Middle part: registration number of the calibration laboratory
- Lower part: year and month of calibration

3 Basic Calibration Data

- Basic data of the weighing instrument and the customer are stated in this area.
- If the calibration certificate is to be used as proof of traceability, this data must match that given for test equipment management.

4 Stamp and Signatures

 The stamp of the calibration laboratory, the date of issue of the calibration certificate (may differ from the actual calibration date), the signatures of the laboratory manager and the person who performed calibration are provided at the bottom of the first page.

Calibration Certificate Issued by Sartorius

Calibration Laboratory Accredited According to DIN EN ISO/IEC 1 7025 for Electronic Balances/Scales

Deutsche Akkreditierungsstelle GmbH als Kalibrierlaboratorium im / as calibration laboratory in the

SECURA224-15

Sartorius Lab Instru GmbH & Co. KG

Otto-Brenner-Str. 37079 Göttingen

Deutschen Kalibrierdienst

ed by the / akkreditiert durch die



Serial / QM Ident No

Object

Туре

Custome

3



DAkkS

the International System of Units (3). The DAKS is signatory to the multilateral agreements of the European co-operation for Accreditation (FA) and of the International Laboratory Accreditation Cooperation of calibration certificates. The user is obliged to have the object recalibrated at appropriate intervals. Dieser Kollbrierschein dokumentiert die Röckführung ouf nationale Normale zur mit dem Internationalen Einheitensystem (2) Die DakS 51 Unterversiten der multitation

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 Head of the calibration beorstory Leiter des Kalibreitbotantions
 Person in charge Benetier

 Dr.K.
 Dipl. Ing. Norbert Schneil
 Max. Mustermann

 Santonius Labi Instruments GmbH & Co. KG Otto-Brenner-Straße 20, 37079 Göttingen Servicezentrum Tel. (IDSSI) 308 333 Parc (IDSSI) 308 3730
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Important Information:

- The user shall be responsible for having calibration repeated within a reasonable deadline.
- Calibration certificates may be disseminated only in their complete and unamended form. Excerpts or changes require prior approval both from the respective accreditation body and from the calibration laboratory that issued the particular certificate.

¹ ILAC: International Laboratory Accreditation Cooperation; MRA: Mutual Recognition Arrangement

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-							
Calibration object: Single range scale							
Type	REC	URA224-1S					
Serial number		33333					
QM Ident No./ Inventory no.	-						
Maximum Load (Max)	220.	0000 g					
Readability	d = 0	0.0001 g					
Calibration procedure					_		
Guidelines on the Calibration	of Non-Automatic We	eighing Instruments:					ET/cg-18/v.04
Weights of class were used:						OIML R	111 E2
QM ident No. of used weight	s:	Satz 28 Gewich	hte E2 F1				
Place of calibration: Address			Ac	cording te	nage 1		
				-	- page 1		
Department			me	etrology			
Building, Floor Room			1				
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5 Calibration Object

- This area lists the following: basic metrological data (type, serial number and QM identification and inventory numbers), as well as the calibrated ranges.
- Depending on your calibration requirements, the maximum load for calibration may differ from the maximum capacity of weighing instrument. Please note that in this case, the calibration certificate will serve only as proof of traceability up to the maximum load used for calibration.
- For multiple range and multi-interval weighing instruments: the various calibrated (partial) weighing ranges with their particular maximum capacity and readability are listed.

6 Calibration Procedure

- This is performed according to EURAMET Calibration Guide No. 18: Guidelines on the Calibration of Non-Automatic Weighing Instruments of the current version 4.0 (11/2015). This Guide can be downloaded from the EURAMET website at www.euramet.org free of charge.
- Sartorius uses weights of classes E2, F1 and M1 according to the classification of the OIML International Recommendation "R111 Weights of classes E1, E2, F1, F2, M1, M1–2, M2, M2–3 and M3", in the current version of "Edition 2004".

7 Place of Calibration

 Calibration of the particular weighing instrument is valid only for the location specified on the calibration certificate.
 If this instrument is moved to a different place, the environmental conditions of this new location, for example, may differ from those at the original place to a such a considerable extent that recalibration of the instrument is required.

8 Adjustment Status

- Depending on your calibration requirements and type of weighing instrument, calibration can be performed with and | or without prior adjustment.
- Basically, adjustment should be performed before calibration as the former generally reduces the difference between the value indicated and the nominal value of the load actually placed on the pan.
- Calibration without prior adjustment can be advisable for quality control to check or prove the accuracy of the measured values recorded; this is known as an "as found" calibration procedure.
- Calibration after adjustment is called "as left calibration".

9 Environmental and Measuring Conditions

- Information is provided here on temperature and place of calibration; the difference in temperature between the environment and the weights used (to estimate the possible effects of convection); maximum temperature variation at the place of calibration; the thermometer used; and the measuring conditions.
- The measuring conditions do not have a direct influence on the calibration result, but rather are used primarily for information and documentation.

10 Measuring Results and Uncertainty of Measurement

 This is where the measurements of the repeatability and eccentricity error of indication, as well as the calculated errors and uncertainties of measurement, are specified.
 A list of the results concludes the official part of the calibration certificate.

Further Reference Notes | Interpretation of the Measuring Results

11 Uncertainty of Measurement in Use

- Calibration can and may only provide information about the difference between the nominal value of the weight placed on the pan and the value indicated by the weighing instrument exactly at the particular time this is done and for exactly the weight used in calibration.
- The Sartorius calibration certificate additionally shows an estimate of the uncertainty of measurement in use of your weighing instrument.
- The so-called global expanded uncertainty already includes an interpolation of the previously determined error of indication. This means that a respective reading in use no longer has to be corrected. The global uncertainty is given in the form of a linear equation; i.e., with uncertainty contributions of a constant variable and a variable proportional to the reading:

Uncertainty of the Weighing Result Ugl(W): $Ugl(W) = 0.00016 \ g + 3.49 \ ^* 10^{-6} \ ^* R$

12 Interpretation of the Equation

For a reading of R, the true value will lie within the interval [R-Ugl(W); R+Ugl(W)] with a probability of 95% – hence, for the example above, within the interval [0.999837 g; 1.000163 mg] for a reading of R=1 g.

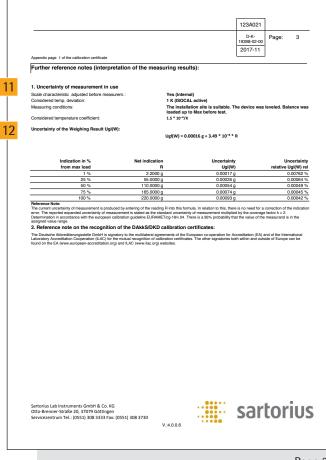
In most cases, the global expanded uncertainty is a sufficiently good estimate of the uncertainty in use of a weighing instrument and can be directly used in practice. The partial errors for the following aspects are used in the calculation of this uncertainty:

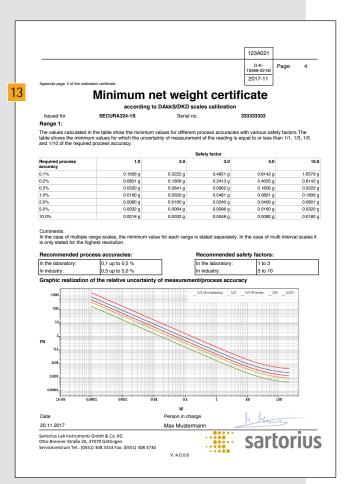
- Rounding at 0
- Rounding when a load is applied
- Repeatability
- Eccentricity error of indication during eccentric loading
- Possible changes in the weighing instrument and | or buoyancy effects caused by changes in temperature at the place of use
- Long-term changes that a weighing instrument undergoes
- Possible effects of taring, creep or hysteresis of the weighing instrument
- Error of indication determined during calibration and the interpolation of this error

In a few special cases (such as when weighing in a protective gas atmosphere), it may be necessary for you to modify the calculation of the uncertainty to accommodate these special conditions.

Important Information:

The respective calculations yield information on which actions would reduce the uncertainty of measurement in use. The largest influential factors include adjustment of the weighing instrument; an environment in which the temperature is kept constant at all times as far as possible; and centered loading of the pan during a weighing procedure.





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First Appendix: The Minimum Net Weight Certificate

13 Minimum Net Weight Certificate

- On request, your Sartorius service technician will issue a minimum net weight certificate.
- The minimum net weights for the various process accuracies required and different safety factors are listed on this certificate.

Please note that the minimum net weight of a balance is typically much higher than the smallest possible value displayed by the balance, scale interval d. This is not due to the lack of quality of your balance. Even for a theoretically ideal calibration procedure of an ideal balance – under ideal conditions in use – a global expanded uncertainty of $U_{gl}(W) \approx 0.8 \cdot d$ would be yielded for a single range balance with $d=d_0=d_L$ as the result of the finite resolution of this balance. Therefore, the minimum net weight for common process accuracies and safety factors would always be several times the resolution of the balance (see Table 1).

Safety Factor

Required Process Accuracy	1	2	3	5	10
0.1%	800 d	1600 d	2400 d	4000 d	8000 d
0.2%	400 d	800 d	1200 d	2000 d	4000 d
0.5%	160 d	320 d	480 d	800 d	1600 d
1%	80 d	160 d	240 d	400 d	800 d
2%	40 d	80 d	120 d	200 d	400 d
5%	16 d	32 d	48 d	80 d	160 d
10%	8 d	16 d	24 d	40 d	80 d

Table 1: The theoretically **smallest possible** minimum net weights of a laboratory balance with a resolution of d for a few common process accuracies and safety factors (rounded values).

- 14 Diagram of the Relative Uncertainty of Measurement Process Accuracy Based on the Example of the Minimum Net Weight
 - The following equation of the global uncertainty of measurement in use contains two partial errors:
 1. One variable proportional to the indication
 2. One constant variable

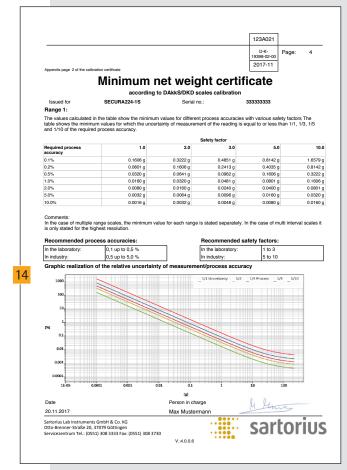
Uncertainty of the Weighing Result Ugl(W):

UgI(W) = 0.00016 g + 3.49 * 10⁻⁶ * R

- The relative uncertainty of measurement U_{gl,rel} (W)=U_{gl} (W)/W is not a constant. Instead, it increases as loads decrease.
- If the uncertainty is not to exceed a specified maximum permissible relative uncertainty U_{max,rel} (e.g., required by a targeted relative process accuracy), this will inevitably lead to a specific minimum net weight of R_{min} below which the relative uncertainty will be higher.
- Often, the required process accuracy is divided by a safety factor in order to obtain the maximum permissible relative uncertainty.
- On the calibration certificate, a corresponding example is calculated for a required process accuracy of p=1% and a safety factor of k_s=3.
- For other values of p and k_s , the respective minimum net weight can also be read off the diagram: The value is located on the x-axis where the corresponding curve intersects the required process accuracy on the y-axis (five curves are plotted with the typical safety factors of 1, 2, 3, 5 and 10). The example of p=1 % and $k_s=3$ is plotted for illustration.
- For any values of p and k_s, the minimum net weight can be calculated using the formula $R_{min} = \alpha_{gl}/([p/k_s]-\beta_{gl})$ in which α_{gl} is the constant proportion (in the example $\alpha_{gl} = 0.00016$ g) and β_{gl} the factor of the proportion proportional to the display (in the example $\beta_{gl}=3.49 \times 10^{-6}$).



- When reading values off the diagram, please note that the graph is a double logarithmic plot. A value that is located in the center, for example, between 1 g and 2 g, is not 1.5 g, as on a linear plot, but rather 1.3 g. This type of plot was chosen in this case in order to better represent small loads.
- The minimum net weight calculated in this example is for p=0.1% and $k_s=1$, **not** the same as the smallest net weight according to USP Chapter 41 (see Section 4). These values are terms that are similarly designated, but are defined and calculated differently. If you need to weigh according to USP, the minimum net weight shown on this calibration certificate cannot be used in this case. You will need a separate USP certificate issued by Sartorius.
- If you use legal-for-trade or verified balances; i.e. balances that are used in applications subject to legal control, the minimum capacity will continue to apply as the limit below which no weighing operations may be carried out for applications subject to legal metrology.



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			123A021
			19398-02-00
Appendix page	3 of the calibration certificate		
	Con	formity certific	cate
		ing to DAkkS/DKD scales calib	
Issued for	SECURA224-1S	Serial no.:	33333333
First Measur			
this are the me	certificate certifies the complia asured values determined durin f measurement in use.	nce with the requirements made for t ng the DAkkS/DKD scales calibration	the abovementioned scale. The basis fo . The conformity statements relate to the
Conformit	v statements for comp	liance with customer spe	cifications:
			e calibration certificate (see pp. 2 ff.)
	d deviation of the repeatability		
Calibr 0.000	ation result	Customer specifications	Condition fulfilled Yes
		0.0001 g	
	fference in the measurement of ation result	the eccentricity error (Δ lecc l max) Customer specifications	Condition fulfilled
0.000		0.0010 g	Yes
	-		100
	m error (E) of indication during ation result	Customer specifications	Condition fulfilled
0.000		0.0002 g	Yes
Conformity Relate to the u A) At a B) With	y statements on the cu ncertainties of measurement in process accuracy of 0.10 % with a net weight of 100.0000 g the	scale does not exceed the max. und	on certificate). ains a minimum net weight of 0.5000 g.
Conformity Relate to the u A) At a B) With	y statements on the concertainties of measurement in process accuracy of 0.10 % with	use (see Appendix 1 of the calibration that the safety factor 1 the scale mainted scale does not exceed the max. unc	on certificate). ains a minimum net weight of 0.5000 g.
Conformity Relate to the u A) At a B) With	y statements on the cu ncertainties of measurement in process accuracy of 0.10 % with a net weight of 100.0000 g the	use (see Appendix 1 of the calibration that the safety factor 1 the scale mainted scale does not exceed the max. unc	on certificate). ains a minimum net weight of 0.5000 g.

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Second Appendix: Conformity Certificate

15 Conformity Certificate

On request, your Sartorius service technician will issue a conformity certificate. Unlike weights, for which the OIML R111-1 International Recommendation defines the maximum permissible errors for the nominal value of the various classes, there are no normative requirements for weighing instruments. Therefore, conformity statements can only refer to the specifications given by the user.

Before calibration, you as the user need to provide the specifications to be met.

Such requirements can be the following, for example:

- The specifications given by the manufacturer of the weighing instrument. Please note that these are often values that refer to optimal conditions. If a balance is operated under less than ideal conditions, the calibration results can be significantly higher, without these being based on a defect of this instrument. This is why many manufacturers separately provide "typical" specifications.
- Results of previous calibrations are given to ensure that

 a weighing instrument has not significantly deteriorated in
 performance. To prevent statistical variations of a value
 from being incorrectly interpreted as deterioration in the
 performance of a balance, a certain supplement should be
 added to the worst calibration result obtained so far.
- Statements on process requirements and their mandatory accuracy are given, such as a certain process accuracy with a safety factor that must be met for a specific minimum net weight. Alternatively, a maximum permissible uncertainty of a weighing result can be stated for a specific net weight.

On the conformity certificate, only the calibration results are compared with the specifications you, the user, have provided. If it turns out that specific requirements or specifications are not met, your Sartorius service technician will be happy to advise you on the appropriate action to take, for example:

- Improve the environmental conditions
- Change the location of your balance
- Have your balance repaired or
- Use a different balance model

Sartorius offers the following statement options on a conformity certificate. The gray shaded fields stand for values that you can define:

Measurement (s):CalibrationCustomerConditionresultspecificationfulfilled0.0001 g0.0001 gJa

17 2. Maximum Difference in the Measurement of the Eccentricity Error (|∆lecc|max):

16 1. Standard Deviation of the Repeatability

Calibration result	Customer specification	Condition fulfilled
0.0001 g	0.0010 g	Ja

18 3. Maximum Error (E) of Indication During the Performance Test:

Calibration result	Customer specification	Condition fulfilled
0.0001 g	0.0002 g	Ja

Examples of Conformity Statements on Process Requirements:

- A) At a process accuracy of 0.10 % with a safety factor of 2, the minimum net weight of 0.5000 g is maintained by the balance.
- B) With a net weight of 100.00 g the balance does not exceed the maximum uncertainty U_{gl}(W) of 0.01 g in use. This corresponds to a maximum deviation

of 100 digits.



USP Certificate

USP C	erti	ficate	123-USP-A003 2017-11
Determination of the Operatin			cc. USP, Chapter 41 and Specificat
Object		Electronical scale	
Manufacturer		Sartorius	
Model		SECURA224-1S	
Serial number		333333333	
Inventory number			
Customer		Sartorius Lab Instruments - GmbH Otto-Brenner-Str. 20 37079 Göttingen	& Co. KG -
Number of pages		3	
Date of testing		NOV-20-2017	
Requirements of	USP, Cha	pter 41	
Repeatability		$\frac{2s}{M_s} \le 0.10\%$ (if s<0.41)	d1, s is replaced with 0.41 d1)
Accuracy		V _m ≤ 0.10% * M _c	
		$\begin{array}{ll} M_{s} & : \text{Desired smallest net weight} \\ V_{m} &= M_{w} - M_{c} \\ M_{w} & : \text{ Indication of balance} \\ M_{c} & : \text{Conventional mass value (for ac balance capacity)} \end{array}$	curacy test Mc has to be > 5% of
Specification of	the Opera	ting Range of a Balance	
Operating range		OR = OR _{min} up to OR _{max}	
		OR: Operating range OR _{min} = 2 s x 1000 (if s < 0.41 d OR _{max} = Balance capacity	1, OR _{min} =2 x 0.41 d1 x 1000)
Balance calibrati	on Status		
Last calibration		NOV-20-2017	
Calibraton certificate I	No	123A021	
Result			
Repeatability	(2s/M _s)	0.027%	
	(28/Mg)		irements for the smallest desired net
Accuracy	(V _m)	-0,0001 g / 0,0005%	
	< IIP	Satisfactory according to USP requ	irements
Operating range	(OR)	0,1333 g	
Date NOV-20-2017		Signature	Sartorius Lab Instruments GmbH & Co. KG Otto-Brenner-Straße 20
NOV-20-2017		J. Lines	37079 Göttingen Phone: 0049 551 308 3333
Name			

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18 USP Certificate

On request, your Sartorius service technician will additionally or alternatively issue a USP² certificate for your balance. For this purpose, your service technician will need information in advance to perform further measurements (e.g., at least 10 measurements for determining the repeatability).

19 United States Pharmacopeia Chapter 41

- Chapter 41 of the United States Pharmacopeia specifies the requirements on the repeatability and the accuracy of a balance, which will be tested by your Sartorius service technician as a prerequisite for issuing a USP2 certificate.
- In addition, this chapter describes a requirement on the operating range of a balance, which is shown on the certificate.

Important Information:

Strictly speaking, a USP certificate is not an integral part of accredited calibration. Because the USP requires a calibrated balance, however, we recommend on principle that you have USP testing performed together with accredited calibration.

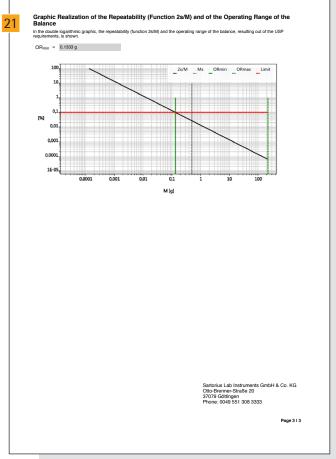
20 Repeatability Test

- − To assess the repeatability of a balance, repeatability is satisfactory if two times the standard deviation of the weighed value is less than or equal to 0.1% of the smallest net weight M_s to be used on the balance: $2 \cdot s \le 0,1 \% \cdot M_s$
- To ensure that a balance with excellent repeatability does not yield a minimum net weight of 0 g, s is replaced by $0.41 \cdot d$, if s < $0.41 \cdot d$. This enables the minimum limit $OR_{min}=M_S$ of the operating range OR to be directly calculated, on the one hand. The variable s also makes it possible to determine whether the desired smallest net weight the user plans to use on the balance according to the inequality stated above is fulfilled, on the other. The operating range OR of a balance is ultimately yielded by the smallest net weight $OR_{min}=M_S$ and the maximum capacity of the balance $OR_{max}=Max$.

Model	SECURA224-1S		
Serial number	33333333		
Inventory number			
Maximum Load	220,0000 g		
Readability	d1:0,0001 g		
Desired smallest net weight	0,5000 g		
Test weight information	n		
Weight set	Satz 28 Gewichte E2 F1		
Accuracy class	E2		
Calibration Date	JUNE 2017		
Place of testing			
Department	metrology		
Building, Floor			
Room	1		
Ambient conditions			
Temperature during testing	22 °C		
Measuring conditions	Normal		
Measuring results			
Repeatability test			
	2*s of the weighed value devided l e formula 2s/Ms by 0.41*d.	by the smallest desired net mweight	≤ 0.10%. With a standard deviation
Test weight (Mt)	100 g	Standard deviation (s)	0,00007 g
Indications	99,9998 g	2s/M	0,027%
	100,0000 g 99,9998 g	25/M 5	0,027%
	100,0000 g	ORmin	0,1333 g
	99,9999 g		
	99,9999 g	Operating range	0,1333 g - 220,0000 g
	99,9999 g		
	99,9999 g 99,9999 g		
	99,9999 g		
Accuracy test			
	≤ 0.10% of the conventional mass	value (Mc)	
Conventional mass value M _c	20,0001 g		
Indication of balance M	20,0000 g		
$V_m = M_w - M_c$	-0,0001 g / 0,0005%		
		Otto-Brenne 37079 Göttir	
		Fnune: 0049	551 500 5555
			Page 2 I

21 Graphic Realization of the Function 2s/M and of the Operating Range of the Balance

- The minimum net weight is also shown in a double logarithic graph for illustration. The operating range OR of the balance is depicted by the vertical green lines. The desired smallest net weight is shown by the vertical black line.
- If this line is within the operating range, the minimum net weight can be achieved under USP conditions.
 However, if this line is on the left, and thus below the operating range of the balance, the desired smallest net weight cannot be achieved under USP conditions.



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