

EURADOS

Training course

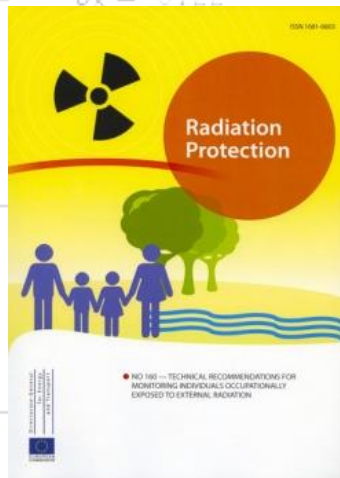
# Evaluating uncertainty

## RP160 Chapter 5

### Part 1

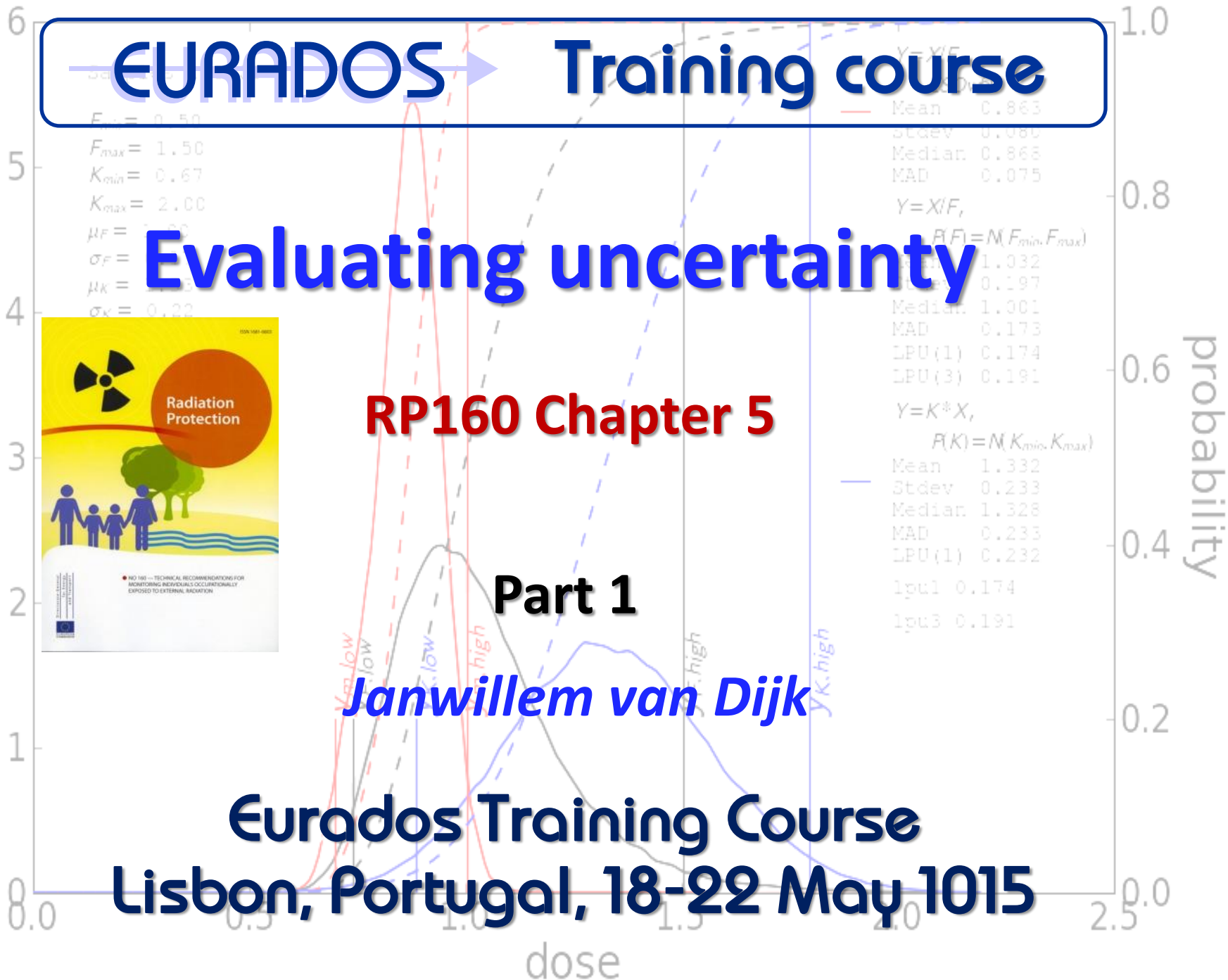
Janwillem van Dijk

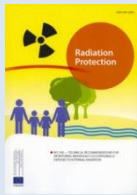
Eurados Training Course  
Lisbon, Portugal, 18-22 May 2015



frequency

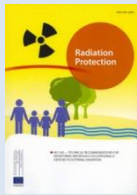
probability





# Evaluating uncertainty

- I. -Introduction to evaluating uncertainty, the GUM and its supplements,  
-The formulation stage and the GUM framework
- II. - The formulation stage continued  
-The calculation stage and characteristic limits

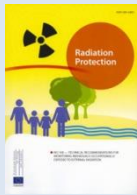


# Evaluating uncertainty

## Part I



- **Why it matters**
- **The concepts of measurement and uncertainty**
- **The measurement model, the measurand and input quantities**

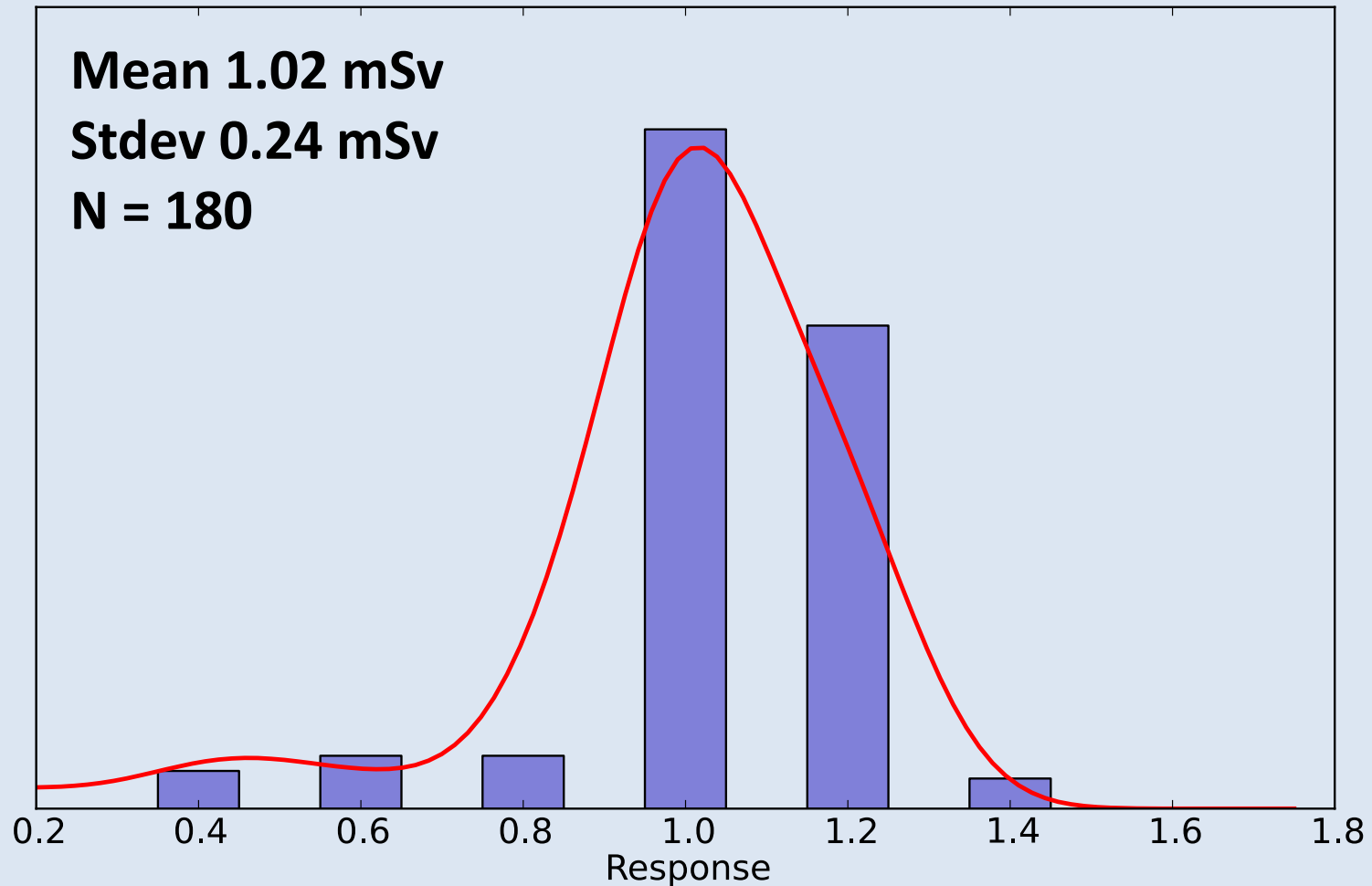


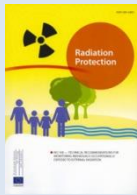
# A thought experiment

**A QA manager asks for 180 dosimeters**

- **Has them all irradiated to 1mSv randomly at various angles and energies all conform ISO 4037**
- **Has them evaluated and reported**
- **Does some statistics**

## A thought experiment

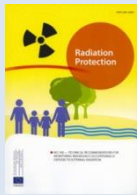




# Measurement uncertainty

A single measurement is a sample from a distribution that contains the true value

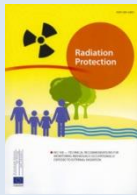
You would like to know the true value but you cannot. That is uncertainty in measurement.  
Lack of knowledge.



# Measurement uncertainty

The task of evaluating the uncertainty in measurement is to quantify this lack of knowledge by finding the parameters that determine the distribution, i.e.

- mean as an estimate for the true value
- standard deviation as an estimate for the standard uncertainty



# Uncertainty evaluation

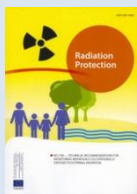
**Uncertainty evaluation involves the use of**

- **Mathematics**
- **Expert knowledge**
- **Statistics**
- **Expert judgment/choices**

**It is science but also an art**

**Guidance is needed!**

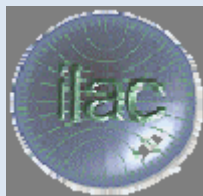


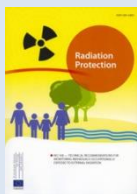


## Measurement uncertainty

Guidance on “how to” make choices and use standards

Joint Committee on Guides in Metrology (JCGM)





## ***Guide to the expression of uncertainty in measurement, GUM***

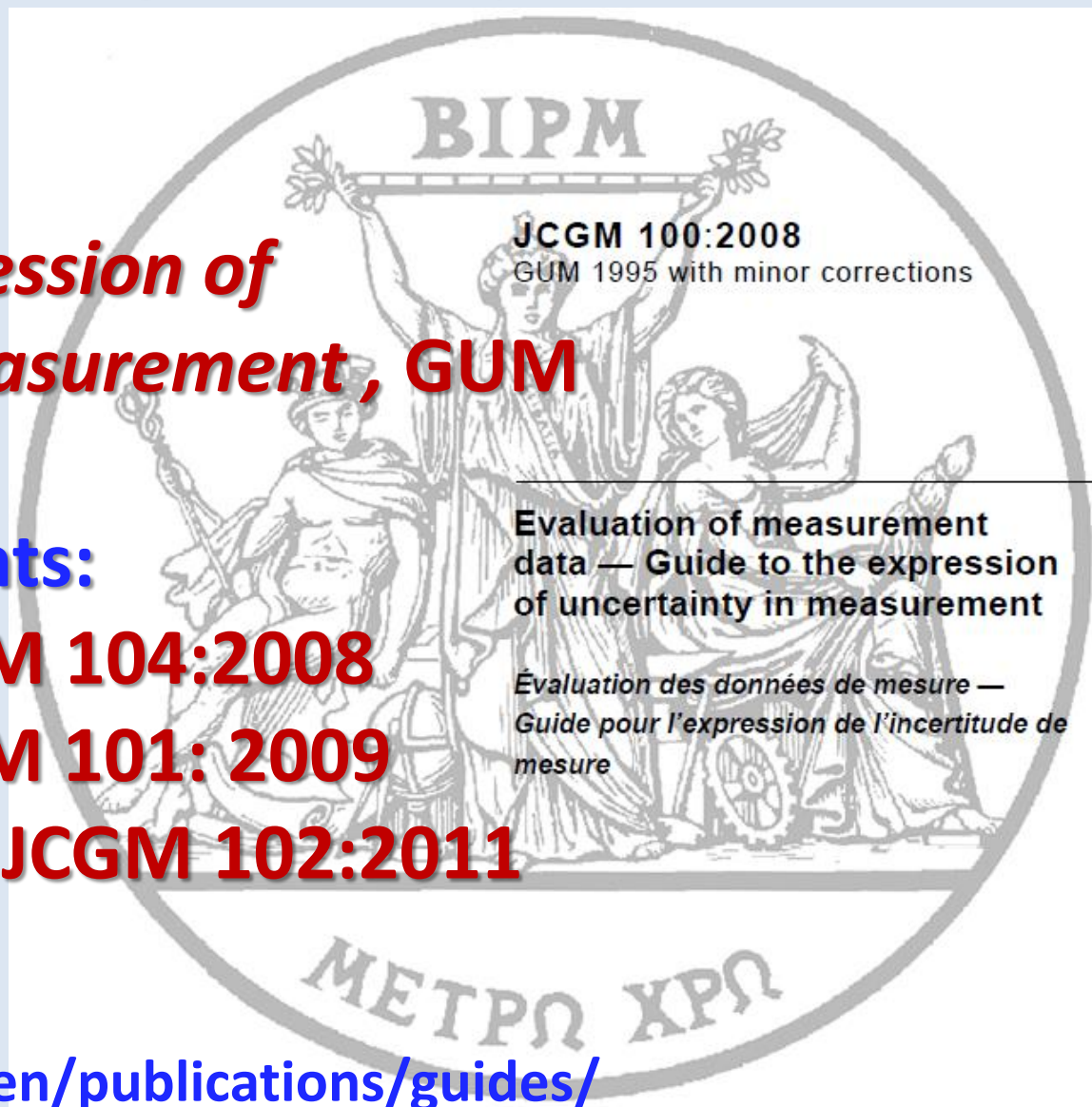
**JCGM, 100:2008**

**and its supplements:**

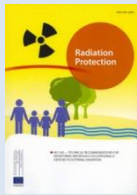
**Introduction, JCGM 104:2008**

**Monte Carlo, JCGM 101: 2009**

**Multiple outputs, JCGM 102:2011**



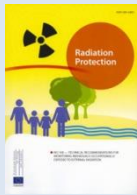
<http://www.bipm.org/en/publications/guides/>



## Metrological terms

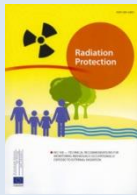
### Components of a measurement

- **Measurand (output quantity)**  
Personal dose equivalent (mSv)
- **Input quantities**  
Radiation flux, energy and angle,  
background radiation, calibration data,  
...
- **Measurement equation**  
Formula or algorithm relating input  
quantities and measurand



# Mathematical terms

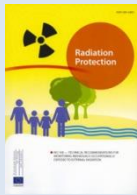
- **Expectation** is mathematical term, a parameter of a distribution function defining the central value (mean)
- **Standard deviation** is mathematical term, a parameter of a distribution function defining the dispersion



## Statistical terms

- **Mean** is a measure for the central value and estimates the true value
- **Standard error** is a measure for the difference between measured value and the true value, an a-posteriori property of the measurement

True value is unknown: standard error has no meaning  
(Exception: when type-testing and calibrating)



## Metrological terms

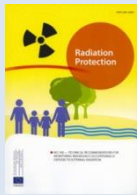
- **Standard uncertainty** quantifies the lack of knowledge of the true value, an a-priory property of the measurement system

The **standard uncertainty** in the measurand has the same numerical value as

The **standard deviation** of the distribution of the measurand

$$u_y = s_y$$

**Metrological ↔ Mathematical**



**Evaluating uncertainty**

—EURADOS→

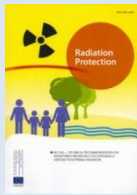
# **Evaluating uncertainty**

## **A 2-stage process**

- 1. The formulation stage**
- 2. The calculation stage**

**Metrological ↔ Mathematical**

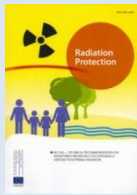




## The formulation stage

- **The measurand:** Define what is to be measured
- **The input quantities:**
  - Define the signals and other inputs influence the measurand.
  - Assign a probability distribution to each input quantity
- **The measurement equation:** Determine the relation between input quantities and the measurand





## Stage 1.1 Define the measurand

**In individual monitoring:**

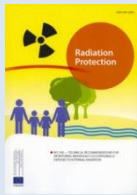
**Personal dose equivalent**

$H_p(0.07)$ ,

$H_p(3)$ ,

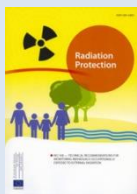
$H_p(10)$

**in sievert (Sv)**

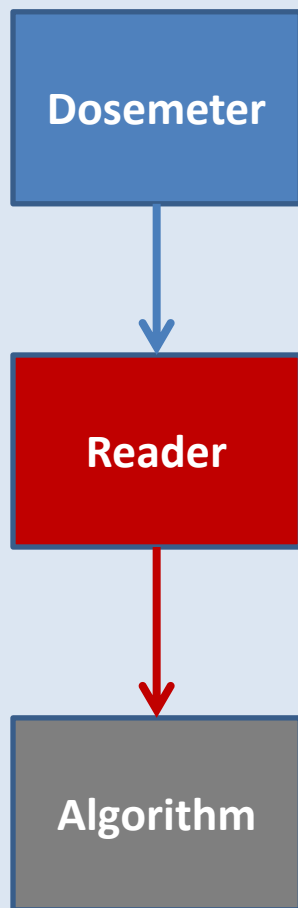


## Stage 1.2 Define the input quantities

- What constitutes a dosimetry system
- What affects the measurement results
- What uncertainties are introduced



## Components dosimetry system



**The device send to the customer**

**The evaluating system, e.g.**

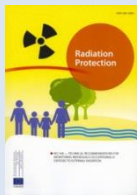
**TLD/OSL/RPL reader**

**Development + densitometer**

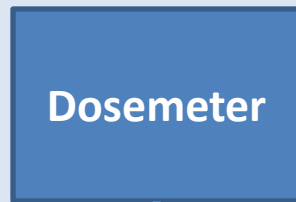
**Etching + track counter**

**Formula, series of formulas**

**Computer program**



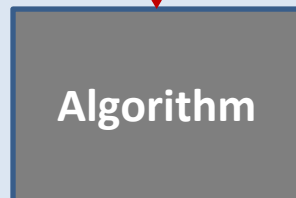
## Some input quantities



Dosemeter



Reader



Algorithm

**Radiation dose**

**Radiation energy and angle of incidence**

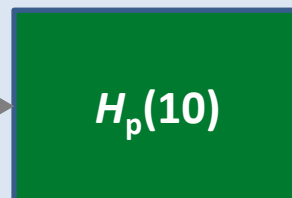
**Natural background dose**

**Environmental conditions, ..., ...**

**Blank signal**

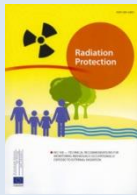
**Sensitivity of optical system**

**Environmental conditions, ..., ...**



$H_p(10)$

**Personal  
dose equivalent**



## Stage 1.2 Identify input quantities

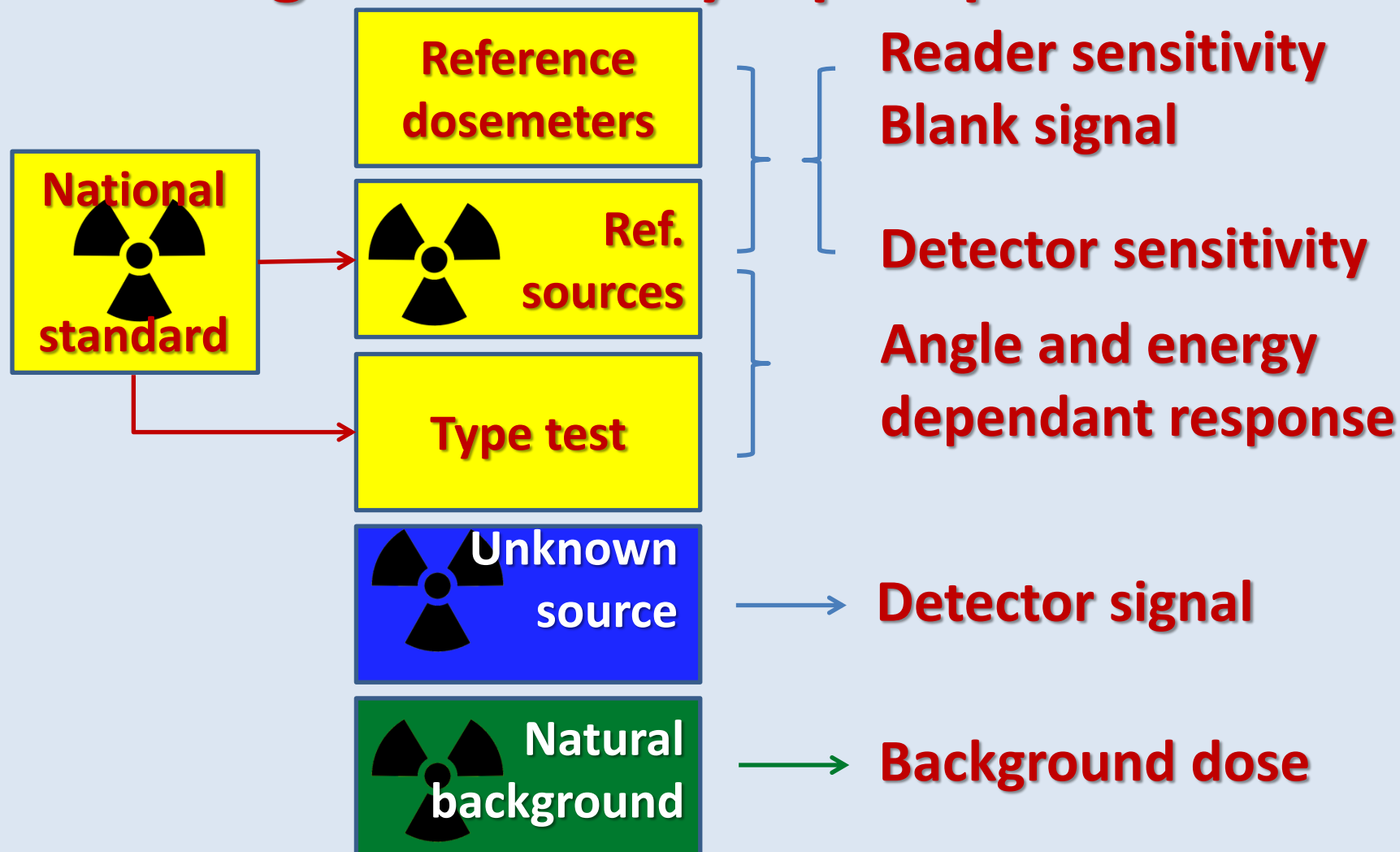
- Reader sensitivity
- Blank signal
- Detector sensitivity
- Angle and energy dependant response
- Detector signal
- Background dose
- Fading
- Environmental conditions, ..., ...

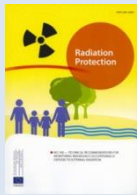


**For a list of 20 input quantities see**

**IEC TR 62461, *Determination of uncertainty in measurement*, Annex B**

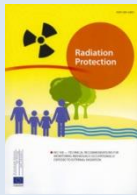
## Stage 1.2 Identify input quantities





# Stage 1.3 Identify probability densities

**Probability distributions,  
some concepts**

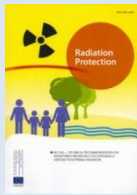


# Probability distribution

The **cumulative distribution function (CDF)**, gives the probability that the random variable  $X$  is no larger than a given value

The **probability density function (PDF)**, is a function that describes the relative likelihood for the random variable  $X$  to take on a given value





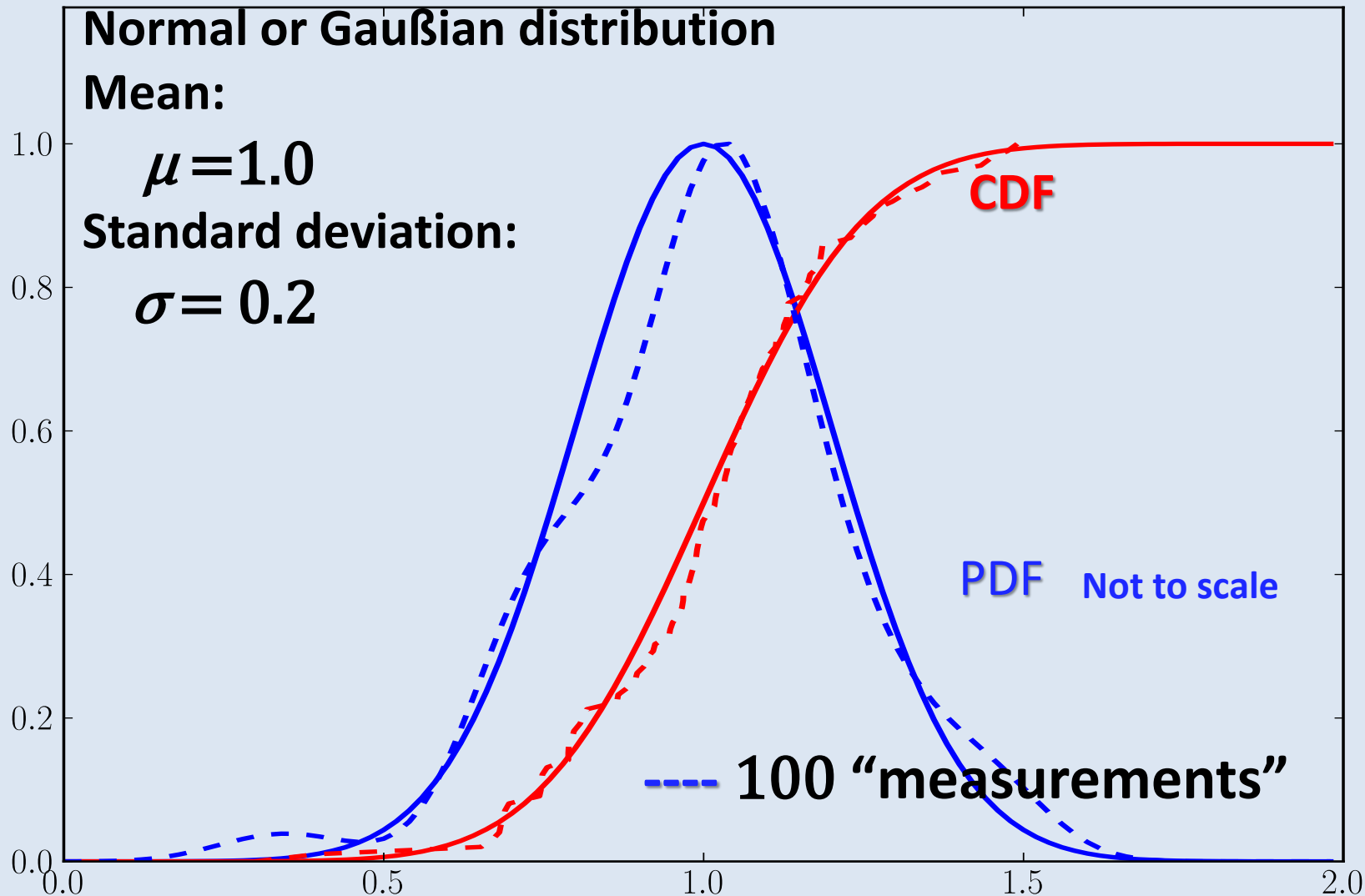
## Probability distribution

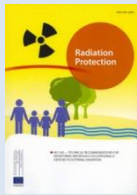
$$F(a) = P[x \leq a] \quad \text{CDF}$$

$$f(x) = \frac{dF(x)}{dx} \quad \text{PDF}$$

$$F(x) = \int_{-\infty}^{u=x} f(u) du \quad \text{CDF}$$

$$F(\infty) = \int_{-\infty}^{\infty} f(u) du = 1$$





# Assigning probability distributions

**What do we know?**

**Two types of evaluation:**

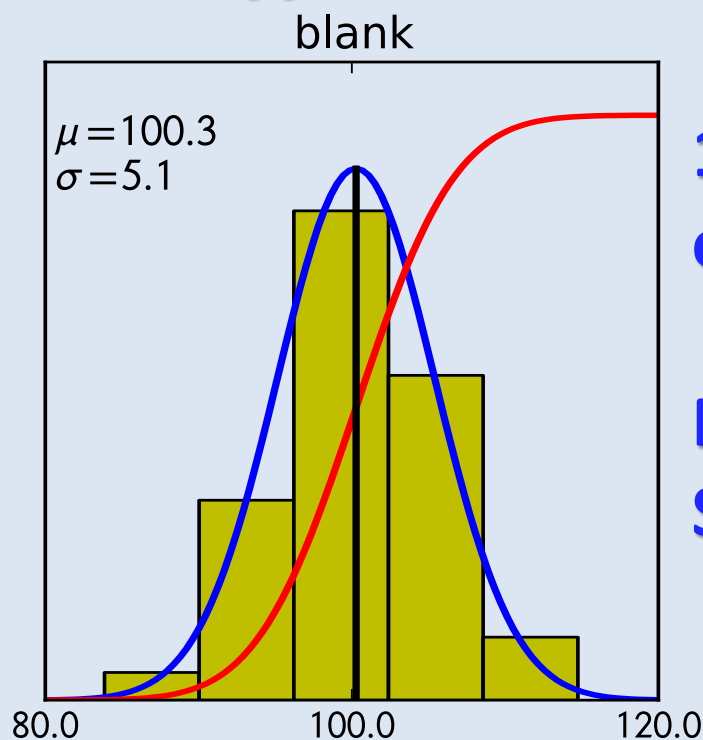
**Type A:** Based on statistical data,  
e.g. repeated measurements

**Type B:** Based on all other knowledge

## Assigning probability distributions

### Type A evaluation

98.8	85.5
97.1	85.5
100.5	85.6
96.6	87.1
105.7	87.2
99.2	87.3
113.8	87.7
101.4	87.7
...	...
...	...
96.9	114.9
102.6	115.4
102.2	115.7

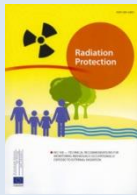


1000 measurements  
of blank signal,  $z$

Mean  
Stdev

$$z = 100.3$$

$$u_z = \sigma_z = 5.1$$



## Assigning probability distributions

**Symmetrical distributions characterized by mean and standard deviation**

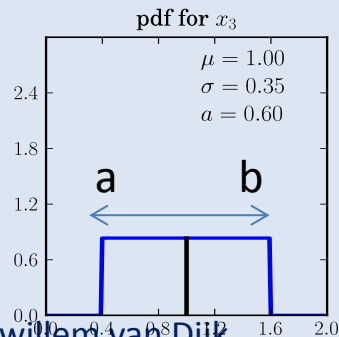
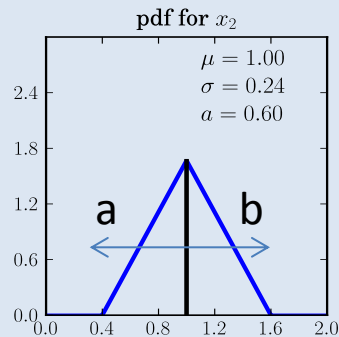
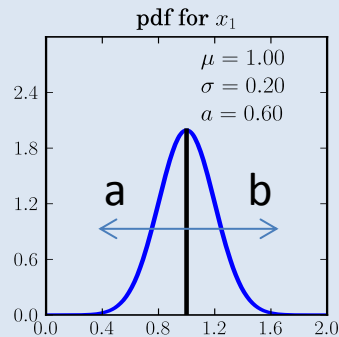
$$\mu = \int_{-\infty}^{\infty} x f(x) dx$$

$$\sigma = \sqrt{\int_{-\infty}^{\infty} (x - \mu)^2 f(x) dx}$$

**E.g. the normal or Gaußian distribution**

$$f(x) = \frac{1}{\sigma \sqrt{2\pi}} e^{-\frac{(x-\mu)^2}{2\sigma^2}}$$

## Assigning distributions: Type B evaluation



We know:

1. 99% of data between ***a*** and ***b*** and
2. central values most likely and
3. extremes very unlikely.

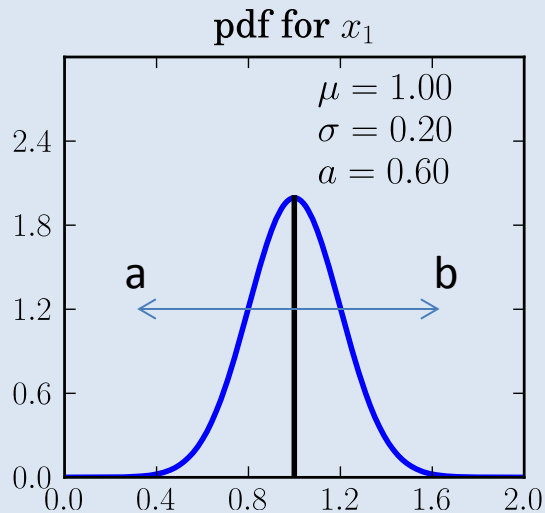
We know:

1. all data between ***a*** and ***b*** and
2. central values more likely.

We know:

1. all data between ***a*** and ***b***

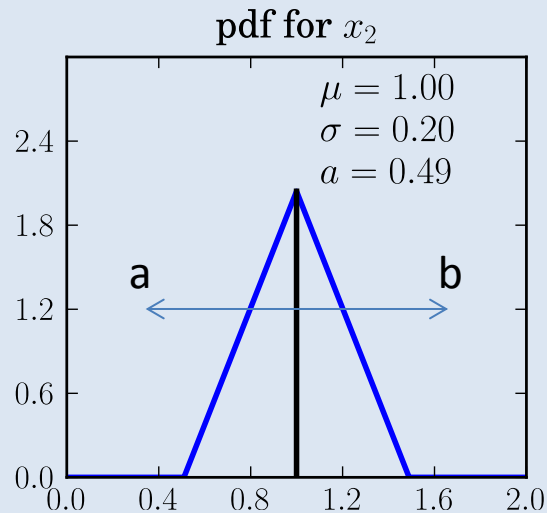
## Assigning distributions: Type B evaluation



$$\mu = (a + b)/2$$

$$\sigma = (b - a)/6$$

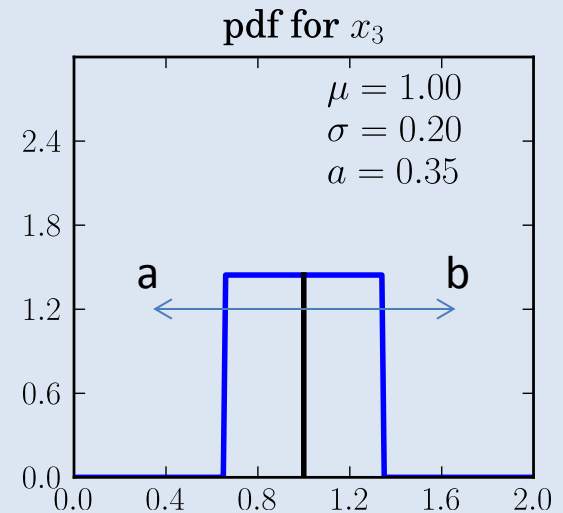
**Range/6**



$$\mu = (a + b)/2$$

$$\sigma = (b - a)/2\sqrt{6}$$

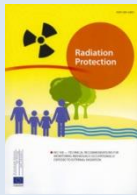
**Range/4.9**



$$\mu = (a + b)/2$$

$$\sigma = (b - a)/2\sqrt{3}$$

**Range/3.5**



## Stage 1.3 The measurement equation

**In mathematical terms:**

**A function of the input quantities.**

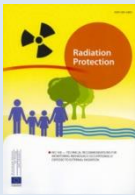
$$x_1, x_2, \dots, x_N = X$$
$$y = f(X)$$

**In practical terms:**

**A number of formulas used to calculate the dose.**

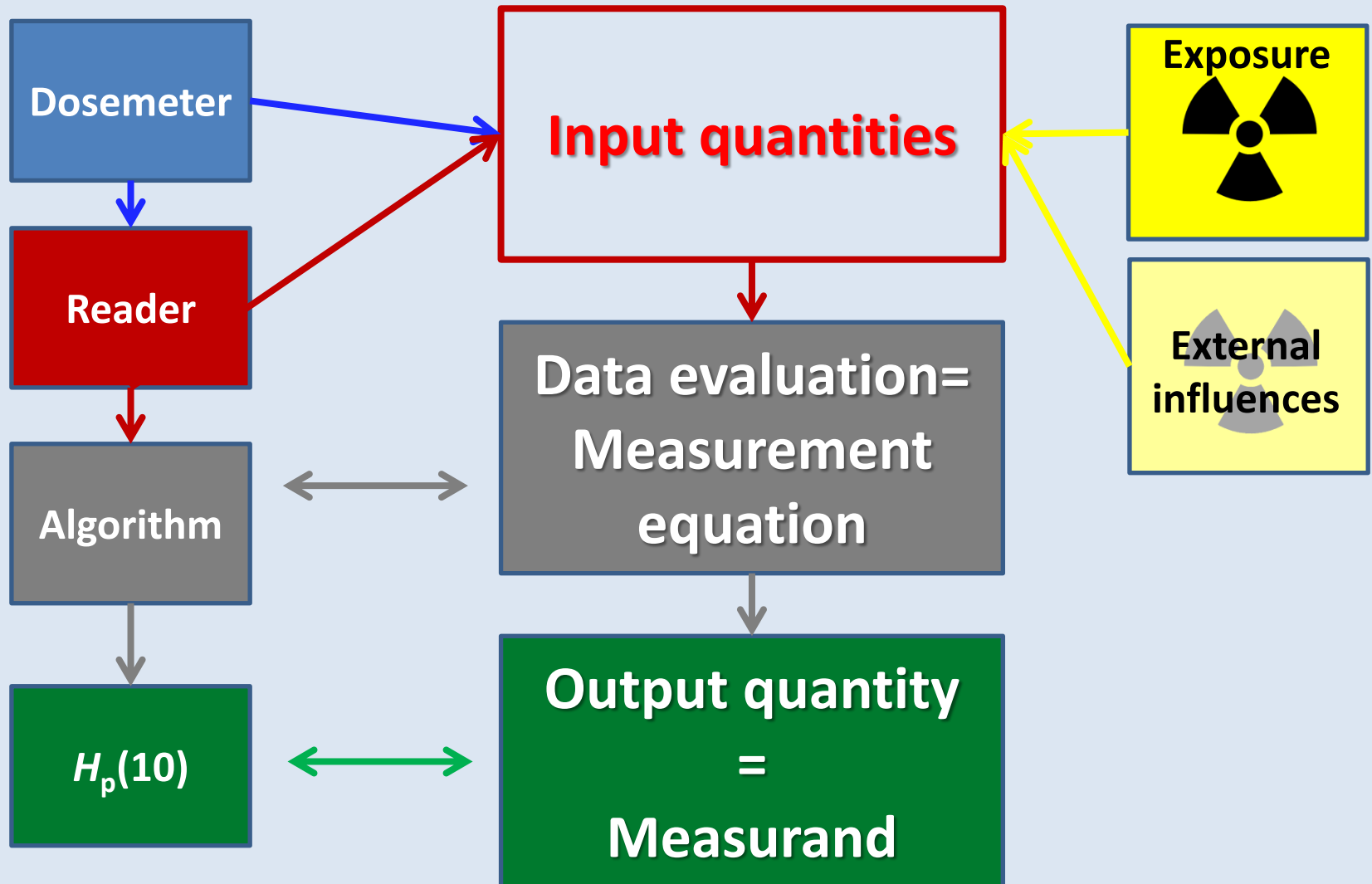
**Usually implemented in software.**





# Evaluating uncertainty

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**End of part I**

## Reference documents

- *Evaluation of measurement data – Guide to the expression of uncertainty in measurement, JCGM 100:2008 (GUM)*
- *Supplement 1 to GUM, Propagation of distributions using a Monte Carlo method, JCGM 101:2008*
- *Determination of characteristic limits for measurements of ionizing radiation, ISO 11929:2010*
- *Radiation detection instrumentation – Determination of uncertainty in measurement, IEC TR 62461:2015 Brand new!*

