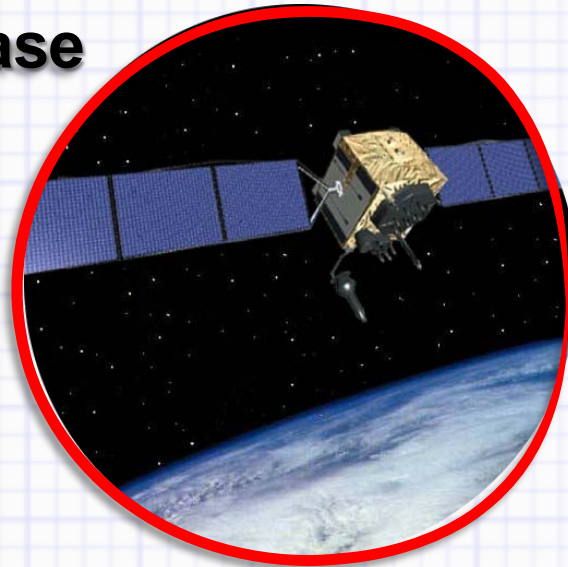


## **Recent Developments in Coaxial Interconnection Cable Materials to Minimize Temperature Induced Phase Errors**



David Slack  
Times Microwave Systems  
[David.Slack@TimesMicro.com](mailto:David.Slack@TimesMicro.com)



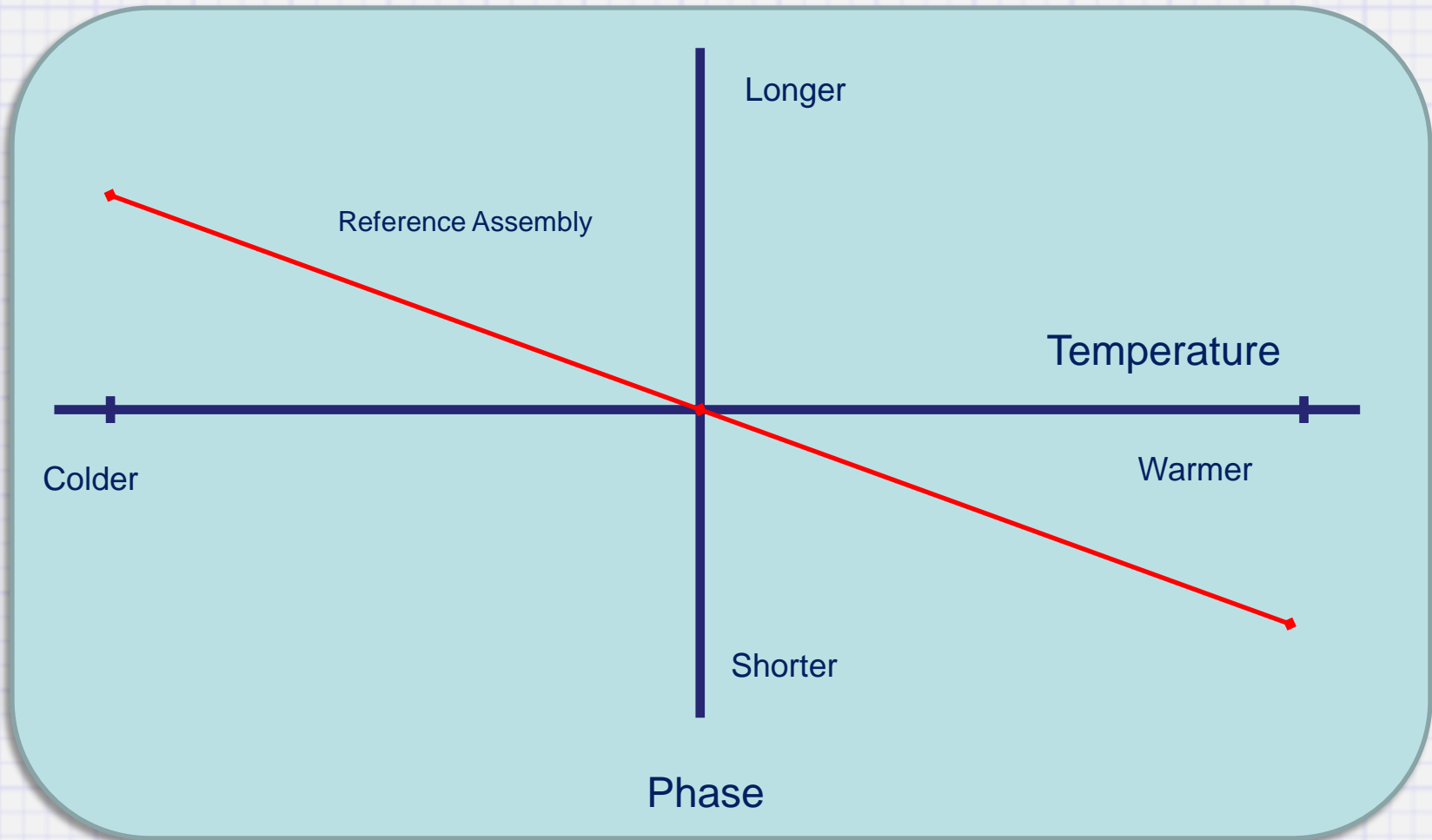
# Electrical Length Review

$$\textit{Electrical length (deg)} = \frac{360 f_o \textit{ physical length}}{C V_p}$$

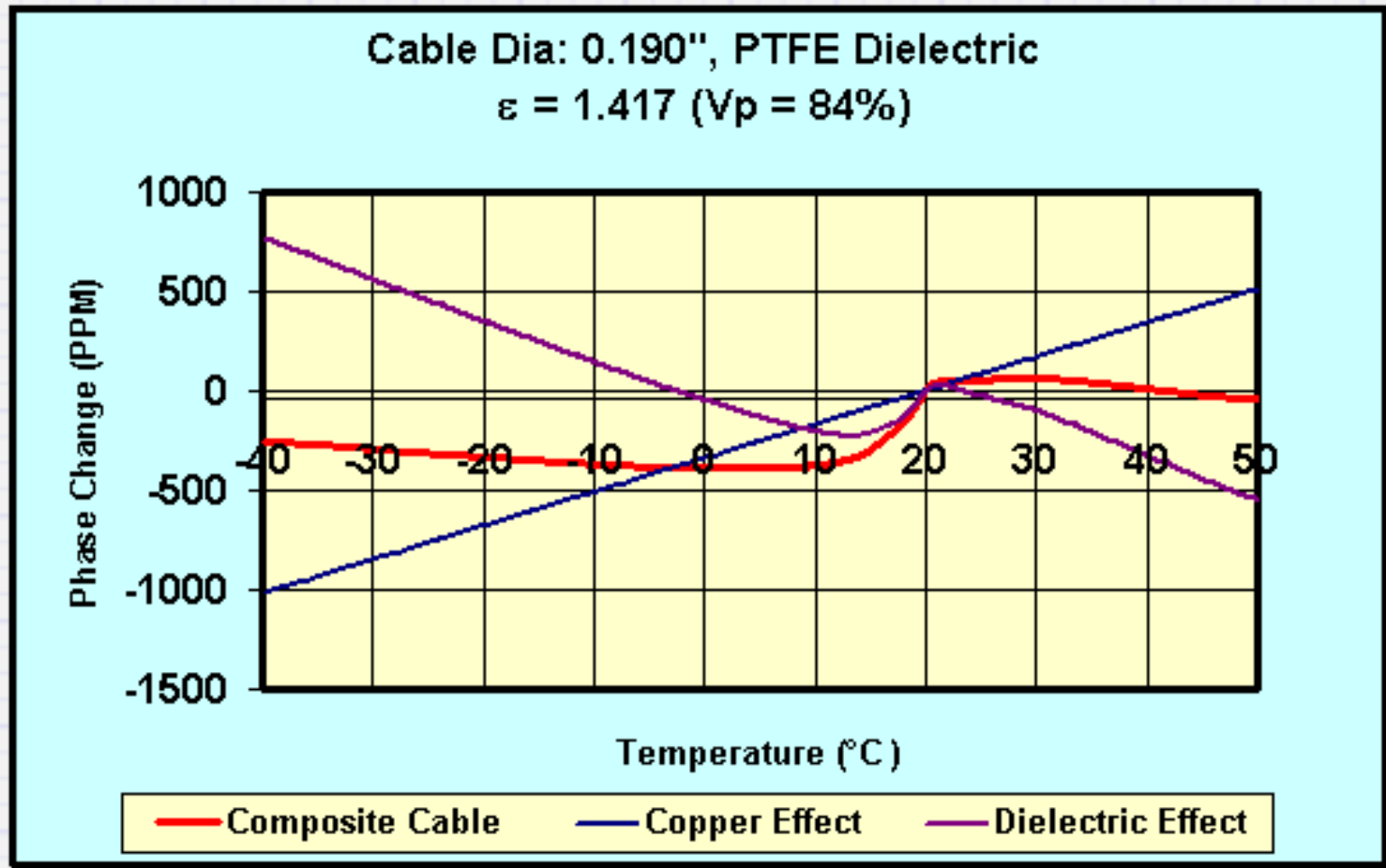
Example:

- Operating frequency = 10.0 GHz
- Physical length = 3.0 meters
- Propagation velocity = 83% of the speed of light
  
- Electrical length = 43,392 degrees = 120.5  $\lambda$
- 1 degree = 23 PPM

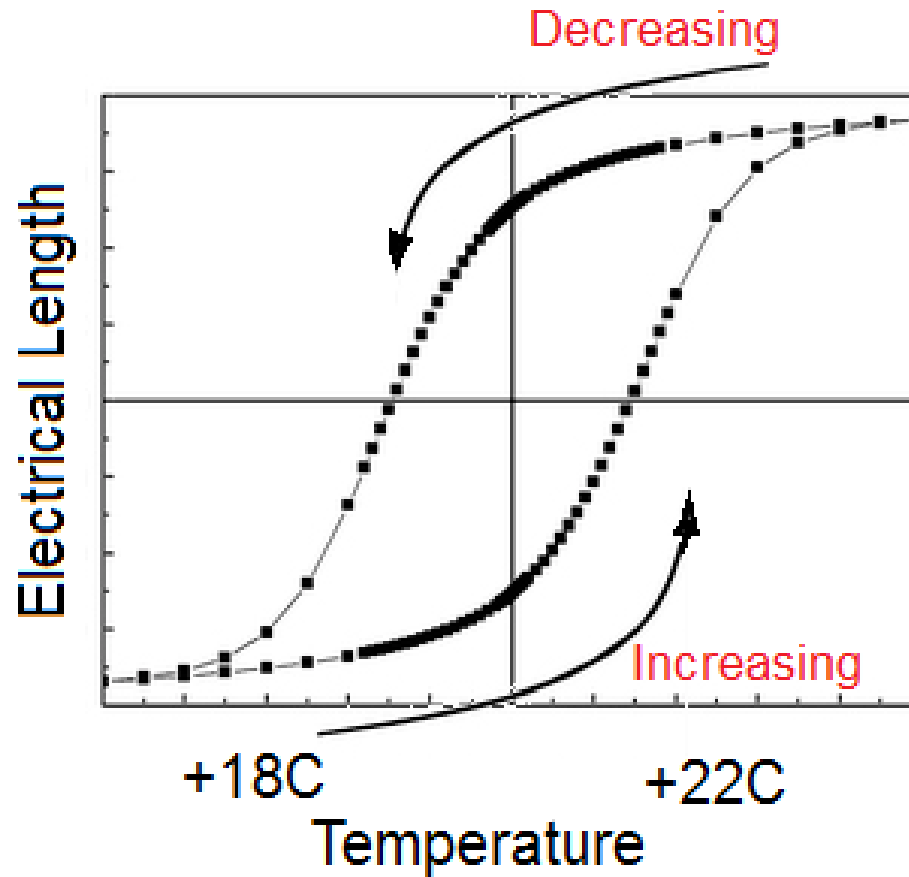
# Phase Change vs. Temperature



# Inverse Electrical Length Temperature Coefficient...

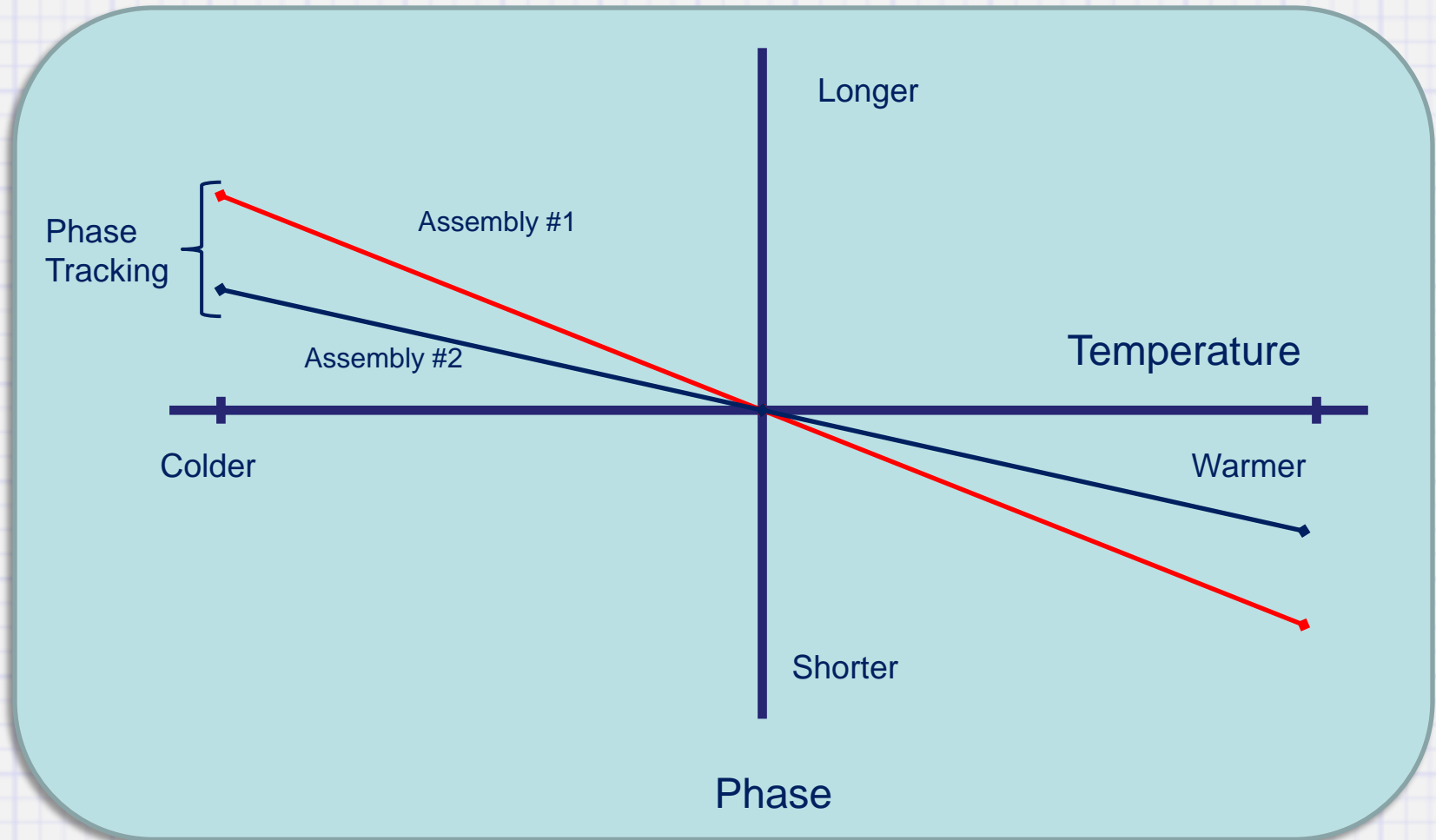


# Phase Hysteresis vs. Temperature



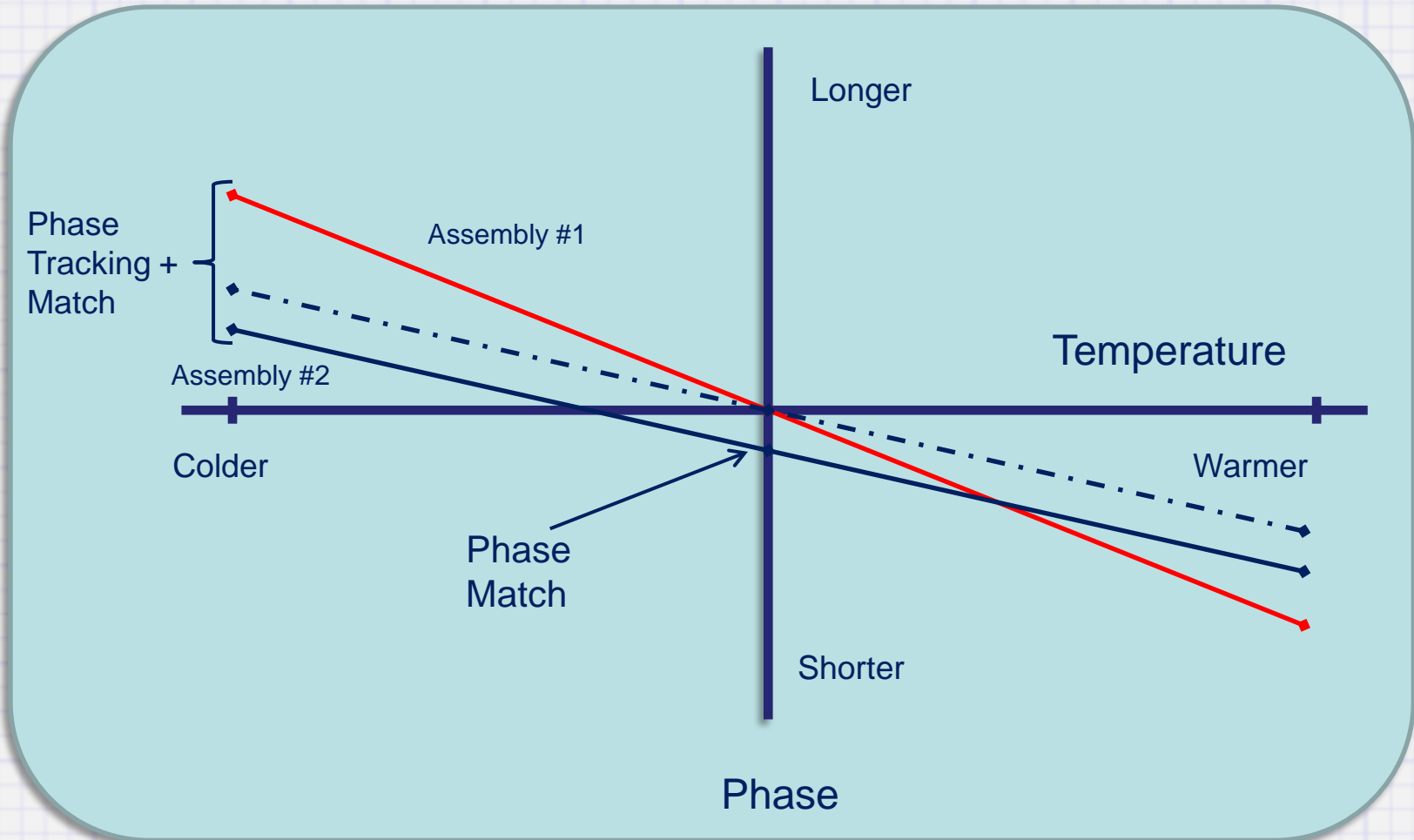
# Phase Change vs. Temperature

(phase matched assemblies)

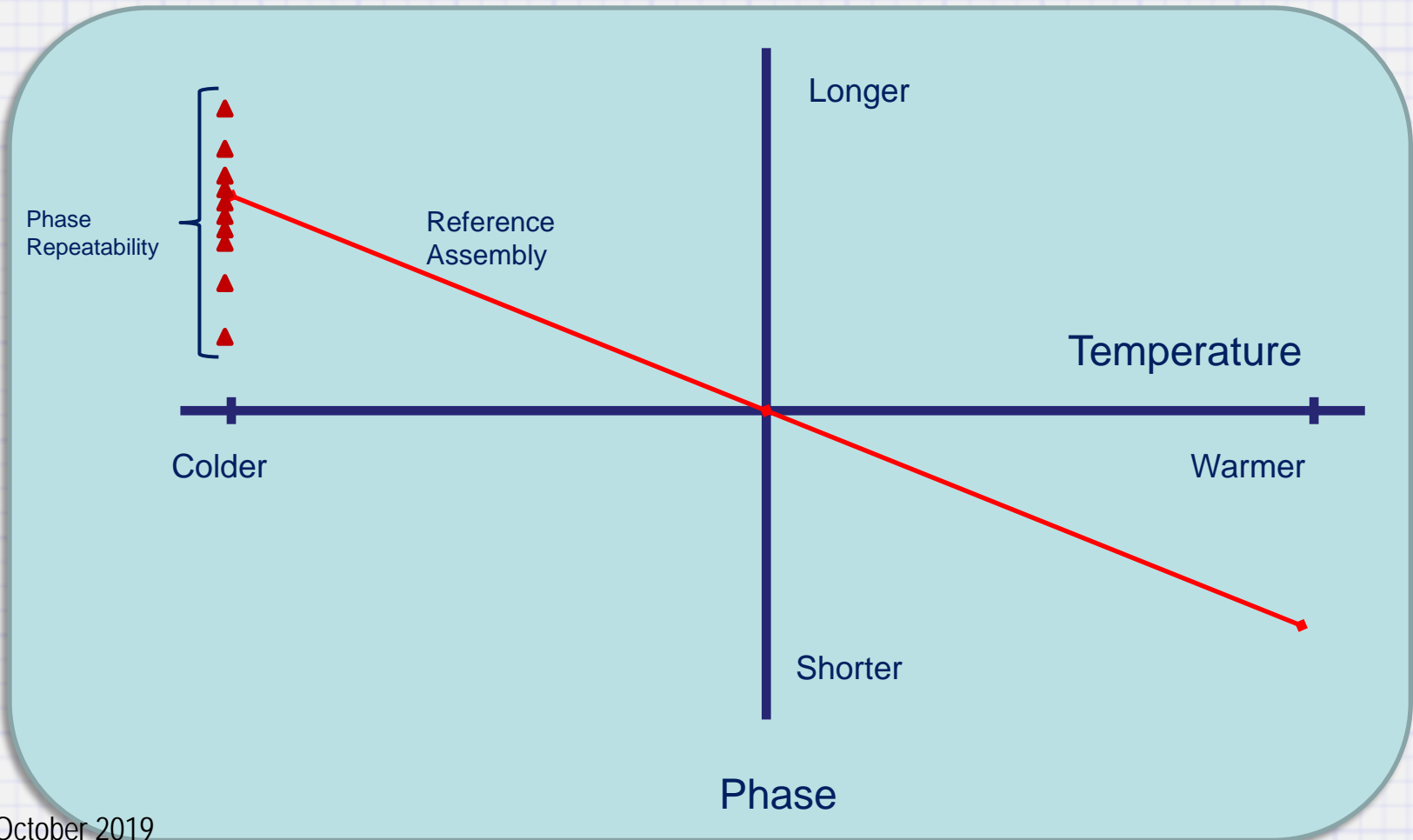


# Phase Change vs. Temperature

(non-phase matched assemblies)



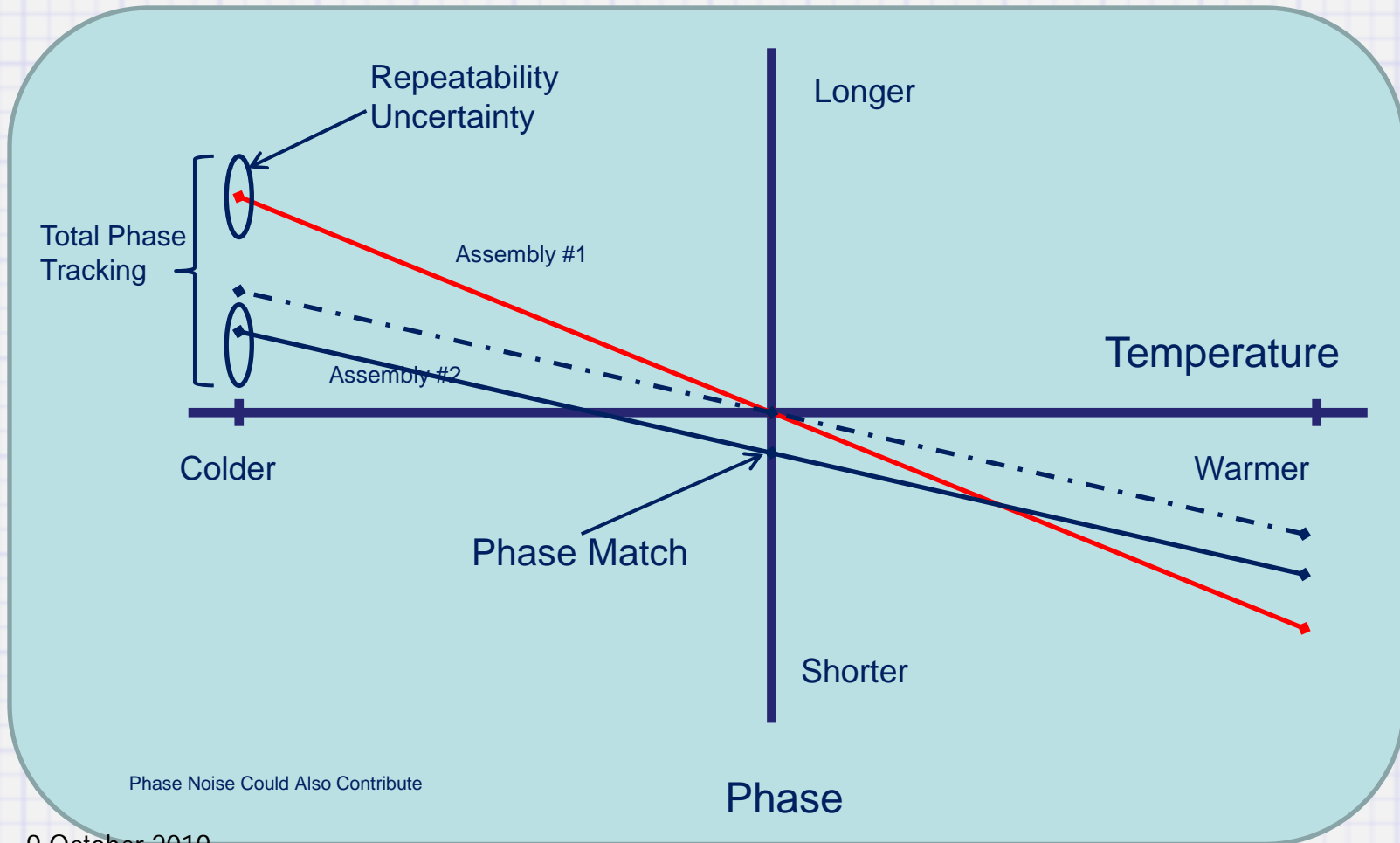
# Phase Repeatability vs. Temperature



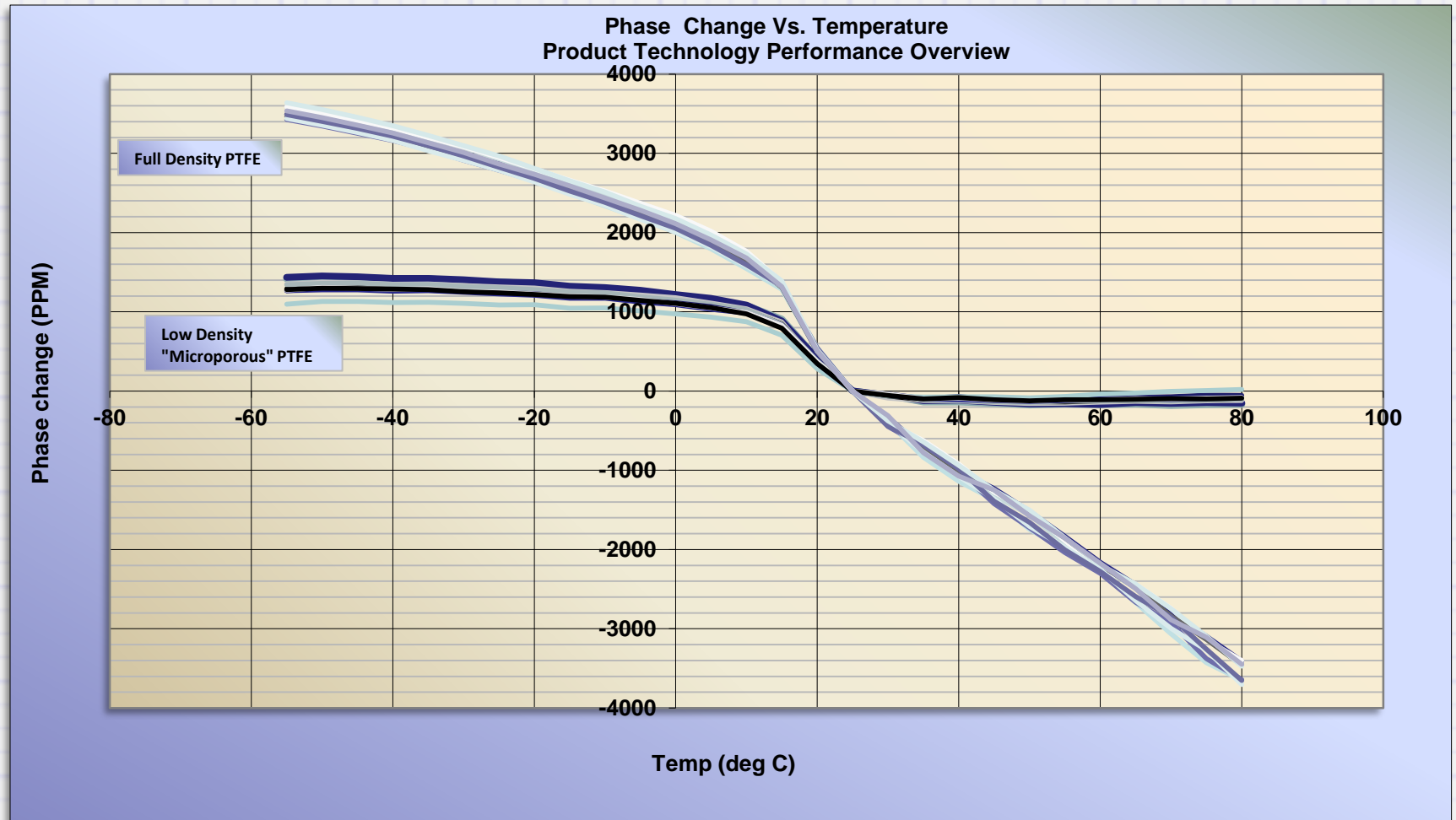


# Practical Phase Tracking vs. Temperature

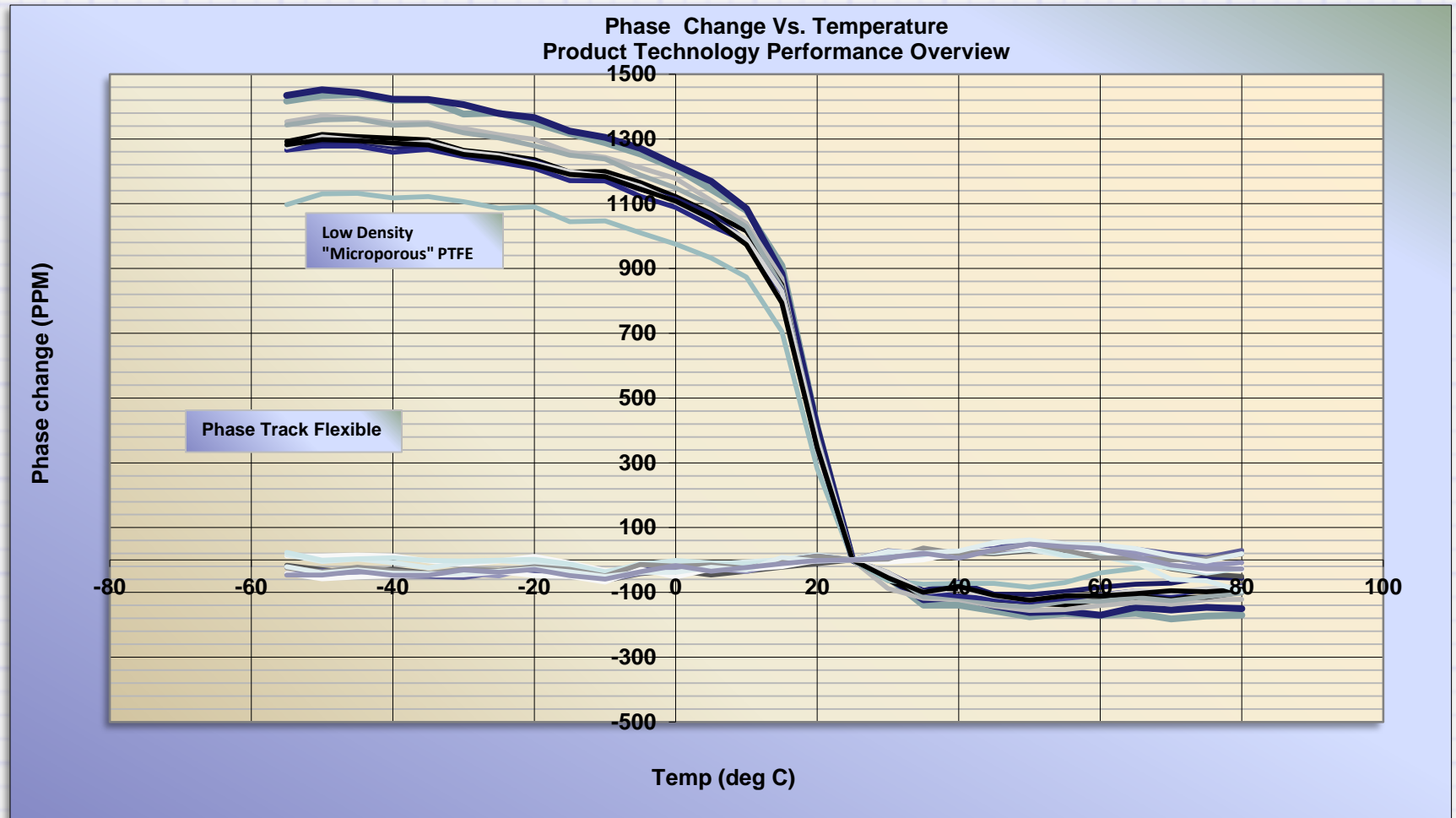
(Includes phase match + tracking + repeatability)



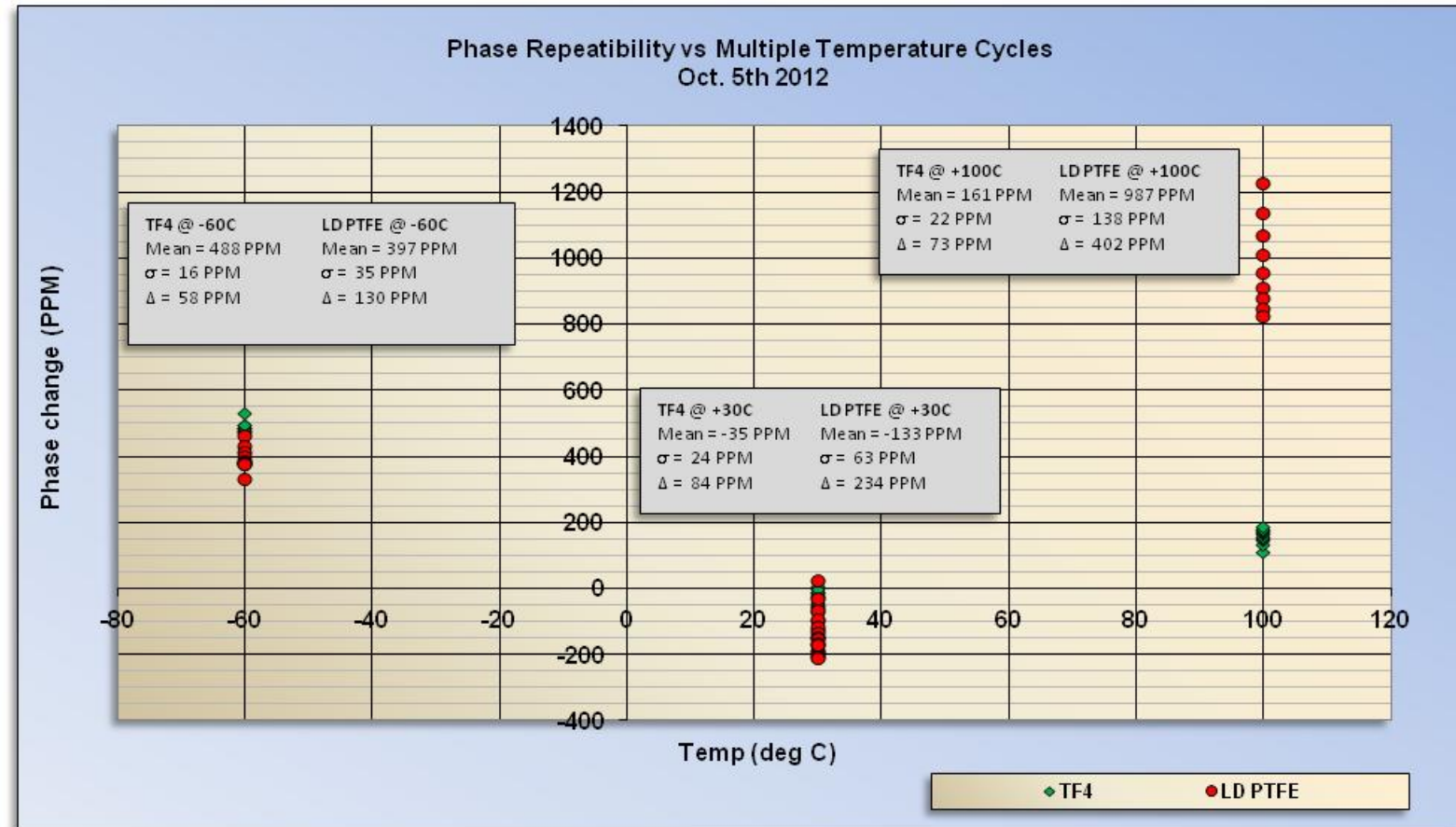
# Electrical Length Comparison of Dielectric Technologies



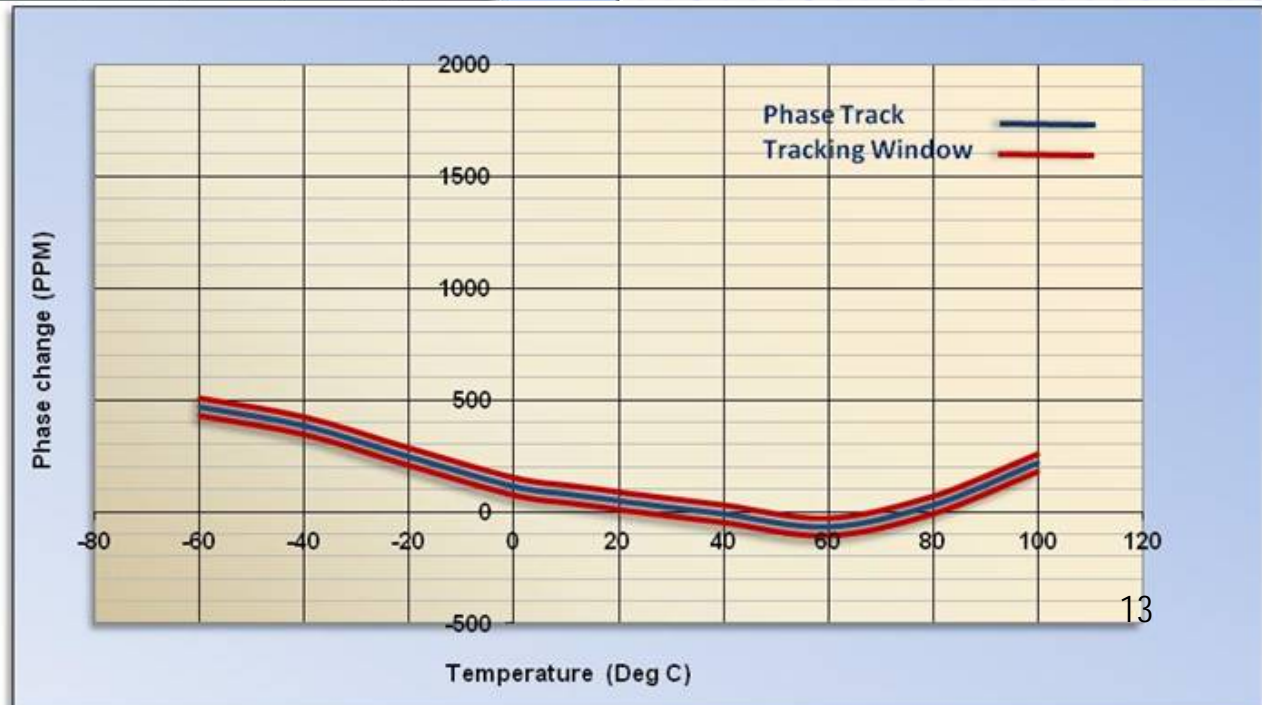
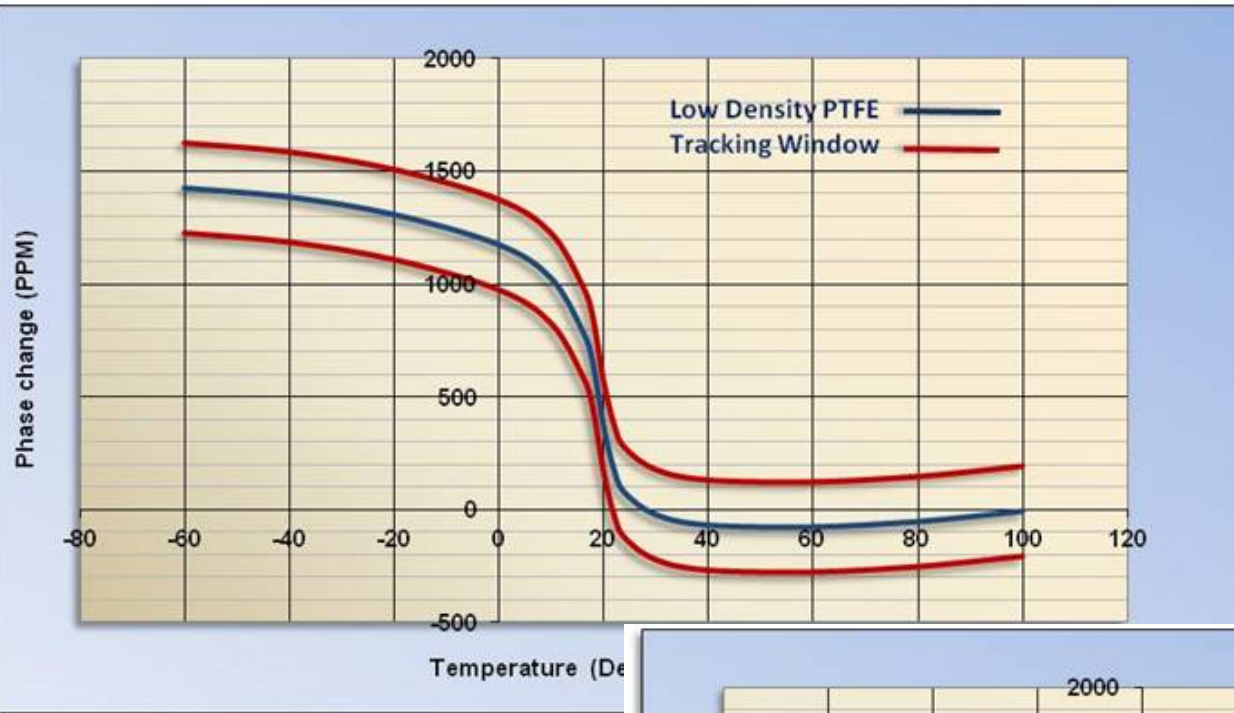
# Electrical Length Comparison of Dielectric Technologies



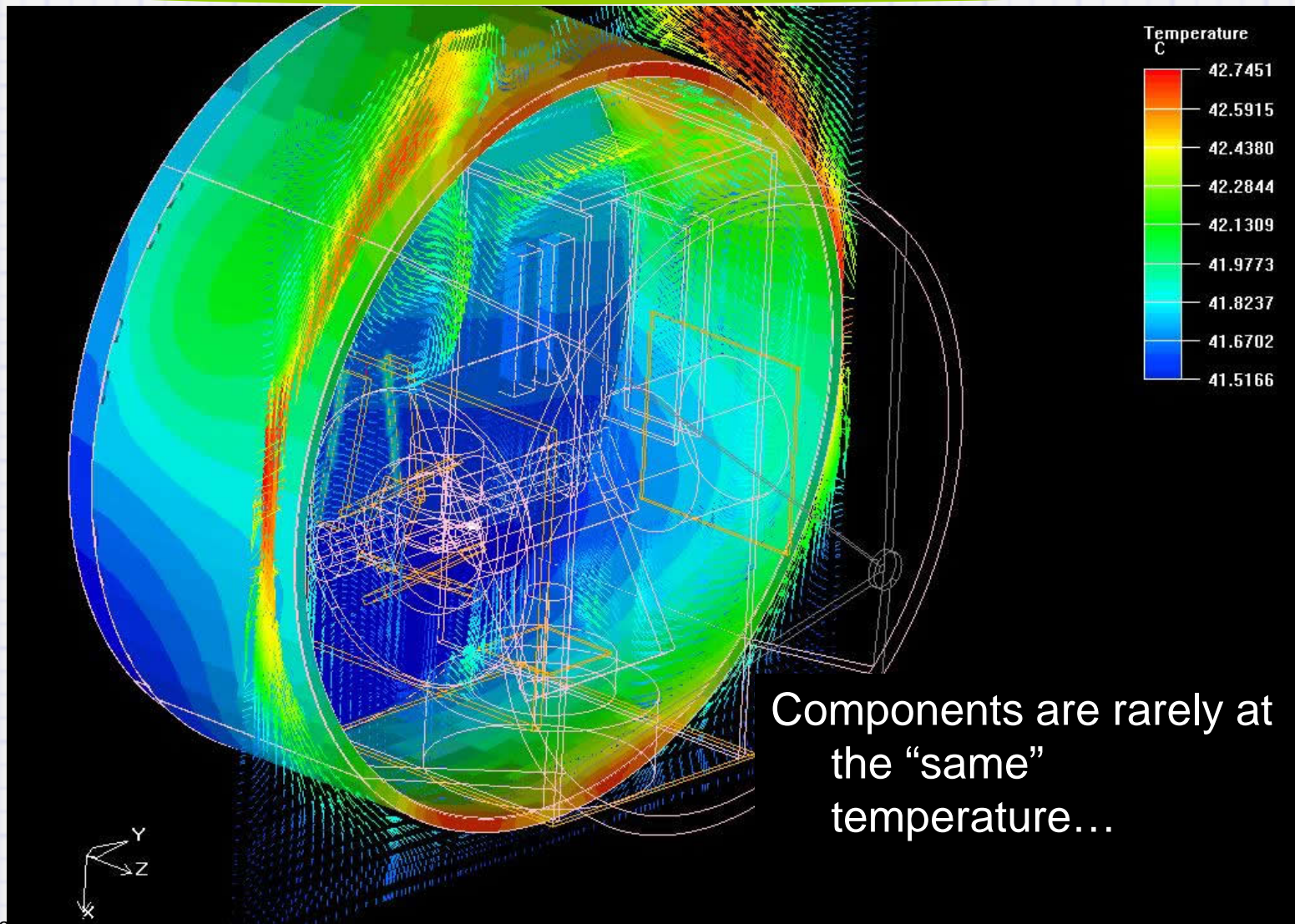
# Phase Repeatability



# Phase Tracking:

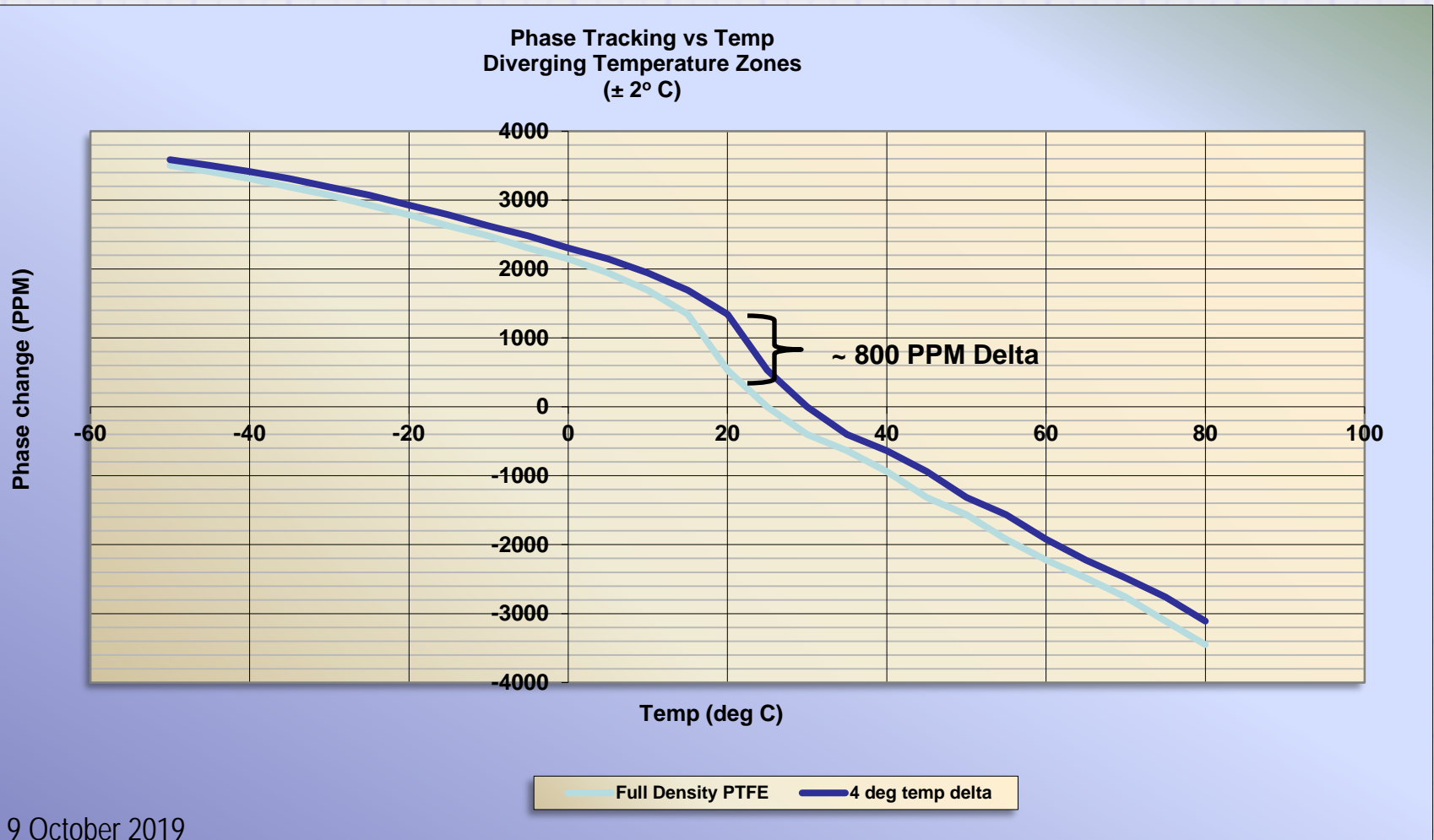


# Divergent Temperature Zones



# Two Phase Matched Cables; 4° C Difference in Temperature

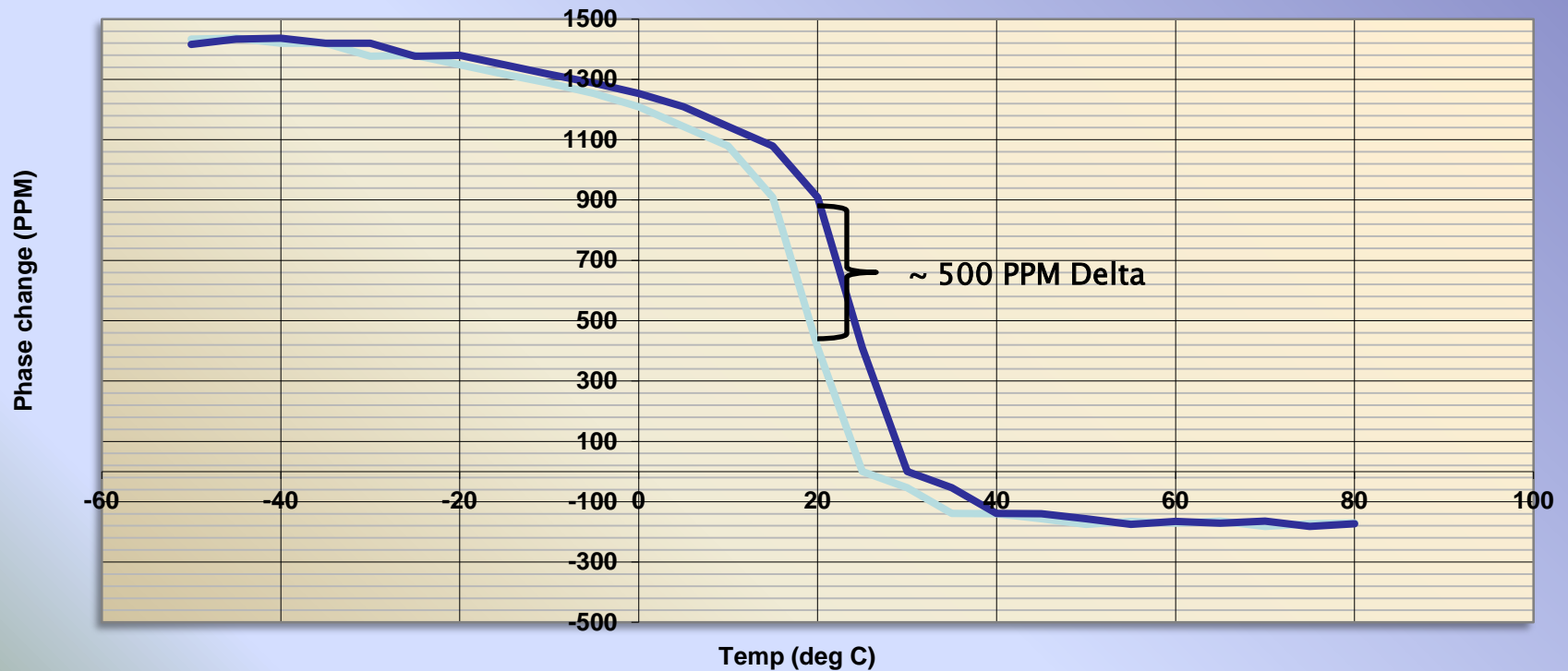
(Standard Full Density "Solid" PTFE)



# Two Phase Matched Cables; 4° C Difference in Temperature

(Standard Low Density "Microporous" PTFE)

Phase Tracking vs Temp  
Diverging Temperature Zones  
( $\pm 2^\circ\text{C}$ )

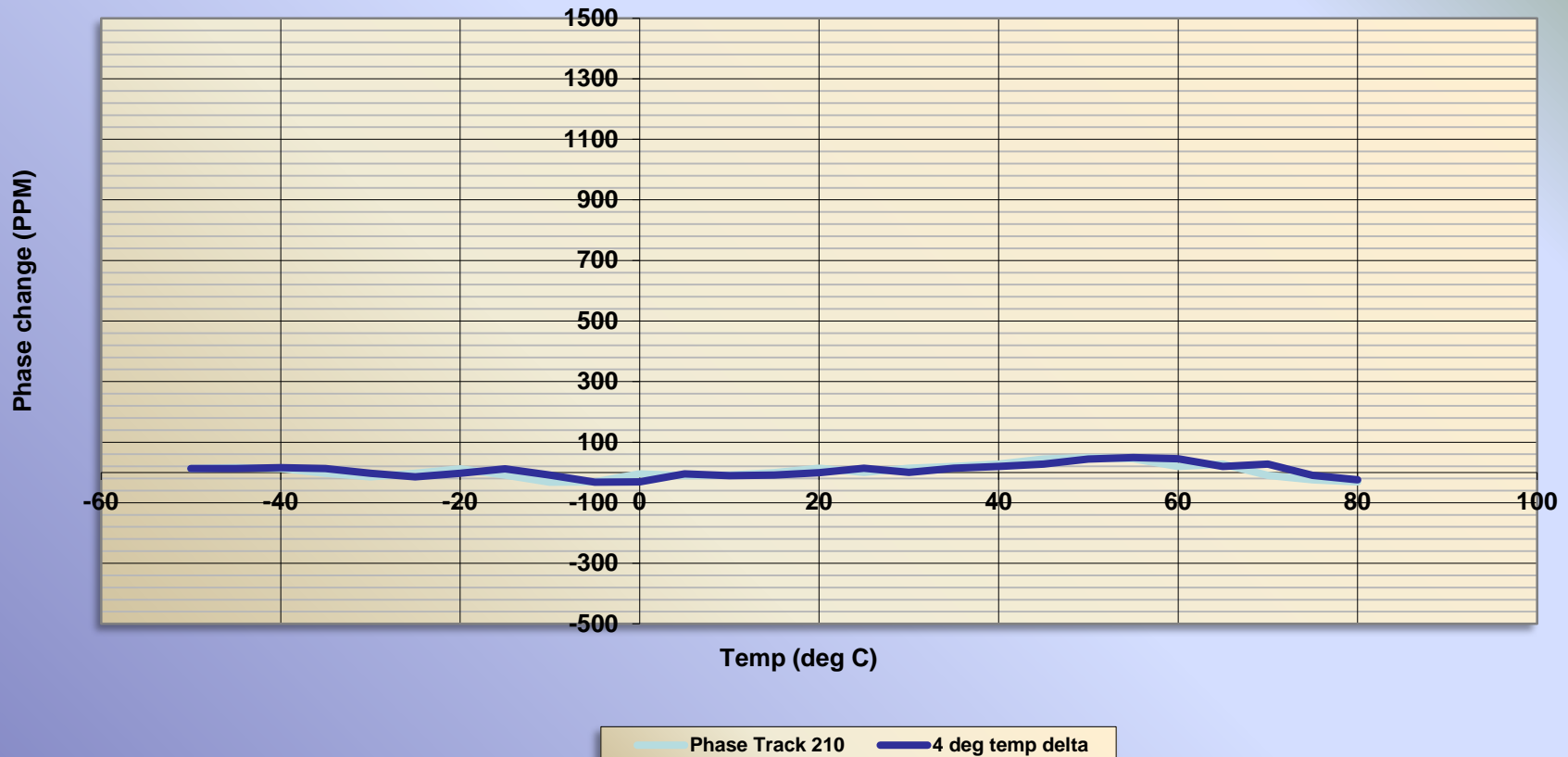




# Two Phase Matched Cables; 4° C Difference in Temperature

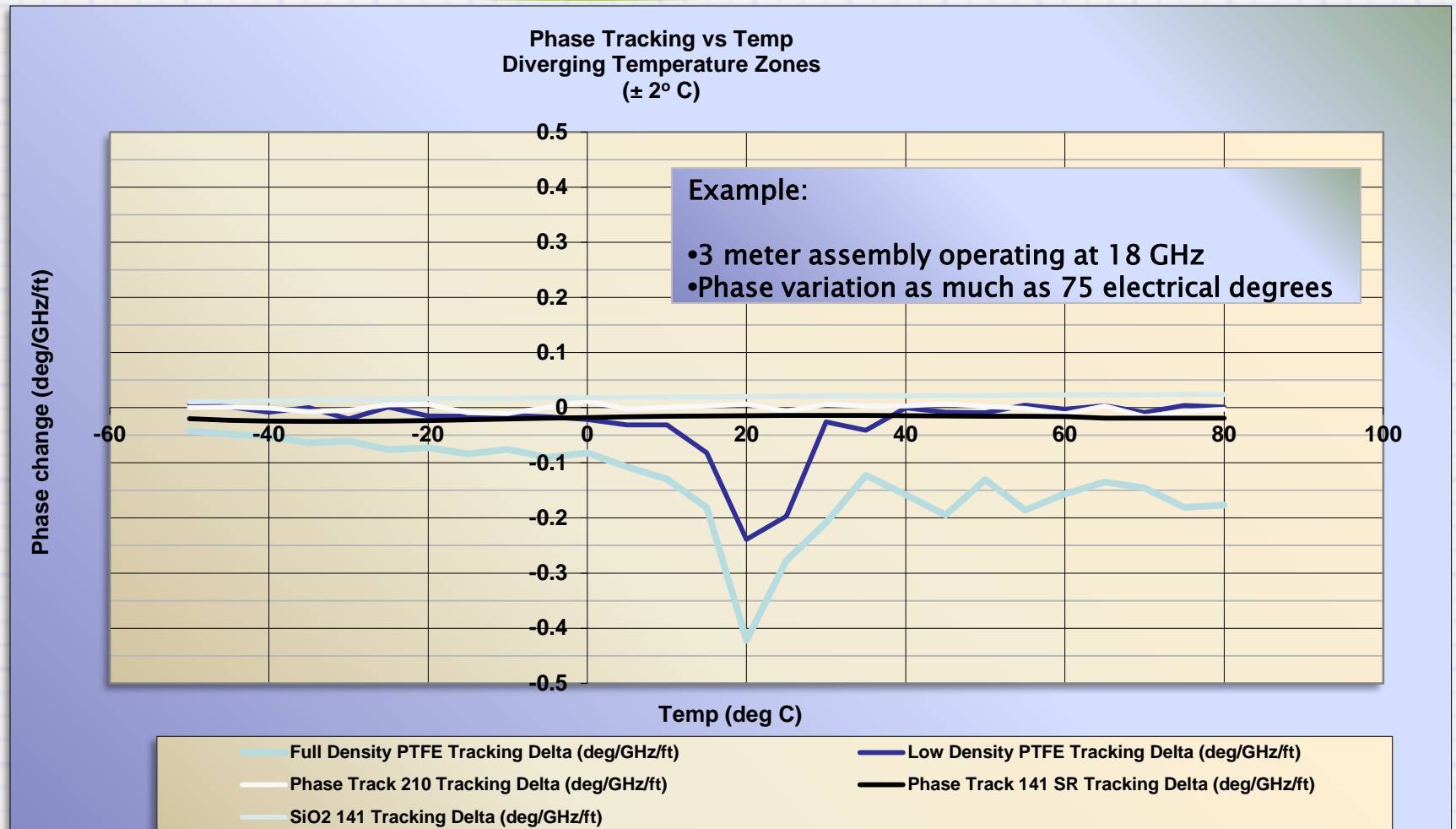
(Phase Track™ 210)

Phase Tracking vs Temp  
Diverging Temperature Zones  
(± 2° C)

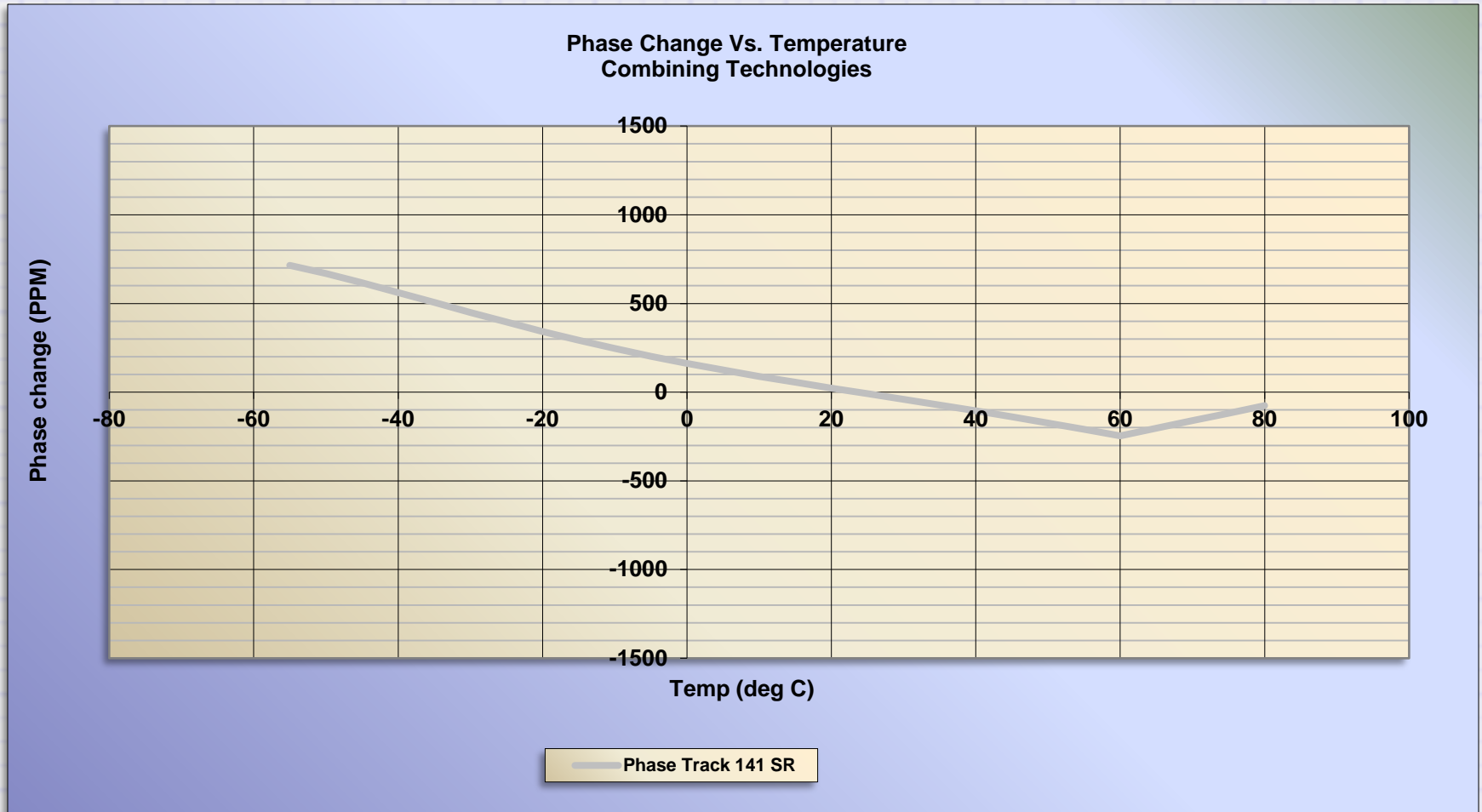


# Two Phase Matched Cables; 4° C Difference in Temperature

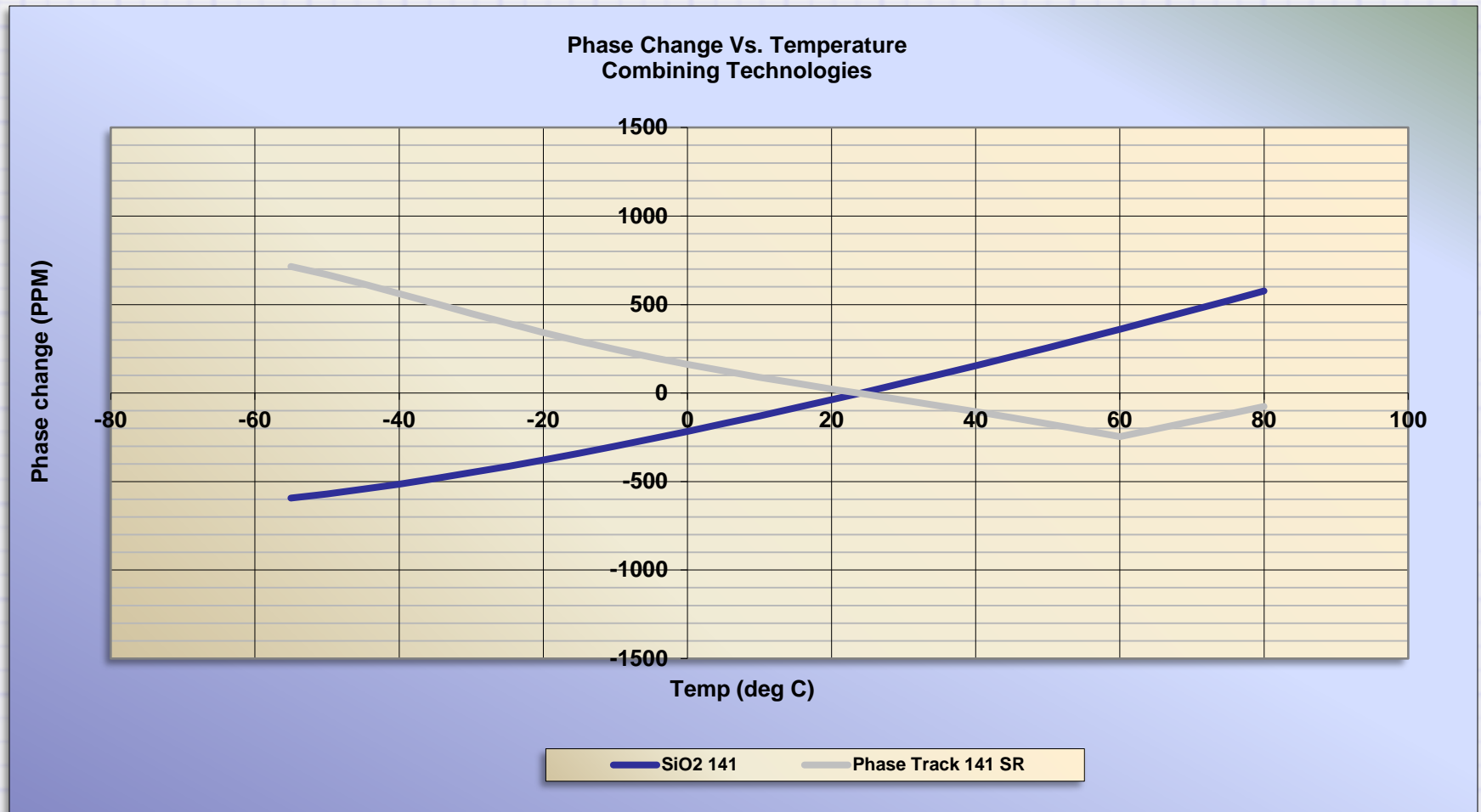
(Comparison of five dielectric technologies)



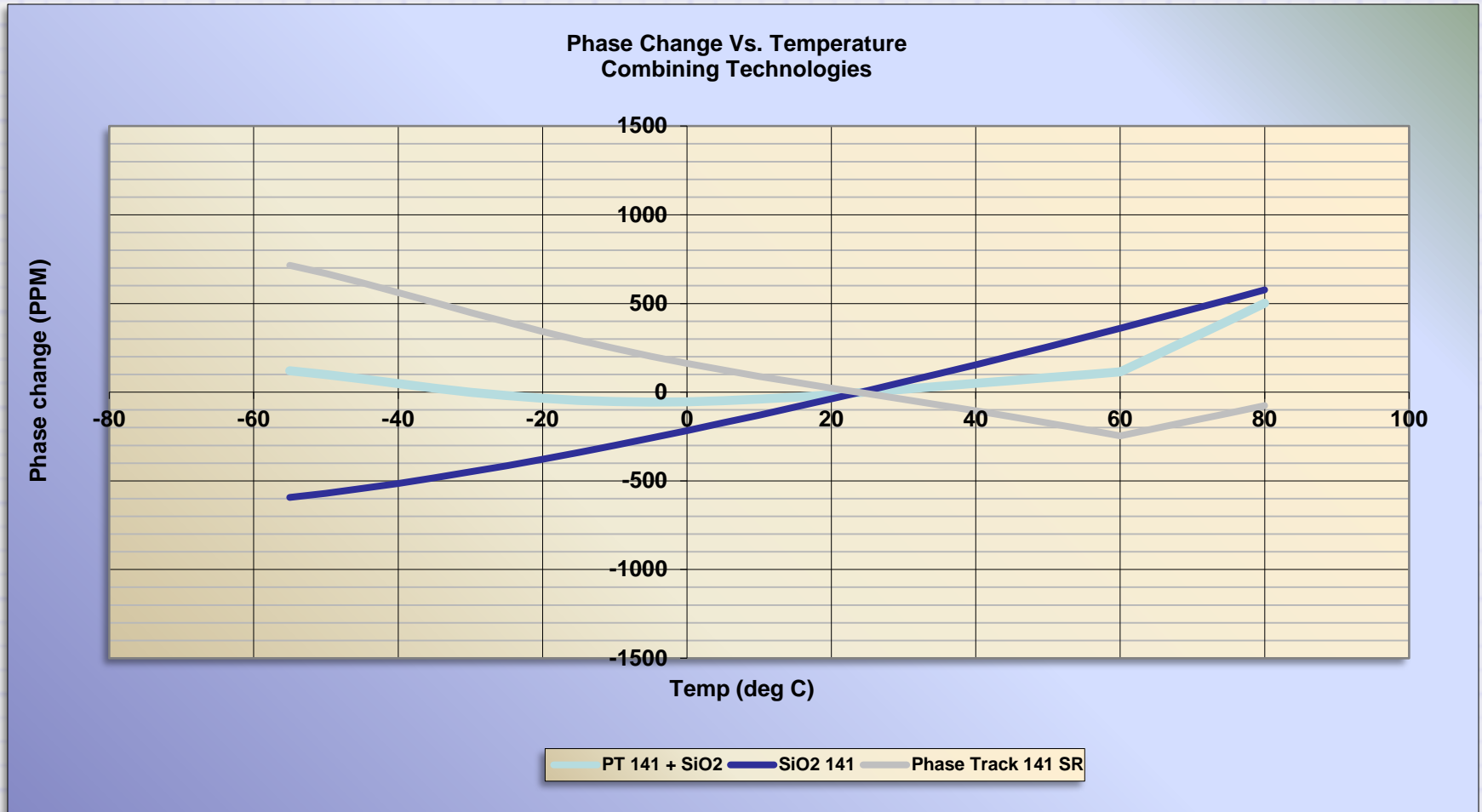
# Combining Technologies



# Combining Technologies



# Combining Technologies



## In Conclusion:

- Metal and plastic affects have opposite thermal coefficients of electrical length and can be balanced
- Practical systems often require much more than an initial phase match; they need to match at all temperatures
- Minor thermal variance can be the cause of larger than expected phase variations
- Multiple technologies are available to best fit the application; sometimes a combination of technologies can extend performance benefits



**THANKS  
FOR  
LISTENING**