



The plot suggests that the coldest ring was probably around -120°C

## Uncertainty Analysis

To translate pixel measurements in Fiji to physical distances, I calibrated each frame with a wooden ruler: a 10 cm segment on the ruler was set equal to the corresponding pixel length, giving a conversion factor of  $44 \pm 0.5$ , px cm<sup>-1</sup> in the high-resolution (3k @ 60 fps, portrait) videos and  $11.5 \pm 0.5$ , px cm<sup>-1</sup> in the earlier landscape clips. The dominant systematic (scaling) error comes from the 1-pixel cursor placement uncertainty:

$$\{\pm 0.023, \text{ cm (high-res)} [4pt] \pm 0.087, \text{ cm (low-res)}\}$$

I adopt the more conservative  $\pm 0.09$ , cm for all heights. The camera timing jitter (60 fps  $\Rightarrow \Delta t = 16.7$ , ms; observed frame-trigger variation  $\pm 8$ , ms) is negligible: the ring's vertical velocity at the apex is  $\approx 0$ , so shifting the peak by one frame changes height by  $< 0.05$ , cm—well below  $\sigma_{\text{scale}}$ . The ring-centre selection (ring may tilt/translate in the frame) adds another  $\pm 0.10$ , cm; combining this in quadrature with  $\sigma_{\text{scale}}$  gives a total single-measurement height uncertainty:

$$\sigma_H = \sqrt{0.09^2 + 0.10^2} \approx \pm 0.13, \text{ cm}$$

For each temperature, I recorded five trials; the statistical spread (sample standard deviation) at each  $T$  ranges from 0.6, cm (hot ring) to 2.0, cm (LN<sub>2</sub>). Because these statistical errors exceed  $\sigma_H$ , they dominate the total uncertainty reported for the mean height:

$$\sigma_{\bar{H}} = \frac{s}{\sqrt{N}} \quad (N = 5)$$

Temperature uncertainties reflect the instruments used:

Room:  $\pm 0.5$ , °C (thermocamera, emissivity-corrected) Oven / Freezer:  $\pm 2$ , °C (thermocouple calibration) Liquid-nitrogen bath:  $+5$ , °C /  $-10$ , °C (boiling LN<sub>2</sub> surface fluctuations and rapid warming during transfer)

These values are propagated into the  $x$ -error bars of the  $H$  vs  $T$  plot.