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# **ITS10 Conference Digest**

*Tenth International Temperature Symposium*  
*Anaheim, CA USA*  
*April 3-7, 2023*

Christopher Meyer  
*Editor, ITS10 Conference Proceedings*

Kathryn Miller  
*Editor, ITS10 Conference Digest*

Weston L Tew  
*Chair, International Program Committee, Chair*

Howard Yoon  
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Christopher Meyer  
*Sensor Science Division*  
*Physical Measurement Laboratory*  
Kathryn Miller  
*NIST Research Library and Museum*

Weston L Tew  
*Sensor Science Division*  
*Physical Measurement Laboratory*  
Howard Yoon  
*Sensor Science Division*  
*Physical Measurement Laboratory*

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### **NIST Author ORCID iDs**

CM: 0000-0001-9124-3339

KM: 0000-0001-8005-089X

WLT: 0000-0002-9979-9136

HY: 0000-0002-8999-9441

### **Contact Information**

[its10@nist.gov](mailto:its10@nist.gov)

## Realizing the redefined kelvin: Extending the life of the ITS-90

J.V. Pearce<sup>1</sup>, R.L. Rusby<sup>1</sup>, R.I. Veltcheva<sup>1</sup>, D. del Campo<sup>2</sup>, C. Garcia Izquierdo<sup>2</sup>, A. Merlone<sup>3</sup>, G. Coppa<sup>3</sup>, A. Kowal<sup>4</sup>, L. Eusebio<sup>5</sup>, J. Bojkovski<sup>6</sup>, V. Žužek<sup>6</sup>, F. Sparasci<sup>7</sup>, P. Pavlasek<sup>8</sup>, M. Kalemci<sup>9</sup>, A. Uytun<sup>9</sup>, A. Peruzzi<sup>10</sup>

<sup>1</sup>National Physical Laboratory, United Kingdom

<sup>2</sup>Centro Español de Metrología, Spain

<sup>3</sup>Istituto Nazionale di Ricerca Metrologica, Italy

<sup>4</sup>Instytut Niskich Temperatur i Badań Strukturalnych, Poland

<sup>5</sup>Instituto Português Da Qualidade, Portugal

<sup>6</sup>Laboratorij za metrologijo in kakovost, Univerza v Ljubljani, Slovenia

<sup>7</sup>Laboratoire Commun de Métrologie LNE-CNAM, France

<sup>8</sup>Slovenský metrologický ústav, Slovakia

<sup>9</sup>TÜBİTAK Ulusal Metroloji Enstitüsü, Turkey

<sup>10</sup>National Research Council Canada, Canada

Corresponding Author: [jonathan.pearce@npl.co.uk](mailto:jonathan.pearce@npl.co.uk)

JP ORCID: 0000-0003-1515-8815

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Following the redefinition of the kelvin [1,2], the user is presented with a more nuanced traceability choice through the *mise en pratique* for the definition of the kelvin (MeP-K-19) [3]. Here we describe research to address several present and potential shortcomings with the current main dissemination route, namely using the International Temperature Scale of 1990 (ITS-90) [4]. The ITS-90 has served the global temperature measurement community well, providing reliable, low uncertainty traceability for over 30 years. However, there are some potentially life-limiting issues for the ITS-90. Among these are the impact of the main types (1 and 3) of non-uniqueness which currently limit the uncertainties achievable with the ITS-90, and the need to identify a possible alternative to the mercury triple point (a key fixed point of the ITS-90) whose use could be banned by an international treaty [5]. Progress in addressing these problems will be described through:

- New determinations of Type 3 non-uniqueness have been undertaken in the range  $-189\text{ °C}$  to  $156\text{ °C}$  and between  $660.323\text{ °C}$  and  $961.78\text{ °C}$ ;
- A comprehensive evaluation of Type 1 non-uniqueness on a large number of Standard Platinum Resistance Thermometers (SPRTs) across multiple regions;
- New designs of CO<sub>2</sub> and SF<sub>6</sub> cells for use with long-stem SPRTs. These have been improved by using purer gases and more stable and uniform temperature-controlled baths, and by the development of a flexible set-up that can accommodate both capsule and long-stem SPRTs. The effect of replacing mercury on the ITS-90 interpolating equations and uncertainty propagation is also being investigated.

### References

- [1] <https://www.bipm.org/en/publications/si-brochure>
- [2] G. Machin, The kelvin redefined, Meas. Sci. Technol. 29 022001 (11pp) (2018) <https://doi.org/10.1088/1361-6501/aa9ddb>
- [3] B. Fellmuth, J. Fischer, G. Machin, S. Picard, P.P.M. Steur, O. Tamura, D.R. White, H. Yoon, The kelvin redefinition and its *mise en pratique*, Phil. Trans R. Soc. A., 374 (2064) (2016), p. 20150037, <https://doi.org/10.1098/rsta.2015.0037>
- [4] Real-K project website: <https://real-k.aalto.fi/>
- [5] The use of mercury, even for scientific purposes, could be severely restricted or even banned by international convention (UN Minamata Convention on Mercury which introduces controls over a myriad of products containing mercury).