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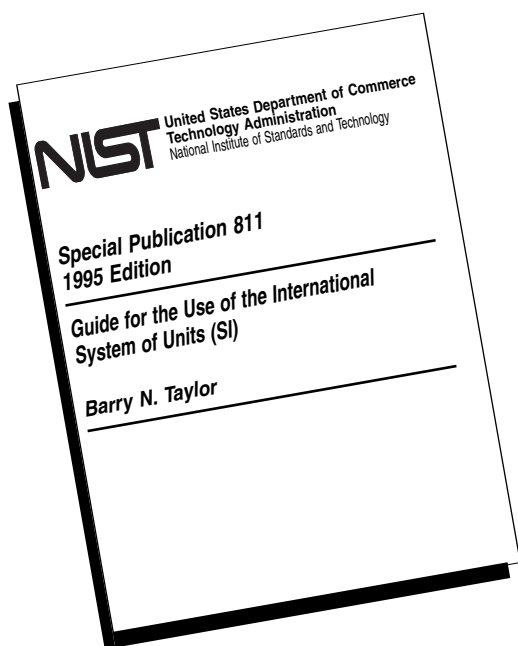
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The International System of Units (SI)

A Guide for the Use of the Modern Metric System

NIST Special Publication 811, 1995 Edition



Uncertain about the International System of Units (universally abbreviated SI), the modern metric system used throughout the world? Do you need to know the proper way to express the results of measurements and the values of quantities in units of the SI? Do you need to know the NIST policy on the use of the SI? Then you need the 1995 Edition of the National Institute of Standards and Technology Special Publication 811, *Guide for the Use of the International System of Units (SI)*.

The 1995 Edition of the National Institute of Standards and Technology Special Publication 811, *Guide for the Use of the International System of Units (SI)*, by Barry N. Taylor, is now available.

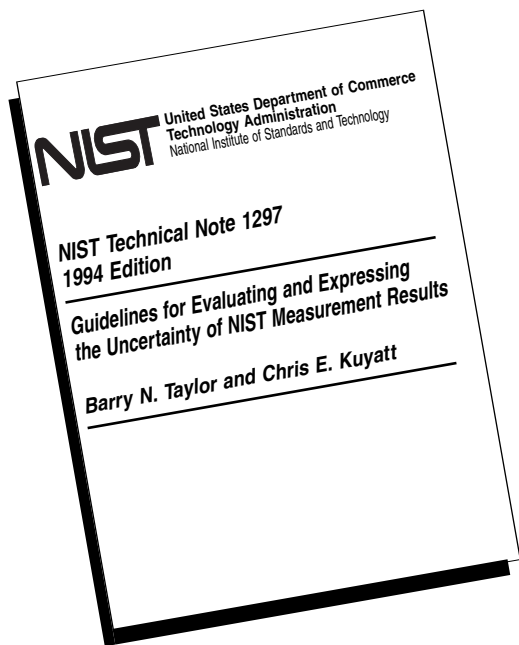
The 1995 Edition of SP 811 corrects a number of misprints in the 1991 Edition, incorporates a significant amount of additional material intended to answer frequently asked questions concerning the SI and SI usage, and updates the bibliography. The added material includes a check list for reviewing the consistency of written documents with the SI. Some changes in format have also been made in an attempt to improve the ease of use of SP 811.

The topics covered by SP 811 include:

- NIST policy on the use of the SI in NIST publications.
- Classes of SI units, those SI derived units that have special names and symbols, and the SI prefixes that are used to form decimal multiples and submultiples of SI units.
- Those units outside the SI that may be used with the SI and those that may not.
- Rules and style conventions for printing and using quantity symbols, unit symbols, and prefix symbols, and for spelling unit names.
- Rules and style conventions for expressing the results of measurements and the values of quantities.
- Definitions of the SI base units.
- Conversion factors for converting values of quantities expressed in units that are mainly unacceptable for use with the SI to values expressed mainly in units of the SI.
- Rounding numbers and rounding converted numerical values of quantities.

Single copies of the 84-page NIST SP 811, 1995 Edition, may be obtained by contacting the NIST Metric Program, 100 Bureau Drive, Stop 2000, Gaithersburg, MD 20899-2000; telephone: 301-975-3690; fax: 301-948-1416; email: metric_prg@nist.gov. NIST SP 811 is also available online at the NIST Web site entitled "NIST Reference on Constants, Units, and Uncertainty," physics.nist.gov/cuu.

Evaluating and Expressing the Uncertainty of Measurement Results



Uncertain about expressing measurement uncertainty? Do you need to know how NIST states the uncertainty of its measurement results and how you can implement their internationally accepted method in your own laboratory? Then you need the newly available 1994 edition of the National Institute of Standards and Technology Technical Note 1297, *Guidelines for Evaluating and Expressing the Uncertainty of NIST Measurement Results*.

The 1994 edition of the National Institute of Standards and Technology Technical Note 1297, *Guidelines for Evaluating and Expressing the Uncertainty of NIST Measurement Results*, by Barry N. Taylor and Chris E. Kuyatt is now available.

The 1994 edition of TN 1297 includes a new appendix—Appendix D—which clarifies and gives additional guidance on a number of topics related to measurement uncertainty, including the use of certain terms such as accuracy and precision. Very minor word changes have also been made in a few portions of the text of the 1993 edition in order to recognize the official publication in October 1993 by the International Organization for Standardization (ISO) of the *Guide to the Expression of Uncertainty in Measurement* on which TN 1297 is based. However, the NIST policy on measurement uncertainty, Statements of Uncertainty Associated with Measurement Results, which is reproduced as Appendix C of TN 1297, is unchanged.

It is expected that the 1994 edition of TN 1297 will be even more useful than its immediate predecessor, the 1993 edition, of which 10 000 copies were distributed worldwide.

Those United States readers who wish to delve into the subject of measurement uncertainty in greater depth may purchase a copy of the 100-page ISO *Guide* from the Sales Department of the American National Standards Institute (ANSI), 105-111 South State Street, Hackensack, NJ 07601. Copies may also be purchased from the ISO Central Secretariat, 1 rue de Varembé, Case postale 56, CH-1211 Genève 20, Switzerland.

Single copies of the 20-page TN 1297 may be obtained from the NIST Calibration Program, 100 Bureau Dr., Building 820, Room 236, Stop 2330, Gaithersburg, MD 20899-2330, telephone: 301-975-2002, fax: 301-869-3548.

The International System of Units (SI)

The Definitive Reference on the Modern Metric System

NIST Special Publication 330, 2001 Edition



Do you need to know about the current form of the modern metric system, which is officially called the International System of Units (universally abbreviated SI)? Do you want to know the origin of the SI, how it was established, and how it has progressed to its present-day form? Then you need NIST Special Publication (SP) 330, 2001 Edition. This publication is the U.S. version of the English text of the seventh edition (the most current) of the definitive reference on the SI published in 1998 by the International Bureau of Weights and Measures (BIPM) under the title *Le Système International d'Unités (SI)*. However, the 2001 Edition of SP 330 also incorporates the contents of *Supplément 2000: additions et corrections à la 7^e édition (1998)* published by the BIPM in June 2000.

The main body of NIST SP 330 gives the essentials of the current form of the SI. However, Appendix 1 provides the Resolutions, Recommendations, and Declarations put forward on units of measurement and on the SI since 1889 by the General Conference on Weights and Measures (CGPM) and the International Committee for Weights and Measures (CIPM). Further, Appendix 2 summarizes the current state of the practical realizations of some important SI units, while Appendix 3 gives a brief description of the bodies established by the Meter Convention (the CGPM, CIPM, and BIPM), which was signed in Paris on 20 May 1875 by 17 States including the United States.

The 2001 Edition of SP 330 replaces its immediate predecessor, the 1991 Edition, which was based on the sixth edition of the BIPM SI publication. Like its predecessor, the 2001 Edition of SP 330 was edited by NIST physicist Barry N. Taylor.

Single copies of the 75-page NIST SP 330, 2001 Edition, may be obtained by contacting the NIST Metric Program, 100 Bureau Drive, Stop 2000, Gaithersburg, MD 20899-2000; telephone: 301-975-3690; fax: 301-948-1416; email: metric_prg@nist.gov. NIST SP 330 is also available online at the NIST Web site entitled "NIST Reference on Constants, Units, and Uncertainty," physics.nist.gov/cuu.

NIST Technical Publications

Periodical

Journal of Research of the National Institute of Standards and Technology—Reports NIST research and development in metrology and related fields of physical science, engineering, applied mathematics, statistics, biotechnology, and information technology. Papers cover a broad range of subjects, with major emphasis on measurement methodology and the basic technology underlying standardization. Also included from time to time are survey articles on topics closely related to the Institute's technical and scientific programs. Issued six times a year.

Nonperiodicals

Monographs—Major contributions to the technical literature on various subjects related to the Institute's scientific and technical activities.

Handbooks—Recommended codes of engineering and industrial practice (including safety codes) developed in cooperation with interested industries, professional organizations, and regulatory bodies.

Special Publications—Include proceedings of conferences sponsored by NIST, NIST annual reports, and other special publications appropriate to this grouping such as wall charts, pocket cards, and bibliographies.

National Standard Reference Data Series—Provides quantitative data on the physical and chemical properties of materials, compiled from the world's literature and critically evaluated. Developed under a worldwide program coordinated by NIST under the authority of the National Standard Data Act (Public Law 90-396). NOTE: The Journal of Physical and Chemical Reference Data (JPCRD) is published bimonthly for NIST by the American Institute of Physics (AIP). Subscription orders and renewals are available from AIP, P.O. Box 503284, St. Louis, MO 63150-3284.

Building Science Series—Disseminates technical information developed at the Institute on building materials, components, systems, and whole structures. The series presents research results, test methods, and performance criteria related to the structural and environmental functions and the durability and safety characteristics of building elements and systems.

Technical Notes—Studies or reports which are complete in themselves but restrictive in their treatment of a subject. Analogous to monographs but not so comprehensive in scope or definitive in treatment of the subject area. Often serve as a vehicle for final reports of work performed at NIST under the sponsorship of other government agencies.

Voluntary Product Standards—Developed under procedures published by the Department of Commerce in Part 10, Title 15, of the Code of Federal Regulations. The standards establish nationally recognized requirements for products, and provide all concerned interests with a basis for common understanding of the characteristics of the products. NIST administers this program in support of the efforts of private-sector standardizing organizations.

Order the **following** NIST publications—*FIPS and NISTIRs*—from the National Technical Information Service, Springfield, VA 22161.

Federal Information Processing Standards Publications (FIPS PUB)—Publications in this series collectively constitute the Federal Information Processing Standards Register. The Register serves as the official source of information in the Federal Government regarding standards issued by NIST pursuant to the Federal Property and Administrative Services Act of 1949 as amended, Public Law 89-306 (79 Stat. 1127), and as implemented by Executive Order 11717 (38 FR 12315, dated May 11, 1973) and Part 6 of Title 15 CFR (Code of Federal Regulations).

NIST Interagency or Internal Reports (NISTIR)—The series includes interim or final reports on work performed by NIST for outside sponsors (both government and nongovernment). In general, initial distribution is handled by the sponsor; public distribution is handled by sales through the National Technical Information Service, Springfield, VA 22161, in hard copy, electronic media, or microfiche form. NISTIR's may also report results of NIST projects of transitory or limited interest, including those that will be published subsequently in more comprehensive form.

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