

# 732C and 734C DC Reference Standard

## Technical Data

The simple way to maintain and disseminate your volt



The Fluke Calibration 734C DC Reference Standard is a RoHS compliant direct voltage reference used to maintain the volt in primary and secondary standards laboratories. It consists of four electrically and mechanically independent 732C DC Standards and a rack-width enclosure. Individual 732Cs provide 10 V, 1 V, and 0.1 V outputs and may be transported easily to remote locations while the reference is maintained in the laboratory. The base models provide stability of  $\pm 2 \mu\text{V}/\text{V}$  per year for 10 V output,  $\pm 3 \mu\text{V}/\text{V}$  per year for 1 V output and  $\pm 9.8 \mu\text{V}/\text{V}$  per year for 0.1 V output. The Select Models, another new offering from Fluke Calibration, are two times more stable than the Base Models at 10 V. Each 10 V output can drive up to 12 mA of current to simplify use with instrumentation with low input impedance.

The 734C DC Reference Standard was designed for laboratories that need to maintain traceability to national standards and to distribute the volt to production, service, calibration laboratories or other remote locations. To simplify shipment, each 732C Standard is small and highly portable. And

its 72-hour battery life—which can be extended to more than 210 hours with the optional external battery and charger—means it's practical to ship a 732C across town or around the world.

Because each 732C in the 734C Reference Standard is based on the same architecture pioneered in the popular 732A Direct Voltage Standard you can rely on it to provide the same high stability and predictable drift rate you've come to expect, in a smaller, more portable package identical to the 732B Direct Voltage Standard. The 734C is also compatible with 732B DC standards and can support any combination of 732 B and C models. Similarly, a 734B can be used with the newer 732C standards, providing the ultimate flexibility and maximizing asset utilization.

To simplify support of your 734C, Fluke Calibration offers a variety of calibration services to assign values and predicted performance for each of the outputs, traceable to the Fluke Calibration Josephson Array.

**The most accurate and stable 10 V reference in your lab**

With the 734C, it is remarkably simple to establish and maintain a primary voltage standard in your laboratory. Over time, with frequent intercomparisons of your four units, and regular calibrations of one or more units, you can reduce the uncertainty of your 734C by a factor of three.

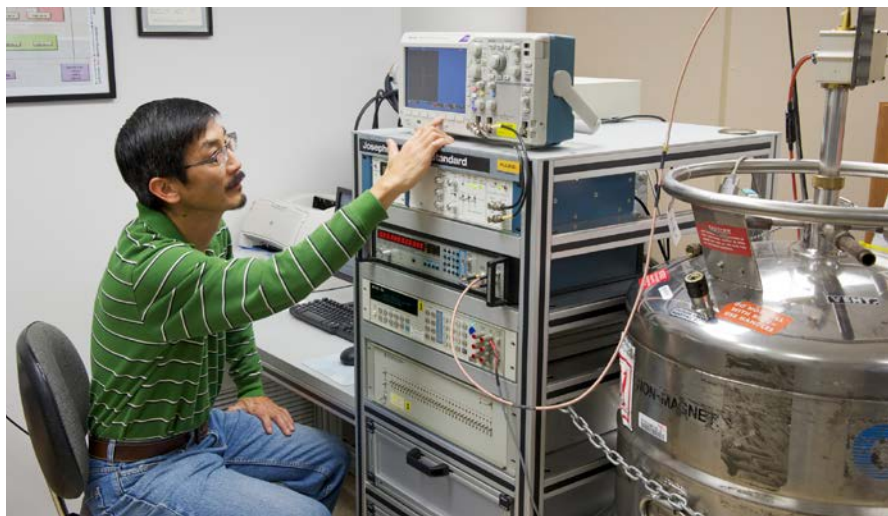
From 1984 until the acquisition of our Josephson Array, the Fluke Calibration Primary Standards Laboratory maintained its corporate volt in this manner, reducing the absolute uncertainty to  $\pm 0.35 \mu\text{V/V}$  traceable to national standards.

**The 734C supports 1 V and 0.1 V as well**

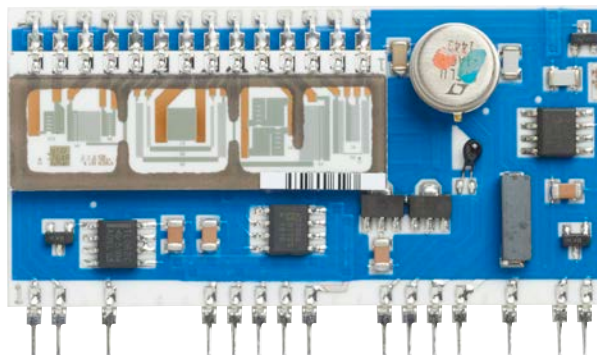
The 1 V and 0.1 V are key calibration/verification points for digital multimeters. Thanks again to the high-precision thin-film resistive networks, which are manufactured in Fluke’s own thin-film fab facility, the 734C now comes standard with those two additional outputs. It eliminates the need for external dividers, making the measurement setup easier and less prone to errors.

**Choice of Select models for demanding applications**

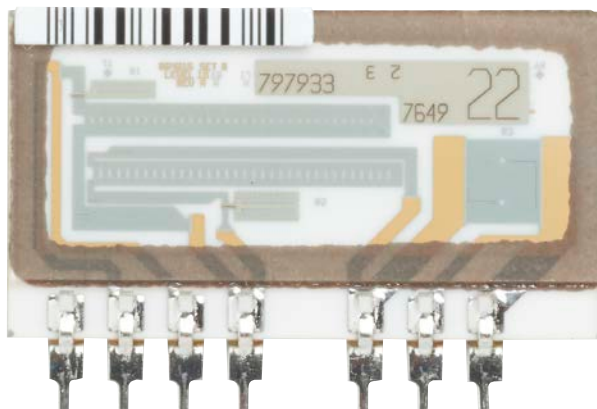
Fluke Calibration offers Select models for customers requiring primary standards lab capability for calibrating demanding workloads and gaining independence from sending standards to other labs for calibration. The process of calibration is the same for both the Base and the Select models. The only exception is that the Select models (732C/S/C or 734C/S/O4) are compared to Fluke Calibration J-array for 180 days of drift characterization data. This process ensures the selection of the best possible standards meeting stringent drift performance requirements.



The Fluke Calibration Standards Laboratory offers traceability to its own Josephson Array, an intrinsic standard of voltage.



The Fluke Calibration 732C Standard uses the same specially selected zener reference technology pioneered in the popular 732A and 732B.



The internal wire-wound-based resistors have been replaced by hermetic thin-film resistive networks, which are less prone to time- and temperature-induced drift.

## Supporting your traceability requirements

Fluke Calibration provides the products and services you need to manage your traceability requirements. Fluke Calibration performs an output voltage calibration on a new 732C by comparing it against its own J-array maintained at the factory. The base model 732C is shipped COLD (“not powered”) and comes with a voided calibration certificate demonstrating its operability. The owner is responsible for providing traceability as required locally.

Accredited calibration and drift characterization data comes standard with 732C units ordered to ship “HOT” (powered on). During manufacturing, each 732C is compared to Fluke Calibration direct voltage standards for at least 90 days to obtain the drift characterization data. Once the drift rate is known, the 12-month projected output voltage is determined. The units are then shipped under power. The continuous power-on condition is required during shipment through delivery to your lab for the calibration to remain valid. If continuous power is not maintained, then the validity of the calibration may be compromised. Contact your Fluke Calibration representative to determine if the 732C alternatives are available in your area.

## Why a four-unit reference?

A four-unit reference is desirable any time you need to maintain and disseminate a reference voltage. At a minimum, three units are intercompared to detect and identify changes in the output of any one cell. A fourth unit may be used as a spare or to transport the volt to or from remote locations. When it returns to the laboratory, it can be compared to the other three to determine if its output has shifted during transport.

However, there is more to a four-unit reference. According to NBS Technical Note 1239, published by the U.S. National Bureau of Standards (now NIST) in 1987, four to six references are required to provide measurement integrity and redundancy, and to minimize the number of measurements required. References must be completely independent of one another. Otherwise, common elements, such as a power supply or oven, might affect the correlation of reference outputs. In addition, with frequent intercomparisons of four units, you can detect when any one of the units begins to drift beyond specifications or needs to be repaired.

Each 732C is a stand-alone dc standard with its own power supply, oven, supporting electronics and packaging. Each may be purchased separately, or as a full 734C system, which includes four 732Cs that slide into a rack-width enclosure.

## Why should you prefer the 734C?

- **Independence.** The 734C is the only standard of its type offering complete mechanical and electrical independence of each of its four standards.
- **Portability.** Each 732C Standard is designed for portability. Each is small, light, rugged and has a long operating battery life.
- **Confidence.** The 732C is based on the proven technology of the Fluke Calibration 732A and 732B. The 732A was the first standards lab quality electronic reference to gain wide acceptance as a replacement for saturated standard cells. Originally designed for internal transfers of Fluke’s corporate volt to the production floor, thousands are now in service worldwide in a variety of applications—from maintaining an institutional reference to transferring values from national labs or privately-operated 10 V Josephson Arrays.

## Ideal support for Artifact Calibration

Combined with 742A-1 and 742A-10k Resistance Standards, a single 732C makes a robust and compact Artifact Calibration support package for instruments such as the Fluke 5730A High Performance Multifunction Calibrator and Fluke 8508A Reference Multimeters, including the older generation 5700A and 5720A models.

## Taking your reference to the workload

Standards laboratory operations have changed. In the past, people brought their workload to the standards lab. Today, the functions of the standards lab are being distributed, requiring that many calibrations be performed in the field. The 734C, and its electrically and mechanically independent 732C Standards, are designed to meet that need. The voltage reference remains undisturbed in your laboratory, while at the same time you can distribute the volt to remote locations outside the lab. When the unit is returned to the lab, comparisons can be made to the reference to determine if a shift has occurred during the transfer. To maintain traceability to national standards, one unit may be transported to a national lab or other primary standards lab for calibration, again, without disturbing the reference. Each 732C Standard is relatively light, weighing just 5.9 kg, and its 72-hour battery life provides ample capacity for long shipments. An optional external battery extends that capacity to 210 hours. A special transit case, designed to hold one 732C and an external battery, simplifies transport even further.

The 732C can stand up to a lot of abuse. The outputs can be shorted indefinitely and the 10 V output is protected up to 1100 V dc, 25 mA, without damaging the unit or affecting its output.

## Service Options from Fluke

### Fluke provides two service options:

For existing 732As, 732Bs or 732Cs or similar standards that are already in use, the Direct Voltage Maintenance Program is a service where Fluke Calibration can provide calibration certificates for these standards. This service consists of two calibration alternatives that can be used depending on your needs.

- **Calibrations done by Fluke.**

Calibration certificate services can be easily performed on standards returned to Fluke Calibration service facilities. Contact your Fluke Calibration representative or your local Fluke service center for details regarding these calibration certificate alternatives.

- **Calibration in your laboratory.** With the Direct Voltage Maintenance Program (DVMP) 732C-200 services, a standard owned and calibrated by Fluke Calibration, including all necessary connecting cables and operating instructions, is sent to your site for comparison with one or more of your own reference standards. You make a series of readings over several days and forward the standard to the Fluke Calibration Standards Laboratory. A value for your reference relative to the Fluke standard is assigned. Within one week, a preliminary Report of Calibration is returned to you. Once the standard is returned to Fluke Calibration, it is compared to the Fluke Voltage Standard. A final value is assigned to your reference, and a final Report of Calibration is sent to you. The 732C-200 service provides a calibration certificate for one local standard. Each additional standard that requires a certificate can use the 732C-201 service. In this way, comparing multiple standards to a single Fluke Calibration standard will provide any required number of standards with individual calibration certificates.

**Note:** DVMP is not available in all areas. Contact your local Fluke representative for details.

## Specifications

### Performance

#### Output voltages

10 V, 1 V, and 0.1 V are provided at separate binding posts referenced to the VCOM binding post.

#### Stability

Stability for the 732C outputs at  $T_{cal} \pm 1$  °C and IN CAL indicator on is specified in the standard stability table below.

Standard stability			
Output voltage	Stability ( $\pm \mu\text{V/V}$ )		
	30 days	90 days	1 Year
10 V	0.3	0.8	2.0
1 V	0.6	1.2	3.0
0.1 V	1.2	2.9	9.8

Select stability			
Output voltage	Stability ( $\pm \mu\text{V/V}$ )		
	30 days	90 days	1 Year
10 V	0.3	0.8	1.0
1 V	0.6	1.2	2.5
0.1 V	1.2	2.9	8.0

#### Noise at the output terminals

Output noise is specified for both day-to-day observations and for short-term observations, at  $k=1$ .

Output voltage	$S_i$ ( $\pm \mu\text{V/V}$ ) <sup>1</sup>	$S_{ra}$ ( $\pm \mu\text{V/V}$ ) <sup>2</sup>	Noise ( $\pm \mu\text{V/V rms}$ )
10 V	0.07	0.05	0.06
1 V	0.16	0.14	0.15
0.1 V	1.4	1.3	1.0

<sup>1</sup>  $S_i$  is the standard deviation about the regression (SDEV) of 90 days of at least twice daily stability test data.

<sup>2</sup>  $S_{ra}$  is the SDEV of the stability test data with a 7-day moving average filter (MAF).

To obtain the best performance, use the Product in controlled environments with good system grounding and shielding practices. For radiated EMI fields from 0.25 to 1 V/m from 80 to 130 MHz, add 9  $\mu\text{V}$  to the 1 V output, and 3.6  $\mu\text{V}$  to the 0.1 V output. For ac mains conducted EMI of 1 Vrms from 75 to 80 MHz, add 1  $\mu\text{V}$  to the 1 V output, and 0.7  $\mu\text{V}$  to the 0.1 V output. The 10 V output is mostly unaffected by EMI fields up to 1 V/m or by conducted EMI up to 1 Vrms.

#### Output current and impedance

Output voltage	Output current limit	Output impedance
10 V	12 mA <sup>1</sup>	$\leq 1 \text{ m}\Omega$
1 V	1.2 mA <sup>1</sup>	$\leq 1 \text{ m}\Omega$
100 mV	20 pA	$\leq 100 \Omega$

<sup>1</sup> Limit total output current to  $\leq 0.1 \text{ mA}$  to realize specified battery operation.

**Retrace (Hysteresis) Error**

The table below shows the change in 10 V output voltage following a power outage (with the battery turned off) and temperature held constant in a 23 °C to 35 °C range.

Period that power is turned off	Change in 10 V output value ( $\pm \mu\text{V/V}$ )
$\leq 10$ min	0.1
10 min to 24 hr	0.25
24 hr to 14 days	0.25

**Stabilization Time Requirements**

Warmup times required after ac line and battery power have been turned off. The IN CAL indicator will be off, and recalibration will be necessary. The previously-specified retrace error specification can be used in the case of power interruptions.

With no power interruption	No stabilization time is required after the Product is moved to another environment
Power off for <1 hr	1-hr warmup required
Power off for >1 hr	24-hr warmup required

**Temperature Coefficient (TC) of Output**

From 15 °C to 35 °C, the temperature coefficient is bound by the information in the table below.

Output voltage	Temperature Coefficient ( $\pm \mu\text{V/V per } ^\circ\text{C}$ )
10 V	0.04
1 V	0.1
0.1 V	0.2

**Output change with altitude**

For an altitude change from calibration altitude, the output voltage change is bound by the information in the table below.

Output voltage	Output Change ( $\pm \mu\text{V/V per 1000 ft}$ )
10 V	0.05
1 V	0.09
0.1 V	0.18

**Load regulation**

10 V output load change	Maximum 10 V output change ( $\pm \mu\text{V/V}$ )
0 mA to 12 mA (no load to full load)	1
0 mA to 2 mA	0.1

**Line Regulation**

The outputs will change no more than 0.05  $\mu\text{V/V}$  for any 10% line voltage change or for the entire operating range of the battery.

<b>General</b>			
<b>Mains</b>	Line voltage is accepted as shown in the table below. AC line current at 120 V ac is typically 0.13 A.		
	732C line voltage setting	Line voltage accepted	Frequency accepted
	100 V	90 V to 110 V	50 Hz/60 Hz
	120 V	108 V to 132 V	50 Hz/60 Hz
	220 V	198 V to 242 V	50 Hz/60 Hz
	240 V	216 V to 264 V	50 Hz/60 Hz
<b>Battery</b>	<p>Battery operation: At full charge, the internal battery operates the Product for a minimum of 72 hours at 23 ±5 °C, with 0 mA to 0.1 mA total current drain at the outputs.</p> <p>Charging time: &lt;36 hours with self-contained automatic battery charger</p>		
<b>External dc input</b>	Rear-panel input for external 12 V dc to 15 V dc powers the Product indefinitely. The dc source must be rated ≥300 mA		
<b>Isolation</b>	Resistance from any of the Product binding posts to earth (chassis) ground or to ac line power is >10 000 MΩ shunted by <1000 pF		
<b>Guard and ground terminals</b>	Chassis ground connections are provided on both the front and rear panels. Access to the internal guard is provided by a front-panel binding post		
<b>Output protection</b>	<p>All outputs can be shorted indefinitely without damage to the Product. The 10 V output can withstand voltages from other sources as follows:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. For voltages ≤220 V dc, the Product is protected for a maximum of 50 mA continuous current</li> <li>2. For voltage ≤1100 V dc, the Product is protected for a maximum of 25 mA continuous current or up to 0.6 joules for short periods of time</li> </ol>		

<b>Environmental</b>	
<b>Specified operation</b>	Temperature range: 15 °C to 35 °C
	Relative humidity: 0% to 90% to 28 °C, to 80% to 35 °C, and to 50% to 50 °C, Noncondensing
	Altitude: 0 m to 1830 m (0 ft to 6000 ft)
<b>Non-specified operation</b>	Temperature range: 0 °C to 50 °C
	Relative humidity: 0% to 90% noncondensing
	Altitude: 0 m to 3050 m (0 ft to 10 000 ft)°
<b>Storage (battery removed)</b>	Temperature Range: -40 °C to 50 °C
	Relative humidity: noncondensing
	Altitude: 0 m to 12 200 m (0 ft to 40 000 ft)

**Electromagnetic Compatibility (EMC)**

The Product operates in Standards Laboratory environments where the radio frequency (RF) environment is highly controlled.

<b>International</b>	IEC 61326-2-1; CISPR 11: Group 1, Class A Controlled Electromagnetic Environment Group 1 equipment has intentionally generated and/or use conductively coupled radio-frequency energy which is necessary for the internal functioning of the equipment itself. Class A equipment is equipment suitable for use in all establishments other than domestic and those directly connected to a low voltage power supply network which supplies buildings used for domestic purposes. Emissions which exceed the levels required by CISPR 11 can occur when the equipment is connected to a test object. The equipment may not meet the immunity requirements of 61326-1 when test leads and/or test probes are connected.
<b>USA (FCC)</b>	47 CFR 15 subpart B, this product is considered an exempt device per clause 15.103
<b>Korea (KCC)</b>	Class A Equipment (Industrial Broadcasting and Communication Equipment). This product meets requirements for industrial (Class A) electromagnetic wave equipment and the seller or user should take notice of it. This equipment is intended for use in business environments and not to be used in homes.

**Safety**

<b>Safety</b>	IEC 61010-1, Installation Category II, Pollution degree 2
<b>Ingress protection</b>	IEC 60529: IP20

**Mechanical**

<b>Size (HxWxD)</b>	<b>734C:</b> 17.8 cm x 43.2 cm x 50.3 cm (7.0 in x 17.0 in x 19.8 in) including handles <b>732C and 732C-7001:</b> 13.4 cm x 9.8 cm x 40.6 cm (5.28 in x 3.85 in x 16.0 in)
<b>Weight</b>	<b>734C:</b> 30.4 kg (67 lb) <b>732C and 732C-7001:</b> 5.91 kg (13 lb)

**Ordering information**

**Standard models**

<b>732C</b>	10 V dc Reference Standard
<b>732C/C</b>	10 V dc Ref Std + Char (ships hot - INTL)
<b>734C</b>	10 V dc Ref Std
<b>734C/04</b>	10 V dc Ref Std + 4 x/Char (ships hot - INTL)

**Select models**

<b>732C/S/C</b>	Select 10 V dc Ref Std + Characterization (ships hot - INTL)
<b>734C/S/04</b>	Select 10 V dc Ref Std + 4 w/Char (ships hot - INTL)

**Accessories**

<b>732C-7001</b>	External Battery and Charger
<b>732C-7002</b>	Transit Case, for qty 1 or 2 732Bs or 732Cs
<b>734C-7001</b>	Instrument Enclosure
<b>Y734</b>	Rack Mount Kit for 734A or 734C

**Service Options**

<b>732C-200</b>	Direct Voltage Management Program
<b>GCP-ECAL-C</b>	732C Annual Cal, Ext Warranty
<b>SCP-ECAL-C</b>	732C Silver, Ext Warranty
<b>GCP-ECAL-C</b>	734C Annual Cal, Ext Warranty
<b>SCP-ECAL-C</b>	734C Silver, Ext Warranty

**Fluke Calibration.** Precision, performance, confidence.™

Electrical	RF	Temperature	Humidity	Pressure	Flow	Software
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APPLICATION NOTE

# Understanding specifications of DC reference standards

## Introduction

The Fluke Calibration 732C/734C DC Reference Standard is the third generation of lab quality electronic reference standards first pioneered by Fluke. The direct voltage reference is used to maintain traceability to national standards and to distribute the volt to production, service, calibration laboratories or other remote locations. It has been designed specifically for metrologists. Not only does it provide the performance metrologists need, but it is specified in ways to allow users to really understand the uncertainties of the measurements, and easily make allowance for compiling uncertainty budgets. Contemporary metrology practices, including ISO/IEC17025 based laboratory accreditation schemes, require uncertainty analysis to be performed in accordance with statistically based techniques described in the ISO Guide to the Expression of Uncertainty in Measurement (often referred to as the GUM). Specifications are provided at a confidence level of 99%, which is a coverage factor of  $k=2.58$  to enable this.



In addition to the reference laboratory calibration uncertainty, a primary source of uncertainty in the 732C outputs is the time stability over 30-day or longer periods. But as has been noted in many metrology papers, other sources of uncertainty can come into play depending on the operating and traveling environment and history of each instrument. For example, a change in the altitude, humidity, or temperature of the instrument environment may require uncertainty terms to be properly included with the calibration uncertainty and time stability uncertainty when determining the expanded uncertainty of an instrument output.

To achieve specified performance, care must be taken to eliminate all thermal emf errors from the measurement system. It is recommended that bare copper wire with low-leakage insulation or low-thermal leads be used for all connections to the binding posts and other instruments.

## Operating and calibration temperature ranges

As a voltage or transfer standard, the 732C will be commonly used in a calibration laboratory where the temperature is controlled to  $\pm 1\text{ }^\circ\text{C}$ , and the time stability specifications are written for that situation. A majority of electrical calibration laboratories operate at a nominal temperature of  $23\text{ }^\circ\text{C}$ , the temperature at which the 732C instrument is calibrated by Fluke during manufacture and service. The 732C is also capable of being calibrated at another temperature within its specified operating temperature range, and the  $\pm 1\text{ }^\circ\text{C}$  specifications will apply to operation within  $\pm 1\text{ }^\circ\text{C}$  of the calibration temperature.

## Temperature coefficient specifications

Performance at temperatures other than the calibration temperature may be determined by including an allowance for temperature coefficient over the additional temperature range. For example, operating at 27 °C with a 23 °C calibration temperature, would require adding three degrees worth of temperature coefficient error to each output, because 27 °C is 3 °C outside of 23 °C + 1 °C = 24 °C. Here, for the 10 V output, an added error of 3 °C × 0.04 μV/V-°C × 10 V = 1.2 μV due to temperature coefficient would be incurred. More commonly, to maximize performance the 732C can be characterized and calibrated at the intended operating temperature. Similarly, if the laboratory environment varies by more than 1 °C, the temperature coefficient can be applied in the same way to the total amount of variation. For example, if the laboratory is 23 °C ± 3 °C, the temperature coefficient would need to be applied for the two-degree variance beyond the specified 1 °C.

## Noise specifications

The extensive and extended studies of preceding 732A and 732B voltage standards has shown that in addition to the more standard 0.01 Hz to 10 Hz noise, there exists other noise that is of much lower frequency that has occasionally been referred to as 1/f like. This noise is characterized by the  $S_1$  and  $S_{ra}$  specifications and does increase with the time of sampling, but not nearly as fast as 1/f noise. When the slope of the regression line for an instrument output has been determined from the results of multiple calibrations over months or more of time, an improved uncertainty prediction of the performance for that output can be obtained by properly applying the stability performance and noise uncertainty specifications.

The explanation for this specific approach can be found in the paper “A New Approach to Specifying a DC Reference Standard” by John Emery, Ray Kletke, and Howard Voorheis, published in the Proceedings of the 1992 Measurement Science Conference. In the summary section of this paper, they state “Finally, the effect of low frequency noise on regression uncertainty was addressed. The presence of

low frequency noise can cause the DCRS (DC Reference Standard) uncertainty to be underestimated using classical regression analysis. A parameter,  $S_{ra}$ , was introduced which measures the effect of low frequency noise on output uncertainty. By including  $S_{ra}$  as a performance specification, this low frequency noise effect is bounded and the uncertainty more realistically estimated.”

Other papers point to the need to add uncertainties beyond those of standard regression analysis. In “The 1995 NCSL 10 V Josephson Array Interlaboratory Comparison” by Les Huntley, as presented at the 1996 NCSL Workshop & Symposium, pp. 33-48, he states “it has been known for some time that short term standard deviations (of 732B data taken over a few hours or a few days) is considerably smaller than long term standard deviation (of data taken over several months).” He also states “A reasonable guess at present is that the noise is “chaotic,” that is, it remains within limits determined by the physical system, but is sensitive to small changes in conditions.” Whatever the sources of the very low frequency noise, the  $S_{ra}$  parameter can be utilized to adequately capture these sources of uncertainty.

## Predicting stability

The instrument specifications combined with a linear regression analysis can be used to predict stability for a given period. Here, stability is defined as the output uncertainty minus the calibration uncertainty, and this is at the 99% confidence level for the 732C. When the output voltage is characterized by a regression model, stability is given by the following equation:

$$b \left( \frac{P}{365} \right) + t_1 \times S_1 \sqrt{\left[ \frac{S_{ra} \times t_2}{S_1 \times t_1} \right]^2 + \left( \frac{1}{n} \right) + \left[ \frac{(\bar{x} + P - x_1)^2}{\sum (x_j - \bar{x})^2} \right]}$$

### where

- b = slope of regression in μV/V per year for the regression data
- $S_1$  = standard deviation about the regression (SDEV) for the regression data
- $S_{ra}$  = SDEV of data filtered with 7-day moving average filter (MAF)
- P = period of time under consideration in days
- $\bar{x}$  = mean of the time for the regression data
- n = number of periods in the regression data (e.g. 180 = 2 periods per day for 90 days)
- $X_j$  = jth period
- $X_1$  = time at beginning of the regression data
- $t_1$  = student's t statistic for (n-2) degrees of freedom (typically 2.6)
- $t_2$  = student's t statistic for  $\{[n/(7 \text{ days})] - 2\}$  degrees of freedom (typically 2.81)

In order to reduce 0.01 Hz to 10 Hz noise affects for this regression analysis, each data point for the computation of the regression parameters is usually the average voltage of about 50 readings taken in a 50-second measurement period.

If additional calibrations are performed on an instrument, noise specifications that are specific to that instrument can be computed, and then more accurate stability predictions can be made for the instrument outputs. In this case,  $b$ ,  $S_1$  and  $S_{ra}$  values specific to each output would be developed for an instrument that could then be utilized in the above stability prediction equation.

Wider temperature ranges, altitude changes, and humidity changes will affect an instrument, requiring that uncertainties for these effects be included in the above output voltage prediction equation. The paper listed below plus others can help with properly including needed uncertainties.

**Output drift**

Many instrument outputs drift nearly linearly over long periods, and so a linear regression fits the output voltage long-term time stability behavior very well. However, some have drift rates that are non-linear, especially earlier in their history. It is often possible to linearize the relationship between an output and time by transforming the time variable using transformations such as  $x' = \log(x-d)$  or  $x' = \sqrt{x-d}$ , where  $d$  is a number corresponding to a date. This often leads to much lower uncertainty for the regression of output voltage versus time. The paper "Predicting 10 V dc Reference Standard Output Voltage" by Raymond D. Kletke found in the 1998 NCSL Conference and Symposium, pp. 615-621 and other papers can help with this approach.

**Re-trace specifications**

For optimum performance, the core voltage reference circuitry is maintained at a controlled, higher temperature by heater elements and control circuitry. If battery power is lost, the heated circuitry will cool off, and as a result of the laws of physics the voltage reference element may change voltage temporarily or permanently. If the temperature that the voltage reference cools off to is in the range of 23 °C to 35 °C, and the power off time period is up to several days, then the amount of shift in the 10 V output will be no more than that given in the Retrace Error table for the time off period. For example, if the instrument is left without ac power long enough that the internal battery discharges and the internal circuitry cools off to a 23 °C room temperature for three days, then the 10 V output would incur a maximum error of 0.25 µV/V or 2.5 µV. This resulting retrace (hysteresis) error is added (linear) to the Stability spec to obtain total uncertainty. Typically, the instrument long-term drift rate (slope) will not change for conditions within those specified for retrace error.

**Fluke Calibration.** *Precision, performance, confidence.™*

Electrical	RF	Temperature	Humidity	Pressure	Flow	Software
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