

Time Measurements and Isochronism

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Museum of the Dutch Clock, Zaandam, The Netherlands**



Academic Medical Center

Titan: From Discovery to Encounter, Noordwijk 16 April, 2004



MNU

Mechanische Urwerken (> 1300)

1200 . 1300 . 1400 . 1500 . 1600 . 1700 . 1800 . 1900 . 2000 . 2100



Foliot/Balanswiel

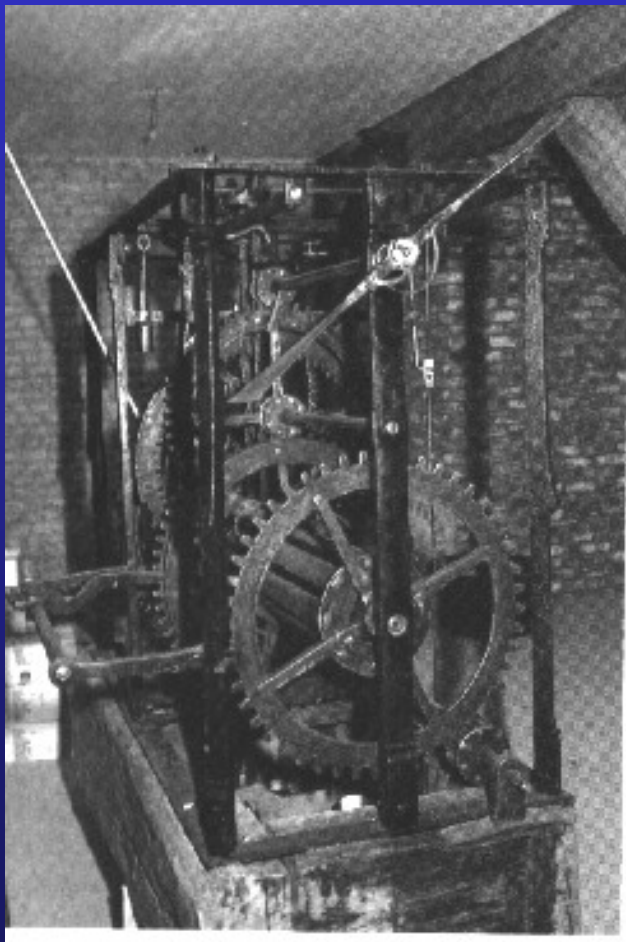
Slinger/Balansveer



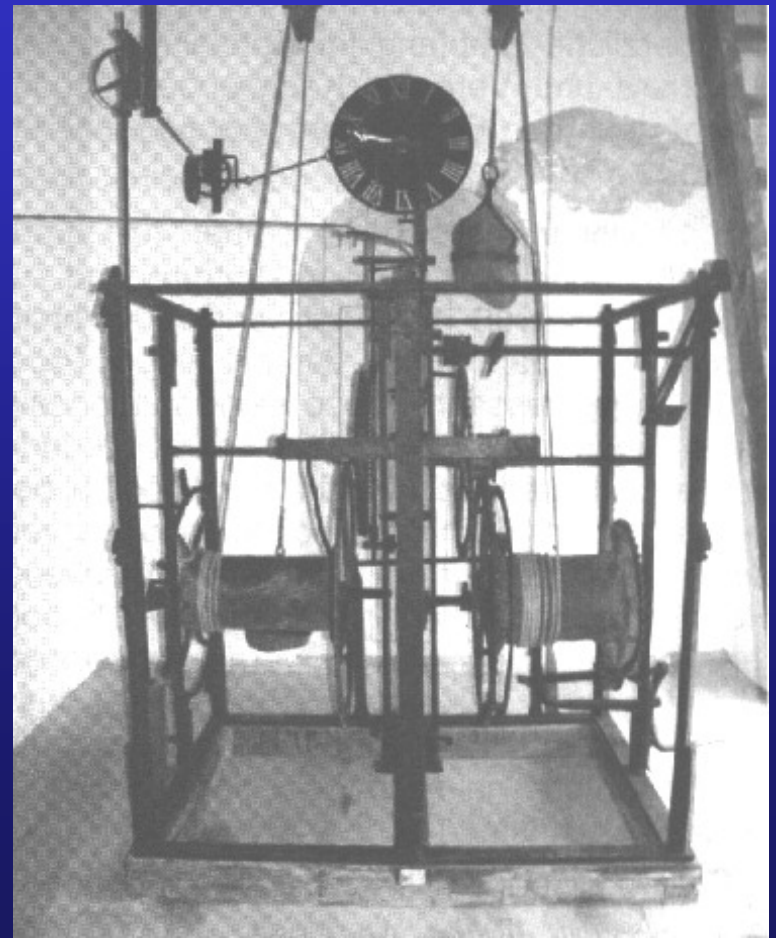
Huygens 1656, 1675

Early Turret Clocks

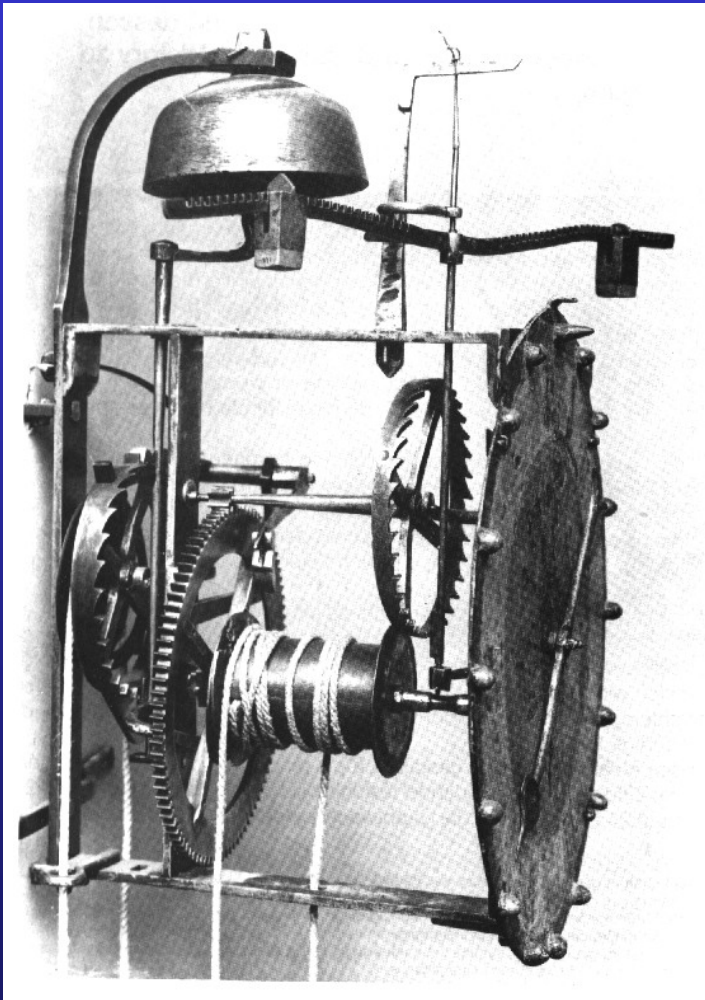
Maastricht 1400?;



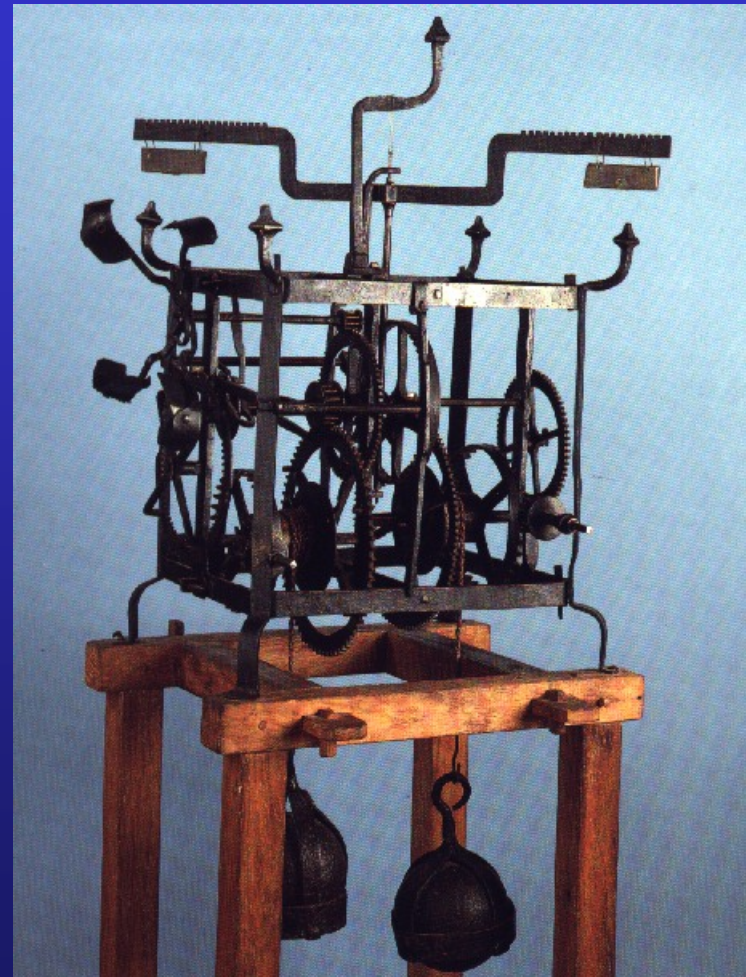
Winkel (N-H) ~1460



Early Mechanical Clocks



Nürnberg ca 1450



Nederland ca 1520 (MNU)

Museum of the Dutch Clock

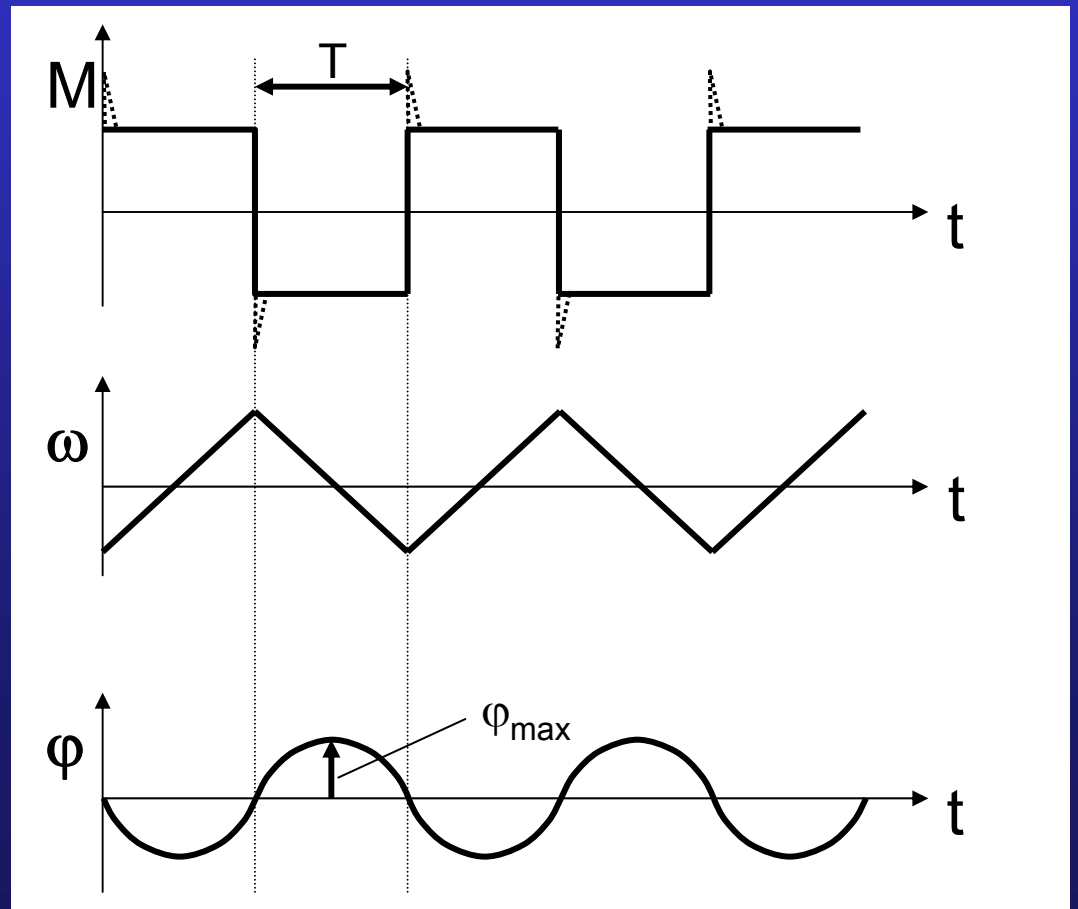
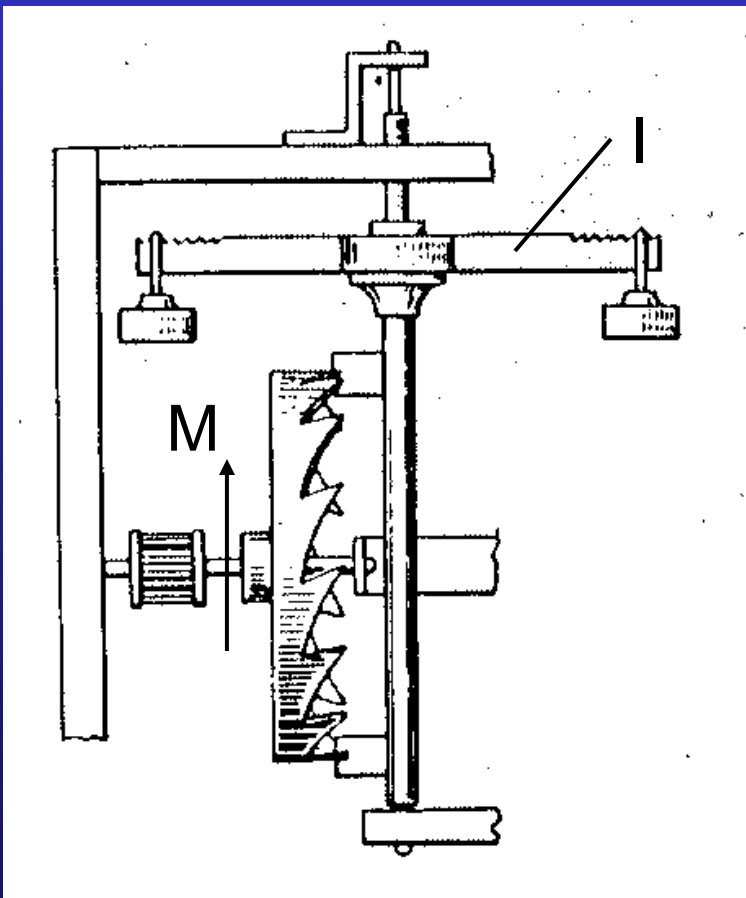
Exhibition Willem Barents and his Clock; 1596-1996



- Model from ca 1450
- Not touched since 1596
- Collection Rijksmuseum

Mechanical Clocks; 1300 - 1656

Foliot/Vertical Verge-Escapement $M = I \frac{\partial \omega}{\partial t} = I \frac{\partial^2 \phi}{\partial t^2}$



Mechanical Clocks; 1300 - 1656

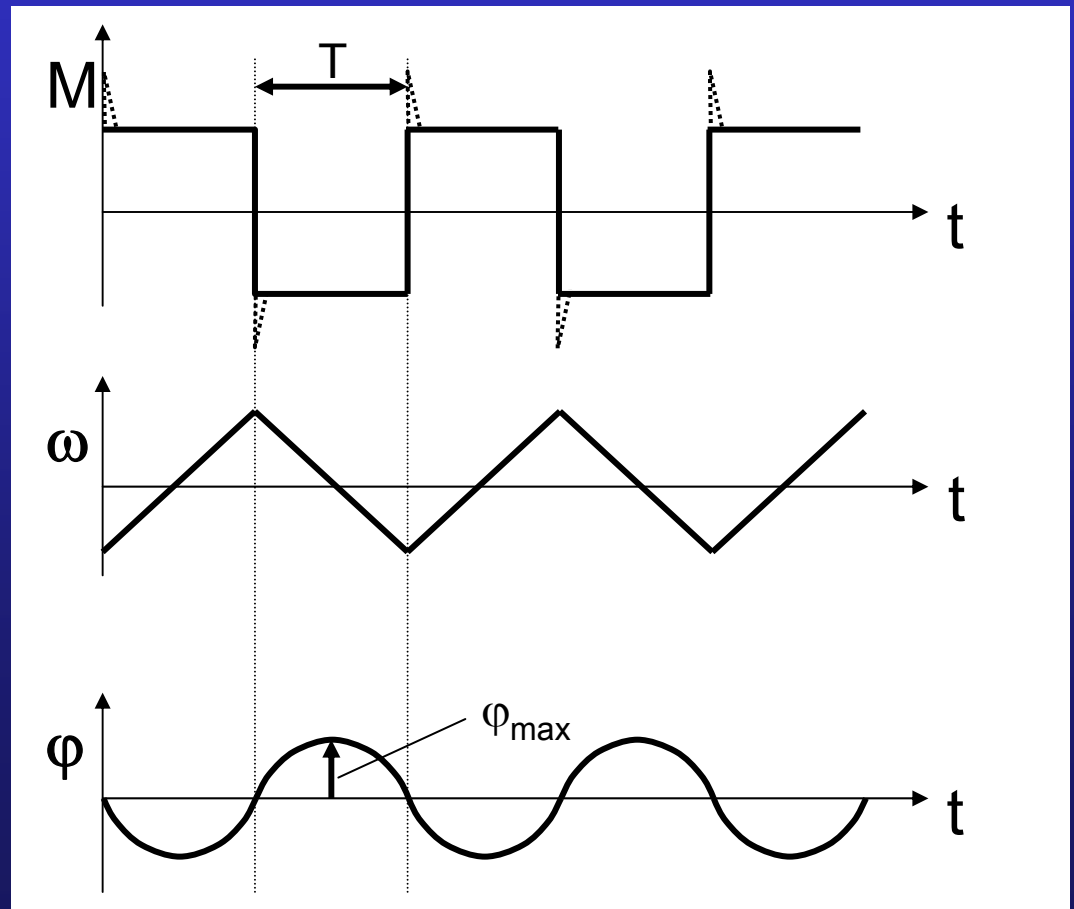
Foliot/Vertical Verge-Escapement $M = I \partial\omega/\partial t = I \partial^2\phi/\partial t^2$

$$\omega = (M/I).t$$

$$\phi = \frac{1}{2} (M/I).t^2$$

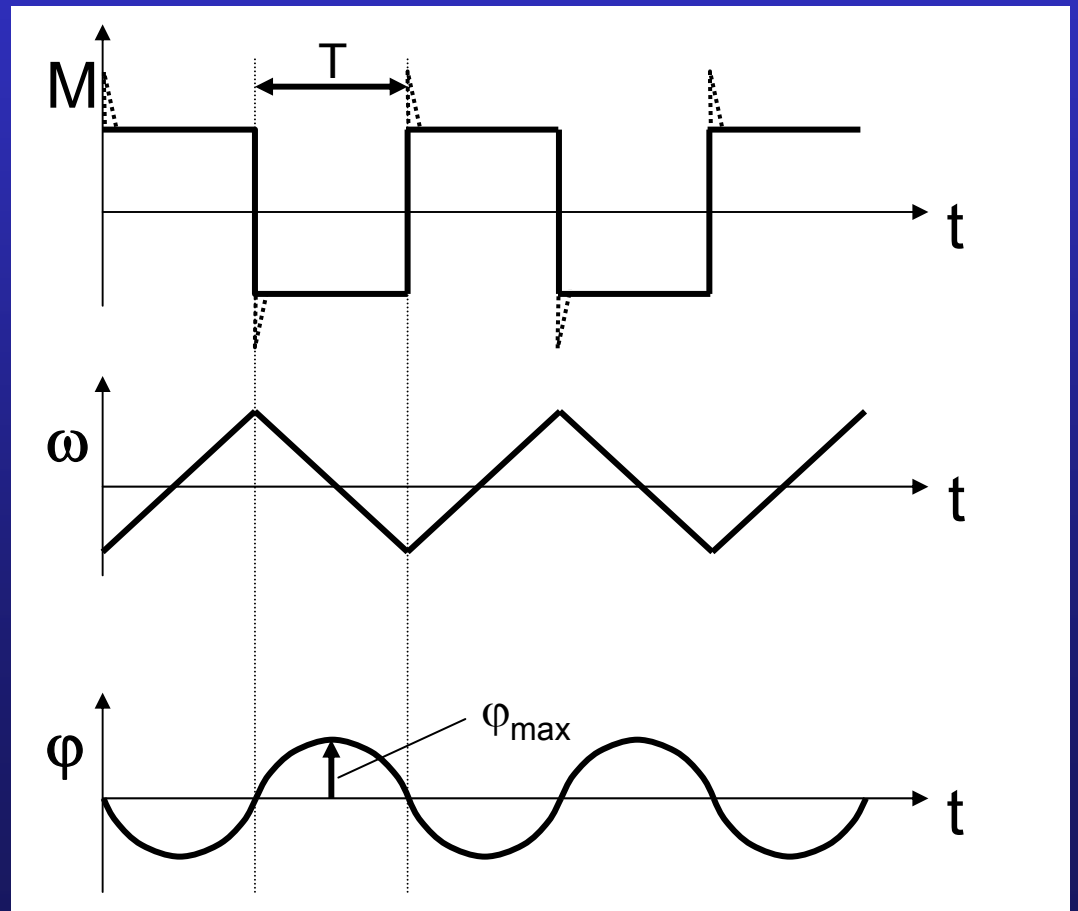
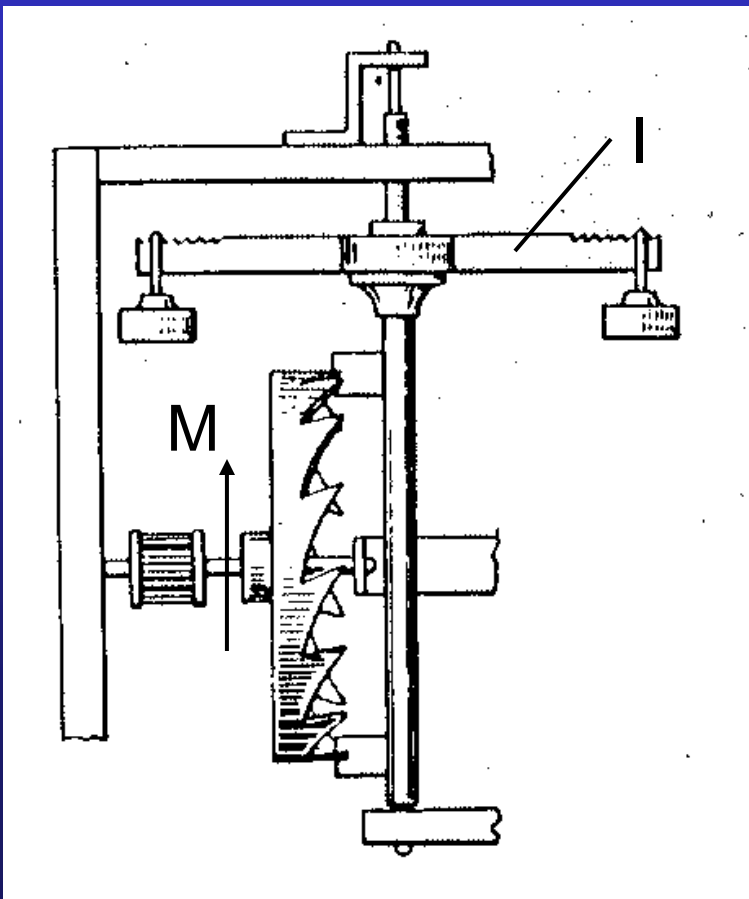
$$\phi_{\max} = \frac{1}{2} (M/I).(T/2)^2$$

$$T/2 = \sqrt{2 \phi_{\max}(I/M)}$$



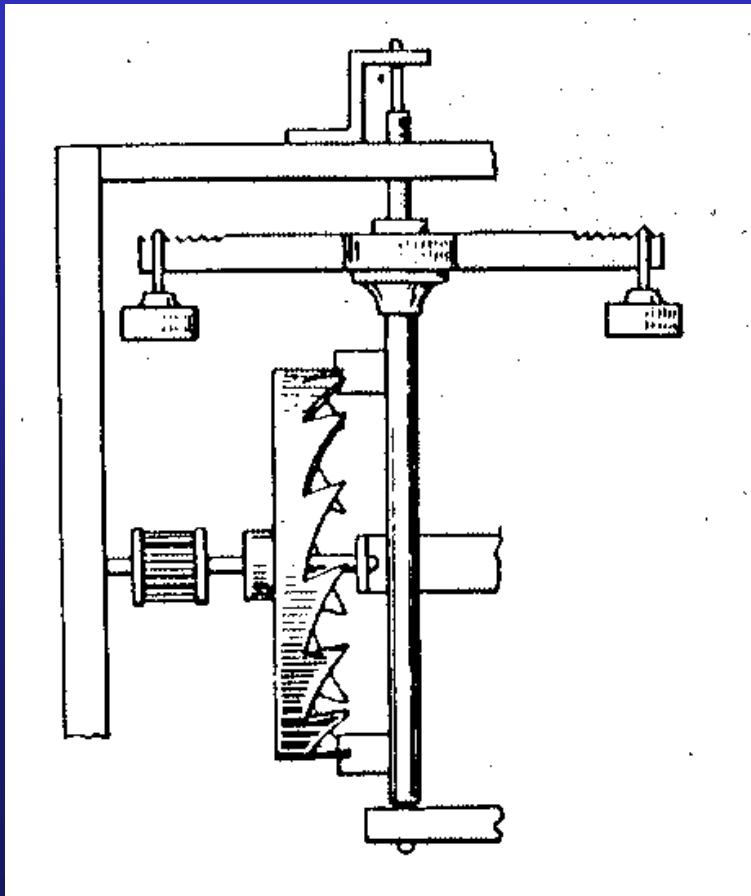
Mechanical Clocks; 1300 - 1656

Foliot/Vertical Verge-Escapement $T = 2 \sqrt{2} \phi_{\max}(I/M)$



Mechanical Clocks; 1300 - 1656

Foliot/Vertical Verge-Escapement



- + Balanced (independent of gravity)
- + Self starting

$$T = 2 \sqrt{2 \phi_{\max} (I/M)}$$

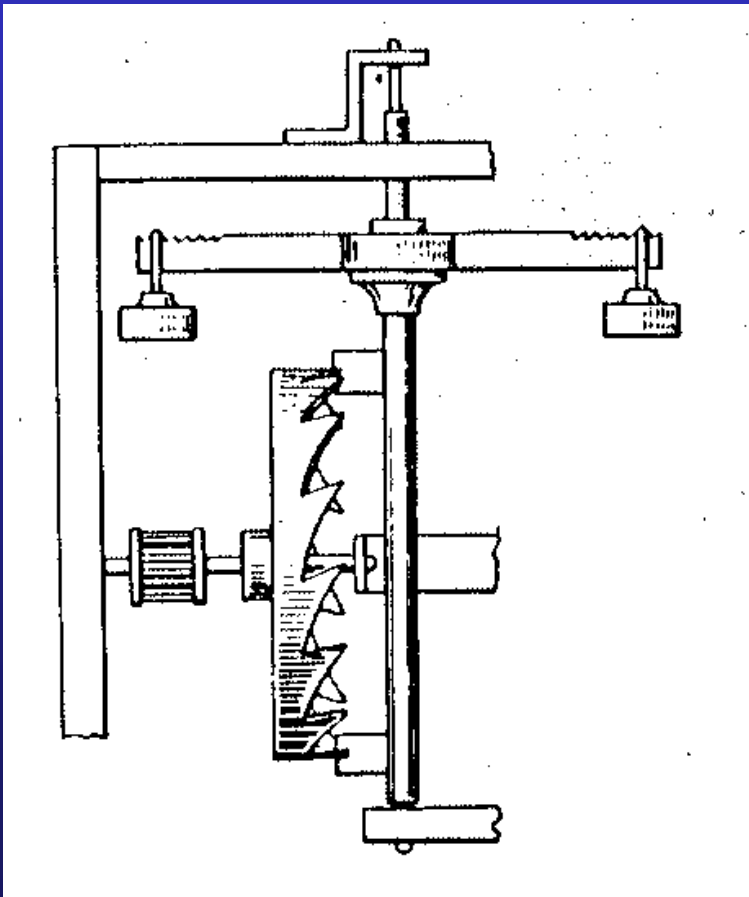
- Dependent on driving moment
- Dependent on friction
- Dependent on temperature
- Dependent on ϕ_{\max} :

$$dT/T = 1/2 d\phi_{\max}/\phi_{\max}$$

➔ NO INTRINSIC FREQUENCY

Mechanical Clocks; 1300 - 1656

Foliot/Vertical Verge-Escapement



- Dependent on ϕ_{\max} :

$$T = 2 \sqrt{2 \phi_{\max} (I/M)}$$

➔ NO INTRINSIC FREQUENCY

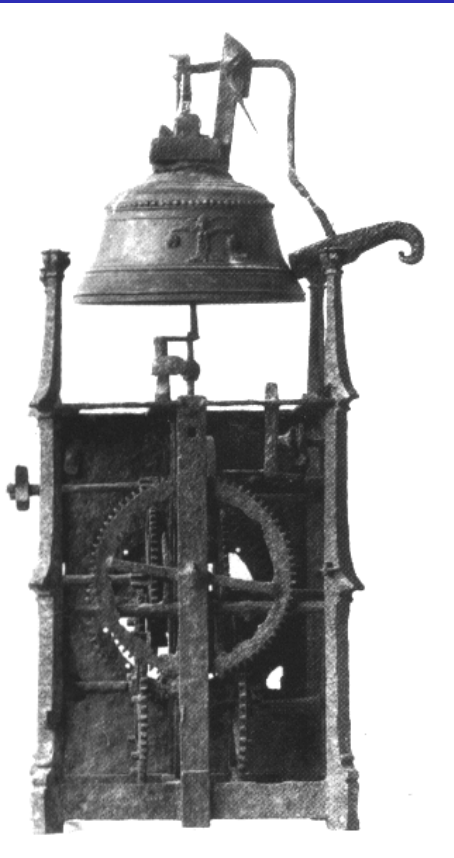
$$dT/T = \frac{1}{2} d\phi_{\max}/\phi_{\max}$$

Voorbeeld: $d\phi_{\max}/\phi_{\max} = 1\%$

$dT/T = \frac{1}{2} \% = 18 \text{ s/uur} = 7.2 \text{ min/dag}$

Clocks; Developments 1200-1650

- Iron Clocks → Brass bearings/Iron axles (ca 1550)
Identical materials: Wear (lubrication!)
Combining: Soft bearing/Hard axle: Less wear
- Fixed by wedges → Rivets/Screws (1500 –)
Much more design freedom
From cage (blacksmith) to plate construction (locksmith)
- Spring drive → Table clocks/Watches
Fusee



Clocks; Developments 1200-1650

- Iron Clocks → Brass bearings/Iron axles (ca 1550)

Identical materials: Wear (lubrication!)

Combining: Soft bearing/Hard axle: Less wear



Germany 1545 - 1550

Clocks; Developments 1200-1650

- Iron Clocks → Brass bearings/Iron axles (ca 1550)
Identical materials: Wear (lubrication!)
Combining: Soft bearing/Hard axle: Less wear

London ca 1585



Clocks; Developments 1200-1650

- Spring drive → Table clocks/Watches:

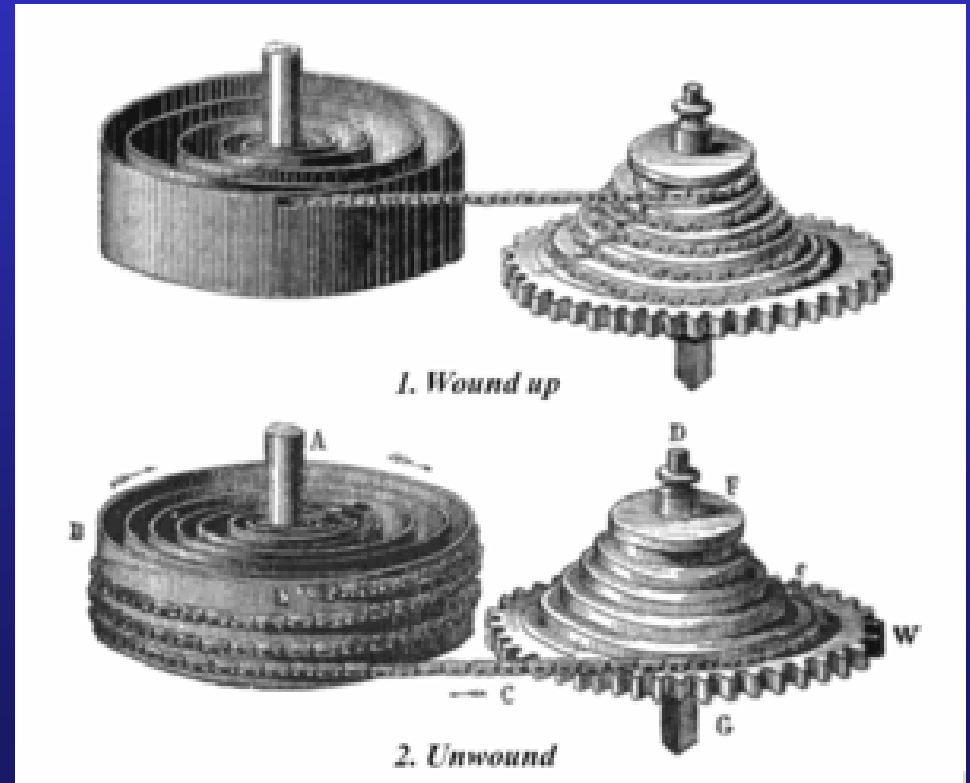
Fusee



Burgundy ca 1450



Model movement



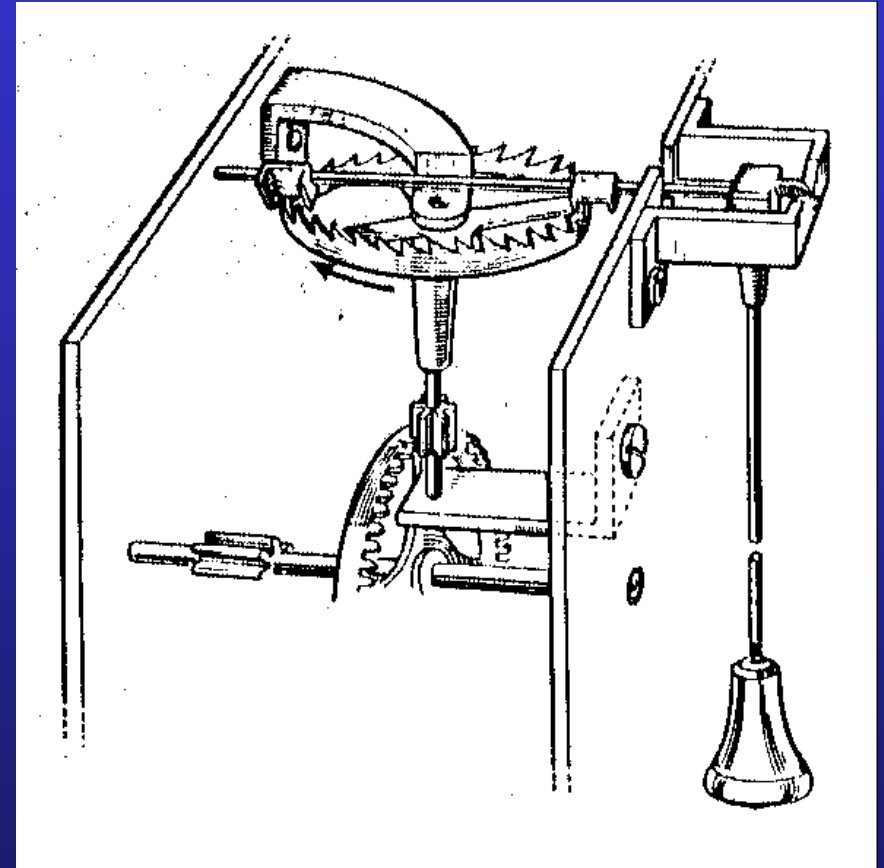
$M = F \times R \rightarrow$ Constant drive moment



Christiaan Huygens

14 april 1629 - 8 juli 1695

Christiaan Huygens 1629 - 1695

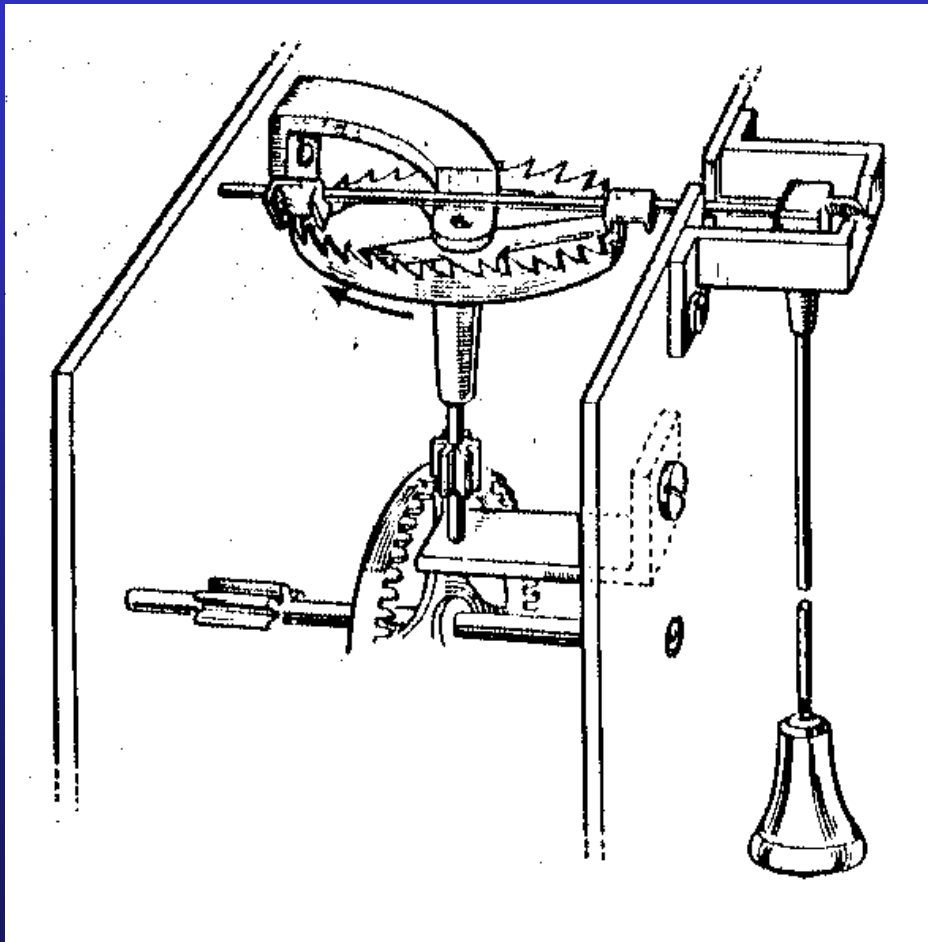


1657: Pendulum/horizontal verge
escapement

Mechanical Clocks; > 1656

Pendulum/Horizontal Verge-Escapement

$$T = 2\pi\sqrt{l/g}$$



Slinger / Pendulum

$$mld^2\phi/dt^2 = -mg\sin\phi$$

$$d^2\phi/dt^2 = -(g/l)\sin\phi$$

$$\approx -(g/l)\phi$$

Oplossing / Solution $\phi = \phi_{\max}\sin(2\pi t/T)$

Periode / Period $T = 2\pi\sqrt{l/g}$

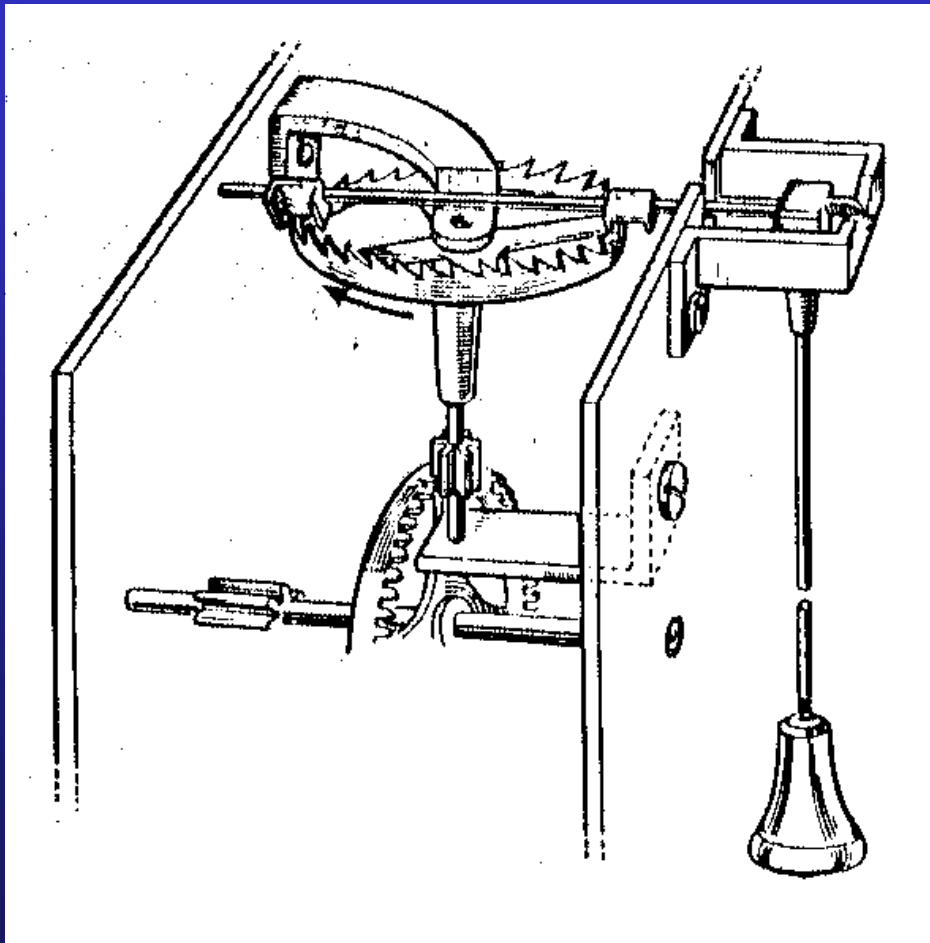
$$\approx 2.0\sqrt{l}$$

l = slingerlengte / length of pendulum
[m]

g = versnelling zwaartekracht
gravitation constant
[m/s²]

Mechanical Clocks; > 1656

Pendulum/Horizontal Verge-Escapement $T = 2\pi\sqrt{l/g}$



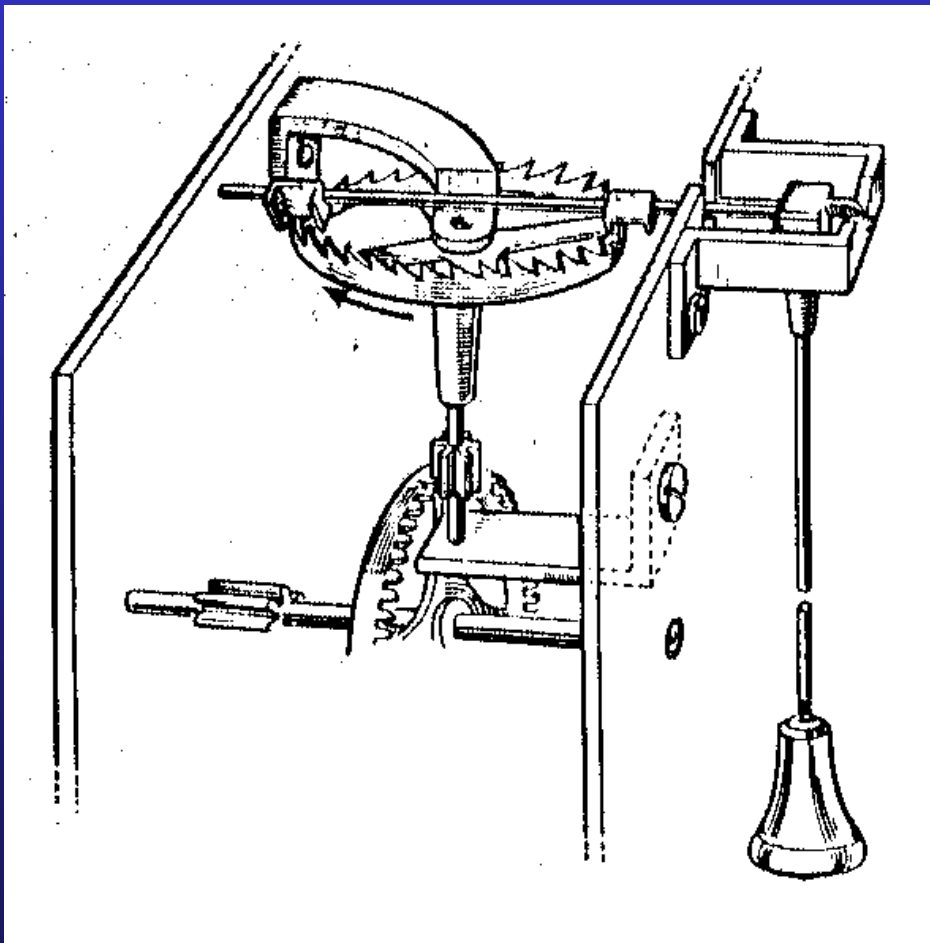
- + Dependent on length pendulum
- + Independent of friction
- + Amplitude dependence can be compensated (cycloidal cheeks)

➔ **INTRINSIC FREQUENCY**

- Dependent on gravity (g-tables)
- Can stand still
- Dependent on driving moment
- Dependent on temperature

Mechanical Clocks; > 1656

Pendulum/Horizontal Verge-Escapement $T = 2\pi\sqrt{l/g}$



ISOCHRONISME

Amplitude dependance

$$T = 2\pi\sqrt{l/g} (1 + (1/2)^2 \sin^2 \varphi_{\max}/2 + (1 \cdot 3/2 \cdot 4)^2 \sin^4 \varphi_{\max}/2 + \dots)$$

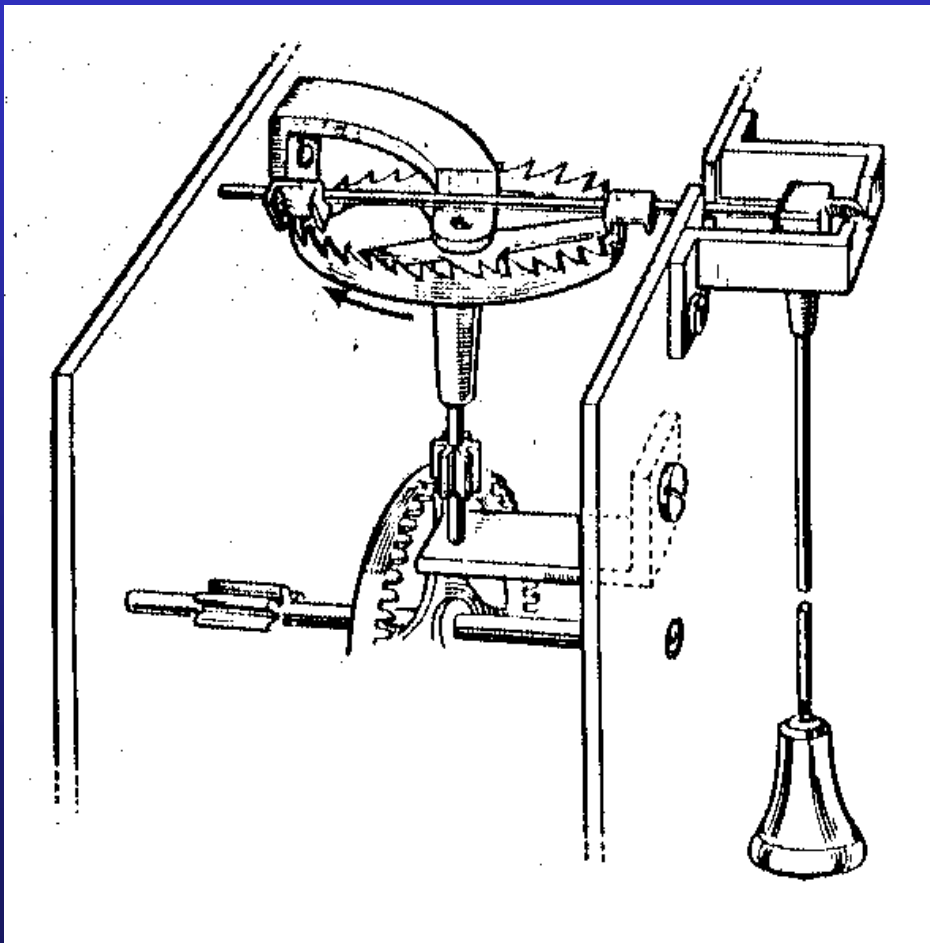
$$T \approx 2\pi\sqrt{l/g} \{1 + (1/16) \varphi_{\max}^2\}$$

$$dT/T = 1/8 (\varphi_{\max})^2 d\varphi_{\max}/\varphi_{\max}$$

$$dT/T = 3.8 \cdot 10^{-5} (\varphi_{\max}^{(0)})^2 d\varphi_{\max}/\varphi_{\max}$$

Mechanical Clocks; > 1656

Pendulum/Horizontal Verge-Escapement $T = 2\pi\sqrt{l/g}$



ISOCHRONISME

Amplitude dependance

$$dT/T = 1/8 (\phi_{\max})^2 d\phi_{\max}/\phi_{\max}$$

$$dT/T = 3.8 \cdot 10^{-5} (\phi_{\max}^{(0)})^2 d\phi_{\max}/\phi_{\max}$$

Voorbeeld: $d\phi_{\max}/\phi_{\max} = 1\%$

$$dT/T = 1/800 \phi_{\max}^2$$

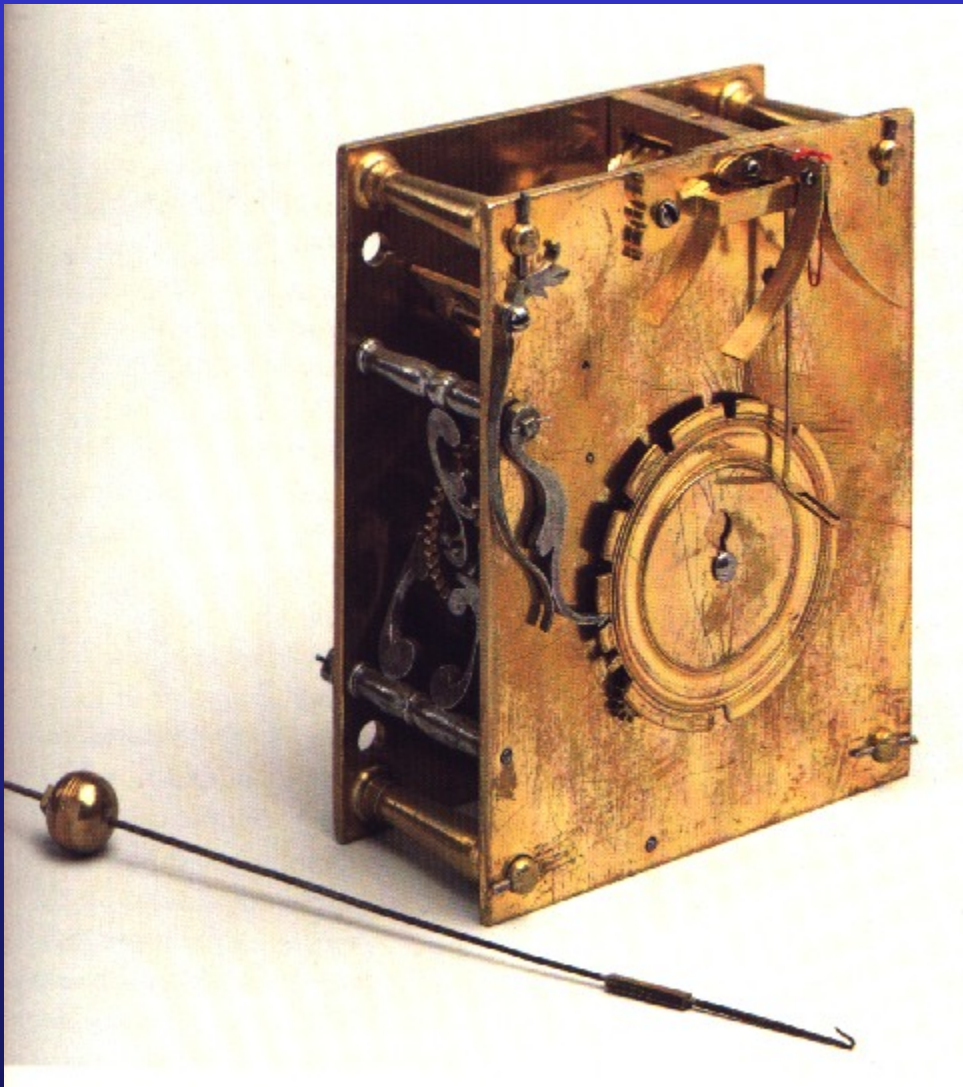
$$\phi_{\max} = 1 \text{ rad } (57^\circ) \quad dT/T = (1/8)\% = 1.8 \text{ min/dag}$$

$$\phi_{\max} = 3^\circ \quad dT/T = 3.4 \cdot 10^{-6} = 0.3 \text{ s/dag}$$

Salomon Coster with 'privilege' Christiaan Huygens; Collection Museum van het Nederlandse Uurwerk, ca 1658



Coster Clocks 1657-1659



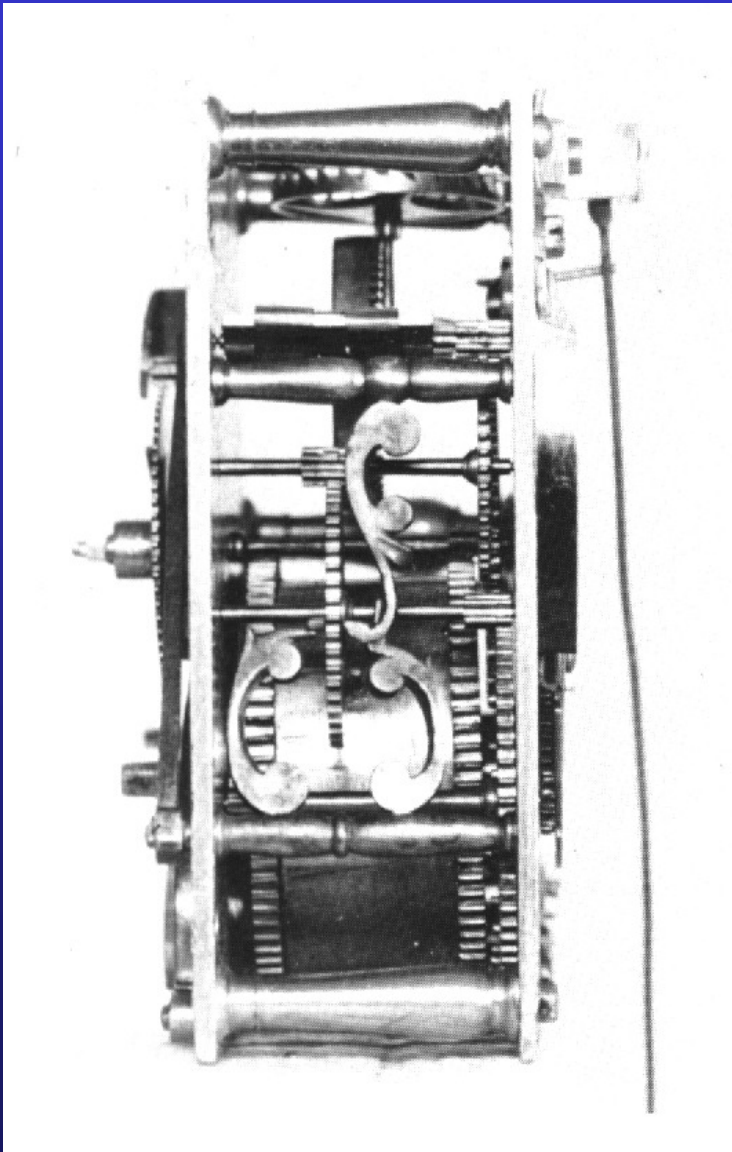
Salomon Coster

ca 1658

Collection MNU

- Double barrel
- Horizontal verge escapement
- Cycloidal cheeks/silk
suspended pendulum
- Striking train

Coster Clocks 1657-1659



Salomon Coster

ca 1658

Collection MNU

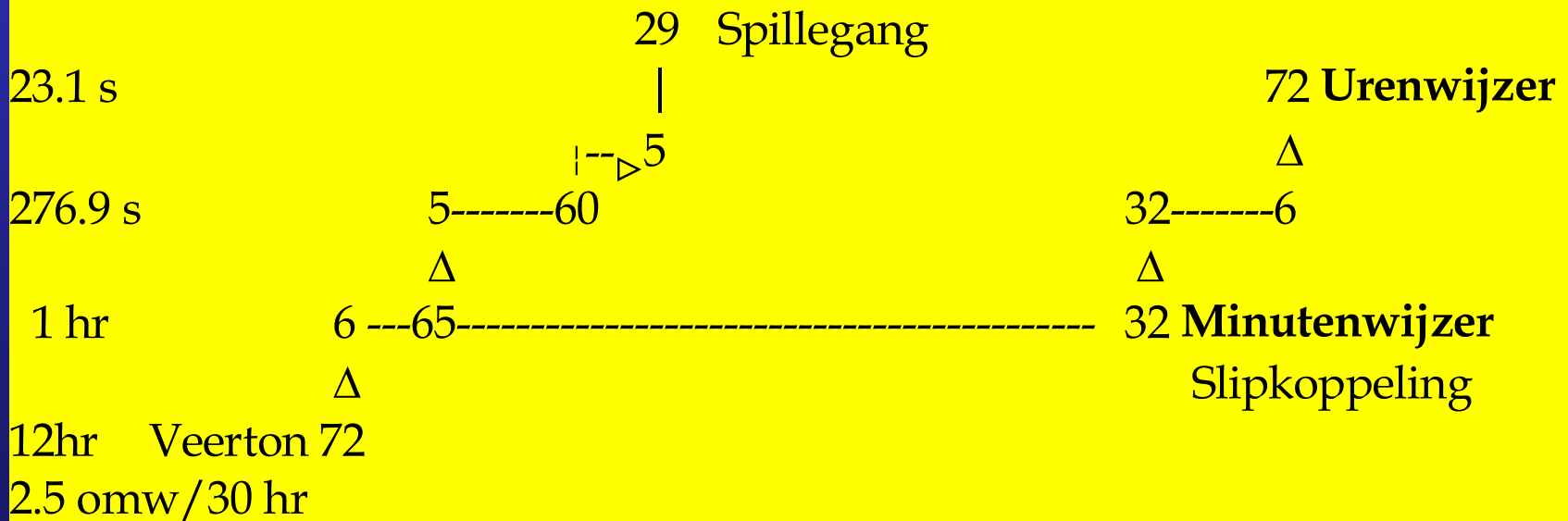
- Double barrel
- Horizontal verge escapement
- Cycloidal cheeks/silk
suspended pendulum
- Striking train

Museum van het Nederlandse Uurwerk

Opbouw “Coster-klok”

Gaand werk

0.796 s ($l = 15.8$ cm) Slinger



Museum van het Nederlandse Uurwerk

Opbouw Comtoise-klok Elzas ca 1850

Gaand werk

Tikgetal: (3871.8/uur)

186 s (1= 86.5 cm) Slinger

66.7 s 7--31 Ankergang

Δ

Minutenwijzer

Urenwijzer

686 s 7----72

1hr 36

12 hr 90

Δ

Δ

Δ

2 hr 13 ----- 85 ----- 72 ----- 15

Δ

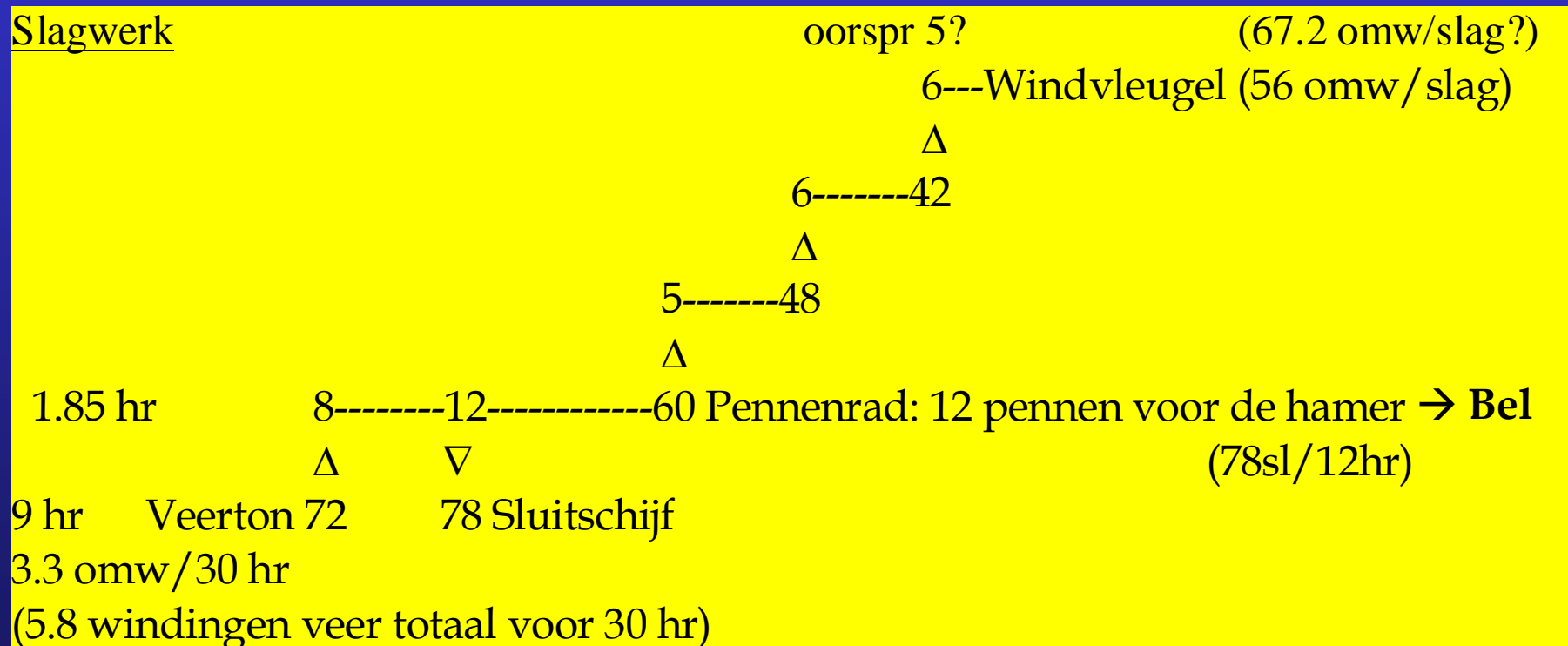
Slipkoppeling

14.8 hr 96 Opwindwals

Rondsels priemgetallen/Overbrenging geen geheel getal: →
Regelmatische slijtage/montage niet standgevoelig

Museum van het Nederlandse Uurwerk

Opbouw slagwerk “Costerklok”: Sluitschijf (va 1300)



Museum van het Nederlandse Uurwerk

Opbouw Comtoise-klok Elzas ca 1850

Slagwerk

7----Windvleugel (14 omw/slag)

Δ

7-----98 Scheprad

Δ

1 hr 7----98-----14 Sterrad → **Bel** (168/12 hr → gem 1omw/uur)

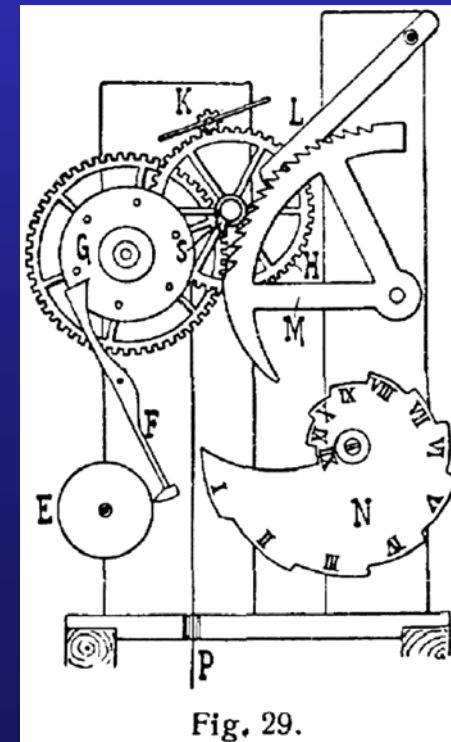
Δ

13.7 hr 96 Opwindwals

Repetitieslagwerk: Aftasting op uurwijzer (Slakkenhuis): →

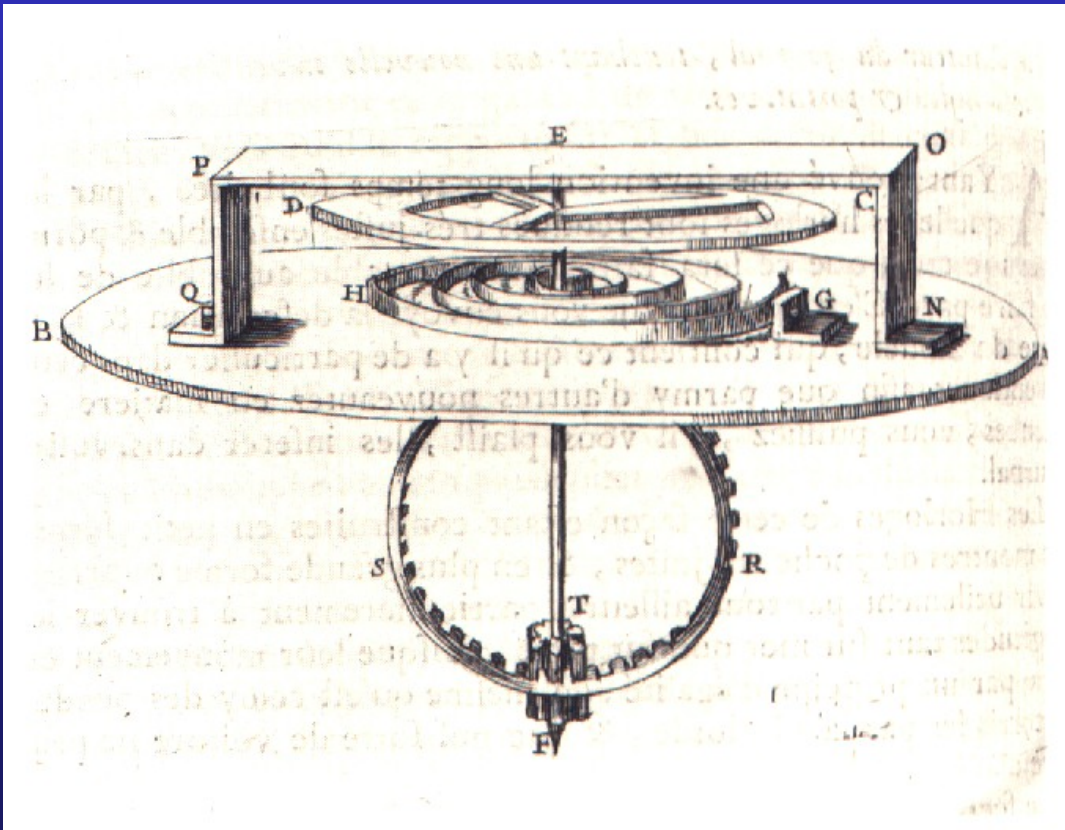
Klok kan niet van slag raken

Barlow 1676



Balance Wheel with Spring

Journal des Sçavans, January 20, 1675



Balanswiel met spiraalveer

Balance wheel with spring

$$I d^2\varphi/dt^2 = -b\varphi$$

$$d^2\varphi/dt^2 = -(b/I)\varphi$$

Oplossing / *Solution* $\varphi = \varphi_{\max} \sin(2\pi t/T)$

Periode / *Period* $T = 2\pi\sqrt{I/b}$
 $= 2\pi\sqrt{(mr^2/2b)}$

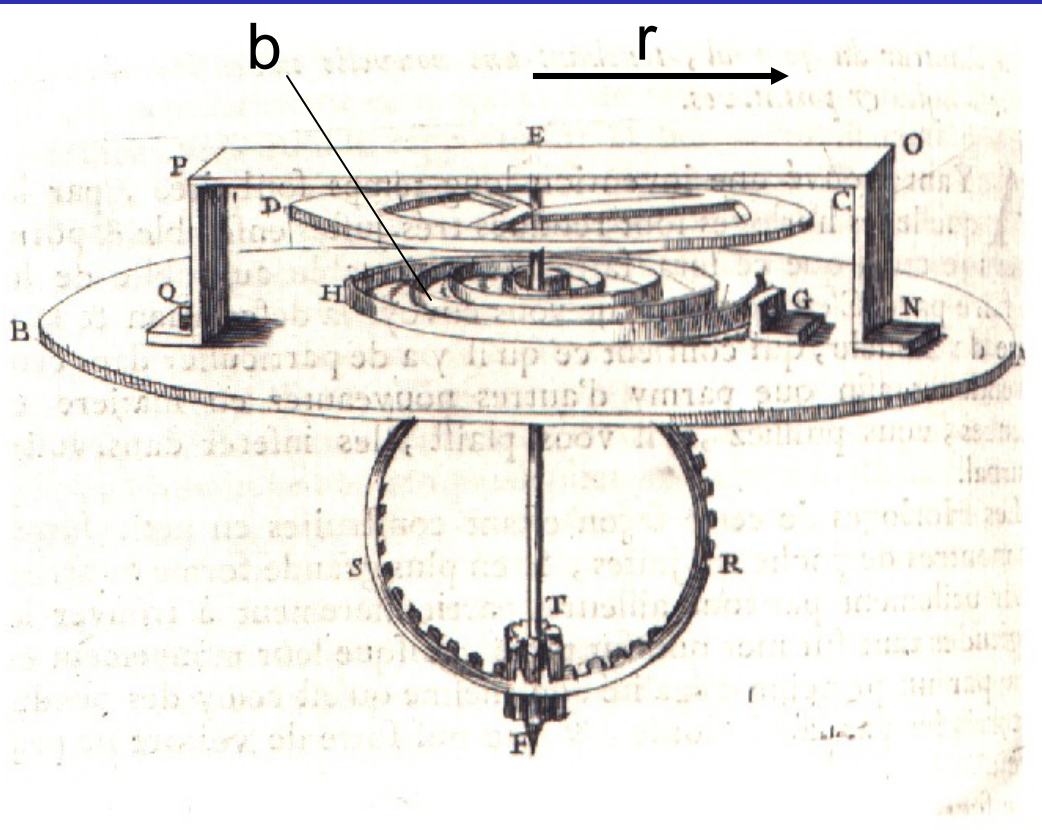
b = veerconstante / *spring constant*
[Nm/rad]

I = traagheidsmoment / *moment of inertia*
[kgm²]

Balance Wheel with Spring

Journal des Sçavans, January 20, 1675

$$T = 2\pi\sqrt{mr^2/2b}$$



+ Dependent on diameter wheel,
mass and spring constant

+ Independent of friction

+ Independent of gravity (balanced)

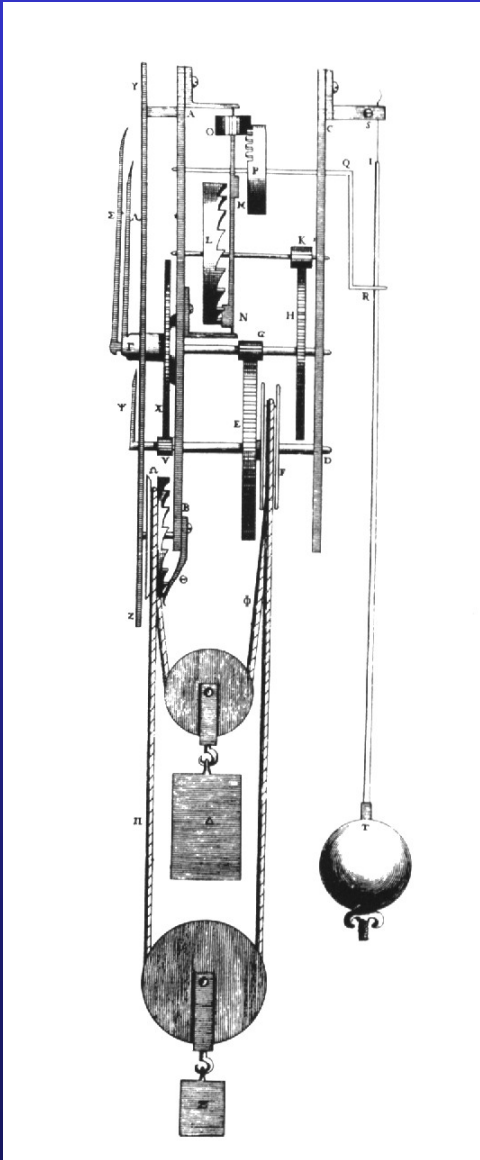
➔ **INTRINSIC FREQUENCY**

- Can stand still (less easily)

- Dependent on driving moment

- Dependent on temperature

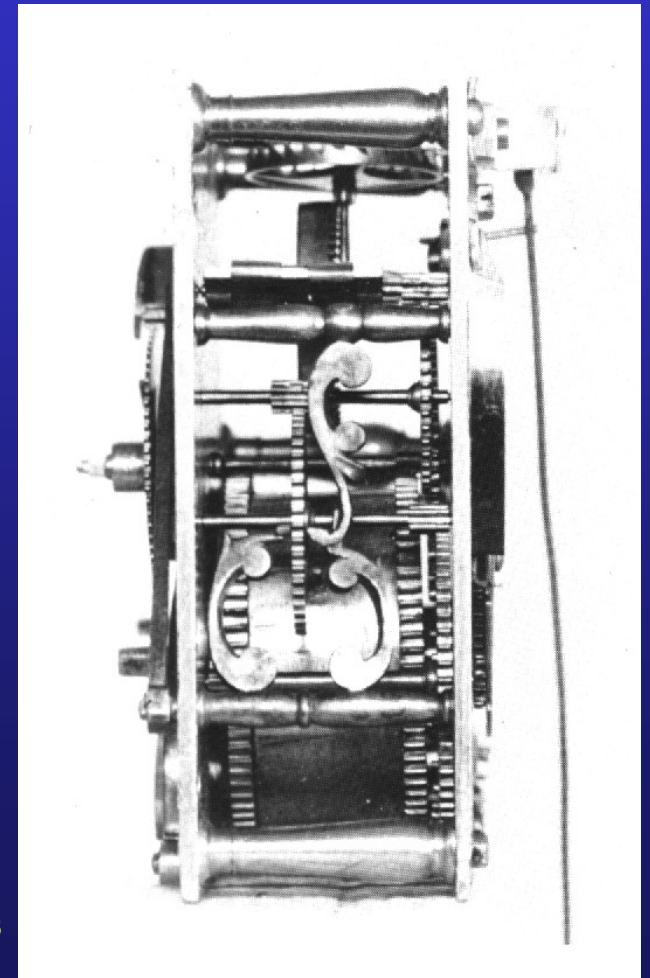
Limitations; driving moment, maintaining power



Horologium 1658

Double barrel

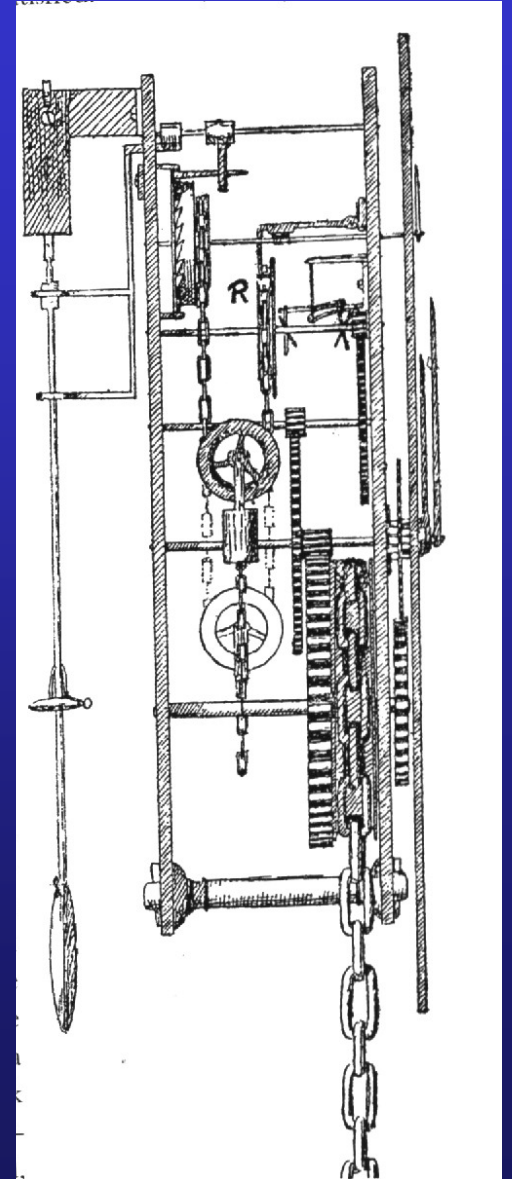
Endless cord



Salomon Coster ca 1658
Collection MNU

Limitations; driving moment, Remontoir

Weight Remontoir,
period of half a minute
Design drawing ca 1664



Marine Timekeepers

Determining longitude at sea

Most important problem to be solved by time measurements!

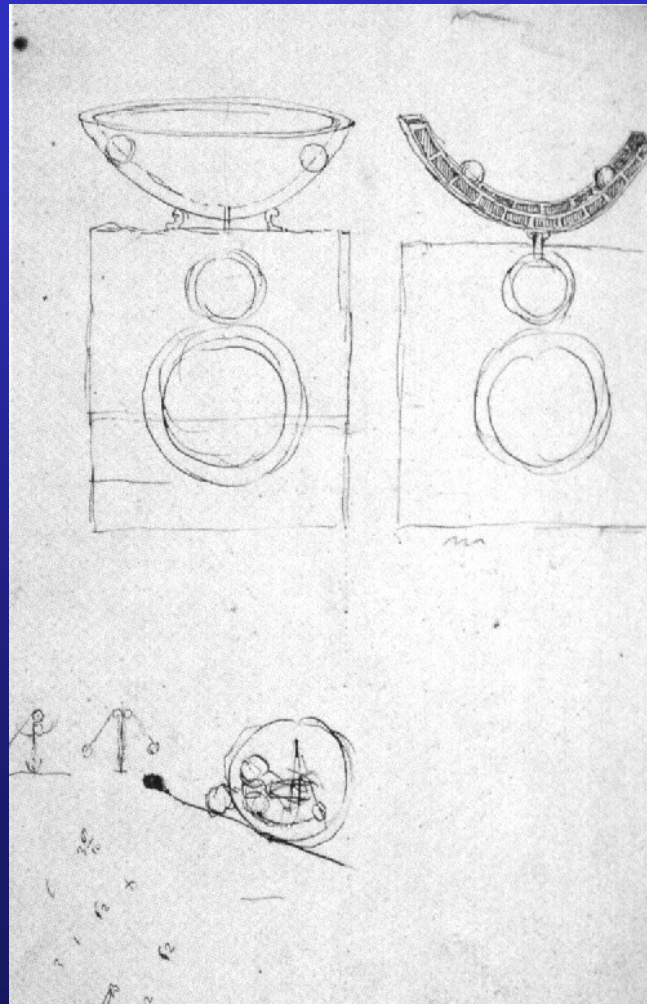
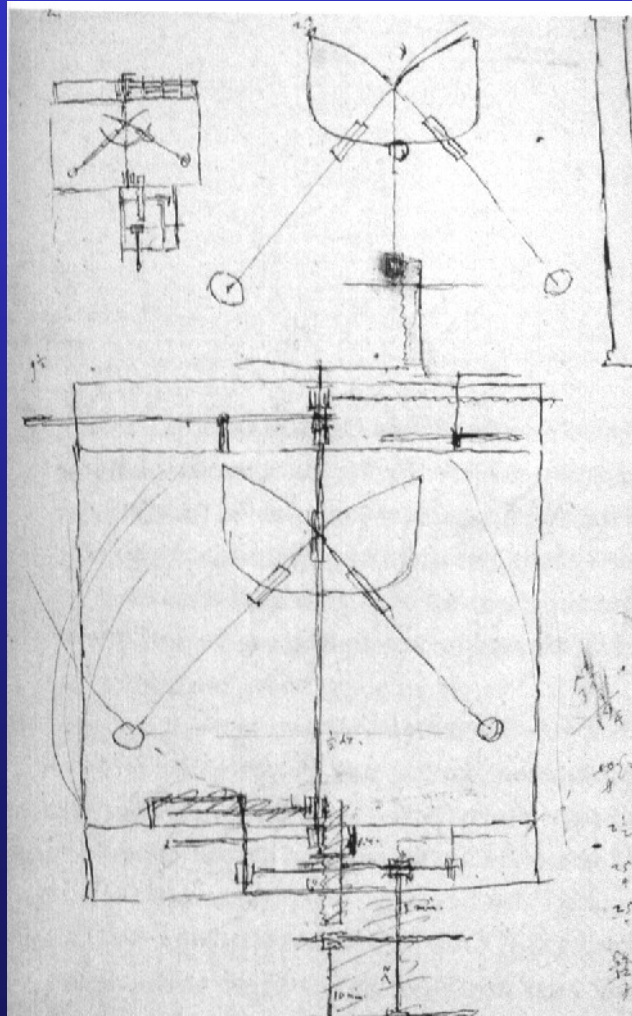
Golden Age of the Netherlands!

Verenigde Oost-Indische Compagnie (VOC)!

Huygens from 1658 on

- Philips III, Spain 1598, 6000 ducats
- **Proposal Galilei Dutch States General 1636**
- England 1714 £ 20.000,- ← !!
- France 1715 10.000 Livres

Marine Timekeepers (I)

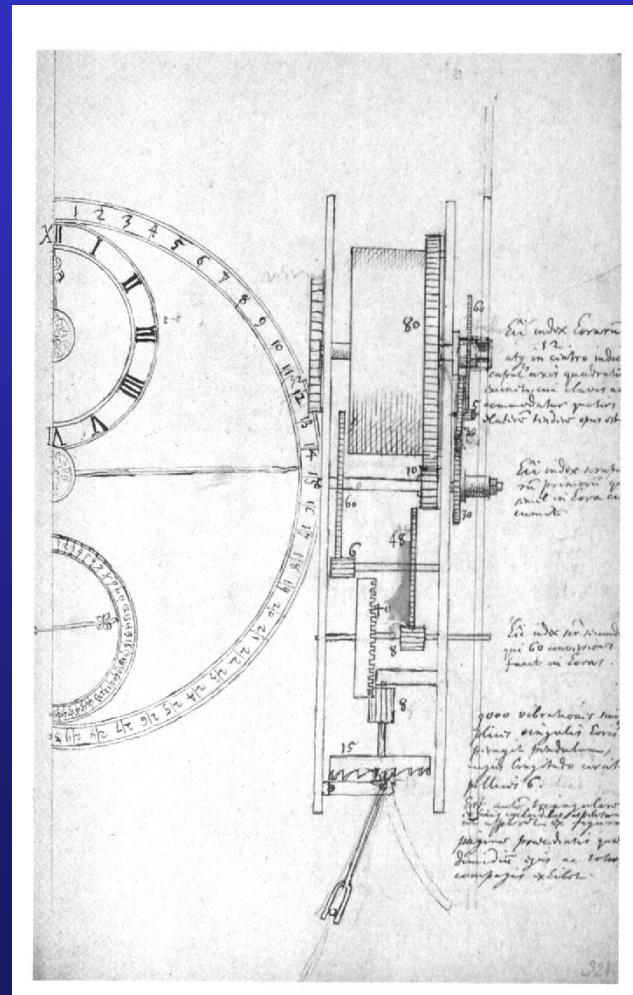
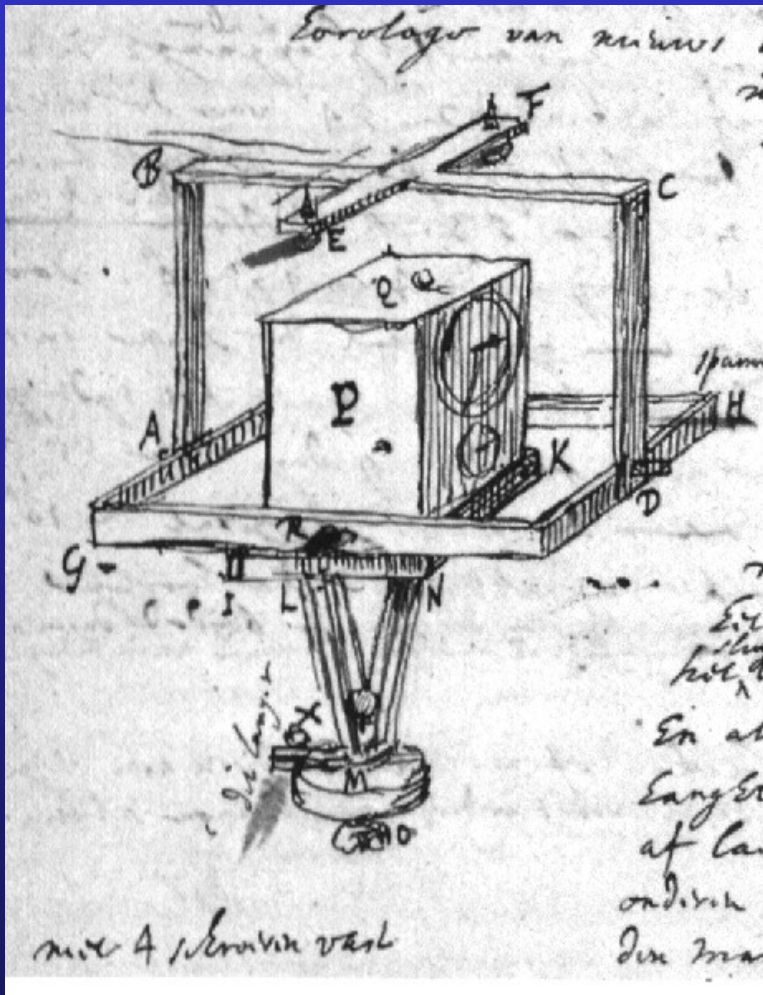


Design drawings

- Clock with two parabolic-conical pendulums 1666
- Clock with a parabolic track 1666 (right)

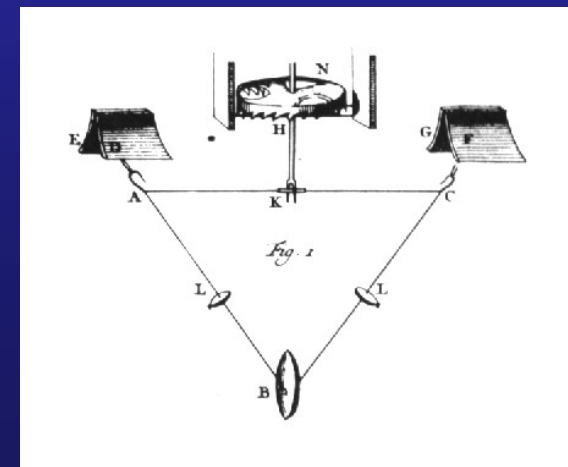
Marine Timekeepers (II)

Triangular pendulum



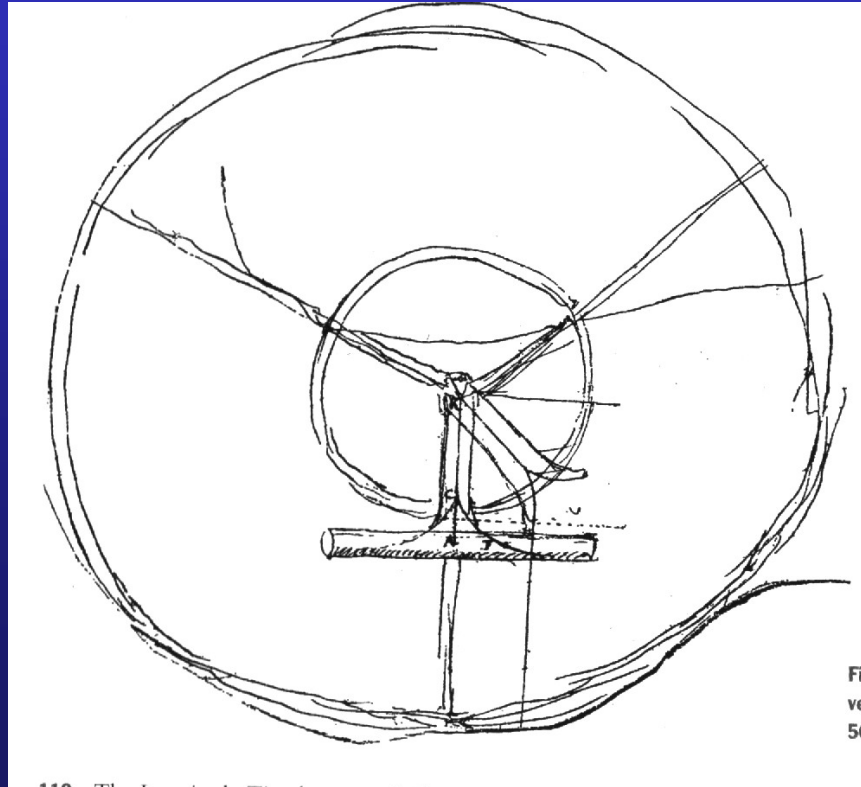
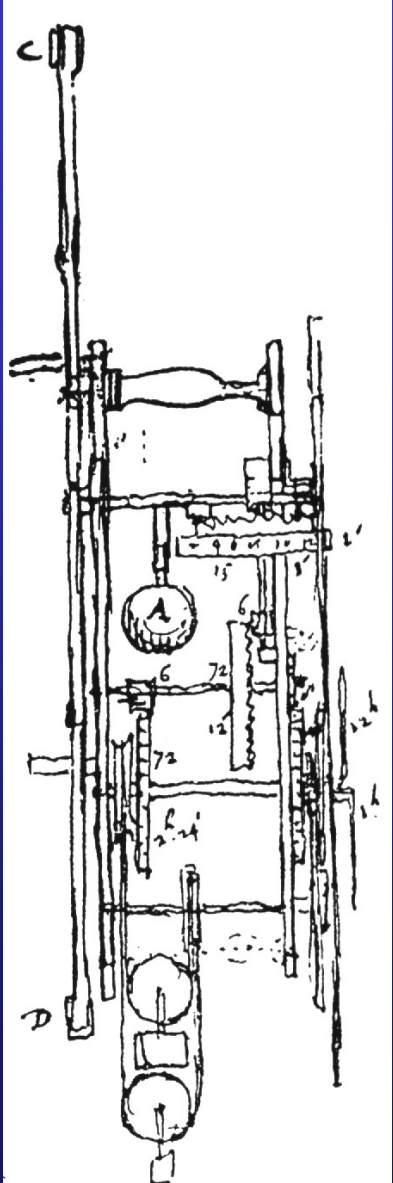
- Sea clock in gimbals with triangular pendulum 1671

- Design drawing for a clock with a triangular pendulum 1672 (right)



Marine Timekeepers (III)

'Perfect' Marine Balance



- The Perfect Marine Balance, version of March 1693

- Sea clock with Perfect Marine Balance, March 1693 (left)

Table Equation of time, Kort Onderwys, 1665

Short education for the use of clocks for the determination of longitude from East to West

(6)

Tafel van vereffening des Tijds.

Da- gm.	Januar.		Febr.		Mart.		Apr.		May.		Jun.	
	Min.	Sec.	Min.	Sec.	Min.	Sec.	Min.	Sec.	Min.	Sec.	Min.	Sec.
1	10	40	0	32	2	15	11	18	18	32	18	10
2	10	10	0	24	2	28	11	37	18	39	18	1
3	9	41	0	18	2	42	11	56	18	46	17	51
4	9	13	0	13	2	56	12	15	18	53	17	41
5	8	45	0	9	3	13	12	34	18	59	17	30
6	8	17	0	6	3	26	12	53	19	4	17	19
7	7	50	0	3	3	41	13	12	19	9	17	8
8	7	23	0	1	3	56	13	31	19	14	16	57
9	6	58	0	0	4	12	13	49	19	18	16	46
10	6	34	0	0	4	29	14	6	19	22	16	35
11	6	10	0	0	4	46	14	23	19	25	16	24
12	5	47	0	2	5	4	14	39	19	28	16	13
13	5	24	0	4	5	21	14	55	19	30	16	1
14	5	2	0	8	5	40	15	10	19	29	15	49
15	4	41	0	12	5	58	15	25	19	29	15	37
16	4	21	0	16	6	16	15	39	19	28	15	24
17	4	2	0	21	6	33	15	53	19	26	15	11
18	3	44	0	26	6	51	16	7	19	24	14	58
19	3	27	0	32	7	9	16	21	19	21	14	45
20	3	11	0	40	7	27	16	34	19	18	14	32
21	2	55	0	48	7	45	16	47	19	15	14	19
22	2	39	0	57	8	3	16	59	19	11	14	6
23	2	23	0	6	8	22	17	11	19	7	13	53
24	2	7	0	16	8	41	17	21	19	2	13	40
25	1	52	0	26	9	1	17	33	18	57	13	27
26	1	38	0	37	9	21	17	43	18	51	13	15
27	1	25	0	49	9	41	17	53	18	45	13	3
28	1	13	0	2	10	1	18	3	18	39	12	52
29	1	2	0	10	10	21	18	13	18	33	12	41
30	0	51	0	18	10	40	18	23	18	26	12	30
31	0	41	0	10	10	59	18	18	18	18	11	10

(7)

Tafel van vereffening des Tijds.

Da- gm.	Jul.		Aug.		Sept.		Oktob.		Nov.		Dec.	
	Min.	Sec.	Min.	Sec.	Min.	Sec.	Min.	Sec.	Min.	Sec.	Min.	Sec.
1	12	19	10	4	16	23	26	30	31	55	25	34
2	12	8	10	8	16	42	26	49	31	55	25	10
3	11	58	10	13	17	1	27	8	31	54	24	45
4	11	48	10	18	17	21	27	26	31	52	24	10
5	11	38	10	23	17	41	27	43	31	50	23	55
6	11	28	10	28	18	1	28	0	31	47	23	30
7	11	18	10	34	18	21	28	16	31	43	23	4
8	11	9	10	41	18	43	28	32	31	37	22	38
9	11	0	10	49	19	1	28	47	31	30	22	11
10	10	52	10	18	19	21	29	2	31	22	21	43
11	10	47	11	7	19	41	29	16	31	13	21	14
12	10	38	11	16	20	1	29	30	31	3	20	44
13	10	31	11	25	20	28	29	43	30	53	20	14
14	10	25	11	36	20	43	29	56	30	43	19	44
15	10	19	11	48	21	4	30	9	30	32	19	14
16	10	13	12	1	21	25	30	22	30	20	18	41
17	10	7	12	14	21	47	30	34	30	8	18	14
18	10	2	12	28	22	9	30	45	29	55	17	44
19	9	58	12	42	22	31	30	55	29	40	17	14
20	9	54	12	57	22	52	31	4	29	23	16	44
21	9	51	13	13	23	13	31	12	29	6	16	14
22	9	49	13	27	23	33	31	19	28	48	15	44
23	9	47	13	43	23	53	31	26	28	30	15	14
24	9	46	13	59	24	13	31	32	28	11	14	43
25	9	46	14	16	24	33	31	38	27	51	14	12
26	9	46	14	33	24	53	31	43	27	30	13	41
27	9	47	14	50	25	13	31	47	27	8	13	10
28	9	49	15	8	25	33	31	50	26	45	12	40
29	9	52	15	26	25	52	31	53	26	22	12	10
30	9	56	15	45	26	11	31	55	25	58	11	40
31	10	0	16	4	26	11	31	55	25	58	11	10

1 nov
31m55s

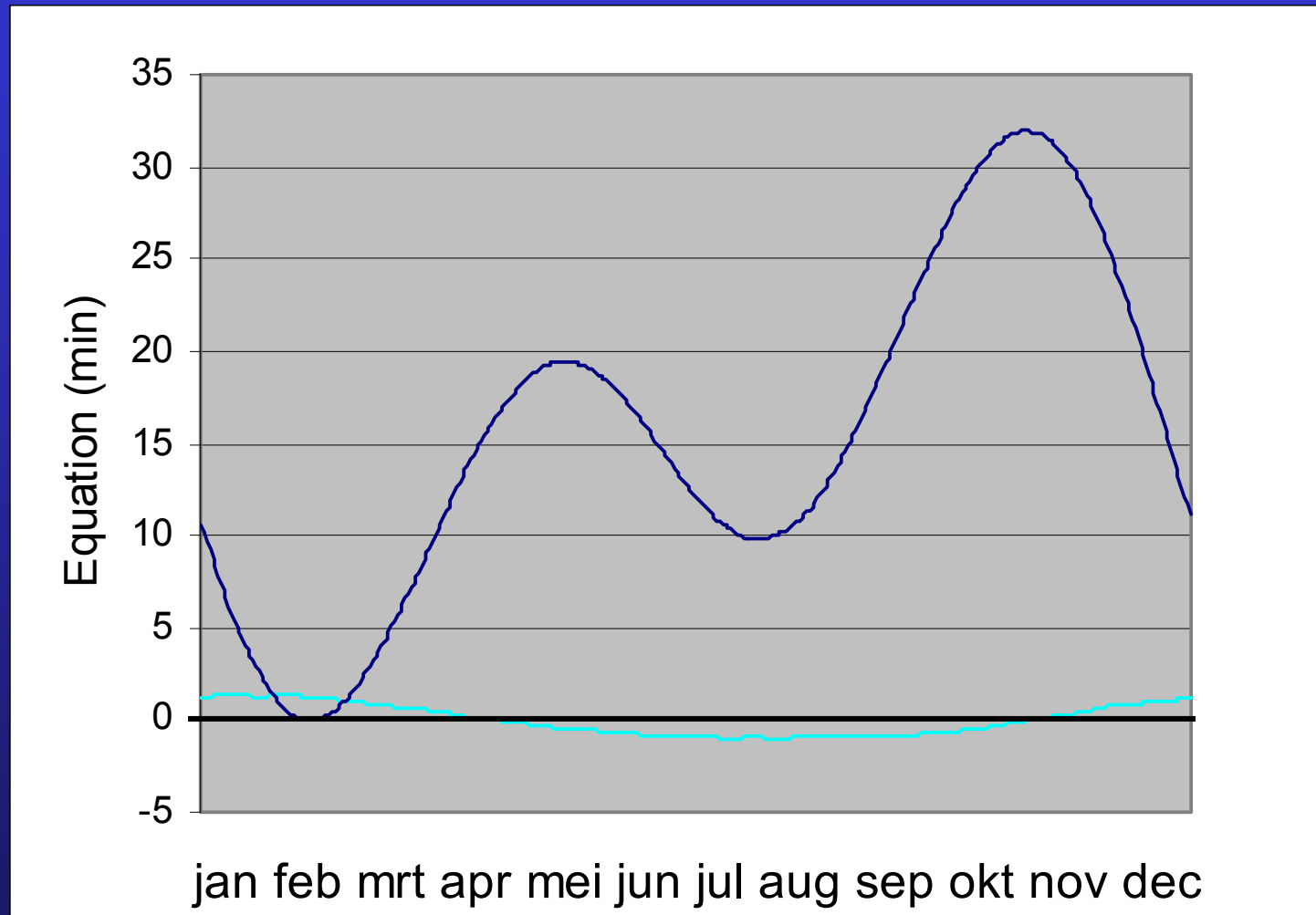
10 feb
0m0s

14 mei
19m29s

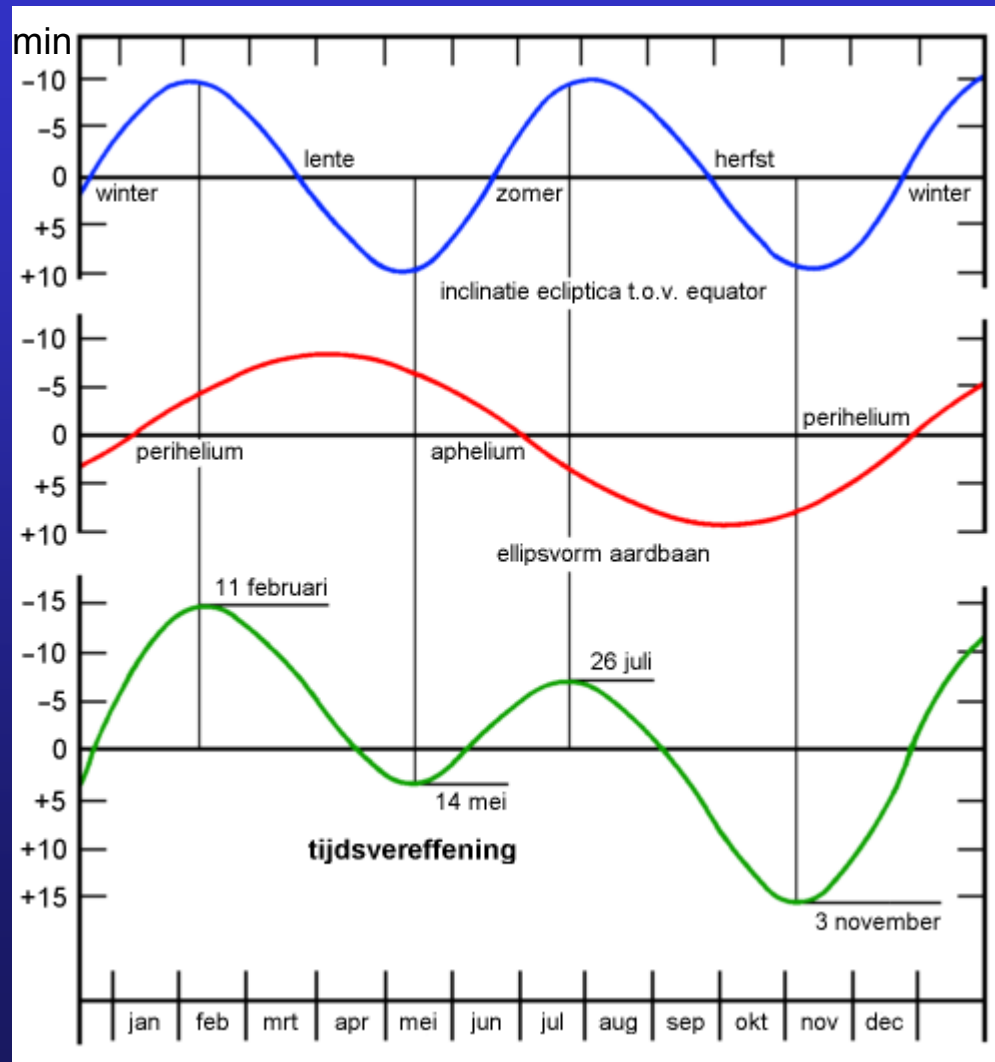
25 jul
9m46s

OC XVIII, p 110: "In computanda tabula hac duplicem causam adhibui, utramque astronomis notam, Eclipticae nimirum obliquitatem & Solaris motus anomaliam"

Huygens: Equation Table Hor. Oscill. 1673



Equation of time (min)



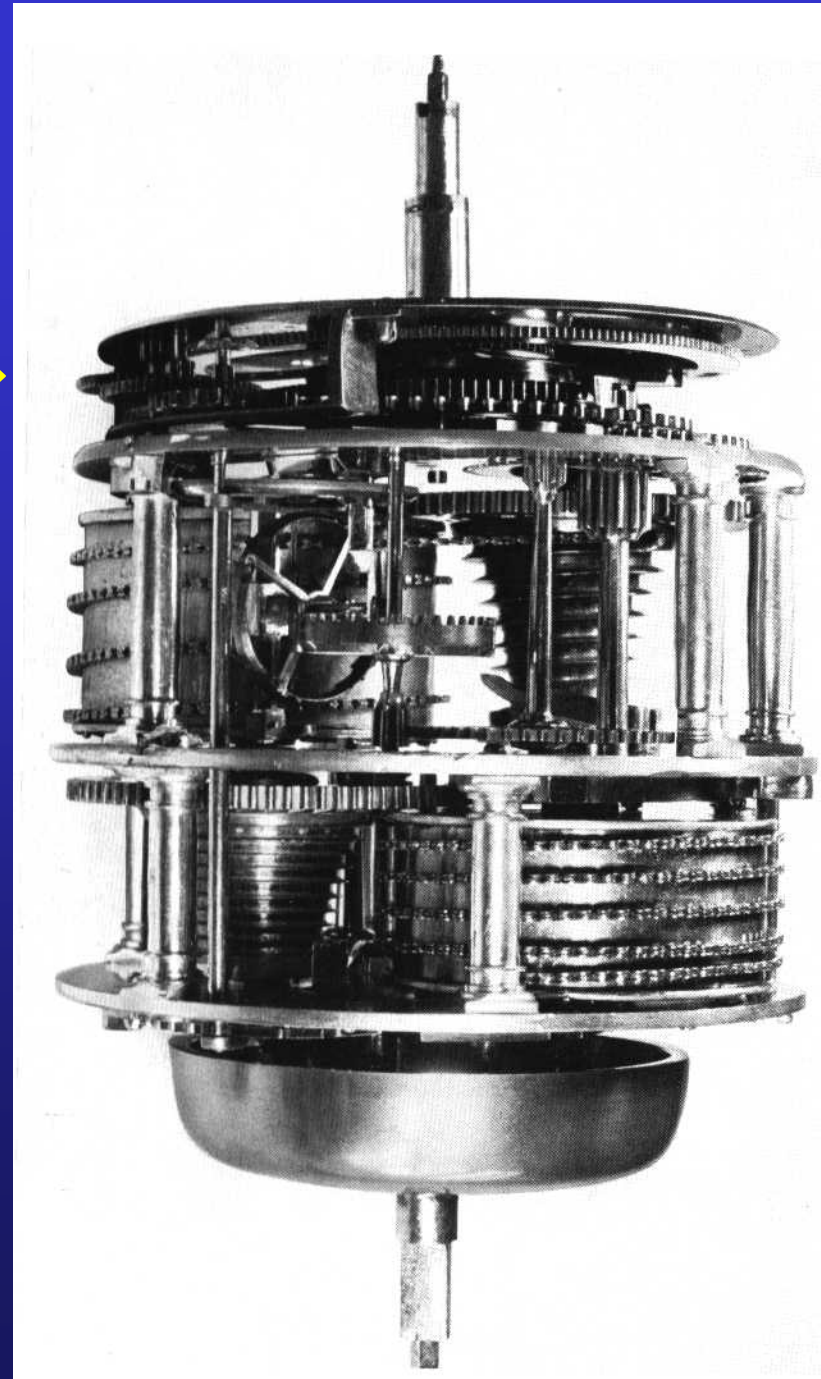
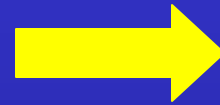
4 min \equiv 1°



5 sun diameters
(2.5°)

Equation of Time

Jobst Bürgi, Kassel 1594



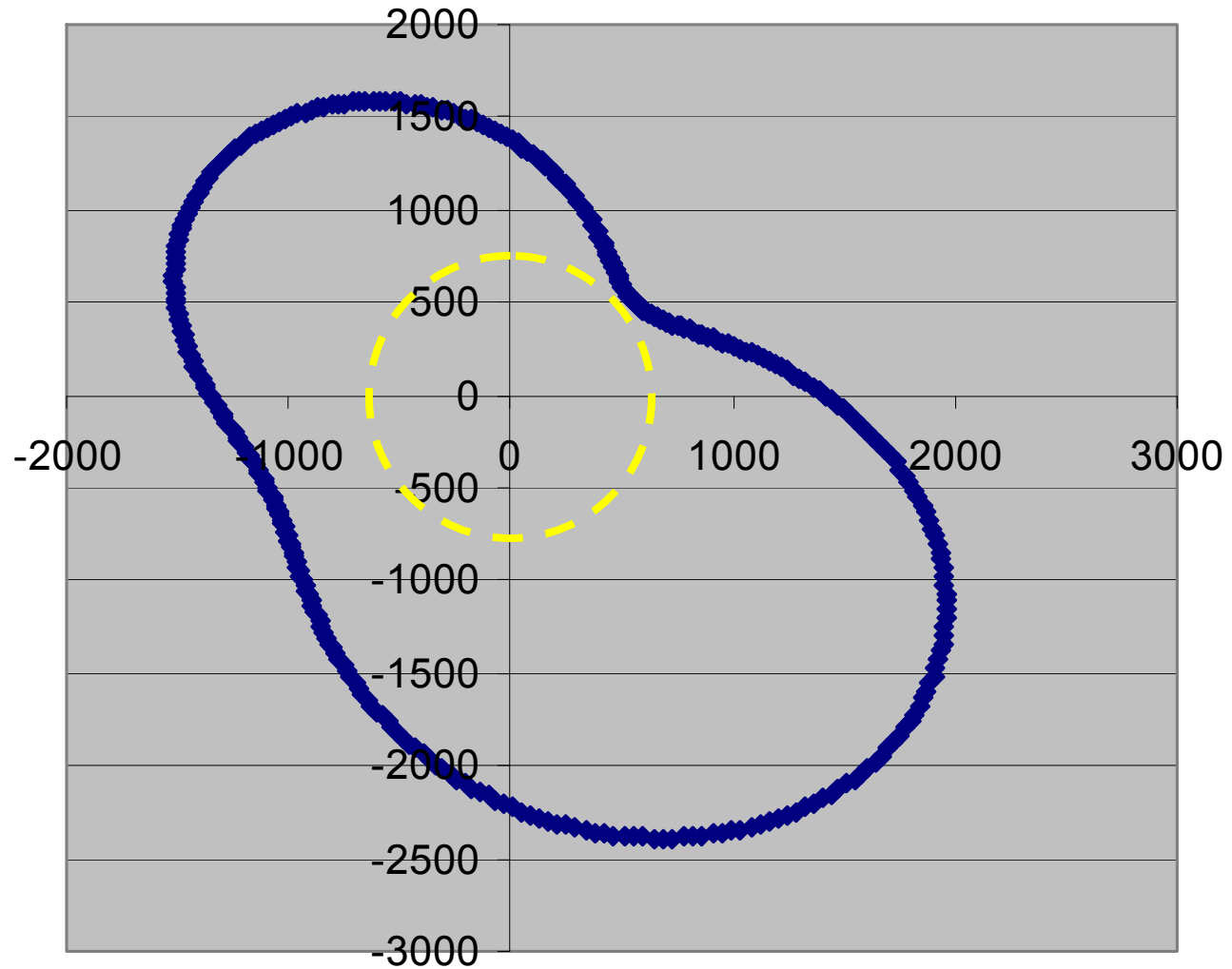
Equation table



Later solution: Curve disc (with year calendar)

Equation table; Computation Curve Disc Huygens

Curve disc

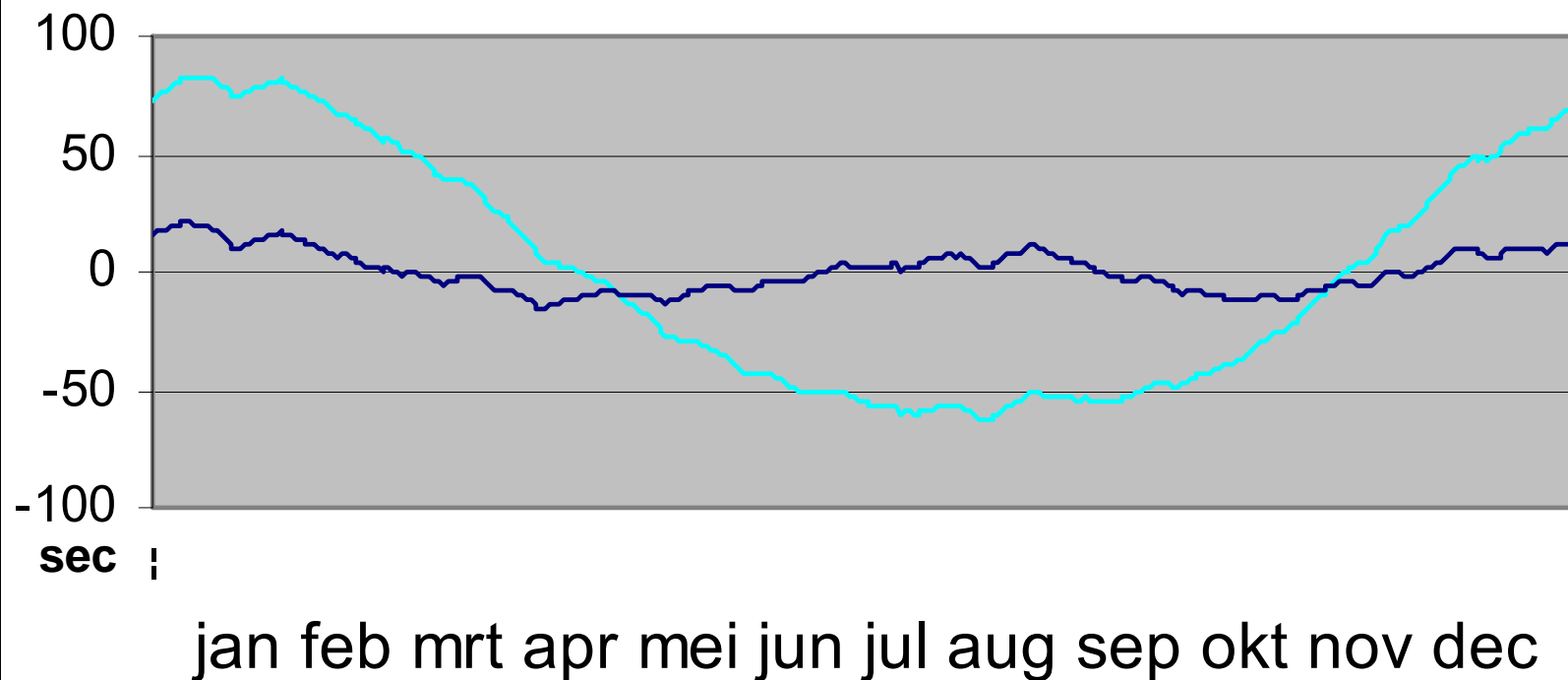


Equation Table; Huygens: Hor. Oscill. 1673

Equation difference

Error: < 1.5 min/year

: < 20 sec: correction perihelium (27 dec instead of 2 jan)

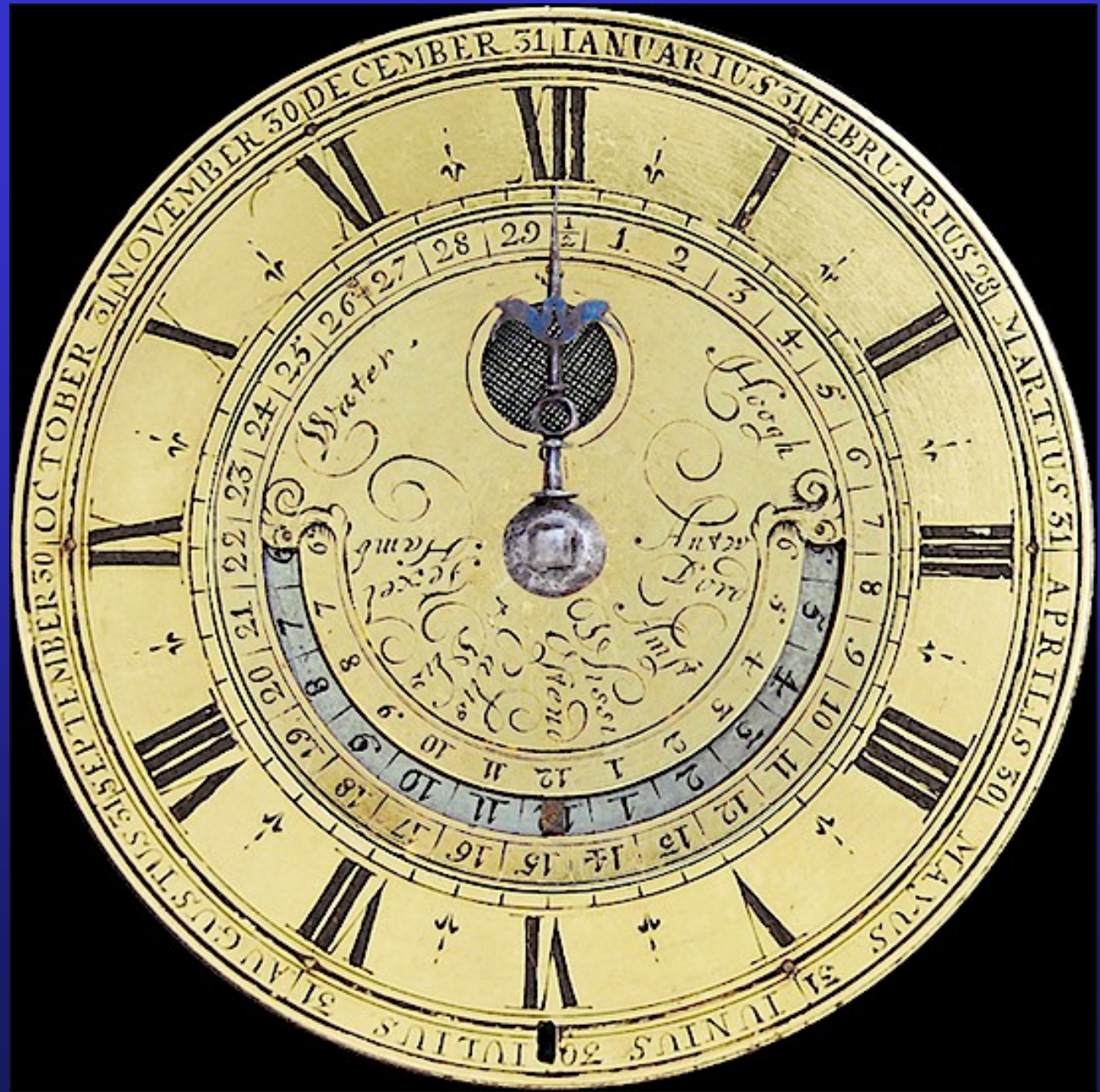


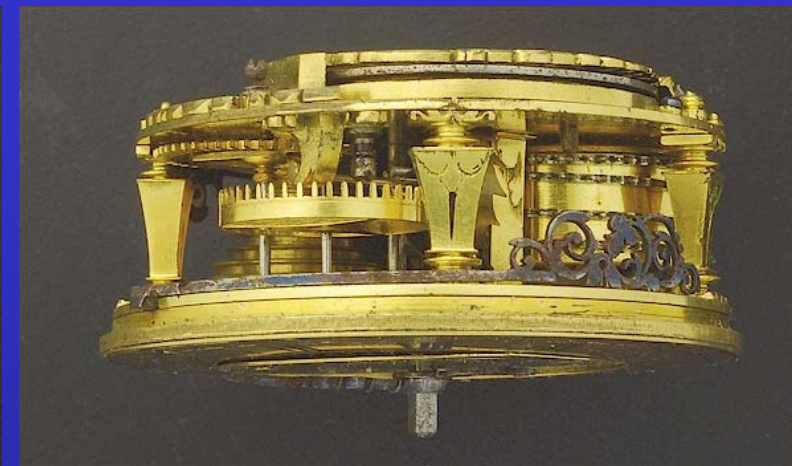
Tides

“Captain’s Watch”

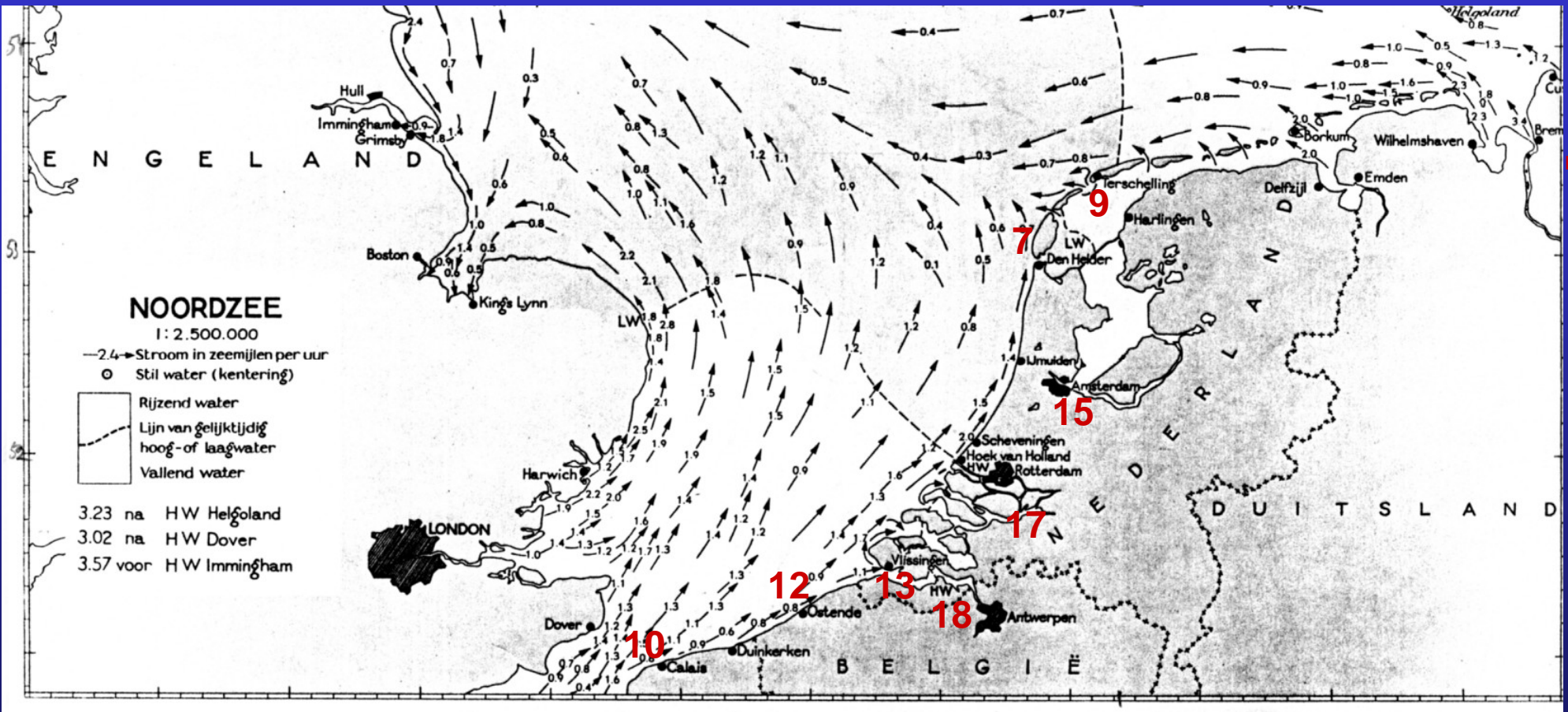
G.J. Nauta,
Leuwaerden“

c. 1720.





Tides “Captain’s Watch”



Tides

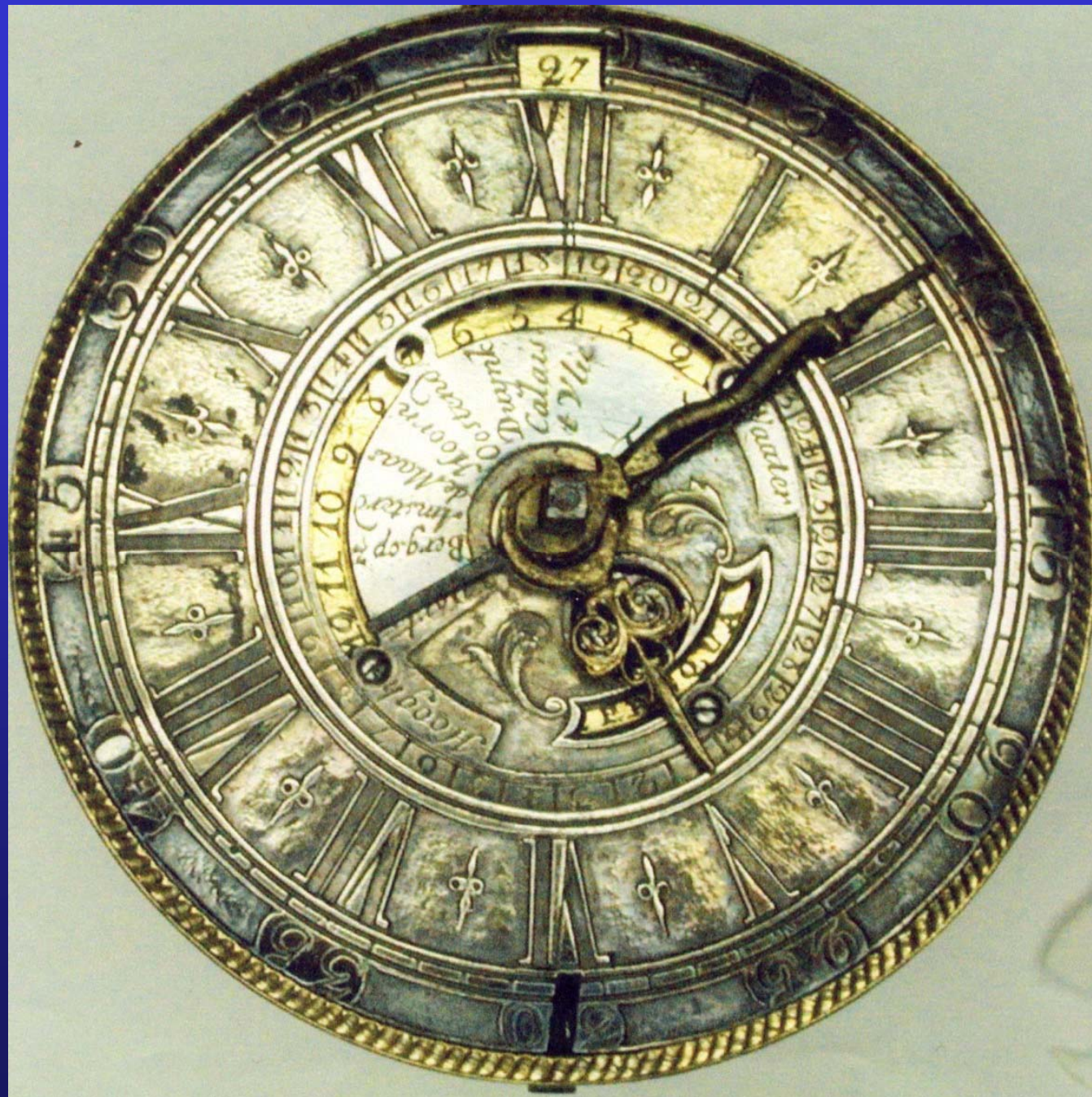
“Captain’s Watch”

Adrianus Haas

c. 1720

Ned. Goud-, Zilver-, en klokkenmuseum

Schoonhoven

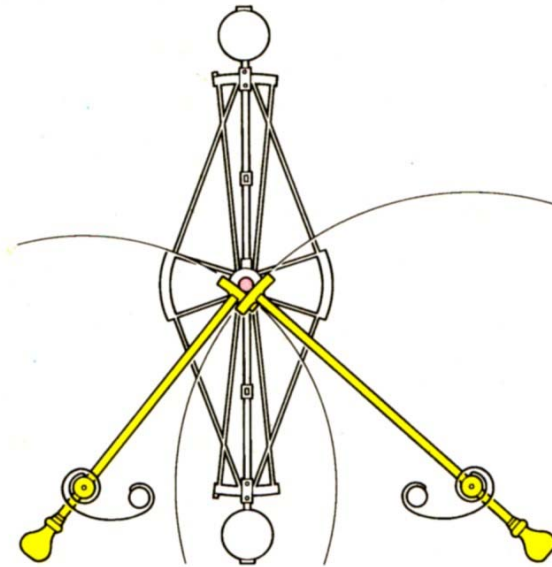
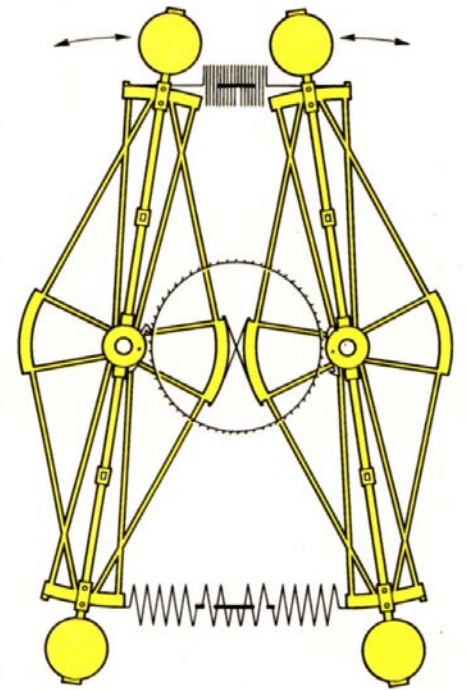
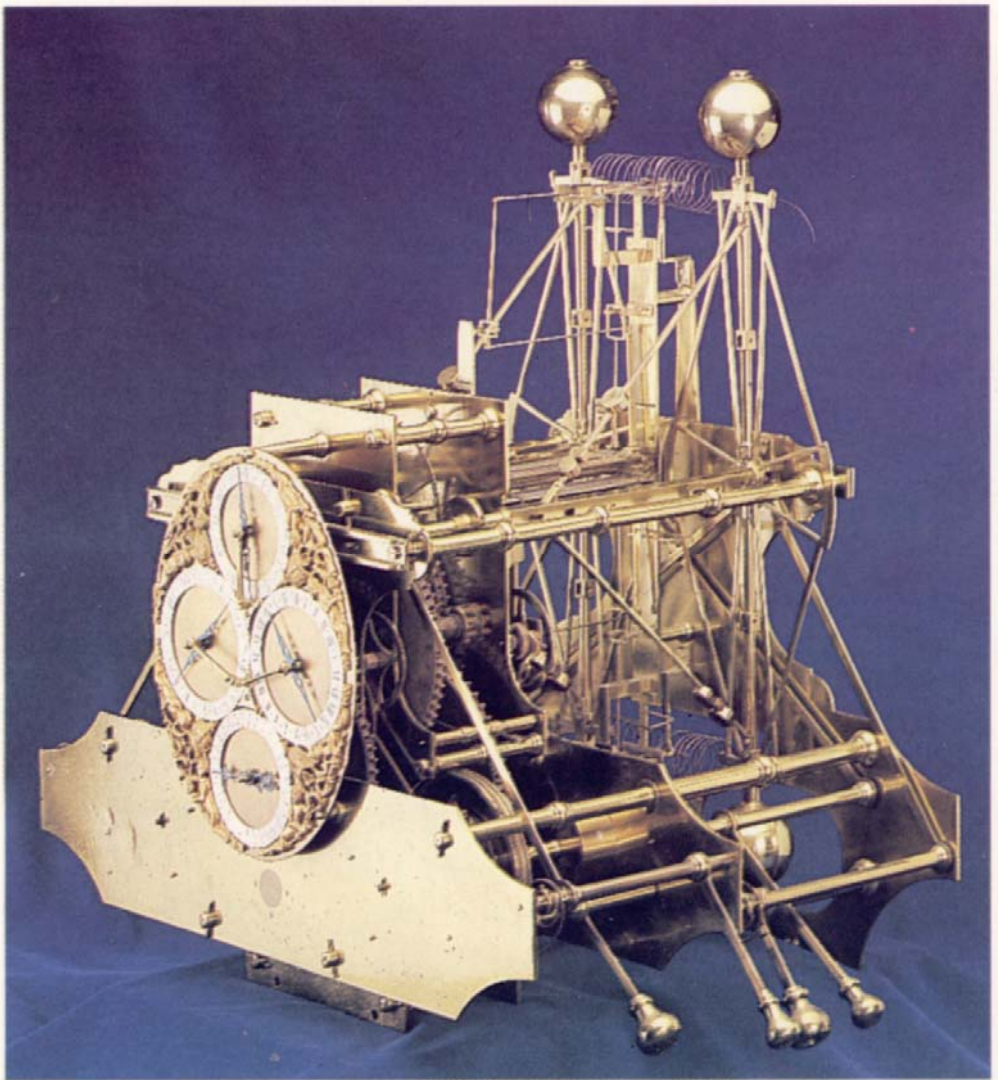


What Huygens missed

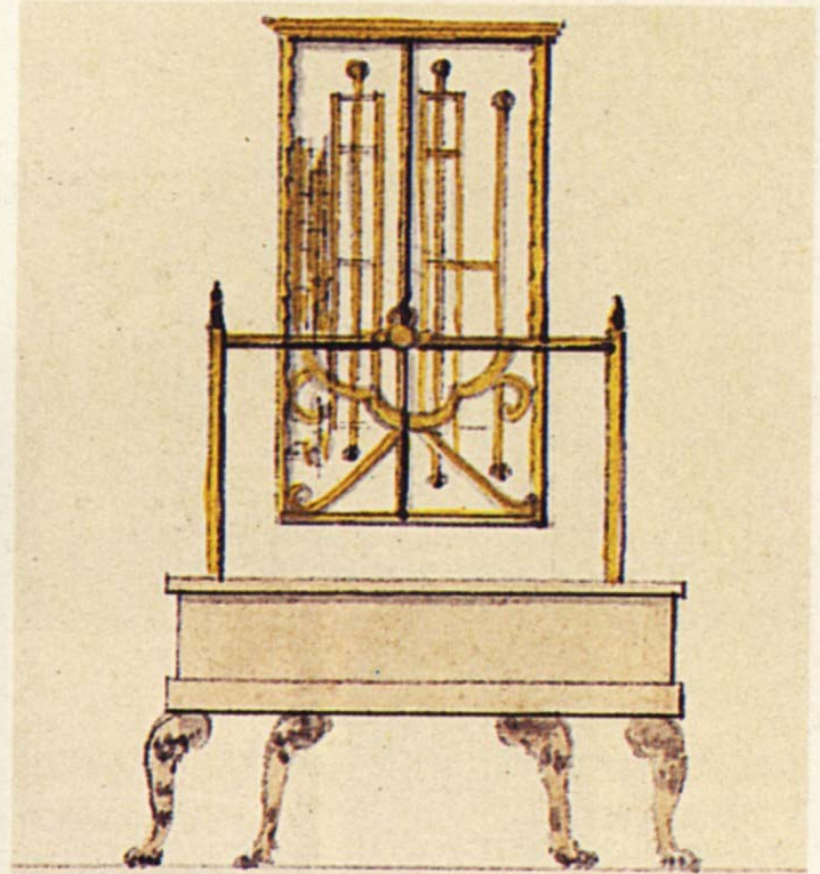
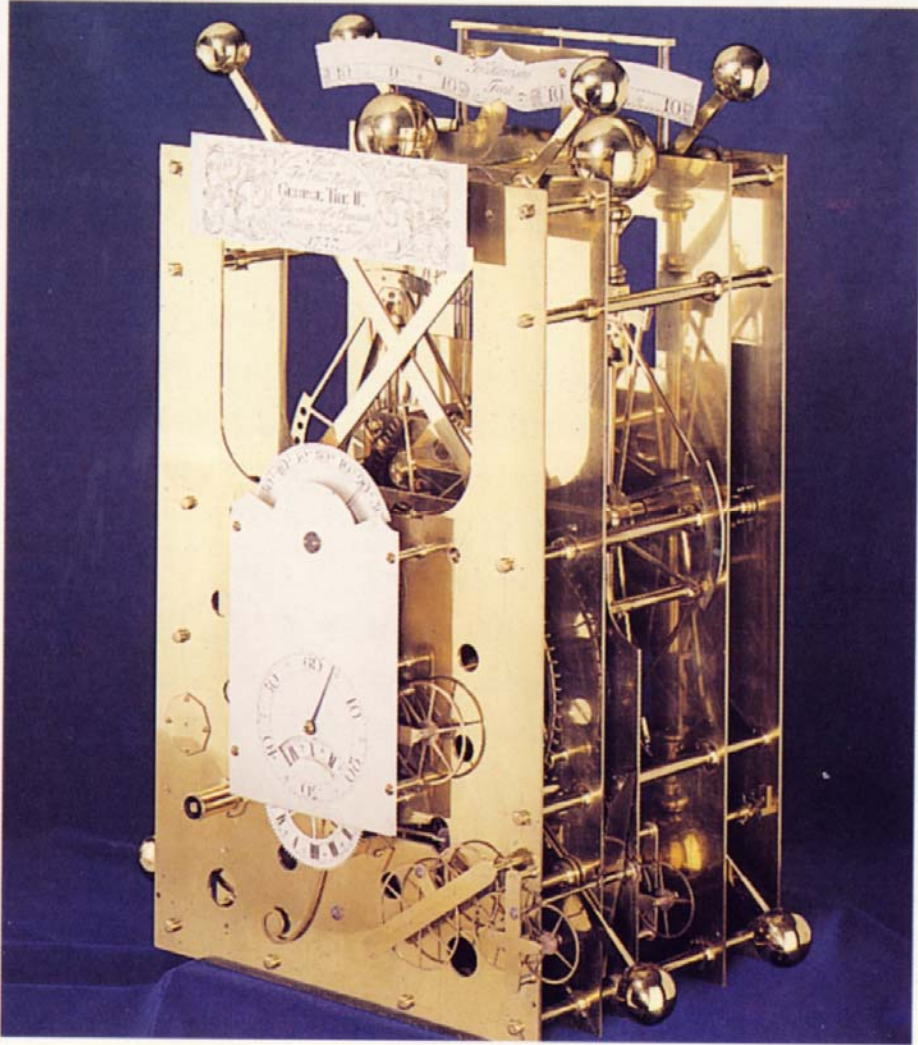
Determining longitude at sea

- Temperature dependence pendulum/Balance wheel
- Interaction with escapement (recoil vs resting escapements)
- Low frequency oscillation less accurate

Determining longitude at sea H1

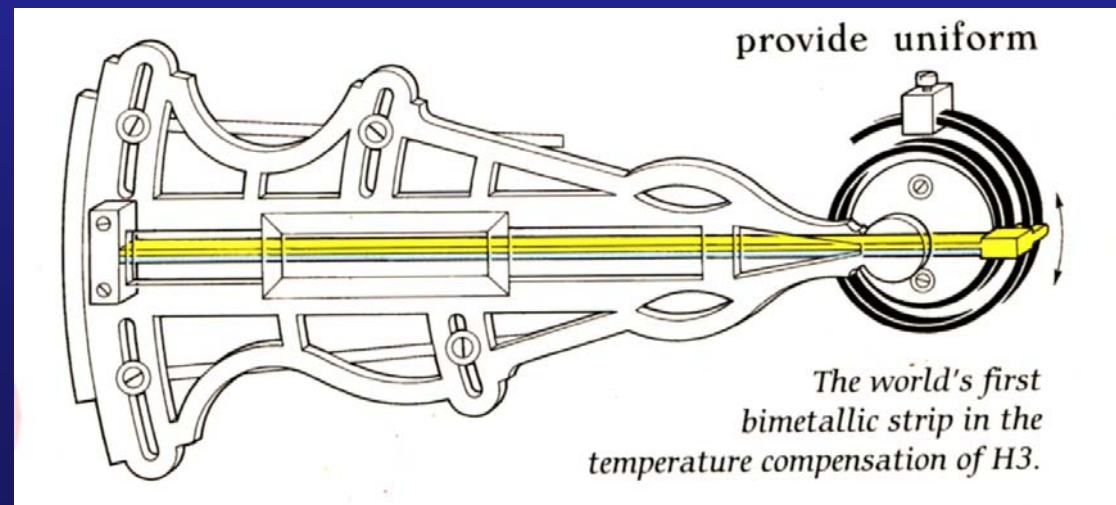
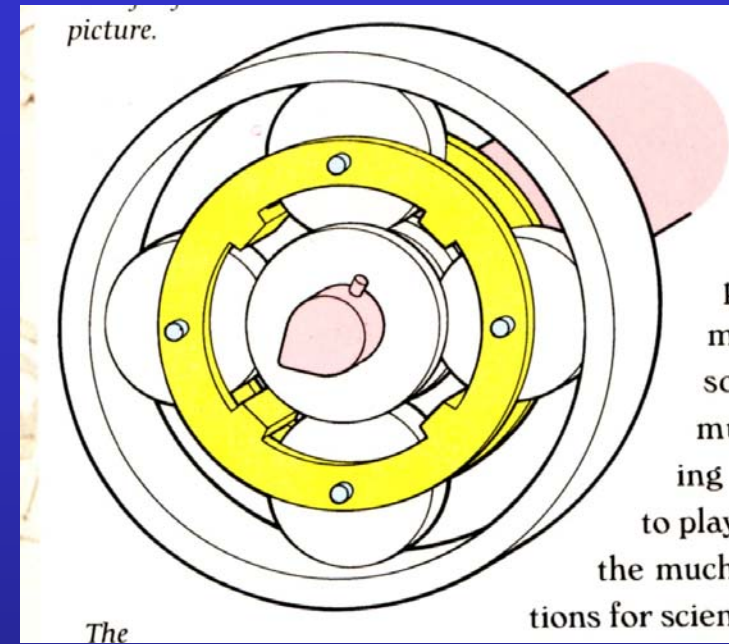
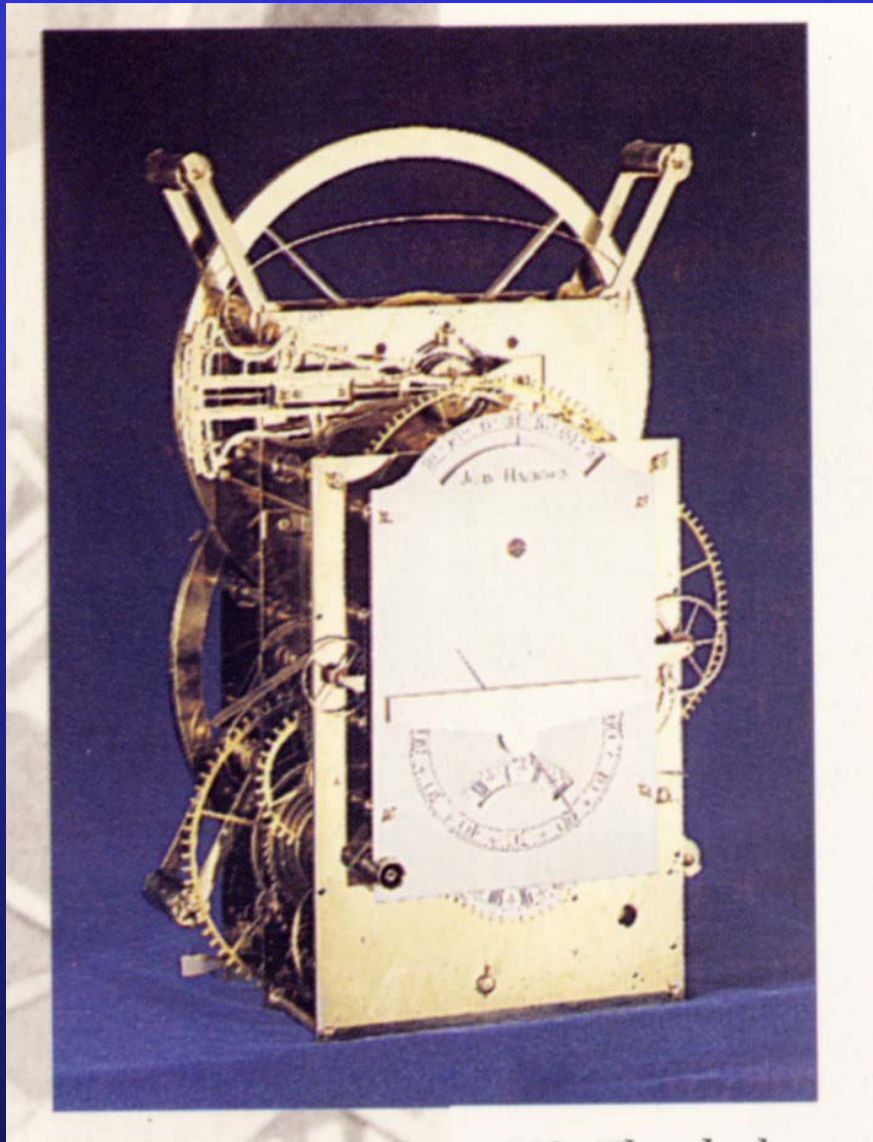


Determining longitude at sea H2



Small colour wash drawing of H2 by John Charnock, c 1770.

Determining longitude at sea H3



Determining longitude at sea H4: Longitude Prize 1773



Determining longitude at sea H4: Longitude Prize 1773



This book was published to accompany the special exhibition on John Harrison which opened to the public on 24th March 1995 – the 300th anniversary of his birth – at the Old Royal Observatory, Greenwich.

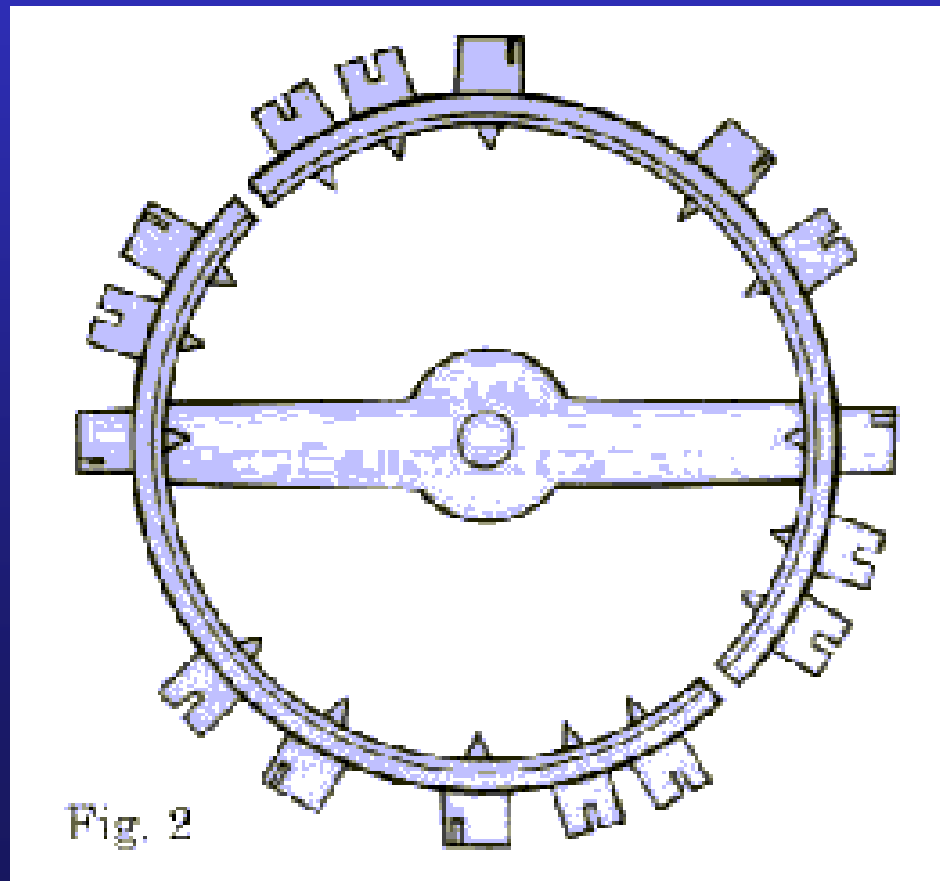
Temperature dependence

Iron: $11 \cdot 10^{-6}/^{\circ}\text{C}$  $-.5 \text{ s/day}/^{\circ}\text{C}$

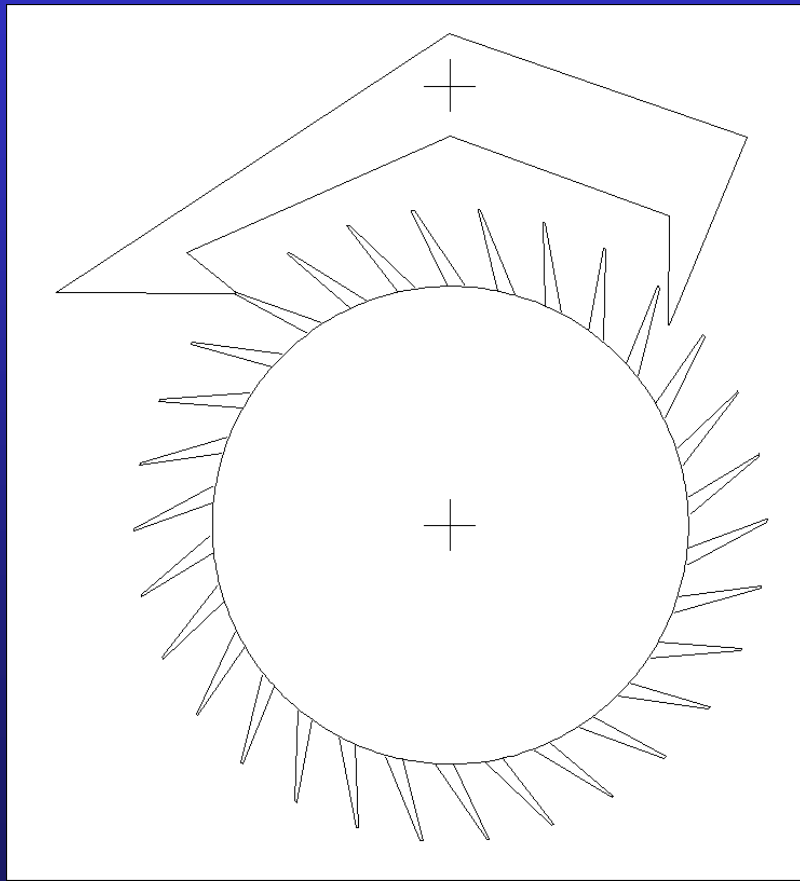
- Mercury pendulum (Graham 1726)
- Gridiron pendulum (Harrison 1729)
- Bimetal (Harrison 1730)
- Invar (C. E. Guillaume 1890, Noble Prize Physics 1920)
- Elinvar (C. E. Guillaume 1890, Noble Prize Physics 1920)

Temperature dependence

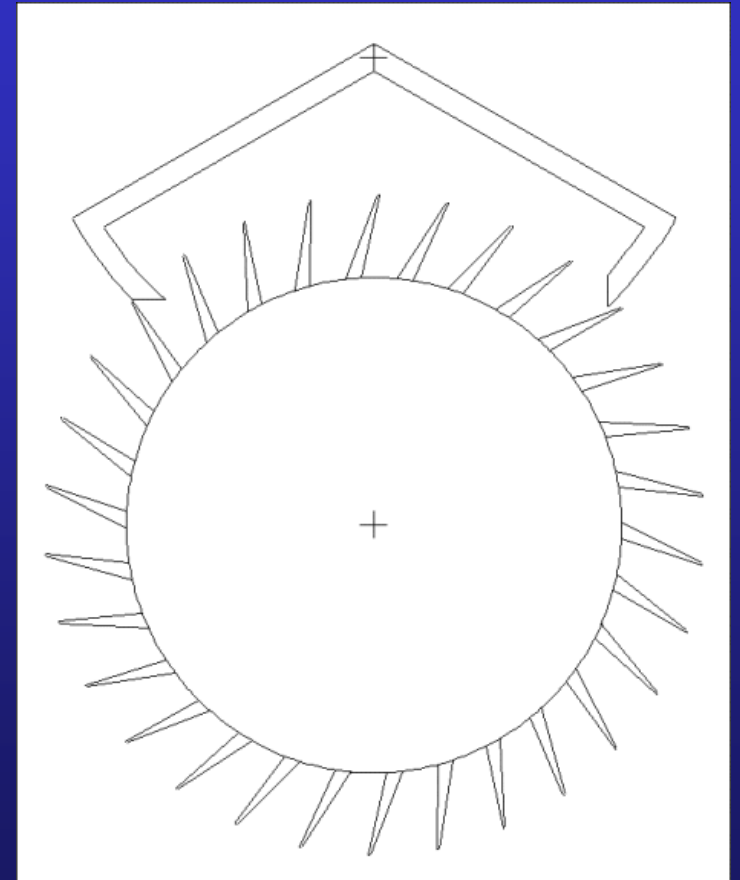
Bimetal: Balance Wheel, Compensation coil spring properties



Interaction with escapement (recoil vs resting escapements)

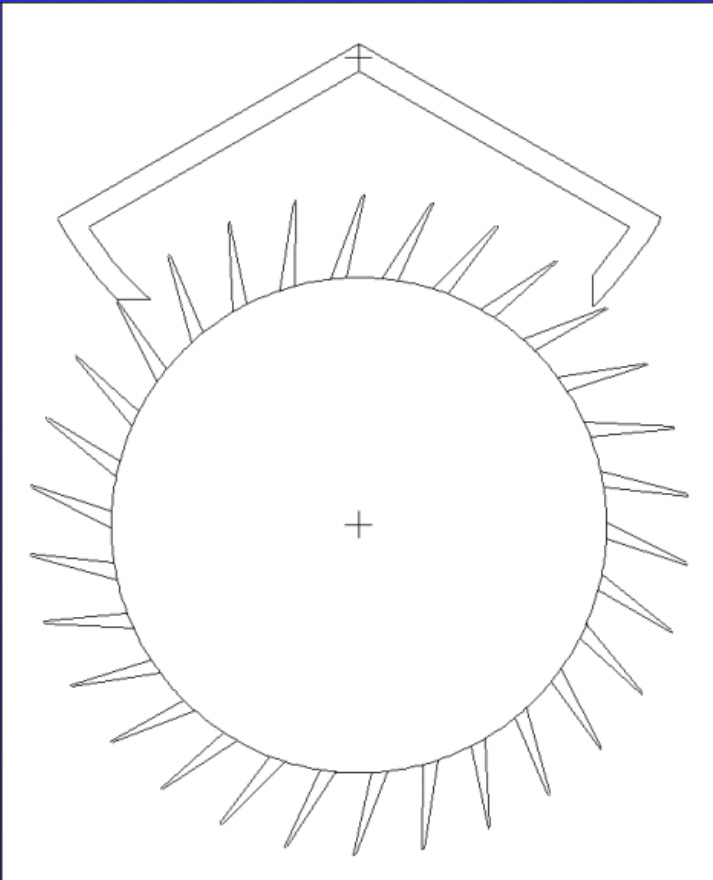


Anchor escapement (Clement)

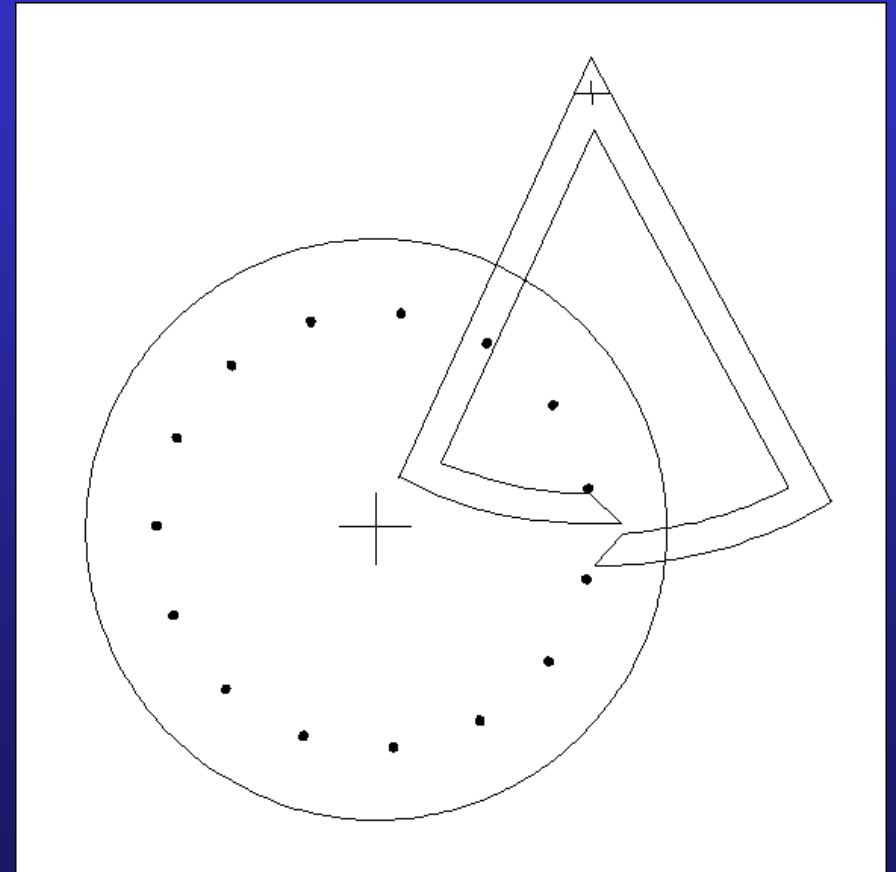


Dead beat escapement (Graham)

Interaction with escapement (resting escapements)



Dead beat escapement (Graham)



Pin wheel escapement (Lepaute)

Low frequency oscillation less accurate

- Balance wheel with coil spring ($f_{\text{osc}} > 2 \text{ Hz}$)
- Quartz Oscillator ($f_{\text{osc}} > 2 \text{ MHz}$): +/- 1 ppm
- Atomic clock ($f_{\text{osc}} > 2 \text{ GHz}$): Cesium 9.2 GHz +/- 10^{-14}

Discussion



- Huygens man of science with insight in second order **(resonant) systems**
- Using this insight he produced two major break-throughs in timekeeping: The **pendulum** and the **balance spring**
- His science was stimulated by **important practical questions**
- Produced **solutions for most limitations** in time-keeping, except for temperature dependence

Christiaan Huygens: Appreciation



Eppo Doeve 1955

Exhibition Paleis, Het Loo Apeldoorn

September 12 - November 28, 2004

HUYGENS' LEGACY

The Golden Age of the pendulum clock



Horology Projects Boom-Time Foundation

Tijd voor klokken

Deze site bevat informatie over Nederlandse uurwerken: de historische ontwikkeling, voorbeelden uit museale en particuliere collecties, contactadressen, onderwijs informatie en actualiteit. Tijd voor klokken is een initiatief van de stichting Boom-Time.
[Meer...](#)

Veel gestelde vragen
Woordenlijst

-Zoeken-
[Zoek geavanceerd](#)

Tijdljn

1500 1600 1700 1800 1900 2000

Een overzicht van de belangrijkste hoogtepunten uit de Nederlandse uurwerkgeschiedenis. Kies hiernaast een periode.

Middeleeuwen Renaissance Gouden Eeuw Pruijktijd Industriële Tijdperk Moderne Tijd

Catalogus
De Catalogus is op dit moment nog niet in werking.
[Meer...](#)

Tijdwijs
Informatie voor onderwijs en studie.
[Meer...](#)

Actueel

Opwindende klokken
12 september - 28 november 2004:
"Opwindende klokken - De Gouden Eeuw van het Slingeruurwerk"
[Meer...](#)

Huisuurwerken
17 April t/m 31 Oktober 2004:
"Hollandse huisuurwerken van Engelse signatuur (1675-1750)"
[Meer...](#)

Titan
13-17 April 2004:
Titan: from Discovery to Encounter
[Meer...](#)



Website:

www.tijdvoorklokken.nl/