

John "Longitude" Harrison

(24 March 1693 – 24 March 1776)

22 October 1707: Shipwreck!



Scilly Islands Disaster



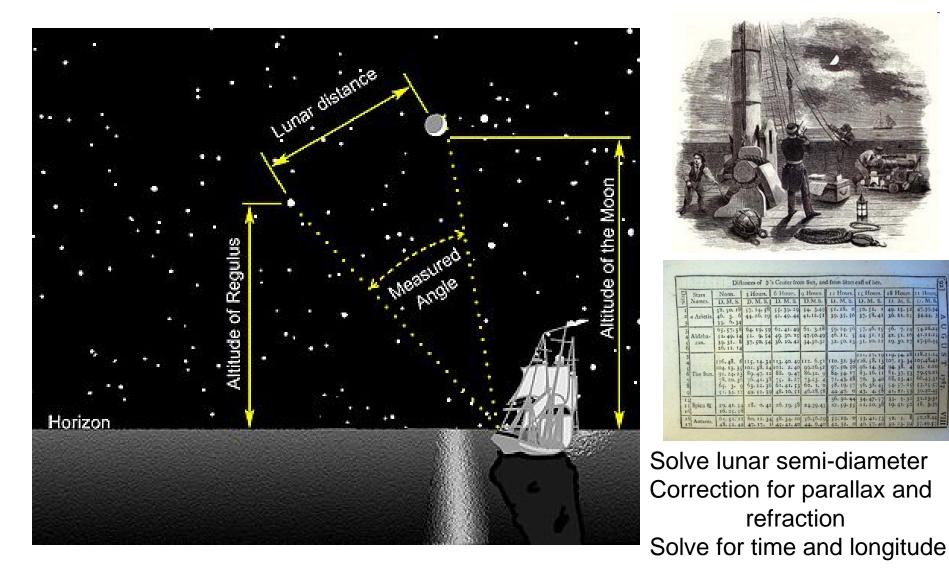




Board of Longitude

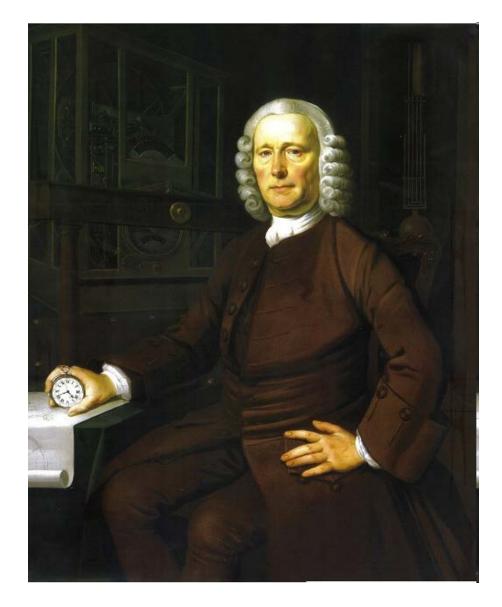
- Scilly naval disaster 22 October 1707
- Sinking of a British naval fleet off the Isles of Scilly
- Four large ships (Association, Eagle, Romney and Firebrand) and 1,400 sailors lost
- One of the greatest maritime disasters in the history of the British Navy
- Cause of the disaster was the navigators' inability to accurately calculate their positions (longitude and compasses)
- Led to the First Longitude Act passed in July 1714 during the reign of Queen Anne
- Created the Board of Longitude and offered a 20K Pounds for anyone who could find a simple and practical method for the precise determination of a ship's longitude while at sea

Most promising method: Lunar Distances



John Harrison



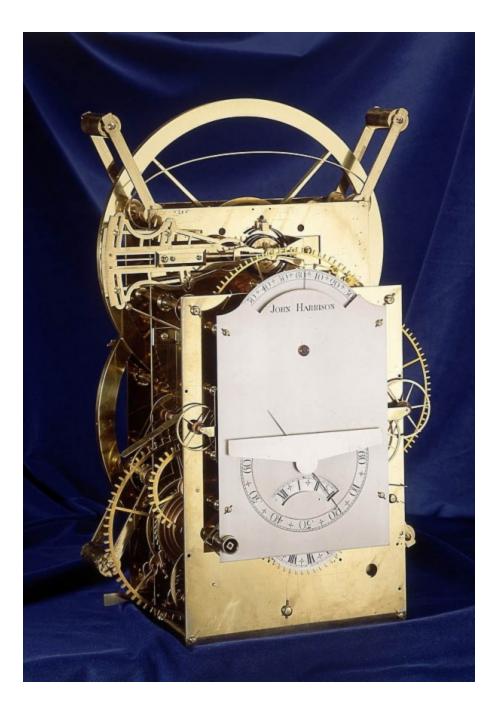


H1 The Sea Clock 1735





H2: 1741



H3 1758

The Ultimate: H4 1759 (5)



St. John-at-Hampstead



Memorials

