

# Re: what is etymology? (linguistics and biology)

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ALPHA -- a very ancient algorithm for calculating lunations, perhaps already used by the Middle Stone Age dwellers of the Blombos cave, 75 000 BP

Lay out synoptic lines of 30 29 30 29 30 29 30 29 30 29 30 ... pebbles, thus you get 30 59 89 118 148 177 207 236 266 295 325 ... pebbles, or as many days or nights for 1 2 3 4 5 6 7 8 9 10 11 lunations.

BETA -- Early Magdalenian lunisolar calendar, Lascaux, 17 000 BP

Combine the above algorithm for calculating lunations with nine solar periods arranged in a grid of 3 by 3 squares, each square of the oblique cross counting 41 days, each remaining square counting 40 days. Begin with the central field, go on to the top right field, and proceed in clockwise direction:

h 41 i 40 b 41

g 40 a 41 c 40

f 41 e 40 d 41

a b c d e f g h i // a b c ... 41 41 40 41 40 41 40 41 40 // 41 41 40 ... A cycle a-i counts 365 days. Eight periods a-h count 325 days, corresponding to 11 lunations. Even better: 8 16 24 32 ... solar periods correspond to 11 22 33 44 ... lunations. You can run this calendar for eight years, then add two leap days, and readjust it to the slightly changed lunar phase.

GAMMA -- Late Magdalenian lunisolar calendar, around 13 000 BP (?)

IAS 36, CED 37, PhON 36, DKO 37, PAS 36, SAI 37, SAP 36, OKD 37, NOPh 36, DEC 37 days, one cycle counts 365 days. You can run this calendars for eight

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years, then add two leap days. Or you can run it for 25 years, thus you get 9125 days, which correspond to 309 lunations. Add 6 leap days and you get 25 solar years. Two subsequent periods count 73 days and are called a double period. 17 36 51 89 125 double periods correspond to 42 89 131 220 309 lunations.

DELTA -- Azilian lunisolar calendar, Goebekli Tepe, 12th millennium BP, spreading from there

A year has 12 months of 30 days each, add 5 or 6 leap days and you get a solar year of 365 and occasionally 366 days. Count continuous periods of 30 days. 63 such periods yield 1,890 days and correspond to 63 lunations.

Egyptian variant. An Egyptian month counted 30 days. The lunar eye of the Horus falcon was destroyed by Seth, restored by Thoth. The healed lunar eye was called The Whole One. It consists of six parts to which are attributed the numerical values  $1/2$   $1/4$   $1/8$   $1/16$   $1/32$   $1/64$ , or simply '2 '4 '8 '16 '32 '64. Add them, and you obtain  $63/64$ , a little less than one. Why, then, the name "the whole one"? The answer is provided by multiplying a month of 30 days by the series of the Horus eye: 30 days x '2 '4 '8 '16 '32 '64 yield 29 '2 '32 days, or 29 days 12 hours 45 minutes, not even one minute more than a lunation of 29 days 12 hours 44 minutes 2.9 seconds (modern value from 1989 AD). Hence the name "the whole one" doesn't mean the moon itself but a period of time, a lunation, a whole lunation, e.g. from one to the next full moon.

Cretan and Argivian variant. A year is represented by a flower of eight petals. A week counts nine days, five weeks are a month of 45 days, eight months yield 360 days, add 5 and occasionally 6 leap days and you get a solar year of 365 and sometimes 366 days. Count continuous periods of 45 days. 21 such periods yield 890 days and correspond to 32 lunations.

EPSILON -- Our modern calendar combines the second or late Magdalenian calendar with the Azilian calendar. Magdalenian elements are the alternating numbers 30 31 30 ..., and the names September Oktober November December, the Azilian element are the twelve months. The numbers given by September Oktober November December, 7 8 9 10, are wrong in our calendar, for these are the months number 9 10 11 12, while the words still hold, especially in the case of November, NOPh being Magdalenian for snow, snow fall, snow storm, the first snow of the year usually falling in November, covering the landscape overnight and giving the world a new

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appearance.

I apologize for a mistake in my previous message. Imbolc occurs not in the middle of the period ced, but in the middle of the period ias, which gives the name of the goddess Brigid a new and more complete meaning, as you shall see in the following messages.

Regards Franz Gnaedinger [www.seshat.ch](http://www.seshat.ch)

#### A second Magdalenian lunisolar calendar

The lunisolar calendar in the Lascaux cave led me to Magdalenian, and Magdalenian, one year later, leads me toward a second lunisolar calendar: via NOPh neiphos nives snow Schnee, novus new neu, novem nine neun, and November, which must have been the ninth period in an old calendar, when the first snow gives the world a new appearance ...

IAS a period of 36 days (Jan 9 – Feb 13), deep winter, coldest time of the year, when many get a fever and seek healing, hence the name ias for healing, later replaced by ian for entrance, marking the end of the old and begin of the new year, double faced Roman god Janus, whence January

CED a period of 37 days (Feb 14 – Mar 22), spring equinox by the end of this period, children conceived in the spring of the previous year are being born now, Celtic festival Imbolc of the midwife Brigid in the middle of this period, name ced means to care for

PHON a period of 36 days (Mar 23 – Apr 27), winter is over, the camp bustles with life, hence the name phon for voice, sound

DKO a period of 37 days (Apr 28 – Jun 3), Celtic festival Beltane by the begin of this period, Magdalenian bel for warm, begin of the summer half year, name dko meaning the walls and ceiling of a tent or hut, which one can leave in this period

PAS a period of 36 days (Jun 4 – Jul 9), summer solstice in the middle of this period (pas 18 / Jun 21), now one can roam the land, follow rivers, name pas meaning everywhere, here, south and north, east and west of me, ancient Greek pas pan for all, every, penta for five,

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fifth period of the year

SAI a period of 37 days (Jul 10 – Aug 15), high summer, hottest time of the year, Celtic festival Lughnasadh in the middle of this period, name sai meaning life, existence, origin of Lughnasadh may have been lic sai, light / luck life, sixth period of the year, Italian sei for six, Latin sex for six, may remember sexual activities in this hot and happy time of the year

SAP a period of 36 days (Aug 16 – Sep 20), name sap meaning everywhere in a wider sense, here, south and north, east and west, under and above me, seventh period of the year, Latin septem for seven, September originally the 7th period (now month number nine)

OKD a period of 37 days (Sep 21 – Oct 27), fall equinox by the begin of this period, now one has to look out for a winter camp, name okd meaning the ground plan of a tent or a hut, often an octagon (inverse of dko), eighth period of the year, ancient Greek okta for eight, October once the 8th period (now month number ten)

NOPh a period of 36 days (Oct 28 – Dec 2, covering all of our November), begin of the winter half year, when the first snow falls and gives the world a new appearance overnight, Celtic festival Samhain by the begin of this period, name phon meaning snow, snow fall, snow storm (inverse of phon), ancient Greek neiphos for snow fall, snow storm, Latin nives (plural) for plenty snow, novus for new (new appearance of the landscape when covered with snow – we say brand new, they said snow new), ninth period of the year, Latin novem for nine, November the time of the first snow in Switzerland, originally the 9th period of the year (now month number eleven)

DEC a period of 37 days (Dec 3 – Jan 8), winter solstice exactly in the middle of this period (dec 19 / dec 21), now one stays in the winter camp, cramped together in a tent or hut, so one has to behave, show manners, be decent, whence the name dec (inverse of ced), tenth period of the year, Latin decem for ten, December originally the 10th period of the year (now month number twelve)

While the Lascaux calendar may date from the early Magdalenium, say, 17 000 BP, the second calendar may date from the late Magdalenium, say, 13 000 BP. You can run this calendar the same way as the older one. 8 cycles are 2920 days. Add 2 leap days and you get 2922 days for 8 years (2921.93759 days) or 99 lunations (2923.528323 days). Or you can run

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it for a quarter of a century. 25 cycles are 9125 days and correspond to 309 lunations (9124.952038 days). Add 6 leap days and you get 25 solar or tropical years (9131.05497 days).

Two subsequent periods count 73 days and may be called a double period. 17 36 53 89 125 double periods correspond to 42 89 131 220 309 lunations. 125 double periods are 25 calendar cycles or 9125 days. Divide this number of days by the number of the 309 lunations and you obtain a phantastic value for the tropical month, not even fourteen seconds longer than the actual lunation of 29 days 12 hours 44 minutes 2.9 seconds (modern value from 1989 AD).

NPhO OPhN, NOPh PhON, PhNO ONPh ---- snow

CED CES, DEC DES; CDE CSE, EDC ESC;  
DCE SCE, ECD ECS ---- giving shelter

NPhO ---- to snow; ancient Greek neipho

OPhN ---- all of a sudden, first snow, winter comes;  
ancient Greek aphno for suddenly, surprisingly

NOPh ---- snow falling, snow storm, plenty of snow;  
noph snow, ancient Greek niphos for snow storm,  
Latin novus for new, the world appearing new when  
freshly covered with snow, November as the month  
of the first snow ... Novem for nine and November  
for the ninth month while actually being the eleventh  
month may refer to an old calendar of ten periods of  
time (my reconstruction of this calendar shall follow  
next time)

PhON ---- not seeing each other in a snow storm, calling  
for each other, staying together in order not to get lost,  
wolves crying and howling, dangerous when starving in  
winter, even for people; ancient Greek phonos with omega  
for sound, voice, call (people calling each other, wolves  
howling), phonos with omikron for mass, lump (people  
staying close to each other, then), phonos phonaie with  
omikron for murder (wolves are remembered as murderous  
animals in fairy tales)

PhNO ---- torches on high poles marking the winter camp,

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seen from afar, guiding hunters home; ancient Greek  
phanos for torch

ONPh --- a shining torch by night, shining snow by day  
in sunlight; ancient Greek aenops for shining, white

CED --- to care for people, inviting them; ancient Greek  
kednos for caring, reasonable, good, honorable, dear

CES --- belt worn by a high ranking person, especially  
by the ruler of a tribe; ancient Greek kestos for belt

DEC --- being a decent person, helping others when  
they are in need, a life savior; ancient Greek decus for  
decency, honor (...), consider also decorated for honored

SEC --- providing shelter in the safety of a camp; ancient  
Greek saekos for enclosure, Latin securus for safe (...)

CDE --- cooking pit, laid out with leather, filled with water  
and food, warmed up with hot stones rolled in from a fire;  
ancient Greek kedos for cauldron, kettle

CSE --- a wooden bowl filled with food from the cooking  
pit, a spit with roasted meat from the fireplace, ancient  
Greek kissybion for bowl, chysis for a heap (plenty food  
in the bowl, then), Latin cuspis for spit

EDC --- food, meat; ancient Greek edesma for food, meat

ESC --- fireplace, people eating round a warming fire;  
ancient Greek eschara for hearth, fireplace

DCE --- to welcome a guest; ancient Greek deiknanomai  
for to welcome, deiknymi deiknyo for to greet, welcome

SCE --- inviting someone into a camp; ancient Greek  
skepae for safety

ECD --- a stranger asking for shelter; ancient Greek ektos  
for outside (here someone standing outside the camp,  
a stranger asking for protection)

ECS --- to save someone; ancient Greek eksozo for  
I save