

## Re: Where do the units come from?

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- *From:* Uncle Al <[UncleAl0@xxxxxxxxxxxxxx](mailto:UncleAl0@xxxxxxxxxxxxxx)>
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coetzee.evert@xxxxxxxxxx wrote:

Hi Guys

I'm wonder where the units of measure come from. Specifically the kilometer. I can swear I read somewhere that the distance from some... pole or latitude to paris = x kilometers and that is how they decided how long a kilometer is. It is however IMPOSSIBLE for me to find the history of the kilometer online as there's a gazillion website wanting to help me convert kilometers to other units.

Do you perhaps know of a website where they have the origins of the units explained?

France sought to be the repository of primary standards when the metric system was developed. The Official explanation for the meter has a much more reasonable practical alternative: a meter is the length of a poorly measured 1-second pendulum (short by 0.56%).

Re the Royal Society in 1660, after a suggestion by Christian Huygens and Ole Rømer (based also on a study of Marin Mersenne published in Paris in 1644). The proposal was followed by an analogous suggestion by Jean Picard in 1668. An independent proposal was raised by Tito Livio Burattini in 1675, calling the proposed unit 'meter'.

In 1740 Nicolas Louis de Lacaille and Cassini de Thury measured the length of the 1-second pendulum in Paris (48 degrees 50' latitude), obtaining 99.383 cm in today's measure (short by 0.62% vs. today's meter and remarkably consistent with the alternative to the Official Truth).

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Uncle Al

<http://www.mazepath.com/uncleal/>

(Toxic URL! Unsafe for children and most mammals)

<http://www.mazepath.com/uncleal/lajos.htm#a2>

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