



# Leap years

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But, if the year is divisible by 400, then it *is* a leap year

Not 2100, 2200, or 2300, but 2400 is.

# Why???



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Corresponds to a year of 365.25 days

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This was messing with Easter.

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Eastern Orthodox Christmas – Jan. 7 (still on Julian calendar).

# Still not perfect

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- Gregorian:

Every 4 years:	365.25	
Not every 100:	- .01	
Yes every 400:	+ .0025	
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- One fix: years divisible by 4000 aren't leap years → 365.24225.

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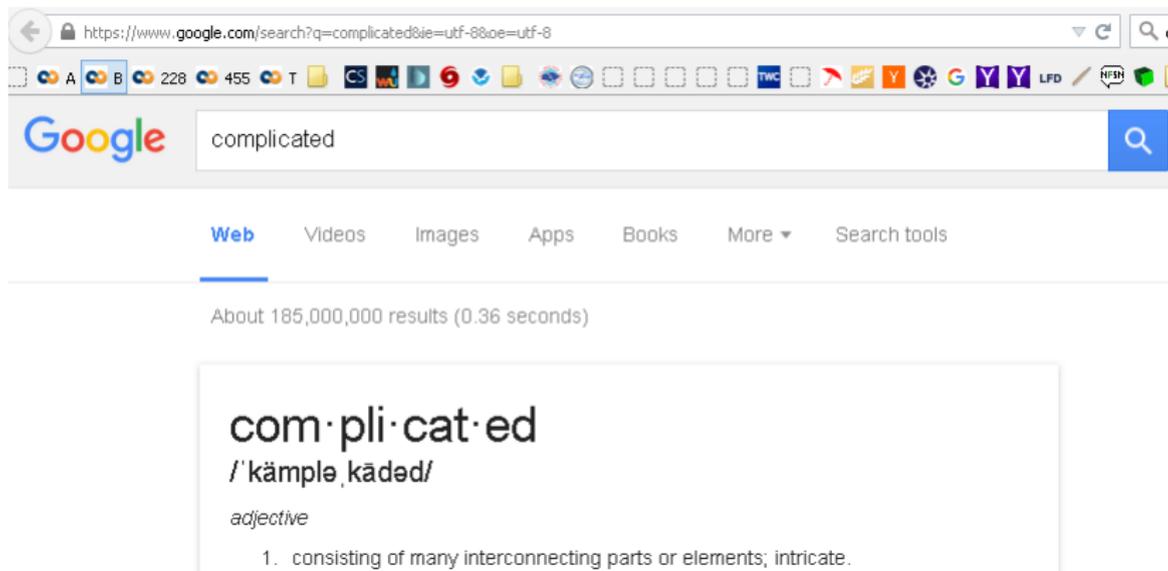
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- But the actual length is more like 365.2422.
- Off by about 26 seconds each year.
- One fix: years divisible by 4000 aren't leap years → 365.24225.
- Another: If year mod 900 is 200 or 600 then it's a leap year → 364.2422.

# This is where things get complicated



A screenshot of a Google search page. The browser's address bar shows the URL: `https://www.google.com/search?q=complicated&ie=utf-8&oe=utf-8`. The search bar contains the word "complicated" and a magnifying glass icon. Below the search bar, navigation tabs for "Web", "Videos", "Images", "Apps", "Books", "More", and "Search tools" are visible. The search results indicate "About 185,000,000 results (0.36 seconds)". A definition box is highlighted, containing the following text:

**com·pli·cat·ed**  
*/ˈkæmpləˌkædəd/*  
*adjective*

1. consisting of many interconnecting parts or elements; intricate.

# Things we think we know but don't

What is a day?

What is a second?

How long is a day?

# What is a day?

One full rotation of the earth.



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How to measure it?

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Solar day: Put a vertical pole in ground. Solar noon is when shadow is perfectly north/south. Time between one solar noon and the next solar noon is one solar day.

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Solar day: Put a vertical pole in ground. Solar noon is when shadow is perfectly north/south. Time between one solar noon and the next solar noon is one solar day.

Problems:

- Depends on where on earth you are

- Depends on the time of year, varying by nearly 50 seconds because earth's orbit is an ellipse, not a circle

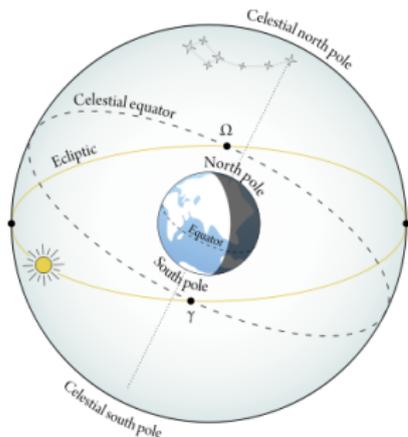
# Other definitions

Sidereal day: Measure day by earth's rotation relative to stars.

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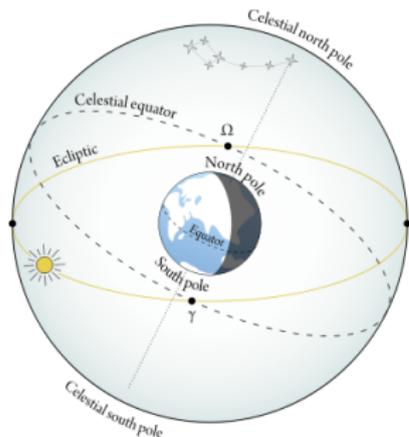
Tropical day - Measure day as a fraction of the tropical year, the time it takes from one vernal equinox to next. (Vernal equinox is when the sun crosses the *celestial equator*, heading north.)



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Even these are complicated by something called *precession of equinoxes* (earth wobbles over 1000s of years like a spinning top in its orbit)

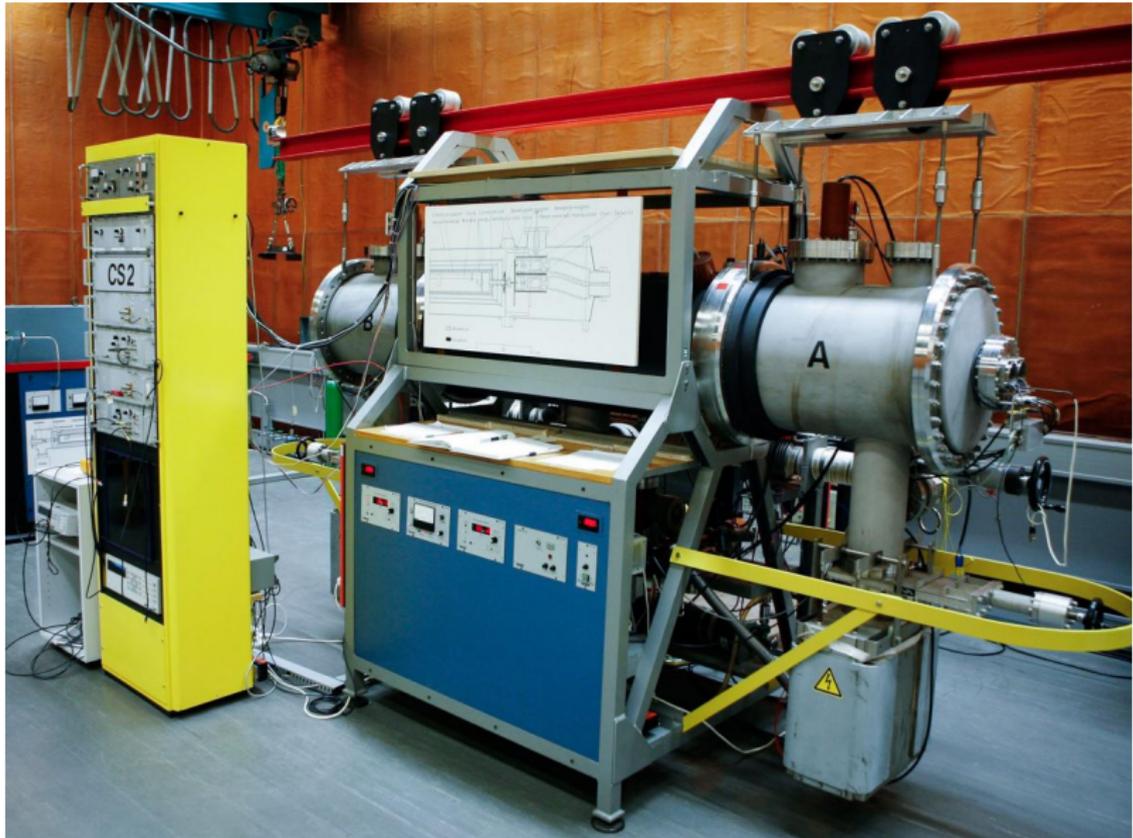
# It took several tries to get things right

## From Wikipedia:

About 140 AD, [Ptolemy](#), the Alexandrian astronomer, [sexagesimally](#) subdivided both the mean solar day and the [true solar day](#) to at least six places after the sexagesimal point, and he used simple fractions of both the equinoctial hour and the seasonal hour, none of which resemble the modern second.<sup>[3]</sup> Muslim scholars, including [al-Biruni](#) in 1000, subdivided the mean solar day into 24 equinoctial hours, each of which was subdivided sexagesimally, that is into the units of minute, second, third, fourth and fifth, creating the modern second as  $\frac{1}{60}$  of  $\frac{1}{60}$  of  $\frac{1}{24} = \frac{1}{86400}$  of the mean solar day in the process.<sup>[4]</sup> With this definition, the second was proposed in 1874 as the base unit of time in the [CGS system of units](#).<sup>[5]</sup> Soon afterwards [Simon Newcomb](#) and others discovered that Earth's rotation period varied irregularly,<sup>[6]</sup> so in 1952, the [International Astronomical Union](#) (IAU) defined the second as a fraction of the [sidereal year](#). Because the [tropical year](#) was considered more fundamental than the sidereal year, in 1955, the IAU redefined the second as the fraction  $\frac{1}{31,556,925.9747}$  of the 1900.0 [mean tropical year](#), which was adopted in 1956 by the [International Committee for Weights and Measures](#) and in 1960 by the [General Conference on Weights and Measures](#), becoming a part of the [International System of Units](#) (SI).<sup>[7]</sup>

Eventually, this definition too was found to be inadequate for precise time measurements, so in 1967, the SI second was again redefined as 9,192,631,770 periods of the radiation emitted by a [caesium-133](#) atom in the transition between the two hyperfine levels of its ground state.<sup>[8]</sup> That value agreed to 1 part in  $10^{10}$  with the astronomical (ephemeris) second then in use.<sup>[9]</sup> It was also close to  $\frac{1}{86400}$  of the mean solar day as averaged between years 1750 and 1892.

# An atomic clock



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In another billion years, one day will be 45 *days* long, which will also be the length of the month.

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Last one was this past June 30. Before that was June 30, 2012.

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Without leap seconds, after several centuries those seconds will add up to minutes and eventually hours.

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All of these mean that leap seconds are needed irregularly.

# Date of Easter

$C$  = century (1900's  $\rightarrow C = 19$ )

$Y$  = year (all four digits)

$m = (15 + C - \lfloor \frac{C}{4} \rfloor - \lfloor \frac{8C+13}{25} \rfloor) \bmod 30$

$n = (4 + C - \lfloor \frac{C}{4} \rfloor) \bmod 7$

$a = Y \bmod 4$

$b = Y \bmod 7$

$c = Y \bmod 19$

$d = (19c + m) \bmod 30$

$e = (2a + 4b + 6d + n) \bmod 7$

Easter is either March  $(22 + d + e)$  or April  $(d + e - 9)$ . There is an exception if  $d = 29$  and  $e = 6$ . In this case, Easter falls one week earlier on April 19. There is another exception if  $d = 28$ ,  $e = 6$ , and  $m = 2, 5, 10, 13, 16, 21, 24$ , or  $39$ . In this case, Easter falls one week earlier on April 18.

# Day of the week calculations

First, memorize this table of month codes:

Jan	6	Jul	5
Feb	2	Aug	1
Mar	2	Sep	4
Apr	5	Oct	6
May	0	Nov	2
Jun	3	Dec	4

*Note: Jan is 5 and Feb is 1 in leap years*

Year codes: 2015 is 4, 2016 is 6

Then compute

$$(\text{day} + \text{month code} + \text{year code}) \bmod 7$$

Result of 0 means Sunday, 1 means Monday, etc.

# Examples

Jan	6	Jul	5
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Year code: 2015 is 4, 2016 is 6

$(\text{day} + \text{month code} + \text{year code}) \bmod 7$

0=Sunday, 1=Monday, etc.

October 2, 2015

$(6 + 2 + 4) \bmod 7 = 5$  (Friday)

May 15, 2016

$(0 + 15 + 6) \bmod 7 = 0$  (Sunday)

# Year code for any year

$$\text{Year code} = (\lfloor A/4 \rfloor + A + C) \bmod 7$$

$A$  = Last two digits of year

*Julian calendar*:  $C = -(\text{century number} + 2)$

*Gregorian calendar*:  $C = 0, 5, 3,$  or  $1$  depending on if century number mod 4 is 0, 1, 2, or 3.

$$1700\text{s} \quad C = 5$$

$$1800\text{s} \quad C = 3$$

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1700s	$C = 5$
1800s	$C = 3$
1900s	$C = 1$
2000s	$C = 0$

Can mod 7 at any point to make things easier.

Example: 1997

Start with  $\lfloor 97/4 \rfloor = 24$

$97 \bmod 7$  is 6

$24 + 6 + 1$  is 30

$30 \bmod 7$  is 2

That's all

Thank you.

Right now, the official U.S. time is:

**23:59:60**

12-hr     24-hr

Tuesday, June 30, 2015

# Image credits

People on a date: <http://trelford.com/Medjool.jpg>

Date, the fruit: <http://www.goingmobo.com/wp-content/uploads/2011/10/DatingShake.jpg>

Calendar: <http://mysouthlakenews.com/wp-content/uploads/2011/10/calendarart2.jpg>

Calvin and Hobbes calendar:

<https://m2.behance.net/rendition/pm/7624743/disp/afcba32b3750adec2711af114ee9f350.jpg>

Earth's rotation: [http://www.physicalgeography.net/fundamentals/images/earth\\_rotation.jpg](http://www.physicalgeography.net/fundamentals/images/earth_rotation.jpg)

Celestial equator: [https://upload.wikimedia.org/wikipedia/commons/thumb/4/47/Celestial\\_equator\\_and\\_ecliptic.svg/353px-Celestial\\_equator\\_and\\_ecliptic.svg.png](https://upload.wikimedia.org/wikipedia/commons/thumb/4/47/Celestial_equator_and_ecliptic.svg/353px-Celestial_equator_and_ecliptic.svg.png)

Screenshot from Wikipedia: [https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Leap\\_second](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Leap_second)

Atomic clock: <http://news.nationalgeographic.com/content/dam/news/2015/06/25/leapsecond/02leapsecond.ngsversion.1435674600230.adapt.1190.1.jpg>

Moon:

[https://upload.wikimedia.org/wikipedia/commons/f/f0/Full\\_Moon\\_as\\_Seen\\_From\\_Denmark.jpg](https://upload.wikimedia.org/wikipedia/commons/f/f0/Full_Moon_as_Seen_From_Denmark.jpg)

Leap second:

[https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Leap\\_second#/media/File:Leap\\_Second\\_-\\_30\\_June\\_2015.png](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Leap_second#/media/File:Leap_Second_-_30_June_2015.png)