\section*{11 Concise Chronology of Approaches to the Poles}

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The following Antarctic and Arctic lists give explorations, in chronological order, towards the South Pole and the North Pole, their attainment (air and surface, and by sea in the Arctic), and the first crossings of the regions. There are several claims included for which supporting evidence is insufficient and doubts exist regarding what was accomplished. The units of measurement are in the form recommended by the Système Internationale d'Unités, thus latitudes are given in degrees with decimal fractions (arcminutes are not used), and grads follow in brackets [°].

\section*{A ANTARCTIC}

1603 Gabriel de Castilla (Spain), with a ship's company, probably penetrated the Southern Ocean south of Drake Passage

\textit{Subsequently several merchant vessels reported being blown south of 60° S [66.67°S] rounding Cabo de Hornos in severe weather}

1773 James Cook (Britain), with companies aboard HMS \textit{Resolution} and HMS \textit{Adventure}, crossed the Antarctic Circle (66.53° S [73.92°S]) off Enderby Land, 17 January

1774 James Cook (Britain) on the same expedition reached 71.17° S [79.08°S] off Marie Byrd Land, 30 January

1820 Fabian von Bellingshausen (Russia), with companies aboard \textit{Vostok} and \textit{Mirnyy}, sighted the Antarctic continent at about 69.35° S [77.06°S] off Dronning Maud Land, 27 January

1823 James Weddell (Britain), with company aboard \textit{Jane}, reached 74.25° S [82.50°S] in the Weddell Sea, 20 February

1842 James Ross (Britain), with companies aboard HMS \textit{Erebus} and HMS \textit{Terror}, reached 78.17° S [86.86°S] in the Ross Sea, 23 February

1900 Hugh Evans (Britain) and 3 others sledged to 78.83° S [87.59°S] on the Ross Ice Shelf, 23 February

1902 Robert Scott (Britain) and 2 others sledged to 82.28° S [91.42°S] on the Ross Ice Shelf, 30 December

1909 Ernest Shackleton (Britain) and 3 others sledged to 88.38° S [98.20°S], 9 January

1911 Roald Amundsen (Norway) and 4 others dog-sledged to 90° S [100°S], 14 December
1912 Robert Scott (Britain) and 4 others sledged to 90°S [100°S], 17 January (all perished during the return journey)
1929 Richard Byrd (United States), with an aircraft crew, claimed to have flown over the South Pole from the Ross Ice Shelf, 29 November
1947 Richard Byrd (United States), with an aircraft crew, flew over the South Pole from the Ross Ice Shelf, 15 February
1956 John Torbert (United States) and 6 others flew across Antarctica over the South Pole (Ross Island to Weddell Sea and returned without landing), 13 January
1956 Conrad Shinn (United States), with crew of an aircraft, landed at the South Pole, 31 October; a permanent station was then established, sustained by aircraft

Subsequently many aircraft have landed at the South Pole

1958 Vivian Fuchs (British Commonwealth) and an expeditionary party reached the South Pole by motor vehicles and sledge dogs, 20 January, and continued to cross Antarctica (Weddell Sea to Ross Sea)

Subsequently several expeditions have crossed the Antarctic through the South Pole by surface and many have made one-way surface journeys departing by aircraft

B ARCTIC

1553 Sir Hugh Willoughby (England), with companies aboard Bona Esperanza and Bona Confidentia, reached 72°N [80°N] on Novaya Zemlya, 14 August
1587 John Davis (England), with companies aboard Elizabeth, Ellen, & Sunshine, reached 72.20°N [80.22°N] off Greenland, July
1594 Willem Barentz (Netherlands), with a ship’s company, reached 77°N [85.6°N], rounding Novaya Zemlya
1596 Jacob van Heemskerck (Netherlands), with companies aboard 2 vessels, reached 80.18°N [89.09°N] off Svalbard, 17 June
1607 Henry Hudson (Britain), with company aboard Hopewell, reached 80.38°N [89.31°N] off Svalbard, 16 July
1676 Vasily Chichagov (Russia), with companies aboard Chichagov, Panov, and Babayev, reached 80.47°N [89.41°N] off Svalbard, 16 July
1773 Constantine Phipps (Britain), with companies aboard Racehorse & Carcass, reached 80.80°N [89.78°N] off Svalbard, 27 July
Subsequently many whaling vessels reached high latitudes
1806 William Scoresby (Britain), with company aboard Resolution, reached 81.50°N [90.56°N] off Svalbard
1827 William Parry (Britain) and party, with 2 sledge boats from Hecla, reached 82.75°N [91.94°N] off Svalbard, 25 July
This position is farther north than the area inhabited by the Polar Eskimo of Greenland
1876 Albert Markham (Britain) and 2 sledge parties reached 83.34°N [92.60°N] off Ellesmere Island, 12 May
1882 James Lockwood (United States) and 2 others dog-sledged to 83.40°N [92.67°N] off Greenland from Fort Conger, 13 May
1895 Fridtjof Nansen and Halmar Johansen (Norway) dog-sledged to 86.22°N [95.80°N] from Fram in the Arctic Ocean, 8 April
1900 Umberto Cagni (Italy) & 3 others claimed to have dog-sledged to 86.57°N [96.19°N] from Zemlya Frantsa-Iosefa, 24 April

Some of these claims are controversial and have given rise to much discussion. There is a way of resolving the question of precedence at the poles by a simple modification of the question. A secure answer may be given to Who was the first to see both poles?

On 14 December 1911 Roald Amundsen and Oskar Wisting were at the South Pole, and both were over the North Pole aboard Norge on 12 May 1926; thus they became the first to have seen both the South Pole and the North Pole.