

## Verona

## Biblioteca capitolare

Ms CCLXI

Hyginus, *De astronomia*

North Italian (Verona)

third-quarter 15th century

textff. 32r-85r: Hyginus, *De astronomia*, Books II and III (with Book III illustrated)

ff. 1r-2r (in red) Favorini verba de ventorum sedibus ab A. Gellio.  
 (in black with red first initial)  
 Limites regiones que cęli quattuor – qui solos quatuor ventos noverit et c. τέλος.  
 (= Aulus Gellius, *Noctes Atticae*, II, ii, 3-16)

fol. 2v blank

ff. 3r-30r (alternating tan and green capitals)  
 INCIPIT SPERA SECUNDUM MAGISTRUM IOANNEM GALLICUM DE SACROBUSCO  
 (with blue initial capital set within decorative re, gold, lavender and green  
 geometric patterns)  
 TRACTATUM DE SPERA QUATUOR CAPITULIS DISTINGUIMUS QUID SIT SPE(in black)  
 ra quid eius centrum, quid axis sperę – patitur aut mundana machina  
 dissolvetur. (in red) τέλος . Explicit tractatus sperę magistri Ioannis de sacro  
 busco anglici. (= Johannes de Sacrobosco, *De sphaera*) with numerous diagrams  
 and illustrations in blank or red ink, including:  
 fol. 3v: diagram of definition of a diameter of a circle  
 fol. 4r: order of the 4 elements and spheres (labelled: Luna,  
 Mercury, Venus, Sol, Mars, Iovis, Saturnus, octava sphaera  
 firmamentum vel stellarum fixarum, primus motus/ primum  
 mobile/ vel nona sphaera.

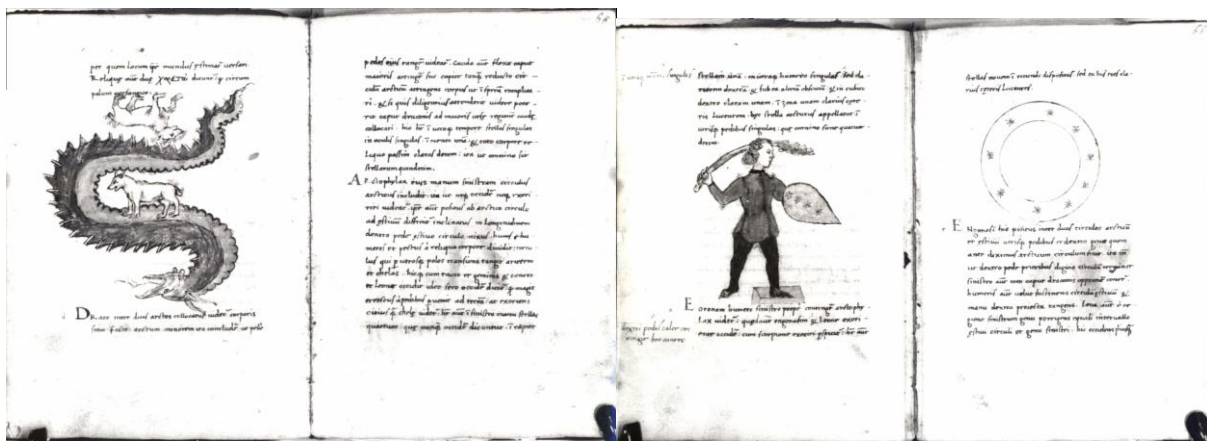
- fol. 6v: diagram of how a vase of water refracts light; eclipse of the Moon
- fol. 7v: boat disappearing over the horizon
- fol. 13v: equinoxes, solstices and months
- fol. 19v: inclination of the sphere with ecliptic
- fol. 25v: climes
- fol. 27v: movement of planets (with retrograde motion)
- fol. 29r and 29 v: solar eclipse
- fol. 30r: solar eclipse with Moon set in epicycles
- fol. 30v blank
- ff. 31r-64r (red initial and then black ink)  
Sed quoniam quę nobis de terrę positione dicenda fuerint (corrected to fuerunt in pencil) & speram – Nos autem omnium corporum deformationem dicere instituimus. (= Hyginus, *De astronomia*, II, preface - 43; cf. Viré 1992, pp. 14-94)
- ff. 64r-85r (red first initial and then black ink)  
Igitur incipiens (corrected to incipiemus in pencil) à polo boreo protinus dicere— et est stellarum omnino duodecim. (= Hyginus, *De astronomia*, III, 1-40; cf. Viré 1992, pp. 95-124)
- ff. 85v-110r (in red) Theorica planetarum incipit et c (first initial red and then in black)  
Circulus ecentricus vel egressę cuspidis vel egredientis centri dicitur non habet centrum – coniuncti lumine et non corporaliter. (red initial) Explicit theorica planetarum per me iacobum comitem filium D. Antonij Juliarrii scripta (= Gerardus, *Theorica Planetarum*; cf. Carmody 1942, pp. 49- 51)
- ff. 110v-111v (in red) Istud inveni in alia theorica planetarum loco illius ca. Aspectus planum  
(in black) Linea egrediens in centro terrę per centrum corporis –magni inęqualitas anni christi gradus minuta 2a. Finis (= *De reflexionibus*, from *Theorica Planetarum*; cf. Carmody 1942, pp. 49- 51)
- ff. 112r-122r numerous diagrams and *rotae*, including:  
112r: retrograde motion of Mercury  
114v: epicyclical motion of Venus  
116r: lunar eclipse  
117r: aspects

- 118r: zodiacal rota
- 120r: zodiacal rota with 12 winds
- 121r: T-map of the earth

ff. 122v-128r blank

ff. 129r-129v vellum leaf with older text scraped off

**illustrations**



fol. 64v

fol. 65r

fol. 65v

fol. 66r



fol. 66v

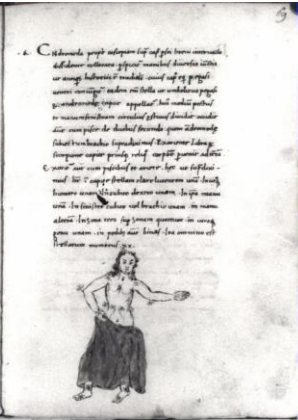
fol. 67r

fol. 67v

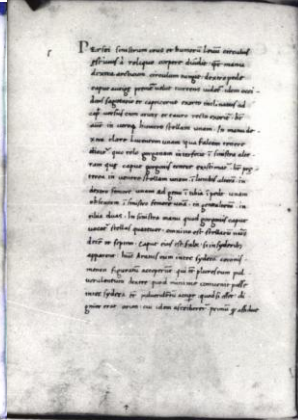
fol. 68r



fol. 68v



fol. 69r



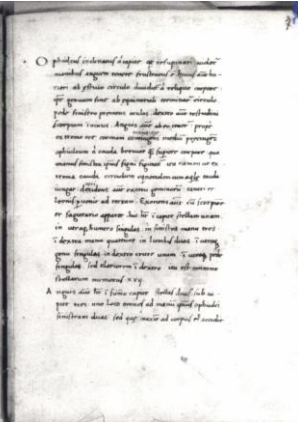
fol. 69v



fol. 70r



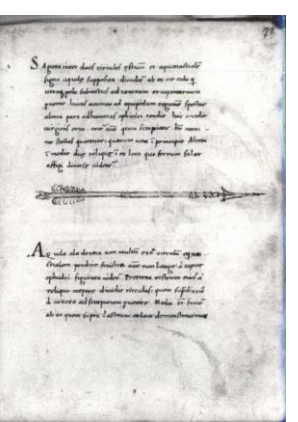
fol. 70v



fol. 71r



fol. 71v



fol. 72r



fol. 72v



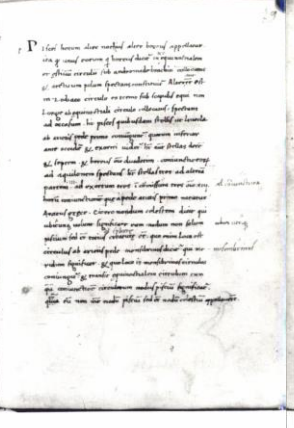
fol. 73r



fol. 73v



fol. 74r





fol. 80v



fol. 81r



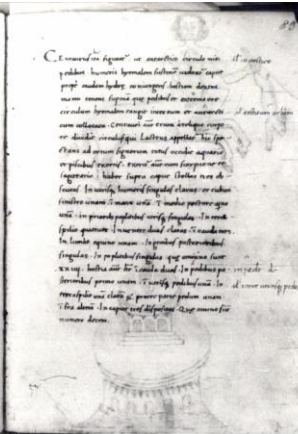
fol. 81v



fol. 82r



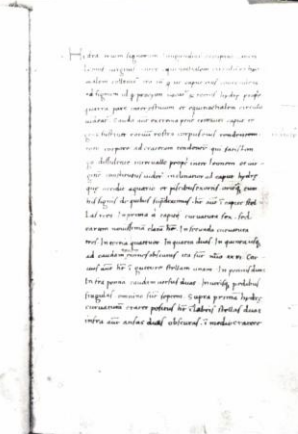
fol. 82v



fol. 83r



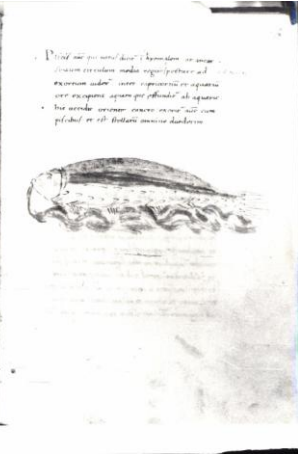
fol. 83v



fol. 84r



fol. 84v



fol. 85r

- ff. 64v-85r Pen drawings of 45 constellations with coloured washes. There are gold star-shaped stars marked on the constellations up to and including Gemini, but not marked afterwards.
- fol. 64v **DRACO INTER ARCTOS** with a green and tan **DRACO** with his dragon's head toward the bottom of the page with a long pointed nose, an open mouth and a flame-like tongue and teeth visible. His body has 2 main bends in his body with a small bend in his tail. The bears are placed back-to-back, facing into the curves in the second and third bends. They are both roughly the same size. Draco has 1 star in his chin, 2 in his head and 10 in his body, or 13 stars in all.
- URSA MINOR** has a short tail and walks to the left. It has 3 stars on its tail and 1 on each front foot, or 5 stars in all.
- URSA MAIOR** walks to the right. It has a short tail and has 7 stars in the head, 2 in the neck, 2 in the chest, 2 in the right forefoot, 3 in the tail, 1 in the rear right leg, and 2 in the left rear leg, or 19 stars in all.
- fol. 65v **BOOTES** stands facing to the left. He is dressed in a short rose tunic with green leggings and has a blue line at his collar. He holds a teardrop-shaped tan shield in his left hand so that it covers the whole of his left arm. He raises a knobbly, curved tan club behind his head with his right hand. He stands with his left leg on a tan box (apart from the attribute on his right arm and the box, he is virtually identical to Hercules). He has 1 star in his head, 1 in each shoulder, 3 in his chest, 1 at his waist, 1 on his right elbow, 4 on his shield and 1 on each foot, or 14 stars in all.
- fol. 66r **CORONA BOREALIS** is depicted as 2 concentric circles and has 9 stars
- fol. 66v **HERCULES** stands facing the viewer and turns slightly to the right. He is dressed in a short green tunic and has rose leggings and a blue band at his neck. He has a lion's skin draped over his extended left arm (the face and 2 feet of the lion are visible). He holds a knobbly, curved yellow and blue club behind his head with his right hand (apart from the attribute on his right arm and the lack of a box, he is virtually identical to **BOOTES**). He has 1 star in his head, 1 on each shoulder, 1 on his right elbow, 1 in his left upper arm, 2 in his waist, 2 in his right hip, 2 on his right knee and 2 on his right shin, 1 on his right foot and 6 on his lion's skin, or 20 stars in all.

- fol. 67r **LYRA** is two-stepped zither with a curl on the right side. It has 3 sets of 5 strings and 8 stars.
- fol. 67v **CYGNUS** stands to the left, with a rather short neck (more like an eagle) and its wings outstretched to either side. It has 5 stars in the right wing, 5 in the left wing, 1 in the head, 1 in the neck and 1 in the tail, or 17 stars in all.
- fol. 68r **CEPHEUS** stands facing the viewer, dressed in a short, tight-fitting rose robe, which has a wide white and blue belt around the hips and blue trim at the neck and wrists. He has a tan mitre-shaped cap with blue dots on his head and green leggings. He holds his arms out to either side with palms facing forward and the arms slightly bent so they form a 'W'. He has 2 stars in his head, 1 in each shoulder, 1 at his waist, 3 in his belt, 1 on each hand, 2 in his left thigh, and 2 in each foot. His toes are cut-off by the bottom of the page.
- fol. 68v **CASSIOPEIA** is seated on a low, boxy throne, facing the viewer, with her arms outstretched to either side with her elbows slightly bent so they form a 'W'. She wears a long rose dress and a green mantle with a blue interior that is clasped by a round blue pin at her neck. Her blonde hair is exposed. She has 4 stars on the throne, 1 on her head, 1 on each shoulder, 1 in her breast, 2 on her lap, 1 to the outside of her left hip, 1 on her left knee and 1 on her right foot, or 13 stars in all.
- fol. 69r **ANDROMEDA** walks to the right, facing the viewer, and is nude to her waist with her lower half covered by a long rose skirt with a blue reverse that she holds at her hips with her right hand. She holds her left hand trailing behind her. She has long blonde hair. She has 1 star in her head, 1 in each shoulder, 4 in her waist, 3 at her hips, 1 on each elbow, 1 on each hand, 1 on each knee, 2 on the right foot and 2 on the left foot, or 20 stars in all.
- fol. 70r **PERSEUS** stands with his back to the viewer and facing to the left. He is dressed in a full suit of light blue armour, but is missing the helmet. The mesh is yellow and he has a rose shirt showing at his neck. The top and bottom halves of his armour are connected by a pink-leather strap and buckle. He raises a slightly curved, light-blue sword above his head with his right hand and, in his left hand, he holds the head of the Medusa's head in front of him by the blonde hair. He has 1 star on each shoulder, 1 on each hand, 2 on his left hip, 1 on each knee, 2 on left shin, 1 on right foot and 4 in Medusa's head, or 15 stars in all.



- fol. 70v      **AURIGA** stands facing the viewer, dressed in a loose tan tunic that ends in tendrils at the hem and sleeves, with leggings and tight sleeves on his undershirt. He raises a three-thonged flail in his right hand and has 2 rabbits heads upraised in his left hand. There is a third rabbit head peeking out from behind the left side of his head. He has 1 star in his head, 1 on each shoulder, 1 on each elbow, and 2 in his left hand, or 7 stars in all.
- fol. 71v      **OPHIUCHUS** is nude and walks to the left seemingly facing the viewer, but the anatomy is somewhat confused as his left leg seems to lead, so that his upper torso must be somewhat twisted to enable his ribs to be visible. He holds the **SERPENS** in a horizontal position, wrapped once around his waist, with its head turned back towards the man. **SERPENS** has a bird's head. **OPHIUCHUS** has 1 star on his head, 1 each shoulder, 2 on his waist, 1 on each knee, 1 in the right shin, 1 on each foot, 4 in his right hand and 3 on his left hand, or 17 stars in all. The Serpent has 18 stars.
- fol. 72r      **SAGITTA** points to the right and has 4 stars.
- fol. 72v      **AQUILA** faces to the right with his wings outstretched to either side with his mouth open. He has 1 star in his head, 1 in the right wing, and 1 in his tail, or 3 stars in all.
- fol. 73r      **DELPHINUS** is green and blue and is placed upside-down with its back facing toward the bottom of the page and its head to the right. It has a long pointed snout with pointed teeth and a waddle under its chin. It has 4 star in its head, 4 in body and 2 on its tail, or 10 stars in all.
- fol. 73v      **PEGASUS** is half a winged horse that faces to the right with its front legs stretched out straight in front of him. His wings are green with tan shading and he wears a yellow bridle. He has 1 star on each ear, 2 on head, 2 on nose, 4 along the top of his neck, 2 on his chest, 2 on his wings and 2 on each knee, or 18 stars in all.
- fol. 74r      **ARIES** walks to the left, turns its head backwards, lifts his right forefoot, and has a long tail. He has 4 is his head, 3 on his neck, 4 in his chest, 3 in his belly, 1 in his right forefoot and 1 in his right hind foot and 1 on his tail, 17 stars in all.

- TRIANGULUM** is a yellow equilateral triangle placed at a jaunty angle around the head of Aries, who bites one side (**note** the correction in the text: ‘... ex oriens caput infra triangulum’). **TRIANGULUM** has 3 stars, one in each corner.
- fol. 74v **TAURUS** is depicted as half a yellow bull facing to the left and emerging from a band of clouds. Both feet are stretched out in front of him. He has 1 star in each horn, 3 in its forehead, 1 in each eye, 6 in front of its nose, 4 in the chest, 1 on each knee and 1 on the left hoof, or 20 stars in all.
- fol. 75r **GEMINI** are two youths in Renaissance dress who shake their right hands. The left Twin also raises his left hand in salutation, while the right Twin rests his left hand in front of him. The left Twin has a rose hat, a green pleated over-dress and blue underdress with hems and sleeves and band at neck in blue with rose stockings and a white belt. The right twin has a blue pleated tunic with rose sleeves and a rose neck band and a white belt. They both have blonde hair. The left Twin has 1 star in the head, 1 in each shoulder, 1 in each hand and 1 on each knee, or 7 stars in all. The right Twin has 1 star in the head, 1 on each shoulder and 1 in the right elbow, or 5 stars in all (unlike the others, the stars are not gilt on these figures).
- fol. 75v **CANCER** is brown and shaped like a round crab, facing to the left with 2 large segmented claws and 4 legs on either side. It has long eyelashes around its eyes and a crescent along its bottom. No stars are marked.
- fol. 76r **LEO** stands to the right, but turns his head to the viewer and sticks his red tongue out. His tail is raised. No stars are marked.
- fol. 76v **VIRGO** stands facing the viewer with large green and blue wings and dressed in a long blue gown with a white belt, which is covered by a long rose mantle with a green reverse. She holds a rose plant vertically in her right hand and holds her left hand to her breast. Her blonde hair is uncovered and she has brown shoes. No stars are marked.
- fol. 77r **SCORPIO** faces to the left with two large segmented claws and 6 legs on either side. He has a segmented tail that ends in a fork. He holds the yellow Scales in front of his face with his right claw. No stars are marked in either constellation.

- fol. 77v **SAGITTARIUS** is a centaur who rushes to the right. His human half is nude. He holds the bow with his left hand and pulls the string with his right. No stars are marked.
- fol. 78r **CAPRICORN** faces to the left. It is bearded and has short curved horns and a curl in its tail that ends in an acanthus form. No stars are marked.
- fol. 78v **AQUARIUS** is a youth, who stands facing the viewer with his head turned slightly to the right. He is dressed in a short green tunic, with a blue belt and blue decorated cuffs. His neck band and longer sleeves are rose and he has rose leggings. He holds his hands outstretched to either side. The right hand is empty and the left hand holds the base of a blue urn from which green water pours. No stars are marked.
- fol. 79v **PISCES** are green and blue and swim in opposite direction with their backs both facing upwards. Their mouths are connected by a cord. No stars are marked.
- CETUS** is a dog-faced monster with a curled tail that ends in a tri-lobe. He faces to the right and has pointed ears and an open mouth with sharp teeth. No stars are marked.
- fol. 80r **ERIDANUS** is a nude female figure with very long blonde hair, who walks to the right. She holds the urn across her body so that she holds it horizontally, with her left hand on the base and her right hidden behind the green water that flows from it. No stars are marked.
- fol. 80v **LEPUS** bounds to the left. No stars are marked.
- fol. 81r **ORION** stands facing the viewer, dressed in a short, tight rose tunic that has a wide blue belt at the hips, in which he rests the thumb of his left hand. He has a forked beard and also wears a short blue cloak with a green reverse. He holds a straight, light-blue sword vertically in his right hand. No stars are marked.
- fol. 81v **CANIS MAIOR** is a greyhound that leaps upwards to the left and has a thick yellow collar with a ring. No stars are marked.
- fol. 82r **CANIS MINOR** is more hound-like and also bounds to the left, lifting its head and sticking its tongue out. No stars are marked.

- fol. 82v      **ARGO** is a full ship set in the green water and it sails to the right. It has a mast and a crow's nest and a yard-arm from which 5 sets of riggings with pulleys are hung. It has a raised poop deck and 2 steering oars. Many of the details are highlighted in yellow. No stars are marked.
- fol. 83v      **CENTAURUS** is a male centaur that leaps to the left. He turns his human half to face the viewer and is nude. He holds **LUPUS** (a rabbit) in his right hand in front of him by its heels and his left hand is held near his human waist. No stars are marked.
- ARA** is a two-story cylindrical altar with rose flames coming from the top. No stars are marked.
- fol. 84v      **HYDRA** is a two-footed green dragon that faces to the left, with its wings tucked close to its body. It has a beard, a pointed nose and its tongue is sticking out. There is a two-handled, yellow **CRATER** on his back and a small **CORVUS**, facing forwards on his lower back. No stars are marked in any of the constellations.
- fol. 85r      **PISCIS AUSTRINUS** is a large green and blue fish that swims to the lefts in a stream that originates in its mouth and flows to the right. No stars are marked.

### notes

### bibliography

McGURK IV 1966, p. xix.

some Renaissance Hyginus non-Sicilian mss share a limitation in Hyginus content (i.e.: limit text to Books II and III only): Vatican, Bibl Apostolica, lat 3109 and Verona, Bibl Capitolare CCLXI

pp. 86-87: end XV c; humanistic cursive; I + 128; pen drawings to Book III with stars ff 64v-85r inc (32r): Sed quoniam quae nobis de terrae positione dicenda expl (85r) et est stellarum omnino duodecim

VIRÉ 1981, p. 175.

15th c, ff. 161-98; Books II and III.

PERUFFO 2000-01 (tesi di laurea).

for Prof Giordana Canova Mariani); on fol 10r has the signature of Giacomo Giulari, letterato, notary and political man from the noble Veronese family of Conte Giulari, d. 1512 and emancipated from his dad in 7 October 1480; was in his library.

Paper has a filigraine from Verona c. 1475; humanistic cursive of 1 hand; 11 R Explicit theorica planetarum per me Iacobum comitem filium Antonio Iularii scripta; says Verona illustrations are close to Vat lat 3110 (Salutati) and Rimini Basinio (Cassa di Risparmia)

consulted 11.6.05