



Ca' Foscari
University
of Venice

Department of
Philosophy and
Cultural Heritage



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Malcanton Marcorà Palace
Aula Valent

The notion of scientific collaboration has raised much interest, over recent years, among scholars of different disciplines and background, coming from domains as diverse as, say, social epistemology and sociology of science, computer science, science policy, cognitive science and philosophy of action, history and philosophy of science. Of course, one of the reasons of this interest is the growing importance (in many cases, the inescapable need) of strong forms of collaborative research in order to attain substantial results in practically all domains of natural sciences. However, what counts as scientific collaboration is still unclear, and a variety of approaches – and proxy measures of such notion) are on the shell. In this paper, I pose the question of scientific collaboration from an epistemological point of view and ask what are the epistemically relevant conditions in order to have collaboration. I claim that astronomy offers a “perfect” subject of investigation here and I discuss case studies from the (late) eighteenth century that explain why astronomy has grown as collaborative science and may help understand the epistemic constraints that foster and empower scientific collaboration in general..

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Workshop ERC EarlyModernCosmology

Presents

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Policies of Collaboration: The Case of Astronomy and Observatory Sciences in the Late Eighteenth Century

Introduction by
prof. Pietro Omodeo