



Università  
Ca' Foscari  
Venezia

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e Beni Culturali

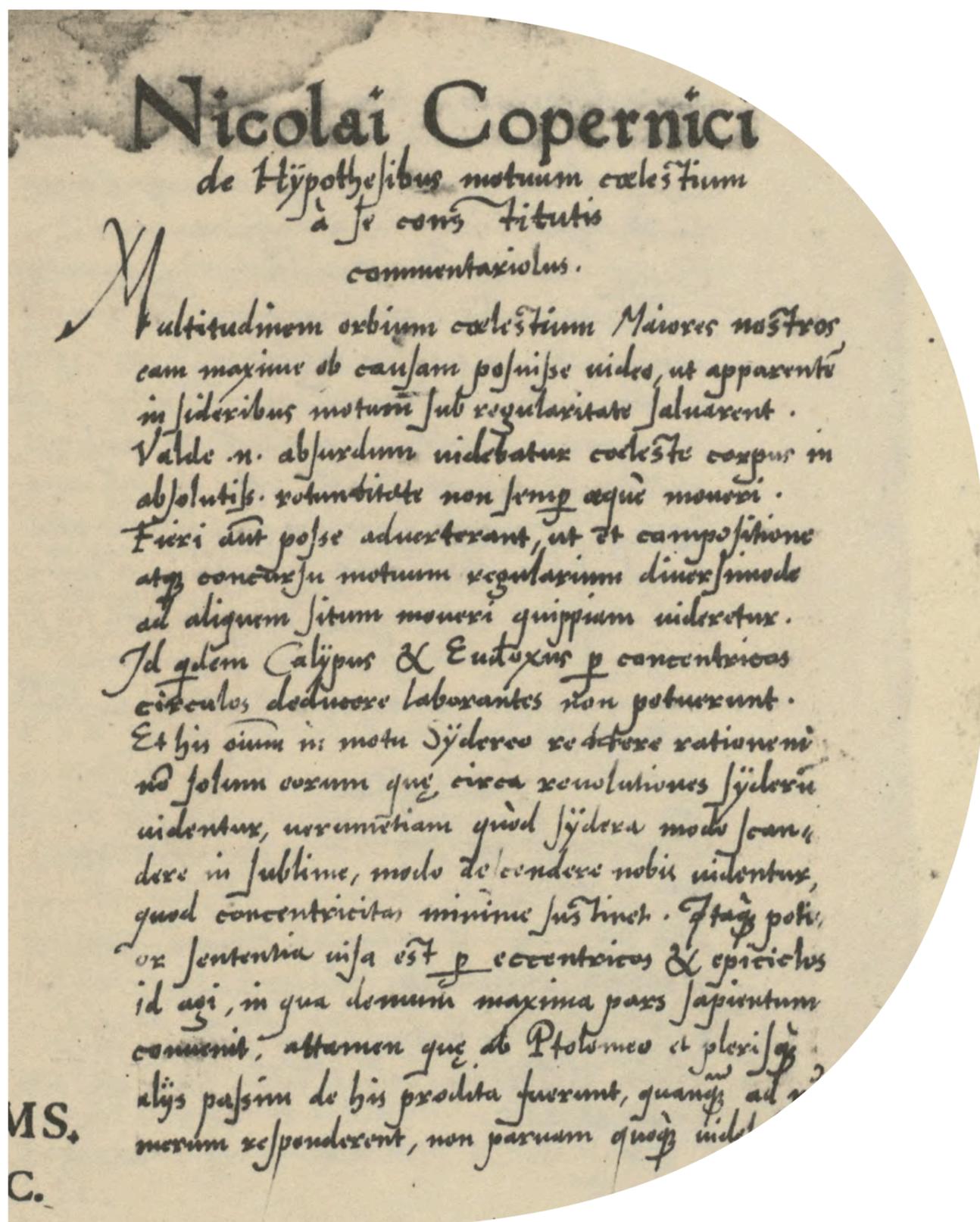


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**Wednesday 2020 May 6**

Beginning at h. 4:00 p.m.

In the *Commentariolus* (ca. 1508–1514) Copernicus claims that in order to solve the problems of astronomy seven mostly heliocentric *petitiones quas axiomata vocant* should be granted. My question is: What exactly has Copernicus in mind when he mentions these “postulates, called axioms”? What is their nature? And on what model were they fashioned? I will argue that Copernicus’s understanding of postulates or axioms (or hypotheses, principles, assumptions, as he also calls them in *De revolutionibus*) is of a Platonist origin. More specifically, I believe that when writing about *petitiones quas axiomata vocant* Copernicus relied on Proclus’ *Commentary on Plato’s Timaeus*, which fits very well into his predominantly Platonist philosophical orientation as I argued in my book, *Copernicus, Platonist Astronomer-philosopher: Cosmic order, Motion of the Earth and the Scientific Revolution*.

**Workshop held on Google Meet**

The link will be provided to the registered participants.

Contact: [rodolfo.garau@unive.it](mailto:rodolfo.garau@unive.it)

Interactive Online Seminar with mandatory registration

## ERC EarlyModernCosmology The Nature of Copernicus’s Hypotheses

**Matiaz Vesel**

Institute of Philosophy, Research Centre  
of the Slovenian Academy of Sciences  
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Introduction by

**prof. Pietro Daniel Omodeo**

Guest hosted by the ERC EarlyModernCosmology GA 725883