The Copernican Revolution The Beginning of Science—16 Sept





Nicholas Copernicus (1473-1543)

Tycho Brahe (1546–1601)



Johannes Kepler (1571–1630)

Columbus 1492

Jamestown 1607







- Planets move on an epicycle. Epicycle moves on a deferent. Double motion allows retrograde motion.
- The deferents of Venus & Mercury are on the line between the sun and Earth.

Copernicus

Aristotle & Ptolemy

 The natural motion of "base" objects is to come to rest. The natural motion of "heavenly" objects is to move in a circle at constant speed.

- Copernicus
 - De Revolutionibus Orbium Coelestium, (On the Revolutions of the Celestial Spheres) 1543
 - The Earth is not at the center. The Earth is not immobile.
 - The sun is at the center. The planets orbit the sun.



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