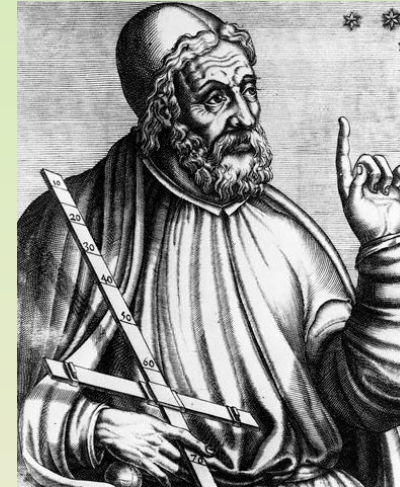




Claudius Ptolemy

Greek-Roman mathematician, astronomer, geographer, astrologer, and poet.

(100 – 170 CE)

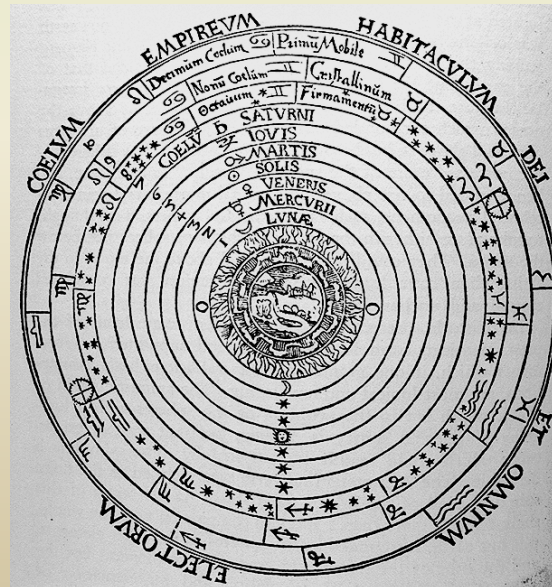


Ptolemy synthesized Greek knowledge of the known Universe. His work enabled astronomers to make accurate predictions of planetary positions and solar and lunar eclipses, promoting acceptance of his view of the cosmos in the Byzantine and Islamic worlds and throughout Europe for more than 1400 years.

Ptolemy's scientific treatises

Ptolemy's major works have survived and among them the most important is the *Almagest*.

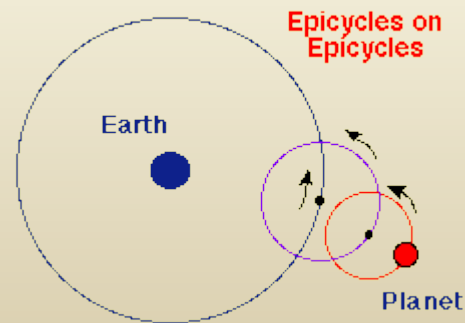
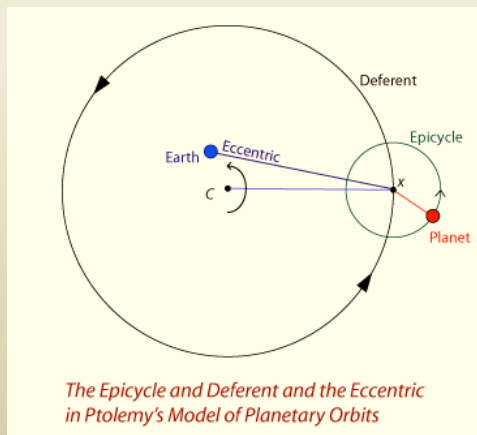
In the *Almagest* Ptolemy compiled the astronomical knowledge of the ancient Greek and Babylonian world. *Almagest* is mainly based upon Hipparchus calculations and research.



Ptolemy's scientific treatises

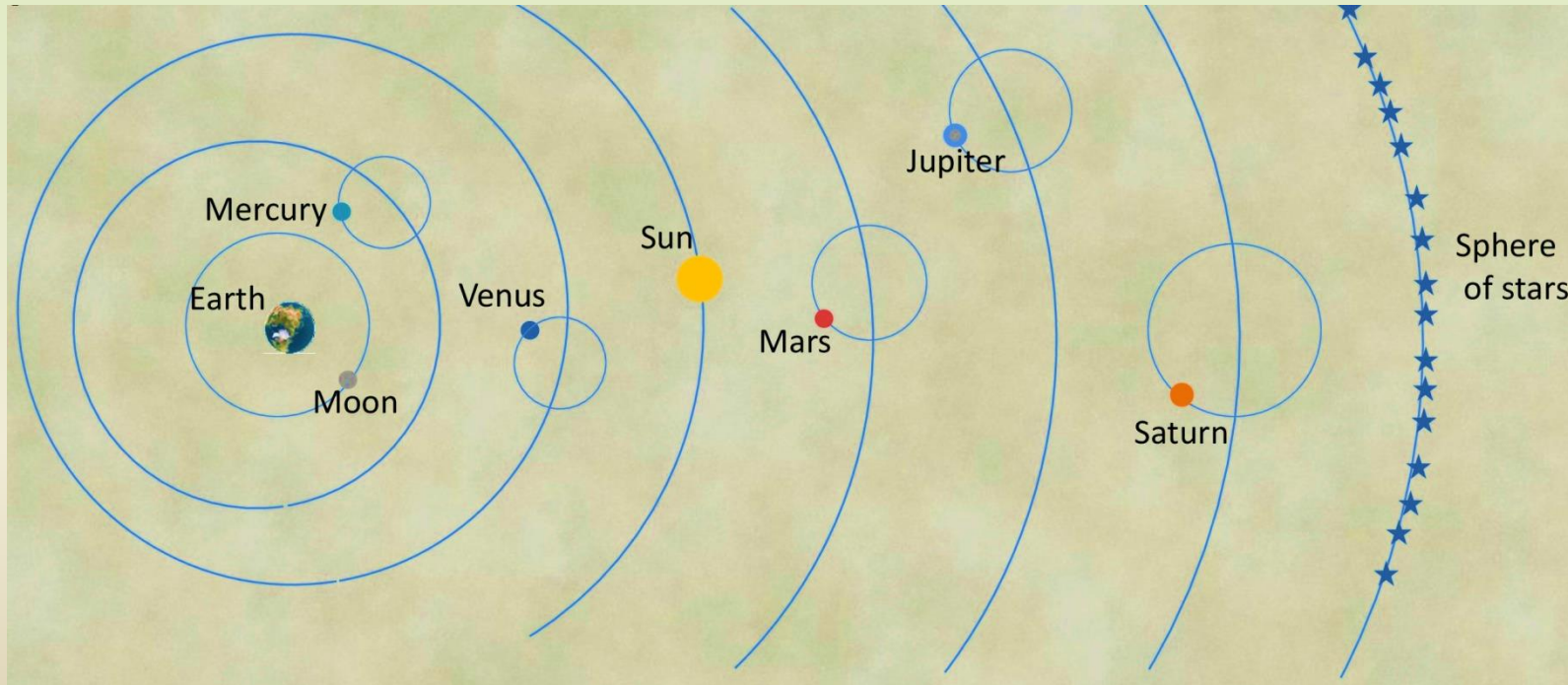
In *Almagest* Ptolemy further refines the epicycle model and gives in detail the mathematical theory of the motions of the Sun, Moon, and planets.

The *Almagest* was not superseded until a century after Copernicus presented his heliocentric theory in the *De revolutionibus Orbium Coelestium* in 1543.

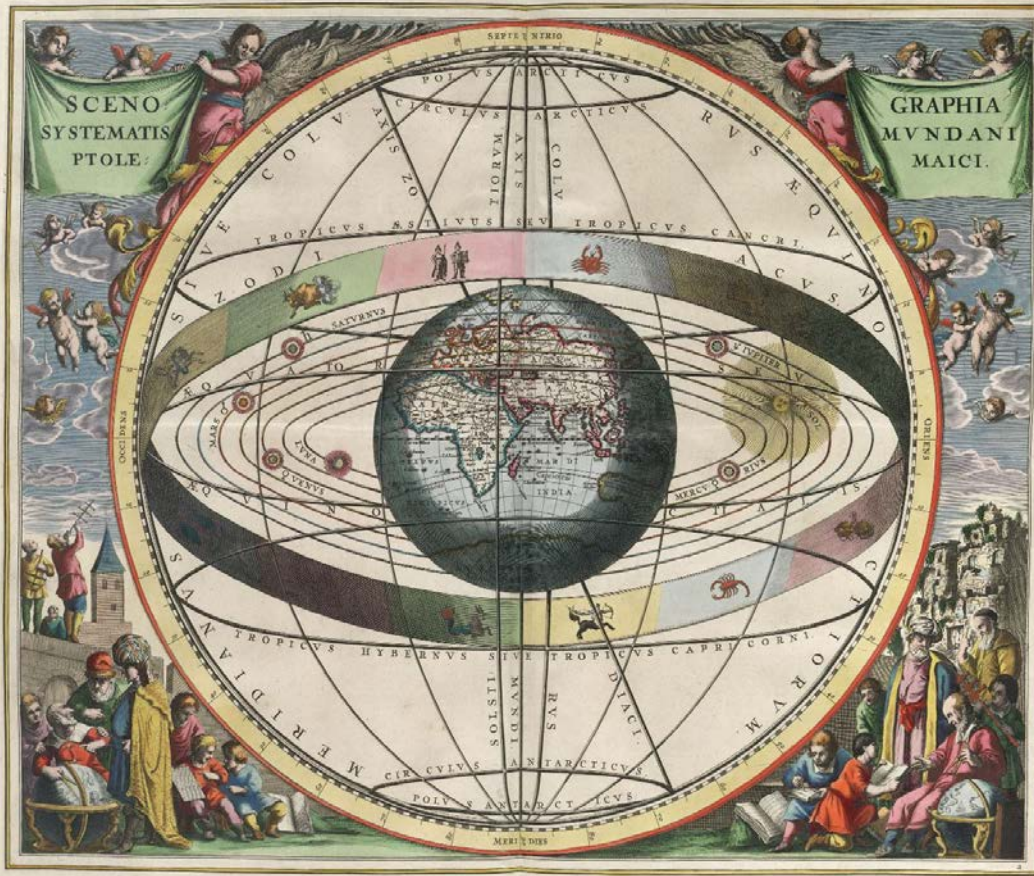


Ptolemy's cosmology

Ptolemy further refined the epicycle model, and suggested a geocentric theory which was remarkably successful in accounting for the motion of the planets.



Ptolemy propounded the geocentric theory in a form that prevailed for 1400 years.



Ptolemy put all this information into a grand scheme. He assigned coordinates to all the places and geographic features he knew, in a grid that spanned the globe.

Ptolemy's world map

Ptolemy's other main work is Geography, a compilation of geographical coordinates of the part of the world known to the Roman Empire during his time.



References:

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- <http://www.mappery.com/Ptolemy-World-Map>

This presentation was created by students taking part in the programme
"Four Seasons in the Sky"

