

# THE DEVELOPMENT OF PHYSICS IN PRAGUE AFTER RUDOLF II.

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Emperor Rudolph II is known as a patron for scientists and artists; several distinguished natural scientists too worked at his court in Prague. It is supposed that the period of intensive scientific activity in Prague ended with the death of the Emperor.

New results of research showed that, at least during the first half of the seventeenth century, scientific activities in physics were continued in the Bohemian lands. The publications by scientists like Christophor Scheiner, Balthasar Conrad and Ioannes Marcus Marci de Kronland were held in high esteem by contemporaries abroad, as they represented outstanding achievements on a world-wide level.

Marci was basically a polyhistorian. Among his and his colleagues' discoveries those in physical optics deserve special emphasis. This group of physicists (with the inclusion of Johannes Kepler) can be named the „Prague School of Physical Optics“.