

ASTRONOMY AND NATURAL SCIENCES IN MORAVIA

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Astronomical activity in Moravia began with the *Sodales Danubiani* Augustinus Moravus, Andreas Stiborius and Ladislaus von Boskowitz (15th/16th century). The Jesuits at the University of Olmütz had no observatory of their own, but only a „Museum Mathematicum“ with an observation platform. There was lively activity in the Mathematical-physical field, and astronomy was also lectured upon within the framework of physics. The present study examines for the first time the mathematical activities of the Piarists, as well as of such other orders as the Benedictines in Rajgern, the Premonstratensians in Hradisch monastery, and the Augustinians in Brünn. The mathematical sciences flourished not only at Olmütz university but in the *Ständeakademie* as well. The first public observatory in Brünn was erected by Franz Cassian Hallaschka at the episcopal lyceum around 1813. After 1845 Eduard Ritter von Undkrechtsberg founded a private observatory in Olmütz which became known through the work of Hans Friedrich Julius Schmidt.