
 Florence

Biblioteca Laurenziana

Ashburnham 1148

Hyginus, *De astronomia*

Italian

15th century

text

- ff. 1r-60r Hyginus, *De astronomia*, Books II and III (drawings accompany Book III)
- ff. 1r-38r Sed quoniam quae nobis de terræ positione dicenda fuerint – omnium corporum deformationem dicere instituimus. (= Hyginus, *De astronomia*, II, preface-II, 43; cf. Viré 1992, pp. 14-94)
- fol. 38r Igitur incipiemus á polo Boreo protinus dicere quo utraeque arcti nixę vehuntur ... (= Hyginus, *De astronomia*, III, 1 cf. Viré 1992, p. 95)

(note: the pages of Book III have been mis-bound, so the text does not run smoothly. For example:

- 1) ff. 38r-41v Igitur incipiemus á polo Boreo protinus dicere quo utraeque arcti nixę vehuntur – ad terram exoritur cum Capricorno hic// (= Hyginus, *De astronomia*, III, 1-7, ll. 87-88; cf. Viré 1992, pp. 95-99)
- 2) ff. 42r-43v Capricorni porrigens tergum: dextram lubę pegasi propé contingens – Item in tertia usque ad novissimam septem omnino sunt numero xiiij.// (=Hyginus, *De astronomia*, III, 28- 30; cf. Viré 1992, pp. 115-18)
- 3) ff. 44r-53v PErsei sinistrum Crus et humerum levum Circulis ęstivus á reliquo Corpore dividit – [de]fixos: manum autem sinistram

usque ad // (=Hyginus, *De astronomia*, III, 11-28; cf. Viré 1992, pp. 102-15)

4) ff.54r-55v habet in capite stellam clare lucentem unam – Ita omnino est stellarum numerus xx. // (=Hyginus, *De astronomia*, III, 7- 11; cf. Viré 1992, pp. 99-102)

5) ff. 56r-60r LEpus autem infra sinistrum pedem Orionis per hyamalem Circulum fugiens – & est stellarum omnino duodecim: (=Hyginus, *De astronomia*, III, 32-40; cf. Viré 1992, pp. 118-24)

The sections should run: 1, 4, 3, 2, 5.

fol. 60r ... autem cum piscibus & est stellarum omnino deuodecim. (= Hyginus, *De astronomia*, III, 40; cf. Viré 1992, p. 124)

fol. 60v Hic codex est Domini Franciscus Barberi ære paterno emptus.

illustrations



fol. 38r

fol. 38v

fol. 39r

fol. 39v

est hinc aut hinc ab officio Cerulo dicitur
dicitur a reliquo Corpore ipse generis fuit ab
oppositali terminat Cerulo: pectus fuit
pinea occidit: dicitur autem Testudinis Scor
pionum similitudo. Argente autem ab eo tenetur
prope aequum ore Ceruoniam conuersione me
dium pinguem Ophidii a Cauda breuiter
est signor Corpore: quia manus finitum pro
pore fignat: Ita tunc ueraciter Cerulo Ge
ritum oppositalem cum aquile Cerulo in
pore: dicitur autem ueraciter generis Ceruoniam
Lentis puerit aduicium. Coarctans autem cum
Scorpione et Sagittario apparere hinc in Ca
pore stellam ueniam: in ueraciter hinc in pectus
las. In pectus manus tunc ueraciter ueniam
quatuor: In lumbis duas conuersione generis
pinea: In dextera Ceruoniam ueniam. In ueraciter pectus
singulas sal Lanarem ueraciter: In ore duo
stellam nunc ueraciter.

Argente autem hinc infirmum Capore stellam duas
sub Capore erit uno loco ore ad ueniam ipse

fol. 46r

Ophidii finitum duas: si quis maxime ad
Capore eius accidit Ceruoniam a ueraciter
Argente ad ipse Capore conuersione hinc pectus
si pectus ueraciter Cerulo quatuor: In pectus
di Capore ueraciter hinc stellam fuit in ore duo sal
las: ueraciter.



Signa ueraciter duas Cerulos est ueniam
de oppositalem finitum Aquile fign
pinea dicitur ab eo Cerulo y ueraciter polo

fol. 46v

scholastic ad Ceruoniam et Ceruoniam pectus
hinc ueniam ad ipse pectus ueraciter pectus
altem pectus ad hinc ueraciter pectus: hinc
ocidit ueraciter ueraciter autem cum Scor
pione: hinc ore dicitur quatuor: quatuor ueniam
in pectus ala i medio: dicitur ueraciter in loco
quo ferrum filer affig dicitur ueraciter.



Aquila ala dicitur in multum ueraciter
Cerulo pectus ueraciter pectus pectus
fuit autem longe a Capore oppositalem finitum
uicem: Pectus ueraciter erit a reliquo Cer
pore dicitur Cerulo: quem ueraciter ueraciter
a Cerulo ad conuersione pectus: Mela er
finit: ab ipse ueraciter: Lantem ueraciter de
monstrat: hinc ueraciter ueraciter ueraciter
ueraciter autem cum Capore hinc in Capore pectus

fol. 47r

uoniam: in ueraciter pectus ueraciter Cerulo ueraciter: hinc
ala fuit quatuor.



Ophidii hinc longe ab Aquile fignat
ore ueraciter Cerulo ueraciter pectus
Stellam Cerulo Cerulo hinc ueraciter pectus
pe conuersione ipse pectus ueraciter hinc ueraciter
cum Sagittario pectus pectus: dicitur autem
cum ueraciter ueraciter a Capore: hinc autem a Capore
stellam duas: fignat Capore ad ueraciter duas
alas ad ipse in ueraciter ueraciter ueraciter
hinc dicitur erit: in Sagittario ueraciter: in Cauda hinc
as: In ipse ore fuit stelle ueraciter dicitur

fol. 47v

Quasi ueraciter Cerulo hinc pectus
altem ueraciter ore ueraciter ueraciter
Capore ueraciter ueraciter ueraciter ueraciter
manu dicitur ueraciter fignat conuersione a ueraciter
pectus Cerulo: quem ueraciter ueraciter
pectus Cerulo ueraciter ueraciter ueraciter
pore: ueraciter ad ueraciter ueraciter ueraciter
di fignat ipse de dicitur pectus: qui fignat ueraciter
autem ipse fignat ueraciter ueraciter ueraciter
cum quo ueraciter a manu ueraciter dicitur hinc
hinc in ueraciter dicitur ueraciter ueraciter ueraciter
uoniam in manu ueraciter ueraciter ueraciter
fignat: In ueraciter ueraciter ueraciter ueraciter
maxime ueraciter pectus Capore ueraciter



fol. 48r

In hinc Cerulo ueraciter in Sagittario ueraciter
in ueraciter ueraciter ueraciter ueraciter
de ueraciter ueraciter ueraciter ueraciter
pectus fignat ueraciter ueraciter ueraciter



Ophidii autem ueraciter ueraciter ueraciter
ipse ueraciter ueraciter ueraciter
uoniam sal pectus pectus ueraciter ueraciter
uoniam a ueraciter ueraciter ueraciter ueraciter
autem non ab ueraciter ueraciter ueraciter
si manus fignat ueraciter ueraciter ueraciter
to ueraciter ueraciter ueraciter ueraciter

fol. 48v

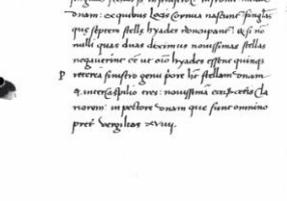
pore pectus: hinc autem stellam i uno quoque angulo
uoniam.

Nunc pectus dicitur fignat fignat
uoniam dicitur ueraciter fignat
in oppositalem Cerulo ueraciter ueraciter
cum hinc ueraciter: occidit ueraciter ueraciter
uoniam Capore ueraciter ueraciter ueraciter
uoniam ueraciter ueraciter ueraciter ueraciter



fol. 49r

Taurus ad ueraciter fignat dicitur pectus
uoniam ueraciter ueraciter ueraciter ueraciter
uoniam ueraciter ueraciter ueraciter ueraciter



fol. 49v

Geminis ueraciter dicitur pectus ueraciter
uoniam ueraciter ueraciter ueraciter ueraciter



fol. 50r

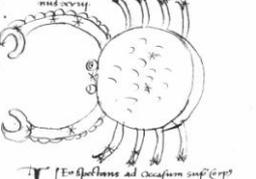
Alter autem hinc ueraciter ueraciter ueraciter
uoniam ueraciter ueraciter ueraciter ueraciter



Ophidii hinc ueraciter ueraciter ueraciter
uoniam ueraciter ueraciter ueraciter ueraciter

fol. 50v

pore: hinc autem hinc ueraciter ueraciter
uoniam ueraciter ueraciter ueraciter ueraciter



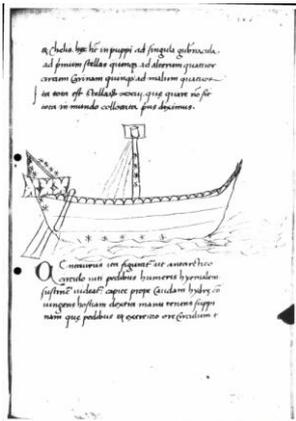
Leo hinc ueraciter ueraciter ueraciter
uoniam ueraciter ueraciter ueraciter ueraciter

fol. 51r

Sig ad ueraciter pectus ueraciter ueraciter
uoniam ueraciter ueraciter ueraciter ueraciter



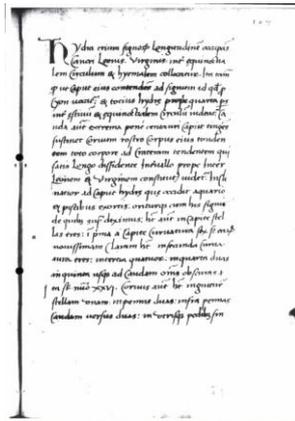
fol. 51v



fol. 58r



fol. 58v



fol. 59r



fol. 59v



fol. 60v

ff. 39r-60v

Rough and inexpert pen drawings laid over pencil sketches of 45 constellations with stars marked in red. The drawings accompany Book III, but have been misbound so that they are no longer in the correct order.

The current order is:

- 1) ff. 39r-41v *Draco inter arctos* - Lyra
- 2) ff. 42r-43v Aquarius - Cetus
- 3) ff. 44r-53v Andromeda- Capricorn
- 4) ff. 54r-55r Cygnus - Cassiopeia
- 5) ff. 56r-60v Eridanus - Piscis Austrinus

The sections should run: 1, 4, 3, 2, 5.

fol. 39r

DRACO INTER ARCTOS with **DRACO** placed on the page so his head is towards the bottom and facing to the left. It has pointed ears, an open mouth and sharp

teeth. Its body forms a large S with small bends towards the tip of the tail. The Bears are back-to-back, facing towards the Draco. They are shaped more like small pigs with long tails and are the same size. **DRACO** has 1 star in his eye, 1 on his chin, 1 behind his ear and 12 in his body, or 15 stars in all. **URSA MINOR** has 1 star in each forefoot and 3 on the tail, or 5 stars in all. **URSA MAIOR** has 9 stars in the head and neck, 2 in the chest, 2 in right foreleg, 3 in the tail, 2 in the left rear leg and 1 in the rear right leg, or 19 stars in all.

fol. 40r **BOOTES** walks to the right. His hips are in profile, but his torso is turned to face the viewer. He wears a short jerkin and leggings and holds a teardrop-shaped shield out in front of him that covers his left arm. He holds his club behind his head in his right hand. He has 1 star in his head, 1 above his left shoulder in front of his chin, 2 in his right shoulder, 1 on his waist, 1 in his chest, 1 in each elbow, 4 on his shield and 1 on each foot, or 13 stars in all.

CORONA BOREALIS is depicted as 2 concentric circles and has 9 stars.

fol. 41r **HERCULES** walks to the right wearing a short jerkin and tights and shoes. He is in full profile (with his upper torso slightly turned to face the viewer) with his left hand held extended in front of his body with the lion's skin (face and forepaws visible) draped over it. He holds a club in his right hand above his head. He has 1 star in his head, 1 above each shoulder, 1 in his right elbow, 3 on his waist, 1 in his hip, 4 in his right leg, 1 on his right foot and 5 on his skin, or 18 stars in all.

fol. 41v **LYRA** is shaped like a two-stepped zither with the curl at the right side and has 8 stars.

fol. 42r **AQUARIUS** walks to the right, with his front towards the viewer. He wears a short tunic that is tight at the waist and has long sleeves. Both arms are held outstretched to the sides and are bent at the elbows. He holds an upside-down urn in his left hand from which water pours. He has 2 stars in his head, 1 on each shoulder, 1 at the hip, 1 on his left elbow, 2 on his right hand, 1 on his left hand, 1 on each knee, or 11 stars in all. There are 19 in the water, or 30 stars in the two.

fol. 43r **PISCES** swim in opposite directions with multiple fins. Both their backs face upwards and they are connected at their mouths with a cord. There are 12 in the top fish, 9 in the cord and 18 on the bottom fish, or 39 stars in all.

- fol. 43v **CETUS** (Pistrix) faces to the right and has a dog-face and dog's paws outstretched in front of him. He has a curled tail that ends in a trilobe. He has 6 stars in his body and 7 in his tail, or 13 stars in all.
- fol. 44r **ANDROMEDA** faces the viewer and walks to the left with a short wrap around her waist, held in place by her right hand. Her torso and legs are exposed, but she wears shoes. Her hair is long and she holds her left hand with her palm upwards behind her body. She has 1 star in her head, 1 in each shoulder, 4 above her waist and 3 at her waist, 1 on each elbow, 1 on each hand, 1 on each knee, 2 on the right foot and 2 on the left foot, or 20 stars in all.
- fol. 45r **PERSEUS** appears to be nude. His back is towards the viewer and he faces to the left. He holds the hair of a bleeding (red ink) Medusa's head extended in front of him in his left hand. He holds a curved scimitar above his head in his right hand. He has 1 star on each shoulder, 1 on each hand, 2 on waist, 1 on each hip, 2 on each leg (with 1 erased on each leg), 1 on each foot, and 4 in the Medusa's head, or 18 stars in all.
- fol. 45v **AURIGA** stands facing the viewer wearing a short tunic with leggings. Both hands are held out to his sides with the elbows bent. He holds a flail with 3 thongs in his right hand and does not have any goats. He has 1 star in his head, 1 star on each shoulder, 1 in each elbow and 2 in the left hand, or 7 stars in all.
- fol. 46v **OPHIUCHUS** is nude and stands facing the viewer with his head turned to the left. He has the **SERPENS** wrapped once around his waist (horizontal in its placement) with the Snake facing the man and sticking his tongue out. He has 1 star on his head, 1 on each shoulder, 1 on each side, 1 on each knee, 1 in the right shin, 1 on each foot, 4 in his right hand and 3 on his left hand, or 17 stars in all. The Serpent has 5 in its body close to the head, 6 in its mid-body and 2 at the end of its tail, or 13 stars in all. The grouping has 30 stars in all.
- fol. 47r **SAGITTA** points to the right (the top is cut off by the edge of the page). It has 2 stars in its tip, 1 in the middle and 1 at the end of the shaft or 4 in all.
- fol. 47v **AQUILA** stands to the right with its wings outstretched. It has 1 star in its head, 1 in each wing, 1 in its tail, or 4 stars in all.
- fol. 48r **DELPHINUS** is upside-down (on its back) with its head to the right and its mouth

open, with sharp teeth and a waddle beneath its chin. It is covered with scales. It has 4 stars in its head, 4 in its body and 2 on its tail, or 10 stars in all.

fol. 48v **PEGASUS** is half a winged horse facing to the right with nails in its hooves. His feet are set out straight beneath him. He has 1 star in each ear, 2 on its in face, 2 on the muzzle, 4 on his neck, 2 on his shoulders, 2 on each knee and 2 in the wings, or 18 stars in all.

fol. 49r **TRIANGULUM** is an equilateral triangle set above and slightly behind the head of Aries (fol. 49r: ‘... et oriens caput infra triangulum quod supra diximus’.)
Triangulum has 1 star in each corner or 3 stars in all.

ARIES walks to the left with its head turned backwards so that it faces to the right. It has 2 short horns and a long tail. Aries has 3 stars in his head, 5 in the neck, 4 in the shoulder, 3 on the rump, 1 in the tail, 1 on the right foreleg and 1 on the right back leg, or 18 stars in all.

fol. 50r **TAURUS** is a full bull that walks to the left. He has 1 star in each horn, 5 in its head, 3 in the chest and 3 on the left foreleg, or 13 stars in all. There are also 6 stars in front of its nose, representing the **PLEIADES**.

fol. 50v **GEMINI** are two nude youth who approach each other and shake each other’s right hand. The left Twin raises his left hand in salutation and the right Twin holds his left hand on his hip. The left Twin has 1 star in the head, 1 in each shoulder, 1 in the left hand, 1 in the right arm, and 1 on the right foot, or 6 stars in all. The right Twin has 1 star in his head, 1 star on each shoulder, 1 in the right elbow, 1 on each knee, and 1 on each foot or 8 stars in all.

fol. 51r **CANCER** is a round-bodied crab with a crescent on his bottom. It faces to the left with two big claws held out in a semi-circle and 4 forked claws on either side. It has 2 stars in the left claw, 1 in the nose, 3 in the right claw, 2 on shell, 1 on each right foot, 2 on the first left leg, 2 on the second left leg, 1 on the third left leg, 1 on the fourth left leg, or 18 stars in all.

fol. 51v **LEO** stands to the right with a furry mane and big claws and a flame-like tail that runs along his back. He has 3 stars in his head, 2 on the neck, 1 on the back, 1 in the chest, 2 below the chest, 3 at the top of the right foreleg, 1 in the middle of the belly, 1 below his belly, 2 in his left forefoot, 1 in his right hind foot and 2 in the middle of his tail and 1 at the end of his tail , or 19 stars in all.

- fol. 52r **VIRGO** is only three-quarters in length as she has been cut-off at the bottom of the page. She is a female figure facing the viewer with wings raised so that they lie horizontally at shoulder height. She holds a sheaf of wheat in her right hand to which she points with her left hand. She wears a long robe that is belted at the waist. She has 1 star on her head, 2 in each wing, 1 in each shoulder, 1 in each hand, 7 on her skirt, or 16 stars in all, since the rest have been cut off.
- fol. 52v **SCORPIO** faces to the left and has 2 large claws held in a semi-circle with 5 legs on either side. It has a long striped tail that ends in a fork. It has 2 stars in each claw, 3 in the head, 5 on the body, 5 in the tail segments and 2 at the tip of the tail, or 19 stars in all.
- fol. 53r **SAGITTARIUS** trots to the right holding a bow in his left hand and pulling the string with his right. He wears a shirt and has a hairy band where his human and animal halves meet. There are nails in his hooves. He has 2 stars in the head, 1 in the right elbow, 3 in the bow, 1 on the foremost hand, 1 in the arrow, 2 on the left front knee, 2 in the chest, 1 in the belly and 1 on the tail, or 13 stars in all.
- fol. 53v **CAPRICORN** faces to the left, and is bearded with straight horns. It has a curled tail with 5 lobes at the end. It seems closer to a picture of CETUS than to a Capricorn. It has 1 star on the nose, 1 in the neck, 9 on the chest, 7 on the belly, 2 in the tail and 2 on the right foot, or 22 stars in all.
- fol. 54r **CYGNUS** walks to the right with its wings outstretched and an S-shaped neck. It has 5 stars in its right wing, 5 in its left wing, 1 in feathers of left wing, 1 in head, 1 in neck and 1 in tail, or 14 stars in all.
- fol. 54v **CEPHEUS** stands facing the viewer with his arms outstretched to either side, but bent at the elbows and with his palms facing forward. He wears a mitre on his head and a three-quarter length robe with a wide belt at his hips. He has 2 stars in his head, 1 in each shoulder, 1 on his right elbow, 1 on each hand, 1 at his waist on the right side, 3 in his belt, 2 on his hem over his left knee, 2 in his right leg, 1 in his right foot and 3 in his left foot, or 19 stars in all.
- fol. 55r **CASSIOPEIA** is seated on a shaped throne without a back wearing a long dress with a V-neck, waist band and long sleeves. She holds her arms out to either side, bent at the elbows, with her palms facing forward. Her head is exposed.

She has 1 star in her head, 2 on the corners of the seat of the throne, 1 in each shoulder, 1 in her right breast, 1 in her lap, 3 in her left leg, 2 at the bottom corners of the throne and 1 on her right foot, or 12 stars in all.

fol. 56r **ERIDANUS** is nude and walks to the right (facing towards the viewer), but he looks backwards over his shoulder to the left and is smiling. He holds his urn out horizontally behind him with his left hand on its bottom and his right hand on its rim. There are 13 stars in the water.

LEPUS runs to the left. It has 1 star in each ear, 1 in each forefoot, 1 on its chest and 1 in its haunch, or 6 stars in all.

fol. 56v **ORION** walks to the left wearing a short tunic with long sleeves. He has a very hairy head and a long beard, large nose and prominent lips - like a troll. His left hand hangs by his side and his right hand is raised in front of him holding a long straight sword. He has 3 stars in his head, 1 in each shoulder, 1 in his right elbow, 3 at his hem, 3 in the sword, 1 in his left hand, 1 in each knee, or 15 stars in all. His feet have been cut off at the bottom of the page.

fol. 57r **CANIS MAIOR** runs to the left wearing a collar with 3 studs on it. He has a long tail and his tongue sticking out. He has 1 star on the tongue, 1 in his head, 1 in each ear, 5 in his chest, 3 on his right forefoot, 1 in his left haunch, 4 in his tail and 3 on each back foot, or 19 stars in all.

fol. 57v **CANIS MINOR** is more of a hound and rushes to the left. He has 1 star in his head, 1 on his haunch and 1 on his shoulder, or 3 stars in all.

fol. 58r **ARGO** is depicted as a full ship sailing to the right in water. It has a mast with a crow's nest on top, rigging and a triangular shape on the raised poop deck, with 2 steering oars at the stern (the left). It has 4 stars on the mast, 7 on the triangular shape on the stern, 2 on the stern itself and 5 on the keel, or 18 stars in all.

fol. 58v **CENTAURUS** trots to the left with a youthful male human half. He has not attributes except for **LUPUS** (a dead rabbit), which he holds by its heels in his outstretched right hand in front of him. He holds his other hand down by his waist and has nails in his hooves. He has 3 stars in head, 1 on each shoulder, 1 on his waist, 1 on his left elbow, 1 on his left hand, 2 in his front knees, 2 on each of his hind knees, or 14 stars in all. **LUPUS** has 3 stars in the head, 1 on the body,

2 on the forefeet, 2 on the hind feet and 2 in the tail or 10 stars in all. There are 24 stars in the group.

fol. 59v **HYDRA** is a snake with a dragon's head facing to the left with an extra curl at the end of its tail.

CRATER is a two-handled vase set on his back and **CORVUS** faces forward, but does not peck. **HYDRA** has 3 stars in his head, 6 in the first coil, 3 in the second coil, 4 in the third coil, 2 on the fourth coil and 8 on the fifth coil, or 26 stars in all. **CRATER** has 2 stars on the rim, 2 in the centre of the bowl, 2 below the handles and 2 on the base, or 8 stars in all. **CORVUS** has 1 star on the neck, 2 on its wings, 2 below the wings towards the tail, 1 in each foot, or 7 stars in all.

fol. 60r **ARA** is a bell-shaped structure with a second bell-shaped structure on top with flames coming out of its top. It has 2 stars at the top of the burner and 2 at the base of the altar, or 4 stars in all.

fol. 60v **PISCIS AUSTRINUS** swims to the left with his back towards the top. He has water coming out of his mouth. He has 12 stars.

notes

On paper, 19 x 14.4 cm, on back flyleaf, 00/£ 2.12.6 (B35) (167) latter struck through; iii + 60 + i and was previously part of a larger manuscript and this section once paginated 49-108; on fly leaf at front: insert from a sales catalogue: 'Astrolabium. *Cod. Chart*, Saec XV in 4to with curious drawings. At end is written: Hic Codex est Domini Francisci Barbari aere paterno emptus'. With red or blue capitals at the beginning of each section.

ELLY DEKKER points out that there are usually 5 stars in the belly of Capricorn and a total of 20 stars, but the text in this manuscript lists 7 stars in the belly and a total of 22 stars in all.

bibliography

not in McGURK

not in VIRE 1981

