

A study on projectile's trajectories in Niccolò Tartaglia's works

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MA Dissertation

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The present study addressed some aspects of Niccolò Tartaglia's (1500-1556) arguments relative to the projectile's trajectories. While in *Nova scientia* (1537) he explained the trajectories as composed of two straight lines and a circular arc, in *Quesiti et inventioni diverse* (1546) they were presented as curves only.

Those different approaches led some scholars to suggest that Tartaglia changed his mind, somehow forsaking his older beliefs. Thus being, based on original documents, I sought to trace Tartaglia's arguments back to elucidate the possible reasons that might have led him to formulate different views in the aforementioned works.

Among other factors, I present evidences demonstrating that by 1540 Tartaglia had access to previously unknown documental sources, which had had little circulation until that time. As a result, the present study shows that there was some continuity between the ideas Tartaglia had on the projectile's trajectories as evidenced in the analyzed works. (Funded by CAPES)

Keywords

Niccolò Tartaglia; 16th century; Projectile's trajectories