

August Ferdinand Möbius Encyclopedia Article

August Ferdinand Möbius

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August Ferdinand Möbius

1790-1868

German mathematician and theoretical astronomer best remembered for his developments in topology, including the one-sided figure since known as the "Möbius strip." Möbius taught astronomy at the University of Leipzig, and supervised the establishment of its observatory. His astronomical works include *Die Elemente der Mechanik des Himmels* (*The Elements of Celestial Mechanics*, 1848). In mathematics, his *Der Barycentrische Calcul* (*The Calculus of Centers of Gravity*, 1827) played an important part in the subsequent development of projective geometry.