



# ICHM

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**Report on the ICHM Co-Sponsored *Research Symposium*  
*Printing mathematics in the early modern world*  
All Souls College, Oxford, December 16-17, 2013**

***Organizer***

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The early modern period saw the printing, in large numbers, of mathematical tables, primers, textbooks and practical manuals, as well as the incorporation of mathematical notation into a wide range of works on other subjects. Algebraic notation, diagrams and even printed mathematical instruments all raised unusual problems for print. The development of appropriate layouts and conventions, the establishment of workable print-shop procedures, and the detection and management of error all required distinctive solutions where the printing of mathematics was concerned. Those problems and their solutions were the subject of this two-day workshop, held in All Souls College, Oxford.

The symposium was attended by a total of fourteen speakers and fifteen observers, from around the UK and from Egypt, Germany, Canada and the USA. Disciplinary backgrounds included historians of mathematics, art historians, specialists in print history as well as printers and library professionals. Eight of the papers are likely to be submitted to the *Bulletin* of the British Society for History of Mathematics or *Notes and Records of the Royal Society of London*, at the invitation of those journals.

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***Speakers***

Renzo Baldasso (Arizona State): *The Technical Dimension of Early Printed Mathematical Diagrams, 1474–1482.*

Leo Rogers (Oxford): *Printing Mathematical Texts in England in the 16th Century.*

Gregg De Young (The American University in Cairo): *Early printing of mathematics in Arabic.*

Alex Marr (Cambridge): *The Aesthetics of Early-Modern Printed Mathematical Instruments*

Katherine Hunt (East Anglia): *'Having a view of the whole together': reading and navigating numerical tables.*

Richard Kremer (Dartmouth): *On Printing 'Meaningless' Numbers, or Controlling Errors in Incunable Astronomical Tables.*

David Bellhouse (Western Ontario): *Errors in mathematical tables.*

Renaë Satterley (The Middle Temple Library): *Robert Ashley (1565–1641): collecting and using mathematical books at the Middle Temple.*

Tabitha Tuckett (London): *The Euclid Collection at University College London.*

Benjamin Wardhaugh (Oxford): *Error and its handling in Georgian mathematics books.*



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Dagmar Mrozik (Wuppertal): *Mathematical authorship and its display in the Society of Jesus: Between individual and Jesuit.*

Robin Rider (Wisconsin): *The power of negative space: 18th-century French mathematics in print.*

Travis Williams (Rhode Island): *Managing Notational White in Early Modern Printed Mathematics.*

Stephen Boyd Davis (Royal College of Art): *'If an idea bear any relation to quantity of any kind': devising and printing historical time in the eighteenth century.*