REPORT

Típografía Matemática Portuguesa 1496-1987

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Portuguese Mathematical Typography: 1496–1987

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Figure 1.—*Moinho do papel* is a modern museum on the left bank of the river Lis, in the city of Leiria, where in 1411 there was the first paper mill in Portugal.

The *Tipografia Matemática Portuguesa:* 1496–1987 is a unique, rare and eloquent exhibition, which first edition took place from July 1st to October 31st 2021 in the hexacentenary *Moinho de Papel* in Leiria, a city with an ancient castle since the 12th century in the center of Portugal, residence of kings and setting of several cortes (medieval parliaments). The city gave the name to a famous pine forest (*Pinhal de Leiria*), wood supplier of the ships used in the Portuguese navigations of the 15th and 16th centuries. The exhibition was an initiative of the city of Leiria in partnership with the CIM and the Polytechnic Institute of Leiria.

The Moinho de Papel is an historical building on the river Lis, the first paper mill established in 1411 in Portugal, which may well have influenced the fact that Leiria was also one of the first Portuguese cities to have a typography and where 525 years ago the first scientific book, which was instrumental for navigation in the age of discoveries, was printed in the country. The second date of the title of this unprecedented exhibition corresponds to the publication, coincidently 500 years after the first book printed in Portugal, of the first volume of Portugaliae Mathematica electronically composed in TeX. With 32 significant original works, this exhibition traverses the History of Mathematical Sciences in Portugal, through military engineering, essential in the wars of Restoration (1640–1668) after the end of the Iberian Union, through the successive reforms of Colleges, Military Academies

and Universities (1772 and 1911) and through scientific research in the 20th century.

The publication in 1496, in Leiria, of the Almanach perpetuum, with the astronomical tables of the Sephardi scholar Abraão Zacuto, referred to the year 1473 and translated and edited by the Portuguese José Vizinho, took place a few years after a first edition of the Torah of 1487, in a Hebrew typography in Faro, in the south of Portugal, and the Tratado de Confissom of 1489, which is the first Christian text in Portuguese language that was printed in Chaves, in the north of the country. It should be noted that the Gutenberg Bible, the first pook printed in Europe, dates from 1455 and the first printing of Euclid's Elements in 1482 was made by the printer Erhard Ratdolt, in Venice, in a Latin edition containing the first geometric diagrams of the press.

That Almanach is a landmark of the beginning of the culture of Mathematical Sciences in Portugal through the influence and use of the art and knowledge of navigation, namely in the first ocean voyages of Vasco da Gama to India and Pedro Álvares Cabral to Brazil. It was used in the following century in the preparation of *Reportórios dos Tempos*, the popular time calendars and almanacs also used in astrology, one of which had the collaboration of a certain Gaspar Nicolas. This Portuguese mathematician published in 1519, in Lisbon, a *Tratado da pratica Darismetyca*, which is a book of a technical and utilitarian nature about the rules of arithmetic, also "for overseas



Figure 2.— A glimpse of the nine showcases and the posters containing the 32 books and the eight biographies of Portuguese mathematicians of the Leiria exhibition.



Figure 3.—Almanach Perpetuum, by Abraham Zacut (1452-1515), printed in 1496 in Leiria by Abraham d'Ortas.



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Figure 4.—The Pedro Nunes' representation of the rhumb line *acb* and of the great circle dce was published in 1537 in the Tratado da Sphera, printed in Lisbon by Germão Galhardo.

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Figure 5.—The first polar projection of the rhumb line in the Pedro Nunes' Tratado da Sphera is the beautiful rosette composed of projections of loxodromes with azimuths with angles of 45° and 67.5°.

Figure 6.—The broken line bcdef (noniodrome) is the 1566's approximation of the loxodrome proposed by Pedro Nunes for the construction of nautical tables used by Mercator in his Mappa-mundi of 1569 and Edward Wright in 1596, which is in page 28 of the second edition of **De arte atque ratione navigandi**, printed in Coimbra, by António Mariz.

trade", and which had ten reeditions in the following two centuries.

Printing also played an important role in the development of the mathematical theory of navigation through the works of Pedro Nunes, with the edition in Portuguese of his Tratado da Sphera, in 1537, which presented the first mathematical conceptualisation of the rhumb line, later called loxodrome. With the enlarged reedition of Nunes' fundamental work De arte atque ratione navigandi, where the Portuguese mathematician developed original methods, in particular for the approximation of the rhumb line, which laid the foundations for the elaboration of nautical tables and the cartographic projection made in 1569 by Mercator. That broken line invented by



PRINCIPIOS MATHEMATICOS.

LIVRO VIIII. Definiça o I.

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Propolição I.

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PRINCIPIOS MATHEMATICOS.

LIVRO XV.

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III.

Figure 7.— The *Principios Mathematicos*, by José Anastácio da Cunha, printed in 1790, in Lisbon by António Rodrigues Galhardo, contains the first modern definitions of convergence of a series, in Chapter 8, and of the differential, in Chapter 15, respectively.

Pedro Nunes in 1566, called the *noniodrome* and chosen as the logo of the exhibition, is the natural way to approximate the loxodrome that corresponds to the method of Euler to integrate differential equations and was used numerically by Edward Wright in the secants' method to construct nautical tables in 1596.

Printing was instrumental also in the teaching and practical use of mathematics for military architecture, navigation and artillery in Europe and, in particular in Portugal with the Methodo Lusitanico (1680) and O Engenheiro Portuguez (1728), after the Restoration of Portuguese independence. Mathematics book printing continued in Portugal for the navy and the army schools, throughout the 18th and 19th centuries, among others, with the translations of the notable books by Lagrange (1798) and Lacroix (1812), the latter at the Impressão Régia (Royal Printing House) in Rio de Janeiro, which was the capital of the kingdom from 1808 until 1821, as well as with other original texts, such as the interesting Carta Físico-Mathematica sobre a theórica da pólvora em geral e o comprimento das peças em particular (1769), by José Anastácio da Cunha.

After the reforms of Marquis of Pombal, head of the government in the age of the Portuguese Enlightenment, the printing press would serve teaching with the publication of higher mathematics textbooks, initially with translations of foreign authors, such as Euclid's Elementos (1768), for the Colégio dos Nobres in Lisbon, several Bézout's textbooks for the first Faculty of Mathematics of the University of Coimbra, reformed in 1772, and, for the following century, the Curso Completo de Mathematicas Puras (1838 and 1839) by Francoeur. The first exception is the original and remarkable Princípios Mathematicos (1790), by José Anastácio da Cunha, the military mathematician and "lente penitenciado", penitentiated professor at the University of Coimbra, whose innovations place him among the eminent predecessors of the 19th century reform of the Infinitesimal Calculus, namely with the modern criteria of convergence of series and the rigorous definitions of infinitesimal and differential, more than three decades before Cauchy.

The publication of university original textbooks by Portuguese authors would only continue a century later in Porto, with the *Curso de Analyse Infinitesimal* (1887), by F. Gomes Teixeira, which, reedited and enlarged, became the reference Portuguese treatise at the beginning of the 20th century. Only from the middle of that century did this university practice resume, illustrated by the classical *Curso de Álgebra Superior* by J. Vicente Gonçalves (Coimbra, 1933) and the modern *Lições de Análise Infini*-



Figure 8.—The *Memórias* of the Academy of Sciences of Lisbon, started their publication in 1797, by its own typography, with an interesting applied mathematics article on the Kepler's problem on the volume of barrels. **Figure 9.**—The first periodic Portuguese research journal, *Jornal de Scienciass Mathematicas e Astronómicas*, was published by Francisco Gomes Teixeira and was printed in 1877 by the press of the University of Coimbra.

tesimal by F.R. Dias Agudo (Lisbon, 1973), among others. The Lisbon Academy of Sciences, created in late 1779 and endowed with a printing press, began publishing its *Memórias* in 1797 with an article on applied mathematics, worthy of its motto "*Nisi utile est quod facimus stulta est* gloria" (If what we do is not useful, glory is in vain), continuing in a new series after the period of *Regeneração*, in the 1850s, attempted to develop the country economically and modernise it, and creating the first Portuguese scientific journal, the *Jornal de Sciencias Mathematicas Physicas e Naturaes* (1867), where few articles of mathematics appeared, including original articles by Daniel da Silva.

The first Portuguese periodical exclusively dedicated to mathematics, the *Jornal de Sciencias Mathematicas e*

Astronomicas by F. Gomes Teixeira, started publication in 1877 in Coimbra, at the University Press. Later its publication was transferred to Porto and was integrated in 1905 in the Annaes Scientificos da Academia Polytechnica do Porto, and only more than thirty years later Portugal had a new mathematical journal. Francisco Gomes Teixeira was the most active and fruitful Iberian mathematician of the 19th century, who corresponded with numerous European mathematicians of his time. He was also the author of the remarkable and unsurpassable *Traité des Courbes Spéciales Remarquables Planes et Gauches*, in three of the seven volumes of its Obras with over 1300 pages, and he was the first rector of the University of Porto, between 1911 and 1918.

The foundation of the scientific journal Portugaliae



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VOLUME 1 1937-1940

FACELDADE DE CRÉMERAS LISBOA - PORTEGAL

Publicação subsidiada pelo lucibuio para o Alta Cultura

Figure 10.—The first original book on the popularisation of mathematics, *Conceitos Fundamentais da Matemática*, had several edition after its first publication in Lisbon in 1941, integrated in the relabel collection of scientific culture Biblioteca Cosmos, funded by Bento de Jesus Caraça.

Mathematica in 1937 in Lisbon, by António Aniceto Monteiro, who returned the year before from Paris where he had completed his doctoral degree under Maurice Fréchet, started a modernist movement also in Science with a certain "mathematical effervescence", which lasted a short decade in Portugal. Is was followed by the *Gazeta da Matemática*, in 1940, which was later printed by the *Tipografia Matemática*, and by the creation of the first research mathematical center in the country, the *Centro de Estudos Matemáticos de Lisboa*, also in that year. That unique typography was established in 1945 and had a remarkable, although limited, activity in the Portuguese mathematical press for more than three decades.

During that short decade some mathematical activity flourished in Portugal. For example, the remarkable little

Figure 11.—The first volume of *Portugaliae Mathematica*, published by António Monteiro, started to be printed in Porto in 1937 and it was completed in 1940 in Lisbon.

book *Conceitos Fundamentais da Matemática*, by B. J. Caraça, had a first edition in 1941 and was the first Portuguese book aimed at the popularization of mathematics in a perspective of the "integral culture of the individual". More advanced publications, like two doctoral theses printed at the *Tipografia Matemática*, are illustrated in the exhibition with the *Publicação #18* of the *Centro de Estudos Matemáticos do Porto*, by A. Pereira Gomes, which was the first modern PhD thesis in a Portuguese university, or *As Funções Analíticas e a Análise Funcional*, by José Sebastião e Silva, both published in *Portugaliae Mathematica*, respectively in 1946 and in 1950. In this work, J. Sebastião e Silva starts deep contributions to Functional Analysis, which will lead him to introduce in 1955 an important class of the locally convex spaces as



Figure 12.—The first issue of *Gazeta de Matemática*, published in Lisbon in 1940, was mainly dedicated to the first years university students in science, engineering and economics and became later the Mathematics Magazine of the Portuguese Mathematical Society

inductive limits of an increasing sequence of normed spaces with compact inclusions, later called the Silva LN*-spaces.

After five centuries of existence, the mathematical typography of movable type, with its specific and distinctive aspects, such as tables, figures, diagrams and mathematical formulae, gave way to electronic publishing driven by the *TeX* program, created by Donald Knuth in 1978. This electronic composition system was adopted by the American Mathematical Society five years later and was used in 1987 by the *Sociedade Portuguesa de Matemática* (SPM) in the publication of the fiftieth anniversary volume 44 of *Portugaliae Mathematica*, the last book of this exhibition.

Figure 13.—The volume 44 of **Portugaliae Mathematica**, was published in its fiftieth anniversary already by the Portuguese Mathematical Society in 1987 in Lisbon, and it was already composed in **TeX**.

This first edition of this exhibition, with these 32 significant works of Portuguese mathematical typography, many of them being rare books and containing unknown or still poorly known very interesting pages, grouped in nine thematic showcases, allowed for an illustrated visit to the main milestones of five centuries of the History of Mathematics in Portugal. It is expected that more editions of the *Tipografia Matemática Portuguesa: 1496-1987* will be organised in the next years by the Universities of Porto, Coimbra and Lisbon in collaboration with the CIM and the SPM.

EXPOSITOR 1

TABELAS MATEMÁTICAS PARA A NAVEGAÇÃO/REGRAS ARITMÉTICAS PARA O COMÉRCIO ULTRAMARINO

- 1 1496 Almanach Perpetuum, Abraão Zacuto
- 2 1519 Tratado da pratica Darismetyca, Gaspar Nycolas

EXPOSITOR 2

- MATEMÁTICAS DA NAVEGAÇÃO, DA OBSERVAÇÃO DOS CÉUS E DA CARTOGRAFIA
- 3 1537 Tratado da Sphera, Pedro Nunes
- 4 1542 De Crepusculis, Pedro Nunes
- 5 1573 De arte atque ratione navigandi, Pedro Nunes

EXPOSITOR 3

ENSINO E USO PRÁTICO/MILITAR DA MATEMÁTICA ANTES/DEPOIS DA RESTAURAÇÃO

- 6 1634 Elementos Mathematicos, Ignacio Stafford
- 7 1680 Methodo Lusitanico, Luis Serrão Pimentel
- 8 1728 O Engenheiro Portuguez, Manuel de Azevedo Fortes
- g 1838 Carta Fisico-Mathematica de 1769, José Anastácio da Cunha

EXPOSITOR 4

- ENSINO NO COLÉGIO DOS NOBRES/UNIVERSIDADE/COLÉGIO DE SÃO LUCAS/ACADEMIAS MILITARES
- 10 1768 Elementos, Euclides
- 11 1773 Elementos de Arithmetica, É. Bézout
- 12 1790 Principios Mathematicos, José Anastácio da Cunha
- 13 1798 Theorica das Funções Analyticas, J. L. Lagrange
- 14 1812 Tratado Elementar de Calculo Differencial, S. F. Lacroix

EXPOSITOR 5

- SOBRE A UTILIDADE/FUNDAMENTO DAS CIÊNCIAS MATEMÁTICAS PARA A "GLÓRIA NÃO SER VÃ"
- 15 1797 Memórias da Academia Real das Sciencias de Lisboa, Tomo 1
- 16 1851 História e Memórias da Academia R. das Sciencias de Lisboa, vol. III
- 17 1867 Jornal de Sciencias Mathematicas Physicas e Naturaes, Tomo I, nº3

EXPOSITOR 6

- PUBLICAÇÕES PERIÓDICAS COM E DE ARTIGOS DE CIÊNCIAS MATEMÁTICAS
- 18 1856 O Instituto, vol. 4, Ensaio sobre Os Principios da Mechanica, J. Anastácio da Cunha
- 19 1877 Jornal de Sciencias Mathematicas e Astronomicas, vol. 1, publicado por F. Gomes Teixeira
- 20 1955 Revista da Faculdade de Ciências, Universidade de Lisboa, 2ª série, A, vol. IV

EXPOSITOR 7

- MANUAIS DE MATEMÁTICAS SUPERIORES NA TRANSIÇÃO DO SÉC. XIX PARA O XX
- 21 1838 Curso Completo de Mathematicas Puras, tomo primeiro, L.-B. Francoeur
- 22-1887 Curso de Analyse Infinitesimal, Francisco Gomes Teixeira
- 23 1933 Curso de Álgebra Superior, José Vicente Gonçalves
- 24 1973 Lições de Análise Infinitesimal, II. Cálculo Integral em R^a, Fernando R. Dias Agudo

EXPOSITOR 8

da compilação histórico-expositiva, à divulgação e à investigação matemática

- 25 1909 Traité des Courbes Spéciales Remarquables, Tomo II, F. Gomes Teixeira
- 26 1926 Fundamentos de Geometria Diferencial, Aureliano de Mira Fernandes
- 27-1941 Conceitos Fundamentais da Matemática, vol.1, Bento de Jesus Caraça
- 28— 1946 Publicações do Centro de Estudos Matemáticos do Porto, nº 18

EXPOSITOR 9

- periódicos da Sociedade Portuguesa de matemática
- 29 1940 Portugaliae Mathematica, vol.1, Fundada por António Monteiro
- 30 1937 Gazeta da Matemática, 1º ano nº1
- 31 1950 As Funções Analíticas e a Análise Funcional, José Sebastião e Silva
- 32 1987 Portugaliae Mathematica, vol. 44, 1º composto em TeX

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Figure 14.—The list of the 32 original books of the Leiria exhibition was organised in nine thematic topics, one per showcase: https://www.ipleiria.pt/sdoc/tipografia-matematica-portuguesa-1496-1987/ The online Catalogue, in Portuguese, can be read in https://online.anyflip.com/yuqqw/btnw/mobile/index.html?1624885994427

