

**Conference**

***Cultures of computation and quantification***  
**25-29 March 2013**

Bâtiment Condorcet, University Paris Diderot  
Access – 4, rue Elsa Morante or 10, rue Alice Domon et Léonie Duquet, 75013 Paris

Each lecture is around 45 min and is followed by a commentary and discussion (45 min)

**Monday, 25 March, 9:30am—1 pm. Room:** 454A – Luc Valentin

**Introduction by Chemla, Karine**  
***Shaping numbers & quantities***

**Rost, Stéphanie**, PhD candidate (Department of Anthropology, State University of New York at Stony Brook, USA)

*Computation and quantification in the administration of irrigation systems in 3<sup>rd</sup> millennium B.C. Mesopotamia*

**Commentary by:** Robert Middeke-Conlin

**Heimpel, Wolfgang** (University of California, Berkeley)  
*Ancient Mesopotamian brick and reed bundle metrology in theory and praxis*  
**Commentary by:** Ouyang Xiaoli

**Monday 25 March, 2pm—5:30pm. Room:** 454A – Luc Valentin

***Shaping value***

**Sarma, Sreeramula Rajeswara** (Duesseldorf, Emeritus Aligarh Muslim University, for the time of the workshop member of SAW project)

*Grades of Gold and the related Computational Methods in Indian Texts*

**Commentary by:** Cécile Michel

**Petrocchi, Alessandra**, PhD candidate (SPHERE (CNRS & University Paris Diderot) & SAW project)  
*Coins, Seeds, and Units of Weight in the Arthashastra and in the commentary Kriyakramakari*  
**Commentary by:** Ma Biao

**Tuesday, 26 March, 9:30am—1 pm. Room:** 454A – Luc Valentin

***Shaping value***

**Chemla, Karine** 林力娜 (ERC SAW project & SPHERE, UMR 7219 SPHERE, CNRS—University Paris Diderot, France) & **Ma Biao** 馬彪 ( 山口大學 Yamaguchi University, Japan, at the present time invited by ERC SAW project)

*Measuring grains in early China*

**Commentary by:** Ales Petrocchi

***Interpreting numbers in texts***

**Sallaberger, Walther** (Institut für Assyriologie und Hethitologie, Ludwig-Maximilians-Universität München)

*Capacity measures in Early Mesopotamia*

**Commentary by:** S. R. Sarma

**Tuesday, 26 March, 2pm—5:30pm. Room:** 454A – Luc Valentin

***Interpreting numbers in texts***

**Ouyang Xiaoli** (Fudan University, for the time of the workshop member of SAW project) & **Proust, Christine** (SPHERE (CNRS & University Paris Diderot) & SAW project)

*Marginal Numbers and the Sexagesimal Place Value Notation in Mesopotamia during the Ur III Period (c. 2112-2004 BCE)*

**Commentary by:** Karine Chemla

**Middeke-Conlin, Robert**, PhD candidate (SPHERE (CNRS & University Paris Diderot) & SAW project)

*The Nazbalum in Old Babylonian Mesopotamia: A Concrete Number or Administrative Tool*

**Commentary by:** Baptiste Mélès

**Wednesday, 27 March, 9:00am—1 pm. Room:** 454A – Luc Valentin

*Working with operations*

**Keller, Agathe** (SPHERE (CNRS & University Paris Diderot), SAW project) & **Singh, Catherine**, PhD candidate (SPHERE (CNRS & University Paris Diderot) & SAW project)

*Multiplying Integers: on the diverse practices of medieval Sanskrit authors*

**Commentary by:** Christine Proust

**Chemla, Karine** (SPHERE (CNRS & University Paris Diderot) & SAW project)

*Working on and with division in early China*

**Commentary by:** Takanori Kusuba

**Thursday, 28 March, 9:30am—1 pm. Room:** 646A – Mondrian

*Working with algorithms*

**Mèlès, Baptiste** (Archives Henri Poincaré, Université de Lorraine)

*How to Program an Abacus?*

**Commentary by:** Agathe Keller

**Kusuba, Takanori** (Osaka University of Economics, for the time of the workshop member of SAW project)

*Loans and Interest in the Lilavati of Bhaskara and in the Ganitakaumudi of Narayana*

**Commentary by:** Robert Middeke-Conlin

**Thursday, 28 March, 2pm—5:30pm. Room:** 646A – Mondrian

*Struggling with Measuring units*

**Jones, Alexander** (Institute for the Study of the Ancient World, New York University)

*Mathematics and Metrology in a Fourth-Century Greek Papyrus Codex*

**Commentary by:** Karine Chemla

**Zhu Yiwen** (SPHERE (CNRS & University Paris Diderot) & SAW project)

*Another Culture of Computation from 7<sup>th</sup> century China*

**Commentary by:** Cécile Michel

**Friday, 29 March, 9:30am—1 pm. Room:** 646A – Mondrian

*Struggling with Measuring units*

**Proust, Christine** (SPHERE (CNRS & University Paris Diderot) & SAW project)

*Shaping numbers and units of measure: some evidences in pre-sargonic tables of surfaces from Southern Mesopotamia (mid-third millennium BCE)*

**Commentary by:** Catherine Singh

**Michel, Cécile** (ArScAn-HAROC (CNRS, Paris 1 Panthéon-Sorbonne et Paris Ouest Nanterre La Défense), SAW project)

*Weighing units and weights in the context of trade from Upper Mesopotamia to Anatolia (19<sup>th</sup>-18<sup>th</sup> centuries B.C.E.)*

**Commentary by:** Ales Petrocchi

**Friday, 29 March, 2pm—5:30pm. Room:** 646A – Mondrian

*Numbers and computations in their social contexts*

**Cuomo, Serafina** (Department of History, Classics and Archaeology at Birkbeck, University of London)

*Numeracy in ancient Greece and Rome*

**Commentary by:** Agathe Keller

**Zou Dahai (& Chen Wei)** (Institute for the History of Natural Sciences, CAS, Beijing)

*The Characteristics of Calculation Methods in the Wu cao suan jing and its Social Background*

**Commentary by:** Christine Proust

*General discussion*