

## SAW Seminar: History of Science, History of Text

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Le chapitre mathématique de l'*Āryabhaṭīya* (499) comme une compilation de règles orales/  
*The mathematical chapter of the Āryabhaṭīya (499) as a compilation of oral rules*

**Abstract:** A Keller will study *Āryabhaṭīya* (a 5th century astronomer)'s mathematical rules composed in Sanskrit. These rules (*sūtras*) are often considered to be oral with a mnemonic aim and an educational purpose. In this paper, a close look at how these rules were crafted will be carried out. The difference between how algorithms are stated versus how they are executed will be used to reflect on the context from which these rules derive. Indeed, a formal orality be inferred from the versification of these rules and the way their commentaries reflect upon them. Further, by examining the great diversity of algorithmic expressions, their mnemonic flavor will be underlined as will be demonstrated that the mathematical chapter of the *Āryabhaṭīya* is probably the result of a compilation. Such a treatise then, if it has the name of an author, should be seen as a collective endeavor. Finally, this paper will examine the historiographic trope which considers treatises and commentaries as teacher's or student's notes.