

**Seminar SAW History of Science, History of Text, 2011-2016
SAW Three-day Meeting**

**How do writings in the astral sciences
document mathematical practices and the practitioners?**

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What were the functions of the armillary sphere in Paramesvara's Goladīpikā ?

Abstract - Armillary spheres had been part of the Sanskrit astronomical tradition and almost every comprehensive text on astronomy would mention them and sometimes give instructions for their construction. Goladīpikā ("Illumination of the sphere") is a text in two versions which deal with structures of the armillary sphere and various topics in astronomy related to them. The purpose of this presentation is to see how the armillary sphere was used as a tool for instruction and reasoning.