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The interactions of mathematics and society in history some exploratory remarks

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Abstract

An exploration of the relations of mathematics and society in history, intended as a basis for general discussion. This includes an argument for doing social history of mathematics; a survey of themes, problems, and methods, structured by distinguishing different social forms of mathematics; and, finally, reference to some special themes.

Zusammenfassung

Der Aufsatz will eine Basis liefern für eine allgemeine Diskussion des Verhältnisses von Mathematik und Gesellschaft in der Geschichte. Dazu wird im ersten Teil mit Verweis auf bestehende Traditionen, mit methodologischen Gründen und mit der Frage nach der Verantwortung des Mathematikhistorikers, für eine Sozialgeschichte der Mathematik argumentiert. Weiter wird der Versuch gemacht, das Problemfeld

möglichst breit zu erkunden. Den Ausgangspunkt bildet dabei die Unterscheidung von verschiedenen sozialen Formen, in denen Mathematik auftritt. Die Wechselwirkungen zwischen Mathematik und Gesellschaft werden erörtert und Begriffe und Methoden zur Behandlung dieser Themen angegeben. Zum Abschluss werden einige spezielle Themen angesprochen und Literaturhinweise gegeben.



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