ABOUT NEWTON PRINCIPIA GENEVA EDITION

Raffaele Pisano (University of Lille, France) & Paolo Bussotti (University of Udine, Italy) Project: Newton’s Philosophiae Naturalis Principia Mathematica Geneva Edition ([1739-1742]1822)


The aim of this two–day International Symposium is the Celebration of 200 years (1822–2022) since the publication of Newton’s Philosophiae Naturalis Principia Mathematica Geneva Edition ([1739–1742]1822). Due to the continuing global pandemic it was not possible to organize it in 2022. It is hosted by the History of Physics and Applied Science & Technologies Team (HOPAST) at IEMN, France | Institute of Electronics, Microelectronics and Nanotechnology (IEMN), CNRS–University of Lille, France | Department of Humanities and Cultural Heritage (DIUM), University of Udine, Italy, and the Centre for the History and Philosophy of Physics (HAPP), University of Oxford, UK | The British Society for the History of Mathematics, UK. In particular the aim is to bring together new research—and—interdisciplinary perspectives from history, mathematics, and physics to explore the context of Newton’s Science, his Principia (1687) and his (post-edited) Principia Geneva Edition (1822 in Glasgow), to increase our understanding of the subject.

Invited International Scientific Commitee Members

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- PISANO Raffaele, IEMN, University of Lille-CNRS, France | IDTC | BSHM
- ROBARTS Julie, University of Melbourne, Australia
- SCHUSTER John, Campion College, Australia
- SKORDOULIS Kostas, National and Kapodistrian University of Athens, Greece | IDTC
- SOZZO Sandro, University of Udine, Italy

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- LEEFVBRE Frederic, IEMN, Head of Administration, University of Lille-CNRS, France
- SENEZ Florence, IEMN, University of Lille-CNRS, France

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22nd-23rd September 2023, Centenary Room, University of Oxford, UK


https://newtongenevaedition.sciencesconf.org

Newton Geneva Edition
Day 1. Friday 22nd September 2023

13h30-18h00 Welcome, Registrations Open & Help Desk
13h30-13h55 Official Opening & Welcome Ceremony

• Plenary Session on Newton
  Chairperson: Prof. Raffaele Pisano (France)

  14h00-14h45 Prof. Rob Iliffe (UK) | Where the Statues Stood: Newtonian Legacies in Post-Napoleonic Europe

• Plenary Session on The Newton Principia Geneva Edition
  Chairperson: Prof. Flavia Maracci (Vatican State)


  16h00-16h45 Prof. Paolo Bussotti (Italy) & Prof. Raffaele Pisano (France) Conceptual Frameworks from Newton’s Principia and Newton Principia Geneva Edition (1687[1739-1742]1822): Propositions XIII-XIV

  Coffee Break

• Plenary Session on Newton & Newton Principia Geneva Edition in Context - Chairperson: Prof. Raffaele Pisano (France)

  17h15-17h45 Open Roundtable Debate* Speakers & Participants

  18h00 End of the Working Day 1

• Plenary Session Gala Newton & Newton Principia Geneva Edition 2023 - Chairperson: Dr. Jo Ashbourn (UK)

  18h30-23h00 Newton & Newton Geneva Edition 2023 Private Gala Dinner at The Randolph Hotel, UK

Day 2. Saturday 23rd September 2023

9h00-9h30 Welcome, Registration Open & Help Desk

• Plenary Session on Newton & Newtonianism in its Intellectual Historical Context - Chairperson: Dr. Philip Beeley (UK)

  10h00-10h45 Prof. David Woottton (UK) | Voltaire and Newton’s God

• Plenary Session on The Newton Principia Geneva Edition
  Chairperson: Prof. Paolo Bussotti (Italy)


  Lunch Break

  13h00-13h45 Dr. Philip Beeley (UK) | Helvetian Readings of Newton. The Geneva Edition of the Principia in the Context of the Scientific Networks of Cramer and Calandrini

• Plenary Session on Newtonianism in its Historical Scientific Context - Chairperson: Dr. Jo Ashbourn (UK)

  14h00-14h45 Prof. Sarah Hutton (UK) | Debating Newtonianism in France, England and Italy. Emilie du Châtelet’s critique of James Jurin

• Plenary Session on Newton & Newton Principia Geneva Edition in Context - Chairperson: Prof. Raffaele Pisano (France)

  15h00-15h45 Mr. Chris G. Lewin (UK) | Newton and Compound Interest

  Coffee Break

• Plenary Session on Newton & Newton Principia Geneva Edition in Context - Chairperson: Prof. Rob Iliffe (UK)

  16h00-16h45 Mr. Scott Mandelbrote (UK) | Editing Newton’s Principia from Cambridge to Glasgow, via Geneva and Rome

  17h00 End of the Working Day 2


The third edition of Newton’s (1642-1727) Principia Mathematica Philosophiae Naturalis (1726) adds some new important results to the two previous ones (1667, 1713). Between 1739-1742 a new extensively commented edition was published in Geneva. The editors were the mathematicians: Thomas Le Seur (1703-1770) and François Jacquier (1711-1788), belonging to the minin friars. The Swiss scientist Jean-Louis Calandrini (1703-1758) gave fundamental support to the edition with his physical notes on mechanics and mathematical explanations. The comments (footnotes) of the editors are more extensive than the Newtonian text itself. This edition is composed of 3 vols., (the third one in 2 tomes). Newton’s propositions are detailed, annotated—and-commented: mathematical and physical aspects, geometrical proofs, methodology, discoveries and advancements after Newton’s works are astutely reported. Based on recent works, (Cfr. Pisano & Bussotti, and their current project, Oxford University Press, 5 vols. pre-print) et few recent works, the aim of Newton Principia Geneva edition/ Symposium 2023 is to understand and explain: 1) the genesis of the edition: how did the editors grasp and expound Newton’s methods? 2) the development of mathematical physics in the fertile period 1725-1740, 3) a comparison between the approach to mathematical physics of that epoch and Newton’s original one and along its paradigm until C19th, 4) the role of the Newton Principia Geneva Edition: why was the publication of a commented edition felt to be necessary? By means of this International Symposium we would like a) to highlight both Newton’s Science and the methodological aspects stressed by the French Geneva Edition editors, that is the progressive replacement of Newton’s “geometry of infinity” with analytical methods. One of the editors’ aims was also to preserve Newton’s methodological heritage; b) to focus on the relationship between physics and mathematics read by means of history and historical epistemology of science. This item will be developed through insights deriving from the Newton Geneva edition; c) to offer room to discuss recent accomplishments and perspectives on the Newton Geneva Edition, d) to consider the Newton Principia Geneva Edition in the context of the spread of Newton’s doctrine not only among physicists, but also among people who were interested in science, but were not scientists. One might speak, in some respect of the importance of popularization of Newtonianism/Newton-Principia Reception.