

### Editing Newton's *Principia* from Cambridge to Glasgow, via Geneva and Rome

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**Abstract.** Between 1687 and 1822, multiple editions (and several translations) of Isaac Newton's *Philosophiae naturalis principia mathematica* appeared. This talk will outline the form and content of the different editions and consider their place in the marketplace of mathematical works in the long eighteenth century. It will consider some of the most important changes introduced into the text of the *Principia* by its author and a variety of editors, several of whom worked directly with Newton. It will also assess the role of translators and commentators in shaping the future history of the text and consider the priorities of publishers who sponsored the distribution of Newton's works. In the process, it will consider changing attitudes to mathematical scholarship and, in particular, to the publication and study of mathematics through the medium of large-scale works written in Latin. The examples of the use of individual surviving copies of the *Principia* will be adduced to support claims about the dissemination of Newton's ideas and to explain the appeal of particular editions. Consideration will be given to the pedagogical environment in which the study of Newton's works developed over time. As a result, it is hoped that the significance of particular editions will emerge and also something of the material and economic contexts for the interpretation of Newton's work in mathematics.

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