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paper

Preliminary title :

Mathematical astronomy for a brilliant student in the 13th century.

Abstract :

This talk will be about an anonymous 13th-century Arabic introduction to mathematical astronomy in ca. 200 pages, which has been preserved in manuscripts in Tehran and Istanbul. The work was written for the famous Islamic philosopher Najm al-Din Qazwini Katibi by his mathematics teacher, whose name is not mentioned. We will first identify the teacher as Athir al-Din Abhari and then discuss the set-up of the work with specific examples and in the context of other medieval Islamic treatises which cover the same ground. We will argue that Abhari wrote his work as a ``crash course'' with a very brilliant student in mind.