

Seminar SAW : History and philosophy of Mathematics

Abstract :

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Remarks on John of Murs's De monetis.

As a part of his complex and manifold *Quadripartitum numerorum* completed in 1343 John of Murs wrote a treatise on money. The general theme of his treatise is the making of money with a prescribed proportion of silver and copper starting with other types of money or with a certain amount of the two metals. The relation of this treatise to Fibonacci's *Liber abbaci* will be acknowledged and its situation in the frame of the *Quadripartitum numerorum* will be examined. Then we will look at a few key passages, comparing them with the *Liber abbaci* and other parts of the *Quadripartitum numerorum* in order to understand how this problem of money was tackled mathematically and how it was presented to various potential readers of the work.