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Kim Plofker* (kim_plofker@alumni.brown.edu), Dept. of Mathematics, Union College, 807 Union Street, Schenectady, NY 12308. *Theory versus tables in second-millennium applied mathematics in India*. Preliminary report.

Beginning at least as early as the first millennium BCE, Sanskrit technical texts on astronomical computation provided challenges and applications for the development of Indian mathematics as well as preserving records of it. Towards the middle of the second millennium, a significant part of Sanskrit mathematical astronomy shifted its focus and format from the traditional verse treatises and handbooks to a bewildering variety of table texts. This talk explores the impact of this shift on technical and pedagogical aspects of the subject, as user-friendly tables grew in popularity and ingenuity. (Received September 17, 2012)