

**Meeting:** 1003, Atlanta, Georgia, SS 3A, AMS-MAA Special Session on History of Mathematics, I

1003-01-313            **Eberhard Heinrich Knobloch\*** (eberhard.knobloch@tu-berlin.de), Institute for Phil. and History of Science, Ernst-Reuter-Platz 7, 10587 Berlin, Germany. *The Latin tradition of Thabit ibn Qurrah's Treatise on the secant figure.*

Thabit ibn Qurrah's (834/5-901) mathematical fame was especially based on his achievements in trigonometry that is on his "Treatise on the secant figure". It deals with the transversal theorem of spherical trigonometry (Menelaus's theorem). In 2001 R. Lorch published an Arabic-English edition of the text together with two Latin translations. A third translation attributed to Gerhard of Cremona was incompletely edited by Bjrnbo in 1924. This Latin version is of great scientific, historical, and linguistic interest. Its edition has been completed and translated into French by E. Knobloch during the last years. The conference will present a survey of its three parts (introductory 1-3, demonstrative 4-8, combinatorial part 9-12), analyse the historical context (Ptolemy), and explain Thabit's proof method. Thabit claimed to give the first complete proof of the transversal theorem. (Received September 09, 2004)