1023-01-801 Robin E. Rider* (rrider@library.wisc.edu), Special Collections, 990 Memorial Library, 728 State Street, University of Wisconsin-Madison, Madison, WI. Publishing Mathematics in 18th-Century France. Preliminary report.

This paper addresses the topic of the circulation of mathematical knowledge by considering the publishers of 18th-century France who chose to print and sell mathematical books. Some of these publishing houses were well-known establishments, with ties to elite scientific authors and institutions of the Ancien Regime; others evidently operated on a shoestring, but saw attractive market possibilities for mathematical works. Issues include the pace of publishing and productivity of mathematical authors; the place of textbooks and popularizations in publishers' lists; technical challenges faced by printers of mathematical books; and ties between publishers and such influential institutions as the Paris Academy of Sciences and the technical schools of 18th-century France. (Received September 24, 2006)