

The Authors

Nalini Anantharaman is a *maître de conférences* in the CNRS Unité de Mathématiques Pures et Appliquées at the École Normale Supérieure in Lyon and an associate professor at the École Polytechnique (Palaiseau).

François Béguin is a *maître de conférences* in the topology and dynamics group of the Université d'Orsay.

Nicolas Bergeron is a professor at the Institut de Mathématiques de Jussieu (Université Paris 6).

Laurent Bessières is a *maître de conférences* at the Institut Fourier (Université de Grenoble).

Gérard Besson is the CNRS research director at the Institut Fourier (Université de Grenoble).

Guido Boffetta is a professor of general physics at the University of Turin.

Michel Boileau is a professor in the Laboratoire Émile Picard at the Université Paul Sabatier (Toulouse).

Pierre Cartier is a CNRS research director emeritus at the Institut de Mathématiques de Jussieu (Paris) and a visiting professor at the Institut des Hautes Études Scientifiques (IHES) at Bures-sur-Yvette.

Dominique Cerveau is a professor at the Institut de Recherche Mathématique de Rennes (Université de Rennes I).

Étienne Ghys is the CNRS research director at the CNRS Unité de Mathématiques Pures et Appliquées at the École Normale Supérieure in Lyon and a member of the Académie des Sciences.

Pierre-Paul Grivel is a former *chargé de cours* in the Mathematics Section of the Université de Genève.

Gerhard Heinzmann is a professor in the Laboratoire de Philosophie et d'Histoire des Sciences (Archives Henri Poincaré) of the Université Nancy 2.

Emmanuel Kowalski is a professor at the Institut de Mathématiques de Bordeaux (Université Bordeaux 1).

Guglielmo Lacorata is a CNR researcher at the Istituto di Scienze dell'Atmosfera e del Clima (ISAC) in Lecce (Italy).

Michel Le Bellac is a professor emeritus of physics at the Institut Non Linéaire de Nice (Université de Nice Sophia Antipolis).

Jean Mawhin is a professor in the Mathematics Department of the Catholic University of Louvain.

Michel Mendès France is a professor emeritus at the Institut de Mathématiques de Bordeaux (Université Bordeaux 1).

Michael Nauenberg is a research professor and professor emeritus of physics at the University of California in Santa Cruz.

Yves Pomeau is the CNRS research director in the Laboratoire de Physique Statistique of the École Normale Supérieure de Paris and an associate member of the Académie des Sciences.

Angelo Vulpiani is a professor of theoretical physics at Sapienza University of Rome.

Alain Yger is a professor at the Institut de Mathématiques de Bordeaux (Université Bordeaux 1).

Translator’s Note

It has been a privilege and a pleasure to translate this collection of essays on Poincaré’s mathematical and scientific legacy. I thank the AMS for providing me with this opportunity.

Poincaré himself wrote “popular” works on mathematics, its practice, and its philosophy for the broader scientific community. Two of these are mentioned throughout the pages of these essays: *Science and Hypothesis* and, to a lesser extent, *Science and Method*. Both are recommended for reading in their entirety. Both exist in English translations: the first by J. Larmor and the second by F. Maitland. I have chosen, however, to provide my own translation of Poincaré’s words when they are quoted here, although I cannot deny some influence by these earlier translations.

In the course of this project, it has at times been necessary to make “cultural” translations as well as linguistic ones. When this has occurred, I have made a note to indicate the content of the original text. I have not attempted to preserve the original numbering of footnotes (indeed, some of the original footnotes have become obsolete, for example, when they contained the English text for a quote translated into French). Those footnotes which I have added are marked accordingly.

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