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**Oral Presentation**  
**THE BEGINNING OF ALGEBRA IN SPANISH IN THE**  
**SIXTEENTH CENTURY: MARCO AUREL'S ARITHMETICA**  
**ALGEBRATICA**

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The book *Arithmetica Algebratica*, published in Valencia in 1552, is the first printed book on algebra written in Spanish. However its author, Marco Aurel, had not Spanish as his mother tongue, he was a German residing in Spain.

A German working in Spain and writing in Spanish in the sixteenth Century is not a so strange fact. When Marco Aurel's book is published, the King of Spain, Carlos I, being also heir of the House of Habsburg and the House of Valois-Burgundy, has become, as Karl V, the Emperor of the Holy Roman Empire, and the Archduke of Austria, and is ruling then over German territories. This is the cultural and political context in which the book is published, and these are the features that make singular Marco Aurel's book. But the reason why we are specially interested in this book is the fact that it is the only book using the German cossic signs written in Spanish, and published in Spain. Algebras written or published in Spain during the sixteenth Century were rethorical or, when syncopated, they used Italian abbreviations.

Marco Aurel's book gives us the only opportunity to study in a Spanish text the way in which the use of cossic signs shapes algebraic reasonings.

To carry out this study we have examined the intertextual relation of Marco Aurel's book with other books on Algebra, that dialogue with it, by referring explicitly or implicitly to it, by being its contemporaries in Spain, or by being the result of readings of Marco Aurel's book.