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Women's "forgotten" history of mathematics

Abstract: Since the invention of mathematics women have, often against the odds, contributed in remarkable ways. Many of us are familiar with the names Hypatia, Wang Zhenyi, Sophie Germain, but few of us are well acquainted with their work (what little of it that survives, that is). Moreover, what of the equally impressive women who have fallen, or rather been pushed, through the cracks of history and/or an onslaught of systematic social and legal barriers? What of the women who were not fantastic mathematicians but nonetheless used mathematics in creative and inventive ways in their daily lives? In this talk we will briefly overview several notable (historical) women mathematicians and examine what exactly makes them so notable and think of how these qualities might translate to our current life as women mathematicians. We will also identify some of the ways mathematics has been used and invented by women throughout history, especially those who possibly lacked the formal training or social acceptance to do so. To this end, we will discuss what exactly makes a mathematician, what skills beyond mathematical ability are important to us and how can we foster them.