

Curriculum Vitae

Personal data

First name Riccardo
 Last name Bellé
 Date of birth 27 August 1975

Education

2002–2004 University of Florence, PhD in History of Science, with a dissertation entitled “*Il De refractione di G. B. Della Porta. Critical edition*”.

2002–2004 Vatican Secret Archives, School of Palaeography, Archival Science and Diplomatics, diploma of archival palaeographer, final grade 48/50.

1994–2001 University of Pisa, Degree in Mathematics, final grade 110/110 cum laude, with a dissertation entitled “*The Optics of Francesco Maurolico*” (supervisor: Prof. P. D. Napolitani).

Professional experience

2023– Fixed-term researcher (type B) at the Department of Mathematics, University of Rome “Tor Vergata”, scientific disciplinary sector MATH-01/B (Didactics and History of Mathematics).

2017– Collaboration with the National Edition of the Mathematical Works of Francesco Maurolico, in particular for the edition of optical texts, Archimedean texts and other works in preparation.

2009–2023 Permanent secondary school teacher (competition class A-27, Mathematics and Physics) at the Liceo Scientifico “E. Fermi”, Massa (previously at the Istituto d’Arte “F. Palma”, Massa), on leave for research.

2005–2009 Four-year research fellowship at the Department of Mathematics, University of Pisa, project entitled “*The Geometrization of Optics in the Sixteenth and Seventeenth Centuries*”.

Organization of conferences and seminars

2026 “Pomeriggi di Primavera”, training day for middle secondary school teachers, 31 March.

2025–2026 Seminar series in History of Mathematics at the Department of Mathematics, University of Rome “Tor Vergata”:
 1 December 2025, Isabella Fascitiello (Roma Tre University): “Andrej N. Kolmogorov, *The general theory of dynamical systems and classical mechanics* (1957): alla scoperta di una nuova grammatica metrica e spettrale per lo studio dei sistemi dinamici”;
 21 January 2026, Veronica Gavagna (University of Florence): “L’Algebra di Rafael Bombelli e i suoi testimoni manoscritti: nuove prospettive di ricerca”;
 11 February 2026, Jens Høyrup (Roskilde University, Denmark): “The complex historical process that resulted in the creation of Viète’s and Descartes’ ‘new algebra’: oblique light on the Zissel thesis”; Silvia Lanaro (Sapienza University of Rome): “Un approccio visuale per il primo libro delle Coniche di Apollonio”;

- 25 March 2026, Cristina Sironi (University of Rome “Tor Vergata”): “La querelle Maupertuis-König sulla priorità del principio di minima azione. Gli interventi postumi attraverso le lettere della vedova Maupertuis, Éléonore de Borck”.
- 2025 “Cantieri per la scuola”. Training day for high school teachers. Department of Mathematics, University of Rome “Tor Vergata”, 25 September.
- 2025 “Algebra e geometria nel Cinquecento. Giornate di studio sull’opera di Rafael Bombelli”, Department of Mathematics, University of Rome “Tor Vergata”, 29–30 May.
- 2025 Opening lecture of the exhibition “Émile Borel. Matematico plurale”, Department of Mathematics, University of Rome “Tor Vergata”, 17 March.
- 2024 International conference “From Archimedes to Luca Valerio. Days of History of Mathematics (for and with Pier Daniele Napolitani)”, Department of Mathematics, University of Rome “Tor Vergata”, 8–9 November 2024.
- 2024 Symposium “Describing reality through mathematical models”, 11th ESHS Meeting (European Society for the History of Science), Barcelona, 4–7 September 2024 (in collaboration with Eleonora Sammarchi, ETH).

Speaker at scientific conferences

- 2026 “Ferrari, Tartaglia, and the Fixed-Opening Compass, or How to Reconstruct the Elements by Changing the Third Postulate”. 10th European Summer University on the History and Epistemology in Mathematics Education, Aveiro, Portugal, 20–24 July 2026. Proposal accepted, in collaboration with Veronica Gavagna.
- 2026 Workshop: “Il compasso di Galileo: proporzioni al lavoro”. Quarto Convegno Nazionale CARME “Ricerca in pratica: la ricerca in didattica della matematica per la scuola”, Pistoia, 15–16 May. Proposal accepted, in collaboration with Veronica Gavagna.
- 2025 “Maurolico e la matematica del XVI secolo”. Conference on the occasion of the 450th anniversary of Maurolico’s death: *La riscoperta di Maurolico nel ‘900*. Messina, 27 November 2025.
- 2025 “Rafael Bombelli e il problema dell’inserzione delle due medie proporzionali”. XXIV Congress of the Italian Society for the History of Mathematics, L’Aquila, 21 November 2025.
- 2025 “Lo specchio ustorio fra coniche e storia”. Giornate di Studio dell’Insegnante di Matematica, GIMat 2025. Palermo, 25 October 2025.
- 2025 “Il manoscritto Registro Letterario-Scientifico n. 182 dell’Archivio degli Scolopi in Roma”. *Apollonius’ thought and its influence on the development of modern mathematics*, Rome, 6 October 2025, in collaboration with the Department of Mathematics of the University of Rome “Sapienza” and with the Accademia delle Scienze detta dei XL.
- 2024 Round table: “L’importanza del testo”. Matematica e latino nella scuola secondaria di secondo grado, University of Rome “La Sapienza”, 15–16 December 2024.

- 2024 “Una tecnica dimostrativa da un manoscritto di Giovanni Alfonso Borelli sul *De sphaera et cylindro*”. XXIII Conference of the Italian Society for the History of Mathematics, Trento, 14–16 November 2024.
- 2024 Plenary lecture: “Una tecnica dimostrativa da un manoscritto di Giovanni Alfonso Borelli sul”. XXXVII UMI–CIIM Conference, *Mathematics that unites*, Catania, 26–28 September 2024.
- 2024 “Optics and Euclidean theory of proportion in the works of Francesco Maurolico”, 11th ESHS Meeting (European Society for the History of Science), Barcelona, 4–7 September 2024.
- 2024 “Guidobaldo, Galileo e i centri di gravità dei solidi”, Guidobaldo Del Monte nella storia della scienza,, Mombaroccio, 20 July 2024.
- 2024 “Una tecnica dimostrativa da un manoscritto di Giovanni Alfonso Borelli sul *De sphaera et cylindro*”, Conference of the Italian Society for the History of Science, Bari, 29–31 May 2024.
- 2024 Workshop (with V. Gavagna) at CARME – Pistoia “Di disfide, di righe e di compassi”, Ricerca in pratica: la ricerca in didattica della matematica per la scuola. Pistoia, 17–18 May 2024.
- 2023 “Francesco Maurolico e la trasformazione del concetto di grandezza geometrica nel XVI secolo: la *Praeparatio ad Archimedis opera*”. XXII Congress of the Italian Mathematical Union, Pisa, 4–9 September 2023.
- 2023 “Galileo and the centres of gravity of solids”. Seminar at the Department of Mathematics, University of Rome “La Sapienza”, 13 February 2023.
- 2022 XXXVI UMI–CIIM Conference, thematic session: “L’uso della storia nell’insegnamento della matematica”, L’Aquila, 6–8 October 2022.
- 2022 “Maurolico’s Archimedes”, XI Seminar on Ancient Science and its Tradition, organized by the University of Milan, Gargnano, 29 September – 1 October 2022.
- 2022 “The tangent line to the parabola between Greek mathematics and Galileo”, Workshop, 9th European Summer University on the History and Epistemology in Mathematics Education, Salerno, 18–22 July.
- 2021 “Della Porta a Venezia e la costruzione dello specchio parabolico”. Giornata di studio “Tra fisiognomica, bibliofilia, curiosità scientifiche e mecenatismo. Le relazioni di Giovan Battista Della Porta nel nord Italia”, University of Bologna.
- 2021 “Maurolico’s Archimedes”. Workshop “Mathematics and its Ancient Classics: Worldwide Translations, Appropriations, Reconstructions, Roles”, Oberwolfach, Mathematisches Forschungsinstitut.
- 2017 Presentation of the volume *Optica* of the National Edition of the Mathematical Works of Francesco Maurolico, Accademia Toscana di Scienze e Lettere “La Colombaria”.
- 2014 “Francesco Maurolico, Giovan Battista Della Porta and their theories of refraction”, Workshop “The Optics of Giovan Battista Della Porta: A Reassessment”, Berlin, Technische Universität.

- 2010 “Some aspects of the optics of Giovan Battista Della Porta: from the *Magia naturalis* to the *De refractione*”, International Conference “Lumen – Imago – Pictura. Light in the history of optics and in visual representation from Giotto to Caravaggio”, Biblioteca Hertziana, Rome.
- 2008 “La misura del cerchio e gli studi archimedei di Francesco Maurolico”, VIII Congress of the Italian Society for the History of Mathematics, Ferrara, 20–22 November 2008.
- 2008 “Maurolico e la misura del cerchio”, Convegno “Archimede e le sue fortune”, Syracuse–Messina, 24–26 June 2008.
- 2008 “The Maurolician theory of the camera obscura”, Conference “L’optique de l’antiquité au XVII siècle”, Department of Philosophy, University of Milan.
- 2008 “Piero della Francesca, l’ottica e le matematiche del Rinascimento”, Seminar at the Department of Philosophy, University of Milan.
- 2007 “Mathematical diagrams in Euclidean optical works”, Conference “Ancient science and its legacy”, organized by the Department of Philosophy, University of Milan, Gargnano, 11–13 June 2007.
- 2006 “Le tradizioni ottiche e il Rinascimento”, VI Congress of the Italian Society for the History of Mathematics, Naples, 16–18 November 2006.
- 2006 “The sources of Biagio Pelacani: Euclid and Alhazen in the *Questiones perspectivae*”, Conference “Sciences et philosophie. Circulation des savoirs autour de la Méditerranée (IX^e–XVI^e siècle)”, Florence, 16–18 February 2006.
- 2006 Participation at Osaka University in the research project *Diagrams in Ancient Greek Mathematics*, with two seminars: “Diagrams in the Greek manuscripts of Euclid’s *Optics* and *Catoptrics*” (15–20 January 2006); “Three-dimensional representation in Euclid’s manuscripts” (27 October – 4 November 2006).
- 2005 “Sorte e fortuna dell’Optica e della Catoptrica euclidea nel primo Rinascimento”, organized by the Department of Philosophy, University of Milan, Gargnano, 6–8 October 2005.
- 2004 “L’edizione critica delle opere ottiche di G. B. Della Porta”, Conference “Giambattista Della Porta in the National Edition”, Naples, 26–28 October 2004.
- 2002 “Alcuni aspetti degli studi ottici di Francesco Maurolico”, II Congress of the Italian Society for the History of Mathematics, Alba, 7–9 November 2002.

Conferences and outreach activities for schools

- 2025 “Leonardo Pisano e la matematica che cambia”. Lecture for Fibonacci Day, Department of Mathematics, University of Florence, 24 November 2025.
- 2025 “Lo specchio ustorio fra coniche e storia”. *Historical development as an active work of centuries*. Online seminars promoted by the Italian Society for the History of Mathematics, 29 October 2025.

- 2025 “Quanto è grande Lucifero? Con Galileo nell’Inferno dantesco.” From the history of mathematics to the classroom. Training seminar for secondary school teachers, PhD students and master’s students, Ferrara, 9 May 2025. In collaboration with Beatrice Sisana.
- 2024 “Leonardo Pisano and the Abacus Schools. The Renaissance of Mathematics in the Medieval Latin West”. Seminar for American students visiting Pisa. Department of Mathematics, 11 June 2024.
- 2024 Poster at the conference “Italian Teacher Program at CERN”. Teacher training meeting at Liceo G. Casiraghi, Cinisello Balsamo (MI), 20–21 January 2024.
- 2023 “La retta tangente alla parabola dalla matematica greca a Galileo”. II Conference “Mathematics and the History of Mathematics Teaching”, in collaboration with Mathesis of Ferrara, Department of Mathematics and Computer Science, Ferrara, 28 April 2023.
- 2023 “La matematica di Archimede: questione di metodo”. Lecture in collaboration with Mathesis of Florence, Department of Mathematics and Computer Science, University of Florence, 18 and 25 January 2023 (together with Veronica Gavagna).
- 2022 “Della Porta and burning mirrors”, International Centre for the Study of Giovan Battista Della Porta (online: <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=6R5g204kyMU&t=1833s>).
- 2016 “Pi Day”. Lecture–activity at Liceo Scientifico “E. Fermi”, Massa.
- 2014 “Matematica in gioco”. Exhibition–activity at Liceo Scientifico “E. Fermi”, Massa, in collaboration with the local cultural association *Matematica in Gioco*.
- 2013 “Poliedri, che scoperta!”. Exhibition–activity at Liceo Scientifico “E. Fermi”, Massa, in collaboration with the local cultural association *Matematica in Gioco*.
- 2012 “Polygons in pieces”. Exhibition–activity at Liceo Scientifico “E. Fermi”, Massa, in collaboration with the local cultural association *Ca’ Michele* (funded through a call by the Department for Culture and Public Education of the Municipality of Massa).
- 2011 “Aspetti dell’ottica di Giovan Battista Della Porta”. Lecture at the Museo Nazionale di Palazzo Venezia, Rome, within the exhibition “Caravaggio. The workshop of genius”.

Teaching activity

- 2024–2025 Lecturer for the course *History of Mathematics*, Master’s degree in Mathematics, University of Rome “Tor Vergata”.
- 2024–2025 Co-lecturer for the course *Mathematics*, Bachelor’s degree in Biotechnology, University of Rome “Tor Vergata”.
- 2023–2024 Tutoring for the course *Geometry*, Bachelor’s degree in Media Sciences and Technologies, University of Rome “Tor Vergata”.
- 2023–2025 Lectures in History of Mathematics for the 30/60 CFU teacher-training programmes.

2023, 2025	Tutoring for the course <i>Algebra and Geometry</i> , Bachelor's degree in Computer Science, University of Rome "Tor Vergata".
2023	Co-lecturer for the course <i>History of Science</i> , Master's degree in Mathematics, University of Rome "Tor Vergata".
2022	Lecturer for the course <i>Problems and Methods in the History of Mathematics</i> , Master's degree in Mathematics, University of Pisa.
2021	Lecturer for the course <i>Ancient Mathematics and Its Tradition</i> , Master's degree in Mathematics, University of Pisa.
2015	Lecturer for the course <i>Didactic–Pedagogical Laboratory</i> , Tirocinio Formativo Attivo, academic year 2014–2015, University of Pisa.
2014	Responsible, at Liceo Scientifico "E. Fermi" of Massa, for the <i>Laboratorio del Sapere Scientifico</i> , project funded by the Tuscany Region, decree no. 2329 of 27/05/2013.
2008	Teaching support contract for the annual course <i>Mathematics</i> , Bachelor's degree in Geological Sciences, University of Pisa.
2008	Responsible (together with P. D. Napolitani) for the Laboratory of History of Mathematics within the <i>Lauree Scientifiche</i> project, Department of Mathematics, University of Pisa.
2007	Teaching support contract for the course <i>Mathematics</i> in preparatory courses organized by the Faculty of Mathematical, Physical and Natural Sciences, University of Pisa.
2007	Responsible (together with P. D. Napolitani) for the Laboratory of History of Mathematics within the <i>Lauree Scientifiche</i> project, Department of Mathematics, University of Pisa.

Participation in research groups

2023–	Member of the Scientific Committee of the National Edition of the Works of Francesco Maurolico (appointment by ministerial decree no. 340 of 23 October 2023).
2019–	Participation in the National Edition of the Works of Giovan Battista Della Porta.
2009–	Participation in the National Edition of the Mathematical Works of Francesco Maurolico.
2007–2009	Participation in the National Research Project (PRIN): "Critical editions on electronic media of physical–mathematical texts (1450–1650)".

Awards and fellowships

2008	Giorgio Ronchi Foundation Prize in History of Optics, Optical Instrumentation and Vision Science.
2005	Three-month fellowship of the "E. De Giorgi" Mathematical Research Center (Pisa) for attendance at the course "The Scientific Revolutions of the 16th and 17th Centuries".
2001	Prize of the Accademia delle Scienze detta dei XL for the best Master's dissertation in History of Physics.

Critical editions

- 2026 R. Bellé, *De refractione*, critical edition of the work of Giovan Battista Della Porta. National Edition of the Works of G. B. Della Porta, Naples: Edizioni Scientifiche Italiane.
- 2022 R. Bellé, P. D. Napolitani, B. Sisana, *Archimedeae*. National Edition of the Mathematical Works of Francesco Maurolico, vol. 7, Pisa–Rome: Fabrizio Serra Editore.
- 2017 R. Bellé, K. Takahashi, *Optica*. National Edition of the Mathematical Works of Francesco Maurolico, vol. 10, Pisa–Rome: Fabrizio Serra Editore.

Journal articles

- 2026 R. Bellé, B. Sisana, P.D. Napolitani, “Mathematical Thought in the Renaissance and the Genesis of Modern Mathematics” (under review; publication expected April 2026).
- 2025 R. Bellé, B. Sisana, “A Link Between Guidobaldo del Monte and Galileo Galilei in the Study of Conic Sections: Some Evidence from the Manuscript UCLA 170/624”, *Archive for History of Exact Sciences*, **79**, <https://doi.org/10.1007/s00407-025-00353-9>.
- 2022 R. Bellé, B. Sisana, “Galileo Galilei and the Centers of Gravity of Solids: A Reconstruction Based on a Newly Discovered Version of the Conical Frustum Contained in Manuscript UCLA 170/624”, *Archive for History of Exact Sciences*, **76**, <https://doi.org/10.1007/s00407-022-00289-4>.
- 2022 R. Bellé, “The compositional process of the *De sphaera et cylindro ex traditione Maurolyci*”, *Bollettino di Storia delle Scienze Matematiche*, **42**.
- 2009 R. Bellé, “The telescope at the eye. A seventeenth-century text on the construction of telescopes”, *Atti della Fondazione Giorgio Ronchi*, **64**.
- 2006 R. Bellé, “The Maurolician optical corpus. Origins and development”, *Nuncius: Annali di Storia della Scienza*, **21**.
- 2006 R. Bellé, “The Jesuits and the publication of Francesco Maurolico’s optics”, *Bollettino di Storia delle Scienze Matematiche*, **26**.

Contributions to books

- 2017 R. Bellé, “Francesco Maurolico, Giambattista Della Porta and Their Theories on Refraction”, in *The Optics of Giambattista Della Porta (ca. 1535–1615): A Reassessment*, Archimedes. New Studies in the History and Philosophy of Science and Technology, vol. 44, pp. 169–200, edited by A. Borrelli, G. Hon, Y. Zik, Springer. ISSN 1385-0180.
- 2007 R. Bellé, “Piero della Francesca and scientific manuscripts. The case of optics”, in R. Manescalchi (ed.), *L’Archimede di Piero – Contributions to the facsimile reproduction of Riccardiano 106*, pp. 46–55, Edizioni Grafica European Center of Fine Arts, 2007.

Conference proceedings

- 2026 “The role of Guidobaldo del Monte in Galileo’s study of the centres of gravity of solids”, Study Day on Guidobaldo del Mon-

- te, Mombaroccio, 20 July 2024 (accepted; publication expected March 2026).
- 2026 “Geometry and method in the manuscripts of Giovanni Alfonso Borelli preserved in the Piarist Archives”, Proceedings of the conference *From Archimedes to Luca Valerio. Days of History of Mathematics*, Rome “Tor Vergata”, 8–9 November 2024 (accepted; publication expected June 2026).
- 2023 R. Bellé, “The tangent line to the parabola according to Greek mathematics and Galileo Galilei”, in *History and Epistemology in Mathematics Education. Proceedings of the 9th European Summer University (ESU-9), Salerno, 18–22 July 2022*, pp. 363–371, edited by E. Barbin et al., Edizioni Nuova Cultura, Rome, 2023.
- 2014 R. Bellé, “Francesco Maurolico and Archimedes”, in *Archimedes and His Fortunes: Proceedings of the Conference of Syracuse–Messina, 24–26 June 2008*, pp. 375–388, edited by V. Fera, D. Gionta, A. Rollo, CISU – Centro Internazionale di Studi Umanistici, University of Messina, 2014.

Popular articles

- 2025 “Matematica meticcica: il Mediterraneo come crocevia dei saperi.”, *MaddMaths!*, <https://maddmaths.simai.eu/divulgazione/matematica-meticcica/>.
- 2024 “Questa storia dell’origine della notazione per i numeri decimali”, *MaddMaths!*, <https://maddmaths.simai.eu/divulgazione/origine-decimali/>.

Book reviews and translations

- 2011 Kristi Andersen, *The Geometry of an Art: The History of the Mathematical Theory of Perspective from Alberti to Monge*, New York: Springer-Verlag, 2006. *Isis*, 2009, **100**(1), pp. 132–134.
- 2009 José Luis Mancha, *Studies in Medieval Astronomy and Optics*, Aldershot: Ashgate, 2006. *Nuncius*, 2009, **24**(1), pp. 198–200.
- 2009 Alexander Marr (ed.), *The Worlds of Oronce Fine: Mathematics, Instruments, and Print in Renaissance France*, Donington, Lincolnshire: Shaun Tyas, 2009. *Isis*, 2011, **102**(3), pp. 560–561.
- 2007–2008 Translation of selected contributions in *La matematica. I luoghi e i tempi*, edited by C. Bartocci and P. Odifreddi, Turin: Einaudi, 2008; and *La matematica. Problemi e teoremi*, edited by C. Bartocci and P. Odifreddi, Turin: Einaudi, 2007.

Referee for the journals *Matematica, cultura e società* (UMI), *Archive for History of Exact Sciences*, and *Historia Mathematica*.

External reviewer for VQR 2020–2024 in the sector MATH-01/B, Didactics and History of Mathematics.

National Scientific Qualification for the position of Associate Professor in the competition sector 01/A1, obtained on 27 September 2022 (validity period 27/09/2022–27/09/2032).

Member of the Scientific Committee of the National Edition of the Mathematical Works of Francesco Maurolico (appointed on 23 October 2023 by decree of the Minister of Culture).

Winner of the selection procedure for a fixed-term research position (RTD-b) at the Department of Mathematics, University of Rome “Tor Vergata”, competition

sector 01/A1 – Mathematical Logic and Complementary Mathematics, scientific
disciplinary sector MAT/04 – Complementary Mathematics.