Tristão Álvares da Costa Silveira's lectures on differential calculus

João Caramalho Domingues
Centro de Matemática, Universidade do Minho

Lições de Calculo Differencial ou methodo directo das fluxões (1801) is a short book by an obscure mathematics lecturer, Tristão Álvares da Costa Silveira (1768–1811). It is of some significance because it is one of the earliest presentations of differential calculus written by a Portuguese author and because it demonstrates up-to-date knowledge of European developments. It also shows influence from two Portuguese mathematicians, José Anastácio da Cunha and Francisco Garção Stockler, who had developed their own ideas about the foundations of infinitesimal calculus.