

Seminar

Speaker: [Iris Loeb](#) (Postdoctoral Researcher, VU University of Amsterdam)
Title: Bolzano's traditional answer to problems in the mathematical practice of his time (Joint work with Stefan Roski)
Date: Friday, 29 Jun 2012
Time: 18:00-19:00
Location: [Univeristy of Athens, Department of Mathematics, University of Athens, room Γ42](#)

Abstract

Bernard Bolzano (1781-1848) can be regarded as an early embodiment of the transitions that took place in the mathematical practice during the first half of the 19th century. These transitions included shifts from a formula centered to a concept centered approach, from a formal notion of equality to a numerical notion, and from calculations to proofs. In this talk I will point out signs of these transitions in Bolzano's famous paper on the Intermediate Value Theorem (1817). Moreover I will show that in answer to the renewed quest to correctness requirements of proofs, Bolzano turned to the millenia-old Aristotelian tradition.

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