

Seminar

Speaker: [Iris Loeb](#) (Postdoctoral
Researcher, VU
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Bolzano's traditional
answer to problems in
the mathematical
practice of his time
(Joint work with Stefan
Roski)

Title:

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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