JOHANNES GUTENBERG UNIVERSITÄT MAINZ

INSTITUT FÜR MATHEMATIK

Oberseminar zur Geschichte der Mathematik und der Naturwissenschaften

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(Paris)

Analysis of dynamic practices within tables: examples from Leibniz

Abstract:

A diagram is a representation that can be created and interpreted in a variety of ways, influenced by context and individuals. It is both a fixed and complete object, and a dynamic structure whose meaning depends on the temporal sequence of its creation and reading. To analyse a diagram, it is necessary to reconcile the spatio-temporal and semiotic aspects, by breaking it down into its constituent elements and considering its practical aspect in a context of interaction, which requires a constructivist and multi-perspective approach. The genetic analysis of tables in Leibniz's mathematical works reveals a profound reflection on their use and evolution over time. By closely examining the way in which these diagrams were conceived, elaborated and integrated into his writings, we can better understand Leibniz's intellectual approach and its impact on the development of his mathematics. This approach allows us to explore the complexity of Leibniz's ideas and to grasp the richness of his thought.

It allows us to understand how Leibniz's practice is based on the use of tables as dynamic and evolving tools, capable of representing processes in motion. By considering the tables as dynamic operating processes, we open up new perspectives on the way in which this mathematical practice nourishes the philosopher's general thinking.

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Interessierte sind herzlich willkommen!   gez. Tilman Sauer

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