Séminaire CIP

(équipe CALIN du LIPN, université' Paris-Nord, Villetaneuse)

Les 12, 19 et 26 novembre 2019 à 10h30 en B107, Christian Lavault nous parlera de : *Sur une erreur fructueuse de Paul Appell (II, III, IV)*

Résumé :

Incorrect or incomplete proofs of theorems are not infrequent in mathematics. Many of these proofs often come from amateurs and purport to prove Fermat's last theorem, to trisect an angle, to prove Euclid's fifth postulate, and the like. When, however, an alleged proof of an outstanding problem comes from the pen of a first class mathematician, there is a strong temptation to analyze the proof anyway, for even in the failure there may emerge a measure of triumph. Such is the case with P. Appell and deals with (the still open problem of) the irrationality of Euler's constant. This example shows that no conclusions can be drawn about the significance of a false proof even when it comes from the work of a first class mathematician.

En collaboration avec tout le séminaire CIP.