

## Seminar SAW : Mathematical practices in the context of the Astral Sciences

Abstract :

March 14, 2014

**Qu Anjing** (Northwest University, Xi'an)

*Numerical Algorithm System in Ancient China*

When Chinese mathematicians or astronomers dealt with a scientific problem, such as solar eclipse, a very simple model without any factors would be taken as the starting point. The final system is completed while the model is modified step by step adding the factors to it. This mode of thinking, from simple to complex, was used widely to design a set of algorithms in Chinese mathematical astronomy. I name such method a Numerical Algorithm System which, in some sense, features the nature of Chinese mathematics. In this talk, several numerical algorithm system, such as parallax in solar eclipse and Bian Gang's adaptive interpolation will be discussed.