

In-Process

Research talks by KMDI Graduate Students and Fellows

Why are Geometric Proofs (Usually) "Non-Visual"?

PRESENTED BY

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Why are geometric proofs usually non-visual? I asked this as a way to explore the similarities and differences between diagrams and text (visual thinking versus language thinking). Traditional text-based proofs are considered (by many to be) more rigorous than diagrams alone. I propose that proofs are devices for synchronizing two distinct but interrelated perceptual-cognitive processes. Diagrams are more accessible to peripheral perceptual cognitive processes. Sequential symbolic descriptions (i.e. text) are more accessible to foveal perceptual cognitive processes. I will describe preliminary conceptual model that demonstrates how proofs correlate peripheral and foveal perceptual cognitive processes.

April 28th, 2009

The Gradroom, 66 Harbord Street, lower level

3:30 - 4:30 pm (a KMDI student organizational meeting will follow)

