

## *Introduzione a Matematica ed ideologia: la politica degli infinitesimali*

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*Marx's mathematical manuscripts have remained for a very long time a mysterious object. From Marx's death (1883), to their printing 85 years after his death, only Engels and few scholars were really certain of their great importance. Even the new Soviet authorities were very undecided whether to publish Marx's mathematical manuscripts. Today we know that these Marx writings, are very important with regard to the criticism of the foundations of infinitesimal calculus, and because they highlight the dialectical nature of the differential calculus. I have recreated the story, and added some statements, which provides important details of what we know about the history of these Marx's writings. One of the key players for the Marx's mathematical manuscripts publication, was the mathematician and philosopher Ernest (Arnost) Kolman. Marx's mathematical manuscripts, in Mao's China brought forth to a mass passionate debate about the importance of the dialectical nature of differential calculus for the development and teaching of mathematics. In Professor Joseph Dauben's essay (2004), which I translated into Italian, he tells this extraordinary story, largely unknown in the West, and he does it reconstructing in detail the historical reasons and the cultural, social and political dynamics of a mass debate that, for the current West, and especially for Italy. It appears like a mirage.*

*Keywords: Marx, Engels, Mathematics, Mathematical Manuscripts, Differential Calculus, Analysis Foundation, Ernest Kolman, Sofya Aleksandrovna Yanovskaya, Joseph Dauben, China, Mao, Soviet Union, Institute Marx-Engels-Lenin.*

Londra, Sabato 17 marzo 1883. Solo pochi intimi si trovano al cimitero di Highgate per assistere alle esequie di Karl Marx, spentosi alle 14 e 45 del