

Title: Circularity and Formal Dialectic Theories

Author: Ioannis Ivrissimtzis, Cambridge

ABSTRACT

Our main aim in this paper is to analyse formal dialectic theories involving a kind of circularity. In section 1 we explain what precisely we mean by the term circular formalization of a dialectic theory, and in section 2 why we think that dialectics are better formalised as circular theories. Although the approach is quite general, we preferred to restrict ourselves dealing mainly with one particular example, that is the dialectic of labour and money, analysed in sections 3 and 4. Finally, in section 5, we briefly examine the possibility of the same approach in other areas.