Ibn Sinā’s approach to equality and unity. (English. French summary) [Zbl 1305.01010]


Two chapters of Ibn Sinā’s al-‘Ibāra (the third book of the logical collection of his philosophical encyclopaedia entitled al-Shifā’) are devoted to the quantification of the predicate, a subject not encountered in the Aristotelian corpus. This, together with an interpretation of One in essence as dealing with equality (in the first chapter on Metaphysics in the Book of Science and in the second chapter of the third book of the Metaphysics of the Shifā’, Avicenna (Ibn Sinā) develops his theory of One in an aspect, which can be either according to essence or per accidens), modernised by being expressed in P. Martin-Löf’s constructive type theory, leads to the conclusion that “Ibn Sinā did not develop a logic of identity, but he did develop the conceptual means to do so.”

Reviewer: Victor V. Pambuccian (Phoenix)

MSC:
01A30 History of mathematics in the Golden Age of Islam
03-03 History of mathematical logic and foundations
03A05 Philosophical and critical aspects of logic and foundations
03B15 Higher-order logic; type theory (MSC2010)

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Ibn Sinā

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