

1106-01-1479 **Jemma Lorenat***, jlorenat@sfu.ca. *Polemics in public: controversies around the principle of duality in early nineteenth century geometry.*

A plagiarism charge in 1827 sparked a public controversy centred between Jean-Victor Poncelet (1788–1867) and Joseph Diez Gergonne (1771–1859) over the origin and applications of the principle of duality in geometry. Over the next three years and through the pages of various journals, monographs, public letters, reviews, reports, and footnotes, vitriol between the antagonists increased as their potential audiences grew. While the historical literature offers valuable resources toward understanding the development, content, and effects of geometric duality, the hostile nature of the exchange seems to have deterred an in-depth textual study of the explicitly polemical writings. We argue that the necessary collective endeavour of beginning and ending this controversy constitutes a case study in the circulation of geometry. In particular, we consider how the duality controversy functioned as a medium of communicating new fundamental principles to a wider audience of practitioners. (Received September 13, 2014)