

1145-01-689 **Amy Ackerberg-Hastings*** (aackerbe@verizon.net). *Analysis and Synthesis in A.-M.*
Legendre's Éléments de géométrie. Preliminary report.

My 2000 dissertation and subsequent work explored how three different understandings of the terms “analysis” and “synthesis”—as mathematical styles, as directions of proof, and as educational approaches—influenced Americans’ choices of geometry textbooks for colleges in the early 19th century. Although it provided the basis for two of these books, the 1819 translation attributed to Harvard’s John Farrar and David Brewster’s 1822 translation that was co-opted by Charles Davies of the US Military Academy, I have never examined Legendre’s 1794 geometry textbook with respect to how these three dichotomies operated in his 18th-century French context. This talk reports on my effort to conduct such an inquiry. (Received September 12, 2018)