
DIRK SCHLIMM, McGill University

Non-Euclidean geometry and geometrical content

In the course of the 19th century geometry underwent a radical transformation that culminated in Hilbert's famous meta-mathematical investigations. How these developments changed the understanding of geometrical content is discussed with reference to the work on projective geometry by Poncelet and Gergonne, the treatises on non-Euclidean geometry by Bolyai and Lobachevsky, the interpretations of Beltrami and Klein, and the axiomatic work of Pasch and Hilbert.