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*An intrinsic epistemological dualism*

In this talk, I want to introduce and defend the idea that contemporary mathematics is permeated with a new form of epistemological dualism. Basically, I will argue that there are two types of mathematical developments and constructions. The first type is attached to what is usually called “canonical maps”. These constructions and the situations in which one finds them are transversals. The second type are specific to the field or domain in which one works, be it a domain of numbers or an algebraic context or an analytic context or what have you. I will briefly indicate how this distinction arose historically and suggest some its philosophical significance.