

Bouquet, Jean-Claude | Encyclopedia.com

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(*b.* Moteau, Doubs, France, 7 September 1819; *d.* Paris, France, 9 September 1885)

mathematics.

After entering the École Normale Supérieure in 1839, Bouquet became a professor at the lycée of Marseilles. He received the *doctorat ès sciences* in 1842, presenting a thesis on the variation of double integrals, and was appointed professor at the Faculté des Sciences of Lyons. There he found his school friend Charles Briot, with whom he collaborated throughout his career.

Bouquet taught special mathematics at the Lycée Bonaparte (now the Lycée Condorcet) from 1852 to 1858, then at the Lycée Louis-le-Grand until 1867. After serving as *maître de conférence* at the École Normale Supérieure and *répétiteur* at the École Polytechnique, Bouquet succeeded J.A. Serret in the chair of differential and [integral calculus](#) at the Sorbonne (1874–1884). He was elected to the Académie des sciences in 1875.

After his thesis Bouquet took up differential geometry, writing a memoir on the systems of straight lines of space and one on orthogonal surfaces that was basic to the important research carried on successively by Ossian Bonnet, Gaston Darboux, Maurice Levy, and [Arthur Cayley](#).

From 1853 on, Bouquet's name is generally associated with that of his friend Briot. Their joint scientific work was a profound study and clarification of the analytic work of Augustin Cauchy. In a memoir that has remained famous since 1853, they proposed to establish precisely the conditions that a function must fulfill in order to be developable into an entire series. They also perfected the analysis by which Cauchy had, for the first time, established the existence of the integral of a differential equation. They opened the way to research on singular points and showed their importance for knowledge of the integral. Their works of 1859 and 1875 on elliptic functions finally brought out the great force of Cauchy's analytic methods.

The mathematical activity of Bouquet and Briot was equaled by remarkable teaching activity. Bouquet, who was as fond of teaching as of science, taught Jules Tannery. Collaborating with Briot, he produced several textbooks that went into numerous printings.

BIBLIOGRAPHY

I. Original Works. Bouquet's works include "Sur la variation des intégrals doubles," doctoral thesis (Faculté des Sciences, Paris, 1842); "Remarques sur les systèmes de droites dans l'espace," in *Journal des mathématiques pures et appliquées*, 1st ser., **11** (1846), 125 ff.; "Note sur les surfaces orthogonales," *ibid.*, 446 ff.; *Mémoire sur les propriétés d'un système de droites* (Lyons, 1848); "Sur la courbure des surfaces," a note in Cournot's *Traité de la théorie des fonctions* (Paris, 1857), along with other, lesser notes by Bouquet and Briot; "Mémoire sur la théorie des intégrales ultra-elliptiques," in a shorter version in *Comptes rendus des séances de l'Académie des sciences* (1868), which led to a report by J.A. Serret on 4 July 1870, in *Recueil des savants étrangers*, pp. 417–470; *Notice sur les travaux mathématiques de M. Bouquet* (Paris, 1870); "Sur l'intégration d'un système d'équations différentielles totales simultanées du 1^{er} ordre," in *Bulletin des sciences mathématiques et astronomiques*, **3** (1872), 265 ff.; "Note sur le calcul des accélérations des divers ordres dans le mouvement d'un point sur une courbe gauche," in *Annales scientifiques de l'École normale supérieure*, 2nd ser., **3** (1874).

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II. Secondary Literature. Works on Bouquet are Michel Chasles, *Rapport sur les progrès de la géométrie* (Paris, 1870) pp. 214–251; G. H. Halphen, “Notice nécrologique sur Bouquet,” in *Comptes rendus des séances de l’Académie des sciences*, **102** no.23 (7June 1886); and Jules Tannery, “Notice nécrologique sur Bouquet,” in *Mémorial de l’Association des anciens élèves de l’École normal* (Paris, 1885).

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