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**Submitting paper or poster :**

paper

**Preliminary title :**

The teaching of mathematics in the Italian military schools of the Napoleonic period

**Abstract :**

Napoleon Bonaparte, before in France and later in the rest of the occupied countries by the Great Army, founded schools reserved to the soldiers, to their children and to young scholars who wanted to pursue the military career. In Italy, divided into areas directly or indirectly linked to France, the military schools of the previous century (Turin, Verona and Naples) were improved according to the French model. In the Kingdom of Italy (1805-1814) the recruitment of the officers took place in the Regia Scuola Militare of Pavia and in the Scuola Militare del Genio e dell'Artiglieria of Modena directed by Leonardo Salimbeni, pupil and successor of Antonio Maria Lorgna at the Militar Collegio of Verona. The first school, with a course of study of two/three years, trained the infantry officers; the professor of applied mathematics taught

algebra, geometry, trigonometry, the logarithms, the geometric series and topography. The second school, which prepared to “special weapons”, had courses of the duration of three/four years and mathematics teaching included subjects of the first years of university courses. The *Corso di Matematica ad uso degli aspiranti alla Scuola d’Artiglieria, e Genio di Modena* (Modena, Società Tipografica, 1805-1808) was composed by the books of Paolo Chelucci, Guido Grandi, Paolo Ruffini, Antonio Cagnoli, Giuseppe Tramontini and Carlo Benferreri. In the Kingdom of Naples, where there was already the *Reale Accademia Militare* called “Nunziatella”, on 13th August, 1811, Joachim Murat established the *Scuola Reale Politecnica, e militare* similarly to the French military school. It had the purpose to spreading the culture of mathematical and chemical sciences, military art, graphic arts, belles lettres and educate the students of the Application and artillery schools. The Italian military school of the French Empire was transferred from Turin to Alexandria. It was one of the eleven French regimental artillery schools (La Fère, Beçanson, Grenoble, Metz, Strasbourg, Douay, Auxonne, Toulouse, Rennes, Valence) controlled by the Ministry of War. These institutes had a professor of mathematics and a teacher of drawing. Giovanni Plana was appointed to teach to Alexandria and he maintained his role until his designation as professor of astronomy at the University of Turin. One of the examiners of this school was Adrien M. Legendre. References  
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