

Re: Hamilton's Rule In The Mirror

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> *John Edser wrote:*

>

>> *The relative opposite of an idea is just
>> a mirror image of it. In mathematics, the
>> mirror represents zero. Note that mathematics
>> cannot tell you where to place the mirror for
>> any idea. The absolute opposite of an idea is
>> the devil's image in the mirror, i.e. no reflection.
>> So what do we see when we look at the reflection of
>> Hamilton's Rule $rb > c$ in the mirror:*

>>

>> $-c > -rb$

>>

>> *In this situation roles become reversed.
>> Hamilton's single donor now becomes a
>> single recipient accepting largess from many
>> donors related r who were originally many recipients.
>> The act remains "altruistic" as defined by
>> Hamilton but the recipients are now the
>> altruists and not the single actor. Note that
>> the sign of c has changed from positive to negative
>> for this role reversal which remains an altruistic act.*

name_and_address_supplied@hotmail.com wrote:

> *This is just plain wrong. As we have explained to you in the past, $-c$
> is not the same as "negative c ".*

The distinction here is between 1) the sign of the variable c 2) the sign of the value that the variable c represents 3) the value that results when the one is applied to the other. If Edser has not figured this out by now, there is probably no hope. Most of us get these distinctions straightened out by the time we are 12 or 13.

For instance, let me make a

> *mathematically true statement:*

>

> $4 < 5$

>
> *reflecting this in your mirror we have*
>
> $-4 > -5$
>
> *not*