

# The largest number

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I make a challenge:

Notwithstanding that there are many sorts of number, I can yet truthfully claim that the largest number is 6.

To those in the know, this claim might seem to issue from a mathematical constructivism (also known as finitism), where a mathematical statement must be shown to be constructed 'in practice', and not merely be assumed to exist by the extrapolations of theory. But finitism omits a quite simple axiom which underpins the principle of an act being made 'in practice', the inclusion of which would clarify the constructivist stance. I will not reveal that axiom here, but, on the shaky assumption that mathematicians are interested in these sort of things, present it as a challenge:

My challenge is this –

The constructivist stance to mathematics is a strong stance to take. I challenge anyone to demonstrate that 6 is not the largest number.