

Re: Platonism

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patty wrote:

>

> *I don't know if its totally accurate to say that mathematics is not
> empirical. Once you make a construction, you subject it to tests. If
> the tests fail, you reject the construction. What is your criteria for
> being empirical ?*

Measurement and observation vs formal deduction. Essentially all mathematical proofs are tautologies. The same is not true for empirically true statements.

It is empirically true that the washington monument is 555 +- 1 foot high. No logical contradiction would be entialed if it were only 500 feet high. An empirically true statement just so happens to be true. A logically true statement is necessarily true.

Bob Kolker