

Re: Epistemology 201: The Science of Science

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From: Wolf Kirchmeir (wwolfkir_at_sympatico.ca)

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Allan C Cybulskie wrote:

[...]

>

> *But the rule/equation based on is NOT. When we match, we take one element
> and "match" it with another without any mapping function.*

But that's what mapping is. "We take one element and match it with another..." *_is_* a mapping function, or rather a description of one (rather vague, but I think we know what you intend.:-))

Mathematicians, realising that mapping functions are very important, that is, fun to play with, and very useful, have just worked out ways of describing/stating mapping functions somewhat more concisely and clearly.

> *The "mapping*

> *function" approach is one that is derived from an accidental quality of
> finite sets.*

> *For example, how many people "match" in real life by dividing numbers by 2?*

> *Or multiplying them by 2?*

Ever done a seating plan?

You could divide the number of guests by the number of chairs per table. That tells you how many tables you need.

Or, you just set up a bunch of tables and chairs, and then drop name cards on the chairs to see if you've any name cards (or chairs) left over.

Which are you more likely to do?

I think set operations are common in everyday life, including those dreaded "mapping functions."