

Re: Epistemology 201: The Science of Science

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From: Albert Wagner (*albertwagner_at_cox.net*)

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robert j. kolker wrote:

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> *Tony Orlow (aeob) wrote:*

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>> *Except that unbounded is the same as "without end". That's what*

>> *"infinite" literally means.*

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> *Will you stop confusing your sloppy use of everyday language with
> precise technical definitions. The word "infinite" has several distinct
> meanings (in a mathematical context) and this has been pointed out to
> repeatedly. Mathematics has a technical vocabulary which bears a
> conincidental similarity to common usage. In the common lexicon
> "infinite" means something like "indefinite". "Finite" in the common
> lexicon is approximately the same as "definite".*

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> *Our discussion from the very beginning has been about the mathematical
> context, not about common usage.*

You can't crosspost to a philosophical NG and demand control of context and word usage. If such is important to you, then keep it to yourself until you are safely inside you private Hilbert Space with your peers.

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"I consider it quite possible that physics cannot be based on the field concept, i. e., on continuous structures. In that case nothing remains of my entire castle in the air, gravitation theory included, [and of] the rest of modern physics."

-- Albert Einstein in a 1954 letter to Michele Besso.