

Mathematical Pluralism: Platonism, Noneism, and Fictionalism

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Mathematical pluralism is, loosely, the view that there is no one privileged mathematical structure: there is a plurality of these, and all mathematical truth is truth-with-respect-to-a-structure. In this talk I will not defend mathematical pluralism, but I will ask how the view affects debates about the ontology of mathematical objects. I will consider three possible accounts: platonism, noneism, and fictionalism. Any of these is compatible with mathematical pluralism, though I will suggest that a noneist view is the best.