

Dialectic and Logic: the Truth of Axioms

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I will discuss the question of what determines truth in mathematics and, expanding on [1], advance the (now fairly unfashionable) thesis of Hilbert (and of Plato) that it is (in a certain sense) defined by the axioms. I particularly want to confront the sense one has that questions of truth are involved in the choice of basic concepts and axioms.

References

- [1] W.W. Tait, “Beyond the axioms: the question of objectivity in mathematics”, *Philosophia Mathematica* 9 (2001): 21-26.