

Review of: "Mathematics Is Physical"

Binoy R

Potential competing interests: No potential competing interests to declare.

The author makes a bold claim in this article: Mathematics is physical. In an attempt to substantiate this claim, the author seems to be doing the following:

1 - Using the terms - mathematics, physics, quantum mechanics, computation, physical as single, unified entities carrying one meaning. This usage is not informed by the historical and philosophical debates on these terms, and hence often leads to making unclear statements about relations between them.

2 - Conflating physical with physics and physics with classical-quantum pair. This is also not consistent with the historical and philosophical investigations done on these terms.

For both the above, there are enough materials in STS (science and technology studies) scholarship which provide nuanced, historically consistent treatment of the terms under consideration.

3 - A folklor-ish treatment of Turing machine, Godel's theorems and dynamical systems. This can at best generate curiosity in readers and can not be considered as constituting rigorous arguments to support any of the claims made.

Thus, I would consider this attempt as expository which can prompt the reader to ask more questions.