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Author: M.Jackson Marr

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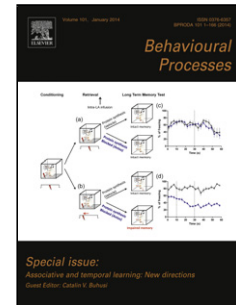
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MATHEMATICS AS VERBAL BEHAVIOR

M. JACKSON MARR

GEORGIA TECH

mm27@prism.gatech.edu

Highlights

□ “Mathematics as Verbal Behavior” □ 1. Two interrelated principal questions regarding mathematics have been: (a) Are the subjects of mathematical interest pre-existing in some transcendental realm and thus are “discovered” as one might discover a new planet; and (b) Why is mathematics so effective in the practices of science and engineering even though originally such mathematics was “pure” with applications neither contemplated or even desired? ► 2. I argue that considering the actual practice of mathematics in its history and in the context of acquired verbal behavior one can address at least some of its apparent mysteries. ► 3. How is it possible to understand Nature by properly talking about it? Essentially, it is because Nature taught us how to talk.

Abstract

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