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**Bonnie Gold\*** (bgold@monmouth.edu). *Mathematical objects may be abstract, but they're NOT acausal.* Preliminary report.

Although many mathematicians are closet Platonists, they are hesitant to embrace platonism openly because of the challenges philosophers have issued to the view. The problem is, if mathematical objects are outside of spacetime and have no causal interactions with people, how can people gain mathematical knowledge. In my talk I will challenge the view that mathematical objects are acausal, even though I agree that they are abstract. I accept that we cannot act in a causal way on mathematical objects - that is, I can't make four be prime or the Klein-four group be cyclic. But mathematical objects DO have causal-type effects on the world, of a variety of types. Some involve their effects on human thinking, but others involve physical objects. This talk is a very preliminary version of an article I hope eventually to publish, and I will be very interested in audience response. (Received September 05, 2005)