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The use, which we can make in philosophy, of mathematics, consists either in the imitation of its methods or in the real application of its propositions to the objects of philosophy. It is not evident that the first has to date been of much use, however much advantage was originally promised from it The second use, on the contrary, has been so much the more advantageous for the parts of philosophy concerned, which, by the fact that they applied the doctrines of mathematics for their purposes, have raised themselves to a height to which otherwise they could make no claim.

Kant, "Attempt to Introduce the
Concept of Negative Magnitude into
Philosophy" (1763)

