

Translation into English: [Chapter 2 - Catalogue of Errors for Both Theories of Relativity](#)

from the German documentation of G.O. Mueller

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### **P: Epistemology / Error No. 3**

#### **For relativists, "non-violation of something" is seen as confirmation of the theory**

*The earliest and most prominent representative of this justification approach is Max v. Laue (1913, p. 7): "We come into contradiction with no empirical result if we transfer the principle of relativity of electrodynamics to mechanics. The reverse procedure, by contrast, would not be possible." From this he concludes: "Admittedly, the fundamental equations of mechanics would then require amendment, as would thermodynamics."*

*This line of argumentation is repeatedly to be found in the presentations of the world of relativity, as a last line of defence that appears to be incontestable and with respect to which one can easily claim more than it delivers. Epistemologically speaking, however, "non-contradiction" is meaningless for the theory. Many untenable theories are imaginable, for which it could be said that they do not, for example, contradict the ten-times table, which nevertheless makes them no more correct.*

Another example is that of Frau Holle [Holda, who on shaking the feathers out of her blanket claimed that it was snowing]. Her claim does not contradict the meteorological theory as to snowfall, because a fantasy idea and an empirically secured theory cannot refute each other. Both want to provide proof of snowfall, but empirically the second of the two theories appears to be much better confirmed. The relativity fantasy of Albert Einstein is completely lacking in empirical confirmation and can, vis-à-vis the Lorentz theory, provide no such experimental proof, as v. Laue himself admits (p. 20). And all that is left is the "non-contradiction" as a last excuse, that cannot however compensate for positive proof.

Laue, Max v.: Das Relativitätsprinzip. 2., verm. edition. Braunschweig: Vieweg, 1913. 272 pages. (Die Wissenschaft. 38.)