Knowledge of Logical Coherence and the Mathematical Access Problem

Access worries raise a powerful intuitive challenge to traditional moral realism. These worries suggest that, if traditional moral realism is correct, human possession of significant true beliefs about morality would be a spooky coincidence. The Companions in Innocence argument attempts to remove this objection, by pointing out that human knowledge of mathematics (which we seem to clearly have) appears mysterious in many of the ways that moral knowledge does. In this talk, I will argue that mathematical knowledge, but not moral knowledge, can be reduced to knowledge of facts about logical possibility (aka coherence) and necessity. I'll then argue that, our knowledge of logical possibility is no more mysterious than our knowledge of physical (or chemical) possibility, thereby breaking the apparent symmetry between the mathematical and moral cases.