

## Reading Assignment 8: Aristotle's Philosophy of Mathematics

**Required Readings:** Chapter 3 of Shapiro [2000].

### Questions:

- According to Shapiro, explain one difference between Aristotelian and Platonic forms.
- Shapiro discusses two interpretations of Aristotle's philosophy of mathematics. According to the first interpretation, do points, surfaces, and lines exist in the physical world? Explain. According to Shapiro, what is the "perhaps damning" consequence of Aristotle's view, so interpreted?
- According to Shapiro, why does Aristotle's view provide a better explanation about why mathematics is applicable in science?

### References

Stewart Shapiro. *Thinking about mathematics: The philosophy of mathematics*. Oxford University Press, 2000.