

PLATO'S REPUBLIC

Autumn 2024 Part 2 | Week 3 The analogy of light | Divided Line | The Cave



Platonic Academy of Melbourne

The Sun and Sunlight Analogy

Just as

The Sunis tothings visibleto the eye,So

The Good is to invisible forms seen by the mind's eye. page 508

Ana-logia: in same ratio (logos)a is to basc is to d1:2as3:6

The analogy of vision and the visible

Just as

So

Shadows of visible things are to

visible things,

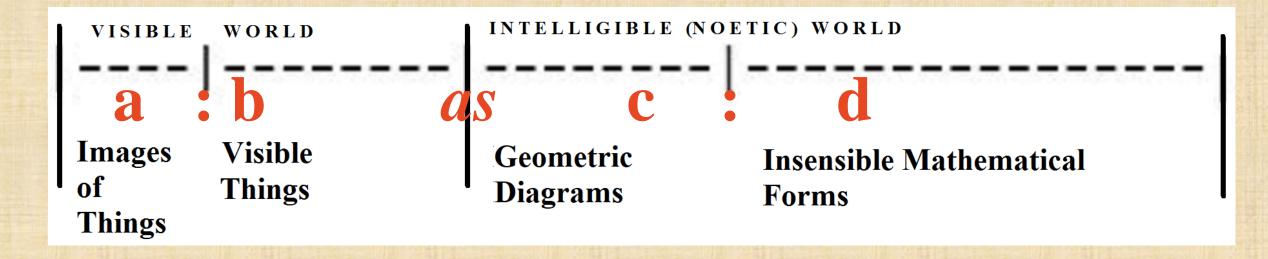
Geometric diagrams

are to

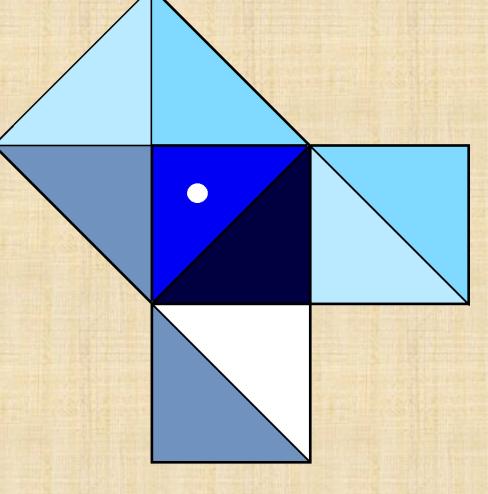
forms.

pages 509e-510c

The Divided Line as a continuous ratio



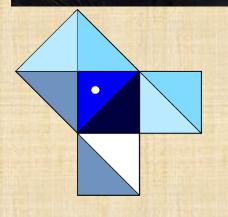
Geometric Diagrams are sensible things used to express the insensible their form



The Sun and Sunlight Analogy

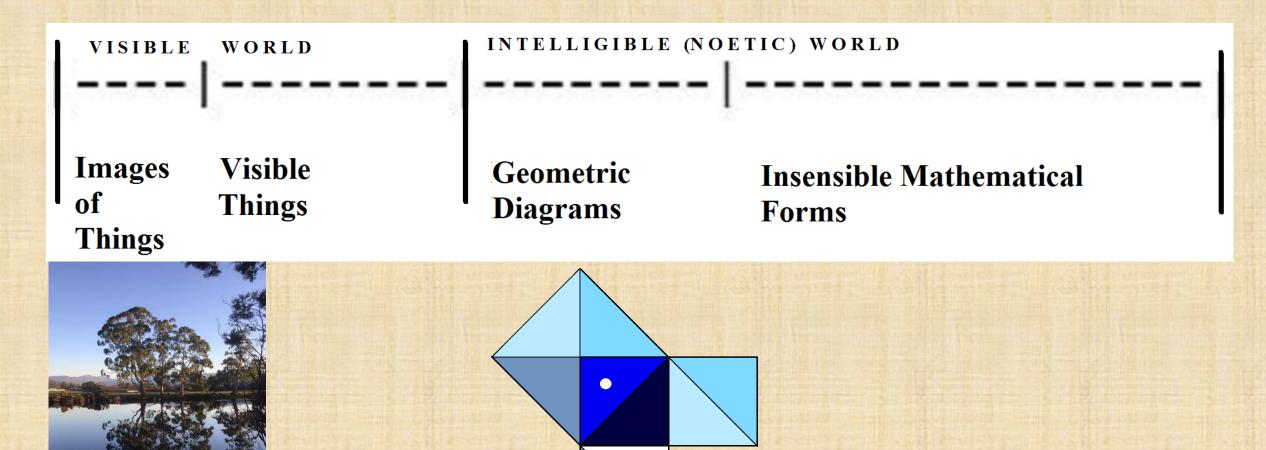
Just as reflections of visible things are to visible things, So geometric diagrams are to invisible forms.

page 509e -510c

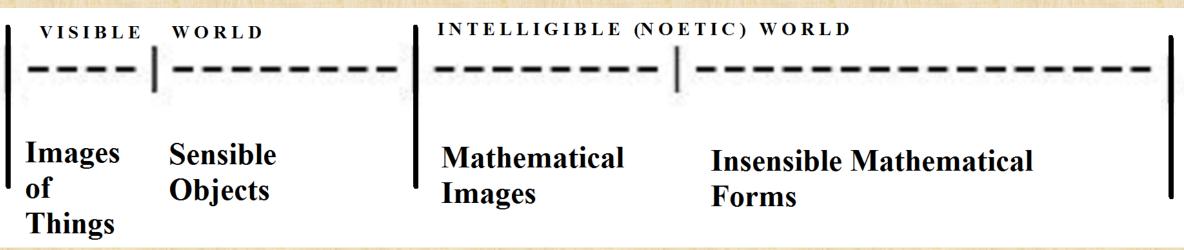


The Divided Line



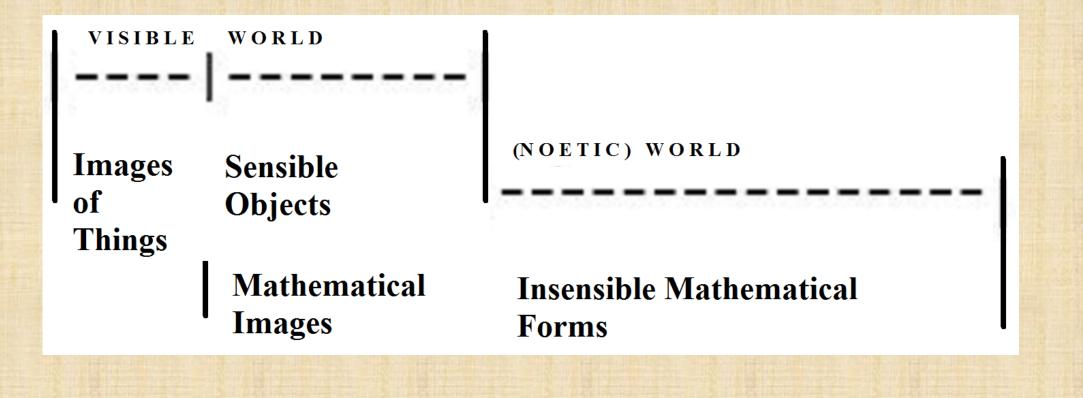


The Divided Line for all the senses

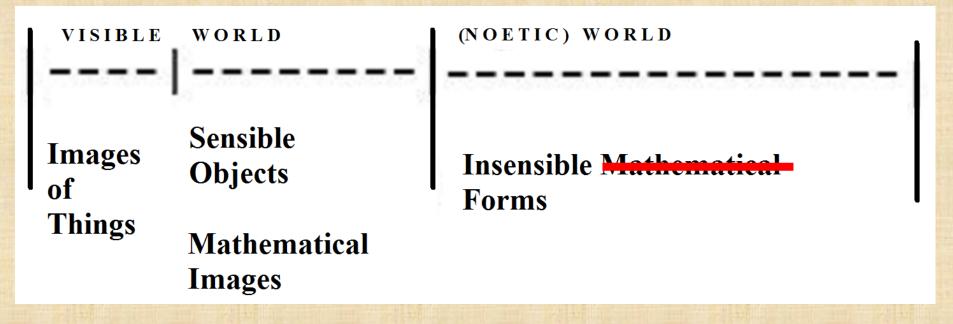




The Divided Line as a continuous ratio



Divided Line reduced to a 3-term proportion



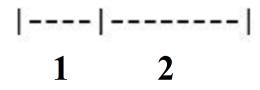
PLATO

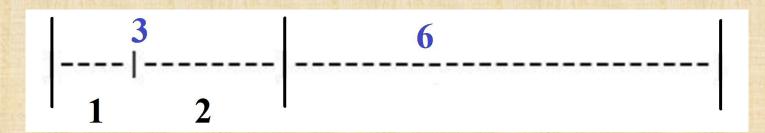
Just as images are to visible things so visible things are to forms.

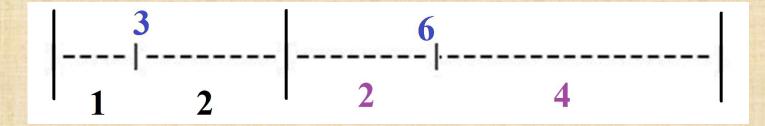
Like a "geometric ratio" e.g., the double:

Just as 1 is to 2 so 2 is to 4... Just as 3 is to 6 so 6 is to 12

The Divided Line in the double ratio

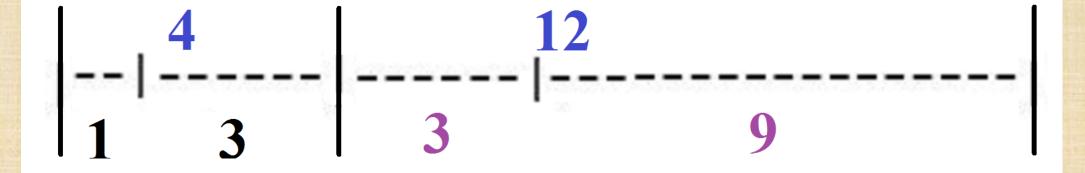






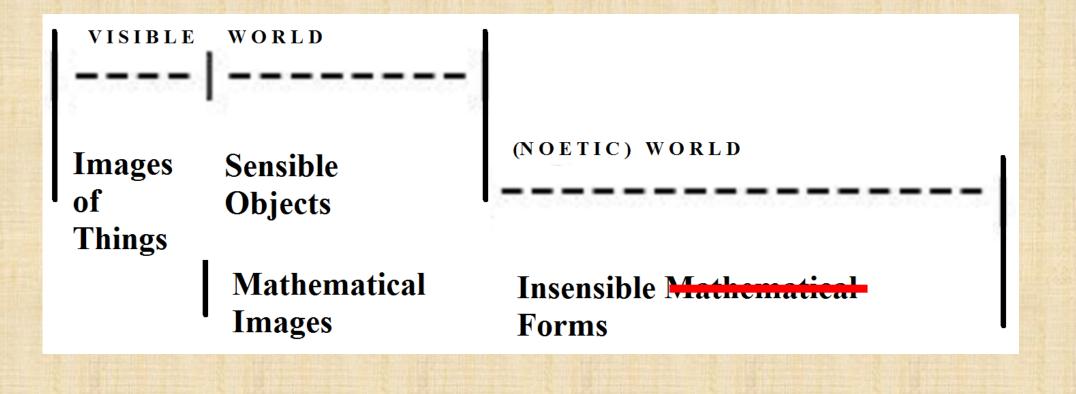
The Divided Line in the triple ratio



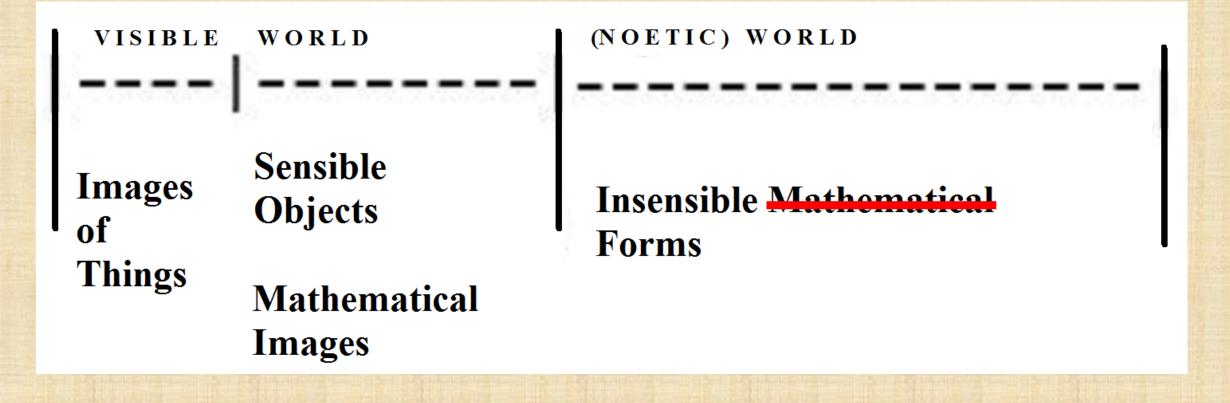


No matter where the first cut is made, the middle terms (here 3 & 3) must always be the same.

The Divided Line as a continuous ratio

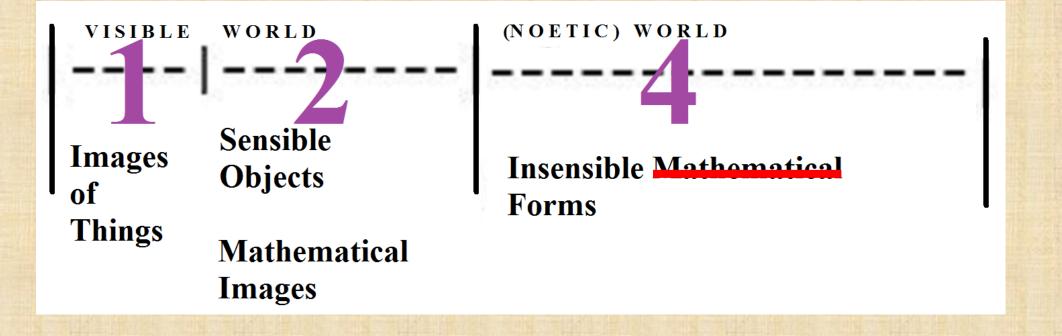


Divided Line reduced to a 3-term proportion



The Divided Line as 3-term proportion (e.g., double)

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Ratio = *logos* Proportion = *ana-logia*

Counting Syllables

Homeric Hexameter

Over the sea, past Crete, on the Syrian shore to the southward, ▏▟▝▋▏▟▕▋▕▋▟▝▋▏▟ Dwells in the well-tilled lowland a dark-haired Aethiop people, لمام المالم المالية المالية المالية المالية المالية Skilful with needle and loom, and the arts of the dyer and carver, Skilful, but feeble of heart; for they know not the lords of Olympus, Lovers of men; neither broad-browed Zeus, not Pallas Athene, ות ת נות ת נות ת נות ת נות ת Teacher of wisdom to heroes, bestower of might in the battle; Share not the cunning of Hermes, nor list to the songs of Apollo, ותתנות תנותת ♪♪|」 Fearing the stars of the sky, and the roll of the blue salt water.

Hierarchy of Reality and the corresponding Hierarchy of Knowledge

VISIBLE	WORLD	INTELLIGIBLE (NO	ETIC) WORLD
Images of Things	Sensible Objects	Mathematical Images	Insensible Mathematical Forms
Apprehension Conjecture	Opinion	Thought	Understanding [p. 511d] This section logos grasps by power of dialectic, using hypothesis to go as far as the unhypothetical first principle of everything; using no sense perceptions but Forms themselves, going through Forms to Forms and ending up at the Forms. [page 511b]



Goal of the education program is to...

...to turn around the mind's eye towards the formal source (not towards the manifestations)

περι-αγω peri-agō
518d 'lead about': περι-αγωγης peri-agoges
521c 'bringing of a soul around'
ψυχης περιαγωυη peri-agoue

μετα-στρεφω meta-strephō 526e 'turn towards' μετα-στρεφεςθαι 532b μετα-στροθη

