



Philosophy of Mathematics

2004/2005; 2nd Semester
dr Benedikt Löwe

Homework Set # 2.

Deadline: April 6th, 2005 (three weeks!)

Reminder. Homework sets will be graded on a scale of **excellent** (15-13) / **good** (12-10) / **OK** (9-7) / **not OK** (6-0) basis. The answer to a “discuss” question must be less than one page and will be graded based on correctness and style of writing. The answer to a “paraphrase” question must be as short as possible without leaving out anything important and will be graded based on style of writing, correctness (including grammar and spelling), conciseness (the shorter the better) and completeness.

Question 3 (15 points).

Read pages 6 to 19 of Crispin Wright’s paper *Is Hume’s Principle Analytic?* (Notre Dame Journal of Formal Logic 40 (1999), p. 6-30) and paraphrase the main points briefly. You can find the paper on the course webpage and a limited number of print-outs in the envelope at my office door (P3.19). Keep in mind that the paraphrase should only contain the main points, not the subtleties of the argument.

Question 4 (15 points).

Discuss the following statement:

“Look at Athens in hellenistic times, at Paris and Oxford in the late middle ages, and at the European continent in the XVIIth and XVIIIth century. You’ll find *Platonists* and *Peripateticism*, *Realists* and *Nominalists*, and *Rationalists* and *Empiricists*. From the point of view of philosophy of mathematics, these positions clearly correspond to each other (Platonism-Realism-Rationalism and Peripateticism-Nominalism-Empiricism) and are in a natural line of succession.”