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Abstract

Philosophy of mathematics of last fifty years has been dominated by the meta-ontological stance according to which one (or maybe the) fundamental problem of the ontology of mathematical theories is the existence of mathematical objects and the related epistemic access to them. But during the last ten years another fecund and promising metaphysical framework has been developed: the key idea (which goes back to Aristotle) is that the main problem of metaphysics is about the relation of grounding among various levels of reality. However, there are few attempts to extend these intuitions to the debate in philosophy of mathematics. The aim of this, preliminary, work is analysing Gideon Rosen's proposal on grounding and the problem of mathematical entities; then, we trace a general characterization concerning grounding and reduction. At the end of the day, we advance a conjecture about the grounding of arithmetical facts which could constitute a crucial feature of a form of new structuralism.