Sagredo. The force of necessary demonstrations is full of marvel and delight; and such are mathematical [demonstrations] alone. I already knew, by trusting to the accounts of mny bombardiers, that the maximum of all ranges of shots, for artillery pieces or mortars – that is, that shot which takes the ball farthest – is the one made at elevation of half a right angle, which they call "at the sixth point of the [Tartaglia's gunner's] square." But to understand the reason for this phenomenon infinitely surpasses the simple idea obtained from the statements of others, or even from experience many times repeated.

Saviati. You say well. The knowledge of one single effect acquired through its causes opens the mind to the understanding and certainty of other effects without need of recourse to experiments. That is exactly what happens in the present instance ; for having gained by demonstrative reasoning the certainty that the maximum of all ranges of shots is that of elevation at half a right angle, the Author demonstrates to us something that has perhaps not been observed through experiment; and this is that of the other shots, those are equal [in range] to one another whose elevations exceed or fall short of half a right angle by equal angles.

That is, because:

$$\tan \theta_D = \frac{a}{2p}$$

[TABLE 1]

Amplitudes of semiparabolas described with the same initial speed.

Angle of Elevation		Angle of Elevation
45	10000	
46	9994	44°
47	9976	43
48	9945	42
49	9902	41
50	9848	40
51	9782	39
52	9704	38
53	9612	37
54	9511	36
55	9396	35
56	9272	34
57	9136	33
58	8989	32
59	8829	31
60	8659	30
61	8481	29
62	8290	28
63	8090	27
64	7880	26
65	7660	25
66	7431	24
67	7191	23
68	6944	22
69	6692	21
70	6428	20
71	6157	19
72	5878	18
73	5592	17
74	5300	16
75	5000	15
76	4694	14
77	4383	13
78	4067	12
79	3746	11
80	3420	10
81	3090	9
82	2756	8
83	2419	7
84	2079	6
85	1736	5
86	1391	4
87	1044	3
88	698	2
89	349	1

[TABLE 2]

Altitudes of semiparabolas described with the same initial speed.

Angle of Elevation		Angle of Elevation	
1	3	46	5173
2	13	47	5346
3	28	48	5523
4	50	49	5698
5	76	50	5868
6	108	51	6038
7	150	52	6207
8	194	53	6379
9	245	54	6546
10	302	55	6710
11	365	56	6873
12	432	57	7033
13	506	58	7190
14	585	59	7348
15	670	60	7502
16	760	61	7649
17	855	62	7796
18	955	63	7939
19	1060	64	8078
20	1170	65	8214
21	1285	66	8346
22	1402	67	8474
23	1527	68	8597
24	1685	69	8715
25	1786	70	8830
26	1922	71	8940
27	2061	72	9045
28	2204	73	9144
29	2351	74	9240
30	2499	75	9330
31	2653	76	9415
32	2810	77	9493
33	2967	78	9567
34	3128	79	9636
35	3289	80	9698
36	3456	81	9755
37	3621	82	9806
38	3793	83	9851
39	3962	84	9890
40	4132	85	9924
41	4302	86	9951
42	4477	87	9972
43	4654	88	9987
44	4827	89	9998
45	5000	90	10000

[TABLE 3]

Giving the altitudes and sublimities of parabolas of constant amplitude, namely 10000, computed for each degree of elevation.

Angle of Elevation	Altitude	Sublimity	Angle of Elevation	Altitude	Sublimity
1	87	286533	46	5177	4828
2	175	142450	47	5363	4662
3	262	95802	48	5553	4502
4	349	71531	49	5752	4345
5	437	57142	50	5959	4196
6	525	47573	51	6174	4048
7	614	40716	52	6399	3906
8	702	35587	53	6635	3765
9	792	31565	54	6882	3632
10	881	28367	55	7141	3500
11	972	25720	56	7413	3372
12	1063	23518	57	7699	3247
13	1154	21701	58	8002	3123
14	1246	20056	59	8332	3004
15	1339	18663	60	8600	2887
16	1434	17405	61	9020	2771
17	1529	16355	62	9403	2658
18	1624	15389	63	9813	2547
19	1722	14522	64	10251	2438
20	1820	13736	65	10722	2331
21	1919	13024	66	11230	2226
22	2020	12376	67	11779	2122
23	2123	11778	68	12375	2020
24	2226	11230	69	13025	1919
25	2332	10722	70	13237	1819
26	2439	10253	71	14521	1721
27	2547	9814	72	15388	1624
28	2658	9404	73	16354	1528
29	2772	9020	74	17437	1433
30	2887	8659	75	18660	1339
31	3008	8336	76	20054	1246
32	3124	8001	77	21657	1154
33	3247	7699	78	23523	1062
34	3373	7413	79	25723	972
35	3501	7141	80	28356	881
36	3633	6882	81	31569	792
37	3768	6635	82	35577	702
38	3906	6395	83	40222	613
39	4049	6174	84	47572	525
40	4196	5959	85	57150	437
41	4346	5752	86	71503	349
42	4502	5553	87	95405	262
43	4662	5362	88	143181	174
44	4828	5177	89	286499	87
45	5000	5000	90	infinity	[zero]