

Pleasure And Pain Modeled With Math

Post by “waterholic” of December 2, 2023 at 9:42 AM

[Quote from Cassius](#)

I wonder if the "stimuli we received" phrasing (which is inherent in a lot of common discussion) is part of the problem. Is not Epicurus saying that the normal condition pleasures are not "stimuli" that are "received" at all, but self-generated through the minds appreciation of the true facts of life? The "received" part is especially a problem if that word implies that they just fall in your lap without effort, which I gather is pretty clear they do not (or at least they are not always seen to be pleasure without proper philosophy).

I have to think about this. The stimuli here refers to any stimulation of our brain. This is not about experiential pleasure vs. pleasure due to our memories, for instance. The brain is stimulated with experiences AND memories. I don't know anything about biology, but the assumption here is that any kind of "chemical" stimulation results in pleasure and pain reaction in the brain. If we stop experiencing those it means we no longer exist. At least this is my understanding of stimuli as I write.