

# Pleasure And Pain Modeled With Math

Post by “waterholic” of December 2, 2023 at 10:02 AM

## [Quote from Cassius](#)

And I gather that Cicero's discussion is focusing on "stimulation of the senses." Does all awareness come through the senses? I'd say probably not, and maybe the precise issue they were debating is whether pleasure must be confined to actions of "the senses" or whether pleasure can be experienced (mentally) without the \*present\* stimulation of the senses. The relationship between "experience" and "sense" is pretty tricky and I am not sure how to best express it.

I certainly can't claim that I have an answer here. But here is my intuition: aside from the argument of whether external stimulation is necessary to experience pleasure, there is the argument that external stimulation simply cannot be disregarded or turned off. Even with all possible senses damaged to a degree, a person still senses. Those senses trigger emotions, memories etc. Our brains are complex machines and they don't require much stimulation to create an emotional response. Even a small amount of stimulation can get a great response. In the model I presented here, removing all the pain leaves only the tiniest amount of pleasure (say from the fact that one breaths) and that results in the state of maximum pleasure.