

Epicurus' Prolepsis vs Heraclitus' Flux

Post by "Cassius" of July 6, 2025 at 4:59 PM

[Quote from Rolf](#)

My point, however, is less about this specific topic and more about scientific discoveries and consensus potentially being at odds with Epicurus' physics. Don's view is a valid one, and probably one I share, but I'm interested in hearing more perspectives on this.

I will look to see if we have prior threads on what happens when philosophy seems to conflict with science. I know the subject has come up regularly, but it tends to get buried with other topics.

But for now and in general, I don't think this apparent conflict is something new, and it existed to a degree even in Epicurus' time, on such issues as the calculations as to the size of the sun. In that case Epicurus can be made to look ridiculous in light of modern telescopes and observations, but he can also be defended as pointing to very reasonable caution about the implications of new methodology which might itself be incomplete. There's also a relationship here with Epicurus' refusal to accept a logical challenge that Metrodorus must be either alive or dead tomorrow.

We have a good thread on the size of the sun [here](#).

And the subforum (which probably does not contain all the threads, some of which are buried in "general," is here:

[Explaining Epicurus' Position On The "Size of the Sun" And Related Issues of Speculative Math / Geometry](#)