

A Call For Links On The Relationship of Mathematics and Geometry to Reality (and Epicurus' view of the issue)

Post by “Cassius” of August 1, 2019 at 1:03 PM

I've now read the full physics . org article and think it is good. I want to track down the full Abbott article to which it refers. But as I read this, the logical conclusion is:

There's no real difference in kind between (1) the most complicated 2019 NASA formulas that calculate the size and movement and composition of the sun and (2) a Roman centurion pointing at the sky and saying 'the sun is a ball of fire that rises and sets on the horizon every day.'

Both are simply human expressions / symbolic mental summaries of our own observations and they have no direct connection whatsoever to the reality of the sun and its workings. Unless we are astronauts the Roman centurion's observation were as useful to him as a NASA equation is to most of us. And if we happen to be among those NASA scientists (if there are any) who think that our formulas have some kind of mystical divine connection to some external ultimate reality, then we've actually regressed in 2000 years. If we think our math is the key to the meaning of life we're ****less**** intelligent than the Roman centurion who considered his description of the sun as all he needed to plan the campaigns of his legion.

[Martin](#) would you agree?