

Plato's contribution to natural science (with special emphasis on the *Timaeus*)

What were the questions that led the Greeks to the pursuit of natural science? How was this interest related to philosophy? How does this interest differ from that of a Modern scientist? Starting from these questions, we will examine Plato's contribution to the study of nature, we will discuss his criticism of his predecessors and we will see how natural science fits his conception of philosophy, but also the impact of his thought (focusing on the notion of teleology) on his successors.