Philon of Byzantium Encyclopedia Article

Philon of Byzantium

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Contents

Philon of Byzantium Encyclopedia Article.....1

Contents.....2

Philon of Byzantium.....3

Philon of Byzantium

c. 280-c. 220 B.C.

Greek physicist and inventor known for his treatise on mechanics, and for his work on the duplication of the cube. In his *Mechanics* Philon discussed the lever, catapults, and pneumatics. His approach to the Delian problem (cube doubling) was stated in terms of creating a catapult capable of hurling a missile twice as large as the payload of an existing catapult.