

Multiverse Reincarnation

1. The Evolutionary Argument

(1) Our universe is highly complex. (2) All complex things are produced by evolutionary processes. (3) Therefore, our universe was produced by an evolutionary process. (4) Every evolutionary process begins with a simplest example of its type. (5) Therefore, the evolutionary process which produced our universe began with a simplest universe. Call it Alpha. (6) In an evolutionary process, simpler things of some type beget more complex things of that type. (7) Thus our universe was produced by an evolutionary process in which simpler universes beget more complex universes.

Either (A) Alpha produces no offspring or (B) it produces some. Either (A) not all of its offspring are more complex or (B) all of its offspring are more complex. Either (A) the increases in complexity are more than minimal or (B) the increases in complexity are minimal. Either (A) it does not produce all possible minimally more complex versions of itself or (B) it produces all possible minimally more complex versions of itself. On each choice, option (B) maximizes the likelihood of producing our complex universe. So, by inference to the best explanation, each case of (B) is true.

2. The Tree of Universes

The Initial Axiom: There exists an initial simple universe.

The Successor Axiom: For every universe, for every way it can be complexified, there exists a successor universe which is complexified in that way.

Increasing complexity entails increasing *intrinsic value*. Thus complexification is improvement in an intrinsic sense.

3. Improvements of Universes

(1) The first rule is that every part in the old whole must have at least one new version of itself in the new whole. Hence no value is lost by absence. The new version of the old part is a *counterpart* of the old part.

(2) The second rule says that distinct parts in the old whole must have distinct counterparts in the new whole. Hence no value is lost by erasure of uniqueness.

(3) The third rule says that no part in the old whole can have a less valuable counterpart in the new whole. The values of the parts are never decreased.

(4) The fourth rule says that at least one part in the old whole must have a more valuable counterpart in the new whole. The value of at least one part must be increased.

4. Improved Wholes are Wholes of Improved Parts

Suppose a universe contains things A and B.

The improved versions of A are A_1 and A_2 .

The improved versions of B are B_1 and B_2 .

Hence the improved versions of the universe include $\{A, B_1\}$, $\{A, B_2\}$, $\{A_1, B\}$, $\{A_1, B_1\}$, $\{A_1, B_2\}$, $\{A_2, B\}$, $\{A_2, B_1\}$, $\{A_2, B_2\}$.

5. Some Improved Lives

