

The Divine Computer

1. Craig: The New Kalam Argument

Plato, in the *Timeus* (27d-28d), gave this cosmological argument:

- (1) Anything which can be perceived is in a process of becoming.
- (2) If anything is in a process of becoming, then it has some cause.
- (3) Our universe is perceivable.
- (4) Therefore, our universe is in a process of becoming.
- (5) Therefore, our universe has some cause.

It has been recently revived by the American Christian philosopher William Lane Craig (1991). He calls it the *Kalam Argument*:

- (1) Everything that has a beginning has a cause.
- (2) Our universe has a beginning.
- (3) Therefore: our universe has some cause.

2. Our Universe is Caused by a Divine Mind

Plato endorses this option in the *Timaeus*, and Craig also endorses this option. So the *Modified Kalam Argument* goes like this:

- (1) Everything that has a beginning has a cause.
- (2) Our universe has a beginning.
- (3) Therefore: our universe has a cause.
- (4) The cause of our universe is not in our universe.
- (5) If something is not in our universe, then it is not physical.
- (6) Therefore: the cause of our universe is not physical.
- (7) If something is not physical, then it is mental.
- (8) Therefore: the cause of our universe is mental.
- (9) But mental causes are minds.
- (10) So the cause of our universe is mind.
- (11) But any universe-creating mind is a god.
- (12) Therefore: the cause of our universe is a god.
- (13) So, some god exists.

3. The Methods of Divine Creation

The Modified Kalam Argument states that our universe was created by some divine mind. Call it God. How does God create our universe? There are three options:

The Way of Building. – ruled out

The Way of Speaking. – ruled out

The Way of Supervenience.

The Way of Supervenience suggests continuous creation.

5. The Nature of the Divine Mind

If God is a divine mind, what is the structure of this mind?

God is an organism with a body and brain. – ruled out

God is a computer of some kind.

6. Physics in a Divine Computer

The software hypothesis says that our universe is a software process running on some cosmic computer. This cosmic computer is God.