

# 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.