

FFWPU Europe and the Middle East: Anthropic Principle - Universe Made For Us

Knut Holdhus
April 29, 2024



Silhouette of person looking into the night sky

Strong anthropic principle maintains the universe must have the values it has because its purpose is the emergence of human life



Dr. Andrew Wilson giving his online presentation 23rd April 2024

Part 2 of "Evolutionary Creationism: A New Perspective on Purpose and Human Origins", a presentation by Dr. Andrew Wilson, Professor of Scriptural Studies at [HJ International Graduate School for Peace and Public Leadership \(HJI\)](#), New York, USA, given on a special online program 23rd April 2024 hosted by [HJI](#) and the [Higher Purpose Forum](#) (HPF).

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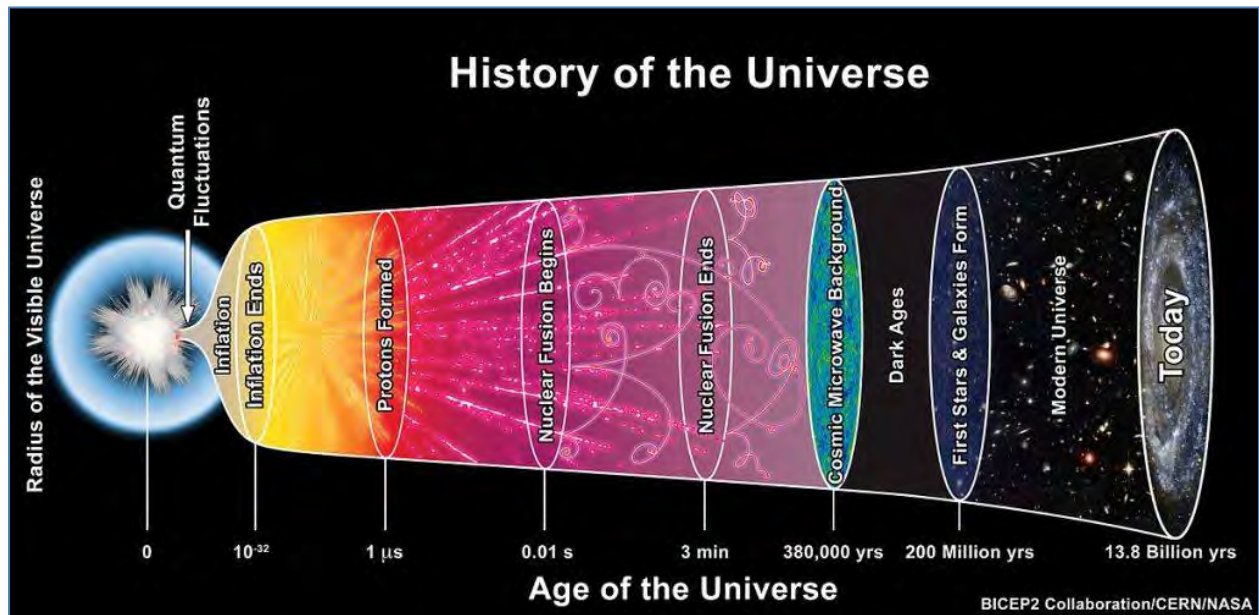
The Anthropic Principle

The Anthropic Principle is an attempt by scientists to explain [these observations of fine-tuning](#).

And there are basically two different Anthropic Principles - the Strong Anthropic Principle (SAP) and the Weak Anthropic Principle (WAP).

The Strong Anthropic Principle says that the universe is unique, and it must have these values because its purpose is the emergence of intelligent life.

In other words, there is an intelligent purpose behind the formation of the universe.

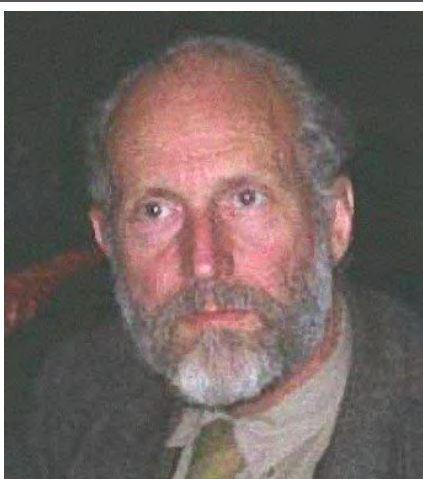


The evolution of the Universe from the big bang to the present. Illustration (2014)

This is the position of people who talk about intelligent design. There's an intelligence which we call [God](#), and intelligent design claims that the Creator designed the universe with the purpose to support the emergence of sentient life. And the fact that the universe is fine-tuned, is evidence for that.

Or there's some kind of a life principle underlying existence that constrains the universe to evolve towards life and mind.

So there are various ways of explaining the Strong Anthropic Principle, but it has to involve some kind of intelligence or life inherent from the very beginning.



Brandon Carter, Australian theoretical physicist, the first to name and define the weak anthropic principle

Well, that is very distasteful to most scientists who are materialistic, so they prefer the Weak Anthropic Principle.

And the Weak Anthropic Principle basically says that the fine-tuning that we see in our universe is the results of selection bias, because of all the possible universes that could exist, only a handful have the properties suitable for sentient beings such as ourselves.

We are sentient beings, hence the universe we see has all the right parameters for our existence. But there are an infinite number of other possible universes, and maybe those other universes exist actually, and we just don't see them.

And then you get the idea of the multiverse, that there are countless universes of which our universe is only one, and because it's the one that we live in, and because everything works for us to exist, we think of it as somehow designed, but it's not designed at all.

It's rather that it's automatically selected from all the countless universes that ours would be the one that we live in. Okay, that's the Weak Anthropic Principle.



The Skeptic Magazine's illustration of Ockham's Razor, the problem-solving principle that recommends searching for explanations constructed with the smallest possible set of elements. Popularly paraphrased

as, *"The simplest explanation is usually the best one."*

But there's no experimental evidence that other universes exist besides our universe. And positing multiple universes is quite cumbersome. How many multiple universes would there have to be?

So we can use what's called Ockham's Razor, which is a principle in philosophy that the simplest solution is the best.

The hypothesis of a single universe is simple and more parsimonious than positing multiple universes. Yet the reason most scientists prefer the Weak Anthropic Principle, which requires multiple universes, is because they are materialists, and they are allergic to the concept of [God](#) or a designer having designed the universe.

If it is a single universe, however, then its fine-tuning is evidence for the intelligent design of the universe by a purposeful Creator, which would then contradict materialism.

To be continued. Part 3 coming soon.

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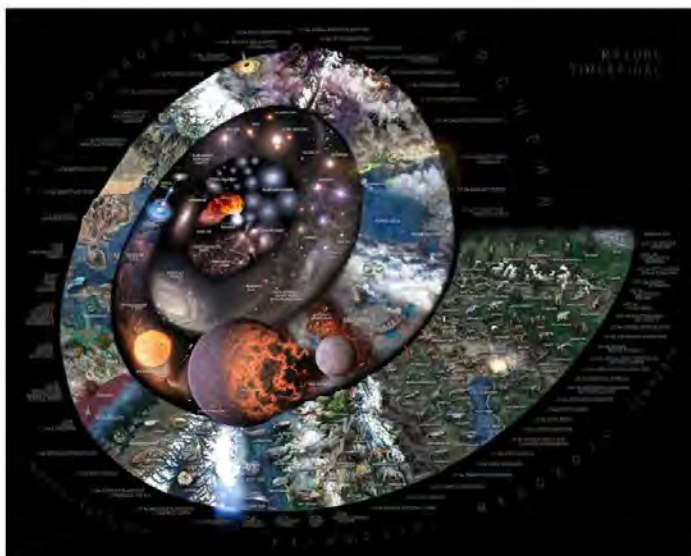
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Evolutionary Creationism – Fine-Tuned Universe

April 28, 2024 • Knut Holdhus

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Dr. Andrew Wilson.
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program 23rd April 2024 hosted by HJI and the Higher Purpose Forum (HPF).

See [part 2](#)

I call this topic "Evolutionary Creationism".

And I will try to explain what I mean by "evolutionary creationism" and why it's different from "theistic evolutionism", which was another way that people who believe in [God](#) talk about evolution.

But the starting point for this topic of theistic evolutionism – or evolutionary creationism, to me – is that creation has priority. But at least in [Unificationism](#), the [Principles](#) gives priority to mind over matter, and therefore the cause of the material universe is mental, spiritual, and ultimately the Creator, [God](#), is the cause, and material creation is the result.

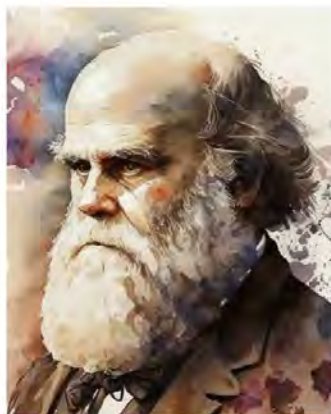
So [God](#) is the ground of science, whereas a lot of times with theistic evolutionists, they simply accept the evolution that science is proposing as a fact and say that this is the method that [God](#) chose to develop nature.

The problem with that view is that **evolution itself, as Darwin defined it, makes matter the ground and leaves [God](#) at the periphery.**

So you have a hard time figuring out just how [God](#) can be involved.

And Darwin himself said, you don't really need [God](#) to explain evolution.

Whereas my position – **evolutionary creationism – starts with [God](#)** and shows that **[God's](#) principles demonstrate the phenomena of nature that scientists call evolution.**



Charles Darwin in watercolour. Photo: Midjourney AI, prompted by Netha Hussain / Wikimedia Commons. [Public domain image](#). Cropped

So the **[Principles of Creation in the Unification teachings](#) is the philosophical ground for connecting religion and science.**

And there are a few points in the *Principles of Creation* that are basic.



Extract from a slide used by Dr. Jin-su Hwang. Photo: [FFWPU](#). Not used in Dr. Wilson's illustration

relationship. [God](#) is a being of duality, of masculinity and femininity. And these are in constant harmony in relation with each other. And [God](#) created everything in the universe to make "object partner relationships" the form of [God's](#) self.

So just as [God](#) is a being whose parts are relating to each other, the universe is composed of pairs of male and female creatures.

Even in the world of astronomy, things are in relationship. Planets are in relationship with their central star and so on.

And all of those "object partner relationships" are manifesting at some level the form of [God's](#) own self.

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First, God's form is duality in

Male and female join and take **God's** form in conjugal union and then co-create offspring as their second self.

Unificationists call this origin-division-union (O-D-U).

And so **God's** purpose for creating the universe is to have an "object partner relationship" with it, to have a relationship with a universe that **God** can relate with personally and intimately.

And **God** can do that through human beings who stand as the crown of creation.

Furthermore, human beings are the mediators who can comprehend the universe, the physical world, through science, and connect it with God through their spirituality.

So human beings are like the linchpin of God's creation.

That makes creation meaningful to **God**, the Creator, who created the universe.

	1 st Day	2 nd Day	3 rd Day	4 th Day	5 th Day	6 th Day
Bible Genesis 1:1-31	light darkness	waters under/above the firmament	ocean land plants	sun moon stars	fish birds	mammals human beings
Science	"Big Bang" plasma	Earth's formation	oceans simple plants	oxygenated atmosphere	fish dinosaurs	mammals, humans
	Azoic	Archeozoic	Proterozoic	Paleozoic	Mesozoic	Cenozoic

Illustration used by Dr. Andrew Wilson during his presentation 23rd April 2024. Illustration: Andrew Wilson

So the Principles of Creation says that everything grows, everything develops, nothing is created fully formed.

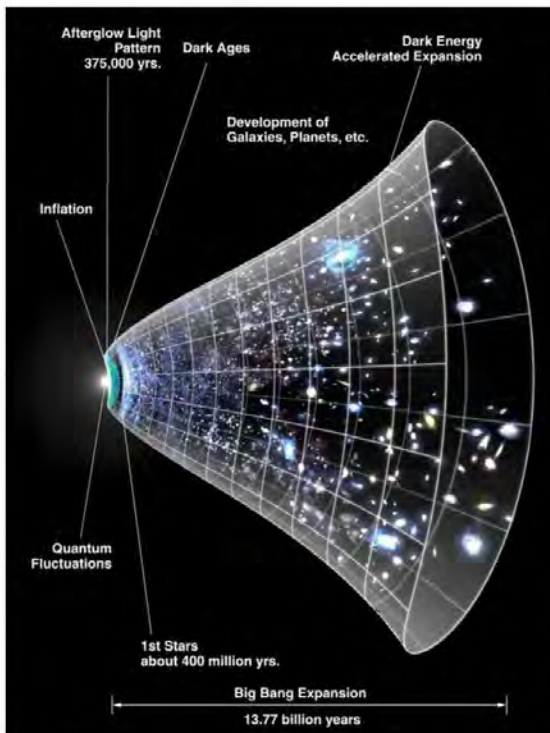
Adam and Eve weren't created fully formed as adult man and woman. They were created to grow through stages of growth, like everything. Beings grow through three stages – formation, growth, and completion – to reach perfection and fulfill the principle.

So **God** created the universe and had it develop through stages. And this correlates somehow with the Bible's depiction of creation in six days.

The point about growth through stages is that there's purpose at the end of that growth.

It's not just evolution by chance and accident, drifting along so that something can emerge. There is already a purpose and a goal behind growth. So stars, planets, living beings, everything emerged for purpose.

Let there be light!



We might say that from the time of the Big Bang, which correlates with scripture, **God** said, "Let there be light!"

There has been the

Timeline of the universe. A representation of the evolution of the universe over 13.77 billion years. The far left depicts the earliest moment we can now probe, when a period of "inflation" produced a burst of exponential growth in the universe.

(Size is depicted by the vertical extent of the grid in this graphic.) For the next several billion years, the expansion of the universe gradually slowed down as the matter in the universe pulled on itself via gravity. More recently, the expansion has begun to speed up again as the repulsive effects of dark energy have come to dominate the expansion of the universe. The afterglow light seen by WMAP was emitted about 375,000 years after inflation and has traversed the universe largely unimpeded since then. The conditions of earlier times are imprinted on this light; it also forms a backlight for later developments of the universe. Illustration: NASA/WMAP Science Team/ Art by Dana Berry / Wikimedia Commons. [Public domain image](#). Cropped

development, through millions of years, of various forms of atoms, molecules, proteins, and finally creatures who can even contemplate the universe that they were created in. That's what we have today in human beings who can study the universe and understand it.

So modern cosmology could be consistent with creation: the universe, beginning from one point, like the Bible says, **God** created by saying, "Let there be light!" And that pure energy, the light at the moment of creation was, in fact, a super-hot plasma that cooled to form atoms, stars, and planets.

And the outcome of all of that creative work is intelligent beings who can comprehend the whole. And how could that be? It seems like a lot.

The fine-tuned universe: Evidence of Creation

So we have this issue, which in cosmology is called the Anthropic Principle.

And behind the Anthropic Principle is the idea that the universe was finely tuned so that the outcome would be intelligent life and specifically human beings. I take this as evidence of creation.

So, in other words, that the universe is fine-tuned so that life could emerge, and therefore, human beings did not arise by chance.

It was in the design of creation itself, through the laws and mathematics and physical constants, that entities in the universe would form in stable arrays that could develop into stars and planets that could go around stars, that could have stable atmospheres and temperatures such that life could emerge in them.

And it's finely tuned because even a small change in the physical constants that govern the development of the universe would make it unfit for life.

The universe would either expand, contract or blow up, or it would expand so rapidly that nothing would congeal into stars.

But in fact, the universe is fine-tuned so that everything works out, such that there can be the planet Earth, where human beings can live and develop science in which they could contemplate the universe.

And there are many, many pieces of evidence that indicate this fine-tuning.

And I'm not even going to go into it because it's all very technical and has peculiar properties, like

Water – when water freezes, it floats instead of sinks.

The gravitational constant – if it were too weak, the planets and stars would not form. If it was too strong, the stars would burn up too quickly.

The strong nuclear force – if it were only 2% weaker, no helium or heavier atoms would be formed from hydrogen. It had to be the right amount.

The cosmological constant – which is the balance of gravity's attractive force with the repulsive force of quantum energy of the vacuum. It had to be fine-tuned to 1 part in 10^{120} .

The ratio of the electromagnetic force to the gravitational force between a pair of protons – If it were too small, the universe would be very short-lived because the protons would all collapse on each other due to gravity. And if it was too big, larger atoms like iron would never be generated.

The ratio of the mass of the proton to the electron – had to be exactly so for building blocks of life to be formed.

A certain energy state of carbon nucleus (the Hoyle resonance, 7.656 MeV) had to be just so for nuclear reactions within stars to burn helium to produce carbon and oxygen in ample amounts.

All of these are fine-tuned. It is evidence of fine-tuning.

Continued in [part 2](#).

“Evolutionary Creationism – Fine-Tuned Universe” – text. Dr. Andrew Wilson

Featured image above: *The history of nature from the Big Bang to the present day represented in a spiral with notable events annotated. Each billion years (Ga) is represented by 90 degrees of rotation of the spiral. The last 500 million years are represented in a 90-degree stretch for more detail on our recent history.*

Some of the events depicted are the emergence of cosmic structures (stars, galaxies, planets, clusters, and other structures), the emergence of the solar system, the Earth and the Moon, important geological events (gases in the atmosphere, great orogenies, glacial periods, etc.), emergence and evolution of living beings (first microbes, plants, animals, fungi), the evolution of hominid species and important events in human evolution. Illustration: Pablo Carlos Budassi / Wikimedia Commons. License: [CC ASA 4.0 Int](#)

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