



Session 3:

The Teleological Argument: The Argument from Design

Emergence Summer Sessions, 2026
The Existence of God



Black Holes – Infinite Density?

Density = Mass/Volume

Finite Mass/0 = ∞



The first gulp from the glass of natural science will turn you into an atheist, but at the bottom of the glass God is waiting for you.

-Werner Heisenberg



Teleological Argument

teleos - meaning “end or purpose”

ology - the study of a branch of knowledge

1. If an object bears the hallmarks of design, it most likely has a designer.
2. The universe and life exhibit the hallmarks of design.
3. Therefore, the universe and life most likely have a Designer.



Teleological Argument

(William Lane Craig)

1. The fine-tuning of the universe is due to either physical necessity, chance, or design.
2. It is not due to physical necessity or chance.
3. Therefore, it is due to design.

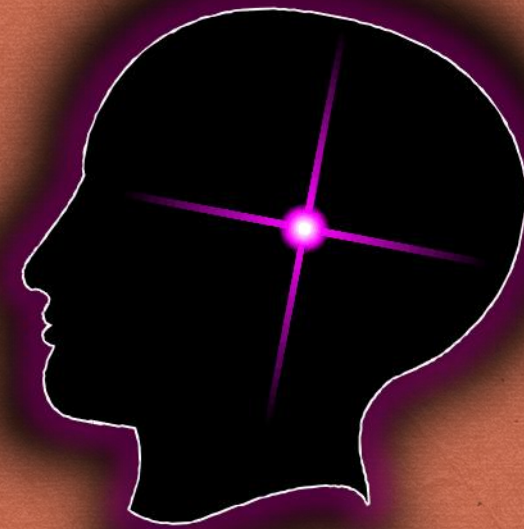


Two Fundamental Origin Questions: WHAT CAUSED THE:

1. UNIVERSE?



2. LIFE?



ULTIMATELY MEANINGLESS

“Here we are like mites on a plum. And the plum is this little planet, and it goes around an insignificant local star. And that star is on the obscure outskirts of an ordinary galaxy, which contains 400 billion other stars. And this galaxy is just one of something like 100 billion other galaxies. So, the idea that we are central, that we are the reason there is a universe, is pathetic.” - Carl Sagan



Fine Tuning of the Universe

The force of gravity

The strong nuclear force

The speed of light

The Boltzmann constant

The mass of the proton

The mass of the neutron

The cosmological constant

The density and mass of the universe just after the Big Bang

The speed of expansion of the universe just after Big Bang

The electromagnetic force

The weak nuclear force

The Planck constant

The charge of the proton (+) and the electron (-)

The mass of the electron

The velocity of expansion of universe at origin

The mass-energy density of universe at origin



Information Source: Michel-Yves Bollore, Olivier Bonnassies, *God, the Science, the Evidence*, pp. 183-184.

Fine Tuning of the Universe

Four Fundamental Forces:

1. Strong Nuclear Force
2. Weak Nuclear Force
3. Electromagnetic Force
4. Gravity



Fine Tuning of the Universe

Gravity is regulated by G, the gravitational constant. According to William Lane Craig, *"If this constant varied by just one in 10^{60} parts, none of us would exist"*



Fine Tuning of the Universe



“If the expansion rate of the universe was different by one part in a thousand, million, million a second after the big bang, the universe would have collapsed back on itself or never developed galaxies.”

- Stephen Hawking



Fine Tuning of the Universe

The **cosmological constant** (Λ), represents the energy density of empty space, and its values must be fine-tuned to approximately one part in 10^{120} .

This is the parameter that drives the acceleration of cosmic expansion. If it were only slightly larger, space would have expanded too quickly for galaxies to form. If it were smaller, the universe would have collapsed on itself almost instantly.



Fine Tuning of the Universe

Initial Entropy of the Universe: This measures the degree of order at the moment of the Big Bang.

According to physicist Roger Penrose, the precision required for the universe's low-entropy state is 1 part in $10^{10^{123}}$, a number so massive that it exceeds the total number of atoms in the observable universe.



Fine Tuning of the Universe

Speed of Light: $c=299,792,458$ m/s

Gravitational Constant: $G=6.673 \times 10^{-11}$ m³/kg s²

Planck's Constant: $1.05457148 \times 10^{-34}$ m² kg / s²

Planck Mass-Energy: 1.2209×10^{22} MeV

Mass of Electron, Proton, Neutron: 0.511; 938.3; 939.6 MeV

Mass of Up, Down, Strange Quark: 2.4; 4.8; 104 MeV (Approx.)

Ratio of Electron to Proton Mass: (1836.15)⁻¹

Gravitational Coupling Constant: 5.9×10^{-39}

Cosmological Constant: (2.3 x 10⁻³eV)

Hubble Constant: 71 km/s/Mpc (today)

Higgs Vacuum Expectation Value: 246.2 GeV



Source: <https://www.sowespeak.com/post/10-apologetic-arguments-the-fine-tuning-argument>

Teleological Argument

(William Lane Craig)

1. The fine-tuning of the universe is due to either physical necessity, chance, or design.
2. It is not due to physical necessity or chance.
3. Therefore, it is due to design.



THE ANTHROPIIC PRINCIPLE

reveals the fingerprint of the Creator



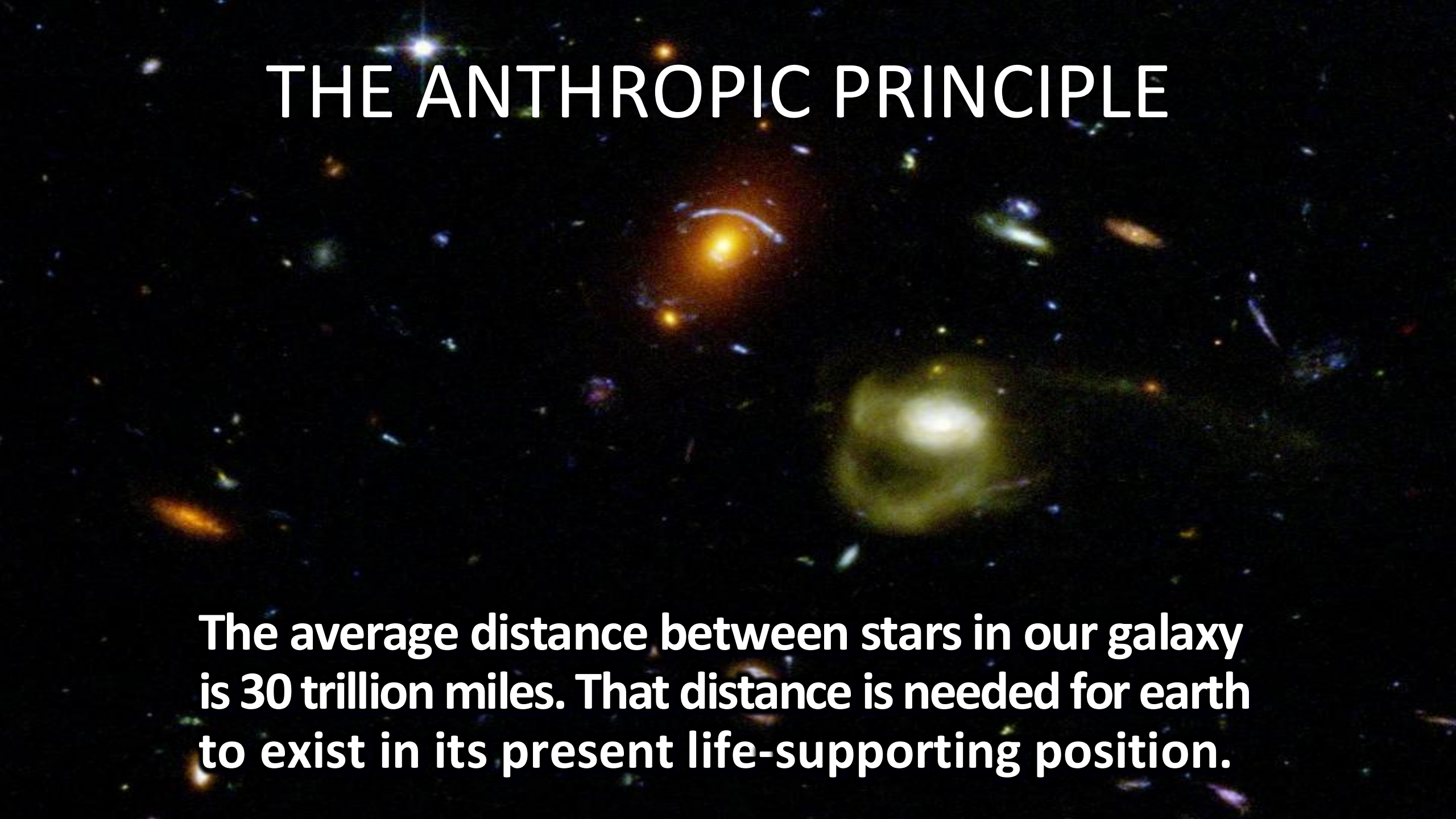
THE ANTHROPIC PRINCIPLE

“The basic idea of fine tuning is that the universe is just so, that its properties, the initial conditions, the so-called constants of physics, the laws of nature, rest on a razor’s edge, so if they were slightly different then they are in the actual universe, the universe would not be habitable, would not be compatible with life.”

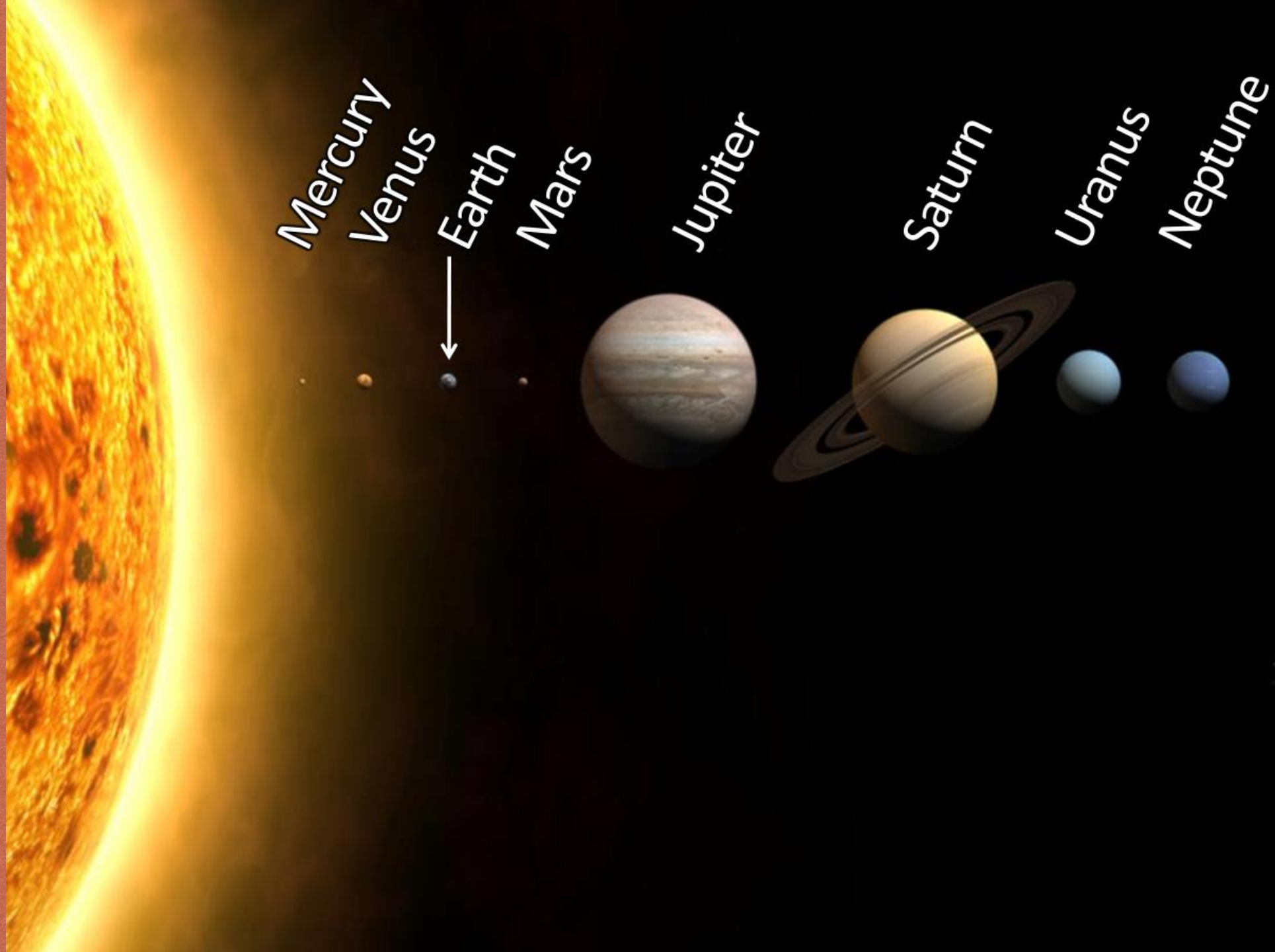
- Jay W. Richards, PhD. interviewed in movie *The Story of Everything*



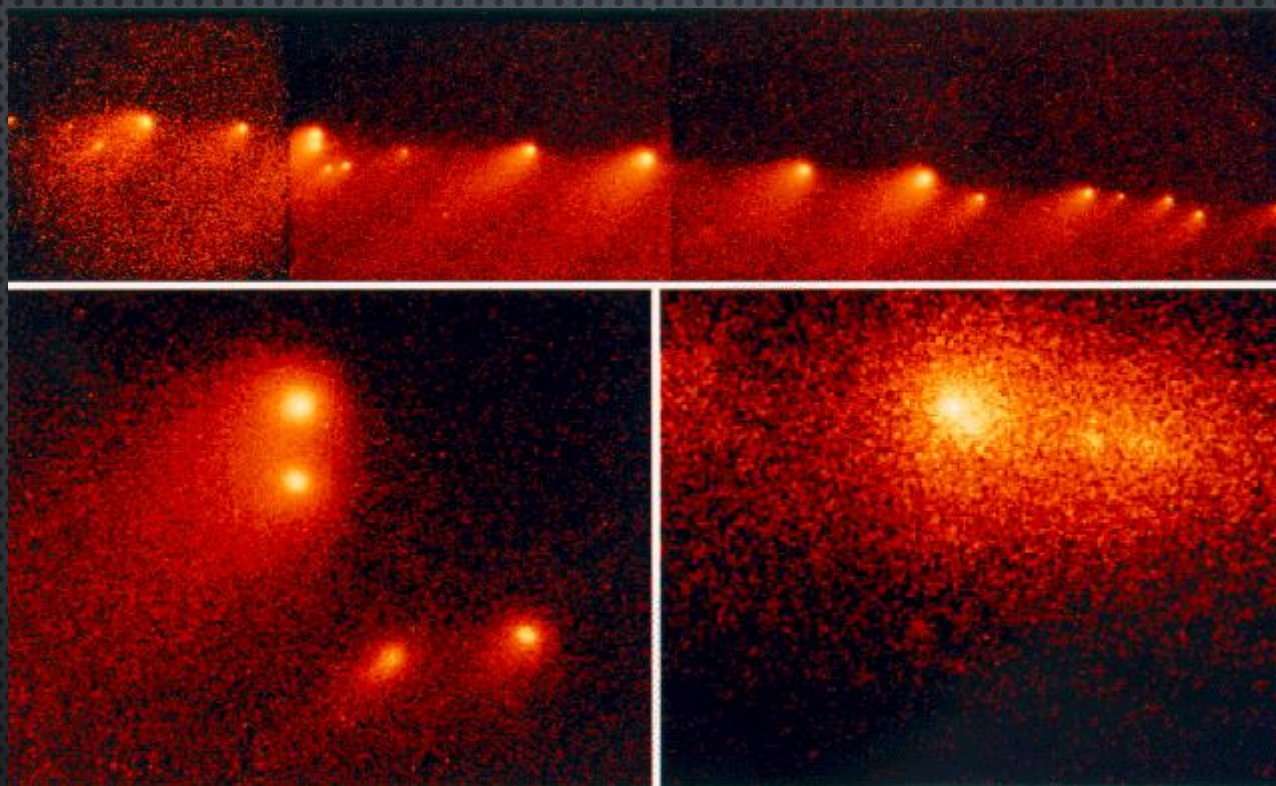
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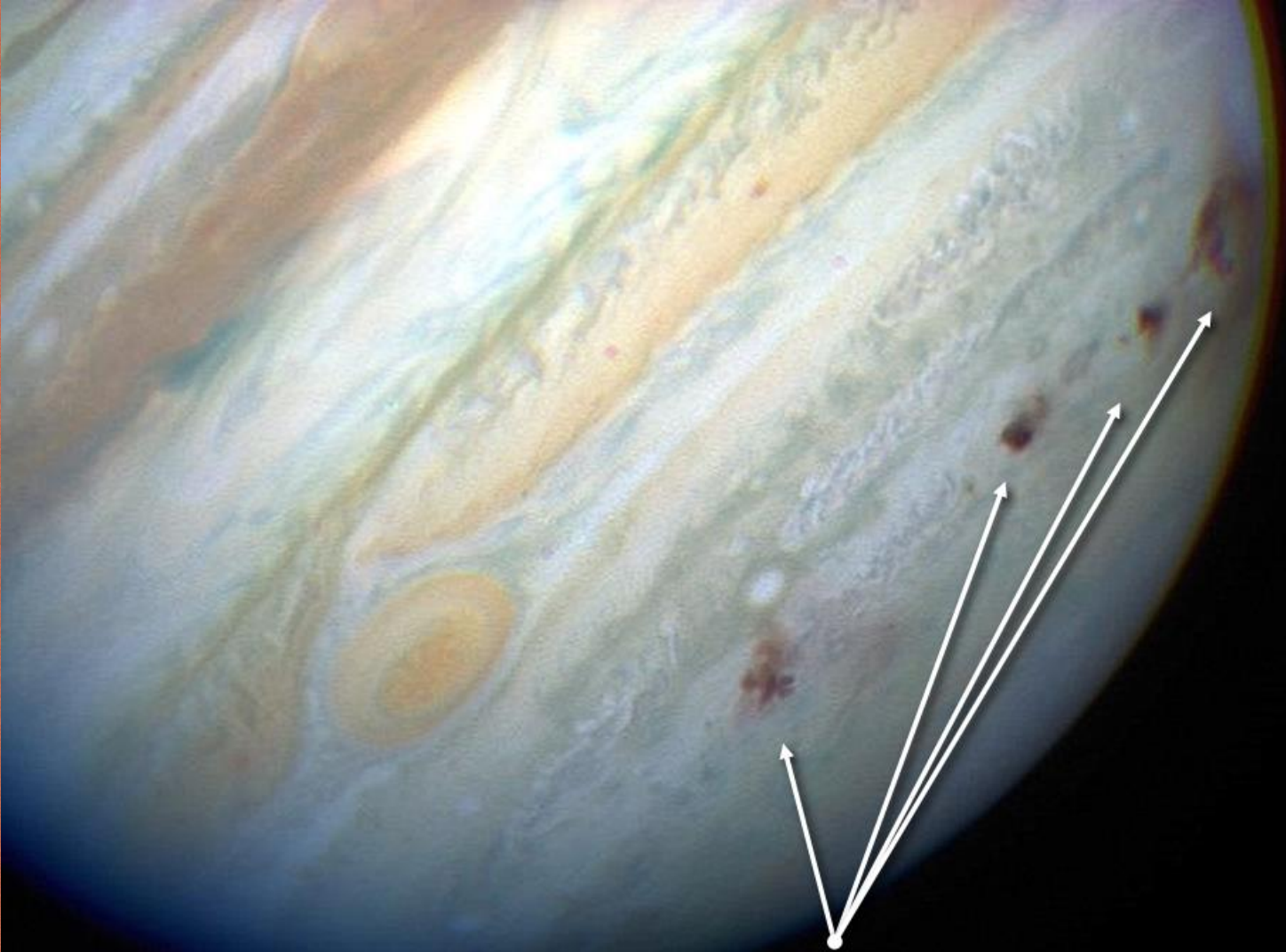
A deep space photograph showing a vast field of galaxies and stars against a black background. The galaxies are of various shapes and sizes, some appearing as bright, glowing clouds, others as more distant, faint points of light. The colors range from bright yellow and orange to deep blues and purples, suggesting different temperatures and compositions. The overall effect is one of immense scale and cosmic wonder.

The average distance between stars in our galaxy is 30 trillion miles. That distance is needed for earth to exist in its present life-supporting position.





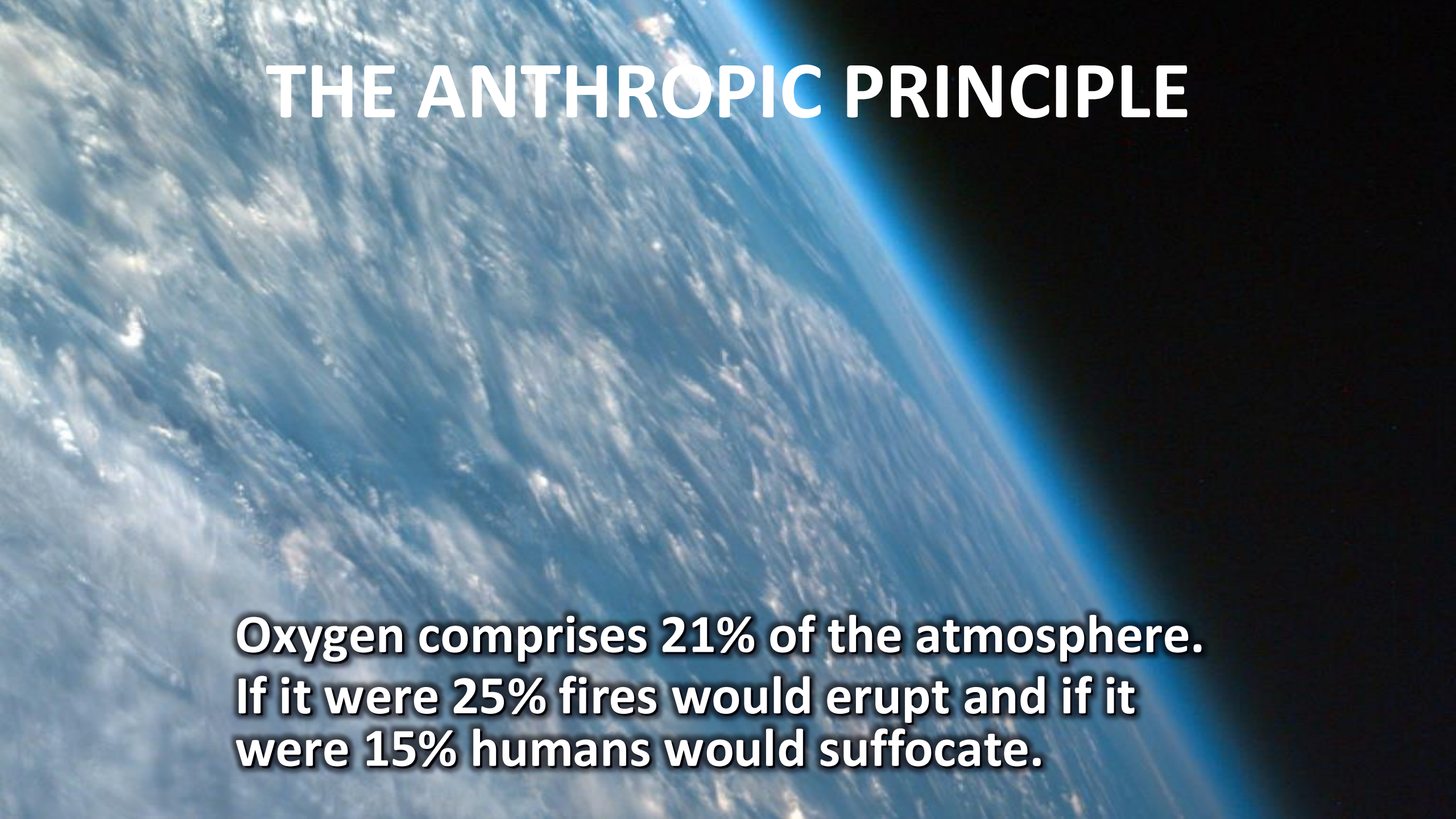




These dark plumes on Jupiter are caused by comet fragments strikes, and they are bigger than the Earth!



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Oxygen comprises 21% of the atmosphere.
If it were 25% fires would erupt and if it
were 15% humans would suffocate.

THE ANTHROPIC PRINCIPLE

- The Earth's 23.5 degree axial tilt creates moderate seasons, while the rotation giving us 24-hour days keeps temperatures moderate.
- Our magnetic field, caused by a geodynamo effect. Creates a huge, self-sustaining magnetic field that reaches far into space. This field forms a shield that blocks harmful space radiation and solar wind.



THE ANTHROPIC PRINCIPLE

- Earth's moving crust recycles essential nutrients. It also stabilizes carbon dioxide levels.
- Our relatively large moon moderates our rotation rate. It also stabilizes the Earth's axial tilt and generates stable ocean tides. According to the Lunar and Planetary Institute, "tides circulate nutrients and oxygen through coastal and marine ecosystems. Many sea creatures, like corals, use the lunar cycle to time their mass spawning events."



SCIENTISTS STATE:

The universe looks designed . . .

“As we survey the evidence, the thought instantly arises that some supernatural agency – or rather, Agency – must be involved. Is it possible that suddenly, without intending to, we have stumbled upon scientific proof of the existence of a Supreme Being? Was it God who stepped in and so providentially crafted the cosmos for our benefit?”

- George Greenstein, *The Symbiotic Universe*, p. 27



THE BIBLE SAYS:

The heavens reveal God to us. . .

“For his invisible attributes, namely, his eternal power and divine nature, have been clearly perceived, ever since the creation of the world, in the things that have been made. So they are without excuse.” - Romans 1:20

The heavens declare the glory of God,
and the sky above proclaims his handiwork.
- Psalm 19:1

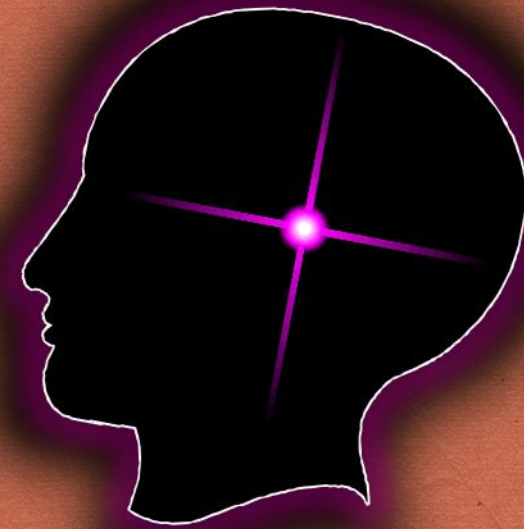


Two Fundamental Origin Questions: WHAT CAUSED THE:

1. UNIVERSE?

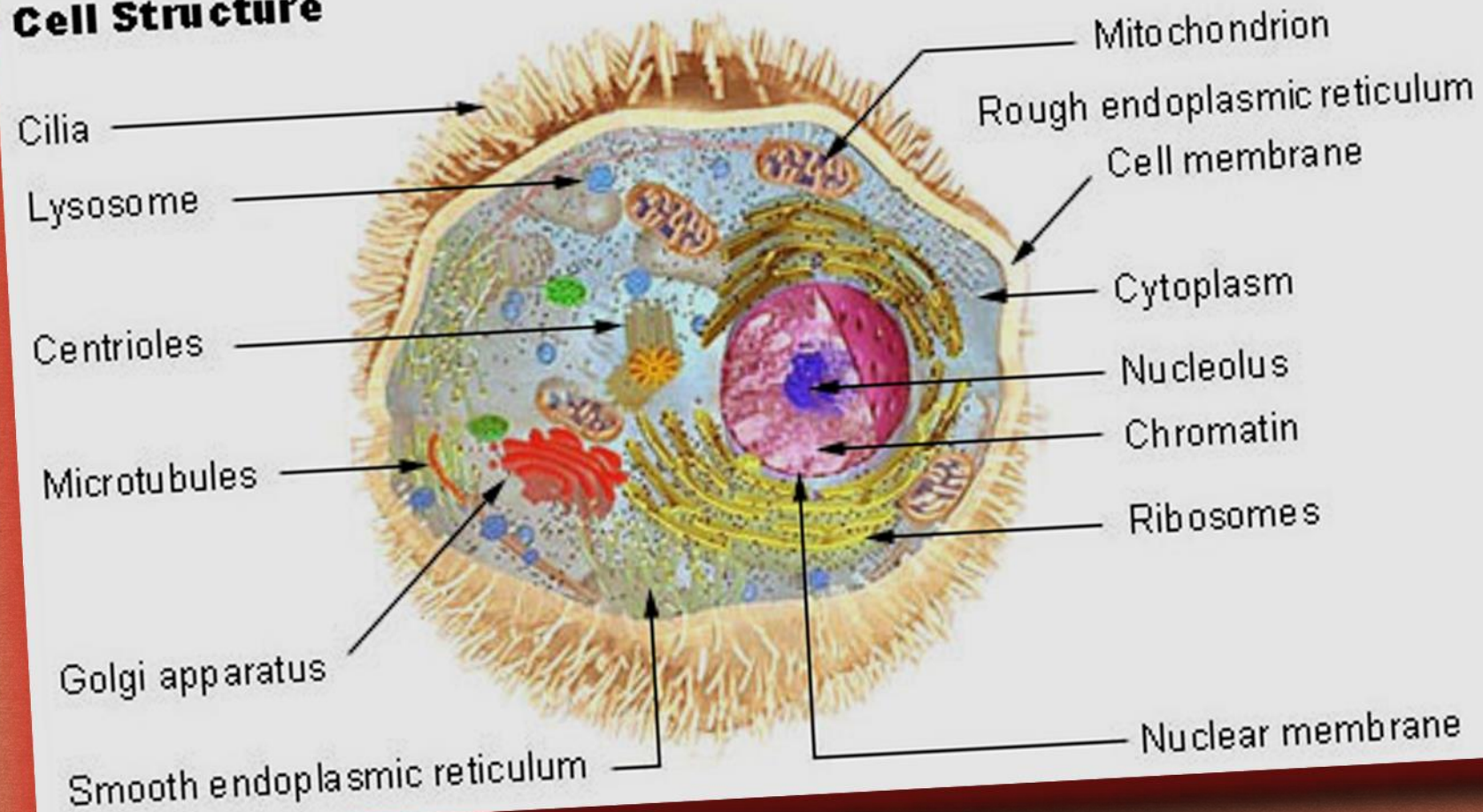


2. LIFE?

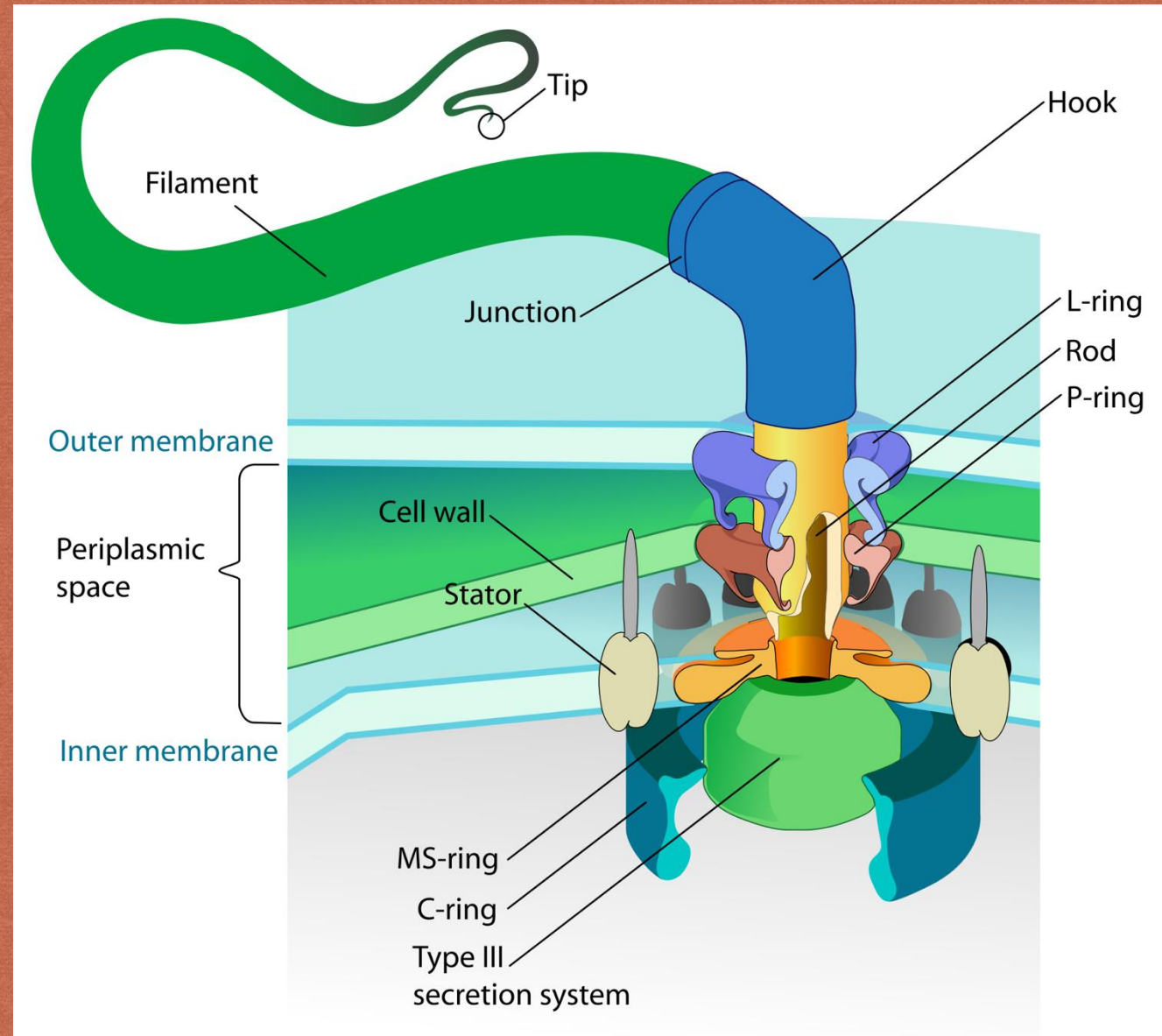


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Cell Structure

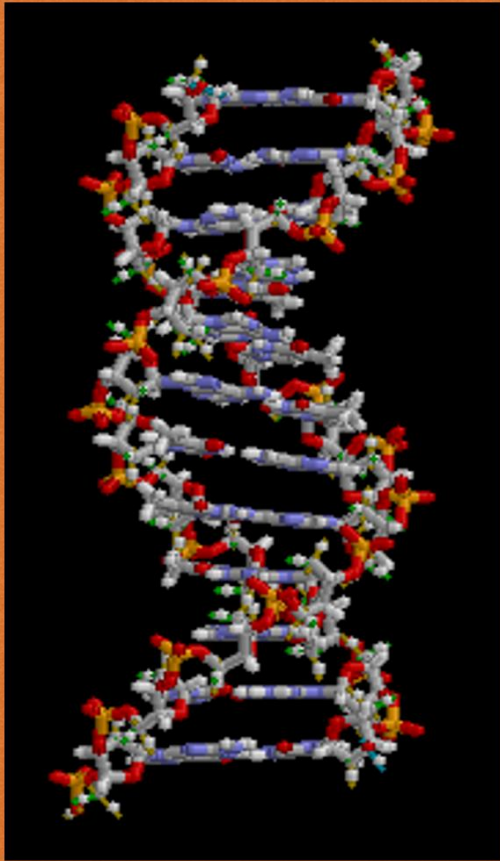


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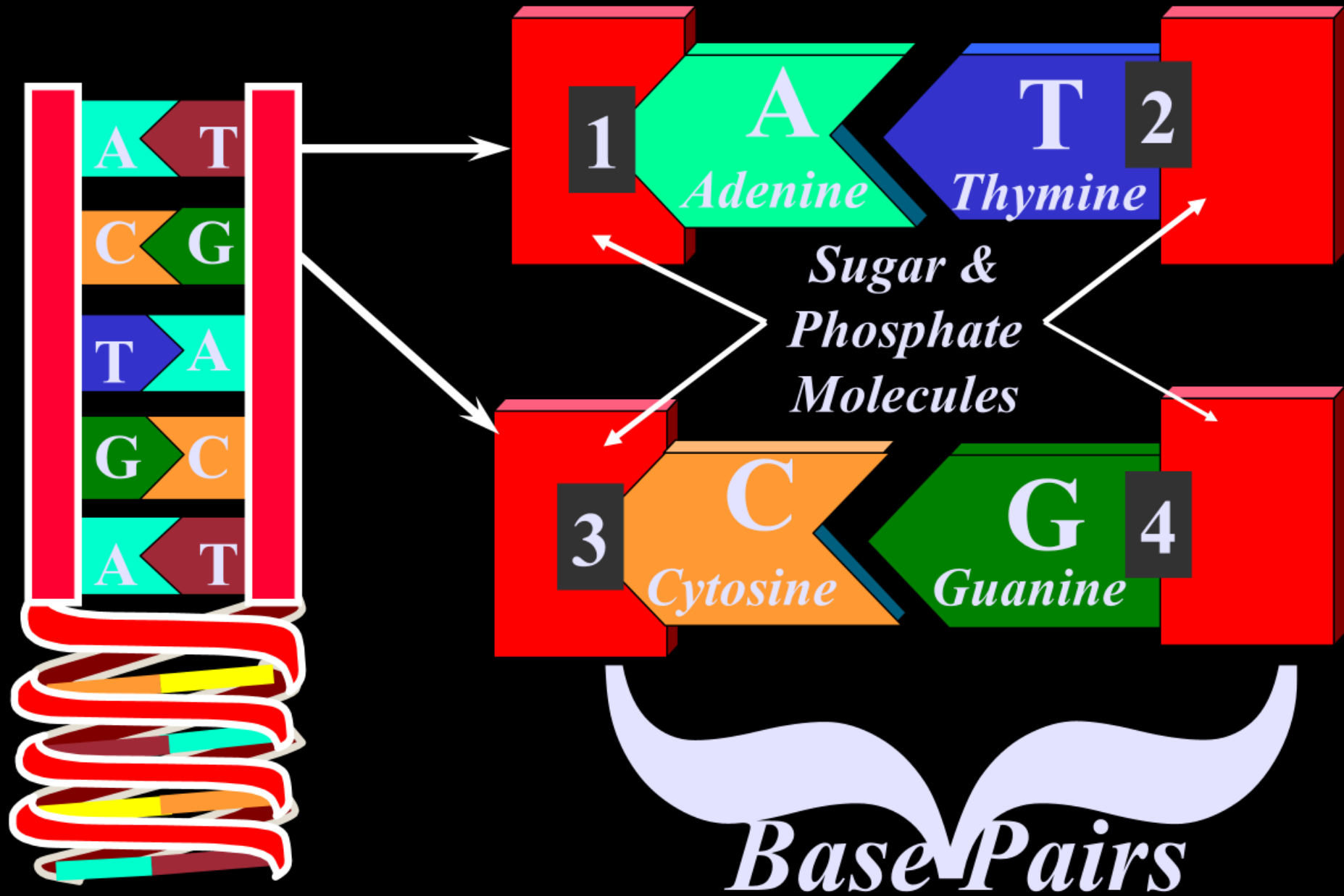


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STRUCTURE OF DNA



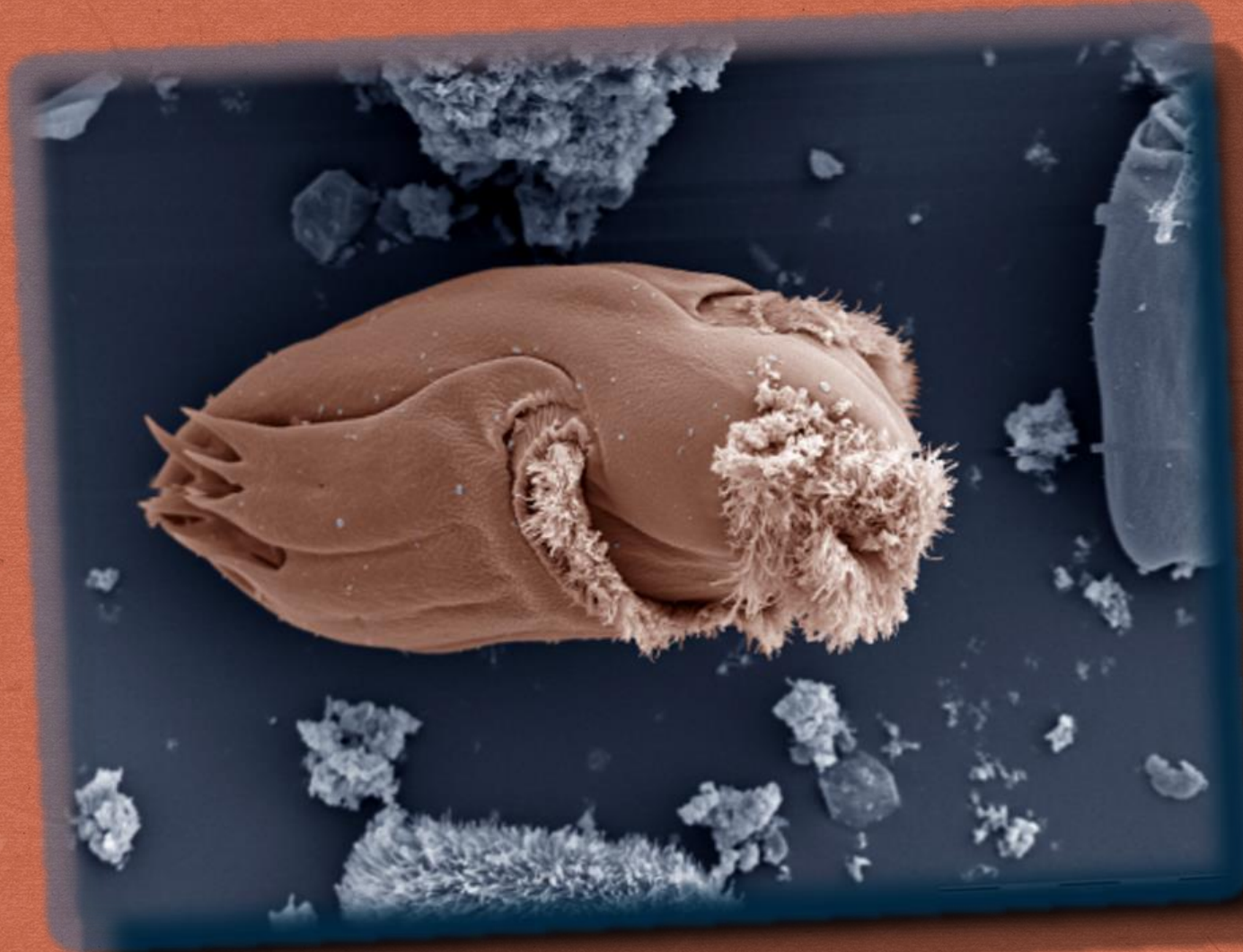
DNA's Four Letter Genetic Alphabet



SETI Alien Telescope Array (ATA)



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DNA is one of the most promising next-generation data carriers, with a storage density of 10^{19} bits of data per cubic centimeter, and its three-dimensional structure makes it about eight orders of magnitude denser than other storage media. DNA amplification during PCR or replication during cell proliferation enables the quick and inexpensive copying of vast amounts of data. In addition, DNA can possibly endure millions of years if stored in optimal conditions and dehydrated, making it useful for data storage.

- NIH Website NIH.gov



SCIENTISTS STATE:

Richard Dawkins: “Biology is the study of complicated things that give the appearance of being designed for a purpose”

Francis Crick: “Biologists must constantly keep in mind that what they see is not designed, but evolved.”

Francis Crick: “The origin of life appears to be almost a miracle, so many are the conditions which would have had to be satisfied to get it going.”



INSURMOUNTABLE ODDS

“No matter how large the environment one considers, life cannot have a random beginning . . .there are about 2000 enzymes and the chance of obtaining them all in a random trial is only one part in $10^{40,000}$, an outrageously small probability that could not be faced even if the whole universe consisted of organic soup. If one is not prejudiced either by social beliefs or by a scientific training into the conviction that life originated on earth, this simple calculation wipes the idea entirely out of court. . .”



INSURMOUNTABLE ODDS

“The enormous information content of even the simplest living system. . .cannot in our view be generated by what are called ‘natural processes,’ . . .

-Hoyle and Wickramasinghe



Objections to the Teleological Argument

- 1.The Multiverse Hypothesis
- 2.Anthropic Principle - Flaw in Reasoning
- 3.Evolution/Naturalism
- 4.Hume's Weak Analogy
- 5.Imperfect Design
- 6.Inhospitable Cosmos
- 7.Who designed the Designer
- 8.Doesn't Prove the God of the Bible



COMMON SENSE

“A commonsense interpretation of the facts suggests that a super intellect has monkeyed with the physics, as well as chemistry and biology, and that there are no blind forces worth speaking about in nature.”

- Astronomer Fred Hoyle



Teleological Argument

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NONSENSE

“Nonsense remains nonsense, even when talked by world-famous scientists.”

- John Lenox



And the Lord's servant must not be quarrelsome but kind to everyone, able to teach, patiently enduring evil, correcting his opponents with gentleness. God may perhaps grant them repentance leading to a knowledge of the truth, and they may come to their senses and escape from the snare of the devil, after being captured by him to do his will.

2 Timothy 2:24-26



Let your speech always be gracious, seasoned with salt, so that you may know how you ought to answer each person.

Colossians 6:6





QUESTIONS?



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Number of Exoplanets Discovered So Far:	6,324
Number of Distinct Planetary Systems:	4,725
Number of Exoplanets in a Goldilocks Zone:	50-75
Number of Exoplanet Candidates for Life:	45-60
Number of Exoplanets Proven to Have Life:	0



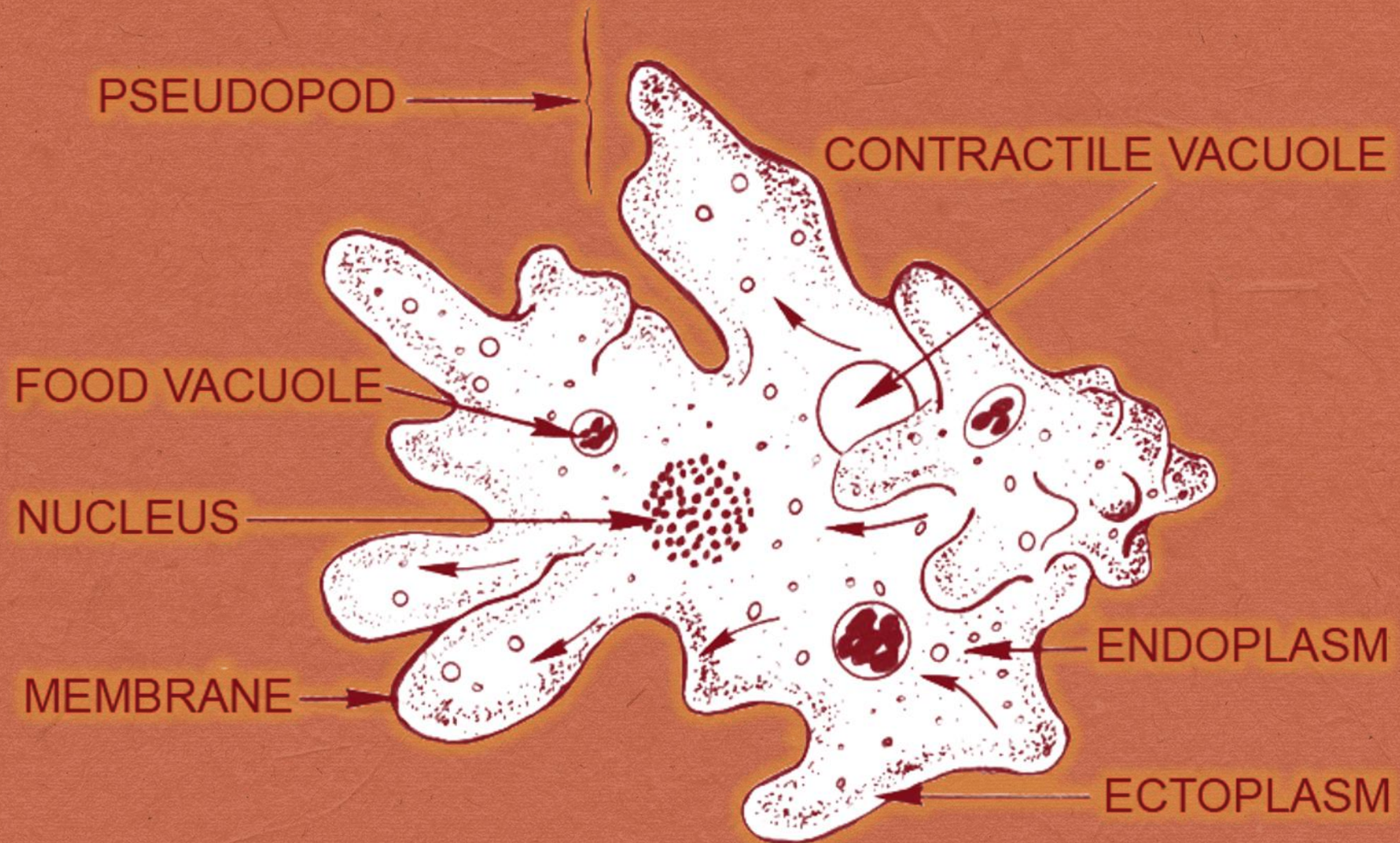
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Fred Hoyles exploration of the way carbon is created in this universe led to a list of that had to be present:

- Strength of gravity being just right: 1 part in 10^{35}
- Odds of the ratio of the weight of a proton to an electron: 1 part in 1000
- Ratio of gravitational attraction to the electromagnetic force: 1 part in 10^{40}
- Gravitational force compared to weak nuclear force: 1 part in 1010,000
- Initial Expansion Rate of Universe: 1 part in 10^{17}



AMOEBA



Philosophical Presuppositions

“An infinite universe would relieve us of the necessity of understanding the origin of matter at any finite time in the past.”

Physicist Robert Dicke, quoted in the 2026 film , The story of Everything, 24:45.

Quantum Theory

"Because there is a law such as gravity, the universe can and will create itself from nothing. Spontaneous creation is the reason there is something rather than nothing, why the universe exists, why we exist. It is not necessary to invoke God to light the blue touch paper and set the universe going."

Stephen Hawking, The Grand Design.

I want atheism to be true and am made uneasy by the fact that some of the most intelligent and well-informed people I know are religious believers. It isn't just that I don't believe in God and, naturally, hope that I'm right in my belief. It's that I hope there is no God! I don't want there to be a God; I don't want the universe to be like that.

– Thomas Nagel, *The Last Word*, 2001, p. 130.

