

# THE PHILOSOPHY OF SUPERDETERMINISM ON THE EVOLUTION THEODICY

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The philosophy of superdeterminism is based on a single scientific fact about the universe, namely that cause and effect in physics are not real. In 2020, accomplished Swedish theoretical physicist, Dr. Johan Hansson published a physics proof using Albert Einstein's Theory of Special Relativity that our universe is superdeterministic meaning a predetermined static block universe without cause and effect in physics. The philosophy of superdeterminism counters the Problem of Evil with the Evolution Theodicy. The Problem of Evil challenges the compatibility of the existence of evil with the existence of an omnipotent, omniscient and omnibenevolent God, who could and should prevent all evil. The Evolution Theodicy says that evil as necessary for the creation of life from natural processes cannot be avoided by God. If the only available natural process for creating life within a static block reality is Darwinian evolution which leads to evil, then that is the process God must use for the great good that created life exist.

The philosophy of superdeterminism is based on a single scientific fact about the universe, namely that we live in a predetermined static block<sup>1</sup> universe without cause and effect in physics.<sup>2</sup> In 2020, accomplished Swedish theoretical physicist, Dr. Johan Hansson proved by

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<sup>1</sup> Imagine a cosmic four-dimensional block, where the three familiar dimensions of space (length, width, and height) are combined with a fourth dimension of time. Every single moment in history would occupy a specific location within this block. From this perspective, there is no special "now" moment that separates the past from the future. They all exist equally.

<sup>2</sup> Hansson, Johan. "Bell's theorem and its tests: Proof that nature is superdeterministic – Not random." *Physics Essays* Vol. 33, No. 2 (2020). Dr. Johan Hansson, a professor at Luleå

applying Albert Einstein's Theory of Special Relativity to what has already been scientifically verified about spin measurement correlations observed in entangled particle pairs<sup>3</sup> that cause and effect<sup>4</sup> in physics<sup>5</sup> are not real. The philosophy of superdeterminism counters the Problem of Evil with the Evolution Theodicy.

The Problem of Evil challenges the compatibility of the existence of evil with the existence of an omnipotent, omniscient and omnibenevolent God, who could and should prevent all evil. The Evolution Theodicy says that evil is necessary for the creation of life from natural processes cannot be avoided by God. Natural evil refers to suffering and harm that occur

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University of Technology in Sweden, has been awarded the "Honorable Mention Award" by the Gravity Research Foundation, a prestigious foundation aimed at advancing the understanding of gravity in fundamental physics. This recognition places him among a group of previous winners that includes Nobel laureates and world-renowned physicists. [www.ltu.se/en/latest-news/news/news/2023-05-23-awarded-prestigious-prize-in-gravitational-research#:~:text=Johan%20Hansson%2C%20a%20professor%20at,of%20gravity%20in%20fundamental%20physics](http://www.ltu.se/en/latest-news/news/news/2023-05-23-awarded-prestigious-prize-in-gravitational-research#:~:text=Johan%20Hansson%2C%20a%20professor%20at,of%20gravity%20in%20fundamental%20physics).

<sup>3</sup> Dr. Hansson's version of superdeterminism proves that we live in a predetermined static block universe without cause and effect in physics. The other version of superdeterminism posits hidden causal variables responsible for the correlations observed in quantum entangled particles, and thus relies on cause and effect in physics. Indeed, Dr. Hansson's version of superdeterminism disproves any competing version of superdeterminism that relies on cause and effect in physics to posit hidden causal variables.

<sup>4</sup> Dr. Hansson wrote that "[e]verything is predetermined, including the experimenters (non) free will, the 'random' orientation of the spin-analyzers at either end, and anything else you can think of. Each measurement does not create but merely uncovers what already is embedded in space-time. All events leading up to, and including, the 'act of measurement' itself are already there. . . . Bell's theorem and its many experimental tests thus are proof that nature at its fundamental level is superdeterministic – not random. A 'cause' cannot alter the 'effect.' The events in global space-time are predetermined and fixed, much like pebbles cast into a concrete block. . . . What an experimenter seemingly 'chooses' to do at either end A or B is the only thing she can do, and cannot 'cause' either the event at her own position or the event at the other end. All events in the global space-time 'block' we call the universe (past, present and future), observed or not, are superdetermined and unalterable." Hansson, Johan. "Bell's theorem and its tests: Proof that nature is superdeterministic – Not random." *Physics Essays* Vol. 33, No. 2, at 217 (2020).

<sup>5</sup> Physics is the fundamental science that studies matter, energy, motion, and force. Physics explores everything from the incredibly small (subatomic particles) to the unimaginably vast (the cosmos).

independently of human moral actions by natural processes, like natural disasters, diseases, illnesses, genetic defects, and natural processes that cause suffering and harm in animals. Moral evil refers to suffering and harm caused by the intentional or negligent actions of human beings. The behaviors we associate with moral evil are the result of the Darwinian evolutionary processes that created life and eventually human beings capable of moral evil. Natural evil is the result of the creation of life using natural processes that concomitantly expose life to natural processes that cause suffering and harm.

All human behavior has its root in Darwinian evolutionary processes. Evolutionary processes, through natural selection, have shaped the human brain and its capacity for behavior associated with evil. Evolutionary processes have shaped the brain mechanisms underlying behaviors that may have provided survival or reproduction advantages, such as aggression for defense or resource acquisition, deception for strategic advantage, and exploitation for individual gain. However, there is no known alternative method of creating life through natural processes than Darwinian evolution. Consequently, God had no choice but to use Darwinian evolution to create life through natural processes. Indeed, our DNA is fundamentally structured on the basis of Darwinian evolution. The structure of the DNA molecule, its double helix, and its ability to be replicated, are all features that have been refined by natural selection over billions of years. In essence, the DNA molecule is not just a passive carrier of genetic information, it is a product of and a testament to the ongoing process of Darwinian evolution.

Natural processes are the result of the ordering of behavior in our static block universe without cause and effect in physics. The existence of our universe logically requires a principle of static unification, such as common information sharing among abutting and intersecting hyperplanes of spacetime. This principle of static unification must result in our laws of physics,

which are generally deterministic with the occasional inherently random quantum jumps. Darwinian evolution is the only known process that can create life under our laws of physics. The “evolution” of life would be a static pattern within our block universe, but its structure would still reflect the principles of variation and selection. Consequently, in order for God to create life within our universe, God must use natural processes consistent with the deterministic physics and the occasional random quantum jump that underly Darwinian evolution.

Our static block universe consists of three dimension of space and one dimension of time. Without cause and effect in physics, nothing in the universe can cause anything else. If nothing in the universe can cause anything else, then the idea of time as a causal agent becomes meaningless. Our everyday experience of time is deeply intertwined with cause and effect. We perceive time as the "flow" that allows events to unfold, with past events causing present and future ones. In a static block universe, all events are fixed and predetermined. There is no "flow" of time, and therefore, no causal relationships between events. Because all of spacetime exists at once, there is no "before" or "after" in the way we normally conceive them. Without cause and effect in physics, the idea of time as a causal agent becomes redundant. Time is simply a dimension, like the spatial dimensions.

In the absence of time as a causal agent, then our static block universe must consist of timeless physical reality. God’s power to create appears then only capable of the creation of timeless physical reality. Because God’s power to create life necessarily involves the creation of static block realities containing patterns consistent with deterministic physics and the occasional quantum leap under a principle of static unification, then God must use Darwinian evolution to create life through natural processes in a static block reality. Consequently, the existence of evil is necessary for the great good that created life exist. Even an omnipotent God is bound by

logical constraints. If the only available natural process for creating life within a static block reality is Darwinian evolution, then that is the process that must be used. An omniscient God would know that Darwinian evolution is the only available option under the given circumstances. An omnibenevolent God could reasonably choose the great good that created life exist over the non-existence of created life in order to prevent all evil. The natural process of Darwinian evolution must occur in the natural setting of our static block universe with deterministic physics and the occasional random quantum leap, which also unavoidably exhibits natural processes that lead to natural evil. So, the Evolution Theodicy in light of the philosophy of superdeterminism fully resolves the Problem of Evil.