

FUNDAMENTAL ISSUE. The writer and scientist Paul Davies says that when people state creation occurred in a certain time / space, this concept is "wrong, wrong, wrong" - because time and space were also created with the Big Bang. **S**cientists and I are disputing the fundamental issue that there may be two different realities regarding our cosmos; realities that I would like to suggest run parallel in our world. **T**here is the reality of the scientist who looks at creation as all there is; necessarily so, since sciences only relate to 'what is'. **Y**et, there may be a reality that constitutes more than 'what is'; where 'what is' occurs in a space or an energy* outside science's current reference points, beyond the known limits of science**. **T**his energy set off - in an incomprehensible act, with perhaps no prospect of it ever being understood or explained - a process that manifested a tiny spark, lasting but a fraction of a second. **F**rom its point of view - while from our point of view it spans billions of miles and goes on for billions of years.***

**This energy probably is no more than a set of physical laws (such as gravity); but I also like to attribute it the quality of universal consciousness.*

The 17th century German philosopher Gottfried Leibniz articulated the greatest question of all: "Why is there something rather than nothing?"

Ancient Stoics called that something 'conatus' (the cause of consciousness), other early Greeks 'energeia' - which is good enough for us today.

The religious believe in 'Someone' (their God), others deduce there is 'something' (an energy). But answers to Leibniz's question remain elusive.

****The 2011 Physics Nobel Prize was awarded for work that suggests the universe will be expanding for trillions of trillions of trillions of years.*

(The theory of the trillion-year expansion of the universe is dealt with in the tv series Wonders of the Universe, with physicist prof. Brian Cox.)

After scientists studied dozens of supernovae they found the universe inflates at an ever accelerating rate; this discovery had come as a surprise.

Einstein's theory of general relativity predicted that our universe is in an endless cycle of Big Bang expansions and Big Crunch contractions.

Incidentally, in his tv series Into The Universe physicist Stephen Hawking postulates God is not necessary to explain the origin of the universe: The force or energy responsible may be quantum gravity.

The universe may have sprung from a singularity; similar processes are observed on a molecular level, where quantum gravity allows for elementary particles to manifest from nothing (and to vanish again).

***Those limits expand evermore: Prof. Brian Cox says in his tv show Life of a Universe, our Big Bang may have occurred in an infinite space, as one of many: Our 'uni'verse may exist alongside many 'multi'verses.*

So, we are unique in our solar system. But while our solar system is not unique in our galaxy and our galaxy is not unique in our universe, our universe may not be unique either. What an extraordinary thought.

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