

On the Existence of the Uncaused Cause: A Logical Dive into What Was Before the Universe

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"Ask questions, seek answers."

Introduction

There is one notable thing that truly sets humans apart from every other life form, and that is our ability to think deeply, to question, to wonder, and to seek meaning. Yet, this remarkable ability seems to have its limits. Or maybe, we simply haven't thought deeply enough.

Thousands of years ago, our ancestors set on a quest to give answers to the mysteries of the universe. Their quest for understanding gave birth to philosophy and, eventually, to the many branches of science we have today. Among all the questions they asked, one has remained particularly elusive: *what existed before the universe began (if any)?*

Now before diving in, we need to firstly clear up a few foundational terms to keep things sharp. let us define some primary terms we'll be using here:

- **Cause:** That which brings something into existence or initiates a change.
- **Effect:** The result or outcome of a cause.
- **Universe:** All of space, time, matter, and energy. Everything that physically exists.
- **Uncaused cause:** A being or reality that itself was not caused by anything else, but caused all things that exist.
- **Contingent being:** Something whose existence depends on something else.
- **Necessary being:** Something that must exist and cannot not exist, the foundation of all else.

It's worth emphasizing here that the "uncaused cause" does not necessarily have to be God in the religious sense. What we're exploring is a logical foundation, not a theological one.

Premise 1: Everything that begins to exist has a cause

It's an intuitive truth, one we confirm through both everyday experience and scientific observation. When a tree falls, something caused it to fall. When a building collapses, we don't say "it just happened." We look for a cause: a weak structure, an earthquake, a human act. The same principle applies universally, things that begin to exist, have causes for their existence.

Even quantum physics, which often gets thrown into this discussion, doesn't violate this principle. People sometimes say "quantum fluctuations can appear from nothing," but that's not entirely true. Those fluctuations arise from a quantum field, a sea of energy governed by physical laws. That field is *something*, not *nothing*. "Nothing" in the philosophical sense means *no space, no time, no laws, no potentiality at all*. Quantum fields exist in space-time and operate under well-defined laws, so they're not examples of true causeless effects.

Premise 2: The universe began to exist

The prevailing and proven scientific model, the **Big Bang Theory**, states that roughly 13.8 billion years ago, all matter, energy, space, and time expanded from an unimaginably dense and hot state. But it's worth emphasizing that this wasn't an explosion *in* space; it was the expansion *of space itself*.

And because, according to Einstein's theory of relativity, space and time are intertwined, time began the moment space began. So we can very confidently say: time didn't exist without space. There was no "before" the Big Bang in the traditional sense, because "before" requires time.

Now, some argue that maybe the Big Bang wasn't the true beginning, perhaps something existed before it, maybe in a pre-Big Bang state, or maybe universes form in endless cycles. But to say the universe is infinite means it never had a beginning. So it's not an effect, it has simply always been. While that sounds smart, we need to take into account that an actually infinite universe couldn't have led to an effect: the big bang.

Even if the past were infinite, we'd never arrive at the present moment, because infinite time cannot be traversed. Think about it, if the universe had to cross infinite moments before reaching *now*, it would never get here. The fact that we're here right now is proof that time had a starting point. The universe, then, began to exist.

Premise 3: Therefore, the universe has a cause

If everything that begins to exist has a cause, and the universe began to exist, then logically the universe has a cause. But what kind of cause could this be?

Since space, time, and matter all came into existence with the universe, the cause of the universe must exist *beyond* space, time, and matter. It must be spaceless, timeless, and immaterial. It cannot itself have a beginning, because then it would require a cause too, and we'd fall into an infinite regress, something logic doesn't allow.

Whatever caused the universe must therefore exist necessarily. It is not an effect. It is the foundation of all effects.

So, what exactly is this uncaused cause?

Following this logic, we're left with one inevitable conclusion:

There exists a timeless, spaceless, immaterial reality (an uncaused cause) that brought the universe into existence.

This cause has always been and will always be. It has no beginning, no end, because it *is* both the beginning and the end. It exists outside the boundaries of time and space, and everything else (including the laws of physics) flows from it.

Now, you'll notice that unlike my other papers, there are no equations or scientific models here. That's because science itself is the study of everything that arose within the universe. We can only scientifically study up until the limit of the universe's beginning. Beyond that, the tools of science reach their limit. To truly approach what lies *before* or *beyond* (if we can even use those words meaningfully), we must turn to logic, the very tool our forefathers began with, long before telescopes and equations.

Premise 4:

Now, if this cause exists outside the boundaries of space and time, it could not itself have been caused. To be caused means to come into existence at some point. But “points” require time, and time did not yet exist. Therefore, this cause cannot have a beginning; It just simply exists.

It is not material, not bound by dimension or location, and not limited by duration. It can be any size, anywhere, yet confined to nothing. It exists beyond all constraints, timeless, spaceless, immaterial, and absolute.

Or in other words, Eternal.

Summary of the Premises

- The universe had a beginning (Big Bang).
- Everything with a beginning is an effect (it came into existence).
- Every effect needs a cause.
- Space, time, and matter began with the universe.
- So the cause of the universe must exist outside space, time, and matter.
- Outside time, there’s no before or after.
- That means the cause has no beginning or end — it just exists.
- This is what people mean by “eternity.”
- So we end up with an uncaused cause that made the universe.

Conclusion

When you trace every cause, every event, and every reaction back far enough, you eventually hit a point where the chain just has to stop. Something has to exist that wasn’t caused by anything else, something that simply *is*. Without that, nothing else could even exist in the first place.

Whatever this reality is, it exists beyond space, time, and anything we can really grasp. We can’t measure it or observe it because it isn’t part of the system we’re in. It’s like the foundation reality itself rests on, except that it wasn’t laid.

Whether you call it “the uncaused cause,” “eternity,” or just “existence itself,” the truth doesn’t change. Everything that exists comes from something that never began.

And maybe that’s the mistake we keep making, trying to find this answer through science, when science only works *inside* the universe. Maybe to even get close to understanding eternity, we have to look beyond equations and telescopes, and go back to the one thing that truly separates us from everything else: our ability to reason.