God only knows: Science and Religion

• Does scientific progress threaten religious faith?

• The Problem of 3 Origins:
  * Universe: creation vs. big bang
  * Life: divine vs. biochemical
  * Mind: soul vs. neurobiological

• Are science and religion mutually compatible?

• Is there spirituality in science?

• Can/should religion benefit from science?
A SHORT HISTORY OF GOD IN SCIENCE

• Plato: Demiurge
• Aristotle: Prime Mover
• Descartes: Mind/body split
• Galileo: Starry messenger vs. Church
• Kepler: Rational mysticism
• Newton: Theism - G creates/maintains
• Franklin: Deism - G creates
• Einstein: “cosmic religious feeling”
• T.O.E.: monotheistic influence? G.O.D.?

• Religion and the scientific creative process
WHAT ABOUT THE BEGINNING?

• we don’t know!!

• models break down before singularity at t=0
  (but we are at least at 0.00000000000001 sec from “bang”)

• must describe spacetime with quantum mechanics!!
  preliminary models exist: quantum cosmology
  Creation “out of nothing”…
CREATION AND QUANTUM COSMOLOGY

- S. Hawking and J. Hartle: There is no creation event “no need for a creator”

Singularity in classical universe

BUT WHAT ABOUT LAWS???