Norms, Natures and God

Alexander R. Pruss

Contents

Acknowledgments	5
Acknowledgments	6
Chapter I. Introduction	7
1. Introductory Remarks	7
2. Aristotelian Natures	7
Chapter II. Ethics	8
1. Mersenne problems	8
2. Normative ethics	8
3. Flourishing	8
4. Metaethics	8
5. Double Effect	8
6. Medical ethics	8
7. Environmental ethics	8
8. Supererogation	8
Chapter III. Epistemology	9
1. Priors	9
2. Infinity, self-indication and other limitations of Bayesianism	9
Chapter IV. Mind	10
Chapter V. Semantics	11
Chapter VI. Metaphysics	12

CONTENTS	4
Chapter VII. Laws of nature and causal powers	13
Chapter VIII. Harmony, Evolution and God	14
1. Harmony	14
2. Explaining harmony by natures and evolution	14
2.1. Number of natures	14
2.2. Nomic coordination	14
2.3. Fit to DNA	14
2.4. Fit to niche	14
2.5. Nature zombies	14
3. Explanations of moral norms	14
3.1. Global aesthetic-like features	14
3.2. Family	14
3.3. Restributive justice	14
4. Explaining harmony theistically	14
Chapter IX. Eternal Life and Fulfillment	15

16

Chapter X. Aristotelian Details

Acknowledgments

Central ideas for this paper were developed as part of the Wilde Lectures in Natural and Comparative Religion at Oxford University, Trinity Term, 2019.

Acknowledgments

I would like that thank ... Nicholas Breiner

CHAPTER I

Introduction

- 1. Introductory Remarks
- 2. Aristotelian Natures

CHAPTER II

Ethics

- 1. Mersenne problems
- 2. Normative ethics
 - 3. Flourishing
 - 4. Metaethics
 - 5. Double Effect
 - 6. Medical ethics
- 7. Environmental ethics
 - 8. Supererogation

CHAPTER III

Epistemology

- 1. Priors
- 2. Infinity, self-indication and other limitations of Bayesianism

CHAPTER IV

Mind

CHAPTER V

Semantics

CHAPTER VI

Metaphysics

CHAPTER VII

Laws of nature and causal powers

CHAPTER VIII

Harmony, Evolution and God

1. Harmony

2. Explaining harmony by natures and evolution

2.1. Number of natures.

- 2.2. Nomic coordination.
- 2.3. Fit to DNA.

1

- 2.4. Fit to niche.
- 2.5. Nature zombies.
- 3. Explanations of moral norms
- 3.1. Global aesthetic-like features. ²
- 3.2. Family.
- 3.3. Restributive justice.
 - 4. Explaining harmony theistically

¹This section owes much to discussion in my mid-sized objects seminar, and especially to Christopher Tomaszewski's suggestions on the explanatory powers of forms.

²I am grateful to Nicholas Breiner for drawing my attention, in the context of justice, to this form of explanation of moral features.

CHAPTER IX

Eternal Life and Fulfillment

CHAPTER X

Aristotelian Details