- 1. If something were the cause of itself, it would be prior to itself.
- 2. Nothing is prior to itself.
- 3. Nothing is the cause of itself. (1,2)
- 4. There are no infinite causal chains.
- 5. At least one thing has a cause.
- 6. Every causal chain must be (i) circular, (ii) infinite, or (iii) have a first cause.
- C. There is a first cause. (3,4,5,6)

Three out







Is this argument valid?

Premise (5) says that there is at least one causal chain. Premise (6) says that that causal chain must be (i) circular or (ii) infinite or (iii) include a first cause.

If premise (3) is true, we can rule out (i). If premise (4) is true, we can rule out (ii). So, if all of the premises are true, then (iii) must be true. But that is exactly what the conclusion says.



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The Big Bang

The first event in the history of the universe was an explosion of an extremely dense collection of particles, with every particle moving apart from every other particle. This event had no cause - in particular, no being set it into motion - and, further, every subsequent event has been an effect of this event.





































































































































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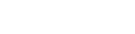


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