- 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)

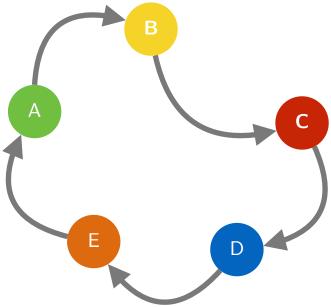
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Why does
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 rule out
  circular
  causal
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In this sort of causal chain, nothing directly causes itself. But everything in this chain would still indirectly be the cause of itself. Because the premises are not limited to direct causation, it seems that (3) rules out every kind of circular causal chain.



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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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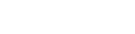




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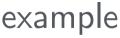












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