



Religion, Meet Science

(Chapter 3)

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October 20, 2017

Content



In the Beginning

- The United States

- God's Natural Law is Reason

The DNA of Western Thought

Descartes vs. Bacon

- Descartes

- Bacon

Puritan Science

- Francis Bacon

- Puritan Frustrations

- Puritan and Anti-Authoritarian Influence in America

How Do We Know Things?

Installation

- Source files

- Local and Global installation

- Required Packages

User Interface

- Loading the Theme and Theme Options

- Feather image

In the Beginning

The United States



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- ▶ Founded on science - logic and reason.
 - ▶ Logic and reason helped ensure religious freedom
 - ▶ This is why religious mentality was not incorporated into the Declaration of Independence

From approx. 700 C.E. to 900 C.E.

- ▶ Mu'tazilites mode of study
 - ▶ Discern God's will by studying nature
 - ▶ God speaks through nature



Figure: Mu'tazilite Science



1517 C.E.

- ▶ Martin Luther nails his 95 theses to the door of a Catholic church to protest the Church's practices
 - ▶ Protestants argued that knowledge comes from observing God's Word, not the Pope's word



Figure: Martin Luther

1518 C.E.

- ▶ Protestant polemicist St. Germain supports "do it yourself" Bible study
 - ▶ Protestants argued that knowledge comes from observing God's Word, not the Pope's word
 - ▶ Use one's own experience of the Bible to find truth
- This approach is in the same "anti-authoritarian" vein as the modern scientific approach (make observations, then come to conclusions)



Figure: Martin Luther

In the Beginning

God's Natural Law is Reason



Early 1600's

- ▶ Puritan sympathizer Edward Coke argues that scientific laws could be studied by everyone, and could not be overruled by the crown.



Figure: Edward Coke

Late 1500's to mid 1600's

- ▶ Puritans supported a logical, antiauthoritarian approach to theology:
 - ▶ Making your own observations from the Bible and not relying on the Pope
 - ▶ Use observations to draw broader theological conclusions
 - ▶ Puritans study Mu'tazilite science books



Figure: Edward Coke

The DNA of Western Thought



Western Christianity is composed of two main groups:

1. Roman Catholicism
2. Protestantism

Descartes vs. Bacon

Descartes



Descartes focused on the "mind-body split"

- ▶ Said that conclusions are only valid if they follow logically from the premise
- ▶ "I think therefore I am" - *Renee Descartes*
- ▶ Wanted to embrace skepticism
- ▶ Said that senses are unreliable and a source of untruth and illusion

Only reliable from a mind that was separate from the body



Bacon focused on science and published a "New Instrument of Science"

- ▶ Inductive reasoning -
From bottom up, observing with senses and then building logical steps to reach a general conclusion about reality
- ▶ His method is "Flawed" because conclusions are provisional and leave room to be disproved

Bacon's method is good for science because it

- ▶ contains a provisional "probably" statement
- ▶ shows how math and science have become important, quantifies whether a relative probability is T/F



Francis Bacon's method of scientific thought states that Conclusions are made because they are supported by all the facts observed so far. This is very similar to the Puritan method of thinking regarding philosophy and religion.



- ▶ Since Protestantism was a protest against Catholic authority, Puritans disliked Catholic indictments or Christian fundamentalism.
 - ▶ Indictment of Galileo
 - ▶ Disliked denial of opinions supported by observation of nature, therefore evidence of God's will, because it conflicted with scripture
- ▶ Believed the Church of England was too Catholic
 - ▶ Demanded a new translation of the Bible in 1604 (the "King James" version)
 - ▶ Believed having a monarch that was also the head of a church was incompatible and hypocritically self-serving
- ▶ King Charles I's reintroduction of Catholicism to England and similar absolutism behavior led to Puritan migration to America



- ▶ Edward Coke
 - ▶ While in Parliament he attempted to limit the king's powers, including writing the Petition of Right, which laid out these basic rights the US would later adopt:
 1. Taxes levied only by Parliament not by the king
 2. No martial law in peacetime
 3. Soldiers could not be forcibly housed by civilians
 - ▶ Influenced the English Civil Wars and led to the Restoration of the Church of England and tolerated Puritanism
Due to Puritanism encouraging individual liberty, many great scientists were members
- ▶ Isaac Newton
 - ▶ Wrote *Mathematical Principles of Natural Philosophy*
 - ▶ Influenced Thomas Jefferson's writing in the Declaration of Independence

How Do We *Know* Things?

(auth. Brennan Fieck)



- ▶ The Feather image is not covered by copyright rules. I have used the image from <http://www.vectors-free.com/> . You are allowed to use the Feather image for any purposes.
- ▶ The rest of the theme is provided under the GNU General Public License v. 3 (GPLv3) <http://www.gnu.org/licenses/> . This means that you can redistribute it and/or modify it under the same license.



The theme contains 4 source files:

- ▶ `beamercolorthemeFeather.sty`
- ▶ `beamerouterthemeFeather.sty`
- ▶ `beamerinnerthemeFeather.sty`
- ▶ `beamerthemeFeather.sty`

Installation

Local and Global installation



The theme can be installed for **local** or **global** use.



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Local Installation

- ▶ Local installation is the simplest way of installing the theme.
- ▶ You need to placing the 4 source files in the same folder as your presentation. When you download the theme, the 4 theme files are located in the `local` folder.

Global Installation

- ▶ If you wish to make the theme globally available, you must put the files in your local latex directory tree. The location of the root of the local directory tree depends on your operating system and the latex distribution.
- ▶ Detailed steps on how to proceed installation under various operating systems can be found at Beamer documentation.



For using the Feather Theme you will need the Bemaer class installed and the following 2 packages

- ▶ TikZ¹
- ▶ calc

Due to the fact that the packages are very common they should be included in your latex distribution in the first place.

¹TikZ is a package for creating beautiful graphics. Have a look at these [online examples](#) or the [pgf user manual](#).



The Presentation Theme

The Feather Theme can be loaded in a familiar way. In the preamble of your `tex` file you must type

```
\usetheme[<options>]{Feather}
```

The presentation theme loads the inner, outer and color Feather theme files and passes the `<options>` on to these files.

The Inner and Outer Themes

If you wish you can load only the inner, or the outer theme directly by

```
\useinnertheme{Feather} (and it has no options)
```

```
\useoutertheme[<options>]{Feather} (it has one option)  
    progressstyle={fixedCircCnt or movingCircCnt}
```

- ▶ which set how the progress is illustrated;
- ▶ the value `movingCircCnt` is the default.



The Color Theme

Also you can load only the color theme by writing in the preamble of the `tex` file

- ▶ `\usecolortheme{Feather}`

...or to change the colors of the various elements in the theme

- ▶ Change the bar colors:

```
\setbeamercolor {Feather}{fg=<color>, bg=<color>}
```

- ▶ Change the color of the structural elements:

```
\setbeamercolor{structure}{fg=<color>}
```

- ▶ Change the frame title text color:

```
\setbeamercolor{frametitle}{fg=<color>}
```

- ▶ Change the normal text color background:

```
\setbeamercolor{normal text}{fg=<color>, bg=<color>}
```



The Feather Background Image

- ▶ In Feather theme, the title page frame and the last frame have the Feather image as the background image.
- ▶ The Feather background image can be produced to any frame by wrating on the begining at the choosen frame the following

```
{\1bg  
\begin{frame}[<options>]{Frame Title}{Frame Subtitle}  
...  
\end{frame}}
```




Thank you for using Feather Beamer Theme!