

# The Second Coming: for all us Dummies

For more detailed explanations of what follows see:  
<http://home.comcast.net/~dantsmith/index06.htm#BPW>

# Why not Come?

- God belongs in heaven.
  - But can't she go wherever she darn pleases?
- God ought to have better things to do.
  - Being a Creator is a big deal for God.
  - She has put a lot of eggs in her Creation basket, and she will attend to it carefully.
- There is no God.
  - Ok, hold that thought, and we'll get back to you in a jiffy.

# Why come?

- If you were the Creator, would you not want to participate in your Creation to a maximal degree?
  - If Creation were truly important to you, would you not want to pour yourself into it as fully as possible?

# But why should we seriously consider the God hypothesis in the first place?

- Modern science and technology are here to stay.
  - And so is postmodernism
- Postmodernism provides only an incoherent pluralism.
- Many of us seek a higher synthesis in order to bring meaning and coherence to our world.
  - The pluralists rightly criticize any such move as being likely to foster theocratic and totalitarian tendencies.
- There is only one way out of this bind:
  - A rational, coherent synthesis of the various worldviews

# A Rational Synthesis?

- Most everyone scoffs at this possibility.
  - Fact is they have never tried.
- The last serious attempt was by GHW Hegel (1770-1831).
- But how will we know if we don't even try?
  - This dummy rushes in where angels fear to tread.
- Here is the result of a thirty year synthesis, and the longer I work on it, the simpler it gets, q.v.

# A Logical Synthesis: Step by Step

- First comes a switch from the correspondence theory of truth to the coherence theory of truth.
  - This is the single most important and far reaching step.
  - If you can grasp this, everything else will follow rather easily, and it is actually very simple, even though its ramifications are earthshaking.
- Correspondence theory of truth:
  - Reality is simply a collection of facts.
  - The facts need not cohere or have any other pattern except by accident.
- Coherence theory of truth:
  - There is no such thing as an isolated fact, just as there is no such thing as an isolated meaning.
  - In as much as reality is cognizable, so must it be coherent.
  - Epistemology and ontology cannot ultimately be separated.
  - There is a reason for everything.
    - This is true for physics, as well, with the possible exception of the initial conditions, e.g. the Big Bang.
- The next step?
  - There is no next step.
  - Everything else is just an elaboration of this one grand departure.
  - And what is the ultimate coherence?
    - Can it be anything less than love, truth and beauty?

# Putting all our Eggs in one Basket?

- The main point is that we didn't put them there: they were already there.
- This is best seen from the perspective of mathematical physics.
  - In physics, this coherence is known as the Unreasonable Effectiveness of Mathematics.
  - This is why physicists can cogently speak of a Theory of Everything.
  - This fact motivates us to seek a higher coherence.
- The main thing missing from the prospective physical coherence is the mind.
  - Our theory of everything must include the mind.
  - The mind/brain problem is universally regarded as the greatest mystery in the world.
  - It was over three hundred years ago that Rene Descartes (1596-1650) announced the separation of mind and matter.
  - This act of great intellectual convenience triggered the Scientific and Technological revolutions and made Democracy possible by also separating the Secular from the Sectarian realms.
  - We can easily see why the Postmodernists are so reluctant to even reconsider Descartes' serendipitous act.

# Damned if we do, damned if we don't

- The postmodernists would like to see the present state of pluralism continue indefinitely.
- In a world being shrunk by a rapidly expanding communication technology, all our disparate ideas and traditions are being thrown together into a disorienting, alienating cacophony.
- How can we hope to survive together on this crowded and shrinking planet if we have no common ground for communication, no common worldview?

# A Quantum Leap to Synthesis?

- Nothing less than a quantum leap, an unprecedented gestalt switch, could now bring coherence out of the present chaos of ideas.
- Nothing less than a cosmic vision will suffice.
- Let us consider the visions of coherence:

# Visions of Coherence



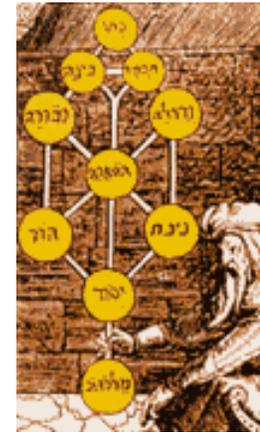
Yin-yang of Taoism



Buddhist mandala

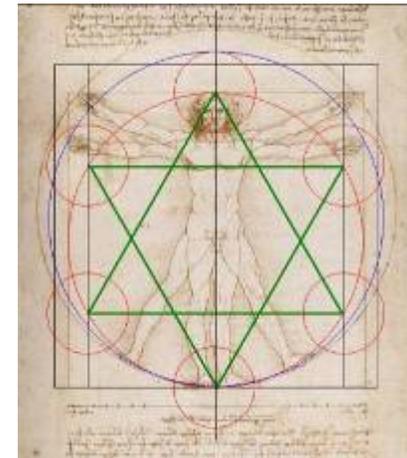


Hindu Creator: Vishnu



Kabbalah: Sephiroth

'Tree of life'



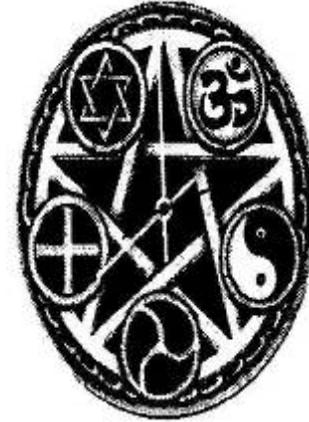
Leonardo's *Vitruvian Man*

with sacred geometry

## More visions



Michelangelo's *Pieta*

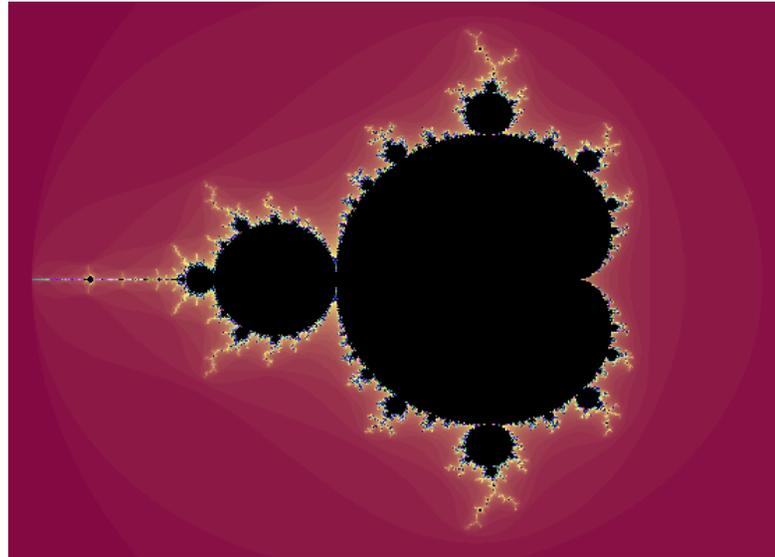


Ouroboros



Before the fall

# Pythagorean visions of coherence



Mandelbrot set

$$\sum_{n=0}^{\infty} (-1)^n (s + 2n) \frac{s^{(n)} (x+y+z+u+2s+1)^{(n)}}{(x+y+z+u-s)^{(n)}} \prod_{x,y,z,u} \frac{x^{(n)}}{(x+s+1)^{(n)}}$$

$$= \frac{s}{\Gamma(s+1)\Gamma(x+y+z+u+s+1)} \prod_{x,y,z,u} \frac{\Gamma(x+s+1)\Gamma(y+z+u+s+1)}{\Gamma(z+u+s+1)},$$

One of hundreds of formulas to be found in Ramanujan's note books

# Archetypes of Unity

- Ouroboros (Orb)
  - Primal psychic circuit, zodiac, bootstrap
  - Later it will be argued that X & Orb are closely identifiable.
- MDX/Z
  - Matrix (primal potentiality), Dialectic, Logos/zodiac
  - trinity of :: Mother, Spirit, Son(s)
  - $e^{i\pi} = -1$
  - Mandelbrot
- AZO/X/QRP
  - Alpha, Zodiac, Omega/Logos/Quantum, Reproduction, Pi
  - Macrocosm/microcosm connected by the Logos
- Mb:S::An:X
  - Mandelbrot set : Srinivasa Ramanujan :: Anthropics : Christos

# The role of the archetypes

- In the first instance, the archetypes and the previous 'visions' are meant to guide our imaginations toward coherence.
- In immaterialism the archetypes replace atoms as the foundation of reality.
- The first thing to recognize is that coherence demands an organic unity of the archetypes.
  - We aspire to a Pythagorean harmony rather than a Platonic absolutism.
  - This is essential to teleology and restitution.

# The 'emergence' of the archetypes

- The organic unity of the archetypes is ensured by keeping in mind their essential relations to each other and to a common source or ground of being.
- The Matrix is that Source.
  - It is potentiality.
  - The BPW is the one rational realization of that potentiality.
    - The Best Possible World also conforms with the One World hypothesis (see later).
- The dynamic element is the dialectic.
  - It is the source of multiplicity.
  - It is the cosmic bootstrap, which we also experience as love.
- The christos/logos is the original thesis and archetype.
  - It is necessarily the Alpha and Omega, Creator and Telos.
  - In some strong sense, the symmetry breaking of the Creation event is the antithesis, and the eschatological restitution of Creation, i.e. apokatastasis, is the cosmic synthesis.

# AZO/X/QRP

- This is the macro and micro-cosm connected by the logos.
  - In other words, it is the cosmic and mundane circuits that are thus connected.
- The Ouroboros (Orb) is represented in part as the zodiac. The Alpha and Omega are the head and tail of the cosmic serpent.
  - It is X that breaks the circular symmetry in the act of Creation.
  - One could say that X is the primal observer, taking the measure of itself and the Orb.
    - That is one reason to identify pi and the christos.
- QRP is the projection of the broken cosmic circuit into the linear dimensions of space and time.
  - Out of this comes the Monster Group that determines the Anthropic attribute of physics.

# Mb:S::An:X

- These archetypes demonstrate a relation between the personal and impersonal side of God.
- The Mandelbrot is the image of the cosmos/god as imbedded in the number system.
  - All spiritual traditions agree that god/cosmos is reflected everywhere.
  - Srinivasa (S) Ramanujan, more than anyone in history, was able to project the pure mathematical logos out of his mind.
- The other side of this coin is seen in the second pair.
  - This is the personal side of god/cosmos.
  - The Anthropic (design) Principle is largely contained in the Monster Group, second only to the Mb in complexity.
  - The personal logos/christos, X, is reflected in the organic nature of math.
  - It is further reflected in the organicity of the microcosm.
- Perhaps these are two sides of a larger circuit.
  - On the one hand there is math coming out of the mind, and on the other the mind emerges from the math.
  - It is the christos that encompasses the whole dynamic of Creation.
  - Thus may the X and the Orb be closely identified.

# X & Orb

- This brings us near to the ultimate mystery of being.
- The primal trinity of MDX/Z are coeternal.
  - Taken together they are the Ouroboros: Orb of being.
- In breaking the symmetry of the Orb, X is effectively sacrificing itself on behalf of Creation.
- Resurrection, restitution and apokatastasis inevitably follow, as the symmetry is reconstituted.

# Ugly Facts?

- "The great tragedy of science -- the slaying of a beautiful hypothesis by an ugly fact."
  - Thomas Huxley (1825-1895)
  - Perhaps the theory in question was not sufficiently coherent.
- Yes, we do have to tough it out.
  - One needs a mustard seed of faith and confidence.
  - Cosmology is not for the faint of heart.
- Scientific materialism has been on a roll for more than three centuries.
  - There are many signs, however, that its grip on our imaginations is waning.
- We can sit on our hands, or we can start figuring out how to transcend its increasingly obvious limitations.
- Will it be revisionism or revolution, i.e. a gestalt switch?

# The Way Forward?

- No point in rolling back the clock into dualism.
  - We've been there, done that!
- The only way forward is into a non-material monism.
- This quantum leap forward will necessarily have a spiritual content and so will impact every religious tradition.
  - As such, it will come as a revelation of 'biblical proportions'.
  - There will surely be a significant messianic component.
  - This vision will not emerge from a committee.
  - Once again, the faint of heart need not apply!
  - Fools rush in? Yet, according to Google there are not many who are rushing down this particular path.

# Immaterialism

- This is a hard pill to swallow, especially for us in the western tradition.
- We have taken matter more seriously than others.
  - Ironically, this is due in no small part to the Incarnation.
  - Materialism, in a dualist context, is almost a part of our catechism.
- How can we give up that absolutism without devaluing the world and our lives?
  - This is too often the case with pantheism.
  - We replace pantheism with coherentism.
  - Then we replace atoms with archetypes, taking care to treat the archetypes as part of a Pythagorean harmony, and not as Platonic absolutes.

# Dinosaurs and Stars

- If we can choose the archetypes to be robust, the rest of Creation will spin itself off.
  - God does not have to place every hair on every head, or every star in the sky.
  - The same is true for the Mandelbrot.
    - It operates under its own internal logic and coherence.
- God sets the example.
  - The example is to love and to strive for perfect understanding through time, knowing that perfection is never absent.
    - Mainly it is in this sense that time is an illusion.
    - It is mainly our understanding of perfection that is to be perfected.
    - The Second Coming triggers the final quantum leap in our understanding.
  - God calls the tune. God is the tune.
  - Creator and Creation are mutually essential.
    - We cannot understand the part without the whole, nor the whole without the parts.
    - One hair cannot be disturbed without disturbing the rest, as with the Mandelbrot.

# Omega

- The critical idea here is apokatastasis.
  - This is the restoration/restitution of all things in God.
  - This is universal salvation.
  - It is now considered heresy.
    - Originally it was the orthodoxy of the Orthodox church.
  - All dualisms and paradoxes are transcended.
  - It is the temporal completion of Creator, Creation and history.
    - It is the reconstitution of the broken symmetry.
- The Omega is the beginning of eternity.
  - Eternity is not endless time.
  - It is the dimensions beyond space and time.
  - It is a timeless ending/beginning.
  - It is the ouroboros in its entirety.

# The One World Hypothesis

- Rationalism demands a teleology.
- Teleology requires a **OWH**.
- Teleology is a concomitant of monotheism.
- All four of these concepts should be treated as virtually synonymous.
- All of these are essential to **Coherence**.
- Can this One World be anything other than the Best Possible World?

# The Millennium

- The BPWH envisions pre-millennialism.
  - The Best Possible World hypothesis envisions the completion of God's salvific, sacrificial errand into Creation.
  - This enables the establishment of God's eschatological kingdom, traditionally to last a thousand years.
  - The actual time frame is likely to be substantially shorter rather than longer.
- And what may we expect of the Millennium?
  - It is a period of realignment between our hearts and intellects, after the long drought of materialism.
  - We finish our business here and prepare to transcend the barriers of space and time.
    - This may include the return of unprepared souls.
  - There will be a gradual breaking down of barriers between our individual egos, and between our separate states of consciousness.
  - Codified society gives way to organic community.

# Relationalism: into the Millennium

- Relationalism is the foundation of Coherentism
  - To be is to relate.
  - The most real is the most related.
  - Rather than a chain of being, there is a network of being.
- Permit me to anticipate criticism from the conservatives, legalists and absolutists.
  - I say relationalism.
  - They hear ‘relativism, contextualism, situationalism’, i.e. ‘everyone does their own thing’.
- The Millennial Aeon is a ‘gathering of the tribes’.
  - The structured, stratified, codified order is replaced by the organic and communal, if we dare use that word.
  - The exemplars here are the early Christian communities.
    - These were extended, mostly non-biological, families.
    - They were mainly urban.
- Utopianism?
  - Legislating or codifying the Millennium is oxymoronic.
  - God’s kingdom grows only from the inside out.
    - The true kingdom is always within.
  - We evolve into the body of Christ.
    - That is the eschaton.

# Second Coming?

- By all accounts the prophetic tradition remains unfulfilled.
- Even the pantheist traditions envision a nadir of spirituality followed by a return to a golden age inaugurated by an avatar.
- The fulfilling of the prophecies is the prerequisite of the Millennium.
- The christocentric/incarnational hypothesis is essential to cosmic coherence and to its concomitant of an eschatological restitution.
  - The illogic of a dualistic monotheism had its historical purposes, but now we are poised to transcend dualism.

# Immaterialism & physics

- Materialism and immaterialism are antithetical.
- In contrast, physics and the BPWH have Pythagoras in common.
  - This is the notion of a cosmic harmony based on the mathematical attribute of cosmic intelligence.
  - The only issue is which is God and which is the tail. In the BPW, the mathematical attribute is the tail.
  - The Anthropic Principle demonstrates that it is the personal side of God that is dominant.