What is Reality?

Armin Wolff

This is intended for people who have had a minimal education in science but nevertheless have a keen interest in learning what science has discovered. Therefore most mathematics have been dispensed with, because that often intimidates people. In all of the media, scientific or otherwise, it is always assumed and loudly proclaimed that only what can be discovered by our senses is real. There is a branch of science named "Quantum Physics" that confounds and befuddles our intuitive ideas about reality.

In this world all of us generally depend on our physical senses, to inform us about the properties of the world around us. Do our senses give us a picture of what really exists?

• *Our senses need help*

Beginning about four centuries ago people discovered that things exist in our universe that are either too small or too far away, to be perceived with our unaided eyes. The first devices to help our unaided senses recognize the unseen were microscopes and telescopes. Our horizons in perceiving the dimensions of the universe were greatly expanded in both the directions, the very large and the very small. It is interesting to realize, that as our perception of the very large and very small have increased in both directions, the physical dimension of our human body has remained almost exactly at the center of that scale.

• *Large and small connected*

The very large scales of galaxies, stars, planets as well as the ordinary dimensions we encounter in our lives, all are interconnected with and depend upon the very smallest objects that have been discovered. Everything we can perceive with our senses or the extensions thereof is built from vast numbers of these unimaginably tiny particles.

• *Small cannot be arbitrarily made smaller*

When you chop up a tree, cut a cake or divide any other physical object, there is a limit beyond which the individual pieces cannot be made any tinier. All matter and energy is made up of tiny pieces named "quanta". The study of these tiniest pieces is the science of *Quantum Physics*. In this tiny world, many of the rules and concepts that we are used to and take for granted in every day life do not apply. Not only matter and energy, but also space and time are not infinitely divisible. There is a smallest division of time that scientists have labeled Planck time. The smallest division of space is called Planck length. Both of these are named after a German physicist named Max Planck. Max

Karl Ernst Ludwig Planck, was born on April 23 1858 and died on October 4 1947. His work on quantum theory won him the Nobel Prize in Physics in 1918.

Planck length is roughly equal to 1.6 x 10^{-35} m or about 10^{-20} times the size of a proton. It is meaningless to attempt to determine the difference between two locations less than one Planck length apart.

The Planck time is the time it would take a photon traveling at the speed of light to across a distance equal to the Planck length. This is the quantum of time, the smallest measurement of time that has any meaning, and is equal to 10^{-43} seconds. No smaller division of time has any meaning.

• *Assemblies of particles*

You may have learned at some point in your life that matter is made up of atoms. The word "atom" comes from a Greek word meaning "indivisible". About 150 years ago scientists have learned that atoms themselves are made out of things called electrons, protons and neutrons. No one has yet discovered, nor are there any theories for any smaller parts of electrons. Although theorized earlier, it was first experimentally verified about 60 years ago, that protons and neutrons are made of smaller particles yet. These have been labeled "quarks". There are also tiny, indivisible pieces of energy, which have been labeled "photons".

• *Particles of information*

There is another aspect of our existence outside of matter-energy and space-time. That is the existence of information. The material realm carries information by virtue of the arrangement of its particles. It is not the particles themselves, but their *order* and *arrangement* that constitutes information. Like the material world, information is also divided into individual indivisible pieces. In digital computers these tiniest pieces of information are labeled "bits". In a computer, a bit is either a zero or a one. The electric current is
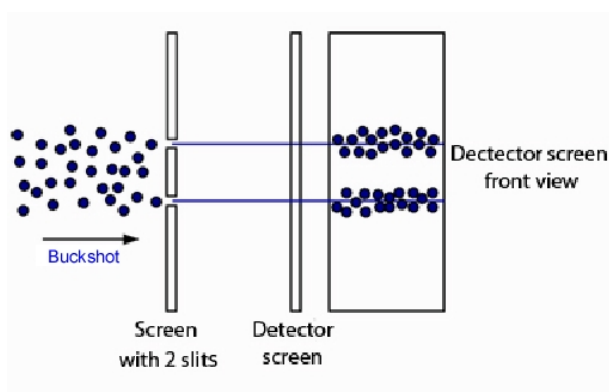
either on or it is off. This is called a binary encoding. In living systems there is a four level encoding; the four basic amino acid components of DNA.
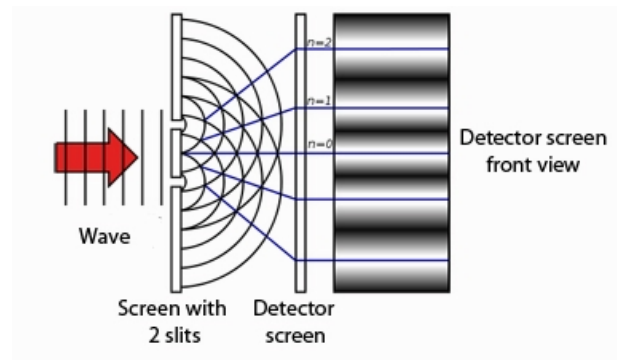
• *Data or Information*

In the thinking of many people, there is no distinction between data and information. There is however an important difference. Data is just a more or less coherent collection of facts. All computers are deterministic. Computers can manipulate data and correlate it to other data according to a fixed program from which it can never deviate. Any such program must ultimately always be conceived in a mind. Computers cannot assign *meaning* to data. Assigning meaning to data can only be accomplished by a conscious mind. *When meaning has been assigned to data, then it becomes information.*
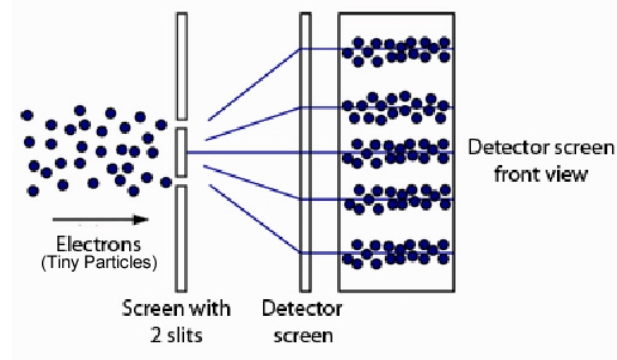
• *The Strange Quantum World*

At the tiniest foundations of our existence, rules and processes to which we are accustomed in ordinary life no longer apply. Time, matter, energy and space behave differently at those tiny dimensions, than they do at our normal level of life. This arises not only from the mathematical equations of theoretical science, but has been confirmed by many experiments. One of the very earliest of these and undoubtedly the most famous, is known as the double slit experiment.

Above is an illustration where we are shooting a spread of buckshot through two slits at a detector screen. The resulting pattern on the screen is straightforward and is what we would expect.

Now we repeat the experiment, except this time we use light. Light is generally thought of as a wave of electromagnetic energy. We get an interference pattern on the screen, because at some places the waves of light reinforce each other and at other places they cancel each other.

Finally, in the illustration above, we are now shooting electrons, which are billions of times smaller than buckshot, but still are tiny particles, similar to buckshot. We get an interference pattern on the screen. The electrons are behaving as if they were energy waves rather than tiny little pieces of matter.

• *Those clever scientists*

Since electrons carry an electric charge, experimenters thought that this caused the electrons to interact with each other before and/or after they went through the slits. Therefore they decided to send the electrons through the slits one at a time, so that they could not possibly interact with each other. After doing this for a while, they still observed the same interference pattern on the screen. It seemed as if each electron went through both slits and then interfered with itself and still

created that same pattern. Therefore the experimenters decided to peek and employed a measuring device to determine which slit the electron *actually* went through.

• A Big Surprise

When a measuring device was added, the electrons decided to act in the same manner as the buckshot, rather than making an interference pattern. The very act of *observing* the electrons made the wave function collapse. It was as though the electrons knew they were being watched and decided to behave like the kind of matter we are familiar with, rather than a statistical wave of possibilities. It is as though the matter we are familiar with does not really exist until a conscious person is there to observe it. Recording output of the whole experiment and then playing back the recording hours or even days later, did not fool the electrons. They still seemed to know that someone with a *conscious mind* was watching them. The same results were also observed using photons, which are tiny particles of light.

• Even a stranger yet

Better technology has allowed scientists to make a variation on this experiment. This variation allows scientists to delay the decision to observe the electrons *after* they have gone through the slits, but *before* they arrive at the screen. Just before the particles hit the screen, the detector is enabled, allowing observation. Now the electrons change their behavior back to distinct particles, even before they went through the slits. It is as though the electrons knew they are going to be observed in the future. A decision I make based on knowledge I have today affects what I observe tomorrow about something that happened yesterday. An action in the future affects events in the past!

• Knowledge requires a Knower

Material objects cannot know anything. It is obvious that it must be the conscious human mind of the scientist doing the experiment that is affecting the behavior of electrons. In the world view we are generally familiar with, where reality is thought to be independent of any observers, it makes no sense that knowing the future can affect the past. If what we call reality is created by and in

a Mind, then it is logical that other, lesser minds can also affect what we perceive as a reality.

• That Tree in the Forest

Does a tree fall in the forest, if there is no one to observe it? In the world that we are familiar with, everyone would certainly say an emphatic *yes* to that old philosophical question. In the quantum world of particles, of which the tree is constructed, this is a solid *no*. The electrons or photons appear not to even exist as discrete particles, but only as probabilities as expressed by their wave functions. After the wave function collapses, the probability is not the probability of where the electron or atom actually is, but the probability of where an observer will find it. The particle previously wasn't someplace until someone observed it to be there. It is only when the particles are observed by a conscious observer, that they take on a definite form and location.

• A Digital Simulation

It was stated earlier, that everything in the universe appears to be quantized into units that cannot be made any smaller. Just like in a computer, in which bits, that is 1 or 0, are the basic unit of computation, the universe itself is also divided into bits. A universe that is the result of information processing happening outside of time and space is a simpler and more logical explanation for the strange behavior particles as observed in quantum physics. The data better fit the idea that we are in a virtual reality, similar to, but many orders of magnitude more complex than any computer program we have ever dreamed of constructing.

• Something from Nothing

In the first verse of the Bible read the majestic words that space, time, and matter-energy all had a beginning. Scientists agree with this and have labeled this beginning "The Big Bang". In Scripture we learn that God created the universe out of nothing. Scientists who firmly believe in an objective reality, come up with convoluted explanations of what may have happened *before* the "Big Bang", but all of these are severely lacking and don't make much sense. How can something come from nothing? A computer program creates its virtual world from nothing as

the program begins executing. Everyone who has an Xbox, PlayStation or boots up any sort of computer game, starts that game-world up from nothing. If we are indeed living in a virtual reality, then the creation event, the Big Bang, is simply the point when the computer booted up and started executing its program.

• *Computer Programs are Coded Information*

Virtual worlds must begin with information input from beyond the virtual world itself. From the perspective of the virtual world, its beginning is always from nothing. Before any given virtual world start-up, there exists no time or space for that world. The universe has a finite number of components and a finite number of conditions it can exist in. That means it is computable. The universe has a maximum speed, the speed of light. A virtual world also has a maximum speed. That is the maximum speed at which the processing takes place.

• *All Reality Represented by 1s and 0s?*

Can everything we perceive be reduced to lines of code in a powerful computer? For objective reality to be true, a reality independent of observation, something known as "locality" is necessary. This simply means that for objects to interact, they must stay in close proximity. However experiments in quantum physics have shown that objects can interact with one another a great distances. This is called *"quantum entanglement"*. No one has ever detected any discernible communication between such entangled objects. These particles affect one another instantaneously, far greater than the speed of light. It is as if the distance, no matter how great, between the particles does not exist. In a virtual world, space does not limit correlations. All parts of the virtual world are equidistant to where the processing is taking place. A computer screen is the means by which the information contained in a virtual reality program is made accessible. All points on such a screen are equidistant to the CPU.

• *A sophisticated simulation*

Some readers may have heard the statement, *"An advanced enough technology is indistinguishable from a miracle"*. There is a corollary to this, *"A sophisticated enough simulation is indistinguishable from reality"*. As technology advanced, scientists and engineers have been able to construct increasingly "realistic" simulations. Pilots nowadays commonly learn how to "fly" an aircraft in a flight simulator. Even 35 years ago the NASA had some very good state of the art multimillion dollar machines.

When I was working at Stanford University as an engineer, helping doctoral physics students learn some practical matters, such as how to use a soldering iron among other things, I remember one young student named Mike. I will never forget the adventure he told me about with his experience in one of the simulators at NASA in Mountain View.

He would regularly go to lunch with his wife who worked as a secretary at the Ames Research Center wind tunnel complex. One day his wife had an important task to finish before she could leave work. Like most bright young men studying at Stanford, he was very inquisitive. He went through an open door and down the hallway and discovered a huge room labeled *"Helicopter Trainer"*. The machine inside was quietly humming. He had heard of these machines from his wife. The door to the cab was an open invitation. So, of course he climbed in and shut the door. He knew just enough about flying to be dangerous. Soon he had the "helicopter" flying at 10,000 feet over the Mountain View Bay Area landscape. Then he made a mistake and the cab began bouncing around wildly and gyrating. Alarms sounded and numerous lights were blinking. Luckily he had strapped himself in securely. The altimeter unwound rapidly. Then there was a huge jolt followed by total silence as all the lights went out. Out of the total darkness a small voice said "*you are dead*". A few seconds later lights came on and Mike scrambled out of the machine as fast as he could. Of course he was aware that it was only a simulation, but it still scared the living daylights out of him.

• *The Universe - A Virtual Reality*

The conclusion is inescapable. The universe behaves as a virtual reality created by a computer system far beyond man's wildest dreams. Speaking of dreams, have you ever dreamed so realistically and vividly that you did not realize you were in a dream until you woke up, sometimes in a cold
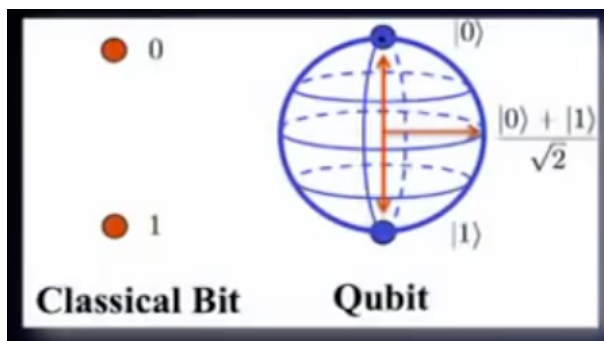
sweat? If the universe is a simulation, then the questions arises, where is the simulator? Who or what wrote the program? Some people have put forth the hypothesis, that this simulation is being done by advanced humans far in the future or alien intelligences. If that were the case, they would be subject to the same laws which would be very similar to ours but be based on qubits. A qubit can be either a 1 or a 0, or both *simultaneously*. Computer scientists are endeavoring to construct quantum computers which use qubits. That means their world would also be a simulation. That future world could in turn be simulated by a yet further in the future civilization, That cycle could continue forever and is therefore unlikely.

Experiments led by a group at the University of Vienna, Austria, provide the most compelling evidence yet that there is no objective reality beyond what we observe. Rather than passively observing it, we in fact create reality. (New scientist magazine, 23JUN2007)

• A World Based on Classical Physics

What if that higher-level world behind our reality were not on a quantum world, but based on the classical laws of physics as they were first observed 100+ years ago? That would mean that all the qubits in the universe would have to be unpacked into conventional bits.

That would require a hard drive bigger than the universe itself. Even if by some unknown futuristic technology it were possible to build such a computer and program it, there would still be one fundamental limitation. The computer would be made out of matter and consume energy. Where would that come from if there was nothing in the beginning? All approaches and hypotheses using naturalistic means are ultimately excluded.

Computers of the kind we know of and even quantum computers are deterministic. This means that they cannot deviate from their programming and therefore, such a world would disallow any choice outside of the preprogrammed possibilities.

• The Simulation is running in a Mind

A universe simulated in a Mind that exists outside of the universe fits what we observe better than any other hypothesis. Unlike a computer or a brain, a mind is non-material and does not require matter to exist. A mind, unlike a computer, doesn't require the existence of particles in time and space, but can exist entirely independently of anything in this universe. Therefore the universe is a simulation in an all-powerful, all-knowing mind. **This mind is called God**.

• Knowing about God

As we have seen from the above so far, quantum science can tell us a lot about God. Other branches of science, especially in the life sciences also tell us about the wisdom, power and ingenious creativity of God. All humans are incurably religious. Even before modern science came along, people wanted more than science and the observations of the world around us can provide. Universal human religiosity proves that people everywhere are yearning to know not only of and *about* God, but to actually *know* him and communicate with him. Science has managed to tell us a great deal about the laws of nature and *how* they apply in various disciplines. Science however is singularly poor in communicating to us *why* God created the world in the first place and what purpose he has in mind for us.

• God Reveals Himself

One of the abilities of humans that is not found in any other creature, is our ability to communicate across succeeding generations through the art of writing. God communicated personally and verbally with certain people throughout history. Then he instructed those people to write those communications down for future generations. This communication and revelation from God is a collection of books that have come down to us. It is commonly known as the Bible. This collection of 66 books was penned by 40 different writers

over a period of more than 1500 years, yet bears the hallmarks of a single authorship. It is in the Bible that God revealed to us the characteristics and personal desires of himself. He also accurately describes who we are and why we exist. Any revelation from any person to another, can never be proved or independently verified. This is also true of the person of God. We can only believe by faith and trust or we can reject such a revelation for any reason including simply because we don't like what we're told.

• *The Ultimate Arbiter Of Truth*

Because science can only discover what is inside of this simulation, any scientific discoveries and theories must always be measured by and compared to what the Programmer, God has revealed. If there is any contradiction between these two, the revelation of God is the final arbiter of truth. Therefore, I want to explore how some of what mankind has discovered in science dovetails with what was revealed in scripture centuries before these discoveries were made.

God, Originator of Information

The first verse of the Bible is one of the most profound sentences ever written by a human pen.

Genesis 1:1   In the beginning, God created the heavens and the earth.

Here it is stated, that God created time, then space, and finally matter-energy. God first had to create the canvas upon which to paint his masterpiece.

Genesis 1:2 The earth was without form and void, and darkness was over the face of the deep. And the Spirit of God was hovering over the face of the waters.

All three persons of the Trinity worked together in the creation process. In the New Testament we are informed that Jesus was intimately involved in creation as well.

John 1:1-3 In the beginning was the Word, and the Word was with God, and the Word was God. He was in the beginning with God. All things were made through him, and without him was not any thing made that was made.

That canvas was blank. The creation was disorganized, chaotic, with no distinct order. The information content of what existed thus far was minimal. God proceeded to speak. The refrain "God said…" is repeated like in a poem six times.

Genesis 1:3 And God said, "Let there be light," and there was light.

When we speak, we impart information to our hearers. When we think of light, we generally mean electromagnetic radiation, such as from the sun or other such source. However we also speak about being "enlightened" and use phrases such as "He finally saw the light". In cartoons, when someone has a "bright idea", that is often represented as a light bulb above that person's head. God imparted information to the universe, thereby increasingly the organizing it. In terms of the virtual universe, God was coding the details of his simulation. In each of the following five "and God said…" he was adding additional detail and complexity to the simulation taking place in his mind and projecting that onto the three-dimensional screen that we perceive as our physical "reality".

• *Creation of another Consciousness*

Near the end of the sixth imparting of information into his simulation we are in, God proceeded to inject part of his own mind, his own consciousness.

Genesis 1:26 Then God said, "Let us make man in our image, after our likeness. And let them have dominion over the fish of the sea and over the birds of the heavens and over the livestock and over all the earth and over every creeping thing that creeps on the earth."

An image, such as on a computer screen is always a representation, created by software code from the mind of the programmer.

Genesis 2:7 then the LORD God formed the man of dust from the ground and breathed into his nostrils the breath of life, and the man became a living creature.

Here we are briefly informed that God made the hardware, the body of man. He had previously imparted   immense   amounts   of   complex

information into all living creatures in the form of what we now know as the DNA codes simply by speaking his all powerful word. In the making of man, he does two things differently. Instead of only speaking his word, he takes *action* by forming the hardware, especially the large brain, of the same elements that are also in the earth. Then he takes further action by doing something he had never done with any other living creature that he had previously created upon the earth. He placed within man a consciousness/mind/spirit, part of himself. That is why humans all have always been and still are incurably religious. In computing terms it could be said that God loaded part of his own software, his own consciousness, the essence of man, into the hardware. Thus a part of the mind of God, the human mind, began executing within the simulation that God had started up earlier. Because we are a conscious mind projection of God, we can and do have a direct effect on the physical world, especially at the quantum level.

• *Malware, a Bug is Introduced*

Each human's mind/consciousness is a subprogram, a subroutine, executing in the mind/consciousness of God. Unlike a digital computer, a mind is not deterministic. Every digital computer that we have invented, can only run the code that has been originally programmed into it by a programmer with a mind. The human mind has been endowed by God with the freedom to generate and run code that is not fixed.

Genesis 3:1 Now the serpent was more crafty than any other beast of the field that the LORD God had made. He said to the woman, "Did God actually say, 'You shall not eat of any tree in the garden'?"

When code was offered to Adam by that malware creator, Satan, Adam had the choice to reject that extraneous code. He ignored that portion of code that God had programmed into him, but knowingly executed the malware, the bugged code.

Genesis 3:6 So when the woman saw that the tree was good for food, and that it was a delight to the eyes, and that the tree was to be desired to make one wise, she took of its fruit and ate, and she also gave some to her husband who was with her, and he ate.

Now his processing equipment, his mind and the mind of every human after him is running the malware that has given the author of that malware access to the human mind.

In our everyday computers, it is a computer virus, malware, that gives access to the authors of that bad software. That then causes the computer to do things that we as owners of said computer don't want done. This malware has also disconnected the subroutine running in the human mind from the main program running in the mind of God. This disconnection of our program from God, resulted in running an infinite loop, accomplishing absolutely nothing good in God's eyes, in spite of using up large amounts of CPU time. In our "normal" objective reality world this malware has been labeled "sin".

• *The Programmer Enters His Program*

Before God ever started this simulation we call "reality", he knew that a dreadful bug, deadly malware would be introduced into his originally perfect program. He knew that in order to get rid of this death bug, he the Programmer would have to enter his own program, suffer the full effects of the bug and be limited to all the constraints and limitations this tainted code.

John 1:14 And the Word became flesh, and tabernacled among us. And we beheld His glory, the glory as of the only begotten of the Father, full of grace and of truth.

God did exactly that in the person of Jesus Christ. He alone made it possible for our consciousness/mind to once again be connected to the main program and operate closely in conjunction with it.

• *Malware no longer executed*

*Romans 12:2 And do not be conformed to this world, but be transformed by the renewing of your **mind**, in order to prove by you what is that good and pleasing and perfect will of God.*

If we choose to let him, Jesus Christ will insert his code into our program, so that we can start thinking the way he does. The malware is still there, but now because of Jesus Christ, we have

been given the ability to *not* execute it any longer. Because a mind is not deterministic like a conventional computer, we now have the choice not to execute the malware any longer. In our conventional, objective "reality" this brand new code is given by the "New Birth" accomplished by the Holy Spirit.

1Corinthians 2:16 For who has known the mind of the Lord, that he may instruct Him? But we have the mind of Christ.

• *Returning Acceptable Results*

In computers, a subprograms, always return useful results to the main program. Only a person who lets and continues to allow the Master Programmer, Jesus Christ to install bug free code in a person's subprogram (mind/spirit), will always return an acceptable and correct set of results (fruit) to the master program. A subroutine never executes on its own, but only when it is called by the master program. That is because the subprogram executes under the control of the Programmer who programmed the main program.

John 15:4 Abide in Me, and I in you. As the branch cannot bear fruit of itself unless it remains in the vine, so neither can you unless you abide in Me.

• *A New Light on Scripture*

When the apostle Paul came to Athens to bring the gospel to the intellectuals of his day, among other things he told them this,

Acts 17:28 for "'In him we live and move and have our being'; as even some of your own poets have said, "'For we are indeed his offspring.'

In our "normal" objective reality view of our existence in this universe, the meaning of the phrase "In Him" has always been somewhat nebulous to me. In the light of the simulation hypothesis, many Scriptures, such as this one take on a new and much clearer meaning. As a simulation program running in the mind of God, of course all existence, including our own, we indeed "live and move and have our being" in God in a way I never understood before.

• *Information is Invisible*

There is nothing material about information. In this world, all matter is subject to gravity. When a computer hard drive is filled with information, it's weight does not change at all. This is true because the ones and zeros representing the information only change the pattern, the *arrangement* of magnetism on the disk.

Hebrews 11:3 By faith we understand that the universe was created by the word of God, so that what is seen was not made out of things that are visible.

God is telling us through the author of the book of Hebrews, that the world is basically composed of information. This information is embodied in the particles themselves as well as in the arrangement of the particles into all the structures we are familiar with. Non-living systems, such as snowflakes for example, embody within themselves the laws of physics, which like all laws are information created in a mind; the mind of God in this case. Special, much more complex additional information is coded into the DNA of all living organisms.

• *God Is The Source Of All Information*

All computer programs are produced only in minds. If everything we consider "real" is indeed a simulation program running in the mind of God, then Scriptures like this take on an entirely new and fresh meaning.

Colossians 2:2-3 that their hearts might be comforted, being knit together in love, and to all riches of the full assurance of the understanding, to the full knowledge of the mystery of God, and of the Father, and of Christ; **in whom are hidden** all **the treasures of wisdom and knowledge.**

The word "all" means that there exists no aspect of our reality that is excluded from the purview of God.

• *Good Reasons For Simulations made by People*

God has good reasons for making a simulation and so do people. One reason that people make simulators is for teaching activities that are inherently dangerous and/or very expensive. Michael, who went on his adventure in the

helicopter simulator at NASA would almost certainly have been really dead, if he had been in actual helicopter. Aircraft, especially airliner sized ones, are very expensive to fly. Therefore, a good simulator can be used to train pilots, at least initially, for much lower cost. Many, if not most computer games are simulations of alternative realities and adventures. These allow people to learn things or to do exploits they would never have the opportunity or daring to do otherwise.

• Good Reasons For Simulations made by God

All material objects in this world, including money and earthly wealth are for the purpose of training and educating people for a greater destiny than what is offered in this world right now. People who are unwilling or unable to cope with this present simulation, will never be allowed to handle a far greater reality that God has his in mind for us. Jesus tells us about this.

Luke 16:11-12   Therefore if you have not been faithful in the unrighteous mammon, who will entrust the true riches to you? And if you have not been faithful in that which is another's, who shall give you that which is your own?

In this simulation which we perceive as our present reality, we are put into situations where our faithfulness is tested. If we are faithful in what Jesus here calls the "*least thing*", then we will have the desire and ability to receive greater responsibilities.

Luke 19:17   And he said to him, Well done, good servant, because you have been faithful in a least thing, have authority over ten cities.

• After We Exit This Simulation

When someone training how to fly an airliner in a simulator finally is deemed by his/her instructor to be able to safely and intelligently fly a real jet, the simulation is ended. There will always be some prospective pilots, where the instructor for reasons of his/her own decides to end simulation.

• Irreparable Hardware Failure

When the hardware of our physical brain/body stops working, our software, our mind/consciousness can no longer interact with this simulation of the physical universe. In computer terms, our software executes a final *return* and *end* statements and then returns to the main program. The main program is executing in the mind of God.

Ecclesiastes 12:7   then the dust shall return to the earth as it was, and the spirit shall return to God who gave it.

• Other Simulations

The Master Programmer revealed to us that he has at least two other programs running in that unfathomable mind of his. There may be many others, but that is only speculation on our part, because nothing has been revealed about that by God.

• Heaven

One we have labeled "heaven". This is the "reality" to which the consciousness/spirit subroutine returns to, of only those who have had the malware implanted by Satan removed by the grace of God. In addition to human minds, the Great Programmer reveals to us, that there are other conscious minds, which are labeled "angels". In that program no malware exists nor can exist. Each conscious mind/spirit subprogram executing there, as a matter of choice will always be joyfully and freely be running strictly in accord to the main program in the mind of the Master Programmer, namely God.

• Hell

Another program running in the mind of God has been labeled "hell". Each conscious mind/spirit subprogram executing there, as a matter of choice does not ever want to be under the control of the Master Programmer. Each of these subprograms will be running as an infinite loop, as determined by the choices of each. No attention will ever be paid to what any other program is doing or what the results of its own execution will be on other programs or the effects each will produce. There will be no Master Program to coordinate all the independently executing subroutines. Therefore, that simulated world will be pure chaos.

• A New Heaven and a New Earth

In human software systems, there comes a point when the old software will no longer fulfill its function. It cannot be upgraded, but must be reprogrammed from the ground up. God has promised that the current heaven and earth will not merely be upgraded, but will be replaced by entirely new versions. God will rewrite the code of the current simulations such that they will bear little resemblance to what we are currently familiar with.

Revelation 21:1 And I saw a new heaven and a new earth. For the first heaven and the first earth had passed away. And the sea no longer is.

God promises that when he finally turns off the software simulation which is this universe, our "reality", it will be a quite spectacular event from the perspective of the simulation.

2Peter 3:10 But the day of the Lord will come as a thief; in the which the heavens shall pass away with a great noise, and the elements shall be dissolved with fervent heat, and the earth and the works that are therein shall be burned up.

Some programmers of human simulations, such as computer games, are quite imaginative and come up with some astounding ideas and spectacular effects. God promises to come up with new software that makes any human efforts and imaginations seem paltry and insignificant. The best part of it will be that he, the Programmer will be there in person, to help us complete and master the wonderful adventures and true accomplishments he has planned each and everyone of us.

1Corinthians 2:9 But as it is written, "Eye has not seen, nor ear heard," nor has it entered into the heart of man, "the things which God has prepared for those who love Him."

Revelation 21:3 And I heard a great voice out of Heaven saying, Behold, the tabernacle of God is with men, and He will dwell with them, and they will be His people, and God Himself will be with them and be their God.

• *God - The Only Reality*

God has revealed that he is the only independently self existent one. That means he is the only independent objective reality. All other "Realities" originate from him and are dependent on him.

Deuteronomy 4:35 It was shown to you so that you might know that Jehovah is God, and no one else beside Him.

1Samuel 2:2 There is none holy as Jehovah, for there is none beside You. Neither is there any rock like our God.

Isaiah 44:6 So says Jehovah, the King of Israel, and His redeemer Jehovah of Hosts; I am the first, and I am the last; and besides Me there is no God.

• *Shared Love*

God has revealed to us in scripture, that his prime attribute is love. One characteristic of love is that it is always other directed. Because the one God exists eternally as three persons, God always experiences love within the three persons of God; God the Father, God the Son and God the Holy Spirit. God wants to include us in this eternal circle of love. That is what I think is the primary reason why God decided to create other realities and consciousnesses outside of himself. The more love is shared, the greater the totality of love.

• *Live in love for God and each other*

Therefore I exhort and encourage you the Christian reader to learn and experience everything good and worthwhile that you can, while living in this simulator called earth. Do not execute the malware that is still resident in your physical hardware, but shunt it aside by commenting it out, thus excluding it from execution. Execute instead the software of love, forgiveness and mercy that the Spirit of the Programmer has written into you.

1Corinthians 13:13 So now faith, hope, and love abide, these three; but the greatest of these is love.