

The Wonder of it All: Formed to be inhabited

By Mark Jurkovich

My wife and I had the privilege to attend the Creation Superconference put on by Creation Ministries International (CMI) in 2022. Around twenty different talks and a few special events were spread over a four day period. We got to hear from most, if not all of CMI's speakers (Johnathan Sarfati, Robert Carter, Gary Bates, ...) plus one or two invited speakers, including Spike Psarris.

One talk I especially liked was "A Special Earth in a Special Universe" by Spike Psarris. His talk sought to answer the question on the origin of the universe, "random processes or design?" He gave many strong points that show the earth and universe was clearly designed. I am not sure he used the term, but this talk was really a strong illustration on the truth of the anthropic principal, which is that the earth, and indeed the universe looks specially designed for man to dwell here. The Bible even specifically spells out this fact of God's special care in forming the earth:

For thus says the Lord, Who created the heavens, Who is God, Who formed the earth and made it, Who has established it, Who did not create it in vain, Who formed it to be inhabited: "I am the Lord, and there is no other" (Is 45:18 NKJV)

I will list here some of the facts he pointed out that speak to design by a loving, all powerful God. Some of these I already knew, others I did not know, and some I had taken for granted, but now see they speak of God's special care in balancing everything for life on earth, and some just for mankind's enjoyment and God's own glory.

- We all know earth is in the habitable zone, that is for liquid water to exist, but there is so much more that also had to be just right.
- Our orbit around the sun is nearly circular, minimizing extremes in temperature.
- Our axis of rotation is just right, again to help with temperature extremes (one other planet's axis is nearly vertical while Uranus rotates completely on its side!).
- We have a magnetic field that protects life from harmful radiation, for which the evolutionary argument is very weak as to how it could have

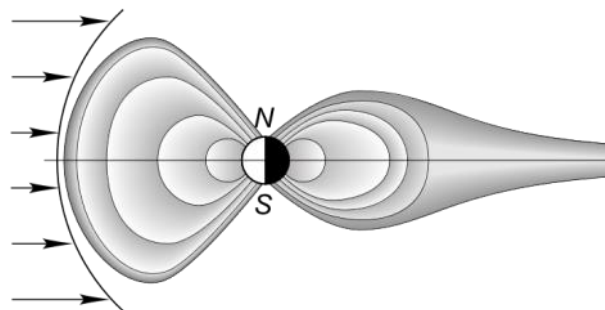


Image public domain: [Solar Wind and Earth's magnetic field - SVGu1.1.svg - Wikimedia Commons](#)

lasted billions of years.

- We have just the right amount of atmosphere (Venus – too thick so too hot, Mars too thin so too cold).
- Our 24 hour rotation period is just right (too fast – winds too strong, too slow – temperature extremes again).
- Our moon is very unique in size relative to it's planet, and at the right distance to create the right amount of ocean tides for the health of the oceans (not too strong as to be destructive, and not too weak as to become stagnant).
- Our moon's size and position is also just right for man to enjoy solar eclipses. What other purpose but for man's enjoyment and God's glory? The chances for a planet to have such a relatively large moon, and for that moon's distance to be just right so as to be visually the same size as the sun confounds probability.



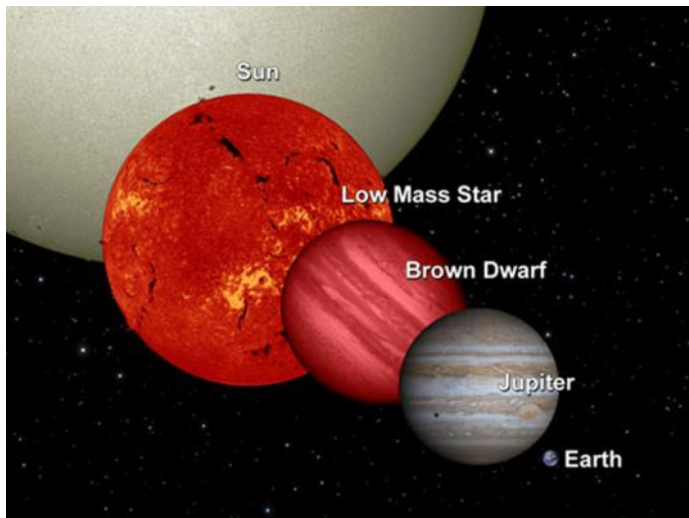
Lunar eclipse. Photo by author

- I did not quite understand this next one, but apparently the moon also helps stabilize earth's orbit.
- Not only are we the right distance from the sun for liquid water, but the sun is just the right size and temperature, not at all a humdrum star as one famous atheist once put it.

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- The sun is brighter than 90% of stars in our galaxy. Around one of these dimmer stars, we would have to be too close for liquid water, and become tidally locked, meaning that one side off the earth would always be facing the sun (like the moon is to the earth)



Most stars are low mass stars. *Image credit—NASA/JPL-Caltech/UCB, Public domain, via Wikimedia Commons*

- Most other stars of similar size are part of binary systems, not conducive for stable planetary orbits.
- Of all the other stars similar to the sun, none are nearly as stable as the sun. Life on planets around these stars could not survive the super solar flares given off. Some secular astronomers are now admitting that our sun is indeed unique.

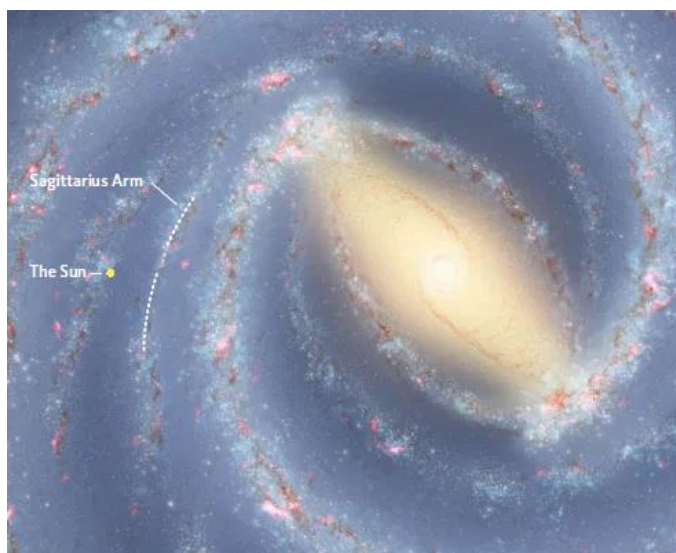


Image credit-
<https://answersingenesis.org/kids/astronomy/sun/>

- Even the size and placement of Jupiter has been seen to be needed to support life on earth (I think it's something about sweeping up debris in the solar system, and orbit stabilization)
- When we look at galaxies, apparently only spiral galaxies are conducive to life, and only at the right distance from the galactic center, which our solar system is.

- Lastly Spike touched on some other facts about our universe that are so fine tuned, some of which if they were off by just a little bit would prevent life from existing. Secular scientists realize this, so their only way around this and still deny God's existence is to say there must be an infinite number of universes out there, i.e. the multiverse, and we just happen to be in the one were all factors came together to support life. Oh, the lengths people will go to avoid admitting their accountability to their creator!

In conclusion, truly the heavens declare the glory of God. Praise Him for his infinite care and creativity to so finely design the whole universe to support life on earth, and so carefully and wonderfully form the earth "to be inhabited."



We are just the right distance from the center of our galaxy. (Image credit: NASA/JPL-CALTECH, used in <https://answersingenesis.org/kids/astronomy/milky-way-breaks-arm/>)

“As long as the earth endures, seedtime and harvest, cold and heat, summer and winter, day and night will never cease.” (Genesis 8:22)

The whole earth is filled with awe at your wonders; where morning dawns, where evening fades, you call forth songs of joy. (Psalm 65:8)