

POST

Danger?

February 11, 2022

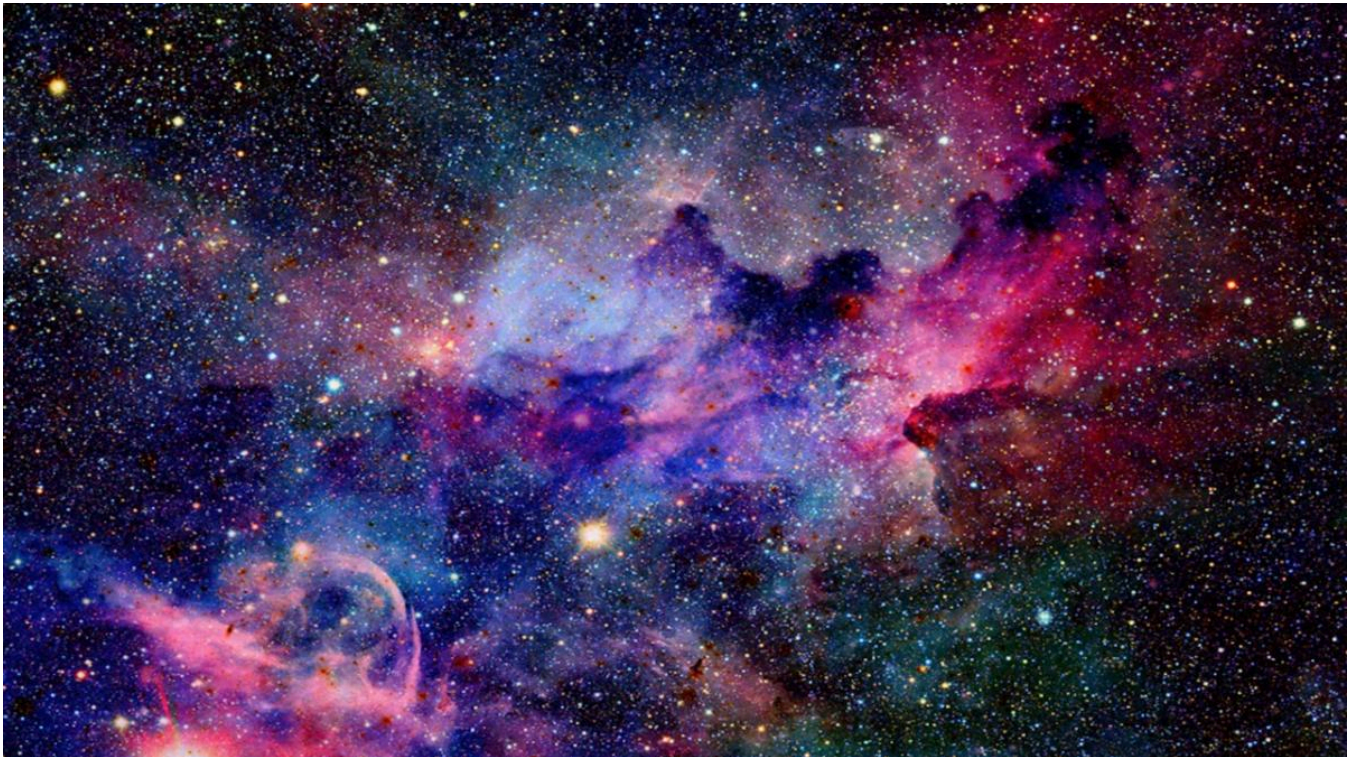
No.

NO

DANGER

---“I just don’t see any danger anymore.”

- Jed Anderson



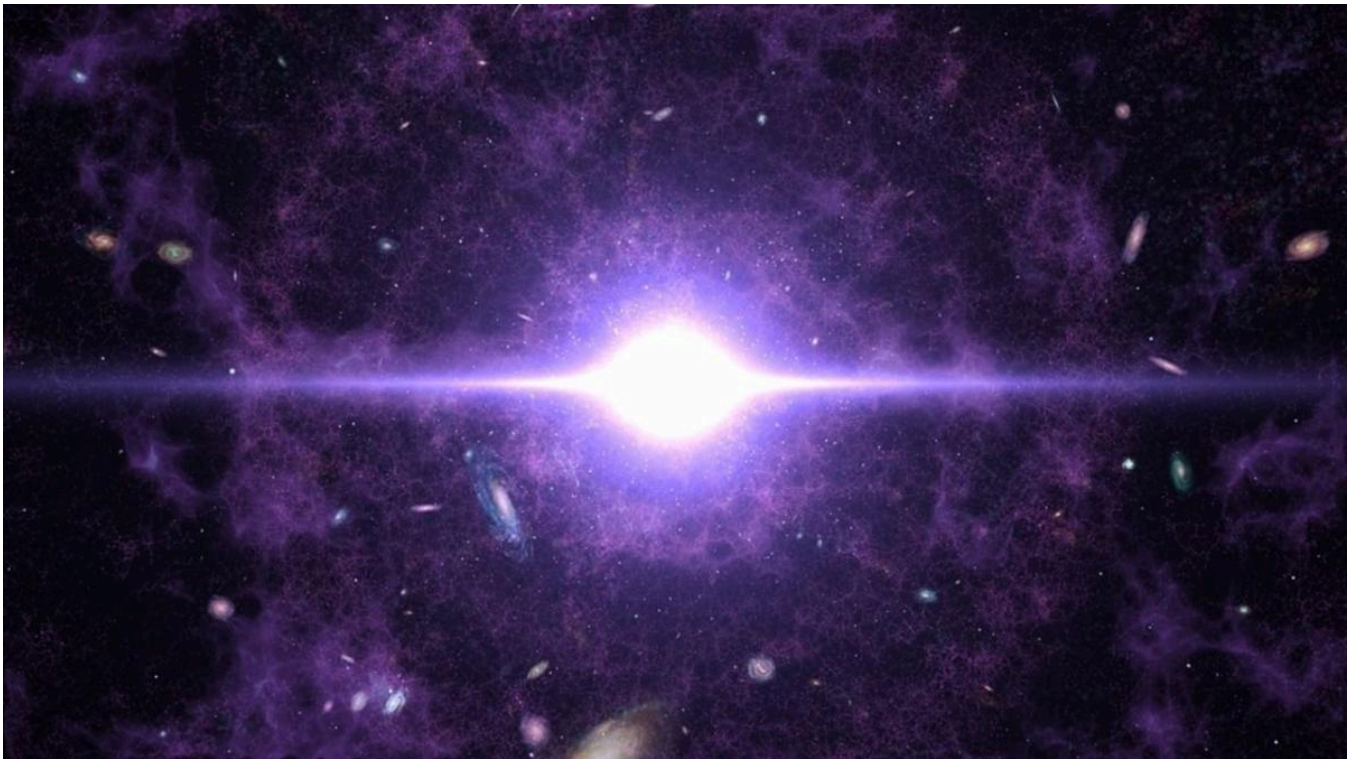
---“The universe is a symphony.”

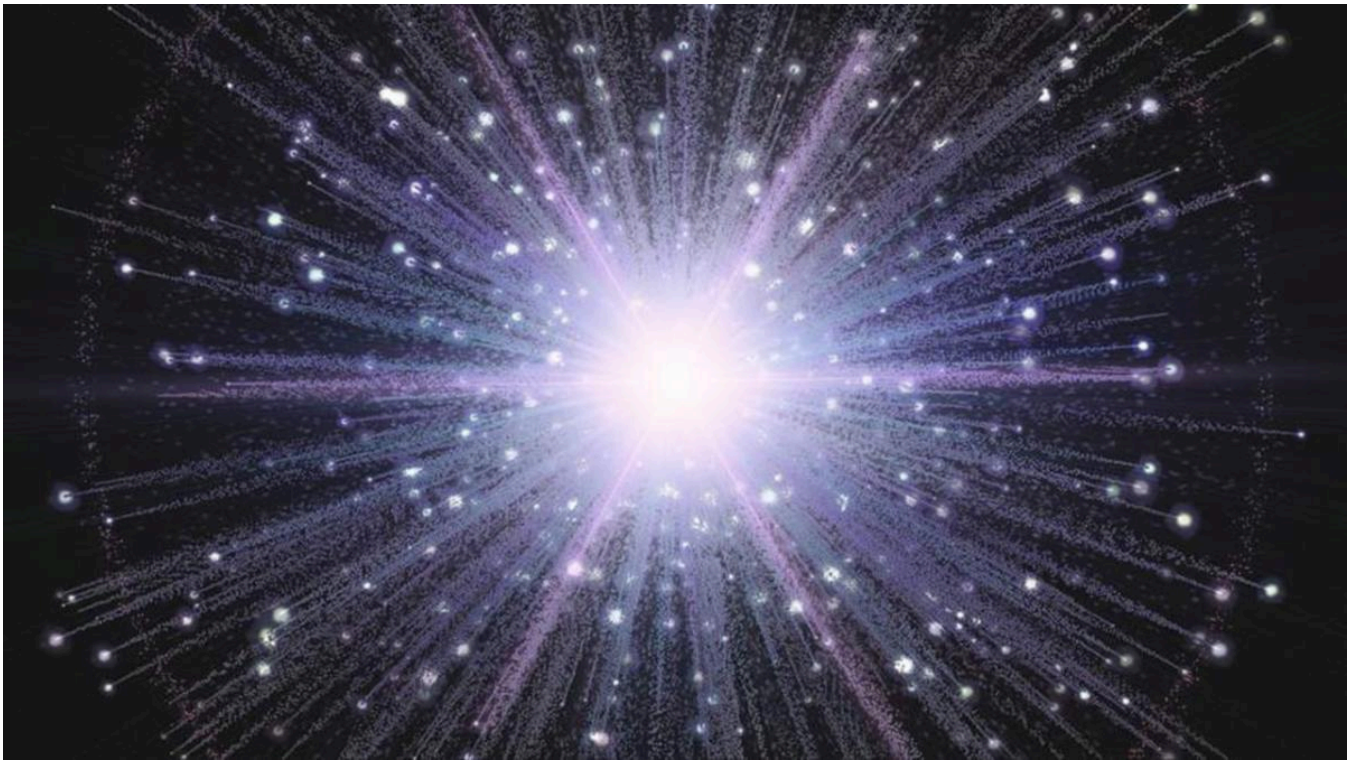
- Jed Anderson, EnviroAI

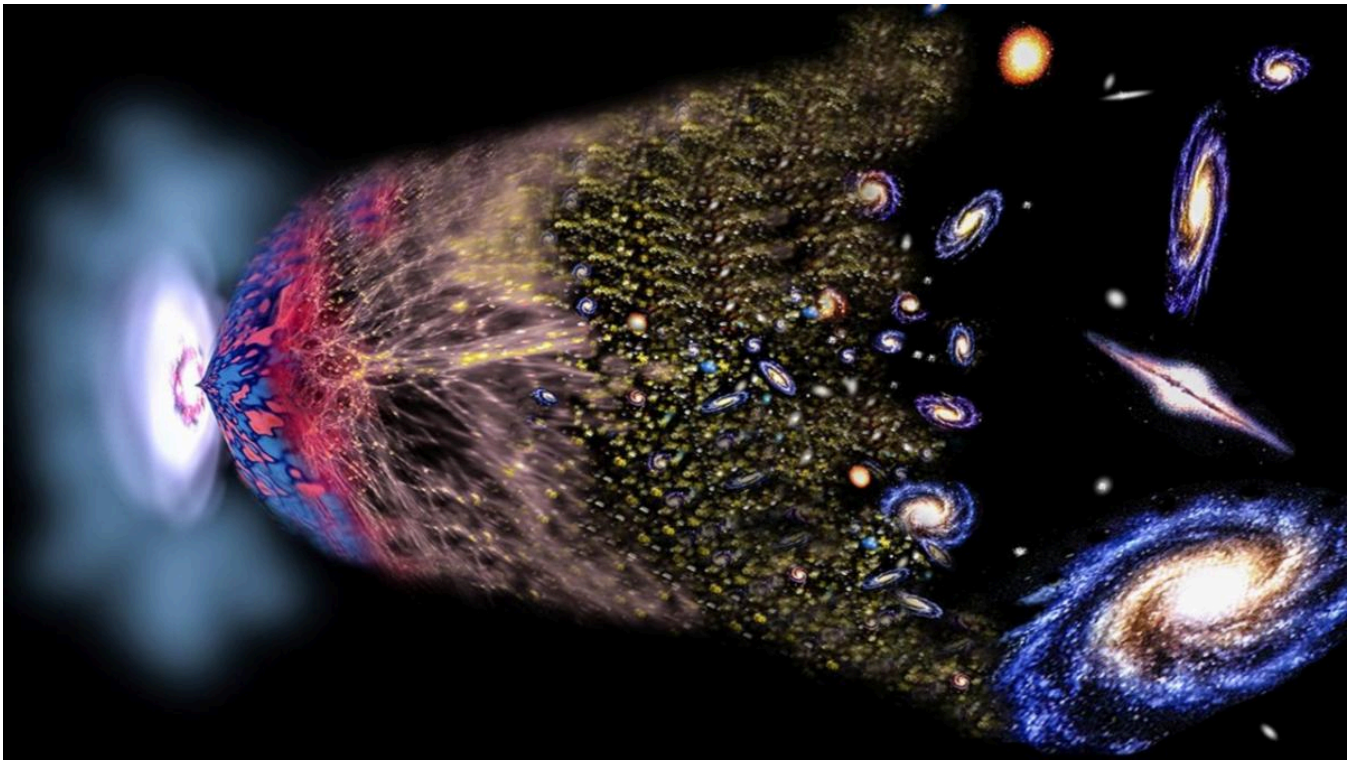
---“When I hear music,I fear no danger. I am invulnerable. I see no foe. I am related to the earliest times, and to the latest.”

- Henry David Thoreau





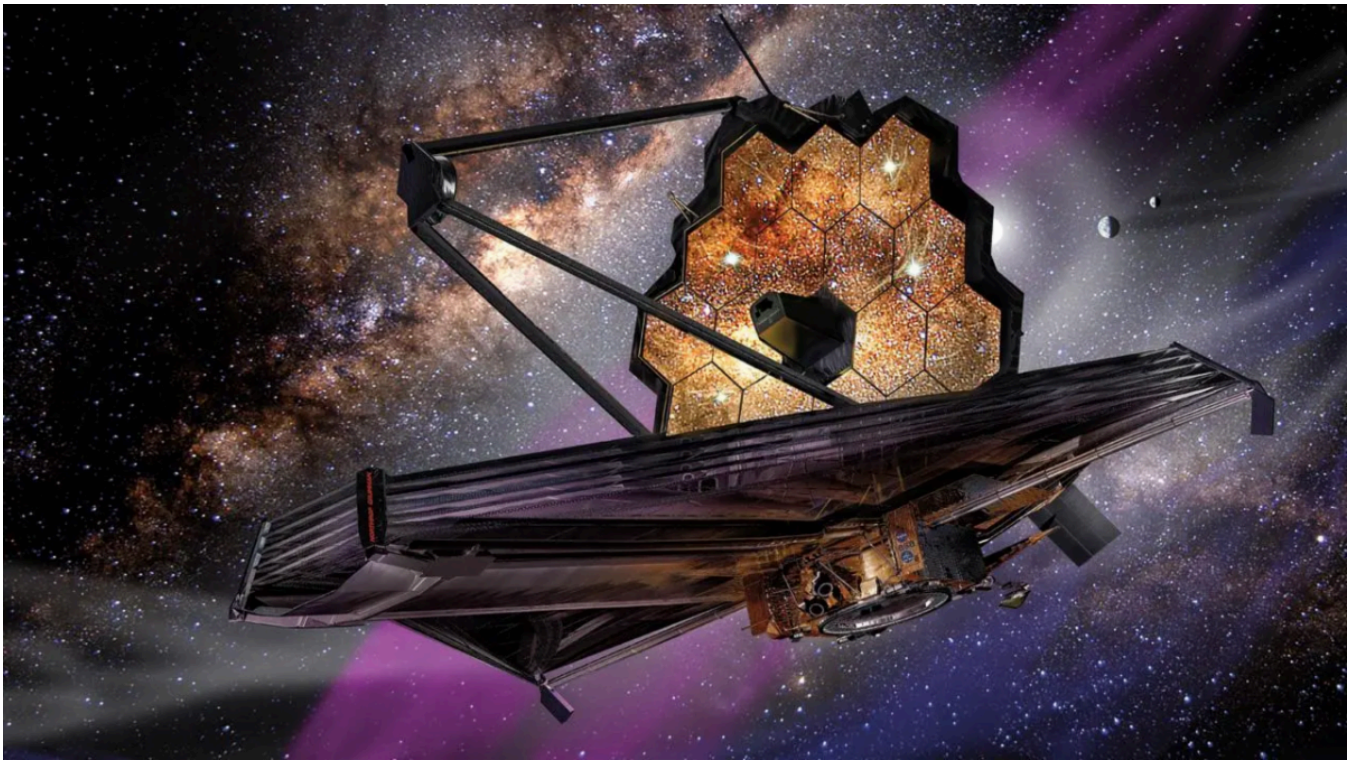




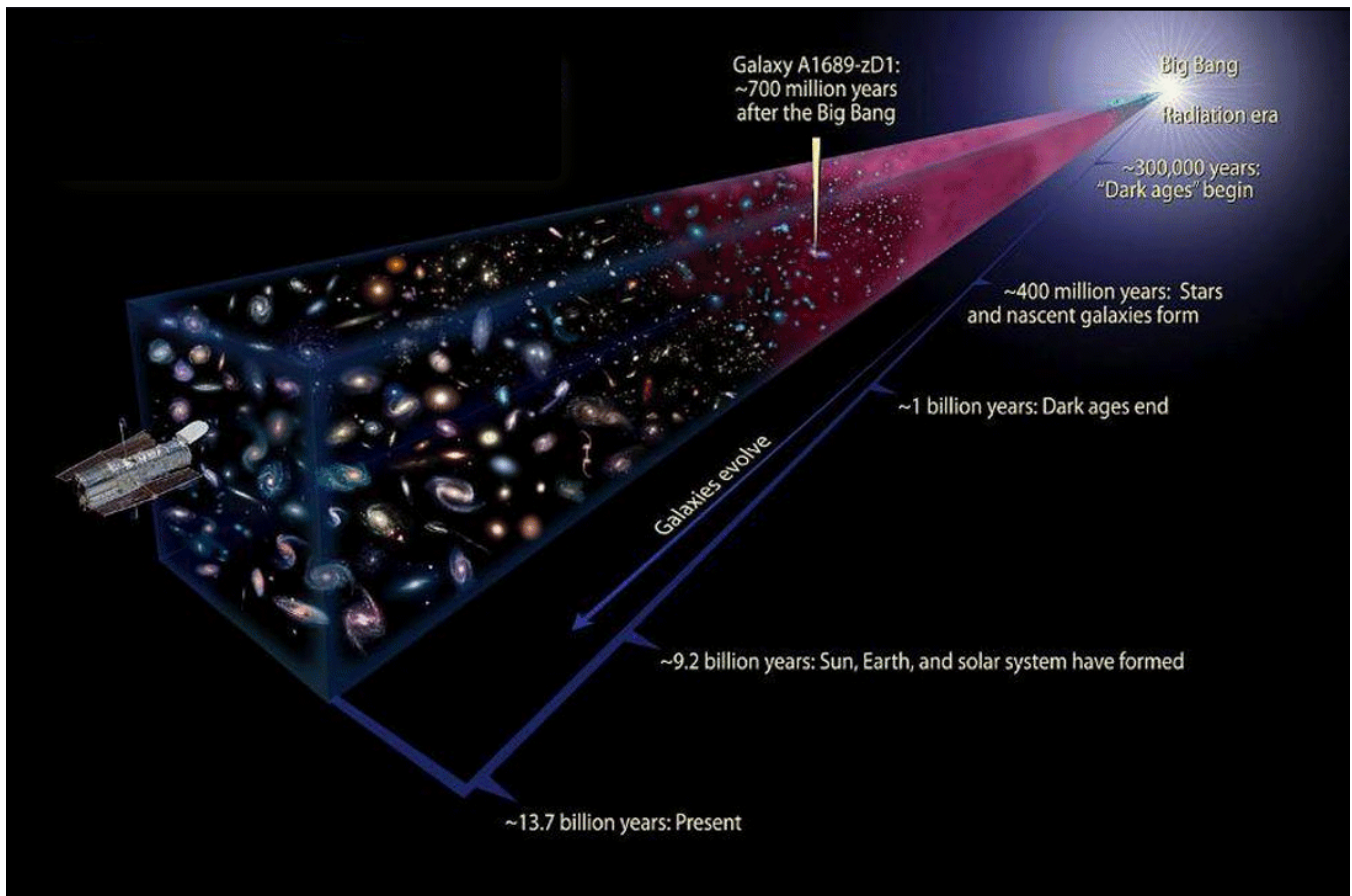
James Webb Space Telescope

---“Simplicity machine.”

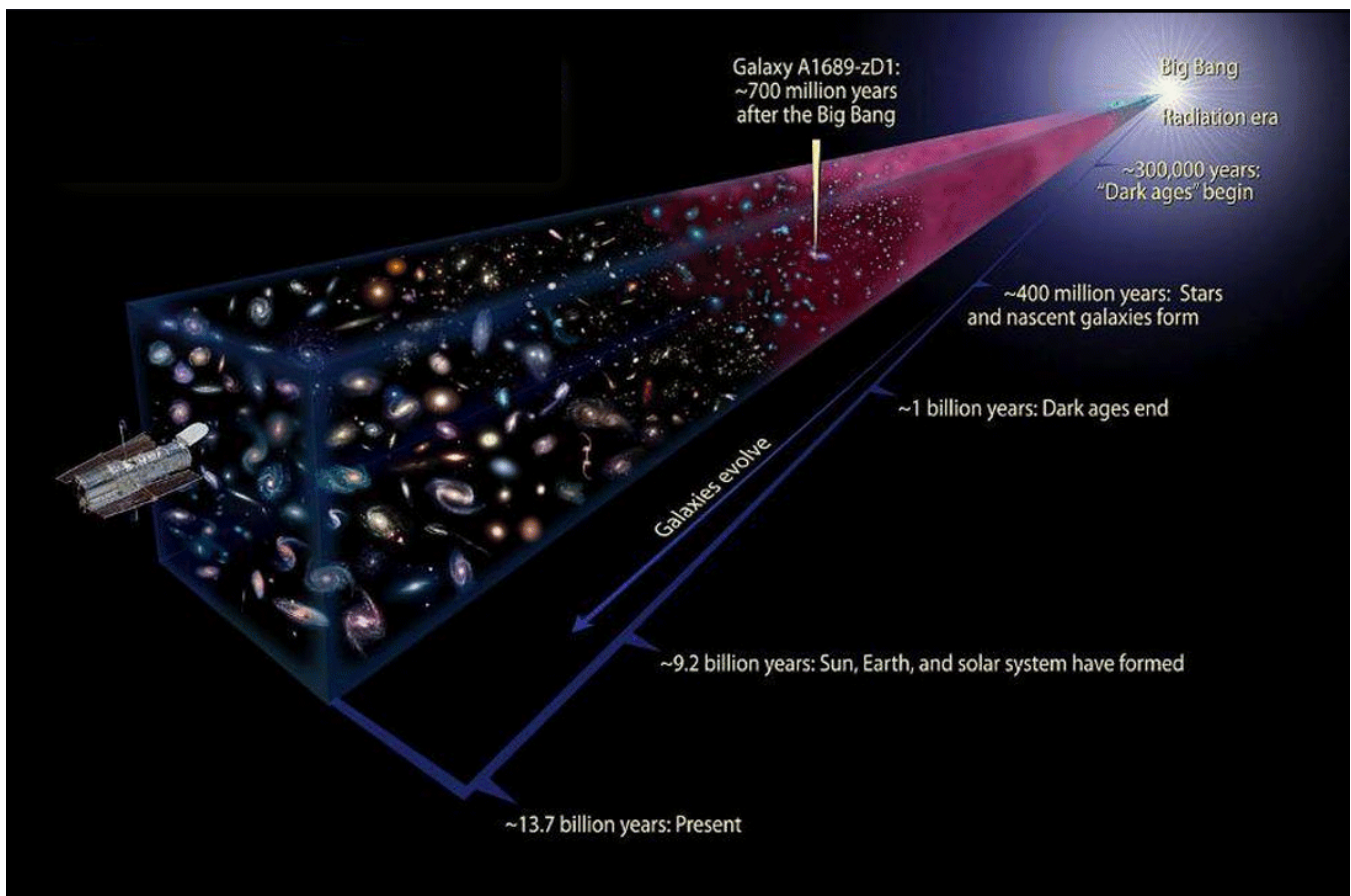
- Jed Anderson



---“Looking back 13.8 billion years to find out what is controlling the happening of now. It’s simpler.” - Jed Anderson

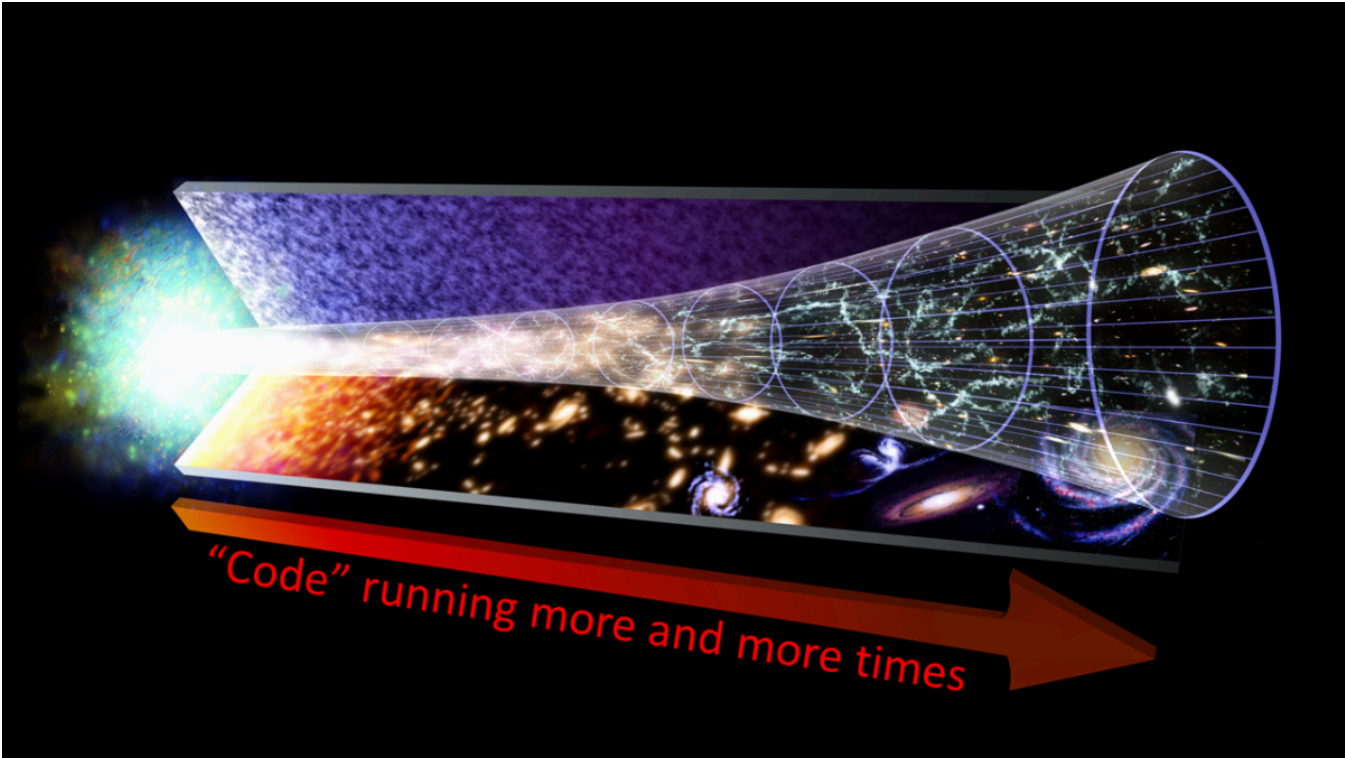


I'll explain why I think of the James Webb Space Telescope not only as a "time machine", but a "simplicity machine."



If you think of the universe as a computer, the longer the computer has run, the more data it generates, and the more difficult it becomes to sift through piles of data and phenomena to find the underlying patterns and laws.

But if you instead looked back when the computer had only run a couple times ... finding the underlying simplicity in the laws and patterns is much, much easier.



Here for example you can see Stephen Wolfram running very simple code 500 times ... and the extremely complicated resulting phenomena.

[Perhaps the easiest way to realize the complexity of phenomena from simple code is life. All life is just A-C-T-G. It's just the same 4 amino acids (DNA) in different combinations run trillions and trillions of times (evolution). That's it. It's so mind-

bogglingly simple it's difficult to perceive its simplicity.]

The screenshot shows the Wolfram Desktop interface with the following content:

- Input:** `RulePlot[CellularAutomaton[30]]`
- Output:** A sequence of eight 2x2 grids representing the evolution of a cellular automaton. Each grid shows a pattern of black and white squares.
- Input:** `ArrayPlot[CellularAutomaton[90, {{1}, 0}, 300]]`
- Output:** A large, complex fractal-like pattern consisting of many small triangles arranged in a larger triangular shape.
- Video Feed:** A small video window in the bottom right corner showing Steven Wolfram, with his name "Steven Wolfram" displayed above it.

It's another one of these very simple things.

National Aeronautics and Space Administration



W E B B



THE JAMES WEBB SPACE TELESCOPE

www.exoplanets.nasa.gov
www.nasa.gov

See if you can find the pattern in this code:

213151819141

Pretty easy huh? The pattern or rule is that every other number is a 1. But if I added just 2 or 3 more rules and ran this code trillions of times for 13.8 billion years, it would be very difficult for anyone or any computer at this point in history to find the

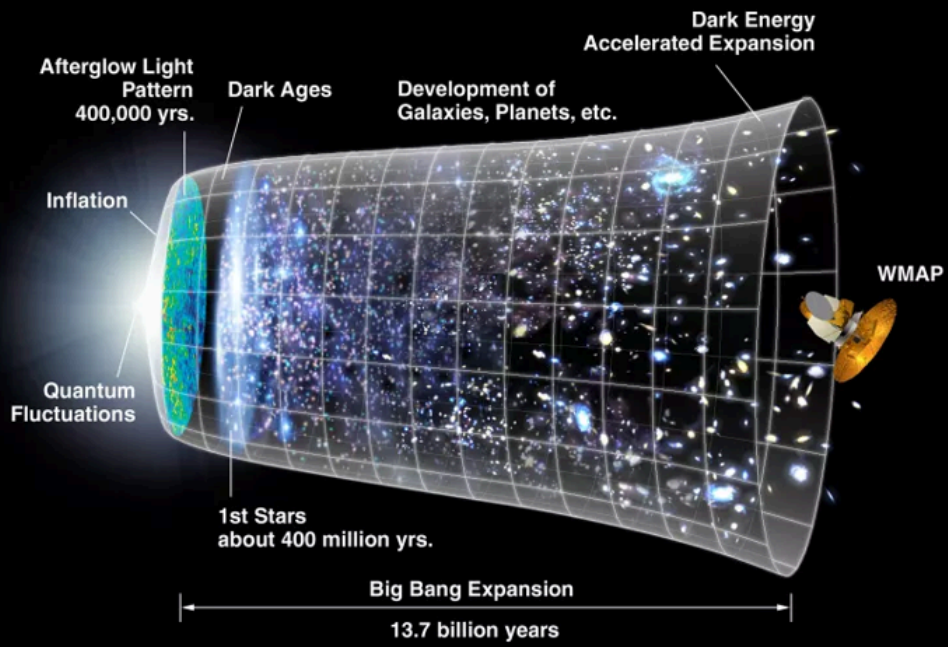
original pattern, rule, or code.

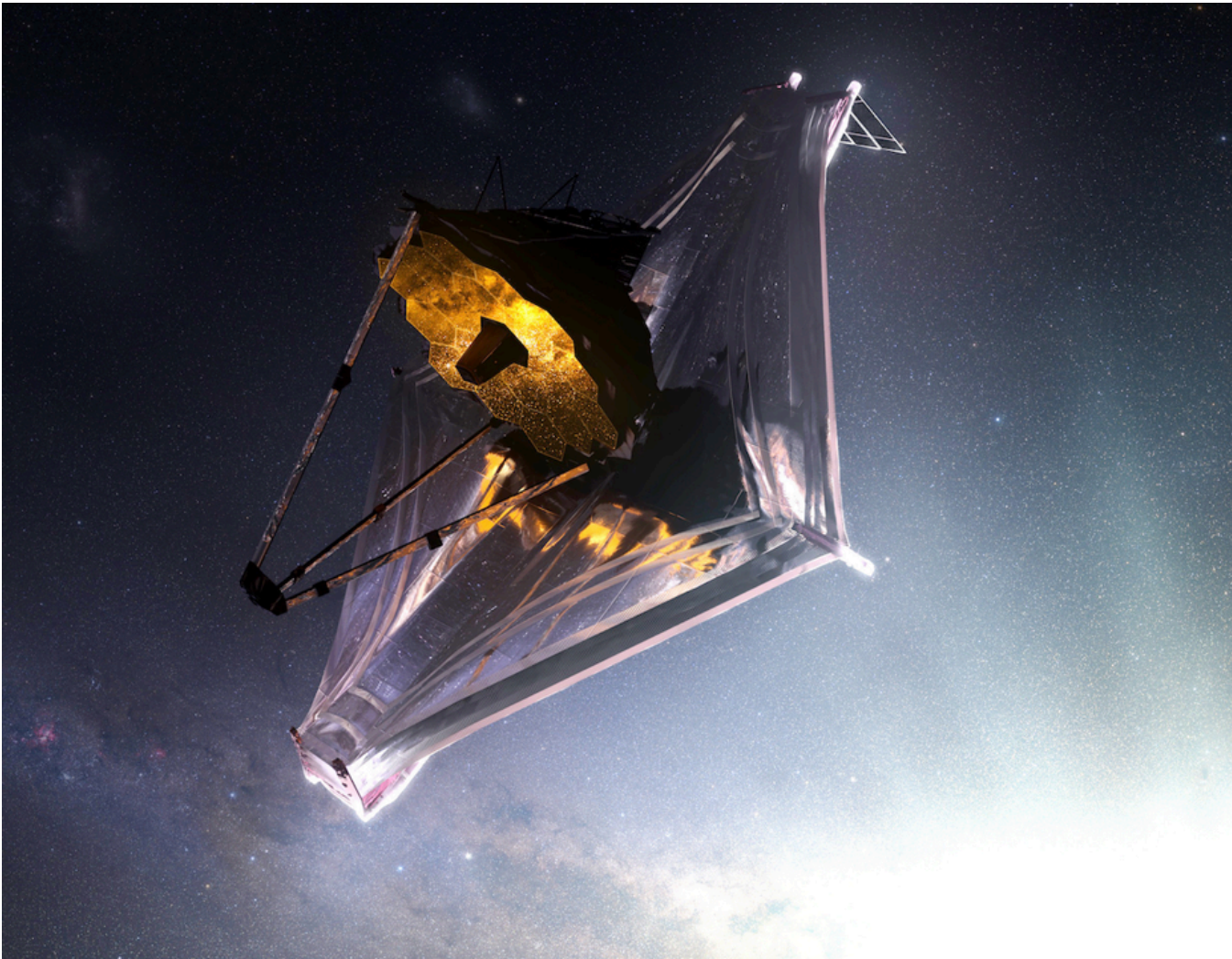
“But ... if you looked at computer code after it only had been run a couple times, it would be much easier to find the simplicity in the underlying patterns and rules.”

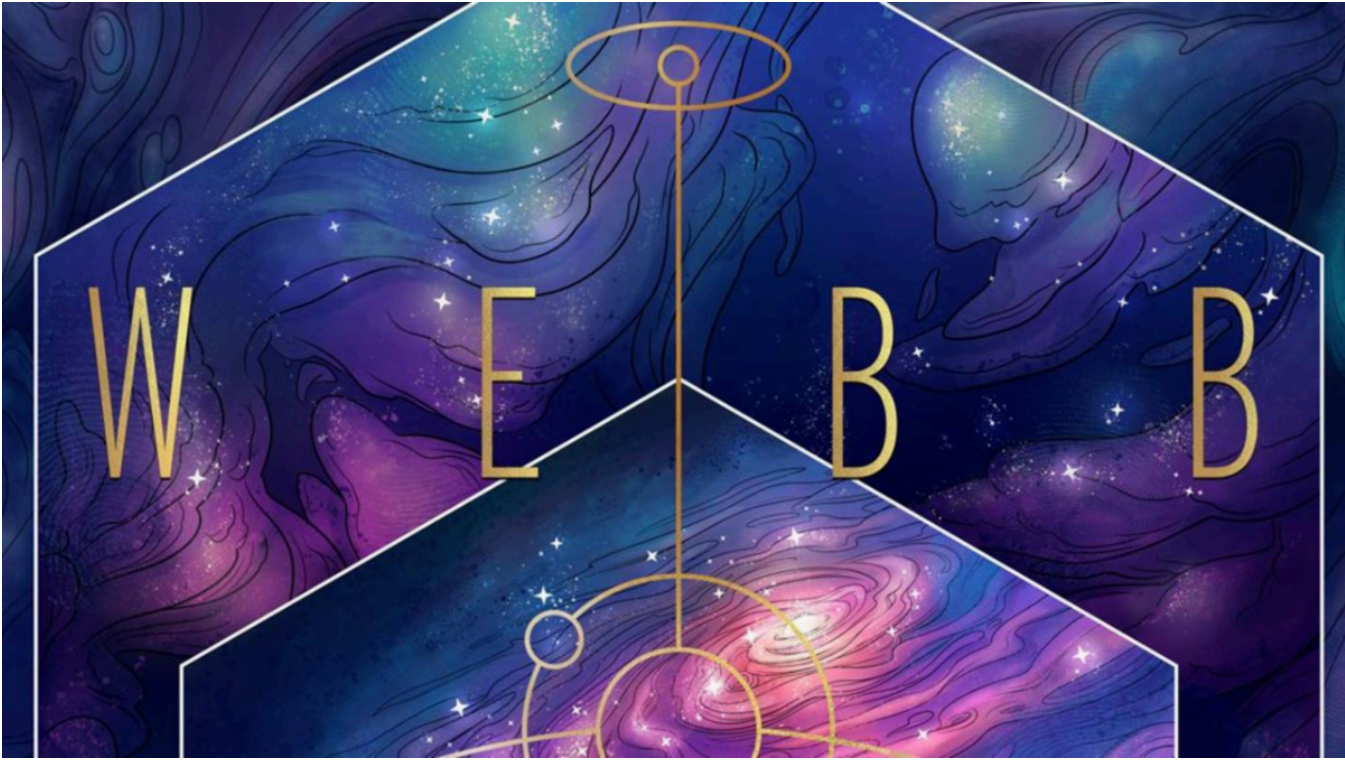
- Jed Anderson, EnviroAI



---“Exciting days ahead for humanity.” - Jed Anderson, EnviroAI







**Is the universe
simple?**





It's very simple

- Richard Feynman

Simplicity.

---“We are getting back to where we once belonged ... the underlying simplicities driving all this rich complexity.” - Jed Anderson, EnviroAI



---“Once we understand the simplicities, our creativity and imagination can go wild
... and we can begin to “play the universe”. - Jed Anderson, EnviroAI



The Beatles

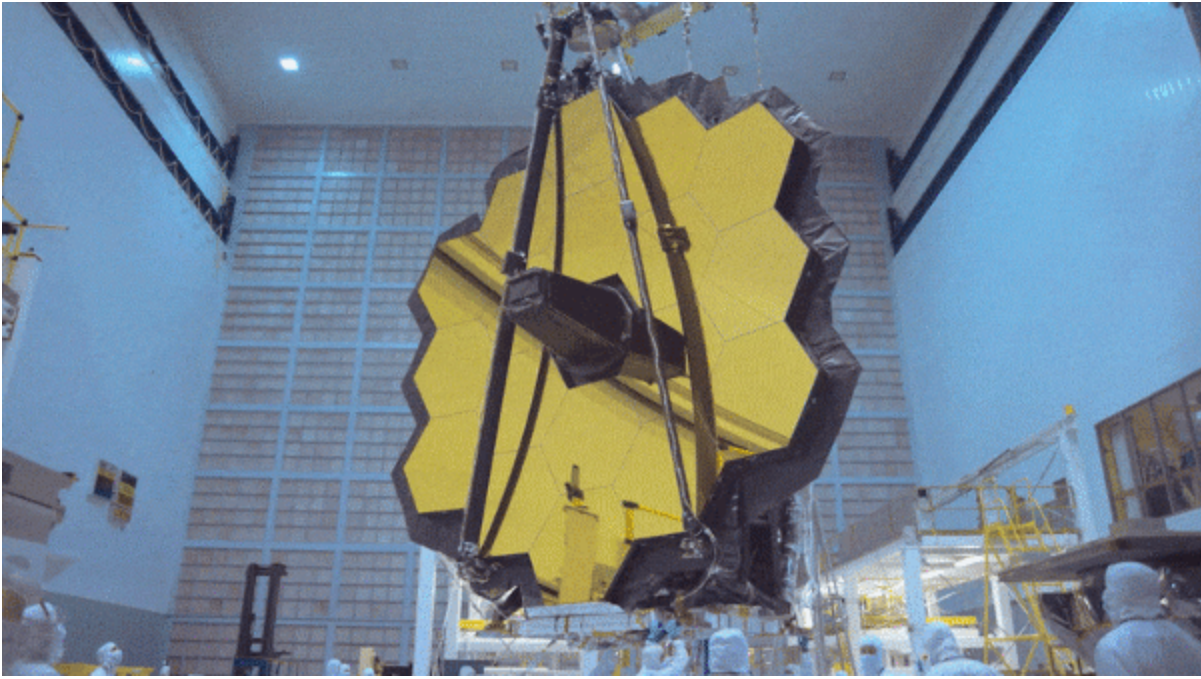
Simple. Simple. Simple.

The song “Get Back” is 2 notes. It’s only 2 two. It’s just two notes. Two notes. A and D. That’s all it is. 440 hertz (A) and 293.665 hertz (D). A and D. IT’S ONLY 2 NOTES!

The Beatles, just like Oscar Peterson and J.S. Bach below, understood the underlying simplicity so well that they could let their imaginations and creativity go wild and begin to “play the universe” ... producing richer and more complex phenomena.



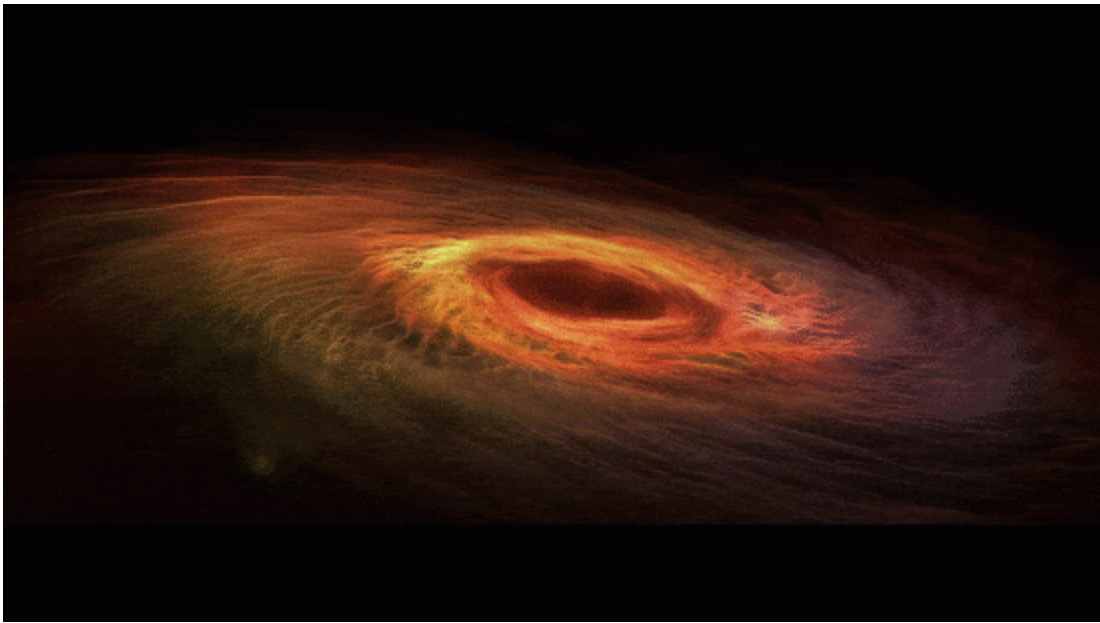
These guys we're a bunch of goof-balls! I love it! What will surprise people in this documentary is how much silly-time was involved in this monumental work, and how much fun they had together and how much they loved each other and loved music.



James Webb Telescope

100x more powerful than the Hubble. Cost = \$10 Billion. Most expensive object ever put into space. It's taken 26 years to build.

I am so incredibly excited! My interest is not so much cosmological as it is understanding the underlying simplicities so we can “play the universe” when it comes to protecting the environment ... Write the environmental protection equivalent of “Let it be” for nature and humanity. A masterpiece to life.



---“The mind-bending discovery of Isaac Newton wasn’t a terrestrial force acting on an apple ... it was looking at the apple and then looking at the moon and everything in the universe, and with a serendipitous epiphany of inextricable simplicity

thinking ... “It’s the same! It’s the same force. I can’t believe it! It’s the same force! It can’t be that simple. But it is that simple! It’s the same force!”

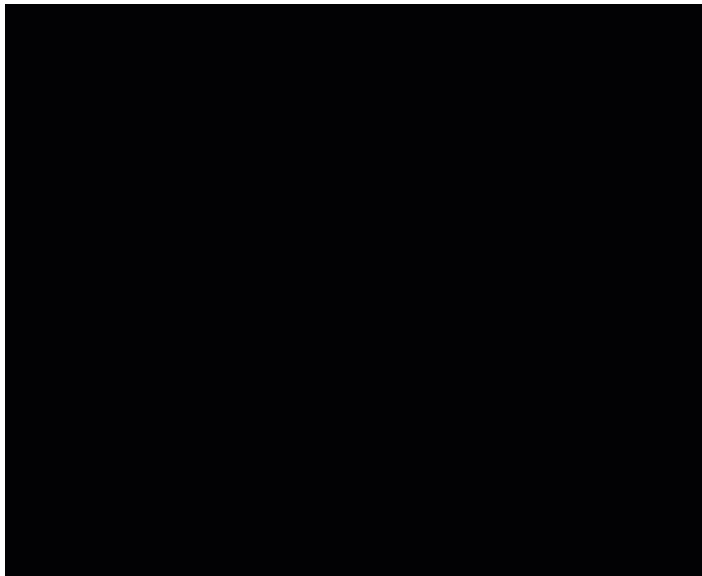
- Jed Anderson, EnviroAI

The universe is simple - Richard Feynman (https://r2o.rs6.net/tn.jsp?f=001uG7laB9msagBvdjpDTeGVT8kusj97NnQ7xTrWskqtsIAkqx7dBV7OjxzTV17zIQE3965tllR_w9-nwEg19feEkxtdtG9OFGJ-pdGLDX439kbx78tEO3BSTjoXZqD-klQQzuAwnJSMZpR7m9QCI6vIpNza5UwTjaS&c=&ch)



---“It[the universe] is not complicated ... it’s just a lot of it.”

---Richard Feynman



Simple start. Simple rules.

As you can see in the graphic below, everything in the universe can be traced back to a very simple start. Simple start. Simple rules. The more we understand the underlying simplicity in everything, the more we can create new phenomena with richer and more complicated attributes.

Reconstructing the Big Bang

The universe's first moments may have imprinted hidden patterns in the sky.

DOLLOPS OF DENSITY

At the universe's birth, pairs of particles continuously popped into existence.



THE BIG SPLITS

The inflating universe split these partners, creating dense spots that would one day become galaxies and galaxy clusters.

Big Bang

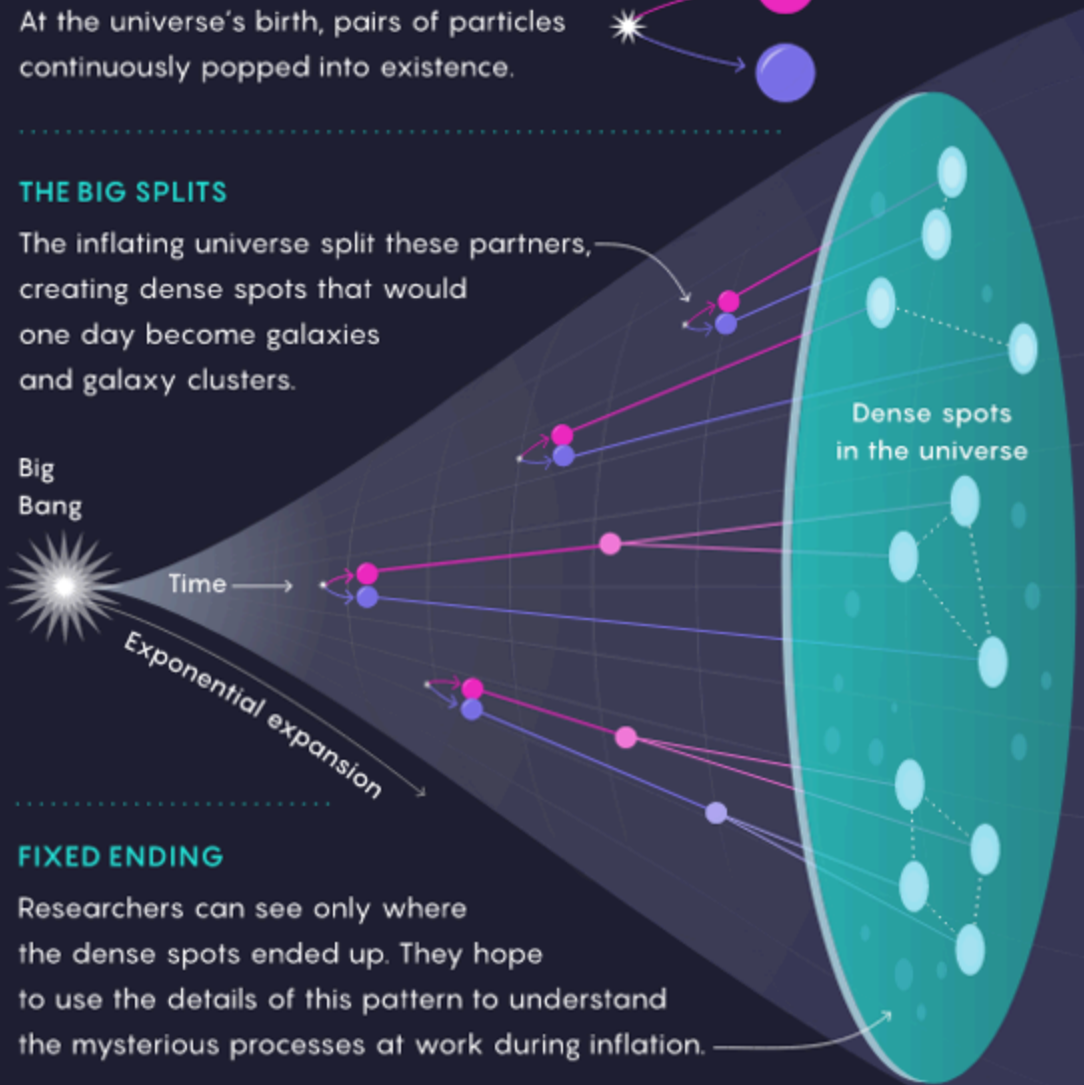
Time →

Exponential expansion

Dense spots in the universe

FIXED ENDING

Researchers can see only where the dense spots ended up. They hope to use the details of this pattern to understand the mysterious processes at work during inflation.





---“The more we understand the simplicity in everything around us ... the more we can produce richer and more complex phenomena.” - Jed Anderson, EnviroAI

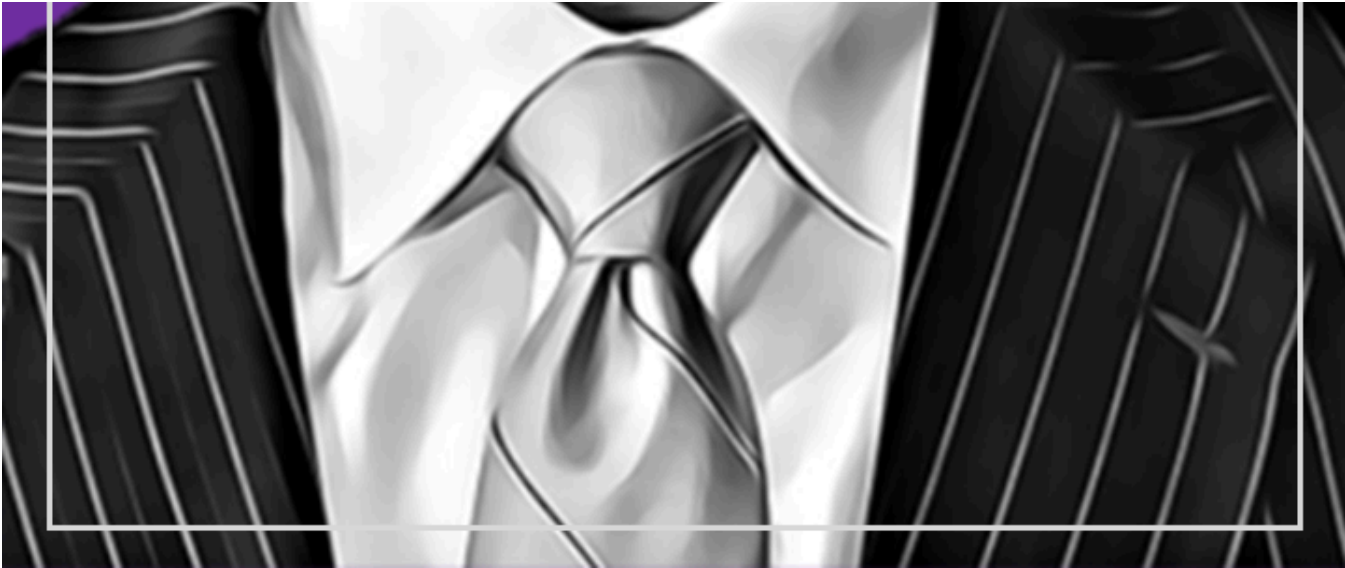


Oscar Peterson's ability to recognize patterns in nature and creatively rearrange them was scary. Scary. Oscar was a genius. Remember when you watch this solo, Oscar is only manipulating 12 notes. That's it. Just 12 notes. It's because Oscar understood the simplicity that he was able to produce such complex phenomena (see below). Genius.

I personally think this is the **greatest solo of all time** (https://r20.rs6.net/tn.jsp?f=001uG7laB9msagBvdjpDTeGVT8kusj97NnQ7xTrWskqtsIAkqx7dBV7OtrYtM_39vI9O30VAHsnD3mF5GghnoCiUR9sk4FQM-kUKKGQd9tPtuAtAfzsoMsX8N8SZGxog2Kgfdp6kojmjURw_Z_6TCGJFg==&c=&ch=). The chord and style changes are dizzying. Just try watching Oscar's brain as he is imagining and working through this. It leaves you breathless. And the reaction of the jazz greats he is playing with is priceless. Priceless. They seem to almost not believe what they are hearing.

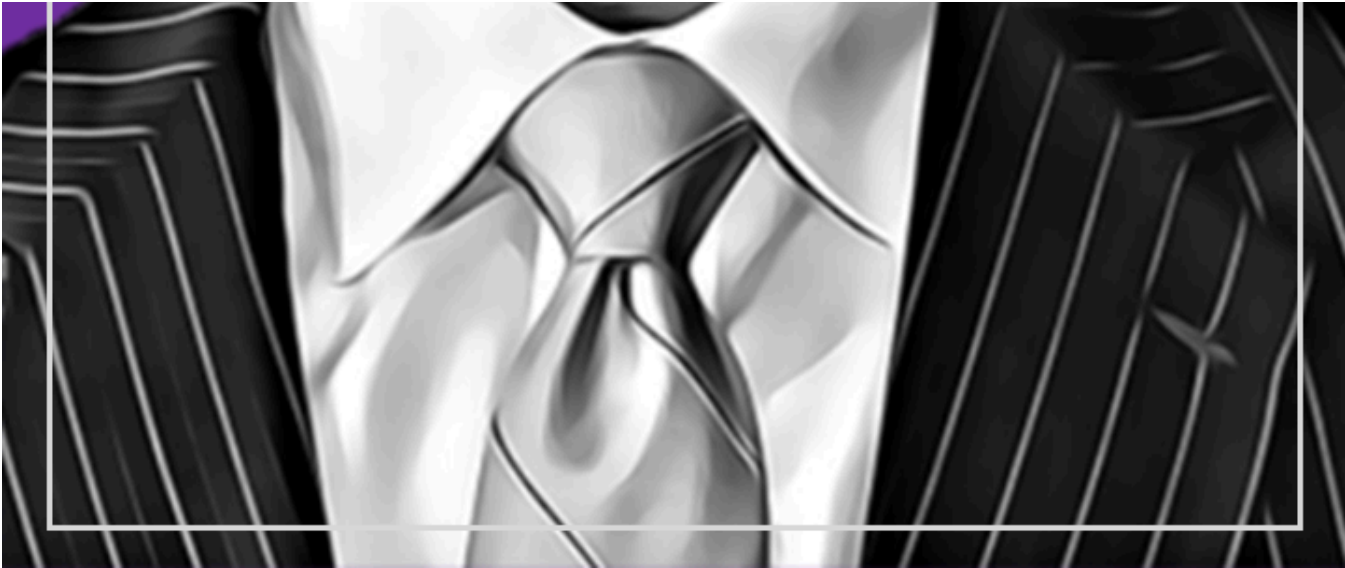
**How simple can we
make protecting
nature?**





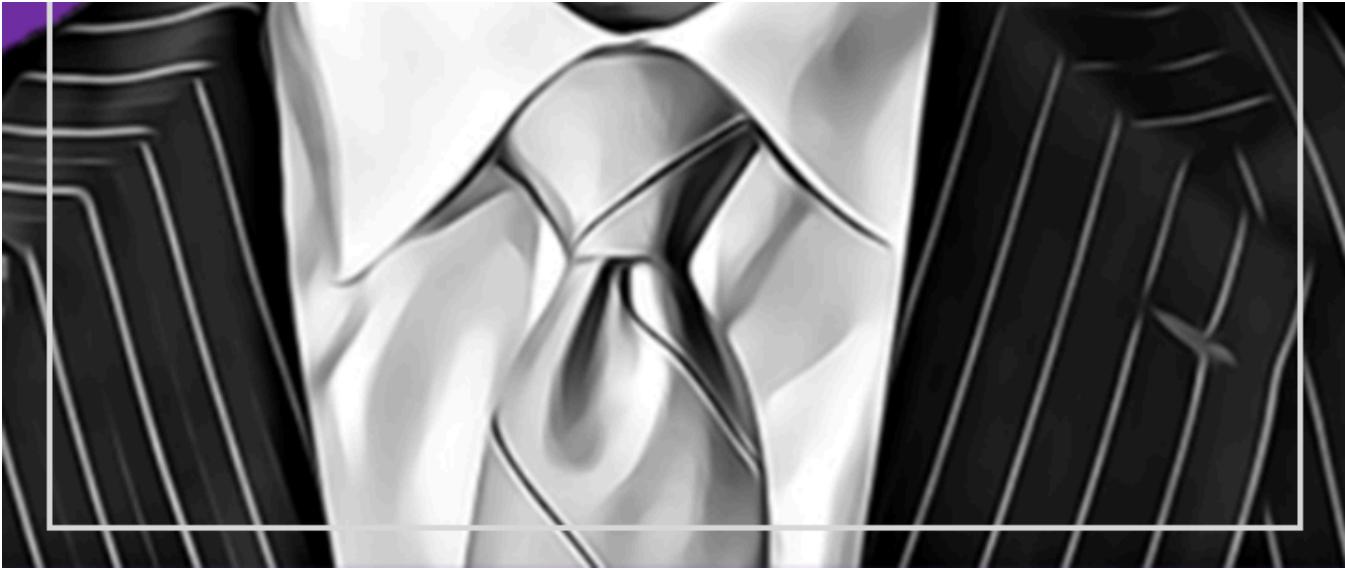
SIMPLE.





**Protecting
simplicity with
simplicity.**





---“Simplification ... not only of the laws of physics ... but the laws of humankind.” -

Jed Anderson

---“Grace is not doing away with law. It’s fulfillment of law. It’s simplicity of law. ”

---“Law is good. But it is not the end. It’s only purpose is to point toward grace ...
toward something simpler and more profound.”

—“Grace is satisfaction of complicated don’ts with a simple do.”

---“Grace is the ultimate simplicity.”

- Jed Anderson



---“Everything is patterns.

Environmental protection, simply stated, is just identifying and protecting certain patterns in nature.

It really can be stated that simply.”

- Jed Anderson, EnviroAI



Quantum Data



Classical Data

(binary computer)

```
01001010010101
10101101110000
10011110000111
10101011111000
01010111100011
01010101010101
11010110101011
```

Biological Data

```
ACTGACTGACTTAGG
ATTCGAGATCCATTC
CTTGAGACCTTTTTT
ACCCCTATAGCATCA
TTCCAGGATCTATTAT
CCTATATATAGGGGC
CCATATAAATGGGCT
```

Human Data

Language data (letters), sensory data (visual images), numeric data (numbers)

CONNECT THE DATA

Connect the data. See the patterns. Protect the patterns.

Notes are data. Music is patterns.

- Listen to a Bach fugue. Here is one of my favorites ([https://r20.rs6.net/tn.jsp?f=001uG7laB9msagBvdjpDTeGVT8kusj97NnQ7xTrWskqtsIAkqx7dBV7OviXzyEvrXTE_yyV35vi8qTcxyq3QNYS5C9Ty6lDzj6qimEem9TdqZ49oqRRmfwHVOsOLTFkoMyzYVHoAgIQY3KHlBX2IXECJ2BNpdroZ4OqUDqHG7HEW0AEQJoqddLmPg==&c=&ch=\)](https://r20.rs6.net/tn.jsp?f=001uG7laB9msagBvdjpDTeGVT8kusj97NnQ7xTrWskqtsIAkqx7dBV7OviXzyEvrXTE_yyV35vi8qTcxyq3QNYS5C9Ty6lDzj6qimEem9TdqZ49oqRRmfwHVOsOLTFkoMyzYVHoAgIQY3KHlBX2IXECJ2BNpdroZ4OqUDqHG7HEW0AEQJoqddLmPg==&c=&ch=)!))! **And then learn**

briefly how a fugue is written (https://r2o.rs6.net/tn.jsp?f=001uG7laB9msagBvdjpDTeGVT8kusj97NnQ7xTrWskqtsIAkqx7dBV7OviXzyEvrXTElHOp4YxMpYBWi5XI4NpiUGn5fCyiY3s862F-uOmiK9C6yjt_VJ1FbA_DelKkCadQNTE_RczKNZ10GR1Z7uaN6NfAE9mfib6Wn7164icc4x-kUc1mYJkjGsQ1ZXgZKwkObnL3ieUHbaeu_JSAyLHIQZHok_wwPqII&c=&ch=)).

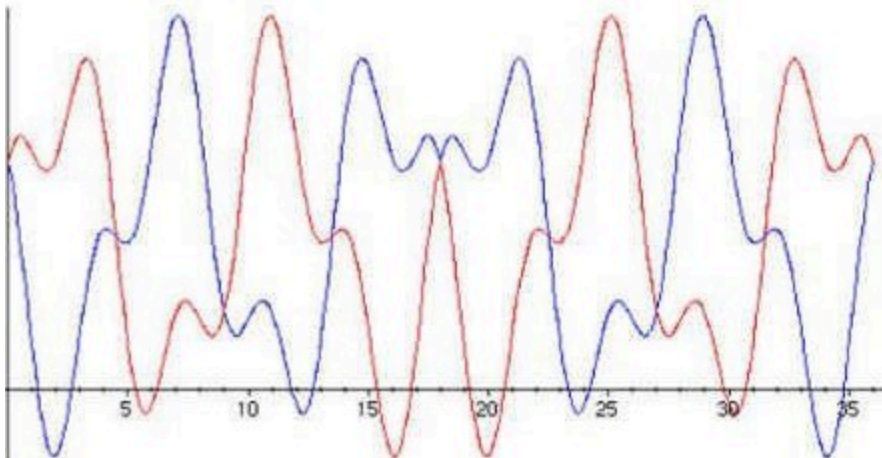
It's math. It's computation. Instead of using numbers, Bach is using notes corresponding to frequencies. Two books I would suggest. One is "Godel, Escher, Bach" by Douglas Hofstadter. The other is "J.S. Bach's Musical Offering" by H.T. David.

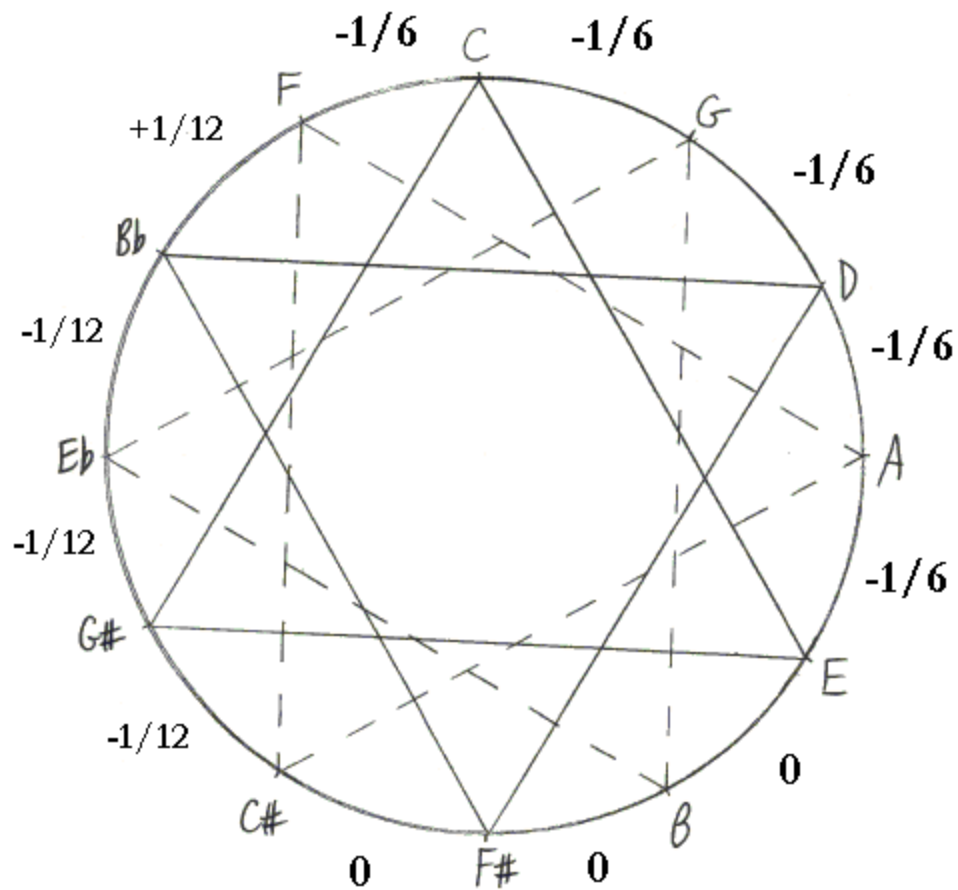
- Einstein said he didn't think in terms of math or words. He thought in terms of music.
- Pythagoras, the founder of mathematics, was said to have discovered mathematics when he noticed similarities between the sound of plucking a lyre string and the resonances made by hammering metal. He found that they created musical frequencies that vibrated with certain ratios that corresponded to patterns.
- "If we had a microscope powerful enough, we could see that electrons, quarks, neutrinos, etc. are nothing but vibrations on minuscule loops resembling rubber bands. If we pluck the rubber band enough times, and in different ways, we eventually create all the known subatomic particles in the universe. This means that all the laws of physics can be reduced to the harmonies of these strings. Chemistry is the melodies one can play on them. The universe is a symphony. And the mind of God, which Einstein eloquently wrote about, is cosmic music resonating throughout space-time." - Micho Kaku

$\pi \int_a^b f(x)^2 dx$ $e^{\sin x \ln(\sin x)}$

$e^{\pi i} + 1 = 0$

$\int \frac{3x^2 + 1}{x^3 + x} dx$





The music of the early universe---“chop-sticks” ...

Allegro

Piano *mf*

The first system of musical notation is for a piano piece in 3/4 time. It consists of two staves: a treble clef staff and a bass clef staff. The treble staff contains a sequence of quarter notes: C4, D4, E4, F4, G4, A4, B4, C5. The bass staff contains a sequence of quarter notes: C3, D3, E3, F3, G3, A3, B3, C4. The dynamic marking is *mf*.

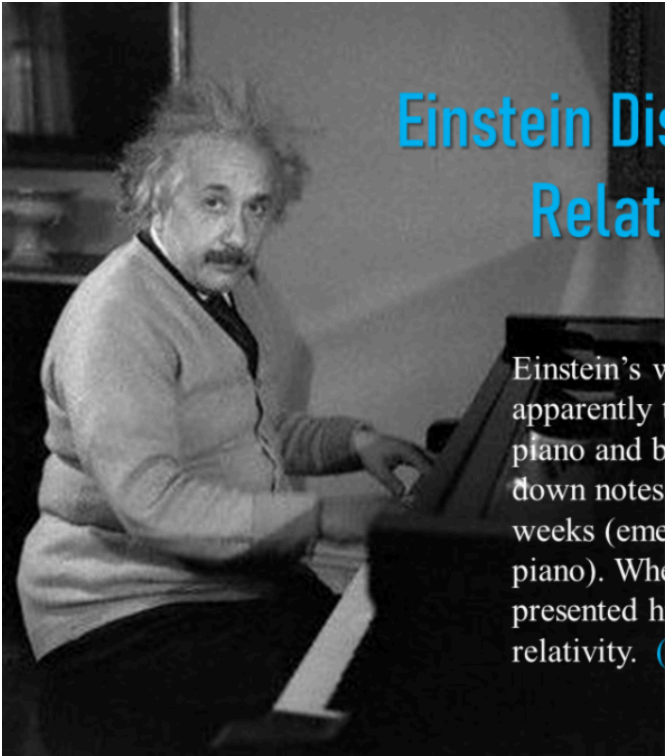
5

The second system of musical notation continues the piece from measure 5. It consists of two staves: a treble clef staff and a bass clef staff. The treble staff contains a sequence of quarter notes: D4, E4, F4, G4, A4, B4, C5, B4, A4, G4, F4, E4, D4. The bass staff contains a sequence of quarter notes: C3, D3, E3, F3, G3, A3, B3, C4, B3, A3, G3, F3, E3, D3. The piece ends with a double bar line.

Same musical laws playing out 13.8 billion years later ...

... much more complicated resulting phenomena---Chopin's Etude Op. 10., No. 4,
Torrent

4. *con fuoco*
f *fp* *cresc.*

A black and white photograph of Albert Einstein sitting at a piano, looking towards the camera. He is wearing a light-colored sweater over a collared shirt and a dark tie. The piano is a dark upright model.

Einstein Discovered the Theory of Relativity with a Piano

Einstein's wife told the story of one day he was apparently totally lost in thought. He wandered to the piano and began playing while intermittently jotting down notes. He then disappeared into his study for two weeks (emerging only for the occasional return to the piano). When he finally was finished with his muse he presented his working draft of the theory of general relativity. ([link](#))



Using AI and Advancements in Computation to Identify, Simulate, and Protect Patterns in Nature

A [calculation](https://r2o.rs6.net/tn.jsp?f=001uG7laB9msagBvdjpDTeGVT8kusj97NnQ7xTrWskqtsIAkqx7dBV7Oh3FyRQezGwC6thoUlbChadi28JdeDRbZQMeXUrLFDFWi4I6-Tnyb7_TaVK278CcAZ29ela9Ya7X_K-7My5GqWXXTTQN-ZDvJyP1bQsqNHFSMUyk4wwhehi6xhSHTA5BrslWzIlCY S4yb&c=&ch=) performed by MIT found that the universe has performed the equivalent of 10^{120} ops on 10^{90} bits. The earth's atmosphere contains 1.04×10^{44} molecules. Assuming approximately 4.140×10^{22} atoms in an average mole of air, and a [full-ci](https://r2o.rs6.net/tn.jsp?f=001uG7laB9msagBvdjpDTeGVT8kusj97NnQ7xTrWskqtsIAkqx7dBV7Oh3FyRQezGwC68vA3gxQDoyMMwGL-OiDLjsf84drIVvHo2EfaLAMnqMw_mnkuzhqjPrVyDMDp_wO6msOtPVsdpRN4YBDrtXmMT_q1HV1S-uQ5FU5x25Vg9pfeli_fbiv5CP5mjQB gkVC&c=&ch=) in the range of 10^{44} , that's 10^{111} computational variables.

My point is not to show computations, nor certainly the correct computations. My point is to show that nature and environmental protection are computable. The challenge is exponents. Exponents are not complicated. They're just really really big.

Dealing with Exponents ...

Let me quickly explain the exponents involved in computing. Let's take for example a very simple 3 bit system. There are 8 possible three-bit combinations: 000, 001, 010, 011, 100, 101, 110, and 111. That's 2^3 . There are 2 choices for the first bit. 2 choices for the second bit. And 2 choices for the third bit. If instead we use qubits instead of bits, then each of these 8 combinations is associated with a basis vector and so the vector space is 8-dimensional. As the number of qubits grow, the number of basis vectors grows exponentially ... and gets very very big ... very very fast. Once a machine reaches 300 qubits, that computer will be using more than the number of elementary particles in the universe as its computational basis. 2^{300} is a whopping

big number of basis elements. Quantum computing will allow us to work back through the complicated phenomena to find more of the simple equations and computational programs that started and still are guiding the phenomena—and allow us to simulate the protection of natural systems. Quantum computing will deal with the exponents.

---“Protecting nature will become very simple.”

- Jed Anderson, Creator, EnviroAI

Nature = Simple Equations

Mathematical equations that explain nature we are finding are very simple:

Einstein's Special Relativity Equation

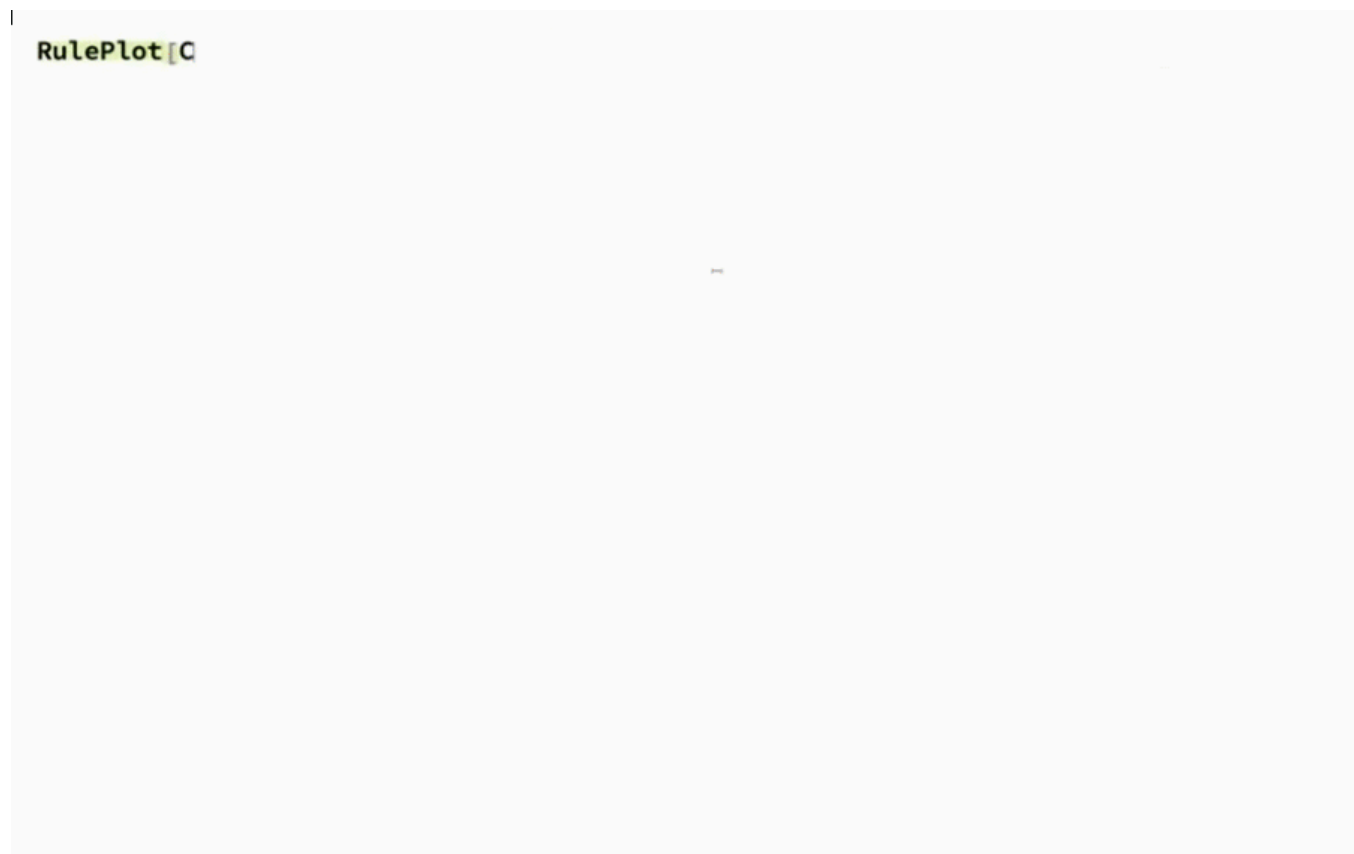
$$E=mc^2$$

Shrodinger's Equation (Probability Waves – Quantum)

$$i\hbar(\partial/\partial t)\Psi=\hat{H}\Psi$$

Nature = Simple Computations

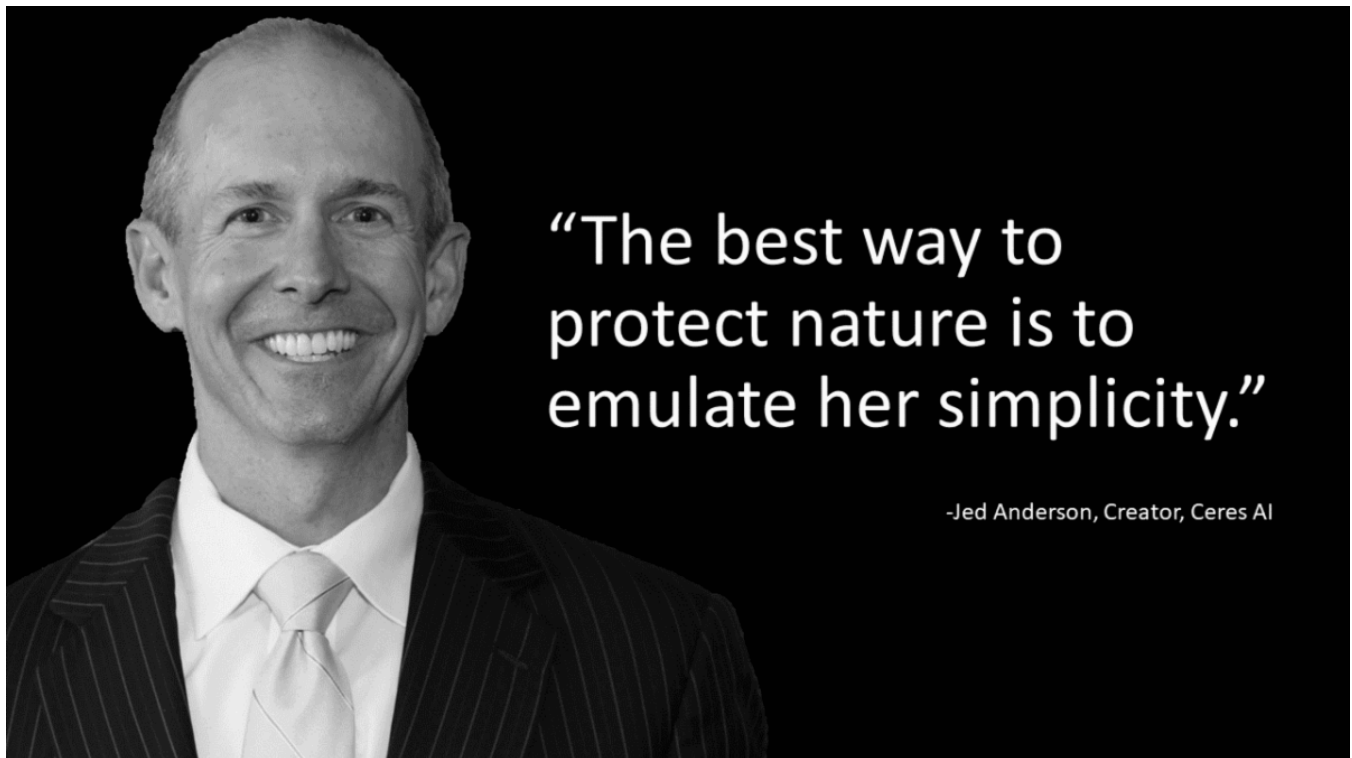
Computational programs that explain nature we are finding are very simple:



SIMPLICITY

- “Nature operates in the shortest way possible.”---Aristotle
- “Phenomena complex—laws simple.”—Richard P. Feynman
- “When the solution is simple, God is answering.” —Albert Einstein
- “Nature is pleased with simplicity. And nature is no dummy.” — Isaac Newton

- “The main purpose of science is simplicity and as we understand more things, everything is becoming simpler.” – Edward Teller
- “Nature does not multiply things unnecessarily; that she makes use of the easiest and simplest means for producing her effects” –Galileo



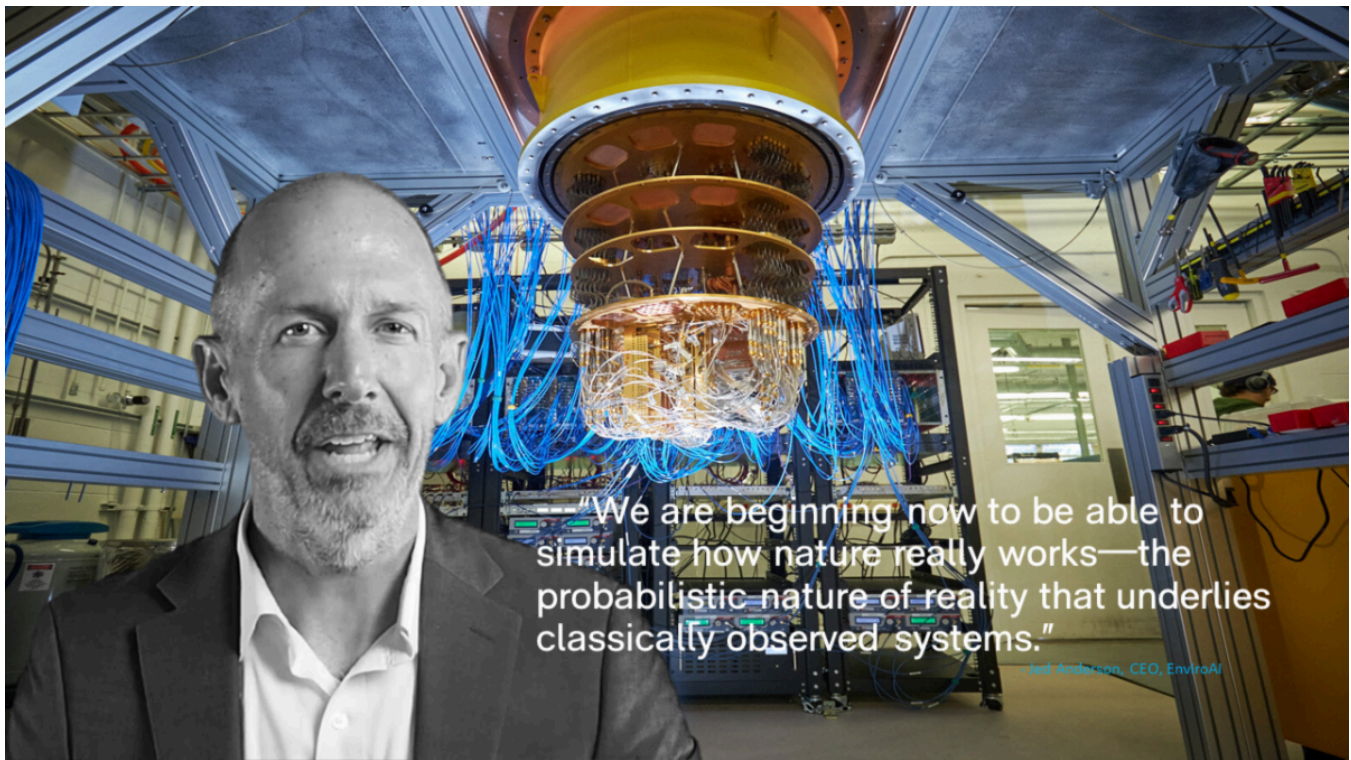
- “To be simple is to be great.” –Emerson
- “Rudiments or principles must not be unnecessarily multiplied –Immanuel Kant
- “There is no greatness where there is not simplicity.” – Leo Tolstoy
- “All the great things are simple.” –Winston Churchill
- “Out of clutter, find simplicity.” –Albert Einstein

- “AI is about making machines more fathomable and more under the control of human beings, not less. Conventional technology has indeed been making our environment more complex and more incomprehensible ...” - Donald Michie
- “Plurality should not be assumed without necessity.” —William of Ockham
- “Knowledge is a process of piling up facts; wisdom lies in their simplification.” ~ Martin H. Fischer
- “Complexity is your enemy. Any fool can make something complicated. It is hard to make something simple.”---Richard Branson.
- “The definition of genius is taking the complex and making it simple.” —Albert Einstein

---“Phenomena in nature is complicated . . . but the underlying equations and computations for understanding and better protecting nature are exceedingly simple.”

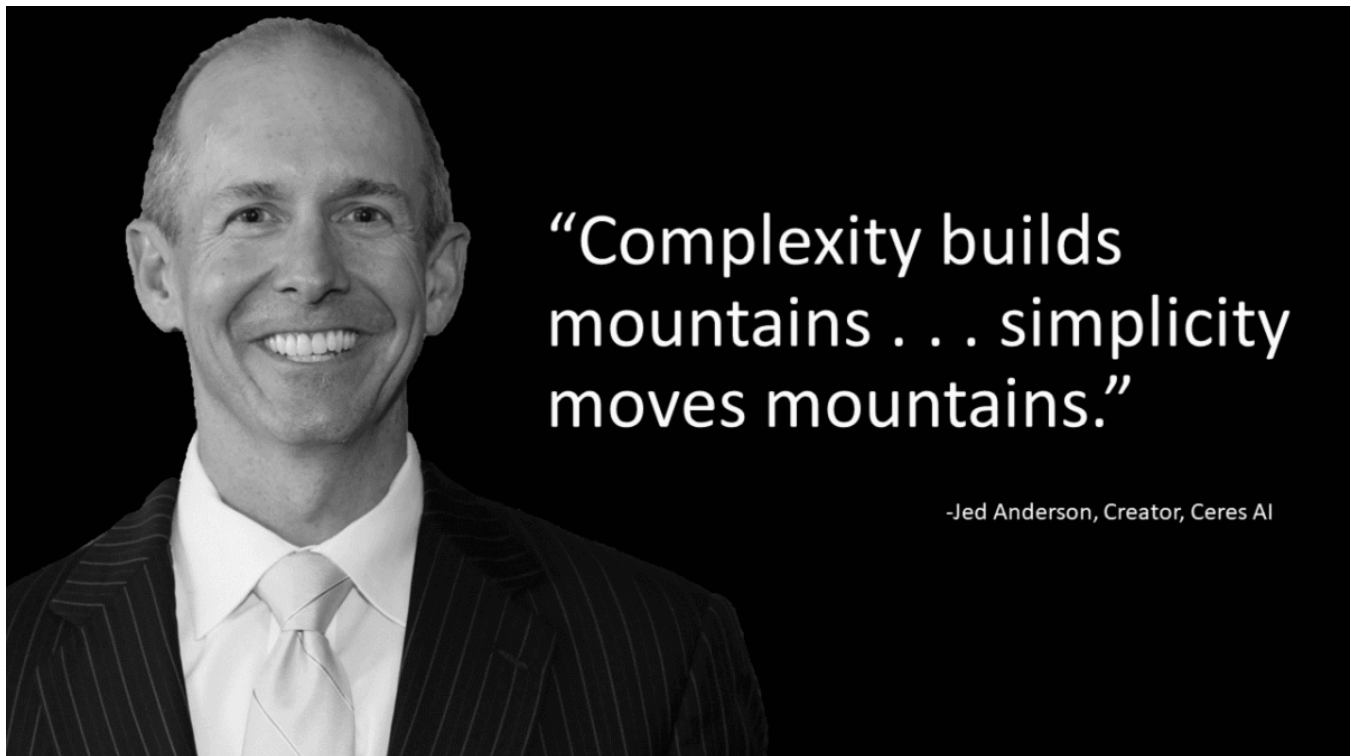
—Jed Anderson, Creator, EnviroAI





- “Beauty of style and harmony and grace and good rhythm depend on simplicity”—Plato
- “Simplicity is the ultimate sophistication.” – Leonardo da Vinci
- “Simplicity is the key to brilliance.” –Bruce Lee
- “Out of intense complexities, intense simplicities emerge.” –Winston Churchill
- “Simplicity, simplicity, simplicity!” –Henry David Thoreau
- “Simplicity is the glory of expression.” ~ Walt Whitman
- “Nothing is more simple than greatness; indeed, to be simple is to be great.” ~ Ralph Waldo Emerson
- “The great artist and thinker are the simplifiers.”—Henri Frederic Amiel
- “It is vain to do with more what can be done with less.” ~ William of Occam

- “Clutter and confusion are failures of design, not attributes of information.” ~ Edward Tufte
- “The most complicated skill is to be simple.” – Dejan Stojanovic
- “Fools ignore complexity. Pragmatists suffer it. Some can avoid it. Geniuses remove it.” – Alan Perlis



- “Truth is ever to be found in simplicity, and not in the multiplicity and confusion of things.” – Isaac Newton
- “It is always the simple that produces the marvelous.” – Amelia Barr
- “Simplicity is a prerequisite for reliability.” – Edsger Dijkstra
- “Almost all quality improvement comes via simplification of design, manufacturing, layout, processes, and procedures.” – Tom Peters

- “Simplicity is the most difficult thing to secure in this world; it is the last limit of experience and the last effort of genius.” – George Sand
- “Order and simplification are the first steps toward the mastery of a subject.” – Thomas Mann
- “Simplicity is the outcome of technical subtlety. It is the goal, not the starting point.” – Maurice Saatchi
- “The greatest ideas are the simplest.” – William Golding
- “People often associate complexity with deeper meaning, when often after precious time has been lost, it is realized that simplicity is the key to everything.” – Gary Hopkins
- “Growth creates complexity, which requires simplicity.” – Andy Stanley
- “Our life is frittered away by detail. Simplify, simplify.” – Henry David Thoreau
- “It is not a daily increase, but a daily decrease. Hack away at the inessentials.” – Bruce Lee
- “Complexity is impressive, but simplicity is genius.” – Lance Wallnau
- “Complexity is enemy of execution”. – Anthony Robbins
- “Simplicity will stand out, while complexity will get lost in the crowd.” – Kevin Barnett
- “Very often, people confuse simple with simplistic. The nuance is lost on most.” – Clement Mok

- “Anything simple always interests me.”—David Hockney
- “I would not give a fig for the simplicity this side of complexity, but I would give my life for the simplicity on the other side of complexity.”—Oliver Wendell Holmes
- “Any intelligent fool can make things bigger, more complex, and more violent. It takes a touch of genius...and a lot of courage to move in the opposite direction.”
~ E.F. Schumacher
- “The simple thing is the right thing.” ---Oscar Wilde
- “To simplify complications is the first essential of success.”—George Earle Buckle
- “You know you’ve achieved perfection in design, not when you have nothing more to add, but when you have nothing more to take away.”—Anotine de Saint-Exupery
- “A complex system that works is invariably found to have evolved from a simple system that worked. A complex system designed from scratch never works and cannot be patched up to make it work. You have to start over, beginning with a working simple system.”—John Gall
- “Although there are no textbooks on simplicity, simple systems work and complex don’t.” --Jim Gray
- “Simplicity does not precede complexity, but follows it.”- Alan J. Perlis
- “The simplest things are often the truest.”—Richard Bach

- “A lady once offered me a mat, but as I had no room to spare within the house, nor time to spare within or without to shake it, I declined it.” —Henry David Thoreau
- “Five lines where three are enough is stupidity. Nine pounds where three are sufficient is stupidity.”—Frank Lloyd Wright
- “Don’t be fooled by the many books on complexity or by the many complex and arcane algorithms you find in this book or elsewhere. Although there are no textbooks on simplicity, simple systems work and complex don’t.” —Jim Gray
- “When you first start off trying to solve a problem, the first solutions you come up with are very complex, and most people stop there. But if you keep going, and live with the problem and peel more layers of the onion off, you can often times arrive at some very elegant and simple solutions.”—Steve Jobs
- “I do believe in simplicity. [...] When the mathematician would solve a difficult problem, he first frees the equation of all incumbrances, and reduces it to its simplest terms. So simplify the problem of life, distinguish the necessary and the real. Probe the earth to see where your main roots run.” —Henry David Thoreau
- “Complexity is a sign of technical immaturity. Simplicity of use is the real sign of a well-designed product whether it is an ATM or a Patriot missile.”— Daniel T. Ling
- “[T]he grand aim of all science...is to cover the greatest possible number of empirical facts by logical deductions from the smallest possible number of hypotheses or axioms.”—Albert Einstein

- “Simplicity is the law of nature for men as well as for flowers.” —Henry David Thoreau
- “In building a statue, a sculptor doesn’t keep adding clay to his subject. Actually, he keeps chiselling away at the inessentials until the truth of its creation is revealed without obstructions.”—Bruce Lee
- “Simplifications have had a much greater long-range scientific impact than individual feats of ingenuity. The opportunity for simplification is very encouraging, because in all examples that come to mind the simple and elegant systems tend to be easier and faster to design and get right, more efficient in execution, and much more reliable than the more contrived contraptions that have to be debugged into some degree of acceptability.... Simplicity and elegance are unpopular because they require hard work and discipline to achieve and education to be appreciated.”— Edsger W. Dijkstra
- “I’ll tell you what you need to be a great scientist. You don’t have to be able understand very complicated things. It’s just the opposite. You have to be able to see what looks like the most complicated thing in the world and, in a flash, find the underlying simplicity. That’s what you need: a talent for simplicity.”— Mitchell Wilson
- “Science may be described as the art of systematic over-simplification.”— Karl Popper
- “The ability to simplify means to eliminate the unnecessary so that the necessary may speak.” —Hans Hofmann

- “The field of Artificial Intelligence is set to conquer most of the human disciplines; from art and literature to commerce and sociology; from computational biology and decision analysis to games and puzzles.” –Anand Krish
- “A year spent in artificial intelligence is enough to make one believe in God.” – Alan Perlis
- “The whole world is certainly heading for a great simplicity, not deliberately, but rather inevitably. The simplicity towards which the world is driving is the necessary outcome of all our systems and speculations and of our deep and continuous contemplation of things. For the universe is like everything in it; we have to look at it repeatedly and habitually before we see it. It is only when we have seen it for the hundredth time that we see it for the first time. The more consistently things are contemplated, the more they tend to unify themselves and therefore to simplify themselves. The simplification of anything is always sensational. [...] Few people will dispute that all the typical movements of our time are upon this road towards simplification. Each system seeks to be more fundamental than the other; each seeks, in the literal sense, to undermine the other. In art, for example, the old conception of man, classic as the Apollo Belvedere, has first been attacked by the realist, who asserts that man, as a fact of natural history, is a creature with colourless hair and a freckled face. Then comes the Impressionist, going yet deeper, who asserts that to his physical eye, which alone is certain, man is a creature with purple hair and a grey face. Then comes the Symbolist, and says that to his soul, which alone is certain, man is a creature with green hair and a blue face. And all the great writers of our time represent in one form or another this attempt to reestablish communication with the elemental, or, as it is sometimes more roughly and fallaciously expressed, to return to nature. [...] But the giants of our time are undoubtedly

alike in that they approach by very different roads this conception of the return to simplicity. Ibsen returns to nature by the angular exterior of fact, Maeterlinck by the eternal tendencies of fable. Whitman returns to nature by seeing how much he can accept, Tolstoy by seeing how much he can reject.” – G.K.

Chesterton

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