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Yujin Nagasawa
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THE DESIGN ARGUMENT

Elliott Sober
University of Wisconsin-Madison



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The Design Argument

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Elliott Sober
University of Wisconsin-Madison

Abstract: This Element analyzes the various forms that design arguments for the existence of God can take, but its main focus is on two such arguments. The first concerns the complex adaptive features that organisms have. Creationists who advance this argument contend that evolution by natural selection can't be the right explanation. The second design argument – the argument from fine-tuning – begins with the fact that life could not exist in our universe if the constants found in the laws of physics had values that differed more than a little from their actual values. Since probability is the main analytical tool used, this Element provides a primer on probability theory.

Keywords: design, evolution, fine-tuning, probability

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