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Evolutionary Theism and the Emergent Universe

In the proposed theistic version of evolutionary emergentism, a special attention has been paid to the so called top-down deterministic interactions in which the integrally understood structure of mutual interactions at a higher level of a system's development makes possible to determine the development of lower constituent structures. In this perspective the classical problem of opposition between the so called blind chance and physical necessity is discussed with reference to the *algorithmic compressibility* of nature. This form of compressibility is understood as the possibility to give a simple economical description of complex physical phenomena by introducing a mathematical equation (algorithm) that describes important physical relations among the parameters in an evolving system.

Considering metaphysical and theological aspects of the probabilistic structure of nature, it should be noted that, from the vantage point of theology, it is meaningless to speak about of the role of "blind chance" in evolution. The expression is deprived of theological meaning as it seems to suggest that in the process of creation God loses control over a certain class of events; God, however, is present in the same way in strictly deterministic and in probabilistic laws.

In the proposed explanatory framework, properties absent at the lower levels of structural complexity emerge at the higher levels of evolution; their emergence is not liable to reductionist explanation referring to the components of the evolving system. This approach has been proposed among other authors by G.F.R. Ellis, Paul C. Davies, A.R. Peacocke, John F. Haught and Francisco Ayala.

In the evolutionary model of cosmic emergence, coming into existence of particular structures may be unlikely, but this does not justify the claim that the processes that produce them are "blind". Nature has been the arena of the history of salvation. In consequence – *extra naturam nulla salus* – there is no salvation outside of the created world. An evolutionary descendant of an amoeba has been endowed not only with an extraordinary gift of reflection, but also with a possibility to participate in God's life.