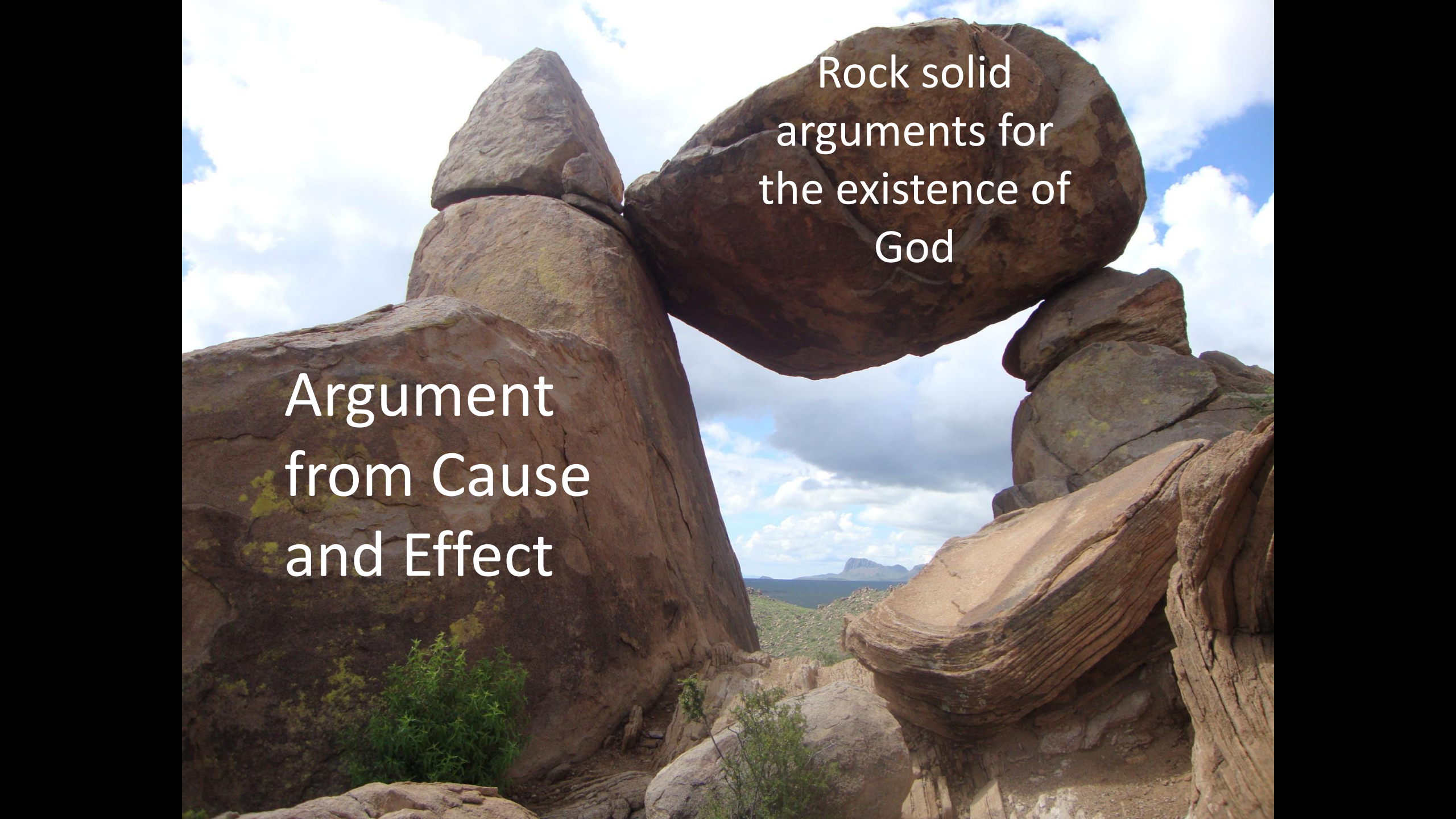


Rock solid
arguments for
the existence of
God

How Can I
Know God is
Real?



Rock solid
arguments for
the existence of
God

Argument
from Cause
and Effect

The Cosmological Argument

Argument from Cause and Effect



Cause and Effect

“For every house is built by someone, but
the builder of all things is God”
(Hebrews 3:4).



Cause and Effect

For every effect,
there must be an adequate cause.



Cause and Effect

For every effect,
there must be an **adequate** cause.



Cause and Effect

Adequate: sufficient, satisfactory, enough to meet a particular end.

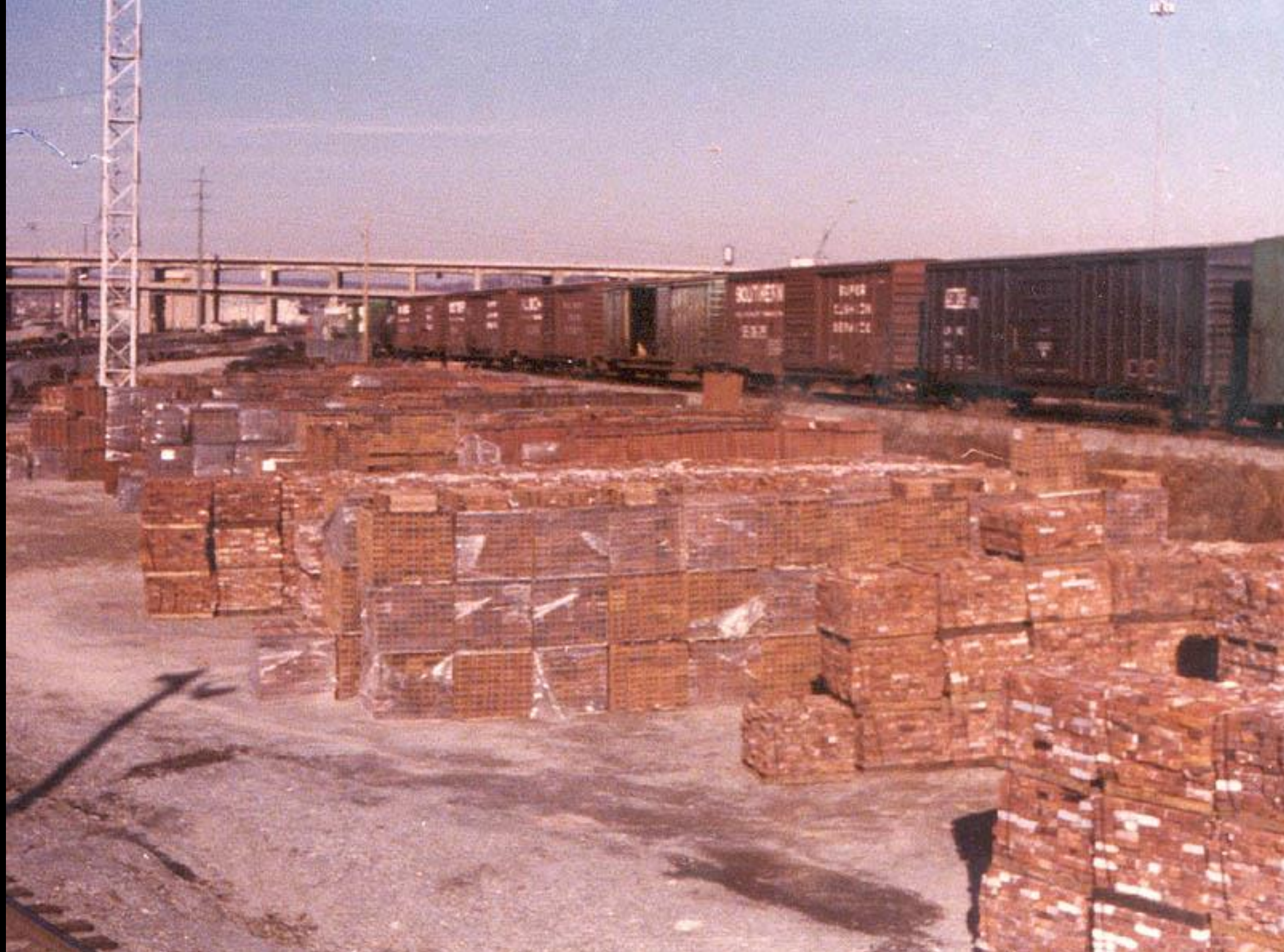


Cause and Effect

There must be something in the cause that sufficiently explains the effect.









Cause and Effect?

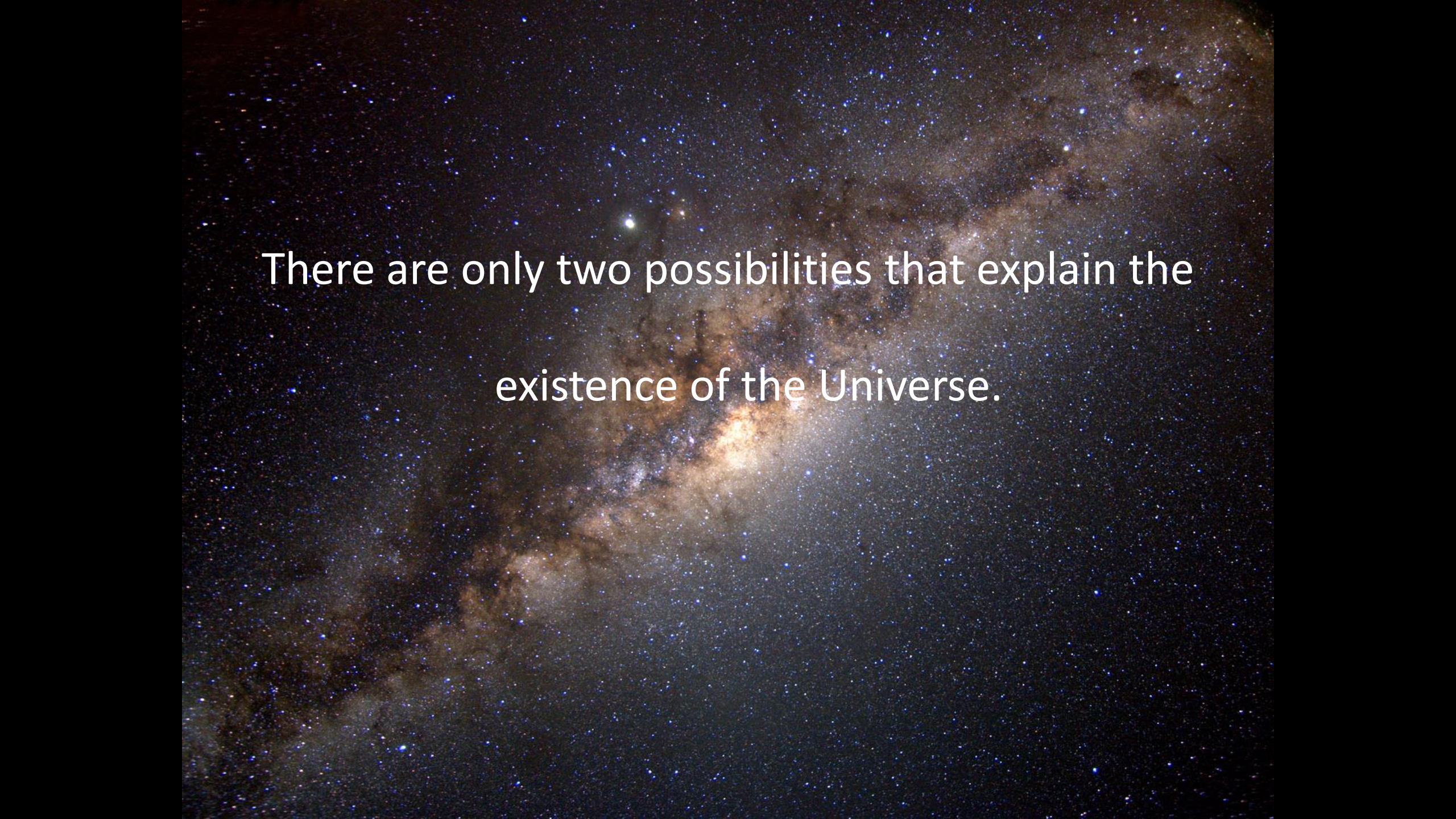




Does the Universe explain itself?

Is the Universe an effect?

Did the Universe have a cause?



There are only two possibilities that explain the
existence of the Universe.



1. The Universe always existed, and is infinite.

2. The Universe was created, and is finite.

Is the Universe infinite?



To be infinite, the Universe must have . . .

1. No beginning.

2. No end.



Big Bang!



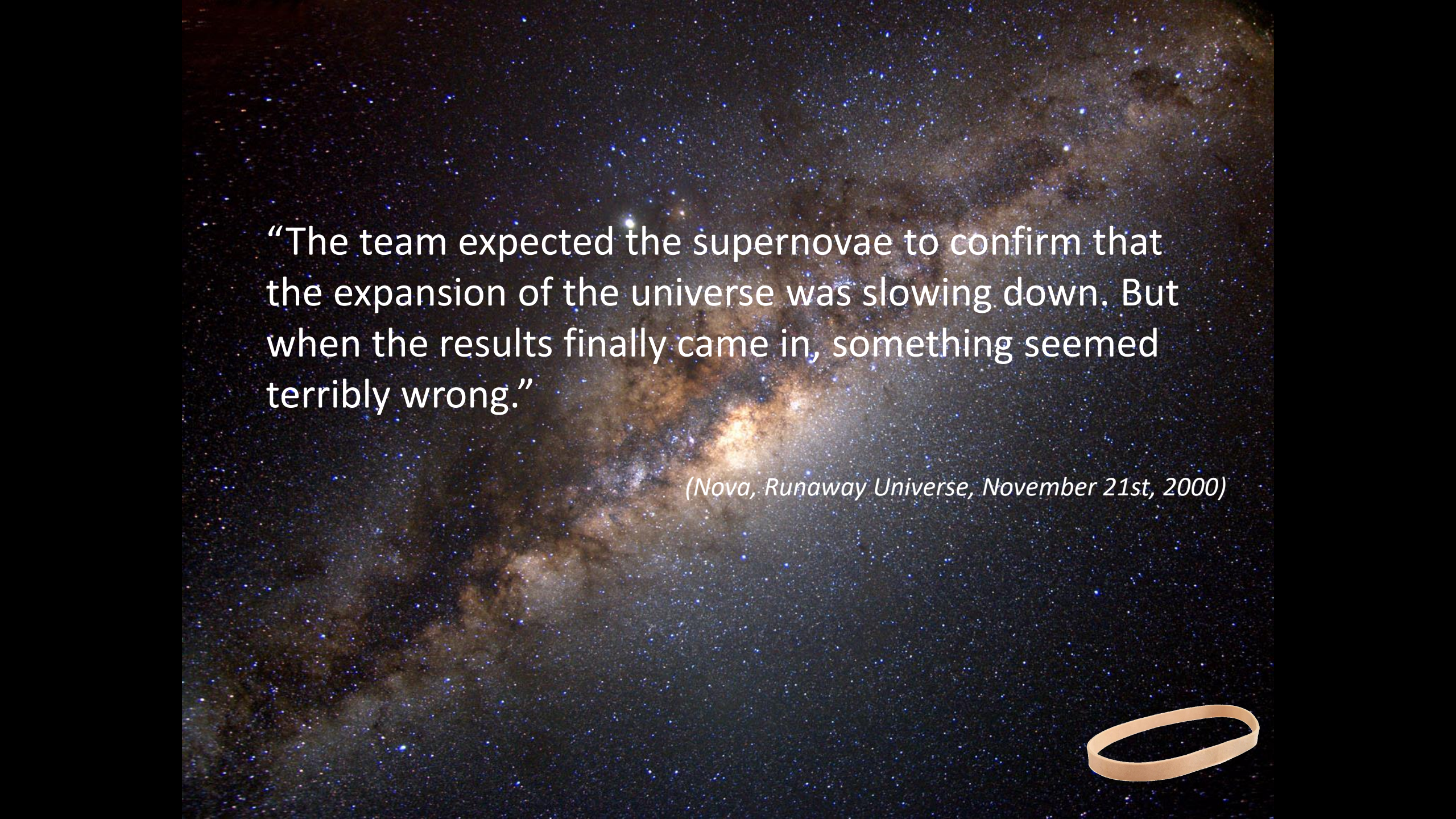
Big Crunch!

In 1998 an experiment was started to measure the rate at which the Universe was expanding by observing supernovae.

“The original goal of our project was to measure the rate at which the expansion of the universe is slowing down. When you throw a rock in the air, the gravity of the Earth tends to pull it down and it slows down that rock as it is rising.”

(Alex Filippenko, Professor of Astronomy, University of California, Berkeley)

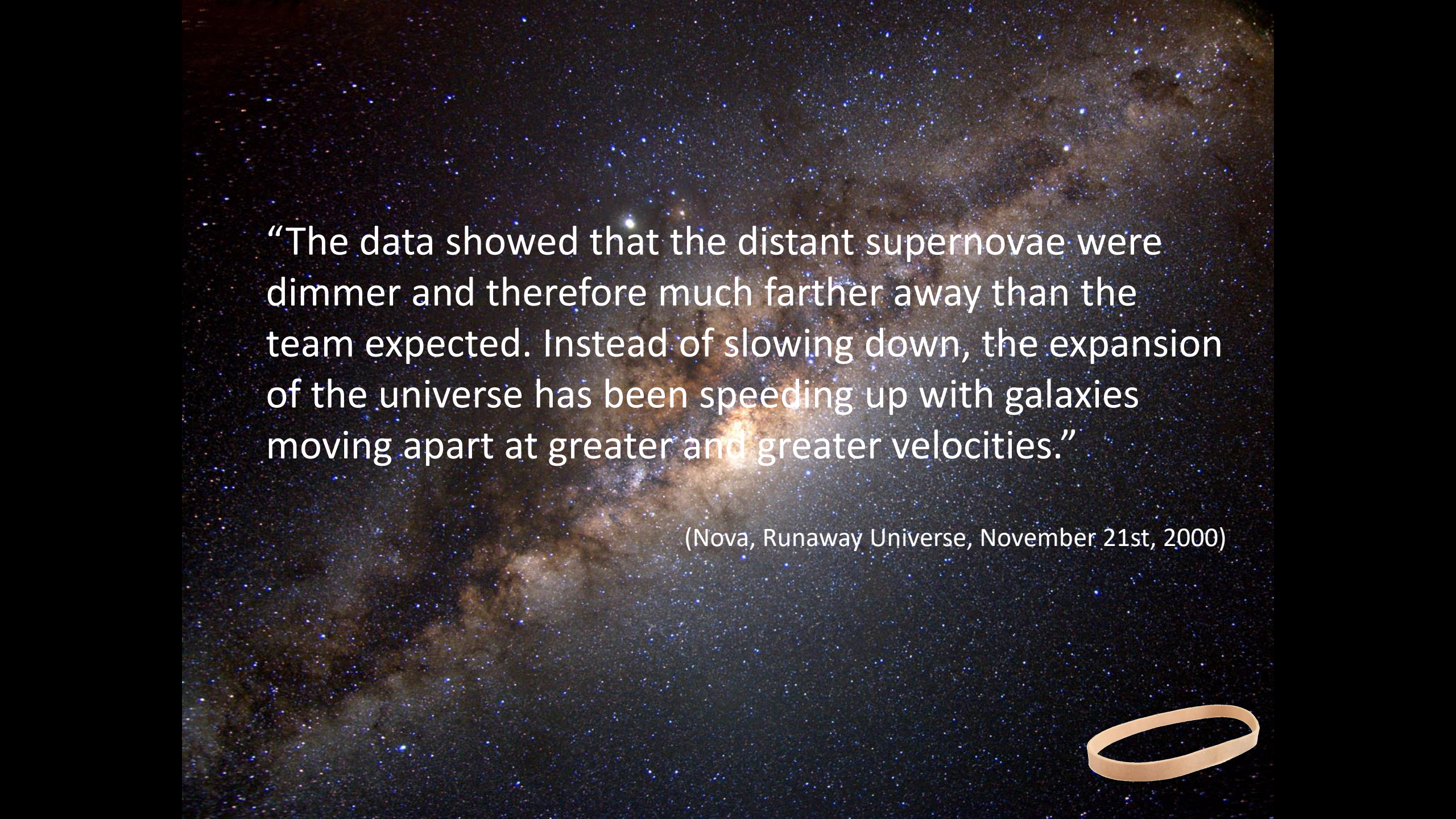




“The team expected the supernovae to confirm that the expansion of the universe was slowing down. But when the results finally came in, something seemed terribly wrong.”

(Nova, Runaway Universe, November 21st, 2000)





“The data showed that the distant supernovae were dimmer and therefore much farther away than the team expected. Instead of slowing down, the expansion of the universe has been speeding up with galaxies moving apart at greater and greater velocities.”

(Nova, Runaway Universe, November 21st, 2000)





The Universe is not slowing down in its expansion, it is speeding up.

It is speeding up so fast, that it will never crunch in on itself again!





Big Crunch?



The Universe had a beginning!

The Universe will have an end!

The Universe is finite.



How did the Universe get here?

Did the Universe create itself?



Can something come from nothing?

From nothing comes nothing.

Cause and Effect

Science cannot answer the question of the origin of the Universe.



Cause and Effect

- Stephen Weinberg
- Professor of Astrophysics at the University of Texas at Austin
- Author of the book: *The First Three Minutes*



Cause and Effect

“We are all used to the idea of an absolute zero of temperature. It is impossible to cool anything below -273.16°C , not because it is too hard or because no one has thought of a sufficiently clever refrigerator, but because temperatures lower than absolute zero just have no meaning -- we cannot have less heat than no heat at all...”



Cause and Effect

“...In the same way, we may have to get used to the idea of an absolute zero of time -- a moment in the past beyond which it is in principle impossible to trace any chain of cause and effect. The question is open, and may always remain open.”

(Weinberg, Stephen. *The First Three Minutes*. New York: Basic Books, 1993. 149.)



Cause and Effect

- Does the Universe explain itself?
- Is the Universe an effect?
- Did the Universe have a cause?



Cause and Effect

- Eternal matter cannot explain the Universe's origin.
- Only Eternal Mind can explain its origin.
- The Universe has a Creator!



Cause and Effect

“For the invisible things of him from the creation of the world are clearly seen, being understood by the things that are made, *even* his eternal power and Godhead; so that they are without excuse”
(Romans 1:20).



Cause and Effect

- The Creator is Eternal in power.
- The Creator is wholly divine.



Cause and Effect

- The Creator is Eternal in power.
- The Creator is wholly divine.



Energy in the Universe

- The Universe has 5×10^{53} Watts / Sec. times greater energy than the sun.
- The universe has a billion x a billion x a billion x a billion x a billion x a billion x a billion x a billion x a billion more energy than the sun every second.

Energy in the Universe

- From what source did all of that energy originate?
- Only an eternal source of power could be the origin of that much energy.
- God is that eternal source of power!

Cause and Effect

- The Creator is Eternal in power.
- The Creator is wholly divine.



Cause and Effect

- The Creator is Eternal in power.
- The Creator is wholly divine.



Cause and Effect

- Who caused God?
- For every **effect** there must be an adequate cause.
- God is not an effect; He is the uncaused cause!



Cause and Effect

- God has the reason for Himself inside Himself; He is infinite in existence.
- “I am because I am” (Exodus 3:14).



Cause and Effect

God is beyond physical existence.

“Lo, these are but the outskirts of his ways: And how small a whisper do we hear of him! But the thunder of his power who can understand?” (Job 26:14)



Cause and Effect

Review



Cause and Effect

The Universe exists.

It is either infinite or finite.



Cause and Effect

If the universe is infinite, then it cannot have a **beginning** or **end**.

The universe had a beginning, and will end.

The universe is NOT infinite.



Cause and Effect

The Universe is Finite

Either it created itself, or something created it.



Cause and Effect

If the universe created itself, then **something came from nothing.**

Something cannot come from nothing.

The universe did not create itself.



Cause and Effect

The Universe Has a Creator!

This Creator is either finite or infinite.




Cause and Effect

The Creator Must Be Infinite!

This Creator must be infinite in power.

This Creator must be different from His creation.





Rock solid
arguments for
the existence of
God

- Cosmological
- Teleological
- Moral