

comp.theory: [Another Successful Troll by Herc] (no longer mentions): Infinite number of people toss a coin infinite times

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*From:* Kent Paul Dolan ([xanthian\\_at\\_well.com](mailto:xanthian_at_well.com))

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"Stephen Harris" <[cyberguard1048-usenet@yahoo.com](mailto:cyberguard1048-usenet@yahoo.com)>  
wrote and quoted:

|- This answers part of my question within the Big Bang theory context. "Note that in the above paragraphs I have been careful to use the term "observable Universe" rather than Universe. The Universe itself, or the maximum amount of space that we will eventually be able to see given an infinite amount of time, may well be infinite. In quoting a size of the Universe we infer how far we can see in one direction (15 billion light years), and how far we can see in the other direction (15 billion light years) and add the two to get a size (30 billion light years). An age of 15 billion light years in each direction therefore leads us to infer that we are at the centre of a sphere with radius 15 billion light-years, and hence that the Universe is 30 billion light-years "across". The trick, however, is that because the Universe is homogeneous and isotropic, every observer must measure a size of the Universe that is 30 billion light years... even ones that are at the "edge" of our observable Universe! This means that either the Universe is sufficiently curved that space doubles back on itself (like on the surface of a sphere), or that the actual Universe is much larger than the observable one. We currently think that the latter possibility is the case."

Um, no, not at all. Observers on the edge of our observable universe are at, or very near, the epoch of the big bang. Their observable universe is much, much smaller, and so stuff there is much

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closer together. In the limit of our possible observation, their universe collapses to something the size of a subatomic particle diameter or less.

The universe may be "homogeneous and isotropic", but that is merely a hypothesis, not a theory subject to falsifiability, even in theory, since we can't see *\*that\** universe. The one we see grows denser and younger with distance. [It also isn't the least bit "isotropic"; it has structure at every scale.]

xanthian.

It's always valuable to remember this recent interchange before wasting a lot of Net bandwidth on another of Herc's inane trolls:

Its like talking to someone with amnesia,  
forget Kent he's a moron who  
takes antipsychotics all day.  
— Herc (gotch@beauty.com)

Well, I just did a bit of a search through some of your recentish posts (just a few months ago) in comp.theory. [...] Seems Kent Paul Dolan was right about you, and that it would just be a waste of time for me to continue 'discussing' your 'solution(s)' with you.  
— Simon G Best (s.g.best@btopenworld.com)

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Posted via Mailgate.ORG Server - <http://www.Mailgate.ORG>

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