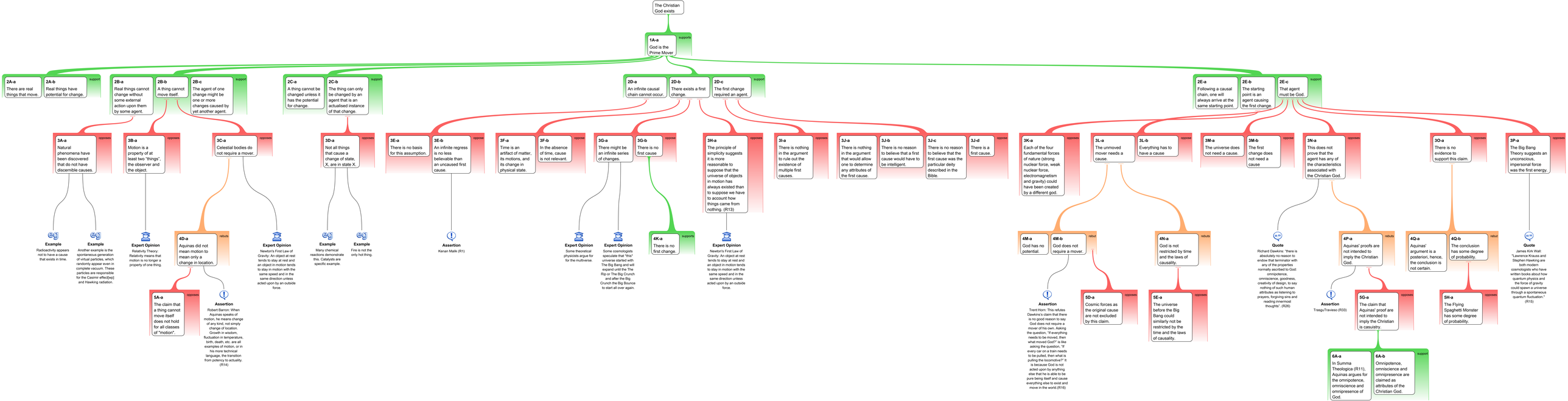
The Christian God exists
1A-a
God is the Prime Mover
supports
2A-a
There are real things that move.
2A-b
Real things have potential for change.
support
2B-a
Real things cannot change without some external action upon them by some agent.
2B-b
A thing cannot move itself.
2B-c
The agent of one change might be one or more changes caused by yet another agent.
support
2C-a
A thing cannot be changed unless it has the potential for change.
2C-b
The thing can only be changed by an agent that is an actualised instance of that change.
support
2D-a
An infinite causal chain cannot occur.
2D-b
There exists a first change.
2D-c
The first change required an agent.
support
2E-a
Following a causal chain, one will always arrive at the same starting point.
2E-b
The starting point is an agent causing the first change.
2E-c
That agent must be God.
support
3A-a
Natural phenomena have been discovered that do not have discernible causes.
oppose
3B-a
Motion is a property of at least two "things", the observer and the object.
oppose
3C-a
Celestial bodies do not require a mover.
oppose
3D-a
Not all things that cause a change of state, X, are in state X.
oppose
3E-a
There is no basis for this assumption.
3E-b
An infinite regress is no less believable than an uncaused first cause.
oppose
3F-a
Time is an artifact of matter, its motions, and its change in physical state.
3F-b
In the absence of time, cause is not relevant.
oppose
3G-a
There might be an infinite series of changes.
3G-b
There is no first cause
oppose
3H-a
The principle of simplicity suggests it is more reasonable to suppose that the universe of objects in motion has always existed than to suppose we have to account how things came from nothing. (R13)
oppose
3I-a
There is nothing in the argument to rule out the existence of multiple first causes.
oppose
3J-a
There is nothing in the argument that would allow one to determine any attributes of the first cause.
3J-b
There is no reason to believe that a first cause would have to be intelligent.
3J-c
There is no reason to believe that the first cause was the particular deity described in the Bible.
3J-d
There is a first cause.
oppose
3K-a
Each of the four fundamental forces of nature (strong nuclear force, weak nuclear force, electromagnetism and gravity) could have been created by a different god.
oppose
3L-a
The unmoved mover needs a cause.
3L-b
Everything has to have a cause
oppose
3M-a
The universe does not need a cause.
3M-b
The first change does not need a cause
oppose
3N-a
This does not prove that the agent has any of the characteristics associated with the Christian God.
oppose
3O-a
There is no evidence to support this claim.
oppose
3P-a
The Big Bang Theory suggests an unconscious, impersonal force was the first energy.
oppose
Example
Radioactivity appears not to have a cause that exists in time.
Example
Another example is the spontaneous generation of virtual particles, which randomly appear even in complete vacuum. These particles are responsible for the Casimir effect[wp] and Hawking radiation.
Expert Opinion
Relativity Theory: Relativity means that motion is no longer a property of one thing.
4D-a
Aquinas did not mean motion to mean only a change in location.
rebuts
5A-a
The claim that a thing cannot move itself does not hold for all classes of "motion".
oppose
Assertion
Robert Barron: When Aquinas speaks of motion, he means change of any kind, not simply change of location. Growth in wisdom, fluctuation in temperature, birth, death, etc. are all examples of motion, or in his more technical language, the transition from potency to actuality. (R14)
Expert Opinion
Newton's First Law of Gravity: An object at rest tends to stay at rest and an object in motion tends to stay in motion with the same speed and in the same direction unless acted upon by an outside force.
Example
Many chemical reactions demonstrate this. Catalysts are specific example.
Example
Fire is not the only hot thing.
Assertion
Kenan Malik (R1)
Expert Opinion
Some theoretical physicists argue for for the multiverse.
Expert Opinion
Some cosmologists speculate that "this" universe started with The Big Bang and will expand until the The Rip or The Big Crunch and after the Big Crunch the Big Bounce to start all over again.
4K-a
There is no first change.
supports
Expert Opinion
Newton's First Law of Gravity: An object at rest tends to stay at rest and an object in motion tends to stay in motion with the same speed and in the same direction unless acted upon by an outside force.
4M-a
God has no potential.
4M-b
God does not require a mover.
rebut
4N-a
God is not restricted by time and the laws of causality.
rebuts
Quote
Richard Dawkins: "there is absolutely no reason to endow that terminator with any of the properties normally ascribed to God: omnipotence, omniscience, goodness, creativity of design, to say nothing of such human attributes as listening to prayers, forgiving sins and reading innermost thoughts". (R26)
4P-a
Aquinas' proofs are not intended to imply the Christian God.
rebuts
4Q-a
Aquinas' argument is a posteriori, hence, the conclusion is not certain.
4Q-b
The conclusion has some degree of probability.
rebut
Quote
James Kirk Wall: "Lawrence Krauss and Stephen Hawking are both modern cosmologists who have written books about how quantum physics and the force of gravity could spawn a universe through a spontaneous quantum fluctuation." (R15)
Assertion
Trent Horn: This refutes Dawkins's claim that there is no good reason to say God does not require a mover of his own. Asking the question, "If everything needs to be moved, then what moved God?" is like asking the question, "If every car on a train needs to be pulled, then what is pulling the locomotive?" It is because God is not acted upon by anything else that he is able to be pure being itself and cause everything else to exist and move in the world.(R16)
5D-a
Cosmic forces as the original cause are not excluded by this claim.
oppose
5E-a
The universe before the Big Bang could similarly not be restricted by the time and the laws of causality.
oppose
Assertion
TrasguTraveso (R33)
5G-a
The claim that Aquinas' proof are not intended to imply the Christian is casuistry.
oppose
5H-a
The Flying Spaghetti Monster has some degree of probability.
oppose
6A-a
In Summa Theologica (R11), Aquinas argues for the omnipotence, omniscience and omnipresence of God.
6A-b
Omnipotence, omniscience and omnipresence are claimed as attributes of the Christian God.
support