

## THE ONTOLOGICAL ARGUMENT

### 1. Philosophical Background

#### 1.1 Possible worlds

#### 1.2 Maximal greatness

### 2. Alvin Plantinga's version

1. It is possible that a maximally great being (God) exists.
2. If it is possible that a maximally great being exists, then a maximally great being exists in some possible world.
3. If a maximally great being exists in some possible world, then it exists in every possible world.
4. If a maximally great being exists in every possible world, then it exists in the actual world.
5. If a maximally great being exists in the actual world, then a maximally great being exists.
6. Therefore, a maximally great being exists.

### 3. The argument examined

#### 3.1 Epistemic vs. metaphysical possibility

#### 3.2 Coherence of a maximally great being

3.3 Parodies of the argument

3.4 Evidential defense of premiss (1)

3.5 Summary and conclusion