

Stephen Robertson

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“In the beginning the Universe was created. This has made a lot of people very angry and has been widely regarded as a bad move.”

—*Douglas Adams*, *The Hitchhiker’s Guide to the Galaxy*.

In the beginning was the third.
(The first two were duds; the bits
are somewhere back there, along with
all the other long-abandoned projects.)

This one started with an almighty bang
—thought it was going to be a disaster
but then it began rolling out its own
finite but unbounded space-time continuum
—cool!

There are some lovely spirals down there now.
Let’s have a closer look at this one here,
with a bar across. Not quite the biggest
of its group, but very beautiful.
What does it look like from the inside?

See that blue-green ball of stuff?
—spinning around one of the hot yellow bits
way out here in the remoter backwaters
of the western spiral arm (which will never be fashionable).
See the slime on it?
Wonder if I can get it to do
anything remotely interesting?