What is Existence?

Nathan Salmon University of California, Santa Barbara

(0) α exists

The Ontological Argument

- (P1) God = the possible individual that is actually *divine*.
- (P2) Any possible individual that is actually divine actually exists.
- \therefore (C) God actually exists.

LL: If
$$x = y$$
, then $x _$ iff $y _$

Df:
$$(\lambda x)(\exists y)[x = y]$$

- (1) The present king of France exists
- (0') $(\exists x)['\alpha' \text{ designates}_{\text{English}} x]$
- (1F) Le roi present de France existe
- (1F') 'The present king of France' désigne quelque chose en anglais
- (0'') $(\exists x)\Delta(^{\alpha}, x)$
- (2) Lou exists
- (3) Lou schmexists
- (1') The present king of France does not exist
- (2') Lou does not exist
- (3') Lou does not schmexist
- (P1') If exactly one possible individual is actually divine, then God =the possible individual that is actually divine.
- (C) If exactly one possible individual is actually divine, then God actually exists.