

How 606 Is a “Decimal”

Creative Paradox

The URANTIA revelation tells us that there are a small number of solar systems in Satania, our local system, that contain more than one inhabited planet (32:2.10 (359.7)). The chart below describes this breakdown.

# planets per solar system	Solar Systems	Planets	Decimals	
Single	511	511	51	82.6%
Dual	46	92	9	14.9%
Triple	4	12	1	1.9%
Quadruple	1	4	0	0.6%
Totals	562	619	61	100.0%

Figure 1: Matrix calculating paragraph (32:2.10 (359.7)).

Think about what this means. Fossil fuel space vehicles today can reach any location in our solar system. Bill Sadler, Jr., one of the contact commissioners to the revelation, conjectured to one of the societies he was lecturing, that he felt distances were too great between planets, that relativity would obviate any potential encounters maybe until light and life. Yet there it is. A Mighty Messenger has written, almost buried it in the revelation, that there *are* a number of *solar systems*, fifty-one in Satania to be exact, that have up to three additional human inhabited planets. They tell us one has four inhabited spheres. That revelation blows away Sadler’s belief and speculation with a revelation that one of the contact commissioners apparently was not aware of!

From what I remember, Sadler, Jr. said that from his perspective a Planetary Prince, his celestial cadre of assistants along with an Adam and Eve at some later point, have a tough enough job just to move primitive humans to progress from hunter-gatherers to agriculturalists. He felt that the ascension plan didn’t put additional roadblocks, or potential cosmic encounters until they could get a planet to a spiritual stage that it would obviate the possibility of cosmic war. Well, he was incorrect. In Satania there are 108 planets that have the opportunity to interact with solar system cousins not too many millenniums subsequent to the emergence of civilization. At least that is the scenario Urantia’s solar system would present *today* if it was in fact in one of those approximately 17% of atypical solar systems.

Oh, while reading this you probably are saying to yourself: ‘if I was playing craps in Vegas with those odds, I’d be on the losing side for sure.’ (In fact, the percentages are pretty close!). And you would be right that the *probability* is slim that URANTIA is in that category. But the *possibility* nonetheless exists. And we are an experimental (decimal) planet *and* the Michael Creator Son of the entire local universe bestowed here and the Planetary Prince rebelled with the Adam and Eve scuttling their mission. Now that’s too much to fathom that all of that could even *possibly* occur under one roof. I can understand if that extreme serendipity is off one’s believability charts.

However, I don’t think so; the revelation has revealed directly all the above rare occurrences save that URANTIA is in a multiply inhabited solar system. It’s my belief that if one correlates the various connected statements related to 32:2.10, you will discover there are a gaggle of clues that the revelation

How 606 Is a “Decimal”

has within its pages that have led me to believe that the revelators want students to reflect upon that this additional rare possibility is something we should consider.

They aren’t going to come right out and say it: ‘Hey Urantia, be ready. You are in a solar system with an additional (either one, two, or three) human-inhabited planets. And by the way, their Planetary Prince(s) didn’t (or did) rebel. They are light years ahead of you spiritually as a whole (or not).’

So, I have to ask, since the possibility exists, wouldn’t it be incumbent upon anyone, especially a truth seeker, to see if we can determine if URANTIA exists (or doesn’t) in one of these rare solar systems? What would constitute a proof since we are not told outright? And wouldn’t a UB student want to know one way or another? Why are there so many apparent closely associated statements related to this existing phenomenon that even escaped a contact commissioner?¹

What would constitute a proof of the idea that URANTIA exists in a multiply inhabited or inhabitable solar system? Is there anything acceptable under a falsifiable (deductive) proof based upon the disparate statements the URANTIA revelation provides with respect to this possibility? Some of the revelation’s statements display a paradox. I believe this is intentional.

A paradox is a situation in which two seemingly contradictory or even mutually exclusive factors appear to be true at the same time.² For example, the paradox of the Bible’s rendition of God creating the universe out of nothing in seven days as opposed to the scientific position of evolution fashioning humans from the smallest organic life (and maybe even inorganic material) has created a paradoxical situation that so far poses what would seem to be irreconcilable cognitive differences. As opposed to an either-or resolution to a dilemma, a paradox is best resolved with a both-and solution. With regard to the religious-science issue of intelligent design versus evolution, The URANTIA Book resolves this with the both-and solution through the story of the Life Carriers implanting life and administering evolution, clearly solving the paradox at a higher level of context.

So yes, the revelation solves paradoxes and it even discusses paradoxes like the paradox of the part and the whole. But how do we deal with a paradox that the revelation *creates*? I believe we treat these paradoxes by looking at the revelation itself. For if it didn’t provide enough process, content, and context, then in my opinion it’s not completing the task. With respect to the revealed facts about Stania’s inhabited spheres I believe the revelation has not only purposely set the paradox but allows the student to resolve it at a higher level of context and thought. In the next few pages, I will present the paradox the revelation creates and the associated material the revelators provide to satisfy 95% of the equivocation. Empirical evidence will be required to get to the finish line.

One more thought before we venture off into the paradox.

Reasoning Methodologies

The situation the revelation poses with respect to its’ multifarious treatment of Satania’s inhabited spheres, I believe requires a combination of deductive, inductive, and abductive reasoning. **Deductive**

¹ I will leave many of the associated statements out of this essay. Please refer to my more detailed essay on the “additional concepts” page of deboldgroup.com. In that article I point to Jacob Dix’s seminal article from the 2012 Herald.

² de Wit, Bob, and Ron Meyer. *Strategy: Process, Content, Context*. 4th ed., Cengage Learning EMEA, 2010.

How 606 Is a “Decimal”

reasoning helps analyze the logical structure of the revelation. **Inductive** reasoning comes into play when generalizing from patterns in the revelation suggests a possible resolution to the paradox. **Abductive** reasoning is essential for forming the best explanation based on the available but apparently incomplete information. Ultimately, the requirement of experiential data to fully resolve the paradox indicates that the process is not purely deductive or inductive but relies on all three reasoning methods, with a focus on abduction as the key reasoning tool to hypothesize a solution.

I want to emphasize here that the process I am about to describe is not speculation. Speculation also involves making guesses or forming ideas based on limited information. When speculating, we often consider various possibilities without having complete certainty. Abductive reasoning occurs when we infer the most likely or best possible explanation for a set of observations, also when the information is incomplete or ambiguous. Abduction involves creative thinking and hypothesizing about the most plausible scenario. The goal of abduction is to find the explanation that is most likely true, given the evidence. (In this case the evidence is a number of associated statements). It aims to provide the best fit for the observed data, even if it isn't guaranteed to be correct. The process to resolve the paradox I am about to present is abduction and not speculation.

However, abductive reasoning can often result in a conjecture—a hypothesis that can be tested or investigated further. In this sense, abduction can be seen as a process that could lead to conjecturing. Both involve proposing explanations that are grounded in some evidence, with the understanding that they need further validation. I haven't yet come up with a testable methodology for the hypothesis that URANTIA sits in a multiply inhabited solar system, save that of encountering an alien human not native to Urantia. What I believe we do have here is a “provisional hypothesis.” Perchance after you think and reflect through the integrated revelatory statements ahead as a paradox you might provide a creative set of next steps to arrive at further validation – or falsification.

What this analysis does produce are two proven mathematical combinatorial use cases (scenarios) which fully establishes a premise that URANTIA can be a decimal planet while being numbered 606 and the equally paradoxical situation that it is the 60th decimal sphere in Satania with one more decimal after it in the sequence of the 13 planets/spheres after Urantia's registration that terminates at 619. I credit Jacob Dix and Charlie Chan with providing me the basis to untangle this Gordian set of conditions to this juncture in the abductive process that is required. Jacob laid the predicate to present these use cases and Charlie Chan because I watched the logic unfold in the 1950's on a small black-and-white TV.

Easter Eggs

Maybe we're also dealing with something like the metaphor of an “Easter Egg” in a software program. An Easter egg in a software program refers to a hidden feature, message, or inside anecdote that developers intentionally embed within the software. Unlike the primary functionalities of the actual program, Easter eggs are usually non-essential and meant to surprise or entertain users who discover them. They can take many forms, such as hidden games, secret messages, humorous graphics, or even elaborate sequences triggered by specific user actions.

The term “Easter egg” is derived from the tradition of Easter egg hunts, where people search for hidden eggs. In the context of software, users may have to perform specific tasks or enter certain commands to uncover these surprises, similar to finding hidden eggs during a hunt. Easter eggs are often used as a way for developers to express creativity, add a personal touch, or share inside jokes with users or colleagues.

How 606 Is a “Decimal”

With respect to the revelators, since they are constrained in many aspects of what can be revealed, it seems as though this rare situation would surely be one that an Easter Egg approach would be required. AT a minimum it seems reasonable to think that the revelators would be given leeway to provide associations such that when humanity reaches a context that would need cosmic understanding of the inevitable impact a multiply inhabited solar system would have on all humans in that situation. I could envision the Ancients of Days saying to the Melchizedek in charge of the editing saying something to the effect of: ‘Okay, put in some clues, but make them as difficult as an Easter Egg in software that Urantian humans will concoct in the near future.’

This is what I feel is a pointer to an Easter Egg. The revelation provides three statements that appear they can’t all be true simultaneously. This constitutes a paradox. They are:

36:2.15 (398.2) ... The life now evolving on URANTIA was planned and partially worked out on this very world, for URANTIA is a decimal planet, a life-experiment world. On **one world in each ten** a greater variance in the standard life designs is permitted than on the other (nonexperimental) worlds.

40:5.18 (447.3) You know that **every tenth world** is a decimal or experimental planet, but you know nothing of the other variables that punctuate the processional of the evolutionary spheres.

58:0.1 (664.1) ... **about one world in ten** is designated as a decimal planet and assigned to the special registry of the Life Carriers; (**emphasized bolding mine**)

These three statements come from a Chief of Archangels, a Mighty Messenger, and a Life Carrier respectively. How do we reconcile why the Mighty Messenger uses the phrase with “every” and the Life Carrier uses “about.” Should we assume that the Melchizedek editor missed these apparent discrepancies? Or are the statements all true in a context that we might not be aware of? Should they be reconciled and why should they be? Remember, Einstein thought entanglement was “spooky action at a distance” and could never come to grips with what he knew as an apparent fact. How can gravity and general relativity be true as well as instantaneous action at a distance? He rationalized it endlessly attempting to conform entanglement in the context of time – he believed nothing is instantaneous in the universe we know. A couple decades later, Alain Aspect proved entanglement/instantaneous action to the satisfaction of science as a fact. Alas, Einstein will have to get this resolved on a mansion world.³ Even with this paradox, the revelation provides clues. More on that in another essay.

³ Albert Einstein was not around when John Bell's work on quantum entanglement was proven experimentally. Einstein passed away in 1955, and John Bell published his famous theorem, known as Bell's Theorem, in 1964, nearly a decade after Einstein's death. Bell's theorem provided a way to experimentally test the concept of quantum entanglement and whether the "spooky action at a distance" that Einstein was skeptical of could be confirmed. While Bell laid the theoretical groundwork, he did not perform the experiments that directly proved entanglement. The experiments that demonstrated entanglement and confirmed Bell's theorem were carried out later, most notably by physicists such as Alain Aspect in the early 1980s. Aspect and his team conducted experiments that showed that entangled particles could indeed exhibit correlations that could not be explained by classical physics or any local hidden variable theory, effectively proving that quantum entanglement was a real phenomenon.

How 606 Is a “Decimal”

But these three apparent inconsistencies noted above are just a start. An inconsistency that is even probably less obvious to most is how does Urantia, as registered and numbered 606 in Satania, become decimal planet even though it doesn't end in zero? Shouldn't a decimal planet end in zero (0)? In addition to this, we've got an additional anomaly of numbers that complicates this one more time. It has to do with the numbering, and number of, decimal planets.

Let's look at where the revelation tells us there are 61 decimal planets out of the 619. (URANTIA is the 60th). If we count from 1 to 619 and count a decimal at every 10, we get 61 as expected. And planet 600 would be the 60th decimal planet, not 606. So, how is 606 a decimal/experimental in this methodology of counting? If we take the approach that a decimal planet doesn't have to end in a zero, we must start counting from planet #6. Ok, let's try starting at 6 and mark a decimal every subsequent 10 planets. Starting with inhabited sphere number 6, count up every tenth sphere to number 16, to 26, all the way to 96. This yields ten decimal spheres. Likewise, do this with planets 106 to 196 to yield another ten. So, if we simply count from decimal world 6 all the way up to 606, we will encounter sixty-one decimal worlds, world 596 being number 60, and our world, number 606, being the 61st. Sphere 616 would then, naturally, be the last decimal world, which would give us a count of 62 decimal worlds. Thus, looking at each of these two methodologies, we can't reconcile the 606/60 revelations. In fact, by starting at 6 we get too many decimal planets in Satania from what is revealed. This appears to be like *spooky math in the decimal system*. We have a problem, Houston. Are there any statements that might point us in a correct GPS methodological path? If not, we'll end our reflection here and leave the paradox to an anomaly of the revelation and hope another Alain Aspect comes along when we get more knowledgeable.

Use Cases

I believe we have two statements that provide a reliable GPS route. The first one mentions how planets are administered in Satania. In a discussion about the planetary series of mortals, a Melchizedek of the Jerusem School of Planetary Administration writes that there are various designations of types, series, and other relationships by which the administrators support groups of planets.

49:5.29 (567.9) 5. *Creature-kinship serials*. Planets are not only organized vertically into systems, constellations, and so on, but the universe administration also provides for horizontal groupings according to type, series, and other relationships. This lateral administration of the universe pertains more particularly to the co-ordination of activities of a kindred nature which have been independently fostered on different spheres. These related classes of universe creatures are periodically inspected by certain composite corps of high personalities presided over by long-experienced finaliters.

So, it seems that we will have to take into account, in a methodology to hopefully reconcile these numerical anomalies, this revelation of vertical and horizontal classifications. Put a pin in that thought.

The other evidence is in the quote above from 40:5.18 (447.3): "... you know nothing of the other variables that punctuate the processional of the evolutionary spheres." What could the Mighty Messenger actually mean when he/she writes about a *processional* of spheres. Notice s(he) didn't use the term planets, but evolutionary spheres for it could be a moon too. One thing is for sure, the revelators are not out of synch with each other. Procession means one after the other in serial sequence.

How 606 Is a “Decimal”

So, here’s at least one methodology with two scenarios that resolves this paradox from an either/or to an and-both. I’ll start with presenting the two matrices and explain the rationale subsequently.

Scenario #1								
		#planets	Serial Planet Numberi	# decimals	Total Decimals	# of solar systems		
						dual	triple	Quad
619	106	500	500	50	50			
		4	504	0	50			1
		90	594	9	59	45		
		12	606	1	60		4	
		13	607-619	1	61			

Scenario #2								
		#planets	Serial Planet Numbering	# decimals	Total Decimals	# of solar systems		
						dual	triple	Quad
619	106	500	500	50	50			
		4	504	0	50			1
		12	516	1	51		4	
		90	606	9	60	45		
		13	607-619	1	61			

Figure 2: Two use cases that illustrate how URANTIA can be designated a decimal planet and at the same time be registered as number 606 in the processional sequence of inhabited planets.

Use Case Rationale

The two scenarios above demonstrate how inserting types into the serial procession of individual inhabited sphere numbers we arrive at the precise position that URANTIA is both number 606 in the procession of inhabited planets and number 60 in the sequence of decimal spheres. For scenario 1, by arbitrarily beginning sequentially with 500 type 1’s) then inserting horizontally one quad solar system (type 4), followed by 45 dual-planet solar systems (type 2), then followed by 12 type 3 systems, this particular vertical-horizontal configuration *will* generate URANTIA as serially numbered 606 and have it designated as the 60th decimal planet.

We accomplish this by taking into account the idea that each of the solar system “types”⁴ maintains its own serial numbering of decimal planets. The proof that this scenario works is in the leftover 13 planets. There are 11 singles left and one dual system subsequent to Urantia’s registration as an inhabited planet; the last dual system (#46) completes the total number of dual systems revealed. This final 13 totals exactly 619! Our scenario works perfectly as long as we count the solar system types as a decimal

⁴ By type here we mean categorized vertically by number of inhabited planets. Thus, type 1 has one inhabited planet and is administered differently than type 2 which has two inhabited planets and so forth.

How 606 Is a “Decimal”

DRAFT

type 1	type 2	type 3	type 4
500			
			501
			502
			503
			504
		505	
		506	
		507	
		508	
		509	
		510	
		511	
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617			
	618		
	619		

Type 4 has no decimal planets yet.

This is the 50th decimal in type 1. 500 is an arbitrary start to work through a use case.

counting unit vertically (as it sits horizontally aside it's neighboring types).⁵

This is not to infer that there may not be other scenarios; we only needed one use case to resolve the revelation's

paradoxical statements. It just so happens we have discovered two.

Figure 3 displays scenario 2. It shows both the verticalness and horizontalness of how the numbering system works using the insertion of the specific number of solar system types. The overall

This is the first decimal in type 2

procession continues, but the decimal counting is contained within the types.

Each type gets its own decimal count. In

effect, figure 3 expands upon the totals in scenarios #1 and 2, down to 619 to complete the math that the final 13 indeed does have one more decimal planet in type 2. For the sake of getting this on one page, I have compressed the numbering between 538 and 606.

This is the second decimal in type 2

Earlier in this essay I maintained that this analysis is not mere speculation but a form of abductive reasoning. There is no question

that the revelation has provided incomplete but replete information to the student. By that I mean the information to resolve the paradox of 606/60 for Urantia's numbering of an inhabited planet and the 60th decimal in Satania is replete.

This is the third decimal in type 2

We have proven that at least two use cases or scenarios, if you will, can be developed that will do that. They achieve the desired numbering and resolve the apparent paradox related to decimals that states “one world in each ten,” “every tenth world,” and “about one world in ten” is

URANTIA is the 9th decimal in type two in this scenario. It is also the 60th overall.

designated as a decimal planet and assigned to the special

This is the 51st decimal in type 1 and the 61st overall.

Figure 3: A vertical and horizontal depiction of how the Satania administrators might characterize the processional of planets and their decimals.

registry of the Life Carriers. They *can* all be true at the same time now based upon counting decimals *within* each type solar system. This axiom is derived from the revelation regarding creature-

⁵ Scenario 2 follows the same pattern but flips the insertion sequence (flips the rows) vertically of the type 2 and type 3 solar systems. We arrive at the same validation of all our requirements to meet 606/60, 619, and the correct number of type 2 systems at 46. The only difference is the insertion sequence. In scenario 2, type 3's precedes type 2's.

How 606 Is a “Decimal”

kinship serials (49:5.29 (567.9)). We now have enough to say the probability URANTIA is in a multiply inhabited solar system is much greater than 17%. This is certainly not a coincidence that the numbers work out at all! In fact, one would initially think, prior to constructing the axiom, that the probability the paradox could be resolved was close to nil. As I noted above, this abductive approach does not constitute a deductive proof. We will need an additional set of premises that can be developed and gone through a falsification process. In other words, augmented by empirical evidence to satisfy even the hardened skeptic.

What I believe we have established is a "**Provisional hypothesis.**" This is a precise and effective term for describing a hypothesis that is not yet fully validated and is subject to further testing. It accurately reflects the tentative nature of many scientific and empirical ideas during the hypothesis phase and aligns well with the iterative nature of knowledge-building processes. This is what the revelation does in more than one place throughout the papers. I did not come to this truth of reality starting with the scientific; my original aha! was catalyzed during a reading of (32:2.10 (359.7)).

“Satania is not a uniform physical system, a single astronomic unit or organization. Its 619 inhabited worlds are located in over five hundred different physical systems. Only five have more than two inhabited worlds, and of these only one has four peopled planets, while there are forty-six having two inhabited worlds.”

I have confidence in the idea that the three combined revelators⁶ created a paradox with respect to the possibility that URANTIA is in a multiply inhabited solar system. Based upon revelatory proscriptions, I trust they had to do so in order to allow for the truth of reality to evolve naturally without overrevelation. A paradox is a situation in which two seemingly contradictory or even mutually exclusive factors appear to be true at the same time. Thus, a paradoxical situation is one that has no real solution at the level it manifests itself.

We may not be correct about the horizontal-vertical type premise that makes the math work. It certainly takes the paradox to another level – a revealed level. I challenge the skeptical reader to prove the math unrelated, that we’ve manipulated it to fit the hypothesis. At a minimum it should get a “holy cow.” I’m surprised we’ve even been able to come up with even these two. (Neither one most likely represents the real combination).

If it turns out true that URANTIA is in a multiply inhabited solar system I believe is a small but necessary baby step in helping the spiritual government⁷ perform their duties as surrogates for the Planetary Prince and Adam and Eve. There are so many derivative questions to consider. Such as, did our neighbor’s Planetary Prince rebel too? What type or series are they? If one is truly the non-breathers in close proximity, how will we both operate in each other’s environments. Do they have churches, or family-centric personal religion like a neighboring planet? Is it one or two kindred cousins?

Such a life on such a planet!

Bob Debold
Fairfax, VA, August 2024

⁶ A Chief of Archangels, a Mighty Messenger, and a Life Carrier.

⁷ CF. URANTIA Book paper 114.