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DNA: Codes within the Cells

DNA, or deoxyribonucleic acid, is a very long, thin molecule that is in the nucleus of most of our body's cells. It is constructed like a ladder (also called a double helix). Each rung on the latter consists of two smaller molecules and all the rungs are spaced apart equally. Although each rung has only two molecules, there are only four different kinds of molecules used in the rungs, so each rung has two of four different kinds of molecules. There are approximately 3,000,000,000 rungs on the DNA ladder.

Each one of the rungs on the DNA ladder is like a letter on the page of a book - it means something in combination with the other rungs. Taken together the rungs are a language and they describe various things, one of which is the chemical formulas for approximately 21,000 proteins that are essential to our body. See

http://ghr.nlm.nih.gov/handbook/basics/dna.

The number of letters in one strand of DNA is roughly the same as the number of letters in 20 Encyclopedia Britannicas. See <u>Encyclopedia</u>.

Imagine that 3 billion Aces, 3 billion Kings, 3 billion Queens and 3 billion Jacks are all arranged in thousands of different groups. If these cards were arranged in groups of four in one long line that is four cards thick and 3 billion cards long, the line of cards would circle the world approximately 6 times.

DNA is so similar to letters, Dr. George Church, a biologist, has succeeded in writing his textbook into a DNA molecule and reading it out again (see Wall Street Journal, August 16, 2012). The space necessary to write his textbook into DNA was .00703 of the writing-space for one strand of DNA. It is indeed interesting how that same scientist, having written his own book and encoded it into such a small portion of DNA can conclude that the textbook was composed by an intellect, but the DNA, which is far more complex and vastly larger, was not.

Although the DNA molecule is wound up inside of the nucleus of a cell and too small to see without a microscope, the DNA molecule is approximately 3 meters long (10 feet). See Mitchel, Campbell Reece. *Biology Concept and Connections*. California, 1997. See also http://hypertextbook.com/facts/1998/StevenChen.shtml

So, the Creator has written the formulas for 21,000 essential proteins into a language inside of a molecule.

But, evolutionists do not believe in a Creator, so they conclude that the language and all of the formulas were somehow written into a 10 foot long DNA molecule by a series of amazing accidental mutations.

The nucleus of our cells also contains a method for copying specific portions of the DNA and then taking the copy to another place for reading. So, the DNA has to have codes embedded in it to show where the formula for one protein begins and ends and the chemical machinery that copies that portion has to know what those codes mean.

Assuming that the language that describes a particular protein already exists, what are the chances that 12 rungs of the DNA ladder could correctly describe a particular protein that consists of 12 different parts? The chances that an accidental mutation could arrange the rungs of the DNA ladder to describe the correct sequence for a protein with 12 different parts is 1x2x3x4x5x6x7x8x9x10x11x12 or 1 chance in 479,001,600 - and that is assuming only one rung to describe each part (when in reality the language requires that more than one rung describes only one part. So, the chances are very slim that accidental mutations could create the correct rungs to describe a protein with 12 parts.

And there are 21,000 different proteins. The real proteins that the rungs of the ladder of DNA describe are much larger and more complex than just 20 different components, and more than one rung is necessary to describe each component and some proteins contain hundreds of components. So the chances of the accidental writing of one of those proteins is 1 in a larger number than your calculator can calculate. Just try multiplying 1x2x3x4...x30. See <u>Chances</u>.

But what are the actual chances that an accidental mutation could arrange the rungs of the DNA ladder to describe the correct sequence for a protein with 20 different components? The chances are 1 in 1x2x3x4x5x6...x20, or 1 chance in 2,432,902,008,176,640,000. See <u>Chances</u>.

Let's see just how fast the evolution of such a protein would have to be if the right formula were derived half-way through the process. Half of 2,432,902,008,176,640,000 is 1,216,451,004,088,320,000. Most evolutionists believe that life first appeared between 2 billion and 4 billion years ago, so let's assume 4 billion to give evolution the most time that it allows itself. There are 35,040,000,000,000 hours in 4 billion years (365x24=8760 (hours in a year) 8760x4,000,000,000=35,040,000,000,000 hours in 4 billion years). For random mutations to hit upon the correct formula for a protein with 20 different components arranged in the correct order half way through the requisite iterations, it would require one new iteration each .00003 of an hour (35 / 1,216,451 =.0003 - we removed 12 places on each side of the equation). Suppose the correct formula was hit 1/10 of the way through. It would require a new iteration each .00288 of an hour (35 / 12,164).

Let us now suppose that the formula was hit on the first try (one chance in trillions). That leaves only 20,999 to go and millions of switches to govern their effect.

Certainly there are other variables. For instance, the arrangement of the particular components may not be as critical in some proteins as in others or some proteins may have less than 20 components. On the other hand, this model does not take into account the fact that some of the components themselves must evolve, all the components must be present, the correct rungs on the DNA ladder are written in a language (where did the language come from?), the rungs must be copied accurately, translated and used to actually create the proteins, and all of this must have evolved together.

The only logical conclusion is that a series of accidents did not create a language, write it into a molecule and then use it to inscribe the chemical formula for 21,000 proteins into a molecule.

But to evolutionists, the fact that it is

logically impossible for DNA to have occurred through a series of extremely fortunate mutations is irrelevant, because no matter how irrational evolution becomes, even if there were no evidence for it, the theory would still be followed:

Even if there were no actual evidence in favor of the Darwinian theory ... we would still be justified in preferring it over rival theories [creationism].

Richard Dawkins, *The Blind Watchmaker* (NY Norton, 1986), 287, emphasis in the original.

Here, Dr. Dawkins appears to characterize evolutionists as people who will believe what they choose to believe even if there is no evidence to support that belief. He is correct in his assessment of evolutionists. Because they obviously believe what they believe for reasons other than actual evidence.

But discoveries published in 2012 show that DNA is vastly more complex that even that.

Previous research showed that the DNA molecule provided instructions for the structure of 21,000 of separate proteins. The instructions for these 21,000 proteins comprise only 7% - 26% of all of DNA. Darwinian theorists did not know how the remaining 74% - 93% of the DNA was used, so they referred to it as "junk" left over by evolution. They argued that the "junk" was evidence of evolution and was left over from previous incarnations of humans.

However, new discoveries have shown that the junk DNA is not junk at all, but is transcribed as RNA and contains instructions for the application of other chemicals that DNA encodes. Rather than "junk" it is the tip of an iceberg of vast complexities and interactions between chemicals that have defined and encoded in the DNA molecule.

"Biology's new glimpse at a universe of noncoding DNA — what used to be called 'junk' DNA — has been fascinating and befuddling. Researchers from an international collaborative project called the Encyclopedia of DNA Elements (ENCODE) showed that in a selected portion of the genome containing just a few per cent of protein-coding sequence, between 74% and 93% of DNA was transcribed into RNA2. Much non-coding DNA has a regulatory role; small RNAs of different varieties seem to control gene expression at the level of both DNA and DNA transcripts in ways that are still only beginning to become clear. "Just the sheer existence of these exotic regulators suggests that our understanding about the most basic things such as how a cell turns on and off — is incredibly naive," says Joshua Plotkin, a mathematical biologist at the University of Pennsylvania in Philadelphia."

Life is Complicated, Erica Hayden (Nature, Vol. 464, 1 April 2010)

Each molecule may have numerous different regulatory functions and cascade into a maze of interactions

Even for a single molecule, vast swathes of messy complexity arise ... biologists have shifted to studying the p53 network [the application of p53, a protein molecule] as depicted in cartoons containing boxes, circles and arrows meant to symbolize its maze of interactions.

Life is Complicated, Erica Hayden (Nature, Vol. 464, 1 April 2010)

This previously misunderstood "junk" element of DNA is far from junk. It is the blueprint for the construction of vast networks of complex instructions relating to the implementation of the chemicals that other portions of the same DNA molecule define.

"When we started out, the idea was that signaling pathways were fairly

simple and linear," says Tony Pawson, a cell biologist at the University of Toronto in Ontario. "Now, we appreciate that the signaling information in cells is organized through networks of information rather than simple discrete pathways. It is infinitely more complex."

. . .

A new discipline - systems biology - was supposed to help scientists make sense of the complexity ... So far all these attempts have run up against the same road-block: there is no way to gather all the relevant data about each interaction ...

Life is Complicated, Erica Hayden (Nature, Vol. 464, 1 April 2010)

In September of 2012 a major study published its findings that most of the "junk" DNA is composed of chemical switches that turn on and off the protein (genes) at the appropriate times during a person's lifetime. So the junk DNA is not junk at all.

The University of Washington summarizes an article written in the September 5, 2012 issue of *Nature Magazine* showing that each gene has perhaps a dozen of these switches and there are millions of switches. See <u>http://www.washington.edu/news/2012/09/05/millionsof-dna-switches-that-power-human-genomesoperating-system-are-discovered/</u>

They then used a powerful computer to resolve millions of protein footprints. In total, they identified 8.4 million such footprints along the genome, some of which were detected in many cell types. Next, they compiled all of the short DNA sequences to which the proteins were docked. They analyzed them using a software algorithm that required hundreds of microprocessors working simultaneously. This revealed that more than 90 percent of the protein docking sites were actually slight variants of 683 different DNA words essentially a dictionary of the genome's programming language. UW today (University of Washington web magazine), September 5, 2012.

In addition to the billions of letters in the DNA ladder and the 21,000 proteins that they describe, and produce, we now see that there are millions of other instructions that switch the proteins (the genes) on and off at the appropriate time.

Are we to accept that these millions of switches also evolved by a series of these amazing accidental mutations as well? One can conclude that, believe it or accept it under one circumstance alone, and that is if one simply assumes that there is no Creator.

Given the facts that are now common knowledge, any scientist who bases his or her science on the assumption that there is no Creator has founded science on a theological belief. That is illogical. Why not simply look at the evidence, the logic, the chances and see what the facts dictate. If one permits no preliminary opinion about the existence or the nonexistence of God, is it more likely that a massive series of unseen accidental benefical mutations created DNA and all that it does, or is it more likely that DNA was created by an unseen intelligent being, a Creator. Once the evolutionist says, "I can't accept an unseen intelligence, so I will rely on evolution" once that conclusion is reached, science is no longer based upon observation but upon personal belief, personal theological belief.

CONCLUSION

The formulae for 21,000 essential human proteins are written in a *code* into a molecule that is 3 meters long; a brain encompassing an organized nanonetwork containing molecular wiring that is 109,361 *miles* in length (176,000 kilometers) (see <u>circuits</u>), which operates at lightning speed (actual speed of a human brain is unknown but a fly's brain operates at 1,000,000,000,000 cycles per second when resting) (see <u>circuits</u>); a brain with an electrical network that is as large as the leaves on the trees in a forest half the size of the U.S. (see <u>If You</u> Believe in Evolution); a shark with an electrical perception so sensitive it can perceive the current of a AA battery with one pole in Florida and the other pole in New York (see <u>shark</u>): all of this and much more was allegedly created by just fiddling around:

"The idea [of evolution] is simply that you fiddle around and you change something and then you ask, Does it improve my survival or not? And if it doesn't, then those individuals die and that idea goes away. And if it does, then those individuals succeed and you keep fiddling around, improving."

Dr. Howard Berg, biologist Evolution, National Geographic, November 2006)

You ran out of time 4 billion years ago, Dr. Berg. The unobserved-accidentalmutation theory (the fiddling around theory) was fine in the 19th Century. But now, discoveries of inconceivable complexities have left it far behind.

The fiddling around theory is the most illogical explanation coming from any intelligent human since the scientific community believed that the world was sitting on the back of a giant turtle. Such a theory is logical only to those who presume *ab initio* that there is no God and fit their biology to suit both their religion and their endowment.

All of life did not arise from accidents and pond slime. All of life was created by the Creator, whose intellect and wisdom know no bounds. This Creator will make Himself known to you, if you wish - but *only* if you wish (see <u>godtalk</u>).

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