The Bombardier Beetle  Karl C. Priest  Kanawha Creation Science Group

A small reddish beetle has earned its common name of "Bombardier". It was created with the ability to fire a chemical solution that can scare, or injure, anything the Bombardier considers as threatening. A human can even get a slight, but painful, skin burn if fired upon by this little beetle.

The Bombardier's defense consists of a complicated well designed system for storing, combining, and firing its chemical mixture. (Some shaving cream dispensers use a similar method of producing hot lather.) Two glands near the end of the Bombardier's abdomen store separated amounts of hydrogen peroxide (an antiseptic) and hydroquinones (used for photographic developer). A sphincter muscle squeezes the fluid from the glands into a type of firing chamber where other chemicals are mixed, at just the right instant, causing pressure to build up. The result is bad news for anything messing with the Bombardier.

The Bombardier can aim this hot (100 degree) substance with excellent accuracy and can repeat fire dozens of times. Each shot sounds like a small pop-gun and also produces a puff of smoke with a vile smell. Other nearby beetles will join in the firing.

Let's use a "Just So" story of evolution to explain how the Bombardier Beetle could have developed this amazing ability. Dr. Gary Parker tells of a beetle, minding his own business, that is zapped by a magical cosmic ray and suddenly has a volume of hydrogen peroxide. What good was this for the beetle's survival? The beetle would just fizz to death. What if the magical cosmic ray caused a volume of hydroquinones instead? Well, if the beetle had a camera it might come in handy. Or, imagine two rays hitting the beetle and supplying it with all the chemicals. BOOM! The beetle blows itself up.

No reasonable person believes hot shaving lather dispensers happened by themselves with time and chance. Bombardier Beetles didn't happen by accident either. They are a wonderful example of a Creator with a plan and a purpose.

DEVOotional  CREATION AND THE NEW YEAR

"In the beginning God created the heaven and the earth" (Genesis 1:1). It is appropriate for Christians to begin the New Year by referring back to the beginning of the very first year. The first verse of God's word is also its most important verse, since it is the foundation on which everything else is built. Even God's great work of salvation is irrelevant and futile without His prior work of creation, for only the Creator of all things could ever become the Savior of all things. If a person really believes Genesis 1:1, he or she should have no difficulty believing anything else in the Bible. The very first object of saving faith (Hebrews 10:39) is the fact of special creation by the word of God (Hebrews 11:3). The verse is comprehensive and scientific, viewing space ("the heavens") and matter ("the earth") as functioning in a framework (Continued on page 4)
What are the odds of a 200 part system coming together by chance?

First of all, a 200 part system is impossibly simple compared to the real world. This is only because the numbers would be even more difficult to demonstrate. Besides, the 200 part system is sufficient to show the impossibility of Evolution occurring.

- N.A.S.A. uses a 400 part system of a protein molecule.
- Soo.... 1 X 2 X 3 X 4 X 5....X200 is the same as 200!
- When you multiply this out, you get 1 in \(10^{375}\). That's 10 with 375 zeros after it. If you tried to link and un-link the parts in a 200 part system, a billion times a second, for thirty billion years, that would be only \(10^9\) (times a second attempts) X
- \(10^{18}\) (seconds in thirty billion years) divided by 200 (parts) = \(5 \times 10^{37}\) thus:
- \(10^9 \times 10^{18}/200\) or Only \(5 \times 10^{14}\) tries!
- But there are \(10^{375}\) possible combinations!

This is not even enough time to try one complete set of attempts. Don't forget that you can have no errors in the code at all. If it's a-2-j-7-m-o-d-l-9-.......exactly, then that is exactly what is required. But the problem becomes worse as you only have a short time in which to do this as the second law of thermodynamics is working against you. There is an old saying in science, that says:

"WHATEVER CHANCE CREATES, IT ALMOST INSTAN¬
TANEously ANNIHILATES."

Here is another example with amino acids, and proteins. This one is given by Christopher Wills in Wisdom Of The Genes, p.240-242:

Suppose you trained monkeys (that's right-monkeys) to use protein-making machines, and they could EACH produce a 347 part protein in one hour. But the order of the proteins it is incapable of organizing. This is the chance. The same machine is capable of randomly inserting any amino acid at any time and at any place along the chain. Then suppose that you had enough monkeys to fill the universe, each monkey and his machine taking up about 10 cubic meters of space. Judging by the present known size of the universe, the size can be estimated to be around \(10^{33}\) light years. Being able to fit \(10^{38}\) cubicles (monkey, machine and all) in each light year. To recap, you need something 347 parts long, exactly in the correct order, with 20 different type parts to choose for each of the 347 places. In other words, for EACH spot on the chain you have twenty chances, or symbols to choose from, but only ONE is correct. Also, the try is random, not specific at all. Any symbol could come out at any time. What would be the chance of the monkey and the machine producing a protein known as dehydrogenase?

**THERE IS ONLY ONE CHANCE IN:**

\[
20 \times 20 \times 20 \times 20 \times 20 \ldots \text{...} 347 \text{ TIMES, OR...}
\]

1 in \(20^{37}\) which is the same as \(10^{444}\).
(Continued from page 2)

whole universe full of tornadoes!

- he also calculates these odds as the same odds as throwing 50,000 double sixes in a row, first time, without fail!

The late Dr. A. E. Wilder-Smith, with three earned PhDs, says that the odds are similar to dropping as many letters for his monogram (AEWS) as you want out of the window of an airplane which is flying at a very low altitude and getting them to land on the roof of his house the first time in the correct order. He argues that this is rationalized by evolutionists by saying that you can give the whole process more time and surely it is inevitable. So he says, "let's fly higher!" The chances are now even worse, for he says that the letters would now spread even further out and away from the house! Fly even higher, and the letters he says would spread all over England, with none landing anywhere near his house!

2. How Small Is This Number?

Mathematicians agree that up to 1 in $10^{50}$ is considered impossible. You can see the faith required to believe that something so much smaller than an impossible number is declared SCIENCE, while any idea of a Creator or designer being responsible is considered religious.

- The chances of being struck by lightning is 1 in 600,000.
- The chances of winning the lottery on average is about 1 in 5.2 million.
- The amount of particles in the known universe is $10^{80}$. This was calculated by Sir Arthur Eddington, a British astronomer.
- The amount of electrons that you could fit into the known universe with no empty spaces, is $10^{130}$.

3. 30 BILLION YEARS IS $10^{18}$ SECONDS

Compare $10^{75}$ To $10^{18}$. Does this sound reasonable? Besides, a 200 part system is impossibly simple. This is a quote from Fred Hoyle, in “The Big Bang in Astronomy”, New Scientist 92 (Nov. 19, 1981):526.

"I don't know how long it is going to be before astronomers generally recognize that the combinatorial arrangement of not even one among the many thousands of biopolymers on which life depends could have been arrived at by natural processes here on the earth. Astronomers will have a little difficulty at understanding this because they will be assured by biologists that this is not so, the biologists in turn having been assured in their turn by others that this is not so. The "others" are a group of persons who believe, quite openly, in mathematical miracles. They advocate the belief that tucked away in nature, outside of normal physics, there is a law which performs miracles (provided the miracles are in the aid of biology). This curious situation sits oddly on a profession that for long has been dedicated to coming up with logical explanations of biblical miracles.... It is quite otherwise, however, with the modern mathematical miracle workers, who are always found living in the twilight fringes of thermodynamics."

Dr. Larry Butler, Professor of Biochemistry at Purdue University, likes to give this challenge to his students:

"Assume any primordial soup you wish, with all the organic chemicals you specify-enzymes, nucleic acids, sugars, or whatever you like, as long as they are not living. The mixture must be sterile, of course, to prevent bacterial contamination. Assume also any kind of atmosphere you wish, including any compounds known to be present anywhere in the known solar system. Then assume any kind of energy you wish-electrical sparks, heat, ultraviolet light, or any known form of energy. Now show, either analytically or experimentally, that a truly living organism will arise out of this set of materials."

To date, not one person has stepped forward to accept this challenge.

**Darwin Day at the University of Tennessee**  **Schedule of Events 2000 (for January and February)**

**Monday, Jan 24**

2:00 PM Technical Lecture: “Does Climate Drive Evolution”  Dr. Donald Prothero Paleontologist, Occidental College, Auditorium, Science and Engineering

7:00 PM Public Lecture: “Evolution? The Fossils Say Yes!”  Dr. Donald Prothero Shiloh Room, University Center

**Wednesday, Feb 9 5:00 PM – 8:00 PM**

Teacher’s Workshop: “Teaching the Fact and Theory of Evolution – Meshing Classroom Practice with Science and with Common Sense”  Organized by Dr. Ken Miller, Brown University, Shiloh Room, University Center.

**Thursday Feb. 10**

8:30 AM – 5:00 PM Information Booth, Lobby, University Center

8:30 AM – 5:00 PM Book Display, Campus Bookstore, University Center

Times TBA Film Festival, Room 221, University Center

7:00 PM Keynote Address: “Finding Darwin’s God: On the Apparent Conflict Between Evolution and Religion”  Dr. Ken Miller, Auditorium, University Center

For more information:


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Volume 1, Issue 8  Page 3
of time ("in the beginning"). This space/matter/time “continuum” (as scientists call it) has not existed eternally, nor is it still being created, both of which heresies are standard beliefs of all forms of evolutionary pantheism (including most of the world’s religions and philosophies, ancient or modern). It was created and even completed in the past. This foundation of all foundations is, clearly, the only sure foundation upon which one should build a life, or an organization, or anything. A firm renewal of one’s commitment to special creation, as literally recorded by divine revelation in the inerrant word of God is thus the proper way to begin a New Year, or a new home, or a new career, or a new family, or any phase of a Christian life. This is the time to confess and forsake all doubts, and trust God’s word! In the beginning of the first year, God created all things. At the beginning of this year, we should resolve to believe and obey all things in His word. Henry M. Morris