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a subset comprising some 4% of the genome, is crucial" (*Time*, 10/9/06, p48). Evo's think they're **so smart** -- if they can't find a **purpose** for some DNA, they just say it "is, in fact, **junk** -- the residue of evolutionary events long forgotten and **no longer relevant**" (ibid, p48). Data is once again ... contradicting evo-opinions! **Maybe** they'll start ... **thinking?** Dr J

POINTS OF ORIGINS with Dr. Charles Jackson



In Dec '05, dog-mouse-man DNA showed a "core of mammalian genomes" that is the same

(*Nature*, 12/8/05) -- makes sense -- they're **all mammals**. The surprise was "only a **minority** of the critical DNA codes for **proteins**. Most of the sequences **control the actions of protein coding genes**." (Science News, 12/10/05, p374) "It's **possible** this **noncoding DNA** contains signals that decide when [other] genes are switched on or off." This makes the whole evo-proof of "junk DNA" **fall apart** -- and **evo's know it!**

"The noncoding regions of the genome -- **once known dismissively as junk DNA** ...

You can subscribe to Dr. Charles Jackson's *Points of Origins* e-mail posts by going to: www.pointsoforigins.com

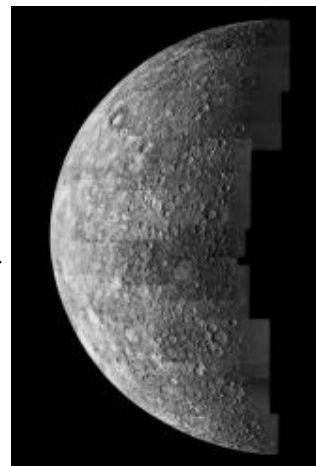
ANOTHER LIVING FOSSIL

National Geographic News (<http://news.nationalgeographic.com/news/2007/05/070503-oldest-lobster.html>) reports that a juvenile lobster fossil 110 million years was found in Mexico's Chiapas State in 1995. This is about 20 million years older than the previous known specimen.

As usual, the lobster looks the same as modern-day fossils. A spokesperson said, "The important message that we can give is that the evolution of these groups of crustaceans needs to be reviewed, since the specialists of the world thought that it started much later. We could call them living fossils, since they have had a consistent morphologic pattern throughout many millions of years."

MAYBE MERCURY ISN'T OLD?

Astronomers have determined that the planet Mercury has a molten core. After six years of radar probing of the planet's surface, it was decided that there are small variations in its spin. This is best explained by the sloshing of a liquid core. However, the problem for the astronomers is that they



calculate that because of Mercury's small size, it should have cooled and solidified long ago. Their first ad hoc explanation was: "...sulphur infiltrated the planet's iron core and lowered its melting temperature." But then they added that that idea had to be abandoned: "But at the distance from the sun...the high temperature would have kept sulfur as a vapor and so prevented it from being incorporated into the planet." So, to save their old age view, they add another ad hoc explanation: "...Mercury...grabbed sulfur and other material from beyond their immediate surroundings."

ALL SCIENCES ARE NOT EQUAL

Unfortunately, not all sciences are born equal. You may have noticed that scientists in some fields of research always seem to speak or write with more assurance of their results than scientists in other fields. And sometimes, even scientists in the same field appear to exude different degrees of certainty of their results. Some make bold claims, and others are careful to use caution. How then does one know for sure how certain a scientist's findings really are?

Actually, it is not easy and people may be surprised how controversial findings in science can be, even in the so called "hard" sciences. Typically, scientists like to think that they have done careful research and that their results are true as they have reported them. In actuality though, when assumptions are accounted for, and the results of other scientific research are examined, it becomes evident that all is not cut and dry. The objectivity that science claims for itself is often unwarranted.

According to insiders, when scientific journals pick and choose what is important to publish, one also discovers that many reviewing editors are quite biased. Also, writers sometimes embellished or emphasized things to promote a popular issue, like the environment, evolution, or the search for extraterrestrial life. And when scientific news filters down to popular magazines, truth can become even more compromised. Unfortunately, ulterior motives come into play in scientific research and probably the top two are grant money and professional pride.

However, some sciences inherently have a higher degree of certainty in their findings.



One way to determine which sciences are more "sure" is to find the ones where scientists argue less frequently! Take chemistry for example. Chemists seldom argue. They seem pretty certain of their claims. A chemist will probably never say, for example, that he may have discovered a new compound. It

is either he did or he didn't discover a new compound. Even more importantly is that other chemists will seldom dispute a fellow chemist's research. A lack of disagreement therefore makes one suspect that chemistry is a field where things are pretty certain.



At the other extreme, one could cite the science of paleontology, or the study of fossils. When one examines what paleontologists say, one finds a lot of disagreement. If paleontologists stuck to the fossils themselves; their shape, composition, dimensions, where they were found, etc., there would be no disagreements. But when they start to make interpretations of their findings, such as when it lived, where it lived, what its ancestors were, and what it evolved into, then there is plenty of room for disagreement.

When creationists point out the disagreement that paleontologists have among themselves, they respond indignantly that evolution is not what they are disputing; but the details of how evolution occurred! In other words, they want to give the appearance that evolution is a fact since they are in complete harmony about that.

But, this is kind of like saying that no Communist disputes that communism is the best economic system! If one did happen to dispute it, then he ceases being a Communist. Also, in a similar circumstance, there is plenty of disagreement among social scientists as to the causes of poverty. And similarly, no social scientist disputes that poverty exists; and that is because poverty can be measured and we can see it. It is the causes of poverty that can't be measured, and that is where the arguments arise. But in evolution's case, neither evolution, nor its causes have been measured. Therefore, people have reason to doubt that it even exists.

Sometimes sciences are grouped into two classes: operational science and historical science. Chemistry is defined as an operational science because you can conduct experiments, whereas paleontology is referred to as a historical science because it involves how things were in the past. And since no one can conduct experiments in the

past without a time machine, there is a lot of wiggle room for interpretations and uncertainties.

However, there are other things besides a historical component that makes a science uncertain. Psychology, for example, has the problem that we can't read another person's mind to know for sure what is going on in the brain. We can measure a person's respiration, perspiration, heart rate, and even brain waves, but that also is uncertain and subject to interpretation. And, as can be expected, psychology is a field where there is a lot of disagreement.

Another factor that makes a science uncertain (or "soft", as some scientists refer to it) is how far removed the object of study is in time and space. This obviously disqualifies astronomy and cosmology

from a high degree of certainty. While astronomers and cosmologists would prefer to deny it,



their research is usually loaded with assumptions and speculative interpretation of data. Usually, the further away an object is in space, the less sure one can be in saying anything confident about it, other than the nature of the light that comes through the telescope.

So in actuality, each field of science, and even the subdisciplines within each field has its own confidence level. Biology could be considered a "hard" science, but it depends upon which subdiscipline one is talking about. When a scientist talks about an experiment in physiology, the results will have one level of certainty; the results of cell biology will have another level; and the results of a DNA experiment yet another. And if a scientist is talking about evolutionary biology, then there obviously is a high degree of uncertainty because he is speculating about history.

Basically, the bottom line is that everything a scientist says should be taken with a grain of salt - even scientists who are creationists! This means that scientific statements are tentative and unsure at best - and that is because fallible man make them. The only thing that is sure is the

word of God. And that is what we are to put our trust in.

It is now known that bipedal dinosaurs walk with their heads forward and their tails erect and off of the ground. But it has only been recently that paleontologists thought that all bipedal dinosaurs had a posture that was upright like a kangaroo, with its tail dragging the ground. Even so, they were perplexed that fossilized dinosaur footprint trails never showed trail drag imprints. This would have been the case if indeed they did have an upright posture.

Even fossils bones of bipedal dinosaurs did not fit the old theory. This was because the bones would not fit together very well if mounted in an upright posture. Their solution? Break the bones and make them fit! This was a common practice according to a sign at the Museum of Natural History and Science in Cincinnati, Ohio.

According to a PBS documentary, "Lucy", the fossilized partial skeleton of what was once thought to be a transition between ape and man, was originally thought to be too ape-like. Owen Lovejoy, a well known paleontologist, was studying a cast of the single pelvis bone that had been found. He decided that it should look more like a human pelvis than a chimpanzee pelvis. He therefore decided that some animal must have stepped on it and coincidentally misshaped it into the shape of a chimpanzee pelvis, prior to its being fossilized. His solution? Break the pelvis, grind out some of the excess material, and then glue it back together so that it looked more like a human pelvis! True story! We got the video, thanks to Dr. Jackson of *Points of Origins*.



PRIMITIVE PLANTS?

Experiments are showing that plants are more complex than first thought. Sometimes, plants can recognize other plants. Recent experiments have shown a little beach plant can recognize other plants that grew from its own mother's seeds. Other experiments show that sibling sea rocket plants (a member of the mustard family) don't compete with each other as fiercely as unrelated plants do.

It has also been known that flowers of many species can tell their own pollen from that of another plant. Also, it is known that root systems grow differently depending on whether they bump into themselves or the roots of a neighbor, or even whether that neighbor comes from the local community or a distant one. In some cases, even seed abundances seem to be controlled by whether or not nearby plants are kin or strangers.

— *Science News*, June 16, 2007, p. 372

Scientists are now proposing that Mars may have been tilted 50 degrees some 2 or 3 billion years ago, E.T. (evolutionary time), although they don't know what would have caused it. They have proposed the tilt because of what they believe is an ancient shore line, varies in elevation by about 2.5 km. The shoreline, they think, is evidence that Mars once was covered with water. Some scientists have proposed that the earth was once tilted, due to the upwelling of hot material from the earth's mantle which caused our planet to tip completely on its side some 800 million years ago, E.T.

— *Science News*, June 16, 2007, p. 374

"It is right and proper to draw the attention of the non-scientific public to the disagreements about evolution. But some recent remarks of evolutionists show that they think this unreasonable. This situation where scientific men rally to the defense of a doctrine they are unable to define scientifically, much less demonstrate with scientific rigor, attempting to maintain its credit with the public by suppression of criticism and the elimination of difficulties, is abnormal and undesirable in science."

— Thompson, W. R., "Introduction," *Origin of Species*, by Charles Darwin (Dutton: *Everyman's*



Library, 1956), p. xxii. Dr. Thompson was Director of the Commonwealth Institute of Biological Control, Ottawa.

GREEK FLOOD STORY

The ancient Greeks believed in a flood that destroyed all mankind similar to the account described in the Bible. In the Greek myth, the flood took place during the age of Deucalion 1 (1450 BC). Deucalion 1 and his wife, Pyrrha, were warned in advance of the coming deluge and told to construct a chest and fill it with provisions. The source of the coming deluge was the anger of Zeus towards mankind. Zeus had become disgusted at the degeneration of humans, and in particular, the practice of human sacrifice. Zeus assembled the gods and decided to wipe out mankind by water. Deucalion 1 and Pyrrha survived the flood by floating in the chest they built. They floated in the chest for nine days and nine nights and came to rest on a mountain in Phocis. Once Zeus realized that the world was a stagnant pool of water survived only by Deucalion 1 and Pyrrha, he stopped the rains and restored the land. In order to repopulate the world, the gods instructed the survivors to cast stones over their heads. The stones cast by Deucalion 1 became men and the



stones cast by Pyrrha became women. This recreation by stone was used to explain the hardness of the human race. There are a great number of differences between the Greek myth and the account of the flood described in the Bible. For example, there is evidence that the biblical flood took place closer to 2300 BC. Furthermore, unlike the Greek myth, Noah and his family were saved along with sufficient animal life to repopulate the planet. However, both accounts maintain that the world was destroyed as the result of mankind's sin, and the human race was saved as a result of a few individuals leading a righteous life.

“The behaviors that led to the origin of man are not available for study, and must be reconstructed from fragmentary fossils, the anatomy and behaviors of contemporary primates but there is wide area for disagreements. Doctrines which seemed certain in one decade may crumble under the impact of new discoveries, new methods of dating, new experiments. Under these circumstances, it may be more useful to regard the study of evolution as a game rather than as a science. Uncertainties are far greater than might be thought from reading scientific papers and, in spite of the emphasis on evolutionary theory, there is no agreement on the rules of the evolutionary game.”

Washburn, S. L., “Study of Evolution—More of a Game Than a Science,” Abstracts, 71st Annual Meeting (Washington, D.C.: American Anthropological Association, 1972), p. 121

“The mentioned conditions and quite a few other factors have led to a disagreement between a very strong establishment (E) and a small group of dissidents (D) to which the present author belongs. This is nothing remarkable. What is more remarkable and regrettable is that it seems to be almost impossible to start a serious discussion between E and D. As a dissident is in a very unpleasant situation, I am sure that D would be very glad to change their views as soon as E gives convincing arguments. But the argument ‘all knowledgeable people agree that...’ (with the tacit addition that by not agreeing you demonstrate that you are a crank) is not a valid argument in science. If scientific issues always were decided by Gallup polls and not by scientific arguments science will very soon be petrified forever.”

Alfvén, Hannes, “Memoirs of a Dissident Scientist,” *American Scientist*, vol. 76 (May/June 1988), p. 251.

“Considerable disagreements between scientists have arisen about detailed evolutionary steps. The problem is that the principal evolutionary processes from prebiotic molecules to progenotes have not been proven by experimentation and that the environmental conditions under which these processes occurred are not known. Moreover, we do not actually know where the genetic information of all living cells originates, how the first replicable polynucleotides (nucleic acids) evolved, or

how the extremely complex structure-function relationships in modern cells came into existence.”

– Dose, Professor Dr. Klaus, “The Origin of Life; More Questions than Answers,” *Interdisciplinary Science Reviews*, vol. 13, no. 4 (1988), p. 348.

According to a *National Geographic*

report, a fossil skull recently uncovered in Peru reveals that penguins about the size of



people once roamed the country's Atacama Desert more than 30 million years ago (evolutionary time). The newly described species is shown above next to a skull of the only modern penguin living in Peru.

A new study describes the species, which stood about 4.5 feet (1.5 meters) tall and sported a foot-long (0.3-meter-long) beak. The study also describes a smaller ancient penguin species found in the same region.

Many fossil animals that are found intact, are found in a classic “head-thrown-back position, called the “dead-bird” pose. Archaeopteryx, as well as some Tyrannosaurus rex fossils have been found in this curious pose, as well as many other animals. Paleontologists have traditionally attributed this to rigor mortis, drying of the carcass, or the shifting of bones by water currents.

Cynthia Marshall Faux, A paleontologist and veterinarian, has seen the same pose in

PALEOZOO



many modern animals with central nervous system damage called opisthotonus, which is common in animals suffering from oxygen deprivation, known as hypoxia. It is also seen in certain bacterial infections such as meningitis and toxins from certain algal blooms.

Kevin Padian, co-author of a study, on this phenomena, says “The pattern we see here with dinosaurs, pterosaurs, and mammals, is consistent with the problem of hypoxia....” Padian and Faux tested the rigor mortis theory by using dead birds. However, the birds exhibited no change in position as the post-mortem muscle and skeletal changes set in.

Dessication of the muscles and tendons also did not have the desired effect when carcasses were left to dry in Styrofoam “peanuts” for up to three months. Also, the effect of water currents should force the limbs, head, and tail in the same direction, the authors conclude.



Instead, the authors think that the pose is due to the fact that the animals died from hypoxia. They were then buried rapidly, so that the posture remained undisturbed.

(Like, maybe they were drowned or asphyxiated by

volcanic gases; as in the Flood?!)
– *Science News*, June 23, 2007, p. 390