

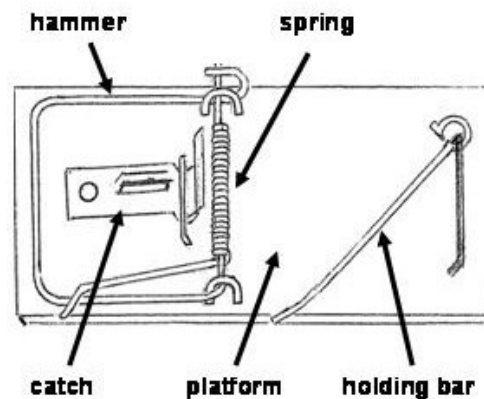
The Physical & Biblical Evidence for Creation

IV. The Challenge of Complexity

Introduction

Continuing with Francis Bacon's idea that God has written two books – the book of creation and the book of Scripture – we will continue today with a look at the book of creation. Advances in science in the last century have been truly amazing. But one of the most amazing things of all is that there appears to be no end to the complexity of this universe.

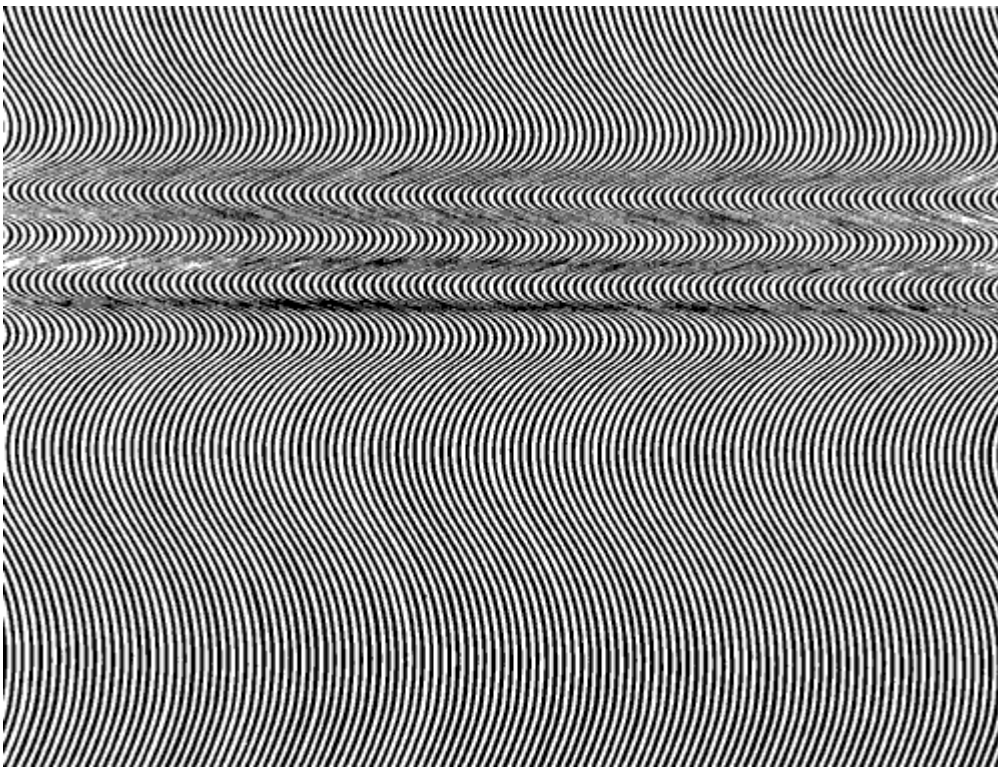
1. Is man capable of discovering everything? This is the way the true materialist view the universe.
 - A. British Liberal Optimism – the belief that scientific advances have made life almost perfect and that there is nothing left to discover.
 - B. Bertrand Russell – “Physical science is thus approaching the stage when it will be complete, and therefore uninteresting.” (*Why I Am Not a Christian*, p. 49).
 - C. John Horgan's book *The End of Science* (1996).
2. Everything we have observed tells us just the opposite. The more we know, the more we don't know. This world appears to be infinitely complex.
3. The Argument from Design
 - A. William Paley (1743-1805) – [*Natural Theology; or, Evidences of the Existence and Attributes of the Deity*](#)
 - B. Dr. Michael Behe – *Darwin's Black Box*



4. The challenge to design... Francis Collins

5. An Example of Design... The Seeing Eye

Darwin said... “If it could be demonstrated that any complex organ existed which could not possibly have been formed by numerous, successive, slight modifications, my theory would absolutely break down.”



6. Should we question the authority of Darwin? Ben Stine

<http://www.expelledthemovie.com>

How can we decide whether Darwinian natural selection can account for the amazing complexity that exists at the molecular level? Darwin himself set the standard when he acknowledged,

Some systems seem very difficult to form by such successive modifications—I call them irreducibly complex. An everyday example of an irreducibly complex system is the humble mousetrap. It consists of (1) a flat wooden platform or base; (2) a metal hammer, which crushes the mouse; (3) a spring with extended ends to power the hammer; (4) a catch that releases the spring; and (5) a metal bar that connects to the catch and holds the hammer back. You can't catch a mouse with just a platform, then add a spring and catch a few more mice, then add a holding bar and catch a few more. All the pieces have to be in place before you catch any mice.

The Eye

The Complex Cell

Amazing Tremors

An even more amazing characteristic of tremors is that the seemingly tireless muscles that produce them wobble your eye 30 to 70 times each second. If sound were involved, that would be fast enough to produce a low-pitched hum. Amazingly, on average, each of your eyes completes one million of these tiny circular motions in 5 1/2 hours. The number of tremors taking place in a lifetime is astronomical.

Even though tremors are not large enough to be visible without great magnification, you could not see properly without them.

For example, consider what would happen if these and all other eye movements stopped while you were staring at someone's face. The light-sensing cells in your retina would quickly 'stabilize', and cease to send updated information to your brain, causing the image you perceive to fade into a uniform gray within seconds. If the person you were staring at smiled, their mouth, and only their mouth, would momentarily reappear out of a visual field of nothingness!

(This has been done in the laboratory,² and was said to have looked like the smile of the Cheshire cat in Alice in Wonderland.)

The reappearance of only part of the face would happen because only the mouth moved, causing a momentary change in that part of the picture which the retina was seeing at the time.

Thus, continued change in the light projected on each retinal cell in your eyes is crucial for constant vision. Hence the need for tremors that God has made to supply the retina with a slightly shifting picture many times each second. Without the tremors, which are probably the most critical muscular phenomenon for normal vision, you would have to be constantly looking about or continuously altering the light on a subject to see anything for longer than a few seconds at a time.

During drift movements, the eye drifts relatively slowly and smoothly off the target where you are looking until it reaches an angle equal to about 12 times the size of a tremor. At this time the eye automatically jerks, via a 'saccade', back to its original position. Saccades, which happen up to several times a second, are very quick, jerk-type movements that are used to correct for whatever drifts are occurring.

Eyes on the Move

An interesting way to observe the effect that drifts, along with associated saccades, have on your visual system is to carefully study the type of graphic shown here. This experiment will show you that your eyes are indeed moving all the time, even when you think that they are not.

Look intently at the center of [this graphic](#). You should see a slight 'shimmering, psychedelic effect' that seems to jump about no matter how hard you work at holding your eyes still. This phenomenon can be enhanced if, while you stare at the figure, you stand at arm's length, then twist or turn your body. Each time a random drift or small saccade takes place, the new picture

your retina sees appears to interplay or interfere with a lingering 'after image' of what was seen a fraction of a second earlier. That is what causes the appearance of a shifting motion within the graphic. In this experiment, the tremors are too small and too fast to have a noticeable effect.

Large saccades are employed in scanning motions like reading. As you read this article, you may think your vision is smoothly scanning, letter by letter, or word by word, but this is not so. Instead, the precise alignment of your two eyes is synchronously hopping along, via those 'jerk-back' saccades, following each line. During the moment a saccade is occurring, your vision is blurred, so between the hops are momentary stops which give the eye-brain system time to decipher the printed letters into meaningful phrases.

Think of how challenging it would be for a human to create the genetic code needed to produce the fine-tuned nervous system that makes precise, coordinated muscular movements (like tremors, drifts and saccades) possible. When Darwin made his assumptions about the origin of organs, he had nothing like the knowledge we have today. Had he been aware of the need for the tiny precision humming. Hopping eyeball motions that are going on all the time while we are awake, he may have abandoned his theory of evolution as foolish and impracticable speculation.

There is indeed abundant evidence of the Creator's handiwork in all we see around us, and what we see with.

