

Old Earth or Young Earth ?

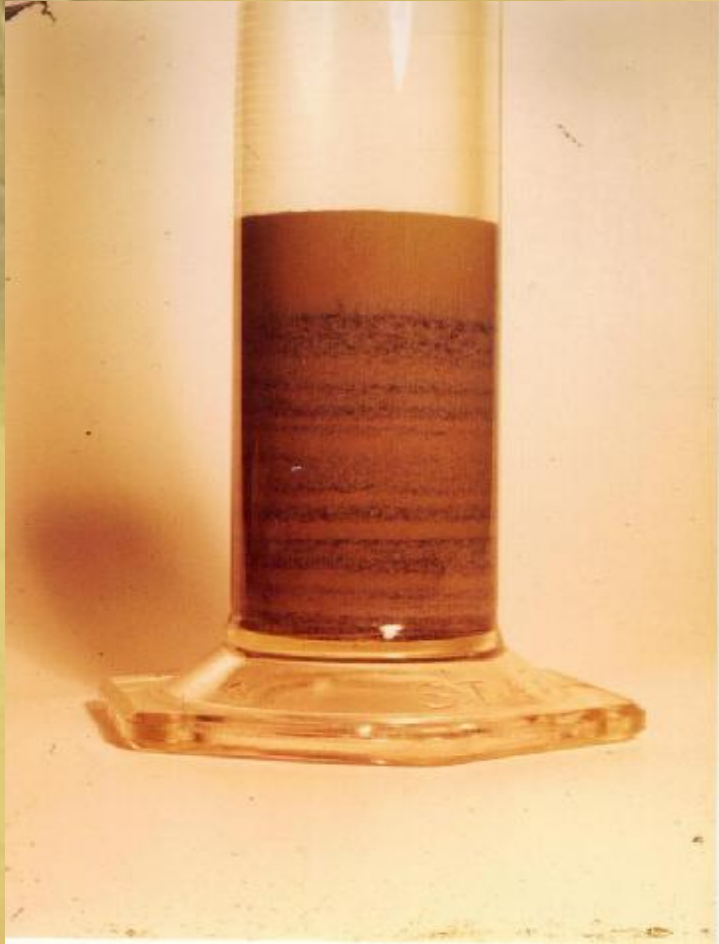
Christian C. Tiews,
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1 Peter 3:15 Always be prepared to give an answer to everyone who asks you to give the reason for the hope that you have.

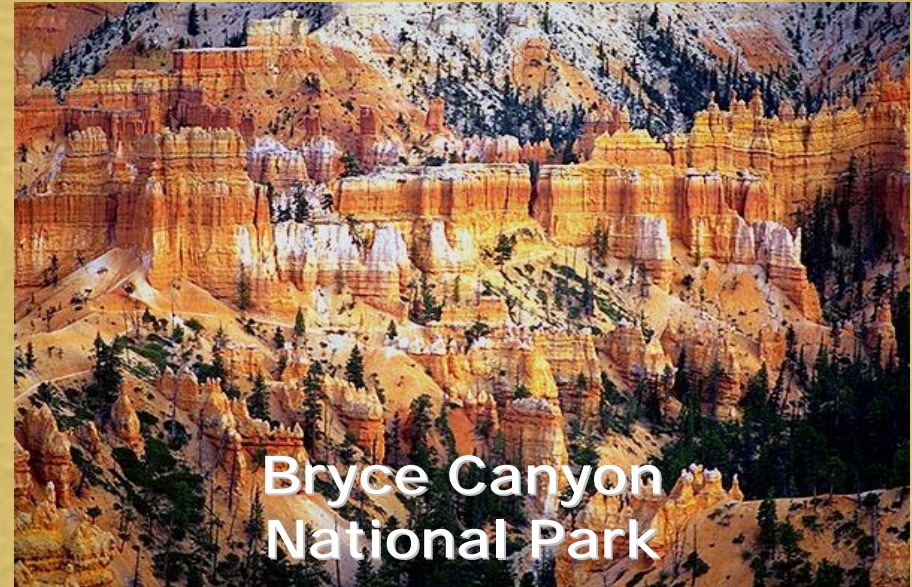
Northwest Creation Network
<http://nwcreation.net>

Presentation based on slides by Chris Ashcraft

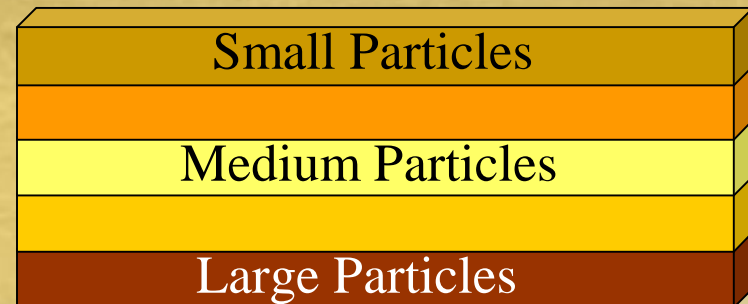
Background: Strata Formation



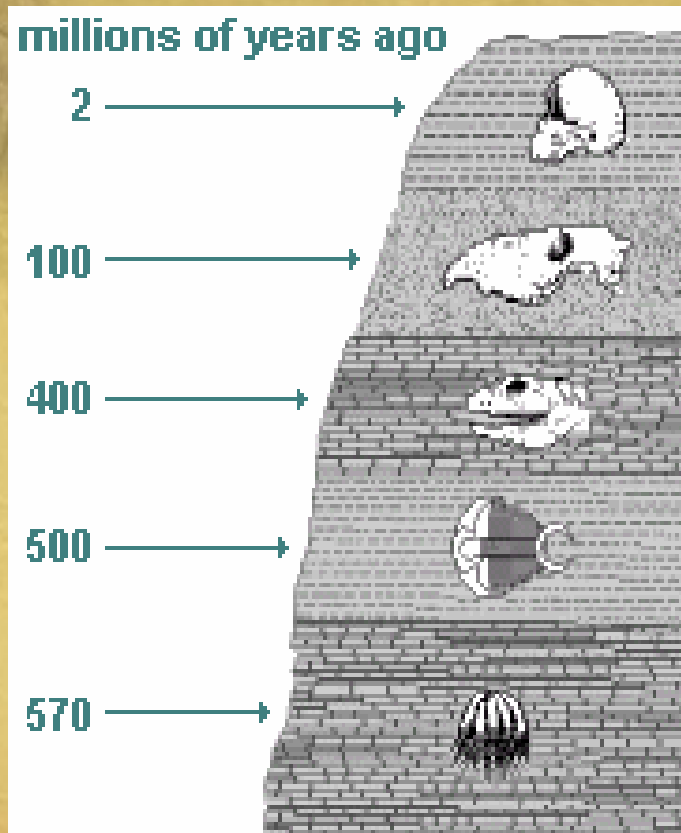
Layers form anytime particles are suspended in fluid then allowed to settle.



Bryce Canyon National Park



Background: Index Fossils

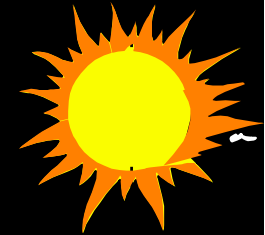


Geological Column

- Particular layers in the geological column are identified by the unique fossil they contain. (*index fossils*)
- Index fossils must be widespread on earth, but restricted to a limit thickness of strata.
- Most index fossils are marine organisms such as the trilobite or ammonite.

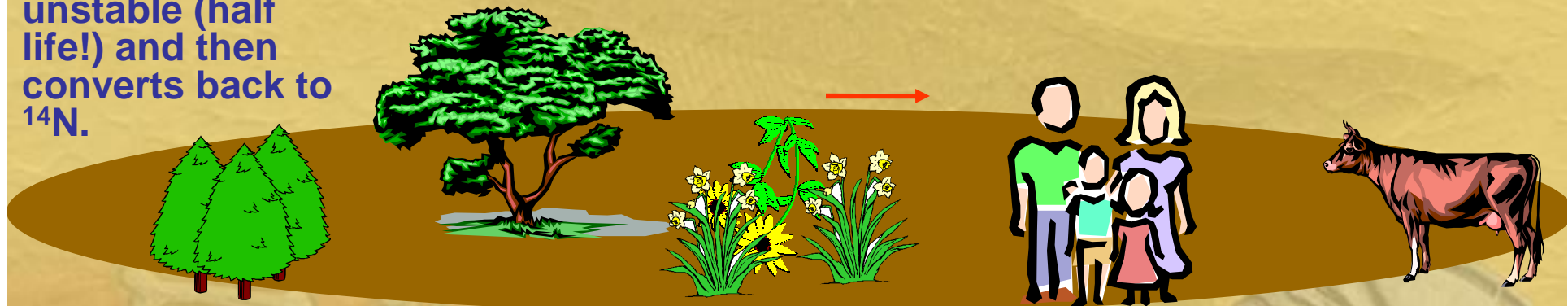
Background: ^{14}C Production and Use

Cosmic Rays (radiation)



Collision with atmospheric cosmic rays turns ^{14}N into radioactive ^{14}C , which is however unstable (half life!) and then converts back to ^{14}N .

^{14}C combines with oxygen to form carbon dioxide (CO_2), mixing with the normal ^{14}C in the air.

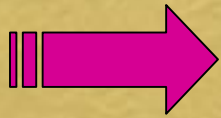


^{14}C is produced in the atmosphere and assimilated into plants as carbon dioxide, then passes through the food chain.

Background: ^{14}C Production and Use

- We can count the $^{14}\text{C} / ^{12}\text{C}$ in the air and in living organisms
- When an organism dies, the ^{14}C atoms which decay are no longer replaced, so the amount of ^{14}C in that once-living thing *decreases* as time goes on.
- In other words, the $^{14}\text{C} / ^{12}\text{C}$ ratio (= ratio of radioactive parent isotope / non-radioactive daughter isotope) **gets smaller.**
- ...**And we have a “clock” that starts ticking when something dies.**

Background: Problem with ^{14}C Dating



^{14}C
decays

Organisms are dated by measuring the radioactive emissions of ^{14}C .

Critical Assumption - The amount of ^{14}C produced in the atmosphere has been **constant** throughout history.

Problem - It has been determined that the present production rate of ^{14}C exceeds the decay rate by as much as 25 percent.

Other factors that impact the results:

- The amount of cosmic rays penetrating the earth's atmosphere varies
- The strength of the earth's magnetic field varies
- Volcanoes emit CO_2 as well, falsifying the ^{12}C amount.

Background: Igneous Isotope Age Dating



Igneous Dike

Radioactive isotopes - Used to date igneous rocks and thereby determine a minimum age of sedimentary strata associated with them. Sedimentary rocks can not be directly dated with isotopic dating techniques.

Assumptions:

- Original amount of parent isotope?
- Original amount of daughter?
- **Constant** rates?
- Closed system?

Problem with the Old Earth Model: Excessive Age Dating is Faulty

- Lava flows at Mt. Ngaurhoe, New Zealand
 - Potassium-argon: 275,000
 - Reality: 1949, 1954, 1975 ¹
- Mt. Etna basalt, Sicily
 - Potassium-argon: 140,000 – 350,000
 - Reality: 1972 ²
- Hualalai basalt, Hawaii
 - Potassium-argon: 1.4 – 22 million
 - Reality: AD 1801 ³
- Sunset Crater, Northern Arizona
 - Potassium-argon: 200,000+
 - Reality: AD 1065 ⁴



Mt. Etna, Sicily

1 [A.A. Snelling](#), The Cause of Anomalous Potassium-argon 'Ages' for Recent Andesite Flows at Mt. Ngaurhoe, New Zealand, and the Implications for Potassium-argon 'Dating,' *Proc. 4th ICC*, pp.503-525, 1998.

2-4 [S. Austin](#), Excess argon within mineral concentrates from the new dacite lava dome at Mount St Helens volcano, *TJ* 10(3):335-343 December 1996

Problem with the Old Earth Model: Radiocarbon Decay Rates Not Constant

“The age of our globe is presently thought to be some 4.5 billion years, based on radio decay rates of uranium and thorium. Such 'confirmation' may be short-lived, as nature is not to be discovered quite so easily. There has been in recent years the horrible realization that radio decay rates are not as constant as previously thought, nor are they immune to environmental influences. And this could mean that the atomic clocks are reset during some global disaster, and events which brought the Mesozoic to a close may not be 65 million years ago but, rather, within the age of memory of man.”

(Frederic B. Jueneman “*Secular Catastrophism*”. Industrial Research and Development. June 1982. p. 21.)

RATE Group

RATE: Radioisotope and the Age of The Earth



John Baumgardner, Ph.D. Geophysics
Larry Vardiman, Ph.D. Atmospheric Physics
D. Russell Humphreys, Ph.D. Physics
Eugene Chaffin, Ph.D. Nuclear Physics
Andrew Snelling, Ph.D. Geology
Steven Austin, Ph.D. Geology
Donald DeYoung, Ph.D. Physics
John Morris, Ph.D. Geological Engineering
Kenneth Cumming, Ph.D. Biology
William Hoesch, M. S. Geology
Stephen Boyd, Ph.D. Hebraic and Cognitive
Studies

Problem with the Old Earth Model: Out of Place Fossils

Assumption:

The last appearance of a fossil is the time when it went extinct.

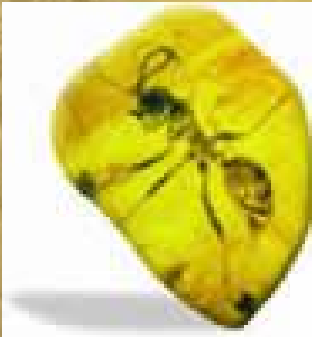
The Coelacanth was thought to have gone extinct with the dinosaurs 65-75 million years ago... until it was discovered off the coast of Madagascar.



**Coelacanth
Living Fossil**



Problems with the Old Earth Model: Other Living Fossils



- Crocodiles - date back 230 million years
- Army Ants - date back 100 million years
- Cockroaches - date back 350 million years
- Coelacanth - dates back 400 million years
- Crinoid or Sea Lilly dates back 150 million years
- Cycads date back 240 million years
- Dragonfly dates back 230 million years
- Ginkgo dates back 270 million years
- Horseshoe Crab - dates back 300 million years
- Nautilus - dates back 500 million years
- Neopilina mollusks - dates back 400 million years
- Salamanders date back 150 million years
- Sturgeon dates back 250 million years
- Tuatara dates back 200 million years.
- Velvet Worm dates back 500 million years
- Wollemi Pine - dates back 150 million years

Problem with the Old Earth Model: T. Rex Soft Tissue Found

Hillary Mayell for [National Geographic News](#)

March 24, 2005

"Finding these tissues in dinosaurs changes the way we think about fossilization, **because our theories of how fossils are preserved don't allow for this** [soft-tissue preservation]," Mary H. Schweitzer, a paleontologist at North Carolina State University in Raleigh.

"There's nothing unique about the specimen other than the fact that it's the first that's been examined really well," Jack Horner, a curator of paleontology at the Museum of the Rockies in Bozeman, Montana, concluded. "Other dinosaurs, in other words, are **probably similarly preserved.**"

(This article exhibited in *St. Louis Science Center*, Feb. 2007)

Problem with the Old Earth Model: Evidence of Rapid Burial

Geologists claim that fossilization requires millions of years to occur. However, many fossils have been found with fully articulated skeletons, hair, scales, feathers, and soft fleshy parts such as skin, cartilage, unborn fetuses and stomachs containing the animals' last meal.

“From the marrow cavity of a fossilized *Tyrannosaurus rex* thighbone, scientists have extracted what appears to be the only known preserved soft tissue from a dinosaur. The flexible tissue can be stretched (see arrow) and returns to its original form.”

Science 25 March 2005:
Vol. 307. no. 5717, pp. 1952 - 1955
DOI: 10.1126/science.1108397



(Theological) problem with the Old Earth Model: Death

According to the theory of evolution, death has been around and a “normal” fact of life since the very *beginning* of life (supposedly several billion years ago).

However, the Bible says that death did not come about until *after* the Fall from Grace (Gen 3; Rom 5:12), well *after* all life had been created on the six days of creation (*thousands* of years ago). Death is not normal or part of God’s original plan. How can the theory of evolution and creation models square with one another? They cannot.

Ergo: The biblical concept of creation cannot be reconciled with the theory of (theistic) evolution in any way, shape or form. The same is true for the model of “Old Earth” creation.

The Young Earth Model: The Flood of Noah



The mountains were covered by 22.5 ft, and everything on land that breathed died.

Genesis 7 ¹⁹ And the waters prevailed so mightily upon the earth that all the high mountains under the whole heaven were covered; ²⁰ the waters prevailed above the mountains, covering them fifteen cubits deep. ²¹ And all flesh died that moved upon the earth, birds, cattle, beasts, all swarming creatures that swarm upon the earth, and every man; ²² everything on the dry land in whose nostrils was the breath of life died..

Summary: Six Scientific Reasons That Point to a Young Earth

1. Radiometric dating (of billions of years) has been proven to be extremely unreliable
2. Traditional dating methods in geology are based on circular reasoning and should thus be treated with great skepticism
3. “ ^{14}C exists in all fossils throughout the geologic record. This means that all these fossils are young (i.e., thousands of years old),” Dr. J. Baumgartner, RATE Group
4. Soft tissue has been found in fossils “supposedly” 65 million years old (evidence of rapid deposition)
5. “Out of place fossils” fit a Young Earth model much better than does an Old Earth model
6. Coal: “lots of pressure and heat – a little bit of time”. Grand Canyon: “lots of water – a little bit of time” ... dovetails with a Young Earth model

Who Believes in a Literal 6-Day Creation?

- **The RATE group**

- Danny R. Faulkner Ph.D. Astronomy
- John Byl Ph.D. Astronomy
- Tom Greene Ph.D. Astronomy
- Dave Harrison Ph.D. Astrophysics
- James Dire Ph.D. Astrophysics
- Keith Wanser Ph.D. Condensed Matter Physics
- Elaine Kennedy Ph.D. Geology
- Duane T. Gish Ph.D. Biochemistry
- Ross S. Anderson Ph.D. Biochemistry
- Jonathan Sarfati Ph.D. Physical Chemistry
- Kelly Hollowell Ph.D. Molecular and Cell Biology
- Lane P. Lester Ph.D. Genetics
- Linda K. Walkup Ph.D. Molecular Genetics
- Ray Bohlin Ph.D. Molecular and Cell Biology
- Gary E. Parker Ph.D. Biology
- Robert Herrmann Ph.D. Mathematics
- Bryant Wood Ph.D. Archaeology
- Charles Taylor Ph.D. Linguistics (O.T.)
- Steven Boyd Ph.D. Hebraic and Cognitive Studies
- Robert Cole Ph.D. Semitic Languages
- Hermann Austel Ph.D., Professor Bible Exposition



Ps 118:8

**“It is better to take refuge in
the**

Lord than to trust in man.”

Jn 17:17

**“Sanctify them by the
truth: your word is truth.”**

Background: ^{14}C Production and Use

- The rate of decay of ^{14}C is such that half of an amount will convert back to ^{14}N in 5,730 years (± 40 yrs). This is the “half-life”.
- In two half-lives, or 11,460 years, only $\frac{1}{4}$ will be left.
- Thus, if the amount of ^{14}C relative to ^{12}C in a sample is $\frac{1}{4}$ of that in living organisms at present, then the organism is theoretically 11,460 years old.

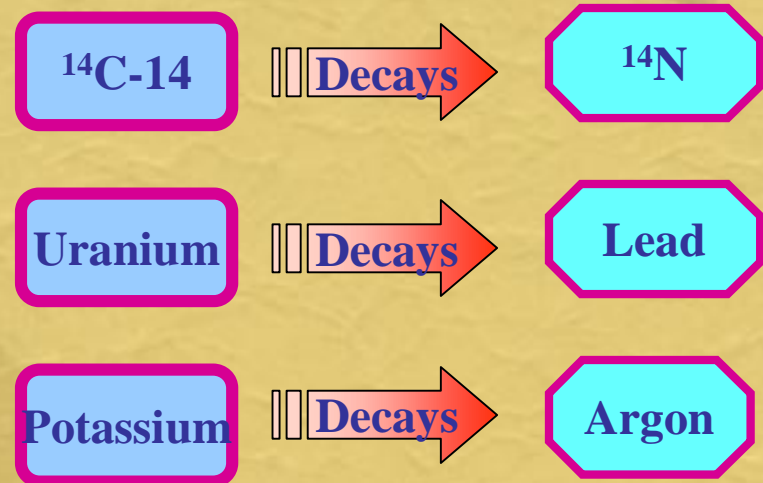
Background: Age Dating Techniques

Radiometric dating techniques measure the quantity of radioactive atomic isotopes within a sample, and determine its age based on the decay rate.

- ^{14}C : Carbon life forms
- Other Isotopes : Igneous rocks

Assumptions

- Amount of parent?
- Amount of daughter isotope?
- **Constant** rate of formation or decay?
- Closed system - no adding or subtracting of materials?



Parent and Daughter Isotopes

Background: Excessive ^{14}C Dates



Conclusion - Our atmosphere has changed and may still be changing.

- Rainbow only after the flood
- Ozone Hole
- Global Warming

It is likely that there was less ^{14}C being produced in the atmosphere before the flood. Organisms are dated based on current ^{14}C levels and those with small amounts of ^{14}C are believed to possess less due to decay and **therefore calculated to be older than is probably correct.**

Background: Igneous Isotope Age Dating

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Assumptions:

- Original amount of parent isotope?
- Original amount of daughter?
- **Constant** rates?
- Closed system?

Problem with the Old Earth Model: Is Radiometric Dating Reliable?

Evolutionist William Stansfield, Ph.D. *The Science of Evolution*
(New York: Macmillan Publishing Co., 1977), p. 84.

"It is obvious that radiometric techniques may not be the absolute dating methods that they are claimed to be. Age estimates on a given geological stratum by different radiometric methods are often quite different (sometimes by hundreds of millions of years). **There is no absolutely reliable long-term radiological 'clock'.**"

“They deliberately ignore this fact”

2 Peter 3:3-6 First of all you must understand this, that scoffers will come in the last days with scoffing, following their own passions ⁴ and saying, "Where is the promise of his coming? For ever since the fathers fell asleep, all things have continued as they were from the beginning." ⁵ **They deliberately ignore this fact, that** by the word of God heavens existed long ago, and an earth formed out of water and by means of water, ⁶ through which **the world that then existed was deluged with water and perished.**

