Laboratory Research

Recent laboratory research has shown that functional protein sequences coded for by genes are exceptionally rare in the overall protein sequence search space. This means that it is prohibitively improbable (i.e. realistically impossible) for any undirected natural process to <u>find the information</u> needed for the construction of any single functional biological protein. And this level of complexity pales in comparison to the <u>integrated complexity</u> of multiple protein machines working in harmony to perform the complex operations required by any living cell.

Other recent research has verified the inability of natural processes to evolve life by finding new biological functions. One of the best-known research programs in this area is Richard Lenski's Long Term Evolution Experiment (LTEE) at Michigan State. In this experiment, Lenski and his team have systematically observed over 50,000 generations of *E.Coli* bacteria to study the potential evolutionary processes of this population. As discussed by Michael Behe in his book Darwin Devolves, all of the changes that have been observed in the experiment have been detrimental to the population, or they have been temporarily beneficial by breaking or blunting existing genes to get a temporary advantage in a specialized environment. None of the bacteria have displayed even initial steps in evolving to different life forms, nor even to different types of bacteria. The *E. Coli* bacteria have remained *E. Coli*. As Behe comments: "the only result from the decades-long, 50,000-plus generation *E. coli* evolution experiment that even seemed at first blush like it had a bit of potential to yield a novel pathway in the bacterium has resulted instead in spectacular devolution."

Another area of research that has falsified Darwinism is the ENCODE project. Darwinists have long maintained that the random Darwinian process would inevitably result in the generation of significant amounts of non-functional and useless "junk DNA" in the genome. In the past, they would tout any observation of non-coding DNA or perceived non-functional DNA as confirmation of that prediction. But the ENCODE project has identified functionality in much of the genome that was originally considered to be "junk". The research has shown that the appearance of non-functionality in any area of the genome is most likely a result of the current ignorance of researchers, and that some form of functionality is likely to be identified with further research.

The results of the ENCODE project are a <u>striking confirmation</u> of Intelligent Design (ID) theory, and a thorough repudiation of Darwinism. These results are in fact a confirmation of early predictions from ID theorists, and they show the benefits that can be obtained by <u>doing research under the ID paradigm</u>.

In general, current microbiological research is revealing more and more complexity in the operation of microscopic protein machinery within living cells. As more and more of this complexity is revealed, it becomes clearer and clearer that random undirected processes have no chance of producing it. An indication of some of this complexity can be obtained by viewing molecular machine animations, such as here, here, and here, here)

Another area of research that has falsified Darwinism is the discovery of biological <u>DNA quality control</u>. Within our cells, irreducibly complex biological nano-machines coordinate their activities to prevent, proofread and correct errors in DNA replication (DNA-to-DNA), transcription (DNA-to-RNA) and translation (RNA-to-Proteins). Without these machines, life could not exist. They must have existed within the earliest and simplest cells. Yet they are too complicated to have arisen spontaneously or by any undirected process. They could only have been <u>designed by an intelligent agent</u>.