Letter: A developing schism in Flood geology

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CIS thinking facilitates quantitative analyses. This clarifies the abundance of evolutionary claims. There are only so many mutational opportunities available as 'feedback'. Yet there are examples of the same DNA pattern placed in thousands of different locations to regulate genes. A process of trial-and-error would also be confronted with having to avoid the immensely greater proportion of incompatability binding sites. These binding factors then activate genes and intron exon splicing in a manner integrated with downstream gene circuits, which would also need to have evolved. Random mutations and selection at a whole organism level can't do the job.

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References


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Frode and Arkridge are correct to recognize that creation geology includes two widely divergent groups seeking to reconstruct earth history within a biblical framework. Such has been the case throughout the history of creationism, going on a basis of disagreements between Harold Clark and George McCready Price over the reality (or not) of the geologic column. With the increased number of geologically trained young-earth creationists, discussions over these issues have become more common. I avoid labels and have found that these authors, unless such labels are made by the proponents themselves, labelling some creationists of trial-and-error would also be confronted with having to avoid the immensely greater proportion of incompatible binding sites. These binding factors then activate genes and intron exon splicing in a manner integrated with downstream gene circuits, which would also need to have evolved. Random mutations and selection at a whole organism level can't do the job.

Let's explore some basic observation that I have personally confirmed in my own fieldwork for my master's degree in paleontology. While my description of this area was done in minutes in contrast with old-earth parameters, I am a young-earth creationist. Since I could think in terms of the limited tools of creation research, my observations of relevant paleontological data were and are independent of the interpretive system in which I was working.

The Pierre Shale is an immense (over 450 m; 500 ft) in some areas) sequence of black mudstones, claystones, and shales that extends from Manitoba to New Mexico. Ammonites are common and provide a useful horizon to mark the Cretaceous marine sediments across North America. Species of the straight-skinned geese Baycites are readily distinguished on the basis of shell morphology and seasonality, and with a little practice anyone can learn to identify the various species. The type section for the Pierre Shale in the southern Black Hills is in South Dakota. In the northern Black Hills field studies were in Hermosa, South Dakota, some 108 km (65 miles) away. Despite the distance and the Black Hills stand between these two locations, I was working in the same lithologies and discovering the same Bunteskien species in the same sequences (see captions below R. maculiris) as seen at the type section. This pattern is further repeated in section after section through the exposures of the Pierre Shale and many other upper Cretaceous rocks of the Front Range of the Colorado plateau region, making correlations among these strata straightforward and robust. This is precisely the sort of 'group up', locality-driven evaluation that Frode and Arkridge claim is needed to properly understand earth history. It is already done. The creation geologic observations of geologic formations and features documented by geologists are not only complete and perfect, but they are generally reliable. There is no need to start from scratch. Moreover, the geological approach advocated by Frode and Arkridge applies models that seek to