

Intelligent Design

**AN even more
INCONVENIENT
TRUTH?**

the *e*BRIEFING

matthiasmedia

OCTOBER 2006 • ISSUE 337

AUSTRALIAN
EDITION 

THE DESIGN OF GENESIS

Genesis
and Science

William Dembski
and Darrell Falk on
Intelligent Design

Richard
Dawkins's
dilemma

PLUS 20
DAILY READINGS
ON JUDGES

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Who's
talking about
Intelligent
Design?

Briefing
Oct 2006

The Sun-Herald

Sydney
July 8th
2007

“Advances in evolutionary biology and physics have dealt a serious blow to the image of God as the creator, allowing critics to pull apart intelligent design with glee.

Dr Tamas Pataki says “The **intelligent design** controversy encapsulates a lot of the issues at stake. This **worries intellectuals** more than the violence of wounded, triumphalist religious groups **because it strikes at the heart of reason** which, in the end, is the only salvation we have.”

NOVEMBER 13, 2006

TIME

INSIDE THIS ISSUE:
A 48-PAGE
SPECIAL SECTION

THE BEST
INVENTIONS
OF 2006

GOD VS. SCIENCE

A spirited debate between
atheist biologist **Richard Dawkins**
and Christian geneticist **Francis Collins**



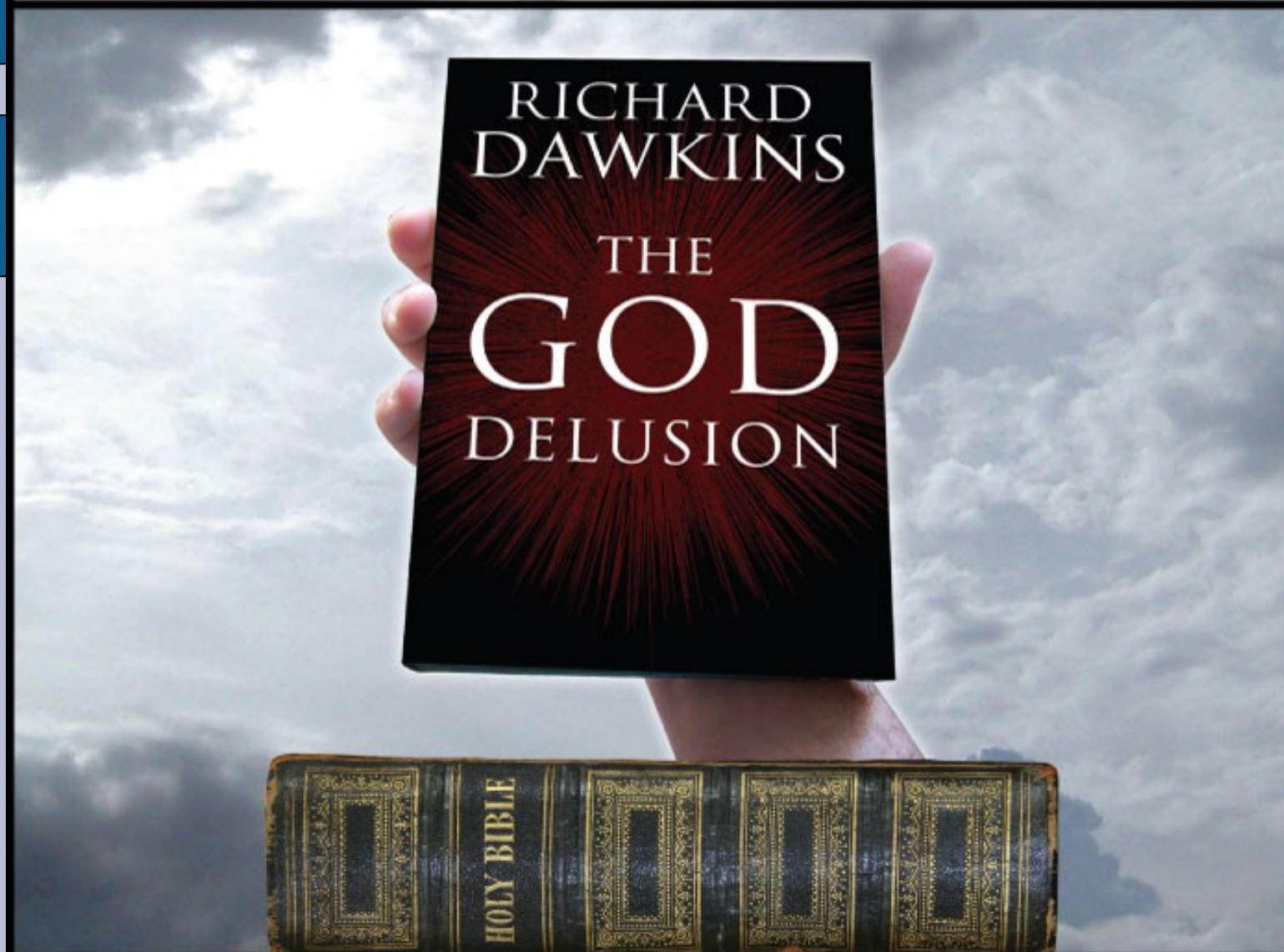
www.time.com

TIME Cover Story

Collins vs Dawkins

October 2006

Out with the old - and in with the new!
HAPPY BIRTHDAY, RICHARD!



**A
million
copies
sold so
far.**

Intelligent design and biological complexity.

Gene 2006 Emile Zuckerkandl (condensed version)
50 pages

Abstract

Before any intelligence can appear ... there first has to be something intelligible ... "creation" must already have taken place. The general and permanent spectacle of nature's spontaneous tinkering with ... informational macromolecules ... suggests an absence from evolution of design and intelligence. The complexity of biological systems can increase spontaneously.



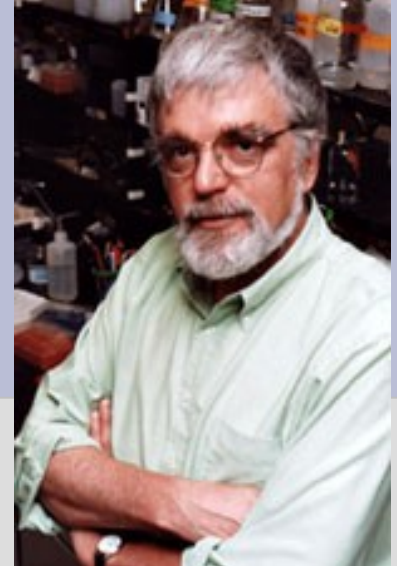
Evolution: Reducible Complexity — The Case for Bacterial Flagella

A recent paper, which will surely figure centrally in the debate between evolutionists and Intelligent Design creationists, proposes a (perhaps too simple) scheme for the evolution of bacterial flagella.

W. Ford Doolittle
and Olga Zhaxybayeva

Advocates of Intelligent Design (ID) hold that some biological structures are 'irreducibly complex', made up of parts that would be useless by themselves, and requiring for their assembly an intelligent designer. The bacterial flagellum is one such structure, the 21st Century microbial equivalent of the

vertebrate eye — the origin of which Darwin himself admitted was a test case for his theory. Arguments about whether a flagellum could have been cobbled together, step by step, from antecedent proteins that had at each stage some sort of partial or alternative use figured large in the 2005 Dover, Pennsylvania trial over the teaching of ID as science in public schools.



Current Biology

Vol 17 No 1.

July 2007

Should

SCIENCE



By Lawrence M. Krauss
and Richard Dawkins



Speak to

FAITH



Two prominent defenders of science exchange their views
on how scientists ought to approach religion and its followers

SciAm July 2007

[THE AUTHOR]

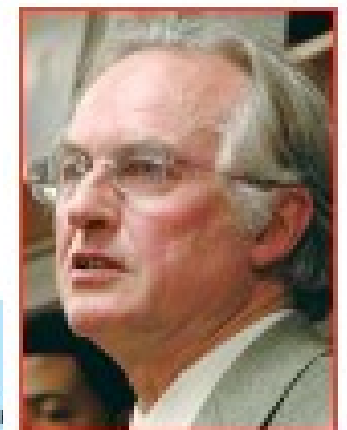


EDITORS' INTRODUCTION

Although the authors are both on the side of science, they have not always agreed about the best way to oppose religiously motivated threats to scientific practice or instruction. Krauss, a leading physicist, frequently steps into the public spotlight to argue in favor of retaining evolutionary theory in school science curricula and keeping pseudoscientific variants of creationism out of them. An open letter he sent to Pope Benedict XVI in 2005, urging the pontiff not to build new walls between science and faith, led the Vatican to reaffirm the Catholic Church's acceptance of natural selection as a valid scientific theory.

Dawkins, an evolutionary biologist, prolific author and lecturer, is also an eloquent critic of any attempt to undermine scientific reasoning. He has generally shown less interest than Krauss, however, in achieving a peaceful coexistence between science and faith. The title of Dawkins's best-selling book *The God Delusion* perhaps best summarizes his opinion of religious belief.

These two all too compared notes from the front lines during breaks at a conference devoted to discussing clashes between science and religion held at the Salk Institute for Biological Studies in San Diego late





Council of Europe

assembly.coe.int



pace

Parliamentary Assembly

Council of Europe

Doc.11297

8 June 2007

The dangers of creationism in education

Report Committee on Culture, Science and Education

“Creationism in any of its forms, such as “intelligent design”, is not based on facts, does not use any scientific reasoning and its contents are **pathetically inadequate** for science classes.”

What is all the fuss about?

Darwin exorcised Design from nature.

Intelligent Design *studies patterns in nature that are best explained by intelligence.*

Then there is fighting words!

“Naturalistic evolution has clear consequences that Charles Darwin understood perfectly.

- 1) no gods worth having exist
- 2) no life after death exists
- 3) no ultimate foundation for ethics exists
- 4) no ultimate meaning in life exists
- 5) human free will is nonexistent.”

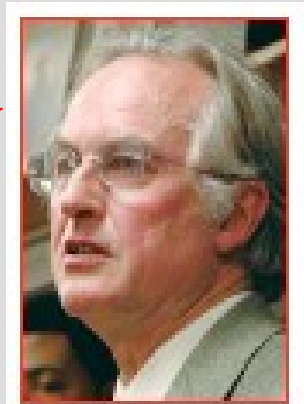
William Provine (Cornell)



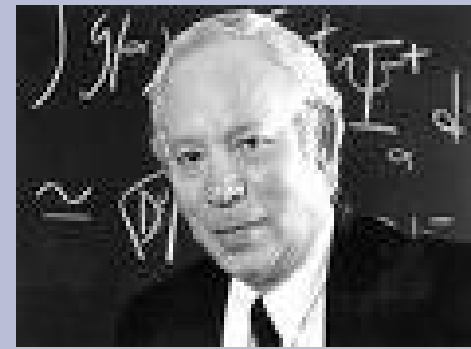
“The Blind Watchmaker” 1976

Richard Dawkins

“Darwin made it possible to be an intellectually fulfilled atheist. The universe we observe has precisely the properties we should expect if there is, at bottom, no design, no purpose, no evil and no good nothing but blind, pitiless indifference”

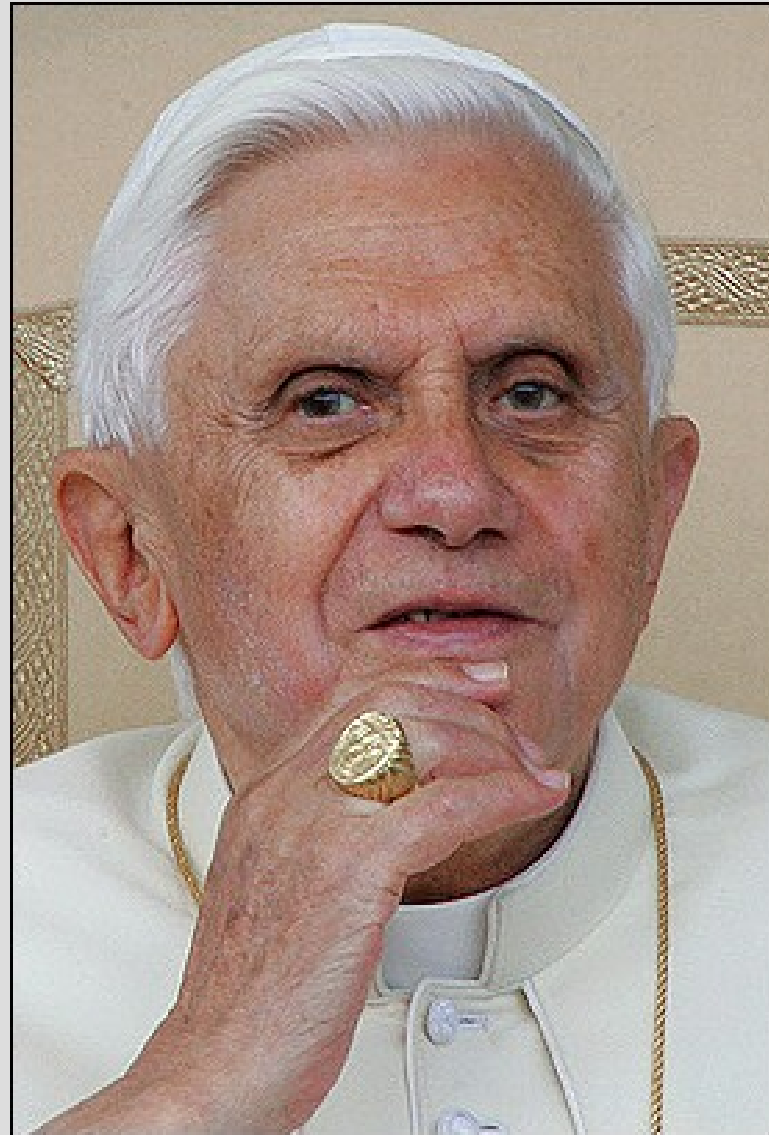


Nobel Prize winning physicist
Steven Weinberg.



"All the stars, galaxies and atoms are going about their business, and ***it's just by accident*** that here, in this solar system, the peculiar chemical properties of DNA acting over billions of years, have produced these people who have been able to talk and look around and enjoy life."

Pope Benedict 16th (2006)
“Without God, something in science just doesn't add up”



ID sees 2 designs



**The canvas (physics) is designed.
The painting (biology) is also designed.**

All Christians

hold to some form of
Intelligent Design.

The only difference is
***some think the design
can only be detected
using faith.***

Two formal ways to detect intelligent design

Specified Complex Information CSI

William Dembski

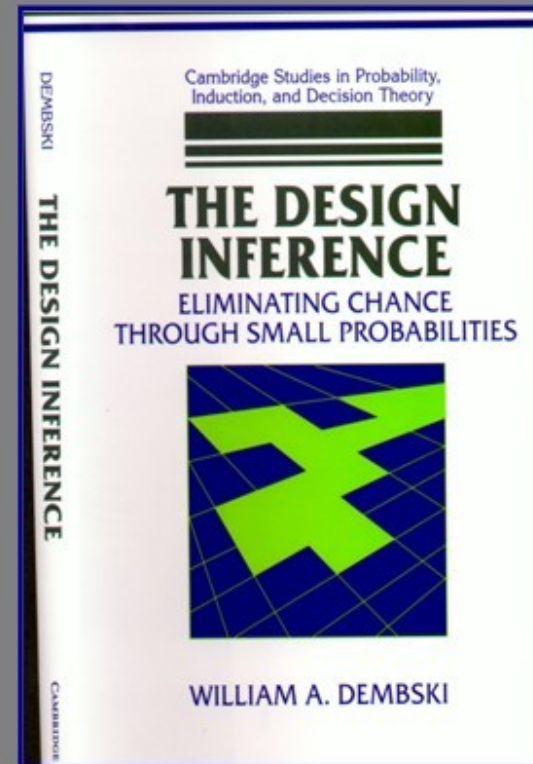
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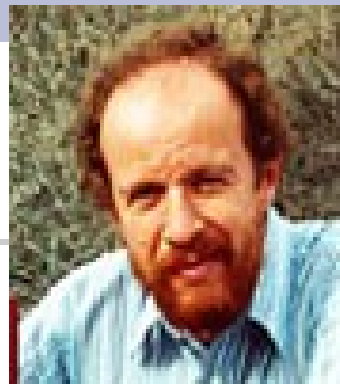
Irreducible Complexity IC

Michael Behe

PhD Mathematics, PhD Philosophy,
MDiv. Dr Dembski is no fool!

William Dembski





Hypothesis

Open Access

The cosmological model of eternal inflation and the transition from chance to biological evolution in the history of life

Eugene V Koonin*

Address: National Center for Biotechnology Information, National Library of Medicine, National Institutes of Health, Bethesda, MD 20894, USA

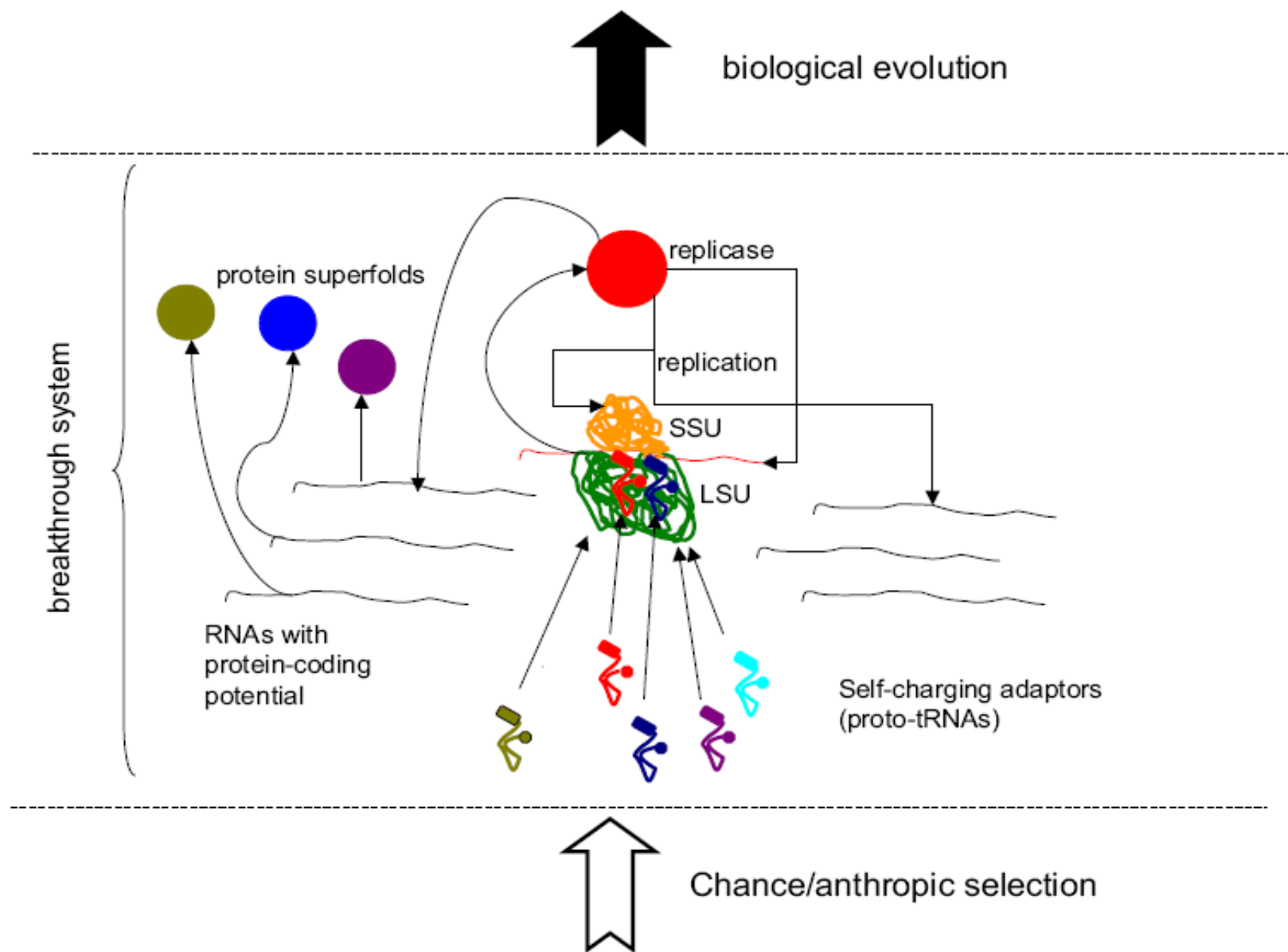
Email: Eugene V Koonin* - koonin@ncbi.nlm.nih.gov

* Corresponding author

May 2007

“By showing that highly complex systems, actually, can emerge by chance and, moreover, are inevitable, if extremely rare, in the universe, **the present model sidesteps the issue of irreducibility leaving no room whatsoever for any form of intelligent design.**”

Koonin 2007



Koonin concludes design? NO!

“Even assuming a deliberately inflated rate of RNA production, the probability that a coupled translation replication emerges by chance in a single O region is $P < 10^{-1018}$. Obviously, this version of the breakthrough stage can be considered only in the context of a Multiverse with an infinite number of O regions.”

In the end Dembski's math wins.

Win the Lottery once luck.
Win the Lottery twice luck? Maybe.
100 times? – it's rigged by Design!

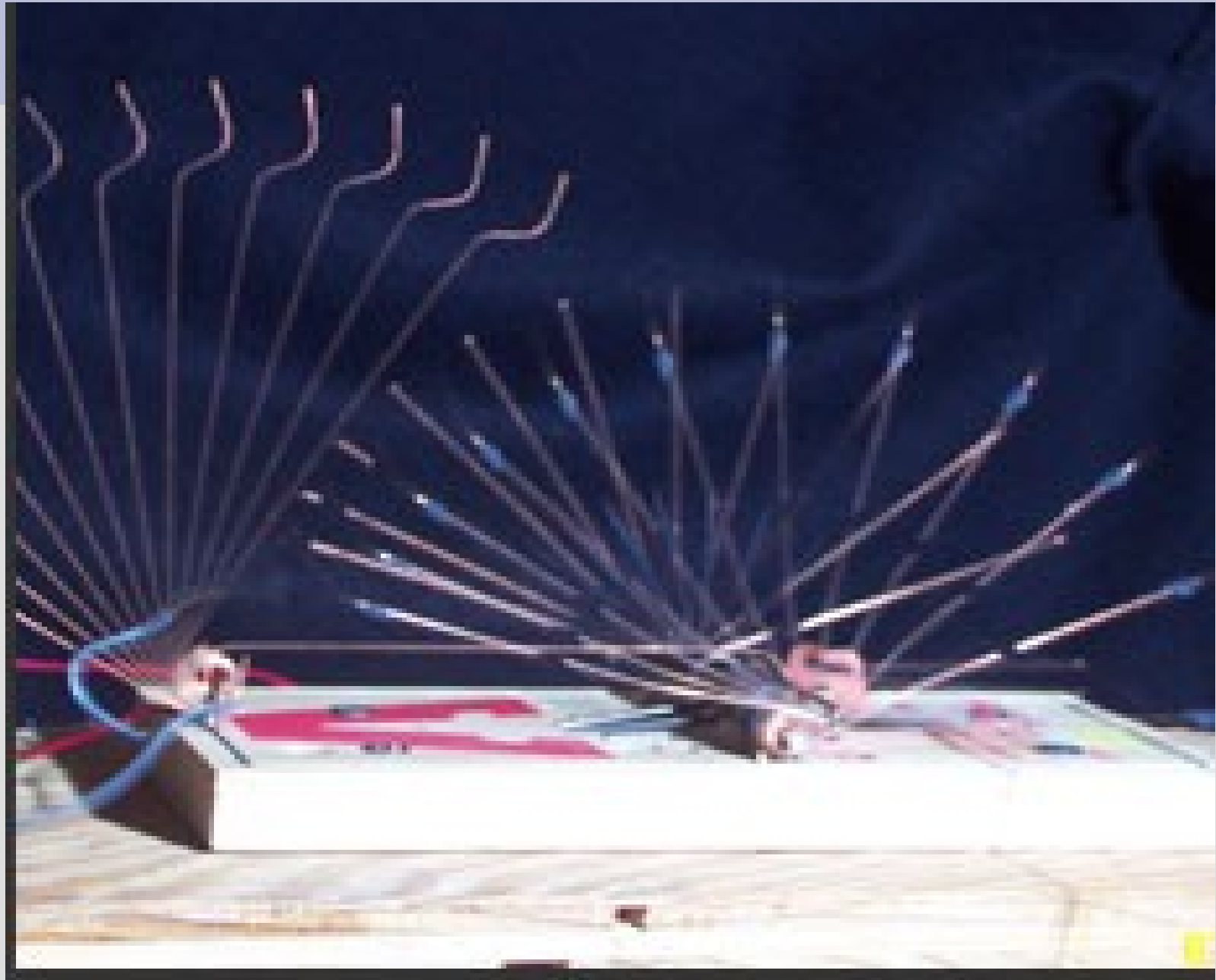
LIFE WON >1000 lotteries.
Dawkins et al still say it's luck.

Irreducible Complexity

Only designed things have many complicated interacting parts that work together to achieve a goal. Accidents do not produce them.

Life is jammed packed with systems like this.

What is this? Can it be reduced?

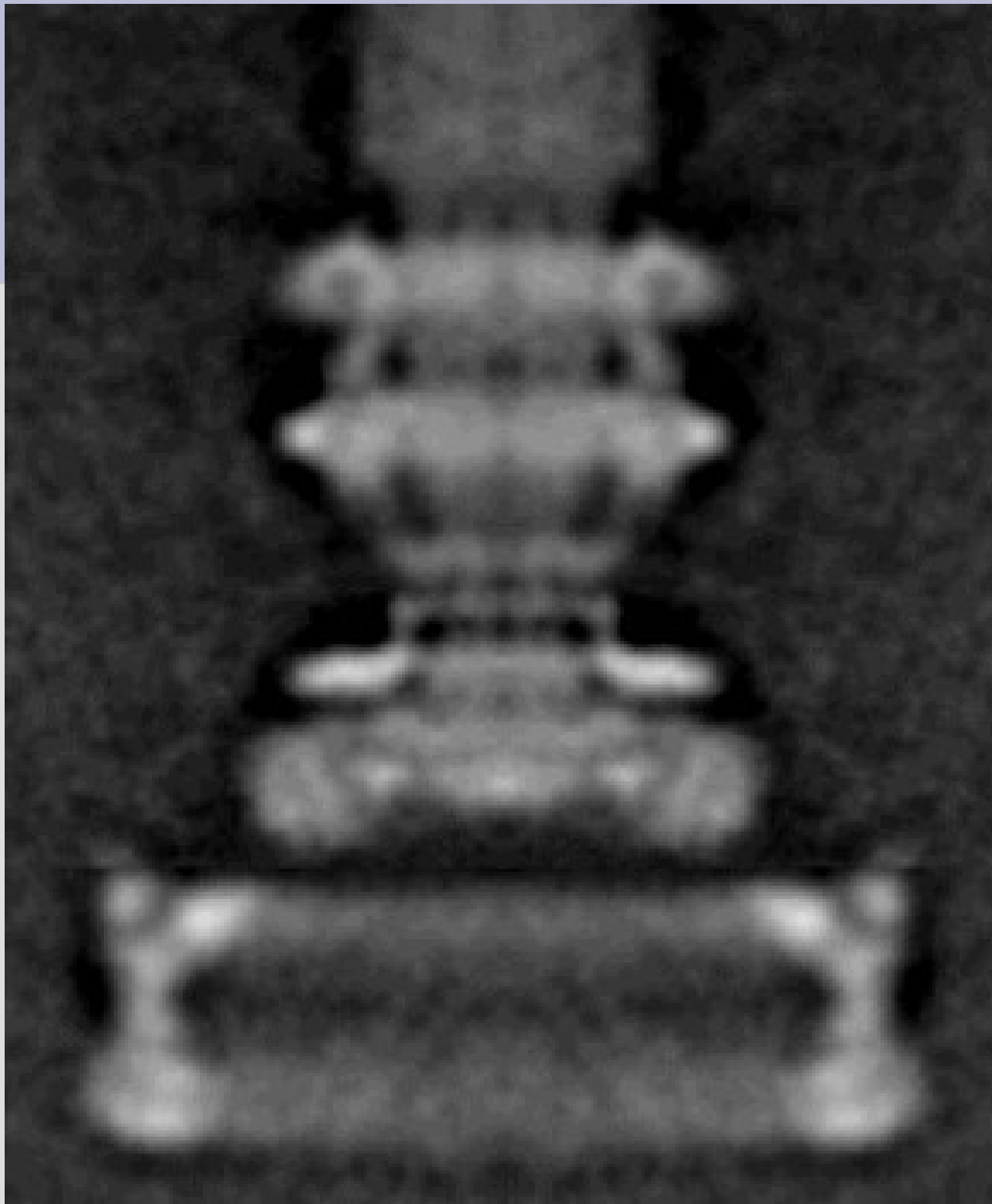


We may *imagine* a
mousetrap
building up over
long periods.

We must make it
and *test it before*
we say that
imagination
proves it will
work.



**Real life experience: the mouse
always wins!**



**What is
this?**

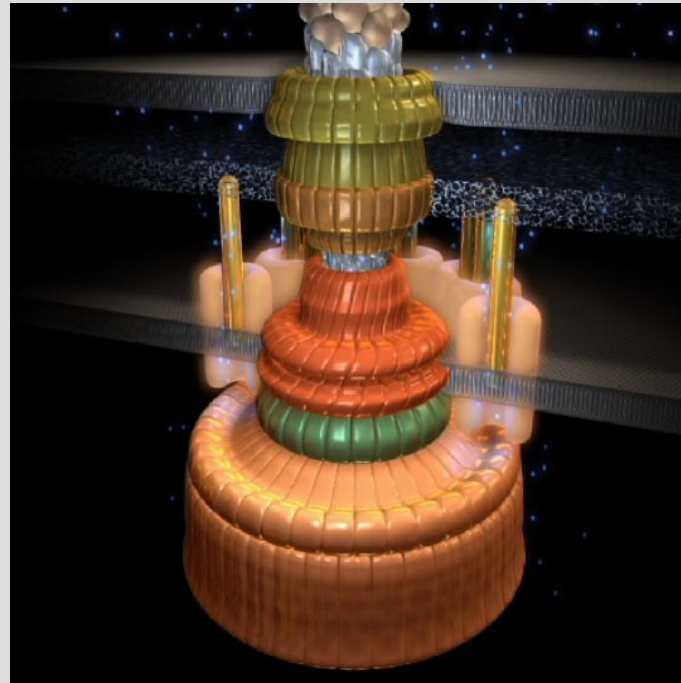
**A
motor?**



EColi Flagellum Motor

**42
different
specific
interacting
sequencial
proteins**

Coding the flagellar proteins is hard enough.



Watch how hard it is to put them all together.

It's time to play

Accident or Design?

A stone axe head



A stone



Can you detect a difference?



Apparent design impossible to tell?

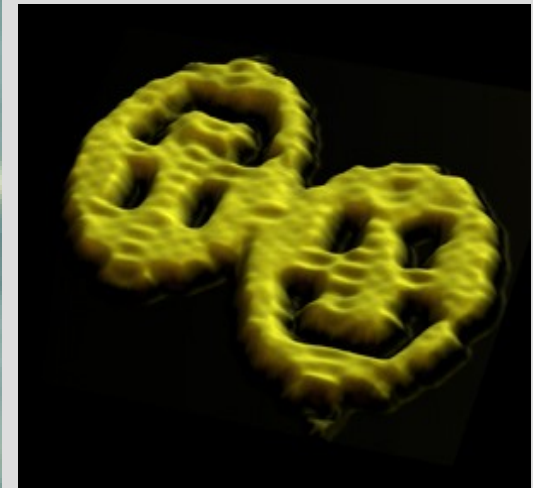
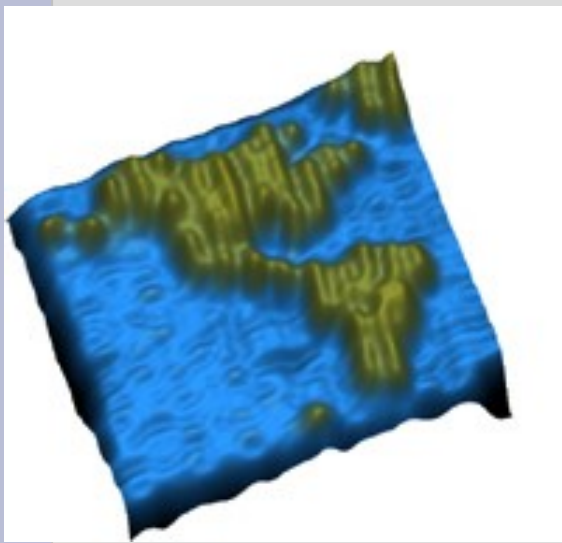


Mars face

Australia in the mud



Is Paul from Caltec an Intelligent Designer?





Dear Mark,

It has recently been pointed to me
that you use my work,
**designing complicated tiny DNA
structures**, as an example of
"molecular intelligent design research".

My work is certainly an example of "intelligent design", if you consider me intelligent.



It is easy to recognize the designer in my work.

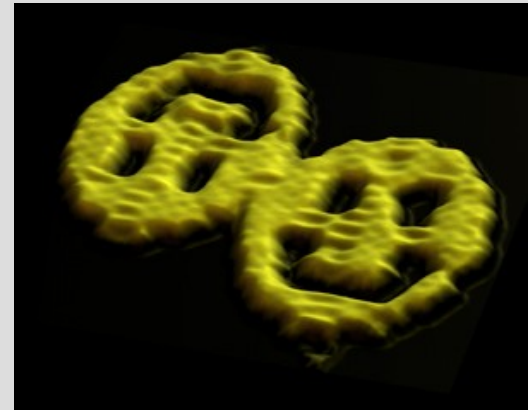
At talks people often call it "real intelligent design" in jest because the design is so obvious.

Please do not use my work!

Dear Mark

“I do **not** actually believe that it is possible to "scientifically" detect "design" in my work. But to explain this coherently would involve a very long conversation ”

Paul



What do you think stops
Paul from scientifically
detecting design in his
work?

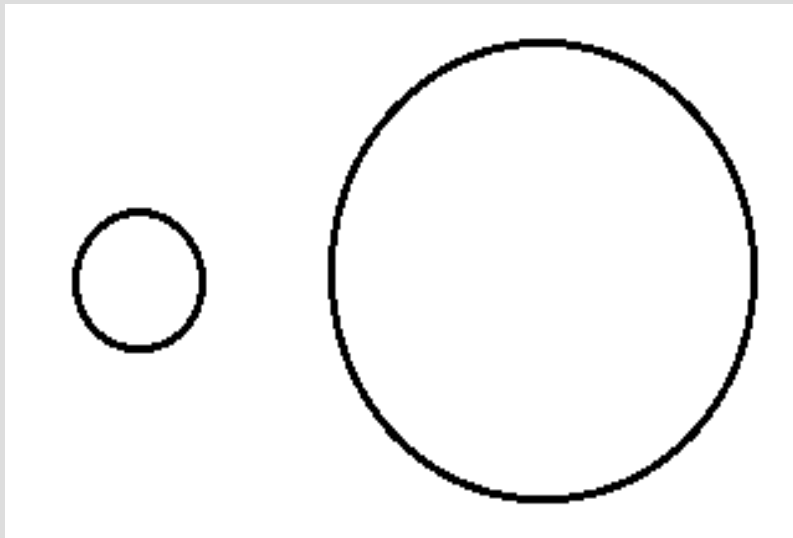
Maybe faith is
necessary after all!

An uncomfortable truce?

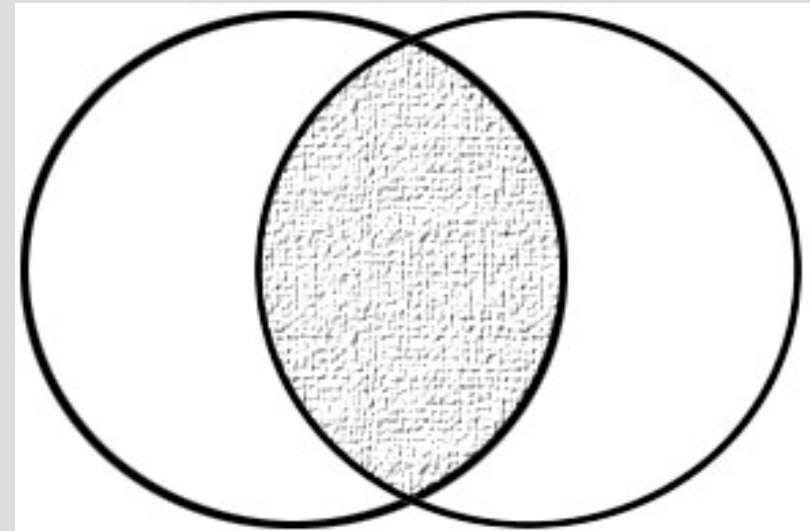
Science deals with Evidence

Religion deals with Values

Non overlapping Magisteria (S J Gould)



not



“Steve Gould's idea of non overlapping magisteria sounds terrific right up until you give it a moment's thought.

The presence of a creative deity in the universe is **clearly a scientific hypothesis**. It is hard to imagine a more scientific hypothesis in all of science.

A universe with a god would be a completely different kind of universe from one without, and **it would be a scientific difference”**

Richard Dawkins Sept 2006 Professor for the Public Understanding of Science.

“Design is a workable explanation for organised complexity

only in the short term. It is not an ultimate explanation, *because* designers themselves demand an explanation.

God stands out in the universe as the most glaring of all superfluous sore thumbs”

Richard Dawkins 2006

**Will the real fundamentalists
please stand up.**

**“The late Steve Gould was really
right when he called Richard
Dawkins and me Darwinian
fundamentalists.”**

**Daniel Dennett
2006**



**Intelligent Design
has uncomfortable implications.**

ID

**AN even more
INCONVENIENT
TRUTH?**

Can ID survive?



Design detection has obvious religious implications.

Once design is scientifically detected, help must be sought from theology, philosophy and revelation.

Is it time for science and theology to kiss and make up?

Paul tells the Colossian Christians

"Jesus is the image
of the invisible God,
... **by Him all things
were created**; things
in heaven and on
earth, visible, and
invisible."

John writes in Revelations

"You are worthy our Lord and God to receive glory and honour and power, **for you created all things,** and by your will they were created and have their being."

Paul writes in Romans

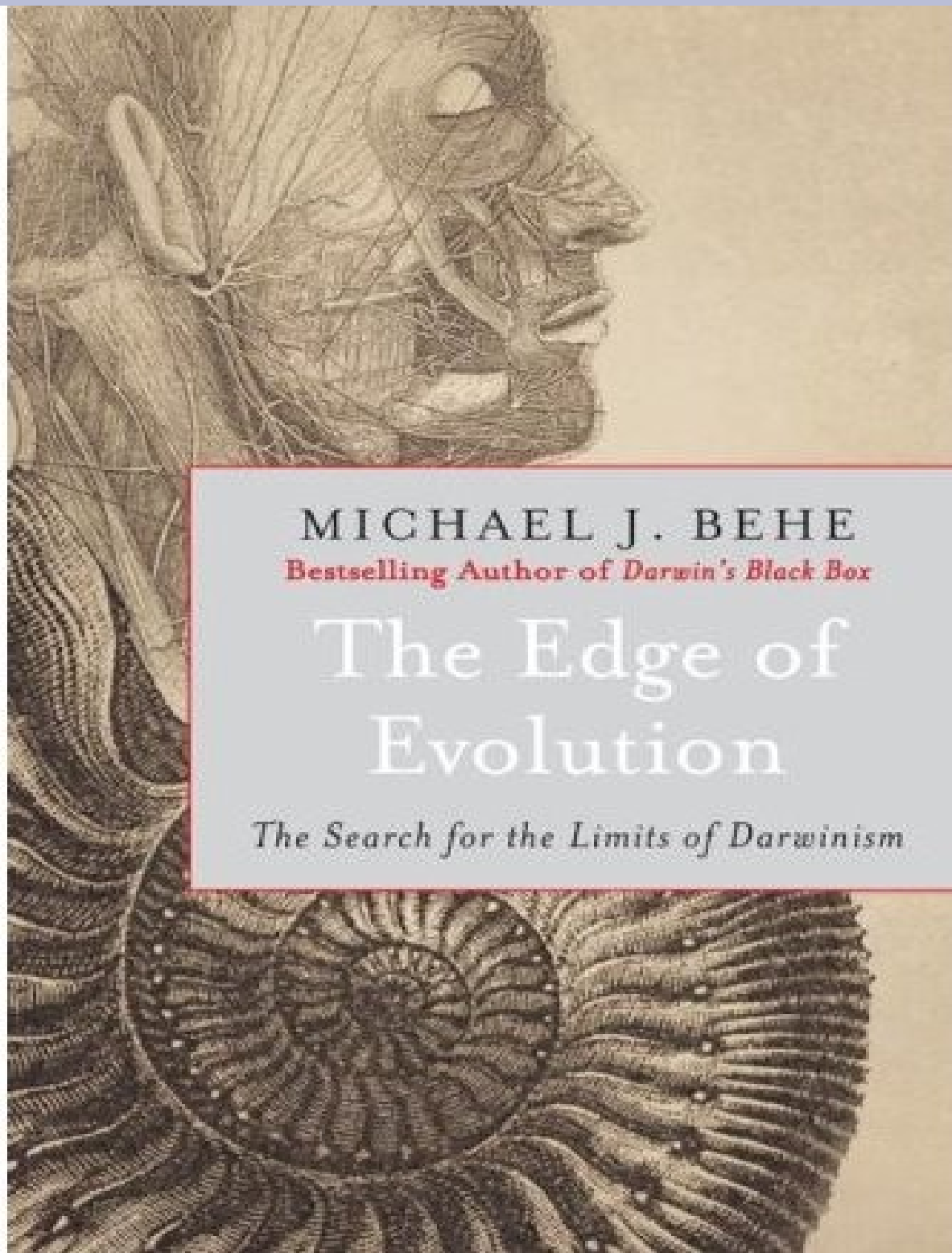
"Since the creation of the world God's invisible qualities - His eternal power and divine nature - **have been clearly seen,** being understood from **what has been made.**"

Thank you!

For more see DVD “Unlocking the
Mystery of Life”

and

www.idnet.com.au



MICHAEL J. BEHE

Bestselling Author of Darwin's Black Box

The Edge of Evolution

The Search for the Limits of Darwinism

2007

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