Disclosure

of things evolutionists don't want you to know

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Paleomagnetism Busted!

The residual magnetism of rocks cannot be used to determine the age of geologic formations.

This month's essay has three goals.

1. To disprove the myth that the residual magnetism of rocks can be used to determine the age of rock formations (and therefore date fossils).
2. To emphasize the difference between science and philosophy.
3. To present a simple science fair project which better explains the discovery of alternating bands of magnetic polarization in geological formations than the orthodox myth.

The Myth

Before we disprove the myth, we have to tell you what the myth is.

Many scientists believe that residual magnetism can be used to determine when igneous rocks cooled. Here is the beginning of a typical science worksheet.

Seafloor Spreading and Paleomagnetism Activity

Background: Some minerals in igneous rocks develop a slight magnetism in alignment with Earth's magnetic field at the time of their formation. Also, scientists have discovered the polarity of Earth's magnetic field has periodically reversed and the North Magnetic Pole becomes the South Magnetic Pole, while the South Magnetic Pole becomes the North Magnetic Pole. Putting these facts together provides additional support for plate tectonics. The ancient magnetism, called paleomagnetism, present in rocks on the ocean floor can be used to determine the rate at which the plates are separating and, consequently, the time when they began to separate. Where plates separate along the mid-ocean ridge, magma from the mantle rises to the surface and creates new ocean floor. As the magma cools, the minerals assume magnetism equal to the magnetic field at that time. As the plates continue to separate and Earth's magnetic field reverses polarity, new material forming at the ridge is magnetized in the opposite direction. [1]

The worksheet then provides figures (reproduced on the next page) showing the alleged times (white bands) when the Earth's magnetic field was reversed.

This particular worksheet addresses plate tectonics (that is, how long it took for continental plates to move into their current position) and doesn't say anything about fossils; but paleomagnetism has also been used for dating fossils (including Skull 5, which was described in last month's newsletter [2], which is what prompted this essay).

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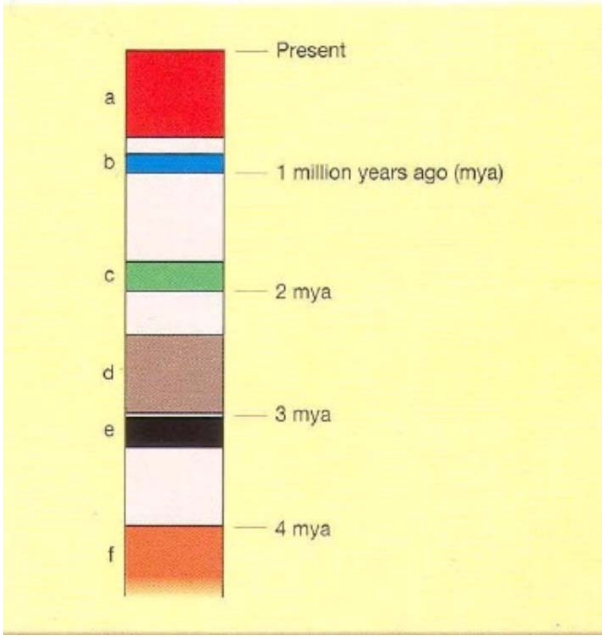
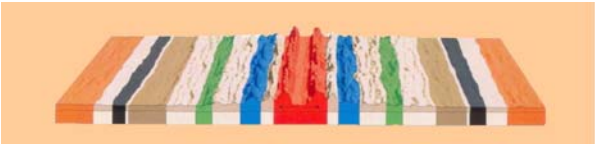
[1] http://www.lcps.org/cms/lib4/VA01000195/Centricity/Domain/685/Paleomagnetism%20Activity.pdf

[2] *Disclosure*, November 2013, "Skull 5"





The figures above are from a workbook claiming to show when various rocks were formed. Rocks shown in white were formed when the Earth's North Pole was allegedly in Antarctica.

Scientists measure the magnetic orientation of rocks above and below a fossil. The fossil must have been buried after the lower layer was deposited, and before the upper layer formed. If one knows the times when the two layers were formed, one can tell the age of the fossil. But if the ages of the bounding layers are wrong, then the age of the fossil is wrong.

We will show experimentally that one cannot use residual magnetism as a clock. That is, the residual magnetism cannot tell how long it took for continental plates to move, nor can it be used to tell the time between the deposition of rock layers above and below a fossil.

Science vs. Philosophy

Let's separate the science from the philosophy, facts from speculation.

The first step in the scientific method is observation.

It is a scientific fact that parallel alternating bands of magnetic polarization have been discovered under the Atlantic Ocean and other places. Granted, the magnetism is so weak that it takes special equipment to measure it, and scientists must be very careful to mark the orientation of the rock samples before they are removed from the ground and taken to the laboratory. There certainly is the possibility of errors introduced through carelessness and mishandling; but that isn't our argument.

The discovery of these magnetic bands has been verified independently by a number of different scientists, so we can be assured that the phenomenon is real. That's the strength of the scientific method. Observations can be verified by a number of different people using independent methods. We can be confident that alternating bands of weak magnet polarity do actually exist in nature.

The second step in the scientific method is to propose a hypothesis as to WHY we observe what we have observed.

The conventional hypothesis, accepted as fact by the worksheet quoted above, is that igneous rocks have been forming for millions of years. When the rocks are liquid, magnetically polarized minerals line up with the Earth's magnetic field, and they retain that orientation when they solidify. Furthermore, the hypothesis says, the Earth's magnetic field reverses direction every million years or so. That is, a million years ago, a compass would have pointed to Antarctica rather than the current position of the North Pole.

The third step is to devise an experiment to determine if this happens or not. To our knowledge, we are the first to do this.

The fourth step is for others to repeat the experiment and verify it. That's where you come in.

When it comes to paleomagnetism, the scientific process came to an end with the hypothesis. The "proof" came from the realm of philosophy. Some scientists thought the hypothesis was reasonable enough that it must be true without the need for experimental verification.

What could possibly cause the Earth's magnetic field to reverse spontaneously?

An in-depth discussion of second-order differential equations is beyond the scope of this essay. Suffice it to say that second-order systems (that is, things that oscillate back and forth) are well understood by engineers and physicists. Reversals in the Earth's magnetic field don't make any sense from a scientific point of view.

In every oscillating system known to science, energy transfers back and forth between two states. For example, a weight at the end of a string is pulled to the left, giving it some potential energy. When it is released, the weight swings down, increasing in velocity until the pendulum is at its lowest point. All the potential energy

(energy of height) has been converted to kinetic energy (energy of motion). Momentum keeps the weight moving to the right until it stops. All the kinetic energy has been converted to potential energy. The weight swings back to the left, converting potential energy back into kinetic energy. The pendulum swings back and forth as energy changes between potential energy and kinetic energy until all the energy has been dissipated by friction. The more friction, the greater the damping, and the sooner the oscillations die out.

In electrical systems, a tuned circuit oscillates when electrons are stored in a capacitor. The capacitor discharges through a coil creating a magnetic field. As the energy stored as an electric field in the capacitor decreases, the energy stored in the magnetic field of the coil increases. Energy alternates between the electric field of the capacitor and the magnetic field of the coil. The polarities of the electric and magnetic fields keep switching back and forth until all the energy has been dissipated by resistance.

If the Earth's magnetic field really is oscillating, changing polarity (direction) every million years or so, the energy in the magnetic field has to be transferred to another energy storage state, which then discharges energy back creating a reversed magnetic field. What is that other storage state? There isn't any. Therefore, the Earth's magnetic field will naturally decay exponentially to nothing, but it won't change direction.

We feel that the philosophical arguments against periodic reversals in the Earth's magnetic field are far stronger than the generally accepted consensus—but we don't want to argue philosophy. We want to use the scientific method to figure out what really happens.

A Science Fair Experiment

The basic question is, "Why are there alternating bands of weakly magnetized rocks found in nature?" The obvious way to find out is to play with magnets to see what they do. We encourage you to repeat our experiments and determine for yourself how magnets naturally align themselves. (Please watch the video of us doing the experiment at our website [3].)

We bought 50 small axially magnetized cylindrical magnets for $13 (plus $5 shipping) from K & J Magnetics, Inc.

They came stuck together in parallel rows. Unfortunately, they were not marked as to which end was the North Pole. We could not tell if all the North Poles were pointing the same direction. So, marking them was the first order of business.

Step 1.

We cut a small piece off a sponge and let it float in dish of water. One at a time, we placed the small magnets (with random orientations) on the sponge. The sponge and magnet combination always aligned itself with the Earth's magnetic field. This experimentally confirmed the fact that, when free to rotate, a magnet will rotate so that it aligns with the Earth's magnetic field (confirming part of the hypothesis).

After placing each magnet on the sponge, we applied a little bit of red fingernail polish to the end of the magnet that pointed north so we could tell the North Pole from the South Pole of that magnet.

Step 2.

We placed two magazines side by side, with a 1-inch gap between them on the dining room table. Then we placed a paper towel on top of the magazines, letting it sag slightly in the gap between the magazines. (This was just to keep the magnets from rolling off the table.) When we dropped a single cylindrical magnet onto the paper towel it rolled downhill into the valley between the magazines and stopped there.

Why did that happen? Because of gravity. The greater the distance between an object and the center of the Earth, the greater its potential energy. Things naturally roll downhill because they naturally seek the lowest possible energy state. It has to do with the Second Law of Thermodynamics. Energy likes to even itself out.

If you put ice cubes in a glass of warm water, the ice gets warmer and melts, and the water gets colder, until all the ice has melted and everything is the same temperature. A glass of room-temperature water doesn't naturally separate itself

[3] http://scienceagainstevolution.info/video/Paleomagnetism.wmv

into hot water and ice cubes. A glass with hot water and ice in it is more "ordered" (from an energy perspective) than a glass of water where all the molecules are the same temperature. The Second Law of Thermodynamics says that (in the absence of external influences) the ordered situation of hot water and ice will change to the disordered state of uniformly warm water.

For the same reason, if you stir up a glass of water, causing waves to form, the surface of the water will naturally even out if you leave it alone. A glass of still water won't suddenly flow such that the water level in the left half is higher than the level in the right half for no reason at all.

Energy does not remain separated into high and low energy states if it can help it. That's why temperature tends to equalize, and water levels tend to equalize, and things tend to roll downhill.

Step 3.

We dropped a second magnet onto the paper towel, close to the first magnet. It rolled downhill and stuck to the first magnet end-to-end, with both North Poles pointing the same direction.

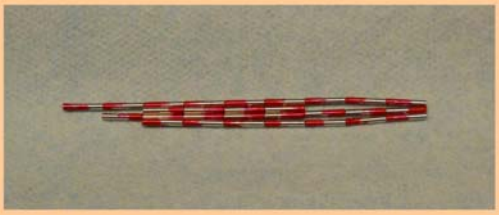
Why did that happen? It is basically the same reason why they rolled downhill. The greater the distance between two magnets, the greater the potential energy. The magnetic force pulls them together the same way gravity pulls everything down, to expend the energy. Magnets naturally seek the lowest energy state.

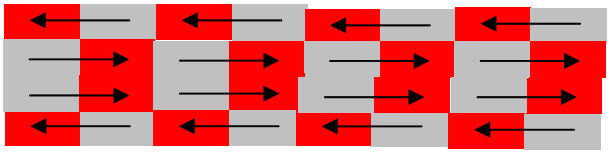
The only difference between gravity and magnetism is that the magnetic forces are polarized. That is, a North Pole attracts South Poles, but repels other North Poles. Gravity attracts everything with mass.

Step 4.

We dropped more magnets onto the towel, one at a time. They rolled together forming anti-parallel bands (just like bands of magnetically polarized rocks on the sea floor) in the crease of the paper towel.

Results





Why did that happen? The Earth's magnetic field did not change direction several times in the few minutes it took do the experiment. The Earth's magnetic field is strong enough to make a magnet floating on a sponge rotate to align with it, but it is too weak to have anything to do with how a magnet aligns if there are other magnets (or even unmagnetized iron) nearby.

Just to prove the Earth's magnetic field had nothing to do with it, we repeated the experiment with the crease in the paper towel aligned East/West rather than North/South. It did not change the results.

Magnets naturally line up with the same orientation end-to-end and with opposite orientation side-by-side because that's the lowest energy state.

Conclusions

In our experiments, it didn't matter if we aligned the depression in the paper towel North/South, East/West, or any other direction. The Earth's magnetic field had nothing to do with it.

In our experiments, it didn't matter how much time elapsed between dropping magnets onto the towel. Time had nothing to do with it. (The only reason to believe that time might be involved is because the hypothesis assumed that alignment is based on the direction of the Earth's magnetic field, and that the magnetic field changes direction with time. Since the direction of the Earth's magnetic field doesn't change with time, and the direction doesn't matter anyway, time doesn't matter at all.)

There is no reason to believe that magnets in nature behave any differently than magnets on our kitchen table.

Faced with the experimental proof that the orientation of residual magnetism is determined by a well-established physical principle (specifically, the Second Law of Thermodynamics, which says things naturally try to minimize energy differences), and has nothing to do with time, the myth that paleomagnetism can be used to determine when anything happened in the past is BUSTED.

Men Are Pigs

This little piggy went where no little piggy should go.

What do you get when you cross a pig with an ape? A human being, according to one evolutionist—and he isn't joking.

There are two good reasons not to address this in our *Evolution in the News* column. First, this theory is so stupid it should not be dignified with a response. Second, we don't want to be accused of taking a cheap shot at the theory of evolution by reporting such a stupid evolutionary theory.

So, why even write this column? Honestly, I misjudged how long the *Paleontology Busted* article would be. Usually, we have to cut lots of things out to get the newsletter down to six pages. When going to the final layout stage, we discovered this month's "six-page newsletter" was only five pages long, and we needed some amusing filler. This stupid theory is about as funny as it gets. Even so, we had serious doubts about this column for the two reasons stated above.

What changed our minds and made us think this topic was worth including in this newsletter? It was the Stupidity Similarity. ☺ The notion that human beings are the result of one act of indecent passion between an ape and a pig is just as dumb as the idea that the Earth's magnetic field reverses polarity every million years. Since we devoted this month's feature article to paleomagnetism, the claim that the human race exists because a pig raped an ape doesn't seem out of place. The two stupid ideas just seemed to go together.

The *Daily Mail*

In the interest of fairness, we must point out that although the Men Are Pigs proposition isn't as widely accepted as paleomagnetism, it was taken seriously by the (British) *Daily Mail.* (But they made sure they blamed the stupid idea on an American! ☺)

> The human species began as the hybrid offspring of a male pig and a female chimpanzee, an American geneticist has suggested.
>
> The startling claim has been made by Eugene McCarthy, who is also one of the world's leading authorities on hybridisation in animals.
>
> He points out that while humans have many features in common with chimps, we also have a large number of distinguishing characteristics not found in any other primates. [4]

We hasten to point out that this stupid idea was not published in a peer-reviewed journal.

> Dr. McCarthy elaborates his astonishing hypothesis in an article on Macroevolution.net, a website he curates. [5] He is at pains to point out that that it is merely a hypothesis, but he presents compelling evidence to support it. [6]

The "compelling evidence" is that we share some distinguishing characteristics with pigs.

> These distinguishing characteristics, including hairless skin, a thick layer of subcutaneous fat, light-coloured eyes, protruding noses and heavy eyelashes, to name but a few, are unmistakeably porcine, he suggests.
>
> There are also a number of less obvious but equally inexplicable similarities between humans and pigs in the structure of the skin and organs.
>
> Indeed, pig skin tissues and heart valves can be used in medicine because of their similarity and compatibility with the human body. [7]

The *Daily Mail* notes:

> Unsurprisingly, Dr McCarthy's hypothesis has come in for substantial criticism from orthodox evolutionary biologists and their Creationist opponents alike. [8]

Yes, that's not surprising. The surprising thing is that paleomagnetism hasn't come in for equally substantial criticism from evolutionists. Why are some stupid evolutionary ideas accepted, when others are rejected? (But then, how many evolutionary ideas aren't stupid?)

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[4] *Daily Mail*, 5 December 2013, "'Humans evolved after a female chimpanzee mated with a pig': Extraordinary claim made by American geneticist", http://www.dailymail.co.uk/sciencetech/article-2515969/Humans-evolved-female-chimpanzee-mated-pig-Extraordinary-claim-American-geneticist.html#ixzz2mtLmH3Wz

[5] http://www.macroevolution.net/human-origins.html#.UqR9acKA2M-

[6] *Daily Mail*, 5 December 2013, "'Humans evolved after a female chimpanzee mated with a pig': Extraordinary claim made by American geneticist", http://www.dailymail.co.uk/sciencetech/article-2515969/Humans-evolved-female-chimpanzee-mated-pig-Extraordinary-claim-American-geneticist.html#ixzz2mtLmH3Wz

[7] *ibid.*

[8] *ibid.*

by Lothar Janetzko

Creationism vs. Evolution

http://creationism-vs-evolution.com/

"Solving the most intriguing and important questions humans face using reason, facts, and an open mind."

This month's web site review looks at a site addressing the question of origins, which "has been popularly reduced to two distinct concepts: creationism and evolution." The author of the site, Dr. R. Wysong, states that he has no agenda other than truth.

The main page of the web site serves as an introduction to how the author chooses to address the creationism/evolution controversy. He believes that the controversy "can be solved by any person with an open and inquiring mind." He also believes that "doubt, not faith, educates." His comments on religions and science make for interesting reading.

On a side bar of the main page of the site you will find links to short articles that cover a variety of topics: 1) Biological Machines, 2) Evolution's Legacy, 3) Fossil Problems, 4) Are We Selected Mutants? 5) The Argument From Similarity, 6) Variety Is Not Evolution, and 7) Why Evolution Is Believed. All of these topics are discussed in more detail in the web site author's book Solving the BIG QUESTIONS As if Thinking Matters. This book contains 736 pages, 60 chapters, approximately 200 graphics, an appendix, scientific references, and an index.

The main page of the web site also serves as a launching point for another web site: AsIfThinkingMatters.Com. On this site you will find information about books the author has written, and links to Multimedia, Mail, Thoughts, Blog and Newsletter.

There is much to explore on this web site. You are challenged to "wipe the slate clean" and use your own reasoning abilities to learn how to meet the creationism vs. evolution challenge. As the author states, "we must commit to the process of truth seeking, not the subservient implementation of given beliefs."

You may not agree with all the material presented on this site, but I think you will find that the author has honestly followed the stated premise of "No scientific or religious dogma allowed here" on his website.