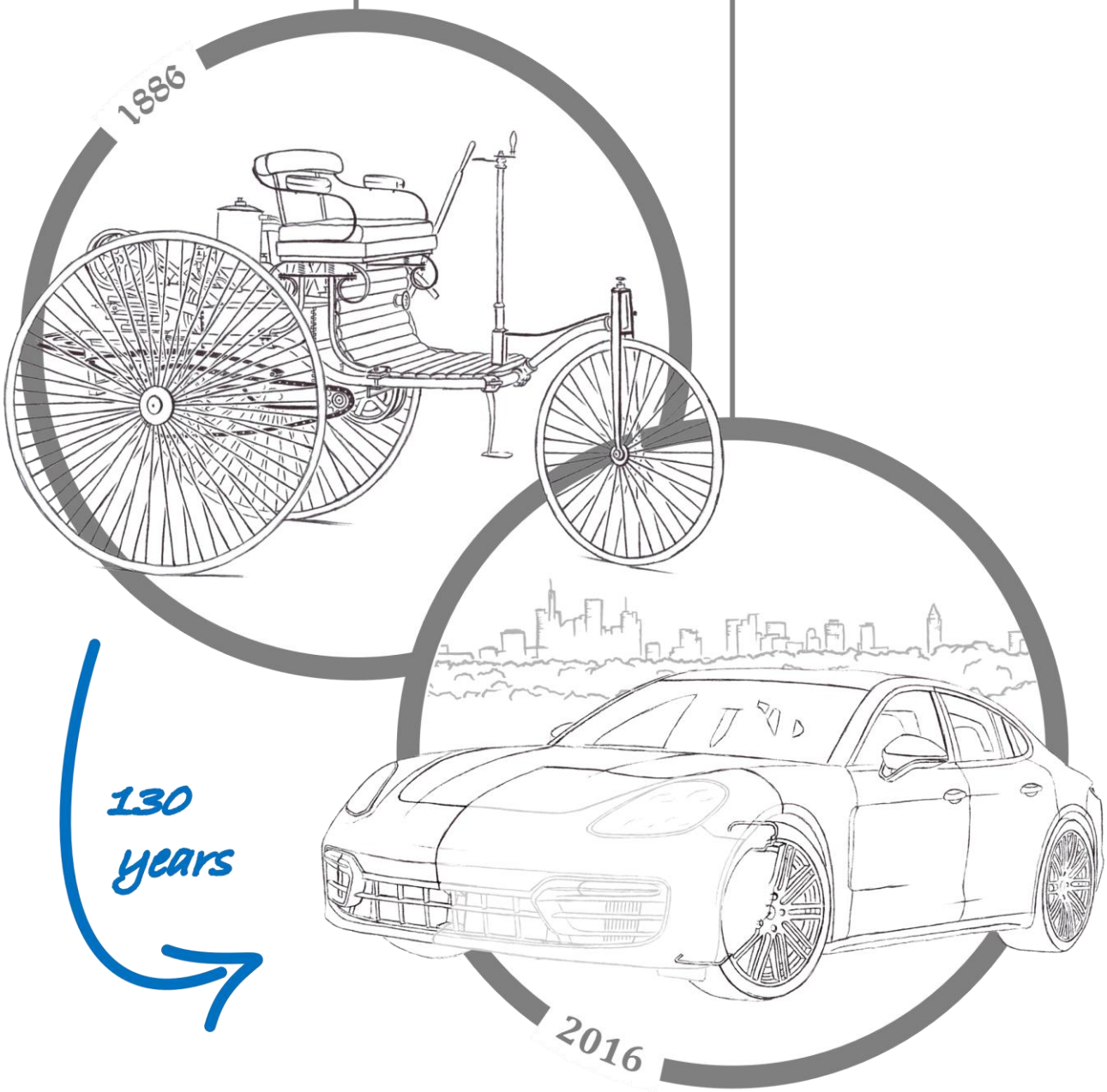
PRELIMINARY

CREATION vs. EVOLUTION

how we got from here to here ... and why it matters



by

Matthias Kahle

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Throughout this booklet you will find blue & underlined passages pointing out hyperlinks to references and further resources in the internet. In case you obtain only a printed copy of this handout it is recommended to download the ebook in .pdf-format: https://www.bookofactscontinued.com/creation-vs-evolution/

INFORMATION

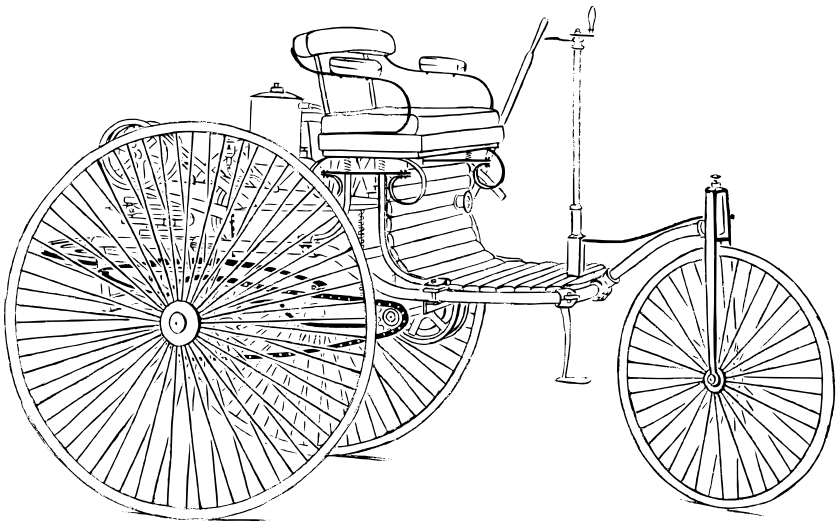
All translations in this booklet from German sources into English:
(1) deepl.com followed by
(2) fine-tuning of the author.

PART I – THE 1ST AUTOMOBILE

HUMBLE BEGINNINGS

Imagine you visiting your local car dealership. The sales person advertises the newest evolution of car with the words: *"After years of development, this model has finally close to one horse power. Also in terms of efficiency we have made lots of progress: Now you will only have to replenish the cooling water every 12 kilometers … which means: With a top speed of about 12 kilometers/hour, you will only have to stop once every hour. This makes it quite possible to travel over one hundred kilometers in one day."* Would you be impressed?

Given our retrospective vision from the 21st century, this design[1] of Carl Benz might look primitive and unimpressive. This changes however when we consider the historical context and that this was arguably the first functional motor car in the world. The story how C. Benz developed the motor car, how he had to fight not only *technical* but also *cultural* battles for the acceptance of it, is truly a fascinating one, and it helps us to appreciate the vision and genius of a pioneer who changed the life of the average human being in a tremendous way.



Picture 1) The "birth certificate" of the automobile: Carl Benz's patent number 37435 titled "vehicle powered by a gas engine"

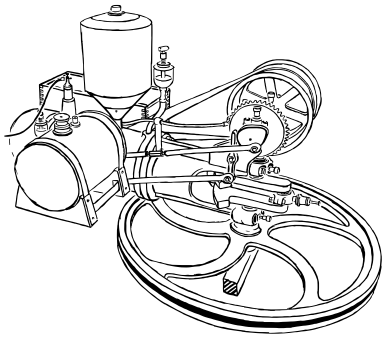
One of the major challenges in the development of the motor car was that it is an assembly of several subunits which all – coming with its own unique requirements and challenges – had to be *present* and *functioning* to a certain degree. In the words of C. Benz:

> "If one of these individual or sub-problems could not be solved, it was impossible to make the motor car operational and roadworthy, i.e., the solution to the overall problem was doomed to failure. […] Strictly speaking, all creative work to date would have been in vain if I hadn't succeeded in making the car roadworthy, also for curves."[2]

[1] https://group.mercedes-benz.com/company/tradition/company-history/1885-1886.html
[2] Carl Benz, *Lebensfahrt eines deutschen Erfinders. Erinnerungen eines Achtzigjährigen*, Hamburg, SERVUS Verlag 2012, Nachdruck der Originalausgabe von 1925, p.43,65.

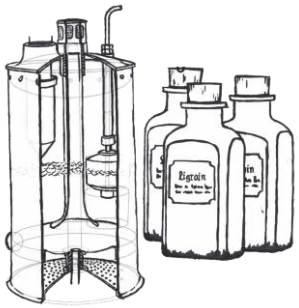
QUESTION: WHAT DID C. BENZ DEVELOP FIRST?

Even though Benz's first motor car seems primitive and unimpressive compared to modern automobiles, it is an "organism" (as Benz refers to it several times) "living" only if all the components work together in harmony. With that the question arises: Which component of the motor car did C. Benz develop first? Mark your choice:



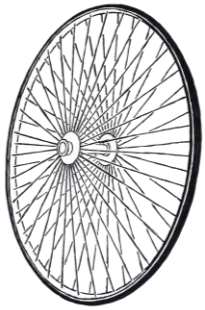
A. the powertrain ?

all the mechanical components necessary for the transformation of chemical energy (fuel and air mixture) into motion (and heat)



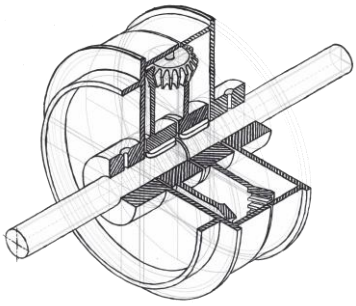
B. the carburetor ?

the device designed for mixing fuel (gasoline/ligroin) and air in a ratio that is combustible and therefore usable to drive the powertrain



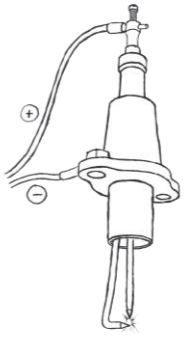
C. the wheel (spoked) ?

the mechanical part which transfers the rotational motion of the powertrain to the street in an efficient way (without being too heavy and causing too much drag and vibrations)



D. the differential ?

the mechanical device which makes it possible to independently transmit torque from the powertrain to the main wheels (necessary for taking curves)



E. electrical ignition ?

the electrical device which ignites the fuel-air-mixture in just the right moment during the 4-stroke process to drive the piston back down again

The quote from C. Benz on page 03 of this booklet already gave a hint to the correct answer. In the same chapter of his book, he writes:

> "I considered the differential so important and indispensable that I drew it first of all, at least 10 years earlier than I tackled the solution to the overall problem and thus the construction of the motor car."[3]

In the end, however, *all* elements had to be *present* and *functioning* to a certain degree. Therefore Benz's patent number 37435 is a good example for what is commonly called an *irreducible complex system*[4]: take one (or more) of the subsystems away and the machine cannot fulfill its primary purpose. In the case of the motor car: transporting somebody or something from point A to point B.

LEARNING FROM FAILURES (TRIAL AND ERROR)

Not all the mentioned subunits worked as anticipated by Benz even though he had meticulously planned, calculated, and drawn every single component before it being manufactured and mounted onto the first prototype of the motor car. He writes:

> "When I started making the wooden models, the motorized vehicle was ready to go - on paper, in the design folder. There wasn't a single gear or gearwheel, screw, chain or pulley - in short, not a single part, right down to the last handle and button, that wasn't included in the drawing. But as confidently designed, as well thought out and precisely calculated as everything was - the theoretical could not always stand up to the forum of the practical. Some parts behaved quite differently in practice than the designer had expected from a calculation point of view. Some individual parts acted strangely, did not want to acclimatize and did not willingly fit into the context of things and the overall organism. One difficulty after another reared its head. But none was able to paralyze the inventor's will."[3]

We ought to be thankful for the perseverance of people like Benz who fought through those technical difficulties. Through the repetitive and incremental process of *trial and error*, one problem after the other was ironed out. The people around Benz (in his company and also in the engineering community) could learn from him. They could learn not only from his technological breakthroughs but *also* from his failures.

The following page contains a diagram describing this process of *trial and error* and finally success: The horizontal axis shows time while the vertical axis shows the level of complexity. Around 3,000BC the wheel was invented/adapted for transportation purposes: the first step, the first increase in complexity on the way to the automobile.

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[3] Carl Benz, *Lebensfahrt eines deutschen Erfinders. Erinnerungen eines Achtzigjährigen*, Hamburg, SERVUS Verlag 2012, Nachdruck der Originalausgabe von 1925, p.68,41

[4] https://www.gotquestions.org/irreducible-complexity.html

Of course, Benz didn't have to *"reinvent the wheel a second time"* as a popular proverb goes. He continued from the knowledge which had been gathered by others before him.

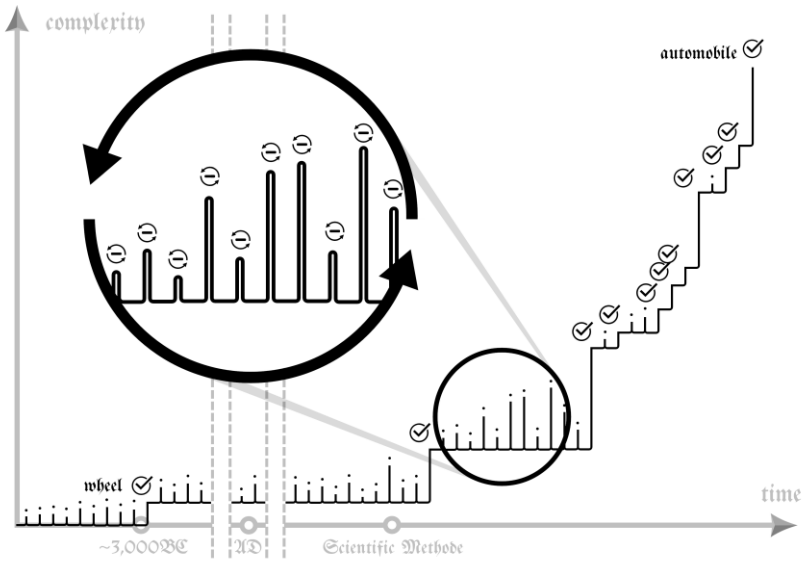
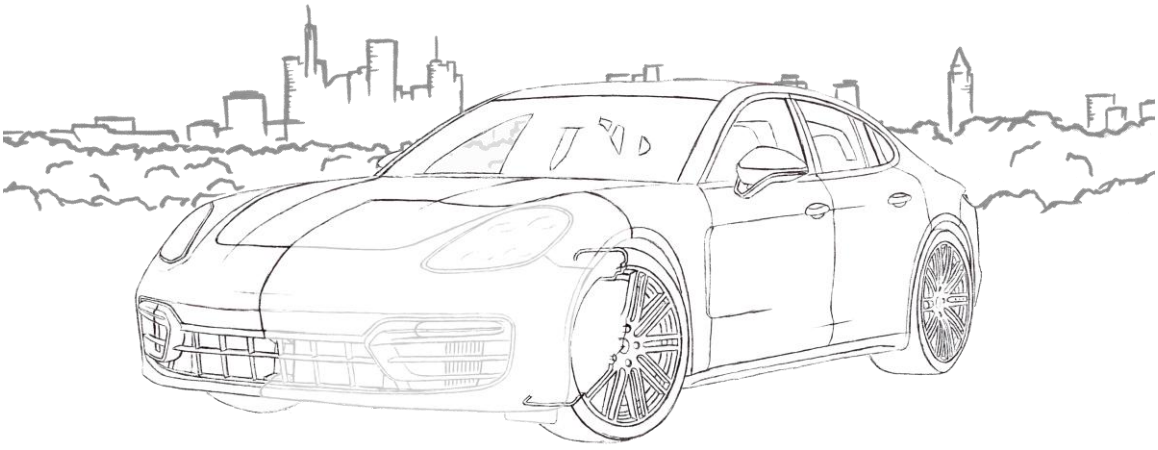


Diagram 1) Through the process of *trial and error* and the learning from past failures, an increase in complexity is not only possible over time but also probable and observable.

Through the adherence to the scientific method (which was formulated and refined during the scientific revolution in the 16th and 17th century) and the learning from the past, not even two centuries after the first prototype of Benz's first motor car in 1886, we have evolutions today that add to the sheer ability of getting people and goods from point A to point B a combination of safety, comfort, entertainment, speed, efficiency, and beauty.



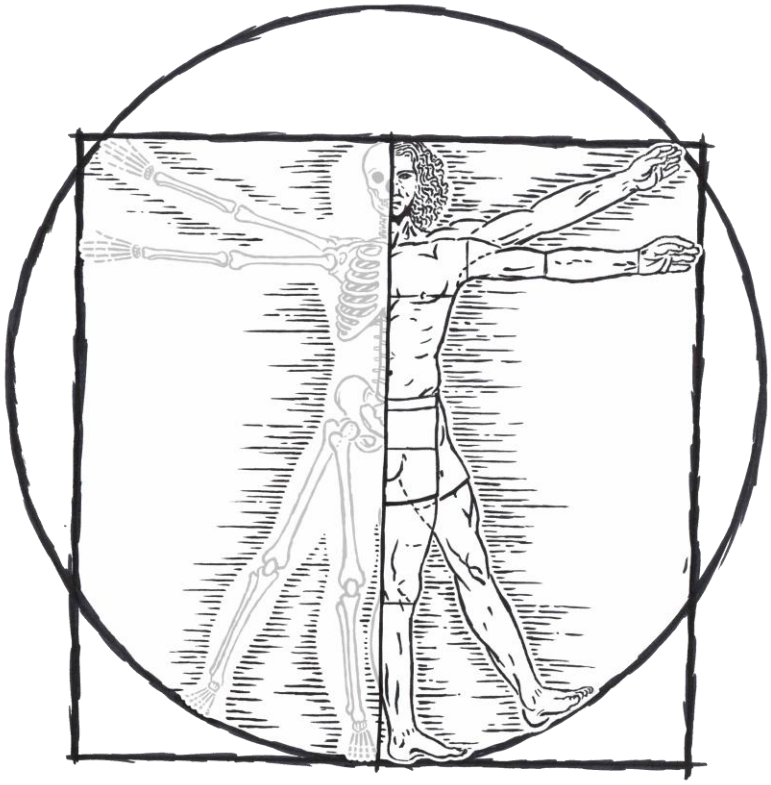
Picture 2) An example of modern-day luxury sedans which was made possible by thousands of engineering hours and the process of *trial and error*

This pattern (from simple to complex through a process *guided* by intelligent minds) is – of course – observable not only in the automobile industry but in every other industry as well. Whether it is the smartphone in our hands or the skyscraper beneath our feet: we know not only *that* this process works but also *how* it works. It is an evolutionary process pushed by intelligent minds over the course of time.

PART II – FROM THE KNOWN TO THE UNKNOWN

THE ORIGIN OF HUMAN LIFE

The content of part I of this booklet is easy to grasp, not too far from our human experience. Therefore it is helpful to use this experience as a reference point to venture from the known into the unknown, specifically into one of life's most fundamental questions: the origin of life in general and subsequently the origin of *human* life.



Picture 3) A remake of the *Vitruvian man*[5], one of Leonardo da Vinci's most famous art works, with the human skeleton superimposed on the left side of the painting

Everyone who has completed high school knows that there are only two competing hypotheses for this question:

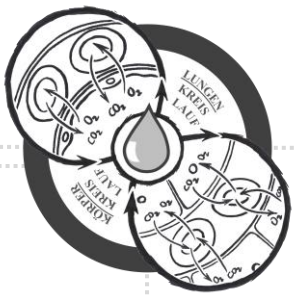
(1) Evolution (*nothing* produced life; we are merely the product of time and chance)
(2) Creation (*something* or *someone* created life, particularly human life purposefully)

Since textbooks and classes across multiple disciplines in school devote plenty of time to teaching Neo-Darwinian Evolution (while neglecting the case for Creation to a degree that the possibility of viewpoint discrimination had to be addressed in the United States Commission on Civil Rights[6]), let us look at the plausibility regarding Neo-Darwinian Evolution using the same pattern laid out in the first part of this booklet.

[5] https://www.britannica.com/topic/Vitruvian-man
[6] Return of the God Hypothesis in Cambridge w. Stephen Meyer (https://youtu.be/K0qbigRMqW8&t=827)

QUESTION: WHAT DID EVOLUTION DEVELOP FIRST?

Neo-Darwinian Evolution describes a gradual, unguided, blind process from simpler life forms (like bacteria) into more complex life forms (living in the primordial ocean) and finally into human life (living on land). The question naturally arises: Which of the following components did Evolution develop first? Mark your choice:



{A} the blood ?

the medium by which oxygen (O_2), carbon dioxide (CO_2), and nutrients are transported throughout the entire human body … indispensable for human life

{B} the lungs ?

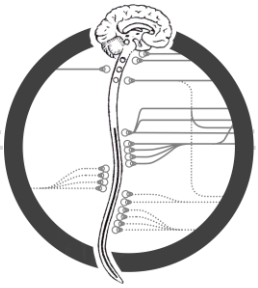
the organ which facilitates the exchange of O_2 (from the air into the blood {A}) and CO_2 (from the blood {A} into the air) through the process of diffusion … indispensable for human life

{C} the heart ?

the organ which pumps the blood {A} into the lungs {B} and into the rest of the human body after it has been enriched with O_2 … indispensable for human life

{D} the vessels ?

the network consisting of arteries, veins, and capillaries which runs through the entire body so that the blood {A} can reach the cells … indispensable for human life



{E} the autonomous nervous system ?

the nervous system which keeps the heart {C} beating, the lung {B} breathing, and controls the contraction/dialation of the vessels {D} even when the organism is not awake … indispensable for human life

FAILING TO LEARN FROM FAILURES

Through the repetitive use of the identifiers {A}{B}{C}{D}{E}, the sentence "indispensable for human life", and the lines connecting the representing icons of each component on the previous page, a contrast is supposed to be emphasized to the development process of Benz's first motor car. Benz had the advantage that he could develop the individual subunits in successive steps, to a large degree *independent* from each other. He could design the differential *before* the completion of the powertrain by estimating the loads which the powertrain would exert on the differential. Neo-Darwinian Evolution as a mechanism to increase complexity of life on the other hand *does not* have that benefit because of vast dependencies within the organism. If the components {A}{B}{C}{D}{E} of this extremely simplified human life form were not all *present* and *functioning* to a minimum degree, the organism would not be able to survive for even five minutes. Subsequent new attempts of this blind, unguided mechanism within Neo-Darwinian Evolution would not be able to learn from previous failures and would therefore continue to make those failures. In diagram 2) this process of failure after failure is illustrated through the broken line after each failed cycle and the start of the subsequent iteration from zero.

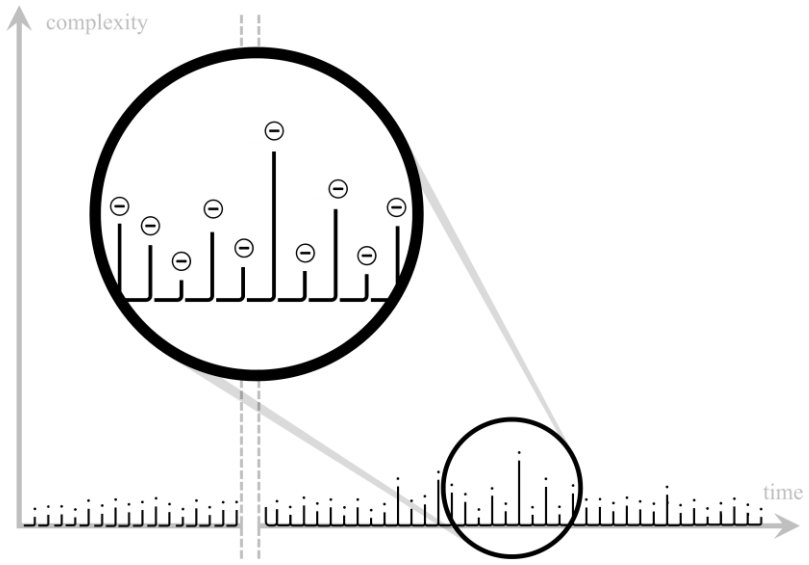


Diagram 2) Without a guiding intelligence behind Neo-Darwinism learning from the past, failure after failure fails to produce an increase in complexity on the path to human life

Even with very generous concessions (like Cosmic Evolution, Chemical Evolution, Biological Evolution, Evolution of information etc. occurring *without* an intelligent first cause behind all of it, described in more detail in part III of this booklet) and billions of years for those grants to produce more than failure, we still end up with the following truths:

Every build-i-n-g has a build-e-r.
Every paint-i-n-g has a paint-e-r.
Every creat-i-o-n has a creat-o-r.

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for your thoughts and objections -

PART III – CONCESSIONS AND OBJECTIONS

This part of the booklet is designated to elaborate on the background of the comparison made in part I and part II. As you have certainly noticed, some major simplifications have been made, not only for the content to fit into the limited volume of this small booklet, but also in order to show how counter-intuitive Neo-Darwinism Evolution is *even when* we tilt the odds greatly in favor of it. Furthermore this part is designated to give room for commonly asked questions and objections to the train of thought laid out in this booklet.

CONCESSIONS … FOR ARGUMENTS SAKE

As mentioned in part II of this booklet, multiple prerequisites for Neo-Darwinian Evolution to even be possible have been conceded for arguments sake before asking the Question: What did Evolution develop first? The topics of those concessions in and of themselves cast huge doubts on the plausibility of this theory as an explanation for the origin of human life:

- Cosmic Evolution
  That matter, space, and even time itself came into existence at the very beginning of time (as today universally agreed upon) *without* the guiding hand of an intelligent mind is conceded.
- Fine-tuning of the universe
  That the universe is finely tuned to allow for life on planet earth *without* the involvement of an intelligent mind is conceded.
- Chemical Evolution
  That in the primordial ocean simple chemicals evolved into complex molecules and into life (violating Pasteur's *Omne vivum ex vivo*, life only comes from life) *without* the involvement of an intelligent mind is conceded.
- Biological Evolution
  That out of more simple life forms (like bacteria) more complex life forms evolved *without* the involvement of an intelligent mind is conceded. Both chemical Evolution and biological Evolution necessitate:
  - Evolution of information: That DNA (genetic information contained in every cell of living beings) increases in complexity over time (not observed in nature past and present) *without* the involvement of an intelligent mind is conceded.
- Survival and Reproduction
  That the new forms of life adapted to hostile environments (e.g. sea creatures venturing on land) and them being able to reproduce *without* the involvement of an intelligent mind is conceded.
- Simplification of Human Life
  Since Benz's first car was a very simple design without extras going beyond the things strictly necessary for the operation of it, the demands of this comparison have been drastically adapted in favor of the Neo-Darwinian Evolution. The human

body is a complex system of multiple interdependent subsystems which make life possible across huge life spans, necessitating

- that all the described components have just the right properties (e.g. coagulation of blood)
- a framework towards the surrounding environment (skin, skeleton, etc.)
- mechanisms to counter tremendous misuses (e.g. liver, kidneys). When we consider not only the obvious abuse of the human body through drugs (like alcohol and cigarettes) but also the "normal" food that is sold today in our supermarkets (which are often loaded with unhealthy chemicals of various kinds), it is close to a miracle that so many people still reach comparatively old ages given all the toxic bombardment our organs have to deal with on a regular basis.

In order to tilt this comparison in favor of Neo-Darwinian Evolution, only those five components {A}{B}{C}{D}{E} described in part II of this booklet are taken into account since they are indispensable for the human life to be sustained for a mere five minutes. Even before those five minutes brain cells start to die if oxygenated blood is not pumped through the brain. Therefore this comparison is a cautious one with regards to the overall message this booklet is trying to convey. In truth the situation for Neo-Darwinian Evolution is much more bleak than it has been portrayed here. To learn more about the facts a short list of reading recommendations is added on page 15 of this booklet.

OBJECTIONS … GETTING SHARPER

A widely known proverb says: *Iron sharpens iron*. This proverb is straight from the Bible:

> *As iron sharpens iron, So a man sharpens the countenance of his friend.*
> Proverb 27:17 [NKJV][7]

While many people might not know the source of that proverb, anybody using this proverb knows however what it means. When you engage in a civil dialogue with people (friend or not) and talk about subjects you disagree about, the one party ("iron") "sharpens" the other party ("iron"). Believes and the arguments for those believes held before that dialogue are affirmed or challenged, fortified or demolished. Therefore the goal of this project *Creation vs. Evolution* is to get not only affirmations from people who already believe the same way but also pushback. Since the volume of this booklet will not allow to address all the objections posed, a website has been set up for that purpose[8]. Feel free to contribute in any way, shape, or form.

[7] https://www.bible.com/bible/114/PRO.27.17
[8] https://bookofactscontinued.com/creation-vs-evolution-objections/

THE PURPOSE OF THIS PROJECT – A PERSONAL NOTE FROM THE AUTHOR

Even the best artist (I'm *not* claiming to be one of them) cannot capture the whole "truth" about the reality he[9] wants to portray. Not only color-wise is nature so much more than a representation on canvas, but especially the necessary simplification from a three-dimensional reality to a two-dimensional plane poses challenges and comes with severe limitations. Therefore, if the artist wants to deliver to his audience more of the truth, he has to draw the same object, the same scenery from multiple perspectives. This is a fitting analogy to the building of a coherent world view: a person who wants to know the truth has to construct a worldview looking at it from several perspectives with the willingness to adapt it if challenged and proven incoherent/incomplete/incorrect.

For many years now, I as the author of this booklet have embarked on this journey of refining my own world view, trying to be objective, trying to fight the biases which none of us are free from, and it has been on my heart to share the convictions gathered on this journey. For a mechanical engineer (having worked in the automobile industry for several years, mostly on the car portrayed on page 6), the process is clear: coarse → fine, big picture → small details. Therefore, logically the questions regarding God (an essential part of any worldview) should have been addressed in the following sequence:

1. Is there a reason to believe *that* God exists? If so:
2. Can we know *who* that God is? Has He revealed Himself to His creation? And
3. If this God describes Himself as a personal being interacting with His creation, *do I experience this*? Does God engage with me, my thoughts, my words, my questions directed towards Him?

Oddly enough the sharing of my journey refining my world view happened in exactly the reverse fashion. First, on my journey around the world (2018/2019) I started to share my experiences with this personal God in written form: in chapter 1 of my book *destination unknown*[10], I described how God answered a desperate prayer of mine so directly and so specifically that it would take a massive leap of faith to attribute the circumstances of this event to mere chance and coincidence. In writing this chapter of my book first, I addressed the third question of the above-mentioned sequence (about the personal nature of God) first. Following that I wrote a booklet[11] and made videos[12] about the subject of fulfilled prophecy, specifically within the Torah which was sparked of by me experiencing the Islamic celebration of Eid-e-Ghorban[13] in Iran. In doing so I addressed the second question of the sequence: Can we know *who* that God is? In writing this booklet *Creation vs. Evolution* in late 2025, I finally addressed the first question of the sequence … the one which from a logical perspective ought to have been addressed first. Therefore I wouldn't blame anybody accusing me of confirmation bias: *"You are just trying to retrace the logical*

[9] both sexes are addressed: I have - and never will - gender my content!!!
[10] https://bookofactscontinued.com/destination-unknown/
[11] https://bookofactscontinued.com/the-cross-in-the-torah-download/
[12] tCitT - Genesis 22 (long) (https://youtu.be/TqD3qqWWBVE)
[13] https://www.britannica.com/topic/Eid-al-Adha

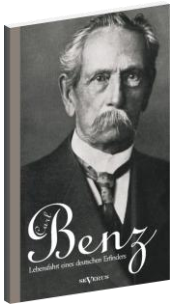
steps and try to find arguments for the existence of the God you have already decided to believe in." As mentioned above: I understand that point and I am very aware of that danger. I personally experienced it particularly when I read the Quran several years ago: on my second attempt reading this disorganized and horrific book, I had to stop midway through it to ask myself the question: *What is my motivation for reading this book? Am I on the quest to discover truth wherever it might lead me, or am I trying to gather ammunition for future conversations with Muslims?* Then and there I made the conscious decision to follow the truth, wherever it might lead me. Even though the question of me being biased is not off the table with this clarification, it shows one thing: I am aware of the danger of being biased, and the first step towards victory is to know the enemy, especially the enemy within. The best way I regard to refining one's own worldview is to expose yourself to the worldviews opposed to yours the most (in the case of Christianity: Atheism and Islam): reading books, analyzing debates, engaging personally and online.

Now, why does all of this matter? Why invest time and energy to try to persuade people that there is a God and that He can be known when they might be happy believing the things they are believing right now? The answer is a simple one coming from a simple-minded person. Even though we live in a post-modern world which tries to tell us that there are no absolute truths (which in and of itself is a self-defeating truth-claim), there is at least one absolute truth which has been proven empirically: 100/100 people will die, sooner or later. Our hearths will fail us one day. It will stop beating and we will make the step from this life into eternity. As someone who has worked in the emergency services as an EMT[14], I have seen people on the verge of that transition while fighting to keep them alive: some young[15], some old. I don't want anyone to make that transition unsure of where they are going. I don't want anyone to come to the conclusion at the end of their days that they have been deceived by whatever worldview that was incomplete/ incorrect/incoherent. I don't wish this to my greatest enemy.

The content of this project *Creation vs. Evolution* is just another perspective which I would love especially my atheist friends to consider in the refinement of their worldview. I heard the argument laid out in the first two parts of this booklet many years ago, and particularly during my education to become an EMT (which involved learning a lot about the anatomy and working principles of the human body), I got the impression that Christians should capitalize more on this argument. For once because (1) it is simple, (2) it is devastating to the atheistic worldview if unable to someday be answered well, and (3) it is a question. Jesus asked many questions in His earthly ministry because He wanted people to start thinking for themselves. Before finishing this booklet with a list of reading recommendations (experts in their respective fields who know what they are talking about), I want to ask you a final question: Are you willing to go wherever the evidence might lead you? Please count the cost if you are not because the stakes couldn't be higher. I pray that this small contribution of mine will be a blessing on your journey, my friend!

[14] EMT = Emergency Medical Technician (in German: Rettungssanitäter)
[15] https://bookofactscontinued.com/7-8-9-10-11-12-13-14-15-breath/

RECOMMENDED RESOURCES



Carl Benz, *Lebensfahrt eines deutschen Erfinders. Erinnerungen eines Achtzigjährigen*. (German)
This autobiography is a must-read for engineers in the automobile industry. As mentioned repeatedly throughout this booklet, several times the subjects of irreducible complexity, trial and error, and the comparison of the first car to a human being is touched upon.

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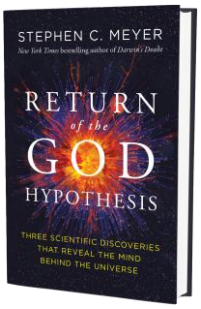
https://www.deutsche-digitale-bibliothek.de/item/W4KVJOEFUBCDOHMZ5HAN5IX4VQKHE4F2



Stephen Meyer, *Return of the God Hypothesis*
This book takes a deep dive into the history of science (how and why the scientific revolution happened in Europe), and follows several lines of argument which give compelling evidence for the existence of God.

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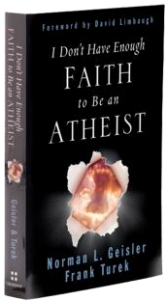
https://returnofthegodhypothesis.com/



Norman L. Geisler, Frank Turek, *I Don't Have Enough Faith to be an Atheist*
This book is not just a must-read for those interested in apologetics for the Christian faith. It is a must-read for total skeptics since it starts with basic questions raised in a post-modern world like: *Does truth exist? Is there evidence for the existence of God? Are miracles possible?* After that the book continues with questions regarding the Christian faith: *Can we trust the authors and manuscripts of the Bible? Who is Jesus and is he really God?*

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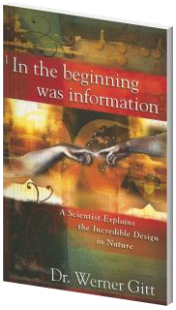
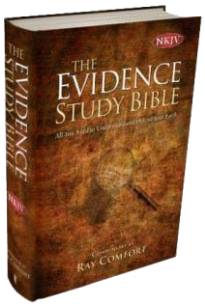
https://crossexamined.org/books/



Werner Gitt, *In the Beginning was Information*
What about DNA? Where did the information stored in every cell of living creatures come from? Since information by nature is immaterial and in our experience exclusively produced by intelligent minds, those questions address some of the biggest problems with the Neo-Darwinian Evolution theory.
https://bruderhand.de/download/Werner_Gitt/Englisch-Am_Anfang_war_die_Info.pdf



Ray Comfort, *the Evidence Study Bible*
This study Bible is packed with quotes, objections and answers to the Christian faith and much more. Also several polemics against the plausibility of Neo-Darwinism are included. One of these polemics is found in the comment on 1. Kings 4:33 and it addresses exactly the point made in part II of this booklet. The entire ministry of *Living Waters* started by Ray Comfort is recommendable for equipping Christians to learn and to share their faith biblically.

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https://livingwaters.com/store/books/bibles/the-evidence-study-bible-hardcover/

For further recommendations regarding this and other subject (books and YouTube channels) visit https://www.bookofactscontinued.com/recommendations/.

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