

Re: Human design and natural "design"

Source: <http://sci.tech-archive.net/Archive/sci.bio.evolution/2005-08/msg00256.html>

- *From:* Tim Tyler <tim@xxxxxxxxxxxx>
 - *Date:* Sun, 14 Aug 2005 19:26:33 -0400 (EDT)
-

dkomo <dkomo871@xxxxxxxxxxxx> wrote or quoted:

> Perplexed in Peoria wrote:

>> "dkomo" <dkomo871@xxxxxxxxxxxx> wrote in message
[news:ddijq\\$2ok\\$1@xxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxx](mailto:news:ddijq$2ok$1@xxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxx)

- > Because nature can use massive parallism to explore an immense search
- > space. It can literally "experiment" on tens of millions of species
- > simultaneously. And it has tens of millions of years in which to do it.
- > These significant advantages over what humans have to work with.
- >
- > But we can produce a complex design directly with very little trial and
- > error. Given a design spec for a digital filter, for example, we merely
- > feed the parameters into a computer, and presto voila there's the
- > filter. Nature has absolutely no capability to do this.

Here you are using terminology which divorces man from nature.

I know there's a long tradition of that – going back to Darwin and beyond. However I wish people would stop using such terminology.

One of the Darwinian revelations is that man is part of and a product of nature – not something apart from or divorced from it.

- > Actually, you could say nature did evolve the
- > silicon chip indirectly by evolving man, but it took her 3.5 billion
- > years starting with some basic biochemical ingredients.

That's more like it ;-)

- > It could be said that nature is herself intelligent because is composed
- > in part of billions, if not trillions, of intelligent organisms. [...]

A useful perspective. The evolutionary process has become intelligent.

No longer can it be argued that evolution can't perform fitness evaluations under simulation – or that it lacks foresight, aims and goals. Those things may have been missing back in the dark ages, true – but these days the process includes intelligent agents that have these attributes and abilities – and their actions can

Re: Human design and natural "design"

influence the path evolution takes.

|im |yler <http://timtyler.org/> tim@xxxxxxxxxxxx Remove lock to reply.

-
- *Follow-Ups:*
 - ◆ **Re: Human design and natural "design"**
 - ◇ *From:* dkomo

 - *References:*
 - ◆ **Human design and natural "design"**
 - ◇ *From:* dkomo
 - ◆ **Re: Human design and natural "design"**
 - ◇ *From:* Perplexed in Peoria
 - ◆ **Re: Human design and natural "design"**
 - ◇ *From:* dkomo

 - Prev by Date: **Maximum entropy principle**
 - Next by Date: **Re: Snowball Earth at 2.3 gya**
 - Previous by thread: **Re: Human design and natural "design"**
 - Next by thread: **Re: Human design and natural "design"**
 - Index(es):
 - ◆ **Date**
 - ◆ **Thread**