

Creation Matters

Volume 22 Number 3
May / June 2017

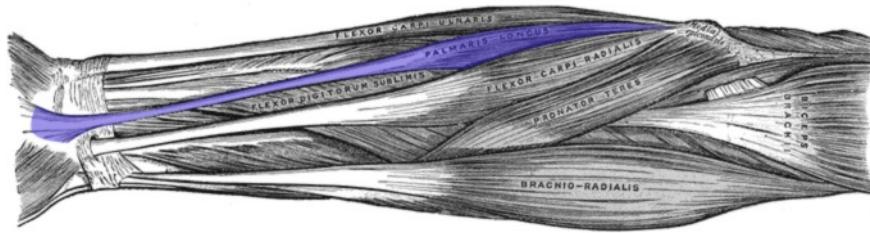
A publication of the Creation Research Society

Palmaris Longus Muscle: Useless or Useful?

by Jerry Bergman, PhD

The *palmaris longus* is a small, cord-like muscle running beneath the skin from the front of the forearm to the palm of the hand. It is believed by many Darwinists to be vestigial (Kigera and Mukwaya, 2011). Vestigial organs are those that were useful in the past, but are useless or largely useless today. This slender, elongated, spindle-shaped muscle is located on the medial side of the flexor carpi radialis. The palmaris is widest in the middle, and narrowest at both the proximal and distal attachments (Drake, et al., 2005).

It is regarded as vestigial because it is



*Palmaris longus muscle high-lighted in blue.
(adapted from Gray's Anatomy, public domain)*

believed to have functioned in gripping tree branches and other objects in our purported common ancestry with the chimpanzees (Sebastin, et al., 2005b). The muscle is believed to have been particularly helpful for hanging from trees, as is common in many primates (Rogers, 2017). The palmaris longus is often assumed by evolution-

ists to be an “evolutionary left-over” from our primate ancestors. It is also assumed that features which have become irrelevant may persist if they exert

neither positive nor negative evolutionary pressure. For this reason, it has long been termed vestigial in humans due to the claim that palmaris longus serves no apparent function in humans.

Common descent explanation

The evolutionary interpretation of the muscle's presence in humans assumes that the

... continued on p. 5

The Greatest Mathematician Ever

by Paul G. Humber

Before entering into the esoteric, let us start by saying that algebra and geometry are two major divisions of mathematics. Algebra deals with sets of numbers, including the variable “x.” Some may object that “x” is not a number, but it is. The “x” is a definite but unspecified number. For example, there are two variables in this algebraic equation: $x^2 + y^2 = 1$. What is it saying? In “math-speak,” it refers to the set of all ordered pairs such that the distance to (0,0) is the constant, “1.” Does this relate to Jesus?

Math counts

The Lord Jesus (Creator Christ) is the originator of calculus, infinitesimals, infinity, and every geometric shape (see below), but He also expects us to know how to measure, count, add, subtract, divide, multiply, and

reason. For units of measure, He used the cubit (Mt 6:27), the measure (Mt 13:33), and the mile (Mt 5:41). He also used counting numbers: 1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 7, 11, 12, 18, 50, 70, 80, 100, 500, 4000, 5000, 10,000 and 20,000 (cf., Mt 10:29, Mt 12:40, Mt 13:33, Mt 16:9–10, Mt 19:28, Mt 20:6, Mk 14:30, Lk 7:41, Lk 10:1, Lk 13:4, Lk 14:31, Lk 16:7, Jn 4:35), and fractions. For example, He received a fraction from Zacchaeus ($\frac{1}{2}$; cf., Lk 19:8), and referred to another in the tithe.

He multiplied, as did Zacchaeus (cf., Mt 18:22, 70 X 7; Mt 13:8; and Lk 19:8) and also subtracted ($100 - 1 = 99$ in Mt 18:12; and $10 - 1 = 9$ in Lk 17:17). His disciple, Luke, used the term “innumerable” (suggestive of infinity), and the Lord also distinguished order as in greater than/less

than (few < many, cf., Lk 12:47–48).

Circles and spheres

Circles and spheres are very important in geometry. Isaiah 40:22 says that He “sits upon the circle of the earth.” It may well be that the word used for “circle” could also be rendered “sphere.” Prov 8:27 says, “He inscribed a circle on the face of the deep.” In Acts 1:8, Jesus spoke of the “remotest part [singular]” of the earth. On a sphere, the remotest “part” is the other end of the diameter from where you stand, going through the earth's center, and intersecting the opposite side of the globe.

The Lord Jesus relates to infinity, for we read in John 3:34, “He whom God hath

... continued on p. 3



Electron Math

The three building blocks of all atoms are protons, neutrons, and electrons. The first two components are made up of smaller particles called quarks. Electrons, in contrast, have no smaller components in the Standard Model of physics. No size or internal structure has been measured for electrons, yet they have mass, electric charge, and angular momentum. One might suggest that current physics experiments and theory are simply unable to explore the inner parts of an electron.

Electrons show both particle and wave properties. In their wave nature, electrons are non-localized and are spread completely around the nucleus in their atomic orbits. In contrast, in the particle nature, using the Bohr atomic model, inner electrons orbit the nucleus in perpetual motion at 1/137 the speed of light (the fine structure constant), or 1400 miles/second (about 2200 km/sec).

The mass of a single electron is 9.11×10^{-31} kg. This is 1836 times less than that of a proton, which shows that electrons are a minor contributor to an atom's total mass. A single penny, whether made of copper or zinc, contains about 10^{24} electrons. This number exceeds the estimate of total sand grains on all the seashores of the world. Simply rubbing your finger across

the surface of a penny scrapes off countless invisible electrons.

The electric charge of an electron is -1.6×10^{-19} coulombs. The coulomb unit of charge is the amount that flows past a point in a wire in one second when the current is one ampere; that is,

$$1 \text{ amp} = 1 \text{ coulomb/second.}$$

A flashlight produces about one amp of current. This means that 6.25×10^{18} electrons flow past a point in the flashlight circuit each second. The battery is not the source of electrons, but it causes the movement of electrons already present in the flashlight's metal circuit. The "drift velocity" of the countless electrons past a point in the circuit is actually small, only about 0.06 centimeters/second, a distance of one meter in 27 minutes. One can only imagine the immense crowd of electrons jostling though the flashlight's glowing bulb. Movement of the electrons between orbital energy levels leads to the visible light with a filament temperature of about 4600°F (2250°C). Creation details on the atomic scale of electrons are truly amazing.

CM

See the newest
books and videos

Visit the CRS
Bookstore

www.CRSbooks.org

877-CRS-BOOK



Contents

Palmaris Longus Muscle: Useless or Useful?.....	1
The Greatest Mathematician Ever.....	1
Math Matters: Electron Math.....	2
Matters of Fact: Adaptation.....	6
Speaking of Science	
Instinct: 'Somehow' Is Not an Evolutionary Explanation.....	7
Saving Evolution – a New Narrative about Dinosaur Soft Tissue.....	8
Dinosaur Evolutionary Tree Is All Wrong.....	8
Letters	
CRS: More than Just Model Building.....	9
Discrediting Evolution Is Necessary.....	10
Response: The Mission of the CRS Is Still Model Building.....	10
Quarterly Research Matters.....	11
All by Design: Reflecting on the Creator.....	12

Creation Matters

ISSN 1094-6632
Volume 22, Number 3
May / June 2017

Copyright © 2017 Creation Research Society
All rights reserved.

Editor:

Glen W. Wolfrom

Assistant Editor:

Jean K. Lightner

For advertising rates and information for authors:

Glen W. Wolfrom, Editor
Creation Research Society
6801 N. Highway 89
Chino Valley, AZ 86323-9186

Email: CMeditor@creationresearch.org
Phone: 928.636.1153

Creation Research Society Website:
www.creationresearch.org

Articles published in *Creation Matters* represent the opinions and beliefs of the authors, and do not necessarily reflect the official position of the CRS.

sent [referring to Christ] speaks the words of God, for God gives not the Spirit by measure unto Him.” In other words, Jesus has received the Spirit without measure (infinitely). There is also, in that verse, a reference to the “Greatest 3”—God the Father, God the Son, and God the Holy Spirit. Jesus taught that the “Greatest 3” is the same as the “Greatest 1,” for He said to baptize “in the name [singular] of the Father and the Son and the Holy Spirit” (Mt 28:19b).

Geometry

Previously, we said that algebra is about sets of numbers. Now we affirm that geometry, a second major heading under mathematics, deals with sets of points. For example, there is a one-to-one correspondence between the set of points on a circle with center at the origin and having radius 1 unit, and the set of ordered pairs (algebra) satisfying the equation, $x^2 + y^2 = 1$.

This can be extended three dimensionally. For example, $x^2 + y^2 + z^2 = 1$, is an equation with three variables. The geometric shape would be a sphere, and if we were to add the symbol “ \leq ” to the equation, the set of all points would either be on the surface of the sphere or inside the sphere. We would have a solid globe (think earth) with diameter 2 (i.e., radius 1).

Are we going a little far afield here? How does this relate to Jesus? The outer surface of the earth approximates a sphere/globe, and the Bible says that Jesus “in the beginning laid the foundation of the earth” (cf., Heb 1:10, quoting Psalm 102:26). Hebrews 1:8 speaks explicitly about Jesus (calls Him the “Son”), applying this passage to Him.

Is not Psalm 102 about Yahweh God? Yes, and Jesus is Yahweh God in human flesh. When a math teacher uses a compass to draw a circle on the chalk or white-board, one can be impressed. Which is more challenging, to draw a circle on a white-board or to make a spherical earth and hang it upon nothing?

Nothing? Job 26:7 says, “He stretches out the north over empty space and hangs the earth on nothing.” He did the same for the sun, moon, comets, and stars! But the words quoted in Hebrews only said that Jesus “laid the foundation of the earth” — saying nothing about the sun, moon,



FIGURE 1. Trilobite compound eye. © 2009 by Micha L. Rieser. Wikimedia Commons.

Bible that affirm the same. Jesus is indeed the Greatest Mathematician ever.

Newton

Many people would say that Sir Isaac Newton was the greatest mathematician, but what did Newton say? He affirmed,

This most beautiful system of the sun, planets, and comets, could only proceed from the counsel and dominion of an intelligent and powerful Being....This Being governs all things, not as the soul of the world, but as Lord over all; and on account of his dominion he is wont to be called Lord God ... or Universal Ruler. (Newton, 1846; p. 501)

What about tiny little atoms and even the sub-particles, like protons, electrons, and neutrons? What about quarks and leptons? The Bible, referring to Jesus, affirms that “in Him all things hold together” (Col 1:17). In other words, all atoms “hold together” in Jesus!

Colossians was written by an apostle, but what did Jesus Himself say? In Mt 10:30, Jesus said that “the very hairs of your head are all numbered.” How many mathematicians know the number of hairs on everyone’s head all over the earth? Hairs are small, and if Jesus had referred to “quarks and leptons,” how many people 2,000 years ago would have understood?

The number “3”

I taught mathematics for 3 decades, and I am particularly attracted to the number “3.” The Lord Himself may also have had a special place for that number. The Trinity may have been one reason, but also in John 2:19–20, we read, “Jesus answered them, ‘Destroy this temple, and in 3 days I will raise it up.’ The Jews then said, ‘It took 46 years to build this temple, and will You raise it up in 3 days?’” Even those who spoke out against Jesus remembered that number. One witness testified against Jesus saying, “This man stated, ‘I am able to destroy the temple of God and to rebuild it

comets, and stars. The verse continues, “And the heavens are the works of Your hands.” In summary, Hebrews 1:10 says that the entire universe was made by Jesus, and there are other verses in the

in 3 days” (Mt 26:61). Later, when Jesus was on the cross, a mocker ordered, “You who are going to destroy the temple and rebuild it in 3 days, save Yourself” (Mt 27:40).

Is this getting off track? No, the main track is to encourage readers to fall in love with man’s only hope for heaven. Not only is He the Greatest Mathematician ever, but He was/is also the Greatest Prophet. Many today deny the resurrection of Jesus, but during Jesus’ trials, even His enemies remembered His prediction that He would raise His own body (“temple”) 3 days after being put to death. The trials against Jesus really happened, and we have a historical record that even Jesus’ enemies affirmed, viz., that He had predicted His own resurrection. False leaders do not predict their own resurrections.

Trilobite eyes

At the beginning of this article, I referred to possibly “esoteric” subject matter. I shall resume. The trilobite eye was made by Creator Christ. Evolutionist Riccardo Levi-Setti’s beautiful book, *Trilobites* (Levi-Setti, 1995), contains these words:

Among the remains of early life on earth, the fossil record we find buried in ancient sedimentary rocks bears evidence of an extraordinary group of marine creatures, the trilobites. The position of these invertebrates in the [supposed] evolution of the animal kingdom is extraordinary because of their early ascent to a high level of functional complexity, described in fascinating detail by their persistent and ubiquitous fossil remains. (p. 1)

Let us continue, as this bears unwitting witness to the magnificent ability of our “Greatest Mathematician.” This evolutionary author continued,

Trilobites could see their immediate environment with amazingly sophisticated optical devices in the form of large composite eyes, the first use of optics coupled with sensory perception in nature. As a unique feat in the history of life, their eye lenses were shaped to correct for optical aberrations, with design identical to that proposed (quite independently of any knowledge of trilobites) by Descartes and Huygens. ... (p. 1)

When we humans construct optical elements, we sometimes cement together two lenses that have different refractive indices, as a means of

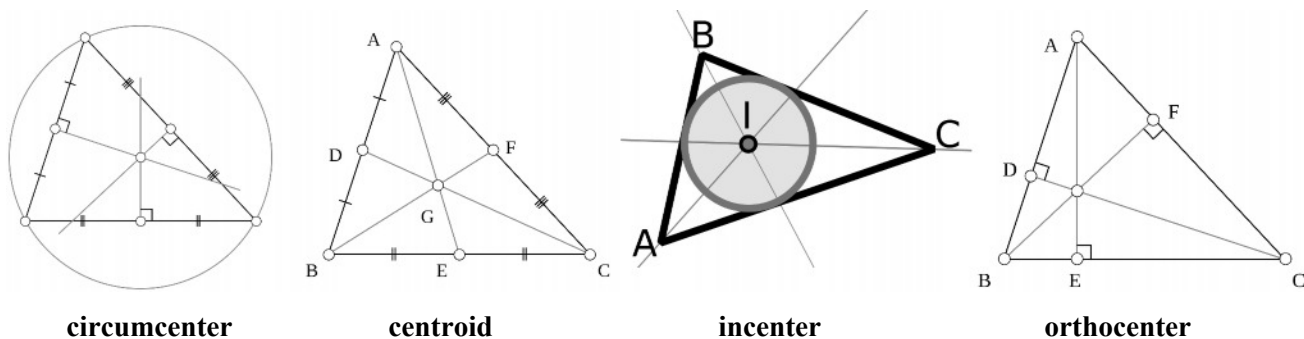


FIGURE 2. The four common types of triangle centers (public domain, Wikimedia Commons).

correcting particular lens defects. In fact, this optical doublet is a device so typically associated with human invention that its discovery in trilobites comes as something of a shock. The realization that trilobites developed and used such devices half a billion years ago (sic) makes the shock even greater. And a final discovery—that the refracting interface between the two lens elements in a trilobite's eye was designed in accordance with optical constructions worked out by Descartes and Huygens in the mid-seventeenth century — borders on sheer science fiction. (pp. 44, 54; emphasis added)

The author of the book was having difficulty believing that trilobites could do this on their own, but naturalism demands “No God!” He continued,

By comparing the shape of the aspheric lens exit surfaces constructed by Huygens and Descartes with the two lens structures identified by Clarkson ... little doubt remains that trilobites utilized the properties of Cartesian Ovals more than 400 million years (sic) before the seventeenth-century masters discovered the principle ... The design of the trilobite's eye lens could well qualify for a patent disclosure. (p. 57)

We could continue with the truth that mathematics is the basic language of creation, illustrating this with examples in nature of the Fibonacci sequence. There is much mathematics in music and symmetry, but let us conclude with the orderliness of triangles.

Triangles

We have referred to **3** in relation to the **Trinity** and the **3** days (prophecy of the Resurrection), but triangles are also marvelous in relation to **3**-ness. Triangles have **3** vertices and **3** sides. When three lines in a plane come together at a single point, we

say that the lines are concurrent. It is typical that two lines in a plane will intersect, but that a third should go through the exact same point as the other two is very special.

Of interest are the four common types of triangle centers (Figure 2). Every triangle in the universe...

- 1) ... has **3** perpendicular bisectors (1st triangle). Those three perpendicular bisectors always come together at a single point. That point-of-centricity is named the *circumcenter*, as it is equidistant from the **3** vertices. You can circumscribe a circle about that point that touches all **3** vertices.
- 2) ... has **3** medians (segments from the vertices to midpoints of opposite sides). They, too, are always concurrent at a single point (2nd triangle). That point is called the *centroid*. It is the only point that is a third the distance from each side to the opposite vertex. This is true for all **3** medians of any triangle.
- 3) ... has **3** angle bisectors, which are always concurrent at a single point, called the *incenter* (3rd triangle). Whereas the circumcenter is always equidistant to the **3** vertices, this incenter is always equidistant from the **3** sides. You can inscribe a circle tangent to the **3** sides using the incenter.
- 4) ... has **3** altitudes, and they also are concurrent at a single point, which is called the *orthocenter* (4th triangle). The orthocenter is not always found inside the triangle. It will be outside for obtuse triangles, for which the altitude lines have to be extended so they will cross.

Conclusion

All of this points us to a remarkable orderliness in the universe. Triangles have a unity but also a threeness. Infinitely more special is God Triune — God the Father, God the Son (Messiah/Christ), and God the Holy

Spirit. There never was nor ever will be a Greater Mathematician than the Lord Jesus Christ, who also died on the cross and who came alive again **3** days later.

*What a mighty Christ we serve!
What a mighty Cre-A-Tor!
Let us bow before Him.
Heaven and earth adore Him.
What a mighty Christ we serve.**

References

- Levi-Setti, R. 1995. *Trilobites*, 2nd Edition. University of Chicago Press.
- Newton, I. 1846. *Newton's Principia: The Mathematical Principles of Natural Philosophy*. Translated by A. Motte. New York: Daniel Adee.
- Rieser, M.L. 2009. Trilobite compound eye — Species: *Paralejurus* sp. *Wikimedia Commons*. Retrieved April 14, 2017. <https://commons.wikimedia.org/wiki/File:Paralejurus-4.jpg>

*Adapted from “What a Mighty God We Serve,” Hezekiah Walker Lyrics.

CM