

THE INTRICACIES OF SUBTLE ENERGY

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Odd thing about the maze though—once you choose wrong, then you're wrong from then on. You can't get back to the right route except by retracing your steps. And before you decide to retrace, you must recognize that you have made a mistake.¹

Science is indeed a maze of possibilities; it has taken many turns in trying to explain observations in nature. Only after traversing the maze for a while are we able to detect if we have taken the right turn or not. A point of interest is regarding the nature of light. Is it a wave disturbance in space (read, ether) or does it consist of photons, a stream of particles traveling in vacuum? Does it matter one way or other? If the depiction of nature (of light, in this case) varies depending on the situation, is it a good modeling? What if the value of the numeral 2 changes depending on the situation!

The subtle energy maze is just starting to unveil itself. It is definitely not any simpler than the scientific one we are used to. The complexity of the procedures and the intricacy of the effects make it obscure in many ways. Further, words such as power and energy are very well defined in Physics. So the use of these words in the “Subtle Energy” field tends to confuse scientists. This makes a unified view of the field difficult. Further, the terminology itself is convoluted. Unless a nascent field has well defined terminology, the field itself could face terminal problems. A name is almost magical and gives a depth and dimension that brings to fore the image and ideation of that it represents. Unless you have a profound poetic fancy, a name has an insightful import and impact!

Should we seriously attend to this problem and come up with a name that is acceptable to all, including our scientist friends? How about “Subtle Domain” or “Subtle Interaction” or many other terms used in current literature?² Even the word subtle has many connotations. Does it mean a very minute physical energy which is so small that its measurement is not possible now? If so, in due course, with better and more powerful measurement systems, we could capture it in our computer. Then, we are still talking about a physical energy system that could ultimately be measured.

However, subtle could also mean something beyond the physical. If it is non-physical, we may not be able to measure it at all. It could still be real. Similarly, a subtle domain effect could be real, yet not measurable. We know most often that the subtle effects are noticed only in living systems which seem to be generators as well as transducers of subtle interactions.

Dr. Larry Dossey has persuasively written about the “psychology of energy,” as he calls it to bring to focus the tendency to “. . . hang on to the vocabulary and the concepts of 18th and 19th century physics to explain all phenomena.”³ He concludes “Perhaps we would be on a firmer ground to refer to distant healing as a manifestation of ‘subtle consciousness’ rather than of ‘subtle energy’ because consciousness, not any known form of energy, seems to be the irreducible factor that is required for those events to occur.”^(3,p.30)

Dossey has taken the example of distant healing; it is possible that all healing falls under ‘subtle healing’ and could be based on and related to consciousness. If consciousness is the subtlest and all pervading, then it is a safe haven for subtle healing to take cover under.

Healing is a dynamic phenomenon, happening all the time around and in us. But for the constant fight with the surroundings, we cannot stay alive. The biological system is a hostile environment, as is well known to people who want to stick things into the body. The body rejects everything that is not innate to itself. This could be true to healing also. We might have to ‘know’ a person before directing subtle domain therapy to him/her. A particular type of domain input may not be accepted by the physiology of a person. This confounds further the results of subtle domain work.

In this issue of the Journal some methods of helping nature through “subtle energy intervention” is discussed. Assessment methods are also presented.

The first paper is titled *Field Study of an Enhancement Effect on Lettuce Seeds* by S. M. Roney-Dougal and J. Solfvin. The authors have attempted to answer the question if a healer could help seed germination, health, and growth rate of lettuce cultivated in two organic farms in England. These are organic farms wherein the use of artificial means to enhance growth and prevent fungal attack is not practiced. Farms are not ideal places for conducting such research with vagaries of weather, watering which may not be uniform or at the correct times and other human problems such as obtaining complete cooperation from all workers in the farms. In spite of these practical problems, the authors conclude that the result suggest “a healer can enhance seeds sufficiently to make a commercial difference to the farm.”

The second paper is by Russ Curtis, Doug Zeh, Michelle Miller and Sequoyah C. Rich titled *Examining the Validity of a Computerized Chakra Measuring Instrument*. There are many books written linking the activity of chakras to physical, psychological and spiritual manifestation in an individual. Here the authors try to correlate the psychological status of individuals to levels of chakra functioning using an instrument. A Symptoms Checklist questionnaire and an instrument that seems to measure chakra activity are used in this study. An inverse correlation was observed between the psychological status of the subjects to chakra activity; this means the chakra activity was less for increased psychological trauma. The authors suggest further studies with patients having confirmed physical ailments to observe which chakras correlate with which disorders. Before that of course, more tests on the chakra machine should be made to be sure that the chakra activity is being studied and not any sporadic signal which the biological system seems to be inundated with.

The third paper in this issue is by Karin Lenger titled *Homeopathic Potencies Identified by a New Magnetic Resonance Method; Homeopathy—An Energetic Medicine*. It claims to detect magnetic photons in homeopathic preparations of different potencies using two Tesla coils. Each potency has its own resonance frequency in the high frequency range (2 – 10 MHz). The homeopathic information seems to be embedded in the specific frequency. The homeopathic preparation seems to impact the cellular matrix through a resonance response.

This new view of homeopathic action could be a window into the dynamics of interactions even when one molecule of the original substance is not available in the preparation. Many questions arise: it is possible all medications could act through a resonance response? Could the dosage of medication be reduced considerably still keeping it effective? The answers to such questions are not far away if the method developed in this paper is investigated further.

The last paper is an annotated bibliography on recent papers published on the science and clinical applications of acupuncture by John Ackerman. The author has collected the papers under many heads such as analgesics, anti-depressant, chemotherapy and other areas. The use of acupuncture to reduce or eliminate the side effects of medication is a useful area of application. Considering the statistics that iatrogenesis is the third largest killer in the USA, this is indeed a welcome development. It is hoped the acupuncture researchers find this compilation of use in their work.

Coming to the right hemispheric stimulation, the cover art takes one from a maze to a labyrinth. The art work by Juliet Wood takes us from the periphery to the center where the labyrinth (unlike a maze) looks amazingly simple. A maze is a puzzle needing left brain activity to reach correct solution. A wrong turn in a maze takes us to a blind alley and we have to go back to the original bifurcation to trace another path. A labyrinth, on the other hand, is a structure that takes us to the center of the system if only we have the courage to enter it and tread the path. As we move towards the center, we contemplate to reach our own center. Some people who work with labyrinth seem to think that a walk in the labyrinth gives one balance, an ability to center oneself and a chance to experience the “energies.” We thank the artist for sharing this piece with us.

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REFERENCES & NOTES

1. Maurice B. Cooke, *Einstein Doesn't Work Here Anymore* (Marcus Books, Toronto, Canada, 1983), p. 1.
2. William A. Tiller Towards a Predictive Model of Subtle Domain Connections to the Physical Domain Aspects of Reality, *Journal of Scientific Exploration* 13,1 (1999).
3. Larry Dossey, Healing, Energy and Consciousness: Into the Future or a Retreat to the Past? *Subtle Energies and Energy Medicine* 5,1 (1994), p.11.

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