

Report

DEVELOPING TOOLS OF SUBTLE MEDICINE; KALEIDOSCOPIES

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ABSTRACT

This paper puts forth the possibility of healing the human subtle system using light modulated and transformed by kaleidoscopes designed in Fibonacci proportions, mathematical relationships ubiquitous throughout the universe. It draws parallels between the emerging research on biophotons and the role electromagnetic fields play in living systems and 2000 year old philosophies of Chinese Medicine. By combining ancient principles of how we are alive with humanity's inherent ability to sense subtle energy, we can update the medicine of energy to this time and place.

KEYWORDS: Kaleidoscopes, biophotons, electromagnetic fields, acupuncture, Fibonacci series, human sensitivity.

When the premises shift which form the basis for how we perceive the world, this change allows us to construct our world in an entirely different way. Are we composed of flesh, bone and hair? Or are we composed of chemical compounds in a constant state of transforming into other chemical compounds? At our most subtle levels, are we formed of protons, neutrons and electrons, or are we organized fields of shifting energetic polarity with eddies and vortices which flow in the same way as water flows? And as civilization evolves, and we understand more of the minute processes underlying life, perhaps another perception will emerge.

If the world is perceived in a particular way, then it can be manipulated according to that perception. If it is seen as solid, then I can extend my hand, grab some of it and move it to a different location. If it is seen as chemical, then other chemicals can be introduced which will alter the nature of the chemicals already present. If however, the world is perceived as neither solid nor chemical, but rather, non-material energy consisting of pattern, rhythm, and frequency in a constant shifting state, then the manipulation of this world will be radically different than when it is seen only from the solid or chemical state. The medicine of subtle energy is based on these assumptions.

New insights are emerging rapidly on the subtle underpinnings of life. This research opens the door to innovative forms of medicine; medicine which does not treat the physical but treats the energies which are underneath it. Although in our culture this approach is unfamiliar, it is reminiscent of practices of earlier times that worked with the subtle forces underlying everything.

What will the tools of new medicine be? We cannot rely on information handed down from the past for this information has been fractured and disconnected from roots that generated it. Over time, much of its vital lineage has been lost. But one thing has not been lost-the ability of the human race to experience subtle energy directly. By using shreds of past information and ground breaking contemporary research combined with our inherent ability to sense subtle energy, like scholars of old, we can reconstruct history's legacy and update it to this time and place.

CAPTURING LIGHT

The shutter trips and a flash illuminates the small living system enclosed deep within the machinery. Soon dots of light begin effervescing on a nearby computer screen. One by one they form a line like bubbles forming in a glass of champagne—a curve that changes as time goes on.

In a lab near Cologne in Germany at the International Institute of Biophysics (IIB) Fritz Popp, a physicist, and his colleagues investigate ultra-weak light signals emitted by living systems. Using a photomultiplier hooked to a computer, scientists register and analyze “decay curves”, a sub-atomic response of a living system when it is subjected to a short burst of light or ultrasound. It is felt that this response is a photon emission (a single quanta of light which IIB labels bio-photon because it comes from a living system). This ultra-weak emission is thought to be coherent, i.e. organized and containing information involved in inter-cellular communication.

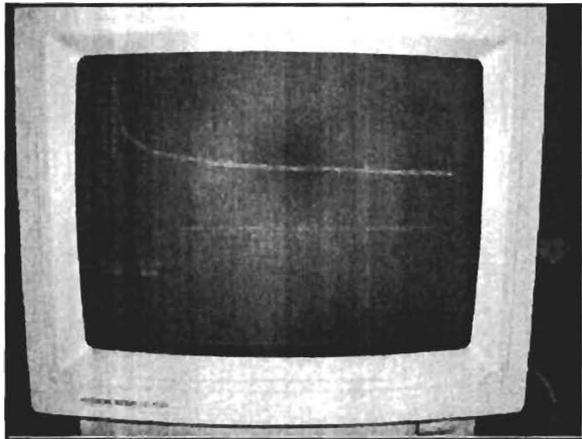


Figure 1. Computer screen decay curve

By analyzing decay curves, patterns of weak light emission, it is possible to detect the subtle activity of life; those activities occurring above and below normal human sensing thresholds. Much can be learned by studying decay curves that has so far eluded conventional science; the energetic bases of health and disease, the efficiency of a system's growth and development, inter and

intra-communication between systems in the small and the large, and even the subtle aspects of death.

In the United States, IIB's research is little known and not popular, though it is quite well known internationally and in Germany, partially supported by government grants. Popp and his colleagues have put forth a different perspective of how we are alive. It is the view point of physics that is non-material energy, light, and perhaps sound at the foundation of life's interactions. In this country, primarily in medicine, we emphasize chemistry as the basis of life.

However, both perspectives are correct. Only the emphasis is different. According to Atomic Physics, it is physics that underlies chemistry, the plus / minus relationships of protons and electrons and the uncharged neutrons make up the molecules of elements and compounds named by chemistry. Basic to both are the opposite polarities as found in a magnet. But life, in its entirety is more than a series of compounds interacting with one another. There is so much more.

IIB's website states in its "New Approach to the Study of Life": "Despite the remarkable progress that has been made in the biochemical and biophysical descriptions of living systems at a microscopic level, the innumerable paradoxes seemingly connected to living systems are very far from being understood. We want to focus our attention on the role that the electromagnetic fields play within the living systems and in communicating through a biophysical way between various systems. Our challenge is to promote this extraordinary adventures,(sic) is to understand the mystery of life."

Although IIB's research is at the cutting edge of contemporary science, it is not new information. Acupuncture and Chinese Medicine preserve a long tradition of working with subtle energy. Because some texts refer to stone needles being used for acupuncture, its history may go back to a time before metal was smelted in that country 5000 years ago. Its mythical progenitor was Huang Di, the Yellow Emperor. In a question and answer dialog with his courtier, Qi Bo, he put forth foundations of the Medicine. Over the millennia, these dialogues have been transcribed, rewritten, and re-interpreted according to the generation using them. Some books were lost. Information has disappeared.

About 260 A.D, Huang-Fu Ming, a Chinese scholar, became ill. Because he felt he received inadequate medical treatment for his sickness he decided to reorganize the corpus of Chinese Medicine into a book, the *Jia Yi Jing*. For his focus, he chose three classics of his time, the “Su Wen”, the “Ling Shu” (both describing Huang Di's original dialogues) and the “Ming tang kang xue zhen jiu zhi yao”. Now the Ming tang ... is lost. One record of its existence appears in Hua Fu Ming's *Jia Yi Jing, the Systematic Classic of Acupuncture and Moxibustion*. On page 128 of the paperback edition of Charles Chase's and Yang Shou-zhong's contemporary translation appears the following:

“The Yellow Emperor asked, “What causes variation of the pulse (author's note - at the wrist) according to the four seasons?” Qi Bo answered, “Within the six directions all the changes in Heaven and Earth find their reflection in Yin and Yang. For example, the warmth in spring, the hot in summer, the wrath in autumn, and the fury in winter, the pulse fluctuates in response to the changes in the four seasons. It is expected to respond like the compass in spring, the square in summer, the arm of a steelyard in autumn and the weight of a steelyard in winter. Forty five days after the winter solstice Yang Qi begins to rise slightly while Yin Qi begins to decline slightly. Forty five days after the summer solstice, Yin Qi begins to rise slightly while Yang Qi begins to decline slightly. The vicissitudes of Yin and Yang are regular and the pulse changes are in agreement with this. If they do not agree, this reveals (the influence of) the (involved) part. Since this part is known to be associated with a certain period of the year, it is made possible to predict the date of death. Pulse examination is a subtle and delicate technique which entails painstaking study and one should keep to the established criteria whose basis lies in Yin and Yang. Sound is analyzed in terms of the five notes, color in terms of the five phases, and the pulse in terms of Yin and Yang. According to the Tao of pulse palpation, an empty mind and tranquil (spirit) are treasured (above all else.)

In spring the pulse is floating like a fish swimming on ripples. In summer it beats in the skin like a flood or the fluorescence of living things. In autumn it beats under the skin like insects to lie dormant. And in winter, it lies against the bone like hibernating insects hidden in safety or gentlemen staying in their chambers.”

Not preserved in other versions of the same dialogue is the phrase “fluorescence of living things”. Perhaps the original reference came from the now lost “Ming Tang...”. But regardless of its etiology, isn't the “fluorescence of living things” the subject of the cutting edge studies of light emission being done in Germany at the International Institute of Biophysics?

If Ancients were aware of the fluorescence of living things then what of the other implications of this passage, i.e. those relating to sound, color, Yin, and Yang? What is meant by Yin and Yang? Could they be the opposite charges of an electromagnetic field? Electromagnetic energy may consist of various combinations of frequencies in different proportions and belonging to different states. Its ways of manifestation are demonstrated by the “invisible rainbow” that pictures and describes frequencies associated with energy. This rainbow that we cannot see encompasses all the energies that are thought to exist. They are arranged in this spectrum by their wavelength or frequency with the lowest frequencies (waves with the longest distances between crests) at one end and the highest frequencies (waves with the shortest distances between crests) at the other. They are named according to their size and how they travel. Energy broadcasts eternally in all of its forms. The initial source of this broadcast is explained in many different ways by every spiritual tradition and scientifically, by the “big bang” theory.

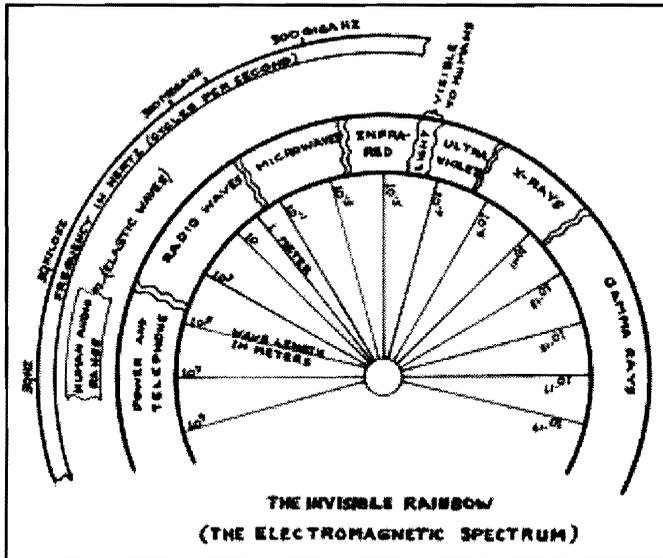


Figure 2. The Invisible Rainbow (The Electromagnetic Spectrum)

Present day students of Chinese Medicine learn to diagnose illness according to the patient's sound and color. Could sound and color refer to aspects of the electromagnetic spectrum that could be used not only diagnostically as but also therapeutically? Could the coordination of the pulse with movements of Heaven and Earth refer to the synchronization of the being with a much larger universe—one that consisted of intersecting electromagnetic fields? From the low energy frequencies of sound to high energy cosmic and gamma rays of the stars, it appears that Chinese of earlier times understood well how the subtle energy of humanity interfaced and connected with the larger forces of the universe. With developed innate abilities and no tools we are aware of, master practitioners of Chinese Medicine were able to predict the time of death by reading the pulse at the wrist.

On page 128 of Smith and Best's 1989 book, *Electromagnetic Man*, Hilary Bacon, a campaigner against electromagnetic pollution, is quoted; "The sensitivity of all living systems to the earth's natural electromagnetic field must have been recognized and put to adaptive advantage in whatever fashion since ancient times, as it still is by primitive peoples and by animals today. The highly developed early civilizations, Egyptian, Arabic, Chinese, Eastern and American Indian almost certainly codified this awareness into a working body of knowledge. But the great library of Alexandria which contained much of it was pillaged and finally burned many centuries ago; the records of the Mayans and the Aztecs were destroyed by the Spanish Conquistadores; China was isolated, India subjugated, their respective esoteric teachings became regarded in the West as weird curiosities."

In the light of this information, one wonders about the artifacts left to us by history. Did objects labeled as headdresses and knitting needles have some other use? Might a "headdress" be a device to enhance one's paranormal senses? Might a "knitting needle" be a tool along which a practitioner could direct energy for purposes of destruction or healing? Were cathedrals of Europe with their exquisite acoustics and magnificently hued windows in fact, temples of healing where worshippers found cures in color and sound? The cultural lens we look through now blinds us to other possibilities of the ways life might have been lived. And there is no one left alive who can tell us if our speculations are correct.

BIOPHYSICS CORRELATES

Returning to present investigations into the subtle world, Ke-hsueh Li, an early researcher at IIB writes on page 114 of *Recent Advances in Biphoton Research and its Applications*:

“Despite the fact that living phenomenon are displayed macroscopically, the major biological processes are carried out microscopically... for biological systems the electromagnetic interaction is particularly important since biological macromolecules contain ten to hundreds of thousands of atoms assembled into complex geometrical configurations, the shape and stability of such molecules (which actually are ordered electromagnetic structures) are dependent on the delicate balance of electromagnetic interactions between neighboring atoms...”.

It is interesting to note similarities in the meanings of life as viewed by a contemporary physicist and life viewed by ancient Chinese wise men so many centuries ago. Both refer to integration between the very small and very large. Both refer to unseen energies whose proper interaction is essential for balance in the living system. Although the language is different, the image is the same. The ancients saw their world as a world of light and color and sound and used these elements diagnostically and perhaps therapeutically.

Ke- hsueh Li's image of life as atomic level delicately balanced, geometric structures interacting with one another to form an immense energetic complex suggests modern day possibilities for healing. If ultra-weak light emissions can be used diagnostically, can they also be used therapeutically?

KALEIDOSCOPIES - PATTERNS OF ENERGY

Life's subtle interactions, seen through the eyes of a contemporary physicist, evoke the geometric images seen through a kaleidoscope. In a kaleidoscope, systems of mirrors and lenses placed within a tube, changes objects viewed through this instrument into snowflake-like geometric shapes inside a circle. The angle that the mirrors are set determines how many points the “snowflake” will have. Slight movements of the scope cause a total rearrangement of ingredients that are viewed. Could a tool be developed based

on the principles of the kaleidoscope that could turn axes of unseen geometric structures that are subtle aspects of the living system? Would viewing this image provide a more healthy alignment? If, through the eyes, one small subtly balanced geometric shape was put into the complex arrangement of atoms, molecules and cells that we are, could that entrain the entire system to balance?

Functioning unseen below and above the level of the senses, subtle energetic interactions form the molecular structures which underlie the chemistry forming the tissues which form the organs. Imbalances at this most basic level of interaction are the cause of disease—disease which manifests in the chemistry, the tissue, the organs and in the being and ultimately in the society, for society is the milieu created by individuals acting together.

In perfect balance there is health, equanimity, and peace, for each action in both the small and the large is countered by an action of equal and opposite magnitude in all dimensions. Disease results from an inability of the life force to respond to an interaction in a balanced way. As an individual struggles to sustain life in spite of disequilibrium, the compensations and distortions resulting from imbalance eventually impact the system.

In a studio near Denver small groups of qualified students are developing protocols for the kaleidoscope as a low tech tool of subtle medicine. Using a specially designed scope, a combination of natural materials specific to each individual, coupled with the unique talent of each to sense unseen energies, they come together in small classes to explore potential of this tool. A number of issues slow development.

It is essential that those who participate in this venture, experience subtle energy; energies functioning above and below normal human sensing thresholds—through the eyes, ears, proprioceptively or in some other fashion . This itself has slowed progress, for those with these gifts are difficult to find. For thousands of years, energetic medicine was performed with great efficacy using no sophisticated technology. Its practitioners were priestesses and priests, monks and nuns, shamen , martial artists, sages, doctors, wise men and wise women, who, through a long process of self cultivation and training, had developed their abilities to feel and manipulate bioelectric energy through mechanisms within themselves. Now such people are rare. They have been replaced by technology.

Although every child has the potential to perceive subtle energy, unless these abilities are recognized and educated almost from birth, they fall into latency and never develop. Those that do retain them are often marginalized and, in this culture, considered to be “weird.” As a result, they go underground and do not share their gifts. Identifying such people and getting them to work with others is an ongoing challenge.

Another issue slowing development is the theoretical framework or the hypothesis underlying the tool. It is estimated that the human species has been on Earth for six million years. Although we know earlier medical systems healed with subtle energy, time has lost much information. And even among the sources that remain there is much disagreement on methodology and subtle anatomy. It is possible that disagreements stemmed from emphasis on different aspects of the subtle system, or perhaps the subtle system functioned differently in different parts of the world.

It is also possible that this led to or caused humanity's various lineages. Perhaps too, the human subtle system evolved, adapting to changing conditions on earth. We no longer know. Even though we are inspired by medicines of old, we are aware we are forging new theories and a new technology of subtle medicine; one that is appropriate to this time and place. We have arbitrarily chosen parameters of pattern, rhythm and frequency as the conditions under which the subtle system works. The kaleidoscope works on patterns of energy that differentiate the various parts of the system.

Another issue is the most effective design of the tool. We have found that tools for subtle medicine work best and deliver energetic information most accurately if they are built in similar proportions as the human body. At this stage in the development, the Fibonacci ratio is used to determine measurements.

Eight hundred years ago, Leonard of Pisa, also known as Fibonacci, put forth the numerical sequence that bears his name. In this sequence each number, starting with zero, is the sum of the previous 2 numbers. Its simple ratios occur in every aspect of life. 0,1,1,2,3,5,8,13,21...form the basis of symphonies, art, and are in inherent proportions of trees, eggs and in fact, all of nature. These proportions most please the human eye and are found throughout the body. For instance, the bones of the hand are in Fibonacci relationships as are the

proportions of the head, face and the rest of the body. By drawing interconnected quarter circles within a construction of squares drawn in this numerical progression, a logarithmic spiral is formed. The proportions of this spiral are found in shells, pineapples and flowers, waves, the cochlea of the human inner ear, wind and weather patterns and extend far into the universe to the spiral galaxies.

We anticipate that the materials from which the scope is made will dramatically impact its effect. Until we know more about this emerging technology we concentrate on neutral materials.

Another issue is the interaction of the kaleidoscope with the system under various forms of light. Does sunlight, which incorporates both visible and invisible wavelengths, affect the system differently than incandescent or fluorescent light? What about moonlight? Will certain conditions respond more favorably to different forms of light? We are asking questions that will require more investigation.

Can we measure subtle changes in the system when the kaleidoscope is used? Arthur Hoeberechts, a physicist, suggested a low tech way to map changes in the biomagnetic field surrounding the kaleidoscope user. With his suggested technique, significant differences are found, but we are unsure if the changes are in the field of the viewer, the field of the measurer, or in both, as a result of the interaction.

The fundamental law of medicine is "First, do no harm." These days, since the subtle anatomy and its function is so little known in the human being, and we cannot trust models that history has left us, how do we know how to proceed with this new tool? What should the goal of healing be? Is it possible or even wise to pursue the ancient Chinese ideal of the way things should be—a total and perfect subtle integration of the being with the Universe? Would a perfect alignment with the Universe push present day subtle systems too fast to accommodate the change? Would the illness be cured but the patient lost? Or is it best to work on single issues, the smaller imbalances that plague our lives? Is the small imbalance the root of everything that is wrong with the being? Can this new tool work on specific illnesses?

In spite of problems and questions the classes have been rewarding. The tool that is emerging is impressive. By balancing energies of the subtle system, there

is potential for healing illness on many levels. The experience of looking through this scope is transformative. Students report states of heightened awareness and connection to the best parts of themselves. Small problems in their daily lives give way to feelings of well being. It is too soon to tell if the scope will be supportive in healing specific illnesses. More application and research needs to be done.

By gathering people together to work in these classes, a unique community of sensitive people is being formed. Although questions arise as to techniques, usage and components, everyone knows at once what is right. "If it feels right, do it," seems to be a guiding principle in the workshops. What works, determining the correct combination of ingredients for the scope, gives the student the opportunity to refine and educate individual subtle skills. Because so many have worked in isolation up to this time, the support and affirmation of like gifted individuals is helpful in pushing thresholds of innate sensitivity. The human bioelectric field extends anywhere from 3 to 12 feet and perhaps even further from the body. An extraordinarily sensitive individual can pick up aspects of that field from miles away. Every being alive broadcasts the state of itself all of the time. It is possible to develop the ability to perceive small changes in this field, even as a person thinks, for thoughts themselves cause piezo electric shifts within the neurons of the brain. We have found it is possible to experience the energy of someone not even in the class.

If it were possible to view the world only from the standpoint of subtle energy, in every dimension and direction it would appear as an immense kaleidoscopic pattern. Just as gears intermesh in a watch, each interaction changes its organization. Perhaps the change is limited, as it would be when only 2 individuals interact. Their interaction may cause changes in each of them. Or perhaps the change may go further and intermesh with others to cause a chain reaction. The question remains. How far can this go? If a tiny piece of perfectly balanced information was placed anywhere in this vast field of dancing energy, could it eventually bring rightness to all the other parts?

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