

Photographic Images of Orgone Energy Functions II: The Worm

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Abstract

This is the second in a series of articles demonstrating orgone energy functions (see Photographic Images of Orgone Energy Functions I: The Ameba, volume 39 number 2, Fall/Winter 2005). Pulsation is the energy movement that determines emotion in living organisms and spinning wave determines sensation. Examples are shown and discussed.

The riddle of the nature of psychic life has prompted a multitude of theories, from the ancient belief that the soul is located in the ventricles of the brain (Green et al.) to the modern neurotransmitter theory. Science has consistently been entangled in the mechanomystical model (Konia 1985). Reich, on the other hand, was able to recognize the functional identity between *plasmatic pulsation* (a somatic function) and *emotion* (a psychic function), in particular the primary emotions of desire and fear already present in single-cell organisms (Foglia, page 26). Moreover, with the evolution of the worm¹ he recognized the origin of a new perceptual function, *sensation* (Reich 1949, page 291). The perceptual function of the worm occurs simultaneously with the moving excitation of biological orgone energy confined in its membrane, with a differentiation between the perception of the movement along the radial axis (somatic pulsation and psychic emotion) and the movement along the longitudinal axis (spinning wave and psychic sensation) (Konia 1998, page 72).² The protoplasm of lower organisms from the ameba to the worm as well as

¹Elsewhere, Reich showed the functional identity between the segments of the worm and the anatomical and biophysical segmental arrangement of the skeletal musculature in the human organism (Reich 1945).

²This variation, however, is already present in single-cell organisms (Reich 1949, page 54) where some, such as the ameba, are predominantly radial in form and others, such as the paramecium, are longitudinal (Konia 1998, page 72).

the plasmatic system of higher organisms³ including human beings are in continuous movement. This movement is simultaneously radial and longitudinal.

In the course of evolution these two forms of movement became structuralized in the autonomic nervous system (radial, pulsatory, emotions) and in the central nervous system (longitudinal, spinning wave, sensations) (Konia 1998, page 79). From the primitive emotions of fear and desire, new and more complex emotions⁴ arose: pleasure, anxiety, rage, hatred, sadness, longing and love. From the primitive sensations (chemo-, thermo-, galvanotaxis), specialized ones like taste, hearing, sight and smell developed. Hence, the perceptual function and with it “psychic life” are not exclusive properties of primates or man, but exist together with plasmatic movement from the beginning of life.



Photo 1

Caenorhabditis elegans, one of the most studied multi-cellular organisms, gained world fame when biologists first sequenced its genome in 1998 (Genome Sequence Consortium). In the sinusoidal movement of this annelid, Reich saw the origin of the function of *sensation*, a qualitative function, whereas classic biology limits itself to descriptive and quantitative analyses (Alexander). Compared to the amoeba, this worm has fully integrated radial and bilateral symmetry; correspondingly, its perceptual function includes fully developed sensations as well as emotions (Differential Interference Contrast 630x).

³The plasmatic system includes the autonomic nervous system and the vascular system and its extensions the endocrine system and the immune system.

⁴The complex nature of the evolution of emotions is described in Lorenz, K. *On Aggression*, 1963. New York: A Harvest Book, 1974.



Photo 2a

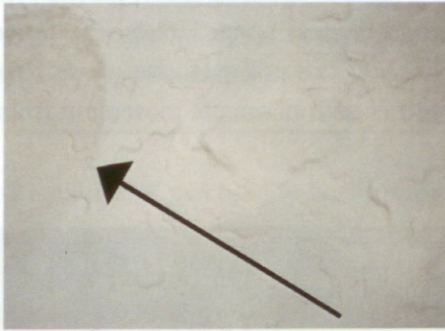


Photo 2b



Photo 2c

Olfactory sensation in *Caenorhabditis elegans*: an inoculated colony (IC) of this nematode (2a) on agar moves (arrow) (2b) toward a higher gradient (O) of an alcoholic odorant and gathers around it (2c), here butanol (Bargman et al.). As emotions like fear can be felt and expressed in individuals as well as in groups (Foglia, page 27), the same is true for sensations (Brightfield 8x). Emotions and sensations are a psychic function of perception.



Photo 3a

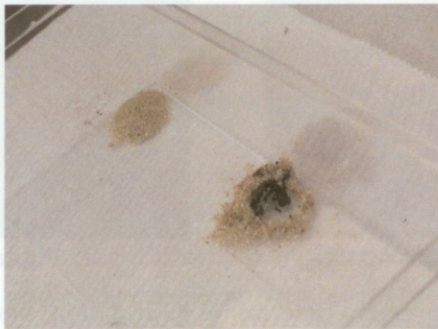


Photo 3b

A new colony of common ants *Lasius niger* (3a) gathers around the queen and builds a nest around her in three weeks (3b) (Franks, page 358). This socially intelligent behavior is based on fully developed perceptual functions of the colony as a whole. The functional identity with human consciousness is obvious: the complete integration of part-perceptions (the perceptual function of the individual ants here and of the individual neurons in the human brain) develops the whole function of self-perception, hence consciousness (Konia 1981). Here, consciousness ("swarm intelligence") is expressed by the ant colony as a whole. In contrast, mechanistic science refuses to accept psychic function in lower living organisms and explains these collective behaviors with mathematical models that describe simple individual tasks as the unique cause of highly complex social patterns (Sumpter).



Photo 3a

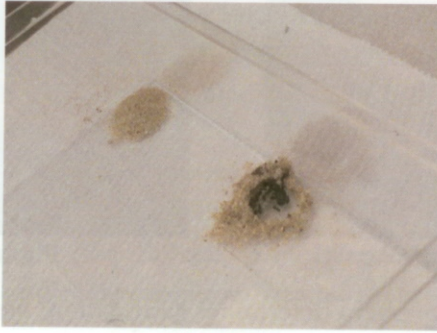


Photo 3b

A new colony of common ants *Lasius niger* (**3a**) gathers around the queen and builds a nest around her in three weeks (**3b**) (Franks, page 358). This socially intelligent behavior is based on fully developed perceptual functions of the colony as a whole. The functional identity with human consciousness is obvious: the complete integration of part-perceptions (the perceptual function of the individual ants here and of the individual neurons in the human brain) develops the whole function of self-perception, hence consciousness (Konia 1981). Here, consciousness ("swarm intelligence") is expressed by the ant colony as a whole. In contrast, mechanistic science refuses to accept psychic function in lower living organisms and explains these collective behaviors with mathematical models that describe simple individual tasks as the unique cause of highly complex social patterns (Sumpter).

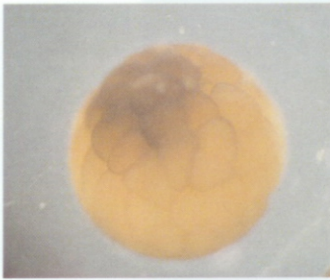


Photo 4a

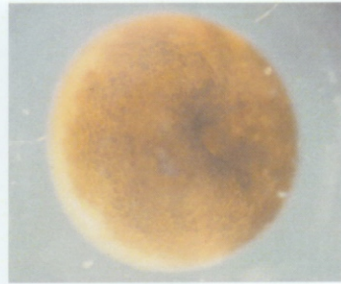


Photo 4b



Photo 4c



Photo 4d

Longitudinal movement determines gastrulation; here, in the embryo of the African clawed frog *Xenopus laevis*. The sudden change of direction of growth of the embryo from a radial (blastula, **4a**) to a spiraling longitudinal pattern (Konia 1998, page 73) is clearly seen in the involution (“turning in”) of what is now a gastrula (**4b**). This corresponds to an evolutionary jump: simple radial symmetry was replaced by bilateral symmetry (“breaking of the radial symmetry,” Stern, page 341) with formation of a primitive gut with mouth and anus and neurulation with formation of the nervous system; here, the neural plate with neural folds and groove (Stern, page 23) (**4c** Brightfield 8x) and elongation of the embryo in a worm-like form (**4d**). With gastrulation, longitudinal movement is structuralized together with the already existing radial movement: a simple, round metazoan became elongated and more sophisticated (Konia 1985, page 276). The development toward the human being (*homo sapien*) was initiated.

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