

August 11, 2020 Metastabilian musings for Mushin ~ Monk

The Metastabilian Movement ~ The Squiggling Sense (TSS)

The only thing you need to know to understand the deepest metaphysical secrets is this: that for every outside there is an inside and for every inside, there is an outside, and although they are different, they go together (TSS Alan Watts)

For purposes of our own understanding, how do we place TSS in the context of work in other traditions? There is a remarkable unanimity with the ancient wisdom of China, India, Persia, the Holy Lands, and Europe. It is fair to say that it all began with a deep skepticism about conventional religion and rituals, and more from the overwhelming experience of an entirely different reality.

Consider for example Confucius who proposed a moral cure for the ills of China's society in his day. According to all reports, Confucius was a very social person who went around the towns and cities with his disciples preaching about how to set things right. The Analects of Confucius were adopted by masses as a prescription for moral excellence. On the other hand, were great Chinese mystics, 'brooding in the mountain valleys', recluses like Lao Tzu who anonymously left us with the Tao te Ching.

It is said that the purely moral proposals representative of Confucius arose where masses of people pressed together, life requiring a kind of moral code for their conduct. The mystic view, on the other hand, is an individual activity, arising from the reflections (re3lections) and insights of single persons confronting themselves and the universe alone. It is easy to see that the problem then becomes one of communicating their discoveries to others. For that, they borrowed a sign, the Tao, the Way, and gave it a meaning it had never had before. Only those who shared their experience could know what it meant.

TSS embraces these ancient thinking's yet goes beyond them. Most of all, it grounds them in the science of coordination, Coordination Dynamics. TSS applies both to the collective and the individual; it does not pose the morals of the masses against the mysticism of the individual. The science behind TSS reveals an entirely new kind of thinker. Neither a moralist nor a mystic, but a Metastabilian that sees the individual and the collective as one of the most central complementary pairs in CD. CD demonstrates that the tendency for individual autonomy coexists with the tendency for individuals to work together. It is not one versus the other; both coexist at the same time.

(David. Let's decide on our mantra for this fact and stick to it by repeating it.) Wakan More than that. The specificity of the squiggle, individual~collective, reveals the universal dynamics of the squiggling sense.

P.s. When one observes the current response in the US to the Covid-19 pandemic, one sees that the struggle between Federal and State reflects a lack of both institutions of the truth of TSS. Reference R.B. Blakeney's translation of Tao

August 22, 2020 Musings for Mushin the monk

Toward a Science of Wisdom

The link between ‘lower’ and ‘higher’ knowledge: Toward a Science of Wisdom.

The Upanishads speak of a ‘supreme science’ aimed at finding the central principles which make sense of the world we live in. They are replete with apparent contrarities. According to Isha Upanishad, said to be Gandhi’s favorite, the Lord of Love is within and without, changeless and changing, immanent and transcendent, creator and destroyer...

In other words, the Lord of Love is a Metastabilian!

Put another way, Metastable Coordination Dynamics is a scientifically based realization of the Lord of Love, the Self. This means that the Self is metastable, the metastable mode manifest, both immanent and transcendent. The Squiggle Sense is just the breath of metastable Self. And even more radical, perhaps, the Self is the realization of the Squiggle Sense...as Seamus Heaney says, “Seventh Heaven is the whole truth of a sixth sense come to pass”.

We see here a direct connection between the so called ‘lower knowledge’ of human endeavors – as in science, technology, and the creative arts – and the ‘higher knowledge’ of spiritual traditions. Both the physical and the spiritual are covered by metastable coordination dynamics.

Metastable Coordination Dynamics is not just, as the Nobel laureate in Physics Brian Josephson says, the new language of nature. It is the language of the Self: it is the currency in which the Self deals.

This is not some kind of likeness, as in Fritjof Capra drawing of similarities between the Tao and quantum mechanics. No. This is a direct, ontological, two-way connection between metastable Coordination Dynamics and the Self.

The Self is metastable. And metastability is the Self.

Saturday September 7th, 2020 TSS Glass Bead Game Gentleman, some musings in a larger context...squiggle games and such...

The glass bead game, Hesse writes, could be played alone, in pairs or groups, or by many-anticipating crowd sourcing? Though he never said what it actually was, the game had developed into a method through which the players could express values and set them into relations to each other.

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A theme would be chosen that could be further explored either on its own or by allusion to kindred concepts. Masters of the game were able to weave the initial theme into unlimited combinations.

“For a long time”, Hesse writes, “one school of players favored the technique of stating side by side, developing in counterpoint and finally combining two hostile themes or ideas...the goal was to develop both themes with complete equality and impartiality, to evolve out of thesis and antithesis.”

This is straight out of the German philosopher Georg Hegel’s writings. Glass Bead Players sought a new morality emerging from the juxtaposition of good and evil.

TSS embraces all dichotomies.

It places them in a new light, not extremes to be synthesized but as coexisting tendencies that constitute both the notes of the music and the gaps in between (Debussy, Hendrix).

TSS goes beyond duality and contradiction entirely.

Instead of treating one aspect as separated that must then “bond” somehow with another, TSS says, given one aspect, seek possible complementary aspects that squiggle made (a squiggle hypothesis?

A Squiggle Game?) the Coordination Dynamics (CD) is immediately implicit.

Exactly what specific CD is involved isn’t crucial to know, except that it is metastable.

We already know that CD has been shown empirically and theoretically to transcend different kinds of things, processes, events...In the same way, we can imagine that the squiggle is entailed by AND transcends CD.

This is the gateway to a new universal language to replace contradictions and dualities.

More than language, TSS offers a new mode of thinking above and beyond the polarizing either/or, etc.

It awakens the sixth sense, the squiggle sense.

TSS embraces dichotomies, contradictions, antinomies and the like....(hand in prayer)

The story continues...

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Saturday September 7th , 2020 The Squiggle Dance



Mes amis—And now (Drumbeat) introducing.....

The Squiggle Dance

In a Publication in a major physics journal nearly 30 years ago, Kelso and colleagues showed both experimentally and theoretically that two topologically distinct attractors in the coordination dynamics could coexist at the same time.

I know that sounds a mouthful, but it is a very beautiful mechanism that nature uses to simultaneously recruit and annihilate degrees of freedom in the ordinary movements of animals and people.

[By the way, this is the key to the adaptiveness and flexibility and creativity of all skilled behavior. The ease with which this is done belies the underlying complexity, and even our awareness of it. That includes science itself. Consider, for example, the desire to drink a cup of coffee that sits out of reach. We do not have to stretch out our arm to its fullest extent to realize that; we spontaneously recruit the bending of our trunk and limit elbow extension so that we can reach and grasp the coffee cup with the minimum of effort].

The simultaneous expression of two topologically distinct behaviors is a, perhaps the key dynamical underpinning of TCN.

If you asked a physicist or mathematician or even a dynamically oriented biologist, if this is possible, most would likely say no.

In Quantum Mechanics you cannot see both particle and wave at the same time. They coexist in principle before a measurement is made. The measurement process itself dictates which one you see. Not so in Coordination Dynamics!!

(Now you see why Newton, Maxwell, Schrödinger, and others called for new laws for animate movement.

This call was ignored, of course. Or why Einstein remarked “One can best appreciate, from a study of living things, how primitive physics still is”).

The great English neurophysiologist and Nobelist, Charles Sherrington, once said (1906!) posture follows movement as a shadow.

Coordination Dynamics shows, indeed demonstrates, that posture (a steady state fixed point of the CD) and movement (a rhythmic limit cycle of the CD) coexist at the same time. Moreover,

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one coexistent state of affairs can spontaneously switch to another coexistent state of affairs. To my knowledge this is nowhere in ordinary physics, quantum or classical.

What then of the squiggle dance? It’s a new, creative activity for humans to explore and exploit. All it means is that you can invent and perform two topologically distinct behaviors at the same time. Just like the squiggle sense is accessible to everyone, everybody can do it.

Wednesday September 9th, 2020 CRISPR~TSS

Morning musings from yer Irish General~Leprechaun

Genetic Code ~ Metastable mode; CRISPR~TSS; genetic~epigenetic

With the latest CRISPR technology, the genetic code can be cut, altered and edited—like a word document— to remove bad genes and replace them with good ones. With this tool, we can repaint the wings of butterflies, engineer bodily organs, reduce the carbon footprint of the meat industry, etc. Futurists see this as the way to improve humanity. We can design our children the way we would like them to be. This assumes, of course an extreme ‘gene centric’ vision coupled (incidentally) to rampant business and technology. A brave new world indeed. An easy fix to all our problems.

What then of the complementary code of Coordination Dynamics, the squiggle sense that emerges from the discovery/realization that the human brain is metastable? Were it embraced, no gene sequences need to be physically tampered with? Were people to embrace the complementary code, TSS it would be an incalculable achievement of civilization never before seen in history. A different kind of fix altogether.

It would be naive not to accept genetic engineering. But surely the benefits of CRISPR can go along with TSS. They form a complementary pair: One is genetic; the other is epigenetic.

Become Metastabilians there is no doubt that there would be epigenetic consequences. Were the complementary code embraced by human beings, it would be an incalculable achievement of civilization.

Friday September 11, 2020 Squiggle Sense Mantra

In CD, the flow of coordination states is defined in terms of the dynamics of collective variables that span separate 'things' (parts, processes, events, subjects and objects...). These are idealizations which, when symmetries are broken, turn into tendencies and give rise to a host of complementary pairs like collective~individual, segregation~integration, cooperation~competition, whole~part, etc etc. etc.

–jask

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