

# Subluxation As A Social/Cultural Imitation: Resolving A Physiological Epiphenomenon, Part 2

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**Abstract** — In Part I of this paper, a thesis was presented that recasts subluxation as an information-based, process-oriented phybiological epiphenomenon. Subluxation, as a process, was made distinct from the model of vertebral subluxation as proposed by Palmer. Subluxation, in this viewpoint, was then considered a social/cultural imitation (SCI) that was physically and mentally filtered through individuals based on the state of the organism as a whole existing in multidimensional environments. This thesis was supported in the social sciences historically by the work of Trigant Burrow, an early 20th century psychoanalyst, who successfully demonstrated that humans developed two complementary neurophysiological modes of attention with the evolution of modern language. He called his new field phybiology. This discipline sought to understand how language shaped man's individual and collective experience as a body of humanity. It led to what he termed a social neurosis, which spanned the gamut of mental and nervous disorders unattributed to cultural disorder and contradiction between man's biological roots and social domain. Other concepts were also discussed such as suggesting that subluxation be viewed more as a meme, a unit of cultural imitation. The activation of the self-organizing aspect of the nervous system underscores what can be termed a virtual adjustment, an intangible, yet realistic manifestation of ontosomatic cotention or biological resonance. Once propagated through the non-biological vector of memetic driving, this coherent information can be exchanged and imitated socially/culturally. Part II deals with octal coding, used as a portable instructional mode of self care. It is postulated to guide individual and collective social awareness back to a predominantly harmonic, cotentive mode of functioning. The recursive design of octal coding creates an avenue to develop a virtual adjustment. Chiropractic adjustments are then converted into a forum to crystallize subluxation profiling skills through the innate language of pattern recognition. The implications on both a clinical chiropractic and interdisciplinary research level are addressed and several applications are explored in detail.

*Key Words:* Vertebral subluxation, chiropractic, coherence, retracing, ecosomatic, affluent systems, biotic message, octal coding

## Thesis

### Core Trends of Contemporary “Socially-Shared” Protocols

#### *Essential Ingredients of a Virtual Adjustment*

Examining the humanities present ecosomatic terrain, the landscape appears to be overrun with ditention. It can be reasonably speculated that one of the driving forces perpetuating this

imbalance stems from an autosuggestive reinforcement of subluxation as a phybiological epiphenomena. This process is encoded in our linguistic patterns. It is also embedded in our experiential orientation, facing it toward a partitive identity. It is that ditentive focus which aligns an individual with distorted symbolic elements, leading to a segmentation of their felt-sense. In order to resolve this process, new “socially-shared” protocols have emerged as knowledge has been gained of its impact on the quality of human life. Over the past twenty years several trends have taken root to offer a starting point to create a virtual adjustment.

#### *Trend 1, Reverse Engineering Mastery*

The major contribution from the development of protocols concerning accelerated learning over the past two decades was the arrival of the learning curve in cultural awareness. This phylosomatic process is achieved in four stages that are delineated by

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a sequence of ontosomatic states. Scheele, characterizes the four stages as follows:<sup>1</sup>

1. Unconscious Incompetence (Fear vs. Excitement)
2. Conscious Incompetence (Frustration vs. Confusion)
3. Conscious Competence (Not Integrated vs. Successfully Integrated)
4. Unconscious Competence (Self-Regulated Coherence)

The traditional and accelerated learning curves both attempt to travel from phases 1 to 4, varying only the velocity. Recent models that have embraced the “socially-shared” mode of learning have opted to “reverse engineer mastery”, by transferring it to others. One of the more mature models in this vein is called the Emprint Method. This protocol is characterized as an accelerated skill acquisition program that works with coding and replicating the mental aptitudes of unconscious competence. Each skill is presented as an instructional experience designed to install a coherent mental aptitude intra/interpersonally.<sup>2</sup>

While the Emprint Method emphasizes linking experiential patterns with linguistic-existential ones, Bandler’s application of Neuro-Linguistic Programming as a form of conversational hypnosis brings computer modeling into the framework of this reengineering process. He comments, regarding the distinction between confusion and not understanding, “There are a lot of things that you don’t understand, because you don’t know anything about them....Confusion, however, is always an indication that you’re on your way to understanding. Confusion presupposes that you have a lot of data, but it’s not yet organized in a way that allows you to understand it.”<sup>3</sup>

This brings into awareness the nature of learning in general. Jensen documented research by Donochin who estimated that 99% of learning experience is non-conscious.<sup>4</sup> This implies that learning occurs with or without awareness. In fact, when considering the phenomenon of influence, it is social-proofing that propagates more ditentive states than any other. Cialdini defines the process of social proofing as follows, “We view a behavior as correct in a given situation to the degree that we see others performing it.”<sup>5,6</sup> The “follow the leader” approach works best when situations are ambiguous and uncertain and/or when conditions are guided by simulating others. Of course, this process can work for iterating cotentive states as well and many new protocols are based on emulation as well as kinesthetic experiential patterning. This deconstructing of the learning curve, along with the use of non-conscious resources have helped give rise to models that allow for more intense experiences of ontosomatic cotention.

### *Trend 2, Merging the Heart with the Mind*

The accelerated learning protocols have long since integrated the mind-body connection. The trend now is less focused on cognitive efforts and more toward activating intuitive resources for learning. That has renewed the interest in the inner world of the human heart. The new array of tools that have been assembled seek to unite creative potential with practical action. The key feature of these new tools are their bias of process over outcome. Unlike many learning systems that work with an ideal, external standard, these heart-minded tools work with individual experiential patterns. In “The HeartMath Solution,”

Childre and Martin discuss the use of ratios as a guideline to monitor the integration of their unique tools. When learning the Freeze Frame Tools, these authors emphasize to “Remember that this technique isn’t about perfection but about ratios, about upping the percentage of time you stay in rapport with the heart.”<sup>7</sup> Pearse has stated concerning the nature of heart intelligence, “Actions in the heart precede actions of both body and brain”<sup>8</sup> These insights have altered the course of evaluating human performance from a domain of ontosomatic norms to a domain of phylosomatic coherence.

### *Trend 3, Measuring Human Performance with Raw Information*

As the perception of the nervous system has shifted back to a more existential nature, the manner in which its functioning is clinically measured has also shifted. Where filtered data was once captured via mechanistic devices, there has been a research trend toward functional evaluations like surface EMG, Galvanic Skin Resistance (GSR) and functional MRI. This has placed practitioners in a clinically based information domain. Rather than simply comparing an external normal to the data, the relevance and the dynamics of the variables are considered and even weighted. This has shifted the nature of data analysis toward a more lifelike mode. Kosco reports, “The idea is that rules make clusters in the data and clusters are candidate rules. Data clusters, like galaxies of stars and the cell clusters that make up nerve or muscle tissue, are structure. Clusters are patterns. They hold information while they last.”<sup>9</sup>

The combination of reverse engineering mastery, focusing on heart-minded tools and letting raw information serve as the “structure” of the nervous system are the components of a virtual adjustment. To apply the same approach to the phylobiological sublaxation, memetics is considered.

### **Deconstructing Sublaxation**

Prior to discussing memetics, however, it is first necessary to deconstruct the process of sublaxation. The stress response as proposed by Selye, brought into awareness the notion of “diseases of adaptation.”<sup>10</sup> This led to a more dynamic existential modeling of the body. Johnson observes, “...the homeostasis metaphor and all its potential entailments, many of which remain to be explored, are themselves subordinate to an even more far-reaching metaphorical structure: body as purposeful organism (which requires teleological explanation).”<sup>11</sup> Similarly, Seem focused on how Selye’s model impacts clinical care. He has stated, “Since prolonged or unabated stress can lead to breakdown in a target organ or system, resulting in what Selye terms ‘diseases of adaptation’, it is crucial to help clients to recognize their own patterns of reactivity to stress and to do something about them.”<sup>12</sup> This clinical orientation about the stress response emphasizes the responder, not the stressor. It places the focus on the ontosomatic level. From there, sublaxation can be addressed more like it is experienced; socially.

### *Sublaxation as a Messenger*

Whether sublaxation is considered from a biomechanical or

neurophysiological angle, it is still assumed to exist on an ontosomatic level. Since its primary manifestation concerns disruption of a mental impulse, it follows that subluxation corrupts communication between an organism and itself and its environment. This leads to a poor ecosomatic tone and orients auto-suggestion towards dition. Once entrained, the I-persona or partitive identity develops, and subluxation indicators manifest at an ontosomatic level. It then becomes of interest to know what disrupts the mental impulse initially. This may be answered in the following manner.

As cited earlier, optimized random noise is required to produce a stochastic resonance in biological systems. Yet subluxation appears to produce a suboptimized noise. That internal incoherence is then communicated to that individual's environment. The environment includes other individuals who potentially subluxate. When congruently interacting, and non-verbally mirroring and matching each other, communication optimizes the collective random noise, transferring the dition implicit within subluxation by chaotically transforming it to cotention. This embeds the process at a phylobiological level. When individuals are incongruently interacting, and non-verbally polarizing and mismatching each other, ontosomatic patterns are reinforced. This effectively entrains their affect and establishes the neurodynamics required to create what Burrow described as a social neurosis.<sup>13</sup>

Wilcher, hints at this process when discussing what lies beyond the mechanical subluxation. He states, "All of chiropractic discussion is about what happens from the vertebral subluxation down, and what happens above the subluxation is totally ignored."<sup>14</sup> The autosuggestive influence of culture and language help shape the developing nervous system. When the nature of the stress response is considered, subluxation can be viewed as an operative step in the general adaptation syndrome described by Seyle.<sup>15</sup> A speculative ontosomatic scenario would then place subluxation between a general stress adaptation (somatic) and a local stress adaptation (organic) with the outcome yielding Seyle's roster of diseases of adaptation.

The process of "socially-shared" dition is well represented in the popular media. The media represents the first tangible interaction with phylobiological communication. Rushkoff comments, "The ever-expanding media has become a true region — a place as real and seemingly open as the globe was five hundred years ago. This new place is called the datasphere."<sup>16</sup>

Subluxation can be potentially mapped non-locally and non-verbally to a nervous system already in a state of ontosomatic dition. When a match is achieved, cotention develops and the ontosomatic pattern is more embedded. The message of the modern era of media points to a more discontinuous, non-linear relationship with the environment. By accelerating the pace of the communication, the datasphere achieves an organization capable of triggering chaotic transformation. Rushkoff, commenting on the nature of fast-cut music videos, states "The increase in images per second corresponds directly to an increase in the amount of visual information younger viewers are capable of gleaning off the monitor. MTV can be seen as educational television in that it trains the eyes and brain to scan more images faster and faster."<sup>17</sup> This combines trend 2 (heart-mind

merging) with trend 3 (raw information) to trigger rapid ontosomatic adaptation on a mass scale.

What MTV has employed in its design is termed memetic engineering.<sup>18</sup> That is, it rearranges (a complex transformation) the experiential patterns of the cultural landscape. Thus, MTV establishes a new genre that is then imitated by movies, television, etc. This relays the experiential pattern phylosomatically and embeds itself into the existential patterns of the "socially-shared" experience.

The notion of a unit of cultural imitation is the essence of the study of idea replication or memes. A relatively new concept such as memes runs into a similar linguistic fog that chiropractic's subluxation has endured for over a century. Spawned in the mid-1970's by Dawkins, the science of memes or memetics seeks to uncover how memes are passed from one person to another as they interact and develop.<sup>19</sup> This represents a departure from the biologically-only view of replication that focused solely on genetic transfer. Memes allow evaluation of linguistic patterns to see if they crystallize experience into meaningful symbols. Memes also take existential patterns and apply trend 1 (reverse engineering mastery) by rearranging a given experience mathematically through technology or linguistically through meaning.

Therefore, when placed in the context of social well-being, subluxation can be viewed as a meme, a phylobiological message to trigger chaotic transformation. Due to a prevalence of pre-existing ontosomatic dition, it can be postulated that subluxation presently serves to reinforce operative cues of the general adaptation syndrome.

Rushkoff argues that the impact of technology and memetic engineering is ushering in a newly wired neural organization, chaotically adapted to the discontinuity of contemporary life. He states, "...the ability to piece together meaning from a discontinuous set of images is the act of a higher intellect, not a lower one...The child of the remote control may indeed have a "shorter" attention span as defined by the behavioral psychologists of our pre-chaotic cultural academic institutions... But this same child also has a much broader attention span. The skill to be valued in the 21st century is not length of attention span but the ability to multitask - to do many things at once, well."<sup>20</sup> By understanding the integrated nature of cotention and dition, we may broadly view subluxation as an unfiltered phylobiological messenger. By recasting the disruption of a mental impulse as an expression of intelligent information-based communication, an incoherent message about incoherence, subluxation, as a "socially-shared" experience, functions as a meme itself that is decoded ontosomatically through pattern recognition. To decode it, some basic chiropractic concepts are reviewed to obtain a different perspective of interactive human life.

#### *Addressing Recursive Causation*

Once subluxation is viewed as a process and not a condition, it becomes more accessible to a social inquiry. The doctor-patient interaction is a study of the principles of Burrow's.<sup>21</sup> That is, the more ontosomatic cotention the doctor achieves, the more the ditive noise within the patient will optimize and then stochastically resonate. This explanation mirrors the more

commonly understood notion of the placebo effect. Wardwell states, "A good bedside manner conveys a sense of optimism and reassurance that all will be well, that the medicine will work or that the spinal adjustment will eliminate the cause of the illness. That is why it has been said: 'The doctor is his own best medicine,' which someone called 'iatroplacebogenesis.'"<sup>22</sup> This example illustrates how a "virtual adjustment" can be delivered by anyone capable of attaining ontosomatic cotention.

Another long held chiropractic concept is called retracing. Stephenson states, "When we say that a case retraces over the successive steps, in reverse order that it passed through in getting worse, we are talking about an ideal case...We have no assurance, that with ever-changing environmental conditions and new subluxations and passing pressures, that the same combination of circumstances will obtain that existed when we 'sized up' conditions in the first instance; that there will be a mathematical reverse of the steps, with the same balancing of survival values at the same stated mathematical intervals"<sup>23</sup> This concept aligns chiropractic philosophy with the discontinuous nature of contemporary culture.

What retracing expresses describes the stochastic, fractal-like nature of a chiropractic experience, and for that matter a healing response in general. Just as in other "socially-shared" processes, the resolution of subluxation implies a learning curve migration. Unlike most learning experiences, retracing travels from a biological level (stochastic resonance) to a social expression (cotention). In chiropractic terminology, the "instruction" is emanating from innate intelligence and is "studied" by educated intelligence. The emerging symbolic, visual language of modern media serves as its conduit. The more coherent the linguistic pattern gets, the more meaning develops.

The cyclical nature of subluxation processing and resolution erases the pre-chaotic mathematical pattern of cause and effect evident in traditional clinical thinking. A meta-causation or "orientation framework" arises whereby the "cause" is ascribed to a state of incoherence and not a set of conditional dysfunctions. In this view, the "effect" speaks to a myriad of experiential patterns that reinforce a state of incoherence. Strang expresses this concept by stating, "The subluxation is an effect. Chiropractors sometimes forget this fact. D.D. Palmer's writings remind the practitioner that, 'Poisons just as surely act upon and cause contraction of nerves and muscles, drawing bones out of alignment'. D.D. also argued that subluxation could even more readily be traced to trauma, or sometimes even autosuggestion."<sup>24</sup> This realization suggests that the process of subluxation is spelling out a new message for humanity to decode.

#### *New Message, Old Brains*

With the advent of modern neurolinguistics, the physiological impact of language on the process of autosuggestion could be calibrated in real-time. Such methods as Eriksonian Hypnosis, NeuroSpeak, and CyberCoaching have evolved to break down errors in linguistic-experiential matching and install cotentive orientations in their place.<sup>25, 26, 27</sup> This shifts the focus from the I-persona to a more body conscious non-verbal existential realm, where symbol and action combine to achieve novelty. The brain can then redirect its energy and the hidden cue of the process of subluxation (to optimize random noise) can be

<b>0</b>	<b>means</b>	<b>D</b>	<b>D</b>	<b>D</b>
<b>1</b>	<b>means</b>	<b>D</b>	<b>D</b>	<b>D</b>
<b>2</b>	<b>means</b>	<b>D</b>	<b>U</b>	<b>D</b>
<b>3</b>	<b>means</b>	<b>D</b>	<b>U</b>	<b>U</b>
<b>4</b>	<b>means</b>	<b>U</b>	<b>D</b>	<b>D</b>
<b>5</b>	<b>means</b>	<b>U</b>	<b>D</b>	<b>U</b>
<b>6</b>	<b>means</b>	<b>U</b>	<b>U</b>	<b>D</b>
<b>7</b>	<b>means</b>	<b>U</b>	<b>U</b>	<b>U</b>

**Figure 1:** reprinted with permission of Karl H. Pribram, MD " 1971 Octal Coding Process: Twelve binary operations (up or down) are grouped into sets of three. In each triad, the "up" position adds up to 4-2-1 reading across. For example, "3" breaks down to 0 1 1 as a triad, which becomes 0 +2 +1 =3

acted upon and resolution is expressed by the system.

The inquiry of how our linguistic patterns impact attention and therefore neurodynamics was thoroughly studied by Korzybski concerning general semantics.<sup>28</sup> The span of Korzybski's work extended beyond the spoken word to the nature of the written one. He devised a whole subsystem of "extensional devices" to reinforce the cotentive patterning the spoken and experiential aspects of his work addressed. A key aspect of the written tools was focused on the use of the word "is" in the construction of composition. Korzybski felt that when "is" was used to identify, such as "Harry is a farmer" or to predict, such as "The rose is red", the message was promoting what he called an "intentional orientation." This is characterized by "living life primarily according to higher-order verbal definitions, without reference to lower-order verbal and non-verbal experiences."<sup>29</sup> This parallels Burrow's concept of ditention and the I-persona and exemplifies the chiropractic notion of poor autosuggestion.<sup>30</sup>

Hayakawa (1939) and Pinker (1994) fundamentally disagree on the relative role of language in shaping thought patterns. Hayakawa discusses a "ladder of abstraction," showing how words, perceptions and "objects" inter-relate.<sup>31</sup> This adapts Korzybski's diagram of a "structural differential," which also visually illustrates the experiential process from the maps the nervous system constructs through language.<sup>32</sup> Hayakawa perceived society as a "huge cooperative nervous system," with language serving as its neurochemistry. It appears that he approached language as a "socially-shared" experience requiring awareness and discipline to sustain harmony among people.<sup>33</sup>

Conversely, Pinker regards language as a distinct capacity, running parallel but not necessarily in concert with thinking, "...there is no scientific evidence that languages dramatically shape their speaker's way of thinking...We end up with the following picture. People do not think in English or Chinese or Apache; they think in a language of thought...Knowing a language, then is knowing how to translate mentalese into strings of words and vice versa."<sup>34,35,36</sup> The different viewpoints of Hayakawa and Pinker become illusionary when applying what has been gleaned from the symbiotic relationship between apparent opposites, like: cotention and ditention (attention), sig-

nal and noise (stochastic resonance) and ontosomatic and phylosomatic awareness (ecosomatic tone).

When a literal utility underlying all languages (Pinker's mentalese) optimizes the figurative capacity of symbols (Hayakawa's ladder of abstraction) a coherent expression is achieved. That is, in effect, a meme is manifested. Rushkoff proposes that the discontinuity of contemporary life encourages an "embodiment of experience" and abandons the "parental guidance" of the literal story of language and the figurative deities of its many metaphors. He summarizes, "...the increasing non-linearity of our media and popular culture is not a heathen retreat from the dualistic morality of God, but the process by which we learn to accept the very natural, organic, and complex property of life called chaos."<sup>37</sup> It becomes of interest to evaluate if sublaxation plays a role in this process.

#### *Toward an Ecosomatic Sublaxation*

The role of sublaxation in this process can be best described as a chaotic microcosm. As previously discussed, the recursive nature of causality (retracing) and the propensity for each organism to live at the edge of chaos (favoring conservative complex rearrangement over chaotic transformation) makes the transition from a phylobiological sublaxation to an ecosomatic one a large cooperative task. The trends of the new "socially-shared" protocols reposition this vast process as a recombinant activity already ongoing at subtle levels and not an elusive, undiscovered higher consciousness.

In effect, an ecosomatic tonality lives within each individual. The process of sublaxation resolution involves more expression than impression. It runs slightly counter to memetic engineering, emphasizing a stochastic (noisy) cotention and a phasic (rhythmic) ditention, rather than allowing ditention or cotention to become redundant. In a sense, sublaxation resolution involves taking biologically-rooted cotention and placing it into the phylosomatic realm while placing socially-based ditention into the ontosomatic realm. This process is recognized today as the experience of flow.<sup>38</sup> As Rushkoff states, "We are all fast becoming 'meta,' looking at ourselves from the outside while participating from the inside."<sup>39</sup>

#### **A Technology of Coherence**

The first step in reshuffling the nature of phylosomatic communication involves recognizing the heart as the biological epicenter of the nervous system. The emerging science of neurocardiology has been able to detect the existence of a distinct cardiac nervous system that functions independently from the central nervous system.<sup>40</sup> Armour has contributed to an understanding of how the autonomic nervous system influences overall tonality.<sup>41,42</sup>

Another window into the world of cotentive ontosomatic states is being opened by the use of a new non-invasive standard, cardiac coherence.<sup>43</sup> The use of power spectrum analysis of heart rate variability is being establishing in a clinical manner to evaluate the order of the autonomic nervous system and its impact on performance and behavior. Bentov's work with heart and brain entrainment can be induced through the use of specific

methods. His experiments reveal that deeply relaxed yoga serve as an example of this process.<sup>44</sup> The Institute of HeartMath has introduced an array of low-tech, portable methods to assist individuals in accessing these states.<sup>45</sup>

#### **Subliminal Perception: Humanity's Underground Railroad**

The construction of the phasic ditentive aspect of an ecosomatic sublaxation will be assisted by a conscious refocusing on the heart. To access the more elusive stochastic cotentive aspect, the nature of perception is re-examined. The notion of autopoiesis, both from a biological (Varela) and mathematical (fractals) origin demonstrates that the connection made with phylobiological roots functions according to the code of dissipative structures, merging complex design with chaotic behavior. The linguistic patterns of the archetypal realm offer such a design and behavior combination that can deliver the cotentive experience within a stochastic environment. The resurgence of the study of subliminal perception and the timing of conscious experience has opened up the field to an awareness of the role of other-than-conscious processes.<sup>46,47,48,49</sup> Acknowledging their existence serves as a precursor to actually accessing and utilizing their resources for sublaxation resolution. For that, certain aspects of music and memory are reviewed.

#### *Music and Memory Revisited*

The inherent properties of music both as a cultural and clinical tool make the existential patterns intrinsic to its design an excellent resource to consider for accessing a stochastic level of cotention. Recent studies at the Institute of HeartMath (1998) have demonstrated that specific genres of music instill incoherent states and others can instill coherent states.<sup>50</sup> By combining the resonance of music with the stochastic nature of the nervous system's stress response, a fractal-like merging of the two is yielded. The brain can then effect an optimization of the ambient ontosomatic noise. This repositions the ditentive ontosoma as "raw information" that cotentive, phylosomatic music can chaotically transform.

A more readily accessible format to transform the ditentive state can be found within the work of Hanna's Somatics. Hanna discussed the role of what he termed sensory-motor amnesia (SMA) in neuromuscular modulation. Through the use of simple, guided exercises, individuals can reinstall phasic rhythms to voluntary muscle groups that have been recruited by overly charged, reflex arcs that relate to the development of the secondary spinal curves (the withdrawal and Landau reflexes).<sup>51</sup> By coherently disrupting the ditentive state, the individual is primed to access the symbolic, archetypal realm obscured by the subliminal process of SMA. These and other easily implemented, low-cost tools can accelerate the construction of a virtual adjustment and its propagation as a phylobiological meme.

#### *Clinical Inroads*

The work of Pribram,<sup>52,53</sup> on the coding capabilities of the nervous system illustrates that human memory places a strong

IN-8 Pattern of Adaptation	Distribution of Data		
	Static EMG Graphic	Frame Message Static EMG Asymmetry	Outer Message Inner Message Thermal Scan NCM screen
Pattern 1	At/Below Baseline	At/Below Baseline	At/Below Baseline
Pattern 2	At/Below Baseline	At/Below Baseline	Above Baseline
Pattern 3	At/Below Baseline	Above Baseline	At/Below Baseline
Pattern 4	Above Baseline	At/Below Baseline	At/Below Baseline
Pattern 5	At/Below Baseline	Above Baseline	Above Baseline
Pattern 6	Above Baseline	At/Below Baseline	Above Baseline
Pattern 7	Above Baseline	Above Baseline	At/Below Baseline
Pattern 8	Above Baseline	Above Baseline	Above Baseline

### Clinical Application of Octal Coding for Insight 7000 Subluxation Station

- Pattern 1...The nervous system is demonstrating a pattern of increased neuromuscular tension (more colored bars), increased hidden asymmetry (overall % difference migrating away from zero) and increased thermal dysregulation (more colored boxes).
- Pattern 2...The nervous system is demonstrating a pattern of increased neuromuscular tension (more colored bars), increased hidden asymmetry (overall % difference migrating away from zero) and decreased thermal dysregulation (less colored boxes).
- Pattern 3...The nervous system is demonstrating a pattern of increased neuromuscular tension (more of colored bars), decreased hidden asymmetry (overall % difference migrating towards zero) and increased thermal dysregulation (more colored boxes).
- Pattern 4...The nervous system is demonstrating a pattern of decreased neuromuscular tension (more of target pattern), increased hidden asymmetry (overall % difference migrating away from zero) and increased thermal dysregulation (more colored boxes).
- Pattern 5...The nervous system is demonstrating a pattern of increased neuromuscular tension (more colored bars), decreased hidden asymmetry (overall % difference migrating towards zero) and decreased thermal dysregulation (less colored boxes).
- Pattern 6...The nervous system is demonstrating a pattern of decreased neuromuscular tension (more of target pattern), increased hidden asymmetry (overall % difference migrating away from zero) and decreased thermal dysregulation (less colored boxes).
- Pattern 7 ...The nervous system is demonstrating a pattern of decreased neuromuscular tension (more of target pattern), decreased hidden asymmetry (overall % difference migrating towards zero) and increased thermal dysregulation (more colored boxes).
- Pattern 8...The nervous system is demonstrating a pattern of decreased neuromuscular tension (more of target pattern), decreased hidden asymmetry (overall % difference migrating towards zero) and decreased thermal dysregulation (less colored boxes).

Figure 2

# *InnerFace*<sup>TM</sup>

## Quick Score System

	<u>Surface Tension</u>	<u>Residual Tension</u>	<u>Core Tension</u>
<b>Soft data:</b>	postural symmetry	coupled motion	neurological short leg
<b>Hard data:</b>	SEMG screen graphic	SEMG data table	thermal scan NCM graphic

<b>Case Factors</b>	Baseline Data	Visit 6 Data	Visit 24 Data	Visit 30 Data
<b>Insight 7000 Subluxation Station</b>				
<b>Static EMG graphic</b>				
Right uV "points"				
Left uV "points"				
Aggregate "points"				
<b>Static EMG Asymmetry</b>				
Right % "points"				
Left % "points"				
Aggregate "points"				
<b>Thermal Scan NCM screen</b>				
Delta G "points"				
<b>Milestone Pattern Manifested →</b>				

## Quick Scoring Point System

The way we determine the "points" for each page of the scan works as follows:

- (1) we assign a value for each color pattern demonstrated
  - white (zero points) – indicates "normal" output
  - green ( 1 point) – indicates mild asymmetry
  - blue (2 points) – indicates moderate asymmetry
  - red (3 points) – indicates severe asymmetry
  - yellow (4 points) – indicates neuromuscular underactivity (only seen on page #1)
- (2) totals are tabulated for right and left sides for **Static EMG graphic** (microvolts) & **Static EMG Asymmetry** (% diff)
- (3) totals for right and left sides are added to give us an aggregate or grand total
- (4) totals are tabulated for thermal distribution on the **Thermal Scan NCM screen** (delta)

### **General Indicators for Aggregate Scores**

<u>Static EMG graphic</u>	<u>Static EMG Asymmetry</u>	<u>Thermal Scan NCM screen</u>
0 -30 Proficient Tone	0-30 Fluid Motion	0-25 Clearing Out
31 -60 Efficient Tone	31-60 Faulty Motion	26-50 Filling Up
61 -90 Sufficient Tone	61-90 Fixed Motion	51-75 Toxic Overload
91-120 Insufficient Tone		

Figure 3

emphasis on the vital role of the configuration of neuro-electrical signals in coordinating experience with form and context. Pribram concluded that the nervous system utilized two classes of transfer functions during coding operations. Reversible or isomorphic transfer functions allowed for mapping between the decoded and encoded form. The other class was more irreversible and anisomorphic in nature and tended to be utilized during abstract processes, such as linguistic programming and feature detection. To undo this through a recoding process, it is required that a key or trigger is employed to unlock the predominant pattern.

Pribram went on to highlight the transformation called "octal coding" of a binary or all-or-none system as an example of "tremendous economy." It is this process of converging multivariate inputs to yield unique meaning or symbolic representation that prompted him to investigate the role of abstraction and recoding as adaptive and constructive instruments.

There has been considerable clinical exploration into this realm outside of the field of chiropractic. Gerber (1988), Campbell (1991, 1997), and Tomatis (1991, 1996) have all applied the study of octaves to their work.<sup>54,55,56,57,58</sup> Each has made a contribution in ushering in a new era of "socially-shared" health. The field's acknowledgment of subluxation as a process may allow practitioners to play the role of musical conductors, orchestrating the most coherent manner to instill a chaotic transformation in their clientele. The majority of current clinical chiropractic protocols are designed to address physical and/or emotional indicators of subluxation. The use of octal coding can be utilized in clinical chiropractic to profile, index and filter these shifting patterns of adaptation as a case migrates through care.

### **The InnerFace analysis**

The present author proposes a new analytical tool to assist practitioners in designing a virtual adjustment that can incorporate the resources of interdisciplinary disciplines employing functional symmetry as its key clinical marker. The tool is called InnerFace. It is not the intent of this paper to describe the details of this analysis, but to present an overview of its basic tenets as an application of a new clinical tool for the doctor-patient relationship directed at enhancement of the patient's understanding of the nature of subluxation. A basic overview of the clinical application follows.

Chiropractic acknowledges that the human nervous system is composed of a voluntary or phasic aspect, and an involuntary or tonal aspect.<sup>59</sup> This ongoing "conversation" between these two divisions form the tapestry of the experience of our individual and collective existence.

Consider the markers of the involuntary aspects as the degree of cotention present and the voluntary aspects as markers of the degree of ditention. The relationship between the two sets of data serves as a marker of the extent of attention, according to Burrow's definition.<sup>60</sup> Self-regulated attention represents the clinical target of subluxation resolution. It can be followed on any level in a discontinuous fashion, whereby biological data corresponds to biological data and social data to social data, etc.

This proposal is based on early observations using thermal

scans and static EMG patterns taken on patients during clinical practice. It appeared that a series of "signatures," or "patterns" between the thermal scans and EMG data readings could be detected. The information derived from this combination allows the practitioner to distinguish between voluntary and involuntary components of the vertebral subluxation. This approach uses global self-assessment (self-similarity), systemic self organization (autopoiesis) and self-mastery (stochastic resonance) as indicators.

### *Assessing the Nature of Subluxation*

These indicators comprise a discovery process, grounded in clear objective findings evoked from that individual's nervous system. Instead of imposing home care on a case in a broad manner, the cue is taken from the degree of integration that person is predominantly adapting to involuntarily on the EMG and thermal scans.

This approach communicates the message that healing, as well as health, comes from within. It also acknowledges that lifestyle factors influence clinical progress. This may help patients register the role of social well-being as their case evolves. Often by confronting that reality, lifestyle changes occur. By addressing these "default settings" hidden inside the patterns of adaptation with stratified, focused skill transferring development, the patients gain awareness of the process of vertebral subluxation resolution.

That is, the patient is guided to view vertebral subluxation not as a "condition" but as a reflection of the nervous system's alignment with natural law. This fosters an appreciation for the role of innate intelligence in contrast to educated intelligence and operationalizes the inside-out philosophy that chiropractic wellness care embraces.<sup>61</sup>

The relevance of this analysis is deciphered by considering another recombinant of cotention and ditention. The octal coding of a binary system (in this instance, the hard data was taken from the Insight 7000 Subluxation Station™ surface EMG and paraspinal thermal scans) provides us with what Pribram calls a "classification into hierarchical schemes."<sup>62</sup> This lays the groundwork for developing a common filter between doctor and patient that feeds a "means-ends paradox." According to Pribram, hierarchical structures work within affluent systems following the principles of operant conditioning. Under these guidelines, "the organism tends to organize his actions not just to reduce dissonance but to actively produce consonance."<sup>63</sup> By monitoring the affinity the case demonstrates for the most resourceful adaptive response the degree of "affluence" or cotention, in that nervous system, can then be indexed.

Another feature of the InnerFace analysis involves arranging an octal code for the voluntary aspects, effectively making the data three-dimensional. This utilizes what ReMime calls the it the three layers of the biotic message.<sup>64</sup> Essentially any message can be separated into three layers of information:

- The Frame Message
- The Outer Message
- The Inner Message

The frame message is concerned with prompting the receiv-

er to decode it. A structural or static analysis presents a practitioner with such a message. The outer message is concerned with pattern recognition of the frame message. It contains “triggers” that recode the frame message so the receiver can make use of the pattern. This step is accessed by the practitioner when a functional or motion analysis is performed. Finally, the inner message is arrived at by ascribing meaning or value to the insights gleaned from the recoded outer message. This message is shared with the patient, providing them with the means of performing the process independent of the practitioner.

By viewing subluxation as a cultural undertow that extends beyond the borders of individual physical bodies to replicate behavioral patterns of survival, the chiropractor is free to work within the sphere of life common to both doctor and patient; social well-being. The adjustment is then converted to a forum for the individual to crystallize their subluxation profiling skills through the innate language of pattern recognition. With both doctor and patient focusing on common targets for clinical outcomes, the emphasis shifts from normalizing the spine to optimizing nerve function for whole body benefits, both onto- and phylosomatically.

#### *Possible Research Directions*

The implications of a “socially-shared” subluxation merges the linguistic and mathematical patterns that practitioners have used with the experiential and existential patterns that patients have used in clinical practice. Ornish (1998), believes the role of social well-being, specifically the degree of intimacy, can directly influence the incidence of long-term health and longevity.<sup>65</sup>

Ontosomatic dition and cotention can be monitored by the application of recurrence quantification analysis (RQA).<sup>66</sup> Transforming the present-day binary either/or system of clinical analysis represents a starting point for the introduction of high tech, non-linear tools to the clinical landscape. This can assist both practitioner and patient in discovering underutilized areas of stochastic resonance embedded in the filtered data, as seen with power spectrum heart rate variability analysis.<sup>67</sup>

Other areas to consider monitoring would involve the study of harmonics within patterned responses. As detailed by Winter, and by the Institute of HeartMath (1997) coherence and entrainment can be tracked between the brain and heart utilizing harmonic scales or ratios to assess the degree of integration of a cotentive state.<sup>68,69</sup> This avenue can also be explored with respect to the embedded harmonics of paraspinal sEMG and infrared thermography. As preliminary studies of Bohacek and Jonckheere (1998) have indicated, this data is capable of chaotic modeling as well.<sup>70</sup>

#### **Conclusion**

The shift from tracing primarily physical/mental ontosomatic indicators of subluxation to a “socially-shared” phylobiological orientation requires a rigorous effort on the part of both doctor and patient to utilize a common, innate language of pattern recognition. The implications both on an intra- and interdisciplinary level are compelling. By applying the trends of like-minded “socially-shared” protocols, the development of a virtu-

al adjustment has been elucidated. A clinical application of octal coding may provide a foundation to assist practitioners in reverse engineering their subjective mastery of the pattern recognition of objective indicators of subluxation that can then be transferred to their practice members as they receive their care. Finally, a cultural model of replication, memes, was considered as the most likely manner to propagate both awareness of phylosomatic subluxation and virtual adjustment tools.

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## Glossary of Terms

This two-part paper prompted the necessity for a clarification of some of the terminology used. The author offers this brief list of terms as a means to convey a clearer, cleaner reading experience.

**Affluent systems** – As detailed by Pribram, this behavioral cue is present when “the organism tends to organize his actions not just to reduce dissonance but to actively produce consonance.”

See Reference #63 JVSR vol. 3 No. 4

**Biotic message** – From his book of the same name, Walter ReMine describes his theory this way: “Life was reasonably designed for survival and for communicating a message that tells where life came from. The biotic message says, “Life is the product of a single designer — life was intentionally designed to resist all other interpretations of origin.”

See Reference #64 JVSR vol. 3 no. 4

**Cardiac coherence** – In a peer-reviewed paper by William A. Tiller PhD, Rollin McCraty MA and Mike Atkinson called *Cardiac Coherence: A New, Non-Invasive Measure of Autonomic Nervous System Order* they take what was known about cardiac sympathovagal regulation and developed three features that stem from cardiac coherence:

“Three unique conditions of autonomic nervous system order can be clearly discriminated in the data. They are listed below.

- (1) normal heart function mode
- (2) entrainment mode
- (3) internal coherence mode

The results suggest that emotional experiences play a role in sympathovagal balance independent of heart rate and respiration”

See Reference #43 JVSR vol. 3 no. 4

**Chiropractic** – As stated in Terry Rondberg’s book, *Chiropractic First*, it is “a primary health care profession in which professional responsibility and authority are focused on the anatomy of the spine and immediate articulation, and the condition of nerve interference. It is also a practice which encompasses educating, advising about and addressing nerve interference.” Often mislabeled from classical paradigms, chiropractic works as a non-duplicating distinct discipline, with a vitalistic philosophy, a deductive, *contextual*<sup>l</sup> science and a principled healing art of adjusting. Chiropractors are trained in the skill of detection and correction of the vertebral subluxation in the interests of “the preservation and restoration of health”<sup>22</sup>

1. **Black, D. Inner Wisdom. Springfield, UT: Tapestry Press: 1990: 62.**

2. **Association of Chiropractic Colleges (ACC) Position on Chiropractic; Position paper #1; July 1996;** <<http://Lifenet.life.edu/other/acc.html>>

See Reference #58 JVSR vol. 3 no. 3

**Coherence** – a term from classical physics that pertains to waves

with a continuous relationship among phases. This applies to the notion of a soliton. Unlike linear waves that function independently and disperse, soliton waves are linked nonlinearly at a critical threshold and display a dynamic stability.

See Reference #94 JVSR vol. 3 no. 3

**Chaotic systems** — Ilya Prigogine, Nobel Laureate in physics. In John Briggs and David Peats’ book *The Turbulent Mirror*, Prigogine makes his insights known. “There is the passive chaos of equilibrium and maximum entropy, where the elements are so intimately mixed that no organization exists. This is the ‘equilibrium thermal chaos’ of the eventual lukewarm universe predicted by Clausius. But the second kind of chaos is active, hot, and energetic – a ‘far-from-equilibrium turbulent chaos’. Chaotically adapting systems undergo bifurcations utilizing the flexible integrity of a dissipative structure.

Michael Butz and his book *Chaos and Complexity: Implications for Psychological Theory*. “The three major distinctions in chaos theory are between dynamical systems theory, self-organization theory, and fractal geometry. These disciplines recognize chaos as part of a process in which simple equations can produce results that appear random and somewhat unified. A picture of these theories can be realized by regarding them in light of the concept of stability ...The stability or instability one witnesses is entirely dependent on when, and under what conditions, the system is being observed.” The three distinguishing features of these systems are that they are *Far-from-equilibrium*, have *sensitive dependence on initial conditions* and function within a *bounded instability*.

See Reference #94 JVSR vol 3 no. 3

See Reference #13 JVSR vol. 3 no. 4

**Cotention** — The type of attention that marks the organism’s total tensional reaction in relation to the environment, and that precludes the usual play of wishful fantasies with their interrelational affects and strivings. (Contrasted with ditionion)

See Reference #13 JVSR vol. 3 no. 4

**Ditionion** — The intrusion of affect-elements or bias into ordinary attention. Ditionion is a reaction that characterizes man’s interrelational behavior generally. (Contrasted with cotention)

See Reference #13 JVSR vol. 3 no. 4

**Ecosomatic** – Attention, since it carries with it the capacity for an organism to relate to its environment, works as a bionomic or ecological process. Attention provides a human being with a connection to the outside world. Early 20<sup>th</sup> century psychologist Trigant Burrow called this binding between an organism and the environment, *ecosomatic*.

See Reference #13 JVSR vol. 3 no. 4

**Emergence** – From his book, *The User Illusion*, “When simple rules are allowed to beaver away long enough in time or in a sufficient number of component parts, completely new properties appear: they emerge, break out, pop up, come into view.”

See Reference #122 JVSR vol. 3 no. 3

**Non-locality** – Dossey states, “The non-local view suggests that

the mind cannot be limited to specific points in space (brains or bodies) or in time (the present moment), but is infinite in space and time; thus the mind is omnipresent, eternal and immortal. If minds are indeed non-local, this means that in principle they cannot be walled off and separated from one another: at some level they are unified and are one.”

*See Reference #92 JVS vol. 3 no. 3*

**Memes** – In 1976, Richard Dawkins proposed that humans had a second mechanism that worked in both concert and competition with the genes within the species. He called this new information transmitter a *meme*, which constituted a cultural unit of imitation. Dawkins proposed that instead of working to promote the survival of the organism, memes work for their own replication, using the human brain, body, language and culture as vectors. This process is termed “memetic driving,” which is summarized as follows: “Once imitation arose three new processes could begin. First, memetic selection (that is the survival of some memes at the expense of others). Second, genetic selection for the ability to imitate the new memes (the best imitators of the best imitators have higher reproductive success). Third, genetic selection for mating with the best imitators.”

*See Reference #29 JVS vol. 3 no. 3*

*See Reference #30 JVS vol. 3 no. 3*

**Octal coding** – Described by Karl H. Pribram in his book *Languages of the Brain* as a “process of converging multivariate inputs to yield unique meaning or symbolic representation”.

*See Reference #52 JVS vol. 3 no. 4*

**Pattern recognition** – Jack Cohen & Ian Stewart’s evolutionary perspective links pattern recognition to a bare human necessity. “When protohumanity learned how to generalize about the structure of the natural world, to classify similar objects under identical labels – in short, to exploit the power of metaphor – it latched onto a wonderful trick for simplifying what would otherwise be complex beyond human understanding.”

**1. Jack Cohen & Ian Stewart, “The Collapse of Chaos” pp. 10-11**

**Phylobiology** – Trigant Burrow’s work focused on “...the science of behavior that studies the relation of the organism as a whole in its adaptation to the environment and to other organisms. Phylobiology posits a principle of functional unity and solidarity activating the behavior of individual and species.

*See Reference #60 JVS vol. 3 no. 3*

**Retracing** – The stochastic, fractal-like nature of a chiropractic experience, and for that matter a healing response in general. Just as in other “socially-shared” processes, the resolution of subluxation implies a learning curve migration. Unlike most learning experiences, retracing travels from a biological level (stochastic resonance) to a social expression (cotention). In chiropractic terminology, the “instruction” is emanating from innate intelligence and is “studied” by educated intelligence.

*See Reference #23 JVS vol. 3 no. 4*

**Recursion** – An autopoietic process characteristic of determin-

istic systems that Charles L. Webber and Joseph P. Zbilut, creators of recurrence quantification analysis software and research describe as “dynamical systems that consist of rule-obeying, interacting components.” Recurrence works as a parameter that measures how often a sequence of data points repeats in a given epoch window.

*See Reference #66 JVS vol. 3 no. 4*

**Subluxation** – (1) subluxation has both a literal and figurative use, which; (2) the model of vertebral subluxation embodies by including an immaterial component {disruption of the mental impulse}, and; (3) this positions subluxation as both process-oriented and information-based, which; (4) brings it under the realm of language and thought, and this; (5) takes it beyond the boundary of biology (6) opening it up to be replicated through other mechanisms representing Social/Cultural imitation. By distinguishing the literal model of vertebral subluxation from the figurative process of subluxation, the objective and materially-bound aspects associated with the more allopathic neuromuscular connotation are contextualized and the subjective and immaterially-bound aspects associated with the disruption of the mental impulse are highlighted.

The explanations above offer a transition for discussing subluxation apart from the realm of depersonalized biological interaction to an individuated social ensemble of selected verbal and non-verbal modes of communication.

*See Reference #28 JVS vol. 3 no. 3*

**Stochastic resonance** – It refers to a property of non-linear systems to optimize ambient noise and become more coherent in the process. If that seems like autopoiesis and dissipative structures, you’re on the right track. This phenomena has been measured with very weak biological signals and broadband stimuli, so it speaks to the quality of self-similarity as well. Since its dynamic in nature and subject to adaptation, it runs closer to complexity than to chaos until it reaches a level where the system can bifurcate and transform. Look at it as noise-induced order.

*See Reference #69 JVS vol. 3 no. 4*

**Virtual adjustment** – When “cotentive” capacity is combined with “ditentive” ability a phylobiological level of “attention” is achieved. This represents a holographic embodiment of coherence. It is theorized by the author that by resolving the dilemma of self-reference, we can expand our access to autopoiesis to a non-local level and allow the process of autosuggestion to sort for memes that increase our collective and personal coherence. By applying the trends of like-minded “socially-shared” protocols, the development of a virtual adjustment has been elucidated.

*See Reference #80 JVS vol. 3 no. 3*

*See Reference #81 JVS vol. 3 no. 3*

**Vertebral subluxation** — The working definition as agreed upon by the Association of Chiropractic Colleges, which consists of the presidents of the currently accredited chiropractic colleges: “A subluxation is a complex of functional and/or structural and/or pathological articular changes that compromise neural integrity and may influence organ system function and general health. Common to all concepts of subluxation are

some form of neurological involvement.”<sup>1</sup> This contemporary definition elucidates the model of vertebral subluxation proposed by B.J. Palmer, as noted by Leach, “Palmer established four criteria for his definition of ‘subluxation’: misalignment of the vertebra in relation to adjacent segments, occlusion of a foramen (including the spinal canal and intervertebral foramina) that contains nerves, pressure upon nerves, “and interference to transmission of mental impulse supply.”<sup>2</sup> Notice how the language used here fails to address the multivariate connotations used by allopathic and vitalistic sources in discussing this issue directly.

- 1. Association of Chiropractic Colleges (ACC) Position on Chiropractic; Position paper #1; July 1996;** <<http://Lifenet.life.edu/other/acc.html>>
- 2. Leach, R. The Chiropractic Theories. Baltimore, MD: Williams & Wilkens: 1986: 27**

If you are interested in exploring these concepts further, the author invites you to visit:

<http://www.in-tension.net/MAR.html>