

# Morphogenesis, morphostasis, and learning in TGD framework

M. Pitkänen

Email: matpitka@luukku.com.

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## Contents

|          |  |          |
|----------|--|----------|
| <b>1</b> | <b>Introduction</b>  | <b>2</b> |
| <b>2</b> | <b>The notion of time in TGD framework</b>   | <b>3</b> |
| 2.1      | The general picture based on zero energy ontology . . . . .  | 3        |
| 2.2      | What healing in 4-D sense could mean? . . . . .  | 4        |
| 2.3      | The flow and arrow of time in ZEO . . . . .  | 5        |
| <b>3</b> | <b>The notions of magnetic body and dark matter hierarchy</b>  | <b>6</b> |
| 3.1      | Could magnetic body define coordinate grids making possible topological quantum computation? . . . . . | 6        |
| 3.2      | Flux tube grids and coding of position information . . . . .   | 7        |
| 3.3      | What happens to the magnetic body of planaria cut into two pieces? . . . . .                           | 8        |
| <b>4</b> | <b>Is brain really the seat of memories?</b>   | <b>8</b> |

### Abstract

According to Michael Levin, concerning morphogenesis and morphostasis the basic challenge is to understand how the shape of the organism is generated and how it is preserved. The standard local approach based on belief on genetic determinism does not allow one to answer these questions satisfactorily.

The first approach to this problem relies on a self-organization paradigm in which the local dynamics of cells leads to large scale structures as self-organization patterns. In TGD framework 3-D self-organization is replaced with 4-D self-organization (the failure of strict determinism of the classical dynamics is essential motivating zero energy ontology (ZEO)). One can speak about 4-D healing: expressing it in somewhat sloppy manner, the space-time surface serving as a classical correlate for the patient is as a whole replaced with the healed one: after the 4-D healing process the organism was never ill in geometrical sense! Note that in quantal formulation one must speak of quantum superposition of space-time surfaces.

Second approach could be seen as computational. The basic idea is that the process is guided by a template of the target state and morphogenesis and healing are computational processes. What Levin calls morphogenetic fields would define this template. It is known that organisms display a kind of coordinate grid providing positional information that allows cells to "decide" about the profile of genetic expression (for references see [12]). In TGD framework magnetic body forming coordinate grid formed from flux tubes is a natural candidate for this structure. They would also realize topological quantum computation (TQC) with basic computational operations realized at the nodes of flux tubes to which it is natural to associate some biological sub-structures.

The assumption about final goal defining a template can be argued to be too strong: much weaker principle defining a local direction of dynamics and leading automatically to the final state as something analogous to free energy minimum in thermodynamics might be enough. Unfortunately, second law is the only principle that standard physics can offer. Negentropy Maximization Principle (NMP) provides the desired principle in TGD framework. Also the approach of WCW spinor field to the maximum of vacuum functional (or equivalently that of Kähler function) gives a goal for the dynamics after the perturbation of the organism causing "trauma". If Kähler function is classical space-time correlate for entanglement negentropy, these two views are equivalent.

TGD thus suggests an approach, which could be seen as a hybrid of approaches based on self-organization and computationalism. The magnetic body becomes the key notion and codes also for learned behaviors as TQC programs coded by the braiding of flux tubes. The replication of the magnetic body means also the replication of the programs behind behavioral patterns (often somewhat misleadingly regarded as synonymous with long term memories): both structure and function are replicated. This hypothesis survives the killer tests provided by the strange findings about planaria cut into two and developing new head or tail while retaining its learned behaviors: the findings indicate that behavioral programs are preserved although planaria develops a new brain.

## 1 Introduction

Michael Levin and his collaborators have been working with fascinating topics including fundamentals of long term memory and morphogenesis and morphostasis [I1, I2, I4].

There are two articles of interest that his team has published about morphogenesis and morphostasis. The first article [I1] (<http://www.futuremedicine.com/doi/pdf/10.2217/rme.11.69>) seems to be directed to general audience and has the title "The wisdom of the body: future techniques and approaches to morphogenetic fields in regenerative medicine, developmental biology and cancer". The second article [I2] titled "Morphogenetic fields in embryogenesis, regeneration, and cancer: Non-local control of complex patterning" (<http://www.ncbi.nlm.nih.gov/pubmed/22542702>) is more technical. The basic notion is the morphogenetic field, an old notion, which has not yet captured the attention of mainstream biologists who have worked mainly with the attempt to reduce biology to the genetic code. Sheldrake's work [I3] with this concept has drawn special attention, but there are many other workers in the field.

The third article [I4] by Levin and Shomrat has the title "An Automated Training Paradigm Reveals Long-term Memory in Planaria and Its Persistence Through Head Regeneration" ([http://mechanism.ucsd.edu/teaching/f13/cs200/Levin\\_longterm\\_learning\\_planaria\\_2013.pdf](http://mechanism.ucsd.edu/teaching/f13/cs200/Levin_longterm_learning_planaria_2013.pdf)), and its findings challenge the belief that brain is the only seat of memories.

According to Levin, concerning morphogenesis and morphostasis the basic problem is to understand how the shape of the organism is generated and how it is preserved [I2]. The standard local approach based on genetic determinism does not allow one to answer these questions satisfactorily. There is paradigm based on self-organization in which the local dynamics of cells leads to large scale structures as self-organization patterns. The Game of Life is an elegant example about how a simple cellular automaton can lead to surprisingly complex behaviors: actually the Game of Life is universal Turing computer. The problem of this approach is that it is very difficult to deduce the local rules governing the behavior of basic units (whatever they are) in practice- especially so if they are also dynamical.

The second approach could be seen as computational, with the basic idea being that the process is guided by a template of the target state. Morphogenetic fields would define this template. The assumption about final goal can be argued to be too strong: much weaker principle defining a local direction of dynamics and leading automatically to the final state as something analogous to free energy minimum in thermodynamics might be enough. Unfortunately, second law is the only principle that standard physics can offer.

These problems are also very relevant for medicine [I1] since morphogenesis, morphostasis, and cancer all involve actively replicating cells: the difference is that in cancer the control and long scale coordination of the process fails and it becomes a purely local process. Levin refers to cancer as geometric disease and it seems that this correction contains seed of truth.

These topics are also interesting from the point of view of TGD inspired quantum biology and consciousness. There are several new notions to be tested.

1. The new view about time and quantum physics implied by zero energy ontology (ZEO).  
In TGD framework the notion of preferred extremals as 4-D space-time sheet analogous to Bohr orbit, for which strict determinism of dynamics fails, replaces 3-space as basic unit. One can understand self-organization process in 4-D sense rather than 3-D sense: geometric time evolution would be replaced by subjective time evolution by quantum jumps. This could resolve the basic difficulty of the ordinary self-organization paradigm.
2. The new view about information relying on the notion of negentropic entanglement and Negentropy Maximization Principle (NMP).

NMP could be the principle guaranteeing local positive goal making healing and evolution basic processes of Nature. In particular, the development of shape and shape preservation of organisms could involve NMP in essential manner. Also the approach of WCW spinor field to the maximum of vacuum functional (or equivalently that of Kähler function) gives a goal for the dynamics after the perturbation of the organism causing "trauma". If Kähler function is classical space-time correlate for entanglement negentropy, these two views are equivalent.

3. The notion of magnetic body (MB) carrying dark matter as phases with large value  $h_{eff}$  of Planck constant making living matter a macroscopic quantum system.

Magnetic body provides a tool kit of quantum mechanisms (phase transitions changing the value of  $h_{eff}$  and thus the length of flux tube, reconnections changing the topology of magnetic Indra's net, and 1-braiding of flux tubes 3-space and 2-braiding of their orbits in 4-D space-time). Magnetic body defining a kind of coordinate grid is a good candidate for the TGD counterpart of morphogenetic field serving as a template for the developing organism. It would also give rise to topological quantum computation (TQC) type activities.

The coordinate grid formed by flux tubes defines 3-D topological quantum computer program and the natural assumption is that learned behaviors are coded by the magnetic body as TQC programs. If replication of magnetic body accompanies the replication of DNA, cell, and even planaria (say), the learned behaviors are also replicated.

4. There are additional mechanisms: super-conductivity made possible by large values of  $h_{eff}$ , Josephson radiation from Josephson junctions transforming voltages to frequencies inducing resonant transitions, and radiation consisting of dark photons and inducing cyclotron transitions serving as a basic control and coordination tools. The radiation could be generated as analog of cyclotron radiation by quantum phase transitions at magnetic flux tubes, by Josephson junctions, and by microtubules serving as quantum antennas. Frequency modulation is an excellent candidate for the representation of information: something analogous to whale song would be in question.

All these new notions seem to be highly relevant for the understanding of these experimental findings by Levin's group, which appear to challenge the standard biological model. It would seem that 1. computational aspects (TQC), 2. self-organization but in 4-D sense, 3. the notion of template identified in terms of flux quanta of topologically quantized classical em fields, and 4. the local direction of quantum dynamics defined by NMP are involved rather than single principle.

## 2 The notion of time in TGD framework

The TGD based notion of time is very relevant in attempts to understand the findings about the memory of planaria and metamorphosis and metastasis challenging the standard thinking.

### 2.1 The general picture based on zero energy ontology

1. In TGD framework one must make a distinction between subjective time and geometric time: usually these times are identified. Subjective time has state function reduction/quantum jump as chronon. Geometric time is the time of physicists and corresponds to one coordinate for space-time surface or imbedding space. General Coordinate Invariance implies that it is not unique but that there are very natural choices of it dictated by symmetries.
2. In zero energy ontology (ZEO) physical state is replaced with a pair of positive and negative energy states at opposite boundaries of  $CD \times CP_2$ , where  $CD$  is causal diamond identified as the intersection of future and past directed light-cones. I will talk about  $CD$  in the sequel without bothering to write " $\times CP_2$ ". In ordinary positive energy ontology zero energy states correspond to initial and final states of physical events. The space-time surfaces having their ends at the boundaries of  $CD \times CP_2$  are space-time correlate for the physical time evolution between the initial and final states.  $CD$ :s form a fractal hierarchy since the distance between the tips of  $CD$  is assumed to be integer multiple of  $CP_2$  time. Also Lorentz transforms and translates of  $CD$  are allowed so that it makes sense to speak about moduli space of  $CD$ :s parametrized by the

positions of its tips. It is also possible to have "wave functions" in this moduli space. This is very relevant for understanding what the flow of time corresponds physically.

One can say, that due to the failure of strict determinism the 4-D space-time surface connecting boundaries of CD becomes the basic dynamical unit as far as subjective time development is considered. The superposition of space-time sheets is recreated again and again in quantum jump so that "quantum average" space-time - also its past - changes.

One can speak about 4-D body, brain, even society. For instance, the recall of long term memories could be communications with the geometric past using time-reversed signals reflecting back from the brain of the geometric past: essentially seeing in time direction would be in question. One can even consider healing process in which the healthy state result also in the geometric past!

A new view about long term memories emerges: the brain of geometric past can serve as the seat of memories. This applies to genuine conscious memories such as episodal memories but not to learned behaviors.

3. Zero energy ontology (ZEO) implies a new view about state function reduction and about how the experience about flow of time and its arrow emerge. The state function reductions can occur at either boundary of CD but also repeatedly at the same boundary. The wave function in the moduli space of  $CD$ :s with fixed "lower boundary" changes in each repetition of state function reduction although the positive energy state at "lower" boundary remains unchanged. In ordinary quantum measurement theory nothing would change. This change gives rise to the experience about flow of time. The change is that the average temporal distance between the fixed tip of "lower" boundary and the tip of the "upper boundary" increases: essentially dispersion leading to the decay of wave packet is in question. It is analogous to diffusion in which distance of the diffusing particle from the initial position gradually increases. One can quantify this by introducing the average increase of average geometric time in single state function reduction highly relevant for understanding time experience.
4. Couplings between several widely different length and time scales - say molecular length scale and the scale of biological body - seems to be needed in order to understand morphogenesis - at least as something implied by cell level events. TGD assigns to each particle its CD. The scale of the smallest  $CD$  assignable with the particle characterized by given p-adic prime  $p$  corresponds to its secondary p-adic length/time scale. For electron this time scale is .1 seconds defining a fundamental biorhythm: as a length scale it corresponds to the circumference of Earth.
5. One of the basic predictions of TGD is the failure of strict determinism of the time evolution for space-time surfaces. The interpretation is as a space-time correlate of quantum non-determinism. The reason is the huge vacuum degeneracy of Kähler action. Any space-time surface with vanishing induced Kähler form which is essentially Maxwell field, is vacuum extremals. Mathematically this huge degeneracy is like gauge degeneracy but implies 4-D (very essential distinction from standard view) spin glass degeneracy: there is huge number of different preferred extremals obtained as deformations of the vacuum extremals. This means non-determinism.

So called vacuum functional tells the probability of one particular preferred extremal and one can imagine plotting it as a functional of the extremal. The graph would be a fractal analogous to free energy landscape of spin glass: there are minima inside minima inside.... - now only the minima are replaced with maxima.

## 2.2 What healing in 4-D sense could mean?

The TGD view about time allows to imagine what 4-D healing could mean.

1. Suppose that one performs a deformation of the space-time sheet representing healthy organism. The system suffers "traumatic injury" in 4-D sense but only inside the  $CD$  in question. Classical non-determinism makes also possible the localization of 4-D deformation to a finite region of space-time rather than extending to infinite future. State functions repeatedly replace the zero energy state with a new one and it can gradually end up back to the maximum of Kähler function unless the deformation was not too large or unless it is stuck to a different local maximum. If it ends up with an original maximum, one can say that a complete 4-D healing took place. Also

the biological body of geometric past is healthy! In geometric sense the system was never sick! This mechanism requires no knowledge about healthy state and no algorithm for getting back into healthy state. Nature takes care of healing.

2. The sticking to a local maximum of vacuum functional can prevent getting to the ideal healthy state. This can be avoided by the same mechanism as in annealing, which serves as a metaphor in numerics for a process in which one finds deep minimum of function by "kicking" the system now and then to get out of local minimum. Now the "kicking" would be stimulus deforming the system but not too much.
3. One expects that also Negentropy Maximization Principle (NMP) is closely involved with healing since healing should involve the regaining of the lost information. NMP states that the total negentropy increases in state function reductions and is apparently the opposite of second law: the negentropies in question are however not the same thing and NMP implies second law for ordinary entanglement. The implication is that the potentially conscious information associated with the negentropic entanglement (with identical entanglement probabilities for entangled states) tends to increase and negentropic entanglement can be only transferred to another system or transformed to a new form, but cannot disappear. Negentropically entangled systems would define kind of Akashic records storing potentially conscious information transformed to conscious information in interaction of free quantum measurement. The approach towards maximum of negentropy and maximum of vacuum functional are expected to correspond closely to each other. Quite concretely, NMP could help to understand why the pieces of planaria split into two parts develop head and tail.
4. Clearly, NMP and the approach to the maximum of Kähler function both define candidates for the principles giving rise to same outcome as the morphogenetic field is expected to give. A possible interpretation is that the approach to the maximum of Kähler function is the space-time correlate for NMP: Kähler function defined as Kähler action for preferred extremal could be regarded as classical negentropy.

### 2.3 The flow and arrow of time in ZEO

The TGD based vision about how the arrow of geometric time has developed slowly and I do not dare claim it be fully developed and final [K1].

1. What seems clear now is the decisive role of ZEO and hierarchy of  $CD$ s, and the fact that the quantum arrow of geometric time is coded into the structure of zero energy states to a high extent. The still questionable but attractively simple hypothesis is that  $U$  matrix relates two zero energy state basis with opposite quantum arrows of geometric time: is this assumption really consistent with what we know about the arrow of time? The second basis is always state function reduced.

If this is the case, the question is how the relatively well-defined quantum arrow of geometric time implies the experienced arrow of geometric time. Should one assume the arrow of geometric time separately as a basic property of the state function reduction cascade or more economically does it follow from the arrow of time for zero energy states?

2. The state function reductions occurs at either of the two boundaries of  $CD$ . If the reduction occurs at given boundary is immediately followed by a reduction at the opposite boundary, the arrow of time alternates: this does not conform with intuitive expectations: for instance, this would imply that there are two selves assignable to the opposite boundaries!

It took time to realize that zero energy states must be de-localized in the moduli space  $CD$ s (the size of  $CD$  plus discrete subgroup of Lorentz group defining boosts of  $CD$  leaving second tip invariant). One has quantum superposition of  $CD$ s with difference scales but with fixed upper or lower boundary belonging to the same light-cone boundary after state function reduction. In standard quantum measurement theory the repetition of state function reduction does not change the state but now it would give rise to the experienced flow of time. Zeno effect indeed requires that state function reductions can occur repeatedly at the same boundary. In these reductions the wave function in moduli degrees of freedom of  $CD$  changes. This implies "dispersion" in the moduli space of  $CD$ s experienced as flow of time with definite arrow.

3. This approach codes also the arrow of time at the space-time level: the average space-time sheet in quantum superposition increases in size as the average position of the "upper boundary" of *CDs* drifts towards future state function reduction by state function reduction.
4. In principle the arrow of time can temporarily change but it would seem that this can occur in very special circumstances and probably takes place in living matter. Phase conjugate laser beam is a non-biological example in this respect. Memory recall [K6] would involve the change of arrow of geometric time for a subsystem corresponding to the signal propagating to the geometric past and reflecting back.

This vision involves minimal number of assumptions and is the most convincing one found hitherto and the challenge is to invent objections in order to develop it in more detail.

### 3 The notions of magnetic body and dark matter hierarchy

The notion of magnetic body is central in TGD. The TGD inspired model trying to explain the findings about microtubules by Indian research group led by Anirban Bandyopadhyay lead to rather interesting speculations about the role of magnetic flux tubes and a more precise speculative view about how living system could act as topological quantum computer [K7] [L1].

*Remark:* Magnetic body is somewhat misleading term since a simple deformation implies that magnetic flux quanta carry helical magnetic and electric fields along the flux tube axis.

#### 3.1 Could magnetic body define coordinate grids making possible topological quantum computation?

If the claims of Indian research group led by Anirban Bandyopadhyay are true, one can say that microtubules are macroscopically quantum coherent systems at physiological temperatures. In his Youtube talk Anirban Bandyopadhyay (<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=VQngptkPYE8>) [J1] discussed an identification of conduction pathways different from that of Penrose and Hameroff. In [J4] Gosh, Sahu, and Bandyopadhyay argue for evidence for massive global synchronization in brain and claim that experimental findings support the Penrose-Hameroff theory. In the article "Atomic water channel controlling remarkable properties of a single brain microtubule: correlating single protein to its supramolecular assembly" [J2] it is reported that ordered water inside microtubule is necessary for the conduction inside microtubule.

According to the same article the tubulins inside microtubule has same energy levels in chemical energy range as isolated tubulins, which suggests that the mechanism binding tubulins to form MT is not chemical. In the article "Multi-level memory-switching properties of a single brain microtubule" [J3] it is reported that the hysteresis curve for current along MT as function of voltage is ideal square curve meaning that there is no dissipation involved with the change of the current direction. This would make MT as an ideal memory device. Whether Penrose/Hameroff have in mind the use of current direction as qubit remains unclear. In video talk Bandyopadhyay refers also to these results.

I have considered the general proposal discussed in video lecture in the article [K7] [L1]. The findings reported in the talk give support for the general TGD inspired view about TQC and allow rather detailed model in the case of microtubules. The idea is that flux tubes form a 2-D coordinate grid consisting of parallel flux tubes in two different directions: the guess that they could consist of helical Fibonacci flux tubes and their mirror images is not however convincing. Crossing points would be associated with tubulins and the conformational state of tubulin could define a bit coding whether the braid strands defining coordinate lines are braided or not (swap or not). In this manner any bit pattern at microtubule defines a particular TQC program. If also conformations are quantum superposed, one has "quantum-quantum computation". It however seems that conformation change is irreversible chemical reaction [?] so that this option is not feasible.

The TGD inspired modification of the proposal in terms of flux tube coordinate grids making possible TQC architectures with tubulin dimers defining bits defining in turn TQC program looks more plausible to me. Coordinate grids can be fixed on the basis of the experimental findings and there are 8 of them. The interpretation is in terms of different resolutions. The grids for A and B type lattices are related by  $2\pi$  twist for the second end of the basic 13-unit for microtubule. An attractive interpretation for the resonance frequencies is in terms of phase transitions between A and

B type lattices. If A type lattices can be generated only in phase transitions induced by AC stimulus at resonance frequencies, one could understand their experimental absence, which is strong objection against the Penrose-Hameroff model.

This would fit very nicely with the general vision about frequencies as passwords inducing not only directed attention but activities in target - also TQCs! The increase of Planck constant could be associated with the phase transition to A-phase making possible high  $T_c$  dark super-conductivity for which evidence is observed! One can even deduce estimates for  $h_{eff}/h = n$  if one requires that AC photons have energy above thermal threshold:  $n = h_{eff}/h = f_{visible}/f_{AC}$  would be the estimate. For bio-photon energies one would obtain something like  $n \simeq 10^8 - 10^9$ , which pops up in different contexts in TGD framework.

This picture generalizes in the fractal universe of TGD. One can form layers of 2-D coordinate grids and connect them by vertical flux tubes to obtain 3-D grid defining TQC. The brain is known to have grid-like architecture and neurons could by quantum computation produce bit/qubit defining swap or not/superposition of swap and not-swap for a larger scale TQC. One would have fractal of TQCs.

A further idea is that the TQC based on 1-braids generalizes in a natural manner to 2-braid TQC in TGD framework (for 2-braids in 4-D space-time see [K4]. The knotting occurs for string world sheets defining the orbits of braid strands - say magnetic flux tubes idealized to strings. In the case of microtubules this option suggests itself: the emergence of MTs could have meant emergence of 2-braid TQC and the increase of abstraction level in the information processing.

In the node of 3-D coordinate grid either reconnection of two flux tubes can occur or not: this is coded by one bit. Second bit tells which tube goes over which tube in the plane defined by two tubes. There are three planes of this kind corresponding to xy,xz, and yz planes, and therefore 6 bits altogether. Could genetic codon containing 6 bits of information code for what happens in the node of the grid. Note that 2-braiding is possible only if string worlds sheets "live" in 4-D space-time: for super strings living in higher-D space-time this is not possible.

This kind of 3-D TQC could be responsible for the those aspects which are nearest to computation. One must be however very cautious with the word "computation". Space-like braiding seems to be very natural for storing memories [K3] in braiding patterns and bit patterns would characterize the 2-braiding associated with the coordinate grid but from this it is long way to computation in the usual sense of the word.

## 3.2 Flux tube grids and coding of position information

In metamorphosis and metastasis the basic problem is how the information about position is coded. How cell does know its position in organism? This is necessary for the cell to express its genome in appropriate manner: for instance, gene expression of neuron is quite different from that of muscle cell? According to the article of Levin [I2] organisms seem to have developed kind of coordinate grids to realize this purpose. For instance, simple coordinate transformations seem to related the grids of nearby species to each other. Magnetic flux tubes could be basic building bricks of these grids and at the same time the realization of morphogenetic fields. The coordinate value could be coded by the value of local magnetic field strength varying along the flux tube. By flux conservation this would correspond to the thickness of the flux tube or equivalently to cyclotron frequency. Radiation at cyclotron frequencies would act resonantly only at points at which the resonance condition is satisfied.

Voltages associated with Josephson junctions define Josephson frequencies which could be essential for bio-control and coordination via the resonance mechanism allowing selective activation of biological programs. According to [I2], the values of transmembrane potentials in frog embryo correlate with the formation of the face of *Zenopus laevis* embryos. The lipid layers of cell membrane are proposed to form Josephson junction (at microscopic level the ionic channels and pumps associated with them).

Fractality suggests that nearby cell membranes - say those associated with epithelial sheets - could also form Josephson junctions as fractal considerations. Gap junctions could provide a microscopic realization of these Josephson junctions. If so, then the large  $h_{eff}$  Josephson photons with frequencies determined by transmembrane potential ( $f = ZeV/h_{eff}$ ) could induce in resonant manner activities in precisely defined positions of the magnetic coordinate grid. The radiation at correct frequency would serve as kind of password allowing to initiate a biological program. For instance, in the case considered above they could initiate the generation of the face. The errors in development could be

due to various birth defects could be due to external electric perturbations. Maybe, some day even the correction of these errors might be possible by using properly tuned electric voltages.

### 3.3 What happens to the magnetic body of planaria cut into two pieces?

When planaria is cut to two pieces, second pieces regenerates head and second regenerates tail. Also when one takes second cell away from 2-cell embryo, the remaining cell becomes a full organism rather than only half of it. If there is a template for the formation of organism, then also this template must split in two. As a matter of fact, I have proposed that the magnetic body of the cell decomposes to two in cell division and that this splitting actually guides the cell division.

The fractality of TGD Universe suggests similar splitting in all scales. The vertex of Feynman diagram representing the decay of photon to electron-positron pairs provides an ultra-simplified version of the replication. In TGD framework the lines of Feynman diagrams are replaced with 4-D orbits of 3-D surfaces (or by holography 3-D orbits of 2-D partonic surfaces) and this is true in all scales. Therefore the idea that magnetic body replicates would reduce one of the most mysterious processes of living matter to generalization of fundamental physics. Note that string models do not allow analogs for the vertices of Feynman diagrams, they are possible only in TGD framework.

The idea about magnetic body defining a coordinate grid serving as a counterpart of morphogenetic field or as template able to guide the development of the organism becomes central. It seems that even individual cell - perhaps even DNA - should contain microscopic representation of some topological aspects of the adult organism. This conforms with the notion of holography and is consistent with the central role of genes. Magnetic body with large  $h_{eff}$  being very multi-sheeted structure analogous to covering space could provide this representation. With inspiration coming from Hox genes and from deep ignorance about genetics I proposed that the magnetic body of DNA and even DNA in some rough sense could be homologous to the biological body [K5].

Can one test this hypothesis? It is also possible to isolate the cells of planaria during the development of new head by closing gap junction connections between them for about 48 hours [I2]. The outcome is planaria with two heads. As if the isolation of two cells which should have belonged to the head of planaria had induced splitting of the magnetic body assignable to the head to two so that the outcome was too separate heads. One can however split the two-headed planaria again and the headless part develops now two heads! If the two headed magnetic body replicates, the outcome follows as a prediction.

## 4 Is brain really the seat of memories?

Levin and Shomrat tell about experiments demonstrating that brain is not necessarily the seat of memories as usually assumed. Planaria have brains and they are able to learn and remember. When planaria is split, the pieces develop head and tail. In the experiments planaria are taught some skill and after that split into two pieces. According to [I4], there is evidence that the part of planaria with new head remembers the skill. From this one can conclude that brain is not the only possible seat of memories.

Before continuing, it should be emphasized that memories are now defined as learned behaviors - assumed to reduce basically to conditionings of neurons at the motor areas of brain so that they generate certain motor response to sensory input. In TGD framework memories are understood as genuine conscious memories about events of past and involve communication with the geometric past.

One can imagine several explanations for the findings about the memory preservation. The computationalist possibility is that memories are transferred at least temporarily to the body of planaria and then back to the new head. This does not look biologically feasible.

Three TGD inspired explanations - corresponding to the identification of the brain of the geometric past, biological body, or magnetic body as the seat of memories - are considered.

1. Memories - identified as conscious experiences analogous to episodal memories rather than learned skills - could reside in the old brain or biological body or even magnetic body of the planaria with new head in the geometric past and accessed by negative energy signals which are time reflected from it. This explanation is not natural when memories are identified as learned skills, which in the ideal case are un-conscious behaviors.



2. In TGD Universe entire body and brains could form a hologram-like structure [K2] and the information about body is transferred to the new brain. This would be like hologram completion. TGD indeed suggests strongly that entire body is conscious. For instance, the sensory organs carry the primary sensory qualia, one could circumvent the problem caused by the fact that neural circuits seem the same in all sensory areas. Cortex - maybe entire brain - would build standardized cognitive mental images, give them names, and entangle them with sensory qualia at sensory organs.

Phantom leg is the basic objection against this view but new view about time allows to circumvent it: the seat for the experience about pain in phantom leg is in geometric past when the leg still existed. Note that here memories are not learned skills but memories about genuine events in geometric past.

Second TGD inspired explanation for phantom leg would be it is that phantom leg corresponds to the magnetic body part: it is however not clear whether the sensation of pain even other bodily sensations can be located at magnetic body.

3. The long term memories of planaria restricted to learned behaviors could be represented also at the magnetic rather than biological body. Quantum computationalist would agree with this idea since learned skills would be very naturally TQC programs realized at the coordinate grid formed by the magnetic flux tubes. If magnetic body is replicated as planaria is cut to two pieces, also the TQC programs are replicated. DNA as TQC proposal [K3] assigns these programs to the braids defined by flux tubes assumed to connect DNA nucleotides or codons with the lipids of the lipid layers of the nuclear or cell membranes.
4. Could the state function reduction sequence implying 4-D self-organization driven by NMP lead to and asymptotic state in which also the skills learned in possession of old brain are possessed. As a matter fact, this aspect is certainly present since the replica of the magnetic body of planaria brain must give rise to original biological brain. TQC programs for the skills would be however present from the beginning.

The second option looks like the most plausible explanation since allows to understand the replication of not only organism but also the TQC programs defining behavior repertoire.

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