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Orgone energy as a motor force

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In 1940, the course of investigations into the nature of the emotions, the psychoanalyst Wilhelm Reich discovered a heretofore little known cosmic energy that functioned within biological systems as the life energy. Further investigations over the next seven years revealed that this energy, "orgone energy", could be accumulated from the atmosphere, concentrated within an enclosure, and used as a motor force.

In 1937, believing that human emotions were essentially bioelectrical in nature, Reich studied changes in electrical skin potentials on subjects in various states of emotive expression (1). This study confirmed his clinical impression and theoretical concept that in emotional states "something moved" within the organism. This "something", however, while measurable in electrical terms, could not be electricity per se, as the large quantities of feelings felt and expressed by subjects in the study could not be accounted for by the few dozens of millivolts registered on the skin surface. Furthermore the application of electricity to the body was always perceived as alien and disturbing.

In order to further delineate the nature of the "something", Reich studied biological energy sources, foodstuffs, under the microscope. He discovered that all foods, regardless of their nature, when subjected to boiling, broke down into microscopic vesicles that moved from place to place, showed internal pulsation, and had a bluish glimmer in their transparent, liquid content. Reich named the vesicles "bions" (2). Reich then found that inorganic materials such as earth, iron fillings, carbon and sand, when subjected to autoclavation or incandescent heat, would also break down into bions similar in appearance to those obtained from organic substances. Furthermore, when placed in nutrient media, the carbon and sand bions could be cultured.

The bions showed some remarkable properties. These included the ability to immobilize or destroy bacteria, produce a strong inflammatory reaction when placed close to the skin, to ruminate, and to charge rubber with static electricity. The atmosphere in Reich's laboratory in Oslo was always "heavy"; metallic instruments spontaneously became magnetized; photographic plates spontaneously fogged; Reich tanned, even in the winter, and felt unusually strong and well, except for an inflammation of the eyes, that was apparently related to observing the bions through the microscope.

Orgone energy from bions and the atmosphere

Reich was, however, concerned that the cultures might be radiating radioactively. He consulted a radiation specialist, who ruled out radioactivity. Experiments over the following months convinced Reich that the radiation from the bion cultures could not be accounted for by any known conventional form of energy. He was forced to conclude that he was working with a natural force previously unknown to Western science. He named it "orgone energy" because of its ability to be absorbed by organic materials and the fact that his research began with the clinical study of the function of the orgasm in humans.

The orgone energy ruminated in the form of "purple fogs" and fine, lightning-like, whitish sparks. In order to better visualize the rumination Reich placed bion culture dishes inside a metal-lined, wooden box, thinking that the metal would reflect the radiation to the inside of the box, thereby making it more visible, while the wood would prevent the radiation from escaping. Through a glass plate in one side of the box he was, indeed, better able to see the rumination. To his surprise, however, he found the light effects persisted after removal of the cultures and even after thoroughly airing and washing the enclosure. It was then that Reich realized that the orgone energy was everywhere and that in some way the structure of the enclosure made it possible to concentrate the energy from the atmosphere.

Through further experimentation he found that orgone energy was atracted to and repelled from metals and absorbed by non-metallic substances. Therefore, an enclosure consisting of alternating layers of non-metallic and metallic materials with the metal innermost would establish a gradient of energy from the atmosphere to the interior of the enclosure. Most often the materials wed were celotex, rock wool, steel wool and galvanized iron, although one could also use plastic, fiberglass and other metals. (Figure 1).

Aluminum could be used in strictly physical experimentation, but could be toxic in living organisms. Reich later found by objective measurement that a box consisting of six alternating layers of material would concentrate orgone energy eight times what it was in the surrounding atmosphere.



Figure 1. Section of the basic design of an Orgone accumulator

To = temp above accumulator; Ti = temp within; T = control (room temp) El = electroscope;

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= direction of radiation. Size: 1 cubic foot

The interior of the "orgone energy accumulator" as Reich called the enclosure felt warm and tingling even though the inner metal wall felt cold. This subjective impression was objectively confirmed by measuring the temperature within the accumulator. It was always warmer than the ambient air or a suitable control box by several tenths of a degree to up to two degrees Centigrade (3).

Reich knew the tremendous significance of this finding. It was a violation of the Second Law of Thermodynamics, which was considered inviolable by classical physics. The accumulator could raise its own temperature without work being done to do so. A variety of controlled studies by Reich and, in recent years by his students, has confirmed this phenomenon (4,5,6).



Figure 2. "Background, cosmic" radiation at about 1000 volts.

Another means of objectifying the presence of an anomalous energetic force is the behaviour of a static electroscope placed within the enclosure. The so-called "natural leak" of charge from a statically-charged electroscope is significantly slowed down within the accumulator (7). No known classical electrical process can account for this phenomenon. Reich came to see static electricity as being a common manifestation of orgone energy. The natural leak from the electroscope within the accumulator is slowed because the electroscope discharges into a higher orgone concentration than exists in the outside air.

Slowing of the electroscopic discharge rate and the temperature increase within the accumulator (temperature within the accumulator minus temperature of the ambient air, To - T) parallel each other. Both are dependent on external energetic factors, most significantly the weather, and can be used to forecast coming weather changes.

The genesis of the orgone energy motor

In 1947, following seven years of investigation of the biological and physical properties of orgone energy, Reich acquired a Geiger-Muller field meter in preparation for studying the interaction between orgone energy and radioactivity. At his laboratory in Rangely, Maine, Reich found that the GM counter initially reacted normally, registering the background count caused by natural radioactivity and gamma radiation of cosmic origin. It was, however, unresponsive to proximity to orgone energy accumulating structures. Within a few days, inexplicably, the instrument appeared "dead", being unresponsive to background radiation and even to a small x-ray source.

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The device was checked periodically, but remained completely unreactive until about two months later, when on routine check the pointer of the impulse recorder began instantly to rotate at the rate of one full turn per second, a great velocity for this device. This corresponded to about 100 impulses per second, an enormous reaction compared to the normal background count of 15 - 25 counts per minute. On further testing Reich obtained counts of six to eight thousand counts per minute (cpm), yielding 1.15 rotations per second, a continuous rotation of the recorder (8). At that time the highest counts ever obtained with radioactive substances was 3000 cpm with that brand of GM counter. Reich realized that he was witnessing a possible motor force in orgone energy. The orgone energy was, somehow, through the GM counter, being transformed into electromagnetic and mechanical energy. By a detailed functional dissection of the GM effect and the use of special vacuum tubes to intensify the concentration of orgone energy, Reich later found the way to more directly run an electric motor on orgone energy.



Figure 3. Geiger effect of orgone energy by cpm and voltage increases.



Figure 4. Self-charging capacity of orgone energy.



Figure 5. Reaction of a control tube 100 feet away from laboratory for one month.

Reich found that the metal outer cylinder of the counter tube of the GM device attracted orgone energy from the atmosphere and that the GM effect could be killed by simply removing the metal cylinder from the glass counting tube. The motor effect reappeared instantly upon replacing the metal cylinder or on putting the naked glass counter tube into an orgone energy accumulator. The effect would diminish before rainstorms and recover after a storm had passed through. This was consistent with earlier observations of temperature and electroscopic changes within the accumulator in varying weather conditions.

These and other observations convinced Reich that the motor effect occurred because the counter tube had "soaked up" orgone energy through constant exposure to the high ambient orgonotic charge in the laboratory. Since the counter tube consists of an inner metal cathode and an outer nonmetallic protective coating the counter tube is essentially an orgone energy accumulator. The orgone energy within the counter tube was then excited to a lightning-like state of pointed rays by the electrical stimulus from the GM device. In this state, orgone energy could be counted by the device. A variety of control experiments demonstrated that the GM motor effect of high cpm could be explained only by the excitation of high concentrations of orgone energy within the counter tube.

Reich obtained a more sophisticated GM counter that permitted varying the voltage to the counter tube. Like the field meter it initially counted only the background radiation, but within three days registered 3600 cpm in bursts and at four weeks showed continuous rotation of the impulse counter, close to 2000 cpm at 1000 volts of excitation.

Figure 2 shows the power of concentrated orgone energy when compared to a radioactive source (radium), and so-called cosmic radiation (9).

Figure 3 shows the non-mechanical, functional qualities of orgone energy by the non-linear changes in cpm with increases in voltage (10).

Figure 4 shows the capacity of orgone energy to charge itself. Counts were made with the GM tube placed within a 1 cm lead and 1/4 cm iron cylinder within a one cubic foot orgone energy accumulator. The GM counter was operating during six consecutive minutes at a steady 950 volts. Note the sharp increase in impulses after 2 minutes without any additional voltage to excite the energy in the counter tube (11).

Figure 5 shows the reaction of a control tube kept 100 feet away from the laboratory for one month. Despite the distance it had soaked up sufficient orgone energy to yield a rotary motor effect by merely being in the energy field of the laboratory (12).

The classical view of the operation of a Geiger-Muller Counter is that radioactivity triggers the gas within the counter tube into an ionized state. The ionization then lowers the resistance to the passage of electricity between a cathode and anode within the tube. A circuit amplifies the electrical flow so that it may be read out and thus register indirectly the quantity of radioactivity passing through the counter tube. In the classical view then, the incident radiation indirectly produces the impulse which activates the recorder. Reich's next task was to determine whether or not this theory held true for the motor phenomenon with which he was working. Or, could it be possible, he asked, that atmospheric orgone energy impulses counted by the GM counter tube, were directly activating the electromagnetic system of the impulse recorder?

To answer this question Reich performed an ingenious series of experiments wherein he functionally dissected the orgone-charged GM system utilizing calibrated electroscopes and a volt-ammeter attached in a variety of ways to the counter tube and GM amplifier. In this way he found that the amount of energy coming from the tube ranged from 100 to 500 electrostatic volts, a tremendous amount of voltage, which could not in no way be accounted for by classical ionization theory. He also found the energy entering the amplifier from the counter tube was different from the energy leaving it, that it was in the process of moving through the amplifier that orgone energy was transformed into electromagnetic energy.

Reich felt that the motor reaction could be improved if he could simplify the whole system by eliminating everything that stood in the way of the direct transformation of orgone energy into a mechanical motor force. His first step was to try an orgone charged, gas-free counter tube in the GM counter. This failed to produce any reaction. But when he used a specially constructed vacuum tube that functioned like an orgone energy accumulator (the "Vacor" tube), he got a powerful reaction. It was constructed with inner parallel aluminum plates, attached to the cathode and anode respectively. The vacuum was 1/2 micron of pressure, sufficient to rule out the presence of any gas.

After soaking in an orgone energy accumulator for several weeks, despite the absence of gas, this tube ruminated a deep blue colour when excited by an orgone-charged plastic rod. With excitation by an electrical tension of 100 to 1000 volts, the ruminating colour in the tube went through changes identical to that seen as the night sky changes to dawn, and then full daylight. It seemed very likely to Reich that dawn and daylight rumination on the planet were a result of excitation from the Sun, triggering changes in the orgone energy field of the Earth (13).

With the hook-up to the GM counter, the Vacor Tube yielded thousands of impulses per second at 350 - 500 volts of tension. This was much higher than the yield from the usual GM counter tube, which required 750 - 1000 volts to trigger 100 - 130 counts per second, at best. Elimination of the high voltage circuit between the Vacor Tube and the impulse counter permitted even higher counts to come through from the tube, up to 20 - 25,000 counts per second. An electroscope measured the tension between two aluminum plates in the Vacor Tube. It was an extremely high 34,000 volts.

In 1949 Reich reported his success with the Orgone Energy Motor Force:

On June 24th, 1948, at 1 p.m., I succeeded in setting a motor (Western Electric, KS-9154, Serial No. 1227) into motion by means of the Orgone Energy Motor Force which I had discovered by way by way of the Geiger-Muller counter on August 8th, 1947... An activated filament of

electronic amplifiers, without any high voltage, is sufficient to transmit the ORGONOTIC MOTOR FORCE.

In order to set the Orgone Motor into motion, a certain function, called Y. is necessary. This function cannot be divulged at the present time.

The sources of orgone energy used hitherto are the following:

- a) Orgone-charged Vacor tubes
- b) Atmospheric Orgone
- c) Earth Orgone
- d) Organismic Orgone Energy

No material as is being used in the process of nuclear fission is required. The succession of impulses can be regulated. The sequence of impulses is even and continuous. The relation of the amount of used orgone energy to the tremendous reservoir of the Cosmic Energy Source is minimal.

The speed of the motor action can be regulated. It depends on:

a) the number of vacor tubes connected,

b) weather conditions in accordance with orgonotic functions found hitherto, such as temperature difference To-T, speed of electroscopic discharge, etc.,

c) Function Y.

The functions of the vacuum tubes (vacor tubes), refute the theories of "empty space." Field actions are due to the activity of the universal cosmic orgone energy. The strength of the energy field within the vacuum tube can be demonstrated and measured with a specific functional set-up (14).

Reich demonstrated the motor to reliable witnesses including a reporter from a local newspaper. He died, however, without revealing the nature of function Y. because he felt the world was not prepared to assume responsibility for what would be an unlimited source of power.

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