

Fractal Unreality? – Paper IV

I promised Palmer's coup de grace. Here it is.

“According to mathematics, the invariant set of a chaotic system is a Fractal”

Tell me, where do you think you have been transported to, to get to this “crucial” principle?

Are you deep with the Essence of Reality, or could you be in a fairly easily identified, but very different place?

Could you perhaps have been transported in your thoughts to the very heart of the World of Pure Form alone – that abstracted World which I call Ideality? What do you think?

Now, I must clarify! You might wonder why I emphasize the above, and why I designate a separate World of Pure Form, which I find necessary to also entitle as Ideality. It is because that World and its own contained “Science” – Mathematics, is NOT a true and complete reflection of the concrete World of Reality.

It is purified, abstracted and idealised Form, that was mostly found hidden and somewhat “distorted” in Reality, but by an amazing series of complex processes including isolation, selection, extraction and finally abstraction manages to deliver pure universal Form, with its own properties and consequences. Just as Formal Logic processes Reality in order to deal with it, so does this above set of procedures handle aspects of Reality to produce Pure Form, which greatly assists in dealing with it. So, I am NOT condemning Mathematics. But it MUST be seen for what it is, and it is NOT Science, but *only* Form

Let us proceed.

Palmer takes his invariant Fractals and, draws the conclusion that the Universe is trapped forever in this fractal subset of all possible states. “This might explain why the Universe at the Quantum Level seems so bizarre”, he says,

“NO”, I say, “it doesn't do that at all.

It is subordinating Reality to a non-material, abstracted concept. That is indisputably Idealism. Why do you think I named its World Ideality? To a materialist scientist who studies Reality it explains nothing. It can ONLY mean something to a mathematician who studies Ideality. You cannot, repeat CANNOT, explain anything with mathematics. Forms are idealised descriptions and totally abstract. Abstractions do not drive Reality, they are simplified *descriptions* of Reality doing what the latter does, but due to wholly physical causes.

NOTE: If my points seem rather overbearing and arrogant in my understanding of both Reality and Ideality, I must emphasize that I was initially very humble about my long held view, which I originally arrived at when I was very young. But, I have never had that position challenged once by the mathematical physicists. They are quite clearly idealists, whereas I am a materialist!

NOTE: In case the reader thinks that my standpoint is identical with what it was when I was a boy, I must emphasize that initial position was only my starting point. I have been involved ever since in developing the position. Indeed I spent a considerable period investigation what I termed *The Processes and Productions of Abstraction*, which led to my definition of Ideality, and an even longer period investigating *Plurality and Holism*, which became the basis for my current ideas on the philosophical bases of Human Knowledge and Understanding. Several other major areas of study, and particularly several important periods solely occupied with areas of Mathematics, which resulted in a series of original contributions, have similarly been involved in establishing my currently-held position, all of which are available as papers and books.(Now in continuing and comprehensive publication on the Internet)

Palmer does however make one telling statement – **“...quantum systems have meaning(?) only in the context of particular experiments performed upon them”**.

Apart from the word “meaning”, the rest of this sentence is perfectly true. The trouble is that most scientists believe that experimental set-ups “reveal” essential formal truths, which are not merely descriptive and idealised, but are actually the *driving essences* of Reality.

Whereas the Truth is that the necessary constraints required to make the extraction of reliable data from all experiments, do indeed *create* something which is actually totally impossible in unfettered Reality, whereas it is easy to acquire in the highly constrained experimental situation.

The self-kid is to see each idealised extraction and abstraction as a *real* component of unfettered Reality. It isn't!

Behind this enormous mistake is the myth that Reality is merely a summation of many of these pure Forms, and that unfettered Reality has NO extra and significant qualities beyond these merely formal elements.

NOTE: No wonder you get whole books with titles like *Life's Other Secret* (Stewart), which promote Form as important as anything else even in Living Things.

As any biologist will tell you, that is untrue for living things. In fact it turns out to be untrue for everything! The World is not pluralist but holistic, and the pluralist methodology so clearly shown in this article is inadequate to address real existence – real qualitative change and the actual evolution of Reality.

Buchanan quotes the position of many physicists having a belief that some deeper and new approach might restore the existence of objective and independent properties in Reality. This, of course, resonates with the *banker unifier* in Science which is, of course, Reductionism, but this latter has always, and ever, been limited in its span. All such explanatory hierarchies have been limited to sequences within a single Emergent Level. You cannot apply sub-life relations and processes to explain Living Things, neither can you explain Life processes *solely* in terms of non-living processes. Any vestiges from a lower Level that survive in a new Emergent Level are not the same as they were: they have been transformed as an integral part of, and determined by, the new Level. They have been vigorously selected during the multiple avalanches of the Emergence to form conducive and mutually supportive sets, sequences and cycles, which in Life we term *Metabolic Pathways*.

The most important difference is in the probabilities involved!

Whereas in sub-Life Levels the necessary processes (as a set) were literally totally impossible, within Life they actually become *inevitable*, and it is the new Level that caused this almost unbelievable transformation.

Buchanan's delineation of the dearest hope of many physicists clearly positions them within an inappropriate conception of Reality, and using an inappropriate methodology for that Reality immediately above the Quantum Level we define as **Physics**.

Physics works at the Physics Level, but ONLY there! Elsewhere everything is part of other real systems and NOT Physics.

Biology is NOT Physics!

Psychology is NOT Physics!

And even the Quantum Level is NOT Physics.

To fulfil the desire to integrate it into a continuity of entities, relations and processes, those requiring to try for it **cannot** use pluralist methodology.

They would have to become scientists of Qualitative Change And, even more than that, scientists of the type of tumultuous, qualitative avalanches that are the inevitable content of the boiling revolutions which constitute an Emergence.

And that they DO NOT DO!

Even the *Santa Fe Institute* in the USA, which had as its founding purpose the addressing of Emergence has totally failed, and limited itself to addressing only formal fragments, which are still TOTALLY within the old Levels, and are never part the Emergence Process itself.

To explain this conundrum by other means, Buchanan goes to the ideas of *Kochen and Specker*, whose “thought experiment” “proved” the incompatibility of normal scientific methods and particles with pre-existing properties [i.e. in my terms explaining the Quantum Level in terms of a prior level of old fashioned individual particles with set properties.]

The conclusions by adherents of Quantum Theory seem to be that NO properties exist until you measure them OR (and how this is the alternative escapes me) an unknown connection allows distantly situated and separate parts of the universe to “share” information so fast, that it is communicated faster than the Speed of Light – indeed almost instantaneously!

AS a physicist neither of these is at all acceptable, and as by now should be evident from this paper, there is a sound alternative reason for the anomalies, and one which is not even considered worthy of study by the vast majority of physicists, but there is yet more to plumb in this amalgam of Buchanan.

To be continued.

(1,377 words)