Studies on "Life-Energy" by means of a Quantitative Dowsing Method

Comparison of orgonite with the orgone accumulator; spectrophotometric confirmation of its effect on water; nature of orgone

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Abstract

Metal particles set in resin ("Orgonite") behave as a source of the "Orgone energy" of Wilhelm Reich. Thermometric recordings showed the typical sustained temperature difference from controls without metal, both for an orgone accumulator (ORAC) and a piece of orgonite. A method is described to dowse the intensity of such an influence quantitatively with rods. Water placed either close to orgonite or within the ORAC took up a dowsable charge. Objective confirmation of such charge was obtained by UV spectroscopy. The dowsable effect of orgonite can be shielded by plastics and Aluminium, but not by most metals. The activity of orgonite depends at least partly on the sun. This influence of the sun on orgonite is also blocked by plastics and Aluminium, but passed by most metals. It is suggested that the presence of orgone energy is indicative of quantum coherence within the source. And since it can serve to induce the same property within some materials in the vicinity, orgone, or "life-energy", can be considered as a syntropic influence, or field.

Introduction

As is well known, Wilhelm Reich identified a form of energy ("Orgone"), which was favourable to life, and is often equated with the "life-energy" in the human body, otherwise traditionally known as chi, prana, etc. He found orgone would accumulate within a box whose walls consisted of alternate layers of metal and organic material (orgone accumulator, or ORAC), and could then be detected by sensitive persons, or by a variety of physical means. Of these perhaps the best confirmed is the "temperature effect": the persistent

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small temperature difference between measurements taken inside an ORAC and a control box without metal. Much more recently, it has been claimed that by merely incorporating metal particles into a non-conductive matrix (usually synthetic resin) one can make a powerful source of orgone. Such material has been called "Orgonite", and patented by Karl Welz, who makes use of it in his radionic devices (1). There are now a number of web sites concerned with orgonite, some of which claim that it can be used to heal the environment, e.g.(2). One has much interesting research on the technology (3). Another has photographs showing increased growth of plants close to orgonite (4). Although the energy from orgonite can be felt by sensitive persons, it appears not yet to have been detected by any objective method. This article details a method of dowsing which, being quantitative, could go part way towards fully objective detection. Note that the usage of the word "energy" does not imply what is usually understood in physics, but is used in the more general sense of an influence.

METHODS

Orgonite

Initially I bought a piece of orgonite from Alexandre Emard in Canada (4). Among those which I made myself is a pyramid, made with aluminium alloy turnings set in ester resin, about 30cm high, hollow, and with the same phi-based geometry as the very large pyramids recently constructed in Russia (5,6). It has a quartz crystal at each of its 5 vertices (Fig. 9 appended). On testing the effect of compass orientation, the intensity was found to be some 70% higher with the faces oriented N-S than with the angles N-S. Mostly I have used smaller pieces, as described below, some of which were made with a central hole into which various materials, or a thermometer, could be put. Recently I have been using steel wool in place of Aluminium alloy – with some advantage in output.

Wooden Pyramid

This was made in plywood, 2.5m high, and to the Russians' geometry and oriented with faces N-S (Figs. 10 and 11 appended). In spite of having no metal other than some screws, this dowsed strongly, as seen in Fig. 2.

Dowsing

As a result of suggestions by James Lyons (7,8) - a physicist and expert dowser - I have developed an ability to quantitatively dowse the intensity of the energy from orgonite and some other sources mentioned below. (See also Addendum). What I do is to place the object on the ground (preferably outside on the lawn) and walk towards it holding dowsing rods. These cross at one or more intervals (indicating an "aura" of one or more rings) and then again finally cross over the source. With a tape-measure on the ground, I record the radius of these rings by noting the distance of my toes from the source. I find that, as predicted by James Lyons, the radius of the innermost ring is related to the intensity of the source. All the data to be presented concern this measurement, and are given in inches rather than centimetres.

Orgone accumulator (ORAC)

This was cubical with outer frame of fibre-board (38cm sides), containing a 25cm cubical inner box of mild steel. The space between was filled with 7 layers of alternate steel wool and sheep's wool blanket, to approximate James DeMeo's instructions (9). As control a similar box was made with no metal, the inner cube being of hardboard. These boxes were placed side-by-side, and their relative positions reversed 2-3 times/day during temperature measurements.

EXPERIMENTS AND RESULTS

What am I responding to?

The following are some other sources from which (in rough tests) I get a positive response: Laser; Rife plasma therapy instrument; Non-inductive coils; Torsion field generator; Certain minerals (magnetite, and the healing mineral Shungite); Ozonated water; Brown's gas generator and the human body. As discussed later, many of these might be thought to exhibit large-scale quantum coherence.

Test for quantitative nature of the dowsing method

To study the relationship of the radius of the innermost ring to the quantity of material emitting dowsable energy, I dowsed measured volumes of water charged in the large wooden pyramid. As Fig 1 shows, the relationship is close to linear.

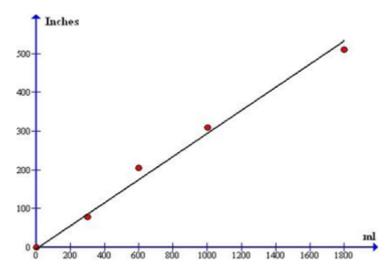


Fig. 1 Relation of radius of the innermost dowsable ring to volume of charged water

Repeatability, and independent measurements

In repeated measurements on different days and times of day the energy of the pyramid seemed at first to be more-or-less constant, within experimental error, but later work (to be published) has indicated the occurrence of real variations. Repeat measurements were also made with two weighed masses of shungite. One set of measurements (in red) were made independently, and blind, by Adrian Incledon-Webber, who is a professional dowser (Fig. 2).

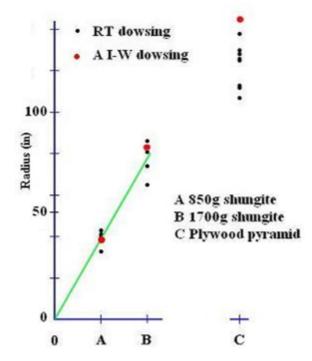


Fig. 2 Independent measurements by Adrian Incledon-Webber, and repeat measurements by the author

Temperature effects

All temperature experiments were done in a draught-free room, without exposure to direct sun, and using sensitive (~1.4 deg/cm) mercury thermometers, tested to read equally under the same conditions. For the ORAC and control these were inserted with bulbs just into the inner chambers, and frequent readings taken during a number of days. As the example shows, the ORAC maintained a persistently higher temperature than control (Fig. 3). A similar experiment was made with a small piece of orgonite (Al alloy/resin), and a control made of resin alone (cone shapes ~6x10cm). Thermometers were inserted into holes ~3cm deep, with cotton wool packing to reduce exchange of air. Again there was a persistent temperature difference, greatest when the sun was high (Fig. 4).

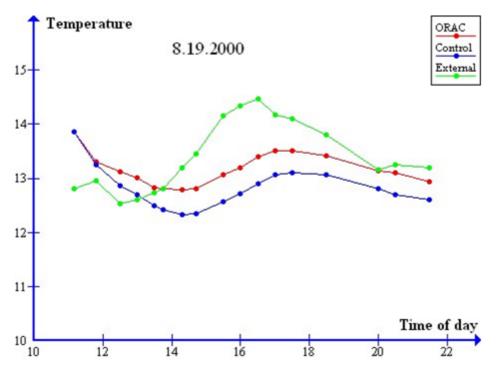


Fig. 3. Temperature variations within ORAC and control

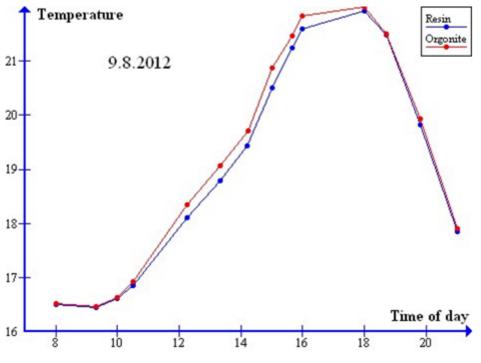


Fig. 4. Temperature variations within orgonite and control

Relation to weather and time of day

Just as Reich had found with his orgone accumulator, the energy of orgonite depends on the weather and the time of day. The time-course for UK obtained in Fig. 5 was on a bright clear day. The readings were much lower in cloudy and especially rainy conditions, or in winter.

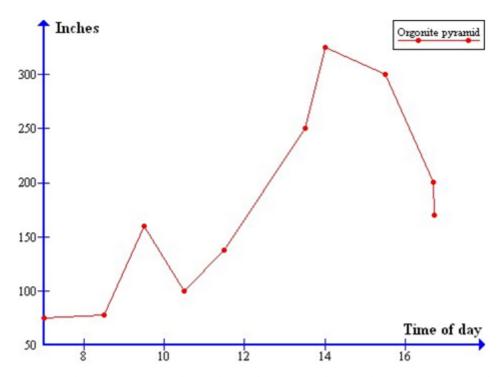


Fig. 5. Radius of innermost dowsed ring during one day for the orgonite pyramid.

Shielding

A piece of orgonite was dowsed after covering it with various materials. It was found that placing it in a box of 2mm polythene significantly reduced the dowsable field, and a "cold box" insulated with ~ 5cm expanded polystyrene completely stopped it. Most metals on the other hand had little or no effect – even a heavy cast iron pot. Aluminium was an exception here: 1mm Al sheet completely stopped the field, and even Al foil rendered it barely detectable. Such shielding could be interfering either with the influence of the sun, or with the dowsing field, or both. To test this I arranged for a shadow to fall on the orgonite from either a heavy stainless steel pressure-cooker lid, or from the lid of the cold box just mentioned. The plastic reduced the intensity greatly, while the metal had no effect.

Charging various materials under orgonite

Various materials were placed under orgonite to see whether they picked up the charge. Not surprisingly, quartz took it up very well, as did quartz-containing minerals such as granite and sand. These retained the energy for at least several days. Most metals (iron, aluminium, and brass were tested) took up a little charge very rapidly (in seconds), and then retained it for less than a minute. Most other materials were unaffected. Of a number of crystalline chemicals tested, sugar took up some activity, as did Epsom salts, possibly due their high water of crystallization.

Charging water with the ORAC or with orgonite

1200ml tap water was placed either inside the ORAC, or beside a small (\sim 4x5cm) piece of orgonite made with steel wool in resin. Both were indoors in the same room. The water was taken out and dowsed at intervals with result shown in Fig. 6.

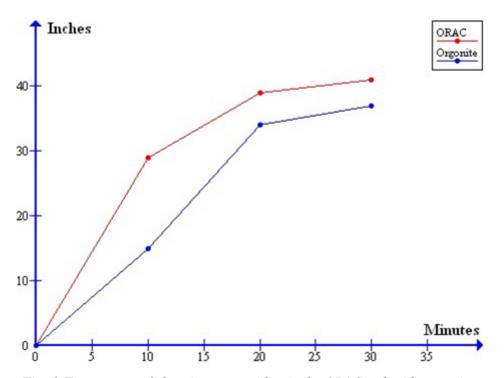


Fig. 6. Time course of charging water either in the ORAC or beside orgonite.

Spectroscopic confirmation of non-contact effect of orgonite on water

The same small orgonite (as above) was placed beside a ~100ml bottle of tap water, in the sun, for ~2h. This water, together with a control sample exposed to the sun but not to orgonite , was tested on an Agilent 8453 UV/Visible spectrophotometer. The instrument was first zeroed with the control water, after which the orgonite-charged water exhibited the spectrum shown in Fig. 7.

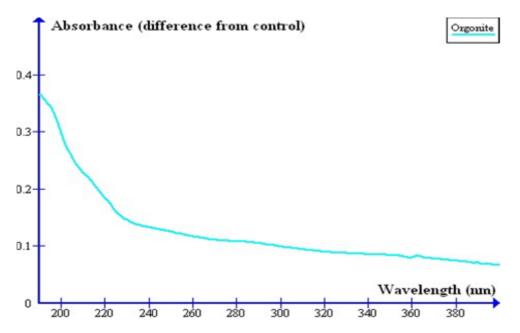


Fig. 7. Absorption spectrum for orgonite-charged water as compared with control.

DISCUSSION

Dowsing as a research method

It needs first of all to be emphasised that data obtained by dowsing can never be fully objective. If dowsing is to be used in scientific work, there is clearly a need for the dowser's abilities to be tested blind. In an attempt to do this, at the toss of a coin, an assistant put a piece of orgonite under one of two boxes A and B. I dowsed correctly in the first eight trials, but in the next seven obtained only random results. This phenomenon is well known among dowsers. The testing procedure introduces (especially in presence of a sceptical tester - which was true in this instance) a subtle element of doubt into the dowser's subconscious, and serves to inhibit the response. For this reason my own blind dowsing has yet to yield satisfactory reliability. Nevertheless, I draw confidence that I am dowsing something real both from the repeatability of the readings, and especially from

the unexpectedness of many of the findings. A better way to substantiate such subjective data is for other dowsers to find the same results. Thus I hope in due course to further confirm the results shown in Fig. 2. However, since different dowsers may respond to different aspects of any particular experimental situation, they would not all necessarily confirm these results. Moreover, the mere fact of some influence(s) being dowsable by me, in these various experimental situations, does not necessarily mean that they all reflect the same physical reality.

Objective confirmation

Objective confirmation of these dowsing results has been an important goal. Many, including myself, have tried to detect orgone energy directly by instrumental methods, but with no apparent success. On the other hand there are several reports of various physical changes in water after charging with subtle energy. These include UV spectroscopy: see for example the work of Glen Rein on the effect of pulsed non-inductive coils (10). It is hoped to further confirm and build on the gratifying result obtained here.

Relation of the field dowsed around orgonite to Wilhelm Reich's Orgone

Reich's pioneering work was so far in advance of his time that his name has become in some quarters almost synonymous with the word "charlatan". Working on his own, entirely outside the scientific community, he had to interpret his observations as best he could, with a theory which made no sense in terms of basic physics. Because most of his observations could not be accommodated within mainstream physical theory, they were dismissed as artefacts. Even now his work gets little acknowledgement from within mainstream science. And yet it continues to be confirmed and extended by a number of researchers, notably James DeMeo (10,11). As a result of DeMeo's work, for example, there can be no doubt remaining about Reich's temperature effect.

As mentioned in the introduction, there continue to be many contributions to the internet concerning orgonite. Most of them do not attempt scientific treatment, and rely on subtle feeling of the energy. It is then tacitly assumed that the energy from orgonite is of the same nature as Reich's orgone, but without experimental support. The results here, however, argue that they are the same, by means of direct comparisons between the ORAC and a piece of orgonite, both by the temperature effect, and by charging water.

What, in physical terms, is orgone, or subtle energy?

Ever since the second law of thermodynamics was propounded, with its requirement for entropy and disorder always to increase, scientists have been trying to understand how the amazing order seen in living organisms could possibly arise. Much has been written on this, with the concept of "negentropy" being introduced, but without a firm, mathematical link with physical theory. The most cogent theory, however, has come from a theoretical physicist little known outside Italy: Luigi Fantappie. Without going into any detail, Fantappie saw that Einstein's E=MC^2 is only the positive root of a quadratic equation. So there must be a negative root. He asked himself what could be the meaning of negative energy. And negative time, which is also implied. Clearly it must be the opposite of entropy; so he termed it aptly: syntropy. His work has made a beginning to what promises to be a far-reaching revolution in both science and philosophy: a revolution further developed by many contributions to this journal. Thus the "life-energy" from the ORAC, orgonite, etc. could be thought of as a "syntropic influence", or field, favouring increased complexity and higher levels of integration.

Why the rings found by dowsers?

The intensity of the field does not seem to vary continuously with distance from the source, as it does with e.g. an electric field, but manifests as a series of rings. How can one account for this? Following again a suggestion by James Lyons, I looked at the theory of Milo Wolff(13). He proposes that there is no such thing as a particle. Thus an electron is a standing wave in the ether, as in Fig. 8.

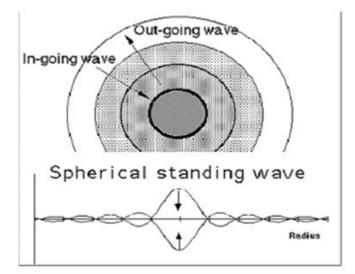


Fig. 8. Theory of the electron as a standing wave in space

Waves go out from the centre, and reflect back again from the rest of the universe. Such a wave-system is totally coherent, in that there is no space within it, no way in which any "here" or "there" could be defined. This is exactly the condition which obtains, on a much larger scale, in man-made coherent systems such as within a superconductor, or a laser. Here all the "particles", whether electrons or atoms, behave as one. Moreover, it has long been argued that a living being is also a centre of such quantum coherence, and this accounts for its unitary nature, and holistic properties (14). It could also account for the human aura, which can be dowsed by many, including myself, and can even be seen by some sensitive people.

How can orgonite, and Reich's ORAC, generate such a field?

They must, to begin with, be taking up some sort of quantum coherence. How might this occur? In a personal communication, James Lyons has made the very tentative suggestion that electron clusters (15) may somehow be formed at the juncture of metal and resin, or other dielectric material. While, as fermions, electrons normally behave as separate individuals, it is when they get together in Cooper pairs that they become bosons, and so become able to merge their individuality into the kind of large-scale quantum coherence seen in a superconductor. But electrons can also get together in much larger clusters, of more than 1,000. Since these clusters are also bosons, this might give a potential for large-scale quantum coherence.

There is clearly a relation between the power of the sun and the intensity of dowsable energy from orgonite. Just what element from within the sun's radiation is responsible is a matter for speculation, but the failure of metal to block it suggests it is not electromagnetic. On the other hand the blocking by plastic suggests that it is of a similar nature to the energy dowsed from the orgonite. This, together with my finding of only brief retention of the energy by metals, also agrees with Reich's contention that orgone is "attracted then repelled" by metals, but is absorbed by organic materials.

Is this field really "Life-energy"?

It is not easy to do well-controlled experiments with living organisms – e.g., as often attempted, with plant growth. Perhaps the most impressive results have been obtained by Russian scientists, under Prof. Golod, with the giant pyramids which have recently been built in Russia (5, 6 and Fig.11). These results include increased growth of plants, and increased resistance of mice to bacterial infection and cancer, after only a few days exposure of the seeds, or mice, within the pyramid. They have even recorded changes in the physical properties of certain materials. Being made of fibreglass, the pyramids' effect depends entirely on their geometry. For other sources such as orgonite, however, we still need well-controlled experiments

showing that their syntropic field has such life-enhancing effects on living organisms, and is thus really "lifeenergy".

If, as is now clear, quantum coherence can extend throughout a living organism (14) there is no reason why it should not be capable of extending over much larger, even perhaps infinite, domains. Thus one may be inspired by the suggestion from some of the Russian research that certain of their pyramids seem to be restoring the complexity of the local ecosystem - a result perhaps to be expected if one considers the ecosystem itself as a living organism.

Acknowledgements

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Addendum by James Lyons

The latest research is indicating that the nodal harmonic structure of standing waves in the quantum vacuum can readily be detected using a mental technique of intention usually combined with some indicting device such as hand held L-rods. Every object creates its own standing wave pattern in this field, which is discernible by dowsers. Isolated objects induce rings surrounding themselves much like a snapshot of waves generated by a pebble thrown into a pond. The structure of these rings is very stable and well known to experienced dowsers. This process offers a repeatable technique enabling dowsers to assess the inherent energy density embedded in any object. Ring (nodal) radius around an object is directly proportional to its embedded energy density.



Fig.9. Orgonite pyramid



Fig. 10. Plywood pyramid



Fig. 11. 44m fibreglass pyramid near Moscow