A PRELIMINARY STUDY OF THE REICH ORGONE ACCUMULATOR EFFECTS ON HUMAN PHYSIOLOGY INTRODUCTORY PART

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Abstract

Orgone energy concentrations of an orgonotic energy system can be indirectly determined by some measuring instruments such as the static electroscope, the Geiger-Muller counter, and the thermometer. The concentration, in a well-defined space-time window, is proportional to the detected static electricity, radioactivity, and temperature. Anomalies of these parameters, when compared to those of an orgonotic energy system of reference (i.e. atmospheric environment or a control box, in case measurements are done with an orgone accumulator), may give an indication of the difference in content of orgone energy in the two orgonotic systems.

From the experimentally-derived data available in the literature it seems that an orgone accumulator may be characterised by an external and also pulsating halo of orgone energy of earthly or even cosmic origin. This finding might be extended to any orgonotic system.

Since the static electricity, the radioactivity, and the temperature typical of an orgonotic energy system are originated by the same amount of orgone energy of the system it can be supposed they are equivalent, and a relationship amongst these parameters has been proposed.

Introduction

Reich's life and above all his work and researches can be divided in the following two main periods:

- the European period, until August 1939, and
- ▶ *the American period*, from September 1939 until November 1957.

In the European period Reich works on character analysis and biogenesis. He develops sexeconomy and vegeto-therapy, and starts studying the bions and the origin of life. In the following period he develops orgone biophysics, based on the assumption of an universal presence of a new primordial energetic principle in nature, still unknown to the traditional physics of the time, that he called orgone energy. In this period he lays also the bases for the development of apparatus to use this new energy, either for therapeutic purposes or other applications, such as to intervene on the atmospheric conditions. And develops a prototype of the orgone motor by which orgone energy could be transformed into mechanical energy and work.

In spring 1957 was imprisoned in the Lewisburg penitentiary with the charge of Contempt of Court for shipping orgone accumulators across state lines in violation to an injunction based on FDA laws that considered the devices to be misbranded. All his books and apparatus were burned and destroyed. He died in prison on November 3, 1957.

All the material contained in the *Orgone Institute* was archived in the *Rare Books and Special Collections section* of the Countway Library of Medicine at the Harward Medical School, Boston, Usa, that was recently opened (2007) to the public for consultation.

Orgone Energy

Reich realized the new energetic principle he discovered could have life-enhancing properties, and the variation of its concentration could produce phenomena different from those already known. He observed it could be characterised by the following states of existence:

- Orgone energy (orgone), energy freely flowing in all healthy orgonotic systems, such as living organisms and the atmosphere,

- *Oranur*, reaction of orgone energy to radioactivity, X-ray, and electromagnetic fields. In these conditions orgone is found in a constant state of hyper-excitation. The reaction is accompanied by loss of water, oxygen, and orgone energy,

- *DOR*, condition characterised by a prolonged *Oranur* reaction. The hyper-excited state is transformed into a state without life, and avid of oxygen, water, and orgone energy.

Reich also observed this energy was characterised by specific peculiarities and its behaviour governed by definite laws. Amongst the most important we find the following:

- it has a negligible mass, weight and inertia
- matter originates from it, and the forces of physics (electromagnetism, nuclear, gravitational, etc.) are secondary to it
- it can be found everywhere, and moves faster at higher altitudes
- it can be affected by humidity, temperature, and even by the time of the day

- its concentration may vary from place to place and according to meteorological conditions
- higher concentrations attract lower concentrations until to reach the maximum allowable charge of the system after which, in a healthy-condition system, is discharged to the outside
- it is absorbed by organic substances, and absorbed and soon after reflected by metals
- it has high affinity with water that attracts, absorbs and holds it
- it can be dangerous to both living organisms and the environment when misuse is done.

Reich observed the presence of orgone energy could be detected by indirectly measurements both on the ground, in the atmosphere and in all living organisms. The most important instruments that can be used to estimate concentrations of orgone energy are the following:

- static electroscope
- Geiger-Muller counter
- thermometer

Orgone energy and static electricity

Reich observed that orgone energy concentrations could be detected by a static electroscope. He found that the electroscope discharge rate could increase in clear and sunny days in a more or less uniform curve until to reach a peak in the afternoon, and then decline in an uniform manner. He also observed a sudden drop in the electroscope discharge rate some hours before heavy rain and a flattened trend in rainy days¹.

Reich also noted soft and thin rubber gloves when placed in contact with SAPA-bions, or exposed to sunlight, or left inside an orgone accumulator as well as parts of the organism (i.e. stomach, or genitals) produced anomalous reaction to a static electroscope². Measurements performed inside an orgone accumulator produced discharge rates much lower than those observed in open air. He also found the electroscope produced, inside the room where the accumulator was placed, intermediate discharge rates with values between those measured inside the orgone accumulator and in open air. The results seemed to be correlated with the variation of the atmospheric conditions¹.

According to these observations Reich realized orgone concentrations were proportional to the variation of the discharge rate of the electroscope leaves, and charged static electroscope put inside an orgone accumulator might provide a lower discharge rate than that observed by the same instrument located outside the accumulator or in a control box (where all the metallic material has been removed). Being charged electroscopes discharge more rapidly in strongly ionized air than in weakly or non-ionized air, we have that the lower the amount of negative charges in an orgonotic

energy system the higher the content of orgone energy available in that system. Hence in a more general way, one can assume orgone energy concentrations in an orgonotic energy system (OS) might be proportional to the static electricity field (V) available in that system, as follows⁹,

$$\left(OR\right)_{OS} = k_V \left(V\right)_{OS} \tag{1}$$

where k_V , is a constant of proportionality.

Further evidence that the electroscope may function as an orgone energy sensitive device were obtained by Rosemblum by performing measurements in a 5-fold orgone accumulator in Eastern Pennsylvania⁴. He found a diurnal variation of the electroscope deflections of the leaf in open air, for the month of August and September 1975, similar to that obtained by Reich, with a peak early in the afternoon. Correlations of the electroscope deflection against atmospheric conditions, barometric pressure, relative air humidity, lunar and solar phases, and high tide were also reported. Figure 1 shows a S-shaped behaviour of the electroscope deflection against relative air humidity. An upper flattened response of the electroscope deflection can be observed in the figure for very low relative humidity values, while for higher values the deflection decreases to a lower plateau. Transition takes place for values of the relative air humidity between 57 and 65%.



Figure 1 – Relative air humidity vs electroscope deflection⁴

Fuckert⁵ observed during his experiments an electroscope discharge many times longer (up to 9) within an orgone accumulator compared to that measured outside. He observed these results were

most marked in fair weather, while during bad weather and high humidity (>70%) the ratio of the discharge times decreased to near 1. He found discharge times were generally longer when the humidity fell below 30%, except in DOR conditions, where low discharge times were recorded even with low humidities. With humidity greater than 60-70% he obtained very low discharge times in accordance with what reported by Reich and Rosenblum.

 $DeMeo^{6}$ during a 3-day run of measurements carried out on September 2010 by a Kolbe-type electroscope recorded a statistically-significant (p=0.006) increase in the discharge times inside an orgone accumulator with a mean time of 596.9 sec, as compared to set of paired control-run discharge times with a mean of 122.6 sec.

The measurements were performed with the door of the orgone accumulator fully open and with the control-run location at around 1 m distance outside, using the same instrument, under practically the same experimental conditions and around the same times of the day.

In other runs of measurements, performed during the dry summer period, he found a slowing down of the discharge rate ranging from two to five times over what happened in open air, and around the same time of the day.

Orgone energy and radioactivity

In 1947 Reich found out orgone energy concentrations could be detected also by a Geiger-Muller (GM) counter, being the energy concentrations proportional to the measured radioactivity⁷. He observed a GM counter left inside an orgone accumulator gave higher readings than those found outside.

Very few are the experiments reported in the literature in the post-reichian period aimed at verifying the original results obtained by Reich. Of some importance is the article published by Hughes in 1982 based on daily measurements performed more than 20 years earlier both inside and outside a small 15-fold orgone accumulator⁸. He carried out measurements by a GM counter (Atomic Research Corp, Usa) from October 1958 to August 1959. In the first two months he monitored the radioactivity inside the room in which then he positioned a small orgone accumulator. In the October- November measurements he found values ranging from 20 to 40 CPM (with a tendency to increase in late November). Then, he daily monitored the radioactivity both inside and outside the accumulator. He observed the difference between inside and outside readings were all the time positive but in two days were the day after rain fell. Overall average values of the radioactivity measured inside the orgone accumulator of 79.0 CPM, and outside of 64.2 CPM were found.

Figure 2 shows the measurements performed by Hughes in the period between July 20, and August 21, 1959.



Figure 2 - Radioactivity measured by Hughes in the period July 20-August 21, 1959

The results obtained by Hughes show the presence of a radioactive field both inside and outside the orgone accumulator. However, these results are of difficult evaluation since duration, direction and distance of the measures from the orgone accumulator walls which the GM counter was set at were not reported in the paper. In addition, they might have been affected by orgone fields induced by the presence of other orgone devices available in the room at the time of the measurements.

DeMeo⁶ carried out since 2000 continuous measurements with a Ludlum 12-4 neutron detector placed inside an orgone accumulator. He observed the instrument was particularly reactive to solar activity with readings ranging from 20-30 CPM, when sunsposts were very low, up to 3000-4000 CPM, with the highest solar activity.

Maglione⁹ carried out instrumental measurements of radioactivity both inside and outside a 5-fold orgone accumulator by Geiger-Muller counters (Radalert 100, Medcom, Usa). Measurements were continuous and lasted for a period of about four years (Nov 2007-Jul 2011). The orgone accumulator was located in a country-side house where no other orgone devices or electromagnetic appliances were available neither in the room the accumulator was placed nor in the next rooms.

Figure 3 shows a sinusoid behaviour of the seasonal average radioactivity (black square), as measured inside the orgone accumulator, and the natural background (red square), for a period of two years and a half (Dec 2007-Jun 2010)³. It can be seen the sinusoid trend of the radioactivity field inside the accumulator (average value 22.46 CPM) is all the time higher than the natural background (average value 19.35 CPM), with a difference of 3.11 CPM (+16.1%). The sinusoid trend, with peaks in the winter months and troughs in the summer months, seems to be correlated

with the variation of the seasons. Difference between average radioactivity readings, as measured inside the orgone accumulator and the natural background, may provide an estimation of the net orgone charge inside the accumulator during the tested period.



Figure 3 – Seasonal average variation of the radioactivity as measured inside the accumulator (Orac, black line) and natural background (red line)³

Figure 4 shows radioactivity data measured both inside (black squares) and outside (coloured squares) the accumulator (ORAC), with the GM counter positioned at a distance of 50 cm from the accumulator walls, and height of 50 cm from the floor, in the direction of the four cardinal points, for a period of around four years (Nov 2007-Jul 2011)⁹.



Figure 4 – Radioactivity as measured inside the accumulator (black square) and outside towards the four cardinal points (coloured squares)⁹

From the graph it can be observed that a seasonally-related sinusoid trend of the measured radioactivity can be also found at the outside of the accumulator walls, where higher values from the GM counters were obtained. Readings related to the North (green squares) provided the highest values amongst the four cardinal directions, while the South (blue squares) provided the lowest ones.

In figure 5 the behaviour of the average measured radioactivity, both inside and outside the orgone accumulator, towards the North, for summer (Jun 22-Sep 21, 2010) and winter (Dec 22, 2010-Mar 21, 2011) months is shown. Natural background for the same periods is also reported.

A pulsation of the radioactive field, both inside and outside the accumulator (as well as of the natural background), can be seen, with an extension of around 7.5-8.5 m depending on seasonal variations.



Figure 5 – Radioactivity as measured inside and outside the orgone accumulator at different distances towards North in summertime 2010 and wintertime 2010-2011⁹

Figure 6 shows the behaviour of the radioactivity measured both inside and outside the orgone accumulator, towards East, for summer (Jun 22-Sep 21, 2010) and winter (Dec 22, 2010-Mar 21, 2011) months. Natural background for the same periods is also reported.

Also in this case a pulsation (contraction and expansion) of the radioactive field both inside and outside the accumulator can be found, with an extension of around 30-35 m depending on seasonal variations.



Figure 6 – Radioactivity as measured inside and outside the orgone accumulator at different distances towards East in summertime 2010 and wintertime 2010-2011⁹

Figure 7 shows the extension of the radioactive field outside the orgone accumulator (blue square) for the period Dec 22, 2010-Mar 21, 2011. Intermediate extensions corresponding to 23.5 CPM, 22.35 CPM (average value of the radioactivity inside/outside the orgone accumulator), 21.50 CPM, and 20.50 CPM are also reported in the figure. Distance from the accumulator walls towards the four cardinal points is reported in meter. Measurements related to the West were not carried out for distance from the wall higher than 0.5 m. Radioactive field extension along this direction is extrapolated (dotted lines in the figure). From the figure it can be seen an asymmetrical extension of the halo all around the orgone accumulator, more shortened and flattened towards North and much more elongated towards South.



Figure 7 – Extension of radioactive field outside the orgone accumulator in wintertime 2010-2011⁹

According to Reich, radioactivity readings may provide an estimation of the orgone energy field typical of the orgonotic energy system under testing. Hence, we can assume that orgone energy concentrations can be proportional to the measured radioactivity field, as follows³,

$$(OR)_{OS} = k_{CPM} (CPM)_{OS}$$
⁽²⁾

where k_{CPM} , is a constant of proportionality. As a consequence, the results reported by Maglione may sustain the hypothesis that a pulsating halo of orgone energy may form all around the accumulator, with a concentration even higher than that observed at the interior with the highest values at a distance of about 3.5 m from the accumulator walls. For this experimental set-up, the halo of orgone energy was found to extend between 7.5 and 42.5 m, according to cardinal direction and seasonal variation. The observed pulsation might be related to a broader pulsating phenomenon of earthly or even cosmic origin.

According to the results reported above on radioactivity measurements, electrostatic discharge rates outside an orgone accumulator might be affected by the radioactive field available all around the apparatus, as also Reich hypothesed²:

".....E. I have tried to explain to myself the slower speed of discharge of the orgonometer (electroscope, RM) in the orgone accumulator. I thought there might be, somewhere outside of the accumulator, radio-active substances. These might explain the fact that the orgonometer discharges more slowly in the accumulator than on the outside. In that case, the metal walls would keep out the accelerating influence of the radio-active substances.

O. Do you assume that such radio-active substances are to be found everywhere?

E. No.

O. You obtain the same results no matter where you place the apparatus. Orgone is present everywhere, even though in varying concentrations. Radio-active substances, on the other hand, are of rare occurrence....."

However, Reich discarded the hypothesis that a radioactive field outside of the orgone accumulator could be responsible for the increase of the electroscope discharge rate. From the results reported by Hughes, and then by Maglione on GM counter measurements it seems that a radioactive field is available both inside and outside of the accumulator, that is an intrinsic characteristic of the apparatus everywhere is placed. As a consequence the increase of the electroscope discharge rate at the outside might be explained by the higher radioactive field available outside of the accumulator than the inside, at least for measurements carried out very close to the walls of the apparatus.

In the experimental set-up of figure 6 the hatched area outside the orgone accumulator is characterised by a higher radioactive field than that of the interior, and hence discharge rates of the electroscope inside this area might be higher than those available in the inside.

Orgone energy and temperature

As a general rule higher concentrations of orgone energy are characterised by temperatures higher than those typical of lower concentrations. Accordingly, the interior of an orgone accumulator may be characterised by an increase of the temperature of some Celsius degrees when comparison is done with open air temperatures and of some tenth of Celsius degree when compared to the temperatures as measured inside a control box.

Temperature difference between accumulator and control box readings is function of several variables. The most important may be atmospheric conditions, air temperature and solar oscillation. The variation is function also of the air humidity, with the highest values for relative humidity less than 50%¹⁰. Such temperature difference can reduce until to become zero or even negative when storms are approaching, during bad weather o during nighttime since, in these cases, orgone energy concentrations in the environment and inside the accumulator reach its minimum. However, a high accuracy in such measurements is difficult to achieve since the temperature at the interior of the accumulator lags behind the outside temperature. This is above all due to the fact non-metallic

layers are usually good heat insulator, while the metallic layers have a large heat capacity, that needs time heat up or cool off. As a consequence one can control this lag by comparing the accumulator's temperature with that of a control box containing no metal layers, yet having the same insulation properties as the accumulator. Besides, they must have the same size and shape, and put far enough each apart to keep one from shielding the other from winds and to prevent any energy field around the accumulator from affecting the control.

First experiments conducted by Reich¹¹ showed the temperature recorded inside an orgone accumulator was higher than of its surrounding air. He also noticed that the phenomenon was stronger outdoors than indoors with average difference between 0.5 and 1.0 °C indoors, while in open air and without sun he obtained average values ranging between 2.0°C and 5.0 °C. He noticed in the open air the temperature difference varied with increases and decreases in the intensity of solar radiation, and also with the time of the day. If the orgone accumulator was buried in the ground the temperature difference was at times as high as 20.0 °C.

Ritter *et al*¹² carried out temperature measurements both inside a 4-fold orgone accumulator and a control box, with the same size and built without metal layers. The two units were placed indoor in an unheated room. They found in a typical sunny day (November 29, 1953) an average temperature difference (based on 28 pairs of observations) between the accumulator and the control box of 0.252 $^{\circ}$ C.

Starz¹³ performed experiments with a 3-fold cylindrical accumulator and a control box with the same size and shape but with the metal sheets replaced by oak tags. The two units were thermally balanced. He performed both indoor and outdoor measurements. While in the indoors monitoring he did not find any temperature difference between the accumulator and the control box, in the outdoors he did find a good response of the orgone accumulator. Figure 8 shows the temperature difference in degree Fahrenheit for the measurements made in the afternoon on October 8, 1962, in New York, with the weather lightly overcast. The author noted from the series of experimentally-derived data the temperature difference occurred most strongly from mid-morning to late afternoon.



Figure 8 - Outdoors temperature difference on October 8, 1962

Blasband¹⁴ performed measurements of the difference in temperature between the inside of a small orgone accumulator and the outside air at a distance of six inches. Outdoors measurements on a winter and overcast day provided positive differences ranging between 0.3 °C and 1.0 °C. He also carried out indoors measurements with similar results with differences in winter between 0.2 and 1.0 °C. Similar results were obtained in the summer months despite the greater variation in temperature than in winter months. In both the cases he observed zero or negative values of temperature difference very early in the day.

Rosenblum¹⁵ performed instrumental measurements both inside a 3-fold orgone accumulator and a control box, with the same size, shape, and without metallic material. The two units were thermally balanced so as to produce the same response to external air temperature variations. They were placed in a wooden building with no sources of heat or air-conditioning. The room was fully shaded with the boxes receiving only diffuse lighting. Temperatures were monitored by two thermometers with accuracy of 0.03 °C. Temperature difference between the orgone accumulator and control box was daily monitored in July and August 1971, from 8 AM to 11 PM. A total of 334 hours of observations in 23 days was collected, with an overall average increase of the temperature difference of 0.14 °C.

Konia¹⁶ carried out measurements of temperature difference between a 24-fold cylindrical accumulator and a suitable cardboard control box made with similar insulating properties. Measurements were done in Pennsylvania from 1965 through 1970. He recorded positive values in clear and expansive weather with peaks between 0.30 and 0.70 °C. While in cloudy, humid, hazy, rainy or DOR weather days he obtained low, zero, or even negative values. Negative values were rather unusual in summer months, while during the winter they occurred more frequently even on clear days. Usually the maximum daily temperature difference occurred at the time of the maximum daily temperature elevation, roughly between 11 AM and 4 PM. Figure 9 shows a correlation of the

temperature difference with the ambient temperature by months. Each numbered dot represents the average monthly value of temperature and temperature difference.



Figure 9 – Correlation of temperature difference with temperature by months (1969)

DeMeo^{6, 17} performed a series of experiments with a 3-fold cubic orgone accumulator (size 10 cm). A box with the same size, but without the metallic material, and thermally balanced, so as to provide the same thermal response of the accumulator against variations of the external air temperature, was considered as control. Both the boxes were put in a special fully enclosed and darkened outdoor shelter where internal thermal variations were minimised. Temperature inside the boxes was recorded by two electronic thermistors connected to a PC.

In a 12-day run in August 2006 (see figure 10) the accumulator spontaneously developed a positive diurnal temperature difference between the inside of the accumulator and the control box peaked between 0.3 and 0.8 °C. The behaviour of the temperature difference showed a maximum at solar noon and a minimum at midnight. Such difference vanished during rainy periods or wintertime periods.



Figure 10 – Temperature difference between the interior of the accumulator and the control box for a period of 12 days between August 2 and 13, 2006

From the results of the experiments reported above it can be argued orgone energy concentrations in an orgonotic energy system (OS) might be proportional to the temperature (T) of that system, as follows⁹,

$$\left(OR\right)_{OS} = k_T \left(T\right)_{OS} \tag{3}$$

where k_T , is a constant of proportionality.

However, over the last decades efforts were not limited to measurements of the temperature inside and outside an orgone accumulator aimed at confirming Reich's original discoveries but were also extended to evaluate physiological responses of people exposed to orgone energy fields inside an orgone accumulator. One of the most investigated parameters was the body core temperature. In general an increase of body core temperature was observed after orgone exposure. Reich was the first to find an increase of this temperature in patients exposed inside an orgone accumulator for a certain period of time with values as high as 1 °C¹.

At the end of 1950s, Ritter and Ritter¹⁸ measured an increase of body core temperature in patients exposed for a determined spell inside an orgone accumulator. They performed measurements of body temperature on 9 patients exposed to elevated orgone concentrations inside an orgone accumulator for 45 sessions of 40 minutes each one. An average increase in body temperature of $0.48 \,^{\circ}\text{F}$ (0.27 $^{\circ}\text{C}$) was obtained.

Correa and Correa¹⁹ carried out measurements of oral temperature on a patient (male, 54 year), before entering a 5-fold orgone accumulator and after 15 minutes of exposure inside, for 10

consecutive days (figure 11 on the left). Sessions were done at the same time of the day. Atmospheric conditions were good weather all over the period but the fourth day where a large cloud covering was observed.

They obtained in all the sessions a positive difference of the measured oral temperatures but in the fourth day where no variation between the two measured values was recorded (figure 11 on the right). The overall average increase of oral temperature was 0.38 °C \pm 0.056 °C, with a daily variation ranging between 0 (0.2) °C and 0.6 °C.



Figure 11 - Oral temperature before and after 15 minutes of exposure for a 54-year old patient

Muschenich and Gebauer²⁰ (Marburg University, Germany) carried out a double-blind test on 10 patients exposed to 10 sessions of 30 minute each one both inside an 8-fold orgone accumulator and a control box, having the same size of the orgone box but with no metallic material. Internal body temperature was measured on each patient before entering the accumulator/control box and after the session.

The behaviour of the average temperature measured before and after the sessions inside the orgone accumulator (figure 12 on the left) shows a substantial increase of the average internal body temperature after the conclusion of the sessions, with values dependent on each patient (maximum recorded average variation 0.43 °C). The behaviour of the average temperature measured before and after the sessions inside the control box (figure 12 on the right) does not show instead appreciable variations between the two sets (before/after) of measurements (maximum recorded average variation 0.17 °C). Level of statistical significance was 0.01 (p<0.05).



Figure 12 – Average temperature before and after exposure inside the orgone accumulator (left) and the control box (right)

Conclusion

Orgone energy concentrations, typical of orgonotic energy systems, can be indirectly estimated by determining the respective static electricity, radioactive field, and temperature. Anomalies arisen in the above parameters when compared, in the same space-time window, with those of an orgonotic energy system of reference, i.e. atmospheric environment, or a control box (in case measuring is done with an orgone accumulator) may give an estimation of the different content in orgone energy of the systems.

Being static electricity, radioactive field, and temperature originated by the same amount of orgone energy contained in an orgonotic system it can be assumed, for a certain space-time window and for the same system, they are equivalent, and a relationship amongst the above parameters should exist, as follows⁹:

$$(OR)_{OS} = k_V (V)_{OS} = k_{CPM} (CPM)_{OS} = k_T (T)_{OS}$$

$$\tag{4}$$

Eq. (4) has been obtained by equalling eqs. (1), (2), and (3). A more comprehensive relationship has been developed and reported elsewhere³.

A halo of orgone energy seems to be generated externally an orgone accumulator that can be indirectly detected above all by a GM counter^{8, 9}. In some GM counter measurements seasonally-related pulsating qualities of this halo were also observed.

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