

Review of: "Archetypal Resonances Between Realms: The Fractal Interplay of Chaos and Order"

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Potential competing interests: No potential competing interests to declare.

Review of "Archetypal Resonances Between Realms: The Fractal Interplay of Chaos and Order," by Sacco, R.G., Marks-Tarlow T., and Beitman B.B.

by Dragana Favre

I have enjoyed reading this paper for many reasons: marrying different fields and schools of thought, providing a mathematical/geometrical substrate to Jungian concepts, and revisiting holistic views from various perspectives. In fact, I was very surprised that the Mandelbrot set had not been addressed in this way before!

Here are some of my comments:

I noticed the absence of a citation from Jung postulating that mathematics is the archetype of order emerging from chaos (page 5).

I am very grateful to the authors for citing "Horton Hears a Who," a transformative memory of my childhood. However, I think they could make better use of this illustration to support their claims. In the book/cartoon, the revelation of the two is helped by wholeness, but no exceptions – the "zooming" was overcome by entering another way of communication. The authors do something similar by connecting fractal geometry (the baby cry) to the symbol of the ouroboros. The snake needs to eat its entire tail.

Similarly, the authors could elaborate more on the fragile nature of border definitions in the Mandelbrot set. The border as an eternal spectrum, where it seems well-defined at one magnitude and totally transformed at another, aligns well with the dualistic wave-particle nature of reality. Also, their association with the consciousness-unconsciousness liminal space is beautifully brought here but would benefit from deeper elaboration. For example, the perspective of the Ego/Self/Ego-Self axis/Complex inflation could be a magnifying lens. The no-limit dream amplification is a nice illustration, and I would appreciate more discussion on "when is enough," meaning what is the optimal distance between the depth of the equation revisit and the point of reference.

I wonder if a neutral level of reality (as discussed on page 7), pure potentiality, psychoid, and *atertium* (transcendence, resulting from the *conjunctio* of opposites) are part of the same realm – liminality?

In the principle of feedback, I would add/wonder about perspectives from evolution (system level) and molecular biology (DNA level).

The chapter about fractals, randomness, and determinism could benefit from discussions on discrete vs. continuous and the “collapse” of the continuous into discrete (from psychological, philosophical, and mathematical points of view).

A small provocation: when you wrote “Fractals... symbolizing the harmonious dance of order and chaos” (page 11), could this be generalized to encompass free will vs. destiny/determinism/karma/divine homeostasis?

Indeed, this is a revolutionary statement: “(Un)consciousness as the ever-existing fabric of the universe.” Could we then say that Matter and (Un)Consciousness emerged simultaneously, entwined from the start?

I agree that there is potential use in this approach, but I would rather support a dualistic approach: being one among the whole and being whole in one. Indeed, this perspective is missing from medicine today, with each kind supporting only one direction (top-down or bottom-up) while neglecting the horizontal perspective. Transgenerational psychotherapy provides interesting insights, but like the correct “zoom” of the Mandelbrot set, it needs to calibrate how deep and for how long it searches into the past. At the end, the path toward the future has to be respected (linear time), just as the Ouroboros moves from the head toward the tail, not the other way around (there is a preferential “spin” – asymmetry).

This paper also provides nice support to the field of Ecopsychology.