

Generativity and Coaction: Relations in a Contribution Analysis

Will Varey ¹

ABSTRACT – This paper examines the fifth component in the process of an initial apithology analysis being the coaction relationships between identifiable conceptions and their perceptual environments. The nine major forms of coaction potential are described and reframed using an apithological perspective. The nature of the different coaction configurations are outlined, together with their consequences. The article concludes with observations regarding the potential of each coaction system and reflections on the potential for the system of humanity as a whole.

INTRODUCTION

In the discipline of apithology all expressions of humanity in its various forms are seen as aspects of health. Some expressions are the direct responses to imbalances in otherwise stable causative dynamics. Other expressions are responses to other responses, rebalancing the system in counterpart processes of health responses. Different dynamics contribute to the formation of different conceptions creating between them different formative tensions. Together these coactions of interrelationship describe the panarchy that is humanity in its environments of perception. This complexity is only as immense as the possible permutations occurring in the combinations of human interactions in dynamic change over time. In discerning some of these dynamics we may begin to assess the potential for health and the effect these interactions have on the system that is humanity as a whole.

Apithology seeks to examine the different interactions within the system ecology of human conceptions and the resulting dynamics of those interactions. It does so by examining those interactions as systems of meaning. A contribution analysis using coaction theory (Haskell, Cassidy, Clark, & Jensen, 1972) provides an approach to answering the question of determining the potential of a system by assessing the degree of alignment in its systems of coaction. This alignment is one indicator of enduring potential. Systems of generativity in apithology can potentially be designed to exist in perpetuity, or at least for so long as that particular contribution is required and desired, being its duration of meaning. Understanding more about the dynamics of causation of generative growth in meaning-making systems leads to a clearer identification of the potential of the system as a predictor of its future capacity. In seeing the potential capacity in a system's present configuration we are better placed to discern the alignment of the system's structure with the system's goals (Meadows, 1999). In the case of humanity, this is the alignment in its way of being with its stated intentions. In an alignment of ends and means, apithology is also concerned to ensure that the ends attained and the means used are both as desired. In examining the system potential from an apithological perspective the desired outcome is considered together with the potential for the continuation of the means for creation of that outcome. Specifically, by undertaking a contribution analysis the practitioner, by their inquiries, can examine the capacity of the system for enduring generativity by its coactions. (Article Continues ...).