## NOESIS

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Here's another reminder to send in material. Maybe a miracle will happen and it won't take three months to get published.

IN THIS ISSUB
COMMENTS ON NOESIS 102-104 E8 TO NORMA WITH LOVE AND FAILURE BY ROBERT DICK
COMMENTS ON NOESIS 102-104 BY RON HOBFLIN
HANNON REPLIES TO HIS CRITICS \& OFFRRS FOUR ARTICLES
$\mathrm{B}=\mathrm{m} \mathrm{C}^{2}$ BY ROBERT HANNON
PYCNOGENOL, NATURE'S MIRACLE (AND BANB OP SPRLLLNG BEE CONTRSTANT8) BY H. SCOTTT MORRIS

By Robert Dick<br>13 Speer Street<br>Somerville, NJ 08876<br>rdick@haven.ios.com

I was glad to see Robert Hannon elaborate on his "wave analyzer" hypothesis so as to make it even easier than before to shoot it down. He writes (Noesis 102 p 12) "The validity of the Fourier Series has been verified by countless measurements." Not so. The Fourier series is mathematics, not physics. No amount of measurement can verify or refute it.

If, he claims, we could spectrum-analyze a pulse completely and before it ends, then the future would be determinate. This is just what we cannot do. Mr. Hannon's argument is similar to saying that Euclidean geometry "has been verified by countless measurements." Therefore, parallel lines never meet, therefore the Earth is flat! (This is only an hypothesis.)

At this point I will forsake my "psychotic obsession" (p 15) with Mr. Hannon and move on to less trivial topics. Kevin Langdon has provided us with a number of statements which are nontrivial and to which I would like to respond. First, (Noesis 103, p 8) on abortion:

I think abortion is wrong, an interference with something sacred, but I do not believe it should be illegal. Prohibition of something this popular is unworkable. It would endanger the lives of those who feel compelled to seek out underground (and therefore unregulated) medical facilities.

I think abortion is homicide. There is no good reason why homicide should be safe and comfortable for the killer.

Kevin quotes Scientific American on the supposed decline of the ozone layer. This claim is pure speculation. There is no known natural history of the ozone layer. It was never measured systematically until a few decades ago. What, for example, is the effect of the sunspot cycle on the ozone layer? We don't know.

At the risk of sounding paranoid, let me state that I do not trust Scientific American. It has never ever run a piece favorable to the defense of America and the West since the cold war began. Some say it is because the publisher's wife is a Communist. Anyway, it publishes ideology disguised as science.

Kevin continues: "The world's rainforests, marshes...continue to be destroyed..." Yes, swamps and jungles are being tamed. Places such as these, and deserts, and mountains, are all hostile to human life. Only wealthy people have the luxury of enjoying pestholes and wildernesses. As I said, capitalism and the production of more wealth are the only hopes of "saving" such places.

Kevin enters fantasyland in his claim that "Most scientists studying the earth and its waters and atmosphere now believe that global warming is a real phenomenon.." I know of one study that
refutes global warming defintively. A scientist studied a grove of "alerce" trees growing on the west coast of Chile. These are extremely long-lived trees, and the grove has been in existence for many millennia: The trees grew thick rings in warm years, and thin rings in cool years. It was therefore possible to trace global temperatures for many thousands of years. The earth has warmed and cooled many times over that span, but since the Industrial Revolution there has been no change in temperature.

Kevin grows ludicrous with his claim (p 10) that "The rise of deadly diseases like AIDS is a predictable consequence of overpopulation." Pardon me, but the sexual revolution gave rise to AIDS. It has been spread mainly by homosexuals. AIDS reared its ugly head just a decade or two after liberals and radicals insisted on legalizing and destigmatizing sodomy. It's as simple as that.

The possibility of deadly pandemics is, in my opinion, only too real. The problem is not overpopulation, it is ubiquitous transportation. A deadly virus could only too easily spread around the whole world in one or two weeks, allowing no time for a vaccine to be mass produced and administered. Suppose the world had only one tenth its present population, but the same networks and speed of transport. Instead of jumbo jets there would be small jets. Instead of clogged highways motoring would be a pleasure. Or conversely, let us assume that almost everyone takes mass transit, that darling of liberals and radicals. So much the worse! Contagions would spread just as fast as in our actual situation.

I do not know how to prevent deadly pandemics. Perhaps after they happen once or twice there will be quarantine procedures based not on symptoms of disease but just on the mere possibility of disease. Perhaps there will be perverse people who will take it upon themselves to cut "overpopulation" by deliberately developing deadly viruses and releasing them on purpose. These are vital subjects that I invite all the members of the Mega Society to comment on.

Kevin reveals his religious beliefs when he writes that "There are too many people for humanity to live in harmony with nature." I do not believe in living in harmony with nature. I believe nature was made for man, not man for nature. We should be good stewards of nature, not for the sake of the furbish lousewort or the snail darter, but for the sake of our posterity.

It is people with Kevin's mentality that outlawed DDT, a compound that has prolonged more human life than any other chemical in history. At one time the widespread application of DDT so suppressed malaria in India that the life expectancy of the entire population of that country was increased by more than a decade. Since the banning of DDT the Indian death rate went back up again. If this is "harmony with nature" I want none of it.

Finally, I find Kevin's statement on "major tranquilizers" and antidepressants to be perverse in the extreme (Noesis 104, p 10):

These drugs dull one's consciousness. I have known many people who used them and, without exception, they were sleepwalking through life-even more so than is generally the case in Western society, in which people are lost in dreams of material wealth, comfort, and ego-inflation. In my opinion, the use of these medications by the
psychintric "profession" is nothing short of criminal.
No matter what your condition, these drugs are a cure worse than the disease
Kevin does not know what he is talking about. The phenothiazines have been responsible for breaking the shackles off millions of mental patients. These drugs are known medically as major tranquilizers, but their true function is to act as anti-psychosis agents. True, they slow down your brain, but that is precisely what millions of people need.

Until about 1960 half the hospital beds in the United States were mental hospital beds. Today the big mental hospitals are closing, possibly too quickly. Why? Because of major tranquilizers.

I don's know what more to write about this. The liberals and radicals are doing a grave disservice to America's mentally ill by badmouthing the best thing that has ever happened to them.

By Robert Dick, 13 Speer Street, Somerville, NJ 08876

I cannot say with any confidence what is sickness and what is healh. Maybe we should just accept ourselves and our experiences just as they happen, and not label certain aspects morbid or diseased. At least that seems to be the lesson a psychologist taught me while I was a patient at a state hospital.

Norma was quite petite, quite blonde, and quite a girl. She had a long history of hospitalization, going back to the days before the phenothiazines revolutionized psychiatry. For a while I was the only young man in our unit, and then she would hold me enthralled for hours with stories from her past. She had had over a hundred shock treatments. She was epileptic. She was almost a nurse, but had run away to a "Jesus-people" commune rather than graduate. Her mother had been literally a witch. A jitted fiance had poured sugar in her gas tank and had taken a shot at her. As a teenager, in a blizzard a sign had fallen from atop a store and had fractured her skull (she attributed her epilepsy to that accident). She married her high school sweetheart, and he used to come home from work for lunch just for extra chances to make love to her. Later, he played around and brought a floozy home with him while very drunk. Norma took a frying pan and bashed his head in for that. She escaped being imprisoned for assault only by entering a state hospital. She had been in jail for shoplifting a sweater. She had been confined to a "disturbed" ward. She had prepared dead bodies for burial as a favor to the hospital staff. She had been a man's mistress. She had been a woman's mistress. She had been a drug addict. She... In spite of all that (or because of it?) to say that she was fascinating to me would be a gross understatement. I was more moved than when I first read All Quiet on the Western Front.

In his book The Self in Psychotic Process, Dr. John Perry wrote that often a psychosis works itself out as a kind of healing process, straightening out the psyche of someone profoundly wounded from the lack of his or her mother's love in infancy. The process comes to its grand finale, according to Perry, with a readiness to love, with a readiness for a love affair. I don't know about the infuncy pert, but the love affirir part seems right on. Except that there is no guarantee that said affiir will be mutual with the beloved.

Whatever thing we had going, Norma eventually let me know that she had none of the passion for me that I had for her. Actually, I had been extremely passive about the whole thing, not telling her how profoundly she had affected me. I think it was because somehow I knew that I had to be careful with this appalling woman. Anyway, when she told me I was desolate. I was broken.

My social worker told me that Norma would not let anyone "get close to her. That's part of her sickness. We figured it would be better to let you find out for yourself." I guess there is a wound that heals.

My psychologist had me draw up a list of phus and minuses of how I folt about Norma. I assigned point values. The phuses just barely outnumbered the minuses. He said that that showed
the relationship was very risky. Actually, I cheated. I assigned more points to the pluses to make it come out positive. My feelings for this object of my grand passion were precisely neutral! I date my recovery from Norm's rejection of me from that point.

Soon I began to reach this assessment of Norma: She was a virtuoso of failure. You name the mode of failure, and if it was at all possible Norma would do it. And she would continue to find new ways to fail. Some time after I got out of the hospital I found out that she was pregnant. Of course. She hadn't been an unwed mother before, so she had to do it. The last time I saw her was a few months after her son Jason was born. The psychologist told me a year or two later that Norma married a friend she had known previously.

Years later, after better experiences of friendship and love, I was utterly appalled by the thought that once the thing I had wanted most was to marry Norma. Of all the things she did, that she once totaled a car she was driving because of an epileptic seizure summed up for me her total lack of responsibility.

Norma, my bady of faihure, I remember you still with affection. You were the first stranger, the very first, to share with me the milk of human kindness in a way I could fully accept. I remember you from a distance, and I'm ghad it's from a distance. You always generated as much erotic heat in those around you as you possibly could, and then-you moved on. I hope you have found some measure of peace and health, as I have. But I doubt it.

Dear Rick Rosner:
The following are a few comments on the last three issues of Noesis --particularly the remarks of Kevin Langdon.
(1) In issue \#103, page 7, Kevin says regarding the idea of Rick Rosner and Chris Cole to require ten pages of material from each member per year, "Who the hell do you two bozos think you are to dictate to the members of the Mega Society?" Yet Kevin apparently sees no dictating when he remarks in issue \#104, page 6, regarding the verbal problems I constructed to which Chris Cole revealed his answers (one of which was wrong, incidentally), "No item that has been the subject of these discussions can be used [in any new test I, Ron Hoeflin, construct] as the answers are now public information." But since the circulation of Noesis is only 25 or 30 , I personally do not consider this sufficiently "public" to bar use of the test items in, say, Omni magazine. I would simply have to exclude the readers of Noesis from taking the test. If Noesis readers were to share their answers with others, that would be little different from a person who scored high on the LAIT or Mega Tests sharing his or her answers with others--a shortcoming that none of these self-administered tests are immune to. To sum up, then, Kevin does not speak for me on this matter, and I really do not appreciate his ex cathedra tone.

Kevin also asserts in issue 103, page 11, that "The Hyper Test Ron has written about, which will contain his best spatial problems, will be much less strongly loaded on crystallized intelligence and will have a higher ceiling than the Mega Test." Here again Kevin is jumping the gun and speaking for me when in fact his assertion is incorrect. If I do construct a Hyper Test, it is likely to consist of 100 of the best items from my Mega, Titan, and Ultra tests, of which 50 would be verbal analogies and 50 would be non-verbal items. Conceivably the test could be divided into a separate verbal test of 50 items and a non-verbal test of 50 items. The latter would then be suitable for translation into foreign languages. It would probably include some numerical items, since I do not think I have enough spatial items in my three tests to construct an independent test. At any rate, 1 have not reached any final conclusions about all this, since I have been focusing my energies on the completion of my book. Decoding Philosophy, which already exceeds 1,000 typed, double-spaced pages. I may never complete my Ultra Test, much less a Hyper Test or some purely spatial test derivative from the latter if no outlet for the test manifests itself. Neither Omni nor the Triple Nine Society has expressed an interest so far. (Triple Nine had, through one of its officers, Clint Williams, expressed an interest in a timed, supervised test consisting of multiple-choice items derived from my Mega and Titan tests, but Mr. Williams seemed strangely incapable of fathoming the need to renorm such a test rather than relying on norms based on untimed, non-multiple-choice tests. In any case, when I suggested to Clint that he make use of my new Ultra Test, perhaps suitably modified for timed, supervised use, he evinced zero interest in the proposal. Kevin's discussion of the low difference between timed and untimed test scores in issue $\# 103$, page 18, is perhaps intended as an indirect support for Mr. Williams position.)
(2) In issue 104, page 13, Kevin sums up his criticism of Ron Yannone's Creationism by stating, "'Creation science' is an oxymoron. And Ron Yannone makes Robert Canon look rational." Yet we get a glimpse of Kevin's own bizarre intellectual landscape when we see his references in issue 104, page 11 , to Gurdjieff and Ouspensky as his own intellectual gurus. Since I have not studied either of these writers sufficiently to pontificate on their shortcomings, let me try a different approach.

I think it can be shown that Kevin's critique of free will suffers from analogous intellectual problems to those that Creationism does. What Creationism can't adequately explain is why it is as if the world were billions of years old rather than the mere thousands specified in the Bible. Fossils could perhaps be explained as artifacts that God left around to lead the unfaithful astray. But then God would be a deceiver, which seems inconsistent with his purportedly all-good nature. The ancient Greeks invented a dictum in connection with the motions of the planets, namely, that the scientist's role is to "save the appearances." We might add to this the dictum of William of Ockham that "entities are not to be multiplied without necessity," which means, in other words, that we should save the appearances with the most efficient and simple intellectual machinery possible if we want to get at the truth. Now just as Creationists leave the fossils out there dangling in mid-air without efficient explanation, we find that Kevin also leaves something out of his system of thought, dangling in midair. In issue 104, page 7, he criticizes vocabulary items on the grounds that they merely require "familiarity" ranter than "struggle." But in issue 103, page 12, he says that we have "delusions of agency," since Kevin believes, as he remarks on that same page, that "'voluntary' muscular action" can be given a "mechanical," i.e., deterministic, explanation. Now the problem with mechanism is that it has no evident use for a feeling of struggle or muscular strain at all. The feelings are dangling out there in mid-air just as fossils are for Creationists with no rationale for their existence.

The puzzle is that Kevin appears to struggle mightily to convince us of his points of view. But if this whole process is mechanical, then what possible difference could it make what we believe? We would be like shadows who are condemned to go wherever our masters walk. The decisions are not our concern, since we merely fall in line with thatever Destiny-in the form of a mechanized universe--has in store for us. So there is really an inherent contradiction in Kevin's system, just as there is one in the Creationist's position. Neither position saves the appearances efficiently and economically. One of the major goals of my own book, Decoding Philosophy, will be to show how virtually all of the major metaphysical outlooks that have been devised, including both mechanism and mysticism, can be integrated within a single coherent and elegant system of thought. without slipping, I hope, into any form of "crackpotism."

Dear Rick,
in response to Robert Low's A BRIEF NOTE ON THE DERIVATION OF THE LORENTZ TRANSFORMATION (Noesis 103, p4).

1) I have not (yet) publistard anything in TELICOM or NOESIS or elsewhere in which I claim that the ELT is "wrong". I have said that (assuming it is otherwise correct) it is algebraically incomplete by virtue of not being reduced to its simplest poseible form. As they stand the ELT equations are physical impossibilities because they are dimensionally incorrect.
2) Vour argument that the ELT is predicated on the conditional "hypothesis":

$$
x P=C t P \text { if and only if } X P^{\prime}=C t P^{\circ}
$$

(which is the same as $x / t=C$ if and only if $x^{*} / t^{\prime}=C$.)
indicates only that you do not remember that the results of conditional analyses are valid only when all conditions are fulfilled. The ELT derived on that premise is trub only when:

$$
x P=C t P \text { and } x P=C t P
$$

(which is the same as $x / t=C$ and $x^{*} /$ t $^{*}$ 프 )
and can not be applied to situations in which that equality is not true.

You have actually proven my point.
Your conditional statement may be "the hypothesis used" where you operate, but it isn't elsewhere; it changes nothing.

No such conditional statement appears in either of Einstein's derivations. It does not appear in any of the many "different" derivations i have read, excepting only the one which includes your "hypothesis".
3) What do you imagine the constant velocities $V$ and $C$ means in physics and kinematics?

Best regards,

Robert J. Hannon

ROBERT J HANNON
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KEVIN LANGDON, Box 795, Berkeley CA 94701
Dear Kevin,
Reading your letter on po of NOESIS 104. I wonder what can be the factual premises of your gratuitous slurs.

1) You say "Mr Hannon's writings are full of elementary errors and show that the author has not taken the trouble to understand the things he's eriticizing."

What are these "elementary errors"? What is the basis of your judgment that they are errors?

What if the factual basis for your judgment that I have not taken the trouble to understand the things I criticize? Clearly from your later comments, you don't understand those subjects, so how can you judge my level of understanding?
2) You go on, "Others with more expertise in this field than I have pointed out many of these errors; I will not add to their critiquas."

Who are the experts to which you refer? When did they point out "many" (indeed, a single one) of my errors? Ill appreciate specific references, as 1 am unaware of any cold, objective, scientifically-sound refutation of any of my views by any member of Mega or ISPE.

Do you presume that anyone who disagrees with me is necessarily more "expert" than I? Ifso, what is the premise of such a view?
3) Fundamental physics (such as relativity) presents a challenge to the intellect. I find it appalling that so few members of any of the "High IO" groups seem truly interested in the subject. I also find it truly peculiar that so many claim a lack of understanding of freshman-level math.

I am bored to distraction by articles on religion, the colon, io testing, and puzzles. Nevertheless, I read them in NOESIS, in the hope of finding something of value. I had hoped to find really innovative thinking in the "High IG" groups. I have been sadly disappointed.
4) Chris Langan's "letters" to me in NDESIS have been pure arrogant BS. He simply doesn't comprehend the fundamentals of special relativity.
5) Vou say, "Ron Yannone makes Robert Hannon look rational."

What is the factual basis of your judgment of my rationality?
6) I barely knengen 1 i individual. She was defending the intillactual right of people to hold and express unorthodox views without being ridiculed by the
arrogant who always presume to know bettar. Apparently you are one of that truly sad group who believe that only they are comnpetent to hold views on any complex subject.
7) Rick and Chris publish my writings because they obviously receive an inadequate supply of printable stuff from the members. Langan is an example. lt's posisible that thereis a great idea buried in his jargon, but it is not available to the rest of us because he is unable to express his ideas in plain English. Early on, I attempted correspondence with him, but gave up when he tried to impose rules on my use of the language.

Personally, $I$ will be pleased to be nothing but a subectiber to NOESIS, when my writings are squeezed out by the truly superior ideas and views presented by the great geniuees who are members of Mega.

In the two years or so that $I$ have been a subscriber, 1 have not found much of genius-level merit in NDESIS.

日) You refer to my "prolific output of material at a level of quality significantly below the standard, such as it is, of this journal."

What is the basis of your judgment of the quality of my writings?
9) I look forward to receiving your answers to my questions, so that 1 may have even a glimmer of understanding of the workings of an intellect purported to be vastly superior to mine.

Most sincerely,

Robert J. Hannon
PS: My unpublished paper THE DERIVATIONS OF THE EINSTEIN-LORENTZ TRANSFORMATION will be presented on 24 May to the regional meeting of the American Aassocietion for the Advancement of Science to be held at the University of Oklahoma.

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