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The Equation of Subconscious Resistance by Frater Szoept 1147

¹Subconscious Resistance (**R**) can wreak havoc with any well-constructed magical working and therefore is of prime importance to reduce. The reduction of **R** is the prime concern of metamorphosis and behavior/cognitive modification. For the purposes of this paper, when "behavioral pattern" is used it is referring to both behaviors and cognitive processes of behaviors.

R is defined here as a behavioral pattern that has become ingrained in the "subconscious" processes of the practitioner, which influence would be negative toward an operation of magic. In order to determine the power of **R**, the strength of a behavior pattern must be determined. The strength of a behavior pattern can be determined by analyzing the factors involved. Following the excellent theoretical framework of Thomas Brown², the behavioral strength can be determined by the length of time the behavior has been occurring (**L**), the frequency of the behavioral occurrences (**F**), and the connection of the behavior to other behavioral patterns or other stimuli (**C**)³. Place these three variables on a scale from 1 to 10 (1 being: (**L**) never, (**F**) not at all, (**C**) none. And 10 being (**L**) a very long time, (**F**) always, (**C**) many). Then add the three scores and multiple them by 3.333 and divide the result by 100 and round up to the nearest hundredth. This gives the behavior strength a number ranging between 0.1 and 1.0, 0.1 being a very weak behavioral pattern and 1.0 being a very strong and entrenched behavioral pattern. In the event that the behavior being quantified actually promotes the occurrence of the magical activity, then **R** is not at issue.

$$\text{In summation: } R = ((L+F+C) * 3.333) / 100$$

Therefore:

$$M = GL(1-A) (1 - ((L+F+C) * 3.333) / 100)$$

If the behavior pattern quantification is on the low end of the spectrum, the probability of success will be increased depending on the other variables.

If the behavior pattern quantification is too high the possibility that the operation will be a success will approach 0. In order to circumvent this from happening, the behavior pattern must be altered. This can be accomplished through metamorphosis and a multitude of magical operations with the change of behavior as the intention. However, magical operations to modify the behavior must take the behavioral quantification into account and will probably result in a low probability of success as well. Metamorphosis techniques devised by the practitioner and traditional behavioral/cognitive modification should then be employed. The employment of various techniques to reduce **R** should be aimed at reducing **F** and **C**, as **L** may be hard to manipulate at the outset. It is important to note that the behavior will put up resistance to alteration and the practitioner will have to exceed this resistance in order to ultimately change **R**.

It is hoped that this expansion assists in furthering the analytical examination of the variables of magic. Any comments, contradictions, questions, and shortcomings of the expansion are welcome and should be directed to the author at: szoept@chaosmagic.com.

¹ Carroll, P. (1992). *Liber Kaos*. York Beach, Maine: Samuel Weiser, Inc.

² Brown, T. (1820). *Lectures on the philosophy of the human mind* (Vols. 1 and 2). Edinburgh: James Ballantyne.

³ It is to be noted that Brown identified a total of nine associations that impacted behavior. The three included here are evidentially some of the most powerful associations. The practitioner is encouraged to examine the other associations and include them in the calculation and make modifications to the calculation process to reflect the included factors.