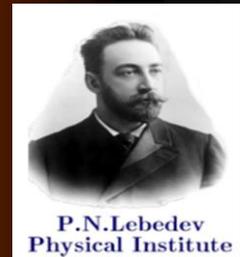


# On Modeling the Role of Negative Emotions and the Effect of Panic in an Artificial Cognitive System

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# Abstract

- We continue a series of works on modeling especially the human aspects of cognitive process, such as intuition, the influence of emotions, the role of personality, etc. The Natural Constructive Cognitive Architecture proposed and analyzed in our previous works has an important design feature: the entire system consists of two connected subsystems conventionally corresponding to the cerebral hemispheres. One is responsible for the processing of well-known information, the other is aimed at learning new and creative work. This paper is focused on analyzing the **extreme mode** of thinking process: the effect of panic in creative work (“**throes of creativity**”). It is shown that the regime of panic in an artificial cognitive system could be imitated by **chaotic fluctuations in the amplitude of self-excitation (*noise*) around an *abnormally high level***. It could result in ***insight***, i.e. suddenly finding a solution (**Eureka! moment**), which is accompanied by **emotional burst**. Otherwise, it could lead to a decrease in efficiency (deep long *depression*).

# OUTLINE

- Introduction and goal settings
- Main features of NCCA
- Representation of Emotions (E)
- Typical emotional patterns for recognition, forecast and Aesthetic Emotions (AE) = contemplation of Art patterns
- Simulation of *panic* = “throes of creativity”
- Conclusion and discussion

# Introduction

- NCCA is used to analyze the extreme mode of the cognitive process – the effect of **intellectual panic** caused by the need to solve urgently (before a *deadline*) certain **creative** cognitive problem (“*throes of creativity*”).
- **Creativity** is tightly connected with the “Explanatory Gap” problem: **Brain vs Mind**.
  - **Brain (B)** = **objective** inf provided by Nature
  - **Mind (M)** = **subjective** inf created inside the cognitive system *itself*
  - **Creativity** = effort to bring a **piece of personal B** into the M and world
- Creative solution is *hidden in the B* (**sub-consciousness**) and could be realized only *occasionally*, due to the neuron’s random self-excitation (= **noise**).
- **Panic** could result in extreme *noise* behavior → increasing probability of finding the hidden solution (**insight**)

Levine J. "Materialism and Qualia: The Explanatory Gap". 1983



*Explanatory Gap*

Psychology (**MIND**)      Neurophysiology (**BRAIN**)

● Consciousness

● Ensemble of Neurons

*Emotions:*

● Subjective (!) self-appraisal  
of current/future state

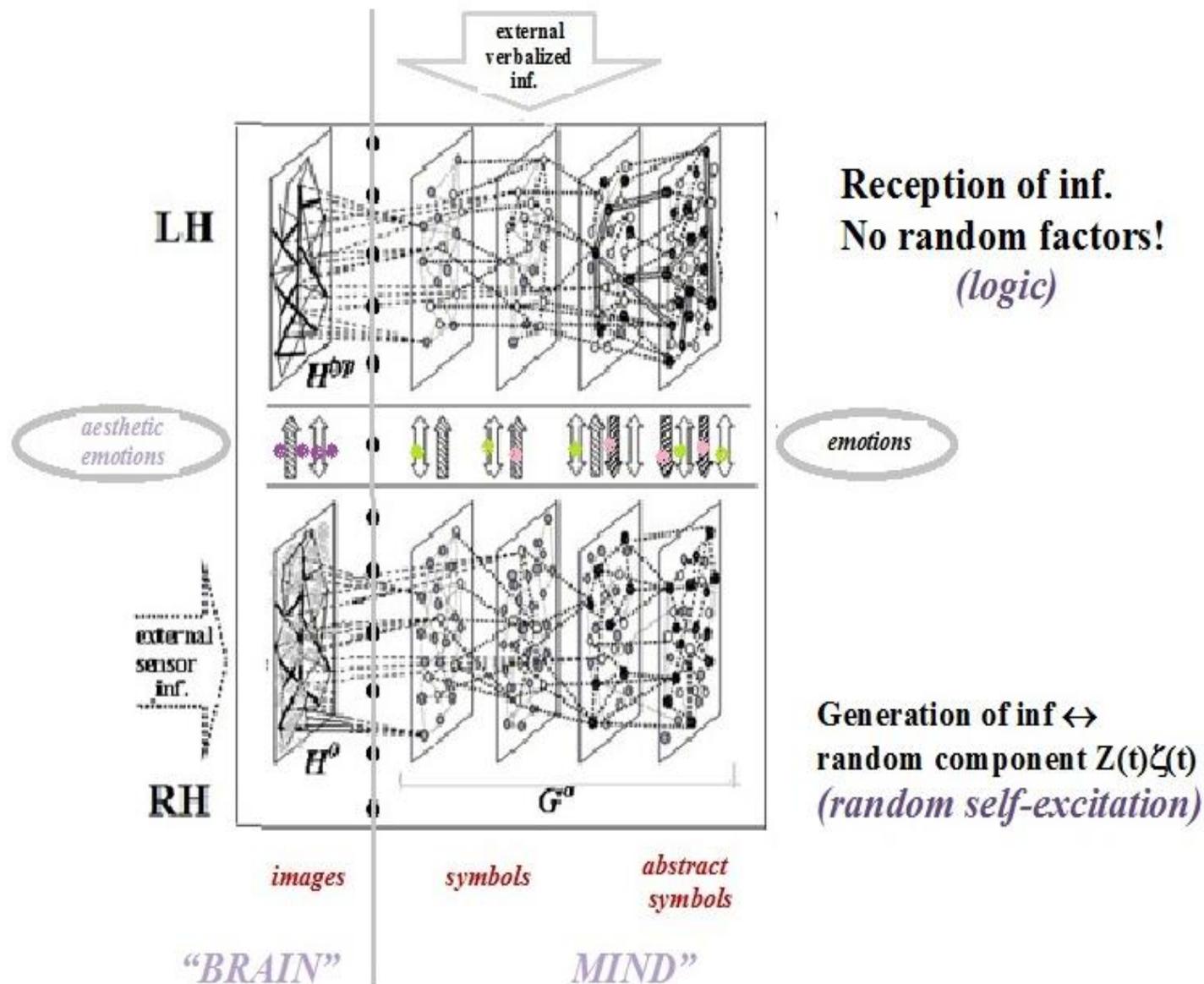
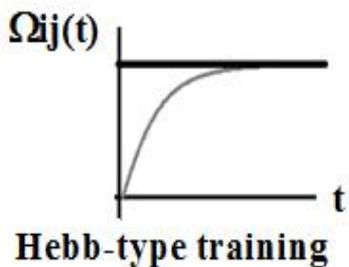
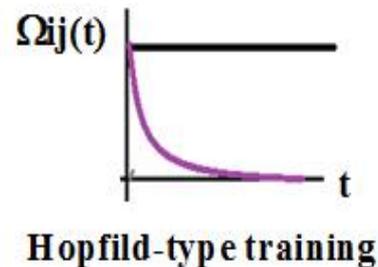
● neural transmitters  
(**objective! Measurable!!**)

# Natural-Constructive Cognitive Architecture (NCCA)

- Neurophysiology & psychology data
  - *E. Goldberg*: RH  $\leftrightarrow$  learning (new inf.)  
LH  $\leftrightarrow$  processing well-known inf. (recog.)
- Dynamical Theory of Information (DTI )  
(Haken, 2000, Prigogine, 1997, Chernavskii, 2000)
  - *generation* of *new* inf. and *reception* of inf. are dual functions:  
should be implemented by *2 different subsystems*
  - *generating inf requires noise (random self-excitation)*  
 $Z(t)\zeta(t)$  (Z is the noise amplitude,  $\zeta(t)$  = random function)
- Neural computing
  - Set of Hopfield-type (*distributed* memory) and *localization=WTA* (Grossberg-type) processors
  - Combined with nonlinear differential equation technique  $\leftrightarrow$   
*dynamical* formal neuron concept

# The Natural-Constructive Cognitive Architecture

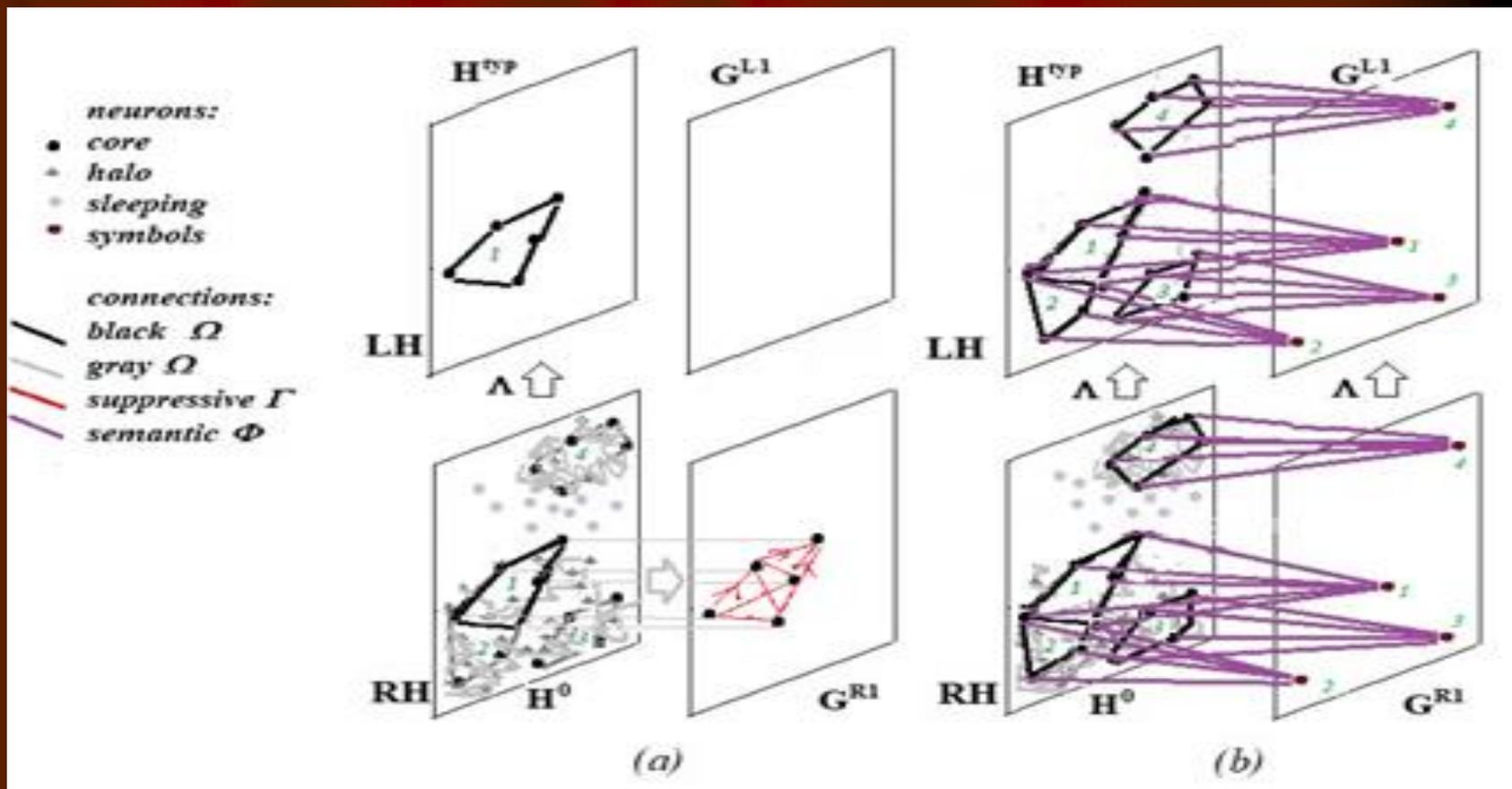
(NCCA) Chernavskaya et al, BICA 2013, 2015



# Comments to the NCCA scheme:

- *Splitting up into 2 subsystems (as cerebral hemispheres)*
  - RH  $\leftrightarrow$  generation of new inf. (=learning , creating)
    - **Noise is required!**
  - LH  $\leftrightarrow$  processing well-known inf = recognition, prognosis, etc.
- Different laws of cons. training:
  - RH  $\leftrightarrow$  Hebbian (connection *amplification*)
  - LH  $\leftrightarrow$  Hopfield (“**redundant cut-off**” )
- Connection blackening principle : replication RH $\rightarrow$ LH if  $\Omega = \Omega_0$
- **Hierarchical structure:**
  - $\sigma=0$ : images =sensory inf (objective!)  $\leftrightarrow$  **BRAIN !**
  - $\sigma=1, \dots, N =$  *symbolic* inf = convension  $\leftrightarrow$  **MIND !**
    - $\sigma > 1$  : symbols  $\leftrightarrow$  WORDS = **verbalization**  $\rightarrow$  consciousness
  - $\sigma \gg 1$  : **abstract** (not-sensory) inf. = *symbol-concepts*

# Mechanism of NCCA scheme formation: small fragment of basic levels $\sigma=0,1$ (Fig. 2)



- (a): **early** stage: only 1 image in  $H^0$  (RH) is well-learned (“typical”), it is translated to  $H^{typ}$  (LH) and  $G_{1R}$ , where the symbol is chosen (by **competition**)
- (b): **final** stage: all 4 images became typical and obtain their symbols that form inter-level (**semantic**) connections with image neurons

# Comments to the Fig. 2

- **Connection blackening principle:** images are forming in H0 (RH) by Hebbian learning mechanism up to strong (“black”) connections (typical images) and then are translated (replicated) to Htyp (LH) and to G1R for symbol creation (winner-choosing procedure)
- **Core** neurons ↔ typical attributes
  - Provide the base for **symbol** formation
- **Halo** neurons ↔ atypical (inessential) attributes \ rare representations
  - provide **implicit (indirect) associations that are lost at the transition RH→LH**
  - Are hidden in H0 (BRAIN) only
- **“Sleeping” neurons = never been excited in any cognitive process**
  - **not belong** even to BRAIN experience
- **Sub-consciousness = manifold (variety) of halo-neurons** along with their weak (“gray”) **connections = seemingly unimportant unrealized and non-verbalized hidden personal (Brain) experience**
  - not connected with any symbol = “**out of control**”
  - **something that BRAIN does know, while MIND can't realize**
  - source for **creative** solutions that could be excited only by **noise (=insight!)**<sup>10</sup>

# Master equations (details in Chernavskaya, *BICA*, 2015)

$$\frac{dH_i^0(t)}{dt} = \frac{1}{\tau_i^H} [\mathfrak{S}_H\{H, \beta_i\} + \sum_{i \neq j}^n \Omega_{ij}^{Hebb} H_j^0 + \sum_k \Phi_{ik} G_k^{R,1} - \Lambda(t) \cdot H_i^{typ} + Z(t) \cdot \xi_i(t)]$$

$$\frac{dH_i^{typ}(t)}{dt} = \frac{1}{\tau_i^H} [\mathfrak{S}_H\{H, \beta_i\} + \sum_{i \neq j}^n \Omega_{ij}^{Hopf} \cdot H_j^{typ} + \sum_k \Phi_{ik} \cdot G_k^{L,1} + \Lambda(t) \cdot H_i^0]$$

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$$\frac{dG_k^{R,\sigma}}{dt} = \frac{1}{\tau_G} [\mathfrak{S}_G\{G_k^R, \alpha_k^\sigma\} + \hat{Y}\{G_k^{R,\sigma}, G_l^{R,(\sigma+\nu)}\} - \Lambda(t) \cdot G_k^{L,\sigma} + Z(t) \cdot \xi(t)]$$

$$\frac{dG_k^{L,\sigma}}{dt} = \frac{1}{\tau_G} [\mathfrak{S}_G\{G_k^L, \alpha_k^\sigma\} + \hat{Y}\{G_k^{L,\sigma}, G_l^{L,(\sigma+\nu)}\} + \Lambda(t) \cdot G_k^{R,\sigma}]$$

$$\frac{dZ(t)}{dt} = \frac{1}{\tau_Z} [a_{Z\mu} \mu + a_{ZZ} Z + F_Z(\mu, Z) + \Theta(Z, H, G_k^g)]$$

$$\frac{d\mu}{dt} = \frac{1}{\tau^\mu} [a_{\mu\mu} \mu + a_{\mu Z} (Z - Z_0) + F_\mu(\mu, Z)]$$

$$\Lambda(t) = -\Lambda_0 \cdot th\left(\gamma \cdot \tau^Z \cdot \frac{dZ}{dt}\right)$$

# Comments to the sys. of Equation : 1

- $H_i, G_i$  – variables representing  $i$ -th neocortex neurons (Fig. 1)
  - $H \leftrightarrow H$ -type proc. = *distributed* memory (*images*)
    - *Objective individual* inf (sensor signals) on real objects ever presented
  - $G \leftrightarrow G$ -type proc. = *symbols* of previous-level images + *generalized images* (=image-of-symbols)
    - *Subjective* inf created inside the system itself
  - *Scaling* = the same formation principle at any  $\sigma$  level
- $\sigma$  = level of hierarchy
  - $\sigma = 0 \dots 1 \leftrightarrow$  *virtual border btw. “Brain” and “Mind”*
- **Noise:**  $Z(t)\xi(t)$ :  $Z(t)$ = amplitude,  $\xi(t)$  = random function (Monte-Carlo)
  - *presenting in RH only*
- $\Lambda$ : *inter-subsystem connections*  $\leftrightarrow$  “*corpus collosum*”: serve to provide “dialog” **RH** and **LH**
  - $\Lambda = + \Lambda_0 (R \rightarrow L) = \Lambda$ ;  $\Lambda = - \Lambda_0 = \Lambda (L \rightarrow R)$  : refers to all eqs. <sup>12</sup>

## Comments to the sys. of Equation : 2

- **Bottom block = variables  $Z(t)$ ,  $\mu(t)$  = refer to Emotions**
  - $\mu(t) \leftrightarrow$  “**deep B**” = **effective composition of neurotransmitters (stimulant – inhibitors)**
  - $Z(t)$  = the “**tool**” for self-appraisal = “**emotional temperature**”
    - $Z_0$  = “**normal temperature**”  $\leftrightarrow$  value necessary for normal system’s functioning (**homeostasis**)
- **Final eq. :  $\Lambda(t)$  = activity of RH\LH subsystem is controlled by emotional tool  $-dZ/dt!$** 
  - **unexpectedness (incorrect prognosis)  $\leftrightarrow$  negative E  $\leftrightarrow$  RH activation is necessary! (= mobilization )**
  - **finding a solution  $\leftrightarrow$  positive E  $\leftrightarrow$  LH only (relax)**
  - **NB: derivative could be either (+) or (-) !**

# noise amplitude $Z(t)$ : typical patterns in solving various problems

- **Recognition** (iteration process): Fig. 3a

RH puts forward hypotheses, LH tests them, etc.:

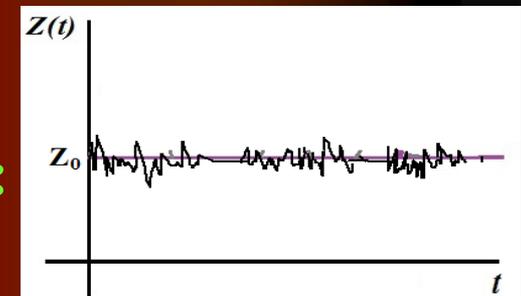
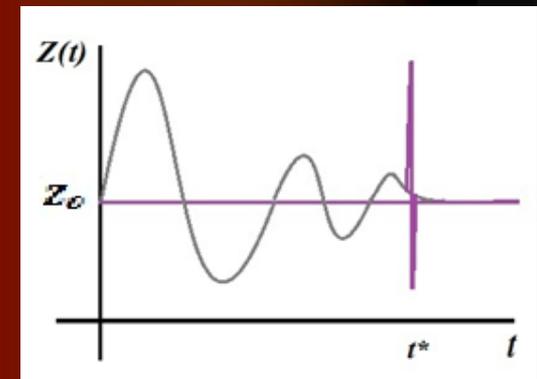
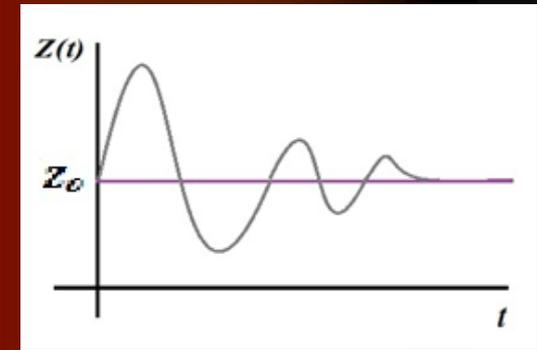
**dumping oscillation around normal value  $Z_0$**

- **Prognosis** (prediction):

- the same in normal mode
- in the case of **joke** (sudden unexpected but still familiar inf that switches to another prediction): **sharp rise at  $t^*$**  that is immediate changing by **fall down** (new solution found)  $\leftrightarrow$  **laugh** (Fig. 3b)

- **Aesthetic Emotions** (contemplation of Art objs) : **goosebumps**  $\leftrightarrow$   $Z(t)$  "vibration" around  $Z_0$

(Fig. 3c)



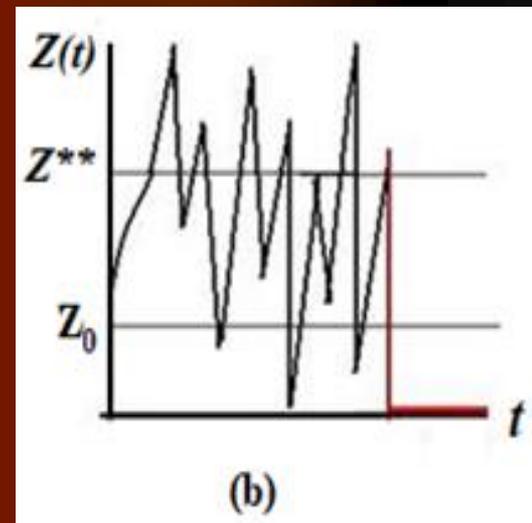
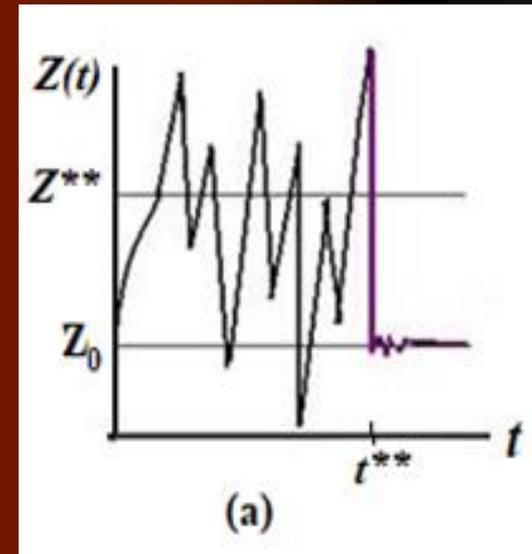
**Fig. 3** To 14

# Intellectual panic mode: *throes of creativity*

- Panic is characterized by unpredictable (*chaotic*) behavior and sudden *jumps* in mood [4]
- Intellectual panic could be caused by necessity to solve some *creative* problem *urgently*
  - e.g., before certain *deadline*
  - *could arise in any creative work: Art as well as Science*

# Simulation of intellectual panic mode

- Creative work requires **noise amplitude  $Z(t)$  increase** for **extracting new** solution from the halo-experience  $H_0$  (sub-consciousness)
- When  $Z$  exceeds some critical value  $Z^{**} \gg Z_0$ , system falls into **chaos**: chaotic jumps around abnormally high value results in noise dominating in RH and **mixing all known images**
- It could result in either:
  - sudden solution (**insight**) at  $t^{**}$  that is accompanied by **emotional burst** similar to laugh (Fig. 4a)
  - deep long depression if  $Z=0$ : the system **can't neither perceive nor generate new inf** (Fig. 4b)
- At  $Z > Z^{**}$  the probability of **waking up "sleeping" neurons** can provide new **implicit associations** that could lead to new solution unexpected for the system itself even at the Brain (**halo**) level! (see Fig. 2)  $\leftrightarrow$  **enriching the Brain (sub-consciousness) experience**



**Fig. 4** To 16

# Conclusions

- *Negative emotions* (increasing self-excitation amplitude  $Z(t)$ ) represent the mobilization of the system's resources since lead to increasing possibility to find (occasionally, due to *noise*) *desired hidden solution*
- Extreme case = intellectual *panic*  $\leftrightarrow$  *chaotic jumps in noise amplitude  $Z(t)$  and mood*
- Panic requires significant amount of energy for the neurotransmitter production and thus could not last long
- It could result either in
  - *insight* solution
  - deep long *depression*
- Panic is not good for human health (it is better to escape it), but if succeed, one gets an

*ineffable emotional reward (Eureka!!)*

# Summary

- the intellectual panic (*throes of creativity*) could play *even positive* role in creativity, if results in generation of new information enriching the individual “Brain” (sub-consciousness) experience
- remember Nietzsche: “*You have to have chaos inside you to give birth to a dancing star*”



**Dmitrii  
Chernavskii**

Feb 24 1926 –  
June 19 2016

*To the memory of my  
father, coauthor, and  
close friend*

Thanks for attention

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