

Why the Brain Folding Metaphor Fits Perfectly

The Universe as a Folded Brain

Self-Similarity, Surface Maximization, and Information

Narrative Metaphor Analysis

February 6, 2026

Abstract

This paper examines the astonishing parallel between brain folding (cortical gyri) and the 4D torsional structure of T0 theory. The metaphor is more than poetic – it is mathematically precise and physically profound. Both systems solve the same fundamental problem: **How does one pack maximum surface area/information into minimum volume without singularities?** The analysis reveals nine astonishing parallels: (1) **Fractal self-similarity** across many scales. (2) **Surface maximization** with volume minimization. (3) **Deep furrows = high density**: Sulci ↔ mass concentrations. (4) **Singularity avoidance** through minimum curvature radius. (5) **Static structure, dynamic flows**: Material static, information dynamic. (6) **Hierarchical information processing** across levels. (7) **Topological invariants**: Genus = 1 for both. (8) **Energy efficiency** through geometric optimization. (9) **Asymmetry as function**: Left vs. right hemisphere ↔ cosmic dipoles. The brain folding metaphor is not coincidental but reflects a universal geometric solution for information storage and processing.

Contents

1 Introduction: The Astonishing Image

1.1 The Metaphor

In FFGF/T0 theory, the universe is described as:

"A huge, fractally folded brain"

where the ****deep folds**** (sulci) correspond to regions of highest mass and energy density.

1.2 Why is this metaphor so fitting?

Central Observation

The human brain and the universe in T0 theory solve ****the same fundamental optimization problem****:

How does one maximize surface area (information, density) in minimum volume without creating singularities (collapse)?

The answer in both cases: **Fractal folding!**

2 The Nine Astonishing Parallels

2.1 Parallel 1: Fractal Self-Similarity

2.1.1 Brain

The human cortex shows fractal structure:

- **Large furrows** (primary sulci): 1–2 cm deep
- **Medium convolutions** (secondary sulci): 0.5–1 cm
- **Small folds** (tertiary sulci): 0.1–0.5 cm
- **Microcolumns**: 30–50 μm

Each large fold contains smaller folds following the same principle!

Fractal dimension of cortex: $D_{\text{cortex}} \approx 2.7 - 2.8$

2.1.2 T0 Universe

The torus structure scales self-similarly over ****60+ orders of magnitude****:

Scale	R (major radius)	System
Sub-Planck	$\sim 10^{-39}$ m	Fundamental granulation
Particles	$\sim 10^{-15}$ m	Protons, leptons
Atoms	$\sim 10^{-10}$ m	Electron shells
Planets	$\sim 10^6$ m	Magnetic field torus
Stars	$\sim 10^9$ m	Convection currents
Galaxies	$\sim 10^{20}$ m	Spiral arms
Cosmic web	$\sim 10^{24}$ m	Filaments

Table 1: Self-similar torus structures across scales

Fractal dimension: $D_f = 3 - \xi \approx 2.9998666$

First Parallel

Both systems show ****fractal self-similarity****: Each large structure contains smaller versions following the same geometric principle.

Mathematically: Similar fractal dimensions!

- Cortex: $D \approx 2.75$
- Universe: $D \approx 2.9998666$

2.2 Parallel 2: Surface Maximization

2.2.1 Brain

Problem: How to pack ~ 16 billion neurons into a skull of ~ 1.3 liters?

Solution: Folding maximizes surface area!

$$\text{Smooth sphere} \rightarrow A = 4\pi r^2 \approx 600 \text{ cm}^2 \quad (1)$$

$$\text{Folded cortex} \rightarrow A \approx 2400 \text{ cm}^2 \quad (2)$$

Factor 4 more surface area through folding at same volume!

2.2.2 T0 Universe

Problem: How to pack maximum energy density into minimum space without singularities?

Solution: Torus folding!

For a torus:

$$\text{Surface area : } A = 4\pi^2 Rr \quad (3)$$

$$\text{Volume : } V = 2\pi^2 Rr^2 \quad (4)$$

$$\text{Ratio : } \frac{A}{V} = \frac{2}{r} \quad (5)$$

The smaller r (tube radius), the ****greater the surface area per volume****!

Limit: $r_{\min} \approx 21\ell_P$ prevents singularity.

Second Parallel

Both systems maximize surface area at minimum volume:

- **Brain:** Maximum neuronal surface area
- **Universe:** Maximum energy density surface area

Both avoid singularities:

- Cortex: Minimum sulcus depth ~ 1 mm (blood supply)
- Universe: Minimum radius $r_{\min} = 21\ell_P$

2.3 Parallel 3: Deep Furrows = High Density

2.3.1 Brain

The ****deepest sulci**** (furrows) of the brain contain the ****densest neuronal connections****:

- **Lateral fissure** (Sylvian fissure): Separation frontal/temporal lobes
 - \rightarrow Language centers (Broca, Wernicke)
 - \rightarrow Highest cognitive density!
- **Central sulcus:** Motor/sensory cortex
 - \rightarrow Direct body control
 - \rightarrow Maximum information density

Principle: Deep folds \leftrightarrow high functional importance

2.3.2 T0 Universe

The ****deepest folds**** of the torus geometry (regions with negative Gaussian curvature) correspond to ****highest mass densities****:

Gaussian curvature of torus:

$$K(\theta) = \frac{\cos \theta}{r(R + r \cos \theta)} \quad (6)$$

Outside ($\theta \approx \pi$): $K < 0 \rightarrow$ **Negative curvature**

Here we find in T0 theory:

- Galaxy cores
- Supermassive black holes
- Supercluster nodes
- Filament intersection points

Third Parallel

Deep furrows = High density

Brain	Universe (T0)
Deepest sulci	Negative curvature ($K < 0$)
↓	↓
Densest neuronal connections	Highest mass density
↓	↓
Maximum information	Maximum energy

2.4 Parallel 4: Singularity Avoidance

2.4.1 Brain

The cortex cannot fold ****arbitrarily deep****:

Limitations:

1. **Blood supply**: Deep sulci need capillaries
2. **Mechanical stability**: Too thin walls collapse
3. **Minimum thickness**: $\sim 1.5 - 4$ mm (gray/white matter)
 \Rightarrow Minimum curvature radii prevent "singularities"

2.4.2 T0 Universe

The fractal dimension $D_f = 3 - \xi$ prevents collapse:

In perfect 3D space ($D = 3$): Torus could shrink to $r \rightarrow 0$ (singularity!)

With $D_f = 3 - \xi$: Minimum tube radius

$$r_{\min} \propto \frac{\ell_P}{\xi^{1/3}} \approx 21 \times \ell_P \approx 3.4 \times 10^{-34} \text{ m} \quad (7)$$

Meaning: Space itself prevents singularities through its fractal structure!

Fourth Parallel

Both systems avoid singularities through natural minimum curvature radii:

- **Brain:** $r_{\min} \sim 1 \text{ mm}$ (biological)
- **Universe:** $r_{\min} \sim 21\ell_P$ (geometrical)

The folding maximizes surface area, ****without collapsing into singularities****!

2.5 Parallel 5: Static + Dynamic

2.5.1 Brain

Structure: Materially ****static****

- Neurons don't move
- Cortex architecture is fixed
- Anatomy remains constant

Function: Electrically ****dynamic****

- Action potentials propagate
- Synapses fire
- Information flows

2.5.2 T0 Universe

Structure: The universe is ****static****

- No Big Bang
- No cosmic expansion
- 4D torsion crystal is timeless

Dynamics: Energy flows are ****dynamic****

- Photons propagate
- Torsion waves travel
- Energy circulates in torus

Redshift: Arises not from expansion, but from:

$$z \approx \xi \cdot \ln \left(\frac{d}{\ell_P} \right) \quad (8)$$

Fractal energy loss along the folds!

Fifth Parallel**Static base structure, dynamic flows:**

	Brain	Universe (T0)
Material/Structure	Static	Static
Information/Energy	Dynamic	Dynamic
Surface/Space	Folded	Folded (torus)

2.6 Parallel 6: Hierarchical Processing**2.6.1 Brain**

Neuronal information processing is ****hierarchical****:

1. **Level 1:** Receptors (retina, cochlea)
 2. **Level 2:** Primary sensory areas (V1, A1)
 3. **Level 3:** Secondary areas (V2, V4)
 4. **Level 4:** Association cortex
 5. **Level 5:** Prefrontal cortex (executive function)
- Each level extracts more abstract features!

2.6.2 T0 Universe

Torsion structures are nested across scales:

1. **Sub-Planck:** $\Lambda_0 \sim 10^{-39}$ m – Fundamental granulation
 2. **Planck:** $\ell_P \sim 10^{-35}$ m – Quantum gravity
 3. **Particles:** $\sim 10^{-15}$ m – Protons, leptons
 4. **Atoms:** $\sim 10^{-10}$ m – Electron shells
 5. **Stars:** $\sim 10^9$ m – Convection torus
 6. **Galaxies:** $\sim 10^{20}$ m – Spiral arms
 7. **Cosmic:** $\sim 10^{24}$ m – Filament network
- Each scale is a torus, ****embedded in larger tori****!

Sixth Parallel**Hierarchical information processing:**

- **Brain:** Neural networks on different abstraction levels

- **Universe:** Nested torus vortices from Planck to Hubble
Both are **fractally layered**!

2.7 Parallel 7: Topological Invariance

2.7.1 Brain

The cortex is topologically a **torus**!

Why?

- Cerebral hemispheres are connected by the **corpus callosum**
- The ventricular system forms a **central hole**
- Genus = 1 (one hole)

Mathematically: The folded cortex can be continuously deformed into a torus!

2.7.2 T0 Universe

The fundamental structure is a **4D torus**:

$$\mathcal{M} = \mathbb{R}^3 \times S_{\text{comp}}^1 \quad (9)$$

Properties:

- 3 spatial + 1 compact dimension
- Genus = 1 (one hole)
- Poloidal + toroidal circulation

Seventh Parallel

Both have the same topology: Torus (Genus = 1)

This is not a metaphor, but **mathematical identity**:

- Cortex: Topologically equivalent to torus
- Universe: Fundamental 4D torus

The topology is **invariant** under folding!

2.8 Parallel 8: Energy Efficiency

2.8.1 Brain

The brain is **extremely energy efficient**:

- Power: ~ 20 Watts

- Operations: $\sim 10^{16}$ synapses/second
- Efficiency: $\sim 10^{-15}$ Joules per operation

Reason: Folding minimizes wiring (axons) with maximum connectivity!

Principle: Minimize

$$E_{\text{total}} = E_{\text{wiring}} + E_{\text{volume}} \quad (10)$$

\Rightarrow Solution: Folded surface!

2.8.2 T0 Universe

The torus minimizes energy for given topology:

$$E_{\text{total}} = E_{\text{surface}} + E_{\text{curvature}} + E_{\text{rotation}} \quad (11)$$

Variational calculus shows: For constant flux and angular momentum, the torus is the ****most stable form****!

The fractal dimension $D_f = 3 - \xi$ means:

- Energy experiences "resistance" when flowing
- Torus is the path of ****least resistance****

Eighth Parallel

Both systems optimize energy:

- **Brain:** Minimum wiring, maximum function
- **Universe:** Minimum energy, maximum stability

The folding is the ****solution to a variational problem****!

2.9 Parallel 9: Asymmetry as Function

2.9.1 Brain

The brain is ****asymmetric****:

- **Left hemisphere:** Language, logic, sequential
 - **Right hemisphere:** Spatial, holistic, parallel
- This asymmetry is ****functional****, not a defect!
- Folding pattern:** Left and right different
- Left Sylvian fissure: Deeper (language center)
 - Right parietal lobe: Larger (spatiality)

2.9.2 T0 Universe

The universe shows **intrinsic asymmetry**:

- **CMB dipole**: Preference direction in cosmic microwave background
- **Cosmic flows**: Large-scale movements
- **Two-dipole model**: Fundamental asymmetry of the “global fold”
In T0 theory: This asymmetry is **not a bug, but a feature**!
It arises from **pentagonal symmetry breaking** by the golden ratio φ :

$$\xi = \frac{4}{30000}$$

with factor 5φ in the structure

(12)

Ninth Parallel	
Asymmetry is functional:	
Brain	Universe (T0)
Left vs. right hemisphere	CMB dipole, cosmic flows
Functional specialization	Global asymmetry of fold
Emerges from development	Emerges from φ -breaking

3 Why is this more than a metaphor?

3.1 Mathematical Precision

The parallels are **quantitative**:

Property	Brain	Universe (T0)
Fractal dimension	$D \approx 2.75$	$D_f = 3 - \xi \approx 2.9998666$
Topological genus	1 (torus)	1 (4D torus)
Surface gain	$\times 4$	$\propto 1/r_{\min}$
Minimum radius	$\sim 1\text{ mm}$	$21\ell_P$
Hierarchy levels	$\sim 5 - 6$	> 60

Table 2: Quantitative parallels

3.2 Universal Optimization Principle

Both solve the same problem through ****the same geometric strategy****:

Maximize $\frac{\text{Surface (Information)}}{\text{Volume (Space)}}$
under the constraint:
No singularities!

3.3 Information is Geometry

The deepest insight:

Information = Geometry

Information is not abstract, but geometrically encoded!

Brain:

- Neuronal information \leftrightarrow folding structure
- More surface = more synapses = more information

Universe:

- Physical information \leftrightarrow torsion structure
- More windings = more energy = more information

The metaphor shows: ****Geometry IS Information****!

4 The Narrative Power

4.1 Why brain instead of other metaphors?

There are many folded systems (paper, fabric, intestine, ...). Why is the ****brain**** so fitting?

Why brain?

1. Consciousness and cosmos:

The brain is the most complex known object in the universe. The metaphor suggests: The universe itself might have a form of "consciousness" – not in an anthropomorphic sense, but as a ****self-organizing information system****.

2. Micro-macro unity:

The smallest conscious system (brain, ~ 1 kg) and the largest system (universe, $\sim 10^{53}$ kg) follow **the same geometric principles**! This is the radical message of T0 theory: **Self-similarity over 60 orders of magnitude**.

3. Emergence and complexity:

From simple folding rules (torus geometry) emerges incredible complexity:

- Brain: ~ 86 billion neurons, $\sim 10^{14}$ synapses
- Universe: $\sim 10^{80}$ particles, cosmic web

Both are **more than the sum of their parts**!

4.2 The holographic principle

The brain folding metaphor connects with the **holographic principle**:

Holography

Holographic principle: The information of a volume is encoded on its surface.

Brain: The ~ 2 mm thin cortex **surface** contains all cognitive information – the underlying volume (white matter) is only wiring!

Universe (T0): The torsion **surface** (4D hypersurface) encodes all physical information – the “volume” is emergent!

Folding maximizes surface \Rightarrow maximizes information!