From Catharsis to Geometric Bayesianism: RSVP and the Demise of the Hydraulic Model of Emotion

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August 18, 2025

Abstract

This paper critiques the catharsis model of emotion, a Freudian-derived hydraulic metaphor that posits emotional expression as a release of pent-up psychic pressure. We argue this model is theoretically incoherent, as indulging emotions like sadness or anger amplifies their persistence through feedback loops, not dissipation. We propose a field-theoretic alternative: the Relativistic Scalar Vector Plenum (RSVP) model, integrated with Geometric Bayesianism with Sparse Heuristics (GBSH). Emotions emerge as attractor basins in a constrained inference geometry, shaped by metabolic sparsity and comparative reference frames. This framework elucidates why catharsis fails, why reframing alters valence without escalating arousal, and why personality "traits" are dynamic environmental averages rather than fixed essences. We extend the model to linguistic gender evolution and the emergence of Boolean logic, demonstrating broader applicability. A comprehensive mathematical appendix and testable predictions ground the synthesis in empirical rigor.

1 Introduction

These discrepancies highlight a critical need for a dynamic, biologically grounded model of emotion that transcends static metaphors. The Relativistic Scalar Vector Plenum (RSVP) model, coupled with Geometric Bayesianism with Sparse Heuristics (GBSH), offers such an alternative. RSVP conceptualizes cognition as interactions among scalar (capacity), vector (flow), and entropy fields, drawing inspiration from physics and systems theory. GBSH extends this by embedding inference in a geometric manifold, where sparsity arises from metabolic constraints, aligning with Bayesian predictive coding but tailored to biological realities. Together, they reframe emotions as emergent attractors, not reservoirs, and reveal catharsis as a feedback-driven amplification process.

To engage with this framework, readers should be familiar with partial differential equations (PDEs) for modeling spatiotemporal dynamics, Lyapunov stability for dissipative systems, and basic information geometry for manifold-based inference. Key prerequisites include vector calculus (gradients, divergences, Laplacians), linear algebra for eigenvalue analysis, and optimization theory (e.g., Karush-Kuhn-Tucker conditions). We provide intuitive explanations to bridge formal mathematics with conceptual understanding, ensuring accessibility.

The paper is structured as follows: Section 2 critiques catharsis with empirical and theoretical depth; Section 3 presents the RSVP model with detailed dynamics; Section 4 elaborates GBSH and sparsity; Section 5 explores comparative affect; Section 6 lists testable predictions; Section 7 extends to linguistic and logical domains; Section 8 discusses practical implications; Section 9 concludes with a synthesis.

2 Critique of Catharsis

2.1 Preamble

The catharsis hypothesis, deeply rooted in Freudian psychoanalysis, posits that emotions are akin to fluids under pressure within a closed psychic system. Expressing emotions—through crying, shouting, or physical acts—allegedly releases this pressure, restoring psychological balance. This hydraulic metaphor, popularized through Freud's work on hysteria and the "talking cure" [Douglas, 1966], has permeated cultural narratives, evident in self-help advice to "let it all out" or therapeutic practices encouraging emotional expression. However, this model faces significant challenges when scrutinized through modern cognitive science and dynamical systems theory.

Empirical studies reveal that cathartic behaviors often exacerbate negative emotions. For example, research on anger expression shows that venting can increase aggressive behavior and physiological arousal, suggesting a feedback loop rather than a release [Brown, 1988]. Similarly, rumination on sadness, often encouraged as a form of catharsis, strengthens negative thought patterns by reinforcing attentional biases, prolonging distress rather than alleviating it. These findings demand a reevaluation of catharsis, not as a benign misconception but as a potentially harmful misdiagnosis of emotional dynamics.

In the RSVP framework, emotions are not static quantities but emergent attractor states in a dissipative field. "Venting" does not drain a reservoir; it injects energy that re-excites the same dynamical modes, deepening their stability and extending their duration. This perspective aligns with control theory, where feedback loops can amplify perturbations rather than dampen them. Catharsis is thus not entirely false but a mislabeling: what feels like "release" is often a transient shift in flux (e.g., dominance), while arousal remains elevated.

2.2 Mathematical Background

To understand this critique, familiarity with feedback systems is essential. In dynamical systems, feedback can lead to bifurcations—qualitative changes in behavior, such as the onset of oscillations (Hopf bifurcation). Phase portraits, which map system trajectories, help visualize attractors. Prerequisites include basic differential equations and stability analysis (e.g., Jacobian eigenvalues).

2.3 Natural Language Explanation

Imagine emotions as whirlpools in a river (the cognitive field). Catharsis assumes that stirring the water (expressing emotion) will calm the whirlpool. Instead, stirring adds energy, making the whirlpool stronger. RSVP models this as energy injection into an attractor basin, not a release from a tank. By contrast, changing how you view the river—say, by redirecting your focus—can shift the whirlpool's nature without adding energy, offering a safer way to manage emotions.

3 RSVP Field-Theoretic Framework

3.1 Preamble

The Relativistic Scalar Vector Plenum (RSVP) model offers a dynamic alternative to traditional psychological models by treating cognition and emotion as emergent properties of interacting fields. Unlike trait-based theories (e.g., Big Five) or hydraulic models, RSVP draws from physics, where

phenomena arise from local interactions across space and time. This approach accommodates diverse cognitive phenotypes—such as affect-silent individuals who experience emotions behaviorally but not phenomenally—without relying on fixed categories.

The model posits three fields: a scalar field for capacity, a vector field for directional flow, and an entropy field for uncertainty. These interact to produce emotional states as metastable attractors, akin to stable patterns in fluid dynamics. By formalizing emotions as field configurations, RSVP avoids the reductionism of trait theories and the oversimplification of catharsis.

3.2 Mathematical Background

PDEs govern spatiotemporal dynamics, common in physics (e.g., Navier-Stokes for fluids). Lyapunov functionals assess system stability, ensuring trajectories converge to low-energy states. Prerequisites: vector calculus, functional analysis, and boundary value problems.

3.3 Formulation

Define fields over $\Omega \subset \mathbb{R}^3$, with boundary Γ:
- Scalar capacity $\Phi(\mathbf{x}, t)$: Potential for action or resource allocation. - Vector flow $\mathbf{v}(\mathbf{x}, t)$: Attentional or behavioral flux. - Entropy density $S(\mathbf{x}, t)$: Local uncertainty.

Dynamics (noise-free for clarity):

$$\partial_t \Phi + \mathbf{v} \cdot \nabla \Phi = D_\Phi \Delta \Phi - \lambda_\Phi (\Phi - \Phi^\star), \tag{1}$$

$$\partial_t \mathbf{v} + (\mathbf{v} \cdot \nabla)\mathbf{v} = -\nabla(\Phi + \psi) + \nu \Delta \mathbf{v} - \gamma \mathbf{v} + \mathbf{u}, \tag{2}$$

$$\partial_t S = D_S \Delta S + \eta \|\nabla \mathbf{v}\|^2 + \chi \|\nabla \Phi\|^2 - \rho(S - S^\star). \tag{3}$$

Parameters: $D_\Phi, D_S, \nu, \lambda_\Phi, \gamma, \rho, \eta, \chi > 0$; $\Phi^\star, S^\star$ are set-points; ψ is external influence; $\mathbf{u}$ is control input.

Free-energy functional:

$$F = \int_\Omega \left(\frac{\alpha}{2} \|\nabla \Phi\|^2 + \frac{\beta}{2} \|\mathbf{v}\|^2 + U(S) - \kappa \Phi S \right) d\mathbf{x}, \quad U''(S) > 0.$$

Proposition 1 (Dissipativity). *Under no-flux boundaries ($\mathbf{v} \cdot \mathbf{n} = 0$, $\nabla \Phi \cdot \mathbf{n} = 0$), $\dot{F} \leq 0$.*

Order parameters on Ω_a:
- Arousal: $A(t) = \langle \eta \|\nabla \mathbf{v}\|^2 + \chi \|\nabla \Phi\|^2 \rangle_{\Omega_a}$. - Valence: $V(t) = \frac{\langle \mathbf{v} \cdot \nabla \Phi \rangle_{\Omega_a}}{\sqrt{\langle \|\mathbf{v}\|^2 \rangle_{\Omega_a} \langle \|\nabla \Phi\|^2 \rangle_{\Omega_a}}} \in [-1, 1]$. - Dominance: $D(t) = \frac{1}{|\Gamma_a|} \int_{\Gamma_a} \mathbf{v} \cdot \mathbf{n} \, dS$.

Lemma 1 (Boundedness). $A \geq 0$, $V \in [-1, 1]$, $|D| \leq \sup \|\mathbf{v}\|$.

3.4 Natural Language Explanation

Think of the mind as a landscape where emotions are valleys (attractors). The fields describe how energy, movement, and chaos interact. Arousal measures how turbulent the landscape is, valence checks if movements align with goals, and dominance tracks whether the system is expanding or contracting. Unlike a tank that empties, emotions here are patterns that persist or shift based on how the landscape is shaped.

4 Geometric Bayesianism with Sparse Heuristics (GBSH)

4.1 Preamble

GBSH extends RSVP by framing cognition as inference on a geometric manifold, where decisions are made under metabolic constraints. Traditional Bayesian models assume exhaustive computation, but biological systems operate with limited energy, favoring sparse, heuristic-based strategies. GBSH aligns with predictive coding while incorporating physical realities like ATP costs, making it a bridge between neuroscience and information theory.

4.2 Mathematical Background

Information geometry uses Riemannian metrics to describe statistical manifolds. Optimization under constraints (KKT) models resource-limited systems. Prerequisites: Differential geometry, Lagrange multipliers.

4.3 Formulation

Embed RSVP states $\xi = (\Phi, \mathbf{v}, S)$ in manifold M with metric $G(\xi)$ (e.g., Fisher information). Inference is geodesic descent: $\dot{\xi} = -\nabla_G F$.

Control $\mathbf{u} = \sum z_i \mathbf{e}_i$, budget $E_u = \sum \int z_i^2 dt \leq B$.

Corollary 1 (KKT Sparsity). *Lagrangian $L = -\sum z_i g_i + \lambda(\sum z_i^2 - b)$, $g_i = \nabla F^\top \mathbf{e}_i$, yields $z_i = g_i/(2\lambda)$. High-$|g_i|$ modes dominate.*

4.4 Natural Language Explanation

Imagine navigating a hilly landscape with limited energy. You can't explore every path, so you choose a few key routes that promise the most reward. GBSH models the brain as picking efficient paths (heuristics) based on energy costs, making decisions sparse but effective.

5 Comparative Relativity of Affect

5.1 Preamble

Emotions are not absolute but depend on how we compare situations to alternatives. A rainy day feels sad if you expected sunshine but pleasant if you feared a storm. RSVP–GBSH captures this through reference-tilted free energy, showing why reframing is effective and catharsis is not.

5.2 Mathematical Background

Bifurcation theory (e.g., Hopf) explains dynamic shifts; prospect theory informs reference dependence. Prerequisites: Eigenvalue analysis, decision theory.

5.3 Formulation

Valence: $V \propto E[U|\theta] - U^\star$. Tilt: $F_{\text{ref}} = F - \langle \theta, C \rangle$.

Lemma 2 (Reference-Tilt). *Shifting θ alters $\nabla \Phi_{\text{eff}}$, changing V without affecting A.*

This is like adjusting baselines in prospect theory [Goody, 1977].

Catharsis: $\mathbf{u}_{\text{cat}} = k\mathbf{e}_A$. Reduced dynamics:

$$\dot{a} = \mu a - \omega r - \xi a^3 + k, \quad \dot{r} = \omega a + \mu r - \xi r^3.$$

Corollary 2 (Hopf Feedback). *For $k > k_c$, a Hopf bifurcation induces oscillatory A, prolonging dwell.*

5.4   Natural Language Explanation

Reframing is like adjusting your map to see a new path out of a valley, avoiding extra energy. Venting, however, is like spinning in place, making the valley deeper and harder to escape.

6   Predictions

1. **Anti-catharsis**: Venting increases A dwell time; reframing shifts V faster [Brown, 1988].

2. **Reference dependence**: Baseline shifts flip V, measurable via EEG/HRV.

3. **Budget sparsity**: Load reduces actuation rank, observable in task performance.

4. **Hopf signature**: Spectral peaks in A during emotional build-up.

7   Extensions: Linguistic Gender and Boolean Logic

7.1   Preamble

The RSVP–GBSH framework extends to linguistic and logical domains, illustrating how dynamic principles govern not just emotions but also cultural and intellectual evolution. Classifier systems in early languages, which categorize nouns by affordances (e.g., small-round, alive), compress under communicative and cultural pressures, eventually stabilizing binary schemas that underpin Boolean logic [Aikhenvald, 2000, Boole, 1854].

7.2   Formulation

Classifiers map nouns to features; gender is a compressed code $G(n) \in \{1, \ldots, K\}$. Objective:

$$J = E[\ell(Y|G)] + \beta I(G; X) + \lambda \text{MDL}(G) + \mu E\left[\int \|\mathbf{u}\|^2 dt\right] - \psi_{\text{bin}} \Phi_{\text{bin}}.$$

Cultural narratives (e.g., Genesis Rabba) impose ψ_{bin}, driving $K \to 2$. Hysteresis stabilizes bivalence, leading over 1400 years to Boolean algebra [Gen, 400, Boole, 1854].

7.3   Natural Language Explanation

Languages start with many categories, like sorting objects by shape or use. Over time, social pressures simplify these into a few, then just two (e.g., male/female), reinforced by stories like Noah's Ark. This binary thinking becomes the foundation for true/false logic [Kneale and Kneale, 1962].

8 Practical Implications

8.1 Preamble

The RSVP–GBSH model offers transformative insights for clinical psychology, artificial intelligence, linguistic studies, education, and cross-cultural research. By rejecting catharsis and emphasizing attractor dynamics, it suggests practical strategies for emotional regulation, system design, and societal understanding.

Clinical Applications Therapists can prioritize reframing over expression, using techniques like cognitive behavioral therapy (CBT) to adjust θ, shifting valence without escalating arousal [Douglas, 1966]. For affect-silent phenotypes ($g_I \approx 0$), external tools (e.g., biofeedback) can compensate, tailoring interventions for alexithymia or aphantasia.

AI and Computational Design Sparse heuristics inform efficient neural architectures, mimicking biological constraints. By limiting actuation rank, AI systems can achieve robust performance under energy budgets, applicable to robotics and autonomous agents.

Linguistic and Logical Insights In linguistics, the model predicts how classifier compression under cultural tilts leads to gender systems, with implications for typology [Aikhenvald, 2000]. Logically, binary entrenchment explains Boolean formalization, informing philosophy of mind [Boole, 1854].

Educational Strategies Teaching comparative thinking—adjusting reference frames—can foster emotional resilience, reducing reliance on cathartic outbursts. Curricula emphasizing dynamic models may enhance critical thinking, aligning with Goody [1977]'s insights on cognitive structuring.

Cross-Cultural Insights Classifier-rich languages (e.g., Bantu) may correlate with graded emotional expressions, while binary-dominant cultures (e.g., Abrahamic) emphasize dichotomous affect, influencing therapeutic approaches [Aikhenvald, 2000]. Comparative studies can validate these predictions.

8.2 Natural Language Explanation

In therapy, instead of yelling to feel better, try seeing a situation differently—it's like choosing a new path instead of digging deeper. In AI, systems should think like brains, picking efficient shortcuts. In schools, teaching kids to compare perspectives can prevent emotional spirals. Across cultures, how we categorize the world shapes how we feel.

9 Conclusion

The catharsis model, a vestige of Freudian hydraulics, fails to capture the dynamic nature of emotions, promoting amplification over resolution [Douglas, 1966]. RSVP–GBSH offers a robust alternative, framing emotions as attractor basins shaped by sparse, geometric inference. This symmetry extends to linguistic and logical evolution, where compression mirrors emotional dynamics. Future research should test predictions via neuroimaging and corpora analysis, bridging theory to practice.

A   Mathematical Appendix

This appendix provides rigorous derivations, proofs, and numerical outlines for the RSVP–GBSH framework. Throughout, we assume smoothness and compactness of the domain $\Omega \subset \mathbb{R}^d$ with appropriate boundary conditions (Dirichlet/Neumann) ensuring integration by parts is valid.

A.1 Dissipativity Proof

We define the free energy functional

$$F[\Phi, \mathbf{v}, S] = \int_\Omega \left(\frac{\alpha}{2} \|\nabla\Phi\|^2 + \frac{\beta}{2} \|\mathbf{v}\|^2 + U(S) - \kappa\Phi S \right) d\mathbf{x},$$

where $\alpha, \beta, \kappa > 0$ are coupling parameters and $U(S)$ is convex with $U''(S) \geq 0$.

Differentiating in time and substituting the governing PDEs (1)–(3), integration by parts yields

$$\frac{dF}{dt} = -D_\Phi \|\Delta\Phi\|^2 - \nu\|\nabla\mathbf{v}\|^2 - \rho\|S - S^\star\|^2 - \int_\Omega \Theta(S)\, d\mathbf{x},$$

where $\Theta(S) \geq 0$ is the entropy production density.

Hence,

$$\frac{dF}{dt} \leq 0,$$

so F is a Lyapunov functional certifying global dissipativity.

A.2 Boundedness Lemmas

Lemma A.2.1 (Arousal). Define the arousal functional

$$\sigma = \eta\|\nabla\mathbf{v}\|^2 + \chi\|\nabla\Phi\|^2.$$

Since $\eta, \chi \geq 0$, $\sigma \geq 0$ holds trivially. *Proof:* Both terms are squared norms. □

Lemma A.2.2 (Valence). Let valence V be defined by

$$V = \frac{\langle \Phi, S \rangle}{\|\Phi\|\, \|S\|}.$$

By the Cauchy–Schwarz inequality, $|V| \leq 1$. □

Lemma A.2.3 (Dominance). For dominance $D = \oint_{\partial\Omega} \mathbf{n} \cdot \mathbf{v}\, dS$, the divergence theorem gives

$$|D| \leq \|\nabla \cdot \mathbf{v}\|_{L^1(\Omega)} \leq \mathrm{Vol}(\Omega)\, \|\nabla\mathbf{v}\|_\infty.$$

Thus dominance is bounded by the maximal flow gradient. □

A.3 Hopf Bifurcation for Catharsis

Consider a reduced two-mode system

$$\dot{a} = \mu a - \xi a^3 - \omega b, \qquad \dot{b} = \omega a,$$

with equilibrium $(a^\star, b^\star) = (0, 0)$.

Linearization yields Jacobian

$$J = \begin{pmatrix} \mu & -\omega \\ \omega & 0 \end{pmatrix}.$$

Eigenvalues satisfy $\lambda^2 - \mu\lambda + \omega^2 = 0$.

Thus

$$\Re\lambda = \frac{\mu}{2}.$$

At $\mu = 0$ a Hopf bifurcation occurs. Nonlinear terms $-\xi a^3$ stabilize amplitude at

$$|a| \sim \sqrt{\frac{\mu}{\xi}}, \qquad \mu > 0.$$

Interpretation: cathartic oscillations emerge when system gain μ crosses criticality, increasing dwell time in recurrent affective loops.

A.4 KKT Sparsity

Consider optimization of excitation modes $x \in \mathbb{R}^n$:

$$\min_x \tfrac{1}{2}\|Ax - b\|^2 \quad \text{s.t.} \quad \sum_i c_i|x_i| \leq B,$$

with budget $B > 0$.

The Lagrangian is

$$\mathcal{L}(x, \lambda) = \tfrac{1}{2}\|Ax - b\|^2 + \lambda\left(\sum_i c_i|x_i| - B\right).$$

KKT conditions imply

$$A^\top(Ax - b) + \lambda c_i \operatorname{sgn}(x_i) = 0,$$

with complementary slackness.

For large λ, many x_i must vanish, enforcing sparsity. This mirrors emotional mode selection under energetic budget constraints.

A.5 Reference–Tilt

Introduce a tilt perturbation $\delta h(\mathbf{x})$ in Φ:

$$\Phi' = \Phi + \delta h, \qquad \nabla\Phi' = \nabla\Phi + \nabla\delta h.$$

The effective gradient of valence shifts as

$$V' = \frac{\langle \Phi + \delta h, S\rangle}{\|\Phi + \delta h\|\,\|S\|}.$$

If δh is orthogonal to Φ, V tilts without altering dissipation terms, demonstrating modulation of appraisal by reference-frame bias.

A.6 Numerical Simulation Outline

We outline a minimal 1D discretization scheme:

1. Domain: $x \in [0, L]$, mesh with N points, $\Delta x = L/N$.

2. Fields: $\Phi(x,t), v(x,t), S(x,t)$ updated by finite differences.

3. Time stepping: explicit RK4 with Δt satisfying CFL condition.

4. Parameters: $\mu = -0.1$, $\omega = 1$, $\xi = 0.1$, $D_\Phi = 0.01$, $\nu = 0.05$.

5. Protocol: increase μ slowly from negative to positive across criticality.

6. Observable: amplitude $A(t) = \sqrt{\langle \Phi^2 + v^2 \rangle}$.

Expected outcome: - For $\mu < 0$, trajectories decay to equilibrium. - At $\mu = 0$, oscillations emerge with frequency ω. - For $\mu > 0$, stable limit cycle confirms Hopf bifurcation (cathartic oscillations).

A.7 Topological Invariants

Beyond dissipativity and bifurcation structure, the RSVP–GBSH framework admits topological invariants that guarantee qualitative persistence of emotional field dynamics across parameter variations.

Definition A.7.1 (Emotional Phase Space). Let $\mathcal{M} = \{(\Phi, \mathbf{v}, S)\}$ be the state manifold with energy functional F from (A.1). Trajectories are continuous flows $\varphi_t : \mathcal{M} \to \mathcal{M}$.

Invariant 1: Winding Number. In reduced (a, b) coordinates (A.3), define the complex amplitude $z = a + ib$. Then the limit cycle γ has winding number

$$w(\gamma) = \frac{1}{2\pi i} \oint_\gamma \frac{dz}{z}.$$

This integer invariant ensures cathartic oscillations remain topologically locked even under perturbations of μ, ω provided the cycle does not collapse to equilibrium.

Invariant 2: Morse Index. For equilibria $x^\star \in \mathcal{M}$, the Morse index $\mathrm{ind}(x^\star)$ counts unstable directions (positive eigenvalues of Jacobian J). Under generic perturbations, $\mathrm{ind}(x^\star)$ changes only at bifurcations. Thus emotional attractor basins retain their stability type until critical transitions.

Invariant 3: Entropy Flux Degree. Define entropy flux form $\omega_S = *dS$ on Ω, with Hodge dual $*$. The integral

$$Q = \int_{\partial \Omega} \omega_S$$

defines a conserved degree class in $H^{d-1}(\Omega; \mathbb{Z})$, counting net entropy sources vs. sinks. Emotional regulation corresponds to homotopies that redistribute but do not alter Q.

Theorem A.7.1 (Persistence). If trajectories remain in a compact subset of $\mathcal{M}$ avoiding singularities, then winding number $w(\gamma)$, Morse index $\mathrm{ind}(x^\star)$, and entropy flux degree Q are invariant under smooth deformations of system parameters.

Proof sketch. Winding number and degree are homotopy invariants of closed curves and cochains. Morse index is stable under perturbations until an eigenvalue crosses zero (bifurcation). Hence invariance follows. □

Interpretation. These invariants formalize the persistence of affective regimes: - Cathartic oscillations are phase-locked loops (winding number). - Appraisal equilibria retain their qualitative stability (Morse index). - Global entropy balance is conserved modulo discrete degree (entropy flux).

Thus, even as numerical parameters shift or noise perturbs dynamics, the structural skeleton of emotional fields is topologically robust.

A.8 Classifier Collapse and Boolean Reduction

The topological invariants outlined in A.7 can be reinterpreted in light of the historical-linguistic trajectory from classifier-rich grammars to binary gender and ultimately Boolean logic.

Classifier Fields. Suppose the emotional-plenum manifold $\mathcal{M}$ supports n classifier modes $\{C_i\}_{i=1}^n$ (e.g. animate, round, flowing, meteorological, edible, lithic). Each mode corresponds to a distinct equilibrium basin with Morse index $\mathrm{ind}(C_i)$. The sum of indices across modes is constrained by the Poincaré–Hopf theorem.

Collapse Dynamics. Through narrative and cultural constraints (e.g. biblical dualities such as Noah's Ark), multiple classifier modes undergo a homotopy that merges their basins. Topologically, this corresponds to a reduction in the number of isolated attractors, while preserving the global degree Q of entropy flux.

Formally, if initially $\sum_i \mathrm{ind}(C_i) = K$, then successive homotopies induce mergers $C_i \cup C_j \mapsto C_{ij}$, reducing the total count. At equilibrium, the system admits two dominant basins, C_{male} and C_{female}, each with $\mathrm{ind} = 1$.

Boolean Emergence. The binary opposition $\{C_{\text{male}}, C_{\text{female}}\}$ induces a two-valued algebra $\mathbb{B} = \{0, 1\}$ with logical operations realized by classifier transitions. Invariant winding number ensures oscillatory transitions remain locked within this binary domain, while Morse index stability guarantees that once the collapse occurs, the binary opposition is structurally preserved under parameter shifts.

Historical Interpretation. - In oral languages with rich classifier systems, emotional and semantic fields map to a high-dimensional attractor landscape ($n \gg 2$). - In Classical Greek, the reduction to three genders corresponds to a Morse index contraction from n to 3. - Through narrative consolidation (Adam and Eve, Noah's Ark), the field homotopies collapse to two primary basins, establishing a Boolean skeleton. - Over centuries, this binary skeleton is abstracted into formal propositional logic (Boole, 19th century), inheriting the invariant robustness of binary index structure.

Corollary A.8.1. The historical evolution of grammatical gender systems can be modeled as a sequence of Morse index reductions on classifier fields, culminating in the emergence of Boolean algebra as a topologically stable binary attractor.

B   Appendix 9: Field-Compression-to-Boolean Algorithm

This appendix presents a concrete algorithm for modeling the compression of many classifier fields into a binary (Boolean) structure, suitable for integration with the RSVP–GBSH framework. The method combines gradient descent on an energy functional, entropy-driven homotopy, and periodic merges under a redundancy criterion, culminating in a bistable flip-flop readout.

9.1 Algorithm Specification

Inputs:

- Grid: domain length L, points N, time step Δt, horizon T.
- Initial classifier count K_0 (e.g. 6–12).
- Parameters: $\alpha > 0$ (smoothness), $\gamma \geq 0$ (competition), $\lambda > 0$ (MDL pressure), $\mu > 0$ (processing energy), $\eta > 0$ (descent rate), σ_n (noise).
- Merge settings: interval T_{merge}, redundancy threshold τ.
- Binary tilt schedule: $\psi_{\text{bin}}(t)$.
- Optional affordance direction $d(x)$ for anisotropy (e.g. animacy/sex axis).

State: Classifier probability fields $c_i(x)$, $i = 1, \ldots, K$, defined on grid x_j, with simplex constraint

$$\sum_{i=1}^{K} c_i(x) = 1, \quad c_i(x) \in [0, 1].$$

9.2 Energy Functional

The energy functional is given by

$$F[c] = \sum_{i=1}^{K} \int_{\Omega} \left(\frac{\alpha}{2} \|\nabla c_i\|^2 + W(c_i) \right) dx + \gamma \sum_{i<j} \int_{\Omega} c_i c_j \, dx + \lambda \,\text{MDL}(K, \pi) + \mu \, E_{\text{proc}}(c) - \psi_{\text{bin}}(t) \, \Phi_{\text{bin}}(c),$$

with double-well potential $W(c) = c(1-c)$, global weights $\pi_i = \frac{1}{|\Omega|} \int c_i dx$, and binary-tilt reward

$$\Phi_{\text{bin}}(c) = \max_{B \subset \{1,\ldots,K\}} \sum_{i \in B} \langle c_i, d \rangle - \sum_{i \notin B} \langle c_i, d \rangle.$$

9.3 Procedure

1. **Initialize fields:** Sample $c_i^{(0)}(x) \sim \text{Dirichlet}(\mathbf{1})$, project to simplex, set $K = K_0$, $t = 0$.
2. **Time loop ($t = 0$ to T):**

   (a) Compute variational gradients:

   $$\frac{\delta F}{\delta c_i} = -\alpha \Delta c_i + W'(c_i) + \gamma \sum_{j \neq i} c_j + \mu \frac{\partial E_{\text{proc}}}{\partial c_i} - \psi_{\text{bin}}(t) \frac{\partial \Phi_{\text{bin}}}{\partial c_i}.$$

   (b) Update with gradient descent and noise:

   $$\tilde{c}_i \leftarrow c_i - \eta \frac{\delta F}{\delta c_i} \Delta t + \sigma_n \xi_i, \quad \xi_i \sim \mathcal{N}(0, I).$$

   (c) Project to simplex Δ^K: $c(x) \leftarrow \text{Proj}_{\Delta^K}(\tilde{c}(x))$.
   (d) Update tilt schedule $\psi_{\text{bin}}(t)$.
   (e) Every T_{merge} steps, compute redundancy

   $$R_{ij} = \frac{1}{|\Omega|} \int \min(c_i, c_j) \, dx,$$

   and if $\max R_{ij} > \tau$, merge the pair (p, q) with maximal R_{pq}:

   $$c_{\text{new}} \leftarrow c_p + c_q,$$

   renormalize, set $K \leftarrow K - 1$.

(f) Stop if $K = 2$ and $|F(t + \Delta t) - F(t)| < \varepsilon$.

3. **Boolean readout:** With final two fields c_1, c_2, define

$$b(t) = \mathsf{H}\left(\int_\Omega (c_1 - c_2)\, dx\right) \in \{0, 1\}.$$

For flip-flop dynamics, add small control bias

$$-\epsilon\, u(t) \int_\Omega (c_1 - c_2)\, dx,$$

where $u(t) \in \{-1, 0, +1\}$, toggling only if $|\int (c_1 - c_2)dx| < \theta$.

9.4 Outputs

- Final binary classifier fields (c_1, c_2).
- Boolean state trajectory $b(t)$.
- Merge history of fields.
- Energy trace $F(t)$.

9.5 Suggested Default Parameters (Toy Example)

$$L = 1.0, \quad N = 512, \quad \Delta t = 10^{-2}, \quad T = 5 \times 10^4,$$
$$\alpha = 1.0, \quad \gamma = 0.2, \quad \mu = 0.05, \quad \eta = 0.5, \quad \sigma_n = 10^{-3},$$
$$T_{\text{merge}} = 200, \quad \tau = 0.85, \quad \psi_{\text{bin}}(t) : \text{ramp from 0 to 1},$$
$$\epsilon = 0.01, \quad \theta = 0.05.$$

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