

Human languages differ dramatically from their analogs for animals. Animal languages consist mainly of simple signals, warnings and threats for instance. The emotional expression dominates. There seems to be no grammar. Birds can have repertoire of different song patterns and monkeys have gesture language. There is a huge variety of human languages. One can also regard music as a kind language expressing emotions and creating them. Also pictures define linguistic representations. Children and animals learn speech by mimicry and the grammar and syntax without conscious efforts. Human language is also special in that it involves conceptualization, metaphors, and analogies representing abstract concepts in terms of objects and actions of the external world.

One might understand the semantic aspect of language in terms of association and conditioning. Language acquisition involves showing the object and saying the word describing it. This suggests conditioning and association so that a mere word generates an imagined percept of the object. Conditioning and formation of associations is a very general form of learning assumed to relate to the increase of synaptic strengths leading to a generation of association pathways. In computer science pattern recognition and completion models it mathematically.

Amazingly, only a few point mutations for relatively few genes seems so have led to human languages and transformed biological evolution to cultural evolution? What happened for these genes? In the biochemistry framework it is difficult to imagine an answer to this question. Here TGD could come in rescue.

Number theoretic physics is part of quantum TGD and essential for understanding evolution as an increase of algebraic complexity. Evolutionary hierarchies would correspond to hierarchies of algebraic extensions of rationals. The dimension n of extension defines effective Planck constant $h_{\text{eff}}/h_0=n$. The larger the dimension, the larger the scale of quantum coherence at corresponding layer of magnetic body (MB) associated with the system: n would be analogous to IQ. One can assign a value of h_{eff} characterizing the evolutionary level also to genes. The genes with larger h_{eff} would serve as control genes and the increase of h_{eff} would mean an evolutionary step. Perhaps a dramatic increase of h_{eff} occurred to FOXP2 and some other genes as human language emerged.