

## Signals Theory for Dummies: An AAR/SBL Parable

v.1.10

In the movie *Malcolm X*, when Malcolm is experiencing his conversion and a personal enlightenment, Baines tells Malcolm, “This ain’t no hustle.”

Later turns out Baines tried to destroy Malcolm, calling into question what he had said from the beginning.

Spike Lee thus leaves the viewer with the implicit question: was it all a hustle or not?

I’m sure many of my colleagues are full of doubt right now, and I want to tell you, “This ain’t no hustle. It’s Science.”

Last night my kids and I watched several episodes of the Netflix series *Connected: The Hidden Science of Everything*.

My signals theorem of historical texts, including the gospels, should be on Season 2 of that show. Maybe it will be.

That show points out elegantly that *everything is truly connected*, and that Science shows us this is true.

In the episode *Dust*, Nasser interviews scientists researching all around *and even above the world* showing that decayed algae from the dried lake that used to cover Chad and makes up the top stratum of the Saharan desert—that dust is jetting high into our atmosphere, traveling all around the globe on wind currents, feeding phytoplankton in the Atlantic responsible for removing massive amounts of carbon from the atmosphere, fertilizing the Amazon forests despite their constant depletion from water runoff, causing red tide and destroying fish populations off the coast of Florida... it’s mind-blowing.

The episode *Digits* is just as mind-blowing. Interviews with scientists, forensics experts, and accountants—people who study everything from deep fake images and videos to Russian Twitter bots to urban demographics to music composition to the planets to volcanos to people’s tax returns—show that **Benford’s Law** is *everywhere around us*, part of the deep structure of everything, embedded in the universe itself, *and echoed and seen in and across all authentic human performance*. Again, simply mind-blowing.

Not to sound braggadocious, but my signals theorem of the Gospels was essentially on the same level of scientific discovery. *It connects all interdependent texts across time*.<sup>1</sup>

I was talking with my friend Phil Tite on the phone for a while yesterday. After I explained my signals theorem of the Gospels and related findings to him, he proposed that an AAR/SBL working group be started called “Cascading Christianities” where people adopt my methodology, trace signal creation and synthesizing across texts and traditions, and thus map, identify, and clarify discrete layers/compiler/authors throughout history.

---

<sup>1</sup> Caveat: if my claim of this being a truly new scientific discovery is inaccurate or would benefit from additional nuance, please contact me and I will correct it. I want to be sure to give everyone proper credit for their novel synthetic signals and insights.

I love that idea. I just think it's way too small in scope.

Signals theory *needs to be in every AAR/SBL session and every academic conference* from now on.

Let me spin it up as an AAR/SBL parable.

Let's say that your phone is recording you. Not that far fetched, probably. You're planning to go to an amazing hour-long keynote session by an extraordinary speaker. No cell phones are allowed in the session. It will be officially recorded, but only about half of the recording will be made available afterwards. Your phone records you for an hour before the session and an hour after the session. Let's call the hour before the session Recording 1, the partial recording of the session Recording 2, and the hour after the session Recording 3.

Scientifically speaking, *if the lecture made a significant impact on your thinking and your speaking, even if we have no other evidence of you attending the session and only have half of the recording from the keynote session, a forensic acoustics scientist could still prove that you attended the session—even the portion of the session for which no recording was distributed!—by tracing the synthesized signals in your voice.* You had a pattern of thinking and speaking before the session. You encountered a different pattern of thinking and speaking during the session. And, transformed by the session, *you become a walking and talking synthesis of the session after the session.* Traces of all the ideas and words that deeply impacted you are all over your thinking and speaking. You are changed, and you can't unchange yourself.

The same thing is evident in this very blog post. Forensics signals scientists could, using my writing in this post, prove that I watched the Netflix series *Connected*. Maybe they can't prove that I watched it with my kids last night. But they can prove based on its release date, this time-stamped upload, and *mostly this synthesized summary and application of its contents*, that I did in fact watch that series. The authenticity of my viewing experience comes across in the fact that *this writing is fully in my style*, and *yet, at the same time, evidencing a deep conceptual and linguistic awareness of what I watched and heard.*

To take this a step further and apply this to the *Gospel of Marcion* and the reconstruction of the First Gospel (Q<sup>n</sup>), we just need to spin the AAR/SBL parable a little differently. Let's say that this time, we have an hour-long clean recording from one person from *before* the keynote session (the Gospel of Mark), *only 40 minutes* of a quite degraded recording from the keynote session (the *Gospel of Marcion*), and several hour-long clean recordings of *three different people* after the session (Matthew, John, Luke). We also have a hypothesis that *25 of the 40 minutes of the main keynote session was essentially a repetition of a presentation at a previous conference* (Q<sup>n</sup>), and that 10 minutes came from the keynote speaker chatting with that person who was recorded before the keynote session. Given this scenario of events, a forensic Gospel scientist could demonstrate ***as a matter of scientifically verifiable truth, by tracing the synthesized signals in their voices, that Matthew, John, and Luke all attended the keynote session.*** Not only that, if they really worked at it, ***those scientists could reconstruct significant missing portions of the keynote session recording*** based on the one recording made beforehand and the three recordings made subsequently. That's what [LODLIB 1](#) is all about.

Humans are and *have always been* walking, talking, thinking, speaking synthesizers. Signals tracing is not only good modern forensics science. It is now legitimate historical and textual science.

Once you get this, you can never unlearn it. This truth will be a splinter in your brain and change the way you see and hear everything.

**To be human, to be alive, to be part of the universe is *to be a signals receiver, a signals synthesizer, and a signals emitter.***

If you wish to use this power to enlighten and free yourself and others, see instructions at [LODLIB-2](#) and the [Digital COS-Play Ninja Code Manual](#).

We do not have to be slaves to any Media companies any longer, whether that's Social Media, Television Media, or Academic Publishing.

It is within our power to take back our ownership of our signals.

However interdependent we are on the signals of the past and the signals of others today, it is within our power to become free and creative curators of our signal life.

Disclaimer: above rantings are not representative in any way of said person's employer but are expressly audacious speech-acts of Constitutional Freedom of Speech and Academic Freedom