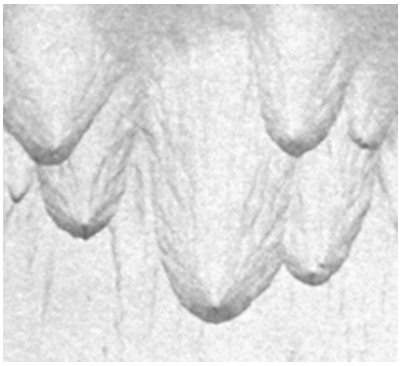
Ein zweiteiliger Leserbrief

Dear Sir,

You have published an article by Dirk Rohde, 'Experiments at Moon-Saturn conjunctions using the capillary dynamolysis method of Lili Kolisko' (Vol. 79, 2002, p. 123–131). An English translation appears in 'Archetype' (No. 10, September 2004) and also on the web at www.anth.org.uk/Science/kolisko.htm.

Rohde gets no forms. Using the mix of iron, silver and lead solutions in much the same way as Kolisko pioneered and as was modified by *Agnes Fyfe* ('Über die Variabilität von Silber-Eisen Steigbildern', Elemente d. N. 6, 1967, pp. 35–43; Fyfe used designed petri dishes and smaller amounts of solutions than had Kolisko), his filter papers lack the very distinctive arrow-shaped forms that will normally 'grow' around seeds of precipitated silver as the solution streams upwards. Readers may like to inspect what these forms should look like on the mentioned website. One can there see the recent (2002) experiments by Guy Desbiolles that well show this nucleation process. In my experience, if the forms don't appear there is little point in doing an experiment. The purpose of these experiments is to investigate the formative-forces associated with silver, the Moon-metal, and these forms on the paper are therefore central. The idea is that they tend to fade away during an experiment conducted through the period before and during a conjuction, so one needs them there to start with.

FIG. 1



There is an old paper by Fyfe which discusses the effect of altering the concentrations or proportions of iron and silver and permit me to suggest that Rohde spends some time doing this to discover the optimal proportions so that the forms appear on his papers. Also I suggest he tries different kinds of filter paper as this is rather crucial.

He is using rather small quantities for an iron-silver-lead experiment: 0.9 ml of the 1% solutions, whereas I suggest he tries 1.5 ml of each. Typically these solutions take 5–20 minutes to start precipitating, as the presence of lead slows down the reaction – for comparison, the iron and silver take 1–5 minutes for this.

Readers may care to note that Rohde's filter paper images are better displayed (in colour) on the website above-mentioned than on paper. Even without the forms, his papers hint at an effect over the Moon-Saturn conjunctions which he has followed. In my experience, this celestial event needs to be followed for a somewhat longer period than the several hours which he has done. In photographs, silver forms images, through colloidal precipitation, and in mirrors silver reflects images. It is impressionable, as the image-forming metal, just as the Moon is connected with dreaming and fantasy: www.skyscript.co.uk/metal.html. Silver's chemistry is very sensitive and it will reflect or manifest cosmic-etheric processes in the changing forms which it builds.

A Golden Reaction

It was the genius of Lili Kolisko to discover a slow silver-precipitation reaction that took several minutes. This produced a visible change on a filter paper. Likewise, there is a golden reaction that takes a similar amount of time, whereby 'purple gold' is formed. Perhaps we should take an interest in this? A solution of gold chloride can be reduced to metallic gold in an alkaline solution: a few drops of gold chloride solution are added to distilled water and some sodium bicarbonate is stirred in. Some formaldehyde is then added and after a few minutes a dusky purple hue develops.

One finds no mention of this in any textbook or website, because experiential chemistry has vanished from our civilisation. The only thing written on the subject which I could find, was by Michael Faraday ('Experimental Relations of gold and other metals to Light'. Philosophical Transactions, 147, Part I, 1857 pp. 145–181). If Kolisko's theory is correct, I wonder if the rate of this reaction would vary over a solar eclipse? I hope to try this one day.

I would be happy to hear any comments over the production of colour-hues in colloidal gold solutions. The 'Purple of Cassius', made from tin and gold, is mentioned in 19th-century chemistry books. Kolisko mentioned it, but I could never make it.

Yours sincerely,
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