



Avogadro's Number

The concept of Avogadro's number is important to understanding the idea of nutritional homeopathy.

Amadeo Avogadro (1776-1856) was a physicist working in Turin, Italy who, in 1811 published his findings concerning the number of molecules, atoms, and other particles that were to be found in a single mole of any substance. (A mole is a unit of mass equal to the substance's molecular weight. For example, a gram mole of carbon-12 isotope would be 12 grams). Just the fact that Avogadro could calculate the number was astounding. The fact that the number of molecules was found to be a constant seemed the stuff of science fiction, at least what would have been science fiction in nineteenth century Italy.

The identification of what came to be known as Avogadro's number is important to homeopathy because it allows us to calculate the exact point in dilution at which not a single molecule of the original substance remains in the remedy, no matter from what substance that remedy was derived. That level of dilution is found at the 23X or at 12C, meaning that remedies 24X and above, or 13C and above, no longer have any original substance left in them. Only the traces of vital force, or the "energy signatures" of the original substances remain.

This remains a central mystery of homeopathic medicine. Just as Hahnemann found two hundred years ago, we today also find that the medicinal action of a remedy becomes stronger, not weaker, once it passes Avogadro's number in terms of dilution. Common sense might suggest that, as homeopathic remedies become more diluted, they become both less *toxic* (and certainly most if not all material or allopathic medicines are toxic to one degree or another) and more *powerful* at the same time.

This is particularly important to the cell salts, because Schuessler chose to always use them in potencies of 12X or under – potencies that are well below Avogadro's limit. Remedies created in these potencies include not only the energy signature of a given substance, but the substance itself as well. The selection of this low level of potency was not an act of laziness on Schuessler's part. It does not reflect either a lack of muscle strength in his right arm or his lack of belief in the power of the Bible. Instead, it is a clear indicator that, with this system of therapeutics that he named biochemics, he was not seeking to reinvent medicine, as Hahnemann had sought to do, but, instead, to reinvent homeopathy – to simplify it and to ground it within the substance of the body itself.