

# HAHNEMANN AND THE SECOND SCIENTIFIC REVOLUTION

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UNDERSTANDING HAHNEMANN'S WORKS IN THE CONTEXT OF THE  
ROMANTIC REVOLUTION – NEW INSIGHTS

# HAHNEMANN AND EUROPEAN MEDICINE

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## TRADITIONAL VIEW - ISOLATED

- An erratic boulder.



## REVISED VIEW - ARCHIPELAGIC

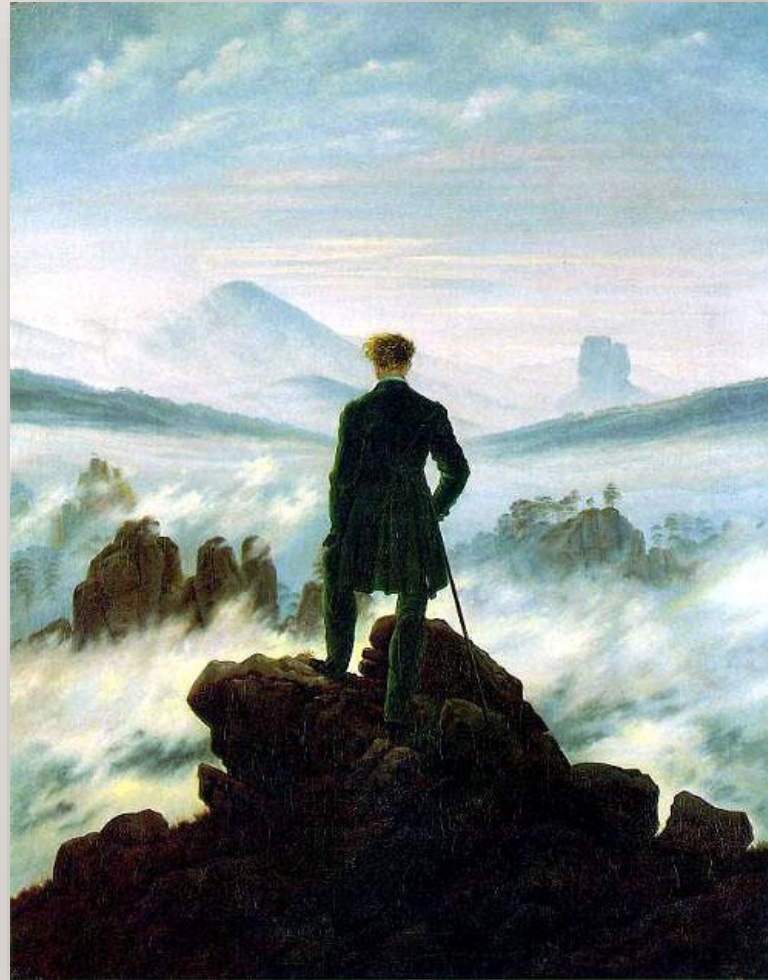
- Key member of a healthcare revolution.



# THE ROMANTIC REVOLUTION

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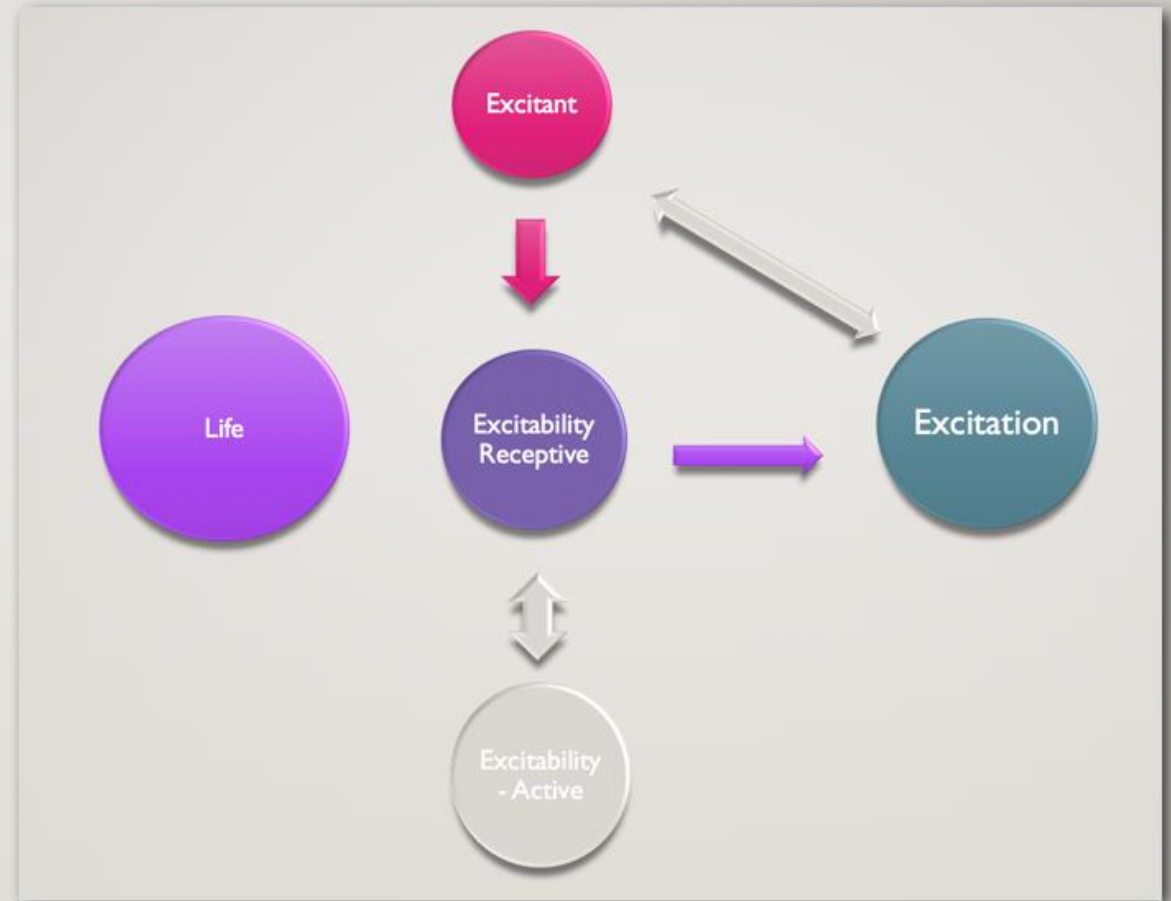
- Vital nature
- Baconian and Goethean Science
- Life, death, illness and health
- Romantic science
- Romantic healthcare





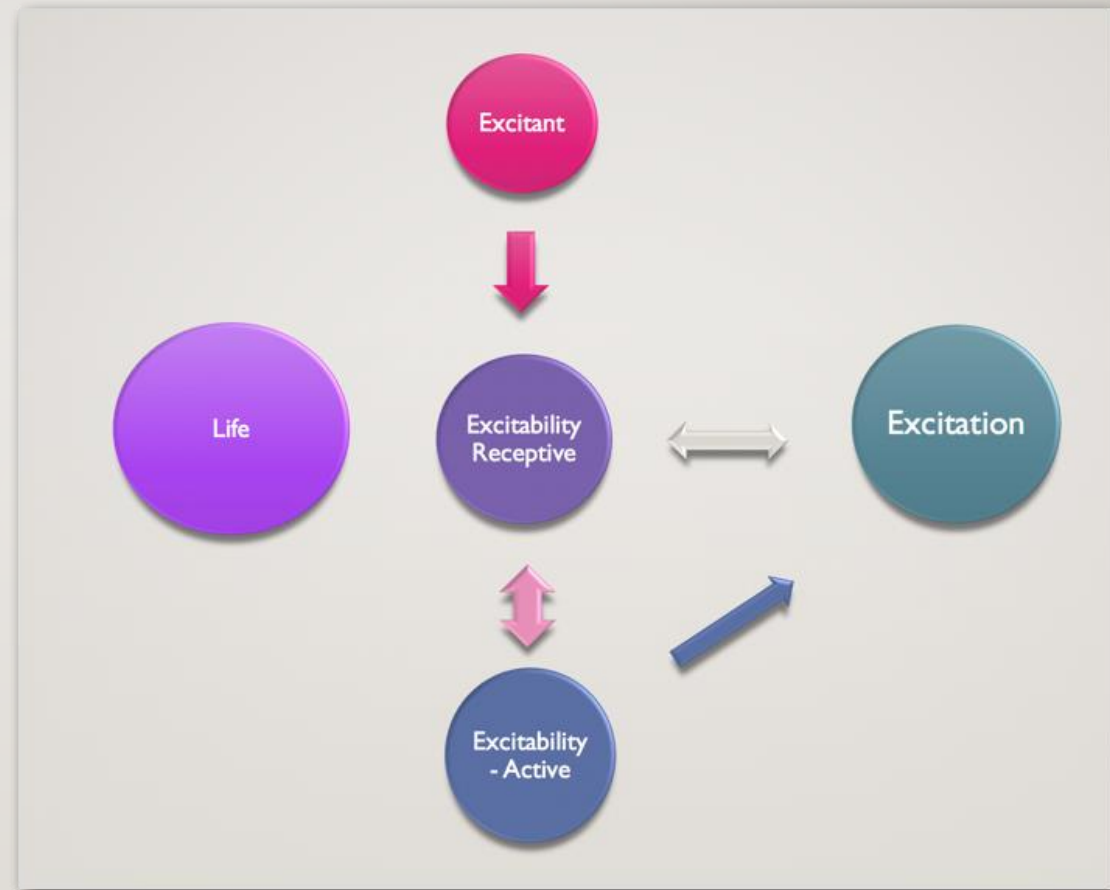
## THE SEMINAL IDEA – DR. JOHN BROWN AND EXCITATION THEORY - 1780

- Life biological is a 'forced state'
- Excitants → excitability → excitation
- Too much or too little = disorder
- Law of opposites to restore health
- *1780-88: Elements of Medicine*



# THE GERMINAL GESTATION – PART I DR. ANDREAS RÖSCHLAUB

- Dynamic nature of excitability
  - Receptive – impression
  - Active – response
- Actual state of illness behind symptomology
- 1800-1802 – 2 key works never translated



# THE DYNAMIC SYSTEM – THE CONCEPTION – CRITIQUE OF PURE REASON

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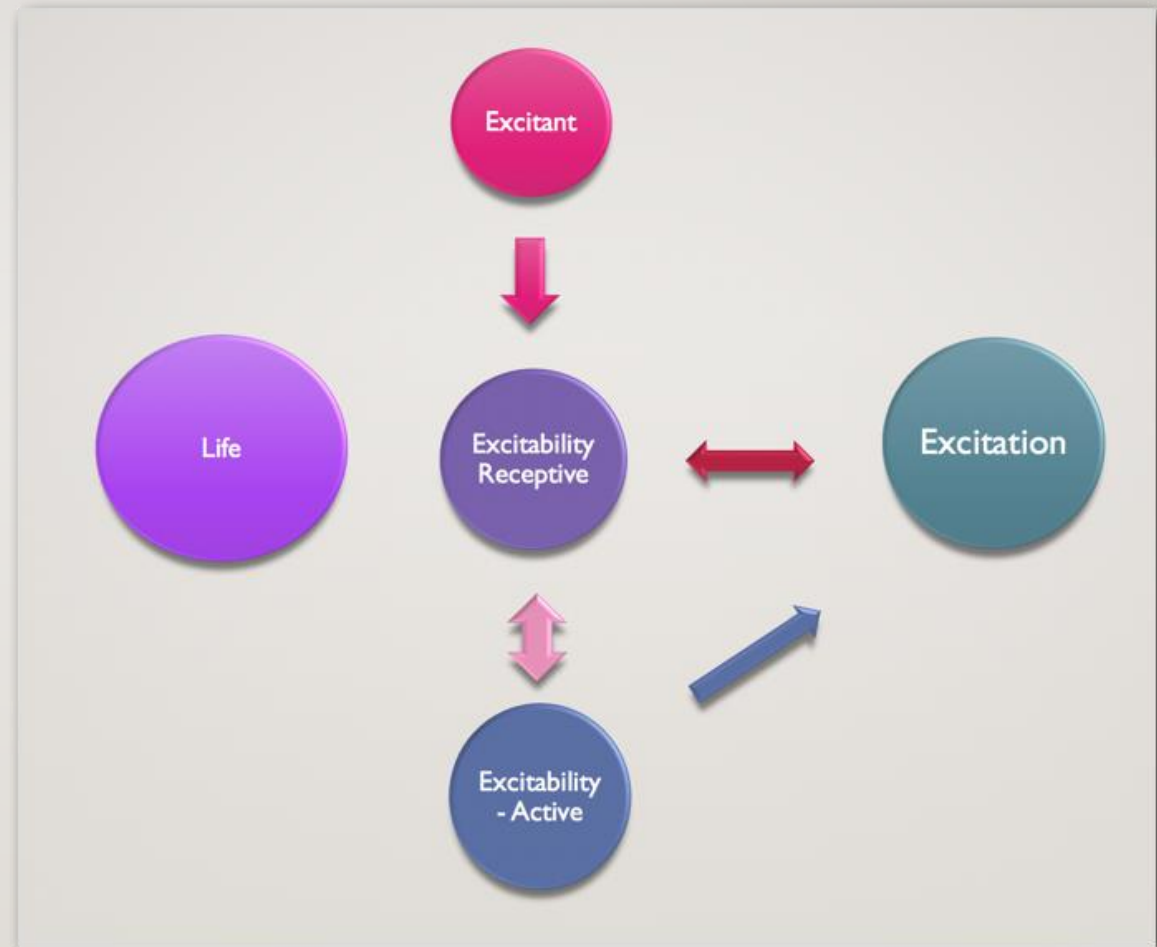


- Dr. Andreas Röschlaub (1768-1835)
- [https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Andreas\\_R%C3%B6schlaub](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Andreas_R%C3%B6schlaub)
- Voluminous writings on Brunonian system
- Added dynamic element – excitability
- 2 major works never translated (almost lost)

## THE GERMINAL GESTATION – PART II DR. CRISTOPH HUFELAND

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- Regenerative aspect of internal vital economy
- Chain of causation – treat cause not symptomology
- 1800 – untranslated key treatise
- Role for law of similars



# THE DYNAMIC SYSTEM – THE RATIONAL EXPOSITION – CRITIQUE OF PRACTICAL REASON

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- Dr. Christoph Willem Hufeland (1762-1836)
- [https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Christoph\\_Wilhelm\\_Hufeland](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Christoph_Wilhelm_Hufeland)
- Famous for his book on longevity and term 'macrobiotic'
- Personal physician to many Romantic figures - Goethe, etc.
- 1800 – System of Practical Heilkunde
- Major Work
  - Never translated
  - Seldom if ever mentioned
  - Role for disease and law of similars → Hahnemann

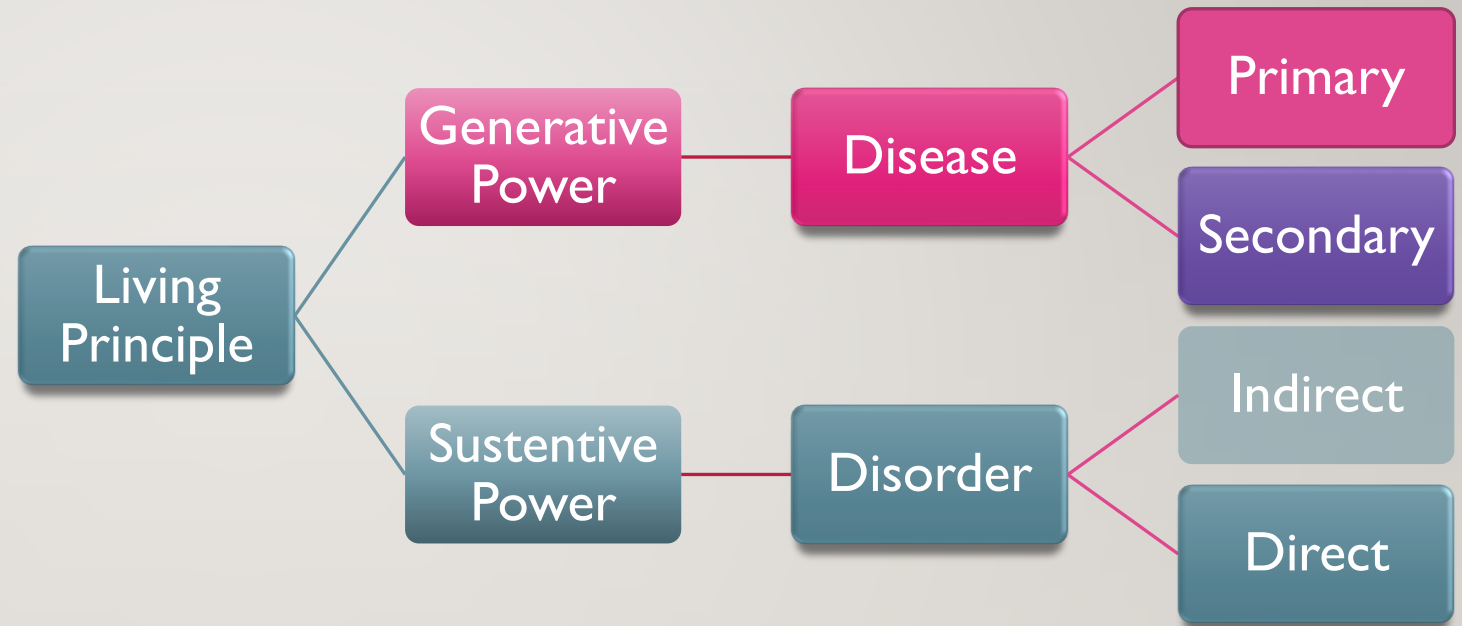


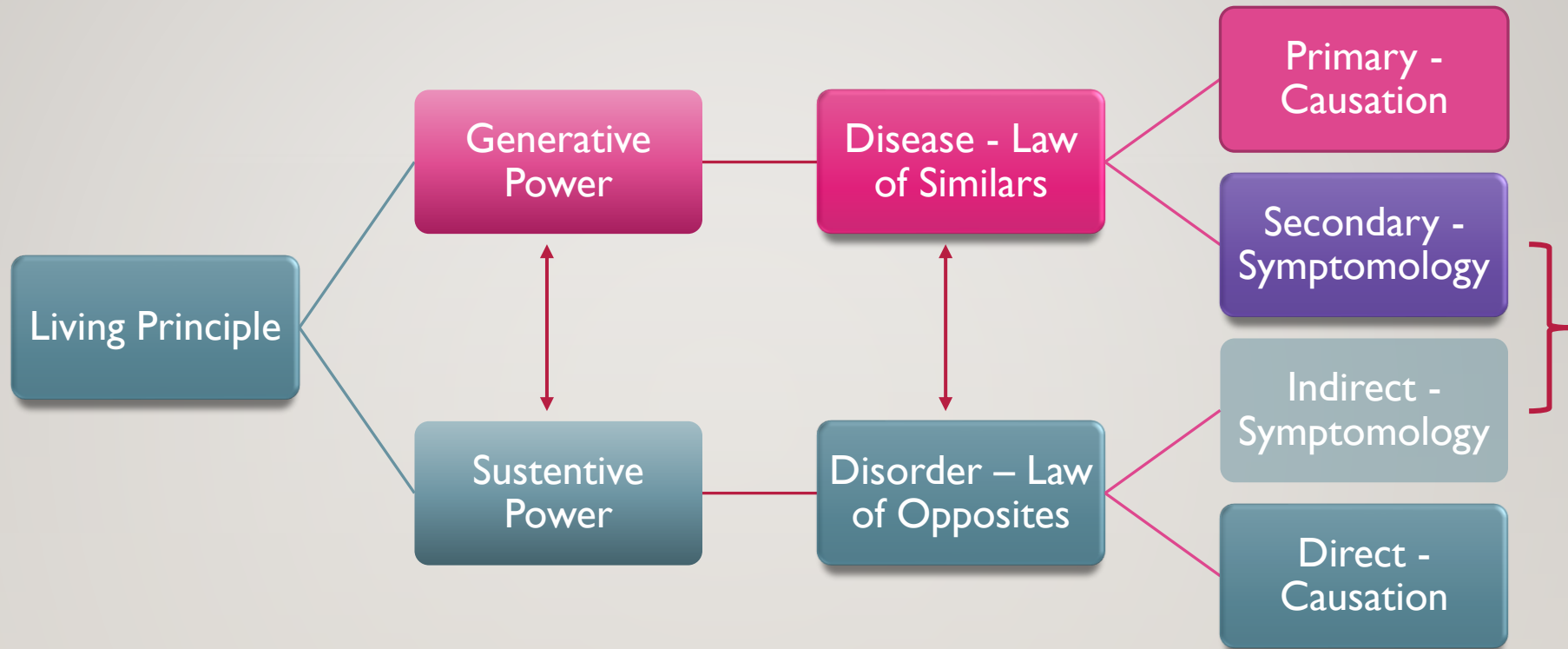


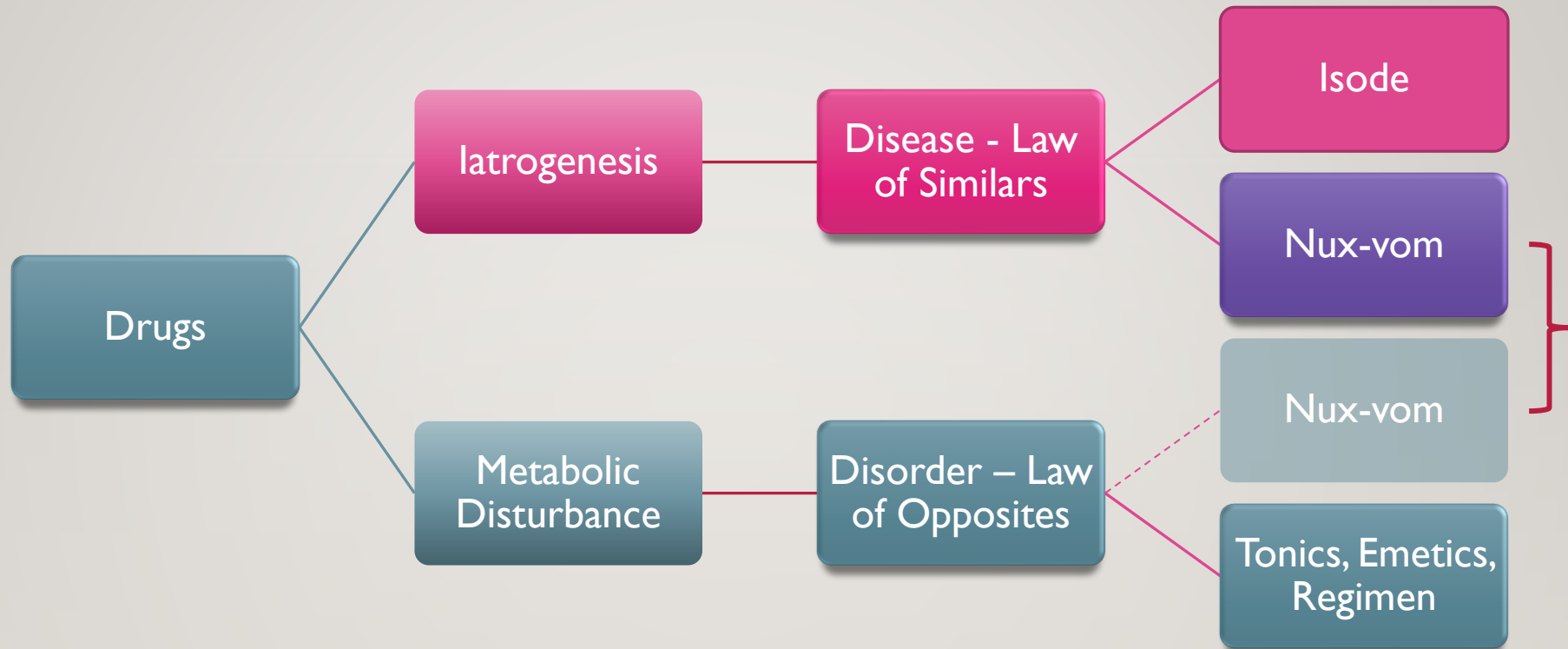
# THE GERMINAL GESTATION – PART III DR. SAMUEL HAHNEMANN

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- Distinction between
  - generative and sustentive power
  - disease and disorder
  - law of similars and opposites
  - primary and secondary disease
  - causation and symptomology
- 1796 and 1805 *Essays vs Organon*



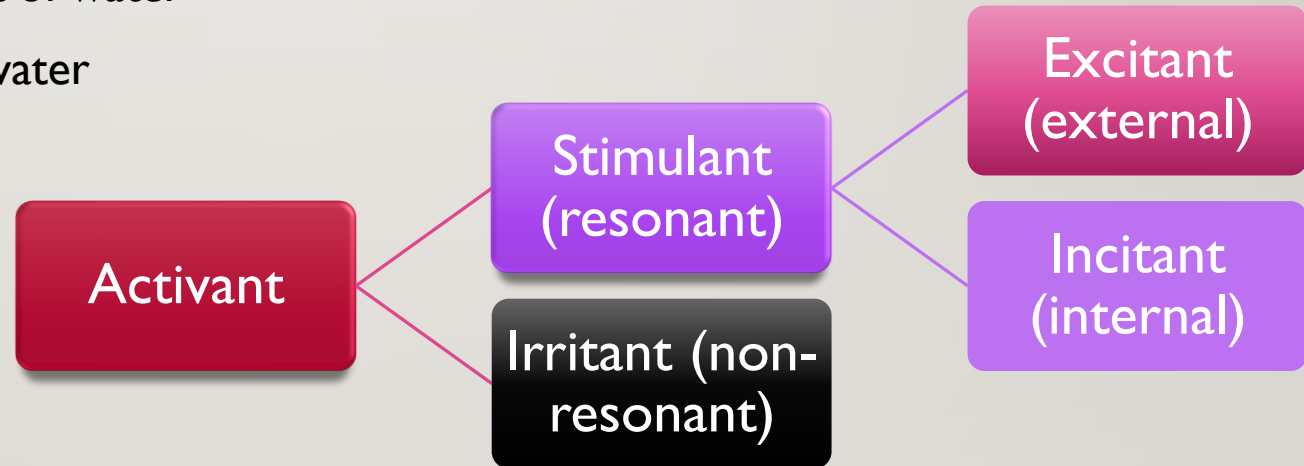




# CONCEPTS

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- Chain of Activation
- Resonance
  - Quantitative – e.g., amount of water
  - Qualitative – e.g., type of water



# HAHNEMANN'S RELATIONSHIPS

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# HAHNEMANN'S CONTRIBUTIONS I

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- Dual nature of living power
  - **Sustentive** (homeostasis)
  - **Generative** (palingenesis)
- Dual Nature of Illness
  - **Disorder** – imbalance (divergence from homeostasis)
  - **Disease** – degenerative impingement (divergence from palingenesis)
- Dual Nature of Therapeutics
  - **Law of Opposites** – disorders
  - **Law of Similars** – diseases

# HAHNEMANN'S CONTRIBUTIONS II

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- *Essay on Brown* (1800)
  - Misunderstood Brown re distinction between **direct** and **indirect** illness
  - Made connection between **disorders** and **disease**
    - Obstacles to cure
    - Diet, regimen, lifestyle (bad marriage, damp cellar) as occasioning and maintaining causes
  - Refers throughout to excitation, excitability, excitant
    - Excitation – *Erregung*
    - Excitability – *Erregbarkeit*
    - Excitant – *Erreger*

# HAHNEMANN'S CONTRIBUTIONS III

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- Idea of Medicinality
  - Certain substances have the ability to act on the generative power
- Clinical trials – ‘provings’
  - On healthy people
  - On sick people
- Dynamic nature of disease
  - **Initial action** – impingement on generative power – silent – disease proper
  - **Counter-action** – reaction of sustentive power (attempt to heal)
- Dual nature of remediation
  - **Initial action** – curative action – generative power
  - **Counter-action** – ‘healative’ reaction – sustentive power

