

ATP 14: The Smooth and the Striated

Outline by [Mark Bonta](http://www.protevi.com/john/DG/PDF/ATP14.pdf) / Permission to reproduce granted for academic use

<http://www.protevi.com/john/DG/PDF/ATP14.pdf>

May 1999

Outline of Chapter 14, "1440: The Smooth and the Striated" in *A Thousand Plateaus, Capitalism and Schizophrenia*, by G. Deleuze and F. Guattari (1987, U Minn P, Minneapolis).

I thought that the best way to present this chapter would be to draw up a table of comparative models between qualities and models of smooth space and striated space. Each example is cited to page. Anything between parentheses are my comments. In the end, as the authors frequently mention, the most "realistic" application of these models are in the mixings and passages between smooth and striated--a further revision of this outline would include a middle passage between each opposition.

Page **Smooth**

474 Nomad space
Space in which war machine develops

Constantly traversed into striated:
organizing the desert

475- THE TECHNOLOGICAL MODEL **77**

475 Felt=anti-fabric; entanglement not intertwining.
Infinite, open and unlimited in every direction. No
top, bottom or center.

476 Distributes continuous variation.
Nomadic cloth: felt or wool.

Indexes clothing/house to smooth space

Crochet (but with center)

Patchwork: the quilt. Infinite, piece-by-piece
construction in all directions. No center. A
Riemannian space.

American quilting bee

477 Smooth=amorphous, nonformal

Quilt: no top or bottom.

Patchwork quilt

Page **Striated**

474 Sedentary space
Space instituted by state apparatus

Constantly reversed to smooth:
475 desert gains and grows

A fabric: intertwining of vertical and horizontal
elements; perpendicular intersection; fixed/mobile
functions; stake and thread; warp and woof.

Striated fabric space: delimited on at least one side;
top and bottom (tapestry).

Weaving=royal science, government as art of give and
take, back and forth.

476 Clothes- and tapestry-fabric annex body/exterior to
immobile house

Knitting

Embroidery: central motif, even if extremely complex

477 Embroidery quilt

477- THE MUSICAL MODEL

78

477	One occupies without counting Non-metric multiplicities Susceptible to irregular break where you want to put it. Frequencies distributed statistically without breaks. No modules: equal statistical distribution=nondirected smooth space; more or less rare or dense (thin or thick)=directed smooth space.	One counts in order to occupy Metric multiplicities Susceptible to break defined by standard Frequencies distributed in intervals between breaks. Modules: constant and fixed= <i>straight</i> striated space; regularly variable= focalized modular curved striated space, irregularly variable=nonfocalized modular curved striated space.
478	A nomos Non-octave-forming scales reproduced through spiraling Smooth is continuous variation, continuous development of form Fusion of harmony and melody in favor of rhythmic values Act of drawing diagonal across m/h	478 A logos (e.g. the octave) Striated intertwines fixed and variable elements, producing order and succession of distinct forms. Organization (body) of horizontal melodic lines and "stacks" of harmonic registers.

478- THE MARITIME MODEL

82

478	Points, lines, surfaces, volumes Points subordinated to trajectory Nomads: dwelling subordinated to journey. Conformity of space of inside and outside igloo/tent/boat. Stops and trajectories Stop follows from trajectory: interval basis for rhythmic values Line is a vector, direction. Smooth space is directional. Space constructed by local changes of direction, perhaps inherent to nature of journey, as in nomadic travel between Pacific oceanic archipelagos=directed smooth space. Changes of direction brought about by need to access local and temporary vegetation in desert=non-directed smooth space (wandering). Filled by events or haecceities	Points, lines surfaces, volumes Lines/trajectories subordinated to points Stops and trajectories Line is dimension, metric determination Filled by formed and perceived things
-----	---	--

Space of affects
Haptic perception
Materials signal forces, serve as symptoms for them
Intensive space of distances

Spatium
Body without Organs
Perception based on symptoms and evaluations

Occupied by intensities: wind, noise, forces, sonorous and tactile qualities. Ex. Desert, steppe, ice.

Creaking of ice; song of sands

The Sea

Nomadic navigation based on wind, noise, color and sound of water

- 1.Portolanos: not generalizable
- 2.Indian Ocean straight space

- 480 Sea reimparts smooth space as in example of submarines: outflanking all gridding. Controlling striated space.
Smooth always has greater power of deterritorialization than striated
Sinister nature of military smooth space, and possibilities of holey space.

- 481 Surfaces
One distributes oneself in open space: nomos
Smooth ground of nomadic animal raiser
Sedentary cultivator participates in the smooth: nomos as outside city, migratory agriculture

Ibn Khaldun: badiya
Transhumant cultivator
Cultivation in nomos-space (would equal "subsistence agriculture" when farmers not dependent on market prices--growing for local consumption)

Smooth and holey within cities: shantytowns: (occupying without counting): hold the street (from Rhizome)
(Mutual aid networks, self-supporting)

482 **Voyaging**

Kleist travel
Anglo-American travel
Live smooth in the cities, urban nomadism, Henry Miller (de Certeau on pedestrians)

Space of properties
Optical perception
Forms organize a matter
Extensive space of measures and properties
Extensio
Organism and organization
Perception based on measure and properties

Canopied by sky which serves as measure
The Sea: first to be striated
Bearings and the map: stars, sun, latitude, longitude, meridians and parallels.
Locates known and unknown on grid
3.Atlantic Ocean curved space.

- 480 Sea striated by commercial cities, then by States.
Politically, Sea archetype of striated desert, air, stratosphere.

- 481 Surfaces
One allocates in a closed space: logos
Striated land of sedentary cultivator
Polis and its cultivation

Ibn Khaldun: hadara
Town invents agriculture
Agriculture in city-space (would equal market-oriented agriculture, commercial: e.g. truck farms and banana plantations)
City imparts smooth space
Hold the fort (from Rhizome)

Money, work, housing in city: striations
Goethe travel

482

French travel
Live striated in the desert

Beatniks outside the cities

Strange voyages in the city and voyages in place: Toynbee's nomads that do not move

To think is to voyage

Mode of spatialization, manner of being in/for space:

determines smooth/striated qualities of voyage

Experimental journey (in ignorance, without itinerary or Travel Guide to Must-See Monuments; enjoying being where you're at; not ranking places according to "picturesque" or "backward" qualities)

Voyaging smoothly: difficult, uncertain becoming

Educated, memorial, cultural Goethean journey

482- MATHEMATICAL MODEL

88

483 Riemannian multiplicity: typology and topology

Multiplicities (of n): change in quantity leads to change in quality: always resist even indirect striation: anexact yet rigorous

Distances: division always results in change of nature.

Examples: speed, temperature, intensity (31 degrees F is not the sum of 15 and 16 degrees, nor are 31 and 33 in a series--getting from one to another in a certain medium implies qualitative changes)

Distances do not have magnitude: they are sets of ordered differences. Example: movement divided into gallop, trot, walk.

Continuous variation.

Time as Bergsonian duration

Achilles running/paradox

484 Multiplicity: qualitative, fusional, continuous

Matter, enveloped in qualitative multiplicity (envelopment or in-folding)

Bergson following Riemann

Multiplicities: non-metric; qualitative; acentered; rhizomatic; flat; directional; packs; distance; frequency

Tribes in the desert; packs metamorphosing

Some Numbers; Numbering

The Unit: exclusively divisible

Minor geometry of smooth multiplicities: operational and

483 End of dialectics

Metrically determined magnitudes: change in quantitative difference does not change quality

Versus time as metric or magnitudinal multiplicity
Homogeneous extension

484 Multiplicity: numerical, homogeneous, discrete

Matter, developed in metric schema drawing it outside itself (Development)

Versus Einstein

Multiplicities: metric; extensive; centered; arborescent; numerical; dimensional; masses; magnitude; breaks

Other Numbers; Numbering

The Number: exclusively cardinal

Numbers making ideal spaces coextensive with matter

Geometry and arithmetic; geometry and algebra:

	qualitative Local operations only; calculation very limited		Major science General translatability; homogeneous system of location
485	Number distributes itself in smooth space, dividing and changing its nature: ordinal, directional, nomadic, articulated number, the numbering number Minor science: intuitive, itinerant, sense of/taste for matter, singularity, variation Riemannian patches of space: amorphous accumulation of vicinities or situations of determinations : pure patchwork	485	The numbered number Major science enriched by minor science Homogeneous sets of points, lines, surfaces, volumes interchangeable and measurable: Euclidean space
486	Mandelbrot's Fractals; Van Koch's curve; Sierpensky's sponge.	486	
487	Brownian motion; turbulence; the sky		
488	Non metric or smooth space: line with fractional dimension greater than one, or surface with fractional dimension greater than two. No dimension higher than that which moves through it.: flat multiplicity, line filling plane. Space=that which occupies space. Accumulation of proximities, each acc. With zone of indiscernibility=becoming.	488	Metric or striated: Any aggregate with whole number of dimensions, and assignable constant directions

488- THE PHYSICAL MODEL
92

488	Smooth=fundamental heterogeneity, the freeing of the line, (free-form jazz), continuous variation.		Recap: warf and woof, harmony and melody, longitude and latitude: fixed and variable. The more regular the intersection, the tighter the striation=more homogeneous the space. Ideal: limit-form of extreme striation= perfect homogeneity= capacity for reimpacting smooth space. 1. Striate space with parallel gravitational verticals. 2. Construct center (point) of gravity.
		489	3. Point stays same; rotate verticals perpendicular. 4. Gravity=universal attraction, biunivocal attraction along straight lines. 5. Work=force-displacement in certain direction. 6. Basis for perfect striation: complete gridding of space, creating locations for points. State apparatus: vertical of empire, isotropic of city-state.
489	Smooth space: constituted by: minimal angle of declination from vertical; vortex.		Limits of striation: the infinite (large or small); more than two bodies: space escapes limits of its

Vortices and turbulences occupy engendered smooth space.
 Ancient Greek atom subordinated to hydraulics=swells and flows (particle/wave?).
 Archimedean geometry and Democritean physics.

490 Physics and geometry of the war machine
 Physics of packs, turbulence, catastrophes and epidemics: geometry of war, art of war, machines of war.
 Free action in smooth space

491 No State, no surplus labor.

No work-model.

Continuous variation of free action: speech-action-action-speech-speech-enterprise, in a chromaticism.
 "They don't know what work is."
 "Unsuitability" for work. "Right to laziness."
 Non-State societies that do not striate space, are not stock, do not "work." No wage regime. Law of the nomos: appearance of "anarchy."

492

Integrated/integrating world capitalism: "new" smooth space--capital reaches absolute speed (instantaneous, no "friction of distance").

Multinational corporations--deterritorialized flows between points of occupation (accumulation). Constant and variable capital, etc.: But distinction needs to be made between:
 Smooth capital and

**492- THE AESTHETIC MODEL: NOMAD ART
 500**

492 Nomad art's successors: "barbarian," Gothic, modern.
 Close-range vision
 Tactile, haptic space
 (eye can "feel": caress as well as survey)

493 Riegl: close vision-haptic space
 First: not see the wheatfield, lose oneself without landmarks.
 Painting done at close range; composers with close-range hearing; writers with short-term memory.
 Haptic space of close vision: orientations, landmarks,

striation: by declination; by the spiral or vortex.

Euclidean geometry and solid/lamellar matter.

490 Physics and geometry of the State apparatus

Versus Work in striated space: weight-height; force-displacement.
 Labor-power, abstract labor (applicable to all human work).
 Wage regime has mechanics of force. All action work or "free time." Standard-man and public works.
 Mass production of weapons: construction site and factory: striation of the war machine.
 Surplus labor; stockpiling.

Corvée, tribute labor (encomienda and repartimiento).

Imperial works from any era.

492 Modern public works.
 Capitalism: reimparts smooth space at the "end" of striation, beyond its limits: all semiotic systems; striation survives as state pole of capitalism.

Striated capital

Sedentary or imperial art

492 Long-distance vision
 Optical space

Then: striation of strata, drawing, the earth, etc.

The viewer; the listener; the reader.

Constancy of orientation; invariance of distance;

- linkages in continuous variation.
- Desert, steppe, icea, sea--local changes, step by step.
- Orientations change according to vegetations, occupation, precipitation. (Points of reference immanent to space) 493
- 494 Touch a piece of nomad art with one's mind--that is to see it. Mind into a finger.
Kaleidoscope's relationship to eye.
- No line separates earth from sky, because they are of same substance.
- No: outline, horizon, background, limit, perspective, form, center 494
Eskimo space; Arab architecture.
Absolute is local.
- 495 Celts
Goths
Hyksos
Hittites
Turco-Mongols
Bedouins
Habiru
- 496 Nomads as intermediaries
- Reimparting smooth space: liberating light, modulating color, unlimited site of intersection of planes.
Abstract line: nomadic, not rectilinear. Wandering
- 498 Line: delimits nothing, describes no contour, passes between points, deviates from horizontal/vertical/diagonal.
Line without outside or inside, form or background, beginning or end.
- interlinkeage by immersion in ambient milieu; constitution of central perspective.
- (Points of reference part of model transcending space)
- 495 Desert, sky, sea, Ocean Unlimited made to play role of Encompassing (Environment) in order to surround a center: grounding of the Earth.
Making Form possible. Casting excess, smooth remainder, into Deep.
Imperial Space needs the Smooth, but only as the (Beyond, the realm of abominables, a shadow according to the Empire)
Germans
Romans
Egypt
Asia Minor
China
Arabs
Hebrews
- 496 Where haptic serves to striate: immobile background, plane, contour.
- Concrete line: rectilinear or regularly rounded, constant, anxious in the face of all that passes, flows or varies.
Figurative writing: children forget how to draw.
Egyptian rectilinear line; Assyrian/Greek organic line; suprphenomenal, encompassing Chinese line--assign concrete principles.
- 498 Line describes a figure with inside and outside, form and background, beginning and end (fixed orientation).

Repetition as power

Machinic breaks and flows, multiplying effect and pursuing infinite movement.

Free action=disjunction decentering, peripheral movement=disjointed polythetism

Symmetry as form

Organic domination of a central point with radiating lines.

Symmetrical antithetism

Striae convert space into form of expression that grids and organizes matter

499 Streaming, spiraling, zigzagging, snaking, feverish line of variation liberating power of life.

The line escaping geometry: life escaping the organic.

499- Smooth space of Go

500

Thought space

499- Striated space of chess

500

Ideology