

# A Common Theory of Oriental Medicine

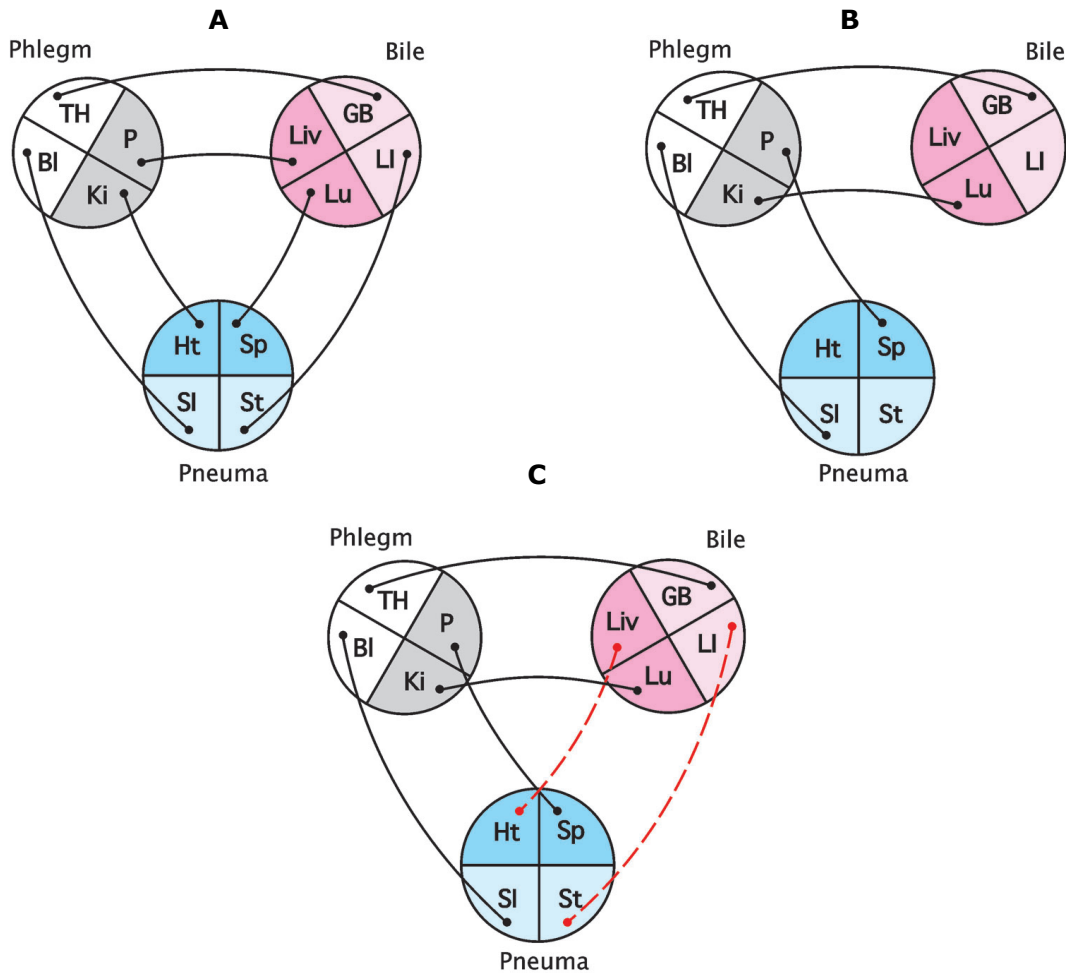
## An Integral Model for the System of Acupuncture Channels

### Part 3

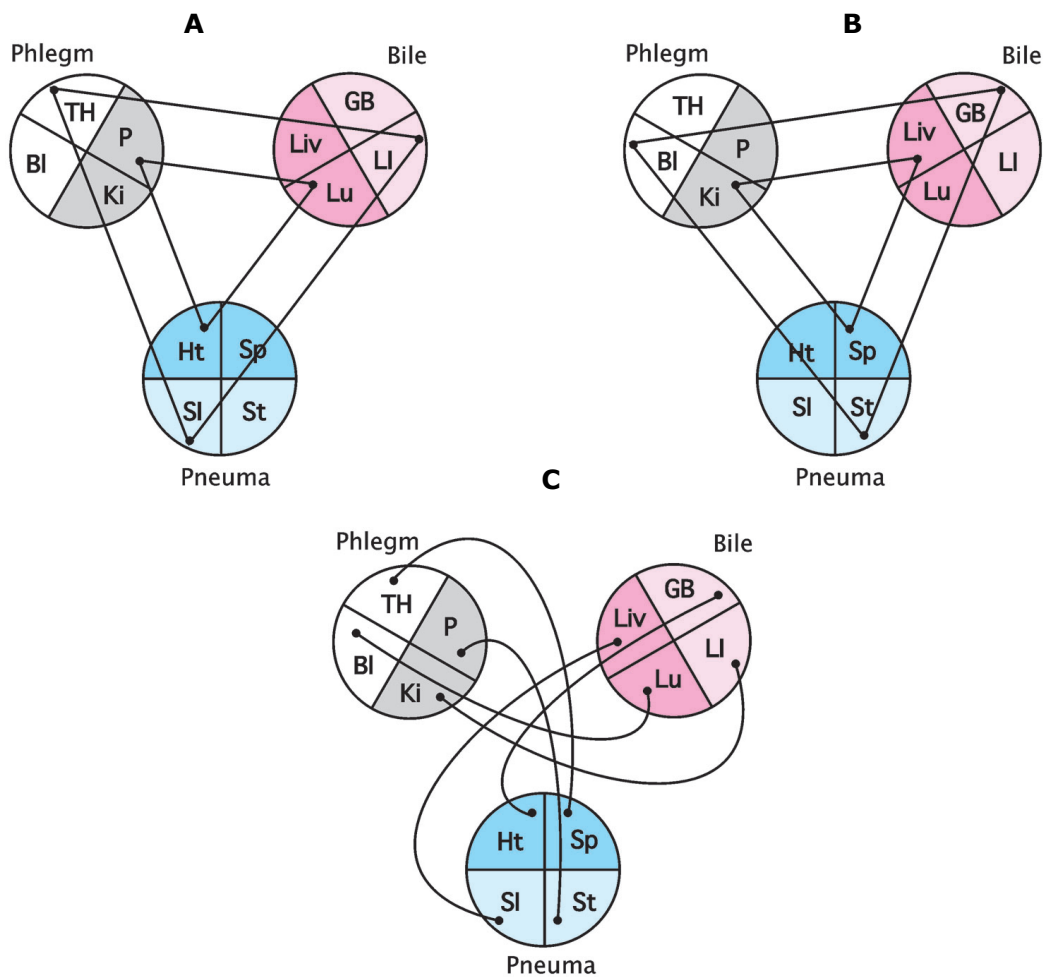
#### Connections by Analogy

When we transfer all the types of meridian connections considered above on one graphic base which shows the links between three doshas we can see that *phlegm*, *bile* and *pneuma* connect to each other in 3 different ways:

- a) via yin meridians (Fig. 13, Fig. 14 A,B),
- b) via yang meridians (Fig. 13, Fig. 14 A,B),
- c) via yin-yang meridians (Fig. 14C).



**Fig.13. Connections between 3 Doshas via 6 Big (A) and Extraordinary (B, C) Meridians.**



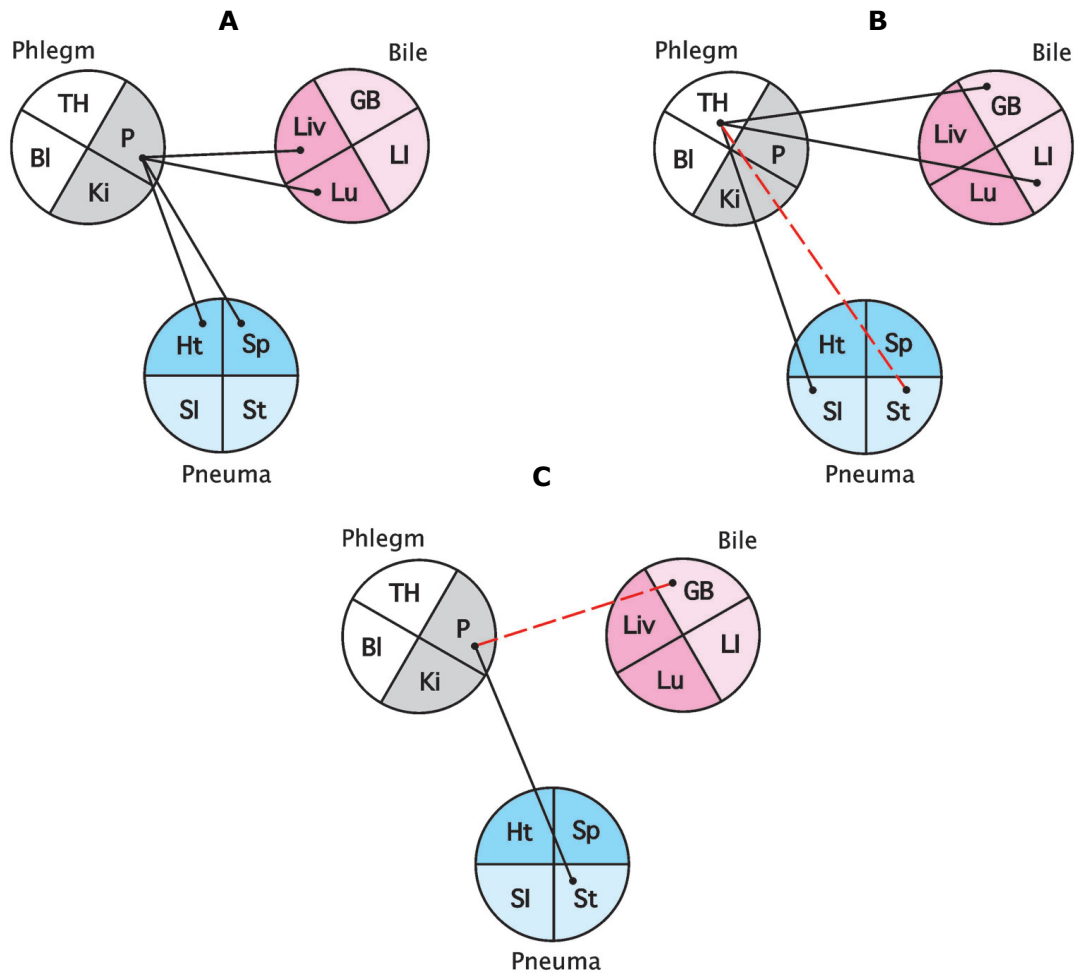
**Fig. 14. Connections between 3 Doshas via Hand (A) and Foot (B) Groupings, and According to the Law of 'Midday-Midnight' (C).**

Let's analyse these connections using as examples P and TH meridians.

- a) Connections via yin meridians (Fig. 15A). The line P–Liv is Jueyin meridian (Fig. 13A), the line P–Sp is pair IV of Extraordinary meridians Yin Wei Mai and Chong Mai (Fig. 13B) and the two lines P–Ht and P–Lu are part of the functional grouping of hand yin meridians (Fig. 14A,B). In this example phlegm is communicating with bile and pneuma in 4 different ways.
- b) Connections via yang meridians (Fig. 15B). The line TH–GB represents both Shaoyang meridian (Fig. 13A), and pair II of Extraordinary meridians Yang Wei Mai and Dai Mai (Fig. 13B). The two lines TH–LI and TH–SI are part of the

functional grouping of hand yang meridians (Fig. 14A,B). Therefore, phlegm is communicating with bile and pneuma here in 3 different ways.

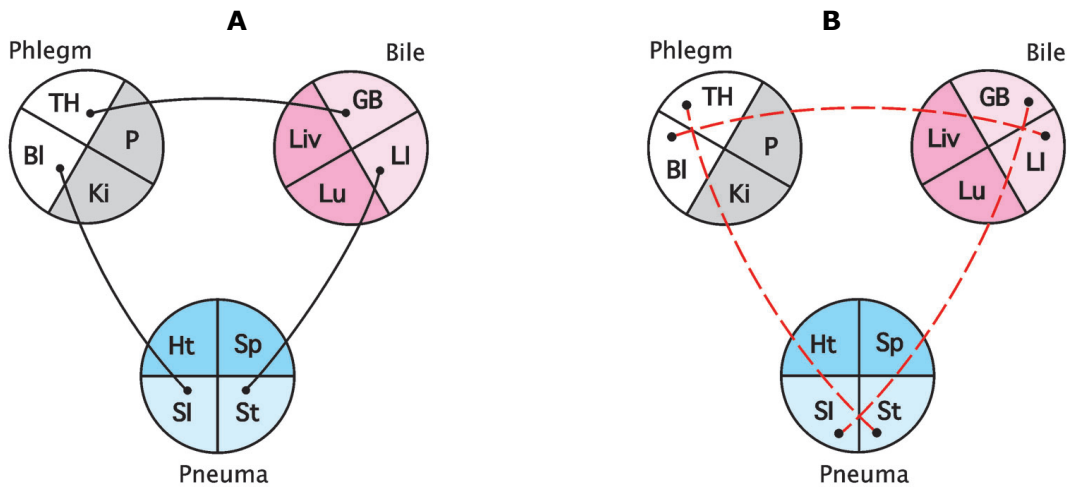
- c) Connections via yin-yang meridians (Fig. 15C). There is only one way of connecting doshas via yin-yang meridians – according to the law of midday-midnight, in this example P–St (Fig. 14C).



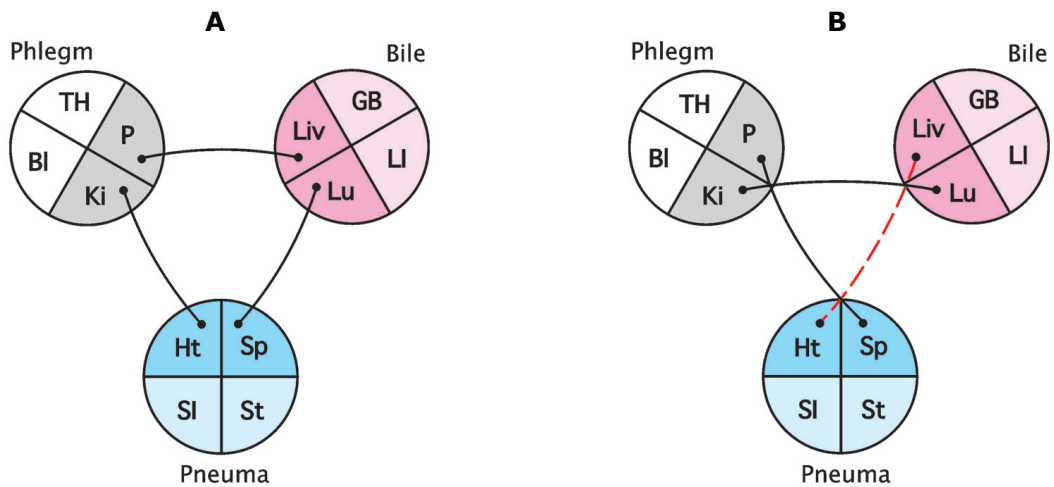
**Fig. 15. Connections between 3 Doshas via yin(A), yang(B) and yin-yang(C) Meridians.**

This analysis reveals 'the missing links'. In the first example (Fig. 15A), two lines P–Ht and P–Lu represent connections between hand meridians, and the other two lines P–Liv and P–Sp represent connections between hand and foot meridians. In the second example (Fig. 15B), two connections are between hand meridians (TH–LI and TH–SI) and only one connection is between hand and foot meridians (TH–GB). Apparently, one connection TH–St between hand and foot meridians is missing. In the third example (Fig. 15C), there is only one link between hand and foot meridians (line P–St). Since,

we have not found in literature any description of theoretically possible connections between hand meridians P-SI and P-LI, we would refrain from including them in the list of suggested connections and would confine to P-GB type connections between foot and hand meridians by analogy with P-St. Suggested new TH-St and P-GB connections are shown in Fig. 18A,B and Fig. 18C, respectively.



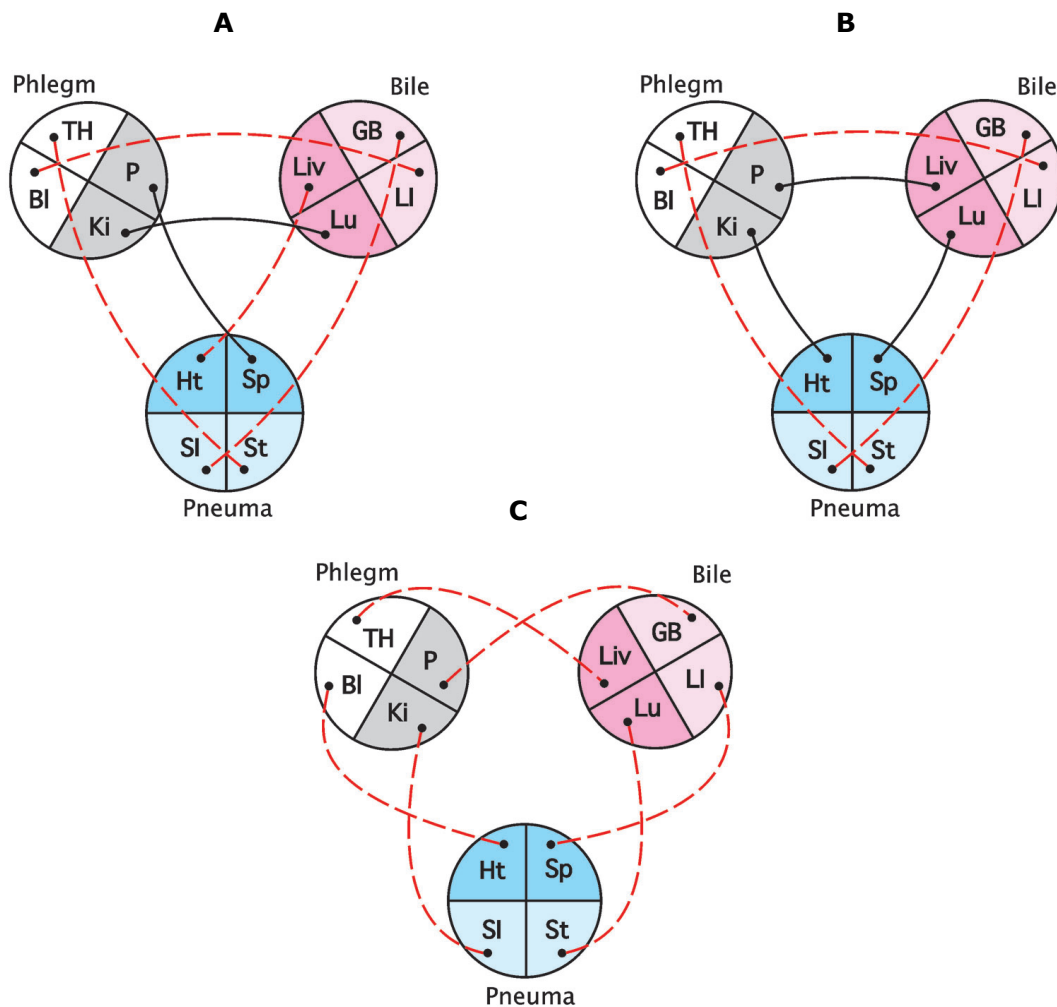
**Fig. 16. Connections between 3 Doshas via yang Meridians.**



**Fig. 17. Connections between 3 Doshas via yin Meridians.**

If we now look at all possibilities of integrating three doshas via hand and foot meridians, we discover 3 fundamentally different functional-energetic types of connections (Fig. 18A,B,C).

Yang and yin variations are shown separately in Fig. 16 and Fig. 17. Combining the variation shown in Fig. 16A with the ones shown in Fig. 17A and Fig. 17B results in the Big meridians (Fig. 13A), and the Extraordinary meridians (Fig. 13C), respectively. Two other combinations, Fig. 16B with Fig. 17A and Fig. 16B with Fig. 17B, reveal two fundamentally different types of interactions, which we called connections by analogy with 6 Big meridians (Fig. 17A) and connections by analogy with extraordinary meridians (Fig. 18B). Fig.18C illustrates the connections by analogy with 'midday-midnight' law.



**Fig. 18. Connections between 3 Doshas by Analogy with 6 Big (A) and Extraordinary Meridians (B) and the 'Midday-Midnight' Law (C).**

All the connections described above are summarized in Table 6.

**Table 6. Types of Connections between the Three Doshas**

| Types of Connections |                                                                    | Graphic Images of Connections between |                                  |                                   |
|----------------------|--------------------------------------------------------------------|---------------------------------------|----------------------------------|-----------------------------------|
|                      |                                                                    | Phlegm and Pneuma                     | Phlegm and Bile                  | Bile and Pneuma                   |
|                      |                                                                    | lines                                 |                                  |                                   |
| I                    | Six Big Principal Meridians                                        | Bl - SI<br>Ki - Ht                    | TH - GB<br>P - Liv               | LI - St<br>Lu - Sp                |
|                      | <b>Connections by Analogy with the Six Big Principal Meridians</b> | <b>TH - St</b><br>P - Sp              | <b>Bl - Li</b><br>KI - Lu        | <b>GB - St</b><br><b>Liv - Ht</b> |
| II                   | Extraordinary Meridians                                            | Bl - SI<br>P - Sp                     | TH - GB<br>Ki - Lu               | <b>LI - St</b><br><b>Liv - Ht</b> |
|                      | <b>Connections by Analogy with Extraordinary Meridians</b>         | <b>TH - St</b><br>Ki - Ht             | <b>Bl - LI</b><br>P - Liv        | <b>GB - SI</b><br>Lu - Sp         |
| III                  | "Midday - Midnight" Law                                            | TH - Sp<br>P - St                     | Bl - Lu<br>Ki - LI               | GB - Ht<br>Liv - SI               |
|                      | <b>Connections by Analogy with "Midday - Midnight" Law</b>         | <b>Bl - Ht</b><br><b>Ki - SI</b>      | <b>TH - Liv</b><br><b>P - GB</b> | <b>LI - Sp</b><br><b>Lu - St</b>  |
| IV                   | Groupings of Hand Meridians                                        | Bl - St<br>Ki - Sp                    | Bl - GB<br>Ki - Liv              | GB - St<br>Liv - Sp               |
|                      | Groupings of Foot Meridians                                        | TH - SI<br>P - Ht                     | TH - LI<br>P - Lu                | LI - SI<br>Lu - Ht                |