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## The Early Years

The first documented reference to equal distant letter skips is by Rabbi Bachya ben Asher (1255-1340). He writes of a 4 letter 42 letter skip <u>Equidistant Letter Sequence</u> (ELS) beginning from the first letter of the Torah that relates to the average length of the lunar month. For a complete explanation of how this 4 letter ELS produces an amazingly accurate average length of the lunar month, see the discussion on <u>the first</u> <u>els</u>.

The Ramak, Rabbi Moshe Cordovero, (1522-1570) served as the Head of the Rabbinical Court ("Av Beit Din") in Tzfat, Israel, during the 16th century. This was a time when Tzfat stood as the worldwide center for Jewish scholarship. His book *Pardes Rimonim* is a voluminous commentary on the Zohar. He writes in the introduction to Gate 30 that there are several ways that there is hidden information encoded in the Torah.

The secrets of our holy Torah are revealed through knowledge of combinations, numerology (gematria), switching letters, first-and-last letters, shapes of letters, first- and last- verses, skipping of letters (Dilugai Otiyot) and letter combinations.

These matters are powerful, hidden and enormous secrets. Because of their great hidden-ness, we do not have the ability to fully comprehend them. Further, to see different angles through these methods is infinite and without limit. On this the Torah says, its measure is longer than the world.

It was the cryptic comment by Rabbi Bachya that influenced Rabbi Michael Dov Weissmandl to engage in his study of the Torah codes. Rabbi Weissmandl was the Slovakian rabbi who developed a smuggling operation near the Slovak-Polish border, which enabled thousands of Jews, at a high ransom price, to reach then relatively safe Slovakia or Hungary. Then Germany invaded Hungary and deportations began in the Spring of 1942. After 60,000 had been sent to Auschwitz, Rabbi Weissmandl succeeded in negotiating with Dieter Wisliceny, Eichmann's assistant, and was able by a \$50,000 bribe to halt further deportations. Unfortunately, the deportations were only delayed.

Rabbi Weissmandl was fascinated by Bachya's cryptic comment on the 4 letter ELS. He was certain that there was within the Torah, coded in equidistant letter sequences, divinely ordained information. He wrote out on white cards 10x10 arrays of the entire 304805 letter Torah and studied it for ELSs that were near multiples of 10. After his death in 1957 his Talmud study students edited their notes of Rabbi Weissmandl's teachings, including some of hist Torah codes and published the book *Torat Chemed*.

In 1976, Rabbi Shmuel Yaniv began working on equidistant letter sequences and associated gematrias, specifically with respect to religious themes. And he began to incorporate this code point of view in his religious lectures. Rabbi Yaniv published his first book צפונות בתורה, Tzefunot Ba'Torah, Volume 1, in 1988, his second book with the title צפונות בתורה, Tzefunot Ba'Torah, Volume 2 in 1989, and his third book with the title אפונות בתורה, Tzefunot Ba'Torah Volume 3,4, in 1990. All his books are in Hebrew. The translation of the title of his 4 volume book is Hidden Things in the Torah.

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It was Rabbi Yaniv's teachings in the late 1970's that influenced Professor Eliyahu Rips to examine the Torah from the point of view of codes. It was also Rabbi Yaniv who told Professor Rips about the existence of Rabbi Weissmandl's book *Torat Chemed*.

The students of Rabbi Weissmandl wrote in the book that they do not remember some findings that Rabbi Weissmandl told them about. For example, they did not know where was the exact location of the ELS Torah with skip -50 at the end of the book of Numbers. Rabbi Shmuel Yaniv told Professor Rips that Avraham Oren had searched for the forgotten findings of Rabbi Weissmandl and was able to restore some of them.

It did not take long for Professor Rips to meet with Avraham Oren who was delighted to show Rips his archive of findings. Most of Oren's work was done using hand-written tables, but in some instances he utilized the then available Apple II computer. Therefore, Avraham Oren must be credited as the first one who used a computer in the search of Torah Codes.

Looking into the archive of Avraham Oren, Professor Rips noticed that there were several tables located in the beginning of the book of Leviticus that contained an ELS of אהרן, Aaron. He was intrigued and decided to check whether there were some more appearances of Aharon in the same passage Leviticus Chapter 1 Verses 1-13. For this, he needed a computer program. This program was written by the late Dr. Boris Zukerman z"l in the very early eighties. Given the number of the letters או הו this passage, and assuming the text to be a random shuffling of its letters, with the maximum absolute skip set to 200, the statistical expectation of the number of ELSs of אהרן in the specified passage is about 8.3 The program of Dr. Boris Zukerman found 25 ELSs of the key word אהרן in this passage. This became known as the cluster of Professor Rips then checked what happens if the same search were to be made in a random letter permuted text. He also ran some other statistical tests. All of them were consistent with the calculated value 8.3. Under the assumption that the Poisson distribution is applicable, the probability that this event of 25 ELSs of the key word אהרן would happen by chance is about 1 to several hundred thousands. This was the first instance of a scientific study of Torah Codes, or, at least, of an application of statistical methods to the study of Torah Codes. More details of this study can be read about in Michelson's article.

## Leviticus Cluster of אהרן showing the skip and starting character position of each ELS.

Ski	Verse:CharPo	Ski	Verse:CharPo	Ski	Verse:CharPo	Ski	Verse:CharPo	Ski	Verse:CharPo
р	S	р	S	р	S	р	S	р	S
150	1:4	-87	1:7	9	1:12	180	1:12	141	1:63
36	2:1	-78	2:12	-64	2:54	136	4:5	- 139	4:15

(Capturing in PDF in case the website link becomes unavailable.)

## Leviticus Cluster of אהרן showing the skip and starting character position of each ELS.

Ski	Verse:CharPo								
р	S	р	S	р	S	р	S	р	S
-4	4:29	109	5:7	18	5:17	62	5:17	-32	5:21
-21	6:7	-26	6:16	-4	7:7	76	7:9	87	7:9
-6	9:5	-44	9:16	-4	10:36	25	11:15	36	11:15

Shortly after Professor Rips first met with Rabbi Yaniv, he met Dr. Moshe Katz who was also aware of Rabbi Weissmandel's findings and planned to study the Torah Codes himself. For some time Rips and Katz worked together.

Professor Rips continued to study the Torah Codes focusing on the beginning of the book of Genesis. He did not have a computerized text of the Torah then, not even of the book of Genesis. He only had the first three thousand letters. He was trying to find some more clusters like the אהרן cluster. It turned out that this passage indeed contains a number of clusters like for the words Makom, Mikve, Eden and some others concentrated near the appearances of these words in the plain text. However, none of them was as statistically impressive as the אהרן cluster. In 1988, the אהרן cluster work was published in the *Journal of the Royal Statistical Society, Series A*, Vol 151, p165.

In the course of his research Professor Rips made the observation that some words appear as ELSs with small skips near the place where the word appears in the plain text. For example, the word Makom, place, appears with the skip 2 starting with the letter in position 354 of the text while its appearance in the plain text starts with the letter in position 374. A table showing all the ELSs of מקום from the second verse of Genesis through the 2 nearby ELSs that Professor Rips had observed is shown in the table below.

(Capturing in PDF in case the website link becomes unavailable.)

Place	מקום
Place	מקום

The table on a cylinder size of 31 shows all the ELSs of the key word מקום appearing before the two ELSs at the bottom of the table, which were the ones observed by Professor Rips.

Another instance of clustering was for the key word **גלות**, Exile. The number small skip ELSs of this key word in the text of Genesis are: 4 skip 1 ELSs, 2 skip 2 ELSs, one skip -3 ELS and one skip 3 ELS. The small skip ELS of **גלות** that Professor Rips observed is the skip -3 ELS. As there are only two absolute skips smaller than skip 3, each one of the skips having some ELSs, Professor Rips describes this small skip ELS in the cluster he observed as the third minimal skip ELS of **גלות**. The table below shows the cluster that Professor had observed.

(Capturing in PDF in case the website link becomes unavailable.)

Exile	גלות
Exile	<mark>גלות</mark>
Exile	<mark>גלות</mark>
Exile	גלות

The table on a cylinder size of 29 shows one clustering of ELSs of the key word גלות observed by Professor Rips in the early years of his Torah code research. This cluster spans from Genesis chapter 19 verse 5 through Genesis 19 verse 12, the story of Lot.

The cluster is in the story of Lot. Recall a mob of men from Sodom tried to grab the angels who were visiting and being sheltered by Lot and take them to the street to sodomize them as they did with all male visitors to Sodom. The last part of the verse Genesis 19:9 says they approached to break the door [ of Lot's house], ויגשו לשבר הגלת. The table below highlights this phrase in the exile cluster table.

(Capturing in PDF in case the website link becomes unavailable.)

Exile	גלות
Exile	<mark>גלות</mark>
Exile	<mark>גלות</mark>
Exile	גלות

```
1/19:05 לון ניסה ליכה ליכה לינו מאל לינון נדיסה לינון נדיסה לינון נדיסה לינון נדיסה לינון נדיסה לינון ניסה מורי ליסה מורי ליס
```

This table highlights in the exile table cluster the last phrase of the verse Genesis chapter 19 verse 9. they approached to break the door.

This verse and its context struck Professor Rips as being significant. He thought about the many pogroms to which the Jews in exile had been subjected throughout history. In particular, he recalled the pogroms in Russia: in the period of 1881 through 1884, there were over 200 pogroms in the Russian Empire, those in Kiev, Warsaw, and Odessa. From 1903 through 1906 there were pogroms in 64 towns and 626 small towns of the Russian Empire. After 1917, there were an estimated 70,000 to 250,000 Jews who were killed in Russian pogroms. For more details read the wiki article. So he decided to look for ELSs of the key word אורום, pogram that might be close to the phrase: they approached to break the door. What he found surpised him: an ELS of eikeria crosses the phrase in the table below.

(Capturing in PDF in case the website link becomes unavailable.)

Pogram	פוגרום
They approached	ויגשו
To break	לשבר
The door	<mark>הדלת</mark>

```
1/11: 08 המשמעלפניכלה 1/11: 08
1/14: 05 יכלה 1/14: 05
1/17: 09 האלה ימאלאבר 1/17: 09
1/19: 09 הדלת 1/17: 09
1/21: 14 ולשבר הדלת 1/19: 09
1/21: 14 יקחלחמ וחמת 1/21: 14
1/23: 17 רלפניממר אהש דה 1/23: 17
```

The cylinder size for this table is 3223. It shows an ELS of the key word *Pogrom* crossing the phrase *they approached to break the door*, which is the last phrase of the verse of Genesis chapter 19 verse 9.

This is an example where the ELS is not a small skip ELS. There are 7 ELSs of the key word **elso** and the ELS shown in the table above is the fifth from the minimal skip ELS in Genesis or the third from the maximal skip ELS in Genesis.

In ancient times, the battering ram would be used to break down the door. The earliest Assyrian battering ram dates from about 900BCE. The time of Lot is many hundreds of years before this and we suppose that battering rams were not known in the time of Lot. But the idea that to break down the door you have to hammer at it was certainly known. It is interesting to see that crossing the phrase *they approached to break the door* is an ELS of the key word **p.**, hammer. This is shown in the table below.

They approached	<mark>ויגשו</mark>
To break	לשבר
The door	הדלת
Hammer	פטיש

```
1/19:09 ל גשולשברהדלת
1/19:10 בל ההואתהדלת 1/19:10
1/19:11 ממקט נועדגדול (1/19:11
1/19:12 לכברות נובנים
```

(Capturing in PDF in case the website link becomes unavailable.)

The cylinder size for this table is 45. With expected number of ELSs set to 20, the probability that a text from the ELS random placement text population would have an ELS of פטיש, hammer, cross the phrase they approached to break the door to make a table as small as this one is about 43.5/10,000.

The pogrom experiment led Professor Rips to hypothesize that not just small skip ELS might be important, but large skip ELSs also could be important if they their rank from the minimal skip ELS is not that far.

Later, but still in the early eighties, Professor Rips talked with Doron Witztum who had lived, through 1979, in the same French Hill neighborhood as Professor Rips. Witztum had been a PhD student at the Hebrew University studying and teaching physics. He did his first degree in both math and physics and his second degree in physics, specializing in general relativity. He left his physics studies in 1977 to spend all his time learning Torah. In the spring of 1985 Witztum decided to do some research of his own on Torah codes. Professor Rips gave him a program for searching for ELSs and this enabled him to do his work on the computers at the Jerusalem College of Technology. In the Spring of 1985 Witztum had results he thought interesting and shared them with Professor Rips.

Witztum and Rips tell that they realized that the Torah code phenomena occurred with those ELSs that are minimal on large portions of the text, including even ELSs with very big skips, and excluding short skip ELSs which are minimal skip ELSs on only short portions of the text. This came to be known as the principle of minimal skips: the better ELSs are those which are closer, in rank, to being minimal skip ELSs, even if their skips were large in absolute magnitude.

Witztum suggested focusing on ELSs that are minimal skip ELSs on large portions of the text and examine them for two kinds patterns:

- Meetings between minimal skip ELSs of one expression with a conceptually related expression in the string of letters of the Torah text itself
- Meetings between near minimal skip ELSs of two conceptually related expressions

It was at this meeting that Witztum suggested that the proximity of the two patterns should be measured on two-dimensional arrays. Specifically, for a given ELS with skip s to consider cylinders with circumference s, s/2, s/3 etc.

Witztum called this the principle of two-dimensional writing and it is on such code cylinders that all Torah code tables are shown today. Witztum's ideas were immensely fruitful.

During 1985 through 1987 Doron Witztum produced a stream of remarkable findings. Professor Rips was particularly impressed with Witztum's discovery of the הגאון מוילנא, The Gaon of Vilna, code. The minimal skips for both key words in the book of Genesis have a remarkable meeting in a segment of only 46 letters out of 78064 letters of the book of Genesis. This meeting is shown in the table below.

(Capturing in PDF in case the website link becomes unavailable.)

```
The Gaon תגאון From Vilna מוילנא ווילנא בי מא נחנולא היועבדי כמרגלימן יאמראלהם 1/42:11 ניא ישאחד נחנו כן ימא נחנולא היועבדי כמרגלימן יאמראלהם 1/42:11
```

This is remarkable the Gaon of Vilna table discovered by Doron Witztum. With expected number of ELSs set to 20, the probability that a text in the ELS random placement text population of the Five Books would produce a table as small or smaller than this one is 70.5/10,000.

## Witztum's French Revolution Study

One of Witztum's early studies was of the French Revolution, an important historical topic. In a period of three years, the royal monarchy that had ruled France for hundreds of years collapsed. In some senses this was the start of equal rights for all men in the European countries. The first Witztum table we show uses the key words מהפבה הצרפתית, French Revolution. הצרפתית, French, has only one ELS in the book of Genesis and it is therefore the minimal skip ELS.

French	Reי הצרפתית	volution	<mark>מהפכה</mark>	
מרעימהיומוי81/40:08 זחלומפרעהאחל1/41:25 זחלומפרעהאחל2:09	ריוספאלפרעו	<b>ל יו</b> יאמו	ואינמגיד	127 1/41:24
בקש נואמלאהב 1/43:09 ויחפשב גד ולה 1/44:12 אתבתיכמובא (1/45:18 מהמעשיכמואם 1/46:34	וא ישאמתחת ו ז ואתאב יכמ וו	הויפתח כנענוקו	מתחת וא <mark>ר</mark> צו ובא וארצה	1/44:11 1/45:17

The cylinder size is 2103. This is the smallest area table having ELSs in Genesis of these key words.

The second table below shows the meeting Witztum found in Genesis of the smallest skip ELS for the key word בצרפת, *In France* with the key word, *aneca*, *Revolution*.

```
בצרפת | מהפכה | מהפכה | ויצחקן יאמראלה ימל ישראל במראתהל ילהן יאמר 2011/46:01 | 1/46:02 | יו יצחקן יאמראלה ימל ישראל במראתהל ילהן יאמר 2013/146:05 | 1/46:05 | 1/46:05 | 1/46:05 | 1/46:05 | 1/46:05 | 1/46:05 | 1/46:05 | 1/46:05 | 1/46:07 | 1/46:07 | 1/46:07 | 1/46:07 | 1/46:07 | 1/46:07 | 1/46:12 | 1/46:12 | 1/46:12 | 1/46:12 | 1/46:12 | 1/46:12 | 1/46:12 | 1/46:15 | 1/46:16 | 1/46:15 | 1/46:20 | 1/46:19 | 1/46:20 | 1/46:20 | 1/46:20 | 1/46:20 | 1/46:20 | 1/46:20 | 1/46:20 | 1/46:20 | 1/46:20 | 1/46:20 | 1/46:20 | 1/46:20 | 1/46:20 | 1/46:20 | 1/46:20 | 1/46:20 | 1/46:20 | 1/46:20 | 1/46:20 | 1/46:20 | 1/46:30 | 1/46:30 | 1/46:30 | 1/46:30 | 1/46:30 | 1/46:30 | 1/47:02 | 1/46:30 | 1/47:02 | 1/47:00 | 1/47:00 | 1/47:00 | 1/47:00 | 1/47:00 | 1/47:00 | 1/47:00 | 1/47:00 | 1/47:00 | 1/47:00 | 1/47:00 | 1/47:00 | 1/47:00 | 1/47:00 | 1/47:00 | 1/47:00 | 1/47:00 | 1/47:00 | 1/47:00 | 1/47:00 | 1/47:00 | 1/47:00 | 1/47:00 | 1/47:00 | 1/47:00 | 1/47:00 | 1/47:00 | 1/47:00 | 1/47:00 | 1/47:00 | 1/47:00 | 1/47:00 | 1/47:00 | 1/47:00 | 1/47:00 | 1/47:00 | 1/47:00 | 1/47:00 | 1/47:00 | 1/47:00 | 1/47:00 | 1/47:00 | 1/47:00 | 1/47:00 | 1/47:00 | 1/47:00 | 1/47:00 | 1/47:00 | 1/47:00 | 1/47:00 | 1/47:00 | 1/47:00 | 1/47:00 | 1/47:00 | 1/47:00 | 1/47:00 | 1/47:00 | 1/47:00 | 1/47:00 | 1/47:00 | 1/47:00 | 1/47:00 | 1/47:00 | 1/47:00 | 1/47:00 | 1/47:00 | 1/47:00 | 1/47:00 | 1/47:00 | 1/47:00 | 1/47:00 | 1/47:00 | 1/47:00 | 1/47:00 | 1/47:00 | 1/47:00 | 1/47:00 | 1/47:00 | 1/47:00 | 1/47:00 | 1/47:00 | 1/47:00 | 1/47:00 | 1/47:00 | 1/47:00 | 1/47:00 | 1/47:00 | 1/47:00 | 1/47:00 | 1/47:00 | 1/47:00 | 1/47:00 | 1/47:00 | 1/47:00 | 1/47:00 | 1/47:00 | 1/47:00 | 1/47:00 | 1/47:00 | 1/47:00 | 1/47:00 | 1/47:00 | 1/47:00 | 1/47:00 | 1/47:00 | 1/47:00 | 1/47:00 | 1/47:00 | 1/47:00 | 1/47:00 | 1/47:00 | 1/47:00 | 1/47:00 | 1/47:00 | 1/47:00 | 1/47:00 | 1/47:00 | 1/47:00 | 1/47:00 | 1/47:00 | 1/47:00 | 1/47:00 | 1/47:00 | 1/47:00 | 1/47:00 | 1/47:00 | 1/47:00 | 1/47:00 | 1/47:00 | 1/47:00 | 1/47:00 | 1/47:00 | 1/47:00 | 1/47:00 | 1/47:0
```

(Capturing in PDF in case the website link becomes unavailable.)

The cylinder size is 162. This is the smallest area table having ELSs in Genesis of these key words.



## The storming of the Bastille.

The flashpoint of the French Revolution was on July 14,1789 when mobs stormed the Bastille which represented the royal authority in the center of Paris. While the prison only contained 7 inmates at the time of its storming, its fall became an icon for the French Revolution. The table below shows the closest meeting between ELSs in Genesis of the key words *Bastille and Revolution*. Notice that the ELS for מהפבה, *Revolution*, in this table and the previous two tables is the same skip 9 ELS. This ELS tightly links together these three tables, tables appearing on very different and non-resonant cylinder sizes.

	Bastille	בסטיליא	Revolution	<mark>מהפכה</mark>	
1/39:03] NN	ובייה וה	ין יראאדני כויוספזר	נין המצר	יה יבביתאו	1/39:02
1/41:23 7 7 7	קותשדפו	רויוספזר לימצנמותז צרימוכלהא	ז נה <b>שבע</b> שבי	ותו <mark>ט</mark> בותור	1/41:22
1/42:34 2 2 3	אח יכמאת	נימאתמאה בואיוספו	ל ימאתמכיי	לכי <mark>ל</mark> אמרגל	<b>7</b> 1/42:34
1/44:25 1 NT	ודניויאמ	ל ואתדבריא ישלחאתאחי	מביונגדי:	ינו <mark>א</mark> לעבדי	7 × 1/44:24
1/46:34 <b>2</b> 00)	מעשיכמ 📆	רעה ואמרם	ייקראלכמ <mark>ו</mark>	יאווה יה <mark>כ</mark> י	1/46:32

The cylinder size is 1768. This is the smallest area table having ELSs in Genesis of these key words.

At the time of the French revolution the King of France was Louis XVI. He was from the royal family of the house of Bourbon. The table below, which Witztum found, shows the smallest area table in Genesis having ELSs of the key words *House of Bourbon* and *Louis*.

(Capturing in PDF in case the website link becomes unavailable.)

The cylinder size is 75. This is the smallest area table having ELSs in Genesis of these key words.

The table below shows the smallest area table having ELSs of the key words *King Louis of France*. He was the last king of France and suffered the guillotine in 1793.

	King		בצרפת	
	Of France		<mark>המלך</mark>	
1/4	4:15 7 X )	זמה הול	7 1/44:	15
1/4	ره ( 4:27	ל תמ	1 1/44:	2 7
1/4	5:06 🔵 🞾 🔿 🖰	יפני	7 🞾 1 / 45 :	0 5
1/4	5: 18 A	ואח	771/45:	18
1/4	6:02 7 <b>2</b>	אראל	<b>り</b> う 1/46:	0 2
1/4	6:16 🤰 💆 💆	7 7 7 3	1/46:	1 6
1/4	· 6 : 30 🗇 🔰 🚺	גמאר	1 2 1/46:	3 0
1/4	7:07 🞵 🔀 💁	ל לוס	1/47:	07
1/4	·7 : 18 치 🞾 🔰	(א וח	11/47:	17
1 / 4	7:27	ברע:	7 🗍 1 / 47 :	2 6
1 / 4	8:06) 🤰 📆	אַ ל כ	<mark>]                                    </mark>	0 6

Louis

The cylinder size is 647. This is the smallest area table having ELSs in Genesis of these key words.

By the late 1980's Witztum put together his findings in his first Torah code book, **המימד הנוסף**, *The Additional Dimension*, which was published in the winter of 1988.

#### The Great Rabbi's Experiment

In the summer of 1985 Doron Witztum, Eliyahu Rips and Yoav Rosenberg (WRR) decided to investigate convergences between ELSs of the names and appellations of famous rabbinical personalities and their dates of birth and death. This study would be a formal study of the meetings between near minimal skip ELSs of two conceptually related expressions. At that time Yoav Rosenberg was a student at the Jerusalem College of Technology. It was he who wrote the program. Later he went on to complete his PhD in Computer Science at Hebrew University.

To this end a list of personalities was prepared, using the *Encyclopedia of Great Men in Israel* for the basis of the list. The list was to include only the most famous individuals, i.e. those whose entries consisted of at least three columns of text, and for whom dates of birth and/or death were cited. A list of names and appellations was prepared before the experiment began, by Professor Shlomo Havlin, then head of the Department of Bibliography and Librarianship at Bar Ilan University, following professional guidelines. The rules of orthography and the form of the Hebrew date were also established a priori by the linguist Yaakov Orbach, of blessed memory.

Measurements of the convergences indicated that there is a very strong tendency for the some of the appellations of the personalities to converge with their associated dates. WRR published their results in a Hebrew University report describing their research, in the autumn of 1986.

(Capturing in PDF in case the website link becomes unavailable.)

The report was sent to Professor Diaconis, who is a statistician. Thinking that the experimental results was due to tuning the method to the data, he proposed that a new list of famous personalities be prepared, to be investigated using the exact same program. To compile the new list WRR took those personalities whose entries in the *Encyclopedia of Great Men of Israel* were between 1.5 and 3 columns of text, and for whom a date of birth and/or death were cited. The dates were written in exactly the same format as was previously established. This time, too, the list of names and appellations was prepared *a priori* by Professor Havlin, using the same professional criteria. Measurements were made using the same program as in the first experiment. The results were very successful.

A paper describing the two experiments was published as a Hebrew University report in the winter of 1988. A shortened version of this paper was submitted for publication in *Proceedings of the National Academy of Sciences* by Professor Robert Aumann. Professor Diaconis was one of the reviewers. In a letter to Professor Aumann, dated 3 Aug. '88, Professor Diaconis suggested that a permutation test be used to estimate the p-value of the result. Eventually the details of the test, the number of permutations and the requisite level of significance, were agreed upon by Professor Diaconis and Professor Aumann (as laid down in a letter dated 7 Sept. '90, written by Professor Aumann and approved by Professor Diaconis two days later). Professor Aumann delivered a copy of the agreement to WRR. At Professor Aumann's recommendation a new paper was composed, even before the experiment was run. This version described the new test, leaving out the results, which did not yet exist. This paper was sent to Professor Diaconis and to several other well known statisticians. They approved the test as it was described in the paper, and they stipulated (each one independently) the level of significance that should be required.

The experiment was run in the winter of 1991. The results were very significant: pvalue = 0.000016, well beyond the proposed cutoffs. The results were then incorporated into the paper. The paper was finally published in the journal *Statistical Science*, Vol. 9 (1994) No. 3, 429-438. The journal article indicates the affiliation of both Witztum and Rosenberg at Jerusalem College Of Technology. That affiliation arose because Jerusalem College of Technology gave them access to their computation facility in return for the agreement to list their affiliations as the Jerusalem College of Technology.

The method designed by Witztum and Rips in the great rabbi's study for scoring compactness is interesting. It involved two independent components. The first component was the compactness of pairs of ELSs in terms of their geometry on the cylinder. The second component involved the quality of the ELSs. The quality of the ELSs itself had two components. The first component was the fraction of the text over which the ELS is minimal. The second component was that in searching for ELSs, the maximum absolute skip was set so that the expected number of ELSs for the key word would be about 10. In later years, Torah code researchers like Professor Haralick did not fully appreciate the need for incorporating the quality of the ELS in terms of the fraction of the text over which the ELS was minimal or in terms of a ELS quality measure like the Rotenberg R-value. All the tables on this site have been created using a protocol that uses area of the table as the compactness for the geometry component and the maximum

(Capturing in PDF in case the website link becomes unavailable.) absolute skip being set on the basis of expected number of ELSs. The resulting compactness measure is undoubtedly less sensitive a detector than the original Witztum and Rips design.

The WRR publication caused a controversy. A discussion of the controversy can be found at <a href="http://www.torah-code.org/controversy/controversy.shtml">http://www.torah-code.org/controversy/controversy.shtml</a>. Some aspects of the controversy are explained in <a href="http://www.torah-code.org/papers/icpr98.pdf">http://www.torah-code.org/papers/icpr98.pdf</a>. Witztum's website is <a href="http://www.torahcode.co.il/">http://www.torahcode.co.il/</a> and has his extensive remarks on the controversy. The Torah code opponents not only systematically maligned Witztum and Rips as if they were corrupt politicians, but carried on an agenda of doing methodologically incorrect non-apriori experiments to show that compact tables can be found not only in the Torah but in non-Torah books as well. Indeed counterfeit experiments produce counterfeit results. This whole controversy from the counterfeit side, cased in language that has the appearance of mathematical and statistical correctness can be found in the <a href="website">website</a> of Professor Simon, and the <a href="website">website</a> of Professor Simon, and the website of Avraham Hasofer.

Following publication of the paper in *Statistical Science*, in March 1994, Professor Rips was invited to give a guest lecture to the Israeli National Academy of Sciences on the subject of: *ELS's in the Book of Genesis: the Statistical Significance of the Phenomenon*. A paper (in Hebrew) with this title, co-authored by WRR, was submitted to INAS but was not published.

In 1995 WRR published as a preprint an article entitled: *Equidistant Letter Sequences in the Book of Genesis: II. The Relationship to the Text*. This article dealt with convergences between expressions appearing as ELS's and expressions appearing in consecutive letters in Genesis. One of the samples discussed in the article was the Nations Sample. Measurements conducted on this sample indicated a particularly high level of statistical significance: the p-level for one of the two statistics used, was better then 4/1,000,000,000. In light of criticisms leveled against the composition of this sample and its measurement, by Professor Bar Natan, Professor McKay, and Professor Sternberg, a new and refined study was conducted which led to p-value of 5/100,000,000,000. Thus, a careful analysis of the critics' data and suggestions led to new results supporting WRR research hypothesis with high significance.

Since WRR's experiment using the second list, other experiments involving different lists have been conducted, including several designed to replicate the original second list experiment. A number of works and published papers are found at Witztum's website. At the beginning of 1999, several lists of names and appellations were compiled by Dr. Simcha Emanuel, a specialist in rabbinical history at Tel-Aviv University. He was engaged by MBBK (McKay, Bar-Natan, Bar-Hillel & Kalai), opponents of the Codes' research, and his work was guided by them without WRR's knowledge. One of the lists was intended to "mimic" WRR's second list. Emanuel's new list contains names and appellations of the personalities included in WRR's second list, which he collected without seeing Prof. Havlin's original names and appellations for it. Witztum repeated WRR's original experiment exactly, with one single change: Instead of Havlin's names and appellations, he used Emanuel's. The experiment succeeded with considerable significance. You can read about it in the paper New Statistical Evidence for a Genuine Code in Genesis.

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In 2004, Witztum published his second book צופן בראשית, *The Code of Genesis* which describes and explains his research and gives an accurate account of the Torah Code phenomena. As well it also the documents that the complete story of the WRR publication in *Statistical Science*. Mr. Witztum published a paper The Hidden Birth Dates of

## **Torah Code History**

## Michelson, Gans, and Spielberg

Dr. Daniel Michelson became interested in Torah codes in the early 1980's after Professor Rips showed him his Torah code work. He wrote a <u>paper</u> about codes which was widely circulated in email form and which appeared in B'or Ha Torah in 1987. His work brought knowledge of Torah codes to many people.

In the late 1980's, Harold Gans, then a senior cryptologic mathematician (a code breaker) working for the National Security Agency, U.S. Department of Defense, heard about the Witztum Rips, and Rosenberg (WRR) study and found it hard to believe. In 1990, he undertook an independent evaluation, writing his own software that implemented a protocol almost identical to that of WRR. He obtained nearly the same remarkable results of the association between rabbinic appellations and dates of their birth or death. He then made an independent experiment pairing appellations of the great rabbis used in WRR with the cities of their birth or death. He used a rule based protocol developed by Zvi Inbal to provide the Hebrew transliteration of the Jewish names of the cities, (the names of the cities as they were called by the Jews), that was required for the experiment. His results were even more significant than the WRR experiment. The p-value was 1/166,000. Some people raised questions about Inbal's rule based protocol. Gans then sought expert opinion from rabbis literally all over the world to check Inbal's rules. Gans found, in fact, that Inbal's rules were correct and he found, as well, that there was a name misprint in one the encylopedia sources they used. But to keep the protocol completely a priori, they did not correct the encyclopedia mistake in their city name data. Some years later he redid the experiment using the formula for measuring compactness as exactly as used in WRR. The new p-value was 1/250,000. The paper describing the new experiment was given at the 2006 Pattern Recognition Conference.

Also in the late 1980's Rabbi Dr. Yochanan Spielberg became interested in Torah code research and wrote his own program, Bible Search Pro, that was commercially sold, the program that Torah code researcher Michael Drosnin bought in 1992 and used to produce the tables in his first Bible code book published in 1997. According to Spielberg, he and Drosnin had an oral agreement that Drosnin would credit Spielberg's software in his book. Drosnin never acknowledged that he used Spielberg's software and in 2000 Spielberg initiated a lawsuit that was decided in 2001 in Drosnin's favor. Spielberg's website can be found at <a href="https://www.torahsoft.com">www.torahsoft.com</a>

#### The Later Years

In the 1991, during the time of the war in the Persian Gulf, soon after Dr. Alexander Rotenberg, emigrated to Israel, he met Professor Rips who told him about the Torah codes. This sparked Rotenberg's interest in

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Torah codes. Dr. Rotenberg was so impressed, that he decided to check it by himself. Together with his friend Andrey Smirnov they wrote the SofSofTorah program. To this day, this program remains one of the most important tools of the research. They included in this program the kind of statistical calculations Witztum, Rips, and Rosenberg used in the WRR study, but it has many other useful functions thought out and designed by Dr. Rotenberg. This is the program that is the main interactive program used by Professor Rips, even to this day. As well, it was the program used by Michael Drosnin in doing the searches for his second and third Bible code books.

Dr. Rotenberg developed his own protocol for Torah Code research. His protocol concentrates on closest meeting and closest pair of ELSs. He has hundreds of examples showing that they are part of the foundation of the encoding. For an application of this principle, he examined key words of some major Torah commentators as they wrote about a particular Torah passage. Rotenberg hypothesized that in or near these passages he would find ELSs of the exact same the key words the commentators used. His book *And All this is Truth* summarizing many of Rotenberg's findings was published in 2005.

An example table of the kind that Dr. Rotenberg finds is the table below that relates to the verse *And Nadav and Avihu died*, Numbers 4:3. This is the story about the two sons of Aaron who after the desert Temple, the Mishkan, was sanctified, took a strange fire into the Mishkan. The Zohar (Shimini) in commenting on the verse *Do not drink wine or strong drink, neither you, nor your sons with you.* (Vayikra 10:8) quotes Rabbi Yehuda.

Rabbi Yehuda said that from this chapter we learn that Nadab and Abihu were under the influence of wine from the fact that the priests were warned about it.

Interestingly enough, Dr. Rotenberg finds two sets of ELSs of *intoxification with wine* that cross the verse *And Naday and Avihu died*. This is shown in the table below.

And died	<mark>וימת</mark>	Intoxicated	<mark>שתויי</mark> <mark>שתויי</mark>
Nadav	נדב	With Wine	יין יין יין
And Avihu	ואביהוא		

```
#/02:28 ארבעימאלפ וחמשמא #/02:28 לארבעימאלפ וחמשמא #/02:32 לארביתא לביתאלכביתא לפודי בנישראללביתא למונים או לארמשמרת למונים או לארמים או או לארמים או לארמים או לארמים או לארמי
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The ELSs for *intoxification* are long skip ELSs. The cylinder size is 150. With expected number of ELSs set to 300, the probability that a text from the ELS random placement text population would

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produce a table with one set of ELSs of *intoxification with wine* crossing one of the two instances of *And Nadav and Avihu died* is less than 1/10,000.

In the early 1990's Dr. Moshe Katz worked on his own Torah code program and began giving talks on his Torah code research. Dr. Katz was the first person to find the ELS of Yitzchak Rabin's name associated with the nearby key words assassin will assassinate, and communicated this information to Rabin's office as well as the people responsible for his security. His main findings of that period are published in his book *Computorah*, published in 1996 and it comes with his software.

In the early 1990's Rabbi Glazerson and Professor Haralick began working on Torah codes. They published their first book on Torahcodes in 1996. Its title is *Torah Codes and Israel Today*. The book is noteworthy because it formalized a different protocol than the one used by WRR for Torah codes research. It associated with every Torah code table a measure of compactness which was the length of the shortest length text segment that contained ELSs of each of the a prior specified key words. It also measured the statistical significance of that shortest length text segment by performing the identical search in a randomly perturbed Torah text. The perturbation test favored in that book was the ELS random placement permutation method. This is the method that is used for all studies on this website. Professor Haralick presented two papers <="" a="" style="color: rgb(0, 102, 204);"> at the 2006 International Conference on Pattern Recognition.

During this period of time, Torah code research results were often shown as tables which were rectangular windows extracted from the cylinder on which the table was found. Haralick's shortest length text segment was a linear measure of compactness which penalized tables found on large cylinder sizes. Professor Rips' intuition was that this was not a good measure. Therefore Professor Haralick wrote new programs to use the area of the smallest area table that contained at least one ELS of each of the key words as a measure of compactness. All of the tables produced on this website use table area as the compactness measure.

Dr. Jeffrey Satinover, a writer on controversial topics, got interested in Torah codes in the mid 1990's and published his book *Cracking the Bible Codes* in 1997. The book has much information on Torah code history, Rabbi Weissmandel, and the Holocaust.

Michael Drosnin published his first book *Bible Code* on Torah codes in 1997. Mr. Drosnin gets the tremendous credit of making Torah codes widely known and popularizing them. In his book Mr. Drosnin tells about his meetings with important political leaders, the Torah code tables he shared with them and how he interpreted the Torah code tables to make predictions. Mr. Drosnin is the second person who found an ELS of Yitzchak Rabin with the associated key words *assassin will assassinate* a year before the Rabin assassination.

Mr. Drosnin frequently interacts with and consults with Professor Rips. From what he writes in his books, it is clear that he was constantly asking Professor Rips to check his tables, see if he saw anything else in the tables, or give his opinion about an interpretation of his tables. It is no wonder that there are about 70

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pages of his book on which the Rips name is mentioned at least once. On some of those page the Rips name is mentioned multiple times. Nevertheless, as we shall see from the statement below, Professor Rips disassociates himself from the book.

Professor Rips, made the following statement.

While I did meet and talk to Mr. Drosnin, I did not do joint work with him. I do not support Mr. Drosnin's work on the Codes, nor the conclusions he derives. There is an impression that I was involved in finding the code relating to Prime Minister Rabin's assassination. This is not true. However, I did witness, in 1994, Mr. Drosnin find[ing of] the tableaux about Prime Minister Rabin, which now appears on the cover of his book.

It is the inference of predictions from what appears to be compact tables, exactly the kind of use of Torah code that Drosnin makes, that is particularly troubling to Torah code researchers. The making of predictions has a logical as well as statistical problem. See <u>Drosnin's false predictions</u>.

What was the basis of Drosnin's predictions? He had an initial hypothesis that if he found a relatively compact table, one that in some intuitive sense was unlikely to occur by chance, and if the table had key words that described some future possible event, then the table was predicting the event would occur. There are a few of these predictions that Drosnin would argue in fact happened. There are others which did not. As these events did not occur, he had to revise his hypothesis: that the relatively compact table was only indicating the possibility of the event. Of course the possibility that something might happen is not really any prediction at all, but in 1997 when the book was published, it was a good advertising to get people to buy his book which predicted disasters and catastrophies in 2000 and 2006 that did not occur. Disasters sell. Indeed people did buy his book.

According to the Torah code hypothesis, if a major event happens, then some descriptive key words of the event is likely to have an associated relatively compact table in the Torah. However, relatively compact tables from the Torah text do not mean anything because there are many relatively compact tables that do not correspond to any event. Only if relatively compact tables had a one to one correspondence with events, could the finding of a relatively compact table be used for prediction.

This point, that a major event happening implies a relatively compact table but a relatively compact table does not imply a major event is hard for many people to understand. It is not unusual for people untrained in logic to make arguments and mistake the *A implies B* proposition as equivalent to the *B implies A* proposition. In short, there exist compact tables having ELSs of key words describing an event, its time and place, that never has happened or will happen. And there is no way to distinguish the compact tables that do correspond to real events except by a proper experiment using a priori key words. That many people do not understand this unfortunately clouds the proper understanding of Torah codes.

Now, let us read what Harold Gans and Doron Witztum publicly stated about Drosnin's book. Harold Gans, made this statement.

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The book states that the codes in the Torah can be used to predict future events. This is absolutely unfounded. There is no scientific or mathematical basis for such a statement, and the reasoning used to come to such a conclusion in the book is logically flawed. While it is true that some historical events have been shown to be encoded in the Book of Genesis in certain configurations, it is absolutely not true that every similar configuration of "encoded" words necessarily represents a potential historical event. In fact, quite the opposite is true: most such configurations will be quite random and are expected to occur in any text of sufficient length.

Doron Witztum made the following statement.

There is a danger that the entire credibility of codes research will be destroyed. Mr. Drosnin's work employs no scientific methodology. No distinction is made between statistically valid codes, and accidental appearances, which can be found in any book. For example, Drosnin's "code" of the comet Shoemaker Levy crashing into Jupiter is statistically meaningless. Such a code can be found by accident in 1 out of any 3 books checked!

Drosnin carries through his incorrect inference that Torah codes can be the basis of predictions in his second book *Bible Code II*, published in 2002, and his third book *Bible Code III*, published in 2010. In fact on page 4 of his 2010 book he writes:

The Bible Code did not predict the obvious. Again and again it predicted what no one believed possible and then it came true.

This kind of statement is unfortunate because it is easy to produce statistically significant tables based on the kind of topics he has shown in which the key words, "predict," in his sense, something historically incorrect, totally incorrect. This is the reason that proper Torah code experiments must have a protocol and the key words must be a priori key words.

On the more positive side, Drosnin is truly devoted to the Torah Codes. He is serious and sincere in his attempts to discover and inform political leaders of potential disasters, by the interpretations he has of the tables he has found. His experimental protocol is not a priori. His intuition about table compactness has has improved with time. Many of the tables in his third book, published in 2010 would indeed have high statistical significance, when evaluated according to standard protocols, assuming a priori key word lists.

As a side note, although Drosnin is a good popular writer, he evidently is not a trustworthy historian. His 2010 book has some historical inaccuracies, crediting Professor Rips with discoverying the Bible code (page 9), crediting Professor Rips with writing a codes computer program (page 9) and jointly writing a codes computer program with Dr. Rotenberg (page 205).

We have spent more space discussing Drosnin than really intended. But since Drosnin's books are popular, people may incorrectly think that it is methodologically correct to make predictions from Torah codes or people may realize that it is not methodologically correct and think that therefore all the serious

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work is also not methodologically correct. Thus Drosnin's mistake spreads by association and reflects badly on all serious Torah code researchers. It is for this reason that good communicators must be held to a higher standard.

# **Torah Code History**

#### **Torah Code Researchers**

In this section we provide a brief description of some of the people we know who are doing Torah code work or who have written about Torah code research.

Drosnin's first book in 1997 influenced Barry Roffman to research Torah codes. Roffman had a hypothesis that if anything is encoded, it certainly would be that the Ark of the Covenant and its location would be encoded. As he began to develop tables he saw the beginning characters of ELSs in the table as relating to the beginning characters of other ELSs as a course direction in a north south east west sense. He developed this hypothesis into the book *Ark Code*, published in 2004, in which he hypothesizes, on the basis of these kinds of relationships, locations just off the Egyptian coast in the Mediteranean Sea where the Ark of the Covenant should be located.

The basis for Mr. Roffman's Torah code work on the Ark of the Covenant are tables having the key word for Ark of the Covenant and Jerusalem plus names of places that satisfy a constraint which makes them interesting to Mr. Roffman. There are two places just on the coast of Egypt that Mr. Roffman finds interesting. They are Zuqba and Bardawal. The table below has all the four key words. From the י of ירושלם, Jerusalem, to the צ of צקב, Zuqba, it is 7 rows down and 22 columns across. A triangle with opposite side of 7 and base of 22 has an angle whose tangent is 7/22=.3182. The angle is the arc tangent of .3182 which is 17.65 degrees. Starting from north, which he aligns with the top of the table, and rotating clockwise to 270 degrees less 17.65 degrees comes to 252.35 degrees. Zuqba is interesting because the geographic course heading from Jerusalem to Zuqba is 252.35 degrees. A similar kind of reasoning indicates that Bardawal is interesting.

Ark of the Covenant	<mark>ארון</mark> ברית	Zuqba	<mark>צקב</mark> צקב
Jerusalem	ירושלם	Bardawil	ברדול

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This is a table shown that the heading from ELSs of Jerusalem to Zuqba of the table agrees with the geographic course heading.

Mr. Roffman uses the interactive Code Finder program which permits ELSs to wrap around the Torah. Mr. Roffman does not use the analytic calculation the Code Finder program makes to determine p-values. Rather, he has developed his own way of doing an analytic calculation that approximates a p-value. His calculation is better than that in the Code Finder program. Sometimes it is close, but it is not unusual for it to be off by an order of magnitude. The only proper way to estimate a p-value is by a Monte Carlo experiment and none of the commercially available software does that.

More tables can be found on Mr. Roffman's website.

Art Levitt began exploring Torah codes from about 1997, influenced by a Discovery Seminar, and has worked with Professor Rips. He is a careful researcher, always employing proper protocols, and his p-value estimates are conservative (meaning that the true p-values are much lower than his estimate). He presented several papers at the 2006 International Conference on Pattern Recognition. His most recent study is with Divine Names. His website can be found at <a href="https://www.torahcodes.net">www.torahcodes.net</a>.

There are a number of people who have done work in Torah codes, not all of them well known. Nachum Bombach worked with Torah codes from the mid 1990's. His website can be found at torahcodes.org. He and Mr. Gans presented a paper at the 2006 International Conference on Pattern Recognition and with others another paper at the same conference. Igor Pisetski and Chaim Stahl worked with Torah codes from the late 1990's. Although they have found many interesting tables, their work is not on any website. Dr. Leib Schwartzman worked with Torah codes from the late 1990's. He prefers working with minimal skip ELSs and has developed the dialog technique. Some of his tables are on this website. Boaz Metzger has worked with Professor Rips and has a website at <a href="http://torah-codes.com">http://torah-codes.com</a>.

Rabbi Glazerson views Torah codes as one of the methods of Torah interpretation in the same category as gematria. He interprets tables from a Torah point of view, letting the table reinforce the teaching of traditional Judaism. Rabbi Glazerson develops Torah code tables always with a context. His context is the verses in the Torah that are in the table and the commentary of the Sages' homiletic and esoteric interpretations of these verses. Therefore, Rabbi Glazerson brings out additional key words, related to the teachings of the sages, the oral teachings as discussed in the Medrash and in Kabbalah. Because his knowledge of the Medrash is extensive, he is often able to select key words for a topic which is discussed in the Medrash and which relates to an historical event or a Torah concept.

From the mid 1990's he began using Torah code tables to reinforce his lectures on Torah. In 2001 he published the book *The Twin Towers in Torah codes*. He, like Professor Rips, uses the Rotenberg SofSof Torah interactive Torah code program. The Torah code tables he develops in the book about the Twin Towers all involve short skip ELSs which he shows in the text itself, without making special tables extracted as windows on a cylinder. To illustrate the nature of Rabbi Glazerson's method of table

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interpretation, we consider a table about the Twin Towers shown below. The table includes the key words forming the sentence: Twin Towers Attack With Airplane Against Edom from Islam.

Twin Towers	התאומים	מגדלין	Against	נגד
Attack		מתקפת	Edom	אדום
With Airplane		במטוס	From Islam	מהאסלם
4/19:21	נדה יט	מיה	ווה נבעב	4/19:21
	שה נגע	וה נפי	מאיטמאו	074/19:22
4/20:01 שמ ול 20:02 שמ	דברצו	נדהמ	ראל כלה ע	4/20:01
	ותקבר	נבימ	ותמתשמם	4/20:01
4/20:03 ) 1	רנויר	נכאה	עלמשה וע	7 4/20:02
4/20:03 ) 1	אחינו	גוע	וגוענוב	1 4/20:03
4/20:04 1 1	ברהזה	המד	ליהוהאל	1 4/20:04
4/20:05 N 2 17	צרימל	נ ו <b>מ</b> מ	העל ית ו	4/20:05
4/20:05 2 2 2	תאנה ו	ורעו	אמק ומ	
4/20:06	נמני ני	ן אהר	יבאמשה ו	1 3 4/20:05
4/20:06	אכב ו <mark>ד</mark>	( ( יר:	עלפניהמ	2 4/20:06
4/20:08	המטה ו	זרו את	צהלאמרכ	4/20:07
4/20:08	לעלע	נה להי	בודברתם	1 2 1 4 / 20: 08
4/20:08	עוהשק	נה סיב	זממיממו	
4/20:10 4/20:10	פנייה לפניה הנוצי	עה ז	זר נאתהק מרמנהמל מרמנהסק	7 4/20:09 7 4/20:10 7 4/20:10
4/20:11	הופעמ	נבמט	כאתהסלע	7 7 4/20:11
4/20:12	מריהו		זובעיר <mark>ם</mark>	7 7 4/20:11
4/20:12 4/20:12 4/20:13 1)	להארצ ראלאת	י יש י יש	נונמ <mark>ב</mark> אתהקהלה צררבובו	<b>N</b> 4/20:12 <b>N</b> 4/20:12 <b>N</b> 1/20:13
4/20:14 أ ك أ	מלכאד	שאלי	אכיממקד	2 20:14

The cylinder size is 36. With expected number of ELSs set to 25, the probability that a text from the ELS random placement text population would have as small an area table as the one produced from the Torah text is less than 1/1,000,000.

On this table Rabbi Glazerson explains that the gematria of twins, התאומים, is 502. This equals the gematria of the metaphorical twins: Yishmael, ישמעאל, which has gematria 451 plus Edom אדום, which has gematria 51. The Kingdom of Christianity is considered to be Edom. So Edom includes Europe, the countries of the North American Continent, Australia, and New Zealand. At this time of history the lead country of Edom is the United States.

The Kingdom of Yishmael is considered to be the Arab countries of the Middle East. Yishmael is encoded in this same text area but its ELS has the small skip of 11 so to see it we must use a smaller cylinder size. A table showing the ELS for Yishmael is shown below.

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Twin Towers	מגדלין <mark>התאומים</mark>	
Yishmael	ישמעאל	
From Islam	מהאסלם	

```
4/20:04 1 2 7 7 7 7 2 7 24/20:04
 ליני 04 ליני 05 ליני 04 ליני 04 ליני 05 ליני 04 ליני 05 ליני 
   4/20:0475
  4/20:05) ע (תא נה וגפ נ 4/20:05
4/20:05 ב ל נ ומ למא ל נ ל 4/20:05
      1/20:06) הות ויבאמשה (1/20:05
   4/20:06 7 7 7 2 2 2 2 7 7 4/20:06
ליהמ (לדבר יהמ לאבר יהי לא 20:06
4/20:08 האלמש הלאמר ק
  4/20:08 אתהמטה והקהל 4/20:08
4/20:08 אתה של האתה ואה 4/20:08
   4/20:08 4/20:08 לכן דברתם 4/20:08
4/20:08 להטל על עיניה 4/20:08
  4/20:08
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  4/20:11 ימן ירממשהאת 4/20:10
4/20:11 ל כאתהסלע 174/20:11
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The cylinder size is 12. With expected number of ELSs set to 25, the probability that a text from the ELS random placement text population would have as small an area table as the one produced from the Torah text is 20/10,000.

The two twin towers tables shown above occur in the text spanning Numbers chapter 19 verse 11 through Numbers chapter 20 verse 14. The text material of Numbers chapter 20 begins with the death of Miriam. And as the Midrash explains, there was a well called Miriam's well. As the Jews wandered through the wilderness, lacking adequate water would have been fatal. In the merit of Miriam, God provided a moving well of water, one which followed the people throughout their wanderings until the moment of her death. When Miriam died, so did that well. Thus, there was no more water. And this is why the Israelites complained about the lack of water after Miriam's death.

God instructed Moses to take his staff and speak to the rock before the eyes of the Israelites. Then water would gush forth from the rock. Moses took his staff and then as Numbers 20:11 states,

(Capturing in PDF in case the website link becomes unavailable.)

Moses raised his arm and struck the rock with his staff twice; abundant water came forth and the assembly and their animals drank.

The Hebrew of this verse is on the first table about six rows from the bottom.

The symbolism of the rock, סלע, that Moses struct, can be understood by words formed from its letters: ס, ל, ע, o. These words are all associated with the forces of evil. The first word begin with its first letter o, samech, סמאל, Samael. Samael is the heavenly minister of the biblical character Esau. The principal characteristic of people who have internalized some spiritual similarity to Samael is haughtiness. The second word begins with its second letter d, lamed, לילית, Lilit. Lilit is the wife of Samael. The biblical character associated with Lilit is Hagar, the mother of Ishmael. The principal characteristic of people who have internalized some spiritual similarity to Lilit is desire, in the sense of lust. Hence the connection of Lilit to Yishmael. The third word begins with its third letter d, ayin, Or. Or, literally, skin, represents the covering, the shell, Kabbalistically the Klipah, that joins the two of them together.

Given this analysis, it should be no surprize that both Samael and Lilit appear as ELSs in the same text area. The ELS for Samael has a skip of 16 and that of Lilit has a skip of 67. Notice that the ELS for Samael begins with the samech of rock. These tables are shown below.

Twin Towers	מגדלין <mark>התאומים</mark>
Samael	סמאל
Skin	עור
From Islam	מהאסלם
Rock	<mark>ס לע</mark>

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      4/20:04 חול מודברה זהלם (120:04

      4/20:05 חול (120:05

      4/20:06 חול (120:05

      4/20:06 חול (120:06

      4/20:07 חול (120:06

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      4/20:08 חול (120:08

      4/20:09 חול (120:08

      4/20:10 חול (120:08

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(Capturing in PDF in case the website link becomes unavailable.)

The cylinder size is 18. With expected number of ELSs set to 50, the probability that a text from the ELS random placement text population would have as small an area table as the one produced from the Torah text is smaller than 1/100,000. The ELS for skin, was snooped, and was not part of the experiment.

Twin Towers	מגדלין <mark>התאומים</mark>
Lilit	לילית
From Islam	מהאסלם
Rock	סלע

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4/20:05 לית נוממצר ימלהב יאאת נואי 1/20:05
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4/20:12 יו 1/20:12
4/20:13 יו 1/20:13
4/20:14 יו 1/20:14
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The cylinder size is 36. With expected number of ELSs set to 50, the probability that a text from the ELS random placement text population would have as small an area table as the one produced from the Torah text is smaller than 1/10,000.

On September 11, 2001, Muslim Bin Laden and his terrorist Al-Qaeda, attacked the Twin Towers. Bin Laden was being supported and sheltered by the Taliban, the political organization that governed Afghanistan. Not quite four weeks later on the afternoon of October 7, the US, Canada, the United Kingdom, and Australia, began airstrikes on the capital of Afghanistan, Kabul its airport, at Kandahar, home of the Taliban's Supremem Leader Mullah Omar, and in the city of Jalalabad. The next day, October 8 was the seventh day of the Holiday of Sukkot. This day is called Hashana Raba, the day of the final judgment. This is the day on which God seals the book of judgment for the new year. And this is the day which according to our sages, will mark the start of the war of Gog and Magog. Interestingly enough the full gematria of Gog and Magog, October 3, obtained by spelling out each of the letters of Gog Magog,

# [גימל ואו גימל] [ואו ממ גימל ואו גימל]

is 451, equal to the gematria of ישמעאל, Yishmael.

Rabbi Glazerson teaches that the Zohar (Exodus Parshat Vaera 32:1). speaks of three wars that Yishmael will declare.

(Capturing in PDF in case the website link becomes unavailable.)

In the future, Yishmael will declare three fierce wars in the world and the descendants of Edom will gather against the descendants of Yishamel and fight three battles, one at sea, one on land and one near Jerusalem.

Evidently, the attack on Afghanistan marked the beginning of the battle on land.

Rabbi Glazerson teaches that because The World Trade Center, The Twin Towers, was one of the world's financial centers which housed gold and diamonds and because it was the location of the largest offices of the finance world's movers and shakers, that these towers symbolized the arrogance which stems from wisdom. He notes that the gematria of מגדל, tower, is 77 and equals the gematria of plus its number of letters. As already mentioned, the gematria of so and this is the gematria of Yishmael plus Edom since the arrogance and lust that the towers represented are the forces of Yishmael and Edom.

In 2004, Rabbi Glazerson published the book אין, דא שם לחשך, the End of Darkness. This book relates Torah code tables to kabbalah, repentence, and salvation. In 2005, with Professor Haralick, Professor Rips, he published the book Torah Codes: A Glimpse of the Infinite, a book that discusses technical and statistical protocol issues as well as answering various Torah code critics and then has within it a set of remarkable Torah code tables of recent historical events. In 2005 he published the book within it a set of remarkable Torah code tables of recent historical events. In 2005 he published the book Yisrael - Yishmael, Israel and Ishmael a book full of tables relating to the Palestinian and Arab leaders, all of whom wish to destroy Israel. Also in 2006 Rabbi Glazerson published the book Torah codes, all of whom wish to destroy Israel. Also in 2006 Rabbi Glazerson published the book Torah code, along with Professor Haralick, continued working on the theme of the conflict between Hamas and Israel. The 2008 book was called Yishamel Yisrael in Torah Codes. Also in 2008, he published a book of the Holocaust in Torah codes. Most recently, he and Professor Haralick published a book on the theme of the Kabbalah interpretation of 2012, as one of the years auspicious for the arrival of the Messiah and related this to some of the teachings of the Mayan culture, all supported by Torah code tables. The book's title is The Mayan Culture and Judaism. His newest book is Bible Code and Kabbalah (2010).

In the late 1990's Dr. Robert Wolf and Joe Gallis became interested in Torah codes. They use a protocol that only considers positive skip ELSs whose absolute skip is generally 100 or less. The key words are pertinent to the Torah verses they are encoded within and the interpretation of the code is always with respect to the Torah tradition. In 1999 they published their book *Between the Lines* and a second volumne with the same title was published in 2001. In 2003, they joined with Rabbi Glazerson and Professor Haralick to publish the book *Light Out of Darkness*, subtitled Surviving the End of Days.

Wolf and Gallis show ELSs in the text of the Torah rather than making tables. This has the advantage of not requiring resonance among the ELSs that are part of the study. It has the disadvantage of no table and there is not statistical evaluation of their findings. In their second book *Between the Lines* they discuss the impeachment of Clinton. The key word Clinton occurs as an ELS in Genesis Chapter 34, the chapter

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tells of an illicit sexual relationship between Schechem, a non-Jewish King, and Dinah, a daughter of Jacob. The parallel between this and what occurred with President Clinton and Monica Lewinsky is striking. In this section there is an ELS for the key words *impeachment*, *liar*, and *adulterer*. The prosecutor was Kenneth Starr and the key word star appears in the same section. This is shown in the table below.

Clinton	קלנטן	Adulterer	נואף
Impeachment	גנוי	Star	כוכב
Liar	משקר		

# This table is not statistically significant. But the place it occurs in the Torah is related to the key words.

Edwin Sherman became interested in Torah codes in the late 1990's and founded the Isaac Newton Bible Code Research Society. Mr. Sherman holds the point of view that three to six letter ELSs are everywhere and their individual appearance either alone or in compact formations with other short length ELSs are only indicative of chance occurrences and relationships. Thus he considers as not significant the tables in all the various Torah code books, as well as the tables which are produced by explicit protocols for Monte Carlo experiments resulting in unbiased estimates of p-values. His position cannot be statistically supported.

Mr. Sherman has a <u>website</u> that has many examples of his extended ELS phrases, even 50 or 60 letters long. He believes that his website has the highest quality and longest Torah codes being published. He developed a Markov chain methodology for analytically evaluating ELS phrase lengths formed by starting

(Capturing in PDF in case the website link becomes unavailable.) with an ELS and seeing what possible prefix and suffix extensions it has. He explained his methodology in his book *Biblecode Bombshell* that was published in 2004.

Dr. Nathan Jacobi has been interested in Torah codes since 1996. One of the areas of Dr. Jacobi's expertise is Hebrew. In 1998, Mr. Sherman began working with Dr. Jacobi who is reponsible for determining the ELS phrase extensions and providing translations for the long ELS phrases on Sherman's website. We take Mr. Sherman's most famous long ELS phrase from Ezekiel 37 which can be found at . This ELS phrase occurs as an extension of the Hebrew key word אובידה, Zubaidah. This is the Abu Zubaidah who was a terrorist captured in Pakistan in 2002 and from 2006 was detained in Guantanamo. The Hebrew of the 61 character long 4,008 skip ELS phrase is:

## ריב מדבוריו לם לי מלל אח שחי ולימו זובידה בלי אז בד זה שבוע אה הר תוכה יעיד שמה

Dr. Jacobi's translation of this Hebrew is:

There is a quarrel in his speeches. A living brother uttered words to them and to me. And Zubaidah turned to his sea, without then lying for a whole week. Oh, the mountain of her interior will bear a testimonial to her name.

The word that Dr. Jacobi translates as to them is לם. This is not a word in Hebrew. The proper Hebrew word for to them is להם. The word that Dr. Jacobi translates as lying is בד. But this word comes from the root בדה, meaning made up or fabricated like cloth, material, canvas and not meaning lying. Furthermore, its form is grammatically incorrect regardless of it meaning. Dr. Jacobi translates יעיד to her name but the correct translation is her name.

Taking the four sentences as a whole, even with the improper translation, one wonders what is its meaning? It is not intelligible. Under what circumstances would anyone ever utter such nonsense? Or, from another point of view, if such a set of sentences were to be uttered, our first thought is that the man uttering them must be a crazy man.

Rabbi Glazerson and Professor Rips find that most of Dr. Jacobi's extended ELS phrases are awkward or not intelligible as acceptable Hebrew, or not Hebrew, either modern Hebrew or biblical Hebrew. Regarding the famous Ezekiel long ELS phrase, Rabbi Glazerson states that

As a proper Hebrew sentence, it does not make any sense. And it is not correct according to Hebrew grammar.

## Professor Rips states that

It is absolutely not intelligible. No fluent speaker of Hebrew would consider it as coming close to anything meaningful.

On page 125 of his book *Biblecode Bombshell*, (2004), Mr. Sherman states that the odds of the 61 character long extension from Ezekiel 37, calculated analytically using a .194 extension (discovery) rate, is 1:4,415 trillion. There is a basic problem with Mr. Sherman's odds. The extension rate for extensions

(Capturing in PDF in case the website link becomes unavailable.)

from a lexicon consisting of the words in the Tanach, is much greater than the .194 fraction he used. Our empirical studies have shown that with probability close to 1, the extension length for a given ELS at a given skip will be between 45 and 70 letters. Thus extension lengths of between 45 and 70 characters that just consist of words from a lexicon are common. It is only the intelligibility of a long ELS that makes the extension interesting.

For those interested, scientific protocols for evaluating intelligiblity of long ELS phrases can be found in the <u>paper</u> by Levitt et. al. We would advise Mr. Sherman and Dr. Jacobi to validate what they do by following such a protocol.

Daniel Stochel began working with Torah codes in 1999. The Zohar comments that there is a place in Torah that has the secrets of the end of days. This place is in the Parsha or portion of the Torah known by the name Veyechi. It is located from Genesis 47:28 through Genesis 50:26. The Zohar says that everything that will happen to the Jewish Nation in the End of Days is sealed and hidden in Veyechi. Stochel's table is actually a cluster of layered tables each of which reveals colorful details about the End of Days given in the blessings of Yaakov to his twelve children. The Matrix and all of its vast findings will be released along with his book *Until the Hour of Redemption* which he is in the process of completing. He hopes to complete them both in 2011 in time for those final days. He has a website with all of his tables, but at this time it is not public.

Moshe Shak began working on Torah codes in about 2000. Many of the tables he has done can be found at <a href="Shak webpage1">Shak webpage1</a> and at <a href="Shak webpage2">Shak webpage2</a>. He wrote a book <a href="Bible Codes Breakthrough">Bible Codes Breakthrough</a> that was published in 2004. The book explains the interactive protocol he developed and has many Torah code tables. His interactive protocol begins with a minimal skip term and selects ELSs that have sufficiently large R-values and pays attention to redundancy.

Mr. Andy McKracken has an extensive <u>website</u> of his own work and many others including Mr. Lyuben Piperov, Mr. Fabrice Bect, Mr. Jimmie Cash, Mr. Jim Wright, and Mr. Al Sutton .

Many of the tables appearing on Mr. McKracken's website have key words that are not so clearly related to the main topic of the table. Some of the tables are relatively large, and certainly not compact. Mr. McKracken and Mr. Jim Wright use the Keys to the Bible software.

Of the researchers in this group, Mr. Piperov's Torah code writings relate to a wide variety of topics; he thinks broadly and technically, using mathematics and probability derivations to support his conclusions. His most recent study is about symmetry.

A recent table of Mr. Piperov is the subject of the scepter, שבט. The scepter is an extension of the hand and the arm. It is a symbol of rulership, protection, power and authority. In the Torah, the scepter held by Moses is an extension of God's hand and arm. It is also the symbol for the power and authority that will be given by God to the Messiah. Recall the verses in Genesis:

(Capturing in PDF in case the website link becomes unavailable.)

The scepter shall not depart from Judah, nor a lawgiver from between his feet, until Shiloh comes; and to Him shall be the obedience of the people. (Genesis 49:10)

And in the prophecy of Baalam.

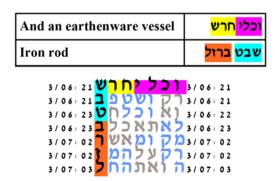
I see Him, but not now; I behold Him, but not near; A Star shall come out of Jacob; a Scepter shall rise out of Israel. (Numbers 24:17)

Mr. Piperov was particularly interested in the verse from Psalm 2 which qualifies scepter with iron. There the translation for scepter, שבט, is rod and the phrase is iron rod.

You will smash them with an iron rod: you will shatter them like a potter's vessel. (Psalm 2:9)

Mr. Piperov writes: Therefore, it seemed interesting to check if there is any statistically significant occurrence of the key word שבט ברזל, iron rod, as an ELS. Surprisingly, the smallest greater than 1 skip occurs in the Book of Leviticus. But what seems to be most amazing is that it intersects the very verse, where the God has stated regulations Aaron should adhere to for the sin offering. The procedure includes breaking the used earthen utensils or clay pots, but sparing those made of copper.

An earthenware vessel in which it was cooked shall be broken; but if it was cooked in a copper vessel, that should be purged and rinsed in water. (Leviticus 6:21)



## The cylinder size is 37. The table spans from Leviticus 6:21 through Leviticus 7:3.

Remarkably, an ELS for the key word *iron rod* occurs right in a section that discusses the breaking of earthenware vessels that had absorbed the taste of the sin offering and therefore became impure and had to be shattered.

Professor Haralick gives the following interpretation for Mr. Piperov's table. They had to be shattered because the contamination of an earthenware vessel from impurity cannot be washed away with water.

To understand the relationship between the scepter of the Messiah and the breaking of the contaminated earthenware vessel, recall that God made mankind from the earth. So earthenware vessel is a metaphor for people. In the war of Gog and Magog, it is the iron rod of the Messiah who will break the impure earthenware vessels, meaning those people and nations who stand against God. Shattering the impure earthenware vessels means obliterating from existence those who stand against God.

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## The Code Finder Researchers

We have grouped the following researchers together because they all use Kevin Acres' Code Finder program and show the goodness of the tables they construct in terms of the odds ratio that the Code Finder program calculates.

Roy Reinhold began working on Torah codes in about 2000. He is a promoter of the Code Finder Bible code program. His website contains a variety of Torah code tables as well as tutorials on codes and how to use the Code Finder program. His site as well hosts tables produced by other Torah code researchers. Mr. Reinhold has a hypothesis that what is encoded is encoded in clusters of compact tables that are nearby to each other. This hypothesis is interesting and deserves to be formally stated and statistically tested. Therefore many of his tables are large with two or more clusters nearby to each other. His website can be found at <a href="http://ad2004.com/Biblecodes">http://ad2004.com/Biblecodes</a>.

Mr. Fabrice Bect became interested in Torah codes in the late 1980's after reading about some the results of Rips and Witztum. Mr. Bect found particularly interesting the tables found by (WRR) in their Hebrew University report and the subsequent book of Witztum. An ELS of the key word Bastille occurs near an ELS of the key word for Revolution, referring to the French revolution of 1789. This ELS for Bastille crosses the phrase from the surface text "the prison, a place where the king's prisoners are held". Bastille is a key word since the storming and fall of the Bastille was the flashing point of the French Revolution: http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Storming\_of\_the\_Bastille). Moreover, around the axis term appear "satellite words" that are related to the main term from the meaning point of view. But this is not all: if one starts all over again all the operation using another word whose meaning is the same as the first term, this second main term and its satellites appear in the same location as the preceding series, which means that the words with the same meaning are geometrically close to each others in the text of the Torah.

He has tables on a number of different websites, no one website necessarily having all the tables. Some can be found on McKracken's <u>website</u> <u>others on</u> and <u>yet others on</u>. In addition to the Code Finder software, Mr. Bect also uses the ABD Pro software and sometimes The Keys to the Bible software.

This is Mr. Bect's approach to finding tables. First he selects the main key word and finds all the ELSs of this key word. This key word is the axis key word. He begins with the smallest skip ELS of the axis key word. Then he looks to see if this ELS is nearby a word, or an expression, or a verse, or a text with a related meaning.

Finally, by dividing the cylinder size by 2, 3, 4 etc. he looks for ELSs of other words that are relevant to the topic.

Mr. David Bell has tables on his <u>website</u>. Some of the tables are his own and some of the tables he has obtained from other websites.

As mentioned initially, all these researchers uses the Code Finder program's odd's ratio calculation or its inverse, the p-value probability, in evaluating their tables. Unfortunately, the p-values calculated by the

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Code Finder program are not correct and do not correspond to the probability of any conceivable Torah code experiment. It is not unusual for the score the Code Finder produces to be three or four orders of magnitude too small. For a complete technical discussion about this read <a href="Code Finder: Scores or Probabilities">Code Finder: Scores or Probabilities</a>.

# **Technical Papers**

A variety of technical papers on Torah codes can be found at <a href="http://www.torah-code.org/papers.shtml">http://www.torah-code.org/papers.shtml</a>.