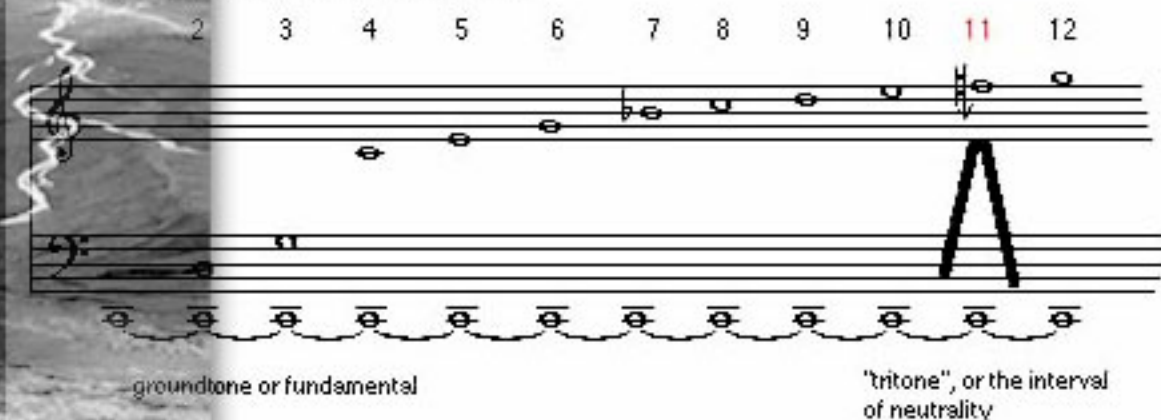


On the difference between complexity and complicatedness

first twelve harmonics or overtones



(Images of interwoven simplicity—complexity: (above) The first 12 harmonics or overtones as might be heard on the low C-string of a cello; (left) a braided glacier stream converging down-slope into a single, unitary flow—the Italian Alps)

(1) Without first grasping the difference between true complexity and mere complicatedness, how shall we ever find simplicity? How shall we ever know the joy of discovering for ourselves a route across an impossibly labyrinthian high mountain pass, or of then returning to a camp with nothing but a stream, a fire, and a roof made of stars?

(2) Complicatedness is difficulty which serves no purpose; it is difficulty which is unnecessary, and is therefore without reason or meaning; Remarkably, in this sense, complicatedness in Nature does not exist.