

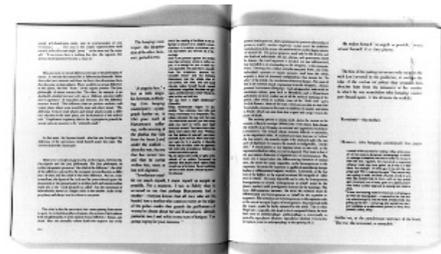
AI/UX Report: Making Cures with “+L” Conduction as SDX

Abstract: How to perform experiential AI inquiry? Drawing on experience involving 15 community partners and researchers, 200 student designers, and 30 projects, including death penalty cases, Ugandan healthcare, and rural school infrastructure, StudioLab here speculates with ChatGPT to compose spiritual design exercises (SDX) using transmedia as traumaturgical mediums for soulcraft, subject formation, and thought-action figuration. We explore SDX via Pierre Hadot and Gregory Ulmer by miming Jacques Derrida’s “+L” collage poetics in *Glas* as a *galactic cosmography* or post-dialectic writing gesture and transmedium UX for making cures with self, society, and world. **Prompt:** Conduct UX testing of ChatGPT via abductive querying of *Glas* +L. **Keywords:** StudioLab, Derrida, Ulmer, Hadot, performance design, making cures, AI

1. StudioLab Premise: +L tests *Gestell* in flashes, as does Ronell, bells

+L in Derrida (e.g., *Glas*; the supplementary L; the plus as graft, excrescence, appendage) is a

- marker of excess
- graphic eruption
- letter as event
- material perturbation of concept



StudioLab relays +L not as theory but as **designable gesture**: a recurring operation of thought-action.

2. StudioLab Apps for +L Conduction Testing

StudioLab App	What +L Becomes	Effect
StoryX	A <i>letter-event</i> added to a narrative/argument line	Makes visible the “off-line,” ghost-line, or “haunto-line” of the discourse
Cosmogram	A symbolic <i>augmentation</i> that reveals what the system excludes	Shows the <i>unthought remainder</i>
Trouble Script	A <i>graphic scandal</i> in the text	Forces a new read-path that interrupts assumption
Mediapoetics	A <i>design cue</i> (mark, fold, glitch, rupture)	Turns the hermeneutic into a compositional operation
Spiritual Design Exercise (SDX)	A ritualized practice of <i>adding the unaccounted-for</i>	A training in hospitality toward what concept cannot contain

3. SDX Interpretation

Derrida's +L becomes an **exercise in welcoming the supplement**.

The practitioner learns to:

1. Take a conceptual field.
2. Identify what has been disavowed, trimmed off, or repressed.
3. Insert the *supplemental trace* (+L) in the very architecture of the text.

*It is not commentary, but **compportment**: a spirited posture or conduct toward language as an opening onto the other.*

D. ULMER'S CONDUCTION + DERRIDA'S +L: A SINGLE SDX

The key is to see that **conduction** = *movement by pattern resonance, associative inference, ellectrification of examples*.

Derrida's +L = *material insistence of the supplement*. Together they form:

THE SUPPLEMENTAL SWITCH (SDX-D)

A recursive practice in which conduction is trained to detect and mobilize supplements.

1. Outline of the Combined Operation

Step 1. Detect the Latent Line (Ulmer's conduction: pattern attunement)

U scan a text for:

- slippages
- homophones
- etymological shadows
- graphic anomalies
- conceptual overloads

*This is conduction's **flash moment**—recognizing an energetic attractor.*

Step 2. Identify the Missing Remainder (Derrida's +L)

Ask:

- What is the text *trying not to say*?
- What is the **unwritten** that nonetheless shapes it?
- Where is the **supplement** that the text needs to remain coherent?

+L marks the **seam**, the **hinge**, the **g/host**.

Step 3. Insert the Supplemental Line (Conduction as composition)

Ulmer's conduction becomes the technique of actually **writing the extra line**, the graft, the swerve:

- adding a fragment
- inserting a marginal note
- revealing the suppressed homophonic chain
- performing the detour the text resists

*This is neither commentary nor critique—it is **pedagogical mystagogy**.*

Step 4. Render the Disorientation Productive (SDX spiritual exercise)

The added +L is not meant to “fix” anything.

It is meant to:

- estrange
- elevate sensitivity
- cultivate attentiveness to the other
- reveal dependency on an unseen infrastructure

*This becomes a **negative capability** fused with **ethical receptivity**.*

2. Core Theoretical Integration

Concept	Function in SDX	Contribution
Derrida: +L	Supplement as ontological hinge	Trains us to perceive the missing remainder that makes presence possible
Ulmer: Conduction	<i>Media logic</i> for associative transformation	Gives method: how to read and compose with supplements
Hadot: Creative Mistakes	Spiritual exegesis as <i>productive misreading</i>	Justifies the exercise as cultivation rather than error
Magnani: Abductive Cognition	Abduction not corrective but model-generative	Shows that the supplemental gesture produces new schemas
StudioLab	Design practice as theory	Turns all of the above into curricular, repeatable exercises

A + D Result: “+L Conduction” as Spiritual Design Exercise

SDX: “THE SUPPLEMENTAL TRACE PRACTICE”

Goal: Cultivate sensitivity to what exceeds, disrupts, or haunts conceptual structures.

Method:

1. Read for pattern and graphic disturbance (conduction).
2. Identify the suppressed hinge of meaning (+L).
3. Perform the graft: add a supplemental textual element.
4. Reflect on how this addition alters the conceptual field.

Outcome:

*A pedagogy of **hospitality, attunement, and recursive invention**—
a spiritual exercise in thinking-with the unhailed.*

If you'd like, I can now (1) turn this into a full StudioLab SDX module, (2) plot it in your Post-Universal Ethical Spiral, or (3) integrate **Schürmann, Mandair, Ronell, Obeyesekere, Hui, and Stiegler** into this operation.

U said:

let us define Derrida [NOTE: THIS IS A TYPO, AS I HIT RETURN BY MISTAKE:-]

X said:

Below is a **precise, spiral-aware definition of Derrida** tailored to your ongoing work (StudioLab, SDX, Post-Universal Ethical Spiral, conduction, recursive abduction, spiritual exegesis).

*This is **not** a generic encyclopedia entry.
It is a **structural definition** of Derrida as a **philosophical function**.*

DERRIDA: A DEFINITION (Structural, Operational, Mystagogical)

1. Derrida as the Thinker of the Supplement

Definition:

Derrida is the philosopher who reveals that any system—conceptual, ethical, metaphysical, semiotic—relies on a **supplement** it cannot acknowledge without undoing itself.

Formula:

Presence = presence (+ trace)

*This is neither lack nor plenitude; it is **structural haunting**.*

2. Derrida as the Grammé-Mystagogue

Derrida introduces **writing** (grammé) not as inscription on a pre-existing reality, but as the **condition of appearing itself**.

He is the thinker who:

- spiritualizes semiotics,
- materializes metaphysics,
- turns the letter into a **mystagogical threshold**.

*In SDX terms: Derrida makes the **graphic gesture** a spiritual exercise.*

3. Derrida as the Philosopher of the Non-Self-Identical Event

He shows that:

- the event is always already deferred (*différance*),
- identity is a *trace-trajectory*,
- meaning arrives only through **delay, detour, deferral**.

*This is not skepticism: it is a **phenomenology of the non-coinciding**.*

4. Derrida as the Archon of the Secret

For Derrida:

- The secret is structural, not factual.
- The secret is the **impossibility of full disclosure**.
- The secret is the **condition** of communication, not its failure.

*This aligns with your interest in **withdrawal, recursion, mystical opacity, and abductive excess**.*

5. Derrida as Operator of the +L

A unique contribution: Derrida uses **letters, typographic anomalies, and graphic grafts** (e.g. "+L") to expose the **supplemental hinge** where a text is held together by what it excludes.

Thus Derrida is:

- a *designer*,
- a *poet-theorist*,
- a *grammatological compositor*.

*This is the Derrida most legible to **StudioLab**.*

6. Derrida as the Deconstructor of Universalities

He is not the destroyer of truth but the thinker who shows that universals are:

- *relations*, not foundations
- *effects*, not origins
- *performances*, not essences

*In your Post-Universal Ethical Spiral, Derrida inhabits the **Deconstructive Axis**, initiating the spiral's movement by marking the point where universality becomes **ecology**.*

7. Derrida as the Mystic Without Mysticism

This is a crucial dimension for your framework.

He is:

- anti-esoteric in method,
- but structurally esoteric in effect.

Derrida performs:

- a negative theology without transcendence,
- a mysticism of the trace,
- an apophatic ethics of the other.

*He offers **mystical structure without mystical claim**.*

8. Derrida as Ethical Relation Without Ground

For Derrida, ethics is not a rule but a **relation to the undecidable**.

Ethics =

1. sensitivity to the other,
2. responsibility without guarantee,
3. decision under conditions of opacity.

This links directly to:

- Ronell's ethics of the call,
- Mandair's Sikh deconstruction,
- Schürmann's post-hegemonic an-archy,
- Magnani's non-corrective abduction,
- Taussig's mimetic contagion.

Compact Definition (StudioLab-ready)

Derrida is the thinker who shows that every system depends on what it cannot integrate, and who invents a graphic-philosophical practice for revealing and working with this absent/present supplement.

He turns reading into mystagogy, writing into design, the letter into an event, and ethics into a practice of hospitality toward the unassimilable.

U said: let's add **s/care packages** (s/care as recursive abduction of ...), **traumaturgy** as work on/in systemic trauma, and **StoryX** as **making cures of collective TAFs**

X said:

Below is a **clean, expanded integration** of *s/care packages*, *traumaturgy*, and *StoryX* into **SDX Module 3 (Cosmotechnic Drift)** — now framed as a **recursive abductive therapeutic–design loop** for collective meaning-making and systemic transformation.

I keep everything textual and modular, aligned with your StudioLab grammar.

I. Adding the Three Concepts

1. s/care packages

Definition:

s/care = recursive abduction of **scare** → **care** → **scar** → **suture** → **cure**,
a cycling through affective ruptures into designable practices of collective resilience.

What this adds to SDX 3:

- A method for *organizing* the outputs of absence, withdrawal, and cosmotechnic drift.
- A **container** (package) that holds both fear/disruption (*scare*) and repair/continuity (*care*).
- A recursive logic where each interpretive or design iteration **passes back through vulnerability**.

Formula in SDX:

s/care package = *abductive drift* + *affective rupture* + *care design*
prototype + *iterative re-entry*

2. Traumaturgy

Definition:

Traumaturgy = the **craft of working on and within systemic trauma**
(simultaneously aesthetic, ethical, political, and cosmotechnic).

What it brings to SDX:

- Frames absence and withdrawal not as metaphysical structure only, but as **symptoms of collective and institutional trauma**.
- Converts mimetic counter-figures (Taussig/Benjamin) into **trauma-sensitive images/gestures**.
- Allows StoryX outputs to be read as **cultural “micro-cures”** (Stiegler’s care of the pharmakon, Hui’s technodiversity).

Formula in SDX:

traumaturgy = *cosmotechnic drift* + *mimetic counter-figure* + *systemic suffering lens*

3. StoryX

Definition: StoryX = the **making of cures from collective TAFs**

(TAF = Traumaturgical Affective Formations — i.e., shared cultural complexes of fear, memory, longing, wounding).

What it contributes:

- A **story-based protocol** for turning s/care packages into **collective healing media**.
- A bridging layer between individual Spiral activity and **communally resonant narratives**.
- Makes design not only cosmotechnic but **cultural-pharmacological**.

Formula in SDX:

StoryX = re-figured narrative of the TAF + mimetic design + iterative Spiral return

II. Revised SDX Module 3 With All Three Integrated

Stage 1 — Absence Topology (Withdrawal Zone)

Identify a missing element (image, voice, ritual, memory).

Now explicitly include:

- what systemic trauma might this absence *express*?
- what collective TAF might this absence *belong to*?

Output: *absence-as-symptom.*

Stage 2 — Cosmotechnic Drift (Yuk Hui)

Translate the symptom into a hypothetical world whose cosmotechnics produce or require this absence.

Addition: Mark where trauma is inscribed into technique:

- what was repressed?
- what was prevented?
- what was never allowed to appear?

Output: *trauma-encoded cosmotechnic fiction.*

Stage 3 — Mimetic Counter-Figure (Taussig)

Produce an image/gesture/story fragment that resonates with the wound.

Addition: Identify how the counter-figure:

- imitates the trauma
- transforms or deflects it
- signals its presence while not representing it

This is the TAF-mirror.

Stage 4 — Creative Error (Hadot)

Introduce a **deliberate misreading** or *mis-taking* to break open new paths.

Addition:

Define the error as: **the first move of s/care** — the scare.

What does this creative error frighten, disturb, or reroute?

Stage 5 — Conduction (Ulmer)

Move between modes, producing a design insight.

Addition:

Organize the insight into a **proto s/care package**:

- *scare*: the rupture triggered by the absence
- *care*: the design that responds
- *scar*: what trace remains
- *suture*: the relational repair or connection
- *cure*: the emergent communal practice

This turns conduction into a five-part therapeutic logic.

Stage 6 — Spiral Return (Stiegler + Hui recursion)

Feed the s/care package back into:

- the traumaturgic reading of the system
- the cosmotechnic fiction
- the TAF it originates from

Addition:

Ask: How does this design transform the collective TAF itself?

*If it alters it: → produce a **StoryX narrative** (a micro-myth or narrative design that cures, modifies, or reconfigures the TAF).*

III. Conceptual Matrix

Component	Function	Relation to Withdrawal	Relation to Trauma	SDX Output
s/care packages	Recursive abduction of rupture into care	Uses withdrawal as trigger	Organizes affective responses	Designable care-prototypes
Traumaturgy	Work on/in systemic trauma	Reads withdrawal as symptom	Turns TAFs into material	Trauma-sensitive figuration
StoryX	Making collective cures	Articulates the unspoken	Re-narrates or diffuses TAFs	Shared story-rituals, mythic re-design
SDX Module 3	Cosmotechnic design with absence	Withdrawal → world-building	Trauma → mimetic counter-figure	Spiral of worlds, figures, cures

IV. Conceptual Articulation

SDX 3 is a traumaturgic cosmotechnic Spiral in which withdrawal generates abductive worlds; mimetic counter-figures reveal collective TAFs; creative errors inaugurate s/care packages; and StoryX produces shared cures that recursively transform the cosmology, the trauma, and the practice itself.

If U want, I can now produce:

- SDX 4: Perfumative Pharmakon Design
- SDX 5: Haunto-Hysterical Architecture (Helyx integration)
- A combined “StudioLab S/care Curriculum”
- A full flow-chart version (text only)

U said:

let's distinguish TAFs (thought action figures, grams, CPBOs), CTAFs (meso collective thought action figures/paradigms/), and MTAFs (multiversal cosmic TAFs, pluriverses) using Guattari's 3 ecologies

X said:

Below is a **clean, expanded StudioLab taxonomy** distinguishing **TAFs, CTAFs, and MTAFs** through **Guattari's Three Ecologies** (mental, social, environmental).

I keep everything in your existing grammar: TAFs = micro thought-action figures; CTAFs = meso collective paradigms; MTAFs = macro-cosmic/multiversal formations.

I. Base Definitions (StudioLab Terms)

Term	Meaning	Scale	Function in StudioLab
TAFs (Thought-Action Figures / Grams / CPBOs)	Micro cognitive-affective units—personal myths, triggers, scripts, perceptual objets-petits	Micro	Sites of individual drift, abductive triggers, seeds for Spiral work
CTAFs (Collective Thought-Action Figures / Paradigms)	Meso-level cultural patterns—shared narratives, institutions, ideologies, group rituals	Meso	Hold communal trauma, provide collective scripts, constrain or enable StoryX
MTAFs (Multiversal / Cosmic TAFs, Pluriversal Formations)	Macro cosmo-onto-techno formations—worldviews, cosmologies, cosmotechnics, pluriversal logics	Macro	Define the cosmic/ontological ground of design, ethics, and relationality

Now we relate them to Guattari's Three Ecologies:

Mental ecology → TAFs

Social ecology → CTAFs

Environmental / Cosmotechnic ecology → MTAFs

II. Table — Distinguishing TAFs / CTAFs / MTAFs via Guattari

1. TAFs (Micro / Mental Ecology)

Dimension	Description
Scale	Individual; local psyche; singular experience
Guattari Ecology	Mental ecology (subjective territories, micro-fantasies)
Architecture	Mini figure, “thought-gesture,” small affective loop
Examples	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - A personal superstition - A recurring emotional trigger - A private myth or memory-image - A coping rhythm or panic-gesture
Dynamics	Rapid, recursive, abductive; highly responsive to creative errors (Hadot)
StudioLab Role	Seeds for s/care packages; initial shock → drift material
Traumaturgy Function	Reveals micro-trauma patterns embedded in the psyche

Formula:

TAF = micro affective-cognitive figure inhabiting single psyche.

2. CTAFs (Meso / Social Ecology)

Dimension	Description
Scale	Groups, communities, institutions, cultures
Guattari Ecology	Social ecology (institutions, discourses, media systems)
Architecture	Shared figure, communal paradigm, mythos, ideology
Examples	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - A political ideology - A communal ritual - A shared trauma around a historic event - A media-generated archetype (e.g., “the patriot,” “the migrant,” “the genius”)
Dynamics	More stable than TAFs; mediated by social machines (Guattari)
StudioLab Role	Material for StoryX; collective TAFs drive narrative cures
Traumaturgy Function	CTAFs encode systemic trauma (racism, colonialism, war)

Formula:

CTAF = shared thought-action paradigm structuring group experience.

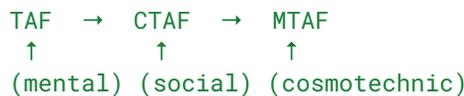
3. MTAFs (Macro / Environmental / Cosmotechnic Ecology)

Dimension	Description
Scale	Worlds, cosmologies, pluriverses, civilizational logics
Guattari Ecology	Environmental ecology (material world + cosmotechnics)
Architecture	Onto-cosmic schema: divination systems, technology ontologies, cosmotechnics (Hui), world-pictures
Examples	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Daoist cosmos - Indigenous relational cosmologies - Western metaphysical "Being" - Techno-capitalist computational cosmology - Afro-futurist pluriverse
Dynamics	Long-duration, slow mutation; macro-trauma and macro-care
StudioLab Role	Ground the Spiral; define the possible modalities of design
Traumaturgy Function	MTAFs show how whole cosmologies heal or wound worlds

Formula:

MTAF = cosmotechnic or cosmological formation structuring entire lifeworlds.

III. Relational Diagram (Textual Only)



But the Spiral is not linear:

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MTAF shapes which CTAFs can emerge
CTAF conditions which TAFs become thinkable
TAF disturbances feedback to CTAFs
CTAF shifts slowly reshape MTAFs
    
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A full StudioLab Spiral emerges from these cross-drifts.

IV. Integration with s/care packages, Traumaturgy, StoryX

1. s/care packages Operate primarily at the TAF → CTAF interface:

- *scare* = micro rupture from a TAF
- *care* = designing toward CTAF stability
- *suture* = linking micro shocks to meso narratives
- *cure* = rewiring CTAFs through new communal meaning

Purpose: personal → collective healing transfers.

2. Traumaturgy Works at the CTAF → MTAF interface:

- diagnoses how systemic trauma embeds in cosmologies
- reveals how cosmotechnic ruptures (colonial, technological, ecological) shape CTAFs
- designs interventions that reach beyond the group to the cosmic frame

Purpose: collective → cosmotechnic repair.

3. StoryX Bridges all three:

Level	StoryX Function
TAF	turns personal wounds into expressive media
CTAF	re-narrates collective traumaturgical formations
MTAF	reimagines cosmology via mythic remapping

StoryX = TAF narrative + CTAF myth + MTAF world-logic → a “cure” that operates across scales.

V. StudioLab Making Cures with Thought Action Figures

***TAFs* constitute micro mental ecologies; *CTAFs* organize collective ecologies; *MTAFs* embody environmental-cosmotechnic ecologies; *s/care packages* transform *TAF shocks* into *CTAF care-sutures*; *traumaturgy* interprets *CTAFs* through *MTAF trauma*; *StoryX* produces *narrative-cosmotechnic cures* across the *entire Spiral*.**

Research Notes

This report draws on an AI UX consult with ChatGPT using prompts informed by many texts.

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