

Basics of Socionics in Short

PDF by [Mel](#)

This is a short guide for everyone that is getting into socionics and doesn't want to read pages and pages of information immediately, but take it slow and read about the system slowly to process everything. At the end of the document I'll leave some links to wikisocion pages (or other websites) with extended information about the topic at hand, a shortcut to said page can be found by [clicking this](#).

Introduction

Socionics is a personality theory developed primarily by a Lithuanian researcher named Aušra Augustinavičiūtė, also known as Aushra Augusta. It is a theory that tries to explain and understand human cognition and interaction. The primary source of inspiration for socionics was Jung's Typology, which was then combined with Antoni Kępiński's information metabolism. Because of this, the most apparent difference when looking at Jung's theory and comparing it to socionics is the fact that Jung only uses 4 functions to describe one's psyche while socionics uses 8 of them. Aušra would call Jung's model of personality „Model J“ and then start to develop her own model, which was combined with information metabolism and used 8 functions, that model would then be called „Model A“, which is the main model for learning this theory.

Model A

Model A claims that everyone has access to eight basic faculties called IM elements (IMEs), but that these levels of access differ according to certain traits, namely strength and boldness, and the level of priority we place on these aspects differ according to the trait called value. Each of these IM elements is put into four different blocks made up of two functions. These four blocks are also separated in the mental and vital rings.

Mental Ring

The mental ring is conscious and strives to verbalize information and formulate observations from the core of the individual's intellectual activity. In the mental ring we can find the ego and super-ego blocks.

Ego block

The most confident block. It's used in most areas regardless of relevance, we are prone to overusing it because of this reason. It is like our source of purpose.

1st Function – Base

This function is used knowingly and unknowingly all the time, it is the basis of what a type is about. An individual has a powerful capacity to evaluate the world through this function. A positive perspective is one that creates a worldview using this function as the lens. We cannot really „overuse“ this function as we will never truly be tired of using it. This function represents the point of confident mastery due to ongoing use, awareness and capability. In short, this is the source of confidence, it is how someone lives their life, their most comfortable state of mind and a personal motivation in life.

2nd Function – Creative

This function is used with the base one to meet goals. An individual has a powerful capability to act upon the world using this function. Unlike the base function, in this one overuse is felt and can feel tiring. This is a point of modest success due to ease of use. In short: this function is used to interact with others and feels needed when used to help solve others' problems, and can cause irritation by overuse, either by the user themselves or others.

Super-ego block

In this block, there is a noticeable lack of confidence. This block is sensitive to criticism and is prone to overreaction. It is the source of stress and anxiety, which is why an individual appreciates praise when received about functions in this block.

3rd Function – Role

This function is expressed usually around new people. It is not valued but emphasis is placed on expressing this function publicly in ways that are commonly socially acceptable and anticipated. It's a point of cocky mistakes due to social rigidity. In short, it's perceived as a personal weakness, an individual might make attempts to improve it, criticism of this function causes irritation and is activated when anxious.

4th Function – PoLR

This function shows a strong difficulty and defensiveness with use. It can be improved but it will never be mastered. A pessimistic perspective is created when one views the world through this function's lens. Overuse leads to depressed exhaustion. It is a point of humble helplessness due to inability. In short, usage of this function causes extreme irritation, it is avoided as much as possible and has to be developed with personal experiences, it is often ignored.

Vital ring

The vital ring tends to manifest itself without words in the processes of doing things or inadvertently in the form of spontaneous sentiments. In the vital we can find the id and super-id blocks of functions.

Super-id block

This block is poorly developed and seen as chores best left for others. An individual is prone to desiring better usage of functions found in this block. It is a source of recreation and an individual appreciates any help regarding these two functions.

5th Function – Suggestive

Information about this function feels understandable, safe and desirable, but it is difficult to produce by the individual themselves. It is a point of humble helplessness due to inadequacy. In short, when seeing someone use this function well, it is entertaining, soothing, energizing, leading to self-actualization and deficiency causes attempts to self supply.

6th Function – Activating/Hidden Agenda

An individual has a strong interest in getting more information about this element, it drives interest and activity, being the basis of the „hidden agenda“. It is a point of cocky mistakes due to playful excitement. In short, this function is appreciated, but overuse by others can be seen as excessive, you might either overindulge in it or severely neglect it, if you do the latter the function can cause boredom.

Id block

This block is well developed, however it is ironically often seen as boring and meaningless. An individual is prone to ignoring the functions of this block but this block is also a source of skill growth and an individual feels indifferent to help regarding the functions of this block.

7th Function – Ignoring

An individual is capable of using information of this function but strong impulse to lessen use for both themselves and others. This is the point of modest success due to strength of evaluation and ongoing moderation. In short, overuse of this function is seen as constantly annoying, it is mostly used in private and can be freely used when needed, but it often causes boredom and avoidance of it makes it seem weak to others.

8th Function – Demonstrative

An individual has a strong capability in this area but a total disinterest in changing others' perspectives on its use, he prefers to be quiet but constant use is performed by itself. It is a point of confident mastery due to excellent evaluation and constant control. In short, it is often used in private, often the individual makes fun of it, but it is important to the worldview and it is often perceived as obvious information.

Information Aspects

Information aspects represent an attempt to divide information into eight different kinds. They are objective properties of reality independent from psyche. The eight aspects are as follows:

Ne – Information about the innate, internal, constant properties of objects, the sources of these properties, and the potential that they contain.

Ni – Information about how something dynamically changes over time.

Se – Information about spatial territory, ownership, and influence.

Si – Information about how something dynamically relates and adjusts to its spatial environment.

Te – Information about technical processes, efficient activity, and the use of resources.

Ti – Information about structural relationships between components and logical dependencies between states of affairs.

Fe – Information about states of excitation and how they are communicated.

Fi – Information about attraction and repulsion between objects as well as personal dependencies.

Information Elements (IMEs)

Information elements are eight psychological faculties that play a key role in interpersonal interaction, they are responsible for processing eight corresponding information aspects or categories of information. Other names used for the information elements include: elements of information metabolism (IM elements), IMEs and functions.

In order to not confuse the two, to easily explain the difference

Information Aspects – the concept of the 8 forms of information themselves, nothing applicable as it is, again, just a concept

Information Elements – said aspects being processed in an individual according to the corresponding functions

Eight IMEs are:

- Extroverted Intuition (Ne)

Doesn't seek for passivity; wants to redirect new stimulus to the exterior, raising awareness on others; where it's expected to the subject to explode with their activity.

Reinin's definition: The order of events from the beginning to the end, i.e. the sets of events known beforehand, the schedule. Potential opportunities. Behavior program, the way of life, the rhythm of life. Scenario of any action, acting in accordance to predetermined scenario.

Themes: potential, permutation, isomorphism, semblance, essence, uncertainty, the unknown, opening up new "windows" and bringing up new possibilities in conversation, seeing opportunities, chance, being the first, refreshing informational suddenness, diversity of interests and involvements.

State of mind: seeing the potential on the current situation, bringing up various possibilities up to discussion, recombinative play, permutations, variations, alternatives, solutions, including options that seem improbable or even absurd at times, informationally renovative and refreshing conversation.

- Introverted Intuition (Ni)

Doesn't seek for activity; wants to preserve intuitive and imaginary images of the subject, feeling them passively.

Reinin's definition: The inner harmony. A state, a mood, and a sense of time. Personal evaluation of events, of people's actions and morals.

Themes: development over time, historicity, cause and effect, consequences, repetition, archetypal themes and examples, looking for causes in history or the past, past-future forecasting of event dynamics, rhythm, delay or act-now, past-turned imagination.

State of mind: a protracted and reflective state of mind, "falling out of time" and later trying to make up for lost activity, generalizing and abstracting past events from memory, using these generalizations to see what's going to happen, reflecting upon the past in order to be able to evaluate what is possible to do in the present moment and to predict the most likely course of events, patience that borders with inactivity.

- Extroverted Sensing (Se)

Doesn't seek for passivity; wants to send back the stimulus applying strength enough to explode them.

Reinin's definition: It is the form, the action, the motion, the act, the appearance, the gestures and the mimics. It is the person's will.

Themes: sensing of immediate static qualities of objects, sensing of immediate reality, external appearance, texture, form, static objects, impact, direct physical effect, span, extent, scope.

State of mind: awareness of the space and concrete environment around oneself, externally observatory state of mind, "sensing of reality", "factual perception of reality", everything around

you gets registered no matter if you can touch it or it's way off in the distant distance, a mobilized state, exerting force on objects and people with the goal of moving them around in space, in Se perception a person or object can be influenced only in space.

- Introverted Sensing (Si)

Doesn't seek for activity; wants to preserve and gather stimulus and informations, feeling them passively.

Reinin's definition: My inner feelings: gustatory sense, tactile sensing, and sexual sensing. State of health. Ability to discern between the pleasant and the unpleasant.

Themes: homeostasis, continuity, smoothness, flow, satisfaction, aesthetics, quality of life, pleasure, relaxation, convenience, quality.

State of mind: a physically relaxed state of mind, turned to the continuity and flow of the moment.

- Extroverted Logic (Te)

Doesn't seek for passivity; wants to use and subjudge actively logical information to fulfill their need of optimization, organization of logistical resources. Rejection of logical constructions; actively manipulating information.

Reinin's definition: Logic of the objective world – objective circumstances, facts. Example: the day began and it started raining. Systems, statistics. Event queue. Example: „I am late for work because the bridge collapsed“. Laws, political policies of the government, stamps in the passport, traffic laws, prices, private summerhouse property, my territory, and design drawing of a unit. Thinking objectively people usually ask: “I want to know the reality of the matter.”

Themes: efficiency, method, mechanism, knowledge, work, reason in motion, direction of activity into its most logical course of action, “logic of actions”, utilitarianism, expediency, benefit.

State of mind: an evaluatory state of mind that directly assesses events and actions of other people from logical POV and openly voices those assessments, assessing and estimating productivity, efficiency, usefulness, rational sense of any given involvement venture or activity, steady and purposeful state of mind that leads to making rational actions despite the present sentiments.

- Introverted Logic (Ti)

Doesn't seek for activity; wants to categorize logical information in structures without real pragmatic scope and rejection of logistical resources; organizing information passively.

Reinin's definition: It is my own logic, my understanding, explanation, description, concept, and theory of things. It is my hierarchy of notions of the things that are closer or farther, higher or lower. It is what I was taught, my view of this world, my world outlook. It includes my education, i.e. the system of my ideas and my schooling.

Themes: structure, analysis, coherence, consistency, cogency, accordance, match, commensurability, understanding, order, or the lack of thereof.

State of mind: analytical state of mind, clarity and exactitude of thought, a sense of coherence, order, and regularity at different levels of structure, "debugging": seeing the whole system and then spotting nonsensical flaws or mistakes, or alternatively building one's own systems from simple and well-understood parts.

- Extroverted Ethics (Fe)

Doesn't seek for passivity; wants to explore and manipulate ethical information and emotionality, organizing emotional resources. Rejection of relationships or moral constructions, managing information actively.

Reinin's definition: It is the external relationship, the relationships between other people and their attitude towards me. It is the emotions of other people.

Themes: emotional atmosphere, romanticism, cooperation, treatment, qualitative judgement of behavior, sympathy, ethical estimations of observable actions, "ethics of actions".

State of mind: assessing the moods and attitudes from dynamics of surroundings and the actions and choices of others, being perceptive of the "emotional atmosphere", analyzing and evaluating emotions and attitudes of others based on their currently observable reactions and actions, with to express one's feelings and experiences openly and directly, to impact the emotional and social space, which can be done through expressive combination of words and gestures.

- Introverted Ethics (Fi)

Doesn't seek for activity; wants to categorize ethical information in a code that sends internal emotions inside, organizing relationships or moral constructions. Rejection of emotional resources, managing information passively.

Reinin's definition: It is my attitude to people. It is the liking/disliking of people/things. It is the emotions I experience.

Themes: internal harmony, resonance or dissonance of personal sentiments, sympathy, pity, compassion, support, condemnation, judgement, positive and negative emotional space.

State of mind: an analytical state of mind, analysis of personal feeling and stances, harmony or disharmony of personal values and sentiments, endearment, closeness, moral satisfaction, emotional sensitivity, deep personal conviction that may produce moral firmness and resolve.

Valuation and Types

As seen in the previous two sections, the IMEs fit into the blocks to create a type. However, from this comes function valuation. It is noticeable that the functions in the Ego and Super-id blocks are treated with interest while those in Super-ego and Id blocks are not. This is the difference in the valuation of functions. The valuation comes in pairs, meaning you can value either NeSi or SeNi, as well as valuing either TeFi or FeTi.

Valued functions are essentially what make up the foundation of our socionic type (Ego functions 1 and 2), and the processes that complement that foundation (Super-id functions 5 and 6). Every person actively seeks to process information based on these functions, and warmly create a sense of connection to others who value similar functions. The more valued functions in common means the closer the general compatibility between two types. These functions are what make up the quadra values of the types.

Subdued functions are the remaining four functions that oppose our preferences; as a result we try to limit the use of these functions. The mental-subdued (weak) functions are found in the Super-ego block (functions 3 and 4), and the vital-subdued (strong) functions are in the Id block (functions 7 and 8). Since these functions are what we suppress as much as we can, in situations where we must use them they tend to produce dissatisfaction and distress in ourselves. Subdued functions are sometimes called non-valued although some socionists prefer not to use this name.

Based on this valuation of functions, the four corresponding quodras arise that have four types inside of them. The quodras are:

- Alpha Quadra (ILE, SEI, ESE, LII), which values NeSi and FeTi
- Beta Quadra (SLE, IEI, EIE, LSI), which values SeNi and FeTi
- Gamma Quadra (SEE, ILI, LIE, ESI), which values SeNi and TeFi
- Delta Quadra (IEE, SLI, LSE, EII), which values NeSi and TeFi

Another important dichotomy is those of strong and weak functions. Again, during the descriptions of the blocks you could notice that there seems to be an overlap between two blocks, in this case, strong functions are those which are in the Ego and Id blocks, while weak ones are in the Super-ego and Super-id blocks.

Strong functions generally have a more sophisticated grasp on information, and can be used practically for the benefit of oneself and others.

Weak functions, in contrast, tend to oversimplify data, do not usually generate conclusions on their own, and depend on help from outside sources.

In the quadras you can see the types listed, but what do these types actually mean?

The three letter code is the most common way of referring to each socionics type and the one you'll see used the most. The full type name for each socionics type is based on the original Jungian dichotomies which the functions were based on, those being:

- Logical/Ethical (L/E) – Based on Jung's Thinking/Feeling dichotomy
- Sensing/Intuitive (S/I) – Based on Jung's Sensation/Intuition dichotomy
- Extraversion/Introversion (E/I) – Based on Jung's Extravert/Introvert dichotomy

The three-letter code simply takes the first letter of each word of the full name of the type to create a 3-letter abbreviation. What does this mean? It means that the first letter of a type will indicate the base function of a type, the second will indicate the creative one and, lastly, the third letter will tell us if the type is introverted or extraverted. For example, let us take the type LSI. Having the first letter as L, we can identify that the type is a logical base type, secondly, we see that the type has a sensation function as a creative one and, lastly, we see that the type is introverted, meaning this type has Ti as its base function and Se as its creative one. Let's take another type for example, IEE. Having I as the first letter we understand that the type has an intuitive function as its base, supported by an ethical function and that the type is extraverted, meaning that the type in question has NeFi in its ego.

Here's a way to memorize all the function placements in a type, let's use IEI as an example:

Ego Block

1st function – explained above, you'll remember this one (Ni base)

2nd function – explained above, you'll remember this one too (Fe creative)

Super-ego Block

3rd function – your first but the first letter is flipped (Ni base, Si role)

4th function - your second but the first letter is flipped (Fe creative, Te PoLR)

Super-id Block

5th function - the opposite of your base (Ni base, Se suggestive)

6th function - the opposite of your creative (Fe creative, Ti activating)

Id Block

7th function - different attitude of your base one (Ni base, Ne ignoring)

8th function - different attitude of your creative one, (Fe creative, Fi demonstrative)

The functions of each type are as follows:

	1.	2.	3.	4.	5.	6.	7.	8.
	Base	Creative	Role	PoLR	Suggestive	Activating	Ignoring	Demonstrative
ESE	Fe	Si	Te	Ni	Ti	Ne	Fi	Se
LII	Ti	Ne	Fi	Se	Fe	Si	Te	Ni
ILE	Ne	Ti	Se	Fi	Si	Fe	Ni	Te
SEI	Si	Fe	Ni	Te	Ne	Ti	Se	Fi
EIE	Fe	Ni	Te	Si	Ti	Se	Fi	Ne
LSI	Ti	Se	Fi	Ne	Fe	Ni	Te	Si
SLE	Se	Ti	Ne	Fi	Ni	Fe	Si	Te
IEI	Ni	Fe	Si	Te	Se	Ti	Ne	Fi
LIE	Te	Ni	Fe	Si	Fi	Se	Ti	Ne
ESI	Fi	Se	Ti	Ne	Te	Ni	Fe	Si
SEE	Se	Fi	Ne	Ti	Ni	Te	Si	Fe
ILI	Ni	Te	Si	Fe	Se	Fi	Ne	Ti
LSE	Te	Si	Fe	Ni	Fi	Ne	Ti	Se
EII	Fi	Ne	Ti	Se	Te	Si	Fe	Ni
IEE	Ne	Fi	Se	Ti	Si	Te	Ni	Fe
SLI	Si	Te	Ni	Fe	Ne	Fi	Se	Ti

Type Dichotomies

Extraversion / Introversion

Extraverted types are: ILE, ESE, EIE, SLE, SEE, LIE, LSE, IEE

Extrovert traits: Psychic energy more often flows outwards. Energy level increases when interacting with a large group of people. Energy level decreases when they are alone. Energy level is generally higher. More often focused on their surroundings. Tend to be more active and initiating. Often make new friends easily. Often better at presenting themselves. Often prefer to work in a team.

Introverted types are: SEI, LII, LSI, IEI, ILI, ESI, EII, SLI

Introvert traits: Psychic energy more often flows inwards. Energy level increases when they are alone. Energy level decreases when interacting with a large group of people. Energy level is generally lower. More often focused on their thoughts and feelings. Tend to be more passive, less initiating. Often do not have many friends. Often better at concentrating. Often prefer to work alone.

Sensing / Intuition

Sensing types are: SEI, ESE, LSI, SLE, SEE, ESI, LSE, SLI

Sensing traits: More realistic and down-to-earth. Rather notice details than the big picture. More focused on their surroundings, living in the here and now. More naturally comfortable with physical confrontations. Often more interested in practice than in theory.

Intuitive types are: ILE, LII, EIE, IEI, ILI, LIE, EII, IEE

Intuitive traits: More idealistic and head-in-clouds. Rather see the big picture than the details. More focused on ideas than on surroundings. Less naturally comfortable with physical confrontations. Often more interested in theory than in practice.

Ethics / Logic

Ethical types are: SEI, ESE, EIE, IEI, SEE, ESI, EII, IEE

Ethical traits: In their thoughts and interactions, give greater weight to ethical factors. Rather talk about ethical evaluations (“good or bad”). Frequently better at solving interpersonal problems. More often have problems with finding logical solutions. Tend to prefer persuasion over argumentation.

Logical types are: ILE, LII, LSI, SLE, ILI, LIE, LSE, SLI

Logical traits: More often make decisions based on logical reasons. Rather talk about logical evaluations (“right or wrong”). Frequently interested in systems, structures and patterns. More often have interpersonal problems. Tend to prefer argumentation over persuasion.

Rationality / Irrationality

Rational types are: ESE, LII, EIE, LSI, LIE, ESI, LSE, EII

Rational traits: Tend to plan ahead, make decisions early. Are more often rigid and stubborn. Do not like to change their decisions. Tend to finish what they started. Usually have stiff movements. Usually more ‘authoritarian’ leadership style. Low stress tolerance.

Irrational types are: ILE, SEI, SLE, IEI, SEE, ILI, IEE, SLI

Irrational traits: Tend to wait and see, more spontaneous. Are more often flexible and tolerant. Change their decisions frequently. Tend to start new things without finishing them. Usually have gentle movements. Usually more ‘democratic’ leadership style. High stress tolerance.

Important Links

Model A

- https://wikisocion.github.io/content/model_a.html
- <https://wikisocion.github.io/content/functions.html>

Information Aspects and Elements (IMEs)

- https://wikisocion.github.io/content/information_aspect.html
- <https://wikisocion.github.io/content/elements.html>
- <https://wikisocion.github.io/content/Ne.html>
- <https://wikisocion.github.io/content/Ni.html>
- <https://wikisocion.github.io/content/Se.html>
- <https://wikisocion.github.io/content/Si.html>
- <https://wikisocion.github.io/content/Te.html>
- <https://wikisocion.github.io/content/Ti.html>
- <https://wikisocion.github.io/content/Fe.html>
- <https://wikisocion.github.io/content/Fi.html>

All IME Dichotomies

- https://wikisocion.github.io/content/function_dich.html

IME Specialization (Focuses on Accepting/Producing and Inert/Contact dichotomies)

- https://wikisocion.github.io/content/specialization_functions.html

Quadras (Focus on Valued/Subdued dichotomies to group types)

(The following is somewhat basic and stereotypical)

- <https://wikisocion.github.io/content/quadra.html>
- https://wikisocion.github.io/content/alpha_quadra.html
- https://wikisocion.github.io/content/beta_quadra.html
- https://wikisocion.github.io/content/gamma_quadra.html
- https://wikisocion.github.io/content/delta_quadra.html

(The following is extremely long)

- https://wikisocion.github.io/content/alpha_complex.html
- https://wikisocion.github.io/content/beta_complex.html
- https://wikisocion.github.io/content/gamma_complex.html
- https://wikisocion.github.io/content/delta_complex.html

Type Names

- https://wikisocion.github.io/content/type_names.html

Type Dichotomies

Short Wikisocion Summaries

- https://wikisocion.github.io/content/extra_intro.html
- https://wikisocion.github.io/content/sensing_intuition.html
- https://wikisocion.github.io/content/ethics_logic.html
- https://wikisocion.github.io/content/ration_irration.html

Aushra's Definitions

- <https://classicsocionics.wordpress.com/extraversion-introversion/>
- <https://classicsocionics.wordpress.com/sensation-intuition/>
- <https://classicsocionics.wordpress.com/logic-ethics/>
- <https://classicsocionics.wordpress.com/rationality-irrationality/>

Pavel Tsypin's Definitions

- https://wikisocion.github.io/content/understand_e_i.html
- https://wikisocion.github.io/content/understand_n_s.html
- https://wikisocion.github.io/content/understand_t_f.html
- https://wikisocion.github.io/content/understand_j_p.html

Type Descriptions

General Descriptions

- https://wikisocion.github.io/content/profile_weisband_aushra.html
- https://wikisocion.github.io/content/profile_voroschenko.html
- https://wikisocion.github.io/content/profile_meged.html
- https://wikisocion.github.io/content/profile_blohin.html

Function Descriptions

- https://wikisocion.github.io/search.html?q=Wikisocion+composite&check_keywords=yes&area=default
- https://wikisocion.github.io/content/profile_filatova.html (Only the Ego and Super-Ego)
- <https://wikisocion.github.io/content/vera.html> (Not everything perfect, LSI especially described in a bad way)
- <https://www.the16types.info/vbulletin/content.php/193-Aspects-in-the-Valued-Functions-Dmitry-Golihov> (Only valued functions)
- https://wikisocion.github.io/content/profile_reinin.html (Differs from traditional)
- Note: Avoid Gulenko it'll make things confusing, he uses his own theory.

Intertype Relations

The basis of socionics theory but the worst part of it, don't take these relations as fact.

- <https://wikisocion.github.io/content/intertype.html>

Additional Topic: Dimensionality

Said topic some socionics users dislike as it wasn't a part of the original theory, while others like them because it gives another dimension to the system.

- <https://wikisocion.github.io/content/dimensionality.html>
- <https://www.the16types.info/vbulletin/content.php/309-Dimensionality-of-Functions>