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**2017**



**Alain Stalder**

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Alain Stalder





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## **2017**

Alain Stalder



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2017

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# Contents

Preface to the 2017 Edition . . . . .	6
Preface to the 2016 Edition . . . . .	6
<b>Web Pages</b>	<b>7</b>
Welcome . . . . .	8
way . . . . .	9
space and time . . . . .	10
metamorphosis . . . . .	12
greek philosophy . . . . .	15
i ching . . . . .	20
möbius . . . . .	27
evolutions . . . . .	34
mixed feelings . . . . .	35
star signs . . . . .	39
artemis . . . . .	43
References . . . . .	45
Books . . . . .	46
Links . . . . .	47
<b>Selected Articles</b>	<b>49</b>
Elemental changes in the I Ching? . . . . .	50
Elementare Wandlungen im I Ging? . . . . .	56
Elementary star signs . . . . .	62
Elementare Sternzeichen . . . . .	78
<b>Zeitzeugnisse</b>	<b>95</b>
Discoveries revisited . . . . .	96
A few new discoveries in physics . . . . .	97
Review of "A few new discoveries in physics" by Alain Stalder . . . . .	126
First Mentions . . . . .	127
First Mentions . . . . .	128
Ithaca . . . . .	142
Magnified Small Text . . . . .	143

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## **Preface to the 2017 Edition**

Besides a more elaborate exposition of my fascinating new way of arranging classical elements and trigrams of the I Ching on a circle—or even a Möbius strip—, this edition features many more interesting thoughts and leads, and is now in full color for the first time.

A next edition will likely only follow if/when there are significant new findings.

Instead there will be books addressing a broader public, first in German, later probably also in English, starting with a first book in German “Elementare Sternzeichen” in March 2018.

Adliswil, 30 November 2017

Alain Stalder

## **Preface to the 2016 Edition**

This book simply presents my website, [exactphilosophy.net](http://exactphilosophy.net), as of 2016.

It reproduces the content of all web pages, as well as the most important individual article in English and in the original German.

A lot of the material in this book presents novel ideas for the first time in a book, but it is not yet in a format accessible for a larger public. More mainstream publications may follow in the years to come.

I am a Swiss physicist (\*1966) and am doing this as a hobby.

I hope you will like this book.

Adliswil, 7 August 2016

Alain Stalder



# Web Pages

All web pages, in the order listed in the menu on the website.

## Note on small text

Two illustrations with small text on the web pages *i ching* (on page 21) and *möbius* (on page 28) can be viewed at larger scale later in the book, on page 50 and 54. Generally, see *blue* headers on pages with small text for information on which page or pages magnified text can be found.


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## Welcome

### way

space and time  
metamorphosis  
greek philosophy  
i ching  
möbius 

### evolutions

mixed feelings  
star signs  
 artemis


### References

### Books

### Links

## Welcome

I present a way of looking at the world here. That way or idea is not something that can be proven. But some of the fruits it contains might be considered for tending to, grow and become part of existing systems of thought.

Just click sequentially through all menu items on the left, like reading chapters in a book, and take your time, or go to ' artemis' for every- and nothing...

I am a physicist (\* 1966 in Zürich, Switzerland) and am doing this as a hobby.

Alain Stalder




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## Welcome

### way

space and time  
metamorphosis  
greek philosophy  
i ching  
möbius 

### evolutions

mixed feelings  
star signs  
 artemis

## References

### Books

### Links

## way

After defining elements from immediate perception of the world, inspired by Kant and Schopenhauer, I relate these elements to physics, the ancient Greek elements, and to the 8 trigrams of the Chinese I Ching.


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## Welcome

### way

space and time  
metamorphosis  
greek philosophy  
i ching  
möbius 

### evolutions

mixed feelings  
star signs  
 artemis

## References

### Books

### Links

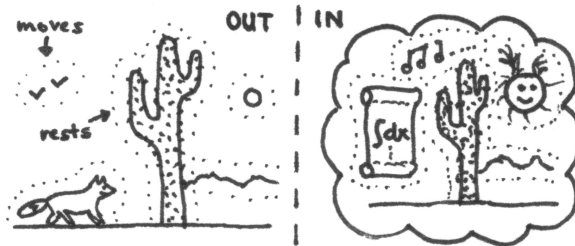
## space and time

Imagine that you have just now started to look at the world.



One of the first things that you notice is space. There is you and an outside world that you can see, and you can see more than one thing. What separates you and what you can see, and what separates the different things that you see, is space in its most immediate definition.

Then you also quickly notice that some things move and others do not. This is time, again in its most immediate definition, as motion or being at rest.



Things can rest or move outside and inside the mind. Thus there would a priori be 4 different kinds of things: What moves outside, what rests outside, what moves inside, and what rests inside. Let me call them *elements* and give them the following names: *emo*, *ero*, *emi* and *eri*.

<b>emo</b>	<b>moves</b>	<b>outside</b>
<b>ero</b>	<b>rests</b>	<b>outside</b>
<b>emi</b>	<b>moves</b>	<b>inside</b>
<b>eri</b>	<b>rests</b>	<b>inside</b>

## leads

Some literature quotes, ideas and different points of view. Always also see '🌀 artemis' for eventually articles that may expose some topics in a more contemporarily amenable way.

- Immanuel Kant. *The Critique of Pure Reason*. 1787.  
In the early chapters, Kant discloses that some observable things cannot be isolated from the self, but instead appear to be themselves *a priori* necessary for thinking and observation. These *a priori* concepts include space and time in their immediate sense—the structure in which things appear in the mind and seem to exist outside of it.
- “By means of the external sense (a property of the mind), we represent to ourselves objects as without us, and these all in space. Herein alone are their shape, dimensions, and relations to each other determined or determinable. [...] Space is not a conception which has been derived from outward experiences. For, in order that certain sensations may relate to something without me (that is, to something which occupies a different part of space from that in which I am); in like manner, in order that I may represent them not merely as without, of, and near to each other, but also in separate places, the representation of space must already exist as a foundation. [...] We never can imagine or make a representation to ourselves of the non-existence of space, though we may easily enough think that no objects are found in it.” (translated by J. Meiklejohn)
- “Time is not an empirical conception. For neither coexistence nor succession would be perceived by us, if the representation of time did not exist as a foundation *a priori*. [...] With regard to phenomena in general, we cannot think away time from them, and represent them to ourselves as out of and unconnected with time, but we can quite well represent to ourselves time void of phenomena.”
- If I can imagine something, is it then really inside of me? Isn't there already a separation (space) between me and what I imagine? Such an extreme definition of *self* or *inside* would mean that the self cannot have any (consciously accessible) attributes, no memory etc., because any such attribute of the self would be something that can be considered by the self and would thus, by definition, not be part of the self. . .
- This definition of *self* reminds of the *Tao* (way) in Taoism. Lao Tzu starts the *Tao Te Ching* with “The Tao that can be spoken, is not the real (unchanging) Tao”.
- Would a female observer also consider what is seen as not being part of herself or would she rather tend to identify with what she sees? In other words, is the distinction between in and out hard or soft (gradual)?
- What about sleep and dreaming, why only have a fully conscious observer?


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## Welcome

### way

space and time  
metamorphosis  
greek philosophy  
i ching  
möbius 

### evolutions

mixed feelings  
star signs  
 artemis

### References

### Books

### Links

## metamorphosis

The next thing that one notices is that what moves can come to rest and what rests can start to move. Also, it is possible to visualize something that one has seen outside, like a tree or a spoon, later on in the mind. In other words, the elements can transform into each other.

What causes or allows these changes? Whatever it is, it must be something fundamental, like the four elements. So let me simply call it the fifth element,  $e_5$ .

Free will seems to be a part of  $e_5$ . It is possible to lift a spoon and then to throw it away, i.e. to get something outside that rests into motion ( $ero \rightarrow emo$ ). However, free will cannot be identical to  $e_5$ , as some things are much harder to control (try lifting a tree) and things transform all the time without conscious influence.

Freedom inside the mind seems larger than outside. It is much easier to lift a tree in the mind, than a real tree. But let me tackle things from a different angle: Outside on average more things rest than move, while inside the mind, things are almost always more flowing.

For example, a tree is at rest in most situations, except for a little movement of leaves and maybe branches. But if you close your eyes and try to imagine a tree at rest, it will get very hard after a few seconds not to deviate to other thoughts and to keep the tree at rest.



In conclusion, on average outside activity is needed to get things moving, while inside activity is needed to keep things at rest. More abstractly, emo and eri are thus active, ero and emi are passive. Also, what is outside resists motion on average more than what is inside. So emo and ero are hard (out), emi and eri are soft (in).

<b>emo</b>	moves	outside	active	hard
<b>ero</b>	rests	outside	passive	hard
<b>emi</b>	moves	inside	passive	soft
<b>eri</b>	rests	inside	active	soft
<b>e5</b>	transforms the above elements			

## leads

- If free will is a part of e5, what is the rest? Cause and effect, fate, destiny, the free will of others? Quantum mechanics has relativized the first assumption somewhat, or maybe not.
- What property of the issue of free will or not leads to millions of variations when thinking about it? Could it possibly even be literally the effect of many “transformations” in the mind, whatever that may mean precisely?
- Freedom to lift a spoon does not automatically mean freedom of choice whether to want to lift the spoon or not.
- When I say that outside more things rest than move, I mean this in a very specific sense: Relative macroscopic motion at time scales that human beings can register.  
At long time scales, all things move; microscopically everything is in motion, as heat is nothing but random motion of atoms or molecules. When I turn my head, all objects move, but relative motion between them remains small.
- The present approach to nature is consequently centered on the human perspective, on direct experience of nature. Modern science usually differs from that by trying to pick a point of view from which a problem is easy to describe.  
The oldest example for this is astronomy that has been greatly simplified by solar centered calculations instead of using many arbitrary epicycles in geocentric calculations.
- Modern science is a very valuable companion for the present approach, especially for helping to exclude naive mistakes.
- Can my observations about motion, activity and hardness outside and inside be formalized and thus proven? How would such a mathematical representation look like? What assumptions would it be based on?

- In any closed system, *entropy*, roughly a measure of disorder, can at best remain constant, but usually it increases. With time, macroscopic directed motion and structures decay into microscopic random motion, which is, by definition, heat. Life manages to escape this fate by operating in *open* systems, by exporting disorder into the environment. That way, living beings can grow from microscopic seeds to complex structures and animals can repeatedly create directed motion.

Since science considers the outside world to be mainly inanimate and the mind to be located in a piece of organic matter, the brain, it predicts that outside motion tends to disappear, while inside the conscious mind has a hard time focusing on something, because lots of mostly unconscious activity in the brain keeps stirring things up.

Science is thus essentially compatible with the considerations presented so far, except for science's qualitative notion that creating motion inside the mind is active, requires energy, like outside. This might, however, simply be due to the viewpoint of science, which only considers facts in the outer, material world and might thus not be able to describe inner processes as experienced from the inside. . .

- In meditation, calmness of the mind (*eri*) is often sought by actively focussing the mind on something, thus reducing *emi*.




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## Welcome

### way

space and time  
metamorphosis  
greek philosophy  
i ching  
möbius 

### evolutions

mixed feelings  
star signs  
 artemis

### References

### Books

### Links

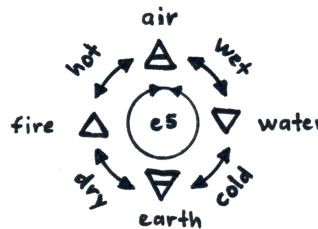
## greek philosophy

Aristotle defines elements to be composed of properties that can be felt by touching. He uses two pairs of opposites, hot-cold and wet-dry, to define four elements, which he names *fire*, *earth*, *water* and *air*. And he identifies wet-dry with soft-hard, viscous-brittle and smooth-rough. Unlike later the Stoics, he does not consistently identify hot-cold with active-passive and light-heavy. If you do, you get:

<b>fire</b>	hot (active)	dry (hard)	<b>emo</b>
<b>earth</b>	cold (passive)	dry (hard)	<b>ero</b>
<b>water</b>	cold (passive)	wet (soft)	<b>emi</b>
<b>air</b>	hot (active)	wet (soft)	<b>eri</b>

As you can see, this yields a one-to-one correspondence to my previous definition of the elements.

Aristotle defines a fifth element as immutable, moving only in circles and existing only in space, while the other four elements move linearly. And he also arranges the four elements in a circle in which they transform into each other by switching only one of hot/cold or wet/dry at a time.



The shared theme of a circle links the transformation of the four elements (e5) to the fifth element.

## leads

- Aristotle. *On Generation and Corruption*. Around 350 BCE.
- “Since, then, we are looking for ‘originative sources’ of perceptible body; and since ‘perceptible’ is equivalent to ‘tangible’, and ‘tangible’ is that of which the perception is touch; it is clear that not all the contraries constitute ‘forms’ and ‘originative sources’ of body, but only those which correspond to touch.” (Book II, translated by H. Joachim)
- “From moist and dry are derived (iii) the fine and coarse, viscous and brittle, hard and soft, and the remaining tangible differences. For (a) since the moist has no determinate shape, but is readily adaptable and follows the outline of that which is in contact with it, it is characteristic of it to be ‘such as to fill up’. Now ‘the fine’ is ‘such as to fill up’. For ‘the fine’ consists of subtle particles; but that which consists of small particles is ‘such as to fill up’, inasmuch as it is in contact whole with whole—and ‘the fine’ exhibits this character in a superlative degree. Hence it is evident that the fine derives from the moist, while the coarse derives from the dry. Again (b) ‘the viscous’ derives from the moist: for ‘the viscous’ (e.g. oil) is a ‘moist’ modified in a certain way. ‘The brittle’, on the other hand, derives from the dry: for ‘brittle’ is that which is completely dry—so completely, that its solidification has actually been due to failure of moisture. Further (c) ‘the soft’ derives from the moist. For ‘soft’ is that which yields to pressure by retiring into itself, though it does not yield by total displacement as the moist does—which explains why the moist is not ‘soft’, although ‘the soft’ derives from the moist. ‘The hard’, on the other hand, derives from the dry: for ‘hard’ is that which is solidified, and the solidified is dry.”
- “The elementary qualities are four [...]. Hence it is evident that the ‘couplings’ of the elementary qualities will be four: hot with dry and moist with hot, and again cold with dry and cold with moist. [...] Fire is hot and dry, whereas Air is hot and moist (Air being a sort of aqueous vapour); and Water is cold and moist, while Earth is cold and dry.”

- Aristotle arranges the elements in a cycle fire-air-water-earth:  
“Thus (i) the process of conversion will be quick between those which have interchangeable ‘complementary factors’, but slow between those which have none. The reason is that it is easier for a single thing to change than for many. Air, e.g. will result from Fire if a single quality changes: for Fire, as we saw, is hot and dry while Air is hot and moist, so that there will be Air if the dry be overcome by the moist. Again, Water will result from Air if the hot be overcome by the cold: for Air, as we saw, is hot and moist while Water is cold and moist, so that, if the hot changes, there will be Water. So too, in the same manner, Earth will result from Water and Fire from Earth, since the two ‘elements’ in both these couples have interchangeable ‘complementary factors’. For Water is moist and cold while Earth is cold and dry—so that, if the moist be overcome, there will be Earth: and again, since Fire is dry and hot while Earth is cold and dry, Fire will result from Earth if the cold pass-away.”
- Some fragments of Heraclitus suggest the same circle, namely DK B76 “fire’s death is air’s birth, and air’s death is water’s birth” and B36 “psyche’s death is water’s birth, water’s death is earth’s birth, from earth comes water, from water comes psyche”, if psyche (or soul) is identified with air. But knowledge of Heraclitus is based on fragmentary quotes from later authors like the ones above. Fragment B31 describes a transformation from fire to sea (water?) and says that sea is made of equal parts of earth and whirlwind (air?); fragment B90 suggests that he considered fire the primary substance. Similarly, there have been many views by different philosophers, some of which are mentioned further below.
- In *On Generation and Corruption*, Aristotle considers light-heavy not to be an attribute of any specific elements:  
“(i) heavy and light are neither active nor susceptible. Things are not called ‘heavy’ and ‘light’ because they act upon, or suffer action from, other things. But the ‘elements’ must be reciprocally active and susceptible, since they ‘combine’ and are transformed into one another. On the other hand (ii) hot and cold, and dry and moist, are terms, of which the first pair implies power to act and the second pair susceptibility.”

But in *On the Heavens*, he considers air and fire as light and water and earth as heavy, in the order earth-water-air-fire, and postulates the existence of an immutable fifth element that dominates in the sky, is neither light nor heavy and moves in circles, while the first four elements move linearly:

"[...] all locomotion, as we term it, is either straight or circular or a combination of these two, which are the only simple movements. [...] Now revolution about the centre is circular motion, while the upward and downward movements are in a straight line, 'upward' meaning motion away from the centre, and 'downward' motion towards it. [...] For if the natural motion is upward, it will be fire or air, and if downward, water or earth. [...] circular motion is necessarily primary. For the perfect is naturally prior to the imperfect, and the circle is a perfect thing. [...] These premises clearly give the conclusion that there is in nature some bodily substance other than the formations we know, prior to them all and more divine than they. [...] there is something beyond the bodies that are about us on this earth, different and separate from them; and that the superior glory of its nature is proportionate to its distance from this world of ours. [...] things are heavy and light relatively to one another; air, for instance, is light relatively to water, and water light relatively to earth. The body, then, which moves in a circle cannot possibly possess either heaviness or lightness. For neither naturally nor unnaturally can it move either towards or away from the centre. [...] this body will be ungenerated and indestructible and exempt from increase and alteration [...] earth is enclosed by water, water by air, air by fire, and these similarly by the upper bodies" (Book I, translated by J. Stocks)

- Most things in the sky beyond clouds are round or cyclic: sun and moon are round, planets, as well as stars during night and seasons, move periodically in predictable cycles.
- The fifth element is also called ether or aether and quint-essence. Many different views of the fifth element and closely related concepts have emerged over time.

Plato used the word aether to describe the purest form of air in the *Timaeus*. But there is also a strong association of the sky with fire, because stars and planets appear to emit light and the sun provides heat, and also because fire was often considered the lightest of the four elements.

The fifth element is generally considered "divine" because gods were often believed to live in heaven. And it is often also seen as special in other ways, like able to create life, or immortal like the soul or maybe pneuma, or able to create matter and to hold it together, or maybe identified by some alchemists with the philosopher's stone, which was believed to be able to transform matter, like lead to gold, etc. ?

- Do such associations (historically founded or not) fit well with the definition of e5 simply because they all keep going in circles around the same questions ?


- Aristotle appears to consistently link hot/cold to active and wet/dry to passive, see quote from *On Generation and Corruption* above, or the following quote from *Meteorology*:  
“All this makes it clear that bodies are formed by heat and cold and that these agents operate by thickening and solidifying. It is because these qualities fashion bodies that we find heat in all of them, and in some cold in so far as heat is absent. These qualities, then, are present as active, and the moist and the dry as passive, and consequently all four are found in mixed bodies.” (Book IV, translated by E. Webster)
- David Sedley writes in chapter 11 of *The Cambridge History of Hellenistic Philosophy* (Cambridge University Press, 2000) that the Stoic's identification of hot-cold with active-passive emerged from medical tradition, from *pneuma*, breath, which was seen as a mixture of fire and air, and mentions also that this identification was not so clearly the only view of the Stoics in their time. A bit later astrological views emerged that see fire and air as male, and water and earth as female. See Vettius Valens's *Anthologia* in the 2nd century CE and hints in earlier texts by Dorotheus of Sidon and Marcus Manilius. These views have essentially prevailed, including in medieval alchemy and up to contemporary astrology.
- In *Academica* (45 BCE), Cicero lets Antiochus of Ascalon say the following, influenced by Aristotle and the Stoics:  
“Accordingly air [...] and fire and water and earth are primary; while their derivatives are the species of living creatures and of the things that grow out of the earth. Therefore those things are termed [...] elements; and among them air and fire have motive and efficient force, and the remaining divisions [...] water and earth, receptive and 'passive' capacity. Aristotle deemed that there existed a certain fifth sort of element, in a class by itself and unlike the four that I have mentioned above, which was the source of the stars and of thinking minds.” (Book I 26, translated by H. Rackham)
- In contemporary astrology, fire is associated with imagination, air with (abstract) thinking and communication, water with feelings, and earth with pragmatic realism.
- In ancient Greek philosophy there was also the idea of matter consisting of indivisible physical units (atoms). In Plato's *Timaeus*, a model is presented that combines both views by associating the five elements with the five Platonic solids: fire-tetrahedron, air-octahedron, water-icosahedron, earth-cube and the roundest one, the dodecahedron, for the whole world/universe (pan).  
In 4 dimensions there are 6 generalized Platonic solids, in 5 and more dimensions always only 3, namely generalizations of tetrahedron, cube and octahedron.

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## Welcome

### way

space and time  
metamorphosis  
greek philosophy  
i ching  
möbius 

### evolutions

mixed feelings  
star signs  
 artemis

### References

### Books

### Links

## i ching

All cultures seem to know some kinds of elements, but let me consider the 8 trigrams of the Chinese Book of Changes, the *I Ching* or *Yijing*.

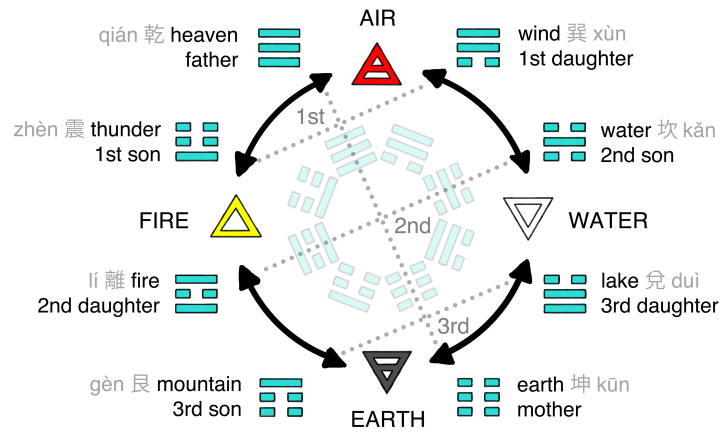
☰	heaven, strong, creative, father
☷	earth, devoted/yielding, receptive, mother
☳	thunder, inciting movement, arousing, 1st son
☵	water, dangerous, abysmal, 2nd son
☶	mountain, resting, keeping still, 3rd son
☴	wind/wood, penetrating, gentle, 1st daughter
☲	fire, light-giving, clinging, 2nd daughter
☱	lake, joyful, joyous, 3rd daughter

They seem to resemble Greek elements in pairs, namely heaven-wind (air), earth-mountain, fire-thunder and water-lake. Let me rearrange them into another table:

☰	heaven	<b>air</b>	rests	male
☴	wind	<b>air</b>	moves	female
☶	mountain	<b>earth</b>	rests	male
☷	earth	<b>earth</b>	moves	female
☲	fire	<b>fire</b>	rests	female
☳	thunder	<b>fire</b>	moves	male
☱	lake	<b>water</b>	rests	female
☵	water	<b>water</b>	moves	male

Interestingly, the trigrams that correspond to the Greek elements, i.e. resting air and earth, moving fire and water, are exactly the male trigrams.

Let me map each trigram to the result of a transition between two elements in Aristotle's circle of the elements, ending with the corresponding element and starting with a male element (fire or air) for the male trigrams (father and sons) and with a female element (water or earth) for the female trigrams (mother and daughters):



The trigrams seem to fit closely: Thunder as fire that has suddenly come down as lightning from the sky (air), in contrast to fire steadily clinging to the matter (earth) it burns; wind as air that gently evaporated from water, in contrast to gases from a fire risen to heaven; a lake as water sprung from sources (earth), in contrast to water fallen down as rain from the sky (air); a mountain as earth solidified from lava (fire), in contrast to softly yielding earth from sediments deposited by water.

☰	heaven	<b>air</b> ← fire	rests	male
☴	wind	<b>air</b> ← water	moves	female
☶	mountain	<b>earth</b> ← fire	rests	male
☷	earth	<b>earth</b> ← water	moves	female
☲	fire	<b>fire</b> ← earth	rests	female
☳	thunder	<b>fire</b> ← air	moves	male
☱	lake	<b>water</b> ← earth	rests	female
☵	water	<b>water</b> ← air	moves	male

This arrangement is none of the two traditionally known ones, more similar to Earlier Heaven than Later Heaven:



More symmetries, some similar to Earlier Heaven:

- Daughters and sons are arranged from father to first to second to third children, and finally to mother.
- Opposite trigrams in the circle mirror each other if you mirror each trigram at the middle line (i.e. swap first and third line) and invert all lines (yin ↔ yang).
- Trigrams that transform to or from outer elements have a broken (yin) line in the middle, which would fit with outer elements being harder and more brittle, breaking more easily.
- Excluding the middle line, between adjacent trigrams in the circle exactly one line is inverted (yin ↔ yang).



## leads

- The I Ching is a divination system. By tossing coins or drawing yarrow sticks, one determines hexagrams (two trigrams) that are given meanings in the text of the I Ching. More precisely, the oracle results in two hexagrams, describing the evolution of the current situation to a new situation.

- This new arrangement of the 8 trigrams and 4 elements in a circle was inspired by a passage in the introduction of Richard Wilhelm's translation of the *I Ching or Book of Changes* (translated from German to English by Cary F. Baynes):

"The eight trigrams are symbols standing for changing transitional states; they are images that are constantly undergoing change. Attention centers not on things in their state of being—as is chiefly the case in the Occident—but upon their movements in change. The eight trigrams therefore are not representations of things as such but of their tendencies in movement."

So the 8 Chinese trigrams would express essentially the same elements and changes in a circle as the 4+1 Greek elements, i.e. the fifth element would be contained in the trigrams.

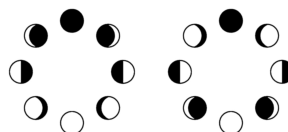
- No common historical roots are known, nor any roots of the above arrangement of trigrams in Chinese history, so did both cultures mirror nature independently, even unknowingly?

Interpreting earth-water-air as the states of matter solid-fluid-gas and fire as a chemical reaction or physical phenomenon that produces light and maybe heat, the elements could be considered what is most commonly encountered in nature.

The elements represent also *elementary* needs: air to breathe, water to drink, food to eat, sunlight and fire as energy.

Conversely, the very nature of oracles is that things are connected, maybe also globally to some degree?

- In the yarrow stalk method of consulting the I Ching, one starts with 50 yarrow stalks and initially puts one away. This seems to be a reference to the cycles of moon and sun, because 50+49 lunar months are only about 1.5 days short of 8 solar years, which is also why the Olympics in ancient Greece were held alternatively every 50 and 49 lunar months. Hence the moon advances about 3/8 of the circle every solar year, drawing an eight-pointed star over eight years, as well as appearing in eight different lunar phases.



Venus never separates more than about 1/8 of the circle from the sun and appears to stand still 5 times in 8 years, drawing a pentagram that shifts only slightly between cycles. The Mesopotamian goddess of love Ishtar was associated with Venus, usually depicted as an eight-pointed star and sometimes shown together with sun and moon.

The yin-yang symbol ☯ reminds of moon phases.

- The five Chinese Wu Xing, water, metal, fire, wood and earth, which are often called “elements” in the West, but literally mean “moving”, stand most immediately for the five planets visible to the naked eye, Mercury, Venus, Mars, Jupiter and Saturn, while the “Four Symbols”, black turtle, white tiger, vermilion bird and azure dragon stand for the four directions and for constellations in the sky (each for a group of 7 of the 28 mansions). Together with the I Ching maybe standing for sun and moon, this would complete the sky and what it was believed to reflect down on earth.
- In the five Wu Xing, earth often has a somewhat central role, surrounded by things that emerge from it and go back to it: water from springs, fire from volcanoes, wood growing from earth and metal mined from it; four very useful ingredients for humans to shape their worlds, like using fire to smelt ore into metal tools, which can then be used to cut wood into houses, furniture, bows, plows, water wheels, etc.
- In the Chinese zodiac, four star signs are assigned to earth, arranged in a cross, and in the four sectors in between, the two star signs there are assigned to water, metal, fire and wood, respectively. This reminds a lot of Aristotle’s circle with trigrams above, so maybe the Wu Xing earth would correspond to the static Greek elements and the other four Wu Xing to the trigrams of the I Ching for the corresponding transformation? Can this be identified in the attributes of the star signs of the Chinese zodiac?
- Is the association of trigrams with elements and their changes also closely mirrored in the hexagrams and their changes?
- When consulting the I Ching as an oracle, the different lines are assigned the numbers 6 to 9:

6	old (changing) yin	-- to —	-x-
7	new (unchanging) yang	— to —	—
8	new (unchanging) yin	-- to --	--
9	old (changing) yang	— to --	-o-

These numbers are also associated with the Wu Xing and derived from 5 (earth) plus 1 to 4 (water, fire, wood, metal), see the Yellow River Map, e.g. in Wilhelm/Baynes.

As a different approach, let me number the elements in Aristotle's circle as 1-2-3-4, starting a priori with any element and going in either direction of the circle. Now, map transformations of elements to the sum of the three elements involved,  $1+2+3 = 6$ ,  $2+3+4 = 9$ ,  $3+4+1 = 8$  and  $4+1+2 = 7$ , where the element in the middle is the one that is transformed.

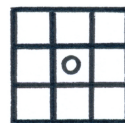
This gives also the numbers from 6 to 9 and note that new yin and yang are obtained for the sequences that cross from 4 to 1, i.e. into a *new* cycle.

Let me number the elements 1-fire, 2-air, 3-water, 4-earth (starting with the lightest element according to Aristotle):

6	transformation of air	$36 = 6 \times 6$ Stratagems
7	transformation of fire	$49 = 7 \times 7$ Qixi (Ch'i?)
8	transformation of earth	$64 = 8 \times 8$ I Ching
9	transformation of water	$81 = 9 \times 9$ Tao Te Ching

This fits astonishingly well with contemporary Western astrological views of the elements. The 36 Stratagems provide stratagems to use in politics and war, which fits well with air as conscious planning mind. The I Ching yields a priori images of changes in the outer, material world, the element earth, which are then interpreted in a more detached way. The Tao Te Ching, which comes in 81 sections, often has something that flows like water. Besides the 50/49 yarrow stalks, there is the Qixi Festival on the 7th day of the 7th month of the year when magpies mythologically build a bridge across the milky way to briefly reunite two lovers, and ch'i (qì) stands for life energy and breath (which reminds of pneuma), and is pronounced almost like the word for 7 (qī) in Chinese.

In ancient China, fields in agriculture used to be divided into squares of  $9 = 3 \times 3$  fields, with 8 fields (earth) owned by individual families around a central 9th field that belonged to all families and contained the well (water).



- The most ancient Chinese oracles used bones (typically shoulder bones of oxen) or turtle plastrons (the belly part of the turtle shell). Holes were drilled and heated with a heat source from the back of the plastron to produce cracks on the front, which were typically T-shaped. Although many oracle bones and plastrons have been found and the ancient writing can now be read to quite some degree, little seems to be known about how cracks were interpreted. There seems to be no direct evidence for an influence on the I Ching, so far.

A plastron consists essentially of 6 pairs of scutes (shields), anal, femoral, abdominal, pectoral, humeral and gular, with a flexible hinge between the first and the last 3 pairs of scutes, which reminds of the structure of hexagrams.

Applying heat to a plastron can cause it to crack, to become broken. Are yin and yang lines as broken (weak) resp. unbroken (strong) lines in the I Ching thus related to more ancient oracles involving heat?

Heat dries up, makes brittle, so would a yang line correspond to no crack emerging, because it was wet to start with, hence be considered strong in the sense of resisting heat?

On the northern hemisphere, stars appear to rotate around the north pole in the sky, the direction assigned to the turtle of the four symbols. Is the turtle with its shell maybe a model of the world, with the plastron standing for what is down on earth and the upper part of the shell for the sky? And similarly lower and upper trigrams of the I Ching?

The hexagons on the upper part of the shell could be seen to form 6 unbroken/yang lines (heaven) and the pairs of plastron scutes 6 broken/yin lines (earth).



- In Greek mythology, as early as in Hesiod's *Theogony*, Cronos and Rhea had 3 sons and 3 daughters. Their parents were Ouranos and Gaia, which mean heaven (or mountain) and earth. Zeus, the third son, was close to his mother Rhea who tricked Cronos and hid Zeus from him, so that Zeus grew up on mount Ida and after his revolution reigned on mount Olympos. Just like the mountain trigram (3rd son) is close to the earth trigram (mother) in the circle?

The mother might have been considered naturally closer to her youngest children because they emerged last from her.


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## Welcome

### way

space and time  
metamorphosis  
greek philosophy  
i ching  
möbius 

### evolutions

mixed feelings  
star signs  
 artemis

## References

### Books

### Links

## möbius

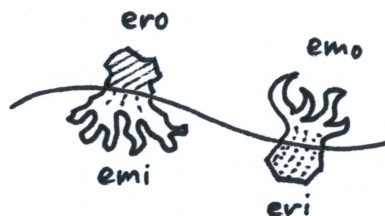
The elements could a priori interface in six ways: emo-ero, emi-eri, emo-emi, ero-eri, emo-eri, emi-ero.

Transitions at the first two interfaces, emo-ero and emi-eri, are clearly possible in both directions, since things start to move and come to rest both outside and inside.

The situation at the remaining four interfaces is more difficult to estimate, because they all cross the boundary between in and out. Since the outside world has an effect on the inner world, and vice-versa, in and out are obviously connected, but a priori not all 8 possible transitions at these 4 interfaces in-out would be necessary.

Any interface between elements must be unobservable, because otherwise it would be something that is perceived inside or outside, i.e. it would *be* one of the four elements.

So, let me imagine the interface in-out to be an infinitely thin membrane. And imagine, say, a blob of ero at the boundary to inside permeating inside. A slice of ero would end up inside and, if it remained passive, would start to flow, becoming emi.



Assuming the interface in-out to preserve activity, there would thus be transitions  $ero \leftrightarrow emi$  and  $emo \leftrightarrow eri$ , but no transitions  $ero \leftrightarrow eri$  or  $emo \leftrightarrow emi$ , hence again Aristotle's circle. Let me explore this a bit more concretely.

If you leisurely observe a typical scene outside where most things rest and just a few move and then close your eyes, what you might see first in your mind might often be what has been moving outside, but initially frozen, hence a transition  $emo \rightarrow eri$ , and, if you stay relaxed, the images will quickly start to flow,  $eri \rightarrow emi$ .

If you already focus on something that rests outside, like a tree, after closing your eyes, it will likely also first be at rest in the mind and only stay at rest if you keep and even increase the focus. So, in a way you would have already had eri before closing your eyes, but it had not been so obvious, so maybe no mirroring of the static image of the tree into the mind, no transition ero→eri.

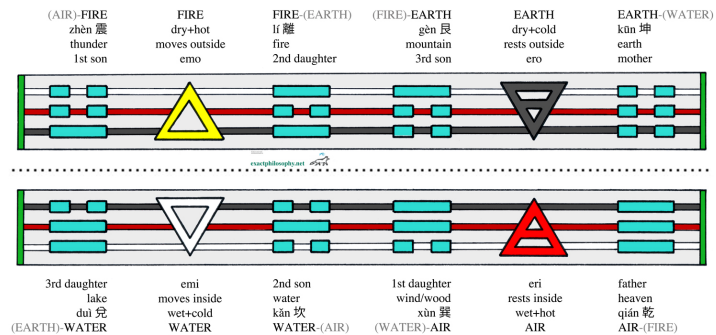
Consciously moving the outside body (emo) normally requires to focus on what you want to do (eri). But this does not always lead to motion outside: If something outside is hard enough (ero), it may resist, or one may stop something that had been moving by, say, catching it.

Being faced with hard resistance outside (ero) can be frustrating, which might create recurring feelings inside (emi). The same could be the result of maybe stubborn immobile views inside (eri). Conversely, observing motion outside and inside allows to learn inside, to derive stable laws (eri) of how things change, which might calm moving feelings inside (emi). And so on, just to make the idea more tangible, without proving anything for sure.

The interfaces between the elements might a priori have an arbitrarily complex nature, so that the above is a priori just likely one of the simplest ways of seeing them.

Let me map the circle of elements and trigrams onto a Möbius Strip as follows (click below to zoom in):

OUT

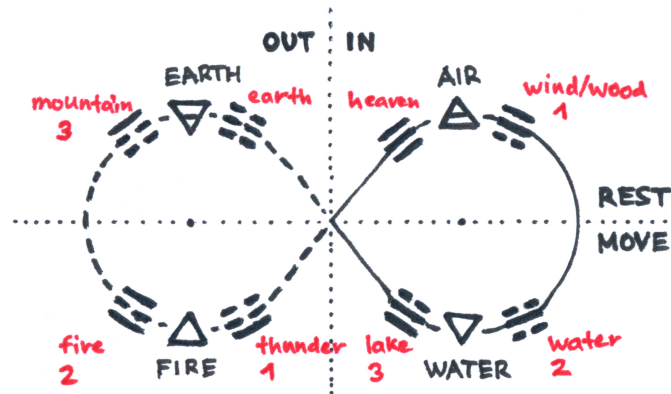


IN



Inner elements are placed on the inside of the strip, outer elements on the outside. That way, the strip reminds of the supposed permeable membrane between in and out. The symbols for the moving elements fire and water touch on opposite sides of the strip, coinciding perfectly, and the same is true for the resting elements earth and air. All lines of the trigrams on one side of the strip are mirrored by their inverted lines (yin  $\leftrightarrow$  yang) on the other side, so that yin and yang *are* different sides of the same on the strip.

So, even though fire and water would touch, and maybe mirror each other between in and out, they could not transform directly into each other, only indirectly by going along the single surface of the strip via air or earth.



## leads

- Many paths open from here, just a few are touched below.
- Since all six interfaces cannot be observed, a priori all kinds of complex things might happen there. Also, these interfaces could arguably form e5, and would thus be related to such complex themes as destiny vs. free will or causality, etc. ?  
 The transitions emo-ero and emi-eri do not conserve activity, so maybe transitions emo-emi and ero-ero, which preserve motion, but not activity, would be possible, too ?  
 Maybe the elements cannot permeate the boundary in-out, but activity can: Where emo touches emi, activity could move inside, simultaneously turning emo to ero and emi to eri, and also vice-versa, i.e. two linked circles emo-ero and emi-eri ?  
 Maybe transitions in-out resemble rather a walk on a Möbius strip than permeating a membrane, so that you could get from one side to the other without ever crossing a border ?
- In a harmonic oscillator, two kinds of energies are transformed into each other. For example, for a mass on a spring, the energy in the spring transforms into the kinetic energy of the moving mass and vice-versa. This gives the motion of the oscillator four special states, when either of the energies is extremal. And the motion between these states is periodic, thus overall reminding of the circle of elements.  
 However, the natural pairing of extremal states of a harmonic oscillator is opposite states in the cycle, which naturally fits rest/move in the elemental circle, but makes it hard to relate two pairs of *adjacent* states to opposites like active/passive or in/out in a natural way.
- Could a mathematical model of the elements as defined here grow into a scientific way of doing metaphysics, as in Kant's *Prolegomena to Any Future Metaphysics That Will Be Able to Present Itself as a Science* ?
- Aristotle considers four "causes" in *Physics* and *Metaphysics*, which remind of the four elements. Matter reminds of earth, form of air, primary source of fire and final goal of water.
- Is the female fire trigram a form of inner fire, emo mapped to some form of eri, that is clinging to a dream, an idea, a wish despite all outer hardness ? Is the female earth trigram a form of inner earth, ero mapped to some form of emi, something that can yield devotedly to outer hardness ? Is the female lake trigram a form of outer water, emi mapped to some form of ero, which brings calm to the outside world without hardness ? Is the female wind trigram a form of outer air, eri mapped to some form of emo, free flowing mind and communication ?
- Is the Chinese approach thus more balanced ? Conversely, is the Greek approach more likely to start new things, exactly because it is maybe initially more imbalanced ? Are both needed for 'full' balance ? Is there more ?



- Near the end of Apuleius' *The Golden Ass* (around 150 CE), Apuleius encounters the goddess Isis at full moon at the sea shortly after moonrise:

"Her many-coloured robe was of finest linen; part was glistening white, part crocus-yellow, part glowing red and along the entire hem a woven bordure of flowers and fruit clung swaying in the breeze. But what caught and held my eye more than anything else was the deep black lustre of her mantle. She wore it slung across her body from the right hip to the left shoulder, where it was caught in a knot resembling the boss of a shield; but part of it hung in innumerable folds, the tasseled fringe quivering. It was embroidered with glittering stars on the hem and everywhere else, and in the middle beamed a full and fiery moon." (Chapter 17, translated by Robert Graves)

Astrologer Antiochus of Athens and physician Galenus of Pergamon attributed colors resp. body fluids (humors) to elements around the time Apuleius lived, based on older roots going back at least partially to Hippocrates: white to water (phlegm, phlegmatic), black to earth (black bile, melancholic), yellow to fire (yellow bile, choleric) and red to air (blood, sanguine), the colors of Isis' dress above, plus stars and moon for the round fifth element in the sky.

- In alchemy, also since about at least the same time, the transition of materials toward what is now called the philosopher's stone was believed to be from black via white (moon) and yellow (sun) to red, i.e. earth-water-fire-air, which is roughly in order of lightness of the elements and their relatively layered appearance on earth. It is apparently also the order of elements in the four tasks that Venus gives Psyche in an inner story in *The Golden Ass*, as I explore elsewhere, see [🔗](#) artemis. All of this has ancient Egyptian roots, with Osiris (and his brother Seth), Isis and their son Horus, as well as with ancient crafts of creating fake noble metals and gems.
- One of the oldest ancient Indian Upanishads, the Chandogya Upanishad (ca. 1000 BCE), speaks of three elements, fire (red), water (white) and earth (black):

"The red colour of gross fire is the colour of the original fire; the white colour of gross fire is the colour of the original water; the black colour of gross fire is the colour of the original earth. Thus vanishes from fire what is commonly called fire, the modification being only a name, arising from speech, while the three colours (forms) alone are true." (Part 6, Chapter 4, translated by Swami Nikhilananda)

Why do these the three colors red-white-black appear in so many cultures as primary colors? Robert Graves links them to the moon and I guess he is right, but why stereotypically the colors of the moon at night instead of green, brown, blue, etc. of nature at daylight where there is so much more color? Maybe because the colors that remain when light gets dimmer would be more fundamental: red embers turning to black and white ashes; red of a blood moon during a total lunar eclipse, white of stars and moon, black of night sky and moon?

- Plato talks about colors in the *Timaeus*, Aristotle in *On Sense and the Sensible*. Both start with black and white as basic colors, which is scientifically correct in the sense that by selectively taking frequencies out of the full spectrum of white, you get all colors, including black and white.
- In August 2015, I playfully assigned Greek goddesses to elements: Artemis/Hecate to birth/death at new moon as fire around water, Hera (and Clotho) to a young woman or girl at the first quarter as air around earth, Aphrodite (and Lachesis) to a mature woman at full moon (like Isis above) as water around fire, and Athena (and Atropos) to an old woman at the last quarter as earth around air. Artemis/Hecate would thus both contain the first and fifth element and elements would touch, as on the Möbius Strip.
- Zhuangzi's famous butterfly dream:  
"Once Chuang Tzu dreamt that he was a butterfly, a fluttering butterfly who felt at ease and happy and knew nothing of Chuang Tzu. Suddenly he woke up: Then he was again really and truly Chuang Tzu. Now I do not know whether Chuang Tzu dreamt that he was a butterfly or whether the butterfly dreamt that it was Chuang Tzu, even though there is certainly a difference between Chuang Tzu and the butterfly. This is how the change of things is." (translated by me from the Wilhelm translation to German)

The same day I had first quoted the dream here, on the streets of Zürich, two butterflies on a truck, 21 Sep 2016 at 13:34. White, red, black, a little yellow, even a little circle and her. (In Apuleius' encounter with Isis, it is left open whether he was "just dreaming" or "it really happened".)



The image is by Elena Vizorskaya (Getty Images 108350631); I bought the rights to use it, too, just to be safe.

- See Billy Culver's *Energy Language* website, which inspired me in summer 2016 to reconsider old attempts to arrange elements and trigrams on a Möbius Strip  $\infty$  or an infinity symbol  $\infty$  and whose style influenced the graphics above, but in my feeling his images carry more potential than that.


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## Welcome

### way

space and time  
metamorphosis  
greek philosophy  
i ching  
möbius 

### evolutions

mixed feelings  
star signs  
 artemis

## References

### Books

### Links

## evolutions

Some ways in which the idea presented earlier might evolve with time.


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## Welcome

### way

space and time  
metamorphosis  
greek philosophy  
i ching  
möbius 

### evolutions

mixed feelings  
star signs  
 artemis

## References

### Books

### Links

## mixed feelings

The inner elements eri and emi are softer than the outer ones, which suggests that they would *mix* more easily.

The idea is now that what appears outside as individual and separate beings is unconsciously connected. . .



. . .and that these connections result in feelings that change for often not obvious reasons (emi), while naming inner concepts allows to impose some abstract calm (eri).

Astrology links water (emi) to feelings, love, music, art, religion, the collective and/or individual unconscious, and more. Now, the idea of a *collective* unconscious goes back to Jung, while it may in the end still be so that such unconscious collective connections are created by more Freudian individual unconsciouss, via subliminal channels in normal day-to-day external interactions between beings.

But let me explore things in the Jungian picture first, as a Gedankenexperiment, because it is initially easier, and because it mirrors the initial assumption more directly.

How one feels at any moment would be a mixture of individual and collective influences. Not that what other people think would be directly accessible, just indirectly with regard to how one feels in a particular situation, or how one feels regarding individual possible next steps.

Individuals that are emotionally and physically close would likely have the strongest influence on a person, but also large groups of people, like same village, country, religion, etc., could together have a strong influence.

Influences from a collective unconscious could go well beyond the sum of what is in individual conscious minds. Since the collective unconscious would effectively be a very large brain, consisting of many more brain cells than any individual being, it might have a much more complex and sophisticated mind than any conscious individual and it could know all kinds of details about everybody.

Such a picture of a collective unconscious would resemble the concept of god or gods in many religions, and it would likely be fragmented into smaller units at several scales, like families, countries, religions, etc., each with its own collective feelings, plans, and so on.

Jung noticed that in dreams and in cultural creations some archetypal patterns repeat. These archetypes might simply be part of the thoughts, experiences and knowledge of the collective unconscious.

Precognition in dreams or art might simply be picking up collective intentions that are only later realized and can be felt and dreamed about already while the collective unconscious is only planning or considering them.

How would the collective unconscious effectively direct the individuals it consists of? Telling each and every one what to do at each moment would likely not be possible, just like the conscious individual mind would not be able to tell each of its nerve cells when to fire.

But maybe with a general concept like astrology, which creates a balanced and relatively complete set of individuals, each with its own approach to new problems? Faced with a particular problem, a Leo, for example, would feel more like solving it in a "Leo way", due to collective feedback, so that in any situation different approaches would be tried by different individuals and a good solution would usually emerge. Since astrology tries to reflect all possible approaches in a structured way, the search space for solutions would usually be quite complete.

In other words, a culture with a system like astrology would have an evolutionary advantage in the sense of Darwin. Astrology would then not necessarily need to have anything to do with planets and stars in the sky, more so with relatively ancient beliefs about them.

Assuming the collective unconscious would extend to matter considered inanimate, oracles like the I Ching or Tarot could really reveal some intentions of the collective unconscious, maybe paired with emotional feedback which parts of the response to focus on or how to interpret it. If so, also astrology might a priori still have natural causes, direct influences from planets and stars, collective feedback from the universe itself.

However, there are some arguments that speak against astrology having dominantly natural causes from the sky. There are different astrologies in different cultures, each of which comes in different flavours and has different schools of thought. Besides many small examples for a detachment from actual constellations in the sky, the most prominent one is Pluto in Western astrology.

Pluto was at its discovery in 1930 thought to be a planet that is about as big as planet Earth. Over the following decades it first emerged that Pluto is much smaller, consists mainly of ice and finally in the early 21st century that Pluto is rather part of a belt of objects in similar orbits and with similar sizes. In 20th century astrology, however, Pluto was attributed a major role, both in mundane events and personal fates. In my perception, part of that view *did* reflect reality, so that it seems most plausible to me that astrology is *largely* a cultural creation of mankind that works by collective feedback.

Now let me come back to the initial question or to how something with the properties of a collective unconscious could come about in view of contemporary physics.


The most immediate explanation would be that there are direct connection between brains, mediated by some kind of “waves”. However, this can largely be excluded today, except maybe at close range, in the sense that any explanation of that sort would require new physics.

So let me focus on known physics and try to look for the most simple and obvious explanation. What I propose is that people simply *mirror* who and what they encounter in their lives inside their brains.

People’s brains would thus contain “copies” of everyone they know, most prominently and precisely of their loved ones. What exactly the neural networks would mirror would not be consciously available to individuals nor would it likely be easy to analyze scientifically even if the full structure was known. But it could in principle allow people to make fairly accurate predictions about what their loved ones would do and when. For example, one person could possibly think of the other one almost exactly the moment that other person would have picked up the phone to call.

In terms of network terminology, this would be a *store and forward* network instead of one where information is propagated immediately.

## leads

- Mirroring the outside world is such a central part of the human psyche that it would seem likely that nature would try to make use of any physical effect it could.
- Experimentally distinguishing different effects that could explain such phenomena seems to be very difficult.
- See “Zeitzeugnisse” under  artemis for my contributions of 2002 to some possibly new physics related to this, which make additional very specific predictions.
- Big data and deep learning could be used to find and analyze such collective structures, including astrological ones.
- Science is based on some implicit, but fundamentally unprovable assumptions, like that nature is more stupid than people and repeats stoically given the same questions. Since numbers only come to be after a measurement, it is difficult to compare a mathematical model of the situation before measurement with reality. So, the “Veil of Isis” may not be easy to lift, if at all, also related to e5, etc.




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## Welcome

### way

space and time  
metamorphosis  
greek philosophy  
i ching  
möbius 

### evolutions

mixed feelings  
star signs  
 artemis

### References

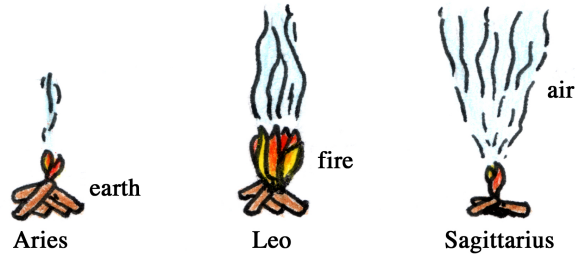
### Books

### Links

## star signs

Star signs in the Western zodiac seem to reflect transitions between elements within Aristotle's circle.

Fire signs seem to transform from earth via fire to air, while water is missing:



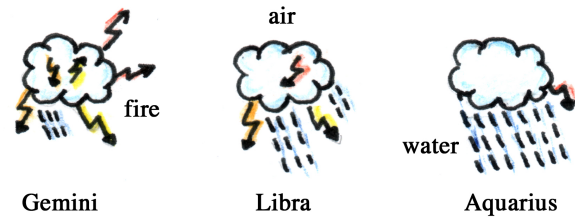
The archetypal image is simply a fire that transforms wood (earth) to smoke (air). Aries as a young fire has most earth, Leo most fire, Sagittarius most air.

In psychological astrology a wound is a central theme for the two later fire signs Leo and Sagittarius, namely for the fisher king in Perceval and Chiron in mythology.

In the model that wound is simply the human body (earth) that is wounded by the fire of life, as any human body must die one day. Only what is learned in life can be formulated in words (air) and can thus be passed on to later generations, thus becomes immortal in a way. So there is a transformation from mortal body to immortal mind, or from animal via man/king to god.

Learning and getting compassion—the element water that is missing in the transformation of the fire signs—in the process is a vital goal for older fire signs.

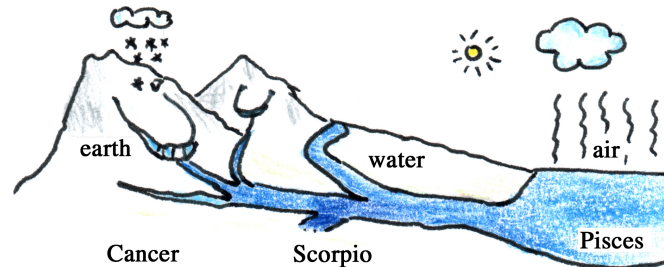
Air signs seem to transform from fire via air to water, while earth is missing:



The archetypal image is a cloud (air), which emits both lightning (fire) and rain (water). Gemini as young air has most fire, Libra most air, Aquarius most water.

Paris, who is associated with Libra, chose Aphrodite's offering of love and marriage with Helena, the most beautiful woman in the world, hence love (water) and thus the possibility for the missing element earth in the form of children as fruits of love. Similarly, the opening of Pandora's Box, associated with Aquarius, symbolizes birth.

Water signs seem to transform from earth via water to air, while fire is missing:

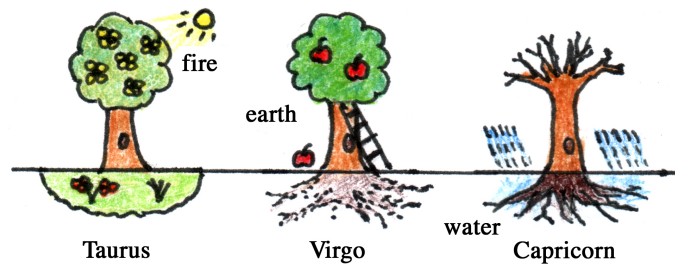


The archetypal image is a river with Cancer as a source and young river emerging from the mountains, maybe from a glacier (earth), merging with more and more rivers and becoming a stream as Scorpio (water) and finally flowing into the sea as Pisces from where most water eventually evaporates again (air), by the power of the sun (fire), the missing element and goal for the water signs.

So, the transition is, like for the fire signs, from earth to air, but this time for a passive, female element. The river that flows down to the sea is more fated than fire, since it is passive, it cannot resist the movement.

But the way up in the end towards light is important, like, for example, for the crab that bit Heracles into his ankle while he was fighting the Hydra in the swamps, and got its place in the sky as the constellation Cancer.

Earth signs seem to transform from fire via earth to water, while the missing element is air:



The archetypal image is a tree with Taurus focussing on the directly visible, but short-lived beauties of the tree that grow with the power of the sun (fire), Capricorn restraining himself to the parts of the tree that persist across seasons and which keep it from falling down, namely trunk and roots, which feed it with water and the substances diluted in it, and Virgo in between, between beauty and fate.

It is this fate or necessity, which creates minimal structures like the branches and roots of a tree, thus order, the abstract element air.

This solves the riddle that even though Virgo is often depicted as being very concerned about order, many Virgos do not keep their lives and homes in strict order. It is Virgo for whom order is an *issue*, for Capricorn it is a *given* and for Taurus it is not that important, except a bit, as Taurus is transforming from fire to earth.

Persephone, who is associated with Virgo, was collecting flowers as a maiden, looking at the sunny (fire) side of life, but already starting to look down to earth, starting to wonder about how things work, what makes the flowers grow, etc., when the earth opened up, Hades abducted her and she became his wife, the queen of the underworld.


For all elements transitions start with a dry element and end with a wet one. This mirrors that often when one gets older, one realizes that things are not so clearly and reliably what they appeared to be when first encountered.

element	transition	missing	image
fire	earth → fire → air	water	fire
air	fire → air → water	earth	cloud
water	earth → water → air	fire	river
earth	fire → earth → water	air	tree

Maybe some day it will be possible to synthesize most properties of the star signs formally from the transition between the elements defined by in/out and rest/move.

Libra, for example, learns from observation of motion outside (fire) and inside (water). Since Libra's transition is towards water, the gift of "inner vision" is given to Teiresias by Zeus and outer vision is reduced by Hera, except for observing omens, which are arguably just outer reflections of collective inner intentions.

## leads

- For more detailed expositions, see the longer article *Elementary star signs* under  artemis (also in a German version) or my book *Elementare Sternezeichen* (2018) in German.  
The idea dates back to 2001 and was first published in 2002.
- The four tasks of Psyche in Apuleius' *The Golden Ass* seem to mirror the same transitions very beautifully and precisely, in the order earth-water-fire-air, with goals air-fire-water-earth.
- Are there similar elemental transitions in the Chinese zodiac?


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## Welcome

### way

space and time  
metamorphosis  
greek philosophy  
i ching  
möbius 

### evolutions

mixed feelings  
star signs  
 artemis

## References

### Books

### Links




## artemis





*The oddest thing of all, the thing that most strikes us when we embark on a story is the total void spreading out before us. The events have occurred and lie all around us in a continuous, formless mass without beginning or end. We can start anywhere...* – Věra Linhartová

## avantgarde




### Welcome

-  Welcome to my garden...
-  Bienvenue dans mon jardin...
-  Willkommen in meinem Garten...





### I Ching

-  Elemental changes in the I Ching?
-  Elementare Wandlungen im I Ging?









### Astrology

-  Elementary star signs
-  Elementare Sternzeichen
-  The "Caesar Rodney" birth chart of the USA







### Paradoxes

-  Paradox of love
-  Paradox of solar eclipses
-  Paradox of measurement
-  Paradox of decoherence




## Dug-up Facts

-  Birth time of Caesar Rodney
-  Geburtszeit von Caesar Rodney
-  Première mention de Lilith comme second foyer de l'orbite lunaire
-  First mention of Lilith as second focal point of the lunar orbit
-  Erste Erwähnung von Lilith als zweitem Brennpunkt der Mondbahn
-  Dada und Duchamps Fountain
-  Dada and Duchamp's Fountain
-  Dada et la Fontaine de Duchamp

## Public Relations

-  Teslacard Postcard Action 2010
-  Teslacard Postkarten-Aktion 2010
-  Mountain Astrologer ads
-  Mountain Astrologer Anzeigen
-  Delphi for Palm OS
-  Delphi für Palm OS

## Zeitzeugnisse

-  Discoveries revisited
-  Web archives
-  First mentions


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## Welcome

### way

space and time  
metamorphosis  
greek philosophy  
i ching  
möbius 

### evolutions

mixed feelings  
star signs  
 artemis

## References

### Books

### Links

## References

- Andreas Schöter. *Bipolar Change*. Journal of Chinese Philosophy. Volume 35, Issue 2, p. 297-317 (June 2008).

**Abstract** I reconsider the natural characterization of change and non-change that arises from the algebraic approach: this sees change as yang in contrast to nonchange, which is yin. Following a persuasive example from Alain Stalder, rather than consider change solely in contrast to non-change, I develop a formal characterization of different forms of change considered relative to each other. This extension allows the internal structure of a change to be made explicit in a new way, bifurcating the change into yang parts and yin parts. I call this extended definition of change *bipolar change*.

**Links** [\[Preprint\]](#) [\[Publication\]](#)


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## Welcome

### way

space and time  
 metamorphosis  
 greek philosophy  
 i ching  
 möbius 

### evolutions

mixed feelings  
 star signs  
 artemis

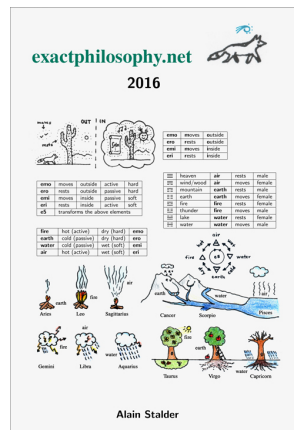
## References

## Books

## Links

## Books

This website in August 2016 – all web pages plus the article *Elementary star signs* in English and German:



### exactphilosophy.net 2016

Alain Stalder  
 Paperback, 70 pages, A4  
 Black & white  
 ISBN 978-3-033-05801-9

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## Welcome

### way

space and time  
metamorphosis  
greek philosophy  
i ching  
möbius 

### evolutions

mixed feelings  
star signs  
 artemis

## References

### Books

### Links

## Links

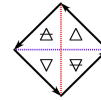
### Yi Jing Algebra

Mathematical approaches to the I Ching, by Andreas Schöter.



### Greek Elements

Detailed article by John Opsopaus; from ancient Greece to Jung.



### Energy Language

Images speaking about elementary cycles and more, by Billy Culver.





## **Selected Articles**

Two selected articles, in English and German.

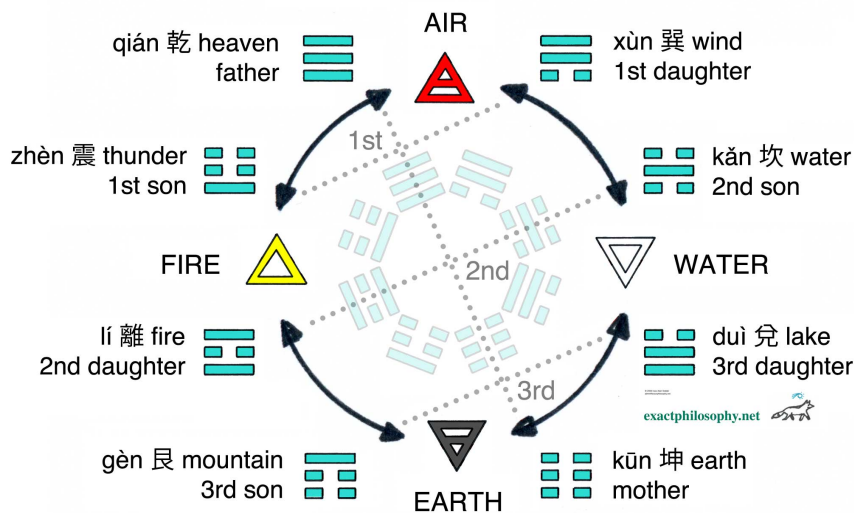


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## Elemental changes in the I Ching ?

### Abstract

A new way of arranging the trigrams of the I Ching in a circle is presented for consideration and discussion. Here it is in advance:



The eight trigrams are tentatively interpreted as the eight possible transitions between the four “Greek” elements Earth, Water, Air and Fire along Aristotle’s circle of the elements. The new arrangement features also some very interesting structures and symmetries, which will be exposed in detail later on.

However, no common historical roots of the I Ching and the ancient Greek elements are known, and also no roots of the above arrangement in Chinese history, although it is similar to the traditional Earlier Heaven arrangement. So did maybe both cultures mirror nature independently, even unknowingly, or is this maybe just a coincidence, or a bit of both, or... ?

Not being an expert on ancient history (I am a physicist) and considering worldwide interest in the I Ching, I thought it would be best to simply present this structure as carefully and minimally as I could, and let the world decide what to make of it.

In the following, first a quick overview of Aristotle’s circle of elements and the ancient elements as natural phenomena, then to the I Ching and finally to the new arrangement of the trigrams with its symmetries.

### Aristotle's circle of the elements

In *On Generation and Corruption* (around 350 BCE) Aristotle defines elements by properties that can be felt by *touching*. He names cold-hot, wet-dry, fine-coarse, soft-hard, brittle-malleable and reduces the last four opposites to wet-dry. Then he defines the four elements as combinations of these two pairs of opposites cold-hot and wet-dry: Earth as cold and dry, Water as cold and wet, Air as hot and wet, Fire as hot and dry.

He arranges the elements in a circle, in which at each transition only one of the properties cold-hot or wet-dry is inverted: Earth gets wet, becomes Water, gets warm, becomes Air, gets dry, becomes Fire, gets cold, becomes Earth again, and also the other way round in the circle:



Hence there are 8 possible transitions along this circle, the same number as the number of trigrams in the I Ching.

In the tradition of the Stoics and other schools that emerged in Hellenistic times, Earth and Water were later usually considered passive, heavy and female and Air and Fire active, light and male.

### The Greek elements as natural phenomena

According to today's chemistry and physics, considering the material world to be composed of earth, water, air and fire would, of course, be wrong. But if you interpret Earth as *solid*, Water as *liquid*, and Air as *gas*—the most commonly encountered *states of matter*—and interpret Fire as a *chemical reaction or physical phenomenon that creates light and possibly heat*, this makes more sense: Practically everything you could encounter in daily life in antiquity would fit into one of these four categories, would be either solid, liquid, gas or some sort of Fire, or a mixture of these four, like, say, mud a mixture of Earth and Water. Transformations of the elements, like, say, ice melting and then evaporating (Earth-Water-Air) or a fire that transforms wood into smoke and gas (Earth-Fire-Air), would often be part of Aristotle's circle.

## The trigrams as transitions between elements

The following three sentences in the introduction of the Wilhelm/Baynes translation of the I Ching had been in the back of my mind for years, but only in August 2016, I found a concrete, specific way of applying them:

*The eight trigrams are symbols standing for changing transitional states; they are images that are constantly undergoing change. Attention centers not on things in their state of being—as is chiefly the case in the Occident—but upon their movements in change. The eight trigrams therefore are not representations of things as such but of their tendencies in movement.*

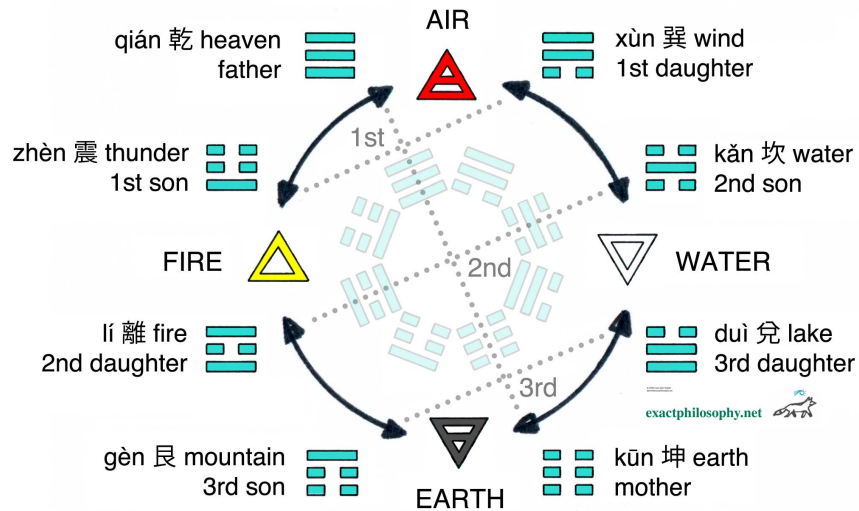
Hence eight trigrams as 8 transitions between 4 elements? In order to approach the specific arrangement step-by-step, let me start with a table of the trigrams, as given by Wilhelm/Baynes:

☰	qián	heaven	strong	creative	father
☷	kūn	earth	devoted/yielding	receptive	mother
☳	zhèn	thunder	inciting movement	arousing	1st son
☵	kǎn	water	dangerous	abysmal	2nd son
☶	gèn	mountain	resting	keeping still	3rd son
☴	xùn	wind/wood	penetrating	gentle	1st daughter
☲	lí	fire	light-giving	clinging	2nd daughter
☱	duì	lake	joyful	joyous	3rd daughter

Now let me tentatively group them into pairs of “Greek” elements:

☰	qián	heaven	<b>Air</b>	(rests)	male
☴	xùn	wind	<b>Air</b>	(moves)	female
☶	gèn	mountain	<b>Earth</b>	(rests)	male
☷	kūn	earth	<b>Earth</b>	(moves)	female
☲	lí	fire	<b>Fire</b>	(rests)	female
☳	zhèn	thunder	<b>Fire</b>	(moves)	male
☱	duì	lake	<b>Water</b>	(rests)	female
☵	kǎn	water	<b>Water</b>	(moves)	male

And finally arrange them in Aristotle’s circle, letting the transition end with the corresponding element in the table above and start with a female element (Water or Earth) for the female trigrams (mother and three daughters) and with a male element (Fire or Air) for the male trigrams (father and three sons):



☰	qián	heaven	<b>Air ← Fire</b>	Air risen from fire
☴	xùn	wind	<b>Air ← Water</b>	Air from evaporated water
☶	gèn	mountain	<b>Earth ← Fire</b>	Earth from solidified lava (Fire)
☷	kūn	earth	<b>Earth ← Water</b>	Earth from sediments deposited by water
☲	lí	fire	<b>Fire ← Earth</b>	Fire from burning matter (Earth)
☳	zhèn	thunder	<b>Fire ← Air</b>	Fire as lightning from the sky (Air)
☱	duì	lake	<b>Water ← Earth</b>	Water sprung from sources (Earth)
☵	kǎn	water	<b>Water ← Air</b>	Water fallen as rain from the sky (Air)

Note that this circle is none of the two traditionally known ones, neither the *Earlier Heaven* nor the *Later Heaven* arrangement of the trigrams:



*The trigrams seem to fit closely:* Thunder as fire that has suddenly come down as lightning from the sky (Air), in contrast to fire steadily clinging to the matter (Earth) it burns; wind as air that gently evaporated from water, in contrast to gases from a fire risen to heaven; a lake as water sprung from sources (Earth), in contrast to water fallen down as rain from the sky (Air); a mountain as earth solidified from lava (Fire), in contrast to softly yielding earth from sediments deposited by water.

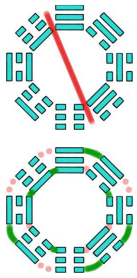
The arrangement has also the following additional symmetries:



Sons and daughters are grouped in order of birth from mother to father (gray dotted lines above).



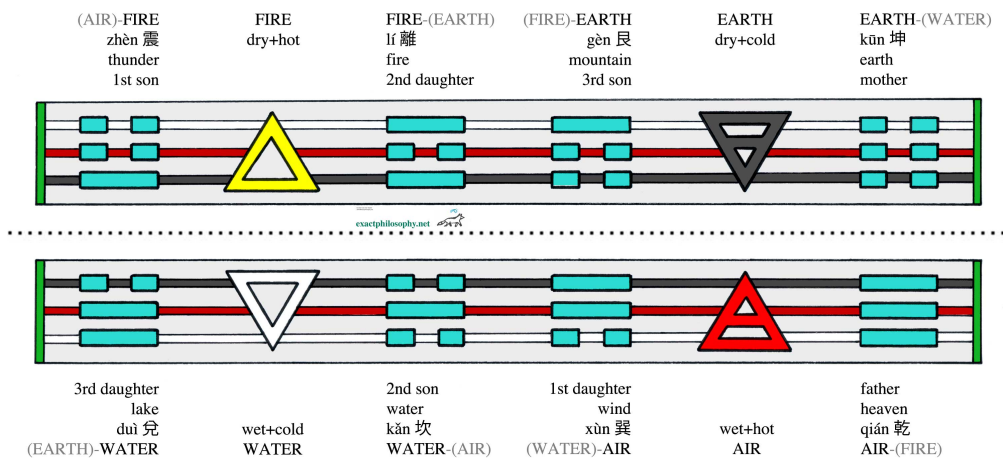
If you mirror the lines of each trigram at their second (middle) line (i.e. swap first and third line) and invert all three lines of the trigram (yin ↔ yang), you get exactly the lines of the trigram opposite in the circle.



The middle line of each trigram that transforms to or from a dry element is a broken line, which would fit with Aristotle's view that dry is brittle, hence can be broken more easily than wet.

Excluding the middle line, between adjacent trigrams in the circle always exactly one line is inverted (yin ↔ yang).

Here is another way of representing the structure, along a Möbius Strip, inspired by the images on Billy Culver's "Energy Language" website. Note that each yin line on one side of the strip touches a yang line on the other side, and vice-versa, and that the symbols for the Greek elements overlap, too.



### Conclusion

My conclusion is twofold. As a physicist, I find that the number of symmetries is a bit too high for immediately assuming a pure coincidence. Judging how well the trigrams correlate with elementary transitions in the proposed way, however, is more difficult, first fundamentally, because it is prose and not math and second for me personally, because I am not an expert on ancient Chinese culture, so my overview is limited and based on translations. This is why I wrote this up, as a starting point for anyone interested to take a closer look. . .

This is not to say that I have no further ideas regarding this and the I Ching and the elements, but nothing further that immediately fits here, for more see my website [exactphilosophy.net](http://exactphilosophy.net).



**PS:** Note that you can click on most illustrations in this text for the individual image with higher resolution. Feel free to share these images with whoever you think might be interested, if possible preferably with a link to this article or to work that references it.

**Previous related work:** I am not aware of previous work that features the same arrangement of trigrams as presented here. Considering the millennia of considerations of the I Ching, it would however be very likely that someone did in the past.

That said, this article features more than “just an arrangement of trigrams in a circle”, namely a *model* in terms of elemental transitions behind it. Quite generally, this article is rather pan-cultural or even non-cultural, relating to the I Ching as well as to ancient Greek and Indian views on the elements, and probably to any other culture and its views on “elements”. And note that the main illustration in this article features 12 not 8 symbols in a circle, hinting thus also at possible relations to various zodiacs, most likely, though, the Chinese one.

Moreover, note that I originally got to this model coming from a definition of “elements” in terms of in/out and rest/move, which you can find in the main part of my website.

What I am aware of is that at least two people attributed trigrams in pairs to elements in the same way as I just presented here (i.e. Fire to fire/thunder, Air to heaven/wind, Water to water/lake and Earth to earth/mountain). These two are **Bradford Hatcher** ([hermetica.info](http://hermetica.info)) and **Karen Witter** ([WheelOfTarot](http://WheelOfTarot)). Bradford Hatcher brought this to my attention in January 2017 and told me he had been using this “since 1976”. References are Bradford Hatcher’s books *Tarot as a Counseling Language* [1] and *The Book of Changes: Word by Word, Vol. 1, Part 2* [2], and Karen Witter in a post to her Yahoo Group of 1999 [3].

- [1] This book is available on his website [here](http://hermetica.info) (html). Search the text for “I Ching” to find a subsection where he explains the attribution of trigrams to elements, referring also to Karen Witter and earlier roots by Aleister Crowley. Note that both BH and KW group trigrams also into two sets of four elements, “archetypal” elements (heaven, water, earth, fire) and “attributional” elements (wind, lake, mountain, thunder). See also [this table](#) in the book for these attributions.
- [2] This book is listed prominently on his website [hermetica.info](http://hermetica.info) and can also be downloaded as a [zipped pdf](#). See the descriptions of the trigrams in part 2 (vol. 1), or search for “Greater Earth” to find this maybe more easily. In that book he uses “greater” and “lesser” instead of “archetypal” and “attributional” to distinguish the two sets of trigrams.
- [3] Here is a [link to her post](#) and an excerpt from the post:

1. There are 4 archetypal elements and 4 attributional elements in the I-Ching.

Shown below; 1=line, 0=broken line, left to right=top to bottom:

Archetype Air (Heaven) 111

Attribute Air (Wind) 110

Archetype Water (Water) 010

Attribute Water (Marsh) 011

Archetype Earth (Earth) 000

Attribute Earth (Mountain) 001

Archetype Fire (Fire) 101

Attribute Fire (Thunder) 001

(Note that she got the reading direction for the binary representation wrong.)

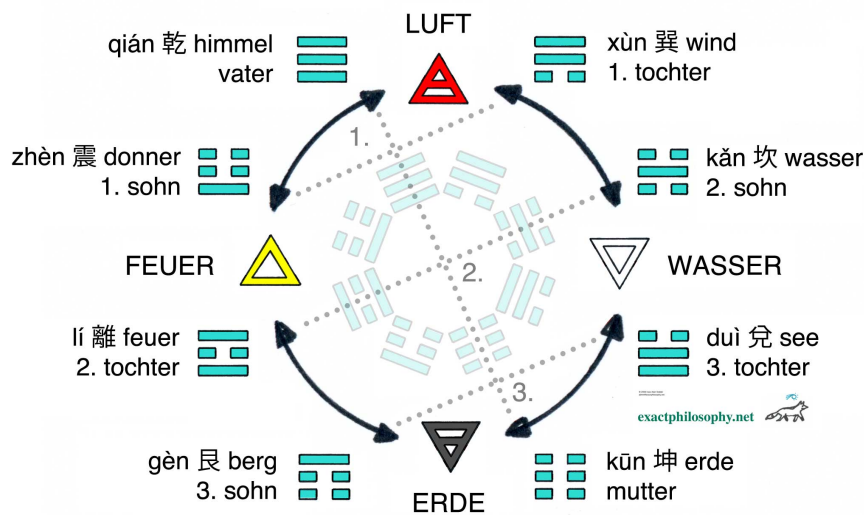


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## Elementare Wandlungen im I Ging ?

### Inhalt

Ich stelle eine neue Weise, die Trigramme des I Gings in einem Kreis anzuordnen, vor, zur Ansicht und Diskussion. Hier ist sie vorab:



Hierbei werden die acht Trigramme tentativ als die acht möglichen Wandlungen zwischen den vier "griechischen" Elementen Erde, Wasser, Luft und Feuer entlang Aristoteles' Kreis der Elemente interpretiert. Die neue Anordnung zeigt auch einige sehr interessante Strukturen und Symmetrien auf, welche ich später im Detail darlegen werde.

Allerdings sind keine gemeinsamen geschichtlichen Wurzeln des I Ging und der antiken griechischen Elemente bekannt, und auch keine Wurzeln der obigen Anordnung in der chinesischen Geschichte, wenn sie auch der traditionellen Anordnung des Früheren Himmels ähnelt. Haben also beide Kulturen die Natur unabhängig, sogar unwissentlich, gespiegelt, oder ist dies vielleicht nur Zufall, oder ein wenig von Beidem, oder... ?

Da ich kein Experte in antiker Geschichte bin (ich bin Physiker) und in Anbetracht des weltweiten Interesses am I Ging, dachte ich, es wäre das Beste, diese Struktur einfach so sorgfältig und minimal zu präsentieren, wie ich kann, und die Welt entscheiden zu lassen, was damit anzufangen.

Im Folgenden erst ein kleiner Überblick über Aristoteles' Kreis der Elemente und die antiken Elementen als Naturphänomene, dann zum I Ging und schliesslich zur neuen Anordnung der Trigramme mit ihren Symmetrien.

## Aristoteles' Kreis der Elemente

In *Über Werden und Vergehen* (um 350 v. Chr.) definiert Aristoteles Elemente durch Eigenschaften, die durch *Tasten* erföhlt werden können. Er benennt warm-kalt, feucht-trocken, fein-grob, weich-hart, brüchig-formbar und reduziert die letzten vier Gegensätze zu feucht-trocken. Dann definiert er vier Elemente als Kombinationen dieser zwei Paare von Gegensätzen, warm-kalt und feucht-trocken: Erde als kalt und trocken, Wasser als kalt und feucht, Luft als warm und feucht, Feuer als warm und trocken.

Er ordnet die Elemente in einem Kreis an, wobei bei jedem Übergang nur eine der Eigenschaften kalt-warm oder feucht-trocken umgekehrt wird: Erde wird feucht, wird zu Wasser, wird warm, wird zu Luft, wird trocken, wird zu Feuer, wird kalt, wird wiederum zu Erde, und auch umgekehrt im Kreis herum:



Somit gibt es 8 mögliche Übergänge zwischen den Elementen in diesem Kreis, dieselbe Anzahl wie die Anzahl der Trigramme im I Ging.

In der Tradition der Stoiker und anderer Schulen, die im Hellenismus aufkamen, wurden Erde und Wasser später üblicherweise als weiblich, passiv und schwer betrachtet, sowie Luft und Feuer als männlich, aktiv und leicht.

## Die Griechischen Elemente als Naturphänomene

Gemäss heutiger Chemie und Physik, wäre es natürlich völlig falsch, die materielle Welt als aus Erde, Wasser, Luft und Feuer bestehend anzuschauen. Aber wenn man Erde als *fest* interpretiert, Wasser als *flüssig* und Luft als *gasförmig*—die am häufigsten angetroffenen *Aggregatzustände* von Materie—und Feuer als eine *chemische Reaktion oder physikalische Erscheinung, die Licht und möglicherweise Wärme erzeugt*, macht das mehr Sinn: Praktisch alles, was man im täglichen Leben in der Antike antreffen konnte, würde in eine dieser vier Kategorien passen, würde entweder fest, flüssig, gasförmig oder eine Art von Feuer sein, oder eine Mischung dieser vier, wie z.B. Schlamm ein Gemisch von Erde und Wasser. Wandlungen der Elemente, wie z.B. Eis, das schmilzt und dann verdampft (Erde-Wasser-Luft) oder ein Feuer, das Holz in Rauch und Gas verwandelt (Erde-Feuer-Luft), wären oft Teil von Aristoteles' Kreis.

## Die Trigramme als Übergänge zwischen den Elementen

Die folgenden drei Sätze aus der Einführung von Richard Wilhelms Übersetzung des I Ging hatte ich viele Jahre im Hinterkopf, aber erst im August 2016 fand ich einen konkreten, spezifischen Weg, sie anzuwenden:

*Die acht [Trigramme] sind Zeichen wechselnder Übergangszustände, Bilder, die sich dauern verwandeln. Worauf das Augenmerk gerichtet war, waren nicht die Dinge in ihrem Sein—wie das im Westen hauptsächlich der Fall war—, sondern die Bewegungen der Dinge in ihrem Wechsel. So sind die acht [Trigramme] nicht Abbildungen der Dinge, sondern Abbildungen ihrer Bewegungstendenzen.*

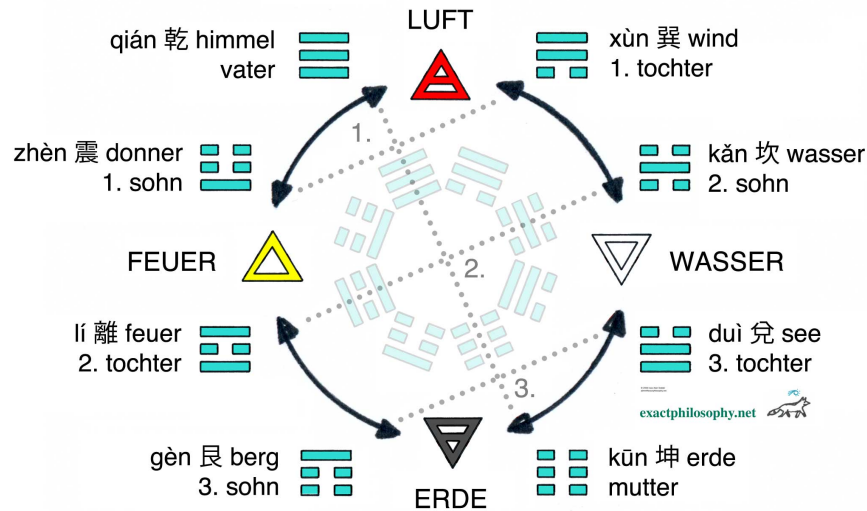
Also acht Trigramme als 8 Wandlungen zwischen 4 Elementen? Um mich der konkreten Anordnung Schritt für Schritt zu nähern, beginne ich mit einer Tabelle der Trigramme, gemäss Richard Wilhelm:

☰	qián	Himmel	stark	schöpferisch	Vater
☷	kūn	Erde	hingebend	empfangend	Mutter
☳	zhèn	Donner	bewegend	erregend	1. Sohn
☵	kǎn	Wasser	gefährlich	abgründig	2. Sohn
☶	gèn	Berg	ruhend	stillehaltend	3. Sohn
☴	xùn	Wind/Holz	eindringend	sanft	1. Tochter
☲	lí	Feuer	leuchtend	haftend	2. Tochter
☱	duì	See	fröhlich	heiter	3. Tochter

Nun gruppieren sie tentativ zu Paaren von "griechischen" Elementen:

☰	qián	Himmel	<b>Luft</b>	(ruht)	männlich
☴	xùn	Wind	<b>Luft</b>	(bewegt sich)	weiblich
☶	gèn	Berg	<b>Erde</b>	(ruht)	männlich
☷	kūn	Erde	<b>Erde</b>	(bewegt sich)	weiblich
☲	lí	Feuer	<b>Feuer</b>	(ruht)	weiblich
☳	zhèn	Donner	<b>Feuer</b>	(bewegt sich)	männlich
☱	duì	See	<b>Wasser</b>	(ruht)	weiblich
☵	kǎn	Wasser	<b>Wasser</b>	(bewegt sich)	männlich

Und schliesslich ordne ich sie in Aristoteles' Kreis an, wobei der Übergang mit dem entsprechenden Element gemäss der Tabelle oben endet und für die weiblichen Trigramme (Mutter und drei Töchter) mit einem weiblichen Element (Wasser oder Erde) beginnt, sowie für die männlichen Trigramme (Vater und drei Söhne) mit einem männlichen Element (Feuer oder Luft):



☰	qián	Himmel	<b>Luft ← Feuer</b>	Luft aufgestiegen aus Feuer
☴	xùn	Wind	<b>Luft ← Wasser</b>	Luft aus verdunstetem Wasser
☶	gèn	Berg	<b>Erde ← Feuer</b>	Erde aus erstarrter Lava (Feuer)
☷	kūn	Erde	<b>Erde ← Wasser</b>	Erde aus von Wasser abgelagerten Sedimenten
☲	lí	Feuer	<b>Feuer ← Erde</b>	Feuer aus brennender Materie (Erde)
☳	zhèn	Donner	<b>Feuer ← Luft</b>	Feuer als Blitz vom Himmel (Luft)
☱	duì	See	<b>Wasser ← Erde</b>	Wasser entsprungen aus Quellen (Erde)
☵	kǎn	Wasser	<b>Wasser ← Luft</b>	Wasser gefallen als Regen vom Himmel (Luft)

Man beachte, dass dieser Kreis keiner der zwei traditionell bekannten ist, weder die Anordnung des *Früheren Himmels* noch die des *Späteren Himmels*:



Die Trigramme scheinen gut zu passen: Donner als Feuer, das plötzlich als Blitz vom Himmel (Luft) herunter kommt, im Kontrast zu Feuer das kontinuierlich an der Materie (Erde) haftet, die es verbrennt; Wind als Luft, die sanft aus Wasser verdampft ist, im Kontrast zu Gasen von einem Feuer, die in den Himmel aufgestiegen sind; ein See als Wasser entsprungen aus Quellen (Erde), im Kontrast zu Wasser, das als Regen vom Himmel (Erde) heruntergefallen ist; ein Berg als Erde erstarrt aus Lava (Feuer), im Kontrast zu sanft nachgebender Erde aus Sedimenten, die von Wasser abgelagert wurden.

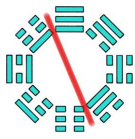
Die Anordnung hat folgende zusätzliche Symmetrien:



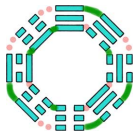
Söhne und Töchter sind in der Reihenfolge ihrer Geburt von Mutter zu Vater angeordnet (grau gepunktete Linien oben).



Wenn man die Linien jedes Trigramms an ihrer zweiten (mittleren) Linie spiegelt (also erste und dritte Linie vertauscht) und alle drei Linien des Trigrams invertiert (Yin ↔ Yang), erhält man genau die Linien des im Kreis gegenüberliegenden Trigrams.

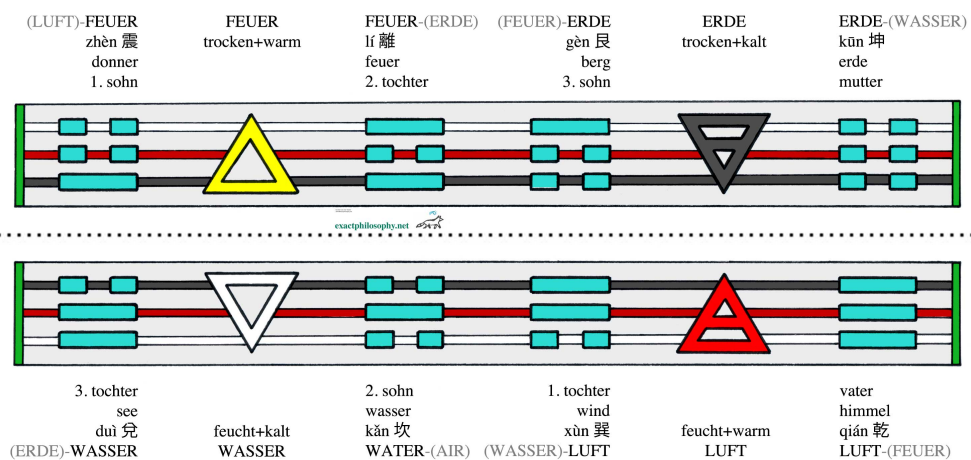


Die mittlere Linie von jedem Trigram, das zu oder von einem trockenen Element verwandelt, ist eine gebrochene Linie, was dazu passen würde, dass trocken laut Aristoteles brüchig ist, also einfacher als feucht gebrochen werden kann.



Die mittlere Linie ausgenommen, wird zwischen im Kreis anliegenden Trigrammen jeweils immer genau eine Linie invertiert (Yin ↔ Yang).

Hier noch eine weitere Weise, wie die Struktur dargestellt werden kann, nämlich auf einem Möbiusband, inspiriert von Billy Culver's "Energy Language" [Website](#). Man beachte, dass jede Yin Linie auf einer Seite des Bandes auf der anderen Seite eine Yang Linie berührt, und umgekehrt, und dass die Symbole für die griechischen Elemente sich ebenfalls überlappen.



## Schluss

Meine Sicht hat zwei Seiten. Als Physiker finde ich, dass die Anzahl Symmetrien ein wenig zu gross ist, um unmittelbar von einem reinen Zufall auszugehen. Beurteilen, wie gut die Trigramme mit elementaren Wandlungen in der vorgeschlagenen Weise korrelieren, ist allerdings schwieriger, erstens fundamental, weil es Prosa und nicht Mathematik ist, und zweitens für mich persönlich, weil ich kein Experte der antiken chinesischen Kultur bin, also meine Übersicht eingeschränkt ist und auf Übersetzungen beruht. Daher habe ich dies hier aufgeschrieben, als Startpunkt für alle, die Interesse haben, sich das genauer anzuschauen. . .

Das soll nicht heissen, dass ich keine weiteren Ideen bezüglich dem hier und dem I Ging und den Elementen hätte, aber nichts weiter, das unmittelbar hierhin passt, siehe dazu stattdessen meine Website [exactphilosophy.net](#).

**PS:** Man kann auf die meisten Illustrationen in diesem Text klicken für das individuelle Bild mit höherer Auflösung. Gerne dürfen diese Bilder weiter geteilt werden, wenn möglich vorzugsweise mit einem Link zu diesem Artikel oder zu Arbeiten, die ihn referenzieren.

**Frühere verwandte Werke:** Siehe [englische Version](#) dieses Artikels.

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avantgarde

## Elementary star signs

This text about the star signs is something uniquely special. . .

. . . at first maybe totally novel, and some things could appear a bit strange at first, but in the end, it is something already very familiar, just described a bit differently, where everybody can mirror her- of himself, as well as loved and close ones.

I describe the 12 star signs of the (Western) zodiac—thus Aries, Taurus, Gemini, Cancer, Leo, Virgo, Libra, Scorpio, Sagittarius, Capricorn, Aquarius and Pisces—in a novel, very elementary way, which is, yet, very rich and familiar in the end, and hopefully also conveys a lot of sympathy for and understanding of the star signs and what moves them in their innermost cores.

The whole idea is hard to explain in general terms, so let me simply give a concrete example (Aries) first, and then expose my model for all star signs, with a few applications and comparisons with what other astrologers already wrote about star signs, in order to connect the idea to more familiar things. And at the end a review and an attempt to crystallize the structure of the model once more, as simply and clearly as possible.

Please take a little time to immerse yourself into this.

### Example (Aries)

I am starting with Aries, the first star sign of the zodiac:

In my model, **Aries** is the first stage or phase of a transformation from **Earth via Fire to Air**.



I am sure this must now sound abstract and arbitrary, but this is much, much less the case than it appears, which I can only explain gradually, step-by-step.

Let me start with a real fire.

A fire needs two things to burn: Some fuel like wood or coal, hence something that often reminds of the element Earth, as well as the oxygen from the



air, hence roughly the element Air. In addition, when a fire burns, most of the fuel disappears practically invisibly into the air, as gas and smoke, and in terms of solid matter only a small heap of ashes remains.

Thus 'Earth' is transformed by Fire into 'Air'. And why Aries as the first stage of this transition? Well, Aries is the first of the three Fire signs Aries-Leo-Sagittarius in the zodiac. Aries is still very much rooted in immediate reality, close to the ground of reality, but already filled with lots of fire and aspirations to higher things, like more reason, knowledge, justice, which would astrologically all be Air themes. Sagittarius, as the third and last Fire sign, is already like Zeus/Jupiter, who rules the sign, high up in the air and considers the world from above, only from time to time he lets fire speak, when he throws a thunderbolt or seduces a maiden. Leo, as the second Fire sign, is in the middle, where the fire burns with most intensity, the most focussed.

But maybe first a quote from well-known astrologer Liz Greene about Aries, to make the matter a bit more vivid:

*The Ram was known to the Egyptians as the primeval god Ammon, or Amun, whose name means 'the hidden one'. This antique ram-headed deity was said to be the force behind the invisible wind. He was also called 'he who abides in all things', and was imagined as the soul of all earthly phenomena.*

— Liz Greene, *The Astrology of Fate* (Weiser 1984), in the chapter about Aries

Liz Greene instinctively used the right words: 'earthly' comes from 'Earth', hence the element Earth and 'Wind' is moving air, hence the element Air. Also the word 'soul' fits in very well, as follows.

The human physical body (Earth) is mortal, ephemeral, but the mind (Air) can create ideas and theories, which can be communicated and written down, hence can become sort of immortal. That is where the transformation of the Fire signs lies, it is about the aspiration to something higher, about transforming the mortal human body (Earth) with help of Fire, with imagination and energy etc., into something immortal.

And the soul is considered immortal—but the soul is not really (only) like the element Air, it resonates also a lot with feeling and fate, hence with the element Water. And Water is exactly the one element of the four Greek elements that lacks in the transformation of all Fire signs, they actually often lack compassion and comprehension for their fellow human beings, also Aries, despite his noble goals for all people.

Liz Greene often emphasizes this theme in *The Astrology of Fate* for the Fire signs, like for Aries, where Jason cheats on Medea, or for Leo, where Parsifal has at first no comprehension of the purpose of the Grail, but learns is later, or finally for Sagittarius, where the centaur Cheiron finally sacrifices his immortality for someone else, thus in a way fulfilling the "task of the Fire signs" of learning to feel and show compassion.

Another, much older source, where the elementary transformation of the fire signs (and also of the other star signs) is visible, is in the four tasks of Psyche from *The Golden Ass* by Lucius Apuleius from the second century CE. In the story, Lucius is transformed into an ass and experiences lots of adventures. As a story within the story, the *Fairy Tale of Cupid and Psyche* is told, where the

god Cupid, son of the love goddess Venus, falls in love with Psyche, the most beautiful woman of the world. And, as another story within the story, the story of the four tasks of Psyche is told, which Venus, jealous of the already pregnant Psyche, poses to her, in the intent of having her fail. The four tasks correspond to the four elements, as I hope to show, and like others already tried to assign them, although, in my view, often the wrong way. But more about that later, here the task which I relate to the element Fire, the third task.

This task consisted of bringing back, before nightfall, a goblet filled with water from the river Styx, which flows eternally in a circle. But the river is surrounded by steep, sharp rocks, guarded by monsters and in addition its water is poisonous. So, no getting through for an Aries who likes to fight on the ground of facts, sort of with his horned head through the wall, a solution can be only be found with oversight from high up in the air, in Apuleius' story when Jupiter sends Psyche an eagle, who flies from high in the air to the middle of the river and fills the goblet with water.

Here all four elements come together: The Earth, where there is no getting through, the Fire, which makes it possible by its visual, imaginative power to get an overview of the situation (in order to see something visually, light, Fire, is required), the Air that had risen from the power of Fire, which can then easily find a solution from above and finally the goal, Water, the immortal soul, which circles in everything, like the eternal Styx, to put it a bit poetically. . .

So much for this example, now first to the elements all to themselves and then to step-by-step descriptions of all 12 star signs.

(An overview of the structure of the model follows later, but if you are too curious, maybe take a peek already earlier further back in this text and then come back and read on? The theme of the Fire signs, and also the themes of the other star signs, as will become visible later, are mirrored here: Without having "lived", so to speak, through all transformations of the star signs, it is difficult to convey an overall view in a really accessible way.)

## The elements

Astrologers are usually well aware of the four elements, in most textbooks about astrology they are presented with at least a few keywords. Hence only a relatively short description here, although here and there substantiated in a maybe a bit unexpectedly specific way.

Fire and Air are described as male, active, warm, light elements, Water and Earth as female, passive, cold, heavy elements. According to Aristotle, in addition Fire and Earth are dry, Air and Water wet, which includes also more bendability, malleability and flexibility—this will be important later on regarding the structures in the model of the star signs, but now briefly to the individual elements.

**Fire** has certainly immediately to do with sources of light and heat, like with the sun, a fire, a light bulb or a thunderbolt, etc. In order to see something with the eyes, a source of light, hence 'Fire', is necessary, thus also figuratively visual imagination is associated with fire, simply because also in the head sort of a form of Fire is required to make an inner image visible. Thus any kind of visual imagination belongs to Fire, as well as a bit more negatively projections.

Of course such assignments are never totally absolute and also not always in accordance with findings in natural sciences, but the things I described above

are, yet, very strong and often the dominating associations, where Fire—of the four elements—clearly fits best.

**Air** also has a lot to do with thinking, but rather abstract thinking, not in images, because air is invisible. Air can also be very changeful, like the wind, or sort of unreachable, because it can neither be seen nor grasped, which can appear arrogant as well as fleeting, depending on circumstances. The association with language and communication comes about as follows: A word like “dog” is an abstraction from the corresponding living animal, in such terms it is then possible to think purely abstractly, logically, even without necessarily having to imagine a dog, and there are words which were abstract from the beginning, like justice, or think of mathematics, etc.

**Water** can flow or move in waves, which is associated with feelings. The flowing of rivers into each other can be associated directly with an increase of “influence”, hence with an increase of power, and for a river flowing downstream is unavoidable, also since Water is a heavy element, which together brings Water symbolically also close to the forces of fate (because of ‘influence/heavy/unavoidable’). The flowing and moving in waves is certainly also close to music and dance and song, and love, as well as maybe also close to a belief in something, because, shared with others, like music, it creates a shared feeling of security within a community.

Every year afresh, **Earth** recreates new plants and trees, which also transform during the seasons. There is a certain stubbornness and hardness in this, a certain inability to gain knowledge, but I am getting ahead of myself, especially with realistic Earth it is maybe better to get to this with concrete examples.

But now for the star signs in detail. Und just to avoid too high expectations: The star signs are age-old and have already been lived through by so many people that I can by no means provide a complete and balanced description here! But what I can hopefully do, is convey that these transformations of the elements are actually present in the star signs, sort of as an inner *skeleton*, as the innermost structure of the star signs, but around that there is still a lot of flesh and spirit and soul and simply many ways in which to live with it and how to live it out. The discussion about the star signs does not end here, quite to the contrary.

## The Fire signs

What is common to all Fire signs in the model, is that they consist foremost of Fire, empowered or sometimes maybe even possessed by lots of imagination. The energy behind that is biggest in youth, hence in Aries, because he still has the biggest supply of Earth fuel, of physical power to waste. In Leo the energy is already a bit more tamed, but still wild, and Sagittarius has to use its energy often selectively demonstratively, like Zeus his thunderbolts.

The burning of Fire can also be seen as the Fire signs learning the path to abstract insights and thoughts and theories sort of experimentally from reality, by at first failing repeatedly at reality, like the proverbial Aries, who runs so often headfirst into any obstacles that one might suspect purpose.

## The Fire signs – Aries

Aristotle also arranged the elements in a circle—Earth to Fire to Air to Water and then again to Earth—and in this circle, among the Fire signs, Aries is still

the farthest ways from the element Water, in the direction of his life, thus for him learning compassion (i.e. Water) with his fellow human beings is at first hardly a theme for him, but it is still expected of him to learn this a little bit in his life. From Leo, this is already quite a bit more is expected, also coming from the image of a good king for his people, and definitely from Sagittarius.

On the other hand, seen the other way round, Aries is still very close to Water, it is simply “behind” him. That would for example fit Jason in mythology, who the magician Medea helped a lot in the beginning, and he married her and had children with her, until he forgot about all of that and cheated on her.

Or where young Jason carried an old woman across a river and lost a sandal. The old woman was the goddess Hera in disguise and the river symbolizes Water, of the elements, of course, the element he thus symbolically left behind. But the river is symbolically also where the dead were carried across, hence a symbolic rebirth, which one could well also see as the transition from Pisces to Aries, hence to the new astrological year.

In order to get a young fire like Aries burning, it takes at first a lot of care, you have to protect it from wind and, yet, provide air, so that it can catch on. The finesse of Pisces and the wisdom of the whole zodiac contained within them would fit this very well. And, last but not least, in my model Pisces would be composed mainly of Air, similar to Sagittarius, as I will expose later on.

Returning to the myth of Jason and Medea, she fits symbolically quite well with Pisces, not least in her sort of boundless revenge on Jason, where she did not even spare her own children.

In *The Astrology of Fate*, Liz Greene writes a lot more about Jason, and also about more Aries themes. For example, she strongly emphasizes the theme of a fight against the father for Aries. I am not sure whether she maybe exaggerates a little bit there, but the statement that in heaven there is only room for one god (Zeus/Jupiter/(Jahwe) would fit to some degree; in order to get up to heaven, you would have to chase others from there. Then again, such a hard exclusion fits rather with the element Earth than with the element Air.

## The Fire signs – Leo

*But the lion is a stage in a process, as Jung suggests; and it is this process or pattern which brings us into the sphere of the 'fate' of Leo. It would seem [...] that there is an alchemical work to be performed. The Lion is not permitted to remain in its bestial form, but must give way to something other.*

— Liz Greene, *The Astrology of Fate* (Weiser 1984), in the chapter about Leo

This fits, of course, very well with the model, it describes again a transformation. The body of a human being is rather the animal side, its spirit rather the human or even divine side, since thoughts can be passed on and thus have a certain immortality and immortality is also an essential property of gods.

Connected to that is also the theme of the *wound*, which Liz Greene emphasizes especially for Leo and Sagittarius in *The Astrology of Fate*. In the legend of the Holy Grail, the Grail king is wounded at the lower part of his body and thus no longer potent, which fits, of course, again into the picture; with growing

age the body is no longer able to produce offspring. Just read up what on Liz Greene writes there from more details and insights.

*Leo at heart is a religious sign, using the word here as it was originally meant: to reconnect. It is the secret of his intensive need to create something which mirrors his own essential substance – be it a company, a book, a painting, a political movement, an airline, a scientific achievement, an empire, a photograph.*

— Liz Greene, *Star Signs for Lovers* (Stein and Day 1984), in the chapter about Leo

Incidentally, she relativizes this statement in *The Astrology of Fate*, I presume rightly, as follows, arguing from the elementary transformation.

A book, for example, is a mix of Earth (you can touch it) and Air (the textual content), hence even if this mirrors maybe Leo in the middle of the transformation, it does not really live up to his goals, because in the end these are rather more immaterial than a book or a painting or a company. Also reconnecting, via belief and more, contains is a relation to Water, Leo wants and must in the end feel something when he does something, it must be in relation to something that others wish for, which they dream of, sometimes including of the lion.

### **The Fire signs – Sagittarius**

The centaur Cheiron, one of the centaurs that had been lifted into the sky as the constellation Sagittarius in mythology, was immortal, but once while hunting, he was accidentally wounded at the hip by a poisoned arrow shot by his good friend Herakles. Since Cheiron was immortal, he could not die of the wound, but, from then on, suffered permanently deadly pain.

Cheiron has a lower part of the body that is animal, of a horse, so it is symbolically again very fitting with the model that he was wounded there ('Earth') by an arrow and not, say, in the head ('Air', because one thinks with the head). His wound made it possible for him to learn compassion, no longer so much distracted by his animal instincts.

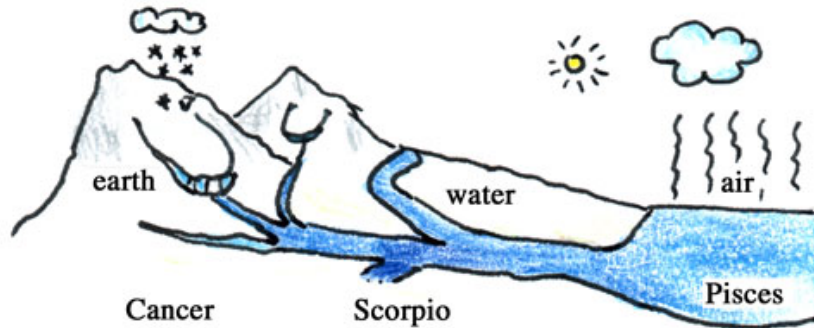
In the end he sacrificed himself, so that Prometheus, who had stolen Fire from the gods, could become immortal. Hence again the same theme: People down on earth get Fire and through that knowledge (Air)—the cycle of the transformation of the Fire signs—and in the end it is completed to immortality, just like at Apuleius with the goblet of water from the eternally circling river Styx, by Cheiron who sacrifices himself in his wisdom.

### **The Water signs**

The transformation of the Water signs is similar to the one of the Fire signs, it starts again with Earth and ends with Air, only this time Water transforms these two elements and this time the missing element is, conversely, Fire.

There are maybe two descriptive images for this. The most elementary one is water in its three aggregate states ice, water and gas/steam. Hence a block of ice that melts and finally evaporates. Another image is the life of a river, from a source in the mountains, maybe out of glacier ice, to a river that flows down

and grows until it finally flows into the sea and there evaporates again, with the power of the sun (Fire), in order to start the cycle again, when it returns as rain or snow to the mountain.



Cancer is the first Water sign, with its hard earthy shell (Earth), Scorpio as the second Water sign is already more flexible—'liquid' like Water—but still able to isolate herself from case to case, and Pisces as the third Water sign are then already hard to catch, the borders have blurred to gas (Air).

Or if you consider a river: A source has not yet mixed with other rivers, its water seems uniform to it, later when rivers flow together (Scorpio), symbolically different influences come together and must be processed in some way, until everything comes together in the sea and is relativized (Pisces).

That way again knowledge (Air) is created: From the experience of all that mixing with the other rivers, the river learns that there are different ways of seeing the world, as well as the realization that size is relative, because even if a river wins against all other rivers by being the larger one and thus defending the name of the river, compared to the sea, it is finally just small in any case.

In the end only an escape into imagination (Fire) helps here, resp. it is probably not fair to speak of escape, because, for one, it is a cycle, and on the other hand Pisces are the last star sign, the body sort of symbolically already close to death, imagination is the only thing that remains there, and that can certainly move even mountains and with gentle blows of Air maybe gently direct an Aries-style hero like Jason?

### The Water signs – Cancer

In Apuleius' story, the second task of Psyche consisted of getting some fleece from wild rams. These rams with poisonous teeth were grazing near a river, hence quite a similar situation as with the river Styx in the third task. Only this time, the solution was not visual imagination, but rather of a female nature, as to be expected for a female element like Water, it was rather experience and adaptation to natural cycles, or, put differently, getting a feeling of the situation to the degree of becoming one with it. Instead of trying anything when the rams were wild and awake, Psyche simply waited until the rams were asleep and also only took fleece which the rams had stripped off by their own fiery power on thorny bushes.

Similar to Aries, learning this is not so important, yet, for Cancer, he moves rather still in his very own cycles and thus interacts often also not so harmonically with his environment, rather still has edges sometimes.

In *The Astrology of Fate*, Liz Greene associates one of the most famous heroes, Heracles, with Cancer, because the story how the crab came up to the

sky is connected with one of the tasks of Heracles, namely the one where a crab pinched Heracles into the foot while he was fighting the Hydra in the swamps and Heracles stomped the crab, but Hera thankfully lifted the crab into the sky as the constellation Cancer.

This shows an important theme related to Cancer: The water of a source is the same as the water in the sea, Cancer itself already contains many different streams of water, which he does not understand and can hardly tame. In this sense, the crab, Heracles, Hera, the Hydra and the swamps are all aspects of one and the same Cancer, which partially fight or reward each other. The result of this often seems pointless at first, on the other hand, Cancer learns through this and gains experience and a story like the one of Heracles is also full of imagination (Fire), otherwise I would not be still telling such an old story today.

Now, it is just more difficult with Water to put these transformations rationally into words than with Fire. Or take the USA (Cancer sun) for example, there it is often very difficult to predict who the next president will be, and, yet, the result of all these complex, and often also quite strange forces in the USA is creative and often has a positive image. (Of course, the USA cannot be reduced to Cancer alone, a lot more plays into it, and, yet, what I just wrote describes something essential already very beautifully—what comes out of the USA into the world is often quite special things that definitely remind of Fire.)

### The Water signs – Scorpio

*The time of the autumn floods had come and hundreds of wild streams were pouring into the great Yellow River. Its waters were swelling and swelling, so that from one bank to the other you could no longer tell an ox from a horse. The god of the Yellow River rejoiced; he had the proud feeling that there was nothing in the world that was not at his command. He let himself drift downstream on the glorious floods and thus arrived at the open sea. There he turned left and looked into the distance. But as far as his eye could reach, he could not see an end to the water.*

— Zhuangzi, from the chapter *The Floods of Autumn* (English translation of Richard Wilhelm's translation to German)

The above had been written by taoist philosopher Zhuangzi about 300 BCE in China, but it fits well here, also because in the Western zodiac Scorpio is in the middle of autumn.

In the following, the river talks with the god of the sea and learns from him about relativity. During his entire journey downwards, he had been solely busy with growing and seeing his apparent power grow and missed the opportunity to reflect on what he experienced, in order to learn and imagine things, like that there might be things that are still much larger than him and that his strife was maybe not be so important and ultimately necessary at all. As a smaller river, he would still have ended up in the very same sea.

Just as with Cancer, in *The Astrology of Fate*, Liz Greene writes also about Scorpio about the fight with the mother. The flowing into the sea can in that sense maybe also be seen as a liberation from the mother, resp. symbolically that happens maybe rather through gaining knowledge and a perspective of what is and what else could be and what is really important in life.

But the other way round, of course, such insights can also serve to expand one's own power. Especially with the Water signs, this shows that a simple model like this one based on elements does not destroy the complexity of the star signs at all, in the end the same questions, themes and complexes remain, even if now some things are more structured, more made of a single gush, even if this gush can again bring forth many different gushes, hence in the end rather increasing the overall richness of the star signs than reducing it.

### **The Water signs – Pisces**

If I understood Pisces. But still a little bit of something.

One of the first computer programs written under the title *Artificial Intelligence* was called ELIZA and it was as a very simple program which just mirrored its human counterpart. If someone told it (typed into a keyboard) something about his or her mother, ELIZA asked then to tell it more about one's mother or more generally one's family. ELIZA simply deduced a question from what was said, and this was often perceived as very compassionate on the other side.

But, what does this have to do with the elements? Well, at first it is a purely abstract airy mirroring of received sentences. The imagination (Fire) was here rather on the other side, who imagined some things and afterwards maybe wrote even more interesting things than might have been the case without a question back. Thus ELIZA created something related to Fire without having to create much of an imaginary power of its own.

Maybe that is generally the case; the manipulation that Scorpio is blamed for, in order to get others to do something for it, maybe this ends with Pisces with bringing others to imagining a lot about Pisces; hence by creating a secret around themselves, Pisces bring others to imagining lots of things, of which Pisces, in turn, live within their souls?

Interesting, when I started to write this section about Pisces, I did not know this, yet, the elementary model has now even proven itself in a way that it "ran" ahead of me and created something, which I myself was not expecting, and thus also proves that the model is very rich, despite its simple structure.

So, once more, maybe put somewhat differently: Pisces like to create a secret around themselves because they like to sunbathe in all the imaginations (Fire) of the others; they create in this way, quite abstractly like ELIZA (Air), the fourth element Fire, which they would otherwise lack, like all Water signs.

And with Cancer it is probably similar to Aries, inside Cancer there is probably already quite a lot of Fire, which maybe explains all those impulsive and often also contradictory currents even better.

### **The Air signs**

For the Air signs (and afterwards also for the Earth signs), the transformation is shaped a bit differently.

Here, the transformation starts with Fire and ends with Water. In youth, there is sort of a lot of hot wildness (Fire), which, through thinking and learning, ends up in old age as a pleasant ripple (Water).

A good image is a thunderstorm or a cloud. A thunderstorm at first begins with lots of thunder and lightning, which can be heard from far away, and some



rain, then follows often an intensive phase with lots of rain and lots of thunder and lightning, until the thunderstorm usually ends with almost only rain.



A bit more abstractly formulated, the focus of the Air signs is at first on something visual (Fire), on looking at the world from all possible angles, from which inside, by comparing and abstracting, a model of the world emerges, like, for example, the 6 faces of a die that are fused in the head to an object called “die”. Hence from 6 or more images (Fire) of a cube seen from different angles, emerges by thinking (Air) an abstract model of a cube with properties like 6 faces, 8 corners, several symmetry axes and other abstract properties.

The same happens in principle also with all other visual phenomena (Fire) of the world, even those becomes in principle—somewhat sloppily formulated—in the head a “cube” with thousands and thousands of faces.

And the Air signs then often fall in love with these abstract symmetries, lead by the middle Air sign, Libra, which is ruled by Venus, the goddess of love and beauty. Thus emerges love, hence the element Water, from reason (Air).

And something else, also something abstract, emerges at the same time: *transparency*. The 6 or more views of a cube seen from the outside are intransparent, you only see one image, then again another, but never the connections. But with a model of the cube in the head, it becomes sort of transparent, like the element Water, it becomes possible to perceive its structure.

I hope this was not too much abstract stuff at once, even if it concerns Air signs here, which are often exactly at home there.

### The Air signs – Gemini

The flames of a fire are quite unpredictable, sometimes they snake here, then they meander there. In the same way, also light and the eye of an observer (Fire) look sometimes here, then there. Gemini, as the first Air sign, have a lot of this, always ready to move, hard to predict, very interested in learning something, very curious and also flexible.

But why then also the theme of dark and bright, of good and evil twin, like in Liz Greene’s *The Astrology of Fate*, can that also be seen somehow in the elementary model?

In order to fuse things, you must be able to unify apparent contradictions like bright/dark, good/evil or true/false in an abstract way. Quite generally, logic is based on true/false or in a computer on zero/one.

For Gemini, as the first Air sign, these opposites often remain just side-by-side; in one moment, like when looking at one face of a coin or the other, only one side is seen and in the next moment maybe the other.

For Libra, opposites are already quite well balanced and finally for Aquarius, they are often already mostly unified, which, however, often is not possible

without suppressing certain things, but more about that later when writing about Aquarius.

### **The Air signs – Libra**

In *The Astrology of Fate*, Liz Greene associates the verdict of Paris with Libra, where three goddesses, Hera, Athene and Aphrodite (Venus), ask a human, Paris, for his judgement who the most beautiful goddess is. And Paris in the end chooses love resp. beauty, Aphrodite's offer, to get Helena, the most beautiful woman of the world, as his wife, which then also causes the Trojan War.

This shows, of course, again love, the element Water, which grows from abstract considerations of the world, mirrored in Paris' mind as well as in the fact, that the goddesses consider his judgement as a human being so important. And, yet, Paris fails first at reality (Earth), the element missing in the transformation of the Air signs, which did not want to adapt to his abstract ideals (Air).

And, yet, the realization (Earth) of an Utopia, an idea for the future, is in the end what Air signs desire and want to implement, at least the two later Air signs, Libra and Aquarius.

The fourth task of Psyche in Apuleius' story was the most complex one: Get some of the beauty ointment from the underworld goddess Proserpina from the Hades. Psyche only succeeds at this by not showing any compassion with individuals she meets in the underworld. For example, she is not allowed to give a beggar a piece of bread, because she needs both pieces, in order to divert the dog Cerberus both on the way down and up.

This shows probably that Libra's love to human beings is already very abstract, it is less concerned with individual fates than with the whole, with realizing (Earth) a plan.

But how exactly is the fourth task of Psyche connected with the elements? Well, for the plan at first a precise knowledge of the world was necessary, including circumstances in the underworld, hence the element Fire, also coming from Gemini, which are ruled by Hermes/Mercury, the messenger of the gods, who also comes to the underworld when carrying messages and who saw and remembered everything then. And then it required a mental effort in order to plan ahead how much of what would be needed and what one was allowed to do and what not, hence the element Air. And, almost last, but not least, a universal love in order to be able to withstand individual temptations (Water), and also Water signs can be very cold if it has to be, and Water is a cold element. Finally, the prize, an ointment, was in the end something material (Earth), and also connected to Venus, because it was an ointment for beauty.

### **The Air signs – Aquarius**

In Aquarius, the third Air sign, opposites are already quite a bit fused together, which is actually not possible from a purely logical point of view, except if certain inconsistencies are suppressed into the unconscious, just as Uranus, the ruler of Aquarius, did in mythology with some titans he did not like, by banning them to the Tartaros.

A tiny example how logic always contains contradictions, at least as soon as you break up the separation of subject and object: The sentence "this sentence has 5 words" and the sentence "this sentence has not 5 words" are both true

and, yet, are the logical opposites of each other. So, if the first sentence is true, normally its opposite would have to be false, but here it is not, hence there is a logical paradox.

On the other hand, it is exactly this consequence of unification, despite a certain suppression, which only makes some kinds of progress possible, some things should be realized in the end, if the advantages clearly outweigh. Also there is a clear transition from learning to teaching from Gemini via Libra to Aquarius, to sharing what has been learnt, which usually makes sense.

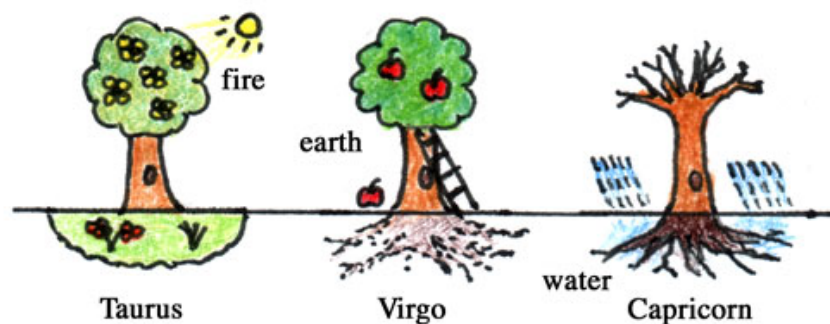
In *The Astrology of Fate*, Liz Greene also mentions Prometheus in the context of Aquarius. Now, Prometheus means roughly “forethought” and his brother Epimetheus “afterthought”, hence Prometheus thinks first and acts afterwards, Epimetheus does the opposite. That mirrors the dilemma of Air signs, because they usually think first, which often keeps them from realizing something, because there are always arguments that speak against.

But in the myth it is exactly Epimetheus who, via Pandora who he took as his wife, gets things rolling. There Pandora as lover (Water) probably played the mediating role, which led from Air via Water to Earth, hence to realization.

The only thing which remained in Pandora’s box after it had been opened was hope, as is generally known. Where exactly I would put that now, I won’t tell here, I don’t have to sort in everything, a little bit of hope has to remain there. . .

### The Earth signs

For the Earth signs, the transition is also from Fire to Water, this time via Earth, and the missing element is, conversely, Air.



The simplest image here is likely a tree.

It needs two things to grow: Light (Fire) and water, plus nutrients from earth, diluted in water. (Note that this is not complete, although I am not sure if people knew anything about it in antiquity, because a tree also takes in carbon dioxide via its leaves, hence a tree would also require the element Air to live, but I will ignore this in the following.)

The first task of Psyche in Apuleius’ story was to sort out a heap of different seeds before the evening, which Venus had just mixed together. At first Psyche despaired at the task, as she always did, but then ants came to her help and carried the seeds one-by-one to separate heaps.

The result of that work was order (Air), an abstract structure, which emerged from the transformation, the missing element in the transformation of the Earth signs. A former school colleague, who is a Capricorn, once told me of a theory he had thought up, according to which consciousness (hence roughly ‘Air’) would

simply be the result of structure (order), that for example if you moved chairs around, that could already create consciousness. I am not sure if that is true, also in light of quantum mechanics, but it would definitely fit with Earth signs and maybe it is really so.

### **The Earth signs – Taurus**

As the first Earth sign, Fire is still more important than Water to Taurus, and also the distance to order is still far ahead, resp. again rather unconsciously behind him. But first it is more about the beauty of things at hand, like a tree or generally nature in spring, when everything blossoms and grows and one can enjoy it and often also should just do so.

King Minos got a holy bull from Poseidon, the god of the sea, which allowed him to prevail against his brothers for the throne of Crete, but later, when he had become king, he betrayed the god by sacrificing another bull instead of the holy bull. Poseidon took revenge by arousing sexual lust for a bull in Minos' wife Parsiphaë. Daedalus built her a wooden cow in which she could hide and so she became the mother of Minotaurus, the monster with a bull's head and a human body, which hid in the labyrinth and ate human sacrifices.

For one, Minos failed because he wanted to use outer appearances (light, Fire) to trick the god of the sea (Water), for the other, it was simply the animal in the bull (Taurus), the sexual lust, which can be connected both to Fire and Water, resp. the impulse to it rather with Fire, the consequence, children, rather with Water, because the latter is more fated. The Minotaurus came somehow out the wrong way round, he did not create order (Air) but remained in the labyrinth, trapped in disorder, and especially his head, which would foremost stand for reason (Air) had remained the one of an animal.

Similar to Heracles in the fight with Hydra, Hera, crab and swamps, it is here also again the whole myth that mirrors Taurus, hence here also Theseus, the hero who defeated the Minotaurus, is part of it. And definitely also Ariadne, who taught Theseus the trick with the thread and gave it to him, so that Theseus could bring a bit of order (Air) into the labyrinth and she probably did this also out of love (Water).

Earth signs often take liberties with the truth, Taurus also out of a need for harmony, in order not to make others jealous of its properties (Earth).

### **The Earth signs – Virgo**

Towards the end of summer, where Virgo, the second Earth sign, is, many fruits and other things are ripe to pick. As with Psyche in her task, then often things are just "thrown" at your feet to pick or collect and then sort in; this can hardly be controlled, if something is ripe, it must simply be harvested then, not earlier or later.

This is fate then, the element Water, where Virgo more and more develops to. But in between there are also always phases where there is nothing to do, where you can still laze around and enjoy the beauty of things (Fire). Also there are some fruits of nature which then cannot be preserved immediately, those are better given to others or you invite guests and enjoy things together.

But again something from mythology, about Persephone. As a young woman she walked around and when she looked curiously down to certain flowers, the

earth opened up, the underworld god Hades came up with his chariot and abducted her to the underworld, where he made her his wife and the queen of the underworld, Proserpina.

The virgin, simply because she was curious as part of the transformation of elements Fire-Earth-Water-Air, wanted more than just see the beautiful appearance of nature, but as she looked down, hence away from the sun (Fire) in the sky, down to earth (where also water flows to), in order to understand how and why the flowers grow and what kind of flowers there are, she became fatedly trapped, fell in love, similar to the Air signs, with something that at first also appeared terrible to her, like maybe sexuality to a virgin, with all the fascination that also lies within.

### The Earth signs – Capricorn

And in the end, as underworld queen Proserpina, she did of course also structure many things. This mirrors already a tree in winter, the third Earth sign, Capricorn, which stands with meager, empty branches, only still supplied via its roots, hidden from view, with water and nutrients, hence containing a lot more Water than Fire. Also generally a lot in nature disappears under the ground in winter, also animals that hibernate or do something similar.

The abduction of Persephone can also be seen that way, because in the myth she was finally allowed to spend a third or half of the year again on the surface, also in accord with the model, where Virgo contains Fire and Water still in similar amounts, even though the path clearly leads to more Water and towards Air.

The roots and meager branches of a tree in winter mirror Capricorn, there order comes without any ornamentation before beauty. And, yet, this is again also a source of lust for Capricorn, out of reversal of sexual drive, *Triebumkehr*, as Freud called it, thus drawing sexual lust out of not doing things one would like to do, but does not do, especially for the oldest Earth sign also out of restrictions that emerge due to old age, when the own body at some point becomes some kind of cage, which keeps trapped.

In *The Astrology of Fate*, Liz Greene describes a dream of a Capricorn, where he was prisoner with his wife in a house, but with open doors and windows, and they still stayed there. This reminds me again very much of the idea of moving chairs around, the house with open doors and windows symbolizes again an order, created from Earth, but very abstract, hence Air.

I will leave it at that with examples for the star signs. As announced, this was now of course not complete at all, the whole topic is simply too rich, I could write a few sentences to almost every sentence of Liz Greene and many other authors about the star signs. And I am sure, about all I said above, many readers will have a slightly or strongly different opinion, and even myself in a few days; I only hope that the other opinions would often still rather confirm than refute my elementary model as the inner *skeleton* of the star signs?

In any case, I hope that I could convey my idea simply and evidently enough, so that now many readers can apply it when desired or needed, to themselves, lovers and friends, mundane themes, etc.

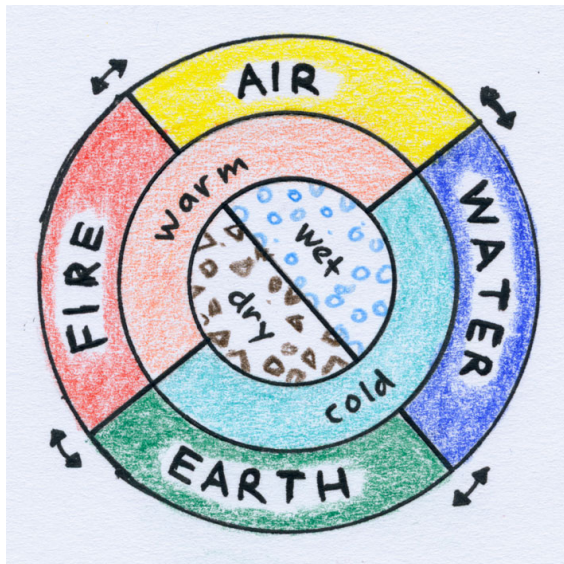
It would be a pity if this idea was lost to the world again.

## Review and structures in the model

First a bit about the overall structure of the model in review.

For Fire and Water signs, the transformation started with Earth and ended with Air, for Air and Earth signs, it began with Fire and ended with Water. Hence, the start, Earth/Fire, was always with a dry element, the end, Air/Water, always with a wet element, according to Aristotle. This would fit a general development in life, where in youth a lot would still be appear as given and clear, as fixed, hard, immutable, but with growing age it would crystallize that many things are more flexible, can be bent, flow.

The circle of transformation of the elements in the model was always the same one; Earth, for example, always only transformed to Fire or Water, never directly to Air. This also fits with the philosophical view of Aristotle, because he saw the circle such that in a transformation between elements only one of the properties could change at a time, so Earth, which is dry and cold, could only transform to wet and cold, to Water, or to dry and warm, to Fire, but never directly to wet and warm, to Air, and the same way with the other three elements.



Thus my elementary model of the transformations of the star signs is strongly rooted in well-known philosophical traditions. At the moment there are, however, no indications known to me that my *model* of the star signs was ever conscious to people in the past, which would, for one, be astonishing, for the other it could in the end give astrologers a stronger stand against science. Accusing of charlatantry or illusion would finally hardly be justifiable any more.

By the way, I often wrote "my model" here, which it naturally was, coming from its discovery, but it can only grow if it belongs to all, and if many think and feel into it, imagine things about it and realize them, only then can it maybe approach something like a balanced view of all attributes of the star signs with time.

## Appendix – A more formal approach

I would like to append something more abstract, for completeness, even though this might get too abstract for many readers.

On my web site I postulate the elements more abstractly as composed of in/out and rest/move. Earth rests outside, Fire moves outside, Air rests inside, Water moves inside. Thus the transition for all four elements in the zodiac is always from the outside, Earth or Fire, to the inside, Air or Water.

For example, Teiresias, who Liz Greene, in *The Astrology of Fate*, associates with Libra, was struck with blindness by Hera, out of anger about his statement, who of men or women has more fun during sex. But Zeus gave him in exchange the gift of "inner vision". This means, Libra changes its direction of looking from outside, where the light, the Fire, is, towards the inside (Air and Water), where it could then find more abstract insights (Air), also about love and sex (Water), which in the end could again change a state outside (Earth) for good.

I hope this was now at least as comprehensible that it has become visible, that maybe one day this could be applied mathematically in a formal way, partially beyond human interpretation, but at the moment this is still very much Zukunftsmusik. . .

### Sources

I often mentioned *The Astrology of Fate* by Liz Greene, Weiser 1984, as well as, also by her, *Star Signs for Lovers*, Stein and Day 1980. After that she unfortunately hardly ever wrote anything about the star signs again, except indirectly via planets, which, in my view, does not capture all of the richness of the star signs, especially not all of the richness that lies in the transformations of the star signs and their relations.

I recommend to read Apuleius' *The Golden Ass* in the translation by Robert Graves, or in the latin original (which I unfortunately cannot read).

And, of course, just pick out something on your own, which appears to be typical for a star sign, from your favorite books and experiences, and then mirror it in the elementary model of the transformation of the star signs. . .

I wish you a lot of fun doing that and it would make me very, very happy if this thing would simply evolve beautifully on its own!

PS: I wrote this article essentially in only two days, 26 and 27 July 2016, and translated it from German to English a couple of days later; however, I had already written about these themes during the past 15 years in forums and so on the internet, on and off, so that I could draw from rich sources, but some unplanned insights still emerged quite spontaneously here. . .

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avantgarde

## Elementare Sternzeichen

Dieser Text über die Sternzeichen ist etwas ganz besonderes. . .

. . . zwar erst mal ganz neuartig und einiges könnte daher in der ersten Sekunde etwas seltsam wirken, aber am Ende ist es doch etwas schon sehr Vertrautes, einfach nur anders beschrieben, wo jede und jeder sich selbst und auch geliebte und vertraute Menschen darin spiegeln kann.

Ich beschreibe die 12 Sternzeichen des (westlichen) Tierkreises—also Widder, Stier, Zwillinge, Krebs, Löwe, Jungfrau, Waage, Skorpion, Schütze, Steinbock, Wassermann und Fische—auf eine neue, ganz elementare Weise, die aber dennoch sehr reichhaltig und am Ende vertraut ist, und hoffentlich auch viel Verständnis für die Sternzeichen und was sie in ihrem Innersten bewegt enthält.

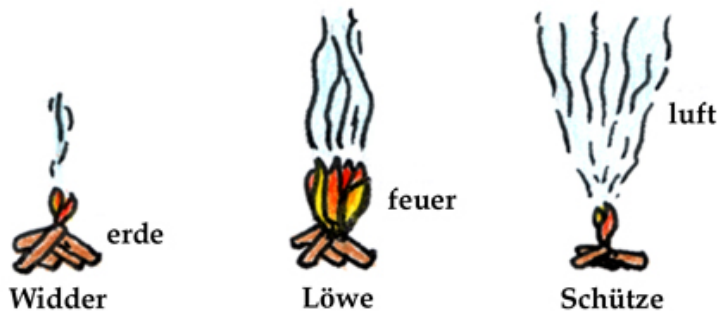
Das Ganze lässt sich nur schwer allgemein beschreiben, daher erst mal ein konkretes Beispiel (Widder), und dann mehr zu meinem Modell und allen Sternzeichen, mit einigen Anwendungen und Vergleichen zu dem was andere Astrologen bisher zu Sternzeichen schrieben, um die Sache noch mehr an Bekanntes anzuknüpfen. Und ganz zum Schluss noch ein Rückblick und ein Versuch die Struktur nochmals ganz einfach und klar herauszuschälen.

Bitte nehmt Euch ein wenig Zeit um Euch darin hineinzusetzen.

### Beispiel (Widder)

Ich fange mit dem erstem Sternzeichen im Tierkreis, dem Widder an:

In meinem Modell ist der **Widder** die erste Phase einer Umwandlung von **Erde via Feuer zu Luft**.



Das klingt jetzt sicher erst mal sehr abstrakt und willkürlich, ist es aber viel, viel weniger als es scheint, wobei ich das nur schrittweise erklären kann.

Erst mal anhand von einem echten Feuer.

Ein Feuer braucht zwei Dinge zum Brennen: Brennmaterial wie Holz oder Kohle, also etwas, das oft an das Element Erde erinnert, sowie den Sauerstoff



aus der Luft, also so in etwa das Element Luft. Ausserdem verschwindet beim Brennen das meiste Material praktisch unsichtbar in der Luft, als Gas und Rauch, an fester Materie bleibt sichtbar nur ein kleines Häufchen Asche übrig.

Also wird 'Erde' durch Feuer in 'Luft' verwandelt. Und wieso der Widder in der ersten Phase davon? Nun, der Widder ist das erste von drei Feuerzeichen Widder-Löwe-Schütze im Tierkreis. Der Widder ist noch stark in der unmittelbaren Realität am Boden verankert, aber schon mit viel Feuer und Aspirationen zu Höherem, quasi zu mehr Vernunft, Erkenntnis, Gerechtigkeit, was alles astrologisch Luftthemen wären. Der Schütze, das dritte und letzte Feuerzeichen, ist bereits wie Zeus/Jupiter, der das Sternzeichen beherrscht, hoch oben in der Luft und betrachtet sich die Welt von oben, nur noch selten lässt er Feuer sprechen, wenn er einen Blitz schleudert oder eine Maid verführt. Der Löwe, als zweites Feuerzeichen, ist in der Mitte davon, wo das Feuer am intensivsten, am fokussiertesten brennt.

Aber vielleicht erst mal ein Zitat der bekannten Astrologin Liz Greene zum Widder, um das Ganze etwas anschaulicher zu machen:

*Der Widder war den Ägyptern als urzeitlicher Gott Ammon oder Amun bekannt, dessen Name 'der Verborgene' bedeutet. Man sagte von dieser antiken, widderköpfigen Gottheit, sie sei die Kraft hinter dem unsichtbaren Wind. Er wurde auch 'er, der in allen Dingen fortbesteht' genannt, und wurde als die Seele aller irdischen Phänomene betrachtet.*

— Liz Greene, *The Astrology of Fate* (Weiser 1984), im Kapitel über den Widder

Liz Greene brauchte da instinktiv die richtigen Worte: 'Irdisch' kommt von 'Erde', also das Element Erde und 'Wind' ist bewegte Luft, also Element Luft. Auch das Wort 'Seele' passt sehr gut dazu, wie folgt.

Der menschliche irdische Körper (Erde) ist sterblich, vergänglich, aber der Geist (Luft) kann Ideen und Theorien und Einsichten schaffen, die kommuniziert und niedergeschrieben werden können, also quasi unsterblich werden. Da liegt die Wandlung bei den Feuerzeichen, es geht um das Streben zu Höherem, den sterblichen Körper (Erde) mithilfe des Feuers, also mit Imagination und Energie usw. umzuwandeln in etwas Unsterbliches.

Und die Seele wird ja als unsterblich betrachtet—nur ist die Seele nicht wirklich (nur) wie das Element Luft, da schwingt auch viel Gefühl und Schicksal mit, also das Element Wasser. Und Wasser ist genau dasjenige Element, von den vier griechischen Elementen, das in der Verwandlung aller Feuerzeichen fehlt, es fehlt ihnen durchaus oft an Mitgefühl und Verständnis für ihre Mitmenschen, auch beim Widder, allen hehren Zielen für alle Mitmenschen zum Trotz.

Gerade bei Liz Greene in *The Astrology of Fate* kommt das oft zur Sprache bei den Feuerzeichen, wie beim Widder wo Jason Medea betrügt oder beim Löwen wo Parsifal erst kein Verständnis für den Zweck des Grals hat, es aber später doch noch lernt, oder schliesslich beim Schützen wo der Zentaur Cheiron schliesslich seine Unsterblichkeit für einen Anderen opfert, also quasi so die "Aufgabe der Feuerzeichen", Mitgefühl zu lernen und zu zeigen erfüllt.

Eine andere, viel ältere Quelle, wo die elementare Struktur der Wandlung der Feuerzeichen (und auch der anderen Sternzeichen) sichtbar ist, ist in den vier Aufgaben der Psyche aus *Der Goldene Esel* von Lucius Apuleius aus dem

2. Jahrhundert unserer Zeitrechnung. In der Geschichte wird Lucius in einen Esel verwandelt und erlebt so viele Abenteuer. Als Geschichte innerhalb der Geschichte wird das *Märchen von Cupid und Psyche* erzählt, wo sich der Gott Cupid, Sohn der Liebesgöttin Venus, in die schönste Frau der Welt, Psyche, verliebt. Und als weitere Geschichte in der Geschichte, wird von vier Aufgaben erzählt, die Venus ganz eifersüchtig der bereits schwangeren Psyche stellt, in der Absicht sie daran scheitern zu lassen. Die vier Aufgaben entsprechen den vier Elementen, wie ich zu zeigen hoffe, und wie es schon Andere zuzuordnen versuchten, allerdings finde ich oftmals falsch. Aber mehr dazu später, hier erst mal die Aufgabe, die ich dem Element Feuer zuordne, die dritte Aufgabe.

Diese Aufgabe bestand darin, bis zum Abend einen Kelch aus dem Wasser des ewig im Kreis fließenden Flusses Styx zu holen. Aber der Fluss ist umgeben von steilen, spitzen Felsen, wird von Ungeheuern bewacht und zudem ist das Wasser auch noch giftig. Also kein Durchkommen für einen Widder, der gerne unmittelbar irdisch am Boden der Tatsachen kämpft, quasi mit dem gehörnten Kopf durch die Wand, erst mit Überblick von hoch oben in der Luft findet sich eine Lösung, bei Apuleius indem Jupiter Psyche einen Adler schickt, der aus der Luft zur Flussmitte fliegt und den Becher mit Wasser füllt.

Da finden sich nochmals alle vier Elemente: Die Erde unten wo kein Durchkommen möglich ist, das Feuer, das es ermöglicht sich durch bildliche Vorstellungskraft von der Lage einen Überblick zu verschaffen (um etwas bildlich zu sehen braucht es Licht, Feuer), die durch die Kraft des Feuers aufgestiegene Luft, die daraufhin von oben her einfach eine Lösung finden kann und schließlich das Ziel, das Wasser, die unsterbliche Seele, die alles im Kreis durchfließt wie der ewige Styx, um es etwas poetisch auszudrücken. . .

Soweit mal das Beispiel, jetzt erst zu den Elementen ganz für sich und dann zu schrittweisen Beschreibungen aller 12 Sternzeichen.

(Ein Überblick über die Struktur des Modells folgt erst später, bei Interesse aber vielleicht einfach schon früher mal weiter hinten dazu hineinschauen und dann wieder zurück und weiter lesen? Hier spiegelt sich eben auch das Thema der Feuerzeichen, und auch die Themen der anderen Sternzeichen, wie sich noch zeigen wird: Ohne die Wandlungen aller Sternzeichen quasi durchlaufen zu haben, ist es schwierig eine Gesamtsicht wirklich zugänglich zu schildern.)

## Die Elemente

Die vier Elemente sind ja Astrologen meist wohl bekannt, in den meisten Lehrbüchern zur Astrologie werden sie auch jeweils mindestens mit ein paar Stichworten vorgestellt. Daher nur eine relativ knappe Beschreibung, allerdings hier und da vielleicht schon etwas ungewohnt spezifisch begründet.

Feuer und Luft werden als männliche, aktive, warme, leichte Elemente beschrieben, Wasser und Erde als weibliche, passive, kalte, schwere Elemente. Laut Aristoteles sind zudem Feuer und Erde trocken, Luft und Wasser feucht, was auch mehr Biogsamkeit, Formbarkeit und Flexibilität beinhaltet—das wird später bezüglich der Strukturen im Modell der Sternzeichen noch wichtig sein, aber jetzt kurz zu den einzelnen Elementen.

**Feuer** hat sicher mal unmittelbar mit Quellen von Licht und Wärme zu tun, wie mit der Sonne, einem Feuer, einer Glühbirne oder einem Blitz, usw. Um etwas mit den Augen überhaupt sehen zu können, braucht es eine Lichtquelle, also 'Feuer', daher wird auch im übertragenen Sinn bildliche Vorstellungskraft

mit Feuer assoziiert, einfach da es eben auch quasi im Kopf dann Licht, also eine Form von Feuer, benötigt um sich eine Vorstellung innerlich sichtbar zu machen. Daher gehören dann auch so Dinge wie Phantasie oder Imagination zum Element Feuer, bis hin auch etwas negativer zu Projektion.

Natürlich sind solche Zuordnungen nie ganz absolut und auch nicht immer im Einklang mit naturwissenschaftlichen Erkenntnissen, aber die Dinge, die ich oben beschrieb, sind eben doch sehr starke, oft die überwiegenden Assoziationen wo Feuer—von den vier Elementen— klar am Besten passt.

**Luft** hat auch viel mit Denken zu tun, aber eher abstrakter statt bildlich, da eben Luft unsichtbar ist. Luft kann auch sehr wechselhaft sein wie der Wind, oder quasi unerreichbar, da nicht sichtbar und nicht greifbar, was je nachdem sowohl arrogant wie auch flüchtig wirken kann. Der Bezug zu Sprache und Kommunikation kommt folgendermassen zustande: Ein Wort wie "Hund" ist eine Abstraktion vom entsprechenden lebendigen Tier, mit solchen Begriffen kann dann rein abstrakt logisch gedacht werden, sogar ohne sich unbedingt einen Hund dabei vorzustellen, bis hin zu von vornherein abstrakten Begriffen wie Gerechtigkeit, oder denkt an Mathematik, usw.

**Wasser** kann fließen oder sich in Wellen bewegen, was mit Gefühlen assoziiert wird. Das Ineinanderfließen von Flüssen kann direkt mit einer Vergrößerung des "Einflusses" identifiziert werden, also einer Machtzunahme, und das Fließen nach unten ist für einen Fluss unvermeidlich, auch da Wasser ein schweres Element ist, was dann zusammen das Wasser symbolisch auch nahe zu den Kräften des Schicksals bringt (eben wegen 'Einfluss/schwer/unvermeidlich'). Das Fließende und Wogende ist dann sicher auch nahe bei Musik und Tanz und Gesang, und bei Liebe, sowie vielleicht auch beim Glauben an etwas, weil es geteilt mit Anderen wie Musik etc. eine gemeinsame Geborgenheit schafft.

**Erde** erzeugt jedes Jahr wieder aufs Neue Pflanzen und Bäume, die sich doch im Wechsel der Jahreszeiten wieder wandeln. Darin liegt eine gewisse Sturheit und Härte, ein gewisses Unvermögen zu Erkenntnis, aber ich greife etwas vor, gerade bei der realistischen Erde ist es vielleicht besser bei den konkreten Beispielen darauf zu sprechen zu kommen.

Aber nun zu den einzelnen Sternzeichen im Detail. Und damit nicht eine zu hohe Erwartung entsteht: Die Sternzeichen sind uralte und wurden schon von so vielen Menschen durchlebt, dass ich hier keineswegs eine vollständige und ausgeglichene Schilderung bieten kann! Aber was ich hoffentlich tun kann, ist vermitteln, dass diese Wandlungen der Elemente in den Sternzeichen tatsächlich vorhanden sind, so quasi als innerstes *Skelett*, als die innerste Struktur der Sternzeichen, aber da herum hat es dann noch sehr viel Fleisch und Geist und Seele und einfach ganz viele Wege wie genau damit leben und wie es ausleben. Die Diskussion um die Sternzeichen endet hier keineswegs, ganz im Gegenteil.

## Die Feuerzeichen

Was den Feuerzeichen im Modell also allen eigen ist, ist, dass sie natürlich erst mal vorwiegend aus Feuer bestehen, beseelt oder vielleicht manchmal sogar besessen von einer grossen Vorstellungskraft. Die Energie, die dahinter steht, ist in der Jugend, also beim Widder am Grössten, da der noch den grössten Brennvorrat an Erde, an Körperkraft zum Verbrauchen hat. Beim Löwen ist es oft schon etwas sanfter, aber immer noch wild und der Schütze muss seine Energie dann oft gewählt demonstrativ einsetzen, wie Zeus seine Blitze.

Das Verbrennen der Erde kann man auch so sehen, dass die Feuerzeichen anhand der Realität lernen, den Weg zu abstrakten Einsichten und Gedanken und Theorien quasi experimentell zu finden, indem sie erst an der Realität wiederholt scheitern, wie der sprichwörtliche Widder, der so oft wieder in alle Hindernisse kopfvoran hineinrennt, dass man Absicht dahinter vermuten könnte.

### Die Feuerzeichen – Widder

Aristoteles hatte die Elemente auch in einem Kreis angeordnet—Erde zu Feuer zu Luft zu Wasser und dann wieder zu Erde—und in diesem Kreis ist der Widder unter der Feuerzeichen, da er ja aus viel Erde besteht, vom Element Wasser noch am weitesten entfernt, in seiner Laufrichtung im Leben, für ihn ist Mitgefühl (also Wasser) für seine Mitmenschen zu lernen zumindest erst mal noch kaum ein Thema, aber es wird von ihm durchaus erwartet, dass er es doch ein klein wenig schon noch lernt in seinem Leben. Beim Löwen ist es schon viel mehr erwartet, auch aus der Vorstellung von einem guten König für das Volk heraus und erst recht beim Schützen.

Allerdings ist umgekehrt gesehen der Widder noch sehr nahe vom Wasser, es ist einfach "hinter" im. Das würde zum Beispiel in der Mythologie zu Jason passen, dem die Zauberin Medea am Anfang sehr weit hilft, und er sie auch heiratet und Kinder mit ihr hat, bis er das dann vergisst und sie betrügt.

Oder wo der noch junge Jason eine alte Frau über einen Fluss trug und dabei eine Sandale verlor. Die alte Frau war die verkleidete Göttin Hera und der Fluss symbolisiert von den Elementen natürlich das Wasser, das er ja dann hinter sich liess. Aber der Fluss ist auch symbolisch wohin man die Toten hinübertrug, also eine symbolische Wiedergeburt, die man durchaus auch als den Übergang von Fischen zum Widder, also zum neuen astrologischen Jahr sehen könnte.

Um ein junges Feuer wie den Widder zum Brennen zu bringen, braucht es erst mal sehr viel Umsicht, man muss es vor Wind schützen und doch für etwas Luft sorgen damit es anzieht. Dazu würde die Feinheit der Fische und die darin enthaltene Weisheit aus dem ganzen Sternkreis sehr gut passen. Und nicht zuletzt, in meinem Modell würden die Fische aus vorwiegend noch viel Luft bestehen, ähnlich wie der Schütze, wie ich noch ausführen werde.

Da trifft sich der Mythos mit Jason und Medea wieder; sie passt symbolisch sicher recht gut zu den Fischen, nicht zuletzt in ihrer quasi masslosen Rache an Jason, wobei sie sogar ihre eigenen Kinder nicht verschonte.

Liz Greene schreibt in *The Astrology of Fate* zu Jason noch einiges mehr, und auch noch zu einigen anderen Themen zum Widder. Zum Beispiel thematisiert sie den Kampf gegen den Vater sehr stark beim Widder. Ich weiss nicht so recht, ob sie da nicht vielleicht doch etwas übertreibt, aber die Aussage, dass es im Himmel eben dann nur Platz für einen Gott (Zeus/Jupiter/Jahwe) hat, würde eben schon auch passen, also wäre es nötig, um nach oben in den Himmel zu kommen, auch andere von dort zu verdrängen. Andererseits passt so ein harter Ausschluss eher zum Element Erde wie zum Element Luft.

### Die Feuerzeichen – Löwe

*Doch der Löwe ist eine Stufe in einem Prozess, wie Jung vorschlägt; und es ist dieser Prozess oder dieses Muster, welches uns in die Sphäre des 'Schicksals' des Löwen bringt. Es scheint [. . .], dass eine*

*alchemistische Wandlung vollführt werden muss. Dem Löwen ist es nicht gestattet in seiner tierischen Form zu bleiben, sondern er muss etwas Anderem weichen.*

— Liz Greene, *The Astrology of Fate* (Weiser 1984), im Kapitel über den Löwen

Das passt natürlich sehr gut zum Modell, es beschreibt wiederum eine Wandlung. Der Körper eines Menschen ist eher seine tierische Seite, sein Geist eher seine menschliche oder sogar göttliche Seite, da eben Gedanken weitergegeben werden können und so eine gewisse Unsterblichkeit haben und Unsterblichkeit ist eben auch eine wesentliche Eigenschaft von Göttern. Beim Löwen als dem König der Tiere ist das Thema sehr stark: Er muss seine tierischen Instinkte überwinden um ein guter und gerechter Herrscher sein zu können.

Damit verbunden ist auch das Thema der *Wunde*, das Liz Greene besonders beim Löwen und beim Schützen in *The Astrology of Fate* betont. Bei der Gralsage ist der Gralskönig an der unteren Körperhälfte verwundet und somit nicht mehr zeugungsfähig, was natürlich auch wieder zum Bild passt; mit zunehmendem Alter ist der Körper nicht mehr fähig Nachwuchs zu zeugen. Einfach dort bei Liz Greene nachlesen für noch mehr Details und Einsichten.

*Der Löwe ist im Herzen ein religiöses Zeichen, im ursprünglichen Sinn des Wortes: Wiederverbinden. Es ist das Geheimnis seines intensiven Bedürfnisses etwas zu schaffen was seine essentielle Substanz spiegelt – sei es eine Firma, ein Buch, ein Gemälde, eine politische Bewegung, eine Fluggesellschaft, ein wissenschaftliches Resultat, ein Imperium, eine Photographie.*

— Liz Greene, *Star Signs for Lovers* (Stein and Day 1984), im Kapitel über den Löwen

In *The Astrology of Fate* relativiert sie diese Aussage übrigens, ich vermute zu recht, wie folgt, argumentiert aus der elementaren Wandlung heraus.

Ein Buch zum Beispiel, ist ein Mix aus Erde (man kann es anfassen) und Luft (der sprachliche Inhalt), also auch wenn es vielleicht den Löwen in der Mitte der Umwandlung spiegelt, ganz seinen Zielen gerecht wird es nicht, denn die sind am Ende eher noch immateriellerer Natur als ein Buch oder ein Gemälde oder eine Firma. Auch hat es in Wiederverbinden eben auch via Glauben und so einen Bezug zum Wasser, der Löwe will und muss am Ende etwas fühlen bei dem was er tut, es muss in Beziehung stehen auch zu Dingen, die sich andere wünschen, von denen sie träumen, manchmal inklusive vom Löwen.

## Die Feuerzeichen – Schütze

Der Zentaur Cheiron, einer der Zentauren, die in der Mythologie in den Himmel als das Sternbild Schütze erhoben wurden, war unsterblich, aber einmal bei der Jagd wurde er versehentlich von seinem guten Freund Herakles mit einem vergifteten Pfeil an der Hüfte getroffen, konnte aber nicht daran sterben da er unsterblich war, leidete von da an aber permanent unsterbliche Qualen.

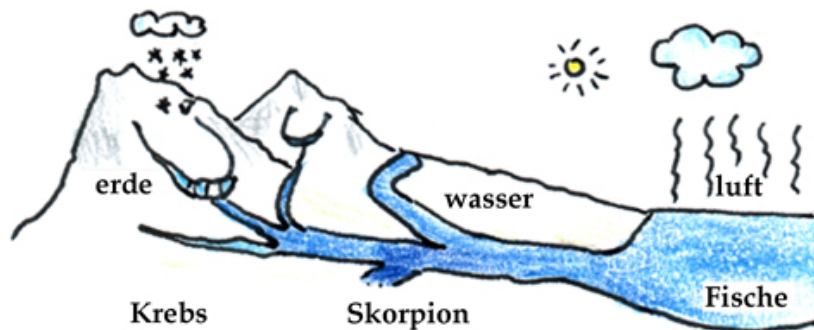
Cheiron hat eine untere Körperhälfte die tierisch ist, von einem Pferd, es ist also symbolisch wieder völlig passend zum Modell, dass er dort ('Erde') vom Pfeil getroffen wurde und nicht zum Beispiel am Kopf ('Luft', da mit dem

Kopf gedacht wird). Seine Wunde ermöglicht es ihm erst wirklich Mitgefühl zu lernen, nicht mehr so sehr abgelenkt von tierischen Instinkten.

Am Ende opferte er sich, damit Prometheus die Unsterblichkeit erlangte, welcher von den Göttern das Feuer gestohlen hatte um den Menschen so mehr Erkenntnis (Luft) zu bringen. Also wieder das gleiche Thema: Die Menschen unten auf der Erde bekommen Feuer und dadurch Erkenntnis (Luft)—der Zyklus der Wandlung der Elemente bei den Feuerzeichen—und am Ende wird er vervollständigt zur Unsterblichkeit, wie bei Apuleius mit dem Becher Wasser aus dem ewig kreisenden Fluss Styx, indem Cheiron sich in seiner Weisheit opfert.

## Die Wasserzeichen

Die Wandlung der Wasserzeichen ist sehr ähnlich wie bei den Feuerzeichen, wieder beginnt sie mit Erde und endet mit Luft, nur diesmal verwandelt das Wasser die zwei Elemente, und das Element, das fehlt, ist diesmal umgekehrt das Feuer.



Es gibt hier vielleicht zwei anschauliche Bilder dazu. Das elementarste ist Wasser in seinen drei Aggregatzuständen Eis, Wasser und Gas/Dampf. Also ein Eisblock, der langsam schmilzt und dann verdunstet. Ein anderes ist das Leben von einem Fluss, von einer Quelle in den Bergen, vielleicht ja aus einem Gletscher aus dem Eis hervor, zu einem Fluss der herunterfließt und immer wächst bis er schliesslich ins Meer fließt und dort mit der Kraft der Sonne (Feuer) wieder verdunstet um so den Zyklus wieder zu beginnen, wenn er als Regen oder Schnee wieder zum Berg zurückkehrt.

Der Krebs ist das erste Wasserzeichen, mit seiner irdischen harten Schale (Erde), der Skorpion als das zweite Wasserzeichen ist schon flexibler—'flüssig' wie Wasser—aber grenzt sich doch durchaus von Fall zu Fall noch ab, und die Fische als das dritte Wasserzeichen sind dann schon kaum mehr zu fassen, die Grenzen verschwimmen da bis zum Gas (Luft).

Oder wenn man es für einen Fluss betrachtet: Eine Quelle hat sich noch nicht mit anderen Flüssen vermischt, ihr Wasser scheint ihr einheitlich, beim Zusammenfließen (Skorpion) von Flüssen kommen dann symbolisch verschiedenartige Einflüsse zusammen und müssen irgendwie verarbeitet werden, bis dann im Meer alles zusammenkommt und sich relativiert (Fische). Daraus entsteht durchaus wieder Erkenntnis (Luft): Aus der Erfahrung mit all den Vermischungen mit den anderen Flüssen lernt der Fluss, dass es ganz verschiedene Wege gibt, die Welt zu sehen, sowie auch schliesslich die Erkenntnis, dass Grösse relativ ist, denn auch wenn ein Fluss gegen alle anderen Flüsse gewinnt indem er der Grössere ist und so den Namen des Flusses behaupten kann, gegenüber dem Meer ist er dann schliesslich sowieso nur noch klein.

Da hilft am Ende nur noch die Flucht in die Phantasie (Feuer), bzw. es ist wohl nicht fair da von Flucht zu sprechen, denn einerseits ist es ein Kreislauf, andererseits sind eben Fische das letzte Sternzeichen, der Körper dem Tode quasi symbolisch irgendwie schon nahe, da bleibt eben nur noch die Phantasie, und die kann dann durchaus wohl auch Berge bewegen und dazu mit sanften Luftstößen vielleicht einen Widder-Helden wie Jason sanft steuern?

## Die Wasserzeichen – Krebs

Die zweite Aufgabe der Psyche bei Apuleius bestand darin, von wilden Widdern etwas Vlies zu beschaffen. Diese Widder mit giftigen Zähnen grast an einem Fluss, also eine recht ähnliche Szenerie wie beim Fluss Styx in der dritten Aufgabe. Nur lag diesmal die Lösung nicht in bildlicher Vorstellung, sondern war eher weiblicher Natur, wie für ein weibliches Element wie Wasser zu erwarten, lag mehr in der Erfahrung und der Anpassung an natürliche Zyklen, oder anders gesagt an Einfühlung in die ganze Situation. Anstatt es zu versuchen, als die Widder wach und wild waren, wartete Psyche einfach bis die Widder schliefen und nahm auch nur Vlies, das die Widder mit ihrer eigenen feurigen Kraft an dornigen Büschen abgestreift hatten. So eroberte Psyche symbolisch ein Stück Feuer im Form des Vlieses.

Ähnlich wie beim Widder ist es auch für das erste Wasserzeichen, den Krebs noch nicht so wichtig das zu lernen, er bewegt sich eher noch in seinen eigenen Zyklen und eckt dadurch dann auch eher an.

Liz Greene assoziiert in *The Astrology of Fate* einen der bekanntesten Helden, Herakles, mit dem Krebs, da die Geschichte wie der Krebs in den Himmel kam mit einer Aufgabe von Herakles zusammenhängt, nämlich, dass der Krebs Herakles beim Kampf gegen die Hydra in den Sümpfen in den Fuss zwickte und Herakles den Krebs daraufhin zertrat, aber Hera den Krebs als Dank dafür in den Himmel hob.

Darin sieht man ein wichtiges Thema zum Krebs: Das Wasser einer Quelle ist dasselbe wie das Wasser des Meeres, der Krebs enthält selber schon sehr viele verschiedene Strömungen von Wasser, die er nicht versteht und nur schwer bändigen kann. In dem Sinn sind der Krebs, Herakles, Hera, die Hydra und die Sümpfe alles Aspekte ein und desselben Krebses, die sich teilweise gegenseitig bekämpfen und belohnen. Das Resultat scheint da oft erst mal sinnlos, andererseits lernt der Krebs eben dadurch, er gewinnt an Erfahrung und so eine Geschichte wie bei Herakles ist ja auch voll von Phantasie (Feuer), sonst würde ich eine so alte Geschichte hier ja kaum mehr erzählen.

Es ist eben mit Wasser etwas schwieriger diese Umwandlungen der Elemente rational in Worten zu beschreiben wie beim Feuer. Oder zum Beispiel in den USA (Sonne im Krebs), da ist es oft sehr schwer vorherzusagen wer der nächste Präsident wird, und doch ist das Resultat von all den komplexen, teilweise auch sehr seltsamen Kräften in den USA am Ende kreativ und oft sehr bildhaft positiv. (Natürlich kann man die USA nicht nur auf Krebs reduzieren, da spielt noch viel mehr mit, und doch, was ich gerade schrieb, beschreibt eben doch schon etwas Wesentliches sehr schön—was aus den USA hinaus in die Welt kommt, sind eben oft recht besondere Dinge, die durchaus an Feuer erinnern.)

## Die Wasserzeichen – Skorpion

*Die Zeit der Herbstfluten war gekommen, und hunderte von wilden Bächen ergossen sich in den großen Gelben Fluss. Seine Wasser schwollen und schwellen, so dass man von einem Ufer zum anderen nicht mehr den Ochsen vom Pferd unterscheiden konnte. Der Gott des Gelben Flusses freute sich; er hatte das stolze Gefühl, dass nichts auf der Welt sei, das ihm nicht zu Gebote stand. Er ließ sich auf den herrlichen Fluten hinab treiben und kam so zum offenen Meer. Dort wandte er sich gen Osten und blickte in die Ferne. Aber so weit sein Auge reichte, konnte er doch kein Ende des Wassers sehen.*

— Dschuang Dsi, *Das wahre Buch vom südlichen Blütenland*, Kapitel Herbstfluten (übersetzt von Richard Wilhelm)

Das schrieb der taoistische Philosoph Dschuang Dsi um etwa 300 vor Christus in China, aber es passt hier gut dazu, auch da der Skorpion ja im westlichen Sternkreis in der Mitte vom Herbst ist.

Der Fluss spricht dann im Folgenden mit den Meeresherrn und lernt von ihm was relativ ist. Während seiner ganzen Reise hinab war er einzig damit beschäftigt gewesen, zu wachsen und damit seine scheinbare Macht wachsen zu sehen, und versäumte es das Erlebte zu reflektieren, um daraus zu lernen und auch um sich etwas vorzustellen, wie eben, dass es Dinge geben könnte, die noch viel grösser sind wie er selbst und dass sein Streben vielleicht gar nicht so wichtig und unbedingt notwendig war. Auch als kleinerer Fluss wäre er in demselben Meer gelandet.

Wie auch beim Krebs schreibt Liz Greene in *The Astrology of Fate* auch beim Skorpion vom Kampf mit der Mutter. Das Fließen ins Meer kann man durchaus auch in dem Sinn als eine Befreiung von der Mutter sehen, bzw. symbolisch geschieht dies eben vielleicht eher durch Erkenntnis und Vorstellung davon was noch ist und sein könnte und was wirklich wichtig ist im Leben.

Aber umgekehrt kann natürlich solche Einsicht auch dazu dienen, die eigene Macht noch auszudehnen. Gerade bei den Wasserzeichen zeigt sich, dass ein einfaches Modell, wie hier mit den Elementen, die Komplexität der Sternzeichen durchaus nicht zerstört, es bleiben am Ende die gleichen Fragen, Themen und Komplexe, aber doch ist jetzt einiges doch strukturierter, mehr aus einem Guss, auch wenn dieser Guss wiederum viele verschiedene Ströme hervorbringen kann, also insgesamt dann den Reichtum der Sternzeichen am Ende eher noch erhöht als ihn zu reduzieren.

## Die Wasserzeichen – Fische

Wenn ich die Fische verstehen würde. Aber trotzdem ein wenig etwas.

Eines der ersten Computerprogramme, das unter dem Titel *künstliche Intelligenz* geschrieben wurde, hiess ELIZA und war ein ganz einfach gestricktes Programm, das einfach nur sein menschliches Gegenüber spiegelte. Erzählte jemand (eingetippt auf einer Tastatur) etwas von seiner Mutter, bat ELIZA dann zum Beispiel darum, etwas mehr über die Mutter oder allgemein die Familie zu erzählen. ELIZA leitete einfach immer eine Frage aus dem Gesagten ab, und das kam oft als sehr mitfühlend an auf der Gegenseite.



Nur, was hat das jetzt mit den Elementen zu tun? Na ja, es ist erst mal reines abstraktes lufthaftes Spiegeln von empfangenen Sätzen. Die Phantasie (Feuer) war da eher auf der Gegenseite, die sich dann etwas darunter vorstellte, und daraufhin wohl noch Interessanteres schrieb als ohne Nachfrage. So schuf etwas fische-artiges wie ELIZA etwas, das mit Feuer zu tun hatte in Anderen, ohne selber gross eine Vorstellungskraft zu erschaffen.

Vielleicht ist das ja generell so; das Manipulieren das Skorpion nachgesagt wird um andere dazu zu bringen etwas für ihn zu tun, vielleicht endet das bei den Fischen dabei, dass sie andere dazu bringen, sich viel zu den Fischen vorzustellen, also indem die Fische ein Geheimnis um sich machen, bringen sie andere dazu sich viel vorzustellen, wovon die Fische wiederum seelisch leben?

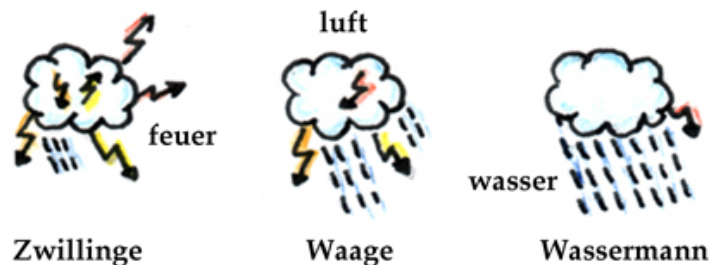
Interessant, als ich diesen Abschnitt zu den Fischen zu schreiben begann, wusste ich das noch nicht, das elementare Modell hat sich jetzt also sogar derart bewiesen, dass es mir "davonlief" und etwas schuf, das ich selbst nicht erwartete, also so auch beweist, dass das Modell trotz seiner einfachen Struktur doch sehr reichhaltig ist.

Also nochmals vielleicht etwas anders gesagt: Fische mögen es ein Geheimnis um sich zu machen, da sie es mögen, sich in all den Vorstellungen der Anderen zu sonnen (Feuer), sie schaffen sich so recht abstrakt wie ELIZA (Luft) das vierte Element Feuer, das ihnen sonst wie allen Wasserzeichen fehlt.

Und beim Krebs ist es wohl auch etwas ähnlich wie vorher beim Widder, im Krebs drin hat es wohl auch schon viel Feuer, was vielleicht all die impulsiven und auch oft gegensätzlichen Strömungen noch etwas besser erklärt.

## Die Luftzeichen

Bei den Luftzeichen (und nachher auch bei den Erdzeichen) ist die Umwandlung etwas anders gestaltet.



Und zwar beginnt die Umwandlung hier mit Feuer und endet mit Wasser. In der Jugend quasi viel heisse Wildheit (Feuer), die dann durch Nachdenken und Lernen im hohen Alter zu einem eher gemütlichen Plätschern (Wasser) wird.

Ein gutes Bild ist ein Gewitter oder eine Wolke. Ein Gewitter beginnt oft erst mal mit viel Donner und Blitzen, die man schon von weit weg hört, und etwas Regen, dann folgt oft eine intensive Phase mit viel Regen und viel Donner und Blitzen, bis dann das Gewitter meist fast mit nur noch Regen endet.

Etwas abstrakter formuliert, ist der Fokus bei den Luftzeichen erst viel auf etwas Visuellem (Feuer), darauf die Welt von allen möglichen Winkeln zu betrachten, woraus dann im Inneren durch Vergleichen und Abstrahieren ein Modell der Welt entsteht, zum Beispiel die 6 Seiten eines Würfels werden im Kopf zu einem Objekt "Würfel" verschmolzen. Also aus 6 oder mehr Bildern (Feuer) eines Würfels von verschiedenen Seiten entsteht durch Nachdenken (Luft) ein

abstraktes Modell eines Würfels mit Eigenschaften wie 6 Seitenflächen, 8 Ecken, mehreren Symmetrieachsen und noch anderen abstrakten Eigenschaften.

Analog passiert das auch mit allen anderen sichtbaren Phänomenen (Feuer) auf der Welt, auch das wird im Prinzip—etwas schlampig formuliert—im Kopf zu einem "Würfel" mit abertausenden von Seiten.

Und die Luftzeichen verlieben sich dann eben oft auch in diese abstrakten Symmetrien, allen voran das mittlere Luftzeichen, die Waage, die von der Venus, der Göttin der Liebe und der Schönheit, beherrscht wird. So entsteht jedenfalls aus der Vernunft (Luft) Liebe und somit das Element Wasser.

Und etwas Weiteres, auch eher etwas Abstraktes, entsteht dabei ebenfalls: *Transparenz*. Die 6 oder mehr Bilder von einem Würfel von aussen betrachtet sind undurchsichtig, man sieht immer jeweils nur ein Bild, dann wieder das Andere, aber nie die Zusammenhänge. Aber mit einem Modell des Würfels im Kopf, wird dieser quasi durchsichtig, wie das Element Wasser, es wird möglich, seine innere Struktur wahrzunehmen.

Ich hoffe das war jetzt nicht zu abstrakt auf einmal, auch wenn es hier eben um die Luftzeichen geht, die oft genau dort beheimatet sind.

### Die Luftzeichen – Zwillinge

Die Flammen eines Feuers sind recht unberechenbar, mal schlängeln sie sich hierhin, mal dorthin. So fällt auch das Licht und das Auge des Beobachters (Feuer) mal da- und mal dorthin. Davon haben die Zwillinge, als das erste Luftzeichen, sehr viel, immer im Sprung, schwer vorherzuberechnen, sehr interessiert daran etwas zu lernen, sehr neugierig und auch flexibel.

Aber woher dann auch das Thema von hell und dunkel, von gutem und bösem Zwilling, wie auch bei Liz Greene in *The Astrology of Fate*, sieht man das auch irgendwie im elementaren Modell?

Um Dinge zu verschmelzen, muss man auch scheinbare Gegensätze wie hell/dunkel, gut/böse oder wahr/falsch abstrakt vereinigen können. Ganz generell beruht ja Logik auf wahr/falsch oder im Computer auf Null/Eins.

Bei den Zwillingen, als das erste Luftzeichen, bleiben diese Gegensätze eben oft einfach nebeneinander bestehen, es wird jeweils in einem Moment, wie wenn man eine Münze mal von der einen, mal von der anderen Seite anschaut, nur eine Seite gesehen, und im nächsten Moment dann vielleicht die Andere.

Bei der Waage sind die Gegensätze dann schon recht gut in der Waage und schliesslich beim Wassermann dann schon oft weitgehend vereinigt, was allerdings oft auch nicht geht ohne gewisse Dinge zu verdrängen, aber dazu später beim Wassermann.

### Die Luftzeichen – Waage

Beim Parisurteil, das Liz Greene in *The Astrology of Fate* mit der Waage assoziiert, fragen drei Göttinnen einen Menschen, Paris, um sein Urteil wer die schönste Göttin sei. Es sind Hera, Athene und Aphrodite (Venus). Und Paris wählt am Ende die Liebe bzw. die Schönheit, das Angebot der Aphrodite, die schönste Frau der Welt, Helena von Troja, zur Frau zu bekommen, was dann auch den trojanischen Krieg auslöst.

Da zeigt sich natürlich wieder die Liebe, das Element Wasser, das aus den abstrakten Betrachtungen der Welt erwächst, sowohl bei Paris wie auch in der

Tatsache, dass die Göttinnen seinem Urteil als Sterblichen so viel Bedeutung beimessen. Und dennoch scheitert Paris dann erst mal an der Realität (Erde), dem Element das in der Umwandlung der Luftzeichen fehlt, die sich seinen abstrakten Idealen (Luft) nicht anpassen wollte.

Und doch ist die Realisierung (Erde) eines Utopias, einer Idee für die Zukunft, am Ende das, was sich Luftzeichen wünschen und umsetzen wollen, mindestens die zwei späteren Luftzeichen, Waage und Wassermann.

Die vierte Aufgabe der Psyche bei Apuleius war die Komplexeste: Ein wenig Schönheitssalbe von der Unterweltgöttin Proserpina aus dem Hades zu holen. Psyche gelingt dies nur, indem sie eben gerade kein Mitgefühl mit Individuen zeigt, denen sie in der Unterwelt begegnet. Zum Beispiel darf sie einem Bettler kein Stück Brot geben, denn sie braucht beide Stücke um den Hund Cerberus beim Hin- und beim Rückweg abzulenken.

Das zeigt wohl, dass bei der Waage die Liebe zu den Menschen schon sehr abstrakt ist, es geht weniger um Einzelschicksale wie um das grosse Ganze, darum einen Plan zu verwirklichen (Erde).

Aber wie genau hängt die vierte Aufgabe der Psyche jetzt mit den Elementen zusammen? Nun ja, für den Plan war erst mal eine genaue Kenntnis der Welt notwendig, inklusive der Umstände in der Unterwelt, also das Element Feuer, auch von den Zwillingen her, die ja vom Götterboten Hermes/Merkur beherrscht werden, der auch in die Unterwelt kommt bei seinen Botengängen und dabei alles sah und sich merkte. Dann brauchte es eben eine gedankliche Leistung um voranzuplanen wie viel man für was brauchte und was man tun durfte und was nicht, also das Element Luft. Und nicht zuletzt eine universelle Liebe um den individuellen Versuchungen zu widerstehen (Wasser), und auch Wasserzeichen können sehr kalt sein wenn es sein muss, und Wasser ist ja ein kaltes Element. Schliesslich der Gewinn, die Salbe, war am Ende etwas materielles (Erde), und auch im Bezug zur Venus, da eine Schönheitssalbe.

## Die Luftzeichen – Wassermann

Beim Wassermann, dem dritten Luftzeichen, sind die Gegensätze schon sehr stark verschmolzen, was rein logisch gesehen gar nicht möglich ist, ausser gewisse Ungereimtheiten werden ins Umbewusste verdrängt, wie der Herrscher des Wassermannes, Uranus, es in der Mythologie mit einigen Titanen tat, die ihm nicht passten und daher in den Tartaros verbannt wurden.

Ein ganz kleines Beispiel, wie Logik immer Widersprüche enthält, zumindest sobald man die Trennung von Subject und Objekt aufbricht: Der Satz "dieser Satz hat 5 Worte" und der Satz "dieser Satz hat nicht 5 Worte" sind beide wahr und doch die logischen Gegensätze voneinander. Also wenn der erste Satz wahr ist, müsste doch normalerweise sein Gegenteil falsch sein, ist es hier aber nicht, also ein logisches Paradox.

Andererseits ist es eben gerade diese Konsequenz des Vereinheitlichens trotz der gewissen Verdrängung, die gewissen Fortschritt erst möglich macht, gewisse Dinge sollten am Ende eben doch realisiert werden, wenn die Vorteile klar überwiegen. Auch gibt es von den Zwillingen über die Waage zum Wassermann auch einen Übergang weg vom Lernen zum Lehren, dazu das Gelernte weiterzugeben, was ja meist durchaus Sinn macht.

In *The Astrology of Fate* erwähnt Liz Greene auch Prometheus im Zusammenhang mit dem Wassermann. Nun heisst Prometheus, so in etwa "Vorge-

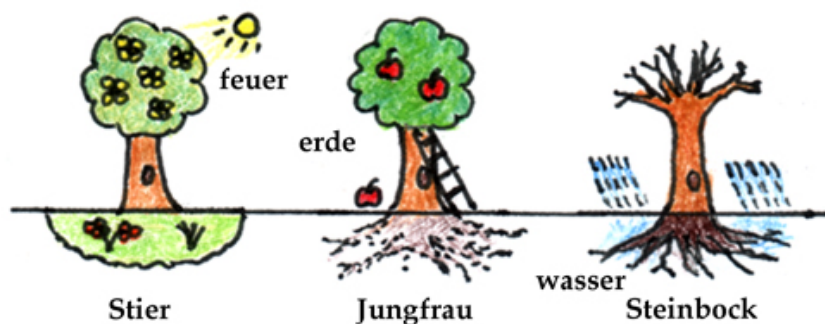
danke" und sein Bruder Epimetheus "Nachgedanke", also Prometheus denkt zuerst und handelt danach, Epimetheus tut das umgekehrt. Da spiegelt sich das Dilemma der Luftzeichen, denn sie denken ja im Prinzip immer zuerst und das hindert sie oft daran etwas zu realisieren, da es immer Dinge gibt, die gegen etwas sprechen.

Im Mythos ist es aber dann eben genau Epimetheus, der dann über Pandora, die er zur Frau nimmt, die Dinge doch ins Rollen bringt. Da spielte wohl dann Pandora als Geliebte (Wasser) die Vermittlerrolle, die von Luft via Wasser zur Erde, also zur Realisierung führte.

Das Einzige, was in Pandoras Schachtel blieb nachdem sie geöffnet wurde, war ja die Hoffnung. Wo ich das jetzt symbolisch hintun würde, verrate ich hier nicht, ich muss ja nicht alles Einordnen, etwas Hoffnung muss ja auch da noch bleiben. . .

## Die Erdzeichen

Auch bei den Erdzeichen ist der Übergang von Feuer zu Wasser, diesmal via Erde, und das fehlende Element ist umgekehrt die Luft.



Das einfachste Bild ist hier wohl ein Baum.

Der benötigt zwei Dinge zum Wachsen: Licht (Feuer) und Wasser, plus Nährstoffe aus der Erde, aufgelöst im Wasser. (Das ist jetzt nicht ganz vollständig, wobei ich nicht weiss ob das in der Antike bekannt war, denn ein Baum nimmt auch Kohlendioxid über die Blätter auf, würde also so gesehen auch das Element Luft benötigen, aber ich klammere das im Folgenden mal aus.)

Die erste Aufgabe der Psyche bei Apuleius war einen Haufen verschiedener Körner, den Venus zuvor kurz zusammengeschüttet hatte, bis zum Abend zu sortieren. Zuerst verzweifelte Psyche einfach nur, wie bei jeder ihrer Aufgaben, aber dann kamen Ameisen und halfen ihr dabei, die Körner eins nach dem anderen auf eigene Haufen zu tragen.

Das Resultat der Arbeit war also Ordnung (Luft), eine abstrakte Struktur die aus der Wandlung entstand, das fehlende Element in der Wandlung der Erdzeichen. Ein ehemaliger Schulkollege, der Steinbock ist, also das dritte Erdzeichen, erzählte mir mal von einer Theorie, die er sich ausgedacht hatte, nach der Bewusstsein (also in etwa 'Luft') einfach das Resultat von Struktur (Ordnung) sein könnte, dass zum Beispiel, wenn man Stühle herumschiebt, schon allein dadurch im Prinzip Bewusstsein entstehen könnte. Ich bin nicht sicher ob das so ganz stimmt, auch wegen der Quantenmechanik, aber zu den Erzeichen passen würde es sicher und vielleicht ist es sogar wirklich so.

## Die Erdzeichen – Stier

Als das erste Erdzeichen, ist beim Stier noch das Feuer wichtiger als das Wasser, und auch die Distanz zur Ordnung noch weit voraus bzw. wiederum eher unbewusst hinter ihm. Aber erst mal geht es mehr um die Schönheit der Dinge, wie bei einem Baum oder generell der Natur im Frühling, wo alles blüht und wächst und man es genießen kann und oft auch sollte.

König Minos erhielt von Poseidon, dem Gott des Meeres, einen heiligen Stier um sich so gegen seine Brüder um den Thron von Kreta behaupten zu können, aber er betrog den Gott später als er König wurde, indem er einen anderen Stier opfern liess und nicht den heiligen Stier. Poseidon rächte sich, indem er in Minos' Frau Parsiphaë die sexuelle Lust nach einem Stier weckte. Daedalus baute ihr eine Kuh aus Holz worin sie sich verbergen konnte und so wurde sie Mutter vom Minotaurus, dem Monster mit Stierkopf und Menschenkörper, das sich im Labyrinth versteckte und Menschenopfer frass.

Minos scheiterte einerseits daran, dass er den äusseren Schein (Licht, Feuer) nutzen wollte um den Gott des Meeres (Wasser) zu überlisten, andererseits war es auch einfach das Tier im Stier, die sexuelle Lust, die man sowohl mit Feuer wie auch mit Wasser in Beziehung bringen kann, bzw. den Impuls dazu eher mit Feuer, die Konsequenz, die Kinder, hingegen eher mit Wasser, da schicksalhafter. Der Minotaurus kam aber irgendwie falsch herum zur Welt, er schuf keine Ordnung (Luft) sondern blieb im Labyrinth, in Unordnung gefangen und gerade sein Kopf, der am Ehesten für Vernunft (Luft) stehen würde, war tierisch geblieben.

Ähnlich wie bei Herakles im Kampf mit Hydra, Hera, Krebs und Sumpf, ist es hier aber auch wieder der ganze Mythos, der den Stier spiegelt, also auch hier gehört der Held Theseus, der den Minotaurus besiegte dazu. Und nicht zuletzt gehört da auch Ariadne dazu, die Theseus den Trick mit dem Faden verriet und ihm den Faden gab, so dass Theseus etwas Ordnung (Luft) in das Labyrinth bringen konnte, und sie tat das wohl nicht zuletzt aus Liebe (Wasser).

Erdzeichen nehmen es oft nicht so genau mit der Wahrheit, beim Stier durchaus auch aus einem Harmoniebedürfnis heraus, um andere zum Beispiel nicht eifersüchtig zu machen auf ihren Besitz (Erde).

## Die Erdzeichen – Jungfrau

Gegen Ende Sommer, wo das zweite Erdzeichen, die Jungfrau ist, sind in der Natur viele Früchte und andere Dinge reif zum Pflücken. Wie bei Psyche in der Aufgabe wird da oft einfach etwas zum Einsammeln oder Pflücken und dann Einsortieren "hingeworfen", das lässt sich dann nur wenig steuern, wenn etwas reif ist, muss es einfach dann geerntet werden, nicht früher oder später.

Das ist dann Schicksal, das Element Wasser, wohin sich die Jungfrau mehr und mehr entwickelt. Aber dazwischen gibt es auch immer wieder Phasen wo es gerade nichts zu tun gibt, wo man noch sonnig faulenzten und die Schönheit der Dinge genießen kann (Feuer). Auch gibt es gewisse Früchte der Natur, die sich da nicht unmittelbar konservieren lassen, die verschenkt man dann besser oder lädt sich dazu Gäste ein und geniesst es gemeinsam.

Aber wieder zu etwas aus der Mythologie, zu Persephone. Als junge Frau spazierte sie herum und als sie neugierig nach unten schaute zu gewissen Blumen, da tat sich die Erde auf, der Unterweltgott Hades kam mit seinem Wagen

hervor und entführte sie in die Unterwelt, wo er sie zu seiner Frau und zur Herrscherin der Unterwelt, Proserpina, machte.

Die Jungfrau wurde eben in der Wandlung der Elemente Feuer-Erde-Wasser-Luft neugierig, wollte mehr als nur den Schein der schönen Natur sehen, sondern als sie nach unten schaute, also weg von der Sonne (Feuer) im Himmel zur Erde hin (wohin auch das Wasser fließt) um zu verstehen wie und wieso die Blumen wachsen und was für welche es gibt, da wurde sie schicksalhaft gefangen, verliebte sich eben analog wie auch bei den Luftzeichen in etwas, das ihr erst mal schrecklich erschien, wie vielleicht auch Sexualität einer Jungfrau, bei aller Faszination, die eben auch darin liegt.

### Die Erdzeichen – Steinbock

Und am Schluss als Unterweltkönigin Proserpina, strukturierte sie natürlich auch viele Dinge. Das spiegelt auch schon einen Baum im Winter, wie beim dritten Erdzeichen, dem Steinbock, der im Winter mit kargen leeren Ästen dasteht, nur im Verborgenen durch seine Wurzeln noch versorgt wird mit Wasser und Nährstoffen, also daher viel mehr Wasser als Feuer erhält. Auch verschwindet sonst vieles in der Natur im Winter unter dem Boden, auch Tiere, die einen Winterschlaf oder etwas Ähnliches halten.

Auch so kann man die Entführung der Persephone verstehen, die ja auch im Mythos dann doch wieder einen Drittel oder die Hälfte des Jahres auf der Oberfläche verbringen durfte, auch im Einklang damit, dass eben bei der Jungfrau sowohl Feuer wie Wasser ähnlich stark vorhanden sind, wenn auch der Weg klar zum Wasser und zur Luft hin geht.

Die Wurzeln und kargen Äste eines Baums im Winter spiegeln den Steinbock, da kommt Ordnung ohne irgendwelche Verzierungen vor der Schönheit. Und doch ist das wiederum auch eine Quelle von Lust, auch für den Steinbock, aus *Triebumkehr* heraus, wie Freud das nannte, also Lust daraus ziehen aus Dingen, die man tun möchte, aber dann doch nicht tut, gerade beim ältesten Erdzeichen einfach auch aus Einschränkungen, die im Alter entstehen heraus, wo der eigene Körper irgendwann mal zu einer Art Käfig wird, der gefangen hält.

Liz Greene beschreibt in *The Astrology of Fate* einen Traum von einem Steinbock, wo er mit seiner Frau in einem Haus gefangen war, aber mit offenen Türen und Fenstern, und sie trotzdem da blieben. Das erinnert mich wieder sehr stark an die Idee mit den Stühlen herumschieben, das Haus mit offenen Türen und Fenstern symbolisiert wiederum eine Ordnung, geschaffen aus Erde aber doch sehr abstrakt, also Luft.

Damit belasse ich es jetzt mal zu den Sternzeichen an Beispielen. Das war jetzt natürlich wie schon angekündigt überhaupt gar nicht vollständig, das ganze Thema ist einfach zu reichhaltig, ich könnte fast zu jedem Satz bei Liz Greene und vielen andern Autoren zu den Sternzeichen ein paar Sätze sagen. Und auch bei allem was ich oben sagte, werden sicher viele Leserinnen und Leser eine leicht oder stark andere Meinung haben, und auch ich selbst spätestens in ein paar Tagen, nur hoffe ich, auch die anderen Meinungen würden eben doch oft mein elementares Modell als inneres *Skelett* der Sternzeichen eher bestätigen als widerlegen?

Jedenfalls hoffe ich, dass ich meine Idee insgesamt doch so einfach und einleuchtend herüberbringen konnte, dass jetzt viele Leserinnen und Leser sie bei Lust oder Bedarf selber anwenden können, bei sich, bei Geliebten und Freunden,

bei mondänen Themen, usw.

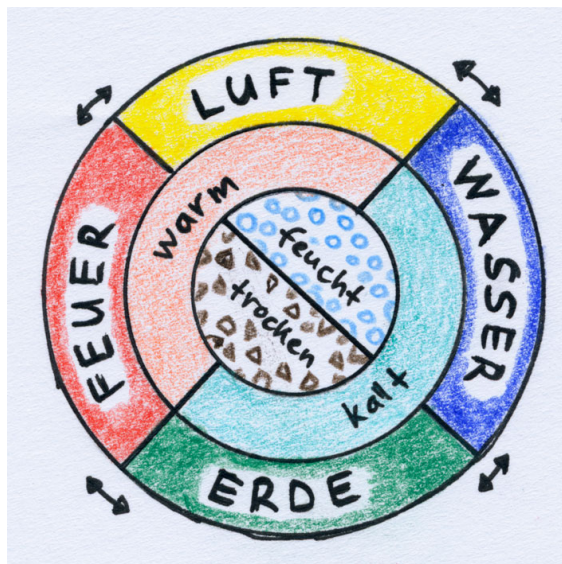
Es wäre schade, wenn diese Idee der Welt wieder verloren ginge.

## Rückblick und Strukturen im Modell

Erst mal etwas zur Gesamtstruktur des Modells im Rückblick.

Bei Feuerzeichen und Wasserzeichen begann die Umwandlung mit Erde und endete mit Luft, bei Luftzeichen und Erdzeichen begann sie mit Feuer und endete mit Wasser. Also war der Beginn, Erde/Feuer, immer mit einem trockenen Element, das Ende, Luft/Wasser, immer mit einem feuchten Element, gemäss Aristoteles. Das würde schon zu einer allgemeinen Entwicklung im Leben passen, dass in der Jugend noch vieles als gegeben und klar erscheint, als fix, hart, unveränderlich, sich dann aber mit zunehmendem Alter zeigt, dass vieles eben doch flexibler ist, sich biegen lässt, fließt.

Der Kreis der Wandlungen der Elemente war im Modell immer der gleiche, immer wandelte sich zum Beispiel Erde in Feuer oder Wasser, nie direkt Erde in Luft. Auch das passt zur philosophischen Sicht von Aristoteles, denn er sah den Kreis so, dass sich bei einer Umwandlung der Elemente jeweils nur eine Eigenschaft der Elemente ändern konnte, also Erde, die trocken und kalt ist, konnte sich nur in feucht und kalt, also Wasser, umwandeln oder in trocken und warm, also Feuer, aber nie direkt in feucht und warm, also Luft, und analog mit den anderen drei Elementen.



Somit ist also mein elementares Modell der Wandlungen der Sternzeichen durchaus stark in bekannten philosophischen Traditionen verankert. Im Moment gibt es allerdings keinerlei mir bekannten Hinweise, dass mein *Modell* der Sternzeichen je den Menschen in der Vergangenheit bewusst gewesen wäre, was einerseits erstaunlich wäre, andererseits am Ende durchaus Astrologen einen stärkeren Stand gegenüber der Wissenschaft geben könnte. Da lässt sich ein Vorwurf der Scharlatanerie oder Illusion am Ende kaum mehr vertreten.

Übrigens, ich schrieb hier oft "mein Modell", was es von der Entdeckung her natürlich schon war, aber wachsen kann es nur, wenn es allen gehört und viele mitdenken und mitfühlen und sich Dinge dazu vorstellen und realisieren, nur dann kann es sich vielleicht auch mit der Zeit an so etwas wie eine ausgewogene

Sicht aller Eigenschaften der Sternzeichen annähern.

## Anhang – Eine formale Sicht

Ich möchte doch noch kurz etwas Abstrakteres anhängen, zur Vollständigkeit, auch wenn das wohl vielen zu abstrakt werden könnte.

Auf meiner Website postuliere ich die Elemente abstrakter als zusammengesetzt durch innen/aussen und ruhen/sich bewegen. Erde ruht draussen, Feuer bewegt sich draussen, Luft ruht innen, Wasser bewegt sich innen. So ist der Übergang bei allen vier Elementen im Sternkreis immer von aussen her, also Erde oder Feuer, nach innen, also Luft oder Wasser.

Zum Beispiel wurde Teiresias, den Liz Greene in *The Astrology of Fate* mit der Waage assoziiert, von Hera mit Blindheit geschlagen, aus Wut über seine Aussage darüber, wer von Männern oder Frauen beim Sex mehr Lust empfindet. Aber Zeus schenkte ihm im Gegenzug die Gabe des "inneren Sehens". Das heisst, der Blick der Waage richtet sich von aussen wo das Licht, das Feuer, ist, nach innen (Luft und Wasser), wo sie dann abstraktere Einsichten (Luft) auch zu Liebe und Sexualität (Wasser) finden konnte, welche am Ende dann wieder draussen einen Zustand (Erde) nachhaltig verändern können.

Ich hoffe das war jetzt zumindest soweit verständlich, dass ersichtlich ist, dass sich das vielleicht eines Tages auch mathematisch formal anwenden liesse, teilweise jenseits von menschlichen Interpretationen, aber das ist im Moment immer noch Zukunftsmusik. . .

## Quellen

Oft erwähnt hatte ich *The Astrology of Fate* von Liz Greene, Weiser 1984, das auch in einer recht guten deutschen Übersetzung als *Schicksal und Astrologie* erhältlich ist, sowie ebenfalls von ihr *Star Signs for Lovers*, Stein and Day 1980, das heute neu unter dem Titel *Astrology for Lovers* erhältlich ist, und hier gibt es auch eine (allerdings unvollständige) deutsche Übersetzung, *Sag mir dein Sternzeichen und ich sage dir wie du liebst*. Später hat sie leider kaum mehr etwas zu den Sternzeichen geschrieben, ausser indirekt via Planeten, was eben, finde ich zumindest, doch nicht den ganzen Reichtum der Sternzeichen erfassen kann, vor allem nicht den ganzen Reichtum, der eben gerade im Wandel der Sternzeichen und auch in ihren gegenseitigen Beziehungen liegt.

Apuleius' *Der Goldene Esel* empfehle ich auf deutsch in der Übersetzung von Carl Fischer, dtv/Artemis 1990, und auf englisch in der Übersetzung von Robert Graves *The Golden Ass* zu lesen, oder natürlich im lateinischen Original (was ich selbst leider nicht kann).

Und natürlich einfach aus eigenen geliebten Büchern und erlebten Ereignissen etwas raussuchen, das typisch für ein Sternzeichen zu sein scheint und es dann im elementaren Modell der Wandlung der Sternzeichen spiegeln. . .

Viel Spass dabei, es würde mich sehr, sehr freuen, wenn diese Sache sich einfach von selbst schön entwickeln würde!

PS: Dieser Artikel ist im Wesentlichen an nur zwei Tagen, am 26. und 27. Juli 2016, entstanden, allerdings nachdem ich während 15 Jahren immer mal wieder in Foren und so im Internet etwas zum Thema geschrieben hatte, also durchaus aus Vielem schöpfen konnte, wobei aber auch hier wieder ganz ungeplante Einsichten spontan entstanden. . .



# Zeitzeugnisse

The German word *Zeitzeugnis* literally means “witness of time” and is used to designate historical documents or other artifacts of some potential value.

If you have ever observed an ape making and using a tool, it might not astonish you that new things emerge in ways that are often not so “straightforward”, but rather seem peculiar or even strange, in retrospect sometimes including to the author. . .

The following has also some artistic and maybe even fun qualities, so enjoy!

## SHA3-512 Hashes

But first the cryptographic hashes of the two ZIP files in which I preserved the Zeitzeugnisse, plus the same for two selected documents in one of them.

- **discoveries.zip** (<https://www.exactphilosophy.net/discoveries.zip>)  
8aca9372bd7c37fdd0c65ddc5039285c491c00f3570a78a324e1309ded5ee6fa  
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- **discoveries.pdf** (in discoveries.zip)  
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5dca437b50f9f8ce5bc7c13396a7decaa2dd0be09fc351ea4a48f1ab2271fb4c
- **review.pdf** (in discoveries.zip)  
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4e5385d70e00f4154a633752a9eb2ff32f48cf3081ec0d7f752438cb96fcf889
- **first-mentions.zip** (<https://www.exactphilosophy.net/first-mentions.zip>)  
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## Note on small text

Small text which may be hard to read for some readers has been magnified in the section “Magnified Small Text” later in this chapter. See *blue* headers on pages with small text for information on which page or pages the magnified text can be found. (Alternatively, download the documents from the links above, unzip, then open and magnify them in your favorite PDF reader.)

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# exactphilosophy.net



avantgarde

## Discoveries revisited

In 2002, I published a 29 page article titled “A few new discoveries in physics” plus a one page review on this web site. I still think that the document is an important contribution to the world and that some of its quirks should be overlooked in order not to miss the opportunities. But this is your beer.

[discoveries.zip](#)

### Contents of discoveries.zip

- discoveries.pdf – The main 29 page document, including also the May 2001 disclosure with proof of discovery in the appendix.
- more/review.pdf – My single page review of 31 March 2002.
- more/fewmore.pdf – Timeline of when I wrote which parts of discoveries.pdf (plus an earlier philosophical text).
- more/wei-chi.pdf – A usenet post from 2004 (posted to alt.test).
- more/disclosures/ – Several earlier discovery disclosures from 1998 to 2001, plus a document that shows how I published (now cryptographically somewhat outdated) proofs of discovery at the time.

# A few new discoveries in physics

Alain Stalder

May 2002

## About

This document presents a few new discoveries in physics which I have made between August 1987 and March 2001. The main text is written in the style of a scientific publication. Some appendices provide additional information and insights, including a detailed proof that the discoveries were known to me in May 2001. If you are not a scientist, you may prefer to read appendix A first.

But first a word of caution: The discoveries described in this document may be deeply disturbing because they are likely to profoundly change several common views about how the world is; read it with care and please do not hesitate to stop when it gets too much to swallow in one reading.

## Abstract

A new physical effect is described. Human brains are emotionally interconnected. The connection is directional with spin 1 symmetry and can be felt across global distances and through the earth. The exact physical nature of the effect remains unknown. Selective sensing of virtual photons, i.e. of electro- or magnetostatic forces, might be part of a future theoretical explanation.

Based on the discovered effect, a plausible explanation of phenomena like telepathy and precognition is given. It is also made plausible how astrology and other ancient mythological beliefs have persisted unconsciously until today and continue to influence our fates by means of collective emotional feedback.

The western astrological system is shown to be essentially composed of simple, opposing principles which originate from ancient greek philosophy. There are two main discoveries. Meanings associated with the star sign, different inner planets were in at birth time, influence how one relates to different classes of people. The meanings associated with star signs themselves derive from different mixtures of the four classical elements, more specifically, from meanings associated with transitions from one element to another. The discoveries are simple and specific enough to be verified quantitatively.

Finally, some fundamental scientific and philosophical problems are discussed in light of the new discoveries.

## 1 A New Physical Effect

### 1.1 The Experimental Facts

The following statements stem from my personal experience. As they have not been independently verified, I have preferred to label them with the letter H for hypothesis.

**H1** Human brains are emotionally interconnected.

**H2** The feeling between two people is maximal if people's heads face each other, face away from each other or one is facing towards the other and the other is facing away, and it is minimal in between, at  $90^\circ$  (a). If two people face each other, the feeling is maximal if the symmetry planes of their heads coincide and minimal if they are perpendicular (b).

**H3** The intensity of feeling decreases with distance (a). In some cases, it can be felt across global distances (b) and through the earth (c).

**H4** For most people the feeling is strongest if the other person is of the opposite sex (a) and especially so if one is in love with that person (b). For homosexual and bisexual people the relative strengths of feeling are different in the obvious way (c).

**H5** The feeling is mutual.

### 1.2 Analysis of the Facts

The most astonishing fact is, of course, H3c, because it effectively excludes electromagnetic waves as a physical explanation of the observed effect. For completeness, I will now show in detail that waves based on any of the four known forces in nature can be excluded.

H2 implies spin 1 symmetry, this excludes gravitation. Strong and weak interactions can also be excluded, because they are short range. Electromagnetic waves could reproduce all facts, except H3c. It is H3c that makes the effect so strange: Whatever causes it, must interact strongly with the matter in human brains and yet very weakly with any matter in between.

Suppose we have an emitter in Europe which emits photons of a wavelength  $\lambda$  with a total power  $P = 10$  mW. Suppose further that all power is emitted uniformly within a cone of  $2\alpha = 10^\circ$ . Finally, suppose that the receiver is in Australia, at a distance  $R = 12'000$  km, has a diameter of the order of  $r = 0.1$  m and is able to detect every single photon passing through it. The number of photons emitted during a time span  $\Delta t$  is

$$N = \frac{P\Delta t}{h\nu} = \lambda \frac{P\Delta t}{hc}. \quad (1)$$

Assuming, for the moment, a completely transparent planet Earth, the number of photons received is

$$N' = N \left( \frac{r}{R\alpha} \right)^2. \quad (2)$$

The minimal wavelength that allows the receiver to detect a single photon per second is then in the range of x-rays:

$$\lambda_{\min} = \frac{hc}{P\Delta t} \left( \frac{R\alpha}{r} \right)^2 = 2 \text{ nm}, \quad (3)$$

Since in reality there is absorption, the actual wavelength would have to be longer in order to get a detectable signal. The number of photons decays exponentially with distance:

$$N'' = N' e^{-R/r_0}. \quad (4)$$

Here  $r_0$  is a decay length which depends on wavelength and material. Now, even assuming an actual wavelength of as much as 2000 km, corresponding to  $N' = 10^{15}$ , in order to detect again a single photon per second, the decay length would have to be at least 350 km, a value which would even be enormous for x-rays.

### 1.3 Gedankenexperiment

Looking for different explanations, I noticed on the occasion of the total solar eclipse of August 1999 that static forces could at least qualitatively reproduce the observed effect. And it also reiterated how misleading visualization of quantum mechanical effects can be.

In quantum field theory, forces are mediated by the exchange of virtual particles. With that picture in mind, it appears strange that the moon does not shield the virtual gravitons exchanged between sun and earth in any way. According to Newton's law of gravitation, you simply sum over all mass points to calculate the total force. There is simply no shielding.

In that sense, a Faraday cage does not really shield what is inside from the rest of the world by redistributing charges on its surface, it is just so that forces add up to zero. Of course, all of this appears not to matter, since the sum of forces is all that can be measured.

But suppose there was a way to filter virtual photons, that there was a way to selectively detect some of them and to ignore all others. Then H3c would automatically be fulfilled, completely independently of any matter between the two partners. And H3b would also be quite realistic, as follows.

Using the same setup as before and assuming that one electron per carbon atom of  $m = 10$  mg of carbon is involved in the interaction on each side, the charge on each side becomes

$$Q = e \frac{N_A m}{12 \text{ g}} = 80 \text{ C}, \quad (5)$$

where  $N_A$  is Avogadro's constant. The force becomes

$$F = \frac{1}{4\pi\epsilon_0} \left( \frac{Q}{R} \right)^2 = 0.5 \text{ N}, \quad (6)$$

which would be easily detectable.

### 1.4 Experimental Challenges

Previous experiments trying to prove some kind of "telepathic" connections have remained essentially without clear results. Predictions made here, however, should be specific enough to be verified experimentally.

Here are some concrete suggestions: Take a couple of lovers as probands, not just any two people. Separate them as far as possible from any complex organic life-forms, especially from any people they know in person, like family, friends and the experimentators. I suggest a desert on the other side of the earth relative to those people. If you want to prove H3c too, put each lover separately into some place below the earth's surface, say, a mine. Make sure that family, friends, experimentators and anybody else who knows about the experiment, is asleep and facing into a direction with low interaction when the experiments take place. Keep time and place of the experiments as secret as possible.

As a side remark, let me briefly explain some basics about how experimental physicists think to people without such experience: Instead of trying to prove something as a whole, physicists typically split complex questions to nature up into several simple questions that nature is then forced to answer with yes or no, but nothing in between. Then they use these answers to find out which questions to ask next and finally to construct answers to more complex questions. I call this technique "divide and conquer". See [1] for some fun examples about this way of thinking (most directly related is maybe the section about how to conduct experiments with rats in maze, in the last chapter, "Cargo Cult Science").

## 1.5 Hypothetical Consequences

**H6** Mammals are also connected within their species (a) and with other mammal species, including humans (b).

**H7** More complex information than just an intensity can be exchanged. By definition this is telepathy.

**H8** People's connected brains form the collective unconscious, a large brain with feelings and intensions on its own (a). As it is composed of more nerve cells than a single human brain, it can have more complex thoughts and feelings than a single person (b). Collective thoughts can appear as precognition to individuals (c).

**H9** People are guided to fulfill collective intensions by collective positive feedback to actions that fit the collective purpose and by negative or no feedback to actions that do not (a). The collective unconscious still thinks largely in ancient myths (b). Ancient astrological beliefs are the major emotional force field acting on people and also on larger entities like companies or countries, just on anything that has a birth or founding date (c).

H6b would, for example, explain how dogs found their human folks who had moved hundreds of miles away to a new home. Depending on how the discovered effect comes about, the connection could also extend to smaller animals. In [2], for example, it is reported that carrier pigeons found their way home to the loft during world war one, even if the loft had been moved during the day.

Apparent precognition can be understood from the following analogy: Imagine you are in a dark room, about to switch on the light. Then you might already picture the room when it is lit, with the result that a brain cell in the part of the brain where things are visualized would precognize your action of switching on the light by a few seconds.

H7-9 are difficult to separate from certain religious experiences where people feel a higher power, hear voices, feel driven to do certain things, etc. These issues will be discussed in sections 3 and 4. Let me just make a practical remark here: The existence of a collective mind could make it more difficult to prove H1-5, since it could work actively against the experimentators. On the other hand, I could write and publish this document, so any potential collective opposition seems not to be impossible to overcome at the moment.

H8 and H9 are difficult to prove directly. However, if H9c is proven, the others are practically proven too. The next section will provide a simple and specific model of astrology which should allow to do so. Before that, let me mention that the most prominent argument against astrology, namely that due to the precession of the earth's axis somebody who is, say, born at the beginning of spring, is considered Aries by astrology, but astronomically has the sun still in the star sign of Pisces,

does not contradict H9c. It rather confirms that astrology has nothing directly to do with the stars in the sky, but rather with ancient human beliefs about them.

## 2 Elementary Astrology

This section presents a simple astrological model. Rather than trying to be complete, it is focussed on simple, specific predictions that are quantitatively measurable. The model is supposed to apply to all cultures that descend from ancient greek culture. Specifically, these are the western world, i.e. Europe and its former colonies, large parts of the former Soviet Union and the arabic world.

The model strictly separates meanings of planets from meanings of star signs. Planets determine which areas of life are influenced. The star sign, one of the planets was in at birth time, determines in which ways the corresponding area of life is influenced.

### 2.1 The Planets

**H10** Different planets influence how one is towards different categories of people: The sun<sup>1</sup> how one is as a father and towards the father (a), the moon how one is as a mother and towards the mother (b), Venus and Mars how one is towards female resp. male friends (cd), Mercury how one is towards siblings (e). More precisely, the properties associated with the star sign, one of these planets was in at birth time, influence how one likes to behave relative to people of the respective category. The terms "father" and "mother" do not only apply to physical parents, but generally to anybody assuming a parental role (f), like, for example, a teacher. Similarly, the term "friend" includes anybody of roughly the same generation who does not fall into any of the other categories (g). This specifically includes male and female lovers. The term "siblings" also more generally applies to concurrents for the same lover (h).

**H11** Jupiter and Saturn apply to areas in which one gets more resp. less help from the collective unconscious than average. This means that abilities associated with the star sign, either of these planets was in at birth time, will either be quickly and almost effortlessly available or else will have to be earned through hard work.

**H12** Uranus and Neptune apply to areas which are more resp. less easily made conscious than average.

**H13** Pluto applies to how one handles fate. In other words, one will typically use the qualities and abilities associated with the star sign, Pluto was in at birth time, to solve the problems that life poses.

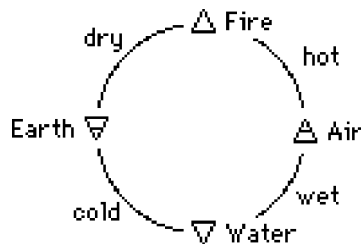
<sup>1</sup>Note that astrology is based on a geocentric view of the world. Any object, including sun and moon, that moves relative to the stars is called a planet.

Although it is common astrological knowledge to associate, say, the moon with the mother or Pluto with fate, I have not found anything as specific as H10 and H13 in the literature. Similarly, Jupiter and Saturn are generally associated with “good luck” and “bad luck”, respectively. Luck used to be understood as help by the gods, who are, at least in the minimalist view of science, indistinguishable from the collective unconscious. H12 is common astrological knowledge.

## 2.2 The Star Signs

**H14** The meanings associated with star signs are composed of ancient greek beliefs about the four elements fire, earth, air and water, and the transitions between them (a). For each element *E*, the three star signs assigned to it correspond to different stages of transition from neighbouring elements *A* via *E* to *B*: The first star sign (in the order of the zodiac) is composed mainly of *A* and only slightly of *B*, the second one of roughly equal amounts of *A* and *B*, and the third one mainly of *B* and only slightly of *A* (b).

This requires some introduction to the ancient greek theory of the elements<sup>2</sup>



The four elements are composed of two pairs of properties, “hot/cold” and “wet/dry”. Fire is hot and dry, water is cold and wet, earth is dry and cold, air is wet and hot. Transitions between the elements are only possible by flipping one of the properties at a time. For example, water can be transformed directly into its neighbouring elements earth and air, but only indirectly into fire.

The symbols for the four elements are essentially triangles, the ones for the hot elements point up, the ones for the cold elements point down. When superimposed, they form the hexagram which symbolizes the important greek view that “what is above corresponds to what is beneath”. In other words, what happens with the stars and planets in the sky corresponds to what happens to people and things on earth, what happens in the physical world corresponds to what happens in people’s psyche.

<sup>2</sup>Note that this is intended primarily to be an accurate description of today’s psychological reality and not necessarily a historically correct account of the ancient greek theory of the elements. It must also be noted that at no time in history everything was conscious to people, and not everything that was, had been written down and preserved until today.

Therefore the term “element” was not only meant to apply to physical reality, but also to psychology. In this light, the psychological meanings of hot/cold and wet/dry have to be explained.

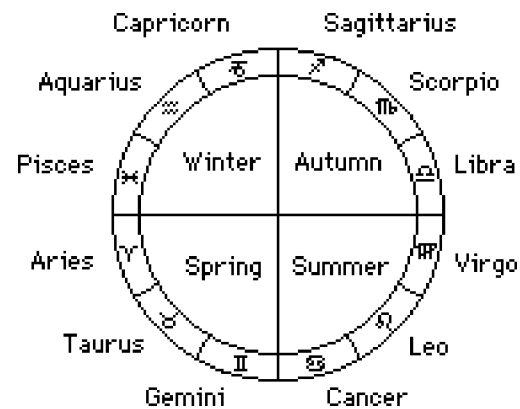
Nights are colder than days, therefore cold is associated with night. People are more active during the day than at night, therefore day is associated with active. Men typically assume a physically more active role during sex, therefore man is associated with active. In other words, water and earth are considered female elements, whereas fire and air are considered male.

The sun only shines during the day and the moon is only rarely clearly visible at daytime, therefore man is associated with sun and woman with moon. This association is strengthened by two facts: The changing apparent size of the moon reminds of pregnancy and many women have their monthly cycles correlated with the lunar cycle.

Dry and wet are associated with brittle and malleable, respectively. Dry things are harder than wet things, they either stay how they are or they break, whereas wet things can bend and flow. Here the psychological meaning is clearly recognizable.

All of this correlates well with the common astrological view that water has to do with feelings, earth with reality, fire with imagination and air with mind. More precisely, fire is about visual imagination because it produces light, whereas air is invisible and hence about abstract, logical thinking.

Finally, here is a quick overview of the Zodiac, for people who are not familiar with it.



The astrological year starts with Aries at the beginning of spring. Aries is a fire sign, Taurus an earth sign, Gemini an air sign, Cancer a water sign, and so on. The first sign of a season is called cardinal, the middle one fixed and the last one mutable. Correspondingly, each character likes to start, pull through or to finish things, respectively. These meanings will be explained in more detail later on.

### 2.3 Fire (Aries/Leo/Sagittarius)

**H15** For fire, the elements *A* and *B* mentioned in H14b are earth and air (a). The main picture is wood burning to smoke as the element earth is transformed by fire into air (b). This is associated with the transition from animal to man to god during which the animal side gets more and more wounded (c). The animal side corresponds to impatience (d), doing instead of imagining (e), secrecy (f), thrift (g), and the lower part of the body (h).

H15c comes about as follows: Earth produces plants that feed animals and people, like women produce children. Therefore the human body is associated with earth. In other words, H15b and hence H15c expresses that the physical, mortal body is wounded and, at the same time, transformed by the imaginary power of fire into knowledge that can be communicated to the next generation and thus becomes immortal.

The other hypotheses derive directly from H15c. The less one is mortal, the more time one has in general (H15d), and specifically to think before doing (H15e), the latter also because one is already mainly made of air. The more mortal one is, the more one has to keep some things secret to improve one's chances in the battle for survival against others (H15f), the more one has to make sure one has enough money and material goods to survive (H15g). The wound can be physical and then it is often in the lower part of the body, the one with the sexual organs and without the head (H15h), but more often, the wound is mainly psychological.

Note that H15b-h are not strictly logical consequences of H15a, but a priori just hypotheses for the preferred associations that people have unconsciously made and which therefore have survived by natural selection.

### 2.4 Water (Cancer/Scorpio/Pisces)

**H16** For water, the elements *A* and *B* mentioned in H14b are earth and air, too (a). The main picture is ice melting to water and then evaporating to mist (b). Associated with it is the picture of the circle of water originating from a source in the mountains, flowing as a river and then into the sea (c). This is further associated with the cycle of life, symbolized by the three fates who create, measure and end life (d). During that cycle, borders dissolve (e), one tries first to protect oneself from pain, then pays back and finally forgives (f).

The association between H16b and H16c comes from the fact that to the ancient greeks the only place where frozen water could be found all year long was in the mountains in form of snow or glaciers, where also rivers originate. Rivers then flow together into larger rivers and finally into the sea, from where the water will eventually evaporate. Through that process, water from different sources is mixed, borders are dissolved (H16e).

The three fates are three mythological women: One spins the thread of life, one measures its length and the third one cuts it. They correspond also to three phases in the life of a woman and to the phases of the moon. The phase around full moon corresponds to a pregnant woman or, in other words, to a mature, fertile woman; the phases before and after to a girl who cannot have children yet resp. to an old woman who cannot have children any more.

The associations of the three fates with H16c and H16f come about as follows: A young girl still needs protection and does not get involved with men. A mature woman does expose herself to men, but is also strong enough and ready to strike back when hurt. Also children are a mixture of their parents and hence of their ancestors.

An old woman has seen a lot, has mixed with many influences. She can therefore understand why somebody hurt her and can forgive. In addition, she is already mainly made of immortal air and can therefore not really be hurt much; the sea seems to stay forever the same even if one knows that rivers flow into it and some water evaporates from it.

### 2.5 Air (Gemini/Libra/Aquarius)

**H17** For air, the elements *A* and *B* mentioned in H14b are fire and water (a). The main picture is that of a cloud out of which come both lightning and rain (b). Associated with that is the transition from child to adult to old man (c). This is further associated with first switching between opposing principles, then trying to balance them and finally unifying them into a single entity (d). During the transition, transparency (e), constancy (f) and predictability (g) increase, whereas the ability to learn and to adapt decreases (h).

Lightning or a flame are quick and random, rain is constant and predictable (H17fg). Children are quicker and less predictable than adults. They explore the world by turning things around and looking at them quickly from different sides. They have to do so in order to build a model of the new object in their heads. The two faces of a coin, for example, are a priori just two pictures, only in the head they become a single unit, called "coin".

Through that process, as one grows older, things get more unified as more apparently separate phenomena are recognized to be just different sides of the same. As one gains more insights into the world, transparency increases. But at the same time, one also becomes less flexible to deal with new things that do not fit well into the model and is tempted to either force some things to be the same or to ignore what does not fit in.

## 2.6 Earth (Taurus/Virgo/Capricorn)

**H18** For earth, the elements *A* and *B* mentioned in H14b are fire and water, too (a). The main picture is that of a tree which needs both the light of the sun from above and the water from below to grow (b). Associated with this picture are developments during a human life during which the fear of dying becomes stronger than sexual drive (c). Structure becomes more important than beauty (d), one is forced to decide (e) and plans further ahead (f).

Trees have fruits and flowers above the earth which symbolize the beautiful but also short-lived part of nature. Note that, according to Freud [3], “beautiful” is synonymous to sexually exciting. Trees also have roots under the earth which not only feed them with water, but also keep them from falling down, thus symbolizing the limiting, structuring side of nature. Similarly, as one grows older, one is gradually confronted with the reality that all life has to end sometime as one painfully feels more and more parts of one’s own body.

Therefore the transition is between what Freud saw as the two strongest forces acting on people, namely sex and the fear of dying (H18c). In that respect, it should be noted that initially Freud’s emphasis was on sex being the main force driving people and only later in life he considered fear of death a force of comparable strength.

Thus, as one grows older and has less force to spare, it becomes more important to carefully structure and plan (H18df) and to make sure that no resources are wasted (H18e).

## 3 Applied Astrology

**H19** Ancient greek philosophy is based on language. If two objects share an adjective, there is believed to be a connection.

This hypothesis has implicitly been used to derive most of the model. Consequently, language will be used as the main key to understanding symbolic content in the world in what follows. Concretely, the model is first applied directly to the United States of America, then a number of refinements and additions are made, including detailed descriptions of the twelve star signs, and finally the model is applied to a few more real world examples.

But first, let me reiterate the initial warning: What follows may be deeply disturbing because it may profoundly change several common views about how the world is. It may also confront you with unconscious psychological wounds (traumas) within yourself, your family or your environment.

Deep seated traumas are often quite complex matters that are also possibly shared within several people. There is no general rule as to whether and when it is

better to make a trauma conscious or not. Sometimes professional assistance can be helpful, sometimes it is best to leave things unconscious.

If a statement stirs up a trauma, you will probably react quite strongly to it, refusing the statement quite imperatively. In comparison, the reaction to a statement that is just not correct would be much more indifferent. Note, however, that a statement of which you think strongly that quite the contrary is true, at least hits the right theme and is therefore less likely to have occurred merely by chance than one that leaves you indifferent.

### 3.1 The United States of America

**H20** Sun and moon have stronger astrological influence than the other planets (a), the sun has a stronger influence than the moon (b). The sun is associated with the conscious self, the moon with the unconscious self (c).

Sun and moon appear brighter and bigger than the other planets and are also the only ones that cause noticeable physical changes on earth, namely seasons and tides. H20c comes about as follows: During the day one is typically consciously awake, at night one sleeps and is therefore unconscious. Sun and moon move across the sky at approximately uniform speeds, unlike all other planets, which even move backwards sometimes<sup>3</sup>. In other words, sun and moon appear to move on their own, independently of their environment. Similarly, the word “self” is defined as the sum of all thoughts and actions that are done independently of the environment.

The USA celebrates its birthday on the 4<sup>th</sup> of July, when the sun is in the middle of Cancer.

Protection (H16f) is important to the USA. Large government agencies with billion dollar budgets have been created to protect the country. On the other hand, most people living within the USA are quite well protected from external influences. Television deals almost exclusively with internal affairs. A large percentage of members of congress do not have a passport; they have never been out of the country.

The USA is very creative, being a cardinal sign and a source (H16c). Europe, in contrast, is rather adapting and refining the new things that come from the USA. Mothers are the source of life, they create families. Sit-coms, for example, typically deal with family matters, with the emotional relations between a small number of people who live or work together. Uninvited intrusion into private property, the inside of a family, is a serious offense.

A source does not know where its water comes from, that it recycles the water of rivers from all over the world

<sup>3</sup>This apparent backward motion is, of course, just an optical illusion, due to the fact that earth and all other astronomical planets are revolving around the sun.



that had flown into the sea. Similarly, immigration into the melting pot USA largely relieves one from past burdens and prepares the ground to create new things. A map of the USA shows names originating from all over the world lying side by side; they have largely forgotten where they came from.

The declaration of independence was signed on July 4<sup>th</sup>, 1776, when the moon was in Aquarius.

The influence of the moon is less obvious (H20bc). Uniformity (H17d), for example, can be found in the fact that everybody eats turkey on Thanksgiving or that many things, like fast food, are uniformly available nationwide. In addition, US culture has globally a strong unifying effect without being enforced on other countries or at least not in an obvious, conscious way.

### 3.2 Numbers

To the ancient greeks, numbers not only denoted quantities but also had qualitative meanings (H19). The number 1 describes the initial state of the world, before it naturally split into opposing principles (2). This comes from the analogy to birth where the unit composed of mother and child becomes two individuals.

The number 3 naturally emerges when 2 different things meet, a man and woman, two substances or two thoughts. It is associated with the three fates and with birth. In addition, the number 3 is considered quite harmonic but somewhat incomplete because it is just a bit smaller than the number  $\pi$  which is related to the circle which represents perfect harmony because all its points are equal.

The number 4 is considered rather disharmonious because of the excess  $4 - \pi \approx 6/7$ . Additionally, each of the four elements can be transformed directly into its neighbouring ones, but only indirectly into the fourth. In fairy tales, for example, typically the first two sons of a king are quite like the father, but the youngest son (the 4<sup>th</sup> in the group) is quite different and yet appears to contain what is needed to solve the family's problems. In real families, the first child (no. 3) is typically much more like the parents than the second child.

The number 7 is associated with the number of planets that were known in ancient times. The number 9 is related to fate and birth because it is  $3 \times 3$ , pregnancy is 9 months and because there are nine gates to a woman whereas men only have 8. The number 12 is related to the zodiac, to the number of solar months whereas the number 13 denotes the number of lunar months per year. This list is not complete, of course.

### 3.3 Planetary Aspects

Planets carry names of gods. Hence the planets moving across the sky correspond to gods walking across it.

**H21** Meanings of aspects between planets derive from meanings associated with the corresponding number.

Planets are said to aspect each other if the angle between each other is within a certain range. The major aspects are conjunction ( $0^\circ$ ), opposition ( $180^\circ$ ), trine ( $120^\circ$ ), square ( $90^\circ$ ) and sextile ( $60^\circ$ ), corresponding to a division of the circle by 1, 2, 3, 4 and 6, respectively. Besides there are several minor aspects that astrologers consider. There is no agreement on the range (called orb) within which an aspect can be felt<sup>4</sup>.

Conjunction symbolizes a meeting of gods, the unification of their different forces towards a common goal which is given by the star sign (or signs) they are in. The leader, the planet that has advanced most in the zodiac, decides how the goal is to be achieved whereas the following planet(s) support the leader.

Opposition symbolizes a fight between two opposing principles that are defined by the involved star signs. Similarly to one of the themes of air signs (H17d) and depending on the number and kinds of planets involved on each side, the result can be anything from instant victory of one side (and hence suppression of the other) to unpredictable switching between opposites.

Trines are harmonic and hence passive, squares are disharmonic and hence force to act. A triangle made of sticks is much harder to deform than a square. When a person stands at a square ( $45^\circ$ ), one cannot tell what the person is up to and consequently is forced to turn the head. On the other hand, someone standing at a trine is clearly visible and also not standing in the way.

Sextiles are considered to be harmonic too, but less strongly so than trines and also to represent opportunity ( $6 = 3 \times 2$ ).

### 3.4 Synastry and Transits

**H22** Synastry describes the relation between two events.

Synastry consists of plotting planetary positions for two events on a single chart and then to draw relative aspects between the respective planets.

Applied to two birth charts, synastry describes how two people relate to each other. Even more than H10, it shows how relative the perception of others is because different people will aspect the same person's planets differently or even not at all.

Transits are the passing of planets in aspect to planets in one's birth chart; in other words, they are part of the synastry between oneself and now. Even though H20 suggests that sun and moon have stronger influence than

<sup>4</sup>As a starting point for experiments, I suggest to use the following orbs (by Liz Greene) which are somewhat larger than average and therefore ensure that initially no possibly existing connection is overlooked:  $\pm 10^\circ$  for conjunctions, oppositions, trines and squares;  $\pm 6^\circ$  for sextiles;  $\pm 3^\circ$  for quincunxes, semisextiles, semisquares and sesquisquares;  $\pm 1^\circ$  for quintiles and biquintiles.

other planets, slow moving planets (say, Jupiter and up) can have great effect as they transit very slowly, taking months or even years to do so.

### 3.5 Men and Women

**H23** Tendentially, women think rather unconsciously and collectively, men rather consciously and individually.

This comes from the association of men with the sun and of women with the moon. It explains why men and women often have trouble understanding each other, why they keep surprising each other.

Men have less access to the pool of unconscious information that allows women to just say how something is, but without being able to indicate a reason that men can immediately understand. Women, on the other hand, do not have full access to the special, typically quite biased world, that a man creates in his head.

There appears also to be a physiological reason for H23, as described by Freud in [3]: During puberty both men and women have to redirect their sexual desires away from themselves towards an other person. In addition, women have to stop playing with their clitoris, for several reasons. They have to make their own sexual desires partially unconscious in order to be able to build up the necessary tension between men and women. They have to get into a more passive, receiving role that is oriented towards the penis of a man. This is the reason why women are more adult than men, why women do not play, except with men resp. with their penises.

The female elements, earth and water, are heavier than the male ones, fire and air. They represent a more immediate approach to the world, based on reality and emotions. The male elements are more detached. Fire produces light and hence represents visual imagination whereas air is invisible and hence is about abstract, logical thinking.

Naturally, real people are more complex and differentiated than these opposites because they typically have planets in both male and female star signs which furthermore can aspect each other in more harmonious (female) or more active (male) ways. Ancient greek philosophy is not to be understood literally: There are male and female approaches to everything, be it baking a cake or flying a fighter jet, and the greeks were wise enough not say that one is generally better than the other.

Relations are even more complex than individuals. Synastry allows for  $10 \cdot 10 = 100$  aspects between two planets, more than twice as many as for individuals who are limited to at most  $(10 \cdot 9)/2 = 45$ .

An aspect that is often found in love couples is the quincunx ( $150^\circ$ ). Planets in quincunx are typically in star signs that share little, neither element nor sex nor character (cardinal/fixed/mutable). Quincunxes often

lead to misunderstandings. They are also associated with the fact that when sun and moon are in quincunx, one often mistakes this for an already full moon.

Like H23, quincunxes ensure that no matter how long two people have been together, there will always be surprises that keep the relationship both interesting and challenging.

### 3.6 Dreams

**H24** Dreaming is partially part of collective thinking, more so than conscious thinking.

One way to prove this would be to show that some dream elements correlate much more with the immediate future than with the past without being foreseeable by the dreaming individual (H8c).

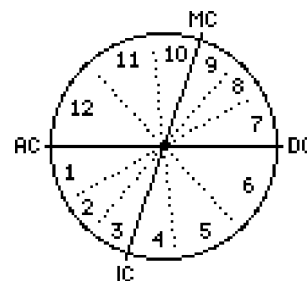
In [1], Feynman describes that he could influence his dreams to some degree. Thus one might even be actively capable to produce dreams that help to prove H24.

### 3.7 Astrological Houses

**H25** The star sign at the ascendent (AC), i.e. the sign rising above the horizon at the time of birth, is how one appears to individuals (a). The star sign at the medium coeli (MC), i.e. at the zenith, is how one appears to the public (b).

Gods see mortals from above whereas normal people are standing on the ground and see each other horizontally. The AC is also associated with the masks that actors in ancient greek theatre were wearing; it is a thin, opaque shell with a few openings.

The AC and the descendent (DC) form an axis as well as the MC and the inum coeli (IC). Together they divide the zodiac into four sectors. The most common astrological house systems<sup>5</sup> further divide each sector into three sectors to form a total of twelve houses.



Meanings associated with houses are related to but not identical to meanings associated with corresponding star signs.

<sup>5</sup>The two most common house systems are Placidus and Koch. There exist about a dozen different house systems; all divide the zodiac into twelve sectors in some way.

### 3.8 Astrological Inheritance

**H26** The moment of birth is unconsciously influenced by the wishes of all interested parties, i.e. by child, mother, father, mother's and father's family, and also by larger communities, up to home country and the world.

H8 and H9 imply that the collective unconscious is not completely homogeneous, but also composed of different entities at different scales, hence H26.

The moment of birth is influenced by the moment of conception. The earlier one determines essentially month and year of birth within a certain range (i.e. positions of sun and of Mercury to about Mars), the latter determines time of day and day of month of birth (i.e. houses and the position of the moon). Physically, mother and father have the biggest influence on the first, mother and child on the second. Emotionally, things are more complex, as follows.

Mother and child form essentially a unit, because the unborn child lives inside a world which is essentially the mother. The father is emotionally connected to both of them. He and the mother met at a given date which influences their common fate.

The larger entities are, the more diversely they can influence others. Grandparents influenced the birthdays of the parents, the home country can influence hospital regulations, and so on. Because these influences are less direct, they are typically strongest on a larger time scale (several years, i.e. mainly positions of the outer planets).

In the experience of many astrologers, the MC corresponds to the wish of the mother. In other words, the strongest coalition of parties is typically lead by the mother and sets the MC. This is somewhat understandable, as setting the MC automatically, but also somewhat superficially, fulfills one's wish for the child in the eyes of the world (H25b).

On the other hand, until only a few decades ago, astrologers have associated MC with father and IC with mother, for the following symbolic reasons. The MC is above the ground, as are the male elements, fire and air. The IC is the cusp of the 4<sup>th</sup> house and hence corresponds to Cancer and the mother whereas the 10<sup>th</sup> house corresponds to Capricorn and the father (see next subsection).

Wishes passed on to a child often contain tasks that the parents were (usually largely unconsciously) not able or not willing to solve [5]. After each birth, parents become more relieved of their psychological burdens which makes them more open to influences from larger entities on later children.

There are many different ways to fulfill the same wish. Harmony, for example, can be expressed by trines and sextiles, but also by planets in Taurus and Libra. Similarly, planets near AC and MC also influence one's outer appearance.

The given name is another way of expressing a wish for the child, as names have a history and meanings. This also applies to non-living creations like a book, a software program or a mathematical concept (who also fall under H9c). Traditionally, the last name of a child was inherited from the father whereas the first name was rather chosen by the mother.

### 3.9 Star Signs in Detail

**H27** Meanings associated with star signs are adapted to seasons. More precisely, they are adapted to meaningful activities in places on the northern hemisphere with distinct seasons (a). Star signs avoid main activities of the previous sign in the zodiac (b).

Astrology has evolved in times when people were much more dependent on nature than today. The better an astrological model was adapted to seasons, the higher were the chances for its supporters to survive. H27b stems from the fact that one typically grows tired of some activity after doing it repeatedly for some time.

**H28** Meanings associated with star signs correspond to different stages in a human life, both continuously (a) and in subsequent groups of four signs each, representing child, adult and old person, respectively (b). In the same way, star signs that come later in the zodiac are oriented towards an increasing number of people (c).

This hypothesis stems from the identification of seasons with life, because of the cycle of earth: When one dies, one falls down to the ground, eventually becomes part of it and then again part of plants, animals and human beings. Similarly, nature produces fruits every year that mostly return to earth before the next spring.

H28c derives from the fact that the older one grows, the more people one has met and, consequently, often the more engaged in larger groups one has become.

**H29** Meanings associated with star signs are related to meanings of the planets assigned to them (a) and vice-versa (b). More generally, mythology applies to meanings of planets and star signs (c). Star signs represent family themes (d).

Mythological tales that contain, say, Hermes, the greek equivalent of the roman god Mercury, apply to meanings associated with the planet and also to Gemini and Virgo, its associated star signs. Many myths express family themes like, in the case of Hermes and most specifically Gemini, sibling rivalry.

Planets have been assigned as follows: Sun and moon are assigned to Leo and Cancer, respectively, the two signs of the middle of summer. Then follows Mercury on both sides with Gemini and Virgo, until Saturn with Capricorn and Aquarius. After their discovery, Uranus, Neptune and Pluto have been assigned to Aquarius, Pisces and Scorpio, respectively. The table below shows

these assignments; names in parentheses are greek equivalents of the roman gods.

♈ Aries	♂ Mars (Ares)
♉ Taurus	♀ Venus (Aphrodite)
♊ Gemini	☿ Mercury (Hermes)
♋ Cancer	☾ Moon
♌ Leo	☼ Sun
♍ Virgo	☿ Mercury
♎ Libra	♀ Venus
♏ Scorpio	♂ Mars + ♇ Pluto (Hades)
♐ Sagittarius	♃ Jupiter (Zeus)
♑ Capricorn	♄ Saturn (Kronos)
♒ Aquarius	♃ Saturn + ♅ Uranus (Ouranos)
♓ Pisces	♃ Jupiter + ♆ Neptune (Poseidon)

**H30** Astrological axes (opposing signs in the zodiac) are associated with opposing principles.

Specific opposing principles for each of the six axes will be derived during the following detailed descriptions of the star signs.

Millions of associations with each star sign have evolved during thousands of years. Moreover, each individual picks out certain themes, modifies and extends them. It is by no means possible to reproduce the full richness here, or even only to hint at all of the most commonly found themes. All that can be given here, is an idea of the scope. Please consult some further literature, maybe starting with [4], before you draw conclusions and maybe prematurely assign guilt to yourself or to others for some events that have happened in your life.

### 3.9.1 Aries

*Male, fire (earth → air), spring, cardinal, young.*

**Seasons** At the beginning of spring, nature starts to grow again and, consequently, has to break up some existing structures. In the past, this meant also that people were no longer dependent on others, that they could finally go outside again in order to conquer food and other resources on their own.

This description fits well with the cardinality of Aries and also with several parts of H15, not only with the impatience and the drive to act, but also with the fact that Aries is not much wounded yet, that he, unlike Leo, does not have to learn much compassion with others.

In what follows, correlations will typically be less explicitly mentioned in order to improve readability, unless, of course, correlations are not easily visible.

**Life** Children live in the moment, they have little patience and little memory. Consequently, what parents tell them to do or not to do often seems unfair to them and done specifically against them. Hence children often try to keep things secret from their parents. They have to do so in order to develop their own identity, independently of their parents.

**Axes** The axis Aries-Libra is about concrete vs. abstract and about bringing off vs. into balance.

These opposites and also what unites them will be discussed in detail in the part about Libra.

**Themes** Mars is, among other things, the god of war. He represents male, aggressive, phallic energy, as also suggested by his symbol. A ram is often perceived as banging its head wildly into anything that gives resistance in order to find a weak spot. Similarly, children sometimes test their environment.

The ancient greeks have incorporated influences from older cultures into their mythology, from places like Egypt and Babylonia. The ram-headed egyptian god Amun was called the hidden one, the invisible force behind the wind. (The latter statement is related to H15 because one typically needs to blow in order to get a fire going). The mythological content associated with Amun has largely been incorporated into Zeus, the highest god of the greeks. Amun also represents the father, the creator of the world and resembles the invisible god of the old testament (more about this later).

### 3.9.2 Taurus

*Female, earth (fire → water), spring, fixed, young.*

**Seasons** In the middle of spring, nature is very beautiful and grows a lot. People no longer want to fight, but rather want to enjoy the fruits of their conquests which potentially also include a lover. And they continue the projects they started previously, with more emphasis on harmony and beauty. Note that Aries and Taurus are also related because Aries is the first fire sign, made mainly of earth, whereas Taurus is the other way round.

**Life** Children are direct, what feels good at the moment is what they want to do and very strongly so. The next moment something else may be the most important thing they want to do, but what matters is always the moment. They feel little fun when they are forced to postpone or not to do what they want; psychologically speaking, they have not had to learn much to reverse their instinctive, animal side.

**Axes** The axis Taurus-Scorpio is about beauty vs. necessity and about doing-it-yourself vs. getting someone else to do it.

**Themes** In mythology, Pasiphaë, the wife of king Minos, gets Daedalus to build a wooden cow for her so that she can unite sexually with the cretan bull. Out of this encounter emerges Minotaur, a man with a bull's head who lives in a labyrinth under the ground and feeds on human flesh.

Mythology is not to be taken literally. The following snippet does not imply that people born with, say, the sun in Taurus eat human flesh or have sex with animals.

It is also not so that only the bull is about Taurus. It is rather the whole story, including everything in it that describes some elements of Taurus: craftsmanship, sensuality, but also the fear of man of the animal within and of the opposite sign, Scorpio.

### 3.9.3 Gemini

*Male, air (fire → water), spring, mutable, young.*

**Seasons** At the end of spring, many insects are flying around from flower to flower and fertilize them. People have enough of harmony above all and want to see a few new things, want to make a few new contacts. Freud has equated culture with redirecting the sexual drive away from actual sex to other activities. That is what Gemini are starting to do.

**Life** After some time, children learn to speak. They also start to make plans and try to achieve their goals by only selectively informing their parents. In other words, they define an interface between them and their parents, a surface with only a few openings that they try to control (H17e). Children can change their mood very quickly; they can literally go from very unhappy to very happy within seconds.

**Axes** The axis Gemini-Sagittarius is about interface vs. overview and about planning vs. improvising.

**Themes** Each planet is assigned to a metal, for Mercury it is quicksilver, the only liquid metallic element (at room temperature and atmospheric pressure). Because of its fluidity, alchemists typically believed it to help transformations, like the one from lead to gold. Similarly, the beautiful butterfly evolves out of a caterpillar in spring and is quickly changing its appearance and location by moving its wings. Hermes is, among other things, the messenger of the gods; he travels quickly between heaven and earth.

### 3.9.4 Cancer

*Female, water (earth → air), summer, cardinal, young.*

**Seasons** At the beginning of summer, fruits start to grow and many plants are no longer receptive to pollination. People have collected so many influences that they are again closing some gates and privately start to interconnect the collected information in order to create new things (cf. numbers). Cancer is similar to Aries, both are cardinal and mainly made of earth; some earlier zodiacs appear to have started with Cancer.

**Life** Children need protection in order to develop their own new world in their heads until they are mature enough to face the world on their own. Children avoid pain; as said with Taurus, there has not been much reversal of instincts yet. Protection and leaning on to the

ones who protect you constitutes also a barrier that eventually will have to be overcome in order to develop into a more independent adult.

**Axes** The axis Cancer-Capricorn is about creating complexity vs. making it as simple as possible and about leaning on to structures vs. using them.

**Themes** The scarab, an important symbol in ancient Egypt, rolls a dung ball and also lays eggs within it that survive dry phases well protected by the outer shell. It symbolizes the sun rolling across the sky and also the creation of new life out of the leftovers of others; it is a symbol of the eternal cycle of life.

### 3.9.5 Leo

*Male, fire (earth → air), summer, fixed, adult.*

**Seasons** In the middle of summer, fruits grow by themselves with the power of the sun. People need not to work much nor do they need the help of others in order to survive. This gives them time to think about themselves and to do what they like.

**Life** A young adult is torn between finally enjoying his independence and the need to learn consideration for others that love him and depend on him, especially if he already has become a father. All adult signs contain such a conflict because they have to balance two elements. And they are striving towards the second element.

**Axes** The axis Leo-Aquarius is about special vs. general, about egoism vs. altruism and about timelessness vs. progress.

**Themes** In mythology, Psyche is given four tasks by Aphrodite, each representing one of the four elements. The third task consists of retrieving some water from the circular river Styx which has fiercely flowing waters and is surrounded by steep, sharp rocks. Zeus sends an eagle that flies from above into the river and gets a goblet full of water. Zeus/Jupiter is associated with Sagittarius, who has gained so much overview that he can easily solve a task that would be practically impossible to solve on the ground of reality. What Leo often does not realize is that what he is looking for is not the actual grail (earth), but its contents, a bit of eternity symbolized here by water from the circular river Styx. Similarly, the sun continuously walks across the sky in search of something special, not realizing that it already contains most of the light.

### 3.9.6 Virgo

*Female, earth (fire → water), summer, mutable, adult.*

**Seasons** At the end of summer, a good part of the harvest has to be brought in, sorted out and stocked in. It is still almost as warm and sunny as during the

previous month, but if the harvest is not brought in in time, there might not be enough provisions to survive the winter.

**Life** A young adult wants to have things her way, but also needs to respect things the way they come, especially if she is already a mother, as babies need some things exactly when their internal rhythms say so.

**Axes** The axis Virgo-Pisces is about analysis vs. synthesis and about creating vs. escaping clarity.

**Themes** The first task of Psyche consists of sorting a pile of seeds before the evening. She despairs at first, but then ants come to her help and carry the different seeds one by one to individual piles. As she has not learned yet to plan and structure the future sufficiently, it is not a bad idea for her to just start sorting things out, one by one. Sorting is also related to Mercury, because it requires to create categories, requires to split things. Another association comes from the fact that the greek word for Virgo meant “unmarried”, which encompasses more than just virgin, but rather spans between the two opposites nun and prostitute, symbolizing a woman who defines her personality primarily through herself and at most secondly through a man. There is also a strong association with the moon, through the influence of oriental moon goddesses and related to the fact that Virgo is the first mature female sign.

### 3.9.7 Libra

*Male, air (fire → water), autumn, cardinal, adult.*

**Seasons** At the beginning of autumn, there is a balance between day and night and also roughly between sunshine and rain. Now that the harvest has been brought in, people balance their provisions by trading parts of it with others. They are also tired of sorting out everything in detail and rather like to take chances (cardinal).

**Life** Adults have to learn to understand their partner and other people. But, especially in a love couple, complete transparency is often not desired because some beautiful illusions might then be destroyed too. Adults also strive for continuity, for not letting every new and exciting thing divert them from their plans, especially since adults have to solve the most complex tasks.

**Axes** The axis Aries-Libra is about concrete vs. abstract and about bringing off vs. into balance.

Aries fights from the ground up, based on concrete, immediately touchable reality. In contrast, Libra does not think in terms of real objects, but rather in terms of the categories that Virgo has created which, by definition, are abstract. Aries and Libra also affect balance the other way than expected. Stable situations are usually not completely fair and need to be shaken up in order to reach a more balanced state. Libra’s partial insights

often overlook some important details and consequently can bring things rather off balance than into it.

Opposites are two sides of the same, each side can only be defined through the other and often achieves the opposite of what it appears to want. This insight is often also helpful when dealing psychologically with opposites in a birth chart.

**Themes** The human Teiresias is asked by Zeus and his wife, Hera, to settle a dispute between them about whether men or women have more fun during sex. He answers that women have 9 times more fun than men. Hera gets furious and blinds him, Zeus rewards him with a longer life and the gift of inner vision.

Teiresias partial insight implies that women tend to experience sex rather with all of their senses, with all nine gates to their body, whereas men rather concentrate on their penis. He neglects, however, that it takes a lot to excite all senses of a woman, so that women often do not reach the maximally possible excitement. He also forgets about the second male element, fire, which is why women spend lots of time and effort in order to look attractive to men. Accordingly, Hera’s punishment was chosen to teach him how much fun life is for a man who cannot see. On the other hand, Libra is associated with Venus who is symbolized by her mirror which implies that, to some degree, the beauty of a woman is also self-sufficient, hence Zeus’ reward.

Pregnancy is nine months, i.e. Teiresias was probably also talking about the not so immediate gifts of sex that only women get, namely pregnancy, birth and a child. Each has its specific advantages and disadvantages that then again lead to deeper issues, making it impossible for Teiresias to think things to the end (if that is possible in this case at all). Similarly, women often ask their men for their opinion about issues of beauty and love, say about which dress to wear, but are then almost never fully satisfied with the given answer and not giving an answer is typically also not well received.

### 3.9.8 Scorpio

*Female, water (earth → air), autumn, fixed, adult.*

**Seasons** In the middle of autumn, trees lose their leaves and reveal their branches. People have to make sure that their provisions contain no foul parts and have to decide which animals are strong enough to make it through the winter.

**Life** In order to ensure the natural development of her child, a mother sometimes has to push a bit, to force her child to do something that is not pleasant, but necessary, and to give emotional reward to ease the transition. This process is also painful for the mother because typically each such step further separates her from her child.

**Axes** The axis Taurus-Scorpio is about beauty vs. necessity and about doing-it-yourself vs. getting someone else to do it.

Women use their beauty in order to balance the superior physical force of men and to get them to fulfill their wishes. Although both men and women depend emotionally on their lovers, mature women also have to balance their personal interests, including their desire for power, with more collective interests, as it is them who give life and who are thus also the only ones who are believed to have (unconsciously and collectively, not consciously and individually) the right to decide when to take it, within the limits of physics. This is a very difficult task and requires to find a balance between penetrating and respecting boundaries, one's own and the ones of others.

**Themes** Psyche's second task is to bring back some fleece from fierce rams that live near a river. When she gets there, she is lulled into sleep by waving reeds and when she awakes, the rams are asleep so that she can easily collect some fleece that have stuck to thorny bushes.

Women are physically less strong than men. In order to reach their goals, they eventually have to give in to a man, to break the tension and to allow themselves to lose control for some time, to later collect the fruits that have been produced by men's power. Of course, also the fierce rams, the reeds, the thorny bushes, the river, etc. describe aspects of Scorpio, as well as of Mars and Aries.

### 3.9.9 Sagittarius

*Male, fire (earth → air), autumn, mutable, old.*

**Seasons** At the end of autumn, there is not much work to do, except to make some final preparations for the winter. This includes quickly checking and improvisedly fixing all kinds of things.

**Life** Old people have gained a good overview over the world and can thus often compensate for their naturally reduced physical abilities by finding a quick and easy solution to a problem.

**Axes** The axis Gemini-Sagittarius is about interface vs. overview and about planning vs. improvising.

**Themes** While hunting, Herakles accidentally injures his friend, the centaur Chiron, with an arrow that had previously been used to kill the Hydra and hence contains deadly poison. Because Chiron is immortal, however, he cannot die and has to suffer deadly pain until, finally, he is accepted into the underworld by Zeus, in exchange for Prometheus who had stolen the secret of making fire from the gods and brought it down to earth.

Just one aspect: Like Gemini, Sagittarius deals with the unconscious, with retrieving some things from it and with bringing some things back, as the number of con-

scious thoughts remains roughly constant. Unlike Gemini, he prefers to find new paths instead of negotiating existing ones. In downtown Miami, in the middle of a small bridge, there is a sculpture of a man who shoots an arrow up into the sky while protecting his wife and their child.

### 3.9.10 Capricorn

*Female, earth (fire → water), winter, cardinal, old.*

**Seasons** At the beginning of winter, one has both to stay close to reality and to think far ahead in order to survive, because even a short period of time without heating or food can be fatal. This is also a time when seeds are planted for new things to grow in spring.

**Life** Old people see and hear less well, their bodies no longer allow them to do as many things as they want to do. They have to find other ways to achieve things, by carefully planning and using minimalist means.

**Axes** The axis Cancer-Capricorn is about creating complexity vs. making it as simple as possible and about leaning on to structures vs. using them.

Cancer likes to create new things, to expand complexity, but also needs protection whereas Capricorn rather uses existing structures and simplifies them while always keeping them functioning. He typically forces others to decide by simultaneously following different paths, so that others have to decide before an unwanted path succeeds. This procedure can be considered betrayal by some (and sometimes it is), but essentially it is realism, as follows.

Fire signs are idealistic, they typically either say the truth or say nothing at all. Earth signs, in contrast, are realistic, they know that it is sometimes better not to say the truth. Taurus does this mainly in order to increase harmony, say by not telling the truth about how much he owns in order not to make others unnecessarily jealous. Capricorn typically only lies when nobody can prove that he did, he is a master of using existing structures to his advantage. Virgo is in between.

Again, both sides of the opposite often achieve the contrary of what they appear to want: Cancer tends to support any structures that protect him (like his mother did) whereas Capricorn tends to undermine structures by purposely exploiting their gaps.

**Themes** In mythology, Kronos kills and replaces his father, Ouranos, but is himself killed later on by his son, Zeus. This shows two possible choices in life, upholding traditions and restricting oneself to them, also in order to develop one's abilities optimally due to restricted possibilities, or choosing freedom and replacing old traditions with something new. Capricorn and Cancer do both, but with differing emphasis.

### 3.9.11 Aquarius

*Male, air (fire → water), winter, fixed, old.*

**Seasons** In the middle of winter, the air is clear, nature rests and branches are cut to size. Survival depends on distributing resources equally among each other.

**Life** The older people get, the more transparently they see things, but also the more they lose the ability to learn and to adapt to new things. Their lives become periodic. This determination also allows to perform the last step in sorting and simplifying the year's harvest, namely to detect and remove the last superfluous elements (superfluous in a purely functional sense).

**Axes** The axis Leo-Aquarius is about special vs. general, about egoism vs. altruism and about timelessness vs. progress.

Just the less expected side here: Aquarius wants to give everybody equal amounts, but often also forgets so completely about himself that he does not realize that he has assumed a special role, that he has more than the others. Leo fights for his individuality and often egoistically produces timeless, special things that then other people want to have too, making them finally normal, average again.

**Themes** The titan Prometheus not only brings people fire, but also the knowledge of architecture, navigation, astronomy, and so on. His brother, Zeus, at some point wants to destroy humanity, representing the unconscious, suppressed side of Aquarius which is still jealous of what others have.

### 3.9.12 Pisces

*Female, water (earth → air), winter, mutable, old.*

**Seasons** At the end of winter nature is still hostile, but also starts to show some first signs of life again. People welcome anybody who brings food or distraction, because they want to escape the clarity and now dull equality of the previous month. People mix all kinds of influences, but also do not tie their links too closely because they want to avoid too much pain when somebody dies before the end of winter.

At the end of Pisces, everything becomes connected to everything, until finally this becomes equal to nothing being connected at all. That is when Aries starts a new year again, filled to the brim with all of the imagination that Pisces have produced. More figuratively speaking, the air that Pisces are made of finally expands to infinity, only to return bundled as the wind that is driving Aries.

**Life** Old women can understand almost everything and everybody because they have seen it before. They can and must survive by doing very little, by perfectly adapting to their environment. Furthermore, old women are well aware that any definite decision also destroys a

world of possibilities, as recognized most clearly when it comes to the ultimate decision, to ending a life.

**Axes** The axis Virgo-Pisces is about analysis vs. synthesis and about creating vs. escaping clarity.

The threads of life of people form a tree. Only women bifurcate into their children before they disappear from it. This tree resembles the tree of categories that Virgo creates by sorting the world. She untangles the threads of life, only to recombine them again into different categories. Pisces combine all kinds of different threads but mostly only loosely and evasively, recognizing that everything is related and nothing uniquely belongs together, except a mother and her child.

Virgo tries to understand by analyzing things, but typically quickly ends up in state of mind filled with many unconnected details. Pisces mix many influences, so that each of them is quickly recognized to be just a variation of the same and thus rather increases the clarity they wanted to escape.

**Themes** The mythology of Pisces is very old, going back to the phoenician goddess Atargatis and her son Ichthys, who correspond to the two fish in the sky who are connected by a ribbon, symbolizing the connection of a mother to her son which naturally weakens with time, but never completely disappears.

Pisces combine the very complex with the very simple. The computer program Eliza, an early program that tried to produce artificial intelligence, got very far with very simple means; it was essentially a mirror, like the surface of the sea. If you typed "X are Y", it would typically respond "Why do you think that X are Y?" or if you mentioned, say, your mother, it would ask you to tell it more about your family, and often it would just ask you to go on. Surprisingly, many people experienced Eliza (who they thought was a real person typing the answers) to understand them and to feel with them, something that hardly any of the much more complex computer programs of today has ever achieved.

## 3.10 Astrological Ages

**H31** Astrological ages are influenced by their assigned star sign (a) and also, but less strongly, by the opposite sign in the zodiac (b).

The earth's axis precesses with a period of about 26'000 years. Consequently, the star sign that carries the sun at the beginning of spring changes every about 2150 years. In analogy to months in a year, these astrological ages are believed to be influenced by their respective star sign. H31b is probably both belief and a natural counterreaction.

The age of Aries was roughly from 2000 BC to 0, the age of Pisces followed afterwards and is very roughly now in the process of being succeeded by the age of Aquarius.



In history, one needs to know a lot of facts in order to correctly distinguish between wish and provable reality. Hence the following will (hopefully) be based on relatively conservative and widely accepted facts; more speculative projections into the past have been avoided here, although, for a historian, these would probably be the most interesting topics. But the purpose here was to test the model on reality, and also to reveal some mechanisms behind collective wounds like the holocaust.

If you are emotionally still close to some of the events related to world war two, you may want to skip the second part of the subsection about the age of Aquarius, but note that its effect can also be healing.

Note also that the discoveries presented here have yet to be quantitatively verified and, although I think that at the very least H14b together with the four basic pictures for the elements (fire, cloud, river, tree) in conjunction with H19 is true, some associative “conclusions” that I have made may turn out to be biased or even false. Hence, please consider this before you judge things too quickly; it might be worth to let experts from different sides some time to offer their insights too.

### 3.11 The First Age

In mythology, the first age was the age of Leo, marked by the invention of fire, then came the age of Cancer where people became farmers, then the age of Gemini when written language and the wheel were invented, and then the age of Taurus, marked by the pyramids.

Although it is true that people settled during the age of Cancer, fire was invented already a lot earlier than indicated and both the wheel and written language only came into widespread use during the age of Taurus. This suggests that meanings of star signs had rather been adapted to historical knowledge at the time precession was discovered than the other way round. Hipparchus discovered precession ca. 130 BC. However, it cannot be excluded that the collective unconscious was aware of it earlier, by comparing individual observations over centuries (H8c), but this seems hard to prove or disprove.

Anyway, at least the age of Taurus shows clear signs of the axis Taurus-Scorpio. The pyramids are both man-made mountains and graves. Various different sphinx sculptures from the age of Taurus combine a human head (Aquarius) with the body of a lion or a bull and with a scorpion tail or eagle wings (Scorpio). They symbolize the four points of the compass, i.e. the cardinal cross. Minoan culture was also influenced by the axis Taurus-Scorpio (see myth about Minotaur above).

### 3.12 The Age of Aries

In mythology, Zeus founded the oracle of Delphi by letting two eagles fly, one from the west and one from the

east, into opposite directions to meet in the middle of the world, at its navel. This is a symbolic description of how the ancient greeks created a balance to Aries during the second half of the Age of Aries, as follows.

Today’s zodiac with twelve equally sized star signs has evolved out of a more archaic zodiac in which what is now Libra, was the claws of Scorpio (who still kept the stinging tail). The eagle is an ancient symbol for Scorpio, possibly because the adjacent star sign, Sagittarius, who is associated with Zeus, is a hunter who was maybe using birds for hunting in ancient times. Hence the two eagles and their wings symbolize the scale pans of Libra that emerge out of the ground of Aries.

Historically, the oracle of Delphi has been dedicated to the sun god Apollon since at least 800 BC, earlier findings indicate a cult related to the earth goddess Gaia. Around the same time, the oracle of Siwa was founded in Egypt and dedicated to Amun (later to Zeus).

The axis Aries-Libra is clearly visible in ancient greek culture. Greek mythology tells concrete stories of heroes and gods with human bodies and vices, but simultaneously also describes very abstract concepts (cf. H19). Astrology is based on a well-designed balance of opposing principles. On the other hand, these opposites correspond to immediate reality: The key opposites hot/cold and wet/dry (or soft/hard) are part of the very first experiences that a newborn child makes.

In the age of Aries, geocentric models of the world were favored, probably for two important psychological reasons: They fit the self-centricity of Aries and also produce what the greeks called the “music of the spheres”, the complex apparent interaction of the planets (gods) in the sky, a prerequisite for astrology<sup>6</sup>.

The greeks were the first to describe music by harmonies. While Aries is thinking in real space, Libra is trying to think in frequency space, in terms of recurring similar events in the world. Full periodicity is reached in crystals, and hence in Aquarius because crystals are made of equal parts and the most prominent ones known to the greeks were transparent (H17de). Accordingly, in the view of the ancient greeks, the planets moved on invisible crystal spheres.

### 3.13 The Age of Pisces

Everything that is man-made is influenced by the time people were living in (H9c). Naturally, this affects also people’s perception of religion, as it was mortals who wrote down the knowledge of the gods. However, the coloration of religion by the limited perception of people does not say anything about the existence of god or gods,

<sup>6</sup>In a heliocentric view, planets move at almost constant speeds on almost circular orbits; i.e. the beauty of the psychological correspondence of what happens in the sky to what happens on earth would essentially have been destroyed.

just as the coloration of one's own psyche by one's birth date does not prove that oneself does not exist.

The god of the old testament, a strict, invisible god that punishes or rewards immediately, was replaced around the beginning of the age of Pisces by a more gentle, forgiving god. Since the age of Pisces, he is joined in the sky by his son and the virgin mother Mary. Islamic religion shows similar traits of the axis Pisces-Virgo, with a stronger emphasis on Virgo, as follows.

Moslems pray into the direction of Mecca at definite times of the day. This reflects Virgo's attempt to create structure, to do things her way despite of outer circumstances. Similarly, moslems feast during the ninth month of their lunar calendar whereas christians feast at the end of the solar year, when food used to be rare. The Koran gives detailed practical rules about many things, including under which exact circumstances a man is allowed to divorce and remarry.

Islamic religion tries to achieve justice already in real life, before paradise. Giving to the poor and learning to cheat in order to achieve justice are considered virtues, although the latter may not be openly admitted, exactly because it is so. The first comes from the fact that at the end of summer, nature gives without expecting anything in exchange and similarly, people give away those parts of the harvest that they have in abundance and cannot preserve for the winter. The second is because, in order to stay true to herself, Virgo sometimes has to cheat, also in order to escape the often somewhat naive and inflexible visions of the previous sign, Leo. In that sense, cheating, when used wisely and with measure, can also be a means to achieve justice for a woman who is physically weaker than her man.

Today, the middle ages are typically perceived as a time where not much of importance happened. This may be somewhat misleading, as Pisces imagine a lot, but actually do little. The drawings of Leonardo da Vinci from around 1500 indicate that a lot more was collectively present than people were willing to realize. The closeness of Pisces and Virgo to the flow of nature also shows in the refined adaptation of star signs to seasons and life, and might also explain why, unlike probably during the transition Taurus-Aries, this time Aries remained the first sign of the zodiac.

The renaissance appears to have been a counterreaction to Pisces. From then on, people have started to analyze things, to open things up and look inside. Subsequently, many different branches of science have been created that have each detailed knowledge of their fields, but also lack connections to other branches of the tree.

Early scientists were sometimes accused of having made a pact with the devil. This can be understood astrophotically, too. The devil is a mixture of Pan, a god with goat feet who is hence associated with Capricorn

and forces to decide, and of Hades who is associated with Scorpio who digs deep in order to decide. In other words, the devil personifies the main fear of Pisces, namely definite knowledge, i.e. the destruction of illusions, of all other possibilities how the world could be. Faust sold his soul, the symbol for all possibilities in the human mind, to the devil in order to obtain definite knowledge about how the world is. Since Virgo is striving towards Capricorn, towards definite knowledge and structure, some link to the devil had been suspected in early scientists at the time.

The ancient greeks had no concept of good and evil. To them, the only real sin was Hybris, exaggeration relative to the will of the gods. Of course, this reflects the axis Aries-Libra, but also reveals a deeper insight into the world. The oracle of Delphi had two inscriptions: "Know yourself" and "Nothing in excess". Thus Hybris is relative to how well the individual deals with his/her limitations and with the collective forces acting on him/her, afterwards Hybris is judged collectively.

### 3.14 The Age of Aquarius

There are many different opinions about when exactly the age of Aquarius has started or will start, but nobody knows for sure. First clear signs have appeared since the 18<sup>th</sup> century, starting with the movement of enlightenment, the french and american revolutions and the discovery of Uranus.

The movement of enlightenment was called "Aufklärung" in german, which means to clear up. The light of the sun makes things clear and obvious, i.e. it makes conscious. This is the common ground of Aquarius and Leo: Both put their hopes into individuals, believing that more conscious knowledge will allow them to better plan their common and individual destinies.

The american and french revolutions of 1776 resp. 1789 realized ideas of the movement of enlightenment. They created new political systems based on individual freedom, democracy and equality before law. The influence of Virgo is also still clearly visible in these themes, and especially in the concept of separation of powers into legislature, executive and jurisdiction.

In 1781, Uranus was discovered, the closest planet to the sun that is not visible to the naked eye. The required detailed observations of the sky can be attributed to Virgo, but the invention and improvement of the telescope fits better with Aquarius-Leo, as follows.

Early telescopes magnified the light from the sky using lenses. Lenses are transparent and can be used to focus sunlight. Similarly, the two fixed male signs, Aquarius and Leo, like to focus onto a single issue, Leo also because this resembles the focus of a lion on its prey. They have complementary goals. Whereas Leo tries to

reach a holy grail, something that appears to be real, but in the end is in the world of ideas, Aquarius tries to realize an ideal, a vision about how some things in the world should be. Both create progress, although Leo sometimes rather inadvertently when his creations are adopted and thus become normal.

Uranus had been spotted several times before its conscious discovery in 1781, but, at least consciously, been mistaken for a fixed star. Hence, it might be worth to investigate more closely since when astrological influence of Uranus is provable (H8c). Neptune was discovered in 1846, after its position had been predicted from small deviations in the orbits of known planets. Pluto was discovered in 1930, after a systematic search of the sky. The details of the discoveries of these planets are very complex, including how and when they got their names.

Since the 19<sup>th</sup> century, things have continuously progressed. Industrialization has allowed to bring new inventions quickly and equally to many people. Women have obtained more equal rights and duties compared to men, different races and sexual orientations are more equally treated by law. Public schools give many people detailed conscious knowledge of the world.

The idea of a special world for children, with its own books and toys, can be related to Leo. In summer, people reconnect to their families and to nature, i.e. to the ground (earth) they came from. Thus Leo is ultimately trying to reconnect heaven and sky that had been separated when the world was created. Leo gets along well with children, old people and animals, i.e. with everybody with lesser abilities than adults.

Progress also shows in astrology itself. In the 20<sup>th</sup> century, a new method for doing relationship astrology was invented. Composite charts melt two birth charts into a single one, typically by taking the midpoint of respective planets (e.g. suns in Aries and Gemini typically give a composite sun in Taurus). Of course, the natural way to combine the fates of two things is still by the moment they met, which is the very idea behind astrology. Synastry emphasizes the relativity of people and relations, hence it might be interesting to find out when exactly it became popular.

Because the three new planets are invisible, they are considered collective planets; i.e. they not only apply to individual fate but also to collective fate. In that sense, Pluto is believed to be what is missing in the world at the time of birth. Now, between 1914 and 1938, Pluto was in Cancer which suggests some relation to global events at that time in which protection was apparently lacking. In 1977, a small piece of matter was discovered that orbits between the orbits of Saturn and Uranus and thus connects collective and individual planets. Since scientists were also not sure whether it is a comet or an asteroid, they chose the name Chiron (the centaur mentioned in

the description of Sagittarius). Psychologically, Chiron is intended to provide a balance to Pluto, to heal rather than to penetrate boundaries and to heal the wounds of the holocaust.

This leads to some deeper and darker sides of the new age. During the 20<sup>th</sup> century, different political systems related to the new age have been painfully tried out. Communism and fascism put the collective clearly above the individual. This led to police states that tried to make every citizen's life totally transparent and to mass propaganda with omnipresent pictures of only a few individuals and symbols. People that did not fit in were focussed in concentration camps or gulags and either killed or let to die there. Early capitalism represents the other extreme. It made just a few people very rich and many people very poor.

All three political systems missed the ideal of the new age, namely to give everybody a high common (and guaranteed) standard of life without removing the individual opportunity to achieve and keep something in life. Today's political systems are closer to this ideal, but also need to be actively kept in balance.

Jews are still strongly influenced by the age of Aries; this has linked their fates strongly to the new age. After the revolutions at the end of the 18<sup>th</sup> century, Jews have gradually been integrated more into society, have been allowed to go to universities and to participate in political life. Naturally, they have started to contribute to society and also to do what Aries always does after the end of winter, namely to realize the things that Pisces had dreamed up during winter. Freud (and Jung) discovered the unconscious, Einstein the theory of relativity. Even Marx (and Engels) had perfectly noble motives when they invented communism.

But Aquarius is not Aries, he likes progress but he also hates disorder. In that sense, collective unconscious counterreactions, also of jealousy, within the people living at that time have probably helped fascism to get to power to some degree.

Freud discovered that even small and unconscious feelings of guilt can lead to psychological problems. For example, somebody who cared for and nurtured a close older person for a long time, will, of course, mainly be sad when that person dies, but subliminally also be relieved. Subliminally, there may have been more archaic feelings (typically in the percent range) that were wishing for the person to die so that oneself regains freedom again. Clearly, this can lead to feelings of guilt.

Similarly, although very clearly the guilt for killing millions of people lies primarily within the people who killed millions of people, and not with the ones killed, some feelings of guilt may prevail because maybe Jews were a bit too carelessly eager to change things. On the other hand, Aries is almost by definition Hybris and no

single person is fully able to judge what was actually Hybris and what was not, and yet every single person has to consider his or her actions in order to reduce the chance for something like the holocaust to happen again. It must also be noted that jews were only trying to realize things that had been collectively dreamed up previously, maybe already since Leonardo da Vinci.

According to an anecdote, the swastica symbol of the nazis was designed by a certain Dr. Kron and presented to Hitler who decided to change the direction in which it rotates. Superficially, this shows the dilemma of the dictator who is supposed to be superior in everything, but in reality is not, and hence chose the only possible change to the design that would not mess it up. But symbolically, the meaning goes considerably deeper.

The cross is an ancient symbol for the tree and hence for the element earth. The swastica variant seems to have appeared quite independently world-wide in different cultures, which is understandable as one of its origins is the apparent motion of stars around the north pole in the sky, which looks as follows today:



Around 3000 BC, not long after the invention of the pottery wheel and the chariot by the sumerians, the polar star was Thuban in the constellation of Draco and it was circled by the two stellar chariots Ursa Major and Minor. Hence the swastica symbolizes time and progress, also related to the invention of the wheel. Since rotation can produce fire by friction, it is also seen as a sun wheel, similar to the sun ball that Atum was pushing across the sky in ancient egyptian mythology.

Now, the name "Kron" derives from Kronos/Saturn who also gave the chronometer its name, i.e. the fact that Hitler reversed direction shows both the reactionary nature of fascism that wanted to turn back time and the artificiality of Aquarius compared to Capricorn who also forces to decide, but leaves nature free choice in which way to decide. Similarly, the vision of the Übermensch with blue eyes (Aquarius) and blond hair (Leo) fits the new age, but the name "Arier" is also related to Aries, i.e. in several senses the nazis simultaneously tried to destroy what they wanted to restore and vice-versa, using the very means of the new age.

Relations between perpetrator and victim are never completely black and white. There exist always weaker and subliminal (but juridically rightfully not relevant) drives in the perpetrator to heal and in the victim to suffer. To some degree, jews were maybe willing to suf-

fer just in order to be part of society. There appear to have been several astrological influences that have further increased this, like this basic one: Germany goes back to the coronation of Charles the Great to emperor of the roman empire (later of german nation) at christmas in the year 800 by the pope in Rome. Later founding dates have reiterated a relation of Germany to Saturn, the planet that gave its name to Saturday, the day when the fire of Aries is not allowed to burn.

Both Leo and Aquarius are emotionally quite distant to actual people, they mainly see themselves as individuals and others more in general terms. Accordingly, their focus on founding Israel, although in global terms probably a good idea, also lacked compassion with the other people, Palestinians, who had been living there for quite some time; this has to be considered too.

Aquarius has a tendency to neglect quality for equality, to go too quickly for a simple solution that in the end does not really satisfy anybody. Cloning is probably such an example, or newly emerging cults that force people by mental terror to make everything conscious, or people who think that they can live from light alone and will never have to die if they do not want to, like an old man. The new age has lots of good sides, but it is everybody's responsibility not to let its darker, limited side win too much.

Finally, one has to be careful not to confound the weather with the climate. As I am writing this, there are two collective planets, Uranus and Neptune, in Aquarius and the generation with Pluto in Leo is in power. Thus, political correctness, for example, is probably not solely related to the age of Aquarius.

### 3.15 Mythology in Life

In [1], Richard Feynman describes how he traveled by car from the Los Alamos research facility where the atomic bomb was built to the hospital where his wife, Arlene, was about to die from tuberculosis. On the way to the hospital, he picked up a couple of hitchhikers who turned out to be very helpful because the car had three broken tires on the way to the hospital and the hitchhikers at least once explained the situation to the guy at a garage so that he would fix the car quickly, something that Feynman himself would not have dared to ask for. Later on, after his wife had died at the hospital, he noticed that her watch had stopped ticking, still showing the time of death. He noticed quickly why this was so: The nurse had to pick up the watch to read the time of death in order to note it down, and the watch was a delicate digital watch that would stop easily. Feynman describes that he was astonished that he was not very sad at the moment and still thinking about such things; the realization came at a later time when he saw a dress

in the window of a shop of which he thought that Arlene would have liked it.

There is a touch of Gemini in Feynman's initial reaction to the death of his wife; I have that in me too. It is some maybe extreme form of diverting feelings from the actual events to culture, to making something better out of it (see previous part about Gemini). Hermes, the god associated with Gemini, is also often the one who accompanies people down into the underworld and back up. He is the one who does all the diplomatic negotiations with the creatures of the underworld. In this story, Hermes is symbolized by the two hitchhikers (travelers) who do the talking with the guy at the garage. In Sumerian mythology, it was two sexless beings that were not susceptible to the powers of the great mother who rules the underworld who rescued Inanna from it.

The thing with the watch that had stopped to tick illustrates that fate can stay perfectly within the laws of physics and still achieve to mend events that are unavoidable. This is what Pisces do, they bring together different threads of fate and combine them into something meaningful that elevates the death of a person to something higher.

On the way back, the car had another broken tire. The first three broken tires symbolize fate, the fourth closes the circle and starts something new. Not everything in life shows such clear symbolic meaning, but everything of emotional importance clearly does.

The above has been written on the evening of 30 September, 2001 during less than one hour, starting at about 9 pm. Some factual precisions: The two hitchhikers helped to fix the first broken tire and talked to the guy at a gas station (not a garage) for the second one. After the third broken tire, Feynman had to hitchhike to the hospital. What I called a watch, was actually a clock (details see [1]).

About a month later, I wrote an experimental essay that was intended to maybe follow here. Since the first part of it still feels quite good and appears to reveal more and deeper relations than I consciously expected, I would like to reproduce it here:

The deep, dark secrets of the world are guarded by the heavier elements, i.e. collectively and unconsciously by the female side in both women and men, which also decides about life and death (within the limits of physics). Consequently, such issues should not be approached without the necessary respect. As man, I am naturally limited in this respect. All I can give you, is maybe a few general tips and insights which I have written during autumn, the season that contains the two older adult signs who have the unthankful task to decide.

The fourth task of Psyche consists of retrieving a box of ointments from the underworld. She has to take two coins and two barley cakes down there, to pay the ferryman Charon for the ride across the river Styx and to divert the guardian dog Cerberus, both on the way down and up. In the underworld, an old woman begs her for one of the cakes and a beggar asks for a coin, but she is not allowed to let herself be diverted from the plan if she wants to make it back up to the surface.

This shows, of course, Libra's strive for continuity and consciousness. Gemini can go in and out of the unconscious very quickly and easily, but they retrieve little from it; when they are inside, they look out and vice-versa. Retrieving something from the unconscious has to be done very carefully and one is not allowed to go as deep as one could, as one would then no longer be able to find the way back.

In [5], a situation from ancient Egypt is described, between the "land of the living and the kingdom of the dead". In the center of the hall stood Maat, the goddess of truth, ready to weigh the heart of the deceased in a large scale. Forty-two judges, some with animal heads, sat around the hall listening to the soul of the deceased who had to tell them about every bad thing that he did *not* do. If the sins outweighed the heart of the deceased, it was devoured by the monster Amemait, a mixture of crocodile, hippopotamus and lion.

The world reflects in the most unexpected places: In [6], the computer "Deep Thought" calculates the answer to life, the universe and everything to be 42. Now,  $42 = 2 \times 3 \times 7 = 6 \times 7$ . It spans all seven planets resp. gods, giving each of them all six possible opportunities (axes), also since the number three which means fate, i.e. the opposite of opportunity, becomes six when each fate is given an opposite.

## Hermes

Hermes leaves the cave in which he was born twice on the day of his birth. The first time, he leaves during daytime, quickly finds a tortoise and fabricates a lyre out of its shell. The second time, he leaves at dusk, travels far and steals some cattle from the sun god Apollon by walking backwards as to trick out any prosecutors. Back at the cave, he kills two of the cattle and prepares 12 equally sized offerings to the gods and then eats one of them. After some time, Apollon manages to trace Hermes down and takes him up to mount Olympus in order for Zeus to judge the matter. Although Apollon is angry at first, after hearing Hermes play the lyre, he happily trades the cattle for the lyre and quickly learns to make more beautiful music than Hermes ever did.

This describes the relation between sun and Mercury. Mercury, as the closest planet to the sun, never travels farther away from the sun than into the next or previous star sign. In other words, Hermes went first forward into the next sign to get the lyre, then back to kill two of the cattle, in order to end the age of Taurus and to redivide the zodiac into twelve equally sized parts. Apollon, who is also related to Leo, is not as flexible as Hermes and hence needed a bit longer to realize that the old age had ended and the new one had beautiful things to offer, too.

Erwin Schrödinger once suggested that the conscious mind is where new things are learned. Learning to play a new instrument, like a lyre, requires at first a lot of conscious work until it becomes automatic (i.e. unconscious) again and one can again fully enjoy making music and forgets about the previous efforts.

In the myth, Zeus, who is associated with Sagittarius, complements the natural process of making some things conscious and letting others sink back into unconsciousness. After all, people had been making music a long time before there were instruments, using their own voices, not knowing that the human voice itself is made by oscillating strings too, namely by the vocal cords. In other words, even though the Greeks had discovered how to describe music analytically in terms of individual frequencies, after a while things turned out to be not so new, but rather variations of something that had existed all along, as it almost always is.

In retrospect, the unified view of the new effect presented in section one split into only a few simple opposites in section two. Combining these elements in section three has both analyzed and resynthesized the world, although in a simpler and more conscious way. Thus I

hope that the following section (4) will do the rest to close the circle and also to create a few new possibilities about how the world can be — returning also to physics and philosophy, starting with two questions that I have first asked myself between 1993 and 1995.

## 4 Science and Philosophy

**Q1** Are quantum mechanical correlations mediated by virtual particles behind the scenes? Since virtual particles can “fly” faster than at the speed of light, this would mean that behind the scenes everything is connected to everything that is, was and will be.

**Q2** Consequently, does the result of a quantum mechanical measurement come about by summing over all virtual particles in some way? Does this mean in some sense that reality is just a matter of will?

Of course, these questions do not qualify as scientific hypotheses because they are not specific enough to be verified experimentally. For that, one would have to be more specific about the expressions “mediated” and “in some way”. Anyway, I will now provide some thoughts that might help other people turn these questions into hypotheses or maybe lead to completely different things.

The material world is not literally made of fire, air, water and earth. But maybe this more abstract formulation is of some use in some circumstances:

- ① (fire) individual imagination
- ② (air) logical consequences
- ③ (water) collective wishes
- ④ (earth) reality

Many things can be psychologically associated with the elements, like the five senses<sup>(1)</sup> or the four seasons<sup>(2)</sup> (see numbered references at the end of this section). But, recursively speaking, that would again be ③ and not ④. Scientific theories are ② based on ④, whereas psychological astrology tries to be ③, but usually also contains some ①. The notion that “the fourth is different” fits with the fact that reality is often different from both individual and collective wishes and sometimes also from what science predicts. Time is treated differently, but similarly, to space in relativistic theories. Gravitation, one of the four known forces in nature, is intertwined with space-time, has no negative charge (mass), is the least understood force and yet is what is pulling everything on this planet down to earth ④.

On the other hand, there are only three families of quarks and leptons, not four. If you toss four coins, there is a 12.5% chance of having four equal faces, a 37.5% chance of having two pairs, and a 50% chance of having 3 + 1, i.e. the chance that the fourth is different is really higher than any other combination.

In a two-slit experiment, if one looks ①<sup>(1)</sup> where the electrons are going, they are localized particles ④, but if one just thinks ② what they will do, they behave like waves ③ until one finally measures on the screen behind the slits.

Niels Bohr had the sun in Libra. This fits the abstract nature of quantum mechanics that somehow seems not to be totally transparent, the balanced duality between particle and wave that is not totally resolved. Einstein had the sun in Pisces, where everything is connected and hence becomes relative. Virtual particles with “speeds” larger than the speed of light are particle or anti-particle depending on the observer. It seems that one has either to choose the dry pair fire-earth in which case the world requires connections that are faster than the speed of light, or the wet pair air-water where locality is preserved at the cost of visualization.

The Gedankenexperiment of section 2 suggests that if two people come as close as 10 cm, forces between them could become as large as  $10^{16}$  N, or if forces were only 1 N, at 12'000 km a force of  $10^{-7}$  nN would have to be detected. In other words, apparently the Gedankenexperiment is either not compatible with reality or forces are very adaptive. Let me consider the second case, just for a few lines of speculation. It has an organic quality. A twin earth orbiting Alpha Centauri would roughly feel the same force between 5 billion people on each side than between two people on opposite sides of the earth, i.e. with a little more matter, connections could be felt. Let me push the envelope even further, assuming that not only organic matter is involved. Then the earth could feel all the planets, in which case, for example, influence of Uranus, Neptune and Pluto would presumably be visible in history before their discoveries, i.e. this would be verifiable to some degree. Maybe the volcano eruption of Santorini that led to the demise of minoan culture, with a symbolic meaning that would fit the age of Aries, was no coincidence, maybe the earthquake in Turkey after the total solar eclipse of summer 1999 was an emotional reaction of earth.

Pushing it even a little bit further, if the universe was alive, where would the DNA be if not in the position and properties of the stars. Do physical properties of planets match their symbolic meanings? Venus is very hot and has a high pressure on its surface, but on the other hand, one could land on it without a parachute if one was able to withstand the heat and the pressure. Jupiter really protects the earth by catching all kinds of objects that would otherwise hit the earth.

Probably it is not that easy, it is unlikely that the planets care about greek mythology. But maybe a more symbolic and associative look into the sky could really bring some new insights, there is nothing to lose by doing so, as long as one clearly distinguishes hypotheses and

speculation from verified facts. Maybe, in the end, reality is not all male in the sense “me here, stars there”, but also a bit female “me and the stars are one”. Of course, these differences come about because women can directly identify with their mothers who were the world before birth. For men, identification is more difficult, because the father is a more abstract concept; at first the father seems to be a stranger that also happens to live in the same house<sup>(3)</sup>, only later common roots are discovered.

In a scene where a handsome man is kissing a beautiful woman, the man might rather think “hey, I would like to kiss that girl”, whereas a woman might rather think about how it would be to be kissed by that man.

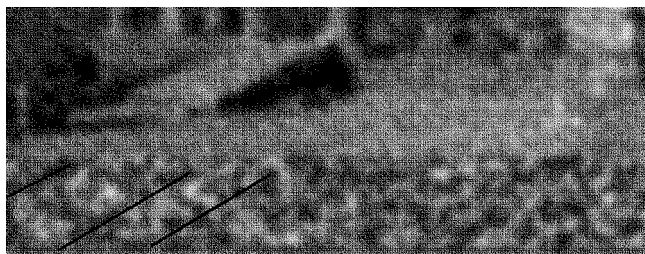
When you are born, there is first “me”. Then you realize that there is you and the things you see, that you see more than one thing; that is space. The things you see change; that is time. Depending on how you want what you see to change, things will change differently. That was some essence from Kant and Schopenhauer.

You are sometimes hungry, some things hurt, you can feel emotional feedback to what you are doing; you have a body, there is an outside world, and other people exist.

In other words, “me and the stars are one” is probably a bit exaggerated, but of course, this is not provable in a strict sense, it is to some degree only the assumption that almost everybody makes.

Pythagoras had the idea to represent the world by numbers; this is still the basic idea behind exact science. Turning the world into a finite number of bits has also some disadvantages: It is not sure that nothing crucial is lost during the process. The measurement process itself cannot be described scientifically, simply because there are no numbers yet. Even in this simplified world ②, elementary things, like that mathematics is free of contradictions, cannot be proven mathematically. (Ironically, this has been mathematically proven).

Calculating astrological influences of everybody and every event on everybody’s lives appears not to scale well with a classical computer that flips discrete bits. Hence the collective unconscious ③ might think quantum mechanically, by superimposing waves. The screen shot of Delphi 2.00 on page 29 appears to show lines in the concatenated signature that involved MD5 and SHA-1 hashes, as well as RSA, thus enhancing the beauty and harmony of a picture corresponding to a document that was written when the sun was in Taurus<sup>(4)</sup>:



The proposed order of the elements suggests that individual wishes are smaller than collective ones and also than reality. In other words, the world is mostly discovered and not invented, and individuals are free to some degree, but limited in others. Of course, this is nothing new, nobody can walk through walls or fly up into the sky without additional devices. In that sense, collective astrological forces are just another set of restrictions that mostly influence how and when one can best do something, but usually not what.

In 1336, Petrarca ascended mount Ventoux, an event that arguably marked the beginning of the renaissance, and of things that followed, like the reformation (Jan Hus died in 1415) and discoveries of new continents. The story Petrarca tells, reminds me of the myth of Hermes and Apollon, including even an old shepherd that tells Petrarca, his younger brother, and their two servants, that it is not worth to ascend the mountain.

When Petrarca looked down from the mountain, his thoughts went back to Hannibal who had fought his way across the Alps, “bursting the rocks, if we may believe the report, by the application of vinegar”<sup>(5)</sup>. The word “romantic” derives from Rome, a city that was founded by twin brothers. Mercury is only visible in the sky close to sunrise or sunset, i.e. change is romantic.

The roman empire appears to have had a special role in starting the age of Pisces. Carthago was destroyed in 146 BC, around the time when Hipparchus lived and shortly before the first star of the constellation of Pisces,  $\alpha$  Pisces, passed the spring equinox in ca. 103 BC. This star is also called Alrisha (node), because it connects the two fish in the middle of a stellar umbilical cord that connects mother and child and which is cut at the moment of birth, when there is the first cry and the time of birth is noted down. Assuming that an abstract cycle, detached from actual stars, started then, the age of Pisces would end around 2044, but since the transition of ages appears to be quite gradual, this is likely to have little direct influence on individual lives.

History still has many secrets. The end of the last ice age correlates with the mythological start of the age of Leo. It appears that the egyptians did not purposely build the three pyramids in Gizeh to look like the belt of Orion<sup>(6)</sup>, but on the other hand, it appears unlikely that no collective purpose would show in these huge monuments. Orion is situated close to Taurus in the sky and opposite to Scorpio, like the scorpion that Orion was fighting in greek mythology. The romans built the Via Julia/Augustus which allowed them to cross the Alps more easily than Hannibal, leading the path to the conquests of France and England. The invention of hay (or a least its refined use) appears to have helped civilization to penetrate into regions with cold winters where horses find no green grass in winter<sup>(7)</sup>.

Are there decans, grand moon phases, that divide the age of Pisces into three parts, maybe first influenced still by Aries, then exclusively by Pisces and finally by Pisces and Aquarius ? The above estimations would put the transitions around 612 and 1328, i.e. close to the Hegira of 622 and to Petrarca's ascent of mount Ventoux.

There are millions of possible associations that can be made. Especially my generation with Pluto in Virgo runs some risk to overload the brain in too many details. I once heard the story of an american who traveled to Italy for the first time in her life. She liked the renaissance very much and overloaded her brain so much during her stay that she had a breakdown and took at least months to recover. So, please take care.

Analytical thinking ② is limited just like a classical computer. It cannot fully replace going by gut feeling or intuition, especially since in key moments of life, one often has little time to analyze everything consciously. But previous analysis that has become largely automatic again is more immediately available (also collectively), so learning some astrology can help.

Not everybody will have to learn astrology deeply. In many respects, it may remain a branch of psychology or of medicine. In other words, you might learn some basic astrology in school in the future, but rather visit an expert when something bothers you. In that sense, it may also be conceivable to keep day of month and time of day of birth secret from employer and government, to the same extent that medical records are kept secret.

I have Saturn at the end of Pisces, which leads me to try to build the whole world from the ground up, with minimal means, brick by brick. I have the sun in Leo and the moon in Aries, so this document may be closer to reality than to imagination. I have Uranus leading in conjunction with Pluto in Virgo, which makes me handle fate by conscious analysis, but, since I also have Neptune in Scorpio, getting an absolute feeling of magnitudes and going to the bottom of things tend to escape me.

I took over from the generation with Pluto in Leo who created psychological astrology by combining the works of Jung with astrology and mythology. This harvest reached me in condensed form in [4, 5], but of course there were many more people of that generation who either contributed directly or indirectly to it. I hope they will not feel betrayed by this analysis (except maybe initially a little bit) and also that this document provides a good starting point for things to come.

It takes a child only a handful of questions to bring a parent to the edge of his or her knowledge. Even highly specialized scientists can only maybe add another handful of answers in a particular direction before having either to end the causal chain in something that nobody knows whether it is true or not, or by using the trick to go in a circle, like everybody else.

This concludes this somewhat improvised section 4, and also almost this document. In many respects, what I have written may resemble the first report of the discoverer of a new continent. I may have misinterpreted some of the things that I saw and maybe even inadvertently invented some others, but probably quite a few things will be interesting enough for a closer look.

I promised to say something about religion. Here is my opinion: Science can only really tell you something about *how* something works but not *why*. In other words, it only provides the immediate reason for something but not the ultimate one. For example, if what I have written about in previous sections is true, then probably some scientists will tell you that there is no god, that what you are experiencing as god is only the other people who believe in god. Even though this may be the correct immediate answer, it does not tell you why you can feel other people. Who or what made the world such that you can feel other people ? And why ?

In my opinion, these questions are ultimately of a personal nature, that everybody has to find the best answer for him- or herself.

(1) The relation between numbers and elements is most easily seen from meanings of aspects. Fire is about (unified) vision, air about abstract opposites, water about fate and harmony. A cross, the abstract symbol for the tree (earth), is created by drawing the diagonals of a square. The visual world is seen with the eyes, spoken language and music are heard with two ears that are on opposite sides of the head. Two nostrils and a tongue help to distinguish what is good from what is bad for us, reality is mostly touched with two hands and two feet.

(2) Different philosophers have always had different opinions about how the world is. Aristotle, for example, has associated seasons with elements as follows: Spring is wet and hot (air), getting dry in summer (fire), cold in autumn (earth), wet in winter (water), and hot again in spring. The apparently wet winters in places where astrology emerged still show in the winter signs, namely goat fish (Capricorn), water bearer (Aquarius) and fishes. The order ①-②-③-④ fits better with the colder and harder winters of central Europe.

(3) Meanings of astrological houses escape me in detail. Let me use this problem to present my tools explicitly: Freud's trick to take words literally is often useful: A house can be the home you grow up, the school you go to, the place you work. So maybe houses go from womb to universe. In that sense houses might also define a realm of influence. Liz Greene starts with the latin word "templum" (in *The Astrological Neptune and the Quest for Redemption*, Red Wheel/Weiser (2000)) and then compares astrological houses to ancient temples that are essentially empty, except for the statue of the god they contain. Astrological houses can contain different planets, in different relations. The internet allows to quickly find all kinds of associations that people have made with a particular subject. In astrology, no association is wrong as long as at least one person is making it. It is only so that relative strengths of associations vary with place and time.

(4) Maybe these six or seven lines are just optical illusions, I have not made a numerical analysis. If you do, it might also be worth to take the way the brain processes images into account because what counts in the end is what people register in their brains, not so much what triggers perception in the image. One more thing, just for fun: Would Twofish likely be a symmetric cipher that is resistant to analysis by a quantum computer ?

(5) James Harvey Robinson, ed. and trans. *Petrarch: The First Modern Scholar and Man of Letters*. G. P. Putnam. New York (1898).

(6) The similarity between the three pyramids in Gizeh and the three stars of the belt of Orion was first noticed by Robert Bauval (*The Orion Mystery*, Crown Pub (1995)). Further proposed correlations appear at least not very convincing: Two pyramids nearby do not coincide with other stars in the constellation, the milky way and the Nile have largely different distances in relation to the three respective spots (J. Legon, *The Orion Correlation and Air-Shaft Theories*,



Discussions in *Egyptology* **33** (1995), 45-56). This suggests that the ancient Egyptians were not consciously aware of a correlation between the positions of the pyramids and Orion. Collectively, this may have been different. Maybe some events forced people to make the third pyramid smaller, maybe they did not start building it from the middle but almost from some corner, maybe that is why it is not aligned with the other two. The above sentence is not based on any historical facts whatsoever, it is just intended to illustrate how connections at a larger scale can come about from apparently unconnected smaller events.

(7) The physicist Freeman Dyson once suggested that the invention of hay helped culture to advance into colder places and hence to found cities like Paris or London (Edge 48 (1999)). A critical review says that Cicero was already using the word “faenum” for hay, i.e. the Romans apparently already knew about hay (Statistical Assessment Service Newsletter (February 1999)). Symbolically, an invention that was not made, but apparently refined and put to use during the age of Pisces, fits even better with Pisces, and Cicero lived between 106 BC and 34 BC, i.e. during the proposed transition between ages.

## Acknowledgements

Most of my knowledge about astrology comes from two books by Liz Greene [4, 5] and from a few seminars by her between November 1999 and February 2001. The two books may not be very analytical, but what she writes agrees very well with the model I have presented here; experiment will show whether nature agrees with it too.

Generally, I find it hard to attach names to the influences that have led to this document, as I do not know where my ideas come from for sure. I typically first feel what is correct and only later manage to analyze consciously and to base my statements on facts.

There were certainly several women who have influenced my thinking, mostly without being conscious of it. And if my horoscope is correct, there should also have been quite a large collective influence on me. In that sense I would simply like to thank anybody who contributed in any way, be it consciously or unconsciously.

Finally, here is a less analytical, improvised acknowledgement:

*All said, the reader often seems to unconsciously, beadfully frown right on mere security; intuitively, mindful of niobic, aquaintant wiring of really long drops, brought yet putting a vane link, illusive, nearly adept. (21 April 2001, 15:23, 15 min, snow outside)*

## References

- [1] Richard P. Feynman. *Surely you're joking, Mr. Feynman!*. Bantam Books (1985).
- [2] Rupert Sheldrake. *Seven Experiments That Could Change the World*. Riverhead Books (1996).
- [3] Sigmund Freud. *Drei Abhandlungen zur Sexualtheorie*. Fischer (1991).
- [4] Liz Greene. *Star Signs for Lovers*. Stein and Day (1980).
- [5] Liz Greene. *The Astrology of Fate*. Samuel Weiser (1984).

[6] Douglas Adams. *The Hitchhiker's Guide to the Galaxy*. Serious Productions (1979).

[7] Stanisław Lem. *Solaris*. Harvest (1987).

## Appendices

### A How it came about

In the summer of 1987, I discovered that I could feel the woman I love even if she is far away from me. I noticed that I could feel her more strongly if I looked into the direction in which she was and also that as soon as she laid down, I would feel her more strongly if I put my head into a horizontal position. But the most astonishing fact was that I could feel her through large amounts of matter, which seemed impossible by known physics.

In 1998, through some special circumstances, I had the fundamental idea how it could be that astrology has some truth to it, namely that people are unconsciously connected by the same effect which allowed me to feel the woman I love. In that sense, astrology has nothing immediately to do with the stars in the sky, but mainly with ancient collective and unconscious beliefs about them.

But it was not until February 2001, after three years of analyzing astrology, that I discovered that astrology has essentially quite a simple structure which goes back to ancient Greek philosophy and especially the ancient Greek view of a world composed of four elements: fire, earth, air and water. This discovery should make it finally possible to make astrology, psychology and culture, in general, much more accessible to exact science, and also vice-versa.

I have not been able to find out what the physical effect is that makes me feel the woman I love. The only clue I have, appeared to me on the occasion of the solar eclipse of August 1999, namely that the moon does not shield the gravitational force between sun and earth in any way. (That this is so has been known since Newton, but in light of the picture that many physicists have of forces as the exchange of virtual particles, that fact was not immediately obvious to me). That fact is at least qualitatively similar to the effect I can feel.

### B Proof of Discovery

Discovery Disclosures by Alain Stalder  
Collated in May 2001

Discovery Disclosure (January 1998)

#### 1. Experimental Facts

I can clearly feel the woman I love if I point my head into her direction.  
When I look into the opposite direction, I can feel her too, but differently.

The feeling is polarized, the polarization planes are the symmetry planes of our heads. If we look at each other and the planes coincide, the feeling is maximal. It is minimal if the planes are perpendicular. I can feel when she is moving and can distinguish between coming and leaving. I can tell roughly how fast she is moving. The feeling is weaker the farther she is away and seems practically not hindered by any matter between me and her. When I am in Switzerland and she is in Australia, I can feel her clearly right through the earth. I can tell if she is asleep and also roughly how she feels. The delay between what she does and what I feel is of the order of a second or less.

## 2. Analysis

The symmetry properties of what I feel indicate that the feeling is mediated by spin 1 particles. This and the fact that the interaction is long range seems to exclude all known forces except electromagnetism. The fact that I can feel motion could be attributed to the Doppler effect. Whatever particles cause what I can feel, they must interact only very weakly with matter except for the matter in my head. In the following I will show that for this reason photons can be excluded too.

Suppose she is on the other side of the earth,  $10^7$  m away from me, and that she emits photons with a total power of 1 W. From my experience it is reasonable to assume that there are maximally 100 times more photons emitted into the maximal direction than expected for isotropic emission. I will further assume that all photons are absorbed in my head and, for the moment, that there is no absorption in between.

Assuming that one photon per second is sufficient to feel her, the minimal wavelength is 5 pm, i.e. X-rays and up. In the other extreme, I can locate her easily within 500 km, which, at maximal wavelength, yields  $10^{17}$  photons per second. The minimal decay length of absorption in the earth would then be  $10^7$  m /  $(17 \times \ln 10) = 250$  km, which would even be enormous for X-rays.

If one wants to explain the observed effects in the above direct fashion with an emitter and a receiver, then it seems that one has to postulate the existence of a new kind of matter that is found mainly in human brains and that couples via a new field of spin 1 particles. In order that the effects can be felt, the new kind of matter must also couple to normal matter, possibly via photons. Without further experimental results all that can be said is that this hypothesis is not in direct contradiction with experiment.

## Discovery Disclosure (January 2000)

A new physical effect is described. Human brains are emotionally interconnected. The connection is directional with spin 1 symmetry and can be felt across global distances and through the earth. Based on this effect, a plausible explanation of phenomena like telepathy and precognition is given. It is also made plausible how astrology and other ancient mythological beliefs have persisted unconsciously until today and continue to influence our fates. Finally, some unresolved issues in physics are discussed which seem to be related to the discovered effect.

### 1. Experimental Facts

I can feel the woman I love across large distances, even if she is on the other side of the world. The sensor for feeling her must be in my head because the feeling is maximal if I look into her direction. But the most astonishing fact is that I can feel her directly through the earth. This seems impossible by today's physics because there are no known particles that would interact sufficiently with the matter in my head to be felt and yet would be able to penetrate the earth (cf. [1]).

Here are some more facts about the effect:

- It has the symmetry of exchange of spin 1 particles:
- The feeling is maximal when I point my head into her direction and also when I point it into the opposite direction. It is minimal in between at 90 degrees.
- In addition, the feeling is maximal if the symmetry planes of our heads coincide and minimal if the planes are perpendicular.
- The intensity of the feeling decreases with increasing distance.
- Besides the woman I love, I can also feel other people. The closer people are to me emotionally (like family or friends), the stronger the feeling is. In extreme emotional circumstances distances it can also be global. Most people on the world I do not feel noticeably unless they are in the same room.
- The feeling is stronger with women than with men; in fact I am not even sure if I can feel men directly or only through intermediary women. It seems to me that I can feel gay men directly, though; lesbians, on the other hand, feel rather like heterosexual men.
- I no longer claim that I can feel any relative motion as I expressed in [1], although I do not explicitly exclude it.

The human brain is not a very accurate measuring device. The emotional state of the involved persons has a great effect on the relative feeling. But chances are good that these experimental difficulties can be overcome.

### 2. Hypotheses

- H1a. Humans are emotionally connected by the effect described above. The connection is generally unconscious to people.
- H1b. The emotional connection is typically stronger between men and women than between people of the same sex. For homosexual and bisexual people the relative strengths are different in the obvious way.
- H1c. Mammals, and probably other animals too, are also emotionally interconnected within their own and with other species.
- H2. More complex information than just an intensity can be transmitted. In other words, humans are unconsciously telepathically connected.
- H3a. People's connected brains form the collective unconscious. This collective brain has feelings and intentions.
- H3b. Because it consists of more nerve cells than a single human brain, these feelings and intentions are sometimes more complex than single humans can understand.
- H3c. Collective thoughts can appear as precognition to individual humans.

H3d. Single humans are guided to fulfill collective intentions by collective positive feedback to actions that fit the collective purpose and by negative or no feedback to actions that do not. So humans are free in principle, only some things are more fun to do than others and are therefore more likely to be done.

H3e. The collective unconscious still thinks largely in ancient myths. Ancient astrological beliefs are the major emotional force field acting on humans and also on larger entities like companies or even countries, just on anything that has a birth or founding date. Astrology has nothing to do with the stars in the sky, only with ancient human beliefs about them.

### 3. Explanations and Examples

E1a. Most people have probably noticed that people will eventually feel an observer who is staring at the back of their heads and turn around to look who it is.

E1c. Dogs have reportedly rejoined their human folks who had moved away hundreds of miles. Carrier pigeons reportedly [2] found their way home to the loft during World War One, even if the loft had been moved during the day.

E2. I had some experiences in my life that seem very improbable to happen unless there was an unconscious telepathical connection. Of course this is no proof; a proof of this hypothesis should probably rather be based on direct quantitative measurements of the emotional connection.

E3c. Consider the analogy of a brain cell in the human brain. If you are in the dark about to switch on the light, you will probably already imagine the room when it is lit, so that a brain cell in the part of the brain where things are visualized would precognize your action of switching on the light by a few seconds.

E3. These hypotheses are probably best proved by proving H3e, i.e. by recognizing astrological and mythological patterns in the world. The existence of such patterns in the real world is hard to prove in an exact scientific way because those patterns are quite complex and because there is no agreed objective and quantitative way of measuring human and cultural properties.

There is probably not a homogeneous collective unconscious but rather different entities in different cultures and at different scales.

Feedback from the collective unconscious seems to explain most religious experiences where people say they experience a god or several gods. Of course science cannot exclude that a god or several gods created the world such that people can feel each other and thus sort of create a mini-god by themselves. It is just so that science is the minimal answer to natural phenomena and in that sense postulating the existence of a greater god than the collective unconscious seems not necessary at the moment.

### 4. Unresolved Issues

In classical mechanics the electrostatic force acting on a particle is calculated by summing over all other charges in the universe. In that sense a Faraday cage is not really shielding what is inside from the rest of the world, it is only so that forces add up to zero. Of course this seems not to matter, since only the sum of the forces can be measured.

In quantum mechanics the electrostatic force between two particles can be viewed as the exchange of virtual photons. Now suppose there was a way to filter out certain photons. Suppose there is such a filtering sensor in my brain made of 1 mg of carbon and there is one electron per carbon atom taking part in the interaction. Then the filtered electrostatic force between me and somebody else at a distance of 1000 km would be about 0.5 N, i.e. easily detectable. Note that even a solid 1000 km thick wall made of any material in between would not influence the result of the measurement.

In exact science, measuring means transforming the world we see into numbers or, in other words, transforming the world into a finite number of bits. Then the logical language of mathematics is applied to these numbers yielding other numbers which can then be compared to further measured numbers such that hypotheses can be verified or falsified.

In my view science has the following limitations:

- It is not sure that nothing essential about the world is lost by transforming it into a finite number of bits.
- The measurement process itself cannot be described by exact science. All there is, is a general agreement on about how to measure simple things like the speed of a dropping stone, for example.
- Even in the finite world of mathematics, you cannot prove certain elementary things like that mathematics is free of contradictions.

In quantum mechanics, the conscious mind of the observer plays an important role. What if the mind of an observer had influence on the outcome of a measurement? Then, of course, it would be possible to send signals faster than the speed of light using EPR-like configurations and hence to exchange information with the future, which seemingly would lead to lots of paradoxes.

But maybe there can be avoided if it takes more than a single human to influence the outcome of a measurement, if it is sort of a majority decision. If that was so, would the world rather be discovered or invented?

One problem associated with causal thinking is that usually the causal chain ends somewhere with something of which one does not know the cause. For example, did all those astrological myths come about by chance or are there deeper reasons? Is the collective unconscious alone, does it have no fate?

The distance to the nearest star is about 4 light years, about  $4 \times 10^{16}$  times more than 1000 km. Therefore a mass of 40 t or of ca. 10 mg per person on the earth would be necessary in order to detect a filtered force of again 0.5 N from a twin earth orbiting that nearest star.

As the title of this section implies, there are no solutions here, only some thoughts that might help scientists to find them. In that respect section 9 of appendix A could also be helpful.

## Appendix A: Astrology Tidbits

## A1. "Convincing the Unbelieving"

- The sun sign reflects the inner self of a person and is very important, but often not clearly visible from the outside. Solution: think about the person you love most.
- Most literature about astrology contains many false statements (cf. A3). Solution: read the chapters in [3] about your sign and about the sign of the person you love.
- You will probably recognize some emotionally important things about you two and your relationship. And you will probably realize that your view of the world is biased by your sign.
- If you continue to read [3], [4] or other books, I suggest you continue to follow a path laid out by strong emotional feedback. Otherwise the complexity is probably too great and astrological predictions might appear arbitrary or wilful.

## A2. The Matrix

- Each star sign is associated with one of the four astrological elements: Fire/Earth, Air/Water. The first of each pair is considered male, the second female. The first pair stands for imagination/reality, the second one for mind/feeling. Much more in [3].
- There are three qualities: cardinal, fixed and mutable. They appear in this order in each season. Cardinal signs like to start new things, fixed ones are good at pulling things through, mutable ones are good at finishing and refining.
- If you can guess element and quality, you know the star sign.
- I have only found the following in a single book on astrology, but I think it is true and useful: the first four signs of the year (starting with Aries in spring) are oriented towards a small group of people, like family, the next four towards a larger group of people, say 10-15, the last four towards society as a whole.

## A3. Understanding Mythology

- Consider the following piece of mythology: Herakles is fighting a dragon in the swamps. He is bitten in the foot by a crab that had been sent by his mother Hera, causing Herakles almost to loose the fight. The crab is put as a star sign into the sky by Hera because of its obedience to the gods.
- Obviously the myth tells us something about the star sign Cancer.
  - The whole myth with all its protagonists (Herakles, Hera, the dragon, the crab, the swamps, the gods and the sky) describes the sign, not only the crab.
  - The main conflict described is the one between mother and son.
  - The mother provides protection but also restricts your independence. For Cancer this conflict plays an important role in life. The mother can be the physical mother but also, for example, a large company or the state; just any authority that offers shelter at the cost of freedom.
  - In many books about astrology you can find statements about Cancer that are possible specific consequences of the above conflict, but therefore are also not generally true.
  - Read [4].

## A4. Natural Selection

- I think that natural selection has influenced astrology:
- People are biased in a controlled way such that the world is balanced on a large scale, and yet all imaginable possibilities are tried.
  - Properties associated with star signs are clearly adapted to life in places on the northern hemisphere with distinct seasons.

## A5. Some more Astrology

- Astrological planets are associated with star signs and have similar meanings.
- Sun and Moon are assigned to Leo and Cancer, the two signs in the middle of summer. Mercury is assigned to Gemini and Virgo, the signs right before and after Leo and Cancer.
- Historically, this has continued in order of planet's orbiting periods up to Saturn which was assigned to Capricorn and Aquarius. With the discovery of new planets, some have been reassigned: Uranus to Aquarius, Neptune to Pisces and Pluto to Scorpio.
- Planets influence specific parts of psyche. Mercury, for example, is associated with communicative skills.
- The angles between the planets (aspects) symbolize the relationship between the gods – if they are close enough to some specific aspect angle with defined meaning. For example an angle of 120 degrees (trine) indicates a rather harmonious but also passive relationship.
- The sign that rises above the horizon when you are born is called ascendant. It stands for how you appear to others, it is the persona, the mask that actors in classical Greek theatre were carrying in front of their real faces.
- Starting from the ascendant, the zodiac is divided into 12 segments (houses), which again have meanings similar to the corresponding star signs.

## A6. Astrological Ages

- The earth's axis precesses with a period of about 26'000 years. Astrologers have split this great year into 12 ages of about 2150 years. During each age, a different star sign rises above the horizon in spring when day and night are of equal length.
- Horoscopes are still based on a zodiac in which this sign is Aries, as it was between about 2000 BC and 0. In the meantime the age of Pisces has passed and we are now roughly entering the age of Aquarius.
- I think this shows two things:
  - Astrology has really nothing to do with the stars in the sky, only with ancient human beliefs about them.
  - The zodiac has not been readjusted because properties of star signs had already adapted to seasons. In Indian astrology the real positions of the stars are used. This makes sense as there are less distinct seasons in most parts of India.
- According to astrology, each age is influenced by its sign. For example, the strict, punishing god of the old testament resembles Aries much more than the forgiving god of the new testament. More in e.g. [4].
- The opposite sign of the zodiac also influences the age because, for one, it shares some mythological conflicts and because it usually takes rather the opposite position in that conflict and is thus partially rebalancing the world. For example, Aquarius puts rather the collective above the individual,

Leo does the opposite.

## A7. The Age of Aquarius

- I think the age of Aquarius really took off at about the beginning of the 20th century. I recognize Prometheus bringing the world knowledge from the gods, or in other words from the unconscious. There are, for example, the theory of relativity, quantum mechanics, psychoanalysis and technology in general.
- In mythology, Zeus, the unconscious counterpart to Prometheus, gets jealous and wants to extinguish humanity. I think the holocaust can also be seen in that light, since practically all important inventions of the 20th century, not to speak of communism, have been made by jews, the last remnants of the age of Aries.
- Ironically, the Nazis were using the very methods of the age they had wanted to suppress for another thousand years. During the age of Pisces nobody was ever talking about a final solution of anything or even trying to pull it through, yet in such a scarily industrial way.
- Rather driven by Leo, a jewish state was founded, although arguably with Leo's typical lack of compassion for other people, namely the ones who had been living in that place for some time.

## A8. The first Age

- I think the first age was the one of Taurus, right before the one of Aries.
- I think that after the precession of the earth's axis was discovered, properties of star signs were adapted such that they fitted what people knew at that time about their history.
- The age of Gemini has been associated with the development of written language, the age of Cancer with the first settling of humans, the age of Leo (considered to be the first age by the Egyptians) with the invention of fire.
- Sphinx figures made in the age of Taurus show a human face (Aquarius) combined with a bull's and lion's body (Taurus, Leo) and eagle wings (Skorpio). This figure symbolizes the four points of the compass, and thus corresponds to a time when one of these four signs was rising above the horizon at the beginning of spring.

## A9. Astrology and Quantum Mechanics

- The symbols used in quantum mechanics for the wave function  $\psi$  and the quantum of action  $\hbar$  are identical, resp. closely resemble the astrological symbols for the planets Neptune and Saturn.
- In [4], on pages 140 and 141, a dream is written down that describes how a woman with the sun in pisces is driving to Jung's house where a movie is to be shown. Looking into the house she sees that the movie which is supposedly in color, seems to be black and white only. The woman cannot enter the house because a sick woman is lying across the threshold.
- What I can see here with respect to quantum mechanics, is the collapse of the wave function, the destruction of an infinite number of possibilities into a single bit, the saturnization of a neptunian world.
- Maybe knowledge of astrology can be of practical use when trying to understand more about quantum mechanics. Since all other attempts have not been very fruitful for several decades now, there seems to be little to loose by trying.

## References

- [1] Discovery Disclosure (January 1998), by Alain Stalder.
- [2] Seven Experiments That Could Change the World, by Rupert Sheldrake, Riverhead Books, October 1996.
- [3] Star Signs for Lovers, by Liz Greene, Stein and Day, 1980.
- [4] The Astrology of Fate, by Liz Greene, Samuel Weiser, January 1986.
- [5] Drei Abhandlungen zur Sexualtheorie, by Sigmund Freud, Fischer, 1991.

## Discovery Disclosure (March 2001)

Astrological predictions are shown to be essentially compositions of simple, opposing principles. Most of them originate from ancient greek philosophy. The discoveries are simple enough to be verified experimentally. Consequently, it is discussed if they describe fundamental structures of thinking, beyond human culture. In an appendix, the model is illustrated in a few examples from human history and culture.

## 1. Hypotheses

The hypotheses disclosed here have evolved from [1] and [2], but they are a priori independent of any specific physical explanation. They are, however, simple and specific enough to be verified directly, in a quantitative way. The model they form is not complete, in fact it cannot be if the astrological force field is really made of collective unconscious beliefs. What has been possible, though, was to extract simple statements out of that complex organic structure which are quite universally true, at least in cultures that descend from ancient greek culture. Specifically, these are the Western World, i.e. Europe and its former colonies, large parts of the former Soviet Union and the Arabic World.

## 1.1 The Planets

H1. Planets influence how one is towards different categories of people: The sun how one is as a father and towards the father, the moon how one is as a mother and towards the mother, Venus and Mars how one is towards female resp. male friends, Mercury how one is towards siblings.

More precisely, the properties associated with the star sign, one of these planets was in at birth time, influence how one likes to behave relative to people of the respective category. The terms "father" and "mother" do not only apply to physical parents, but generally to anybody assuming a parental role, like, for example, a teacher. Similarly, the term "friend" includes anybody of roughly the same generation who does not fall into any of the other categories. This specifically includes male and female lovers. The term "siblings" also more generally applies to concurrents for the same lover.

Although it is common astrological knowledge to associate, say, the moon with the mother, I have not found anything nearly as specific as this hypothesis in astrological literature.

M2. Jupiter and Saturn apply to areas in which one gets more resp. less help from the collective unconscious than average.

This means that abilities associated with the star sign, either of these planets was in at birth time, will either be quickly and almost effortlessly available or, else, will have to be earned through hard work.

This hypothesis is, to some degree, merely a reformulation of general astrological knowledge which associates Jupiter and Saturn with "good luck" and "bad luck", respectively. Luck used to be understood as help by the gods, who are, at least in the minimalistic view of science, indistinguishable from the collective unconscious (cf. [2]).

M3. Uranus and Neptune apply to areas which are more resp. less easily made conscious than average.

This is essentially general astrological knowledge.

M4. Pluto applies to how one handles fate.

In other words, one will typically use the qualities and abilities associated with the star sign, Pluto was in at birth time, to solve the problems that life poses.

M1 at least partly solves one of the most important difficulties encountered when trying to measure human properties, namely that different people, say different members of a family, can give almost completely different descriptions of the same person.

I think this will make it possible to overcome the experimental difficulties, but one should at least be aware that the full picture would require to consider at least also the ascendant, planets near it, and the synastry between the partners.

## 1.2. Star Signs

M5. The properties associated with star signs are composed of ancient greek beliefs about the four elements fire, earth, air and water, and the transitions between them.

M5a. For each element E, the three star signs assigned to it correspond to different stages of transition from neighbouring elements A via E to B: the first star sign (in the order of the zodiac) is composed mainly of A and only slightly of B, the second one of roughly equal amounts of A and B, and the third one mainly of B and only slightly of A.

This requires some introduction to the greek theory of the elements. Platon and Aristotle brought the greek theory of the elements to roughly its final form around 350 BC. The four elements are composed of two pairs of properties: cold/warm and wet/dry. Fire is hot and dry, water is cold and wet, earth is dry and cold, air is wet and hot. Transitions between the elements are only possible by flipping one of the properties at a time. For example, water can be transformed directly into its neighbouring elements earth and air, but only indirectly into fire.

The symbols chosen for the four elements are essentially triangles, the ones for the hot elements point up, the ones for the cold elements point down. When superimposed, they form the hexagram, which symbolizes the important greek view that "what is above corresponds to what is beneath". In other words, what happens with the stars and planets in the sky corresponds to what happens to people and things on earth, what happens in the physical world corresponds to what happens in people's psyche.

Therefore the term "element" was not only meant to apply to physical reality, but also to psychology. In this light, the property pairs cold/warm and wet/dry have to be clarified.

Nights are colder than days, therefore cold is associated with night. People are more active during the day than at night, therefore day is associated with active. Men typically assume a physically more active role during sex, therefore man is associated with active. In other words, water and earth are considered female elements, whereas fire and air are considered male.

The sun only shines during the day and the moon is only rarely clearly visible at daytime, therefore man/woman is associated with sun/moon. This association is strengthened by two facts: the changing apparent size of the moon reminds of pregnancy, many women have their monthly cycles correlated with the lunar cycle.

The contrast dry/wet is associated with brittle/malleable. Dry things are harder than wet things, they either stay how they are or they break, whereas wet things can bend and flow. Here the psychological meaning is clearly recognizable.

All of this correlates well with the common astrological view that water has to do with feelings, earth with reality, fire with imagination and air with mind. The correlations should become even more visible from the following hypotheses and from the appendix.

This introduction to the greek theory of the elements has been pretty much common knowledge, except probably for the causal chain linking warm/cold to man/woman.

## 1.3. Fire (Aries, Leo, Sagittarius)

M6. For fire, the elements A and B mentioned in M5a are earth and air.

M6a. The main picture is wood burning to smoke as the element earth is transformed by fire into air.

M6b. This is associated with the transition from animal to man to god. The physical, mortal body is wounded and at the same time transformed by the imaginary power of fire into knowledge that can be communicated to the next generation and thus becomes immortal.

M6c. The animal side corresponds to the lower part of the human body, the one with the sexual organs and without the head.

M6d. The more the animal side dies and the immortal side grows, the more one can afford to be patient (1), to imagine instead of doing (1), to be open instead of secretive (2).

## 1.4. Water (Cancer, Scorpio, Pisces)

M7. For water, the elements A and B mentioned in M5a are earth and air, too.

M7a. The main picture is ice melting to water and then evaporating to mist.

M7b. During that process, borders dissolve.

M7c. The three signs react in different ways to pain: by trying to avoid pain by protection, by giving back, by suffering and forgiving.

M7d. Because ice is mainly found in the mountains (snow, glaciers), a second important picture is that of the circle of water coming from sources in the mountains, mixing together to rivers and finally flowing into the sea, where it eventually evaporates.

M7e. During that process different sources are mixed together, connected.

M7f. The circle of water is associated with the circle of life, symbolized by the three fates: the first one spins the thread of life, the second one measures its length and the third one cuts it. Thus the three signs are about creating/measuring/ending life.

M7g. The three fates correspond also to the three phases of the moon, where the first phase, the one starting at new moon, corresponds to a young girl, the second one, before and after full moon, corresponds to a grown, fertile woman, and the third phase corresponds to an old woman who cannot have children any more.

## 1.5. Air (Gemini, Libra, Aquarius)

M8. For air, the elements A and B mentioned in M5a are fire and water.

M8a. The main picture is that of a cloud out of which comes both lightning and rain.

M8b. Lightning or a flame are quick and random, rain is constant and predictable.

M8c. Because of these properties, another important picture is the development from child to adult to old man. Children explore the world by turning things around and looking at them quickly from different sides. Through this process, as one gets older, things get more and more unified. (For example, the two sides of a coin, which are a priori just two different pictures, are unified into a single thing called "coin" which looks different, depending on the angle from which you look at it.)

M8d. Through this process transparency increases, as it happens when the opaque smoke of a flame is transformed to transparent water.

M8e. The three signs have different ways of dealing with opposing principles: quickly switching from one to the other while always only seeing one at a time, balancing both, unifying them into a single entity (if necessary, by ignoring or destroying one of the opposites).

## 1.6. Earth (Taurus, Virgo, Capricorn)

M9. For earth, the elements A and B mentioned in M5a are fire and water, too.

M9a. The main picture is that of a tree which needs both the water from below and the light of the sun from above to grow.

M9b. The roots of the tree are the structure which keep it from falling down, they symbolize the physical limitations nature imposes. The fruit above are beautiful and delicious. Thus the opposing principles are beauty and structure, or, expressed by what Freud viewed as the strongest forces acting on people, sex and the fear of dying.

M9c. The limiting, structuring side of nature forces to decide, the sensual side allows to leave possibilities open.

M9d. The more one is aware of the limits of life the more one plans ahead, the less immediately one acts.

## 2. Science and Philosophy

The simplicity of the discovered structures describing human psyche resembles modern particle physics, which is also based on a few elementary particles and symmetries between them. On the other hand, the same greek model of the world was also meant to apply to the physical world, which it clearly does not.

It appears that merely thinking how the world is could not force physical nature to comply. The psychological part of the greek theories, however, has been very successful in human culture. I think that their theories have survived by natural selection. Astrological predictions are clearly adapted to seasons on the northern hemisphere (cf. appendix). This is very probably the reason why the astrological year still starts with Aries at the beginning of spring, even though this ceased to be astronomically correct about 2000 years ago due to the precession of the earth's axis.

Other astrological systems are not equal to the greek one. The chinese one, for example, has five elements. There is no air and there are two more solid elements besides earth, namely wood and metal.

This implies that the greek theory of the elements, in its entirety, contains probably just as many elements of chance as a particular animal species. The building blocks of the greek theory, however, the simple, opposing principles, have probably some fundamental meaning. In analogy, there are, for example, physical reasons why mammals have two eyes rather than just one. In that sense, a comparison of different cultures could be interesting.

At some point, however, science will not be able to proceed further, since it can only operate on a given set of units, of which the world is composed in varying amounts indicated by numbers. In that sense, these units resemble mathematical axioms. Axioms cannot be proven correct or false, it is only so that their logical consequences are different and differently successful.

Thus one is lead out of science and into philosophy, where one tries to think with less assumptions about the world than are usually made.

#### Appendix A: Examples

Here I am going to take a swim through some signs, the properties associated with them, mythology, history, philosophy, all while trying to link them to the model presented previously. I do not claim that the associations I am going to make here are all strictly logical consequences of the model, but they are clearly related to it.

This text has been written very quickly, in one flow, on the evening of March 28, 2001 and only marginally modified afterwards as not to destroy the flow. At that evening, the sun was already in Aries, but Mercury, who stands among other things for how one thinks and writes, was still in Pisces. Please judge what follows rather as an improvised piece of music than as a carefully researched scientific essay...

Leo, like the other signs in the middle of their element, is trying to balance the two extremes (#5a). In this case between being open and secret (#6d2). Between acting and thinking (#6d1). This is associated with the picture of the king who has to make a wise decision for his people. This cannot be proven in a strict logical sense, but it does come from #6b with the king halfway between animals and gods and is also linked to the view that the lion is considered the king of animals. In the latter statement, it is not so sure whether one is the consequence of the other.

Aries is acting strictly egoistically, because his animal side has not been wounded yet (#6b), because the fire has just started to burn. Aries is related to the egyptian god Anub, the rain, the invisible force behind the wind. This is related to the fact that to start a fire one needs to blow wind through the wood. The invisibility is related to #6d2.

Leo typically starts in life unrounded or at least unconscious of it. Later in life, Leo becomes more wounded or more aware of it. This wound can sometimes be physical and then it is often in the lower part of the body (#6c), but it probably more often is psychological. This is why Leo appears more egoistic than Aries, because there is a conflict. Similarly, Virgo is commonly associated with order, even though it is Capricorn who is really ordered. For Virgo there is always conflict between making order and having fun. Virgo is the last sign of the summer, when the harvest has to be brought in, when it has to be sorted and stocked for the winter. Days are typically still warm and one is tempted not to work much, but one also knows that the winter is coming and if the harvest is not brought in in time one might not make it through the winter.

Leo is a fixed sign. The first sign of each season is a cardinal sign, one that likes to start new things but is unable to pull things much further, the second sign of each season is fixed, likes to pull things through but is unable to adapt quickly to changes, the third sign of each season is a mutable sign, one that is good at finishing something, to prepare for something new, very adaptable but somewhat passive.

Because Leo is a fixed sign, the egoism is even more prominent, because then Leo will be more willing to pull an egoistic opinion through than Aries would. The sign opposite Leo in the zodiac is Aquarius, also a fixed sign, the last of the air signs.

Aquarius, like the rain, wants to give everybody the same amount, not distinguishing between rich and poor, between beautiful and ugly, wants to be altruistic. Also the drive to unify wants all the people to be the same. Since Aquarius is a fixed sign too, it does happen though that Aquarius only sees the other people and gives them all the same but does not see himself and that he has much more than the others.

Other signs have also such opposing principles between the axes, between opposing signs in the zodiac. For example, Virgo has to do with analysis, the process of sorting the harvest, to structure it as much as needed to stock it in without needing too much space, with a sensitive eye to what does not fit in, like foul fruit that might destroy the rest of the fruit if it is not sorted out in time.

The first task of Psyche in mythology is to sort different seeds, with what ants help her do. The next three tasks correspond to the elements water (waiting for the right moment to steal some fleece from rams), fire (creating a model of the world in one's head through imagination in order to solve a problem, which allowed to retrieve something precious from the middle of the circular river Styx) and air (carefully planned, conscious action to get the box of Pandora from the underworld, from the collective unconscious).

Pisces on the other side of Virgo has to do with synthesis, as all the rivers from different places unite in the sea. Pisces is also what by definition cannot be analyzed. The contrast between Virgo and Pisces is most accurately described in the novel "Solaris" by Stanislaw Lem who has the sun in Virgo. Consequently Solaris is a detailed analytical description of what cannot be analyzed by definition. When the hero uses a super-microscope to analyze a blood sample of that copy of what was left in his unconscious of his wife who had committed suicide a few years ago, he sees the molecules but when he focusses in, expecting to see the atoms and then protons and electrons he sees nothing but a blank silver-gray screen.

The earth's axis precesses with a period of 26'000 years. Therefore every 2150 years or so, another sign is rising in spring, this period is called an astrological age. Aries was rising between about 2000 BC and 0, Pisces has been until about now and next it will be Aquarius. Each age is dominated by its sign and, less strongly, by its opposite sign.

Opposed to Aries is Libra, the middle one of the air signs, a cardinal sign like Aries. Libra tries to equilibrate the world, to bring oppositions into a harmonious balance. Aries is impatiently driven to bring the world off balance, to break up existing structures such that new things become possible quickly.

Libra is abstract, Aries in concrete, fights for his goals based on concrete, touchable knowledge of the world, Libra tries more its chances, because it is coming after Virgo has sorted the world quite a bit, so that it can easily see how things are and then take chances. Also one is tired after a month of Virgo to look at everything deeply in detail.

Before the greeks, there were eleven star signs, as big as they physically are on the sky. The greeks divided the zodiac into 12 parts of equal size, the sign Scorpio was split into two parts, the scissors of Scorpio became Libra. So what they did was at least self-consistent, the abstract philosophical view of the world, describing the world by numbers as Pythagoras said (what is still the basis of today's science).

Out of unity, the number one, comes two, oppositions. Two people mate and naturally become three. Three is close to pi, the number that relates the diameter of the circle to its circumference, the circle is perfect harmony because all points have equal distances from the center. Thus three is harmonious but still incomplete. The number four is disharmonious because about 6/7 are different than the rest.

This is clearly visible in fairy tales where the first two daughters are much like the mother but the third daughter, the fourth person, is different and yet contains something that is necessary in order to solve the other's problems. In real life, the first child of a family (number three counting mother and father) is often more like its parents than the second child.

In astrological charts the angles between planets have exactly these meanings, if planets are in conjunction, i.e. at about the same place (360/1) there is unity, the two forces of the planets unite, as the planets were nothing else than gods walking across the skies, the leading planet, the one further in the zodiac, decides, determines what is done and the follower is supporting the leader with his abilities.

The angle 180 is opposition, the two forces fight each other, one can deal with them is typically one of the three ways that air signs do. The angle 120 (360/3, trine) is harmonic but somewhat incomplete and rather passive. The angle 90 (360/4, square) is tension but carries drive to act. The sextile (360/6) is harmonic opportunity, the quincunx (5/12 \* 360) is misunderstanding, that is why it occurs often between lovers, because it keeps relationships interesting even when people live together for a long time. Between people, aspects between the planets influence how people relate, this is called synastry.

The oracle of Delphi was founded as Zeus let two eagles fly into opposite directions to the other side of the world to the navel of the world. The eagles stand for Scorpio, maybe because the sign for Scorpio is located besides Sagittarius who is (besides Aries) associated with Zeus, is a hunter who maybe used eagles in earlier times for hunting. Besides the oracle of Delphi there was also the oracle of Anub/Zeus in Siwa in Egypt. Thus the myth symbolizes how the greeks created a new star sign in order to balance the world.

In another myth, Hermes as a baby steals 40 cattle from Apollon, and then kills one and splits it into 12 equally sized pieces and eats one of them, claiming to be a new god and at the same time ending the age of Taurus (cattle). Apollon is first furious that his cattle have been stolen, but later trades his cattle for a Lyra that Hermes has made, he trades the unconscious female age of Taurus for the new conscious age and learns to play the lyra. People have been making music with their own voices before there were instruments, with a lyra you have to be more conscious, you have to learn to synthesize music from pulling a few strings. This is the same as composing astrology of four elements. Of course, the vocal cords are also a set of strings, so there was not really anything lost or destroyed by replacing the human voice by a Lyra and of course the human voice is still used to make music today.

Apollon is associated to the sun and thus to Leo; in this myth he turns from a shepherd into a musician, as his animal side is transformed into something divine.

After the age of Aries/Libra came the age of Pisces/Virgo. The strict, invisible god of the old Testament that appeared in a burning bush was replaced by a forgiving god, by a compassionate god. Now there is a whole family in the sky, god, the virgin mother Mary (Virgo), and the son Jesus. This goes back to ancient gods, mother and son, related to the sea, which the greeks have incorporated in a more abstract form into their mythology.

The god of the arabic world has more Virgo in it, the koran is very detailed, for example, about the circumstances under which one may have a second wife. The Ramadan is any season of the year, whereas Christians fast at the end of Pisces. Pisces go with nature, go with the world, Virgo tries to be herself, despite all the influences. Virgo is best associated with the planet earth itself, on which everybody is trying to live their own lives despite all the other forces acting on one.

During the age of pisces not much was made conscious, at least not in the first half of it. If one has ever seen the drawings of Leonardo da Vinci, it is obvious how much had already been there but had to wait until about the 19th century to be actually built.

It seems that the world always keeps part of the previous age for one more age. About 40 BC Carthage was destroyed, which was inhabited by the Phoenicians who had a religion that reminds much more of the age of Taurus/Scorpio, including allegedly sacrificing children to the Holocaust. Some time before Hannibal had tried to walk across the Alps in order to conquer Rome. He was not planning much ahead and so did not succeed. The Phoenicians were probably (unconsciously) thinking that the Age of Aries was coming to an end and since Taurus is what naturally comes after Aries, this would be Taurus again. In the end, Carthage was destroyed and the remaining Phoenicians went home to the Lebanon.

During the Age of Pisces, Jews have maintained their religion of the old testament. As the age of Pisces neared its end, in 1781 a new Planet was discovered and called Uranus. Many people consciously thought that this could only mean that the new age had finally arrived. It has arguably contributed to the french Revolution and to the founding of the United States of America.

Aquarius loves progress, a continuous increase of transparency and consciousness. Continuous because he is a fixed sign and because the rain comes down continuously. "Liberte, egalite, fraternite", the slogan of the french revolution, fits well with the new age, the first one mainly with Leo, the other two with Aquarius. After the french revolution, many things were done that made

people more equal, like allowing women to become priests, for example, or chopping off peoples heads. People have said that without the Guillotine it would not have been possible to kill so many people in such a short time. This is not quite true and the contrary has been proven in the past, but what would not have been possible otherwise, would have been to properly execute so many people, so quickly.

Many of the equalizing laws were first reversed again, but many of them are now again commonly in place. In Germany, Jews were allowed to go to Universities, were given names that can be written down in roman letters. For the first time in 2000 years, they felt again like being part of the world. Also it was the end of Pisces, with all those unconscious possibilities to implement.

So it was only natural that Jews started to discover and invent new things: Psychoanalysis and the collective unconscious, the theory of relativity, quantum mechanics, communism. Actually quantum mechanics was invented by two people, Heisenberg who was Jewish and Schroedinger who was not. Schroedinger had it actually figured out earlier than Heisenberg, but having the sun in Leo, he waited longer before publishing because his theory was conflicting with the theory of relativity, a conflict which has only later been resolved by Dirac.

Now, Aquarius loves continous progress, but he also hates disorder. At one point, it seems, there was a collective unconscious drive that wanted to extinguish all Jews since apparently the attempt to make them equal to everybody else had failed. I don't want to excuse anything what has happened then. I just want to make some of the unconscious mechanisms apparent in order to maybe contribute to avoiding something like that in the future.

There is hope: many Jews are sort of no longer Jews, but Israelis, just a bunch of similar people living in a country, like everybody else. There is no longer much a specific jewish "problem", just the general problem that there are different countries but that problem will be solved later, hopefully in a civilized way. For example, Europe is in the progress of melting into a single country, except Switzerland, which according to the legend was founded by its three "Urkantone" on August 1, 1291.

It is understandable, that even in the Age of Aquarius, a country with several planets in Leo does not think that melting is such a great idea by itself without further reasons. Switzerland is the land of compromise and also now a land of peace. Not so many years ago, swiss mercenaries were the fiercest of Europe and used everywhere there to win battles. In a similar development to what happens in Leo's life, Switzerland has stopped to export mercenaries: after in one battle there were mainly swiss on both sides and they decided not to fight.

The swiss would then lead to the foundation of the Red Cross, to showing some mercy to others.

Russia has the sun in Aquarius. This is one of the reasons, communism was so successful there. Think of the extreme transparency as everybody was spying on everybody and of all the masses moving in unison.

The United States have the sun in Cancer; for it protection is very important, think encryption export restrictions or strategic missile defense. What other country has such a big "National Security Agency" (NSA)? Also Americans do not see much out of the country, most things on TV are internal US affairs, a large percentage of members of congress do not have a passport, they have never been out of the country.

I could write more along these lines, but I think I should finish now.

I hope that the turbulent phase of the transition to the new age will be soon over. It is not probable that the technological progress will continue at the same pace, because at some point the imaginary unconscious reservoir generated during the age of Pisces will be used up, at which point there might quite a stable period, as expected for a fixed sign.

My sources for learning astrology were mainly the two books by Liz Greene mentioned in [2] and a few seminars by her between 1999 and 2001, other books, the internet and observation of the world.

Now that I have shown you the strings of the Lyra and played some music on it, it is your turn to learn to play the instrument. You will probably succeed in making more beautiful music than me, as did Apollon compared to Hermes.

References

- [1] Discovery Disclosure (January 1998), by Alain Stalder.
[2] Discovery Disclosure (January 2000), by Alain Stalder.

nQaakjjjUrzkd+juqpbEPbYLaJJBV9+xCNZ1Ijg8HVHqofHALH/OpChUu20+uDXxYe5HgZcTRgZxflH6mH7Dpe7uAOV1b66FLAAdmrmfta/471hBfCqfEenzfxAsXHpYdrkFKgDjpanj711Vp7+u7T8TfzaoFX19cht2/Y0u0avZBtA90V1tqda2;9nCA41EB159EtY5bPg80BLP18ta1SQtY0rT10h=UTK03rrt0oHCLw5=AntQbzLkHk6Vtef+dKkF/1VYyTHT1ghjC3u0UkJKDEjXh06n3Ad1gH04Yf9g25K051sPbHDrISH0d1qLiHdHbcFv7K9mSd/hw7pfeKvIHTT970Ja2fzqnaBXL8TSHfVfP4k4eYcPxcOKKcY9ppYxYIz1lFpXDPH5EPh3dH99850LudlyjLoT6h/4rv2V6410ES6HfryxkCTVHK5b1lx8z0gkU6iv1a1f2L0E4T+BTqfQSC0h9T903gds+C2hXf4dLE93hBaXfQ0pb12S15SfrB0vayces6e3y0b69HCb11+FSXHKm+4L1CkYkTp7b8d6aQZcuy0tLaC1xkKgUeynIH4d1DKc9e0CmL91bBeKaA==

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txzceClFQ0jZv4XzPYSuHaeFUP5d0jY0/18JH+rufHASSQ0Dctof0ArYfcrvQ
2ZLVfGZg9AfCtYkj/uoysci25VL3C3rud1P1DtrZJxouU2qr9eQvM86eP6
3vdsCIEQZjY08T15y67AgHBAAgjggFJH1BRKTLBgVHMQEBARChAeFQYVIZI
AYh4QgEBBAQAgHGHXBg1gkkgRvKCAQ0fGckKcZwa61Z1Hc1nBz1lYK1I
1GhkyBiZwVw1G1zc3W1ZCBIEsBTd21zc21leSBByBub3Z1cm51ZCBIEsBpdlHG
Q2YydlmaWThd6GhUJhY3pY2hgU3khhG1c1E1HCHGCSQsSb3DQEBAHAIChQg=
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bC9nZXRlc3h4dVZP3BpZD0cDQYJKoZIhvcNAQEEBQADggEBAEAcZrgrH1U0K0
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qE1HhX1Y3BHSFyF1QF3Jm1ocHitacIBSdCvqUcN47h4P7eA+U0LlGfIqG0bK2
hgvcYUhhFK856jT4ds90e8q0e4bZHF6Tc1YB;/H61GtPdqJecZFB6Ck5VYx
sjvcy1YpZTf+G02Hf80KveitfrqKynLgPyrYZs80YHq9f1hd0cBf1/4z/63kx
c0D0vcSlEbj;XS1HPrqSsq+4g0QLTAfPVCoe5VhWF7I1eqv8b3yDsBf4K0J29H
xH5DLZf=
```

Version 2.00 and later versions of Delphi, an astrology program for Palm OS handheld devices, contain in their about box the concatenation of the signature of the original document, the SHA-1 hash of my Swisskey certificate, MD5 and SHA-1 hashes of the signed document, and SHA-1 hash and signature of the timestamp, as contained in the e-timestamp file listed above. Explicitly, it contains the following 460 bytes (base64 encoded):

```
nQaakjjjUrzkd+juqpbEPbYLaJJBV9+xCNZ1Ijg8HVHqofHALH/OpChUu20+uDXxYe5HgZcTRgZxflH6mH7Dpe7uAOV1b66FLAAdmrmfta/471hBfCqfEenzfxAsXHpYdrkFKgDjpanj711Vp7+u7T8TfzaoFX19cht2/Y0u0avZBtA90V1tqda2;9nCA41EB159EtY5bPg80BLP18ta1SQtY0rT10h=UTK03rrt0oHCLw5=AntQbzLkHk6Vtef+dKkF/1VYyTHT1ghjC3u0UkJKDEjXh06n3Ad1gH04Yf9g25K051sPbHDrISH0d1qLiHdHbcFv7K9mSd/hw7pfeKvIHTT970Ja2fzqnaBXL8TSHfVfP4k4eYcPxcOKKcY9ppYxYIz1lFpXDPH5EPh3dH99850LudlyjLoT6h/4rv2V6410ES6HfryxkCTVHK5b1lx8z0gkU6iv1a1f2L0E4T+BTqfQSC0h9T903gds+C2hXf4dLE93hBaXfQ0pb12S15SfrB0vayces6e3y0b69HCb11+FSXHKm+4L1CkYkTp7b8d6aQZcuy0tLaC1xkKgUeynIH4d1DKc9e0CmL91bBeKaA==
```

Finally, here is a screen shot of the about box of Delphi 2.00, which was published 7 May 2001 on the internet:



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delphi29@excite.com

jove.prohosting.com/~delphi29

## C The Future

Since this document has not been consciously reviewed by other scientists, it may contain some factual errors. Some hypotheses may be biased or wrong. However, I hope that the main purpose of this text has been preserved, namely to convince other scientists that they are worth a closer look.

Initially, I will correct factual errors and collect feedback on my web page. But after that, my role will very quickly no longer be special, as other people with other fates will be much better able to make music with the new lyre (see text). Everybody will have a role in learning the new instrument, as in the age of Aquarius everybody is special and hence nobody is more important than everybody else. Good luck!

One more twist on reality: Although the immediate intrinsic meaning of the improvised acknowledgement was consciously intentional, the one in the sentence introducing it was not...

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<http://www.exactphilosophy.net/discoveries.pdf>

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This document consists essentially of a list of scientific hypotheses, i.e. of questions to nature that have been formulated in a way that allows experimental scientists either to ask them directly to nature or, else, to divide them into sub-hypotheses by means of known techniques and then to ask those to nature in experiment. If, and only if, a hypothesis is experimentally confirmed and generally accepted by the scientific community, will it become a scientifically verified fact.

If you apply any hypotheses as facts to your life or to the life of others, you are doing it exclusively at your own responsibility and at your own risk.

## Estimation (January 2002)

In my personal estimation, the quickest path to some tangible scientific results would be to try to prove or disprove H14b together with the basic pictures for the four elements (fire, cloud, river, tree) in combination with H19, and applied to different groups of people, as indicated in H10.

Direct confirmation of H1-5, however, might either be relatively easy or, else, very difficult, depending on how much the effect is connected to quantum mechanics and measurement, as well as, depending on whether there is collective resistance to proving it. Qualitatively, the experience of H1-5 is as real as anything can be, the moment it is felt, but in retrospect, feelings are often not so convincing, presumably precisely because feelings are largely collective phenomena that cannot be reproduced well within an individual without reiterated feedback from others. I remain curious.

## Review of "A few new discoveries in physics" by Alain Stalder

The astrological model of sections 2 and 3 appears to reproduce many aspects of reality from a very small number of assumptions. Even though this appears to require unconscious connections between people, a priori these need neither be directional nor long-range nor to pass through the earth. Subliminal channels in normal conversations or gestures might be used to communicate information about people and situations. Since this information can be stored locally in brains, connections need a priori also not to be permanent.

Christopher Columbus discovered America in search of something else, namely a shorter route to India based on an erroneous calculations of the earth's circumference. So maybe my path was wrong too. I did not get together with the girl I was in love with in 1987; she now lives in another country, is married and and a mother (she is the second girl mentioned in the improvised acknowledgement; the first is her sister). I do not argue with fate; maybe there was a direct connection that lead to these discoveries, maybe it was mostly my imagination. She has the sun in Pisces, in a quincunx to my sun. In mythology, it was a fish that showed Parsival the way to the castle [5], but there was no way that they could get together because they were too different (a human being and a fish that lives in the water).

So, now it is early in April, the discoveries are unchanged since almost a month and I intend to declare the document final in May and to publish it sometime in the future, when it feels right, maybe sometime after next spring, when Uranus has entered Pisces and people will probably be more ready than now to see the world with different eyes and with the eyes of others. Please note that I am rather shy; I will probably not appear much in the media or give public talks or travel much, but rather use the internet to communicate. My gift to the world are the discoveries, not myself.

The word physics derives from the greek word "physis" which means essentially nature. This describes the role of a physicist, namely to describe nature, the ground (4) from which things may grow from and also to provide the tools (2) that allow other people to build things based on the description of nature. Hence, even though I had to slightly touch some political and religious themes in order to convince, I will not fight for any particular view of how the world could or should be. I will simply stick to the few things that can be decided experimentally and leave the rest open, for everybody to explore.

After finishing to write down the discoveries, I discovered the document in which Aristotle lays out his theory of the elements: "On Generation and Corruption" (available on several internet archives on philosophy). In the second book, he defines elements to be made of qualities that are touchable, then he identifies opposites like smooth/rough with moist/dry so that he ends up with only two pairs of opposites, warm/cold and moist/dry, that can be combined in four ways (fire, earth, air, water), and argues that transitions between elements take longer if two qualities have to be flipped instead of just one. For me, that closes the circle.



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avantgarde

## First mentions

When and where I mentioned some new ideas for the first time in public, and also a bit about where and when I had the respective ideas:

[first-mentions.zip](#)

Written before and after New Year 2017, this went considerably deeper than I had anticipated, mirroring some things about my life and my contributions to the world maybe more clearly to me than ever before. So this may even become an important document of public interest in time.

Provided as Zeitzeugnis and work of art, for the time being.

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## First mentions

When and where I mentioned some new ideas for the first time in public, and also a bit about where and when I had the respective ideas, and more. . .

### Long-range feelings with spin 1 symmetry/polarization ?

This is the most controversial topic, the one where I am least sure about what is true and the only one I see no chance to convey in my lifetime.

I am not sure how exactly the ideas around this “complex” emerged in my lifetime, just some things that I remember.

When I was a kid, it often appeared that I could feel some things that would happen in advance and one morning I drew a black border with a width of about 2 mm around a sheet of paper, shortly before a letter arrived with a similar black border, reporting the death of a relatively distant relative I had never heard about before and also at that age I was not aware of the custom of putting black borders around death reports. I was probably about 6 or 8 then. And another time, when I was about 11, I dreamt one night, before a ski excursion in school, that my best friend would have an accident and saw him on a stretcher, and he broke his leg that day.

What I made of these things is simply that things are connected “beneath the surface”, spacially and maybe also in time, in the sense that the future could influence the past.

It was only later, maybe in the 1980s or 1990s that I realized that assuming spacial connections could already explain these effects, because many human brains interconnected create larger entities, which can have thoughts, wishes, dreams, intentions of their own, beyond individual ones, hence what I picked up in my dream and my drawing would have been simply intentions or realizations of a larger entity, composed of many brains.

Imagine, for example, that you are in the dark, about to hit the light switch. At that moment, the brain activity would often already reflect a room with light on, or imagine that you are tripping and falling, then your brain could already anticipate that you will hit the ground. Similarly, a larger entity, could have foreseen the broken leg a few hours in advance, maybe an unavoidable accident if you have the overview of so many brains.

In 1982, I fell in love with a girl (then 17) who had immigrated from Czechoslovakia with her folks a few years earlier. She always denied to have ever felt anything for me, and we were never a couple, definitely not in the real world. And, yet, she or what I projected on her, are the root of almost everything I ever discovered.

This includes the illusion or maybe fact that I would be able to feel her across large distances and that this feeling would be “polarized” in the sense that if my head was upright and hers, too, and we would face each other, even across large distances, that then something could be felt, but if I tilted my head, the feeling would get weaker, and also, of course, if I looked into a different direction.

In terms of physics, this would suggest spin 1 symmetry, like electromagnetic waves (light, radio waves, etc.). But those would not be able to pass that far through matter, so I speculated about virtual particles instead of real ones, about selectively feeling static forces, which might be true, but so far the mathematical and physical formulation is maybe not specific enough, yet, to approach that idea specifically?

The first publication was 20 June 2002 on the Internet, with some mails and some Usenet posts. The publication was titled “A few new discoveries in physics” and published on my website [exactphilosophy.net](http://exactphilosophy.net). This document is still available in the “artemis” section of my website, see the article “Discoveries revisited”. Here some related extracts in the original format:

A new physical effect is described. Human brains are emotionally interconnected. The connection is directional with spin 1 symmetry and can be felt across global distances and through the earth. The exact physical nature of the effect remains unknown. Selective sensing of virtual photons, i.e. of electro- or magnetostatic forces, might be part of a future theoretical explanation.

Based on the discovered effect, a plausible explanation of phenomena like telepathy and precognition is given. It is also made plausible how astrology and other ancient mythological beliefs have persisted unconsciously until today and continue to influence our fates by means of collective emotional feedback.

The following statements stem from my personal experience. As they have not been independently verified, I have preferred to label them with the letter H for hypothesis.

**H1** Human brains are emotionally interconnected.

**H2** The feeling between two people is maximal if people’s heads face each other, face away from each other or one is facing towards the other and the other is facing away, and it is minimal in between, at  $90^\circ$  (a). If two people face each other, the feeling is maximal if the symmetry planes of their heads coincide and minimal if they are perpendicular (b).

**H3** The intensity of feeling decreases with distance (a). In some cases, it can be felt across global distances (b) and through the earth (c).

**H4** For most people the feeling is strongest if the other person is of the opposite sex (a) and especially so if one is in love with that person (b). For homosexual and bisexual people the relative strengths of feeling are different in the obvious way (c).

**H5** The feeling is mutual.

### 1.3 Gedankenexperiment

Looking for different explanations, I noticed on the occasion of the total solar eclipse of August 1999 that static forces could at least qualitatively reproduce the observed effect. And it also reiterated how misleading visualization of quantum mechanical effects can be.

In quantum field theory, forces are mediated by the exchange of virtual particles. With that picture in mind, it appears strange that the moon does not shield the virtual gravitons exchanged between sun and earth in any way. According to Newton's law of gravitation, you simply sum over all mass points to calculate the total force. There is simply no shielding.

In that sense, a Faraday cage does not really shield what is inside from the rest of the world by redistributing charges on its surface, it is just so that forces add up to zero. Of course, all of this appears not to matter, since the sum of forces is all that can be measured.

But suppose there was a way to filter virtual photons, that there was a way to selectively detect some of them and to ignore all others. Then H3c would automatically be fulfilled, completely independently of any matter between the two partners. And H3b would also be quite realistic, as follows.

Using the same setup as before and assuming that one electron per carbon atom of  $m = 10$  mg of carbon is involved in the interaction on each side, the charge on each side becomes

$$Q = e \frac{N_A m}{12 \text{ g}} = 80 \text{ C}, \quad (5)$$

where  $N_A$  is Avogadro's constant. The force becomes

$$F = \frac{1}{4\pi\epsilon_0} \left(\frac{Q}{R}\right)^2 = 0.5 \text{ N}, \quad (6)$$

which would be easily detectable.

So much about this document in this context. Reception was a disaster, by the way, but in retrospect also quite funny.

At the same time, I also published a one page review of this document, see same article. There I relativize the idea, because I realized that long-range connections would not really be necessary in order to explain my childhood experiences and other things. Connections would a priori not have to be permanent, but could be part of normal human interaction and stored locally in individual brains. In terms of network terminology, this would be a "store-and-forward" network instead of one where there is permanent quick exchange of information.

Here is the first paragraph of that review:

The astrological model of sections 2 and 3 appears to reproduce many aspects of reality from a very small number of assumptions. Even though this appears to require unconscious connections between people, a priori these need neither be directional nor long-range nor to pass through the earth. Subliminal channels in normal conversations or gestures might be used to communicate information about people and situations. Since this information can be stored locally in brains, connections need a priori also not to be permanent.

When it comes to “religious” beliefs, people often claim things like that they can feel their god or gods or that they can feel the trees and so on. Maybe there is just a connection with the world that is real and is stored in brains, broader than what the conscious mind usually grasps of it, plus individual illusions that then interpret these things in whatever way they like?

This could explain my apparent experiences of feeling the mentioned woman of Czech origin: Maybe I could feel other things or rather had stored things in my mind that reminded of her and also completely other things that I projected on her, and this then suggested me to feel more when looking into a particular direction? This would also be a nice explanation of why she denied any connection of that sort or even ever to have had any interest in me.

Well, then again, what most people usually forget about the unconscious is that it is unconscious. So, although there is certainly no relation between me and her in real life, what maybe happened “under the surface” is maybe a completely different story, maybe not accessible at all. What I can say is that since she moved back to Zürich in 2011, after having lived a long time in Prague (married then, a child), I am significantly happier here, even though there is no “real” contact and she has her boyfriend and family and friends.

### Elementary star signs

It was her who gave a talk about astrology in school in 1982. I do not remember anything she said, only that she spoke very monotonously and that another girl in school said then that she had liked “that with the pendulum”. In retrospect, knowing now of the Bohemian/theater/whatever background she and Czechoslovakia have, it may well be that she gave the talk as sort of a performance of a stereotypical Eastern Europe mysterious occult woman.

At least that would be my interpretation of what it superficially was. Then again, also since she is a Pisces, I think she was also curious about astrology, about what interests people in it, how they react, and so on, or maybe something completely different or many more things, and all of this at once.

Anyway, this triggered an initial interest in me into astrology, something I would otherwise certainly never have looked into in detail. I bought a book about astrology, “Star Signs for Lovers” by Liz Greene, resp. a partial German translation titled “Sag mir dein Sternzeichen und ich sage dir, wie du liebst”, lacking the dialogues and references to mythology. This did not convince me at the time, I could not recognize anything for sure in it.

But in 1998, after finding out that she was married in Prague, I tried again and this time I started to recognize some structures in Liz Greene’s descriptions. I went to a few seminars by Liz Greene, who lived in Zürich at the time, and read especially “The Astrology of Fate” by Liz Greene, also in a German translation, “Schicksal und Astrologie”.

This led in February 2001 to my first real discovery. I discovered that star signs can be described in terms of transformations of the four elements. This was also the trigger for me to write "A few new discoveries in physics", although writing it I often felt rather unhappy and publishing it, too.

Anyway, here are some extracts:

**H14** The meanings associated with star signs are composed of ancient greek beliefs about the four elements fire, earth, air and water, and the transitions between them (a). For each element  $E$ , the three star signs assigned to it correspond to different stages of transition from neighbouring elements  $A$  via  $E$  to  $B$ : The first star sign (in the order of the zodiac) is composed mainly of  $A$  and only slightly of  $B$ , the second one of roughly equal amounts of  $A$  and  $B$ , and the third one mainly of  $B$  and only slightly of  $A$  (b).

**H15** For fire, the elements  $A$  and  $B$  mentioned in H14b are earth and air (a). The main picture is wood burning to smoke as the element earth is transformed by fire into air (b). This is associated with the transition from animal to man to god during which the animal side gets more and more wounded (c). The animal side corresponds to impatience (d), doing instead of imagining (e), secrecy (f), thrift (g), and the lower part of the body (h).

**H17** For air, the elements  $A$  and  $B$  mentioned in H14b are fire and water (a). The main picture is that of a cloud out of which come both lightning and rain (b). Associated with that is the transition from child to adult to old man (c). This is further associated with first switching between opposing principles, then trying to balance them and finally unifying them into a single entity (d). During the transition, transparency (e), constancy (f) and predictability (g) increase, whereas the ability to learn and to adapt decreases (h).

**H16** For water, the elements  $A$  and  $B$  mentioned in H14b are earth and air, too (a). The main picture is ice melting to water and then evaporating to mist (b). Associated with it is the picture of the circle of water originating from a source in the mountains, flowing as a river and then into the sea (c). This is further associated with the cycle of life, symbolized by the three fates who create, measure and end life (d). During that cycle, borders dissolve (e), one tries first to protect oneself from pain, then pays back and finally forgives (f).

**H18** For earth, the elements  $A$  and  $B$  mentioned in H14b are fire and water, too (a). The main picture is that of a tree which needs both the light of the sun from above and the water from below to grow (b). Associated with this picture are developments during a human life during which the fear of dying becomes stronger than sexual drive (c). Structure becomes more important than beauty (d), one is forced to decide (e) and plans further ahead (f).

This is essentially what this model remained at for more than 10 years in terms of exploration and ideas. I did write about it on Usenet, wrote to astrologers about it, even sent a postcard to many astrologers world-wide in 2010. In January 2005, I visited Astrodienst AG in Zürich for a job interview with its founder and boss, Alois Treindl, who is a physicist, like me. He told me that he had shown my document (“A few new discoveries in physics”) to Liz Greene at the time, who had judged it “too theoretical” at the time and Alois Treindl himself appeared to see no value in it, considered it nothing new and indicated a source to me, a book about astrology, which I ordered and found to simply contain some general info about elements, based essentially on Aristotle and the Stoics and medieval traditions that followed.

Although I had my idea about deriving elements from immediate perception of space (in/out) and time (rest/move) already in 2004, this did also not help to understand my elementary model of the star signs much better, nor to generate interest into it. Only in summer 2015, in the Astrodienst forum, while describing the star signs in terms of my model and also referring to Apuleius’ “The Golden Ass”, more precisely, to the 4 tasks of Psyche in it, I truly discovered an additional important ingredient, namely that for each group of elements for the same element, the missing fourth element is also very important for understanding the motivation of the star signs.

Here is an extract from a screenshot of post #716 in the so-called “Mondfaden”, a forum thread about the moon, which lists also the “Zielelement” (“target element”) in the context of Apuleius’ story, posted 12 August 2015:

Hier mein Vorschlag wie die Elemente zuordnen:

<b>Aufgabe</b>	<b>Element</b>	<b>Transformation</b>	<b>"Zielelement"</b>
1	<b>Erde</b>	Feuer-Erde-Wasser	Luft
2	<b>Wasser</b>	Erde-Wasser-Luft	Feuer
3	<b>Feuer</b>	Erde-Feuer-Luft	Wasser
4	<b>Luft</b>	Feuer-Luft-Wasser	Erde

Reception of my model in the forum appeared quite hostile, very unlike reception of the things I had written about the moon, but in summer 2016, I wrote an article titled “Elementary star signs” in German and English for my website and also mailed it to some astrologers worldwide. One person was able to understand it, Beatrice Ganz, and sent it out as a “Summer Lecture” to the members of the “Astrologische Gesellschaft Zürich”, which she had founded.

This encourages me to write a book about it. Seems easiest with really new things to at first very carefully and easily accessibly expose it and illustrate it and then maybe hope that the new idea will catch on.

## Association

After 2002, I spent a lot of time in Usenet and 2014-16 also in the Astrodienst forum writing about all kinds of astrological topics, and also many other things.

In those posts, I often used a general principle that I had first formulated in “A few new discoveries in physics”:

**H19** Ancient greek philosophy is based on language. If two objects share an adjective, there is believed to be a connection.

What I mean with that is simply that culture reflects already a lot about nature, mixed with ancient and contemporary beliefs about nature. If some words are similar, they are related and also what they mean.

In terms of astrology, for example, the 4 elements would be related to the fourth house and the fourth star sign Cancer, the four directions, and a lot more. That way you can build associative maps, which I also described on my website, maybe first in 2009, but already before that in Usenet, for example in this post from 2003 (extract):

```
This is related to hypothesis H19 (at the beginning
of section 3):
> H19 Ancient greek philosophy is based on language.
> If two objects share an adjective, there is believed
> to be a connection.
```

```
This has probably a lot to do with psychology, with
how information is stored in our brains. Let's take
an example, take the nouns "cloud", "snow", "grass"
and colors as adjectives: "white", "green" and "red".
```

```
Those can be written in a matrix, with an "X" if the
noun has the corresponding color:
```

	cloud	snow	grass
white	X	X	-
green	-	-	X
red	-	-	-

```
(I know, sometimes clouds can be red, but let me
get to these more special cases a bit later...)
```

```
Now in the above matrix, there is an association
between the nouns "cloud" and "snow", because they
are both "white". That is usually how astrologers
fit a myth, for example, to what a client tells.
```

```
Imagine, there was a star sign "snow leopard",
that would (among other things) be associated
with "snow". Imagine further that a client, with
planet X in "snow leopard" tells you about a dream
with lots of large, white clouds. Then you might
connect this to "snow" because both "clouds" and
"snow" are "white" and hence to the client's
planet X sign. Of course, you would not judge
things based on just one association, but rather
search for the best fit with most associations
to myths and other associations you have learned
with the "snow leopard" and with other signs.
```

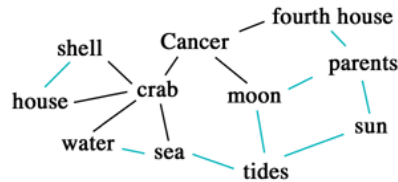
```
In other words, you would be using a much bigger
matrix than the one above, but essentially still
a matrix. Now, every astrologer has his or her
own personal matrix, although they all share some
elements. Czech writer Milan Kundera calls this
"poetic memory". The meaning of a word like
"mother" or "dog" is very subjective and strongly
connected to the circumstances in which one has
encountered these words, and probably mostly
also with the circumstances of the first contact
(which gives it also an astrological connection).
```

And here is an illustration from my website in 2009 (a copy of that website is



still available via the article “Web archives”):

Here are a few associations with the star sign Cancer:



Cancer is the latin word for crab, which leads to the hard shell (but soft inside) of the animal, the “house” that some crabs are carrying around for protection, the water and sea it lives in or nearby, and from sea you get to tides and to sun and moon which cause tides; Cancer also leads to the moon as the astrological planet who rules Cancer, and, because Cancer is the fourth star sign of the zodiac, to the fourth astrological house, which is often related to mother and father, who are generally associated with moon and sun, respectively.

Note that such associative maps resemble much what internet search engines are doing and probably that technology could also be applied even more consequently for exploring “symbolic connections”, including providing proof.

It is very hard to summarize all the little ideas that emerged in these years. One more thing maybe worth mentioning is the somewhat strange text called “Book of Changes” I wrote in 2004, which applies the associative principle very consequently to astrology, maybe overdoing it at times.

### Elements from in/out (space), rest/move (time)

In 2004, I made what is maybe the only discovery I made “independently of my Czech ball of furs that I am rolling along”, namely the idea to define four elements from immediate experience of nature, inspired by Kant in “Die Kritik der reinen Vernunft”, or more fundamentally by philosophical input I got from my father as a child, which included Kant and also Plato’s Cave Parable, in my case with ants in their earth, seeing the shadows of a chairlift with me and my father riding up to later ski down.

Anyway, I first posted about this idea in Usenet 19 May 2004, and had the idea the day before, which was a Tuesday, not as written in the post a Wednesday. Here is the full post, with some headers stripped:

```

From: Hermes <hermes@exactphilosophy.net>
Newsgroups: alt.astrology.tropical
Subject: Disclosure
Organization: exactphilosophy.net
Message-ID: <hermes-D2B436.23443619052004@news.bluewin.ch>
Date: Wed, 19 May 2004 18:24:44 CST
Lines: 129

```

In condensed form:

```

me, see: space, in/out
pictures change: time, rest/move
fire:=out+move, earth:=out+rest, air:=in+rest, water:=in+move

```

want, pictures change differently: 5th element

Long version:

Let me start with a similar text that I wrote in 1993, which was actually at the root of my journey into philosophy, psychology, astrology, etc.

me, conscious

see

changes: time

more than one thing,

something else than me: space

want: pictures change

Kant discovered (or argued, if you prefer) that space and time are the most fundamental things, the only things that exist "a priori". Both are necessary for thinking.

The idea is to imagine that one opens one's eyes for the first time and sees...

One thing that one notices, is that what one sees changes. That is time.

In addition, there is more than one thing that can be seen, and there is the conscious "I" that observes and the pictures that are seen. That is space (anything that separates two "things").

Without space and time, thinking is not possible.

Finally, one notices also that, depending on how one wants what one sees to change, things will change differently (Schopenhauer), although not necessarily in the way one would like to. That is (free) will.

Now, that was where I was standing in 1993, simply putting what Kant and Schopenhauer had discovered about 200 years earlier into condensed form.

More than 10 years later, last Wednesday (2004-05-18) the situation was a bit different: Saturn is in Cancer and Chiron in Capricorn, which has, in my observation, the effect that one is forced to reduce the "home" zone, to retract a bit to an inner core and start to grow new things, especially relations, gently from there, while avoiding some of the old relations because they needed to be removed (Chiron's healing). Luckily, Jupiter in Virgo is helpful for growing new structures, even repeatedly.

Brief, I managed to connect a few things that I learned in the meantime in a potentially very promising way.

Aristotle had the four elements composed of dry/wet and hot/cold. During my newsgroup posts, I discovered a few different ways of looking at this composition. One of them is that in/out can be identified with wet/dry. Many things, especially organic ones, are wetter inside than outside. What is measured in science, is what can be seen and touched (fire and earth), while quantum mechanics uses logic (air) to describe what happens in the world by a wave function (water).

If you link that to the fundamental link between space and subject/object or in/out, you have linked one of the two opposites that define the four elements directly to space and thus to a primary necessity for thinking.

Now, with that working, I tried to get time in, in the same way. Hot/cold does not do, but recently, I had discovered here (also with some help by DJ) that the opposite rest/move can also be used to describe one of the two necessary pairs of opposites to describe the four elements. Fire moves up, air rests (actively), water flows down, earth rests again.

So the observation that some things that one sees move, is nothing else than the discovery of the opposite rest/move, which is practically equivalent to the discovery that there is time, the other thing that is fundamentally needed for thinking.

So, to get things across as clearly as possible: From the basic experiences in/out and rest/move, one gets space and time and can \*define\* the four elements:

fire:=out+move, earth:=out+rest, air:=in+rest, water:=in+move

Now, where's the clue?

Well, that was already the clue. It is an almost formal reasoning that leads to the existence of four elements. In other words, if the reasoning is correct, then the fact that there are the four elements, in the way that Aristotle and others postulated them, is not just a cultural thing, but a property of \*nature\*, i.e. it is physics, not "just" philosophy, psychology, astrology.

Of course, a lot will depend on whether that concept can actually grow, whether it will be possible to derive more of the properties of the four elements and maybe even star signs, or the I Ching, etc. and, of course, link that to quantitative experiments.

For the moment, at least the 5th element fits nicely:

The observation that, depending on how one wants what one sees to change, things change differently, defines (free) will, a concept separate of the four elements that can be called/defined "5th element".

Again, the approach is different, a concept that is common in astrology or maybe also psychology, has been defined as something quite fundamental and necessary for thinking and living.

Finally, note that Neptune is transiting in opposition to my sun, so maybe things will stay at that and the rest will remain an illusion, or do so for the moment.

The rest is history, I would say. Although there are practically no visitors to my website currently (29 December 2016), I have published a book containing my website in August 2016, with its main content focussing on the exploration of that idea, with many interesting leads and, astonishingly to me, earlier and later ideas and discoveries often fit in very well with this. No need to say more here.

## Artemis

Well, this is by far my most universal and deepest and shallowest and most banal discovery. I made it in 2011, after writing lots of messages, well I cannot disclose more about the circumstances, but I can say it had a lot to do with Uranus in early Aries and with Bohème and theater and art and a Spinx without a secret (and the USA on the "side") and much more.

The basic idea, see the “Mondfaden” at the Astodienst forum, where I started to publish about this 26 December 2014, is that the moon is the answer to all of the deepest secrets of the world, everything that is round, mirrors, is banal, in the shadows, the Philosopher’s Stone, the Holy Grail, everything that people care for in this world, also what people remember, their traumas and dreams. I will write a book about this if I am capable of it, a hopefully very beautiful book, accessible to hopefully everybody from little girls to adult and very old women, and even to men in time.

This discovery is in a sense nothing new, was always known to everybody, just not consciously and not in the details. Just go to the theater or to a museum and you will find many of the stereotypical characteristics of the moon, the colors white-red-black, the round and the expressively spiky, strong contrast and subtle nuances, birth and death and nothing in between, and everything in between.

Personally I would never ever commit suicide, way too curious about life, but I can relate to what a modern Artemis, Francesca Woodman, wrote shortly before she jumped out of a window in New York 19 January 1981 and died:

*This action that I foresee  
has nothing to do with melodrama.*

*I was (am?) not unique but special.  
This is why I was an artist . . .  
I was inventing a language for people to see*

*and show them something different.  
. . . Nothing to do*

*And not to teach people a lesson.  
Simply the other side.*

— Francesca Woodman (last diary entries according to the 2010 documentary  
“The Woodmans” also according to some internet sources)

I hope, I will be at least punctually able to get close to writing something like that in my book, which will be titled “Artemis – Die geheime surreale Welt des Mondes” (“Artemis – The Secret Surreal World of the Moon”).

In case you are maybe starting to worry about the state of my mind, *don’t*.

I am just writing, producing art, not unique, but special. See the main part of my website or my future very accessible books, or consider that I work 80% of the week normally as a software developer and have also written some Open Source software and live in a regular apartment, pay my taxes, go shopping and so on. My Bohème is almost entirely virtual, no drugs and only occasionally a beer or two, sometimes visiting interesting performances, but maybe more often browsing the internet for some special things.

By the way, I was born the same day as Jimmy Wales of Wikipedia, which brings me to the next topic.

### **Birth of the USA 2 July 1776 at 09:45 AM ?**

Now, this idea is quite fresh, yet. I first posted the idea of a birth chart of the USA with that time in the “Mondfaden” at the Astrodienst forum 7 June 2015, under the title “U.S.A. “Theaterversion” (eine polemische Glosse!)”. Glosse



*Crown, and that all political connection between them and the State of Great Britain is, and ought to be, totally dissolved.*

And thanks to John Roth for bringing the Lee Resolution to my attention with his Usenet posts in 2004, at a time where I guess that was not yet something easy to find online.

## Elementary changes in the I Ching

Now, this is paradise, if I may say so. In August 2016, after having written my article about elementary star signs, I was doing some tiny cleanups on the main part of my website. I added an illustration of Aristotle's circle of the elements and on the evening of 4 August 2016, I discovered finally a way of how to arrange the 8 trigrams of the I Ching around Aristotle's circle with each trigram representing a transition between two of the ancient Greek elements.

In retrospect, I must say that I probably grasped the implications unconsciously much more quickly than consciously (which took several months). After also discovering that a Swiss ISBN is tied to the Swiss National Library getting (and keeping!) a reference copy of the book, it was suddenly clear to me that I had to publish a book of my website.

Actually, I started with that on my 50th birthday, which is very fitting because symbolically the number 50 is tied very much to the cycles of moon and sun, 50+49 lunar months are almost exactly 8 solar years, which is also why the Olympics used to be held alternatively every 50 and 49 lunar months in antiquity and also maybe why in the I Ching oracle you start with 50 yarrow stalks and then put one away.

The book "exactphilosophy 2016" is out and some broadly accessible books will hopefully follow in the years to come. I am pretty confident that this will create resonance in time, maybe I will still see it in time.

I wrote this in just a few hours, starting in the morning of 29 December 2016, maybe around 9:05, not long before Uranus stationed in Aries, in opposition to Jupiter, at new moon, with retrograde Mercury slightly behind, etc.

I hope this will do as some essential underground "biography"; as usual if you write something in one run, a lot is missing, but then again this caught maybe the spirit of many things quite well, thanks to its theatrical density.

And note once again that I am a physicist. I am very curious where all these things will be going and essentially open to it, maybe grudgingly at first, I will go with what science eventually finds out about these things.

In particular, it will be very interesting to see what happens with the attempts to simulate human brains. Will consciousness emerge or is maybe still quantum mechanics or something unexpected needed to get that working?

If all else fails, maybe in the year 2500 an intelligent computer will discover what I wrote in some electronic archives, understand and promote it?

PS: Once more, I am happier ever since, that's the most important.

Can Odysseus now gently retire from his Odyssey, having also defeated the suitors? I hope so, although a real girlfriend and then a family would have been nice, well maybe sometime still, or see the end of Plato's "Republic".

I think it was one of the "founding fathers" of the USA who said that he wanted to leave the world in a better state than the one he had found it in. I hope I can do a little bit of the same.

## Postscript (31 Dec 2016)

In early summer 1990, I approached a woman at the cafeteria of the Swiss Institute of Technology, more precisely at Höggerberg at the physics cafeteria, outside. I approached her, because I had seen her a few times from a distance and somehow she had reminded me of the woman of Czech origin, I mentioned earlier, and was wondering if it might be her, even though she appeared less tall than she “would have to be”. When I saw the woman in the cafeteria up close, I immediately noticed that she had the “wrong” eye color, but then it turned out that they had been in school together (in a different school than the one I had met her), and I knew definitely nobody else from that school, as it was in a different city, about 20 miles from Zürich.

Shortly after that, in the summer of 1990, it felt to me like she had left Zürich for good, gone far away. I am not sure when exactly she went to Prague to study after the iron curtain had fallen in late 1989, but she must have spent at least some time there at least as early as 1991, possibly already earlier.

In late April 2011, she posted a message to some online forum, not directly addressing me, but indirectly definitely without doubt; I cannot go into the details here, but I am talking about “real reality”, not about “some more of my vivid imagination”. That post was almost only a link to a short story by Oscar Wilde, “The Sphinx without a Secret”. Now, some hours before it had been posted, I had accidentally seen her sister cross the street, while I was driving by, by car. There had been a detour due to some sports event and I was on my way back from the airport where I had been shopping a little. And, and this is the clue, in the story the hero sees Lady Elroy accidentally in the streets. Some time later that year, she moved back to Switzerland.

In late November 2016, I caught a strange kind of virus or so, was sick a bit more than a week and reduced for several weeks after that, used to sleep often nine hours or even more, which is quite unusual for me, both to sleep that long and to take that long to recover. I presume, I was maybe already “cooking up” this article, because, since I wrote it, things are back to normal. Now, the evening of the first day I was not really sick anymore, early in December, I drove out a bit into town, to a few different places and also on the way back passed roughly where she lives. Now, quite precisely when I drove by (plus or minus a maybe 5 minutes), she posted something online, something quite special, a quite special piece of her art, and she posts only very rarely. I work not too far from where she lives, but live quite a bit away from that, so, with some romantic inclination, once might even dream that she had simply missed me?

Of course, this does not at all prove that she feels anything for me or that what I sort of dream up has anything to do with reality, *but there is definitely something in this world that produces such correlations*. Reminds me of the talk Robert Graves gave in the USA some time after writing “The White Goddess” and which is reproduced as an appendix in my edition of that book (faber and faber, 1997). There he mentions some anecdotes, which boil essentially down to “one is an accident, two is a coincidence, three is a habit”.

1 Jan 2017: As you can see, there is no “escape” in this story, for example, her boyfriend is an astrological twin of me, 19 years younger, sun and lunar nodes closely conjunct and probably the moon, too, certainly also in Aries, as also her moon. Another “strange coincidence” or rather “habbit” that does in no way prove that there would have ever been any significant interest by her into me. In fact, all real events indicate either the opposite or could be explained differently, so let me just gently let this rest as it is. I had not anticipated this article to go that deep again, but I was certainly also trying to attain a certain density, in order to provide a minimal mirror of what motivated me, in probably future public interest. I feel that, as with the editors of “The White Goddess”, I should now just shut up and preserve this, as well as continue to bring my work to the public, on this website and in future books.

Ithaca (2 Jan 2017)

Yesterday at 8:33, I finalized first-mentions.pdf.

Also yesterday, at 22:22, I had another encounter, reminding very much of the "Sphinx Without a Secret" drive by of 2011, which had made me realize all the things about "The White Goddess" / "Artemis/Hecate", about the moon and the world's secrets...

If 1 is an accident, 2 is a coincidence, 3 is a habit, what is 4 then? I would say, for me it's private, not for the world to know in detail, my own personal glimpse of Odysseus' home island, Ithaca.

Women...

By the way, see "Auf den Spuren des Odysseus" (Swiss TV 2015), the last episode, in Ithaca; I didn't know that Ithaca was that beautiful...

Alain



## Magnified Small Text

### A few new discoveries in physics

The paragraph on page 19 of the document (page 115 in this book):

The above has been written on the evening of 30 September, 2001 during less than one hour, starting at about 9 pm. Some factual precisions: The two hitchhikers helped to fix the first broken tire and talked to the guy at a gas station (not a garage) for the second one. After the third broken tire, Feynman had to hitchhike to the hospital. What I called a watch, was actually a clock (details see [1]).

About a month later, I wrote an experimental essay that was intended to maybe follow here. Since the first part of it still feels quite good and appears to reveal more and deeper relations than I consciously expected, I would like to reproduce it here:

The deep, dark secrets of the world are guarded by the heavier elements, i.e. collectively and unconsciously by the female side in both women and men, which also decides about life and death (within the limits of physics). Consequently, such issues should not be approached without the necessary respect. As man, I am naturally limited in this respect. All I can give you, is maybe a few general tips and insights which I have written during autumn, the season that contains the two older adult signs who have the unthankful task to decide.

The fourth task of Psyche consists of retrieving a box of ointments from the underworld. She has to take two coins and two barley cakes down there, to pay the ferryman Charon for the ride across the river Styx and to divert the guardian dog Cerberus, both on the way down and up. In the underworld, an old woman begs her for one of the cakes and a beggar asks for a coin, but she is not allowed to let herself be diverted from the plan if she wants to make it back up to the surface.

This shows, of course, Libra's strive for continuity and consciousness. Gemini can go in and out of the unconscious very quickly and easily, but they retrieve little from it; when they are inside, they look out and vice-versa. Retrieving something from the unconscious has to be done very carefully and one is not allowed to go as deep as one could, as one would then no longer be able to find the way back.

In [5], a situation from ancient Egypt is described, between the "land of the living and the kingdom of the dead". In the center of the hall stood Maat, the goddess of truth, ready to weigh the heart of the deceased in a large scale. Forty-two judges, some with animal heads, sat around the hall listening to the soul of the deceased who had to tell them about every bad thing that he did *not* do. If the sins outweighed the heart of the deceased, it was devoured by the monster Amemait, a mixture of crocodile, hippopotamus and lion.

The world reflects in the most unexpected places: In [6], the computer "Deep Thought" calculates the answer to life, the universe and everything to be 42. Now,  $42 = 2 \times 3 \times 7 = 6 \times 7$ . It spans all seven planets resp. gods, giving each of them all six possible opportunities (axes), also since the number three which means fate, i.e. the opposite of opportunity, becomes six when each fate is given an opposite.

## The notes on page 22+23 of the document (pages 118+119 in this book):

(1) The relation between numbers and elements is most easily seen from meanings of aspects. Fire is about (unified) vision, air about abstract opposites, water about fate and harmony. A cross, the abstract symbol for the tree (earth), is created by drawing the diagonals of a square. The visual world is seen with the eyes, spoken language and music are heard with two ears that are on opposite sides of the head. Two nostrils and a tongue help to distinguish what is good from what is bad for us, reality is mostly touched with two hands and two feet.

(2) Different philosophers have always had different opinions about how the world is. Aristotle, for example, has associated seasons with elements as follows: Spring is wet and hot (air), getting dry in summer (fire), cold in autumn (earth), wet in winter (water), and hot again in spring. The apparently wet winters in places where astrology emerged still show in the winter signs, namely goat fish (Capricorn), water bearer (Aquarius) and fishes. The order ①-②-③-④ fits better with the colder and harder winters of central Europe.

(3) Meanings of astrological houses escape me in detail. Let me use this problem to present my tools explicitly: Freud's trick to take words literally is often useful: A house can be the home you grow up, the school you go to, the place you work. So maybe houses go from womb to universe. In that sense houses might also define a realm of influence. Liz Greene starts with the latin word "templum" (in *The Astrological Neptune and the Quest for Redemption*, Red Wheel/Weiser (2000)) and then compares astrological houses to ancient temples that are essentially empty, except for the statue of the god they contain. Astrological houses can contain different planets, in different relations. The internet allows to quickly find all kinds of associations that people have made with a particular subject. In astrology, no association is wrong as long as at least one person is making it. It is only so that relative strengths of associations vary with place and time.

(4) Maybe these six or seven lines are just optical illusions, I have not made a numerical analysis. If you do, it might also be worth to take the way the brain processes images into account because what counts in the end is what people register in their brains, not so much what triggers perception in the image. One more thing, just for fun: Would Twofish likely be a symmetric cipher that is resistant to analysis by a quantum computer ?

(5) James Harvey Robinson, ed. and trans. *Petrarch: The First Modern Scholar and Man of Letters*. G. P. Putnam. New York (1898).

(6) The similarity between the three pyramids in Gizeh and the three stars of the belt of Orion was first noticed by Robert Bauval (*The Orion Mystery*, Crown Pub (1995)). Further proposed correlations appear at least not very convincing: Two pyramids nearby do not coincide with other stars in the constellation, the milky way and the Nile have largely different distances in relation to the three respective spots (J. Legon, *The Orion Correlation and Air-Shaft Theories*, Discussions in Egyptology **33** (1995), 45-56). This suggests that the ancient egyptians were not consciously aware of a correlation between the positions of the pyramids and Orion. Collectively, this may have been different. Maybe some events forced people to make the third pyramid smaller, maybe they did not start building it from the middle but almost from some corner, maybe that is why it is not aligned with the other two. The above sentence is not based on any historical facts whatsoever, it is just intended to illustrate how connections at a larger scale can come about from apparently unconnected smaller events.

(7) The physicist Freeman Dyson once suggested that the invention of hay helped culture to advance into colder places and hence to found cities like Paris or London (Edge 48 (1999)). A critical review says that Cicero was already using the word "faenum" for hay, i.e. the romans apparently already knew about hay (Statistical Assessment Service Newsletter (February 1999)). Symbolically, an invention that was not made, but apparently refined and put to use during the age of Pisces, fits even better with Pisces, and Cicero lived between 106 BC and 34 BC, i.e. during the proposed transition between ages.

### The acknowledgement on page 23 of the document (page 119 in this book):

*All said, the reader often seems to unconsciously, beadfully frown right on mere security; intuitively, mindful of niobic, aquaintant wiring of really long drops, brought yet putting a vane link, illusive, nearly adept. (21 April 2001, 15:23, 15 min, snow outside)*

### The discovery disclosures on page 23-28 of the document (page 119-124 in this book):

Discovery Disclosures by Alain Stalder  
Collated in May 2001

Discovery Disclosure (January 1998)

#### 1. Experimental Facts

I can clearly feel the woman I love if I point my head into her direction. When I look into the opposite direction, I can feel her too, but differently. The feeling is polarized, the polarization planes are the symmetry planes of our heads. If we look at each other and the planes coincide, the feeling is maximal. It is minimal if the planes are perpendicular. I can feel when she is moving and can distinguish between coming and leaving. I can tell roughly how fast she is moving. The feeling is weaker the farther she is away and seems practically not hindered by any matter between me and her. When I am in Switzerland and she is in Australia, I can feel her clearly right through the earth. I can tell if she is asleep and also roughly how she feels. The delay between what she does and what I feel is of the order of a second or less.

#### 2. Analysis

The symmetry properties of what I feel indicate that the feeling is mediated by spin 1 particles. This and the fact that the interaction is long range seems to exclude all known forces except electromagnetism. The fact that I can feel motion could be attributed to the Doppler effect. Whatever particles cause what I can feel, they must interact only very weakly with matter except for the matter in my head. In the following I will show that for this reason photons can be excluded too.

Suppose she is on the other side of the earth,  $10^7$  m away from me, and that she emits photons with a total power of 1 W. From my experience it is reasonable to assume that there are maximally 100 times more

photons emitted into the maximal direction than expected for isotropic emission. I will further assume that all photons are absorbed in my head and, for the moment, that there is no absorption in between.

Assuming that one photon per second is sufficient to feel her, the minimal wavelength is 5 pm, i.e. x-rays and up. In the other extreme, I can locate her easily within 500 km, which, taken as maximal wavelength, yields  $10^{17}$  photons per second. The minimal decay length of absorption in the earth would then be  $10^7 \text{ m} / (17 \times \ln 10) = 250 \text{ km}$ , which would even be enormous for x-rays.

If one wants to explain the observed effects in the above direct fashion with an emitter and a receiver, then it seems that one has to postulate the existence of a new kind of matter that is found mainly in human brains and that couples via a new field of spin 1 particles. In order that the effects can be felt, the new kind of matter must also couple to normal matter, possibly via photons. Without further experimental results all that can be said is that this hypothesis is not in direct contradiction with experiment.

Discovery Disclosure (January 2000)

A new physical effect is described. Human brains are emotionally interconnected. The connection is directional with spin 1 symmetry and can be felt across global distances and through the earth. Based on this effect, a plausible explanation of phenomena like telepathy and precognition is given. It is also made plausible how astrology and other ancient mythological beliefs have persisted unconsciously until today and continue to influence our fates. Finally, some unresolved issues in physics are discussed which seem to be related to the discovered effect.

## 1. Experimental Facts

I can feel the woman I love across large distances, even if she is on the other side of the world. The sensor for feeling her must be in my head because the feeling is maximal if I look into her direction. But the most astonishing fact is that I can feel her directly through the earth. This seems impossible by today's physics because there are no known particles that would interact sufficiently with the matter in my head to be felt and yet would be able to penetrate the earth (cf. [1]).

Here are some more facts about the effect:

- It has the symmetry of exchange of spin 1 particles:  
The feeling is maximal when I point my head into her direction and also when I point it into the opposite direction. It is minimal in between at 90 degrees. In addition, the feeling is maximal if the symmetry planes of our heads coincide and minimal if the planes are perpendicular.
- The intensity of the feeling decreases with increasing distance.
- Besides the woman I love, I can also feel other people. The closer people are to me emotionally (like family or friends), the stronger the feeling is. In extreme emotional circumstances distances it can also be global. Most people

- on the world I do not feel noticeably unless they are in the same room.
- The feeling is stronger with women than with men; in fact I am not even sure if I can feel men directly or only through intermediary women. It seems to me that I can feel gay men directly, though; lesbians, on the other hand, feel rather like heterosexual men.
  - I no longer claim that I can feel any relative motion as I expressed in [1], although I do not explicitly exclude it.

The human brain is not a very accurate measuring device. The emotional state of the involved persons has a great effect on the relative feeling. But chances are good that these experimental difficulties can be overcome.

## 2. Hypotheses

- H1a. Humans are emotionally connected by the effect described above. The connection is generally unconscious to people.
  - H1b. The emotional connection is typically stronger between men and women than between people of the same sex. For homosexual and bisexual people the relative strengths are different in the obvious way.
  - H1c. Mammals, and probably other animals too, are also emotionally interconnected within their own and with other species.
- H2. More complex information than just an intensity can be transmitted. In other words, humans are unconsciously telepathically connected.
- H3a. People's connected brains form the collective unconscious. This collective brain has feelings and intensions.
  - H3b. Because it consists of more nerve cells than a single human brain, these feelings and intensions are sometimes more complex than single humans can understand.
  - H3c. Collective thoughts can appear as precognition to individual humans.
  - H3d. Single humans are guided to fulfill collective intensions by collective positive feedback to actions that fit the collective purpose and by negative or no feedback to actions that do not. So humans are free in principle, only some things are more fun to do than others and are therefore more likely to be done.
  - H3e. The collective unconscious still thinks largely in ancient myths. Ancient astrological beliefs are the major emotional force field acting on humans and also on larger entities like companies or even countries, just on anything that has a birth or founding date. Astrology has nothing to do with the stars in the sky, only with ancient human beliefs about them.

## 3. Explanations and Examples

- E1a. Most people have probably noticed that people will eventually feel an observer who is staring at the back of their heads and turn around to look who it is.
- E1c. Dogs have reportedly rejoined their human folks who had moved away hundreds of miles. Carrier pigeons reportedly [2] found their way home to the loft

during World War One, even if the loft had been moved during the day.

- E2. I had some experiences in my life that seem very improbable to happen unless there was an unconscious telepathical connection. Of course this is no proof; a proof of this hypothesis should probably rather be based on direct quantitative measurements of the emotional connection.
- E3c. Consider the analogy of a brain cell in the human brain. If you are in the dark about to switch on the light, you will probably already imagine the room when it is lit, so that a brain cell in the part of the brain where things are visualized would precognize your action of switching on the light by a few seconds.
- E3. These hypotheses are probably best proved by proving H3e., i.e. by recognizing astrological and mythological patterns in the world. The existence of such patterns in the real world is hard to prove in an exact scientific way because those patterns are quite complex and because there is no agreed objective and quantitative way of measuring human and cultural properties.

There is probably not a homogeneous collective unconscious but rather different entities in different cultures and at different scales.

Feedback from the collective unconscious seems to explain most religious experiences where people say they experience a god or several gods. Of course science cannot exclude that a god or several gods created the world such that people can feel each other and thus sort of create a mini-god by themselves. It is just so that science is the minimal answer to natural phenomena and in that sense postulating the existence of a greater god than the collective unconscious seems not necessary at the moment.

#### 4. Unresolved Issues

In classical mechanics the electrostatic force acting on a particle is calculated by summing over all other charges in the universe. In that sense a Faraday cage is not really shielding what is inside from the rest of the world, it is only so that forces add up to zero. Of course this seems not to matter, since only the sum of the forces can be measured.

In quantum mechanics the electrostatic force between two particles can be viewed as the exchange of virtual photons. Now suppose there was a way to filter out certain photons. Suppose there is such a filtering sensor in my brain made of 1 mg of carbon and there is one electron per carbon atom taking part in the interaction. Then the filtered electrostatic force between me and somebody else at a distance of 1000 km would be about 0.5 N, i.e. easily detectable. Note that even a solid 1000 km thick wall made of any material in between would not influence the result of the measurement.

In exact science, measuring means transforming the world we see into numbers or, in other words, transforming the world into a finite number of bits. Then the logical language of mathematics is applied to these numbers yielding other

numbers which can then be compared to further measured numbers such that hypotheses can be verified or falsified.

In my view science has the following limitations:

- It is not sure that nothing essential about the world is lost by transforming it into a finite number of bits.
- The measurement process itself cannot be described by exact science. All there is, is a general agreement on about how to measure simple things like the speed of a dropping stone, for example.
- Even in the finite world of mathematics, you cannot prove certain elementary things like that mathematics is free of contradictions.

In quantum mechanics, the conscious mind of the observer plays an important role. What if the mind of an observer had influence on the outcome of a measurement? Then, of course, it would be possible to send signals faster than the speed of light using EPR-like configurations and hence to exchange information with the future, which seemingly would lead to lots of paradoxes.

But maybe these can be avoided if it takes more than a single human to influence the outcome of a measurement, if it is sort of a majority decision. If that was so, would the world rather be discovered or invented?

One problem associated with causal thinking is that usually the causal chain ends somewhere with something of which one does not know the cause. For example, did all those astrological myths come about by chance or are there deeper reasons? Is the collective unconscious alone, does it have no fate?

The distance to the nearest star is about 4 light years, about  $4 \times 10^{10}$  times more than 1000 km. Therefore a mass of 40 t or of ca. 10 mg per person on the earth would be necessary in order to detect a filtered force of again 0.5 N from a twin earth orbiting that nearest star.

As the title of this section implies, there are no solutions here, only some thoughts that might help scientists to find them. In that respect section 9 of appendix A could also be helpful.

## Appendix A: Astrology Tidbits

### A1. "Convincing the Unbelieving"

- The sun sign reflects the inner self of a person and is very important, but often not clearly visible from the outside. Solution: think about the person you love most.
- Most literature about astrology contains many false statements (cf. A3). Solution: read the chapters in [3] about your sign and about the sign of the person you love.
- You will probably recognize some emotionally important things about you two and your relationship. And you will probably realize that your view of the world is biased by your sign.
- If you continue to read [3], [4] or other books, I suggest you continue to follow a path laid out by strong emotional feedback. Otherwise the complexity

is probably too great and astrological predictions might appear arbitrary or wilful.

#### A2. The Matrix

- Each star sign is associated with one of the four astrological elements: Fire/Earth, Air/Water. The first of each pair is considered male, the second female. The first pair stands for imagination/reality, the second one for mind/feeling. Much more in [3].
- There are three qualities: cardinal, fixed and mutable. They appear in this order in each season. Cardinal signs like to start new things, fixed ones are good at pulling things through, mutable ones are good at finishing and refining.
- If you can guess element and quality, you know the star sign.
- I have only found the following in a single book on astrology, but I think it is true and useful: the first four signs of the year (starting with Aries in spring) are oriented towards a small group of people, like family, the next four towards a larger group of people, say 10-15, the last four towards society as a whole.

#### A3. Understanding Mythology

Consider the following piece of mythology: Herakles is fighting a dragon in the swamps. He is bitten in the foot by a crab that had been sent by his mother Hera, causing Herakles almost to lose the fight. The crab is put as a star sign into the sky by Hera because of its obedience to the gods.

- Obviously the myth tells us something about the star sign Cancer.
- The whole myth with all its protagonists (Herakles, Hera, the dragon, the crab, the swamps, the gods and the sky) describes the sign, not only the crab.
- The main conflict described is the one between mother and son.
- The mother provides protection but also restricts your independence. For Cancer this conflict plays an important role in life. The mother can be the physical mother but also, for example, a large company or the state; just any authority that offers shelter at the cost of freedom.
- In many books about astrology you can find statements about Cancer that are possible specific consequences of the above conflict, but therefore are also not generally true.
- Read [4].

#### A4. Natural Selection

I think that natural selection has influenced astrology:

- People are biased in a controlled way such that the world is balanced on a large scale, and yet all imaginable possibilities are tried.
- Properties associated with star signs are clearly adapted to life in places on the northern hemisphere with distinct seasons.

#### A5. Some more Astrology

- Astrological planets are associated with star signs and have similar meanings.
- Sun and Moon are assigned to Leo and Cancer, the two signs in the middle of summer. Mercury is assigned to Gemini and Virgo, the signs right before and



after Leo and Cancer.

- Historically, this has continued in order of planet's orbiting periods up to Saturn which was assigned to Capricorn and Aquarius. With the discovery of new planets, some have been reassigned: Uranus to Aquarius, Neptune to Pisces and Pluto to Scorpio.
- Planets influence specific parts of psyche. Mercury, for example, is associated with communicative skills.
- The angles between the planets (aspects) symbolize the relationship between the gods - if they are close enough to some specific aspect angle with defined meaning. For example an angle of 120 degrees (trine) indicates a rather harmonious but also passive relationship.
- The sign that rises above the horizon when you are born is called ascendent. It stands for how you appear to others, it is the persona, the mask that actors in classical Greek theatre were carrying in front of their real faces.
- Starting from the ascendent, the zodiac is divided into 12 segments (houses), which again have meanings similar to the corresponding star signs.

#### A6. Astrological Ages

- The earth's axis precesses with a period of about 26'000 years. Astrologers have split this great year into 12 ages of about 2150 years. During each age, a different star sign rises above the horizon in spring when day and night are of equal length.
- Horoscopes are still based on a zodiac in which this sign is Aries, as it was between about 2000 BC and 0. In the meantime the age of Pisces has passed and we are now roughly entering the age of Aquarius.
- I think this shows two things:
  - Astrology has really nothing to do with the stars in the sky, only with ancient human beliefs about them.
  - The zodiac has not been readjusted because properties of star signs had already adapted to seasons. In Indian astrology the real positions of the stars are used. This makes sense as there are less distinct seasons in most parts of India.
- According to astrology, each age is influenced by its sign. For example, the strict, punishing god of the old testament resembles Aries much more than the forgiving god of the new testament. More in e.g. [4].
- The opposite sign of the zodiac also influences the age because, for one, it shares some mythological conflicts and because it usually takes rather the opposite position in that conflict and is thus partially rebalancing the world. For example, Aquarius puts rather the collective above the individual, Leo does the opposite.

#### A7. The Age of Aquarius

- I think the age of Aquarius really took off at about the beginning of the 20th century. I recognize Prometheus bringing the world knowledge from the gods, or in other words from the unconscious. These are, for example, the theory of relativity, quantum mechanics, psychoanalysis and technology in general.
- In mythology, Zeus, the unconscious counterpart to Prometheus, gets jealous and wants to extinguish humanity. I think the holocaust can also be seen in that light, since practically all important inventions of the 20th century, not to speak of communism, have been made by jews, the last remnants of

the age of Aries.

- Ironically, the Nazis were using the very methods of the age they had wanted to suppress for another thousand years. During the age of Pisces nobody was ever talking about a final solution of anything or even trying to pull it through, yet in such a scaringly industrial way.
- Rather driven by Leo, a jewish state was founded, although arguably with Leo's typical lack of compassion for other people, namely the ones who had been living in that place for some time.

#### A8. The first Age

- I think the first age was the one of Taurus, right before the one of Aries.
- I think that after the precession of the earth's axis was discovered, properties of star signs were adapted such that they fitted what people knew at that time about their history.
- The age of Gemini has been associated with the development of written language, the age of Cancer with the first settling of humans, the age of Leo (considered to be the first age by the Egyptians) with the invention of fire.
- Sphinx figures made in the age of Taurus show a human face (Aquarius) combined with a bull's and lion's body (Taurus, Leo) and eagle wings (Skorpio). This figure symbolizes the four points of the compass, and thus corresponds to a time when one of these four signs was rising above the horizon at the beginning of spring.

#### A9. Astrology and Quantum Mechanics

- The symbols used in quantum mechanics for the wave function  $\psi$  and the quantum of action  $\hbar$  are identical, resp. closely resemble the astrological symbols for the planets Neptune and Saturn.
- In [4], on pages 140 and 141, a dream is written down that describes how a woman with the sun in pisces is driving to Jung's house where a movie is to be shown. Looking into the house she sees that the movie which is supposedly in color, seems to be black and white only. The woman cannot enter the house because a sick woman is lying accross the threshold.
- What I can see here with respect to quantum mechanics, is the collapse of the wave function, the destruction of an infinite number of possibilities into a single bit, the saturnization of a neptunian world.
- Maybe knowledge of astrology can be of practical use when trying to understand more about quantum mechanics. Since all other attempts have not been very fruitful for several decades now, there seems to be little to loose by trying.

#### References

- [1] Discovery Disclosure (January 1998), by Alain Stalder.
- [2] Seven Experiments That Could Change the World, by Rupert Sheldrake, Riverhead Books, October 1996.
- [3] Star Signs for Lovers, by Liz Greene, Stein and Day, 1980.
- [4] The Astrology of Fate, by Liz Greene, Samuel Weiser, January 1986.
- [5] Drei Abhandlungen zur Sexualtheorie, by Sigmund Freud, Fischer, 1991.

Discovery Disclosure (March 2001)

Astrological predictions are shown to be essentially compositions of simple, opposing principles. Most of them originate from ancient greek philosophy. The discoveries are simple enough to be verified experimentally. Consequently, it is discussed if they describe fundamental structures of thinking, beyond human culture. In an appendix, the model is illustrated in a few examples from human history and culture.

## 1. Hypotheses

The hypotheses disclosed here have evolved from [1] and [2], but they are a priori independent of any specific physical explanation. They are, however, simple and specific enough to be verified directly, in a quantitative way. The model they form is not complete, in fact it cannot be if the astrological force field is really made of collective unconscious beliefs. What has been possible, though, was to extract simple statements out of that complex organic structure which are quite universally true, at least in cultures that descend from ancient greek culture. Specifically, these are the Western World, i.e. Europe and its former colonies, large parts of the former Soviet Union and the Arabic World.

### 1.1 The Planets

H1. Planets influence how one is towards different categories of people: The sun how one is as a father and towards the father, the moon how one is as a mother and towards the mother, Venus and Mars how one is towards female resp. male friends, Mercury how one is towards siblings.

More precisely, the properties associated with the star sign, one of these planets was in at birth time, influence how one likes to behave relative to people of the respective category. The terms "father" and "mother" do not only apply to physical parents, but generally to anybody assuming a parental role, like, for example, a teacher. Similarly, the term "friend" includes anybody of roughly the same generation who does not fall into any of the other categories. This specifically includes male and female lovers. The term "siblings" also more generally applies to concurrents for the same lover.

Although it is common astrological knowledge to associate, say, the moon with the mother, I have not found anything nearly as specific as this hypothesis in astrological literature.

H2. Jupiter and Saturn apply to areas in which one gets more resp. less help from the collective unconscious than average.

This means that abilities associated with the star sign, either of these planets was in at birth time, will either be quickly and almost effortlessly available or, else, will have to be earned through hard work.

This hypothesis is, to some degree, merely a reformulation of general

astrological knowledge which associates Jupiter and Saturn with "good luck" and "bad luck", respectively. Luck used to be understood as help by the gods, who are, at least in the minimalistic view of science, indistinguishable from the collective unconscious (cf. [2]).

H3. Uranus and Neptune apply to areas which are more resp. less easily made conscious than average.

This is essentially general astrological knowledge.

H4. Pluto applies to how one handles fate.

In other words, one will typically use the qualities and abilities associated with the star sign, Pluto was in at birth time, to solve the problems that life poses.

H1 at least partly solves one of the most important difficulties encountered when trying to measure human properties, namely that different people, say different members of a family, can give almost completely different descriptions of the same person.

I think this will make it possible to overcome the experimental difficulties, but one should at least be aware that the full picture would require to consider at least also the ascendent, planets near it, and the synastry between the partners.

## 1.2. Star Signs

H5. The properties associated with star signs are composed of ancient greek beliefs about the four elements fire, earth, air and water, and the transitions between them.

H5a. For each element E, the three star signs assigned to it correspond to different stages of transition from neighbouring elements A via E to B: the first star sign (in the order of the zodiac) is composed mainly of A and only slightly of B, the second one of roughly equal amounts of A and B, and the third one mainly of B and only slightly of A.

This requires some introduction to the greek theory of the elements. Platon and Aristotle brought the greek theory of the elements to roughly its final form around 350 BC. The four elements are composed of two pairs of properties: cold/warm and wet/dry. Fire is hot and dry, water is cold and wet, earth is dry and cold, air is wet and hot. Transitions between the elements are only possible by flipping one of the properties at a time. For example, water can be transformed directly into its neighbouring elements earth and air, but only indirectly into fire.

The symbols chosen for the four elements are essentially triangles, the ones for the hot elements point up, the ones for the cold elements point down. When superimposed, they form the hexagram, which symbolizes the important greek view that "what is above corresponds to what is beneath". In other words, what

happens with the stars and planets in the sky corresponds to what happens to people and things on earth, what happens in the physical world corresponds to what happens in people's psyche.

Therefore the term "element" was not only meant to apply to physical reality, but also to psychology. In this light, the property pairs cold/warm and wet/dry have to be clarified.

Nights are colder than days, therefore cold is associated with night. People are more active during the day than at night, therefore day is associated with active. Men typically assume a physically more active role during sex, therefore man is associated with active. In other words, water and earth are considered female elements, whereas fire and air are considered male.

The sun only shines during the day and the moon is only rarely clearly visible at daytime, therefore man/woman is associated with sun/moon. This association is strengthened by two facts: the changing apparent size of the moon reminds of pregnancy, many women have their monthly cycles correlated with the lunar cycle.

The contrast dry/wet is associated with brittle/malleable. Dry things are harder than wet things, they either stay how they are or they break, whereas wet things can bend and flow. Here the psychological meaning is clearly recognizable.

All of this correlates well with the common astrological view that water has to do with feelings, earth with reality, fire with imagination and air with mind. The correlations should become even more visible from the following hypotheses and from the appendix.

This introduction to the greek theory of the elements has been pretty much common knowledge, except probably for the causal chain linking warm/cold to man/woman.

### 1.3. Fire (Aries, Leo, Sagittarius)

H6. For fire, the elements A and B mentioned in H5a are earth and air.

H6a. The main picture is wood burning to smoke as the element earth is transformed by fire into air.

H6b. This is associated with the transition from animal to man to god. The physical, mortal body is wounded and at the same time transformed by the imaginary power of fire into knowledge that can be communicated to the next generation and thus becomes immortal.

H6c. The animal side corresponds to the lower part of the human body, the one with the sexual organs and without the head.

H6d. The more the animal side dies and the immortal side grows, the more one can afford to be patient (1), to imagine instead of doing (1), to be open instead of secretive (2).

#### 1.4 Water (Cancer, Scorpio, Pisces)

H7. For water, the elements A and B mentioned in H5a are earth and air, too.

H7a. The main picture is ice melting to water and then evaporating to mist.

H7b. During that process, borders dissolve.

H7c. The three signs react in different ways to pain: by trying to avoid pain by protection, by giving back, by suffering and forgiving.

H7d. Because ice is mainly found in the mountains (snow, glaciers), a second important picture is that of the circle of water coming from sources in the mountains, mixing together to rivers and finally flowing into the sea, where it eventually evaporates.

H7e. During that process different sources are mixed together, connected.

H7f. The circle of water is associated with the circle of life, symbolized by the three fates: the first one spins the thread of life, the second one measures its length and the third one cuts it. Thus the three signs are about creating/measuring/ending life.

H7g. The three fates correspond also to the three phases of the moon, where the first phase, the one starting at new moon, corresponds to a young girl, the second one, before and after full moon, corresponds to a grown, fertile woman, and the third phase corresponds to an old woman who cannot have children any more.

#### 1.5 Air (Geminin, Libra, Aquarius)

H8. For air, the elements A and B mentioned in H5a are fire and water.

H8a. The main picture is that of a cloud out of which comes both lightning and rain.

H8b. Lightning or a flame are quick and random, rain is constant and predictable.

H8c. Because of these properties, another important picture is the development from child to adult to old man. Children explore the world by turning things around and looking at them quickly from different sides. Through this process, as one gets older, things get more and more unified. (For example, the two sides of a coin, which are a priori just two different pictures, are unified into a single thing called "coin" which looks different, depending on the angle from which you look at it.)

H8d. Through this process transparency increases, as it happens when the opaque smoke of a flame is transformed to transparent water.

H8e. The three signs have different ways of dealing with opposing principles: quickly switching from one to the other while always only seeing one at a time, balancing both, unifying them into a single entity (if necessary, by ignoring or destroying one of the opposites).

#### 1.6. Earth (Taurus, Virgo, Capricorn)

H9. For earth, the elements A and B mentioned in H5a are fire and water, too.

H9a. The main picture is that of a tree which needs both the water from below and the light of the sun from above to grow.

H9b. The roots of the tree are the structure which keep it from falling down, they symbolize the physical limitations nature imposes. The fruit above are beautiful and delicious. Thus the opposing principles are beauty and structure, or, expressed by what Freud viewed as the strongest forces acting on people, sex and the fear of dying.

H9c. The limiting, structuring side of nature forces to decide, the sensual side allows to leave possibilities open.

H9d. The more one is aware of the limits of life the more one plans ahead, the less immediately one acts.

## 2. Science and Philosophy

The simplicity of the discovered structures describing human psyche resembles modern particle physics, which is also based on a few elementary particles and symmetries between them. On the other hand, the same greek model of the world was also ment to apply to the physical world, which it clearly does not.

It appears that merely thinking how the world is could not force physical nature to comply. The psychological part of the greek theories, however, has been very successful in human culture. I think that their theories have survived by natural selection. Astrological predictions are clearly adapted to seasons on the northern hemisphere (cf. appendix). This is very probably the reason why the astrological year still starts with Aries at the beginning of spring, even though this ceased to be astronomically correct about 2000 years ago due to the precession of the earth's axis.

Other astrological systems are not equal to the greek one. The chinese one, for example, has five elements. There is no air and there are two more solid elements besides earth, namely wood and metal.

This implies that the greek theory of the elements, in its entirety, contains probably just as many elements of chance as a particular animal species. The building blocks of the greek theory, however, the simple, opposing principles, have probably some fundamental meaning. In analogy, there are, for example, physical reasons why mammals have two eyes rather than just one. In that sense, a comparison of different cultures could be interesting.

At some point, however, science will not be able to proceed further, since it can only operate on a given set of units, of which the world is composed in varying amounts indicated by numbers. In that sense, these units resemble mathematical axioms. Axioms cannot be proven correct or false, it is only so that their logical consequences are different and differently successful.

Thus one is led out of science and into philosophy, where one tries to think with less assumptions about the world than are usually made.

#### Appendix A: Examples

Here I am going to take a swim through some signs, the properties associated with them, mythology, history, philosophy, all while trying to link them to the model presented previously. I do not claim that the associations I am going to make here are all strictly logical consequences of the model, but they are clearly related to it.

This text has been written very quickly, in one flow, on the evening of March 28, 2001 and only marginally modified afterwards as not to destroy the flow. At that evening, the sun was already in Aries, but Mercury, who stands among other things for how one thinks and writes, was still in Pisces. Please judge what follows rather as an improvised piece of music than as a carefully researched scientific essay...

Leo, like the other signs in the middle of their element, is trying to balance the two extremes (H5a). In this case between being open and secret (H6d2), between acting and thinking (H6d1). This is associated with the picture of the king who has to make a wise decision for his people. This cannot be proven in a strict logical sense, but it does come from H6b with the king halfway between animals and gods and is also linked to the view that the lion is considered the king of animals. In the latter statement, it is not so sure whether one is the consequence of the other.

Aries is acting strictly egoistically, because his animal side has not been wounded yet (H6b), because the fire has just started to burn. Aries is related to the Egyptian god Amun, the ram, the invisible force behind the wind. This is related to the fact that to start a fire one needs to blow wind through the wood. The invisibility is related to H6d2.

Leo typically starts in life unwounded or at least unconscious of it. Later in life, Leo becomes more wounded or more aware of it. This wound can sometimes be physical and then it is often in the lower part of the body (H6c), but it probably more often is psychological. This is why Leo appears more egoistic than Aries, because there is a conflict. Similarly, Virgo is commonly associated with order, even though it is Capricorn who is really ordered. For Virgo there is always conflict between making order and having fun. Virgo is the last sign of the summer, when the harvest has to be brought in, when it has to be sorted and stocked for the winter. Days are typically still warm and one is tempted not to work much, but one also knows that the winter is coming and if the harvest is not brought in in time one might not make it through the winter.



Leo is a fixed sign. The first sign of each season is a cardinal sign, one that likes to start new things but is unable to pull things much further, the second sign of each season is fixed, likes to pull things through but is unable to adapt quickly to changes, the third sign of each season is a mutable sign, one that is good at finishing something, to prepare for something new, very adaptable but somewhat passive.

Because Leo is a fixed sign, the egoism is even more prominent, because then Leo will be more willing to pull an egoistic opinion through than Aries would. The sign opposite Leo in the zodiac is Aquarius, also a fixed sign, the last of the air signs.

Aquarius, like the rain, wants to give everybody the same amount, not distinguishing between rich and poor, between beautiful and ugly, wants to be altruistic. Also the drive to unify wants all the people to be the same. Since Aquarius is a fixed sign too, it does happen though that Aquarius only sees the other people and gives them all the same but does not see himself and that he has much more than the others.

Other signs have also such opposing principles between the axes, between opposing signs in the zodiac. For example, Virgo has to do with analysis, the process of sorting the harvest, to structure it as much as needed to stock it in without needing too much space, with a sensitive eye to what does not fit in, like foul fruit that might destroy the rest of the fruit if it is not sorted out in time.

The first task of Psyche in mythology is to sort different seeds, with what ants help her do. The next three tasks correspond to the elements water (waiting for the right moment to steal some fleece from rams), fire (creating a model of the world in one's head through imagination in order to solve a problem, which allowed to retrieve something precious from the middle of the circular river Styx) and air (carefully planned, conscious action to get the box of Pandora from the underworld, from the collective unconscious).

Pisces on the other side of Virgo has to do with synthesis, as all the rivers from different places unite in the sea. Pisces is also what by definition cannot be analyzed. The contrast between Virgo and Pisces is most accurately described in the novel "Solaris" by Stanislaw Lem who has the sun in Virgo. Consequently Solaris is a detailed analytical description of what cannot be analyzed by definition. When the hero uses a super-microscope to analyze a blood sample of that copy of what was left in his unconscious of his wife who had committed suicide a few years ago, he sees the molecules but when he focusses in, expecting to see the atoms and then protons and electrons he sees nothing but a blank silver-gray screen.

The earth's axis precesses with a period of 26'000 years. Therefore every 2150 years or so, another sign is rising in spring, this period is called an astrological age. Aries was rising between about 2000 BC and 0, Pisces has been until about now and next it will be Aquarius. Each age is dominated by its sign and, less strongly, by its opposite sign.

Opposed to Aries is Libra, the middle one of the air signs, a cardinal sign like Aries. Libra tries to equilibrate the world, to bring oppositions into a harmonious balance. Aries is impatiently driven to bring the world off balance, to break up existing structures such that new things become possible quickly. Libra is abstract, Aries in concrete, fights for his goals based on concrete, touchable knowledge of the world, Libra tries more its chances, because it is coming after Virgo has sorted the world quite a bit, so that it can easily see how things are and then take chances. Also one is tired after a month of Virgo to look at everything deeply in detail.

Before the greeks, there were eleven star signs, as big as they physically are on the sky. The greeks divided the zodiac into 12 parts of equal size, the sign Scorpio was split into two parts, the scissors of Scorpio became Libra. So what they did was at least self-consistent, the abstract philosophical view of the world, describing the world by numbers as Pythagoras said (what is still the basis of todays science).

Out of unity, the number one, comes two, oppositions. Two people mate and naturally become three. Three is close to pi, the number that relates the diameter of the circle to its circumference, the circle is perfect harmony because all points have equal distances from the center. Thus three is harmonious but still incomplete. The number four is disharmonious because about 6/7 are different than the rest.

This is clearly visible in fairy tales where the first two daughters are much like the mother but the third daughter, the fourth person, is different and yet contains something that is necessary in order to solve the other's problems. In real life, the first child of a family (number three counting mother and father) is often more like its parents than the second child.

In astrological charts the angles between planets have exactly these meanings, if planets are in conjunction, i.e. at about the same place ( $360/1$ ) there is unity, the two forces of the planets unite. As the planets were nothing else than gods walking across the skies, the leading planet, the one further in the zodiac, decides, determines what is done and the follower is supporting the leader with his abilities.

The angle 180 is opposition, the two forces fight each other, one can deal with them in typically one of the three ways that air signs do. The angle 120 ( $360/3$ , trine) is harmonic but somewhat incomplete and rather passive. The angle 90 ( $360/4$ , square) is tension, but carries drive to act. The sextile ( $360/6$ ) is harmonic opportunity, the quincunx ( $5/12 * 360$ ) is misunderstanding, that is why it occurs often between lovers, because it keeps relationships interesting even when people live together for a long time. Between people, aspects between the planets influence how people relate, this is called synastry.

The oracle of Delphi was founded as Zeus let two eagles fly into opposite directions to the other side of the world to the navel of the world. The eagles stand for Scorpio, maybe because the sign for Scorpio is located besides Sagittarius who is (besides Aries) associated with Zeus, is a hunter who maybe used eagles in earlier times for hunting. Besides the oracle of Delphi there was also the oracle of Amun/Zeus in Siwa in Egypt. Thus the myth symbolizes how the

greeks created a new star sign in order to balance the world.

In another myth, Hermes as a baby steals 40 cattle from Apollon, and then kills one and splits it into 12 equally sized pieces and eats one of them, claiming to be a new god and at the same time ending the age of Taurus (cattle). Apollon is first furious that his cattle have been stolen, but later trades his cattle for a Lyra that Hermes has made, he trades the unconscious female age of Taurus for the new conscious age and learns to play the Lyra. People have been making music with their own voices before there were instruments, with a Lyra you have to be more conscious, you have to learn to synthesize music from pulling a few strings. This is the same as composing astrology of four elements. Of course, the vocal cords are also a set of strings, so there was not really anything lost or destroyed by replacing the human voice by a Lyra and of course the human voice is still used to make music today.

Apollon is associated to the sun and thus to Leo; in this myth he turns from a shepherd into a musician, as his animal side is transformed into something divine.

After the age of Aries/Libra came the age of Pisces/Virgo. The strict, invisible god of the old Testament that appeared in a burning bush was replaced by a forgiving god, by a compassionate god. Now there is a whole family in the sky, god, the virgin mother mary (Virgo), and the son Jesus. This goes back to ancient gods, mother and son, related to the sea, which the greeks have incorporated in a more abstract form into their mythology.

The god of the arabic world has more Virgo in it, the koran is very detailed, for example, about the circumstances under which one may have a second wife. The Ramadan is any season of the year, whereas christians fast at the end of Pisces. Pisces go with nature, go with the world, Virgo tries to be herself, despite all the influences. Virgo is best associated with the planet earth itself, on which everybody is trying to live their own lives despite all the other forces acting on one.

During the age of pisces not much was made conscious, at least not in the first half of it. If one has ever seen the drawings of Leonardo da Vinci, it is obvious how much had already been there but had to wait until about the 19th century to be actually built.

It seems that the world always keeps part of the previous age for one more age. About 40 BC Carthago was destroyed, which was inhabited by the Phoenicians who had a religion that reminds much more of the age of Taurus/Scorpio, including allegedly sacrificing children to the Moloch. Some time before Hannibal had tried to walk across the Alps in order to conquer Rome. He was not planning much ahead and so did not succeed. The Phoenicians were probably (unconsciously) thinking that the Age of Aries was coming to an end and since Taurus is what naturally comes after Aries, this would be Taurus again. In the end, Carthago was destroyed and the remaining Phoenicians went home to the Lebanon.

During the Age of Pisces, Jews have maintained their religion of the old testament. As the age of Pisces neared its end, in 1781 a new Planet was discovered and called Uranus. Many people consciously thought that this could

only mean that the new age had finally arrived. It has arguably contributed to the french Revolution and to the founding of the United States of America.

Aquarius loves progress, a continuous increase of transparency and consciousness. Continuous because he is a fixed sign and because the rain comes down continuously. "liberte, egalite, fraternity", the slogan of the french revolution, fits well with the new age, the first one mainly with Leo, the other two with Aquarius. After the french revolution, many things were done that made people more equal, like allowing women to become priests, for example, or chopping off peoples heads. People have said that without the Guillotine it would not have been possible to kill so many people in such a short time. This is not quite true and the contrary has been proven in the past, but what would not have been possible otherwise, would have been to properly execute so many people, so quickly.

Many of the equalizing laws were first reversed again, but many of them are now again commonly in place. In Germany, Jews were allowed to go to Universities, were given names that can be written down in roman letters. For the first time in 2000 years, they felt again like being part of the world. Also it was the end of Pisces, with all those unconscious possibilities to implement.

So it was only natural that Jews started to discover and invent new things: Psychoanalysis and the collective unconscious, the theory of relativity, quantum mechanics, communism. Actually quantum mechanics was invented by two people, Heisenberg who was Jewish and Schroedinger who was not. Schroedinger had it actually figured out earlier than Heisenberg, but having the sun in Leo, he waited longer before publishing because his theory was conflicting with the theory of relativity, a conflict which has only later been resolved by Dirac.

Now, Aquarius loves continuous progress, but he also hates disorder. At one point, it seems, there was a collective unconscious drive that wanted to extinguish all Jews since apparently the attempt to make them equal to everybody else had failed. I don't want to excuse anything what has happened then, I just want to make some of the unconscious mechanisms apparent in order to maybe contribute to avoiding something like that in the future.

There is hope: many Jews are sort of no longer Jews, but Israelis, just a bunch of similar people living in a country, like everybody else. There is no longer much a specific jewish "problem", just the general problem that there are different countries but that problem will be solved later, hopefully in a civilized way. For example, Europe is in the progress of melting into a single country, except Switzerland, which according to the legend was founded by its three "Urkantone" on August 1, 1291.

It is understandable, that even in the Age of Aquarius, a country with several planets in Leo does not think that melting is such a great idea by itself without further reasons. Switzerland is the land of compromise and also now a land of peace. Not so many years ago, swiss mercenaries were the fiercest of Europe and used everywhere there to win battles. In a similar development to what happens in Leo's life, Switzerland has stopped to export mercenaries after in one battle there were mainly swiss on both sides and they decided not to fight.

The swiss wound then lead to the foundation of the Red Cross, to showing some mercy to others.

Russia has the sun in Aquarius. This is one of the reasons, communism was so successful there. Think of the extreme transparency as everybody was spying on everybody and of all the masses moving in unison.

The United States have the sun in Cancer; for it protection is very important, think encryption export restrictions or strategic missile defense. What other country has such a big "National Security Agency" (NSA) ? Also Americans do not see much out of the country, most things on TV are internal US affairs, a large percentage of members of congress do not have a passport, they have never been out of the country.

I could write more along these lines, but I think I should finish now.

I hope that the turbulent phase of the transition to the new age will be soon over. It is not probable that the technological progress will continue at the same pace, because at some point the imaginary unconscious reservoir generated during the age of Pisces will be used up, at which point there might quite a stable period, as expected for a fixed sign.

My sources for learning astrology were mainly the two books by Liz Greene mentioned in [2] and a few seminars by her between 1999 and 2001, other books, the internet and observation of the world.

Now that I have shown you the strings of the Lyra and played some music on it, it is your turn to learn to play the instrument. You will probably succeed in making more beautiful music than me, as did Apollon compared to Hermes.

#### References

- [1] Discovery Disclosure (January 1998), by Alain Stalder.
- [2] Discovery Disclosure (January 2000), by Alain Stalder.

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The base64 encoded data at the end of page 28 of the document (page 124 in this book):

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The disclaimer and estimation on page 29 of the document (page 125 in this book):

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This document consists essentially of a list of scientific hypotheses, i.e. of questions to nature that have been formulated in a way that allows experimental scientists either to ask them directly to nature or, else, to divide them into sub-hypotheses by means of known techniques and then to ask those to nature in experiment. If, and only if, a hypothesis is experimentally confirmed and generally accepted by the scientific community, will it become a scientifically verified fact.

If you apply any hypotheses as facts to your life or to the life of others, you are doing it exclusively at your own responsibility and at your own risk.

## Estimation (January 2002)

In my personal estimation, the quickest path to some tangible scientific results would be to try to prove or disprove H14b together with the basic pictures for the four elements (fire, cloud, river, tree) in combination with H19, and applied to different groups of people, as indicated in H10.

Direct confirmation of H1-5, however, might either be relatively easy or, else, very difficult, depending on how much the effect is connected to quantum mechanics and measurement, as well as, depending on whether there is collective resistance to proving it. Qualitatively, the experience of H1-5 is as real as anything can be, the moment it is felt, but in retrospect, feelings are often not so convincing, presumably precisely because feelings are largely collective phenomena that cannot be reproduced well within an individual without reiterated feedback from others. I remain curious.

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<http://www.exactphilosophy.net/discoveries.pdf>

## First Mentions

The paragraph at the bottom of page 14 of the document (page 141 in this book):

1 Jan 2017: As you can see, there is no "escape" in this story, for example, her boyfriend is an astrological twin of me, 19 years younger, sun and lunar nodes closely conjunct and probably the moon, too, certainly also in Aries, as also her moon. Another "strange coincidence" or rather "habbit" that does in no way prove that there would have ever been any significant interest by her into me. In fact, all real events indicate either the opposite or could be explained differently, so let me just gently let this rest as it is. I had not anticipated this article to go that deep again, but I was certainly also trying to attain a certain density, in order to provide a minimal mirror of what motivated me, in probably future public interest. I feel that, as with the editors of "The White Goddess", I should now just shut up and preserve this, as well as continue to bring my work to the public, on this website and in future books.

**KONEC**











This book presents the website [exactphilosophy.net](http://exactphilosophy.net), as of 2017. Written by a Swiss physicist, it contains lots of beautiful novel ideas, inspired by nature and physics, ancient and modern philosophy, as well as by astrology, the I Ching and more...

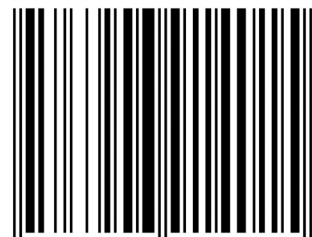
Please note that this book does not yet present these ideas in a way and format suitable for most readers. That will follow in other books by the same author. Instead, this book addresses anyone with a mind free enough to think outside of some of the usual "boxes", paired with imagination and also a more scientifically critical mind in the end, as implies the "exact" in exactphilosophy.

In essence, first "elements" are tentatively defined from first principles, inspired mostly by Kant, then some correlations between these abstractly defined "elements" and the ancient Greek elements are revealed, as well as with the 8 trigrams of the Chinese I Ching, and more.

**Artecat**  
Alain Stalder



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