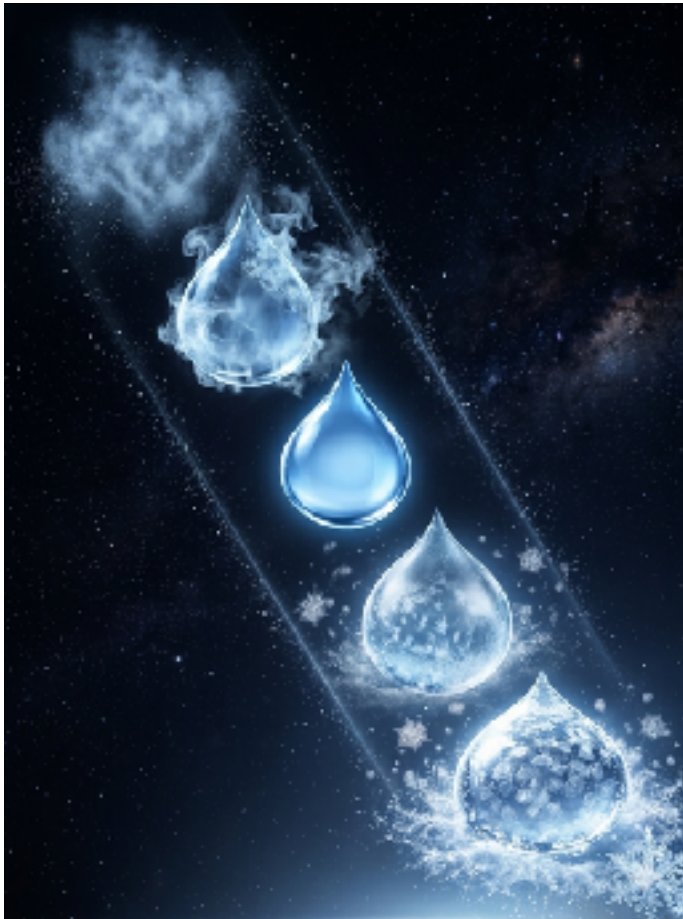


41) Re-Cognition of Empedocles' Elemental Differentiation



Mea culpa, no other or institution is accountable for this student work. Time as intellectual Medium linking reality's change of state with water as its symbol.

Empedocles, who distinguished himself in philosophy, was a contemporary of David, while Pythagoras lived in the days of Solomon, son of David, and acquired Wisdom from the treasury of prophethood. It is he who claimed to have heard the whispering sound of the heavens and to have attained the station of the angels. In truth thy Lord will clearly set forth all things, if He pleaseth. Verily, He is the Wise, the All-Pervading. ~Tablets of Bahá'u'lláh Revealed after the Kitab-i-Aqdas

Empedocles was born in Sicily and lived circa 494 – 434 BC. What exists of Empedocles' writings are fragments of poetic verse open for broad association and possible meaning. He, all-the-same, saw and shared our desire for true understanding and reasoned belief.

*O friends, I know indeed in these the words
Which I will speak that very truth abides;
But greatly troublous unto men always
Hath been the emulous struggle of Belief.
To reach their bosoms.*

From THE FRAGMENTS OF EMPEDOCLES,
PURIFICATIONS - The Healer and Prophet

We have many fragments primarily from other philosopher's interpretation or commentary on his ideas. Commentaries that are similar to this one. Scientific dissertations and ancient verse have characteristics similar to quantum writings in this age. The very term quantum has many implied or possible meanings even to a hard-core mathematical physicist. Which of those meanings does one take to heart and mind?

Open acknowledgement of Empedocles' ideas first flourished 444–443 BC. Exact dates of Empedocles' birth and death are unknown, and accounts of his life events blur with his grandfather's who shared the same name. However, He is best known for his introduction of the concept of the four creative roots, re-labeled by Aristotle's interpretation as four elements, fire, air, earth, and water to western philosophy. When Empedocles references the four roots it is evident that he associates them to four non-physical, divine cultural realities, "*Zeus, life-bringing Here, Dis, and Nestis whose tears bedew mortality.*", suggesting a relationship of causality from the divine to the physical. Our words transmute over centuries as the thunder of speech hammers their essence from Zeus, the god of lightning, to Dzeus to Deus, to the Latin omnipotent, to the living word in Portuguese now.

Empedocles took four to be a sacred number. This is echoed by Socrates in *Timaeus* suggesting the tetrahedron was the underlying structure in relationships, four roots, four elements of the universe. This is consistent with Baha'i teachings. Creator, Manifestation, creation associated by Primal Will (emanating from the Creator through the Manifestation to the creation). The One creates three.

The four elements are still frequently referred to by multiple cultures and have a penetrating beckoning to our concepts and literature. Concepts of the four or even five elements pre-date Empedocles in Asia by 50 to 100 years. Historically, we frequently find

that deep insights of knowledge occur with synchronicity in different cultures around the world. Empedocles also supported the balanced summons of love and strife being related to creative cause as the active force in continual relation. His ideas, again, echo with Yin ☯ Yang (900 BC) balance and nature. Heraclitus (500 BC), also supported this binary dynamic reflective concept as well.

The opposites of attraction and repulsion are the foundational concepts in our understanding of the essence of physical creation, which we even refer to as the nature of electrical charges, positive and negative. The current concept of electromagnetic wave is based on essential intertwining of love and strife, pull and push, of electro↔magnetic polar 2X2 displacement. Our atoms are and will be perceived as negative charged electrons seeking their alter reality positive charged protons, and neutrons as the two coupled by a mediator, neutrino.

This student has an innate interest in terms of alchemy. Alchemy, chemistry, and physics are the desire to understand the relationship, the connection between all things. Man's investigations into these subjects are often driven by our desire to control the external world. That desire is prominent and with us almost at all times every day. The most profound hiatus from materialism occurs when we are reflecting and contemplating the thoughts, teachings, and guidance of the Manifestation. We are able to step out of our focus of controlling the outer world to understand why and how to control our inner world, there by, become better people. Rather than desiring to make the world around us better, the Holy Spirit, Primal Will, First Cause, Their Good, Their Godly intentions do create, do stimulate, desire in us to make our inner being better. Their divine desire changes, transmutes, the state of our desire. This is the penultimate expression of alchemy.

The beautiful irony is that as we make ourselves better ... the world is improved.

The mapped association of fire to energy is a self evident parallel that has efficacious affinity, there fore, relevancy and validity.

Fire↔Energy



All so, as also, the association of air to space is a another very lucid analogous and functional parallel mapping that remains true now. The percentage of space in a molecule of air, say O₂, is 99.999999999999% space. Approximately the same? Numbers do not lie, but how we use them may not be correct. In human sensory experience space and air are equivalent.

Air↔Space



Our interest in earth, as matter, as particles, as mass remains another sensory, natural, and mathematical perception we depend on. The Mass of the Earth is relevant.

Earth ↔ Mass



This is association of the scientific characteristic, quality, of mass to earth. That is material, substance, a space occupying element, even for a subatomic particle, is still a relevant distinction we have as a tool and a concept we still use to analyze the world and gravity.

$$E = MC^2 \quad (E \approx M(\text{Space}^2/\text{time}^2))$$

This is our relativity concept from Poincaré to Einstein to answer our desire to see in a central oneness, an equivalence underling these four elements, associating condensed energy as mass. In this equation, the four elements, roots, are energy, mass, space, and time. Culturally we now see the unified relations of these elements of physical causation and existence as mysterious, profound, and powerful knowledge, bordering divine reality.

$$\text{Fire} = \text{Earth} \cdot \frac{\text{Air (compounded)}}{\text{Water (compounded)}}$$

The association of space as air, as a compounded spacial measure, associated water as time, as a compounded change indicator is an interesting equation with no useful meaning. Poetic, none-the-less.

We are very fond of our current concept of segmented time.

Second ↔ Eternity

Drop ↔ Ocean

Does time have any correlation to Empedocles four elements, specifically water? Well, the equated correlations associated above is interesting but leads no where. Can we correlate water to time in a meaningful relation? Yes, there's a number of correlations. We know Heraclitus, whose writings also exists as only fragments, associated change to a river's water flowing who preceeded Empedocles by one or two generations.

- 1) We could say the time flows and water flows. We verbalize they both have the attribute of being fluid.
- 2) Water seeks the lowest point and time seeks the shortest segment to the point of now.
- 3) Water and time seem infinitely sub-devisable.
- 4) Water and time are unidirectional.
- 5) Water and time indicate or suggest a change of state.

The fourth association is the one that invites significant attention. It is certain that Empedocles had exposure to ice, water, and steam. We understand that even in ancient times, in Sicily, ice was harvested from Mount Etna as a delicacy and a preservation method.



So a change of state from vapor to water to ice is the best association of time. We can associate a change of position as an indication of time, Galileo's velocity, Earth's rotation, or clock's angular motion, but there you have space, distance traveled, as the fabric or medium in which the object is related to the reality of time. However, if you compare an object to itself at one time and the object to itself at another time, this is the most fundamental essential expression of change of state as an indication of time. So water changing from ice, a solid, to a liquid, to a gas, shows that Empedocles four elements are still used in our science today. If water is equated to time and time is manifested as a change of state. In fact, change of state is a fundamental concept that is used in our quantum physics and quantum logic. (particle entanglement or state of a qbit.) Thus water relates as the physical substance with the capacity for change of state manifesting time that is available to humanity in every day experience.

Water ⇔ Time



Time permits the transmutation of individuation to unification. How a drop becomes the ocean or a person becomes a family.

What change of state will personally occur and can be examined when you are no longer existent in space? That is when you no longer have spacial location. That is when the mortal body dies, your senses of location in space will cease to be; the changes you will experience are a change of state. You will cease as a spatially located being and become an eternally located being. That is a

change of state. State is derived from, defined in, determined by context.

This is evidenced to you at night in your dreams, a change of state we all experience. There are those who claim they do not dream. The probable and helpful assessment is they do not remember their dreams or they are so embarrassing or incoherent they neglect to reference or convey them.

The correlation of time to water by Heraclitus. Is well documented. "On those who enter the same rivers, ever different waters flow."

Another fragment reads: "Into the same rivers we both step and do not step; we both are and are not"). Heraclitus perhaps suggests that the river as time constantly changes what comes our way, but we change from existence in the present moment to non-existence as we pass to the past, even hinting and inviting to existential examination of personhood continuity transcendent of time.

There is no yet documented evidence that Empedocles was familiar with Heraclitus. Heraclitus, circa 500 BC, was from Ephesus, a Greek⇔Persian costal town, on the other side of the

Italian peninsula from Empedocles area of origin in Sicily, circa 494 – 434 BC. The travel time in their day was a week's sail. This suggests a high probability that Empedocles could have been cognitive of Heraclitus and his inquisitive and stimulating writings reported to be housed at the Temple of Artemis, one of the seven wonders of the ancient world. Near contemporaries who reference Heraclitus include Parmenides of Elea, Cratylus, Socrates, Plato, and Theophrastus.

According to the Stanford Encyclopedia of Philosophy, "Empedocles is credited by later historians, including Aristotle, with being one of the first thinkers to suggest that light takes time to travel from one point to another. While he believed that light's movement was instant enough that humans could not directly perceive it with their eyes, he established the fundamental scientific basis that light requires a duration of time to propagate across a distance." Clearly, a prophetic perspective now dominant in our thoughts of sciences such as astronomy and physics.

Continuing to explore water as "change of state" is the cutting edge of our current analysis of reality by quantum. The creation of BEC, Bose Einstein Condensate, a solution ... a water composed of Helium devoid of heat (fire), nearly divine in its unified behavior, announces a profound change of state.

So if we re-examine Bahá'u'lláh's statement about Empedocles, **"acquired Wisdom from the treasury of prophethood"** we can recognize that he, Empedocles, fore(space)told, prophesied, ideas that determined our future thinking process by his statements. The rational distinction between realities by their properties is among what he gave to us, distinguishing fire, air, earth from water and each other. It is that process of distinction, separation, that we still use in all of our sciences, all of our chemistry, and all of our physics today.

When Bahá'u'lláh references: **"It is he who claimed to have heard the whispering sound of the heavens and to have attained the station of the angels."** It must be born in mind that intention of this tablet was to extol Empedocles and the other Greek philosophers. So when it is stated "he who claimed to have heard", consider that Bahá'u'lláh was not implying that Empedocles' claims are false. The words and terms Empedocles used, such as angels, is not common today. What angels could have Empedocles been listening to?

The purpose underlying Their (Manifestations) revelation hath been to educate all men, that they may, at the hour of death, ascend, in the utmost purity and sanctity and with absolute detachment, to the throne of the Most High. The light which these souls radiate is responsible for the progress of the world and the advancement of its peoples. They are like unto leaven which leaveneth the world of being, and constitute the animating force through which the arts and wonders of the world are made manifest. Through them the clouds rain their bounty upon men, and the earth bringeth forth its fruits.
Bahá'u'lláh, Gleanings LXXXI

So this Gleaning indicates that the arts and wonders of the world are consequence of the pure souls that have gone on before us and somehow inspire us. Consider the possibility that when we leave space and our segmented perception of time and we transmute to the realm of eternity, we might be able to inspire our own soul at an alternate time, such as now.

`Abdu'l-Bahá indicates that meditation is the process of communion with your soul. Your soul, your spirit, has no spatial or segmented temporal location.

It is an axiomatic fact that while you meditate you are speaking with your own spirit. In that state of mind you put certain questions to your

spirit and the spirit answers: the light breaks forth and the reality is revealed. `Abdu'l-Bahá

So if communion with your soul is what we do during meditation, then Empedocles referring to listening to heaven and the angels may have been his form of meditation, and that another soul or his own soul inspired him with his profound differentiations between fire, air, earth, and water.

O people of Baha! The source of crafts, sciences and arts is the power of reflection. Make ye every effort that out of this ideal mine there may gleam forth such pearls of wisdom and utterance as will promote the well-being and harmony of all the kindreds of the earth.
Bahá'u'lláh

One may ask: Where did Poincaré get his particular formula for equivalence of mass and energy? How did Einstein glean its universal application? These original concepts might have been delivered by the same method that Empedocles came to understand the differentiation between those elements that we contemplate today.

Etymology of Element

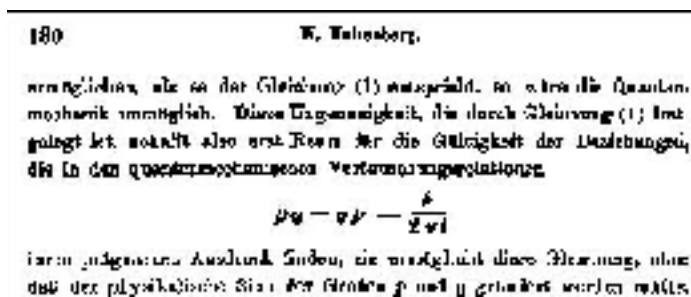
"c. 1300, "earth, air, fire, or water; one of the four things regarded by the ancients as the constituents of all things," from Old French element (10c.), from Latin elementum "rudiment, first principle, matter in its most basic form" (translating Greek stoikheion), origin and original sense unknown. Meaning "simplest component of a complex substance" is late 14c. Modern sense in chemistry is from 1813, but is not essentially different from the ancient one. Meaning "proper or natural environment of anything" is from 1590s, from the old notion that each class of living beings had its natural abode in one of the four elements. Elements "atmospheric force" is 1550s."

Periodic Table of the Elements

Our elemental chemical periodic chart distinguishes substances, defined by distinct characteristics,

properties behaviors when tested. Humanity is defined by distinct characteristics, properties behaviors when tested. We now separate and define chemical elements by their structured essence, by our atomic understanding. But the process of identifying them as individual elements is still based on Empedocles' differentiation method of the four element elements. The most meaningful assay of the human soul is by the virtues it has acquired evidenced by trials of fire and cold, isolation and purification. The alchemy of essential spirit and chemistry of elements are reflective in nature.

"Do not add entities unnecessarily." William of Ockham. Quantum = Measurement. Qualitum is the quality, entity, we are measuring. Our limit is our lack of understanding the nature what qualitum we are measuring. Our perception of time is sequential order. An abstract, a non-physical, an intellectual reality are all synonyms for an ideal, spiritual or divine entity. Our uncertainty from Heisenberg hints at the problem of a associating physical with non-physical. When Empedocles associated Zeus to fire, a non-physical intellectual source of causality to a physical root, physical element, energy, our beloved and honored Heisenberg made the same Griffin.



Physical location in space associated to spatially measured mass divided by (temporal location compound by another temporal location).

(Location in space), $pq \cdot$ (momentum = mass • spatial location / time compounded) qp equals Planck's constant, h , divided by two imaginary temporal cycles, $2\pi i$.

A compounded non-physical reality associated to a physical reality yields a quantifiable degree of ignorance. We measure time? We measure the order of the universe? We measure the constancy of our observations of nature? This is as true as it is self evident. If we replace Zeus with Deus replaced by temporal sequencing as causality pretending the Author of time is non-existent, there fore, unanswerable to our prayers and communions, we will enter an age of greater uncertainty.

Empedocles was associating an intellectual or spiritual entity to physical elements, Zeus to fire. We continue this thought process today denying the validity of his. This is our confusion. His thoughts and deeds permitted our conceptions just as your parents did yours. Try not to deny your parents, who ever they may be.

Apparently, when we leave the realm of space and enter the realm of eternity, the realm of mind, of spirit our existence is of another nature. There are elements there, non-space occupying, non-physical, essential, that will constitute what we will be expressed by and constitute our form. Perhaps similar to how concepts and ideas are constructed and their form given by words.

The answer to the third question is this, that in the other world the human reality doth not assume a physical form, rather doth it take on a heavenly form, made up of elements of that heavenly realm.

~ Selected Writings of Abdu'l-Bahá

Divinely inspired scriptures offered by the philosopher's pursuit for knowledge of First Cause such as Empedocle's root elements laid the foundation for our understanding of science and its source. Symmetric and parallel to this religion and its revelation lay the foundation for our understanding of Primal Will and its Source.

Science's balance $\Leftrightarrow$ Religion's balance? REASON

Bahá'u'lláh reference to Empedocles is thought stimulating.

That water is a symbol of time is parallel to the association of our body as a symbol of our soul and parallel to the association of the Manifestation as a symbol of our Creator. We derive scientific associations by the mental power that allows divine associations. REASON.

Elderly Bahá'í Student,
Clyde Arthur Keys

First image created by OpenAI's ChatGPT image generation (DALL·E) and modified by Chrome AI using Banana Nano fulfilling a description of an imaginary concept. Periodic Chart from WUWM 89.7 FM - Milwaukee's NPR. All other visual constructs by this student.

BEC (Bose Einstein Condensate), a superfluid hinting to the secrets unfolding in this age. The Revelations of the Báb and Bahá'u'lláh will unfold in our minds over a thousand or thousands of years.

<https://youtu.be/7eZIF6IToQs?si=MfbCvH-IPyABcyeX>

<https://dailynous.com/2026/04/06/new-writings-by-empedocles-discovered/>
[30 Unpublished Verses From Iconic Greek Philosopher Discovered in Cairo](#)

Nestis:
AI Overview

In ancient Greece, **Nestis** was a secret cult title for **Persephone**, the Queen of the Underworld and goddess of spring. The name translates to "the Fasting One". [1]

Because speaking the name of Persephone as the terrifying Queen of the Dead was considered taboo and dangerous, the Greeks often used euphemisms for her. [1]

Nestis is most famously recorded in the 5th century BC by the pre-Socratic philosopher **Empedocles** in his cosmological poem *On Nature*. In the poem, Empedocles describes the four classical elements of the universe, each represented by a major deity: [Here AI is correlating is references in Wikipedia on Empedocles.

- **Zeus** representing fire
- **Hera** representing air
- **Hades** representing earth
- **Nestis** (Persephone) representing water