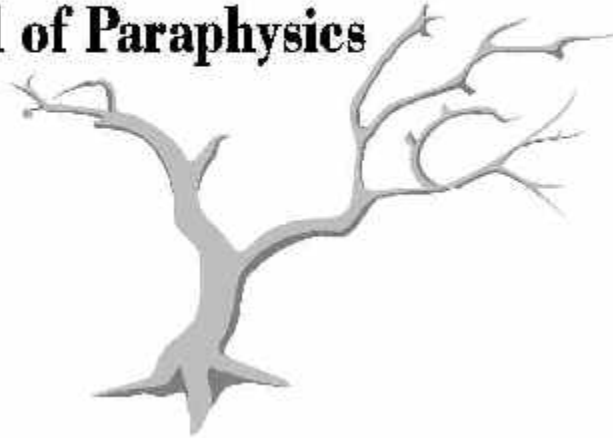


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The Journal of Paraphysics



Volume I, Issue 1

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Edited by James E. Beichler

This journal is dedicated to both the explanation of paranormal phenomena within the context of physics and extending the science of physics into areas of study that are normally considered beyond the scope of physics. This journal will offer a forum where refereed papers can be presented without prior prejudice toward either their content or subject matter. The material presented will span all levels of knowledge. Knowledge cannot be reserved for those who are highly educated, but is the right of all who search it out. It is hoped that this journal will prove interesting to the self-educated reader as well as the professional scientist. The ideas and content of the articles will be stressed rather than the "scholarly" language of presentation, as long as the proper norms of presentation are preserved. The journal will also offer a forum where issues concerning the conceptual bases of physics and the validity of advance in the science of physics into the paranormal and elsewhere can be openly discussed. As an electronic journal, the editors have far more latitude for the presentation of ideas than would normally occur in a hardcopy journal and this latitude will be utilized whenever necessary. The format of this journal will surely change in the first few issues, but the philosophy behind its publication will not change.

PHYSICS AND PARAPHYSICS

Before the scope of physics can be extended to include the 'paranormal,' it must be clearly understood what 'normal' physics encompasses. At the most fundamental level, physics represents a logical study of phenomena in the world around us. The word

'physics' came from the Greek word for 'nature,' so within its original context physics was an attempt to discover the 'nature' of things in our world, the 'natural' world. This logical study has always been conducted by finding relationships between the most fundamental physical quantities which humankind has yet been able to discover. The existence of material objects allows us to determine the relative positions of such objects, from which we have developed a concept of relative space. On the other hand, changes of position of the material objects in that relative space have allowed us to develop a concept of relative time. Nothing in the physical world seems more fundamental or basic than these quantities. So physics is the study of matter and the motion of matter within the context of relative space and time. As a logical mental endeavor, physics has come to follow a pattern of development which we know as the scientific method while mathematics, itself a logical system of thought, has become a major tool for exploration and exposition in the study of physics.

By contrast, paraphysics can be thought of as either a branch of physics or an extension of physics into realms not covered by normal physics as described above. In one respect, paraphysics is the logical study of paranormal phenomena within the normal context of physics. If paranormal phenomena such as ESP and PK exist, then they act in the same physical world as that which is explained by physics, so the explanation of these paranormal phenomena falls within the branch of physics known as paraphysics. But within a still broader context, paraphysics could also be considered a logical study of those phenomena occurring in nature which cannot be understood within the context of either matter in motion or our normal concepts of space and time. This broader context necessitates a new definition of the scope of physics and thus emphasizes the role of paraphysics as either the physics of other worlds or the physics governing the extension of our world into realms which cannot be reduced to matter, motion, relative space and relative time as their most fundamental elements. The logical explanation of phenomena based upon these new criteria would go beyond normal physics and thus fall within the discipline of paraphysics. So, we have two different approaches to consider in the study of nature by emphasizing either the explanation and physics of phenomena or the phenomena which physics explains. If either of these varies from the normal, then we are led to paraphysics. In this larger context, paraphysics is an interdisciplinary study of nature which may or may not rely upon the investigative methods of normal physics.

CONTENTS: Volume I, Issue 1

["Bubble, Bubble, Toil and Trouble! A fresh look at relativity, uncertainty and compatibility."](#)

Uncertainty and relativity are considered as compatible systems using a simple definition of compatibility. When a system of formulas describing a physical concept can be used to mathematically derive another system of formulas describing a completely different physical concept, the two concepts can be considered compatible. In this case, the formulas expressing the Heisenberg Uncertainty Principle are used to derive the basic

formulas of Special Relativity. This derivation is accomplished by sacrificing Planck's constant, thus implying that Planck's constant is actually a space-time dissociation constant while uncertainty and relativity are intimately related at the most fundamental levels of reality. The physical and philosophical consequences of this implication are not investigated in depth, but are only suggested in this article. [34KB]

["Twist 'til we tear the house down!"](#)

The British mathematician William Kingdon Clifford died a young genius in the 1870's, long before he reached his full potential as a mathematician or theoretical scientist. Yet his ideas are thought to precurse or anticipate Einstein's development of general relativity. In actuality, Clifford's physical concepts went far beyond simple general relativity since he was attempting to build a framework for Maxwell's electromagnetic theory based upon a curved space that could eventually account for gravitational and other forces. The basic element of space in Clifford's geometrical conception of physical reality was a 'twist.' Our world was constructed of his elementary twists of space. In other words, Clifford attempted to develop a 'unified field theory' based on space curvature more than a half-century before that phrase was first used in science. Toward this end, Clifford developed a system of algebra as well as a specialized geometrical system which are still used today in the most advanced areas of physics. Historians and scientists normally regard his theory as having died with Clifford. It is also commonly held that he had no followers to carry on his work and his geometrical ideas did not influence later developments in science. However, quite the opposite is true as is demonstrated in this paper. The bottom line is that Clifford should be regarded as the father of our modern attempts to unify the forces of nature in a single physical theory. [Three parts, 111KB]

["Either/Or: Spiritualism and the roots of paranormal science."](#)

This paper traces the early history of parapsychology and parapsysics within a broader cultural and philosophical context than is normally found in other historical treatments. The author clearly demonstrates that scientific spiritualism neither suddenly nor randomly appeared, without precedent, in the latter half of the nineteenth century, but was part of the evolutionary process that is science. Early attempts to develop a science of the paranormal in the form of scientific spiritualism were related to much earlier speculations on the nature of reality and how scientists perceive that reality. Within this context, both parapsychology and parapsysics can be found to have developed concurrently with the very same philosophical debates on the role of science and human perception which helped to foster psychology as a legitimate branch of science. [Three parts and notes, 153KB]

UPCOMING ARTICLES

"Up, Up and Away: The fifth dimension in physics"

Hyperspatial theories are again in vogue with as many as ten dimensions being used in theoretical physics. However, five-dimensional theories have had a more illustrious and varied career than these newer hyperspatial theories would indicate. The original five-dimensional unified field theory was developed by Theodor Kaluza in 1921 and extended by Oskar Klein, Albert Einstein and others over the next few decades. These early hyperspace theories are studied within their historical context in this article.

"Simple 'MYSPHYT' Theory"

It has now been two decades since Fritjof Capra published his book *The Tao of Physics*. Other books making essentially the same claims, relating modern physics to mysticism, predate Capra's *Tao*, while similar books have also been penned since its publication. The persistence of the claimed relationship between two such opposing methodologies seems to imply that there may well be some fundamental relationship between modern physics and mysticism. This relationship is explored within a more formal context as the "MYSPHYT" (pronounced misfit) theory.

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REQUEST FOR REFEREES AND EDITORS

Anyone who wishes to act as a [referee or editor](#) on a more permanent basis is cordially invited to contact the editor. The early success of this journal will depend on those who are interested enough to help make it a success.

CALL FOR PAPERS

Anyone wishing to publish an article dealing with any aspect of parapsychics should contact the editor. Do not send complete papers for consideration unless requested to do so. Please send a message describing your paper and/or a short summary with a return address. All general comments and suggestions concerning the journal, as well as messages regarding the submission of papers, should be sent by e-mail to "jebcolst@aol.com."

THE OPEN FORUM

After an article has been published, anyone who wishes to comment on the article is invited to do so. These comments will appear in an open forum in later issues with rebuttals or further explanations by the author and editors as deemed necessary. All responses to published articles are welcome. True progress in science comes only after the larger community of scientists as well as other interested parties understands new concepts, and the open discussion of new concepts is an important part of that understanding process.

SUBSCRIPTIONS

Access to the journal over the Internet/WWW is free. It is not necessary to pre-register for a subscription. However, it is requested that you register for a subscription if you plan to read the journal on a regular basis. If we know who is subscribing, we can better serve those interested in parapsychics. Subscription forms will be made available at a later date.

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[Top of Page](#)