

Abstract category

1.2 Metaphysics of consciousness

4.2 Space and time

Abstract presentation type

Contributed paper

Abstract title

Conscious Spacetime - related to integration of 1st and 3rd perspective of consciousness and integration of block time and subjective time

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Abstract text

At TSC 2014 panel discussion "The next 20 years" Jonathan Schooler posed two problems: A: The relation between 3rd person and 1st person perspective of consciousness. B: Physics says flowtime is an illusion as universe exists as "blocktime". Yet we feel that now is real and experiencing change, so if blocktime is true there must exist an additional time dimension, a subjective time to describe our movement through objective time or spacetime. These problems can be illuminated in the view of Conscious Spacetime presented at TSC 2014. Taking existence as absolute, that is independent of observer, it can rigorously be proven in Einstein's theory of relativity that spacetime is ontological four-dimensional. So in physical reality all events past, present and future exist at once. It is also argued that when persons near death experience their whole life at once this can be interpreted as that 4D spacetime is open four direct experience. Yet we ordinarily experience each now separately and changing. There are arguments to extend Einstein's theory of relativity to six dimensions three space and three time dimensions and it is here argued that phenomenal experience taken as fundamental can be described in 6D spacetime which, in contrast to 4D, also allow many possible futures. It will be argued that one of these extra time dimensions can serve as subjective time indicating how our consciousness of the now moves through the 5D spacetime. The brain in this view does not produce experiences which are identified with events in spacetime. The function of the brain is as a "timemachine" limiting our consciousness to the now but also allowing the change of now as we journey through spacetime. In the 6D spacetime view a thought about the future is interpreted as a future possibility, which exists in the future of spacetime, because in spacetime all that can happen already exists. When I write this sentence on my computer it is an adequate description for another person, the so called third person perspective, to state that processes in my brain are the causes of the movement of my arms and fingers to touch the keyboard causing the text on the screen. But in my own perspective, the first person perspective, it is an equally adequate description to state that it is my focus on the thought = my mental picture of the text on the screen in a possible future world which

causes the writing. That is, the order between cause and effect is relative and dependent on the perspective of the observer. Concerning consciousness reversal of the order between cause and effect is an asset, as it seems to explain part of the difference between third person and first person perspectives. As superluminal causality admit frames where the order between cause and effect is changed I think the example shows a possible relation between conscious causality and superluminal causality. Maudlin in his analysis of Bells theorem concludes: "Violation of Bell's inequality does require superluminal causal connections"