

Re: 'Multiverse Theory' – Universe is a Virtual Reality Matrix

Source: <http://sci.tech-archive.net/Archive/sci.physics/2004-08/0616.html>

From: Torbjørn Larsson (070-3993938_at_comhem.se)

Date: 08/02/04

Date: 1 Aug 2004 19:44:57 -0700

dralexgreen@yahoo.co.uk (Alex Green) wrote in message
news:<42c8441.0407290201.3e42aae@posting.google.com>...
> "Jaxtraw" <jaxtraw@nospamnobigfoot.com> wrote in message
news:<1091032395.9260.0@nnrp-t71-03.news.uk.clara.net>...

...

> *The term 'conscious experience' is preferable to the term
> 'consciousness'. 'Conscious experience' is all the things during that
> short period of time that you call 'now'. It includes your inner
> speech, perceptual fields, dreams if they are happening, imagination
> etc. The small part of conscious experience that you call *thinking
> about a thing* is a good skill for success in better paid jobs.*

...

>> *I doubt it. The main activity of most brains on the planet is running basic
>> processes that maintain the organism. The perceptual field is a useful,
>> associative model of the outside world, but it isn't consciousness.
>> Consciousness is that thinking thing.*

>

> *All the remarks I have made in earlier posts are about 'conscious
> experience'. It is conscious experience that cannot be simulated in an
> information system. If you define 'consciousness' as a symbol stream
> like language then sure, that could be in a computer. I dont like this
> definition of 'consciousness' and would choose another definition such
> as the manifold that contains (or 'is') conscious experience. Unlike
> language this cannot be encoded in a bit stream.*

Defining things are always good. Defining consciousness in a useful manner may be as difficult as defining 'life' but at least we make some headway here.

As far as I know there are no principal difficulties to someday model perceptual fields in a computer; it may be complex but I'm sure it's doable. However I agree with Jaxtraw that it isn't enough to constitute a consciousness, an awareness of what the organism/mechanism is doing.