

Re: Time telephone

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- *From:* Christopher <auem28@xxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxx>
 - *Date:* Sun, 18 Mar 2007 15:34:12 GMT
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On 18 Mar 2007 00:17:24 -0700, "Williamknowsbest"
<William.Mook@xxxxxxxxxx> wrote:

If you had a time telephone who would you call?

Someone next week to tell me the winning numbers of the next euro lottery.

Physicist Ronald Mallett recently wrote a book TIME TRAVELLER wherein he describes his desire to build a time machine. He has written some papers recently that details how this might be done, with a stream of circulating photons it might be possible to send a message to the past, creating a time telephone service.

<http://www.physics.uconn.edu/~mallett/Mallett2003.pdf>

If you had a time telephone service, where you could dial a 900 number and telephone anyone in the past, who would you call, and what would you say?

I have a service idea that might be worth while. Give waiters and waitresses a time telephone to call your order into the kitchen 15 minutes before you make it. That way you get your dinner served immediately as you order it.

This could be used in any retail situation. Your measurements for a suit could be sent back in time and your tailored suit would be ready instantly. The car you ordered, or the couch for that matter – all would be on the showroom floor or waiting for you when you got home – even though there was a 10 week delivery.

Surprise attacks would be impossible. Details would be phoned back before the attack and actions would be taken to avoid it. In this case there's the 'grandfather paradox' to contend with. If American time forces receive a call to intercept the hijackers the day of the bombing and isend special forces into Afghanistan to wipe out all the

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leaders before they have a chance to escape. In this case, unlike in the case where something that's wanted is created, here something unwanted is taken away. So, where did the message come from?

Some mathematicians have differing opinions about that one. One is that despite appearances in talking about it, no contradiction arises for those receiving the message. Especially if the folks being arrested are clearly intent on hijacking an airliner.

A telephone call to the White House in November 1963 might change history, but what would a caller risk losing if such a call were made. The further from the present such paradoxes occur, the greater adrift in time we might find ourselves. For example, if by moving the Pacific Fleet out of Pearl Harbor in confronting the Japanese fleet and sinking it on Thanksgiving in 1942, we might avoid US entry into World War 2 – and today's world might be quite different as a result.

But that's unlikely because present designs for these machines are such that the machines cannot send signals to points in time before they are switched on. So, the machine has to run continuously over the time interval it signals. Also, bandwidth is limited, so messages over time are limited in size, and range. So, during a rush at a restaurant, you might have to wait for your order. And messages that cause paradoxical results might have so much traffic at a certain point in time – that messages interfere with one another and cause a breakdown in the system. No clear or consistent message is received. So, access to certain points in time and space might be limited to authorized parties to limit such effects.

Its interesting that signalling a negative introduces paradoxes, while signalling desired results does not. Ordering a turkey sandwich and having it handed to me as I order it does not produce a fundamental paradox. Getting a call from my wife telling me not to order the turkey sandwich as I enter the restaurant because I died of food poisoning the next day does introduce a paradox..

Which suggests something about positive thining versus negative thinking – but I'm not sure what

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