How to Bind Matter to Matter: The Nature of Time

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Abstract

Three characteristics of the human mind are described, which cannot have material correlates. The question of how to bind mind to matter, posed in the initial paper from 15 January 1990, has been reexamined by scrutinizing the postulate of locality and the invariant speed of light in “vacuum”, after the Michelson-Morley experiment. It is shown that, in the so-called doctrine of trialism, the question of how to bind mind to matter depends on the underlying phenomenon of matter interacting with matter, by following the flow of Time.

I. Introduction

Let me describe the inherent characteristics of the human mind, exhibited in self-identity, human cognition, and mental rotation. It is obvious that any effort to present the human mind along the Marxist-Leninist philosophy (the brain is the hardware and its mind is the software) leads to contradiction with facts, and will be considered false. On the other hand, any effort to present the human mind as some “mystical agent” capable of acting on brain’s tissue, as suggested in parapsychology, is false as well. In fact, parapsychology is ‘not even wrong’, because its materialistic, Marxist-Leninist alternative is also dead false. If we have a computing device made exclusively by atoms from the periodic chart, we won’t expect from it to begin studying itself and develop Quantum Field Theory. No parapsychological “ghost” could animate such system either. We need a breakthrough. How can matter act on itself?

Let’s examine the bold facts. Regarding self-identity: when you say, for example, ‘it’s about me’ (and usually point to the chest, for unknown reason), you are referring to your self that does not change in time, as read with a clock. Your brain and body change every millisecond, but not your self. It is, with respect to a physical clock, time-less and atemporal. Also, once you remember a notion at the time you were a toddler, say, ‘corner’, you will never forget it, despite the fact that the neurophysiological correlates of ‘corner’ are kept in your brain, and these correlates will inevitably change, as your body and life experience grow. In this sense, the ‘meanings’ of all concepts kept in your memory, along with your self capable of “examining” them by your consciousness, are invariant in time. They are simply atemporal.

Next, cognition and mental rotation. Consider a simple experiment, which you can perform with your brain, and also try to “rotate” the mental image of a cube. Your brain produces work, which is immediately related to your mental activity. How can we separate the brain, as Res extensa, from the mind (Res cogitans), and avoid all materialistic and “psychic” crap?

The only possible solution is to reexamine the postulates of locality and the invariant “speed” of light in spacetime “vacuum”, previously known as Aether, and explain how matter acts on itself in the course of the global Time: “Everything changes and nothing remains still — you cannot step twice into the same stream” (Heraclitus). This is the proposed answer to the question posed in the title above. Namely, the human brain is self-acting: only matter interacts with matter. The global Time is not “dark”. It has “positive energy density of about 6×10^{10} joules per cubic meter” to act on itself and execute the elementary step of Time (known as chronon), in line with the postulate of locality (Fig. 2). But what is Time, really?
II. The nature of Time

The interpretation of ‘time as change’ originates from Heraclitus. It has two components, atemporal\(^4\) (global) and physical (local), such that ‘time as change’ is manifested by a dual phenomenon: both ‘change in space’ (local time) and ‘change of space’ (global time). Yet physicists bluntly ignore the ‘global time’ and claim that “there is no dynamics within spacetime itself”\(^7\). Let me try to explain the error in this widely spread but false claim.

Suppose you kick a football and after a few seconds it drops on the playground, as shown in Fig. 1 below. There is a unique geometric point at the center of mass of the football, and we can imagine (not observe) its consecutive states along the continual (Sic!) trajectory of the 4D football, like snapshots from a movie reel (Fig. 2).

![Fig. 1](image1)

![Fig. 2](image2)

Q: What is binding the 4D states in Fig. 2? The “intuitively clear” answer is: the football. Yet the football is only the necessary condition. The sufficient condition is the “colorless” Time endowed with self-action\(^2\), exactly like the human brain. Only the atemporal, global, and “colorless” Time\(^2\) can render the 4D ‘movie reel’ (Fig. 2) by ‘change of space’ into a perfect continuum\(^3,4\): the Platonic world\(^5\) is just like Zen\(^3\). It (not “He”) must not (Sic!) exist in the physical world\(^2\). And since physicists examine only matter\(^7\), they are totally blind of It.

Besides, as I warned against self-destructive theories in cosmology\(^9\) thirty years ago\(^1\), if we keep only the football and place it at \(10^{-36}\) sec after the “big bang”, there will be nothing to kick off the football into its “inflationary” stage. Only some half-baked “dark stuff”, if any.

To sum up, we endorse the requirement ‘only matter interacts with matter’ above and model the human brain as self-acting system capable of correlating at least 86 billion neurons and trillions of synapses. If people wish to try some materialistic explanation\(^8\), they will have to invoke some “miracle”, such as “super-computer”. Not my cup of tea. I suggested atemporal quantum reality thirty-three years ago, on 5 February 1987, to explain the physics of the brain with EPR-like correlations\(^10\). We also need the doctrine of trialism\(^3\) to eliminate any direct link between the brain and its mind (remember, parapsychology is ‘not even wrong’), and to suggest the Platonic theory of spacetime\(^2\) in which the Platonic world (Res potentia) is the common source of both matter (Res extensa) and mind (Res cogitans). It’s all about Time.

To understand how the Platonic world\(^5\) is hidden by the invariant “speed” of light\(^2\), let me go back to the Michelson-Morley experiment and the “quantization” of 4D spacetime continuum: the ‘film reel’ in Fig. 2 above.

III. What are light quanta?

In 1954, Albert Einstein wrote to his friend Michael Besso: “All these fifty years of conscious brooding have brought me no nearer to the answer to the question, ‘What are light quanta?’ Nowadays every Tom, Dick and Harry thinks he knows it, but he is mistaken.”
Perhaps the “intuitively clear” picture of light quanta as tiny little cannonballs carried by EM radiation stems from analogy with buoys on ocean surface: once the water waves push and displace the buoy, it will obtain energy and momentum. As Murphy once noticed, complex problems have simple, easy-to-understand, wrong answers.

The first puzzle of light quanta is that light does not propagate in some physical Aether.

As Justin Christensen explained (December 26, 2017), “waves travel in water because the water molecules pile up and then push other water molecules out of their way as they try to move downward under the force of gravity, and sound waves move in solids, liquids, and gasses because the atoms in these act like springs that oscillate when compressed or stretched from their equilibrium position. All of these examples only work because there is something there for the waves to travel through (Sic! – D.C.). If you take away the medium there are no waves.”

Yet we must “take away the medium” – there is no physical absolute reference frame – and nevertheless observe propagation of light with invariant speed. Can we square the circle?

Yes we can. The film reel, acting as ‘background’ of the 4D football states in Fig. 2, must not exist as physical reality. It is atemporal Platonic reality quietly residing “just in the middle between possibility and reality” (Werner Heisenberg).

The second puzzle of photons is that they do not exist as ‘physical reality out there’, e.g., like the football in Fig. 1 above. So, where do the photons come from, and how are they created with a light bulb? Suppose it creates $1.8 \times 10^{20}$ identical photons per second: where were these photons located before they were created? Wrong question. This is not a mundane physical process, such as, for example, flushing a toilet. In the latter case, we can place all events on a timeline: before we flushed the toilet, the water was present in toilet’s reservoir, waiting patiently to be released down the pipe, with particular acceleration and gradually gaining the speed at which it does its final job; then it takes some time to refill the reservoir with fresh water, etc. Nope, photons do not exist before they are created from/by the quantum vacuum: the atemporal Platonic reality, residing “just in the middle between possibility and reality” (Werner Heisenberg), must not exist in the physical world. Again, physicists are only interested in matter, and hence are totally blind of it.

Thus, Einstein’s question ‘what are light quanta?’ points to the postulate of locality and the enduring issue of spacetime continuum. Again, we need a breakthrough.

IV. The topology of spacetime continuum

According to the postulate of locality, an object, such as a football (Fig. 1), can be directly influenced only by its immediate surroundings. This is a metaphysical conjecture aimed at rejecting the metaphysical idea of ‘action at a distance’. Can we have our cake and eat it?

Yes we can, by introducing both necessary (‘change in space’ as local time) and sufficient (‘change of space’ as global time) conditions for the flow of Time (Fig. 2), embedded in the topology of spacetime continuum. Namely, I suggest the atom of geometry, encapsulating the structure, dynamics, and topology of spacetime continuum. There is no need for any “quantum jumps”. There is no “gravitational” energy per se, for the same reason there is no “mental” energy: energy belongs only to matter. In both cases, we face specific distortions of the physical (local) spacetime, yielding self-acting gravitized and biological systems.

This is the physics of Life. For a brief outline, read ‘the three cats in quantum gravity’. And don’t forget that the so-called GW150914 is FRAUD; read p. 13 in Zenon Manifold.
IV. Conclusion

It’s all about Time. The solution to the puzzle ‘how to bind mind to matter’\(^1\) depends on the underlying phenomenon of matter interacting with matter, by following the flow of Time.

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References and Notes


8. Many physicists are brainwashed with materialistic philosophy. James Hartle, for example, contemplates some “information gathering and utilizing systems (IGUSes)”, despite the fact that any IGUS will require a second IGUS nested in the first one, to supervise and organize the gathering and utilizing of information by the first IGUS, etc., just like a homunculus.


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