Cloud brain: a postulate

Letter to the Editor

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One of the unsolved problems of science is to understand the way information is stored in the human brain. Even its memory capacity is not yet established. Estimates, based on the assumed number of neurons, synapses and possible levels of excitation give values in terabytes and much more. But even the highest assumed values are inconsistent with the amount of information stored in human memory if the storage and the transfer of data in the brain are described by a computer like model. It is possible that both the storage and the transport are occurring in physical systems and processes which are at present unknown to us.

Human cognition never apprehended and does not apprehend at present the whole real world. The part of the real world we perceive broadens in two ways. Either new observations or experiments force us to incorporate new, yet unknown strata, or assumptions are made which do not fit what we know and experiments are planned and executed to prove or disprove them.

Such assumptions are not unprecedented, and not necessarily unscientific. The path to major discoveries involved often assumptions, of effects, which could not be explained within the limits of the knowledge available at that time. Paracelsus predicted, that mercury can cure syphilis. Liebig postulated, that in spring waters in which decades later radioactivity was found, the healing is caused by an effect, which is unknown and can not be detected by the experimental methods of his days. The Curies suggested that the

radiation of the uranium is the result of some atomic phenomenon and not a chemical reaction.

In the following such a postulate will be made regarding the storage and transport of human information, assuming media and effects that can not be explained within the laws of nature presently known to us. (The idea came to me, when started to get involved in my scientific activities with cloud computing.)

The postulate is as follows: There is a “cloud brain” outside the human body, to which information is transferred for storage (and perhaps processing too) in a way which can not be explained with our present knowledge. The “cloud brain” is global. But each person has a domain which normally and regularly is available only to him. The capacity of this domain is large enough to contain all the information collected during a lifetime. Sometimes in an uncontrolled way a temporary connection is created between two domains. Moreover certain persons have the capability to do this at will in selected directions. This can account to those telepathic effects whose existence have already been proven in controlled experiments. We do not know the mechanism of telepathy, but it has been shown in the middle of the last century by Soviet scientists who put one of the subjects in a Faraday cage, that it involves no electromagnetic radiation.

It can be asked, how this postulate relates to Jung’s collective unconscious. While the postulate is this Letter to the Editor assumes a yet unknown phenomenon, which is characterized by global storage with personal domains, the collective unconscious is global by content, but stored individually in each persons mind.

One can ask, what is the justification to submit such premature ideas in the form of a Letter to the Editor. I did this, and hope, that it will be published for one reason. My scientific work dealt with membrane processes,

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electrochemical processes and certain aspects of environmental engineering. Being unqualified to further analyze this postulate and to design and conduct experiments to prove or disprove it, I hope that the publication will trigger scientists in relevant fields to do this.

Helpful discussions with Péter Érdi are acknowledged.

Very sincerely yours,
Chaim Forgacs