> Thanks for responding.   💬 1
> Mitchell Diamond

How Perfect is Episodic Memory

The Recruitment Theory of Memory

Robert Thibadeau
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I really appreciate this response. I think we are in violent agreement if we can align these statements. Remember I am a computational cognitive neuroscientist, so I look for what the cognitive brain can compute at all. I would love it if you get the book on Amazon in Kindle, Audible, or Paperback and see the actual computational neuroscience analysis. The whole book is only about 100 pages. The audible version is well done by Daniel Greenberg and narrated by a guy with a Ph.D. in Child Psych from Minnesota (good school for that) who actually understands what he is reading.

https://www.amazon.com/How-Get-Your-Lies-Back/dp/B07R448S2L/

Some basics:

1. the fact that we can communicate in natural language anything at all about how we think, see, talk about, etc. in the past tense, indeed, in any tense or mode that we do, says we can introspect and relate our episodic memories.

2. I did not say our episodic memories are perfect. My Ph.D. is in what used to be called the "the organization of human memory" and in a computational cognitive science sense I am one of the old leaders in discrimination memory — deep neural networks… I just don't believe we necessarily know the right one or have even discovered it yet. And I also believe that it probably does not matter which discrimination network we choose right now since the real computation that will be discovered is in how these things are connected and what they discriminate. I do believe language tells us they are discriminate and are connected in what we see in language as predications (subjects and predicates … e.g., "the red balloon" is at least two asserted, and probably a thousand implicated…if not a million…see the book…

the cognitive brain is unbelievable in what it computes on, but only a tiny amount makes what we communicate by necessity of the serial communication channel bandwidth both at time t and delta t where delta can take days or years to get a lot of the potential communications that are stored, out.

3. I did not say our memory is a perfect record of reality. I also did not say our episodic processing is perfect. Indeed, if you read the last sentences of 2, you will see I say that the vast majority of our episodic memory processing is actually unconscious. But, it can be brought to consciousness in very small pieces in "serialization" (or extracting hierarchical communications which do become conscious) in what I call in the book the "recruitment theory of memory."

4. To me, and I have said this in a medium article, it is really important to cognitive processing that there are some brain computations that are completely not available to cognitive processing. For example, your brain's autonomic processing (where the brain is your entire neural system). We only know this through self observation and tricks (like running to bring up our heart rate or feeling faint). You can't say that your heart is thinking about speeding up in a minute, or your stomach is tired of that food, it takes too long, etc. Things that your brain might actually be computing.

On deception, including self-deception in the context of the Internet Court of Lies. I recommend reading this.

Paths of Deceit
The Internet Court of Lies

medium.com

I enjoy this dialogue and hope you and I can continue to have dialogue on these topics in the future.

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Lies   Internet Court Of Lies   Cognitive Neuroscience

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