The Meaning-Switch - Investigation of Precognition in an Operationally Closed System

Results:

We investigate the effect of a human operator intention on the sampling of random bits from a Triggered Random Event Generator (T.REG). The device that has been constructed in a previous study (see 74/04) allows for the local environment to be coupled with the process. Binary events are triggered samples from an electronic random stream of states and acoustic feedback is given on the cumulative hit rate by rising and falling tones. The triggers are derived from an EEG recorded at the subjects forehead. A case is being made for operational closure: The subject can – in principle – direct the course of events, if there is intrinsic knowledge about the random stream. This knowledge is considered a systemic property of the arrangement giving rise to memory and self-organization that cannot be accessed or controlled from the outside.

In an intention task experiment a sample of 22 self-selected subjects are instructed to generate sequences of rising feedback tones. By using a special push button, called Meaning- or M-switch, the participant can decide on the meaning of hits and misses by inverting up/down-runs that are precognitively intuited and create a mean shift, while the null hypothesis of random sampling is still maintained.

We extract the statistical properties of the bit sequences and compare the results with their theoretical expectation, as well as with a pseudo random generator also built into the system. Application of M-switch creates a gain with respect to the reconstructed un-inverted sequence of scores. The M-switch application is investigated in terms of psychological variables capturing the distinctive switching behavior of the participant. Finally, a matrix of physical and psychological measures is checked for excess correlation.

In the final and most conservative variable set we found 17 significant (at 5% level) correlations in a matrix of 24x9 variables, while simulations suggested an expectation of only 10 (median). This result was significant in a one-sided hypothesis test (P=0.031), supporting the hypothesis of 'generalized entanglement'. A previous hypothesis (from 74/04) on anomalous sampling could not be replicated.

Published works:

Patent:

M. Braeunig and T. Faul, "Method and Arrangement for Producing a Data Bit Sequence by Scanning a Digitised Noise Signal," WO2006092221 (A1)08-Sep-2006.

Area(s) of interest:

Parapsychology, Systems Theory, Operational Closure

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