[2023-01-25.11:57 Wed> Qualia as data processing tools -- Why causality is probabilistic

Two miscellaneous YouTube comments worth capturing:

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**Qualia as very-low-power data reduction tools**
2023-01-23.21:03 EST Mon
https://youtu.be/FE1LlyYIsJA?lc=UgznzO_iPlY-DEV0_GF4AaABAg

On YouTube channel *Closer To Truth*
Ned Block - What's the Meaning of Consciousness? (Jan 23, 2023)
https://youtu.be/FE1LlyYIsJA

Thank you for an interesting discussion. I've been persuaded for many years that biology selects for qualia as a clever path to fast, extremely low-power memory and sensory data reduction. Alas, competing to get funding into universities for such a broad path, especially one littered with fiercely warring hobby horses and bits of quackery, is tricky. In any case, qualia can process data only if neural systems can create and detect them, and that means they are accessible to science. My suspicion is that whatever their physical nature, they are difficult to detect and quantify precisely because they *are* so energy efficient.

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**Why causality is probabilistic and created by restrictions**
2023-01-24.10:08 EST Tue
https://youtu.be/j04awLTzaqI?lc=UgxYuU1JKH1UPicCRaR4AaABAg

On YouTube channel *Closer To Truth*
Barry Loewer - What is Causation? (Dec 25, 2022)
https://youtu.be/j04awLTzaqI&t=6m52s

6:52 Kuhn "It sounds like probabilities, though, are a predictive way — as opposed to an explanatory way — of [explaining] what causation is." Robert Lawrence Kuhn, have there ever been two identical spacetime events in the universe? No? Why, then, do we say they are the same? Because, *probabilistically,* we define sets of tests — predicates — that tell us, "These two are close enough." So it is also for causation since no two *causes* of events in the universe's history are identical.

Digging deeper, such almost-universal probabilistic rules of causation emerge through restriction, not diversity — a universe that, at its roots, is hamstrung by a lack of energy, a lack of options, and the omnipresent limits of its forms of computation. We touch those limits when the quantum version of the restrictions we call spacetime ceases to give us enough detail to place the spinning bundle of quantum numbers we call an electron anywhere more precisely than in a fuzzy (to us, not to the electron) orbital.

[2023-01-24.10.07 EST Tue]

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[2023-01-25.11:57 Wed]