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Is Reality Delayed by 15 Seconds?

Posted by Frank Bouc on April 9, 2014 in [Science](#) | 94 Views



New research from the University of California at Berkeley demonstrates just how short and involuntarily impacted our memories are. In retrospect this study determines reality is delayed

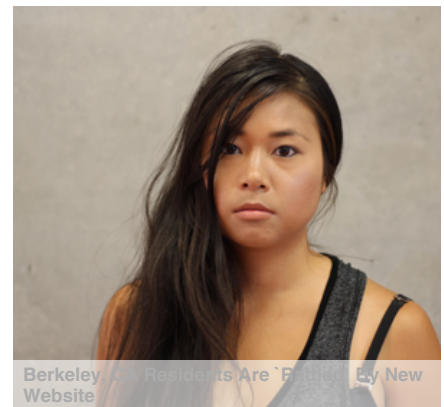
up to 15 seconds, due to the amount of visual overload experienced by the eye and translated by the brain.

Lead author Jason Fischer, PhD., conducted the study dubbed (paywall); he stated he wanted to learn just how the perceptions of people transfer from one thing to another.

David Whitney, co-author in the study suggested that the image people see is not an actual mental snapshot at all. The continuity field as Fischer and Whitney suggests, is a combination of everything seen within the past 15 seconds, meaning people see a substance of past and present. The limits allow the brain to respond without, basically, going through a hallucinogenic effect.

Findings could reveal what influences impact perceptions most, as well as enhance the development into further research of any relative disorders, such as ADHD or autism. The new research could also even be used to learn more about hearing impairment.

Whitney and Fischer completed an array of experiments on 12 individuals in the study. One experiment was a battery of images on a screen showing straight lines in a row. The Gabor patches as they are



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called are flashes of lines that happen every five seconds, and each time an individual is shown the lines they are changed in direction. Individuals were then asked afterwards to press which arrow buttons in the directions the three sets of lines had previously pointed within the 15 seconds.

The most recent set of lines direction were remembered the most, but the previous sets were influenced particularly by degree of angles. For example if the previous two sets were both tilted to one direction and the first of the three sets were in the opposite direction, then the degree of tilt was usually off to some degree by the subject's memories.

Fischer stated in the future that he would like to expand the new testing on all senses for other research studies, leading to the reality of perception for individuals.

Study information:

Authors: Jason Fischer and David Whitney

Serial dependence in visual perception

Published: 2014 *Nature Neuroscience*

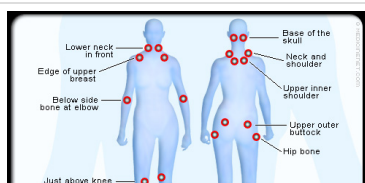


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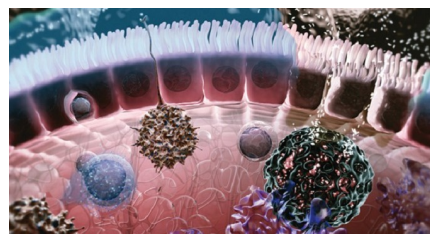
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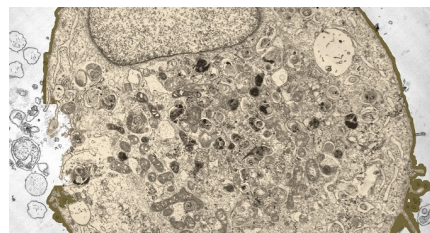
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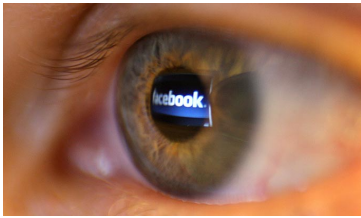
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Frank is a fitness consultant, and reviews the incoming news, tips and trials of technology, business and health studies.



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