

X-SPECT Tenth Newsletter

Hello again everyone! We hope everyone is doing well in these strange and difficult times.

The past six months of the X-Spect project have been great. Below is a list of our most recent publications, events and media outputs with links incase you want to keep up.

Also, so you know, we are just now planning our final international conference of the project to be hosted this coming November. We have decided to run this event completely virtually - so no matter where you are you can get involved. We have already confirmed a number of amazing speaker, including Giovanni Pezzullo, Nico Orlandi, Shaun Gallagher, Abby Tabor and Lisa Feldman Barrett. We will be sending along more information on how to attend and contribute (posters/flash talks) in the coming months.

Here's what else we've been up to...

Our newest publications...

11/2019 Kathryn Nave wrote a general public engagement piece on doing philosophy with children. <https://forwardthinking.ppls.ed.ac.uk/2019/11/21/philosophy-for-primary-pupils/>

01/2020 Andy Clark published, *Consciousness as Generative Entanglement*, in the Journal of Philosophy. <http://sro.sussex.ac.uk/id/eprint/84690/>

02/2020 A new publication from Julian Kiverstein, Mark Miller and Erik Rietveld entitled *Embodying Addiction: A Predictive Processing Account*, published in Brain and Cognition. <https://www.sciencedirect.com/science/article/pii/S0278262619304063>

02/2020 George Deane published the paper, *Dissolving the self: Active Inference, Psychedelics, and Ego-Dissolution* in Philosophy and the Mind Sciences. <https://philosophymindscience.org/index.php/phimisci/article/view/39>

03/2020 Andy Clark published a paper along with Kevin Walsh, David McGovern and Redmond O'Connell entitled *Evaluating the Neurophysiological Evidence for Predictive Processing as a Model of Perception*, in Annals of the New York Academy of Science. <https://nyaspubs.onlinelibrary.wiley.com/doi/full/10.1111/nyas.14321>

04/2020 Andy Clark published the paper, *Beyond Desire? Agency, Choice, and the Predictive Mind* in the Australasian Journal of Philosophy. <https://www.tandfonline.com/doi/abs/10.1080/00048402.2019.1602661?journalCode=rajp20>

05/2020 A new publication from Julian Kiverstein, Mark Miller and Erik Rietveld entitled *Mood as Tuning Predictions: A Neurophenomenological Perspective on Depression*, published in Neuroscience of Consciousness.

Talks and Presentations...

09/02-04/2019 Mark Miller co-organized a symposium (along with Julian Kiverstein, Jelle Bruineberg and Regina Fabry) entitled *Losing Our Grip: Psychopathology and Embodied Predictive Processing*. Mark's talk was entitled, *Mood as Predicting Momentum*.

09/25/19, Kathryn Nave presented "Enactivist Predictive Processing and the Continuity of Life and Mind" at Recent Developments in Situated Cognition, held at Ruhr-Universität Bochum. 50 people

10/13/2019 Mark Miller presented in the Brighton's Digital Festival, UK. <https://www.eventbrite.co.uk/e/is-this-real-life-or-is-this-just-a-fantasy-tickets-72960895001>

10/11/2019 Andy Clark presented the TEDx talk, "Extended You"https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=hanv8y_wYEQ

11/04-06/2019 George Deane and Kathryn Nave Organized the Timescales of Life and Mind conference, University of Edinburgh, UK. <https://blogs.ed.ac.uk/tlmconference/>

11/04/2019 George Deane and Mark Miller presented a talk *Introduction to Predictive Processing* at the Timescales of Life and Mind workshop, University of Edinburgh.

11/05-06/2019 Mark Miller was a key note speaker at the *Timescales of Life and Mind: Interdisciplinary Conference on Timescales as a Methodological Approach to Predictive Processing and the Free Energy Principle*, His talk was entitled, *Error Dynamics and the Surprise Seeking Predictive Animal*.

11/07/2019 Mark Miller organized and lead a workshop on Introducing the Predictive Processing Framework for University of Edinburgh's Cognitive Science Society, UK.

11/10/2019 X-Spect Team organized their Third Annual Workshop entitled, *Predictions in the Wild*, University of Sussex UK

11/14/2019 Andy Clark was an invited participant at the PAIR (People + AI Research) Symposium at Google in London, UK.

11/08/2019 Andy Clark presented a talk on "Digital Consciousness" at arts/science World Frontiers Forum event Digital Identity, Privacy, and Safety. <https://www.worldfrontiersforum.org/2019-berlin>

01/10-16/2020 Mark Miller gave talks entitled *Wilding the Predictive Brain* at the University of Toronto and University of York, Canada.

01/31/2020 Andy Clark gave a public lecture titled *Cyborg Minds in Designer Worlds*, at the Talbot Rice Gallery, Edinburgh. <https://www.trg.ed.ac.uk/event/lecture-cyborg-minds-designer-worlds-andy-clark>

05/06/2020 Mark Miller is organizing the Virtual PPIG (Philosophy, Psychology and Informatics Group) summer seminar series entitled *The Perplexities of Thinking*. <https://blogs.ed.ac.uk/virtualppig/>

New Interviews and Media...

11/21/2019 Andy Clark was interviewed by Patrick House for future New Yorker article on simulation.

04/2020 Andy Clark was interviewed by Dan Hardoon on Radio 4 documentary series The Learning Revolution. Featured in the episodes on April 17 and 24. <https://www.bbc.co.uk/programmes/m000h93b>

01/14/2020 Mark Miller was interviewed about his new paper on addiction (<https://www.sciencedirect.com/science/article/pii/S0278262619304063>) on the podcast *Philosophers Chatting with Clinicians*. <http://laurarathbone.com/podcast-2/>

And we have a few exciting things in the works...

Constant, A., Clark, A., Kirchoff, M., and Friston, K (forthcoming) Extended Active Inference : Constructing predictive cognition beyond skulls *Mind and Language*

Sander Van de Cruys, Karl J. Friston, and Andy Clark (forthcoming) Controlled Optimism: Reply to Sun and Firestone on the Dark Room Problem. *Trends in Cognitive Sciences*

Constant, Axel, Clark, Andy and Friston J, Karl (In Review). Representation Wars: Enacting an Armistice through Active Inference.

Clark, Deane, Miller & Nave Wilding the Predictive Brain (In Review at WIREs Cognitive Science)

Kiverstein, Miller & Rietveld (In Review at Journal of Philosophy) Desire in the Predictive Organism.

Deane, Miller & Wilkinson (In Review at Frontiers of Psychology). Losing Ourselves: Active Inference, Depersonalisation and Enlightenment.

That's all this time round. We'll write again soon with more!

The X-Spect Team