

Can 'psi' be Replicated?

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ABSTRACT

'psi' is comprised of ESP events (Telepathy, Clairvoyance and Precognition) and Psychokinesis. The 'psi' events are happening all over the world in a sporadic, spontaneous and sudden manner. Since these are sudden and spontaneous, they cannot be replicated at will. Scientists have tried to take 'psi' in laboratories with the hope of replicating it in laboratories. While the 'psi' experiments were found statistically significant, i.e., the phenomenon was not manifesting just by chance, but assignable causes were making them manifest, but the details of the assignable causes were not known. Attempts to replicate the experimental results have not been successful so far. Parapsychology is a field studies 'psi' and also life after death. Parapsychology is still a pseudoscience, and one of the reasons for this is that the 'psi' cannot be replicated at will. This paper examines the reasons for failure in 'psi' replications and explores the way forward for research to make the replication possible.

Keywords: 'psi', Parapsychology, why Parapsychology is still pseudoscience, replication of 'psi' events, Telepathy, Clairvoyance, Precognition and Psychokinesis

It is observed that events of Telepathy, Precognition, Clairvoyance and psychokinesis are happening continuously and sporadically across the world. The first three phenomena concern perception through the mind (i.e., perception only through the mind and not through the known five senses, viz., seeing, feeling, hearing, smelling and tasting). These are called ESP or Extrasensory Perception. Psychokinesis is the mind influencing matter, and this phenomenon, together with ESP, constitutes 'psi'. There are some experiences which indicate that consciousness outlives death and there is an afterlife.

Parapsychology is a field studies psi and the afterlife.

In this paper, we shall limit our discussions to psi.

Some such psi events:

Hans Burger (inventor of EEG), in his childhood, while learning horse riding, suddenly fell from his horse. A chariot was approaching him, and he panicked to realise that he would be crushed under the wheels of the chariot. Just at that time, his sister, who was staying a thousand kilometres away, suddenly had a painful feeling that Hans was in danger. This is a psi event (*Telepathy*) which happened sporadically, spontaneously and suddenly.

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Another 'psi' event:

All of a sudden, Abraham Lincoln gets a precognitive dream in which he sees a coffin lying in the white house and sees people mourning. Further in the dream, he is told by guards that the president has been shot dead, and they are mourning his death. Three days later, Lincoln is killed by an assassin's bullet. The psi event (*Precognition*) just popped up unannounced and suddenly.

Third 'psi' event:

A person living many thousands of kilometres away from his hometown dreams that fire has broken out in his locality, where he was living, and the fire just stopped a few blocks away from his house. The dream turned out into reality, thus manifesting the psi event (*clairvoyance*) suddenly.

Fourth 'psi' event:

Nina Kulagina was able to move little objects in front of her without touching or coming into direct contact with them while seated at a tiny table. Scientists were able to observe her intense mental attention towards the object she tried to move, and her mental abilities always seemed to be the cause of the object's movement. The above psi event is a feat of *Psychokinesis*. (https://www.unrevealedfiles.com/nina-kulagina-woman-with-ability-to-move-objects-using-mind/#How_Kulagina_Performed_Psychokinesis)

I had experienced some Parapsychological events myself, and these came to me unannounced and all of a sudden.

My first experience was that of precognition (psi). I recall the incident when I was working outstation and used to commute by train to reach my place of work. One evening after office hours, I was sitting on a bench at the railway platform waiting for the train to come, and I slipped into a short nap -I saw that I had reached the station of my hometown, and I came out, picked up my scooter from the scooter stand and started for my house. On reaching the society where I lived, I was unable to enter the society gate as the gate was blocked. Having this short dream, I woke up, and the train came, and I boarded it and forgot the dream. Having got off at the station when I reached my society, I could not enter the society gate as there were many people gathered in the society, and the gate was blocked by their presence. I had to park my scooter outside the gate and had to walk through the mob which had gathered there because death had occurred in the society. I, then, remembered my dream and gasped at this manifestation of *Precognition (a 'psi' event)*, i.e., learning about a future incident.

The second experience was of seeing my late mother in the row of visitors of patients before the ICU, where my father breathed his last. I came out of the ICU to inform my brother that Dad was no more. He expired a moment ago at the age of 92. My mind was playing a flashback with memories of the past, which included mom and dad. As I came out of the ICU and looked at the relatives sitting on a bench in front of the ICU, I was dumbstruck to see my mother in the row of relatives. I told my brother about the death of my dad and told him to look at Ma sitting on the bench. He also exclaimed that Ma has come to accompany Dad to the new world. We were both dumbstruck to see our mother there because she had died thirty years before. I, then, thought that there was some truth in the existence of spirits and ghosts, as I had first-hand experience.

My above experiences of psi events were, again, sudden and sporadic. The psi events, be they telepathic, clairvoyant, precognitive, or psychokinetic, occur daily, spontaneously, and sporadically worldwide. The same is the case with events indicating life after death.

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Such an event that happened to a person does not normally repeat, and most of the psi events are not replicated at will.

Parapsychology is the study of such psi events. Parapsychological research has progressed well over the last 150 years, but is still limited to proving that the phenomena are real. Scientific and statistical methods are being used in Parapsychological research, but it is still not accepted in mainstream science and is considered pseudoscience.

One of the main reasons for this is that the psi events cannot be replicated and, of course, it is absurd to think that life after death could be replicated. The occurrence of 'psi' events has been studied in experiments done in laboratories, and at best, they have been proved to happen not by chance, but their occurrences are happening due to some assignable causes, the details of which are still unknown. There have been attempts to replicate these phenomena in laboratories, but the attempts have mostly failed. Scientists, though, agree that the phenomena are real and there must be assignable causes leading to their manifestation, but are still unable to make these happen at will all the time. Proven psychics or mediums who make these manifest frequently are not able to do so all the time, and it is a baffling matter.

This paper looks into the failure of replication and tries to explore possible causes, and also struggles to find a way forward for ensuring the replication. While a way is not found, a line of further research is indicated.

Why psi replication attempts are failing time and again?

I invite you to look at similar events, which to primitive man were paranormal, and they considered them divine. The events were ***thunderstorm, lightning and the manifestation of rainbows.***

These events were similar to psi events in that they manifested suddenly, spontaneously, and sporadically across the world. However, they were different from psi events because they are all unrelated to the human mind, whereas psi events are all connected to the human mind's unexplained powers, which result in their manifestation.

The events continued to remain a mystery (as are psi events currently) till science advanced and explained the causal aspects leading to their manifestation and could uncover the factors which gave rise to these phenomena.

Thunderstorms, as science explains, are formed when warm, moist air rises rapidly in an unstable atmosphere, creating towering cumulonimbus clouds. This rising air cools and condenses, releasing heat and fueling further ascent. Collisions between ice particles and water droplets within the cloud lead to charge separation, resulting in lightning. The rapid heating and expansion of air due to lightning create the sound of thunder. Advancement of science explained the causal reasons behind the thunderstorm and could explain all aspects related to it. Not only that, but attempts to replicate this in laboratories were also successful to a great extent.

It is now possible to replicate some aspects of a thunderstorm in a lab setting. While it's impossible to create a full-scale, naturally occurring thunderstorm, scientists can simulate various phenomena associated with them, such as lightning and the convection that drives thunderstorms. While these experiments can replicate specific thunderstorm phenomena, they are not true replicas of a full-scale thunderstorm. A complete thunderstorm involves complex

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interactions between various atmospheric conditions, which are difficult to recreate in a lab setting.

Similarly, lightning can be replicated in laboratories: Labs can generate sparks and arcs that resemble lightning by building up electrical charge and releasing it in a controlled manner, according to the Eindhoven University of Technology.

Scientists use high-voltage generators, like Marx generators, to create electrical discharges that mimic lightning strikes. These artificial lightning bolts are used to test the effects of lightning on various materials and electrical equipment.

Thus, we see that with the advancement of science, we can completely understand the factors and the mechanisms that cause thunderstorms. This gained knowledge could turn a thunderstorm from a Paranormal to a Normal event.

The same is true for rainbows:

It is possible to replicate the phenomenon of a rainbow in a laboratory setting. By using a light source, a medium that refracts light (like water or a prism), and a surface to project the colours onto, one can create a visible spectrum of light that mimics a rainbow.

Here's how it can be done:

1. Using a Prism:

- A prism, a triangular piece of glass or other transparent material, can separate white light into its constituent colours through a process called refraction.
- When white light passes through a prism, it bends at different angles based on its wavelength, causing the colours to separate and be visible as a rainbow on a nearby surface.

2. Using Water and a Light Source:

- A simple method involves using water, a mirror, and a flashlight.
- Fill a container with water, place a mirror inside at an angle, and shine the flashlight's light onto the mirror through the water.
- The light will refract as it enters and exits the water and then reflect off the mirror, producing a spectrum of colours on a nearby surface.
- You can also create a rainbow by spraying a fine mist of water into the air and shining a light source at it.

3. Using a CD or DVD:

- The reflective surface of a CD or DVD can also separate white light into its component colours, as seen with a spectroscope.
- By shining a light source onto the disc and looking at the reflection through a viewing hole, one can observe a rainbow pattern.

These methods all demonstrate the basic principles of how light interacts with different media to produce the colours of a rainbow.

The replication in laboratories has been possible for these wonders of nature because science could explain the causal roots behind these phenomena.

These events have been accepted as scientific because, apart from fulfilling other requirements, they can also be replicated at will.

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The attempts to replicate psi events have so far achieved a very minor success. Replication attempts in psi research, which studies phenomena like ESP and psychokinesis, often encounter challenges and mixed results, with some studies showing positive results while others fail to replicate those findings. This difficulty in replication is a key aspect of the ongoing debate about Parapsychology getting recognised as a science. Replication of results in psi is a significant factor in establishing Parapsychology as a science.

The Significance of Replication in Psi Research:

- **Establishing Validity:** Replication is a cornerstone of scientific validation. Consistent replication of a phenomenon strengthens the evidence for its existence.
- **Identifying Factors:** I believe that unless the causal factors behind psi phenomena are discovered, we may not be able to replicate psi in laboratories. Replication studies can help identify factors that influence psi effects, such as experimental design, participant characteristics, or environmental conditions.
- **Addressing Scepticism:** Successfully replicating psi phenomena can help address scepticism and potentially lead to a broader acceptance of psi within the scientific community.

Thus, it is a must that we find ways and means to replicate psi phenomena, but here lies the big challenge.

Challenges in the replication of psi events in laboratories.

Psi events have been put to experimental research in the laboratories with mixed results in replications. It would be worthwhile to narrate some such laboratory ventures which had partial success in replicating the results:

Examples of Psi Replication Studies:

- **Bem's Retroactive Priming Study:** A well-known example is Daryl Bem's 2011 study on retroactive priming, which appeared to show participants reacting to stimuli before they were presented. Subsequent attempts to replicate this study yielded mixed results, with some failing to replicate the original findings.
- **Ganzfeld Experiments:** Ganzfeld experiments, where participants are exposed to a sensory-deprived environment, have also been a focus of replication attempts in psi research, with similar mixed results.
- **Event-Related Brain Potential (ERP) Studies:** Some ERP studies have investigated unconscious psi, with some showing positive results and others failing to replicate those findings.

Scientists and researchers worldwide are finding it difficult to replicate the results of psi experiments in the laboratory.

The following paragraph just lists some of the reasons for failure in replicating psi events in the laboratory. The list is not exhaustive, and there can be numerous other factors which have not yet been recognised.

Why have psi replications been failing?

The Parapsychological literature abounds in experimental psi research, and we are baffled to find that the psi phenomena elude replication. Some factors responsible for the failure could be:

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- ***The Causal factors are still unknown-*** Today, we know all about the causal factors behind thunderstorms, lightning and rainbows as science has advanced to bring us this knowledge, but we hardly know what causes psi events. We have guessed that the altered states of consciousness help the manifestation of these phenomena, as has been proved through Ganzfeld experiments, we know that pressing need was a factor, but we hardly know what other factors are responsible for the manifestation of psi events. Science is yet to evolve to have these answers by arriving at all the factors which together cause the phenomena.

Since we do not know the causal reasons, it is like groping in the dark when we attempt to replicate these in laboratories.

- ***Mind, Brain, Consciousness Factor--***When we look at the psi events and observe the difference these have from the above paranormal events, which had their base in nature, we find that the basic difference lies in the fact that psi events have their foundation in the human mind. Telepathy is *a Mind-to-Mind* connection, Clairvoyance is seeing through the *Mind's* eyes, Precognition is *Mind* reaching out to the future, and Psychokinesis is influencing the matter through the power of *Mind*.

The human mind could make science evolve to decipher causal aspects behind the happenings in nature, i.e., Thunderstorms, Lightning and Rainbows, but how will science evolve to decipher causal factors behind the psi events, which have their roots in the ***Mind and Brain?*** Today, the brain has yet to be fully explored; we know the causal aspects behind only a part of the brain's functioning, and for mind and consciousness, we know nothing.

Psi events cannot be replicated unless we are knowledgeable about the causal factors behind these phenomena and to know them, we have to do mind- brain- consciousness research. Scientists find this a ***'Hard Problem'***.

This is where Parapsychological Research, today, finds a stumbling block and is struggling to move further in the research to understand the causal roots behind the phenomena.

- ***Experimenter Effects:*** While the above factors were major hurdles in psi replications, Parapsychological research during psi experimental research discovered that the experimenter's beliefs, expectations, and even mood can influence the outcome of psi experiments, potentially leading to inconsistent results across replications, and hence, this effect became a major challenge against psi replications in the laboratory.
- ***"Non-Transmission Axiom":*** Some researchers propose that attempts to replicate psi effects, especially those involving information transfer, can suppress the phenomenon itself.
- ***Decline Effect:*** Psi research often shows a decline in effect size over time or across replications, which can be interpreted as evidence against the existence of psi or attributed to factors like experimental design or participant expectations.
- ***Methodological Issues:*** Replication failures can also be due to methodological flaws in the original or replication studies, such as inadequate controls, small sample sizes, or statistical errors.

These are some of the factors that pose a challenge to psi replications in the laboratory and, hence, prevent parapsychology from becoming a science.

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There is an Ongoing Debate: The replication crisis in psychology, including psi research, highlights the challenges of establishing definitive evidence for unusual or controversial phenomena. While some researchers argue that psi effects may be inherently elusive and difficult to replicate, others maintain that psi is a genuine phenomenon that can be studied and understood through rigorous scientific methods. (inspired by the contents of the following internet citation: (https://www.google.com/search?q=attempts+to+replicate+psi+events&oq=attempts+to+replicate+psi+events&gs_lcrp=EgZjaHJvbWUyBggAEEUYOTIJCAEQIRgKGKAB0gEJMzAyMzBqMGo3qAILsAIB8QWAGw2AwAEobw&client=ms-android-xiaomi-terr1-rso2&sourceid=chrome-mobile&ie=UTF-8))

The above paragraphs bring us some clarity about the reasons for the failure to replicate the psi events in laboratories.

Actually, we are still far from understanding the phenomena fully, unlike the paranormal phenomena of thunderstorms, lightning and rainbows, which are fully understood. We now know in clear scientific terms what factors cause them, and hence, they can also be replicated in controlled conditions.

The psi phenomenon is found to be weak and elusive for replication because we hardly know about the factors which give rise to its manifestation. The elusive nature of the phenomenon is basically due to the following reasons:

- Manifestation of psi phenomena is rare, sporadic and spontaneous and hence difficult to study in a scientific manner
- The manifestation of psi depends on precarious psychological conditions. Altered states of consciousness are found to be behind the manifestation of psi phenomena. If we recall seeing my mother's ghost, I was not in a normal frame of mind because I was just informed about my father's death in the ICU. My precognitive experience also happened in an altered state of consciousness, i.e., in a short nap. Psi Experiments in the laboratory use the altered states of consciousness as witnessed in Ganzfeld experiments.
- Replications do not happen due to methodological artefacts and oversights
- Fear of psi suppresses psi,
- Human evolution has inhibited psi
- psi serves ecological rather than personal purposes
- psi effects are influenced badly due to what we call "Observer's effect"
- Psi is controlled by nonphysical beings. (*inspired by a paper by J E Kennedy¹*)

The psi phenomenon is different from other phenomena and is weak due to the above factors. These have not been fully understood so far, and today, the status of psi events is similar to the above events in primitive humans' time. We hardly know the causal aspects of these phenomena.

Science has advanced to spell out causal reasons behind the paranormal phenomena for primitive people, but it still has a long way to go to explain the causal basis for psi events. Psi is being researched worldwide for proving its existence, for proving that the manifestation is not due to chance causes but is due to assignable causes, details of which are unknown. The research so far has gone to prove that the happenings are not random or due to chance causes, but beyond that, we have still not gone to decipher the causes which make them happen. Experimental research in the laboratory proves that the results obtained are statistically

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significant, and there have to be assignable causes behind them, but what those causes are is still to be researched.

Way forward for making successful psi replications

Psi research so far has been mostly concentrating on proving that the phenomena are real, and not much effort has gone into finding the causal factors behind them. Unless we understand their causal factors, we shall never be able to ensure their successful replication.

I think, now, is the time to move towards Causal Research, i.e., we must attempt to find the real causes underlying psi events, i.e.,

Why do these events take place? How do these take place? What is the structure of these events? What causes them to happen, and what factors make them happen? Why are these only sporadic? It may be that there is a combination of conditions which, if they occur simultaneously, make the paranormal events happen. What are they? What is the mechanism of extra-sensory perception of these events, and what are the scientific theories underlying these events?

Answers to the above questions are not easy to find, and it will take long and persistent efforts of researchers to dwell on the details. These will not get answered by efforts of parapsychologists working in isolation; the researchers from other disciplines like neuroscience, physics, psychology and medicine will have to join hands with them to do meaningful research in this area.

Also, since all the psi events are related to the mind, *mind research shall have to precede the research in exploring causal factors that cause the manifestation of the psi events. We hardly know how the mind functions and how consciousness manifests. It is still a Hard Problem. Mind research is bound to revolutionise science and would open the doors for understanding the causal factors behind psi.*

While exploring the huge Parapsychological research literature, I could hardly come across very few who had taken up the causal psi research. Dr May and Dr Sonali Marwaha² have proposed a theory that psi events happen through information transfer caused by entropy prevailing in the universe and have assumed that time can flow backwards. The following are the salient points of that theory titled “Rethinking Extrasensory Perception: Towards a Multiphasic Model of Precognition”:

This theory does take a step towards ESP causal research. In this paper, the authors define precognition as an atypical perceptual ability that allows the acquisition of non-inferential information arising from a future point in space and time. Their Multiphasic Model of Precognition (MMPC) lists two phases: The first is the physics domain, which addresses the question of retro causation and how it is possible for information to traverse from one space-time point to another, mainly through **entropic means**. The second phase- the neuroscience domain addresses the acquisition and interpretation of retrocausal signals. The process involves three stages:

- a) perception of signals from an information carrier, based on psychophysical variability in a putative signal transducer;
- b) cortical processing of the signals, mediated by a cortical hyper-associative mechanism; and
- c) cognition, mediated by normal cognitive processes, leading to a response based on retrocausal information.

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As per the authors, the future challenges faced in their model are to find answers to: -

- What is the nature of the retro-causal signal carrier that propagates backwards in time? (in Physics Domain)
- What is the nature of the Retro-causal signal transducer and its cortical connectivity (in the Neuroscience domain)

The MMPC model provides a framework for future research to study fundamental questions regarding the nature of time, causality and information.

Another paper by the same authors³ claims that all ESP components collapse into PC (Precognition), and if we know the causal reasons behind Precognition, we know for all ESP components.

It must be acknowledged here that for ESP to manifest, information has to flow through some unorthodox channels, and such information flow is one of the causal factors besides the altered state of the human mind. But Psychokinesis is not explainable by only information flow; there is more to it because it is not only perception, but a fact that matters, which gets influenced by mind power.

However, causal ESP research is evidenced through the above research paper, which is a good attempt to find out what factors cause the psi events (excluding psychokinesis), but still, the research does not lead to the ultimate causes, and further work needs to be done to understand the causal reasons completely. Until and unless we find causal factors, we would not have understood the phenomenon completely, and with this complete understanding, the psi events cannot be replicated.

Dean Radin's approach to causal ESP research

Dean Radin⁴ has attempted to find causal factors leading to the manifestation of psi events in his famous book, "The Entangled Minds", and used quantum entanglement to try to explain the reasons.

A scientific approach toward causal research for psi could emerge out of Quantum entanglement, which is dealt with in detail in Dean Radin's book, "Entangled Minds: Extrasensory Experiences in a Quantum Reality"

Dean Radin says that "with the evolution of Quantum theory, we have entered, 'Age of Information' in which time, space, energy and matter are imagined to be relative and spooky actions at a distance are not merely possible but required within our understanding of physical reality."

Though he admits that entanglement does not mean that signals can pass between entangled particles, because entanglement only means that separated systems are correlated. However, Psi involves information transfer through signal passing. On this point, Radin says that biological systems are clever in figuring out ways of using inanimate matter in ways that would not be predicted based on the properties of those materials alone. So, living systems may be able to figure out how to use quantum correlations to communicate.

How this happens is a matter for future research. Also, for further causal research in psi, Physics, Neuroscience and Psychology must find answers to the three problems raised by Radin in Quantum Entanglement, viz.,

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- Information has to reach across space and time in ways that defy common sense—this is a problem in the physics domain.
- This information must arrive in your mind without the use of ordinary senses, and it must be able to interact with objects at a distance---this is a problem for both physics and neuroscience
- The information must reach conscious awareness often enough for people to report it—this is a problem in psychology”

Entanglement theory goes on to suggest, “Furthermore, we are entangled with everything and anything, so in principle we can mentally interact with everything and anything but we are more likely to receive information that is local to us in space time because the entanglement increases in proportion to the number of interactions and that’s why we are unlikely to receive information about events that happened million years ago.”

He says in his book, “For entangled minds to accurately describe and predict psi performance, we’ll need a model that combines features of physics, neuroscience, and psychology. For physics, we must reside in a medium that supports connections transcending the ordinary boundaries of space and time. For neuroscience, minds (by which I mean mind/brains) must be sensitive to and play an active role in that medium. And for psychology, the processes of attention and intentions should play key roles in how the mind “navigates” within this medium.

This approach by Radin also emphasises information flow through unorthodox channels, i.e., not through the known normal ways of perception. This time it is not through information flow in the environment but through the fact that we are all connected and entangled, and there is a way (details not yet found) that information flow could manifest between us through the entanglement.

However, there are strong reasons why Quantum entanglement cannot fully explain psi: Quantum entanglement, while exhibiting correlations between particles regardless of distance, does not explain psi phenomena because it doesn't allow for the transmission of usable information faster than the speed of light. Entangled particles are linked, but the outcomes of measurements on one particle are random, and the other particle's outcome is correlated but not predictable in a way that could convey information. Therefore, entanglement cannot be used for faster-than-light communication, which is a key aspect of many psi claims.

Here's a more detailed explanation:

- **Entanglement and Causality:** Entanglement demonstrates a correlation between particles, but this correlation doesn't imply a causal connection that violates causality. While the measurement of one entangled particle instantly influences the state of the other, the outcome of the measurement on either particle is random and unpredictable. This randomness prevents the transmission of usable information.
- **No Information Transfer:** Although entanglement creates correlations, it doesn't allow for the transmission of information faster than light. Imagine two entangled particles. If one person (Alice) measures their particle's spin and gets "up," they instantly know the other person's (Bob) particle has a "down" spin. However, Alice can't control whether her measurement yields "up" or "down," and neither can Bob. Without the ability to control the "message," there is no way to send information.
- **Classical vs. Quantum:** Entanglement is a quantum phenomenon, and while it can be described with mathematical tools, it cannot be explained by classical physics. Classical physics relies on locality, where interactions are limited by the speed of

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light. Entanglement, however, demonstrates non-local correlations, meaning particles can be linked across vast distances without any direct interaction. However, this non-locality doesn't equate to faster-than-light communication, as the outcomes are still random.

- **PSI Claims and Entanglement:** Psi phenomena, like telepathy or precognition, often involve the claimed ability to communicate information or influence events at a distance without any known physical medium. Entanglement, while intriguing, doesn't provide a mechanism for this type of communication. The randomness inherent in entanglement makes it impossible to use for conveying meaningful information or predictably influencing events.

(https://www.google.com/search?q=why+quantum+entanglement+does+not+explain+psi&sca_esv=65f8de5c1a968260&sxsrf=AE3TifOcqt+EzrQLGvtDlrUDWbD3h_hqPFdQ%3A1753450213253&source=hp&ei=5YaDaL eiDZPQ2roPv6XYyQE&iflsig=AOw8s4IAAAAAaIOU9b5x9_S8ROtyWI8N9NL9RhXry85A&ved=0ahUKEwj3qNyIj9iOAxUTqFYBHB8SNhkQ4dUDCBc&uact=5&oq=why+quantum+entanglement+does+not+explain+psi&gs_lp=Egdn3Mtd2l6li13aHkgcXVhbnR1bSB1bnRhbmdsZW1lbnQgZG9lcYBub3QgZXhwbGFpbiBwc2kyBRAhGKABMgUQIRigAUjxeFAAWIZ0cAF4AJABAJgBqAWgAdRFqgELMC4zMC4xMy41LTG4AQPIAQD4AQGYAi2gAqJKwgIQEAAYgAQYsQMYQxiDARiKBcICChAAGIAEGEMYigXCAhYQLhiABBixAxjRAXhDGIMBGMcBGloFwgILEAAYgAQYsQMYgwHCAgUQABiABMICCBAAGIAEGLEDwgINEAAYgAQYsQMYQxiKBcICCBauGIAEGLEDwgIOEAAYgAQYsQMYgwEYigXCAgUQLhiABMICBhAAGBYHsICCBAAGIAEGKIEwgIFEAAAY7wWYAwCSBwsxLjIwLjIzLjUtMaAHxrUBsgcLMC4yMC4yMy41LTG4B51KwgcLMC4xLjEzLjI3LjTIB_8D&sclient=gws-wiz)

The above two approaches outlined by Sonali/May and Radin both agree on unorthodox ways of information transfer, but do not conclusively explain what causes the psi phenomena to occur; they just give an approach to be taken to unearth various factors which together result in the manifestation of these phenomena. To get a complete understanding of these phenomena, they suggest further research in the physics domain as well as in the neuroscience domain, which have to find answers to their questions which remain unanswered.

We know that neuroscience and medical researchers still have to explore large parts of the brain and also understand how the mind works and consciousness manifests. These aspects are crucial to remove hurdles in the way of causal psi research.

The above discussions give us some clues for further causal research in psi. Maybe the ideas in the above approaches could be effectively pooled to find an illuminated path to pursue causal parapsychological research.

The information flow in an unorthodox way could be a cause which could trigger a psi event, but what factors cause this way of information flow still need to be researched.

Unless we discover what factors jointly result in manifestation of 'psi' events, we shall not be able to replicate these events as was the case with paranormal events of thunderstorm, lightning and rainbows. We have not yet spearheaded 'psi' research in this direction, but some researchers feel that seven factors seemingly have a possible link with Psi performance viz., ageing, relaxation, emotional response, experimenter effects, magnetic field, personality and belief (Yung-Jong Shiah and Frances Chang⁵). Some studies suggest that aging may be a factor, though the exact relationship is still under investigation. Relaxed mental states i.e.,

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altered states of consciousness, have proved to be conducive for positive 'psi' results in laboratories—examples are Ganzfeld experiments for Telepathy and Clairvoyance. Strong emotional need for manifestation of psi events also may be one of the factors. Telepathy happens when the two minds have some prompting need—e.g. take the case of Hans Burger's sister's telepathic awareness of impending danger to her brother. Also, some research explores the potential influence of magnetic fields on Psi phenomena, though this area remains speculative. Lastly, it may be that there are god-given capabilities which create genuine psychics, a factor beyond human intervention.

The list is only suggestive and not comprehensive and it is matter of research to establish beyond doubt what are the exact factors behind 'psi' phenomena.

Deeper penetrative research is required to establish beyond doubt what factors jointly manifest 'psi' events. Till then, we are groping in the dark to solve the mystery

Thus, we are still far from solving the mystery. The mystery is deep and eludes a solution for over centuries. The reality of psi events is not in doubt, but what factors cause them are still shrouded in mystery.

As far as my thinking goes, it is because the phenomena are mind-related and unless we take an approach to reveal the mystery of mind and consciousness, we shall be groping in the dark. The approaches taken by Radin and May Marwaha also get nowhere because they can't unravel the factors that make information flow to the mind in an unorthodox way.

The correct way to unravel the mystery would be to do penetrative research into the mind-consciousness problem, which is still a 'Hard Problem.'

There was a time when we thought that the brain, which does all the thinking, cannot be researched because of the impasse—Brain Researching Brain; but we found out a way to research it, and today we know a lot about the brain parts and their functioning. It is a different matter that a major part of the brain is still untapped, and we do not know the mysteries hidden therein. But we have made a breakthrough in brain research.

It is worthwhile to glance through to see how Brain research could be made possible:

One approach taken in brain research was to understand what caused some brain patients to do weird things—what changes in their brains triggered their weird actions.

V S Ramachandran⁶, in his book, "The Tell Tale Brain", takes us on a fascinating journey into the human brain. While studying patients who exhibit bizarre symptoms, he used the learning to understand the functions of the normal brain.

He could explore deviations in the brain of patients compared to normal brains and, thus, give a better understanding of the human brain. In his own words, "It is difficult to talk about the brain without waxing lyrical. But how does one go about actually studying it? There are many methods, ranging from single-neuron studies to high-tech brain scanning to cross-species comparison. I generally see patients who have suffered brain lesions due to stroke, tumour, or head injury and, as a result, are experiencing disturbances in their perception and consciousness. I also sometimes meet people who do not appear brain-damaged or impaired, yet report having wildly unusual perceptual or mental experiences. In either case, the procedure is the same; I interview them, observe their behavior, administer some simple tests, take a peek at their brain and then come up with a hypothesis that bridges psychology and neurology--- in other words, a hypothesis that connects strange behavior to what has gone wrong in the intricate

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wiring of the brain. A decent percentage of time I am successful. And so, patient by patient, case by case, I gain a stream of fresh insight into how the human mind and brain work---and how they are inextricably linked.”

Using the above approach, he came up with incredible brain research done to alleviate the sufferings of patients of Complex Regional Pain Syndrome (CRPS-II) by facilitating the unlearning of “learned pains” through the use of “phantom limbs”. He uncovered the mystery behind “Colour Synesthesia” when he investigated patients who saw colours when shown digits, i.e., the brain linking colour with digits in some people. Also, while studying the brain with respect to pain, he could discover "Mirror Neurons", which get activated with pain in one's body as well as when a person sees another person having pain. As per him, the Mirror Neurons could be used to treat Autism.

Thus, the impasse of Brain research itself was circumvented, and brain research progressed well and is still marching ahead.

In conclusion of this paper, I wish to look forward to a day when, taking a cue from Brain Research, one of us would penetrate the “Hard Problem” and we shall have a breakthrough in mind-consciousness research which may give a solution to the problem in neuroscience domain of above research papers and physics will advance to new laws to bring a solution to the problems raised in above causal research papers.

With the above research concluding to satisfaction, we would have understood the psi phenomena completely, and then there could be ways to replicate them successfully in laboratories as was done for the phenomena of Thunderstorms, Lightning and Rainbows. Till then we have to keep fingers crossed!!!!...

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Conflict of Interest

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