

MIND, TECHNOLOGY, AND SOCIETY

Seminar Series

UC MERCED, Fall 2016

Harald Atmanspacher

ETH Zurich

Contextual Emergence in Physics and Beyond

The concept of contextual emergence has been proposed as a non-reductive, yet well-defined relation between different levels of description of physical and other systems. It yields a formally sound and empirically applicable procedure to translate between different descriptive levels in an overall consistent fashion. This will be illustrated for the pertinent physical example of temperature in physics and applied to the contextual emergence of mental states from a neural level of description.

Harald Atmanspacher has a physics PhD from Munich University, and worked as a research scientist at the Max Planck Institute for extraterrestrial physics at Garching until 1998. After another 15 years as the head of the theory group at the Institute for Frontier Areas of Psychology at Freiburg, he is now an executive staff member at Collegium Helveticum (ETH Zurich and University Zurich). He is also President of the Society for Mind-Matter Research, and editor-in-chief of the interdisciplinary international journal Mind and Matter. His fields of research are the theory of complex dynamical systems, conceptual and theoretical aspects of (algebraic) quantum theory, and mind-matter relations from interdisciplinary perspectives.



MONDAY,

November 14, 2016

3:00 PM - 4:30 PM

KL 232

Please contact Jeff Yoshimi (jyoshimi@ucmerced.edu) for more information.