

# **ABOUT LIFE**

***PART ONE***

## **UNDERSTANDING EXISTENCE**

(Short Extract)

***BY***

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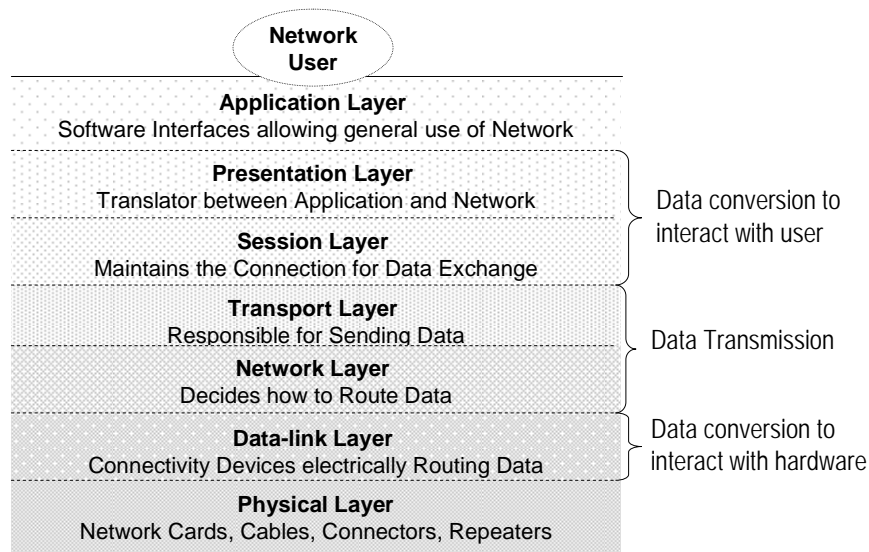
**The Future is Nigh  
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## **CONCLUSION**

# INTRODUCTION

## Developing a Model for Existence

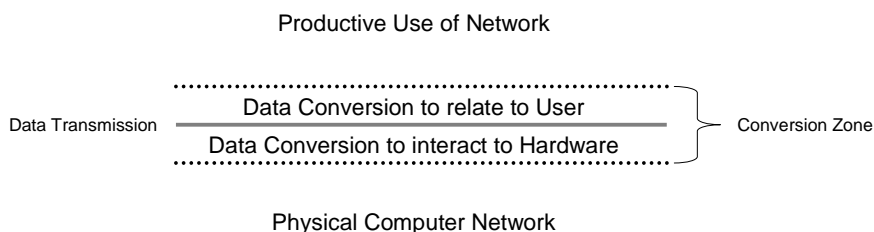
The model that will be described in this work is logically formulated similar to that of a computer network model. For ease of understanding a computer network is logically divided into seven conceptual layers though they are in fact inseparable. This allows for a standard way of viewing the workings of the network and is universally known as the OSI (Open Systems Interconnection – depicted in **Figure 1**) model.



**Figure 1 – The OSI Network Model**

The OSI Model divides network communication in progressive levels from its basic physical transmission devices to how the end user eventually interacts with it through the user interface (usually a printer, mouse and keyboard).

For the purposes of developing a similar model to understand existence one can logically reduce the entire seven layered model into a three layered model as depicted in **Figure 2**.



**Figure 2 – OSI Model Converted to a Three-Layered Network Sandwich**

Here the actual data exchange takes place in the middle three layers while the user

only experiences the outer application layer by interacting with the software applications specifically designed to facilitate his user specific tasks. Therefore when two users communicate with each other as on the Internet, they are oblivious of the complicated technical interactions which are involved in all the other layers.

And it is my suspicion that this is exactly how it is in our reality framework as well. Though:

*Unlike formulating a model of something we are the creator of, framing existence is like the cyber-fellow in a computer game wondering why he is being kicked whenever the kickboxing software is turned on. And since no other option is apparent, feels compelled to kick back whenever it can.*

At this point it is important to stop and think a little about what was described in the block above. In fact the fellow in the kickboxing game experiences a *cause-and-effect reality* as he relates to his particular cyber-world.

This is just as we do when viewing reality from an existential perspective. What must be grasped is that we are literally *forced* to experience our own reality through our five senses in exactly such a manner. Largely oblivious to the deeper levels of reality that defines who we are and what we are experiencing.

# FRAMING REALITY

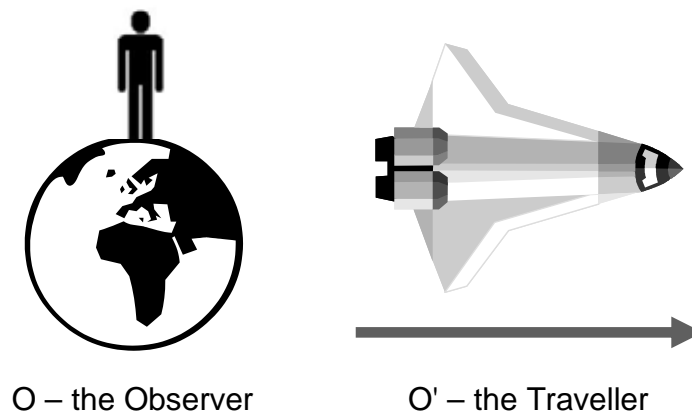
## Time and the Special Theory of Relativity

“...experience only teaches us, how one event constantly follows another; without instructing us in the secret connexion, which binds them together, and renders them inseparable.” – David Hume

That time is relative is encapsulated by Time-dilation. This is a proven scientific principle and the basis of the Special Theory of Relativity that suggest that that moving clocks run slow. It primarily asserts that:

*Time becomes infinite relative to a static observer for any object approaching the speed of light.*

Consider the depiction in **Figure 3**. It shows a static observer O in a stationary frame of reference (standing on earth); and an observer O' travelling a spaceship.



**Figure 3 – Relative Frames of Reference**

Based on the speed at which the spaceship is travelling, the following equation applies:

$$\Delta t = \frac{\Delta t'}{\sqrt{1 - (v/c)^2}}$$

where  $v$  is the velocity at which the spaceship is travelling and  $c$  is the speed of light.

The important point to grasp from the above equations is that, *depending on the relative speed of the traveller he will experience a correspondingly slower passage of time to that experienced by the stationary observer.*

Thus the faster the speed the slower the passage of time, until at speed of light absolutely no time passes at all. Yet we know that light does indeed travel at that very

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<sup>1</sup>  $\Delta$  is for delta or change.  $\Delta t$  is the Observer's change in time; while  $\Delta t'$  is the traveller's change in time.

speed since after all, it is light. <sup>2</sup>

## The Twins Paradox

“The only reason for time is so that everything doesn't happen at once.” – Albert Einstein

Based on the report back I get, the above section is exactly where the wheels completely unravel and one is likely to begin to lose the plot and to blame one's state of confusion on the 'complicated' mathematics. For this reason it is advised that one takes a long mental pause before continuing.

Notwithstanding your potential state of abyss at this point it simply must be accepted that *the mathematics is not complicated*. In fact it is best ignored except that one realises that it is an absolute scientific fact that time in our universe is governed by this specific equation.

What the equation essentially asserts is that time is not definite, but that it can be experienced on a continuum ranging from absolutely no time at all, to how we are experiencing it right now as mortal beings, as *apparently* very definite time.

To explain the theory further I will give a mind blowing example of how these dynamics *theoretically* can take affect:

*Imagine twins at their twentieth birthday. One of them setting off on a journey on an enormously powerful spaceship.*

*Based on the theory there would be a specific speed at which this twin could travel, where only one year might pass form him; while for his brother, the observer back on earth, his normal fifty years would elapse while waiting for him to return.*

*Of course when the travelling twin returns one year later on his 21<sup>st</sup> birthday he would have to find a brand new generation to party with (perhaps his brother's grandchildren). On the other hand his brother would be celebrating his 70<sup>th</sup> birthday, perhaps relaxing on his faithful recliner too frail to engage in any significant activity.*

*In fact the exact speed the brother is required to travel at is 0.99979998 that of the speed of light.*

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<sup>2</sup> For ease of understanding, the above equation can be rewritten as:

$$\Delta t = \frac{\Delta t'}{x} \quad \text{where} \quad x = \sqrt{1 - (v/c)^2}$$

Then  $x \approx 1$  for a traveller travelling at normal speeds; and  $x = 0$  for a traveller at the speed of light.

When we enter zero at the bottom of the modified equation, the equation fails as it goes into infinity. Thus the equation does not apply from our rational perspective for any value greater than or equal to the speed of light.

Time-dilation together with Space-contraction (that objects contract with increased speed) are in fact the basis of Einstein's marvellous revelation not  $E= mc^2$ . While this in itself is an awesome discovery, this equation specifically has to do with the nature of our material world and not directly with the greater concept of relativity.

This is referred to as the Twins Paradox. The real problem with the above is not that relativity is not absolutely so, but rather that it is almost impossible to conceptualise as we therefore would have to discard what we experience as very real as perceived through our senses.

It is nevertheless important to appreciate that Time-dilation has been adequately proven in particle accelerators such as the one at CERN in Switzerland where subatomic particles that has a particular lifespan were tested. Some of these particles decay in only a few second, and when accelerated to particular speeds their lifespan was increased in accordance with the formula.

In another experiment where two incredibly accurate atomic clocks – one mounted on a fast-moving aeroplane (the traveller) and another remaining on the ground (the observer) – were used, the similar results were obtained. By entering the speed at which the plane travelled and the relative times of the two clocks into the Time Dilation equation, the exact time delay expected by the formula, also resulted.

To make any headway at all in this section, you simply have to let go of the notion that time is fixed despite your experience of it as such. Rather to on an *intellectual level* accept that it is relative and that at the speed of light it does not exist at all.

Thus for now, accept that the way you experience time in this very moment, merely is as it is on the surface of reality. And that within deeper levels of reality this does not necessarily apply. In a sense our view of the world is as in the seven layered network model, where we are experiencing the world only through the Application Layer. And because of this orientation, are largely oblivious to the deeper aspects below the surface.