Prompt 2

The Nova special Quantom Leap really opened up my eyes to what we’ve been learning in class and how it applies to the real world. The two models that contributed to my understandings of the concepts in the video where his example of the double slit experiment in a bowling alley and bar scene at the beginning. I didn’t understand what people meant when they would say you cant tell exactly where an electron is before this video explained that in order to understand quantum mechanics you have to do away with all your pre conceptions about how the world works. I think it very interesting how entanglement can be used to almost instantly transport information over large distances.

I was really confused by how atoms worked before watching this video but now I get that we cant be completely correct about them at all times. An example of a clarification I got from this video was I had no idea what happened when electrons changed energy states but now I know they emit a photon when they lose energy. I also learned about the previous subject that it happens without the electron passing through the portion of space in-between the levels. While it is nice to know how electrons move between energy levels it still confuses me every time I think about it hard.

It does kind of annoy me that most of these quantum equations are based on probability and not absolutism. I found it very amusing that the test that would prove quantum mechanics correct was created to disprove it. It was also strange how they introduced Einstein as someone who accepted new ideas when he led the charge to disprove quantum mechanics. Despite the complaining of some scientists it was definitely the right choice to continue with quantum mechanics since it has brought us so much advanced technology.

Probably the most exciting portion of the video for me was when they talked about quantum computing and transferring binary through entangled particles. I find this extremely fascinating since it means that you could run a problem with thousands of variables and account for them all. This would be a huge break through in all fields of computing and would introduce a much better way for information to be transported. While I thought the section on teleportation was interesting I am of the opinion that consciousness is unique to a certain instance of matter and thus the person that comes out on the other end is not actually you. Thus I would most certainly not use a teleporter until we have complete understanding of how consciousness works.

While it took up an hour of my day I’m very happy I spent the sixty minutes watching this special because of the pure amount of information I got out of it. Aside from just things I learned it also clarified many questions I had about what we’ve been learning in class and any that came up while I was watching the video. The video was also very interesting and engaging so it helped keep me from falling asleep while getting ready to do my homework. So while it wasn’t the best thing I’ve ever watched the video was great and I’m pretty sure we should have watched it in class.