Subject: DIRAC jumps

Posted by duntemann.wbst[1] on Mon, 03 Jun 2013 03:24:45 GMT

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There is a neat little book done by James Blish back in the sixties called THE QUINCUNX OF TIME, based on a shorter work called "Beep!" It features the instantaneous Dirac transmitter, which "vibrates" all space simultaneously. Blish points up sneakily that this implies it also vibrates all TIME simultaneously, and therefore every Dirac message received also includes ##every other## Dirac message ever sent or ever to be sent throughout eternity, sort of wadded up into an initial burst of noise before the transmission begins. One of the great original twists on an old SF "must-have;" the "subspace radio," "hyperwave", whatever have you. Recommended; you can read it in an evening.

--Jeff Duntemann duntemann.wbst@xerox