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**From:** Joscha Bach <[REDACTED]>  
**Sent:** Sunday, August 23, 2015 12:50 AM  
**To:** Jeffrey Epstein  
**Subject:** Re:

Dear Jeffrey,

how are you?

We came back from Germany on Tuesday evening. I visited a couple conferences and a symposium, and got a best paper award for a piece on equipping AI with motivation. At the moment, I am working with a psychologist on translating the motivation theory into what we hope will become a model of personality, which we can then test. Another thing that I am currently experiment with is a type of semantic/neural network that instead of activations passes several simple types of messages to facilitate learning and self-organization. The basic idea is to find out if we can replace the global operations that are for instance done in backpropagation (where an algorithm looks like God's eye at a complete layer of neurons in a neural net) by local operations (where each neuron only talks to its directly connected neighbors, and no central control exists). In a sense, each node becomes something like an information broker that gets rewards for computing predictions for his neighbors, based on information he buys or commissions from his neighbors. I am curious if this is a better or an equivalent paradigm to energy (as for instance in Boltzmann machines). While I was in Berlin, I sat down with the MicroPsi group (Priska also visited this summer in Cambridge). We are working on getting our agent simulation to do stuff in a computer game world.

Other than that, I am hanging out every week at Marvin Minsky's, and help getting their Minskitute started. I hope that there is a chance to build a critical mass to initiate work on his classical ideas (especially Society of Mind), despite the fascinating political difficulties.

Last but not least, I will teach a seminar on the Future of Artificial Intelligence at the Media Lab.

Bests, and grateful greetings,

Joscha

> Am Aug 22, 2015 um 12:30 schrieb jeffrey E. <jeevacation@gmail.com>:

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> bring me up to speed, on what you are doing/

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> --

> please note

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