

STATIC GLUE

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1984 October 22

Static electricity eg from a room heater will cause paper etc. to cling to suitable surfaces.

This effect must be exploitable for a weak temporary glue; it could be cancelled by grounding appropriate parts of the substrate. Xerography is one existing application.

PURPOSE OF SLEEP

1984 October 18

Sleep must have some useful purposes. Apart from physical 'recharging', the most likely (and most important) roles will probably be in the brain memory/processor areas - probably running 'housekeeping' tasks such as transferring daily sensory input in temporary store to longer-term memory (probably after reformatting). Why is the length of sleep fairly constant for animals? Is it? Would pay to investigate sleep periods in different animals, climates, stress/learning situations etc.

BASIS OF SPEECH ETC ANALYSIS

1984-10-12

Human impressions eg of sound are already digitized - each sound wave pattern activates a pattern of neurones from the ear which fire ~~at~~ at a maximum rate. To analyse speech etc, need to produce audio input devices operating ~~at~~ with the same frequency characteristics as the ear packs firing the neurones, at a similar scanning or firing rate. Analysis of these digitized streams will enable high-fidelity speech synthesis and possibly music synthesis as well. The same principle can be extended to vision, smell, touch etc - anything which fires off neurones.