

# Hans Christian von Baeyer

## Quotes

*Information, Way, Lying, Noise, Understanding, Probability, Two, Numbers,  
Law, Form, Land, Mind, Book, Taught Us, Communication, Defining, Problem,  
Smell, Order, Commodity*

Information gently but relentlessly drizzles down on us in an invisible, impalpable electric rain.

~Hans Christian von Baeyer

Underneath the shifting appearances of the world as perceived by our unreliable senses, is there, or is there not, a bedrock of objective reality?

~Hans Christian von Baeyer

The smell of subjectivity clings to the mechanical definition of complexity as stubbornly as it sticks to the definition of information.

~Hans Christian von Baeyer

Both induction and deduction, reasoning from the particular and the general, and back again from the universal to the specific, form the essence to scientific thinking.

~Hans Christian von Baeyer

As every bookie knows instinctively, a number such as reliability - a qualitative rather than a quantitative measure - is needed to make the valuation of information practically useful.

~Hans Christian von Baeyer

Entropy is not about speeds or positions of particles, the way temperature and pressure and volume are, but about our lack of information.

~Hans Christian von Baeyer

The solution of the Monty Hall problem hinges on the concept of information, and more specifically, on the relationship between added information and probability.

~Hans Christian von Baeyer

If quantum communication and quantum computation are to flourish, a

new information theory will have to be developed.

~Hans Christian von Baeyer

An electron is real; a probability is not.

~Hans Christian von Baeyer

The switch from 'steam engines' to 'heat engines' signals the transition from engineering practice to theoretical science.

~Hans Christian von Baeyer

In order to understand information, we must define it; bit in order to define it, we must first understand it. Where to start?

~Hans Christian von Baeyer

The problem of defining exactly what is meant by the signal velocity, which cropped up as long ago as 1907, has not been solved.

~Hans Christian von Baeyer

Science has taught us that what we see and touch is not what is really there.

~Hans Christian von Baeyer

Numbers instill a feeling for the lie of the land, and furnish grist for the mathematical mill that is the physicist's principal tool.

~Hans Christian von Baeyer

In fact, an information theory that leaves out the issue of noise turns out to have no content.

~Hans Christian von Baeyer

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