

Material Evidence of Consciousness—A General Brief Overview and a Suggested View

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Abstract

This is a general, very brief overview of recent findings about consciousness phenomenon; what is it? How does it work? Is it a global phenomenon or restricted to the human brain? Subjective or objective experience, just philosophy, or maybe tested empirically? Is there material evidence for its existence in literature heritage? The article methodology is just a descriptive write to what introduced briefly; to conclude a suggested view or hypothesis about recent findings.

Keywords: consciousness, subjective-objective experience, global phenomenon

1. What Is Consciousness?

Consciousness defined as a state of being awareness in the current moment, generally. Also, a domain of mind contains sensations, perceptions and memories. (Reber, A.S., 1995: p. 154).

Differentiating conscious experience from unconscious one, scientists define unconscious experience as a judgment made on the basis of a limited amount of evidence or data without awareness. (Reber, A.S., 1995: p. 824).

2. Is Consciousness a Subjective or an Objective Experience?

Subjective is something related to someone, relative and independent thing to the observer, while objective is anything we can notice by our five senses, dependent thing from the observer.

This is the classical description for both subjective and objective experiences. However, if

we accept that our subjective experiences are concrete physical phenomena, and then science can provide exhaustive models of such experiences, we may test empirically. (Jylkk, J. & Railo, H., 2019: pp. 1-12).

If we accept the assumption that consciousness is an epiphenomenological state generated by electrical activity of the highly developed central nervous system of the human brain. (Brown, W., 2022: p. 1). We may accept that consciousness is a science tested by neuroimaging methods. Nowadays, consciousness science becomes a rich interdisciplinary mixture drawing together philosophical, theoretical, computational, experimental, and clinical perspectives, with neuroscience its central discipline. (Seth, A.K.: 2018: pp. 1-5).

Consciousness is a global activity of the nervous system. Its physiological and pathological mechanisms studied in relation to the natural sleep-wake cycle and various forms of normal unconsciousness. Consciousness is a global brain function in the sub cortex and neo-cortex. (Berlucchi, G. & Marzi, C.A., 2019: pp. 1-6).

3. Is Consciousness Restricted to Human Brain or a Global Phenomenon?

Describing consciousness in Universe has three aspects: a) as a complex brain neural computation, b) as a spiritual quality in the universe, and c) as composed events acting in accordance with physical laws not yet fully understood. (Penrose, R. & Hameroff, S., 2013: pp. 70).

(OrchOR) Orchestrated objective reduction is a theory which proposes consciousness consists of a sequence of discrete events, each being a moment of 'objective reduction'(OR) of a quantum state, which exist as parts of a quantum computations carried on primarily in neuronal microtubules. Such OR events would have to be 'orchestrated' in an appropriate way (OrchOR), for genuine consciousness to arise. (Penrose, R. & Hameroff, S., 2013: p. 74).

4. Conclusion and Suggested View or Hypothesis

From all stated above, we may conclude that:

-Consciousness is a phenomenon; we may notice and test within human brain and around us in the whole universe.

-We may consider consciousness and unconsciousness as two faces of the same one thing, which is awareness, while consciousness is awareness in the current moment, unconsciousness is awareness affected by past stored moments.

-Awareness means that one changes according to his/her aims to achieve goals, and all beings in the universe, like this. From Atom to cell, things and living things, up to nervous systems, and human brain, all have purposes and changes to achieve goals; we may suggest that consciousness is a global phenomenon, not restricted to the human brain.

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