

**A brief review of the riddle, as the consciousness**

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**Abstract:** A synopsis of the enigma of consciousness is presented. Should the medical community become more involved in the search for answers? Star light, star bright Do you appear in my dendrites? Do you float upon brain waves, where you can Surf on my encephalogram? Or are you in my salty neurons Some of the billions which we all own? I guess you could be in my axons Giving my brain the thoughts to act on. Or is it just synaptic fusion That helps create your strange illusion? Can brain transmitters from the nerves Produce the images we observe? I believe it is the case That you twinkle in phase space!

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## REALITY.

The zest of an Orange has a fruity tang;  
but needs a nose to sense it.  
The orange of an Orange remains unseen;  
unless there is someone to see it.  
When it drops from the tree with a noisy thud;  
there's no sound without someone to hear it.  
Its' rind is bitter and its juice is sweet;  
but only if somebody tastes it.  
It's spherical, cool and waxy to feel;  
but only if you hold it.  
And the memory of it is forever lost;  
without someone to recall it.  
Participation results in the Orange's conception;  
as senses filter, to create this perception.  
Consciousness is our reality;  
the rest of the Universe, potentiality.  
Atoms and energy distilled by the brain sublime;  
so the liquor of our conscious spirit condenses into  
perceptual space-time.  
The multi-dimensional decanter for our thoughts.  
Ode to Consciousness.  
Peter T. Walling.

1.

Star light, star bright  
Do you appear in my dendrites?  
Do you float upon brain waves, where you can  
Surf on my encephalogram?  
Or are you in my salty neurons  
Some of the billions which we all own?  
I guess you could be in my axons  
Giving my brain the thoughts to act on.  
Or is it just synaptic fusion  
That helps create your strange illusion?  
Can brain transmitters from the nerves  
Produce the images we observe?

Maybe you really burrowed in  
And latched on to my tubulin.  
Now I believe it is the case  
That you twinkle in phase space!

2.

When I look upon a star,  
The photons flash in from afar.  
Many light years across cold space,  
They arrive brand new upon my face,  
For time doesn't pass at the speed of light,  
As they enter my eye in the dead of night.  
My retina burns without any pain,  
Then the eye nerves send data to my brain.  
Now all that's left of the object seen,  
Is a blizzard of signals in my bean.  
My cerebral neurons work apace,  
Then the star appears in my perceptual space.  
Thus the twinkling percept is derived  
From nothing but signals from my eyes.

3.

My brain just did a clever trick,  
To remake a star is pretty slick.  
It's even smarter than Spock's Transporter  
Which moves the body when you say it oughta'.  
To move from physical to perceptual space;  
The noggin really is an ace!  
Star's out there, brain's in my skull,  
So where *is* the percept I started to mull.  
It's not "out there" or, "in" my head,  
It's in perceptual space instead.  
Physical and mind space co-exist,  
But they're different; as Bertrand Russell insists.  
This brings us to the tricky part,  
For mind and brain are quite apart.  
The brain exists in 3D space,

The mind needs more; so just in case  
You smell and touch and feel and see  
A rose; binding that lot takes 5D.

4.

The fMRI gives us accurate maps,  
But that could make “binding” awkward perhaps.  
The sharper the areas demarcated,  
The greater the problem for “binding’s” created.  
If physical space defines our endeavor,  
Problems like this may continue forever.

5.

Now the “you” swirls around like white stirred paint,  
Like a hurricane; chaotic, but under restraint.  
The senses add dye to the swirling mix,  
To colour your next thought in, right quick.  
So “you” and your senses mix without fault,  
And fuse to make a perfect *Gestalt*.  
Now the sensing parts of the brain are found,  
In different locations, all spread around.  
And consciousness is not “in” the head,  
It’s “in” perceptual space instead.  
So when you sniff a horrid smell,  
The olfactory lobe hears the wake up bell.  
The memory of that rotten stink,  
Is written in the dendrite’s links.  
All the neurons play along,  
Like an orchestra which plays lots of songs.  
So that “horrid smell” will strike a chord,  
Which olfactory lobe will spread abroad.  
The signal moves in AM packets,  
To the front of the brain without making a racket.  
At 15 to 40 vibrations per second,  
That smell’s in a language that’s easy to reckon.  
As info’ comes in from the rest of the brain,  
Gamma waves synchronize again.  
The packets flash by at a speedy rate,  
Like the frames of a movie, without a break.  
The data’s distilled at a rapid pace,  
To a “condensate” in hyperspace.

6.

The talking parrot and the counting crow;  
When did animals get to “know”?  
Are bugs and slugs and worms aware;  
Are they conscious and do they care?  
Do fish feel pain and do frogs feel fear?  
The answer’s not entirely clear.  
The worm’s brain function is under 2D,  
That’s too elementary for him to be  
A thinking creature; ‘cos you need 3,  
And that comes with frog on evolution’s tree.  
So amphibians, reptiles and mammals share  
The brainpower to be quite well aware.  
And frogs showed up as fossils we know,

A third of a billion years ago.

7.

So what about the Quantum world  
With waves and particles in a swirl.  
Do you *need* such a fine grained view,  
To describe the “Inner You”?  
If you describe a sandy beach,  
Must every grain be within your reach?  
Is it really a serious lapse,  
Not to embrace Quantum Collapse?

8.

The jury’s still out and even the cleverest,  
Can’t crack the problem of science’s Everest.  
Neurological, Quantum and Dynamical boots  
Trudge up the mountain by different routes.  
Strangely we live in the real solution,  
But need to study our own evolution.  
We don’t squint from base camp up to the crown,  
*We are* at the summit, looking down!

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