

The Origin of Consciousness

Awareness, Thought, Human Experience

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The Hard Problem

The “easy problems” of consciousness involve [explaining cognitive and behavioral functions](#) such as perception, memory, and decision-making through mechanistic or functional accounts.

“Hard Problem of Consciousness” refers to the challenge of explaining [why and how physical processes in the brain give rise to subjective experiences \(qualia\)](#): –the “feels like” aspect of being conscious.



[David Chalmers introduced this concept in his 1995 paper: *Facing Up to the Problem of Consciousness*](#) and expanded it in his book *The Conscious Mind* (1996).

General statements/perceptions about consciousness:

Intelligence* >< Consciousness

The brain produces consciousness

The brain is like a (computational) machine

If we know precisely how the brain works, we will understand what consciousness is

Consciousness is another biological system

It is the *informational processes* that connect consciousness to the brain

There's a LOT we don't know about in our “world”/universe

Mass

Electrical charge

Time

Gravity

. . . maybe consciousness is just another fundamental phenomenon

Niels Bohr said:



Niels Bohr
(1885-1962)

We must accept that the fundamental principle of the universe is consciousness and not matter!



It is the *informational processes* that connect consciousness to the brain

