Review of: "Quantum Gravity Consciousness Could Cause Brain Controlled Atemporal Evolution of Space-Time"

Marc Henry[1]

1 University of Strasbourg

Potential competing interests: No potential competing interests to declare.

The paper by Ph. Guillemant and A. Guyon aims to justify the fact that consciousness exists in the universe independently of that cluster of neurons we call the brain. To arrive at such a conclusion, the authors feel obliged to look in the direction of a unification between the basic indeterminism of the laws of quantum physics and the strict determinism of relativity theory. Unifying probabilism and determinism is extraordinarily difficult; it requires the introduction of physical dimensions whose physical meaning is far from clear and obvious. As written, the paper is therefore aimed at a hyperspecialized audience in theoretical physics, which severely limits its interest from the point of view of the citizen who is not an expert in theoretical physics. In terms of form, the paper seems to me to be far too long to be of interest to anyone seeking a scientific justification for the phenomenon of consciousness, especially since all the unconventional ideas have already been published a few years ago. We're dealing here with a paper designed to showcase the work of Ph. Guillemant's team, rather than a truly original and new research paper, all the more so as the paper is highly selective in its choice of alternative theories. They all involve authors specializing in quantum physics or relativity theory. Competing theories not based on quantum physics or relativity theory, which are often much simpler, are simply ignored. We would therefore have liked a paper less unbalanced in terms of bibliographic references on a subject as fundamental as the separation between consciousness and neural activity.

If the authors are willing to do so, they could cite in their bibliography three references that would enable non-scientists to better situate their extremely theoretical and abstract approach:

(a) Logical, non-mathematical demonstration that consciousness cannot be "secreted" by a brain:

J. P. Gerbaulet, M. Henry, "The consciousness-brain relationship", Substantia, 3(1), 113-118.

(b) Scientific demonstration that consciousness cannot be "secreted" by a brain:

M. Henry and J. P. Gerbaulet, "A scientific rationale for consciousness", Substantia, 3(1), 113-118.

(c) Suggestion that consciousness arises as soon as a system is predominantly water-based:

M. Henry, "Consciousness, Information, Electromagnetism and Water", Substantia, 4(1), 23-36.

Of course, this is only advice, not an obligation. As written, the article is obviously of a very high scientific level and can therefore be published in Qeios, as is, without modification. On the other hand, as I'm not a physicist by training, it would be imperative for a second, reasoned opinion to be given by an expert in theoretical physics who could judge the substance and not the form, as I have done here.