

# BREAKING THE BOUNDARIES OF THE BRAIN

Cameron T. Alldredge, PhD

SPR Workshop | April 2025

BACKGROUND





**ambitious**  
**HYPNOSIS**

IN ASSOCIATION WITH SUU'S  
PSYCHOLOGY CLUB

**HYPNOTIST**  
**CAMERON ALLDREDGE**

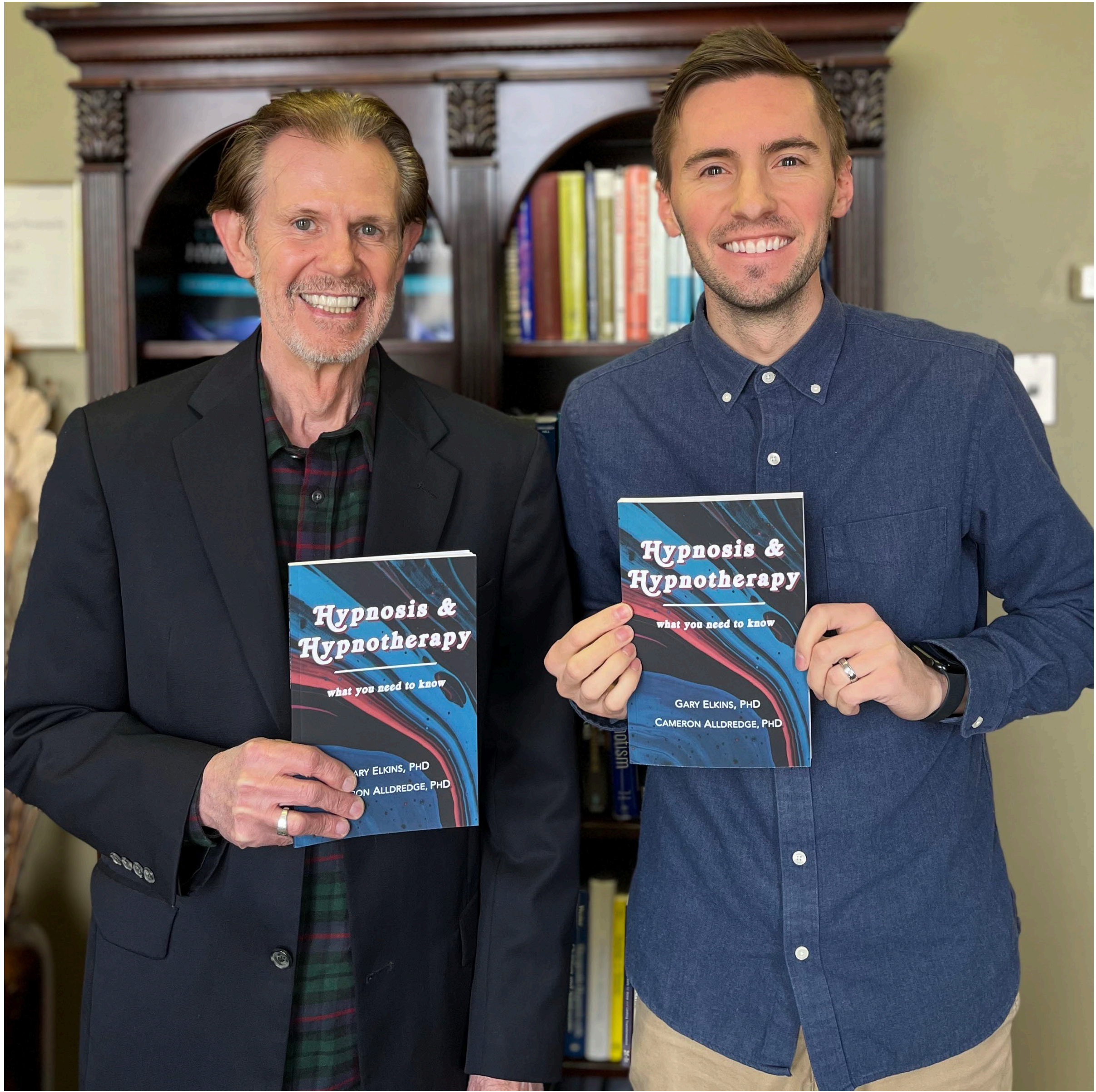
**REVEALING HIS**  
**FULL NEW SHOW:**

**"KICKING SHINS"**  
**HYPNOSIS SHOW**

**WEDNESDAY, FEBRUARY 29, 2012**  
**8:00 PM IN THE BALLROOM**  
**COST: FREE**









TRUTH SAYS  
*HELLO*

# MY PROJECT

## MONISTIC THEORIES

Monistic theories posit that only one substance of reality exists and everything, including consciousness, is derived from that single substance. They reject the idea that mind and matter are separate or of different substance. In accordance with these theories, every element in the cosmos, along with consciousness, can be ultimately linked back to a fundamental form of being.

## QUANTUM-BASED THEORIES

Quantum-based theories suggest a connection between consciousness and particle behavior in quantum physics—a concept where particles can be in more than one location simultaneously and their behaviors influenced by observation. Certain quantum-based viewpoints propose that consciousness arises from quantum activities within the brain while others state that consciousness is fundamental to the quantum fabric of the universe.

## PANPSYCHISM THEORIES

Panpsychism theories propose the idea that consciousness is not limited to brains or living beings but exists in all things universally. They propose consciousness exists even in particles such as atoms or electrons in a fundamental manner. In essence, panpsychism addresses the inquiry of how the physical brain gives rise to perception by proposing that consciousness is fundamental—it has always been present in everything and it doesn't suddenly appear when things become complex enough. In panpsychism, human consciousness is simply a more sophisticated form of the consciousness that pervades all material things in the universe.

## DUAL-ASPECT THEORIES

Dual-aspect theories are frequently grouped with monistic theories as they share the idea of a single fundamental reality but they take it a step further by suggesting two distinct aspects of the fundamental reality (the mental and the physical realms). According to these theories, consciousness and physical substance are two perspectives of the same underlying essence. They propose that although there is a connection between consciousness and the brain, one does not cause the other. Instead, they represent two facets of the same truth that we can observe from an external perspective (as physical occurrences) or from an internal viewpoint (as conscious awareness).

## PROCESS-BASED THEORIES

Some process-based theories state that everything, even consciousness, is in a constant state evolution and change. These theories suggest that conscious experience is not something that simply "resides" in the brain, but it is something that emerges from the constant interactions between the brain, body, and environment. According to these theories, consciousness is made up of moments of experience, each building on the last, rather than static objects.

## IDEALISM THEORIES

Theories of idealism propose that consciousness is the basis of reality rather than a byproduct of the interaction between the brain and the physical world. According to idealism theories, the physical world's existence is contingent upon our perception of it. Thus, everything in our experience including nature, space, and other individuals is fundamentally shaped by consciousness. Consciousness creates and mediates the material world, rather than the other way around. According to this perspective, our thoughts and minds hold as much substance as the tangible objects we encounter as these objects only take form when we observe them.

## INTERFACE/PERCEPTION-BASED

Interface- or perception-based theories propose that consciousness acts as an interface (like the display on a computer screen) that allows humans to interact with the world around them. According to these theories, what is experienced as reality is shaped by perceptions, which have evolved to help humans survive and function in the physical world. These theories explain that experiences do not provide a direct view of the world as it really is but simplify and filter information in a way that helps inform decisions and responses to the environment.

## FIELD-LIKE THEORIES

Field-like theories propose that consciousness goes beyond the brain/neurons and is instead something more fundamental and extensive in nature. These theories draw parallels between consciousness and observable/measurable fields (such as the electromagnetic field). According to these theories, consciousness is a field that pervades the universe and the brain merely engages with this field similar to how an antenna can receive radio transmissions. From this perspective, the mind does not independently generate conscious awareness; rather, it connects with and influences the universal field of consciousness. Field theories state that while consciousness is everywhere, only particular mechanisms, such as the human brain, can interact with it prominently.

# A BRIDGE TO THE PAST

## HERMETICISM

### OVERVIEW

Hermeticism is based on the teachings of Hermes Trismegistus and is a philosophical and spiritual tradition that emphasizes the unity between the material and spiritual realms. A central concept in Hermeticism is the *Microcosm-Macrocosm Principle*, which posits that the human being (microcosm) reflects the universe (macrocosm). Additionally, one of the seven Hermetic Principles is “mentalism” which essentially states that the universe is consciousness.

### SIMILARITIES

These concepts are similar to many modern models indicating that consciousness is fundamental and universal. The microcosm-macrocosm principle, in particular, is comparable to some theories of idealism which propose human consciousness is a part of a universal consciousness.

## VEDANTA

### OVERVIEW

Vedanta, a school of Hindu philosophy, is centered on the nature of Brahman (ultimate reality, pure consciousness) and Atman (the individual self), emphasizing the unity between both the individual consciousness and a universal consciousness. Vedanta, especially in its Advaita (non-dual) form, teaches that there is no division between the self and the universe and, in reality, all is one. Specifically, “Maya” (illusion) suggests that the separation of individual consciousness from universal consciousness is illusory.

### SIMILARITIES

Again, there is a core belief of consciousness being fundamental and universal. It integrates ideas of monism in stating that Atman and Brahman are the same. Additionally, there is an element of idealism with which also argues that reality is a projection of consciousness, and that the physical world is merely an illusion like Maya.

## AKASHIC RECORDS

### OVERVIEW

The Akashic Records refer to a non-physical, universal storage place of knowledge that contains all information about the past, present, and future. This esoteric concept suggests that this is a source of universal truth, and that consciousness can access this through heightened spiritual states. On a broader scale, esoteric knowledge fields refer to the idea that there is an invisible energy field that contains information and wisdom.

### SIMILARITIES

These concepts suggest two things that are consistent with some modern theories. The first is that there is an unseen energy field that contains and can be accessed by consciousness. This is similarly suggested in modern field-based theories. Secondly, that there is a shared consciousness that links individuals and allows them to access collective wisdom similar to how many panpsychist and idealist theories suggest that consciousness is interconnected.

## ANIMISM/PANTHEISM

### OVERVIEW

The concept of “animism” is often found among indigenous cultures and suggest that everything in nature, both living and non-living, possess spiritual essence (consciousness). “Pantheism,” found in both Eastern and Western traditions, is similar but states that divinity, or God, is present in throughout the universe. In essence, both beliefs propose that some type of consciousness pervades the universe and is in everything.

### SIMILARITIES

These ideas are similar to some theories of panpsychism which propose that conscious is everywhere and in everything, even inanimate objects. It also contains elements of a universal consciousness.

## KUNDALINI/QI/PRANA

### OVERVIEW

Kundalini, Qi, and Prana are ancient concepts that describe subtle energy fields that link living beings and the cosmos. More specifically, when Kundalini energy rises to the “crown chakra,” a person experiences a sense of oneness with the universe. Qi and Prana are a universal energy that is in everything and is the force that animates or sustains life.

### SIMILARITIES

These concepts are also consistent with modern field-based theories and a panpsychist view that consciousness is universal. There is also reference to certain states of consciousness that might provide greater access to universal consciousness.

## GNOSTICISM

### OVERVIEW

Gnosticism emerged in the early centuries of the Common Era and includes spiritual beliefs influenced by early Jewish, Hellenistic, Christian, and mystical traditions. The term "Gnosis" means *knowledge* and specifically refers to spiritual knowledge that allows a person to transcend the physical world and connect with the divine. One of the core beliefs of Gnosticism is that the material world is inherently evil while the spirit realm is divine. It also suggests that physical reality is a prison or illusion.

### SIMILARITIES

With Gnosticism, there is a strong overlap with dualistic theories suggesting that mind and matter are fundamentally separate or different. It also shares some idealist beliefs pointing to the illusory nature of physical reality.

## NEO-PLATONISM

### OVERVIEW

Neo-Platonism is a type of philosophy developed by Plotinus in the 3rd century. While its foundation is built upon Platonic ideas such as “Forms” (abstract, perfect, stable ideals that are nonphysical but real and exist in a different realm) Neo-Platonism incorporates mystical elements. A core tenet is “The One” which suggests there is an ultimate, formless source of all existence. All things come from The One and the ultimate goal is to return to it. It emphasizes the idea that human souls come from “Nous” (the divine mind) and they are interconnected.

### SIMILARITIES

These ideas seem consistent with contemporary frameworks that suggest consciousness is fundamental and interconnected. There are also similarities to some idealist theories that propose there is a universal consciousness of which all individual consciousnesses are dissociated fragments.



# SIX PROBLEMS

## The Problem of Free Will

Free will is something that is emphasized among many theories but it’s usually in the sense of something we inherently have (and that we own all of it). For theories that suggest consciousness is part of a larger, interconnected network, there is a question regarding how much autonomy an individual actually has in shaping their own thoughts and actions. In theories that propose a universal consciousness or fields of shared knowledge, it seems reasonable to assume that individuals’ behavior and decision-making may not be *fully* independent. For these types of models, we need to answer the question, *how can we know that our choices are genuinely our own rather than being influenced or directed by overarching non-local forces?* The challenge here is to explain how individuals can maintain free will if their consciousness is enmeshed in or influenced by a larger collective system.

## The Problem of Personal Identity

When considering the possibility that consciousness extends beyond the brain and is interconnected with a broader, universal consciousness, it is logical to wonder *how does one maintain a unique and consistent identity over time?* and, *how does this continuity of identity remain intact if consciousness transcends the physical person?* Our sense of self seems to endure despite the passage of time and changes in our physical and mental states. Theories suggesting universal consciousness (especially one that is highly interconnected) often lack an adequate explanation about the preservation of the sense of being an individual with private thoughts, experiences, and memories.

## The Combination Problem

This is a concern for theories such as panpsychism that suggest consciousness exists in everything. This dilemma questions how separate units of consciousness (perhaps residing in basic particles like neurons or atoms) come together, or *combine*, to create the complex and cohesive conscious experiences typical of human beings. In essence, this problem is concerned with the question, *how do these tiny pockets of awareness come together to form the thoughts and feelings that shape an individual’s conscious existence?* For instance, if each neuron possesses its individual minuscule awareness, there’s a lack of awareness about how these unique conscious entities merge to produce the smooth and unified self-awareness that we associate with human experience.

## The Reverse Hard Problem

This is an issue that is especially relevant for idealist theories. In direct opposition to “the hard problem” mentioned earlier, this problem refers to a need for answering the question, *how do subjective experiences give rise to or influence physical processes?* For example, how can a purely mental experience, or consciousness that exists beyond the brain, affect the physical body or the external world? The way in which our intangible and subjective consciousness interacts with the material realm in an observable manner is not clearly understood yet. The discrepancy between experiences and concrete outcomes poses a significant challenge when it comes to explaining this “reverse” issue as it proves to be just as complex as the initial hard problem.

## The Interaction Problem

Inherent to many theories of non-local consciousness (especially of a dualist flavor) there is an issue similar to the reverse hard problem. Specifically, there is a largely unanswered question about how consciousness *interacts* with the physical brain. If, according to many theories, consciousness can function autonomously outside the body or brain, *how does the consciousness that is not bound by locality or physicality engage with systems like neurons and synapses in the body’s functions and processes?* While quantum mechanics and OrchOR theory appear to give us the best sense, such testing requires laboratory conditions under extremely cold temperatures.

## The Epistemic Gap

This is a problem for virtually all theories of non-local consciousness. In essence, *how can we study or measure consciousness if it exists outside the brain and outside the scope being measured by traditional scientific instruments?* Many current methods of studying consciousness are designed to measure neural activity, which limits our observation to localized processes in the brain. If consciousness is truly non-local, we currently lack the tools to observe or measure it directly. This gap in testability creates a barrier to researching and validating non-local consciousness theories empirically. In turn, this leaves us without clear methods for gaining insight about the potential non-local aspects of consciousness.



# THE 8 COMMON ELEMENTS

## C. IS QUANTUM-BASED

#1

Consciousness arises from or is deeply connected to quantum mechanical processes. This may include concepts such as quantum entanglement, superposition, and state reduction. The brain, or consciousness itself, operates according to the principles of quantum physics, and that quantum nature of consciousness allows for non-local phenomena.

Quantum mechanics (specifically quantum entanglement) allows for instantaneous connections between particles, regardless of distance. If consciousness is rooted in quantum processes, it could allow for non-local connections between minds or between consciousness and distant stimuli.

## C. IS MEDIATED BY FIELDS OR ENERGIES

#2

Consciousness interacts with or is mediated by non-local fields or energetic structures. In this context, these fields play a direct role in connecting conscious entities and facilitating non-local interactions.

A field-based model of consciousness suggests that consciousness can spread or operate non-locally through these fields. This would indicate that consciousness connects to a larger field that can influence or be influenced.

## C. IS DIFFERENT FROM PHYSICAL MATTER

#3

Consciousness is fundamentally distinct from physical matter. It does not emerge from or depend entirely on the brain or neural processes and instead operates on a different plane or dimension.

If consciousness is separate from matter, it could exist and operate independently of the constraints of physical systems like the brain.

## REALITY IS A PRODUCT OF C.

#4

Reality itself is generated or structured by consciousness. Consciousness is not just an observer of reality but the constructor of the perceived world. The external physical world is a mental or perceptual construct that exists only through consciousness.

If reality is created by consciousness, the boundaries between individual consciousnesses could be more fluid, multiple minds could be creating or influencing shared experiences in a non-local way, and consciousness has the ability to directly influence the physical world at a distance.

## EVERYTHING IS ONE SUBSTANCE

#5

There is a single substance from which everything in reality, including consciousness, is composed. As this substance could be physical, mental, or neutral, it forms the basis for both material objects and conscious experiences.

If reality is composed of a single unified substance, then consciousness and matter are fundamentally the same at their core. This opens the possibility that consciousness can influence distant matter as they all share the same underlying substance.

## C. IS FUNDAMENTAL

#6

Consciousness is the most basic substance of the universe. The universe is built upon consciousness, and everything else arises from it.

If consciousness is fundamental, it is not limited by physical constraints like space and time. It does not require a physical brain or body in order to exist and instead extends beyond physical locations to operate non-locally.

## C. IS UNIVERSAL

#7

Consciousness is not restricted to humans or biological entities but is instead a universal property present in all forms of matter everywhere. Everything has some form of consciousness or subjective experience, no matter how basic.

If consciousness is universal, it implies that all objects and entities are conscious to some degree and that consciousness extends beyond the human brain.

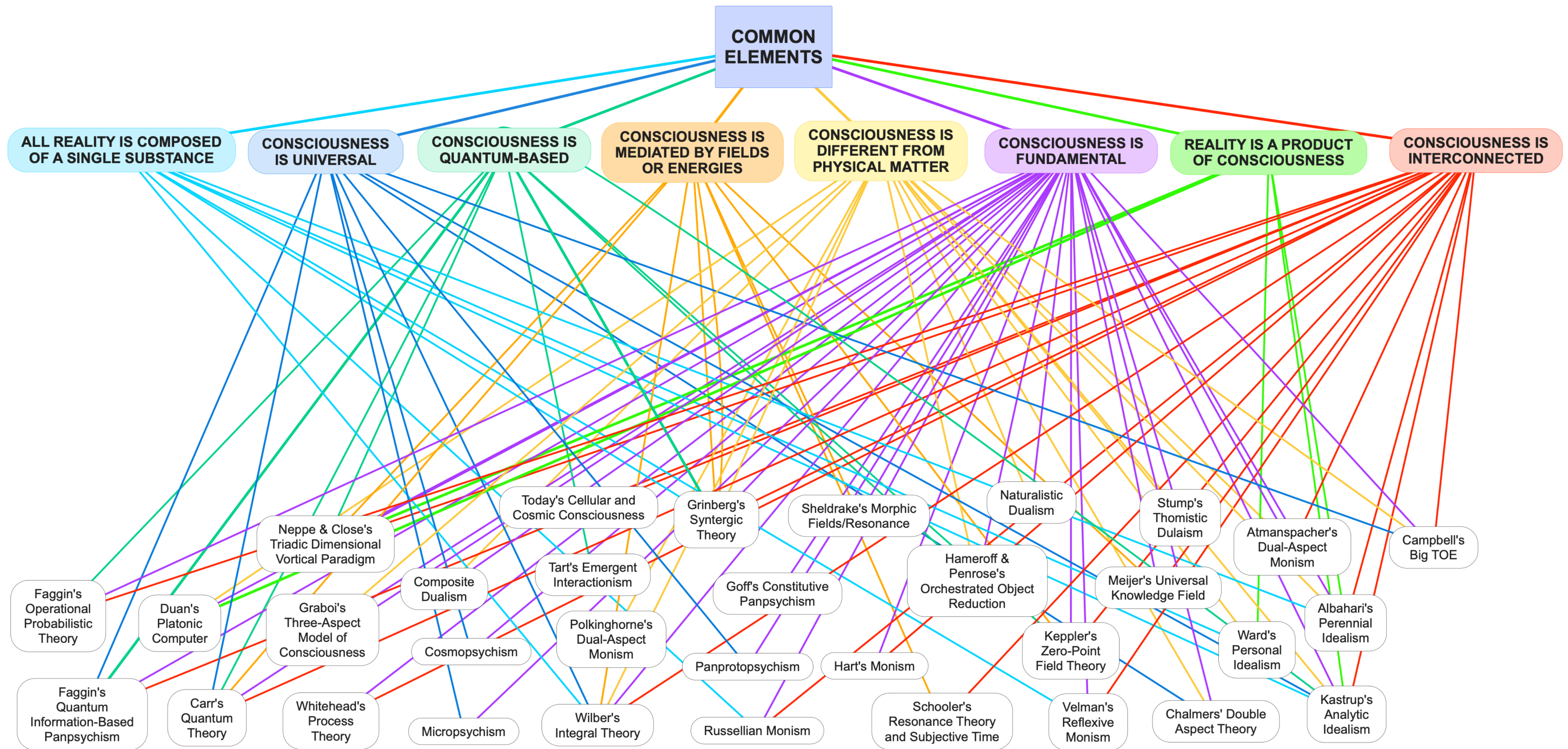
## C. IS INTERCONNECTED

#8

All individual consciousnesses are part of a larger, interconnected whole. Individual minds share a deeper level of connection that allows them to communicate or influence each other, even at a physical distance.

If consciousness is interconnected, it must extend beyond the brain in order for that networking and connectedness to occur.





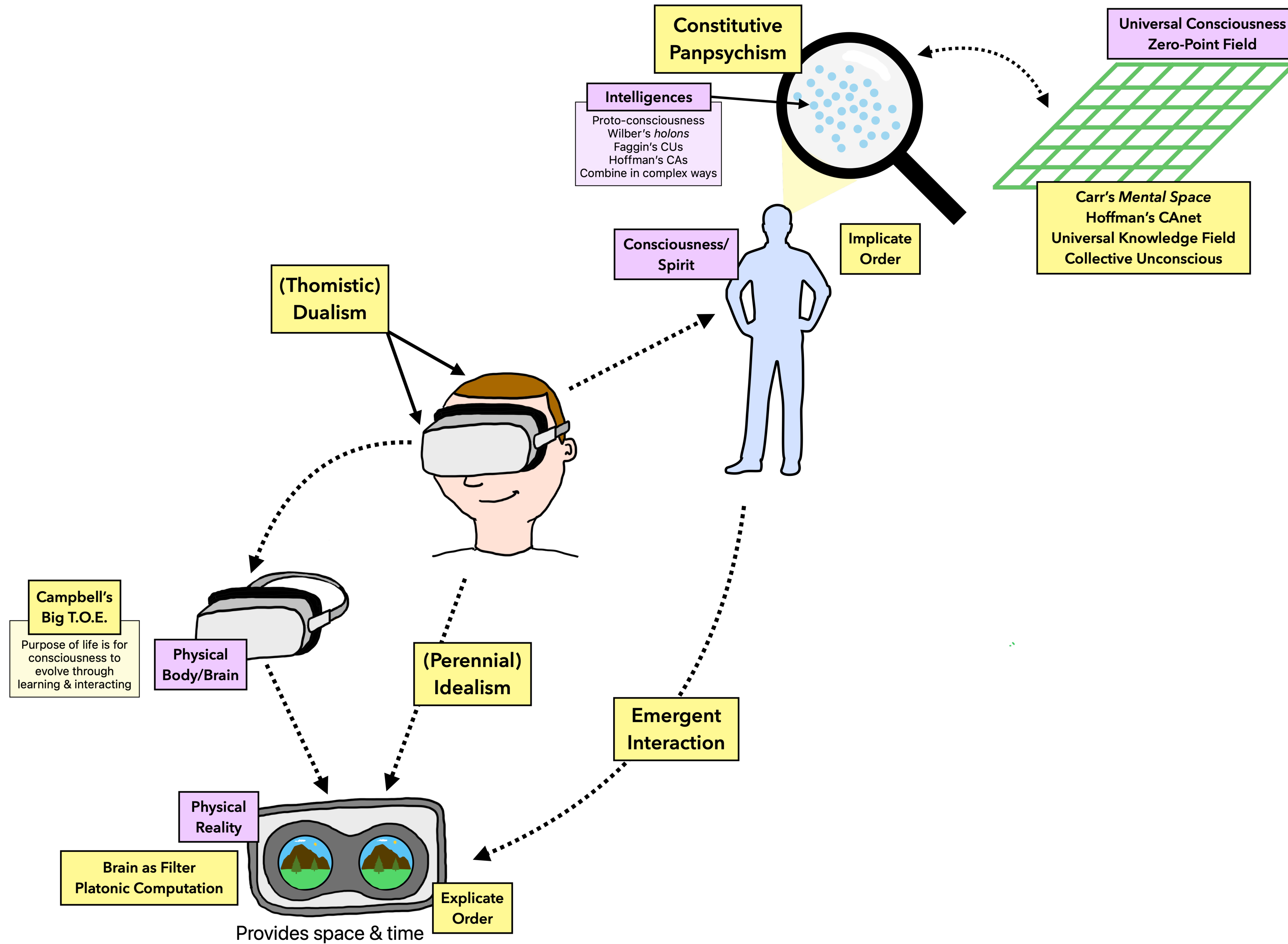


	C is Quantum-Based Fields/Energies Mediate C	C ≠ Physical Matter	Reality is a Product of C	Everything = One Substance	C is Fundamental	C is Interconnected	C is Universal
Zero-Point Field Theory	●	●			●	●	●
Russellian Monism					●	●	●
Naturalistic Dualism			●			●	
Triadic Dimensional Vortical Paradigm		●	●		●	●	●
OrchOR	●		●			●	
Implicate-Explicate Order	●	●		●	●	●	
Analytic Idealism	●		●	●	●	●	
Quantum Information-Based Panpsychism	●		●		●	●	●
Process Theory					●	●	●
Personal Idealism			●	●		●	
Reflexive Monism				●	●	●	
Constitutive Panpsychism					●	●	●
Interface Theory of Perception			●	●		●	
Perennial Idealism			●	●	●	●	●
Resonance Theory and Subjective Time		●					●
Integral Theory		●	●		●	●	●
Dual-Aspect Monism					●	●	●
Synergetic Theory	●	●	●		●	●	●
Double Aspect Theory			●		●	●	
Thomistic Dualism			●			●	

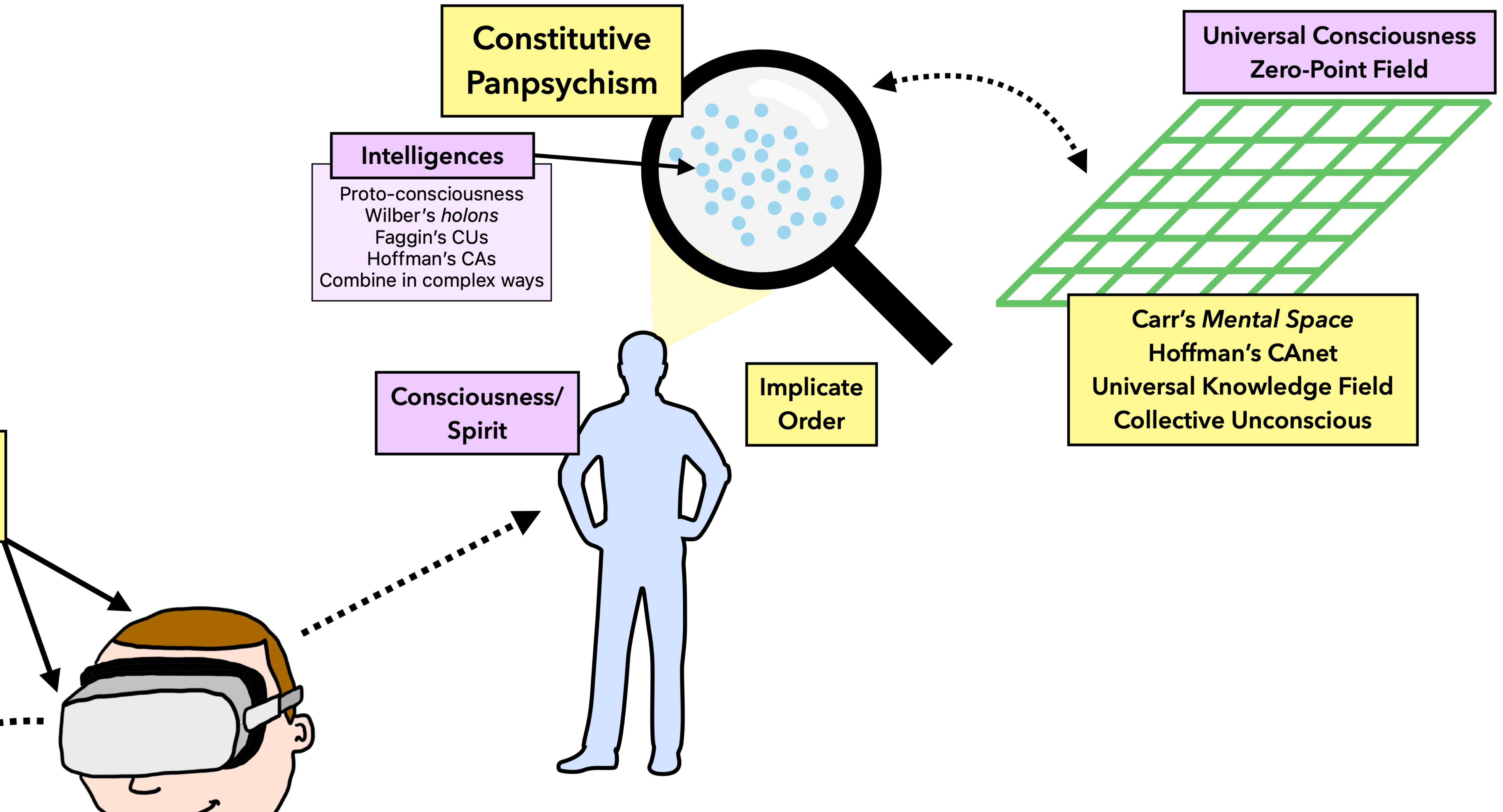


MY  
TAKE











# THEORY & INNOVATION





## “CONSTITUTIVE COSMOPANPSYCHISM”

- Consciousness is fundamental and universal
- The consciousness we experience as human beings is the result of smaller conscious entities combining to form a higher-level, unified consciousness
- “Conscious Units”

## ZERO-POINT FIELD THEORY

- The zero-point field contains all the potential information in the universe
- It is a quantum-based fundamental energy field that carries consciousness
- Innately, the brain’s filtering system only allows limited access to this field





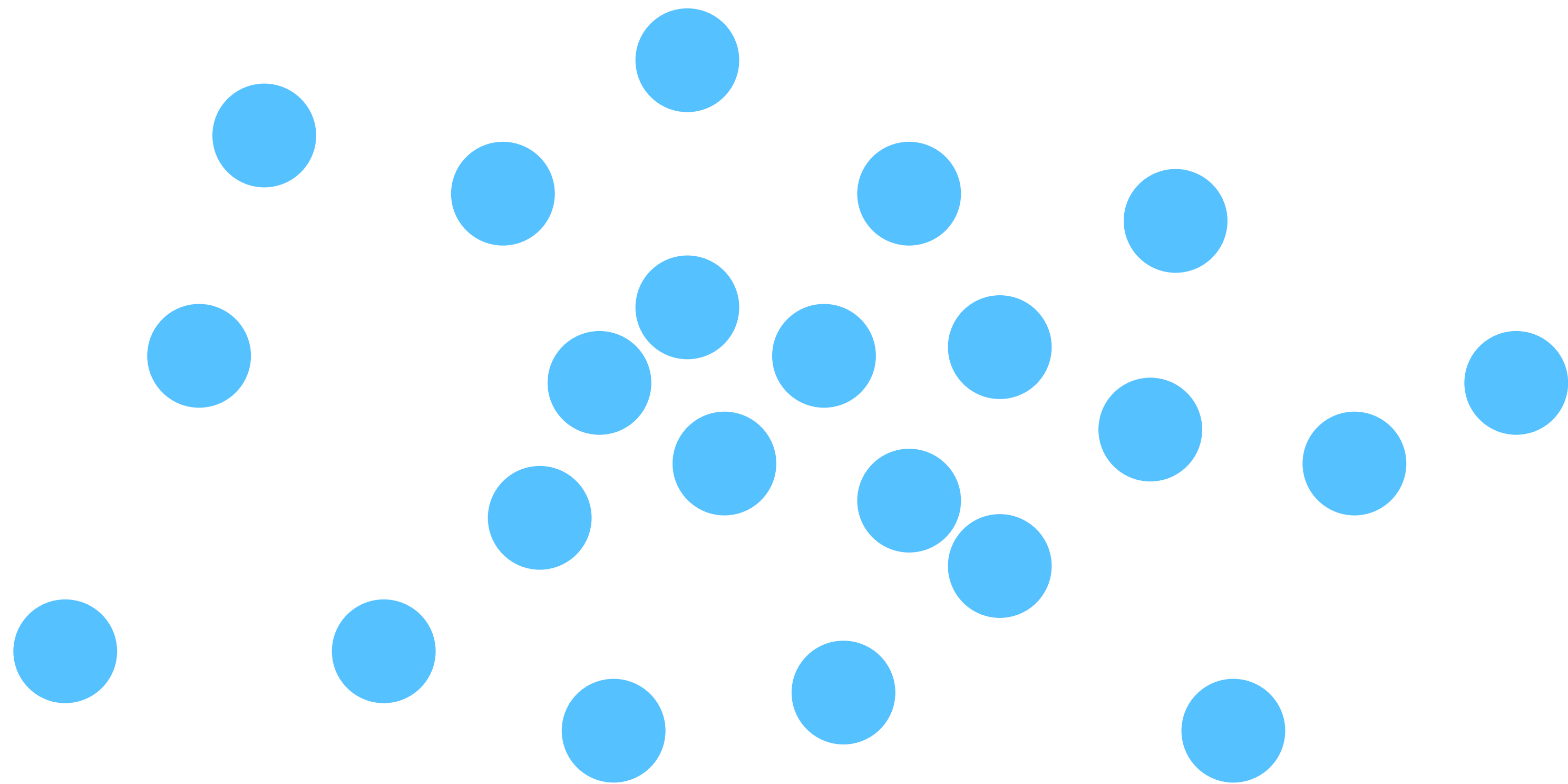
“CONSTITUTIVE  
COSMOPANPSYCHISM”

ZERO-POINT  
FIELD THEORY

“All living beings are merely  
dissociated mental complexes of  
the universal mind.”

“CONSTITUTIVE  
COSMOPANPSYCHISM”

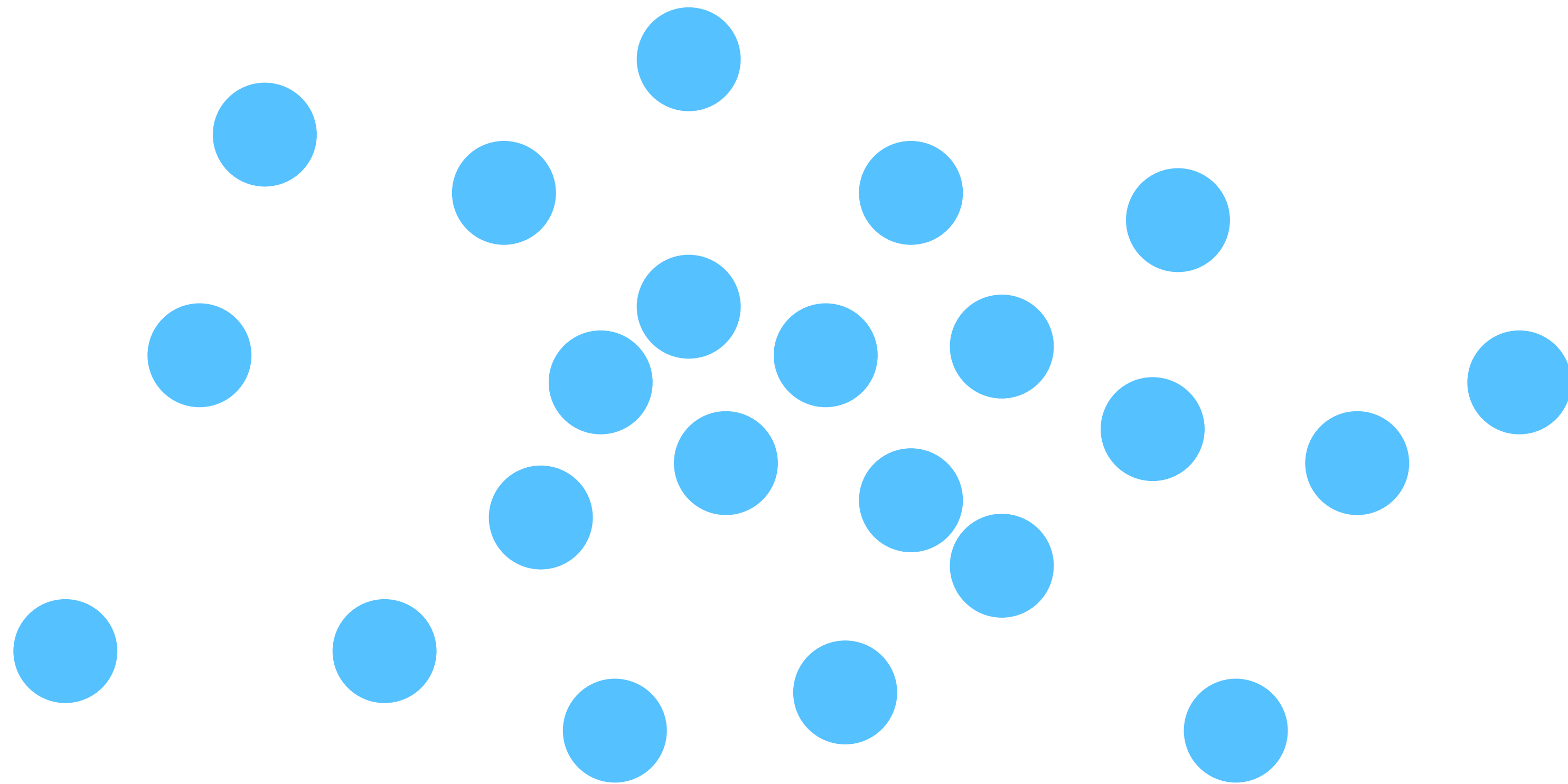
ZERO-POINT  
FIELD THEORY





# Conscious Units

(Intelligences)



# Conscious Units

“A CU is a *self*, and so is any coherent combination of CUs. A self is an entity with identity, consciousness, and agency, sharing all the attributes of One (dynamic, holistic, and self-knowing)... Through agency (communication) and consciousness (perception, comprehension/meaning), each self increases its own self-knowing and the knowing of the other selves.”

(Consciousness Unbound, p. 294)



# Conscious Units

“... it becomes possible to bootstrap a *universal* communication language between the CUs, an indispensable tool for each CU to know another CU like itself, thus deepening their mutual self-knowing... This deep communication is also what leads to the *combination* of CUs into a hierarchy of selves, just as the quantum fields ‘combine’ to create atoms, molecules, macromolecules, and so on.”

(Consciousness Unbound, p. 295)

# Conscious Units

## (Intelligences)

“[God] did not create their intelligence at all. It never was created, being an inherent attribute of the eternal element called spirit, which element composes each individual spirit, and which element exists in an infinitude of degrees in the scale of intellect, in all the varieties manifested in the eternal God . . . to the lowest agent, which acts by its own will.”

(Journal of Discourses 1:258, 1854)



# Conscious Units (Intelligences)

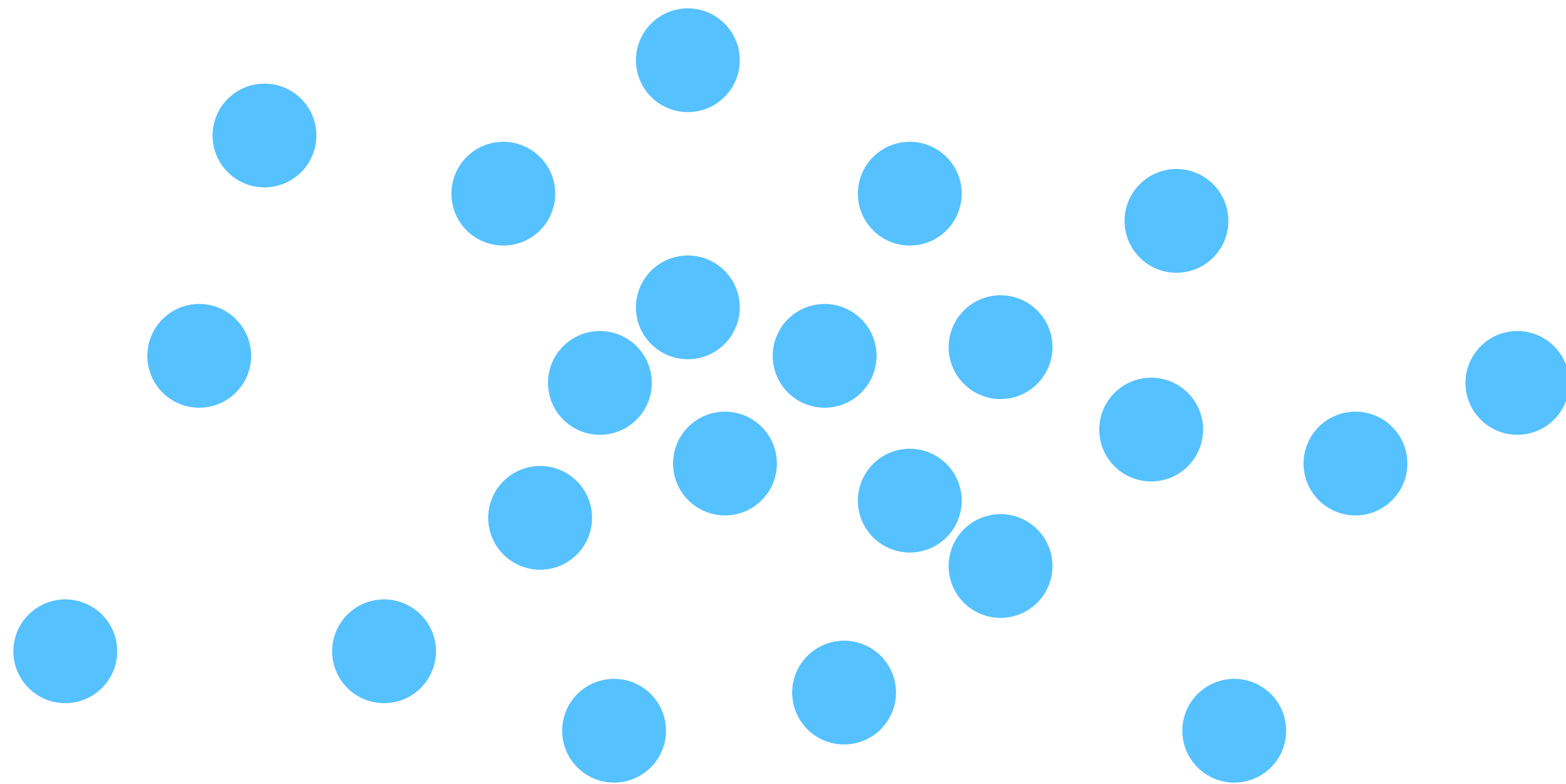
1828 edition of Webster's Dictionary

**intelligence** (noun)

*a spiritual being*

“CONSTITUTIVE  
COSMOPANPSYCHISM”

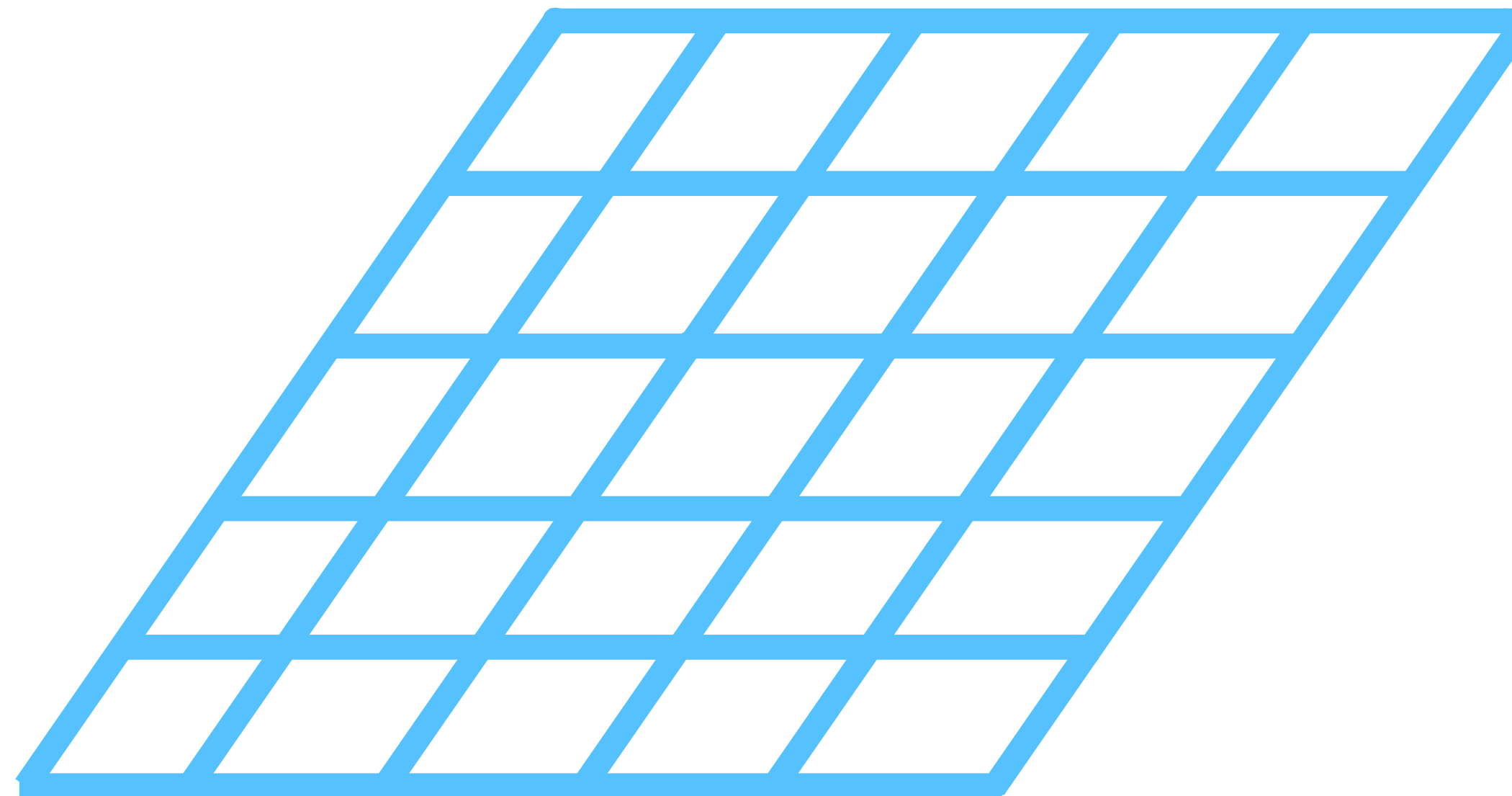
ZERO-POINT  
FIELD THEORY





“CONSTITUTIVE  
COSMOPANPSYCHISM”

ZERO-POINT  
FIELD THEORY



# Zero-Point Field

Fundamental energy field that carries consciousness

Under normal circumstances, the brain's filtering mechanism only allows it to access a limited spectrum of the zero-point field modes.

Things like meditation and psychedelics can remove these restrictions from the filter which helps access a wider spectrum of the zero-point field modes.



# EXPLAINING PSI PHENOMENA

TELEPATHY

REMOTE VIEWING

TELEKINESIS



# RESEARCH & TESTING

PROBLEMS TO CONSIDER

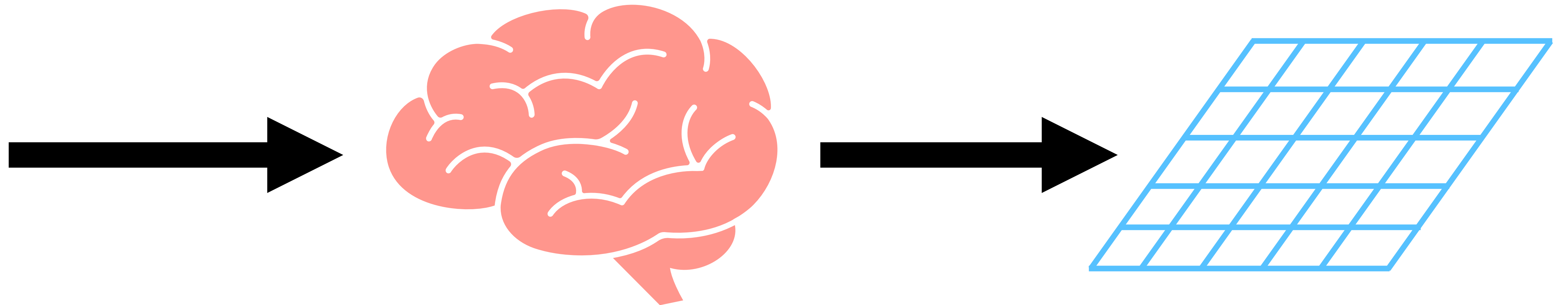
# THE TWO F's

FILTRATION

FREE WILL



# FILTRATION



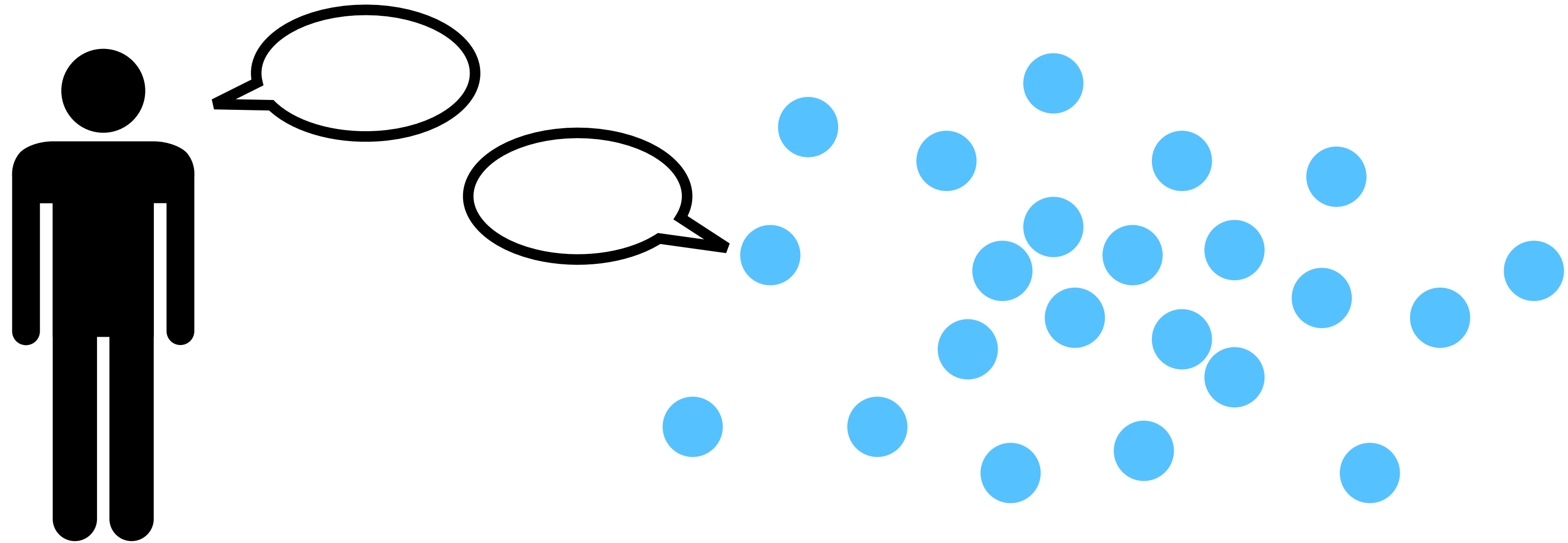
NON-ORDINARY STATE  
OF CONSCIOUSNESS

# FILTRATION



# NON-ORDINARY STATE OF CONSCIOUSNESS

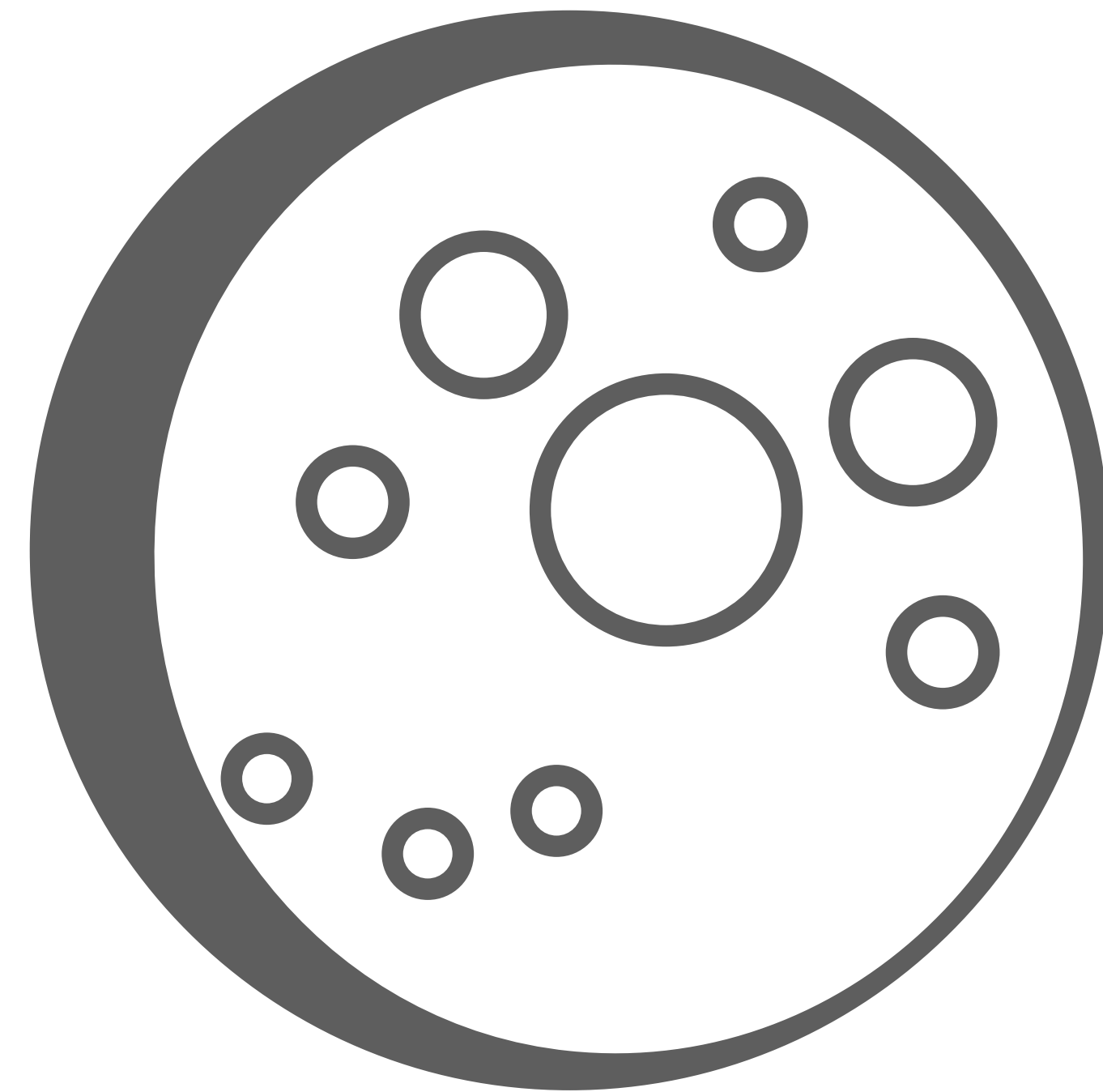
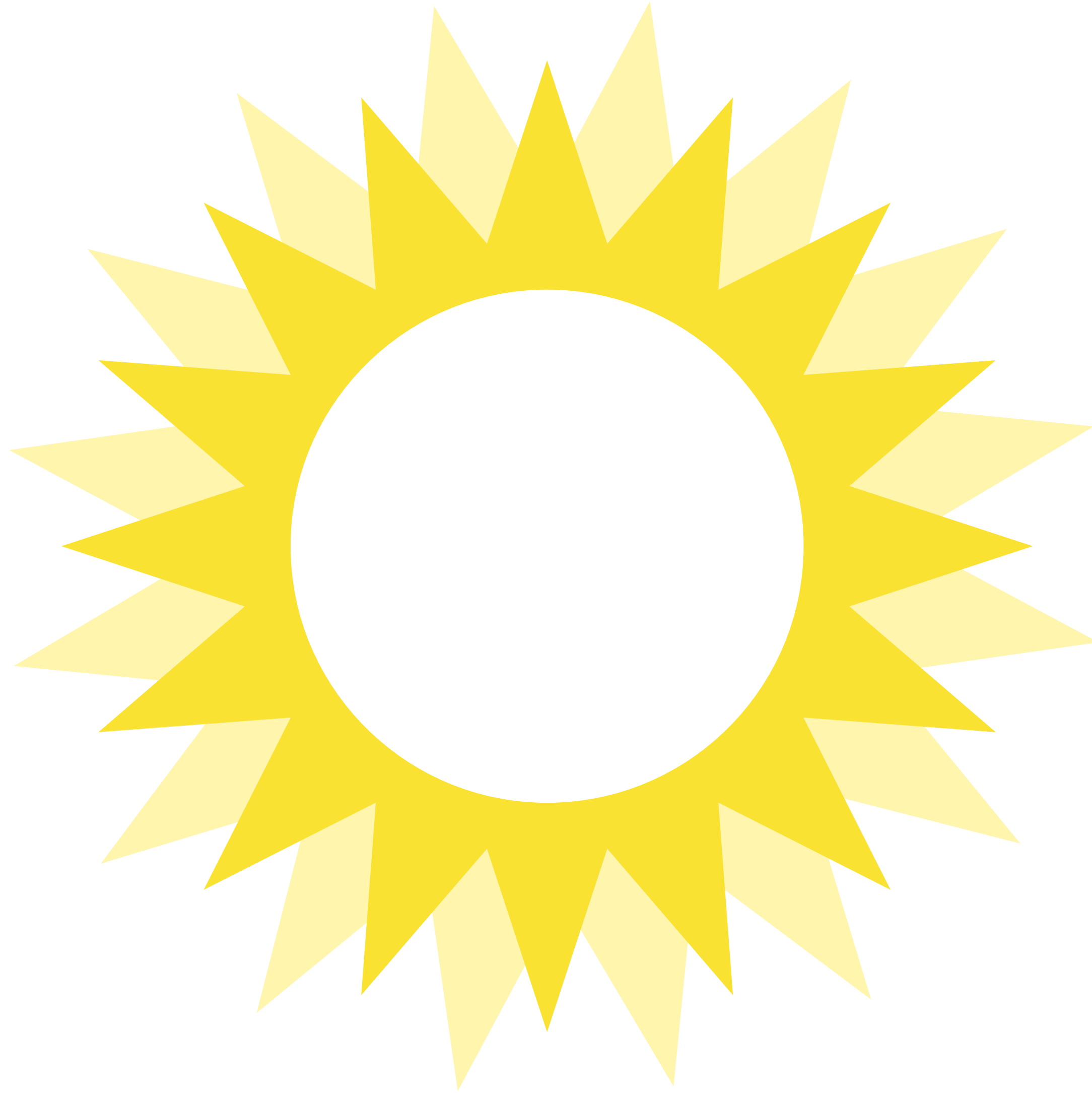
# FILTRATION



## NON-ORDINARY STATE OF CONSCIOUSNESS



**100% accuracy/reliability?**



PROBLEMS TO OVERCOME

# THE TWO F's

FILTRATION

FREE WILL

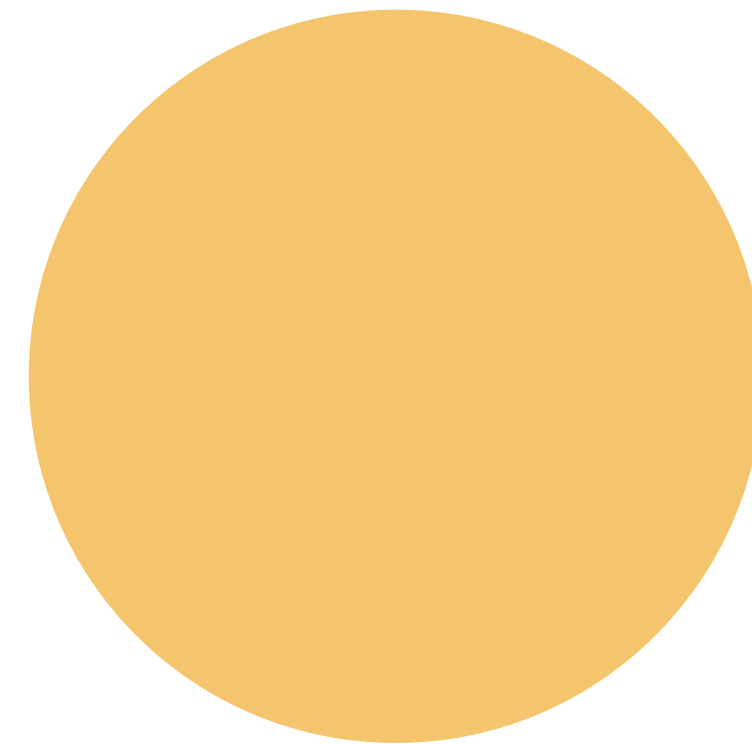
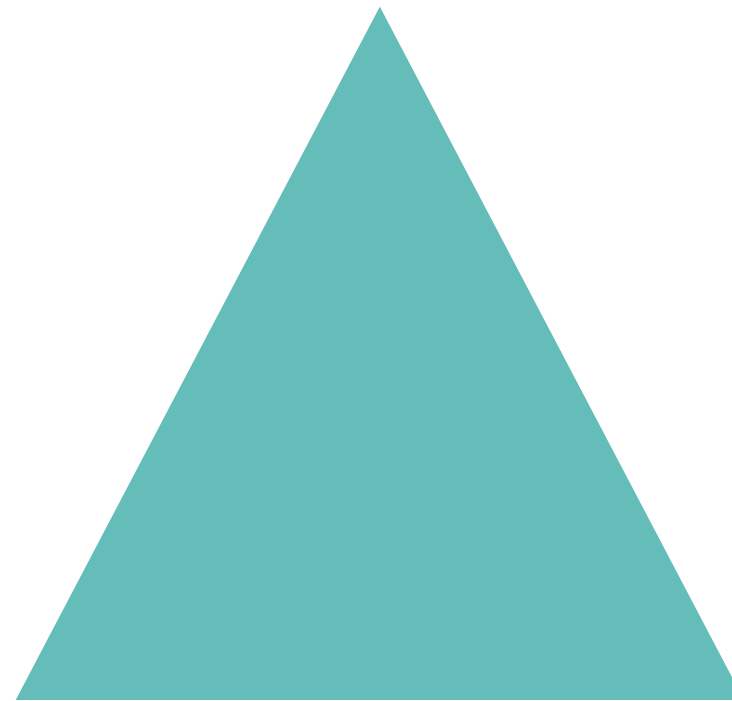
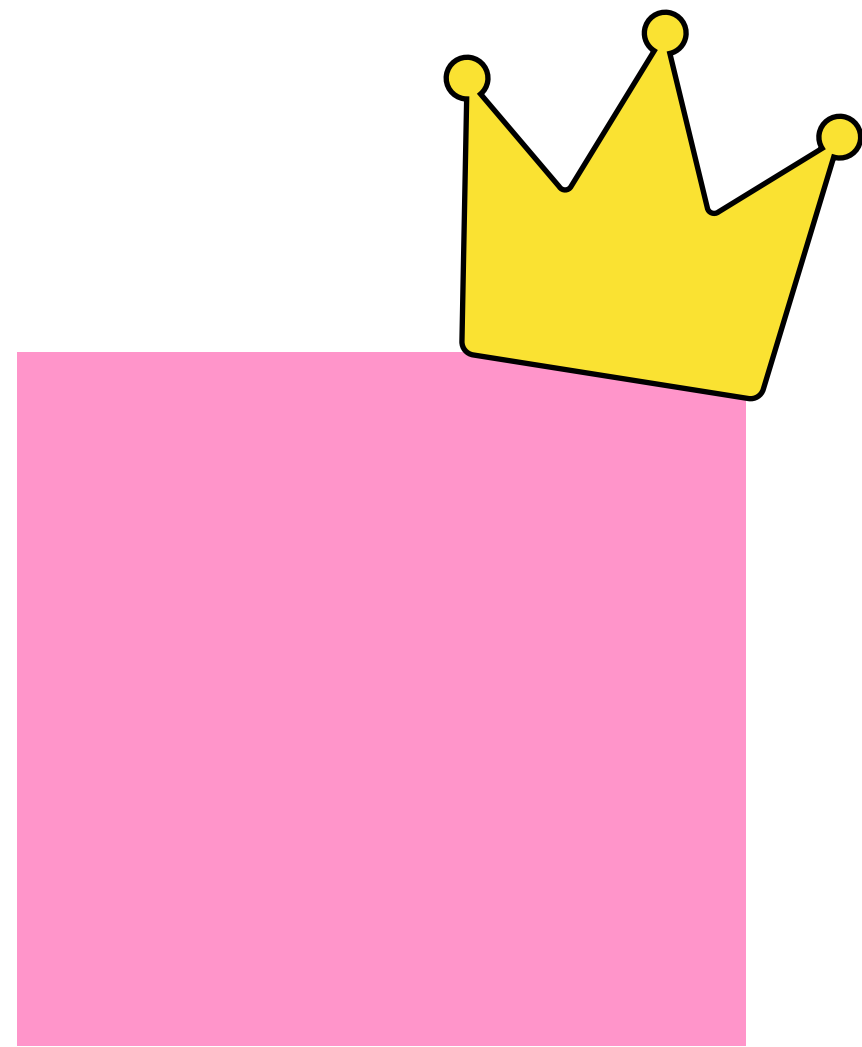
# FREE WILL

“...physical laws are agreements among the hierarchy of selves who cooperatively, voluntarily, and collectively create and evolve physical reality. However, for a psychokinetic event to occur, all the selves affected by it must give their permission—perhaps even cooperate—to make it possible. If that is the case, provided no free will is violated, the laws of physics may be temporarily and locally “bent” and their effects circumscribed. At least in principle, psychokinesis should be possible...”

(Consciousness Unbound, p. 318)



# FREE WILL



SO WHAT?

[cameron\\_alldredge@baylor.edu](mailto:cameron_alldredge@baylor.edu)



@cameronalldredge

