

The Mind-Body Problem

Property Dualism

The Problems of Consciousness

- Hard Problem
 - “Subjective Experience”
- Easy (or “soft”) Problem
 - Ability to discriminate, categorize, and react to stimuli
 - Integration of information
 - Etc.

Conscious vs. Aware

- *This deviates from the reading assignment!!*
- Awareness is ability to respond to stimuli without being able to report that stimuli.
 - Example: Auto-pilot
- Consciousness entails reportability.
 - Why is reportability important?

Types of Consciousness

- Psychological Consciousness
 - Is characterized by the role conscious experiences (intentional states, aka goal-directed conscious states) play in generating behavior.
- Phenomenal Consciousness
 - What a conscious experience “feels” like, its qualia.
 - Example: What chocolate tastes like over and above the chemical reactions between chocolate molecules and the taste buds...

Reply to Other Theories

- Property dualists assert that Functionalism explains everything about psychological consciousness; that is, Functionalism can solve the “Easy Problem”, but...
- Cannot explain phenomenal consciousness (the “Hard Problem”).
 - Phenomenal consciousness is a “nomological dangler” to borrow from J. J. C. Smart.

Science!

- Not everything in science has been reduced to identity relationships:
 - Physical forces:
 - Currently physics is looking for a unified field theory to unite (reduce to numerical identity) the three basic forces – gravity, weak nuclear, strong nuclear. Physical substance) consciousness has two irreducible properties – qualia and psychological consciousness – but one “substance” (brains).
 - We need psychophysical bridge laws between qualia and neurophysiology just as physics needs bridge laws or a unified field theory.

Is Qualia Real?

- “What Mary Didn’t Know?” by Frank Jackson (see website)

Zombies and Robots

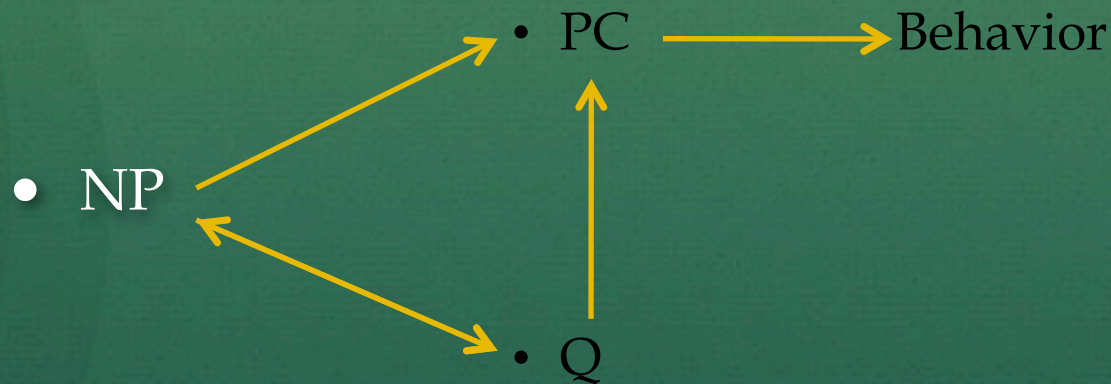
- It is possible (either logically or nomologically) for there to be something that is a functional isomorph of me but lack qualia or have different qualia.
 - See [Kismet](#) and [Leonardo](#)

Evidence

- Evidence that could support Property Dualism would be finding an actual case of inverted spectrum.

Problem of Downward Causation

- Property dualists acknowledge they must solve the Problem of Downward Causation:
 - How does qualia (Q) causally effect neurophysiological processes (NP)?



- The qualia of eating brussell sprouts (gross!) seems to causally effect NP and PC.