

A Universe of information and consciousness

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At the start of the Universe there is nothing, nothing exists, not even time. The most fundamental notion, a state of existence itself, has to be defined. But as nothing exists, how can a state of existence be defined ? The only solution is simply to introduce a state of non-existence.

To define and distinguish these two states we can say that one is the opposite of the other one, or if one "is", the other one "is not". These two states represent a piece of potential information, like bits in a computer, either 0 or 1.

The notion of existence itself is relative. Each state is existence from its own point of view and non-existence from the other's. The two states cannot exist without one another but they effectively are in two opposite realities. We will call these two opposite states a Universal Bit (UB). From a single reality's point of view, a UB is like a computer bit, it is either in one state or another, either existence or non-existence. A UB is constantly flicking between existence and non-existence and this is because, with nothing else interfering with it, the chance of something existing is 50% and the chance of it not existing is also 50%. A UB is effectively a bit of potential information but we could equally call it a bit of potential existence.

From the point of view of the whole Universe, the existence of a UB is inevitable; something either does exist or does not exist. The time and place at which this existence happens cannot be defined at this stage as the notion of time or space is not yet defined.

At this stage, we could say that UB's are anywhere and at anytime but also everywhere and at everytime. From this point of view, we could say that the Universe is infinite and has always existed.

Potential information/existence in the form of UB's is therefore ubiquitous in the Universe. But in order to transform this potential information/existence into a reality, something else is needed. That something is what we commonly call a state of consciousness. Without a state of consciousness, these two states would be meaningless. Our reality, at the most fundamental level, is therefore a coherent combination of these three states: existence, non-existence and consciousness.

Consciousness at the most basic level transforms potential information into real information and eventually creates a reality. Without consciousness our Universe would remain in a state of eternal potential information and would be meaningless. In other words, it would not become a reality.

A reality is therefore inevitably linked to a certain state of consciousness. But how can consciousness emerge from ubiquitous potential information ? To explain this we will have to go back to the original question: how can a state of existence be defined ?

The simple fact of asking this question requires a certain state of consciousness. Obviously, from our point of view, this state of consciousness must come from a conscious entity (a certain state of developed consciousness) but we could also imagine that, at the very beginning of our Universe, only a primordial state of consciousness would be sufficient. The consciousness exhibited by a living person would simply be an evolution of that primordial state of consciousness, in the same way that a living person is the evolution of a primordial cell.

We have seen previously that the existence of a UB is inevitable, but this also implies that the existence of a choice between a state of existence and a state of non-existence is inevitable. A primordial state of consciousness would appear once that choice has been made. But what can trigger that choice in the first instance ?

In the same way that something either does exist or does not exist, a choice can either be made or not be made.

If a choice is made, it implies that a primordial state of consciousness exists because we have seen previously that a primordial state of consciousness would appear once a choice is made. In this case, the primordial state of consciousness has in fact made the choice to exist. If a choice is not made, it would seem to imply that a primordial state of consciousness does not exist because no choice is made but, from a different point of view, it could also imply that a primordial state of consciousness has made the choice not to exist and in doing so it made a choice nevertheless, therefore creating its own appearance.

We now see that, in the same way that the existence of a UB is inevitable, the existence of a primordial state of consciousness is also inevitable. In other words, consciousness is ubiquitous in the Universe.

So we can now answer the well-known question: why is there something rather than nothing ? Well in fact there is not. As far as the whole Universe is concerned there is as much something as there is nothing, as both are relative. If there is a reality made of "something", there is the same opposite reality made of "nothing".

Now that we have shown that potential existence/information and consciousness are ubiquitous in the Universe, how can that trinity: potential existence, potential non-existence and consciousness develop into a 3D physical reality (the reality that we live in) ?

This will be covered in the next paper ...