

QUESTION:

How could our conscious experiences
be made out of physical stuff?

Consciousness poses the most baffling problems in the science of the mind. There is nothing that we know more intimately than conscious experience, but there is nothing that is harder to explain.

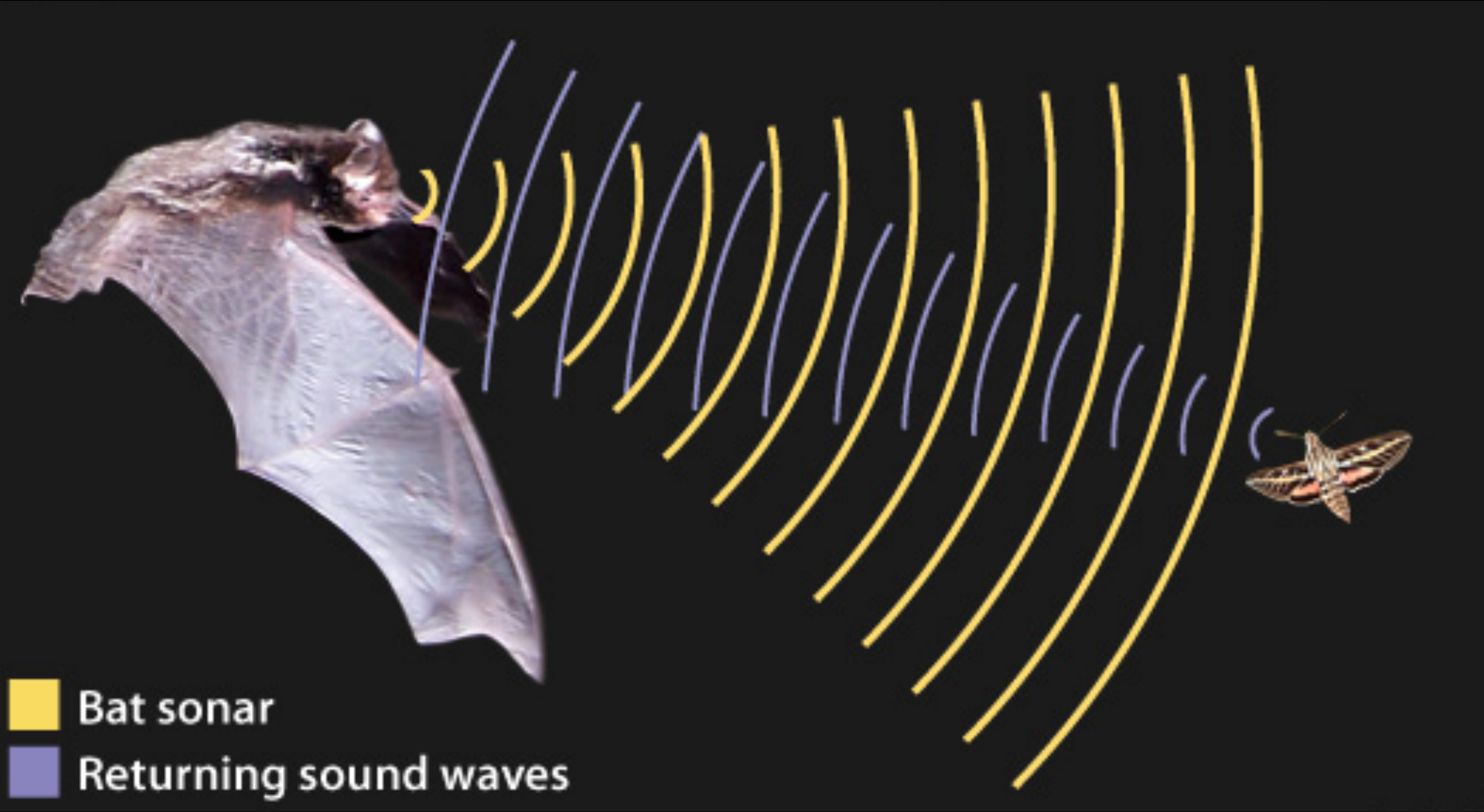
—David Chalmers, 'Facing Up to the Hard Problem of Consciousness'

The really hard problem
of consciousness is the
problem of **experience**.

—David Chalmers, 'Facing Up to the Hard Problem of Consciousness'

As [Thomas] Nagel has put it, there is **something it is like** to be a conscious organism. This **subjective** aspect is **experience**.

—David Chalmers, 'Facing Up to the Hard Problem of Consciousness'



■ Bat sonar
■ Returning sound waves

When we see, for example, we experience visual sensations: the felt quality of **redness**, the experience of dark and light, the quality of depth in a visual field. Other experiences go along with perception in different modalities: the sound of a clarinet, the smell of mothballs. Then there are bodily sensations, from pains to orgasms; mental images that are conjured up internally; the felt quality of emotion, and the experience of a stream of conscious thought. What unites all of these states is that there is something it is like to be in them.

—David Chalmers, 'Facing Up to the Hard Problem of Consciousness'

QUALIA

It is widely agreed that experience arises from a physical basis, but we have no good explanation of why and how it so arises. Why should physical processing give rise to a **rich inner life** at all? It seems objectively unreasonable that it should, and yet it does.

—David Chalmers, 'Facing Up to the Hard Problem of Consciousness'

INTROSPECTION

(THE METHOD)

VS.

INTROSPECTIONISM

(THE THEORY)

DATA AS SUBJECTIVE EXPERIENCE:

My assistant saw a white flash.

DATA AS BEHAVIORAL RESPONSE:

S said, "I saw a white flash".

QUESTION

What is wrong with using
introspection as a scientific method
in psychology?

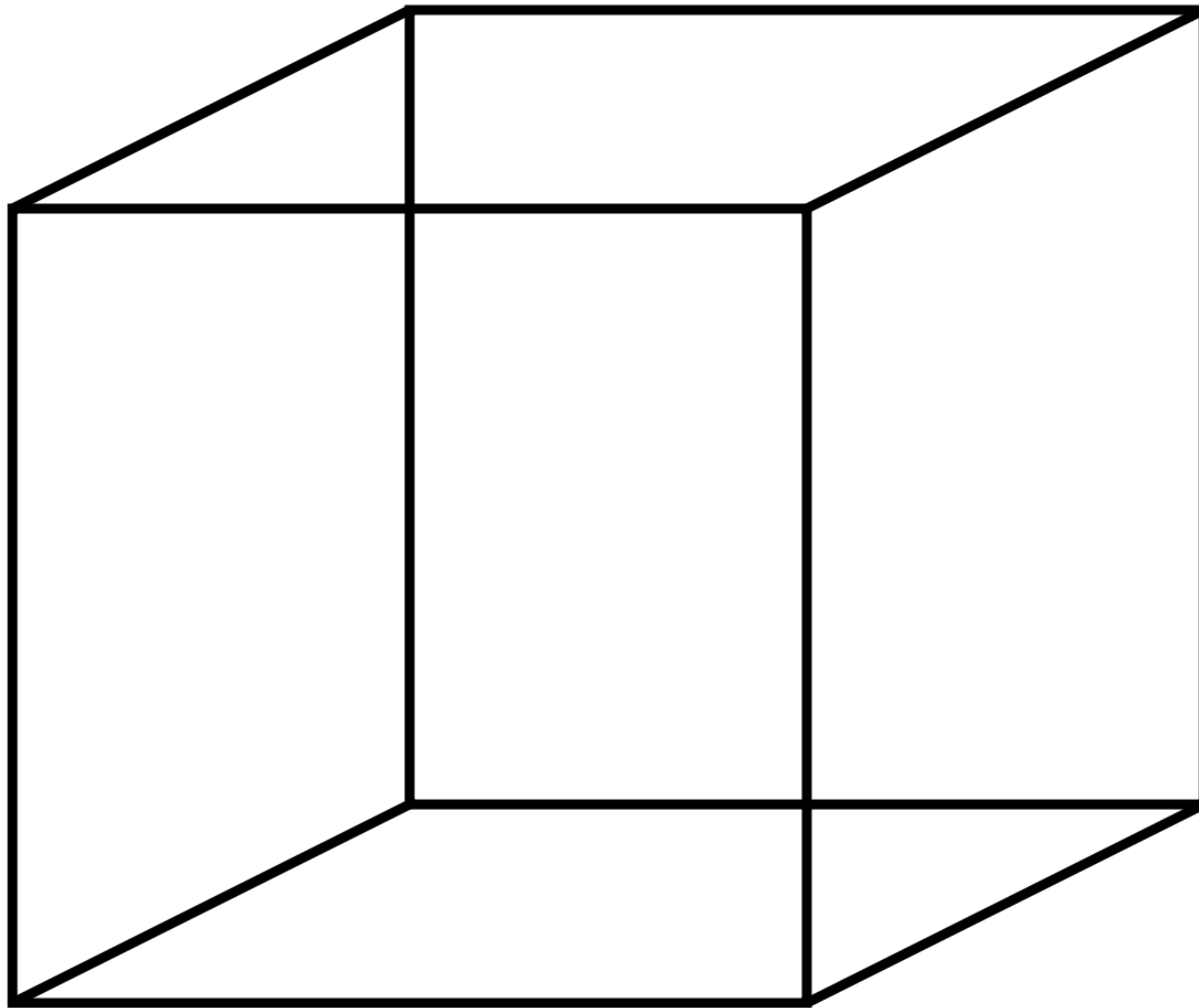
INTROSPECTIONISM

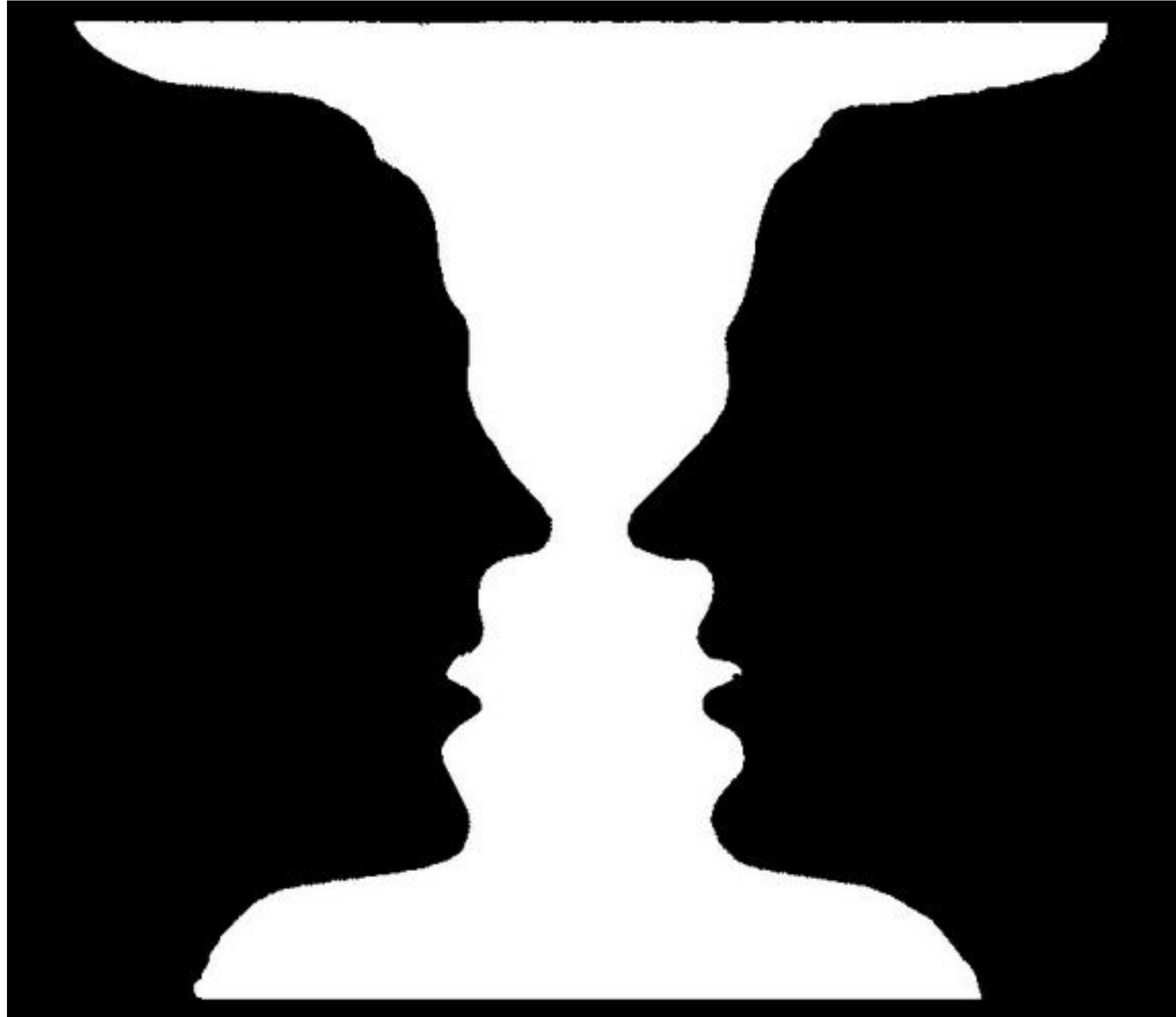
A.K.A.

STRUCTURALISM

QUESTION

Why should we doubt that our experiences can be reduced to their atomic parts?







WHAT WENT WRONG WITH INTROSPECTIONISM?

...ACCORDING TO BEHAVIORISTS (27-30)

...ACCORDING TO PSYCHOANALISTS (30-31)

...ACCORDING TO PHENOMENOLOGISTS (32-35)