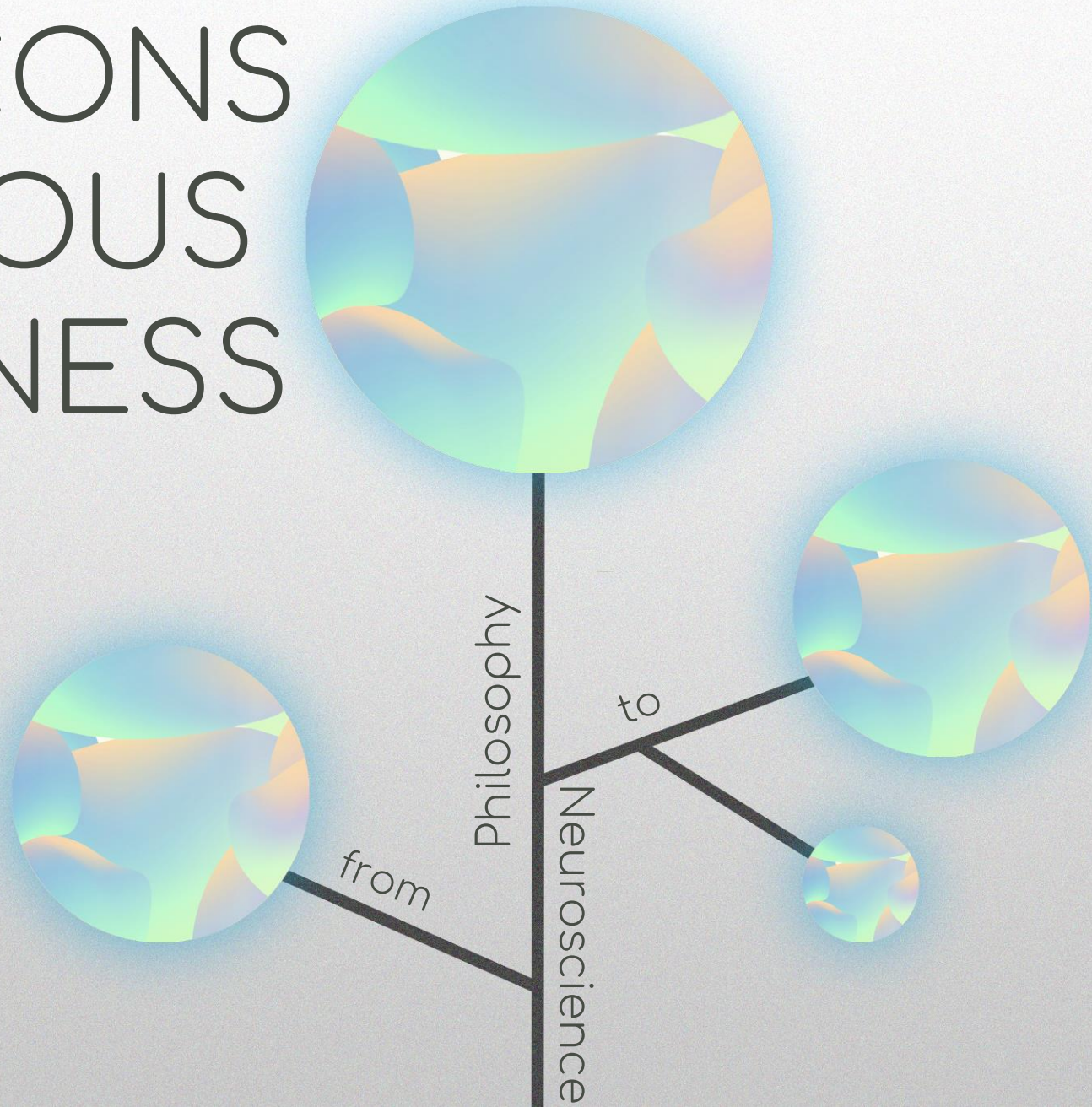


CONSCIOUSNESS



Inspired by:

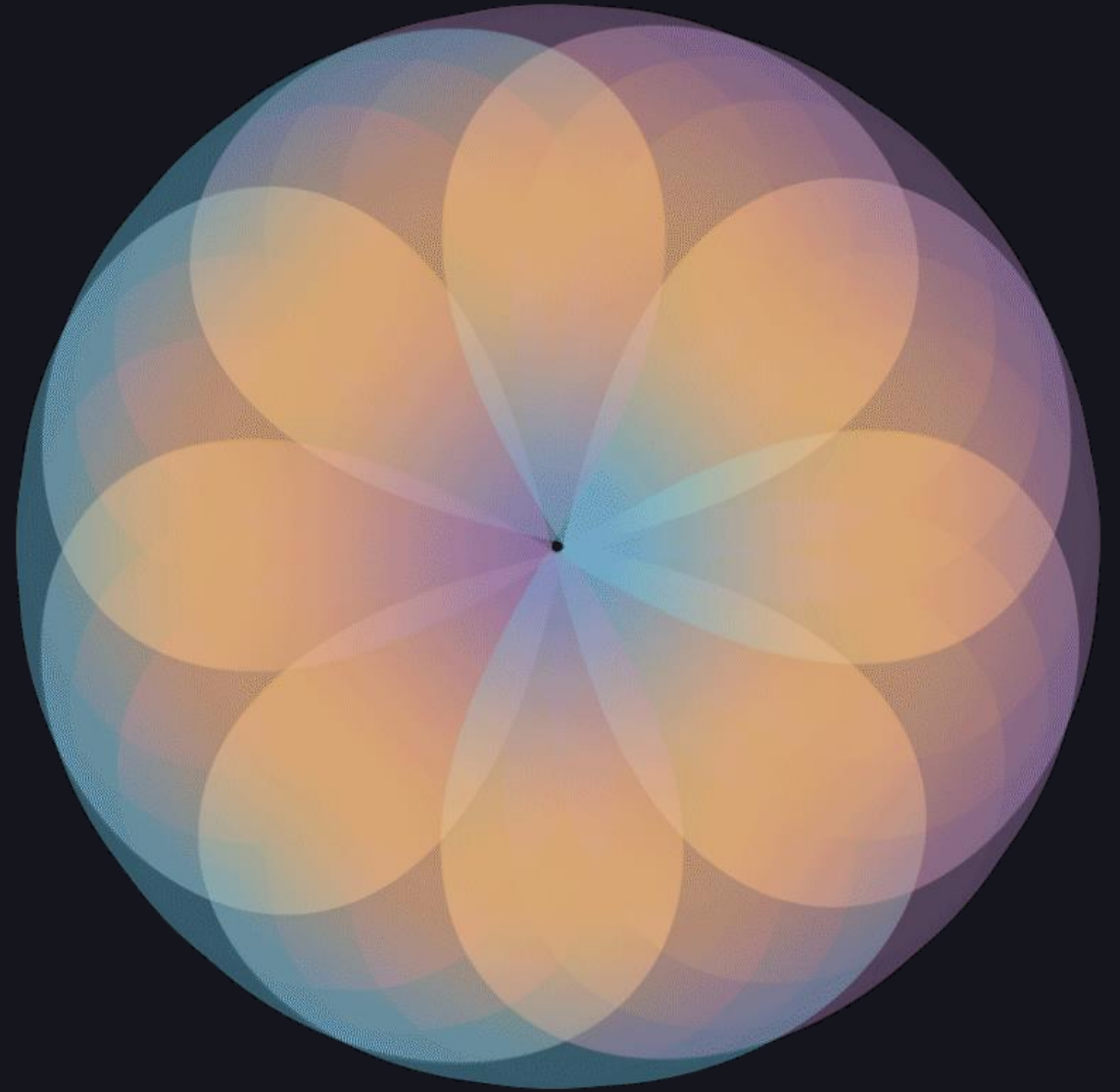
Michel Bitbol
Is consciousness primary?

Antoine Lutz and Evan Thompson
Neurophenomenology

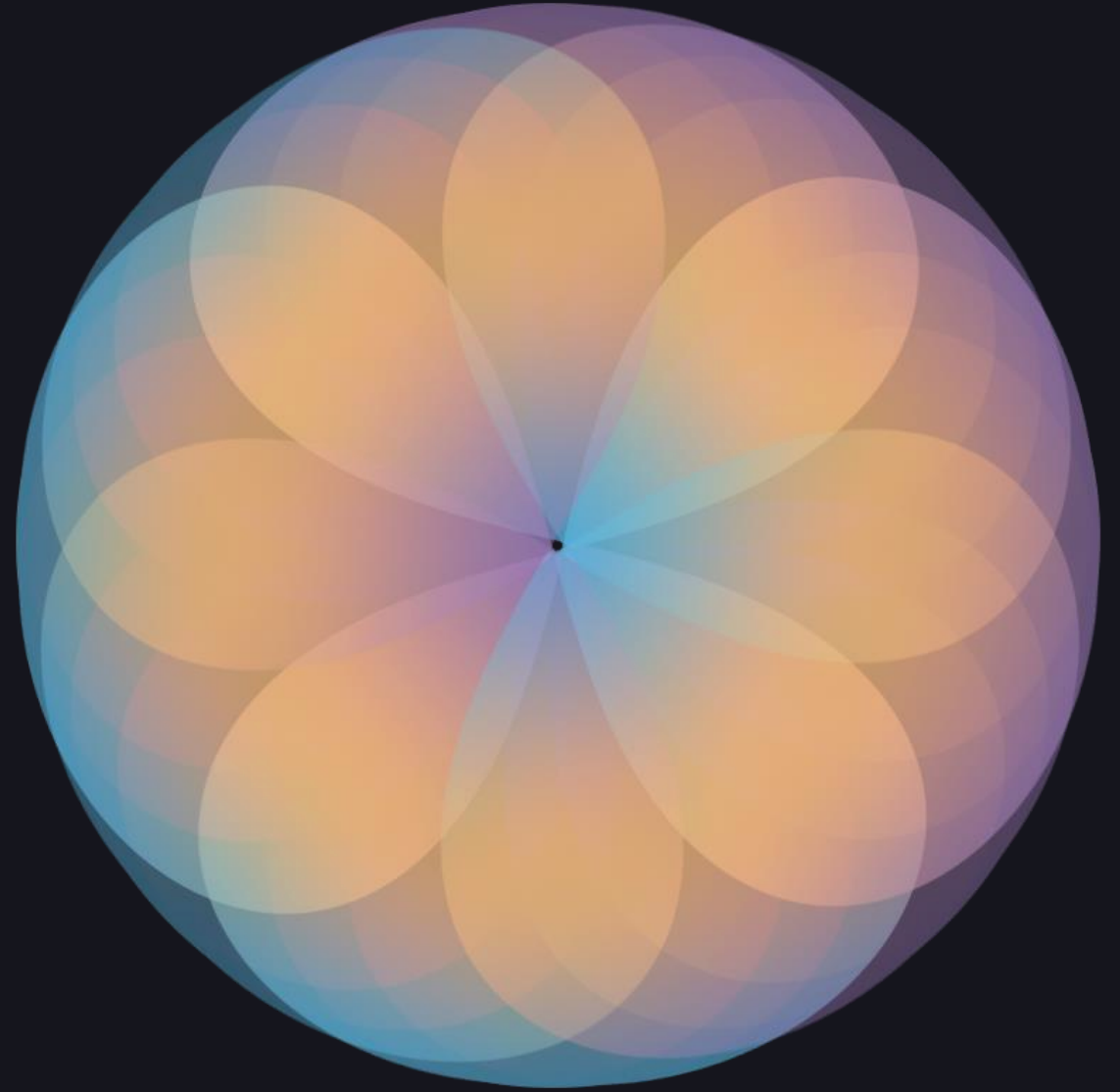
goes back to:

Edmund Husserl, Francisco Varela and
many eastern traditions

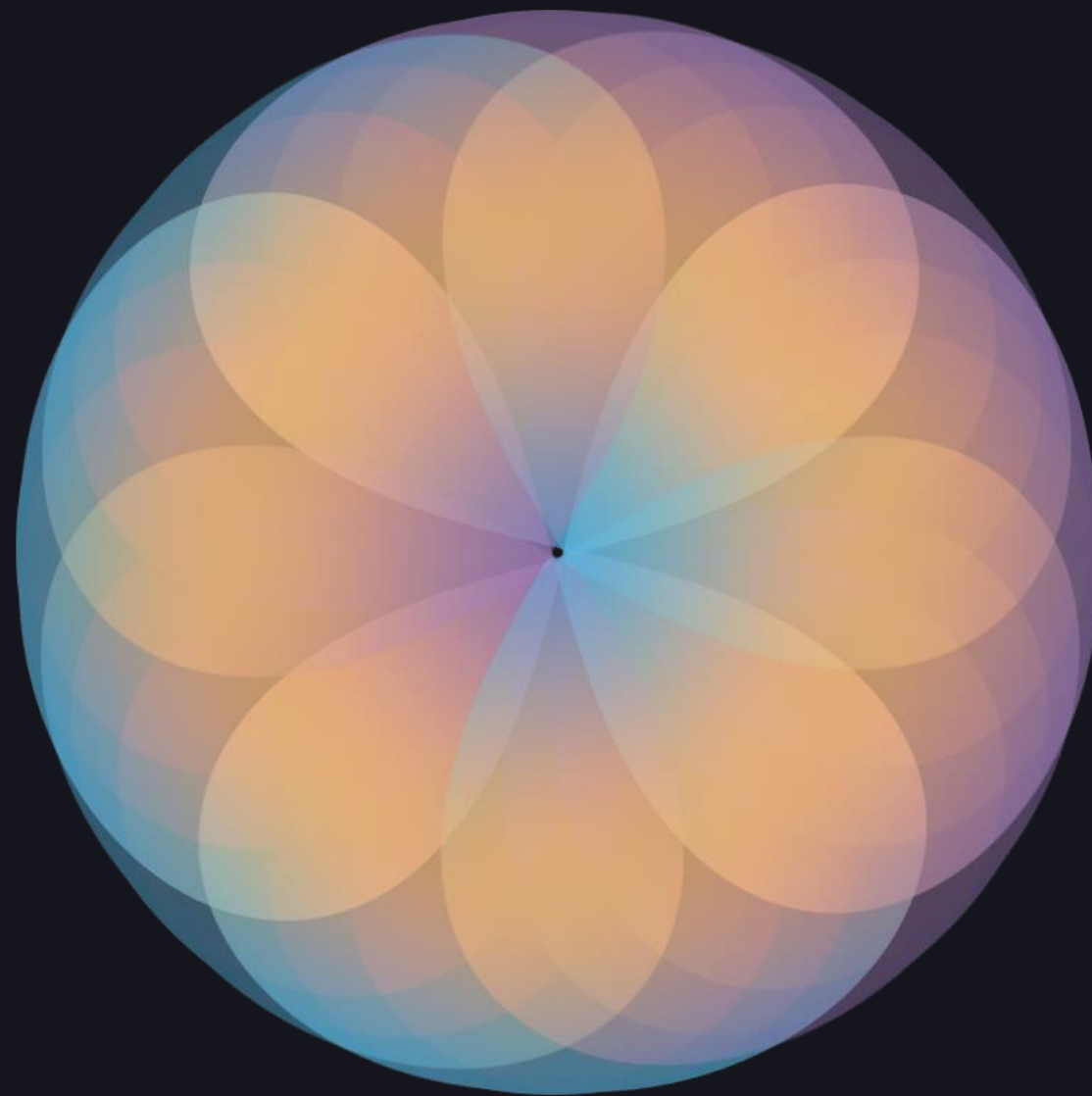
„[Consciousness] is not a
something, but not
nothing either!“
Ludwig Wittgenstein



Something?
more the very act of
percieving than the
percieved



Nothing?
it is here right now





“You are the
changeless
background,
against which
changes are
perceived.”
Nisargadatta Maharaj

Process of objectification

primacy: consciousness



intersubjectivity: extract structural content in consciousness



metaphysical translation: objects outside consciousness



amnesia: huge success lets starting point be forgotten



inference: consciousness is reduced to abstractions

Methodological

Methodological

not a view against the scientific method
more a remembrance
of its origin

the method
does not give a
metaphysical idea of a world out there

Hard Problem

Why should the structural / relational derivations gained from the method be able to explain its starting point

?

Existential

„Cogito ergo sum“

Réne Descartes

natural objects are
incomplete
science refines itself

subject to doubt

17th century physicalism is
not the same as 21th
century physicalism

experience is lived
and self-evident

cannot be doubted later

category mistake Gilbert Ryle



“All division is in the mind (*chitta*);
there is none in reality (*chit*).”

Nisargadatta Maharaj

Existential

“Consciousness cannot be accounted for in physical terms. For consciousness is absolutely fundamental. It cannot be accounted for in terms of anything else.”

Erwin Schrödinger

Hard Problem

How to go from something doubttable to something that is self-evident

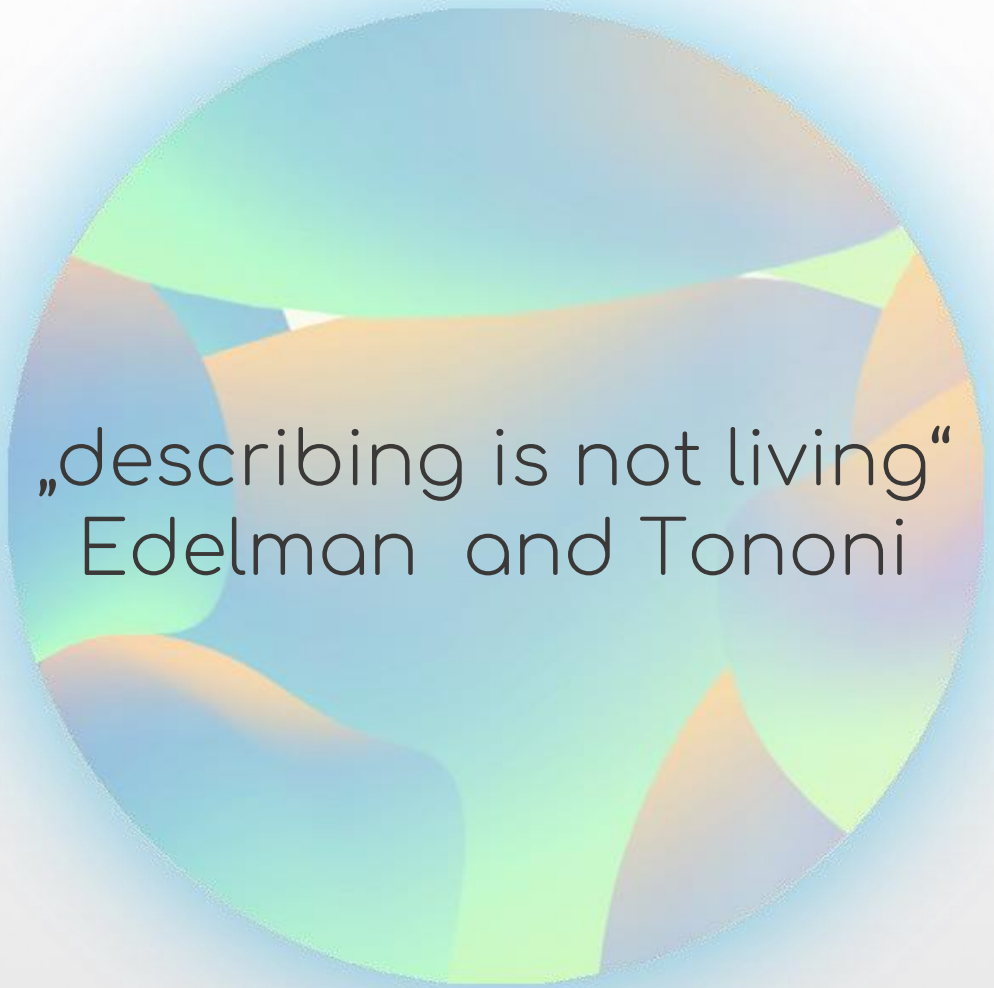
?



Belief: solving enough easy problems will solve hard problem of physical origin of consciousness

Problems:

- i. Open-ended progress towards closer correspondance
- ii. No conceptual passage between numerical value of wavelength and what it is like to experience redness



„describing is not living“
Edelman and Tononi



Regressus ad Infinitum



Hard Problem

Where to close the gap from
mathematical formulation to qualia

