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The Ladder of Perception: Evolution and Interconnection of Forms of Consciousness

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ABSTRACT

This paper introduces the " model, a novel conceptual framework is based on unified principles of acceptation and memory of information, as well as its differentiation at the perceptual level. The model demonstrates how one form of consciousness-or natural mode of information processing-leads to the emergence and development of subsequent forms, highlighting their interconnectedness. It traces the evolutionary progression of consciousness in nature, from simple forms such as insects, to fish, birds, mammals, and humans. The model also hypothesizes the possible emergence of new forms of consciousness as the next evolutionary stage. Active perception and memory are viewed as two inseparable, interdependent processes that underpin the functioning of consciousness. By integrating these concepts, the model offers a comprehensive approach to understanding the dynamic hierarchy and development of conscious experience. This Framework not only deepens the theoretical understanding of consciousness but also provides new avenues for research in cognitive science, psychology, and evolutionary biology. The implications of this extend to exploring how consciousness adapts and evolves, potentially informing artificial intelligence and neuropsychology. This study fills a gap in existing literature by proposing a systematic, evolutionary ladder that connects various natural forms of consciousness, thereby exchanging interdisciplinary dialogue. Ladder of Perception encourages reconsideration of how consciousness is categorized and studied across species, emphasizing the fluidity and connectivity of conscious states. This contribution aims to stimulate further empirical investigation and theoretical refinement in the quest to unravel the complexities of conscious awareness.

Keywords: Active perception and memory; Evolution of forms of perception; Origin of human perceptual forms; Differences in perception between humans and other species