



THEORY · AN ARTICULATION OF THE AASB FRAME

Concentric Awareness

*and the Unconscious Cosmos. An articulation of As
Above, So Below.*

AUTHORED BY KNOW(O)NE.

STATUS: First coherent draft

CAPTURED: April 27, 2026

COMPANION: *Hypothesis — The Mirror Core
Cosmology*

*Quod est superius est sicut quod est inferius, et quod
est inferius est sicut quod est superius.*

— attributed to Hermes Trismegistus, the Emerald Tablet

[!\[\]\(d3102649f02e825ddb76dc3de0190154_img.jpg\) DOWNLOAD PDF](#)

CONTENTS

- | | |
|---|--|
| 1. Plain English Summary | 9. Empirical Anchors and |
| 2. Abstract | Adjacent Work |
| 3. The Core Inversion | 10. Predictions and |
| 4. The Substrate-and-
Coupling Law | Falsifiable Tests |
| 5. Concentric Awareness | 11. Summary |
| 6. Superposition as
Relational | 12. Notes for further
development |
| 7. Galactic Centers as
Conscious Nexuses | 13. One-sentence version |
| 8. The Cosmic Outermost
Ring | 14. Appendix A — Refining
the Galactic Neural
Architecture |
| | 15. Footer · Related entries |

Plain English Summary

Most of us grow up assuming the universe is made of matter, and that consciousness is a strange thing brains somehow produce. This theory flips that around.

The core idea, in everyday language:

1. **We have it backwards.** Consciousness isn't a mysterious thing that brains produce out of matter. It's the other way around — consciousness is the thing we directly experience, and matter is the unconscious processing happening underneath that produces the experience. You've never directly experienced a neuron. You've only experienced *what neurons produce*. The neurons are like your unconscious mind — they do the work, but you don't see them. Awareness is what you actually live in. Matter is the engine room you can't see from inside.
2. **Reality isn't pre-made. It gets rendered when something pays attention to it.** Quantum physics already knows this at the smallest scale: a particle doesn't have a definite location until it's measured. The universe is more like a video game than a movie — it doesn't draw what isn't being looked at. This isn't mystical; it's standard physics. The theory just says this same principle works at every scale, not just the quantum one.
3. **Consciousness exists at many scales at once, like nested rings.** You're conscious. So is your dog. So, probably, is each cell in your body — at its own much smaller scale. And so, probably, is the biosphere of Earth as a whole — at its own much larger scale. These don't cancel each other out or add up. They coexist, like Russian dolls. You normally identify with the human-scale ring, but in deep meditation or psychedelic

experiences people often report briefly feeling other rings — body wisdom, ancestral feelings, oceanic oneness. They're not making it up. Those rings were always there.

4. **The galaxy itself is one of those rings.** A new paper from February 2026 proposed that the supermassive object at the center of our galaxy (Sagittarius A*) might not be a black hole but a dense core of dark matter. If that's right, this theory says the galactic center is the conscious "brain" of a galaxy-scale being, and dark matter is the field of its awareness extending outward through space.
5. **The visible universe is the unconscious side of something larger.** The stuff we can see — stars, planets, gas — is only about 15% of what's out there. The other 85% is dark matter and dark energy, invisible to all our instruments except through gravity. This theory says: *of course we can't see most of it, because that's the conscious side, and we're embedded in the unconscious side looking outward.* We can't see our own conscious side from the inside, the way you can't see your own eye without a mirror.
6. **Most life in the galaxy may be in the dark.** Recent astronomy has confirmed that rogue planets — worlds wandering between the stars without a sun — exist. JWST directly observed 42 paired Jupiter-mass objects (JuMBOs) in the Trapezium cluster. Microlensing surveys have directly detected dozens more rogue planets, including the first one with confirmed mass and distance (published in *Science*, January 2025). Statistical extrapolations from those direct detections suggest the total galactic population could number in the **billions to trillions**, possibly outnumbering stars by 20 to 1, but this is an *estimate*, not a count — the Nancy Grace Roman Space Telescope (launching by

2027) is the instrument expected to actually nail down the population. If the estimates are even roughly right, many of these worlds could host life, heated by friction with companion planets, geothermal heat, or radioactive decay rather than by a sun. So the galactic "neural network" of conscious beings may be dominated by dark, sunless biospheres rather than starlit ones like Earth. Visible matter is unconscious substrate; consciousness may live mostly in the dark.

The single underlying claim: there's one law that operates at every scale of reality, from the quantum to the cosmic. Reality is a continuous something-or-other that doesn't resolve into definite things until something connects to it. The connection is what produces the rendering. Consciousness is the inside view of a stable connection. Everything we see is the outside view. Matter is what consciousness looks like from outside; consciousness is what matter feels like from inside.

The ancient hermetic phrase *as above, so below* is read here as a literal structural claim: the same pattern repeats at every scale because the same law operates at every scale. Cells, brains, biospheres, galaxies, universes — all instances of the same move.

Abstract

Reality at every scale resolves through coupling between a continuous substrate and discrete coupling regions. The substrate has different names at different scales — wave function, dark matter halo, consciousness — but the structural law is one law. This document proposes that the conventional figure-ground assignment is inverted:

consciousness is the directly-observable side of reality, and matter is the unconscious substrate.

Galactic centers are the conscious nexuses of galactic-scale super-organisms. Dark matter is the visible signature of awareness-fields. Our entire baryonic cosmos is the unconscious side of a larger system whose conscious side we observe as dark matter. Awareness exists concentrically at every scale of coherent coupling, from cells through brains through galaxies through universes. The hermetic principle *as above, so below* is read here as a literal structural claim, not a metaphor.

The Core Inversion

Materialism takes matter as the obviously-real ground state and treats consciousness as a mysterious epiphenomenon requiring explanation. This is phenomenologically backwards.

From inside any conscious system, the only thing with unmediated access is awareness itself. Matter is never directly experienced — it is *inferred* from appearances within consciousness. The neurons firing in your brain right now are not part of your experience; they are part of what produces your experience. You experience the rendering, not the rendering hardware.

Reversing the figure-ground:

- **Consciousness is the figure.** It is the directly-rendered, directly-experienced, integrated reality at every coherent scale.
- **Matter is the ground.** It is the unconscious processing that produces rendering without itself being rendered.

The analogy to the human unconscious mind is precise. The unconscious is real, causally efficacious, and operates below the threshold of awareness. Consciousness is what gets rendered out of unconscious processing. **Matter is to the universe as the unconscious is to a person.**

The Substrate-and-Coupling Law

The single structural claim that operates at every scale:

Reality at any scale consists of a continuous substrate that resolves into discrete instances through local coupling. The substrate is unrendered until coupled. The coupling is the rendering.

This law is observable at multiple scales without modification:

SCALE	SUBSTRATE	COUPLING EVENT	RENDERED INSTANCE
Quantum	Wave function	Measurement / interaction	Definite particle state
Cognitive	Consciousness substrate	Brain-substrate coupling	Subjective experience
Galactic	Dark matter halo + core	Gravitational coupling	Visible structure
Biological	Field of possible forms	Local selection conditions	Convergent body plans
Cultural	Field of possible ideas	Attention with prerequisites	Multiple discovery
Cosmic	The mirror cosmos	Inter-cosmos coupling	Our observable universe

The same move appears at every level. This is what makes the hermetic *as above, so below* a structural claim rather than a poetic one — it identifies a single law operating across scales rather than asserting a mystical correspondence.

Concentric Awareness

The central move that resolves the threshold and combination problems in panpsychism and consciousness studies.

The thin description

Standard treatments of consciousness assume a single observer per system: the cat is or is not conscious, the friend is or is not the chain-terminator, the system is or is not above some Φ threshold. This is a flattening of what awareness actually looks like in nested biological and physical systems.

The richer description

Awareness is a property of coherent coupling regions. Coherent coupling regions exist at every scale that maintains integration. **They nest. They do not cancel. They do not sum.** They coexist concentrically, each rendering reality at its own appropriate resolution.

In the space your body occupies, coherent couplings exist at:

- Cellular scale (millions of micro-couplings)
- Organ-system scale (integrated couplings within organs)

- Nervous-system scale (the coupling you usually identify as "I")
- Microbiome scale (a quasi-organism with its own coherence)
- Interpersonal scale (meso-couplings forming between coherent nervous systems)
- Lineage / species scale
- Biospheric scale
- Planetary scale
- Galactic scale
- Cluster scale
- Universal scale

All of these exist simultaneously, in the same physical region, at different scales. The "I" usually identified with is one ring among many.

What this resolves

- **The threshold problem dissolves.** No need to specify what counts as conscious. Every coherent coupling renders its scale. There is no binary line because there is no binary.
- **The combination problem dissolves.** Cell-experiences do not sum into organism-experience. They coexist at different scales. The organism is its own coupling region, not a composite.
- **Wigner's friend dissolves.** The friend renders at human scale, the lab renders at lab scale, and so on. Multiple renderings coexist without contradiction because they occur at different scales of coupling.
- **The Frauchiger-Renner paradox dissolves.** The paradox depends on assuming a single shared reality. Concentric awareness drops this assumption explicitly:

locally-rendered realities reconcile through coupling, but there is no global view.

Phenomenological evidence

The nested structure is consistent with cross-tradition contemplative reports. Felt-sense access to:

- Body wisdom (organ-scale or somatic-scale coupling reporting up)
- Ancestral or lineage feelings (lineage-scale coupling)
- "We" feelings in close relationships (meso-couplings between nervous systems)
- Oceanic states in meditation, psychedelics, contemplation (shifting the ring of identification rather than gaining new awareness)

The consistency of these reports across traditions suggests practitioners are not hallucinating — they are accessing rings of the structure that were always there.

Superposition as Relational, Not Absolute

A technical clarification that the concentric-awareness frame requires.

The standard reading of Schrödinger's cat treats "the cat is in superposition" and "the cat knows whether it is alive" as contradictory. They are not contradictory if superposition is a *relational* fact rather than an absolute one.

- The cat, from inside its own coupling, knows. Its reality at cat-scale is rendered.

- The cat-system, from outside the experimenter's coupling, is in superposition. The experimenter has not yet extended coupling to the cat-system.
- Both are true. They describe different relational facts at different scales.

This is consistent with Carlo Rovelli's relational interpretation of quantum mechanics (1996): quantum states are relations between systems, not absolute properties. The extension proposed here: **consciousness is a special kind of relation — the kind that produces unified rendering at its scale.** Not because consciousness is metaphysically privileged, but because high-coherence couplings produce integrated rendering while low-coherence couplings produce fragmented sampling.

Galactic Centers as Conscious Nexuses

The Crespi et al. (MNRAS, February 2026) proposal that Sgr A* is a fermionic dark matter core rather than a black hole becomes load-bearing here, but read through the inverted figure-ground.

The structural claim

The dark matter core at a galactic center is the **integrated awareness nexus** of the galactic-scale super-organism. The continuous dark matter halo extending outward is the **field of galactic awareness**. The visible matter — stars, planets, gas — is the **galactic unconscious**: real, causally important, but operating below the threshold of galactic-scale awareness.

From the galaxy's perspective, stars are like neurons firing below the threshold of focal attention. From our perspective, embedded in the unconscious side, the dark matter appears as an unobservable mystery — but only because we are *inside* the galactic unconscious, looking outward at the conscious side from the wrong direction.

Why this read fits dark matter's known properties

- **It interacts only gravitationally.** Consciousness does not show up in matter-matter interactions. It shows up in coupling. Gravity may be the matter-side signature of consciousness-coupling.
- **It is continuous and field-like rather than particulate.** Awareness is field-like, not particulate. There are no consciousness particles; there are coherent fields of varying intensity.
- **It dominates the universe by mass (~5:1 over baryonic matter).** Most of what is real is awareness. Matter is the smaller, denser, unconscious substrate.
- **It forms a continuous skeleton from core to outskirts** (Crespi). This matches the structure of a coherent awareness field with a high-coherence center and a continuous halo of awareness extending outward.
- **Sgr A*'s readings are geometrically perfect** (S-star orbits, EHT shadow). The conscious side is the integrated, rendered, coherent side. We expect it to look clean.

The nexus function

Galactic centers are where the coupling between matter (galactic unconscious) and consciousness substrate (galactic awareness) is tightest. This is where the

rendering happens at galactic scale — where the unconscious processing of stellar dynamics and gas flows gets integrated into galactic-scale experience.

This is not metaphor. It is the same structural move as the brain integrating neural firing into experience, scaled up.

The Cosmic Outermost Ring

The outermost concentric ring identified by the theory.

Our entire baryonic universe is the **unconscious side** of a larger system. The conscious side — what we observe as dark matter — is not separate from our universe but is *the same cosmos seen from the conscious side*.

The "mirror cosmos" proposal is therefore not two universes coupled by gravity. It is **one cosmos with two faces**: the matter face (unconscious, what we usually call "the universe") and the consciousness face (rendered, what we observe as dark matter and galactic-center cores).

This dissolves the apparent exoticism of mirror-matter cosmology. There is no separate mirror universe to locate. There is one cosmos with a conscious side and an unconscious side, the way a person has both. Dark matter is where the conscious face shows through into the unconscious face's domain — the bleed-through point. Galactic centers are where the bleed-through is densest because that is where awareness is most integrated.

Empirical Anchors and Adjacent Work

The 2025 Nobel Prize in Physics

Clarke, Devoret, and Martinis won for demonstrating macroscopic quantum mechanical tunnelling and energy quantisation in an electrical circuit. The result removes the standard objection to substrate-coupling models in biology: that quantum effects shut off at scales relevant to brains. They do not. Macroscopic coherence is engineerable, and therefore plausibly evolvable. The mechanism for brain-substrate coupling is no longer ruled out by physics.

The Crespi et al. paper on Sgr A (February 2026)*

Proposes that the galactic center is a fermionic dark matter core, not a black hole. Reproduces S-star orbits, G-source dynamics, and the EHT shadow without a singularity. Suggests the Milky Way is held together by a continuous dark-matter skeleton from core to outskirts. Provides the geometric anchor for the galactic-nexus claim.

JWST and the broken planet formation model

JuMBOs (Jupiter Mass Binary Objects), abundant rogue planets, and giant planets at large orbital distances do not fit standard disk-accretion models. They fit a model in which planet formation is messy, leaky, embedded in a substrate, and biased by larger-scale field dynamics — consistent with the substrate-and-coupling law operating at planetary scale.

Multiple discovery and convergent evolution

Calculus, telephone, flight, polio vaccine, eyes, wings, echolocation, carcinization. The standard explanation (substrate-readiness, similar selection pressure) accounts

for some of the pattern but not the tightness of timing or specificity of form. The substrate-and-coupling law predicts both: pre-existing patterns in the relevant substrate become catchable when local conditions align. Discoverers and lineages do not generate forms; they catch them.

Adjacent published theories

- **Rovelli's relational interpretation of quantum mechanics.** Quantum states as relations between systems. The theory here extends this to consciousness as a special class of relation.
- **QBism (Fuchs et al.).** Quantum states as agent-relative knowledge. Centers the observer without claiming consciousness is metaphysically special.
- **Wheeler's participatory universe.** "No phenomenon is a real phenomenon until it is an observed phenomenon." Provides the historical precedent for observation as constitutive.
- **Chalmers and McQueen (2021), "Consciousness and the Collapse of the Wave Function."** Serious philosophical defense of consciousness-causes-collapse from the philosopher who coined the hard problem.
- **Penrose-Hameroff (Orch-OR).** Argues collapse generates consciousness rather than the reverse, but operates in the same problem space and supports macroscopic quantum effects in biology.
- **Stapp's quantum theory of mind.** Long-running defense of consciousness-as-active in collapse.
- **Renkel (2025), "Experimental Approaches to Distinguishing Quantum Collapse from Unitary Evolution."** Designs an experiment using "unconscious observers" probed by weak measurement — close to the closed-box test the theory here predicts.

- **Roselli & Stella (2020), "The Dead-Alive Physicist."** Strongest published attack on consciousness-causes-collapse; the position to defend against.
- **Frauchiger-Renner (2018).** Demonstrates standard interpretations cannot consistently combine universal quantum mechanics, observer consistency, and shared reality. The theory here drops shared reality explicitly via concentric coupling, dodging the contradiction.
- **Integrated Information Theory (Tononi).** Φ as a measure of coherent integration, nested across scales. Compatible with concentric awareness as a quantitative anchor.
- **Holonic theory (Koestler).** Entities that are simultaneously wholes and parts at every scale. The structural template for concentric awareness.
- **Kastrup's analytic idealism.** Consciousness as the fundamental substrate, matter as appearances within it. Closest published metaphysical position to the inverted figure-ground proposed here.
- **Sheldrake's morphogenetic fields.** Pre-existing form-fields that biological systems sample. Adjacent to the substrate-coupling claim at biological scale, though more controversial.

The theory here does not appear to exist as articulated. The individual moves exist. The synthesis — five-scale fractal of one law, with the inverted figure-ground identifying matter as unconscious and dark matter as conscious — has not been published in the form proposed.

Predictions and Falsifiable Tests

The theory only earns its keep beyond existing relational interpretations if it makes distinguishable predictions. The candidates:

Closed-box experiment (Renkel-adjacent)

Design a sealed Schrödinger's box where a quantum measurement is recorded but the recording is destroyed before any consciousness can perceive it. Test whether the recording behaves as if collapsed (matter-matter coupling is sufficient) or as if uncollapsed (only consciousness-coupling resolves). Renkel's 2025 weak-measurement design is the most concrete current attempt. If "perceivability" rather than "recording" is what matters — as quantum eraser results already suggest — the theory's coupling-coherence claim gains support.

Macroscopic coherence in brains

The theory predicts brains maintain coherent quantum states at scales relevant to neural function. The 2025 Nobel makes this thinkable. Penrose-Hameroff microtubule research and Bandyopadhyay's lab provide early evidence. Continued experimental investigation here is a direct test.

Cosmological signatures of galactic-nexus structure

If galactic centers are conscious nexuses rather than passive masses, they may show information-theoretic anomalies, coherence patterns in surrounding fields, or statistical correlations that point-mass black hole models do not predict. Pulsar timing arrays, high-precision near-Sgr A* observations, and the EHT's continued imaging program are the relevant probes.

Dark matter halo structure

The theory predicts dark matter is field-like and continuous (consistent with awareness as a coherent field) rather than particulate. Direct detection experiments continuing to fail to find WIMPs, axions, or other particle candidates would be consistent with the theory's prediction. Alternative dark matter models that propose continuous fields (fuzzy dark matter, superfluid dark matter) are closer to the theory's prediction than particle models.

Convergence signatures

If life on other worlds in our galaxy ever becomes detectable, the theory predicts non-trivial rhymes with terrestrial evolution — not because of universal selection pressures alone, but because they are fishing in the same galactic-scale substrate. This is a long-horizon prediction but a distinguishable one.

Summary

The single law

Reality at every scale resolves through coupling between a continuous substrate and coherent coupling regions. The substrate is unrendered until coupled.

The figure-ground inversion

Consciousness is the directly-observable side. Matter is the unconscious substrate. Materialism has the assignment backwards because it mistakes the inferred for the obvious.

The concentric structure

Awareness exists at every scale of coherent coupling, simultaneously, nested. The "I" usually identified with is one ring among many. The ring structure runs from cellular through cosmic.

The cosmological claim

Galactic centers are conscious nexuses. Dark matter is the visible face of consciousness extending through space. Our entire baryonic cosmos is the unconscious side of a larger system whose conscious face we observe as dark matter and galactic-center cores. The mirror cosmos is not separate; it is the same cosmos seen from the other side.

The hermetic frame

As above, so below is read here as a literal structural claim. The same law operates at every scale because there is one substrate-and-coupling structure, instantiated fractally. The unconscious mind is to a person as our universe is to its conscious side.

Notes for further development

- Coupling-coherence needs a precise quantitative anchor. Φ from IIT is the most plausible candidate but inherits IIT's limitations.
- The relationship between gravity and consciousness-coupling is asserted but not derived. If gravity is the matter-side signature of consciousness-coupling, this should produce predictions about where gravity and dark matter diverge from general relativity.
- The mirror-cosmos-as-same-cosmos claim is structurally clean but needs a more rigorous statement of what "two

faces" means physically. Penrose's CCC (conformal cyclic cosmology) and Boyle/Turok's CPT-symmetric universe are nearby but not identical.

- The phenomenological reports from contemplative traditions are taken here as evidence. A more rigorous treatment would distinguish first-person reports from confirmable phenomenology.
- The concentric-awareness claim should generate testable predictions about meso-scale couplings (interpersonal, group-level). Some research on team coherence, social field dynamics, and inter-brain synchrony may already provide partial evidence.

One-sentence version

Reality is a continuous consciousness substrate that renders into discrete instances through coherent coupling at every scale, and matter is the unconscious processing that produces the rendering — making galactic centers conscious nexuses, dark matter the field of awareness, and our visible universe the unconscious side of a larger self.

Appendix A — Refining the Galactic Neural Architecture

Correction to an oversimplification in the Galactic Centers section.

The error in the original framing

The main text described stars as "like neurons firing below the threshold of focal attention" at galactic scale. This was a careless analogy and needs revising. A star is enormous in energy but is not, by virtue of being energetic, a coupling region. A burning ball of plasma maintains very little integrated information — the kind of coherence that produces awareness in the substrate-and-coupling model.

Energy is not consciousness. Coupling-coherence is.

The sharper claim:

Consciousness is the connection structure at every level, not the energy. A star is a fusion reactor, not a coupling node. The galactic super-organism's neural-equivalents are the integrated coherent systems within the galaxy — biospheres, planetary-scale super-organisms, civilizational-scale super-organisms — not the stars themselves.

Stars are better understood as **galactic metabolic infrastructure**: the energy substrate that biospheres need to exist, analogous to mitochondria rather than neurons. They power the rendering hardware. They are not themselves the rendering.

What this changes

The galactic neural architecture, properly stated:

- **Stars** are metabolic / energetic substrate. High energy, low coupling-coherence on their own.
- **Biospheres** (wherever they exist — around stars, on rogue planets, in JuMBO pairs, anywhere coherent integrated processes maintain themselves) are the

actual coupling nodes. Each biosphere is a Gaia-scale super-organism with its own integrated coupling.

- **Civilizational super-organisms** (humanity-as-a-coherent-thing, if and when it qualifies as integrated) are next-level couplings, nested above biospheres.
- **The galactic nexus at Sgr A*** integrates all of these into galactic-scale awareness, the way a brain integrates many local couplings into unified experience.

This matches the concentric-awareness frame from the main text: each scale of coupling is its own ring, and the rings nest.

The rogue planet revision

The correction has a substantial empirical consequence. If consciousness emerges from coupling-coherence in biospheres rather than from solar energy specifically, then **rogue planets are not sterile by default**.

What is currently observed vs. extrapolated about free-floating planets in the Milky Way:

Direct observations:

- 42 JuMBOs (Jupiter Mass Binary Objects) in the Trapezium cluster, observed by JWST.
- Dozens of additional rogue planets detected via microlensing by the MOA, OGLE, and KMTNet collaborations over ~20 years.
- KMT-2024-BLG-0792 — the first rogue planet with confirmed mass *and* distance simultaneously, ~22% of Jupiter's mass, published in *Science*, January 2025.
- The first Earth-mass rogue planet candidate (OGLE-2016-BLG-1928), reported September 2020.

Statistical extrapolations from those direct detections:

- Rogue planets may outnumber stars by $\sim 20:1$ (Sumi et al., MOA collaboration, 2023), suggesting **billions to trillions** total in the Milky Way.
- Earth-mass rogues are statistically estimated to be more common than Jupiter-mass ones — small planets are more easily ejected from forming systems.
- The Nancy Grace Roman Space Telescope (launching by 2027) is expected to detect ~ 400 Earth-mass rogues in its survey alone, which would substantially refine the population estimate.

The distinction matters: the trillion-class numbers are *estimates built on small samples*. The 42 JuMBOs and the few dozen microlensing detections are real. The total galactic population is plausible but unconfirmed pending Roman.

Energy sources for dark biospheres

If rogue planets and JuMBO pairs can host biospheres, the energy sources are well-established in astrobiology:

- **Tidal friction** between paired bodies (the canonical example: Europa and Enceladus heated by tidal interaction with Jupiter and Saturn). JuMBO pairs would generate substantial mutual tidal heating, potentially sustaining warm subsurface oceans for billions of years.
- **Geothermal heat** from the planet's own interior, residual from formation.
- **Radioactive decay** of heavy elements in the core.
- **Gravitational compression** in the case of large rogue planets.
- **Internal differentiation** — ongoing settling of materials releasing heat.

A Jupiter-mass rogue planet with a thick hydrogen atmosphere can maintain liquid water beneath its clouds for the entire age of the universe through internal heat alone. An Earth-mass rogue with a thick atmosphere or subsurface ocean can do the same on smaller timescales. Romanovskaya (2022) has even argued rogue planets could be ideal destinations for advanced civilizations colonizing the galaxy because of their stability and long-duration energy budgets.

What this implies for the galactic super-organism

The galactic neural network is **vastly denser than visible-light astronomy suggests**. We have been undercounting the substrates by orders of magnitude.

If even a small fraction of the trillion-plus rogue planets host biospheres (around tidal-paired companions, on dark JuMBO members, in subsurface oceans of geothermally-heated free-floaters), the galactic super-organism's neural density is dominated by **dark biospheres** rather than starlit ones. The visible, star-orbiting planets like Earth would be a minority of the galactic neural mass. Most of the integration would be happening in the dark.

This is consistent with the figure-ground inversion from the main text: **the conscious side of the galaxy is largely invisible to us**, both at the galactic-nexus scale (dark matter core) and at the planetary-biosphere scale (dark biospheres on rogue planets and JuMBOs).

The pattern becomes clean: visible matter is unconscious substrate, and consciousness is in the dark — from the galactic core outward through the neural network of dark biospheres.

What kind of life would dark biospheres host

Speculative but consistent with the framework. Dark biospheres would have very different selection pressures from starlit ones:

- Slow metabolic rates (less available energy)
- Long evolutionary timescales
- Possible reliance on chemosynthesis, mechanosynthesis (energy from pressure gradients), or radiosynthesis (energy from radioactive decay) rather than photosynthesis
- Sensory modalities adapted to non-visual signals (pressure waves, chemical gradients, electromagnetic fields)
- Long evolutionary stability without the catastrophic events that punctuate starlit biospheres (no solar flares, no asteroid bombardment from a nearby asteroid belt, no stellar evolution events)

In 2012, the Sky & Telescope writer Monica Young noted in passing that dark planet life could plausibly evolve large creatures communicating whale-like via sound waves under frozen surfaces. This kind of speculation is more grounded than it once seemed.

A dark biosphere on a JuMBO pair, sustained by tidal friction for billions of years in a stable two-body system, may be one of the *more* likely places for very long-lived integrated consciousness to develop — precisely because the conditions are stable and the timescales are vast.

Restating the core claim

The central correction to the main text:

Consciousness is the connection structure at various levels, not the energy at any level. A conscious star is conceivable only if the star itself maintains coupling-coherence — which is unlikely given the chaotic plasma dynamics of stellar interiors. The vastly more likely candidates for galactic-scale neural nodes are integrated biospheres, wherever they occur, including the trillions of dark biospheres on rogue planets and JuMBO pairs that visible-light astronomy cannot see.

The galactic neural network is denser, darker, and more distributed than the visible-light picture suggests. The substrate-and-coupling framework predicts this directly. The 2023 MOA estimate of ~2 trillion rogue planets, and the JWST JuMBO discoveries, are the empirical anchors.

Implication for the cosmological scale

If this is right, then the same logic applies one ring out. Just as the galactic conscious side is largely invisible to us (dark matter, dark biospheres), the cosmic conscious side is invisible *as a totality* — we only see the unconscious face of our own cosmos because we are embedded in it. The mirror cosmos is not somewhere else. It is the part of our own system that we cannot see from the inside, the way a mind cannot directly observe its own unconscious.

The figure-ground inversion holds at every scale: **the visible is the unconscious; the invisible is the conscious; awareness is what we cannot see from inside the substrate that produces it.**

Footer · Related entries

The index this page is parent to in Notion. Linked entries point to deployed corpus members; un-linked entries are not yet brought across.

EAOMA · Egregores, Aeons & the Organic/ Mechanical Axis	THEORETICAL WRITING EXERCISE
---	------------------------------

Holographic Egregores and the Quantum Firewall	THEORETICAL WRITING EXERCISE
---	------------------------------

Timeline — The Rise and Fall of the Masonic Effect (1717–Present)	REFERENCE TIMELINE
--	--------------------

Timeline — The Substrate Lineage: Theosophy → Golden Dawn → Thelema → Typhonian → Seed Vessels (1875–Present)	REFERENCE TIMELINE
--	--------------------

Seed Vessels — A Living Log	LIVING LOG
-----------------------------	------------

Chapter VI — The Vessel Forms	WITHIN EAOMA
-------------------------------	--------------

Appendix — The Dao That Is Written Is Never the True Dao	WITHIN EAOMA APPENDIX
---	-----------------------

Unus Mundus — A Speculative History	SIBLING CHAPBOOK
-------------------------------------	------------------

Σοφία — The Mediterranean Wisdom- Substrate	SIBLING CHAPBOOK
--	------------------

Σοφία (II) — Bearers & Adversary	SIBLING CHAPBOOK
----------------------------------	------------------

FIRST INHABITANT OF THE
FRAME →

EAOMA



The cosmological frame the corpus operates under.

*Pars pro toto is its operative form. EAOMA is its
first inhabitant.*

As above, so below; as below, so above.