CONSCIOUSNESS IN RELATION TO BIOELECTRIC NEURAL CIRCUITRY

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Abstract:Neuroprosthetic researchers are advancing towards a symbionic mind, a neuroelectronic interface connecting the brain with semiconductor circuits. This neuroelectronic bridge might in the future consist of wireless transceivers that could receive/transmit information directly from/to another data source. This would allow direct data transmission to the cerebrum, circumventing the visual, auditory, olfactory, gustatory, and tactile pathways. Already, neurosurgeons have implanted semiconductor circuits in the brains of paralyzed patients. The brain chips are capable of reading the patient's brain waves and transmitting them to a computer for decoding into action. Addressed herein are fundamental questions, introduced by new developments in biotechnology, about the relationship of consciousness with biological and electrical neural circuitry.