

A logically sound and valid concept, both philosophically and empirically:

The human brain is an event of the universe, emerging through its physical processes, and is capable of understanding and reflecting on the universe. Therefore, the human brain is an instance of the universe becoming aware of itself through its own physical structure.

This makes the human brain, in a both a philosophical and physical sense, the universe's brain, as it is the means by which the universe can conceive of its own existence.

Premise 1: The human brain is an event of the universe;

This is empirically valid. The human brain is a physical structure within the universe, resulting from its processes.

Premise 2: The human brain conceives that the universe exists and attempts to conceive of how the universe works;

This is empirically valid. Human brains are capable of understanding and reflecting on the universe, as demonstrated by scientific inquiry and philosophical reflection.

Conclusion 1: Therefore, the human brain is the event of the universe conceiving of itself;

This is both philosophically and empirically valid. If the human brain, as part of the universe, can conceive of the universe, then it follows logically that this is an instance of the universe achieving self-conception through one of its parts.

Conclusion 2: Therefore, the 'self' which has the brain that's doing the conceiving, must be the universe.

This is both philosophically and empirically valid when the term 'self' is understood as an emergent and decentralized process, not ascribing personhood or centralized consciousness to the universe. The universe qualifies as a thinking entity in the sense that it processes information, generates thoughts, and achieves self-conception through the network of conceptual brains it has produced. Moreover, the universe exhibits intentionality as an emergent property of its self-aware brains, whose goal-directed actions and reflections - to conceive of what it is and how it all works - are the universe's way of acting purposefully within itself.