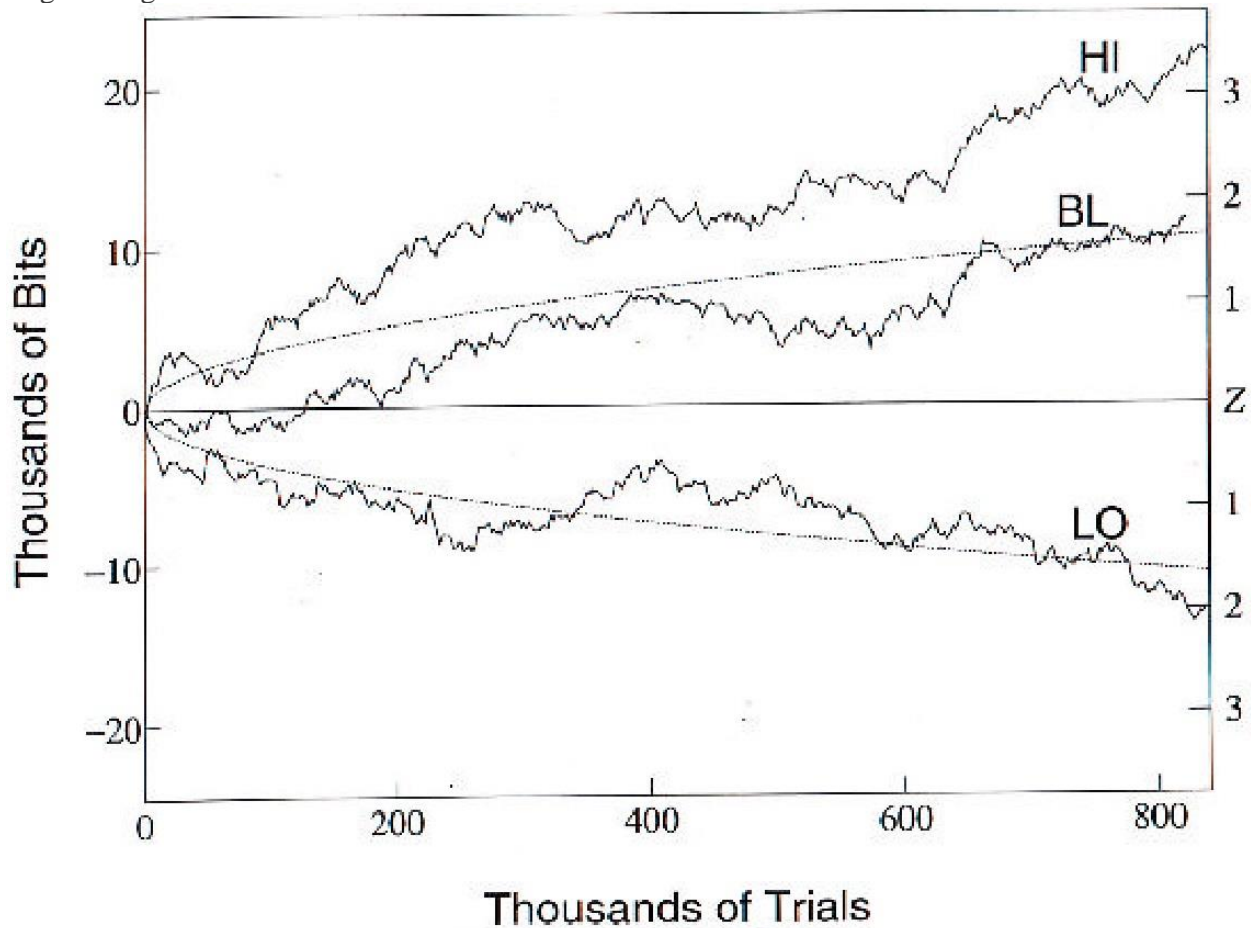


IMO, the most significant scientific discovery of the last century was the work of Princeton aerospace scientist Robert Jahn and parapsychologist Brenda Dunne. Their experiment demonstrated an interaction between quantum physics and the human mind (not the brain, the mind).

In a 30-year course of experimentation at the PEAR laboratory of [Jahn and Dunne](#), 1975-2005, used voltage fluctuations in a Zener diode to generate random numbers, and asked self-selected experimental subjects to sit in front of a computer screen and use their will to make some function of the quantum-random input higher or lower in each trial. At the end of 800,000 trials, the difference between those in which the subjects intended “high” and intended “low” was over 5 sigma. The probability of this occurring by chance is less than 1 in 10 million.

Jahn had a PhD in physics, and was department chair and at one time Dean of the School of Engineering.



This signature experiment demonstrated the ability of human consciousness to modify probabilities that are treated as random in standard quantum mechanics.

Absorbing this challenge to standard quantum theory is the primary challenge before physicists today, and few are even thinking about taking it on. Some exceptions are [Thomas Campbell](#), [Brian Josephson](#), and [Amit Goswami](#). (I can't say any of their theirs leave me feeling satisfied.)

■ JJM