

Review of: "[Essay] Not Quite Like Us? — Can Cyborgs and Intelligent Machines Be Natural Persons as a Matter of Law?"

Paul Burgess¹

¹ Monash University

Potential competing interests: No potential competing interests to declare.

I come to this as a lawyer (and legal theorist) that works on the relationship between AI and legal concepts. In this sense, I appreciate the author's non-sci-fi approach in a paper that ranges across a wealth of different literatures and deals with concepts and ideas that are clearly future-facing.

This paper contains a wealth of detail and poses a number of interesting questions that are relevant to my own work. The author deals with the details in a way that is both technical yet readable – which is no easy feat.

The distinction raised in the paper between sentience and sapience is a really interesting one. More could be said about it in the context of the paper. Indeed, I would very much like to read more about this. However, even as it stands, it is a useful way to consider, explore, and distinguish many of the ideas discussed.

The paper reflects a detailed and interesting contribution to a field that is ever-expanding and is only going to become more important.