

Peer Review

Review of: "The Hard Problems of AI"

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This paper presents a clear and structured argument that reframes the “hard problems” of AI such as whether AI is conscious, creative, or intelligent as conceptual misunderstandings rather than scientific or metaphysical puzzles. Drawing on Wittgenstein’s later philosophy, the author challenges the search for fixed definitions and instead encourages viewing these questions as matters of language use and social convention.

The use of examples and analogies is thoughtful, and the central critique is well-articulated. The paper encourages a shift in how AI consciousness debates are framed and contributes a philosophically grounded voice to a conversation that is often dominated by functionalist or empirical assumptions.

There is room to deepen the discussion by more directly engaging with alternative perspectives particularly those from computational or neuroscientific frameworks and by expanding on the practical consequences of how we describe AI systems in legal, ethical, or social contexts. These additions would help connect the philosophical critique with the broader real-world debates it touches on.

What I appreciated most was the paper’s innovative approach. Instead of taking the standard path of assessing AI systems against fixed criteria, it questions whether the criteria themselves are conceptually sound. This shift in framing adds value to the discourse by opening space for alternative ways of thinking about AI and consciousness.

Overall, the paper offers a meaningful contribution to the topic. It opens up useful questions and encourages further examination of the assumptions behind how we talk about AI.

Declarations

Potential competing interests: No potential competing interests to declare.