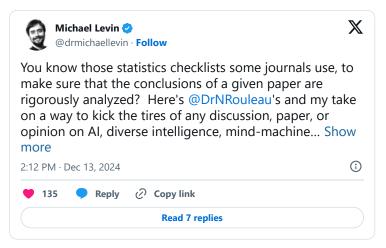
[Let's Be Clear / Kick the Tires...]

"Bacteria, body cells, slime molds, plants, and even molecular networks can learn and solve problems"

While I appreciate the clarifying intent and the direction toward understanding biocognition...



First of all, "intelligence" is a confusing transjective technical polarized term (as opposed to the clear scientific analytical episteme, cf. AI). "Cognition" seems to me more traditional and scientifically neutral.

Second, attributing high-level properties like learning & problem solving to cells or molecules is obviously a metaphorical projection of the observer onto the observed (1P-3P epistemology),

an opportunistic way of speaking and ambiguous thinking typical of the technoscientific mentality playing on all tables at the same time: bread, butter, money for the butter, and the milkmaid's smile as a bonus.

I would rather suggest starting with more basic and recent typical technoscientific confusions and blurs:

- 1. the fundamental observer-actor versus the observed,
- 2. the model or explanation versus the shared reality,

and 3. mind versus matter (including "the brain thinks" and all the "quantum consciousness" bullshit we hear today).

I think that it is high time for institutional self-criticism to wake up, if it does not want to be devoured by technical and industrial cultural Gestell (sometimes I like to dramatize a bit :-D).

Economists will explain you that it is "creative destruction". But they don't say what/who is destroyed and what is created. There is only a small step, already done, between the "knowledge economy" and the commodification of the living.

@threadreaderapp unroll

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