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Is OpenAI more like WeWork or Theranos?

Source: Marcus on AI
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URL: https://garymarcus.substack.com/p/is-openai-more-like-wework-or-theranos

Summary: The article 'A Tale of Two Analogies' explores two contrasting metaphors used to understand and explain complex concepts. The first analogy, likening society to a machine, emphasizes efficiency and functionality, suggesting that various parts work together to maintain order and productivity. This perspective promotes a linear view of progress and problem-solving, often sidelining individual experiences and emotional responses in favor of systemic calculations. In contrast, the second analogy compares society to a living organism, highlighting interconnection, growth, and adaptation. This view acknowledges the importance of empathy and human relationships, suggesting that social progress emerges from collective consciousness and cooperation rather than mere efficiency. The article argues that the machine analogy can create a sense of detachment and disillusionment, while the organism analogy fosters a deeper understanding of community and shared struggles. Ultimately, the author calls for a balance between these analogies, advocating for a more nuanced approach that recognizes both the functional and emotional aspects of human society. By embracing elements from both perspectives, this balanced view can unite individuals, promoting a more compassionate and resilient community, essential for addressing contemporary social challenges.

Why I'm not a Bayesian by Richard_Ngo

Source: Featured posts - LessWrong 2.0 viewer Published: Sun, 06 Oct 2024 15:22:45 +0000

URL: https://www.greaterwrong.com/posts/TyusAoBMjYzGN3eZS/why-i-m-not-a-bayesian

Summary: This article critiques Bayesianism as an epistemology, initially defining it as a system where beliefs are assigned credences that reflect degrees of truth. The author lays out five foundational claims of Bayesianism and presents alternative views such as traditional epistemology, frequentism, Garrabrant induction, and radical probabilism. The main objections proposed involve rejecting the binary nature of truth in favor of fuzzy truth-values that allow for a spectrum of truth. Additionally, the author argues for reasoning through models instead of propositions, emphasizing that models capture more nuanced aspects of reality which binary logic fails to address. The distinction between syntactic content (propositions) and semantic content (models) is vital; models can encapsulate complex relationships more accurately than simple propositions. While recognizing the merits of Bayesianism, the article suggests that it should be reserved for easier contexts where all possible hypotheses are known. The author advocates for further exploration of degrees of truth and the need to clarify nuanced reasoning that can better encapsulate empirical complexities in scientific discourse.