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Titolo: A Critique of X-Phi on the Hard Problem of Consciousness

Abstract:

Some of the existing X-Phi literature on the hard problem of consciousness suggests that laypeople do not have philosophers' concept of phenomenal consciousness, and do not have a number of problem intuitions associated with the hard problem. Relevant empirical results are often taken to have significant implications with respect to philosophical theorising about consciousness. In this talk, i take a critical look at this experimental literature and its alleged implications. I raise two general objections – the objection from polysemy and the objection from ad hoc concepts. I aim to undercut the philosophical implications that existing experimental results are purported to show.