**What are introspective delusions?**

**Regular delusion:**
A false belief about external reality that is firmly sustained despite what almost everyone else believes and despite what constitutes incontrovertible and obvious proof or evidence to the contrary [..] (DSM V)

**Introspective delusion:**
A false belief about one’s own experience that is firmly sustained despite what almost everyone else believes and despite what constitutes incontrovertible and obvious proof or evidence to the contrary.

**What are the challenges?**

Delusions are associated with strange phenomenal changes

Alternative realities (Sass 1994, Gallagher 2009)

Delusions are experience-based (Bayne & Pacherie, 2004)

NO INTROSPECTIVE DELUSIONS
Delusional agents have false beliefs about the external world, but not about their own experience.

My strategy

Delusions are an immediate endorsement of experience: entails NO INTROSPECTIVE DELUSIONS

Delusions are an interpretation of experience: does not entail NO INTROSPECTIVE DELUSIONS

**A Case Study: Anton-Babinski Syndrome**

**Endorsement Model**
Experience as of seeing
Belief: I can see

No introspective delusion

**Explanationist Model**
Experience: blindness or vivid imagination
Belief: I can see

Introspective delusion

**Endorsement or explanationist? Maybe both.**

The extreme heterogeneity of delusion makes a uniformly endorsement or explanationist model unlikely. Instead, it is useful to look at delusions in terms of disordered patterns of dealing with evidence (Hohwy, 2013) that can cause beliefs to be either:

- too experience-driven (endorsement: taking the experience at face value)
- too expectation-driven (explanationist: excessive interpretation of experience): INTROSPECTIVE DELUSIONS POSSIBLE

**Conclusion**

We should not reject the possibility of introspective delusions.

**REFERENCES**


