



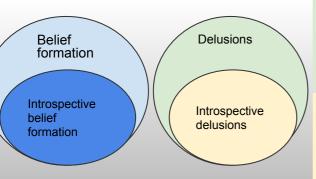
INTROSPECTIVE DELUSIONS

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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

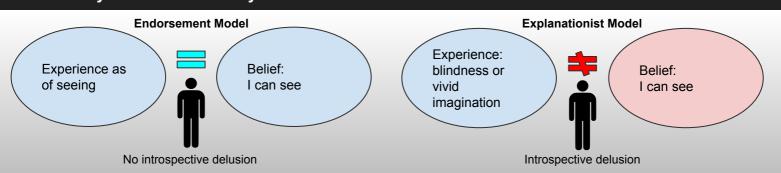
Delusions are based on experience

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

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

competing models

A Case Study: Anton-Babinski Syndrome



Endorsement or explanationist? Maybe both.

The extreme hetetogeneity 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

Sass, 1994, *J. Phenomen. Psych.*, 25(1), 70-103. Gallagher, 2009, in *Psych. as Cog. Neuro*, OUP Bayne & Pacherie, 2004, *PPP*, 11(1), 1-11. Hohwy, 2013, *Mind Lang*, 28(1), 5