
From: jeffrey E. <jeevacation@gmail.com>
Sent: Friday, August 12, 2016 7:21 PM
To: Joscha Bach
Subject: Re:

His [REDACTED]. He fell to pieces in front of Noam

On Friday, 12 August 2016, Joscha Bach <[REDACTED]> wrote:
I can see that C&W were having fun with each other... what happened? Did they get along?

By the way, since [I think] we are computers, implemented in the language of neurons, neurotransmitters etc., it is obvious that language in a computer already understands concepts. Nature is not magical, and I see no reason why we cannot pull off the feat again, i.e. build our own computers with languages that understand concepts. That makes me a DUBE, too, I guess. I wonder what alternative Noam and you see to DUBEdom? How else do humans understand concepts, if not via a computational process (i.e. by manipulating information in regular ways)?

Btw, Steven Wolfram just wrote a newsletter to announce the latest version of Mathematica; he has a certain distinctive style that rubs many people the wrong way, by laying on pretty thick how much work he personally did on it, how grandiose and unique the fruits of his intellect are, etc.

<http://blog.wolfram.com/2016/08/08/today-we-launch-version-11/> <<http://blog.wolfram.com/2016/08/08/today-we-launch-version-11/>>

I think that in pointing out his achievements, he is factually mostly correct, but fascinatingly un-selfaware. He may not be as good as he thinks, but he is far better than most. His mixture of a generous, genius intellect, his big ego and his unwillingness/inability to submit to standards of social interaction seems to have turned Wolfram Industries into a kind of cult. People seem to either follow him like disciples follow their guru, or they dismiss him as a crank.

http://shell.cas.usf.edu/~wclark/ANKOS_humor.html <http://shell.cas.usf.edu/~wclark/ANKOS_humor.html>

It limits his effectiveness as a thinker or scientist, but of course, it does not matter much in the face of the meaninglessness of the universe. He is having fun, and comes up with good stuff. Also, he seems to be quite a bit jealous of Zuse, because Zuse gets all the credit for cellular automata that he would like to be credited for. Did he tell you about his quest to dismantle the myth that Zuse invented the computer? He thinks that Zuse's computer was not really destroyed in the bombing of Berlin, but has been hidden by Zuse's heirs in an unexcavated basement, to hide how limited it really was. Who knows, might be actually true.

> On Aug 12, 2016, at 17:56, jeffrey E. <jeevacation@gmail.com <javascript:;> > wrote:

>
> Wolfram types that think language in a computer will eventually be
> able to understand concepts
>
> On Friday, August 12, 2016, Joscha Bach <[REDACTED]> <javascript:;> wrote:
> Who are the DUBES?
>
>> On Aug 12, 2016, at 16:23, jeffrey E. <jeevacation@gmail.com

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