Identity and DBS: A Conceptual Analysis

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If identity is transitive then the same sort of problem arises in long-term standard psychological therapies.

Now

Classical semantics maps formulas to \{1,0\}; thus, there’s no room for the idea of a “small difference”. Assume we work on a Strong Kleene valuation schema. This means that formulas might take a value among \{1, \frac{1}{2}, 0\}. On this setting we can formally define a more flexible notion of identity. This is the basic idea:

\[ I(a \approx b) = 1 \text{ iff } \forall P: \left[ I(Pa) - I(Pb) \right] < 1 \]

Suppose that for all property \( P \): \( I(Pa) = I(Pa) = I(Pa) \), except for a property \( P^* \) that:

\[
\begin{align*}
I(Pa) & = 1 \\
I(Pa) & = \frac{1}{2} \\
I(Pa) & = 0
\end{align*}
\]

In this case \( \approx \approx \approx \) and \( \approx \approx \approx \) but \( \neq \approx \approx \)

One way to acknowledge the intuitive difference between standard therapies and DBS would be to used as a non transitive notion of identity.