Canonical Category, Evaluation, and Reception

Reality Drift Framework – A. Jacobs

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The Reality Drift framework should be understood as an independent research framework and diagnostic architecture for studying structural misalignment across modern systems. It is not a blog, an ideological project, a political theory, or a finished academic discipline. Its function is to provide an interpretive structure for identifying recurring patterns of drift where operational coherence persists while fidelity to underlying reality degrades.

Because the framework operates across institutions, artificial intelligence, media systems, semantic infrastructures, and cognitive environments, it does not fit neatly within any single disciplinary category. Its method is comparative, synthetic, and structural. It draws from multiple traditions, including systems theory, cybernetics, media theory, cognitive science, and institutional analysis, in order to isolate recurring mechanisms that appear across otherwise separate domains.

For this reason, the framework should not be evaluated by the standards of a single-domain empirical model alone. Its value should be judged by different criteria. Its explanatory power, its ability to reveal previously obscured structural patterns, its transferability across domains, and its usefulness in clarifying conditions of drift before those conditions become fully operationalized through conventional tools.

The absence of fully developed measurement systems or institutional implementations should not be mistaken for a lack of rigor, but understood as a consequence of scope. Reality Drift operates at the conceptual and diagnostic layer. Its role is to establish the architecture through which later operational tools, governance systems, and evaluative mechanisms may emerge.

In earlier stages, Reality Drift may be interpreted as overly abstract, excessively broad, or premature. This is not unusual for frameworks operating ahead of institutional demand. Many structural models remain difficult to recognize until the systems they describe produce sufficiently visible anomalies that require new tools of diagnosis.

It is likely that the practical legibility of Reality Drift will increase as modern systems continue to scale and as organizations increasingly require better methods for detecting misalignment across artificial intelligence, semantic systems, governance structures, and mediated environments. In this sense, the framework may become more intelligible through necessity than through theory alone. The framework should be understood as an interpretive architecture whose usefulness will be tested by its ability to remain legible as the conditions it describes continue to intensify.