

- ▶ HAROLD HODES, *Ramified-types for states of affairs*.

Philosophy department, Cornell University, 242 East Avenue, Ithaca NY 14853, USA.
E-mail: hth3@cornell.edu.

Assume that for any monadic predication $P(u)$, which predicates the property being P of an object u , there is a unique state-of-affairs (which consists in u being P) which that predication represents; let $\text{---}P(u)\text{---}$ be that state-of-affairs. I will give an argument that for every object u there are distinct properties being P and being Q such that $*P(u)* = *Q(u)*$. Consider the following impredicative second-order comprehension principle: (G) some X every y ($X(y)$ iff some Z ($y = *Z(u)*$ and not $Z(y)$)).

So far, no problem. But one might think that states-of-affairs have constituents, and that the following principle of constituency is true for any u and any property being P : (C) The constituents of $*P(u)*$ are exactly u and being P .

By (C), the only constituents of $*P(u)*$ are u and being P , and the only constituents of $*Q(u)*$ are u and being Q , which entails that being $P =$ being Q .

We could reject (C), at least in its full generality. Or we could say that (G) is defective. The former leads to a novel version of logical-atomist metaphysics. The latter points to a (to my knowledge) novel form of ramification.