

The Consistency of Structured Propositions

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Some have claimed that an argument due to Russell and Myhill shows any theory of structured propositions to be inconsistent. I argue that no progress can be made on the matter without narrowing down the notion of proposition at issue, building on the common observation that the various theoretical roles of propositions need not be jointly satisfiable. I illustrate this using the role of compositional semantic values of sentences and the role of states of affairs, and by showing how a kind of structured propositions can be constructed within a metaphysics of unstructured propositions and relations.