



And so on

Two theories of regress arguments in philosophy

Jan Willem Wieland

And so on
Two theories of regress arguments in philosophy

Jan Willem Wieland

This PhD dissertation is on infinite regress arguments in philosophy. Its main goals are to explain what such arguments from many distinct philosophical debates have in common, and to provide guidelines for using and evaluating them. Two such theories will be given: the Paradox Theory and the Failure Theory. According to the Paradox Theory, infinite regress arguments can be used to refute an existentially or universally quantified statement (e.g. to refute the statement that at least one discussion is settled, or the statement that discussions are settled only if there is an agreed-upon criterion to settle them). According to the Failure Theory, infinite regress arguments can be used to demonstrate that a certain solution fails to solve an existentially or universally quantified problem (e.g. to demonstrate that a certain solution fails to settle all discussions, or that it fails to settle even one discussion). In the literature, the Paradox Theory is fairly well developed, and this dissertation provides the Failure Theory with the same tools.

ISBN 978-90-7083-084-7



9 789070 830847 >



MIX
Paper from
responsible sources
FSC® C008551