

Quantum Sortal Predicates

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Abstract

Sortal predicates have been associated with a counting process, which acts as a criterion of identity for the individuals they correctly apply to. We discuss in what sense certain types of predicates suggested by quantum physics deserve the title of `sortal' as well, although they do not characterize either a process of counting or a criterion of identity for the entities that fall under them. We call such predicates `quantum-sortal predicates' and, instead of a process of counting, to them is associated a `criterion of cardinality'. After their general characterization, it is discussed how these predicates can be formally described.

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