

Abstract: On pain of circularity, one can't endorse (i) psychological continuity accounts of identity through time; (ii) anti-timeslice accounts of rationality/reasons; and (iii) "rationality maximizing" interpretationist accounts of what grounds psychological content. This paper examines a way out of the problem in the special case of singular group persistence. I look at Ludwig's suggestion that membership in group G at time t should be thought of as a certain kind of social role, and show how this could get us out of the trilemma, for that special case. To complete the story, we need an account of what it is for a person to have a social role. Drawing on joint work with Rich Rowlands, I say: what it is for someone x to have social role is for it to be fitting (for x and others) to treat x in accordance with the rules associated with that social role.