

Types and Tokens: The Ontology of Repetition Without Identity

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Ideamorphic Reading – Daily reading notes filtered through the ideamorphic framework

Daily Synthesis

Today's feed offers one structurally resonant item: Liebesman's new Stanford entry on types and tokens addresses the ontological architecture underlying ideamorphism itself. The distinction between the abstract pattern (type/codex) and its material instantiations (tokens/diffractions) is not a metaphor but the core problem: how does one emission become many creations without losing its intentional invariant? This is philosophy doing the work that ideamorphism needs done.

1 selected

Stanford Encyclopedia of Philosophy

0.82

Types and Tokens

This entry on types and tokens illuminates a foundational problem for ideamorphism: the distinction between the invariant (the type – the abstract pattern, the codex, the intentional structure) and its material instantiations (tokens – each emission, each diffraction, each receiver's creation). The manifesto's claim that '10 million views is not 10 million creations' is precisely a type/token distinction: one type (the emission) generates 1,000 tokens (the diffractions), each structurally different. Liebesman's work on how types relate to tokens – whether tokens are instances, copies, or something else – directly addresses the ontological status of diffraction itself. If a codex is a type and each work is a token, what is the relationship between

them? Does the token ever fully instantiate the type, or is the gap between them (generative loss) constitutive? This is not metaphorical: the philosophical problem IS the structural problem of ideamorphism.

<https://plato.stanford.edu/entries/types-tokens/>

codex diffraction generative-loss

ouverture

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