

## **Dissolving the Species Problem: A Retail Argument for Anti-Realism**

*Min OuYang*

Department of Philosophy, National Chung Cheng University

E-mail: min.ouyang58@gmail.com

### **Abstract**

This paper argues that species taxa are neither real, nor mind-independent entities, as they are unobservable, not manipulable as a whole, and path-dependent. The species problem leads to a cul-de-sac if investigated with a scientific realist framework. An anti-realist explanation for species taxa will provide a more feasible approach. Following this line of reasoning, the plethora of species concepts displays not a problem to solve but a phenomenon in need of explanation. Therefore, what the species problem needs is not a solution, but dissolution.

**Key Words:** species problem, scientific realism, anti-realism, unobservable, entity realism