Introduction

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Abstract

1 Introduction

2 Biographical introduction

3 Logic and semantics

The breadth of Klima's scholarship stretches from some of philosophy's best-known figures in Anselm, Aquinas, Ockham and Descartes to lesser-known figures including Thomas of Sutton and Henry of Ghent, to Frege, Geach, Kenny, and others who have produced some of the most impactful scholarship in the analytic tradition; from debates on identity, categories, and causation in metaphysics, on skepticism in epistemology and theories of mental content in philosophy of mind, to others too numerous to mention.

Klima's most widely recognized contributions come in his research on John Buridan - which has helped elevate Buridan from a lesser-known figure to one whose stature is closer to that of an Ockham, arguably surpassing the Franciscan in his logic - and in the field of semantics.

3.1 Buridan

3.2 Semantics

In some of his earliest work in semantics, Klima recognized that classical logic, being primarily interested in developing an account of the semantics of propositions as a precondition for the development of a theory of consequence, affords much less attention to its account of the components of propositions themselves, namely names and n-ary predicate relations. Klima fills this lacuna by providing a theory not only of simple, but also of complex terms.

As part of this emphasis, his work provides some of the earliest and most ambitious applications of restricted quantification in the history and philosophy of logic, using it both to formalize the medieval theory of supposition and to

provide a general account of quantitively ambiguous natural language sentences (Klima 1988, 1990, 1991a; Klima and Sandu 1990). Expansions on the same theme - namely, formalizations of supposition theory specifically and medieval semantics more broadly as a means to resolve apparently intractable interpretative problems in historical scholarship and debates in contemporary philosophy - provide us with an account of the semantics of intensional verbs (Klima 1991b), a semantic foundation for Aquinas' theory of the analogy of being in his theory of the copula (Klima 1996, 2002), and a clean resolution of the problem of existential import in the Aristotelian square of opposition(Klima 2001).

Klima's work decouples *via antiqua* and *via moderna* semantics from the realist and anti-realist metaphysics with which they are most commonly paired with by showing that neither semantics by itself strictly entails its associated metaphysics; that archtypical realists were required to adopt non-straightforward semantic accounts of the meanings of terms in at least some cases by their antecedent metaphysical commitments (e.g. to divine simplicity), and that some of the best known nominalist logicians adopted what today would be regarded as 'realist' metaphysical positions (Klima 1999, 2005, 2011).

(Parsons 2014; Read 2015)

'The primary purpose of a logical semantic theory is to define logical consequence in terms of the truth values of propositions in different interpretations' (Klima 1991a, p. 79).

The primary impetus behind Klima's work is one of charity.

3.2.1 Why semantics?

4 Philosophy of mind and epistemology

4.1 *Via antiqua* and *via moderna* cognizers

5 Metaphysics

5.1 Hylomorphism, personal identity and immortality

5.2 Causation

6 Overview of the articles

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