Introduction

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Abstract

1 Introduction

2 Biographical introduction

3 Logic and semantics

The breadth of Klima's scholarship is vast: historically, it 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; systematically, he has contributed to debates on identity, categories, and causation in metaphysics, on skepticism in epistemology and theories of mental content in philosophy of mind, on others too numerous to mention.

Klima's arguably largest 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.

In semantics, Klima was one of the earliest to adopt and expand on the use of restricted quantification in mathematical logic, using it both to formalize the medieval theory of supposition and to provide a general account of quantitively ambiguous sentences in natural language (Klima 1988, 1990, 1991; Klima and Sandu 1990). Such an adoption came out of the recognition 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, spends much less attention on its account of the components of propositions themselves, namely names and n-ary predicate relations. Consequently, by

'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 1991, p. 79).

4   Philosophy of mind and epistemology

5   Metaphysics

6   Overview of the articles

References

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