

Invited: Daniel Rothschild

How Logical Are the Connectives?

The dominant model of the meaning of the natural language connectives (such as ‘and’ and ‘or’) and quantifiers (such as ‘some’ and ‘every’) comes from propositional and predicate logic. Few doubt the explanatory power of classical logic for natural language semantics. However, many linguists reach past the standard truth-conditional semantics of the connectives and quantifiers when explaining certain natural language phenomena, such as implicature, presupposition, and epistemic modality. I will assess a range of cases for assigning non-classical meanings to connectives and quantifiers.