

Preface

The theory of inferences and oppositions among categorical propositions, based on Aristotelian term logic, is pictured in a striking square diagram. The graphic representation of contradictories, contraries, subcontraries and subalterns intended as a foundation for syllogistic logic can be understood and applied in many different ways with interesting implications for various disciplines, notably including epistemology, linguistics, mathematics, psychology. The square can also be generalized in other two-dimensional and multi-dimensional graphic depictions of logical and other relations, extending in breadth and depth the original Aristotelian theory. The square of opposition is accordingly a very attractive theme which has persisted down through the centuries with no signs of disappearing or even diminishing in fascination. For the last 10 years, there has been a new growing interest for the square due to new discoveries and challenging interpretations. This book presents a collection of previously unpublished papers by well-regarded specialists on the theory and interpretation of the concept and application of the square of opposition from all over the world. We thank all the authors who have contributed a paper to this book, and the referees who have analyzed, commented on, and made invaluable recommendations for improving the essays.

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<http://www.springer.com/978-3-0348-0378-6>

Around and Beyond the Square of Opposition

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2012, X, 379 p. 152 illus., 19 illus. in color., Softcover

ISBN: 978-3-0348-0378-6

A product of Birkhäuser Basel