

**Tel-Aviv University  
The School of Philosophy, Linguistics and Science Studies  
Department of Linguistics**

**THURSDAY INTERDISCIPLINARY COLLOQUIUM**

**Thursday 18.3.2021  
16:15-17:45**

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Hebrew University**

**An implicature account of Homogeneity and Non-maximality**

I provide arguments in favor of an implicature approach to Homogeneity (Magri 2014) where the basic meaning of "the kids laughed" is "some of the kids laughed" and its strengthened meaning is "all of the kids laughed". The arguments come from asymmetries between positive and negatives sentences containing definite plurals with respect to (i) children's behavior (Tieu et al. 2019), (ii) the availability of Non-maximal readings, and (iii) the robustness of neither-true-nor-false ('gappy') judgments (Križ and Chemla 2015). I propose to avoid some problems of Magri's analysis by modeling the Implicature account of Homogeneity after the Implicature account of Free Choice, based on an analogy between the two phenomena. The approach that emerges has the advantages of Magri's implicature account of Homogeneity (predicting asymmetries), while at the same time bears a close resemblance to recent approaches to Non-maximality (Malamud 2012; Križ and Spector 2017), which enables restating their account of Non-maximality as following from the context-sensitivity of implicature calculation.

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