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**Rational Assertibility, the Steering Role of Knowledge,
and Pragmatic Encroachment**

ABSTRACT

In this paper, I lay out an account of the pragmatics of Knowledge, and use it to argue against pragmatic encroachment into the semantics of 'know'. In the past couple of decades, there have been a couple of major attempts to establish the thesis of pragmatic encroachment. Contextualism and Subject-Sensitive Invariantism offered accounts of knowledge in which standard and/or stakes play a major role in the semantics of 'know'. These accounts were propelled by examples that seemed to require a pragmatic component in the truth-conditions of knowledge ascriptions in order to be accounted for. The pragmatic account I propose explains the admittedly pragmatic character of the examples in question within the pragmatic field, obviating the need for pragmatic encroachment into the semantics. The main pragmatic components I employ are that of rational assertibility as well as a specific pragmatic role of the use of knowledge in deliberations that resorts to practical inference. It accounts for the intuitions associated with the paradigmatic examples, and offers new insight about the methodology of using intuitions as semantic evidence, with a variety of repercussions into other issues.