

## Modality and its interfaces with aspectuality, temporality and epistemicity

The informal International Working Group Modalität im Deutschen was founded in 1992. Eleven meetings have been held since then, with the focus of the conference gradually expanding to all Germanic languages and to contrastive perspectives, especially within the Germanic family and between German and other languages. The relationship between epistemic modality and evidentiality, which are now often grouped into one macro-category of epistemicity, has become a recurring topic. The same holds for the interface of modality with aspectuality and temporality.

The 12th meeting of the working group will take place in Paris, at Sorbonne University, on June 5th-6th, 2025.

Paris, Sorbonne Université

5-6 juin 2025

Organisation : Olivier Duplâtre (SU, Paris) et Pierre-Yves Modicom (U. Jean Moulin Lyon III, Lyon)

### THURSDAY AM

### Modality in the adverbial and adjectival domain

**9 : 00** Tanja Mortelmans

University of Antwerp, Belgium

Modaladverbien der epistemischen Möglichkeit im Vergleich: ENG perhaps/maybe, DE vielleicht / womöglich / möglicherweise, NDJ misschien

**9 : 30** Olivier Duplâtre

Sorbonne University, France

Is *unbedingt* a modal word?

### Coffee Break

**10: 30** Eva Schultze Berndt & Martina Faller

University of Manchester, Great-Britain

An apprehensive use of German *nachher*

**11 : 00** Carolin Reinert, Cecile Meier & Helmut Weiß

University of Frankfurt, Germany

Force variability and aspect in German adjectival suffixes

### Lunch

## THURSDAY PM

**14: 30** Topias Aalto

University of Turku, Finland

**15: 00** Philipp Pfeifer & Elisabeth Scherr

University of Graz, Austria

**15 : 30** Caterina Saracco

University of Milan, Italy

### Coffee break

**16: 30** Lejla Zejnilovic

University Mediterranean Podgorica.  
Montenegro

**17 : 00** Irina Schipowa (online)

*Moscow Pedagogical State University,  
Russia*

## FRIDAY AM

**9: 30** Nadine Dietrich

University of Edinburgh, Great-Britain

### Coffee break

**10: 30** Patrick Duffley

University Laval, Canada

**11 : 00** Jiqiang Lu & Kristin Davidse

KU Leuven, Belgium

## 1. Variationist perspectives

Daz die engele niht liehter dorften sîn.  
Epistemisch deutbare Belege des  
mittelhochdeutschen Modalverbs dürfen

Gründe für Vermutungen. Die Ausbildung  
epistemischer Bedeutungsvarianten von dürfen

Germanic-Romance language contact in the  
Western Alps: modal verbs and modality in the  
*titsch* language of Gressoney between purism  
and current usage

## 2. Specialized discourse

Context-induced certainty: an empirical study of  
lexical exponents of propositional modality in  
juridical setting

Diskursmodalität der Bundestagsreden

## Testing modality

Using dynamic modality as a stress test for the  
standard conception of modality

Subjective vs. objective modality: a perfectly non-  
linguistic distinction in English

Modal values and NEG-raising in I think, I'm sure  
and there is a/some chance

## Lunch

### FRIDAY PM

**15: 00** Anna Socka

University of Gdansk, Poland

**15: 30** Giuliano Armenante

University of Potsdam, Germany

### Temporality, modality, subordination

Zum Schicksalsfutur im Deutschen und  
Polnischen

(Non-)Sequence of Tense in West Germanic:  
Case reopened

### Coffee break

**16: 30** Anna Averina (online)

*Moscow Region State University,  
Russia*

Modale Interpretation der Tempusformen im  
Deutschen und im Russischen

**17: 00** Olga Kostrova (online)

Samara State University of Social  
Sciences and Education, Russia

Modalität der Äußerungen mit reduzierten  
Nebensätzen im Deutschen und im Russischen

### Conclusion