

**Future: tense, modality and evidentiality.**  
*The debate and a plea for the modal analysis.*

It is no longer controversial that future is not a tense. It is not however settled whether future is an evidential (Squartini 2004, Mari 2010, Eckardt and Beltrama 2019, Frana and Mendez-Benito 2019, Ippolito and Farkas 2019,2021) or an (epistemic) modal (Bertinetto, 1979, Enç 1996, Bonomi and Del Prete 2008, Mari 2009,2021, Cariani 2014, Giannakidou 2012, Giannakidou and Mari 2013b,2016,2018a,to appear, de Saussure and Morency 2015).

In this talk we focus on epistemic futures (for volitional futures, see Copley 2009). We retrace the debate of the last fifteen years, and argue in favor of a modal analysis as a non-biased necessity modal. We cast the analysis within the veridicality framework of Giannakidou and Mari 2018b,2021 according to which the modal skeleton features a metaevaluative layer that accounts for its flexibility. We also briefly address the meaning of future reflective questions (Giannakidou and Mari 2019, Mari 2021 for future with mirative `mica') .

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