

### **Japanese modals in the CP-zone**

It has been reported that there are two types of modals in the CP-zone: Epistemic-modals and Utterance-modals, and that each modal is located at its licensing functional category. Under Cinque's (1999) assumption of universal realization of each functional category, both types of modal phrases are assumed to exist, even if they are in the complementary distribution and either one is phonetically unrealized. In this paper, however, I claim that "selection", which functions in structure-building of Merge, can explain the distribution of modals. It is not necessary to assume a null type of modals, for selection automatically decides which type is required in terms of semantic and morphological point of view. That is, my approach is a case study against Cinque's universality