

## **Mood matters**

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In Romance and other European languages, there is a formal distinction between indicative and subjunctive in complement clauses manifested in the use of designated mood morphology, but also with tense and aspect restrictions. While there are some ideas about what unifies propositional attitude verb classes that select the one or the other mood, problems consistently arise because of variation and, especially, flexible mood patterns. In this presentation, based on recent joint work with Alda Mari (ENS, Paris), I will propose that the regulating factor for mood is the presence of a nonveridical presupposition in the lexical entry of the attitude. If an attitude has such a presupposition, the subjunctive will be triggered. If not, we will have selection of indicative. I will illustrate with data from Italian and Greek. The result is a simple and elegant theory that explains in a principled manner a wide range of data including the interaction with tense.