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# AGENTIAL FREE CHOICE

MELISSA FUSCO  
*Columbia University*  
mf3095@columbia.edu

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## Abstract

The Free Choice effect—whereby  $\diamond(p \text{ OR } q)$  seems to entail both  $\diamond p$  and  $\diamond q$ —has long been described as a phenomenon affecting the deontic “may”. In this talk, I explore how to extend the theory of deontic free choice I defended in Fusco (2015) to the agentive modal “can”. Getting an assist from some new experimental data, I will argue that free choice for deontic and agentive phenomena, while distinct, are related in a natural way. Putting them side-by-side with respect to free choice behavior opens a new window onto the unity and diversity in natural language modality.