Epistemic Meaning and the LLL Tune in American English
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Phonological Forms

Pragmatic Functions
Default for Assertions, Commits the speaker, New information, etc.
Scathing Intonation? Little to no research

Context

Stimuli

Procedure
Task: Select the more appropriate response
- guess what I picked up from the store
- what did you get?
- take a guess
- well since you know I'm allergic to citrus...

Options:
- Oranges
- I know you're allergic, but I bought oranges

Results

Conclusions

HLL and LLL are felicitous in different contexts

Proposed Interpretation:
LLL expresses a speaker's withholding of commitment

LLL is preferred in the Ruled Out context, but not as much as HLL is in the Ruled In context