

1. Record Nr.	UNINA9910785012303321
Autore	Mix Lucas John
Titolo	Life in space [[electronic resource]] : astrobiology for everyone / / Lucas John Mix
Pubbl/distr/stampa	Cambridge, Mass., : Harvard University Press, 2009
ISBN	0-674-05428-8
Descrizione fisica	1 online resource (342 p.)
Disciplina	576.8/39
Soggetti	Exobiology
Lingua di pubblicazione	Inglese
Formato	Materiale a stampa
Livello bibliografico	Monografia
Note generali	Bibliographic Level Mode of Issuance: Monograph
Nota di bibliografia	Includes bibliographical references (p. [305]-325) and index.
Nota di contenuto	Caught up in life -- Living science -- Defining life -- A well-behaved universe -- Well-behaved observers? -- Life in the cosmos -- Life among the stars -- The planetary phenomenon -- The inner solar system -- The outer solar system -- Extrasolar planets -- Life and time -- Making cells from scratch -- Building biospheres -- Molecules -- Metabolism -- The tree of life -- Exceptions -- Intelligence -- The story of life.
Sommario/riassunto	This book shows how the emerging field of astrobiology investigates the nature of life in space. How did life begin? How common is it? Where do we fit in? These are the important questions that astrobiology seeks to answer. A truly interdisciplinary endeavor, astrobiology looks at the evidence of astronomy, biology, physics, chemistry, and a host of other fields. A grand narrative emerges, beginning from the smallest, most common particles yet producing amazing complexity and order. Author Mix explores how the presence of planets around other stars affects our knowledge of our own; how water, carbon, and electrons interact to form life as we know it; and how the processes of evolution and entropy act upon every living thing. He also reveals that our understanding and our context are deeply intertwined, showing how much astrobiology can tell us about who we are--as a planet, as a species, and as individuals.--From publisher description.

2. Record Nr.	UNINA9910782774703321
Autore	Simon-Vandenberg A. M
Titolo	The semantic field of modal certainty [[electronic resource]] : a corpus-based study of English adverbs / / by Anne-Marie Simon-Vandenberg, Karin Aijmer
Pubbl/distr/stampa	Berlin ; ; New York, : Mouton de Gruyter, c2007
ISBN	1-282-19463-1 9786612194634 3-11-019892-4
Descrizione fisica	1 online resource (408 p.)
Collana	Topics in English linguistics ; ; 56
Altri autori (Persone)	AijmerKarin
Disciplina	425
Soggetti	English language - Adverb English language - Modality English language - Semantics Field theory (Linguistics)
Lingua di pubblicazione	Inglese
Formato	Materiale a stampa
Livello bibliografico	Monografia
Note generali	Description based upon print version of record.
Nota di bibliografia	Includes bibliographical references (p. [371]-386) and indexes.
Nota di contenuto	Frontmatter -- Table of contents -- Chapter 1. Aims, methodology and data -- Chapter 2. Establishing meaning relations: Problems and solutions -- Chapter 3. The linguistic categories of modality and evidentiality -- Chapter 4. An integrated model for describing adverbs of certainty -- Chapter 5. Classification of adverbs of certainty -- Chapter 6. The epistemic certainty adverbs certainly, definitely, indeed: Syntagmatic and paradigmatic dimensions -- Chapter 7. The epistemic certainty adverbs no doubt, surely: Syntagmatic and paradigmatic dimensions -- Chapter 8. Evidential, expectation and speech act adverbs: Syntagmatic and paradigmatic dimensions -- Chapter 9. Adverbs of certainty and the wider context: Text types and genres -- Chapter 10. Semantic-pragmatic relations: Networks and maps -- Chapter 11. Semantic-pragmatic relations: Parameters and features -- Chapter 12. Conclusions -- Backmatter
Sommario/riassunto	In spite of the vast literature on modality in English, very little research has been done on modal adverbs as a group. While there are studies of individual adverbs, the semantic and pragmatic relations between them

have been left largely unexplored. This book takes a close look at the whole field of modal certainty as expressed by adverbs in English. On the basis of corpus data the most frequent adverbs of certainty, including certainly, indeed, and no doubt, are examined from the point of view of their syntactic, semantic and pragmatic characteristics. The corpus used is the International Corpus of English - Great Britain, supplemented by data from other present-day English corpora, and questionnaires testing native speakers' intuitions on fine-grained similarities and differences between closely related adverbs. The methodology also includes the study of cross-linguistic equivalents as indicators of semantic-pragmatic relations between adverbs.

Translation corpora yield correspondences in Swedish, Dutch, French and German. A detailed study of those correspondences adds useful information for setting up a semantic-pragmatic profile of each adverb, showing where their meanings overlap and where the boundaries are. The concept of semantic maps is relied on for plotting these relations. The book not only provides a thorough empirical study of English adverbs expressing certainty, it also contributes to a better theoretical understanding of the complexity of modal certainty, how it is related to speakers' goals and to other semantic areas. It is the first in-depth study of this kind, combining rich information on English as well as opening up perspectives for further empirical and theoretical research into modality.
