

1. Record Nr.	UNINA9910795134003321
Autore	Hansen Beke
Titolo	Corpus linguistics and sociolinguistics : : a study of variation and change in the modal systems of world Englishes / / by Beke Hansen
Pubbl/distr/stampa	Leiden ; ; Boston : , : Brill, , [2018]
ISBN	90-04-38152-X 90-04-38151-1
Descrizione fisica	1 online resource (437 pages)
Collana	Language and computers : studies in digital linguistics, , 0921-5034 ; ; volume 82
Disciplina	425
Soggetti	English language - Modality English language - Discourse analysis Corpora (Linguistics) Sociolinguistics
Lingua di pubblicazione	Inglese
Formato	Materiale a stampa
Livello bibliografico	Monografia
Nota di bibliografia	Includes bibliographical references and index.
Nota di contenuto	Front Matter -- Language and Computers -- Dedication -- Illustrations -- Abbreviations -- Introduction -- Previous Research -- The Theoretical Framework -- Methodology -- Obligation and Necessity in enl and esl -- The Feature Pool of Obligation and Necessity -- Selection Principles in the Feature Pool -- Apparent-time Developments -- Competition between must and have to -- Thematic Conclusion of the Study -- Methodological Implications of the Study -- Back Matter -- List of Databases, Software, and R Packages -- Bibliography -- Index.
Sommario/riassunto	In Corpus Linguistics and Sociolinguistics , Beke Hansen analyses variation and change in the modal systems of three second-language varieties of English in Asia by taking a sociolinguistic approach to corpus data. Her study focuses on the modal and semi-modal verbs of strong obligation and necessity in Hong Kong English, Indian English, and Singapore English based on the relevant ICE component corpora. She adopts a typologically-informed perspective on variation in World Englishes by comparing the structures of the speakers' first languages with the structures of the emergent varieties in the expression of epistemic modality. Beyond this, she analyses language change by

constructing apparent-time scenarios to compensate for the lack of  
diachronic corpora in World Englishes.

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