

Proposal for Workshop for iConference 2019

Workshop Title: InVivo Inspiration: Investigating Computer Assisted Qualitative Data Analysis Software (CAQDAS)

Organizers: Marie L. Radford¹, Vanessa Kitzie², Diana Floegel³, Lynn Silipigni Connaway⁴, Jenny Bossaller⁵, Sean Burns⁶

Abstract: This half-day workshop will provide an overview and comparison of computer-assisted qualitative data analysis software (CAQDAS). Since adoption of these programs requires substantial time commitment and/or budget expenditure, it is vital to understand their capabilities and limitations, as well as the types of data best suited for each platform. A panel of experts will present advantages and disadvantages of several software packages, then demonstrate how to use popular CAQDAS platforms, including commercial (i.e., NVivo, ATLAS.ti, Qualtrics, Dedoose) and open source (i.e., RQDA) programs. Panelists will then invite attendees to participate in interactive breakout tables to learn more about and experiment with a product of their choice. Panelists will answer attendees' questions and demonstrate advanced features. The workshop will conclude with a general Q&A session. Both novice and experienced researchers will benefit by learning about the variety of available CAQDAS options.

Description:

Purpose and Intended Audience

Are you a novice or experienced researcher drowning in qualitative data? Are you wondering how on earth you will ever have the time to analyze reams of text, audio files, video footage, and field notes? Would you like to learn about opportunities and pitfalls involved in switching to a digital analysis tool? If so, this is the workshop for you. In an interactive and engaging workshop, experts in qualitative data analysis will introduce CAQDAS and will present important considerations for those wondering whether or not to adopt this type of software. Attendees will learn about different types of open-source and commercial CAQDAS as well as advantages and disadvantages of these programs compared to manual coding. This information will help them make more informed choices when creating a qualitative data analysis plan. Experts will highlight different software capabilities, including which tools are best suited to various types of data. This overview will help researchers select the software that best compliments their objectives, rather than attempt to fit their objectives into the constraints of their software. Attendees will develop a better sense of CAQDAS options via a hands-on session

¹ Professor, Rutgers University, NJ, mradford@comminfo.rutgers.edu

² Assistant Professor, University of South Carolina, SC, KITZIE@mailbox.sc.edu

³ Doctoral Student, Rutgers University, NJ, diana.floegel@rutgers.edu

⁴ Senior Research Scientist and Director of User Research, OCLC Research, OH, connawal@oclc.org

⁵ Associate Professor, University of Missouri, MI, bossallerj@missouri.edu

⁶ Assistant Professor, University of Kentucky, KY, sean.burns@uky.edu

where they will have the opportunity to ask more specific questions and learn about advanced features of a platform of their choice.

Proposed Format

This half-day workshop consists of three key areas: 1) Overview of CAQDAS and its advantages and disadvantages compared to manual coding; 2) Demonstration of various CAQDAS, their features, and strategies for using the products; and 3) Breakout session granting attendees the opportunity to gain more in-depth knowledge of a platform of their choice. Marie L. Radford and Lynn Silipigni Connaway will lead the first part of the workshop, informed by their recent research textbook for Library and Information Science (LIS) researchers and practitioners (Connaway & Radford, 2017). The second component will adopt a panel format, moderated by Radford. The final component will consist of a more detail-oriented approach where attendees will choose a table featuring their CAQDAS of choice, ask specific questions of the expert at that table, and learn of more advanced features offered by the software. Given anticipated demand, NVivo will be offered at two tables while Qualtrics, RQDA, ATLAS.ti and Dedoose will be offered at one table each. During this breakout, participants will be provided with handouts outlining the main functions of each software as well as basic instructions for use.

The workshop will follow the proposed timeline:

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| 9:00 | <i>Welcome, Overview, Introduction, Pros and Cons of CAQDAS vs. Manual Coding</i> Presenters: Marie L. Radford, Lynn Silipigni Connaway |
| 9:15 | <i>CAQDAS Overview and Demonstrations</i> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • NVivo (Presenters: Lynn Silipigni Connaway, Vanessa Kitzie) (25 min.) • Qualtrics (Presenter: Diana Floegel,) (20 min.) • ATLAS.ti (Presenter: Marie L. Radford) (20 min.) |
| 10:20 | <i>Break</i> |
| 10:30 | <i>CAQDAS Overview and Demonstrations</i> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Dedoose (Presenters: Jenny Bossaller) (25 min.) • RQDA (Presenters: Sean Burns) (25 min.) |
| 11:20 | <i>Break & Move into Table Breakout Sessions</i> |
| 11:30 | <i>Table Breakout Session, Participants join table of their choice by CAQDAS (i.e., NVivo, ATLAS.ti, Qualtrics, Dedoose, RQDA)</i> |
| 12:15 | <i>Wrap-Up – all attendees back together, Q&A</i> Presenter/Moderator: Marie L. Radford (15 min.) |
| 12:30 | <i>Official Closing</i> |

Goals or Outcomes

When attendees leave this session, they will be able to:

- Define CAQDAS and explain their advantages and disadvantages compared to manual coding.
- Compare and contrast various CAQDAS in their ability to address specific research objectives.
- Navigate CAQDAS and apply what they learned to their own qualitative research.

Prior to the workshop, panelists will develop handouts for each CAQDAS platform that will be distributed to attendees during the breakout. Though attendees will choose one platform to explore in-depth in the breakout session, they will receive copies of all handouts for their reference. The handouts will include information on how to download and install each software package; for those packages that are commercial, information will be provided on how to download a trial version. Tips and strategies for analyzing data using each platform will be provided. Handouts will be used during the breakout and can also serve as an information resource for attendees conducting research in the future.

Relevance to the iConference

This workshop is relevant to the iConference theme, *inform / include / inspire* for several reasons. It considers how scholars can use established and emerging CAQDAS to *inform* their research in ways they might not have considered or been able to accomplish using manual coding. The workshop will *include* both novice and experienced researchers given that no assumptions will be made regarding proficiency with CAQDAS. Rather than exclusively focus on commercial platforms, the workshop will also overview a cost-effective, open-source option that integrates well with the R programming language for those interested in either qualitative or mixed methods analytical approaches. Finally, the workshop will *inspire* researchers to engage with new possibilities for qualitative analysis using CAQDAS.

This workshop's interactive format will appeal to researchers looking to explore or increase their familiarity with CAQDAS. Experts facilitating the workshop will share their experiences and highlight the uses and features of each platform. The breakout session ensures that attendees can obtain more in-depth knowledge of the software most relevant to their needs. Attendees will be provided with handouts that they can use during and after the workshop as takeaways to facilitate their individual research with CAQDAS. The workshop may also provide informal networking opportunities among attendees for future research projects.

Use of CAQDAS streamlines data analysis and enables collaborative coding, but it can be expensive with time investment and a steep learning curve to use effectively. Do the benefits outweigh the costs? If so, which package should qualitative researchers choose? This workshop will provide sound advice to all attendees to inspire informed decisions.

Duration: Half-day event

Attendance: 50 attendees maximum

Special Requirements: Wi-fi, small-table room configuration, microphone, podium, screen for projection, A/V and HDMI laptop hook-ups.

Cited Reference

Connaway, L. S., & Radford, M. L. (2017). *Research methods in library and information science* (6th ed.). Santa Barbara, CA: Libraries Unlimited.