

Workshop ID: F5

Title:

Programmatic Research and Complex Causality with a Focus on Qualitative Comparative Analysis (QCA)

1) Short Description

The workshop on Programmatic Research and Complex Causality with a Focus on Qualitative Comparative Analysis (QCA) will cover by focusing on diverse notions of causality that are embraced by information systems researchers. A key focus will be on Qualitative Comparative Analysis (QCA), an emerging approach which integrates the strengths of case-oriented qualitative methods and variable-oriented quantitative methods. The workshop will foster a better understanding and discussion of how different methods and approaches toward causality including QCA can help researchers to pursue a programmatic research agenda with playful and novel theories. The workshop gives an opportunity for researchers to expand their toolkit and adopt an inclusive and open-minded attitude toward scholarship to engage with complex and messy problems where no single approach is likely to serve as a silver-bullet in a large program of research. The workshop intends to spark new ideas and discussions, encouraging a rigorous approach to tackling challenging issues in information systems research. The sessions will be designed to cater to a diverse range of participants, ensuring that both experienced and novice researchers find value and learning opportunities.

2) Detailed Description

The tentative structure of the workshop consists of the following sessions as follows:

Contact person details

Salman Aljazzaf, Kuwait University, salman.aljazzaf@ku.edu.kw

Workshop Co-chairs

Salman Aljazzaf, Kuwait University, salman.aljazzaf@ku.edu.kw

Onkar Malgonde, North Carolina State University, omalgonde@ncsu.edu

Sunil Mithas, University of South Florida, smithas@usf.edu

Session 1

- A brief history and overview of different types of causality. The configurational approach as a solution for problems of “organized complexity”, configurational approach vs. other approaches toward causality such as path analytic, and potential outcomes approaches (Mithas et al., 2022). We may also discuss how QCA relates to simulations in assessing complex causality.
- Introduction to QCA and set theoretic methods, key steps and issues in QCA analysis: fuzzy-set QCA (fsQCA), crisp-set QCA (csQCA), necessary & sufficient condition in fuzzy sets, set calibration, truth table analysis, solution minimization.
- Brief discussion of papers that use QCA.
- QCA topics for IS research and discussion of common issues and questions that researchers face.

Session 2

- Quick introduction to R (for those unfamiliar with the language) and how to use the QCA package in R using the command-line mode and graphical user interface.
- Practical Demonstration and Hands-On Exercises: Step-by-step demonstration of using the QCA package including data preparation, truth table analysis, solution minimization, result interpretation, and result visualization. Participants will engage in hands-on exercises to apply these techniques to real-world datasets, facilitating practical understanding and skill development.
- May invite other IS scholars who use QCA for their research to share their perspectives.

Session 3

- Round-table paper presentation to assist with paper development and feedback and discussion (exact format will be decided based on interest in the workshop and number of participants).

- **Special equipment needed**

Must: Projector and screen, Internet/WiFi access for all participants

Prefer: round-table setting (other settings are acceptable too)

- **Target audience and expected attendance**

Scholars interested in understanding different notions of causality and the use of QCA. The workshop will first introduce key concepts and ideas, followed by an interactive discussion to help authors to develop papers using QCA. We will send out a call for paper for this workshop sometime in March and select a small number of papers whose authors will be invited to make short presentations.

We expect to have about 40 participants based on our prior experience with such workshops.

- **Workshop participation application deadlines**

Issue CFP for Workshop: 15 February 2024

Deadline for paper submission: 31 March 2024

Notification for Selected Participants: 15 April 2024

Workshop: 16 June 2024

- **Paper submission instructions**

The workshop will also devote some time for a paper development session to encourage selected scholars to bring their work for discussion in a collaborative and constructive setting. We call for papers that use QCA and can be presented and discussed in this session.

Participants are invited to submit extended abstracts, with a maximum of five (5) pages, 12pts font, double-spaced, including text, references, figures, and tables. The first page should only be an abstract with fewer than 300 words along with title and authors (this does not count towards the 5-page limit) of their work. Submissions should be made in a PDF format. We will invite authors of selected abstracts that include empirical results with new insights, and will ask authors to send a more complete version of the paper at least three weeks before the workshop. If you want to submit your extended abstract for the round-table discussion, please send it to salman.aljazzaf@ku.edu.kw.

References

Mithas, S., Xue, L., Huang, N., & Burton-Jones, A. (2022). Editor's Comments: Causality Meets Diversity in Information Systems Research. *MIS Quarterly*, 46(3), iii-xviii.

3) Organizers (Workshop Chairs):

Salman Aljazzaf, salman.aljazzaf@ku.edu.kw (Contact person)

Onkar Malgonde, omalgonde@ncsu.edu

Sunil Mithas, smithas@usf.edu

4) Submission link\site\email

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