

CECAN Webinar:

**Capturing Social Dynamics for Evaluation: Trajectory-Based Qualitative
Comparative Analysis**

Wednesday 11th November 2020, 13:00 – 14:00 GMT

Presenters: Lasse Gerrits and Sofia Pagliarin, facilitated by Emma Uprichard

Welcome to our **CECAN Webinar**.

All participants are muted. Only the Presenters and CECAN Chair can speak. The webinar will start at **13:00 GMT**.

Lasse and Sofia will speak for around 20-25 minutes and there is about 20 minutes for Q&A.

Please submit your questions at any point during the webinar via the question box in the Zoom webinar control panel.

Today's webinar will be recorded and made available on the CECAN website.

E Mail: cecan@surrey.ac.uk

Web: www.cecan.ac.uk

www.facebook.com/CECANEXUS

Twitter: [@cecanexus](https://twitter.com/cecanexus)





Capturing Social Dynamics for Evaluation: Trajectory-based Qualitative Comparative Analysis

Prof. Dr. Dr. Lasse Gerrits

Erasmus University Rotterdam, the Netherlands

Dr. Sofia Pagliarin

University of Bamberg, Germany

Outline

1. Background

Case development

Social and causal complexity

2. QCA & process

Trajectory-Based QCA (TJ-QCA)

3. Wrapping up

Discussion and Q&A

Gerrits, L. & Pagliarin, S. (2020) Social and Causal Complexity in Qualitative Comparative Analysis (QCA): strategies to account for emergence. *International Journal of Social Research Methodology*.
<https://doi.org/10.1080/13645579.2020.1799636>

Pagliarin, S., & Gerrits, L. (2020). Trajectory-based QCA (TJ-QCA): Accounting for case-based time dynamics in Qualitative Comparative Analysis. *Methodological Innovations*.
<https://doi.org/10.1177/2059799120959170>

Processes

- An outcome observed at any time is the result of a process.
- Consider e.g. urban renewal:
 - Some projects may engage with stakeholders first and design later (or the other way around)
 - Some projects may change scope over time, starting with big plans and ending with limited projects (or the other way around), etc.



Challenge

- Conundrum in evaluation:
 - A particular outcome may be explained by following a case over time, but all factors look unique to the case
 - Case comparison reveals necessary, sufficient and INUS conditions but is essentially insensitive to process
 - QCA may offer a solution here, especially when tailored to trace processes

Uses of QCA

- QCA is becoming increasingly popular in various fields, e.g. pol. sci. and public adm.
- There is also an uptake in evaluation studies, in particular where:
 - evaluation*social complexity*causal complexity

QCA in a nutshell

- Case-based, diversity-oriented approach
- Cases emerge under time- and place-bounded circumstances (configurations)
- Identification of 'causal recipes'
- Based on set-theory, and an alternative approach to additive variable-oriented models
- Core concepts include: multiple and conjunctural causation, equifinality, multifinality

Social & causal complexity in QCA

Table 1. Four strategies for tracing emergence in QCA research

| Emergence and QCA | | Complexity and QCA | |
|---|---|--|---|
| Missed link between social emergence and QCA | Strategy to reconnect social emergence with QCA | Social complexity | Causal complexity |
| 1 Not working according to the logic of QCA | Use of in-depth qualitative data; thick case descriptions | Heterogeneity of cases, that is however limited (limited diversity) | Equifinality and multifinality (combinations of sets of conditions) |
| 2 Conceiving conditions as variables | Relationships between conditions and outcome are conceived in terms of super/subsets; two-step QCA, Grounded Theory | Cases, as parts, and their characteristics, generate wholes as types of system states (configurations) | Conditions capture aspects of cases as their parts |
| 3 Conditions as black boxes | as above. | as above. | as above. |
| 4 Time insensitivity of QCA as compared to social reality unfolding over time | Integration of time and mixed-method approaches | Social reality unfolds over time (social emergence) | Conditions as sequences (T/QCA), time and group effects (TS/QCA panel data QCA) |

Outline

1. Background

Case development

Social and causal complexity

2. QCA & process

Trajectory-Based QCA (TJ-QCA)

3. Wrapping up

Discussion and Q&A

QCA & time

Table 1. Different options to integrate time into QCA.

| Qualitative comparative analysis (QCA) and time | | Cross-case level (temporal order of conditions; sequences of events) | |
|---|-----|--|--|
| | | No | Yes |
| Within-case level (time variation in cases) | No | Conventional/Pooled QCA (crisp-set, fuzzy-set, multi-value) | TQCA (Caren and Panofsky, 2005; Ragin and Strand, 2008); two-step QCA (Schneider and Wagemann, 2012: ch. 10) |
| | Yes | Time-series QCA (TS/QCA) (Hino, 2009); Panel data QCA (PD-QCA) (Garcia-Castro and Ariño, 2013) | Trajectory-based QCA (TJ-QCA) |

TJ-QCA: an example

| Urban Region | Label | Description | Considered timespan | Site | STATE | PRIVATE | EVENTS | TRANSP | RESIST | CONCOR (outcome) |
|--------------|-----------------------|----------------------------------|---------------------|------|-------|---------|--------|--------|--------|------------------|
| Barcelona | bcn_airport80-90 | El Prat Airport first expansion | 1980s–1990s | U | 0.67 | 0.33 | 1 | 0 | 0 | 1 |
| | bcn_airport00-16 | El Prat Airport second expansion | 2000s–2010s | U | 1 | 0.67 | 0 | 1 | 1 | 0.67 |
| Lyon | lyo_partdieu70-90 | Part-Dieu first urban renewal | 1970s–1990s | C | 1 | 0.67 | 0.67 | 0 | 0 | 0.67 |
| | lyo_partdieu00-16 | Part-Dieu second urban renewal | 2000s–2010s | C | 0.67 | 0.67 | 0 | 1 | 0.33 | 1 |
| Manchester | man_salfordquays80-00 | Salford Quays urban renewal | 1980s–2000s | U | 0.67 | 1 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 |
| | man_mediacityuk00-16 | MediaCity UK | 2000s–2010s | U | 0.67 | 1 | 0.33 | 0 | 0.33 | 0.67 |

Pagliarin, S., Hersperger, A.M., Rihoux, B., 2019. Implementation pathways of large-scale urban development projects (lsUDPs) in Western Europe: a qualitative comparative analysis (QCA). *European Planning Studies* 28, 1242–1263.
<https://doi.org/10.1080/09654313.2019.1681942>

Trajectory-Based QCA (TJ-QCA)

| ID | FOREIGN | UNEMP | CONVERG | PRES80s | VOTE |
|----------|---------|-------|---------|---------|------|
| A80_90 | 1 | 1 | 1 | 1 | 1 |
| B80_90 | 1 | 0 | 1 | 1 | 1 |
| D80_90 | 1 | 0 | 0 | 1 | 1 |
| FI80_90 | 1 | 1 | 1 | 0 | 1 |
| FR80_90 | 0 | 1 | 1 | 1 | 1 |
| G80_90 | 1 | 1 | 1 | 0 | 1 |
| IC80_90 | 1 | 1 | 0 | 0 | 0 |
| IR80_90 | 1 | 0 | 1 | 1 | 1 |
| IT80_90 | 1 | 1 | 0 | 1 | 1 |
| L80_90 | 1 | 1 | 0 | 0 | 0 |
| NT80_90 | 1 | 0 | 1 | 1 | 1 |
| NR80_90 | 1 | 1 | 1 | 1 | 1 |
| SWE80_90 | 1 | 1 | 1 | 0 | 1 |
| SWI80_90 | 1 | 1 | 1 | 1 | 1 |
| UK80_90 | 1 | 0 | 1 | 1 | 1 |



| | foreign | unemp | converg | pres80s | vote |
|----------|---------|-------|---------|---------|------|
| A80 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 1 | 1 |
| A90 | 1 | 0 | 0 | 1 | 1 |
| B80 | 1 | 1 | 1 | 1 | 0 |
| B90 | 1 | 1 | 1 | 1 | 1 |
| D80 | 0 | 0 | 1 | 1 | 1 |
| D90 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 1 | 1 |
| FI80 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 |
| FI90 | 0 | 1 | 1 | 0 | 0 |
| FR80 | 0 | 1 | 0 | 1 | 1 |
| FR90 | 0 | 1 | 1 | 1 | 1 |
| G80 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 |
| G90 | 1 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 |
| IC80_90 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 |
| IR80_90 | 0 | 1 | 1 | 1 | 1 |
| IT80_90 | 0 | 1 | 1 | 1 | 1 |
| L80_90 | 1 | 0 | 1 | 0 | 0 |
| NT80 | 0 | 1 | 1 | 1 | 0 |
| NT90 | 0 | 0 | 1 | 1 | 0 |
| NR80 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 1 | 1 |
| NR90 | 0 | 0 | 1 | 1 | 1 |
| SWE80_90 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 |
| SWI80_90 | 1 | 0 | 1 | 1 | 1 |
| UK80_90 | 0 | 1 | 0 | 1 | 0 |

Outline

1. Background

Case development

Social and causal complexity

2. QCA & process

Trajectory-Based QCA (TJ-QCA)

3. Wrapping up

Discussion and Q&A

Capturing social dynamics: TJ-QCA

Advantages

- Case development over time integrated with QCA
- Captures within-case variation (multiple stages: trajectories)
- Development stages defined by the researcher (qualitative data/approach)

Disadvantages

- Development stages to be defined qualitatively
- More work for interpretation
- Outcome is rarely final

Q&A

Thank you for your attention!

- Questions and answers -

Prof. Dr. Dr. Lasse Gerrits

IHS Rotterdam, the Netherlands

gerrits@ihs.nl

@GerritsLasse (Twitter)

Dr. Sofia Pagliarin

University of Bamberg, Germany

sofia.pagliarin@uni-bamberg.de

@pagliasofia (Twitter)

Gerrits, L. & Pagliarin, S. (2020) Social and Causal Complexity in Qualitative Comparative Analysis (QCA): strategies to account for emergence. International Journal of Social Research Methodology.

<https://doi.org/10.1080/13645579.2020.1799636>

Pagliarin, S., & Gerrits, L. (2020). Trajectory-based QCA (TJ-QCA): Accounting for case-based time dynamics in Qualitative Comparative Analysis. Methodological Innovations. <https://doi.org/10.1177/2059799120959170>