No 6 December 2018

Responsible Research in International Business - what are the methodological implications?

Sound Methodology: Generating a Discussion in International Business

The Responsible Research in Business and Management Network has been gaining momentum since its formation in 2014. Its community of scholars has been active in many business schools and scholarly meetings, including the conferences of major academic associations. The AIB has participated in these activities. A video recording is available of a panel session, chaired by Anne Tsui, held at the AIB meeting in Dubai in 2017. (Access the video via the AIB website: https://aib.msu.edu/events/2017/Videos/SessionVideos.asp.)

Responsible research is both credible and useful—but what are the implications for the methodologies we use and how we use them? This is a question that the RM-SIG has begun to explore, along with the Responsible Research Network and with the Consortium for the Advancement of Research Methods and Analysis (CARMA). In this newsletter we report on a panel session at the meeting of AIB Southeast held in November 2018 which considered this question, among others.

The RM-SIG will be continuing this discussion in 2019. There will be a virtual panel session hosted by CARMA on **29 March** (further details can be found in the current issue of this newsletter), and a workshop chaired by Anne Tsui will be held at the AIB meeting in Copenhagen. The outcome of these activities will be reported in future issues of this newsletter.

In this Newsletter:

Making a Difference Through Responsible Research

- Methodological implications

This is a summary of a Panel held at the Academy of International Business Southeast Chapter Meeting, November 3, 2018

Panel members:

Lorraine Eden, Texas A&M University
Marjorie Lyles, Florida Int'l University
Stewart Miller, University of Texas, SA
Anne S. Tsui, University of Notre Dame

What is responsible research?

Social science has two major responsibilities:

Credibility: reliable and repeatable discoveries and findings
Relevance: Knowledge that will contribute to the development of better business and a better world

Responsible research produces knowledge that is *both* credible *and* useful. The vision is that business schools "produce useful and credible knowledge that addresses problems important to business and society". Beyond "producing reliable and valid knowledge"; science should be "more socially engaged and socially responsible than is advocated by the value-free ideal" (Tsui, 2016).

Source: https://www.rrbm.network/position-paper/executive-summary/

Sound methodology is one of the key principles underlying credible research, i.e., empirical research which implements sound scientific methods and processes in both quantitative and qualitative or both theoretical and empirical domains. Soundness or robustness 'takes into account emerging practices in good science. For example, research practices that value replication, falsification of theory, and reproducibility are encouraged.' (Community for Responsible Research in Business and Management, 2017)

During the panel session, participants brainstormed ways in which to promote sound methodology. The following actions were proposed:

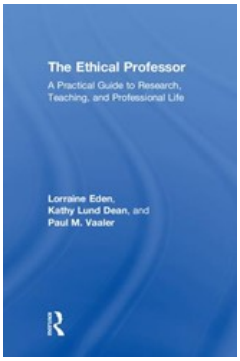
- *Take courses from experts:* No matter how experienced we are as researchers, we need to update and upgrade our methodological skills on a regular basis. While some courses are expensive, others are more reasonably priced, e.g., CARMA (webinars or face-to-face instruction), as well as the RM Methods Workshops at the AIB.
- *Use multiple methods:* all methods have potential insights to offer which should be recognized, but at the same time they all have limitations and flaws. Diversity of methodologies can enhance the credibility of research streams.
- *Be cautious about following fads* (e.g., machine learning and textual analysis), not because they are wrong, but rather, because they involve a high degree of complexity and skills. It is essential to obtain a thorough understanding of the techniques before proceeding. Another potential problem is then to have the data and analytical technique drive the study, so it ends up being data in search of a theoretical framework.
- *Practice transparency:* It is important to show the results of your diagnostic tests and thoroughly explain your measures, so reviewers and future readers fully understand what you did to verify your conclusions.

Getting involved

For more information on the other principles of responsible research, and to join the movement, see:

www.rrbm.network

In particular, read the November 2017 position paper 'A Vision of Responsible Research in Business and Management: Striving for Useful and Credible Knowledge', https://rrbm.network/wp-content/uploads/2017/09/White_Paper.pdf.



Further reading:

Anne Tsui elaborates on the principles of responsible research in the following article:
Tsui, A. (2016). Reflections on the so-called value-free ideal: A call for responsible science in the business schools. *Cross Cultural & Strategic Management*, 23(1), 4-28.

For another resource on ethical conduct, please see the recently published book co-authored by Lorraine Eden:

Eden, L., Dean, K. L., & Vaaler, P. M. (2018). *The Ethical Professor*. New York: Routledge.

Anne Tsui will be holding a workshop about responsible research at the 2019 AIB meeting in Copenhagen. More information will be provided in the next newsletter.

CARMA series: Research, Methods, and Better Science Panel

This new series consists of four virtual panel sessions focusing on changes in research and methods, including an increased focus on the production of credible knowledge and an increased focus on replicability and transparency.

The panel sessions will be delivered live via a virtual classroom for group viewing and recordings will be available for individual viewing.

CARMA
Research Methods Education for the Global Classroom

Two upcoming panels may be of particular interest to AIB members:

1) Group: Responsible Research in Business and Management (RRMB) Network

Date: January 18, 2019, 11 a.m.-12:30 p.m. CT (12:00-1:30 p.m. ET)

Panelists: Anne Tsui, University of Notre Dame; Bill Glick, Rice University, Houston, Texas; Jerry Davis, University of Michigan-Ann Arbor

2) Group: Academy of International Business Shared Interest Group

Date: March 29, 2019, 11 a.m.-12:30 p.m. CT (12:00-1:30 p.m. ET)

Panelists: Agnieszka Chidlow, Stewart Miller, Bo Nielsen and Catherine Welch

More information on the series and other CARMA webcasts in 2019 is available at:

https://business.unl.edu/outreach/carma/member-events/

Qualitative data analysis

Pre-conference workshop delivered by Anne Smith, AIB annual meeting 2018

Anne Smth (University of Tennessee), a former associate editor of *Organizational Research Methods,* delivered a workshop on qualitative data analysis at the 2018 annual meeting in Minneapolis. Her topic was how to build trustworthiness in coding using computer-aided qualitative data analysis software. This is a topic of relevance to any qualitative researcher, no matter their preferred paradigmatic or methodological approach.

Anne covered a lot of ground in the course of her workshop, but a short summary of the main themes is as follows:

What is qualitative data?

Qualitative data can be anything – although we tend to privilege textual data. Text comes in many forms, for example: annual reports, scrapings from websites, speeches, videos, ethnographic field notes, graffiti, reports and proceedings from official inquiries. Text does not just mean interview transcripts and it is worth questioning why we place so much emphasis on interviews. Even when archival corporate documents (re: promotional materials, strategic reports, etc.) are included, they are often not integrated into a study's reporting .

Interrogating your data

Qualitative data analysis can be thought of as a continuum, ranging from inductive coding (i.e., working out what your story is) to confirmatory analysis (i.e., am I really seeing in the data what I think I am seeing?) It is important to be clear on which type of analysis you are trying to do as the techniques will be different.

Many techniques for interrogating your data are available and within the course of a single study, you will typically use multiple ones, such as searching for:

- Similarities within and differences across cases;
- Latent not just manifest meaning
- Outliers and negative cases
- Frequencies (as well as absences)
- Co-occurrences of words, phrases and codes and accompanying visual displays
- KWIC: examining keywords in context
- Coding sequences – do some codes precede others in coded text?

It is important not to be locked in to a set of techniques or codes too early, so in the early stages of a project it is worth having a code you title 'other' to support emerging insights and hunches.

While qualitative data analysis has been dominated by two templates (grounded theory/Gioia and case study/ Eisenhardt), this is changing (see recent *ORM* special issue call on the use of templates in qualitative research). Abductive inferences are also important: that is, being open to surprises in your data which can question – and therefore extend – what is already understood by existing theory.

The use of software

Advances in Computer Aided Qualitative Data Analysis Software (CAQDAS) allows for efficiency and ease of retrieval but it is a tool and no more. Software techniques can help you identify and confirm the patterns you are seeing – but it is important to remember its limits. Identifying patterns is just the start of the process of developing a theoretical contribution with many times an uncodifiable "creative leap" between data, patterns and theoretical contributions.

There are many software packages available to support qualitative data analysis. They have a common set of features, so the best approach is to know one and know it well: that is, be able to use the range of analytical techniques which it supports, as well as techniques to speed up your analysis. The main software packages also support the analysis of non-textual data such as visual images and multimedia.

The future

Technological changes are already affecting both the nature of data and the nature of analysis:

- Machine learning is now available in some qualitative analytical packages, i.e. automating coding
- There is now an active discussion about the role which qualitative data can play in an era of big data

Anne also ran a similar workshop at the 2018 AIB Southeast Chapter meeting. Watch out for the next time she runs a short course for CARMA!

Three recent titles on qualitative data analysis from Sage:

ANALYZING QUALITATIVE DATA Second Edition

Graham R Gibbs, University of Huddersfield

Description: Tackling the challenges of how to make sense of qualitative data, the text offers students and researchers a hands-on guide to the practicalities of coding, comparing data, and using computer-assisted qualitative data analysis. Lastly, Gibbs shows you how to bring it all together, so you can see the steps of qualitative analysis, understand the central place of coding, ensure analytic quality and write effectively to present your results.

September 2018 • 232 pages Paper (9781473915817) • £24.99

QUALITATIVE DATA ANALYSIS WITH NVIVO Third Edition

Edited by Patricia Bazeley Research Support Pty Limited and Kristi Jackson Queri, Inc., Colorado and University of Colorado

Description: Practical, focused and jargon-free, this book shows you the power and potential of NVivo software across a wide range of research questions, data types, perspectives and methodologies. It provides an introduction to planning and conducting qualitative data analysis with NVivo and gives you flexible strategies for each step of your research project.

November 2018 • 376 pages Cloth (9781526449931) • £90.00 Paper (9781526449948) • £31.99

QUALITATIVE DATA ANALYSIS WITH ATLAS.TI Third Edition

Susanne Friese, Max-Planck Institute

Description: Now fully updated for Version 8 and featuring instructions for both Mac and Windows users, this book is still the go-to source of support for getting to grips with qualitative data analysis using ATLAS.ti. With over twenty years of experience using, developing, and teaching ATLAS.ti, Susanne Friese eases readers from readying and organizing data into coding and querying it, providing not only tips on how to prepare for analysis, but also the tools and technical know-how needed to observe, examine, and discuss data. Placing quick software 'skills training' tutorials alongside different stages of the data analysis process, she gives readers the opportunity to integrate software training with their actual analysis.

November 2018 • 336 pages Cloth (9781526446237) • £90.00 Paper (9781526458926) • £31.99

WordStat

Version 8

Contributed by Tony Ross, Provalis

Text mining and content analysis is becoming more and more a field of study in management, social sciences, health care and other academic disciplines. One of the reasons for that is because of the enormous amount of text data that is being produced. Some studies suggest that in the last two-three years we have produced 90 per cent of the text data that exists. It is growing because of the internet, social media, email, text messaging, internet searches etc.

Academics and others are looking for ways to analyze all of this data as well as older data that is being digitalized. Text analytics and corresponding software are one of the tools being taught in universities around the world.

WordStat is a text mining software tool for that allows you to quickly extract themes and find trends in very large amounts of unstructured text documents. It is used by academics in many fields including; business, political science, communications, health sciences, program evaluation, data analytics etc as well as by businesses and governments around the world. You can see some of the studies in which scholars have used WordStat on the company's website at provalisresearch.com. This fall Provalis released version 8 of WordStat which includes several new features and also makes it easier to use by those with less experience in text analytics.

Here are some of the new features:

- Explorer Mode allows novices to use sophisticated text mining techniques to extract phrases, words and topics with no training.
- Explore documents directly from Windows Explorer. You can perform semantic searches, use WordStat categorization models exploratory text mining and automatic classification directly from Windows Explorer.
- Graphic displays are critical to tell your story. The latest version has an improved world cloud, new charts and graphs and you can export your results to Tablean software top use its interactive data visualization tools
- For the programmer in you version 8 supports Python scripts and its open-source libraries to preprocess or transform text for analysis with the software.
- A new deviation table allows you to see which words, phrases or topics are used by different values of a categorical variable.
- WordStat 8 is now a stand alone software. It can be used as a content analysis tool from the qualitative text analysis software QDA Miner or by itself.

If you want to learn more about the software you can contact the company through their website or look at some of their 60-plus video tutorials that show you many of the features:

provalisresearch.com

Provalis is also running weekly free demos of QDA Miner and WordStat. You are recommended to download a trial copy of the software, so you can better follow the presentation.

More details on the webinars on offer can be found at:

https://provalisresearch.com/resources/webinars-qualitative-content-analysis-text-mining-software/

Mplus news

Contributed by: Bengt Muthén via Bo Nielsen (http://www.statmodel.com/bmuthen/biography.htm)

Mplus Version 8.2 expands its features for analysis of intensive longitudinal data using two-level and cross-classified time series analysis. This is made possible using Bayesian analysis. In addition, the new Version 8.2 makes it possible to do multilevel time series analysis with categorical and semi-continuous (censored) outcomes. The new developments also imply generalizations of regular multilevel Bayesian analysis with random slopes using latent variable centering as described in the new article:

Asparouhov, T. & Muthén, B. (2018). Latent variable centering of predictors and mediators in multilevel and time-series models. *Structural Equation Modeling: A Multidisciplinary Journal*, DOI: 10.1080/10705511.2018.1511375.

More general modeling with latent variable interactions is also made possible by the Bayesian developments for Version 8.2

Further information on the key news is found at: http://www.statmodel.com/TimeSeries.shtml

Meet the new RM-SIG officers

The RM-SIG founding committee has expanded, to reflect the increasing range of activities we are undertaking and planning for the future. The new officer details are as follows:

Roberta Aguzzoli

Durham University Business School

Email: roberta.aguzzoli@durham.ac.uk

I am interested in a range of issues related to qualitative research. I wanted to get involved in the RM-SIG to be part of an environment that discusses methodological challenges in researching international contexts while further enhancing the methodological rigour and excellence.

Emma Gardner

Birmingham Business School University of Birmingham

Email: E.C.Gardner@bham.ac.uk

My research interests involve qualitative research methods as well as how technology presents new possibilities for research methodologies. I wanted to get involved with the SIG to share ideas and learn from the experiences of other members, as well as promote the importance of methods within the AIB community.

Maria Karafyllia

Birmingham Business School, University of Birmingham

Email: M.Karafyllia@bham.ac.uk

I am interested in modelling and simulation. I wanted to get involved in the AIB RM-SIG because it sheds light on methodological challenges and opportunities in IB research, and promotes a supportive learning environment among IB scholars.

Diletta Pegoraro

Birmingham Business School, University of Birmingham

Email: D.Pegoraro@pgr.bham.ac.uk

I wanted to get involved in SIG because I'm very enthusiastic about promoting the latest research methods in the International Business community and in working with an international team.

The new members join the co-founders: Agnieszka Chidlow, Stewart Miller, Bo Nielsen and Catherine Welch.

RM-SIG activities 2018

RM Workshops and Clinics the 2018 meeting in Minneapolis:

The RM SIG organized six (6) RM Workshops at the 2018 AIB in Minneapolis. These six workshops, which featured several prominent methodologists, are designed to provide attendees with the foundational skills for a particular method or topic.

- Introduction to Structural Equation Modeling: **Larry Williams**
- Intermediate Structural Equation Modeling: **Larry Williams**
- Introduction to Multilevel Modeling: **Robert Vandenberg**
- Intermediate Multilevel Modeling: **Robert Vandenberg**
- Qualitative Methods: **Anne Smith**
- Identification in IB Research: **Myles Shaver and Joel Waldfogel**

In addition, the RM SIG organized 17 RM Clinics that involve roundtable discussions on a diverse range of topics. Below, we list the topics and clinician for each RM Clinic:

Clinic 1.1: Structural Equation Modeling (SEM): **Larry Williams**

Clinic 1.2: Qualitative Methods: **Catherine Welch**

Clinic 1.3: Panel Data/Logistical Regression: **Stewart Miller**

Clinic 1.4: Multivariate Analysis; Covariate Effects; Model Specifications: **Andrew Delios**

Clinic 1.5: Qualitative Methods: **Rebecca Piekkari**

Clinic 1.6: Categorical Data/Survey Design: **Elisabeth Rose**

Clinic 1.7: Logistical and Multiple Regression: **Douglas Dow**

Clinic 1.8: Qualitative Methods: **Rebecca Piekkari**

Clinic 1.9: Longitudinal Data/Multi-level analysis/Research Design: **Bob Vandenberg**

Clinic 2.1: Mixed Methods: **Niina Nummela**

Clinic 2.2: Qualitative Methods: **Catherine Welch**

Clinic 2.3: Longitudinal Data/Multi-level Analysis/Research Design: **Bob Vandenberg**

Clinic 2.4: Hierarchical Linear Modelling, SEM: **Bo Nielsen**

Clinic 2.5: Multi-Stage (Heckman) Models: **Stewart Miller**

Clinic 2.6: Structural Equation Modelling (SEM): **Larry Williams**

Clinic 2.7: Multinomial/Ordered/Conditional/Nested Logits/Probits: **Stewart Miller**

Clinic 2.8: Data Collection and Questionnaire Design: **Agnieszka Chidlow**

Multi-level Issues in IB Research: Theory, Methods and Empirics

AIB Methods SIG Panel 2018

The 2018 AIB panel – sponsored by the Research Methods SIG, featured distinguished panelists Robert Vandenberg (Georgia University), Mark Peterson (Maastricht University) and Shige Makino (Chinese University of Hong Kong), who discussed these issues with particular focus on methodological and theoretical challenges associated with multilevel modeling.

Torben Pedersen (Bocconi University) and Bo Bernhard Nielsen (Sydney University) moderated what became an interesting and at times heated debate among the panelists and the audience. While a range of specific issues were raised, Mark Peterson summarized some of the concerns very nicely (in relation to both cultural studies and more generally):

> "One matter that keeps coming up is the need to treat time as a level of analysis in multilevel models when using country-year or firm-year data. Another is the use of various statistics like ICCs and mean rwgs to evaluate the appropriateness of aggregation. A third is the conceptual implications of constructs at country and firm levels for individuals."

More generally, scholars have emphasized that it is imperative to approach international business (IB) research at a variety of levels of analysis (Arregle et al., 2006), yet empirically these have typically been analyzed in relative isolation with little attention paid to nesting or cross-level effects (for notable exceptions see Arregle et al., 2006, 2009; Chan et al., 2008; Estrin et al., 2016). Moreover, IB phenomena are often influenced by contexts that are not hierarchically nested, that is contexts that are interwoven in a more complex way. For instance, while subsidiaries are nested within multinational corporations (MNCs), they are also nested within national contexts (that is the host country context). Similarly, multinationals are cross-nested within both home and host countries as well as industries while countries are not nested within industries or vice versa. Theoretically, as well as empirically, it is important to distinguish between heterogeneity at the individual, firm, industry, and country level as a function of cross-nested embeddedness.

Datasets with a nesting structure that include unexplained variability at each level of nesting are usually not adequately represented by the probability model of multiple regression analysis. Instead, a RCM, which is an extension of the multiple regression model to a model that includes nested random coefficients, is recommended (Snijders & Bosker, 1999; Raudenbush & Bryk, 2002).

In IB research, the influence of higher level factors has typically been investigated based on the principle of disaggregation (for each micro-unit within a macro-unit the higher level factor is recorded repeatedly). The main problem with disaggregation is that 1) it is statistically incorrect, and 2) the sample size is dramatically exaggerated.

Furthermore, for the study of between-group differences, disaggregation often leads to high risks of committing type I errors. At the same time, for studying within-group differences, disaggregation often leads to unnecessary conservative tests (i.e. too low type 1 error probabilities) (Snijders & Bosker, 1999).

Multilevel models recognize the existence of such data nesting by allowing for residual components at each level in the hierarchy. For example, a two-level model which allows for grouping of firm outcomes within countries would include residuals at the firm and country level. Thus the residual variance is partitioned into a between-country component (the variance of the country-level residuals) and a within-country component (the variance of the firm-level residuals).

There are a number of reasons for using multilevel models (as discussed by the panel):

Correct inferences: Traditional multiple regression techniques treat the units of analysis as independent observations. One consequence of failing to recognize hierarchical structures is that standard errors of regression coeffi-

cients will be underestimated, leading to an overstatement of statistical significance. Standard errors for the coefficients of higher-level predictor variables will be the most affected by ignoring grouping.

Substantive interest in group effects: In many situations a key research question concerns the extent of grouping in individual outcomes, and the identification of 'outlying' groups. Estimating group effects simultaneously with the effects of group-level predictors: An alternative way to allow for group effects is to include dummy variables for groups in a traditional (ordinary least squares) regression model. Such a model is called an analysis of variance or fixed effects model. In a multilevel (random effects) model, the effects of both types of variable can be estimated.

Inference to a population of groups: In a multilevel model the groups in the sample are treated as a random sample from a population of groups. Using a fixed effects model, inferences cannot be made beyond the groups in the sample.

In recent years knowledge and techniques for conducting multilevel studies have increased and expanded e.g. with statistical software like HLM, MPlus, Proc Mixed etc. With these techniques one can simultaneously test hypotheses at several levels of analysis, or control for confounding effects at one level while testing hypotheses at others. Advances in multi-level modeling allow increased precision in quantitative international business (IB) research, and open up new methodological and conceptual possibilities. However, they create new challenges, and they are still not frequently used in IB research.

Multilevel studies are not easy to undertake; they require substantial collection of data that captures multiple levels and even more importantly a conceptual model that explain the interplay between factors across multiple levels. Many questions arise, including (1) can variables have different effects on one level than on another level? (2) How are more collective constructs at higher levels (like culture) created in the first place? (3) What is the theoretical mechanism that connects the different levels? In responding to this questions both the multilevel and the microfoundations research streams have given central attention to the emergence processes that originate at the lower level and form upper level constructs (Felin, Foss and Ployhart, 2015).

Both Shige Makino and Robert Vandenberg provided examples of some of the challenges associated with conducting multilevel research; including both theorizing across levels, and measuring and testing "true" cross-level effects, which according to Professor Vandenberg "do not exist and cannot be estimated". This comment sparked a lively debate with other members of the panel as well as the audience and Bo Nielsen had to settle the "dispute" and thus end a very vibrant and well-attended panel session (despite important soccer games being played live) with the classic "I suppose we have to agree to disagree on that"…

References:

Arregle, J. L., Beamish, P. W., & Hébert, L. 2009. The regional dimension of MNEs' foreign subsidiary localization. *Journal of International Business Studies*, *40*(1), 86-107.

Arregle, J-L., Hébert, L., & Beamish, P. 2006. Mode of international entry: The advantages of multilevel methods. *Management International Review*, *46*(5): 597-618.

Chan, C., Isobe, T., & Makino, S. 2008. Which country matters? Institutional development and foreign affiliate performance. *Strategic Management Journal*, *29*(11): 1179–1205.

Estrin, S., Meyer, K. E., Nielsen, B. B., & Nielsen, S. 2016. Home country institutions and the internationalization of state owned enterprises: A cross-country analysis. *Journal of World Business*, *51*(2), 294-307.

Felin, T., Foss, N. J., & Ployhart, R. E. 2015. The microfoundations movement in strategy and organization theory. *The Academy of Management Annals*, *9*(1), 575-632.

Raudenbush, S.W., & Bryk, A.S. 2002. *Hierarchical linear models: Applications and data analysis methods.* Thousand Oaks, CA: Sage.

Snijders, T.A.B., & Bosker, R.J. 1999. *Multi-level analysis: An introduction to basic and advanced multilevel modelling.* London, UK: Sage.

From the journals

The following papers are likely to be of interest to AIB members:

The past and future of organizational research methods

Forthcoming article *Organizational Research Methods:*

Aguinis, H., Ramani, R. S., & Villamor, I. in press. The first 20 years of Organizational Research Methods: Trajectory, impact, and predictions for the future. ***Organizational Research Methods.*** https://doi.org/10.1177/1094428118786564 [available at http://www.hermanaguinis.com/pubs.html]

Summary:

This article explicates the trajectory, impact, and possible future directions for *ORM* and methodology more generally. This information will help substantive researchers sharpen their toolkits and discover novel ways of addressing important research questions. It will also help universities, professional organizations, and faculty involved in doctoral education improve the rigor and breadth of training provided to future scholars. The article can also be a reference to these newcomers as they learn where to go to find accurate answers to most of the methodological questions they may encounter during their formative years. In addition, illustrating the impact of the numerous how-to and best-practice articles published in *ORM* may aid academics who wish to avoid engaging in questionable research practices (QRPs) which damage the credibility and impact of our research. Finally, by showcasing *ORM*'s trajectory, our article may be of use to the editors and senior editorial teams of both new journals, as well as those interested in improving the impact and influence of their existing publication.

Big data

Tonidandel, S., King, E. B., & Cortina, J. M. (2018). Big data methods: Leveraging modern data analytic techniques to build organizational science. ***Organizational Research Methods***, 21(3), 525-547.

Summary:

Advances in data science, such as data mining, data visualization, and machine learning, are extremely well-suited to address numerous questions in the organizational sciences given the explosion of available data. Despite these opportunities, few scholars in the management field have discussed the specific ways in which the lens of our science should be brought to bear on the topic of big data and big data's reciprocal impact on our science.

The purpose of this paper is to provide an overview of the big data phenomenon and its potential for impacting organizational science in both positive and negative ways.

The authors identify the biggest opportunities afforded by big data, as well as the biggest concerns (including ethical implications which need to be considered). They discuss how they think methods will be most impacted by the data analytics movement.

This article also provides a list of resources to help interested readers incorporate big data methods into their existing research:

- R and Python packages
- Other open source tools
- Tutorials on using R and Python for Big Data.

The hope of the authors is to stimulate interest in big data, motivate future research using big data sources, and encourage the application of associated data science techniques more broadly in the organizational sciences.

Best paper awards: AIB-CEE and AIB UKI

The **AIB-CEE Chapter** awarded (for the first time) the Best Research Methods Paper Award during their meeting in Krakow 12-14 September 2018 and will do it from now on.

Congratulations to the inaugural winners:

"Negotiating Formal Business Contracts: A Cross-Level Cross-Society Examination"

By

Abraham Stefanidis *(St. John's University, USA)*,
Moshe Banai *(City University of New York, USA),*
William Newburry *(Florida International University, USA),*
Stav Fainshmidt *(Florida International University, USA)*,
Ulf Henning Richter *(Tongji University, China)*,
Ursula Schinzel *(UNICAF University, Cyprus)*,
Yin Kong *(Shan University of Science and Technology, Turkey)*,
Ahmet Erkus *(Bahçesehir University, Kazakhstan)*,
Svetlana Shakirova *(Kazakh State Women's Teacher Training University, Turkey)*,
Mehmet Ferhat Özbek *(Gümüshane University, Turkey)*,
Herbert Goelzner *(Fachhochschule Salzburg, Austria)*,
Ana Shetach *(Max Stern Yezreel Valley College, Israel)*,

The University of Birmingham will again be sponsoring the Best Research Methods paper prize at the next **AIB UKI Chapter** annual meeting. The Chapter meeting will take place in Brighton on 25-27 April 2019.

AIB Best Paper Award in Research Methods

ponsored by the University of Sydney Business School

This award is given to the best paper (as selected by a committee) accepted to a competitive session at the AIB Annual Meeting that

- develops and/or utilizes innovative and non-traditional methodological approaches to investigate pertinent IB phenomena,

- advances IB methodology,

- provides creative methodological solutions to important IB problems, and

- informs scholars in IB and beyond about methodological advancements.

Best RM paper award ceremony in Minneapolis: Bo Nielsen with finalists Smita Paul, Wolfgang Messner and Beth Rose

The best paper award will be offered again in 2019.

Nominees for the 2019 award will be proposed by track chairs, but we will also be asking for self-nominations—so watch for the announcement on the AIB listserv.

If you have any questions about the award, please contact the Chair of the RM Award Committee, Bo Nielsen (bo.nielsen@sydney.edu.au)

Best Methods Paper Award Winner 2018:

Smita Paul and Snejina Michailova (University of Auckland)::

'Twitching Hands':

Network Pictures as a Visual Method for Studying the MNE

https://rmsig.aib.world/

Contact Us

If you have any feedback, content or suggestions for the next issue, please let us know. Contact:

catherine.welch@sydney.edu.au