

17-803 Empirical Methods

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Hands-On: Qualitative Analysis



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“I’m not trying to generalize to the entire population. This is a qualitative study!”



8:30 PM · 2/11/24 From Earth · 35K Views

Recall the Six Phases of Thematic Analysis

Phase	Description of the process
1. Familiarizing yourself with your data:	Transcribing data (if necessary), reading and re-reading the data, noting down initial ideas.
2. Generating initial codes:	Coding interesting features of the data in a systematic fashion across the entire data set, collating data relevant to each code.
3. Searching for themes:	Collating codes into potential themes, gathering all data relevant to each potential theme.
4. Reviewing themes:	Checking if the themes work in relation to the coded extracts (Level 1) and the entire data set (Level 2), generating a thematic ‘map’ of the analysis.
5. Defining and naming themes:	Ongoing analysis to refine the specifics of each theme, and the overall story the analysis tells, generating clear definitions and names for each theme.
6. Producing the report:	The final opportunity for analysis. Selection of vivid, compelling extract examples, final analysis of selected extracts, relating back of the analysis to the research question and literature, producing a scholarly report of the analysis.

Braun, V., & Clarke, V. (2006). Using thematic analysis in psychology. Qualitative research in psychology, 3(2), 77-101.

Research Questions

- ▶ How do researchers collaborate on preparing and co-editing papers?
- ▶ What challenges do they face?
- ▶ How does technology mediate those challenges?

Goals for Today

- ▶ Produce descriptive summaries.
- ▶ Attempt to synthesize higher level analytic meanings.
- ▶ Generate and memo assertions and propositions.

- ▶ Recall:
 - ▶ Assertions – descriptive, broad-brushstroke facts
 - ▶ “Overall, the participant seemed engaged with the NL2Code tool”
 - ▶ Propositions – higher level interpretations about the meanings of the study
 - ▶ “Having pull requests rejected can be demotivating for contributors already demoralized by low self confidence in their programming expertise”

Logistics

- ▶ Four groups
 - ▶ Copy corresponding transcripts
 - ▶ 1 ... 5, 4 ... 8, 7 ... 11, 10 ... 14
 - ▶ ~20 minutes:
 - ▶ Familiarize yourselves with the data (individually)
 - ▶ Code the interviews
 - ▶ Discuss with group members and refine
 - ▶ ~15 minutes:
 - ▶ Aggregate codes into themes, discuss and refine
 - ▶ ~20 minutes:
 - ▶ Class discussion
- <QR link to transcripts>
(only for enrolled students)