



COMPASSS Newsletter

<http://www.compass.org>

Issue 10, July 2005

Here is a quick digest (selective list) of main recent complements (including new pages) on the COMPASSS international resource site - for more detailed information : see respective sections of the COMPASSS site at : <http://www.compass.org>

(NB : only forthcoming activities are mentioned here; some documents have been added on the archive section of some pages as well.)

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TRAINING

<http://www.compass.org/Trainings.htm>

Fuzzy Sets and Case-Oriented Research

American Sociological Association's 100th Annual Meeting, Philadelphia, August 15th 2005, 10:30am - 12:10pm.
Methodological seminar lead by Prof Charles C. RAGIN.

Scientific Foundations of Qualitative Research

American Sociological Association's 100th Annual Meeting, Philadelphia, August 15th 2005, 4:30pm-6:10pm.
Professional workshop presided by Prof. Charles C. RAGIN.

More info on these two training opportunities:
<http://www.asanet.org/convention/2005/>

Short course on fuzzy sets methods

American Political Science Association's Annual Meeting, Washington, Aug. 31st 2005, 2:00pm.
Lecturer: Prof. Charles C. RAGIN.

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MEETINGS

<http://www.compass.org/Meetings.htm>

Symposium on "Set-theoretic Methods in Management and Strategy Research"

Academy of Management 2005 Annual Meeting, Honolulu, Hawaii, 8th August 2005, 8:30am-10:20am.
Organizer: Peer C. FISS

Set-theoretic Methods are winning increasing attention across the social sciences. However, while these methods show considerable promise for examining complex causal relations, so far all but a handful of studies have applied such methods to management and strategy research settings. This symposium brings together an international group of scholars currently working with set-theoretic methods in management, with the goal of exposing such *(continued on page 2...)*

Meetings (...)

(...Continued from page 1)

methods to a broader audience. By combining conceptual papers with empirical applications of set-theoretic methods, this symposium demonstrates how such methods can help management and strategy researchers gain new and important insights into how causes combine to affect important outcomes such as organizational performance, the occurrence of workplace injuries, or differences in the concentration of ownership across countries.

Keywords: set-theoretic methods, complex causality, configurations

Strategic Theorizing with Set-theoretic Methods and Large-N Datasets

Authors: Rodney Lacey, Thomas Greckhamer

Is There Convergence Towards High Performing Practices: A Logical Analysis of Organization Dynamics

Authors: Bruce Kogut, John Paul MacDuffie, Frits Pil, Charles Ragin

Configurational Theories, Causal Mechanisms, and Comparative Case Analysis

Authors: Axel Marx, Geert van Hootegeem

Some Determinants of Cross-National Diversity in Corporate Ownership: A Fuzzy Sets Approach

Authors: Gregory Jackson, Ruth V Aguilera

Set-theoretic Methods: Current Issues and Prospects

Author: Peer C. Fiss

More info at:

<http://meetings.aomonline.org/2005/>

Section "Methodological Innovations and Dilemmas in Contemporary Political Research"

3rd ECPR General Conference in Budapest (8-10 Sept. 2005)

Information, in particular, on 2 panels more directly linked with QCA and Fuzzy Sets :

Innovations in (MV)QCA and Fuzzy Set applications (20-6)

A Fuzzy-Set Based Analysis of Changing Levels of Social Expenditure in OECD Countries 1980-1998

Authors: Elke VIEBROCK, Paul NORRIS

Applying Ragin's crips and fuzzy set QCA to large datasets: social class and educational achievement in the National Child Development Study

Author: Barry COOPER

QCA and random models: is there a difference?

Author: Axel MARX

QCA, fs-QCA and MVQCA: Three Different Ways of Dealing with the Problem of Dichotomisation

Authors: Andrea HERRMANN, Lasse CRONQVIST

Temporality and Causal Configurations: Combining Sequence Analysis and Fuzzy Set/Qualitative Comparative Analysis

Author: Mona Lena KROOK

Outliers: Concepts, Treatments, and Uses in Different Methodological Approaches (20-9).

Different Paths to Civil Society Core Activism in Post-Communist Latvia. Taking 'outliers' seriously through the method of fz/QCA

Author: Tove LINDÉN

(Continued on page 3...)

Training (...)

... Continued from page 1.

Short course on : Methodological Innovation at the Intersection of Qualitative and Quantitative Methods

American Political Science Association's Annual Meeting, Washington, Aug. 31st 2005, 9:00am.
Participants: Profs. David COLLIER, Thad DUNNING, David A. FREEDMAN.

Short course on : Strategies for Field Research in Comparative and International Politics

American Political Science Association's Annual Meeting, Washington, Aug. 31st 2005, 2:00pm.
Participants: Profs. Melanie CAMMETT, Lauren M. M. MACLEAN, Benjamin L. READ.

Short course on : Choosing and Defending Specifications in Political Science: Complex Interactions Among Variables and Comparative Models Testing

American Political Science Association's Annual Meeting, Washington, Aug. 31st 2005, 9:30pm.
Participants: Profs. Bear F. BRAUMOELLER, Kevin A. CLARKE.

More info on APSA's short courses at:

<http://www.apsanet.org/mtgs/program/apsa.cfm>



Meetings (...)

(... Continued from page 2)

Interpreting Fat Tails: Qualitative analysis of regression residuals

Authors: Arun AGRAWAL, Ashwini CHHATRE

Making Sense of outliers

Author: Will LOWE

Not Just Outliers: Making Sense of Exceptionalism in Cross-national Comparisons

Author: Bernhard EBBINGHAUS

The complete list of papers etc. is now posted on the ECPR site. In the course of the next few weeks, full-text papers will be posted there.

<http://www.essex.ac.uk/ecpr/events/generalconference/budapest/index.asp>

"Small and Large-N Comparative Solutions"

ESRC & NCRM national Research Methods symposium, University of Sussex, Brighton, UK, 22-23rd Sept. 2005.

Applications to attend the seminars (and conference) are welcome. Places for the seminars are limited and early contact to j.holmwood@sussex.ac.uk would be appreciated, including details of relevant research interests. Preference will be given to those attending more than one seminar.

More information at:

<http://www.ncrm.ac.uk/index.php>



**COMPARATIVE METHODS FOR
THE ADVANCEMENT OF
SYSTEMATIC CROSS-CASE
ANALYSIS AND SMALL-N
STUDIES**

COMPASSS Research Group

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USEFUL LINKS

<http://www.compasss.org/UsefulLinks.htm>

Link added to the International Sociological Association (ISA)'s Research and Committee 33 on Logic and Methodology.

RC33 publishes a Bulletin de Methodologie Sociologique.

NEW PAGE

Calls for papers and job openings

[http://www.compasss.org/
CallForPapersJobs.htm](http://www.compasss.org/CallForPapersJobs.htm)

Several items have already been posted on that page.

COMPASSS is a research group bringing together scholars and practitioners who share a common interest in theoretical, methodological and practical advancements in a **systematic comparative case approach** to research which stresses the use of a **configurational logic**, the existence of **multiple causality** and the importance of a careful construction of research populations.

Its main objective is to **further develop systematic comparative case analysis** as a genuine and established research strategy to study many different and diverse social phenomena. Its core disciplines are political science and sociology. Building from this core, the Centre is also open to the research community in neighbouring disciplines.

It is a place of dialogue and **fruitful confrontation between qualitative and quantitative methods**, as well as a locus for the integration of these methods and the further development and application of original approaches, methods and techniques, in an endeavour to develop an overall approach for systematic comparative case analysis.

It fulfils its mission through various activities, among which the development and maintenance of a resource website, scientific exchanges, a programme of research seminars and lectures, common teaching initiatives, scientific counsel for the research and policy communities, a documentation centre, and the active participation in fundamental and applied research projects at the national, European and international levels.

NEWSLETTERS

COMPASSS Newsletters are also posted in PDF format at <http://www.compasss.org/News.htm>



<http://www.compasss.org>