

QIKJS-Part.IV.C

Qualitative Inquiry of Korean Judicial System

Kiyoung Kim

Professor of Law and Public Policy

Dept. of Law, Chosun University

Gawng-ju South Korea

Various Software Programs in the Qualitative Method

MAXQDA, Atlast.ti and NVivo

Since the qualitative method class had been based on the NVivo, I actually know nothing details about other computer softwares, but general guess on the CAQDAS programs would be expected of the common basic function and some variations in design and application. In this respect, the time to know and compare or contrast software tools for managing and analyzing the qualitative data actually had been an interesting experience. I began to research the websites as Huberman as listed in the class material (Miles, Huberman, Saldana, 2013). The first website, titled AnSWR seemed gone to be dead, in which I just found a sorry message that could not confirm the details of service. I had tried MAXQDA, which was available at www.maxqda.com. The art of data analysis had been the kind of logo that emanated the rich taste of qualitative aid, which also was corroborated by the ads script, “from homework to PhD.” Generally the quantitative software would not posit such emphasis of service that would have a limitation to aid the analysis of quantitative result without the function on letters or text, say, most components of dissertation. Given the competitiveness of software programs, it seems continued to upgrade displaying the head message that the MAXQDA 12 was recently released. 505 upgrade will be granted free to the current user, and there can we see the purchase option for new users. Thankfully to a fatigued researcher, the title of introduction bears “Research is a journey –travel it well!” 30 trial days were offered, but I was not active that I already had purchased NVivo. The website offers the basic information about its function and utility according to the elements of qualitative research process. Besides the basic function and history, the details could be known including (i) organizing and categorizing the data (ii) coding and retrieving, (iii) analyzing and transcribing media, (iv) visualizing and theory testing, and (v) exporting and reporting (2013).

The Atlast.ti is another CAQDAS that can be retrieved at www.atlasti.com. It is a widely known website which is used by many prominent universities and colleges, such as NASA, Universiad de Barcelona, Yale, Harvard, University of Nambia and on. The ads highlights, “for those who want to see the big picture,“ that we can see it readily to trigger the qualitative group. Nevertheless, it also stressed their competitive feature on details by declaring, “for those who appreciate details.“ The service can help that the qualitative iquirers could

reveal meanings and relationships and ground the findings in the data. Its functionality and utility were introduced in aspects, such as multimedia/multi-language/multi-docs, linking across the documents, analysis tools, visualization, Pdfs and so (Altheide & Schneider, 2013). The program seems to have a unique feature on the Geo-data, one strength to boost the geographers and adjacent interest of social scientists. For example, the functionality of multimedia/multi-language/multi-docs could facilitate the research process with the following service.

- Video document to a project with preview images and audio wave form
- State-of-art multimedia processing with movable and re-sizable segments
- Coding the multimedia material
- Zoom in on the audio like with video clips
- The User interface to the desired language (Latin and Spanish available in the new 2016 release)

- Four documents side-by-side to fantastic convenience of comparative work

The Nvivo perhaps would be one of most patronized CAQDAS programs among roughly around 26 free or paid basis service, such as Auqad, CAT, Annotations and Tams Analyzer besides the above two (Edhlund, 2011). Nvivo 10 for windows offers a range of new features and enhancements, in which I have listed some of functions and use to suit with my research. Basically CAQDAS seems of the similar extent and types of function that the researcher can exploit to suit with his research situation. While the NVivo seems most popular, I suppose the upgraded version 12 MAXQDA can do good through useful functions upgraded most recently. I decided to choose NVivo. That seems most popular, but my decision would be primarily because I had spent one term so that I had been trained of the skills and basic knowledge as a user of NVivo. The Atlast.ti provides an excellent service, for instance, dealing with the PDFs. It allows the researcher to keep the original PDFs untouched including layout, graphics, table and all (Friese, 2012). The uncorrupted and complete form of PDF files available to the work of researcher for various functions, such as coding, linking, annotating, commenting and on, is desired to the convenience of researcher. Otherwise, the researcher has to strip PDFs to primitive text files, posing the challenge of cumbersome redundancy in his work flow. This function can create other enormous possibilities for the expansive adaptation in terms of collected data scope, mobile devices and link to the foundational software programs, such as MS word and Excel. Nevertheless, the service entails additional service, perhaps more competitively than others, but generally irrelevant with my research project, such as Geo-data and surveys or so. Through the brief survey, I may summarize the expectation and service of NVivo, which is expected to assist with the dissertation track (Edhlund, 2011).

Generally wide and convenient on this function

- Transcription analysis
- Text interpretation,
- Coding
- Recursive abstraction
- Content analysis
- Discourse analysis
- Grounded theory approach

Some features useful

- Virtually any data
- Various working languages
- Powerful query tools
- Uncover subtle trends
- Quick test of a theory
- Visualization/matrix or trees
- Describing, Classifying, Interpreting
- Classification of data and use of nodes

Their Uses Compared and My Position

Since my study engages with the intact cultural group, i.e., Korean policy makers of judicial system, it would generate mountains of words to deal with the phenomenon in the field. This brings a cumbersome and time-consuming work on the data analysis and through the various needs of researcher for word graphics, export to Excel, and challenges of organizing and categorizing the data (Kim, 2015a,b,c,d,e). The use of CAQDAS could be an automated aid for convenience and reliability. It even provides a safe space for the storage of data, which is important to prevent data loss and damage. The data overload is another issue that the researcher can easily be lost in the sea of his collected data and various forms of documentation or evidence, jottings and written materials to assist with constructing his theme and story (Miles, Huberman, Saldana, 2013). This could be appropriately managed with the kind of software programs through various functions of word frequency, linking the data and documentation, and visual forms of relevance or the kind of words map. While the millions of documentation and data can be a basin for a lifetime use, the final research piece can be refined and made succinct for the presentation and submission. Let me get some further to recommend the use of software programs.

Given the topic is challenging and sophisticated, one coding analysis comes short to saturate my queries that some simultaneous coding process will occur to suggest multiple meanings. This, of course, would be descriptive or inferential. The conceptual framework delineated thus far, though roughly at this stage, can yield the start list.¹ The process can be facilitated by means of CAQDAS, which could expand to make available various lists of research component, such as research question, problem areas, and key variables. There should we have to use subcodes when the need of further explication would arise. For the challenges and amount of data, the researcher can make better to get a list on a single sheet for easy reference even before the data entry. This is called provisional codes, the kind of process on inductive coding, which most CAQDASs can retain (2013). This inductive system on coding work is rewarding and grounded empirically, and typically productive in dealing with the uncovered and important local knowledge. It can attract the audience for its openness than the determined to force-to fit the data into preexisting codes. This can corroborate the maxim, “let

¹ This suggests that I would begin the kind of deductive coding, i.e., codes prior to fieldwork.

the site say rather than determined.” It oftentimes would be true if the researchers might feel his prior orientation and prepared codes ill-molded. The emerging ideas may shift if he thinks a rival perspective more promising. All the scenarios above tell closely the kind of expectations that could occur through my research project, and can settle the process better with the aid of CAQDAS in terms to manage and track the entry of information. The kind of software programs also enables the researchers to insert annotations or comments, which will be precious to bracket my views or opinions for the data analysis and construction of theory (2013). By doing so, the chunks of data can increasingly take a shape in terms of logic, metaphor, and cohesiveness of thought, the kind of scholarly taste related to the final findings and presentations. The bullet-point assertions and propositions can allow the researcher to hold a focus, which, however, not infrequently needs to be revised when the new evidence may disconfirm them or further fieldwork has to continue (Bazeley, 2007). Otherwise the bullet points, articulated in a sequential outline format or narrative, can be an important part of description, exploration and explanation to present your analysis as a story. CADQAS also can ensure a credible and trustworthy analysis by displaying. It can permit to share a full data set in the same locations with the audience and interest holders, and enables that the audience can be systemic with the research questions and research outcomes. Organized display can prevent the difficulties from the selective stacking of data, rather complies with the necessities of condensed and distilled data. Since the qualitative studies culminate with the audience that desires to re-create our intellectual journey with some confidence, the display of such character in a final report is important to bring immense consequences positively. The function of matrix template can assist with my research to explore the myriad of concepts and key words, which can be facile performed by using the text program and database management linked to the CAQDAS. It enables the researcher to keep constantly staying with the rows and columns, the kind of greater human tool of thoughts based on dualism tendency.² Once I have experienced one researcher on two PCs on one desk. He was seen to be vigorous dealing with two screens on his research project. He replied that two screens were necessary between the reference materials and word program screen he writes on. This kind of additional chores can be avoided with the multiple screens of CAQDS program. You can simultaneously retrieve the coded corpus of data in the end to select, edit and condense the data, which is worked at one multiple screens. The function on the cross-case causal network may be necessary as I am increased as an expert on the field concerned of PAKJS.³ Selected software programs provide this function.

² For example, the structure of artificial intelligence used in various computer software programs are based on the two numbers, say, 0 and 1. The dialectics on discourse, for example, the structure of thoughts on materialism by Marx, may be supposed between the thesis and anti-thesis. I believe that the kind of attitude is mostly similar with the situation of qualitative researcher.

³ This function shows the words are the stronger and more elegant display, and can enable a continuance with the threads found relevant based on the causal network tapestry woven by the researcher across the cases.

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