SE | 25
SOFTWARE ENGINEERING
de
RSE | CONFERENCE
KARLSRUHE 2025

Contribution ID: **61**   Type: **Talk (15min + 5min)**

The OpenQDA Project - A Software for Collaborative Qualitative Analysis and Sustainable Open Research

Wednesday 26 February 2025 14:20 (20 minutes)

Qualitative research involves a large number of different analysis methods, which are increasingly supported by the use of qualitative data analysis software. In addition to larger closed commercial software products, there are a number of open source projects that implement individual analysis methods. A major problem for the sustainability of these fragmented software projects is the lack of a large software community to support them.

To address this problem, the OpenQDA project [QDA24] provides an extensible research platform for open science. It extends the qualitative data analysis standard REFI [Ev20] and implements a pluggable architecture for the following aspects of qualitative analysis: (1) data import and discovery for the use of different file formats, databases, archives and APIs; (2) media display and coding user interfaces for qualitative annotation of different data formats such as text, audio, video, geospatial or motion data; (3) encoding methods and workflows for systematic support of coding schemes; and (4) analysis and visualization methods. In the presentation we will give an architectural overview and discuss examples for the implementation of specific plug-ins, such as AI models for automatic transcription of audio files [Ha24] or the integration of visualization platforms.

The aim of the presented software is to provide a research platform for collaborative qualitative analysis, as well as for further method development for scientists with different levels of technical expertise, which in comparison has already been established in quantitative data analysis by projects, such as the R project.

[Ev20] Evers, J.; Caprioli, M. U.; Nöst, S.; Wiedemann, G.: What is the REFI-QDA Standard: Experimenting With the Transfer of Analyzed Research Projects Between QDA Software. en, Forum Qualitative Sozialforschung / Forum: Qualitative Social Research 21 (2), Number: 2, 2020, issn: 1438-5627, doi: 10.17169/fqs-21.2.3439, url: https://www.qualitative-research.net/index.php/fqs/article/view/3439, Last access: 04/2024.

[Ha24] Haberl, A.; Fleiß, J.; Kowald, D.; Thalmann, S.: Take the aTrain. Introducing an interface for the Accessible Transcription of Interviews. en, Journal of Behavioral and Experimental Finance 41, S. 100891, 2024, issn: 22146350, doi: 10.1016/j.jbef.2024.100891,url: https://linkinghub.elsevier.com/retrieve/pii/S2214635024000066, Last access: 04/2024.

[QDA24] Belli, A., Küster, J., Hohmann, F., Sinner, P., Krüger, G., Wolf, K. D., & Hepp, A. (2024). OpenQDA (1.0.0-beta.0). Zenodo. https://doi.org/10.5281/zenodo.11656546 Code: https://github.com/openqda/openqda

I want to participate in the youngRSE prize

Primary authors: Prof. WOLF, Karsten D. (University of Bremen); KUESTER, Jan (University of Bremen)

Presenters: Prof. WOLF, Karsten D. (University of Bremen); KUESTER, Jan (University of Bremen)

Session Classification: ML-assisted and more general data workflows