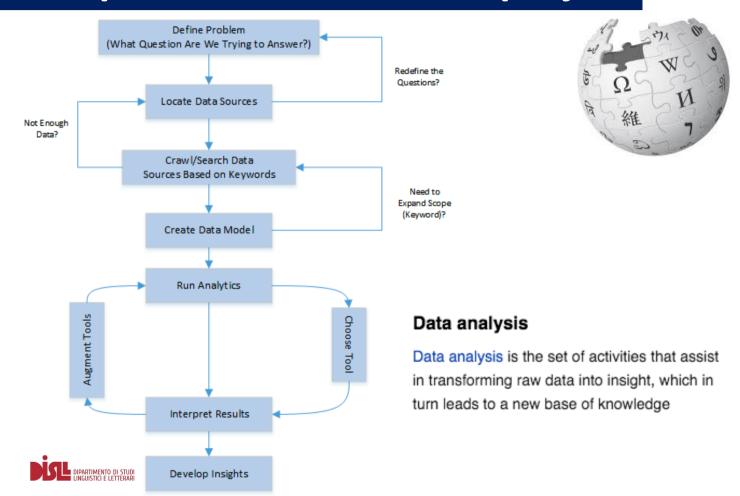
The process of a network project



Define Problem and Purpose

- description of the problem at hand
- contextualization: provide a background
- an outline of your objectives and their implications

Contextualize Problem

- Make a literature search
- Identify relevant theories and evidence
 - ->master the subject!!!
- address alternative perspectives
- make connections between different sources
- offer new insights.

Specify

an outline of your main arguments/hypotheses

Theoretical grounding



- Why this question?
- Why this network?
- Which previous evidence?
- Which theoretical model?
- Which hypotheses?

Provide an explicit statement of the questions and objectives being addressed with reference to their key elements (e.g., population or participants, concepts, and context) or other relevant key elements used to conceptualize the review questions and/or objectives.

What the literature is already showing? Which methods were applied? Which sample/data?

https://www.psychology.org/resources/online-research-guide/

How to do a literature search



Relevant MS

Plan your search for information by defining relevant keywords on your topic



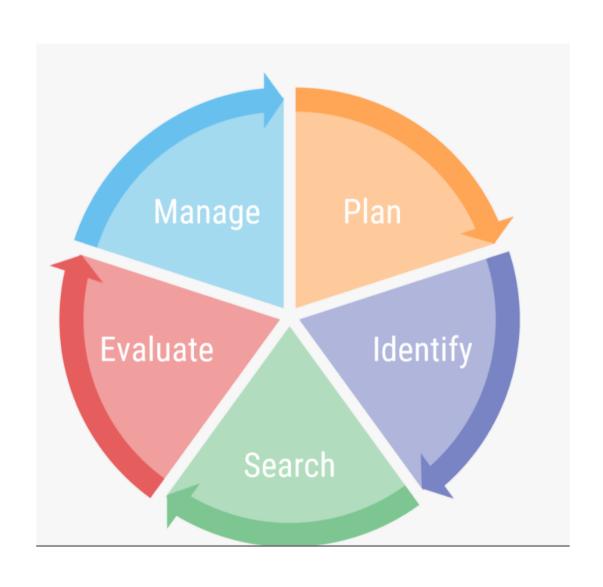
Reliable MS

Identify the key information resources for your subject

Identifying the key ideas to research

- What do I need to find out?
- What are the key concepts or ideas in the assessment which I need to explore?
- What search terms will be effective in helping me find what I need?
- What types of information will I need to answer the question?

The literature searching cycle



Search... what?

Keyword planning

It may be that you don't come up with all the necessary keywords on your first plan, but remember that you can continue to add new words to your list as you read more about the topic.

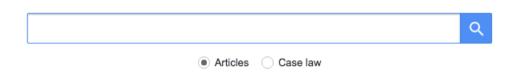
Keywords tips

- Think of as many synonyms as you can, i.e. words which have similar meanings, such as centrality, density, betwenness
- If you are unsure of ideas for keywords, you could use a thesaurus or take a quick look at a resource like Wikipedia to get an overview of the topic
- Consider whether your keywords might also have plural or alternative endings, e.g. city/cities, motivate/motivation
- Consider alternative spellings, e.g. color/colour, aeroplane/airplane

Where to look for

- Google Scholar
- Psych Info
- Web of Knowledge
- PubMed
- Etc...





You can use Google Scholar to search for:

- books
- journal articles
- conference proceedings
- other scholarly publications.

How to establish the credibility of the information you have found

- Is there a publication date?
- Is there any indication of when the information was last updated?
- Does the date of publication actually reflect the date the information was produced?
- Even if published very recently, has the information been superseded?
- If published very recently, has it been properly peerreviewed?

Intention
Viewpoint
Audience
Opinion
Language

Intention
Viewpoint
Audience
Opinion
Language

What is the intention? Everything is produced for a reason, be it to educate, to entertain or to make money. Understanding the motivation behind a piece of work can shed light on potential bias.

Intention
Viewpoint
Audience
Opinion
Language

What **position** does the author take? Reliable authors will generally make their point of view clear and seek to support it with valid evidence.

Intention
Viewpoint
Audience
Opinion
Language

Who is the intended audience? Something designed to be read by the general public may differ greatly in detail from something aimed at academics or researchers.

Intention
Viewpoint
Audience
Opinion
Language

Is opinion being presented as fact? Academic articles will often present unsubstantiated theories for debate, but this should be made clear.

Intention
Viewpoint
Audience
Opinion
Language

Does the **language** seem appropriate?

Emotionally charged language is often used to persuade in the absence of evidence.

Language that is very vague can be used to gloss over flaws in an argument.

Critical appraisal is "the process of assessing and interpreting evidence by systematically considering its validity, results, and relevance" (Cochrane Community, 2018).

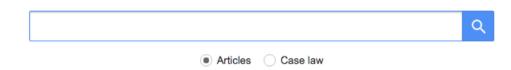
Evaluate content

- read the MS more carefully to judge the quality of the arguments and evidence presented.
- What is the main argument being presented?
- What are the strengths and weaknesses of this argument? Consider whether the arguments are supported/warranted by credible evidence or are they just opinion?
- Can you think what the counter arguments might be?

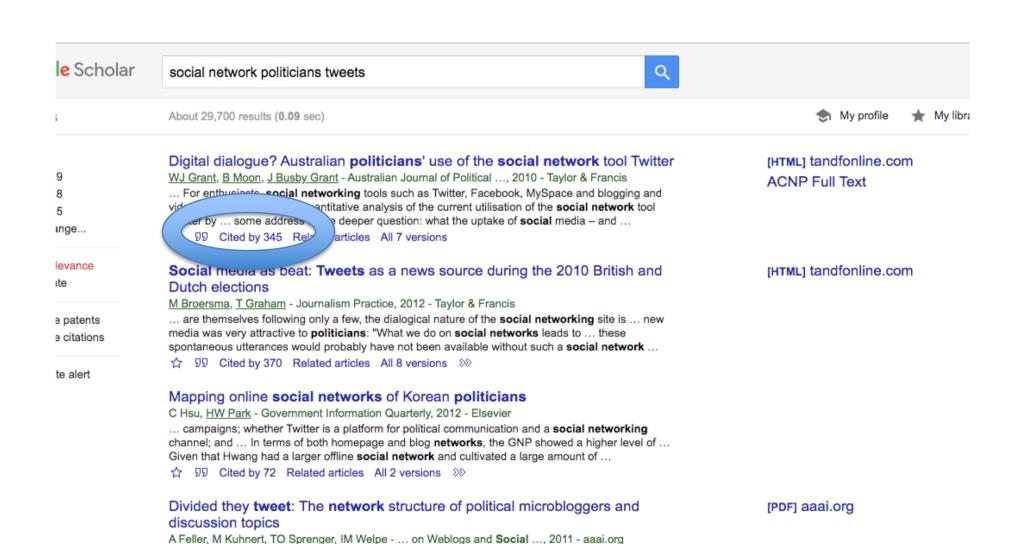
Manage content

- How does the information relate to other sources on the same subject?
- Which are the implications for your project?
- Which questions is the literature rising?

Google Scholar



- The easiest
- Remember few tricks
 - Check the reliability of the journal (Impact factor of the journal-by RANK_ Webofscience/Scimago)
 - Check the success of the paper (n° of citations)



Get the reference for your reference list

Proactive personality and career success.

The five-factor model of personality and career success

SE Seibert, ML Kraimer - Journal of vocational behavior, 2001 - Elsevier
This study examined the relationship between the "Big Five" personality dimensions
(neuroticism, conscientiousness, extraversion, agreeableness, and openness) and career
success by surveying a sample of 496 (318 male and 178 female) employees in a diverse...
\$\frac{1}{2}\$ \$\mathfrac{1}{2}\$\$ Citato da 1037 Articoli correlati Tutte e 4 le versioni Web of Science: 282 \$\infty\$

The big five **personality** traits, general mental ability, and career **success** across the life span

TA Judge, CA Higgins, CJ Thoresen... - Personnel ..., 1999 - Wiley Online Library
The present study investigated the relationship of traits from the 5-factor model of
personality (often termed the "Big Five") and general mental ability with career success.
Career success was argued to be comprised of intrinsic success (job satisfaction) and ...

\$\frac{1}{27}\$ \$\mathref{y}\$ Citato da 2873 Articoli correlati Tutte e 6 le versioni Web of Science: 877 \$\infty\$

[HTML] Mentoring provided: Relation to mentor's career success, personality, and mentoring received

N Bozionelos - Journal of vocational behavior, 2004 - Elsevier
The relationship of a mentor's perceptions of his/her career success, mentoring he/she received, personality, and the amount of mentoring he/she provided was investigated in a sample of 176 administrators. Results indicated that the amount of mentoring respondents ...

Ricerche correlate

success personality traits
academic success personality
entrepreneur success personality
proactive personality career success
job success personality determinants

regulatory success self regulation and

effects of personality career success impact of personality career success

What do proactive people do? A longitudinal model linking proactive **personality** and career **success**

SE Seibert, ML Kraimer, JM Crant - Personnel psychology, 2001 - Wiley Online Library
We developed and tested a model linking proactive personality and career success through
a set of four behavioral and cognitive mediators. A 2-year longitudinal design with data from
a sample of 180 full-time employees and their supervisors was used. Results from structural ...

\$\frac{1}{2}\$ \$\mathcal{y}\$\$ \$\mathcal{y}\$\$ Citato da 1682 Articoli correlati Tutte e 3 le versioni Web of Science: 614 \$\mathcal{y}\$\$

Role of protégé **personality** in receipt of mentoring and career **success**

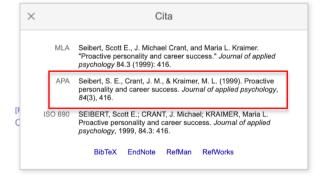
DB Turban, TW Dougherty - Academy of Management journal, 1994 - journals.aom.org

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http://bibliotecapsicologia.cab.unipd.it



Have a go:

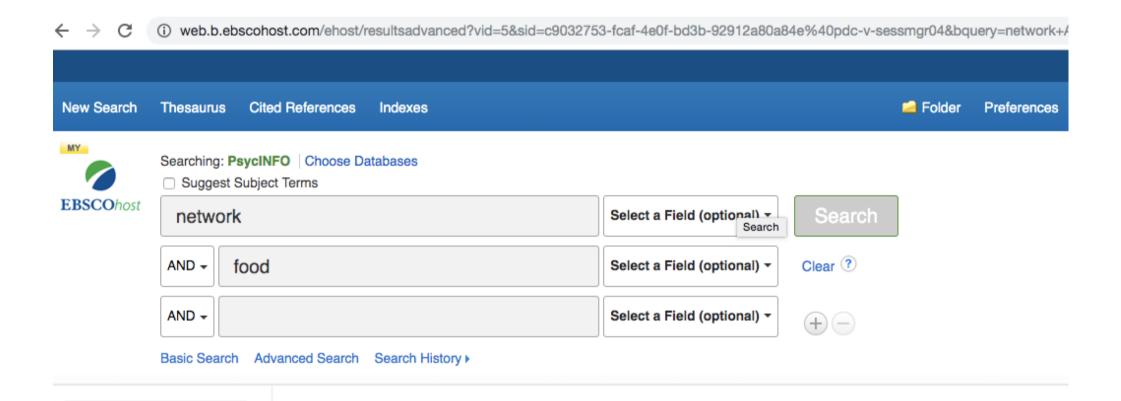


www.wooclap.com/RPMHZB

 Identify your question, look for relevant literature in google, select a good one, type your preliminary answer

Results too broad and general?	Too few results to support arguments for a paper?
Use more specific subject terms	Use broader subject terms
Search in narrow fields (e.g. Title, rather than searching anywhere)	Search in broad fields (keyword, abstract)
Use AND to combine different concepts	Use OR to combine alternative terms for a concept
Apply limits (e.g. publication date)	Use truncation (*) e.g. agricult* and wildcard (?) symbols e.g. wom?n
If possible, limit by material type, e.g. peer reviewed articles only	Check results for more alternative terms

Psych Info



between social network, food choice values, and diet quality.



Academic Journal

Kim, Chang-O; Appetite, Vol 96, Jan 1, 2016 pp. 116-121, Publisher: Elsevier Science; [Journal Article] Abstract: Social network type might affect an individual's food choice because these decisions are often made as a group rather than individually. In this study, the associations between social network type, food choice value, and diet quality in frail older adults with low socioeconomic status were investigated. For this cross-sectional study, 87 frail older adults were recruited from the National Home Healthcare Services in Seoul, South Korea. Social network types, food choice values, and diet quality were assessed using The Practitioner Assessment of Network Type Instrument, The Food Choice Questionnaire, and mean adequacy ratio, respectively. Results showed that frail older adults with close relationships with local family and/or friends and neighbors were less likely to follow their own preferences, such as taste, price, and beliefs regarding food health values. In contrast, frail older adults with a small social network and few community contacts were more likely to be influenced by their food choice values, such as price or healthiness of food. Frail older adults who tend to choose familiar foods were associated with low-quality dietary intake, while older adults who valued healthiness or use of natural ingredients were associated with a high-quality diet. The strength and direction of these associations were dependent on social network type of frail older adults. This study explored the hypothesis that food choice values are associated with a certain type of social network and consequently affect diet quality. While additional research needs to be conducted, community-based intervention intended to improve diet quality of frail older adults must carefully consider individual food choice values as well as social network types. (PsycINFO Database Record (c) 2019 APA, all rights reserved)

Subjects: Food Preferences; Geriatrics; Health Impairments; Socioeconomic Status; Adulthood (18 yrs & older); Aged (65 yrs & older); Male; Female

Cited References: (70)

Web of Knowledge

https://apps.webofknowledge.com/



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Enter a journal name

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Source data Box plot Rank Cited Journal Data Citing Journal Data Click here to view Journal Relationships

Journal source data 2018 1						
	Articles	Reviews	Combined(C)	Other(O)	Percentage(C/(C+O))	
Number in JCR Year 2018 (A)	410	33	443	18	96%	
Number of References (B)	21,248	2,788	24,036	361	98%	
Ratio (B/A)	51.8	84.5	54.3	20.1		

Rank

JCR Impact Factor



NUTRITION & DIETETICS JCR Year≜		BEHAVIORAL SCIENCES				
*	Rank	Quartile	JIF Percentile	Rank	Quartile	JIF Percentile
2018	30/87	Q2	66.092	8/53	Q1	85.849
2017	31/83	Q2	63.253	13/51	Q2	75.490
2016	26/81	Q2	68.519	8/51	Q1	85.294
2015	30/80	Q2	63.125	13/51	Q2	75.490
2014	30/77	Q2	61.688	23/51	Q2	55.882

Selecting the data

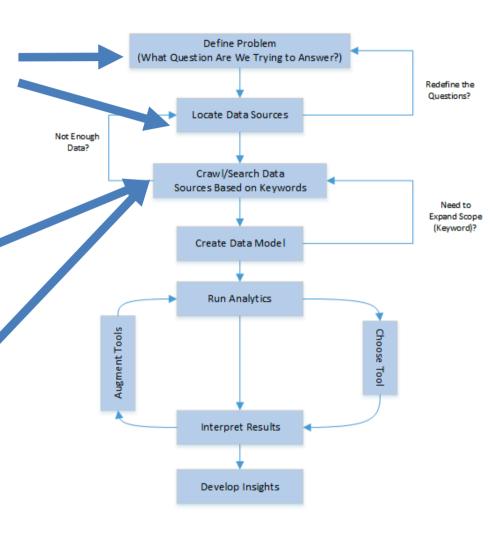
 Definition of the social network

 Definition of network boundaries

Selecting within the boundaries

Sampling within the boundaries

Pag 53-62 John Scott Social Network Analysis Sage Publications (see Moodle)



Definition of the network

Theoretical definition>operationalization

When we want to study a social network the first step is to define it.

NODES=???

LINKS=????

Definition of the network: e.g. networks of people

- Maybe participanst are not aware of ties between their social supporters
- Solution: objective measures (e.g., co-publications of supporters)
- Class mates
- Colleagues: belonging to same organization
- Political affiliation: enrolled in a party???
- Collaborators: working to the same project? Co-authors?
- Friends: how do you define friendship?
 - CRITERIA: number of interactions? Quality of the relationship? Self determination? Top 5? Top 3?

Identification of Network Boundaries

Formal vs. informal group

Risk: ARTIFICIAL boundaries

From theoretical definition to empirical criteria

- -> transparent inclusion/exclusion criteria allow:
- replicability of the results
- generealizability of the findings

Selecting within the boundaries

Two main stategies:

- Positional approach
- Reputational approach

Sampling: positional approach

- Premise: you have a list of the entire population
- Make an ordered list of possible participants (possible nodes), namely list the entire target population
 - E.g.: I make the list of the athletes taking a knee for Blacklives matter
 - E.g.: I make the list of the political leaders
- Rank the list according to a meaningful criterion
 - E.g.: Rank the list of athletes by N°of followers in tweeters
 - E.g.: Rank the leaders according to number of votes
- Select cut off
- E.g.: top 10, top 100

Sampling: positional approach

Problem: justify your cut off: a cut off implies that you have subgroups

E.g. top 10 are one group, from the 11th they belong to a different group

 The better you initially define your network, the less problems you will encounter in arguing and identifying the inclusion/exclusion criteria

Selecting: reputational approach

Premise: you do not have a list of the entire population

- The list is created starting by a group of judges (nominees), that are asked nominate the member of the target population (i.e., the nodes of the network)
 - knowledgeable informants
 - a sample of «users»

Selecting: reputational approach

- OPTION 1: The nominees are independent from social relations under investigation (this eliminates a methodological circularity)
- e.g. A group of students nominates all the athletes that comes into their mind. Those athletes are the target network
- e.g. A group of athletes nominates all the sport brands that sponsor them.
- e.g. A group of real estates agents nominates the most promising spots in the city. The houses for sell in that spots could be in the network, and you can build a network based on co-visits to implement marketing strategies

Selecting: reputational approach

OPTION 2: Snow ball: Every Judge nominates 3 further judges

In this case the shape of the outcome network will be highly contaminated by the initial selection. But this can work in specific cases (for example, the initial selection involves a very influential / important person as the starting point)

Statistical sampling problems

- Representative samples
- Snowball procedure
- Identification of roles: positions or structural locations

Statistical sampling problems

- Representative sample: reproduces the relevant characteristics of the reference population (age, gender, level of education, socio-economic, political orientation ...)
- BUT a representative sample of individual respondents does not correspond to a sample representation of their relationships !!!!
- At most I can get basic and self-centered info:

E.g. We could get info on the density of the Italians' network of friends by asking a representative sample how many "friends" they have, but you cannot know for example anything about reciprocity or the level of cohesion of the group of friends

Statistical sampling problems

- Possible solution: snowballing starting from the initial sample. This allows the indirect contacts of the initial sample to be studied. Problem: when to stop? When the number of new members tends not to increase much.
- Limit: the structure of the network is defined very much by the snowballing procedure
- The snowball procedure could be improved by trying to have preliminary information on how the network structure is and the roles / positions assumed by the members.
- E.g. To compare the interactional and national networks of potential customers, the contacts of foreign vs. national salesmen could be studied.

Identification of positions or structural locations

- Assumption: agents in a similar structural location within the NTW share social attributes
- Eg: I expect the hubs/brokers in the network
 (e.g., athletes taking a klnee) to be black male.
- E.g. identify the hubs/brokers in the networks and then I code their socio-demographic characteristics.



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