Chapter Six: Further Steps in the Data Analysis Process

Skills trainings in this chapter

Skills training 6.1: getting to know the operators
Skills training 6.2: creating and working with smart codes
Skills training 6.3: getting to know the Code Co-occurrence Table
Skills training 6.4: getting to know the Code -Document Table
Skills training 6.5: creating queries in the Query Tool
Skills training 6.6: learning about code queries in combination with document attributes
Skills training 6.7: creating smart groups
Skills training 6.8: working with global filers

Projects for skills trainings

On the book’s companion website (https://study.sagepub.com/friese3e), you can find and download several sample projects to use as you work through the skills trainings the book offers.

For this chapter, you can work with the following sample projects:

- **Children & Happiness analysis** for skills training 6.2 to 6.9

Video tutorials

On the book’s companion website (https://study.sagepub.com/friese3e), you can find links to video tutorials that offer step by step guidance about using ATLAS.ti so you can learn to master the software at your own pace.

**Title:** ATLAS.ti Mac: Smart codes
**URL:** https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=VXhyZgOkCSc

**Title:** Difference between codes, smart codes, and groups
**URL:** https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=Pn1q3OS8PUc&t=18s

**Title:** ATLAS.ti Mac: Code Document Table
Chapter Six: Further Steps in the Data Analysis Process

URL: https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=hHJ-kpFmH9w&t=3s

Title: ATLAS.ti 8 Windows: The Query Tool
URL: https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=798mqjMKyVQ&list=PL8CTEdsSSmZEdst4E2bJ06Gp9VeE3fouV&t=6s&index=18

Title: ATLAS.ti 8 Windows: Global filters
URL: https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=31npMHivvjg&t=6s

Further reading
Here Susanne has carefully put together a selection of articles, chapters and other resources to help you successfully complete a qualitative data analysis project.


This book will give you an idea in how many ways you can approach analysis and think about your data. The five modes, she introduces are: Categorical thinking, narrative thinking, dialectical thinking, poetical thinking, and diagrammatical thinking. Categorical thinking is the mode that best fits a coding approach. The quotation level in ATLAS.ti in combination with writing comments and memos offer support for some of the other modes of thinking. The network function you will learn about in chapter 7 allows to put diagrammatical thinking into action.


This is a classic. If you are looking for ideas for how to build a coding frame and what to do with the coded data, this is a must read.
The following two papers give some ideas how to utilize the various analysis tools in ATLAS.ti like the code-document table, the code co-occurrence tools and the query tool in combination with scope:


In this chapter Morse explains the reasoning process that is necessary to “see something” in the data as qualitative inquiry is an active process. Morse argues that adequate work needs to be done to prepare the data in a form that enhance the recognition of patterns. Furthermore, for a creative and solid data analysis, for fitting data together, of making the invisible obvious, the researcher needs to constantly question the data and persistently search for answers.

*Querying the Data Across Documents in ATLAS.ti 8 Windows*, https://atlasti.com/2018/03/20/query-scope/

In this article it is explained how the query tool can be used to compare topics across documents. Complementary to skills training 6.6.


This article gives you an overview of the applications of global filters and how to work with them in both the Windows and the Mac version. Complementary to skills training 6.8.
Examining the Context in Qualitative Analysis: The Role of the Co-Occurrence Tool in ATLAS.ti

In this article Ricardo B. Contreras gives examples of how to use the code co-occurrence explorer and the code co-occurrence table.

Review questions
When you have worked through all skills training, you should be able to answer all of the following questions:

1. Which operators are available to create queries? Explain them.
2. How do you store a query for later reuse?
3. Which function do you need to create a frequency table showing code frequencies by documents or document groups?
4. When do you need relative row or column frequencies?
5. What type of analysis can you run using the Codes Co-occurrence Table?
6. What does the c-coefficient indicate? When is it useful to use it?
7. How do you build a query in the Query Tool?
8. How can code searches be combined with variables?
9. How do you create and apply filters to restrict a query to a sub set of your data?
10. How do you create reports from query results?
11. What is the purpose of global filters and how do you build a query with global filters?
12. Why do you need to use different analysis tools depending on the type of data you have?