

The Audit Procedure



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**Qualitative studies
often lack
scientific quality**

Complex research process

Complex research process

Explorative question(s)

Complex research process

Explorative question(s)

Sensitizing concepts

Complex research process

Explorative question(s)

Sensitizing concepts

Involvement in or of the
field of study

Complex research process

Explorative question(s)

Sensitizing concepts

Developing data gathering tools

Involvement in or of the
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Involvement in or of the
field of study

Multiple data sources

Complex research process

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Involvement in or of the
field of study

Developing analytic tools

Multiple data sources

Complex research process

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Involvement in or of the
field of study

Developing analytic tools

Multiple data sources

Iterations in analysis

Complex research process

Explorative question(s)

Sensitizing concepts

Developing data gathering tools

Involvement in or of the field of study

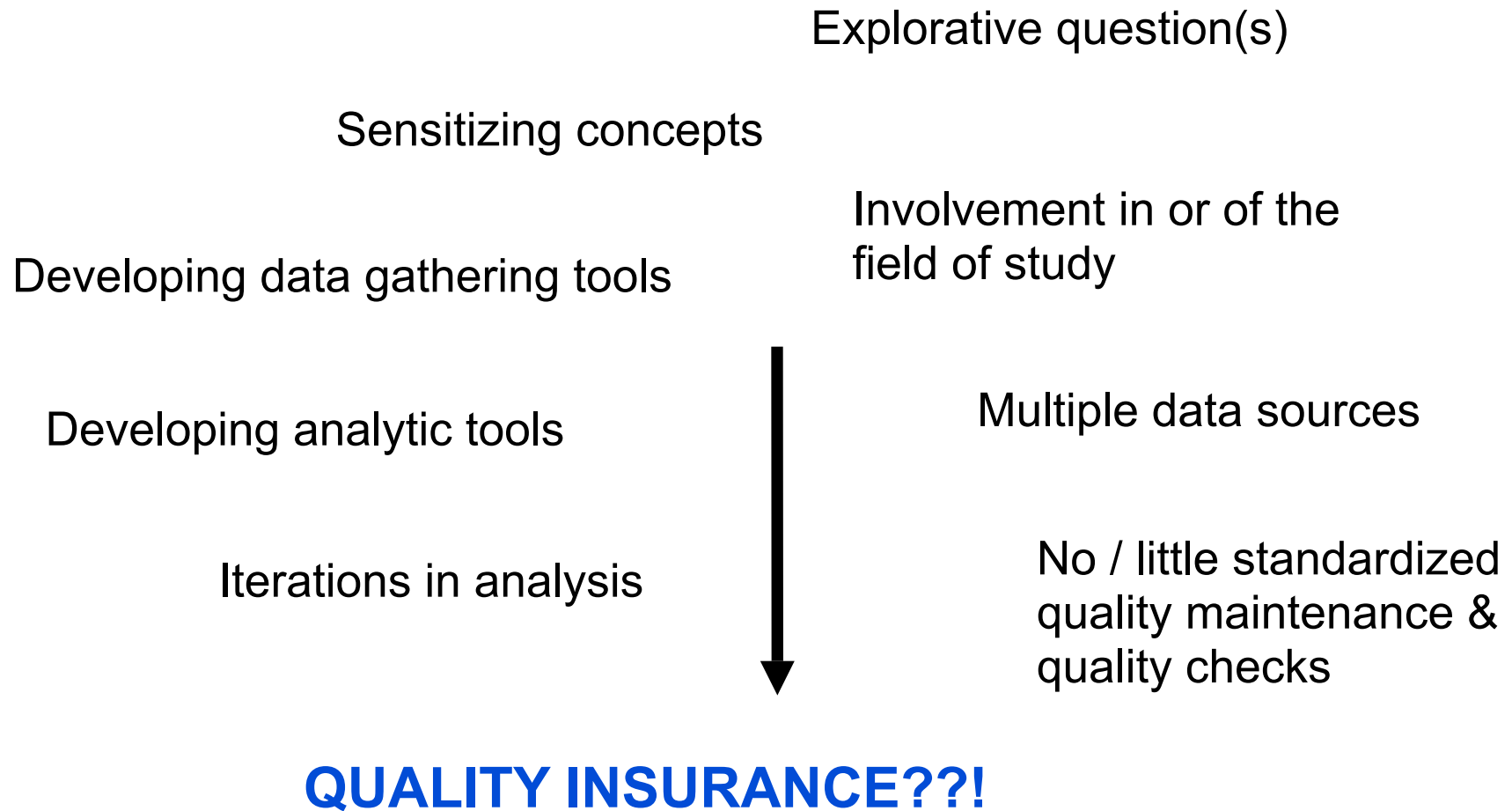
Developing analytic tools

Multiple data sources

Iterations in analysis

No / little standardized quality maintenance & quality checks

Complex research process



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AUDIT PROCEDURE

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Visibility



AUDIT PROCEDURE

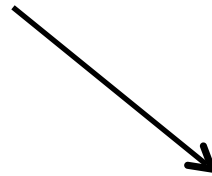
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Visibility

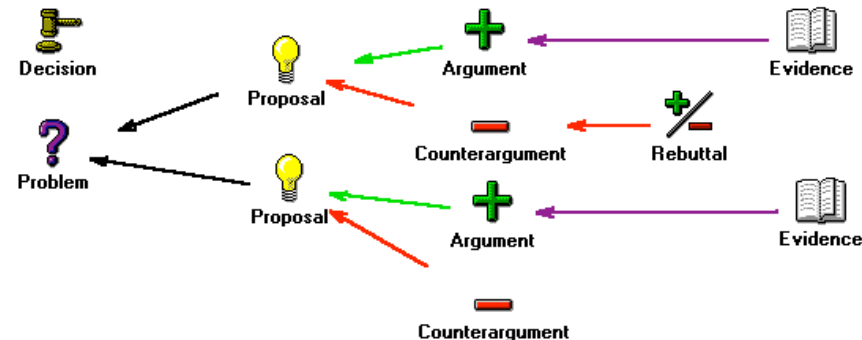


AUDIT PROCEDURE



Comprehensibility

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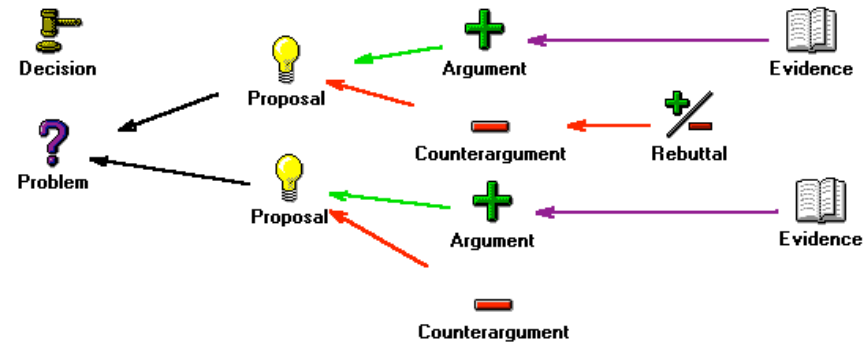


Visibility

AUDIT PROCEDURE

Acceptability

Comprehensibility



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Visibility

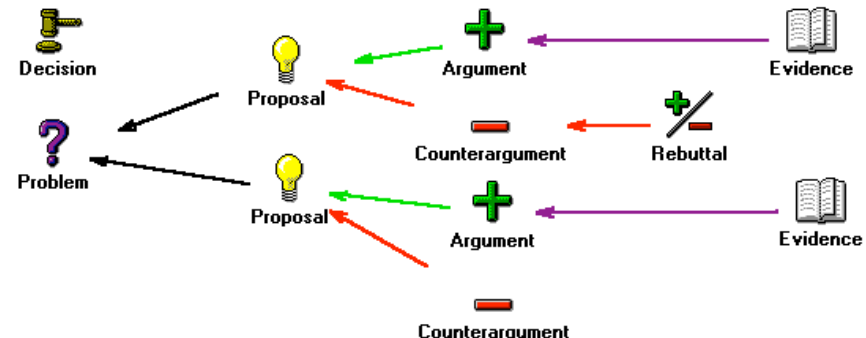
AUDIT PROCEDURE



Acceptability

Comprehensibility

- Validity
- Generalizability
- Reliability
- Objectivity
- Credibility
- Dependability
- Transferability
- Confirmability
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Choices for conducting an Audit



- What is evaluated?
 - Total PhD study
 - 1 article or chapter
 - Subpart of one study

- What kind of assessment?
 - Formative
 - Summative

Materials for the Audit Report

- Start document
- Final document
- Raw data
- Processed data
- Process document:
 - What did you do when, how, why ?
 - What did you do to maintain quality
 - What did you do to check quality?



Auditee task max. 45 minutes

- Form groups of 3 people

Choose:

- 1 data source [interviews, observations, project documentation..]

OR

- 1 analytic procedure [protocol analysis, interview analysis, thick description]

Question auditee about

- **How** did you gather/analyze data?
(visibility)
- **Why** did you do this in this way?
(comprehensibility)
- What did you do to **maintain and/or check quality**? (acceptability)

Stages of the audit procedure

1. Orientation to the audit procedure
2. Orientation to the study
3. Determination of the auditability of the study
4. Negotiation of the contract
5. Assessment
6. Renegotiation
7. Final auditor report

Auditee

- Consequent archiving
- Frequent process notes
- Structured writing
- Reflective and critical



Auditor

- Familiar with research domain
 - Topic
 - Theoretical perspective
 - Language
- Familiar with methodological standards and reasoning
- Independent opinion about research