

Industrial Psychology - Research

Approaches to knowledge acquisition

- custom / superstition - lucky charms etc.
- intuitively → men think women are bad drivers
- respected source. eg. prediction by company director → int. rates will drop - people believe it
- reasoning - eg. trying a diet that worked in the past → reason it will work again
- experience → experience something nice → so it is nice eg. places to live, see, eat etc.

Scientific → logic of investigation.

- ↳ identify problem + formulate a hypothesis
- ↳ design the study or experiment
- ↳ carry out the study / experiment
- ↳ test hypothesis
- ↳ communicate results (journal / report)

Characteristics of scientific approach

- * maintain control = exclusion of foreign variables that might influence results
 - * operationalise definitions
 - * repeat investigations
- exclude parts that could influence your study
- define all the terms which can be used to measure them (eg. good means specific qualifications)
- Repeat the experiment.

2 types of research

- ↳ descriptive
- ↳ experimental

Descriptive research

- * Secondary records - eg marriage records/census data
- * Naturalistic observation → unobtrusive collection of data on a spontaneous behaviour eg ^{hidden} camera
- * Case study - interviews / test results / → less data orientated and more clinically orientated
- * N=1 study - 1 person eg effects of therapy behavioural study
- * Self reporting → introspection → one's own thinking feelings / perspectives
- * Correlation study → degree of relationship between 2 measured variables - eg the correlation or relationship between motivation / productivity
- * Ex post facto study - compare the effect of 2 or more variables - but researcher cannot control the variables → eg gender / age
- * Longitudinal + cross-sectional studies.
 - ↳ Longitudinal - field studies that measure the same attributes of the same group of people at regular intervals
 - ↳ Cross-sectional - field study that measure the same attributes of individuals at the different age levels

- * Surveys + Interviews → eg questionnaires from a representative sample of the population
- * Reliability - consistency ^{with} what is being measured
- Validity - measure what is supposed to ~~measure~~ ^{measure}
- * Participant observation - researcher actively participates in the study while observing + recording the behaviour of others
- * Meta-~~data~~ analysis → quantitative technique which is used to integrate + describe the results of a large number of studies of the same participant.

Experimental Research

→ seeks to determine casual (ie. cause + effect) relations between variables. It enables us to ~~observe~~ observe the result (effect) of systematic modification (manipulation) of one or more variables (cause) under controlled conditions.

→ Psychological experiment

→ objective observation of phenomena (behaviour/ action/ responses to questionnaires) etc. which occur in strictly controlled situations where one or more factors are varied (~~manipulated~~ manipulated) and the others are kept constant

- advantages of experimental approach

- * One can infer casual relations
- * Researchers can ~~manipulate~~ manipulate one or more variables of their choice
- * Usefulness: experiments produced results that have stood the test of time, and led to other studies that offered solutions

- disadvantages of experimental approach

- * Lab findings are obtained in an artificial environment (no real life situations)
- * Time consuming
- * not adequate for the study of human behaviour
 - ↳ yet sometimes it can be the only way to explain human behavior.

Experimental research - 2 types

- * field experiments - real life eg in organizations
- * Lab experiments - labs - controlled environment
 - eg. sleep deprivation tests

Quasi experiments: influence of external variables can not be controlled: eg: testing the effect of longterm memory of a brain injury - cannot control the brain (internal) or assign random people to the group.

can't control the cause of the injury.

can be ~~reversed~~

Internal + external validity

internal - extent to which the observed effect of an experiment is caused by the experimental treatment condition, that is the independent variable.

eg students getting better grades because of private tutoring - But it could be that they are smarter + not necessarily the private tutoring \rightarrow experimental treatment condition

External \rightarrow the extent to which the results of an experiment can be generalized beyond the experimental situation to all the members of the same target population.

eg training techniques (study, lectures, multimedia) \rightarrow selects 3 groups + each get a technique. \rightarrow takes a test \rightarrow multimedia group does better in the test \rightarrow generalize that multimedia training should be used its most effective? external validity

1st priority in experimental research is to identify the treatment effect
Once effect is verified by means of properly controlled, internal valid studies, external validity can be investigated.

P.2: Study guide for test questions.

2

Steps for Research

* 1 → identify research problem.

* define problem clearly

* ~~not~~ purpose of the study / research.

* 2 → Scope of research

- * must be manageable -

* consider practical / financial limitations.

* urgency of problem will help determine scope (length) of research.

* 3 → identify practical limitations

* time

* cost

* size of sample

* data collection techniques

* processing techniques

* access to information

* nature of available information

* form ~~of~~ in which information is available

* validity + reliability of information

- measuring instruments

* 4 → Evaluate the available research tools

* knowledge

* skills

* statistical techniques

- computer equipment
- interpretation skills
- report writing skills

*5 → Survey of literature.

- collect your data
- survey / review existing data already in the field

*6 Research planning + design

- What is the problem being researched and how will it be researched?
- Data - what info is needed? How will it be obtained? How much info is available?
- Criterion evaluation. → what data can be used to measure the usefulness or success of the results.

*7 → Writing a research proposal.

- done before research project can be done.
- will be the basis of projects approval or denial.

* Problem and context

- state problem
- sub problems
- hypotheses
- limitations
- definitions of terms
- assumptions.
 - importance of study

- * Survey of relevant data
- * data + processing + interpretation
 - primary / secondary data
 - criteria used to determine what data are to be used
 - research methodology
 - identification + handling of subproblems
- * Qualifications of researcher to conduct the ~~project~~ ^{Project}
- * Description of proposed study
- * A selected bibliography

* 8 → Data Collection.

- what data
- why this data
- nature of data.
- how data will be collected
 - or how many people
 - who will collect the data?
 - what will be done to ensure data collected is retrievable

* 9 Data Processing

- * processing techniques
- * additional info collected
- * How will data be collected + made available for processing.

*10 → Step 10 Writing a research report (feedback + recommendations)

Research Report

Front Matter

- * Title page
- * Table of contents
- * List of tables
- * List of figures

Text

- * Definition of problem and context / background
- * Survey of relevant literature
- * Description of population
- * General procedures
- * Results
- * Summary, conclusion + recommendations
- * Bibliography
- * Appendices

- Identify a problem + define it in words
- Determine the scope of Research
- Identify practical Limitations
- Identify practical Limitations
- Evaluate the available research tools
- Survey of literature.
- Research + planning
- Writing a research proposal
- Data Collection

- Data processing
- Writing the research Project.

3/

numbers, variables + measures

Quantitative methods

* Efficiency - lots of data available in tables ect - makes it easier to draw conclusions

* Approximation / modelling of real world phenomena (Pictures)

↳ allows us to infer important dimension of similarity judgements. - if not used can lead to ~~long~~ sorting through a long set of verbal descriptions and we might not arrive at the dimension as clearly.

* powerful in centuries - old language. ^{eg} weather maps

- deterministic claim - must be sure A will lead to B.

- Probabilistic claim - A might not lead to B (Chance expectation)

Functions of quantification:

* Administrative. eg monetary

* evidentiary audio or systems.

Variables + constants

When measure height → height is the variable.

Variables → measured entities (or attributes of entities) that can take on different values eg: height / weight.

3/

Constants are quantities that do not change but always have the same value eg: speed of light.

Continuous measures → take any value within the range defined as valid for a particular variable.

eg measure of something like food. - can be 1, 5, 2.5, 2.35 etc.

Discrete variables → certain values → order people complete a marathon.

Also known as categorical variables.

can take on values within a range 1. 2. 3. 4. NOT 1.5 etc.

⇒ 4 types of measurement scales

- x Nominal.
- x ordinal
- x interval
- x ratio.

Nominal variables → difference between categories of objects persons etc. Numbers are used here as labels to distinguish between the categories. eg: religion, sexes, etc.

Ordinal. → indicate categories different from each other + ranked or ordered in terms of an attribute.

eg. developing countries and developed countries. (one has more economic structure)

Grades A, B, etc.

Surveys I agree, I disagree, strongly agree etc

Interval variables → true quantitative measures eg. temperature.

IQ scores

- Tests

Ratio. → all the properties of interval variables, but they also have a true zero value: eg. 40 year old is 2x the age of a 20 year old.

Can't say that 80% in a test means twice as much as someone who got 40%.

Magnitude → property of measure. - eg height can say 1 person is taller than another.

Equal intervals → interval scale = equal intervals → diff. between all points are the same (Nominal + ordinal does not possess the property of equal intervals)

Absolute 0 = when 0 is measured - nothing is measured
eg measure the wind a zero will mean that no wind is blowing.

	<u>Magnitude</u>	<u>Property equal intervals</u>	<u>Absolute 0</u>
Nominal	No	No	No
Ordinal	Yes	No	No
Interval	Yes	Yes	No
Ratio	Yes	Yes	Yes

3/

Independent + dependent variables

Independent → presumed to affect or determine other
IV. variables. eg. smoking → lung cancer.

Predictor



Dependent → variables affected or determined by independent
DV. variables.

Response / criterion.

Samples, populations, statistics and parameters.

Population → entire collection of elements or individual
eg: average income per capita → need everyone
income. → add + divide by number of people

→ Sample: as we are normally unable to collect data from
all, we collect a sample. (estimate.)

Parameter → numerical values summarising the population
data.

Statistic → numerical values summarising sample data.

Statistical Inference → act of generalising from a sample to a
population.

- Statistics - we are often interested in hypothetical populations

3/ Problems with the quantitative approach

→ easy rationality of probabilistic inference has become an institutionalized canon, and has usurped other ~~etc~~ evidentiary forms

→

4. Self math tests

5/ Displaying Data.

Graphical + tabular displays of data allow us to "see" the distribution of scores of a variable

- frequency of a score refers to the number of times that given score appears within a dataset
- frequency distribution is a tabular or graphical representation of a dataset indicating the set of scores on a variable together with their frequency.
- types of data
 - variables that can take on a few values → integers → discrete values ⇒ goals scored in a match.
students in a class
 - ⇒ continuous variables ⇒ height / mass of people
= infinite number of possibilities
 - ⇒ % frequency → percentage of observations that fall into each outcome category

Frequency Bar Chart.

- Values or scores of a nominal data are used for identification
 - does not indicate the amount of an attribute.
- Bar chart is a graphical representation of nominal data in which a vertical bar reflects the frequency of each category on a discrete (or categorical) variable

table class interval smallest \rightarrow biggest \downarrow

\rightarrow aspect ratio of a bar chart is the ~~ratio~~ ratio of the height to the width of the bar.

\rightarrow calculate % frequency \rightarrow dividing the frequency for the category by the total number of subjects. (N)

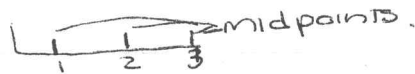
$$f \div N = f\%$$

N = total amount of scores (f = total)

\rightarrow table do score lowest \rightarrow high.



NB must have midpoints.
midpoints.



" Has gaps between scores. "

\rightarrow class interval is a division of category of scores on a grouped frequency distribution

\rightarrow grouped frequency distribution \rightarrow tabular or graphical representation of ordinal, interval or ratio data. Scores are grouped into class intervals, for which frequencies are given

\rightarrow real upper limit + real lower limit refer to the true boundaries of a class interval. They are found midway between

eg. class interval 10-19 \rightarrow real upper limit = 19.5 ($\frac{1}{2}$ between 19, 20)
20-29

\rightarrow real lower limit of 20-29 = 19.5
10-19 = 9.5

Cummulative percentage (%) frequency \rightarrow % of items within a dataset that have value less than or equal to a specified score.

\rightarrow add ... - frequency % with one below it.

% frequency	Cummulative %
2.5	100
18.75	97.50
37.5	78.75
33.75	41.25
6.25	7.5
1.25	1.25

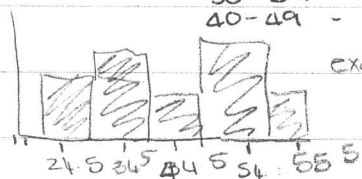
Cummulative frequency \rightarrow from bottom up

add the frequency to the one below it.

The histogram.

\rightarrow midpoint of each class. if 1st class has nothing leave a blank

class - 20-29	- midpoint = 24.5	
30-39	"	34.5
40-49	"	44.5



example

midpoints

$$\text{Midpoint of class interval} = RLL + \left(\frac{RUL - RLL}{2} \right)$$

\rightarrow no gaps between classes

\rightarrow indicate midpoint on horizontal AXIS.

Describing of frequency distributions

Shape of Distribution

\rightarrow to describe the shape of a frequency comment on its

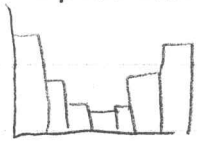
* symmetry, * modes

* skewness * kurtosis

Symmetrical Unimodal Distribution



Symmetrical Bimodal Distributions



Symmetrical \rightarrow often has centermost points in the middle of the distribution

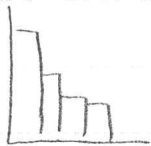
Unimodal \rightarrow peak in the middle

Bimodal \rightarrow peak on the sides

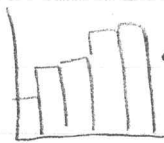
negative peaked - right
positive peaked - left

Kurtosis \rightarrow peakedness of a distribution

- \rightarrow flat (platykurtic)
- \rightarrow leptokurtic (peaked)
- \rightarrow mesokurtic (normal)

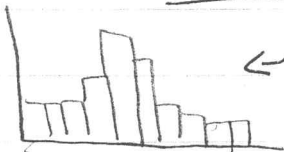


\leftarrow positively skewed distribution

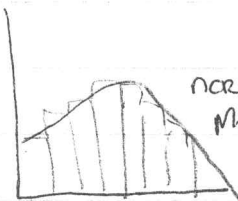


\leftarrow negatively skewed distribution

KURTOSIS



\leftarrow Peaked distribution (leptokurtic)



normal
mesokurtic



\leftarrow Flat distribution
platykurtic



Percentile Rank - % of cases that lie at or below a specific point of the scale on which the data are measured

Percentile \rightarrow point on the scale at + below which a specified percentage cases in a dataset falls.

$$\text{Percentile rank} = \% \text{ below} + \frac{\text{score} - \text{RLL}}{\text{class interval width}} \quad (\text{interval } \%)$$

% below = cumulative percentage of frequency of the class below in which the score falls

score = score in which we are trying to determine % rank

RLL = real lower limit of the interval in which the score of interest occurs

class interval width = width of class interval

interval % = % of distribution that falls into the category of interest.

$$\text{Score of } P = \text{RLL} + \frac{\text{PR} - \% \text{ below}}{\text{interval } \%} (\text{interval width})$$

PR = Percentile Rank for which we wish to identify a score

Median (50th %)

→ value that divides a distribution into 2 halves

Midpoint = average of upper + lower limits of the class interval
 $(UL + LL) / 2$

6/ Measures of central tendency

The Mean (arithmetic average of group of numbers) \bar{X}

→ average of a group of numbers.

$$\bar{X} = \frac{\sum x}{n}$$

\bar{X} = mean

$\sum x$ = total of all scores

n = number of scores

$$\text{Population mean} = \mu = \frac{\sum X}{n}$$

Median

↳ middle score in a ranked distribution of scores

↳ not influenced by extreme scores

* Always use the formula first to compute the median location $\left(\frac{N+1}{2}\right)$

* Arrange data smallest → largest.

* Count positions up to the position then determine median

Mode

→ the most frequently ~~seen~~ occurring score in a distribution

Measures of variability

Measures of variability indicate the degree to which the scores are dispersed or different from each other

3 commonly used measures of variation

↳ Range

↳ variance

↳ standard deviation.

notion of variation is central to many statistical concepts + procedures.

Range

→ the distance between the bottom + the top of the dataset

* crude range ⇒ difference between the maximum + minimum scores

* extended range ⇒ difference + 1

* interquartile range → difference between 25th + 75th quartiles

∴ Range = highest score - lowest score.

Average deviation (Do not need to calculate, or define)

→ average of the absolute distances of the individual scores from the mean of the distribution.

NB Variance (S^2) = sample variance

→ average of the squared distances of individual scores from the mean of distribution

→ smaller variance - closer the individual scores to the mean

→ greater the variance - more widely individual scores are dispersed around mean.

NB Formula to be used to calculate standard variance

$$S^2_x = \frac{\sum x^2 - \frac{(\sum x)^2}{n}}{n-1}$$

→ we use $n-1$ → gives a better estimate of population variance.

Variance → population

Do not use this formula to calculate sample variance

Variance of Population (info only)

$$\sigma^2 = \frac{\sum (x - \mu)^2}{N}$$

σ^2 = variance of population

\sum = sum of

x = each score

μ = Population mean $\mu = \frac{\sum x}{N}$

n = number of observations

Steps

* calculate difference $x - \mu$ each score

* calculate squared difference - do each score + add together.

Standard Deviation

- Square Root of the average of the squared distances of the individual scores from the mean of the distribution.

$$Sx = \sqrt{s^2 x}$$

Standard deviation for population \Rightarrow info only

$$\sigma = \sqrt{\sigma^2}$$

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All variances + standard deviations are positive numbers. (if you get a negative number you made a mistake)

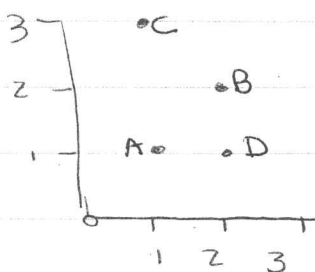
8 Correlation = r

Recap mean = \bar{X}

standard deviation = s

Scatter diagram is a graphic representation of correlation
correlation \rightarrow relationship between X and Y .
correlation $\rightarrow r$ symbol.

example scatter diagram



* remember to name (identify) points.

Correlation coefficient. Pearson

$$r = \frac{N \sum XY - \sum X \sum Y}{\sqrt{[N \sum X^2 - (\sum X)^2][N \sum Y^2 - (\sum Y)^2]}}$$

Steps * Calculate $\sum X$ = sum of X - all scores added together
 $\sum Y$ = sum of Y - all scores added together
 $\sum X^2$ = calculate each X score 2 + then add
 $\sum Y^2$ = calculate each Y score 2 + add together
 $\sum XY$ = calculate X times Y for each score + then add together.

Correlation Scores can only have a value between -1 and 1

If you get bigger than 1 or smaller than -1 you made a mistake.

Interpretation of the correlation coefficient

$r =$ positive = 0 to 1

$r =$ negative = -1 to 0

$r =$ no relationship = 0

Book P 184 table

nature of correlation (positive or negative) determined by direction of line.

examples positive correlation (both factors increase)

- * more bread eat for lunch - heavier the person will be
- * more years of teaching \rightarrow higher salary

examples negative correlation

- * heavier the load of the truck \rightarrow the less mileage kilometers the truck will drive increase in one weight load will cause decrease in mileage.
- * more days staff is absent the lower the output of the factory

Strength of the correlation

weak $0 \rightarrow 0,39$

moderate $0,40 \rightarrow 0,79$

strong $0,80 \rightarrow 1,00$

example :

- 0,95 = strong negative correlation

0,35 = weak positive correlation

0,82 = strong positive correlation

- 0,70 = moderate negative correlation

2,48 = IMPOSSIBLE must be between -1 and 1

0 = no correlation.

Deduction:

0,68 correlation \rightarrow degree of job satisfaction
and quality of working life

\therefore moderately positive correlation and people who have
a high degree of job satisfaction will also have a
high quality of working life
(Both \uparrow positive \rightarrow higher)

\Rightarrow strength of the correlation is determined by the concentration
of points \rightarrow closer they are to a straight line, stronger the correlation

Common Variance

* proportion of variance in \bar{X} scores that is attributable
to variance in \bar{Y} scores \rightarrow shared or common variance
between X and Y .

r^2 = proportion of common variance, calculated by
squaring the correlation coefficient (r)

$r^2 \times 100$: percentage of common variance r^2

~~12~~ Only r^2 can be converted to an percentage not r

$$\begin{aligned} r^2 &= r \times r \\ &\cdot \times 100 \\ &= r^2 \end{aligned}$$

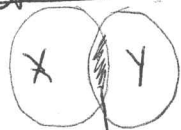
example $r = 0,40$

$$r^2 = 0,40 \times 0,40$$

$$r^2 = 0,16$$

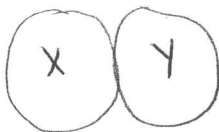
$$\begin{aligned} r^2 &= 0,16 \times 100 \\ &= 16\% \end{aligned}$$

Graphic display



$$r^2 = 16\%$$

no correlation



100%



Correlations

- correlation coefficient can not be calculated as a % directly
- refer to linear relations between 2 variables
 - ↳ non linear if not fall into a straight line on a scatter diagram
- correlation coefficients should not be averaged
- does not imply a cause-effect relation between variables when interpreting correlations → Avoid using cause; influence and lead to

Factors that influence correlations

- * outliers in a data set
- * homogeneity of the population (make sure test groups are similar)
- * restrictions in the range of variables.
 - ↳ make sure that variables don't have unrepresented small variances - restriction of range is a serious threat to the accurate interpretation of correlation coefficient

SG P43 - groups → PL - samples

SG P59 → walk through sample

SG P76 → walk through sample

SG P93 → 99

SG 102 -