Introducing Qualitative Analysis Software with Quirkos

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We are all qualitative researchers

100,500 words a day (Bohn and Short 2009)

“Always in the field” (Katz 1995)
How can we analyse qualitative data?

Interrogate, summarise, connect

Thematic or content analysis

Discourse analysis

Narrative analysis

Semiotic analysis
How can we analyse qualitative data?

Grounded theory / emergent coding / inductive (data driven)

Framework analysis / structured (pre-existing theory driven)
How do we analyse qualitative data?

- Develop a ‘framework’ / topic / node list
- ‘Code’ sections of data to one or more topics
- ‘Retrieve’ data at topics
- Explore connections between the data
What is CAQDAS?

Computer Assisted Qualitative Data Analysis

Manages many data sources (a database)

Software to speed the coding process

Generates reports and graphs to summarise data
What does CAQDAS **not** do?

- Not automatic
- Cannot do ‘analysis’
- Can’t write your report, or draw conclusions
Why use CAQDAS?

Has a pretty good memory!

Quick keyword search and quote retrieval

Neat, especially for corrections (undo/redo)

Can share or contribute with others

Creates a paper-trail (rigour?)
What is different about Quirkos?

- Designed for ease of use (participatory)
- Graphical interface (live visualisations)
- Cross-platform (Win/Mac/Linux)
- Cheap! (...but text only)
Workshop part 1

1. Projects and authors
2. Importing text
3. Source properties
4. Creating and arranging ‘Quirks’ or nodes
5. Code and retrieve
Workshop part 2

1. Alternate views
2. Levels
3. Queries
4. Reports
5. Exporting data
6. Structured questions
7. Tips and tricks
Let’s go!
Any questions or feedback?

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