Working Papers

Chapter contents.

This chapter is a set of working papers about **causal mapping as qualitative evidence management**: we code *reported causal influence claims* from text as a links table with provenance, then analyse the resulting evidence base through explicit transforms and queries.

The overall aim is to keep the core representation **minimal and auditable**, while still supporting powerful downstream analysis (filter pipelines, standardisation/recoding, coverage/fit diagnostics), including workflows that use LLMs as low-level assistants for extraction and labelling.

Core papers (start here)

- Minimalist coding for causal mapping: the core coding stance (“barefoot” link coding), why it is useful, and where it breaks.
- A formalisation of causal mapping: companion spec—data structures + conservative rules for aggregation/query.
- Causal mapping as causal QDA: positioning for qualitative methods / CAQDAS audiences.

Practical extensions (operations on a links table)

- Magnetisation: soft recoding with “magnets” (standardise labels at scale without re-coding quotes).
- A simple measure of the goodness of fit of a causal theory to a text corpus: coverage-style diagnostics for ToC fit.

- Combining opposites, sentiment and despite-claims: opposites transforms, sentiment as an annotation layer, and “despite” link typing.
- Hierarchical coding: hierarchical labels (;) and zoom-style simplification.

Related notes / fragments / examples

- !!!Qualitative Split-Apply-Combine: small-Q framing; causal mapping as a SAC variant; where genAI fits.
- 250! causal mapping turns QDA on its head: a short argument/fragment (kept for reuse).
- Conversational AI — Analysing Central Bank speeches: worked example of “clerk vs architect” (auto-extraction + magnet-style structuring).

PAGES IN THIS CHAPTER

Minimalist coding for causal mapping

> **Intended audience:** evaluators / applied qualitative researchers who want a teachable causal coding protocol, and AI/NLP readers who want a simple, auditable target representation of causal content in text.

A formalisation of causal mapping

> **Abstract**

Combining opposites, sentiment and despite-claims

> Instead we take a **piece-by-piece approach**:

Causal mapping as causal QDA

> **Unique contribution (what this paper adds):**

A simple measure of the goodness of fit of a causal theory to a text corpus

> See also: [[000 Working Papers ((working-papers))]]; [[005 Minimalist coding for causal mapping]]; [[900 Magnetisation]].

Magnetisation

> **Intended audience:** people who have done open-ended (often in-vivo) causal coding and need to standardise factor vocabularies for readable maps/tables without destroying provenance.

Conversational AI – Analysing Central Bank speeches

See also: [[000 Working Papers ((working-papers))]]; [[005 Minimalist coding for causal mapping]]; [[900 Magnetisation]]; [[040 Causal mapping as causal QDA]].