

Case Studies after Quantitative Work

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Case Selection Experiences

Case Study Roles

Case Study Roles

- Complimentary.

Case Study Roles

- Complimentary.
- Confirmatory.

Complimentary Roles

Complimentary Roles

- Explore Mechanisms

Complimentary Roles

- Explore Mechanisms
- Account for Outliers

Complimentary Roles

- Explore Mechanisms
- Account for Outliers
- Find Omitted Variables?

Confirmatory Roles

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- Test Mechanism Hypotheses

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- Test for Confounders

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- Test Assumptions Regarding Independence

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- Test Assumptions Regarding Independence
- Test for Interactions

Confirmatory Roles

- Test Mechanism Hypotheses
- Test for Confounders
- Test Assumptions Regarding Independence
- Test for Interactions
- Test Measurement

Measurement

Bowman, Lehoucq, and Mahoney

Measurement

Chong

Mechanisms

1 Causal pathway

Mechanisms

- 1 Causal pathway
- 2 Unobservable cause

Mechanisms

- 1 Causal pathway
- 2 Unobservable cause
- 3 Easily observable cause

Mechanisms

- 1 Causal pathway
- 2 Unobservable cause
- 3 Easily observable cause
- 4 Bounded explanation

Mechanisms

- 1 Causal pathway
- 2 Unobservable cause
- 3 Easily observable cause
- 4 Bounded explanation
- 5 Universal explanation

Mechanisms

⑥ Highly contingent explanation

Mechanisms

- ⑥ Highly contingent explanation
- ⑦ Explanation built on lawlike regularities

Mechanisms

- ⑥ Highly contingent explanation
- ⑦ Explanation built on lawlike regularities
- ⑧ An analytic technique

Mechanisms

- ⑥ Highly contingent explanation
- ⑦ Explanation built on lawlike regularities
- ⑧ An analytic technique
- ⑨ A micro-level explanation of a macro-level phenomenon

Process Tracing

Mechanisms and Quantitative Results

- Is the mechanism “isolated” from other causal factors?

Mechanisms and Quantitative Results

- Is the mechanism “isolated” from other causal factors?
- Is the mechanism “exhaustive”?

Mechanisms and Quantitative Results

- Is the mechanism “isolated” from other causal factors?
- Is the mechanism “exhaustive”?
- Could the mechanism plausibly account for the whole estimated effect?

Exploring Outliers

Exploring Outliers

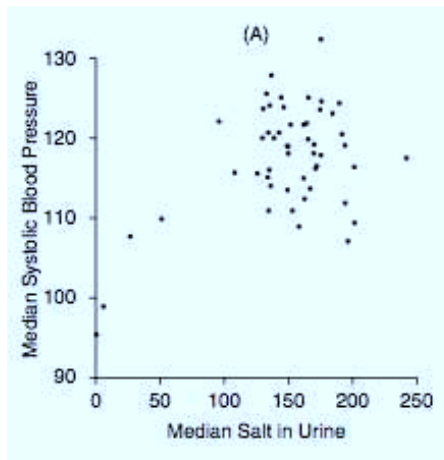


Figure: Salt and Blood Pressure, Intersalt Data

Omitted Variables

Omitted Variables and Confounders

Omitted Variables

- 1 Trace the causes of the cause.

Omitted Variables

- 1 Trace the causes of the cause.
- 2 Examine the X to Y causal pathway for any influence by potential causes of the cause.

Causal Complexity

Causal Complexity

- Interaction terms

Causal Complexity

- Interaction terms
- Substitutability

Causal Complexity

Causal Complexity

- Interaction terms: process tracing

Causal Complexity

- Interaction terms: process tracing
- Substitutability
 - Process tracing

Causal Complexity

- Interaction terms: process tracing
- Substitutability
 - Process tracing
 - Targeted comparison

Diffusion

Diffusion

Statistical models

Diffusion

Can process tracing help?

Diffusion

Weyland's three hypotheses about Bolivian pension reform:

Diffusion

Weyland's three hypotheses about Bolivian pension reform:

- 1 Centralized imposition

Diffusion

Weyland's three hypotheses about Bolivian pension reform:

- 1 Centralized imposition
- 2 Shared norms and symbolic frameworks

Diffusion

Weyland's three hypotheses about Bolivian pension reform:

- 1 Centralized imposition
- 2 Shared norms and symbolic frameworks
- 3 Heuristics and cognitive shortcuts

Diffusion

- Availability:

Diffusion

- Availability: nearby examples carry more weight than distant ones

Diffusion

- Availability: nearby examples carry more weight than distant ones
- Representativeness:

Diffusion

- Availability: nearby examples carry more weight than distant ones
- Representativeness: early results are taken as definitive

Diffusion

- Availability: nearby examples carry more weight than distant ones
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- Anchoring:

Diffusion

- Availability: nearby examples carry more weight than distant ones
- Representativeness: early results are taken as definitive
- Anchoring: policy modifications to fit local conditions are limited

Centralized Imposition?

The privatization proposal did not originate in recommendations from international financial institutions. Instead finance ministry officials noticed the intensifying actuarial and financial problems in the existing pay-as-you-go system. And direct contact with Chilean experts convinced them that pension privatization could resolve these problems. (pg. 25)

Symbolic Imitation?

Normative considerations did not reshape decision-makers' definition of their interests. The financial problem that prompted interest in pension privatization was a long-standing concern of the finance ministry. And the promise that drastic social security reform would — after a long transition period — definitively and irreversibly end the pension system's drain on public coffers was a purely instrumental idea, not a new norm. (pg. 29)

Systematic Search for Ideas?

..drastic pension privatization attracted their attention in a rather accidental fashion. The finance ministry's budget director, Helga Salinas, was attending a 1990 meeting of the peak business association, Confederación de Empresarios Privados de Bolivia (CEPB), which featured José Piñera, the main architect of Chile's social security reform. Piñera, blessed with great persuasive powers, had turned into a missionary propagating this reform on the international scene, especially after Chile's return to democracy had eased the stigma of pension privatization's association with Pinochet's dictatorship. While Salinas had undoubtedly known about the Chilean model before, Piñera's speech at the CEPB conference captured her attention so that she sought him out and kept talking to him over lunch. Through this conversation, she came to see pension privatization as a promising solution to the financial and actuarial problems identified before. (pg. 30)

Diffusion

Can process tracing help?

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- Chronology

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- Chronology
- Information Flows

Diffusion

Can process tracing help?

- Chronology
- Information Flows
- Public Justifications

Design Case Study After Regression

Consider elements to test:

- 1 Measurement
- 2 Mechanism Hypotheses
- 3 Outliers
- 4 Confounders
- 5 Causal Complexity
- 6 Diffusion