INTRODUCTION TO ATLAS.TI - QUALITATIVE DATA ANALYSIS

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AGENDA

- Why use QDA software?
- Choosing your QDA program
- ATLAS features & terminology
- Project (file) management (My Library)
  - Importing documents (privacy)
  - Copy Bundle function
- Example project in ATLAS
  - Networks & Reports
  - Survey data
- Additional resources
  - CSSCR
  - ATLAS.ti website
  - Books, etc.

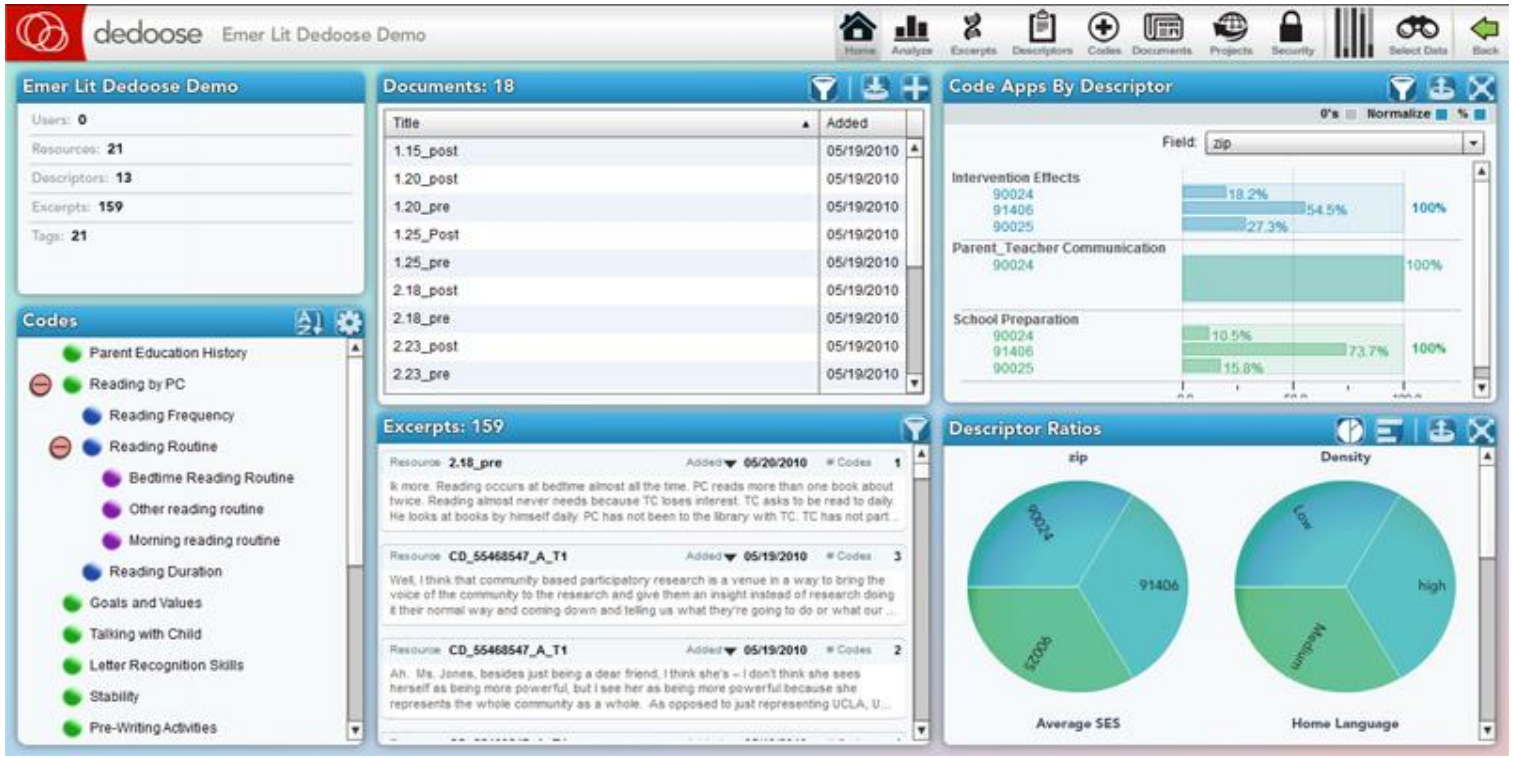
WHY USE QDA SOFTWARE?

- Manage large, complex data sets
- Code data with ease
- Conduct searches and visualizations
- Discover, test and describe patterns
- QDA software does not do the analysis for you, it facilitates the process
  - Examples: text or content analysis projects, literature reviews, inductive and deductive research of qualitative data (text, pictures, video, audio, etc.)

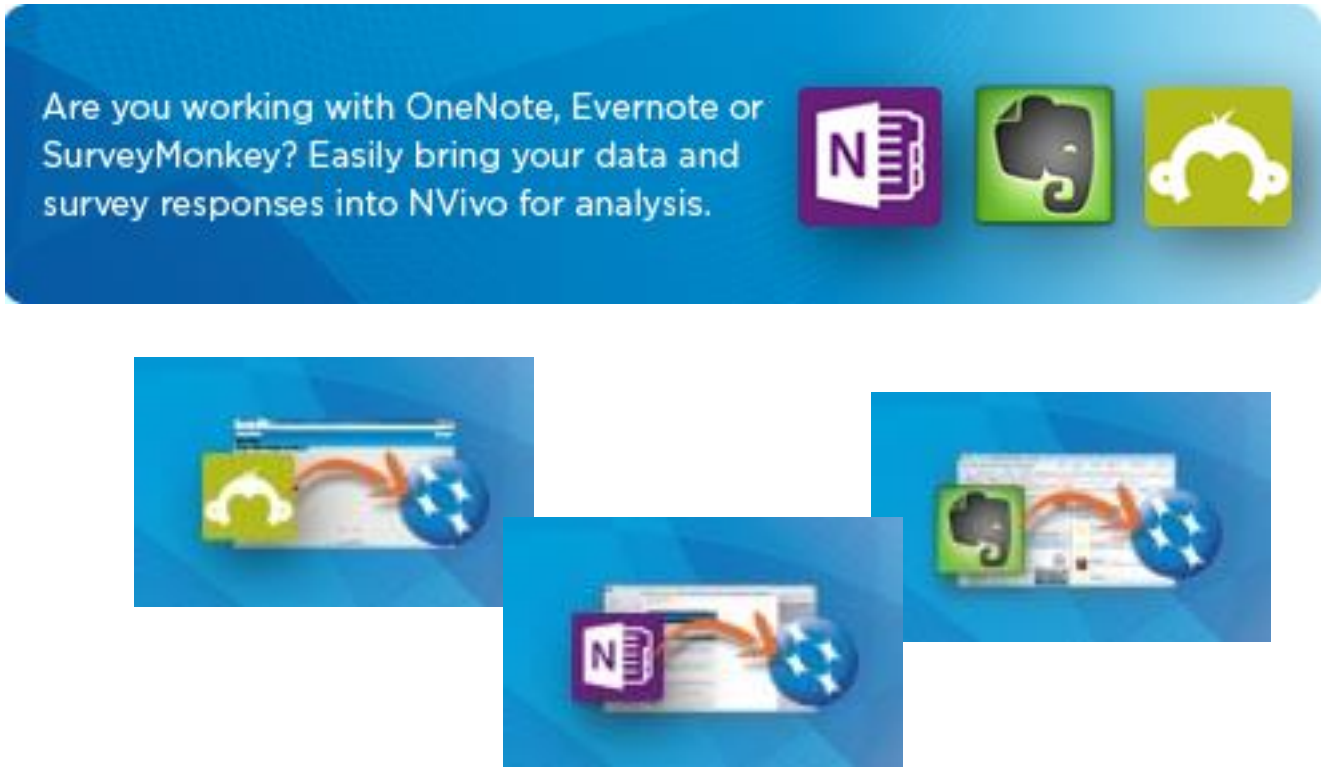
CHOOSING YOUR QDA SOFTWARE PACKAGE

Factor	TAMS Analyzer	ATLAS.ti
(Source)	http://tamsys.sourceforge.net/	www.atlasti.com
Cost	Free	$99 student license/free at CSSCR or via CSDE
Platform	Mac	PC
Data/file types	Text (rtf and pdf), audio and video (but for playback only)	Text, video and audio, images, PDFs, geo data (Google Earth)
Team vs. Individual	Capable, but not great for group work	Built in functionality for group work
Reports/outputs	Reports are functional	Reports are more robust
Ease of use	Bare bones UI, user manuals online (including on CSSCR), FB page for Q&A	Buttons and menus UI, supported by CSSCR, manuals online, free instructional videos

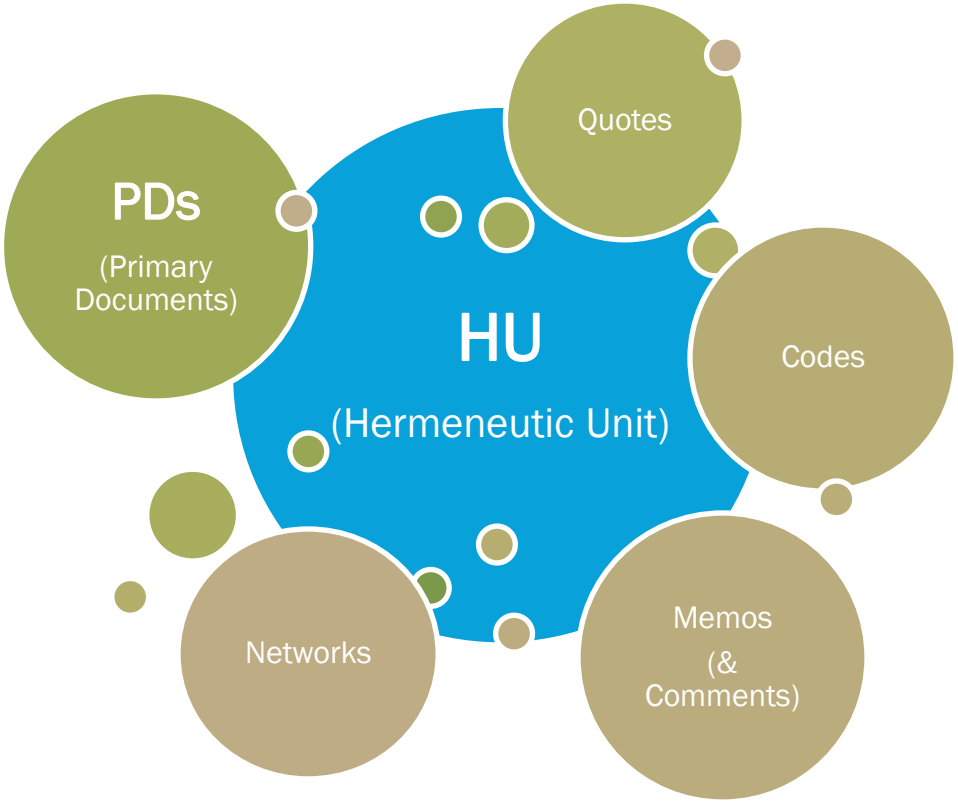
CHOOSING YOUR QDA PROGRAM (CONTINUED)



CHOOSING YOUR QDA PROGRAM (CONTINUED)



ATLAS.TI FEATURES



My Library & Copy Bundle

PROJECT MANAGEMENT

- Work from copies of your files
- Stay organized (all PDs in one project folder)
- New in v7: project management library system (above rules are still a good habit, but no longer "necessary"):
  - My Library, Team Library
    - Documents->Data Source Management->Open Library Manager
  - Importing primary documents (PDs) – now it takes any text version (doc(x), txt, rtf) and many other types of files (video, audio, images, etc.)
    - Legacy menu item: Documents->New->Assign External Documents
    - Be aware of sensitive/private info when using a public computer
  - Add Documents to My Library (or Team Library)
  - Copy Bundle (under Project and Tools menus)*

**Back up your HU using the Copy Bundle function (this will include all PDs from the Library as well as your coding), not by saving or copying the HU file alone (that just won't work).*

EXAMPLE PROJECT IN ATLAS.TI

- Install a Copy Bundle – work on pre-coded HU
- Coding data
  - Importing a code list (deductive)
  - Open coding (inductive)
- Memos & Comments
- Searching
- Visualization/Network Views
- Generating reports
- Importing Survey Data

RESOURCES

CSSCR website:

http://julius.csscr.washington.edu/

Intro video, “cheat sheet” summarizing concepts

ATLAS.ti websites:

www.atlasti.com (Training videos, PDF manuals)

Forum.atlasti.com

Manuals: http://www.atlasti.com/manual.html

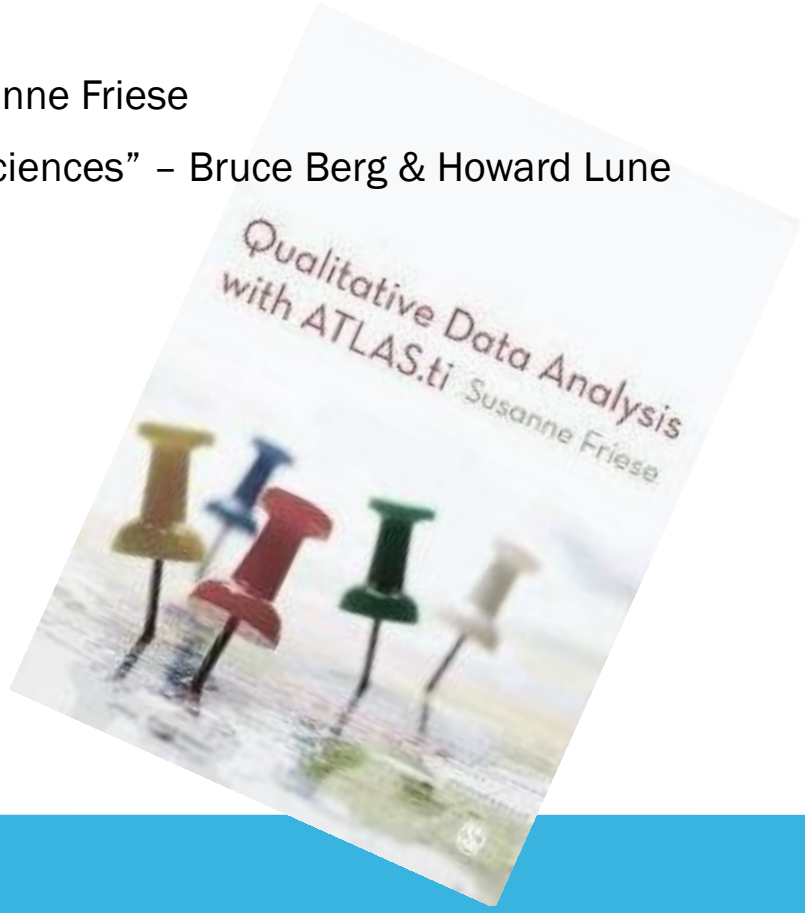
Other:

ATLAS.ti channel on YouTube: http://www.youtube.com/user/ATLASti01?feature=watch

Search & you shall find!

ADDITIONAL RESOURCES

Books:

"Qualitative Data Analysis with ATLAS.ti" – Susanne Friese

"Qualitative Research Methods for the Social Sciences" – Bruce Berg & Howard Lune