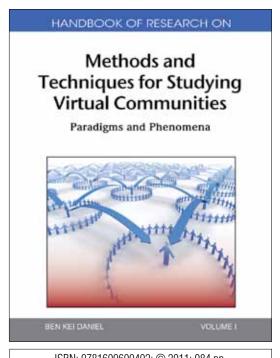
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Handbook of Research on Methods and Techniques for Studying Virtual Communities: Paradigms and Phenomena



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Ben Kei Daniel (University of Saskatchewan, Canada)

Over the last decade, virtual communities have evolved from massive experimental, educational, technological, business, and social environments to experiential and practical environments, supplementing their geographical counterparts.

The Handbook of Research on Methods and Techniques for Studying Virtual Communities: Paradigms and Phenomena satisfies the need for methodological consideration and tools for data collection, analysis and presentation in virtual communities. Chapters cover studies on various types of virtual communities, making this reference a comprehensive source of research for those in the social sciences and humanities. Additionally, the book supports executives and corporate leaders concerned with the management of expertise, social capital, competence knowledge, and information and organizational development in different types of virtual communities and environments.

Topics Covered:

- Blended communities
- · Conversation analysis
- · Distributed communities of practice
- Immersive virtual ethnography
- Mapping electronic conversations
- Methods for evaluating online discussions
- Modeling social interactions in online communities
- Quantitative content analysis of online interactions
- Semantic social network analysis
- · Virtual geodemographics

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Section 1: Introduction to Virtual Communities

Chapter 1

Introduction to this Volume

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Chapter 2

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Chapter 3

Recurrent Interactions, Acts of Communication and Emergent Social Practice in Virtual Community Settings Akoumianakis Demosthenes (Technological Education Institution of Crete, Greece)

Chapter 4

Toward Diversity in Researching Teaching and Technology Philosophies-in-Practice in e-Learning Communities Parchoma Gale (Centre for Studies in Advanced Learning Technologies (CSALT) & Lancaster University, UK)

Section 2: Social Networks and Data Mining

Data Mining Techniques for Communities' Detection in Dynamic Social Networks Robardet Céline (Université de Lyon, France)

Chapter 6

A Methodological Approach for Blended Communities: Annese Susan (University of Bari, Italy) Traetta Marta (University of Bari, Italy)

Chapter 7

Semantic Social Network Analysis: Erétéo Guillaume (Orange Labs, France)

Limpens Freddy (EDELWEISS, INRIA Sophia-Antipolis, France) Gandon Fabien (EDELWEISS, INRIA Sophia-Antipolis, France) Corby Olivier (EDELWEISS, INRIA Sophia-Antipolis, France)

Buffa Michel (University of Nice Sophia Antipolis, France) Leitzelman Mylène (University of Nice Sophia Antipolis, France)

Sander Peter (University of Nice Sophia Antipolis, France)

Chapter 8

Using Social Network Analysis to Guide Theoretical Sampling in an Ethnographic Study of a Virtual Community

Murillo Enrique (Instituto Tecnológico Autónomo de México – ITAM, Mexico)

Section 3: Tools and Techniques for Analysis and Building of Virtual Communities

Chapter 9

Graphically Mapping Electronic Discussions:

Howell Jennifer (Australian Catholic University Limited, Australia)

A Tool to Study the Evolution of the Domain of a Distributed Community of Practice Sato Gilson Yukio (Federal University of Technology - Paraná, Brazil) Silva de Azevedo Hilton José (Federal University of Technology - Paraná, Brazil) Barthès Jean-Paul (Université de Technologie de Compiègne, France)

Exploring Virtual Communities with the Internet Community Text Analyzer (ICTA) Gruzd Anatoliy (Dalhousie University, Canada)

Chapter 12

Making the Virtual Real:

Lansiquot Reneta D. (New York City College of Technology of the City University of New York, USA)

Virtual Communities as Tools to Support Teaching Practicum: English Rebecca (Queensland University of Technology, Australia) Howell Jennifer (Australian Catholic University Limited, Australia)

Chapter 14

Conversation Analysis as a Tool to Understand Online Social Encounters Tan Aik-Ling (Nanyang Technological University, Singapore) Tan Seng-Chee (Nanyang Technological University, Singapore)

Section 4: Data and User Modelling

Chapter 15

Modeling the Diversity of User Behavior in Online Communities Hogg Tad (Hewlett-Packard Laboratories, USA) Szabo Gabor (Hewlett-Packard Laboratories, USA)

Context and Explanation in e-Collaborative Work Brézillon Patrick (University Paris 6 (UPMC), France)

Intelligent LMS with an Agent that Learns from Log Data in a Virtual Community Ueno Maomi (The University of Electro-Communications, Japan)

Chapter 18

A Computational Model of Social Capital in Virtual Communities Daniel Ben K. (University of Saskatchewan and Saskatoon Health Region, Canada)

Section 5: Methods, Measurements and Matrices

Chapter 19

A Beginner's Guide to Geographic Virtual Communities Research Hecht Brent (Northwestern University, USA) Gergle Darren (Northwestern University, USA)

Chapter 20

A Theoretical Method of Measuring Virtual Community Health and the Health of their Operating Environment in a Business Setting

Robertson Brent (Sancor, Canada)

Building Web Communities: Isakovič Jan (Artesia, Slovenia) Sulčič Alja (Artesia, Slovenia)

Chapter 22

Virtual Geodemographics:

Singleton Alex D (University of Liverpool, UK)

Chapter 23

Development of Cellular Phone Software to Prompt Learners to Monitor and Reorganize Division of Labor in Project-Based Learning

Mochizuki Toshio (Senshu University, Japan) Yaegashi Kazaru (Ritsumeikan University, Japan)

Kato Hiroshi (The Open University of Japan, Japan) Nishimori Toshihisa (The University of Tokyo, Japan)

Nagamori Yusuke (Tsukuba University of Technology, Japan)

Fujita Shinobu (Spiceworks Corporation, Japan)

Chapter 24

Mathematical Retrieval Techniques for Online Mathematics Learning Van Tien Le (Hochiminh City University of Technology, Vietnam) Tho Quan Thanh (Hochiminh City University of Technology, Vietnam) Cheung Hui Siu (Nanyang Technological University, Singapore)

Chapter 25

Online Ethnographic Methods:

Skågeby Jörgen (Linköping University, Sweden)

Understanding Online Communities by Using Semantic Web Technologies Research Methods for Studying Virtual Communities Passant Alexandre (National University of Ireland-Galway, Ireland) Boaduo Nana Adu-Pipim (University of the Free State, South Africa) Kinsella Sheila (National University of Ireland-Galway, Ireland) Bojars Uldis (National University of Ireland-Galway, Ireland) Chapter 37 Breslin John G. (National University of Ireland-Galway, Ireland) Methodological Considerations for Quantitative Content Analysis of Online Interactions Decker Stefan (National University of Ireland-Galway, Ireland) Tan Seng-Chee (Nanyang Technological University, Singapore) So Hyo-Jeong (Nanyang Technological University, Singapore) Chai Ching-Sing (Nanyang Technological University, Singapore) Chapter 27 Understanding and Using Virtual Ethnography in Virtual Environments Hancock Robert (Southeastern Louisiana University, USA) Crain-Dorough Mindy (Southeastern Louisiana University, USA) Chapter 38 Measuring Brand Community Strength Parton Becky (Southeastern Louisiana University, USA) Yamamoto Hikaru (Seikei University, Japan) Oescher Jeff (Southeastern Louisiana University, USA) Matsuo Yutaka (University of Tokyo, Japan) Participant-Observation as a Method for Analyzing Avatar Design in User-Generated Virtual Worlds An Approach for Analysing Interactions within Virtual Learning Communities Turner Jeremy O. (Simon Fraser University Surrey, Canada) Repetto Manuela (Institute for Educational Technology, National Research Council, Italy) McCracken Janet (Simon Fraser University Surrey, Canada) Bizzocchi Jim (Simon Fraser University Surrey, Canada) Section 6: Online Phenomena and Case Studies Chapter 29 Participatory Design Experiment: Pata Kai (Tallinn University, Estonia) The Sense of e-Learning Community Index (SeLCI) for Computer Supported Collaborative e-Learning (CSCeL) Lambropoulos Niki (London South Bank University, UK) Researching Community in Distributed Environments: Chapter 41 Dennen Vanessa P. (Florida State University, USA) Tracer Studies: Myers Jennifer B. (Florida State University, USA) Brigham Nancy (Rosenblum Brigham Associates, USA) Suggs Christie L. (Florida State University, USA) Chapter 42 Digital Museums in 3D Virtual Environment Methods for the Measurement and Visualization of Social Networks in Multi-User Virtual Worlds Sookhanaphibarn Kingkarn (Ritsumeikan University, Japan) Rosen Devan (Ithaca College, USA) Thawonmas Ruck (Ritsumeikan University, Japan) Chapter 32 Chapter 43 Online Multi-Contextual Analysis: Weaving the Social Fabrics: Young Alyson (The University of Maryland, Baltimore County, USA) Tang Tiffany Y. (Konkuk University, South Korea) Gurzick David (University of Maryland, Baltimore County, USA) Winoto Pinata (Konkuk University, South Korea) Quan-Haase Anabel (The University of Western Ontario, Canada) Studying Social Capital in the New Communitarian Horizon: Participant Observation in Online Multiplayer Communities Aguirre José Luis López (Universidad Panamericana, México) Siitonen Marko (University of Jyväskylä, Finland) Proposed Techniques for Data Collection and Analysis in the Study of News-Oriented Virtual Communities Gibbs William J. (Duquesne University, USA) McKendrick Joseph E. (McKendrick and Associates, USA) Challenges of Analyzing Informal Virtual Communities Poon Nancy (University of Saskatchewan, Canada) Daniel Ben (University of Saskatchewan and Saskatoon Health Region, Canada) **Order Your Copy Today!**

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