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.

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- 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
Daniel Ben K. (University of Saskatchewan and Saskatoon Health Region, Canada)

Chapter 2
GEEK: Shi Lian (Parque Científico Tecnológico de Gijón Edificio Centros Tecnológicos, Spain)
Berruetta Diego (Parque Científico Tecnológico de Gijón Edificio Centros Tecnológicos, Spain)
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Fernández Silvino (Parque Científico Tecnológico de Gijón Edificio Centros Tecnológicos, Spain)

Chapter 3
Recurrent Interactions, Acts of Communication and Emergent Social Practice in Virtual Community Settings
Aksounianakis Demothenes (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

Chapter 5
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)

Chapter 7
Semantic Social Network Analysis:
Erfeniks Guillaume (Orange Labs, 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)

Chapter 10
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)
Barbáis Jean-Paul (Université de Technologie de Compiegne, France)

Chapter 11
Exploring Virtual Communities with the Internet Community Text Analyzer (ICTA)
Gruzd Anatoliy (Dalhousie University, Canada)

Chapter 12
Making the Virtual Real:
Lanskeager Reneta D. (New York City College of Technology of the City University of New York, USA)

Chapter 13
Virtual Communities as Tools to Support Teaching Practitioners:
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-Liang (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 Ted (Hewlett-Packard Laboratories, USA)
Szabo Gabor (Hewlett-Packard Laboratories, USA)

Chapter 16
Context and Explanation in e-Collaborative Work
Brézillon Patrick (University Paris 6 (UPMC), France)

Chapter 17
Intelligent LMS with an Agent that Learns from Log Data in a Virtual Community
Oneo 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)
Genge 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 (Sencor, Canada)

Chapter 21
Building Web Communities:
Isakovčič Jan (Artesia, Slovenia)
šušić 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 Kazara (Ritsumeikan University, Japan)
Kato Hiroshi (The Open University of Japan, Japan)
Nagamori Yusuke (Tsukuba University of Technology, Japan)
Mochizuki Toshio (Senshu University, 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:
Skålęgyö Jögen (Linköping University, Sweden)
Chapter 26
Understanding Online Communities by Using Semantic Web Technologies
Passant Alexandre (National University of Ireland-Galway, Ireland)
Kinsella Sheila (National University of Ireland-Galway, Ireland)
Bojars Uldis (National University of Ireland-Galway, Ireland)
Breslin John G. (National University of Ireland-Galway, Ireland)
Decker Stefan (National University of Ireland-Galway, Ireland)

Chapter 27
Understanding and Using Virtual Ethnography in Virtual Environments
Hancock Robert (Southeastern Louisiana University, USA)
Grahn-Dorothy Mindy (Southeastern Louisiana University, USA)
Patson Becki (Southeastern Louisiana University, USA)
Oescher Jeff (Southeastern Louisiana University, USA)

Chapter 28
Participant Observation as a Method for Analyzing Avatar Design in User-Generated Virtual Worlds
Turner Jeremy O. (Simon Fraser University Surrey, Canada)
McCrae Janet (Simon Fraser University Surrey, Canada)
Bizzocchi Jim (Simon Fraser University Surrey, Canada)

Chapter 29
Participatory Design Experiment
Pata Kari (Tallinn University, Estonia)

Chapter 30
Researching Community in Distributed Environments:
Denn
Vanessa P. (Florida State University, USA)
Myers Jennifer B. (Florida State University, USA)
Sage Christine L. (Florida State University, USA)

Chapter 31
Methods for the Measurement and Visualization of Social Networks in Multi-User Virtual Worlds
Rosen Devan (Ithaca College, USA)

Chapter 32
Online Multi-Contextual Analytic
Young Alyson (The University of Maryland, Baltimore County, USA)
Guricz David (University of Maryland, Baltimore County, USA)
Quan-Haase Anabel (The University of Western Ontario, Canada)

Chapter 33
Participant Observation in Online Multiplayer Communities
Siitonen Marko (University of Jyväskylä, Finland)

Chapter 34
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)

Chapter 35
Challenges of Analyzing Informal Virtual Communities
Poon Nancy (University of Saskatchewan, Canada)
Daniel Ben (University of Saskatchewan and Saskatoon Health Region, Canada)

Chapter 36
Research Methods for Studying Virtual Communities
Boaduo Nana Adu-Pipim (University of the Free State, South Africa)

Chapter 37
Methodological Considerations for Quantitative Content Analysis of Online Interactions
Tan Seng-Chye (Nanyang Technological University, Singapore)
So Hyo-Jeong (Nanyang Technological University, Singapore)
Chai Ching-Sing (Nanyang Technological University, Singapore)

Chapter 38
Measuring Brand Community Strength
Yamamoto Hikaru (Seikei University, Japan)
Matsuo Yutaka (University of Tokyo, Japan)

Chapter 39
An Approach for Analyzing Interactions within Virtual Learning Communities
Repetto Manuela (Institute for Educational Technology, National Research Council, Italy)

Section 6: Online Phenomena and Case Studies

Chapter 40
The Sense of e-Learning Community Index (eLCI) for Computer Supported Collaborative e-Learning (CSCEL)
Lambropoulos Niki (London South Bank University, UK)

Chapter 41
Tutor Studies:
Brigham Nancy (Rosenblum Brigham Associates, USA)

Chapter 42
Digital Museums in 3D Virtual Environment
Sookhanaphibarn Kingkarn (Ritsumeikan University, Japan)
Wiroonsen Ruck (Ritsumeikan University, Japan)

Chapter 43
Wearing the Social Fabrics:
Tang Tiffany Y. (Konkuk University, South Korea)
Winito Pinata (Konkuk University, South Korea)

Chapter 44
Studying Social Capital in the New Communitarian Horizon:
Aguirre José Luis López (Universidad Panamericana, México)

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