

QCA Software

Claude Rubinson
University of Houston—Downtown
Houston, TX

International QCA Paper Development Workshop
ETH Zürich

December 12, 2019

rubinsonc@uhd.edu
<http://gator.uhd.edu/~rubinsonc/>
<http://grundrisse.org/qca/>
<http://compasss.org>

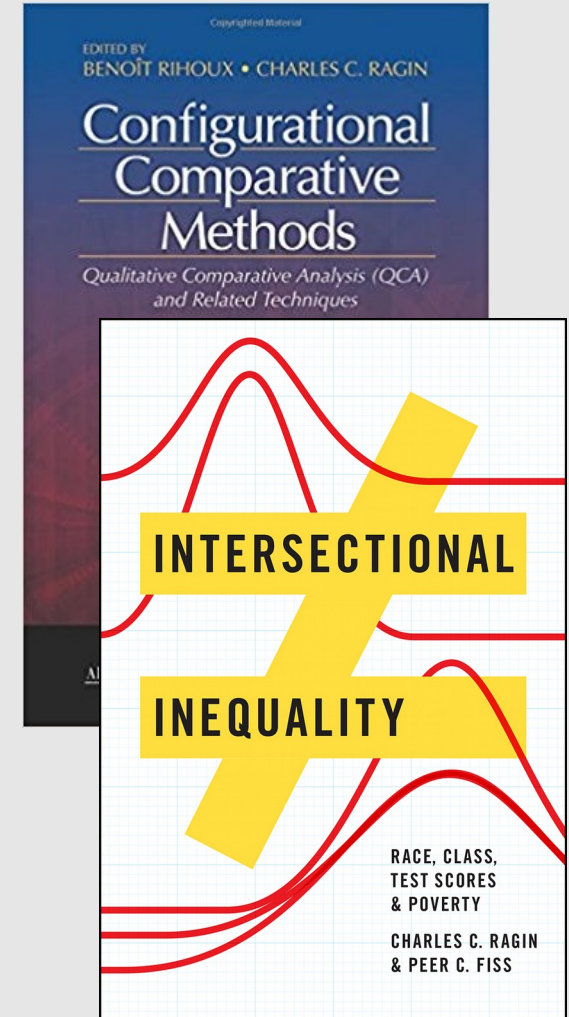
QCA is both a technique and an approach.

As a technique

- Measures of degree of set membership
- Subset relations measured by consistency and coverage
- Taxonomies as truth tables
- Sufficiency solutions via Quine-McCluskey minimization
- Requires software

As an approach

- Rihoux, et. al. (2009, Ch 1 of *CCM*)
- Ragin (1997/2004) “Turning the Tables”
- Ragin & Fiss (2017) *Intersectional Inequality*
- Doesn't require software



3M

ENHANCED PERFORMANCE DISKETTES

QCA

Qualitative Comparative
Analysis

QCA 3.0

Serial # 030B0002

© Kriss Drass 1993

FORMATTED

IBM

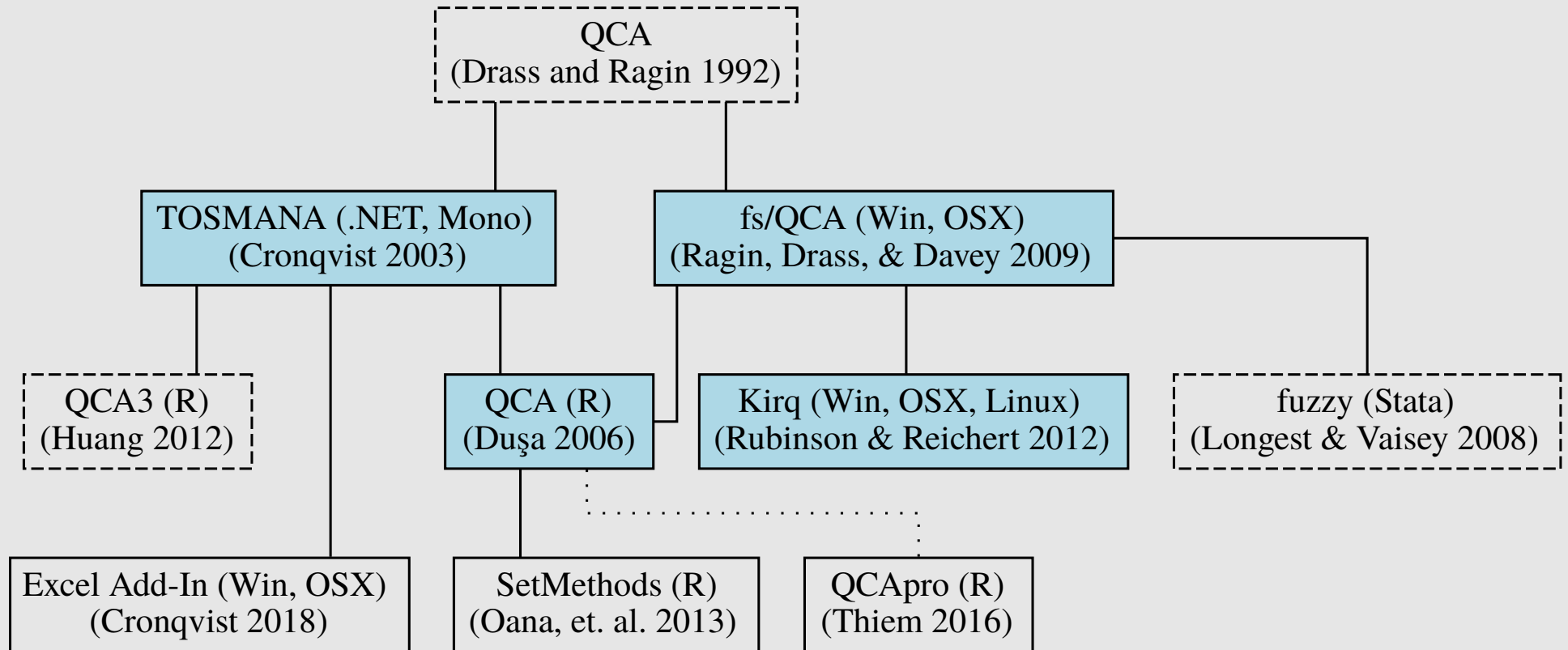
2HD

FUJIFILM



Major QCA Software Packages

(see <http://compasss.org> for a complete list)



Recommendations

- Distinguish between QCA as a technique and QCA as an approach. *A good QCA embraces the approach.*
- Carefully consider how QCA is applied to small, medium, and large-N studies and the respective emphasis on in-depth case knowledge versus cross-case regularities.
- Different software packages approach QCA differently, shaping how you think about and conduct your analysis.
- Software is just a means to an end. It automates the mundane and repetitive parts of the analysis, so that you can focus on what's really important—getting to know your cases.
- Follow **COMPASSS** for updates on QCA/CCM software.