

Contents

<i>List of Figures and Tables</i>	xiii
<i>List of Abbreviations</i>	xv
<i>Preface and Acknowledgements</i>	xvi
1 Relevance and Refinements of Case Studies	1
1.1 Case studies as cornerstones for theories and research programs	2
1.2 The case for case study research	5
1.2.1 The growing relevance of timing, cognition, and interdependence	5
1.2.2 Perforated boundaries in social reality and the social sciences	6
1.2.3 Building bridges between paradigmatic camps	7
1.3 The case for a non-fundamentalist and pluralist epistemology	9
1.3.1 Empiricism/Positivism and Critical Rationalism	9
1.3.2 Constructivism/Conventionalism and Critical Theory	10
1.3.3 Pragmatism/Naturalism and Critical Realism	12
1.3.4 The epistemological 'middle ground': Anti-fundamentalist and pluralistic	13
1.4 Case study methodology: A brief history and recent contributions	15
1.5 Case studies: Toward a generic and multidimensional definition	18
1.6 Observations: Toward an adequate understanding of case studies	20
1.7 Three approaches to case study research: An overview	23
1.7.1 Research goals and questions	23
1.7.2 Case and theory selection	24

1.7.3	Data generation and data analysis	26
1.7.4	Generalization	31
2	Co-Variational Analysis	33
2.1	Research goals and research questions	35
2.2	Ontological and epistemological foundations and affinities	36
2.2.1	Experimental template and counterfactual concept of causation	37
2.2.2	Experimental control versus control in observational studies	38
2.2.3	Probabilistic versus deterministic causality	38
2.2.4	Autonomous versus configurational causality	41
2.3	Selecting cases	41
2.3.1	Criteria for case selection	42
2.3.2	Modes of comparison	44
2.3.3	Cross-sectional comparison	45
2.3.4	Intertemporal comparison	46
2.3.5	Cross-sectional–intertemporal comparison	47
2.3.6	Counterfactual comparison	48
2.3.7	Excursus: The method of agreement and the most different systems design	49
2.4	The functions of prior knowledge and theory	50
2.4.1	Specifying the main independent and dependent variable	51
2.4.2	Substantiating the research hypothesis	52
2.4.3	Identifying control variables	54
2.5	Drawing causal inferences for the cases under investigation	54
2.5.1	Data set results and conclusions	55
2.5.2	Examples	58
2.5.3	Concluding remarks	61
2.6	Measurement and data collection	63
2.6.1	Conceptualization and measurement in large-N versus small-N research	63
2.6.2	Determination of classifications and cut-off points	65
2.6.3	Replicability and measurement error	67
2.6.4	Data triangulation	68

2.7	Direction of generalization	68
2.8	Presenting findings and conclusions	70
2.9	Example of best practice: Zangl's <i>Judicialization Matters!</i>	71
2.10	<i>Summary and conclusions</i>	75
2.11	Appendix: How to make counterfactual analysis more compelling	76
3	Causal-Process Tracing	79
3.1	Research goals and research questions	84
3.1.1	Starting points and research goals	84
3.1.2	Research goals and functions of causal-process tracing	87
3.1.3	Research questions	88
3.2	Ontological and epistemological foundations	90
3.2.1	Contingency	91
3.2.2	Causal conditions and configurations	92
3.2.3	Additive and interactive configurations	93
3.2.4	Causal conjunctions and causal chains	94
3.2.5	Social and causal mechanisms	95
3.2.6	Summary	97
3.2.7	Appendix: Contexts	98
3.3	Selecting cases	99
3.3.1	Misleading advice and trade-offs	99
3.3.2	General criteria for selecting cases	102
3.3.3	Specific criteria for selecting cases according to different research goals	102
3.4	Collecting empirical information	105
3.5	Drawing causal inferences for the case(s) under investigation	106
3.5.1	The added value of causal-process observations	107
3.5.2	Major features of causal-process tracing	109
3.5.3	Empirical fundaments of CPT: Storylines, smoking guns, and confessions	110
3.5.4	Logical foundations of CPT I: Causal chains	119
3.5.5	Logical foundations of CPT II: Process dynamics	121
3.6	Examples	123
3.6.1	Brady's <i>Data-Set Observations versus Causal-Process Observations</i>	124

3.6.2	Skocpol's <i>States and Social Revolutions</i>	127
3.6.3	Tannenwald's <i>The Nuclear Taboo</i>	130
3.7	Direction of generalization	134
3.7.1	Implicit and explicit generalizations	135
3.7.2	'Possibilistic' generalization	135
3.7.3	Drawing conclusions to the sets of causal conditions and configurations	137
3.7.4	Drawing conclusions to the sets of social and causal mechanisms	139
3.8	Presenting findings and conclusions	141
3.9	Summary	142
4	Congruence Analysis	144
4.1	Research goals and research questions	148
4.1.1	Research goals	149
4.1.2	Research questions	150
4.2	Ontological and epistemological foundations and affinities	152
4.2.1	Illustrating the epistemological foundation of the CON approach	152
4.2.2	Relationships between theories	154
4.2.3	Implications for the congruence analysis approach	160
4.3	Selecting theories and cases	167
4.3.1	Selection and specification of theories	169
4.3.2	Selection and specification of cases	175
4.3.3	Crucial cases	176
4.4	Formulating expectations and collecting data	178
4.4.1	The specification of propositions	179
4.4.2	Concrete expectations: Predictions	185
4.4.3	The collection of information and production of data	187
4.5	Data analysis – The congruence analysis proper	188
4.5.1	The steps of the congruence analysis proper	189
4.5.2	The full set of possible conclusions	189
4.5.3	Examples: Applications of the congruence analysis proper	191

4.6	Direction of generalization	197
4.6.1	Theoretical generalization within a competing theories approach	198
4.6.2	Theoretical generalization within a complementary theories approach	200
4.7	Presenting findings and conclusions	202
4.8	Summary	203
5	Combining Diverse Research Approaches	205
5.1	Combining approaches and designs: Purposes and possibilities	207
5.1.1	Strengthening concept validity of descriptive inference	208
5.1.2	Strengthening or testing the internal validity of causal inference	210
5.1.3	Complementing the range of variables, conditions, mechanisms, and theories	211
5.1.4	Increasing the external validity of causal inferences	211
5.2	Combining co-variational analysis and causal-process tracing	212
5.2.1	X-centered combination of COV and CPT	212
5.2.2	Y-centered combination of cross-case comparisons and CPT	216
5.3	Combining congruence analysis and causal-process tracing	218
5.3.1	Causal-process tracing as part of a congruence analysis	218
5.3.2	Causal-process tracing as an inductive addition to the deductive congruence analysis	219
5.4	Connecting case studies to large-N studies	224
5.4.1	Case studies augmenting large-N studies	224
5.4.2	Case studies preceding large-N studies	229
5.5	Connecting case studies to medium-N studies	231
5.5.1	Qualitative Comparative Analysis as a follow-up to case studies	232
5.5.2	Case studies as a follow-up to a Qualitative Comparative Analysis	234

5.6	Preconditions for combining different explanatory approaches	236
5.7	Final remarks	237
<i>Notes</i>		239
<i>Bibliography</i>		245
<i>Index</i>		256