

MAKING A LITERATURE REVIEW


Mindsets & Diversity Lab “How to” series

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Why?

Exhaustiveness

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1. To write a review paper, or a meta-analysis
 - Conclusions will depend on the exhaustiveness of the lit review
 2. To write the introduction of a paper
 - Signal to reviewers (or lecturers) that you know what already exists
 - Use existing theories to inform your predictions
 3. To get a sense of a literature (main constructs, theories, measures, findings, etc.)
 - E.g., you suspect that a given construct may be useful to formulate one of your research ideas

Steps

1. Google Scholar search
2. Ask around!
3. Classify articles based on abstracts
4. Map out on XMind
5. Choose a branch and read!

1. Google Scholar search

Google Scholar



Articles Case law

1. List several specific keywords, and search them *all*
2. If you want quasi exhaustiveness, go until page 10 of results (otherwise, page 3)

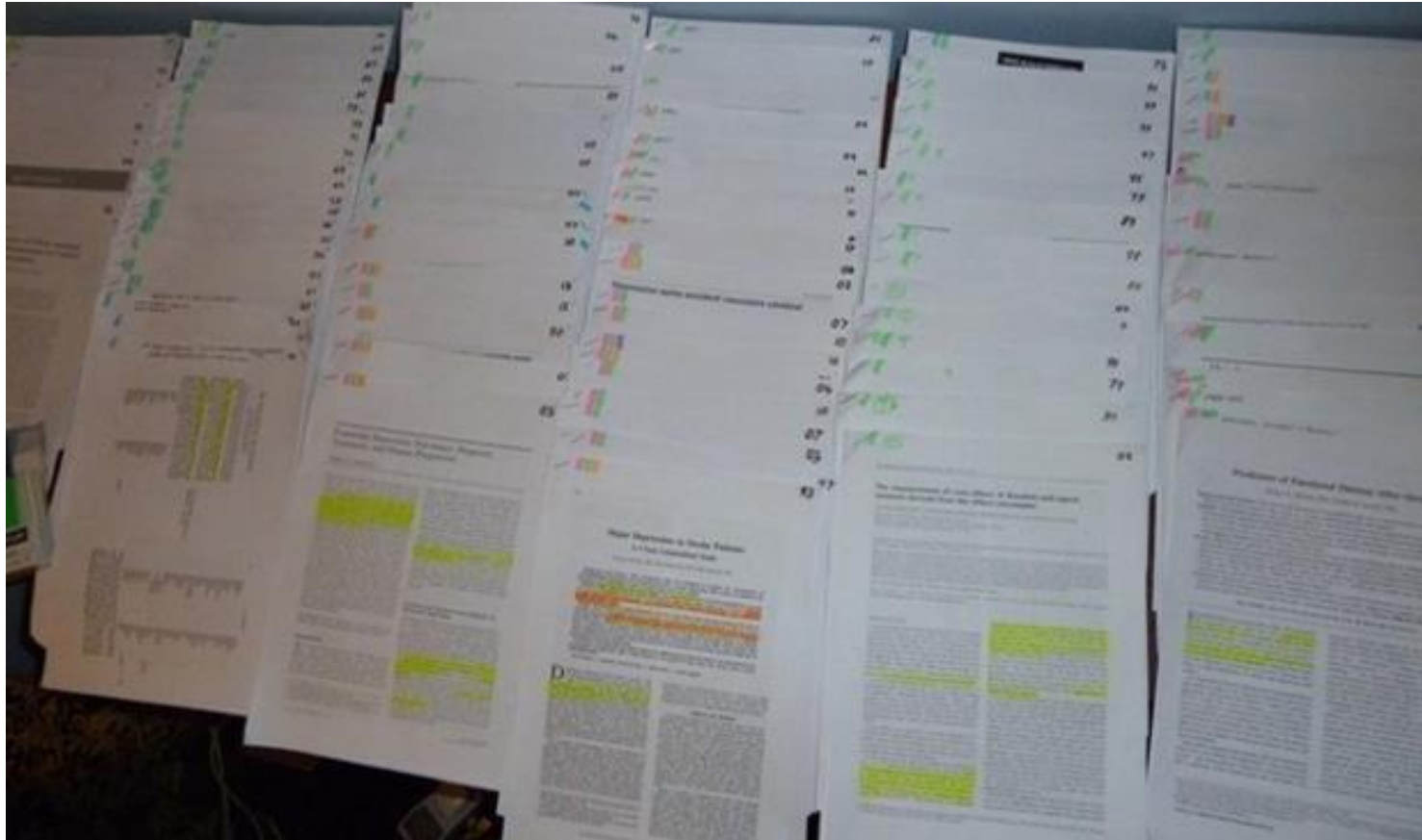
Challenge: How can you know whether you managed to find the most seminal articles on the topic? → Step 2

2. Ask around!

1. Crucial to assess the quality of your search
2. Ask 1-2 faculty members who know the subject
 - Typically 2-3 references / person
3. The moment of truth!
 - If you already have these articles → Step 3
 - If you don't, you may have missed a tradition within the literature → Step 1
 - Check articles' abstracts
 - Try out additional keywords in Google Scholar

Challenge: How will you deal with this massive pile of articles? → Step 3

3. Classify articles based on abstracts



3. Classify articles based on abstracts

Framework: cause, consequence, +

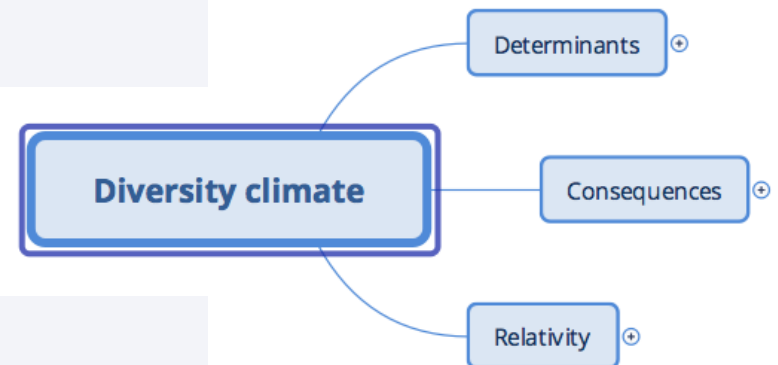
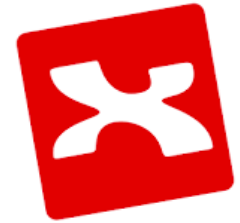
Name	
arfken.pdf	✓
bernardi.pdf	
bilimoria.pdf	
Boards.pdf	
Book.pdf	
burgess.pdf	
carter.pdf	
fairfax.pdf	
farrell.pdf	
Focus9_Women_on_Boards.pdf	
harrigan (vieux).pdf	
HILLMAN.pdf	
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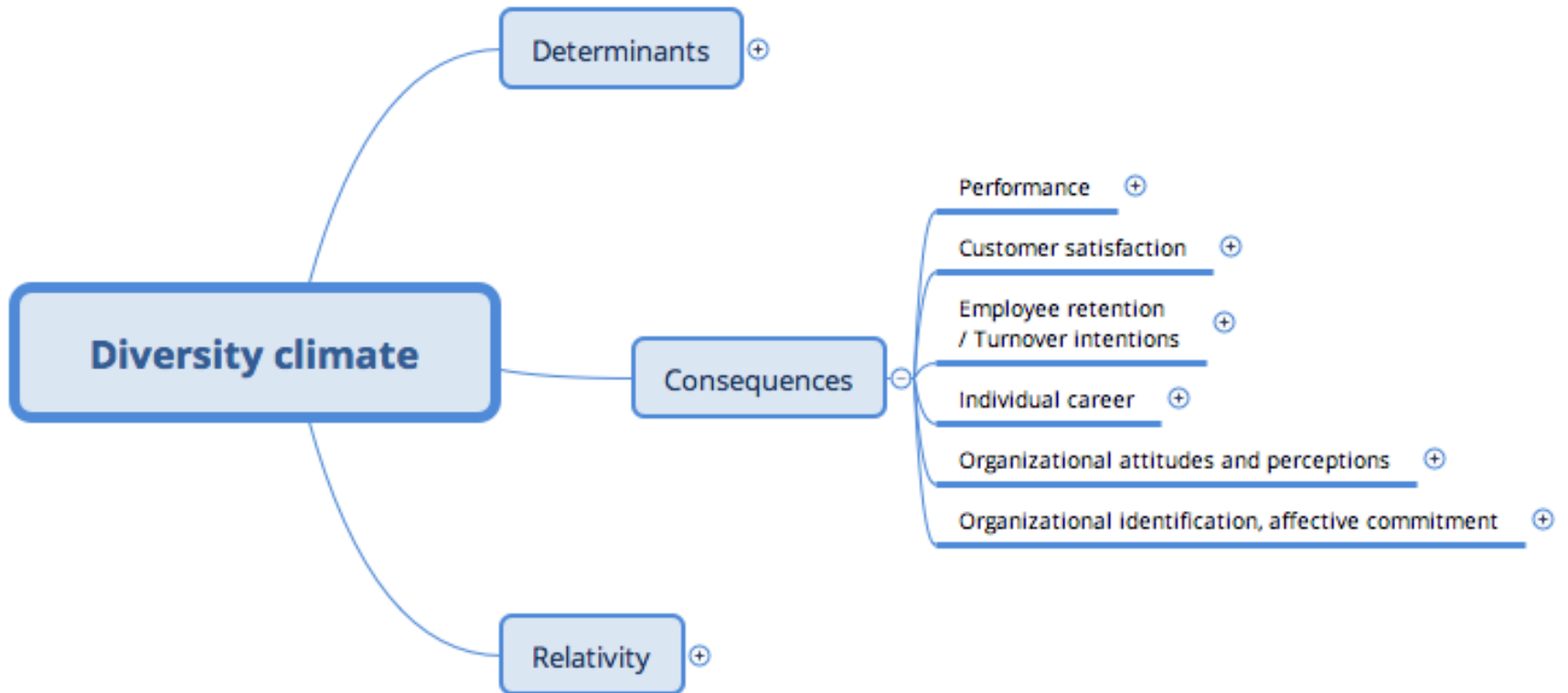
Name		
Signalling - Lee, Faulkner, & Alemany, 2010.pdf	●	✓
Relativity & Cons - McKay et al., 2009.pdf		✓
Relativity & Cons - McKay et al., 2007.pdf		✓
Relativity - Mor Barak et al., 1998.pdf		✓
Muti & Cons - McKay et al., 2011.pdf		✓
Mult - Chen et al., 2012.pdf		✓
Inclusion - Shore et al., 2011.pdf		✓
Inclusion - Nishii, 2013.pdf	●	✓
Effects of diversity - Joshi & Rho, 2009.pdf		✓
Diversity programs - Stevens, Plaut, & Sanchez-Burks, 2008.pdf	●	✓
Determinants & Signalling - Pugh et al., 2008.pdf		✓
Determinants & Relativity - Kossek & Zonia, 2006.pdf		✓
Determinants & Diversity progra... & McMillan-Capehart, 2010.pdf	●	✓
Cons & Relativity & Signalling - Kaplan et al., 2011.pdf		✓
Cons & Mult - Gonzalez & Denisi, 2009.pdf		✓
Cons & Def - Hicks-Clarke & Iles, 2000.pdf		✓
Cons - McKay et al., 2011.pdf		✓
Cons - McKay et al., 2008.pdf		✓
Cons - McKay & Avery, 2005 - A...act & retain diverse job cand.pdf	●	✓
Cons - Boehm et al., 2014.pdf		✓
Cons - Avery et al., 2013.pdf	●	✓

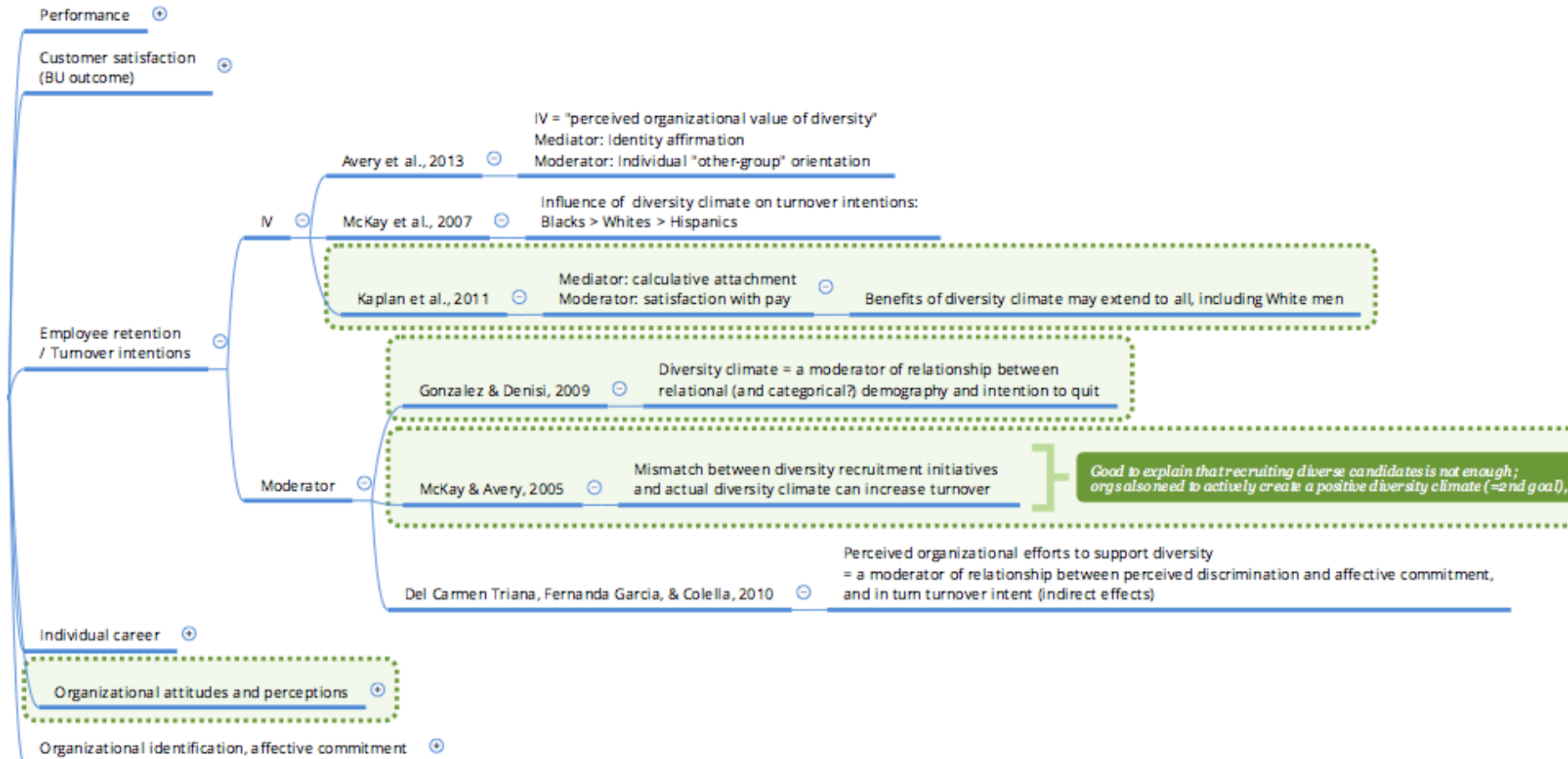
Tip: Especially identify reviews

Challenge: How to keep track of these articles' findings? → Step 4

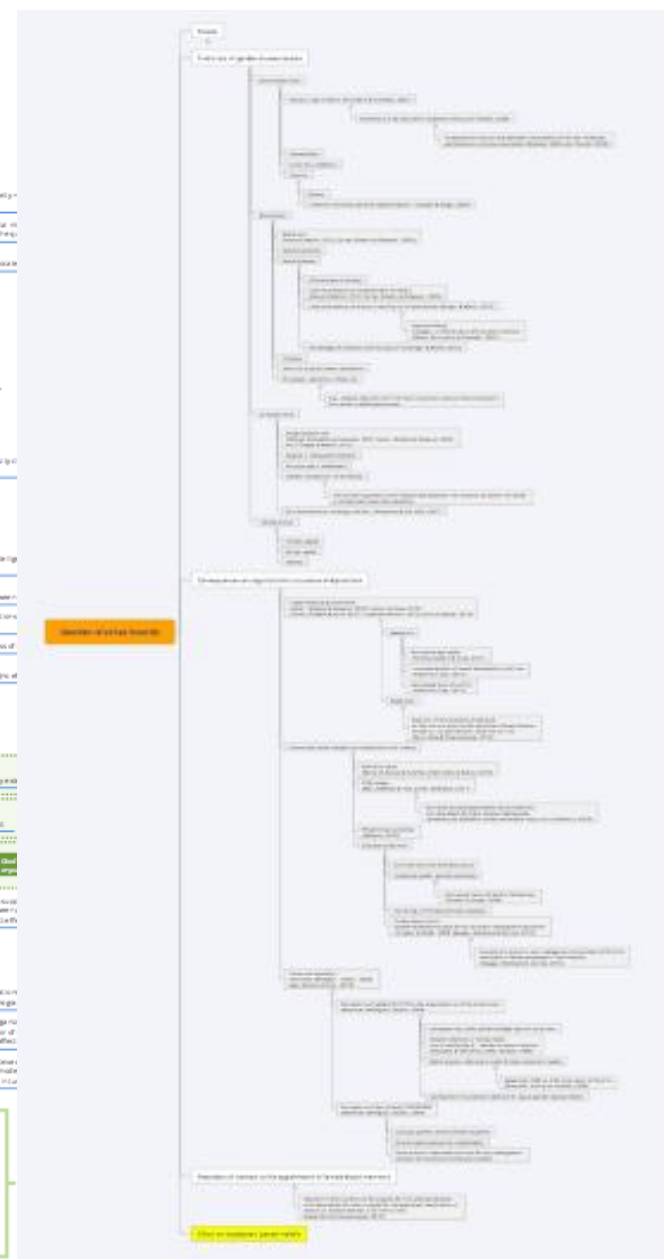
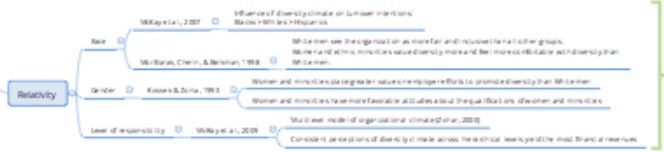
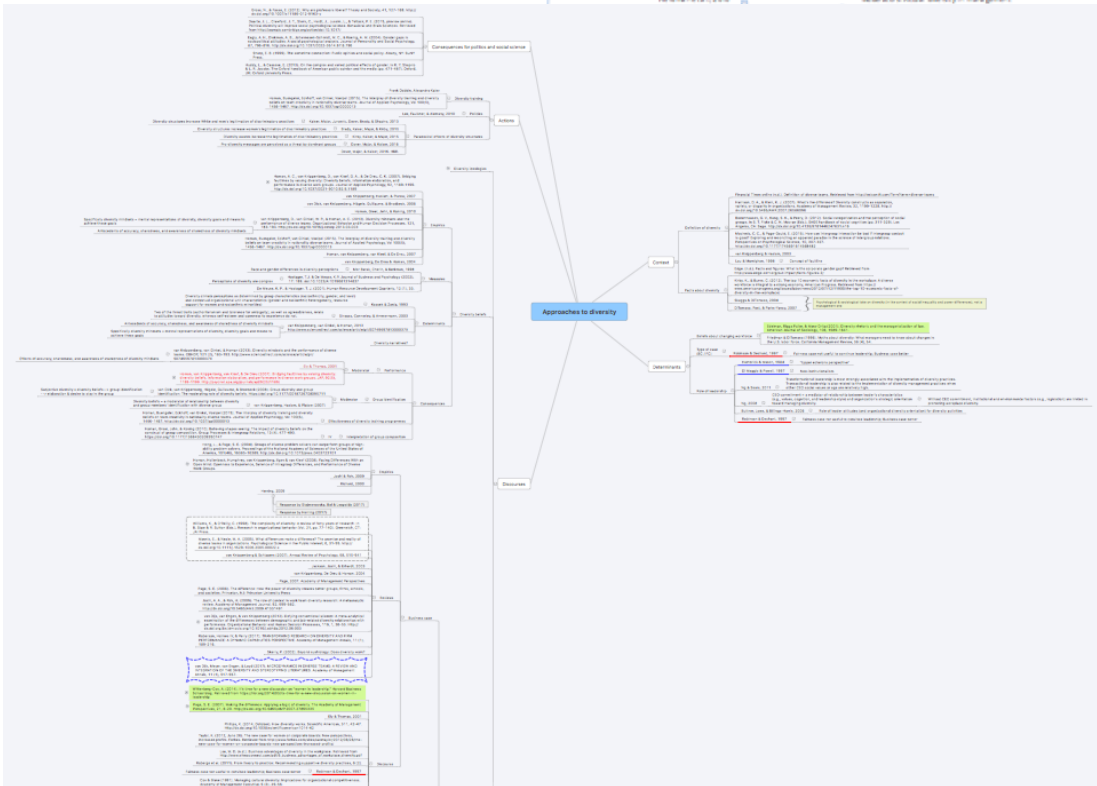
4. Map out with XMind (cause, consequence, +)







In the end...



5. Choose a branch and read

- Don't read everything!
 - Read review articles first, then get more specific
 - From the reviews, take note of the “big names” of the field
 - Check out these big names' articles first
 - Number of cites
- On taking notes
 - Don't forget to add 1-3 sentences of summary in your Xmind tree!
 - More? If so, how?

An iterative process...

- While you're doing it
 - Especially: Steps 1-3
- After you're done with it
 - The (un)planned obsolescence of your lit review

