

Behavioral Patterns in Companies with Multiple Organisational Cultures

Iris Schroll

R.QUESTION: **How do cultural characteristics effect the change orientation within transformation processes of companies with multiple organizational cultures?**

NEW: Cross-section analysis of change orientation in relation to organisational cultures through inclusion of employee and management perceptions and organisational artefacts.

CASE STUDY

In a merger, several departments with different size and different tasks have been reorganized to form a new coherent whole. Until recently most of the departments operate independently. A new business concept, introduced to trigger orientation towards effectiveness, challenges the cooperation and communication processes.

Coherence is of importance because the organization might otherwise become unmanageable. However, functionality is also of importance, because otherwise the tasks of the large organization cannot be met.

My research will be of relevance to management and staff of the merged organisation, by identifying and relating behavioral patterns, typical for specific characteristics and departments, to the sustainability of changes.

RESEARCH PROCESS

Phase 1 Identification of **cultural fields**

Question: What do diverse organizational cultures mean for the functionality of the system?
 Proposition: Coherent characteristics are positively related to the functionality of the system and scope of duty.
 Step 1: Companywide analysis of available documents and artefacts
 Step 2: Distribution of the questionnaire
 Step 3: Comparison of critical incidences with characteristics of organisational culture
 Output: Typology, identified cultural fields

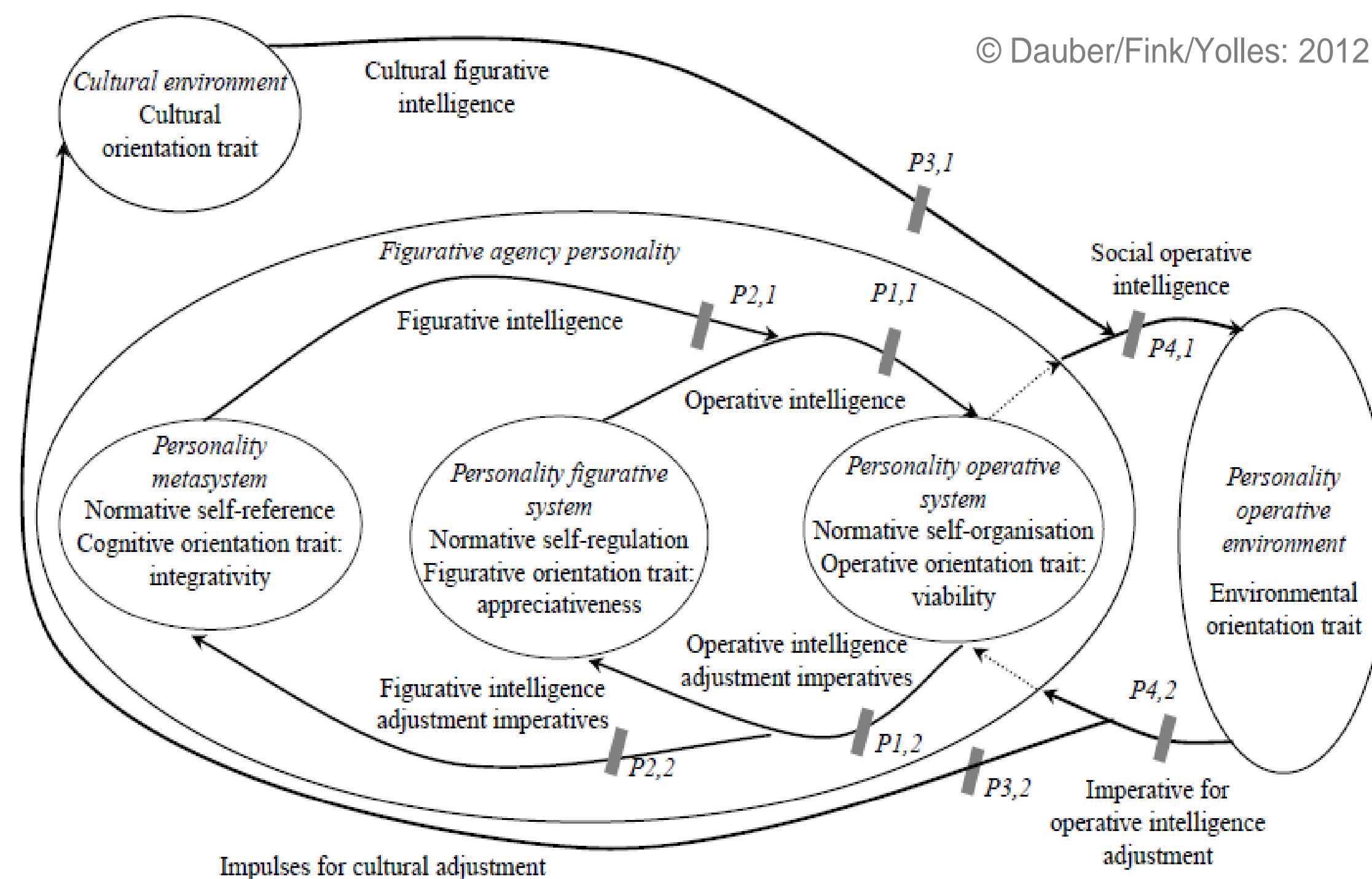
Phase 2 Identification of **ongoing change processes**

Question: Which effects are triggered by the transformation process within the different cultural fields on operative, structural, strategic and paradigmatic level?
 Proposition: Coherent characteristics are positively related to equal patterns of change.
 Step 1: Companywide analysis of available documents and artefacts
 Step 2: Interviews with representatives of each department
 Step 3: Comparison of patterns of change with cultural fields
 Output: Typology, identified patterns of change, identified stage of development

Phase 3 Identification of **communication processes**

Question: Who addresses the transformation process in a targeted manner?
 Proposition: Interactive communication processes are positively related to satisfaction and motivation for change.
 Step 1: Companywide analysis of documents and artefacts
 Step 2: Analysis of the questionnaire and the interviews
 Step 3: Documentation of representative changes
 Output: Index on change orientation, identified 'agents of transformation'

APPROACH



ADRESSED DIMENSIONS

Dauber/Fink/Yolles 2012

Legitimization Management
 Formality in internal Communication
 External Communication
 Clarity of Strategy
 Preference of Adjustment Processes
 Single Loop Learning
 Double Loop Learning
 Formalization
 Flexibility
 Hierarchy of Authority
 Market Dynamis
 Market Complexity
 Action Orientation
 Loyalty

Sagiv/Schwartz 2007

Embeddedness
 Hierarchy
 Mastery
 Affective autonomy
 Intellectual autonomy
 Egalitarianism

Hill 2012

Cooperation
 Motivation
 Communication
 Leadership

House et al 2004

Change Orientation