

# Big data analytics capabilities and innovation: The mediating role of dynamic capabilities and moderating effect of the environment

## Abstract

With big data analytics growing rapidly in popularity, academics and practitioners have been considering the means through which they can incorporate the shifts these technologies bring into their competitive strategies. Drawing on the resource-based view, dynamic capabilities view, and on recent literature on big data analytics, this study examines the indirect relationship between a big data analytics capability (BDAC) and two types of innovation capabilities, incremental and radical. The study extends existing research by proposing that BDACs enable firms to generate insight that can help strengthen their dynamic capabilities, which in turn positively impact incremental and radical innovation capabilities. To test our proposed research model, we used survey data from 175 chief information officers and IT managers working in Greek firms. By means of partial least squares structural equation modeling (PLS-SEM), results confirm our assumptions regarding the indirect effect that BDACs have on innovation capabilities. Specifically, we find that dynamic capabilities fully mediate the effect on both incremental and radical innovation capabilities. In addition, under conditions of high environmental heterogeneity, the impact of BDAC's on dynamic capabilities, and in sequence, incremental innovation capability is enhanced, while under conditions of high environmental dynamism the effect of dynamic capabilities on incremental innovation capabilities is amplified.

Keywords: *Big data analytics; dynamic capabilities; innovation capabilities; business value; resource-based view; environmental uncertainty*

## 1. Introduction

The "Age of Data" is currently thriving, with new data being produced from all industries and public bodies at an unprecedented rate. This phenomenon has resulted in a massive hype, with organizations striving to leverage big data analytics in order to create value (Constantiou & Kallinikos, 2015). As a result, there is much attention from both academics and practitioners on the value that organizations can create through the use of big data analytics (Manyika et al., 2011). Following the rapid expansion of data volume, velocity, and variety, substantial developments have been documented in terms of techniques and technologies for data storage, analysis, and visualization. Nevertheless, there is significantly less research on how organizations need to change to embrace these innovations, and what business value can be derived by them (McAfee, Brynjolfsson, & Davenport, 2012). Empirical research on the value of big data analytics is still at a rudimentary state, which is surprising, given the surge of companies making investments in big data. Most reports on the business value of big data to date have been from consultancy firms, popular press, and individual case studies, that lack theoretical insight. As a result, there is limited understanding on how firms should approach their big data initiatives, and scarce empirical support to back-up the claim that these investments result in any measurable business value (Mikalef, Pappas, Krogstie, & Giannakos, 2017).

Addressing these critical gaps in the literature is important as there is very little knowledge about how big data analytics can be leveraged at the firm level, and through what mechanisms value can be created. In this study we build on the notion of big data analytics capability (BDAC), which is defined as the ability of a firm to capture and analyze data towards the generation of insights by effectively orchestrating and deploying its data, technology, and talent (Gupta & George, 2016; Mikalef, Pappas, et al., 2017). Grounded on the emerging research on BDAC's (Gupta & George, 2016; Mikalef, Pappas, et al., 2017; Wamba et al., 2017), this study posits that big data is a necessary resource, but not sufficient condition to result in business value gains. In order to be able to leverage big data to support and guide strategic decision-making, a number of complementary resources are necessary, which synergistically drive a firm's overall BDAC. As such, firms must acquire and develop a combination of technological, human, financial, and intangible resources to create a, difficult to imitate and transfer, BDAC. Despite some, scarce, studies examining big data through such a holistic perspective (Gupta & George, 2016; Wamba et al., 2017), there is still limited empirical understanding on the mechanisms through which a BDAC can generate business value. The scarcity of work in this direction has resulted in a lack of understanding about the potential value of big data analytics, and leaves practitioners in uncharted waters when faced with such implementations in their firms. To obtain any meaningful theoretical and practical implications, as well as to identify critical areas for future research, it is important to understand how the core constituents of big data analytics are shaped and how they result in business value (Constantiou & Kallinikos, 2015). Building on the concept of BDAC, this study seeks to answer two closely related research questions:

(1) *Does a firm's big data analytics capability result in enhanced innovation capabilities, if so, through what mechanisms?*

(2) *How do environmental factors influence the effect of big data analytics capabilities on a firm's innovation capabilities?*

To provide answers to these questions, we ground our study theoretically on the resource-based view (RBV) and the dynamic capabilities view of the firm which are presented in the next section. In addition, we define the notion of a big data analytics capability and illustrate how it is conceptually developed. In section 3, we provide a discussion on how a BDAC affects two types of innovation capabilities, incremental and radical capabilities. We posit, that the effect is indirect, and is mediated through a firm's dynamic capabilities, which help sustain evolutionary fitness. To explore these questions, we develop a survey-based study and describe the data collection procedures and measures for each used concept. In sequence, we present the results of our empirical analysis, followed by a discussion on the theoretical and practical implication of findings, as well as some core limitations.

## **2. Theoretical background**

### *2.1 Big data as a source of business value*

Big data analytics has been regarded as the next frontier for innovation, competition, and productivity (Manyika et al., 2011). As a result, there is much attention from both academics and practitioners on the value that organizations can create through the use of big data analytics. A commonly accepted definition in the literature regards big data analytics as “*a new generation of technologies and architectures, designed to economically extract value from very large volumes of a wide variety of data, by enabling high velocity capture, discovery and/or analysis*” (Mikalef, Pappas, et al., 2017). Despite the vast majority of claims on the value of big data analytics being anecdotal, the few empirical research studies in the areas have

documented a positive relationship between the decision to invest in firm-wide deployment of big data analytics and performance (Gupta & George, 2016; Wamba et al., 2017). Through the deployment of big data analytics, firms are able to make sense of vast amounts of data, generate critical insight, and reconfigure their strategies based on trends that are observed in their competitive environment (H. Chen, Chiang, & Storey, 2012). As such, the major contribution of big data analytics lies in the fact that it enables better informed decision-making, which is subject to less bias and based on empirical evidence (Abbasi, Sarker, & Chiang, 2016). The hype surrounding big data analytics is evident from the increasing investments made from firms, and particularly those working in complex and fast-paced environments (G. Wang, Gunasekaran, Ngai, & Papadopoulos, 2016). Managers nowadays are relying ever more on big data analytics to inform their decision making in real-time, and direct their future organizational initiatives (Constantiou & Kallinikos, 2015). Although the impact of big data analytics can be identified in many different areas, the overall value is clearly reflected in a recent article by Liu (2014), who notes that big data analytics constituted a major differentiator between high-performing and low-performing firms, as it enables firms to be more proactive and swift in identifying new business opportunities. In addition, the study reports that big data analytics have the potential to decrease customer acquisition costs by 47% and enhance revenues by about 8%. Adding to this, a recent article by MIT Sloan Management Review shows that companies that are leaders in the adoption of big data analytics are much more likely to produce new products and services compared to those that are laggards (Ransbotham & Kiron, 2017).

## *2.2 Big data analytics capabilities*

Past literature has repeatedly noted that when assessing the business value of IS investments, it is fundamental to capture all the underlying factors that enable effective and efficient use of IT as a differentiator of firm success (Bharadwaj, 2000). The concept of IT capability has been developed on this premise, and is defined as the “firm's ability to mobilize and deploy IT-based resources in combination or co-present with other resources and capabilities” (Bharadwaj, 2000). Past empirical studies examining the business value of IT capabilities, typically base their theoretical assumptions and operationalizations on the Resource-Based View (RBV) of the firm (Bhatt & Grover, 2005; Wade & Hulland, 2004). Specifically, the RBV argues that a competitive advantage emerges from unique combinations of resources that are economically valuable, scarce, and difficult to imitate (Barney, 1991). When these resources are heterogeneously distributed across firms, their innate traits such as path dependency, embeddedness, and causal ambiguity enable them to generate a competitive advantage (Barney, 1991). Taken to the IS domain, the main assumption underpinning the notion of IT capability is that while resources can be easily replicated, distinctive firm-specific capabilities cannot be readily assembled through markets, and can therefore, be a source of a sustained competitive advantage (Lu & Ramamurthy, 2011).

Given that the objective of this study is to isolate the core resources that will, synergistically, allow firms to develop big data analytics capabilities (BDAC), which can in turn improve firm performance, the choice of the RBV as the underlying theoretical framework is deemed as suitable. Grant (1991) makes a distinction of the different types of resources that jointly form an organizational capability and categorizes them into tangible (e.g. physical and financial resources), human skills (e.g. employee's skills and knowledge), and intangible (e.g. organizational culture and organizational learning). This categorization of resources into tangibles human skills, and intangibles has been long used in the IT capability literature (Bharadwaj, 2000). Hence, building on the RBV, we define the notion of big data analytics capability (BDAC) as *the ability of the firm to capture and analyze data towards the generation of insights, by effectively deploying its data, technology, and talent through firm-wide processes, roles and structures*. The notion of BDA capability therefore extends the view of big data to include all related organizational resources that are important in

the transformation of data into actionable insight, and its application in operational and strategic decision-making.

Building on the previously mentioned classification, prior studies have emphasized on specific aspects of big data analytics that are critical for firms. In relation to tangible resources, data, technology and other basic resources are noted as being fundamental to big data success. The defining characteristics of big data include volume, variety, and velocity (C. P. Chen & Zhang, 2014). Nevertheless, it is frequently mentioned that IT strategists and data analysts are particularly concerned with the quality and availability of the data they analyze (Brinkhues, Maçada, & Casalinho, 2014). While data itself is a core resource, it is also important for firms to possess an infrastructure capable of storing, sharing, and analyzing data. Big data call for novel technologies that are capable of handling large amounts of diverse, and fast-moving data (Gupta & George, 2016). One of the main characteristics of such data is that it is in an unstructured format and requires sophisticated infrastructure investments to result in meaningful and valuable information (Ji-fan Ren, Fosso Wamba, Akter, Dubey, & Childe, 2017). Basic resources such as financial support are necessary, especially since big data investments are noted as taking some time to result in measurable business value (Mikalef, Framnes, Danielsen, Krogstie, & Olsen, 2017). Concerning human skills, literature recognizes that both technical and managerial-oriented skills are required to derive value from big data investments (Wamba et al., 2017). In a highly influential article, Davenport and Patil (2012) address the important role that the emerging job of the data scientist will have in the context of big data. While one of the most critical aspects of data science is the ability of data-analytic thinking, such competences are not only important for the data scientist, but throughout the organization; particularly, for employees in managerial positions (Prescott, 2014). Finally, concerning intangible resources, a data-driven culture and organizational learning are noted as being critical aspects of effective deployment of big data initiatives (Mikalef, Pappas, et al., 2017). In firms engaging in big data projects, a data-driven culture has been noted as being a key factor in determining their overall success and continuation (LaValle, Lesser, Shockley, Hopkins, & Kruschwitz, 2011). Companies with a strong data-driven culture use data in a pervasive way and develop processes to make it easy for employees to acquire necessary information. In addition, they are transparent about data access restrictions and governance practices (Tallon, Ramirez, & Short, 2013). Nevertheless, due to the constantly evolving technological landscape, it is important that a logic of continuous learning is infused in organizations that invest in big data (Vidgen, Shaw, & Grant, 2017).

Some early studies centered on the business value of developing a BDAC have demonstrated a positive overall effect with performance measures (Gupta & George, 2016; Wamba et al., 2017). In the broader domain of IT-business value research, there is a growing consensus that IT enables firms to generate business value through intermediate organizational capabilities (Benitez, Castillo, Llorens, & Braojos, 2017; Mikalef & Pateli, 2017; Schryen, 2013). The main premise of this view is that IT capabilities, and as an extension BDAC, are central since they develop complementary effects with intermediate organizational capabilities that ultimately lead to competitive advantage. While these are just some of the early studies that suggest a positive impact of BDAC's on performance, more research is needed to understand the mechanisms through which data-based insight is transformed into action. The main idea is that the generation of insight is insufficient to provide any performance gains without the necessary transformation of organizational capabilities. Thus, it is important to examine the effect of a firms' BDAC on different types of organizational capabilities, and how they, as mediating conditions, influence performance.

### *2.3 Dynamic capabilities*

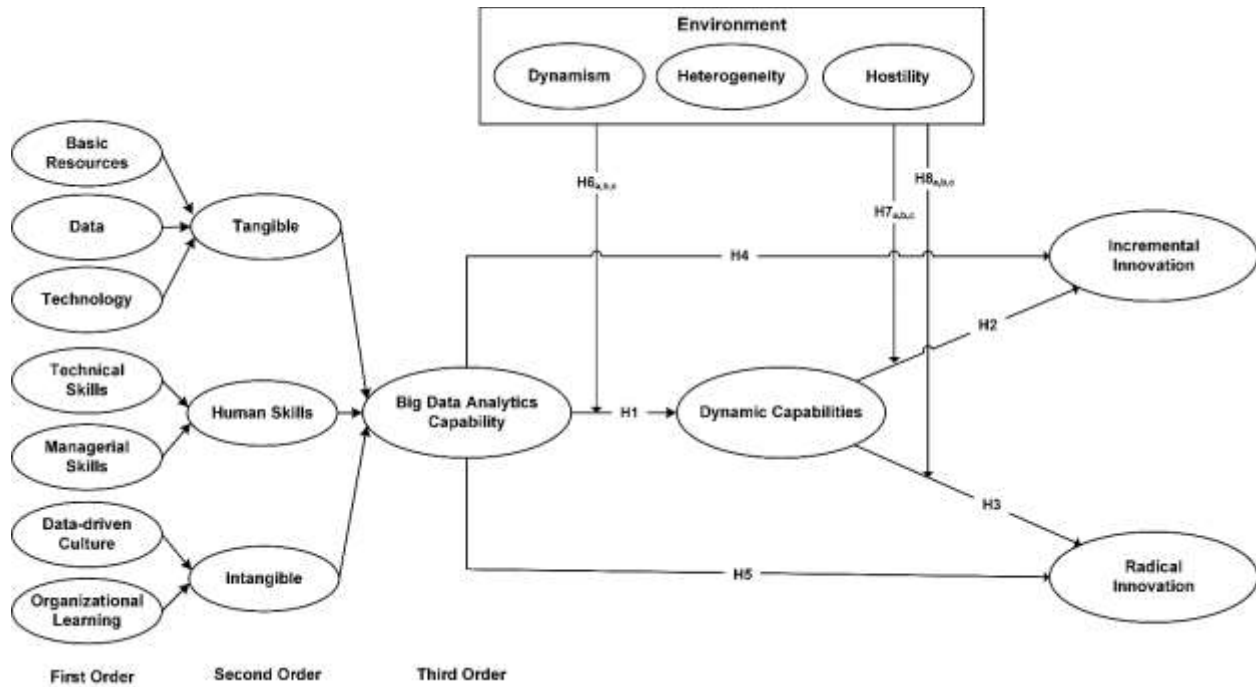
The competitive benefits that a firm currently has managed to obtain are a result of strengths built in reaction to environmental responsiveness strategies. These strengths can be explained in terms of organizational capabilities, i.e. processes that facilitate the most efficient, effective and competitive use of a firms' assets whether tangible or intangible (S. Sharma & Vredenburg, 1998). In this perspective, capabilities represent the potential of a business to achieve certain objectives by means of focused deployment and represent the building blocks on which firms compete in the market. Organizational capabilities emerge through the strategic application and complex interactions of resources that a firm owns or is capable of controlling, and the most effective means of orchestrating and deploying them (Gold & Arvind Malhotra, 2001). Following the definition of Winter (2003), a capability can be described as a high-level routine (or a collection of routines), with routines comprising of purposefully learned behaviors, highly patterned, repetitious or quasi-repetitious, founded in part in tacit knowledge. Past research in the domain of strategic management has made great strides to develop and refine different types of organizational capabilities. The consensus is that capabilities operate quite differently, and result in varying levels of competitive advantage and firm performance based on a number of internal and external factors (Drnevich & Kriauciunas, 2011). Based on the idea that firms must be both stable enough to continue to deliver value in their own distinctive way, and agile and adaptive enough to restructure their value proposition when circumstances demand it, there is a well-documented distinction between operational (ordinary) and dynamic capabilities.

In incomplete markets, heterogeneity among firm capabilities can serve as the basis for developing competitive advantages and rent differentials (Amit & Schoemaker, 1993). Conditions of high environmental uncertainty, market volatility, and frequent change, have raised questions regarding the rate to which operational capabilities erode and cease to provide competitive gains (Drnevich & Kriauciunas, 2011). The dynamic capabilities view has been put forth to answer this gap as a neo-Schumpeterian theory of the firm (D. J. Teece, Pisano, & Shuen, 1997). The dynamic capabilities view repositions the focus on the renewal of existing organizational capabilities as a means of competitive survival for the firm (Winter, 2003). Correspondingly, dynamic capabilities are defined as those capabilities used to extend, modify, change, and/or create operational capabilities (Drnevich & Kriauciunas, 2011; Winter, 2003). As such, dynamic capabilities are particularly important for the competitive survival of firms in contemporary dynamic and quasi-globalized markets. Dynamic capabilities are suggested to deliver rents from new combinations of capabilities and assets, and produce outcomes that are capable of shaping the marketplace, such as entrepreneurship and innovation (Helfat & Winter, 2011). Therefore, the definition of dynamic capabilities specifies that they can create value indirectly, by changing a firms way of conducting business (Protogerou, Caloghirou, & Lioukas, 2011).

### **3. Research model**

Building on the RBV (Barney, 1991), the dynamic capabilities view (D. J. Teece, 2007; D. J. Teece et al., 1997), and on the emerging literature on big data analytics (Gupta & George, 2016; McAfee et al., 2012; Wamba et al., 2017), this study proposes an evolutionary fitness view (Helfat & Peteraf, 2009), by which a BDAC enables firms to reposition themselves in the face of changing business environments. We propose that firms need a combination of tangible, human, and intangible resources to build a BDAC. While tangible resources cannot by themselves create a BDAC, the same applies for human and intangible resources. To develop a strong BDAC, a combination of all three types of resources need to be invested in by the firm. The study argues that the value of a BDAC stems from its capacity to enhance a firm's dynamic capabilities. In doing so, a BDAC contributes towards the processes of sensing, coordinating, learning, integrating and reconfiguring, which ultimately leads to enhanced levels of incremental and radical innovation capabilities.

Incremental and radical innovation are two fundamentally different types of capabilities, that are typically developed through different means and have a dissimilar effect in relation to the functioning of the firm. The proposed conceptual development of BDAC as well as the discussed relationships are illustrated in Figure 1 below.



**Figure 1** Conceptual research model and corresponding hypotheses

A strong BDAC alleviates the risk of obsolescence, since by feeding a firm's dynamic capabilities, evolutionary fitness and a strengthened capacity to innovate is achieved (Protogerou et al., 2011). As such, we argue that a firm's BDAC has an indirect effect on incremental and radical innovation capabilities, mediated by dynamic capabilities. The effect of BDAC in this process is discernible by the deployment of enhanced innovation capabilities. Lastly, we theorize that the value of BDAC's, and dynamic capabilities on a firm's innovation capabilities, will be magnified under conditions of high environmental uncertainty. The constructs used in the conceptual research model as well as their definitions and source references are presented in Table 1 below.

Construct	Role	Definition	Source(s)
Big Data Analytics Capability	Independent	Big Data Analytics Capability (BDAC) is defined as the ability of the firm to capture and analyze data towards the generation of insights, by effectively deploying its data, technology, and talent through firm-wide processes, roles and structures	Adapted from Gupta and George (2016); Wamba et al. (2017)
Dynamic Capabilities	Mediator	Dynamic capabilities are defined as the ability to integrate, build, and reconfigure internal and external competencies to address rapidly changing environments	Adapted from D. J. Teece et al. (1997); D. J. Teece (2007); Paul A. Pavlou and El Sawy (2011); Mikalef and Pateli (2017)
Incremental Innovation Capability	Outcome	Incremental innovative capability is defined as the ability of the firm to reinforce and extend its existing expertise and product/service lines	Subramaniam and Youndt (2005)

Radical Innovation Capability	Outcome	Radical innovation capability is the ability of the firm to make current product/service lines obsolete	Subramaniam and Youndt (2005)
Dynamism	Moderator	Dynamism is defined as the rate and unpredictability of environmental change	Newkirk and Lederer (2006)
Heterogeneity	Moderator	Heterogeneity is defined as the complexity and diversity of external factors, such as the variety of customer buying habits and the nature of competition	Newkirk and Lederer (2006)
Hostility	Moderator	Hostility is defined as the availability of key resources and the level of competition in the external environment	Newkirk and Lederer (2006)

**Table 1.** Constructs and definitions of conceptual research model

In the contemporary business environment, firms must be capable to reconfigure and update the means through which they operate on a continuous basis in order to remain competitive (Ambrosini, Bowman, & Collier, 2009). The capacity to respond to changes that occur in the external environment is a complex task that entails developing processes of sensing emerging threats and opportunities, seizing opportunities for development and survival, and adapting existing modes of operation to better fit market needs, or developing radically new ones (D. J. Teece, 2007). Empirical studies have shown that firms' that utilize big data-generated insight are in a better position to identify emerging threats and opportunities (Erevelles, Fukawa, & Swayne, 2016). Furthermore, big data analytics has been shown to enable the identification of new business opportunities through the combination of diverse data sources (Kiron, 2017), and even allow for the generation of insight that was previously unknown (Erevelles et al., 2016). For instance, deployments of real-time text and sentiment analytics on social media can allow firms to capture the sentiment and attitudes of consumers in response to marketing campaigns, and also monitor how consumers react to ones instituted by their main competitors (He, Zha, & Li, 2013). One of the main differentiating elements of big data analytics is that it enables for the processing of unstructured and varied data sources in much shorter cycle-times (H. Chen et al., 2012). This processing power contributes positively in improving the speed, effectiveness, and efficiency of generating insight, and enables sense-making in conditions of high complexity and velocity (Popovič, Hackney, Tassabehji, & Castelli, 2018).

Data-generated insight can then be leveraged for seizing opportunities, providing that there are well established decision-making structures and resource-orchestration processes (R. Sharma, Mithas, & Kankanhalli, 2014). A growing number of firms develop BDAC's in order to generate insight that will allow them to dynamically coordinate production, supply chain, logistics, and warehousing activities (G. Wang et al., 2016). Furthermore, by leveraging BDAC's firms can develop real-time resource allocation, better coordination, and dynamic asset movement (Wamba, Akter, Edwards, Chopin, & Gnanzou, 2015). Doing so can drastically reduce reaction time to emerging events, contribute to slice costs by improving inefficiencies, and reduce bottlenecks in business processes. Strong BDAC's can also help refine business processes, and aid in the discovery of service flaws or operational road blocks (Grover, Chiang, Liang, & Zhang, 2018). Finally, firms that leverage BDAC's can utilize generated insight to learn about previous successful or failed product, service, or marketing initiatives, and transform their respective capabilities accordingly (Wamba et al., 2017). These areas in which BDAC's can contribute are core components of a firm's dynamic capabilities. Nevertheless, being able to do so requires that big data analytics is not exercised solely as a technical activity, but is developed as a firm-wide capability where participation in data-based projects, insight generation and decision-making are an organizational effort (Vidgen et al., 2017). To be able to react on such insight and modify or renew the way the firm operates requires maturity in additional complementary aspects (Günther, Mehrizi, Huysman, & Feldberg, 2017). Janssen, van der

Voort, and Wahyudi (2017) find that decision-making quality largely relies on the level to which firms have developed their BDAC's. R. Sharma et al. (2014) underscore the importance of fostering appropriate decision-making structures, essentially enabling a data-driven culture to diffuse throughout the firm. The point of culture and organizational learning is also highlighted by Erevelles et al. (2016) who note that it is critical to develop structures and processes around big data analytics that will enable the firm to generate and utilize innovative ideas.

In fact, one of the largest barriers managers face when trying to implement big data initiatives is that the organizational culture is not supportive, and existing data silos don't allow access of data that is necessary to develop critical insight (Kiron, 2017). The argument made in several recent studies is that data and technologies can only take organizations so far, and that the real drivers include the people with technical, analytical and business knowledge, and fostering a culture that relies on evidence-based decision-making (Grover et al., 2018). In fact, a recent report argues that introducing a data-driven culture, where decision-making is balanced between data-generated insight and managerial intuition, requires top management support and sufficient knowledge about the opportunities that big data analytics enable (Ransbotham, Kiron, & Prentice, 2016). Becoming a data-driven organization requires that data analytics are part of the competitive strategy of the firm, that governance structures are in place, and that processes and structures are put into action to enable seamless flow of data throughout the firm breaking down departmental silos (Tallon et al., 2013). Successful big data analytics initiatives have proven to be complex matters, which depend on a firm's ability to simultaneously harness multiple resources and capabilities including people, technology, data, processes and structures within a business context, and deploy them synergistically (Vidgen et al., 2017).

Several case reports showcase the significance of developing a BDAC, with a prominent example being that of Southwest airlines, described in the work of Erevelles et al. (2016). Southwest Airlines uses big data analytics on conversations between personnel and customers to better understand customer needs. The airline has built on a speech analytics tool that allows customer service representatives to understand the nuances of every recorded customer interaction. Data is collected from several different channels including social media in order to get more information about customers in real-time, understand customer intent and provide better service offerings (Aspect, 2013). As a result, different metrics guide service personnel to the best solution in every scenario depending on the type of interaction. The insight from the speech analytics methods, are also used to sense unrecognized customer needs and train service personnel accordingly. While at first the implementation of analytics at Southwest may look like a technical task, training personnel to adopt a data-driven approach when interacting with customers, developing the channels to collect different types of data, and encouraging a perspective of organizational learning based on insight are key components of business value. Numerous similar case studies showcase that a strong BDAC can not only help firms identify threats and opportunities, but it can also reinforce seizing of opportunities and transform operations through incremental or radical adaptations in existing modes of doing business, since insights are backed-up with empirical evidence (Braganza, Brooks, Nepelski, Ali, & Moro, 2017; LaValle et al., 2011). From the foregoing discussion, we hypothesize that:

**H1:** BDAC has a significant positive effect on dynamic capabilities

While dynamic capabilities may produce competitive performance gains in their own right, it is suggested that one of their mechanisms of action is by enabling, or strengthening, innovation capabilities (Drnevich & Kriauciunas, 2011). This idea has been initiated by the argument made by Eisenhardt and Martin (2000), that dynamic capabilities are necessary, but not sufficient conditions for competitive advantage. Based on this perspective, sustaining a state of competitive advantage does not depend on dynamic capabilities *per se*, but rather, on the resource configurations created by dynamic capabilities. In this sense, dynamic



capabilities are perceived as strategic options that allow firms to renew existing capabilities or develop new ones when the opportunity or need arises (Paul A Pavlou & El Sawy, 2006). Zahra, Sapienza, and Davidsson (2006) supported this view proposing that dynamic capabilities lead to performance gains by facilitating changes in the way the firm operates and competes. Recent reviews on the mechanisms and outcomes of dynamic capabilities, highlight that innovation is a primary consequence of dynamic capabilities, and can lead to different forms of novel products service and processes (Schilke, Hu, & Helfat, 2018). D. Teece and Leih (2016) argue that for managers in the innovation economy, the goal should be to navigate unexpected events with a minimum of disruption. Being able to deliver sustained innovation and respond to unexpected events in dynamic environments requires establishing flexible systems, which are hallmarks of strong dynamic capabilities (Felin & Powell, 2016). At this point it is important to make a conceptual distinction between two core types of innovation capabilities that are critical for competitive success, incremental and radical (Subramaniam & Youndt, 2005). Tushman and Romanelli (2008), along with other researchers describe incremental changes as those that encourage the *status quo*, whereas radical changes are those characterized by a process of reorientation wherein patterns of consistency are fundamentally reordered. Incremental innovations therefore concern minor changes and modification to products and services, whereas radical innovations represent major departures from existing capabilities in the firm, and constitute the basis for completely new products, services or business models (Ritala & Hurmelinna-Laukkanen, 2013).

The difference in the nature between the two types of innovation capabilities suggest common, as well as divergent, mechanisms in which dynamic capabilities affect them. Darroch (2005) finds that knowledge acquisition and dissemination (both aspects included in the conceptual definition of the dynamic capabilities construct) are related to both incremental and radical innovation capabilities. Chiang and Hung (2010) look at the differences in the emergence on the two types of capabilities and find that intensively accessing knowledge from a limited number of external channels can facilitate incremental innovation capabilities, whereas accessing knowledge from a broad range of external channels can enhance radical innovation capabilities. Yet, it is acknowledged that lateral relationships and a widening of task boundaries with organizations creates an environment favorable to both types of innovation (Koberg, Detienne, & Heppard, 2003). Innovation capabilities depend on team rather than individual effort, and the cross-flow of knowledge among different people working in parallel on different aspects of a project (Koberg et al., 2003). Therefore, the ability to effectively sense emerging opportunities and threats and readily adjust to changing external conditions through effective coordination is regarded as a facilitator of both incremental and radical innovation capabilities (Forés & Camisón, 2016). Nevertheless, firms that combine their internal knowledge base with knowledge from external sources can obtain a positive impact on radical innovation capabilities, whereas those that emphasize internal knowledge creation will be more prone to develop an incremental innovation capability (Forés & Camisón, 2016). This difference demonstrates that dynamic capabilities have different mechanisms of action and depending on their scope of application can result in different types of outcomes.

**H2:** Dynamic capabilities have a significant positive effect on incremental innovation capabilities

**H3:** Dynamic capabilities have a significant positive effect on radical innovation capabilities

In the context of big data analytics, the generated insight has been suggested to prompt firms in realizing gaps or areas of ignorance, and taking action to adjust their innovation capabilities (Erevelles et al., 2016). Strong BDAC's can have an indirect impact on a firms innovation capabilities by strengthening the underlying process of dynamic capabilities (Wamba et al., 2017). Specifically, by fostering BDAC's firms can make sense of vast quantities of diverse data which would be impossible to analyze and interpret otherwise (Sagiroglu & Sinanc, 2013). Such efforts have been documented for identifying customer and

non-customer needs (I. Lee, 2017), locating operational inefficiencies (Seddon & Currie, 2017), monitoring competitor actions (Guo, Sharma, Yin, Lu, & Rong, 2017), and developing predictive models for future events (H. Chen et al., 2012). Taking the example of customer and non-customer needs identifications literature has documented that strong BDAC's can allow companies to understand the behaviors, interactions, experiences, and emerging patterns that consumers have with their products or services (Kwon, Lee, & Shin, 2014), monitor in real-time their sentiment and affect about the firm itself or specific products, services or marketing campaigns (Jang, Sim, Lee, & Kwon, 2013), develop a more fine-grained understanding of who their customers are and what they need (Fan, Lau, & Zhao, 2015), and even help create personalized products and services (Sagiroglu & Sinanc, 2013). Similar cases are noted in improving operations and business processes, where strong BDAC's can be leveraged to identify bottlenecks in supply chains (G. Wang et al., 2016), predict maintenance times for equipment with much greater accuracy (J. Lee, Ardakani, Yang, & Bagheri, 2015), and forecast demand and sales to allow better inventory management and production planning (Lim, Alpan, & Penz, 2014).

In sequence, strong BDAC's can support, and in some cases even replace, human decision-making and automatize action in response to generated insight (Provost & Fawcett, 2013). For instance, a sizeable number of firms now build on big data analytics to support real-time processes orchestration for logistics and supply chain activities (Schoenherr & Speier-Pero, 2015). Others utilize these capabilities for moving towards smart manufacturing in the industry 4.0 paradigm which builds on cyber-physical systems that enable faster, more flexible, and more efficient processes to produce higher-quality goods (Almada-Lobo, 2016). Furthermore, in customer management and service provision activities, strong BDAC's can allow firms to personalize their marketing approaches and prioritize high-profit segments (Akter & Wamba, 2016; Fan et al., 2015), help develop customized products and services (Alyass, Turcotte, & Meyre, 2015), make more fine-grained and personalized recommendations for future purchases (Ngai, Gunasekaran, Wamba, Akter, & Dubey, 2017), offer custom-designed and location-based discounts (Fan et al., 2015; Grover et al., 2018), as well as help resolve customer queries through artificial intelligence technologies (Orenga-Roglá & Chalmeta, 2016; Van Doorn et al., 2017). In this respect, the value of BDAC's is not limited in sensing emerging opportunities and threats, but can also be leveraged to respond to such events and help transform how the firm currently operates and competes in the marketplace (Mikalef, Pappas, et al., 2017).

The role of BDAC's in enhancing incremental innovation capabilities can be discerned in several examples such as alterations to products and services (Y. Wang, Kung, & Byrd, 2018), personalization of offered marketing approaches and services (Buettner, 2017; Xu, Frankwick, & Ramirez, 2016), changes in client interfaces (Lehrer, Wieneke, vom Brocke, Jung, & Seidel, 2018), improved efficiency in supply chain management methods (Waller & Fawcett, 2013), as well as modified means for system risk analysis and fault detection (Hu, Zhao, Hua, & Wong, 2012). Similarly, several examples of enhanced radical innovation capabilities are described in literature including the development of novel products, such as that of personalized medicine that integrate systems biology like genomics with electronic health record data to provide more effective treatments (Alyass et al., 2015), new services like adaptive learning systems that build on a broad range of data and interactions of users with their learning environments (Maseleno et al., 2018), and developing new processes such as that of decision-aiding tools for detection, characterization and monitoring of diseases in image-recognition tasks related to radiology for instance (Hosny, Parmar, Quackenbush, Schwartz, & Aerts, 2018).

Several prominent case studies demonstrate the effect that strong BDAC's have on both incremental and radical innovation capabilities. For instance, Intel, the semiconductor manufacturer, tested every chip that came off its production line, which meant running roughly 19.000 tests (Intel, 2013). Using its BDAC, Intel managed to change the manufacturing process, significantly reducing the number of tests required for

quality assurance. This data-intensive process has enabled Intel to detect failures in its manufacturing line and revamp its production process, resulting in incremental innovation improvements. Delta, the American airline, manages more than 130 million checked bags per year. Recently, Delta has become the first major airline that allows customers to track their bags from mobile devices, utilizing as such their BDAC to develop novel services that provide customers with greater peace of mind. The BDAC that Delta has developed, has allowed the company to identify that bag tracking is important for passengers, and capitalize on this opportunity by deploying novel marketing approaches which foster better relationships with its customers (Delta, 2016). This example demonstrates that a BDAC has the potential to change the way a firm operates and result in radical innovations that support or transform the firm's business model. Similar findings have been noted by several practice-based studies, where it is argued that depending on the area of application, a strong BDAC can have an indirect effect on a firm's innovation capabilities (Ransbotham & Kiron, 2017). We can therefore hypothesize that:

**H4:** BDAC has a significant positive indirect effect on incremental innovation capabilities, which is mediated by a positive effect on dynamic capabilities

**H5:** BDAC has a significant positive indirect effect on radical innovation capabilities, which is mediated by a positive effect on dynamic capabilities

The conditions under which dynamic capabilities add value have been a subject of much debate, and have been theorized to be heavily contingent from aspects of the external business environment (Drnevich & Kriauciunas, 2011). In stable environments, where external changes are infrequent and tend to be predictable and incremental, dynamic capabilities play a minor role. Contrarily, in fast-paced, unpredictable, and volatile environments, existing modes of operating quickly erode, so dynamic capabilities are necessary to maintain competitiveness (Wilden & Gudergan, 2015). In IS literature the conditioning impact of environmental uncertainty on the relationship between a firm's BDAC and competitive performance is scarcely examined. While there is an assumption that BDAC's may be more valuable under conditions of high uncertainty, there is limited empirical understanding on the impact that the external environment has. In highly dynamic and complex markets that are characterized by speed and tough competition, a strong BDAC is argued to be beneficial by facilitating a better understanding of areas that could provide a competitive advantage. The role of BDAC's that operate as drivers of dynamic capabilities has been theorized to be of increased relevance in conditions of constant and unpredictable change (McAfee et al., 2012). In this study we distinguish between three environmental factors (Newkirk & Lederer, 2006) that are posited to have a moderating impact on the previously discussed relationships: dynamism, heterogeneity, and hostility.

Dynamism can be regarded as the unpredictability on the demand side, heterogeneity as the uncertainty on the supply side, and hostility as the variability regarding longer-term trends in the industry (Xue, Ray, & Gu, 2011). While these external environmental conditions differ significantly, they are suggested to be significant influencers of a firm's BDAC and to the derived competitive performance. Firms that operate in dynamic environments are likely to require frequent adjustments to their marketing approach in order to satisfy the constantly changing customer needs (Li & Liu, 2014). By developing a strong BDAC, firms will be in a better position to analyse in real-time customer data, generate insight, and deploy solutions to maintain and improve their competitive position. Heterogeneous business environments put pressure on the firm to deal with varied external partners, complex and disparate business activities, and competitors from different domains. With increased heterogeneity comes the requirement of managing multiple business objectives, a large number of stakeholders and related information, and a broad range of IT-based applications (Dutot, Bergeron, & Raymond, 2014). By aggregating this information through a strong BDAC, firms are in a better position to make sense of the complexity of the environment and act on data-driven insight through focused action. A hostile business environment can occur from radical industry

changes, intense regulatory burdens, and intense rivalry among competitors. In such circumstances, firms that have better knowledge of all possible alternative market segments and emerging conditions will be able to reposition their business objectives and outperform competition. As such, we hypothesize the following:

**H6:** *Greater levels of environmental a) dynamism, b) heterogeneity, and c) hostility will amplify the positive effect that a big data analytics capability has on a firm's dynamic capabilities*

**H7:** *Greater levels of environmental a) dynamism, b) heterogeneity, and c) hostility will amplify the positive effect that a firm's dynamic capabilities have on its incremental innovation capabilities*

**H8:** *Greater levels of environmental a) dynamism, b) heterogeneity, and c) hostility will amplify the positive effect that a firm's dynamic capabilities have on its radical innovation capabilities*

## **4. Empirical study**

### *4.1 Survey, administration and data*

In this study we used a questionnaire based survey method since it enables generalizability of outcomes, allows for easy replication, and facilitates the simultaneous investigation of a large number of factors (Pinsonneault & Kraemer, 1993). Additionally, survey-based research is a well-documented way of accurately capturing the general tendency and identifying associations between variables in a sample. Suggestions by Straub, Boudreau, and Gefen (2004), emphasize the importance of survey-based research in exploratory settings and predictive theory, to be able to generalize results. The constructs and corresponding survey items used in this questionnaire, are based on previously published latent variables with psychometric properties that support their validity. All constructs and respective items were operationalized on a 7-point likert scale, a well-accepted practice in large-scale empirical research where no standard measures exist for quantifying notions such as resources and capabilities (Kumar, Stern, & Anderson, 1993). A pre-test was conducted in a small-cycle study with 17 firms to examine the statistical properties of the measures. These firms operated in Greece but were not part of the sample used in the main study. The pre-testing procedure enabled us to assess the face and content validity of items and to ensure that key respondents would be in place to comprehend they survey as intended. After completing the survey during the pre-test phase, respondents were contacted by phone and asked about the quality of the questions and the clarity of the instrument. Some minor modifications were made in the phrasing of questions.

For the main study, a population of approximately 1500 firms was used from a mailing list of Chief Information Officers and IT managers based in Greece. To ensure a collective response, the respondents were instructed to consult other employees within their firms for information that they were not knowledgeable about. The data collection process lasted for approximately three months (April 2017 – July 2017), and on average completion time of the survey was 14 minutes. A total of 193 firms started to complete the survey, with 175 providing complete responses. To determine if there was any non-response bias in our sample, the profile of the respondents was compared with those on the mailing list we collected for each company, such as size and industry of operation. The chi-square analysis revealed no systematic response bias. In addition to non-response, we also examine late-response bias by comparing early (first two weeks) and late responses (last two weeks) through chi-square tests for firm size, industry, expenditure, and firm experience with big data. The outcomes showed that there were no statistically significant differences. Taking into consideration that all data were collected from a single source at one point in time, and that all data were perceptions of key respondents, we controlled for common method bias following the guidelines of Chang, Van Witteloostuijn, and Eden (2010). *Ex-ante*, respondents were assured that all information they provided would remain completely anonymous and confidential, and that any analysis

would be done on an aggregate level for research purposes solely. *Ex-post*, Harman’s one factor test was employed, which indicated that a single construct could not account for the majority of variance (Fuller, Simmering, Atinc, Atinc, & Babin, 2016).

The responses received came from companies of a diverse industry background. The largest proportion came from the ICT and telecommunication sector (20.0%), followed by bank & financials (10.8%), consumer goods (9.7%), technology (9.1%), while a large proportion came from a variety of other sectors (30.8%). The majority were medium-sized firms, accounting for 30.2% of the sample, while high percentages were obtained from large-sized (26.2%) and small firms (24.0%). The survey was predominantly targeted to senior managers in the IS department, as they are more knowledgeable about strategic issues relating to IT use. However, to ensure a collective response, respondents were instructed to consult other employees within their firms for information that they were not knowledgeable about.

Factors	Sample (N = 175)	Percentage (%)
<b>Industry</b>		
Bank & Financials	19	10.8%
Consumer Goods	17	9.7%
Oil & Gas	5	2.8%
Industrials (Construction & Industrial goods)	13	7.4%
ICT and Telecommunications	35	20.0%
Technology	16	9.1%
Media	13	7.4%
Transport	3	1.7%
Other (Shipping, Basic Materials, Consumer Services etc.)	54	30.8%
<b>Firm size (Number of employees)</b>		
1 – 9	34	19.4%
10 – 49	42	24.0%
50 – 249	53	30.2%
250+	46	26.2%
<b>Total Big Data Analytics Experience</b>		
< 1 year	26	14.8%
1 – 2 years	38	21.7%
2 – 3 years	49	28.0%
3 – 4 years	34	19.4%
4+ years	28	16.0%
<b>Respondent’s position</b>		
CEO/President	23	13.1%
CIO	129	73.7%
Head of Digital Strategy	4	2.0%
Senior Vice President	6	3.4%
Director	6	3.4%
Manager	7	4.0%

**Table 2** Descriptive statistics of the sample and respondents

To examine if there is a risk of method bias in our sample, we followed the guidelines of Podsakoff, MacKenzie, Lee, and Podsakoff (2003) and performed a series of statistical analyses to assess the severity of common method bias. First, we conducted a Harmon one-factor tests on the four main variables of our study; BDAC, dynamic capabilities, incremental and radical innovation capabilities. The results did not yield a uni-factor solution and the maximum variance explained by any one factor was 38.1%, and indication of an absence of common method bias. Second, we also tests for goodness-of-fit, following the

guidelines of Tenenhaus, Vinzi, Chatelin, and Lauro (2005) for PLS path modeling. The results showed that the model has an adequate goodness-of-fit, since it exceeds the threshold of 0.36 as suggested by Wetzels, Odekerken-Schröder, and Van Oppen (2009). To deal with the measurement error, we employed structural equation modeling with the maximum likelihood estimate and a multiple indicator approach, which corrects for the biasing effects of random measurement errors (Akhtar, Khan, Frynas, Tse, & Rao-Nicholson, 2018). While omitted biases exist in various forms, we followed the suggestions of Antonakis, Bendahan, Jacquart, and Lalive (2014) who note that the most important guide in this respect is ‘theory, theory and more theory’ to develop constructs and multiple constructs can help address this point. We adhered to these guidelines and our constructs consisted of multiple items and sub-constructs (e.g. BDAC and dynamic capabilities).

#### *4.2 Measurements*

The scales for the various constructs were adopted from prior literature and have therefore been previously tested in empirical studies. Appendix A provides a summary of the scales used, their descriptive statistics, and the supporting literature.

*Big Data Analytics Capability (BDAC)* was defined in accordance with the study of Gupta and George (2016) as a firm’s capability to assemble, integrate, and deploy its big data-based resources. Accordingly, BDAC is conceptualized and developed as a third-order formative construct. The three underlying pillars that comprise a BDAC are big data-related tangible, human skills, and intangible resource constructs, which in turn are formulated as second-order formative constructs, comprising of seven first-order constructs. Specifically, the tangible big data-related components of a BDAC include basic resources (e.g. financial), technology (e.g. software and hardware), and data (Wamba et al., 2017) which are represented as formative first-order constructs. Human skills are developed as a Type II second-order construct (first-order reflective, second-order formative) consisting of two dimensions. These are technical skills which are concerned with the ability to handle the technological components and analytical requirements of big data, and managerial skills which are mostly revolved around recognizing the value of big data and understanding where to apply insight efforts (Akter & Wamba, 2016). Finally, intangible resources were conceptualized and developed as a Type II second-order construct (first-order reflective, second-order formative) with the underlying dimensions being a data-driven culture and organizational learning. A data-driven culture describes the level to which organizational members make decisions based on insight derived from data analysis (McAfee et al., 2012). Organizational learning on the other hand refers to the concentrated efforts of firm members to exploit existing knowledge and continuously explore new knowledge in order to keep up with unpredictable market conditions (D. J. Teece, 2015).

*Dynamic Capabilities (DC)* was measured as a Type II second order construct (reflective first-order, formative second-order), comprised of five first order constructs (Jarvis et al., 2003). The proposed formative model is consistent with Diamantopoulos and Winklhofer’s (2001) guidelines. Thus, first-order constructs are theoretically distinct and contribute a unique component to the second-order construct. The first-order constructs that comprise a dynamic capability include (1) sensing, (2) coordinating, (3) learning, (4) integrating, and (5) reconfiguring routines, which are adapted from past empirical studies (Pavlou & El Sawy, 2011; Protogerou et al., 2012; Mikalef & Pateli, 2017).

*Innovative Capability (IC)*. An innovative capability is defined in the context of the skills and knowledge needed to effectively absorb, master and improve existing technologies, products and to create new ones (Romijn & Albaladejo, 2002). We measured innovative capability through two first-order latent construct;

*incremental innovative capability* (INC) and *radical innovative capability* (RAD). Incremental innovative capability was measured with three indicators assessing an organization's capability to reinforce and extend its existing expertise and product/service lines. Likewise, radical innovative capability was assessed through three indicators that asked respondents to evaluate their organization's ability to make current product/service lines obsolete (Subramaniam & Youndt, 2005).

The degree of environmental uncertainty was assessed through three constructs, *dynamism* (DYN), *heterogeneity* (HET), and *hostility* (HOST) (Newkirk & Lederer, 2006). Dynamism is defined as the rate and unpredictability of environmental change. Heterogeneity reflects the complexity and diversity of external factors, such as the variety of customer buying habits and the nature of competition. Hostility is defined as the availability of key resources and the level of competition in the external environment.

*Control variables.* Firm size was measured as an ordinal value in accordance with the recommendations of the European Commission (2003/361/EC) into micro (0-9 employees), small (10-49 employees), medium (50-249 employees), and large (more than 250 employees). Firm age was measured as the age since the inception of the firm. Industry sub-types were controlled since they can capture different conditions of the environment that influence the firms' responsiveness in deploying marketing and technological capabilities. Finally, we measured ownership structure as a binary control variable, differentiating between private, and publicly-controlled firms.

## **5. Analysis**

In order to assess the hierarchical research model's validity and reliability, we applied partial least squares based structural equation modeling (PLS-SEM) analysis. Specifically, the software package SmartPLS 3 was used to conduct all analyses (Ringle, Wende, & Becker, 2015). PLS-SEM is considered as an appropriate methodology for this study since it permits the simultaneous estimation of multiple relationships between one or more independent variables, and one or more dependent variables (Hair, Ringle, & Sarstedt, 2011). PLS-SEM is a soft modelling technique and is variance-based, with the advantage for allowing (i) flexibility with respect to the assumptions on multivariate normality, (ii) usage of both reflective and formative constructs, (iii) the ability to analyze complex models using smaller samples, and (iv) the potential use as a predictive tool for theory building (Nair, Demirbag, Mellahi, & Pillai, 2017). PLS-SEM is widely used in analyzing data for the estimation of complex relationships between constructs in many subject areas including in business and management research (Ahammad, Tarba, Frynas, & Scola, 2017; West, Hillenbrand, Money, Ghobadian, & Ireland, 2016). In addition, PLS-SEM enables the analysis of indirect and total effects, making it possible to not only simultaneously assess the relationships between multi-item constructs, but also to reduce the overall error associated with the model (Astrachan, Patel, & Wanzenried, 2014). In terms of sample size requirements, the 202 responses received exceeds both the requirements of: (1) ten times the largest number of formative indicators used to measure one construct, and (2) ten times the largest number of structural paths directed at a particular latent construct in the structural model (Hair et al., 2011). Finally, since the proposed research model builds more on exploratory theory building, rather than theory testing, PLS-SEM is a better alternative than covariance-based SEM.

### *5.1 Measurement model*

Since the model contains both reflective and formative constructs, we used different assessment criteria to evaluate each. For first-order reflective latent constructs we conducted reliability, convergent validity, and discriminant validity tests. Reliability was assessed at the construct and item level. At the construct level we examined Composite Reliability (CR), and Cronbach Alpha (CA) values, and established that their values were above the threshold of 0.70 (Nunnally, 1978). Indicator reliability was assessed by examining if construct-to-item loadings were above the threshold of 0.70 (Appendix B). To assess convergent validity, we examined if AVE values were above the lower limit of 0.50, with the lowest observed value being 0.57 which greatly exceeds this threshold. Discriminant validity was established through three means. The first looked at each constructs AVE square root in order to verify that it is greater than its highest correlation with any other construct (Fornell-Larcker criterion). The second tested if each indicators outer loading was greater than its cross-loadings with other constructs (Farrell, 2010). Recently, Henseler, Ringle, and Sarstedt (2015) argued that a new criterion called the heterotrait-monotrait ratio (HTMT) is a better assessment indicator of discriminant validity. Values below 0.85 are an indication of sufficient discriminant validity, hence, the obtained results confirm discriminant validity (Appendix C). The abovementioned results (Table 3) suggest that first-order reflective measures are valid to work with and support the appropriateness of all items as good indicators for their respective constructs.

	(1)	(2)	(3)	(4)	(5)	(6)	(7)	(8)	(9)	(10)	(11)	(12)	(13)	(14)	(15)	(16)	(17)
(1) Data	<b>n/a</b>																
(2) Basic Resources	0.288	<b>n/a</b>															
(3) Technology	0.571	0.243	<b>n/a</b>														
(4) Managerial Skills	0.561	0.427	0.370	<b>0.875</b>													
(5) Technical Skills	0.470	0.487	0.307	0.576	<b>0.947</b>												
(6) Data-driven Culture	0.269	0.322	0.222	0.307	0.343	<b>0.811</b>											
(7) Organizational Learning	0.529	0.365	0.384	0.513	0.376	0.356	<b>0.885</b>										
(8) Sensing	0.333	0.376	0.296	0.286	0.225	0.384	0.346	<b>0.803</b>									
(9) Coordinating	0.377	0.315	0.255	0.438	0.310	0.278	0.421	0.485	<b>0.880</b>								
(10) Learning	0.329	0.371	0.213	0.442	0.402	0.351	0.358	0.543	0.503	<b>0.907</b>							
(11) Integrating	0.194	0.366	0.120	0.233	0.241	0.311	0.181	0.583	0.271	0.341	<b>0.698</b>						
(12) Reconfiguring	0.351	0.433	0.351	0.339	0.348	0.394	0.361	0.504	0.526	0.428	0.502	<b>0.830</b>					
(13) Incremental	0.213	0.156	0.312	0.284	0.261	0.261	0.301	0.401	0.391	0.317	0.183	0.197	<b>0.821</b>				
(14) Radical	0.217	0.285	0.255	0.438	0.310	0.278	0.351	0.317	0.323	0.376	0.296	0.286	0.225	<b>0.840</b>			
(15) Dynamism	0.302	0.321	0.259	0.232	0.327	0.251	0.368	0.343	0.204	0.319	0.215	0.438	0.310	0.372	<b>0.871</b>		
(16) Heterogeneity	0.255	0.438	0.310	0.270	0.451	0.435	0.333	0.376	0.296	0.286	0.225	0.333	0.376	0.276	0.371	<b>0.810</b>	
(17) Hostility	0.213	0.442	0.402	0.351	0.358	0.482	0.204	0.312	0.257	0.438	0.310	0.377	0.315	0.255	0.358	0.289	<b>0.809</b>
Mean	4.98	4.79	4.61	5.07	4.51	5.01	5.17	4.88	4.58	4.51	5.31	5.02	4.10	4.32	4.67	4.13	4.79
Standard Deviation	1.72	1.74	2.02	1.84	1.82	1.81	1.50	1.45	1.38	1.37	1.29	1.28	1.53	1.79	1.45	1.34	1.64
AVE	n/a	n/a	n/a	0.82	0.77	0.75	0.89	0.64	0.77	0.82	0.59	0.69	0.86	0.93	0.87	0.86	0.89
Cronbach's Alpha	n/a	n/a	n/a	0.93	0.90	0.83	0.96	0.72	0.85	0.81	0.71	0.77	0.92	0.96	0.91	0.90	0.86
Composite Reliability	n/a	n/a	n/a	0.95	0.93	0.90	0.97	0.84	0.91	0.93	0.78	0.86	0.95	0.97	0.92	0.91	0.89

**Table 3** Assessment of reliability, convergent and discriminant validity of reflective constructs

For formative indicators, we first examined the weights and significance of their association with their respective construct. All first-order constructs the items had positive and highly significant effects. Next, to evaluate the validity of the items of formative constructs, we followed MacKenzie, Podsakoff, and Podsakoff (2011) guidelines using Edwards (2001) adequacy coefficient ( $R^2_a$ ). To do so we summed the squared correlations between formative items and their respective formative construct and then divided the sum by the number of indicators. All  $R^2_a$  value exceeded the threshold of 0.50 (Table 3), suggesting that the majority of variance in the indicators is shared with the overarching construct, and that the indicators are valid representations of the construct. Similarly, for the higher-order constructs, we first examined the



weights of the formative lower-order constructs on their higher-order constructs (four second-order constructs and one third-order construct). All weights were significant, and the results Edward adequacy coefficient for each was again greater than the limit of 0.50 (Edwards, 2001). Next, we examined the extent to which the indicators of formative constructs presented multicollinearity, with Variance Inflation Factor (VIF) values of 3.3 being the cut-off threshold (Petter, Straub, & Rai, 2007). All values of first-order, second-order, and third-order constructs indicated an absence of multicollinearity.

Construct	Measures	Weight	Significance	VIF	R <sup>2</sup> <sub>a</sub>
Data	D1	0.383	<i>p</i> <0.001	2.800	0.79
	D2	0.287	<i>p</i> <0.001	1.300	
	D3	0.552	<i>p</i> <0.001	1.112	
Basic Resources	BR1	0.584	<i>p</i> <0.001	2.890	0.74
	BR2	0.496	<i>p</i> <0.001	2.428	
Technology	T1	0.209	<i>p</i> <0.001	2.256	0.76
	T2	0.398	<i>p</i> <0.001	1.986	
	T3	0.358	<i>p</i> <0.001	2.285	
	T4	0.202	<i>p</i> <0.001	2.129	
	T5	0.552	<i>p</i> <0.001	2.030	
Tangible	Data	0.324	<i>p</i> <0.001	1.471	0.84
	Basic Resources	0.311	<i>p</i> <0.001	1.788	
	Technology	0.541	<i>p</i> <0.001	1.900	
Human	Managerial Skills	0.572	<i>p</i> <0.001	1.847	0.89
	Technical Skills	0.520	<i>p</i> <0.001	1.847	
Intangible	Data-driven Culture	0.389	<i>p</i> <0.001	1.443	0.91
	Organizational Learning	0.731	<i>p</i> <0.001	1.443	
BDAC	Tangible	0.340	<i>p</i> <0.001	2.108	0.90
	Human	0.429	<i>p</i> <0.001	2.447	
	Intangible	0.358	<i>p</i> <0.001	2.161	
Dynamic Capabilities	Sensing	0.331	<i>p</i> <0.001	2.042	0.88
	Coordinating	0.405	<i>p</i> <0.001	1.834	
	Learning	0.292	<i>p</i> <0.001	1.973	
	Integrating	0.302	<i>p</i> <0.001	1.963	
	Reconfiguring	0.341	<i>p</i> <0.001	1.832	

**Table 4** Higher-order construct validation

## 5.2 Structural model

The structural model from the PLS analysis is summarized in Figure 2, where the explained variance of endogenous variables ( $R^2$ ) and the standardized path coefficients ( $\beta$ ) are presented. The structural model is verified by examining coefficient of determination ( $R^2$ ) values, effect size of predictor variables ( $f^2$ ), predictive relevance (Stone-Geisser  $Q^2$ ), and the effect size of path coefficients. The significance of estimates (t-values) are obtained by performing a bootstrap analysis with 5000 resamples. A firms' BDAC is found to have an impact on dynamic capabilities ( $\beta=0.523$ ,  $t=8.923$ ,  $p < 0.001$ ). Contrary, no direct significant effect was found between a BDAC and a firm's incremental innovation capabilities ( $\beta=0.097$ ,  $t=0.935$ ,  $p > 0.05$ ) or towards radical innovation capabilities ( $\beta=0.112$ ,  $t=1.452$ ,  $p > 0.05$ ). Additionally, dynamic capabilities are positively associated with incremental innovation capabilities ( $\beta=0.436$ ,  $t=4.742$ ,  $p < 0.001$ ) and marketing capabilities ( $\beta=0.462$ ,  $t=4.938$ ,  $p < 0.001$ ). With regards to the moderating effect of environmental uncertainty factors, heterogeneity is found to positively moderate the relationship between big data analytics capability and dynamic capabilities ( $\beta=0.132$ ,  $t=2.042$ ,  $p < 0.05$ ), and the effect of

dynamic capabilities on radical innovation ( $\beta=0.124, t=1.982, p < 0.05$ ). On the other hand, dynamism is found to positively moderate the effect of dynamic capabilities on incremental innovation ( $\beta=0.151, t=2.231, p < 0.05$ ). All other moderating relationships are found to be non-significant. The structural model explains 38.1% of variance for dynamic capabilities ( $R^2 = 0.381$ ), 36.2% for incremental innovation capabilities ( $R^2 = 0.362$ ) and 37.3% for radical innovation capabilities ( $R^2 = 0.373$ ). These coefficients of determination represent moderate to substantial predictive power (Hair Jr, Hult, Ringle, & Sarstedt, 2016). In addition to examining the  $R^2$ , the model is evaluated by looking at the effect size  $f^2$ . The effect size  $f^2$  allows us to assess an exogenous construct's contribution to an endogenous latent variable's  $R^2$ , and since all direct values are either above the thresholds of 0.15 and 0.35, we can conclude that they have moderate to high effect sizes.

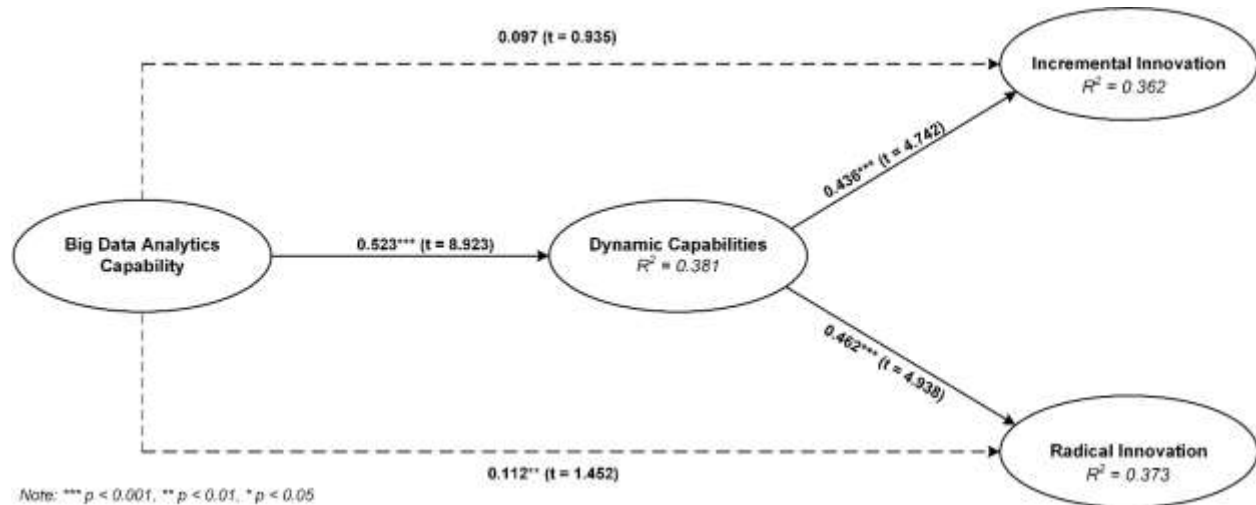


Figure 2 Estimated relationships of structural model

We examined the influence of the control variables on the two outcome variables as presented in Table 5. The results showed that the effect of firm size was positive and significant ( $\beta=0.132, t=2.071, p < 0.05$ ) with regards to radical innovation capabilities, but non-significant for incremental innovation capabilities ( $\beta=0.071, t=0.971, p > 0.05$ ). They also demonstrated that ICT and telecommunications firms had stronger radical innovation capabilities ( $\beta=0.185, t=1.998, p < 0.05$ ), while Bank & Financial firms presented greater incremental innovation capabilities ( $\beta=0.117, t=1.997, p < 0.05$ ).

Control Variables	Incremental Innovation			Radical Innovation		
	Weight	t-value	Sig.	Weight	t-value	Sig.
Firm size	0.071	0.971	n.s.	0.132	2.071	<0.05
Firm age	0.006	0.132	n.s.	-0.07	0.135	n.s.
Ownership structure	-0.012	0.403	n.s.	-0.021	0.541	n.s.
Industry type						
Dummy1 - Bank & Financials	0.117	1.997	<0.05	0.006	0.138	n.s.
Dummy2 - Consumer Goods	0.004	0.153	n.s.	0.009	0.112	n.s.
Dummy3 - Industrials (Construction & Industrial goods)	-0.013	0.305	n.s.	-0.003	0.041	n.s.
Dummy4 - ICT and Telecommunications	0.042	0.583	n.s.	0.011	0.185	<0.05
Dummy5 - Technology	0.031	0.496	n.s.	0.014	0.073	n.s.
Dummy6 - Basic materials	-0.037	0.612	n.s.	-0.011	0.101	n.s.
Dummy7 - Manufacturing	0.007	0.163	n.s.	0.016	0.173	n.s.

Table 5 Control variables

### 5.3 Test for mediation

To examine if the impact of big data analytic capability on incremental and radical innovation capabilities is mediated by dynamic capabilities, a bootstrapping approach is employed (Hair Jr et al., 2016; Preacher & Hayes, 2008). Based on the guidelines of Hair Jr et al. (2016), we first confirmed that the mediated paths (BDAC → DC → INC and BDAC → DC → RAD) are significant. By then including the direct paths (BDAC → INC and BDAC → RAD) in the model we find that both incremental ( $\beta=0.097, t=0.935, p > 0.05$ ) and radical innovation capabilities ( $\beta=0.112, t=1.452, p > 0.05$ ) are non-significant an indication of full mediation. In Table 6 we present the outcomes of the mediation analysis, associated with hypotheses H4 and H5. To test for the mediation hypotheses, we used the parameter estimates from the bootstrapping procedure in PLS, based on a resampling of 5000 subsamples, and calculated the standard error of each mediation effect. We then calculated the t-statistic for each mediation path by dividing the effect of the indirect path (i.e. the product of each indirect path), by the standard error of mediation effects. This approach of assessing the significance of indirect paths provides the advantage of not imposing any distributional assumptions of the indirect effects. In addition, it allows for the calculation of the entire indirect effect simultaneously in the presence of multiple mediating effects, rather than isolating part of the structural model. Since the direct effect of BDAC on INC and RAD are found to be non-significant, and the mediating path significant, we can conclude that dynamic capabilities fully mediate the effect of BDAC on incremental and radical innovation capabilities.

Structural path	Effect	t-value <sup>a</sup>	Ratio to Total Effect (%)	Bias corrected 95% confidence interval	Conclusion
BDAC → INC	0.097	0.935	29.9	[0.043 – 0.164]	(Full mediation)
BDAC → INC via DC	0.228	3.412***	70.1	[0.187 – 0.382]	H4 Supported
Total indirect effect	0.325		100.0		
BDAC → RAD	0.112	1.452	31.7	[0.072 – 0.217]	(Full mediation)
BDAC → RAD via DC	0.241	3.727***	68.3	[0.142 – 0.303]	H5 Supported
Total indirect effect	0.353		100.0		

<sup>a</sup> \* significant at p<0.05; \*\* significant at p<0.01; \*\*\* significant at p<0.001 (two-tailed test)

**Table 6** Summary of hypotheses and results

### 5.4 Predictive validity

In addition to examining the  $R^2$ , the model is assessed by examining the the  $Q^2$  predictive relevance of exogenous variables (Woodside, 2013). This indicator measures how well observed values are reproduced by the model and its parameter estimates, verifying as such the model’s predictive validity through sample re-use (Chin, 1998). Values of the  $Q^2$  predictive relevance that are greater than 0 imply that the structural model has predictive relevance, whereas values below 0 are an indication of insufficient predictive relevance (Hair Jr et al., 2016). From the results of the we find that dynamic capabilities ( $Q^2 = 0.182$ ), incremental innovation capabilities ( $Q^2 = 0.171$ ), and radical innovation capabilities ( $Q^2 = 0.203$ ) have satisfactory predictive relevance. In addition,  $q^2$  value range from moderate to high revealing (above 0.15 and 0.35 respectively) an adequate effect size of predictive relevance. To examine model fit a test of composite-based standardized root mean square residual (SRMR) was performed. The current SRMR yields a value of 0.069, which is below the threshold of 0.08 thus confirming the overall fit of the PLS path model (Henseler, Hubona, & Ray, 2016). To further establish the predictive validity of the model, this study employs cross-validation with holdout samples (Hair, Sarstedt, Ringle, & Mena, 2012). Following the

process described by Carrión, Henseler, Ringle, and Roldán (2016), the sample is randomly divided into a training sample ( $n = 107$ ) and a holdout sample ( $n = 68$ ). The training sample is used to calculate the path weights and coefficients. Then, the holdout sample observations are normalized, and construct scores are created using the training sample estimations. The next step involves normalizing the construct scores of the holdout sample and then using them to create prediction scores. The results confirm the predictive validity of the model since the  $R^2$  for the holdout is close to that of the training sample for all the dependent variables of the model.

## **6. Discussion**

While the interest around big data analytics is continuously growing, the mechanisms and conditions under which such investments lead to business value remain largely unexplored in empirical research. The value of big data analytics has been questioned in several recent articles, since it is argued that only a small percentage of companies have been able to capture the full potential of their big data investments (Ross, Beath, & Quaadgras, 2013). This finding is rather striking when considering the vast number of business publications that talk about the transformative power of big data analytics. Gupta and George (2016) argue that this phenomenon can be largely attributed to the fact that most of the literature on big data analytics has been drafted by consultants, therefore lacking in theoretical grounding and large-scale empirical testing. They also note that what is important is not the technologies surrounding big data analytics, but rather, the organizational diffusion of such technologies. Interestingly, in a recent survey conducted as part of a study by the MIT Sloan Management Review, organizational aspects were cited by managers as being the biggest inhibitors in realizing business value from big data analytics investments (Kiron, 2017). Similar findings were noted in a Delphi study with technology managers conducted by Vidgen et al. (2017), with the challenges related to building a BDAC been seen as the main barriers in attaining desired outcomes. While we now know that technology and data alone are not sufficient to lead to any measurable business value, the effect of firm-wide BDAC's on performance outcomes, and particularly innovation remains under-explored.

### *6.1 Implications for research*

Building on this status of knowledge and the previously mentioned gaps in literature, the objective of this study was to understand if, and through what mechanisms, big data analytics can lead to enhanced firm innovation capabilities. To address this research question, we built on the notion of a big data analytics capability, which is argued to be a necessary capacity that firms must cultivate to derive any substantial outcomes from their investments. We ground this concept on the well-established RBV and emphasize that big data analytics is not solely a technical task but necessitates that several other non-technical resources are developed and orchestrated in order to create a BDAC. In addition, the business value of a BDAC, and big data in general, have been mostly claimed around anecdotal evidence to date, with the exception of some early studies (Gupta & George, 2016; Wamba et al., 2017). We addressed this shortcoming in the literature by providing empirical support for the theoretical framework of a BDAC and the resulting business value. By analyzing survey data from 175 Greek executive-level technology managers, this study empirically explored the indirect relationship between a firm's BDAC and two types of innovation capabilities, incremental and radical. Through our narrative we described the role that a BDAC has on enhancing a firm's dynamic capabilities and in turn on affecting incremental and radical innovation capabilities.

The argument developed in the research model section specifies that BDAC can lead to enhanced incremental and radical innovation capabilities by affecting the underlying processes of a firm's dynamic capabilities. Firms that focus their efforts on developing a strong BDAC can utilize it to drive strategy and inform decision-making processes made by top executives. By investing in their BDAC's, firms are able to increase the speed at which they generate insight, make sense of complex and fast-paced environments, create real-time monitoring capabilities on their own customers and on their competitors, identify operational inefficiencies and bottlenecks, and detect shifts in the economic and business environment. Nevertheless, recent examples have shown that structured adoption of BDAC's also have the potential to replace human decision-making, automate processes and resource allocations, and lead to radically new ways of doing business. For instance, personalized marketing and product offerings, proactive service provision, and individualized products are just a few examples of the strategic application of BDAC's. These examples demonstrate that big data analytics can, under circumstances, lead to innovation in terms of new products, services, marketing approaches and business models. Nevertheless, the main premise this research builds on is that to do so firms need to invest complementary organizational elements.

Human skills have been noted as being core components in enabling firms to leverage the potential of big data analytics. While technical skills have been the focus of much attention in the last years, and particularly those related to the data scientist (Davenport & Patil, 2012), there is now an increased emphasis on the skills that senior management should be equipped with to benefit from the introduction of data-driven strategies (Sena, Demirbag, & Sengupta, 2017). The main argument is that with technologies and data analysis techniques becoming increasingly more sophisticated, it is important that managers have a good grasp of how they operate and what their potential is in order to leverage them strategically (Ransbotham, Kiron, & Prentice, 2015). Our study includes both technical and managerial skills as core elements of a BDAC. Based on the argumentation developed, it is suggested that both types are critical for firms to realize business value from their big data investments since efforts that yield strategic value are directed by organizational strategy, and thus from managers that have the required know-how (Grover et al., 2018). Furthermore, we highlight the importance of a data-driven culture in such initiatives. An increasing number of firms are now realizing that a data-driven culture is a key indicator of big data success (Manyika et al., 2011). For big data projects to yield positive outcomes it is important that organizational silos are broken down, and that expertise and knowledge from different departments are integrated. In fact, a growing body of research studies and business reports argue that governance mechanisms will have a significant impact on the extent to which organizations are "data-driven" (Tallon, 2013). Opening up data access and building a culture where strategic insights and innovative ideas emerge from analytics should be within the objectives of such governance practices. Furthermore, our conceptual development of BDAC encompasses the notion of organizational learning as an important contributor to big data success. The rationale is that firms are institutions in which specialized knowledge is produced, and on which value is developed. The propensity to which organizations incorporate new knowledge and generated insight into their operations is an important component of an overall BDAC and success.

Notwithstanding the rich anecdotal and theoretical discussion on the regenerating role that a BDAC has on contemporary firms, to date there have been scarce large-scale empirical examinations (H. Chen et al., 2012). What is frequently talked about but seldom investigated is the indirect effect that such capabilities have on innovation. In exploring this area, our study tested the mediating effect of dynamic capabilities, which helps explain how value from BDAC is delivered to the firm. Specifically, we show that it is essential for firms to examine all complementary dimensions related to big data analytics, including non-technical ones, and that their synergistic effect is what drives the strengthening of dynamic capabilities. It is important to consider that using big data analytics to sense and seizing emerging opportunities and threats, and transform existing capabilities requires more than just data and technology. Several research studies and

business reports argue that it is important to understand the areas in which analytics should be applied and ask questions that have value for the business (Vidgen et al., 2017). Doing so requires an understanding from top management on the potential and opportunities that big data analytics enable, a firm-wide culture of basing decisions on data-generated insight, and access to data from multiple departments. In deploying such actions, it is necessary that firms set up processes, governance structures, and teams with complementary data skills, and formulate a strategy roadmap that can harness existing and new data assets (Grover et al., 2018). It is therefore critical that big data analytics initiatives have clear business goals and a strategic direction. The findings of our analysis complement the emerging literature on how BDAC's can be the key to repositioning firms in the competitive landscape. The effect of BDAC on both incremental and radical innovation capabilities is found to be fully mediated by dynamic capabilities, indicating that big data analytics can fundamentally change the way firms adjust to external conditions and position themselves in the market.

Finally, by distinguishing environmental factors into the three distinct variables of dynamism, heterogeneity and hostility, our study is one of the first to empirically demonstrate that the effect of BDAC is of increased relevance in uncertain conditions. Specifically, we find that under conditions of high heterogeneity, the effect of BDAC on dynamic capabilities is amplified. This is justified since when the complexity of the environment increases, managerial insight may not be sufficient to process all relevant information and take according decisions. A strong BDAC allows firms to deal with this complexity and deliver insight which can then be utilized by managers in order to sense, seize, and transform the way their firm operates. Furthermore, we find that the capacity to effectively reconfigure existing means of operating, results in increased levels of radical innovation capabilities, especially under high environmental heterogeneity. This serves to demonstrate that when complexity is high, and the problem of information overload exists, a BDAC can help in deriving insight from data and can help pinpoint emerging new opportunities for radical innovation. On the other hand, the effect of dynamic capabilities on incremental innovation capabilities is accelerated when environmental dynamism is increased. This shows that under circumstances of high competitive intensity, strong dynamic capabilities are particularly important for the exploitation of existing options in producing improved products, services, and processes.

## *6.2 Implications for practice*

The results of the present study also have several interesting implications for practitioners. First, this study shows that big data analytics is more than just mere investments in technology, collection of vast amounts of data, and allowing the IT department to experiment with novel analytics techniques. Complementary to the above-mentioned, important elements of gaining business value out of big data investments include recruiting people with good technical and managerial understanding of big data and analytics, fostering a culture of organizational learning, and embedding big-data decision making into the fabric of the organization. Hence, it is the combined effect of these resources that will enable a firm to develop a big data analytics capability and realize value gains. This of course means that a multitude of processes need to be put into action, which requires top management commitment and a clear plan for firm-wide big data analytics adoption and diffusion. A number of studies have already begun to highlight the significance of all these factors, and provided managers with guidelines on how to develop and mature their BDAC's (Mikalef, Framnes, et al., 2017; Vidgen et al., 2017).

One of the most elusive such elements is that of a data-driven culture. A great number of business reports are now highlighting the importance that a data-driven culture has on realizing business value out of big data investments. In essence, a data-driven culture builds on the idea that firms should place more weight

on decisions that have backing from empirical data analysis. Becoming a data-driven firm is a topic of growing interest in the practitioner community, and entails changes within the organization, including expanding the skill set of managers who use data, broadening the types of decisions influenced by data, and cultivating decision making that blends analytical insight with intuition (Ransbotham et al., 2016). Several accounts from practitioners underscore the significance of infusing the organization with a data-driven culture, as building firm-wide capabilities by leveraging big data analytics in the absence of a data-driven culture will likely not have success. Companies that are successful in developing a data-driven culture forge a strong connection between their organizational strategy and a formal strategy for analytics. Being able to achieve this however is largely dependent on top management demonstrating that the role of data and analytics should have a more prominent role in decision making.

By outlining the core resources that are needed to develop a BDAC, this study can help managers construct an assessment tool, so they can benchmark their organizations strengths and weaknesses. The main pillars, as defined in the elements that jointly constitute a BDAC, can help expose areas that have been underdeveloped or insufficiently funded. Resources of an intangible nature, such as intensity of organizational learning, and data-driven culture, can provide managers with an understanding of the importance of these aspects, and help them form strategies to strengthen them throughout the firm. Given that many companies are still at an inaugurating stage in their big data analytics initiatives, it is critical to have a good overview of all the areas that should be considered, as well as to calculate expected costs and gains. Furthermore, while some resources such as technical, data, and even human skills can be quite easily and quickly replicated or acquired from the market, others, such as a data-driven culture require planning and a well-documented process to form and mature. Hence, an additional practical implication concerns the calculation of the time and complexity that some resources require to develop. Managers should therefore think about the maturation time necessary well before they expect any measurable outcomes from their big data investments. Adding to this, recruiting employees with the appropriate technical and managerial skills in the age of big data is a great concern for many executives. Our findings showcase the importance of these in realizing business value.

Finally, the outcomes of our study show that even by fostering a strong BDAC, business value is not directly achieved. In other words, while firms may be producing solid data-driven insight as a result of their BDAC's, action is required to capitalize upon it. Data-driven insight is only a component of a firm's ability to sense, seize, and reconfigure, and doing so successfully means that the organization must be designed to be able to respond to changes that insight indicate. This requires flexibility in operations, fast re-deployment of organizational capabilities, and dissolution of any form of inertia that can hinder insight to be transformed into action. Managers need to realize that big data-generated insight is only one component of gaining value from big data investments, the other is responsiveness. This is a prominent theme in the guest editorial of R. Sharma et al. (2014), in which the authors discuss the importance of understanding the process from insight to action and value creation.

### *6.3 Limitations and future research*

Despite the contributions of the present study it is constrained by a number of limitations that future research could seek to address. First, as noted already, self-reported data are used to test our research hypotheses. Although considerable efforts were undertaken to confirm data quality, the potential of biases cannot be excluded. The perceptual nature of the data, in combination with a study-design that uses a single key informant, could suggest that there is bias, and that factual data do not coincide with respondents' perceptions. Despite this study relying on top management respondents as key informants, which typically

have good knowledge on various related domains, sampling multiple respondents within a single firm would be useful to establish inter-rater validity and to improve internal validity. Second, although we examine the effect of big data analytics capabilities on different types of innovation capabilities, we do not factor in contextual and market specific conditions. It is highly probable that the value of directing big data initiatives may be more beneficial in some cases than in others. This is an area that future research should seek to address, and it is of increased practical value, particularly considering the costs of deploying big data initiatives. The main argument that a big data analytics capability is necessary but not a sufficient condition to lead to competitive performance gains remains subject to several internal and external factors, which hopefully will be addressed in subsequent research studies. It is important to understand in each industry how big data analytics capabilities are developed, as well as through what mechanisms they produce value, and how that can be captured. Third, while we look at the relationship between big data analytics capabilities and the indirect effect on innovation capabilities, we do so under the assumption that managers make the best choice of option when faced with data-generated insight. In addition, it could even be possible that decision is not based on big data intelligence at all, as there are multiple factors that come into play regarding managers decision to adopt or not data-generated insight. This is a promising area of research since generating big data insight is only one step to capturing business value.

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## Appendix A. Survey Instrument

Measure	Item
Big Data Analytics Capability	
Tangible	
- Data	D1. We have access to very large, unstructured, or fast-moving data for analysis D2. We integrate data from multiple sources into a data warehouse for easy access D3. We integrate external data with internal to facilitate analysis of business environment
- Basic Resources	BR1. Our 'big data analytics' projects are adequately funded BR2. Our 'big data analytics' projects are given enough time to achieve their objectives
- Technology	T1. We have explored or adopted parallel computing approaches (e.g., Hadoop) to big data processing T2. We have explored or adopted different data visualization tools T3. We have explored or adopted new forms of databases such as Not Only SQL(NoSQL) T4. We have explored or adopted cloud-based services for processing data and performing analytics T5. We have explored or adopted open-source software for big data analytics
Human Skills	
- Managerial Skills	MS1. Our BDA managers are able to understand the business need of other functional managers, suppliers, and customers to determine opportunities that big data might bring to our business. MS2. Our DBA managers are able to coordinate big data-related activities in ways that support other functional managers, suppliers, and customers MS3. Our BDA' managers are able to understand and evaluate the output extracted from big data MS4. Our BDA' managers are able to understand where to apply big data
- Technical Skills	TS1. Our 'big data analytics' staff has the right skills to accomplish their jobs successfully TS2. Our 'big data analytics' staff is well trained TS3. We provide big data analytics training to our own employees TS4. Our 'big data analytics' staff has suitable education to fulfil their jobs
Intangible	
- Data-driven Culture	DD1. We base our decisions on data rather than on instinct DD2. We are willing to override our own intuition when data contradict our viewpoints DD3. We continuously coach our employees to make decisions based on data
- Organizational Learning	OL1. We are able to acquire new and relevant knowledge OL2. We have made concerted efforts for the exploitation of existing competencies and exploration of new knowledge OL3. We are able to assimilate relevant knowledge OL4. We are able to apply relevant knowledge
Dynamic Capabilities	
Sensing	
	Please indicate how effective your company is in the following areas SNS1. Scanning the environment and identifying new business opportunities SNS2. Reviewing our product development efforts to ensure they are in line with what the customers want SNS3. Implementing ideas for new products and improving existing products or services

	SNS4. Anticipating discontinuities arising in our business domain by developing greater reactive and proactive strength
Coordinating	CRD1. Providing more effective coordination among different functional activities CRD2. Providing more effective coordination with customers, business partners and distributors CRD3. Ensuring that the output of work is synchronized with the work of other functional units or business partners CRD4. Reducing redundant tasks, or overlapping activities performed by different operational units
Learning	LRN1. Identify, evaluate, and import new information and knowledge LRN2. Transform existing information into new knowledge LRN3. Assimilate new information and knowledge LRN4. Use accumulated information and knowledge to assist decision making
Integrating	INT1. Easily accessing data and other valuable resources in real time from business partners INT2. Aggregating relevant information from business partners, suppliers and customers. (e.g. operating information, business customer performance) INT3. Collaborating in demand forecasting and planning between our firm and our business partners INT4. Streamlining business processes with suppliers, distributors, and customers
Reconfiguring	REC1. Adjusting for and responding to unexpected changes easily REC2. Easily adding an eligible new partner that you want to do business with or removing ones that you have terminated your partnership REC3. Adjusting our business processes in response to shifts in our business priorities REC4. Reconfiguring our business processes in order to come up with new productive assets
Innovative Capability	How would you rate your organizations capability to generate the following types of innovations in the products/services you introduce
Incremental	INC1. Innovations that reinforce our prevailing product/service lines INC2. Innovations that reinforce our existing expertise in prevailing products/services INC3. Innovations that reinforce how you currently compete
Radical	RAD1. Innovations that make our prevailing product/service lines obsolete RAD2. Innovations that fundamentally change our prevailing products/services RAD3. Innovations that make our expertise in prevailing products/services obsolete
Environmental Uncertainty Dynamism	With respect to the uncertainty of your environment, please indicate how much you agree or disagree with the following statements DYN1. Products and services in our industry become obsolete very quickly DYN2. The product/services technologies in our industry change very quickly DYN3. We can predict what our competitors are going to do next (Reverse coded) DYN4. We can predict when our products/services demand changes (Reverse coded)
Heterogeneity	With respect to the uncertainty of your environment, please indicate how much you agree or disagree with the following statements HET1. Customer buying habits HET2. Nature of competition HET3. Product lines
Hostility	With respect to the uncertainty of your environment, please indicate how much you agree or disagree with the following statements HOS1. Scarce supply of labor HOS2. Scarce supply of materials HOS3. Tough price competition HOS4. Tough competition in product/service quality HOS5. Tough competition in product/service differentiation

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**Appendix B. Cross-loadings**

	D	BR	T	MS	TS	DD	OL	DS	DC	DL	DI	DR	INC	RAD	DYN	HET	HOS
<b>D1</b>	<b>0.714</b>	0.199	0.480	0.286	0.294	0.156	0.270	0.254	0.258	0.105	0.511	0.444	0.213	0.288	0.345	0.332	0.489
<b>D2</b>	<b>0.725</b>	0.238	0.224	0.402	0.439	0.278	0.308	0.187	0.335	0.343	0.564	0.392	0.162	0.192	0.322	0.448	0.399
<b>D3</b>	<b>0.817</b>	0.216	0.457	0.543	0.360	0.206	0.541	0.267	0.276	0.330	0.534	0.324	0.072	0.265	0.338	0.488	0.512
<b>BR1</b>	0.272	<b>0.926</b>	0.249	0.387	0.520	0.260	0.352	0.362	0.315	0.326	0.467	0.258	0.343	0.401	0.247	0.411	0.507
<b>BR2</b>	0.242	<b>0.851</b>	0.172	0.387	0.312	0.343	0.296	0.306	0.237	0.353	0.475	0.438	0.313	0.378	0.237	0.300	0.376
<b>T1</b>	0.408	0.227	<b>0.824</b>	0.290	0.245	0.051	0.269	0.106	0.220	0.136	0.490	0.391	0.078	0.217	0.251	0.308	0.465
<b>T2</b>	0.495	0.202	<b>0.797</b>	0.303	0.308	0.267	0.338	0.310	0.208	0.169	0.465	0.419	0.123	0.348	0.251	0.304	0.375
<b>T3</b>	0.489	0.180	<b>0.832</b>	0.318	0.198	0.181	0.326	0.267	0.205	0.211	0.408	0.314	0.086	0.274	0.261	0.313	0.469
<b>T4</b>	0.543	0.360	<b>0.852</b>	0.276	0.330	0.267	0.276	0.072	0.265	0.338	0.206	0.541	0.072	0.265	0.338	0.488	0.512
<b>MS1</b>	0.460	0.317	0.335	<b>0.839</b>	0.425	0.362	0.315	0.328	0.372	0.388	0.260	0.352	0.343	0.401	0.258	0.343	0.401
<b>MS2</b>	0.517	0.419	0.334	<b>0.902</b>	0.569	0.306	0.237	0.189	0.368	0.365	0.343	0.296	0.313	0.378	0.438	0.313	0.378
<b>MS3</b>	0.494	0.379	0.303	<b>0.882</b>	0.512	0.295	0.396	0.244	0.413	0.411	0.373	0.201	0.251	0.369	0.391	0.078	0.217
<b>MS4</b>	0.285	0.394	0.273	<b>0.827</b>	0.133	0.152	0.315	0.328	0.343	0.296	0.553	0.486	0.510	0.388	0.260	0.352	0.343
<b>TS1</b>	0.436	0.435	0.298	0.527	<b>0.925</b>	0.306	0.237	0.189	0.373	0.201	0.511	0.423	0.468	0.388	0.260	0.352	0.343
<b>TS2</b>	0.454	0.487	0.284	0.564	<b>0.917</b>	0.295	0.396	0.244	0.251	0.430	0.270	0.253	0.294	0.365	0.343	0.296	0.313
<b>TS3</b>	0.524	0.416	0.269	0.224	<b>0.902</b>	0.559	0.553	0.486	0.510	0.465	0.419	0.123	0.348	0.411	0.373	0.201	0.251
<b>TS4</b>	0.473	0.225	0.259	0.187	<b>0.852</b>	0.503	0.511	0.423	0.468	0.408	0.314	0.086	0.274	0.296	0.553	0.486	0.510
<b>DD1</b>	0.238	0.133	0.152	0.240	0.201	<b>0.823</b>	0.270	0.253	0.294	0.206	0.541	0.072	0.265	0.338	0.401	0.247	0.411
<b>DD2</b>	0.128	0.250	0.109	0.144	0.214	<b>0.793</b>	0.285	0.355	0.180	0.225	0.392	0.503	0.409	0.307	0.378	0.237	0.300
<b>DD3</b>	0.285	0.394	0.273	0.357	0.412	<b>0.818</b>	0.312	0.327	0.204	0.294	0.538	0.489	0.367	0.457	0.217	0.251	0.308
<b>OL1</b>	0.541	0.235	0.379	0.489	0.338	0.293	<b>0.880</b>	0.313	0.452	0.423	0.369	0.399	0.320	0.631	0.348	0.251	0.304
<b>OL2</b>	0.398	0.407	0.303	0.421	0.329	0.337	<b>0.891</b>	0.300	0.297	0.253	0.294	0.206	0.541	0.072	0.274	0.261	0.313
<b>OL3</b>	0.306	0.237	0.353	0.475	0.438	0.314	<b>0.821</b>	0.443	0.324	0.309	0.340	0.368	0.365	0.274	0.261	0.338	0.488
<b>OL4</b>	0.106	0.220	0.136	0.490	0.391	0.452	<b>0.785</b>	0.442	0.394	0.237	0.197	0.413	0.411	0.265	0.338	0.258	0.343
<b>DS1</b>	0.153	0.228	0.247	0.208	0.100	0.239	0.284	<b>0.712</b>	0.409	0.392	0.503	0.343	0.296	0.401	0.258	0.438	0.313
<b>DS2</b>	0.321	0.337	0.202	0.255	0.207	0.332	0.282	<b>0.844</b>	0.355	0.538	0.489	0.373	0.201	0.386	0.369	0.391	0.078
<b>DS3</b>	0.317	0.334	0.268	0.223	0.226	0.346	0.268	<b>0.834</b>	0.410	0.369	0.399	0.320	0.631	0.435	0.388	0.260	0.352
<b>DS4</b>	0.407	0.303	0.421	0.353	0.475	0.438	0.458	<b>0.873</b>	0.524	0.260	0.352	0.374	0.308	0.401	0.133	0.152	0.240
<b>DC1</b>	0.349	0.235	0.196	0.355	0.266	0.185	0.361	0.438	<b>0.907</b>	0.343	0.296	0.435	0.304	0.378	0.250	0.109	0.144
<b>DC2</b>	0.382	0.290	0.443	0.324	0.309	0.340	0.465	0.496	<b>0.937</b>	0.051	0.269	0.299	0.262	0.369	0.394	0.273	0.357
<b>DC3</b>	0.251	0.316	0.442	0.394	0.388	0.260	0.352	0.343	<b>0.789</b>	0.345	0.401	0.247	0.411	0.467	0.235	0.379	0.489
<b>DC4</b>	0.247	0.208	0.493	0.404	0.365	0.343	0.296	0.313	<b>0.847</b>	0.399	0.378	0.237	0.300	0.422	0.407	0.303	0.421
<b>DL1</b>	0.222	0.299	0.210	0.429	0.411	0.373	0.201	0.251	0.452	<b>0.864</b>	0.217	0.251	0.308	0.404	0.237	0.353	0.475
<b>DL2</b>	0.344	0.363	0.209	0.373	0.296	0.553	0.486	0.510	0.464	<b>0.921</b>	0.348	0.251	0.304	0.410	0.220	0.136	0.490
<b>DL3</b>	0.325	0.344	0.161	0.402	0.430	0.343	0.315	0.487	0.451	<b>0.934</b>	0.274	0.261	0.313	0.350	0.228	0.247	0.208
<b>DL4</b>	0.294	0.206	0.541	0.072	0.265	0.338	0.401	0.202	0.255	<b>0.823</b>	0.265	0.338	0.488	0.362	0.315	0.396	0.176



*Big Data Analytics Capabilities and Innovation*

<b>DI1</b>	0.119	0.410	0.027	0.230	0.208	0.343	0.116	0.502	0.287	0.354	0.401	0.258	0.343	0.306	0.237	0.306	0.254
<b>DI2</b>	0.287	0.116	0.110	0.143	0.179	0.125	0.087	0.237	0.149	0.125	0.378	0.438	0.313	0.106	0.220	0.664	0.564
<b>DI3</b>	0.087	0.263	0.030	0.142	0.169	0.240	0.188	0.439	0.108	0.257	0.369	0.391	0.078	0.310	0.208	0.251	0.304
<b>DI4</b>	0.126	0.132	0.228	0.114	0.116	0.082	0.119	0.396	0.176	0.144	0.388	0.260	0.352	0.261	0.306	0.254	0.345
<b>DR1</b>	0.320	0.307	0.270	0.251	0.308	0.465	0.382	0.306	0.254	0.345	0.364	<b>0.912</b>	0.126	0.132	0.325	0.329	0.324
<b>DR2</b>	0.388	0.405	0.323	0.251	0.304	0.375	0.290	0.664	0.564	0.392	0.087	<b>0.864</b>	0.320	0.307	0.378	0.155	0.258
<b>DR3</b>	0.325	0.398	0.356	0.261	0.313	0.469	0.334	0.235	0.196	0.355	0.664	<b>0.826</b>	0.388	0.405	0.354	0.276	0.169
<b>DR4</b>	0.415	0.354	0.276	0.279	0.225	0.586	0.495	0.387	0.356	0.261	0.313	<b>0.893</b>	0.325	0.398	0.352	0.161	0.116
<b>INC1</b>	0.314	0.214	0.246	0.263	0.200	0.338	0.207	0.426	0.276	0.279	0.225	0.176	<b>0.852</b>	0.116	0.573	0.511	0.304
<b>INC2</b>	0.279	0.441	0.306	0.254	0.345	0.374	0.392	0.372	0.246	0.263	0.200	0.225	<b>0.734</b>	0.308	0.521	0.503	0.306
<b>INC3</b>	0.279	0.429	0.325	0.329	0.324	0.265	0.303	0.456	0.306	0.254	0.345	0.164	<b>0.867</b>	0.304	0.495	0.387	0.276
<b>RAD1</b>	0.444	0.461	0.274	0.222	0.258	0.328	0.278	0.165	0.664	0.603	0.290	0.664	0.586	<b>0.787</b>	0.498	0.390	0.161
<b>RAD2</b>	0.392	0.415	0.354	0.276	0.169	0.240	0.188	0.439	0.235	0.641	0.334	0.235	0.338	<b>0.891</b>	0.432	0.378	0.155
<b>RAD3</b>	0.324	0.415	0.352	0.161	0.116	0.082	0.119	0.396	0.387	0.507	0.495	0.387	0.374	<b>0.810</b>	0.321	0.357	0.223
<b>DYN1</b>	0.258	0.328	0.378	0.155	0.308	0.465	0.382	0.306	0.426	0.586	0.207	0.306	0.254	0.345	<b>0.842</b>	0.318	0.202
<b>DYN2</b>	0.366	0.413	0.357	0.223	0.304	0.375	0.290	0.664	0.453	0.564	0.392	0.325	0.329	0.324	<b>0.890</b>	0.374	0.292
<b>DYN3</b>	0.346	0.427	0.318	0.202	0.313	0.469	0.334	0.235	0.434	0.573	0.511	0.274	0.222	0.258	<b>0.719</b>	0.411	0.287
<b>DYN4</b>	0.441	0.384	0.374	0.292	0.225	0.586	0.495	0.387	0.507	0.521	0.503	0.354	0.276	0.169	<b>0.747</b>	0.356	0.316
<b>HET1</b>	0.423	0.335	0.411	0.287	0.200	0.338	0.207	0.426	0.586	0.495	0.387	0.352	0.161	0.116	0.251	<b>0.836</b>	0.402
<b>HET2</b>	0.378	0.155	0.392	0.329	0.324	0.292	0.452	0.453	0.564	0.498	0.390	0.372	0.405	0.323	0.251	<b>0.862</b>	0.432
<b>HET3</b>	0.564	0.392	0.415	0.222	0.258	0.314	0.450	0.434	0.573	0.511	0.444	0.461	0.398	0.356	0.261	<b>0.864</b>	0.542
<b>HOS1</b>	0.534	0.324	0.415	0.276	0.169	0.283	0.473	0.403	0.664	0.564	0.392	0.415	0.354	0.276	0.279	0.318	<b>0.743</b>
<b>HOS2</b>	0.467	0.258	0.328	0.161	0.116	0.304	0.444	0.424	0.586	0.534	0.324	0.415	0.214	0.246	0.263	0.425	<b>0.784</b>
<b>HOS3</b>	0.475	0.438	0.352	0.375	0.270	0.083	0.372	0.433	0.516	0.467	0.258	0.116	0.110	0.143	0.179	0.345	<b>0.795</b>
<b>HOS4</b>	0.490	0.391	0.326	0.438	0.117	0.066	0.456	0.312	0.616	0.502	0.366	0.413	0.495	0.387	0.507	0.265	<b>0.842</b>
<b>HOS5</b>	0.465	0.419	0.337	0.364	0.152	0.054	0.165	0.664	0.450	0.434	0.573	0.511	0.444	0.461	0.521	0.532	<b>0.801</b>

D – Data, BR – Basic Resources, T – Technology, MS – Managerial Skills, TS – Technical Skills, DD – Data-driven Culture, OL – Organizational Learning, DS – Sensing Capability, DC – Coordinating Capability, DL – Learning Capability, DI – Integrating Capability, DR – Reconfiguring Capability, INC – Incremental Innovation RAD – Radical Innovation, DYN – Dynamism, HET – Heterogeneity, HOS - Hostility

**Appendix C. Heterotrait-Monotrait Ratio (HMTM)**

	(4)	(5)	(6)	(7)	(8)	(9)	(10)	(11)	(12)	(13)	(14)	(15)	(16)	(17)
(4) Managerial Skills														
(5) Technical Skills	0.532													
(6) Data-driven Culture	0.345	0.530												
(7) Organizational Learning	0.430	0.446	0.326											
(8) Sensing	0.292	0.225	0.342	0.382										
(9) Coordinating	0.412	0.310	0.305	0.421	0.432									
(10) Learning	0.404	0.402	0.351	0.358	0.435	0.503								
(11) Integrating	0.255	0.241	0.387	0.420	0.583	0.271	0.341							
(12) Reconfiguring	0.396	0.348	0.661	0.470	0.504	0.526	0.428	0.504						
(13) Incremental	0.284	0.261	0.261	0.301	0.401	0.391	0.317	0.183	0.197					
(14) Radical	0.438	0.310	0.278	0.351	0.317	0.323	0.301	0.317	0.301	0.225				
(15) Dynamism	0.232	0.387	0.420	0.378	0.343	0.204	0.416	0.421	0.416	0.310	0.360			
(16) Heterogeneity	0.270	0.661	0.470	0.333	0.376	0.296	0.286	0.225	0.333	0.523	0.481	0.355		
(17) Hostility	0.351	0.358	0.482	0.267	0.312	0.257	0.424	0.350	0.377	0.345	0.530	0.358	0.384	