

ACCELERATING SCIENTIFIC RESEARCH WITH OPEN LABORATORIES

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Open laboratories move industrial and academic research from closed facilities into public spaces where everyone is allowed to contribute. From a methodological point of view, the activities that are going on there are usually connected to action research or design science research. However, we argue in this paper that they can actually be considered to constitute a new research methodology which combines aspects of experimentation as it is known from conventional laboratories with the discursive practices of a scientific community. We explore this dynamic on the example of an open laboratory dedicated to service research regarding modelling procedures of value co-creation. The results suggest that open laboratories offer a way to accelerate scientific research in areas where the subject matter has a small scope and is undergoing frequent changes, which turns them into a promising methodological alternative in business and management studies.