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# Elements of paradoxes in supply chain management literature: A systematic literature review

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## **CRediT** author statement

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## Elements of Paradoxes in Supply Chain Management Literature: A Systematic Literature Review

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## **ABSTRACT**

This study reports the results of a systematic literature review investigating paradoxes in supply chain management. This issue is important because supply chain practitioners frequently face paradoxes in industry with little direction provided in supply chain literature. Investigating the years 1997 through 2019, we identified 64 articles as the basis of our research containing a total of 68 unique paradoxes. In identifying the paradox elements (PEs), we adopted paradox theory (PT) as the base theoretical approach, which was utilized in only 7 of the articles. We also employed contingency theory, institutional complexity theory, and complexity theory to support our findings. For each paradox, we also extracted and summarized managerial insights for practitioners. This study addresses the emergent needs of investigating paradoxes in the supply chain management domain to extend the use of PT and complimentary theories that can aide practitioners in how to efficiently manage the paradoxes they encounter in industry.

**Keywords:** Paradox theory, Paradox elements, Systematic literature review, Supply chain management, Paradox

## 1. Introduction

Since paradox theory (PT) (Lewis, 2000; Smith and Lewis, 2011) was introduced in supply chain literature (Matthews et al., 2016), the theory continues to receive scholarly attention (Sandberg, 2017; Xiao et al., 2018; Brix-Asala et al., 2018; Coscieme et al., 2019). One of the drivers of the popularity of PT in the field is that practitioners increasingly face paradoxes in managing supply chains. These paradoxes take many forms such as the contradictory goals in operations to increase inventory levels, improving service levels and the pressures to simultaneously lower inventory cost (Kull et al., 2013). It also applies to transportation where, adding additional routes to improve delivery effectiveness while simultaneously observing a decrease in network efficiency (a.k.a. Braess paradox) (Frank, 1981). In procurement, tensions exist between short-term supply partnerships to improve flexibility and long term, high-involvement supply partnerships to increase effectiveness (Cerruti et al., 2016). In addition, globalization and sustainability issues in supply chains also accelerate the adoption of PT (Coscieme et al., 2019; Brix-Asala et al., 2018).

Since 2000, PT has evolved into a metatheory (Lewis, 2000; Smith and Lewis, 2011; Lewis and Smith, 2014; Smith et al., 2017), meaning that it can explain paradoxes across a number of contexts. The literature defines a paradox as "persistent contradictions between interdependent elements" (Lewis, 2000, p.760), and handling these contradictory and interdependent elements properly can provide new opportunities for organizations to grow (Smith and Lewis, 2011; Lewis and Smith, 2014; Smith et al., 2017). While fierce global competition that is fueled by innovation and sustainability pressures creates uncertainties, PT provides a "critical theoretical lens to understand and to lead contemporary organizations" (Smith and Lewis, 2011, p.398). It has the potential to address interwoven organizational challenges and suggests effective both/and management strategies (Lewis and Smith, 2014).

However, we find that the use of PT is relatively limited in the supply chain field, indicating that supply chain management (SCM) scholars and practitioners may not be familiar with this formal theoretical framework that examines paradoxes. Given the apparent increase in conflicting objectives in industry, it signals a need to extend use of PT to benefit practitioners.

Previous literature introduced the PT to the SCM context (Matthews et al., 2016; Coscieme et al., 2019; Brix-Asala et al., 2018) to identify paradoxes in global supply chain management (Matthews et al., 2016) and paradoxes in sustainability (Xiao et al., 2019). To contribute to the literature, we identify a list of paradox elements (PEs), which are single elements that are perceived to be part of a larger set of elements that form a paradox. Specifically, this study applies PT to summarize and to classify PEs in SCM literature. Paradox theorists offer several research agendas (Schad et al., 2016; Smith et al., 2017, Schad et al., 2019) that point to the potential of PT across diverse research streams of management science. In this study, we follow this lead and conduct a systematic literature review (SLR) to examine how PT relates to the SCM literature.

The SLR method has been increasingly used in SCM in recent years (Chakuu, Masi, and Godsell, 2019; Masae et al., 2020; Glock et al., 2017). Chakuu, Masi, and Godsell discuss SLR as superior to other review methods because it relies on replicable and transparent evidence, which leads to reduced bias during the analysis and summarization stages of the literature. Glock et al. (2017) mentioned that SLR enables readers to reproduce sample generation and evaluation, as well as to interpret and to follow up on the findings. Our study uses the same SLR approach that Durach et al. (2017) proposes for use in the SCM domain. In doing so, we also address the call of rigorous and transparent SLR in SCM (Thomé, Scavarda, and Scavarda, 2016).

Because the use of PT in SCM is relatively new, this study also examines complimentary theories that explain similar phenomena such as complexity theory (Nilsson, 2006; Nilsson and Gammelgaard, 2012; Nilsson, 2019), institutional complexity theory (Greenwood et al., 2011; Smith and Tracey, 2016), and contingency theory (Fiedler, 2005; Scott and Davis, 2015; Lewis and Smith, 2014). This allows us to investigate the unique characteristics of PT that focus on paradoxes that aren't fully explained by other perspectives, as well as those that overlap with PT. Studies that promote this approach (Halldórsson et al., 2007; Halldórsson, Hsuan, and Kotzab, 2015) have discussed how the use of complementary theoretical perspectives can benefit the SCM field where the main theory can be supported by one or more complimentary theories (Halldórsson et al., 2007).

This literature review also addresses the necessity of investigating the paradoxes currently known in SCM, including conflicting objectives. Conflicting objectives are characterized as PEs. Lewis (2000) discussed that choosing among competing objectives might give a temporary performance relief to the firm, but in order to achieve long term sustainable goals, a firm should acknowledge the existence of PEs in the system and attend to them simultaneously. Identifying and categorizing PEs pave the way for future scholars and practitioners to extend PT to explain phenomena that already exist in the literature and devise ways to manage the paradoxes. Applying complementary theoretical approaches provide alternative frameworks to study the PEs, in addition to PT. In doing so, our study builds on Sandberg's (2017) study who recommends extending PT beyond global sourcing to explain other topics in SCM in general.

This study makes several practical and theoretical contributions. First, we summarize the managerial insights on the paradoxes that can provide guidance for SCM practitioners to handle them more properly. Recognizing and balancing these PEs help practitioners increase the effectiveness of managing the supply chain and decision making. Second, our study is unique in that it summarizes the PEs in SCM domain by providing a list of PEs in the SCM literature, and extends the usage of PT in SCM. Third, in the interest of parsimony this is the first study to classify PEs into different paradox categories based on PT. In addition, we further code the PEs into different themes within each category based on expert opinion. Fourth, we apply complementary theoretical approaches (contingency theory, institutional complexity, and complexity perspective) to explain the PEs.

Our paper is structured as follows. We further introduce the PT in the next section. Then, we explain the SLR approach in the methodology section and continue with reporting our findings in the results section. At the end, we conclude with the presentation of further discussions, implications, and potential future research avenues.

## 2. Theoretical background

## 2.1. Paradox theory (PT) and paradox elements (PEs)

PT defines paradox as "contradictory yet interrelated elements that seem logical in isolation, but which are irrational, inconsistent and even absurd when appearing simultaneously, and which persist over time" (Smith and Lewis, 2011, p.387). Lewis (2000) first explored paradoxes in organizations and provided a framework to investigate them. Lewis grouped paradoxes into learning, organizing, and belonging categories. A decade after this paradox framework (Lewis, 2000) was introduced, Smith and Lewis (2011) reviewed the paradox literature. Highlighting the debates in paradox literature, the article extends the three paradox categories mentioned in Lewis (2000) and includes a fourth paradox category – performing paradox. Given the four categories of paradoxes, Smith and Lewis (2011) introduced six additional paradox categories derived from the combinations of the four paradox categories (performing, learning, organizing, and belonging). These additional six paradox categories are learningbelonging, learning-organizing, belonging-organizing, learning-performing, performing-belonging, and performing-organizing paradoxes (Smith and Lewis, 2011). Lewis and Smith (2014) suggest PT as a metatheoretical perspective and demonstrate how paradox studies examine tensions at different levels of analysis and leverage wideranging methods and theories. They argue that PT can serve as the theoretical framework to make sense of the tensions in an organization. Smith et al. (2017) arguably pin the phenomenon of paradox to ancient philosophy while citing that paradox research increased by ten percent per year between 1990 and 2014. Their studies build on early research conducted in psychoanalysis, communications, and macro sociology disciplines. The authors also add a collection of studies that advance the PT by positing that interdependent contradictions are inherent in human nature, its environment, as well as the constructs that we humans build (e.g. expansion-constriction, independencedependence, stability and change, empowerment and alienation, flexibility and control, exploration and exploitation, competition and collaboration). However, while PT has been widely studied and applied in the management literature, its application in SCM is limited. As Sandberg (2017) mentioned, although SCM scholars and practitioners have been aware of paradoxes, they have lacked a formal theoretical framework to identify and classify them. Therefore, we use PT to summarize and identify PEs, which are the single elements that are perceived as a part of greater set of elements that form paradox, in the SCM domain.

## 2.2. Paradox research in SCM

We have identified seven articles that utilized PT for theoretical grounding. The articles are Longoni et al. (2019) and Xiao et al. (2019) in Journal of Supply Chain Management (*JSCM*), Brix-Asala et al. (2019) in Sustainability, Niesten and Stefan (2019) in International Journal of Management Review (*IJMR*), Wihelm and Sydow (2018) in *JSCM*, Sandberg (2017) in International Journal of Logistics Research and Applications (*IJLRA*), and Matthews et al. (2016) in *JSCM*. These studies provide valuable contributions toward extending PT into the SCM domain. While Xiao et al. (2019) and Brix-Asala et al. (2018) effectively demonstrate that uncharted territories, beyond trade-offs, exist within SCM, they identify several opportunities for future research. Even though "the two case studies only exemplify paradoxes inherent in global sourcing practices" (Sandberg, 2017, p.471), they pave the way for SCM scholars to improve the existing paradox framework applied from Smith and Lewis (2011). This not only advances the stages of importing PT into SCM, but also encourages paradox theorists to collect valuable feedback from SCM studies to improve generalizability and parsimony. The emergence of the studies on paradox research in SCM indicates the need for a thorough literature review to summarize the paradoxes in previous studies and provide future avenues for the application of PT in the field.

## 2.3. Complementary theoretical approaches

The complementary use of contingency theory, institutional complexity theory, and complexity theory with PT has been presented in previous studies (Lewis and Smith, 2014; Smith and Tracey, 2016; Nilsson and Christopher, 2018). Lewis and Smith (2014) compare the difference between contingency theory and PT on investigating the tensions. Simply put, PT seeks to answer how to engage A and B simultaneously, while contingency theory seeks to answer under what conditions should managers emphasize A or B. Complexity theory describes the interactions between A and B that cause feedback loops that can change both PEs, while institutional complexity theory says A and B can vary based on the environment in which they exist. Some of the PEs that we identified can be investigated under the contingency theory, for example, the paradox arising from international carbon foot-printing (PCS) standardization and the need to customize the PCS to meet national-level goals. Institutional complexity focuses on the situation in which organizations tackle irreconcilable institutional pressures and help identify pathways to make sense and operate under various social demands (Greenwood et al., 2011). Smith and Tracey (2016, p.455) conclude that "examining both institutional complexity theory and PT will result in rich, generative theorizing to better

address key challenges in the world". Complexity theory (Anderson, 1999; Philip, 1999; Nilsson, 2006; Nilsson and Gammelgaard, 2012) discusses that the essence of tensions that create disorder and subjectivity; epistemologically, of heuristics or anti-positivism; and technologically, of a transformative nature. Complexity theory focuses on bringing the transformative mindsets to study and handle the paradoxes in an ever-changing, iterative manner (Nilsson, 2006; Nilsson and Christopher, 2018).

To help investigate the PEs, several theoretical approaches can be applied as alternative or complimentary tools to PT to improve refutability. We investigate the PEs by introducing complementary theories and address the scarcity of formal theoretical frameworks to study paradoxes. Complexity theory addresses conflicting demands (Anderson, 1999; Philip, 1999; Nilsson, 2006; Nilsson, 2019). It describes a complex adaptive system that is self-organizing and the structure of it is determined by its agents. Applied to supply chains, it says that the structure of the network will evolve in ways that are not anticipated (Touboulic, Matthews, and Marques, 2018). Chae (2012) applies complexity theory to supply chains to investigate the simultaneous and conflicting demands between "short walk" and "long jump" in service innovation. Nilsson (2019) discusses that changes, interrelationships, non-linearities, learning and innovative capacities, dynamics and paradoxes existing in supply chains can be studied with complexity theory. Nilsson and Christopher (2018) suggest that complexity theory in logistics research challenges several of the existing common assumptions in logistics and provides a dialectic perspective on the strategic dimensions of logistics management, e.g., how to work with paradoxes. Complexity perspective focuses on applying transformative perspective to study paradox.

Institutional complexity theory deals with the tensions at the institutional level and organizational level (Greenwood et al., 2011; Smith and Tracey, 2016). It depicts competing demands emerging as contradictory and oppositional (Longoni et al., 2019). Greenwood et al. (2011) describe that competing demands originate from the incompatible ideas from multiple perspectives. The concept of institutional complexity describes the situation in which organizations "confront incompatible prescriptions from multiple institutional logic" that "provide guidelines on how to interpret and function in social situations" (Greenwood et al., 2011, p.318). Institutional complexity focuses on implementing effective structures at the organization and field level to manage tensions.

The contingency theory claims that there is no best way to organize a corporation, to lead a company, or to make decisions (Fiedler, 2005; Scott and Davis, 2015). Managers select one side of the competing demands to make optimal decisions based on the internal and external environments (Lewis and Smith, 2014). Lewis and Smith (2014)

discuss that the contingency theory seeks to resolve the paradoxes by determining when and where to focus on each strategy separately, while the PT promotes paradoxes with both strategies simultaneously. Cunha et al. (2019, p.715) conducted their work at the interface of contingency theory and PT and concluded that "a contingency theory of paradox will possibly contribute to more granular view of paradox in organizations." The assumptions, view on competing demands, response to demands, and mindset of the four theories are summarized in Appendix Table A.1.

## 3. Systematic literature review (SLR) methodology

Durach et al. (2017) argue that SLR has been applied in many fields such as medicine, but has had limited use in the SCM domain. They suggest that a six-step approach is appropriate for use in SCM. The approach that we used is shown in Fig.1. In step 1, we define the research questions. In step 2, we determine the required characteristics of the study. In step 3 we retrieve a sample of potentially relevant literature to test the approach, and in step 4 we select the applicable literature. In step 5, we conduct a within case analysis to summarize the literature and then report the results in step 6. As Durach et al. (2017) argue that biases (retrieval bias, publication bias, inclusion bias, and within-study bias) will appear if each step is not addressed carefully. We addressed each of these biases in every step of conducting the systematic literature review.

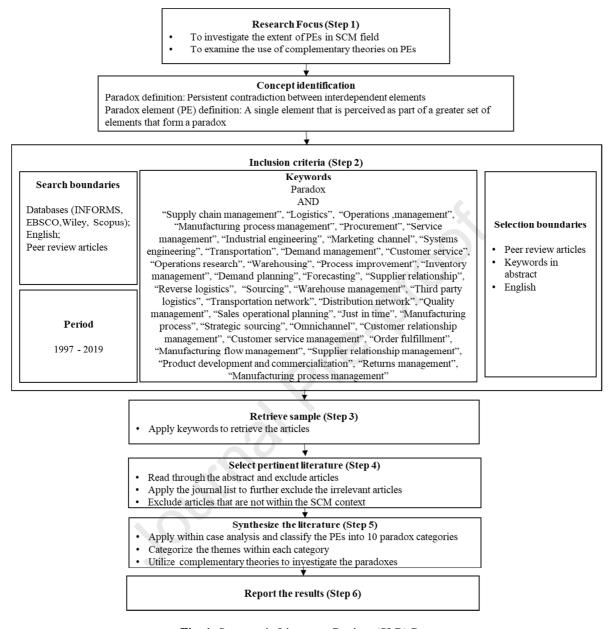


Fig. 1. Systematic Literature Review (SLR) Process

## 3.1. Defining the Research Questions (Step 1)

There are many articles in the SCM literature that deal with apparent paradoxes. However, these articles don't provide theoretical foundations, such as the use of PT in conjunction with their findings. Also, several articles discuss the paradoxes, but fall short of mentioning the specific PEs that create the events. For example, Cerruti et al. (2016) discuss a paradox in the context of purchasing that occurs between short-term relationships, such as spotbuying, and long-term strategic partnerships but don't provide insight on how to handle the conflicts. The PT and

complimentary theories may provide a framework to suggest ways to handle paradoxes since many SCM studies that investigate the PEs, don't apply PT, and vice versa. This study first examines the extent of PEs in SCM and demonstrates one method of applying complementary theoretical approaches to investigate these PEs.

## 3.2. Determining the Required Characteristics of the Study (Step 2)

This study includes articles that range from January 1997 to October 2019. Due to the paucity of PT studies in SCM, we had to span two decades to sufficiently cover the body of knowledge, including the emergence of the idea of organizational paradox. Both qualitative and/or quantitative methodologies are included because both methods benefit from SLR in SCM (Durach et al., 2017). Thomé, Scavarda, and Scavarda (2016, p.411) suggest that "at least two but preferably more than two databases or journals should be searched." The databases employed in this study are ABI/INFORM Complete (ProQuest), Academic Search Complete (EBSCO host), Scopus (Elsevier), and Wiley Online Library. ABI/INFORM Complete (ProQuest) is the largest database including full-text of scholarly and trade journal articles in business, management, and trade. While Wiley Online Library covers a considerable number of SCM journals, Academic Search Complete (EBSCO) and Scopus (Elsevier) are the interdisciplinary databases that also capture business and management topics. As a citation database, Scopus (Elsevier) also ensures a broader diversification of studies, as it indexes several journals and vendor databases in a single location (Thomé, Scavarda, and Scavarda, 2016). Initially we searched the keywords in full article texts. However, we found that including entire text did not yield much added value, but instead, provided a large number of search results that inhibited our ability to identify relevant PEs. After reading a dozen articles, it was clear that PEs were included in the abstracts. Therefore, we only included articles whose abstracts include the word "paradox" and synonyms of "supply chain management" together. The reason we included articles that only have "paradox" in the abstract is to follow the approach in Smith and Lewis (2011) that differentiates paradoxes from dilemmas, trade-offs, and dialectics. Therefore, we only focused on paradoxes that expressly denotes paradoxical tensions, and excluded keywords such as dialectic, trade-off, and dilemma, because they do not fully satisfy the definition of paradox which is interdependence and persistent contradiction among the PEs (Smith and Lewis, 2011).

## 3.3. Retrieving a Sample of Potentially Relevant Literature (Step 3)

The use of multiple, large databases addresses the retrieval bias, since it reduces the chance to miss any relevant articles. We also finalized a list of SCM journals to retain the articles to sort through and excluded the studies that are not related to SCM. We first selected three SLR papers (Fabbe-Costes and Jahre, 2008; Colicchia and Strozzi, 2012; Seuring and Gold, 2012) and also used the impact factor and "citation centrality criteria" to identify relevant journals. We also assumed that if a journal publishes a literature review in SCM, then the journal can be considered relevant to the SCM domain. We therefore included relevant journals that employed SLR in SCM. Our search found 63 journals that met all of the criteria (See Appendix Table A.2). The use of the list of 63 SCM related journals, in lieu of any subjective preferred list of journals, addressed the publication bias because we included all qualified SCM journals.

Durach et al. (2017) suggest that a proper search applies a combination of search strings, which are based on research purpose, research questions and inclusion/exclusion criteria. We subjected articles in the 63 journals to a series of steps. Initially, we created a SCM domain keyword table which classifies articles based on the terms "Supply Chain Management", "Logistics", "Operations Management", "Manufacturing Process Management", "Service Management", "Production Management", "Industrial Engineering", "Systems Engineering", "Procurement", and "Marketing Channel". Later, we formed an expert panel and asked the experts to help us expand and refine the keywords list. We first consulted with five SCM scholars to help develop our SCM keyword table. We also consulted with two SCM practitioners who have 20+ years of industry experience in SCM practice. They helped us to include more relevant keywords that were not captured previously. As a final step, we consulted with subject librarians on the selection of keywords. In total, we had a list of 37 synonyms for the key phrase "supply chain management". Table 1 lists the synonyms for the keyword "supply chain management". The key phrases are ranked according to their frequency of use.

**Table 1**The expert-opinioned synonyms of supply chain management.

Number of times a sys	nonym of supply chain management is indicated within	n parentheses
Logistics	Warehousing	Process Improvement        (1)           Demand Planning        (1)           Supplier Relationship        (1)
Procurement	Reverse Logistics(1) Third Party Logistics(1)	Sourcing(1) Transportation Network(1)
Industrial Engineering	Distribution Network(1) Sales Operational Planning(1)	Quality Management         (1)           Just in time         (1)
Marketing Channel(5) Systems Engineering(4)	Manufacturing Processes(1) Customer Relationship Management(1)	Strategic Sourcing(1) Omnichannel(1)
Transportation	Customer Service Management(1)  Manufacturing Flow Management(1)	Order Fulfillment(1) Returns Management(1)
Customer Service(2) Operation Research(1)	Supplier Relationship Management(1) Product Development and Commercialization (1)	

With the combination of 37 SCM field related keywords/phrases, "Supply chain management", and "Paradox", we performed the search within the abstracts of the targeted literature. The overview of the article search and evaluation process following (Mokhtar et al., 2019) is presented in Fig. 2 and explained in the following sections.

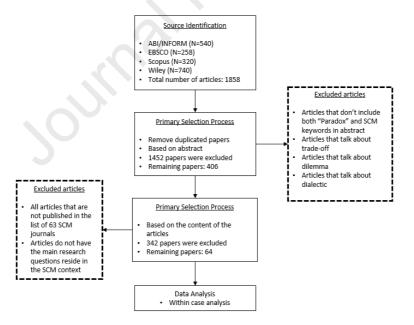


Fig. 2. Article search and evaluation process

## 3.4. Selecting the Pertinent Literature (Step 4)

In step 4, the inclusion and exclusion criteria were applied to select the articles. The initial number of articles found in each database were 540 in the ABI/INFORM Complete (ProQuest), 258 for in the Academic Search

Complete (EBSCO host), 320 in the Scopus (Elsevier) and 740 in the Wiley Online Library. After the initial search, the combined articles totaled 1,858. We first developed the inclusion and exclusion criteria independently, and then compared them. Developing the inclusion and exclusion criteria individually helps to address the inclusion bias, which could lead to the emergence of incorrect results (Durach et al., 2017). In summary, the inclusion criteria included articles published in 4 databases, 1997-2019, English only, and Peer reviewed. If an article mentioned both the SCM field keywords and "paradox" in the abstract, we kept the article for further analysis. Otherwise, articles that do not mention both keywords would be excluded. The number of studies that met all inclusion and exclusion criteria were 168 from ABI/INFORM; 46 from Academic Search Complete (EBSCO host); 90 articles from Scopus (Elsevier), and 102 articles from Wiley Online, totaling 406. In the final step, we applied the list of 63 journals as filters for the 406 articles. The second exclusion criterion excluded all of the articles that are not published on the journal list. The last exclusion criterion is articles where the main research question does not address a supply chain topic. This left a total of 64 articles in the literature review.

## 3.5. Synthesizing the Literature (Step 5)

We conducted a within-case analysis to extract the PEs in each article. Having multiple researchers extract the PEs individually addresses the within-study bias (Durach et al., 2017). After several rounds of classification, consensus was reached for the final list of paradoxes and related PEs. In order to validate the final list, two additional SCM scholars reviewed the results and made recommendations that improved the accuracy of the coding process. This led to the identification of 68 unique paradoxes extracted from the initial 81 paradoxes identified in the 64 articles (Appendix Table A.3). Among the 68 unique paradoxes, 65 of them are PE pairs that have two PEs. We noticed two separate paradoxes with three elements in separate articles (Choi and Eboch, 1998; Schmidt, Foerstl, and Schaltenbrand, 2017), and one paradox with four PEs (Matthews et al., 2016). During the synthesis stage, the 65 PE pairs were coded into the paradox categories of *performing* paradox, *organizing* paradox, *belonging* paradox, and *learning* paradox (Smith and Lewis, 2011). The PEs reflecting tensions between building upon and destroying the past to create a future were put into the *learning* paradox category ("L" in Table A.3). The PEs reflecting structuring and leading tensions were put into the *organizing* paradox category ("O" in Table A.3), and the PEs reflecting tensions between multiple stakeholder's goals were classified into the *performing* paradox category ("P" in Table A.3), and PEs reflecting tensions between identities were classified into the *belonging* paradox category

("B" in Table A.3). The interconnections of the PEs in different paradox categories form the combinations of paradox category (Learning-Belonging, Learning-Organizing, Belonging-Organizing, Learning-Performing, Performing-Belonging, Performing-Organizing). The paradoxes that reflect tensions between and within different paradox categories were coded into the six combinations of paradox categories. The Cohen's Kappa on the grouping of categories is 0.88, which indicates a high intra-rater agreement rate (Cohen,1960; Boon-itt et al., 2017). The researchers then discussed any coding anomalies until consensus was reached on the coding category. The PE pairs were finally grouped into 10 paradox categories.

Lewis (2000) discussed the themes within each paradox category, and we extended these themes to develop new themes. Within each category, we color coded the emerging themes from the PEs and classified them into a theme only after reaching full consensus from the expert panel. The classification procedures went through three iterative rounds until the consensus was reached. Three themes emerged in the *learning* paradox category: old, new, and present. These themes reflect the time nature of the *learning* PEs. In the *organizing* paradox category, we classified organizing PEs into five themes: collaboration, efficiency and control, exploration, competition, and others. These themes reflect the structuring and leading nature of the PEs. In the *belonging* paradox category, we classified belonging PEs under two themes: single entity and multiple entities. These themes reflect the identity nature of the PEs. And lastly, in the *performing* paradox category, we classified performing PEs under seven themes: specific, service, cost, forecast, sustainability, overall, and investment. These themes reflect the nature of stakeholders' competing goals.

The panel further analyzed the paradoxes under the complementary use of contingency theory, institutional complexity theory, and complexity perspective. The experts individually visited each of the alternative theoretical approaches and coded the paradoxes into contingency theory, institutional complexity theory, and complexity perspective as paradoxes are perceived to fall into the scope of the theories. When the coding process was done, the panel discussed the results until consensus was reached on any disagreements with the coding.

## 3.6. Reporting the Results (Step 6)

Journal of Supply Chain Management has largest number of paradoxes with seven PE pairs and a paradox with four PEs. The Decision Sciences journal has seven paradoxes with PE pairs. Sustainability journal, Production and Operations Management journal, and International Journal of Operations and Production Management each has six

paradoxes with PE pairs. Omega: an international journal of management science and Journal of Operations

Management each has five paradoxes with PE pairs. International Journal of Logistics Research and Application
has four PE pairs. Transportation research part E and International Journal of Physical Distribution and Logistics

Management each has three PE pairs.

Fig. 3 presents the number of articles investigating PEs in each year. It shows that the usage of the PEs in SCM has increased between years 1997 and 2019, with the largest increase beginning in 2014. This increase in numbers has also been steady over the years.

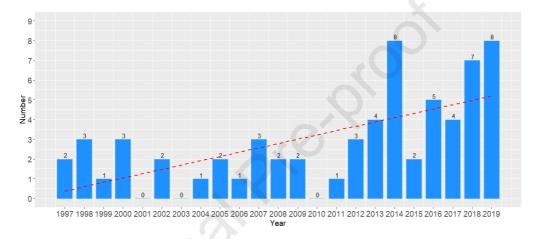


Fig. 3. Articles investigating paradoxes over the years of 1997 – 2019

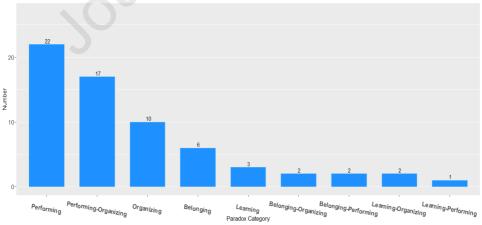
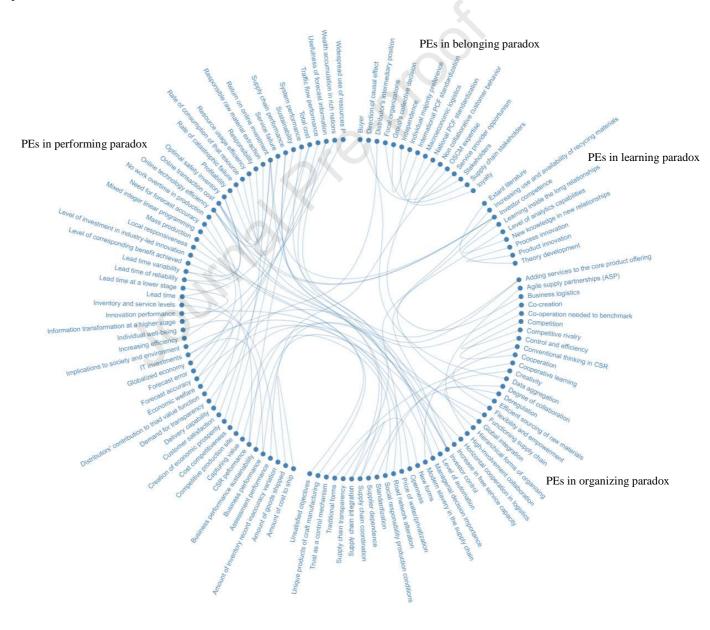


Fig. 4. Number of unique paradoxes under each paradox category

Fig. 4 is a pareto analysis of the number of unique PE pairs (*n*=65) under each paradox category. The *performing* paradox category has the largest number of PE pairs which is followed by the intersection of *performing-organizing* 

paradox category, and then by the *organizing* paradox category. We did not find any PE pairs to group into the *learning-belonging* paradox category. Fig. 5 shows the linkages between PEs within and across the paradox categories. Complementary to fig. 4, fig. 5 shows how the PE pairs are plotted and linked among the four paradox categories. It shows that most of the PEs connect with others in the same paradox category. Some of the PEs are linked across different categories, forming combinations of paradox categories. For example, *performing* and *organizing* paradoxes have the largest number of links, creating the *performing-organizing* category and relevant PE pairs.



## Fig. 5. PE pairs in the paradox categories

During this process, the study identified some well-known paradoxes that apply to SCM, such as Braess paradox in transportation, where an increase in the number of routes between two or more points, i.e. A and B, increases travel time, which is counter-intuitive. It is created because given multiple routes, travelers will all choose the shortest route, instead of an alternative, which increases congestion and increases travel time. (Yang, 1997; Masuda and Whang, 2002; Yang and Chen, 2009; Rapoport, Gisches, and Mak, 2014; Zhao, Fu, and Wang, 2014; Mak et al., 2018; D'Ambrosio, Gentili, and Cerulli, 2019; Ma et al., 2019). Rapoport, Gisches, and Mak (2014) mention that even though Braess paradox, like others, occurs on theoretical level, there is less empirical evidence supporting its existence, and most are highly contextual. Studies also try to identify the causes of Braess paradox, such as elastic traffic demand (Zhao et al., 2014) and route choice behavior (Rapoport et al., 2014). Baress paradox exists in other SCM contexts, such as airway network (Ma et al., 2019). Another famous SCM paradox is more-for-less paradox (Adlakha and Kowalski, 1998; Adlakha and Kowalski, 2000; Adlakha et al., 2007). The more-for-less paradox applies to freight, describing when it is possible to ship more total goods for less (or equal) total cost, while shipping the same amount or more from each origin and to each destination, while keeping all the shipping costs non-negative (Adlakha and Kowalski, 1998; Adlakha and Kowalski, 2000; Adlakha et al., 2007). Understanding this more-forless paradox is helpful to a manager in deciding which warehouse or plant capacities are to be increased and which markets should be sought (Adlakha and Kowalski, 1998). We also identified a lead-time paradox (Li et al., 2005), which describes the fact that the information transformation in SCM at higher stages decreases with the increase of lead-time at a lower stage. Another paradox related to transportation is *Downs-Thomson* paradox in channel management (Yin and George Zhang, 2019), which describes that under the customer's self-interest choice for the two service channels, an increase in the free service capacity (free highway) may have a negative impact on the overall system performance owing to its effects on the scale economies of the toll service system (toll highway). These paradoxes demonstrate existing linkages with PT by providing a rich research stream for future SCM studies. Table 2 shows the usage of method and theory in the articles identified. Among the 64 articles, 40 articles apply quantitative design, while only 9 articles apply qualitative design. 13 articles are either conceptual papers or literature reviews. Only 2 articles apply mixed methods. Among the 64 articles, 7 articles apply PT; 2 articles apply institutional theory and 2 articles apply resource-based view. The other theories were utilized once among the

identified article pool. We also found 24 articles that don't use any theories.

**Table 2**Theories and methods used in the articles & number of related paradoxes.

		No. of articles	Percentages	No. of unique paradox	Percentage
Methods	Quantitative design	40	62.50%	31	45.59%
	Qualitative design	9	14.06%	17	25.00%
	Mixed methods	2	3.13%	2	2.94%
	Conceptual papers & literature reviews	13	20.31%	18	26.47%
Theories	Paradox theory	7	10.94%	15	22.06%
	Institution theory	2	3.13%	2	2.94%
	Resource based view	2	3.13%	2	2.94%
	Others*	29	45.31%	26	38.24%

<sup>\*</sup> Include well-known paradoxes (Braess paradox, More-for-less paradox, Lead time paradox, and Downs Thomas paradox).

Table 3 lists the themes that emerged in each paradox category with 7 themes in performing paradox, 5 themes in organizing paradox, 3 themes in learning paradox, 2 themes in belonging paradox. It also shows the PEs under each theme. The PEs under the themes are single elements from each paradox pair. Since performing paradox has the largest number of themes and PEs, performing paradox has a large group of PEs. The second largest group is organizing paradox followed by belonging paradox and then learning paradox.

**Table 3** PEs and themes under paradox categories

			Performing Paradox			
Cost	Forecast	Investment	Service	Specific	Sustainability	Overall
Cost competitiveness Xiao et al., 2019); Competitive production site Brix-Asala et al., 2018); Brix-Asala et al., 2018); Cost of goods did and site al., 2000; Cost of goods shipped (Adlakha and Kowalski, 1998; Adlakha and Kowalski, 2000; Adlakha et al., 2007)	Need for forecast accuracy (Wacker and Lummus, 2002); Forecast error (Wacker and Lummus, 2002); Forecast accuracy (Wacker and Lummus, 2002)	Return on online investment (Looney et al., 2006); IT investments (Pereira, 2014; Kim et al., 2005; Agarwal and Prasad, 1997)	Service failure (Koufteros et al., 2014; Sousa and Voss, 2009); Customer satisfaction (Koufteros et al., 2014; Sousa and Voss, 2009); Inventory and service levels (Kull et al., 2013); Delivery capacity (Brix-Asala et al., 2018); Lead time variability (Tyworth, 2018); Lead time reliability (Tyworth and Saldanha, 2014); Lead time at a lower stage (Li et al., 2005); Lead time (Sandberg, 2017); Local responsiveness (Kolk, 2012); Amount of inventory record inaccuracy variation (Kull et al., 2013); Amount of goods shipped (Adlakha and Kowalski, 1998; Adlakha and Kowalski, 2000); Adlakha et al., 2007)	Distributors' contribution to triad value function (Vedel, 2016); Wealth accumulatio in rich nation (Coscieme et al., 2019); Level of corresponding benefit achieved (Storer et al., 2014); Information transformation at a higher stage (Li et al., 2005); Innovation performance (Stefan and Bengtson, 2017); MILP (Sarkis and Semple, 1999); Demand for transparency (Brix-Asala et al., 2018); Online technology efficiency (Looney et al., 2006); Usefilhiess of forecast information (Wacker and Lummus, 2002); Traffic flow performance (Masuda and Whang, 2002; Yang and Chen, 2009; Rapoport, Gisches, and Mak, 2014; Zhao, Fu, and Wang, 2014; Mak et al. Wang Wang, 2014; Make of Land Wang, 2014; Make of La	Sustainability (Xiao et al., 2019); Responsible raw material extraction (Brix-Asala et al., 2018); Widespread use of resource (Coscieme et al., 2019); Responsibility (Kolk, 2012); Rate of consumption of resource (Klumpp, 2016); Individual well-being (Coscieme et al., 2019); Rate of catastrophic failure (Upton and McAfee, 1998); Implications to society (Murali, Lim, and Petruzzi, 2015); Increasing efficiency (Coscieme et al., 2019); Resource usage of efficiency (Klumpp, 2016); Economic welfare (Coscieme et al., 2019)	No work overtime in production (Brix-Asala e al., 2018); Profitability (Kolk, 2012 Globalization economy (Coscieme et al., 2019); Capturing value (Niester and Stefan, 2019); Business performance sustainability (Basso et al., 2019); System performance (Yi and George Zhang, 2015 Creation of economic prosperity (Brix-Asala e al., 2018); Assessment performance (Tazelaar and Snijders, 2013); CSR performance (Sandherg, 2017); Supply chain performan (Chiadamrong and Wajcharapornjinda, 201: "Henry" Jin, Fawcett, an Fawcett, 2013); Business performance (Pereira, 2014; Kim et al. 2005; Agarwal and Prasad, 1997; Kastalli and Van 1997; Kastalli and Van 1997; Kastalli and Van 1919; Kastalli an

al., 2018; D'Ambrosio, Gentili, and Cerulli, 2019; Yang, 1997; Ma et al., 2019) Looy, 2013)

## Organizing Paradox

#### Collaboration

Agile supply partnerships (Cerruti et al., 2016) Co-operation needed to benchmark (Bătiz-Lazo, 2004) Horizontal cooperation in logistics (Basso et al., 2019) Supply chain integration ("Henry" Jin, Fawcett, and Fawcett, 2013) High-involvement collaboration (Cerruti et al., 2016) Data aggregation (Shmueli and Yahav, 2018) Cooperative learning (Mellat-Parast and Digman, 2008) Global integration (Kolk, 2012) Degree of collaboration (Sandberg, 2017) Cooperation (Kolk, 2012; Wilhelm and Sydow, 2018) Supply chain coordination (Chiadamrong and Wajcharapornjinda, 2012)

#### Competition

Privatization (Murali, Lim, and Petruzzi, 2015); Competitive rivalry (Bátiz-Lazo, 2004); Competition (Kolk, 2012; Withelm and Sydow, 2018)

#### Efficiency and control

Modern slavery in supply chain (New, 2015);
Traditional forms of organizing (Graetz and Smith, 2008);
Level of automation (Upton and McAfee, 1998);
Investor control (Looney et al., 2006);
Standardization (Shalley and Gilson, 2017);
Hierarchical forms of organising (Voordijk, De Haan, and Joosten, 2000);
Control and efficiency (Khazanchi, Lewis, and Boyer, 2007);
Conventional thinking in CSR (New, 2015);
Efficient sourcing of raw materials (Brix-Asala et al., 2018);
Supplier dependence (Sandberg, 2017);
Trust as a control mechanism (Mellat-Parast and Digman, 2008)

#### Exploration

Supply chain transparency (Zhu et al., 2018); New forms of organizing (Graetz and Smith, 2008); Openness (Stefan and Bengtsson, 2017); Flexibility and empowerment (Khazanchi, Lewis, and Boyer, 2007); Deregulation (Voordijk, De Haan, and Josten, 2000); Creativity (Shalley and Gilson, 2017); Adding services to core product (Kastalli and Van Looy, 2013); Road network alteration (Masuda and Whang, 2002; Yang and Chen, 2009; Rapoport, Gilsches, and Mak, 2014; Zhao, Fu, and Wang, 2014; Mak et al., 2018; D'Ambrosio, Gentili, and Cerulli, 2019; Yang, 1997; Ma et al., 2019)

#### Others

Business logistics (Barros and Hilmola,2007); Unsatisfied objectives (Sarkis and Semple, 1999); Functioning supply chain (Brix-Asala et al., 2018); Unique products of craft manufacturing (Duray et al., 2000); Managerial decision importance (Wacker and Lummus, 2002); Increase in free service (Yin and George Zhang, 2019); Co-creation (Niesten and Stefan, 2019); Social responsibility production conditions (Brix-Asala et al., 2018)

#### **Learning Paradox**

#### N7 ...

Increasing use of recycling materials (Brix-Asala et al., 2018); Level of analytics capabilities (Zhu et al., 2018); Investor competence (Looney et al., 2006)

#### Present

Theory development (Rindova, 2011); Knowledge in new relationship (Sandberg, 2017); Process innovation (Terziovski and Guerrero, 2014); Product innovation (Terziovski and Guerrero, 2014)

#### Old

Extend literature (Rindova, 2011); Learning in old relationship (Sandberg, 2017)

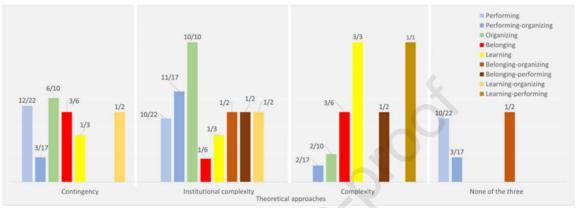
## Belonging Paradox

## Single entity

National PCF standardization (Kronborg Jensen, 2012) Individual majority preference (Rizzi, Frey, Testa, and Appolloni, 2014). Distributor's intermediary position (Vedel, 2016); Non-collaborative customer behavior (Steinbach, Wallenburg, and Selviaridis, 2018); OSCM expertise (Tazelaar and Snijders, 2013); Direction of causal effect (Shmueli and Yahav, 2018); Focal organizations (Longomi et al., 2019); Loyalty (Sandberg, 2017); Buyer (Busse, Kach, and Bode, 2016); Independence (Sandberg, 2017)

## Multiple entities

Macroeconomic logistics (Barros and Hilmola,2007); Stakeholders (Busse, Kach, and Bode, 2016); International PCF standardization (Kronborg Jensen, 2012); Supply chain stakeholder (Longoni et al., 2019) Fig.6 shows the percentage of each paradox categories that can be studied with an alternative theoretical lens. The 65 paradox pairs can be investigated under the PT. While PT can be applied to investigate the 65 paradox pairs, this figure shows the distribution of these elements that can be investigated by each of the other three theories.



Applicability ratio: A/B; where A is the number of paradoxes in the category shown that can be investigated by the given theoretical approach, and B is the total number of paradoxes within each category shown

Fig. 6. Applicability of different theoretical approaches per paradox category

## 4. Discussion

This literature review identifies seven articles that apply PT. Among the seven articles, four articles discuss sustainability issues in SCM. Xiao et al. (2019) investigate the paradox between cost competitiveness and sustainability. Brix-Asla et al. (2018) research the social-economic and environmental performance. Sandberg (2017) explicates PEs in sustainability issues. Matthews et al. (2016) further the discussion between different levels of sustainability and among the different types of theory being produced to the challenges of sustainability. Two articles (Niesten and Stefan, 2019; Wilhelm and Sydow, 2018) incorporate co-creation and value capture and cooperation and competition. One article (Longoni et al., 2019) applies both institutional theory and PT to investigate the competing demands between business logistics and macroeconomic logistics, signaling the necessity and benefits of combination of PT and other theoretical approaches to investigate paradoxes.

## 4.1. Complementary theories

In addition to PT, we employed contingency theory, institutional complexity theory, and complexity perspective as the theoretical approaches to make sense of the PEs identified in this literature review. In our analyses of the

potential application of a complementary theoretical lens, we find that more than half of the *organizing* paradoxes and of *performing* paradoxes could be investigated by the contingency theory. Contingency theory describes dichotomous decisions under A or B selection and could be applied to investigate paradoxes identified under the *organizing* paradox and *performing* paradox categories (Fiedler, 2005; Scott and Davis, 2015; Lewis and Smith, 2014; Kalchschmidt, 2012). The *organizing* paradox describes tensions from a complex system (both A and B, then B and A, etc. until a preferred state is reached), while the *performing* paradox comes from the tensions of different stakeholder's goals (Smith and Lewis, 2011). Both the complex system and the performance tensions can change based on the internal and external conditions, which is the core of contingency theory. Contingency theory can help inform the handling of tensions based on the change of the environments.

Institutional complexity theory could be applied to most of the paradox categories. Among the nine paradox categories we identified in this literature review, *organizing* paradoxes and *performing-organizing* paradoxes can be investigated in combination of PT and institutional complexity theory. While misaligned logistics are also sources of *organizing* paradoxes because they act as complex systems, the institutional complexity theory also depicts the competing demands emerging from misaligned logistics as contradictory and oppositional (Longoni et al., 2019). *Performing-organizing* paradoxes indicate that organizations seek stable routines while at the same time enabling dynamic outcomes (Smith and Lewis, 2011), and this paradox also accentuates the use of institutional complexity theory. Half of the paradoxes under *belonging-organizing*, *belonging-performing*, and *learning-organizing* paradox categories, as well as all of *organizing* paradoxes can be investigated by institutional complexity theory.

Half of the *belonging* and *belonging-performing* paradoxes can be investigated under the complexity lens. All of the *learning* and *learning-performing* paradoxes can be investigated under the complexity lens. The complexity perspective (Nilsson and Christopher, 2018) argues for developing a transformative mindset that views competing demands as normal. Our findings indicate that paradoxes under *belonging*, *learning*, *belonging-performing*, and *learning-performing* paradox categories could be investigated with this theory. The *learning* paradox mentions the creation of new knowledge and maintenance of routine create tensions (Smith and Lewis, 2011). It is rooted in people's assumption regarding the old and new, which is where the complexity perspective becomes relevant.

Complexity perspective can help develop a transformative mindset to view the competing demands between old and new as normal and develop an efficient way to handle the *learning* paradox. The *belonging* paradox investigates the

tensions between the identity, and complexity perspective can help develop a paradox mindset to handle the belonging tensions.

We also found that nearly half of *performing* paradoxes, a small portion of *performing-organizing* paradoxes, and half of *belonging-organizing* paradoxes could only be investigated under PT. The examples of these paradoxes are under *performing* paradox (customer satisfaction and service failure in Koufteros et al., 2014), under *performing-organizing* paradox (Braess paradox in Mak et al., 2018; D'Ambrosio, Gentili, and Cerulli, 2019), and under *belonging-organizing* paradox (direction of casual effect and data aggregation in Shmueli and Yahav, 2018). All of these paradoxes are perceived by some to be impractical and primarily theoretical. However, since these paradoxes are persistently contradicting and interdependent in the article settings, they could potentially be investigated with the PT.

## 4.2. Emergence of the themes

The performing paradox includes seven themes: service, overall, investment, forecast, cost, sustainability, and specific. The service theme groups the PEs, which have a service outcome to the supply chain customers, such as optimal safety inventory (Tyworth, 2018) and service failure (Koufteros et al., 2014; Sousa and Voss, 2009). The overall theme is relevant to the supply chain end goals, such as system performance (Yin and George Zhang, 2019) and supply chain performance (Chiadamrong and Wajcharapornjinda, 2012). The investment theme is grouped based on paradox of investment return. There are studies (Looney et al., 2006; Pereira, 2014) that talk about the paradox between advanced investment technology and the return on investment or performance. The investment theme captures the paradoxical investment performance. The forecast theme groups the PEs relevant to forecast accuracy (Wacker and Lummus, 2002). The cost theme groups the PEs on cost of goods sold and cost competitiveness. This theme reflects the cost characteristic in supply chain, such as the cost of goods sold (Adlakha and Kowalski, 2000) and global sourcing cost (Sandberg, 2007). The sustainability theme reflects the sustainable issues in supply chain management (sustainability and Responsible raw material extraction, Brix-Asala et al., 2018). The specific theme includes the PEs with different but of specific nature, such as traffic flow performance from Braess paradox (Mak et al., 2018; D'Ambrosio, Gentili, and Cerulli, 2019); online technology efficiency (Looney et al., 2006); usefulness of forecast information (Wacker and Lummus, 2002).

The organizing paradox includes five themes: *collaboration, competition, control and efficiency, exploration, and others*. The *collaboration* theme includes the PEs that capture the collaborative nature. On one hand, supply chain collaboration has potential benefit on cost reduction. On the other, agile supply chain partnership is helpful on retaining new resources (Cerruti et al., 2016). The *competition* theme includes the PEs that reflect the competitive nature in supply chain. The *control and efficiency* theme includes the PEs that are relevant to trust as a control mechanism (Mellat-Parast and Digman, 2008) and standardization as a form of control (Shalley and Gilson, 2017). This theme focuses on different forms of control and increasing efficiency with these different control forms. The *exploration* theme groups the innovative and explorative PEs, such as alternation to a road network (Mak et al., 2018; D'Ambrosio, Gentili, and Cerulli, 2019), openness (Stefan and Bengtsson, 2017), and creativity (Shalley and Gilson, 2017). The *others* theme groups all the PEs that don't fall into other themes within organization paradox.

The learning paradox has three themes: *new, old,* and *present*. Learning paradox originates from the efforts to adjust, renew, change, and innovate foster tensions between building upon and destroying the past to create the future (Smith and Lewis 2011, 383). As Lewis (2000, p.766) discusses: "A key source of learning paradoxes is tension between old and new — a struggle between the comfort of the past and the uncertainty of the future". The *old* theme reflects the nature of learning in the past or old relationship (Rindova, 2011; Sandberg, 2017). Literature on learning paradox (Rindova, 2011; Sandberg, 2017) mentions that learning can happen simultaneously in old relationship and new relationship, which foster a paradox on managing old and new relationships and knowledge. The *new* theme reflects the nature of developing new things, such as theory development (Rindova, 2011) and innovation (Terziovski and Guerrero, 2014). This *new* theme is opposite to the *old* theme. The *present* theme includes the PEs that don't belong either to 'old' or 'new' theme but that are relevant to learning, such as level of analytics capabilities (Zhu et al., 2018), increasing use and availability of recycling materials (Brix-Asala et al., 2018), and investor competence (Looney et al., 2006).

There are two themes under the belonging paradox: *single entity* theme and *multiple entities* theme. The belonging paradox originates from the identity tensions between individual and collective and between competing values, roles, and memberships (Smith and Lewis, 2011, p.383). The *single entity* theme is created based on the individual group while the *multiple entities* theme is created based on collective group. Therefore, single entity theme includes PEs focusing on single (individual) actor, such as National PCF standardization (Kronborg Jensen,

2012) and individual preference (Rizzi, et al., 2014). Multiple entities theme focuses on plural actors, such as Group's collective decision (Rizzi, et al., 2014) and international PCF standardization (Kronborg Jensen, 2012).

## 4.3. Paradoxes with three and four PEs

Our SLR also came across three studies that offered unique PE sets. PE set in Choi and Eboch (1998)'s *Journal of Operations Management* paper was formed via 3 PEs and this TQM study's results explicated paradoxical relations among TQM practices, plant performance, and customer satisfaction. The relationship among these three variables is nested within each other (Keller and Sadler-Smith, 2019). Published in *Journal of Supply Chain Management*, Schmidt, Foerstl, and Schaltenbrand (2017) presented a tripartite relationship between green supply chain management practices, SCP and economic performance and termed it Supply Chain Position Paradox. These three PEs together provide a road map to study the green supply chain management. Another *Journal of Supply Chain Management* paper, Matthews et al. (2016) presented 4 PEs within a PE set by looking into paradoxical tensions among different levels of analysis: encompassing individuals, the organization, interorganizational networks, and macroenvironmental levels. These four elements are also nested within each other. The PEs in these three articles provide a hint to refine the PT, which currently focuses on tensions between only two PEs.

## 4.4. Sustainability tensions

From the results, we noticed repeatedly that there is a perceived paradox between sustainability and business performance/economic goals. SCM scholars seem to have combined the environmental and social issues under a single PE while designating a standalone PE for the economic aspect. There are similarities between this perception and the one that is prevalent among layman which is tied to the expression, 'time is money', related to project management. Whereas time is not money and it is well understood, for instance the conventional management practices force many practitioners to fold time onto cost so a trade-off can be setup between cost and scope.

Following a similar logic, when sustainability components are being considered, even in scholarly works, social and environmental dimensions seem to be lumped together so a duality is formed in conjunction with the use of economic dimension. Such actions might ultimately be reducing the complexity of decision-making process and therefore managers can perhaps constrain the cognitive workload under two PEs and then perform optimization/reconciliatory tasks.

## 4.5. Shifting paradigm

The introduction of PT into the SCM paves new paths for future research investigating the paradoxes. In this literature review, we identified studies that investigate paradoxes. However, most of these studies only focused on describing the paradoxes. Even though there are a few studies that explicitly applied PT to investigate the paradoxes, PT is not a theoretical lens mainly applied in SCM. We found that most of conflicting demands can be investigated under PT. Unlike the belief that conflicting demands are adversarial, a new perspective gradually shifts to a view that these conflicting demands are interconnected and can be studied and handled. For example, the tensions between competitiveness and sustainability can be alleviated by fostering "paradoxical sensemaking" among managers (Xiao et al., 2019). We can argue that instead of using adversarial sensemaking on the conflicting demands, future SCM scholars and practitioners can benefit from the cultivation of paradoxical sensemaking, learning to accept and embrace the tensions. Though it is not easy to scrap an old mindset, continuous iterations could enable a paradigm shift toward development of a new mindset. As Lewis and Smith (2014) mention, PT is relatively new to management, but its early advocates drew from a rich history, grounded in well-established philosophies. PT lens could eventually change SCM scholars' and practitioners' perspectives to view and handle paradoxes.

## 4.6. Managerial insights

Managers, who need to balance competing aims in supply chains, such as local responsiveness and global integration (Kolk, 2012), and agile supply chain and high involvement collaboration (Cerruti et al., 2016), etc., directly deal with paradoxes. Luscher and Lewis (2008) discuss that how actors react to the competing demands will trigger various consequences through virtuous or vicious cycles, and these can impact either negatively or positively on actors themselves and/or others in their organization. Smith and Lewis (2011) further discuss that the cognitive complexity to accept the interrelated relationship of underlying tensions, and an emotional equanimity to reduce anxiety and fear spurred by inconsistencies, lays the vital groundwork for virtuous cycles, which lead to sustainability – short-term excellence fueling long-term success. Managers can critically examine the assumptions of PT and view these competing aims potentially unifiable, instead of using strictly adversarial ways to deal with them. They can embrace the competing aims and treat them as an opportunity to realize synergies and to grow. In doing so, the list of PEs can help managers to recognize these competing aims, and could possibly serve as a template for

managers to identify potential PEs in their operational activities. Only when managers realize the existence of the PEs can they start to apply PT lens to study, embrace, and alleviate them. For instance, acknowledging the paradox, those managers who consider long-term collaborative relationships for company learning and development, may be reluctant to invest in new supplier relationships that could serve as an enabler for improved learning (Sandberg, 2017). Managers can apply the PT lens to view these PEs as contradictory and unified and then proceed to develop a sourcing strategy that utilizes the learning from the existing well-functioning relationships while ensuring the expanded thinking from new relationships (Sandberg, 2017). In essence, managers would be venturing beyond the traditional trade-off approach and adopting paradoxical sensemaking to explore alternative pathways. As managers start to view these tensions in a paradoxical sensemaking way, they will feel less obligated to resort to adversarial sensemaking to resolve the tensions (Smith & Lewis, 2011; Xiao et al., 2019). Instead, realizing the interconnections between these tensions, they will find innovative solutions to alleviate them, and eventually identify new possibilities.

## 5. Conclusions

This study summarizes and classifies the PEs in SCM via the help of SLR methodology. With the time span of more than 20 years and 4 databases, we discovered a comprehensive list of PEs in SCM literature. We grouped the PEs into the extant paradox categories (Smith and Lewis, 2011) and classified them under emerging themes within each category. In accomplishing this, we offer guidance to scholars and practitioners with the inventory of the paradox categories and themes in order to provide guidance in discovering and explaining phenomenon in SCM that can lead to improved management. The need for a SLR of PEs in SCM exists due to several reasons. First, there is lack of a comprehensive list for PEs in SCM domain. Based on PT, we identify and summarize the PEs in SCM in a list so an initial assessment of the state of PE usage can be offered for use by scholars and practitioners. The list also offers a path to further extend PT into SCM while informing back the PT for its refinement. In other words, we hope to contribute to both, centripetal forces that "buffer the existing boundaries" and the centrifugal forces that "foster boundary spanning" in PT's development (Schad et al., 2019). Second, recognizing PEs is the first step to handle these related paradoxes. Handling PEs simultaneously and successfully through the creation of "cyclical responses to paradoxical tensions enable sustainability – peak performance in the present that enables success in the future" (Smith and Lewis, 2011, p.382). Third, we address the possibilities of complementarily using PT, contingency

theory, institutional complexity theory, and complexity perspective to investigate the paradoxes and PEs identified in this study. As more and more competing demands arise during management of supply networks, there will be an increasing need to understand and even leverage these competing demands. This study provides a foundation of using complementary theoretical approaches to make sense of and further investigate paradoxes.

## 6. Limitations and Future Research

The main purpose of our research study was to search, collect, and then present the PEs in SCM literature so that they can lead to improved paradox management for practitioners and greater parsimony in classifying PEs.

However, our SLR study is not without its limitations. First, the articles that were eliminated in Step 4 of our SLR that are 'talking about paradoxes and supply chains' could be included to gain possible peripheral insights in lieu of assuming them on the fringes. It will be interesting to compare and contrast the similarities and differences between PEs inside and outside SCM. Second, even though mostly captured under the core PEs of 'exploitation and exploration', including ambidextrous relationships that are examined in SCM research could further enrich our study. Third, the trade-offs in SCM could be searched, collected, and then presented along with our findings in another study to draw a broader picture of the above arguments.

The future of paradox studies in supply chain is promising. We find that the trend of the occurrence of PEs is increasing. This uptick of PEs may be related to ever-increasing business complexity and globalized organization in supply chain networks. Especially as firms increasingly establish global and complex network structures, more tensions appear and more identifiable PEs surface (Sandberg, 2017; Xiao et al., 2018). The increasing occurrences of paradoxes also indicate that there is a need to handle and manage them. One of the efforts researchers can contribute to the field is to provide a theoretical guide to inform the management of these paradoxes.

Four of seven articles applying paradox lens deal with sustainability, demonstrating that sustainability research benefits the most from PT. Varying perspectives of sustainability will benefit from using the paradox lens in different degrees and therefore future SCM research in sustainability could increase application of the paradox lens. While the paradox between competition and cooperation and the paradox between co-creation and value capture receive not as much attention as sustainability, these two are also ideal areas to apply PT.

Our results show that performing paradox and performing-organizing paradox categories have the most dominant paradox themes. Future studies can focus to investigate these two paradox categories in order to extract

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more insights. Our study also provides different themes for PEs under each paradox category. Future studies can focus on these themes and investigate their fit with the real-world situations. The themes provided in this SLR may help future studies to make sense of the PEs a priori.

Finally, a plausible argument can be made regarding the trade-offs. The analytical tools may not allow SCM scholars to obtain desired results when more assumptions are relaxed such that a strict trade-off is not warranted in a problem. Paradox theorists demonstrate over and over again that even if desired results may not be possible, meaningful results can be obtained and put into action by dealing with PEs simultaneously. Therefore, we wonder whether it is really the PT that needs to navigate and find inroads into SCM domain, or the SCM scholars should entertain investigating the not-so-frequently explored territories beyond trade-offs.

## APPENDIX

**Table A.1** Comparison of the four theoretical approaches.

	Paradox theory (PT)	Contingency theory	Institutional complexity theory	Complexity perspective	
Assumptions	Competing demands are inherent in organizations, emerging through the act of organization or through relational dynamics or individual sensemaking Two elements existing in relation to one another Competing demands persist over time, and cannot be solved	Organizational systems are most effective when they achieve alignment or fit among internal elements and with the external environment.	Competing demands come from the plurality of logics at the field/societal level.  Multiple logics can coexist within an organization, and they are contradictory but can be complementary.  Completing logics foster challenges of external legitimacy and internal conflict that need to be resolved.	Competing demands consists of complexity and simplicity, order and unorder, reductionism and emergence, objectivity and subjectivity, deliberate design and selforganization, rationality and bounded rationality, determinism and indeterminism.	
View on competing demands	Competing demands are consistent contradictory and interdepend	Competing demands are simultaneous and not solvable.	Competing demands are contradictory but complementary.	Competing demands can be studied under the transformational perspective.	
Response to Simultaneously address to competing demands		Discrete organizational problems to be solved (Smith and Lewis, 2014)	Competing logics can be managed by implementing effective structures at the organizational and field level.	Change the mindset to view competing demands in logistics as normal and a resource for supply chain effectiveness	
Mindset	Engage A and B simultaneously	Under what conditions either A or B	Implementing effective infrastructure	A transformation mindset on logistics effectiveness and innovation	

**Table A.2**List of the 63 SCM journals.

List c	of the 63 SCM journals.					
	V	Impact Factor	Citation Centrality	SCM literatrue Review	Published SCM	SJR Impact
Number	Journal Name	(Fabbe-Costes and Jahre,2008)	(Colicchia and Strozzi,2012)	(Seuring and Gold, 2012)	literature Review (2000-2019)	Factor 2018
	Journal of Operations Management	X	X X	X X	(2000-2017)	6.48
2	Journal of Supply Chain Management	^			x	6.44
3	Management Science		х		-	6.08
4	Omega: International Journal of Management Science				x	3.29
5	Production and Operations Management		х		X	3.28
6	Transportation Research Part B: Methodological				X	2.92
7	International Journal of Management Reviews			X	X	2.9
8	Transportation Research, Part C: Emerging Technologies				X	2.61
9	Journal of Business Logistics	X				2.49
10	International Journal of Production Economics		X	х		2.48
11	International Journal of Physical Distribution and Logistics Management	X		X	X	2.41
12	Surveys in Operations Research and Management Science				X	2.24
13	European Journal of Operational Research		X			2.21
14	Transport Reviews				x	2.14
15	International Journal of Operations and Production Management	X		x	x	2.1
16	Supply Chain Management: An International Journal	X	X	X		2.1
17	Transportation Research Part A: Policy and Practice				X	2.04
18	Transportation Research Part E: Logistics and Transportation Review					1.97
19	Computers and Operations Research				X	1.86
20	Corporate Social Responsibility and Environmental Management				X	1.67
21	Journal of Cleaner Production			х	X	1.62
	International Journal of Production Research			х	X	1.59
23	Transportation Research Part D: Transport and Environment				X	1.45
	Production Planning and Control				X	1.43
25	Technological Forecasting and Social Change				X	1.42
26	Journal of Intelligent Manufacturing				X	1.39
	Decision Science					1.33
28	Expert Systems with Applications				X	1.19
29	International Journal of Logistics: Research and Applications	X			X	1.05
30	Annals of Operations Research				х	1.03
	IMA Journal of Management Mathematics				X	1.02
32	International Journal of Advanced Manufacturing Technology				X	0.99
33 34	International Journal of Logistics Management	x		Х	X	0.871
	Journal of Humanitarian Logistics and Supply Chain Management				х	
35 36	International Transactions in Operational Research				X	0.83 0.82
37	Journal of the Operational Research Society	_	Х			0.82
	Transportation Journal	X			_	0.69
39	Journal of Enterprise Information Management			,	X	0.64
	International Journal of Productivity and Performance Management Benchmarking			х		0.64
41	Sustainability				X X	0.55
42	Logistics Research				X	0.53
	IIMB Management Review				X	0.41
44	Journal of Industrial Engineering and Management			t	X	0.41
45	International Journal of Logistics Systems and Management			t	X	0.33
	Risk Management			†	x	0.29
47	Management Review Quarterly			1	x	0.25
48	International Journal of Information Systems and Supply Chain Management			†	x	0.25
49	Quality - Access to Success				x	0.23
50	International Journal of Business Science and Applied Management				x	0.21
51	International Journal of Supply Chain Management				x	0.2
52	International Journal of Operations and Quantitative Management	ĺ		1	x	0.13
	Advanced Science Letters	ĺ		1	X	0.12
	International Journal of Applied Business and Economic Research				X	0.11
55	European Journal of Purchasing and Supply Management			х		/
	Journal of Operations and Supply Chain Management				x	/
	International Journal of Networking and Virtual Organizations				x	/
58	Journal of Advances in Management Research				x	/
59	The Journal of Business & Industrial Marketing				x	/
60	IUP Journal of Supply Chain Management				x	/
61	Journal of Supply Chain Management Systems				x	/
	International Journal of Sustainable Strategic Management				X	/
63	Journal of Developing Areas				X	/

Table A.3

The list of paradoxes, definitions, managerial insights, and paradox categories.

	f paradoxes, definitions, mar										
Paper	Definition	Insights to practitioners	PE1	Theme1	Paradox category1 1	PE2	Theme2	Paradox category2 <sup>1</sup>	Contingenc y	Institution complexity	Complexity
Kull et al., 2013	The paradoxical effect of daily inventory record inaccuracy (IRI) increases inventory levels while also decreases service levels.	Distribution center managers should focus on attention not only on IRI bias, but also on daily IRI variability, should devote resources to multiday cycle counts without corrections in order to estimate the degree to which IRI variation exists.	Amount of inventory record inaccuracy variation	Service	P	Inventory and service levels	Service	P			
Adlakha and	The more-for-less (MFL) paradox in a	It is useful to a manager deciding	Amount of goods	Service	P	Amount of	Cost	P	X		
Kowalski, 1998	transportation occurs when it is possible to ship more total goods for less (or equal) total cost while shipping the same amount or more from each origin and to each destination, and keeping all the shipping costs non-negative.	which warehouse or plant capacities are to be increased and which markets should be sought.	shipped			cost to ship	Ó				
Adlakha and Kowalski, 2000	accping an are simpping costs non-negative.		Amount of goods shipped	Service	P	Amount of cost to ship	Cost	P	X		
Adlakha et al., 2007			Amount of goods shipped	Service	P	Amount of cost to ship	Cost	P	Х		
Xiao et al., 2019	Paradoxical tensions originate in conflicts between the socioeconomic environment of emerging market suppliers and their Western customer's demands for both cost competitiveness and sustainability	The paradox perspective reveals a more nuanced picture and shows that sustainability managers in buying firms also engage with alternative responses in addressing sustainability tensions, most notably through contextualizing. By focusing on contextualizing, and its potential to help managers move from adversarial to paradoxical sensemaking, and ultimately toward "true sustainability".	Cost competitiveness	Cost	P	Sustainability	Sustainability	P	X	X	
Sandberg, 2017	The conflict of interest (the achievement of low total costs with short lead times) is one of the most prominent challenges that is measured and given management attention on a continuous basis.	Companies can increase efforts in making correct forecasts and improved supplier contacts through local purchasing offices and regional operations managers.	Total cost	Cost	P	Lead time	Service	P	X	X	
Sandberg, 2017	The conflict of interest is the tension between total costs and corporate social responsibility (CSR)	Companies can consider the CSR- questions before entering into a new region.	Total cost	cost	P	CSR peformance	Overall	P	X	Х	
Pereira, 2014	IT productivity paradox - constant innovations in information system technology does not lead to future growth and	IT adoption cannot be empirically linked to firm performance (i.e. market performance) through	IT investments	Investment	P	Business performance	Overall	P		X	
Kim et al., 2005	profitability	the improvement of coordination activities of the firm.	IT investments	Investment	P	Business performance	Overall	P		X	
Agarwal and Prasad, 1997	wa		IT investments	Investment	P	Business performance	Overall	P		X	
Koufteros et al., 2014	Wherein when a negative service encounter is followed by a highly positive service recovery event, previously dissatisfied consumers, as	Managers can develop policies that create highly positive events for consumers to supersede past	Service failure	Service	P	Customer satisfaction	Service	P			
Sousa and Voss, 2009	compared to previously satisfied consumers, respond with higher levels of current satisfaction	negative experiences.	Service failure	Service	P	Customer satisfaction	Service	P			
Brix-Asala et al., 2018	On one hand, the company tries to comply with the demands of their customers by sourcing only responsible raw materials. On the other hand, the company defines itself as a social enterprise and therefore strives to simultaneously create economic prosperity in conflict regions with some of the poorest people in the world.	Companies can work closely with carefully selected suppliers and actively tries to improve the working conditions in the mining areas Companies can also try to simultaneously reduce the amount of virgin raw materials by substituting critical materials with recycling sources by developing new processes.	Responsible raw material extraction	Sustainabilit y	P	Creation of economic prosperity	Overall	P	X		

Brix-Asala et al., 2018	A paradox sustainability tension arises between the interrelated demands of the avoidance of work overtime and the assurance of delivery capability surfaces.	The company can depend on the close collaboration and long term relationship with its first-tier supplier to build up trust.	No work overtime in production	Overall	P	Delivery capability	Service	P	X	
Wacker and Lummus, 2002	Forecast information that is most useful for resource planning is the least accurate.	Managers can make better decisions by recognizing that forecasts are used for specific resource decisions that have time specific frames. A forecast should	Usefulness of forecast information	Specific	P	Forecast accuracy	Forecast	P		
Wacker and Lummus, 2002	The organizations that need the most accurate forecast have the largest forecast error.	be no more detailed than the resource decision requires. As much as possible, the forecast should be non-product specific and should be tied to specific time fences for each resource.	Need for forecast accuracy	Forecast	P	Forecast error	Forecast	P		
Coscieme et al., 2019	Easterllin paradox and well-being-consumption paradox: above a certain threshold, economic welfare is unrelated to well-being.	The paradoxes show us that economic growth is not synonymous with increasing wellbeing and prosperity and that the logic of economics needs fundamental transformation, shifting away from a narrow focus on producing and consuming marketed goods and services to one more broadly focused on sustainable wellbeing as the goal of development	Economic welfare	Sustainabilit y	P	Individual well-being	Sustainability	P		
Li et al., 2005	Lead-time paradox - the fact that the information transformation at higher stages decreases with the increase of lead-time at a lower stage.	The phenomenon implicates that, though the long supply lead-time from the distributor to the retailer makes orders of the retailer to severely deviate from the actual demand, it makes orders and demands nearly the same at the subsequent distributor, manufacturer and material supplier. Therefore, the subsequent stages may favor a larger lead-time to 'match' their demands with orders, and all the loss is thus assumed by the retailer.	Lead time at a lower stage	Service	P	Information transformation at a higher stage	Specific	P	x	
Storer et al., 2014	Industry development paradox exists in terms of the level of investment in industry-led innovation vs the level of corresponding benefit achieved.	In the Australian beef industry, the lack of importance on supply chain synchronization may be at the heart of the industry paradox of why millions of dollars invested in innovation results in uneven results across the industry.	Level of investment in industry-led innovation	Investment	P	Level of corresponding benefit achieved	Specific	P	X	
Tyworth and Saldanha, 2014	More lead-time reliability or, equivalently, less lead-time variability, could unexpectedly increase the optimal safety inventory.	Firms interested in high product availability may safely ignore the paradox and that less lead-time variability consistently increases value-of- reliability, the paradox notwithstanding.	Lead time of reliability	Service	Р	Optimal safety inventory	Service	P	X	
Tyworth, 2018	Less variable or shorter lead-time may increase inventory.	the ROI for improvement in lead- time processes should go beyond conventional inventory cost elements and include the contributions of shorter L (stochastically less variable) to pipeline stocks, cash cycles, and forecasting accuracy. Second, because L is likely to have a positive influence on standard deviation, the management of lead-time levers should not be viewed as a strategic choice between a less variable L and a shorter L.	Lead time variability	Service	P	Optimal safety inventory	Service	P	X	

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Klumpp, 2016	Jevons paradox - increasing efficiency might cause widespread use of resources.	For individual logistics service providers, an increased sustainability efficiency (i.e., carbon emissions per tonkilometer) will usually not lead to overall absolute reductions in emissions, depending on the overall business volume development. For the national as well as global economic development it becomes obvious that increased globalization and trade will inevitably lead to higher transport and energy consumption levels. For the national as well as global economic development it becomes obvious that increased globalization and trade will inevitably lead to higher transport and energy consumption levels.	Resource usage efficiency	Sustainabilit y	P	Rate of consumption of that resource	Sustainability	P			
Kolk, 2012	The tensions between profitability and responsibility.	Any routes towards a sustainable coffee market will be accompanied by paradoxes and complex choices not only for the company, but for the entire sector, supply chain and society as a whole, as well as for individuals in the various entities involved.	Profitability	Overall	P	Responsibility	Sustainability	P	X	X	
Looney et al., 2006	On one hand, online investing technologies can lead to increased competence, control, efficiency, and cost savings. On the other hand, these same technologies can induce self-defeating behaviors, the consequences of which can be financially devastating	-	Online technology efficiency	Specific	P	Return on online investment	investment	P			
Looney et al., 2006	Online investing commission rates are a mere fraction of those associated with offline forms of do-it-yourself investing. Although online investing technologies can provide a cost-effective means to invest, several hidden transaction costs add up, making online investing more expensive than it may appear.		Online transaction cost	Cost	P	Return on online investment	investment	P			
Coscieme et al., 2019	"Lucas paradox" - capital does not flow from developed countries to developing countries despite the fact that developing countries have lower levels of capital per worker.	The paradoxes show us that economic growth is not synonymous with increasing wellbeing and prosperity and that the logic of economics needs fundamental transformation, shifting away from a narrow focus on producing and consuming marketed goods and services to one more broadly focused on sustainable wellbeing as the goal of development	Globalized economy	Overall	P	Wealth accumulation in rich nations	specific	P			
Coscieme et al., 2019	"Jevons paradox" - increasing efficiency might cause widespread use of resources.	The paradoxes show us that economic growth is not synonymous with increasing wellbeing and prosperity and that the logic of economics needs fundamental transformation, shifting away from a narrow focus on producing and consuming marketed goods and services to one more broadly focused on sustainable wellbeing as the goal of development.	Increasing efficiency	sustainabilit y	P	Widespread use of resources P	Sustainability	P			

Brix-Asala et al., 2018	The very high transparency demands can mostly not be fulfilled due to the enormous complexity of the supply chain of smartphones.	The company can address this paradox through publishing a detailed cost-breakdown of the smartphone as well as a so-called source map, which provides basic information about all involved suppliers.	Demand for transparency	Specific	P	Functioning supply chain	Others	0		X	
Brix-Asala et al., 2018	Company wants to ensure socially responsible working conditions but produces in country known for its low social standards and violations against basic working conditions.	The company is highly engaged in the search for its first-tier supplier, which can be seen as a core challenge in the electronic supply chain regarding sustainability, and collaborates closely with the manufacturing sites to improve working conditions.	Competitive production site	Cost	P	Social responsibility production conditions	Others	0	X	X	
Kolk, 2012	The tensions between local responsiveness and Global integration.	Any routes towards a sustainable coffee market will be accompanied by paradoxes and complex choices not only for the company, but for the entire sector, supply chain and society as a whole, as well as for individuals in the various entities involved.	Local responsiveness	Service	P	Global integration	collaboration	0	X	X	
Sarkis and Semple, 1999	Pay-more-for-less paradox: A buyer's demand exceeds purchasing thresholds but fall short of the ordering thresholds for the same bundle.	-	Mixed integer linear programming	Specific	P	Unsatisfied objectives	Others	0			
Kastalli and Van Looy, 2013	As manufacturing businesses operate in an ever more competitive, global economy where products are easily commoditized, innovating by adding services to the core product offering has become a popular strategy. Contrary to the economic benefits expected, recent findings pinpoint implementation hurdles that lead to a potential performance decline, the so-called 'Servitization paradox'.	A lower level of unit of analysis helps to attain more granular insights on the interplay between an increase in customer willingness to pay due to demand- side economies of scope and economies of scales on the service provider's side.	Business performance	Overall	P	Adding services to the core product offering	Exploration	0		X	
Masuda and Whang, 2002	Braess's paradox refers to the phenomenon where adding a new route or capacity results in performance deterioration due to	-	Traffic flow performance	Specific	P	Road network alteration	Exploration	0			
Yang and Chen, 2009	incentive misalignment.	-	Traffic flow performance	Specific	P	Road network alteration	Exploration	О			
Rapoport, Gisches, and Mak, 2014			Traffic flow performance	Specific	P	Road network alteration	Exploration	0			
Zhao, Fu, and Wang, 2014			Traffic flow performance	Specific	P	Road network alteration	Exploration	0			
Mak et al., 2018		-	Traffic flow performance	Specific	P	Road network alteration	Exploration	0			
D'Ambrosio, Gentili, and Cerulli, 2019		-	Traffic flow performance	Specific	P	Road network alteration	Exploration	0			
Yang, 1997	]	-	Traffic flow performance	Specific	P	Road network alteration	Exploration	0			
Ma et al., 2019		-	Traffic flow performance	Specific	P	Road network alteration	Exploration	0			

Niesten and Stefan, 2019	The paradoxical tensions between co-creation and capture in interorganizational relationships (IORs).	First, given the wide array of factors that create salient tensions between co-creating and capturing value, managers are cautioned not to dismiss the two paradox poles by applying a rade-off approach in the presence of such factors, it is important to increase managerial efforts towards balancing value co-creation and capture. Second, managers should be guarded that specific factors, such as trust, may require calibration, as they could lead to either virtuous or vicious cycles, depending on their intensity. This emphasizes the frailness of the balance between value co-creation and capture.	Capturing value	Overall	P	Co-creation	Others	0		х	
Basso et al., 2019	The paradox of lack of case of horizontal cooperation in logistics and its potential benefit.	-	Business performance sustainability	Overall	P	Horizontal cooperation in logistics	collaboration	0		X	
Yin and George Zhang, 2019	Downs-Thomson paradox: This paradox shows that under the customer's self-interest choice for the two service channels, an increase in the free service capacity (free highway) may have a negative impact on the overall system performance owing to its effects on the scale economies of the toll service system (toll highway).	For a case with limited initial free service capacity and high service demand (heavy traffic) the social planner should consider investing a small proportion of the toll revenue in the free system (TTSF) (perhaps in the form of tax on the toll revenue) to reduce the social cost and to avoid the occurrence of the Downs-Thomson paradox.	System performance	Overall	P	Increase in free service capacity	Others	0		Х	
Wacker and Lummus, 2002	The most important strategic decisions a company makes are based on the least accurate information.	Managers can make better decisions by recognizing that forecasts are used for specific resource decisions that have time specific measure decisions that have time specific frames. A forecast should be no more detailed than the resource decision requires. As much as possible, the forecast should be non-product specific and should be tied to specific time fences for each resource.	Forecast accuracy	Forecast	P	Managerial decision importance	Others	0			Х
Murali, Lim, and Petruzzi, 2015	If exports are banned, privatization can benefit the environment by mitigating the damage caused by the extraction differential, a phenomenon analogous to the green paradox.	Importing water can produce negative environmental effects during the transitional phase despite its relative societal and environmental benefits at steady state, and second, that privatization mitigates rather than amplifies these negative effects.	Implications to society and environment	Sustainabilit y	P	Price of water/privatiz ation	competition	0		X	
Stefan and Bengtsson, 2017	Paradox manifests due to the need for openness when engaging in external search for knowledge or resources on one hand, and the challenge to protect internal knowledge in order to avoid misappropriation on the other hand.	Managerial implication indicates that the search process in open innovation settings may prove to be a very complex task. Therefore, viewing each search channel as an individual arena, with distinct norms and rules might be beneficial.	Innovation performance	Specific	P	Openness	Exploration	0		X	
Duray et al., 2000	Mass customization is a paradox-breaking manufacturing reality that combines the unique products of craft manufacturing with the cost-efficient manufacturing methods of mass production.	We argue that the essence of mass customization lies in resolving the seeming paradox of mass-producing custom products by finding efficiencies in two key dimensions. First, mass customizers must find a means for including each customer's specifications in the product design. Second, mass customizers must utilize modular design to achieve manufacturing efficiencies that approximate those of standard mass produced products.	Mass production	Cost	P	Unique products of craft manufacturing	Others	0	X		

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Upton and McAfee, 1998	Higher levels of this automation are significantly associated with higher rates of catastrophic failure	Applying the usability perspective can help address the paradoxical	Rate of catastrophic failure	Sustainabilit V	P	Level of automation	Efficiency and control	0			
WCAICE, 1998	among the plants studied.	findings.	catastrophic faithre	y		automation	control				
Looney et al., 2006	Individuals exhibit a common desire to exercise personal control over their investments. Even though online investing technologies allow individuals to personally manage their assets, most online investors attempt to seize control over the inherently unpredictable market environment, which can result in greater financial disorder and increased market volatility		Return on online investment	Investment	P	Investor control	Efficiency and control	0			X
Chiadamrong and Wajcharapomjin da, 2012	Benefits from joining supply chain are difficult to quantify in monetary terms. If these benefits and savings of supply chain coordination cannot be detected, it would result in a productivity paradox and failure to justify the benefits of building trust and coordination in the supply chain.	With the cost model in the study, all supply chain costs are classified according to each activity and presented as visible and invisible costs. With this new classification, companies will be able to quantify the hidden costs and their savings if they choose to join the chain, whereas these savings could be ignored and overlooked by using the traditional costing methods.	Supply chain performance	Overall	P	Supply chain coordination	collaboration	0		x	
"Henry" Jin, Fawcett, and Fawcett, 2013	The paradox between the positive performance impact and the lack of progress toward greater integration engagement.	First, managers communicate that creating value across boundaries is difficult. Thus, most firms are in nascent stages of SCL. Second, readiness is key to integration success. Specifically, commitment to SCL influences both the degree of integration engagement and integration's influence on performance.	Supply chain performance	Overall	P	Supply chain integration	collaboration	0		Х	
Cerruti et al., 2016	The paradox between the agile supply chain partnership and high involvement partnership.	The practices for defining when to establish an ASP refer to the strategic decision of having agility as a competitive priority, as well as the definition of the supply category.	Agile supply partnerships (ASP)	Collaboratio n	0	High- involvement collaboration	Collaboration	0	X	X	
Sandberg, 2017	Collaboration is considered by both companies to be an important strategy for acquiring information, securing deliveries and improving lead times. In addition, collaboration is seen as a strategy for increased control of CSR-related issues. On the downside of a high degree of collaboration, the case companies mention high supplier dependency, which may reduce their flexibility	In a well-functioning relationship, it is important to treat this relationship in a good manner and not reduce, nor place to much business [on this supplier]. To provide a balance and thus become an attractive customer to the suppliers you want to work with is important.	degree of collaboration	collaboratio n	0	supplier dependence	Efficiency and control	0		Х	
Kolk, 2012	The tension between cooperation and competition.	Any routes towards a sustainable coffee market will be accompanied by paradoxes and complex choices not only for the company, but for the entire sector, supply chain and society as a whole, as well as for individuals in the various entities involved.	Cooperation	collaboratio n	0	Competition	Competition	0	X	Х	

Wilhelm and Sydow, 2018	Buying firms face the paradox when they structure relationships to derive the greatest benefit from cooperation and collaboration, while keeping the supplier competitive in terms of market price.	The importance of building up—or preserving—residual inhouse development and manufacturing capabilities for outsourced parts in order to maintain evaluative capabilities.	Cooperation	collaboratio n	0	Competition	Competition	0	X	X	
Bátiz-Lazo, 2004	Competition in the provision of financial services has intensified as external change has created more opportunities for service delivery and extended the range of potential competitors and forms of competition. At the same time, technological innovation and applications of Information Technology in particular led to new and faster ways of sharing information. Financial service organizations, therefore face a paradox between the coloperation needed to benchmark and competitive rivalry.	On one hand, external changes enhancing competition limit any effort to exchange information with direct competitors as managers fear violating the law. On the other hand, facilitators can introduce filters and security procedures to assure anonymity for participants.	Co- operation needed to benchmark	collaboratio n	0	Competitive rivalry	Competition	0	X	X	
Shalley and Gilson,2017	Organization's need to balance standardization and creativity.	Some form of creativity is desirable across different types of works, from flow to job shops and routine and non-routine work.	Creativity	Exploration	0	Standardizatio n	Efficiency and control	0	Х	Х	
Voordijk, De Haan, and Joosten, 2000	In the building industry, deregulation has inspired more hierarchical forms of organizing supply chains of building projects.	While deregulation supported the use of market mechanisms in the building industry, this development led to more non-traditional forms of organizing supply chains of building projects. Manufacturers, contractors and architects are becoming dominant parties in these supply chains.	Deregulation	Exploration	0	Hierarchical forms of organising	Efficiency and control	0	X	X	
Khazanchi, Lewis, and Boyer, 2007	For managers, innovation is vital, but paradoxical, requiring flexibility and empowerment, as well as control and efficiency.	Flexibility values may mediate the role of control values. Flexibility values foster a culture of experimentation and empowerment, whereas, control values may set boundaries that facilitate managerial trust and evaluation. Further, while flexibility values enable operators to engage in creative problem solving or debug routine machine-related problems (e.g., Zammuto and O'Connor, 1992), operators may see control as inhibiting innovation.	Flexibility and empowerment	Exploration	0	Control and efficiency	Efficiency and control	0	X	X	
New, 2015	Firm's approach to modern slavery and other CSR related issues may run in parallel with actions that foster the problem in the first place.	3	Modern slavery in the supply chain	Efficiency and control	0	Conventional thinking in CSR	Efficiency and control	0		X	Х
Mellat-Parast and Digman, 2008	Firms within an alliance need to consider the role of trust as a control mechanism in strategic alliances and the importance of cooperative learning within alliances are examined.	With respect to control, it emphasizes the role of trust as a control mechanism. In strategic alliances trust is viewed as a substitute for costly control and coordination mechanism.	Trust as a control mechanism	Efficiency and control	0	Cooperative learning	collaboration	0		Х	Х
Graetz and Smith, 2008	The challenge for organizations lies in learning how to manage the tensions or dualities between traditional and new forms of organizing, a process demanding the arbitration of continuity and change.	The best way to engage in the debate on new forms of organizing is through a duality mindset that recognizes the synergies that can be gained from a constructive tension between ostensibly contradictory forces.	Traditional forms	Efficiency and control	0	New forms	Exploration	О		X	
Busse, Kach, and Bode, 2016	A paradoxical situation in which both the buyer and the supplier fully comply with stakeholder expectations within their own legitimacy contexts, yet the buyer's stakeholders still withdraw legitimacy from and harm the buyer.	Concerning supply chain risk management, the juxtaposition of no sustainability-related supply chain risks and SCSRs highlights that the risk sources associated with both types of risk reside within the supply chain.	Buyer	Single entity	В	Stakeholders	Multiple entities	В			X

Rizzi, Frey, Testa, and Appolloni, 2014	Abilene paradox: the circumstance where a group of actors make a decision to do something which is contrary to the inner desires of each member of the group.	Thus, implications for the management of green supply chains mainly refer to the need for collaboration between focal firms in order to create a significant demand for GPP initiatives. In fact, aggregations of focal firms can play the role of fundamental risk carriers in those informal and formal relations that lead to knowledge sharing and effective design of GPP requirements.	Group's collective decision	Multiple entities	В	Individual majority preference	single entity	В	X		x
Sandberg, 2017	The use of intermediaries as a strategy to come closer to the suppliers, and creates controllable and trust-based long-term relationships. However, intermediaries are seen as an extension of the supply chain that may hamper cultural understandings between headquarters and suppliers.	It becomes a challenge to find a balance between control and guiding principles from headquarters on one hand, and at the same time foster individual, local initiatives by the operations managers.	loyalty	Single entity	В	independence	Single	В	X		
Kronborg Jensen, 2012	The paradox concerns the idea that the more in agreement the standards become, the more redundant each standard becomes until only one prevails. In contrast, the more differentiated the standard becomes, the less standard the overall method will be for performing PCFs.		International PCF standardization	Multiple entities	В	National PCF standardizatio n	Single entity	В	X		
Steinbach, Wallenburg, and Selviaridis, 2018	Outcome-orientated contracts in service outsourcing may have unintended consequences because they create value attribution ambiguity. This ambiguity induces non-collaborative customer behavior, which, in turn, results in service provider opportunism. This reveals a paradox, where customer behavior aimed at curbing service provider opportunism instead induces such opportunism.	High levels of outcome attributability reduce ambiguity in service outsourcing as the transparency regarding the distribution of value arising from outcome achievement increases. In such cases the customer is less inclined to exhibit non-collaborative behavior (e.g., breaching the spirit of the contract), which in turn tends to attenuate the SP's opportunism.	Non collaborative customer behavior	Single entity	В	Service provider opportunism	Single entity	В			X
Longoni et al., 2019	The presence of misaligned institutional logics between focal organizations and their supply chain stakeholders generates tensions.	Positioning the social-welfare logic in the focal organization-supply chain stakeholder relationship by either making it predominant as in the complementarity approach; or recognizing the tensions between the social-welfare logic and traditional logics but not resolving them as in the acceptance approach; or aligning the social-welfare logics to other predominant logics in a new perspective as in the accommodation approach.	Focal organizations	Single entity	В	supply chain stakeholders	Multiple entities	В		X	
Rindova, 2011	The paradoxical nature of the process of theory development.	-	Extant literature	Old	L	Theory development	New	L			X
Sandberg, 2017	Long-term relationships may facilitate development and trust-based interorganizational learning, but at the same time too long relationships may jeopardize innovation and new thinking in the supply chain.	Long term relationship requires that the suppliers also are active and update themselves and what they are doing. And we must also get new blood into our company. So the combination of the long, stable relationships and the new ones is important, i.e. to have a mix.	Learning inside the long relationships	Old	L	New knowledge in new relationships	New	L			х

Terziovski and Guerrero, 2014	The paradox between product innovation and process innovation in the next revision of the ISO 9000 standard.	Managers to use ISO 9000 standard for the purpose of improving performance through process innovation, rather than just conforming to a standard and gaining a certificate.	Product innovation	New	L	Process innovation	New	L	X	X	X
Shmueli and Yahav, 2018	Simpson's paradox: it describes case where the direction of a causal effect is reversed in the aggregated data compared to the disaggregated data.		Direction of causal effect	Single entity	В	Data aggregation	collaboration	0			
Barros and Hilmola,2007	At the macroeconomic level logistics is still treated as a transfer cost with no significant impact on global equilibrium values. On the other hand, business logistics is an expanding field and has brought significant contribution to the debate.	Corporate decisions concerning the future in response to interest and exchange rate patterns may change investment decisions and affect inventory levels, thus affecting the composition of another of the components of GNP, investment.	Macroeconomic logistics	Multiple entities	В	Business logistics	Others	O		Х	
Tazelaar and Snijders, 2013	Process-performance paradox: Although professionals with more expertise tend to decide in different ways, they often do not make better assessments than those with less expertise.	First, in our risk assessment experiment, general and specific experiences are the only two indicators of expertises that are related to different process characteristics. The only two process characteristics that are different are the use of intuitive judgment and the assessment certainty. Only certainty is positively related to increased performance but because experience in IT-purchasing (which goes with increased certainty) has itself a negative effect on performance, the net effect of experience in IT-purchasing is close to zero.	OSCM expertise	Single entity	В	Assessment performance	Overall	P			X
Vedel, 2016	The triad value function facilitates the analysis and understanding of an apparent paradox; that distributors are not dis-intermediated in spite of their limited contribution to activities in the triads.	The analysis of actor-perceived connections among relationships in a triad operates as a triad value function, which captures the value potential of the structural context for a focal actor.	Distributor's intermediary position	single entity	В	Distributors' contribution to triad value function	Specific	P		X	
Zhu et al., 2018	An analytics capability paradox: where increased levels of certain analytics capabilities can become counterproductive in the face of supplier uncertainty.	Certain information processing capabilities are able to add value to the firm beyond their ability to allay uncertainty.	Level of analytics capabilities	Present	L	Supply chain transparency	Exploration	0		X	
Brix-Asala et al., 2018	Company seeks stable and efficient sourcing structures and simultaneously tries to stay flexible in its routines to be open to new and innovative sources.	The company constantly searches for opportunities to efficiently recycle more materials.	Increasing use and availability of recycing materials	Present	L	Efficient sourcing of raw materials	Efficiency and control	0	Х		
Looney et al., 2006	Online investing technologies offer a wealth of informational resources, which can potentially transform users into knowledgeable investors. The same technologies, however, can induce incompetent investor behavior.		Investor competence	Present	L	Return on online investment	Investment	P			X

Note 1: P – Performing paradox: Tensions between multiple stakeholders' goals;

- O Organizing paradox: Tensions between structuring and leading in organization;
- L Learning Paradox: Tensions between building upon and destroying the past to create future;
- B Beloning paradox: Tensions between individual and collectively and between competing values, roles, and memberships.

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