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## Accounting conservatism, accounting measurement, social capital disclosure, quality of accounting information: The moderating role of corporate social responsibility

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### ABSTRACT

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The paper aims to investigate the direct impact of accounting measurement, Social Capital Disclosure (SCD), and Accounting Conservatism (AC) on the Quality of Accounting Information (QAI), focusing on consistency in the context of Corporate Social Responsibility (CSR). The study involves industrial companies in the Yemeni capital, Sana'a. Hypotheses are developed and tested through the collected data from a questionnaire distributed to 178 employees. Results indicate a positive impact of accounting measurement, SCD, and AC on the quality and reliability of accounting information. However, when considering CSR as a moderating variable, these factors do not show a significant positive effect. The study is limited to industrial companies in Sana'a, and broader implications may require consideration of various other sectors.

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### 1. Introduction

This research delves into the growing significance of social capital globally. Viewing social relationships as a form of capital, businesses can potentially increase their earnings. The study focuses on the effect of social capital assessment and disclosure on the QAI. Social capital, as per the social capital theory, is considered an asset contributing to the development and expansion of human capital, leading to both monetary and non-monetary profits. The research distinguishes between internal and external social capital, representing elements within and outside the company, respectively. Three interconnected components of social capital—relational, structural, and cognitive aspects—are identified. Relational and cognitive aspects signify the capacity to exchange capital, while structural social capital involves access networks to people and capital. Global research has focused on social capital and its influence on the QAI. This includes studies exploring relational aspects of social capital and their interplay. Financial accounting theory has been investigated, considering Accounting Measurement (AM) and SCD. Accounting, according to this perspective, is viewed as a science of measurement. QAI is described as a framework that integrates various interconnected accounting information systems to transform financial data. The research cites several studies and scholars who have contributed to the understanding of social capital and its implications for the QAI.

The concept of Accounting Conservatism (AC) is defined by Basu (1997). Accordingly, AC is to mitigate managers' incentives for earnings inflation, net asset inflation, and potential expropriation, as discussed by Burke et al. (2020). Zhang (2008) suggests that AC provides stakeholders with timely warnings about the possibility of default, while Biddle et al. (2020) find that it lowers the risk of bankruptcy. Watts (2003) posits that AC improves contractual efficiencies. Stakeholders, including customers, suppliers, and employees, benefit from conservative reporting, as a company's bankruptcy has a significant negative impact on their well-being (Huang et al., 2019). Moreover, conservative reporting is associated with a reduced likelihood of a stock market disaster, benefiting society (Guo et al., 2020). According to Givoly and Hayn (2000), conservative reporting procedures alleviate concerns about a company's performance measures materially exceeding operating cash flows.

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Research on CSR disclosure on reporting quality is inconclusive, with studies yielding mixed results. On one hand, research suggests that companies actively involved in CSR are less likely to engage in earnings management and fraud. Additionally, increased CSR disclosure reduces levels of managerial opportunism (Harjoto, 2017). Firms have increasingly incorporated CSR initiatives into their efforts. CSR initiatives involve deliberate actions concerning business relationships (Wood, 2016). CSR is recognized for helping businesses to achieve greater accountability, sustain long-term objectives, and enhance financial performance, according to Reynolds and Yuthas (2008), Perkiss et al. (2021), and Brooks and Oikonomou (2018). Parsa et al. (2021) suggest that CSR reporting contributes to businesses gaining credibility domestically and internationally and improving the accuracy of analyst projections (Bernardi & Stark, 2018). Businesses are now under the increasing pressure to demonstrate the application of sustainable development principles in their daily operations and decision-making (Boubakri et al., 2016, 2021).

A survey by KPMG (2020) reveals that 96% of the world's largest firms have made their CSR reports publicly available. However, concerns arise about whether it truly signifies an enhancement in public companies' accountability or if businesses are adopting symbolic strategies to enhance their perceived legitimacy without substantial impact on their social responsibilities. Stakeholder theory posits that businesses utilize their corporate strategy to align with the interests of stakeholders serving as a proxy for earnings quality. This is expected to improve alongside businesses' efforts to strengthen relationships with stakeholders and raise their acceptability. According to Cheng and Kung (2016), CSR disclosure is considered a crucial tool in this process. Agency theory advocates that executives might use their relationships with stakeholders as a cover for unscrupulous actions or to enhance their image as socially conscious leaders (Anagnostopoulou et al., 2021). We investigate the potential correlation between AC and CSR disclosure by analyzing the impact of CSR initiatives on a company's interactions with various stakeholders.

AC and CSR. To be precise, the negative impact is primarily attributed to federal ownership, and this trend persists across adjustments to research design and various methods of estimating AC. The research underscores the importance of investigating the origins of CSR disclosure by public firms in emerging economies. Companies facing institutional gaps and weak regulatory frameworks stand to benefit significantly from CSR disclosure, as it may help bridge these gaps (Khanna & Palepu, 2011).

## 2. Literature Review and Hypotheses

### 2.1 Relationship between AM and Disclosure of Social Capital (DSC) and Quality of Accounting Information

Some studies have examined global information quality (Abbas et al., 2021; Tajpour et al., 2022). Thus, we discuss the relationship between social capital (SC) and QAI. Global information quality has been examined in several studies. Ievdokymov et al. (2020) stated that SC can be quantified and reported at the individual level using a questionnaire, a method employed in this study. Wang et al. (2021) found that SC enhances the quality of disclosure and provides accurate and timely information to interested consumers. The sub-dimension of relevance in accounting information, particularly the timeline, is suggested to improve QAI (Abdelraheem et al., 2021), indicating that SC may play a role in enhancing QAI. Ahmed (2021) emphasizes the crucial role of disclosure in helping users with the informed decisions. Chen et al. (2016) highlights the significance of social capital as a determinant of organizational performance. Amiran et al. (2022) discovered that accounting measurement can affect the caliber of accounting information, raising the issue of combining SC measurement with disclosure. Akintimehin et al. (2019) show how social capital significantly impacts a company's financial performance. Macgregor and Ibanichuka (2021) reveal that the QAI, including comparability, consistency, dependability, and relevance, is substantially associated with business performance, suggesting a major impact of SC on QAI. Gofwan (2022) underscores a strong link between QAI and financial performance. Lim et al. (2017) assert that disclosure quality is important for users when making decisions and providing accounting information value. Jones and Taylor (2012) claim social capital as accounting data from a social accounting perspective. Overall, the study suggests a complex interplay between social capital, AM, and QAI, impacting various aspects of organizational performance.

The study points out a gap in existing literature where none of the references examined three variables—AM, DSC, and the sub-dimensions of reliability, comparability, and consistency—simultaneously (Tajpour et al., 2021; Lee, 2020; Mita et al., 2018). The absence of such comprehensive analysis is identified as a potential limitation, and the study aims to contribute to accounting research by addressing this gap. In the Republic of Yemen, researchers have not considered AM and DSC, specifically social capital, despite their importance in accounting functions. This research seeks to explore the impact of AM and DSC on the improvement of the QAI, drawing attention to a previously neglected area. Furthermore, reliability, comparability, and consistency have not been adequately investigated in the Republic of Yemen. The study suggests that examining these sub-dimensions is essential to raise the level of accounting information. The importance of comparability and consistency has also not received sufficient attention from academics in the field. To address these gaps, the research proposes to investigate AM and DSC, along with the sub-dimensions of reliability, comparability, and consistency. The study aims to examine the direct impact of these variables on the QAI, and hypotheses are developed based on previous literature to guide the research inquiry.

**H<sub>1</sub>:** *Accounting measurement positively affects quality of accounting information.*

**H<sub>2</sub>:** *Disclosure of social capital positively affects quality of accounting information.*

## 2.2 Accounting Conservatism and Quality of Accounting Information

The passage highlights the role of AC in enhancing the quality of integrated business reporting disclosure. AC is seen as a mechanism to decrease agency problems and managers' incentives to overstate earnings. This reduction in agency problems improves financial reports and increases the overall value of the firm. The goal of disclosing integrated business reports is primarily to gain stakeholder approval and recognition while reducing information asymmetry. The passage suggests that AC helps mitigate issues such as aggressive earnings management, moral hazard resulting from agency conflicts, and the suppression of information about expected losses. This contributes to the quality of financial reports. Social responsibility activities, such as providing high-quality earnings information, are considered crucial in reducing agency problems and information asymmetry, playing a distinct role from governance processes to increase transparency and reporting accuracy. Referring to a study by Cheng and Kong (2016), the passage notes that companies' disclosure of integrated business reports is positively associated with maintaining profits and enhancing moral imperative.

The passage discusses the interplay between various sub-dimensions of accounting information quality, specifically focusing on comparability and consistency. According to Chen et al. (2020) and Ota et al. (2017), comparability impacts relevance in accounting. Ross et al. (2019) argue that benchmarking in US companies enhances forecast accuracy, approximating predictive value (Abdul-Rahim et al., 2021). This suggests that sub-dimensions of accounting information quality, such as comparability and relevance. Duong and Truong (2020) emphasize how comparability increases the value of accounting information and supports better decision-making. Ghosh et al. (2020) and Imhoff et al. (2022) highlight the importance of relevance in financial information, with comparison enhancing its usefulness. However, the passage notes a gap in prior research, as researchers have not explored how comparability may or may not affect the reliability of accounting information quality. On the reliability front, Tontiset and Kaiwinit (2018) point out various characteristics. Mabili et al. (2022) find that consistency plays a role in affecting the reliability of information. The passage notes that other components, such as relevance and comparability, are not discussed in this context. However, consistency enables AM to be reliable as highlighted by Gunarathne and Lee (2021). Others underscore how consistency contributes to a company achieving its goal of comparability, suggesting an interconnected relationship between consistency, comparability, reliability, and relevance in QAI. Therefore, the following hypothesis emerged:

**H<sub>3</sub>:** *Accounting conservatism positively affects the QAI.*

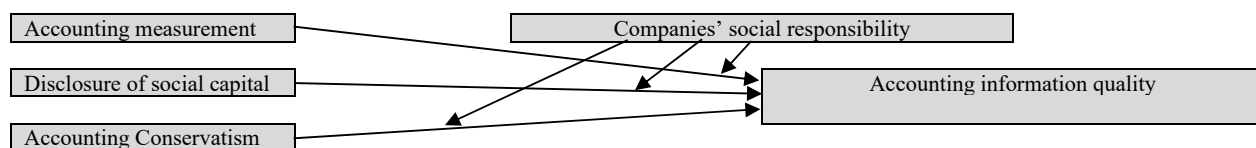
## 2.3 The relationship between CSR DSC, AC, and the QAI.

The passage discusses various aspects of CSR and its potential impact on AIQ and financial reporting. Businesses engaged in CSR initiatives may experience lower loan costs. This suggests a positive relationship between CSR participation and financial credibility (Goss & Roberts, 2011). CSR participation is associated with the development of long-lasting relationships with stakeholders and meeting their needs, contributing to a positive corporate reputation (Eccles et al., 2014). Companies maintaining a good corporate reputation through CSR are not engaged in activities contrary to stakeholder expectations. This restraint on management's behavior leads to the production of more accurate and high-quality financial information. Businesses actively engaging in stakeholder interactions and demonstrating a commitment to improved CSR reporting are likely to lower insolvency risk for stakeholders. Contrarily, Agency Theory contends that CSR reporting might shift focus away from shareholder value maximization, aggravating agency issues (Jensen & Meckling, 1996; Goss & Roberts, 2011). Enhanced non-accounting information disclosure, such as CSR, may mitigate the effects of poor accounting quality, serving as a replacement mechanism for a company to maintain legitimacy. Under pressure from activist organizations, managers may not follow the CSR policies promoted in their reports, leading to a negative correlation between comprehensive CSR disclosure and conservatism. In Russia, CSR is viewed favorably by businesses as it helps to overcome negative public perceptions resulting from privatization processes. It is also seen as a strategy to reduce government intervention. Companies invest in CSR projects to establish credibility, build a solid reputation, regain customer trust, and align CSR practices with long-term corporate strategies. Despite conflicting findings, the passage suggests evidence supporting an association between CSR disclosure and a higher level of conservatism in accounting information. The formulation of a hypothesis is mentioned as.

**H<sub>4</sub>:** *CSR moderates the relationship between accounting measurement and quality of accounting information.*

**H<sub>5</sub>:** *CSR moderates the relationship between non-social capital disclosure and quality of accounting information.*

**H<sub>6</sub>:** *CSR moderates the relationship between AC and quality of accounting information.*



**Fig. 1.** The variables and dimensions of the study

### 3. Research Methodology

#### 3.1 Research Design

The study utilizes primary data collected through questionnaires to maintain objectivity (Wang et al., 2020). The survey was distributed to 37 manufacturing enterprises in Sana'a, the capital of Yemen. The questionnaire comprises 27 questions designed to test five dimensions of the research hypotheses. These questions are categorized as follows:

Independent Variables (15 Questions): Accounting conservatism, Accounting measurement, Social capital disclosure

Modified Variable (6 Questions): Corporate social responsibility

Dependent Variable (6 Questions): Quality of accounting information

The questionnaire is structured to gather responses related to these dimensions, allowing for a comprehensive examination of the relationships and factors under investigation in the study.

#### 3.2 The sample

The study collected sample data from 178 full-time employees working in the accounting and finance departments of manufacturing enterprises in Sana'a, the capital of Yemen. The researchers employed stratified random sampling, treating each company as a distinct stratum. The sample selection process was managed by the corporate management committee, ensuring that it was handled appropriately and contributing to the generation of sensitive and high-quality data. The researchers opted for a disproportionately stratified random sample, allowing for better control of subgroups and ensuring their representation in the study, ultimately improving the coverage of the entire population under investigation (Rahman et al., 2022).

#### 3.3 Sample volume

The authors sampled manufacturing firms with a total of approximately 178 employees, ranging from 10 to 15 employees per company. Initially, the researchers distributed electronic questionnaires and provided a brief explanation of the questions. The responses are gathered by personally engaging with each participant. Only 167 participants responded well, with 6 incomplete responses excluded from further analysis. This resulted in 161 valid questionnaires for analysis. To address the potential issue of method variance, the research employed Harman's one-factor test. The test indicated that the explained variance of the first dimension was 31%, well below the threshold of 50%, suggesting that method variance is not a significant concern in the study.

#### 3.4 Devices

The survey comprises 27 questions categorized into five dimensions: AC, accounting measurement, and SCD (independent variables), corporate social responsibility (represented by the modified variable); and the QAI (represented by the dependent variable). The researchers utilized SCD and accounting measurement from their prior work, applied CSR as per Garanina (2023), and considered the QAI based on Rashid (2022). The Likert scale with five points was employed for responses, ranging from 1 for strongly disagreeing to 5 for strongly agreeing. The researchers adjusted each question to suit the study's requirements. To assess reliability, Cronbach's alpha method was used for each dimension, with a threshold of 0.70 (Budur & Poturak, 2021).

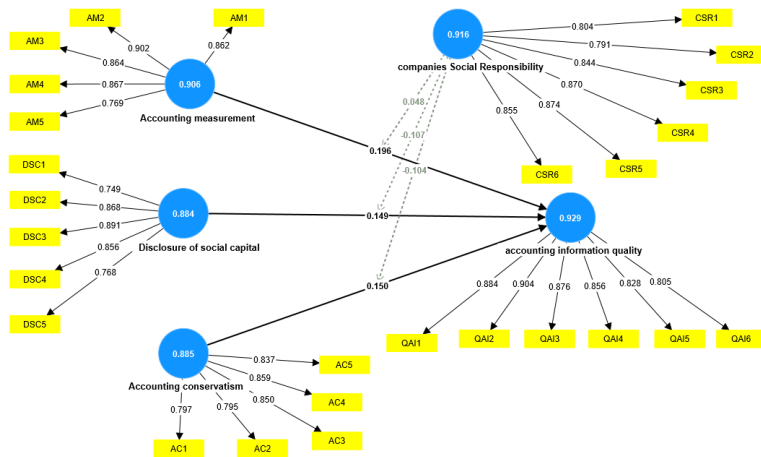


Fig. 2. The PLS algorithm of the measurement model.

**Table 1**  
EFA Analysis Results, Composite Reliability, VIF and AVE

Variable	AC	AM	CSR	DSC	AIQ	VIF	Rho+c	Rho a	Cronbach's	AVE	
Accounting conservatism (AC)	AC1	<b>0.797</b>	0.639	0.681	0.664	0.666	2.110	0.916	0.888	0.885	0.686
	AC2	<b>0.795</b>	0.666	0.656	0.648	0.683	2.186				
	AC3	<b>0.850</b>	0.652	0.723	0.759	0.743	2.634				
	AC4	<b>0.859</b>	0.631	0.679	0.723	0.725	3.091				
	AC5	<b>0.837</b>	0.685	0.671	0.718	0.744	2.342				
Accounting measurement (AM)	AM1	0.663	<b>0.862</b>	0.663	0.677	0.661	3.785	0.931	0.910	0.906	0.729
	AM2	0.667	<b>0.902</b>	0.675	0.701	0.675	4.774				
	AM3	0.707	<b>0.864</b>	0.713	0.734	0.730	2.628				
	AM4	0.721	<b>0.867</b>	0.758	0.763	0.735	2.613				
	AM5	0.602	<b>0.769</b>	0.679	0.633	0.678	1.835				
Companies Social Responsibility (CSR)	CSR1	0.725	0.634	0.669	0.732	<b>0.804</b>	2.238	0.935	0.917	0.916	0.706
	CSR2	0.695	0.662	0.706	0.701	<b>0.791</b>	2.178				
	CSR3	0.741	0.704	0.761	0.756	<b>0.844</b>	3.151				
	CSR4	0.722	0.727	0.730	0.736	<b>0.870</b>	3.603				
	CSR5	0.723	0.698	0.720	0.723	<b>0.874</b>	3.484				
	CSR6	0.732	0.687	0.705	0.736	0.855	3.101				
Disclosure of social capital (DSC)	DSC1	0.643	0.628	<b>0.749</b>	0.686	0.676	1.616	0.916	0.888	0.884	0.686
	DSC2	0.713	0.713	<b>0.868</b>	0.774	0.747	3.235				
	DSC3	0.686	0.695	<b>0.891</b>	0.730	0.725	3.941				
	DSC4	0.685	0.694	<b>0.856</b>	0.683	0.709	2.715				
	DSC5	0.684	0.653	<b>0.768</b>	0.651	0.663	1.855				
Accounting Information Quality (AIQ)	QAI1	0.731	0.729	0.760	<b>0.884</b>	0.738	4.476	0.944	0.930	0.929	0.739
	QAI2	0.764	0.742	0.774	<b>0.904</b>	0.759	4.777				
	QAI3	0.752	0.710	0.747	<b>0.876</b>	0.756	3.380				
	QAI4	0.694	0.698	0.704	<b>0.856</b>	0.755	3.192				
	QAI5	0.706	0.659	0.695	<b>0.828</b>	0.727	2.875				
	QAI6	0.734	0.709	0.719	<b>0.805</b>	0.752	2.432				

Composite reliability (Rho\_c), Composite reliability (Rho\_a)

In the Exploratory Factor Analysis (EFA), constructs were reduced, and factors were considered based on an eigenvalue equal to or greater than 1 (Budur, 2020). The eigenvalue represents the extent to which the shared variance of observed variables is explained by a factor. The dimensions derived from this process explained 88% of the variance. Descriptive statistics, including composite reliability (rho\_c) and composite reliability (rho\_a) values (Hair et al., 2010), were presented in Table 1. The dimensions exhibited high reliability with Cronbach's alpha values exceeding 0.7 (Budur & Butorac, 2021). Construct validity was assessed through convergent and discriminant validity tests. Convergent validity, evaluated using average variance extraction (AVE) and composite reliability (CR), indicated satisfactory relationships among construct components. The expected AVE values were greater than 0.5, and CR exceeded 0.7. Discriminant and convergent validity results, including cross-loading and collinearity (VIF) statistics, are presented in the table, confirming the reliability and validity of the model. The constructs were AC, accounting measurement, SCD, CSR, and the QAI. Thus, the study categorized items into five groups corresponding to different dimensions: AC, accounting measurement, SCD, accounting information quality, and CSR. These classifications were based on factor loadings, communality, and Cronbach's alpha, with all items correctly placed within their respective dimensions. Validity assessment included discriminant validity (DV) and convergent validity (CV) tests (Khine, 2013). The results demonstrated that the structures were well-defined, maintaining the necessary distances between dimensions. DV and CV tests ensured that theoretically unrelated constructs were not highly correlated in practice. Convergent validity was supported by the average variance extractor's square root being larger than the correlation coefficients of other dimensions, indicating the appropriateness of the measures.

**Table 2**  
Discriminate Validity

	AC	AM	DSC	AIQ	SR	CSR × DSC
AC						
AM	0.881					
DSC	0.933	0.914				
AIQ	0.935	0.896	0.941			
CSC	0.955	0.895	0.947	0.944		
CSC × AM	0.820	0.768	0.819	0.869	0.846	
CSR × DSC	0.836	0.766	0.858	0.892	0.868	
CSR × AC	0.862	0.766	0.836	0.892	0.860	0.954

AC: Accounting conservatism, AM: Accounting measurement, DSC: Disclosure of social capital, AIQ: accounting information quality, CSR: Corporate Social Responsibility

The study assessed the values using AVE, with all values ranging from a minimum of 0.686 to a maximum of 0.739, indicating that all AVE values were above the threshold of 0.5. Composite reliability (rho\_c) values, ranging from 0.916 to 0.944, were

also presented, demonstrating that all values met the criteria, while composite reliability (rho\_a) values ranged from 0.888 to 0.930, all exceeding the threshold of 0.7 (Fornell and Larcker, 1981). Both CR and AVE values for each dimension surpassed the relevant thresholds, indicating sufficient internal consistency. DV and CV success further supported the accuracy of the measurements, contributing to the development of a reliable model. VIF was used to evaluate the impact and strength of mediation (Domenek et al., 2022), with comparability and consistency variables serving as mediating factors. The maximum VIF recorded was 4.777, suggesting that multicollinearity did not pose a threat to the research, as it remained lower than the acceptable limit of 10.

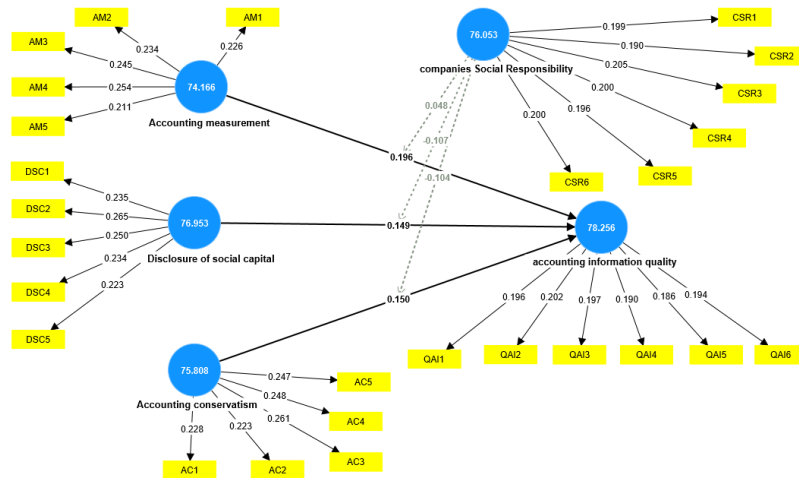
The construct validity of the model was evaluated through convergent and discriminant validity tests. In this study, it was observed that the square root of the maximum AVE value (0.955) was higher than the correlation values in the comparison row (0.820), the comparison column (0.981, 0.933, 0.935, 0.955, 0.820, 0.836, 0.862), and all other comparison rows combined. This pattern was consistent across latent variables such as accounting measurement, AC, SCD, accounting information quality, and CSR. The findings suggest that discriminant validity is well-established in the model.

**Table 3**  
Fornell-Larcker criterion

	AC	AM	DSC	AIQ	CSR
AC	<b>0.828</b>				
AM	0.789	<b>0.854</b>			
DSC	0.824	0.818	<b>0.828</b>		
AIQ	0.850	0.824	0.854	<b>0.860</b>	
CSR	0.861	0.816	0.852	0.870	<b>0.840</b>

AC: Accounting conservatism, AM: Accounting measurement, DSC: Disclosure of social capital, AIQ: accounting information quality, CSR: Corporate Social Responsibility

Table 3 displays the findings of the Fornell-Larcker criterion for discriminant validity. Square roots of AVE on the diagonals that are larger than construct correlations (represented by the corresponding row and column values) are shown by the bolded values. The constructs have good discriminant validity (Hult et al., 2017; Tatham, et al., 2010) because they are more closely associated with their respective indicators than other model constructs (Fornell, 1981; Chin, 1998). Additionally, the exogenous component correlation is less than 0.88 (Awang, 2014). Each construct's discriminant validity is thus satisfied.



**Fig. 2.** The PLS algorithm of the measurement model.

**Table 5**  
SSO, SSE, Q²

Study variables	SSO	SSE	% of variance explained by a factor of unidimensionality	Q² (=1-SSE/SSO)
AC	1645.000	1645.000		0.000
AM	1645.000	1645.000		0.000
DSC	1645.000	1645.000		0.000
AIQ	1974.000	759.671		0.615
CSR	1974.000	1974.000		0.000

AC: Accounting conservatism, AM: Accounting measurement, DSC: Disclosure of social capital, AIQ: accounting information quality, CSR: Corporate Social Responsibility

The results indicate that all the values of the independent variables, represented by Single Sign-On (SSO) and the Sum of Squared Errors (SSE), are consistent at 1645.000. The percentage of variance explained by a one-dimensional factor is above 70% for all variables, further validating the robustness and accuracy of the analysis. However, there is a change in the values

of SSO and SSE for the dependent variable, the QAI, with SSO being 1974.000 and SSE being 759.671. This provides conclusive evidence of the accuracy, robustness, solidity, and validity of the analysis, aligning with established criteria for assessing model validity (Hair et al., 2011).

3.5 Measurement model analysis

The researchers developed an SEM of five dimensions of AC, accounting measurement, SCD, accounting information quality, and CSR to test the hypotheses and evaluate the model result.

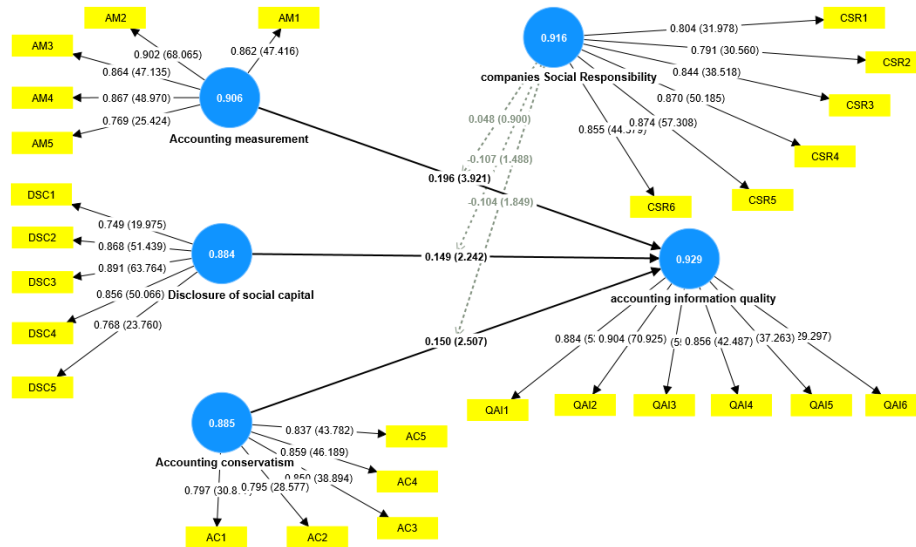


Fig. 4. The PLS algorithm of the measurement model.

Table 6 Mean, STDEV, T values, and p values for each item of the study questionnaire

Study variables	Questionnaire paragraphs	Original Sample (O)	Sample Mean (M)	Standard Deviation (STDEV)	T Statistics ( O/STDEV)	P Values
AC	AC1 ← AC	0.797	0.796	0.026	30.877	0.000
	AC2 ← AC	0.795	0.794	0.028	28.577	0.000
	AC3 ← AC	0.850	0.849	0.022	38.894	0.000
	AC4 ← AC	0.859	0.857	0.019	46.189	0.000
	AC5 ← AC	0.837	0.835	0.019	43.782	0.000
AM	AM1 ← AM	0.862	0.860	0.018	47.416	0.000
	AM2 ← AM	0.902	0.901	0.013	68.065	0.000
	AM3 ← AM	0.864	0.863	0.018	47.135	0.000
	AM4 ← AM	0.867	0.867	0.018	48.970	0.000
	AM5 ← AM	0.769	0.768	0.030	25.424	0.000
CSR	CSR1 ← CSR	0.804	0.802	0.025	31.978	0.000
	CSR2 ← CSR	0.791	0.790	0.026	30.560	0.000
	CSR3 ← CSR	0.844	0.843	0.022	38.518	0.000
	CSR4 ← CSR	0.870	0.869	0.017	50.185	0.000
	CSR5 ← CSR	0.874	0.874	0.015	57.308	0.000
	CSR6 ← CSR	0.855	0.853	0.019	44.379	0.000
CSC	DSC1 ← CSC	0.749	0.747	0.037	19.975	0.000
	DSC2 ← CSC	0.868	0.866	0.017	51.439	0.000
	DSC3 ← CSC	0.891	0.890	0.014	63.764	0.000
	DSC4 ← CSC	0.856	0.856	0.017	50.066	0.000
	DSC5 ← CSC	0.768	0.767	0.032	23.760	0.000
AIQ	QAI1 ← AIQ	0.884	0.882	0.016	53.643	0.000
	QAI2 ← AIQ	0.904	0.904	0.013	70.925	0.000
	QAI3 ← AIQ	0.876	0.875	0.016	55.647	0.000
	QAI4 ← AIQ	0.856	0.854	0.020	42.487	0.000
	QAI5 ← AIQ	0.828	0.826	0.022	37.263	0.000
	QAI6 ← AIQ	0.805	0.803	0.027	29.297	0.000

AC: Accounting conservatism, AM: Accounting measurement, DSC: Disclosure of social capital, AIQ: accounting information quality, CSR: Corporate Social Responsibility

The table presents beta values, T-values, and P-values for each item in the study questionnaire. The Structural Equation Modeling (SEM) analysis explores both the direct and indirect effects. For the independent variable AC (AC1, AC2, AC3, AC4, AC5), all beta values are positive, T-values for AC are greater than 2, and p-values are  $< 0.05$ . This indicates a positive relationship between AC and QAI. Similarly, for the independent variable accounting measurement (AM1, AM2, AM3, AM4, AM5), all beta values are positive, T-values are greater than 2, and p-values are  $< 0.05$ . This suggests a positive and significant impact of accounting measurement on the QAI. The independent variable Disclosure of Social Capital (DSC1, DSC2, DSC3, DSC4, DSC5) also exhibits positive beta values, T-values greater than 2, and p-values  $< 0.05$ . This implies a positive and significant relationship between the disclosure of social capital and the QAI. Furthermore, for the modified variable CSR (CSR1, CSR2, CSR3, CSR4, CSR5, CSR6), all beta values are positive, T-values exceed 2, and p-values are  $< 0.05$ . This indicates a positive and significant impact of CSR on the QAI. In summary, the analysis suggests positive and significant relationships between AC, AM, DSC, CSR, and QAI.

**Table 7**  
SEM Analysis Results

Study hypotheses	beta	Sample Mean (M)	S.d	Bias	R 2.5%	f 97.5%	Q2	T	P Values	Results
AC→ AIQ	0.150	0.147	0.060	-0.003	0.036	0.269	0.032	2.507	0.012	Supported
AM→ AIQ	0.196	0.196	0.050	0.000	0.100	0.297	0.071	3.921	0.000	Supported
DSC→ AIQ	0.149	0.153	0.067	0.004	0.006	0.271	0.031	2.242	0.025	Supported
CSR→ AIQ	0.167	0.170	0.059	0.003	0.051	0.282	0.033	2.812	0.005	Supported
CSR × AM→ AIQ	0.048	0.055	0.053	0.008	-0.058	0.148	0.003	0.900	0.368	Not Supported
CSR × DSC→ AIQ	-0.107	-0.118	0.072	-0.010	-0.240	0.043	0.017	1.488	0.137	Not Supported
CSR × AC→ AIQ	-0.104	-0.098	0.056	0.006	-0.225	-0.004	0.022	1.849	0.065	Not Supported

The study utilized the structural model and Partial Least Squares (PLS) to investigate hypotheses and establish correlations among research variables. The estimated Q2 values, comprising path coefficients, R2, and t statistics, were employed in the analysis. Path coefficients indicated the direction and consistency of associations, while standard errors and t statistics indicated the size of the effects. The R2 value, representing the amount of variance in the dependent variable explained by independent variables, suggested that the proposed framework could explain approximately 54% of the variance in the effectiveness of AC and QAI. This indicated a substantial impact of AC, AM, and SCD on the QAI. The study results and R2 values conveyed that the proposed model had a strong explanatory power, clarifying 54% of the variance in QAI (Chen, 1998b). The second query, assessing the model's predictive potential using data not involved in parameter development, indicated that the proposed framework had sufficient predictive benefit and explanatory power. In summary, the study findings, supported by path coefficients, R2 values, and predictive capabilities, demonstrated that AC, accounting measurement, and SCD significantly contributed to explaining and predicting the QAI.

The study tested several hypotheses related to the impact of various factors on the QAI. Here are the key findings:

Hypothesis H1 (AC): AC positively affects the quality of accounting information.

Result: There is a positive relationship between AC and QAI. The values were ( $b = 0.150$ ,  $T = 5.869$ ,  $p < 0.05$ ). Therefore, Hypothesis H1 was accepted and supported.

Hypothesis H2 (Accounting Measurement): AM positively affects the quality of accounting information.

Result: There is a positive relationship between AM and QAI. The values were ( $b = 0.196$ ,  $T = 3.921$ ,  $p < 0.05$ ). Hypothesis H2 was accepted and supported.

Hypothesis H3 (SCD): Social capital disclosure positively affects the quality of accounting information.

Result: The DSC positively affects the QAI, with values ( $b = 0.149$ ,  $T = 2.242$ ,  $p < 0.05$ ). Hypothesis H3 was accepted and supported.

Hypothesis H4 (Corporate Social Responsibility) CSR positively affects the quality of accounting information.

Result: CSR positively affects the QAI, with values ( $b = 0.167$ ,  $T = 2.812$ ,  $p < 0.05$ ). Hypothesis H4 was accepted and supported.

In summary, the study found positive and significant relationships between AC, accounting measurement, SCD, and CSR with the QAI, supporting all four hypotheses.

The study examined the relationship between AM, CSR, and the QAI. Here are the key findings:

AM and quality of accounting information:



Result: There is a positive, non-significant relationship between AM and QAI when CSR is set as a modified variable, with a value of ( $b = 0.048$ ).

Interpretation: The hypothesis regarding the positive relationship between AM and the QAI was rejected.

SCD and QAI:

Result: There is a negative relationship between the DSC and the QAI when CSR is set as a modified variable, with a value of ( $b = -0.107$ ).

Interpretation: The hypothesis suggesting a positive relationship between SCD and the QAI was rejected.

AC and QAI:

Result: There is a negative relationship between AC and the QAI when CSR is set as a modified variable, with a value of ( $b = -0.104$ ).

Interpretation: The hypothesis proposing a positive relationship between AC and the QAI was rejected.

In summary, when CSR is considered as a modified variable, the study found non-significant or negative relationships between accounting measurement, SCD, AC, and the QAI, leading to the rejection of the respective hypotheses.

#### 4. Results and discussion

This paper explores the impact of AC, AM, and SCD on the QAI, with a focus on industrial companies in the Republic of Yemen. The study introduces CSR as a moderating variable. AC significantly and positively affects the QAI in industrial companies in the Republic of Yemen. The study highlights the importance of AC in enhancing the level and QAI for these companies. AM has a positive relationship with the QAI. The findings suggest that AM improves the QAI, emphasizing its positive correlation with this aspect (Malo-Alain et al. 2021). SCD, including trust and norms, is identified as a useful component in enhancing the QAI (Lan & Luc, 2020). The study suggests that disclosure practices related to social capital, characterized by trust and adherence to norms, contribute to the reliability, verifiability, and objectivity of accounting information. The paper introduces CSR as a moderator. The study recognizes the potential moderating role of CSR in influencing the relationships between AC, AM, SCD, and the QAI. In conclusion, the research emphasizes the interplay of accounting factors and SCD in influencing the QAI. The incorporation of CSR adds a nuanced dimension to these relationships, highlighting the need for a comprehensive understanding of various elements in assessing and enhancing AIQ. Hence, companies derive benefits from the processes of verification, correction, and quality assurance in accounting data. This substantiates the validity of the correlation between AM, SCD, AC, and the QAI. Considering the impact of AC, AM, and SCD on QAI and their positive interconnections, adherence to company accounting standards emerges as a valuable facilitator for furnishing users with precise and timely accounting information. The standardization of accounting information, known as comparability, enables the meaningful comparison of financial statements across diverse companies. As underscored by Lan and Luc (2020), this stands as a fundamental prerequisite for financial statement users in crafting comprehensive financial reports. The application of uniform accounting practices and standards across distinct reporting periods and industry entities enhances the comparability of financial statements (Al-Hamdawi, 2020). Accounting benchmarking, in essence, involves the meticulous evaluation of financial and temporal conditions.

When companies consistently maintain the dimensions of accounting, measurement, and SCD without altering them from one period to another, it facilitates the realization of the effects of AC, accounting measurement, and SCD on the QAI, as well as the relationships between them. Consequently, to gain stakeholders' trust, companies need not switch to a new accounting method. The principle of consistency, according to Al-Hamdawi (2020), allows companies to apply and adhere to a specific accounting method or principle consistently across subsequent accounting periods, with adjustments only made if they lead to improved financial outcomes. Any such adjustments should be thoroughly documented and disclosed in the financial statement commentary (Pit-ten Cate et al., 2020). Contrasting the findings with studies by Nouriani et al. (2018) examining the effect of social capital on the corporate environment in general, this research is distinct. It comprehensively investigates how accounting measurement, disclosure, and consistency impact social capital to enhance the QAI. Although measurement and disclosure are the primary objectives of accounting, Yemeni industrial companies' researchers have, until now, not considered the role of SCD in ensuring the QAI.

The study by Ou et al. (2018) investigating the influence of enterprise resource planning implementation on the reliability of QAI aligns closely with the findings of the present paper, which establishes a significant association between accounting measurement, SCD, and reliability. However, this study distinguishes itself by placing specific emphasis on the comprehensive examination of how AM and SCD impact the reliability, accuracy, and overall QAI. Consequently, this research contributes a more detailed understanding of the intricate relationships between SCD, accounting measurement, and the reliability of accounting data.

Sirgar et al. (2021) emphasized the significance and value of developing accounting information for primary financial statement users like creditors and investors, closely aligning with the results of the present research, highlighting a substantial

correlation between accounting measurement, SCD, and their importance. Consequently, this study underscores the recognition of the value of accounting information to maximize its utility and encourages further exploration into this vital topic. Furthermore, there is implicit consistency with this work, as it delves into the impact of SCD and AC on the relevance and QAI, focusing on fundamental accounting dimensions. Similarly, the outcomes of a study by Weichao et al. (2018) were somewhat akin to the results of the current research, indicating a significant association between comparability and accounting measurement. Weichao et al. (2018) stressed the critical role of AM for comparison in investors' success and the evaluation of a company's value using external data. This paper reinforces the importance of comparability for financial success, emphasizing its enhancement through accounting comparability. Additionally, akin to the findings of a study by Saleh et al. (2021) proposing that accounting benchmarking could enhance the consistency of financial accounts, the present research identifies a noteworthy association between accounting benchmarking and consistency. However, this study specifically explores how AM contributes to the improvement of accounting data and information consistency.

This study distinguishes itself from prior research conducted by Tantardini et al. (2017), Akintimhin et al. (2019), and Benh et al. (2020) by offering a comprehensive examination of all facets of AIQ. In contrast to these studies, the present research investigates the interrelations between the sub-dimensions of SCD and the dimensions of enhancing information quality, incorporating accounting measurement, disclosure, and CSR. The study suggests that involving managers and employees in decision-making processes, using consensus for final decisions, and acting honorably and fairly could enhance the reliability of manufacturers' employees' perceptions of leadership regarding accounting information. This approach may foster a sense of transparency and independence that can be independently verified by employees.

### **5. Theoretical and practical implications**

This study stands out as the first in the Republic of Yemen to investigate AC, accounting measurement, SCD, and CSR within industrial companies. The research identifies a gap in existing studies in Yemen, emphasizing the potential impact of these factors on social dynamics, productivity, and the quality of accounting data. While prior empirical research worldwide has extensively explored AM and information quality, there is a lack of such investigation concerning AC, SCD, and CSR in Yemeni industrial companies. The study demonstrates the influence of AC, accounting measurement, and SCD on AIQ, shedding light on the modifying role of CSR. Additionally, it explores the interactions among these aspects, highlighting their impact on reliability, comparability, and consistency, ultimately enhancing the value and quality of financial and accounting information. The study underscores the need for industrial enterprises in Yemen to embrace AC, accounting measurement, and SCD, emphasizing the importance of introducing these concepts to employees and departments for practical implementation. The theoretical significance lies in emphasizing the role of industrial corporate management in generating and revealing social capital, encompassing relational, structural, and cognitive dimensions. Overall, the study contributes to the accounting literature by addressing these factors as potential means to enhance AIQ in industrial companies in the Republic of Yemen.

### **6. Conclusions and Recommendations**

This study explores the influence of SCD and AM on elevating the level of accounting data in industrial companies, considering potential future profits. While no standardized method for calculating social capital exists, the study emphasizes the importance of identifying and defining it based on academic and research perspectives. The findings indicate that various dimensions of independent variables, including AM, AC, SCD, and CSR, significantly contribute to enhancing the QAI. The Smart Plus 4 analysis reveals positive direct effects and significant positive relationships between the independent and dependent variables. However, when CSR is introduced as a modifying variable, Smart Plus 4 shows that some independent variables, like AC, have no positive effect on the dependent variable, and negative correlations are observed. The relationship between SCD and its impact on AIQ is negative with CSR as a moderator variable. AM negatively affects AIQ when CSR is considered a moderating variable. Despite these findings, a positive relationship is noted between AM and the QAI when CSR is taken into account as a relationship variable.

This study elucidates the interactive dynamics of AIQ dimensions, enhancing the efficacy of independent variables. The research highlights the impact of SCD and AM on AIQ, particularly concerning the sub-dimensions of these variables. Trust and honesty are integral components, and AM employs common terms and symbols. The recording of accounting data parallels narrative practices, while developed rules guide impartial company conduct. Associations between social capital and AIQ prove valuable for predicting future events, validating and correcting data, and ensuring prompt delivery of accounting information to users.

Yemeni industrial companies can enhance the QAI by incentivizing employee performance according to standards, trust, and business commitments. This practice ensures creditors and investors can consistently utilize and verify financial statements for comparable results. To optimize the disclosure process, information must align with users' needs for informed decision-making. Manufacturers are urged to underscore the significance of accounting measurement, SCD, CSR, and AC in elevating the standards of company financial statements and accounting information. Improved comparability, especially concerning time and financial position, can be achieved through enhanced accounting information, with the DSC playing a pivotal role. Maintaining comparability between accounting periods in financial statements is crucial.

In conclusion, prioritizing consistency in accounting practices underscores the importance of maintaining the same procedures from one accounting period to the next, emphasizing stability unless a compelling reason for change arises. Accounting measurement, vital for comparison, enables investors to evaluate a company's financial health accurately and swiftly. The study emphasizes the direct impact of comparability on relevance, consistency, reliability, and comparability. Encouraging all companies to enhance SCD is recommended, as this data becomes a crucial factor in attracting creditors and investors, enabling informed decisions and bolstering stakeholder confidence.

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