# Challenges and Cooperation in the German PropTech Market -

Evidence Based on Results from the PropTech Germany 2020/2021 Surveys

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### The Authors

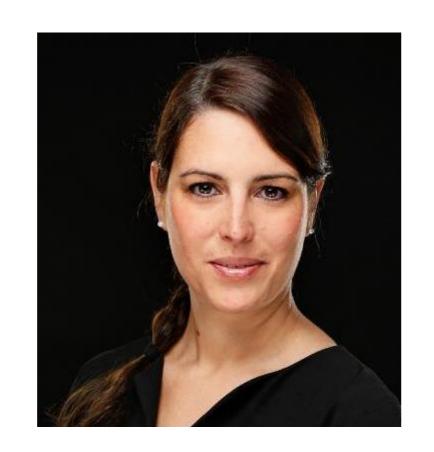


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### Research Problem

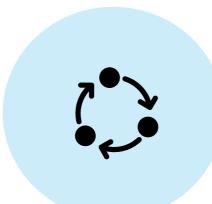
- German PropTech market is growing, but not booming in terms of revenues
- Lack of systematic approaches to transparency in key market characteristics and figures of the German PropTech sector
- Majority of available surveys and studies on digital transformation and digitalization analyses view of the traditional real estate sector
- Very little literature available, only from other industries
- PropTechs' perspectives and their challenges are under-represented





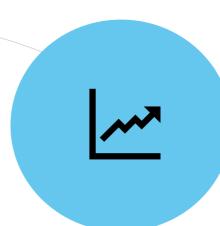


### Aims of the Survey



### **PropTechs in the real estate life cycle**

Where do PropTechs enter the market?



### **View on market situation and Corona effect**

Sentiment indicator and effects of Corona

>>> Identify key characteristics

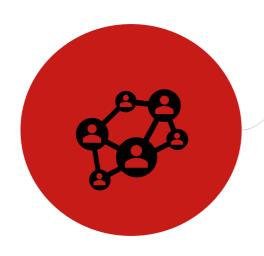
and challenges of PropTechs

in the German real estate market <<<



### **Challenges**

What are PropTechs' biggest challenges in the real estate market?



### Cooperations

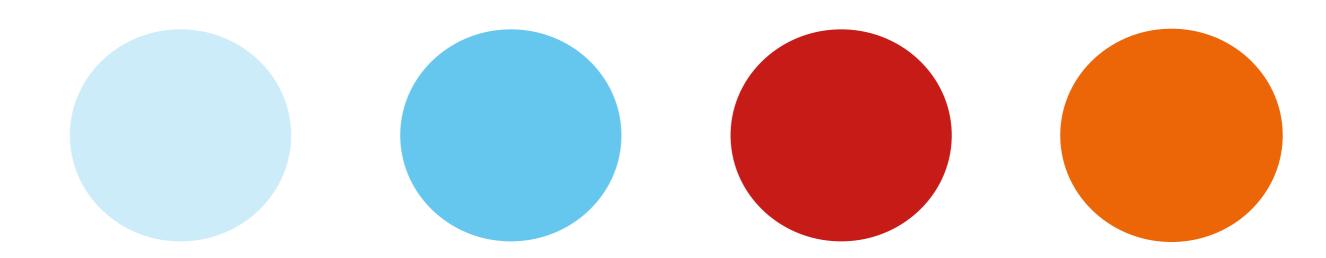
Which importance is attached to cooperations in the PropTech and real estate market?







### Methodology



- Using two PropTech surveys from 2020 (explorative, interview-based) and 2021 (descriptive, questionnaire-based with 185 PropTech respondents), PropTechs are classified by their degree of maturity.
- Applying factor analysis, we identify major challenges for these PropTech clusters throughout their sales cycle, when faced with the real estate industry as customer.
- Further, using factor analysis, we will elaborate on drivers of horizontal and vertical cooperations between PropTechs and traditional real estate companies.



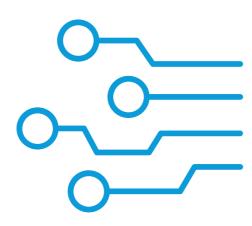




### Key Facts



4 years
Average maturity
of PropTechs



Plattforms
Pre-dominant
PropTechTechnology Pattern



4,3
No. of asset classes
PropTechs deal with



72%
Intensity of
cooperations in
PropTech market



Operating department
...the "Establishment's"
influencer



CEO
The "Establishment's"
decision maker



185
No. of participating
PropTechs





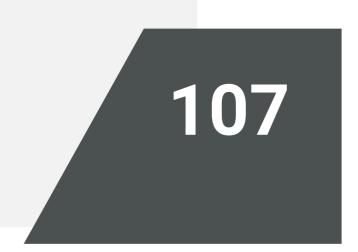


### Cluster Overview



### **Grown Ups**

Founding year 2017 or older
Founding year 2018 or 2019 + product status "in operation" or launch before 2020





### **Early Stager**

Founding year 2020 or younger Founding year 2018 or 2019 + product status development, MVP or launch from 2020+





### Conquerer

PropTech with foreign headquarter

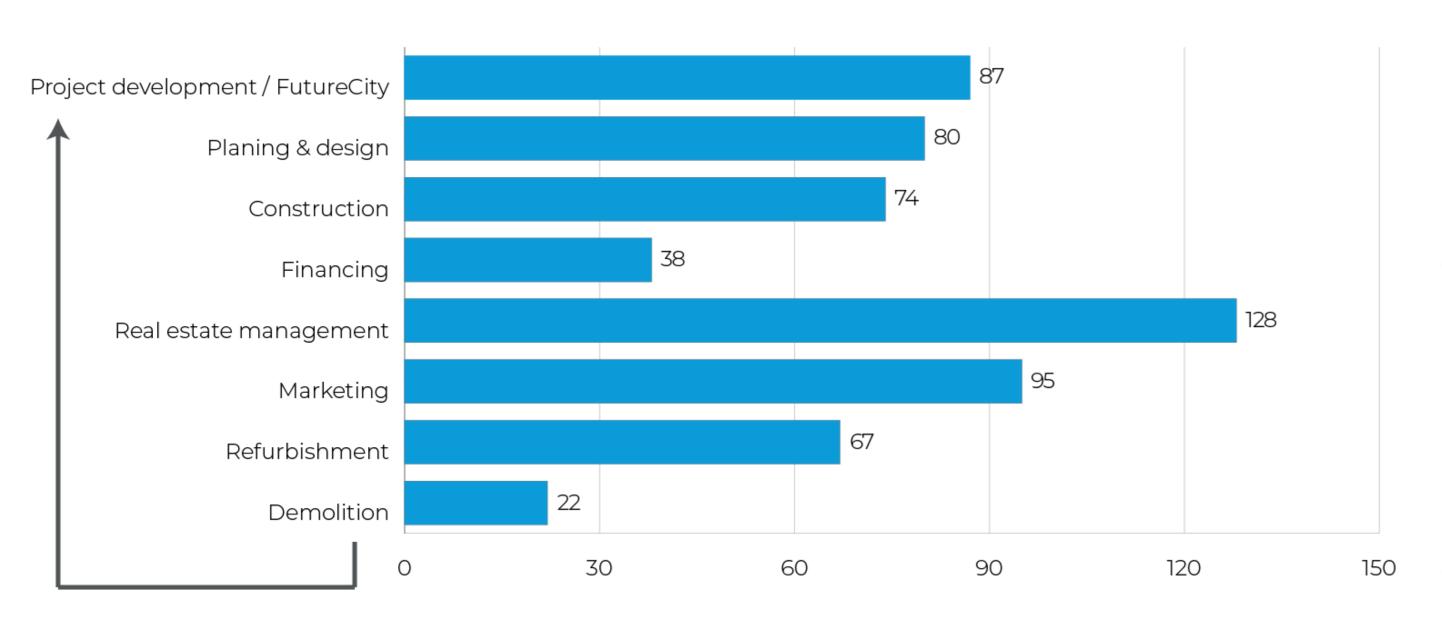








### PropTechs in the Real Estate Life Cycle





### Ca. 70% are in "real estate management"

This phase consists of Asset-, Property- und Facility-Management as well as Smart Building and Service-Apps



#### Financing achieves highest PropTech turnover

15,8% of PropTechs in Financing have achieved turnover of 2 Mio. € + in 2020



### **Strong focus on residential**

More than 76% of all PropTechs offer solutions for residential property







### Sentiment indicator and Corona effect





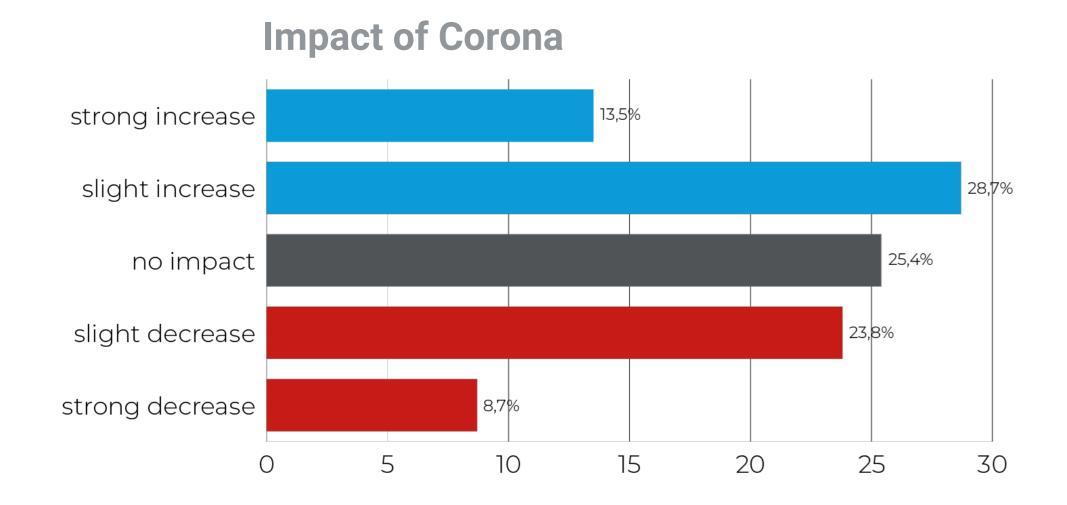
#### 2020 was a successful PropTech business year

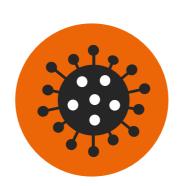
Majority of 71% have reported "more new business" in 2020



#### PropTechs with optimism for their future

More than 91% of PropTechs expect more new business – also through Corona effect





### **Effect of Corona mainly positive**

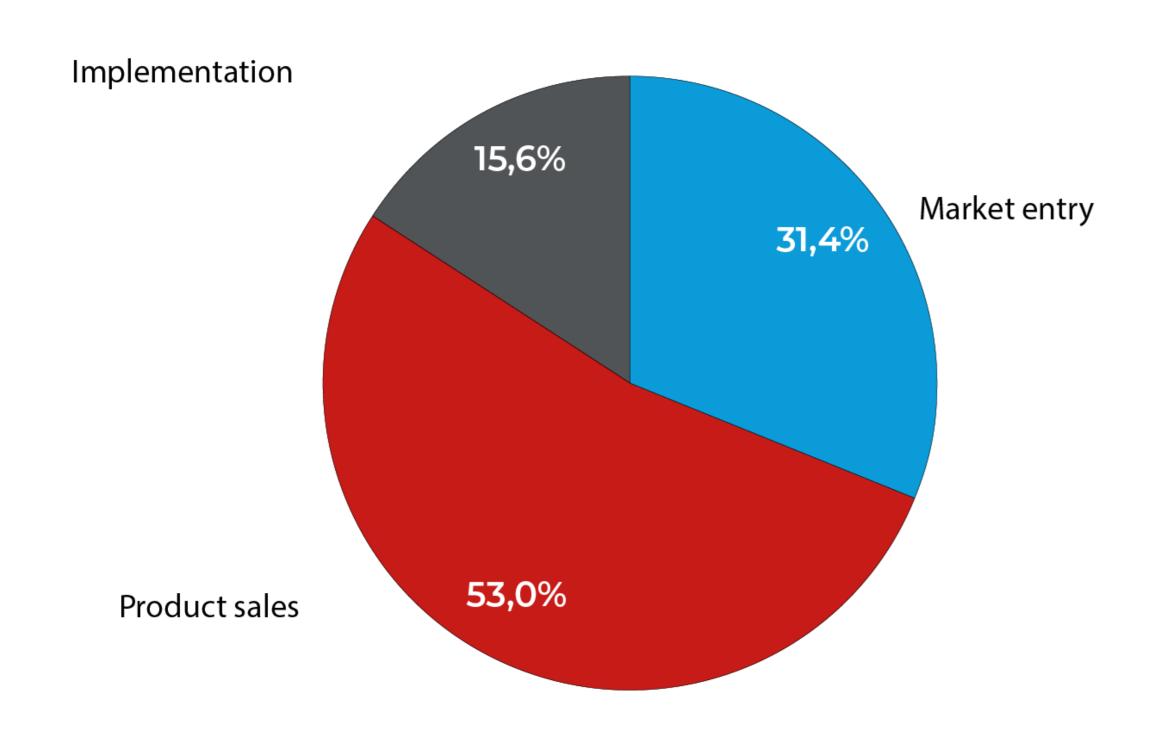
1/4 reports "no effect" to their own business, 1/3 reports a decline, more than 42% report an increase







### Challenges for PropTechs





#### Market entry

Biggest challenge (83,8%): decision making structures in real estate companies



#### Product sales is most challenging phase

Biggest challenge: Establishment's low risk tolerance



### Implementation without any surprise

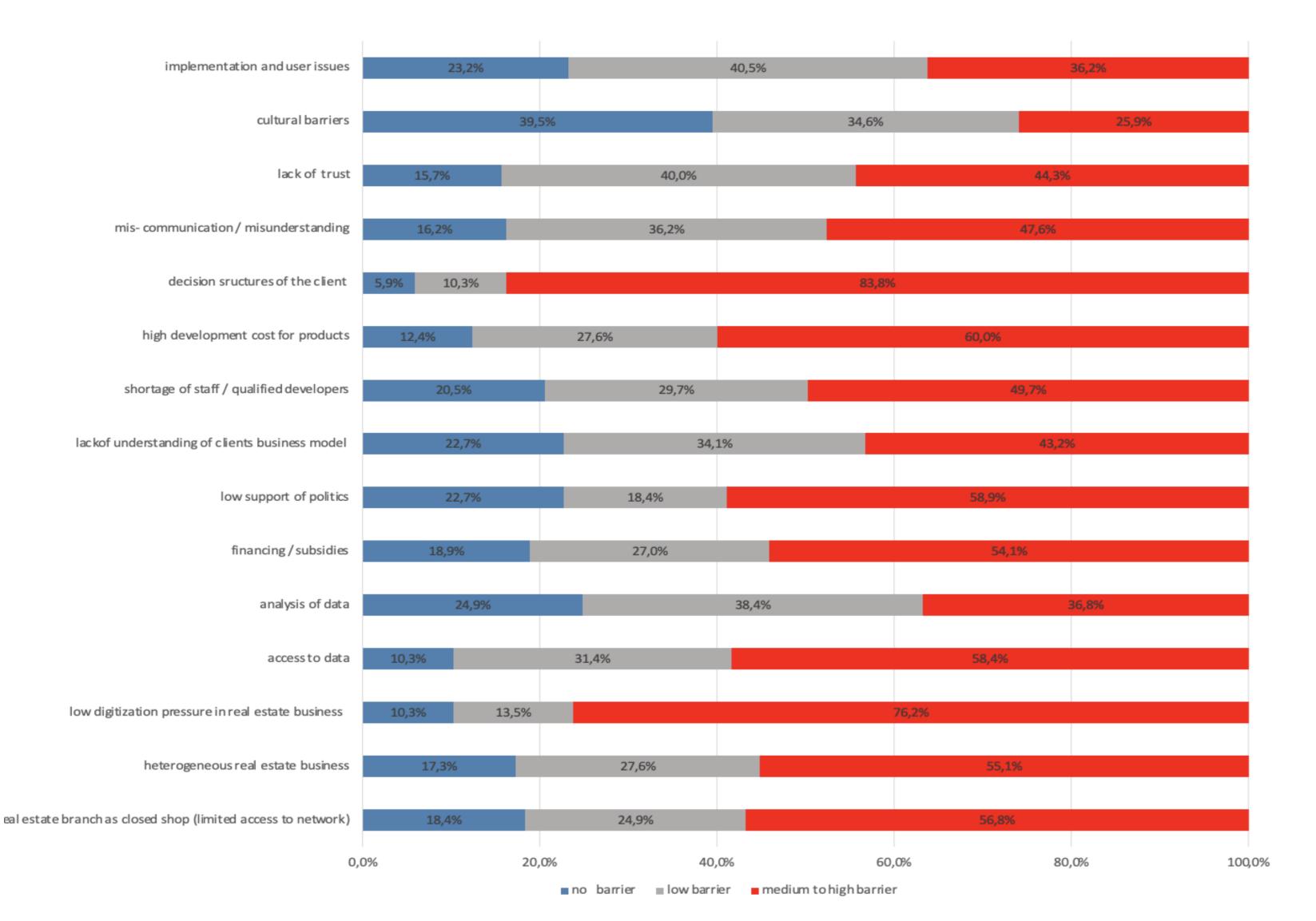
Biggest problem: no business priority







## Sales challenges for PropTechs Barriers in building up the business model









## Sales challenges for PropTechs Barriers in selling PropTech solutions

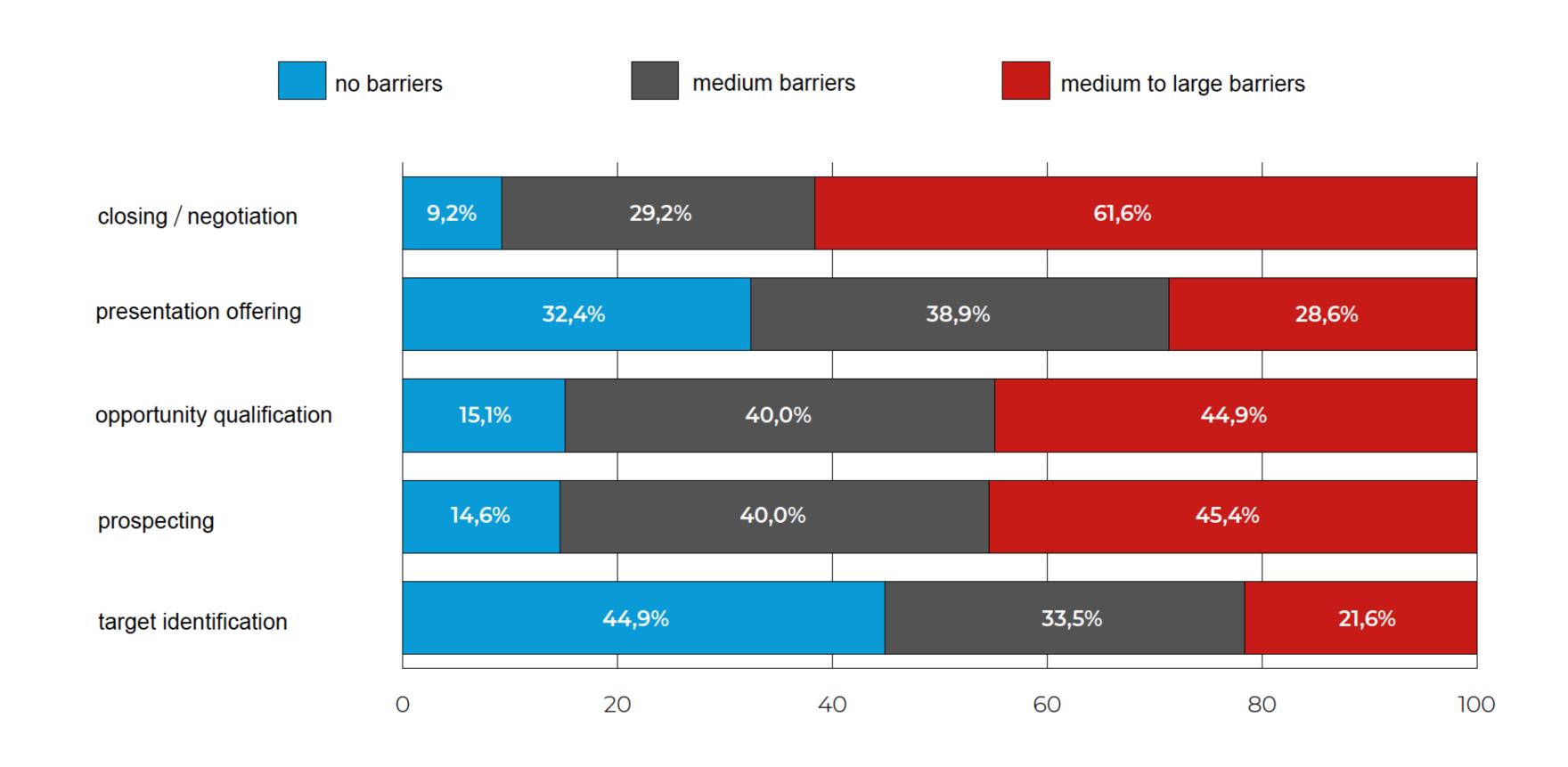
ers in the sales process of proptechs per cluster Ranking				
a	II	Early Stager	Grown Ups	Conquerer
low risk awareness of the establishment	1	1	1	2
insufficient awareness of the company / solution	3	2	2	3
difficult access to the right contact person	2	3	4	1
lack of technical understanding of the establishment	4	4	3	5
missing network	7	5	7	3
lack of trust in proptech solutions of the establishment	5	6	5	4
data privacy conerns of the establishment	11	6	10	10
insufficient knowledge of the benefits occuring after a successful implementation	6	7	6	6
missing knowledge of the proptechs regarding the calue chain and business processes of the establishn	8	8	8	8
to high / unrealistic expectations of the establishment	10	9	7	9
missing trust of the establishment into proptech solutions	9	10	9	7







### Sales challenges for PropTechs Barriers in the sales process



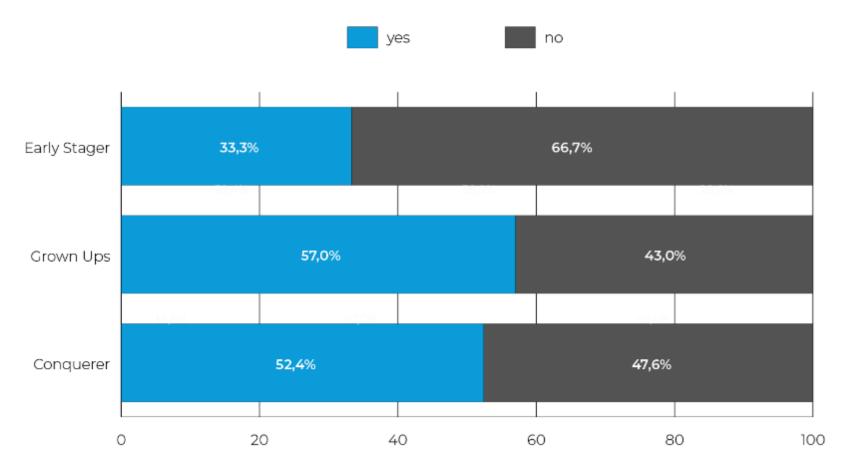




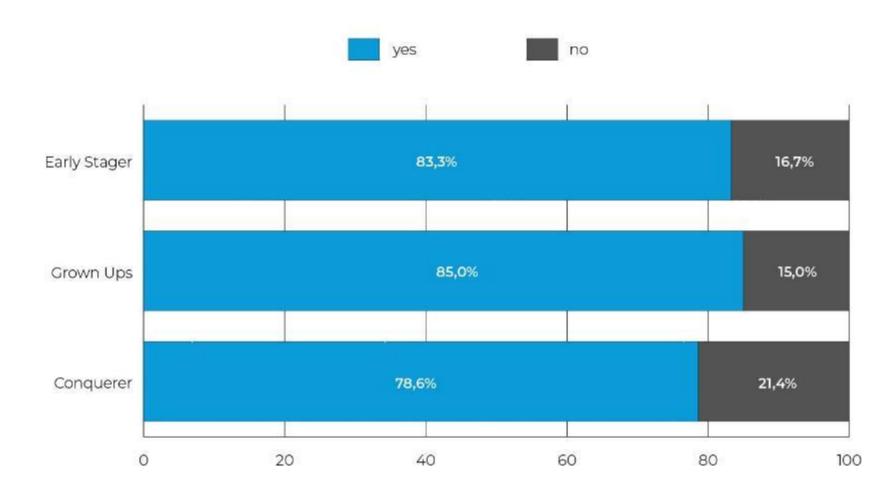


### Cooperation among PropTechs

#### **Current cooperations between PropTechs**



#### Planned future cooperations between PropTechs





#### Cooperation playing a decisive role

roughly 80% of all PropTechs do have cooperations in place



#### Most cooperation is of technical origin

PropTechs mainly cooperate on a technical or process-oriented level



### **Cooperation with Establishment planned**

More than 81% of all PropTechs wish to cooperate with the establishment







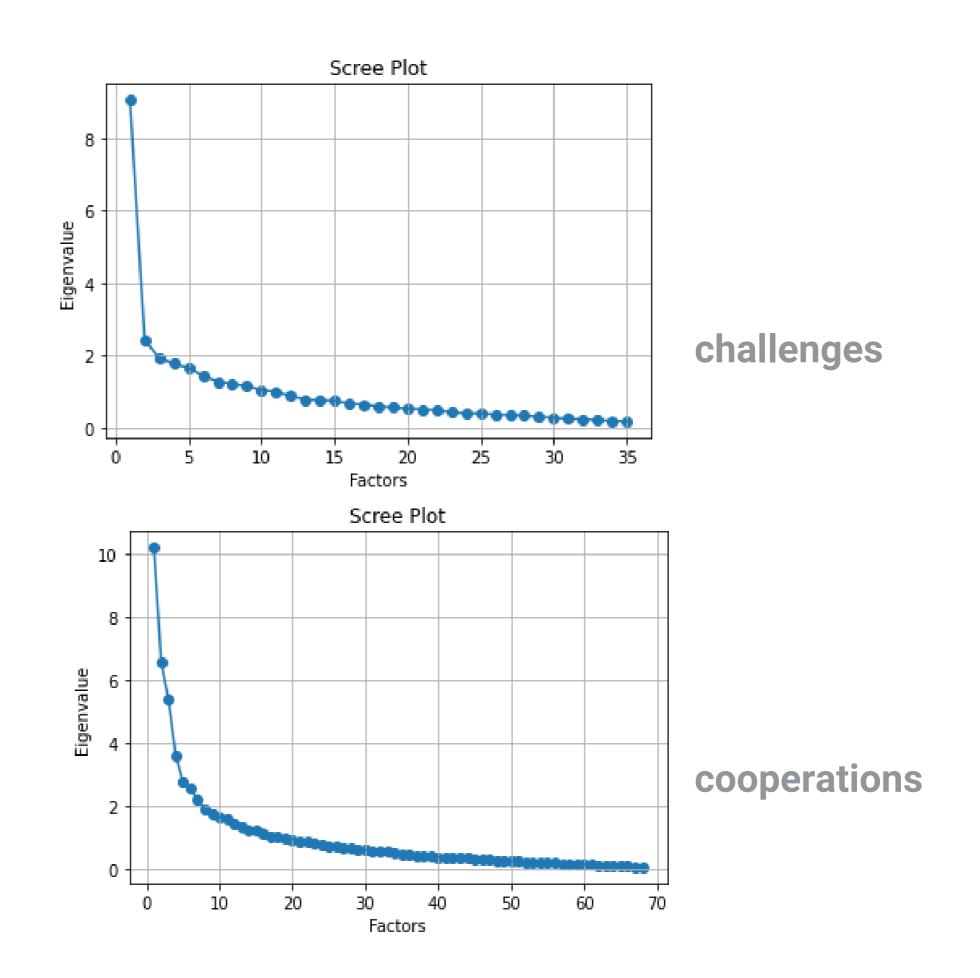
## Exploratory Factor Analysis of PropTech Challenges and Cooperation

### Fit of Data for Analysis

- Bartlett Sphericity Test and Kaiser-Meyer-Olkin (KMO) Test to determine if the data could be analyzed for factors
- Dataset passed these tests >> exploratory factor analysis
- Two separate factor analysis on challenges and cooperation answers

#### **Number of Factors**

- Using scree plots of the Factors to determine the number of factors for each set of answers.
- Challenges: 10 factors
- Cooperations: 8 factors









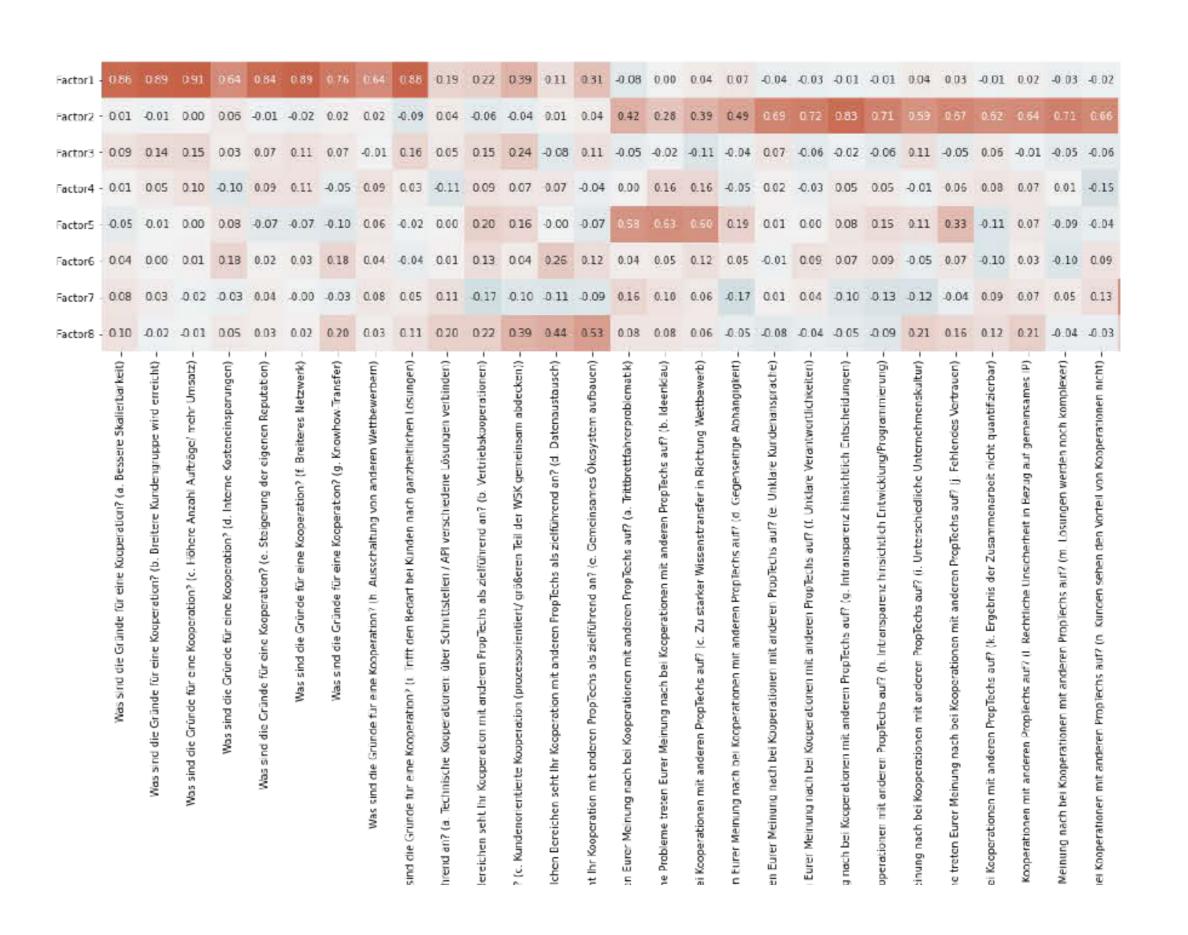
## Exploratory Factor Analysis of PropTech Challenges and Cooperation

### **Factor Analysis**

We applied minimal residual factor analysis with verimax- rotation.

### **Factor Loading Matrices**

We analysed the resulting factor loading matricies from both datasets and came up with the possible estimate what these factors might be.









## Exploratory Factor Analysis of PropTech challenges and cooperation

Challenges for PropTechs					
Phase	Factor	Description			
building of the business model	5	lack of trust / cultural barriers (communication problems)			
building of the business model	6	finance & regulations			
building of the business model/ sales approach	7	missing understanding of the client			
building of the business model	8	insufficient data			
building of the business model	9	wrong priorities / underestimation of digitization needs of real estate branch or sector?			
building of the business model	10	no access into real estate branch			
sales approach	2	missing network			
sales approach	3	risk awareness of real estate branch / lack of trust			
implementation phase	1	bad organization / lack of skills			
implementation phase	10	problems in the project			







## Exploratory Factor Analysis of PropTech challenges and cooperation

### **Cooperation of PropTechs**

Phase	Factor	Description
reasons for cooperation	1	growth aspirations with holistic solutions
reasons for cooperation with other proptechs	8	Ecosystem
present benefits in cooperation between proptechs and establishment	3	access to new markets & customers
future benefits in cooperation between proptechs and establishment	4	access to new channels, customers & revenue growth
future benefits in cooperation between proptechs and establishment	6	synergies regarding R&D
problems in cooperation among proptechs	5	lack of trust regarding IP
problems in cooperation among proptechs	2	Accountability issues

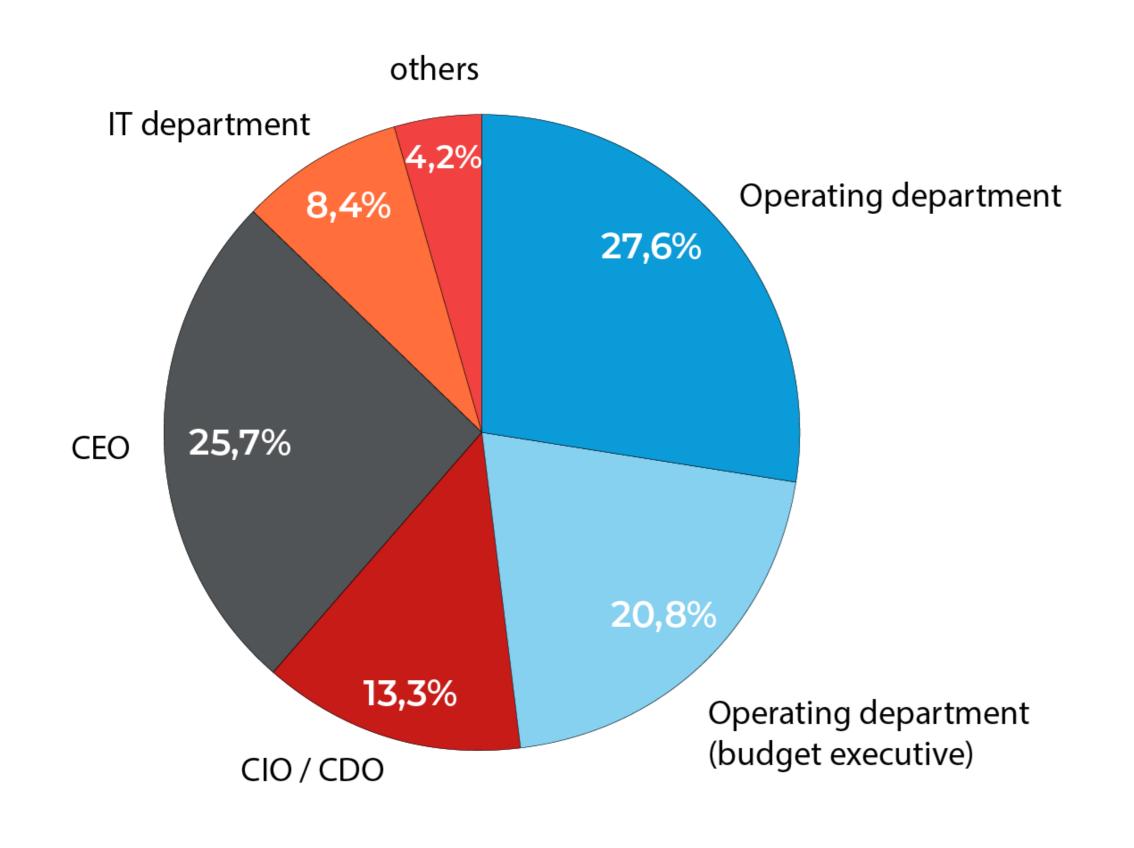






### Influencers and Decision Makers

#### Influencers





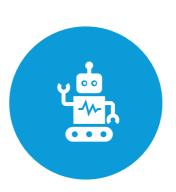
### Operating department as Top Influencer

Team leaders of operating departmens are biggest influencers



#### CEO as main decision maker

.....enabling PropTech to be contracted. For conquerers, CDO plays a major role



### IT department without any impact

IT departments seem to be irrelevant as influencers and decision makers







### Summary



PropTechs in the German real estate market are in different stages of their business maturity



Overall, Corona seems to reinforce the positive development of the PropTech market



Main challenges are decision-making structures, business priorities and risk-trust considerations



Main market entry pathway for PropTechs is via vertical and horizontal cooperations



Positive momentum in terms of sentiment in the German PropTech market



Expecting CDO to gain more decision-making power to reach dissemination of PropTech decision from strategic to operating level





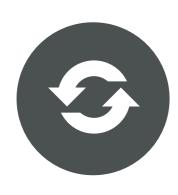


### Outlook



### **Establishment and VC survey**

Clustered survey in Q2 2021



### **Annual recurrence of PropTech Survey**

Identifying trends and patterns, time series









## Q+A





