

MANAGEMENT INFORMATION SYSTEMS ISSUES: CO-CITATION ANALYSIS OF JOURNAL ARTICLES

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ABSTRACT

This study aimed to analyze and identify key issues being studied in leading Management Information Systems (MIS) journals collected in an ISI database. With the help of co-citation analysis and factor analysis, thirteen core issues were identified, including: (1) Technology Acceptance; (2) Information Technology (IT), Organization Performance, and Competitive Advantage; (3) IT and Organizational Structure; (4) Case Study and Methodology Issues; (5) Trust Issues in IT; (6) Knowledge Management; (7) Measurement Issues in MIS study; (8) Diffusion of Innovation; (9) Success Factors of IT; (10) Research Modeling and Approach; (11) Theory, Research and Practice; (12) MIS as an academic discipline; and (13) Enterprise Information Systems. These results can help MIS researchers and practitioners gain a better awareness of core and significant issues being studied in the field.

Keywords: MIS, Management Information Systems, Key Issues, Co-Citation

1. INTRODUCTION

Information technology (IT) has changed every aspect of life, from an individual level, to a societal level, and in fact for the whole world. Advanced technology and services, such as open source software and cloud computing, bring new possibility to the IT industry, and certainly create impact on our lives. Since the 1980s, the Society for Information Management (SIM) has surveyed practitioners and researchers in IT and Information Systems (IS) fields, so as to understand the most significant issues in the field, the ranking of such issues, and to elucidate agreement regarding issues/ranking among participants¹. This periodic survey and the results have become an important reference to MIS researchers everywhere and are consulted when considering investigations in the field, or for a comparison to local issues being considered.

As the world relies increasingly on various information systems and technology, key MIS issues have also become more vital when businesses are trying to leverage IT for a business advantage. Likewise, researchers need to consider which issues to select for research and which are more meaningful to the field. However, as the trends are continuously changing, core issues and ranking need to be updated regularly to stay current. Therefore, this study addresses this need by answering the following research questions:

1. What major papers are co-cited in leading academic journals?
2. What are key MIS issues in leading academic journals?

To determine core issues that are being addressed in academia, one must go through a large number of journals to extract information on what topics are most significant. With the sheer volumes of articles involved, the task becomes non-trivial; great effort and time are needed. The approach taken by this study is, after collecting and summarizing articles from leading journals, to analyze them with co-citation analysis to automatically identify the central issues being looked at among researchers. The goal of this study, hence, is to summarize key topics covered by researchers as presented in MIS journals in a timely manner. The journals included in this study are the European Journal of Information Systems (EJIS), Information Systems Journal (ISJ), Information Systems Research (ISR), Journal of Information Technology (JIT), Journal of Management Information Systems (JMIS), Journal of Strategic Information Systems (JSIS), Journal of the Association for Information Systems (JAIS), and MIS Quarterly (MISQ). Additional details on the summarizing process and analysis will be presented in later sections.

2. LITERATURE REVIEW

2.1 MIS Key Issues

Despite the advances in IT, the story does not always end happily when companies adopt new information technology. This results in a high interest in the factors affecting successful introduction of IT. Moreover, companies large and small are interested in learning about current topics in technology and related managerial issues to better leverage IT in an organization². Key issues in MIS, therefore, appeal to a wide audience and related study began to emerge during the 1980s. Ball and Harris³ were among the first to conduct a survey on this topic. They asked 417 members of SIM to rank 18 MIS-related issues. Dickson et al.¹, based on the results of Ball and Harris, conducted a four-round Delphi survey on 52 SIM members to determine the most significant issues being looked at over the previous 5 to 10 years. Niederman et al.⁴ also surveyed 241 SIM members with a three-round Delphi approach. The issues and ranking were provided along with the trend analysis on the issues. Two trends were proposed as likely in the 1990s: (1) Technology infrastructure related topics were more significant; and (2) Efficiency in organizations would find favor again among business.

Palvia et al.⁵ took a different approach in developing key issues by collecting and summarizing articles from seven leading research journals. A total of 630 articles from January 1989 to June 1993 were analyzed with the following findings: (1) A new issue (Expert Systems) was found in numerous articles, though it was not in the list of Niederman et al.⁴; and (2) Executive/Decision Support Systems, Software Development, and Telecommunications Systems appeared in most articles, so they were ranked the highest in the list. Luftman and Kempaiah⁶ did a survey with 112 organization members of SIM and asked participants to rank 38 managerial and 65 technology issues. A similar survey was conducted and reported by Luftman and Ben-Zvi⁷ in a 2010 issue of *MIS Quarterly Executive*. This time 172 SIM members participated to rank 39 management and 52 technology issues. As discussed, survey was the main approach to collect and rank key issues. Palvia et al.⁵, however, tried to gather conclusions from analyzing academic journals. Issues found in this way were thus more research-oriented, and also indicated possible direction of trends, as research journals sometimes covers topics before they are actually applied in practice. Hence, identifying the issues that are being covered in journals can help researchers, and practitioners alike, to be aware of new topics and how to allocate resources for future study.

2.2 Co-citation Analysis

Small⁸ was one of the first, after Kessler's⁹ bibliographic coupling, to propose the idea of co-citation. This approach aims to collect core knowledge structure embedded in research papers by looking at how the same pairs of articles are cited by other articles. Scholars generally agree upon the benefits of co-citation analysis as it is able to reveal the knowledge structure of a research field, along with trend hidden in the published research^{10,11}. Several levels of co-citation analysis exist and the most often are seen as document, author, and journal co-citation analysis. Small⁸ took a document co-citation approach to study papers in particle physics and found that co-citation should be interpreted with both subject similarity and association of ideas. White and Griffith¹², based on the idea of Small⁸, suggested author co-citation analysis approach that analyzes how the same pairs of authors were cited together. McCain¹³ later proposed journal co-citation to study the structure of an academic field. Other researchers had done co-citation work with the Social Sciences Citation Index (SSCI) and Science Citation Index (SCI) from ISI, or similar indexes from other databases. Some of the studies tried to find a threshold of citation number to filter articles with higher contribution, and to find clusters of core issues with trend (for example, see Schildt et al.¹⁴, Tight¹⁵). With the assistance of factor analysis, co-citation analysis is able to help new researchers in a field to more quickly and qualitatively understand the knowledge context and important papers of the field^{16,17,18}.

3. METHODS

The main methods used for analysis in this study originated from bibliometrics, which is "the application of mathematics and statistical methods to books and other media of communication"¹⁹. Among methods in bibliometrics, citation analysis analyzes relationships between citing and cited works²⁰. Highly cited papers are generally regarded as significant in a related academic field. Although pioneers such as Price²¹ tried to use citation analysis to examine the internal structure of knowledge within a specific discipline, it was later found that co-citation analysis may be a better tool. Since the purpose of this study is to find core issues and knowledge in the MIS field, co-citation analysis was chosen as the primary analysis method.

Co-citation analysis calculates and analyzes the number of times that two articles are cited together by a third article, to show the relationship between the cited pair. For example, if paper A and B are both cited in a later paper I, A and B can be thought of as relating to each other in terms of subject matter. A co-citation index of 1 (one) then can be assigned to this

pair A and B. If A and B are also cited in paper II, their index becomes 2 (two). The larger the index number of a pair, the stronger the relationship between the pair. By comparing the cited paper pairs of source articles, an index can be created and analyzed, as shown in Figure 3-1.

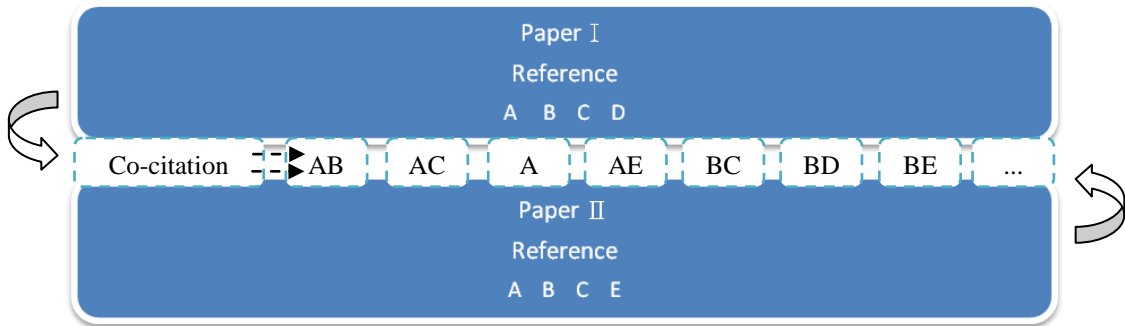


Figure 3-1. Co-citation relationship

With co-citation analysis, the hidden relationship between research papers can be found. Specifically, clusters formed by highly co-cited papers reveal the structure of the academic discipline, along with significant issues. Small and Griffith²² provided questions that could be answered by co-citation analysis, including: (1) What is the natural structure of science? (2) What is the relationship between the units of structure? (3) What causes the relationship? (4) How does the structure change over time?

Co-citation analysis, when combined with factor analysis, provides a way to reveal internal relationship among cited pairs of papers. Factor analysis is able to summarize and simplify data with fewer variables, so it is chosen in this study to examine the possible factors/issues behind observed clusters of papers. According to McCain²³, factor loading greater than 0.7/-0.7 has a better interpreting power. This study, accordingly, adopted this criterion in examining factor loading.

The eight journals selected, namely EJIS, ISJ, ISR, JIT, JMIS, JSIS, JAIS, MISQ, are the “basket” leading journals²⁴ from Senior Scholar Consortium of Association for Information Systems (AIS). The journals are recognized as top journals in MIS field, with variety in topics, methods and geography focus. These journals are good representation of the MIS discipline, so they present nice starting point for co-citation analysis. Papers from these eight journals during the period of 1996-2010 were selected as citing papers. However, for co-cited papers, only highly cited papers were chosen, as these papers may better represent shared concern and focus of a discipline.

4. RESULTS

This section presents the results of analysis based on co-citation analysis and factor analysis.

4.1 Co-citation Analysis

As mentioned, articles from eight leading MIS journals were analyzed. The threshold of citation was set to 47; that is, to be included for later co-citation analysis, papers must be cited at least 47 times in those journals. A total of 118 papers were selected according to this criterion. Please see Table 4-1 for these highly co-cited papers.

Table 4-1. Highly co-cited papers in eight leading MIS journals

No	Author(Year)	Journal
1	Davis(1989)	MIS Quarterly
2	Fornell and Larcker(1981)	Journal of Marketing Research
3	Eisenhardt(1989)	Academy Of Management Review
4	Davis et al.(1989)	Management Science
5	DeLoneabd McLean (1992)	Information Systems Research
6	Klein and Myers(1999)	MIS Quarterly
7	Venkatesh et al.(2003)	MIS Quarterly
8	Moore and Benbasat(1991)	Information Systems Research
9	Desanctis and Poole(1994)	Organization Science
10	Malone et al.(1987)	Communications Of The ACM
11	Orlikowski and Baroudi(1991)	Information Systems Research
12	Taylor and Todd(1995)	Information Systems Research
13	Orlikowski and Iacono(2001)	Information Systems Research
14	Benbasat et al.(1987)	MIS Quarterly
15	Walsham(1995)	European Journal of Information Systems
16	Barney(1991)	Journal of Management
17	Markus et al(1983)	Communications of the ACM
18	Venkatesh and Davis(2000)	Management science
19	Orlikowski(1992)	Organization Science
20	Cohen and Levinthal(1990)	Administrative Science Quarterly
21	Orlikowski(1993)	MIS Quarterly
22	Daft and Lengel(1986)	Management Science
23	Podsakoff et al.(2003)	Journal of applied psychology
24	Bharadwaj(2000)	MIS Quarterly
25	Porter and Millar(1985)	Harvard business review
26	Anderson et al.(1988)	Psychological Bulletin
27	Goodhue and Thompson(1995)	MIS Quarterly
28	Hevner et al.(2004)	MIS Quarterly
29	Ajzen(1991)	Organizational behavior and human decision processes
30	Gefen et al.(2003)	MIS Quarterly
31	Mata et al.(1995)	MIS Quarterly
32	Alavi and Leidner(2001)	MIS Quarterly
33	Karahanna et al.(1999)	MIS Quarterly
34	Mayer et al.(1995)	The Academy of Management Review
35	Straub(1989)	MIS Quarterly
36	Baron and Kenny(1986)	Journal of Personality and Social Psychology
37	Teece et al.(1997)	Strategic management journal

Table 4-1. Highly co-cited papers in eight leading MIS journals (Cont.)

No	Author(Year)	Journal
38	Orlikowski(2000)	Organization science
39	Markus and Robey(1988)	Management Science
40	Nonaka(1994)	Organization Science
41	Compeau and Higgins(1995)	MIS Quarterly
42	Chin and Newsted(2003)	Information systems research
43	Benbasat and Zmud(2003)	MIS Quarterly
44	Cooper and Zmud(1990)	Management Science
45	DeLone and McLean(2003)	Journal of management information systems
46	Barua et a.(1995)	Information Systems Research
47	McKnight et al.(2002)	Information Systems Research
48	Sambamurthy et al.(2003)	MIS Quarterly
49	Orlikowski(1996)	Information Systems Research
50	Barclay et al(1995)	Technology studies
51	Ross et al.(1996)	Sloan management review
52	Brynjolfsson and Hitt(1996)	Management science
53	Podsakoff and Organ(1986)	Journal of Management
54	Venkatesh(2000)	Information Systems Research
55	Venkatesh and Morris(2000)	MIS Quarterly
56	Swanson(1994)	Management Science
57	Armstrong and Overton(1977)	Journal of Marketing Research
58	Davenport(1998)	Harvard business review
59	Agarwal and Karahanna(2000)	MIS Quarterly
60	Churchill(1979)	Journal of Marketing Research
61	Grant(1996)	Strategic management journal
62	Robey et al.(2002)	Journal of management information systems
63	Brown and Duguid(1991)	Organization Science
64	Orlikowski and Robey(1991)	Information systems research
65	Clemons et al.(1993)	Journal of Management Information Systems
66	DiMaggio and Powell(1983)	American Sociological Review
67	Ives et al.(1983)	Communications of the ACM
68	Henderson and Venkatraman(1993)	IBM Systems Journal
69	Wernerfelt(1984)	Strategic Management Journal
70	Jarvenpaa and Leidner(1999)	Organization science
71	Benbasat and Zmud(1999)	MIS Quarterly
72	Mcknight et al.(1998)	Academy of management review
73	Gefen and Straub(1997)	MIS Quarterly
74	Mathieson(1991)	Information Systems Research
75	Mukhopadhyay et al.(1995)	MIS Quarterly
76	Iacovou et al.(1995)	MIS Quarterly
77	Hirschheim and Klein(1989)	Communications of the ACM
78	Eisenhardt and Martin(2000)	Strategic management journal
79	Lyytinen(1987)	Oxford surveys in evolutionary biology
80	Nunamaker et al.(1991)	Communications of the ACM
81	Pavlou and Gefen(2004)	Information Systems Research
82	Majchrzak et al.(2000)	MIS Quarterly
83	Powell and DentMicallef(1997)	Strategic management journal
84	Armstrong and Sambamurthy(1977)	Information Systems Research
85	Adams et al.(1992)	MIS Quarterly
86	Bailey and Pearson(1983)	Management Science
87	Melville et al.(2004)	MIS Quarterly
88	Hartwick and Barki(1994)	Management Science

Table 4-1. Highly co-cited papers in eight leading MIS journals (Cont.)

No	Author(Year)	Journal
89	Kogut and Zander(1992)	Organization Science
90	Attewell(1992)	Organization Science
91	Orlikowski and Gash(1994)	ACM Transactions on Information Systems
92	Curtis et al.(1988)	Communications of the ACM
93	Prahalad and Hamel(1990)	Harvard Business Review
94	Walsham(1995)	Information Systems Research
95	Lee(1989)	MIS Quarterly
96	Robey et al.(1999)	Information Systems Research
97	Fornell and Bookstein(1982)	Journal of Marketing Research
98	Gefen et al.(2000)	Communications of the Association for Information Systems
99	Straub et al.(1995)	Management Science
100	Bagozzi et al.(1991)	Administrative Science Quarterly
101	DeSanctis and Gallupe(1987)	Management Science
102	Ngwenyama and Lee(1997)	MIS Quarterly
103	Koufaris(2002)	Information Systems Research
104	Ba and Pavlou(2002)	MIS Quarterly
105	Carr(2003)	Harvard business review
106	Chin(1998)	MIS Quarterly
107	Tornatzky and Klein(1982)	IEEE Transactions on Engineering Management
108	Weill(1992)	Information Systems Research
109	Lacity and Willcocks(1998)	MIS Quarterly
110	Campbell and Fiske(1959)	Psychological Bulletin
111	Earl(1993)	MIS Quarterly
112	Barley(1986)	Administrative Science Quarterly
113	Wade and Hulland(2004)	MIS Quarterly
114	Jarvis et al.(2003)	Journal of consumer research
115	Grant(1996)	Organization science
116	Seddon(1997)	Information Systems Research
117	Granovetter(1985)	The American Journal of Sociology
118	Lee(1991)	Organization Science

A co-citation matrix of 118 by 118 was created to show the co-citation numbers between these paper pairs. The first row and column (headings) are the codes for papers, from 1 to 118, to be used in factor analysis. Each cell in the matrix indicates the number of co-citation by the two papers of the intercepting row and column headings. The matrix, hence, is a symmetric matrix, in addition to a square matrix. Moreover, the main diagonal cells are set to be the largest co-citation number of the corresponding paper²⁵.

4.2 Factor Analysis

With the co-citation matrix, principle component analysis and varimax rotation were applied to perform factor analysis on selected papers¹⁸. With SPSS 19, 17 factors were found to have a combined 88.22% of variance explained. Among the 17 factors, 4 factors have few numbers of papers with diverse topics, so the 4 factors are not included in the discussion here. Please see Table 4-2 for the 13 factors, papers, and percentage of variance

explained. Central concept within each concept was decided through content analysis of the abstracts. Those main concepts of the 13 factors are: (1) Technology Acceptance; (2) IT, Organization Performance, and Competitive Advantage; (3) IT and Organizational Structure; (4) Case Study and Methodology Issues; (5) Trust Issues in IT; (6) Knowledge Management; (7) Measurement Issues in MIS study; (8) Diffusion of Innovation; (9) Success Factors of IT; (10) Research Modeling and Approach; (11) Theory, Research and Practice; (12) MIS as an academic discipline; and (13) Enterprise Information Systems.

5. DISCUSSION

The main approach of this study was citation analysis, as highly-cited articles generally represent significant ideas, methods or progress in various research fields²⁶. To better explore the structure of the MIS discipline, co-citation analysis was used to discover the hidden connections among research papers from leading MIS journals. Factor analysis was also done to find MIS key issues.

The results of factor analysis identified thirteen factors (key issues). The first factor was labeled “Technology Acceptance.” Papers in this factor were mostly about TAM (Technology Acceptance Model), including the model’s various applications and extensions (see Table 4-2, for example: Venkatesh and Davis²⁷, Straub and Limayem²⁸, Bailey and Pearson²⁹, Mayer et al.³⁰, Chin et al.³¹, DeSanctis and Poole³², Davis³³, Karahanna et al.³⁴, Venkatesh³⁵, Venkatesh et al.³⁶). The second factor was “IT, Organization Performance, and Competitive Advantage,” (see Table 4-2, for examples, Bharadwaj³⁷, Carr³⁸, Porter and Millar², Barua et al.³⁹, Orlikowski⁴⁰, Grant⁴¹, Markus⁴², Porter and Millar², Carr³⁸).

The third factor was “IT and Organization Structure.” The topic of this factor centered on the interaction between IT and organization (see Table 4-2, for examples, Orlikowski⁴³, Robey and Boudreau⁴⁴, and Orlikowski⁴⁵). The fourth factor was, “Case Study and Methodology Issues (see Table 4-2, for examples, Lee⁴⁶, Walsham⁴⁷, Kuhn⁴⁸). The fifth factor was labeled “Trust Issues in IT” (see Table 4-2, for examples, Gefen et al.⁴⁹, and McKnight et al.⁵⁰). The sixth factor was “Knowledge Management” (see Table 4-2, for examples, Robey et al.⁵¹, Nonaka⁵²). The seventh factor was “Measurement Issues in Research” and was similar to the case study issue in that it focuses on methodological issues in MIS study (see Table 4-2, for examples, Armstrong and Overton⁵³, Anderson and Gerbing⁵⁴). The eighth factor was “Diffusion of Innovation,” and is about the role and sustained impact of IT in organizations (see Table 4-2, for examples, Cooper and Zmud⁵⁵, Tornatzky and Klein⁵⁶). The ninth factor was “Success Factors of

IT,” as studies here were trying to build a holistic model for IS to succeed (see Table 4-2, for examples, DeLone and McLean^{57, 58}, and Melville et al.⁵⁹). The tenth factor was “Research Modeling and Approach,” covers some mixed topics about research; from approach⁶⁰ to the way a construct is modeled⁶¹. The eleventh factor was “Theory, Research and Practice,” and included papers introducing different theories and suggestion on how to bridge the gap between research and practice (see Table 4-2). The twelfth factor was “MIS as an academic discipline,” and came with two papers discussing core identity and IT definition of the MIS field (see Table 4-2, for examples, Benbasat and Zmud⁶²; Orlikowski and Iacono⁶³). The thirteenth and last factor was “Enterprise Information Systems.” These papers discussed the balance between system and organization⁶⁴ and a combined subjectivity/objectivity view for looking into IT in organization⁶⁵.

Table 4-2. Factor analysis

Factor	Main Concept	Major source document	Eigen values	Percent of variance explained	Sum of Percent of variance explained
Factor 1	Technology Acceptance	Davis et al. (1989) Venkatesh and Davis (2000) Taylor and Todd (1995) Goodhue and Thompson (1995) Mayer et al. (1995) Compeau and Higgins (1995) Desanctis and Poole (1994) Davis (1989) Gefen and Straub (1997) Venkatesh and Morris (2000) Swanson (1994) Straub et al. (1995) Bailey and Pearson (1983) Agarwal and Karahanna (2000) Kogut and Zander (1992) Mukhopadhyay et al. (1995) Fornell and Larcker (1981) Koufaris (2002) Hevner et al. (2004) Chin and Newsted (2003) Gefen et al. (2000) Barclay et al. (1995) Chin (1998) Podsakoff et al. (2003) Straub (1989) Venkatesh et al. (2003)	29.348	24.871	24.871

Table 4-2. Factor analysis (Cont.)

Factor	Main Concept	Major source document	Eigen values	Percent of variance explained	Sum of Percent of variance explained
Factor 2	IT, Organization Performance, and Competitive Advantage	Alavi and Leidner (2001) Bharadwaj (2000) Markus et al. (1983) Seddon (1997) Armstrong and Sambamurthy (1999) Orlikowski (2000) Brynjolfsson and Hitt (1996) Carr (2003) Grant (1996) Eisenhardt and Martin (2000) Sambamurthy et al. (2003) Hartwick and Barki (1994) Adams et al. (1992) Barua et al. (1995) Porter and Millar (1985) Podsakoff and Organ (1986) Wernerfelt (1984) Prahalad and Hamel (1990) Iacovou et al. (1995) Campbell and Fiske (1959) Markus and Robey (1988) Orlikowski (1992) Grant (1996)	20.285	17.191	42.062
Factor 3	IT and Organizational Structure	DiMaggio and Powell (1983) Malone et al. (1987) Orlikowski (1996) Mata et al. (1995) Robey et al. (1999) Curtis et al. (1988) Powell and DentMicallef (1997) Moore and Benbasat (1991) Lee (1989)	13.017	11.032	53.094
Factor 4	Case Study and Methodology Issues	Jarvenpaa and Leidner (1999) Walsham (1995) Eisenhardt (1989) Benbasat et al. (1987) Daft and Lengel (1986) Lyytinen (1987) Nunamaker et al.(1991) Mathieson (1991)	6.391	5.416	58.510
Factor 5	Trust issues in IT	Ba and Pavlou (2002) Majchrzak et al. (2000) Baron and Kenny (1986) McKnight et al. (2002) Gefen et al. (2003)	5.299	4.491	63.000

Table 4-2. Factor analysis (Cont.)

Factor	Main Concept	Major source document	Eigen values	Percent of variance explained	Sum of Percent of variance explained
Factor 6	Knowledge Management	Nonaka (1994) Karahanna et al. (1999) Robey et al. (2002) Attewell (1992) Clemons et al. (1993) Lee (1991) Cohen and Levinthal (1990) Bagozzi et al. (1991) Churchill (1979) Earl (1993)	4.747	4.023	67.023
Factor 7	Measurement Issues in Research	Armstrong and Overton (1977) Teece et al. (1997) Anderson et al. (1988) Venkatesh (2000) Ross et al. (1996)	3.958	3.355	70.378
Factor 8	Diffusion of Innovation	Orlikowski and Gash (1994) Cooper and Zmud (1990) Hirschheim and Klein (1989) Tornatzky and Klein (1982) Brown and Duguid (1991)	3.684	3.122	73.500
Factor 9	Success Factor of IT	Melville et al. (2004) DeLone and McLean (2003) DeLone and McLean (1992)	3.052	2.587	76.086
Factor 10	Research Modeling and Approach	Orlikowski and Baroudi (1991) Ives et al. (1983) Lacity and Willcocks (1998) Jarvis et al. (2003)	2.623	2.223	78.309
Factor 11	Theory, Research and Practice	Wade and Hulland (2004) Orlikowski (1993) Ngwenyama and Lee (1997) Benbasat and Zmud (1999)	2.361	2.001	80.309
Factor 12	MIS as an academic discipline	Mcknight et al. (1998) Benbasat and Zmud (2003) Orlikowski and Iacono (2001) Ajzen (1991)	1.983	1.681	81.990
Factor 13	Enterprise Information Systems	Davenport (1998) Orlikowski and Robey (1991)	1.819	1.542	83.532

6. CONCLUSION

Firms have been using information technology to improving daily operations and to gain a competitive advantage since the early days of computers. However, it is crucial to understand both the virtues and limitations of IT, especially in a timely manner. Key issues in MIS, such as those provided in this study, serve as a map to help businesses grasp current developments and the distribution of issues being researched within

academia. With this knowledge, firms are better able to allocate resources to leverage IT.

The key issues that are being given attention require regular updates. This paper shows that thirteen key issues were found in current academic periodicals, including (1) Technology Acceptance; (2) IT, Organization Performance, and Competitive Advantage; (3) IT and Organizational Structure; (4) Case Study and Methodology Issues; (5) Trust Issues in IT; (6) Knowledge Management; (7) Measurement Issues in MIS study; (8) Diffusion of Innovation; (9) Success Factors of IT; (10) Research Modeling and Approach; (11) Theory, Research and Practice; (12) MIS as an academic discipline; and (13) Enterprise Information Systems.

The main contributions of this study include: (1) For academics, highly-cited papers and co-citation analysis focused on the MIS field, allowing researchers to follow and direct effort to current key topics of research; and (2) For practitioners, key issues help business to stay current on development in IT strategy and planning. As technology is fast advancing and changing, it is hoped that this study would be helpful for both academia and the business world.

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