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Uncovering the Intellectual Core of Podcasts

Short Paper

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Abstract

The information systems (IS) discipline has long been critically questioning its identity to determine its central research avenues, its distinction from other disciplines, and the future directions for the field. Although this question is central to all stakeholders of the IS field, so far the debates have been conducted primarily in research papers, editorial commentaries, and opinion pieces published by influential IS scholars. Our study explores how the broader IS community engages in the discourse about IS identity by examining podcasts as an increasingly popular means of communicating IS viewpoints. We apply a podcast ethnography to study the IS podcast universe, consisting of 51 shows with 660 episodes. Our preliminary findings offer insights about the stakeholders, podcast topics, and intellectual core of the audio tracks that shed light on the role of podcasts in constructing and reflecting on IS identity.

Keywords: IS identity, podcasts, ethnography

Introduction

The debate over the identity of the information systems (IS) field has persisted for decades, leading to various lines of discussion. These include the extent to which IT artifacts should be central to research (Benbasat and Zmud 2003), the importance of focus versus plurality and diversity (Benbasat and Zmud 1999), and the trade-off between methodological rigor and practical relevance (Nunamaker et al. 2015). Echoing these debates, previous studies have attempted to describe IS identity by examining the intellectual core of studies alongside their research themes and trends (Grover et al. 2019; Sidorova et al. 2008). The common thread is that "the body of published IS research can be considered to be the stakeholders' reflection on the IS field identity" (Sidorova et al. 2008, p. 469). In particular, the published works that stem from influential stakeholders, such as IS scholars and editors of leading IS journals, contribute to forming IS identity (Sidorova et al. 2008). However, as Sidorova and Harden (2012) note, the identity of the IS discipline is also shaped by other stakeholders, such as students and graduates. The viewpoints of these stakeholders are not necessarily published in prestigious publications, such as the basket of eight, but they "express how they view the IS discipline identity through reflected stakeholder appraisals" (Sidorova and Harden 2012, p. 2).

With the emergence of high-speed internet, mobile devices, and social media platforms, IS-related viewpoints and research can be discussed and communicated more quickly and to a wider audience, for example, by sharing results and opinions on ResearchGate or LinkedIn. In recent years, podcasts have joined the ranks of media through which "the process of negotiation among its various stakeholders" to shape and establish IS identity can take place (Sidorova et al. 2008, p. 469). In podcasts such as "this IS research" by Nick Berente and Jan Recker and the "Information Systems DIGEST Podcast" by Casandra Grundstrom and Elena Parmiggiani, IS-centric theoretical and methodological topics are discussed and shared by IS stakeholders through dialogue. On a technical level, podcasts are usually open-access audio files shared over the internet (Quintana and Heathers 2021). Therefore, educational content, research results, and opinions can be disseminated outside lecture halls and academic papers to audiences who would normally have no access to this information, whether due to journal paywalls, network inaccessibility, or socioeconomic backgrounds (Quintana and Heathers 2021). Furthermore, due to the low barriers to recording and publishing a podcast, various stakeholders can share their research findings or viewpoints with a wider audience to gain visibility in their research field and beyond (Smith et al. 2020). In this way, it has become possible to expand the circle of people who both reflect the identity of the IS discipline and intervene in the process of its construction and communication.

While IS has attracted attention in the discourse of podcasts, there is a lack of research on podcasts within the IS field. Exceptions include work that focuses on the effects of course-related podcasts as a supplemental format in higher education (Fernandez et al. 2009; Pinto-Llorente et al. 2017). However, the potential use of the abundance of available podcasts as a valuable source of data remains unconsidered. Exploring such new media and data sources enables scholars to examine old and new research questions based on more extensive data sets (Agarwal and Dhar 2014). Whereas prior studies have reconciled IS identity by extracting the intellectual core from a sample of leading IS journals (e.g., Grover et al. 2019; Sidorova et al. 2008) or conferences (Cocosila et al. 2011), we pay attention to less formal communication channels, such as podcasts. In contrast to previous normative or descriptive attempts to address the IS identity (Somers 2010), the goal of our ongoing research is neither to set boundaries nor to define the IS discipline in its pluralism. Rather, the goal of our ongoing research is to draw attention to *where* the discourse about our discipline is taking place (it has long since moved beyond published opinion pieces to other media, such as podcasts), *what* the topics of discourse are, and *who* is leading them. Hence, in our ongoing research project, we address the following research question (RQ): **What is the intellectual core of IS podcasts, and how do they contribute to the construction and reflection of IS identity?**

To respond to our RQ, we draw on Sidorova et al.'s (2008) stakeholder approach to examine how different IS stakeholders use podcasts to engage in the process of constructing and reflecting on IS identity. To immerse ourselves in the IS podcast universe, we applied Lundström and Lundström's (2021) ethnographical method for podcasts to observe the community's use of podcasts and their information value. We foresee the contributions of this study as (1) considering podcasts as a data source and highlighting the intellectual value of podcasts in shaping the identity of the IS field, (2) examining reflective stakeholder appraisals beyond academic publications, and (3) reflecting on the contemporary identity of the IS discipline and its calls for change.

Background

Podcasts

The term "podcast" was coined in 2004 as a combination of the then-popular hardware "iPod" for playing audio files and the method of "broadcasting" (Samuel-Azran et al. 2019). Podcasts are primarily compressed audio files, but modern versions also include videos, so-called "vodcasts" (Lundström and Lundström 2021; Samuel-Azran et al. 2019). The content of podcasts typically consists of a series of narrated, subscription-eligible episodes on specific subjects (Samuel-Azran et al. 2019), syndicated via Really Simple Syndication (RSS) (Lundström and Lundström 2021). In particular, the RSS web syndication format has played a vital role in the diffusion of podcasts by enabling the aggregation of podcasts in large directories such as Spotify, where content consumers can easily subscribe to, search for, or listen to their desired content (Bottomley 2015). Podcasts are often compared to radio but are distinctive in offering on-demand content; they provide the "missing link between the mobility offered by radio and the global reach and range of web radio" (Berry 2016, p. 8). This temporal and spatial independence of podcast consumption contributes to the medium's

great popularity (Lundström and Lundström 2021), as evidenced by the nearly 60 million monthly listeners in the U.S. alone on the two most popular platforms, Spotify and Apple Podcasts (Götting 2021).

For research purposes, podcasts have been the subject in only a few higher-education studies. For example, the use of podcasts to support learning in higher-education courses, such as IS Management (Fernandez et al. 2009), and in learning English as a second language (Pinto-Llorente et al. 2017) has already been shown to have positive effects. Other studies have looked at the motivations and sociodemographic patterns of podcast adoption (Gribbins 2007; Samuel-Azran et al. 2019). However, content analysis of the large amount of available recordings, which contain a wealth of tacit stakeholder knowledge (Lundström and Lundström 2021), has been completely neglected. Our study closes this gap by exploring the content of IS-related podcasts and contributing to the ongoing debate on the identity of our discipline.

### Stakeholder Approach to Identity Construction of the IS Discipline

In an organizational context, identity can be defined as a set of beliefs—including goals, missions, practices, values, and actions—that are formed through interactions between stakeholders and result in a collectively held image of an entity (Scott and Lane 2000). This process of organizational identity-construction was described by Scott and Lane (2000) in a stakeholder-centered model and later adapted by Sidorova et al. (2008) to the IS discipline. Since then, this model has been used as the theoretical rationale for studying stakeholders' reflective appraisals of IS identity (Cocosila et al. 2011; Sidorova and Harden 2012).

It is assumed that constructing an identity for a research discipline is important: it establishes a common direction for its objects or subjects and establishes a coherent set of tools, methods, concepts, theories, and so on (Strober 2010). Typically, the desired image of the IS discipline is expressed as, for example, development goals or desired changes in frameworks. It is voiced through editorial policies and commentary, special issues, or calls for papers from influential stakeholders, such as the editors of leading journals and industry executives (Sidorova et al. 2008). The examples include the call by Sarker et al. (2019) who encourage IS scholars to place more emphasis on the sociotechnical perspective. As IS professors and members of editorial boards of leading IS journals, the authors of this publication are influential stakeholders in the IS discipline. They have studied the past and present of the discipline and raise questions about future research, calling for a sociotechnical baseline as a desirable image for the identity of the IS discipline. Internal stakeholders, such as IS scholars, refer to these desired images when considering self-definitions, research interests, and opportunities, and reflect these images in submitted manuscripts and peer reviews. External stakeholders influence stakeholder appraisals through funding and institutional pressure (Sidorova et al. 2008).

Inherently anchored in this approach is power: "the extent to which individuals or groups are able to persuade, induce, or coerce others into following certain courses of action" (Johnson and Scholes 1999, p. 36). Due to their reputations, the views of influential stakeholders are traditionally more visible than the views of others and have a great impact on the identity of the IS discipline. However, in other disciplines, such as the medical field, podcasts have already been shown to increase visibility in terms of readership of studies (Thoma et al. 2018). Podcasts may even establish opinion-leaders who do not have high citation rates or leadership roles in the field but instead have a large number of listeners (Saenger et al. 2018). Thus, by drawing on the approach of Sidorova et al. (2008), we aim to extract the intellectual core of IS podcasts to explore how stakeholders leverage podcasts to construct and reflect IS identity.

Research Approach

Digital media are an inseparable part of contemporary society, enabling individuals and communities to communicate their cultural representations, experiences, and identities. To understand social stories in these digital spaces, researchers are increasingly relying on digital ethnography to observe and study the social and cultural aspects of digital phenomena (Kaur-Gill and Dutta 2017). With the goal of examining the role of podcasts in the process of identity construction and reflection in the IS community, we explore a culture-sharing community that uses digital media as communication channels. According to Lundström and Lundström (2021, p. 290), podcasts provide a "window to a wider milieu." Thus, podcast ethnography, as a form of digital ethnography, provides the basis for an exploratory analysis of the identity-reflection of a culture-sharing community. The suggested podcast ethnography methodology by Lundström and Lundström (2021) includes three phases: *explore*, *engage*, and *examine* (cf. Figure 1).

Figure 1. Research Approach of the Podcast Ethnography
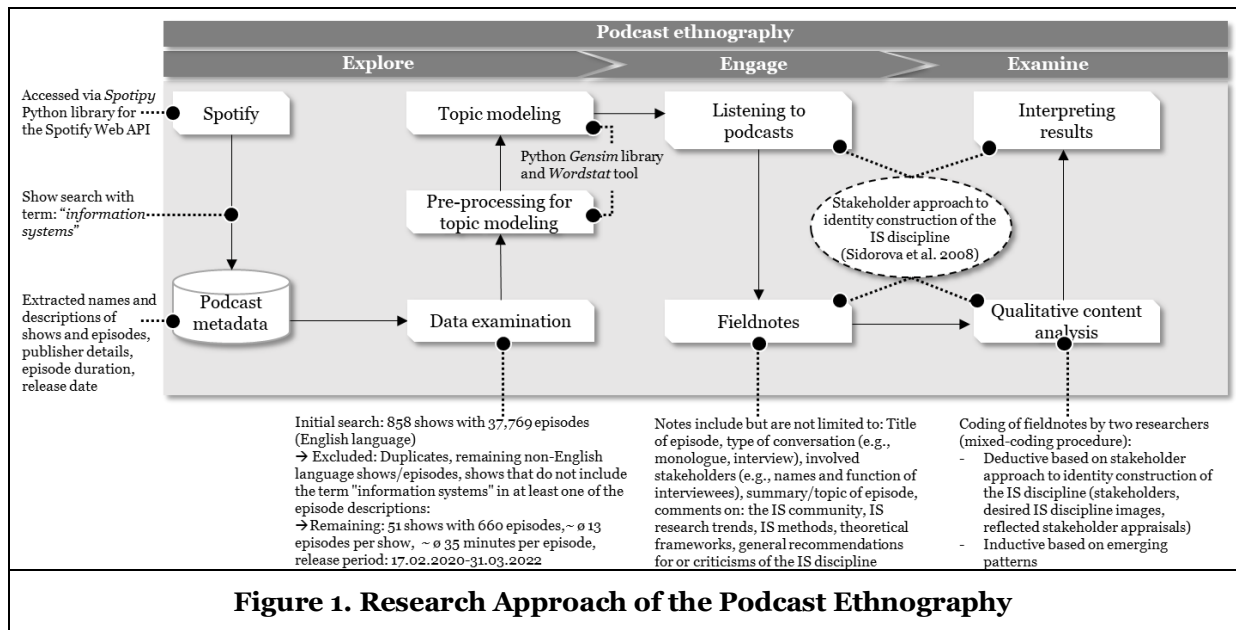
Classical ethnography relies on field research in which the context under study is observed; in podcast ethnography, podcasts represent the field sites. The *explore* phase aims to identify and delineate relevant field sites and thus represents the process of selecting IS-related podcasts that are relevant to answering the RQ (Lundström and Lundström 2021). However, in light of the millions of podcasts on platforms such as Spotify, a quantitative content analysis approach is needed to draw replicable inferences from large, qualitative data sets (Anton et al. 2020). To enable this, we used Spotify's open API for developers, which provides access to podcast metadata from one of the largest and most popular podcast platforms. We wrote a Python code leveraging several libraries (e.g., Spotipy, Pandas, NumPy) to extract show and episode names and descriptions, publisher details, episode durations, and release dates by searching for the term "information systems." The initial data-extraction yielded 858 shows with 37,769 episodes. In an initial data clean-up, we excluded duplicates, non-English-language episodes, and shows and episodes if they did not mention "information systems" at least once in an episode (reasoning: "information systems" could, for example, be mentioned as part of a podcaster's education in the show description but not be related to its content). This data-cleansing step resulted in 51 shows with 660 episodes remaining, released between February 17, 2020, and March 31, 2022 (with an average of 13 episodes per show and ~35 minutes per episode). To further explore the sample and assess the content, we subjected the episode descriptions to further pre-processing to apply topic modeling. Topic modeling is a text-mining technique that consolidates a text corpus into core themes based on probabilistic models of word frequencies (the pre-processing and topic modeling followed the approach of Anton et al. (2020), which provides more details on the methodology). Although text-mining the metadata provided insights into the content and boundaries of the podcasts, it did not reveal all the conversational value contained in the audio tracks. Therefore, two researchers will listen to each podcast episode during the *engage* phase and create fieldnotes related to the stakeholders who are conversing, how they are conversing, the context, and the extent to which IS identity is discussed in terms of research trends, methods, theoretical recommendations, or general comments. The fieldnotes will be merged and analyzed during the *examine* phase by employing a qualitative content analysis using a mixed-coding procedure (cf. Figure 1). The resulting coding structure will then be analyzed in terms of the stakeholders; the nature, scope, and themes of IS identity; and the stakeholders' approaches to identity construction and reflection (Sidorova et al. 2008).

Preliminary Findings

Explore: The results of the *explore* phase—the quantitative content analysis—can be depicted by labelled topics, which compress the text corpus into a pre-defined number of term vectors, r (see Table 1). We chose $r = 3$ so that at least 10% of the 660 episodes were represented by a topic. This number also showed the highest topic coherence, which is an objective measure of theme interpretability (Anton et al. 2020). A

larger number of data vectors returned a more granular level of topics but with a smaller empirical representation and coherence value.

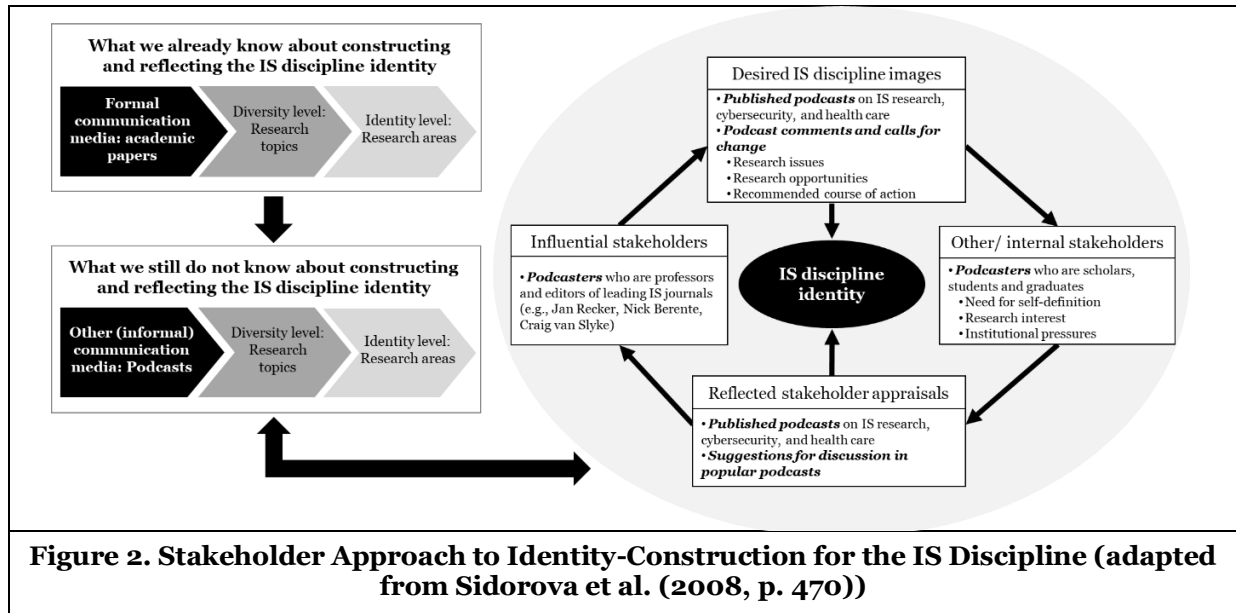| Topic Label	Keywords with Highest Term-Loadings	Topic Measures
Information systems research	PROFESSOR; PUBLISH; JOURNAL; RESEARCH; SYSTEM; UNIVERSITY; INFORMATION; DIGITAL; PAPER; TECHNOLOGY; DESIGN; HUMAN; BUSINESS; PROCESS; EXPLORE; CONFERENCE; BEHAVIOR; SOCIAL; WORK	Coherence: 0.432 Frequency: 621 # Episodes: 202 % Episodes: 30.61%
Cybersecurity	CONNECT; PLATFORM; CYBERSECURITY; CYBER; ATTACK; SECURITY; ORGANIZATION; MANAGEMENT; CULTURE; REPORT; IMPORTANCE; GOVERNANCE; PROTECT; IMPORTANT; RANSOMWARE; CHIEF; RISK; PROFESSIONAL; THREAT; SECURE; CHALLENGE; LEADER; DISCUSSION; EXPERIENCE; BEHAVIOR; PEOPLE	Coherence: 0.442 Frequency: 785 # Episodes: 232 % Episodes: 35.15%
Health care	HEALTH; CARE; PATIENT; QUALITY; IMPROVE; HEALTHCARE; WORK; COMMUNITY; PANDEMIC	Coherence: 0.353 Frequency: 241 # Episodes: 89 % Episodes: 13.48%
Table 1. Topics and High-Loading Terms over All Episode Descriptions ($r = 3$)		

The topic modeling provided initial insights into the contents and boundaries of the IS-related podcasts based on three topic labels: "IS research," "cybersecurity," and "health care." The "IS research" topic includes podcasts that address IS research in general, including terms related to IS paradigm design and behavioral science (e.g., BEHAVIORAL, DESIGN), the sociotechnical spectrum of the discipline (e.g., PROCESS, SOCIAL, HUMAN, WORK), and more basic aspects of research (e.g., PUBLISH, JOURNAL, RESEARCH, PAPER) and its stakeholders (e.g., PROFESSOR). The next topic, "cybersecurity," covers terms of one of the big issues in the IS discipline (e.g., CYBER, ATTACK, SECURITY, RISK): how the security of digital assets can be assured (Rai 2016). The final theme in the IS-related podcasts is "health care" (e.g., HEALTHCARE, PANDEMIC), an area that has gained momentum due to the pandemic over the past two years.

Engage: We are currently in the *engage* phase, in which we have listened to ~59 of 389 hours (102 of 660 episodes) of podcasts and documented them through fieldnotes (starting with the topic "IS research"). Table 2 provides an overview of the shows examined to date, with a description of the shows, the stakeholders, and exemplary key points of selected episodes in which they engage with the identity of the IS discipline. The podcasts can be categorized as interview-based, monologue, or co-hosted conversational podcasts that discuss the IS discipline and research broadly (1, 2) or from a philosophical perspective (3), present specific IS research or textbooks (4, 5), or discuss the impact of IS on career paths from a student or graduate perspective (6, 7). The podcast publishers are often influential stakeholders who are not only professors in the IS field but also engage in the editorial boards of leading journals or conferences (1, 2, 3, 4). Other stakeholders include scholars (5) and student organizations (6, 7).

Examine: By engaging with the identified podcasts, we demonstrate that podcasts are an communication vehicle through which stakeholders present research, make comments and demands for change in theoretical and methodological areas, and engage with general cultural aspects of the IS discipline. The preliminary results allow us to add podcasts into the stakeholder approach to IS discipline identity-construction, as illustrated in Figure 2. We show that particularly influential stakeholders use platforms such as Spotify and their reach to discuss their self-selected topics and convey their desired IS image. For example, in podcasts (1), (2) and (3) the stakeholders foresee, in their desired IS image, more interlinking with other disciplines through a theory (i.e., affordance theory) or through the relevance of phenomena such as digitization. Another example is criticism of current research approaches: in the podcasts (1) and (3) the epistemological stances that are foregrounded in papers are criticized.

Show (# Episodes)	Type of Conversation	Publisher(s): Stakeholder(s) in the IS Discipline
(1) this IS research (32 episodes)	Conversational, co-hosted	• Nick Berente: Professor at the University of Notre Dame • Jan Recker: Professor at the University of Hamburg
(2) Information Systems DIGEST Podcast (12 episodes)	Interview	• Casandra Grundstrom and Elena Parmiggiani: Associate Professors at the Norwegian University of Science and Technology
(3) SIGPhil's Philosophical dialogues – the story behind the work (15 episodes)	Interview	• Mijalche Santa: Associate Professor at the Ss. Cyril and Methodius University in Skopje
These three podcasts (1, 2, 3) discuss research questions, opportunities, and courses of action on a variety of topics. Examples: • **Research issues:** The separation between philosophical viewpoints is taken to extremes in IS research. Great scholars do not take an epistemological stance by default; knowing how to use these viewpoints and perspectives is important but should not confine researchers (exemplary episodes: (1) "Pragmatism, Baby"; (3) "Nik Rushdi Hassan SIGPhil's Philosophical Dialogues"). • **Research opportunities:** Potential in the context of affordance theory in the IS discipline: review papers and theory development (exemplary episode: (1) "Affordances Is the New TAM"). • **Recommended course of action for the IS discipline:** The discipline must become a network discipline that incorporates influences from other disciplines (exemplary episodes: (1) "Affordances Is the New TAM"; (2) "The Past, Present, and Future of IS: Part 2—Guest Eric Monteiro"; (3) "Nik Rushdi Hassan SIGPhil's Philosophical Dialogues").		
(4) Information Systems for Business Podcast (16 episodes)	Monologue	• Craig van Slyke: Mike McCallister Eminent Scholar Chair in Information Systems at Louisiana Tech University
(5) 10-Minute I.S. Paper (TMISP) (23 episodes)	Monologue	• Blair Wang: Researcher and Lecturer in Business Information Systems at the University of Sydney
The podcasts (4) and (5) **review and reflect on research papers and textbooks** (exemplary episodes: (4) "Evaluating Information"; (5) "Ep. 12 – Web-Conferencing Affordances and Constraints (Hacker et al., 2020)").		
(6) Let's talk I.S. (4 episodes)	Interview	• Information Systems Academy: Institution within Boston College
(7) MISSA After Class (1 episode)	Interview	• Management Information Systems Student Association: Student association affiliated with California Polytechnic State University
The podcasts (6) and (7) **discuss and reflect on the impact of the IS discipline on career paths and the job market** (exemplary episodes: (6) "Episode 3 – William Liu BC '21, Dataiku"; (7) "EP: Pilot").		
Table 2. Shows, Stakeholders, and Reflections on Information Systems Identity		

The interviewees suggest that a problem-oriented approach should be adopted, coupled with an understanding of how epistemological viewpoints can be used and leveraged. However, these viewpoints should not limit researchers to exploring and answering questions. Such commonalities and themes will be coded in the further course of the *examine* phase to grasp the intellectual core of podcasts. The perspectives revealed in this research can resonate with the IS community. For instance, the co-hosts of the podcast "this IS research" (in episode "Humblebragging and click-bait research") report receiving responses and emails suggesting new topics for discussion. This demonstrates that podcasts elicit responses from other stakeholders that may prompt them to consider creating their own podcasts or addressing the proposed research problems and opportunities.

Figure 2. Stakeholder Approach to Identity-Construction for the IS Discipline (adapted from Sidorova et al. (2008, p. 470))

Expected Contributions and Next Steps

In our ongoing research project, we explore the role of podcasts as a communication vehicle to construct and reflect the identity of the IS discipline by employing a podcast ethnography approach. Our preliminary results show that influential stakeholders leverage podcasts to reflect on the essence of the discipline, present current research, discuss research issues and opportunities, as well as suggest directions for the future of the discipline. Other internal stakeholders, such as university student organizations, use podcasts to reflect on IS study experiences and potential career paths.

We foresee the contributions (C) of this research to be worthwhile for several reasons. **C1:** We revisit the IS identity debate in light of recent concerns about "disciplinary fragmentation" (Sarker et al. 2019, p. 695) and "methodological anarchism" (Mendling et al. 2021, p. 127). From a philosophical perspective, reflection on IS identity advances engagement with the "first philosophy" (Hassan et al. 2018, p. 265), which is concerned with the essence of IS and provides direction to other philosophical questions, such as epistemological viewpoints (Hassan et al. 2018). Thus, reflecting on IS identity helps to elucidate the nature of IS research questions and the methodological toolkit for answering them. As such, reflecting on identity can inform new ventures, such as the ICIS2022 theme of digitization for the next generation. Our results so far indicate that podcasts can be a platform to discuss such philosophical questions in-depth and to introduce philosophical discourse to novice researchers and PhD students to strengthen the foundation of the field and their own research. **C2:** Lundström and Lundström (2021, p. 290) note that the "methodological discussions on the podcast phenomenon are not at all in parity with its rampant cultural impact." We contribute methodologically by presenting an approach for future studies on how podcasts can be used as a data source. Various research fields can benefit from this approach due to the lack of related work. Within the IS discipline, we are the first to examine the content of IS podcasts, highlighting the topics and trends covered across the themes of "IS research," "cybersecurity," and "health care." As we proceed with our study, we will present in more detail the findings of the *examine* phase and the emerging themes coded in the qualitative content analysis, such as commonalities in research issues, opportunities, and calls for change. So far, we found frequent calls for a shift from matured research topics (e.g., digitization in business and society), over-used theoretical lenses (e.g., TAM), and the over-emphasis on the customer-oriented focus in IS research, to more urgent questions associated with the socio-technical issues of IT that can advance our understanding of how IT is used in business and society. Furthermore, we have already observed that the directions for the IS discipline discussed in podcasts are also reflected in the literature, such as the call for more emphasis on the sociotechnical perspective (Sarker et al. 2019), or warnings of over-using the same theoretical lenses that may result in a vicious cycle of homogenizing our knowledge (Grover et al. 2019), thus highlighting podcasts' relevance as a platform for these discussions. **C3:** Drawing on the stakeholder approach of Sidorova et al. (2008), we show that influential stakeholders, in particular,

publish IS podcasts and engage in educational conversations about the IS discipline. Audio provides a deeper insight and connection to stakeholder personalities (Berry 2016), such as editors, than can be created explicitly in written manuscripts. This may create an impression on other IS scholars, so that researchers favor the interests of one or more stakeholders and neglect the beliefs of other stakeholders (Clarke and Davison 2020). Therefore, the opinions of podcasters may be accorded more reach and weight in the community. By collecting various opinions and highlighting commonalities and contrasts in viewpoints, we contribute to the relativization of otherwise subjective, individual opinions. **C4:** Tarafdar and Davison (2018, p. 543) envisioned the nature of the IS discipline as "(1) a consolidated deep structure (through the Single and Home Disciplinary contributions); and (2) a periphery of flux (through the Cross Disciplinary and Interdisciplinary contributions)." Our stakeholder approach is primarily directed on the first point. However, we argue that podcasts can be valuable for considering the second point as well, due to three aspects: a) The interdisciplinarity of IS is particularly evident in the fact that IS borrows from methods, theories, and topics of other fields (Tarafdar and Davison 2018). As IS podcasts discuss these borrowed facets, influences from other disciplines are inherently considered when reflecting on IS identity. b) Through interactions/interviews with a variety of stakeholders (within and outside the discipline), diverse cross-disciplinary perspectives are discussed in IS podcasts. c) There are also podcasts that are rooted within a different discipline but cover IS-related topics (e.g., in the health care domain). Given the peripheral boundary of our discipline and the pertinence of IS-related topics in diverse disciplines, it is challenging to capture and delineate the implicit IS-associated podcast universe, so we only collected podcasts in which IS relevance was explicitly mentioned in the metadata (we consider this as a limitation).

We are aware of additional limitations of our research that relate to our focus on podcasts as a data source and to the podcast ethnography as our method of choice. Although podcasts have become an important communication channel in our digital world, they do not undergo a peer-review process as academic papers and thus lack validity and academic rigor. Furthermore, the content provided by podcasters only reflect the opinions of the respective stakeholders and should be interpreted with caution. Moreover, our search is limited to the Spotify directory and excludes podcasts that may be listed on other platforms. However, we ran a crosscheck, which showed that there is a high degree of consistency with the listings on Apple Podcasts. In addition, ethnography in digital spaces raises ethical questions (e.g., whether the obtained data is private even if the data is publicly accessible and intended for the wider community). A more in-depth discussion of such considerations is beyond the scope of this paper, but we would like to draw attention to such ethical deliberations and recommend Markham and Buchanan (2015) for further reading.

In conclusion, podcasts provide insight into substantive conversations among globally dispersed IS stakeholders. Our study captures, analyzes, and structures the arguments therein in relation to the reflection and construction of the nature of the IS discipline. Our main focus as we move forward with our research activities will be to explore how these arguments can inform what Hassan et al. (2019) term as foundational practices in forming the discourse and conclusions about IS phenomena.

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