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Evolution of scholarly collaboration in ICIS: a scientometric analysis

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Evolution of scholarly collaboration in ICIS: a scientometric analysis

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Information systems research is multidisciplinary, with close connections to computer science, psychology, sociology, economics, and other business disciplines (Banville and Landry 1989). Understanding the social dynamics of a research community is helpful to assess a scientific discipline and evaluate its status and progress (Abbasi, Altmann, et al. 2011). In a research community, stakeholders interact with each other by sharing common research interests and ideas, research methods, and techniques and influence each other's work (Culnan 1986). These social interactions interweave a complex social network in which knowledge is generated, disseminated, and updated between researchers.

To foster the growth of multidiscipline, collaboration is one of the most effective ways (Oh et al. 2005). As the Information Systems (IS) community grows, it is reasonable to expect that collaborations between scholars have increased. We studied the evolution and trend of collaboration networks in the International Conference on Information Systems (ICIS). Based on evolutionary analysis of papers published in ICIS proceedings over the 40 years from 1980 to 2020, various characteristics of the social network of IS researchers are identified and discussed. Our research shows that key characteristics of the research collaboration network as reflected by the co-authorship: 1) ICIS community has thrived that demonstrated frequent interactions among members as new members have joined and connections between members have improved. 2) The critical core of the community, the most productive authors and countries, were identified. 3) Collaboration patterns of the community were also studied. 4) how social networks evolved was revealed.

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