

# JITTA



## JOURNAL OF INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY THEORY AND APPLICATION

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### Editorial: Research on Research

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### THE CURRENT ISSUE

In this issue, we publish two studies that can aid researchers with their work. The first article provides a nontechnical overview of structural equation modeling with Partial Least Square (PLS) with the intention to provide a reference guide for researchers who intend to use this method. The second article analyzes the Information Systems, Computer Science, and Business publications for visualizations of research results; the study develops a framework for classifying such visualizations and analyzes their occurrences.

Urbach and Ahlemann (2010) have systematically reviewed articles that appear in *MIS Quarterly* and *Information Systems Research* over a fifteen-year period for the usage of PLS as an analysis method, supporting claims for a positive trend of its popularity. The authors further provide an overview of and introduction to Structural Equation Modeling in general and the PLS approach in particular. A framework for the use of PLS in research studies is presented; this is followed by a discussion of two published articles that serve as examples of how the PLS framework applies. Researchers who currently are using or are planning to use PLS will find this paper a helpful guide.

Chakrabarty and Mendonça (2010) have selected a random sample of 119 articles published in journals on computing and related disciplines over a two-year study period. The authors have then classified the 570 information visualizations that were contained in the sample articles using a combination of established typologies. The article presents several analyses of the distribution and occurrences of the different types of visualizations. The research calls for an expansion of the range of information visualizations employed and for the development of new classes of visualizations to better represent certain research results. This call may help researchers to break out of the usage of a small, but dominant set of information visualizations and consider new ways of visual information representation.

### REFERENCES

Chakrabarty, M. and D. Mendonça, "Information visualizations in computing and related sciences: Evidence from top journals," *Journal of Information Technology Theory and Application (JITTA)*, 2010, 11:2, pp. 41–51.

Urbach, N. and F. Ahlemann, "Structural equation modeling in information systems research Using partial least squares," *Journal of Information Technology Theory and Application (JITTA)*, 2010, 11:2, pp. 5–40.



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