

**Author : Huang, Mu-Hsuan; Shaw, Wang-Ching; Lin, Chi-Shiou**

**Title : One category, two communities: subfield differences in “Information Science and Library Science” in Journal Citation Reports**

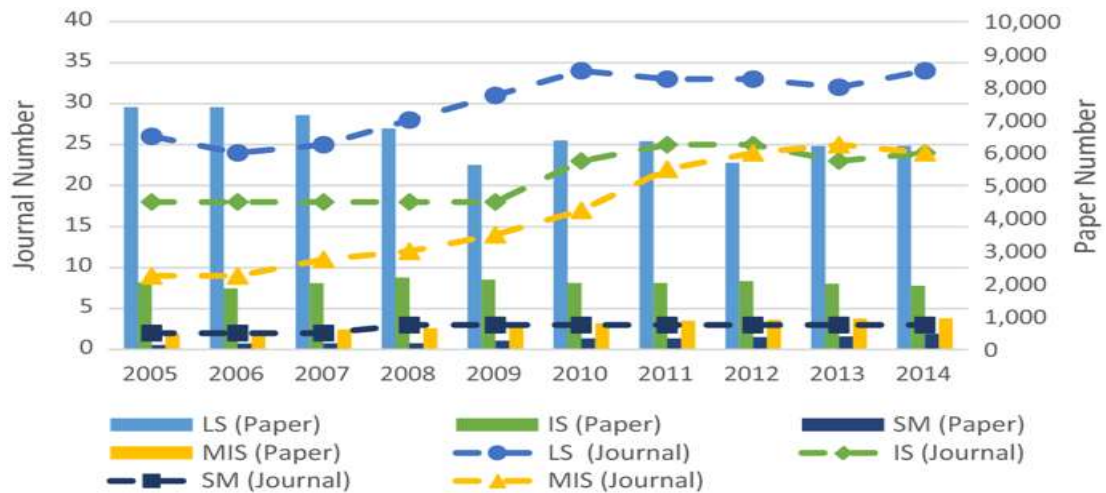
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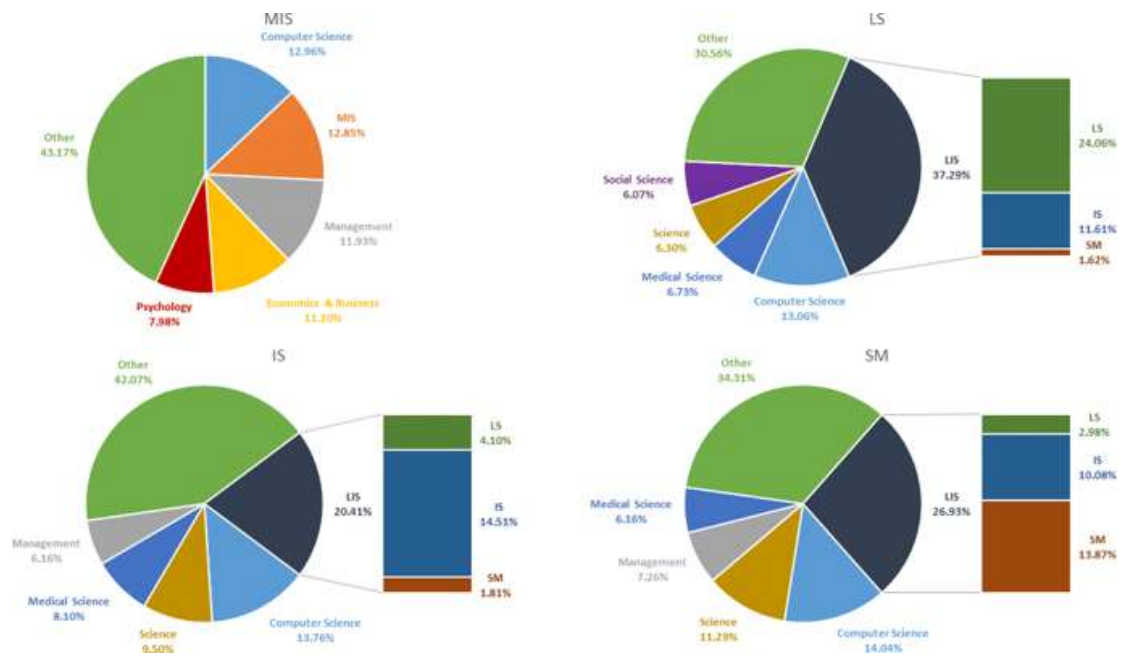
Journal Citation Reports (JCR) and its journal ranking in terms of impact factors are highly influential in research evaluation. JCR classifies journals so that journals can be ranked with journals in the same category based on different performance indicators each year. Only when journals belong to the same field, the comparison of impact factors is meaningful. However, Researchers have expressed concerns regarding inappropriate subject classification in JCR because of the possible negative consequences. Among them, "Information Science and Library Science" (IS-LS) is the most obvious example, it combines two seemingly related but distinct areas of Library Science and Information Science (LIS) and Information Management (MIS). LIS includes three subfields: Library Science (LS), Information Science (IS) and Scientometrics (SM).

This article uses 88 JCR IS-LS journal papers and citation data published from 2005 to 2014 to analyze the differences between MIS and LIS subfields and their impact factor performance within 10 years through citation analysis. The analysis systematically compared the papers and reference characteristics, cited subjects, and author affiliations of those subfields to observe subfield differences and systemic suppression in the IS–LS category.

It is found that LIS (including LS, IS, SM) constituted the largest proportion of the IS–LS journals and papers, and LS and IS had the highest contributions to journals and papers. By contrast, MIS journals published a disproportionately small amount of papers every year. However, that MIS researchers also publish in journals outside the IS–LS category, for instance, in computer science and management journals. So we only observe that IS-LS published data may seriously underestimate the academic productivity of MIS.



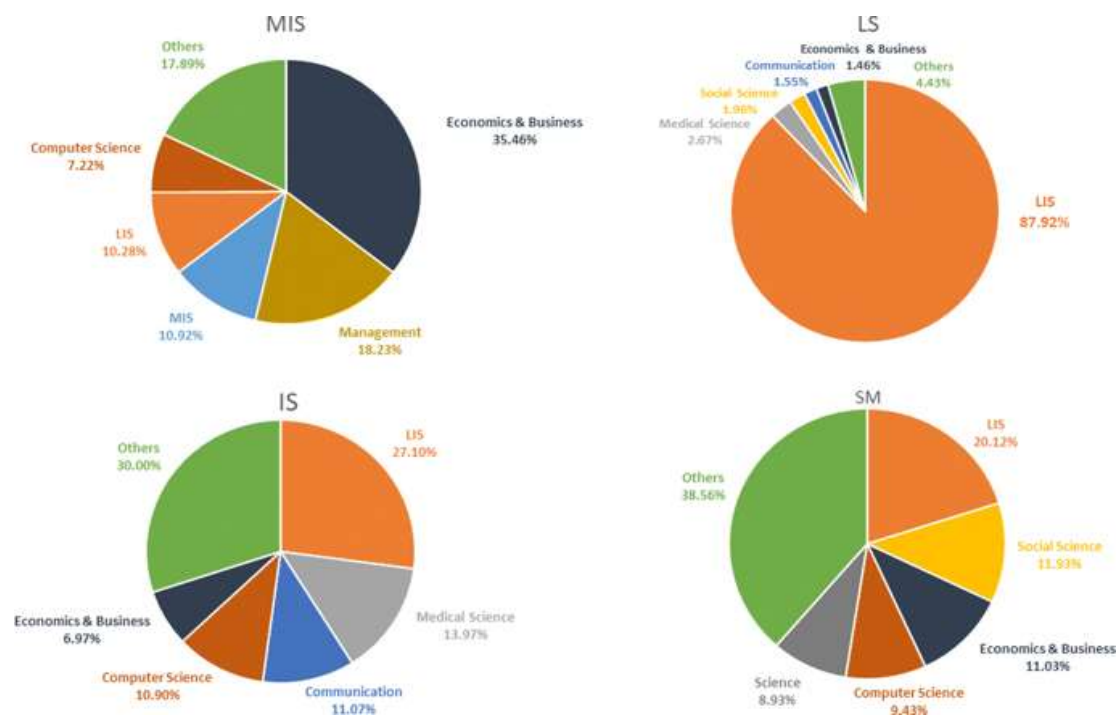
In citation practice, the average number of MIS citations is twice that of LIS. This may be one of the main reasons why MIS has only a few papers, but the IF value of journals continues to rise. In the citation area, MIS only cites a few articles in the LIS field, and mainly cites computer science, management science, and economics and business. LIS is a trait that shows preference for self-citation.



In the affiliation of authors, LIS mainly cited articles of authors of LIS related institutions, and rarely cited MIS. MIS was evidently different from LIS. MIS obviously prefers to cite articles from authors in the business and management fields, and relatively few cite articles from authors from MIS and LIS. It is observed that LIS is the primary publication venue for LIS scholars, but MIS is not the primary publication venue for MIS scholars. MIS scholars prefer to publish in business and management-

oriented.

In addition, there is a one-way relationship between MIS and LIS: LIS is not the main publishing field for MIS scholars, because MIS scholars are not familiar with the field of LIS and such journals. In the IF value of journals, MIS journals show their advantages. In contrast, the performance of LIS journals was suppressed. LIS journals are suppressed under the IS-LS classification, and their differences from MIS become more and more obvious with the increase of time.



The results of this study show that Papers and citations, cited topics, and author affiliation are different in MIS and LIS journals. Although they are divided into the same category, from an individual perspective, LIS and MIS belong to two different research communities in principle. This difference will mislead research evaluation and journal ranking results, resulting in a failure to present a true look. It is recommended that JCR should classify MIS journals and LIS journals into different subject categories. Prior to this, it is recommended that scholars should consider the field differences and adjust the reference indicators reasonably when using JCR for research evaluation.