Note-Taking Template for Journal Articles

Title of Article: Single sourcing versus multisourcing: The roles of output verifiability on task modularity.

Publication: MIS Quarterly: Management Information Systems.

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| **Background**  *What was the context for this research?*  *What has been studied or determined already?* | This paper compares two modes for outsourcing the development of information services projects: single-sourcing (where one vendor handles all outsourced activities) and multisourcing (where multiple vendors handle those activities).  Previous comparisons of single-sourcing and multisourcing in the practitioner IT literature highlight the cost efficiency resulting from specialization and the flexibility benefits of multisourcing which include increase agility and its role in mitigating risk has been studied before. |
| **Methods & Nature of this Study**  *What was the objective?*  *How did the author(s) collect data?*  *When and where did the research take place?* | The objective is to establish where the environments better suited to single-sourcing or multisourcing modes can be identified from of the perspective of the client (the principal).  Data was collected form the General Motors (GM) clients and vendors’ services from a single-sourced to a multisource mode.  This research took place at Lee Kong Chain School of Business at Institutional Knowledge at Singapore Management University in 2018. |
| **Results**  *What highlights emerged?*  *Were there any surprises?* | This paper highlight that if tasks are modular then multisourcing strictly dominates single-sourcing provided the verifiable performance metric and project revenue are not completely aligned.  It surprising that if the tasks are integrated, then the outsourcing modes have nuanced domains of dominance. |
| **Data**  *What is most striking about the tables, graphs, illustrations?*  *Why did the author(s) include them?* | The authors did not present any table in their work. The figure 1 is too small and could have been increased for the better. The presentation of the figure 2 is not all that visible especially the legends.  The author wanted readers to be able to visualize the relationships/ differences in clients profits from single-sourcing and multisourcing. |
| **Conclusions**  *What did the author(s) learn overall?* | 1. If tasks are modular, then multisourcing performs no worse(and sometimes better) than single-sourcing.  2. Single sourcing performs well on integrated tasks when the VPM-revenue alignment is high(low) in vendor (client) effort and when project revenue is easily verified. |
| **Next Steps**  *What is implied or proposed for future study?* | The authors proposed that future research should consider hybrid systems that incorporate both SS and MS. The exploration of many other unanswered questions including a detailed model of client risk aversion will also increase our understanding of the various outsourcing modes |
| **Significance**  *Why does this research matter?* | This paper matters because it adds to the growing body of work on multisourcing by the developed theoretical model that provides answers to important yet previously unanswered questions about comparisons between single- and multisourcing in the presence of revenue–metric misalignment, task modularity, risk aversion, and task interdependence costs. |
| **My Thoughts & Questions** | I think this paper is good but I was expecting a more feasible dataset used for the analysis. The author could have collected his own data to verify with the use to the existing dataset as a robustness check. |