

An Analysis of Literature Reviews on IS Business Value: How Deficiencies in Methodology and Theory Use Resulted in Limited Effectiveness
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What the paper is about:

- **Title:**
 - An Analysis of Literature Reviews on IS Business Value: How Deficiencies in Methodology and Theory Use Resulted in Limited Effectiveness
- **Keywords:**
 - Literature review
 - Business value
 - Information systems
 - Methodology
 - Theory

Aim and results

- Its main goals are to provide insights about how **literature reviews** on **IS business value** are performed within IS research, and to provide suggestions on how to overcome deficiencies in methodology.
- Two of the most critical weaknesses identified are
 1. the lack of theory use in most reviews and
 2. a weak linkage of reviews, resulting in little progress in theory and framework development
- Suggestions
 - Systematic literature reviews
 - Application of theory in a literature review
 - Evaluation of proposed research concepts and theories optional



Business value of IS

- *“Enduring doubts about the value of IS investments reveal that IS researchers have not fully managed to identify and to explain the economic benefits of IS.”*
- Possible explanations for why IS researchers have not (yet) succeeded to demonstrate the economic value of IS:
 1. the value of IS is actually limited and has been overrated by IS researchers or
 2. IS are economically valuable, but the specific types of value have not been identified or/and not clearly demonstrated
 - “the main instruments for identifying and synthesizing (IS business value) knowledge, literature reviews, have not been used effectively”
- Other explanations?



Literature reviews

“...this paper assumes that literature reviews, which represent the most powerful instrument for the identification and synthesis of knowledge,...”

- Purpose and value of literature reviews?
 - as a “research task on its own”
 - as “something that is conducted as a start of a research project”