

The Hong Kong University of Science and Technology  
Department of Information Systems,  
Business Statistics and Operations Management

Seminar Announcement

*Patterns in IT-Portfolio Decision Making:  
An Inductive Approach*

by

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**Date: 28 April 2009 (Tuesday)**

**Time: 11:00 am – 12:15 pm**

**Venue: Room 2397, FINA Conference Room (L17/18)**

❧❧❧❧❧ All interested are welcome ❧❧❧❧❧

Abstract

We build on prior research on the Defender-Prospector-Analyzer (Miles and Snow 1978) typology and the corresponding IS strategies to develop theoretical profiles of decision models in alignment with these archetypes. We theorize key structural differences in the decision models appropriate for these three strategic orientations. We empirically test our hypotheses by analyzing actual decisions on a large portfolio of information technology (IT)-dependent initiatives in a unique empirical setting. In doing so, our research simultaneously studies strategic alignment and risk-taking from an inductive perspective, thus contributing to the existing literature on alignment. Decision trees, i.e. collections of decision rules, we present in our research offer significant managerial implications for IT governance and insights for alignment. Systematic analysis of the evolution of these decision rules used during planning have significant implications for research on dynamic capabilities and organizational learning.

Biography

Prasanna Purushottam Karhade is currently completing his Ph.D. in Business Administration at the University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign. His education includes a Bachelor of Science degree (Computer Engineering) from Sardar Patel College of Engineering, University of Mumbai and a Master of Science degree (Computer Science) from Georgia State University. He worked as a Software Engineer, Systems Analyst and Technology Lead at Brokat Technologies and Metavante Corporation in Atlanta, Georgia. His research interests include incomplete contracting and the design of formal contracts for IT outsourcing; portfolio management, risk management and strategic alignment. His research is forthcoming in Information Systems Research.