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**Applying Knowledge Management in Education:
Teaching Database Normalization**

**A thesis presented in partial
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Abstract

In tertiary education, Information Science has been attracting more attention in both teaching and learning. However, along the course on the database design theory, learners always find it hard to grasp the knowledge on database normalisation and hard to apply different levels of the normal forms while designing a database. This results poor database construction and difficulties in database maintenance.

In regard to this teaching and learning dilemma, academic teaching staff should, on the one hand, pay more attention to organising different teaching resources on database normalisation concepts and making the best use of the existing and newly developed resources so as to make the teaching environment more adaptive and more sharable, and on the other hand, apply different teaching methods to different students according to their knowledge levels by understanding the nature of each learner's behaviour, interests and preferences concerning the existing learning resources. However, at present there is no effective Information Technology tool to use in considering the dynamic nature of knowledge discovery, creation, transfer utilisation and reuse in this area.

This provides an opportunity to examine the potentiality of applying knowledge management in education with the focus on teaching database normalisation, in terms of knowledge discovering, sharing, utilisation and reuse. This thesis contains a review of knowledge management and web mining technologies in the education environment, presents a dynamic knowledge management framework for better utilising teaching resource in the area of database normalisation and diagnoses the students' learning patterns and behaviours to assist effective teaching and learning. It is argued that knowledge management-supported education can work as a value-added process which supports the different needs of teachers and learners.

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Zhang L., Sridharan B. & Kinshuk (2003). Knowledge Management on Database Normalization. In K. T. Lee & K. Mitchell (Eds.) *Proceedings of the International Conference on Computers in Education 2003* (December 2-5, 2003 , Hong Kong), Norfolk , VA , USA : AACE, 804-805 (ISBN 1-880094-51-7).

Table of Contents

ABSTRACT	III
ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS	V
LIST OF PUBLICATIONS APPEARED AS PART OF WORK ON THIS THESIS	VI
TABLE OF CONTENTS	VII
LIST OF FIGURES AND TABLES	IX
INTRODUCTION	1
1.1 Background	1
1.2 Problem Definition	3
1.3 Purpose	5
1.4 Scope	6
1.5 Audience	6
1.6 Thesis Organisation	6
KNOWLEDGE MANAGEMENT IN EDUCATION	9
2.1 Introduction	9
2.2 Knowledge Definition	10
2.3 Knowledge Management Review	12
2.4 Knowledge Management Application in Education	13
2.5 Knowledge Management Frameworks in the Literature	14
2.6 Knowledge Management Framework for Education	15
2.7 Summary	18
KNOWLEDGE DISCOVERY VIA WEB MINING	19
3.1 Introduction	19
3.2 Knowledge Discovery Review	20
3.2.1 Knowledge Discovery in Database VS Data Mining	20
3.2.2 Steps of Knowledge Discovery Process	22
3.3 Importance of Knowledge Discovery in Education	24
3.4 Knowledge Discovery in Web-based Education	25
3.4.1 Web Mining in General	26
3.4.2 Knowledge Discovery via Web Usage Mining	27
3.4.3 Web Usage Mining Process	28
3.4.4 Access Logs Processing Architecture	29
3.5 Summary	31
KNOWLEDGE CAPTURING ON TEACHING DATABASE NORMALIZATION	33
4.1 Introduction	33
4.2 Common Techniques for Collecting Explicit Knowledge	34
4.3 Techniques for Capturing Tacit Knowledge	35
4.4 Justification for Choosing the Survey Approach	37
4.5 The Nature of the Survey	38
4.5.1 The Classical Approach	39
4.5.2 The Interpretive Approach	40
4.5.3 Justification for Selecting the Classical Survey Approach	40
4.6 Survey Development	41
4.6.1 Survey Participants Selection	42
4.6.2 Survey Content Outline	42
4.6.3 Questionnaire Development	43
4.6.4 Survey Plan Schedule	44
4.7 Survey Analysis and Interpretation	44
4.7.1 Brief Summary of Survey Results	44
4.7.2 Main Survey Findings	44
4.8 Summary	55

SYSTEM DESIGN AND IMPLEMENTATION	57
5.1 Introduction	57
5.2 Knowledge Management System Design Approaches	58
5.3 Educational Knowledge Management System Design Methodology	60
5.4 Knowledge Management System Platform Architecture	63
5.5 Learning Pattern Profiler Design	65
5.6 Further Remarks on Knowledge Management System Design	68
5.7 System Prototype Implementation.....	69
5.8 Summary	72
SYSTEM PROTOTYPE EVALUATION	73
6.1 Introduction	73
6.2 Existing System Evaluation Methods.....	74
6.2.1 <i>Subjective Evaluation Methods</i>	75
6.2.2 <i>Objective Evaluation Methods</i>	75
6.2.3 <i>Expert Evaluation Methods</i>	76
6.2.4 <i>Experimental Evaluation Methods</i>	77
6.2.5 <i>Summary of Evaluation Methods</i>	77
6.3 System Prototype Evaluation.....	78
6.3.1 <i>Justification of Survey Approach on Prototype Evaluation</i>	78
6.3.2 <i>The Survey Participants Study</i>	79
6.3.3 <i>System Evaluation Questionnaire Development</i>	79
6.4 System Evaluation Questionnaire Analysis	80
6.5 Executive Summary of Evaluation Findings	85
6.6 Summary	87
CONCLUSIONS AND FUTURE IMPLICATIONS.....	89
7.1 Summary of Major Findings.....	90
7.2 Future Implications.....	91
REFERENCES	93
APPENDIX I INVITATION OF SURVEY PARTICIPATION	103
APPENDIX II SURVEY MILESTONES.....	105
APPENDIX III SURVEY ON TEACHING DATABASE NORMALIZATION	107
APPENDIX IV PROTOTYPE QUICK START TUTORIAL	111
APPENDIX V EVALUATION SURVEY ON SYSTEM PROTOTYPE	113
APPENDIX V SAMPLE CODING – KNOWLEDGE SHARING	117

List of Figures and Tables

Figures

Figure 2. 1 Progression from data, to information, to knowledge, and to wisdom	11
Figure 2. 2 Educational knowledge management framework	16
Figure 3. 1 Significant steps in the process of knowledge discovery in databases	22
Figure 3. 2 The four steps (selection, merging, analysis and evaluation) of the knowledge discovery process.....	23
Figure 3. 3 Taxonomy of web mining.....	26
Figure 3. 4 Overview of a general architecture for web access mining	30
Figure 4. 1 Teaching resources allocated to teaching database normalisation.....	46
Figure 4. 2 Views on the overall teaching objectives and approaches.....	47
Figure 4. 3 Views on the objectives of teaching database normalisation.....	49
Figure 4. 4 Appropriate teaching method(s) utilized in teaching database normalisation theory	49
Figure 4. 5 Expecting teaching objectives in different course levels.....	50
Figure 5. 1 Best practice methods as building blocks for knowledge management	60
Figure 5. 2 Knowledge management system incremental design framework.....	61
Figure 5. 3 Knowledge flows in an educational knowledge management system.....	62
Figure 5. 4 Knowledge management actions over knowledge management life cycle	63
Figure 5. 5 Educational knowledge management system architecture	64
Figure 5. 6 Learning pattern profiler design	66
Figure 5. 7 Home page of the prototype system	70
Figure 5. 8 Knowledge sharing portal.....	71
Figure 5. 9 Interface for contacting an expert.....	71
Figure 5. 10 Sample learning pattern analysis report – normalisation tasks.....	72
Figure 6. 1 System evaluation survey: percentage of participants teaching database normalisation, separately for each course level.....	80
Figure 6. 2 Perceived potential benefits of the system.....	81
Figure 6. 3 Perceived potential drawbacks of the system	83
Figure 6. 4 Evaluation of the possible new features	84
Figure 6. 5 Priority rating for the proposed new features – high priority features.....	85
Figure 6. 6 Priority rating for the proposed new features – low priority features.....	85

Tables

Table 3. 1 The process of knowledge discovery – list of steps.....	22
Table 4. 1 Knowledge to be delivered to the students before learning database normalisation	51
Table 4. 2 Knowledge to achieve thorough understanding of the concepts of functional dependencies.....	51
Table 4. 3 Benefits of Information Technology in education	53
Table 4. 4 Benefits of electronic tools in course content & course management	54
Table 6. 1 Summary of important characteristics of evaluation methods.....	77