

Computer science students simulation in capturing tacit knowledge by using NGT for reducing traffic jam

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Abstract

The subject knowledge management systems is one of the main courses in information systems study program, faculty of computer science. This course is offered at A concentration for students in semester 5 (five). Knowledge consists of knowledge explicit and tacit. To capture tacit knowledge, it can be done by involving a number of methods, namely: 1) Brainstorming, and 2) Nominal Group Technique. The study also involves a number of social information technologies, such as: 1) Facebook, 2) WordPress, 3) DropBox, and 4) YouTube. The topic for the theme of knowledge is how to reduce traffic jam. After passing 2 (two) simulation rounds, this research get 8 (eight) ideas suggestion related to vehicle parking in an effort to reduce traffic jam. The tacit knowledge capture simulation with NGT is able to provide acceptable suggestions by all the panelists involved. The use of social information technology in this study also received a very good response from the panelists.

Keywords: Knowledge Management Systems; Tacit Knowledge; NGT; Social Technology; Parking.

1. Introduction

One of the most recent studies in the field of information systems (IS) is related to knowledge management systems (KMS). The progress of an organization depends on how the organization can manage its knowledge optimally in accordance with the needs of the organization and the development of the times. The term knowledge management system is a synonym for organizational memory system [1]. Many knowledge management initiatives rely on information technology as an important enabler [2].

Information and Communication Technologies (ICT) may play an important role in effectuating the knowledge-based view of the firm by enhancing the firm's capability to manage the knowledge it possesses [3]. KMSs have become the systems that maintain corporate history, experience and expertise that long-term employees hold [4]. Institutions that survive in long term is an institution that has the ability to manage the company's knowledge by using the latest leading technology.

In general, knowledge is divided into 2 (two) groups, namely: 1) Explicit Knowledge, and 2) Tacit Knowledge [5]. Explicit knowledge is knowledge already available as: a) Form, b) Document, c) Report, d) Book, e) Recipe, f) Guide, g) Manual, or h) Code Program. While Tacit Knowledge is a knowledge that can not be used directly. Tacit knowledge exists in people's heads and is extremely difficult to transfer [6]. One characteristic of tacit knowledge is that it is personal knowledge [7]. Tacit Knowledge is still in the form of: a) Ideas, b) Experience, c) Intelligence, d) Intuition, or d) Thought. knowledge management exists to transform [8] tacit knowledge into knowledge that is easily communicated and documented (explicit knowledge).

One of the most crucial phase in managing KMS is capturing "Tacit Knowledge". Knowledge capturing techniques can capture

knowledge when it flows between experts [9] who are concurrently engaged in a selected project's phase. This phase can be done using the method: 1) Brainstorming, and 2) Nominal Group Technique (NGT).

Successful group brainstorming involves an iterative processes [10] that consist of 2 (two) main stages: 1) idea exchange at the social level, and 2) idea expansion at the cognitive level. In this article, brainstorming will be included as the first stage among 2 (two) stage of NGT.

The NGT was developed in 1971 [11] to present a group process model for situations related to planning group that can use for: 1) identifying strategic problems, and 2) developing appropriate and innovative programs to solve them. NGT involves four key [12] stages: 1) silent generation, 2) round robin, 3) clarification, and 4) voting (ranking).

Some previous researches have been conducted in the field of KMS, such as: 1) Managing KMS in higher education [13], 2) KMS in Assets Reconciliation [14], 3) Knowledge Sharing Infrastructure Evaluation [15].

Economic growth and the population has triggered a shift in population concentration from village to urban. Cities are currently home to nearly half of the world's population [16]. In January 2018 [17], world population are about 7.476 Billion, 54% are urbanization (table 1). Metropolitan cities such as Jakarta, Surabaya, Medan, Makassar, Palembang, or Tangerang have been populated by more than 1 (one) million inhabitants. Even Jakarta entered into one of the most populous cities in the world [18].

Table 1: Digital around the World in 2018

Indicator	Population (Billion)	Penetration
Internet Users	4.021	53%
Active Social Media Users	3.196	42%
Unique Mobile Users	5.135	68%

Active Mobile Social Users	2.958	39%
Total Population	7.593	55%

At the moment, Indonesia is a member of the G-20 [19], a country with one-third of ASEAN’s GDP and almost 40 percent of its population [20]. In 2016 World Bank [21] listed Indonesia in rank number (eight) on gross domestic product ranking table based on purchasing power parity (PPP).

Table 2:Gross Domestic Product 2016, PPP

Ranking	Country	Millions
1	China	21,417,150
2	United States	18,569,100
3	India	8,702,900
4	Japan	5,266,444
5	Germany	4,028,362
6	Russian Federation	3,397,368
7	Brazil	3,141,333
8	Indonesia	3,032,090
9	United Kingdom	2,796,732
10	France	2,773,932

Purchasing power parity also includes the ability to buy motor vehicles, both two-wheel and four-wheeled. In the region of ASEAN, about 3.1 million vehicles were sold in 2016. Indonesia is the biggest consumer with about one million cars sold in 2016 [22].

The recent increase in cars is the main cause of traffic congestion [23]. The growth of motor vehicle rate which is not proportional to the increase of road race has triggered the increasingly severe congestion. This bottleneck condition will be raised in this article. The rest of this article consist of 3 (three) more sections. Section 2 (two) presents methods that are used in this research. Findings or results followed by discussions are present in section 3 (three). The last section 4 (four), conclusions, covers summarization of the research.

2. Materials and methods

2.1. Research subjects

The research method applied in this research is applied research method in the teaching class. The researcher will perform the simulation of the practice of some methods that exists in a particular course topic.

The subject of the study is knowledge management systems (KMS) taught in semester 5 (five). The field of KMS studies is offered in line with the demands of the times in the field of information systems.

Object of research involved are students of study program of information systems, faculty of computer science. Those students are taking course of knowledge management systems. They are fifth graders who are taking concentration courses. The total number of students involved was 112 students, but only 100 students who involved in the simulation.

KMS methods involved in the research, namely: 1) Brainstorming, and 2) Nominal Group Technique (NGT). It consists of two rounds in which panelists rate, discuss, and then re-rating a series of items or questions [24].

2.2. Nominal group technique procedure

The preparation for NGT simulation in class simulation include 4 (four) aspects, as follow: 1) A class room that large enough to accommodate 4 (four) to 8 (eight) groups or around 40 (fourty) students. Organize the students to sit nearby their group member, 2) Each group needs to write down their ideas, after brainstorming session, on a blank white paper with pencil or pen, 3) Lecturer as facilitator provide a laptop to tabulate participants ideas, and display it to the class with a projector, and 4) Lecturer clarifies participants roles and group objectives, explains a statement of the importance of the task, and NGT procedures.

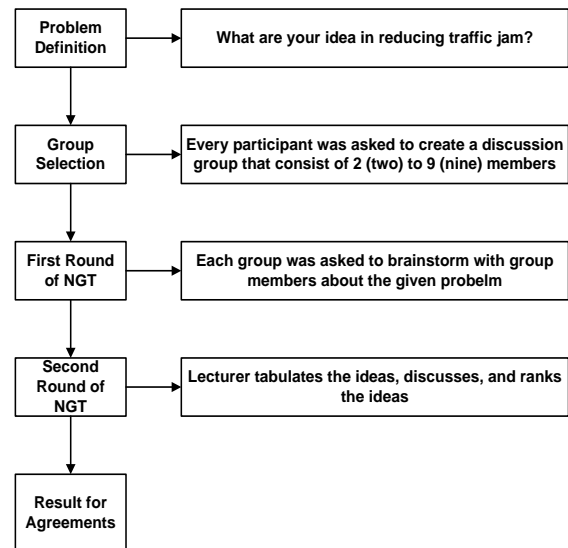


Fig. 1: Nominal Group Technique Flow.

2.3. Social information technology

During the lectures, researchers also used a number of the latest social information technologies, such as: 1) Facebook as virtual learning hub between lecturer and students, 2) WordPress is used by students to document the progress of their teamwork, 3) Drop-Box is used to store students’ group reports, and 4) YouTube is used to enrich college students’ course materials.

3. Results and discussions

3.1. Panelist distribution based on group and gender

Among 112 students who enrolled in the KMS class, there are 100 students participated in the class simulation (male = 54%; female = 46%). Those students will discuss a such of famous topic in urban problem “How to reducing traffic jam”.

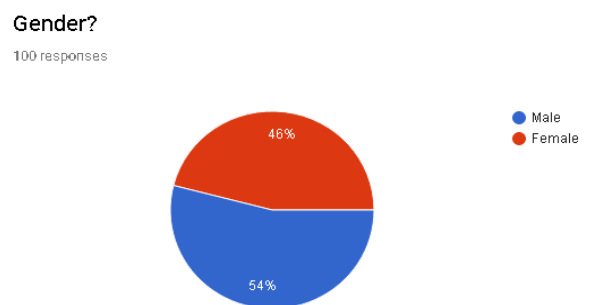


Fig. 2: Pannellist Gender.

Total panelists consist of 3 (three) classes and 18 groups. Author identifies the class as Alpha, Beta, and Gamma. In Alpha class consist of 6 (six) groups, Beta class consist of 8 (eight) groups, and Gamma class consist of 4 (four) groups.

Table 3:Group Class

No	Class	Total Group
A	Alpha	6
B	Beta	8
C	Gamma	4
	Total	18

3.2. Brainstorming results

In the first phase, all groups are asked to do brainstorming for discussing a given particular condition. The increase in economy

and population has affected the increase in the number of vehicle ownership, both wheel and motorcycles. The theme of the discussion raised this time is related to the parking of vehicles in order to reduce the traffic jam in big city. Every group will suggest 5 (five) ideas in written paper. The first round could be seen in table 4.

Table 4:Group Ideas

Code	Ideas	X	Y	Z
A	Parking Space/Lot	4	6	3
B	Parking Security	4	1	3
C	Parking Facilities	3	0	1
D	Parking Rates	4	2	0
E	Parking Promotion	2	0	2
F	Parking Officer	3	0	0
G	Parking Systems	1	0	3
H	Parking Rules	1	0	4
I	Mass Transportation	0	4	0
J	Two Wheel Vehicles	0	1	0
K	Pedestrians Sidewalk	0	1	0
L	Bicycle	0	3	0
M	Increase Vehicles Tax	0	3	0
N	Limit Vehicle Ownership	0	3	0
O	Even-Odd Vehicle Plates	0	1	0
P	FlyOver	0	1	0
Q	Vehicle Expiration Age	0	2	0
R	Purchase Limit of BBM	0	1	0
S	Car Special Flow	0	1	0
T	Parking Location	0	0	3
U	Parking Fine	0	0	1
V	Public Road Line	0	0	1
W	Parking Point Guidance	0	0	1
X	Parking Space/Lot	4	6	3

According to table 4, there are 24 (twenty four) total initial ideas in reducing traffic jam. Class-Alpha (X) accounts for a total of 8 (eight) ideas (A, B, C, D, E, F, G, H). Class-Betha (Y) accounts for a total of 14 (fourteen) ideas (A, B, D, I, J, K, L, M, N, O, P, Q, R, S, T).

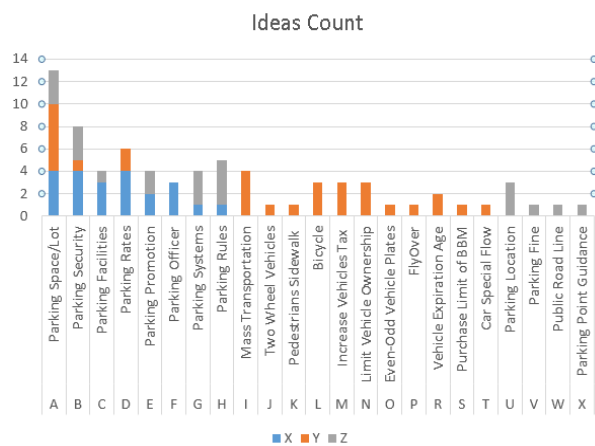


Fig. 3: Total Ideas Count.

Class-Gamma (Z) accounts for a total of 10 (ten) ideas (A, B, C, E, G, H, U, V, W, X). The Illustration for comprehensive group ideas count could be seen in figure 3.

3.3. Nominal group technique

After all of group participants submitted their ideas, then lecturer tabulated those ideas for all classes. When total count for any ideas has been tabulated, then lecturer re-ranked the ideas based on the highest count in total. After the results obtained tabulation in re-ranking, then got some ideas to overcome congestion. After all the ideas collected in the rankings are ascending, it can be seen which ideas are most widely proposed by panelists. Table 5 shows final ranking for all submitted ideas.

Table 5: Selected Group Ideas

Code	Ideas	Count	Selected
A	Parking Space/Lot	13	*
B	Parking Security	8	*
D	Parking Rates	6	*
H	Parking Rules	5	*
C	Parking Facilities	4	*
E	Parking Promotion	4	*
G	Parking Systems	4	*
I	Mass Transportation	4	*

From 24 (twenty four) ideas that exist, not all of them will be taken as a result of the capture of knowledge. The ideas that are proposed are ideas that have high points only. Based on new rank in table 5, the rank then ordered as follow: 1) Parking Space/Lot, 2) Parking Security, 3) Parking Rates, 4) Parking Rules, 5) Parking Facilities, 6) Parking Promotion, 7) Parking Systems, and 8) Mass Transportation. Count of each concept could be seen in table 5. After discussing with the panelists, it is agreed that 8 (eight) high-level concepts will be selected. Those selected ideas are coded with the asterisk symbol (*).

3.4. Evaluation of social technology uses

This research provides learners with various forms of media to connect with their instructors [25]. Those media are distributed through social information technologies, such as: 1) Facebook, 2) WordPress, 3) DropBox, and 4) YouTube.

The first evaluation is related to using Facebook as a learning environment based on social media technology. Dominant students panelist like (see figure 4) to learn by involving the application that grow significantly and attract online users [25].

Apakah Anda suka belajar menggunakan facebook?



Fig. 4:Evaluation Result of Using Facebook.

The second evaluation is related to using Blog as a hub for students in displaying their team work. More than 65% students panelist like (see figure 5) to do their team work in fun environment where they have media to express their work, academic repositories and connections [26].

Apakah Anda suka mengerjakan tugas kuliah melalui Blog?

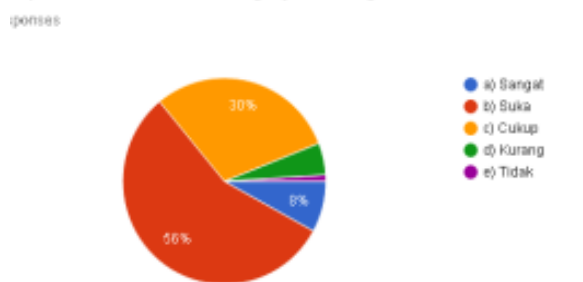


Fig. 5:Evaluation Result of Using Blog.

The third evaluation is related to using YouTube as a third resource in enriching their course materials. More than 53% students panelist like (see figure 6) to enrich their course material by involving a very powerful medium in exploring lecture materials [27], [28].

Apakah Anda suka belajar dengan melibatkan YouTube?

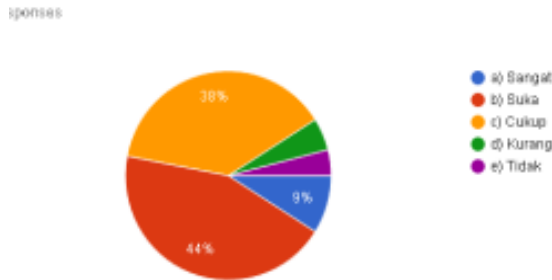


Fig. 6: Evaluation Result of Using Youtube.

The fourth evaluation is related to the use of DropBox as cloud repository. More than 63% students panelist like to store their team work by using DropBox (see figure 7). DropBox provides free cloud repository space for everyone to store their documents in various of formats [29]. Each submission in DropBox will has URL to make it easier in sharing. Dropbox also very handy tool [30] for its users.

Apakah Anda suka menyimpan tugas Anda dalam DropBox?

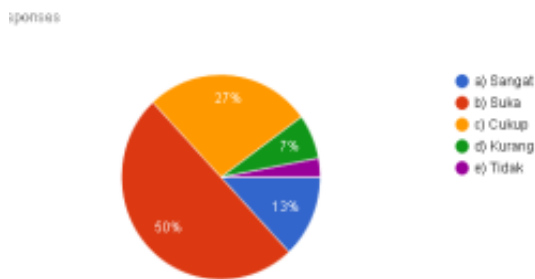


Fig. 7: Evaluation Result of Using Dropbox.

4. Conclusion

After the simulation are succeed conducted in the class, author able to summarized some point of views as follow:

Brainstorming is an excellent tool for discussing a problem. In this study was able to capture as many as 24 (twenty four) initial ideas from the all of participants. Brainstorming facilitates students corporation among their group members in class discussions.

The NGT method can be implemented well, and is able to select 8 (eight) best proposed ideas in reducing traffic congestion. Those ideas include: a) Parking Space/Lot, b) Parking Security, c) Parking Rates, d) Parking Rules, e) Parking Facilities, f) Parking Promotion, g) Parking Systems, and h) Mass Transportation. Most of the ideas are related to parking vehicles.

The involvement of popular social information technology in the lectures gained a very good response from the learners. For next research, Author interests to involve more knowledge capturing and codification methods with some tools that free available over the internet.

For next study, researcher interested to involve cloud medium and smart devices for higher education purposes.

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