



# AIMAN COLLEGE OF ARTS AND SCIENCE FOR WOMEN

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Affiliated to Bharathidasan University

Recognized by UGC under section 2(f) and 12(B)

ISO 9001:2015 Certified Institution

K.Sathanur, Tiruchirappalli - 620 021.

NAAC: SSR Cycle - I

## Criteria 3- Research, Innovations and Extension

### Key Indicators 3.3- Number of Publications

**3.3.2 Number of books and chapters in edited volumes/books published and papers published in national/ international conference proceedings per teacher during the last five years**

### Copies of Chapter/Books

**2018-2019**

## Item Recommendation Using Hybrid Method

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Available online at: [www.ijcseonline.org](http://www.ijcseonline.org)

Accepted: 10/Jun/2018, Published: 30/Jun/2018

**Abstract**— Recommender System provides various choices of the user preferences for suggesting the product/service to purchase. Collaborative filtering is one of the techniques in Recommender system used to find reviews and ratings of the users for similar products or users. To improve the performance of the recommendation, methods have been sometimes combined in hybrid recommenders. In this paper, the researcher have proposed an item based recommendation using Hybrid method called Item Recommendation Using Hybrid Method (IRHM), based on collaborative filtering approach that recommends the user for choosing the best item. The aim of the paper is to find the maximum value of precision and recall in hybrid method.

**Keywords**— Item, Movie, Recommendation System, Hybrid, Collaborative Filtering, IRHM

### I. INTRODUCTION

In today's world the challenge for online ecommerce lies on how to find a good product from variety of options. Users face lots of problems to look for a good opinion. Recommender systems analyze user preferences with the purpose of recommending items to users that meet their needs and satisfaction. Recommendation systems are used to help users to make decision about products, information or service among many for their preference to satisfy them. There are number of online recommendation systems available in the internet for the user to utilize in different ways. Examples of recommendation systems are recommendation on songs, movies, jokes, books, travel destination and e-learning etc. Recommender System's work is based on user's information from various sources and provides recommendation of good products. The ultimate goal is to bring out suggestions to users to make better decisions from many alternatives available over the web.

The decision and suggestion of the users can be stored in the recommender database and may be used for generating new recommender system in the next user-system interactions. Recommendation systems are very useful to both service providers and customers. They reduce online transaction cost when finding or selecting an item in a shopping environment. Recommendation system enhances revenues in ecommerce by effective way of selling more products. It also supports the users by allowing them to search beyond the catalogue. Recommender system can be classified as the collaborative

based recommender, the content based recommender and the hybrid recommender.

The Collaborative recommendation is the most familiar and widely accepted technologies. The collaborative filtering is the process of filtering for information or patterns using collaborative techniques among viewpoints, data sources etc. Collaborative filtering methods have been applied to many different kinds of data including: sensing and monitoring data, such as in mineral exploration, environmental sensing over large areas or multiple sensors; financial data, such as financial service institutions that integrate many financial sources; or in electronic commerce and web applications where the focus is on user data, etc. The collaborative filtering based recommendation system generates ratings for active user based on rating given by recommender system users who are similar to active user [1]. The Collaborative filtering algorithms are based on information about similar users or similar items. They can be categorized as

Item-based collaborative filtering: This recommends to a user the items that are most similar to the user's purchases.

User-based collaborative filtering: This recommends to a user the items that are the most preferred by similar users.

Collaborative filtering system like user based collaborative filtering (UBCF) system recommends items based on similarity measures between users and/or items. The system recommends items that are prepared by similar kind of users. It provides unexpected recommendation based on user's similarity rather than items similarity. Since in Collaborative Filtering people make explicit ratings so that real quality

assessment of items are done. Content-based filtering defines a user profile and identifies the items that match it. Content based filtering is based on the profile of user's preference and the item's description. In Content Based Filtering items are described by use of keywords apart from user's profile. CBF algorithm recommends best rated items that were liked in the past. Hybrid system is the combination of algorithms which provide more effective and accurate recommendations than a single algorithm done. Using of multiple recommendation techniques can suppress the weakness of an individual technique in a combined model. The combination of content based system and collaborative system is recommends products based on both the product attributes and user rating [2]. In proposed system, we combine the results of different models as hybrid to recommend the items/ products having incremental value of precision and recall for the user or customer to choose the right one. The structure of the paper is organized as follows: Section I contains the introduction of collaborative filtering, content based filtering and Hybrid method. Section II contains related work of collaborative filtering in Hybrid method. Section III discusses the Recommender approaches we have used in this work, Section IV describes the Proposed Model towards Item Recommendation using Hybrid System, Section V explains the Methodology with flow chart and algorithm, Section VI describes the Results and Findings of the proposed model and Section VII concludes the research work with Future directions.

## II. RELATED WORK

Perna Agarwal et.al [3] the author recommends the Indian movie datasets for analysing the ratings in regional languages from various demographics of users. He analysed the data with supervised and unsupervised collaborative filtering techniques. This version of dataset with more number of ratings and users will help to improve the current state of recommender systems for the Indian audience.

Sarwar et.al [4] investigated several techniques for analysing large scale purchase and preference data for the purpose of producing useful recommendations to customers. He devises different techniques for different sub processes and applies their combinations on datasets to compare for recommendation quality and performance.

R. Suguna et.al [5] suggested that web usage mining is considered as the major source for web recommendation in association with collaborative filtering approach. Markov model and association rule mining are used to recommend the webpage to the user based on user's past history. The traditional apriori algorithm helps to improve the time duration spent on each web page.

Mohamed Koutheair et.al [6] developed a novel recommendation system for the students who are all themselves learning technologies through e-learning environment using web usage mining. Their recommendation

system will automatically suggest the educational resources for the students based on browsing history.

Hamidreza Koochi et.al [7] proposed a fuzzy C-means approach for user-based Collaborative Filtering and its performance against different clustering approaches have been assessed. The Movie Lens dataset is used to compare different clustering algorithms to evaluate the recommendation accuracy, precision and recall using Pearson correlation coefficient can yield better recommendation results, compared to other techniques.

Ziming Zeng [8] conducted an experiment to evaluate its recommender quality and show that the system gives sensible recommendations and is able to help customers save enormous time for internet shopping. The system utilizes web mining techniques to trace the customer's shopping behavior and learn their up-to-date preference adaptively.

Shivani et.al [9] defined an algorithm called Behaviour based rational technique that uses brands and categories of each visited product for tracking user's dynamic behavior, uses popularity measures for accurate recommendation list of items. The proposed system yields good accuracy and diminishes the limitations of traditional system.

Amer Al-Badarenah et.al [10] discussed a new collaborative recommendation system that employed association rules algorithm to recommend university elective courses to students by exploiting courses that other similar students had taken.

Mohammad et.al [11] summarized a text mining approach to mine product features, opinions and their semantic similarity from web opinion sources. The consumer can clearly see the strength and weakness of each product in the minds of existing consumer. The system assists online shoppers by suggesting the most effective navigation products for their specified criteria and preferences.

Robin Burke [12] reviewed the landscape of actual and possible hybrid recommenders, and introduces a novel hybrid, EntreeC, a system that combines knowledge-based recommendation and collaborative filtering to recommend restaurants. The semantic ratings obtained from the knowledge-based part of the system enhance the effectiveness of collaborative filtering.

## III. RECOMMENDER APPROACHES

Recommender systems have become omnipresent and important in various areas such as for recommending movies, music, news, books etc in recent years. The most popular algorithms used to produce a list of recommendations are collaborative filtering, which is used to calculate similarities among many items or users. Similarity measure is defined as the methods used to calculate the score that is expressed by similar users or items. These scores can be used as the foundation of user-or item-based recommendation generation. Similarity measures are measures between users and items with the help of filtering techniques. The models used in filtering techniques are random, popular, UBCF and

IBCF. The Random model is used to select the items randomly from the list and produce the recommendation. The popular model produces recommendation based on popularity of the items. The UBCF and IBCF display the recommendations based on user based collaborative filtering and IBCF is item-based collaborative filtering that helps to make a prediction [13]. These collaborative filtering methods are measured by similarity measures such as Cosine, Pearson correlation, Jaccard, Euclidean etc.

Cosine similarity is a measure of similarity between two non-zero vector of an inner product space that measure cosine of the angle between them. Two vectors with the same orientation have a cosine similarity of 1, two vectors at 90° have a similarity of 0, and two vectors diametrically opposed have a similarity of -1, independent of their magnitude. Cosine similarity gives a useful measure between similar items. It is very efficient to evaluate, especially sparse vectors, only for non-zero dimensions [14].

$$\text{cosine similarity} = \frac{\text{crossprod}(a,b)}{\text{sqrt}(\text{crossprod}(a) * \text{crossprod}(b))}$$

Pearson correlation is a measure used to check how correlated two variables (vectors) are. This measure is calculating the similarities between users in recommendation systems since all users can be represented as vectors of ratings. Euclidean distance is a metric used to measure distance between vectors. It is calculated by directly comparing how each pair of ratings differs [14]. The Jaccard distance measures the proximity of two vectors A and B, both are in binary features. It ranges from zero to one and viewed as a proportion of common features that the two vectors share in the total number of features present in both [15].

#### IV. PROPOSED MODEL

Recommendation system is used to collect information of user preferences from various sources and provide better/best suggestion to make decisions of the products/items. The recommendation tasks are performed based on the outputs. They can be rating prediction or ranking prediction. Rating prediction fills the missing entries of the user item. Top-N recommendations produce the ranked list of items or users. In proposed system, we use the hybrid recommendation techniques by combing the values of recommendation model to evaluate the result. Our aim is to maximize the precision and recall value for the items.

#### V. METHODOLOGY

Different methodologies are used to find the best outcomes of Recommender System. All these methods are used to evaluate and perform the result for similarity measures to the user to make decision for the best suit / preference to select among the products. Figure 1 shows the flow of proposed system. The different models of recommender systems are calculated in the proposed system using IRHM algorithm. In

proposed system we use the cosine similarity distance to measure the similarity between similar users or items.

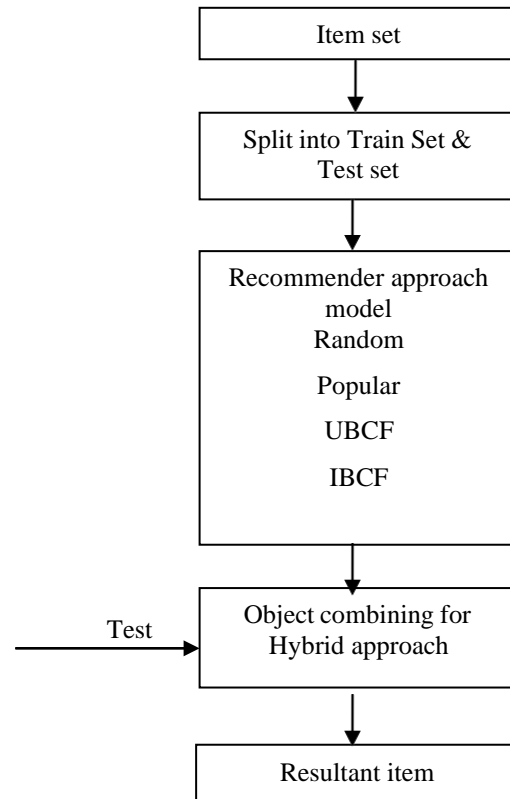


Figure1 Flow diagram of IRHM

#### A. Datasets:

Dataset like movie lens, jester 5K and MSWeb are used for recommendation system to recommend the output for Hybrid recommender systems. The movie lens dataset contains 943 users and 1664 movies with 100,000 ratings. The data was collected through the movie lens website. The jester5K dataset contains a sample of 5000 users and 100 jokes from the anonymous of 100 rating data from the jester online joke recommender system. The MSWeb data was created by sampling and processing the WWW.Microsoft.com logs [15].

#### B. Algorithm:

##### Algorithm of IRHM

- Step1: Collect the item set and given as input
- Step2: Split the items into train sets and test sets
- Step3: Implement the recommender system approach
- Step4: Output of step3 is combined for Hybrid technique
- Step5: Display the output with Precision and Recall

## VI. RESULTS AND FINDINGS

The datasets can be collected and split into training set and test set for the models of recommender system to implement. Filtering models like Random, popular, user based collaborative filtering and item based filtering are used to measure the similarity for split method. The splitting method randomly assigns a predefined proportion of the users to the training set and all others to the test set. The similarity measure is used to calculate the scores that express similar users or items. These scores can be used as the base for user or item based recommendation generation. The split method consists of 80% training data and 20% test data for predicting the results. The evaluation scheme which is used to perform the evaluation of predictive results for the given dataset of k fold values for given number of items/runs with good ratings for the users. The output of the evaluation result is calculated for finding average of precision, recall, true positive rate, false positive rate etc. Precision is a measure of exactness and recall is a measure of completeness.

$$\text{Precision} = \frac{|\text{test} \cap \text{top} - N|}{N}$$

$$\text{Recall} = \frac{|\text{test} \cap \text{top} - N|}{|\text{test}|}$$

Where top-N denotes the recommendation set, test denotes the test set and N denotes the number of recommendation. Since increasing the size of recommendation set leads to an increase in recall but at the same time a decrease in precision [16]. The algorithm of IRHM (Item Recommendation using Hybrid Method) to be implemented for predicting the item recommends to user. The results of evaluation scheme for different datasets have been recorded in the Table 1. The dataset Jester5k and MSWeb have realRatingMatrix of 362106 ratings with good ratings  $\geq 4$  for training set of 80% and test set of 20%. The Movie Lens dataset having realRatingMatrix of 99392 ratings with good ratings  $\geq 4$  for same training and test set with one k fold value. List of recommender techniques are tested and stored in the algorithm variable to evaluate. Cosine similarity is used with z-score normalize form for normalizing the datasets. Evaluate the prediction result for random of n items (like 1, 3, 5, 10, 15, 20) are taken. Finally the average results of precision and recall values are combined for hybrid recommender system. The predictive result of hybrid recommender systems of precision and recall curve are displayed in the figure 2. The table1 shows the model time and prediction time for different datasets with one number fold /run value. The prediction time for jester5k dataset records 0.5sec, movie lens records 1.78sec and MSWeb records 0.65sec of time for random model. Like the same other models also records different prediction time for different data sets. Table 2 shows the precision and recall value for proposed system. The precision value gradually starts from 0.16 at random model, having a difference of

three for popular model as 0.19, UBCF having 0.21 and IBCF ends with 0.24. Like precision, the recall also records the value of 0.030 for random model, 0.034 for popular model, 0.036 for UBCF and 0.038 for IBCF models.

Table 1 Display of Model time and Prediction time

Models	Datasets		
	Jester5k	Movie Lens	MSWeb
Random	0sec/0.5sec	0.01sec/1.78sec	0.02sec/0.65sec
Popular	0.4sec/4.58sec	0.11sec/1.71sec	0.36sec/4.02sec
UBCF	0.28sec/10.55sec	0.11sec/5.06sec	0.28sec/10.68sec
IBCF	0.92sec/0.54sec	80.12sec/0.19sec	1.3sec/0.74sec

Table 2 Display of Precision and Recall value for proposed model

Models	Precision	Recall
Random	0.167964142	0.030426814
Popular	0.190060998	0.034568065
UBCF	0.212298946	0.036843861
IBCF	0.240488798	0.038705652

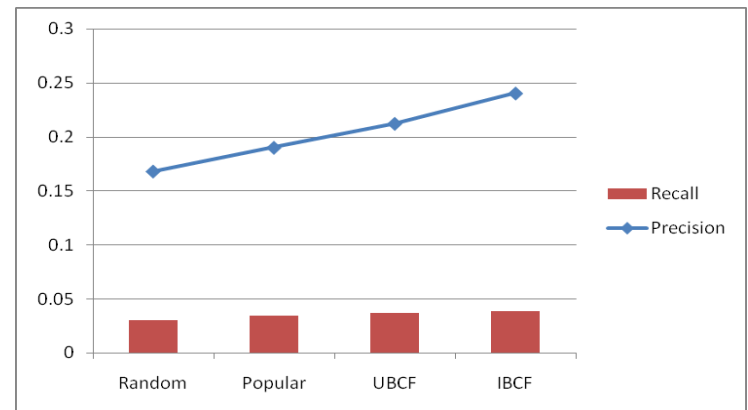


Figure 2 Predictive result of Proposed System

## VII. CONCLUSION

Recommender System recommends the products or service to the user for avoiding confusion when taking decision among many. Using of ratings gives clarity to the user for the products. The system focuses on recommendation of items /products to the users. Proposed systems for item recommendation using Hybrid method have competence to attract new customers and retain existing ones. Through experiments we find the maximum value of precision and recall performance for the Hybrid items recommendation system. Future recommendations for other datasets are taken for further research consideration.

## ACKNOWLEDGMENT

We first thank the Almighty and thank all those who have helped us to make this paper a successful one and giving

several openings in research. I also thank the R Community for providing this open source software towards successful implementation of this research work.

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## Usability of Academic Websites

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### Abstract

With the popularity of the websites, online users can attain more benefit and possibly be success rapidly. One key success factor is the usability of the websites. Many users may interact with internet for collecting their relevant data. The unique measurability of websites allows the collection of detailed information about the behavior and characteristics of website visitors. Web analytics focus on the trends – analyse how visits, engagement metrics or traffic source distribution change. The aim of the paper is to study the usability of the website and also helps to improve the performance of the website by the utilization of web analytics tools. This paper presents the competitive market intelligence data of various colleges website in Tiruchirapalli District and also gives the details of usability of websites to enhance the E-Commerce Business in a profitable way.

**AMS Subject Classification:** Data mining

**Key Words:** Web Analytics, Web Metrics, Tracks, Visits, Website, Rank

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### 1 Introduction

As the technology increases in day to day life, Internet users also increase in gathering their relevant data through online searches from the websites as E-Commerce, E-Business, E-learning, Social Media discussions etc. Data Mining Techniques helps to extracting and digging data from huge amount to the users in various forms. E-business and website owners need to offer better quality website for attracting more customers or visitors. Researchers use Analytics tools to track activity of websites for web-based businesses in ease of use in affordable manner. Web Analytics serve the purpose of understanding and optimizing the web usage. Web analytics is a process to analyze the website's usage statistics in order to better reach the target audience, and customize web content to their needs. The effectiveness of each of the web pages helps to improve the quality of the site content and it increases website

interaction by the audience. Ultimately, it can increase audience recognition of the organization's impact [12]. Web Analytics Association defines Web Analytics is the measurement, collection, analysis and reporting of Internet data for the purposes of understanding and optimizing web usage[14]. Figure 1 shows the process of Web analytics. The main task of web analytics is to monitor traffic of the website, on the basis of which the web audience is determined. The functionality of a web resources increases with the behavior of web visitors in order to make decisions on the development [1]. Web Analytics does not purely focus on the amount of traffic which might only be helpful in evaluating the bandwidth usage and server's capabilities. Instead it focuses on in-depth comparison of available visitor data, referral data, and site navigation patterns to tell the amount of traffic to receive over any specified period of time [13].



Figure 1: Web Analytics Process

## 2 Related Work

Alisa Dibrova described the process of Usability analysis of Websites belonging to a company in Stockholm. From the many existing tools of analytics, the author chooses Google analytics and Yandex Metrics tool to improve the website performance. The result shows that the overall bounce rate reduced, the number of visits to the page containing order forms significantly increased [1]. Dwyer et al., discovered a significant amount of member activity in a seemingly passive online community. This activity demonstrates a clear engagement and participation of members in the community [2]. Geocy Shejy el al summarized that using Web Analytics solution allowed Ryanair to identify the traffic received was quite low. Thus, they learned on what things to focus and how to improve business model. The use of their strategic decision about how their visitors wanted to interact with their web site and accordingly they can customize it in most optimized way. As a result of improving the homepage design increased the visitor traffic and Campaigns to personalize emails for double the revenue [3]. Ivan and Daniela analyzed the impact of web analytics tools for measuring the performance of a business model to support analysts in obtaining useful and relevant insights into market dynamics. A qualitative and quantitative focus is placed on reviewing web analytics tools to exploring their functionalities and ability to be integrated into the respective business model. The author suggested the Croatian firm to focusing on the proper tools and metric to strengthen management support and achieved better business results based on the growing needs of global market trends [4]. Gurpal Singh discussed various operations, types, advantages and disadvantages of web analytics. The types of web



analytics are compared. Users may interact with Internet for their needs to collect relevant data such as number of visits and time on visits. The author investigated ON –Site web Analytic is the best tool and its sub types techniques are more suitable for gathering more accurate results [5].Tommi Riihimäki suggested different web metrics can be analyzed to reveal important characteristics of site visitors and evaluate the effectiveness of the different aspects of a website. The author identified two key web metrics for the site under examination: search engine traffic for relationship analysis and the rate of return visits for examine visitor characteristics and also stated that the segmented web metrics are needed in order to achieve a more diverse view of the web users [6].Scott Erickson, William Tastle and Danielle Puleo reviewed the process toward establishing a business analytics program at a small undergraduate institution especially concerning its growth as a business application and as a source of jobs in the upcoming decade. The author proposed track/concentration is included, with current courses with additional resources and make such an approach is an opportunity to establish a unique academic offering providing exceptional value to students and the organizations [7].Y. Thushara and V. Ramesh defined a good alternative to stay successful in E-Commerce business by understand customers better. Web Usage Mining technique and E-Commerce software (OPENCART) used to track the information of the web users using Google Analytics Tool. The customer segments of users in Tamilnadu and Karnataka state in India are clustered [8]. Joanna Palonka and Marcin Lora concluded that Web Analytics can be used to manage the implementation of an organization's strategy for specific activities, on the achievement of particular goals. Web Analytics can be regarded as a modern instrument in the management of the online operations. Google Analytics is a supporting tool which supplies detailed information about the behavior of visitors to a particular website, the usability of the content provided, etc. The synergy of those elements is able to effectively support the decision-making process and optimize management activities for creating a new way of managing the organizations online operations[9].Mohammad Amin Omidvar, Vahid Reza Mirabi et.al introduced a methodology to measure the success of the website with its time series data. The study focused on one of the most important variables which are page views and showed how to use the most suitable data for that. The regression model used on all websites on time series data[10].

### **Web Metrics**

The common features of web metrics including collecting specific visitor actions and the exclusion of search engine robots that search content on the website while indexing it. Effective web metrics has to be based on generally accepted terms, definitions and practices [14]. Web analytics incorporate web metrics, thus providing benefits for online businesses [15] such as the ability to analyze and increase sales, ability to track revenue generated by the site, ability to identify exit pages, and consequently improving website usage, the monitoring of visitor traffic and detection of website errors.

The most common types of web metrics [4] are

- Metrics for describing visits refers to dimensions such as the entry page, landing page, exit page and visit duration - time on site, referrer click-through rate.
- Metrics for describing visitors refers new visitors, returning, repeat visitor, visits per visitor, recency and frequency.
- Metrics for describing the visitor engagement includes metrics that describe the degree of visitor interaction. The related metrics are page exit ratio, bounce rate and page views per visitor.
- Conversion metrics – the collection of special website activities that provide business value, such as metrics that indicate the number of successfully achieved set goals (conversion) and the ratio between the number of realized conversions and other relevant metrics (conversion rate).

### **Web analytics tools**

A variety of web analytics tools have been developed and are available on the market that aim to obtain quantitative and qualitative data as a basis for the decision-making process, The web analytics tools has been classified based on usage into five categories[4]: Traditional web analytics tools, Social Networks Analytics tool, Feedback Web Analytics tool, Mobile Web Analytics tool and Testing Web Analytics tool

### **3 Proposed Model**

The proposed Model has to implement the traditional web analytics to find user behavior interact with website and various web metrics. The model finds the traffic information about the E-Commerce websites and generates the report. 4 shows the design of proposed model.

The core metrics obtained through web analytics are: A hit is a successful request from a visitor's browser for ANY page element: images, media, scripts, etc  
The Page View metric represents the number of times a web page, be it static, or dynamic, has been displayed. It is useful for determining the popularity of select content.

A Visit (or session as Web Trends refers to is) is represented by activity during a period of time (usually 30 minutes) that takes place on a website.

Visitors are one of the most unique metrics used in web analytics. By default, a visitor is represented by an IP address or a cookie. Uniquely identified visitors are cross referenced by another back-end system, usually an e-commerce or CRM system.

The bounce rate report presents how many people come to Web Analytics user site and leave without going anywhere. High bounce rate indicates that visitors find webpage irrelevant. Analytics allows users to view bounce rate over time, and it shows how it varies from page to page.

### Methodology

Collection of data: This stage is the collection of the basic, elementary data. Usually, this data is counts of things. The objective of this stage is to gather the data.  
 Processing of data into information: This stage usually takes counts and makes them ratios, although there still may be some counts. The objective of this stage is to take the data and conform it into information, specifically metrics.  
 Developing KPI: This stage focuses on using the ratios (and counts) and infusing them with business strategies, referred to as Key Performance Indicators (KPI).

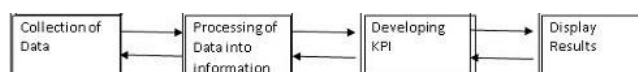


Figure 2: Design of Proposed Model

### 4 Results and Findings

The proposed model implemented for various Academic websites of Tiruchirappalli District from August 2017 to October 2017. 5 shows snapshots of rank of various websites. 6 shows the comparison results of global rank and country rank. 7 depicts number of page visits and bounce rate. 3 shows the number of total visits. The resultant metrics are listed in Table 1.

College Name	Global rank	Country Rank	Category Rank	Monthly Visit	Pages Visit /	Bounce Rate	Social Traffic	Top 5 Countries
Aiman College	7585514	486021	21802	<5000	2.86	18.23%	No Data	India, Nigeria, Brunei Darussalam
Jamal Mohamed College	2804141	123934	85291	30648	3.67	38.43%	No Data	India, UAE, Malawi, Taiwan, Canada
Bishop Heber College	788863	29108	40468	57073	2.59	48.24%	Face Book	India, US, UAE, Taiwan, UK
St. Joseph College	413474	15937	14922	78175	5.94	34.09%	YouTube	India, Pakistan, US, UAE, Newzeland
Periyar E.V.R. College	3921816	172122	106501	6202	1.77	24.22%	No Data	India, US, Ukraine
Shrimathi Indira Gandhi College	3757261	20432	13488	5670	2.64	39.91%	No Data	India, Turkey, Malaysia, Pakistan, Zimbabwe
Cauvery College	3540973	148314	13050	10807	5.06	4.45%	No Data	India, Kuwait, Nepal, Ukraine, Kenya

Figure 3: Resultant metrics

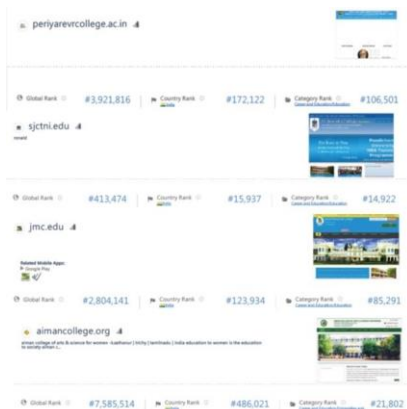


Figure 4: Rank of websites

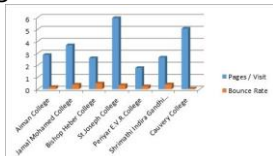


Figure 6: Number of page visits and bounce rate

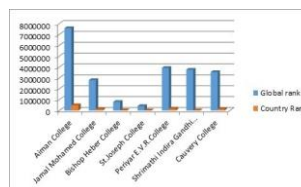


Figure 5: Comparison results of global rank and country rank



Figure 7: Total number of visits

5 Conclusion

Web analytics is becoming an increasingly popular and effective web site optimization used by online business owners. By providing deep insight into the web user by knowing who, what, when, why and how of web site traffic and visitor behavior, web analytics tool can helps to improve the usability of the site. Regardless of business size and objective, an effective Web analytics strategy is becoming increasingly essential. So far we success in traffic information and analyzed the overall users in different colleges of Tiruchirapalli District. Hence, determine the relationship between Web Analytics and E-Business and also to apply Web mining technology in E-Commerce.

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