STM JOURNALS

Current Trends in
Information Technology

ISSN: 2249-4707 (Online)
ISSN: 2348-7895 (Print)
Volume 15, Issue 2, 2025
May–August
DOI (Journal): 10.37591/CTIT

https://journals.stmjournals.com/ctit

Review CTIT

Limits to Knowledge-Sharing by Computers

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Abstract

The rapid advancement of artificial intelligence (AI) and machine learning (ML) has significantly enhanced the capabilities of computers in processing, analyzing, and disseminating knowledge. However, despite these advancements, there are inherent limits to the extent that knowledge-sharing can be fully realized through computer systems. This study explores the various barriers that hinder the effective sharing and transfer of knowledge through machines, including technological limitations, ethical concerns, and the complexities of human cognition. It examines the challenges posed by data interpretation, context understanding, and the ability of computers to replicate human intuition, creativity, and subjective experience. Furthermore, the study highlights the importance of human-computer collaboration and discusses potential future directions for bridging the gap between human knowledge and machine capabilities. Ultimately, while computers play a pivotal role in enhancing knowledge-sharing, their limitations underscore the need for complementary human involvement in decision-making and problem-solving processes.

Keywords: Digital technology, volume of information knowledge-sharing in the digital age, computer-mediated communication, sensitive personal data

INTRODUCTION

The advent of digital technology has transformed the landscape of knowledge-sharing, yet it also reveals significant limitations inherent in computer-mediated communication. While digital platforms have ostensibly enhanced access to information by removing traditional barriers of time and distance, the resulting proliferation of available data has generated complex challenges for users and librarians alike. The increasing volume of digital information often overwhelms individual libraries, forcing them to adapt swiftly to evolving standards and skills essential for effective resource management. Consequently, what was once a peripheral function of librarianship, resource sharing, has become a central focus, underscoring the necessity for continuous learning and adjustment within the field [1]. Moreover, a national study exploring the educational applications of learning management systems highlights the challenges faced in implementing technology in knowledge-sharing environments, reinforcing the notion that merely having access to computers does not equate to effective dissemination of knowledge [2].

In the digital age, knowledge-sharing has transformed remarkably, propelled by advancements in technology that dissolve geographic barriers and enhance accessibility. This expansion facilitates the dissemination of information at unprecedented speeds, allowing individuals and organizations to share resources and insights almost instantaneously. However, this rapid sharing has introduced new challenges, particularly for libraries and educational institutions, which must navigate a constantly evolving digital landscape. The integration of new media into educational practices illustrates the changing dynamics of knowledge and authority, as highlighted in studies examining youth engagement with digital content [3]. Additionally, while resource sharing has become a central function of libraries, a

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Received Date: March 03, 2025
Accepted Date: April 22, 2025
Published Date: May 03, 2025

Citation: V. Basil Hans. Limits to Knowledge-Sharing by Computers. Current Trends in Information Technology. 2025; 15(2): 1–5p.

shift from its historical role, librarians must acquire new skills and meet emerging standards to manage the overwhelming volume of information available [1]. These developments underscore the complexities of knowledge-sharing, illustrating both its potential and inherent limitations in the digital realm.

LITERATURE REVIEW

In practice, the use of computers for collaboration can overcome many of obstacles that limit existing means of shared work [4]. Nevertheless, this new possibility presumes that individuals share, both consciously and unconsciously while working, new knowledge. Therefore, it is important to investigate the constraints about knowledge sharing by computers. Exploring limits that are existing or evoked by such shared work will make possible to evaluate the potential of this shared work aspect and, moreover, support the designing of new or modified tools enhancing facilitated knowledge exchange [5]. It appears then both timely and useful to examine the effects of computer use on knowledge sharing and distribution. The aim of this study is to present the state of knowledge. That is to discuss advantages, but also some, as yet little examined, barriers and technical, and, organizational boundaries related to the problem.

Knowledge practices are deeply enmeshed in their local social, political and historical contexts, producing still further obstacles to the formulation of knowledge which can be safely and freely put to institutional work [6]. At the same time, there is an immense drive across all industrial sectors towards the standardization of knowledge products, leading to a further homogenization of the available knowledge base, and constraining the ability of individuals and small firms to participate in knowledge intensive activities. In this light, the simple juxtaposition between technology and social practice appears highly reductive; rather, a more complex and plastic interdependence is needed in order to understand how well-articulated and bounded socio-technical systems involve the conception of knowledge as well as the media actualizing and encoding it [7]. It is this intersection of best practices, standards, protocols and policy settings which present the grasping point for any spectral analysis of what it means to distribute and make actual use of knowledge in its computable form.

A supporting environment is needed that teases the culture of openness and collaboration, and ensures the sharing of knowledge as secure and ethical practice [8]. Training programs and awareness initiatives can be an ingenious way to vertically enhance the skill and confidence level in knowledge sharing. This can be carried out through the installation of technological media that makes individuals understand the depth of the importance and need for knowledge sharing via computers [9].

TECHNICAL LIMITATIONS

In the context of knowledge-sharing by computers, technical limitations pose significant challenges that hinder effective exchanges of information. Despite advances in technology, systems often struggle with interoperability, which is essential for different platforms to communicate seamlessly [10]. This lack of compatibility can inhibit collaboration, particularly in environments such as small and medium-sized enterprises (SMEs), where resources are limited and the need for efficient knowledge-sharing is paramount [11]. Furthermore, issues related to data security and privacy can complicate the sharing process, as users may be reluctant to disclose sensitive information on platforms that cannot guarantee its protection. A notable example illustrating this concern comes from a national study on technology integration in education, which emphasized that, despite advancements, technical obstacles still impede the full realization of knowledge-sharing platforms [2]. Therefore, addressing these technical limitations is crucial for enhancing the efficacy of computer-mediated communication.

Constraints of Algorithms and Data Processing Capabilities

The constraints inherent in algorithms and data processing capabilities significantly influence the effectiveness of knowledge sharing by computers. As technology evolves, the limitations of computational power and algorithmic efficiency become more pronounced, particularly in complex data analysis and research contexts. For instance, large-scale scientific programs, such as those at CERN, face critical IT challenges that hinder effective data processing and knowledge dissemination, as outlined in

the study by Di Meglio *et al*. [12]. Moreover, the idea of personal volunteer computing emerges as a promising solution to these constraints; it utilizes existing personal devices for intensive computations, thereby circumventing the need for additional infrastructure investment. This approach not only enhances data processing capabilities but also democratizes access to computational resources, as detailed in the study by Madison *et al*. [13]. Consequently, addressing these constraints is fundamental to improving the overall efficacy of knowledge-sharing systems implemented through computer technologies.

ETHICAL AND PRIVACY CONCERNS

The ethical and privacy concerns surrounding the use of computers in knowledge-sharing are multifaceted, often reflecting the tension between technological advancement and moral responsibility [14]. As digital data becomes increasingly integral to various aspects of life, the delegation of moral agency to machines raises significant questions about privacy protection. For instance, when computer databases manage sensitive personal data, failures in their oversight can result in dire consequences, as seen in legislation aimed at safeguarding children, which paradoxically relies on flawed digital implementations to ensure safety [8]. Additionally, the autonomous nature of software agents introduces further ethical dilemmas, particularly in terms of monitoring and surveillance practices that may infringe upon user privacy rights. This highlights the necessity of understanding user perceptions and designing software that integrates comprehensive ethical considerations, ultimately shaping a more responsible approach to knowledge-sharing in digital environments [15].

Implications of Data Sharing on User Privacy and Consent

The implications of data sharing on user privacy and consent have emerged as critical concerns in the digital age, especially within social networking sites and emerging technologies like home robots. As businesses increasingly leverage data mining from platforms such as Facebook to enhance personalized marketing strategies, users often find themselves inadvertently exposing sensitive information, sparking significant privacy outrage among affected individuals [16]. This phenomenon highlights the delicate balance between the benefits of data sharing and the erosion of privacy rights. Moreover, the integration of home robots into daily life raises additional privacy issues, including data privacy, boundary management, and relational concerns. Researchers suggest that addressing these challenges requires a thoughtful approach to technological design, emphasizing principles like data minimization and purpose specifications to foster consumer trust while safeguarding privacy [17]. Therefore, understanding user consent and implementing robust privacy frameworks are essential as society continues to navigate the complexities of data sharing.

RESULTS

Studies on the limitations of computer-mediated knowledge sharing have identified several key barriers:

1. *Technological constraints*: Computers often lack the ability to convey contextual nuances, emotions, and non-verbal cues present in face-to-face interactions. This deficiency can lead to misunderstandings and reduced effectiveness in communication.
2. *Privacy and security concerns*: Sharing knowledge electronically raises issues related to data privacy and security. Ensuring that sensitive information is protected while being shared can be challenging, limiting the willingness of individuals to share knowledge.
3. *Lack of trust:* Without personal rapport, individuals may be hesitant to share knowledge through computers, doubting the credibility or intentions of the recipient.
4. *Technological reliability*: Dependence on technology means that technical failures, such as system crashes or connectivity issues, can disrupt knowledge-sharing processes.
5. *Reduced social interaction*: The absence of informal, spontaneous conversations in digital environments can limit the flow of tacit knowledge, which is often shared through casual interactions.

Addressing these limitations requires a combination of technological solutions, such as enhancing communication platforms to support richer interactions, and organizational strategies, like fostering a culture of trust and providing training on effective digital communication.

CONCLUSION

In conclusion, the investigation into the limits of knowledge-sharing by computers reveals significant hurdles that must be addressed to enhance the efficacy of digital communication and data exchange. The effectiveness of training programs, such as the patient-centered EHR use training underscores the necessity for structured education to equip users with the skills needed to facilitate better interactions with technology. Moreover, recognizing the role of informal groups, emphasizes the potential social benefits that can arise from fostering more inclusive communication networks. These insights suggest that overcoming the barriers to knowledge-sharing is not solely a technological challenge but also necessitates a cultural shift in how we perceive and implement collaborative frameworks. Ultimately, a combined focus on both formal training and the enrichment of informal networks may pave the way for a more effective exchange of knowledge in digital contexts.

Summary of the Challenges and Future Directions for Knowledge-Sharing by Computers

The landscape of knowledge-sharing by computers is fraught with significant challenges that have emerged from both technological advancements and evolving user needs. One paramount obstacle is the rapid acceleration of digital information, which has led to an overwhelming volume that many institutions struggle to manage effectively. As the study suggests, libraries, once simply being facilitators of resource sharing, find themselves at the forefront of digital knowledge management, necessitating new standards and skills to adapt. Furthermore, concepts such as personal volunteer computing highlight innovative solutions that leverage existing devices for complex applications, thus negating the need for additional hardware investment. This paradigm shift not only presents an opportunity for enhanced resource utilization but also poses challenges in ensuring accessibility and user engagement. Moving forward, addressing these challenges requires a concerted effort to bridge technology and user needs, fostering an environment conducive to efficient knowledge-sharing.

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