

Bibliometric Analysis of Herding Behavior in Capital Market

Puput Tri Komalasari^{1,2,*} Marwan Asri¹ Bowo Setiyono¹

¹*Faculty of Economics and Business, Universitas Gadjah Mada, Yogyakarta, Indonesia*

²*Universitas Airlangga, Surabaya, Indonesia*

**Corresponding author. Email: puput_tk@yahoo.com*

ABSTRACT

Herding behavior in financial market as a theoretical concept get going to be popular since 1990s. There are many articles that discuss and investigate herding behavior in capital market, but our understanding about antecedents and outcomes of herding behavior is still very limited. The majority of empirical research are investigated whether herding behavior really occur in capital market or not. In this paper, we conduct a bibliometric analysis to map the development of research on herding behavior in the capital market. We analyze quantitatively the distribution patterns of publications, dimensions related to herding behavior and the most influential research. Based on 279 articles which were taken from Scopus database, we mapped the level of co-occurrence and network of researchers through keywords analysis. This bibliometric analysis provides insight into the research profile and opportunities that can be carried out regarding herding behavior in the capital market.

Keywords: *bibliometric analysis, capital market, herding behavior, informational cascade*

1. INTRODUCTION

Herding behavior is a phenomenon that arises in many financial markets [1], and was popular in the 1990s led by Banerjee [2] and Bikhchandani, Hirshleifer, & Welch [3]. However, the empirical evidence supporting this assumption is inconclusive.

Bikhchandani et al. [3] specifically explained this mechanism using an informational cascade model. According to Bikhchandani et al. [3], this takes place just as an individual's actions or decisions do not depend on their private information, but on action of others. However, the discussion of herding behavior in these articles fails to specifically explain the context of financial markets.

In contrast to Doherty [4], this paper reviews the literature associated with herding behavior, and not informational cascade which is a term often used interchangeably in numerous financial literatures. Devenow & Welch [5] defined herding behavior as a pattern of behavior which correlates with individuals. However, assuming there many investors buy hot shares, it is categorized a uniform behavior due to the uniformly analyzed information and the fact that each investor acts independently.

Devenow & Welch [5] stated that one of the conditions for herding behavior is the existence of a coordinated mechanism among investors, which is usually in the form of a widespread convention based on several signals (for example, a price change), or an investor's ability to directly observe other decision makers such as colleagues.

In contrast to Devenow & Welch [5], Avery & Zemsky [6] defined herding behavior as a trade carried out by

investors that traded trends in the past despite the contrary pattern to the initial information regarding the assets. The definition proposed by Avery & Zemsky [6] seems more appropriate for the informational cascade.

Informational cascade is a condition associated with individuals making decisions by observing the actions of others and ignoring their private information. Bikhchandani et al. [3] defined it as a situation used by individuals to obtain optimal results by observing the actions of their predecessor's without regarding their personal information. This is an application of conformity and social learning theories.

Hirshleifer & Hong Teoh [7] defined herd as a behavioral convergence, while informational cascade is the result of neglecting private information. Individuals choose to carry out identical actions in a different manner using a private signal, during herd activities. Furthermore, an individual feels optimal by observing the actions of others beforehand, and following their predecessors' behavior with no regard to personal information. Therefore, the existence of an informational cascade implies a herd, which does not necessarily reflect the informational cascade.

Çelen & Kariv [8] explained that the distinction between herd and cascade consists of a practical significance. During an informational cascade, individual behavior is purely imitative, therefore the process of social learning stops, with uninformative actions which fail to consist of private information. In contrast, herding behavior reflects individuals that imitate other people's actions. It is fragile because the strong signals which are different from group actions, causes changes in patterns. In contrast, the informational cascade phenomenon is more stable, meaning that there are no signals capable of causing changes to the individual's behavior patterns.

Çelen & Kariv [8] summarized the results of analytical research from Smith & Sørensen [9] research and concluded that the informational cascade occurs just as unlimited number of individuals ignores their private information during decision making. Conversely, herding behavior occurs when an unlimited number of individuals make identical decisions without ignoring their private information. Although herding behavior has been extensively researched in the financial sector, in 2018, it became an empirical study discussed in tier 1, 2 and 3 journals. Cipriani & Guarino [10] reported that the theory does not completely explain herding behavior because prices and market conditions are controlled in experiments, with participants following the crowds in some instances. Cipriani & Guarino [11] stated that empirical research which uses secondary data is atheistic because it utilizes proxies derived from statistical formulas and not based on strong theories. This article furthermore aims to simple literature review and conduct profiling based on bibliometric analysis.

2. THEORETICAL UNDERPINNING

Based on the various perspectives on herding behavior, it is possible to analyze several main theories, with its root by investors explained using the conformity theory. Aronson [12] defined conformity as a change in a person's behavior or opinion due to pressure or imagination from a group. It allows people to voluntarily follow certain group norms, and expect to obtain rewards or punishment. Furthermore, it is different from obedience which is a method used to avoid various possible penalties and in order to obtain rewards by carrying out orders from legitimate authorities [13].

The theory of herding behavior is also explained from the field of social psychology also known as crowd or mass psychology. Gustave Le Bon, a famous psychologist, discusses the Theory of Crowd Psychology. In 1895, Le Bon explained that crowds occur through three stages, namely submergence, transmission, and suggestion. During the submergences period, individuals lose their sense of personal responsibility and identity due to the anonymity of the crowd. The transmission period shows the tendency of to follow the most dominant ideas and emotions in the crowd without questioning the reasons and thinking rationality. The last stage refers to the condition of the ideas and emotions that are driven by something which is not shared. In other words, the crowd is influenced by the idea or emotion which drives others to follow without thinking. A crowd or individual psychology is under a "collective mentality," capable of radically transforming individual behavior. Le Bon [14] also indicated that members of the crowd tend to feel 'safe' from the demands associated with error due to the difficulty of prosecuting or blaming the masses.

Based on Le Bon [14] thinking framework, the phenomenon of herding behavior arises during the period of transmission and suggestion. The idea of collective hypnosis which

forms social transmission helps to explain herding behavior as irrational and unconscious.

It is also viewed from the agency theory which is based on the contractual relationship between investment managers and investors and capable of triggering the emergence of the phenomenon of herding behavior. Investment managers possess incentives to maintain reputation and compensation which is dependent on the performance of the investments they manage [15]. Career reputation or concentration arises due to uncertainty on the ability or expertise of managers. Herding behavior arises when low-ability investment managers deliberately imitate the decisions of senior investors, and ignore their private information because they believe that decisions made their superiors are based on better information. Although investment managers' compensations are based on comparing its performance with others, they tend to further change their portfolio to be inefficient [16] which fails to decrease.

The phenomenon of herding behavior in the context of financial markets often adopts social influences and learning theories in forming herding behavior. The theory of social learning proposed by Bandura [17] stated that humans learn from others through observation, imitation and modeling and the information serves as a guidance for carrying out an action. This social learning theory explains human behavior in the form of continuous reciprocal interactions between cognitive, behavioral, and environmental influences.

Gale [18] stated that social learning takes place when a person learns by observing the behavior of others. This definition implies that the process materializes in asymmetry information and it is also a mechanism that encourages herding behavior.

3. METHODOLOGICAL ASPECT OF THE RESEARCH

This research analyzed the online databases such as Ebsco Host, Jstor, Proquest, Sage Journal, Science Direct, Springer Link, Taylor and Francis, Emerald and Wiley to identify all publications related to herding behavior in the capital market. It consists of three categories namely theoretical, conceptual and empirical research.

The empirical research category is screened as follows:

- 1) Articles published from 1988-2018.
- 2) The article is included in the Scopus database starting Q1-Q4.

This article filtering utilizes Publish or Perish software with the keywords "herding", "herding behavior", "herding behavior", "herd", "information cascade" and "informational cascades". In order to obtain relevant articles, the study also limited the context by entering the keyword "capital market".

The method used to filter the theoretical/conceptual research is the snowball method without limiting years or restricting the publishers of these theoretical articles with the screening based on sensitivity. Assuming the article is frequently cited by other researchers, a citation cutoff of

Table 2 shows that Grinblatt et al. (1995) was the most quoted researcher followed by Lakonishok et al. (1992). In figure 3 it is concluded that this most influential researchers did not include those that focus on examining herding behavior empirically. Meanwhile, the highest citation rate obtained by Vasileios Kallinterakis was 54 for most articles published in the Journal of International Financial Markets, Institutions and Money.

Table 3. Top Cited Conceptual Papers

Author	Journal	Cited Count	Title
Bikhchandani, Hirshleifer, & Welch [29]	Journal of Economic Perspectives	1993	Learning from the Behavior of Others: Conformity, Fads, and Informational Cascades
Bikhchandani & Sharma [30]	IMF Staff Papers	1444	Herd Behavior in Financial Markets
Devenow & Welch [5]	European Economic Review	1210	Rational herding in financial economics
Hirshleifer & Hong Teoh [7]	European Financial Management	948	Herd behaviour and cascading in capital markets: A review and synthesis
Shiller [31]	American Economic Review	566	Conversation, Information, and Herd Behavior

The number of citations for conceptual articles as a whole is lower than the empirical articles (see Table 3). An interesting finding in this analysis is there is a paper that not included in Scopus database but it has high citation level, namely Bikhchandani & Sharma [25]. This shows that the content in the paper titled Herd Behavior in Financial Markets is quite interesting and provides new insights for other academics.

Table 4. Top Cited Theoretical Papers

Author	Journal	Cited Count	Title
Bikhchandani et al. [3]	Journal of Political Economy	7328	A theory of fads, fashion, custom, and cultural change as

			informational cascades
Banerjee [2]	Quarterly Journal of Economics	7005	A Simple Model of Herd Behavior
Welch [32]	Journal of Finance	1632	Sequential Sales, Learning, and Cascades
Froot, Scharfstein, & Stein [33]	Journal of Finance	1317	Herd on the Street: Informational Inefficiencies in a Market with Short-Term Speculation
Lux [34]	Economic Journal	1197	Herd Behaviour, Bubbles and Crashes
Avery & Zemsky [6]	American Economic Review	1030	Multidimensional Uncertainty and Herd Behavior in Financial Markets

The name Sushil Bikhchandani seems to be very influential in finance especially in discussing the theme of herding and informational cascade behavior as shown in Tables 3 and 4. Sushil Bikhchandani occupies the top position as the most quoted researcher of herding behavior both conceptually and theoretically. Banerjee [2] was the first researcher to popularize the term "herding behavior" as a result his citation rate was high. However, Banerjee's [2] contribution to the development of the concept of herding behavior stopped in an article entitled "A Simple Model of Herd Behavior" because afterwards there was no track record of research on the theme of herding behavior again conducted. Tables 2, 3, and 4 shows the most cited papers by other researchers which ranked high according to the SCImago Journal & Country Rank portal. These results differ from Table 1 which shows the ranking of the most productive journals in publishing herding behavior themes. However, the amount of productivity does not guarantee the high citation or influence of researchers in the journal.

5. CONCLUSION

This study uses a simple bibliometric approach to analyze current conditions and the development trends of academic research in accordance to herding behavior. Important information on research developments, influential researchers, and reference were obtained using the ranking analysis and visualization of keywords to examine the construct of herding behavior in the capital market. Based on a keyword analysis of 221 words on herding behavior in the capital market, this study found it is often associated with institutional and financial crisis investors. In addition, research on herding behavior mostly tests the

occurrence of the phenomenon in the capital market. Bibliometric analysis showed that the most productive writer is not always the most influential researcher. The most cited researchers are the authors who publish in Q1 journals and have a high impact factor.

ACKNOWLEDGMENT

This research was supported by Universitas Gadjah Mada under the Directorate of Research Program, Final Project Recognition Program (Rekognisi Tugas Akhir).

REFERENCES

- [1] X. Deng, S. Hung and Z. Qiao, "Mutual fund herding and stock price crashes", *Journal of Banking & Finance*, vol. 94, pp. 166-184, 2018. Available: 10.1016/j.jbankfin.2018.07.014.
- [2] A. Banerjee, "A Simple Model of Herd Behavior", *The Quarterly Journal of Economics*, vol. 107, no. 3, pp. 797-817, 1992. Available: 10.2307/2118364.
- [3] S. Bikhchandani, D. Hirshleifer and I. Welch, "A Theory of Fads, Fashion, Custom, and Cultural Change as Informational Cascades", *Journal of Political Economy*, vol. 100, no. 5, pp. 992-1026, 1992. Available: 10.1086/261849.
- [4] O. Doherty, "Informational cascades in financial markets: review and synthesis", *Review of Behavioral Finance*, vol. 10, no. 1, pp. 53-69, 2018. Available: 10.1108/rbf-05-2016-0030.
- [5] A. Devenow and I. Welch, "Rational herding in financial economics", *European Economic Review*, vol. 40, no. 3-5, pp. 603-615, 1996. Available: 10.1016/0014-2921(95)00073-9.
- [6] C. Avery, P. Zemsky, "Multidimensional Uncertainty and Herd Behavior in Financial Markets", *American Economic Review*, vol. 88, no. 4, pp. 724-748, 1998.
- [7] D. Hirshleifer and S. Hong Teoh, "Herd Behaviour and Cascading in Capital Markets: a Review and Synthesis", *European Financial Management*, vol. 9, no. 1, pp. 25-66, 2003. Available: 10.1111/1468-036x.00207.
- [8] B. Çelen and S. Kariv, "Distinguishing Informational Cascades from Herd Behavior in the Laboratory", *American Economic Review*, vol. 94, no. 3, pp. 484-498, 2004. Available: 10.1257/0002828041464461.
- [9] L. Smith and P. Sorensen, "Pathological Outcomes of Observational Learning", *Econometrica*, vol. 68, no. 2, pp. 371-398, 2000. Available: 10.1111/1468-0262.00113.
- [10] M. Cipriani and A. Guarino, "Herd Behavior in a Laboratory Financial Market", *American Economic Review*, vol. 95, no. 5, pp. 1427-1443, 2005. Available: 10.1257/000282805775014443.
- [11] M. Cipriani and A. Guarino, "Estimating a Structural Model of Herd Behavior in Financial Markets", *American Economic Review*, vol. 104, no. 1, pp. 224-251, 2014. Available: 10.1257/aer.104.1.224.
- [12] Aronson (1976)
- [13] R. Burns, C. Dobson, *Introductory Psychology*, Lancaster: MTP Press Limited, 1984.
- [14] G. Le Bon, *The Crowd: A Study of the Popular Mind*, The Floating Press, 1896.
- [15] D. Scharfstein and J. Stein, "Herd Behavior and Investment", *American Economic Review*, vol. 80, no. 3, pp. 465-479, 1990.
- [16] M. Brennan, *Agency and Asset Pricing*, 2008.
- [17] A. Bandura, *Social Learning Theory*, Prentice-Hall, Inc, 1977.
- [18] D. Gale, "What have we learned from social learning?", *European Economic Review*, vol. 40, no. 3-5, pp. 617-628, 1996. Available: 10.1016/0014-2921(95)00074-7.
- [19] L. Anderson, & C. Holt, "Information Cascades in the Laboratory" *American Economic Review*, vol. 87, no. 5, pp. 847-862, 1997.
- [20] S. Huck, & J. Oechssler, "Informational cascades in the laboratory: Do they occur for the right reasons? " *Journal of Economic Psychology*, vol. 21, no. 6, pp. 661-671, 2000.
- [21] A. Hung, C. Plott, "Information Cascades: Replication and an Extension to Majority Rule and Conformity-Rewarding Institutions" *American Economic Review*, vol. 91, no. 5, pp. 1508-1520, 2001.
- [22] J. Alevy, M. Haigh, & J. List, "Information Cascades: Evidence from a Field Experiment with Financial Market Professionals", *The Journal of Finance*, vol. 62, no. 1, pp. 151-180, 2007.

- [23] B. Grinblatt, S. Titman, & R. Wermers, "Momentum Strategy, Portfolio Performance, and Herding: A Study of Mutual Fund Behavior." *American Economic Review*, vol. 85, no. 5, pp. 1088–1105, 1995.
- [24] J. Lakonishok, A. Shleifer and R. Vishny, "The impact of institutional trading on stock prices", *Journal of Financial Economics*, vol. 32, no. 1, pp. 23-43, 1992. Available: 10.1016/0304-405x(92)90023-q.
- [25] R. Wermers, "Mutual Fund Herding and the Impact on Stock Prices", *The Journal of Finance*, vol. 54, no. 2, pp. 581-622, 1999. Available: 10.1111/0022-1082.00118.
- [26] J. Nofsinger and R. Sias, "Herding and Feedback Trading by Institutional and Individual Investors", *The Journal of Finance*, vol. 54, no. 6, pp. 2263-2295, 1999. Available: 10.1111/0022-1082.00188.
- [27] H. Choe, "Do foreign investors destabilize stock markets? The Korean experience in 1997", *Journal of Financial Economics*, vol. 54, no. 2, pp. 227-264, 1999. Available: 10.1016/s0304-405x(99)00037-9.
- [28] R. Sias, "Institutional Herding", *Review of Financial Studies*, vol. 17, no. 1, pp. 165-206, 2003. Available: 10.1093/rfs/hhg035.
- [29] S. Bikhchandani, D. Hirshleifer and I. Welch, "Learning from the Behavior of Others: Conformity, Fads, and Informational Cascades", *Journal of Economic Perspectives*, vol. 12, no. 3, pp. 151-170, 1998. Available: 10.1257/jep.12.3.151.
- [30] S. Sharma and S. Bikhchandani, "Herd Behavior in Financial Markets: A Review", *IMF Working Papers*, vol. 00, no. 48, p. 1, 2000. Available: 10.5089/9781451846737.001.
- [31] R. Shiller, "Conversation, Information, and Herd Behavior", *The American Economic Review*, vol. 85, no. 2, pp. 181–185, 1995.
- [32] I. Welch, "Sequential Sales, Learning, and Cascades", *The Journal of Finance*, vol. 47, no. 2, pp. 695-732, 1992. Available: 10.1111/j.1540-6261.1992.tb04406.x.
- [33] K. Froot, D. Scharfstein and J. Stein, "Herd on the Street: Informational Inefficiencies in a Market with Short-Term Speculation", *The Journal of Finance*, vol. 47, no. 4, pp. 1461-1484, 1992. Available: 10.1111/j.1540-6261.1992.tb04665.x.
- [34] T. Lux, "Herd Behaviour, Bubbles and Crashes", *The Economic Journal*, vol. 105, no. 431, pp. 881-896, 1995. Available: 10.2307/2235156.