

Move Analysis of Tourism Research Article Abstracts in National and International Journal Articles

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ABSTRACT

This study aims to investigate the rhetorical move of tourism research article abstracts from national and international journals. Employing Hyland's (2004) model, the data analyzed were 120 tourism research article abstracts from journals indexed by Scopus (international) and Sinta (national). The results show that there are different preferences in terms of move realization in tourism research article abstracts. For national journal abstracts, Introduction move is preferred and Conclusion move is likely to be excluded. Hence, the most recurring pattern in SINTA is Introduction-Purpose-Method-Product. On the contrary, international journal abstracts tend to include Conclusion move and leave out Introduction move, and thus, the preferred pattern in SCOPUS is Purpose-Method-Product-Conclusion. This study provides insights for tourism practitioners regarding the characteristics of the expected abstracts from different indexation levels to consider before submitting their research article abstracts to their choice of publishers.

Keywords: *Move analysis, research article abstract, scopus, sinta, tourism*

1. INTRODUCTION

Tourism has great potential in boosting nations' economies, including Indonesia. As the industry grows rapidly, scholars—including linguists—start to pay their attention to the tourism subject (Luo & Huang, 2015). As a newly developing research area, tourism could still be explored and examined further to keep up with other disciplines (Ahmed, 2015). Being one of the most prospective fields in Indonesia, the publication of scientific papers focusing on tourism in internationally recognized journals seems to be lacking. So far, by 2020, no tourism journals affiliated with Indonesia have been indexed in Scopus. Even in national indexation such as Sinta whose ranks are classified into 6 levels (S1-S6), journals for tourism and related topics could be found only in S3, S4, and S5. This appears to indicate that Indonesian scholars in the tourism field have struggled to scientifically express their works in an internationally acceptable manner.

As one of the most important genres in academic texts, Research Articles give a significant contribution to the development of science across different disciplines (Hyland, 2009). One aspect that plays a big role as a consideration of scientific publication is abstract. The purpose of abstracts is to persuade readers that the article is worth reading and worth publishing

(Ghasempour & Farnia, 2017; Hyland, 2004). Move analysis, originated from English for Specific Purposes (ESP) in the 2004s by Swales, is commonly used to identify and analyze various genres such as research articles, theses, and essays. As the demand for providing good models of academic and scientific texts keeps increasing for publication, the subject (move analysis) is getting a considerable amount of attention for the past few years (Marefat & Mohammadzadeh, 2013). Therefore, move analysis could be said as one proper tool to discover text structure in academic texts in various disciplines, including research article abstracts.

As the interest of rhetorical move has been increasing for the past few years, there have been studies conducted in the area of move analysis on abstracts in different disciplines. Some authors have primarily focused on a specific field such as science and engineering (Saengsai & Pramoolsook, 2017), psychology (Talebzadeh et al., 2013), law (Ghasempour & Farnia, 2017), socio-politics (Ruangstri & Thongrin, 2016), applied linguistics (Nasseri & Nematollahi, 2014), and some others compare different disciplines such as applied linguistics, applied economics, and mechanical engineering (Sabouri & Hashemi, 2013) and information and communication technology (Amnuai, 2019). In tourism, Ahmed (2015) has conducted a study regarding move analysis in research articles abstract,

and he revealed that there are significant variations especially in the manifestation of the Introduction and Conclusion move. Tamela (2020) also has conducted a study revolving around move analysis in research articles abstract from national and international journal articles that have been indexed by Scopus.

From the previous studies, it could be concluded that move analysis on research article abstract has been explored by numbers of scholars in different fields. However, the exposure of the Indonesian context, specifically in tourism, is still lacking. Therefore, this study intends to discover and to compare the structural organization of tourism research article abstracts from national and international journals. By doing that, this study is expected to help tourism scholars, especially Indonesians, to write the abstracts of their works and increase the chance of being published in such journals

.2. LITERATURE REVIEW

First proposed by Swales in the 2004s, move analysis is a text derived from the genre-based approach. Move analysis examines the generic structure of writing genres, and it originated from the development of a teaching tool for non-native speakers (Swales, 2004; Vathanalaoha & Tangkiengsirisin, 2018). Move analysis consists of two elements: moves and steps. A ‘move’ refers to an aspect that is written in a text with a specific target. On the other hand, a move sometimes consists of some obligatory ‘steps’ which function as complementary aspects to achieve the purpose of the move (Omidian, Shahriari, & Siyanova-Chanturia, 2018). Therefore, using the combination of both move and step would help the authors to make their abstracts achieve their communicative objectives.

This study applied Hyland (2004) suggested a schema which is outlined in Table 1. This schema is commonly used in move analysis studies (e.g. Amnuai, 2019; Ebadi et al., 2019; Ghasempour & Farnia, 2017; Saboori & Hashemi, 2013). Table 1 below explains the moves and the steps along with their functions and labels.

3. METHODS

This study employed a descriptive comparative qualitative approach as it sought the realization of rhetorical moves in tourism research articles based on the indexation: Scopus as an international journal index and Sinta as national journal index. This study also used a simple descriptive quantification as the tool to indicate the number of the dominance of each move used in the RA abstracts in the pattern analysis method. Hyland’s (2004) model was used as the main guideline in this study.

The data used in this study were 120 abstracts from 8 different published journals on the topic of tourism. The dataset consisted of international journals that were indexed by Scopus and national/Indonesian journals that were indexed by Sinta, and each journal consists of 15 abstracts. For international journals, each represents different affiliations: Journal 1 (SCOPUS Q3, US-based), Journal 2 (SCOPUS Q3, Croatia-based), Journal 3 (SCOPUS Q4, Malaysia-based), Journal 4 (SCOPUS Q4, South Africa-based).

Table 1. Hyland’s (2004) schema model of rhetorical move

Move	Step	Label
Introduction (M1)	1	Arguing for topic significance or prominences
	2	Making topic generalizations: what is currently known
	3	Defining the key term(s)
	4	Identifying gap
Purpose (M2)	5	Stating general and/or specific purpose of the research including the hypothesis
Method (M3)	6	Describing participants
	7	Describing instrument(s)
	8	Describing procedure and context
Product (M4)	9	Describing the main specific findings of the research
Conclusion (M5)	10	Deducing conclusions from results by commenting on or interpreting the result, or deducing claims from the results
	11	Evaluating the significance or contribution of the research
	12	Stating limitation
	13	Presenting recommendation and implication

As for Sinta-indexed journals, all of them are affiliated with Indonesia: Journal 1 (S3), Journal 2 (s3), Journal 3 (S4), and Journal 4 (S4). Scopus Q3 and Q4 were chosen as they presumably were closer in terms of quality to the journals indexed by Sinta. It is also to be noted that tourism journals only ranked from S3-S5 this far (up until this paper was written), that was why only S3 and S4 journals were used. Considering tourism is a broad field, those aforementioned journals were chosen regardless of their topic discussions.

The analysis went through several steps. First, all the data obtained from online resources were copied to NotePad to get the .txt format. The reason for this step is because, in the next step, software called AntMover would be used as a tool to break down the abstracts into sentences. After that, the analysis began within the framework of Hyland’s (2004) models by labeling each sentence to the compatible move and step as it is illustrated in Table 2.

Table 2. Move-Step labeling

Abstract number	Sentence	Move	Step
1			
2			
etc.			

With the help of Microsoft Excel, all the data and the identification results were organized to tabulate the appearance of the moves, the steps, and the language features. Each analyzed abstract was marked by its move pattern (e.g. 1-2-3-4-5), and all the move patterns obtained were compiled and counted to draw the common pattern used in each data group. From the obtained data, the researcher wrote the discussion and concluded a conclusion from the findings of the study.

4. FINDINGS AND DISCUSSION

From the analysis, it is found that there were 941 moves and steps manifested in 120 abstracts from both groups. In Scopus-indexed journals, there were respectively 80 moves in Journal 1 (Q3), 135 moves in Journal 2 (Q3), 126 moves in journal 3 (Q4), and 96 moves in journal 4 (Q4). On the other hand, in Sinta-indexed journals, there were 131 moves in Journal 1 (S3), 124 moves in Journal 2 (S3), 115 moves in Journal 3 (S4), and 134 moves in Journal 4 (S4). In general, it is obtained that all of the moves are found to appear in the data. For an in-depth explanation, the subsections below provide detailed elaboration on the manifestation of the rhetorical move.

4.1. The Occurrence of Moves and Steps

This study discovers that all moves from Hyland’s (2004) classification appeared in all data with some variations. Furthermore, there are some significant differences found in the realization of abstracts from the two different data groups. The overall results are illustrated in Figure 1.

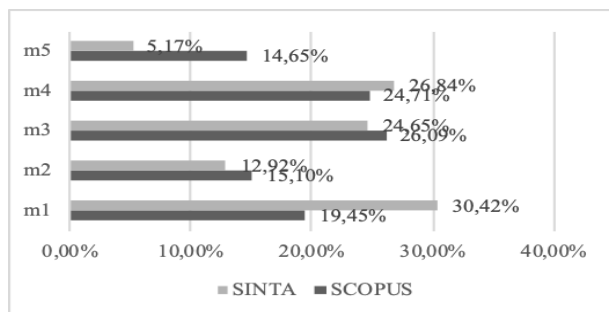


Figure 1 Move occurrence.

As seen in Figure 1, the most similar moves in terms of their occurrences are M2 (Purpose), M3 (Method), and M4 (Product). As for M3, the realization of the said move in both groups is quite similar in terms of percentage with only 1.44% difference. On the contrary,

although the difference of M4 realization between Scopus and Sinta is also not too significant (2.13%), the Scopus group realized the said move more compared to the Sinta group. As for M2, despite being the least occurring move, it was realized by both groups with only a slight difference (2.18%) where Scopus had 15.1% and Sinta had 12.92%.

The most significant differences are revealed to be the realizations of M1 (Introduction) and M5 (Conclusion). In Sinta, M1 is the dominant move that occurred for 30.42% of all the data. Compared to the SCOPUS group (19.45%), the gap is rather wide (10.97%). The following excerpt is the demonstration of M1 realization in a SINTA abstract.

Example 1

Cipasang Village is administratively one of the villages in the Darma subdistrict... (Abstract 3, Journal 4, SINTA MIS3)

These findings are consistent with Farzannia and Farnia (2017) who found that local authors (Persians) tend to use more of the Introduction move. This is also in line with Sabouri & Hashemi's (2013) findings in their cross-disciplinary study which revealed that the introduction move was less frequent in English groups. As it establishes the context of the paper and motives of the research, this move has the role to do the “marketing” role to persuade potential audiences (Al-Khasawneh, 2017). As shown in example 1, Indonesian authors tend to introduce their subject of study (e.g. tourism sites) by defining or stating general information regarding the said subjects. These findings might indicate that Indonesian authors used M1 as their tool to market not only their studies but also their tourism sites.

As for M5, or Conclusion, being the least realized move, its occurrences are different across the data groups. With a rather wide gap of 9.48%, Sinta’s abstracts only realized 5.17% of all the data meanwhile Scopus’s abstracts realized 14.65%. These findings are in line with the previous studies conducted by Al-Khasawneh (2017), Li (1911), Farzannia and Farnia (2017), and Behnam and Golpour (2014) which discovered that local authors tend to leave out the Conclusion move compared to the international authors (English speakers). This could be attributed to tendency of the local authors to believe that conclusion is unnecessary in attracting readers’ interests, and the awareness of international authors regarding the importance of the move (Al-Khasawneh, 2017; Li, 1911).

This study also reveals a variation in realizing the moves. As it is mentioned before, the moves and steps were determined by sentence. However, there is a variation of utilizing M3 and M4 in one sentence which occurred several times in different abstracts. It is found that the embedded move occurred 7 times in Scopus

journals. The embedded moves are represented in the following excerpt:

Example 2

With the analysis of about 13,899 hotels in 146 cities, our findings suggest that there is some lineal relationship between the amount of reviews and the score on TripAdvisor but not on Booking.com. (Abstract 11, Journal 1 SCOPUS)

As example 2 shows, the authors tend to embed M3 to M4 by adding additional clauses. What seems to be their similarity is that M3 is most likely to be put in appositive and positioned in the first clause then followed by M4. In that sense, the organization of the moves still preserves its sequential characteristics. These findings also appeared in Tamela's (2020) study that also investigated abstracts Scopus journals. This may support the argument that abstracts from Scopus-indexed journal articles are more compact compared to nationally indexed journal articles (Kurniawan et al., 2019).

Not only moves, the results also reveal the occurrences of the steps. As M2 and M4 only consist of one step, they would not be further analyzed. Therefore, the main focus of this section is the realizations of M3, M4, and M5. There are some similarities and differences identified from the data. Below, Figure 2 represents the steps occurrence of both groups in percentage.

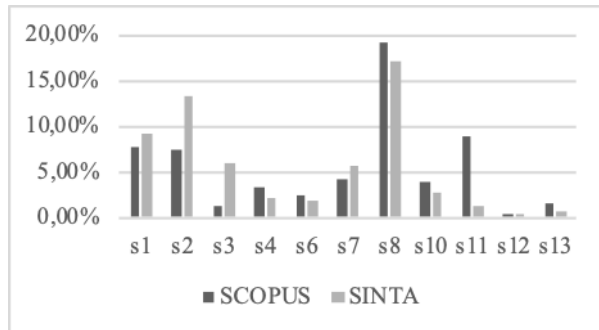


Figure 2 Step occurrence.

Figure 2 show that both groups realized all of the steps. The most frequent step realized in both Scopus and Sinta groups is S8 (describing procedures and context). The dominant occurrence of this step was also revealed in Kurniawan et al. (2019). Interestingly, this step is often employed by authors to insert the information that could have been in the other steps of M3. Thus, instead of realizing different steps, the authors seem to include participants and/or instruments along with their context and/or procedure. The following excerpt illustrates this phenomenon.

Example 3

Primary data collected from 142 hospitality students prior to their internships using a questionnaire was subjected to descriptive statistical and Pearson

correlation analysis. (Abstract 4, Journal 4 SCOPUS)

Example 3 shows that the sentences, while elaborating the context and the procedures (e.g. descriptive statistical and Pearson correlation analysis), give the information about the participants (e.g. 142 hospitality students) and the instruments (e.g. questionnaire) which could be realized through S6 (describing participants) and S7 (describing instruments).

In general, the use of S8 from M3 stands out among the other steps. As for the other steps, the occurrences of S1, S4, S6, S7, and S10 are quite identical in terms of percentage, whereas the use of S2, S3, and S11 are significantly different across the data. Two steps from M5 (Conclusion), S12 and S13, are the least preferred steps utilized in both groups.

4.2. The Saliency of Moves and Steps

Regarding the move-step saliency, this study found that certain moves are obligatory in one journal but conventional or optional in the others. The consideration of the moves and the steps' saliency is their appearances. The moves and the steps are considered as obligatory if they appear in 100% of the abstracts, conventional if they appear in $\geq 66\%$ -99%, and optional if their appearances are less than 66% (Kanoksilapatham, 2005). The study found that no move is obligatory in all Scopus and Sinta journals. However, some could gain that status in particular journals. Table 3 and Table 4 respectively illustrate the move saliency of abstracts from Scopus-indexed journals and Sinta-indexed journals.

Table 3. Move saliency in SCOPUS journals

Move	Journal 1 (Q3)	Journal 2 (Q3)	Journal 3 (Q4)	Journal 4 (Q4)
M1	60.0%	20.0%	66.7%	66.7%
M2	93.3%	93.3%	86.7%	73.3%
M3	66.7%	100.0%	86.7%	80.0%
M4	100.0%	100.0%	80.0%	73.3%
M5	66.7%	100.0%	73.3%	66.7%

From Table 3, it appears that M4 is obligatory in Journal 1 and Journal 2, but is conventional in Journal 3 and Journal 4. Interestingly, both Journal 1 and Journal 2 are from quartile 3, which is a higher quartile compared to Journal 3 and Journal 4 that belong to quartile 4. Aside from M4, M3 and M5 are also obligatory only in Journal 2. The rest of the moves in the other three journals are mostly conventional except for M1, which appeared in Journal 1 for 60% and Journal 2 for 20%.

Table 4. Move Saliency in SINTA Journals

Move	Journal 1 (S3)	Journal 2 (S3)	Journal 3(S4)	Journal 4 (S4)
M1	66.7%	86.7%	60.0%	93.3%
M2	86.7%	100.0%	86.7%	93.3%
M3	93.3%	93.3%	100.0%	100.0%
M4	93.3%	93.3%	86.7%	93.3%
M5	46.7%	20.0%	26.7%	33.3%

In contrast, M3 is an obligatory move in Journal 3 and Journal 4 of SINTA, yet is conventional in the other two journals. Unlike Scopus journals, Journal 3 and Journal 4 of Sinta belong to Score 4, which is a lower score compared to Journal 1 and 2 that are from Score 3. M2 is obligatory in Journal 2 only. The rest of the moves in all of the journals are conventional except for M5 that simultaneously appears in less than 50% of all abstracts in SINTA.

The obligatory status of M2, M3, and M4 seems to resonate with the findings of the previous studies (Chalak & Norouzi, 2013; Darabad, 2016), including Ahmed's (2015) study in tourism research article abstracts. In his study, Ahmed (2015) argued that M2, M3, and M4 are obligatory in tourism abstracts because the researchers may consider the mentioned moves more important than M1 and M5. This may also explain the lack of M5 in SINTA data.

As for the steps, only S8 appears to be obligatory in SINTA Score 4 and conventional in the rest of the abstracts. Aside from that step, no step obtained neither obligatory nor conventional status in all journals.

4.3. The Manifestation of Moves

This study also identified a variety of patterns in the manifestation of the whole structure of abstracts. It is found that there are four variations of the configurations. The most recurring pattern is four-move (4Ms) configurations, followed by five-move (5Ms) and three-move (3Ms).

Based on table 5, abstracts from both indexations were written in two-move, three-move, four-move, or five-move configuration. It is also revealed that the most used configuration is the four-move configuration in both indexations, indicating the commonality in move configuration between the journals in these two indexing groups. For SCOPUS, the most recurring pattern is 2-3-4-5 or Purpose-Method-Product-Conclusion which were applied in 20 abstracts. This pattern is demonstrated in Example 4.

Table 5. Descriptive analysis results of the move-based configuration

SCOPUS			SINTA		
Config	Pattern	Abstract	Config	Pattern	Abstract
2Ms	1(n)-3	1	2Ms	1(n)-2(n)	1
	1(n)-2(n)	1		2(n)-3(n)	1
	2-4-	1		3-4(n)	1
3Ms	1(n)-2-4	1	3Ms	1(n)-2-3(n)	2
	2-4-5(n)	3		2-3-4(n)	6
	1(n)-3(n)-5	2		2-4(n)-5(n)	1
	2(n)-3-4	3		1(n)-3(n)-4(n)	4
	1(n)-2(n)-3(n)	1			
	1(n)-3(n)-4(n)	1			
	1(n)-2(n)-5(n)	1			
4Ms	1(n)-2-3-4(n)	5	4Ms	1-2-3-4	25
	1(n)-2-4-5	2		1(n)-3(n)-4-5	1
	1(n)-3(n)-4(n)-5(n)	4		2(n)-3(n)-4(n)-5	5
	2-3-4(n)-5	20		1-2-3-5	1
	1(n)2-3-5	1		(2-1)n-3-4(n)	1
5Ms	1(n)-2(n)-3(n)-4(n)-5(n)	11	5Ms	1(n)-2(n)-3(n)-4(n)-5(n)	10
	1-2-3-5-4	2		5-1(n)-2-3-4	1

Example 4

[M2] This study aims to examine the impact of perceived risks and the overall destination... [M3] A questionnaire was prepared drawing from the scales in literature... [M4] The findings identified that two dimensions of perceived risks... [M5] The findings solely reflect the perceived risks, the overall image... []

(Abstract 6 Journal 2 SCOPUS)

On the other hand, the most recurring pattern in SINTA is 1-2-3-4 or *Introduction-Purpose-Method-Product*, which occurred in 25 abstracts. The following excerpt is the illustration of this pattern.

Example 5

[M1] Bagus Jati Hotel is one of the accommodations in Bali... [M2] The aim of the study is to identify the indicators... [M3] The study uses quantitative methods which... [M4] The results of the analysis resulted that... []

(Abstract 11 Journal 1 SINTA)

These results are contrary to Tamela's (2020) study that suggested that the most used pattern in Scopus-indexed journals is 1-2-3-4 (IPMPPr). However, Tamela's (2020) findings are apparently in line with Sinta's most recurring pattern. On a side note, the majority of both Scopus and Sinta research article abstracts were organized in sequence (i.e. 1-2-3-4-5). This indicates that tourism research article abstracts are likely to be linear. However, this result is surprisingly contrary to the previous research in tourism research article abstracts conducted by Ahmed (2015) that revealed tourism research article abstracts tend to be non-linear. As Ahmed (2015) analyzed 35 tourism research article abstracts, while this study analyzed 120 abstracts, it might be the reason for these varying results.

From the findings of the rhetorical moves, it could be concluded that despite some noticeable differences in move occurrences and patterns, tourism research article abstracts from two different indexations still share many resemblances in terms of move and steps realizations.

5. CONCLUSION

This study investigated rhetorical move in tourism research article abstracts from international journals indexed by Scopus and national journals indexed by Sinta according to Hyland's (2004) model. Based on the analysis, this study found several similarities and differences regarding the realization of moves and steps in tourism research article abstracts.

In general, abstracts from Scopus and Sinta journal articles applied all of the moves from Hyland's (2004) model with some variations. In terms of occurrence, the most similar moves realized with only a slight difference in percentage from both data groups are M2 (Purpose), M3 (Method), and M4 (Product). On the other hand, the most apparent differences in move realizations are M1 (Introduction) and M5 (Conclusion). Scopus abstracts tend to utilize M5 more whereas Sinta abstracts tend to use M1 more. This finding supports the arguments that national research article authors tend to use more M1, whereas international research article authors tend to include M5 in their abstracts. There is also a variation in realizing M3 and M4 in one integrated sentence found in some SCOPUS abstracts. This study also found that only M3, M4, and M5 that obtained the obligatory status in some journals in Scopus, and M2 and M3 in some Sinta-indexed journals. As for the steps, the realization of Step 8 (describing context and procedures) from M3 outnumbered the rest of the steps in both data groups and gained the status as the only step that is obligatory in SINTA. The rest of the steps were realized similarly in both data groups with only small differences in percentage.

Regarding the pattern, this study revealed that abstracts from Scopus and Sinta manifested the rhetorical moves differently. The most recurring pattern in SCOPUS abstracts is 2-3-4-5 (Purpose-Method-Product-Conclusion) while 1-2-3-4 (Introduction-Purpose-Method-Product) is preferred in Sinta abstracts. From these findings, it is concluded that tourism research articles authors, both national and international, are likely to use a linear pattern in organizing the structure of the abstracts.

These categorizations of the moves and their configurations are expected to help writers as a guideline in related disciplines to write their abstracts. As the standard of publication is different in each setting, this study would give them various insights related to which publisher/institution they are submitting their papers to.

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