

Comparison of Research Performance by Institute based on Research Keywords

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Abstract

To propose a new method of comparing performance between studies on the same subject at different institutions, this study obtained information on grant amounts, keywords related to the research, and the number of achievements for all projects from the Grants-in-Aid for Scientific Research (KAKENHI) Database. From this database, the information on research projects between FY 2012 and 2021 was obtained and classified into ten groups according to their budget amounts. Thereafter, 12 research institutes were focused and compared the number of research achievements in each group. Throughout all groups, the institute's performance differences were not apparent based on the comparison of research projects. However, the results revealed that the method of comparing by keywords better indicates the differences in the performance of each institute. To clarify the causes of the differences, the authors compared achievements in common and unique words separately. Consequently, there tended to be significant differences in performance for unique words than common words. More reliable results are expected to be obtained by improving the determination accuracy of the same keywords.

Keywords: KAKENHI, Research performance, University Research Administrator

1 Introduction

Most scientists affiliated with research institutions in Japan conduct their research activities by obtaining grants, known as Grants-in-Aid for Scientific Research (KAKENHI), and thereafter, publish the results to give back to society and build on their achievements. Nonetheless, the research institutes employing scientists also track their outcomes and consider the areas in which they can grow their research capabilities. This study aims to find research topics with high performance and differentiate them from others. Here, high performance means the ability to produce many research achievements or outcomes within a limited budget.

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In previous studies on grants, Nomura et al. attempted to classify institutions based on the number of projects selected for funding [1]. Nomura et al. and Nishizawa et al. obtained an index of research activity for each university based on the amount allocated to each research category [2][3][4]. Furthermore, Yabuki used data on the number of applications and grants received for KAKEN to compare research performance between similar research departments [5]. Recently, Hirai led the establishment of the Code for Research Administration (C4RA), a community of University Research Administrators (URAs), and others. This community aims to increase the efficiency and sophistication of research Institutional Research (IR) in Japan by sharing program codes and tools across institutions of affiliation. Community members develop and share programs and tools for analyzing papers and external funding [6]. With the support of the community, Kubo and Hirai developed an application that visualizes the number of adoptions and allocation amounts for each institution by research category or review section. Moreover, this application provides a network among researchers based on the information of collaborators [7].

Certain studies are government-sponsored. The Science for RE-designing Science, Technology, and Innovation Policy Center (SciREX) of the National Graduate Institute for Policy Studies (GRIPS) is developing the SciREX Policymaking Intelligent Assistance System (SPIAS). SPIAS searches the data of papers, patents, and press releases by the research subject, research institute, and researcher. The system can analyze the contribution of past allocations to the industry based on the number of papers published and patents obtained [8]. The Council for Science, Technology, and Innovation (CSTI) has collected and analyzed evidence on research, education, and fundraising status at research institutes. It has established the e-CSTI (Evidence Data Platform) to share this evidence with the government and research institution stakeholders. The e-CSTI provides an analysis of researcher attribution and output, allocation and output, and external fundraising productivity [9][10][11].

The previous studies analyzed research outputs focusing on research category, review section, research project, research institution, and researcher. However, these studies did not extend to detailed thematic analyses. Finding high-performing research topics will help in developing more detailed research strategies.

2 Data and Analysis Method

The information on grant amounts, keywords related to the research, and the number of achievements (including journal articles and presentations) for all projects was obtained from the database of KAKEN to support thematic studies. KAKEN is a public database that includes information on adopted projects, assessments, and research achievements from the KAKEN Program. The authors obtained data from this database on research projects conducted between FY 2015 and 2019 and analyzed the differences in performance between two universities in a previous study[12]. This study followed the analytical approach of the previous survey, obtained data from this database on research projects conducted between FY 2012 and FY 2021, and classified them into ten groups according to budget amounts. Table 1 presents the budget size of each group and examples of research categories. The range of amounts in each group is not equally spaced.

Table 1: Examples of research categories in each group

Group	Range of Cost (Million yen)	Examples of Research Category
X	200 ~ 600	Specially Promoted Research
IX	100 ~ 200	Scientific Research (S)
VIII	60 ~ 100	Transformative Research Areas (A)
VII	40 ~ 60	Scientific Research (A)
VI	20 ~ 40	Transformative Research Areas (B) Challenging Research (Pioneering)
V	10 ~ 20	Scientific Research (B)
IV	6 ~ 10	Challenging Research (Exploratory)
III	4 ~ 6	Scientific Research (C)
II	2 ~ 4	Early-Career Scientists Research Activity Start-up
I	1 ~ 2	JSPS Fellows

To characterize the number of achievements according to the budget amount, the number of accomplishments per project and its conversion per million yen were obtained for each group (Figure 1, Figure 2). For each figure, the horizontal axis is the allocation amounts, and the vertical axis is the number of achievements. The research achievements here include international collaborative research, symposium sponsorships, journal articles, conference presentations, publications, and patents. The diamond marks indicate the median of the achievements. In addition, the vertical error bars indicate the first and third quartiles of the outcomes, and the horizontal error bars correspond to the range of the allocation amount for each group. The number of achievements per project increases with the allocation amount (Figure 1). This is because larger projects tend to have longer durations and include more researchers. Nonetheless, even if research costs doubled, the number of outcomes would not double immediately. The number of outcomes converted per million yen decreases as the budget increases (Figure 2).

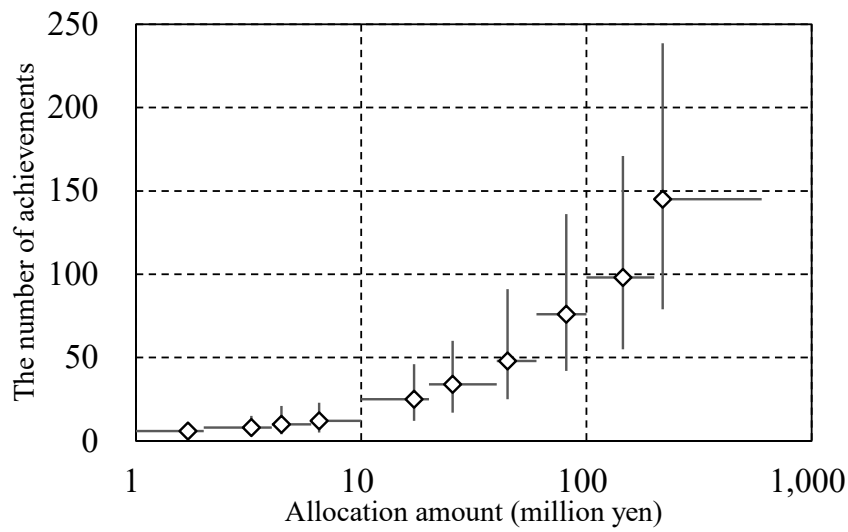


Figure 1: The number of achievements for each group

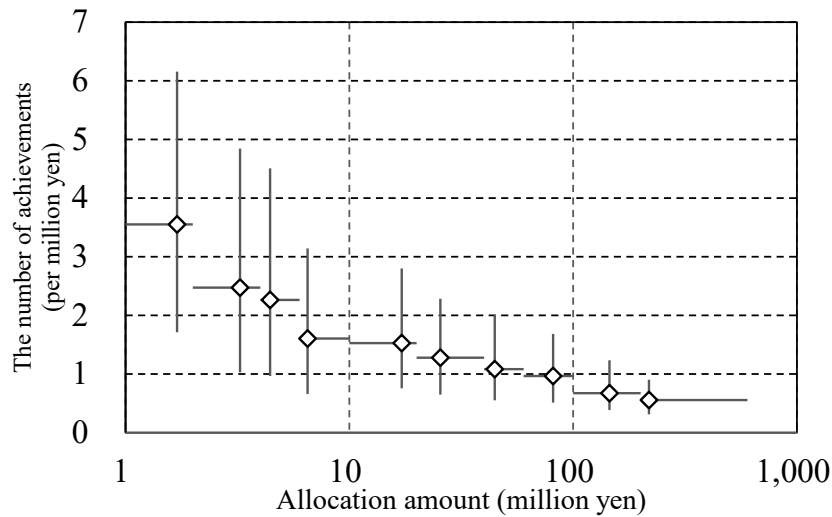


Figure 2: The number of achievements per million yen for each group

As Figures 1 and 2 illustrate, comparing projects of different sizes is not appropriate because the scale of the number of achievements varies with the project size. Therefore, 12 research institutes were focused on, and compared the number of research achievements in each group. As these institutes receive a large allocation amount and their research fields are diverse, they have many areas in common. Therefore, it will be easy to compare their research performance. Their achievements will serve as benchmarks for each other. Table 2 summarizes the number of projects, the number of keywords, the allocation amount, and the achievements of each institute from FY 2012 to 2021 for Group I to X. The meaning of the keywords will be explained later. The abbreviations were provided for each institute. For example, Ti stands for Tokyo Institute of Technology, and Os for Osaka University.

Table 2: A summary of the number of projects, keywords, achievements, and allocation amount of 12 institutes in each group

Group		Hk	Th	Tk	Ng	Kt	Os	Ks	Ti	Tb	Kb	Ko	Ws
I	Projects	514	804	2,338	531	1,403	824	531	403	457	254	291	460
	Keywords	3,068	4,565	11,873	3,025	7,671	4,544	2,988	2,305	2,923	1,567	1,838	3,005
	Allocation amount ^{*1}	853	1,356	3,899	873	2,343	1,389	892	687	763	425	482	750
	Achievements	4,087	7,089	17,332	4,701	11,011	6,404	4,311	3,478	3,548	1,947	2,323	3,617
II	Projects	1,861	2,784	5,738	1,847	3,810	2,908	2,076	1,018	1,423	1,063	1,035	1,188
	Keywords	9,890	13,717	25,844	9,870	18,713	13,861	11,138	5,752	8,071	6,309	5,451	7,595
	Allocation amount ^{*1}	5,923	8,957	17,197	5,901	11,724	9,385	6,606	3,150	4,492	3,417	3,341	3,600
	Achievements	24,793	36,245	67,163	24,566	47,536	37,645	24,969	14,693	17,070	13,247	11,515	14,008
III	Projects	2,376	3,360	4,369	2,299	3,603	3,574	2,730	1,025	1,666	1,597	1,759	971
	Keywords	12,080	15,854	19,527	11,471	17,385	16,197	13,972	5,819	9,486	8,651	8,210	6,626
	Allocation amount ^{*1}	10,876	15,248	19,644	10,446	16,398	16,191	12,467	4,710	7,603	7,321	7,976	4,406
	Achievements	39,738	52,183	66,877	38,354	58,840	56,421	41,335	19,075	26,535	26,989	24,181	17,114
IV	Projects	333	513	833	394	694	562	376	231	249	166	183	124
	Keywords	1,851	2,873	4,231	2,144	3,614	2,946	2,252	1,321	1,596	1,045	1,071	882
	Allocation amount ^{*1}	2,387	3,590	6,021	2,821	4,939	4,041	2,665	1,622	1,771	1,196	1,342	868
	Achievements	5,390	8,326	13,447	6,289	11,533	9,907	6,646	4,158	4,520	3,370	2,829	2,226
V	Projects	961	1,335	2,033	934	1,670	1,257	912	533	607	519	412	383
	Keywords	5,592	7,365	10,714	5,410	9,172	6,983	5,618	3,257	3,793	3,205	2,507	2,840
	Allocation amount ^{*1}	15,960	21,985	32,940	15,377	27,349	20,566	15,012	8,812	9,844	8,466	6,709	6,160
	Achievements	33,160	43,651	65,416	32,717	57,883	46,010	31,363	17,393	20,921	19,403	13,978	15,879
VI	Projects	150	237	530	168	333	243	173	107	103	54	89	65
	Keywords	1,098	1,642	3,293	1,237	2,360	1,635	1,275	754	791	405	631	462
	Allocation amount ^{*1}	4,039	6,407	14,640	4,715	9,285	6,706	4,833	2,948	2,819	1,438	2,302	1,912
	Achievements	8,086	12,078	23,186	7,449	16,239	12,497	7,970	6,205	4,881	3,152	3,569	4,827
VII	Projects	171	311	687	215	430	296	218	153	113	57	86	79
	Keywords	1,246	2,096	4,092	1,529	2,906	1,930	1,559	1,097	843	429	571	602
	Allocation amount ^{*1}	7,648	14,065	31,032	9,741	19,411	13,318	9,764	6,917	5,023	2,531	3,896	3,513
	Achievements	12,167	19,635	43,282	13,978	28,337	19,995	13,802	10,460	8,245	5,250	5,466	5,412
VIII	Projects	31	34	88	26	50	64	26	15	16	5	12	5
	Keywords	240	272	657	199	392	502	208	113	129	41	99	31
	Allocation amount ^{*1}	2,447	2,732	7,111	2,199	4,091	5,252	2,044	1,252	1,224	408	1,035	403
	Achievements	3,419	4,994	9,089	3,099	6,128	6,937	4,078	1,057	1,863	630	849	710
IX	Projects	38	73	190	61	134	100	50	36	24	18	18	14
	Keywords	293	565	1,356	468	964	794	367	290	205	128	126	117
	Allocation amount ^{*1}	5,604	10,632	28,573	9,003	20,574	14,523	7,403	5,264	3,541	2,405	2,808	2,074
	Achievements	5,952	8,391	27,340	7,875	21,753	12,026	7,231	6,564	3,204	3,810	2,287	1,898
X	Projects	13	47	178	31	68	55	27	30	7	7	14	10
	Keywords	96	363	1,174	261	530	427	222	229	57	55	108	94
	Allocation amount ^{*1}	3,319	14,903	53,607	8,625	18,368	16,802	7,283	8,621	2,334	1,535	3,399	2,799
	Achievements	3,141	10,014	31,244	6,630	12,239	11,043	4,780	7,191	1,864	947	2,400	2,682
Total	Projects	6,448	9,498	16,984	6,506	12,195	9,883	7,119	3,551	4,665	3,740	3,899	3,299
	Keywords	35,454	49,312	82,761	35,614	63,707	49,819	39,599	20,937	27,894	21,835	20,612	22,254
	Allocation amount ^{*1}	59,056	99,875	214,664	69,701	134,482	108,173	68,969	43,983	39,414	29,142	33,290	26,485
	Achievements	139,933	202,606	364,376	145,658	271,499	218,885	146,485	90,274	92,651	78,745	69,397	68,373

Hk: Hokkaido Univ. / Th: Tohoku Univ. / Tk: Tokyo Univ. / Ng: Nagoya Univ. / Kt: Kyoto Univ. / Os: Osaka Univ. / Ks: Kyushu Univ. / Ti: Tokyo Institute of Technology / Tb: Tsukuba Univ. / Kb: Kobe Univ. / Ko: Keio Univ. / Ws: Waseda Univ.

*1 Million yen

3 Result of Analysis and Discussion

Using Wilcoxon's rank-sum test (one-tailed, significance level of 5%), the achievements (per million yen) of the 12 institutions were compared for each group. Institutions with fewer than 20 research themes in a group were excluded from the comparison. Table 3 presents the results of comparing each institute's performance by the group. "○(×)" indicates that the institute's achievements displayed in the row are more(less) than those shown in the column, "△" is that there is no significant difference, and "—" means that there is no comparison. For Group VIII or over, it wasn't easy to obtain enough results because there were not many institutes receiving such a huge budget. Although these results are not simply comparable with previous studies that covered different periods, there was no significant discrepancy between their results [12]. However, the institute's performance differences are not apparent, as there are many tie-breaking results throughout all the tables.

To clarify the differences in performance, the authors decided to recount the results by keywords included in each project. Typically, a single project comprises several keywords related to its content. The principal investigator of each project devises and assigns these keywords. Since a list of candidate keywords is not prepared, there is a problem with orthographical variants. This problem needs to be resolved in the future. In this study, the allocation amount was prorated according to the number of keywords and their order of appearance. The number of keywords varies with each project. If many words are attached to a project, the allocation per word will be smaller. In addition, the importance of the first word will differ from the last. Figure 3 illustrates the percentage of total projects that comprise a particular ranked keyword. This figure includes all projects funded from FY 2012 to 2021. This graph provides the importance of the keywords in each rank. Naturally, all projects included the first keyword. For example, approximately 30% of the projects had the 11th keyword. However, the other 70% of the projects did not need the 11th keyword. Therefore, for a maximum of 10 keywords per project, the budget amount and number of results were allocated according to the relative frequencies, as illustrated in Figure 3.

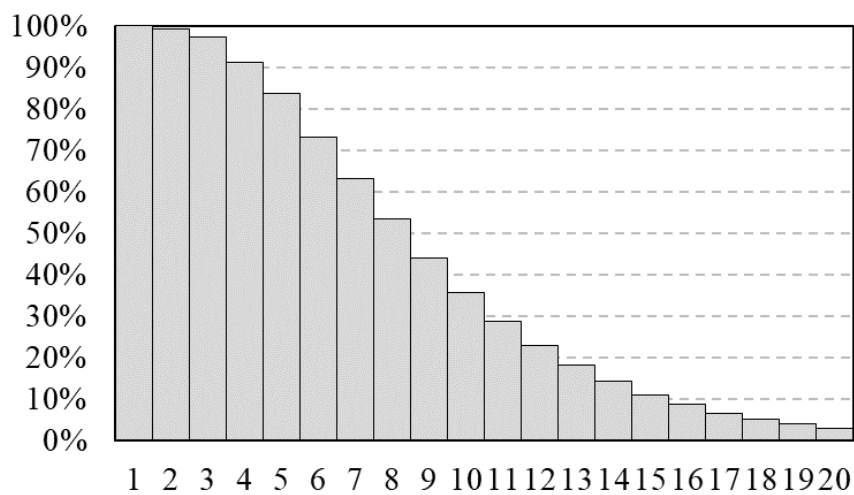


Figure 3: The percentage of total projects comprising a particular ranked keyword

Table 4 presents an example. Since the project listed in Table 4 includes five keywords, the amounts for each year and the number of achievements are respectively allocated to each keyword proportionally by the ratio calculated from the relative frequencies in Figure 3. This study calculated this for all the projects and thereafter summed them up to obtain the performance for each keyword.

Table 4: How to distribute the amount for each keyword

Project	Budget Amount		Achievements
	FY2018	FY2019	
Novel spin filter function using graphene nanoribbon	5,200,000	1,300,000	25

↓

Keywords	Allocation Ratio	Budget Amount		Achievements
		FY2018	FY2019	
Graphene	21%	1,092,000	273,000	5.25
Nanoribbon	21%	1,092,000	273,000	5.25
Topology	21%	1,092,000	273,000	5.25
Spin filter	19%	988,000	247,000	4.75
Spintronics	18%	936,000	234,000	4.50
Total	100%	5,200,000	1,300,000	25

When recounting the results by keyword, this study corrected differences in wording and attempted to unify keywords with different terminology that had the same meaning. Specifically, the authors modified the words according to the following criteria:

- (1) Convert full-width characters to half-width characters
- (2) Delete hyphens
- (3) Convert plural words to singular
- (4) Remove redundant words

However, the above modifications are insufficient to unify all keywords with the same meaning. This problem will be discussed later.

The top ten most frequent keywords in Groups III, V, and VII, which have many projects, are shown for each institute (Table 5). While some keywords, such as “Machine learning,” are found in all institutes, others, such as “Primates” (Kt) and “Pancreatic cancer” (Ks), are found in areas where certain institutes have strengths.

Table 6 compares keyword-based results (per million yen) for each institution. All groups had more significantly different combinations than in Table 3. Furthermore, compared with Table 3, there was no reversal of large and small results. The method of comparison by keyword can better indicate each institute’s performance differences.

To clarify the cause of this difference, the two institutes’ achievements were compared for common and unique keywords separately. Table 7 presents the number of keywords obtained from Th and Kt projects in Group II. Kt has more projects and, therefore, more keywords. There are 2,787 words common to both, accounting for about 20% of the total number of keywords in Th. Figures 4 and 5 illustrate the histograms for common and unique keywords, classified by the number of results per million yen. Each figure’s diamond marks indicate the achievements’ median, and the horizontal error bar indicates the first and third quartiles. The vertical axis presents a percentage of the total number. The black bins indicate Th, and the gray is Kt. As illustrated in Figure 4, both are similar. Statistically, there were no significant differences between the two institutes for common keywords. However, comparing the number of achievements obtained from studies on unique keywords reveals that Kt results exceeded those of Th (Figure 5).

Table 5: The top ten most frequent keywords in Groups III, V, and VII

Hk	Group III	Group V	Group VII
1	Cancer 35	Genome 16	Nanomaterial 4
2	Cytokine 22	Climate change 14	Birth cohort 4
3	Innate immunity 22	Signal transduction 13	Environmental chemicals 4
4	Virus 21	Virus 12	Maternal and child health 3
5	Macrophage 20	Nanomaterial 11	Defatigation 3
6	NMR 20	Imaging 11	Virus 3
7	Biomarker 19	Fuel cell 10	Nanoparticle 3
8	Climate change 18	Plant 10	Reaction mechanism 3
9	Neuroscience 17	Infection 10	Plasmon 3
10	Insect 17	Nanoparticle 9	Imaging 3

Ks	Group III	Group V	Group VII
1	Pancreatic cancer 56	Mitochondria 15	Regenerative medicine 6
2	Mitochondria 41	Pancreatic cancer 15	Cell tissue 5
3	MRI 37	Signal transduction 13	Plasma 5
4	Macrophage 33	Biomarker 11	CRISPR 5
5	Oxidative stress 28	Nanomaterial 11	Gene 5
6	Microglia 25	Biotechnology 11	Cancer 4
7	Autophagy 25	Cell tissue 11	Inflammation 4
8	Signal transduction 24	Crystal growth 11	Machine learning 4
9	Pancreatic stellate cells 23	Nanoparticle 10	Climate change 4
10	Inflammation 23	Electronic microscope 10	Deoxyribonucleic acid methylation 4

Th	Group III	Group V	Group VII
1	Oxidative stress 45	Inflammation 18	Crystal growth 7
2	MRI 43	Nanoparticle 18	Nanomaterial 7
3	Diabetes 35	Cell tissue 17	Graphene 6
4	Mitochondria 34	Genome 17	Recycling 6
5	Inflammation 34	Spintronics 16	Asymmetric synthesis 6
6	Cancer 30	Great East Japan Earthquake 14	Norovirus 5
7	Great East Japan Earthquake 29	Oxidative stress 14	Biomolecules 5
8	Gene 28	Transcription factor 14	Semiconductor properties 5
9	nr2 27	Cancer 14	Spintronics 5
10	Implant 25	PET 14	Semiconductor 5

Ti	Group III	Group V	Group VII
1	Machine learning 16	Catalyst 11	Thin-film 5
2	Autophagy 13	Machine learning 10	Magnetism 4
3	Crystal structure analysis 12	Evolution 10	Organic chemistry 4
4	Dendrimer 11	Deep learning 10	Chaperone 4
5	Photocatalyst 11	Peptide 9	1-axis active control 4
6	Nanoparticle 10	Nanomaterial 9	Energy conversion 3
7	Thin-film 9	Synthetic chemistry 9	Synthetic chemistry 3
8	Electrochemistry 10	Nanobiology 8	Ion conductor 3
9	Nanomaterial 9	Nanoparticle 8	Ribosome 3
10	Crystal structure 9	Solar cell 8	Translation 3

Tk	Group III	Group V	Group VII
1	Signal transduction 64	Signal transduction 39	Signal transduction 17
2	Machine learning 48	Gene 31	Gene 11
3	Epigenetics 45	Genome 30	Climate change 10
4	Cancer 42	Epigenetics 24	Cancer 9
5	Neuroscience 42	Imaging 21	Cranial nerve 9
6	Biomarker 38	Simulation 20	Machine learning 9
7	Transcription factor 36	Plant 20	Epigenetics 9
8	Inflammation 36	Cancer 19	Strongly correlated electron system 9
9	iPS cells 35	Aging 18	Transcription factor 9
10	Simulation 34	Machine learning 17	Elementary particle experiment 9

Tb	Group III	Group V	Group VII
1	Machine learning 18	Obesity 14	Exercise 4
2	Signal transduction 15	Lifestyle disease 14	Locomotion Interface 4
3	Lifestyle disease 14	Transcription factor 13	Genome 4
4	Transcription factor 14	Neuroscience 10	Virtual reality 4
5	Sleep 14	Inflammation 9	Cognitive function 3
6	Senior citizen 13	Machine learning 9	F-box protein 3
7	Simulation 12	Fatty hepatitis 8	Conservation science 3
8	Neuroscience 12	Remote sensing 8	Mutation 3
9	Radiotherapy 12	Gene 8	Environment 3
10	Developmental disorders 12	Genome 8	Folkloristics 3

Ng	Group III	Group V	Group VII
1	Biomarker 29	Signal transduction 23	Plant 6
2	Inflammation 29	Plant 20	Machine learning 6
3	Macrophage 24	Developmental differentiation 16	Signal transduction 6
4	Signal transduction 23	Rice 15	Simulation 6
5	Mesenchymal stem cell 19	Neuroscience 14	Electronic microscope 5
6	Exosome 19	Simulation 12	Crystal growth 5
7	Arabidopsis thaliana 19	Mouse 11	Neuroscience 5
8	MRI 18	Arabidopsis thaliana 11	Biomaterial 4
9	Machine learning 16	Imaging 11	Synthetic chemistry 4
10	Plant 16	Evolution 10	Turbulence 4

Kl	Group III	Group V	Group VII
1	iPS cells 118	iPS cells 33	Evolution 9
2	MRI 48	Genome 20	iPS cells 8
3	Signal transduction 41	Neuroscience 20	Machine learning 6
4	Diabetes 36	Signal transduction 20	Oxide 5
5	Simulation 34	Evolution 20	Climate change 5
6	Imaging 30	Primates 19	Catalyst 5
7	Primates 29	Stem cell 19	Genome 5
8	Regenerative Medicine 28	Transcription factor 18	Asia 5
9	Transcription factor 27	Imaging 18	Signal transduction 5
10	Cancer 27	Cancer 16	Epigenetics 5

Os	Group III	Group V	Group VII
1	Autophagy 55	Cancer 19	Genome editing 7
2	Biomarker 47	Epigenetics 19	Electronic microscope 6
3	Diabetes 40	Autophagy 16	Immunity 6
4	Mitochondria 38	Inflammation 15	DNA 5
5	Inflammation 35	Mitochondria 15	C-H bond activation 5
6	Heart failure 33	iPS cells 15	CRISPR 5
7	Cancer stem cells 33	Simulation 15	Catalyst 5
8	Exosome 32	Nanoparticle 14	Glycan 5
9	Signal transduction 30	Infection 14	Chromosome 5
10	iPS cells 30	Regenerative Medicine 14	Biomarker 5

Kb	Group III	Group V	Group VII
1	Diabetes 31	Signal transduction 10	Science education 3
2	Inflammation 23	Plant 9	Elementary particle experiment 3
3	Biomarker 21	Science education 9	Electronic excited state 2
4	Apoptosis 20	Cancer 7	Lifetime improvement 2
5	Radiotherapy 19	Simulation 7	Model experiment 2
6	Signal transduction 17	Rice 7	Liquefaction 2
7	Metabolic analysis 17	Genome 7	Election governance 2
8	microRNA 16	Photosynthesis 6	Administration 2
9	Arthrorheumatism 15	Exercise 6	Election management 2
10	Cancer 15	Medical welfare 6	Time zone 2

Ko	Group III	Group V	Group VII
1	iPS cells 55	Intestinal bacteria 13	Developmental differentiation 4
2	Regenerative Medicine 41	Regenerative medicine 11	Inflammation 4
3	Stem cell 31	Gene 11	Machine learning 4
4	Neural stem cell 28	Metabolome 9	Regenerative Medicine 3
5	Mesenchymal stem cell 26	Cancer 9	Cancer 3
6	Intestinal bacteria 26	Immunology 8	Neuroscience 3
7	Cancer 24	Developmental differentiation 8	Molecular dynamics simulation 3
8	Retina 21	Stem cell 8	Stem cell 3
9	Hypertension 21	Regenerative Medicine 8	Brain function connection 2
10	Biomarker 20	Database 7	Social cognition 2

Ws	Group III	Group V	Group VII
1	Machine learning 13	East Asia 9	Accelerator 3
2	Media 12	Economic policy 6	Metal oxide 3
3	Network 10	Media 6	Cancer 3
4	Optimization 10	Network 6	Quantum beam 3
5	Visualization 9	Social media 5	Electrical equipment engineering 3
6	China 8	Globalization 5	Superconducting material 3
7	Second Language Acquisition 8	Southeast Asia 4	Ribosome profiling 2
8	Corporate governance 8	Multinational corporation 4	Democracy 2
9	Japan 7	Machine learning 4	EU 2
10	Japanese modern literature 7	Cell tissue 4	Global warming 2

Table 6: Comparison of each institute's achievements (by all keywords)

I	Hk	Th	Tk	Ng	Kt	Os	Ks	Ti	Tb	Kb	Ko	Ws	○	△	×
Hk	○	△	×	△	△	△	×	○	○	△	△	2	5	4	
Th	○	○	△	○	○	○	△	○	○	○	○	9	2	0	
Tk	△	×	○	×	×	△	×	×	△	○	×	1	4	6	
Ng	○	△	○	○	○	○	○	○	○	○	○	10	1	0	
Kt	○	×	○	×	○	△	×	○	○	○	○	6	2	3	
Os	△	×	△	×	×	○	×	○	○	△	△	2	5	4	
Ks	△	×	○	×	△	△	○	×	○	○	△	3	5	3	
Ti	○	△	○	×	○	○	○	○	○	○	○	9	1	1	
Tb	×	×	△	×	×	×	×	×	△	×	△	0	3	8	
Kb	×	×	×	×	×	×	×	×	△	×	×	0	1	10	
Ko	△	×	○	×	△	△	△	×	○	○	△	3	5	3	
Ws	△	×	△	×	×	△	△	×	△	○	△	1	6	4	

II	Hk	Th	Tk	Ng	Kt	Os	Ks	Ti	Tb	Kb	Ko	Ws	○	△	×
Hk	○	○	△	×	○	○	×	○	○	○	○	8	1	2	
Th	×	○	×	×	△	○	×	○	○	○	○	5	1	5	
Tk	×	○	○	×	△	○	×	○	○	○	○	6	1	4	
Ng	△	○	○	○	○	○	×	○	○	○	○	8	1	2	
Kt	○	○	○	○	○	○	×	○	○	○	○	10	0	1	
Os	×	△	△	×	×	○	×	○	○	○	○	5	2	4	
Ks	×	×	×	×	×	×	×	○	△	○	△	2	2	7	
Ti	○	○	○	○	○	○	○	○	○	○	○	11	0	0	
Tb	×	×	×	×	×	×	×	×	×	×	×	0	1	10	
Kb	×	×	×	×	×	×	×	△	×	○	△	2	2	7	
Ko	×	×	×	×	×	×	×	×	△	×	×	0	1	10	
Ws	×	×	×	×	×	×	×	△	×	○	△	2	2	7	

III	Hk	Th	Tk	Ng	Kt	Os	Ks	Ti	Tb	Kb	Ko	Ws	○	△	×
Hk	○	○	×	△	○	○	×	○	×	○	×	6	1	4	
Th	×	○	×	×	△	○	×	△	×	○	×	3	2	6	
Tk	×	×	○	×	×	○	×	△	×	○	×	2	1	8	
Ng	○	○	○	○	○	○	×	○	△	○	×	8	1	2	
Kt	△	○	○	×	○	○	×	○	×	○	×	6	1	4	
Os	×	△	○	×	×	○	×	○	×	○	×	4	1	6	
Ks	×	×	×	×	×	×	×	×	×	×	×	1	0	10	
Ti	○	○	○	○	○	○	○	○	○	○	○	10	1	0	
Tb	×	△	△	×	×	×	○	×	×	○	×	2	2	7	
Kb	○	○	○	△	○	○	○	×	○	○	×	8	1	2	
Ko	×	×	×	×	×	×	×	×	×	×	×	0	0	11	
Ws	○	○	○	○	○	○	○	△	○	○	○	10	1	0	

IV	Hk	Th	Tk	Ng	Kt	Os	Ks	Ti	Tb	Kb	Ko	Ws	○	△	×
Hk	○	△	○	○	△	×	×	×	△	×	○	△	3	4	4
Th	△	○	△	△	×	×	×	×	△	×	△	△	0	6	5
Tk	×	△	○	△	×	×	×	×	△	×	△	△	0	5	6
Ng	×	△	△	○	×	×	×	×	△	×	△	△	0	5	6
Kt	△	○	○	○	×	△	×	○	×	○	△	5	3	3	
Os	○	○	○	○	○	△	△	○	△	○	○	8	3	0	
Ks	○	○	○	○	△	△	△	○	×	○	△	6	4	1	
Ti	○	○	○	○	○	△	△	△	○	○	○	8	3	0	
Tb	△	△	△	△	×	×	×	×	×	△	△	0	6	5	
Kb	○	○	○	○	○	△	○	△	○	○	○	9	2	0	
Ko	×	△	△	△	×	×	×	×	△	×	×	0	4	7	
Ws	△	△	△	△	△	×	△	×	△	×	○	1	7	3	

V	Hk	Th	Tk	Ng	Kt	Os	Ks	Ti	Tb	Kb	Ko	Ws	○	△	×
Hk	○	○	×	△	×	○	○	△	×	×	×	4	2	5	
Th	×	○	×	×	×	△	○	×	×	×	×	1	1	9	
Tk	×	○	○	×	×	△	○	×	×	×	×	2	1	8	
Ng	○	○	○	○	×	○	○	○	×	△	×	7	1	3	
Kt	△	○	○	×	○	○	△	×	×	×	×	4	2	5	
Os	○	○	○	○	○	○	○	△	○	×	×	9	1	1	
Ks	×	△	△	×	×	×	○	×	×	×	×	1	2	8	
Ti	×	×	×	×	×	×	×	×	×	×	×	0	0	11	
Tb	△	○	○	×	△	×	○	○	×	△	×	4	3	4	
Kb	○	○	○	○	○	△	○	○	○	○	×	9	1	1	
Ko	○	○	○	△	○	×	○	○	△	×	×	6	2	3	
Ws	○	○	○	○	○	○	○	○	○	○	○	11	0	0	

VI	Hk	Th	Tk	Ng	Kt	Os	Ks	Ti	Tb	Kb	Ko	Ws	○	△	×
Hk	○	○	○	○	△	○	△	○	×	○	×	7	2	2	
Th	×	○	○	△	△	○	△	○	×	○	×	4	4	3	
Tk	×	×	○	△	×	×	△	×	×	×	△	0	3	8	
Ng	×	×	△	○	×	×	△	×	△	×	△	0	4	7	
Kt	×	△	○	○	○	△	△	△	×	○	×	4	4	3	
Os	△	△	○	○	△	△	△	○	△	×	×	4	5	2	
Ks	×	×	△	△	×	×	×	×	×	×	△	0	3	8	
Ti	△	△	○	○	△	△	△	○	△	×	○	4	5	2	
Tb	×	△	○	△	△	△	△	○	△	×	○	3	5	3	
Kb	○	○	○	○	○	△	○	○	○	○	○	10	1	0	
Ko	×	×	△	△	×	×	×	×	×	×	×	0	3	8	
Ws	○	○	○	○	○	○	○	○	○	○	○	10	1	0	

VII	Hk	Th	Tk	Ng	Kt	Os	Ks	Ti	Tb	Kb	Ko	Ws	○	△	×
Hk	○	△	○	×	○	○	△	△	○	△	△	7	4	0	
Th	×	○	△	×	△	×	×	×	×	△	×	0	4	7	
Tk	×	△	○	×	×	×	△	×	×	×	△	0	3	8	
Ng	×	○	○	○	○	△	○	×	×	×	○	5	2	4	
Kt	×	△	○	×	×	△	×	×	×	×	△	1	3	7	
Os	×	△	△	×	×	×	×	×	×	×	△	5	2	4	
Ks	×	△	△	×	△	×	×	×	×	×	△	0	4	7	
Ti	△	○	○	○	○	○	○	△	△	○	△	7	4	0	
Tb	△	○	○	○	○	○	○	△	△	○	△	8	3	0	
Kb	△	○	○	○	○	○	○	△	△	○	△	8	3	0	
Ko	×	△	△	×	△	×	△	×	×	×	×	0	4	7	
Ws	△	○	○	△	○	△	○	△	×	×	○	5	4	2	

VIII	Hk	Th	Tk	Ng	Kt	Os	Ks	Ti	Tb	Kb	Ko	Ws	○	△	×
Hk	○	△	○	×	○	○	△	△	○	△	△	4	5	2	
Th	△	○	△	×	△	△	△	○	×	△	△	0	2	6	3
Tk	×	△	○	×	△	×	×	○	×	△	○	2	3	6	
Ng	○	○	○	○	○	○	○	△	△	○	×	8	2	1	
Kt	×	△	△	×	×	×	△	×	×	△	△	0	5	6	
Os	△	△	○	×	○	△	△	△	×	△	△	4	4	3	
Ks	△	△	○	×	○	△	△	△	○	△	○	4	5	2	
Ti	×	×	×	×	△	×	×	×	×	△	×	0	2	9	
Tb	△	○	△	△	△	△	△	○	△	△	×	6	4	1	
Kb	△	△	△	△	△	△	△	○	△	△	×	1	9	1	
Ko	×	×	×	×	△	×	×	△	×	△	×	0	3	8	
Ws	○	○	○	○	○	○	○	○	○	○	○	11	0	0	

IX	Hk	Th	Tk	Ng	Kt	Os	Ks	Ti	Tb	Kb	Ko	Ws	○	△	×
Hk	○	○	○	○	○	△	△	○	○	○	△	8	3	0	
Th	×	○	×	△	×	△	×	×	×	△	×	0	3	8	
Tk	×	○	○	△	○	×	×	△	△	△	△	3	5	3	
Ng	×	△	×	×	△	×	×	△	△	△	△	0	6	5	
Kt	×	△	○	○	○	△	×	△	△	△	△	3	7	1	
Os	×	△	×	△	×	×	×	×	△	△	×	0	4	7	
Ks	△	○	○	○	△	○	△	△	△	△	△	4	7	0	
Ti	△	○	○	○	△	○	△	△	△	△	△	6	5	0	
Tb	×	○	△	△	△	△	△	×	△	△	△	2	7	2	
Kb	×	△	△	×	△	△	×	×	△	△	△	0	9	2	
Ko	×	○	△	△	△	△	△	△	△	△	△	1	9	1	
Ws	△	○	△	△	△	○	△	△	△	△	△	2	9	0	

X	Hk	Th	Tk	Ng	Kt	Os	Ks	Ti	Tb	Kb	Ko	Ws	○	△	×
Hk	○	○	○	○	○	○	○	○	○	○	○	11	0	0	
Th	×	○	△	○	○	○	×	△	△	△	×	4	4	3	
Tk	×	×	○	×	△	△	△	×	△	△	×	0	6	5	
Ng	×	△	×	×	○	○	×	△	○	○	×	6	2	3	
Kt	×	×	△	×	○	△	×	△	△	△	×	0	6	5	
Os															

Table 7: Number of keywords in Th and Kt projects in Group II

	Tohoku Univ. (Th)	Kyoto Univ. (Kt)
Projects	2,784	3,810
Common keywords	2,787	
Unique keywords	10,930	15,926
Total keywords	13,717	18,713

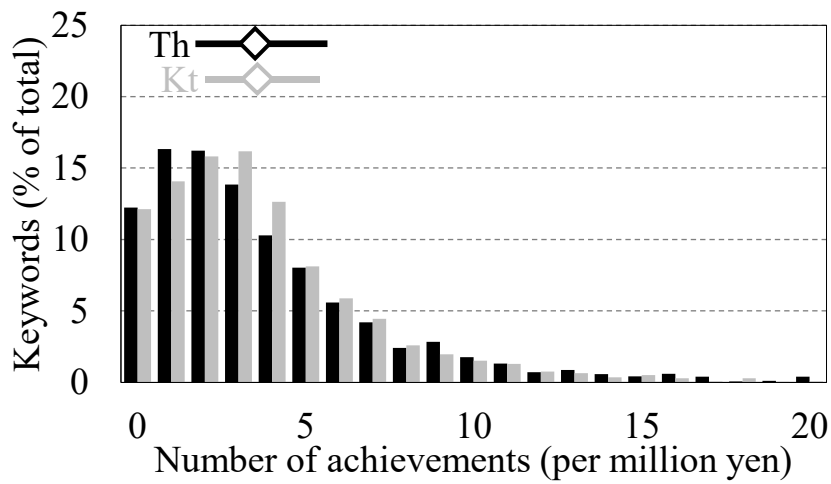


Figure 4: Histogram for common keywords

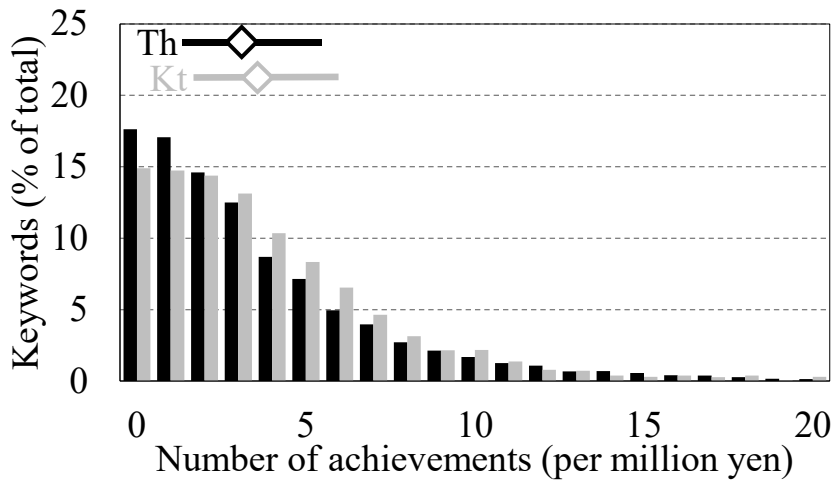


Figure 5: Histogram for unique keywords

The histogram peaks are significantly different in Figures 4 and 5. Results for common keywords tend to be higher than those for unique keywords. This trend may be because the KAKEN database can refer to the results of other studies comprising the common keywords. If there are previous studies that comprise the common keywords as the ongoing project, their performance will serve as a benchmark. Since we can compare the amount of research output based on common keywords, researchers are expected to produce at least the same level of performance as previous studies. The projects related to unique keywords are valuable in differentiating the institute from others. However, if their performance is inferior, it will trigger a reconsideration of their necessity. Tables 8 presents the survey results, divided into common and unique keywords, for all combinations of institutes in Groups III, V, and VII.

Table 8: Comparison of each institute’s achievements
(by common keywords or unique keywords)

(Common keywords)														(Unique keywords)																		
III	Hk	Th	Tk	Ng	Kt	Os	Ks	Ti	Tb	Kb	Ko	Ws	○	△	×	III	Hk	Th	Tk	Ng	Kt	Os	Ks	Ti	Tb	Kb	Ko	Ws	○	△	×	
Hk	○	○	△	○	○	○	○	○	△	○	○	○	9	2	0	Hk	○	○	×	×	△	○	×	○	×	○	×	○	×	5	1	5
Th	×	○	×	△	△	△	△	○	△	○	△	△	3	6	2	Th	×	△	×	×	×	○	×	△	×	○	×	○	×	2	2	7
Tk	×	×	○	×	△	△	△	×	○	×	○	×	2	3	6	Tk	×	△	×	×	×	○	×	×	×	○	×	○	×	2	1	8
Ng	△	○	○	○	○	○	○	△	○	△	○	△	7	4	0	Ng	○	○	○	△	○	○	×	○	×	○	×	○	×	7	2	2
Kt	×	△	△	×	○	△	△	○	×	○	×	×	2	5	4	Kt	○	○	○	△	○	○	×	○	×	○	×	○	×	7	1	3
Os	×	△	△	×	△	○	△	○	×	○	△	△	3	5	3	Os	△	○	○	×	×	○	×	△	×	○	×	○	×	4	2	5
Ks	×	△	△	×	△	○	△	○	×	○	△	△	2	6	3	Ks	×	×	×	×	×	×	×	×	×	○	×	○	×	1	0	10
Ti	×	△	△	△	×	△	△	○	△	△	○	△	2	7	2	Ti	○	○	○	○	○	○	○	○	○	○	△	○	△	10	1	0
Tb	×	×	×	×	×	×	×	×	×	△	×	△	0	3	8	Tb	×	△	○	×	×	△	○	×	×	○	×	○	×	3	2	6
Kb	△	△	○	△	○	○	○	△	○	○	○	○	7	4	0	Kb	○	○	△	○	○	○	×	○	×	○	×	○	×	8	1	2
Ko	×	×	×	×	×	×	×	×	△	×	△	△	0	2	9	Ko	×	×	×	×	×	×	×	×	×	×	×	×	×	0	0	11
Ws	×	△	○	△	○	△	△	△	△	×	△	△	2	7	2	Ws	○	○	○	○	○	○	○	△	○	○	○	○	○	10	1	0

V														VII																		
V	Hk	Th	Tk	Ng	Kt	Os	Ks	Ti	Tb	Kb	Ko	Ws	○	△	×	VII	Hk	Th	Tk	Ng	Kt	Os	Ks	Ti	Tb	Kb	Ko	Ws	○	△	×	
Hk	△	△	△	△	×	△	○	○	△	△	△	△	3	7	1	Hk	△	△	△	△	△	×	△	△	△	△	△	△	0	9	2	
Th	△	△	△	△	×	△	△	△	△	△	△	△	0	10	1	Th	×	△	×	×	×	△	○	×	×	×	×	×	1	1	9	
Tk	△	△	△	×	×	×	△	△	△	△	△	△	0	8	3	Tk	△	○	×	×	△	×	×	×	×	×	×	×	3	2	6	
Ng	△	△	○	△	×	△	△	△	△	△	△	△	1	9	1	Ng	○	○	○	△	×	○	△	×	△	×	×	×	6	2	3	
Kt	△	△	○	△	×	△	△	△	△	△	△	△	2	8	1	Kt	△	△	△	×	×	○	○	△	×	×	×	×	3	3	5	
Os	○	○	○	○	○	○	○	○	○	△	○	○	10	1	0	Os	○	○	○	○	○	○	○	○	×	○	×	○	×	9	0	2
Ks	△	△	△	△	×	△	△	△	△	△	△	△	1	9	1	Ks	×	△	×	×	×	×	×	×	×	×	×	×	1	1	9	
Ti	×	△	△	△	×	△	△	△	△	△	△	△	0	9	2	Ti	×	×	×	×	×	×	×	×	×	×	×	×	0	0	11	
Tb	×	△	△	△	×	×	×	△	△	×	△	△	0	6	5	Tb	△	○	○	△	△	×	○	○	×	△	×	×	4	4	3	
Kb	△	△	△	△	×	△	△	△	△	△	△	△	0	10	1	Kb	○	○	○	○	○	○	○	○	○	○	×	○	×	10	0	1
Ko	△	△	△	△	△	△	△	△	△	○	△	△	1	10	0	Ko	○	○	△	○	×	○	○	△	×	×	×	×	6	2	3	
Ws	×	△	△	△	△	×	△	△	△	△	△	△	0	9	2	Ws	○	○	○	○	○	○	○	○	○	○	○	○	○	11	0	0

VI														VIII																		
VI	Hk	Th	Tk	Ng	Kt	Os	Ks	Ti	Tb	Kb	Ko	Ws	○	△	×	VIII	Hk	Th	Tk	Ng	Kt	Os	Ks	Ti	Tb	Kb	Ko	Ws	○	△	×	
Hk	△	△	△	△	×	△	△	×	△	△	△	△	0	9	2	Hk	△	△	△	△	△	×	△	△	△	△	△	△	0	8	3	0
Th	△	△	△	△	○	△	△	×	△	△	△	△	2	9	0	Th	×	△	×	△	×	△	×	×	×	△	×	×	0	4	7	0
Tk	△	△	△	△	○	×	△	×	×	△	△	△	1	7	3	Tk	×	△	×	×	×	△	×	×	×	△	×	×	0	3	8	0
Ng	△	×	△	△	×	×	×	×	×	△	△	△	0	6	5	Ng	×	○	○	△	△	○	×	×	×	○	△	×	4	3	4	0
Kt	△	×	×	△	×	×	×	×	×	△	△	△	0	5	6	Kt	×	△	○	△	△	×	△	×	×	×	△	×	1	4	6	0
Os	○	△	○	○	○	○	○	○	○	△	○	○	5	6	0	Os	×	○	○	△	○	○	×	×	×	○	△	×	5	3	3	0
Ks	△	△	△	△	○	△	△	△	△	△	△	△	3	8	0	Ks	×	△	△	×	△	×	×	×	×	△	×	×	0	4	7	0
Ti	△	△	○	○	○	△	△	△	△	△	△	△	3	8	0	Ti	△	○	○	○	○	△	△	△	△	△	△	△	6	5	0	0
Tb	○	△	○	○	○	△	△	△	△	△	△	△	6	4	0	Tb	△	○	○	○	○	○	○	△	△	△	△	△	7	4	0	0
Kb	△	△	△	△	△	△	△	△	△	△	△	△	0	8	0	Kb	△	○	○	○	○	○	○	△	△	△	△	△	0	8	3	0
Ko	△	△	△	△	△	×	△	△	△	△	△	△	0	8	2	Ko	×	△	△	×	△	×	×	×	×	×	×	×	0	4	7	0
Ws	△	△	△	△	△	×	△	△	×	△	△	△	0	8	2	Ws	×	○	○	△	○	△	○	△	△	×	○	△	5	4	2	0

Compare the left and right sides of Table 8, the left has more Δ . It means there are more combinations on the left that are not clearly superior or inferior. One of the reasons for this difference may be that researchers strive not to be inferior to their competitors' research achievements. However, the differences in achievements related to keywords not handled by other institutions create differences in the performance of the institutes.

4 Future Work

In the case of Th and Kt in Group II, presented in Table 7, there were 2,787 common keywords, which is lesser than expected. The authors believe this is because the orthographical variants of the keywords were not fully corrected. In the future, it is expected that correcting the variants and increasing the number of common keywords will help clarify the characteristics of keywords unique to each institution. To solve this problem, it is possible to utilize judgments based on cosine similarity between keywords. Shimbaru investigated the relationship between the cosine similarity between sentences as short as keywords and their content agreement. An exhaustive study revealed that in 70% of the short sentence combinations with a cosine similarity of 0.85, the content of both sentences matched. Furthermore, the number of pairs with matching content increased as the cosine similarity increased [13][14]. It may be possible to determine keywords with the same meaning based on the cosine similarity between keywords. More reliable results are expected to be obtained by improving the determination accuracy of the same keywords.

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