Abstract

Mergers and acquisitions (M&A) have become critical architectural components of corporate strategy, driving growth, efficiencies, creating assets, or adding resources to the firm. There are multiple theories on the motivations for M&A, such as economies of scale, scope, acquisition of new products, new markets, and increasing market share. Globally and in India, M&As go through waves characterized by the type of M&As, attributes, and significant events that either triggered or ended the wave. The key determinants of M&A are another widely researched topic varying from accounting data, cultural fitment, leadership, ownership structures, and many more. There is considerable effort involved in the entire process; hence, predicting the probability of M&A is critical for management and investors to address. This research paper explores the statistical models and technological advancements, such as machine learning, that can be leveraged in identifying M&A candidates.

JEL Code : C12, C45, E44, G19, G34
Keywords : Mergers; Acquisitions; M&A; Modeling; Prediction; India

I. Introduction

MERGERS AND ACQUISITIONS (M&A) are a popular corporate restructuring method (Cartwright and Schoenberg, 2006). Globally, enterprises spend US$ 2 trillion on acquisitions yearly (Christensen, Alton, Rising and Waldeck, 2011). Our paper aims to provide a contemporary review of literature across three interrelated streams that will become highly crucial as M&As become complex, global, and defy established patterns. The three workstreams are first to understand the history of M&A, motivations for M&A globally, and performance of evaluation, as shown in Figure 1. Then, in the second workstream, the literature review is focused on M&As in
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