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Effect of Accounting Software's on Business Performance of Manufacturing Companies in Calabar Metropolis, Cross River State

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Abstract

This study examined the effect of accounting software on the business performance of manufacturing companies in Calabar Metropolis, Cross River State. A quantitative research approach was adopted, focusing on five key characteristics of accounting software: efficiency, reliability, ease of use, data quality, and accuracy. Data were collected using a self-administered, semi-structured questionnaire distributed to a sample of 150 respondents selected through convenience sampling from 15 registered manufacturing companies in the area. The results of the regression analysis revealed that all five characteristics had a positive and significant impact on business performance, with accuracy having the highest standardized coefficient (β = 0.367, p = 0.000), followed by data quality, ease of use, efficiency, and reliability. These findings confirm that the adoption and effective use of accounting software systems enhance operational efficiency, data management, decision-making, and overall organizational performance. The study underscores the critical role of accurate and reliable financial information in driving business growth and economic development, emphasizing the need for manufacturing firms to invest in robust accounting systems.

Keywords: *Efficiency, Reliability, Ease of use, Data quality, Accuracy and Business Performance.*

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1.1 Introduction

Accounting now occupies a prominent position in the business world thanks to the wide range of services it provides. A company's accounting system is critical to its success, It's critical for every company's financial information to be current and under the supervision of the organization. Simple to complex and even burdensome accounting processes are all part of accounting Companies must keep up with the rapid changes in information technology in order to keep their accounting, statutory records, and inventory up to date and highly accurate (Igbaria et al., 2019). We had to develop a system that could process and store accounting data quickly while also having enormous storage and processing capacity due to accounting systems increasing complexity and growing volume of transactions. An accounting and information technology (IT) integration was developed to meet the growing demand for current and accurate information (Wickramsainghe et al., 2017).

It's been proven time and time again that implementing an accounting information system improves a company's performance, profitability, and operational efficiency (Saira et al., 2020, Gullkvist, 2022; Sajady et al., 2015; Kouser et al., 2021). Adapting their accounting system in dealings with customers and suppliers was made possible by new computer tools and the information society (Esneay, 2021). Aligning an IT strategy with the company's business strategy. According to Raymond et al (2015), companies perform better when organizational structure and information technology structure are aligned. Doesn't accounting software use have any effect on the business performance of companies?

Shagari, Abdullah, & Saat (2017) investigated the adoption of a computerized accounting system in small and medium-sized businesses. No published studies, on the other hand, looked into the effects of accounting software on business performance of manufacturing companies in Calabar Metropolis, Cross River State.

1.2 Statement of problem

As a result of the industrial revolution in 17th century, technology becomes a pivotal part of the business world. It directly effects on business world in an innovative and improved way with a continuous updating and upgrading for its' effective use. According to the characteristics of accounting software; efficiency, reliability, ease of use, data quality, and accuracy, most of the manufacturing companies are adopting and using accounting software instead of manual systems, so that it is easy to generate effective managerial information in the routing and managerial decision making by such firms. Chong and Nizam (2018); Goodhue and Thompson (2015) also emphasized the significant impact these characteristics on the business performance. Despite the usefulness of the accounting software certain factors such as power failure, viruses and lost the data, has a risk of hacked and also establishing cost is very high serve as threat toward effective usage. More so, there are few researches conducted to clearly identify the relationship (whether it is significant or not) of accounting software and business performance of manufacturing companies in Calabar Metropolis. From the literature reviewed, many studies have been conducted on the impact of computerized accounting systems on efficiency, effectiveness and business performance of manufacturing companies in Calabar Metropolis. However, but there are little research conducted on the effect of accounting softwares on business performance of manufacturing companies of Calabar Metropolis. The extent to which accounting software influence business performance has not been well explored in Calabar Metropolis. It is based on this situation that this study aims to fill in that knowledge gap to investigate the effect of accounting software on business performance of manufacturing companies in the study area.

For the purpose of verifying business information, an accounting software helps to enter the transactions into the system by using the fundamental source documents, posting transactions into the manual or software accounting records, to keep the records in stores for regular use and to provide useful information for decision making etc. According to Thottoli (2020), his study confirmed and theoretically proved that the choice and use of generalized accounting system is very important to the management as well as employees in the financial and economic activities of manufacturing companies. Jaya Rahmayanti and Rahmawati (2018) emphasized that, because of rapid business expansion and technological advancement in the global era, manufacturing companies need flexible and effective technological accounting applications that can be used to create financial reports to review the financial condition of their businesses, and these accounting applications and software should be easy and cost effective to the manufacturing companies.

2 Literature review

Globalization in the business environment has become increasingly competitive; just following the traditionally management accounting systems will lead to low efficiency and loss of customer loyalty and satisfaction (Yao, 2015). So it is vital to develop some new management systems in order to solve this problem (Lanlan et al., 2019; Yao, 2015). Due to this contemporary sequential flow of rapid development, a revolutionary requirement is of the business ground and a separate sub system identified as sub system of whole management information system of the organizations in place as concentrated (Damera, Garilli, & Ricciardi, 2023; Shagari et al., 2017). Accounting information systems have been recognized as an effective tool for achieving not only internal changes but also external organizational changes (Shagari et al., 2017). As such, many organizations are in the view to invest in the latest technology such as Accounting Information Systems (AIS) to satisfy the needs of their customers and compete favorably. In general, an accounting is mainly concerned with recording, classifying, summarizing, and interpreting relevant accounting information to decision makers' internal and external users to appraise the organizational performance. Modern business organizations have increased their investments in information systems (IS) as a fundamental e-operating tool, capable of yielding significant contributions to their financial results especially in cost efficiency (Adewole, 2023). The use of this system is common for the organizations in all over the world. That is why, Manufacturing companies use accounting software which parallel to the firm's information system (IS), which includes a set of interrelated sub systems for the planning, implementing and controlling the entire business operating system tor the management (Lim, 2023). As we are in the global technological era, different firms use different accounting software available in Global market (Lim, 2023) as a part of their accountinginformation system in their organizational purpose and the firm's financial viability. In this instance a well-developed model for maintaining accounting information system

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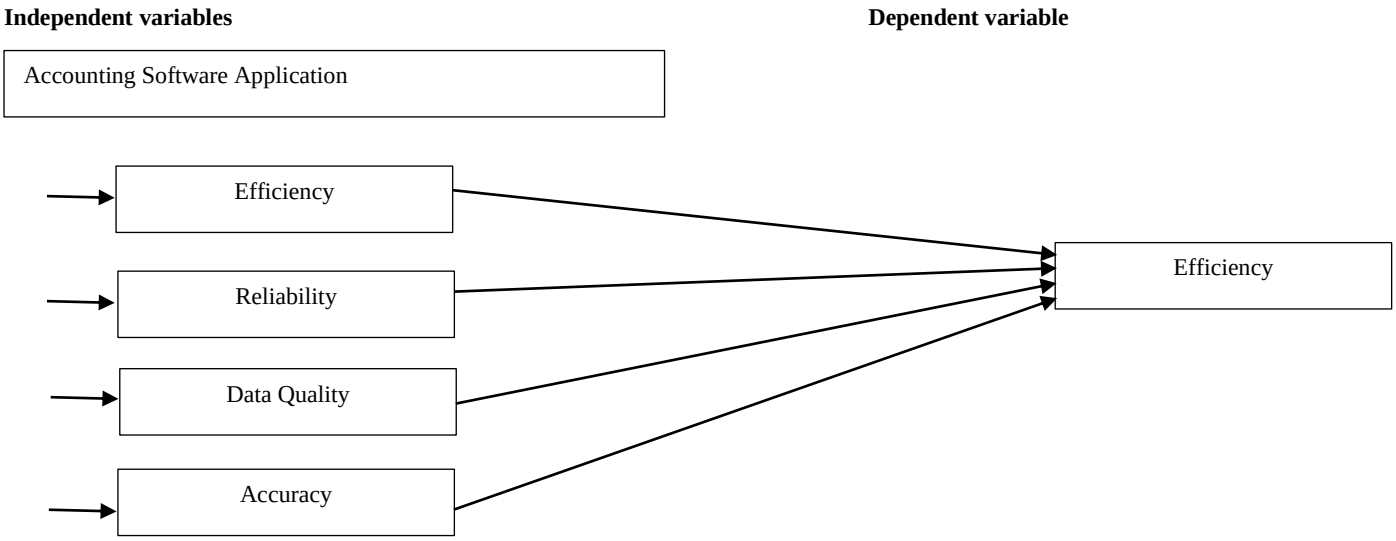
parallel to the firm's management information system in place is required to ensure whether the entering data are free from material error, and providing efficient and relevant data in to practice. As Trabulsi (2018) emphasized, the aim of accounting software is to fill the necessity of providing systematic management information through automation than manual, so that business entities including Manufacturing companies have the ability to perform all activities and get the economic benefits verifying the optimal business performance.

2.1 Conceptual Model for the Study

This is the conceptual model formulated in this study. The characteristics of accounting software; efficiency, reliability, data quality, ease of use, and accuracy are the independent variables whereas the dependent variable is the business performance of Manufacturing companies. Based on this construct, the conceptual model is formulated to be tested the research hypotheses in order to justify the findings as in the next section. All the formulated Hypothesis are stated in Null Form.



Source: Deduced from literature, 2025

2.2 Efficiency

As a crucial organizational tool, the accounting information system is important for successful decision-making and control in companies. Data collection and maintenance, accounting system and knowledge management, data control and information generation are just a few of the key functions performed by an efficient accounting information system according to Brynjolfsson et al (2020), accounting information systems' efficiency and effectiveness are influenced by a wide range of factors. These system merged competent human resource with cutting-edge software and technology, as well as a high-quality database, to maximize efficiency.

Increasing performance and maximizing shareholder's wealth are two of any company's primary objectives. These goals can only be met through the employment of appropriate strategies and resources, which are ten put into action. Be efficient becomes even more critical when faced with limited available resources. A company's capacity to maximize firm value while utilizing the fewest inputs is referred to as efficiency in the business setting. The requirement for efficiency in the company's operations has been underlisted by empirical investigations. Similarly, Greene and Segal (2023) demonstrate that in the insurance business, efficiency increases profitability in terms of return on equity. The worth of a company is strongly correlated with its ability to utilize its resources. There are some factors that affect the efficiency and effectiveness of accounting information systems. The accounting information systems combined the factors qualified in human resources, best software and hardware and data base quality to be effective. Wilkinson et al., (2020); Mehedi et al., (2015) examined that the effect of implementation of accounting information system and revealed that the effective implementation of accounting information system in business performance of manufacturing companies is positively associated with performance, productivity, and profitability.

2.3 Reliability

As emphasized by Hoitash et al., (2018); Maines and Wahlen (2016), accounting software produce reliability data that are critically used to plan, identify, and control business operations. Further they state that value of internal control effect operational performance through information reliability. As an essential characteristic for accounting information, reliability represents the extent to which the information is unbiased, free from error, and representationally faithful making it useful for decision making. Topash (2021) suggested that the reliability of the generated information through systems is a key feature guaranteeing, convincible accounting reports and encourage adherence to organization policies.

2.4 Ease of Use

Bias and Mayhew, (2015); Norman (2022) emphasiszed that the success of the use of an accounting system depends on the level of ease of use of the system. An increase in ease of use positively influence several aspects of a company's output quality such as increased sales and revenues, productivity and customer satisfaction, reduced training and support cost, development time and costs and maintenance costs. Parallel, it was noted that perceived ease of use for programming configuration is more essential. Usually recognized great programming requires computerized accounting system verifying three viewpoints, ease to find, ease to learn, and ease to use.

2.5 Data Quality

According to the researcher Xu (2018) the competitiveness of firms would be damaged by incomplete and inaccurate data as input control and employee competencies are important to data quality of accounting information system. To achieve high data

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quality, the process of data production such as: data collection, data utilization, and data storage must work satisfactorily (Lee, 2021). Emeka-Nwokeji (2022) shows data quality is significantly affect to the success of AIS and data quality enhance the business performance. Also Al_Qudah and Shuker (2021) found the strong positive relationship of CAS data and quality of the data for success of the business. Data quality is often explained by the existence of data that are fit for use by data consumers.

2.6 Accuracy

In the entire accounting process of a firm, the Accountants can process data accurately using accounting software to provide complete, accurate and timely information outputs for decision making in driving business efficiency and growth (Ravichandran & Rai, 2020). Accuracy of financial data is a consistent and efficient driver across the entire organization enhancing the business performance and the achievement of key business goals operationally and financially (Chong & Nizam, 2018). Furthermore, an accuracy of accounting software is highly important to organizations in terms of identifying possible future business avenues and profitable ventures to.

2.7 Business Performance

The modern literature defines performance as the result of activities of organization or investment over a given time period. Also performance defined as the accomplishments of specific business objectives measured against known standards, completeness and the cost. (Davis & Cobb, 2020; Ozer, 2022; Sacristan-Navarro, Gomes-Anson, & Cabeza-Garcia, 2021; Thrikawala, 2021). Perspective of the measurement for the business performance is financial and non- financial performance, financial measure of performance can be refer to as the results of the entity's operation activities in monetary term (Dowling & Helm, 2016; Thrikawala, 2021; Wotson, 2021). In order to that, financial measures of performance are derived from the accounts of an organization, it can be found in organization's income statement or the statement of financial position. Non-financial performance could not found through the business accounts and it is related to customer requirements or competitor or other non-financial objectives that may be the important in achieving profitability of the firm (Ittner & Larcker, 2018; Juhl, Kristensen, & Stergaard, 2022; Selvarajan, Ramamoorthy, Flood, & Guthrie, 2021). According to the Harash, Al-Timimi, and Radhi (2021) conduct the research study of measuring business performance of Manufacturing companies using financial performance as return on asset, return on equity, sales growth and profitability growth. Also take non-financial performance as employee growth, customer satisfaction, satisfaction with performance compared to competitors and overall satisfaction.

2.8 Accounting Information System and Business Performance

According to Dibrell, Davis and Craig (2018), organizations' performance many be improved by combining an innovative product or process approach with an investment in IT/IS. Manufacturing companies with a high degree AIS alignment outperformed those with a lower degree of AIS alignment in terms of organizational performance (Ismali & King, 2018). Earlier studies have shown that the adoption of an accounting information system improves a firm's performance, profitability and operational efficiency.

2.9 Efficiency and Business performance

As a crucial organizational tool, the accounting information system is important for successful decision-making and control in companies. Data collection and maintenance, accounting system and knowledge management, data control and information generation are just a few of the key functions performed by an efficient accounting information system according to Brynjolfsson et al., (2020) accounting information systems' efficiency and effectiveness are influenced by a wide range of factors. These system merged competent human resource with cutting-edge software and technology, as well as a high-quality database, to maximize efficiency.

Increasing performance and maximizing shareholder's wealth are two of any company's primary objectives. These goals can only be met through the employment of appropriate strategies and resources, which are ten put into action. Be efficient becomes even more critical when faced with limited available resources. A company's capacity to maximize firm value while utilizing the fewest inputs is referred to as efficiency in the business setting. The requirement for efficiency in the company's operations has been underlisted by empirical investigations. Similarly, Greene and Segal (2023) demonstrate that in the insurance business, efficiency increases profitability in terms of return on equity. The worth of a company is strongly correlated with its ability to utilize its resources.

2.10 Reliability and Business Performance

The dependability data generated by accounting software is crucial for planning, identifying, and controlling corporate processes. When it comes to accounting information, dependability is how error-free and accurate the data is, as well as how relevant it is when it comes to decision-making. Despite its key significance in accounting information. Reliability is a difficult and elusive concept to grasp (Maines and Wahen, 2016). Companies must disclose more unvarnished revelations related to the underlying economic structures represented by accounting information in order to enable users better judge the veracity of accounting information in order to achieve accounting standards.

Reliability is built into the information not imposed on it by modification. For dependability to matter, measurement qualities and economic conceptions represented in accounting information must be relevant. As a result, while dependability is required, it is insufficient to ensure that accounting information is useful. In order for enterprises to provide economic structures with relevant useful accounting metrics and classifications, accounting information must be reliable. There are several elements that affect the accuracy and usefulness of accounting information in projecting future cash flows, including the degree to which financial accounting structures and measured values accurately reflect economic concepts (Cho, Kim and Lim, 2016).

It was found by Chandar and Bricker (2019) that returns to market-wide portfolios such as the S&P 500 and Russell 2020 indexes give helpful information for determining the accuracy of the funds estimated fair value gains and Josses, Sunder and Wavmire, Casker and Hall, and Shriver (2019) have all tested the dependability of measurement characteristics industry- and economy-wide price-level indices and asset baskets similar. Historical stock return volatility measurements utilized by Alford and Boatsman (2015) to assess the credibility of predictions for predicted future return volatility when calculating the fair value of stock option-based compensation at companies, Depending on how different your expectations for return volatility are, you'll have to adjust your

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estimations of options-based compensation costs. A number of recent research projects have demonstrated the importance of making independent and verifiable baseline information for determining financial statement accuracy publicly available. This makes it easier for investors to assess a company's financial statement's overall trustworthiness by comparing it to the benchmark data.

2.11 Ease of Use and Business Performance

User benefit from high-quality software that's simple to use and comprehend. As a result, the effectiveness of the system relies on how user-friendly it is. Overall, a rise in user-friendliness benefits a company's output quality in numerous ways, such as higher sales and revenues, productivity, or customer happiness: reduced training and support expenses; or decreased time to market, or maintenance costs (Bias and Mayhew, 2018).

Employees who like their jobs perform better, remain longer in the lace of temptation, and offer ideas and excitement to the advancement of greater production. According to Landauer (2015). Employees who dislike their jobs are more likely to leave. Using experimental design strategies to define baseline values, companies set criteria for quality workplace concerns include posture, workstation design, office environment and organization challenges, input devices, screen displays and software user interfaces (Celine, 2015). Firms may achieve their goals with improved productivity at reduced costs while also producing optimal levels of customer satisfaction by increasing the aforementioned elements. Over the years, various studies have linked these variables to general betterment. The need for significant training may be reduced with user interface software that is simple to comprehend, and thus decreases the time needed to complete activities while increasing staff productivity and decreasing development time and expenses. Each of these elements does not have to be mutually exclusive; rather, they should work together to create a positive working environment.

Gould (2015) classified usability according on how well a system performs, what functions it has, and how the user interface looks (Dubey et al, 2020). Technical soundness and error-freeness, as well as user-friendliness, are all tied in a more indirect way to an organization's performance.

2.12 Data Quality and Business Performance

The output of an accounting information system (AIS) is heavily reliant on the quality of the data input (Nu, 2018). Xu (2018) came to the conclusion that data quality is crucial to AIS and thus affects the performance of the company by evaluating the quality of accounting information Using for attributes: accuracy, timeliness, completeness, and consistency. Data collection, use and storage must all function well in order to attain high levels of data quality (Lee and Strong, 2018). As input control and staff competences are vital to the data quality of the accounting information system, companies' competitiveness will be harmed if their data is missing or wrong (Xu, 2017). They observed that data of poor quality might have a negative impact on decision-making, which in turn affects the performance of the organization.

Several studies have focused on success characteristics and essential process aspects that regularly affect information systems and AIS, with varying degrees of success. According to Wixom & Watson (2021), data quality is a significant component that affects decision-making effort directly. To increase the organization's dependence on (AIS) in this information era, a proactive approach to data quality management is needed (Al-Hakim. 2021). Data and information are referred to as vital components for all human endeavors (Emeka-Nwokeji, 2022).

Data quality management literature has been written to determine and handle crucial success elements discovered by Xu (2018). Despite this, there have only been a few attempts to determine the important AIS data quality parameters, resulting in a paucity of research on AIS data quality. Based on her findings in 2022, Enseka-Nwokeji argues that high-quality AIS data is critical to the success of the company. The rules for managing data quality help firms respond and deliver services and products required by consumers in a proactive manner, as well as proper decision-making and operating procedures. As an important success element for organizational performance, data quality has received relatively little attention in research. Data quality. According to Al Qudah and Shukeri (2021), is closely linked and has a positive effect on how internal auditors perceive the company. A growing number of research investigations have discovered a strong connection between data quality and AlS performance (Emeka-Nwokeji, 2022).

2.13 Accuracy and Business Performance

Fast and accurate aren't the only benefits of using accounting software; it is also dependable and accurate. ln order to collect data and process it into useful information, computers are used. The entire data processing is done with accounting software through sorting, classifying, calculating, summarizing the data and the production of reports. Management uses this information to make timely and effective decisions.

Manufacturing companies process information systems and production in the same way. A firm risk losing business if consumers (users) are unsatisfied with the product (information) because it does not meet their demands (relevance) because it is not provided on time (Cikeman, 1999). When information given by an IS is not up to Snuff, activities in an organization are disputed, and maintenance expenses soar. Reduced labour expenses and waste, efficient use of machinery, and cheap inventory costs are all advantages of having extremely precise operational information from accounting software. By providing customers with accurate, up-to-date and relevant information, organization may better control their costs while also increasing their profit margins and the effectiveness of their decision making process.

IT may be used by organizations to generate internal operational efficiency by efficiently and effectively managing internal resources and by improving customer service in order to gain strategic advantages, as claimed by Ravichandran and Rai (2020). As a result, companies place a great importance on accounting software's accuracy in helping them make better decisions by delivering timely and correct information. It also helps them uncover new business opportunities and successful enterprises. Information systems dependency and losses associated with information accuracy encourage management to improve IS quality proactively (Ravichandran and Rai, 2020).

When information is free of serious flaws, is not prejudiced and consumers can rely on it to correctly reflect what it has set out to be or what they anticipated to be, it is considered accurate and credible by many. In order for the data to be accurate. It must reflect the transactions and other events accurately and be expected to do so. Accountants can eliminate or reduce human mistake by using accounting software to help them enhance their overall

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accuracy. Accounting necessitates a greater number of manual arithmetic computations has other professions. A small blunder in the calculations at the start of the process can have a big impact on the outcome.

Instead, then relying on accounting software to supply incomplete or inaccurate information, accountants may use it to their advantage by processing large amounts of data quickly while yet maintaining high levels of accuracy. A company's performance and attainment of important business goals are enhanced when financial data are accurate. This is true both operationally and financially.

3 Methodology

The survey research method was adopted for this study. A quantitative approach was used for this study to measure the performance of manufacturing companies relating to five characteristics as described above. A self-administered semi-structured questionnaire was used as the data collecting instrument. In Calabar Metropolis, there are 15 registered manufacturing companies. In this instance, the convenience sampling method was used by the researcher to select a sample consisting 150 respondents.

Model Specification

$Yi = \beta_0 + \beta_1$ Efficiency $+ \beta_2$ Reliability $+ \beta_3$ Ease of Use $+ \beta_4$ data Quality $+ \beta_5$ Accuracy $+ e_i$

Where**:**

Yi Dependent variable – Business Performance

B0, β1, β2, β3, β4, β5 Coefficient values of intercept and independent variables

ei: Randomized error

4 Results and Discussion

This section presents the data analysis, interpretation of findings and hypotheses testing for this study.

TABLE 1

Mean and standard deviation of variables

Variables	N	Mean value	Standard deviation
Independent variables			
Efficiency	150	4.02	0.82
Reliability	150	4.07	0.69
Ease to use	150	4.18	0.72
Data quality	150	4.12	0.64
Accuracy	150	4.23	0.68
Dependent variable 150		4.24	0.56

In Table 1, the mean and standard deviation of variables and dimensions, all the dimensions, Independent variable and the dependent variables represent the high level of the mean value. In order to the condition of $3.5 < x1 \leq 5.0$ represent the high level of mean value, because of that this study mean value of all the variables and dimensions were fallen under the 3.5 and 5.0, also it causes to high level means for the variables and dimensions.

4.1 Correlation analysis

The correlation analysis used to measure the magnitude and the direction of the relationship among the two variables. According to the study shows correlation among the characteristics of accounting software and business performance. Also represent the correlation among this study's .05 dimensions and business performance.

TABLE 2

Correlation among the independent variable and the dependent variable

Variable		Efficiency	Reliability	Ease to Use	Data Quality	Accuracy
Business Performance	Pearson Correlation	0.746*	0.320*	0.320*	0.728*	0.732*
	Sig. (2-tailed)	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.000

*Correlation is significant at the 0.01 level (2-tailed).

(Source: Survey Data, 2025)

According to table, the correlation between Efficiency (E), Reliability(R), Ease of Use (EU), Data Quality (DQ), Accuracy (A), and Business Performance (BP) are 0.746, 0.742, 0.320, and 0.728 respectively and with a p-value of 0.000, it implies there is a strong positive significant relationship between Efficiency (E), Reliability, Ease of Use, Data Quality, Accuracy and Business Performance at 1% significant level. Therefore the relationships among all proxies of the independent variable are positively significantly correlated with the dependent variable. Therefore the total relationship between characteristics of accounting software and business performance is highly interrelated with a correlation value of 0.798 implying that there is a strong positive significant relationship between characteristics of accounting software and business performance at 1% significant level.

4.2 Multiple Regression Analysis

According to the data analysis model the following table shows the analyzed results in order to find the impact of predictors (proxies as Efficiency, Reliability, Ease of Use, Data Quality, Accuracy and the Business Performance.

TABLE 3

Model Summary

Model	R	R-square	Adjusted r square	Std. Error of the Estimate
1	0.849[a]	0.720	0.711	0.30171

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Predictors: (Constant), Efficiency, Accuracy, Reliability, Data Quality,

(Source: Survey Data, 2025)

The above model summary provides the R and R2 values. The R value represents the simple correlation of 0.849, which indicates a high degree of correlation. The R2 indicates that only 72% (approx.) variation in business performance can be explained by the characteristics of accounting software and other 28% (approx.) variation comes from other factors. In addition, the following table is the ANOVA table, which reports how well the regression equation fits the data (predicts in BP) and is shown below.

Table 4

Regression ANOVA

Model		Sum of squares	Df	Mean square	F	sig
1.	Regression	33.791	5	6.758	74.240	0.000b
	Residual	13.108	144	0.091		
	Total	46.899	149			

a. Dependent Variable: Business Performance

b. Predictors: (Constant), Accuracy, Reliability, Data Quality, Efficiency, Ease of Use

Source: Survey Data, 2025

This table indicates that the regression model predicts the dependent variable business performance significantly well. This indicates the statistical significance of the regression model that was run. Here the P-value is 0.000 which is less than 0.01, and indicates that the regression model statistically significantly predicts the Business performance this means that it is a good fit for the data.

TABLE 5

Coefficient

Model		Unstandardized coefficients		Standardized coefficients	T	Sig
		B	Std. Error	Beta		
1	(Constant)	0.767	0.214		3.580	0.000
	Efficiency	0.111	0.055	0.162	2.012	0.046
	Reliability	0.082	0.038	0.100	2.168	0.032
	Ease to use	0.150	0.070	0.193	2.135	0.034
	Data quality	0.188	0.074	0.214	2.535	0.012
	Accuracy	0.304	0.050	0.367	6.132	0.000

a. Dependent Variable: Business Performance

Source: Survey Data, 2025

The coefficients table provides us with the necessary information to predict business performance from, Efficiency, Ease of Use, Reliability, Data Quality, and Accuracy as well as determine whether Characteristic of Accounting software contribute statistically significantly to the model. At this juncture, it was highlighted that five proxies of independent variable; Efficiency (0.046), Reliability (0.032), Ease of Use (0.034), Data Quality (0.012) are significantly associated with Business Performance at 5% significant level ($p<0.05$) and Accuracy (0.000) is significantly associated with BP at 1% significant level ($p<0.01$). Also, t-values of Efficiency, Reliability, Ease of Use, Data Quality and Accuracy are 2.012, 2.135, 2.168, 2.535 and 6.132 which are more than 2 and significant. Based on the coefficient table of the regression model B value of the table 0.767 represents the degree to which extent the dependent variable can be affected by a certain independent variable remain constant. B values of Table 5 0.111, 0.150, 0.082, 0.188, and 0.304 represents the degree to which extent the Business Performance can be affected (increase or decrease) by the Characteristic of Accounting software (Efficiency, Reliability, Ease of Use, Data Quality and Accuracy) of software increasing in one unit. According to the Standardized Coefficients most contribution provide to the dependent variable by the dimension of Accuracy.it represent the highest value of 0.367 among the other dimensions. As per the above Coefficients Table, all the factors represent the significant values. Those values are less than 0.05 and also all the B values are positive. Because of that all the dimension is shows the significant positive impact on Business performance. Therefore considering all the above tables' factors the regression equation can be formulated as follows:

$BP = 0.767 + 0.111(EF) + 0.082 (REL) + 0.150 (EU) + 0.188 (DQ) + 0.304 (Accuracy) + e^1$

4.3 Hypothesis Testing

Hypothesis Testing was performed by using p-value of each Beta coefficient of independent variables. The p-value is the probability of obtaining a test statistic equal or more excess than the results obtained from the sample data, given that the null hypothesis H0 is true. Confidential interval of accepting hypothesis is 95%. To achieve this confidential interval, p-value should be equal or less

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than 0.05. If it is not equal or less than 0.05 null hypothesis cannot be rejected. Accordingly, the p-value of all independent variables is less than 5 % (0.05) significant level. Therefore, all hypotheses have been accepted.

4.4 Discussion of Findings

In this study, the characteristics of accounting software in terms of the efficiency, reliability, ease of use, data quality, and accuracy of accounting software is positively and significantly affected on business performance of manufacturing companies. The result is corroborated by the work of Nizam (2018) which revealed that there exists a relationship between the characteristics of accounting software (in terms of efficiency, reliability, ease of use, data quality, and accuracy) and the business performance of Manufacturing companies that with a favorable relationship among them, there will be tremendous development. The analysis revealed that all the independent variables are significantly related to business performance and positively influence the business performance. This finding is consistent with Chong and Nizam (2018), Trabulsi (2018), AL Salamat (2017), Wickrmsainghe, Pemarathna, Cooray, and Dissanayake (2017), Hanini (2015), Daw Hla (2015), Al_Qudah and Shuker (2021), Emeka-Nwokeji (2022), Grande, Estebanez, and Colomina (2021) Dubey, Rana, and Sharma (2020), Xu (2018), Maines &Wahlen (2016), Bias and Mayhew (2015), Greene and Segal (2023), Sharma and Bhagwat (2018), Wixom and Watson (2021), and Ravichandran and Rai (2020) on the characteristics of accounting software, and its effect on business performance of Small and Medium Scale Enterprises (Manufacturing companies) of a country. This study contributes to the body of knowledge through a formation for the basis for further research in the area of business development in Calabar Metropolis and other developing nation.

5 Conclusion

Finally, accounting software systems are critical to enterprises, organizations, and the economy as a whole because of their importance and worth. The progress of the economy depends heavily on the flow of precise and reliable information. The impact of performance management in raising an organization's overall worth cannot be overstated. Accounting information system adoption has been shown in prior studies to boost a company's overall productivity, profit margins, and operating efficiencies. Research has shown that there is a strong link between the features of accounting software and business performance, which suggests that organizations will be more effective if they have access to correct accounting information. As a result, accounting software can have an impact on organizations' financial success.

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