



Literature comparison methodology

THE EXISTING PROBLEM OR ISSUE

Good research must be both rigorous and relevant. But how can researchers identify relevant topics from the ever-increasing body of literature in a timely & efficient manner? Furthermore, how can the quality of research produced be effectively measured?

OUR SOLUTION

We have built a tool that helps identify relevant research gaps and unmet needs of different stakeholder groups. For example, our tool can identify salient topics discussed in the practitioner literature that are not covered in academic literature and vice versa. The tool has been designed to compare not only practitioners and academic literature but also those from such areas as government, trade, news media, etc.

To date, the tool has been used to identify relevant research gaps by looking at how practitioners and academics talked about an IS framework. It has helped identify similarities and differences in the topics discussed by four different stakeholders (government, trade, academia and practitioners). A study of these variations provides other stakeholders with a better understanding of how to address topics of interest for users and practitioners and vice versa.

The tool also provides a more reliable & broader approach to research performance evaluation by overcoming the limitation of exact keyword matching.

APPLICATIONS

Whilst this tool was initially developed to help identify research gaps between academic and practitioner sets of literature, there is scope for wider applications, including but not limited to:

- ✓ finding differences in topics between different literature types (e.g. news media, academic articles, government reports, etc.);
- ✓ finding differences in a single topic across different research areas (e.g. different ways of researching the same topic);
- ✓ for diachronic analysis (e.g. the hot/cold topics over time or how topics change depending on the situation or time);
- ✓ by providing a clear idea of what research should be supported across the university;

ADVANTAGES	BENEFITS
Provides a way for researchers to identify salient topics for investigation that are missing from the current academic literature.	The tool can identify emerging and disappearing topics by comparing academic &/or other literature.
Provides a useful & efficient methodology instrument for researchers undertaking literature review projects.	The tool can produce comparative results in a variety of visualisation formats.
Provides applications beyond academic research.	The tool is useful in such areas as: Human Resources; government, education; libraries & research data management; the law profession, etc.

INVENTOR

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INTELLECTUAL PROPERTY POSITION

Provisional Patent Application: 2018900448

A computer implemented method and computer program product for comparatively analysing documents from a plurality of literature sources

PARTNERING OPPORTUNITY

We are seeking an industry partner for further development and commercialisation of this technology through a research collaboration or technology licence.

WOULD YOU LIKE TO KNOW MORE?

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