

Increasing the impact of academia on the software industry through synthesising practitioner generated grey literature

Ashley Williams

Department of Computing and Mathematics
Manchester Metropolitan University

Manchester, UK

ashley.williams@mmu.ac.uk

Abstract—Mining online accounts of practitioner experience can provide new evidence for software engineering researchers. However, we need methods for assessing quality at vast scale. We investigate the challenge of finding high-quality grey literature, defining high-quality in terms of a document's relevance to the consumer and its credibility. Building on previous research, we use a version of the case survey methodology for automating the identification and assessment of high-quality grey literature. We develop a model of credibility assessment within software engineering research and demonstrate our case survey methodology and credibility assessment model in practice. We use it to conduct a grey literature review of High Performing Teams (HPT). This work provides a foundation for future research on automated quality and credibility assessment. Adoption of the tools and methodology presented can help researchers effectively search for and select higher-quality blog-like content

Keywords—grey literature, text mining, credibility assessment