Research Practice & Ethics
COMP9011

Mubashir Husain Rehmani

Mubashir.Rehmani@cit.ie

Delivered To
MSc Software Architecture and Design
MSc Artificial Intelligence
MSc Information Design and Development

Week 8

- **Plagiarism**

  Material Taken From Dr. Donna O'Shea Lecture Slides

- **Code of Good Practice in Research**
  - **Cork Institute of Technology**
  - **UK Research Integrity Office**

References Related With Plagiarism

- Ireland, C. and English, J., 2011. Let them plagiarise: Developing academic writing in a safe environment. Journal of Academic Writing,1(1), pp.165-172.

- Ben R. Martin, 2013. Whither research integrity? Plagiarism, self-plagiarism and coercive citation in an age of research assessment, Research Policy, 42(5)

- Dawson, J. (2004)A Perspective on Plagiarism. In Transforming Knowledge into Wisdom: Holistic Approaches to Teaching and Learning, Annual Conference of the Australasian Higher Journal of Academic Writing 1(1)

- DeVoss, D. and Rosati, A.C., 2002. "It wasn't me, was it?" Plagiarism and the Web. Computers and composition,19(2), pp.191-203. BretagT (2013) Challenges in Addressing Plagiarism in Education. PLoSMed 10(12)

- Hacker, D. and Sommers, N., 2011. Rules for writers. Macmillan.

- Harris, R.A., 2001.The plagiarism handbook: Strategies for preventing, detecting, and dealing with plagiarism. PyrczakPub.

- Vicinus, M. and Eisner, C. eds., 2009.Originality, imitation, and plagiarism: Teaching writing in the digital age. University of Michigan Press.

What is Plagiarism?

- "The action or practice of plagiarising; the wrongful appropriation or purloining (stealing), and publication as one's own, of the ideas, or the expressions of the ideas of another". [Oxford Dictionary]

- The term at its core means to copy someone's else work, even paraphrasing without attribution counts as plagiarism.

Forms of Plagiarism

- **Word-for-word plagiarism** (verbatim plagiarism) – direct copying of phrases or passages from a published text without quotation or acknowledgement.

- **Paraphrasing plagiarism** (mosaic plagiarism) – when you copy bits and pieces from a source or several sources, changing words here and there without accurately paraphrasing or using quotations appropriately.

- **Uncited Quotation** – when you fail to credit the author or the material and provide a trail for the author to follow back in your document.

- **Plagiarism from secondary sources** – when original sources are referenced or quoted, but obtained from a secondary source text without looking up the original.

Plagiarism – Academic Institutions

- To protect the values of academic integrity, many universities and college have developed policies to deal with standards of integrity and attempt to define plagiarism and specify its penalties.

- CIT is no exception in this regard.

Plagiarism – Extract from CIT Student Regulations

- Plagiarism is:-

- quoting verbatim or almost verbatim from a source (such as copyrighted material, notes, letters, business entries) without proper acknowledgement;

- taking over someone else's line of thought, argument, arrangement, and supporting evidence (for example, statistics, bibliographies) without indicating such dependence;

- submitting someone else's work, in whatever form (film, workbook, artwork) without complete and accurate acknowledgement;

- intentional distortion of citations including re-publication of an entire previously published document presented as new material;

- incorrect identification of inventorship.

Plagiarism – Extract from CIT Student Regulations

- Procedure when cheating or plagiarism is suspected in coursework:

- Where an internal or external examiner suspects a candidate of attempting to cheat or otherwise gain unfair advantage in coursework and other forms of assessment s/he shall:

  - Endorse the candidate's work on the front cover with a note detailing the location of any plagiarised passages and identify as much collaborative evidence as possible and inform the Registrar of the action taken.

  - Prepare a written report on the allegation and send it with copies of any plagiarised passages and their source(s) where appropriate to the Registrar and any other examiners involved in assessing the work in question.

Plagiarism – Extract from CIT Student Regulations

- Procedure for investigating alleged offences
- The Registrar will convene an Examinations Infringements Board for the purpose of investigating the allegation. The Examinations Infringements Board will be composed of:
  - A Co-ordinator of Faculty/Head of College, A Head of School, A Head of Department, 3 members of academic staff, A sabbatical officer of the Students' Union.
- The student will be informed in writing by the Registrar that cheating, plagiarism, or attempting to gain unfair advantage over other candidates is suspected. The student may respond in writing within five days of receiving the written notification.
  - If the student chooses not to question or deny the allegations the reports from the Registrar will be passed on to the Examinations Infringements Board for a final decision. The student may provide a written statement to the Examinations Infringements Board.
  - If the student denies the allegations, or if there is any doubt in establishing the facts, the Registrar will write to the student warning him or her of the allegations made and requesting attendance at an interview.
  - If the student does not reply within five working days of the date on which the letter is sent, or if the student replies accepting the allegation, the Examinations Infringements Board will prepare a report for the Registrar with a recommendation for an appropriate penalty.
  - If the student replies within the time limit and denies the allegation, the Registrar will convene as soon as possible a meeting of Examinations Infringements Board.
  - The student will be invited to attend this meeting and shall have the right to be accompanied by a maximum of three persons and to submit oral or written evidence to the meeting.
  - Following the meeting, the Examinations Infringements Board will prepare a report outlining the circumstances of the case and where appropriate recommend an appropriate penalty. This report will be available to the student but shall be treated as confidential.

Plagiarism – Extract from CIT Student Regulations

The possible penalties in order of severity are:

1. Mark of zero recorded for the assessment item (or part of assessment item) affected

2. Failure of module

3. Failure of the module, without right to be reassessed within the current academic year

4. Failure of the module, without right to be reassessed within the current academic year and without the right to progress to the next stage of the programme until the module in question is completed

5. Failure of the stage (i.e. student is required to repeat the stage in full)

6. Restriction of final award classification

7. Temporary or permanent suspension of studies

Plagiarism by Students

- Rate of plagiarism varies from 19-81% by undergraduate students.

- Rate is higher where English is an Additional Language (EAL).

- EAL students are significantly more likely to have engaged in serious forms of plagiarism (83%) than non-EAL students (65%).

- 47% of EAL graduate students had plagiarised in their research proposals, versus 16% of non-EAL students.

- 42.6% of research proposals by science, technology, engineering, and mathematics graduate students contained plagiarism.

- 27% plagiarism in master's theses at postgraduate level.

[Bretag, 2013]

Challenges in Addressing Plagiarism in Education. PLoS Med 10(12): e1001574.

https://doi.org/10.1371/journal.pmed.1001574

GMIT Plagiarism Case

- Incident of plagiarism by a masters business student in GMIT.

- Lecturer detected that the student had obtained a copy of an instructor manual with model answers to questions.

- The manual, which includes model answers to questions, is restricted to lecturers only by a password from the publisher.

- In 2010, incident appeared in media "implying that the matter had been improperly handled and that the institute was engaging in a cover-up and that a lecturer had assisted the student in the act of plagiarism".

- A report was commissioned to investigate the incident and Bairbre Redmond, deputy registrar in UCD, was paid €1500 a day for write a report.

- The report took three years to complete and racked up a final cost of €430,000 by 2013 (Redmond received €63,278, Ed Madden, Ms Redmond's co-investigator is believed to have received €212,890 for his role in the report). Ms Redmond agreed to complete the final version of the report pro-bono after repeated requests from GMIT president outlining concerns over the cost.

- Report scale and expenditure was questioned by the Public Accounts Committee of the Dáil.

- Lecturer who gave the student the material was moved to a different position, with a reduced salary after the report.

https://www.independent.ie/irish-news/politics/gmit-boss-sorry-over-plagiarism-probe-cost-31556681.html

Complexities of Plagiarism

- Aspects considered by academics in determining seriousness of plagiarism:

    - Intent to cheat

    - The extent of plagiarism

    - Possible response to plagiarism

Addressing Plagiarism

- Role of teaching and learning at both undergraduate and postgraduate levels.

- Deterrence strategies are typically used in conjunction with detection and appropriate penalties.
  - Turnitin, SafeAssign, My Drop Box, Eve, WcopyFind
  - Text matching software

- Students are less inclined to submit assignments based on "cut and paste" plagiarism if deterrence and detection strategies are used by the college or university.

- Plagiarism is not just an issue of student assessment, it is an symptom of a deeply entrenched academic culture.

Turnitin

- Widely used online tool which address academic honesty in students work (plagiarism prevention); formative and summative feedback (online marking); and student centred assessment (peer review).

- The tool has an important level of acceptance in Ireland.

- UL case study in 2010, 40% of reports had an overall similarity index of 24% or less, 27% rendered a similarity index of 75%. [Risquez, 2010]

- College does not adhere to a particular percentage as an acceptable level of plagiarism as it is left to the lecturer to judge.

Article Spinning

- It involves using software to copy and rephrase a published scholarly to create a new article. Terms and phrases in the source article are replaced with synonymous ones.

- The issue though is that the cheating software often comes up with the incorrect word.

- S. Zeeshan Abbas, earned his Ph.D. at the University of Karachi largely because of the publication of the spun article in European Academic Research. The article was spun from a paper published in the Journal of Basic and Applied Sciences which was authored by M. Zai.

Spun article	Original Article
(b) For normal data, the sample mean and variance are the unbiased estimators of location of the underlying distribution. Most physical data sets are not normally distributed even after transformation, because the assumption of an underlying normal distribution is a mathematical idealization that is never met exactly in practice because large data sets inevitably contain outliers.	(c) For Gaussian data, the example nasty and alteration are the unbiased estimators of location of the Gaussian distribution. Greatest bodily information circles are not Gaussian distributed smooth after alteration, since the supposition of Gaussian distribution is a exact romanticism that is not ever encountered precisely in repetition since big data groups unavoidably cover outliers.

- Represent a new wave of plagiarism.
  - Sometimes referred to as ghost writing.
  - Examples include 9papers.com, Write My Assignments.
  - Bidding system used, whereby writers bid on projects, with some of the more experienced writers asking for higher fees.
  - Students upload the essay title, chose the writer, and payment is held until the essay is complete.
- University students in the UK could face fines and a criminal record under plans to punish plagiarism.
- In Ireland, the Department of Education, is planning to introduce laws to prosecute "essay mills".
- Detected cases of plagiarism:
  - Institute of Technology Tallaght 206 cases; UL 162; DIT 143.

Self-Plagiarism

- Is it really possible to plagiarise yourself?

    - Oxford Dictionary [2011] defined plagiarism "To take and use as one's own (the thoughts, writings, or inventions of another person)".

    - Merriam-Webster defines its similarly with the additional description "To commit literary theft: present as new and original an idea or product derived from an existing source".

- Based on the definition by Merriam-Webster, recycling one's own papers would constitute self-plagiarism.

Ethical Issues of Self-Plagiarism

- When an author publishes a journal article, they would often sign a copyright agreement, signing over the rights to the publisher, thus copyright infringement is possible if an author reuses portions of previously published work.

- Guidelines in avoid self-plagiarism

    - Indicate nature of the previous dissemination up front.

    - If results of a single complex study are best presented as a cohesive single whole, they should not be partitioned into individual papers.

    - Become familiar with basic elements of copyright law.

    - Use paraphrasing and quotations appropriately.

Plagiarism – Common Knowledge

- Definition
- "General information that your readers may know or could easily locate in any number of references" [Hacker, 2011]
- "As a rule, when you have seen certain information repeatedly in your reading, you don't need to cite it. However, when information has appeared in only a few sources, when it is highly specific, or when it is controversial, you should cite it." [Hacker, 2011]
- "Whatever an educated person would be expected to know or could locate in an ordinary encyclopaedia". [Harris, 2001]
- The best advice is: When in doubt, cite your source.

Publishing Agreement

- IEEE Publishing Agreement
- https://journals.ieeeauthorcenter.ieee.org/choose-a-publishing-agreement/

- Before your accepted article is published by IEEE, you will be asked to complete a publishing agreement.
- IEEE offers two agreement options to fit your needs:
- The IEEE Copyright Form transfers the author's copyright to IEEE and protects the article from possible abuses such as plagiarism.
- The Creative Commons Attribution License (CC BY) allows authors to retain copyright. The article is available via universal free online access but is not protected from possible abuses such as plagiarism.
- Note: The CC BY is only available when publishing open access.

Getting Copyright Permission to Reuse

Getting Copyright Permission to Reuse

Rightslink® by Copyright Clearance Center - Mozilla Firefox

https://s100.copyright.com/AppDispatchServlet?publisherName=ieee&publication=0162-8828&title=Nonconvex+Online+Support+Vector+Machines&isbn=&publicationDate=Feb.+20

Copyright Clearance Center

Righ...

Home   Help   Email Support   Sign in   Create Account

IEEE Requesting permission to reuse content from an IEEE publication

Non...

Auth...
Publi...
Publi...
Date:

Copy...

EE Transactions on

make a selection
reuse in a book/textbook
reuse in a journal/magazine
reuse in a newspaper/newsletter
post on an intranet
post on an internet/blog
reuse in conference proceedings
reuse in a report
reuse in a presentation/slide kit
reuse in a poster
reuse on a journal/book cover
reuse in a thesis/dissertation
reuse in a CD-ROM/DVD
make photocopies
make photocopies for filing a patent application
reuse in a coursepack
reuse in training materials

Welcome to RightsLink

IEEE has partnered with Co... r a variety of options for reusing IEEE content. Select the "I would like to ..." drop-down menu to view t...

I would like to... ⓘ   make a selection

Note: It is the requester's responsibility to determine whether a copyright and/or credit notice to the third-party owner appears nears the item. Permission to use any third-party material published in an IEEE publication must be obtained from the third-party owner. IEEE disclaims any responsibility for any use you make of content owned by third parties without their permission.

Code of Good Practice in Research

- CIT Policy on Good Practice in Research
- Source: https://www.cit.ie/contentfiles/academic-policies/Code%20of%20Good%20Practice%20in%20Research%2007062019.pdf
- The Code of Good Practice in Research should be used by:
  - All permanent, part-time or contract staff employed by CIT, or any other individuals participating in research on any of the CIT campuses, or on behalf of CIT at any location.
  - Students registered in CIT and their supervisors.
  - Students who are registered outside of CIT, but conducting research at, or on behalf of, CIT.
  - Individuals who hold honorary or adjunct positions and who are conducting research at, or on behalf of, CIT.

Principles in Good Research Practice

The following Principles are considered by CIT to be the essential responsibilities and values relevant to research:

- **Excellence** – researchers should strive to perform research of the highest quality.

- **Honesty** – CIT will endeavor to foster a culture of honesty across the institute. Researchers within CIT, or their collaborators, should be honest in the way they conduct all aspects of their research.

- **Integrity** – researchers should comply with all legal and ethical requirements pertinent to their work and declare any conflicts of interest and the means to resolve them. Researchers must abide with the National Policy Statement on Ensuring Research Integrity in Ireland.

Principles in Good Research Practice

- **Co-operation** – researchers should support the open exchange of information and debate/discuss same in a constructive manner subject to any reasonable constraints of confidentiality.

- **Accountability** – researchers should expect to be accountable to their colleagues, the Institute, the funding organisation, their collaborators and the general public and should not invoke confidentiality to suppress reasonable dissemination and debate.

- **Training and skills** – CIT will endeavor to ensure there is appropriate training and career development opportunities for its researchers and collaborators, where appropriate, and provide timely advice in this regard.

- **Health and Safety** – CIT and its researchers and collaborators should make best efforts to ensure that all health and safety risks are identified and, wherever possible, mitigated, with the support of expert advice if needed. They should report and address any concerns and continue the research only if the risks have been satisfactorily addressed.

UK Research Integrity Office (UKRIO)

CIT

- **Code of Practice for Research**

- Before you commence your Research

1 Does the proposed research address pertinent question(s) and is it designed either to add to existing knowledge about the subject in question or to develop methods for research into it?

2 Is your research design appropriate for the question(s) being asked?

3 Will you have access to all necessary skills and resources to conduct the research?

4 Have you conducted a risk assessment to determine:

    a whether there are any ethical issues and whether ethics review is required;

    b the potential for risks to the organisation, the research, or the health, safety and well-being of researchers and research participants; and

    c what legal requirements govern the research?

5 Will your research comply with all legal and ethical requirements and other applicable guidelines, including those from other organisations and/or countries if relevant?

UK Research Integrity Office (UKRIO)

- **Code of Practice for Research**
- Before you commence your Research

6 Will your research comply with all requirements of legislation and good practice relating to health and safety?

7 Has your research undergone any necessary ethics review (see 4(a) above), especially if it involves animals, human participants, human material or personal data?

8 Will your research comply with any monitoring and audit requirements?

9 Are you in compliance with any contracts and financial guidelines relating to the project?

10 Have you reached an agreement relating to intellectual property, publication and authorship?

11 Have you reached an agreement relating to collaborative working, if applicable?

12 Have you agreed the roles of researchers and responsibilities for management and supervision?

13 Have all conflicts of interest relating to your research been identified, declared and addressed?

14 Are you aware of the guidance from all applicable organisations on misconduct in research?

UK Research Integrity Office (UKRIO)

When conducting your research:

1. Are you following the agreed research design for the project?

2. Have any changes to the agreed research design been reviewed and approved if applicable?

3. Are you following best practice for the collection, storage and management of data?

4. Are agreed roles and responsibilities for management and supervision being fulfilled?

5. Is your research complying with any monitoring and audit requirements?

When finishing your research:

1. Will your research and its findings be reported accurately, honestly and within a reasonable time frame?

2. Will all contributions to the research be acknowledged?

3. Are agreements relating to intellectual property, publication and authorship being complied with?

4. Will research data be retained in a secure and accessible form and for the required duration?

5. Will your research comply with all legal, ethical and contractual requirements?