

# Assignment 1 (15%)

Deadline 24 March (end of week 5)

## Topic: Setting the context

Identifying your research community and its top literature venues

Finding good examples of papers

Identifying Research Problems/Questions

Creating an annotated bibliography

## Marked by:

Your supervisor

## Submission:

In PDF format, by Friday 24 March = through Canvas/Turnitin and directly to your supervisor.

Please ensure to provide on the front page your SID to facilitate your supervisor's handing in of marks.

## Tasks:

1. [20 marks] **Identify the list of top conferences and journals** in your research area. While the length of this list can vary greatly depending on your research area, you may use a guideline of 8-12. Justify your selection, using a range of ranking systems and metrics such as CORE, ERA, SCOPUS, Web of Science, Scimago etc.. or other relevant evidence.
2. [10 marks] **Identify a list of the main research groups** working in your research topic.
3. [20 marks] **Give two exemplary papers** in your research area, with a small paragraph explaining why you think each one is exemplary (methodology evaluation, writing style, structure, etc.). Think about papers you could use as a model for the research you are planning to do.
4. [20 marks] **Identify two or three research problems** that have not been answered/addressed appropriately or at all in the field of research study. Students can use the following iterative process to identify research problems:
  - Step 1: carry out an introductory literature review,
  - Step 2: develop research problems into research questions,
  - Step 3: discuss problems/questions with supervisor(s),
  - Step 4: refine research problems/questions after discussions with supervisor(s)
5. [30 marks] **Provide an annotated bibliography** of core relevant articles and books that are potentially very relevant to the research problems/questions identified in the previous step (about 5 per research problem) containing:
  - (i). a summary and evaluation of the content of the publication
  - (ii). how its content is relevant to the research problem/question(s)

## Marking criteria

### Task 1

- 0: not completed
- 1-9: Fail: not very relevant and major omissions. Most selections are not justified with reference to any ranking system or metric.
- 10-12: Pass: contains potentially relevant venues but major omissions. Most selections are not justified with reference to more than one ranking system or metric.
- 13-: Credit: contains relevant and important venues, with still a few omissions. Most selections are justified with more than one ranking system or metric.
- 14-15: Distinction: Most highly relevant and important venues are identified and justified with reference to several ranking systems or metric.
- 17-20: High Distinction: all highly relevant and important venues are identified and represent the most consistently highly ranked publications in that field. Selections are clearly and logically justified with reference to a range of relevant rankings and metrics.

### Task 2

- 0: not completed
- 1-4: Fail: No significant research groups identified. Research groups identified work in fields of no real relevance
- 5-6: Pass: contains some relevant groups but major omissions. Some research groups identified work in fields of no real relevance
- 7: Credit: All groups identified are working in relevant fields. Some of the most relevant groups are identified, with still a few omissions.
- 8: Distinction: Most highly relevant and important groups are identified.
- 9-10: High Distinction: All identified research groups are significant contributors working in very relevant fields of research

### Task 3, for each of the two papers

- 0: not completed
- 1-4: Fail: paper not relevant, of poor quality, justifications not convincing.
- 5-6: Pass: paper is relevant and a fairly good model, justifications missing or irrelevant.
- 7-8: Credit/Distinction: paper is relevant and a good model, good justifications.
- 9-10: High Distinction: exemplary paper, highly relevant and a benchmark model in the field, very good justifications.

### Task 4

- 0: not completed
- 1-9: Fail: research problems too broad or too insignificant, not well situated in the field, not novel, etc.
- 10-12: Pass: reasonable research problems, no strong evidence of knowledge in the field.
- 13: Credit: reasonable research problems, some evidence of knowledge in the field.

- 14-15: Distinction: shows a good command of the literature so far and understanding of research problems to be addressed.
- 17-20: High Distinction: shows a deep (within reason) understanding of the research field, well chosen research problems, good insights into the research questions to address

#### Task 5

- 0: not completed
- 1-14: Fail: too few articles, of poor quality, omissions of high quality core published work, and/or poorly annotated.
- 15-18: Pass: contains potentially relevant articles but major omissions and shallow annotations.
- 19-22: Credit: contains potentially relevant articles but major omissions, and/or shallow annotations.
- 23-25: Distinction: good selection of important articles, well annotated, with some critical insights.
- 26-30: High Distinction: excellent selection of important articles, very well annotated, with critical insights.