Interview Questions

Social media platform Top Five. This platform will allow software engineering researchers to create posts listing the top five research results for a specific domain of software development. For example: Top five research findings for Java developers, Top five research findings for Blockchain developers, etc.

- 1. What is your current role in the field of software engineering? (Academic researcher, Industry, Other)
- 2. How many years of experience do you have in software engineering (Research or Practice)?
- 3. How frequently do you seek out top research papers in software engineering?
- 4. What factors would influence you to look for any research related information?
- 5. What measures do you use to ensure the quality of the research papers you read?
- 6. What influences you to read a particular research paper:
 - a. Relevance to current research interests
 - b. Author reputation
 - c. Number of citations
 - d. Journal or conference reputation
- 7. How do you discover new research in your area of interest?
- 8. Platform maybe? What devices do you primarily use to read research papers? Is there a preference of device to read a research paper?
- 9. What are some current challenges when you search for research papers?
- 10. Is there anything else you would like to share about your ideal experience using the Top Five platform?

Interview Answers

Edward:

- 1. Academic researcher
- 2. 10 years
- 3. Once a week.
- 4. Based on my research topic, interest.
- 5. It depends. Sometimes I'm not quick to understand, so I need to do more research and study.
- 6. A.
- 7. Search the topic from google scholar.
- 8. Laptop or ipad.
- 9. Organize the research knowledge.
- 10. Based on my searching preference, the platform can recommend some research papers regularly.

Min:

- 1. Academic researcher
- 2. 4 years
- 3. At least every week, it's part of my job
- 4. The authors' reputations, the authors' affiliations, citations
- 5. I read papers from top-tier conferences that have low acceptance rates that I recognize
- 6. All of the above.
- 7. Through reading papers; sometimes I discover something unconventional, like the user study recruitment section or acknowledge section.
- 8. Laptops or my iPad. I don't read it on my iPhone.
- 9. I run out of papers that are relevant to my topic pretty easily.
- 10. Visualizing the paper summary through diagrams would be helpful because I am a visual learner.

Jeffrey:

- 1. Software Engineer (In industry)
- 2. 3 years research, 2 years industry
- 3. I rarely find myself searching papers in the field of software engineering for work problems, most papers I search regularly are in other niche, work-related topics.
- 4. Lack of knowledge and current available information
- 5. Amount of data collected, Authors, University/Company, publication status, and the conference its published in.
- 6. All of the above
- 7. Private servers, VT libraries server, google scholar
- 8. Regular computer
- 9. The google scholar results sometimes aren't the best and require a lot of refinement. Sometimes contact information for authors is outdated and hard to contact people to check on details when replicating findings.
- 10. Ability to quickly and easily set search ranking with parameters such as conference ranking.