

# *Organization of related work*

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# Reference

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- The Guaranteed Mackworth Thesis Formula  
—Alan Mackworth.
- A Simple Approach to Thesis Writing  
—Tim Brecht.

# Agenda

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- *Why to write “related work”?*
- *How to evaluate people's work?*
- *What is a good “related work”?*
- *How to compare your work with others?*
- *How to find the related papers?*
- *How to read a related paper?*
- *How to organize related papers?*

# *Why to write “related work”?*

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- Happy to find co-interest people.
- Tell the history of the field.
- Show respect to the precursors.
- Show how bad the precursors did.
- You are different from others.
- You are better than others.
- There are something really related.

# *How to evaluate people's work?*

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- Always evaluate other people's work in a mild way.
- Evaluate other people's work under the situation of the day.
- If you find some articles with obvious error, don't cite them.

# *What is a good “related work”?*

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- More than a literature review
- Organize related work - impose structure
- Be clear as to how previous work being described relates to your own.
- The reader should not be left wondering why you've described something!!
- Critique the existing work - Where is it strong where is it weak? What are the unreasonable/undesirable assumptions?
- Identify opportunities for more research (i.e., your thesis) Are there unaddressed, or more important related topics?
- After reading this chapter, one should understand the motivation for and importance of your thesis.

# How to compare work?

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- Represent the strength of your work.
- Compare people's significant work.
- Don't compare totally different things.

# *How to find the related papers?*

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- Suggestions from the advisor.
- Search in Google, Citeseer, IEEE...
- Search in library or related journal and conference paper. (How important to select the key word!)
- Luckily, you found a review paper in your field.
- The related work section of related paper.
- The reference of related paper.
- Links on the web page of related people.



# How to adopt methods?

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A lot of great achievements come from adopting methods from other fields. How can we find such methods?

- Talk with people in other fields
- Elevator speech.
- Review papers in other fields.

# *How to read a related paper?*

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- Read introduction and summary at first.
- Do own summary if feel interested.
- What is the strategy used?
- What is the difference from others?
- What is the experiment results?
- Compare it with your own strategy, write your own opinion about it.
- Any shortcoming or future work mentioned?
- Any good related work or reference mentioned?
- Recite the author, published year and main idea of an article after you read it.

# *How to organize related papers?*

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- It is depend on personal custom.
- Categorize paper
  - By authors
  - By topics
  - By implement method
  - "for us" or "against us"
- Set up a personal database.
- Small notebook is used to summary the paper you have read.

# *Something helps*

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- Have a good rule to name the paper.
- Format the bibtex file.
- Endnotes, a useful Bibliographic package.
  - search of remote bibliographical databases on the Internet.
  - organize references in a database.
  - create bibliographies.
- Other Bibliographic Software.
  - Bookcase, B3, Jabref, Pbib, bp, Scholars Aid, ***Nota Bene, Procite, Bibioscape, Citit!***

Thank you!

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Questions?