Organization of related work

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Reference

- A Simple Approach to Thesis Writing — Tim Brecht.
Agenda

- 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”? 

- 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?

- 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”? 

- 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?

- Represent the strength of your work.
- Compare people's significant work.
- Don't compare totally different things.
How to find the related papers?

- 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?

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?

- 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?

- 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.
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, Biblioscape, Citit!
Thank you!

Questions?