

Expert discovery: A web mining approach

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Abstract

Expert discovery is a quest in search of finding an answer to a question: “Who is the best expert of a specific subject in a particular domain within a peculiar array of parameters?” Expert with domain knowledge in any fields is crucial for consulting in industry, academia and scientific community. Aim of this study is to address the issues for expert-finding task in real-world community. Collaboration with expertise is critical requirement in business corporate, such as in fields of engineering, geographies, bio-informatics, and medical domains. We have proposed multifaceted web mining heuristic that results into the design and development of a tool using data from *Growbag*, *dblpXML* with Authors home pages resource to find people of desired expertise. We mined more than 2,500 Author's web pages based on the credibility of 12 key parameters while parsing on each page for a large number of co-occurred keyword and all available general terms. It presents evidence to validate this quantification as a measure of expertise. The prototype enables users easily to distinguish someone, who has briefly worked in a particular area with more extensive experience, resulting in the capability to locate people with broader expertise through large parts of the product. Through this extension to the web enabling methodology, we have shown that the implemented tool delivers a novel web mining idea with improved results.

Keywords: *Web mining, multifaceted, social computing, expert discovery, high profile, higher order co-occurrence.*

1. Introduction

In any corporate entity, the knowledge of expertise is a non-trivial resource. Although, critical projects in corporate sector have been observed with focus on design and implementation issues, the success of any project and research problem also involves careful selection of right experts. Collaboration cannot be effective unless one can identify the person with whom communication might be required. Previous research has helped clarify the amount of engineering effort devoted to communication. Particularly in engineering, one classic study spent around 16% of their time in communicating with experts [1]. Interestingly, Allen [1] reported a tendency for high-performing engineers to consult much more with experts outside their own discipline as compared to low-performing

engineers, although both groups spent almost the same proportion of time for communication.

People with work locations separated by 30 meters have been observed to communicate as infrequently as people whose workplaces are located in different continents [2], which show importance of consultancy with concerned experts. So, if any organization expects projects with members spread across multiple floors of a single building, it might experience much-reduced communication among more widely separated members. Previous work suggested an approach for solving the expertise-finding problem. In an empirical study of finding experts in a software development organization, Ackerman et al., [3] pointed out that experience was the primary criterion, engineers ordinarily used to show

expertise. In fact, developers often used change history to identify those who had experience with a particular file, generally assuming that the last person to change it was most likely to be “the expert”. This strategy had several shortcomings, including the inability to determine if s/he is the person who carried out the change had made a large or small change, and whether the person had made many or only a few alterations in the relevant code. Additionally, when someone with capabilities in depth was deemed, it was quite difficult to identify such a person from the changing information stored in individual files.

There are also expertise detection systems based entirely on an analysis of user activity and behaviour while being engaged in an electronic environment. Krulwich et al., [4] have analyzed the number of interactions of an individual within a discussion forum as a means of online structuring an expert’s profile. Although such an approach is useful in monitoring user participation, measures such as number of interactions on a particular topic, which in itself is not reflective of knowledge levels of individuals. Knowledge can be categorized into two classes: Tacit and explicit knowledge. Management systems focus on explicit knowledge because it can be articulated in written language. However, according to the Delphi Group’s study carried out on more than 700 US companies, a large portion of corporate knowledge (42%) was revealed to be tacit knowledge.

Expertise, a major component of tacit knowledge, is the most valuable knowledge because it defines an organization’s unique capabilities and core competencies [5]. The great value of expertise can only be exploited when an individual’s expertise can be shared with others [5]. Recently Li et al., [6] discussed the importance of expert reviewer in the field of marketing. They argued to find the potential influential nodes for effectively and quickly spreading product impressions within a marketing network. However, codifying expertise is difficult and expensive [7]. One effective method of sharing expertise is to enhance people to communicate with each other. Expertise matching – the process of finding experts with a specific expertise – plays an important role in connecting people.

The topic facets efficiently organize one particular facet, using such metadata with respect to user-provided keywords [8]. The main difference to

existing (static) facet organizations is that this topic facet is sensitive with respect to time and user community. This provides a motivation for exploiting the currently available metadata from *Growbag* and *dblpXML* collection for computer science. The great value of expertise can be exploited only when an individual’s expertise can be shared with others. Generalized processes to find experts are expensive whereas automatic expert finding systems already have delivered ambiguous results. Manual approaches are limited to specific projects only because of costly resources.

However, the fundamental question still remains. How can a person be identified as an expert in a domain? Kajikawa et al. [9] pointed out that deluge of publications has raised a problem of achieving a comprehensive view even on a topic with limited scope. Zainab et al. [10] argued over the objectivity and functionality of the research publications by showing a detailed statistical data about research publications. In this study, we have relied on two reference models. The first model is Academia Europaea [11]. They have focused on prestigious awards, especially Nobel Laureates, in their membership nomination form. The importance of publications and citations was no doubt considered but it was not the only criteria. The second reference model is Pakistan Academy of Sciences [12]. The page for the fellowship has again focused on numerous local/international awards. We can draw conclusion from careful examination of the two reference models that number of publications and citations does play a role but there are still other factors that organizations consider while selecting an individual as an eminent expert in a specific field. This study explores the discovery of expertise within the context of a digital electronic journal; the *Growbag* an updated *dblpXML* has very large number of articles covering all topics of computer science. A reference work related to the journal-ranking problem has recently been drawn [13]. Our work handles the problems of finding experts using automatic multifaceted approach, which handles automation errors using multi-feature extraction. We justified results by multiple facets using different metrics and find appropriate intensive experts. Presented work mines different metrics from *Growbag* dataset resulting in weighted constrains while calculating expert score. Facets offer different dimensions. Such

facets can be considered a way to categorize content or document collections for intuitive user interaction. We shall summarize the main contributions of this work as below.

- To the best of our knowledge, the proposed technique to dig out the web-based faceted ranks is very important in the area of finding experts in academics.
- Our main contributions center around a context-sensitive web mining based on approach heuristic is inspired by the concept of finding automated and manual approach as described by Afzal et al. [7].
- The technique is aimed at rendering help to journal editors and conference organizers to assign score to mark any authors for their potential role in reviewing.

2. Related work

Discovery of expertise is a crucial task. Many people and organizations are working on it to fairly find an expert. Both autonomous system and manual efforts have been exercised to the purpose of discovery of expertise. In manual approach persons have to perform huge amount of effort but in the end quality of output is very fine. Many measuring factors are used to find the pertinent information in finding experts. An expert is a major member (either a software agent or a human expert), with the knowledge of the agent world in a complex multi-agent domain but with focused expertise for a particular problem solver in a special field [14].

Finding an expert may vary from field to field, such as for academia profile, projects, publication and many other factors (herein called weights) could be used to find the exact expert. If we talk about finding a reviewer for an expert work, *Most Expert Finder* systems will be based on highly localized, privatized and specialized datasets, and the systems are beneficial only in narrow margin with small settings [15]. By facilitating the task of finding suitable reviewers, we anticipate that the quality of an overall conference could improve, since both the number of reviewers available for consideration would be larger and the extent of their expertise would be determined and useful in the selection process. If we delve into the application of expert discovery, then there is a potential possibility to fulfil the requirement of fair distribution of staff in an enterprise and all together the same can be applied into projects, awards, publications. Unfortunately, active

experts do not have enough time to preserve sufficient descriptions of their continuously changing and specialized skills [16]. One notable example is MITRE database where it was pointed out that quickly maintaining and updating previous experience databases are not considered a trivial job.

Expert finder fills this gap by mining information and activities related to experts while providing it in an intuitive fashion to end-users [16]. A specific example is university that is considered a well knowledge-based organization. The authorities at universities have also realized that effective development and management of their organizational knowledge base is critical for survival in today's competitive service industry. The knowledge and expertise of a university staff involved in teaching and research in various areas is the major asset that a university holds [17]. When the user searches using a specific term, the system ranks employees by the mentioned term or phrase and its statistical association with the employee name resulting into the realization that one of the most important problems in developing expert systems is knowledge acquisition from experts [18, 16]. In order to mechanize this problem, many techniques and inductive learning methods, such as induction of decision trees [19, 20], rule induction methods [19, 21, 22] and rough set theory [23, 24] were introduced and performed. These learning methods have shown reasonable suitability to extract knowledge from databases. Other researchers investigated the discovery of communities of practicing experts via a prototype called XperNet [16]. XperNet is designed to extract expertise networks. It uses statistical clustering techniques and social network analysis to glean networks or affinity groups consisting of people having related skills and interests [16, 25].

Mockus et al. [26] applied a technique over data from a software project's change management records to find people with desired expertise in a large organization [26]. In literature, some other systems have been reported which detect experts entirely on an analysis of user activity, behaviour, likes and dislikes while being engaged in an electronic environment. A notable example in a past decade is the analysis of number of interactions of an individual within a discussion forum as a means of constructing an expert's profile [4]. Even though this kind of approach is

helpful in monitoring user contribution, the measures, such as number of interactions on a particular topic in itself requires significant insightful knowledge levels of individuals. Another approach discussed in literature was related to use of semantic structure Expert/Expert-Locator (EEL) pair requests for technical information in a large study and development company [27]. The system automatically constructs a semantic space of organizations and terms, using a statistical matrix decomposition technique (singular value decomposition) to represent semantic similarity present in large text sources. McDonald et al. [28] reported on a system that uses various files organizationally closest to the requester, and how well the requester knows the expert (based on a previous analysis of the social network in the organization). The problem of finding experts is not limited to widely distributed teams, however. In fact, people whose offices are separated by 30 meters communicate about as infrequently as people who are located on different continents [29].

S. D Neil et al. [30] analysed quality filter in scientific communication process and proposed information analyst is used as a filter to identify quality research papers, especially using the validity criterion, fact lead to our author research work quality phenomena to extract legendary in field. Awang Ngah Zainab et al. [31] measured trends for expert systems in library and information services based upon authorship patterns and expressiveness of published titles. He identified the total, trends, focus of studies, authorship pattern and expressive quality of publications covering Expert System (ES) applications in the broad or sub-domain of Library Information System (LIS). Robert P. Vecchio et al. [32] raised issue of particularistic bias, agreement, and predictive validity in manuscript review process. He applied his study process on 853 manuscripts and an initial study shows the majority of the reviewed papers rejected after initial review (603, or 81.6%), whereas the remainder (136, or 18.4%) received an invitation to revise and resubmit, which leads research quality. Anne S. Tsui et al. and John R. Hollenbeck et al. [33] suggest that conversation should be about addressing the large gap between the demand for effective reviewers and the supply of individuals who are both successful authors and effective reviewers. Towards parallelism in a

structural scientific discovery Gehad M. Galal et al. [34] investigated approaches for scaling particular knowledge discovery in databases (KDD) system to discover interesting and repetitive concepts in graph-based databases from a variety of domains.

A similar approach proposed by Mockus et al. [26] could be adopted to compute expertise for researchers across different topics. Studies indicate that engineers and scientists instinctively do not communicate much with colleagues whose offices are distant to each other, so there are fewer opportunities to find out whoever holds expertise in various areas when teams are distributed [26]. Cameron et al [15] collected the expertise of a subset of researchers who have published papers in World Wide Web and Semantic Web Conferences. This dataset includes more than 1,200 researchers and 1,504 relationships to about 100 unique topics. Expertise, a major component of tacit knowledge, is the most valuable knowledge because it defines an organization's unique capabilities and core competencies [5]. The most widely used approach for expertise matching within academia is to build an expertise database where individuals specify their expertise using several keywords or short sentences resulting in empowering the users to search these databases to find an expert [17]. A prototype system has been implemented based on the architecture with the aim to help PhD applicants find potential supervisors [17]. The literature details a number of systems that undertake a fully automatic approach to locate experts including Who Knows [27], Agent Amplified Communications [35], Contact Finder [4], Yenta [2], MEMOIR [35], Expertise Recommender [28], Expert Finder [36], SAGE [37] and the KCSR Expert Finder [38]. This is reflected by wide variety of expertise evidence, such as emails [35], electronic messages on bulletin boards [4], program codes [39, 40], Web pages [2, 35], and technical reports [41, 38] used in expert finder systems. Sim et al [41] proposed that the heterogeneity of information sources should be used as an indicator for reflecting experts' competencies. Expert finder systems can be integrated into other organizational systems, such as information retrieval systems, recommender systems and Computer Supported Cooperative Work systems [41].

XML is accepted as the standard for data interchange [42]. Heterogeneous data structures can be represented in a uniform syntax (nested tagged elements). On the other hand, in XML, user can add tags and the same information can be represented differently by different XML structures. Recently Razikin et al. [43] carried out an important work investigating the effectiveness of tags in facilitating resource discovery by means of machine learning and user-centric approaches. They showed that all of the tags are not useful for content discovery. Their research was limited to only 100 frequent tags extracted from a corpus of 2,000 documents. Lu et al. [44] reported importance of tagging in social computing within the domain of digital library science. They highlighted the difference and connections between expert-assigned subject terms and social tags in order to uncover the potential obstacles for implementation of social tagging in the domain of digital libraries. Researchers as well as an organization designs different systems, tools for expert discovery whether their techniques are different but the purpose is the same to find the expert quickly so that time could be saved. Chen et al. [13] argued that previous studies addressed the problem of journal ranking through expert survey metrics, or use an objective approach such as citation-based metrics. They suggested integrating both of these approaches. However, their work focused only on journal ranking problem [13].

By virtue of the complexity of temporary nature of transient information available on the web, it has been a challenge to find out the right actor in mixed service-oriented systems. [45]. Daniel et al., [45] presented an approach Human-Provided Services (HPS) with the argument of necessitating automated inference of knowledge and trust in an environment of distributed collaboration. They illustrated that the skill and capabilities of experts is treated as a service. Recently, Lopez et al., [46] has reported the importance of coordination of expertise based upon crowd sourcing so that the corporate services, including IT Service Delivery, IT Inventory Management and End-User Support, can benefit from the knowledge network.

3. Research questions

The two research questions are as follows:

1. Can an expert (E) in an academic environment be ranked (R) by its web weights (W) alongside the conventional

ranking Scores (S), such as citations, co-author network and publication count?

$$E^R < - \bigcup_{s_i \in S} s_i + \bigcup_{w_i \in W} w_i$$

2. Is any correlation found between web weights and non-web weights?

$$\bigcup_{s_i \in S} s_i < - > \bigcup_{w_i \in W} w_i$$

To respond to the research questions, we need to find expert weight from *Growbag* dataset, *dblpXml* and author's homepage. This leads to our focus on mining web for author's homepages to identify multifaceted parameters to rank and build expert profile. Authors profile required building with highly concerned parameters to identify highly ranked authors on a specific domain.

4. Web mining for expert discovery

In order to achieve the optimized utilization of the expertise held by individuals within an organization, various organizations have reportedly adopted the searching system: Expert Recommender Systems (ERS). Usually, the prime interest of an inquirer is to find out an expert to address a specific problem [47]. Although ERS permits quick searching of experts, the inquirers may notice the absence of capability of system for informing accurate usefulness. Fully automated systems have been reported as an alternative to these self-reporting recommender systems, such as SAGE [37], bulletin boards [4], systems with email as input [48], Web pages [2], software coding system [28, 36], technical reports [38] and the artefacts of social software systems, such as Wikis and Weblogs and also social networks e.g. Lin and Griffiths-Fisher et al. [48]. However, Crowder et al. [38] found that systems mimic like ERSs have been found to prone the problems of concerning expertise analysis support, heterogeneous information sources, reusability and interoperability. Ehrlich et al. [48] illustrated the social impact of finding and contacting domain experts. They discussed Small Blue and ERS developed for IBM for mapping each staff member's social network for providing the information of "who is connected to whom and where social networks overlap". Competent expert discovery systems in the past have been innovatively applied in helping PhD scholars and research community in finding germane supervisors [17]. Peer-reviewers identification for conferences and the former made use of a

manually derived expertise profile database and employed reference mining for all papers submitted to a conference [49]. Later on, co-authorship network was constructed for each submitted paper making use of a measure of conflict-of-interest to ensure that associates did not review papers. Manually constructed taxonomy in which manually crafted taxonomy employed for 100 topics in DBLP covering the research areas of a small sample of researchers appearing in DBLP [15].

We enhanced the work towards topics identification and considered co-occurred

keywords as well as general term as Topics for Growbag dataset. Our technique efficiently finds credible results for which we developed a tool. We retrieved authors from each topic with their publication analysis. Moreover, we employed technique of web mining for author's homepages to get their profiles in different aspects. Our proposed work and implemented tool considerably delivered results of more than 2,500 experts' homepages analysis on behalf of multifaceted parameters.

Algorithm 1. Expert Profile Algorithm

Input: Topic T. Year x. WebfactorCount k

Output: Collection of Authors with their ranks

for each Topic do

 get 'authors'

for each 'author' do

 get 'author's co-author network size'

 get 'author's publication'

 get 'publication' in last x years

 get_auth_home-Page

for each "Home Page" do

 get Bool P_Score

 { " 'Project' , 'Awards' , 'Honorarium' , 'Affiliations' , 'RFCs' , 'Supervision' ,
 'Collaboration' , 'Relevance' , 'Keynote_Speaker' , 'Reviewer' , 'Protocol Design' ,
 'Distinctions' "

 }

end

$non_web_wt \leftarrow (citations/size(publications));$

$non_web_wt \leftarrow non_web_wt +(size(publications)/size(co.auth.net));$

$non_web_wt \leftarrow non_web_wt +(size(publications)/last_x_years_publication);$

$non_web_wt \leftarrow non_web_wt +(size(publications\ in\ relevant\ field /publication));$

$web_wt \leftarrow \sum_{i=1}^k web_factor$

 Expert Profile $\leftarrow non_web_wt + web_wt;$

end

 return expert profile;

end

5. Proposed methodology

We employed and focused our work on dblpXML for mining home pages to build an expert profile. In this aspect we sorted out different facets like contribution of a particular domain expert, authors project contribution. In this view we parsed her/his online homepage to search out whether s/he majorly contributed in well-known project or supervision? Whether s/he received any awards and other achievements? *Growbag* database provided by DBLP has been reported as a very

imperfect database for researcher in the domain of computer science [50]. In this study, we have endeavoured to identify the reviewers behind the research papers in the margin of qualifying scoring weights. We have precisely classified the weights into two categories, *Grwobag* weights (or non-web weights) and web weights. Incomplete as well as inconsistent information were not treated at all. The model in which we acquired different weights to fill expert profile building blocks is shown in the Figure 1.

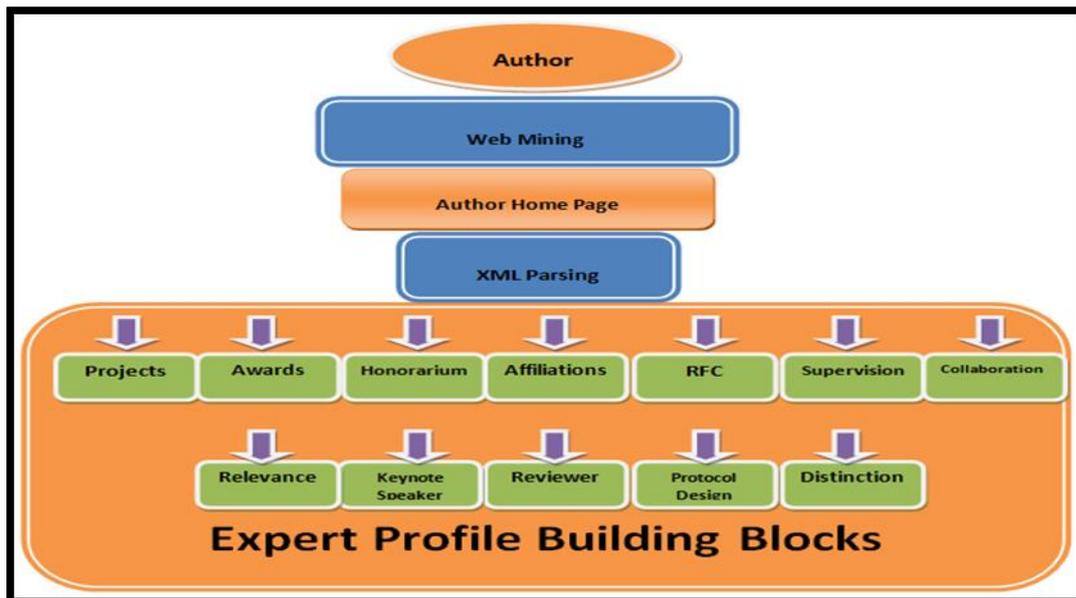


Figure 1. Expert profile building blocks

We shall describe each of them below:

- **Projects:** We employed parameter of a Project on Authors homepage while using text mining techniques and XML parsers to find whether there is any role of author in any technical project. At first level we used Boolean values to take decision of this parameter.
- **Awards:** An award is a key weight to find out an author's credibility. This leads to our examination whether there are any reputed awards won by authors.
- **Honorarium:** Honorariums deliver the benchmark values of author's contribution showing his/her contribution in his domain in well-formed way.
- **Affiliations:** It shows an author's significant influential role in his field

because multiple affiliations build the portfolio. This indicates the versatile proficiency of authors in various domains of knowledge.

- **RFCs:** Request for Comments (RFCs) is popular in the domain of computer networks and communication. RFC is produced as the result of a large number of experimentations in a specific field. Usually, RFC is not ranked, but we were impressed by the reality that author's practical experimentation knowledge in a specific area based on a large-scale handshaking methodologies demands lot of expertise. Consequently, if an author has a profile with contribution in RFC, then it is a positive and a loud indication of his/her expertise in a particular domain.

- **Supervision:** A PhD scholar needs supervisor, and a researcher needs guidance in project supervision. Supervisor plays a vital role in the success of any projects or scholars' research deliverables, which are included as weights in our expert profile.
- **Collaboration:** Experts in every field play a role of collaboration in different versatile features, which impact better on community considered as a weight.
- **Relevance:** Basically for the domain expert, it is necessary to find an expert relevant to the field. So an expert belonging to the B-Topic is not meant for C-Topic within a scope of consideration for B-Topic, so we evaluated the relevance.
- **Keynote Speaker:** A keynote speaker in any domains of knowledge demonstrates the gist of a theme. Not only in corporate but also in commercial environments, a keynote speaker enjoys a significant importance. Prime functionality of the keynote speaker is to lay down the framework associated with the central dogma of a theory or discussion. In other words, we can say that a keynote speaker can play a role in the capacity of convention moderator whether it is the process of reviewing research articles or examining any experimental evaluation. The crucial importance of the keynote speaker has motivated us to include this status in our web weights.
- **Reviewer:** A reviewer is an expert who evaluates a product. The product may be a scholarly publication or an industrial/commercial service or hardware. In an academic journal or conference, a reviewer decides and measures the strength of contributed knowledge diffusion. A person who is already involved in the capacity of reviewing indicates that s/he is trusted by an organization. So we consider this measure considerably for building blocks of expert profile.
- **Protocol Design:** Protocol standards are the patent resource of communication and processing within heterogeneous environment which necessarily build upon

an intelligence strategy of handshaking or other protocol requirements demonstrating an author's value and hands on expertise in relevant domain. These reasons were sufficient to consider it in one of web weights in this research work.

- **Distinctions:** If an author A is significantly different from his/her peers, then this difference indicates his/her credibility towards expertise profile building.

6. Experimental validation

This section will elaborate our results with their validation in detail. The performance of the system is measured on standard statistical measures including sensitivity, specificity and selectivity. The performance measures of implemented system are given by equation from 1 to 5. These measures are defined formally below.

$$Accuracy = \frac{TP+TN}{TP+TN+FP+FN} \quad (1)$$

$$Error = \frac{FN+FP}{TP+TN+FP+FN} \quad (2)$$

$$Sensitivity (Recall) = \frac{TP}{TP+FN} \quad (3)$$

$$Selectivity (Precision) = \frac{TP}{TP+FP} \quad (4)$$

$$F-measure = 2 \times \frac{Precision \times Recall}{Precision + Recall} \quad (5)$$

In the domain of information retrieval, the accuracy is described as the degree of closeness of measurements towards its real quantitative value. Conventionally, experts are measured in terms of number of publications and citations. S.D. Neil [30] pointed out that judgment of quality of the produced research articles is of great importance. They proposed that the information analysis be used as a gauge filter of a research paper's quality. As shown in Figure 2, the error rate for all of the web weights ranges from 5% to 14%. The highest error rate we encountered is in RFC. The precision which is equivalent to selectivity is also described as the degree of closeness, but with repeatability experiment. It was discussed in the literature that accuracy-cum-error rate alone is not sufficient to describe any measurement values but precision is also a mandatory requirement. In the

literature, two kinds of errors have been reported: error of accuracy or error of precision.

A close examination of Figure 2 and 3 shows that the errors encountered in retrieving the results are of precision. This statement can be validated by the fact that the error of accuracy is always biased in some specific direction and usually delivers a specific pattern. However, this is not true in our case where no significant pattern is observed conforming our statement that this is an error of precision in nature. Yet again it was pointed out that precision alone is not enough rather recall is also an important measure for the presentation of the estimation of the results. Another measure which encompasses both precision and recall is known in the name of F-measure. It has been exploited significantly in scientific experiments for the validation of the results. Figure 3 illustrates the detail of the F-measure of each of the web weights. A careful examination highlights that “RFC”, “Protocol Design” received very low F-measure followed by “Honorarium”. On the other hand, “Awards”, “Affiliations”, “Project”, “Distinction” and “Collaboration” exhibit high F-measure value which shows the strength of results used in our methodology. The rest of the web weights deliver intermediate values of F-measure. This analysis shows that more than 50% web weights yield reliable results.

An expected relation R between S and W is a subset of Cartesian product (S x W). If $(s, w) \in R$ or sRw . When R holds a relationship on a set S, which means that R is a subset of SxS. This arises the investigation into the reflexive, symmetric and transitive relationship.

Lemma-1

Web Scores S and web scores W both does not hold reflexive, symmetric and transitive relation such that the relationship $R \subseteq S \times S$ exists if sRw such that $s \in S$.

Proof:

It is evident from the experimental validation depicted from Figure 3 that for every member of the conventional non-web score, a positive or negative relationship exists. Figure 3 shows that a positive relationship exists for every member of S towards every member of web scores. This relationship indicates that no strong relationship exists between members of both of the sets. In general, only some of the factors have tight relationship towards the web scores. But

nevertheless a monotonic relationship is found. It corroborates that class of empty pair-wise disjoint sets are found. Hence, it is proven that both of the sets have no reflexive, symmetric or transitive relationship.

Lemma-2:

No equivalent relationship exists between both conventional scores and web scores such as:

$$\bigcup_{s_i \in S} s_i <-> \bigcup_{w_i \in W} w_i$$

Proof:

We must show that the relationships of both set S and W are tied into a relationship such as E^R . In order to prove it, we need to show that E^R is non-empty set. However, as R does not possess any reflexive, symmetric and transitive properties and it is already known that if a set holds these properties then members of each pair of this set exhibit equivalent classes in connection to their respective domain and range. In our case, the domain and range are non-web conventional scores (S) and web scores (W), respectively. This converges into the fact that both of these sets exhibit non-equivalent relationship.

7. Experimental evaluation

In previous sections, we first argued sufficiently over the importance of identification of experts in any domain; second, we presented our results with their statistical analysis. However, the identification and ranking of these experts is a debatable issue. We concluded that numbers of citations, size of co-author network or publication count alone are not sufficient for ranking experts. But other web factors, which we termed as multifaceted web parameters or web weights are also important. We cited an example of a notable professor at Nanyang Technological University Singapore. Dr. Sun Chengzheng is a Professor at School of Computer Engineering. According to record set retrieved from *Growbag*, his publication count is 20 with citations count of 33 making a size of co-author network only 15 during period of 1996 to 2002. Apparently, these statistics show that the professor is not a high expert in the field. However, the actual facts are quite different. Professor Sun Chengzheng earned double PhD in two distant fields of computing. Since in the last two decades, he has been vigorously active in projects related to computer networks and its allied technologies. He has been

an editor of many reputed journals as well as conference reviewers. He has collaboration with Australian and various Chinese universities. He worked in capacity of keynote speaker at various international industrial seminars. He runs half dozen research projects and the same number of research prototype systems. Moreover, he supervised 11 postgraduate students out of which seven hold PhD degree and are working in reputed organizations. This short example is enough to

validate the fact that the conventional parameters of citations, publication counts are not enough but other more robust parameters should also be incorporated while ranking an expert. In support of this analogy, we cited a sentence from Academia Europaea Membership Nomination Form which states that “*mention Honours and Awards (Only mention major awards; max. 20; do not mention best paper awards or fellowships that one gets if one just pays a membership fee*”[11].

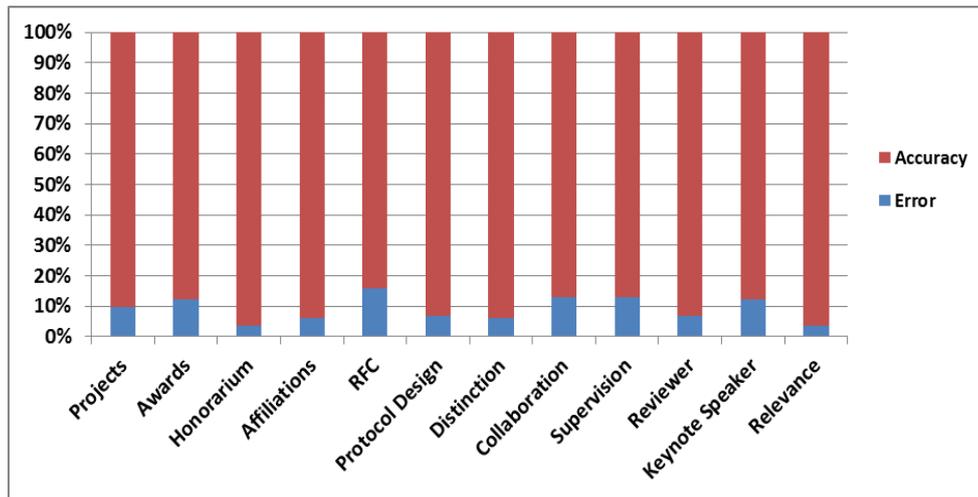


Figure 2. Web weights accuracy and error obtained comparison

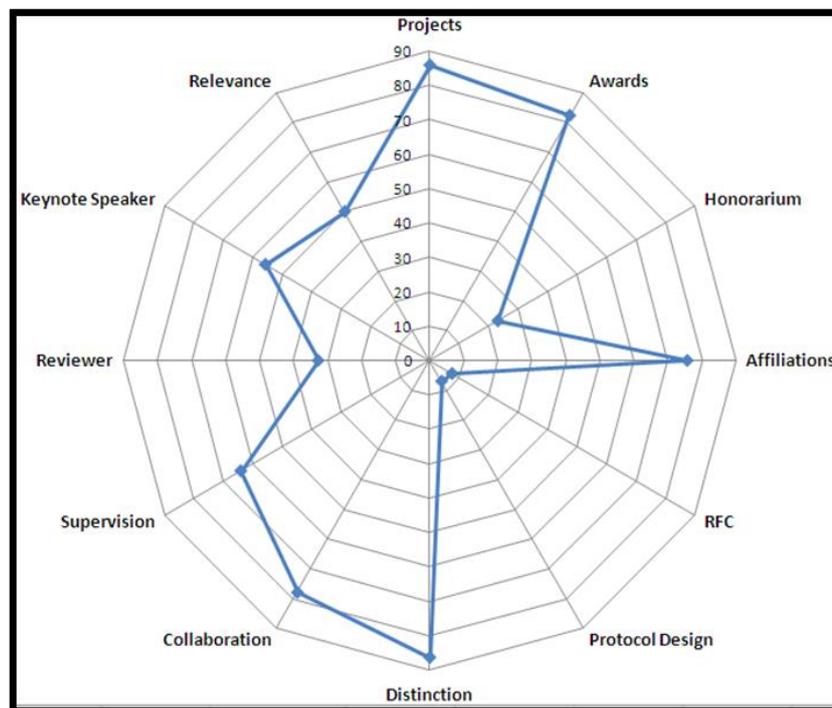


Figure 3. F-Measure for web weights used in the study

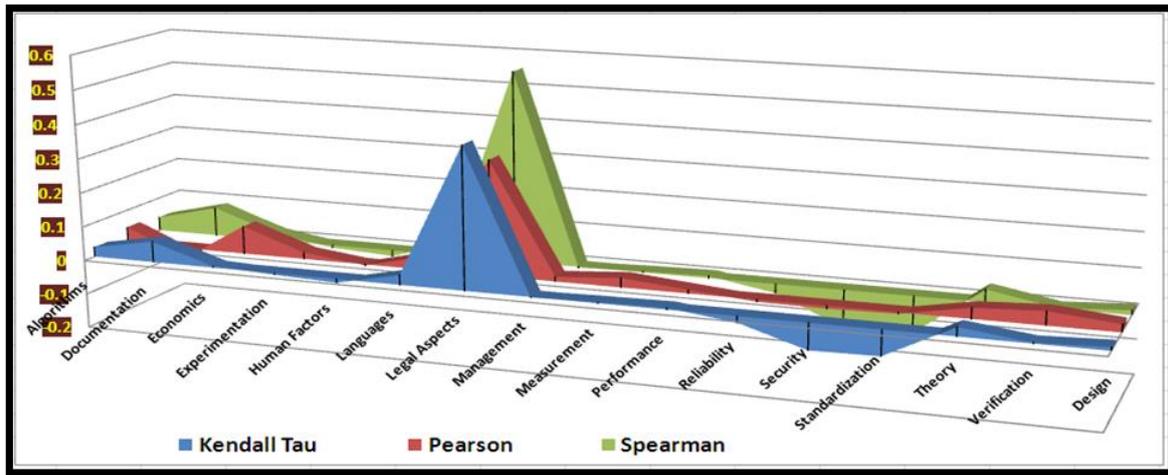


Figure 4. Correlation between non parametric values (web and non-web weights)

Another question that needs to be tweaked is: What is the relationship between both sets of parameters? The answer lies in the statistical correlation measure for non-parametric features shown in Figure 4. If we assume that there are two features: One is a web faceted score and the other is a non-web faceted score. A careful examination of both of these features indicates that these features observe no probability distribution in general. There are a lot of correlation ranking measures for non-parametric features. However, considering the nature of scoring result set generated, we employed Kendall's tau-b, Pearson Correlation rank Spearman's rank correlation coefficient [51, 52]. Figure 4 indicates probabilistic existence of causation between the two kinds of parameters. While applying these correlation measures, we considered non-web-weights as criterion feature whereas the web weights were considered as a predictor feature. We can conclude that a correlation was observed in case of general term "legal aspect". However, in case of security and standardization, a weak or negligible correlation was found between both ranking weights.

8. Conclusions and future research domains

It has always been a desire for every organization to contact the most suitable and right person in time to do what???. This study has addressed the issue of finding a better expert defined within several parameters. The study investigates the problem of topic's expert finding in *Growbag* dataset while using *dblpXML* to access author's homepages. A framework was developed which

was used in the context of identifying computer science topics experts and assigning reviewers. Prime contribution of this study is the introduction and implementation of novel idea of web mining with 12 web faceted parameters. For shrewd reader, complete result dataset can be asked from authors of this research. Our framework mined more than 2,500 Author's web pages on basis of 12 key parameters while parsing on each page for a large number of co-occurred keyword and all available general terms. Results presented evidence to validate our quantification measures of expertise in which we extracted most relevant experts in a growbag dataset. We delivered a credible and remarkable multi-facets mining technique, which considerably enhance and helped research community to get their required domain expert.

In future research domains, we have positive intention to tweak the peculiarities related to other domain converging into solution for building up a system in order to categorize the domain experts in the same way as we perceived and implemented in this study. Future work is aimed toward more robust, saleable and efficient optimization methodology in multi-objective direction focusing on complex expert judgments.

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