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A computational literature review of the technology acceptance model

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Abstract

A literature review is a central part of any research project, allowing the existing research to be

mapped and new research questions to be posited. However, due to the limitations of human data

processing, the literature review suffer from an inability to handle large volumes of research

articles. The computational literature review (CLR) is proposed here as a complementary part of

a wider literature review process. The CLR automates the analysis of research articles with

analyses of impact (citations), structure (co-authorship networks) and content (topic modeling of

abstracts). A contribution of the paper is to demonstrate how the content of abstracts can be

analyzed automatically to provide a set of research topics within a literature corpus. The CLR

software can be used to support three use cases: (1) analysis of the literature for a research area,

(2) analysis and ranking of journals, and (3) analysis and ranking of individual scholars and

research teams. The working of the CLR software is illustrated through application to the

technology acceptance model (TAM) using a set of 3,386 articles. The CLR is an open source

offering, developed in the statistical programming language R, and made freely available to

researchers to use and develop further.

KEYWORDS: literature review, computational literature review, topic models, lda, social

network analysis, co-authorship analysis, citation analysis, technology acceptance

model, journal ranking.