COMP80142: A1 (6, Feb, 2020)

The goal of this assignment is to assemble a sample of papers related to your PhD topic. They don’t have to be super closely related in the sense that you plan to build on them. But they should be the kind of thing that someone working in your area on your kind of topic would find relevant.

The population you are sample is defined to be all papers “relevant to your topic” that have been published by a current member of academic staff at the University of Manchester in the past 10 years plus all completed PhD theses supervised by such staff over the same period.

You should have 20 papers minimum (and 30 would be better; more better still). Ideally they would be spread over 3-5 venues. If your supervisor is new and your topic unusual in the school, you might have to “stretch” a bit, i.e., loosen your relevance criteria or look outside the school. On the other hand, if your topic is super popular in the school, you may want to tighten things up.

Remember: Our next step is to analyse good target venues for you! So if the guidelines above about where to look for papers aren’t helpful…modify them!

This is not a “schoolbook” assignment. There’s not a “right” answer. You’re research scientists and no plan survives contact with reality.

What to submit

You must submit a valid BibTeX file (.bib) with reasonably complete entries for each paper. You may want to use the crossref field to make a separate entry for venues with multiple publications.

Each entry should also include two custom fields: 1) gs cites and 2) relevance. gs cites should contain the current number of citations listed in Google Scholar and relevance should contain a number from 1 to 5 where 1 indicates that the entry is not very relevant while 5 indicates it is very relevant to your thesis.

Some Links

- How to not mess up your bibliographies with Bibtex
  - https://serialmentor.com/blog/2015/10/2/Bibtex
  - Contains some sound advice
- MCR referencing guide
  - http://subjects.library.manchester.ac.uk/c.php?g=64326&p=413516
  - Links to some useful tools
  - There are loads more!
    - I use Bibdesk on MacOS
    - Share your finds on Blackboard