

Propose a vacation student project for Summer 2018

Deadline for making your proposal(s): 17:00 Friday 23 March. This is a hard deadline.

Please fill in and submit this form multiple times for multiple proposals. Any queries, do ask - Toby.

Project supervisor email *

simon.harper@manchester.ac.uk

Title of the project *

Data Analysis of Citation Data

Source of funding *

- School funding requested
- You have your own funding (e.g. research grant)

Objective of the project *

The School has awarded prizes for outstanding PhD student papers for close to twenty years. The PGR team would like to award a test-of-time prize to past-PhD-student (PPS) papers that in a longer period (say, ten years) have proved influential. The goal of this project is to design and implement a tool that extracts and cleans citation data into a model that allows impact analyses of PPS papers, with a view towards underpinning a test-of-time award for PPS papers. For example, a PPS paper P would have its citations over the period compared with those of all the papers published in the same conference or journal issue (i.e., the yearly set), and, also, with the previous and subsequent conferences or journal issues, so as to establish that it stands out from its (as defined above) cohort. If it did, we might claim that it stood the test of time in that it collected a significant number of citations over the period.

Number of students requested (justify if > 1) *

1

Start date, end date, total duration (weeks) *

As soon as possible, as late as admissible, the whole admissible period.

The benefit to the School *

Directly, a tool to underpin a study of the long-duration impact of the School's PhD programme. Indirectly, techniques and insights on how the School can benefit from an impact analysis of its outputs.

The benefit to the student *

Data analysis is a very hot area. The student will benefit from interaction with three academics.

Skills needed by the student. *

Knowledge of modern scripting (e.g., Python or Ruby), data analysis (e.g., R), and web interface (e.g., Javascript) languages, plus associated packages, tools, and IDEs

Details of the work that the student would do *

Study sources of citation (e.g., Google Scholar) and bibliographic (e.g. DBLP) data; define, design and implement the notion of cohort pivoted on a given paper; perform tests and empirical evaluations of the resulting tool.

Infrastructure requirements and any required staff support other than the project supervisor *

None

Supervision arrangements throughout the duration of the project (named staff and dates covering the entire duration) *

Simon Harper, Giles Reger and Alvaro Fernandes, all for the duration of the project

Location of the project work (building/room) *

Kilburn Building

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