

University of Malaya

From the Selected Works of Nader Ale Ebrahim

Winter November 26, 2012

Practical Guide to Write a PhD Thesis

Nader Ale Ebrahim



Available at: <https://works.bepress.com/aleebrahim/67/>

اللَّهُمَّ احْمِزْ

Practical Guide to Write a PhD Thesis

Practical Guide to Write a PhD Thesis

Nader Ale Ebrahim, Ph.D

Independent Researcher

Technology Management Consultant

"Research Tools" Advisor

Web site: <http://aleebrahim.info/>

Abstract

This presentation is a practical guide on how to write a PhD thesis based on personal experiences and existing literature . It is aimed at all PhD students. A thesis writing may be falling into six rules:

- Identifying the research problem
- Start thesis writing from a day after registration
- Writing a Thesis Plan
- Ask your supervisors: What are their expectations? and maintain regular contact with your supervisors directly/indirectly
- Expand networking
- Continuously write/revise and Publish

Besides of the six rules, the thesis structure, logical coherence and style are also important. This presentation lead how to consider reader's expectations during the writing procedure. In order to assist the researchers to reduce the writing procedure, the relevant "Research Tools" will be introduced.



Sitting in a 3.8-metre sea
kayak and watching
a four-metre great
white approach you is
a fairly tense experience

MOTIVATION

If there is a better reason to paddle, I don't know what it is.



Questions? What is your thesis:

- Research background
- **Problem statement**
- **Research objectives**
- Research scope
- Research methodology
- Data collection
- Analysis
- **Results and discussions**

What is a Thesis?

“A thesis is a formal and lengthy research paper, especially a work of original research, written in partial fulfillment of the requirements for a higher degree in a university”

Source: http://www.awc.metu.edu.tr/handouts/Thesis_Writing.pdf

What's in the thesis?

- **Addresses a problem or series of problems**
- **Describes what was known about the problem(s)**
- **What you did to solve the problems**
- **What you think the results means**
- **How further progress can be made**

Source: <http://www.slideshare.net/akarim717/how-to-write-a-thesis>

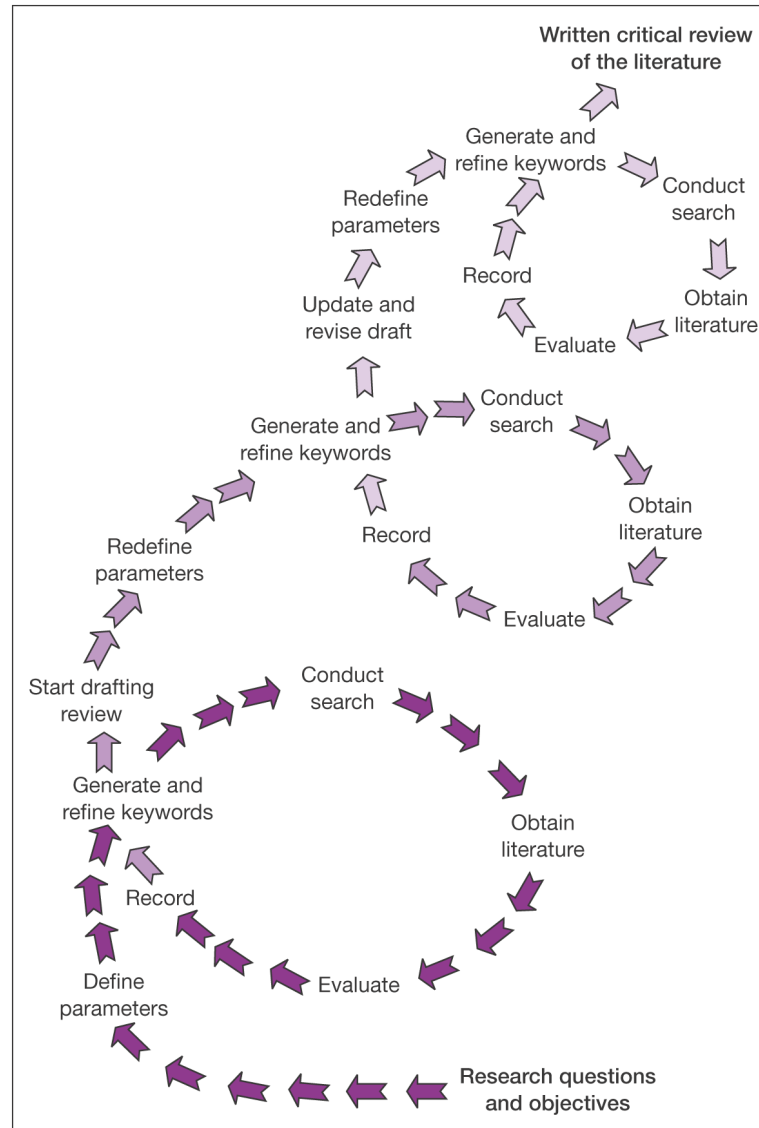
Six Rules of Thesis Writing

1. Identifying the research problem
2. Start thesis writing from a day after registration
3. Writing a Thesis Plan
4. Ask your supervisors: What are their expectations? and maintain regular contact with your supervisors directly/indirectly
5. Expand networking
6. Continuously write/revise and Publish

1- Identifying the Research Problem

Researchers begin a study by identifying a research problem that they need to address. They write about this “problem” in the opening passages of their study and, in effect, give you as a reader the rationale for why the study is important and why you need to read their study.

Reference: Creswell, J. W. (2012). *Educational research: Planning, Conducting, and Evaluating Quantitative and Qualitative Research (4th ed. ed.)*. Boston: Pearson Education, Inc.



The literature review process

Source: © Mark Saunders, Philip Lewis, Adrian Thornhill and Martin Jenkins 2003
 Research methods for business students / Mark Saunders, Philip Lewis, Adrian Thornhill. —5th ed.

2- Start Thesis Writing From a Day After Registration

- Write down a tentative thesis title, even if your thesis is murky in your mind.
- Write down a first cut at your thesis abstract, even if you have not done the work yet!
-

Source: Priya Narasimhan, (2006), How To Write a Good (no, Great) PhD Dissertation

Example

- Write a journal/conference paper while you are writing the thesis.

3- Writing a Thesis Plan

- **Write down the road-map of your thesis today**
 - What is the ideal thesis that *you would wish for*?
 - What results would it contain?
 - How would you evolve the story from start to finish?

Source: Priya Narasimhan, (2006), How To Write a Good (no, Great) PhD Dissertation

- Write each Chapter of the thesis deliverable items
- Write a checklist for each Chapter

[Example 1](#)

[Example 2 \(Thesis Checklist\)](#)

4- Ask your supervisors: What are their expectations?

Ask your supervisors for continuous feedback

- Your advisor is your biggest champion, your biggest promoter
- This person *wants to see you succeed and will rave about you and your work* enthusiastically to everyone
- Discuss your thesis layout, problem definition, goals of the month, etc.
- For sticky issues, your advisor will find you the right “connections” to fill in the gaps in your thesis

Source: Priya Narasimhan, (2006), How To Write a Good (no, Great) PhD Dissertation

Keep good relationship with your advisor (even after you graduate).

[Source: Useful Things to Know About Ph. D. Thesis Research, by: H.T. Kung](#) , Harvard University

Find a proper Table Of Content (TOC) according to your supervisor expectation. If you could not find it, follow the following slide structure:

Thesis structure

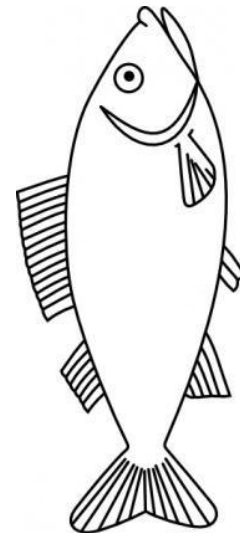
Materials preceding the text

- Title Page
- Original Literary Work Declaration
- Abstract
- Acknowledgements
- Table of Contents
- List of Figures , List of Tables, List of Symbols and Abbreviations, List of Appendices

The main text

- Chapter 1: Introduction
- Chapter 2: Literature Review
- Chapter 3: Methodology (or Materials and Methods)
- Chapter 4: Results (or Experimental Results)
- Chapter 5: Discussion
- Chapter 6: Conclusion

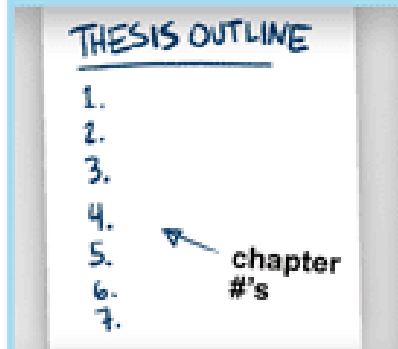
References and Appendices



WRITING YOUR THESIS OUTLINE

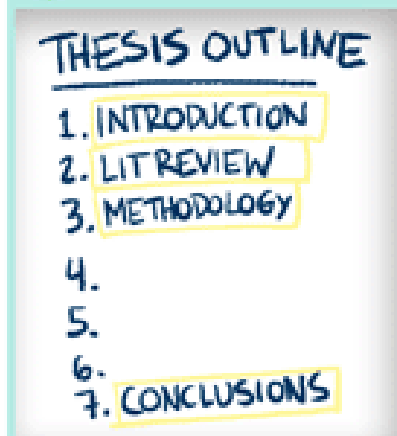
NOTHING SAYS "I'M ALMOST DONE" TO YOUR ADVISOR/
SPOUSE/PARENTS LIKE PRETENDING YOU HAVE A PLAN

STEP 1 Aim for a respectable number of chapters:



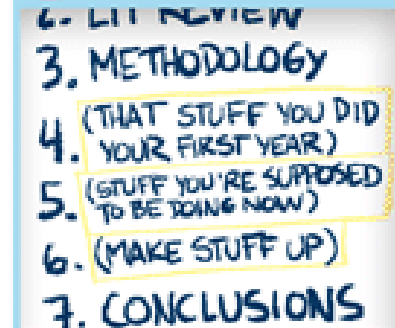
5 = "That's IT??"
6-7 = "Not bad"
8+ = "Are you crazy??"

STEP 2 Fill in the "freebies":



You're half way done!

STEP 3 Make up titles for the "meat" chapters:



(It'll be years before you actually have to work on that later chapter, and by then your thesis topic will have changed anyway)

STEP 4 Voilà! You just bought yourself another two years



JORGE CHAM © 2006

www.phdcomics.com

4- (Con.) Present your activity indirectly

- Dear Nader Ale Ebrahim:

Your paper, "Virtual R&D Teams in Small and Medium Enterprises: A Literature Review", was recently listed on SSRN's Top Ten download list for ORG: Contemporary Organizational Structures (Topic) and Structural Dimensions & Organizational Behavior eJournal. As of 06/16/2010, your paper has been downloaded 107 times. You may view the abstract and download statistics at <http://papers.ssrn.com/abstract=1530904>.

Top Ten Lists are updated on a daily basis. Click on the following link to view the Top Ten list for the journal [ORG: Contemporary Organizational Structures \(Topic\) Top Ten](#) and [Structural Dimensions & Organizational Behavior eJournal Top Ten](#).

Click on the following link to view all the papers in the journal [ORG: Contemporary Organizational Structures \(Topic\) All Papers](#) and [Structural Dimensions & Organizational Behavior eJournal All Papers](#).

To view any of the Top Ten lists, click the TOP button on any network, sub network, journal or topic in the Browse list reachable through the following link: <http://www.ssrn.com/Browse>

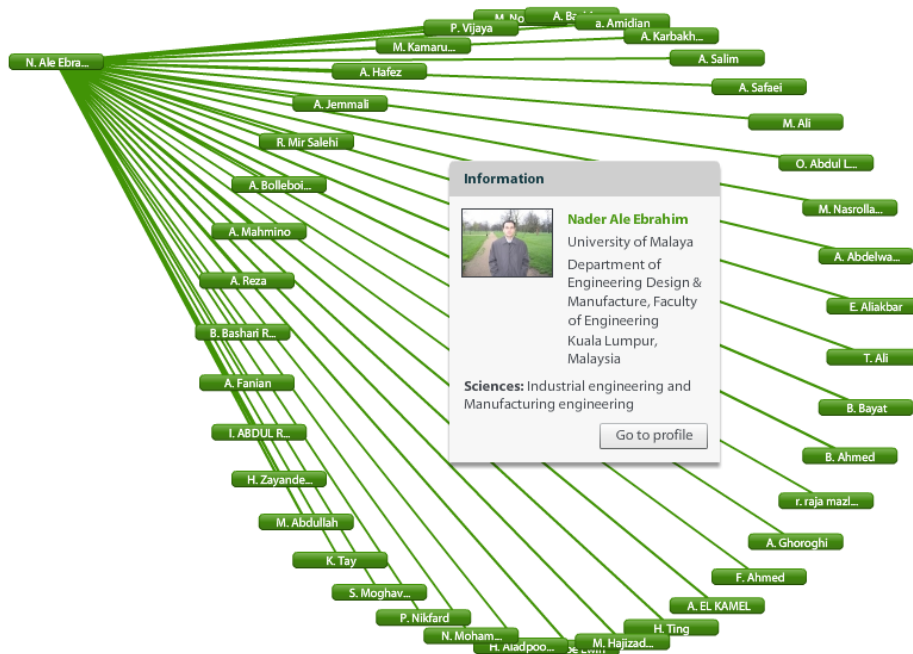
Your paper may be listed in the Top Ten for other networks or journals and, if so, you will receive additional notices at that time.

If you have any questions regarding this notification or any other matter, please email AuthorSupport@SSRN.com or call 877-SSRNHelp (877.777.6435 toll free). Outside of the United States, call 00+1+585+4428170.

- Sincerely,

Michael C. Jensen
Chairman
Social Science Research Network

5- Expand networking



1. Attending conferences for networking and making contacts
2. Build an academic network around yourself outside your university
3. People should get to know you, not just your advisor

6- Continuously write/revise and Publish

- your published papers, as a permanent record of your research, are your passport to your community
- Publishing is one of the necessary steps embedded in the scientific research process. It is also necessary for graduation and career progression.
- You need a **STRONG** manuscript to present your contributions to the scientific community

Lindsay's laws

1. Research is finished only after it is written up. What you write must communicate and persuade.
2. The hallmarks of scientific writing are precision, clarity and brevity, in that order.
3. Try to write as if you were speaking to someone: “see a face”. This way you get to say it directly and clearly.
4. Write (your chapters) in four drafts:
 - (a) First: putting the facts together
 - (b) Second: checking for coherence and fluency of ideas
 - (c) Third: readability
 - (d) Fourth: editing

Source: D. Lindsay, A Guide to Scientific Writing. Melbourne, Australia: Addison Wesley Longman Australia, 2nd ed., 1997.

Writing Literature Review

Writing your literature review

Writing your literature review takes time. You may need to complete several drafts before your final copy. It is important to have a good introduction that clearly tells the reader what the literature will be about.

An introduction must tell the reader the following:

- **what you are going to cover in the review**
- **the scope of your research**
- **how the review ties in with your own research topic.**

Source: https://www.dlsweb.rmit.edu.au/lsu/content/2_AssessmentTasks/assess_tuts/lit_review_LL/writing.html

Introduction

This is a good example of an introduction because it has a topic sentence which indicates what will be covered and also tells the reader the specific focus of the literature review in the concluding sentence.

Topic sentence - identifies five major themes as the scope of this review

Many theories have been proposed to explain what motivates human behaviour.

Although the literature covers a wide variety of such theories, this review will focus on five major themes which emerge repeatedly throughout the literature reviewed. These themes are: incorporation of the self-concept into traditional theories of motivation, the influence of rewards on motivation, the increasing importance of internal forces of motivation, autonomy and self-control as sources of motivation, and narcissism as an essential component of motivation. Although the literature presents these themes in a variety of contexts, this paper will primarily focus on their application to self-motivation.

5 major themes to be covered

Concluding sentence - specific focus

Paragraphs

A paragraph is a group of connected sentences that develop a single point, argument or idea. Paragraphs need to link to other paragraphs so that the themes, arguments or ideas developed are part of a coherent whole rather than separate bits.

A paragraph should include:

- **a main statement / idea that you are putting forward, ie topic sentence**
- **evidence from research to support / argue your idea, showing where the writers agree and / or disagree**
- **student analysis of the research literature where appropriate**
- **summing up and linking to the next idea (paragraph).**

In the literature review, you will need to show evidence of integrating your readings into each paragraph and analysis of the readings where necessary.

Source: https://www.dlsweb.rmit.edu.au/lsu/content/2_AssessmentTasks/assess_tuts/lit_review_LL/writing.html

Integrating arguments in paragraphs

Integration of multiple sources

To develop an integrated argument from multiple sources, you need to link your arguments together. The model below is a guide.

Topic sentence - outlining your main claim or key point for that paragraph



Most early theories of motivation were concerned with need satisfaction. Robbins, Millett, Cacioppe and Waters-Marsh (1998) argued that motivation relies on what a person needs and wants. Similarly the early theories of Maslow and McGregor (Robbins et al. 1998) focused on personal needs satisfaction as the basis for motivational behaviour. However, recent studies outlined by Leonard, Beauvais, and Scholl (1999) suggest that personality and disposition play an equally important role in motivation. Current thinking does not discount these theories, but simply builds on them to include a self-concept.

Supporting evidence from the readings



Contrasting theories from research



Concluding sentence - linking to the next paragraph

Integrating arguments in paragraphs

Integration of student analysis

It is important to integrate your analysis and interpretation of the literature in your literature review. Read the following paragraph and see how the arguments have been integrated into the paragraph along with student analysis. Analysis is not just student opinion, it needs to be supported by the literature.

Topic sentence - outlining your main claim or key point for that paragraph

First statement of evidence from the literature

By its very nature, motivation requires a degree of individual satisfaction or narcissism. Robbins, Millet, Cacioppe, and Waters-Marsh (1998) suggest that motivation has as its very basis the need to focus on, and please the self. This is supported by Shaw, Shapard and Waugaman (2000) who contend that this narcissistic drive is based on the human effort to find personal significance in life. It can be argued that the desire to improve one's status is a highly motivational force, and is central to the idea of narcissistic motivation. The narcissistic motivational strategies put forward by Shaw et al. (2000) are concerned with motivation for life in general, but may also have applications in the context of work. These strategies, with their focus on personal needs, demonstrate that narcissism is an essential component of motivation.

Second statement of evidence from the literature

Student analysis

Concluding statement

Appendix B: Data Tables

| Source Information | | | Search Results | | Analysis Results | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | Notes: Product / Industry / Application |
|--------------------|--------------------------|------|----------------|-------------|------------------|---------|--------------|------------|---------------------|---------|------|------|-------|------------------------|-----------|---------------|----------------|------------|------------|---------------------|----------------------|--|
| No | Author(s) | Year | Modularity | Commonality | Subjects | | | | Performance Effects | | | | | Research Methodologies | | | | | | | | |
| | | | | | Product | Process | Organization | Innovation | Quality | Variety | Cost | Time | Other | Theory-Building | Framework | Process Model | Math. Modeling | Simulation | Experiment | Empirical (large n) | Case Study (small n) | |
| 1 | Akcay and Xu | 2004 | 1 | 1 | 1 | | | | | 1 | | | | | | 1 | | | | | | Non-product specific assemble-to-order systems |
| 2 | Alfaro and Corbett | 2003 | 1 | 1 | 1 | | | | | 1 | | | | | | | | | 1 | | | Chemical films for the automotive industry |
| 3 | Anderson and Parker | 2002 | 1 | 1 | 1 | | | | | 1 | | | 1 | | | | | | | | | Automobiles as examples |
| 4 | Baker et al. | 1986 | 1 | 1 | 1 | | | | | 1 | | | | | | 1 | | | | | | Non-product-specific inventory model |
| 5 | Balakrishnan and Brown | 1996 | 1 | 1 | 1 | 1 | | | | 1 | | | | | | 1 | | | | 1 | | Aluminum tube manufacturing |
| 6 | Balakrishnan et al. | 1996 | 1 | 1 | 1 | | | | | 1 | | | | | | 1 | | | | | | Non-product-specific assemble-to-forecast systems |
| 7 | Baldwin and Clark | 1997 | 1 | 1 | 1 | 1 | | | 1 | 1 | | | | 1 | | | | | | | | Examples from computer and auto industries |
| 8 | Baldwin and Clark | 2000 | 1 | 1 | 1 | | | | | 1 | | | | 1 | | | | | | 1 | | Computer |
| 9 | Bartezzaghi and Verganti | 1995 | 1 | 1 | 1 | 1 | | | | | | | 1 | | | 1 | | | | | | Telecommunication equipment |
| 10 | Bi and Zhang | 2001 | 1 | 1 | 1 | 1 | | | | 1 | 1 | 1 | | | 1 | | | | | 1 | | Several conceptual products as descriptions |
| 11 | Blackburn et al. | 1996 | 1 | 1 | 1 | | | | 1 | | 1 | 1 | | | 1 | | | | | | | Software |
| 12 | Browning | 2001 | 1 | 1 | 1 | 1 | 1 | | | 1 | 1 | 1 | 1 | | 1 | | | | | 1 | | Automobile climate control |
| 13 | Cetin and Saitou | 2004 | 1 | 1 | 1 | 1 | | | | 1 | 1 | 1 | | | | 1 | 1 | | | | 1 | Bicycle frame example |
| 14 | Cetin and Saitou | 2004 | 1 | 1 | 1 | | | | | 1 | 1 | 1 | | | | 1 | 1 | | | | 1 | Automotive space frame |
| 15 | Cetin and Saitou | 2005 | 1 | 1 | 1 | | | | | 1 | 1 | 1 | | | | 1 | 1 | | | | 1 | Automotive space frame |
| 16 | Cheung | 2002 | 1 | 1 | 1 | | | | | | 1 | | | | | | 1 | | | | | Non-product-specific inventory model |
| 17 | Cheung and Hausman | 1995 | 1 | 1 | 1 | | | | | | 1 | | | | | | 1 | | | | | Aircraft engine repair |
| 18 | Choobineh and Mohebbi | 2004 | 1 | 1 | 1 | | | | | | 1 | 1 | 1 | | | | | 1 | | | | Non-product-specific inventory (kit preparation) model |
| 19 | Collier | 1982 | 1 | 1 | 1 | | | | | | 1 | | | | | | 1 | | | | | Non-product-specific inventory model |
| 20 | Desai et al. | 2001 | 1 | 1 | 1 | | | | | 1 | 1 | 1 | | | | | 1 | | | | | Model balancing cost savings and revenue decrease; examples from the auto industry |
| 21 | Deshpande et al. | 2003 | 1 | 1 | 1 | | | | | | 1 | | | | | | 1 | | | | | Non-product-specific inventory model |
| 22 | Djelic and Ainamo | 1999 | 1 | 1 | | | | 1 | | | | | | 1 | | | | | | | 1 | Luxury fashion industry |
| 23 | Dong and Chen | 2005 | 1 | 1 | 1 | | | | | | 1 | | | | | 1 | | 1 | | | | Non-product-specific supply chain model |
| 24 | Du et al. | 2001 | 1 | 1 | 1 | | | | | 1 | 1 | | | | 1 | | 1 | | | | 1 | Power supplies |
| 25 | Duray | 2004 | 1 | 1 | 1 | | | | | | | | | 1 | | | | | | 1 | | Manufactured products |
| 26 | Duray et al. | 2000 | 1 | 1 | 1 | | | | | | | | | 1 | | | | | | 1 | | Manufactured products |
| 27 | Ethiraj and Levinthal | 2004 | 1 | 1 | 1 | | | 1 | | | | | | 1 | | | | 1 | | | | Non-product-specific simulation study |
| 28 | Ethiraj and Levinthal | 2004 | 1 | 1 | 1 | 1 | | | | 1 | | | | | | | | 1 | | | | Microchip |
| 29 | Evans | 1983 | 1 | 1 | 1 | | | | | 1 | 1 | | | | | | 1 | | | | | Screw assortment for creating kits |
| 30 | Eynan and Fouque | 2003 | 1 | 1 | 1 | | | | | | 1 | | | | | | 1 | | | | | Non-product-specific demand reshape model |
| 31 | Eynan and Rosenblatt | 1996 | 1 | 1 | 1 | | | | | | 1 | | | | | | 1 | | | | | Non-product-specific inventory Model |
| 32 | Farrell and Simpson | 2003 | 1 | 1 | 1 | | | | | | 1 | 1 | | | | 1 | | | | | | Yokes used to mount valve actuators |
| 33 | Fellini et al. | 2005 | 1 | 1 | 1 | | | | | 1 | 1 | | | | | 1 | | | | | | Automotive body side frame |
| 34 | Ferrer and Whybark | 2001 | 1 | 1 | 1 | | | | | | 1 | | | | | 1 | | | | | 1 | Automobile component remanufacturing |
| 35 | Fine et al. | 2005 | 1 | 1 | 1 | 1 | 1 | | | | 1 | 1 | | | | 1 | | | | | | High-level example from the auto industry |
| 36 | Fisher et al. | 1999 | 1 | 1 | 1 | | | | | 1 | 1 | | | | | | | | 1 | | | Automotive Brakes |
| 37 | Fixson | 2005 | 1 | 1 | 1 | | | | | | | | | 1 | | | 1 | | | | 1 | Automotive Doors |
| 38 | Fleming and Sorenson | 2001 | 1 | 1 | | | | 1 | | 1 | | | | | | 1 | | | | | | Walkman as illustration |
| 39 | Fleming and Sorenson | 2001 | 1 | 1 | | | | 1 | | 1 | | | | | | | | | | 1 | | Patents |
| 40 | Fujita and Yoshida | 2004 | 1 | 1 | 1 | | | | | 1 | | 1 | | | | | 1 | 1 | | | | Family of aircrafts |
| 41 | Galvin | 1999 | 1 | 1 | 1 | | | 1 | | 1 | | | | 1 | | | | | | | 1 | Bicycles |
| 42 | Garud and Kumaraswamy | 1995 | 1 | 1 | 1 | | | 1 | | | 1 | 1 | | | 1 | 1 | | | | | | Microcomputers, automobiles as examples |

FIXSON, S. 2007. Modularity and commonality research: past developments and future opportunities. Concurrent Engineering, 15, 85.

Keeping up-to-date

Keeping up-to-date

SpringerAlerts

 ScienceDirect

 IngentaConnect

 Routledge
Taylor & Francis Group

 WILEY
InterScience®

 SpringerLink

 WILEY-BLACKWELL

ISI Web of Knowledge™

The MIT Press

[YOUR PROFILE](#) | [TO ORDER](#) | [CONTACT US](#)

The MIT Press is the only
whose
science
and technology. This does
all we publish, but it is
and frontiers of the world.

Paraphrasing

Firefox ▾ Bing Translator Language Labs - Contextual Thesa... SSRN Author Page for Nader Ale E... Virtual Teams: A Literature Review ... Microsoft® Translator Widget +

labs.microsofttranslator.com/thesaurus/

Most Visited Press This Scoop.it! Getting Started Post to CiteULike Import to Mendeley post publication myBibSonomy post bookmark CiteULike: My publicat... Share Share on Facebook Bookmarks

Diigo Bookmark Highlight Capture Comment Send Message (0) Read Later Unread Recent Add a filter Options Go premium!

Home Users Developers Webmasters Tools Partners Labs

Contextual Thesaurus

[Provide Feedback](#)

Translate from English to English to explore alternate ways of expressing the same idea. ([Learn more...](#))

enter your phrase

In the competitive market, virtual teams represent a growing response to the need for fast time-to-market, low-cost and rapid solutions to complex organizational

Hint: Enter short phrases (about 4-8 words) in a business or formal style. To see another random example, refresh your browser (F5).

clear suggestions

In the competitive market, virtual teams represent a growing response to the need for fast time-to-market, low-cost and rapid solutions to complex organizational issues

In the competition on the market, a virtual team is a rising in response to the need to fast time to market, cost effective and fast resolution of complex organizational issues

In a competitive market, a virtual team is a rising in response to the need to fast time to market, cost effective and fast resolution of complex organizational issues

In the competition in the market, a virtual team is a rising in response to the need to fast time to market, cost effective and fast resolution of complex organizational issues

In the competition on the market, a virtual team is a rising in response to the need to fast time to market, cost effective and quickly solve complex organizational issues

In a competitive market, a virtual team is a rising in response to the need to fast time to market, cost effective and quickly solve complex organizational issues

In competition in the market, a virtual team is a rising in response to the need to fast time to market, cost effective and fast resolution of complex organizational issues

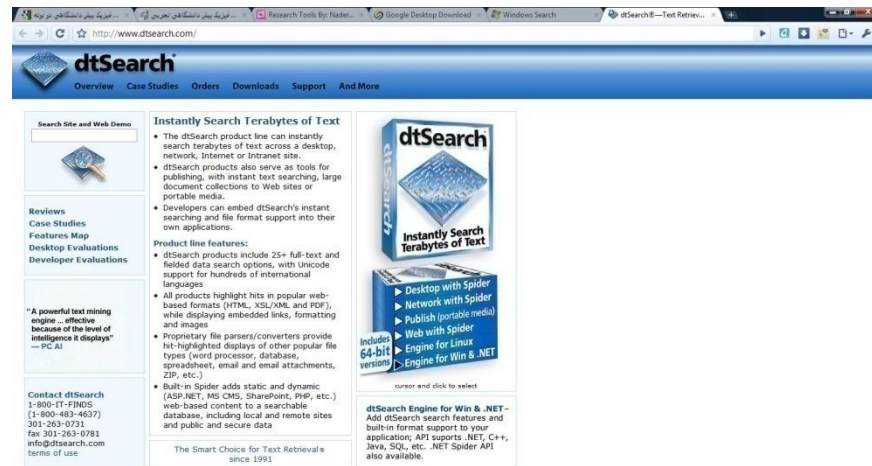
Find: virtual R&D Teams in SMEs Next Previous Highlight all Match case Find more on the web

Language Labs - Co... Software Update Inbox - Microsoft O...

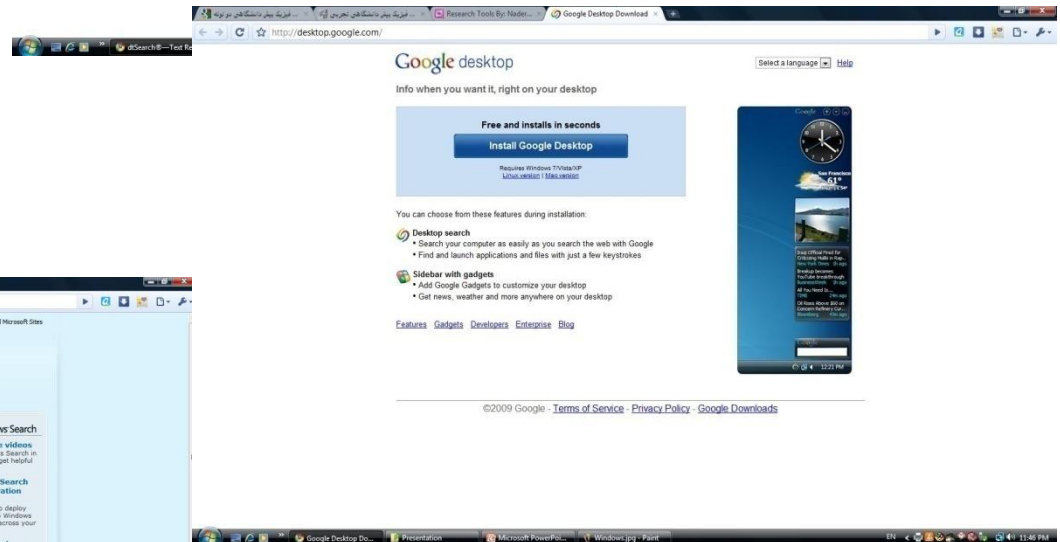
06:51 to Fajr 10:58 PM

Desktop search

dtSearch Google Desktop Windows Search



The screenshot shows the dtSearch website with a blue header and navigation links: Overview, Case Studies, Orders, Downloads, Support, and And More. The main content area is divided into three columns. The left column contains a 'Search Site and Web Demo' section with a magnifying glass icon, a 'Reviews' section with links to Case Studies, Features Map, Desktop Evaluations, and Developer Evaluations, a quote from PC AI stating 'A powerful text mining engine... effective because of the level of intelligence it displays', and contact information for dtSearch. The middle column is titled 'Instantly Search Terabytes of Text' and lists features such as searching across desktop, network, Internet or Intranet sites; serving as tools for publishing; embedding dtSearch's instant searching and file format support into applications; and product line features including 25+ full-text and fielded data search options, support for international languages, highlighting hits in popular web-based formats, and proprietary parsers for various file types. The right column features a product box for 'dtSearch Instantly Search Terabytes of Text' and a list of supported environments: Desktop with Spider, Network with Spider, Publish (portable media), Web with Spider, Engine for Linux, and Engine for Win & .NET. It also mentions a 64-bit version and a 'dtSearch Engine for Win & .NET' with built-in format support for applications like .NET, C++, Java, SQL, etc.



The screenshot shows the Google Desktop website with a white header and navigation links: Select a language, Help, and Info when you want it, right on your desktop. The main content area is divided into two columns. The left column is titled 'Free and installs in seconds' and features a large 'Install Google Desktop' button. Below this, it lists features during installation: Desktop search (searching your computer as easily as the web) and Sidebar with gadgets (adding Google Gadgets to customize the desktop). The right column shows a vertical image of the Google Desktop interface on a desktop. The footer contains copyright information for 2009 Google and links to Terms of Service, Privacy Policy, and Google Downloads.



The screenshot shows the Windows Search website with a blue header and navigation links: Home, Explore Windows, Products, Shop, Downloads, Help & How-to. The main content area is divided into two columns. The left column is titled 'Windows Search 4.0' and features a large image of a man using a laptop. Below this, it lists features during installation: Desktop search (searching your computer as easily as the web) and Sidebar with gadgets (adding Google Gadgets to customize the desktop). The right column shows a vertical image of the Windows Search interface on a desktop. The footer contains copyright information for 2009 Microsoft and links to Terms of Service, Privacy Policy, and Microsoft Downloads.



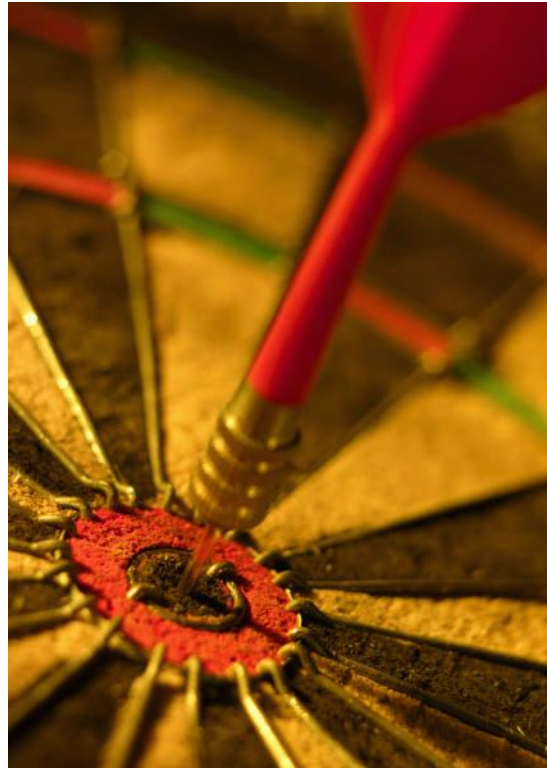
Reference Management

EndNote

- *EndNote* is an almost indispensable tool for the serious researcher. And best of all, it's free to all UM postgraduates!



Smile - your research almost done!



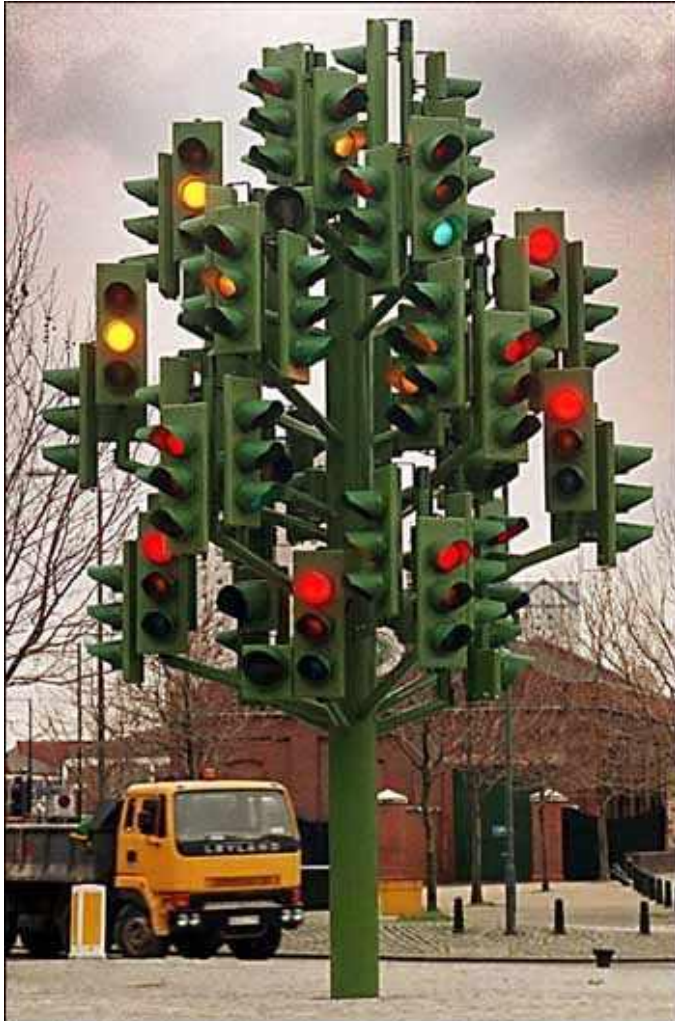




UPM
ISAM

Organization

IRANIAN STUDENTS ASSOCIATION MALAYSIA



Thank you!

Nader Ale Ebrahim, Ph.D
Independent Researcher
Technology Management Consultant
"Research Tools" Advisor

<http://aleebrahim.info/>

References

1. Leary, Z. (2004) The Essential Guide to Doing Research. London: Sage Chapter Six
2. Research Tools, Nader Ale Ebrahim, Apr. 2010
3. Journal Citation Reports®, Thomson Reuters 2009
4. The publish or perish book: Your guide to effective and responsible citation analysis / Anne-Wil Harzing. , September 2010
5. [Ale Ebrahim, N., Ahmed, S., & Taha, Z. \(2009\). Virtual R & D teams in small and medium enterprises: A literature review. \[Review\]. Scientific Research and Essay, 4\(13\), 1575–1590.](#)
6. Randolph, Justus (2009). A Guide to Writing the Dissertation Literature Review. Practical Assessment, Research & Evaluation, 14(13).
7. FIXSON, S. 2007. Modularity and commonality research: past developments and future opportunities. Concurrent Engineering, 15, 85.
8. UNE. 2009. The literature review [Online]. University of New England. Available: <http://www.une.edu.au/library/eskillsplus/literature/litreview.php> [Accessed 25 January 2010].
9. http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Systematic_review
10. MOHAMMADJAFARI, M., AHMED, S., DAWAL, S. Z. M. & ZAYANDEHROODI, H. 2011(Article in press). The Importance of Project Management in SMEs for the Development of New Products through E-Collaboration. African Journal of Business Management.
11. [Journal Citation Reports - Science - Thomson Reuters](#)
12. [ISI Web of Knowledge](#)
13. [ALE EBRAHIM, N., ABDUL RASHID, S. H., AHMED, S. & TAHA, Z. 2011. The Effectiveness of Virtual R&D Teams in SMEs: Experiences of Malaysian SMEs. Industrial Engineering and Management Systems, 10, 109-114.](#)
14. [EBRAHIM, N. A., AHMED, S. & TAHA, Z. 2010. SMEs: Virtual research and development \(R&D\) teams and new product development: A literature review. International Journal of the Physical Sciences, 5, 916-930.](#)
15. [ALE EBRAHIM, N., AHMED, S. & TAHA, Z. 2009. Modified Stage-Gate: A Conceptual Model of Virtual Product Development Process. African Journal of Marketing Management, 1, 211-219.](#)
16. [PÓS, P., DE PRODUÇÃO, G. P. D. E. E., SISTEMAS, E. & FERREIRA, P. G. S. 2011. THE COMPREHENSION OF PERFORMANCE MEASUREMENT INDICATORS BY VIRTUAL TEAMS. Master of Science in Industrial and Systems Engineering. https://www.dlsweb.rmit.edu.au/lisu/content/2_AssessmentTasks/assess_tuts/lit_review_LL/mindmaps.html](#)
17. [https://www.dlsweb.rmit.edu.au/lisu/content/2_AssessmentTasks/assess_tuts/lit_review_LL/mindmaps.html](#)
18. Creswell, J. W. (2012). *Educational research: Planning, Conducting, and Evaluating Quantitative and Qualitative Research (4th ed. ed.)*. Boston: Pearson Education, Inc.
19. **D. Lindsay, A Guide to Scientific Writing. Melbourne, Australia: Addison Wesley Longman Australia, 2nd ed., 1997.**