

Seminar Configurable Systems

Prof. Zeller / Christian Lindig

A Scrutiny of the Abstract

Usually there are too many papers and there is too little time to read them all. This is why scientific papers have an abstract. It can help you to decide whether a paper is worth reading. We will take a closer look.

Small-group work

1. Divide into groups. We will try to form groups that are diverse, so that each group contains people with different degree of experience and research interests. Once the groups have been formed, introduce yourselves to each other.
2. Read the paper. Help other members in your groups to answer their questions.
3. Choose a recorder. Agree on one person to record the views expressed in your group, in particular
 - decisions the group makes collaboratively,
 - significant dissent.
4. Discuss the following questions; use the black board, a laptop, or whatever you deem necessary to structure your answers.
 - (a) What is wrong with many abstracts, according to the author?
 - (b) What question should an abstract answer? Do you agree?
 - (c) What is the contribution of the paper?
 - (d) This paper has nothing to do with computer science. Should it be discussed in a computer science seminar?

The plenary session

1. Recorders from individual groups will present their groups' conclusions.
2. Class discussion. We will discuss the answers together.