A bird’s eye perspective on science: A systematic analysis of methods used in applied bibliometric research

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Knowing your research field is a tricky thing: In most fields, the number of published documents exceeds the amount a single researcher or even a collaboration of several researchers can handle. Navigating your way through a research field therefore is greatly driven by subjective literature searching and snowballing. Developing an overview over a science field from that ‘frog’s perspective’ is challenging and susceptible to mistakes.

Bibliometric analysis and science maps of research fields provide possible solutions to this problem. Such analyses explore a research field by analyzing the structure and evolution documents, topics, authors or journals. Approaches for bibliometrics and science mapping are manifold and greatly depend on the specific research field.

The Master’s thesis will provide a structured overview over recent bibliometric studies and a detailed evaluation of methods employed over the whole research process.

Introductory literature:

