

Plagiarism Detection Software 2010

Silver Bullet
or
Waste of Time?

Debora Weber-Wulff
HTW Berlin

Virtual Press Conference

2011-01-07



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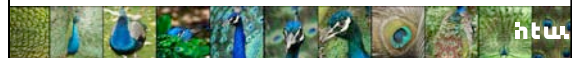


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Topics

- Plagiarism
- Plagiarism Detection Software
- Test 2010
- Test Results
- Portal Plagiarism
- Questions?

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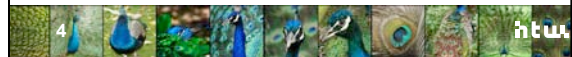
Definition of Plagiarism - Wilson Mizner

- If you copy from one author, it's plagiarism. If you copy from two, it's research.
 - Quoted by Stuart B. McIver, *Dreamers, Schemers and Scalawags*, Pineapple Press, Sarasota, Florida, 1994. ISBN 1-56164-034-4.
- Wikiquote



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Wikipedia Definition

- "Plagiarism is the practice of (dishonestly) claiming or implying original authorship of material which one has not actually created, such as when a person incorporates material from someone else's work into their own work without attributing it." (Wikipedia)
- But watch who the author is!



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Modern Language Association Definition

- **MLA Handbook for Writers of Research Papers:**

"A writer who fails to give appropriate acknowledgment when repeating another's wording or particularly apt term, paraphrasing another's argument, or presenting another's line of thinking is guilty of plagiarism."



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Dictionary Definition

Plagiarism

1. the unauthorized use or close imitation of the language and thoughts of another author and the representation of them as one's own original work.
2. something used and represented in this manner.

(Websters)



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Plagiarism Detection Software

- Computer Programs
- On-line or off-line
- Compares content that is available digitally with the Internet, with internal databases, or both
- Looks for matches
- Reports on suspicious bits
- Try to answer: plagiarism or not?

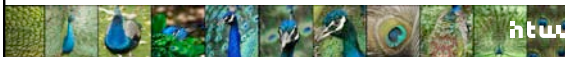
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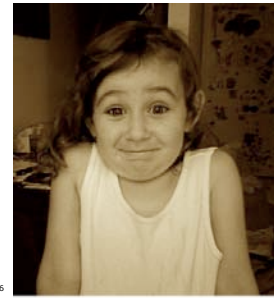
There are so many systems!



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Which one should we use?



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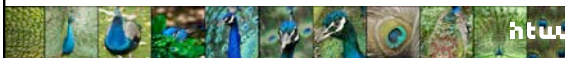
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HTW tests Plagiarism Detection Systems

Test	Systeme ausgewertet	absolvierte Tests	Test-fälle	Testfall Sprache	Bewertung
2004	12	8	10	deutsch	binäre Entscheidung: Plagiate gefunden oder nicht
2007	25	17	20	deutsch	Plagiatserkennung abgestuft 0-3, Codevergleich
2008	27	19	31	deutsch	Plagiatserkennung abgestuft 0-3, Kollusion, Benutzerfreundlichkeit
2010	47	26	42	deutsch, englisch, japanisch	Plagiatserkennung abgestuft 0-3, Benutzerfreundlichkeit und Professionalität, Japanische und Englische Tests, keine Kollusion, kein Codevergleich

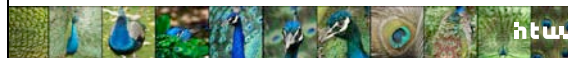
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Test 2010

- 9 months work with 2 persons
- 42 test cases
- English, German, Japanese
- Different kinds of plagiarism, a few originals
- Market survey
- Access to the systems
- 48 systems found, 26 could be tested
- We also tested the ProfNet service

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Problems

- Nothing is found from books – not even when the book is listed in Google Books.
- The 100% plagiarism from Google Books was generally only listed as under 25% plagiarism
- Translations are never found



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Problems

- Umlauts are a problem, but less of a problem than in the last test
- Edited texts difficult to find
- Systems are difficult to use
- Not all companies are professional
- Copies of test material are kept – full rights given away



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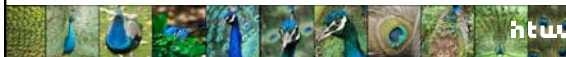


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Results

- **Partially useful:**
PlagAware, Turnitin, Ephorus, PlagScan, Urkund
- **Barely useful:**
Docoloc, Copyscape, Blackboard/Safe Assign, Plagiarism Finder, Plagiarisma, Compilatio, StrikePlagiarism, The Plagiarism Checker

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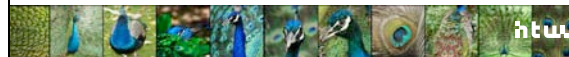


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Results

- **Useless:**
iPlagiarismCheck, Plagiarism Detector, Un.cov.er, Genuine Text, Catch It First, Plagium, Viper, Plagiarism Search, Grammarly, Percent Dupe, Plagiarism Checker, Article Checker
- **Special case:**
ProfNet

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Portal Plagiarism

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Links

- Portal Plagiat
<http://plagiat.htw-berlin.de>
- Home page Prof. Weber-Wulff
<http://www.f4.htw-berlin.de/~weberwu/>
- Blog (in English)
<http://copy-shake-paste.blogspot.com/>

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