

Peer Review

Review of: "Comprehensive Classification of Web Tracking Systems: Technological Insights and Analysis"

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Overall, I think that this research has a lot of promise, especially the questionnaire, and there are some interesting results. However, I feel that in its current form and structure, the strengths of this research are not highlighted. The current paper is not well-structured, and there appears to be no link between the classification system and the questionnaire.

My specific comments on sections are below:

Introduction

- * In the second paragraph, the sentence starts with "Research indicates," but then no reference is given.
- * I am unsure what the third paragraph is trying to say and could therefore benefit from clarification relating this to WP systems and including additional references.
- * While I agree there is a lack of technical understanding of WP systems among users, there has been significant research on the technical aspects of WP.
- * The introduction could benefit from a summary of the aims and outcomes of the paper, highlighting how these differ from previous work, as well as highlighting and introducing the questionnaire.

Background

* The background lacks references throughout, with references only included for the last sentences of most paragraphs/subsections, which makes it difficult to follow.

Materials and Methods

* The classification system appears to make sense; however, Table 1 would benefit from being made clearer, e.g., highlighting that A2 and B2 are subcategories of Class A and Class B, respectively.

* The sections placing the classification system into the wider literature should likely be in the discussion section.

* The design and structure of the questionnaire should be discussed in this section, rather than in the results.

Results and Discussion

* There are a number of interesting results that could benefit from further explanation, as well as the inclusion of specific results for individual questions. I personally would be interested in seeing the results for the majority of the questions in the questionnaire.

* There is no real discussion, and the results of the questionnaire are not placed into their wider context.

Declarations

Potential competing interests: No potential competing interests to declare.