

EVALUATION OF USER RELIABILITY THROUGH SOCIAL RATING AND RECOMMENDATION SYSTEMS

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Abstract: This paper investigates existing research on the traits that people use to assess the trustworthiness of (i) software programs, (ii) businesses (e.g., service providers), and (iii) other people. Previous study has identified the necessity for users to assess these parties' reliability because they are connected with social media platforms. Users select whether they want to communicate with them and whether such interactions appear safe based on the trustworthiness rating. The review of literature included 264 publications, from which 100 papers with so-called trustworthiness features were discovered. This work gives a guideline for software engineers on how to select relevant trustworthiness facets during the issue space analysis for the creation of certain social media apps, in addition to an overview of trustworthiness aspects. The "catfishing" problem in online dating is an example of this.

Keywords: *trustworthiness; trust modelling; computer-mediated introduction; social media applications; software development.*

1. INTRODUCTION

The ability to build and sustain trust amongst partners is critical to their success. It is widely accepted as a crucial influence in a person's decision to enter into or sustain an intimate relationship with another person. When and when human connections are created or developed in the realm of social media, trust is critical. This phenomena is especially relevant in the context of social media, where total strangers can participate in virtual dialogue and possibly form real-world ties. CMIs have become increasingly popular in recent years, with applications ranging from the business world (the "sharing economy," in which individuals trade goods and services with one another) to the personal sphere (online dating platforms, which facilitate the search for platonic, romantic, and sexual relationships). Because of CMI systems, user interactions are facilitated, confidence is developed, and new users are introduced.

Users of social media platforms, particularly

CMI, are at risk from a multitude of sources, including other users, the platform's service provider, and the program itself. Individuals who engage in online dating via various social media platforms may have psychological concerns such as low self-esteem and emotional distress as a result of unrequited love. Furthermore, there are monetary risks involved with fraudulent conduct, such as when sharing economy members do not receive the promised service. A performance hazard that indicates a lack of quality is unprofessional service offering in the sharing economy. Furthermore, when persons who met online decide to meet in person, there are health risks, such as STDs, and physical hazards, such as theft, sexual assault, acts of violence, and rape. Users are aware of the dangers connected with using social media services, such as the acquisition and use of personal information for commercial gain. Social media applications may provide various hazards depending on the technologies utilized, such as security breaches or the

unintentional leaking of sensitive data.

The willingness to participate and sense security that a user has on social media are determined by their appraisal of the credibility of their peers, the program, and the service provider. These elements are critical in this regard. The common assumption is that individuals who can better assess the trustworthiness of others are more likely to set the groundwork for successful relationships and continue with them over time. The trustworthiness of a counterpart can be established by examining whether or not their identifying qualities are present. The concept of trustworthiness encompasses a wide variety of attributes associated with trustworthy individuals and organizations. When a user feels that another party possesses the requisite attributes to deliver on some desired and expected performance, trust is formed. It is not always easy to evaluate dependability. There is no assurance of precision because the technique is based on a subjective appraisal of indications that are essentially confusing in themselves. Limiting oneself to software complicates an already difficult task. Digital trustworthiness ratings necessitate a distinct set of criteria than those utilized in the physical world. Social media users have a tendency to portray themselves in a positive light on online platforms, which may make them vulnerable to manipulation. Due to a variety of challenges, software developers must ensure that trustworthiness is considered throughout the creation of social media programs. As a result, applications have the potential to assist users in conducting detailed assessments of reliability and successfully navigating barriers. As far as we can determine, software engineers know very little about the elements that influence program dependability during development. How much weight should users place on the integrity of (i) their peers, (ii) the social media platform itself, and (iii) the service provider when determining who to trust on social media? Access to this data is required for developers of

user interface elements or other software features that assist users in assessing the validity of an entity. As a result, they can deliver the trust assessments that their users require. If a collection of trustworthy traits is made available, programmers must be given explicit guidance on how to prioritize which features are most relevant in certain scenarios. Given these factors, the purpose of this project is to undertake a systematic literature review to give a comprehensive examination of the features related with reliability and credibility as demonstrated by individuals, organizations, and software. Furthermore, software developers can use this study as a reference when determining which elements are most crucial to consider.

2. THEORETICAL BACKGROUND

I'll go over the many factors, including dependability, in the following section. The next step is to link these characteristics to both the abstract concept of trust and its specific expressions in different situations. Following that, we'll look at how software has traditionally helped individuals create trusting connections.

Dependability in its different guises

Within the context of the CMI, the concept "trustworthiness facets" was coined. CMI service providers, CMI software developers, and CMI users all have some things in common. Aspects of trustworthiness are positive characteristics that demonstrate a person's or group's capacity and tendency to carry out desired and expected activities. These characteristics might reflect one's personality or another aspect of oneself. Because it is up to CMI users to decide who can be trusted, these three entities serve as trustees, and CMI users serve as trustors, determining whether or not to trust the trustees.

Several lines of research have focused on the trustworthiness of institutions, technologies, and persons, generating a set of shared characteristics. Trustworthiness, empathy, and honesty are essential in social and organizational psychology, sociology, economics, and computer science. The

following characteristics are closely associated with reliability. The characteristics stated above, which were first articulated in a social context, have been broadly generalized to encompass many types of trustees, such as organizations and technologies. Scientists and researchers adapt their language and meanings on a regular basis to fit the context in which they work. Caldwell and Clapham perform a comparative examination of organizational and interpersonal trustworthiness, focusing on the dimensions of competency, quality assurance, and financial balance, and they may substitute the phrases "ability" and "integrity" with "competence" or "fairness." Some elements may share language but utilize different definitions for the same occurrences as a result of these adoptions.

In addition, previous study has revealed that other trustee traits are not causally related to their level of trustworthiness. When it comes to technical trustworthiness, Mohammadi et al. (year) identified a correlation between software attributes and the degree of software trustworthiness. "Attributes" are distinctive traits or qualities in computer programs that boost the efficiency and effectiveness of the software. The features encompass both internal and external operations.

When assessing the concept of trust, it is necessary to consider the various aspects that contribute to trustworthiness.

The trust paradigm proposed by McKnight and colleagues is followed by the trustworthiness criterion. A person can trust another person or organization if they believe in the character and competence of that individual to carry out the obligations and responsibilities of that connection. This phenomenon of belief reflection happens even when the grantor lacks the capacity to supervise or monitor the trustee [5]. Many factors influence the trustor's confidence, including the trustor's personal characteristics and subjective appraisal of the trustee's trustworthiness. In interpersonal settings, trust evaluation is frequently a two-way street between the evaluator and the evaluated, with the latter's goal being to

facilitate a more advantageous exchange. The trustee's goal in disclosing personal information is to establish her trustworthiness, whereas the beneficiary is responsible for making sense of the information presented to them [26]. This process is referred to as "cooperative" because both the donor and the recipient actively engage [27].

A person's believability is an essential consideration in deciding whether or not to continue communication [28]. The technique entails examining several features and determining their observability levels. Inadequate trustworthiness ratings may indicate that the attributes commonly linked with trustworthiness are either unavailable or irrelevant in the given context. As a result of this action, the other person may start to regard you as untrustworthy, potentially leading to the end of your relationship. Beyond trustworthiness, the trustor can think about less tangible qualities like general character traits, ambitions, or goals. All of these considerations are important when establishing an identification-based trust, which is formed when a person identifies with a trustee (29). If the grantor is unable to create a connection to or identify with the trustee, the relationship between the grantor and the trustee may end [29].

The evaluation of trustworthy features changes throughout time. The donor knows next to nothing about the trustee at the start of the relationship. Using a knowledge base to establish reliability is impractical. The trustor's first assessment of the trustee's signals, from which the trustor derives the trustee's trustworthiness or other significant characteristics, is thus central to the relationship. Because of the trustee's use of cognitive categorization [19,30], the trustor initially commits to the connection. Methods used in classification systems [19] include reputation categorization, stereotyping, and unit classification. The trustor assigns trustworthy attributes to the fiduciary by using information from secondary sources when assessing the fiduciary's reputation. The phrase "stereotyping" refers to the technique of categorizing something or someone into a broad category, which is then

connected with a set of qualities. Using the concept of unit classification, the grantor sets the trustee in the same unit classification as herself. This phenomenon improves trustworthiness judgment by improving the trustor's believability. The belief that humans share a shared social identity and, as a result, a lot of similarities [31]. Cognitive processes have a significant impact on the perception of trustworthiness features, which in turn influence the interaction between categorization and trustworthiness judgments. Previous research [32] also implies that employing calculative methods in conjunction with categorization procedures can benefit in the creation and growth of mathematically grounded trust. Establishing rapport and engaging in exchanges with another person is founded on a realistic appraisal of the dangers and advantages of doing so. A variety of factors influence the trustor's expectations of interaction with the trustee, including the trustee's predictability of such expectations [32]. If the benefits outweigh the expenses, the grantor is more inclined to collaborate with the trustee to expand the size of their trust [33]. The computational processes and the reliability evaluation interact with one another. In a broader sense, one could argue that initial trust is founded on a lack of information and the assumptions made by the person investing faith [14]. The fiduciary's current and prior performance is unclear. During a conversation, a person's initial level of trust transforms into a different type of trust based on facts and evidence. The trustee's understanding grows, resulting in a more nuanced understanding of the many factors that contribute to someone's trustworthiness. Because of these characteristics, the trustworthiness judgment performed during the knowledge-based trust phase is more accurate than the initial trust phase [20]. Given the importance of knowledge-based trust, the facet-oriented approach is particularly relevant [14]. At this point, Trustor knows enough about Trustee to reasonably anticipate Trustee to act as Trustee would in this scenario [30]. Because of the trustor and trustee's shared history, knowledge-based

trust lasts longer than simple trust. In contrast to initial trust, which is heavily influenced by variable costs and benefits as well as first impressions, knowledge-based trust lasts longer in the face of performance lapses or changes in circumstances [29].

Users will rapidly see the relevance of both initial trust and knowledge-based trust in the context of CMI through interacting and getting to know one another on the CMI platform. Online dating relies largely on first impressions, with profile photographs and information functioning as cues [34]. These are used in the classification process, particularly when it comes to gender stereotypes [35]. Users of online dating sites learn more about prospective mates following the initial interactions, allowing them to rate their trustworthiness. Some online dating services, such as affinity.co.uk and neu.de, allow their users to gradually provide more personal information, such as photographs, as they create knowledge-based trust with the other user.

Individuals' engagement in CMI organizations and apps is also influenced by their initial and knowledge-based trust. A customer's decision to trust a service provider is typically influenced by familiarity with the company, its reputation, the quality of information provided about the firm and the service, third-party certifications, and enticing incentives for adopting the technology [36]. The level of trust that a user has in a certain app might influence their preferences, which in turn depends on their level of trust in the service provider [37]. Users can develop knowledgeable trust in both the service provider and the program itself when using software. A customer's confidence in a service provider is influenced by a number of factors, including the transparency with which the provider handles customer data, the strength of the provider's privacy and security policies, the ease with which customers can share ideas and form communities, and the availability of independent auditing services, according to Siau and Shen [36]. As a person's perception of the software's dependability grows, so does their level of trust in it. Even if the user disagrees with the service

provider's judgment of their trustworthiness [14], the program can still be used.

How trust-building tactics in computer systems have evolved throughout time.

Trust between persons using software has already been researched and debated in the field of software engineering. Jones and Marsh [38] introduced the TRUST notation in their paper "TRUST: A Notation for Social Media in Computer-Supported Collaborative Work." As cornerstones of the notation system used to record and evaluate social conduct in virtual communities, knowledge, relevance of interaction, usefulness of collaboration, fundamental trust, and conceptual trust are all taken into account. As a result, TRUST is a great tool for encouraging talks about the creation of software for human-computer interaction.

Tran (39), in order to safeguard purchase agents from dishonest selling agents, presents a conceptual framework for modeling trust in the context of electronic commerce. To define a trustworthiness level, the authors' algorithm considers a variety of parameters, including the price, quality, and expected value of a product, as well as the cooperative and punitive components of an encounter. As a result, Tran's method is congruent with the concept of logical calculation-based confidence. Within their framework, buying agents can analyze the integrity of selling agents by using software components such as trust ratings.

Trust-related software aspects were the focus of development for the TrustSoFt technique, a trust modeling approach, in the context of CMI [13]. The software's goals are established from the beginning in order to adequately address the user's trust concerns. Furthermore, the study identifies contextually relevant characteristics of trustworthiness that, if acknowledged, can assist alleviate the aforementioned issues. The next stage is to use this as a starting point for eliciting the program's requirements and features. In order to successfully tackle the concerns highlighted, the program must have components that allow users to judge the legitimacy of the parties

involved. As mentioned in Section 3, the current study delves thoroughly into the different dimensions of believability. This study is a useful tool for ensuring a smooth deployment of TrustSoFt.

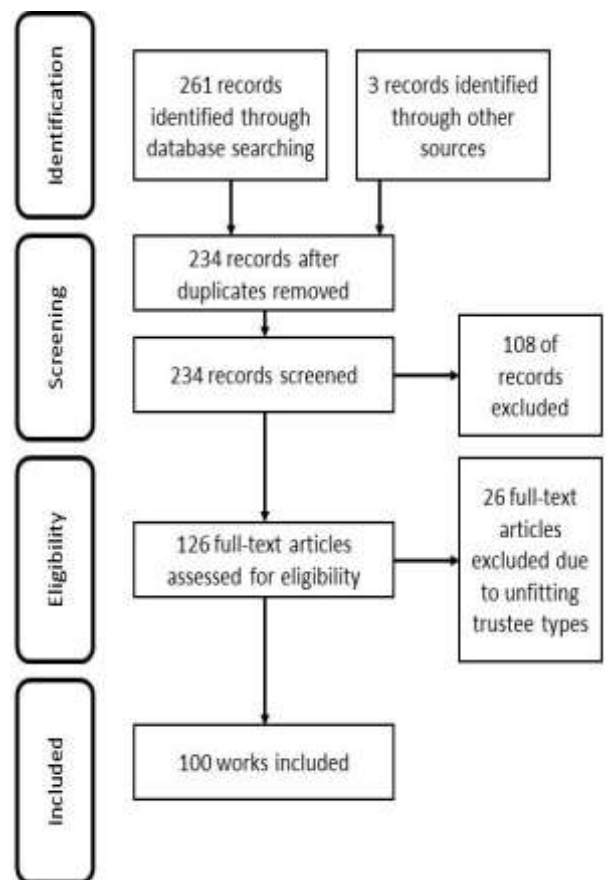


Figure1.PRISMAflowdiagram.

3. METHODOLOGY

Since problems might arise from many various areas of study, including sociotechnical research, we decided to focus on von Brocke et al.'s principles for conducting a literature review [42]. Four months were spent on the literature review, but just one on the search. We considered papers published in academic publications or presented at conferences and written in English to be eligible, regardless of when they were initially published.

Scopus and Web of Science were searched for relevant data. The Journal of Cyberpsychology, Behavior, and Social Networking is also well regarded.

Our search strategy began with the identification of relevant keywords. People-related keywords (such as social media users and inter-personal trust), technology-related keywords (such as website capabilities and software characteristics), and business-related keywords (such as organizational trust and service provider) were all categorized separately. Different operators, such as "individual" and "(trustworthiness trait*" OR "trustworthiness characteristic*"), were used in the searches. Trust-related keywords were coupled with one of the keywords for people, technology, or groups to help uncover trustworthiness features for all three categories of trustees. The following keyword combination was used when there were too many results for the same search terms. Thirteen separate keyword searches were conducted. The forward and backward searches followed the phrase search. There was a search of cited works and reference lists for articles that might provide insight into research directions concerning dependability factors.

Since studies of trust in CMI or social media are still in their infancy, we opted to focus on studies on fiduciary qualities in general. To be considered, an application's features had to be associated with trustees, which could be (i) a company, institution, service provider, or online vendor; (ii) a piece of software, application, platform, website, or technology; or (iii) a person in a variety of roles. Regarding this last issue, it's useful to note that numerous studies have analyzed employee-manager collaboration in order to determine levels of trust inside an organization. If components of a study constellation could be linked to social interactions, then those components gained significance in the eyes of the participants. First, we considered selecting works with trust-related terms in the titles or with other appropriate allusions to credibility. Then, we selected studies that include or describe trust-related qualities for one of the

three types of trustees, taking into account their (perceived) trustworthiness or the development of trust.

After finalizing the plan, data collection began. We combed through the selected literature in search of characteristics that were consistently cited as having a positive impact on (perceived) trustworthiness or as aiding in the development of trust. We have added characteristics associated with each trustee type based on what the literature has to say about them. If available, we also provided a definition, related faces, application domain, study methodology, and references for each facet. Depending on how frequently they were cited in the literature, a few characteristics were discussed more than once. Theoretical derivations, interviews, and statistical calculations (such as correlations with a trust construct) have all been used in the literature to establish connections between particular components of trustworthiness and (perceived) trustworthiness or the development of trust. Only reliable components of technology that are applicable in everyday life were considered, such as generally well-received software [14]. This is a recommendation, from our perspective, for developing bug-free computer programs. As a result, we tend to overlook critical aspects of a system's static structure, even if doing so would make the system less stable. Adding additional processing power allows for greater scalability, which allows more work to be completed in the same amount of time [14]. Rather, we give priority to the aspects of technology that can be directly observed to be trustworthy in action.

Particularly appealing to us were studies that prioritized outcomes over civility, honesty, and skill as a measure of trustworthiness.

4. RESULTS

We looked at 264 publications published between 1957 and 2021. We then eliminated any sources that discussed trustworthiness characteristics, trustee kinds, or contexts (such as inter-organizational structures) that were irrelevant to the social media ecosystem. Finally, 100 novels

were included in the analysis. Fulmer and Gelfand [43], Mohammadi et al. [24], McKnight et al. [14], and Beldad et al. [44] are only a few of the authors whose works were selected since they are also literature reviews. We found these reviews particularly useful throughout the research phase of writing our own. Some books only present theoretical frameworks, whereas others include both qualitative and quantitative research.

We compiled data on the reliability of different types of trustees into three tables based on our review of the relevant literature. There are examples of them in Appendix A. Table A1 displays the human aspects of trustworthiness, Table A2 the technological aspects, and Table A3 the group aspects. We combined trustworthy features that stood for the same things and had the same definitions to save space. They are often discussed together or considered to be interrelated in written form. Justice, for example, can be thought of in more than one way. We developed a comprehensive plan that takes into account the most salient features of each category of considerations. Each individual should take as broad a view as feasible when applying a definition. It's important to note that when implementing particular aspects of trustworthiness in software engineering, the precise meaning from the original sources must be considered. The first item in each category is the one that has received the greatest consideration. There is no particular order to the remaining characteristics. The summaries provide references and comprehensive descriptions of the categorized credibility elements. The advantages were well-documented, as we discovered. Because of space constraints, we were only able to reference widely recognized works, many of which may be linked to by unreferenced works. There is also some discussion of academic circumstances.

The evaluated study contexts focus on distinct roles, such as trust in doctors, customers' confidence in salesmen, managers' respect for researchers, and so on (Figure 2). Initial doubt, recruiting participants, and maintaining contact are all issues that need to be investigated. Table

A2 shows that people frequently consult social media, online banking, and online purchasing to determine the dependability of a given piece of technology. Many of the indicators in Table A3 of a company's reliability were studied in relation to internet vendors, employment applications, and internal staff opinions.

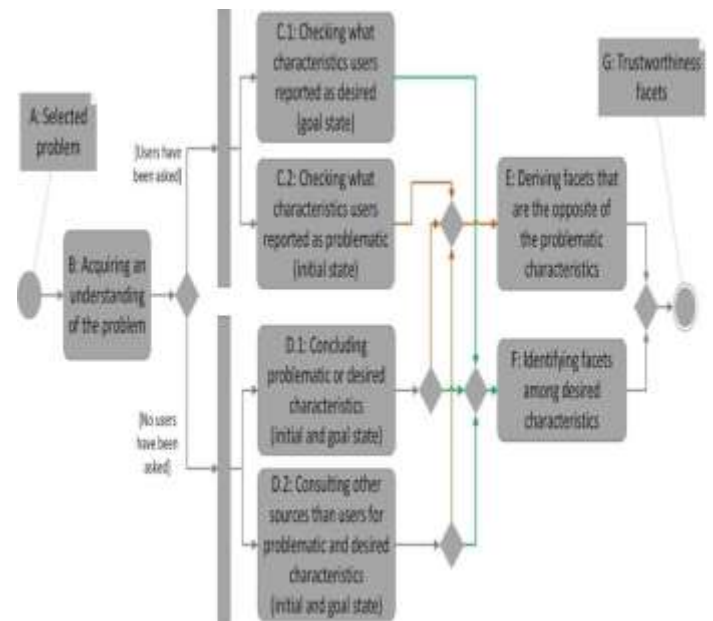


Figure 2. Guideline for identifying trustworthiness facets. Orange arrows point out the identification of problematic characteristics. Green arrows represent the paths for the identification of desired characteristics.

5. CONCLUSIONS

Integrity is a common basis for evaluating the reliability of individuals, organizations, and technologies. The more a social media platform aids its users in determining the dependability of other users, the more productive and positive the interactions between users will be. This book summarizes the research on what characteristics contribute to a trustworthy person. We also propose a method for programmers to use when deciding which features to implement. The overview and guidelines can be used as a starting point for problem analysis in the early phases of the software engineering life cycle. Features that

make people anxious can be utilized to describe crucial trustworthiness aspects, which can then be used to enhance users' experiences with websites. By drawing parallels with this research, we can move closer to developing social media platforms that account for users' mental states. Future efforts will have reliability-related sections, allowing us to go more deeply into the issue at hand as we develop our program. We're on the hunt for tools that can help individuals determine, in a methodical fashion, whether or not they can trust a person they've met through social media. Because it incorporates broad-ranging research on trustworthiness variables, the literature review may be evaluated in light of the proliferation of social media.

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