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**SYSTEMATIC LITERATURE REVIEW: AN ANALYSIS OF SKILL  
MISMATCH MEASUREMENT**

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### Abstract

The rapid growth of technology in the era of Industry 4.0 has caused the dynamic labor market to grow faster than ever before. This resulted in a mismatch between the jobs offered and the skills required. Thus, it raised the number of unemployability. The objective of this paper is to analyze the measurement of skill mismatch. Shortcomings and flaws in previous measurement methods and a broad definition of skill mismatch hindered the issues to be solved. The introduction of online job analysis has been seen as increasingly more valuable in measuring labor market conditions. Overcoming the issues such as cost, time lag, and biases, this measurement has been seen to be the new trend among scholars to shed the light on skill mismatch measurement. This paper analyzed 402 papers on online job data (vacancy, advertisement, portal) published from 2017 to 2022 from Scopus and Web of Science databases. Preferred Reporting Items for Systematic Review & Meta-Analyses (PRISMA) were used for this study. After the inclusion and exclusion criteria, ten papers from Scopus and five papers from the Web of Science database that matched with the criteria objective have been selected. Therefore, the study found that analyzing online job data is the new trend to be used in improving the labor market with more of the data could be used for the improvement to the previous method of measuring the skill mismatch problem.

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## 1. Introduction

The effect of the Covid-19 pandemic has brought unprecedented changes all over the world, especially in the economic and labor market (Hayashi & Matsuda, 2020). In Malaysia, it was reported that almost 100,000 workers were laid off and these included highly skilled workers where 13% of whom were managers, 26% were professionals, and 19% were technicians and associate professionals (Malaymail, 2020). Increasing job losses will lead to changing the field amongst the jobless to seek a new job. Some will retire, continue their study, or equip themselves with new skills (Tomaney et al., 1999). Thus, learning new skills, getting a more in-demand skill certificate, learning a trade, going to graduate school, or finishing college education will help them market themselves again in the job market (www.forbes.com). However, the problem occurs when the number of jobs offered is not equal to the demand. This situation has been rising long before the pandemic comes. The most obvious issue is the tight job market, leading to an occupational mismatch and unemployment. Thus, in the era of Industry 4.0, the growing rates of technology had changed the dynamism labor market to grow faster than before and caused the mismatch of jobs offered and the skill required. As supported by OECD (2017), rapid technological advances, demographic change, globalization, and shifts in labor market institutions are four megatrends that cause changes like work and skills mismatch. Thus, the emergence of technology from the Fourth Industrial Revolution (4IR) such as robotics, big data analytics, and artificial intelligence requires current organizations' different repercussion approaches to business decisions. Changes in technology bring innovation for the organization to immerse and enhance human capital and knowledge and, hence, replace millions of low- and middle-skilled workers.

Discussing the real definition of skill is still ambiguous and there is no consensus on it (Taweel, 2018). As supported by Green (2011), qualifications, competencies, education, and aptitudes are related elements in defining skills. Thus, different fields such as economics or psychology have different understandings of the meaning of skill. As various factors and causes contribute to this issue, there is a need for more studies to explore, define, and understand the other contexts of skills as they have broad typologies. Affirming the importance of employment skills, a study by Rodrigues et al. (2019) mentioned that skills are important in getting the job instead of certification but having a certificate is a requirement to get the job and recognition of the skills acquired. However, the debate about the mismatch occurs as certification does not indicate competency (JRC, 2014). Thus, this study only focused on skill mismatch, which is intertwined with the skills gap, skill shortage, and skill obsolesces as this type of mismatch is given more significance, greater use, and the rise of this concern among scholars to explore more on this issue (CEDEFOP, 2010; Senkrua, 2021).

## 2. Problem Statement

When discussing skill mismatch, the most highlighted issue is the method used to measure skill mismatch. As mentioned by Maltseva (2019), an unequivocal method has not been agreed upon among scholars or practitioners regarding the measurement of skill supply and demand, thus, most of the measurements are more focused on education as an optimal methodology of skill mismatch measurement. Therefore, when there is no exact diagnosis, no solution can be achieved to solve the issue. Instead of the best approach to fix the issue (Bosworth, 1993), measuring skill mismatch is affected by various factors

that might be related, such as wages or social factors (wages increase and low discrimination) (Shah & Burke, 2003). Previous studies (Cárdenas Rubio, 2020; Maltseva, 2019; McGuinness & Pouliakas, 2017, Senkrua, 2021) mentioned skill mismatch measurements, both subjective (self-assessment) and objective, have their flaws that need to be understood. Table 1 describes the summary of skill mismatch measurement between subject/directive subjective measurement and objective/direct objective measurement. Measuring skill mismatch at the macro and micro levels has different approaches. The debate on measuring the micro-level of skill mismatch has been divided into three conditions (McGuinness & Pouliakas, 2017; Quintini, 2011), namely direct/indirect self-assessment, normative (job analysis), and statistical (realized match). However, Nedelkoska and Neffke (2019), and Rodríguez et al. (2021) defined four approaches where three are the same as those mentioned by Quintini (2011), except for the direct measurement of skills.

**Table 1.** Summary of skill mismatch measurement

Subjective / Direct subjective measurement		
Method	Advantages	Disadvantages
Employee Survey (Allen & Van der Velden, 2001; Green & McIntosh, 2007)	Measure directly employee's skill in performing the job and training provided (Allen & Van der Velden, 2001)	Measurement error in which employees tend to exaggerate or overestimate their abilities (Hartog, 2000)
Employer Survey/ Linked Employer-Employee survey/Self-reported approach (Maltseva, 2019)	Ease of data collection (Senkrua, 2021; Maltseva, 2019)	Bias towards specific answers, small scale (specific industry and occupations) (Senkrua, 2021; Maltseva, 2019)
Objective / Direct objective measurement		
Method	Advantages	Disadvantages
Realized Method Approach (Quintini, 2011) (Maltseva, 2019)	The comparison of cognitive skills (literacy, numeracy, and problem-solving) with attainment value of occupation;  Level of education required for the job (Flisi et al., 2017)  Use International Standard Classification of Occupations;  Measured with competency bandwidth (under-skilled and well match (Senkrua, 2021)  More objective description of skills (OECD, 2013:5)	Sensitive to a cohort effect, misleading education mismatch, less sensitive to outlier and technological change, allow only one education level to be appropriate for each occupation, and too broad occupation grouping and self-report data from PIACC (OECD, 2013)  Uses only 1 digit of ISCO (to achieve enough good matches) (Pellizzari & Fichen, 2013)
Job Requirement Approach / Direct Measurement (Maltseva, 2019; Senkrua, 2021)	Divided into four categories of skills (Quintini, 2011)  Measured by the standard deviation (Allen et al., 2013)	Biased as the respondent tends to overstate the skills used at work (Perry, Wiederhold & Ackermann-Piek, 2014)  Skill used is not a necessary proxy for skill requirement, average skills are considered well-matched (Van der Velden & Bijlsma, 2017)

Job Analysis / Job Evaluation Method (Nedelkoska & Neffke, 2019)	Analysis of education and skills reported by expertise (Nedelkoska & Neffke, 2019)	No information about an individual job, only average skills, and education that has been grouped and become a fixed requirement for an occupation, overrated level of education compares to self-reported (Van der Velden and Van Smoorenburg, 1997)  Time-consuming (Rodríguez et al., 2021)  Expensive & not available at the national level and need recurring updates (McGuinness & Pouliakas, 2017)
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Amongst the listed measurements above, there is no agreement on the correct or exact way to measure skills mismatch (Nedelkoska & Neffke, 2019). As there are pros and cons to each measurement, the combination of each approach is the most recommended solution for measuring skills mismatch (Desjardins & Rubenson, 2011). Validity has become an issue in measuring all the approaches even though there are past studies that combined one to two approaches; however, no study has compared all the approaches (Nedelkoska & Neffke, 2019). Thus, the unavailability of data and the quality of data (McGuinness & Pouliakas, 2017) has made this measurement challenging to measure (Senkrua, 2021). Other than that, the three measurements that are listed above are more to measure skills mismatch in terms of over/under education. It has been argued that using education as a proxy ignores the linked job content and human capital which are associated with the skills required for the job whether through learning or working experience (Mavromaras et al., 2013). Even though the measurement of skills mismatch in terms of over-skilling or under-skilling applied almost the same concept such as direct assessment by HR specialists or Reflect Project data, this concept is subjective and prone to bias same as the measurement of over-education or under-education. The issue is the employee's response whether their thinking is based on the current skills required or the skills expected in the future. Thus, what differentiates the measurement of over-skilling or under-skilling is a separate set of questionnaires is required compared to measuring over-education or under-education which can only be measured using the same set of questionnaires (McGuinness & Pouliakas, 2017).

## 2.1 Online job method

The transition of using online analysis emerged due to the flaws that occur in the traditional analysis measurement of skill mismatch. The traditional analysis was costly as it required a complex process to get complete information and had a time lag in understanding and acting, especially to the relevant parties such as policymakers, educational institutions, training providers, and job seekers to align with the labor market requirements, which were among the reasons it was adapted to online data. This is supported by a report from CEDEFOP (2019) which mentioned that providing information on the right skill at the right time are important elements for educational institutions, training centers, and career guidance for all sectors, regions,

and countries to plan for their action. Besides that, responding promptly to the labor market requirements, especially for adults in upskilling and reskilling, and those younger in the TVET system is required by real-time information.

Thus, the analysis of online job portals has been seen as the source to measure the matching conditions for employees and employers due to the number of jobs offered for all types of occupations and the skills required. A study from Cárdenas Rubio (2020) also pointed out that skills required, occupational demand, details requirements from employers, and information about the labor market remain relatively unknown due to a survey conducted by the Columbia Office for National Statistics (DANE) that was not detailed enough to figure out all the situations. Thus, the use of Big Data in analyzing labor information has been seen as an approach to overcoming problems and providing valuable insight into the labor market (Cárdenas Rubio, 2020; Mytna Kurekova et al., 2014; Vankevich & Kalinouskaya, 2021). This method is considered relevant to be used as it offers advantages such as understanding the dynamic and skill demand in the labor market, especially for the labor market actors, and better career and skill development choices for the individual. Meanwhile, for employers or HR, the analysis of information will help in adjusting and developing policies, for better-informed decisions among policymakers, and for a training provider, guidance service, and employment service in improving their target for the future job market. The combination of the conventional method with online job analysis (OJV) has been seen as increasingly more valuable such as comprehensive, detailed, and timely in measuring labor market conditions.

### **3. Research Questions**

The formulation of a research question for this study is guided by PICO which stands for Population or Problem, Interest, and Context. It is one of the tools used by researchers to conduct SLR and assist in formulating suitable research questions for review (Shaffril et al., 2021). For this study, skill mismatch has been defined as Problem, online data analysis is the Interest and the Context is measurement issues. As the main objective of this paper is to explore the trend and figure out the limitation of online data in measuring the skill mismatch, these research questions below have been formulated to a guided researcher in this study:

- 1) How many related literature studies of skill mismatch using online data have been published since 2017 to 2022)?
- 2) Does the existing literature solve the issue of measuring the skill mismatch?
- 3) What will be the direction of the future study in using online job data?

#### **3.1. Purpose of the study**

The emergence of big data has provided more data to discover. The comprehensive use of the statistical method by analytic systems and software allows the stakeholder such as educational institutions, companies, and governments to make the right decision, especially in solving complicated issues (Othman & Abdullah, 2019). As previous studies of skill mismatch measurement have discovered flaws in measurement, this study will extend the literature on skill mismatch measurement by investigating the trend and use of online job data which includes job advertisements, job portals, and job vacancies as a new way

to measure the skill mismatch. This paper arrangement in Section 2 explains the method of searching for the literature review. Next Section 3 summarized the findings of the previous method of measuring skill mismatch by listing the advantages dan disadvantages of measurement. The findings of the paper will propose an alternative to measure the skill mismatch to outweigh the flaws in the previous measurement. The final section will conclude and state the limitation and future recommendations for the next study.

## 4. Research Method

### 4.1. Identification

The first step of this study started with the identification of keywords that are related to the topic that has been chosen. Similar terms of skill mismatch and online data have been searched using dictionaries, encyclopedias, thesauruses, and previous works. The authors broadened search terms and strategies by listing the skill mismatch words with skill shortage/skill gap, job mismatch, and online data with online job advertisement/online vacancy/online portals. Web of Sciences and Scopus are the two selected online databases that have been used to analyze the article's topic of skill mismatch and online job data. The collection consists of more than 35,000 journal articles from different subjects and publishers, which is the relevant justification for the selection of these two databases (Shaffril et al., 2019). Thus, as mentioned by Younger (2010), the use of more than one database is to ensure the selection of relevant articles on a particular topic. Below are the keywords used in this study (see Table 2):

**Table 2.** The search strings

Database	Search Strings
Scopus	(TITLE-ABS-KEY ("skill mismatch" OR "skill shortage" OR "skill gap" OR "job mismatch" OR "mismatch") AND TITLE-ABSKEY ("job advertisement" OR "job vacancy" OR " job portal" OR "online data" ))
Web of Sciences	TS=(skill* mismatch* OR skill* gap* OR skill-shortage* OR job mismatch OR mismatch) AND TS=(online job advertisement* OR online job vacancy* OR OJV OR online job portal* OR online data)

### 4.2 Screening

Identifying and excluding redundancy is the first phase of screening the article. The criteria selected are based on the objective of this study. This is supported by Kitchenham and Charters (2007) who mentioned that research questions can be guided in determining the inclusion and exclusion criteria for screening. Thus, the criteria piloted were able to reliably interpret and classify the study correctly. The first screening phase has identified 1,104 papers that are related to the keywords, with a total of 62 papers published in Scopus and 1,042 papers from the Web of Science.

### 4.3 Eligibility

After completing the screening phase, the next step is to determine the eligibility of the articles. The authors have listed the inclusion and exclusion criteria as shown in the Table 3 to guide the selection of the article during the reviewing phase. The eligibility was conducted by database exclusion by selecting a paper

timeline that was published between 2017 - 2022. Out of 58 papers, only one non-English paper was excluded. To match the author's background, only related subjects from the social sciences, computer science, business management and accountancy, economics, econometrics, and finance were selected to be reviewed. Meanwhile, in the second stage of eligibility, the manual process of reading the abstract, keywords, and content of the article was examined throughout. This process is adopted by Shaffril et al. (2019) to determine the eligibility of the selected papers. Finally, only fifteen articles have been selected to be reviewed, and the articles that are not related to the topic/or out of field area have been excluded.

**Table 3.** The inclusion/exclusion criteria

Criterion	Inclusion	Exclusion
Language	English	Non-English
Timeline	<2015	2022
Subject Area	Social Sciences, Computer Science, Business Management & Accountancy, Economic, Econometric & Finance	Besides Social Sciences, Computer Science, Business Management & Accountancy, economics, Econometric & Finance
Literature Type	Full text (Article & Conference Paper)	Besides the article and conference papers

#### 4.4 Quality Appraisal

According to Kitchenham and Charters (2007), a quality appraisal is mandatory in preparing for an SLR. However, the issue of quality remains unsolved as it is hard to determine quality when it comes to the research method and validity of the findings (Yang et al., 2021). To complete the evaluation process, the researchers have adopted six quality assessments (QA) proposed by Kitchenham and Charters:

QA1: Is the purpose of this study clearly stated?

QA2: Is the interest and usefulness of the work clearly presented?

QA3: Is the study methodology clearly established?

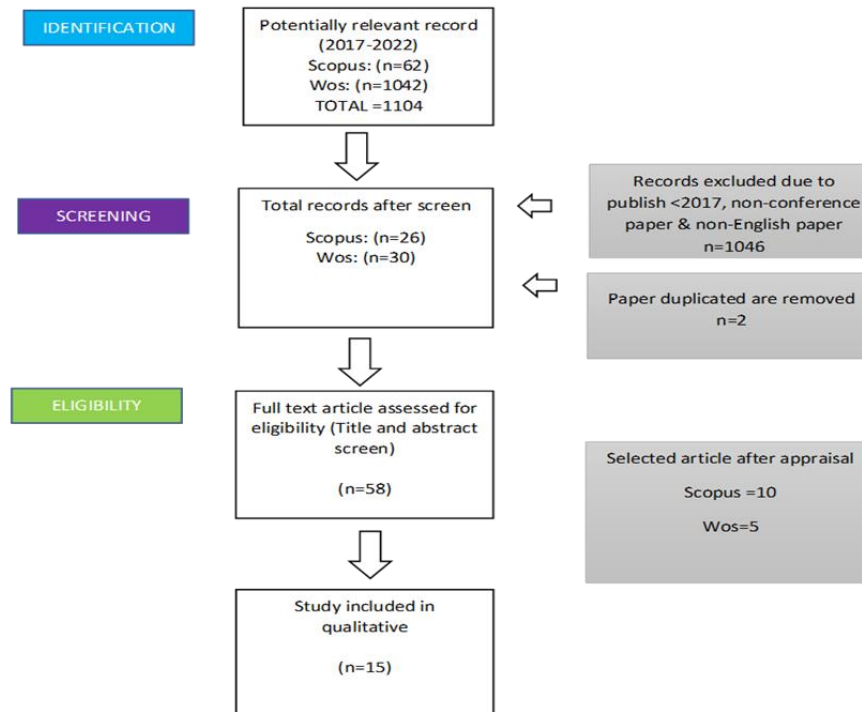
QA4: Is the concept of approach clearly defined?

QA5: Is the work compared and measured with other similar work?

QA6: Are the limitations of work clearly mentioned?

A quality appraisal has been performed by the two authors of this paper. All the listed papers will be evaluated based on the score Yes = 1 Partially =0.5 No =0 and the final score has been combined to determine the selection based on the score given. All the 15 papers selected scored at least 0.5, and none of the papers scored 0.

#### 4.5 Data abstraction and analysis



Source: Adapted from Shaffril et al. (2019)

**Figure 1.** PRISMA Flow Diagram

#### 5. Findings

**Table 4.** Summary of paper reviewed

Classification	Subcategory	N	Reference Index
Year of publication	2017	2	Ward et al., 2017; Kranov & Khalaf, 2016
	2018	4	Baruah et al., 2018; Tijdens et al., 2018; Hoang et al., 2018; Lavrynenko et al., 2018
	2019	4	Dawson et al., 2019; Almaleh et al., 2019; Alghamlas & Alabduljabbar, 2019; Mohamad Zamani et al., 2019
	2020	2	Dawson, et al., 2020; Zheng et al., 2021
	2021	3	Vankevich & Kalinouskaya, 2021; Benhayoun & Lang, 2021; Turrell et al., 2021
Types of data used	Cross-sectional data		
	2017	1	Baruah et al., 2018
	2016	1	Lavrynenko et al., 2018
	2015	1	Kranov & Khalaf, 2016



	2020	1	Benhayoun & Lang, 2021
	Time series data	1	Tijdens et al., 2018
	2010-2013	1	Dawson et al., 2019
	2012-2019	1	Dawson et al., 2020
	2012-2018	1	Alghamlas & Alabduljabbar, 2019
	Oct-Dec 2018	1	Almaleh et al., 2019
	April to June 2018	1	Turrell et al., 2021
	June-August 2017	1	Zheng et al., 2021
	Not mentioned	1	Vankevich & Kalinouskaya, 2021
	2008-2016	1	Mohamad Zamani et al., 2019
The method applied (Data Biases)	Weight data to overcome biases	1	Turrell et al., 2021
	Compared with Eurostat Czech Labor Force	1	Tijdens et al., 2018
	Quantitative Analysis	1	Vankevich & Kalinouskaya, 2021
	Revealed Comparative Analysis	2	Dawson et al., 2019; Dawson et al., 2020
	Interviewed	2	Lavrynenko et al., 2018; Kranov & Khalaf, 2016
	Not applied	5	Ward et al., 2017; Baruah et al., 2018; Alghamlas & Alabduljabbar, 2019; Mohamad Zamani et al., 2019; Vankevich & Kalinouskaya, 2021
	Manually filtered	1	Benhayoun & Lang, 2021
	Data comparison with China Family Panel Study	1	Zheng et al., 2021
The determinant subject of examination	Occupational/Job Mismatch	2	Turrell et al., 2021; Mohamad Zamani et al., 2019
	Demand & Supply	3	Tijdens et al., 2018; Zheng et al., 2021; Vankevich & Kalinouskaya, 2021
	Skill shortage	2	Dawson et al., 2019; Dawson et al., 2020
	Skill gap	7	Baruah et al., 2018; Kranov & Khalaf, 2016; Benhayoun & Lang, 2021; Lavrynenko et al., 2018; Alghamlas & Alabduljabbar, 2019; Almaleh, et al., 2019; Hoang et al., 2018
	Skill mismatch	1	Ward et al., 2017
Effect on Subject	Productivity	1	Turrell et al., 2021
	Adjustment strategies	1	Tijdens et al., 2018
	CV attributes	1	Vankevich & Kalinouskaya, 2021
	Job advertisement variables	1	Dawson et al., 2019
	Features predicting an occupational shortage	1	Dawson et al., 2020
	Management & Technical Skills	1	Baruah et al., 2018
	Employer perception/requirement	3	Lavrynenko et al., 2018; Kranov & Khalaf, 2016; Benhayoun & Lang, 2021
	Requirement of generic skills	1	Ward et al., 2017
	Skill predictability and recommendation	1	Alghamlas & Alabduljabbar, 2019

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	Job Matching	2	Mohamad Zamani et al., 2019; Vankevich & Kalinouskaya, 2021
	Income	1	Zheng et al., 2021
Country conducted	UK	3	Turrell et al., 2021; Baruah et al., 2018; Lavrynenko et al., 2018
	European	2	Ward et al., 2017; Vankevich & Kalinouskaya, 2021
	Belarus	2	Tijdens et al., 2018 Vankevich & Kalinouskaya, 2021
	Australia	2	Dawson et al., 2019; Dawson et al., 2020
	Russia	1	Lavrynenko et al., 2018
	US	1	Kranov & Khalaf, 2016
	UAE	1	Lavrynenko et al., 2018
	France	1	Benhayoun & Lang, 2021
	Saudi Arabia	2	Alghamlas & Alabduljabbar, 2019; Almaleh et al., 2019
	Malaysia	2	Mohamad Zamani et al., 2019
	China	1	Zheng et al., 2021

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### **5.1. Research Question 1: How many relevant literature studies of skill mismatch using online data have been published since 2017- 2022?**

The figure above shows the trend of papers published using online job data from the Scopus and WoS database as shown in the Table 4 based on the guideline show in the Figure 1. An advanced search from two online databases filtering “online job advertisement”, “online job vacancies”, and “online job portal” has shown 15 papers that have been published from 2017 to 2022, and the trend has greatly increased from 2018 to 2021. Most documents published were ruled by developed countries such as US and UK as the country already has established data such as European Standard Labor Market taxonomy (ESCO) and EURES, followed by Australia, Saudia Arabia, and one paper from the UAE. The rest of the studies came from developing countries such as Belarus, Russia, France, Malaysia, and China. The types of data used can be divided into two; the first is cross-sectional data and the second is in time-series data. Only two studies did not mention the year of data used: Mohamad Zamani et al. (2019) and Vankevich and Kalinouskaya (2021). However, both studies can be defined as using cross-sectional types of data as both used several subjects at the same point in time. This can be proven as Mohamad Zamani et al. (2019) used job advertisements posted on Facebook and Twitter based on public opinion to get more information about the job vacancy while Vankevich and Kalinouskaya, (2021) analyzed job vacancies and CVs to measure the mismatching in both requirements.

Since the focus of this paper is to analyze the use of online job data, fourteen related articles used online job data whether job advertisements, CVs, and both. The subject of studies was varied as some studies aimed directly at solving skill gaps (Almaleh et al., 2019; Baruah et al., 2018; Benhayoun & Lang, 2021; Hoang et al., 2018; Kranov & Khalaf, 2016; Lavrynenko et al., 2018). Meanwhile, the other studies focused on skill shortage (Dawson et al., 2019, 2020), skills mismatch (Ward et al., 2017), occupational mismatch (Turrell et al., 2021), and matching of demand and supply in the labor market (Vankevich &

Kalinouskaya, 2021) and education ratio (de Pedraza et al., 2021). Even though different terms have been used, all terms refer to the skill mismatching issue as skill gaps, skill shortage, occupational mismatch, demand and supply in the labor market, and mismatching of qualification in education, referring to the situation of imbalance in demand and supply in the labor market. Therefore, one article from Hoang et al. (2018) has created a system to analyze the skill, demand, and supply of the labor market which indirectly overcomes the issue of mismatching in using online job data which is a job advertisement. The proposed system known as SKILL is a system to detect skill gaps in online recruitment. The analysis of job advertisements and job resumes is the data that use to identify labor market demand and supply. The automated system needed to be built up to detect the skill gaps and facilitate training and reskilling. The system has already been tested on CareerBuilder and the new version has made an improvement based on customer feedback. Hence, another study from Mohamad Zamani et al. (2019) also proposed features visualization of the job availability to overcome the lack of information on job advertisements which has led to the mismatch between applicants and the vacancy. The researchers proposed to analyze job advertisements based on public opinion from social media to get more information about the job vacancy. Assisting the job seeker in the searching process and saving time for the employer in arranging for the interview are the expected results of the proposed approach.

## **5.2. Research Question 2: Does the existing literature solve the issue of measuring the skill mismatch?**

### **5.2.1. Skill gap**

Out of fifteen reviewed articles, seven articles focused more on skill gaps as the main issue in the labor market when discussing skill mismatch. Each study has used various subjects and fields to confirm the situation of the skill gap in the labor market. This is supported by the finding from Baruah et al. (2018), which figured out the skills gap in renewable energy entrepreneurship, focusing on technical-oriented and management-oriented skills. Although management skills are preferred, certain technical skills remain necessary, as the entrepreneur must understand how to operate the wind system. Meanwhile, the other three authors (Almaleh et al., 2019; Benhayoun & Lang, 2021; Kranov & Khalaf, 2016) explored the skill gap issue from an educational perspective. Almaleh et al. (2019) stated there is a skill gap between a curriculum and a job advertisement. Therefore, the study has developed the Align My Curriculum framework to close the gap between the skills required by the market and curriculum developer. Next, Kranov and Khalaf (2016) conducted a study on the skills gap of engineering graduates. The preliminary study analysis stated there were different skills required for electrical engineers and mechanical engineers in terms of professional skills listed in the job advertisement, although the main responsibility is more on the technical and the advertisement is from the same company. Besides, the study also mentioned a challenge faced in continuing the study as the job advertisement for the entry-level engineer only contains three advertisements. Even though there is no result stated to confirm the skills gap issue, the situation stated there is an issue for the engineering graduates to enter the labor market.

### **5.2.2. Demand and supply**

Studies by Ward et al. (2017); Tijdens et al. (2018); Zheng et al. (2021) and Vankevich and Kalinouskaya (2021), pointed out there is an imbalance of demand and supply in the labor market that leads to mismatching issues. Although the studies covered different scopes, however the use of online job data such as job advertisements and CV's able to conclude the same scenario of the labor market. Vankevich and Kalinouskaya (2021) explore the mismatch by analyzing the job vacancy and CV from an online job portal. Results showed the imbalance of demand and supply for the competencies in CV and the vacancy. The findings reveal the need for training for the selected occupations such as accountant, sales engineer, and software engineer as there is a mismatch between competencies listed in CV and demanded by the labor market. Next is a study by Tijdens et al (2018) which confirmed that there is a mismatch between demand and supply in occupations from the job seeker perspective. The labor market analysis shows the high demand for a certain occupation, the lower skills, and education requirements. Thus, this has condensed the job market for low-skilled occupations and vice versa to skilled and highly skilled occupations in terms of educational requirements. A study by Zheng et al. (2021) which explores the demand and supply of the labor market by using education as a proxy for the measurement also indicates the same situation. The study reveals job seeker does overeducate between two and more years and are being penalized for wages. Compared to the finance industry, those in the IT industry will be penalized if they are overeducated. The findings of the study revealed those who are living in cities and graduating from key universities become less overeducated and are penalized as overeducated. Lastly, Ward et al. (2017) analyzed the mismatch of adjective words that have been used in the job advertisement. As generic skills are the transferable skill that is expected from graduates, this study explores the different expectations from the employer and higher education. The findings reveal that there was a gap between supply and demand requirements. However, the most questionable issue is the measurement or benchmark to state the generic skills owned by graduates as required by the employer. The unclear definition of skill required leads to an unclear measurement of skill earned by the graduates.

### **5.2.2 Skill shortage**

On the topic of skill shortage, the use of online job data job advertisements, and CVs have been confirmed to predict and detect the shortage in the labor market. This is supported by a study from Dawson et al. (2019) which confirmed the skill shortage in the Australian labor market for the Data Science and Data Analytics and proposed five key variables for detecting shortage: (1) posting frequency; (2) salary levels; (3) education requirements; (4) experience demands; and (5) job ad posting predictability. Meanwhile, Dawson et al. (2020) explored the skill shortage measurement by machine learning prediction method and analyzed the demand and supply of labor. This method has been proven and aligns with the previous study stating the use of labor demand and supply is the best predictor of the skill shortage in the labor market. Instead of the variable stated in the previous study, the authors highlighted the hours worked variable as another indicator in measuring the skill shortage.

### 5.2.3 Occupational/Job mismatch

Only two studies explored occupational mismatch measured using online job vacancies. Therefore, both studies also covered the different scope of occupational mismatch. A study conducted by Turrell et al. (2021) explores mismatch and productivity. The interesting part of this paper is the clear explanation of how the authors overcome the bias of using online data. Therefore, the study has used online data and official statistics to compare the results. Meanwhile, Mohamad Zamani et al. (2019) explored the lack of information on job advertisements has led to the mismatch between applicants and the vacancy. The researcher proposed to analyze job advertisements based on public opinion from social media to get more information about the job vacancy.

### 5.3 Research Question 3: What is the future study direction?

The limitations and recommendations stated in this paper are based on the author's suggestions from fifteen selected reviewed articles. The scope and subject of each paper are different, so the limitations that are reported are also different. This is due to the variety of online data that could be utilized to be covered and explored. However, several points could be highlighted for future studies that combine the analysis of online job data with other sources as stated by Lavrynenko et al. (2018) and Vankevich and Kalinouskaya (2021). The online source gives the real picture of the labor market, and when combined with another method such as an interview with an expert or compared with other data, will validate the findings of measuring the skill mismatch. This is aligned with the method applied in Figure 1 on how to overcome bias in using online data. It can be seen that different studies used different methods. However, some studies did not use comparison with other data or sources, such as Ward et al. (2017); Baruah et al. (2018); Mohamad Zamani et al. (2019), and Vankevich and Kalinouskaya, (2021). All of these studies just confirmed the situation in the labor market, thus extensive solutions for the root causes of the problems are recommended for future study as it involves several important parties such as higher education, training centers, the government, and the job seekers themselves. However, the studies proposed by Mohamad Zamani et al. (2019) and Hoang et al. (2018) only focused on improving the system that has been built. Meanwhile, in measuring the skill mismatch, the use of education as a proxy is a proven weak indicator, as proven by Tjidsens et al. (2018). Future studies on skill shortages could apply and test the variables proposed by Dawson et al. (2019) & Dawson et al. (2020) in other labor markets using other data sources, such as government databases. Overall, the author's recommendation is to explore the study in a wider area as stated in the table 5 below.

**Table 5.** Summary of future research on skill mismatch

Authors	Recommendation /Limitation
Vankevich & Kalinouskaya (2021)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Combine online data with other sources such as surveys and interviews with HR representatives</li> <li>• explore the demand skills by combining all skills in CV and employability.</li> <li>• explore the combination of occupation and new skills from ESCO taxonomy</li> <li>• explore the other countries' databases to ensure the correct benchmarking of the results.</li> </ul>

Tijdens et al. (2018)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• the use of education as the proxy is a weak indicator to measure skill mismatch.</li><li>• the skill mismatch discussion of the study refers to the job seeker perspective, not in job holder parts</li><li>• the bias of data selection as the database selection mostly presents overeducated vacancies only</li></ul>
Dawson et al. (2019)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Tested the variable to predict skill shortage: salary levels, education requirements, experience demands, and job ad posting predictability with government agencies data and other occupational groups</li></ul>
Dawson et al. (2020)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• applying different variables and features for the next study</li><li>• use deep learning to explore more about the skills shortage.</li></ul>
Baruah et al. (2018)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• The roles of politics, governments policies, and education to overcome the skill gap for entrepreneurs in renewable energy</li></ul>
Almaleh et al. (2019)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• the authors excluded the job advertisement that publishes in Arabic.</li></ul>
Benhayoun & Lang (2021)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• exploring the profession category and analyzing the experience required.</li><li>• widened the study by the cover for international, and higher education levels and includes the sample of jobs that are not IT-related that use AI.</li></ul>
Hoang et al. (2018)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• improve the SKILL system supporting case-sensitive tagging</li><li>• creating a more broad skill hierarchy</li></ul>
Turrell et al. (2021)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Limitation stated is treating the labor market as homogeneous, failing to account for regional variation, and excluding significant factors that reduce productivity, such as job desirability, long-term human capital accumulation, and disruption risk from new technologies</li></ul>
Zheng et al. (2021)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Future research is suggested to explore post-matches as the authors only covered pre-match data.</li></ul>
Lavrynenko et al. (2018)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Explore the HR perspective in requirement to communicate job advertisements that reflect the real job situation in detail.</li></ul>
Kranov & Khalaf (2016)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Explore a longer period database in searching for job advertisements for entry engineers as only three advertisements were found during the pilot study.</li></ul>
Alghamlas & Alabduljabbar (2019)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• No limitation or recommendation stated</li><li>• The findings reveal a lack of hard skills among IT student</li></ul>
Ward et al. (2017)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• No clear definition of generic skills between higher education and the industry leads to unable of measuring the skill required.</li></ul>
Mohamad Zamani et al. (2019)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• System proposed can be linked with education and skill requirements with an integrated learning analytic system.</li></ul>

## 6. Conclusion

In conclusion, the most highlighted issue of methods used to measure skills mismatch due to the differences in the definition of skills itself as different fields have different perspectives, has led the researchers to do a comprehensive literature review focusing on online job data research papers published between 2017 to 2022 from the Scopus and Web of Science databases. The research questions were answered through the review of seven articles that focused on skill gaps as the main issue in the labor market when discussing skill mismatch and four articles on supply and demand which pointed out that there is an imbalance of demand and supply in the labor market that leads to mismatching issues. In addition, two articles on skills shortage stated that the use of online job data job advertisements, and CVs have been confirmed to predict and detect the shortage in the labor market while another two studies explored the different scopes of occupational mismatch which was measured using online job vacancies. The method of

searching for the literature review as explained in Section 2 and the findings of the previous method of measuring skills mismatch summarized in Section 3 concluded that the use of online job data which included job advertisements, job portals, and job vacancies has been seen as a new way of measuring rising skill mismatch issues such as skills gaps, skill shortages, and occupational mismatch.

Based on the literature review, as suggested by the authors, the researchers believe that further research should be undertaken to improve the methods used to measure skills mismatch by combining online data with other sources such as surveys and interviews with HR representatives, applying different variables and features as well as using deep learning to explore more about the skills shortage. Exploring the profession category and analyzing the experience required while widening the coverage for international and higher education levels and including the sample of jobs could be taken into consideration in coming out with a better method to measure skills mismatch.

### 6.1. Limitations

This study solely focuses on the issue of measuring skill mismatch from the previous journal that has been published with keywords such as skills shortage, skill gaps, and occupational/job mismatch. Thus, exploring the current journal and article using an online job advertisement confirmed the new measurement of the skill mismatch issue. Since there is a broad range of data that could be utilized from the job advertisement analysis, future study is recommended to explore more topics such as the analysis of skills demanded by industries and types of new and obsolete occupations that could be useful for the relevant parties in solving the skills mismatching issue in the labor market.

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