

Software Ecosystems: Vendor-Sided Characteristics of Online Marketplaces

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Abstract: For several years, marketplaces exist in the software industry, where customers can, for instance, search for specific services offered by different vendors, review, buy and use these services. The vendor-sided characteristics of these marketplaces are widely discussed but have not yet been investigated in detail.

In this paper, we consider online marketplaces and the participants as part of a Software Ecosystem. First, we derive vendor-sided characteristics of a Software Ecosystem from existing literature and introduce FaDOM – a newly developed software **F**ramework for **A**utomated **D**ata Collection in **O**nline **M**arketplaces. On basis of the collected data, we analyze vendor-sided characteristics of five online marketplaces.