Weighted Citation Aggregate

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Research articles’ authorship confers credit and has important academic, social, and financial implications. After a paper is published, credit is harvested via citations. Currently, authorship order is not taken into account by the bibliometric citation indexes used in citation databases. It means that one gets the same measure of credit for a single or first authored article as for a multi-authored publication in which one is a middle author among other co-authors. This reality is not appropriate and it does matter since (i) it influences scientific performance assessment, which is extremely important at the time of recruitment or allocation of grants, and (ii) it may affect scientific legacy.

A new proposal was provided in 2016 by Abambres and Arab [1] for the computation of the weighted citation aggregate of an author, for all his/her publications. This novel proposal aims to account for (i) the authorship order when determining "individual credit/citations", as well as (ii) the quality/impact of the citing reference of each single citation of any author’s publication.

References