

Review of: "Measuring researchers' success more fairly: going beyond the H-index"

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Potential competing interests: No potential competing interests to declare.

The author has proposed a novel improvement to the calculation of h indices, thereby solving at least one of the problems in the commonly used h index; namely the fact that the index assumes there is no difference in the relative contribution of all authors on a cited paper.

I would have liked to have seen some example real life h index calculations, with the before (current method) and after (the author's new method), for at least 10 academics. Some will go up, and some will go down, but the averages should stay the same.

The real challenge will be the implementation of the author weighting. This would be impossible except for the authors themselves to decide. One can imagine that quite a few students are going to feel ripped off as their supervisors take all the credit and h index weightings.

Possibly a good system would be to ask the authors to categorise each authors input between 1-5 (1 being minor and 5 being major contribution) and provide this data when the paper is submitted. In order

to achieve this in the real world one would have to get Elsevier and Clarivate on board first. That wouldn't be easy.