

Peer Review

Review of: "Sneaked references: Fabricated reference metadata distort citation counts"

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The author of the said review^[1] firstly explains the main point of the article.

This article demonstrates that the Crossref system allows the inclusion of hidden references within the metadata submitted to it, a phenomenon referred to as "sneaked references" by the authors.

The author then explains that the article is easy to read.

The article's writing quality makes for an engaging read, facilitating a clear understanding of the phenomenon, the underlying process causing it, and its broader implications.

Finally, the author adds interesting elements to dig on the topic of the article.

However, readers may rightfully question whether this phenomenon is widespread across other journals, including those from major publishers, or if it remains confined to a small group of authors and this particular niche journal.

It is also important to note that, as of the time of this review (February 17, 2025), most of the sneaked references found by the authors have been removed from Crossref. The authors updated this work to the current state of Crossref in a newly released preprint.

References

1. [^]Jules Di Scala. (2025). Review of: "Sneaked references: Fabricated reference metadata distort citation counts". doi:10.32388/x5944m.

Declarations

Potential competing interests: No potential competing interests to declare.