

Review of: "Strategic Citations in Patents: Analysis Using Machine Learning"

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Potential competing interests: No potential competing interests to declare.

This paper measured the similarity across pairs of patents abstract and used the similarity to represent the knowledge relatedness of patents. This paper also examined the influence of patent technology fields, firm change and inventor mobility on the citation rate by comparing the similarity of patent texts, respectively. In general, this paper indeed made some interesting explorations and contributions for understanding strategic citations.

However, we all know that citation motivation is varying. Similarity or so-called knowledge relatedness is only one kind of citation motivation. Thus, I think that it is not sufficient to distinguish reasonable citation and strategic citation solely by abstract text similarity. It is also not the strong evidence to detect the strategic omissions and the perfunctory citations. In view of this, some conclusions deduced in this paper are limited and arbitrary to some extent.