BG3 - Altmetrics

CERN Workshop on Innovations in Scholarly Communication (OAI8)

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Objectives: from the Breakout Group's Announcement

Possible outcomes:

Recommendations how to improve the acceptance of AltMetrics.

The session will focus on issues as *methodology, data quality, stability* and *reliabilit*y, tbc. …

Of course other determinants may be discussed too…

Determinants: Methodology

"Methodology

is the systematic, theoretical analysis of the methods applied to a field of study, or the theoretical analysis of the body of methods and principles associated with a branch of knowledge."

http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Methodology

Methodology: Relevance for AltMetrics

- What is the theory behind AltMetrics?

- What is the meaning of the scores?

- How do the scores relate to dimensions as quality, relevance, popularity, prominence ….?

Or is it sufficient:

- to collect numbers? … just as Citation Metrics do

- to analyze the data automatically? … in a data driven science approach

Determinants: Data Quality

"Data Quality

- The state of completeness, validity, consistency, timeliness and accuracy that makes data appropriate for a specific use."

http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Data_quality

Data Quality: Relevance for AltMetrics

- How to detect fraud or gaming?
- How to identify and handle human and automated Social Media Mentions / Events (e.g. via twitterfeed)?
- How to identify documents properly (via DOI, URL)?
- How to handle documents that are available under more than one locator (DOI + URL, static HTML-URL + dynamic PHP-generated URL) on a publication platform?
- How to handle documents that are available on more than one publication platform (journal + repositories)?

Determinants: Stability

Stability

Stable "means unchanging, permanent, firmly fixed or established."

http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Stable_(disambiguation)

Data Quality: Stability

- What infrastructure is needed to offer a stable AltMetrics service?
- Who (or what sort of institution/ agent) might/ should offer such services? Publishers, Database Producers (e.g. Thomson Scientific), Academics, Libraries, Infrastructure Organisations ..?
- How to finance such a service?

Determinants

Reliability

"The quality of a measurement indicating the degree to which the measure is consistent, that is, repeated measurements would give the same result."

http://en.wiktionary.org/wiki/reliability

Reliability: Relevance for AltMetrics

- How to keep the data consistent?

- How to assure the data curation?

- Should AltMetrics Services offer the raw data they use in order to allow re-analysis and verification (or falsification) of the scores?

- Should AltMetrics Services store the Social Media / Usage Events (Tweets, Downloads, CiteULike Bookmarks, …) or should they calculate the scores on the fly?

Discussion

What other determinants should be discussed?

http://bit.ly/11p1KVt