



Working Paper

IIMK/WPS/487/ECO/2022/02

February 2022

T-Metric: a New Citation Metric for Time-Dependent Impact Measurement

Anirban Ghatak¹ Sarvani Cheruvu²

¹Assistant Professor, Economics Area, Indian Institute of Management Kozhikode, IIMK Campus PO, Kunnamangalam, Kozhikode, Kerala 673 570, India; Email - aghatak@iimk.ac.in, Phone Number - 0495-2809655

²Indian Institute of Technology Madras

T-Metric: a New Citation Metric for Time-Dependent Impact Measurement

Abstract: In this paper, we come up with a new citation analysis metric that accounts for recency, temporality, and citation count together in scholarly productions. Number of citations of an academic production plays a major role in deciding the popularity of it in the age of digital archiving. The popularity of an article and in turn its citation count also, in a way, paves the way forward for further research in the domain. Although, there has been criticisms about such overemphasis on citation counts, no alternative metric has come up to replace citation count as the primary metric of relevance for scholarly articles. In this paper, we argue against using citation count as the most important measure of relevance of scholarly articles because citation count entirely overlooks the temporal nature of the citations. As scholarly articles differ in their impact over time, we argue that the idea of timedependent impact should be taken into consideration in order to 'rank' the scholarly productions in terms of their impact. Hence, we propose T-metric as an alternative to the current practice of using citation count to measure the impact of academic articles/books/essays.

Keywords: Citation metric; Temporal impact; Bibliometrics

Research Office Indian Institute of Management Kozhikode IIMK Campus P. O., Kozhikode, Kerala, India, PIN - 673 570 Phone: +91-495-2809237/ 238 Email: research@iimk.ac.in Web: https://iimk.ac.in/faculty/publicationmenu.php

