

HIGH INTEGRATION OF RESEARCH MONOGRAPHS IN THE EUROPEAN OPEN SCIENCE INFRASTRUCTURE

Deliverable D6.3

Minutes of the workshop on new book metrics

Grant Agreement number	: 731102
Project acronym	: HIRMEOS
Project title	: High Integration of Research Monographs in the European Open Science infrastructure
Funding Scheme	: EINFRA-22-2016
Project's coordinator Organization	: CLEO-CNRS
E-mail address	: pierre.mounier@openedition.org
Website	: http://www.hirmeos.eu
WP and tasks contributing	: WP6
WP leader	: Ubiquity Press
Dissemination level	: PU
Due date	: 30/11/2018
Delivery date	: 15/11/2018



The project has received funding from European Union's Horizon 2020 research and innovation programme under grant agreement 731102

Contents

Introduction	2
Minutes	3
Hirneos project	3
Annotations in the Hirneos metrics service - Tom Mowlam - Ubiquity Press	3
The Hirneos metrics service - Javier Arias - Open Book Publishers	6
Metrics and national evaluation cultures	9
Metrics and research evaluation - Didier Torny, CNRS	9
A European panorama of SSH evaluation: an ENRESSH approach - Ioana Galleron, ENRESSH	11
Metrics and national evaluation cultures - Dr Gernot Deinzer, University Library of Regensburg	14
Evaluation, the Italian way - Elena Giglia, University of Torino	16
The impact of metrics on scholarly publishers, research organisations and libraries	17
Usage metrics & Usage concerns - Rupert Gatti, Open Book Publishers	17
The impact of metrics on scholarly publishers, research organisations and libraries - Tom Mowlam	20
Interrelations between evaluation and metrics - Tina Rudersdorf - Max Weber Foundation	21
The Impact of Metrics in Scholarly Libraries - Charles Wilkinson - University of Michigan Library	23
Discussion/Conclusion	24



I. Introduction

On January the 11th of 2019, the Hirmeos workshop dedicated to Metrics and altmetrics for Open Monographs took place in Paris in INRIA¹.

While this deliverable was originally planned to deliver the minutes of a workshop to identify new sources of book metrics, the actual workshop focused more on the different practices related to the metrics of publications.

The first part of this workshop was dedicated to presenting the implementation on the digital platforms involved in the HIRMEOS project and the technical challenges that were involved. Afterwards, scholars in the social sciences and humanities, digital platform providers, members of funding institutions and librarians discuss through various presentations in which way metrics tools can contribute to an informed decision-making in research evaluation, publishing, and library management.

Program included:

Introduction

Annotations in the HIRMEOS metrics service - *Rowan Hatherley and Tom Mowlam, Ubiquity Press*

The HIRMEOS metrics service - *Javier Arias, Open Book Publishers*

Metrics and national evaluation cultures

Metrics and research evaluation - *Didier Torny, French National Centre for Scientific Research*

A european panorama of SSH evaluation: an ENRESSH approach - *Ioana Galleron, Université Sorbonne Nouvelle*

Metrics and national evaluation cultures - *Gernot Deinzer, University Library of Regensburg*
Evaluation, the Italian way - *Elena Giglia, Università degli Studi di Torino*

The impact of metrics on scholarly publishers, research organisations and libraries

Usage metrics & usage concerns - *Rupert Gatti, Open Book Publishers*

The impact of metrics on scholarly publishers, research organisations and libraries - *Tom Mowlam, Ubiquity Press*

Interrelations between evaluation and metrics - *Tina Rudersdorf, Max Weber Foundation*

The impact of Metrics on Scholarly Libraries - *Charles Watkinson, University of Michigan Library*

¹Program and registration page:

<https://www.hirmeos.eu/2018/11/05/hirmeos-workshops-on-annotation-and-metrics-for-oa-monographs-10-11jan-2019-paris/>



II. Minutes

Hirmeos project

Hirmeos project is now entering in the last phase of the different planned implementations, which implies a focus on usage and the adoption of the community on the services implemented. The last part of the project includes the development of a common metric service for the five platforms beneficiaries of the project. The project is not a stand alone, part of a larger initiative developing a pan european research infrastructure Operas.

Annotations in the Hirmeos metrics service - Tom Mowlam - Ubiquity Press

The annotation tool we are integrated with is Hypothes.is².

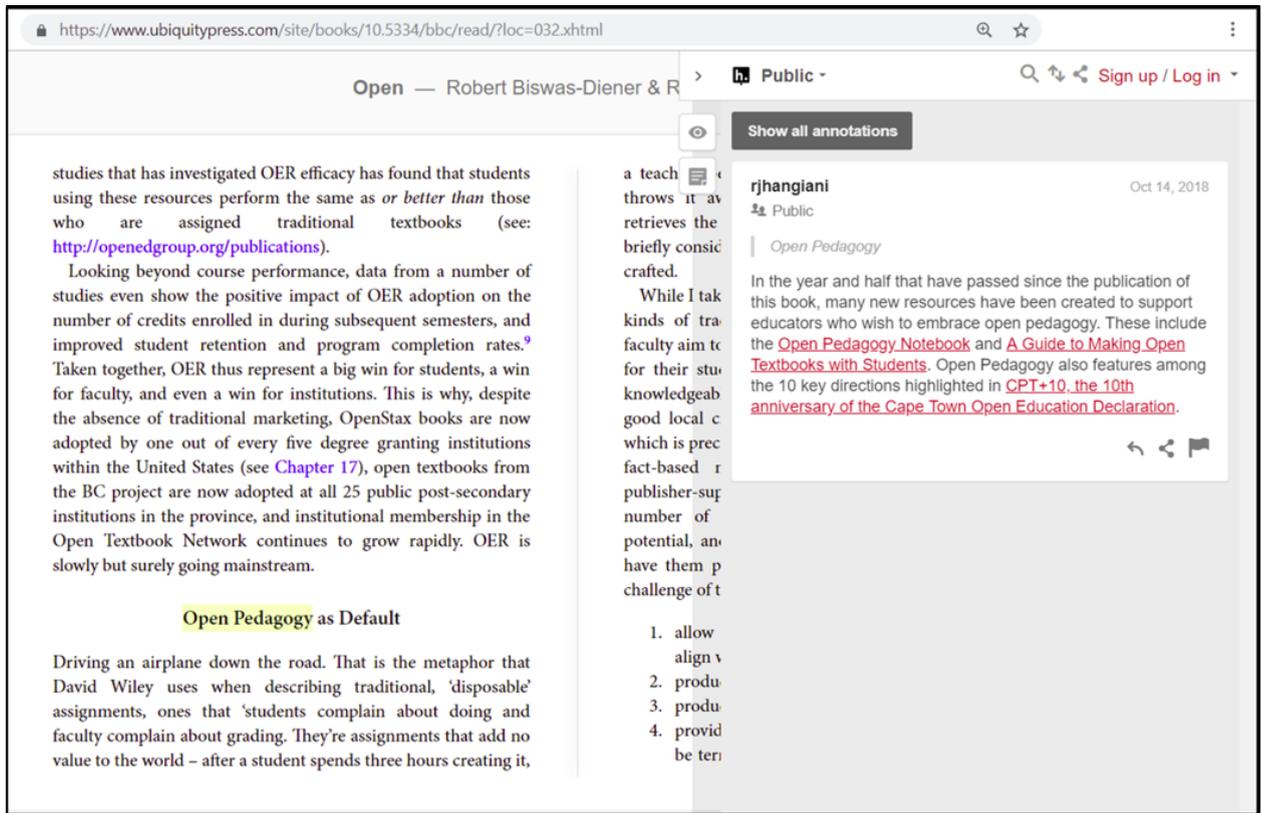
This can be added by the publisher/platform to their web page using a simple piece of javascript so any user can annotate their pages, or by a user to their browser with a plugin so they can annotate any web page.

The annotator can choose to make their annotations public, or just keep them private - but we are only concerned with public annotations for HIRMEOS.

Here this is an annotation of a particular part of the text, where the author has added information about additional resources that became available since the book was published. Annotations are stored at Hypothes.is and made available via the plugin.

² <https://web.hypothes.is/>





studies that has investigated OER efficacy has found that students using these resources perform the same as *or better than* those who are assigned traditional textbooks (see: <http://openedgroup.org/publications>).

Looking beyond course performance, data from a number of studies even show the positive impact of OER adoption on the number of credits enrolled in during subsequent semesters, and improved student retention and program completion rates.⁹ Taken together, OER thus represent a big win for students, a win for faculty, and even a win for institutions. This is why, despite the absence of traditional marketing, OpenStax books are now adopted by one out of every five degree granting institutions within the United States (see [Chapter 17](#)), open textbooks from the BC project are now adopted at all 25 public post-secondary institutions in the province, and institutional membership in the Open Textbook Network continues to grow rapidly. OER is slowly but surely going mainstream.

Open Pedagogy as Default

Driving an airplane down the road. That is the metaphor that David Wiley uses when describing traditional, 'disposable' assignments, ones that 'students complain about doing and faculty complain about grading. They're assignments that add no value to the world – after a student spends three hours creating it,

a teacher throws it away and retrieves the briefly considered.

While I take kinds of faculty aim to for their student knowledge good local context which is preface-based or publisher-supplied number of potential, and have them present challenge of t

1. allow align v
2. produ
3. produ
4. provid be ter

Figure 1: Hypothes.is annotation on EPUB

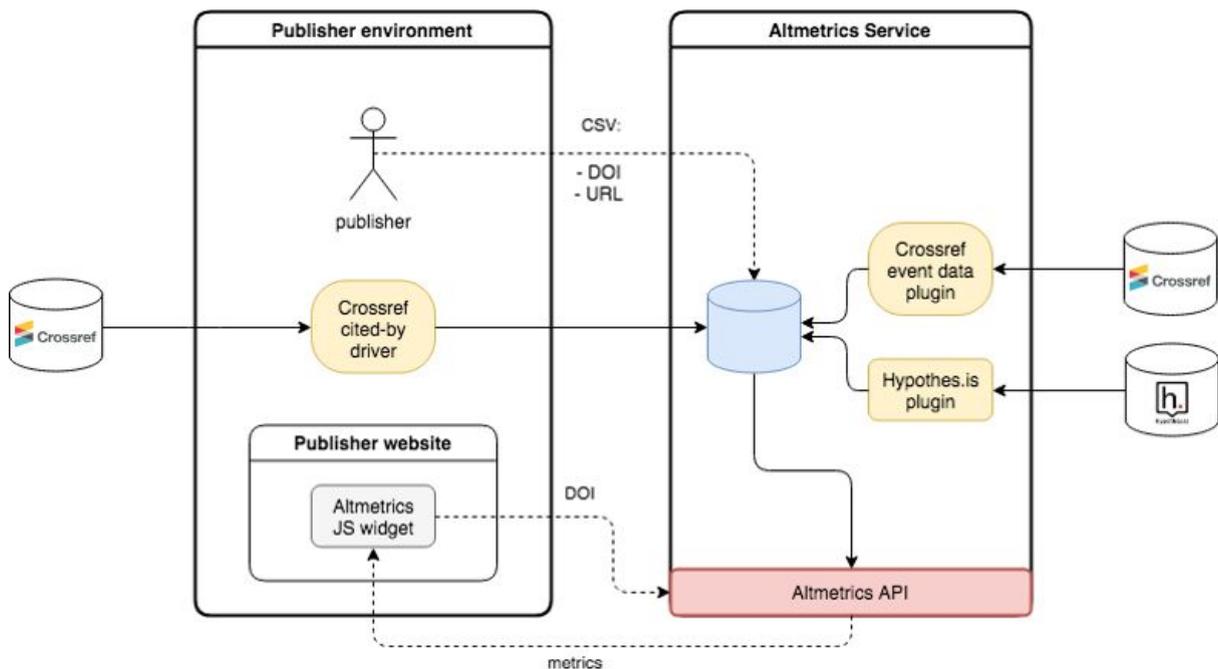


Figure 2: Annotation flow diagram

There are 2 environments - each querying different services:

- Publisher environment - display of the work, where the annotations happen, and queries **closed data sources**
- Altmetrics service - queries **open data sources**, aggregates metrics from different sources

HIRMEOS service is providing:

Closed data querying software to run on Publisher environment

Altmetrics display widget to run on Publisher environment

Service to query the open data sources

Aggregated metrics database

API to be queried for metrics

Workflow

- Publisher depositing DOIs and URLs
- Altmetrics service lookups: Crossref (DOIs) and Hypothes.is (URLs)
- Altmetrics service deduplicates the results of each
- Publisher service lookups closed data eg: Crossref cited-by, pushes data to Altmetrics service
- User goes to the page on the publisher environment
- Publisher platform JS sends DOI to Altmetrics API
- Altmetrics API returns the metrics
- Altmetrics JS widget on Publisher platform displays/graphs the metrics
 - Total number of annotations
 - Annotations over time

There are lots of other open and closed data sources that are being queried via this system, some of which Javier will discuss, architecture where it is possible to add more closed or open data sources - but for example open ones like:

Wikipedia - references

Twitter - mentions

Wordpress - mentions

The Hirmeos metrics service - Javier Arias - Open Book Publishers

Why collecting metrics?

Authors want to know if others find their research useful

Publishers want to know if their books are read.

Hirneios project tries to make it easier for them to collect metrics.

Main intricacies in metrics collection for monographs

Localisation: dissemination across multiple platforms

Identification: each platform use a different ID. Each platform uses different identifiers. For a machine, difficult to comprehend.

Usage: each platform measures different things. Numbers are not quite the same. Do we need a unique representation of usages? We want to gather data regardless

Format (how we collect): data is inconsistently reported back to authors/publishers.

OAMetrics service : what does it (and doesn't) solve?

No localisation: we need to know which platform we want to collect metrics from

Identification: identifier translation service

No Usage

Format: Drivers

OA Metrics Service: Drivers

How do we collect data? Drivers = scripts, their tasks is to get metrics and normalise it. There are independent modules (one per platform metrics are collected from).

They collect metrics and submit them to the metrics database via API.

They can be used by:

- Publishers to submit data from a third party platform hosting their books
- Platforms to submit data from their own system

Drivers use Identifier translation service for URI resolution.

drivers get the data = API to give the DOI of this ISBN or this title.

OA Metrics Service: Identifier Translation Service

Runs locally, within the publisher/platform environment

It translates book URI's to a preferred scheme (e.g DOI).

It uses a database of book metadata from:

- publisher/platform
- Crossref

It can be integrated into an existing system (e.g OMP) via API, or it can be controlled using a web-based interface.



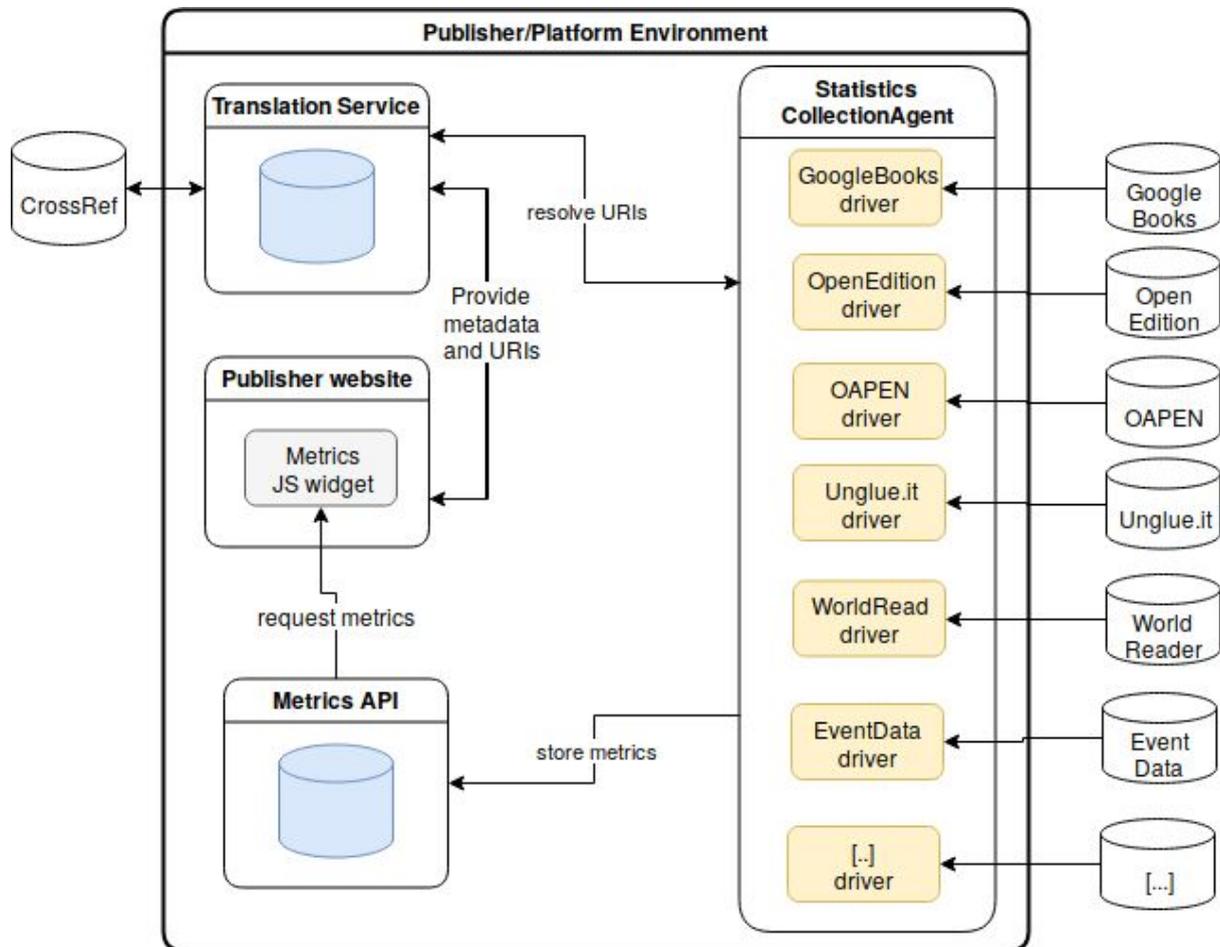


Figure 3: OA Metrics Workflow

Independant drivers → solved by the its, normalise the data → web widget which displays the data

Open standard

Book ID (URI)

Country (nullable)

Timestamp

Measure

- Platform (e.g Google Books, OpenEdition, OBP HTML Reader)
- Type (e.g Session, Download, Page View, Sale)
- Namespace (e.g metrcs.operas-eu.org)
- Version (V1, V2)

Possibility to use any identifier



Operas Metrics portal

Central place for people getting more information about the metrics

Description of the measures (source, type, version). ⇒ versioning system describing each of the measures.

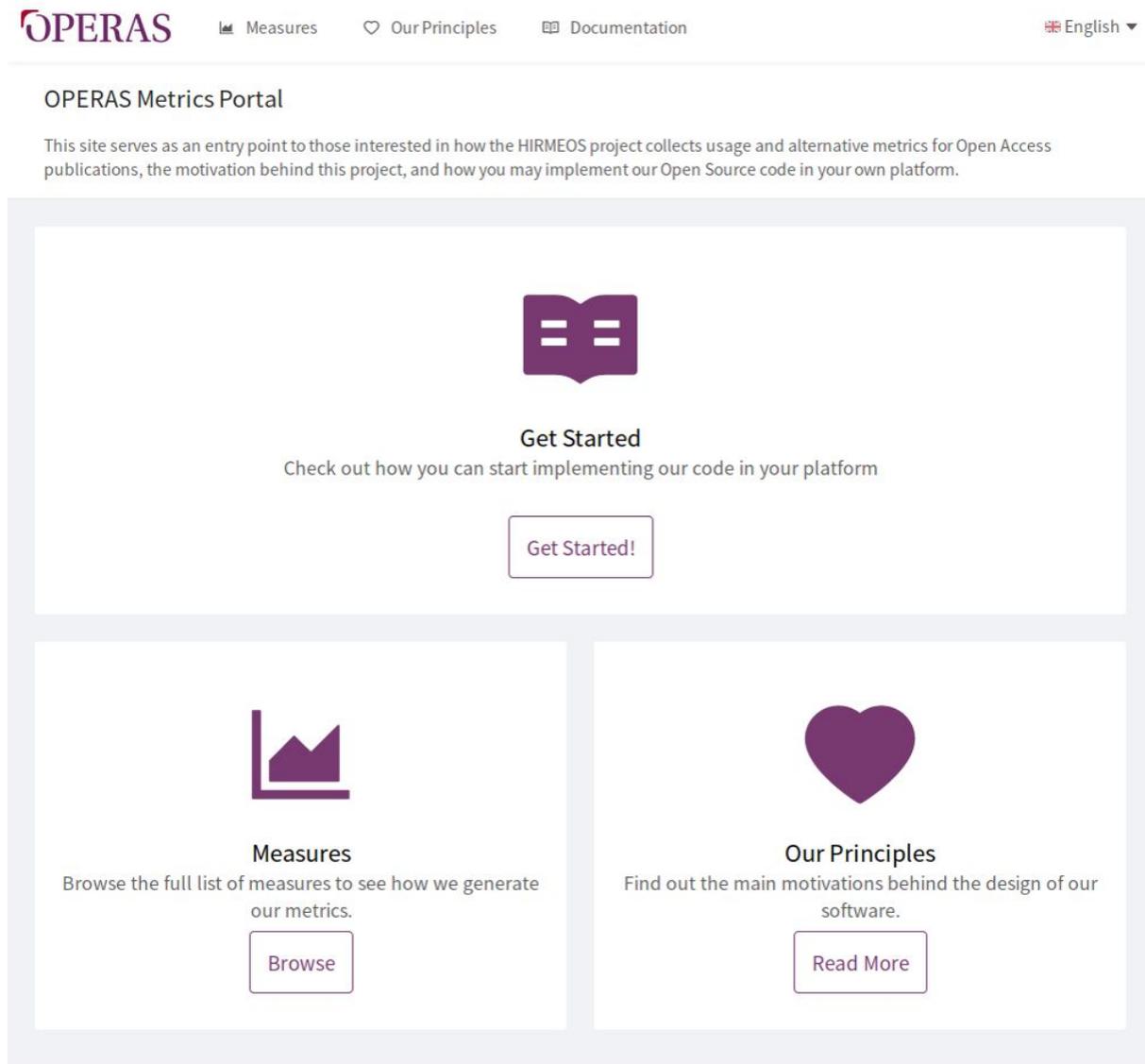


Figure 4: Operas Metrics Portal

Information about implementation:

<https://github.com/hirmeos/metrics.operas-eu.org>



Questions

Laurent Romary: which feedback do you have? For example there can be a lack of granularity between two countries. Is there a way to get something more fine grained which could help to analyse the data more clearly?

Javier Arias: we developed the drivers for this, to report back to the institutions. We would have the information if we wanted.

Is there a link between your format and counter?

Counter = mechanism to store data within the logs

We could define one of these measures saying we use a counter for tel ou tel data.

Pierre Mounier: question about the timestamp \Rightarrow Do we have information about it? How do we define the timestamps?

Javier Arias: When querying the database, you put a range: between November and January, and you get a result. the timestamp corresponds to the date of the query, and the result depends of when it happened.

Metrics and national evaluation cultures

Metrics and research evaluation - Didier Torny, CNRS

What are exactly bibliometrics?

Bibliometrics are two separate things: there are algorithms, and databases. Bibliometric tools are the mix of a database and an algorithm. So we can count 3 configurations.

History and examples

Evaluative bibliometrics appeared in the 1960's, with the Journal Impact Factor created by Eugène Garfield in 1963 conceived for the Institute for Scientific Information, the publication "Networks of Scientific Papers" by Derek J. de Solla Price, which led to the creation of the Social Science Citation Index in 1972, and the publication "Evaluative bibliometrics: The Use of Publication and Citation Analysis in the Evaluation of Scientific Activity" by Francis Narin published in 1976.



Journal Impact Factor (1963) is an algorithm.

Science Citation Index (1964) and Social Science Citation Index (1972) are databases.

In 1975, Journal Citation Reports corresponded to the Science Citation Index printed. it was an annex to the database with the column C including the total citations by journals and the column D the Journal Impact factor. I was one of the first bibliometrics tools.

Nex algorithms appeared in the 1970's, for example the Influence weight in 1975.

First critics of evaluative bibliometrics appeared at the end of the 1980's.

By the end of the 1990's, these indicators were very important, in particular in biology.

New initiatives appeared by the beginning of the 00's:

ISI-Web of Science in 1998: Database

Scopus Elsevier in 2005: Database

Google Scholar in 2005: Database

h index in 2005: algorithm

Publish or Perish in 2006: bibliometric tool

SCImago journal ranking in 2007: bibliometric tool

eigen factor in 2007: bibliometric tool

The PLOS model

The PLOS model counts different metrics on different databases: downloads, views, citations, hyperlinks. They can be considered as the first category (algorithm), gathered in the PLOS database to calculate the total impact

Are there national cultures?

Metrics are not the only object : there are also journal rankings

Collection of the rankings

Economics can explain cultures of journal rankings

RePec = use of any ranking methods

Local practices

AERES (Agence d'évaluation de la recherche et de l'enseignement supérieur) in France created three categories:

- active research
- productive researcher
- publishing researcher = publishing/non-publishing

Are considered as a "publishing" researcher or teacher-researcher those who, in a 4-year contract, signed a minimal number of "publications". This number has to be weighed, taking into account their work context, career path and implication in collective responsibilities.

This process led labs to develop incentives to publish:

- publication workshops



- bonus per team
- transform the member of a lab into an associated member

Bibliography

Pontille D., Torny D., 2010, "The Controversial Policies of Journal Ratings: Evaluating Social Sciences and Humanities", *Research Evaluation*, vol. 19, n° 5, pp.347-36

Pontille D., Torny D., 2012, "Rendre publique l'évaluation des SHS : les controverses sur les listes de revues de l'AERES", *Quaderni*, n° 77, pp. 11-24

Pontille D., Torny D., 2013, "La manufacture de l'évaluation scientifique : algorithmes, jeux de données, outils bibliométriques", *Réseaux*, n° 177, pp. 25-61

Pontille D., Torny D., 2017, "Infrastructures de données bibliométriques et marché de l'évaluation scientifique", in Pierre-Michel Menger, Simon Paye (dir.), *Big data et traçabilité numérique. Les sciences sociales face à la quantification massive des individus*, Collège de France/Open Edition Books, pp. 105-120

Questions

Laurent Romary: Communication departments in each institution doing these kinds of statement. There are two ways to fight metrics : replace it with other metrics, or show the competition of metrics to develop negotiations and discussions

Geoffrey Williams Enriss: hard to improve the situation in UK and Scandinavian countries
What is the alternative?

Didier Torny: national evaluation is the scheme caused for the need for metrics
In US, evaluation depends on the disciplines, see Michele Lamont books

A european panorama of SSH evaluation: an ENRESSH approach - Ioana Galleron, ENRESSH

ENRESSH is a COST action.

COST "is an EU-funded program that enables researchers to set up their interdisciplinary research networks in Europe and beyond".

ENRESSH helps enabling researchers to set up their interdisciplinary research networks in Europe. For this workshop she presented a diagnosis of systems and practices in SSH evaluation in Europe.

This diagnosis was built on the basis of data gathered in working groups:



- list of institutions, associations, bodies involved or interested in SSH research evaluation
- detailed description of how research evaluation is organised at the national level (“country reports”)
- survey about european databases and repositories for SSH research output
- more than 50 case studies of impact

Presentation of the results based on different maps of Europe
Some observations from the country reports:

Evaluation systems

National evaluation systems in some countries (France, Spain, Portugal, Italy, Czech Republic, Slovakia, Romania, Bulgaria, Serbia, Croatia, Slovenia, Denmark, Norway)
other organised at other levels (in Landers in Germany)
Undecided = Ireland, Hungary : they don’t agree on their own system

Metrics

Metrics used in the Eastern Europe countries
Peer review in the western countries
Undecided: Ireland and Portugal

National databases

Not a lot in the eastern countries
Records must be related to existing outputs
Data has to be reliable, documented, we must know about the method for gathering the data
the database must be based on a legal framework
split between Eastern countries and western countries
23 national databases identified.

Content of the databases

Journal articles covered everywhere
books only on 19 out of 23 databases

emerged part of the iceberg :

No real room for digital projects, for the new means of communicating research, encyclopedia

Uses of the databases



in most cases they are used for evaluation and funding allocation

19 out 23 are used for this

Other uses:

bibliographic reporting

research and monitoring

access to information

Links between evaluation and funding

blue = no link between performance and funding, but for example in France: evaluation is used for funding

green = performance based funding

Is the evaluation in SSH specific?

On the basis of those results, we found out 5 types of systems:

- Performance based funding
- Non-Performance based funding
- Metric, push for English
- Non-metric, ssh-specific
- No database, non-ssh adaptation

What about impact?

systems and methods are ill adapted to evaluating the societal benefits of research:

what units of evaluation?

what scales of measurement?

expectations of outcomes?

impact vs scientific quality?

Usually, standard set of measures of research impact:

patents/patent income

licence income

contract research income

commercial income

spin-off company

More recently, altmetrics are seen as a solution for capturing impact.

But there is a risk of “data foam” (Penny C.S. Andrews)

SSH pathway to societal impact

usually Research, Outputs outside academy, Uptake amongst users then wider social progress

Alternative models: dissemination, cocreation, reacting to societal change, driving societal change



ENRESSH recommendations

guidelines for SSH RE evaluation: http://enressh.eu/wp-content/uploads/2017/09/Guidelines_SSH_final.pdf

Questions

Charles watkinson: CRIS system in the US, there is a growing concern of the underrepresentation of SSH, there is a growing interest in reexamining what should be measured in terms of values for the humanities: go back to basics : what are the basic values we could invent. Is there any step back to understand what should be measured?

Michael Ochsner: interviews, surveys trying to understand the notion of quality among the ssh scholars. He showed: traditional ways which are good and bad
new ways of doing good or bad.

footwork → it has to be bottom-up
need for a time for analysing

Metrics and national evaluation cultures - Dr Gernot Deinzer, University Library of Regensburg

Evaluation culture of SSH in Germany at the institutional level

Curriculum of a scholar

If someone is evaluated, he is getting 3 points:

awards

by winning an award, a researcher has already a positive evaluation

publications

quantity and quality? what is more important? how to measure it?

what is the best publication strategy for a scholar to publish in humanities?

2 kinds of publications:

- authorship: important to write monographs (due to the humanities), you have to have written 2 monographs to apply for a position in university;
- articles are gaining more and more importance. In some specific topics, example philosophy are getting importance.

book reviews

conference contributions

translations

other publications



editorial activities

How can we measure?

Metrics

metrics used in different subjects in other ways

economics: journal lists

psychology: like in life science : publication of the article in english language

In other subjects, there are not metrics used. Why? Which database can't be used to generate metrics?

Problem of language: a lot of research in Germany is published in German language

Most databases haven't include German language, monographs, subject areas.

Other problem is the Reporting period: 2 years is a short period in Humanities

Social sciences in the humanities?

The coverage in Web of Science and SCOPUS. In Germany, coverage of web of science: psychology best represented.

databases licensed by libraries?

Wos core collection in majority, not as much WoS social Science citation index

Monographs: printed copy is the most important medium

How visible is the monograph? bookmarket is important for literature.

Electronic version is nice to have, but no obligation. It remains a high interest in some disciplines: ex: linguistics

Electronic copy makes work easier:

copy and paste

search inside

check citations

Funding is becoming more and more important.

German Research Foundation: you have to submit 10 relevant publications for applying for a project

Open Access: if the database is Open, how about publication?

Networking

Classical: workshops, conference



Virtual: Twitter, Facebook, blogs
Academia → to be seen in the community

Alternative metrics

Metrics downloads is not a evaluation tool: one don't know what it includes: read or just click? on purpose or just accidentally? whole book or chapter? all copies included?
But it is getting a feeling how much your work is used.

Social networks
recommendations/advertising
discussion of papers, start a discourse

Link to post
→ knowledge who reads your publication
→ get in contact
Growth of personal network
→ possible future reviewers

Evaluation, the Italian way - Elena Giglia, University of Torino

Italian obsession with evaluation: creation of the ANVUR (Italian Agency for the evaluation of universities and research institutes) in 2012. It has become pervasive. Now the main objective of any researcher in Italy is to adapt to the criteria. For example the use of OJS platform in University of Turin decreased: now the question is how to publish a A tier journal

ANVUR was nominated by the government.

The reviewers were nominated by the agency. The process of nomination was closed and secret: no public access to data, use of commercial database (WoS, PLOS: all universities must comply), no reproducibility of the research assessment.

Goodhart Law: "when a measure becomes a target, it ceases to be a good measure"

ANVUR world

VQR: national research assessment exercise
bibliometric sectors: impact factor and citations
non-bibliometric: informed peer review
originality
methodological rigor
attested or potential impact



To become professor: they count your publications “national median”, arguments because no national databases in Italy. Huge argument on how this argument was threatened.

All non bibliometrics outputs go to peer review: Tier A journals, Scientific Journals.

Tier A ranking: any discipline has its own list

When you come to the national qualification, the list may be different

To remain Tier A, ANVUR request reviewers reports. As soon as the national agency came on the game, everybody was doing peer review. All non bibliometrics outputs go to peer review.

ASN: national scientific qualification to tenure

national scientific qualification. You need to reach a threshold value: we don't know the calculation

ANVUR is hostile to open access

1st question to apply: is it open access gold, or “green open access journal” → this proof their lack of knowledge of open access: this doesn't exist. Moreover, what's the point to assess diffusion to assess quality of content?

ANVUR criteria led to hypercompetitions

Since 2012, self-citation dropped by 80%

money shifting to the North of Italy

Researchers were interviewed after the first evaluation : tendance to over publishing:

a book counts as an article in A. Textbooks are not suitable : Pisa University Press don't publish it anymore

Conclusion:

Since 2012 (1st national assessment), books publication is decreasing

The metric tide

concept of responsible metrics

peer review is still the only true method to evaluated

inappropriate indicators create perverse incentives

Metrics : cannot replace judgement

they can help in judging, they can't replace the judgement

Comments

Movement of the 1990's in Italy to push for standardised metrics to be on the international stage



The impact of metrics on scholarly publishers, research organisations and libraries

Usage metrics & Usage concerns - Rupert Gatti, Open Book Publishers

We have to be responsible in identifying the flows. If we are going to generate a metric, we have to make the community understand what it is.

At OBP, use to demonstrate for the authors:

- the high level of engagement with their content
- the geographic reach of their public content
- differences in engagement popularity by format
- engagement with publications over time
- university usage for reports to libraries

example: Ethics for A-Level

viewed 23249 times → details button : more details about that. How many times people have hit this button? Are they interested in this? Or not? It is important to know.

meaning of the numbers?

Online readership by month

Visitors by country → more visitors from US than UK. Interesting information.

Oral literature in Africa

173428 times (biggest view on the website)

online readership: more engagement now than when it was published → this is interesting
different formats = different audiences?

More readers on OpenEdition ⇒ What are the dynamics of engagement?

Users by continent: 61.19% from Africa. → for a book about Africa, this is a great result

Library usage reports

library membership scheme: libraries want COUNTER compliant reports

we need to aggregate usage figures across types → “I don’t know what this number i am giving them”



OBP only has data for usage on the OBP site so “missing” usage data from titles hosted on all other sites.

DANGER: numbers give a false sense of accuracy

just defining a usage/download is download

huge number of bots, which are screened out of the statistics

defining a “use” → what is a use? what is a session? what if somebody clicks the download button twice? what should I be counting?

3 different ways of measuring usage on our website: Google Analytics, MATOMO and COUNTER

GA vs COUNTER : 25% difference on the numbers

downloads vs online readers?

Can I just add them together?

Some sites allow to do either, you can browse before downloading (OBP)

Some sites allow downloads so you need to download to see anything (OAPEN)

How different are uses and users?

Volume vs Chapter data: how do you combine these types of data?

“Handle with Care: pitfalls in analysing book usage data”

rupertgatti.wordpress.com

DOI landing page:

URL goes to the homepage of the book bookpage as the reference url for our titles

If they click on a citation, we get a download.

We are missing lots of data. How much? we don't know.

Gaming the stats

relink DOI urls

Redefine session lengths

Discourage posting/sharing of content with no usage data

be less rigorous in cleaning bots create bots to inflate usage data

Social media is even worse: majority of tweets about OBP books do not include url to a bookpage. Jordan B Peterson tweet: tweet is wrong. but generated a lot of traffic.

Getting content promoted will change research strategy a lot, but can lead to the road of fake news.



We have to combine metrics with a strength of critics. We need the community to engage with those questions: what do we learn, what we don't learn. So we need to take these questions seriously.

Questions

Do you have some metrics that you hide/keep for yourselves, you are afraid to make them public?

We get downloaded from JSTOR - chapter level. I don't know what to do with that. Huge number, but which doesn't make sense.

Some authors hit the metrics button a lot. What people have used is the engagement being done because of open access of their publication.

The impact of metrics on scholarly publishers, research organisations and libraries - Tom Mowlam

Ubiquity Press is a an open access publisher of books and journals, across all disciplines author is the customer; different authors want different things

UP is a new publisher, in a context where metrics exist across a big range of publishers, sizes and territories.

Several remarks:

There is a diversity of metrics representing a diversity of content, which is a good. But context is important when interpreting metrics. For example aggregating in a single number is not a good way of presenting metrics. We can also note the culture of chasing metrics rather than focusing on the quality. Representing metrics takes a long reflexion. In the case of Ubiquity Press, we would like to understand more what the community wants, and how/which metrics can support that.

In the case of Ubiquity Press, we are in a position of being a new actor. For example, some of the traditional kinds metrics, like Impact Factor SCOPUS, take a long time to exist. Metrics should be the start of the conversation



Interrelations between evaluation and metrics - Tina Rudersdorf - Max Weber Foundation

Max Weber Foundation is an agency supporting German research abroad. It finances 10 autonomous institutes. It aims to promote research and mutual comprehension between Germany and other countries

From 2012, the Foundation was named after Max Weber for his name easy to pronounce, his coverage of all the disciplines and his celebrity in the Research world.

Are metrics used to evaluate in the Max Weber Foundation?

Quality Assessment

Transparent evaluation processes. Principles and regulations on MWF website, based on Leibniz Gmemainschaft/ Wissenschaftsrat³.

The evaluation reports focus on different aspects:

- structure and positioning, overall concept and profile
- work results(research and publication achievement, special results, publication concept, additional research-based work results)
- international forum functionality
- adequacy of the facilities
- staff
- promotion of young talents
- cooperation and networking

Quantitative and qualitative indicators

- number of publication per type of publication and year
- publication strategy regarding open access
- list of the 10 best publications for the past 7 years
- list of publication per research focus or department

Types of publication

- monographs
- edited volumes
- individual contributions in collective works
- institute series (individual volumes)

³ <https://www.wissenschaftsrat.de/en/fields-of-activity/evaluation.html>



- individual contributions in institute series
- lectures as single publications
- articles in peer-reviewed journals
- articles in other journals
- research reports, conference reports, miscellaneous, reviews
- working papers

Questions studied in evaluation process: are the research results of the institute theoretically and methodologically sound? Is the publication concept convincing? How should the indicators of work performance be assessed?

The number of publications is depending on the publication culture of the disciplines.

Currently, there is a tendency towards the less is more. This widespread effect comes from the professional Society of Historians which has a great influence. They keep putting themselves against the use of metrics in evaluation.

There is a tendency toward peer-reviewed journals although there is no consensus on what a peer journal is.

→ special journal issues: publishing conference proceedings.

→ monographs published in international houses

Quality assessment in the MWS

Assessment of individual publications

Close reading

Quality and quantity of reviews

No database on the reviews

Open access

not discussed in the context of metrics

only discussed in terms of publication strategy

metrics that are used: access numbers or downloads are part of the required information regarding electronic resources

Conclusion

Strong bias in German humanities against the use of metrics in research assessment

alt metrics are not regarded as an alternative

publication strategy is still not always discussed in detail with younger researchers

drawbacks with the german university system

Questions

Do we have metrics to assess reviews?



in Germany, humanities journal have their own interpretation of what peer-review is. When you are young scholar, it is difficult to know which journal choose.

Young researchers are driven toward international journals, but nobody's trying to know what would be peer-review standards in Germany

This feeling that they know where the good research is.

Didier Torny: Whatever the country, whatever the discipline, nobody has standard historically, standards appeared at the end of the 70's : it went through the publishers, then the platforms (OJS).

The Impact of Metrics in Scholarly Libraries - Charles Wilkinson - University of Michigan Library

What does a librarian persona for consuming OA ebook information look like?

This persona has multiple roles.

- **Support discovery**

cataloguing OAbooks

cataloguing into UCLC

- **Coordinating funding support**

TOME: pilot program 14 supporting institutions : pilot programs, 50000 dollars to their faculty for publishing in open access.

- **Publish open access titles** (on open infrastructure)

15% of the books published

8000 of the books

Open Syllabi project: where you can get other authors on it

Who makes collection decisions in the library?

Very strategic: libraries are the main funders of Open Access

Libraries are composed of different actors:

- collection coordinators
- subject specialists

Use of metrics, but not very though



Use of OASIS ProQuest⁴

How do they make decisions?

Quality

measured in ways aligned with the discipline

Relevance

Focused on importance for the university community

Cost

cost per use takes into account full costs of acquisition

www.prtstandards.org

Communicate local relevance:

Reduce costs of discovery

Discussion/Conclusion

- tension between talking metrics and implementing them
say in other words: how to implement DORA?

- how to change practices and cultures?
- matter of informing about metrics

- What is a good corpus of information?

Hirneos elementary chunks

Ioana's databases

journal databases

Data trusts

- Is there a place for non mainstream publications?

books! textbooks, citizen science etc. + other impacts

- The invisible

peer reviews - do we have metrics to assess them?

pedagogical advice = reluctance to talk about those subjects, but young researchers need those information

→ that could be one of the duties of an infrastructure

⁴ <https://www.proquest.com/products-services/OASIS.html> : "OASIS (Online Acquisitions and Selection Information System) is ProQuest's freeweb-based system for searching, selecting, and ordering print and electronic books for academic libraries."



Pierre Mounier: regarding other objects than books and articles, Hirmeos system could be based on other objects (use of DOIs)

use beyond the book or inside the book (chapter...other Digital object)

relationship between simplicity and complexity:

discussion can be complex when you go into details about metrics.

How can we manage this tension of people wanting to use it in a simple way, and make them understand what is behind the numbers, to prevent them as much as possible to misuse those numbers

I think Charles approach to “persona” can be very useful. Usually this discussion is complex because we want the whole landscape, if we analyse it with the “persona” scope, it is easier: in this perspective, the reader is the most important actor.

Heather Staines: question goes with the career perspective. We shouldn't lose track of the early career threads.

Didier Torny: One company completely understood what Pierre said: PLOS. Donut + Number. Then you can open everything, then you have channels, then details.

They actually made a form which can be criticised for being too simplistic, and at the same time very usable. But question is “who is going to push the button?”

question is how do you do much in categorising audiences?

Pierre Mounier: in Hirmeos last validation workshop, we decided not to choose the donut, because the aggregation (number) is a false aggregation. and certain users will never go beyond the donut and will keep with it.

We said : we will have a button, which can deploy all the different indicators. do we need a number inside of the button? The number will be the number of indicators in the bottom.

At least, this illustrates the kind of difficulties we have with these questions.

Collectively, we haven't solve the problem yet; we want a sensible use of the metrics from the researchers, for that they need to go into the complexity of it, so education is a way.

Didier Torny: so you have to define users. Are you sure you want to make it public in the sense of giving numbers?

Eelco Ferwerda: these numbers generate interest, for author and readers. It supports the notion of free availability and distribution. We want to do this in a responsible way, and we will fail.

Rupert Gatti: having the numbers that we have, well described, whatever we do is a stab. As long as the data in the database is well described and open, this is the point. Critical thing : getting the truth of what is being collected. Openness is critical.

You don't people to be focusing on a single representation.



Erzebet Tóth-Czifra: DOIs strategical aspect is forget.

Rupert Gatti: In Hirmeos we allow any DOI to enter the database

Pierre Mounier: I understand the potential danger of relying on one system of identifier. We have to remain pragmatic, we have to balance between the cost of managing different identifier systems. I think it is easier to work collectively on Crossref, to ensure the small players can use DOIs.

I would rather work on the system to manage to make it all inclusive.

Heather Staines : larger metadata problem in general. As more and more of the content we browse is not from publishers, it is not their strengths (museums)

There is a point about working with the existing standards, use them better, but on the other side, to make the supply chain partners to make them ready to welcome it.

Eelco Ferwerda: the real role from the infrastructures to help the publishers to improve their metadata.