Exercise 06 -- Citation Analysis

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Citation analysis is when a researcher counts the number of times an article has been cited in other articles. The number of times an article is cited gives an idea of how important an article is in a field. If it is being cited frequently, then it is either being discussed or criticized a lot (University Library).

A librarian or researcher can carry out citation analysis with the use of a tool called a citation index. “Citation indexes allow the user to locate items based on… the links created when authors cite earlier works by other authors (or even some of their own previously published works). The primary use of a citation index is to find, for a particular publication known to the searcher, later items that have cited it” (Smith, 2011, p.625). This tool provides a listing of where articles and works have been cited by other authors. “An exhaustive search for cited references requires searching more than one resource” (Smith, 2011, p. 625).

An example of a citation index is Web of Science, which is produced by Thomson Reuters. “Originally there were three citation indexes: the Science Citation Index (1900-present), the Social Sciences Citation Index (1956-present) and the Arts and Humanities Citation Index (1975-present). These three citation indexes plus Index Chemicus (1993-) and Current Chemical Reactions (1986-) are now part of Web of Science (Thomson Reuters), an international citation index with coverage of 10,000 authoritative journals with links to the full text of articles cited. Librarians should introduce their users to the Web of Science if they are writing substantial research papers” (Cassell & Hiremath, 2009, p. 167). There are other online tools in addition to Web of Science, which allow researchers to find citations of articles. Researchers can look for citations using Google Scholar or Scopus, which is made by Elsevier (Smith, 2011).
Citations for Publication 3


Using Web of Science I found that article 3 has been cited in 6 other publications. They are as follows:


Using the Library and Information Science Abstracts from ProQuest, I was able to find 2 more citations that were not listed in Web of Science. They are:


14 citations were listed in Google Scholar. Here are the citations, which were not duplicated:


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**Citations for Publication 6**


Using Web of Science I found 2 citations for this article. They are:


   I found one more citation using the feature to search citations in all of ProQuest’s databases.


   Google Scholar lists 6 cited articles. The following articles were not duplicated in other sources:


References


University Library, University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign. (2012, September 5). Citation analysis. *learn insider's guide to the library*. Retrieved from: http://www.library.illinois.edu/learn/research/citationanalysis.html