

ICADL: The Prolific Contributors

Cheng Hong Lim and Chu Keong Lee

Nanyang Technological University
ascklee@ntu.edu.sg

Abstract. This paper identifies the prolific authors at the International Asian Conference on Digital Libraries (ICADL) from 2002 to 2006. To provide a holistic picture, three methods of counting were used, namely whole counting, fractional counting, and first author counting.

Keywords: Scientometrics, whole counting, fractional counting.

The research productivity of academics has been an active area of research for a long time. This is because the main currency for an academic is his reputation, often measured by the number of research papers he publishes. Although the job of most academics consist of four components, namely, teaching and assessment, research and scholarship, administration, and community service, it is mainly on his research and scholarship that his reputation is built. Becher (1989) further stressed that it is not the mere *conduct* of research and scholarship that earns an academic his reputation, but it is the *publication* of the results of his research and scholarship that is important in securing his reputation and influence. He ranks the publication of an academic's research findings as being far more important than his ability to teach, stating that "excellence in teaching counts for little towards recognition by established colleagues in the field" (p. 53). The factors that impact scientific productivity are also of keen interest, especially to administrators. Ramesh Babu and Singh (1998) identified persistence, resource adequacy, access to literature, initiative, intelligence, creativity, learning capability, stimulative leadership, concern for advancement, external orientation and professional commitment as being the most important ones.

In this research, the research papers that were presented at the International Asian Conference on Digital Libraries (ICADL) from 2002 to 2006 were analyzed to identify the prolific authors who contributed to this conference over the five-year duration. These five years were selected because of the ready availability of the data from the SpringerLink database. The earlier proceedings also proved difficult to obtain, and was therefore not included in the analysis. It was thought that this would be a timely occasion to take stock of the papers published as this is the tenth year ICADL is being organized. Three measures were used to identify the prolific authors, namely, whole counting, fractional counting, and first author counting. In whole counting, each author of a paper is given a count of 1, regardless of the number of authors. In fractional counting, each author of a paper is given a count of $\frac{1}{n}$, where n is the number of co-authors. In first author counting, all authors except the first, is ignored, and the first author given a count of 1.

Results

The results show that although the exact rank order of the authors differ according to the method of counting used, a group of authors consistently appear among the top authors in each table. These are Edward Fox, Hsinchun Chen, Dion Goh, Yin Leng Theng, Lim Ee Peng, Ian Witten, and Sally Jo Cunningham.

Whole Counting

Rank	Author	Count
1	GOH, DHL	12
2	THENG, YL	9
3	LIM, EP	7
3	FOX, EA	7
5	CHEN, CC	5
5	CHEN, HC	5
5	KIM, SH	5
5	FOO, SSB	5
5	YANG, CC	5
10	NIEDEREE, C	4
11	TANAKA, K	4

Fractional Counting

Rank	Author	Count
1	FOX, EA	6.81
2	CHEN, HC	4.08
3	GOH, DHL	4.05
4	WITTEN, IH	3.91
5	THENG, YL	3.40
6	YANG, CC	3.33
7	LIM, EP	3.31
8	FOO, SSB	2.99
9	ADACHI, J	2.60
10	CHEN, CC	2.50

First Author Counting

Rank	Author	Count
1	FOX, EA	7
2	THENG, YL	5
3	CUNNINGHAM, SJ	4
4	JEONG, CB	3
4	FU, L	3
4	CHEN, HC	3
4	LEE, SS	3
4	LEE, KS	3
9	HSUEH-HUA CHEN	2
9	JUN ADACHI	2
9	CHEN, CC	2
9	CHEN, CC	2

References

1. Becher, T.: Academic tribes and territories: Intellectual inquiry across the disciplines. Open University Press, London (1989)
2. Ramesh Babu, A., Singh, Y.P.: Determinants of research productivity. *Scientometrics* 43(3), 309–329 (1998)