

Combining IRUS-UK & Altmetric data

using White Rose Research Online data as an example

Background

Nick Sheppard, from Leeds Beckett University, was interested in learning more about alternative metrics of top downloaded papers. He was currently recording details of the top downloaded papers (using IRUS-UK data) but wanted to find a way to bring together alternative metrics with this, to see if there is a correlation.

Related links

Network effects on alternative metrics: <http://ukcorr.org/2015/05/28/network-effects-on-alternative-metrics/>

Ranking altmetrics DIY: <http://ukcorr.org/2015/06/12/ranking-altmetrics-diy/>

The Altmetric attention score: <https://help.altmetric.com/support/solutions/articles/6000060969-how-is-the-altmetric-score-calculated->

IRUS-UK reports used

Article Report 4 (AR4): for top 10 downloaded articles

How is IRUS-UK used?

Using the White Rose Research Online data as an example, the top 10 downloaded items were exported to CSV and tidied up to leave the DOIs. These were then imported into Google Sheets and the Altmetric Score added as an additional column. He was then able to sort data by Altmetric Score, or by downloads (from IRUS-UK), and look to see if there was a correlation. He embedded Altmetric donuts into the list and shared his findings.

1. King, T.E., Fortes, G.G., Balaesque, P., Thomas, M.G., Balding, D., Delsler, P.M., Neumann, R., Parson, W., Knapp, M., Walsh, S., Tonasso, L., Holt, J., Kayser, M., Appleby, J., Forster, P., Ekserdjian, D., Hofreiter, M., Schürer, K. (2014) *Identification of the remains of King Richard III. Nature Communications*, 5, art. no. 5631



DOI lookup (Available OA from publisher: CC-BY)

Total downloads from Leicester Research Archive to April 2015: 132

2. Sumner, Petroc, Vivian-Griffiths, Solveiga, Boivin, Jacky, Williams, Andrew James, Venetis, C. A., Davies, Aimee, Ogden, Jack, Whelan, Leanne, Hughes, Bethan, Dalton, Bethan, Boy, Frederic and Chambers, Christopher D. 2014. *The association between exaggeration in health related science news and academic press releases: retrospective observational study. BMJ* 349, g7015



DOI lookup (Available OA from publisher: CC-BY)

Total downloads from Online Research @ Cardiff (ORCA) to April 2015: 42

Top downloaded articles with associated Altmetric Score

Outcome

The findings of this research were shared on the UKCoRR (United Kingdom Council of Research Repositories), and at conferences and events. In this particular case, there didn't appear to be a correlation between the downloads and the altmetrics, showing that there is definite value in having both different types of metrics to better understand usage of items in the repository.

Next steps

Having shared the method and initial findings, other repositories have done similar. It will be interesting to see if there are different findings, and whether the findings have implications for understanding the value of items. Try it with your data using the guides in the related links.