

LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

COMMENTS ON METHOD FOR THE TOP CITED PAPERS

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In *Fresenius Environmental Bulletin*, Volume 25, two articles, entitled “A bibliometric analysis of hazardous waste research from 2001 to 2015” [1] and “A bibliometric analysis for global PM_{2.5} research” [2], presented the top cited papers.

In the section of The H-index, high cited papers and outperforming authors, Chen et al. [1] noticed that “The top 10 high cited papers of hazardous waste research were listed in Table 4”. The table is evidence that proves the method used in the original paper [1] is not appropriate. Web of Science is designed for researchers to find literatures but not for bibliometric study [3]. Thus bibliometric treatment of data from Web of Science is needed. Papers without searched words in their “front page” [4] could be still found in Web of Science. Papers listed in Table 4, for example “Environmental Kuznets Curve hypothesis: A survey” [5]; “Noninherited risk factors and congenital cardiovascular defects: Current knowledge a scientific statement from the American Heart Association Council on cardiovascular disease in the young” [6]; “Towards a global historical emission inventory for selected PCB congeners - a mass balance approach 2. Emissions” [7]; and “Global hexachlorobenzene emissions” [8] as the top 10 high cited papers on hazardous waste research. In fact there is nothing related to “hazardous waste research” in these papers [5-8].

In the section of Popular journals and articles, Zhao et al. [2] noticed that “The top 20 most frequently cited publications are listed in Table 2.” Again, papers listed in Table 2 [2], for example “Rethinking organic aerosols: Semivolatile emissions and photochemical aging” [9]; “Chemical and microphysical characterization of ambient aerosols with the aerodyne aerosol mass spectrometer” [10]; and “O/C and OM/OC ratios of primary, secondary, and ambient organic aerosols with high-resolution time-of-flight aerosol mass spectrometry” [11] as the top 20 most frequently cited publications. However the papers [9-11] are not related to “global PM_{2.5} research”.

This type of problem by the same method can be also found in earlier publications in *Aslib Journal of Information Management* [12] and *International Journal of Life Cycle Assessment* [13]. This type of problem could be improved if authors have had paid more attentions to details about the method from the

original papers by Ho’s group [3,4,14]. It is recommended that Chen et al. [1] and Zhao et al. [2] find the original papers for improved method and presented better results.

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