

Journal Metrics Perspective from an Open Access Publisher

Martin Fenner

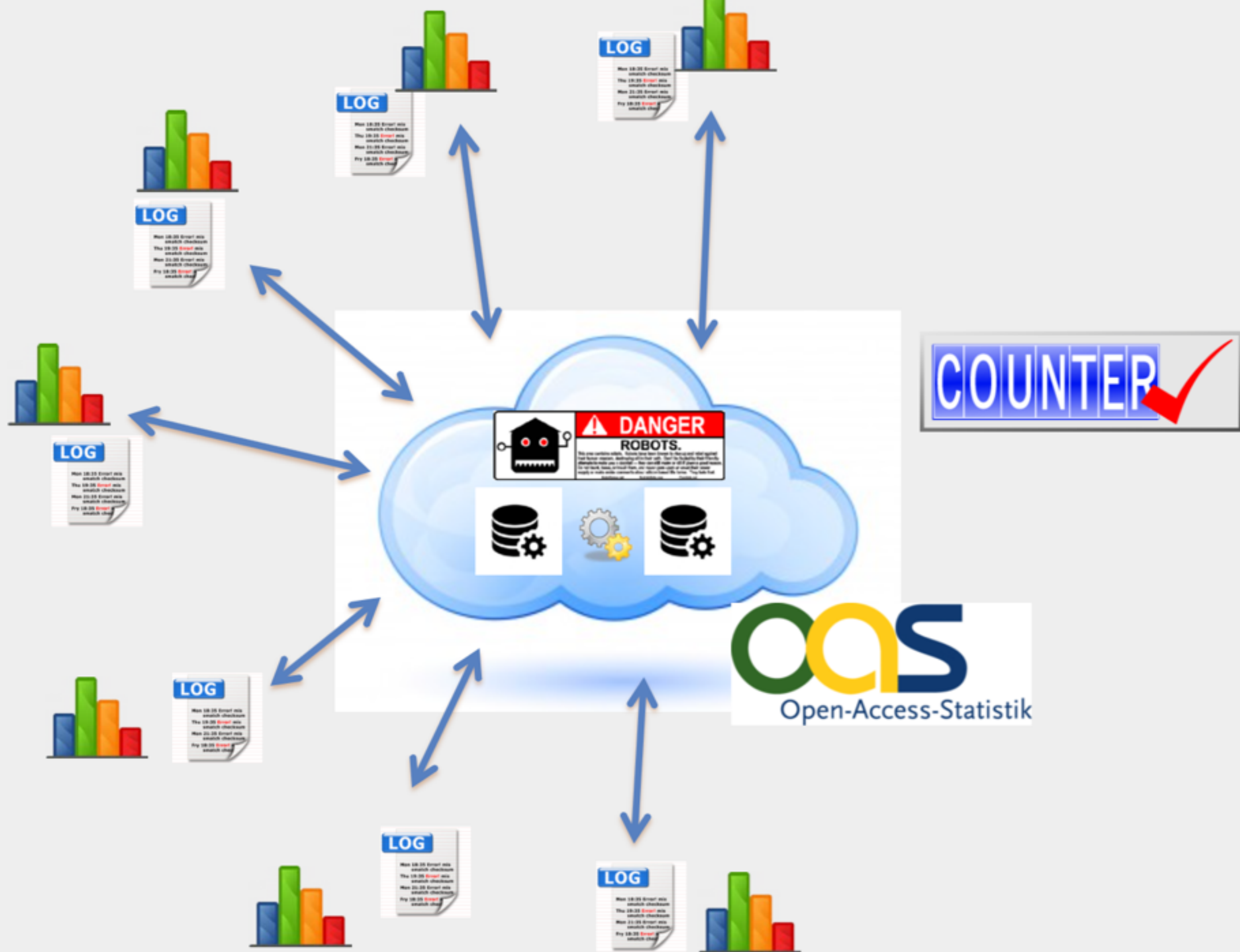
Technical Lead Article-Level Metrics

Public Library of Science

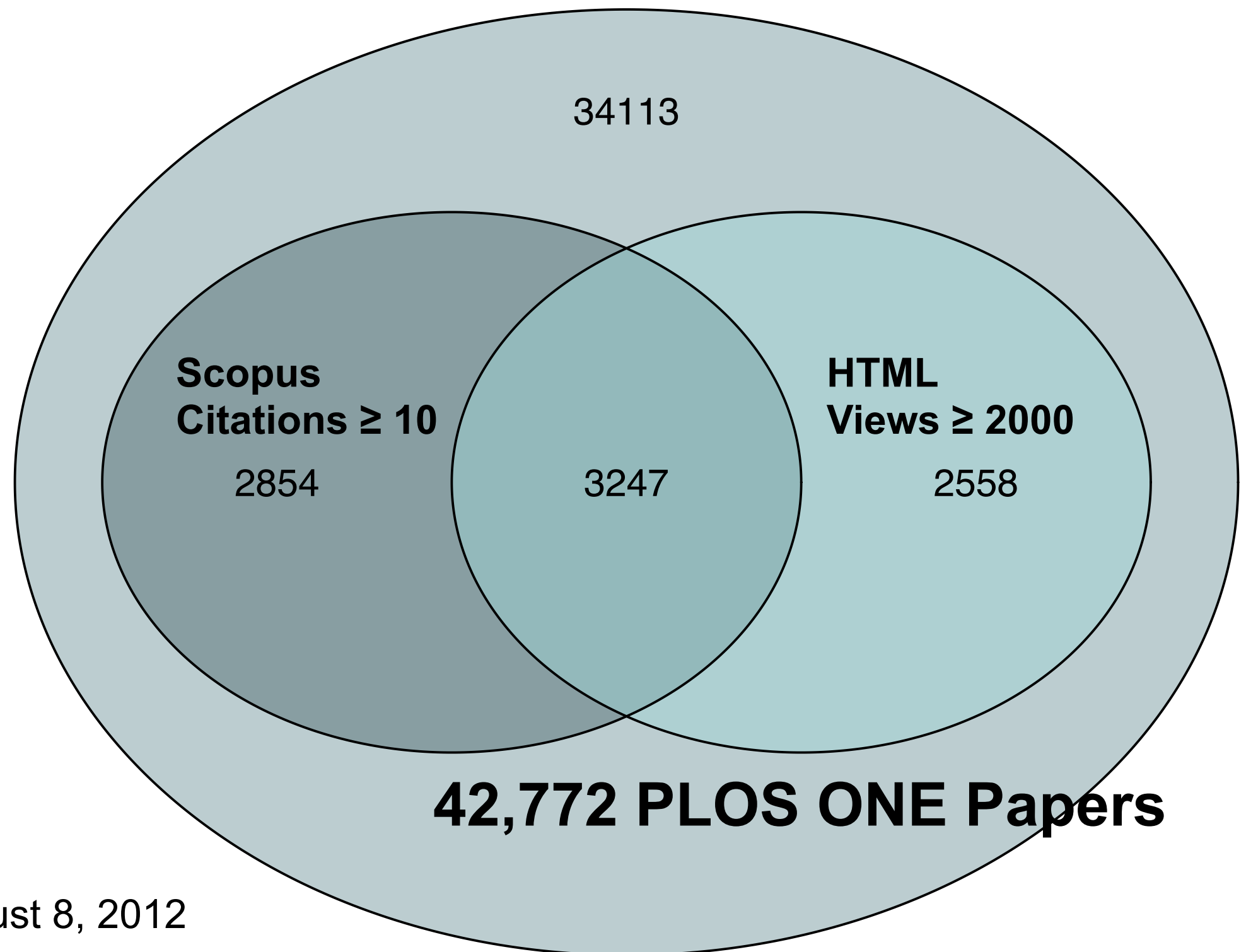
Usage Stats

Most immediate metric that directly reflects usage

Only useful if data are collected in a standardized way – COUNTER is the standard and looks at HTTP status codes, double-click intervals, and excludes robots



Usage is different from scholarly citations



Metrics collected August 8, 2012

Citations

Citations have become a proxy for scholarly impact

Many problems with unreflected use of citation metrics,
in particular in the assessment of individual researchers

Citations are collected via reference lists

References

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3. Rebholz-Schuhmann D, Arregui M, Gaudan S, Kirsch H, Yepes AJ (2007) Text processing through Web services: calling Whatizit. *Bioinformatics* 24(2):296–298.
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5. Névél A, Wilbur WJ, Lu Z (2011) Extraction of data deposition statements from the literature: a method for automatically tracking research results. *Bioinformatics* 27(23):3306–3312.
6. Névél A, Wilbur WJ, Lu Z (2012) Improving links between literature and biological data with text mining: a case study with GEO, PDB and MEDLINE. *Database (Oxford)* 2012: bas026.
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10. Parkinson H, Sarkans U, Shojatalab M, Abeygunawardena N, Contrino S, et al. (2005) ArrayExpress – a public repository for microarray gene expression data at the EBI. *Nucleic Acids Res* (2005) 33 (Suppl 1): D553–D555.
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**Reference lists have to be
collected in a central
resource and in a standard
format**



CrossRef's specific mandate is to be the citation linking backbone for all scholarly information in electronic form

Limitations

CrossRef citation linking built around references that have DOIs from CrossRef members – usually scholarly articles

CrossRef *Cited-By* service only available to CrossRef members for their own articles

CrossRef is a non-profit organization with publishers as members – no academic institutions, funders, other stakeholders

Alternative citation indexes for non-publisher users



Scopus

Google
scholar



Reference lists increasingly contain non-article references

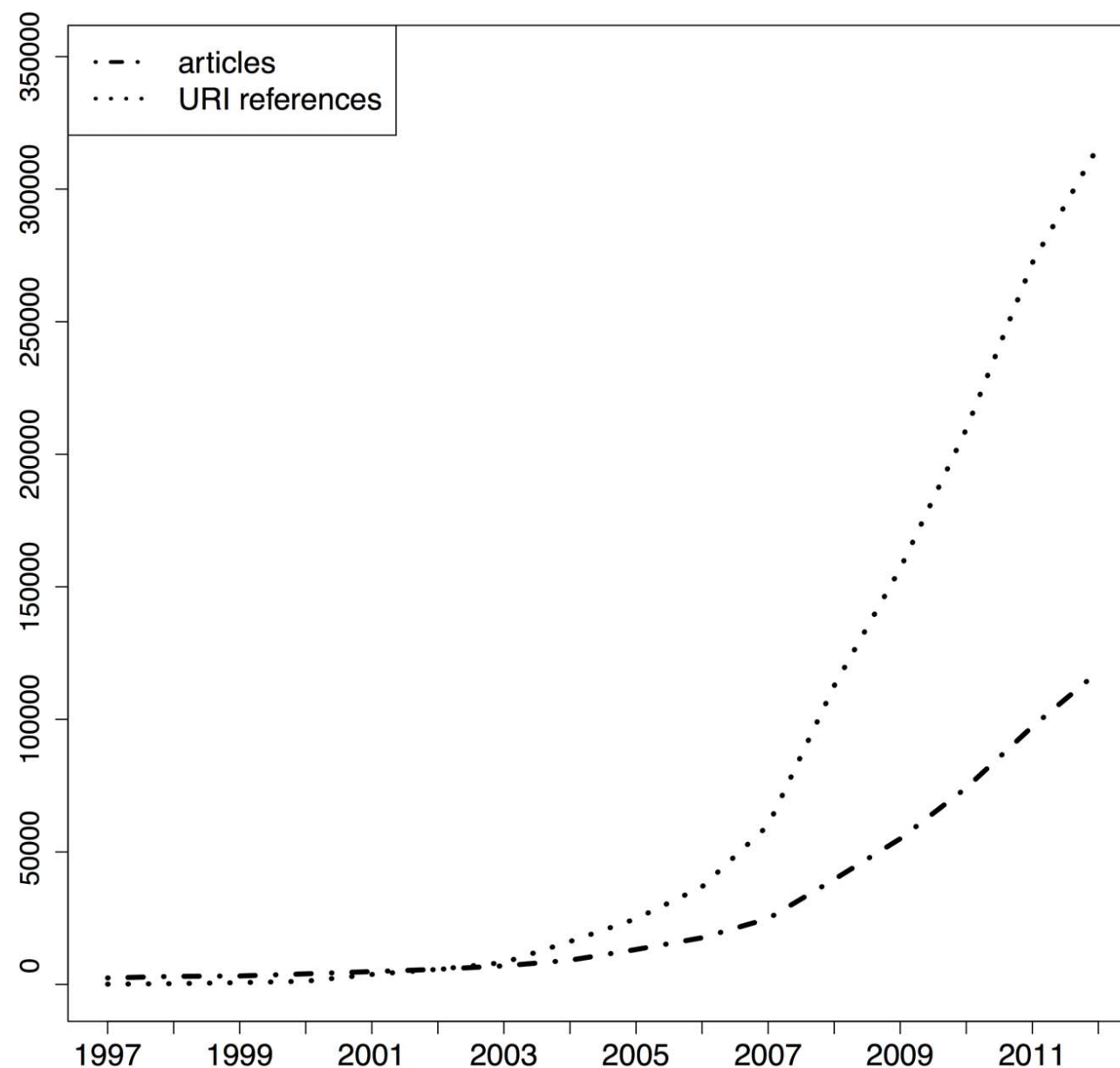


Fig. 3. STM articles and URI references per publication year - PMC corpus.

doi:10.1371/journal.pone.0115253.g003

DataCite provides DOIs for academic institutions and data centers



DataCite

Helping you to find,
access, and reuse data

DataCite DOIs are not just for datasets

Total number of indexed DOIs	4,093,327
Number of indexed datasets	901,920
Number of indexed text documents	289,067
Number of indexed software	4,341

**DataCite citation linking
works differently, and is
separate from CrossRef**

A DOI is not a DOI

CrossRef and DataCite announce initiative Nov 2014

- *Provide comprehensive support for interlinking between articles and data.*
- *Develop open APIs and open source tools to surface citations and other relationships between publications and data sets.*
- *Integrate into their services other existing scholarly communications initiatives such as ORCID and FundRef.*
- *Develop systems, workflows and best practices for using DOIs to reference large, highly granular and dynamic data.*

There is more than usage stats and citations

RESEARCH ARTICLE

VIEWED

PLOS HTML
PLOS PDF
PLOS XML
PMC HTML
PMC PDF

SAVED

CiteULike
Mendely

DISCUSSED

NatureBlogs
ScienceSeeker
ResearchBlogging
PLOS Comments
Wikipedia
Twitter
Facebook

RECOMMENDED

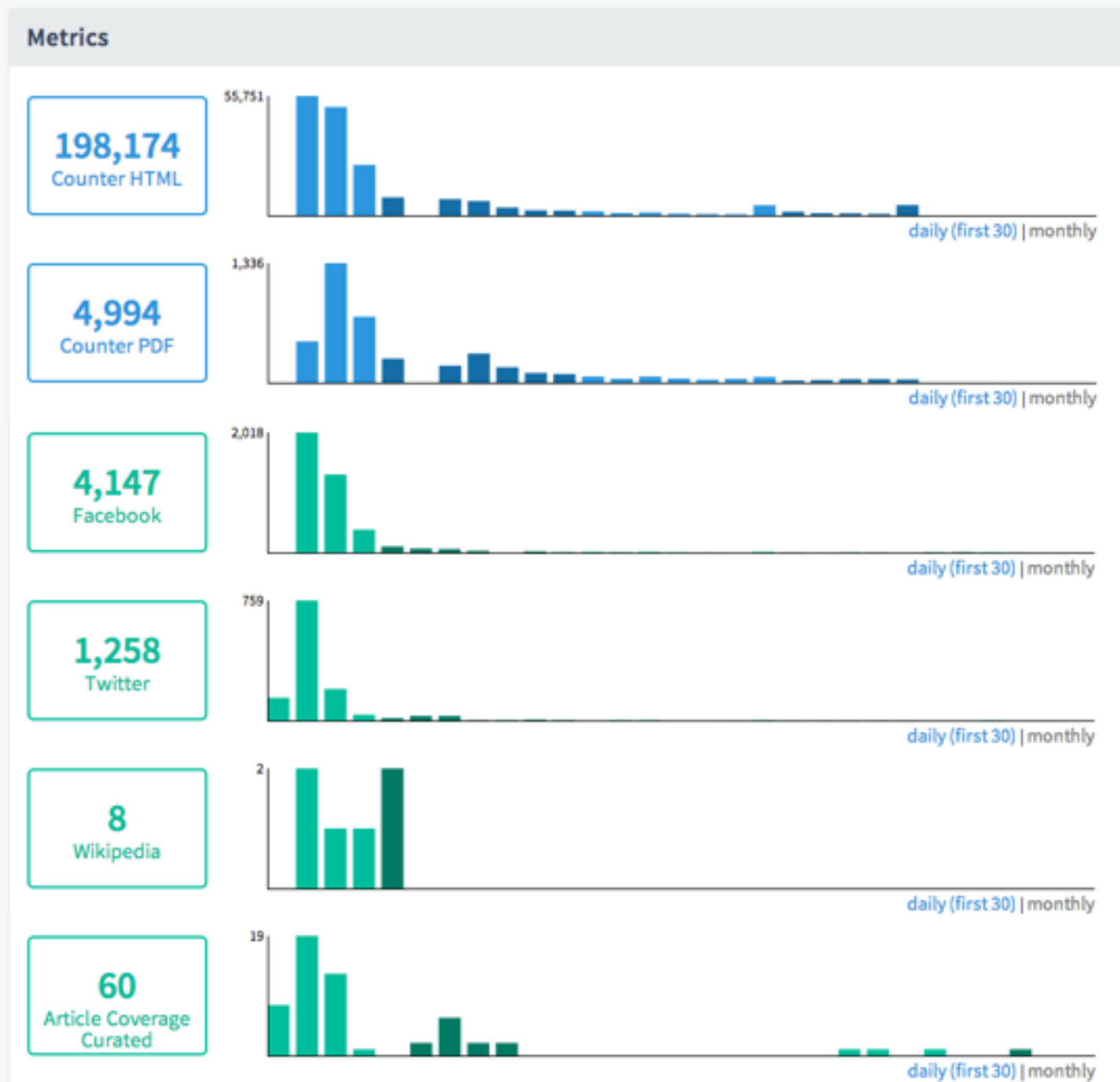
F1000 Prime

CITED

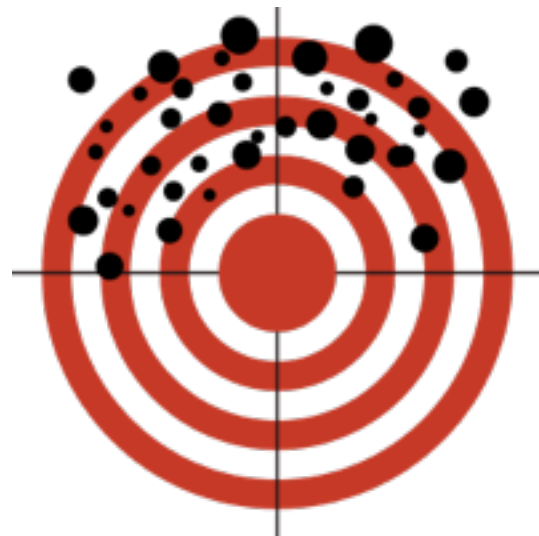
CrossRef
PMC
Web of Science
Scopus

Increasing Engagement

PLOS collects metrics from 22 data sources



New metrics not ready for impact assessment



Unreliable & Invalid



Unreliable, But Valid



Reliable, Not Valid



Both Reliable & Valid

Any metric we use should have good **reliability** (consistency) and **validity**.

More work is needed in these areas for novel assessment metrics such as Mendeley or Twitter.

Work on best practices and standards has started



Alternative Metrics Initiative Phase 1 White Paper

June 6, 2014

Phase II of the project starts in early 2015

Altmetrics data can be obtained from commercial service providers



Open source software to collect and analyze the metrics

Lagotto

build failing code climate 2.0 coverage 79%

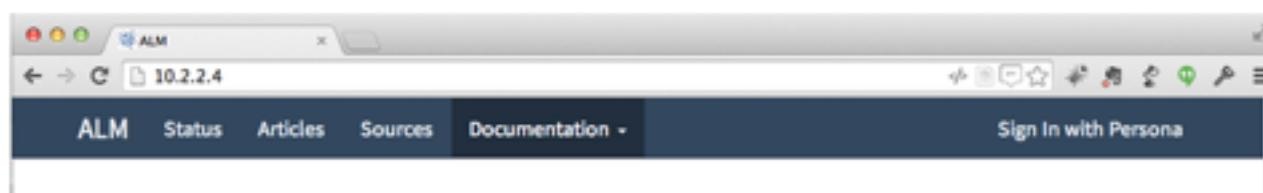
Lagotto allows a user to aggregate relevant performance data on research articles, including how often an article has been viewed, cited, saved, discussed and recommended. The application was called Article-Level Metrics (ALM) until September 2014 and was started in March 2009 by the Open Access publisher [Public Library of Science \(PLOS\)](#). We are continuing to expand Lagotto because we believe that articles should be considered on their own merits, and that the impact of an individual article should not be determined by the journal in which it happened to be published. As a result, we hope that new ways of measuring and evaluating research quality (or 'impact') can and will evolve. To learn more about Article-Level Metrics, see the [SPARC ALM primer](#).

How to start developing now?

Lagotto uses [Vagrant](#) and [Virtualbox](#) for setting up the development environment. To start developing now on your local machine (Mac OS X, Linux or Windows):

1. Install Vagrant: <https://www.vagrantup.com/downloads.html>
2. Install Virtualbox: <https://www.virtualbox.org/wiki/Downloads>
3. Clone this repository `git clone git@github.com:articlemetrics/lagotto.git`
4. Cd into it
5. Copy the file `.env.example` to `.env` and make any changes to the configuration as needed
6. Run `vagrant up`

Once the setup is complete (it might take up to 15 minutes), you'll be able to open up a browser and navigate to <http://10.2.2.4>, and you should see this screen:



ALM Reports

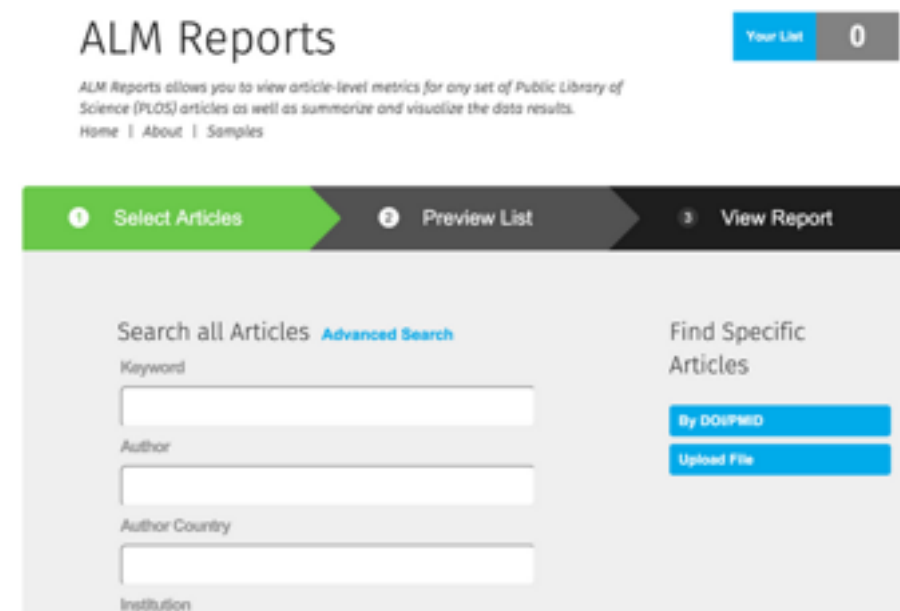
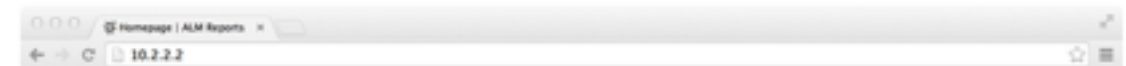
build failing code climate 1.7 coverage 73%

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2. Install Virtualbox: <https://www.virtualbox.org/wiki/Downloads>
3. Clone this repository `git clone git@github.com:articlemetrics/alm-report.git`
4. Cd into it and run `vagrant up`

Once the setup is complete (it might take up to 20 minutes), you'll be able to open up a browser and navigate to <http://10.2.2.2>, and you should see this screen:



CrossRef DOI Event Tracker (DET) Pilot

CrossRef Labs has started a pilot project to collect events around all CrossRef DOIs issued since January 2011.

A DOI Event Tracker (DET) CrossRef working group was formed in May 2014, initiated by members of the Open Access Scholarly Publishers Association (OASPA).

The service is available at <http://det.labs.crossref.org>, and is using the Lagotto open source software.



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