NUMBER OF REFERENCES, CITATION, H-INDEX
Proposal for a procedure in Scopus

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1 Introduction
This document presents a possible way forward, succinct, to obtain from Scopus, the number of references, number of citations, and H-index.

Warning: the procedure below is a possible example to obtain bibliometric indicators. The commercial databases taken into consideration index different journals and have different ways of counting / considering the measured quantities, and above all, count differently the authors cited; the results are therefore likely to vary widely depending upon the research conducted.

The Département des bibliothèques et de l’information scientifique cannot be held responsible if the data obtained by following the procedures described in this document do not conform to the expectations of policymakers who have required these data.

2 Number of references, citations and H-index in Scopus

2.1 First step: search for the author
The example deals with a particular author: Smith, James L.

Starting page of Scopus: http://www.scopus.com/home.url (access from the ULB campus, or via EZproxy, remotely).

Select the second tab: Author

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Scopus
Search Sources Alerts Lists Help Settings

Document search

Documents Author Affiliations Advanced

Search Article title, Abstract, Keywords

Reset form Search Q

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Nathalie De Visch Nathalie.De.Visch@ulb.be and Cécile Gass Cecile.Gass@ulb.be
Enter the name as shown in the example below:

The result may be precided, before lauching the search, by “show exact matched only”.

Search results above can also be precised by using the proposed facets on the left of the screen, such as title, affiliation, city, country, subject ...
Then click on the name of the corresponding author for the author you search for.

For the author Smith, James L.:
2.2 Number de references

The number of references attached to this author is mentioned in the Research section of the screen obtained after the search of an author here: 420.
2.3 Access to citations
Click in the screen obtained after the search of an author on View citation overview:

The number of citations is displayed at the top of the table, on the right, here: 13152.

2.4 Access to the H-index
The H-index may be accessed:
- by the window on the right of the citations screen
- or by the window of the screen results obtained after a search of an author

The H-index value is provided at the top of the table; here: 57.

More details on the View h-graph:
2.5 Alerts or RSS feeds
To receive references/citations of an author by e-mail or via RSS, please first create a personal account through the register tab (Scopus).
Your registration will also give you the ability to save searches and receive the results by e-mail or RSS.

3 Conclusions
Some remarks in relation to these indicators:
- It may be necessary to conduct multiple searches because an author may not be recognized in these databases in a unique way!
- Carefully consider the explanations given by the database producer regarding the indicators used. For example, in Scopus, you can choose to exclude self-citations by the author himself, and/or self-citations for each author, which will result in very different indicators values!
- All bibliometric indicators have ‘by construction’ bias, comparisons of indicators between different persons or publications may be completely inappropriate.
etc.