

A first Level Analysis of Citation of Bulletin of the Catalysis Society of India
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The Bulletin of the Catalysis society of India will be completing 3 years with this issue. It is worthwhile to reflect on some aspects of the growth of our Bulletin. This communication addresses some of the issues regarding this bulletin and attempts to compare it with that of Eurasian Chemico-Technological Journal, published from Kazakhstan.

While talking about Scientific Journals, most often people refer to the impact factor. In a broad sense, impact factor is one measure of the popularity and also reflects on the credibility of the Journal. However, often this factor appears to be overemphasized beyond its limits, probably because the real connotations of this factor are not always kept in mind. This does not mean to underestimate the importance of this factor. This factor is generally calculated from the number of times the publications in that journal are cited in the next three years divided by the number of publications in that journal in that particular year. The main limitations are: (i) A given publication can be cited even after three years since visibility, accessibility and the population of scientists working in that particular area may be increasing. (ii) Secondly the citation is based on a data base with limitations on coverage even though it is argued that the coverage is sufficient to monitor the main stream activity in Science. (iii) Citation itself is a quality dependent term since it often reflects some familiarity with the authors of publication with the authors citing and also dependent on the accessibility of the journal to the authors citing the paper. It is gratifying to note that an open access system is taking roots in many organizations for archiving and this also may give opportunity for the access on line of

publications to all authors for all the papers published.

We do not intend to discuss the merits or otherwise of this factor. Since many of these factors are alone available now for judging the quality of a journal, we shall restrict ourselves to this factor for the present. In this presentation, it is our intention to look how non SCI data base journals like Bulletin of the Catalysis Society of India (BCSI) and Eurasian Chemico-Technological Journal have been receiving attention in the citations in the Science Citation Index data base. The data collected for these two journals are given in Tables 1 and 2, respectively. The data on Eurasian Chemico-Technological Journal are given only to show that non SCI journals generally suffer from low citations. The choice of Eurasian Chemico-Technological Journal is arbitrary and no significance need be attached to this selection, except that this journal originates from Kazakhstan and is published for the last few years. For a comparison, the volume of these two journals in the year 2003 is compared in Table 3.

Similar data for the Chinese Journal of Catalysis were also collected and some representative data are given in Table.4. There are a total of 642 entries of citations with a total of 1161 citations for the 25 volumes of this journal. It should be remembered that this journal is being covered by SCI from its 21st

volume only. We do not propose to calculate the impact factor for this journal since many of the journals citing this journal may not be covered by SCI

and hence calculation of impact factor based on SCI based data alone will be misleading.

Table 1 Citation to the Bulletin of the Catalysis Society of India in Science Citation Index

Times cited	Cited author	Cited work	Year	Volume	Page
2	Narayanan S	B CATAL SOC IND	1999	9	53
3	Reddy BM	B CATAL SOC IND	1999	9	48
1	Choudhary VR	B CATAL SOC INDIA	2002	1	66
2	Kannan S	B CATAL SOC INDIA	1999	9	100
1	Parmar DU	B CATAL SOC INDIA	2003	2	27
1	Sakthivel A	B CATAL SOC INDIA	2002	1	41
5	Seelan S	B CATAL SOC INDIA	2002	1	29
1	Sinha AK	B CATAL SOC INDIA	1997	7	1
2	Venkatathri N	B CATAL SOC INDIA	2002	1	131
1	Vidya K	B CATAL SOC INDIA	2002	1	142
2	Viswanathan B	B CATAL SOC INDIA	2000	10	1

Table 2. Citations to the Eurasian Chemico- Technological Journal

Times Cited	Cited Author	Cited Work	Year	Volume	Page
2	DEMBITSKY VM	EURASIAN CHEM TECHNO	2002	4	87
1	DEMBITSKY VM	EURASIAN CHEM TECHNO	2002	4	153
2	DEMBITSKY VM	EURASIAN CHEM TECHNO	2002	4	221
1	GOLODOV VA	EURASIAN CHEM TECHNO	2000		29
1	GOLODOV VA	EURASIAN CHEM TECHNO	2000	2	29
1	LETTIERI P	EURASIAN CHEM TECHNO	1999	1	9
1	VIZER SA	EURASIAN CHEM TECHNO	1999	1	1

Table.3 Data of comparison between the Bulletin of the Catalysis Society of India and Eurasian Chemico-Technological Journal

S.No	Parameters	Bulletin of the Catalysis Society of India	Eurasian Chemico-Technological Journal
1	Number of issues in this volume	6	4
2	Number of printed pages	229	330
3	Number of articles	23	41
4	Number of authors (average per paper)	41 (1.8)	159(3.89)
5	Total number of references cited in this volume	699(30.4)	----

It is true that the Bulletin of the Catalysis Society has not reached even the threshold of any respectable journal. But it is gratifying to note that this journal has already found place in citation index

and the citations to the three regular volumes of the bulletin is not bad though not remarkable. It is too early to calculate the impact factor for this journal at this stage since only in the last

three years this bulletin is coming out in regular form. We have attempted to present these data not with the intention of speaking on our own Bulletin but to make our contributors aware that there is some visibility to this Bulletin already.

In volume 3 of the Bulletin of the Catalysis Society of India there were 23 articles published and there were 699 references cited out of which 287 references are in the period 1999-2004

(nearly 41%) and the remaining 412 references are from 1998 or earlier. This amounts to nearly 59% of the total reference. This reflects the immediacy index of the articles published in the Bulletin since citations to articles published in the Bulletin strongly depends on similar research pursued elsewhere.

Table 4 Typical citation data from the 642 source items for the Chinese Journal of Catalysis

Times cited	Cited author	Cited work	Year	Volume	Page
1	AN TC	CHINESE J CATAL+	2001	22	231
1	BAI ZL	CHINESE J CATAL+	2002	23	29
1	BIAN JJ	CHINESE J CATAL+	2001	22	415
1	CAI TJ	CHINESE J CATAL+	2002	23	285
3	CHEN AP	CHINESE J CATAL+	1998	19	320
1	CHEN GW	CHINESE J CATAL+	2002	23	491
5	CHEN JG	CHINESE J CATAL	2000	21	359
2	CHEN SZ	CHINESE J CATAL+	2003	24	67
1	CHEN W	CHINESE J CATAL+	2003	24	867
3	CHEN XQ	CHINESE J CATAL+	2002	23	312
5	CHEN YY	CHINESE J CATAL	1990	11	75
1	CHEN ZX	CHINESE J CATAL+	2000	21	384
6	CHENG SB	CHINESE J CATAL+	1996	17	281
9	CHENG SB	CHINESE J CATAL+	1996	17	330
9	CHENG SB	CHINESE J CATAL+	1996	17	512
7	CHENG YZ	CHINESE J CATAL+	2001	22	203
1	CHU W	CHINESE J CATAL+	1997	88	225
1	DENG C	CHINESE J CATAL+	1993	14	281
2	DOU BH	CHINESE J CATAL	1985	6	299
1	FAN CZ	CHINESE J CATAL+	2001	22	49
1	FAN SH	CHINESE J CATAL+	2002	23	109
2	FANG JH	CHINESE J CATAL	1994	15	45
1	FANG JH	CHINESE J CATAL+	2002	23	88
1	FANG KG	CHINESE J CATAL+	2001	22	223
3	FENG Y	CHINESE J CATAL+	1996	17	50
16	FU XZ	CHINESE J CATAL+	1999	20	321
1	FU ZH	CHINESE J CATAL	2000	21	519
3	GAO DB	CHINESE J CATAL	1999	20	290
1	GAO HX	CHINESE J CATAL+	2002	23	3
2	GAO HX	CHINESE J CATAL+	1996	17	296
1	GAO HY	CHINESE J CATAL+	2002	23	430
4	GAO HY	CHINESE J CATAL+	2001	22	133
3	GAO Y	CHINESE J CATAL+	2001	22	53
1	GAO ZX	CHINESE J CATAL+	1995	16	337
3	GU FC	CHINESE J CATAL+	1997	18	247
1	GUO ML	CHINESE J CATAL+	2003	24	483
1	GUO XBT	CHINESE J CATAL	1998	19	238
2	GUO XW	CHINESE J CATAL+	2001	22	370
2	HAN Y	CHINESE J CATAL+	2003	24	149