
Altmetrics: The democratization of research evaluation?

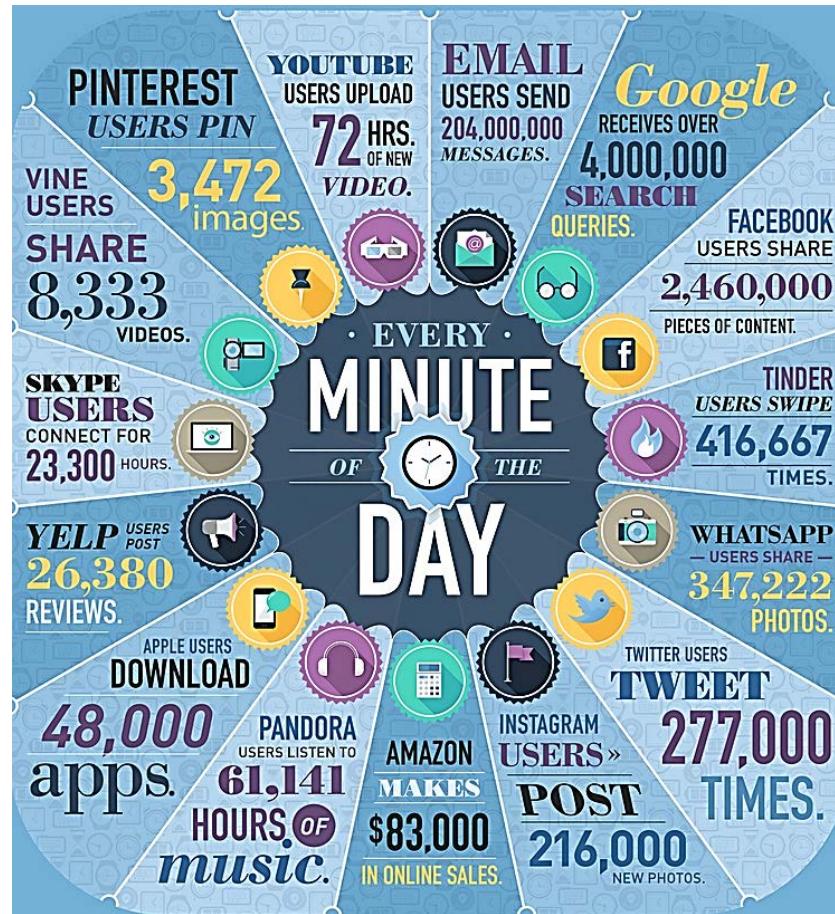
Professor Dr. Isabella Peters, Web Science



Leibniz-Informationszentrum
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Background I: Social media are ubiquitous



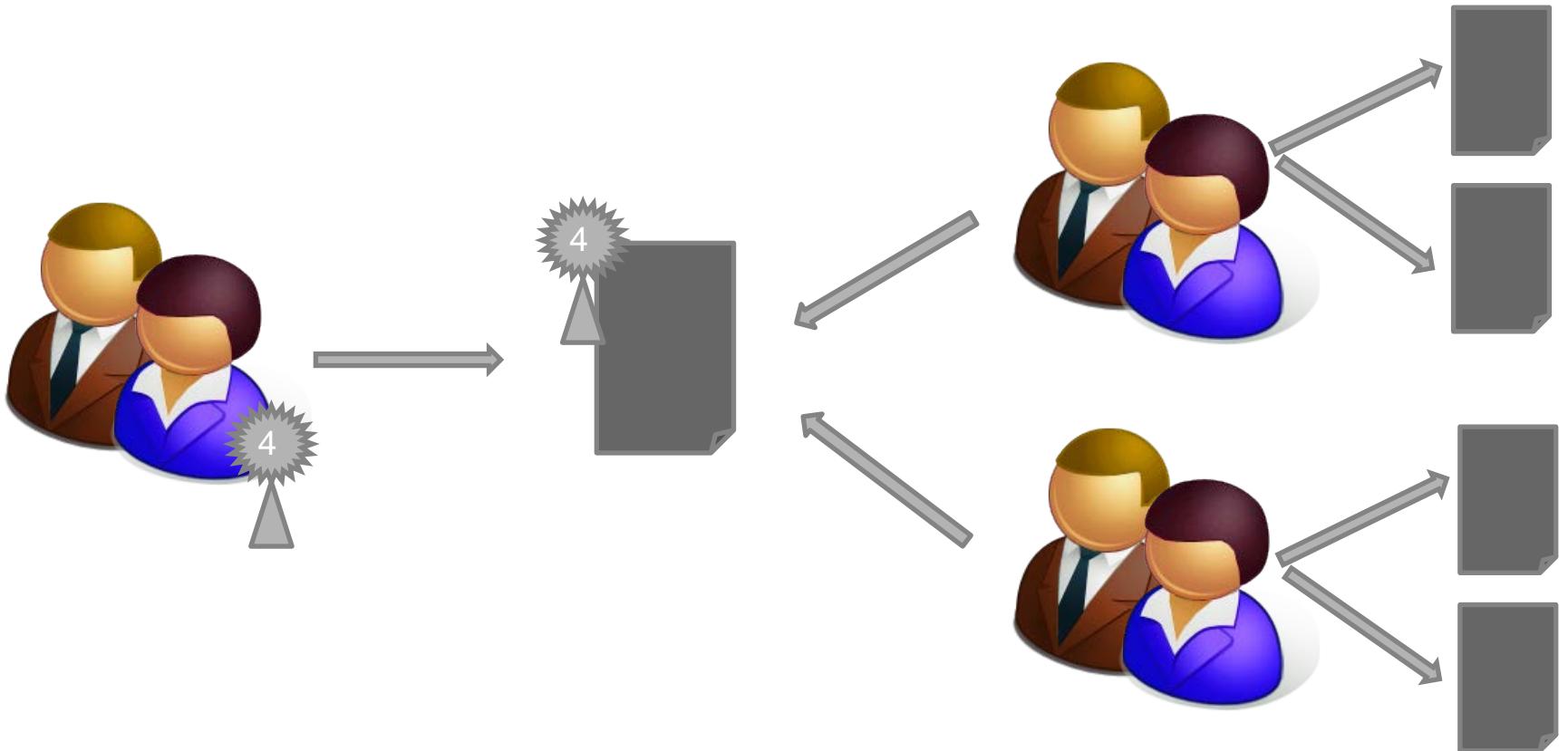
Quelle: <http://www.domo.com/learn/data-never-sleeps>

Background II: Criticism on traditional research evaluation

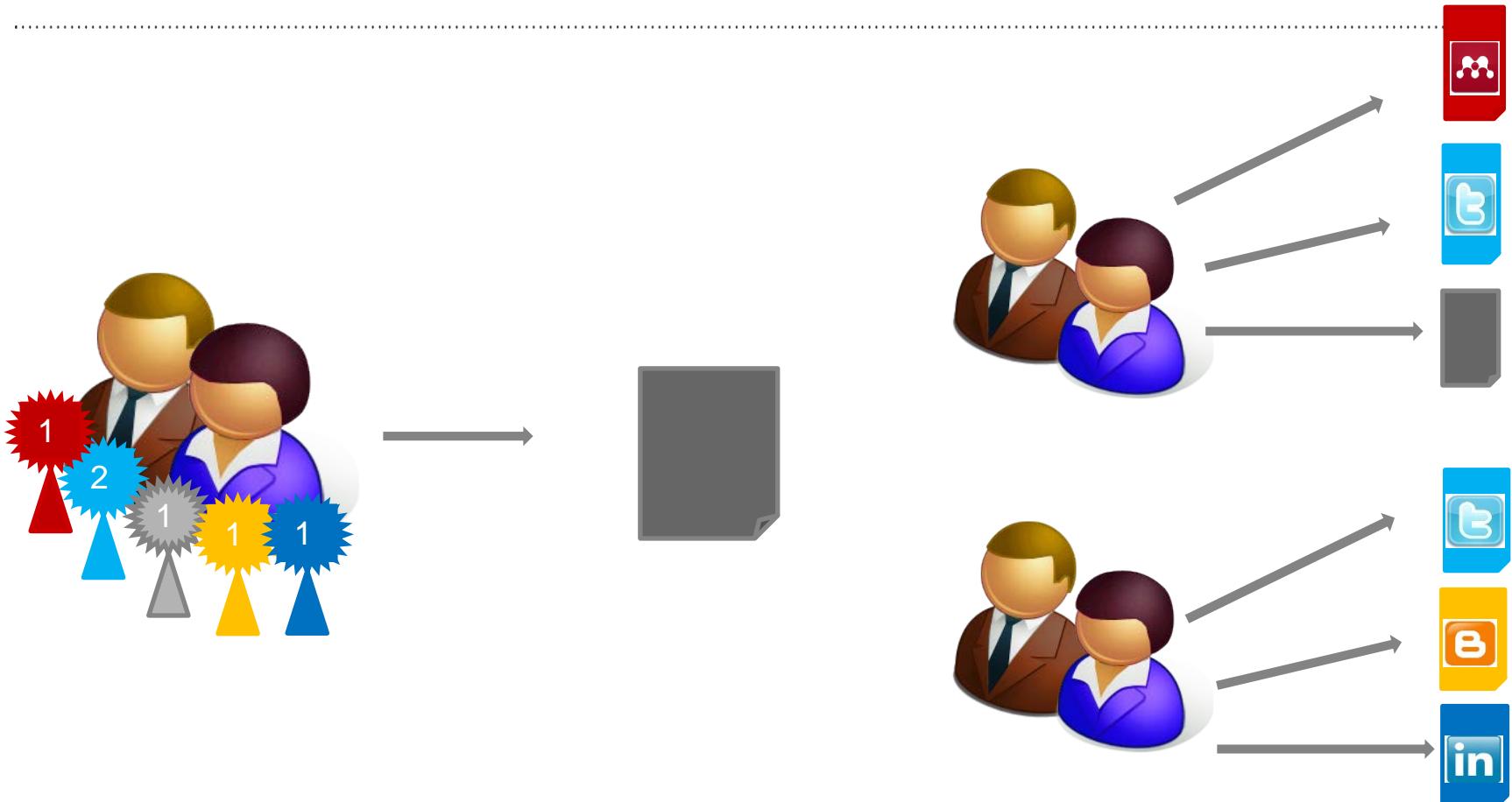
- San Francisco Declaration of Research Assessment (<http://am.ascb.org/dora>)
 - “The declaration intends to halt the practice of correlating the journal impact factor to the merits of a specific scientist's contributions. [...] this practice creates biases and inaccuracies when appraising scientific research. [...] the impact factor is not to be used as a substitute ‘measure of the quality of individual research articles, or in hiring, promotion, or funding decisions’”
- Altmetrics Manifesto (<http://altmetrics.org/manifesto>)
 - “Altmetrics expand our view of what impact looks like, but also of what's making the impact. [...] Unlike citation metrics, altmetrics will track impact outside the academy, impact of influential but uncited work, and impact from sources that aren't peer-reviewed. [...] The speed of altmetrics presents the opportunity to create real-time recommendation and collaborative filtering systems”

Defining *metrics

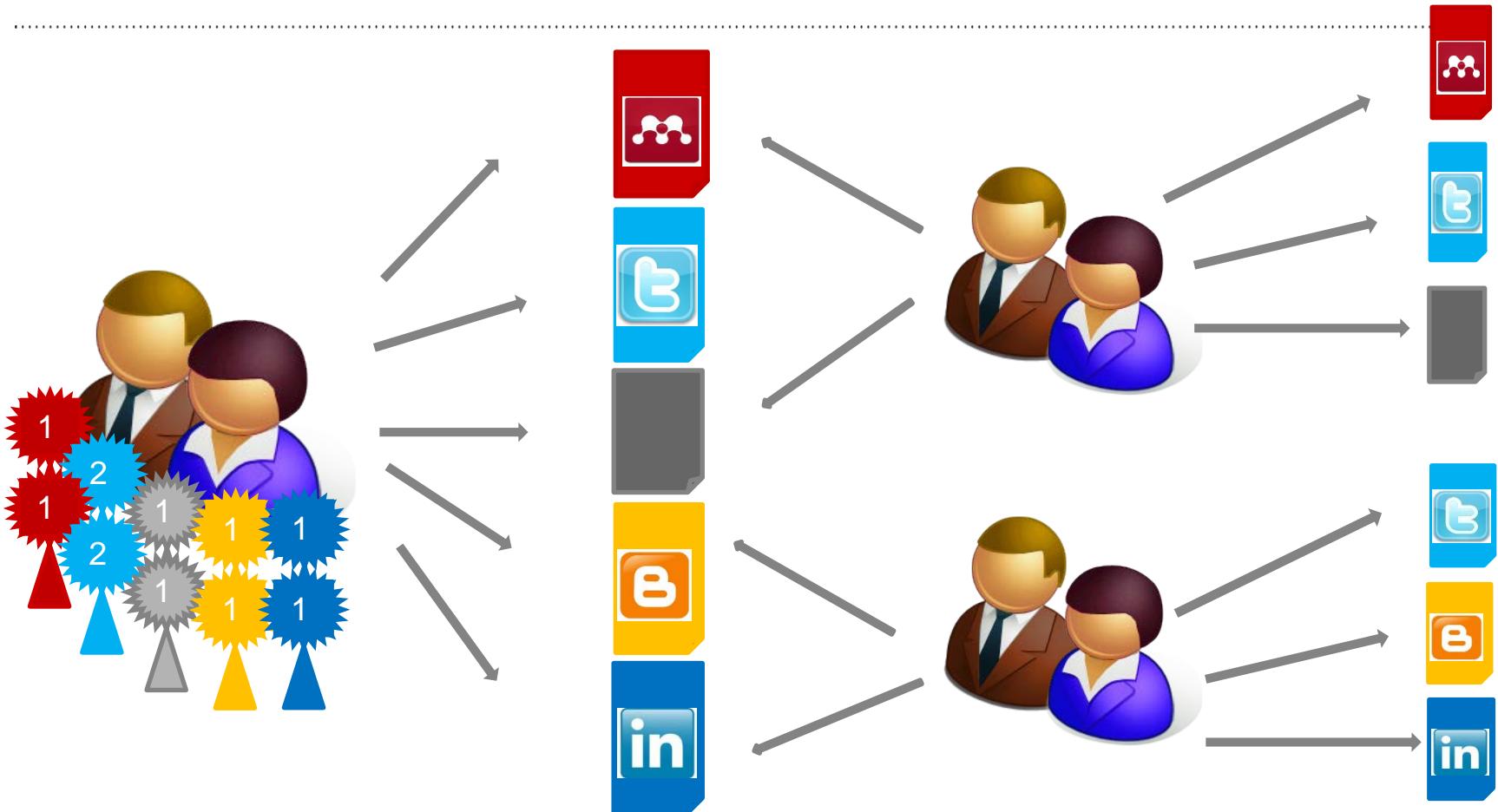
From bibliometrics...



...to altmetrics: narrow definition



...to altmetrics: broad definition



Altmetrics in the wild

Altmetrics in the wild

The screenshot shows a Twitter search results page for the query "econstor". The results are displayed in a grid format. The first result is a tweet from José Luis Cárdenas T (@PepoCardenasT) with the text: "Buyer power and suppliers' incentives to innovate" and a link to econstor.eu/bitstream/1041.... The second result is a tweet from Bernardo Batiz-Lazo (@BatizLazo) with the text: "From NEP-HPE: Eucken, Hayek, and the Road to Serfdom" and a link to bit.ly/WrfNIM with the hashtag #twitterstorains. The third result is a tweet from Ia Nitpickette (@IaNitpickette) with the text: "Study: 'Nice guys finish last': ppl w/ higher '#tax morale' taxed more heavily (PDF)" and a link to econstor.eu/bitstream/1041... with hashtags #OpMsMTakeOver and #ethics.

The screenshot shows a detailed view of a working paper on the EconStor website. The title of the paper is "Buyer power and suppliers' incentives to innovate" by Köhler, Christian; Rammer, Christian. The paper is categorized as a "Working Paper" and is part of the "ZEW Discussion Papers, No. 12-058". It was provided in cooperation with ZEW - Zentrum für Europäische Wirtschaftsforschung / Center for European Economic Research. The suggested citation is "Köhler, Christian; Rammer, Christian (2012): Buyer power and suppliers' incentives to innovate, ZEW Discussion Papers, No. 12-058, <http://hdl.handle.net/10419/66126>". The page also includes terms of use and copyright information.

Altmetrics in the wild: tools

ImpactStory.

article

Synthetic Antitumor Vaccines Containing MUC1 Domains-Induction of a Strong Immune Response
(2011) Gaidzik, Kaiser, Kowalczyk et al. *Angewandte Chemie International Edition*

A Complex Standard for Protein Identification,
(2012) Vaudel, Burkhardt, Breiter et al. *Journal of Proteome Research*

Dual Function of Sdh3 in the Respiratory Chain Mitochondrial Inner Membrane
(2011) Gebert, Gebert, Oeljeklaus et al. *Molecular Cell*

Composition and Topology of the Endoplasmic Reticulum Membrane
(2011) Stroud, Oeljeklaus, Wiese et al. *Journal of Molecular Biology*

Raf kinases mediate the phosphorylation of eukaryotic translation initiation factor 4E and regulate its stability in eukaryotic cells
(2012) Sanges, Scheuermann, Zahedi et al. *Cell Death and Disease*

Highly anisotropic effective dielectric functions of biological membranes
(2012) Hildebrand, Schmid, Strobl et al. *Journal of Physical Chemistry B*

Webometric Analyst
Plum Analytics
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...

Altmetrics in the wild: publishers

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The Welfare Consequences and Efficacy of Training Pet Dogs with Remote Electronic Training Collars in Comparison to Reward Based Training

Jonathan J. Cooper, Nina Cracknell, Jessica Hardiman, Hannah Wright, Daniel Mills

Published: September 03, 2014 • DOI: 10.1371/journal.pone.0102722

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	Totals 3,034	150	7	3,191

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Animal behavior
Behavior
Dogs
Hydrocortisone

Current findings: what do we know already?

Current findings I



- How do social media influence scholarly workflows?

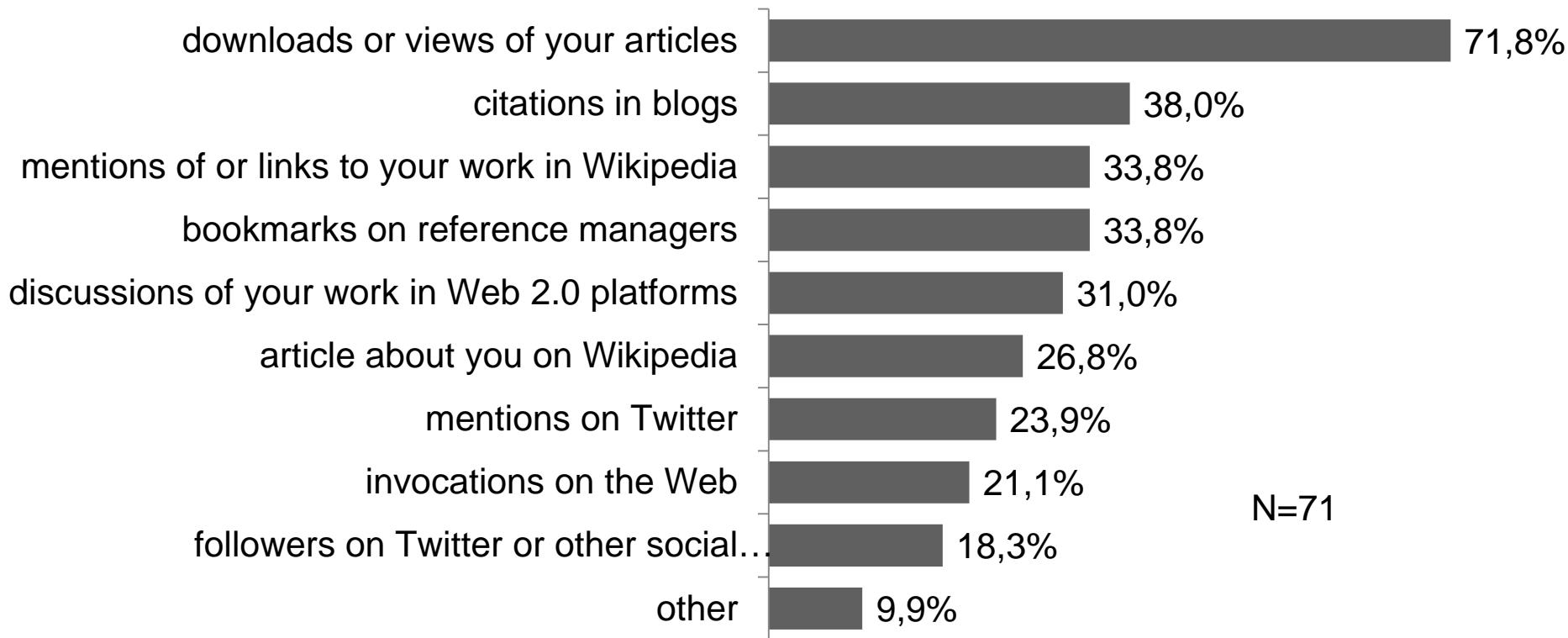


Bar-Ilan et al., (2012);
Haustein et al. (2013;
2014a)

Current findings II

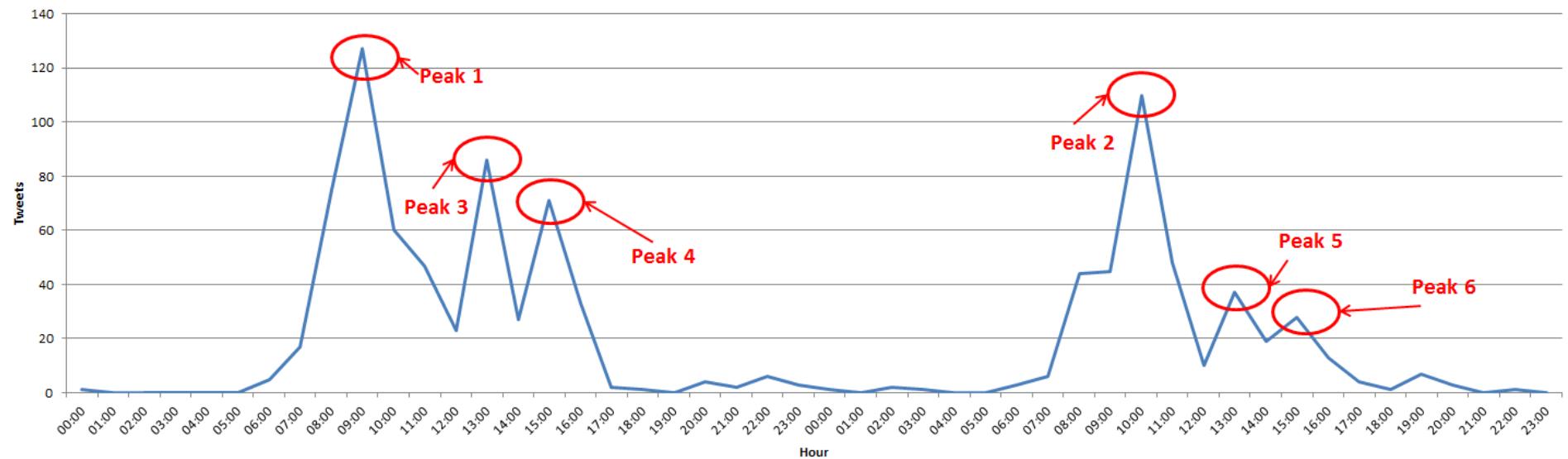
Haustein et al. (2013; 2014a)

- What are relevant alternative indicators for research evaluation?



Current findings III

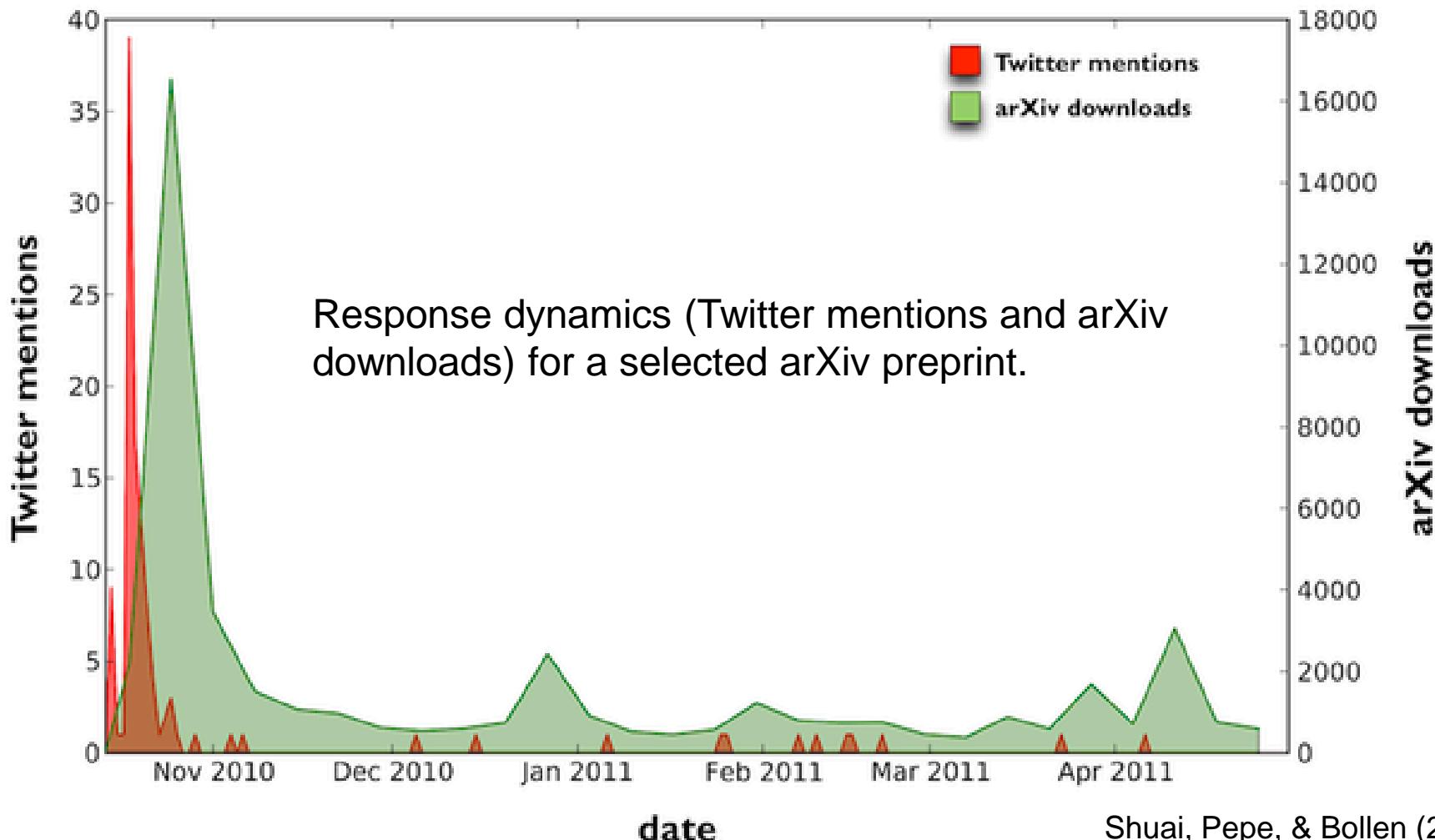
- Altmetrics are influenced by surrounding conditions



- Tweets sent during scientific conference
- Science 2.0 Conference, March 2014, #sci20conf

Current findings IV

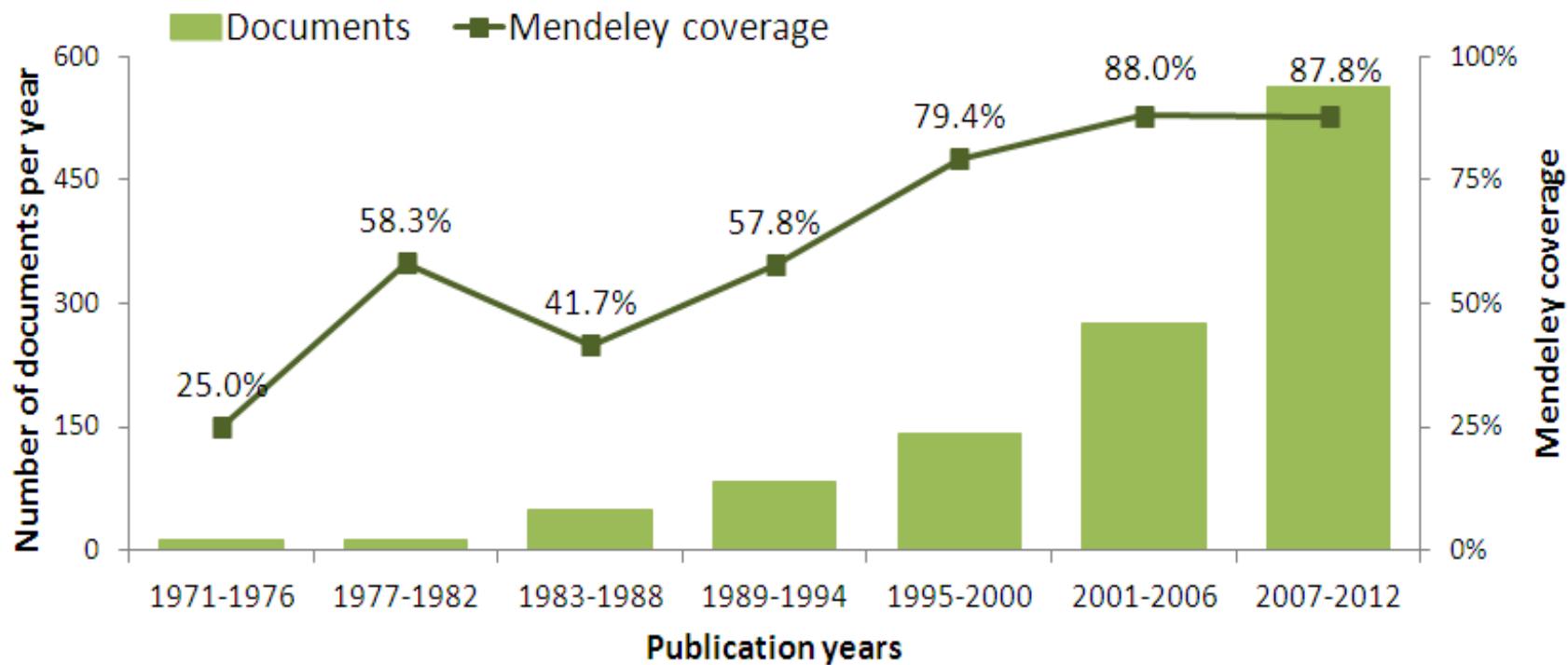
- Altmetrics happen fast



Current findings V

Haustein et al. (2013; 2014a)

- Readers prefer current publications



Current findings VI

Haustein et al. (2014b)

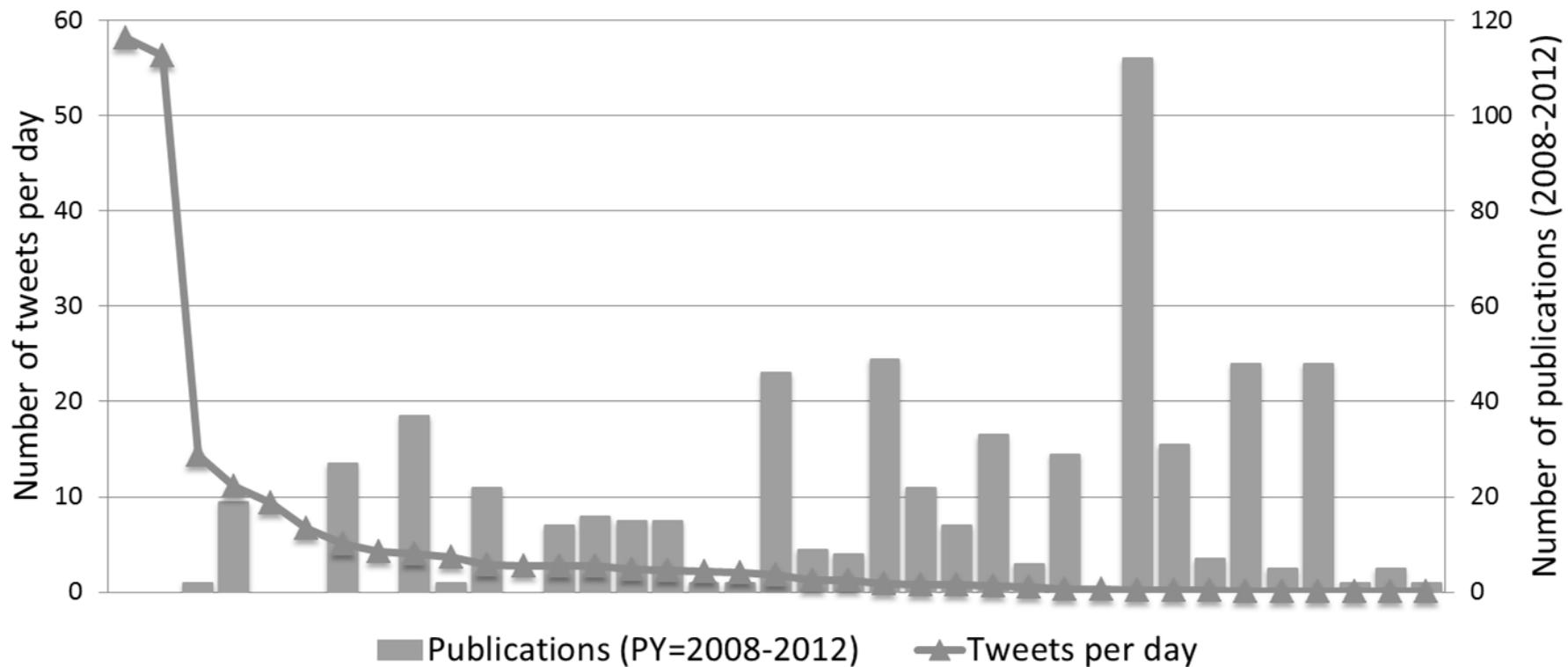
- There are only so many hours in the day...users are either authors or twitterers

Selected astrophysicists (N=37)	tweet rarely (0.0-0.1 tweets per day)	tweet occasionally (0.1-0.9)	tweet regularly (1.2-2.9)	tweet frequently (3.7-58.2)	Total (publishing activity)
do not publish (0 publications 2008-2012)	--	--	1	5	6
publish occasionally (1-9)	4	3	4	2	13
publish regularly (14-37)	--	5	5	3	13
publish frequently (46-112)	1	3	1	--	5
total (tweeting activity)	5	11	11	10	37

Current findings VII

Haustein et al. (2014b)

- Publishing- and tweeting activity



Current findings VIII

Haustein et al. (2014c)

- Correlations between tweets and citations

	N	Spearman's ρ	Mean	Median	Max.
T ²⁰¹⁰	13,763	.104**	2.1	1	237
C ²⁰¹⁰			18.3	7	3,922
T ²⁰¹¹	63,801	.183**	2.8	1	963
C ²⁰¹¹			5.7	2	2,300
T ²⁰¹²	57,365	.110**	2.3	1	477
C ²⁰¹²			1.3	0	234
T ^{2010–2012}	134,929	.114**	2.5	1	963
C ^{2010–2012}			5.1	1	3,922

Note. **Correlation is significant at the 0.01 level (2-tailed).

Current findings IX

Haustein et al. (2014d)

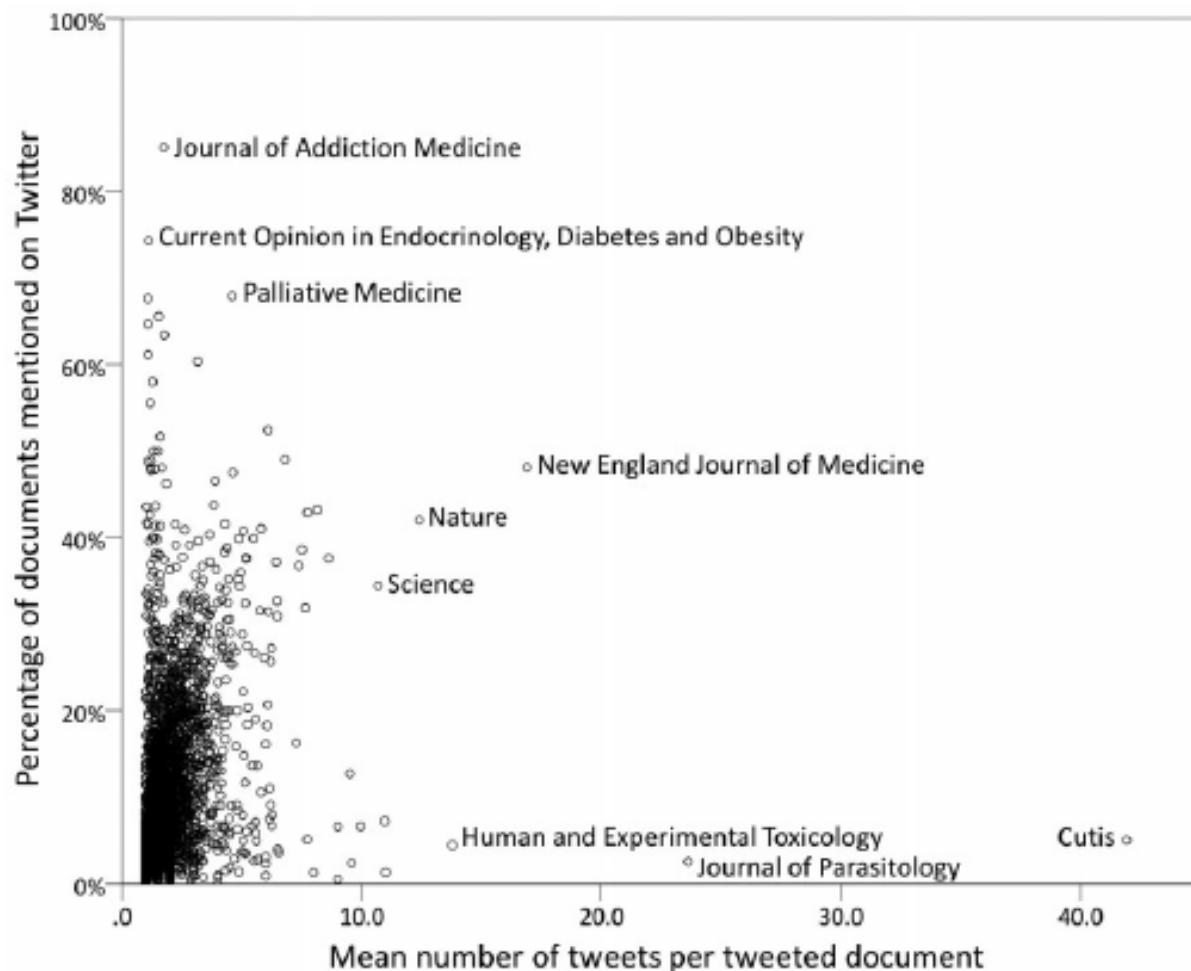
- Relationship between citations, readers, and tweets

NSF disciplines	P_{PubMed}	$P\%_{read}$	$P\%_{tweeted}$	R	T	R/P_{read}	$T/P_{tweeted}$	ρP_{read}	$\rho P_{tweeted}$
Arts	71	66.2%	--	128	--	2.7	--	-0.209	-0.645
Biology	61,785	72.7%	7.1%	570,713	9,634	12.7	2.2	0.448**	0.142**
Biomedical Research	286,398	72.4%	9.8%	2,973,664	90,633	14.3	3.3	0.530**	0.232**
Chemistry	121,874	60.8%	5.5%	619,418	10,933	8.4	1.6	0.476**	0.147**
Clinical Medicine	779,707	62.8%	10.1%	3,712,112	184,002	7.6	2.4	0.439**	0.155**
Earth and Space	26,938	72.4%	4.0%	155,095	2,885	8.0	2.7	0.396**	0.082
Engineering and Technology	27,792	71.6%	5.5%	304,512	2,916	15.3	1.9	0.622**	0.159**
Health	59,073	67.0%	12.8%	257,973	17,306	6.5	2.3	0.336**	0.099**
Humanities	691	40.7%	6.5%	1,036	121	3.7	2.7	0.227**	0.007
Mathematics	2,461	69.2%	5.4%	13,586	197	8.0	1.5	0.306**	-0.209
Physics	19,892	76.4%	1.8%	124,904	539	8.2	1.6	0.386**	0.032
Professional Fields	5,600	72.1%	17.0%	45,231	2,510	11.2	2.6	0.370**	0.177**
Psychology	35,980	81.0%	14.9%	408,440	16,240	14.0	3.0	0.441**	0.075**
Social Sciences	9,019	68.8%	9.1%	54,253	2,192	8.7	2.7	0.431**	0.054
Total	1,437,281	66.2%	9.4%	9,241,065	340,751	9.7	2.5	0.456**	0.157**

Current findings X

Haustein et al. (2014c)

- Relationship between tweet frequency and coverage



Open questions: What do we not know yet?

General and work-related use of online tools



Who are the disseminators?

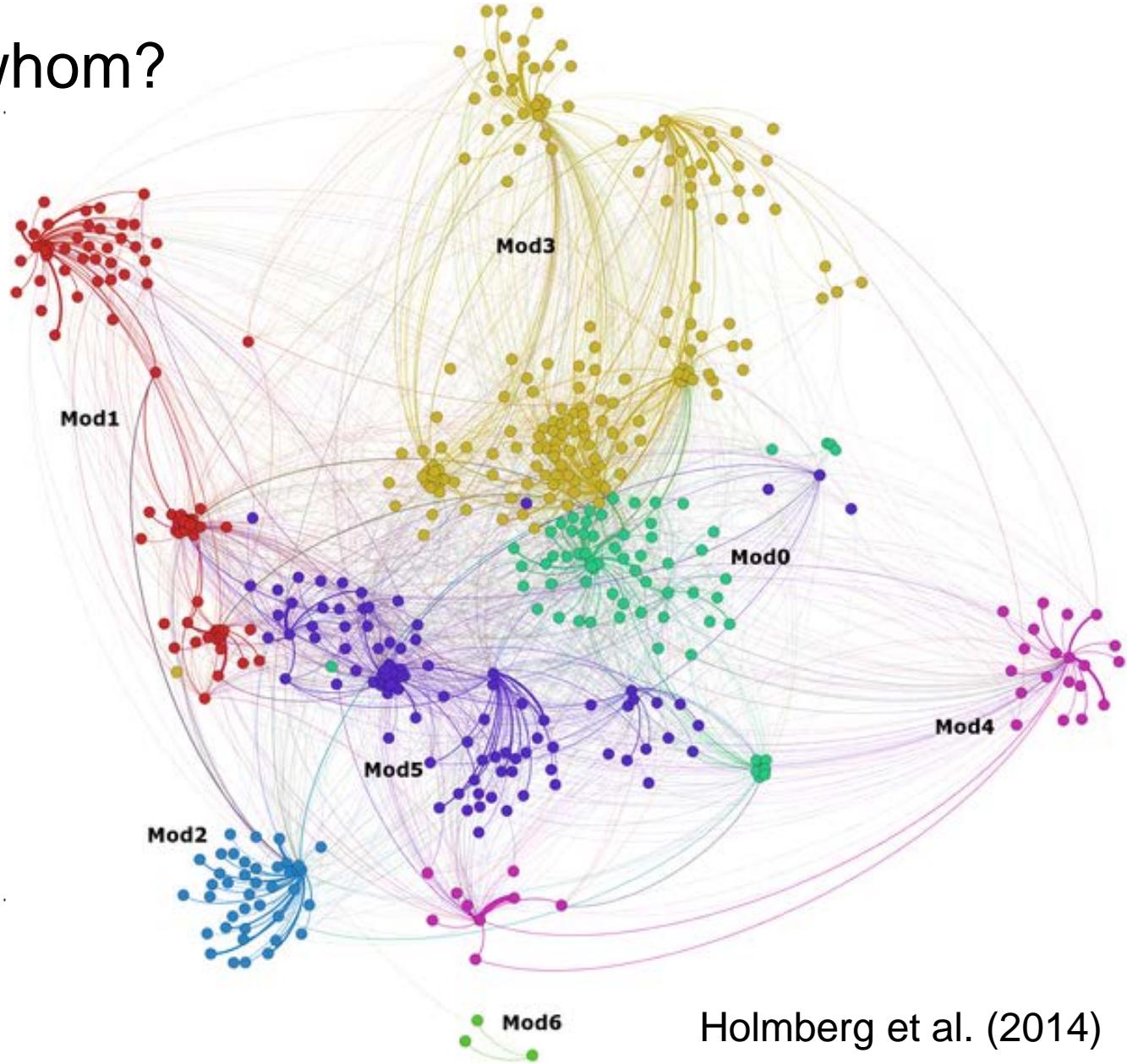
- Roles of the users mentioned in the tweets

Role or profession	
Science communicator	24.13%
Other astrophysicists	21.62%
Organization or association	13.32%
Other	11.20%
Unknown	8.11%
32 astrophysicists	6.18%
Other researchers	5.98%
Teacher or educator	3.67%
Corporative	2.32%
Students	2.12%
Amateur astronomer	1.35%

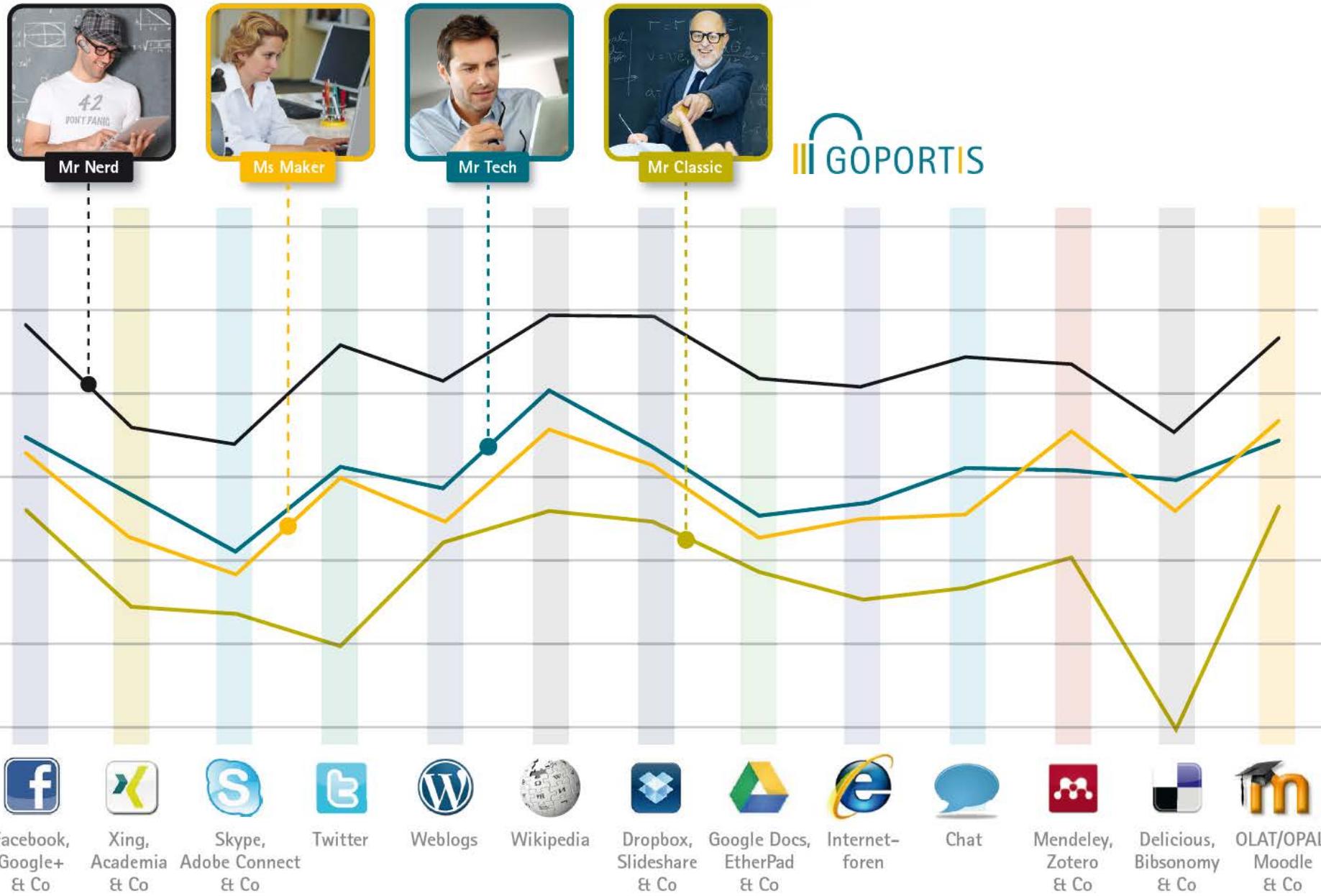
doi:10.1371/journal.pone.0106086.t001

Holmberg et al. (2014)

Who talks to whom?



The 4 social media-types in science



Take aways

- Challenges
 - Data manipulation: creating usage, faking impact
 - Data quality
 - Representativeness: what do we miss?
- Research desiderata
 - Use of social media tools varies (discipline-specific: Haustein & Siebenlist, 2011; Holmberg & Thelwall, 2013; Mohammadi & Thelwall, 2013)
 - Understand context of using research products
 - Understand information flows
 - Support selection of tools and evaluation of indicators

Barcamp: Wissenschaft 2.0 Forschung neu entdecken

17./18. October 2014
Hamburg

www.wissenschaft-kontrovers.de



wissenschaft im dialog

Wissenschaft kontrovers
im Wissenschaftsjahr 2014 – Die digitale Gesellschaft

Barcamp: **Wissenschaft 2.0 - Forschung neu denken**

17./18. Oktober 2014
Hamburg

In Kooperation mit dem
Leibniz-Forschungsverbund Science 2.0

Freitag, 17.10.2014
13–18 Uhr
Samstag, 18.10.2014
10–18 Uhr

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Second International Science 2.0-Conference

25./26. March 2015
Hamburg

#sci20conf

Foto: © Timo Wilke

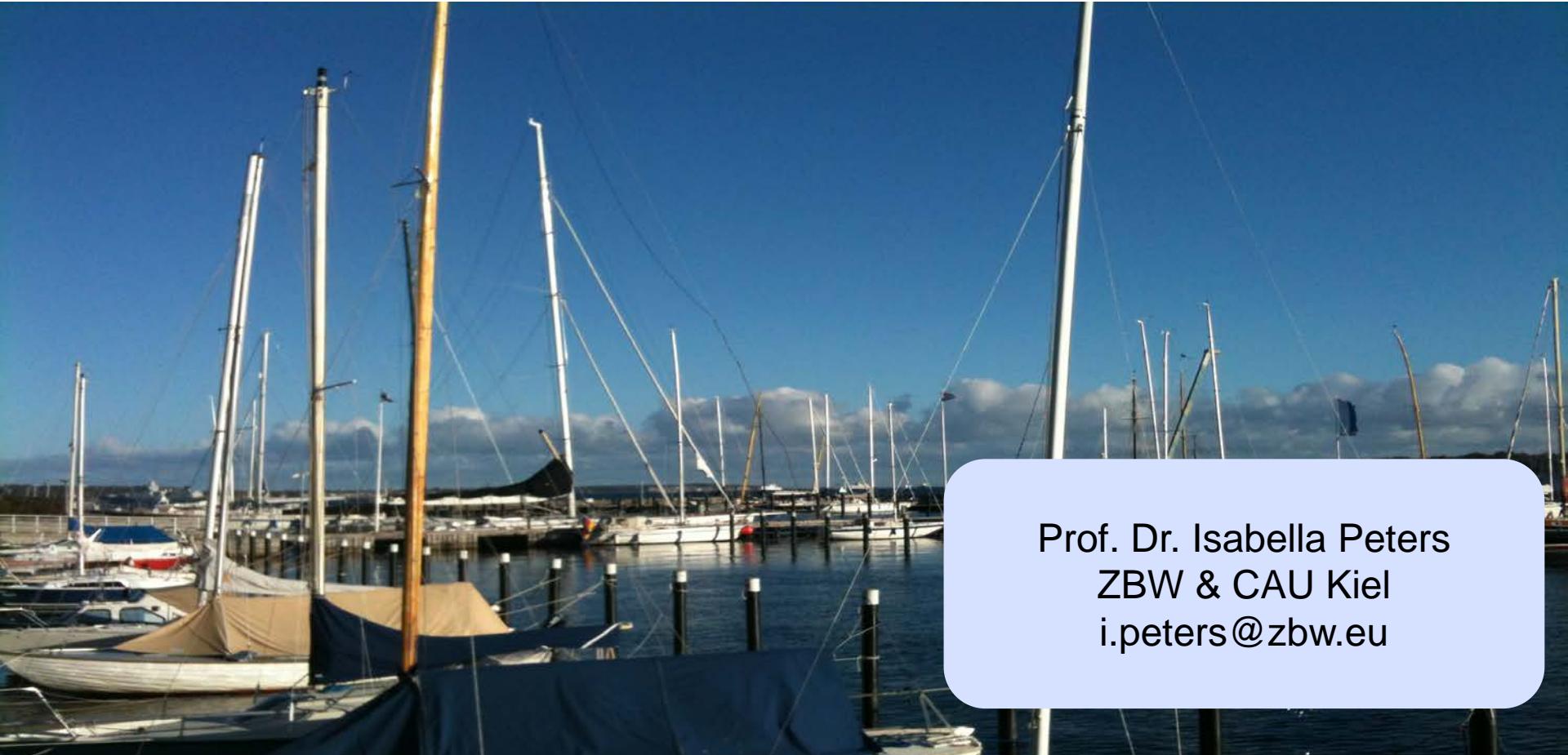


www.science20-conference.de

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- Social Media-Typen: http://www.goportis.de/fileadmin/downloads/aktuelles/Bericht_escience_2_0_Hochschulsample_Download.pdf

Thank you! Vielen Dank!



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