

PHILOSOPHY

LINK FARMS

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There is an upsurge of so-called “[impact augmentation papers](#)” – authors review only papers published in their own journal. Imagine you are an editor. You have published last year 100 articles, 50 are not being cited at all, 45 are being cited 3 times, 4 articles are being cited 20 times. Your papers are being cited 215 times, divided by 99, voila your impact is being 2.17, not too bad (although it would be fair to say that you had picked up only 4 nice papers). Lets go – send out an email to a buddy to write an impact augmentation paper – “the year in retrospect in our famous journal”. Lets say, this paper now cites all your orphan papers, in total 85 articles. So your overall impact is $215+85 / 99+1 = 3.0$. Wow, an increase of nearly one point by just one paper! Did ICI Thomson notice that? Nay, nay.

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