PHILOSOPHY

WORTHLESS CITATION COUNTS?

3.04.2022

from <u>referee3</u>

Even citation counts, the supposed gold standard, are close to worthless: only a tiny fraction of citations represent serious evaluation or validation, whereas the great majority represent nothing more than lazy copying and fashion-following. Two anecdotes demonstrate just how worthless citation counts can be:Some of the most highly-cited researchers in the world have been exposed as <u>gaming the citation system</u> and as charlatans. <u>Papers with thousands of citations</u> turn out to be false; obviously not one of those citations represented a serious validation.

CC-BY-NC Science Surf 3.04.2022, access 18.10.2025 ☐