A Review of Proliferation of Researcher Identification (ID)

Nagabhushanam Chintha*

Abstract: The paper deals with study of researcher identification (ID) and it enumerates various researcher ID that are available for authors. It points out the proliferation of research ID's and the role they play in the existing environment. It discusses the various advantages of research Id's and concludes that it helps the authors to distinguish themselves among the global research community.

Keywords: Researcher ID, Researcher Identification, Scopus ID, DOI, Google Scholar ID,

Introduction

It is very common that every researcher writes or produces a lot of literature. Are we really recognizing it? The answer may be inclined towards no. If a research scholar or researcher produces a qualitative research work, then it will certainly notice or recognized. Research is supposed to be the result of advancing knowledge created in the past. There are people from all walks of life that contribute to the gathering of information. These may include ordinary as well as extraordinary people. They comprise, teachers, students, scientists, professors, scholars, business owners, librarians, book keepers, authors, politicians and many more unknown out there. It is difficult to trace them all. How do we trace out, we are lost in the ocean information. The research encompasses creative work undertaken on a systematic basis in order to increase the stock of knowledge, including knowledge of man, culture and society, and the use of this stock of knowledge to devise new applications. Research is a systematic inquiry to describe, explain, predict and control the observed phenomenon. Research involves inductive and deductive methods [1]. Research is a careful and detailed study into a specific problem, concern, or issue using the scientific method [2].

Do we really need Researcher Identification (ID)?

Identifying the researcher and organization unambiguously or individually is very significant for recording, searching and reporting about the information. Problems in identifying researchers are caused by several reasons, e.g. authors having the same or similar name, spelling errors and differences in transliterated names. In case of the organizations the problems similar problems

also exist due to different spellings of the name of the organization, different languages etc. An author is narrowly defined as the originator of any written work and can thus also be described as a writer (with any distinction primarily being an implication that an author is a writer of one or more major works, such as books or plays). More broadly defined, an author is "the person who originated or gave existence to anything" and whose authorship determines responsibility for what was created.

Different types IDs:

There are domestic and international projects which aim to fix the situation under way, for example by using identification codes for identifying researchers using ORCID, ResearcherID, ScopusID, DOI, PubMed ID, arXiv ID, RePEc ID, ISBN etc.

ORCID:

ORCID stands for "Open Researcher & Contributor ID" [3]. The ORCID Organization is an open, non-profit group working to provide a registry of unique researcher identifiers and a transparent method of linking research activities and outputs to these identifiers. Researchers can sign up for an ORCID for free via an easy registration process on (http://www.orcid.org.) ORCID is an interdisciplinary effort, it has an international scope and provides foundational services that aims to improve scholarly communications for all researchers. ORCID allows to link with other identifier systems, including those maintained by funders and publishers, and exchange data freely with those research information systems. One researcher may have many profiles or identifiers like Academia.edu, Mendeley, Google scholar, Research Gate, ISNI, Scopus, Thomson Reuters and ORCID. But the ORCID is open data APIs and documentation.

ResearcherID:

ResearcherID is an identifying system for scientific authors. The system was introduced in January 2008 by Thomson Reuters (http://www.researcherid.com/Home.action) .   Each member is assigned a unique identifier to enable them to manage their publication lists, track their times cited counts and h-index, identify potential collaborators and avoid author misidentification. ResearcherID provides a solution to the author ambiguity problem within the scholarly research community [4]. In addition, ResearcherID information integrates with the Web of Science and is ORCID compliant, allowing to claim and showcase publications from a

single one account. Search the registry to find collaborators, review publication lists and explore how research is used around the world. On the ResearcherID website, authors are asked to link their ResearcherID to their own articles. In this way, they can also keep their publication list up to date and online. A comprehensive view of an author's total output can thus be given, since not all publications are indexed by Web of Science. This is particularly important for researchers in fields that predominantly use peer-reviewed conference articles or in fields that focus on publishing books and chapters in books.

Scopus ID:

Scopus Author ID is another identifier used specifically by the Scopus database and has many of the same features as the ResearcherID in that it helps manage publication lists and citations. The Scopus Author ID is a unique number automatically assigned to each author. The author who has published an article and whose has at least one publication indexed by Scopus. It groups together all the publications written by the author. Scopus Author Identifier uses an algorithm that matches author's name based on their affiliation, address, subject area, source title, date of publication, citations, and co-authors. Citation metrics such as number of times cited and h-index are calculated using data from Scopus [5]. The author should check all the publications appearing in his profile and request corrections if needed to ensure that his citation metrics is accurate. The easiest way to manage profile is through the Scopus to ORCID wizard: http://orcid.scopusfeedback.com/.   Scopus distinguishes between authors with the same name by giving each author a separate Scopus Author ID and grouping together all the documents written by that particular author.

Digital Object Identifier (DOI)

A digital object identifier (DOI) is a type of persistent identifier used to uniquely and permanently identify objects. The DOI system is particularly used for electronic documents such as journal articles. The DOI system began in the year 2000 and is managed by the International DOI Foundation. DOI means "digital identifier of an object" rather than "identifier of a digital object" [6]. Thus DOI stands for "digital object-identifier" rather than "digital-object identifier". Metadata about the object is stored in association with the DOI name. It may include a location, such as a URL, indicating where the object can be found. The DOI for a document remains fixed

over the lifetime of the document, whereas its location and other metadata may change. Referring to an online document by its DOI provides more stable linking than simply using its URL, because if its URL changes, the publisher only need to update the metadata for the DOI to link to the new URL [7] and ISO Working Group.

The DOI has applications that reach far beyond the realm of scientific literature; however, the organization of scholarly material is one primary function. The current APA style for referencing primary literature includes a DOI as a standard part of the citation whenever it is available. Organizations that meet the contractual obligations of the DOI system and are willing to pay to become a member of the system can assign DOIs. The DOI system is implemented through a federation of registration agencies coordinated by the International DOI Foundation, which develop and controls the system.

Google Scholar ID

It is a simple way for authors to keep track of citations to their articles. One can check who is citing the publications; citations graph over time, and compute several citation metrics. It can also make a profile public, so that it may appear in Google Scholar results when people search for by author's name.

One can create his own Google Scholar Citations profile at http://scholar.google.com. One has to match his publications profile. When one makes his profile public, it will appear in the Google Scholar results when people search for that particular name [8].

To illustrate with an example: https://scholar.google.co.in/citations?user=Ih3Jlr0AAAAJ&hl=en is the Google Scholar Citations profile of Chintha Nagabhushanam. On the Google Scholar Citations profile one can find the Number of citations, H-index and Publish or Perish. Publish or Perish is a software program that retrieves and analyzes academic citations. It uses Google Scholar to obtain the raw citations, then analyzes these and presents several metrics, including Number of papers, Number of citations, Number of citations per paper, H-index and G-index

PubMed ID

PubMed is a service of the US National Library of Medicine which provides free access to MEDLINE. The NLM database indexes citations and abstracts of medical, nursing, dental,

veterinary, health care, and preclinical science journal articles. It includes additional selected life sciences journals which are not in MEDLINE [9].

PMID is the unique identifier number used in PubMed. The PubMed Indexing Number, or PMID, is assigned to each article, as it is added to the PubMed database. This is a number used by PubMed to index the literature within MEDLINE, the U.S. National Library of Medicine's (NLM) premier bibliographic database. They are assigned to each article record, when it enters the PubMed system, so an in press publication will not have one unless it is issued as an electronic pre-publication. The PMID is always found at the end of a PubMed citation.

Research Papers in Economics (RePEc ID)

RePEc (Research Papers in Economics) is a collaborative effort of hundreds of volunteers in 88 countries to enhance the dissemination of research in Economics and related sciences. The heart of the project is a decentralized bibliographic database of working papers, journal articles, books, books, chapters and software components, all maintained by volunteers [10]. The collected data are then used in various services that serve the collected metadata to users or enhance it. RePEc ID Author Service credentials to log into some other websites using the OpenID schema. This means that users do not need to use separate user names and passwords for those websites. OpenID uses a user's web page to establish credentials, as long as the website participates in OpenID.

The RePEc Author Service now does so, with the drawback that few users know their profile URL (for example: http://authors.repec.org/pro/pzi1/). For this reason, services using OpenID credentials through RePEc will typically request the user's RePEc short-ID (for example: pzi1). The latter can be found on an author's profile on EconPapers or IDEAS, or by using a RePEc short-ID lookup tool. OpenID authentication through RePEc is currently in use for the maintenance of reading lists and publication compilations on IDEAS, as well as for the RePEc plagiarism committee. The other services which require authentication.

International Standards Book Number (ISBN)

The purpose of having a standard number is to give a book a unique identification. The ISBN can be assigned to any monographic publication or map that is widely distributed. It includes self-publishers or individuals with private publishing. The use of the ISBN is advantageous to

libraries as well as bookshops since it uniquely identifies a publication. It is also assigned to audio cassettes, disks, CD-ROMs, DVDs etc., provided that their contents are equivalent to books. The ISBN can also be used for online publications if the documents are monographic and of a relatively permanent nature [11]. It can be novel, thesis, or serial monograph, all of which can be ordered in bookstores. It is recommended that ISBN be included in the publication's metadata.

Researcher Profiles on the Web

A variety of social networking sites are available for researchers to create public profiles to attract interest in their work, publications and skills. Some of those currently available are identified below.

Academia.edu

Designed for graduate students and academics, as a platform for academics to share research papers, monitor deep analytics around the impact of their research, and track the research of academics they follow.

LinkedIn

Launched in May, 2003, LinkedIn now has 225 million+ members. It enables the free creation of online profiles, to "connect the world's professionals to make them more productive and successful".

Mendeley

Mendeley was launched in 2008 and was designed around four key goals - to facilitate referencing, to improve access to publications, to enable collaboration and to support networking among researchers. It provides a free basic version. Elsevier purchased Mendeley in March 2013.

Research Gate

Originated from Germany in 2008 and now has 2.7 million members. Designed for researchers to set up profiles and identify their work, publications, interests and skills; to engage in discussions and collaborate on projects with other researchers.

The benefits of Researches ID

There are several benefits of having a Researcher ID. However, some they are as follows:

- It is a Free and 'forever' digital name
- Accurate author identification
- Enables recognition of their research outputs
- Identify and track researchers and scholar
- To have your list of articles at one place.
- Citation metrics available any time
- Dissemination of research results
- Collaboration with other researchers is possible
- Compute several citation metrics
- Graph citations over time
- You can check who is citing your publications
- Make your profile public, Google Scholar results when people search for your name,
- Online user profiles
- Publication list

Conclusion

All of these Researcher IDs are a global registry of author and researcher identifiers that aims to resolve the issue of name ambiguity. IDs are being integrated into the workflow of granting agencies and journal manuscript submission systems internationally. Having an ID allows researchers and contributors to academic publications to create a unique identifier that distinguishes them among the global research community. "ID" provides a simple and transparent method of linking research activities and outputs to individuals. These links, as well as other information such as alternative names, and biographical information, are available on a researcher's ID profile page."

About Author

*Nagabhushanam Chintha   E-mail: cnbhushanam@gmail.com
Head Librarian   ORCID: http://orcid.org/0000-0003-2318-3762
CMR College of Engineering & Technology   Researcher ID: http://www.researcherid.com/rid/D-3443-2015
Hyderabad

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