# Using Google Scholar in research evaluation of SSH programs



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To appear in Research Evaluation, 2015

#### Bibliometrics for SSH Programs?

- Coverage in WoS hampers bibliometric analyses in SSH
- Experiment for a bibliometric study in two formal research assessments in SSH
- Google Scholar (GS) based for two fields
  - Education and Pedagogical Sciences (Ed/Ped)
  - Anthropology



#### Selection of Data

- Ed/Ped: 13 programs of six universities, 6 years
- Anthropology: 5 programs of 5 universities, 9 years
- Selection of publications
  - Ed/Ped: directors send in 10 publications per year
  - Anthr.: 5-10 most cited publications per year depending on size of program



# Google Scholar Data Retrieval and Validity test

Scholar	6 resultaten (0,03 sec)	
Elke periode Sinds 2012 Sinds 2011 Sinds 2008 Aangepast bereik	Developmental changes in semantic verbal fluency: Analyses of word productivity as a function   Zoeken in citerende artikelen	1 <sup>st</sup> order data
Sorteren op relevantie Sorteren op datum	Executive strategic processing during verbal fluency performance in children with phenylketonuria  P. Banerjee, DK Grange, RD Steiner Child, 2011 - Taylor & Francis  In the current study, we examined a specific aspect of executive abilities, strategic processing, in 32 children with early-treated phenylketonuria (PKU) and 41 typically-	ĮΗ.
Het internet doorzoeken Zoeken in pagina's in het Nederlands	developing control children. To do so, clustering and switching were assessed during  Geciteerd door 4 Verwante artikelen Alle 7 versies  Verbale vloeiendheidstaken bij kinderen Petra Hurks	
inclusief patenten inclusief citaten	P Hurks - tvn.boomtijdschriften.nl In de klinische praktijk alsmede in wetenschappelijk onderzoek wordt veelvuldig gebruikgemaakt van zogenaamde verbale vloeiendheidstaken: taken die ook wel bekendstaan onder de noemer van'Verbal Fluency','Freelisting'en/of'Category production' Verwante artikelen In cache	2 <sup>nd</sup> order data,
Melding maken	Sex differences in arithmetical performance scores: Central tendency and variability R Martens, PPM Hurks, C Meijs, R Wassenberg Learning and Individual, 2011 - Elsevier The present study aimed to analyze sex differences in arithmetical performance in a large- scale sample of 390 children (193 boys) frequenting grades 1♦9. Past research in this field has focused primarily on average performance, implicitly assuming homogeneity of Verwante artikelen Alle 5 versies	stored in database
	Does Instruction in Semantic Clustering and Switching Enhance Verbal Fluency in Children?  PPM Hurks - The Clinical Neuropsychologist, 2012 - Taylor & Francis  This study investigated (1) test ◆ retest reliabilities of Verbal Fluency (VF) outcome measures (ie, word productivity, clustering, and switching) and (2) the effects of a brief training on semantic clustering to improve performance on a VF task. A total of 81 children enrolled in  Verwante artikelen Alle 3 versies	



### Cleaning for Data quality

	Total number of verifiable citations	Percentage of total found citations
Ed/Ped	22887	89,8%
Anthropology	8092	89,7%

Verifiable (2<sup>nd</sup> order) citation data in GS:

Proper internet address (URL) to journal, academic publisher, university library, acknowledged repository (Mendeley, SSRN, Academia.edu etc), academic societies etc.



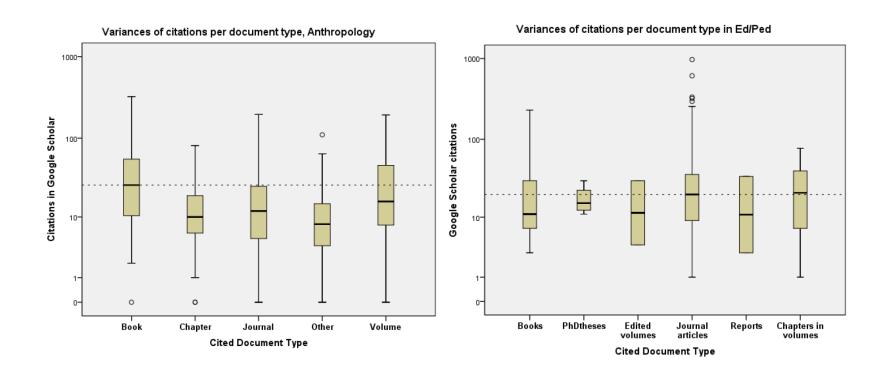
#### Citing sources in Scholar

Source	Anthro- pology #	Anthro- pology %	Ed/Ped #	Ed/Ped %
Academic sources	4573	56.5%	14470	63.2%
University Libraries	1677	20.7%	4573	20.0%
Repositories other than ULs	616	7.6%	1236	5.4%
Other Sources	327	4.0%	1085	4.7%
Unknown	899	11.1%	1523	6.7%
Total	8092	100.0%	22887	100.0%

56% to 63% of total volume of citations is found in academic sources (scientific journals and academic publishers)
About 20% of the citations are located in University Libraries



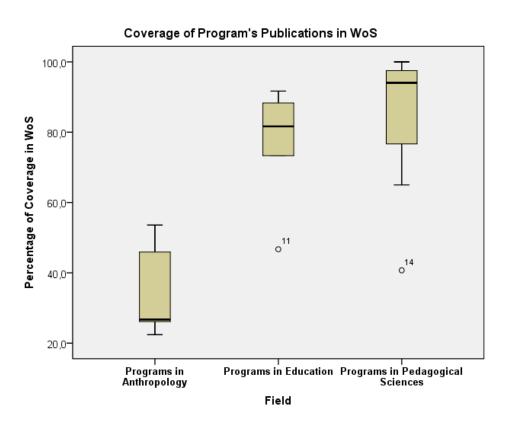
#### Cited documents





#### Representation in WoS







## Comparing GS and WoS (1)

CWTS Meaningful metrics	Citations in GS	Citations in GS, Academic sources	Citations in WoS
Anthropology	8092	4573	1097
Education &	22887	14470	8870

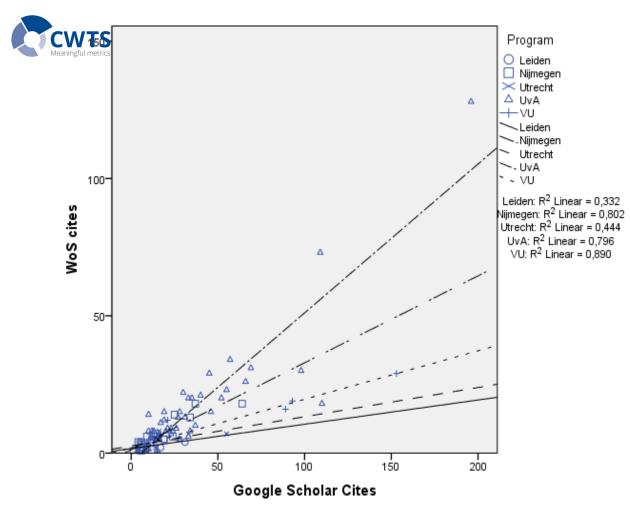
 Information in GS exceeds that of WoS even when limited to academic sources (scientific journals and academic publishers)

**Pedagogical** 

Sciences



## Comparing GS and WoS (2)

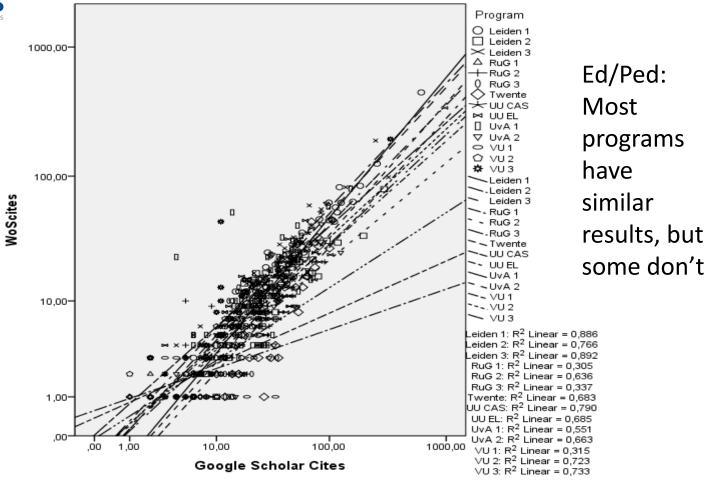


Anthropology: programs differ in benefitting from using GS



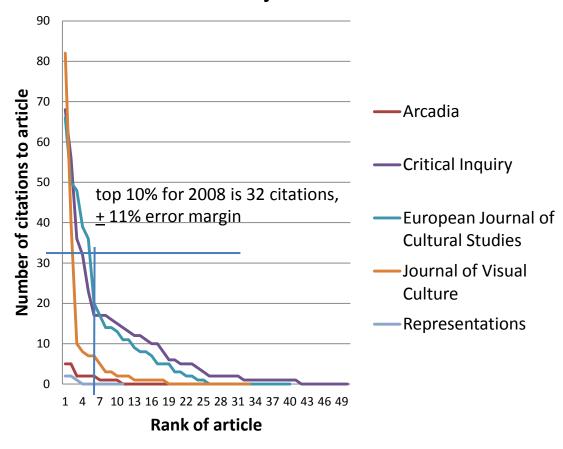
#### Comparing GS and WoS (3)





#### Possibilities of benchmarking in GS?

#### Stratifying Citation levels based on articles in 5 Humanities journals for 2008



- Journal statistics available...
- What about Books, volumes?, Conference papers?, Catalogues?



#### Issues in using GS



- Workload and important data limitations
- Possibilities for field normalization
- What is a citation? Shifting definition.
- Choosing a proper selection base
- The place of bibliometrics in research evaluations



#### Conclusions

- Google Scholar is a valuable resource:
  - The amount of information in Google Scholar is much larger than in WoS: 2,5 to 8 times esp. in SSH
- But in using Google Scholar...
  - Only small/medium-scale studies are currently possible, due to access (and data reliability control)
  - New forms for field normalization are necessary
  - How much is Google Scholar indexing from the total output?



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