Modelling Co-Evolving Scholarly Networks and the Collective Allocation of Research Funding, and Broadcasting STI Forecasts

Katy Börner, Cyberinfrastructure for Network Science Center School of Informatics and Computing, Indiana University, USA Royal Netherlands Academy of Arts and Sciences (KNAW), The Netherlands

Planning, Prediction, Scenarios--Using Simulations and Maps Conference European Academy of Technology and Innovation Assessment, Bonn, Germany

May 11, 2015













































NEWSFOCUS

Making Every Scientist a Research Funder

When it comes to using peer review to distribute research dollars, Johan Bollen favors radical simplicity.

Over the years, many scientists have suggested that the current system could be improved by changing the composition of the review panels, tweaking the interactions among reviewers, or revising how the proposals are scored. But Bollen, a computer scientist at Indiana University, Bloomington, would simply award all eligible researchers a block grant—and then require them to give some of it away to colleagues they judge most deserving.

That radical step, described in a paper Bollen and four Indiana colleagues recently posted on *EMBO Reports*, retains peer review's core concept of tapping into the views of the most knowledgeabe researchers. But it would eliminate the huge investment in time and money required to submit proposals and assemble panels to judge them. Bollen's process would be almost instantaneous: In a version of expert-

Bollen's process would be almost instantaneous: In a version of expertdirected crowdsourcing, scientists would fill out a form once a year listing their favored researchers, and a predetermined portion of their annual grant money—a total of, say, 50%—would then be transferred to their choices. "So many scientists spend so much time on peer review, and there's a high

"So many scientists spend so much time on peer review, and there's a high level of frustration," Bollen explains. "We already know who the best people are. And if you're doing good work, then you deserve to receive support." Others are skeptical. "I've known Johan for a long time and have the highest regard for his ability as an out-of-the-box thinker," says Stephen Griffin, a retired National Science Foundation (NSF) program manager who's now avistiting professor of information sciences at the University of Pittsburgh in Pennsylvaria. "But there are a number of issues he doesn't address." Those sticking points include the likely mismatch between what research-

Those stucking points include the likely mismatch between what researchers need and what their colleagues give them; the absence of any replacement for the overhead payments in today's grants, which support infrastructure at host institutions; and the dearth of public accountability for the billions of dollars that would flow from public coffers to individuals. "Scientists aren't really equipped to be a funding agency," Griffin notes. Bollen acknowledges that the process would need safeguards to ensure

Bollen acknowledges that the process would need safeguards to ensure that scientists don't reward their friends or punish their enemies. But his analysis suggests that the U.S. research landscape would not look all that different if his radical proposal were adopted.

Drawing upon citation data in 37 million papers over 20 years, the Indiana researchers conducted a simulation premised on the idea that scientists would reallocate their federal dollars according to how often they cited their peers. The simulation, he says, yielded a funding pattern "similar in shape to the actual distribution" at NSF and the National Institutes of Health for the past decade—at a fraction of the overhead required by the current system.

Science 7 February 2014: Vol. 343 no. 6171 p. 598 DOI: 10.1126/science.343.6171.598 http://www.sciencemag.org/content/343/6171/598.full?sid=4f40a7f0-6ba2-4ad8-a181-7ab394fe2178



24

20

February

From funding agencies to scientific agency: Collective allocation of science funding as an alternative to peer review

Bollen, Johan, David Crandall, Damion Junk, Ying Ding, and Katy Börner. 2014. EMBO Reports 15 (1): 1-121.

Assume

Total funding budget in year y is t_y Number of qualified scientists is n

Each year,

the funding agency deposits a fixed amount into each account, equal to the total funding budget divided by the total number of scientists: t_y/n .

Each scientist must distribute a fixed fraction of received funding to other scientists (no self-funding, COIs respected).

Result

Scientists collectively assess each others' merit based on different criteria; they "fund-rank" scientists; highly ranked scientists have to distribute more money.











Monitoring, Modeling, and Forecasting Tools for Fostering an Innovative S&T Workforce

With Nicolas Payette. Work in progress.

This project aims to develop monitoring, modeling, and forecasting approaches and tools for fostering an innovative science and technology workforce.

Large-scale datasets of scholarly activity including funding, publications, patents, and job openings among others are analyzed and modeled. NetLogo is used to study the

impact of transportation pathways (here airport traffic data) on co-authorships formed. We also model the diffusion of ideas via transportation and collaboration networks.









,	Tasks	LEVELS				
	1 45135	MICRO: Individual Level about 1–1,000 records page 6	MESO: Local Level about 1,001–100,000 records page 8	MACRO: Global Level more than 100,000 records page 10		
	TYPES	Ť ^Ŕ ħŤŤŤŤŤŤŤŤŤŤŤ				
	Statistical Analysis page 44	Knowledge Cartography pge 135	Productivity of Russian tile sciences research teams page 105	Values and fouring in Englishment I and the second		
	WHEN: Temporal Analysis page 48	Visualting design with the second s	Key events in the development of the video tape recorder page 85	increased travel and commutation page 3		
	WHERE: Geospatial Analysis page 52	Cell phone usage in Maian, taily page 109	Victorian poetry in prope page 137	Comprise Com		
	WHAT: Topical Analysis page 55 Learning Barting tonato Against - Jonatha Technology Design Research to the	have a case a balance of the flawfully balance of the flawfully balance of the flawfully of apple for the flawfully	Evolving journal nanotechnology page 19	Product space fhooring statem of counties page 93		
Atlas of Knowledge Anyone Can Map	WITH WHOM: Network Analysis page 60	World Finance Corporation network page 97	Electronic and new media art networks page 33	Worldwide scholarly collaboration age 157		
	See page 5	1				



Insight Need Types page 26	Data Scale Types page 28	Visualization Types page 30	Graphic Symbol Types page 32	Graphic Variable Types page 34	Interaction Types page 26
of Knowledge	 nominal ordinal interval ratio 	 table chart graph map network layout 	geometric symbols point line area surface volume linguistic symbols text numerals punctuation marks plctorial symbols images icons statistical glyphs	 spatial position retinal form color optics motion 	 overview zoom search and locate filter details-on-demand history extract link and brush projection distortion

				1	Georgetik Symboli	-		Linguistic Symbols	Petratal Tymbols
-	x r z	gerikkin					••••••••••••••••••••••••••••••••••••••	Test	
Γ		(and into	TAK (THAK AN AND A STATE OF A STA			Series States	The browsed backet Mass.	Martine Martine	Annual States of the States of
Ľ	stape	-	794			3		Text Red Lat Text Skat	
	notation.	antista	HA.	111-				the star and the the	1 mm mm
2	curature	quatiate	796	1 ((((0000			test Test Seve Seve	00000
	Alife	antista	PA6.	VVVLL	0000	Some	table calls are left Wards to encourage exploration of combinations.	test test test due due	00000
	cloure	gettale	794	CCCCO	0000			6 4) 4) 40 40	00000
F	nie	antiste		•				for the fed for field	
in the	-10	-			-	8		Text Not first Text Text	t one to see
	utralia	autiain	· · · · · · · · · · · ·					first first first first first	🗩 Station water 🔉 Story water
n	spectrag				因關國議議	日間部部間間		こ 図 線 瞬 🔳	
	contaity	curificius					183 /2 C .:		
-	rates					100 100 100 000 000 000 000 000 000 000			333 165 ETE 100
1	crietation.	verificion	84. W						Contraction of the local
	undert	perildus	······································		····· /··· /··· /···			1111 /III /III /III /III	
H	star :	catilities	••••		4444			Test Test Test Test Test	00000
	тапранко	tomitation	• • • • • • • • • • •					Test Test Test Test Test	00000
Get	shaling	-			4444			Text Text Text Text Text	00000
	simoupk orgh	-	Point in Respond	Deter Elegend - badgened	lesin Depterd - badgound	Suries in Empland _ tackground Emp	win nand . belgeved	Secial Despravaltextpowed	konik teptant - talipta
	Kasandadas	-		4 4 4 4				0. 0. 0. 0.	0.0.0.0.0.
	Mip	3		1 1 1 1	6 6 6 6 6 9		·	0.0.0.0	0.0.0.00
	A Barn	-	Sinterg pare	Entryles	finite games	Entry series Elste	rg solaria	Elisting test	Enloycon

