Introducing Altmetric: Helping authors measure article impact

Altmetric & IEEE

As of February 24th, 2016, articles published in IEEE and IET journals will include the Altmetric donut on the metrics tab of their IEEE Xplore article page.

Altmetric tracks the number of mentions an article has gotten on social media, blog posts, news stories, etc. Each color on the Altmetric donut corresponds to a type of online activity.

Clicking on the donut or on any of the media sources listed on the side will bring up a detailed report. Authors can analyze the geographic and demographic composition of their audience and follow links to each mention.
To see how the Altmetrics donut is displayed in a live article visit the metrics tab for “A Low-Cost Open-Source Metal 3-D Printer” on IEEE Xplore.

How Altmetric helps researchers

- It can take years before an article’s influence is reflected in citations. Altmetric gives authors a way to gauge the impact of recently published articles.
- Altmetric gives authors a way to demonstrate the impact of their work without relying on citation counts and H-index values. This may be useful information for authors (especially early career researchers) applying for funding, tenure, etc.
- By analyzing Altmetric data, authors can discover which audiences are most interested in their work.

Additional resources

- Video: A beginner’s guide to Altmetric: [https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=M6XawJ7-880](https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=M6XawJ7-880)