

INTERNATIONAL SCIENTIFIC CONFERENCES PROCEEDINGS AS A SUBJECT OF
SCIENTOMETRIC STUDIES

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The comparison of results of bibliometric studies of scientific international conferences proceedings -- from one to another conference of the same status and on the same topic -- allows to obtain a simplified, formalized and unbiased notion of a certain scientific branch development dynamics. The analysis of publications allow to trace the alterations in different scientific schools activities and in topic structure of research, the changes of priorities, appearance of new areas etc. The analysis of bibliographic references allows to obtain formalized characteristics of the cognitive basis (intellectual background) of the most important results (that can be considered "quotas" for the corresponding indices) as well as the processes and structure of information consumption obtained up to a certain period of time.

Some of the results of the studies of the Proceedings of the 2nd (1989) and 3rd (1991) Symposia on Bone Marrow Purging and Processing (ICBMP-2 and -3) are reported below.

Mean number of references in a ICBMP-2 paper is 16.95; that means that the papers are well-grounded and the magnitude of 16.95 may be considered as a "quota". The corresponding magnitude for ICBMP-3 is 9.93, i.e. even a bit less than the minimum Price's "quota" for non-humanities. The average "age" of cited references is 4.63 (ICBMP-2) and 6.23 (ICBMP-3) years, the aging not being a favorable symptom of a branch development.

Discipline structure of references became a more narrow one: from 32 disciplines presented by cited journals to 24 ones. As for the species structure, there was almost no monographs and patents cited in the both Proceedings that might mean the lack of generalizing works and insufficient level of developments. The citation leaders, the topic structure of contributions, the impact of institutions and countries, the journals cited were also revealed.