

Topical Collection at a MDPI Title Contains Massive Citations to the Guest Editor

The topical collection "Critical Metals and Minerals in Coal and Coal Combustion Products" at the MDPI title "Minerals" is found to contain an excessive number of citations to the guest editor, DAI Shifeng (代世峰) from the China University of Mining and Technology (Beijing).

Topical Collection: Critical Metals and Minerals in Coal and Coal Combustion Products
Guest Editor: DAI Shifeng and David French

DOI	Author_Nation	Dai_Authored	Total_Reference	Citation_to_Dai	Proportion
10.3390/min10040328	China	No	45	23	51%
10.3390/min9040206	US	No	40	18	45%
10.3390/min10020138	China	No	94	39	41%
10.3390/min10040323	China	No	88	36	41%
10.3390/min10070627	China	No	70	26	37%
10.3390/min9050259	China	No	68	24	35%
10.3390/min9030184	China	No	71	24	34%
10.3390/min9070402	China	No	116	37	32%
10.3390/min10080714	China Germany	No	91	28	31%
10.3390/min10010044	China Spain	No	96	29	30%
10.3390/min10060496	China UK Israel	No	82	24	29%
10.3390/min10090776	China Germany	No	100	24	24%
10.3390/min11111230	China UK	No	91	20	22%
10.3390/min10060543	China	No	60	13	22%
10.3390/min10050399	China	No	66	14	21%
10.3390/min10060521	China US	No	129	27	21%
10.3390/min8110504	China	No	77	16	21%
10.3390/min11010019	China Russia Australia	Yes	124	25	20%
10.3390/min9080496	China Spain	No	66	13	20%
10.3390/min9060358	China Australia	No	76	14	18%
10.3390/min9110708	China	No	50	8	16%
10.3390/min11121411	Czech Republic	No	57	7	12%
10.3390/min10050422	Poland	No	102	10	10%
10.3390/min10070635	UK Australia	No	76	5	7%
10.3390/min9050312	Poland	No	78	4	5%
10.3390/min10050470	Poland	No	47	0	0%

A total of 26 articles were published in this topical collection, among which 508 references were co-authored by Dai. Notably, 10 out of these 26 articles (approximately 38%) include at least 30% of references co-authored by him. The proportion even reaches to 51% in the article [1].

These patterns raise concerns about the necessity of these citations and whether such citation patterns were manipulated.

[1] 10.3390/min10040328

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