

Macro Roundup Article

Headline: [Paper Tiger? Chinese Science and Home Bias in Citations](#)

Article Link: <https://www.nber.org/papers/w32468>

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Publication	National Bureau of Economic Research
Publication Date	May 24, 2024

Tweet: Chinese scientific research shows a strong "home bias" where researchers disproportionately cite work from their own country. An adjusted citation ranking places China fourth globally, behind the US, the UK, and Germany.
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Summary: We investigate the phenomenon of home bias in scientific citations, where researchers disproportionately cite work from their own country. We measure home bias as deviations from a benchmark model, which we base on a “dartboard approach” by asking: How many citations would we expect country *i* to receive from country *j*, if world citations were distributed only according to the size of the citing and cited countries? The benchmark citation flows distribute world citations according to the total share of citations the cited country *i* received from the world, and the share of the size of the potential citing country *j* based on its world publication share. We now define home bias of a country *i* as the deviation of its actual citation shares from the benchmark citation share. In Figure 2 we calculate the home bias across countries implied by [this method]. All countries in our sample exhibit home bias to some extent. However, China is a clear outlier with a home bias of 42.3%, followed by Iran (23.2%), and India (23.2%). The home bias of the US is on the larger side of the remaining countries, at 15.9%.

Related Articles: [Creating and Connecting US and China Science: Chinese Diaspora and Returnee Researchers and The U.S. Is Turning Away From Its Biggest Scientific Partner at a Precarious Time and Something Is Getting Harder But It's Not Finding Ideas](#)

Primary Topic: China

Topics: Academic paper, China, Database, Productivity

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