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**Representation in Scientific Practice.  
The Case of Scientometrics<sup>1</sup>.**

Used in the language of science and epistemology as a significant term, the concept of representation is burdened with the problematics shaped by long and ambiguous history. As a result, the contemporary crisis of scientific representations (M. Fisher) should be treated in the context of this problematics. In our report I consider the essence of the issue of the representation, the necessity of the representations in science, the sense of its contemporary crisis and its possible outcome. On the basis of this theoretical analysis I study the case of representation of the science itself by means of scientometrics methods. I believe that the importance of this problem for the post-Soviet countries is difficult to overestimate.

**The sense of the concept** of representation in science necessarily implies the problem. In his scientific activity a researcher is driven by the interest in the fact itself, and in this activity on the one hand the representations hide «the fact itself» from him and on the other hand, he inevitably uses the representations in his work on the facts.

**The need of the representations** in science is determined by, firstly, the absence of the direct access to the fact, secondly, the issue of the certainty, exceeding the certainty of the immediate experience, thirdly, the consolidation of the scientific community round the settled representation (L. Daston, P. Galison and H.-J. Rheinberger).

**The crisis of the representations** appears to be in connection with the confusion of the representation with the reality and with the fact that it hides the reality. The steps against such crisis imply the attention firstly, to the *genesis* of the representation, which highlights its derivative character, and secondly, to the *diversity* of the possible representations of the fact (B. Latour).

**The scientific research is necessarily represented by means of scientometrics methods**, which is connected with the unintelligibility of the contents and the results of the scientific researches to the outsiders (T. Porter). These methods used by the management organizations often appear to prevail over the researches. The idea of quantitatively estimated scientific outcome replaces the essential, qualitative intentions. This fact evokes the criticism against scientometrics methods from the side of scientific community and the conflict between the *ethos of the management* and the *ethos of the scientists*. The ways to overcome the crisis are following: 1. The reminding of the fact that scientometrics appeared on the basis of the scientific community's necessity to search for the information about already existing researches and to disseminate the ideas (E. Garfield). 2. The involvement of the scientific community into the process of the elaboration of the appropriate methods of its representation of its research and evaluation. 3. The admissibility of the various methods of the scientific research evaluation specified depending on the concrete field of the scientific research, given context of the evaluation etc. Thus, the representation of the scientific researches by means of scientometrics appears to be inevitable, but is restricted in its power, and is overcome in its pressure as in external one.

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