

Appendix

Methodological appendix

The three main methods employed for the analysis of scientific production and its impacts (first author counting, full author counting and fractionalized author counting) differ in the way in which the credit for each publication is assigned to the author/s.

All three methods, as well as several of their variants (for example: Van Hooydonk 1997), are commonly accepted and used and each has advantages depending on the focus of the research in which they are employed. The first author counting consists in attributing the full credit of each multi-authored publication only to the first author, in other words the order of the authors is considered as an important distinction for the attribution of the article's credit. The full author counting consists in giving full credit for a publication to each of the article's authors. Finally, the fractionalized counting method consists in attributing an equal fraction of the credit to each author.

In practice, considering for example an article written by four authors, with the first author counting method the credit would be attributed only to the first listed author; with the full counting method, each author would receive the attribution of a full credit for the publication; while with the fractionalized counting method, each author would receive the attribution of 0.25 publications.

The choice of the method to be used for a given analysis depends on various factors such as the discipline or disciplines to be investigated, or even the choice to carry out a comparative analysis on several countries or to focus on a single national system (Korytkowski and Kulczycki 2019), however other authors have highlighted how often there is no explicit motivation behind the choice to use one method or another (Gauffriau 2017).

In the present work, to allow a better comparison between journals and years the fractionalized counting method is employed for the attribution of publications' credits (CA). This method, in fact, through the attribution of an equal fraction of the credit to each author allows to normalize the number of publications with respect to the number of authors of a single article and therefore a better comparison in terms of gender differences.

The attribution of the CA for each individual publication, therefore, is given by the simple formula reported in Equation 1.

Equation 1: Formula for the publication credit attribution employing the fractionalized counting method

$$CA^i = \frac{A^i}{Na^i}$$

Where CA^i represents the attribution of the credit of article i , A^i represents the single article i and Na^i the number of authors of article i .

Table A1 shows the summary of the data analysed, divided by scientific journal, related to the years considered, the total number of articles, the proportion of female authors and the proportion of female publishers.

Table A1: Sample summary statistics

Journal name	Acronym	Years	Articles number	Female author percentage	Female editor¹ percentage
Rivista Italiana di Scienza Politica	RISP	2015-2020	123	31.3	36.4
Filosofia Politica	FP	2015-2020	176	24.0	23.9
Politica & Società	P&S	2015-2020	113	26.5	36.8

Source: Author's elaboration on WoS data. Data on Female editor percentage have been collected on the journals' websites.

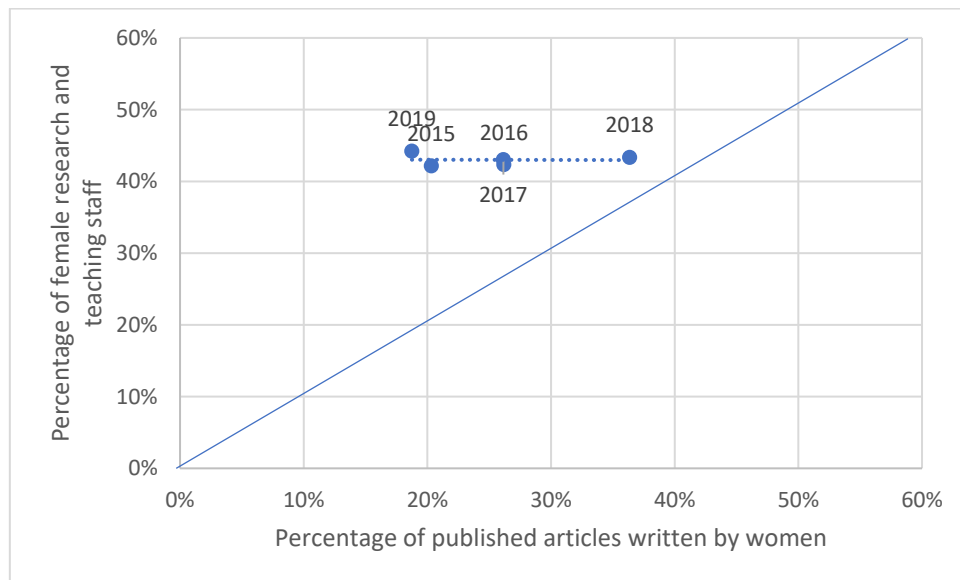
Additional analysis appendix

Figure A1 graphically reports the correlation between the percentage of publications by female authors and the percentage of female teaching and research staff in the years 2015-2019. The Figure shows how there is no correspondence between the two variables and how, indeed, an increase in the proportion of women

¹ In the calculus of female editor percentage have been considered the chief editors and the editorial boards members, excluding therefore the editorial staff and the scientific boards members

among the teaching and research staff is associated with a slight downward trend in the percentage of publications by women in the journals analysed.

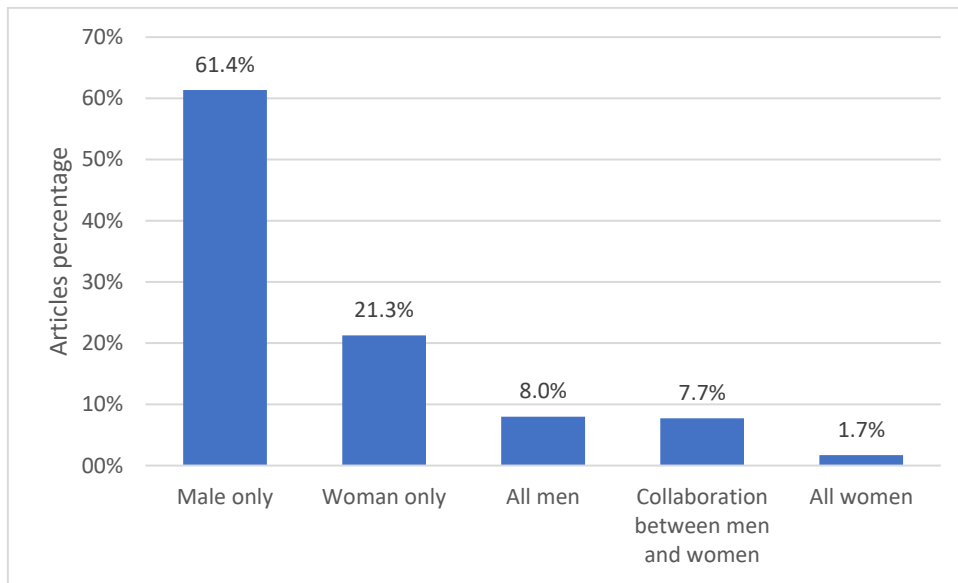
Figure A1: Correlation between the percentage of publications written by female authors and the percentage of female teaching and research staff, 2015-2019



Source: Author's elaboration on WoS data and MIUR data.

Figure A2 shows the percentage breakdown of articles' authorship type by gender of authors. Data shown how publications written by a single man represent 61.4% of the sample, while those written by a single woman 21,3%. A minority, instead, are the publications written by two or more authors (overall 17.4%). Among the publications falling into the latter category, those written by all men represent 8.0% of the total publications analysed, those written by all women represent 1.7% and finally those written in collaboration between male and female authors represent the 7.7%.

Figure A2: Percentage breakdown of publications' authorship type by gender, 2015-2020



Source: Author's elaboration on WoS data.