Eliminating Self-Citations in *Web of Science Core Collection*

To eliminate an author’s self-citations from your results, first do a **Cited Reference Search** to run a cited author search. Select all references that pertain to your specific author and click **Finish Search** (just above the first article in the list) to create a set.

Next, click on the drop down menu next to **Basic Search** to perform an author search.

After you have the results of your author search displaying, click on **Search History** (in the page header on the right side) and combine the two search sets with the NOT Boolean operator. If you have only done these 2 searches mentioned above, your set numbers will be #1 and #2, so you would type in the box “#1 NOT #2” and then click on Search.

\[(\text{results of the cited reference search}) \ \text{NOT} \ (\text{results of the author search})\]

The screen will change – but not very noticeably – scroll down to look at the table near the bottom of the page. The top set should list the results of your combined set. Click on the number in the Results column and those results will display on the screen. These results will be a list of all the articles that cited your original publication(s) and none of them will be written by the author you specified.

**PLEASE NOTE:**
Clicking on **Create Citation Report** at this stage will not produce the results you expect. This does not produce an h-index for the original author’s work. It produces one for the works collectively in the set of others who cite your author.

*If you wish to create a Citation Report for a particular set of authored works, use either **Search** or **Advanced Search** not **Cited Reference Search**.* This will unfortunately limit results to only those articles published in core ISI journals, but it will correctly reflect citations to a particular author’s journal articles.

It is really not possible to generate a search set (within Web of Science) for things that have been cited (such as books, patents, dissertations, etc.), but that are not part of the core collection of journals comprising the Web of Science. You can search for them as part of the Cited Reference Search, and mark the ones you are interested in, but the search results that are generated are a list of articles in Web of Science that cited the publications you were interested in. It does not provide any way to capture and graph data on cited references that fall outside their core collection of journals.