

Mind the Gap: A Novel Method for Evaluating Global Academic Agency in Obstetric Anesthesiology

*Anjan Saha, * Ruth Landau.

**Columbia University, NY.*



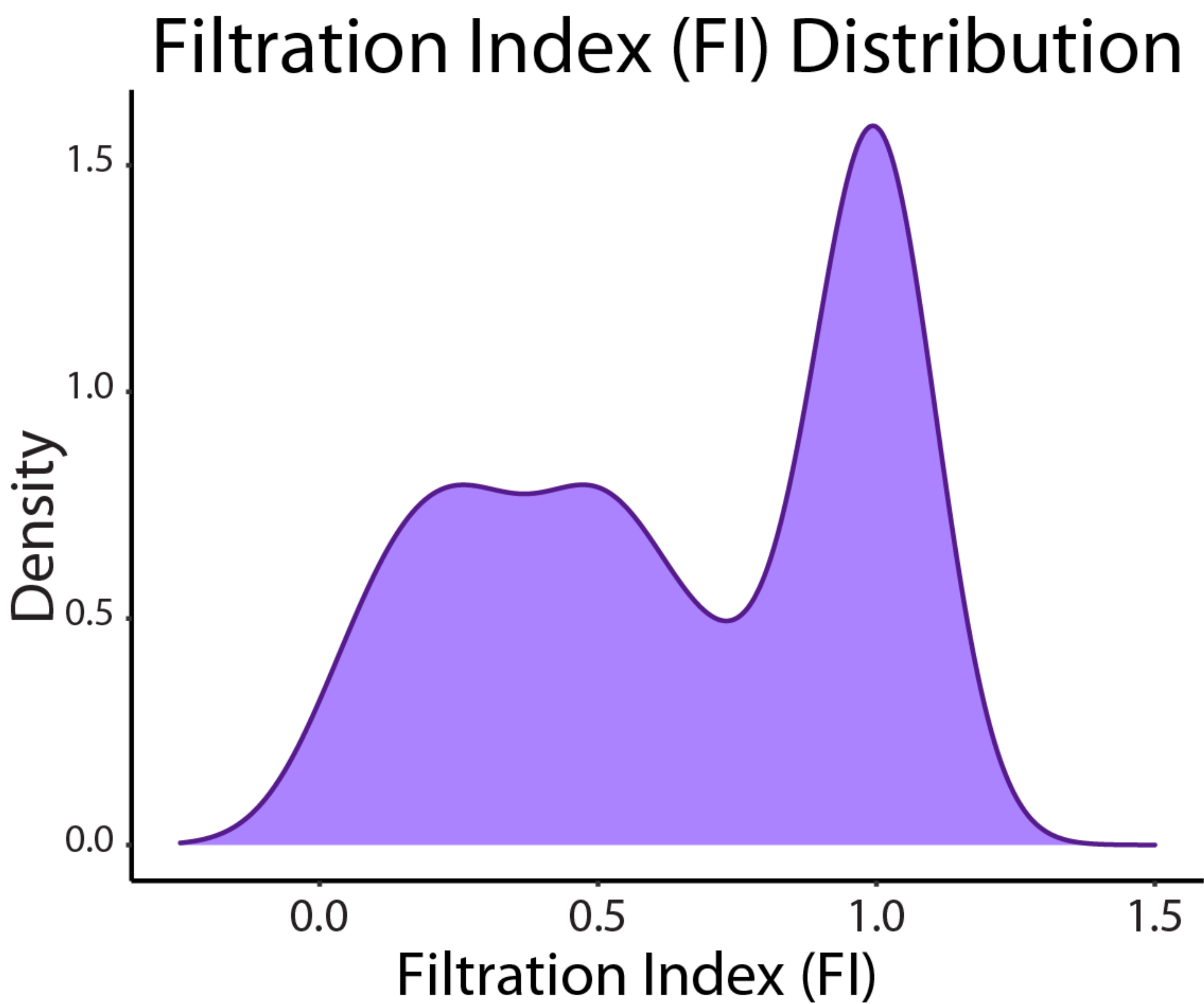
- The 2015 Lancet Commission on Global Surgery (LCoGS) report identified information management and research as integral components to National Surgical, Obstetric, and Anesthesia Plans (NSOAPs)
- Authorship dilution presents a significant barrier to developing methods designed to track development in accordance with LCoGS recommendations
- We hypothesized that authorship affiliation can serve as a surrogate for academic agency in obstetric anesthesiology

Methods

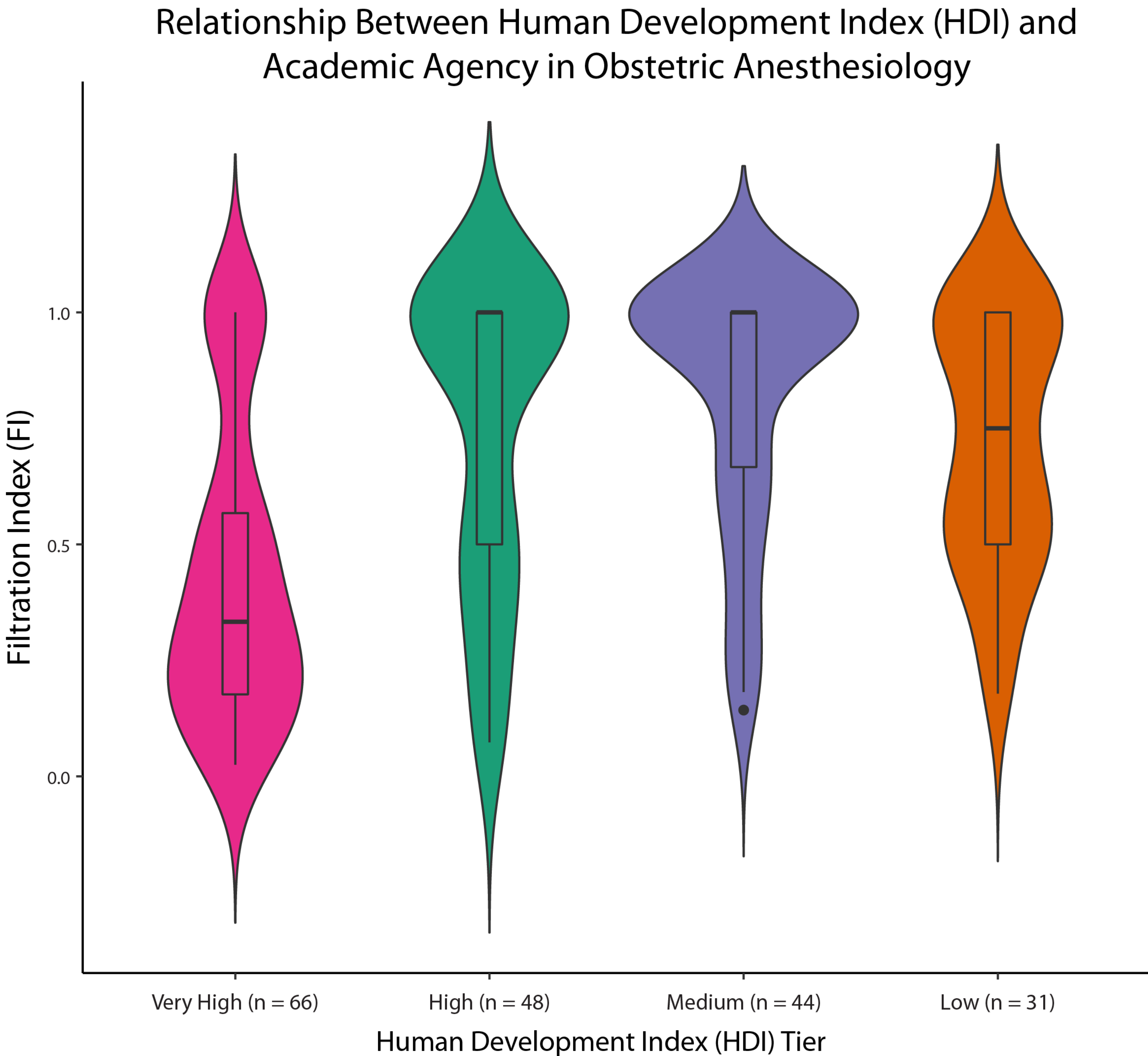
- A Filtration Index (FI) was created to evaluate publication volume when at least one author is affiliated with an institution located in the country.

$$\text{Filtration Index} = \left| \frac{(\text{Unfiltered Count} + 1) - \text{Filtered Count}}{(\text{Unfiltered Count} + 1)} \right|$$

Results



	FI (IQR)	p-value
Very High	0.133 (0.177 - 0.567)	----
High	1.00 (0.500 - 1.00)	8.96×10^{-6}
Medium	1.00 (0.667 - 1.00)	4.02×10^{-8}
Low	0.750 (0.500 - 1.00)	5.60×10^{-5}



Key Points



- The global distribution of publications within the field of obstetric anesthesiology exhibit marked overrepresentation from articles that are published without an author affiliated with a local institution
- This observation is more prominent within low, middle, and high HDI nations as compared to very high HDI nations
- Methods designed to longitudinally track academic agency, such as computation of national FIs, will be essential to optimizing integration of information systems and research into NSOAPs internationally