

Research Metrics Part 1 – Workbook

Signing In

We recommend that you sign in with your Single Sign On (SSO) ahead of using any of the databases as it will make the process quicker. Warning, there is poor phone signal in the RSL.

Finding a database

For many of the exercises you will need to find a database in SOLO and use it to explore Metrics tools. Use the following instructions to find a database.

1. Open SOLO (solo.bodleian.ox.ac.uk) and sign-in with your SSO.
2. Using the search box on SOLO, search for the name of the database requested in the exercise
 - **Journal Citation Reports (JCR)**
 - **Scopus**
3. Click the green **Online access** link from the SOLO record for the database.
4. On the next screen that appears click '**Link to Database**'. This should load the homepage of the database in your browser.

Activity A - Journal Citation Reports and Scopus Sources

For this activity you will be split into 2 groups. One group will investigate **Journal Citation Reports (JCR)** and the other group will investigate **Scopus Sources**. After the session is over, we encourage you to experiment with the metrics tool you didn't use today.

Group 1 - Journal Citation Reports (JCR)

Questions

1. How many journals are in the Ecology category?
2. Which are the top three journals in the list?
3. What is the Journal Impact Factor (JIF) of these three journals with and without self-citations?
4. Are there any journals from your area of expertise that are missing from the lists?
5. What are some problems or drawbacks of JIF as a metric?

Instructions

Follow these instructions to find the answers.

- Step 1. Use the finding a database instructions to open **Journal Citation Reports (JCR)**.
- Step 2. Scroll down the screen and click on the icon labelled **Categories**.
- Step 3. Scroll down the list and click the **Environment/Ecology** group. This section will open to show individual categories.

- Step 4. Locate and click on the **Ecology** category. A new screen will open.
- Step 5. Click on the **ECOLOGY** category again. A new page will open showing all the journals in this category. Initially the journals contained in two different citation indexes are shown.
- SCIE – Stands for Science Citation Index Expanded and shows **Journal Impact Factor (JIF)** for all journals in the category on JCR.
 - ESCI – Focusses on new science journals and is not as comprehensive.
- Step 6. Here we will focus on the SCIE. Look the the left of the screen and find the black square labelled **Filter**. Click on the filter square to open a menu.
- Step 7. From the menu that opens click on the **Citation Indexes** option.
- Step 8. From the submenu that appears, uncheck the tick boxes next to the indexes to leave only the **Science Citation Index Expanded (SCIE)** ticked.
- Step 9. Scroll to the bottom of the menu and click on the green **Apply** button.
- Step 10. Answer question 1 - **How many journals are in the Ecology category?**
- Step 11. Find the column for the **2023 JIF**, click it to select it and to change the sorting order from ascending to descending. Set the column so that the journal with the highest JIF appears at the top of the list.
- Step 12. Answer question 2 - **Which are the top three journals in the list?**
- Step 13. Click on the name of the first journal in the list. A new page will open with information on that journal's metrics. Scroll down the page until you come to the explanation of Journal Impact Factor. Note the two different JIF scores, one specifically without self-citations. Go back to the list of results in step 7. Repeat this process for the second and third journals in the list.
- Step 14. Answer question 3 - **What is the Journal Impact Factor (JIF) of these three journals with and without self-citations?**
- Step 15. Go back to the list of groups and categories by clicking the **Categories** link right at the top of the screen. Browse the categories for your area of expertise.
- Step 16. Answer question 4 - **Are there any journals from your area of expertise that are missing from the lists?**
- Step 17. Using the information from the presentation and from completing these exercises can you think of any problems with the JIF metric.
- Step 18. Answer question 5 - **What are some problems or drawbacks of JIF as a metric?**

Group 2 – Scopus Sources

Questions

1. How many journals are in the Ecology category?
2. Which are the top three journals in the list?
3. What is the Cite Score of these three journals?
4. Are there any journals from your area of expertise that are missing from the lists?
5. What are some problems or drawbacks of CiteScore as a metric?

Instructions

Follow these instructions to find the answers.

- Step 1. Use the finding a database instructions to open **Scopus**.

- Step 2. Click on the **Sources** button at the top of the webpage.
- Step 3. Click on the **Enter subject area** search bar and start typing the word **Ecology**.
- Step 4. Click the box to the left of the word **Ecology** that appears under the broader **Environmental Science** category. Click the **Apply** button.
- Step 5. The results will appear in a list with the number of total results appearing at the top of the lists.
- Step 6. Answer question 1 - **How many journals are in the Ecology category?**
- Step 7. Find the column heading for **CiteScore**. Click this to arrange journals by their **CiteScore**. Set it so that the journals with the highest **CiteScore** are shown at the top of the list.
- Step 8. Answer question 2 - **Which are the top three journals in the list?**
- Step 9. Click on the name of the first journal in the list. A new page will open with information on that journal's metrics. Note the **CiteScore** for the journal. Use the browser's back button to return to the list. Repeat this process for the second and third journals in the list.
- Step 10. Answer question 3 - **What is the Cite Score of these three journals?**
- Step 11. Click the Sources button at the top of the page. Type your subject area into the **Enter subject area** search bar. Find the closest to your subject area and browse the journals in the list.
- Step 12. Answer question 4 - **Are there any journals from your area of expertise that are missing from the lists?**
- Step 13. Using the information from the presentation and from completing these exercises can you think of any problems with the CiteScore metric.
- Step 14. Answer question 5 - **What are some problems or drawbacks of CiteScore as a metric?**

Activity B

Group 1- Scimago SJR

Questions

1. Which are the top three journals in the list according to SJR?
2. What is the SJR of these three journals?
3. What is the CiteScore of the top three journals?
4. Are there any differences between the lists?

Instructions

Follow these instructions to find the answers.

- Step 1. Use the finding a database instructions to open Scopus.
- Step 2. Click on the **Sources** button at the top of the webpage.
- Step 3. Click on the **Enter subject area** search bar and start typing the word **Philosophy**.
- Step 4. Click the box to the left of the word **Philosophy** that appears under the broader **Arts and Humanities** category. Click the **Apply** button.

- Step 5. The results will appear in a list with the number of total results appearing at the top of the lists. Sort the list by **SJR**. Note that you may have to scroll the table sideways to find the SJR column. Set it so that the journals with the highest **SJR** are shown at the top of the list.
- Step 6. Answer question 1 - **Which are the top three journals in the list according to SJR?**
- Step 7. Answer question 2 - **What is the SJR of these three journals?**
- Step 8. Now sort the list by CiteScore. Set it so that the journals with the highest **CiteScore** are shown at the top of the list.
- Step 9. Answer question 3 - **What is the CiteScore of the top three journals?**
- Step 10. Answer question 4 - **Are there any differences between the lists?**


Group 2 - Google Scholar

Questions

1. Which are the top three journals in the list according to h5-index?
2. What is the h5-index of these three journals?
3. Did you notice any differences between the number of journals listed on Google Scholar compared to the other platforms?

Instructions

Follow these instructions to find the answers.

- Step 1. Open Google Scholar - <https://scholar.google.com/>.
- Step 2. Click the menu icon  (three horizontal lines one underneath the other) on the left of the screen to open the Google Scholar menu.
- Step 3. Choose the **Metrics** option.
- Step 4. Scroll down the list of Google's **Top Publications** and click **VIEW ALL**.
- Step 5. You will now see a list of 100 journals, sorted by the h-index calculated using Google Scholar data.
- Step 6. Click on the **Categories** button at the top of this list. Select **Humanities, Literature & Arts**.
- Step 7. Click the **Subcategories** button and select **Philosophy**.
- Step 8. Answer question 1 - **Which are the top three journals in the list according to h5-index?**
- Step 9. Answer question 2 - **What is the h5-index of these three journals?**
- Step 10. Compare these to the answer you gathered for Activity B.
- Step 11. Browse the **Categories** and **Subcategories** to find those that best match your subject area. Note the titles on the list.
- Step 12. Answer Question 4 - **Did you notice any differences between the number of journals listed on Google Scholar compared to the other platforms?**

Activity C - Homework – BrowZine

Instructions

- Step 1. Go to the SOLO home page (solo.bodleian.ox.ac.uk) and look under the **Useful Links** box to find and click on the link for **BrowZine**.
- Step 2. You will be asked to sign-in to BrowZine using your Oxford Single-Sign On (SSO) details. If you have not used BrowZine before, you will be prompted to set up a free account.
- Step 3. Look at the list of subjects under **Browse Subjects** and click on a subject that interests you.
- Step 4. Browse the list of sub-categories and select a sub-category you like. A final set of subcategories will open, again, choose one that interests you.
- Step 5. Click on the cover of a journal and the recent volumes and issues will appear.
- Step 6. Browse to an article you are interested in. Under the title you will see a series of icons which will allow you to
 - Download a full-text PDF of the article
 - Link to the article
 - Save the article to the “My articles” section of BrowZine.
 - Export a citation of the article to all major reference managers and reference formats.
 - Share the article via email or social media.
- Step 7. Click on the title of the article to go directly to the full text of that article on the journal’s website.
- Step 8. Return to BrowZine and look underneath the picture of the journal front cover and title on the left of the screen. You should see a button labelled **Add to my Bookshelf**. Click on this button.
- Step 9. Now click on the link to **My Bookshelf** at the top of the screen. You will see the journal you just added. You can use your bookshelf to store your favourite journals.
- Step 10. You can move or delete journals from **My Bookshelf** by opening **My Bookshelf** and hovering over the cover of the journal. Three lines will appear in the top corner. Click on this and you will have the option to **Delete** or **Move** a journal.
- Step 11. Change how often notifications are emailed to you by clicking on the settings icon (it resembles a cog) next to your email.
- Step 12. Next to **Email Notifications** click in the box and select **Off**, **Daily** or **Weekly**.

Tip: BrowZine gives access to the most recent 10 – 15 years of journal content. For older content you may need to find the journal record on SOLO rather than through BrowZine.