

# WORKBOOK – RESEARCH METRICS PART 1.

## Part A - Journal Citation Reports and Scopus Sources Journal Citation Reports (JCR)

### Opening JCR

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

### Browsing JCR

1. The large search box in the middle of the JCR screen allows you to search for a specific journal, but instead you are going to browse the journals included in JCR by subject category.
2. Scroll down the screen and click on the icon labelled **Categories**.
3. You will now see the broad groups that JCR uses to organise the journals it includes. A journal may appear in more than one group and category.
  - a. **Task: Can you see groups you think might relate to your subject area?**
4. Find and click on the **Environment/Ecology** group. This section will open to show individual categories.
5. Locate and click on the **Ecology** category.
6. A new screen will open asking you to choose which edition of JCR you want to search. Different editions of JCR are created which focus more on science, social sciences, arts and humanities and the 'Emerging' science index which only includes very new journals. In this case, we want the **SCIE** which is the Science edition of JCR.
  - a. **Task: Make a note of how many journals are included.**
7. Click the word **Ecology** on the SCIE link to select it. You will now be shown a list of all journals in this category and edition. You can sort these according to a range of different metrics. Find the column for the **2022 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.
  - a. **Task: Make a note of the titles of the top three journals from the list.**
8. Click on the name of the top journal from the list. This will open that journal's metrics page in JCR. Scrolling down the page you will notice that many different metrics are included. Each metric has a brief description and usually ends with a **learn more** link which you can use to get more detailed information about that metric.
9. In the JIF section, see if you can find the information about how the JIF calculation was carried out. There are two versions.

- a. **Task: Which gives a higher JIF and can you think why?**
10. Go back to the list of groups and categories by clicking the **Categories** link right at the top of the screen. Now have a go at exploring some of the groups and categories that are relevant to your research area. Make a note of any groups and categories you think match your interests. Have a look at the journals in these categories sorted by JIF. Do familiar titles come up? What sort of articles (primary research or review articles) do the journals at the top of the lists predominately publish?
  - a. **Task: Can you think of any problems or drawbacks to the JIF as a metric based on what you have seen?**

## Scopus Sources

### Opening Scopus Sources

1. Open Scopus Sources by visiting <https://www.scopus.com/sources>.
2. Alternatively, you can search for **Scopus** using the main search box on SOLO ([solo.bodleian.ox.ac.uk](http://solo.bodleian.ox.ac.uk)).
3. On one of the records for Scopus that appears in your results list, click the green, **Online access** link at the bottom of the record.
4. On the next screen that appears, click either the link to **Scopus** or the link which says **Link to Database**.
5. When you arrive at the Scopus homepage, click the **Sources** link at the top of the page.

### Browsing Scopus Sources

1. Look for the search bar that says **Enter subject area**.
2. Click on the **Enter subject area** search bar. A list of different subject areas will appear. These are the subject areas that Scopus uses to classify journals. A journal may appear in more than one subject area. Broad areas are subdivided into narrower, more specialist categories.
  - a. **Task: Spend a moment scrolling through the list of subject areas. Can you see any that look relevant to you?**
3. Now start typing the word **Ecology** into the **Enter subject area** search bar. As you type, the list of areas will adjust to match what you have typed. Look for the **Ecology** subject area (it will appear under the broader **Environmental Science** category).
4. Click the box to the left of the word **Ecology**. It will fill with an orange square to show that it has been selected. Now click the blue **Apply** button at the bottom of the list.
5. Scopus will now show you all the journals that appear in this subject area. You can arrange the list via a variety of different metrics.
  - a. **Task: Make a note of how many journals are included.**
6. Each metric available is shown as a column heading in the table of journals displayed. Find the column heading for **CiteScore**. Click this to arrange journals by their CiteScore. Clicking will also change the sort order to ascending or descending. Set it so that the journals with the highest CiteScore are shown at the top of the list.
  - a. **Task: Make a note of the titles of the three top journals.**
7. Click on the title of the top journal on the list.
8. This will open the details page for the journal. On this page you will find some additional information about the journal and a range of other metrics.

- a. **Task: Find and note the information about how the CiteScore for this journal was calculated.**
9. If you want to know more about how the CiteScore works, look down the page to find the links for **View CiteScore methodology** and **CiteScore FAQ**
11. Return to the main Sources page by clicking on the **Sources** link at the top of the screen. Now, search or browse for a subject area that is relevant for your own research or studies. Use the CiteScore to identify top journals by this metric. Make a note of any subject areas you think match your interests. Have a look at the journals in these areas sorted by CiteScore. Do familiar titles come up? What sort of articles (primary research or review articles) do the journals at the top of the lists predominately publish?
  - a. **Task: Can you think of any problems or drawbacks to the CiteScore as a metric based on what you have seen?**

## Part B – Scimago SJR

You can use Scopus Sources to look up Scimago SJR scores. SJR is a journal metric which is calculated differently to the JIF or CiteScore. In the SJR, citations from 'prestigious' journals (i.e., journals which receive the highest number of citations to their published articles) are weighted. This means that a journal can be ranked highly with a small number of citations, if they are from prestigious journals. Sometimes journals with many citations will have a lower ranking if the citations are not from prestigious journals. In theory smaller, more specialist journals that would be expected to receive fewer citations can still be ranked highly in the SJR if they receive citations from prestigious journals.

### Opening Scopus Sources

1. Open Scopus Sources by visiting <https://www.scopus.com/sources>.
2. Alternatively, you can search for **Scopus** using the main search box on SOLO ([solo.bodleian.ox.ac.uk](http://solo.bodleian.ox.ac.uk)).
3. On the record for Scopus that appears in your results list, click the green **Online access** link, at the bottom of the record.
4. On the next screen that appears, click either the link to **Scopus** or the link which says **Link to Database**.
5. When you arrive at the Scopus homepage, click the **Sources** link, at the top of the page.


### Find SJR scores

1. Click on the **Enter subject area** search bar. A list of different subject areas will appear. These are the subject areas that Scopus uses to classify journals. A journal may appear in more than one subject area. Broad areas are subdivided into narrower more specialist categories.
2. Spend a moment scrolling through the list of subject areas. Can you see any that look relevant to you?
3. Now start typing the word **Philosophy** into the **Enter subject area** search bar. As you type, the list of areas will adjust to match what you have typed. Look for the **Philosophy** subject area.
4. Click the box to the left of the word **Philosophy**. It will fill with an orange square to show that it has been selected. Now click the blue **Apply** button at the bottom of the list.
5. Scopus will now show you all the journals that appear in this subject area. You can arrange the list via a variety of different metrics.

6. In the table of journal titles, look for the column that says **SJR**. Note that you may have to scroll the table sideways to find the SJR column.
7. Click the SJR column.
  - a. **Task: Make a note of the top three journal titles according to the SJR.**
8. Now find the **CiteScore** column and click it.
  - a. **Task: Are the journals with the highest CiteScore and the highest SJR score the same?**

## Part C - Google Scholar

Google Scholar provides a list of the top 100 publications covering titles from broad subject areas and lists of top 20 titles for specific subject categories. Google scholar uses an h-index method to rank journals. To rank highly, a journal must publish many highly cited papers.

1. Begin by visiting Google Scholar ([scholar.google.co.uk](https://scholar.google.co.uk))
2. Click the menu icon  (three horizontal lines one underneath the other) on the left of the screen to open the Google Scholar menu.
3. Choose the **Metrics** option.
4. Initially, you will see the top 10 journals ranked by Google scholar according to their h-index.
5. Scroll down the screen to the bottom of this top 10 and click **View All**.
6. You will now see a list of all the journals with the h-index calculated by Google Scholar data.
7. At the top of this list, look for the **Categories** menu. Click this to drop down a broad list of categories and then choose a category relevant to you.
8. A new **Subcategories** menu will appear, use this to further refine your journal selection.
9. How do you think the list compares with those you have seen in JCR or Scopus Sources?
  - a. **Task: Make a note of which journals come at the top of the list.**
  - b. **Task: If you have time, go back to either JCR or Scopus Sources and compare the titles with those arranged by JIF, CiteScore or SJR – are they the same or different?**
10. To find out more about how the h-index is calculated, Click on the **h5-index** link at the top of the column for further details on the metric.

## Part D – Essential Science Indicators

Essential Science Indicators provide information on top journals, scientists, institutions, countries, and even top papers in various fields (based on Web of Science data). It comprises data from the past 10 years and bimonthly updates.

### Opening ESI

1. Open SOLO ([solo.bodleian.ox.ac.uk](https://solo.bodleian.ox.ac.uk)) and search for **Essential Science Indicators**.
2. Click **View Online** on the ESI record that appears.
3. On the next screen that appears, click **Link to Database**.

### Using ESI

The ESI home page is set on **Indicators** showing Top Papers by Research Fields and the category **Cites** below the map. Top Papers are the sum of Highly Cited Papers (last 10 years) and Hot Papers (last 2 years).

1. Move your cursor to the map. Select and click on China. China Mainland is automatically added in the filter box in the left-hand panel.
2. Which research field has the highest cites?
3. Click **Top Papers**.
  - Which research field has the highest top papers?
  - How does it compare with the highest cites?
4. Choose another country and repeat the steps. Note that you will need to clear the filter for the previously selected country by clicking the small 'X' next to the country's name in the filter box in the left-hand panel.

## Part E – Homework - BrowZine

BrowZine gives you a user-friendly way to view our e-journal collection and save your favourite journals to easily refer to later. You can add top journals in your field you have found using JCR, Scopus Sources etc.


BrowZine can let you know by E-mail when a new issue of a journal comes out and can send you the latest table of contents for the new issue.

### Setting up BrowZine

1. Go to the SOLO home page ([solo.bodleian.ox.ac.uk](http://solo.bodleian.ox.ac.uk)) and look under the **Useful Links** box to find and click on the link for **BrowZine**.
2. If you have not used BrowZine before, you will be prompted to set up a free account. After this is done, you will be able to sign-in to BrowZine using your Oxford Single-Sign On (SSO) details.

### Using BrowZine

1. Open BrowZine. When BrowZine opens, look under the '**Browse Subjects**' heading and click a category that interests you. This will open a set of subcategories and show a grid of journal front covers representing journals belonging to this category.
2. Scroll down the list of subcategories and click on any of the subcategories you like. A final set of subcategories will open, again, choose one that interests you.
3. Now click on one of the journal front covers to open the contents list for the latest issue of the journal.
4. On the left of the screen, you will see all the available volumes and issues of the journal you have selected which are available in BrowZine. You can choose any year and issue you would like to see a contents list for. You will see all the articles appear on the right of the screen.
5. Click on the title of any article, this should link you directly to the full text of that article. For many journals in BrowZine there will also be a link underneath each article record to instantly download a full-text PDF of the article.
6. Finally, 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.
7. Now click on the link to **My Bookshelf** at the top of the screen. You can use your bookshelf to store your favourite journals. When you log into BrowZine you can go straight to your bookshelf to see the latest articles.
8. You will now automatically receive a weekly update on new issues of your selected journals

appearing. Click on the small cog shaped icon -  at the top right of the screen to change the frequency of E-mails you receive or turn them off altogether.

9. You can also search BrowZine for a specific journal title which you can then add to your bookshelf.

*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.