

Obtaining Journal Citation Rankings and Tracking Citations October 2011

With the recent (September 1, 2011) cancellation of the online *Journal Citation Reports* database, UMDNJ authors and scholars are looking for ways to evaluate the impact or influence of their articles. The *Journal Citation Reports* has had a virtual 40 year monopoly on this type of calculation until fairly recently, when competitors, such as SCOPUS and some free, open source resources, have emerged.

Like *JCR* impact factors, the **Eigenfactor** uses citation data to calculate both an **Eigenfactor Score** and an **Article Influence Score**. Eigenfactor metrics are available for years 2007 forward only. The Eigenfactor Score calculation is based on the number of times articles from journals published in the past five years have been cited in the year studied. It also considers which journals have contributed these citations; highly-cited journals will influence more than lesser-cited journals. References from one article in a journal to another from the same journal title are removed so that scores are not influenced by self-citation. The Article Influence Score determines the average influence of a journal's articles over the first five years after publication. It is calculated by dividing a journal's Eigenfactor Score by the number of articles in the journal, normalized as a fraction of all articles in all publications. This measure is roughly analogous to the Journal Impact Factor. It is a ratio of a journal's citation influence to the size of the journal's article contribution over a period of five years. The mean Article Influence Score is 1.00. For more information, see <http://www.eigenfactor.org>.

SCImago Journal Rank (SJR indicator) is another open source product that attempts to measure scientific influence of scholarly publications. It calculates this influence by looking at both the number of citations received by a journal and the importance of the journal where the citation was published. The SJR indicator is similar to Google Analytic's PageRank algorithm. This algorithm weights citations from journals according to how highly cited the journal itself is, which differs from the *JCR (Journal Citation Reports)* which weights all articles identically, regardless of their source. SCImago uses data from SCOPUS, a product similar to the *Web of Science*, but which covers over 14,000 journal titles. SCOPUS' content inclusion policy differs from that of the *Web of Science*, so new open access journals are included much more quickly to the pool to be tracked and analyzed. The SJR indicator calculations are based on a three year period of publication. The official Web site of SCImago is located at <http://www.scimagojr.com/>.

Both products offer users a variety of searching options. Information about individual journal titles may be obtained with a quick title search. It is also possible to search for a list of journals within a subject discipline in order to perform a title-by-title comparison. **Google Scholar** has a "Cited by" feature which enables an author to see how many times a document has been cited. The results of a search reveal the number of times that both articles and documents have been cited. This feature provides authors with a preliminary idea of the impact their work is having in

a particular field of interest and functions much like the “Times Cited” feature in the Web of Science.

Google Scholar Citations is currently in a limited launch mode. It will provide a way for authors to track citations to their articles. The ability to check who is citing an author’s publications, graph citations over time and computation of several citation metrics will be provided. The product is being tested with a small number of users and plans are underway to make Google Scholar Citations available to all users in the future. At this time, users may sign-up to be notified when Google Scholar Citations widely debuts. More information can be found at: <http://scholar.google.com/intl/en/scholar/citations.html>

Reference

Kear R, Colbert-Lewis D: Citation searching and bibliometric measures – resources for ranking. College and Research Library News 2011 (Sept):470-474.