Find the ‘best-fit’ journal for your manuscript

Bob Green
June 2020
How to find the right journal for your research (using actual data)

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Clarivate

Want to help your research flourish? We share tips for using publisher-neutral data and statistics to find the right journal for your research paper.

The right journal helps your research flourish. It puts you in the best position to reach a relevant and engaged audience, and can extend the impact of your paper through a high-quality publishing process.

Un fortunately, finding the right journal is a particular pain point for inexperienced authors and those who publish on interdisciplinary topics. The sheer number of journals published today is one reason for this. More than 42,000 active scholarly, peer-reviewed journals were published in 2018 alone, and there’s been accelerated growth of more than 5% in recent years.
Agenda

1. What to look for in a journal and why
2. How Web of Science can provide an insight into your topic’s key journals
3. How to use Journal Citation Reports™ (JCR) to get unique insight into a journal’s activities and influence
4. How to use Manuscript Matcher in the Master Journal List™ to find the journals that are the ‘best-fit’ for your manuscript
5. Additional Resources
What to look for in a journal and why
What and Why?

There are many reasons why people want to find out information about journals.

Here are a few considerations.

To start off, it’s important to consider what you need and want out of the publishing process.

The goal for many researchers is to find a prestigious, peer-reviewed journal. The aim being maybe to:
- support an application for tenure
- assist in promotion
- assist with future funding.

It’s worth considering the following:
- if your research is in a specialized field, you may want to avoid a journal with a multidisciplinary focus
- if you have ground-breaking results, you may want to pay attention to journals with a speedy review process and frequent publication schedule
- if you work in a field such as Public Health, you may want to make your paper easily available as open access
- your institution or funder may place certain requirements on your journal selection.

Here we look at tools that provide you with unbiased information, to help you choose the right journal to meet your needs?
How Web of Science can provide an insight into your topic’s key journals
Start with a **topic search**, to find publications in the fields you are focusing on. Then click “**Analyze Results**”.

**Analyze Results**

Web of Science

**Results: 6,859**
(from Web of Science Core Collection)

**You searched for: TOPIC: (“wave energy” and (ocean or sea or water or tide)) ...More**

Choose results that are relevant to your research topic. Then use the **Analyze Results** feature to further refine your search and obtain insights into the latest research in your area of interest.
Analyze Results can be used to visualize the Source Title – Journals / Conferences and to drill down to their documents.
Analyze Results

You can also **Download** a list of Journals to analyse outside the Web of Science.
Analyze Results – Follow the Citations

Results: 81
(in your subscription)

View the articles authored by: Chen, Jun

For: AUTHOR: Chen, Jun ...More

Citation report for 81 results from Web of Science Core Collection between 2012 and 2020. This report reflects citations to source items indexed within Web of Science Core Collection. Perform a Cited Reference Search to include citations to items not indexed within Web of Science Core Collection.

Total Publications
81

Citing articles
4,176

Without self citations
4,115

Select Field: Source Titles

- NANO ENERGY
- ACS APPLIED MATERIALS INTERFACES
- ACS NANO
- ADVANCED FUNCTIONAL MATERIALS
- ADVANCED MATERIALS
- ADVANCED ENERGY MATERIALS
- JOURNAL OF MATERIALS CHEMISTRY A
- ADVANCED MATERIALS TECHNOLOGIES
- NANOSCALE
- SCIENTIFIC REPORTS

Record Count
722
217
177
164
163
98
97
89
61
55

Export Data: Save to Excel File

Analyze
Create Citation Report

Analyze
Analyze
How to use Journal Citation Reports™ (JCR) to get unique insight into a journal’s activities and influence
# New for the June 2020 release

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Objectivity</th>
<th>Selectivity</th>
<th>Quality control</th>
<th>Transparency</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>In order to make good decisions, you need information that you can trust. Journal Citation Reports™ is the only journal report of its kind produced by publisher-neutral experts, providing you with unbiased journal statistics trusted by over 9,000 institutions worldwide. JCR journal profiles aggregate publication and citation data sourced from the Web of Science Core Collection™, the world’s original citation index for scientific and scholarly research.</td>
<td>Researching which journals to submit or subscribe to can be time consuming. Each journal profiled in the JCR has met the rigorous impact and quality standards documented in the Web of Science Core Collection™ editorial selection process—only the journals indexed in the Science Citation Index Expanded™ (SCIE) or Social Sciences Citation Index™ (SSCI) are included—so that you can quickly find a list of the most influential journals in the sciences and social sciences.</td>
<td>Web of Science™ monitors and excludes journals that demonstrate predatory behavior; journals in the JCR are subject to additional analysis to detect abnormal citation activity. Journals displaying evidence of excessive self-citation and citation stacking are suppressed from the JCR to ensure the integrity of the reports. Read our Editorial expression of concern.</td>
<td>Offering you far more than just a number. JCR journal profiles summarize a journal’s place in the network of scholarly communications so that you can make better informed, confident decisions. View the relationship between article and journal citations with visualizations and linked data alongside descriptive open access statistics to understand the relative contribution of open access articles to a journal’s overall volume of content and citations.</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
New Help

Getting Started

To get started with Journal Citation Reports, take a look at our registration and sign-in help page. Watch the following video to get an overview of journal profiles.
Journals cannot be fully understood by a single number (the **Journal Impact Factor**). The Journal Citation Reports provides extensive information for you to make informed decisions.

The general journal information provides an insight into the **frequency** of publication and the **fields** it operates in. Clicking a field provides a quick way to analyse all journals in that specific field.
Journal Profile

The impact factor and percentile in category for the journal, back to its entry into the JCR.

The distribution of the citation activity in JCR year, to items published in the journal in the prior two years.
If you wish to dive in deeper into the citation data that was used to calculate the current JIF, it is all available.
Citations made to the journal and from the journal over the past 10 years, can be analysed too, with charts like above.
Journal Profile

Citational relationships that the journal has is a good way to find closely linked journals. A single click takes you to their profile.
Journal Profile

Our new Open Access analysis can help you understand how the journal made publications available.

The contributions to the journal by countries and organisations can provide an insight into regional influence/bias.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Open Access (OA) [Beta]</th>
<th>Contributions by country/region</th>
<th>Contributions by organizations</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Items</td>
<td>Citations*</td>
<td>country</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><img src="chart.png" alt="Chart" /></td>
<td><img src="table.png" alt="Table" /></td>
<td><img src="table.png" alt="Table" /></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

- **Gold OA Citable**: 51, 73
- **Subscription and Free to Road Citable**: 2,012, 3,488
- **Total Citable**: 2,063, 3,581
- **% Citable Open Access**: 2.47%, 2.05%
- **Other**: 15, 3
- **Unlinked**: n/a, 96

* Citations in 2018 to items published in [2016 - 2018]
Journal Analysis and Comparison

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Category</th>
<th>Edition</th>
<th>#Journals</th>
<th>Aggregate Impact Factor</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>NANOSCIENCE &amp; NANO TECHNOLOGY</td>
<td>SCIE</td>
<td>92</td>
<td>6.195</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>CELL BIOLOGY</td>
<td>SCIE</td>
<td>190</td>
<td>5.825</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>GREEN &amp; SUSTAINABLE SCIENCE &amp; TECHNOLOGY</td>
<td>SCIE</td>
<td>33</td>
<td>5.062</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>ALLERGY</td>
<td>SCIE</td>
<td>27</td>
<td>4.663</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>AGRICULTURAL ENGINEERING</td>
<td>SCIE</td>
<td>14</td>
<td>3.762</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>ENVIRONMENTAL SCIENCES</td>
<td>SCIE</td>
<td>242</td>
<td>3.488</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>MANAGEMENT</td>
<td>SSCI</td>
<td>210</td>
<td>2.631</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>GREEN &amp; SUSTAINABLE SCIENCE &amp; TECHNOLOGY</td>
<td>SSCI</td>
<td>6</td>
<td>2.124</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>OCEANOGRAPHY</td>
<td>SCIE</td>
<td>64</td>
<td>2.041</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>CRIMINOLOGY &amp; PENOLOGY</td>
<td>SSCI</td>
<td>61</td>
<td>1.657</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>LINGUISTICS</td>
<td>SSCI</td>
<td>181</td>
<td>1.151</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>MATHEMATICS</td>
<td>SCIE</td>
<td>310</td>
<td>0.855</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>HISTORY</td>
<td>SSCI</td>
<td>89</td>
<td>0.465</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

JCR shows the number of journals in each category, together with the average Journal Impact Factor for that research field. By drilling down, journals in a particular research field can be compared.
Journal Analysis and Comparison

The Compare Journals analysis can be made for a set of journals, over a time frame, in a category, using a particular metric.
2020 release

This is due on the 29th June 2020.

It will be the culmination of months of works, pulling together and checking the data for this year’s reports.

Providing you with ‘publisher-neutral journal intelligence’.
How to use Manuscript Matcher in the Master Journal List™ to find the journals that are the ‘best-fit’ for your manuscript
What is in the Master Journal List

- coverage in the Web of Science™
- Open Access information (including whether a journal is Gold OA)
- associated subject categories
- aims and scope
- frequency of publication
- download statistics
- average number of weeks from submission to publication
- peer review information (including type and policy)
New Master Journal List

- **Search** for a particular journal, or a set of journals meeting certain criteria.
- Find out their publishing details, their Open Access policy, Peer Review process, APC fees and more.
- **Download** the list of journals for each of the Web of Science indexes and our other databases too.
New Master Journal List

Use **Manuscript Matcher** to search for a shortlist of journals that tend to publish papers like the one you are writing. Just enter your paper’s title and a detailed abstract for it, the algorithm returns journals that publish similar content.

**Manuscript Matcher** is available in **Word** if you have EndNote installed. This will also use your citations to fine tune the results.
Search Web of Science from MJL

This month we added the capability of searching the selected journal’s content in the Web of Science, for documents on a specific topic.

Even if you do not have a subscription to Web of Science, results will be returned (in a preview).
Additional Resources

Web of Science Group Learning
Get all the support and training you need to make the most of your Web of Science Group products.

Web of Science
Discover trends
Analyze results

The New Master Journal

Videos
Self-Guided Learning
Live Training
LibGuides

Open Access (OA) [Beta]

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<tr>
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<td>45</td>
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<tr>
<td>Subscription and Free to Read Citable</td>
<td>272</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Total Citable</td>
<td>317</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>% Citable Open Access</td>
<td>14.10%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Other</td>
<td>438</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Unlinked</td>
<td>n/a</td>
</tr>
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</table>
Thank you

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