JOURNAL IMPACT FACTOR—SNAPSHOT OF A 3 YEAR WINDOW
JOURNAL CITATION REPORTS (JCR)

• An Impact Factor **IS:** A journal level metric, that normalizes citation count by the amount of scholarly citable content

• An Impact Factor is **NOT:** An article level metric. Individual article citation counts vary greatly even within a single volume and year.

• Requirements to be in the JCR:
  
  • Selected and Indexed in either the *Science Citation Index Expanded (SCIE)* or the *Social Science Citation Index (SSCI)*
  
  • 2 years of citable items and a 3\textsuperscript{rd} year of citations
2014 RELEASE OF THE JCR IMPACT FACTOR CALCULATION

2013 CITES* TO 2011 + 2012 CONTENT

TOTAL # CITABLE ITEMS PUBLISHED IN 2011 AND 2012

* Citations are to the Journal Name in the desired JCR year.

WHAT’S IN THE DENOMINATOR?

• Characteristics of Citable Items
  – Descriptive article title
  – Named author with address information
  – Abstract
  – Article length
  – Cited references
  – Data content

Reference:

WHAT’S IN THE DENOMINATOR?

COUNTED:

• Citable Items
  – Original research articles
  – Review articles
  – Proceedings papers
  – Technical notes
  – Supplements: full articles will count

NOT COUNTED:

• Editorials
• Discussions
• Meeting abstracts
• Book reviews
• News items
• Letters or Commentaries: typically not counted, unless they function as “articles”, ex. Nature.
THINGS TO CONSIDER

• Provide clear instructions to authors on how to cite the journal
  – Title variants are unified in Thomson Reuters database
  – Journal title and year required for IF calculation

• Effect of adding new sections or changing existing sections to a currently indexed journal – let us know!

• Supplements and special issues: citable items are counted in the denominator
MORE CONSIDERATIONS….

- Advise if frequency of publication changes
- Provide e-access to the title, if possible
  - Claiming missing issues is important to proper calculation of the IF
- How do Title changes affect the IF?
  - Title will be re-examined by Editorial staff
  - First year: New title with immediacy index, former title with normal impact factor
  - Second year: New and former titles listed with impact factors
  - Third year: Only new title is listed