Transparency and Accountability

- The Journal Impact Factor provides an important measure of a journal’s contribution to scholarly communication, and its distortion by an excessive concentration of citations is a serious matter.

- Titles are suppressed from JCR based on analysis of the last year of citation data and are re-evaluated annually.

- Thomson Reuters does not assume motive on behalf of any party
Data considered:
- Total citations (TC)
- Journal Impact Factor (JIF)
- Rank in category
- % of journal self-citations in Journal Impact Factor numerator
- Proportional increase in Journal Impact Factor with/without journal self-citations
- Effect of journal self-citations on rank in category by Journal Impact Factor

Journals in bottom 10% ranking by TC and/or by JIF are not suppressed

Suppressed journals represent extreme outliers in citation behavior

Science Edition and Social Sciences Edition are analyzed separately

Journals are suppressed for one year, and re-evaluated with the next year’s data.
Citation Stacking
Donor and Recipient journal pair suppression

What the suppressed Journal metrics would look like

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th></th>
<th></th>
<th></th>
<th></th>
<th></th>
<th></th>
<th></th>
<th></th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1</td>
<td>ALL Journals</td>
<td>1,253</td>
<td>45</td>
<td>285</td>
<td>409</td>
<td>203</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2</td>
<td>ALL OTHERS (410)</td>
<td>410</td>
<td>12</td>
<td>61</td>
<td>120</td>
<td>71</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>3</td>
<td>RECIPIENT</td>
<td>188</td>
<td>19</td>
<td>67</td>
<td>71</td>
<td>11</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>4</td>
<td>DONOR 1</td>
<td>130</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>62</td>
<td>85</td>
<td>1</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>5</td>
<td>DONOR 2</td>
<td>79</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>24</td>
<td>21</td>
<td>27</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>6</td>
<td>DONOR 3</td>
<td>36</td>
<td>2</td>
<td>14</td>
<td>17</td>
<td>3</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>7</td>
<td>DONOR 4</td>
<td>25</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>5</td>
<td>16</td>
<td>3</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>8</td>
<td>DONOR 5</td>
<td>13</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>2</td>
<td>4</td>
<td>4</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>9</td>
<td></td>
<td>13</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>5</td>
<td>4</td>
<td>0</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Donor and Recipient journals are suppressed for one year, and re-evaluated with the next year’s data.

Data considered:
- Donor as % of Recipient’s Total Citations
- Donor as % of Recipient’s Journal Impact Factor numerator citations
- Concentration of citations exchanged into Journal Impact Factor numerator
- Identification of individual item(s) in Donor Journal with near-exclusive reference to Recipient journal(s)

Journals in bottom 10% ranking by TC and/or by Journal Impact Factor, are not suppressed

New titles, where citation activity is naturally concentrated, are not suppressed

Suppressed journals represent extreme outliers in citation behavior

Science Edition and Social Sciences edition are analyzed separately

Article in Donor Journal with references color-coded by cited work – Web of Science Citation Map