



**What is Web of Science Core Collection?**

**Thomson Reuters Journal Selection Process for Web of Science**

**Citation Analysis in Context: Proper use and Interpretation of Impact Factor**

**Some Common Causes for Rejection**

**How to Improve Your Journal and Have Greater Impact**

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*Malaysia*  
*2014*

# Celebrating the 50<sup>th</sup> Anniversary of Science Citation Index

- The innovative thinking of Dr. Eugene Garfield, an early founder of bibliometrics and scientometrics, made Thomson Reuters the first and the best in scientific indexing. His unique way of making connections between scientific research with Science Citation Index was the precursor to what is now Web of Science™
- Science Citation Index Expanded provides essential data from over 8,600 of the world's leading scientific and technical journals, with a rigorous selection process
- Journals across 150 disciplines – from 1900 to present
- Accessed via Web of Science Core Collection



# What is Web of Science Core Collection?

It is a vast multidisciplinary index of standardized metadata - **source items** and **cited references** - from a selected and rigorously curated collection of:

- **12,500 Top Tier** International and Regional Journals
  - **Science Citation Index Expanded (1900-2014)**
  - **Social Sciences Citation Index (1900-2014)**
  - **Arts & Humanities Citation Index (1975-2014)**
  
- **161,000 Conferences (1990-2014)**
  - **Conference Proceedings Citation Index**
  
- **52,000 Scholarly Books (2005-2014)**
  - **Book Citation Index – Science**
  - **Book Citation Index – Social Sciences & Humanities**

...that have published

**57,000,000 Source Items** (Articles, Reviews, Proceedings Papers, Book Chapters etc.)

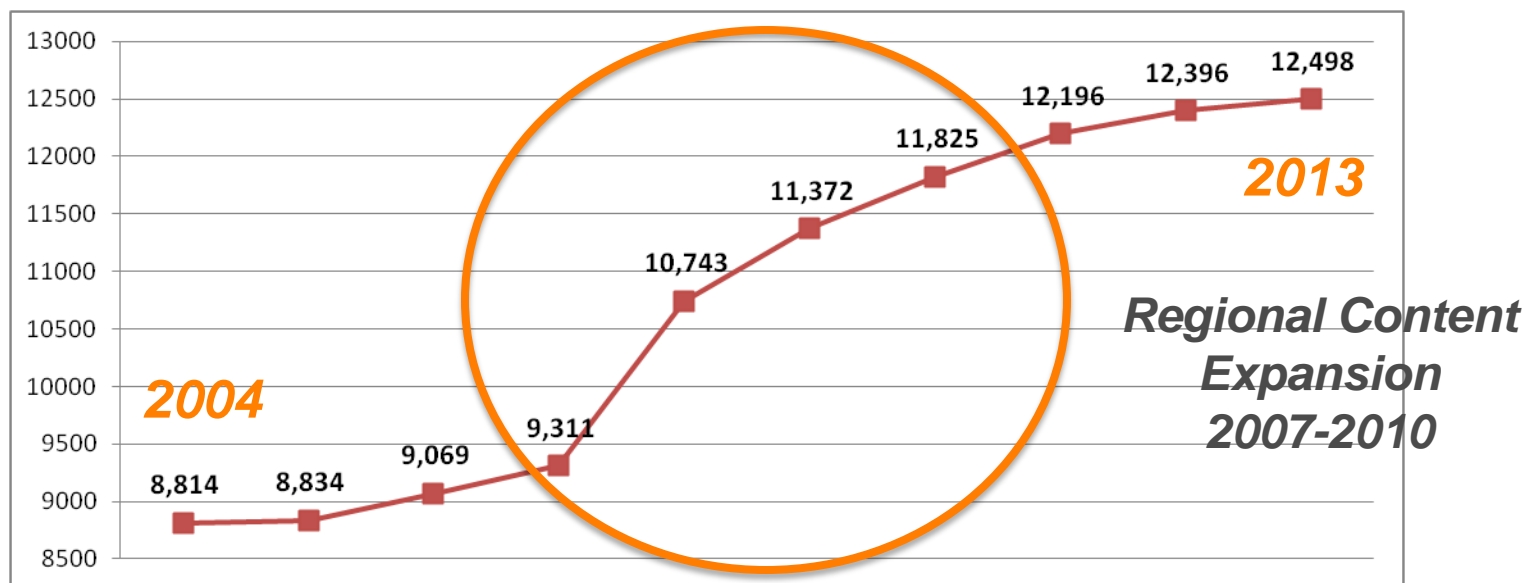
WoS Core Collection is a true Citation Index  
-*each and every cited reference* from each of the  
57 million source items is indexed !

## 1 Billion Cited References Indexed

- Millions of cited references link to WoS Core Collection sources
- Many others point to sources outside WoS Core Collection
  - Editorial Development discovers new publications for possible coverage
  - User may also identify emerging publications and research fronts.

Consistency and Standardization  
in Indexing of all Source Items and  
every Cited Reference.

# Web of Science Core Collection Journal Content 2004-2013



...Regional Content Expansion focused on a collection of more than **10,000** regional journals

... only **1,600** met the Journal Selection Process standards for coverage

in the Web of Science Core Collection (SCIE, SSCI, AHCI)

# Why Be Selective....?

## Bradford's Law

*In any given field, relatively few journals publish a substantial majority of important scientific and scholarly findings and advances.*

Thomson Reuters is in search of journals that -

- Contain the most important and compelling content
- Communicate that content most effectively and efficiently
- Have an influence on the surrounding literature as evidenced by citation impact

**Rejection rate: ~90%**

# THE JOURNAL SELECTION PROCESS: MAIN OBJECTIVES

1. To evaluate and select the best scholarly journal content available today for **coverage** in Web of Science.

As a result, the Web of Science is known as the worldwide source for top tier scholarly research published in the best international and regional journals.

2. Provide the worldwide publishing community with objective standards useful in building world-class publications.

Thomson Reuters has built lasting partnerships with the global scholarly publishing community. We work together to improve the quality of scholarly communication everywhere in the world.

***Thomson Reuters Journal Selection Process has also been adopted and modified by other commercial indexes to meet different objectives and yielding different results !***

# Thomson Reuters Journal Selection Process for Web of Science: Four Points of Evaluation

## Journal Publishing Standards

- Timeliness of publication
- International Editorial Conventions
- English language Bibliographic Information
- Peer Review

## Editorial Content

- How does this journal compare with covered journals of similar scope?
- Is this subject already well covered?
- Will this journal enrich WoS with novel content?

## International Diversity: Authors, EAB

- Does this journal target an International or Regional audience?
- Is international representation among Authors and EAB members at an appropriate level for this journal?

## Citation Analysis

### Total Citations:

- Integration of the journal into the literature over time

### Impact Factor:

- Recent citation activity

### Author, EAB citations in the literature.

- Citation metrics have meaning only in the editorial context appropriate for the journal.*

### Arts & Humanities journals are exceptional

- English full text may not be required
- Novel, well focused content (often regional) is essential
- Citation analysis plays a much smaller role.



# Journal Citation Reports -- 2012 Social Sciences Edition

## Impact Factor Calculation

Journal: **Accounting Organizations and Society**

**Impact Factor: 1.867**

Cites in 2012 to articles published in :

2011 = 37  
2010 = 103  
Sum = **140**

Number of articles published in:

2011 = 32  
2010 = 43  
Sum = **75**

**Calculation:**

**Cites to recent articles**      **140** = 1.867  
**Number of recent articles**    **75**

# What Does Impact Factor Represent?

**Impact Factor** represents the average number of times recent articles in a specific journal were cited in a particular year.

## What Does it Measure?

**Impact Factor** measures the citation performance of the journal as a whole and not of any specific article or author published in the journal.

# Category Level Metrics – Ranked by Aggregate Impact Factor

## Science Categories

Category <i>(linked to category information)</i>	Total Cites	Median Impact Factor	Aggregate Impact Factor	Aggregate Immediacy Index	Aggregate Cited Half-Life	# Journals	Articles
<a href="#">BIOCHEMISTRY &amp; MOLECULAR BIOLOGY</a>	2893854	2.857	4.273	0.873	7.7	290	51489
<a href="#">NEUROSCIENCES</a>	1666212	2.748	3.948	0.780	7.4	244	33311
<a href="#">GASTROENTEROLOGY &amp; HEPATOLOGY</a>	410010	2.379	3.724	0.826	6.1	74	10989
<a href="#">MARINE &amp; FRESHWATER BIOLOGY</a>	313606	1.474	1.934	0.412	9.1	97	9516
<a href="#">ENGINEERING, ELECTRICAL &amp; ELECTRONIC</a>	730619	1.020	1.587	0.242	6.8	245	42921
<a href="#">ACOUSTICS</a>	98897	1.036	1.548	0.307	9.0	30	4015

## Social Science Categories

Category <i>(linked to category information)</i>	Total Cites	Median Impact Factor	Aggregate Impact Factor	Aggregate Immediacy Index	Aggregate Cited Half-Life	# Journals	Articles
<a href="#">ENVIRONMENTAL STUDIES</a>	98822	1.241	1.792	0.328	6.3	89	5115
<a href="#">PSYCHOLOGY, SOCIAL</a>	153587	1.287	1.680	0.265	>10.0	59	3334
<a href="#">ANTHROPOLOGY</a>	65215	0.614	1.237	0.297	9.9	81	3056
<a href="#">ECONOMICS</a> →	401962	0.778	1.148	0.243	>10.0	→ 321	→ 15327
<a href="#">COMMUNICATION</a> →	44043	0.756	0.987	0.171	8.2	→ 72	→ 2449
<a href="#">INTERNATIONAL RELATIONS</a>	35586	0.613	0.852	0.219	7.7	81	2730
<a href="#">LINGUISTICS</a>	68157	0.487	0.844	0.195	9.8	162	3833

**Journal rankings and comparisons are meaningful only within each category - not between categories or domains.**

# Citation Analysis in Editorial Context

**2012 Impact Factor = 2.00**

*Meaning?*

# 2012 Journal Citation Report Science Edition Impact Factor = 2.0

## Journal Ranking ⓘ

For **2012**, the journal **INORGANIC CHEMISTRY COMMUNICATIONS** has an Impact Factor of **2.016**.

This table shows the ranking of this journal in its subject categories based on Impact Factor.

Category Name	Total Journals in Category	Journal Rank in Category	Quartile in Category
CHEMISTRY, INORGANIC & NUCLEAR	44	16	Q2

## Journal Ranking ⓘ

For **2012**, the journal **Journal of Civil Engineering and Management** has an Impact Factor of **2.016**.

This table shows the ranking of this journal in its subject categories based on Impact Factor.

Category Name	Total Journals in Category	Journal Rank in Category	Quartile in Category
ENGINEERING, CIVIL	122	12	Q1

## Rank in Category: DRUG DELIVERY

## Journal Ranking ⓘ

For **2012**, the journal **DRUG DELIVERY** has an Impact Factor of **2.015**.

This table shows the ranking of this journal in its subject categories based on Impact Factor.

Category Name	Total Journals in Category	Journal Rank in Category	Quartile in Category
PHARMACOLOGY & PHARMACY	261	150	Q3

## Journal Ranking ⓘ

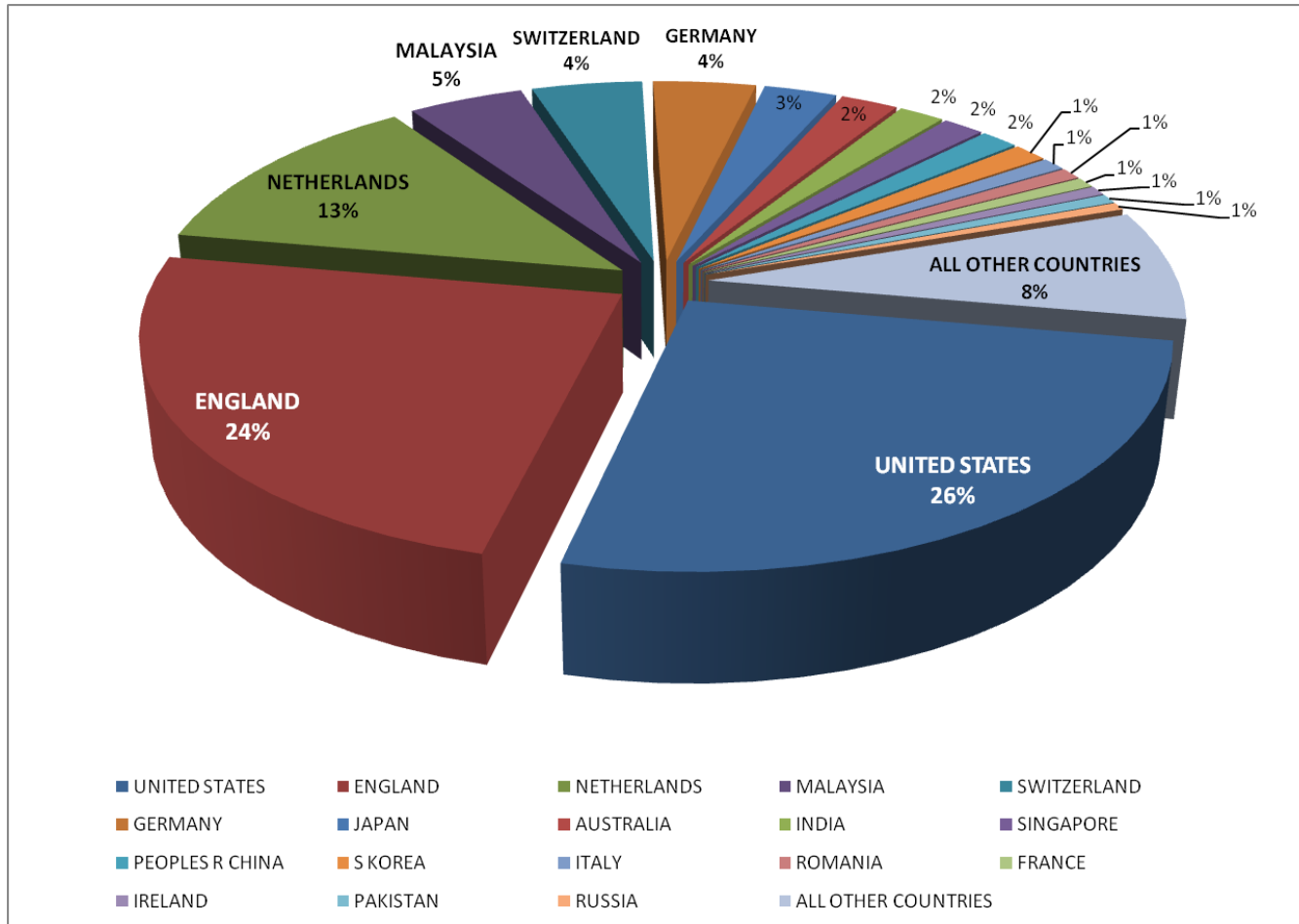
For **2012**, the journal **OTOLOGY & NEUROTOLOGY** has an Impact Factor of **2.014**.

This table shows the ranking of this journal in its subject categories based on Impact Factor.

Category Name	Total Journals in Category	Journal Rank in Category	Quartile in Category
CLINICAL NEUROLOGY	193	96	Q2
OTORHINOLARYNGOLOGY	44	6	Q1

# Where do Malay Researchers Publish?

40,490 papers in  
WoS Core Collection 2004-2013



95% of Malaysian Papers are published in non-Malaysian journals.

➤ Most Common Causes of Rejection for Coverage  
In  
Web of Science Core Collection

# Why are journals rejected for Web of Science? Most common causes...

**Late! Issues  
published behind  
schedule. Too few  
articles published  
quarterly/annually...**

**Low citation impact  
relative to subject**

**Lack of editorial  
focus, novel  
content;  
derivative or  
redundant studies**

**Format:  
magazine/newsletter**



Overall rejection rates by factor\*:  
Social Sciences, Life Sciences,  
Physics Chemistry Earth Sciences

624 Journals rejected  
2010-2011

Timeliness:  
**13%**

Low Citation  
Impact  
Relative to  
Subject:  
**72%**

Editorial  
Content:  
**47%**

Format:  
**25%**

*\* Each journal rejection may have included  
one or more of these factors*

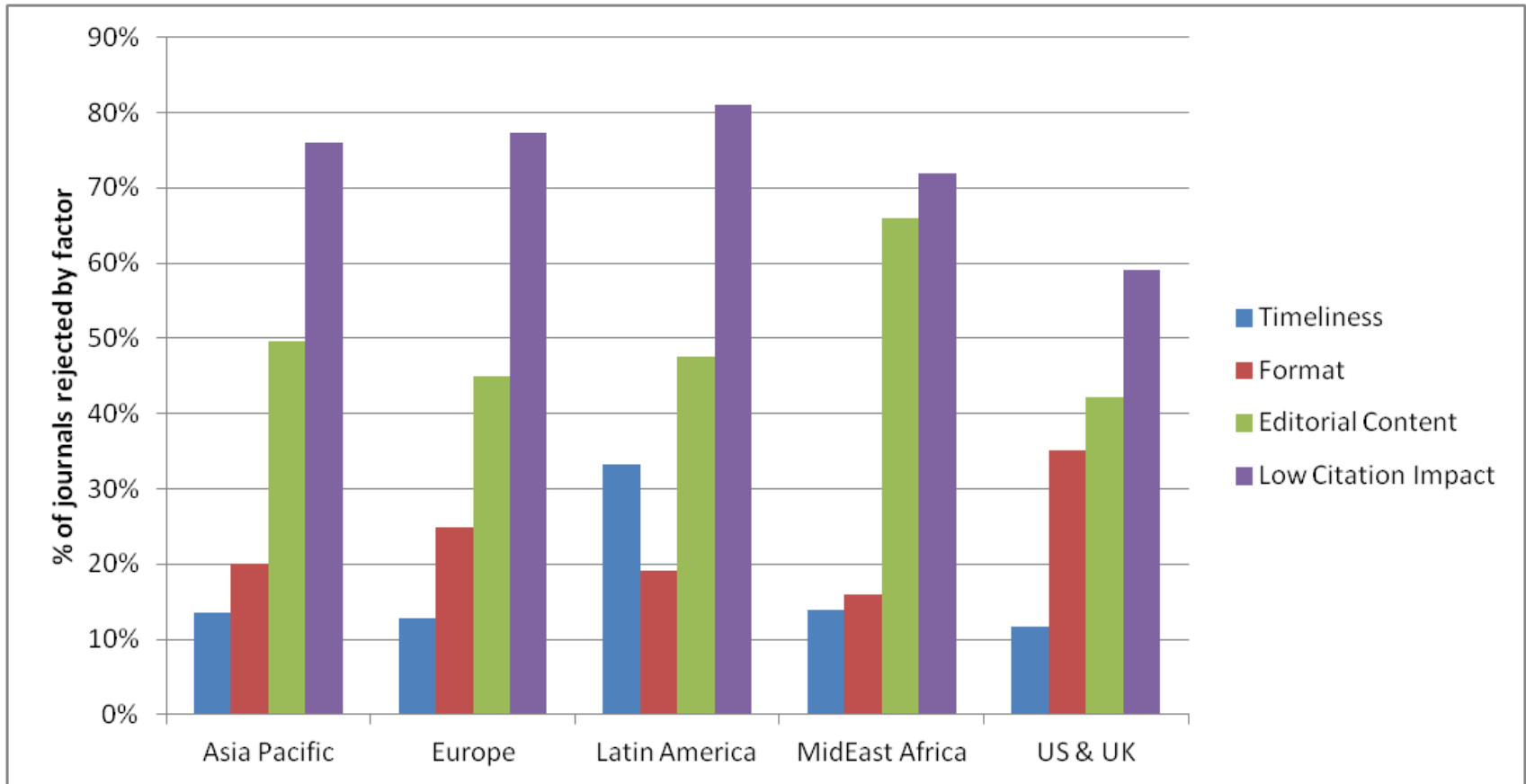
# Distribution of Rejection Factors for 624 journals\* by Region (2010-2011)

	<b>Asia Pacific</b> (125 journals)	<b>Europe</b> (274 journals)	<b>Latin America</b> (21 journals)	<b>Middle East – Africa</b> (50 journals)	<b>US / UK</b> (154 journals)
<b>Timeliness</b>	14%	13%	33%	14%	12%
<b>Format</b>	20%	25%	19%	16%	35%
<b>Editorial Content</b>	50%	45%	48%	66%	42%
<b>Low Citation Impact</b>	76%	77%	81%	72%	59%

\*Subject Areas

- Life Sciences
- Physics Chemistry & Earth Sciences
- Social Sciences

## Distribution of Rejection Factors for 624 journals\* by Region



\*Subject Areas



- Life Sciences
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- Social Sciences

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It is a vast multidisciplinary index of standardized metadata - source items and cited references - from a selected and rigorously curated collection of:

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**57 Million** Source items

**1 Billion** Cited References

***\*Rejection rate: ~90%***

# How Can I Improve My Journal?

1. Active recruitment of high-impact authors and articles
2. Offering better service to authors
3. Boosting the journal's media profile
4. More careful article selection

M. Chew, E. V. Villanueva, and M. B. Van Der Weyden, *Journal of the Royal Society of Medicine* 100 (3), 142 (2007).

- **New England J Med**
- **Ann Intern Med**
- **BMJ**
- **JAMA**
- **Lancet**
- **Med J Australia**
- **Can Med Assn J**

**Thomson Reuters can help.**

***Thank you.***

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