

February 2017

Construction and use of the Faculty Journal List (FJL)

In February 2015, the Faculty board has approved the use of a faculty journal list (FJL) at the recommendation of an ad-hoc Scientific Advisory Committee (in which all Departments were represented).

Purpose and use of the List

The purpose of the FJL is to define a graded set of “top” journals for the core fields at our Faculty. The current FJL contains a total 476 journals, of which 176 journals are in Category 1, and 300 are in Category 2.

The FJL is used as a general reference for various measures and policies taken by the Faculty board. In particular, it is used to structure the representation of research output in the Annual Report of the Faculty and on our webpages. It is also used in determining the payouts for our publications premia program (see separate document for explanations). The FJL is updated approximately every three years.

Construction of the List

In the current list, the journals have been assigned to categories by using two types of sources. One is the JCR (Journal Citation Reports, ISI web of knowledge) provided by Thomson Reuters, ed. 2015. The JCR has two editions, the Science edition and the Social Science edition (SSCI), and we use both to construct our list (FJL). We use the following fields from the SSCI (# of journals): Business (120); Business & Finance (94); Economics (345); Management (192); Political Science (163); Psychology, Applied (79), Psychology, Multidisciplinary (129); Sociology (142). We use the following fields from the Science edition: Mathematics, Applied (254); Mathematics, Interdisciplinary Applications (101); Multidisciplinary Sciences (63), Operations Research & Management Science (82); Statistics & Probability (123).

Journals in each field are ranked according to the Article Influence Score (which roughly corresponds to a five-year impact factor, see below for exact definitions). We then use two cutoff values: the top 25% of journals in each field (also called Q1) and the top 10% in each list (also called D1).

The second source used to classify journals is a set of four complementary lists.

Business: Jourqual 3.0. This ranking is based on the judgment of professors in Business in the German-speaking area. See <http://vhbonline.org/service/jourqual/>. There are two top levels in this ranking. These are 22 “A+” journals, and 72 “A”-journals.

Economics: Handelsblatt-VWL-Ranking 2013. Contains all journals in EconLit, journal list of the American Economic Association, plus a few additional journals in statistics as well as Nature and Science. Weights are based on Combes and Linnemer (2010). We use the top two levels in their classification. These are 10 journals with “weight 1.0” and 25 journals with “weight 0.6”.

<http://www.handelsblatt.com/downloads/9665428/1/Journal-Ranking>

Statistics: List compiled by the Australian Mathematical Society (AMS) for Statistics. It contains 14 top (A*) and 29 “A” journals. http://www.austms.org.au/Rankings/0104_AustMS_final_ranked.html

Finance: List compiled by the Amsterdam Business School (ABS). It contains 40 “top” (A*) and 65 “very good” (A) journals. <http://abs.uva.nl/research/research-policy/research-policy.html>

A journal is allocated to

Category 1 if the journal gets the best rating (i.e. is in the best 10%) in at least one of the JCR fields we consider, or is in the best classification in at least one of the complementary journals lists (i.e. is A+ in JourQual3.0, has weight 1.0 in HB VWL 2013, and is A* in AMS and ABS).

Category 2 if the journal is not in category 1 and gets the second best rating (i.e. is in the best 25%) in at least one of the JCR fields we consider, or is in the second best classification in at least one of the complementary journals lists (i.e. is A in JourQual3.0, has weight 0.6 in HB VWL 2013, and is A in AMS and ABS).

Note that a journal typically receives differing evaluations from different sources and fields, but the Category is determined by the “best” evaluation. For example, *Econometric Theory* is a Cat. 1 journal because it is evaluated as D1 in the field Statistics (and is A* in the AMS list), but it is rated only Q1 in Economics and not rated at all in several other fields, e.g. Management. A publication in *Econometric Theory* is counted as a Cat. 1 publication independent of whether the author is a Statistician, and Economist or a Management scholar by training and independent of his assignment to Departments.

Definitions:

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 5-Year Journal Impact Factor** in that 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. A score greater than 1.00 indicates that each article in the journal has above-average influence. A score less than 1.00 indicates that each article in the journal has below-average influence.

The *Eigenfactor* Score calculation is based on the number of times articles from the journal published in the past five years have been cited in the JCR year, but it also considers which journals have contributed these citations so that highly cited journals will influence the network more than lesser cited journals. References from one article in a journal to another article from the same journal are removed, so that *Eigenfactor* Scores are not influenced by journal self-citation.

The journal *Impact Factor* is the average number of times articles from the journal published in the past two years have been cited in the JCR year. The Impact Factor is calculated by dividing the number of citations in the JCR year by the total number of articles published in the two previous years. An Impact Factor of 1.0 means that, on average, the articles published one or two year ago have been cited one time. An Impact Factor of 2.5 means that, on average, the articles published one or two year ago have been cited two and a half times. The citing works may be articles published in the same journal.