Journal of Informetrics

Aims and Scope

Journal of Informetrics (JOI) publishes refereed articles on fundamental quantitative aspects of information science. The journal, although limited to -metrics aspects, has a broad scope: in principle, all quantitative analysis of original problems in information science are within the scope of JOI. Besides its generality, Journal of Informetrics focusses on papers describing fundamental methods and theories and/or universally important data, gathered in a non-trivial way. Fundamental methods comprise mathematical, probabilistic or statistical models and techniques as well as methods in operational research. These methods can serve the quantitative explanation of certain phenomena, evaluation of information and its producers as well as the management of libraries and other information centres.

Journal of Informetrics has a special (though not exclusive) interest in inter- and multi-disciplinary papers, dealing with common aspects of (or possible differences between) several neighbouring disciplines such as quantitative linguistics, econometrics, biometrics and other -metrics fields. The aim is to lower the barriers between these fields, hence avoiding reformulation of similar problems, theories and solutions. Journal of Informetrics also welcomes certain papers from researchers who do not consider themselves as informetrists, for example research papers would be considered on the graph-theoretic description of networks.

Journal of Informetrics also publishes papers that improve standardisation in informetrics. In general the journal aims to contribute to increasing the degree of "hardness" of the field, and to increase the degree of "exactness" of the scientific field of informetrics.

The journal covers informetrics and considers it to comprise (or at least to include) fields such as bibliometrics, scientometrics, webometrics and cybermetrics. Specific topics can be described (non-exhaustively) as follows: informetric laws (including, but not exclusively: Lotka, Zipf, Bradford, Mandelbrot but also laws of growth and ageing or obsolescence) hereby also modelling generalised bibliographies, aspects of inequality or concentration (e.g. Lorenz theory) and diffusion, citation theory, linking theory, downloads, indicators (definitions and properties), evaluation techniques for scientific output (literature, persons) and for documentary systems (information retrieval) incl. ranking theory, library management, graph-theoretic and topological analysis of networks (incl. Internet, intranets, citation and collaboration networks), visualisation and mapping of science (persons, fields, institutes, topics,...).

A full Guide for Authors can be found in INFORMETRICS 1/1, or online on the journal website at: www.elsevier.com/locate/joi.