**H-Index**

The h-index, or Hirsch index, measures the impact of a particular scientist rather than a journal. Thus it is an author-level metric. It takes into account the number of papers published and the number of citations received by these papers resulting in a single number rating. The h-index was developed by J. E. Hirsch, a physics scientist.

**Features of H-Index**

* Combines assessment of both quantity (no. of papers) and quality (no. of citations)
* Allows for direct comparisons within disciplines
* Measures quantity and impact by a single value
* The  h-index should be used only within the context of a field or subfield, and not across disciplines or subject areas.
* Calculated by using only articles that are indexed in Web of Science, Scopus and Google Scholar databases.
* If a researcher publishes an article in a journal that is not indexed by Web of Science, the article as well as any citations to it will not be included in the H-Index calculation
* The index keep on changing. Hence, it has to be re-calculated every time.
* An individual's h-index may vary by database. This is because the databases index different journals and cover different years. For instance, Web of Science calculates an h-index using the years 1985-present. Google Scholar Citations covers a different set of years and journals.
* These metrics are biased toward more prolific and more established authors. They also are not generalizable across disciplines.

**Calculation of h-index**

**The h-index is** based on the highest number of papers included that have had at least the same number of citations. The value of h is equal to the number of papers (N) in the list that have N or more citations. e.g., If a scientist has published five papers and each of those papers has been cited at least 5 times, then her h-index would be 5.

[**Web of Science**](http://proxy.cc.uic.edu/login?url=http://webofknowledge.com/WOS)

Web of Science provides citation counts for articles indexed within it.  It indexes over 10,000 journals in the arts, humanities,  sciences, and social sciences.

**Scopus**

Scopus provide citation counts for articles indexed within it (limited to article written in 1996 and after).   It indexes over 15,000 journals from over 4,000 international publishers across the disciplines.

**Google Scholar**

Using your google (gmail) account, create a profile of all your articles captured in Google Scholar.  Follow the prompt on the screen to set up your profile.   Once complete, this will show all the times the articles have been cited by other documents in Google Scholar and your h-index will be provided.  Its your choice whether you make your profile public or private but if you make it public, you can link to it from your own webpages.