

Content Analysis Of Three Open Access Journals In LIS: A Study

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Abstract

In recent times, open access publishing has been gaining popularity in the scholarly communication from funders, research organization, universities, publishers and researches because it makes research accessible to all. This study is carried out to find a content analysis of 234 articles published in three open access journals on LIS field between 2018 and 2020 to discover whether the LIS systems-oriented literature reflects any serious interest in user community, to know the yearly authorship distribution as well give some suggestions to the selected open access journals as the discipline is moving in fascinating new directions in a number of areas.

Keywords: Open access, content analysis, e- journals

Introduction

In today's information age, everyone uses the internet to learn new things, and open access has become one of the most important sources of information. It has shown to be quite beneficial to the research community. When a user buys a journal, they must pay a significant sum of money and search for it. However, due to the availability of e-journals, they can now use the journal without wasting a lot of time. However, some e-journals have both open and closed access; open access journals are publicly available and can be accessed at any time by anybody. Closed access journals, on the other hand, must be purchased in order for the user to access them. Because of the nature of open access, which allows anyone to use it at any time, it is immensely popular. It does not necessitate payment. As a result, open access publications are extremely beneficial to all types of users, particularly students, because they do not require payment. The open access initiatives considerably influenced scholarly communities and also forced governments, funding agencies, universities and research councils to change their policies to ensure that scholarly content of any

research funded by them should be publicly accessible. Since no library can afford to subscribe to all relevant journals, open access journals are more helpful for the research community and students. The availability of scholarly literature in electronic form is the fundamental principle of open access. The content analysis of the three selected open access journals involves a procedure to describe previously recorded or reported phenomenon. This is a descriptive study on the performance of open access journals and how it is helpful for the users based on the available literature.

Review of literature

Koufogiannakis, Slater, and Crumley (2004) conducted a content analysis of library and Information Science literature published in 2001 and test the domains developed by Crumley and Koufogiannakis. A total of 807 research articles were analyzed that published in 91 journals. **Aharony (2012)** analysed journals' research articles of the top 10 Library and Information Science journals published during the year 2007 to 2008. He used a statistical descriptive analysis of bibliographic components. **Walia and Kaur (2012)** conducted a content analysis of 165 research papers published in the six LIS journals published from UK and USA in the year 2008. He found that 93 (56.36%) of the articles out of the total 165 were research articles. **Chu (2015)** analyzed quantitatively and qualitatively 1162 research articles, published from 2001 to 2010 in three major journals of library and information science, to identify some recurring themes about research method selection and application in the scholarly domain

Research Objectives

1. To analyze the content of three (3) open access Journal.
2. To find out the distribution of single and multiple authorship over the three years.
3. To give suggestions for better performance of the selected open access journals.

Research Methodology

For the present study on the Content coverage and Analysis of the Open Access LIS Journal: a study with reference to three (3) selected journals, observation method was used ,to collect primary data Journals websites and links were used. While dissertation and theses were used to collect the secondary literatures and references. The data collected has been tactfully scrutinized, tabulated and analyzed using Ms Excel tool.

Data Interpretation & Analysis

Table 1 : General Information of three selected journals

Name of the journals	Publisher	Frequency	Impact	ISSN	Web address
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Annals of Library and Information Studies (ALIS)	National Institute of Science Communication and Information Resources (India)	Quarterly	SJR 0.24	0972-5423 (Print) 0975-2404 (Non print)	http://op.niscair.res.in/index.php/ALIS
Communication in Information Literacy (CIL)	Communications in Information Literacy	Semi-annually	SJR 1.45	1933-5954	https://pdxscholar.library.pdx.edu/commoninfolit/about.html
Qualitative and Quantitative Methods in Libraries (QQML)	ISAST (International Society for the Advancement of Science and Technology)		0.23	2241-1925	http://www.qqml.net

Table 1 shows the general Information about the three (3) journals are described in detail i.e. Annals of Library and Information Studies (ALIS), Communication in Information Literacy (CIL), and Qualitative and Quantitative Methods of Library (QQML) including the publishers, the frequency, ISSN, Impact Factor and their website addresses are covered at this point.

1. Annals of Library and Information Studies (ALIS)

Here the researcher has only taken three (3) years for the of articles in these journals; the years are from 2018-2020. The volumes which are discussed under these journals are ALIS Vol.65 (2018), ALIS Vol.66 (2019) and ALIS Vol. (2020) which makes a of total 67 articles. discussion

Table 2: Yearly distribution of articles

Year	Vol. No	No. of issues	No. of Articles	Percentage
2018	65	1-4	28	41.79%
2019	66	1-4	20	29.85%

2020	67	1-3	19	28.35%
		Total	67	

Table 2 shows that a total of 67 contributions, consisting of full articles, were published throughout the duration of three years (2018-2020). The figure below shows the distribution of 67 contributions published between 2018 and 2020. In 2018, the highest number of articles i.e. 28 (41.79%) were published, while the lowest number of contributions i.e. 19 (28.35%) were published in 2020.

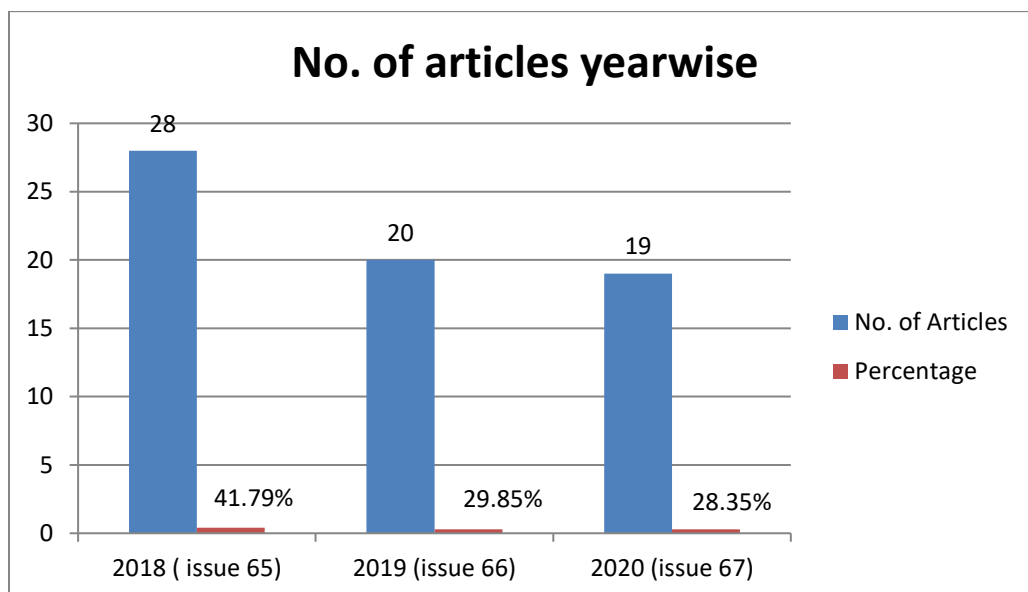


Fig. 1: Number of articles distributes year-wise in ALIS.

Here the researcher has only taken 3 years for the discussion of articles in these journals; the years are from 2018-2020. The volumes which are discussed under these journals are CIL Vol.12 (2018), CIL Vol. 13 (2019) and CIL Vol.14 (2020).

Table 3: Yearly of distribution of articles

Year	Vol. No	No. of issues	No. of Articles	Percentage
2018	12	1-2	8	32%
2019	13	1-2	8	32%
2020	14	1	9	36%
		Total	25	

Table 3 shows that a total of 25 full articles were published throughout the selected three years (2018-2020). The table below shows the distribution of 25 contributions published between 2018

and 2020. In 2018, the maximum number of articles is 9 (36%) was published, and the least number of contributions is 8 (32%) was published in both 2019 and 2020.

2. Communication of Information Literacy

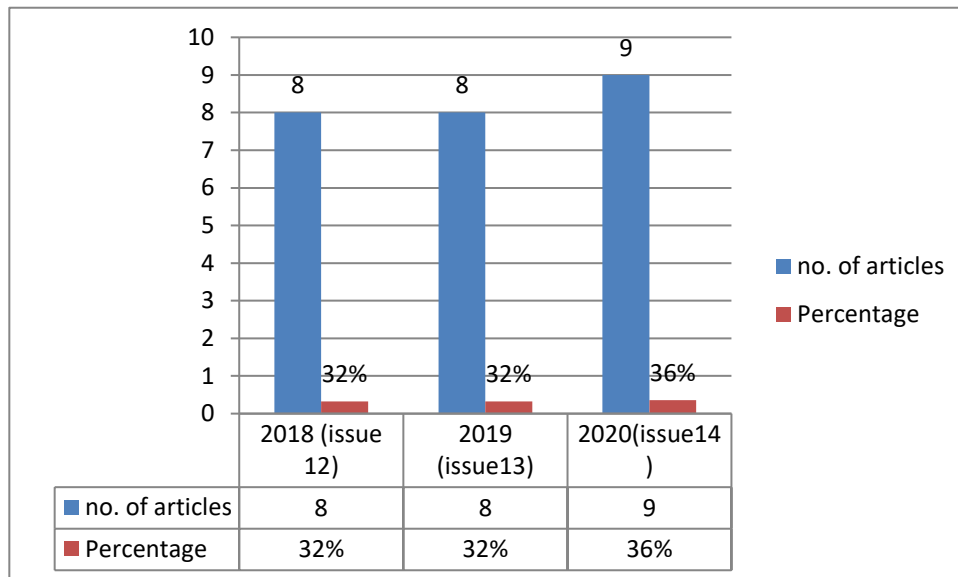


Fig 2 : The no. of articles distributes year-wise in CIL

3. Qualitative and Quantitative Methods in Libraries

Here the researcher has only taken 3 years for the discussion of articles in these journals; the years are from 2018-2020. The volumes which are discussed under these journals are QQML Vol. 7 (2018), QQML Vol.8 (2019), and QQML Vol. 9 (2020).

Table 4: Yearly of Distribution of articles

Year	Vol. no	No. of issues	No. of articles	Percentage
2018	7	1-4	51	38.05%
2019	8	1-4	42	31.34%
2020	9	1-3	41	30.59%
		Total	134	

Table 4 shows that a total of 134 contributions were published in three years (2018-2020). The distribution of 134 contributions published from is shown in the table (2018-2020). In 2018, the highest number of articles 5 or 38.05% were published, while the lowest number of contributions 41 or 30.59% were published in 2020.

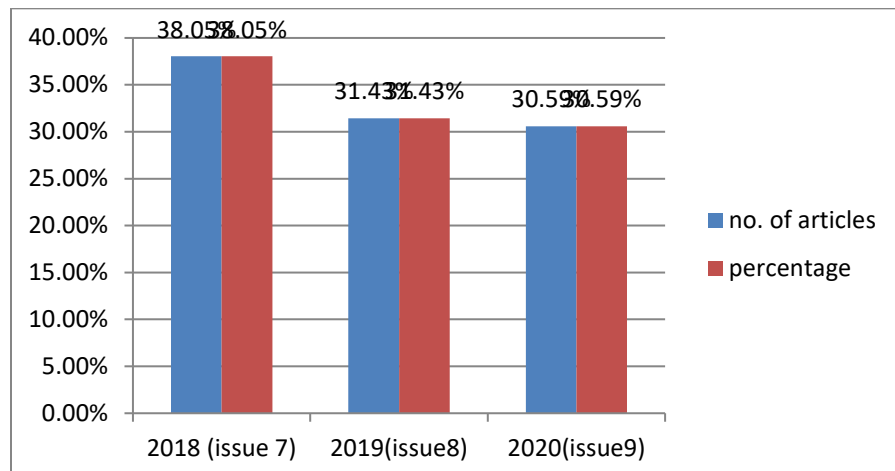


Figure 3: The no. of articles distributes year-wise in QQML

Table 5 : Authorship pattern of articles (Volume wise)

Vol.No	No. of authors				Total
	One	Two	Three	More than Three	
ALIS Vol.65	15	9	4	–	28
ALIS Vol. 66	7	8	3	1	19
ALIS Vol.67	5	12	2	–	29
CIL Vol. 12	–	1	6	1	8
CIL Vol. 13	4	2	2	–	8
CIL Vol. 14	7	2	–	–	9
QQML Vol. 7	17	20	8	6	51
QQML Vol.8	11	14	6	11	42
QQML Vol. 9	14	9	12	5	40
Total	80	77	43	24	234

Table 5 shows the authorship pattern in detail. A single author contributed 80 of the 234 contributions, two authors contributed 77 of the 234 contributions, three authors contributed 43 of the 234 contributions, and more than three writers contributed 24 of the 234 contributions.

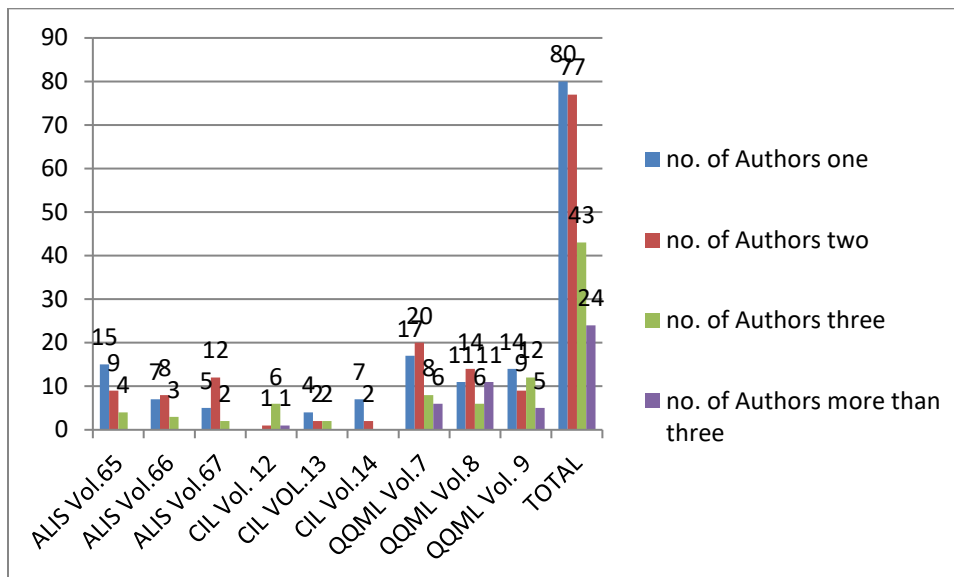


Figure 4: the authorship pattern of articles

Table 6 : Length of the Articles in the Total Volumes

Articles	Length of Articles				Total
	1-5	6-10	11-15	16- More	
ALIS	21	38	4	1	64
CIL		2	2	22	26
QQML	5	54	40	19	118
Total	26	94	46	42	208

Table 6 contains information on the page length of the articles. 26 of the 208 articles have a page length of 1-5 pages, while 94 have a page length of 6-10 pages. There are 46 articles with page lengths ranging from 11 to 15 pages and 42 articles with page lengths of 16 or more pages.

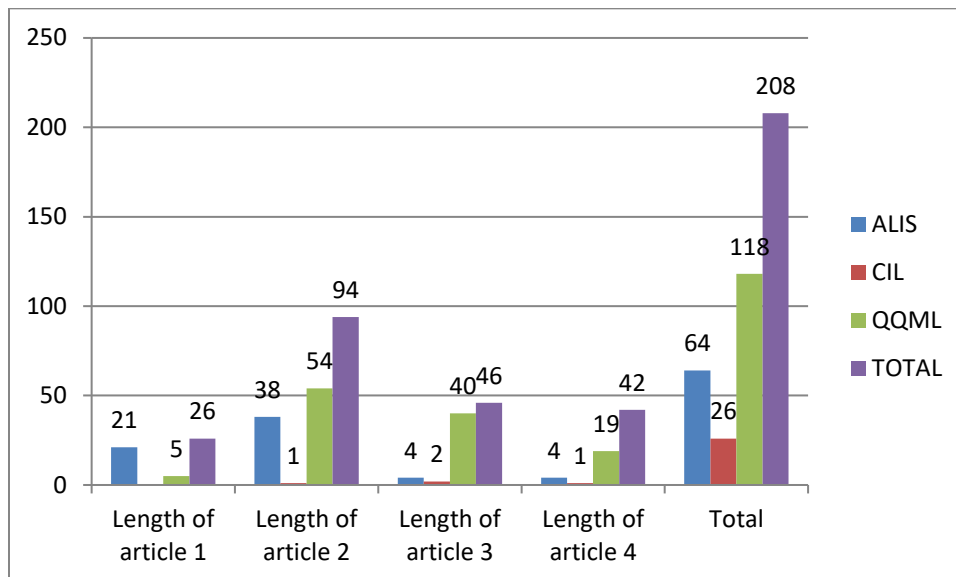


Figure 5: The length of the articles in each journal

Table 7: Ranking of Authors in no. of articles

Sl.no	Rank	Name of Author	No. of articles
1	1	Reponovici Angela	4
2	2	Sanches Tatiana	3
3	3	Melo Luiza Baptista	3
4	4	Das Anup Kumar	3
5	5	Sen B.K.	3
6	6	29 no. of authors	2 each
7	7	453 no. of authors	1 each

In table 7 the ranking of authors is shown. From 2018 to 2020, there were 477 authors who published a total of 208 articles to the three journals. According to table 7, Reponovici Angela is the most prolific author, producing four papers, followed by Sanches Tatiana, Melo Luiza Baptista, Das Anup Kumar, and Sen B.K., who each submitted three articles and tied for second place. Apart from the aforementioned authors, 29 authors each provided two articles, and 453 authors each contributed one article.

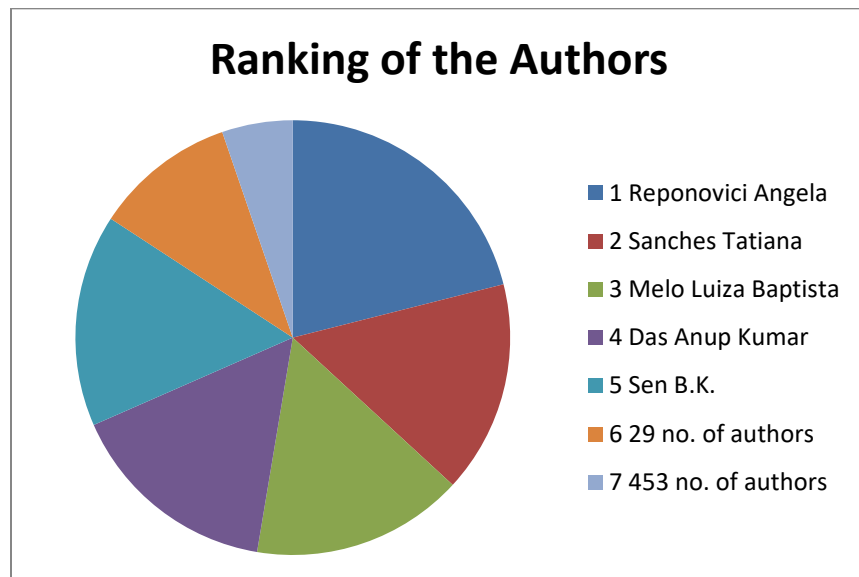


Fig 6: Ranking of authors in no. of articles

Findings

1) Table 1 shows the general Information of selected three Open access journals containing the details of publisher, ISSN, Web address etc.

2) According to Table 2 and figure 1 a total number of 67 articles in ALIS (2018-2020). Maximum number of articles i.e. 28 (41.79%) was published in 2018 and minimum contribution i.e. 9(28.35%) in 2020.

3) According to Table 3 and figure 2, a total number of 25 articles in CIL (2018-2020). Maximum number of articles i.e. 9 (36%) was published in 2018 and minimum contribution i.e. 8% (32%) in both 2019 and 2020.

4) According to Table 4 and figure 3, a total number of 134 articles in QQML (2018-2020). Maximum number of articles i.e. 51% (38.05) was published in 2018 and minimum of contribution i.e. 41 (30.59%) in 2020.

5) According to Table 5, a total of 80 contributions out of 234 have been contributed by single author, 77 contributions out of 234 have been contributed by 2 authors and 43 contribution out of 234 by 3 authors and 24 contributions by more than three authors.

6) According to Table 6, the details about the page of length of the articles are shown. Out of 208 articles, 26 articles have page length of 1-5 pages while 94 articles have length 6-10 pages. There are 46 articles having page length of 11-15 pages and there are 42 articles having page length of 16 & more pages.

7) According to Table 7, it has been shown about the ranking of authors. The total of 477 authors who contributed 208 articles numbers of articles to all the 3 journals from 2018-2020. From table 7 it is found that Reponovici Angela, is the leading author contributing 4 articles followed by Sanches Tatiana, Melo Luiza Baptista, Das Anup Kumar and Sen B.K. all of them have contributed 3 articles securing the second position. Besides, the above mentioned authors, 29 authors contributed 2 articles each, and 453 authors contributed 1 article each.

Conclusion & Suggestions

In this present information age open access movement of the developing countries have been making awareness of qualitative scholarly literature among its users. The open access should be initiative in every institution for the betterment of the users. As it gives the right information at right time to the right person. So that the developing countries do not lack it terms of right information and process together. And open access journal should be more convenient to users so right information can be serve to them without heavy payment and should be easy to access for all kind of users. The analysis of all the three journals indicates that there were 234 articles published during 2018-2020. The authorship pattern indicates that the majority of articles published by single author. Most of the articles having page length of 6-10 pages have been used by the authors and more convenient. Angela Reponivici is the most productive author during the study period. The analysis of data clearly indicates that all the three (3) Open Access e-journals are rapidly establishing themselves as a most viable media for scholarly communications. After analyzing the Data, the researcher has made an attempt of the following suggestion so as to improve the content analysis of the Open access journals---

- 1) Library Science journals should be more publicized so that users can get their hands more on this journals.
- 2) Open access journal is still growing in this country, people are more tilted over the traditional journals, so more and more authors should give it a try. Mostly the famous author should give it a try as they can help the other authors to give a shot.
- 3) Open access journal is still growing in this country, people are more tilted over the traditional journals, so more and more authors should give it a try. Mostly the famous author should give it a try as they can help the other authors to give a shot.
- 4) High Internet connectivity should be implying in educational institute so that user can get their information as quickly as possible without any blockage and disturbance or obstacles.

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