Singapore Journal of Library and Information Management: A Bibliometric Study (2008-2012)

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Abstract - This paper examines the articles published in the Singapore journal of library and information management journal Present analysis covers the areas like article distribution pattern, authorship pattern, reference, and geographical distribution of authors, etc. At the time of data mining of said journal, 25 articles were published during the period 2008-2012. Singapore since being the host country, as such proved to be one of the major contributors of the journal in every respect. Individual contribution of authors to the journal has been tabulated as per articles contributed, highlighted in their standing order. After analysing 435 references, on average 17.40 references have been assigned to each article. Researchers from 4 different countries across the world have contributed research articles to the journal during the period of study. 48.00 % articles contributed to the journal during the period of study are based on co-authorship pattern, unveiling the fact that most of the research undertaken these days is on joint authorship pattern.

Keywords: **Bibliometrics, references distribution, quantitative techniques, Singapore journal of library and information management journal**

I. INTRODUCTION

There are numerous reasons and variety of purposes for which bibliometric studies are undertaken. In the normal course, such studies are undertaken to evaluate research output of a particular subject during the particular period and it help us to develop a scientific acumen towards the potential of research trend in a particular science. Publication of qualitative research results, type and kind of scientific community which may have contributed in publishing their research results in a particular journal, etc. Upholding above view, the study aims to ascertain the research output of Singapore Journal of Library and Information Management *(*SJLIM)" during the period of 2008-2012.   SJLIM is one the leading Annually journals in the field of Library and Information Science, published by *Directory of Open Access Journals* DOAJ (DOAJ), and *Cabell's Directory of Publishing Opportunities in Educational Technology and Library Science*.**,** and do enjoy fair amount of popularity at global level.

II. OBJECTIVES

The present study has been undertaken with the following objectives to

1. Analyses the articles published in the journal of Singapore Journal of Library and Information
2. Management during 2008-12
3. Analyses the authorship pattern and their geographical affiliation with number of contributions
4. Rank countries according to number of articles, authors, and contributors
5. Analyses average articles published per volume and reference distribution pattern with average
6. reference per article per volume.

III. SOURCE AND METHODOLOGY

The data required for analysis was mined from its home website. Articles published during 2008- 2012 were scanned, and the relevant information, as per the objectives of the study was extracted and analysed. In all 25 articles were scanned from 5 volumes of the journal (Vol. no 37-41). The data retrieved was put to excel format for better analysis and understanding to achieve the set objectives. Before the analysis, data was standardized to so as avoid any kind of misrepresentation of facts or coming up with results which may hamper the cause of study undertaken to achieve the results as per predefined objectives.

IV. ANALYSIS

Keeping in view the nature of study, the data analysis of the present study was done by putting data into excel format to execute simple operations like addition, subtraction, drawing percentage etc. Percentage at all the places has been drawn maximum up to two decimal places and has also been rounded off to next higher value at second percentile value where third percentile value emerged above 0.005.

TABLE 1 YEAR-WISE DISTRIBUTION OF ARTICLES

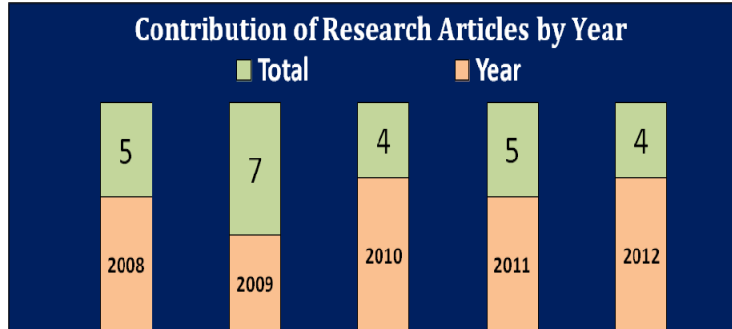| Sl	Year	Volume No.	No. of Research Articles	Total	Percentage (%)
1	2008	37	5	5	20.00
2	2009	38	7	7	28.00
3	2010	39	4	4	16.00
4	2011	40	5	5	20.00
5	2012	41	4	4	16.00
Total				25	100

Fig.1.Contribution of research article

Table 1 and Graph 1 show the growth of research articles published in the Singapore Journal of Library and Information Management from 2008- 2012 was 25. The highest number of research articles 7(28%) was published in the year 2009 while the lowest number 4(16%) of research articles in the year 2010 and 2012.

TABLE 2 YEAR-WISE AUTHORSHIP PATTERNS OF ARTICLES

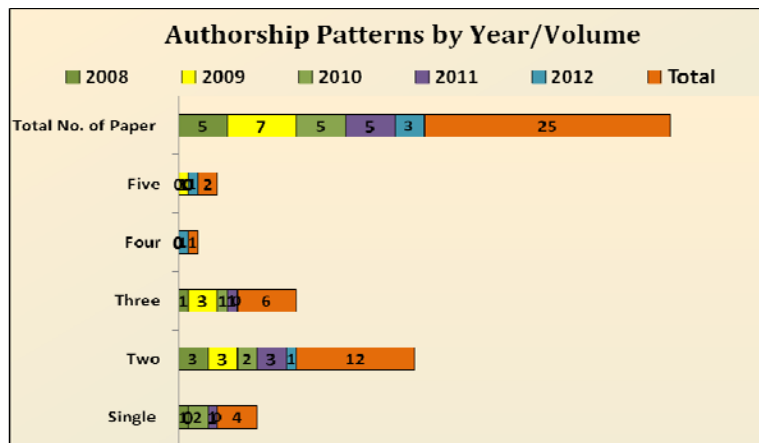| SL	Year	Volume	Authors per Articles					Total
			Single	Two	Three	Four	Five	
1	2008	37	1	3	1			5
2	2009	38		3	3		1	7
3	2010	39	2	2	1			5
4	2011	40	1	3	1			5
5	2012	41		1		1	1	3
Total			4(16.00 %)	12(48.00%)	6(24.00%)	1(4.00%)	2(8.00%)	25

Fig.2 Author ship pattern

It is clear that the number of volumes of research articles has been increased from 2008-2012. It is clear that the of 25 contributions, four contributions by single authors, the volumes 38 has the highest number of authors (38 volumes seven paper, 20 authors) while volume 39 has lowest number of authors. The volumes 41 have lowest number of papers and somewhat high number of authors (11) when compared to 37 and 40 volumes.

TABLE 3 GEOGRAPHICAL AFFILIATION OF AUTHORS

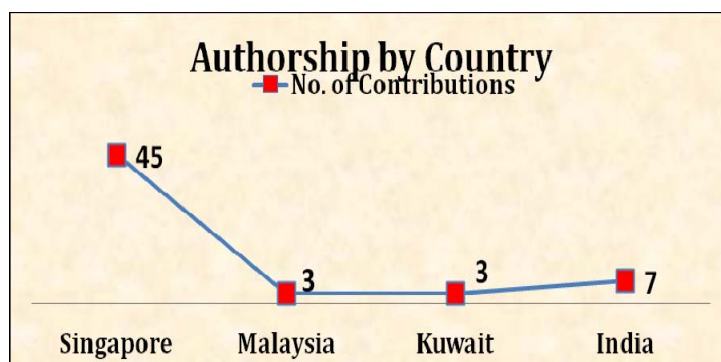| Sl. No.	Country	No. of Contributions	Percentage (%)
1	Singapore	45	77.59
2	Malaysia	3	5.17
3	Kuwait	3	5.17
4	India	7	12.07
Total		58	100

Fig.3 Authorship by country

The 25 research articles were contributed by 58 authors from four countries. The highest number of authors 45,77.59%) were from Singapore and lowest number of authors from Malaysia and Kuwait 3(5.17%) where as India has come in the second place 7(12.07%)

TABLE 4 MAJOR CONTRIBUTORS AND PATTERN OF ARTICLE DISTRIBUTION

Sl. No.	Name	No. of Contributions	Country	Rank
1	Yeo Pin Pin	3	Singapore	1
2	Ngian Leh Choh	2	Singapore	2
3	Chan Ping Wah	2	Singapore	2
4	Single author contributions	46	-	3
Total		53		

A total of 53 authors have contributed 25 research articles over a period of five years. The author Yeo Pin Pin has contributed more and gets first rank. He was followed by Ngian Leh Choh and Chan Ping Wah shared second rank. The single author contribution was found to be 46.

TABLE 5 REFERENCE DISTRIBUTION PATTERN

Sl.	Year	Volume No.	No. of Articles	Total reference %	Cum. Reference %	Average reference per article
1	2008	37	5	83(19.08%)	83(19.08%)	16.60
2	2009	38	7	164(37.70%)	247(56.78%)	23.43
3	2010	39	4	31(7.13%)	278(63.91%)	7.75
4	2011	40	5	106(24.37%)	384(88.28%)	21.20
5	2012	41	4	51(11.72%)	435(100%)	12.75
Total			25	435(100%)		17.40

Table 5 shows distribution that has been crafted to give wider and broader understanding to assess the reference distribution of articles in most convenient way. On the whole 435 references were cited in 25 articles making it on average 17.40 references per article. Vol. 39 represents lowest 7.75 references per articles contrary to 12.75 references per article by Vol.41. From volume 37 to 40, one can see there is an increase in the number of references cited against each article. This increase in the number of references can be owed to the fact that more and more journals are being published in open access format and more and more documents are available in the electronic format. All this has helped a great deal in increasing the visibility of these documents and people as such are able to go thorough more related documents and access more electronic documents hence can cite them with greater ease.

V. CONCLUSION

The Singapore journal of library and information management journal has maintained a steady pattern in publishing research results there is a steady increase in number of articles published in each issue of the journal as we move from volume 37 to 41. Contribution of articles by researchers from different countries across the globe corroborates the fact that the journal is enjoying fair amount of reputation across the globe. 34.19 % articles alone have been contributed in this journal during the period of study as single author articles. From the above data analysis on the whole it emerges that there is a growing trend among researchers to carry out research on joint authorship pattern.

More than 65 % articles published in the journal have been published on co-authorship pattern. Since India being the host country of SJLIM, as such maximum contributions to the journal are from Singapore. This in turn also unveils the fact that how far the journal may be of international repute still the maximum contributions are made by the authors from host country. All the top 3 contributors to the journal are form singapore, Yeo Pin Pin, Ngian Leh Choh & Chan Ping Wah emerged the top three contributors of the journal, having contributed 3, 2 and 02 articles, respectively.

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