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Mahendra Kumar
mkarya79@gmail.com

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Kumar, Mahendra, "A Bibliometric Study of IASLIC Bulletin:2016-2020" (2021). *Library Philosophy and Practice (e-journal)*. 6683.

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A Bibliometric Study of IASLIC Bulletin:2016-2020

Dr. Mahendra Kumar

Assistant Professor

Department of Library and Information Science

Dr. Harisingh Gour Vishwavidyalaya

(A Central University) Sagar (M.P.)

E-mail: mkarya79@gmail.com

ABSTRACT

Purpose: The main purpose of this paper is to examine the growth patterns of Library and Information Science literature on the basis of bibliometric study and to analyze the articles of IASLIC Bulletin published from the year 2016 to 2020.

Methodology: For the present study IASLIC Bulletin has been selected as the source journal. IASLIC Bulletin is one of the leading publications in the field of Library and Information Science in India. All the lead articles and research paper of five volumes (Vol 61-Vol 65) containing 20 issues published during 2016-2020 have been taken up for the study. Statistical tools, like tabular presentation of various data, line diagram, bar diagram and pie diagram are used to represent the study effectively.

Findings: From this study the major findings are:

- (a) The number of papers in various volumes in IASLIC Bulletin from 2016-2020, is more or less consistent as it varies from 19 (in volume 63) to 25 (in volume 64).
- (b) The average number of contribution per volume in the studies is 5 volumes i.e. 21.60%.
- (c) Two author papers are the most (27.78%) followed by more than three author papers (25.00%), single author paper (23.14%) and three author papers (22.23%).
- (d) Maximum number of references is found in the volume 61 i.e. 256 (25.60%) and the lowest number of reference in the volume 62 i.e. 142 (14.20%).
- (e) 'West Bengal' contributed maximum number of paper which comes to 20 (18.51%) and the lowest number is 1 (0.92%) of Assam and Rajasthan.
- (f) Maximum number of papers found in the area 'Information Technology' i.e. 14 articles (12.96%), followed by 'Library Automation' constituted 12 articles (11.11%).

Value: It is expected that Bibliometric methods are used in studies of properties and behavior of recorded knowledge for analysis of the structures of scientific and research areas. In this context, this study may provide new information emerging out from the bibliometric study particularly of IASLIC Bulletin.

Key words: Bibliometric study; authorship pattern; state-wise distribution; subject trends; geographical distribution; IASLIC Bulletin.

1. INTRODUCTION

This is the age of information explosion. Due to acceleration of information products it is important to analyze the literatures of different disciplines. Bibliometrics is nothing but “the use of mathematical and statistical methods to study and identify the patterns in the usage of materials and services within a library, or to analyze the historical development of a specific body of literature, especially its authorship, publication and use. Prior to the mid-20th century, the quantitative study of bibliographic data and usage was known as *statistical bibliography*.”^[1]

Bibliometrics is a type of research method used in library and information science. It utilizes quantitative analysis and statistics to describe patterns of publication within a given field or body of literature. Bibliometric study is a simple statistical method of bibliography counting to evaluate and quantify the growth of a subject. Researchers may use bibliometric methods of evaluation to determine the influence of a single writer. The word “Bibliometrics” is recent origin but bibliometric studies were performed much earlier since the beginning of 20th century.

2. OBJECTIVES OF THE STUDY

The objectives of the study are to determine the following:

- Volume-wise distribution of the contributions.
- Average number of contributions per volume.
- Authorship pattern of contribution.
- Distribution of references.
- Average references per contribution.
- Average references per volume.
- Types of publications references.
- Length of contributions
- Length of volumes
- State-wise distribution of contributions.
- Distribution of contributions in various subjects – fields.

3. METHODOLOGY

For the present study IASLIC Bulletin has been selected as the source journal. IASLIC Bulletin is one of the leading publications in the field of Library and Information Science in India. It is brought out quarterly by Indian Association of Special Libraries and Information Centre (IASLIC) bearing ISSN 0018-8441. The journal is published from IASLIC office at P-241, CIT scheme 6M, Kankurgachi, Kolkata-700054.

All the lead articles and research paper of five volumes (Vol 61-Vol 65) containing 20 issues published during 2016-2020 have been taken up for the study. In these 5 volumes, there are a total of 108 articles. The details with regard to these published articles, such as the title of the articles, number of authors, address of authors, number of references and their categories, number of pages, sub – fields of IASLIC BULLETIN are recorded and analysed for making observations.

Book review, advertisement publication policy and guidelines for authors, letters to the editor, appeal to the authors, various meetings, conferences, seminar proceedings of IASLIC etc. published during the studied period are excluded from my study. Statistical tools, like tabular presentation of various data, line diagram, bar diagram and pie diagram are used to represent the study effectively.

4. EARLIER STUDIES

A number of studies have been done on bibliometric study of journals. Pandita (2013)^[2] conducted a bibliometric study on the journal Annals of Lily and Information Studies from 2002-2012. Single authorship was found highest in his study. Das (2013)^[3] conducted a bibliometric study on the journal Library trends, one of the renowned Journal from 2007-2012. He found in his study that majority of the authors preferred to publish their research articles as individual and joint authorship. The majority of articles have page length of 16-20 pages. The highest numbers of contributors were with citations between 11-20. The present study is an extension of the earlier studies on Library Herald conducted by Mahendra Kumar (2014)^[4] for the period 2011-14 and Rianinia (2009)^[5] who made a citation study on Library Herald from the period 2003-2007. An earlier studies on IASLIC Bulletin: 2011-2015 conducted by Mahendra Kumar (2016)^[6] for the period 2011-2015 based on Bibliometric studies.

5. ANALYSIS AND DISCUSSION

5.1 Distribution of contributions

Table 1(a): Distribution of contribution

Year	Volume	No. of contribution	Percentage
2016	61	21	19.44%
2017	62	22	20.37%
2018	63	19	17.59%
2019	64	25	23.14%
2020	65	21	19.44%
Total		108	100.00

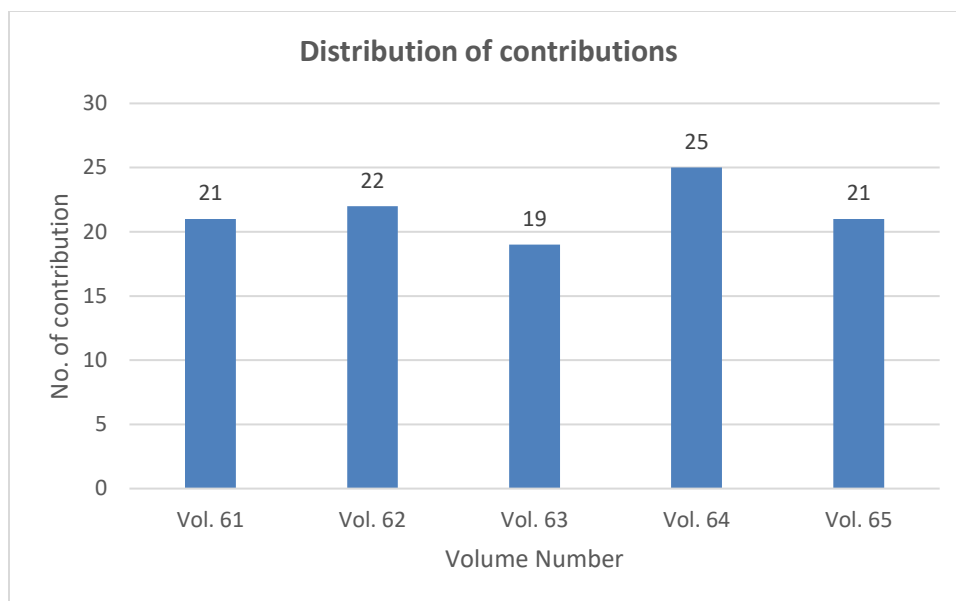


Fig.1 (a) Distributions of Contributions

The table 1(a) indicates the contribution volumes of the journal. Here it is shown that the total number of contributes of the 20 issues 65 volumes is 108, of which the highest number of contributions is 25 (23.14 %) in the volume 64 and the lowest number of contributions is 19 (17.59%) in the volume 63.

5.2. Authorship pattern of contributions

Table 2(a): Authorship Pattern of Contribution

No. of Author	No. of contribution per volume					Total	Percentage
	61	62	63	64	65		
One	4	6	4	6	5	25	23.14%
Two	7	5	5	6	7	30	27.78%
Three	5	4	4	7	6	26	22.23%
More than three	5	7	6	6	3	27	25.00%
Total	21	22	19	25	21	108	100.00

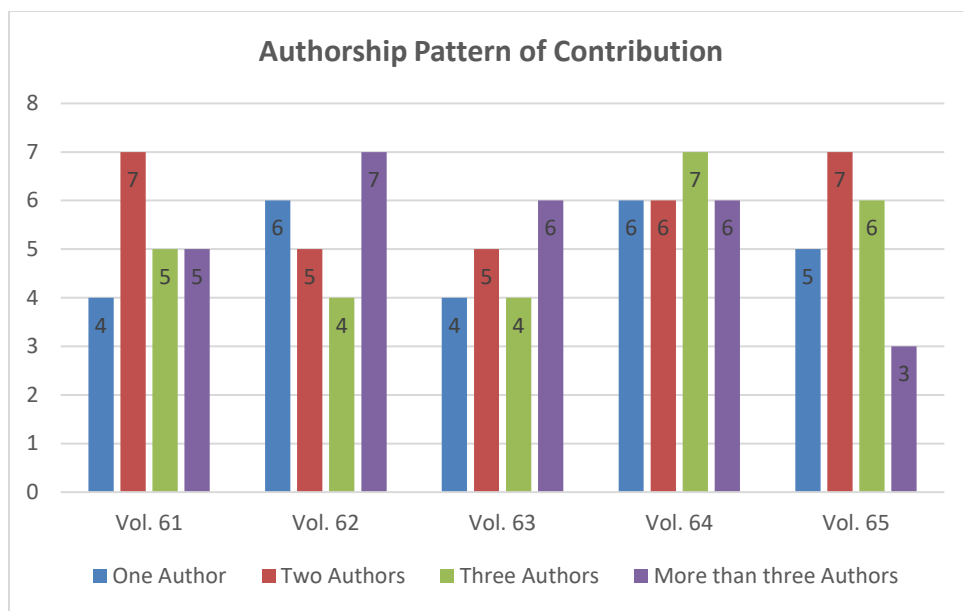


Fig.2 (a) Authorship Pattern of Contribution

Analysis of authorship of the contributions reveals that contributions of one another and more than those of two, three and more than three. Table 2(a) shown that out of 108 contributes 25 (23.14%) have been contributed by single author, 30(27.78%) have been contributed by two author, 26 (22.23%) have been contributed by three author, 27(25.00%) have been contributed by more than three author. Therefore, it showed that two author articles are the maximum in the studied contributions.

Table 2(b): Volume-wise Authorship Pattern of Contribution

Vol. No.	One author	%	Two author	%	Three author	%	More than three Author	%	Total
61	4	16.00%	7	23.34%	5	19.23%	5	18.51%	21
62	6	24.00%	5	16.67%	4	15.38%	7	25.92%	22
63	4	16.00%	5	16.67%	4	15.38%	6	22.23%	19
64	6	24.00%	6	20.00%	7	26.92%	6	22.23%	25
65	5	20.00%	7	23.34%	6	23.07%	3	11.12%	21
Total	25	100.00	30	100.00	26	100	27	100	108

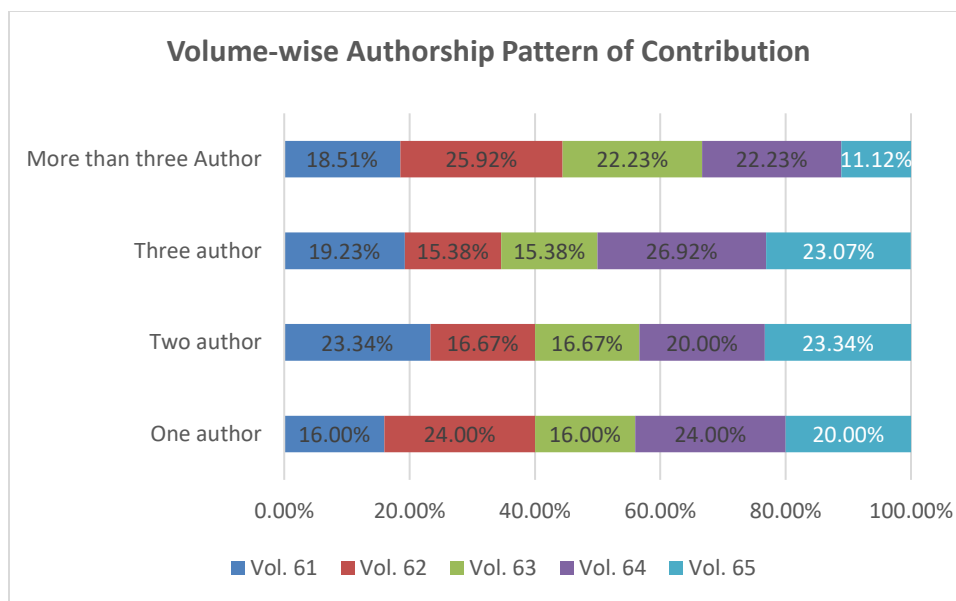


Fig.2 (b) Distributions of Contributions

Table 2(b) indicates authorship pattern of contributes volume wise. It depicts that out of 30 contributes of two authors, volume 64 has the highest number, i.e. (27.78%) and volume 61, 62, 63 and 64 having the equal value i.e. 4 (23.14%) respectively. Likewise the articles of rest of the volumes are distributed in the table.

5.3 Distribution of References

Table 3(a): Distribution of References (volume wise)

Volume	No. of reference	Percentage
61	256	25.60%
62	142	14.20%
63	206	20.60%
64	153	15.30%
65	243	24.30%
Total	1000	100

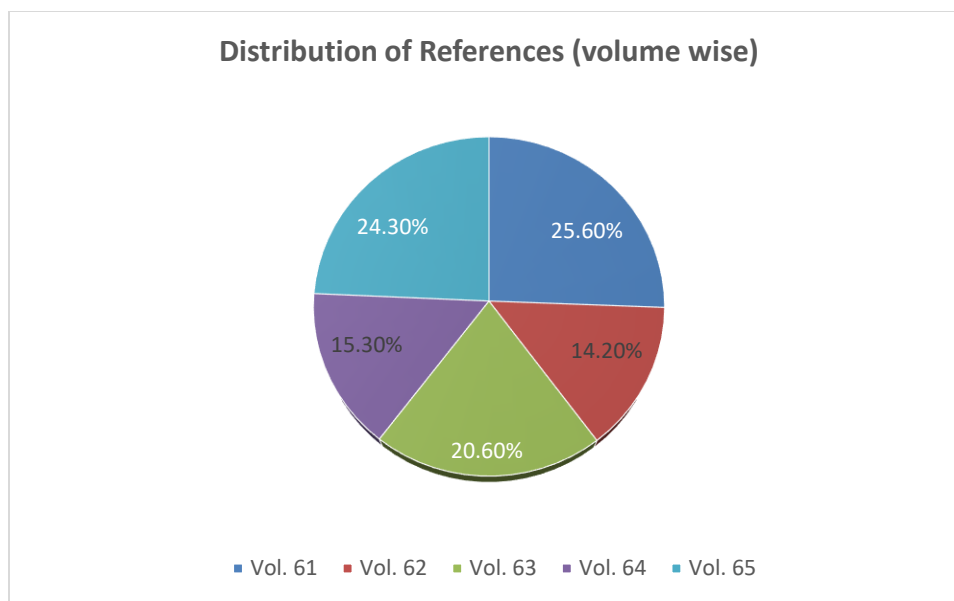


Fig. 3 (a) Distribution of References (volume wise)

Table 3(a) indicates that all 5 volumes have 1000 of total number of references. Out of 1000 references volume 61 has the highest number i.e. 256 (25.60%) and volume 62 has the lowest number i.e. 142 (14.20%) of references.

Table 3 (b): Distribution of varieties of reference

Type of References	Volume wise No.(s)					Total	Percentage
	61	62	63	64	65		
Books	86	75	54	51	40	306	30.60%
Journals	92	48	80	62	46	328	32.80%
Conference proceeding	28	21	24	27	23	123	12.30%
Web reference	27	28	30	24	39	148	14.80%
Other	27	18	16	13	21	95	9.50%
Total	260	190	204	177	169	1000	100

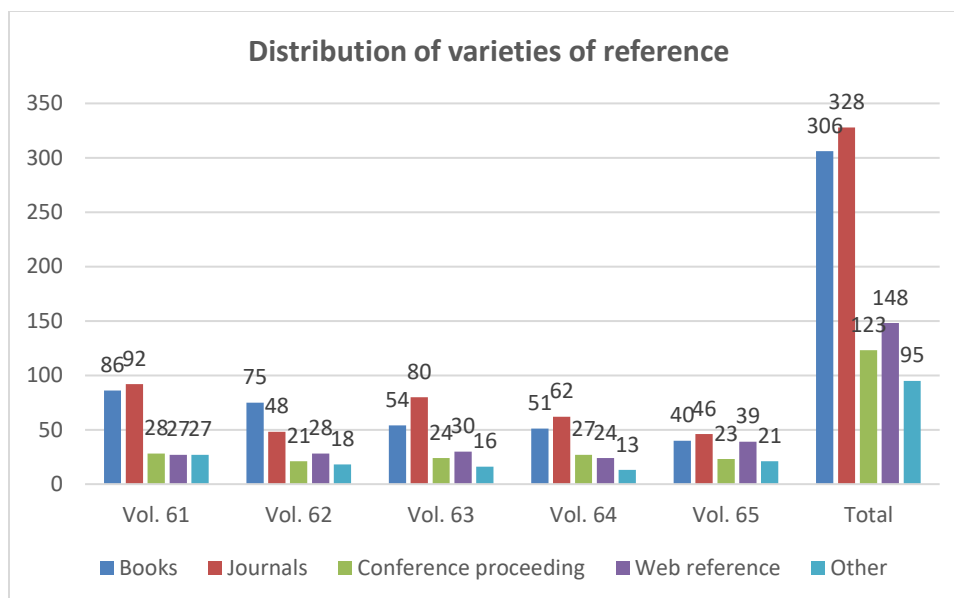


Fig. 3 (b): Distribution of varieties of reference

On the other hand the table 3(b) distributions of varieties of references are given. In this table references are categorized in five groups - books, journals, conference proceeding, web references and others. Volume-wise total number of references are distributed among these five groups. In volume 61 total number of reference is 260. Out of these 260 references, journal is the highest (92) and web reference and other are the lowest (27) respectively.

Table 3(d): Average References per contribution in each volume

Volume	No. of contribution	No. of References	Average
61	21	256	25.60
62	22	142	14.20
63	19	206	20.60
64	25	153	15.30
65	21	243	24.30
Total	108	1000	100

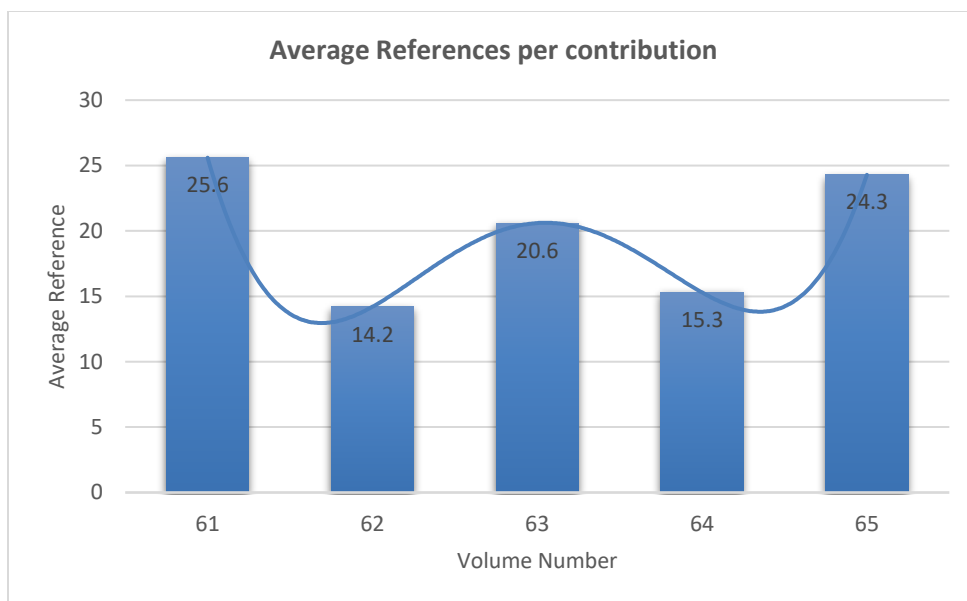


Fig. 3 (d): Average of reference per volume

Table 3(d): Shows that highest average number of reference per contribution is 25.60 and it is a volume 61 and the lowest number of reference per contribution is 14.20 which occur in volume 62.

5.4 Analysis of length

Table 4(a): Length of number and volume

Year	Volume	No. of Pages Number-wise				Total pages in the Volume	Percentage
		1	2	3	4		
2016	61	51	47	46	33	177	18.53%
2017	62	51	46	52	50	199	20.83%
2018	63	58	39	54	49	200	20.94%
2019	64	34	43	53	56	186	19.47%
2020	65	54	49	49	41	193	20.20%
Total		248	224	254	229	955	100

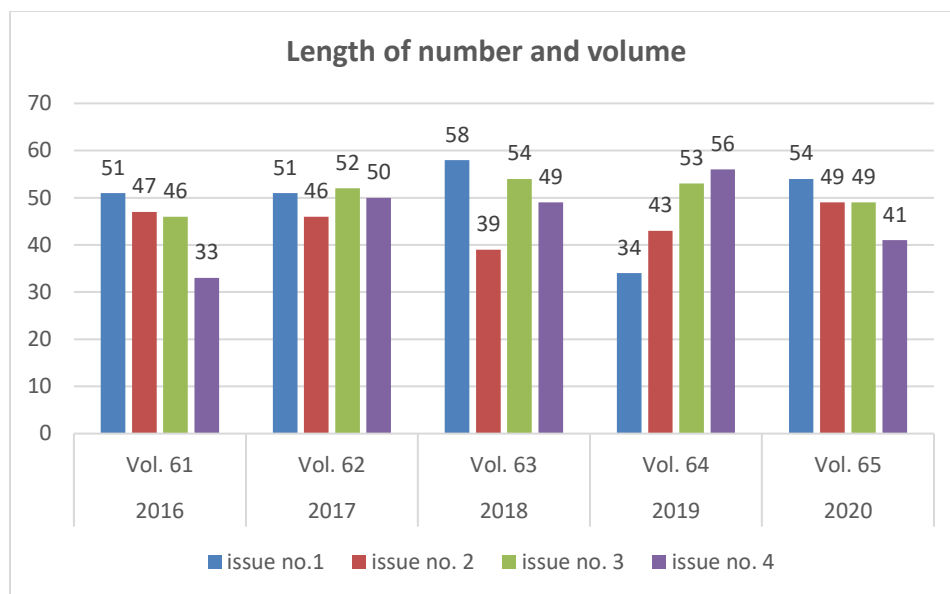


Fig. 4 (a) Length of number and volume

From the table 4(a) it is clear that volume 63 has the highest length occupying 200 pages and volume 61 has the lowest length occupying 177 pages. Among all number of all the 5 volumes, number 3 of the volume 63 has the highest length since it occupies 58 pages and number 4 of the volume 64 has the lowest length occupying only 34 pages.

Table 4(b): Length of papers

No. of Pages	Volumes/Year					Total	Percentage
	61	62	63	64	65		
	2016	2017	2018	2019	2020		
1 to 5	8	13	6	11	9	47	32.19%
6 to 11	10	12	9	13	8	52	35.61%
12 to 17	8	6	4	7	5	30	20.54%
>17	2	3	4	5	3	17	11.64%
Total	28	34	23	36	25	146	100

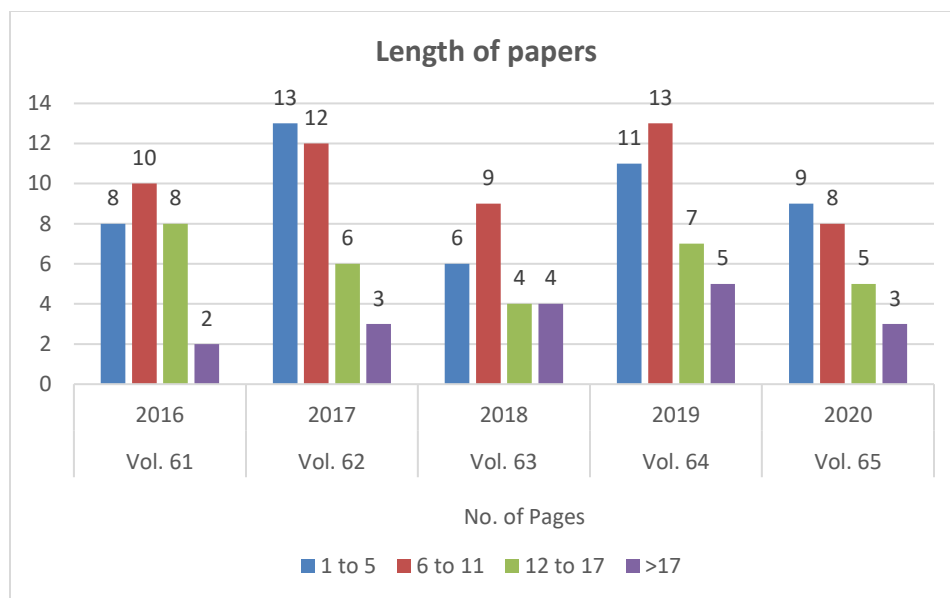


Fig. 4 (b) Length of papers

In the table 4(b) it is seen that the maximum 52 (35.61%) number of papers covers 6-11, pages followed by 1-5 pages covers in 47(32.19%) papers. 12-17 pages cover in 30(20.54%) papers. The lowest 17(11.64%) papers cover more than 17 pages.

5.5 State-wise distribution of contributions

Table 5: State-wise distribution of contribution

S.No.	State	No. of Contribution	Percentage	Rank
1	West Bengal	20	18.51%	1
2	Karnataka	13	12.03%	2
3	Uttar Pradesh	12	11.11%	3
4	Delhi	10	9.25%	4
5	Punjab	9	8.33%	5
6	Maharashtra	8	7.40%	6
7	Tamil Nadu	7	6.48%	7
8	Madhya Pradesh	7	6.48%	7
9	Kerala	6	5.55%	8

10	Orissa	5	4.62%	9
11	Himachal Pradesh	4	3.70%	10
12	Andhra Pradesh	3	2.78%	11
13	Rajasthan	1	0.92%	12
14	Assam	1	0.92%	12
15	Other Countries	2	1.85%	-
	Total	108	100	

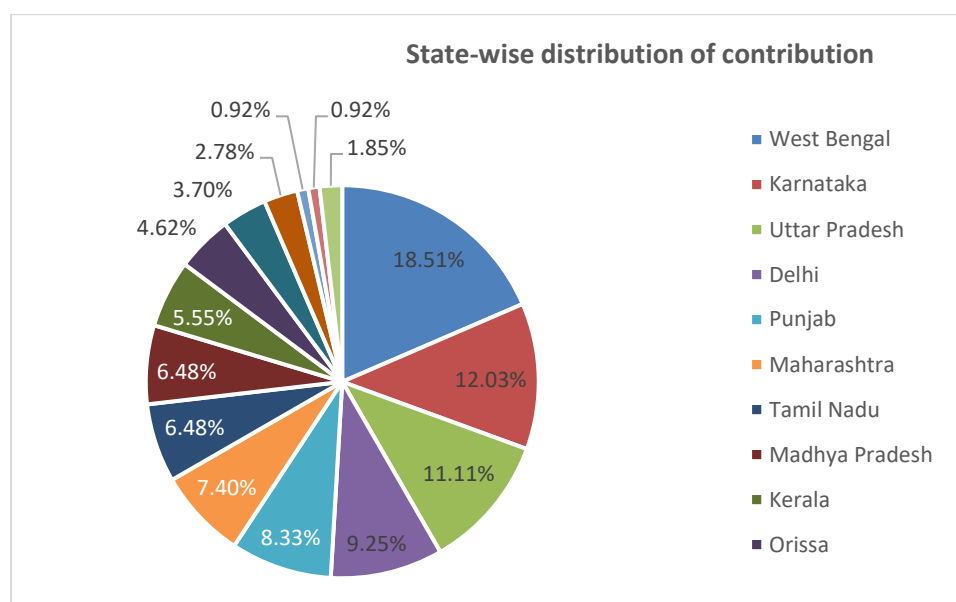


Fig. 5 State-wise distribution of contribution

Table 5 shows the state wise distribution of contributions in 5 volumes of the journal. Out of 108 contributions the highest number i.e. 20(18.51%) has been contributed by West Bengal and the lowest number, i.e. 1(0.92%) has been contributed by Rajasthan and Assam.

5.6 Subject Trends of the Articles

Table 6: Subject Trends of the Articles

S.No.	Subject	No. of Article	Percentage
1	Bibliographic control	4	3.70%
2	Bibliographic service	2	1.85%
3	Citation study	10	9.25%
4	Consortia	4	3.70%
5	Content management	3	2.78%
6	Digital Information System	11	10.18%
7	E-Journal	9	8.34%
8	E-publishing	9	8.34%
9	Information Technology	14	12.96%
10	Knowledge management	2	1.85%
11	Librarianship	1	0.92%
12	Library Automation	12	11.11%
13	OPAC	5	4.62%
14	Performance Management	2	1.85%
15	Subject Gateway	6	5.55%
16	TQM	2	1.85%
17	Information Centre	10	9.25%
18	Collection development	2	1.85%
	Total	108	100

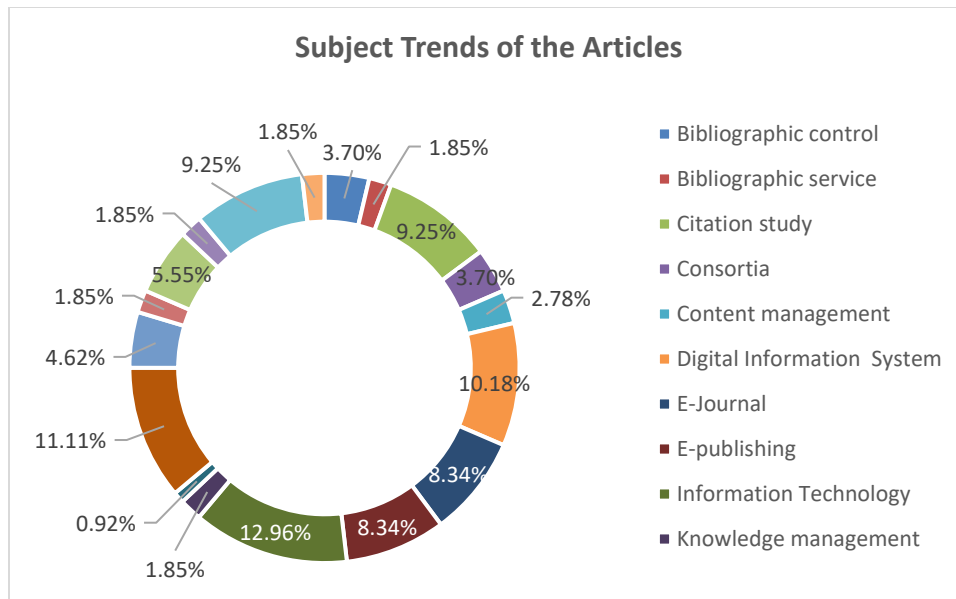


Fig. 6 Subject Trends of the Articles

Table 6 shows about the subject wise analysis of the articles in the bulletin. The ' Information Technology' constitutes the highest number of articles, i.e. 14(12.96%) out of 108. 'Library Automation' constitutes 12 articles (11.11%) followed by 'Digital Information System' 11 (10.18%) and so on.

6. FINDINGS

From this study the major findings are:

- The number of papers in various volumes in IASLIC Bulletin from 2016-2020, is more or less consistent as it varies from 19 (in volume 63) to 25 (in volume 64).
- The average number of contribution per volume in the studies is 5 volumes i.e. 21.60%.
- Two author papers are the most (27.78%) followed by more than three author papers (25.00%), single author paper (23.14%) and three author papers (22.23%).
- Maximum number of references is found in the volume 61 i.e. 256 (25.60%) and the lowest number of reference in the volume 62 i.e. 142 (14.20%).
- Journals play prominent role in reference, 32.80% of total number of references is the journals. In other hands, out of 1000 references 328 is the journal followed by books 306 (30.60%), web reference 148 (14.80%) conference proceedings 123 (12.30%) and other 95 (9.50%).
- The average number of references per article among the articles is studied 10.80%.
- Trend of length of volumes varies from 200 pages (Volume 63) to 199 pages (volume 62).
- Average length of paper showed that 6 to 11 (35.61%) papers cover 52 pages, followed by more than 1-5 pages paper i.e. 47 (32.19%)
- 'West Bengal' contributed maximum number of paper which comes to 20 (18.51%) and the lowest number is 1 (0.92%) of Assam and Rajasthan.

- (j) Maximum number of papers found in the area 'Information Technology' i.e. 14 articles (12.96%), followed by 'Library Automation' constituted 12 articles (11.11%).

7. CONCLUSION

Bibliometric is an important field of information received because it represents a unique set of techniques for the monitoring and analysing of information resources and for the management of knowledge in social and organisational context. Bibliometric methods are used in studies of properties and behaviour of recorded knowledge for analysis of the structures of scientific and research areas, and for evaluation of research activity and administration of scientific information. Various statistical methods are applied to study to measure, authorship, citation and publication pattern, and the relationship with in scientific domains and research communities and to structure of specific fields. Now-a-days numerous studies are being done on bibliometric study on various subjects or books or journals. In this context, this study may provide new information emerging out from the bibliometric study particularly of IASLIC Bulletin.

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