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THE JOURNAL OF INFORMATION SCIENCE THEORY AND PRACTICE (JISTaP): A BIBLIOMETRIC ANALYSIS (2013-2017)

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Abstract

The present 'Bibliometric' study was undertaken in the Journal of Information Science Theory and Practice (JISTaP). 102 articles published in the journal during the period (2013-2017) were studied. The study analyses various bibliometric patterns and found that the maximum 41 (40.20%) articles were submitted by two authors, followed by a single author with 36, in total 35.29% publications. Author's productivity was recorded 0.48 average publication per author and the overall degree of collaboration was 0.65. In the Lotka's law of scientific productivity, it is analysed that the expected authors are different from observed authors. After the analysis, it was found that the overall average references per article are 38.26. The highest 1507 (38.61%) references were cited by single author articles, followed by two authors with 1358, constituting 34.79% references were cited.

Keywords: Bibliometrics, Lotka's Law, Authors Productivity, Degree of Collaboration, Relative Growth Rate and Doubling Time of Publication

1. Introduction

The term 'Bibliometrics,' was first introduced by A. Pitcherd, in the year 1969. Bibliometrics is a measuring tool and it's very important in the present era. The present analysis intends to explore the blueprints of scholarly communication of the Journal of Information Science Theory and Practice (JISTaP) from 2013-2017 and to determine the quality of contributions of this journal towards the library and information science literature.

The Journal of Information Science Theory and Practice (JISTaP) (pISSN- 2287-9099 & eISSN- 2287-4577) is one of the famous online, Quarterly published journal in the field of Library and Information science. The first publication was published on 30th March, 2013 by Korea Institute of Science and Technology Information. It is indexed by Scopus, LISA in ProQuest, DOAJ, PASCAL, Google Scholar etc.

2. Literature Review

Shukla and Verma (2018) carried out a Bibliometric Study on Library Herald from (2008-2017) in which a total 222 articles were published in the journal. In their research they found that the highest 97 contributions are by the single author, followed by two authors with 87 publications during the period of study. The average publication per author was (0.58) and degree of collaboration (0.56). India secures the first rank with 161, constituting 80.50% of the total publications. K P Singh was the most productive author with 11 (31.43%) contributions. In Single authorship pattern, we observe that 1448 references, constituting 47.32% have been cited.

Verma and Shukla (2018) conducted a bibliometric study on Researchers World: Journal of Arts, Science and Commerce (RW-JASC) from the marked period (2010-2017). Total published articles in the particular journal were 662. The study analysed various bibliometric parameters like authorship pattern, the degree of collaborations, author's productivity, Lotka's law of scientific productivity and found that the highest numbers of 276 articles were published by the single author, followed by two authors with 227 contributions. The degree of collaboration was 0.58 and the whole average of contributions per author was (0.52) from 662 contributions with 1261 contributors. In the Lotka's law of scientific productivity, it is initiated that the number of authors found are somehow different from the number of authors presumed.

Raju (2017) carried out the Scientometric Analysis of International Journal of Information Dissemination and Technology (IJIDT) during the period (2011-2015) in which a total of 260 research papers were published in the (IJIDT). The analysis examined different scientometric patterns such as authorship patterns, subject, years and issue-wise distributions of articles, length of the articles and references per research paper and found that the highest 44.35% of research papers were published by the single author, followed by joint authors with 42.02% of publications. Out of total 59 (22.69%) research papers published in the year 2014 and the highest 7.31% of articles were published in issue no. 2 in the year 2014. The maximum 26.92% of research papers were related to 'User survey' subject, followed by bibliometrics with 14.23% of contributions. The maximum 143 (55%) of research papers have the length of 5-8 pages.

Verma, Devi and Brahma (2017) carried out a bibliometric analysis on the DESIDOC Journal of Library and Information Technology (DJLIT) from (2005-2016). A total 553 research papers were published in particular journal during the period of study. After the analysis, it was found that in the authorship pattern, maximum (41.41%) of research papers were published by joint authors, followed by a single author with (36.88%) contributions in the particular journal. M. Gupta was the famous author with (17.98%) research papers' contributions and secured first position, followed by Chennupati K. Ramaiah with (9.35%) contributions. New Delhi got the first position with the highest (23.44%) of contributions, followed by Karnataka with (12.75%).

Naheem and Shibu (2015) analysed the Authorship Patterns and Collaborative Research in the Journal of Knowledge and Communication Management (JKCM) from the period (2011-2014) and found that the maximum 14 (30.43%) articles were published in the year 2014, the highest 22, constituting 47.83% of research papers were contributed by a single author, followed by two authors with 19 (41.30%) contributions. The average degree of author collaboration in the Journal of Knowledge and Communication Management (JKCM) is 0.52 during the period of the study.

Pandita (2014) conducted a bibliometric study on DESIDOC Journal of Library and Information Technology (DJLIT) from the period (2003-2012). His study revealed that a total 366 research papers were published in the journal. In the year 2012, the highest 66 (18.03%) articles were published, followed by 55, constituting 15.03% research papers in the year

2011. Two authors' publications are 147 out of the total publications, followed by a single author with 139 contributions. India got first place with 318 (85.71%) publications. The most prolific author was B.M Gupta with 24 (3.84%) contributions and secures the first position, followed by Mohinder Singh with 9, constituting 1.43% contributions.

Gudodagi (2014) conducted a bibliometric study on PEARL- A Journal of Library and Information Science from (2007-2013). After the analyses it was found that the highest 47 (17.22%) of articles were published in the year 2009, followed by 45 16.48% research papers in 2010. Two authors contributed the maximum number of articles (115) in the particular journal, followed by a single author with 106 publications. India secures the topmost position and got the first rank with 476 (94.63%) contributions from the marked period of study.

Singh and Bebi (2014) conducted a bibliometric study on the Journal of Library Herald from the period (2003-2012), in which total 234 research results were published and the study examines the various bibliometric parameters such as geographical distribution, authorship pattern, most productive authors and their affiliations, length of articles. We can see that 114 (48.8%) research papers were published by single authors, followed by joint authors 90 (38.5%). The major portion (81.6%) of research papers were contributed by India and about (18.4%) from abroad.

Tiew, Abdullah and Kaur (2002) analysed the research papers published on Malaysian Journal of Library and Information Science: a bibliometric study, during the period of (1996-2000) and examined that the average of references per articles is 22.5 and published articles per volume are between 14 to 17. The most prolific author was Zainab Awang Ngah with 12 research papers and the highest 36 (47.40%) publications contributed by the single author, followed by joint authors with 29, constituting 38.20% contributions. The maximum articles contributed by Malaysian authors 36, followed by Indian authors with 25 articles. In the core journals, out of the whole, 41.54% publications is related to Scientometrics, followed by Journal of American Society of Information Science and Technology, which published 197 (5.12%) research papers.

3. Objectives of the study

1. To examine the distributions of articles (Volume and Issues wise).
2. To Analyse the Relative Growth Rate and Doubling Time of Publication
3. To Analyse the Authorship Pattern, Authors Productivity and the Degree of Collaboration.
4. To find out the Geographical Distribution of Articles and Most Productive Authors
5. To Analyse the Lotka's Law of Scientific Productivity
6. To Examine the References Distribution and Authorship Pattern of References.

4. Scope

The present analysis covers the articles published in the Journal of Information Science Theory and Practice during the period (2013-2017). In which a total 102 articles were

published in the particular journal. A total number of 5 volumes consisting of 20 issues were published in the journal during the period of study.

5. Methodology

The required data from the present study has been collected from the website of the Journal of Information Science Theory and Practice (JISTaP) (<http://www.jistap.org/journal.do?method=viewFullTextArchive&journalSeq=J000043&menuId=0202&introMenuId=0202&archiveIndex=1>). Total 102 articles were published in the particular journal from the marked years (2013-2017). There are 4 issues published in each volume and total 20 issues published during the period of study. The necessary data were tabulated, compiled and analysed to achieve the goal of the objectives of the study.

6. Data Analysis

6.1 Volume Wise Distribution of Research Papers

Below Table 1 and Figure 1, shows the volume wise distribution of articles published in the Journal of Information Science Theory and Practices during the period of study. It is clearly shown that a total of 102 articles were published in 5 volumes from the marked period (2013-2017). The highest 22 (21.57%) research papers were published in 2013 (Vol. 1) and the average is 5.5 articles per issue, and 20, constituting 19.61% articles were published in each 2, 3, 4, and 5 volumes in the particular journal.

Table 1: Distribution of Research Papers (Volume wise)

Distribution of Articles Issue wise								
Year	Vol. No.	Issues	Issue No. 1	Issue No. 2	Issue No. 3	Issue No. 4	Total Publications & (%)	Average Articles per Issue
2013	1	4	6	6	5	5	22 (21.57)	5.5
2014	2	4	5	5	5	5	20 (19.61)	5
2015	3	4	5	5	5	5	20 (19.61)	5
2016	4	4	5	5	5	5	20 (19.61)	5
2017	5	4	5	5	5	5	20 (19.61)	5
Total		20	26	26	25	25	102 (100%)	

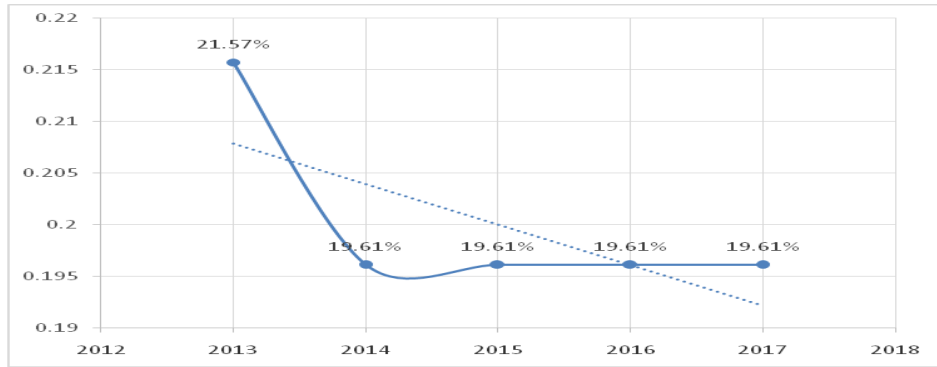


Figure 1: Distribution of Articles (Volume wise)

6.2 Relative Growth Rate and Doubling Time of Publication

Table 2 shows that the relative growth rate and doubling time of publication published in the Journal of Information Science Theory and Practice from the marked period of study. The increasing rate of whole publications has been measured on the parameter of RGR and Dt model, which is a developed by Mahapatra in 1985. RGR is calculated to analyse the increase in the number of publications on time and the Dt is directly related to RGR. The RGR of the particular journal is highest in the year 2014 with (0.65).

The mathematical representation of the mean relative growth rate of articles over a specific period is derived from the following formula:

$$RGR = \frac{W2 - W1}{T2 - T1}$$

Where,

RGR = Growth Rate over the specific period of interval,

W1 = Log_e (natural log of initial number of contributions)

W2 = Log_e (natural log of final number of contributions)

T1 = the unit of initial time

T2 = the unit of final time

Doubling Time

From the calculation, it is identifying that “there is a direct equivalence existing between the RGR and Dt. If the number of contributions of a subject double during a given period, then the difference between the logarithm of the numbers at the beginning and at the end of the period must be the logarithms of the number 2. If one uses a natural logarithm, this difference has a value of 0.693 (Beaie and Acol, 2009)”. During the period of study, the maximum RGR was 0.65 in the year 2014 and Dt 2.475 in the year 2016.

The formula of corresponding Dt for contributions and pages measurement.

$$Doubling\ Time(Dt) = \frac{0.693}{R}$$

Table 2: Relative Growth Rate and Doubling Time of Publication

Year	Number of Publications	Cumulative Sum	W2	W1	RGR	Dt
2013	22	22	3.09	0	0	0
2014	20	42	3.74	3.09	0.65	1.066
2015	20	62	4.13	3.74	0.39	1.777

2016	20	82	4.41	4.13	0.28	2.475
2017	20	102	4.62	4.14	0.48	1.444

6.3 Volume Wise Authorship Pattern of Research Papers

Table 3 and Figure 2, gives the data based on the authorship pattern of articles (Volume wise) during the period of study in the particular journal. The highest 41 (40.20%) articles were published by two authors, followed by single author with 30, constituting 35.29% research papers. The whole distributions are illustrated in Figure 2.

Table 3: Volume wise Authorship Pattern of Articles

Year	Vol. No.	Single Author	Two Authors	Three Authors	Four Authors	Five Authors	Eight Authors	Total
2013	1	8	9	3	1	0	1	22
2014	2	8	6	3	3	0	0	20
2015	3	7	8	3	1	1	0	20
2016	4	5	10	4	1	0	0	20
2017	5	8	8	3	0	0	1	20
Total		36	41	16	6	1	2	102

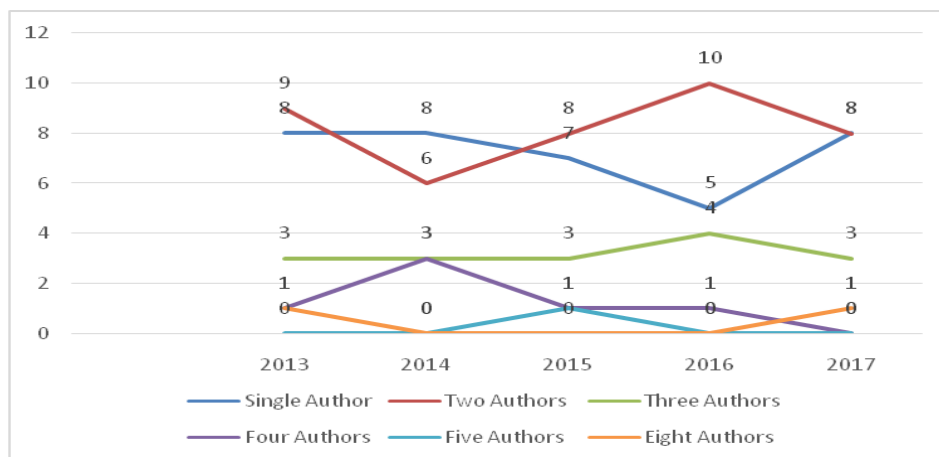


Figure 2: Authorship Pattern of Articles (Volume wise)

6.4 Article Distribution & Pattern of Authors (Issue Wise)

Table 4 shows the article distribution and pattern of authors (issue wise) who published research papers in (JISTaP) during the period (2013-2017). In this case a total of 102 research papers were published in the journal. The highest 26 research papers were published in two issues (1 and 2) each followed by 25 articles in issues 3 and 4 each.

Table 4: Article Distribution & Pattern of Authors (Issue Wise)

Sl. No.	Author Type	Distribution Issue wise				Total Articles & (%)	Cumulative Articles & (%)
		Issue No. 1	Issue No. 2	Issue No. 3	Issue No. 4		
1	Single	10	9	9	8	36 (35.29)	36 (35.29)
2	Two	10	11	8	12	41 (40.20)	77 (75.49)
3	Three	5	5	4	2	16 (15.67)	93 (91.18)

4	Four	1	0	2	3	6 (5.88)	99 (97.05)
5	Five	0	0	1	0	1 (0.98)	100 (98.03)
6	Eight	0	1	1	0	2 (1.96)	102 (100)
Total		26	26	25	25	102	

6.5 Author Productivity

Table 5 Figure 3 depicts the author's productivity of research papers published in the Journal of Information Science Theory and Practice from the marked period. The Table clearly shows that the highest average publications per author is 0.49 in the years 2015 to 2017 and 0.487 average publication per author in the year 2014 and in 2013, 0.47 average publication per author. The overall average of contributed articles per author is 0.48 from 102 research papers with 212 authors.

Table 5: Author Productivity

Year of Publication	Number of Publication	Number of Authors	Average Publication Per Author
2013	22	47	0.47
2014	20	42	0.48
2015	20	41	0.49
2016	20	41	0.49
2017	20	41	0.49
Total	102	212	0.48

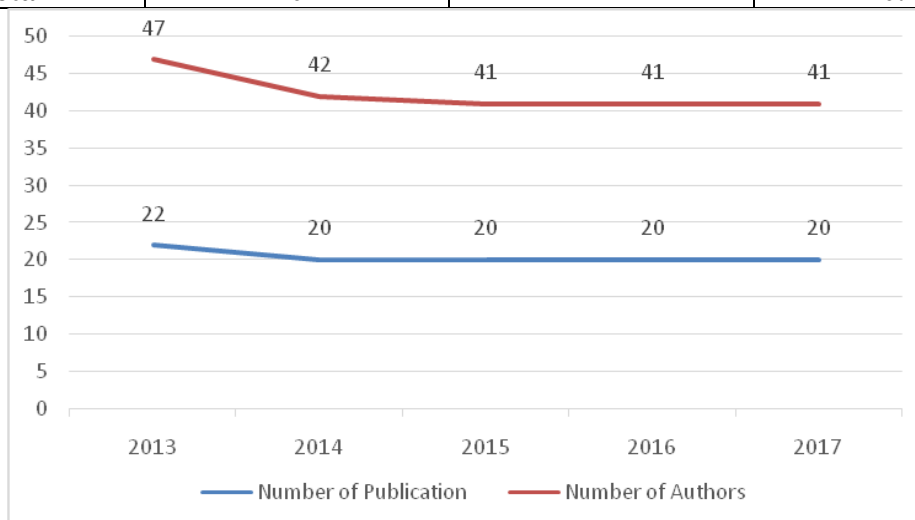


Figure 3: Author Productivity

6.6 Lotka's Law of Scientific Productivity

Table 6 shows the Lotka's law of scientific productivity of articles published in the journal during the period of (2013-2017). In the present data set, Lotka's law has been applied and found that the 36 (35.29%) authors were both observed and expected in single articles published. Two articles publications were 41, constituting 40.19% authors observed and expected authors were 32 (31.37%). The whole observed and expected authors are illustrated in table 6.

$$Y = \frac{C}{X^n}$$

Where, X = Number of contributions
 Y = Relative Frequency of Authors with X contributions
 C = Constants depending on the specified field

Insert the value in above equation,

X = 1, Y = 36 then,

We get, $36 = C / 1^n$

$C = 36 \times 1^n$

C = 36

Insert again the value of

X = 2, Y = 41, and

C = 36

$41 = 36 \times 2^n$

$2^n = 36 / 41, \quad = 0.878$

Taking Log on both sides,

$n \log 2 = \log 0.878$

n = 0.19

Table 6: Lotkas's Law of Scientific Productivity

No. of Articles (x)	No. of Authors Observed (y)	Percentage (%) (Observed)	No. of Authors Expected (n=0.19)	Percentage (%) (Expected)
1	36	35.29	36	35.29
2	41	40.19	32	31.37
3	16	15.69	29	28.43
4	6	5.88	28	27.45
5	1	0.98	27	26.47
6	0	0	26	25.49
7	0	0	25	24.51
8	2	1.96	24	23.53
9	0	0	23	22.55
10	0	0	23	22.55
(More than) 10	0	0	23	22.55

6.7 Degree of Collaboration

Table 7 and Figure 4 depicts the Degree of Collaboration of research papers published in the Journal of Information Science Theory and Practice during the period (2013-2017). It clearly shows the trend in the pattern of single and multiple authorships in the contributions. The highest 0.75 degrees of collaboration is found in the year 2016. 36 research papers are single-

authored publications and 66 articles are multiple authored contributions. The overall degree of collaboration is 0.65.

The formula suggested by Subramanianm (1983) is used to measure the Degree of Collaboration. It is expressed as:

$$DC = \frac{Nm}{Nm + Ns}$$

Where, DC = degree of collaboration,
 Nm = multiple authored contributions and
 Ns = number of single-authored contributions.

Table 7: Degree of Collaboration

Sl. No.	Year	Single Authored Publications (Ns)	Multiple Authored Publications (Nm)	Nm+Ns	Degree of Collaboration DC=Nm/(Nm+Ns)
1	2013	8	14	22	0.64
2	2014	8	12	20	0.6
3	2015	7	13	20	0.65
4	2016	5	15	20	0.75
5	2017	8	12	20	0.6
Total		36	66	102	0.65

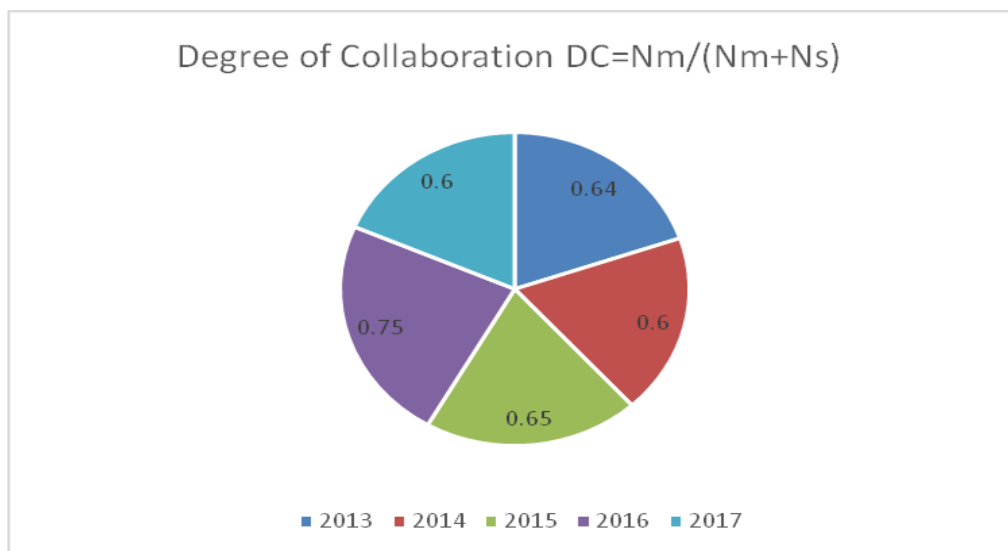


Figure 4: Degree of Collaboration

6.8 Geographical Distribution of Contributions & Contributors

Table 8 highlights the geographical distribution of contributions and contributors to research papers published in the particular journal during the period of study. Accordingly, the contributions of articles, the positioning of the countries were done. A total of 102 articles

were contributed by 212 contributors. The maximum 24 (23.53%) articles with 47, constituting 22.17 contributors are from India, followed by Korea with 18 (17.65%) contributions with 47, constituting 22.17 contributors published research papers in the particular journal. The whole geographical distribution of contributions and contributors are illustrated in Table 8.

Table 8: Geographical Distribution of Contributions & Contributors

Sl. No.	Name of the Countries	Single Author	Two Authors	Three Authors	Four Authors	Five Authors	Eight Authors	Total Contributions & (%)	Total Contributors & (%)
1	India	4	17	3	0	0	0	24 (23.53)	47 (22.17)
2	Korea	8	3	4	1	0	2	18 (17.65)	47 (22.17)
3	USA	10	2	3	0	0	0	15 (14.70)	23 (10.85)
4	Nigeria	4	3	2	1	0	0	10 (9.80)	20 (9.43)
5	Germany	2	1	2	0	1	0	6 (5.88)	15 (7.07)
6	Singapore	0	3	1	0	0	0	4 (3.92)	9 (4.24)
7	Bangladesh	1	2	0	0	0	0	3 (2.94)	5 (2.35)
8	Botswana	0	0	0	2	0	0	2 (1.96)	8 (3.77)
9	South Africa	0	1	0	1	0	0	2 (1.96)	6 (2.83)
10	Malaysia	0	1	0	1	0	0	2 (1.96)	6 (2.83)
11	Pakistan	0	2	0	0	0	0	2 (1.96)	4 (1.88)
12	Denmark	1	1	0	0	0	0	2 (1.96)	3 (1.41)
13	Iran	1	1	0	0	0	0	2 (1.96)	3 (1.41)
14	China	1	1	0	0	0	0	2 (1.96)	3 (1.41)
15	Australia	1	1	0	0	0	0	2 (1.96)	3 (1.41)
16	Newzealand	0	0	1	0	0	0	1 (0.98)	3 (1.41)
17	Japan	0	1	0	0	0	0	1 (0.98)	2 (0.94)
18	Philippines	0	1	0	0	0	0	1 (0.98)	2 (0.94)
19	England	1	0	0	0	0	0	1 (0.98)	1 (0.47)
20	Finland	1	0	0	0	0	0	1 (0.98)	1 (0.47)
21	Belgium	1	0	0	0	0	0	1 (0.98)	1 (0.47)
	Total	36	41	16	6	1	2	102 (100)	212 (100)

6.9 Most Productive Contributors and Pattern of Research Papers Distribution

Table 9 shows the major contributors and pattern of research papers distribution published in the journal from the marked period of study. The most prolific authors were Seungmin Lee, Ramesh Pandita and Seoung Hun Bae who contributed 3 articles each, followed by M. Krishnamurthy, Jung Sun Lim, and Niran Adetoro with 2 publications each. The top six authors' names are illustrated in Table 9.

Table 9: Most Productive Contributors and Pattern of Research Papers Distribution

Sl. No.	Author Name	Single author	Two Authors	Three Authors	Four Authors	Five Authors	Eight Authors	Total Contribution	Rank
1	Seungmin Lee	3	0	0	0	0	0	3	1
2	Ramesh Pandita	2	1	0	0	0	0	3	1

3	Seoung Hun Bae	0	0	0	1	0	2	3	1
4	M. Krishnamurthy	0	2	0	0	0	0	2	2
5	Jung Sun Lim	0	0	0	1	0	1	2	2
6	Niran Adetoro	2	0	0	0	0	0	2	2
Total		7	3	0	2	0	3	15	

6.10 Reference Distribution Pattern

Table 10 and Figure 5 depict the data on the reference distribution pattern of articles in a Journal of Information Science Theory and Practice from (2013-2017). A total of 3903 references were cited from 102 research papers. The highest 947 (24.26%) references were recorded in volume no. 3 in the year 2015 and the average is 47.35 references per article, followed by volume no. 5 with 876 (22.44%) references of 43.8 average of per article and in volume no. 4, 742 (19.01%) references with average references per article is 37.1. The overall average references per article are 38.26.

Table 10: Reference Distribution Pattern of the Articles

Year	Vol. No.	No. of Articles	No. of References (Issue wise)				Total References (%)	Cumulative References (%)	Average Ref. per Article
			Issue No. 1	Issue No. 2	Issue 3	Issue 4			
2013	1	22	119	202	185	170	676 (17.32)	676 (17.32)	30.73
2014	2	20	139	167	109	247	662 (16.96)	1338 (34.28)	33.1
2015	3	20	237	166	337	207	947 (24.26)	2285 (58.54)	47.35
2016	4	20	217	181	189	155	742 (19.01)	3027 (77.55)	37.1
2017	5	20	186	263	210	217	876 (22.44)	3903 (100)	43.8
Total		102	898	979	1030	996	3903		38.26

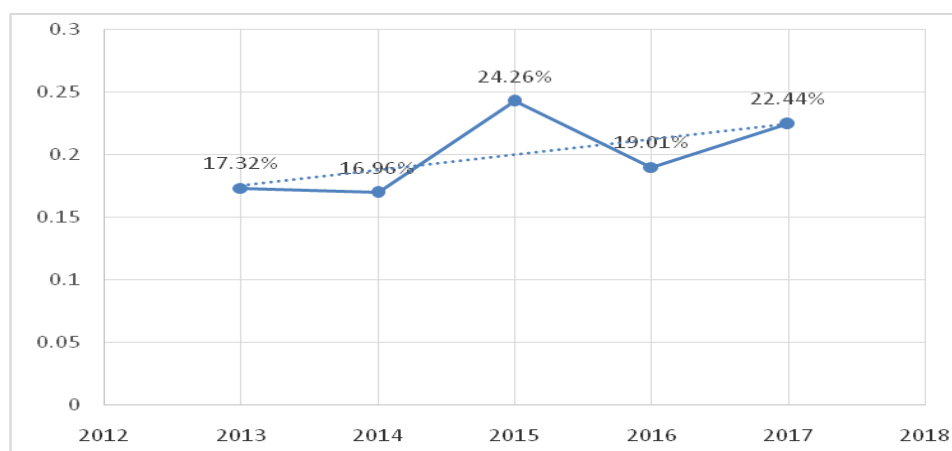


Figure 5: Reference Distribution Pattern

6.11 Authorship Pattern in References

Table 11 and Figure 6 depict the authorship pattern of references to published research papers in a particular journal from the marked period of study (2013-2017). The maximum 1507 (38.61%) references were cited by single author articles, followed by two authors with 1358, constituting 34.79% references. 441 (11.30%) references were cited by three authors. Rest are as follows, 212 (5.43%) references cited by four authors, 72, constituting 1.84% references were cited by five authors, six authors were 42 (1.08%) references cited. 233 (5.97%) references were cited by organizations and 38 (0.97%) references were cited by more than six authors.

Table 11: Authorship Pattern of References

Sl. No.	Author Type	Distribution of References Issue wise				Total References (%)	Cumulative References (%)
		Issue No. 1	Issue No. 2	Issue No. 3	Issue No. 4		
1	Single	287	342	451	427	1507(38.61)	1507 (38.61)
2	Two	333	357	350	318	1358(34.79)	2865 (73.05)
3	Three	108	115	105	113	441 (11.30)	3306 (84.70)
4	Four	57	64	39	52	212 (5.43)	3518 (90.14)
5	Five	23	32	7	10	72 (1.84)	3590 (91.98)
6	Six	16	9	8	9	42 (1.08)	3632 (93.06)
7	Organization	68	43	66	56	233 (5.97)	3865 (99.03)
8	More than Six	6	17	4	11	38 (0.97)	3903 (100)
Total		898	979	1030	996	3903 (100)	

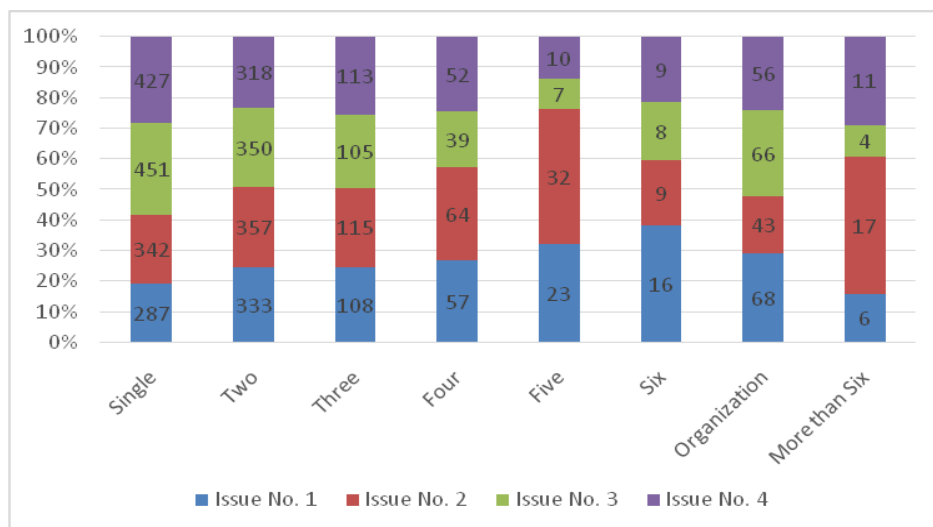


Figure 6: Authorship Pattern of References

7. Findings and Conclusions

The Journal of Information Science Theory and Practice is rich in its information content in the field of Library and Information Science. A large number of topics included in the journal on LIS focus interest on advanced studies and research. During these years it has kept pace with the improvement in its content cover and adoption of current publishing technology. Bibliometrics is one of the necessary fields of information science. It presents a very unique and useful set of techniques for observing and analysing information resources and for the management of knowledge in social and organisational contexts. In the present study various bibliometric patterns i.e. authorship, author's productivity, degree of collaboration, Lotka's law of scientific productivity, authorship pattern of references, references distribution patterns etc. were examined, and it is clearly shown that the highest research papers were published by two authors, a total average publication by each author is 0.48 and the overall degree of collaboration is recorded 0.65. In the Lotka's law, it is analysed that the number of authors examined are different from the number of authors observed. A total of 3903 references were cited from 102 research papers and the maximum 38.61% references were cited by single author articles, followed by two authors with 34.79% references were cited. The Journal of Information Science Theory and Practice (JISTaP) is a famous journal in the field of Library and Information Science and a good number of researchers in the world want to publish their unique and unpublished paper in this particular journal.

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