CITATION ANALYSIS OF PH.D THESES IN ECONOMICS SUBMITTED TO KARNATAK UNIVERSITY, DHARWAD (2009 2013)

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ABSTRACT

The present study is based on 5219 citations, appended to the 47 PhD theses of economics submitted to Karnatak University, Dharwad for the award of doctoral degree in Economics during the period 2009-2013. The study revealed that journals articles, books and reports were the most preferred sources of information used by the researchers in the field of economics accounting for 45.94%, followed by books with 25.90 % and reports with 22.23% citations. Indian Journal of Agricultural Economics has ranked the first with 257 citations accounting for 10.71% of the total journal citations. Journal of economics and political weekly 8.59% occupies the second rank getting 206 citations, followed by Indian journal of labour economics 7.92% with 190 citations. Authorship pattern for journal citations shows that most of the citations were contributed by single authors.

KEYWORDS: Citation Analysis, Bibliometric, Authorship Pattern, Ranking of Journals.

1. INTRODUCTION

Citation analysis is the analysis of citations or bibliographical references that are appended to any research communication. It examines citations in scholarly works to establish links to other works or other researchers by counting the citations appended at the end of each scientific article. The citations normally provide the bibliographic data about the used documents. Citation analyses is useful for understanding subject relationships, authorship pattern, impact, publication trends, and bring out useful information like the relative use of different kinds of documents. Citations analysis is one of the popular methods employed to identify the

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core references in a subject. With citation analysis one can evaluate and interpret citations received by articles, authors, institutions and other indications of scientific activity. Thus it helps to identify the quality of the information sources as well.

Karnatak University established at Dharwad in **1950** stared the Department of Economics in 1955. PhD programmes were introduced in the year 1959. So for 231 theses have been awarded from this department. In the present paper, an attempt has been made to study the citation pattern of researchers in the field of economics based on the references appended to the 47 Ph.D theses awarded in the Karnatak University during the period 2009-2013.

2. OBJECTIVES OF THE STUDY

The main objectives of the study are:

1. To determine the year wise distribution of theses submitted to the Karnataka University, Dharwad.
2. To identify average number of references cited per theses.
3. To identify the authorship pattern and degree of collaboration in economics research.
4. To identify the most cited sources of information consulted by the researchers in economics.
5. To determine the most frequently cited journals in economics.
6. To identify obsolescence of literature; and
7. To apply the Bradford's Law of scattering to the journal use pattern of researchers in economics.

3. LITERATURE REVIEW

Sangam (1989)[1] conducted a study on the obsolescence in psychology by studying doctoral theses from 1982-84. The result shows that half life of the cited journals is 10 and of books it is 13 years. **Buchanan and Herubel (1994)**[2]concluded that scientific journals represent the biggest proportion of materials cited in the dissertations of political science. **Horwade and Dankhade (2002)**[3] investigated 23 doctoral theses in Economics submitted to Nagpur University during the period 1996-99. Showed that books accounted for 42.77% of citations, and single authored papers were the highest in number. **Jamal, Umar and Subooh (2010)**[4] conducted a study on citation analysis of doctoral

dissertations submitted to the department of History, Aligarh Muslim University, Aligarh during the year 1990-2010. The result shows that the books have the highest number of citations. The majority of the documents were in English Language and are published from India. 77.41% of the articles have been produced by the single author. **Trayambakarao and Shashank (2012)[5]** analyzed citations appended to theses in Economics accepted by the Dr. Babasaheb Ambedkar Marathwada University, Maharasta during the period 2000-2010. The study revealed that Books appeared to be the most preferred sources of information and single authored citations are more in number. And Indian literature is mostly used for the research. **Kumar and Chauhan (2012)[6]** conducted a study on citation analysis of Ph.D. theses in the department of Psychology at HNB Garhwal University, Uttarakhand. The results reveal that journals are the most preferred sources of information used by researchers. Most of the citations cited from journals are from USA. The authorship pattern of citations shows that single authors are the major contributors. **Zafrunnisha (2012)[7]** examined 9,162 citations, appended in the 77 doctoral theses of Sociology submitted to Sri Venkateswara University, Tirupati and Osmania University, Hyderabad for the award of doctoral degree during the period 1974-2005. The results indicate that sociology researchers in both the universities referred mostly books rather than other sources. **Kumar and Reddy (2012)[8]** studied citations in master's degree dissertations submitted to the department of library and information science, Sri Venkateswara University, Tirupathi during the period 2000–2007. Findings showed that journals were the most utilized reference materials in the dissertations. **Kagra (2013)[9]** analyzed citations cited in doctoral theses of Psychology awarded to Kurukshetra University, Kurukshetra from the period 2008-2012. Shows that journals constitute major sources of information. **Singh and Bebi (2013)[10]** studied citations of PhD theses submitted to the Department of Sociology of the University of Delhi during 1995-2010. It was found that highest numbers of citations were of single authored, citations were from books. The country-wise scattering of citations revealed that more citations were from India. **Chamani (2013)[11]** analysed the citations of Master's Theses on Sociology at the University of Peradeniya submitted from 1995 to 2012 to found that 56% of cited items were monographs. **Gupta and Khare (2013)[12]** studied the citations appeared to the theses of Library and Information Science of Dr. Harisingh Gour University, and found the most of the cited sources

were journals, and cited books preferred to single authorship most of the contributions of journals were from USA. **Kagra and Sharma (2014)**[13] studied citations cited in doctoral theses of education awarded to Kurukshetra University, Kurukshetra from the period 1995-2008, and observed the periodical publications are the major sources of information, two third contributions were produced under single authorship. Largest of total cited periodicals were of Indian origin. **Rayudu and Babu (2014)**[14] studied doctoral theses submitted in the discipline of Philosophy of the University of Hyderabad during 1986-2012. The study is based on the 7,444 citations cited in 43 Ph.D. theses of philosophy. The study finds that book form is the most preferred sources of information used by the researchers in the field of philosophy and most of the citations are contributed by single author. U.K is the largest producer of literature in the field of philosophy and most dominant language was English.

4. METHODOLOGY

Data were collected from 47 doctoral theses submitted to the department of Economics of Karnatak University Dharwad for the period 2009-2013. The bibliographical references which were used by the researchers for completing the theses at the end of each chapter and at the end of the doctoral theses were taken as the source of data for the study. The collected data was classified, tabulated, presented, analyzed and interpreted with the help of tables and graphs.

5. RESULT AND DISUSSION

5.1. Year-Wise Distribution of Theses

Table 1 shows the year-wise distribution of theses submitted to the department of economics, Karnataka University. A maximum number of 34.04% (16) theses were submitted in the year 2011. 25.54 % (12) theses submitted in the year 2010, followed by 21.27 % (10) in 2013, 12.77% (6) theses in the 2009 and only 06.38% (3) theses in the 2012. It is observed in the table that the highest number of PhD degrees (16) was awarded in economics by Karnataka University during the year 2011.

Table 1: Year-Wise Distribution of Theses

Sl. No	Year	Number of these	Percentage
1	2009	6	12.77
2	**2010**	**12**	**25.54**
3	2011	16	34.04
4	2012	3	06.38
5	2013	10	21.27
	Total	**47**	**100.00**

5.2. Average Number of Citations

Table 2 revealed the data regarding the average number of citations per theses. It is observed from the study that on an average 111.04 citations were cited per theses by the economic research scholars. The highest number of citations per theses 130.66 was found in the year 2009 and the lowest average number of citations 105.62 was found in the year 2011.

Table 2: Average Number of Citations Per Theses

Sl. No	Year	Total number of thesis	Total no of citations	Average citation per thesis
1	2009	6	784	130.66
2	2010	12	1329	110.75
3	2011	16	1690	105.62
4	2012	3	320	106.62
5	2013	10	1096	109.60
	Total	**47**	**5219**	**111.04**

5.3. Authorship Pattern Economics

Table 3 shows the authorship pattern of journal citations. It revealed that out of 5219 journal citation, 71.01% (3706) were by single authors, followed by two authors 20.20 % (1054) and three or more author's covers only 08.79% (459). It is observed that majority of the cited documents were by single authors papers that means the solo research is prevailing in economics.

Table 3: Authorship Pattern Economics

Sl. No	Authors	Total no. of citations	Percentage of citation
1	One	3706	71.01
2	Two	1054	20.20
3	Three or more	459	8.79
	Total	**5219**	**100.00**

5.4. Distribution of Citations According to Bibliographic Format

Table 4 shows the distribution of citations by bibliographic format in the field of economics. It is observed from the table that the journal contributes the highest number of citations accounting for 45.94% (2398) of the total citations. This revealed that journal articles are the most preferred sources of information used by the researchers in the field of economics. Books were the second most cited source accounting for 25.90% (1352) of the total citations. The next preferred source of information for economics research scholars is the Reports which is 22.23% (1160), 3.13% (163) Web resources, Ph.D. Theses 2.15% (112) citation and news papers 0.66% (34). It is found that journal articles, books and reports are widely used format by the researcher of university when compared to other sources of information.

Table 4: Distribution of Citations According to Bibliographic Format

Sl. No	Bibliographic format	Total No. of Citations	Cumulative Citations	Percentage of Citation	Cumulative percentage
1	Journal Articles	2398	2398	45.94%	45.94%
2	Books	1352	3750	25.90%	71.85%
3	Reports	1160	4910	22.23%	94.07%
4	Web Resources	163	5073	3.13%	97.02%
5	Ph.D .Theses	112	5185	2.15%	99.35%
6	News Papers	34	5219	0.66%	100.00%
	Total	**5219**		**100.00%**	

5.5. Rank list of Core Journals in Economics

Table 5 shows that total 2398 journals with 5219 citations arranged in the order of decreasing number of their rank. The journal with the highest number of citations occupies the highest rank and thus found most important journal in the field of economics, while the least important titles are placed at the bottom of Table 5. Indian Journal of Agricultural Economics occupies the first rank as the most preferred journal having been cited 257 times. Journal of economics and political weekly 8.59% occupies the second rank getting 206 citations, followed by the Indian journal of labour economics 7.92% with 109 citations and journal of development studies 6.33% with 152 citations occupied fourth rank. The first ten journals in the ranking list together account for 66.34% of the total citations. Table 5 also shows that the first 50 Journals out of 2392 total ranked journal covers 99.53% of citations.

Table 5: Rank Llist of Core Journals in Economics

Sl. No	Name of the journal	No. of citation	Cumulative citations	Percentage	Cumulative percentage	Rank
1	Indian Journal of Agricultural Economics	257	257	10.71	10.71	1
2	Economic & Political Weekly	206	463	8.59	19.03	2
3	The Indian Journal of Labour Economics	190	653	7.92	27.22	3
4	Journal of Development Studies	152	805	6.33	33.55	4
5	International Journal of operations & production management	150	955	6.25	39.08	5
6	Journal of Marketing	141	1096	5.87	45.67	6
7	The American	135	1231	5.62	51.29	7

	Journal of Economics & Sociology					
8	Journal of Marketing Research	131	1362	5.46	56.75	8
9	Journal of Services Marketing	130	1492	5.42	62.17	9
10	Indian Economics Journal	100	1592	4.17	66.34	10
11	Journal of information Management & Computer security	99	1691	4.12	70.46	11
12	Journal of Management Information Systems	96	1787	4.00	74.46	12
13	Journal of Commerce & Economics	80	1867	3.33	77.79	13
14	Journal of developing & Economics	75	1942	3.12	80.91	14
15	Journal of Retailing	69	2011	2.87	83.78	15
16	Journal of Public Health Policy	54	2065	2.25	86.03	16
17	Scandinavian Journal of Economics	43	2108	1.79	87.82	17
18	Journal of Political Economy	38	2146	1.58	89.04	18
19	Journal of Quantitative Economics	31	2177	1.29	90.69	19
20	Supply Chain Management: An International Journal	15	2192	0.62	91.31	20

21	Journal of Business Strategy	15	2207	0.62	91.93	20
22	Indian Journal of Comparative Sociology	12	2219	0.50	92.43	21
23	Intent & Reality Journal of Educational Planning & Administration	12	2231	0.50	92.93	21
24	Journal of Business & Industrial Marketing	10	2241	0.41	93.34	22
25	Journal of American Statistical Association	10	2251	0.41	93.75	22
26	The Journal of Peasant Studies	9	2260	0.37	94.12	23
27	Journal of Economics Literature	9	2269	0.37	94.49	23
28	Indian Journal of Human Development	9	2278	0.37	94.86	23
29	Journal of Royal Statistical Society Australia	8	2286	0.33	95.19	24
30	Journal of the Academy of Marketing Science	8	2294	0.33	95.52	24
31	Quarterly Journal of Economics	8	2302	0.33	95.85	24
32	Journal of Kurushetra	7	2309	0.29	96.14	25
33	Journal of Human Development	7	2316	0.29	96.43	25
34	Journal of Social and	7	2323	0.29	96.72	25

	Economic Development					
35	International Journal of Comparative Sociology	7	2330	0.29	97.01	25
36	Journal of organizational Change Management	6	2336	0.25	97.26	26
37	Journal of the Academy Schneider	6	2342	0.25	97.51	26
38	Journal of Consumer Research	6	2348	0.25	97.76	26
39	Journal of retailing & consumer services	6	2354	0.25	98.01	26
40	Journal of Physical Distribution & Logistics Management	5	2359	0.20	98.21	27
41	Journal of Advertising	5	2364	0.20	98.41	27
42	Journal of Targeting Management & Analysis of marketing	4	2368	0.16	98.57	28
43	Journal of Psychology	4	2372	0.16	98.73	28
44	Journal of Artha Vijnana	4	2376	0.16	98.89	28
45	World development Journal	3	2379	0.12	99.01	29
46	Journal of Social Science	3	2382	0.12	99.13	29
47	Journal of Rural Development	3	2385	0.12	99.25	29
48	Indian Journal of Regional Science	3	2388	0.12	99.37	29

49	Asia Pacific Development Journal	2	2390	0.08	99.45	30
50	Journal of Refugee studies	2	2392	0.08	99.53	30
51	Indian Journal of Commerce	2	2394	0.08	99.61	30
52	Journal of Rural Development	1	2395	0.04	99.65	31
53	Journal of criminal Law & Criminality	1	2396	0.04	99.69	31
54	Prachi Journal of Psychocultural Dimensions	1	2397	0.04	99.73	31
55	Journal of Royal Statistical Society Australia	1	2398	0.04	99.77	31

5.6. Citation Frequency for Economics

Table 6 shows the chronological dispersion of cited articles and books in Economics. From the table it in clear that the one-fourth of journal citations are 10 years old. Next 50% of the journal citations are 20 years old. Even in the case of books the citation pattern follows the journal articles. The first one-fourth of citations of books are less than 6 years old and another one-fourth are 25 years old. The data plotted on a plain graph paper taking cumulative citations Vs. Age (See Fig 1 & 2). The half life of cited journal literature is 20 years while that of books is 11 years. This has got some implications in the organisation and storages of materials in libraries.

Table 6: Citation Frequency for Economics

Journals					Books			
Age old	**Citation**	**Cumulative Citation**	**Percentage**	**Cumulative Percentage**	**Citation**	**Cumulative Citation**	**Percentage**	**Cumulative Percentage**
0	9	9	0.37	0.37	6	6	0.44	0.44
1	11	20	0.45	0.82	22	28	1.62	2.06
2	56	76	2.33	3.15	56	84	4.14	6.2
3	38	114	1.53	4.73	38	122	2.81	9.01
4	45	159	1.87	6.6	49	171	3.62	12.63
5	115	274	4.79	11.39	107	278	7.91	20.54
6	53	327	2.21	13.6	53	331	3.92	24.46
7	43	370	1.79	15.39	43	374	3.18	27.64
8	51	421	2.12	17.51	51	425	3.77	31.41
9	105	526	4.37	21.88	105	530	7.76	39.17
10	89	615	3.71	25.59	87	617	6.43	45.6
11	82	697	3.41	29.00	82	699	6.06	51.66
12	75	772	3.12	32.12	35	734	2.58	54.24
13	66	838	2.75	34.87	31	765	2.29	56.53
14	60	898	2.50	37.37	30	795	2.21	58.74
15	56	954	2.33	39.7	28	823	2.07	60.81
16	54	1008	2.25	41.95	25	848	1.84	62.65
17	59	1067	2.46	44.41	24	872	1.77	64.42
18	40	1107	1.66	46.07	21	893	1.55	65.97
19	41	1148	1.70	47.77	20	913	1.47	67.44
20	44	1192	1.83	49.06	19	932	1.40	68.84
21	46	1238	1.91	51.51	18	950	1.33	70.17
22	48	1286	2.00	53.51	17	967	1.25	71.42
23	30	1316	1.25	54.75	16	983	1.18	72.6
24	31	1347	1.29	56.05	16	999	1.18	73.78
25	33	1380	1.37	57.42	15	1014	1.10	74.88
26	34	1414	1.41	58.83	15	1029	1.10	75.98
27	35	1449	1.45	60.28	14	1043	1.03	77.01
28	28	1477	1.16	61.44	13	1056	0.96	77.97
29	21	1498	0.87	62.31	12	1068	0.88	78.85
30	20	1518	0.83	63.14	11	1079	0.81	79.66
31	40	1558	1.66	64.8	10	1089	0.73	80.39
32	24	1582	1.00	65.8	9	1098	0.66	81.05
33	56	1638	2.33	68.13	18	1116	1.33	82.38
34	24	1662	1.00	69.13	25	1141	1.84	84.22
35	32	1694	1.33	70.46	17	1158	1.25	85.47
36	34	1728	1.41	71.87	11	1169	0.81	86.28
37	32	1760	1.33	73.2	15	1184	1.10	87.38
38	37	1797	1.54	74.74	12	1196	0.88	88.26
39	19	1816	0.79	75.53	11	1207	0.81	89.07
40	38	1854	1.58	77.11	12	1219	0.88	89.95

41	31	1885	1.29	78.4	16	1235	1.18	91.13
42	22	1907	0.91	79.31	19	1254	1.40	92.53
43	30	1937	1.25	80.56	7	1261	0.51	93.04
44	23	1960	0.95	81.51	6	1267	0.44	93.48
45	19	1979	0.79	82.3	4	1271	0.29	93.77
46	33	2012	1.37	83.67	3	1274	0.22	93.99
47	22	2034	0.91	84.58	7	1281	0.51	94.5
48	18	2052	0.75	85.33	6	1287	0.44	94.94
49	29	2073	1.20	86.53	3	1290	0.22	95.16
50	26	2099	1.08	87.61	5	1295	0.36	95.52
51	33	2132	1.37	88.98	2	1297	0.14	95.66
52	12	2144	0.50	89.48	4	1301	0.29	95.95
53	14	2158	0.58	90.06	3	1304	0.22	96.17
54	26	2184	1.08	91.14	4	1308	0.29	96.46
55	15	2199	0.62	91.76	2	1310	0.14	96.6
56	12	2211	0.50	92.26	3	1313	0.22	96.82
57	24	2235	1.00	93.26	4	1317	0.29	97.11
58	13	2248	0.54	93.8	5	1322	0.36	97.47
59	13	2261	0.54	94.34	2	1324	0.14	97.61
60	28	2289	1.16	95.5	3	1327	0.22	97.83
61	20	2309	0.83	96.33	2	1329	0.14	97.97
62	12	2321	0.50	96.83	3	1332	0.22	98.19
63	17	2338	0.70	97.53	10	1342	0.73	98.92
64	13	2351	0.54	98.07	3	1345	022	99.14
65	15	2366	0.62	98.69	5	1350	0.36	99.5
66	9	2375	0.37	99.06	2	1352	0.14	99.64
67	8	2383	0.33	99.39	0	0	0	0
68	5	2388	0.20	99.59	0	0	0	0
69	3	2391	0.12	99.71	0	0	0	0
70	2	2393	0.08	99.79	0	0	0	0
71	2	2395	0.08	99.87	0	0	0	0
72	2	2397	0.08	99.95	0	0	0	0
73	1	2398	0.04	99.99	0	0	0	0

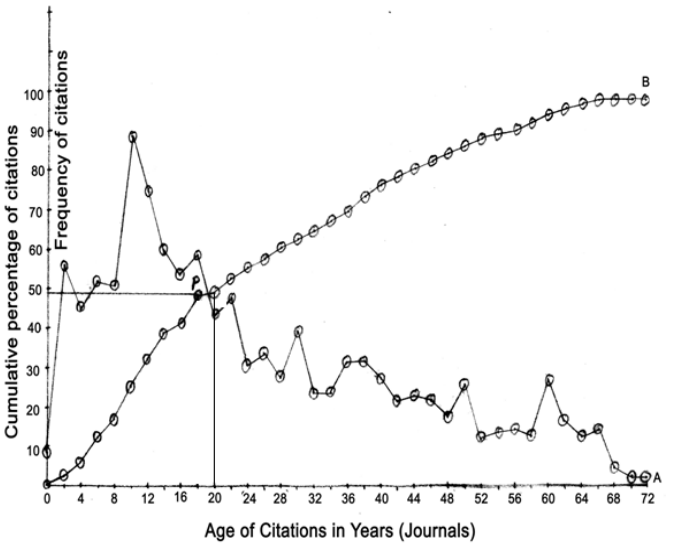


Fig.1: A: Frequency Polygon for Citations in Economics;
B: Cumulative Frequency Curve

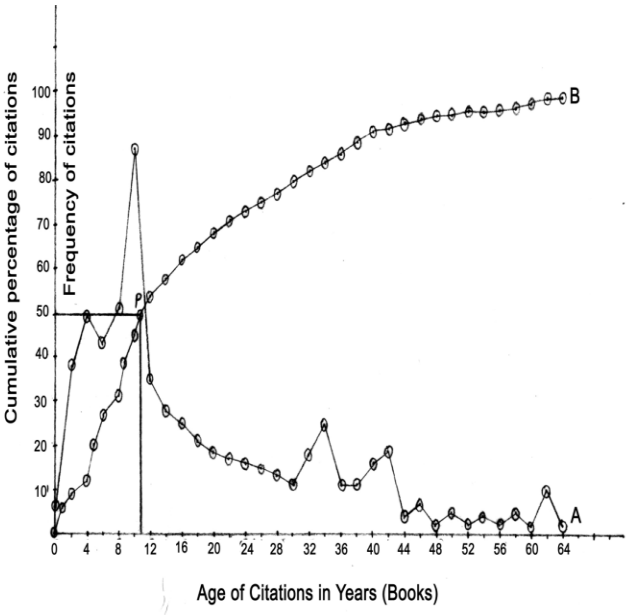


Fig.2: A: Frequency polygon for cited Books Vs. Age
B: Cumulative Frequency Curve Vs. Age

5.7. Application of Bradford's Law

The data obtained in the study was tabulated as given in Table-7. The graph paper taking cumulative sum of articles (R (n)) on the ordinate 'X' axis Vs. The log of the cumulative sum of Journals on the 'Y' axis (See Fig.3) an initially raising curve was obtained the journal and cumulative citations are not in accordance to Bradford's Law scattering. The journal pattern of drawing the zones ($1:a:a^2$) is not in accordance the Bradford's Law of scattering. This is not in conformity with Bradford's hyperbolic curve. Therefore it is concluded that the journal use pattern of economics is not in accordance with the law of scattering.

Table 7: Data Tabulated for Application of Bradford's Law

Sl. No	No. of Journal Title	No. of Citation	No. of Citation	Cumulative Citation
1	1	257	257	257
2	1	206	206	463
3	1	190	190	653
4	1	152	152	805
5	1	150	150	955
6	1	141	141	1096
7	1	135	135	1231
8	1	131	131	1362
9	1	130	130	1492
10	1	100	100	1592
11	1	99	99	1691
12	1	96	96	1787
13	1	80	80	1867
14	1	75	75	1942
15	1	69	69	2011
16	1	54	54	2065
17	1	43	43	2108
18	1	38	38	2146
19	1	31	31	2177
20	2	15	30	2207
21	2	12	24	2231
22	2	10	20	2251

23	3	9	27	2278
24	3	8	24	2302
25	4	7	28	2330
26	4	6	24	2354
27	2	5	10	2364
28	3	4	12	2376
29	4	3	12	2388
30	3	2	6	2394
31	4	1	4	2398

Scale X axis: Log (n) Journals
Y axis: 1cm 20 Citation

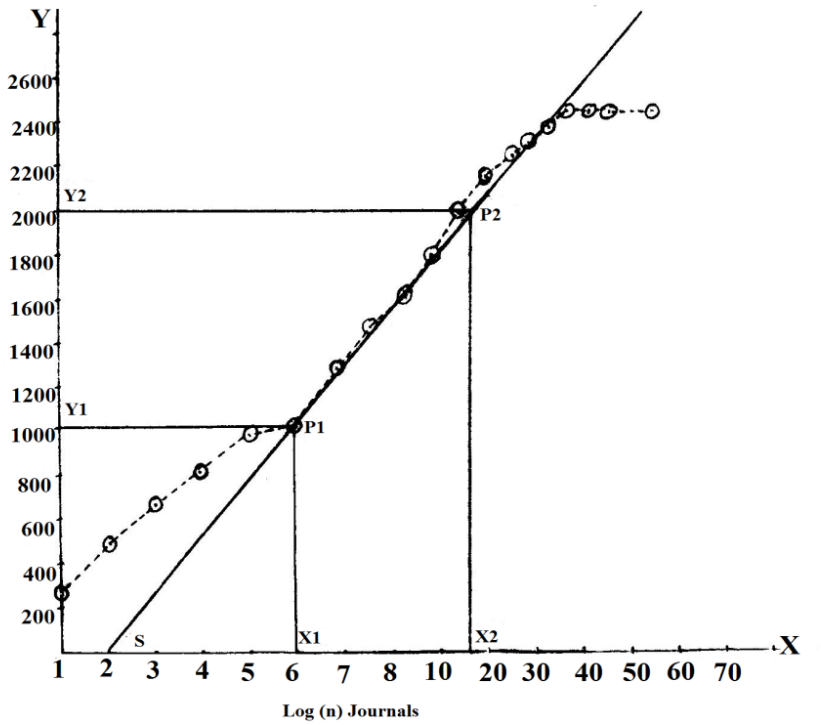


Fig.3 Cumulative Sum of Articles Vs. Log of Cumulative Sum of Journals

6. FINDINGS AND SUGGESTIONS

In the present study 5219 citations were analyzed from 47 PhD theses in economics. On the basis of the above study the following conclusions are drawn:

1. The highest number of Ph.D degrees (16) was awarded in economics by Karnataka University during the year 2011.
2. The study shows that on an average 111.04 citations were cited per thesis by the economics research scholars. Further, highest number of citations per thesis is 130.66 was found in the year 2009 and the lowest average number of citations 105.62 was found in the year 2011.
3. It is observed that 71.01% (3706) were by single authors, followed by two authors 20.20% (1054) and more than three author's covers only 08.79% (459).
4. The analysis of citations according to the bibliographic forms revealed that the article contributes the highest number of citations accounting for 45.94 % (2398) of the total citations are from Journal articles.
5. The rank list of journals in the field of economics revealed that 2398 journal citations cited by researchers were scattered among 55 journals. Indian Journal of Agricultural Economics occupies the first rank as the most preferred journal having been cited 257 times. Journal of economics and political weekly 8.59% occupies the second rank getting 206 citations, followed by the Indian journal of labour economics 7.92% with 190 citations and journal of development studies 6.33% with 152 citations.
6. The first ten journals in the ranking list together account for 66.34 % of the total citations.
7. The half life of cited Journal literature and books is 20 years and 11 years, respectively.
8. The Journal use pattern of economics is not in accordance to the graphical representation of Bradford's Law of scattering.

7. CONCLUSION

The finding of the study has some implications in the need based collection development in the field of economics. Rank list of journals is useful in the acquisition of periodicals in the library and could also help in

evaluating the importance of journals. It helps librarians and researchers to select the journals of greater importance in a particular subject area. This kind of studies will also be helpful to recognize researcher's information needs and requirements and can serve as feedback to the librarians in the selection and acquisition of most useful journals within the budget.

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