Content Analysis and Evaluation of Journal of Library Development (JLD) From 2015-2023 : A Study

Ashwini Latte
Research Scholar, DLIS,
Rani Channamma University, Belagavi.
gashwini364@gmail.com
ORCID: 0000-0001-8742-062X
DOI : 10.32344/jld/v10/il/2024/61-74

Abstract

Purpose: To explore and analyze the evolving trends within the Journal of Library Development (JLD) over nine years from January 2015 to August 2023.

Methodology: This research employs content analysis as a methodology.

Findings: Findings reveal fluctuations in research output, authorship patterns, and subject trends, reflecting the dynamic nature of the field influenced by institutional priorities and academic dynamics. Overall, this content analysis contributes valuable insights to the evolving landscape of library and information science research through the lens of the Journal of Library Development.

Originality/ Value: The study, encompassing 18 issues across volumes 1 to 9, focuses on key objectives, including identifying subject trends, assessing the number of articles published per volume, examining authorship patterns, and understanding author affiliations.

Keywords: Content Analysis, Journal of Library Development, Content Evaluation, LIS.



1. Introduction:

Content analysis is a research method, which analyses the recorded data. Content analysis has been utilized as a research method informally over an extended period. The first documented application of this technique can be traced back to 1930 when it was used to analyze American morning newspapers in New York. In essence, content analysis entails scrutinizing recorded information. Krippendoff Klaus describes content analysis as a research method that enables the generation of reliable and accurate conclusions from textual material (or other meaningful content) regarding the circumstances in which they are utilized (Krippendorff, 1989). This method is popularly used to analyze website content, and it is also used to analyze journal and newspaper content.

2. About the Journal of Library and Information Science (JLD)

The bi-annual Journal focuses on specific themes related to library and information science, aiming to advance the field and contribute value to its literature. It is associated with the Indian Council for Library Development (ICLD), established by the late Prof. K. S. Deshpande, who also serves as the Chief Editor. Since 2015, the journal has consistently published high-quality, peer-reviewed articles, boasting a strong editorial board and peer team. An interesting aspect is the inclusion of a popular column titled "Classics In Library and Information Science." Furthermore, the journal is indexed in major databases like I-Scholar and J-Gate, and each article is assigned a DOI number. The journal releases special issues in the domain of Library and Information Science, covering topics such as Scientometrics, School Libraries, 125 years of Dr. S. R. Ranganathan, Prof K. S. Deshpande, Special Issue on GOA Libraries, and Classics of Library and Information Science—a consistently well-received column.



2.1 Emblem of the Journal:

The journal's emblem, featuring the Sun from the Duladco temple in Khajuraho (10th century A.D.), was inspired by Stefan Zweig's analogy in 1972. It symbolizes the Earth's source of energy and life. Lord Surya, the highest form of light, is invoked daily for a bright mind. The emblem uniquely combines Brahma, Vishnu, and Shiva's qualities. The motto, "Mano Mayah Ayam Hi Purushah," from the Brahadaranyaka Upanishad, underscores the mind's importance, distinguishing humans from animals. It stresses mind care, with libraries and information officers preserving brilliant minds through books. The goal is to illuminate a path toward a future of sunshine and success.

3. Review of Literature:

(Tigga, Lihitkar, & Rajyalakshmi, 2005) conducted a content analysis of 33 issues of the DESIDOC Bulletin of Information Technology (DBIT), spanning from January 1997 to July 2002. The analysis explores the journal's content, highlighting its thematic coverage of various aspects within IT, library management, and information marketing. The study emphasizes the journal's significance as a valuable resource for professionals in library management, information science, computer personnel, and researchers. It provides insights and perspectives conducive to the development of Information Technology.

In her analysis, (Dhumal, 2016) scrutinized the number of research papers published in each volume of various journals, examining factors such as authorial institutional affiliations, demographic details, and authorship



patterns. Specifically, her focus was on drawing conclusions based on the content analysis of the Journal of Economic Literature's various issues published from January 2005 to December 2014, spanning over a decade. This research sheds light on the intricate details of authorship and demographic aspects within the journal's content, providing valuable insights into the trends and themes prevalent over the specified ten-year period.

In their investigation, (Padmavathi & Veerabasavaiah, 2015) examine research trends across various disciplines within the field of Library and Information Science. The analysis, covering the period from 2007 to 2014, revealed the publication of 300 articles. The study systematically examines the distribution of research contributions across different volumes, scrutinizes authorship patterns, investigates author affiliations, and provides insights into the country-wise distribution of research contributions. By exploring these aspects, the research contributes to a comprehensive understanding of the landscape of research output in the Library and Information Science field during the specified time frame.

(Patil, 2012) conducted an analysis of the content featured in 6 volumes comprising 22 issues of the electronic journal Ariadne. The primary objective of this paper is to assess the content of the said electronic journal, which is published by UKOLN, a university entity. Patil's examination sheds light on the composition and scope of content within Ariadne, contributing to a better understanding of the journal's content and its potential value to its audience.



4. Objectives:

The purpose of this study is to analyse content of the JLD keeping in view of the following objectives:

- To find out the evolving subject trends in JLD.
- To know the number of articles published in each volume.
- To find out the authorship pattern.
- To identify the author affiliation of research contributions.

5. Methodology:

The paper incorporates a Content Analysis spanning nine years, covering the period from January 2015 to August 2023. A total of nine research papers were utilized in the presentation of this study. Both descriptive and inferential research methods were employed, and the data collected for the research is of a secondary nature. The study encompasses various aspects, including the number of authors, their institutional affiliations, demographic details, and the quantity of research papers published.

6. Scope and Limitations:

The present study focuses on examining the research contributions originating from the Journal of Library Development. It includes the analysis of 18 issues across volumes 1 to 9, spanning the years 2015 to 2023. The research contributions were thoroughly examined in accordance with the objectives outlined in this study.

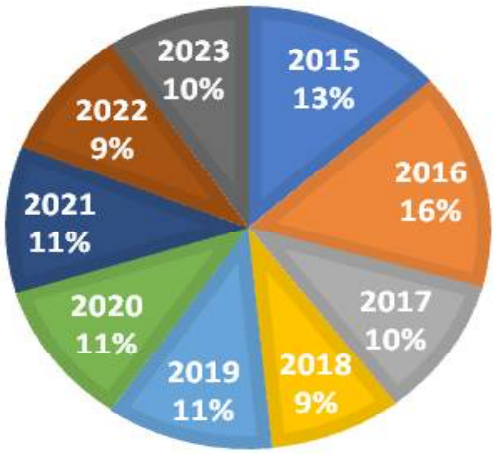


7. Data Analysis and Interpretation:

Table 1. Year wise Distribution of Research Papers

Sl.	Year No.	Volume	No. of Research No.	Percentage % Papers
1.	2015	01	17	13.6
2.	2016	02	20	16
3.	2017	03	13	10.4
4.	2018	04	11	8.8
5.	2019	05	14	11.2
6.	2020	06	13	10.8
7.	2021	07	13	10.8
8.	2022	08	12	9.6
9.	2023	09	12	9.6
		Total	125	100

Figure 1. Year wise Distribution of Research Papers

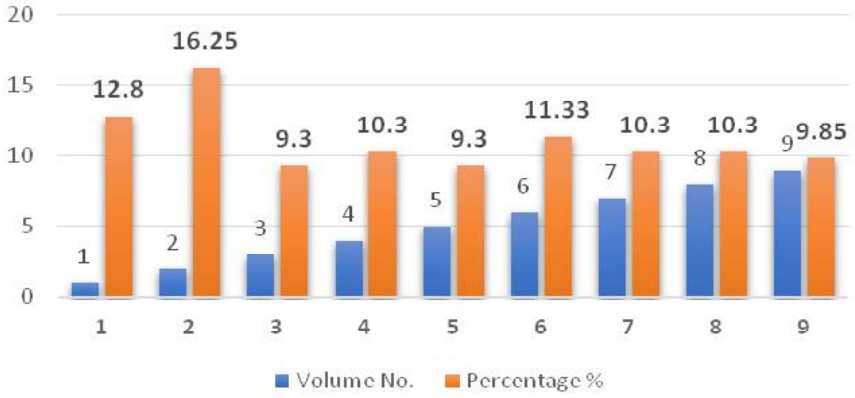


The table presents data on the distribution of research papers across different years and volumes. The total number of research papers is consistent at 125 throughout the years. The highest percentage of research papers was in 2016 with 16%, followed by 2015 with 13.6%. The number of research papers shows a general decline from 2016 to 2023, fluctuating between 8.8% and 11.2%. Overall, the table provides a clear overview of the annual distribution of research papers in the specified volumes, demonstrating variations in contributions over the years.

Table 2. Volume wise Distribution of Authors.

Sl. No.	Year	Volume No.	No. of Research Papers	Percentage %
1.	2015	01	26	12.8
2.	2016	02	33	16.25
3.	2017	03	19	9.3
4.	2018	04	21	10.3
5.	2019	05	19	9.3
6.	2020	06	23	11.33
7.	2021	07	21	10.3
8.	2022	08	21	10.3
9.	2023	09	20	9.85
		Total	203	100





The table shows the writers' volumes-by-year distribution; there are 203 authors overall, each of whom contributed differently to a volume. The highest percentage of writers was recorded in 2016 at 16.25%, with a subsequent low of 12.8% in 2015. Although there is some variation in the number of writers, peaking in 2016, there is a general trend of consistency between 10 and 11% in the years that follow. To sum up, the table provides a comprehensive illustration of the distribution of authors among volumes, emphasizing the variations in authorship levels annually.

Table 3. Authorship Pattern for Research Papers.

Sl. No.	No. of Authors	No. of Research Papers	Percentage %
1.	One	55	44
2.	Two	62	49.6
3.	Three	7	5.6
4.	More than three	1	0.8
	Total	125	100

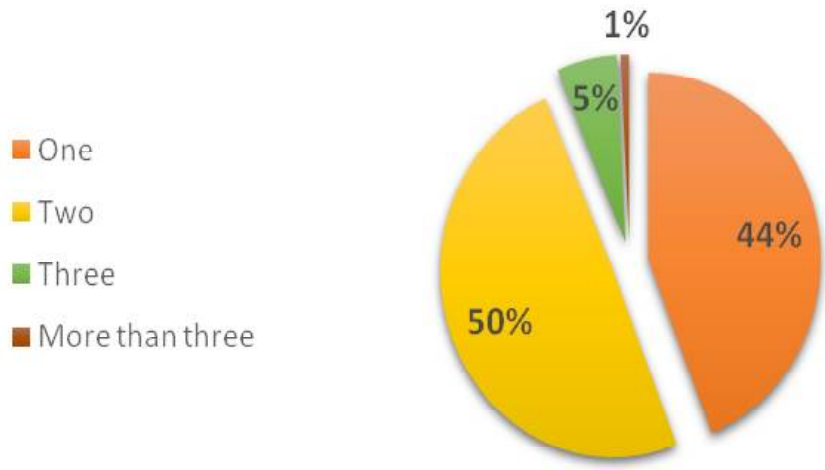


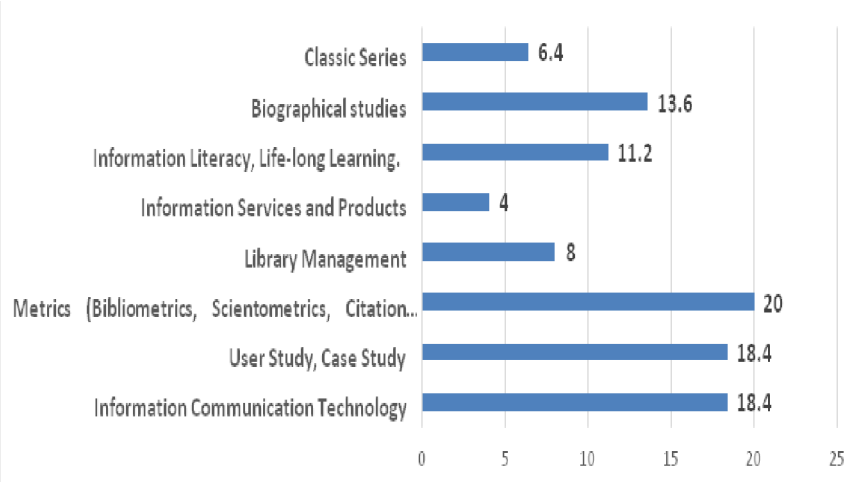
Figure 3. Authorship Pattern

The table illustrates the authorship pattern for a total of 125 research papers. Notably, a significant portion of the papers is authored by a single individual, constituting 44% of the total. This suggests a prevalent trend of individual contributions in the studied dataset. In contrast, research papers with two authors represent the largest share at 49.6%, signifying a considerable collaborative effort. Papers authored by three individuals account for a smaller but notable proportion at 5.6%. Interestingly, papers with more than three authors are infrequent, making up only 0.8% of the total. This authorship distribution pattern emphasizes the diversity in collaborative practices within the academic research context, showcasing a range from individual contributions to more extensive teamwork involving multiple authors.

Table 4. Subject Wise Distribution of Articles.

Sl. No.	LIS core Subjects	No. of Research Contributions	Percentage %
1.	Information Communication Technology	23	18.4
2.	User Study, Case Study	23	18.4
3.	Metrics (Bibliometrics, Scientometrics, Citation Analysis, Altmetsics)	25	20
4.	Library Management	10	8
5.	Information Services and Products	5	4
6.	Information Literacy, Life-long Learning.	14	11.2
7.	Biographical studies	17	13.6
8.	Classic Series	8	6.4
	Total	125	100

Figure 4. Subject Wise Distribution

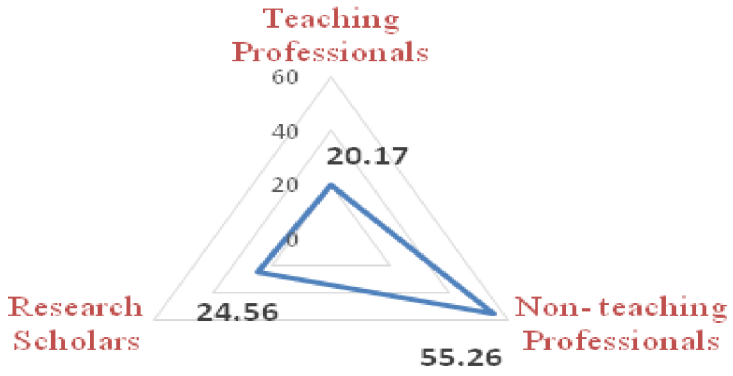


The table outlines subject-wise distribution in Library and Information Science with 125 articles. Notably, Information Communication Technology (ICT) and User Study, Case Study stand out at 18.4%, reflecting a focus on technology and user behaviors. Metrics, including Bibliometrics and Altmetrics, constitute 20%, emphasizing quantitative methodologies. Library Management comprises 8%, highlighting organizational aspects. Information Services and Products contribute 4%, indicating a lesser emphasis. Information Literacy, Life-long Learning represents 11.2%, showcasing an educational focus. Biographical Studies contribute 13.6%, indicating an interest in individuals' lives. Classic Series, at 6.4%, suggests a focus on historical aspects.

Table 5. Author Affiliations

Sl. No.	Author Affiliations	No. of Research Contributors	Percentage %
1.	Teaching Professionals	23	20.17
2.	Non- teaching Professionals	63	55.26
3.	Research Scholars	28	24.56
	Total	114	100

Figure 5. Author Affiliations



1. Findings:

* Research trends, institutional agendas, and academic dynamics within the subject are some of the factors that may be causing these changes. A more detailed picture of the research landscape in library and information science is made possible by the study, which offers insights on the temporal distribution of research output.
* The variations in authors distribution may be caused by changes in research priorities, institutional partnerships, and the changing nature of scholarly contributions in the field of library and information science. All things considered; the data offers insightful information on how authorship in the area has changed throughout the given time.
* The study illustrates a diverse array of LIS research subjects, emphasizing technology, user behavior, quantitative methodologies, management, education, biographical insights, and historical perspectives. This underscores the interdisciplinary nature of LIS research.
* This high proportion highlights the wide range of professional backgrounds contributing to the field's research and emphasizes the important engagement of practitioners and experts beyond the traditional teaching realm.
* This study shows that there is a notable representation of people who are pursuing further education and research in the field of library and information science.

9. Conclusion:

In conclusion, the content analysis of the Journal of Library Development (JLD) over the nine-year period from 2015 to 2023 has provided valuable insights into the evolving trends and dynamics within the field of library and information science. The study focused on key objectives, including the identification of evolving subject trends, the analysis of the number of articles published in each volume, exploration of authorship patterns, and the identification of author affiliations. Considering the above findings, the study concludes that variations in research output, authorship patterns, and subject trends within JLD are reflective of the dynamic nature of the field, influenced by institutional priorities, academic dynamics, and evolving research agendas. The interdisciplinary nature of LIS research is evident, emphasizing the active engagement of practitioners and experts from diverse professional backgrounds. The study also indicates a significant representation of individuals pursuing further education and research in the field of library and information science. Overall, the content analysis of JLD contributes to a comprehensive understanding of the evolving landscape of library and information science research.

Acknowledgement:

This study received financial support through the PhD fellowship program for the year 2022–2023 provided by the Karnataka Science and Technology Promotion Society (KSTePS).



REFERENCES :

Dhumal, V. S. (2016). A STUDY ON CONTENT ANALYSIS OF JOURNAL OF ECONOMIC LITERATURE (JEL). *GE-International Journal of Management Research*, *special is*(December), 171–179. Retrieved from https://search.ebscohost.com login.aspx ? direct=true&db=buh&AN=123825182&site=ehost-live

Krippendorff, K. (1989). Content Analysis. In *content analysis* (vol. 1). Newyork: Oxford University Press. Retrieved from http://repository.upenn.edu/asc_papers/226

Padmavathi, N., & Veerabasavaiah, M. (2015). An Analysis of Research Contributions Reflected in Pearl: A Journal of Library and Information Science. *Pearl/ : A Journal of Library and Information Science*, *9*(3), 164. https://doi.org/10.5958/0975-6922.2015.00022.4

Patil, N. P. (2012). E-Journal Ariadne/ : Content Analysis. *Online International Interdisciplinary Research Journal*, *II*(II), 262–270.

Tigga, U. P., Lihitkar, S. R., & Rajyalakshmi, D. (2005). Content analysis of DESIDOC Bulletin of Information Technology (1997-2002). *DESIDOC Bulletin of Information Technology*, *25*(4), 5–18. https://doi.org/10.14429/dbit.25.4.3661