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Bibliometric Analysis of the E-Journal of Library Philosophy and Practice During the Period of 2014-2018

Md. Armanul Haque

Associate Professor, Information Science and Library Management, University of Rajshahi, Bangladesh,
armanul_haque@ru.ac.bd

Md. Aminul Islam

University of Rajshahi

Md. Nazmul Hasan

University of Rajshahi, nhasan177@gmail.com

A.K.M.Eamin Ali Akanda

University of Rajshahi, eaminakanda@yahoo.com

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Md. Armanul Haque

Associate Professor,
Department of Information Science and Library Management,
University of Rajshahi, Bangladesh. E-mail: armanul_haque@ru.ac.bd

Md. Aminul Islam,

Graduate student, Department of Information Science and Library Management, University
of Rajshahi, Bangladesh.

Md. Nazmul Hasan,

Associate Professor, Department of Information Science and Library Management,
University of Rajshahi, Bangladesh. Email: nhasan177@gmail.com

A.K.M Eamin Ali Akanda,

Department of Information Science and Library Management, University of Rajshahi,
Bangladesh. Email: eaminakanda@yahoo.com

ABSTRACT

The present study is based on the Bibliometrics analysis of the articles published in Library Philosophy and Practice (E-Journal) for the period 2014–2018. During this period, a total of 1046 scholarly papers have been published by LIS researchers around the world. The study analyzes the documents based on various bibliometric aspects like year wise contribution of articles, year wise growth of publication, average publication per author, subject wise distribution of articles, the geographical distribution of articles, authorship pattern, author productivity, degree of collaboration, reference distribution pattern and length of reference distribution. In all with an average 209.2 articles were published each year and the highest numbers (421) of articles were published in 2018. From the 35 of the world contributed countries Nigeria is in top rank with 36.33% contributions. Two authorship is leading authorship trend, and also Multi-Authored has shown the unique number of contribution with the 0.71 rates of the degree of collaboration.

Introduction

Library Philosophy and Practice (LPP) is an international journal which focuses the works on library science primarily. The ISSN is 1522-0222. It provides open access from everywhere in the world with free of cost. LPP is indexed in Library and Information Science Abstracts (LISTA), DOAJ, Library & Information Science and SCOPUS. LPP's articles are available at the websites of University of Nebraska Lincoln <http://unllib.unl.edu/LPP/lpp.htm>, the University of Idaho, <http://www.webpages.uidaho.edu/~mbolin/lpp.htm>, and the University of Nebraska, Digital Commons, <https://digitalcommons.unl.edu/libphilprac/>. The journal Library Philosophy and Practice have been started since 1998. Since July 1, 2012, Library Philosophy and Practice has been publishing only from the website University of Nebraska Lincoln Libraries' Digital Commons (LPP website, 2019). The primary research fields that the Journal of Library philosophy and practice give attention to e-resources, ICT and library, information literacy, information need and seeking behaviour, bibliometric and scientometric study, digital library, library management, and such other related areas. The contributors are mainly library professionals, researchers, teachers, students and others who want to develop their knowledge and understandings in the field of library and information science. The present study is a bibliometric study based on the articles published between the years of 2014-2018.

The term bibliometrics is a research method which is a quantitative study of different sides of the literature. It is applied to investigate the outline of publication, authorship, paper length, citation length, the geographic introduction of authors, and such related mathematical issues of papers in a journal. As a result of the bibliometric study, proper information management and organization are possible which has been now achieved the national and international appreciation. (Kannan and Thanuskodi, 2019).

Literature Review

Verma, Yadav and Singh (2018) conducted a bibliometric study of Library Philosophy and Practice (e-journal) from 2008 to 2017. A total of 1478 scholarly papers were published. It is found that the average growth rate of paper was 147.8 per year. The highest number of publications is in the year 2011 with 197(13.33%) followed by 2017 with 193(13.06%). Majority of papers during 2008-2017 in LPP are in the form of joint authorship, and 41.13% of articles are published in two authorship. From the 35 countries of the world contributed their articles in LPP during 2008-2017. With 42.23% contributions, Nigeria is in top rank while India (24.13%) and USA (9.52%) contribution stood second and third respectively. There are a total of 34907 references cited in 1478 articles from 2008-2017, and highest number of references (5619) has recorded in the year 2017.

Reddy A, (2017) worked on the Scientometric analysis of “IEEE Transactions on Cloud Computing: 2013-2016. The work was done with the downloaded 101 research articles from the journal of IEEE Transactions on Cloud Computing. The study experimented the year wise growth of the articles published, authorship pattern, length of the paper, degree of collaboration.

Shijith Kumar and Nanjunda Swamy (2016) studied on the bibliometric analysis of contents of the Journal of All India Institute of Speech and Hearing published from 1970 to 2015. The study found that that there was a trend towards intra-institutional, two-author and three author collaboration.

Verma, Devi and Brahma (2017) analyzed a bibliometric study of DESIDOC Journal of Library and Information Technology from the period of 12 years (2005-2016). The study also showed different bibliometric aspects of the journal.

Moyon and Shukla (2017) conducted a bibliometric analysis on International Research Journal of Library and Information Science during the period (2011-2015) in which a total of 218 articles were published in the journal.

Krishnamoorthy G, Ramakrishnan J, Devi S (2009) analyzed the Bibliometrics analysis of literature on diabetes during 1995-2004. The study reported that the Relative Growth Rate (RGR) was declining.

Ganganna (2017) worked on a bibliometric analysis of the Journal of Academic Librarianship for the period of 2012-2016. For conducting the study, 512 articles were recorded, and a total of 477 papers were finally selected for the study. The study discovered that 95.4% of articles were published each year. Moreover, it was that two authorship articles were found to be the largest while there were a good number of articles were three authorships.

The present study examines and analyzed various bibliometric patterns such as authorship pattern, degree of collaboration, and geographical distribution of articles. Periodicals play an essential role in scientific communication and now a day's publication of periodicals not only in print but also in electronic form, the primarily electronic form is increasing by leaps and bounds. Purpose of the study is to analyze year wise scholarly publication, the country wise productivity, to study the authorship pattern as well as to study institution wise productivity of scholarly publication and articles in the selected period 2014-2018.

Objectives of the study

The objectives of the present study are to:

1. Find out the number of contributions, year wise distribution and growth of publication during the period of study
2. Analyze the authorship pattern, authors productivity and degree of collaborations of publications
3. Find out the subject wise distribution of articles in the journal
4. Know the geographical representation in publications of LPP
5. Find out the institution wise contribution and length of the articles published in LPP
6. Find out the reference distribution pattern, authorship pattern and range of references of published papers in LPP

Methodology

The methodology applied in the present study is bibliometric analysis, which is used to study in detail the bibliographic features of the articles published in Library Philosophy and Practice (e-journal) during five years, i.e. 2014-2018. For this, the total of 1046 papers was downloaded free from the website of LPP (e-journal) (<https://digitalcommons.unl.edu/libphilprac/>) as the journal has no charge for downloading the articles. Then they are tabulated and analyzed for making observations.

Significance of the Study

Bibliometric study on the open access journal possesses significance in itself. As e-journals are most importantly concentrate on librarianship, libraries and all the areas of libraries in the modern information technology era, a study on such journal would help researchers, librarians, in their respective works, research, collection planning and building. It would benefit to journals in gaining status and recognition; in return, readers would also beget helped through this study covers necessary bibliometric analysis forms, growth of the literature study, authorship pattern analysis, degree of collaboration, country wise productivity and contribution, subject wise analysis, institution wise contribution analysis and collaborative contribution of institutions.

Findings of the study

Table-1: Year Wise Distribution of Articles

Year	No. of article	Percentage (%)	Cumulative percentage (%)
2014	155	14.82	14.82
2015	129	12.33	27.15
2016	139	13.29	40.44
2017	202	19.31	59.75
2018	421	40.25	100
Total	1046	100	

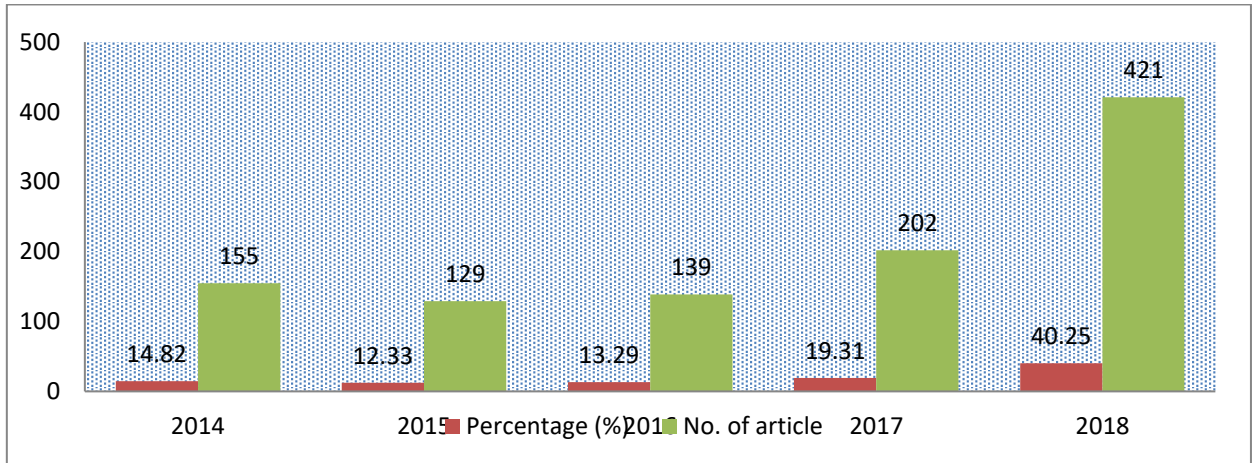


Figure 1: Year Wise Distribution of Articles

Table and figure 1 reflects the year wise distribution of articles published in the journal within the specified period (2014-2018) and shows the percentage of the no. of articles in each year. The figure also resolved that a total of 1046 research papers were published during this period with an average growth rate of 209.2 papers per year. A large number of publications found after 2015, and it continued in all later years of study. The most significant number of publications was seen in the year 2018 (421-40.25%) which was 202(19.31%) in 2017. The lowest amount of publication is in 2015 with only 129 (12.33%) publications followed by 2016 with 139 (13.29%).

It is evident from the figure shown above that number of the article in each year in this journal has given a tendency to measure the growth of the literature. In the first year of the taken study period, no. of articles are 155 but the next year has to decrease to 129 articles. After that to the following three years, it is gradually increased and reached 421 articles in last year

Table-2: Year-wise growth of publication

Year	Publications	Growth Rate	Average Growth Rate (%)
2014	155	0	0
2015	129	-26	-16.77
2016	139	10	7.75
2017	202	63	45.32
2018	421	219	108.42
Total	1046	266	Average=28.94

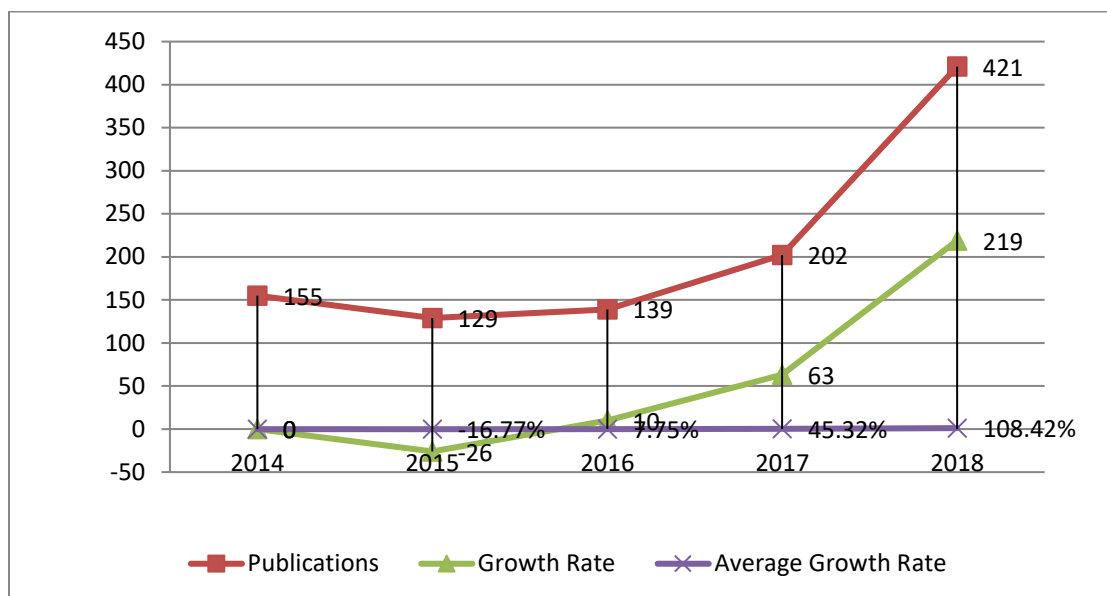


Figure-2: Year-wise growth of publication

The number of documents published during 2014-2018 was displayed in Table and Figure-2, which shows that a variation in publication. A total of 1046 articles published with the annual average growth rate of 28.94%. By observation, it found that the year 2016 to 2017 growth is positive, but in the year 2015 growth is negative. The highest growth rate is recorded in the year 2018 with growth rate 108.42% followed in the year 2017 with 45.32%. The growth rate is calculated with the help of following formula:

Where,

r = Publication growth in percentage

P0 = Number of publication in the base year

P1 = Number of publication in the present year

$$r = \frac{P1 - P0}{P0} \times 100$$

Table 3: Authorship pattern

SI. No.	Author Type	No. of Articles	Total No. of Author	Percentage (%) of Articles	Percentage (%) of the Author
1	Single	299	299	28.59	13.45
2	Two	415	830	39.67	37.34
3	Three	257	771	24.57	34.68

4	Four	58	232	5.54	10.44
5	Five	13	65	1.24	2.92
6	Six	2	12	0.19	0.54
7	Seven	2	14	0.19	0.63
Total		1046	2223	100	100

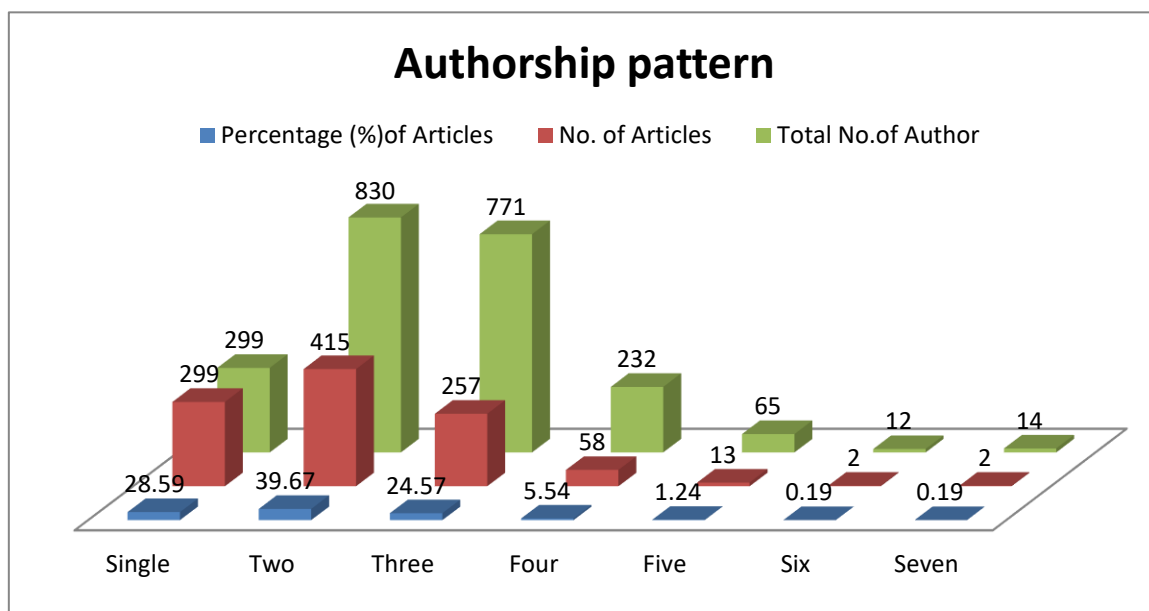


Figure- 3: Authorship pattern

Table and figure-3 show the authorship pattern of articles published in LPP journal and also reveals that the majority of publications in LPP are in the form of collaborative work and the majority of collaboration is between two and three authors. There are total 1046 papers published during 2014-2018 by 2223 contributors out of which 28.59% articles are a single author with a share of 13.45% authors share and 39.67% articles are two authors with a share of 37.34%. In the pattern of authorship, analysis found that 415 articles contributed by the two authors, followed by single author contributions (299), three authors contributions (257), four authors with (58), five authors with (13), six authors with (2) and seven authors with (2) contributions

Table-4: Year-wise authorship pattern of articles

SI No.	Year	Single	Two	Three	Four	Five	Six	Seven	Total
1	2014	55	55	35	7	2	1		155

2	2015	37	52	30	8	2			129
3	2016	39	50	41	8			1	139
4	2017	56	88	45	9	4			202
5	2018	112	170	106	26	5	1	1	421
Total		299	415	257	58	13	2	2	1046

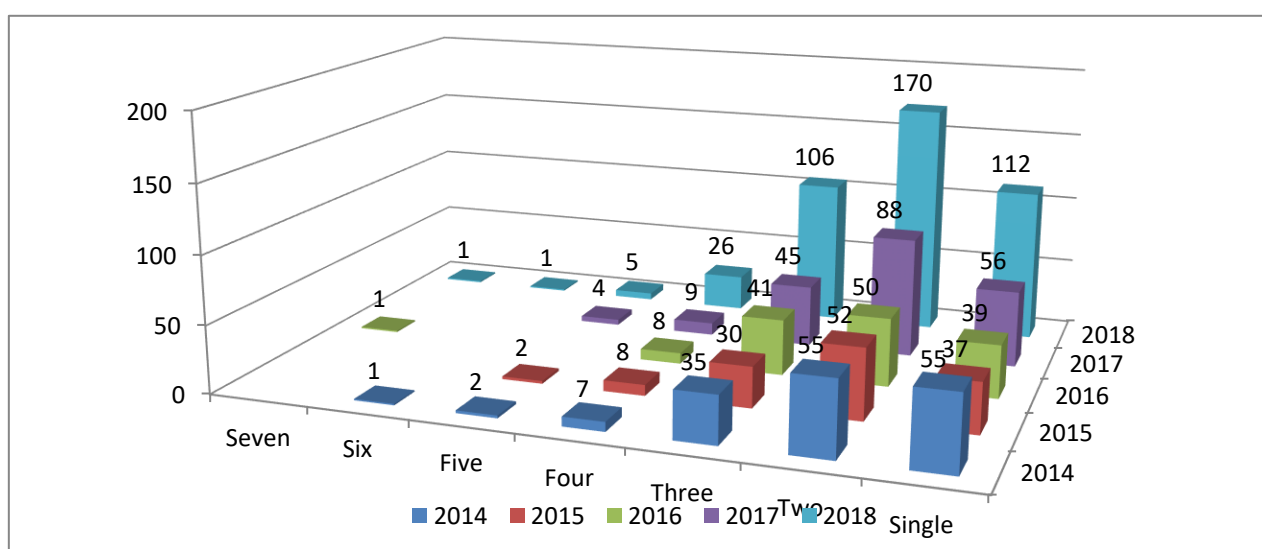


Figure-4: Year-wise authorship pattern of articles

Table and Figure-4 give a better understanding of the year-wise authorship pattern of articles published in LPP journal during 2014-2018. One thousand forty-six articles were published during this period. 112 articles published by single author, 170 articles were published by two authors, three authors published 106 articles, and 26 articles were published by four authors, 5 articles published by five authors, in the year 2014 and 2018 same amount of articles published by six authors, in 2016 and 2018 same amount of articles published by seven authors.

Table-5: Degree of collaboration

Sl. No.	Year	single Author publications	Multiple Authored Publication Nm	Nm+Ns	Degree of Collaboration DC=Nm/(Nm+Ns)

1	2014	55	100	155	0.65
2	2015	37	92	129	0.71
3	2016	39	100	139	0.72
4	2017	56	146	202	0.72
5	2018	112	309	421	0.73
Total		299	747	1046	0.71

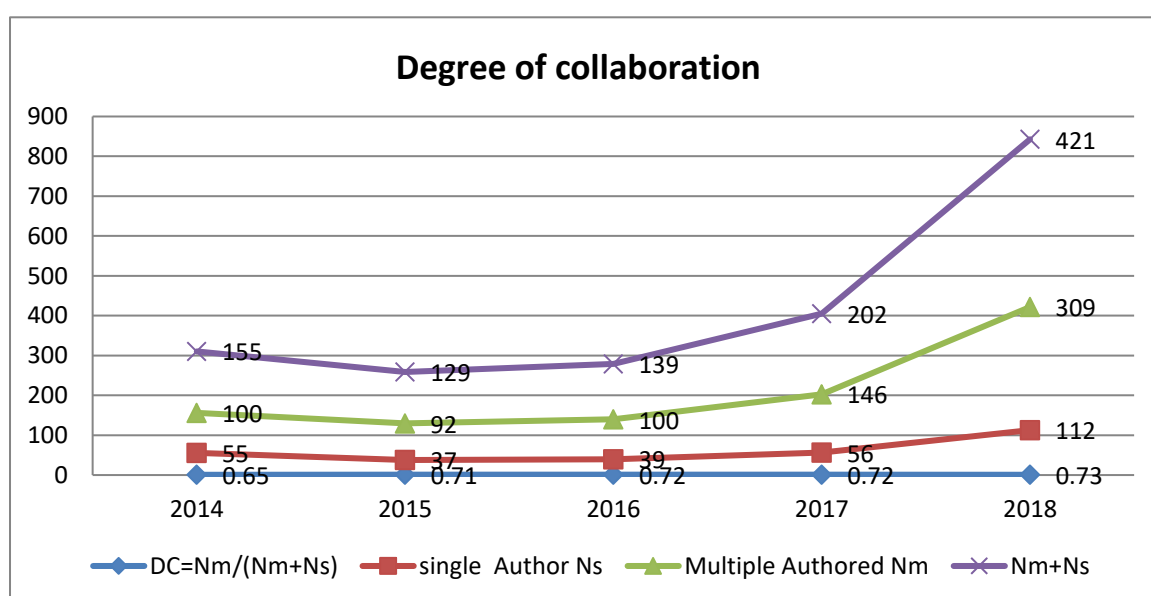


Figure-5: Degree of collaboration

The figure described above shows the year-wise degree of collaboration (C) from 2014 to 2018 in the journal Library Philosophy and Practice. In the year 2014 C (degree of collaboration) is 0.65, and it (C) is increasing every year as shown in the figure, in the year 2015 it is 0.71, in 2016 and 2017 we saw an equal rate of (degree of collaboration) which is 0.72, in the year 2018 we found the highest rate of C (degree of collaboration) which is 0.73. The average rate of the degree of collaboration for the period of 2014 to 2018 is 0.71 which is a reasonable rate of collaboration.

Table- 6: Authors productivity

Serial No.	Year of Publication	Number of Publications	Number of Authors	Average Publication Per Author(%)
1	2014	155	314	0.49
2	2015	129	273	0.47
3	2016	139	301	0.46
4	2017	202	423	0.48
5	2018	421	912	0.46
Total		1046	2223	0.472

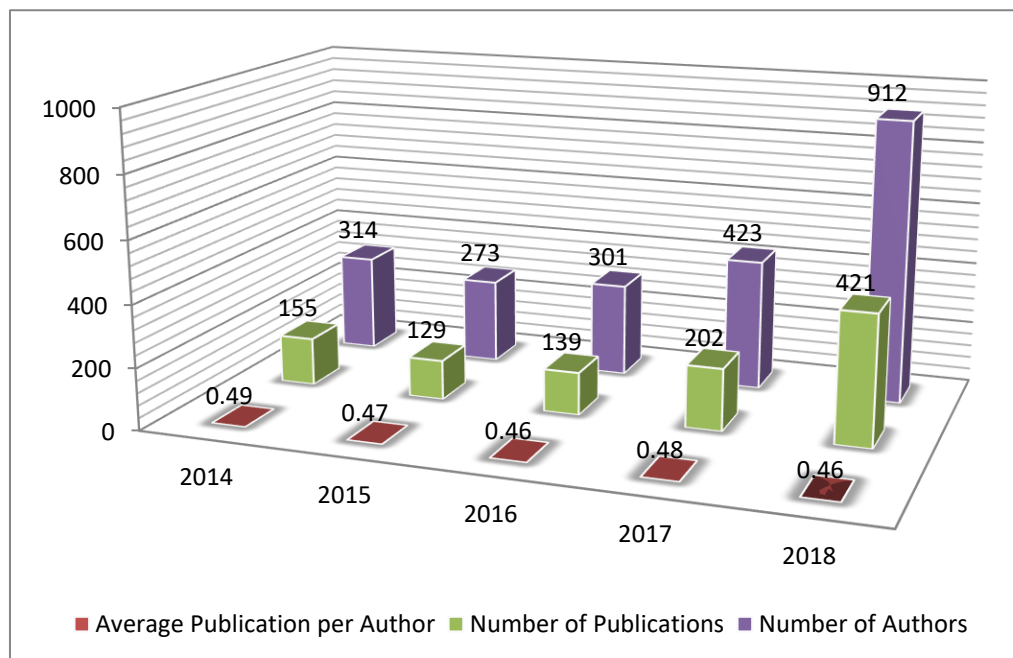


Figure-6: Authors productivity

Table -6 and Figure -6 shows the author's productivity in LPP journal from 2014-2018. The overall average of contribution each author is (0.472) from 1046 publications with 2223 authors. The highest average number of publication per authors (0.49) was recorded in the year of 2014, and the lowest quantity of average contributions (0.46) of each author logged in the year 2016 and 2018.

Table-7: Subject distribution of articles

Serial no	Subject	Total	Rank
1	Library Resources and Services	94	1
2	Bibliometrics analysis	84	2
3	Library Profession	78	3
4	Information Literacy	72	4
5	Scientometric Study	71	5
6	Information Need & Seeking Behavior	66	6
7	E-Resources	53	8
8	Academic Libraries	47	7
9	Impact / Use of ICT	45	9
10	Library Management	37	10
11	Others	33	11
12	Digital Library	32	12
13	Library and Information Science	31	13
14	Citation Analysis	30	14
15	User Studies	28	15
16	Usage of Internet & Social Media	28	15
17	Public Libraries	24	16
18	Repository	23	17
19	Information Resources	22	18
20	Information Marketing	18	19
21	Qualitative Analysis	16	20
22	Role of Libraries	16	20
23	Acquisition & Collection Development	12	21

24	Webometric	12	21
25	Library and Internet	10	22
26	Metadata	10	22
27	National Libraries	9	23
28	Library & Information Usages	9	23
29	Research Productivity of Academic Staff	7	24
30	knowledge Sharing	6	25
31	Distance / mobile learning	5	26
32	Knowledge management	5	26
33	OPAC	5	26
34	Special Libraries	4	27
35	Healthcare service	4	27
Total		1046	

This table represents the titles which are the subcategories of library and information science disciplines. These Subjects that dig out are, Library Resources and Services, Bibliometrics analysis, Library Profession, Information Literacy, Scientometric Study, Information Need & Seeking Behavior, E-Resources, Academic Libraries, Impact / Use of ICT, Library Management, Others, Digital Library, Library and Information Science, Citation Analysis, User Studies, Usage of Internet & Social Media, Public Libraries, Repository, Information Resources, Information Marketing, Qualitative Analysis, Role of Libraries, Acquisition & Collection Development, Webometric, Library and Internet, Metadata, National Libraries, Library & Information Usages, Research Productivity of Academic Staff, knowledge Sharing, Distance / mobile learning, Knowledge management, OPAC, Special Libraries, Healthcare service

Most of the articles (94) have come under the title 'Library resources and services'. It secures the first rank among other subjects. 'Bibliometrics' analysis subject has achieved the second rank with 84 articles. Seventy-eight articles came under the Library profession subject and placed at third rank. Seventy-two articles are written under information literacy and ranked at four. 'Scientometric Study' topic is listed at five and possess 71 articles. Information Need & Seeking Behavior subject is ranked at six with 66 articles. E-Resources subject has secured rank seven with 53 articles. Academic Libraries subject placed eight with 47 articles. Articles 45 are on Impact/use of ICT subject, and it put at nine ranks. Library management subject is ranked at ten with 37 articles.

Table-8: Institution wise contribution of articles

SI No.	Name of Institution	No. of Article	Percentage
1	Universities	875	83.65
2	Colleges	71	6.79
3	Research Organization	27	2.58
4	Other Institutions	73	6.98
Total		1046	100

Table 8 represents institution wise contribution where it is found that universities contributed a majority of the articles 875 (83.65%). Other institutions follow this with 73 (6.98%) — moreover, colleges 71 (6.79%) articles. The remaining 27 (2.58%) articles were contributed by Research organization.

Table-9: Geographical distribution of contributions during the year of 2014-2018

SI No.	Name of the Country	Number of Articles	Percentage	Rank
1	NIGERIA	380	36.33	1
2	INDIA	314	30.01	2
3	IRAN	69	6.6	3
4	GHANA	68	6.5	4
5	USA	61	5.83	5
6	SOUTH AFRICA	26	2.49	6
7	PAKISTHAN	24	2.29	7
8	MALAYSIA	17	1.62	8
9	TANZANIA	14	1.34	9
10	INDONESIA	11	1.05	10
11	SAUDI ARABIA	10	0.96	11
12	BANGLADESH	6	0.57	12
13	UGANDA	6	0.57	12
14	KENYA	6	0.57	12
15	ZIMBABWE	3	0.29	13
16	PHILIPPINES	3	0.29	13
17	MALAWI	3	0.29	13
18	AUSTRALIA	2	0.19	14
19	ZAMBIA	2	0.19	14
20	U. K.	2	0.19	14
21	SWEDEN	2	0.19	14

22	SRILANKA	2	0.19	14
23	FIJI	2	0.19	14
24	SPAIN	2	0.1	14
25	REPUBLIC OF KOREA	1	0.1	15
26	AFGHANISTAN	1	0.1	15
27	OMAN	1	0.1	15
28	BOTSWANA	1	0.1	15
29	CHINA	1	0.1	15
30	RUSSIA	1	0.1	15
31	CAMEROON	1	0.1	15
32	JORDAN	1	0.1	15
33	WEST INDIES	1	0.1	15
34	ITALY	1	0.1	15
35	ETHIOPIA	1	0.1	15
TOTAL		1046	100	

Table 9 Shows the geographical distribution of papers published in LPP during 2014-2018 and found that LIS professional across the 35 countries contributed to this journal which reflects the visibility and acceptability of LPP journal. Among the contributing country, Nigeria got the first rank with 380(36.33%) publication among all country followed by India with 314 (30.01%) contributions and secured second positions, the third rank occupied by Iran with 69(6.6%) contributions and Ghana with 68 (6.5%) and USA with 61(5.83%) publication secured 4th and 5th position respectively.

Table 10: Length of Articles

Pages	No of Article	Percentage
0-10	49	4.68
11-20	589	56.31
21-30	302	28.88
31-40	71	6.79
41-50	18	1.72
51-60	11	1.05
more than 60	6	0.57
Total	1046	100

Table 10 and Figure 8 reflects the length of the articles published in LPP journal during the period 2014-2018 and resolved that 1046 articles published during the period and most 589(56.31%)articles are 11-12 pages long, followed by 302 (28.88%) articles with 21-30 pages, 71 (6.79%) articles with 31-40 pages,49(4.68%) articles with 0-10 pages,18(1.72%) articles with 41-50 pages,11(1.05%) articles with 51-60 pages and the lowest 6 (0.57 %) articles have the length of more than 60 pages published.

Table 11: Reference distribution pattern

Sl. No.	Year	No. of Articles	No. of References
1	2014	155	3910
2	2015	129	3755
3	2016	139	4812
4	2017	202	5713
5	2018	421	10354
Total		1046	28544

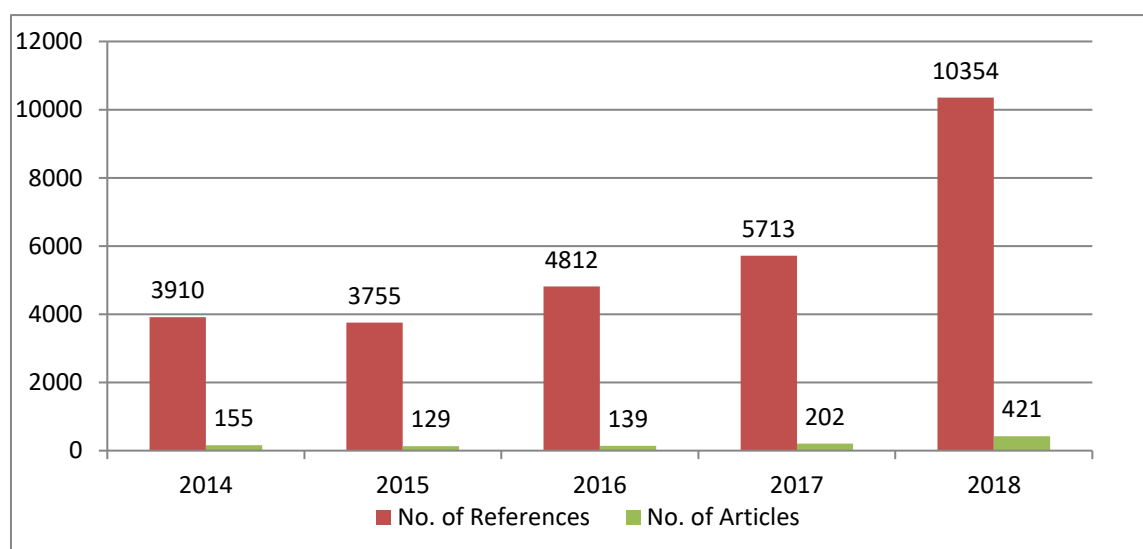


Figure- 9: Reference distribution pattern

Table-11 and figure-9 shows the reference distribution pattern in the articles published in the LPP journal and found that references were cited in 1046 articles during the period of study. Significant year-wise growth was observed except 2015 when total reference numbers decrease in comparison to the previous year. The highest no. of

references (10354) has recorded in the year 2018; in the year 2017 has recorded the second most top references (5713), while in the year 2015 has recorded the lowest 3755 references.

Table 12: Length of References

References	No of Article	Per cent
0-10	127	12.14
11-20	336	32.12
21-30	260	24.86
31-40	148	14.15
41-50	87	8.31
51-60	38	3.63
More than 60	50	4.78
Total	1046	100

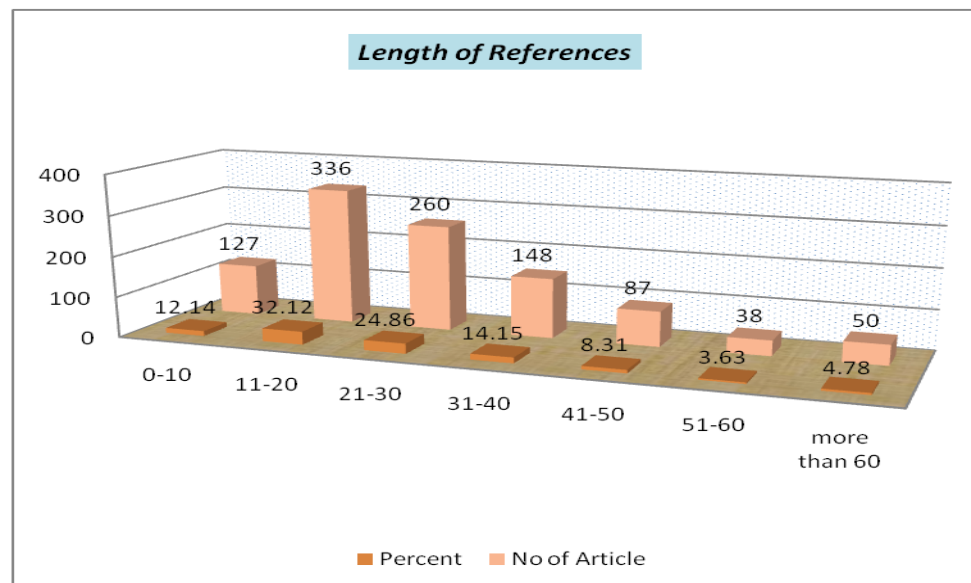


Figure 10: Length of References

Table-12 and Figure 10 shows per article references in the paper published in LPP and reveals that majority of papers 336 (32.12%) had 11-20 references while 260(24.86%)

articles have 21-30 references and 148(14.15%) articles having 31-40 references. It is also notable that 127(12.14%) articles have 0-10 references, 87(8.31%) articles have 41-50 references, 50(4.78%) articles have more than 60 references, and even 38(3.63%) articles have 51-60 references.

Discussion

After the analysis of data derived from the journal *Library Philosophy and Practice* for the period 2014 to 2018, here are presented following interesting facts, findings or we can say in more formal word results of the study that is given below:

1. Every year the journal has a unique number of papers and every year number of articles is found in increasing order except the year 2015. In the year 2018 highest number of paper was contributed, and in the year 2015, the lowest quantity of articles was contributed in the journal *Library Philosophy and Practice*. From 2014 to 2018 average no. of the article are 209.2.
2. Two author papers were 415 with the highest percentage (39.67%) in the whole period (2014-2018), or two authorship is predominating among single-authored, three authored and more than three authored papers.
3. Majority of publications during 2014-2018 in LPP are in the form of joint authorship, and 37.34% articles are published in two authorship and 34.68% articles in three authorship pattern while 13.45 contribution is in single authorship
4. The degree of collaboration in the journal *Library philosophy and practice* is ranged from 0.65-0.73 during the period 2014 to 2018. The average rate of the degree of collaboration is 0.71.
5. Most of the articles (94) were written over 'library resources and services' subject, 84 articles were written on Bibliometric analysis, 78 articles on Library profession, 72 on information literacy, 71 papers on Scientometric study, 66 articles on Information need & seeking behaviour and 53 articles on E-resources.
6. The journal *Library Philosophy and Practice* are enriched with the scholarly contribution of 35 countries across the world. These 35 Countries Nigeria is the dominating country (380 articles) according to country wise distribution of papers or articles during the period of 2014 to 2018. Top five countries with a maximum number of contribution are- Nigeria (380papers), India (314 papers), Iran (69 papers), Ghana (68 papers), USA (61 papers).
7. There are a total of 28544 references cited in 1046 articles from 2014-2018, and highest number of references (10354) has recorded in the

year 2018. Majority of the published articles (32.12%) have 11-20 reference.

Conclusion

Bibliometrics is a required field of information science because it represents a unique set of techniques for determination of various scientific indicators, evaluation of scientific output and selection of a journal for libraries, monitoring and analysis of e-resources, management of knowledge in social and organizational contexts.

The Journal of Library Philosophy and Practice (e-journal) is one of the top ranking open access journals and by findings of this study also prove it. The LPP journal has published 1046 articles during 2014-2018 and a vibrant growth rate and the majority of a paper published in joint authorship pattern and having 0.71 average degrees of collaboration. The geographical coverage of journal is high with 35 country coverage and Nigeria, India and Iran are respectively top most countries to contribute to this journal. There are a total of 28554 references cited in 1046 article, and the majority of papers have 11-20 references.

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