

A BIBLIOMETRIC STUDY ON OPEN ACCESS JOURNALS IN LIBRARY SCIENCE DISCIPLINE IN DOAJ

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Abstract *There are many online databases available on internet that provides open access journals of various disciplines. The facility to access of these journals that is freely available on internet should be launch in the libraries. The present study deals with open access journals accessible from Directory of Open Access Journals (DOAJ) in the subject of library science. Analyzed based on country, keywords, frequency, etc. The analysis indicates that there was only one open access journal i.e. Bulletin of the Medical Library Association was available before 1990 in the field of library and information science (LIS). Only 19.04% journals have their EISSN. Almost one fourth journals were publishing on half yearly basis.*

Keyword: *Bibliometric Study, Open Access, DOAJ, Library Science*

INTRODUCTION

The process of scholarly communication has changed through history. Although the mode of delivery of scholarly communication has changed from the oral to the written to the printed and now to the electronic, the form and function of scholarly communication means have remained essentially unchanged in the last three centuries. One of the most important means of scholarly communication is journal. The main goal of these scholarly open access electronic journals is to bridge the gap between digitally divided scholars by solving the pricing and permission crises that have imbalanced the scholarly communication process. In LIS like all other disciplines, a considerable amount of literature is now being published in open access electronic journals (e-journals). It may be interesting to investigate the impact of LIS Open Access (OA) e-journals in terms of articles, authors, institutions, countries, subjects, cited references and to identify the core OA e-journals in LIS.¹

Many journals have been subsidized ever since the beginnings of scientific journals. It is common for those countries with developing higher educational and research facilities to subsidize the publication of the nation's scientific and academic researchers, and even to provide for others to publish in such journals, to build up the prestige of these journals and their visibility. Such subsidies have sometimes been partial, to reduce the subscription price, or total, for those readers in the respective countries, but are now often universal. The first digital-only, free journals (eventually to be called "open-access journals") were published on the Internet in the late 1980s.² In recent years free, on line journals, many of them open access and peer-reviewed, have begun to both challenge and complement traditional

academic publishing. Open access to scholarly information has been a hot topic for debate among librarians, scholars, and publishers over the last few years. The rising development of online open access journals in various disciplines is evident of various online directories. DOAJ is one of the most popular directory among them.

The Directory of Open Access Journals is hosted and maintained by Lund University Libraries - Head Office. The aim of the Directory of Open Access Journals is to increase the visibility and ease of use of open access scientific and scholarly journals thereby promoting their increased usage and impact. The Directory aims to be comprehensive and cover all open access scientific and scholarly journals that use a quality control system to guarantee the content. It covers all languages. Resources will be catalogued on journal title level.³ On 10 July 2012 at 11:57 AM there were 7951 Journals, 3885 Journals searchable at article level and 845715 articles in DOAJ databases.⁴

Objectives

- To identify the EISSN/ ISSN assign to Library Science journals in DOAJ.
- To check the availability of the free e-journals on Library science in DOAJ
- To know the country wise journals publication in DOAJ related to Library Science.
- To find the frequency of Library Science journals publication in DOAJ
- To know the starting year of each journal of Library Science in DOAJ

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Table 1: List of E-journals of Library science Discipline in DOAJ

S.No.	Name	ISSN/ EISSN	Start Year	Country
	Bulletin of the Medical Library Association	257338	1911	United States
	Issues in Science and Technology Librarianship : a quarterly publication of the Science and Technology Section, Association of College and Research Libraries	10921206	1991	United States
	Information Technology and Disabilities	10735127	1994	United States
	Technology Electronic Reviews, TER	15339165	1994	United States
	Bulletin of the American Society for Information Science and Technology	19316550	1995	United States
	D-Lib Magazine	10829873	1995	United States
	Information Research: an international electronic journal	13681613	1995	United Kingdom
	Journal of Electronic Publishing	10802711/ 108027711	1995	United States
	Ariadne	13613197/ 13613200	1996	United Kingdom
	Chinese Librarianship: an International Electronic Journal	10894667	1996	United States
	Libres: Library and Information Science Research Electronic Journal	10586768	1996	Australia
	Virginia Libraries	10869751	1996	United States
	Cybermetrics International Journal of Scientometrics, Informetrics and Bibliometrics	11375019	1997	Spain
	Informing Science The International Journal of an Emerging Trans-discipline	15479684/ 15214672	1997	United States
	Journal of Digital Information	13687506	1997	United States
	Journal of the Association for History and Computing	19375905	1998	United States
	Library Philosophy and Practice	15220222	1998	United States
	School Library Media Research	15234320	1998	United States
	Journal of Medical Internet Research	14388871	1999	Canada
	Journal of southern academic and special librarianship	1525321X	1999	Canada
	Liber Quarterly : The Journal of European Research Libraries	14355205	1999	Netherlands
	South African Journal of Information Management	1560683X	1999	South Africa
	Annals of Library & Information Studies	9725423/ 9752404	2002	India
	Journal of the Medical Library Association	15365050	2002	United States
	North Carolina Libraries	292540	2002	United States
	Electronic Journal of Knowledge Management	14794411	2003	United Kingdom
	Sprouts : Working Papers on Information Systems	15356078	2003	Netherlands
	The Bonefolder : an e-Journal for the Bookbinder and Book Artist	15556565	2004	United States
	Issues in Informing Science and Information Technology	15475840/ 15475867	2004	United States
	Journal of eLiteracy	17454360	2004	United Kingdom
	Webology	1735188X	2004	Iran
	Online Journal of the Map and Geography Round Table of the American Library Association. Series A	15533247	2005	United States
	Online Journal of the Map and Geography Round Table of the American Library Association. Series B	15533255	2005	United States
	Interdisciplinary Journal of e-Learning and Learning Objects	15522210/ 15522237	2005	United States

International Journal of Legal Information	7311265	2005	United States
Journal of the European Association for Health Information and Libraries	18410715	2005	Netherlands
The journal of the Rutgers University Library.	360473	2005	United States
Electronic Journal of Health Informatics	14464381	2006	Australia
Evidence Based Library and Information Practice	1715720X	2006	Canada
Interdisciplinary Journal of Information, Knowledge, and Management	15551229/ 15551237	2006	United States
International Journal of Digital Curation	17468256	2006	United Kingdom
International Journal of Doctoral Studies	15568881/ 15568873	2006	United States
Journal of Information and Organizational Sciences	18463312/ 18469418	2006	Croatia
Journal of Information, Information Technology, and Organizations	15571319/ 15571327	2006	United States
Library Student Journal	19316100	2006	United States
Pakistan Journal of Library and Information Science	16804465	2006	Pakistan
Code4Lib Journal	19405758	2007	United States
Communications in Information Literacy	19335954	2007	United States
European Journal of ePractice	1988625X	2007	Spain
Journal of Health Informatics in Developing Countries	11784407	2007	New Zealand
Journal of Information Literacy	17505968	2007	United Kingdom
Library and Information Research : Research into Practice for Information & Library Services	17561086	2007	United Kingdom
Urban Library Journal	19449674/ 19449682	2007	United States
Theological Librarianship	19378904	2008	United States
Collaborative Librarianship	19437528	2009	United States
Journal of Information Architecture	19037260	2009	Denmark
New Knowledge Environments	19236328	2009	Canada
B Sides	21556687	2010	United States
Journal of Library Innovation	1947525X	2010	United States
Information Technology and Libraries	7309295/ 21635226	2011	United States
International Research: Journal of Library and Information Science	22490213	2011	India
Kansas Library Association College and University Libraries Section Proceedings	2160942X	2011	United States
Practical Academic Librarianship	19470037	2011	United States

Table-1 shows the EISSN/ISSN, starting year of the journal and country name of the journals. User can easily estimated the oldest and newest journal and other related information to a particular country

Research Methodology

The data was collected from the DOAJ website (<http://www.doaj.org>) is accessed for the present study then created tables and graphs that are presenting the findings of the

study. 128 e-journals on Library Science were found out in DOAJ website which was accessible till 07.05.12 in various languages. Out of these 128 e-journals, 63 e-journals on Library Science that were publishing in English language are taken for the present study those are analyzed by name of country, frequency of publication, starting year of publication, charging publication fee etc. Data collected were analyzed using frequency counts and percentages.

Table-2 depicts important keywords for searching e-journals on library science in DOAJ.

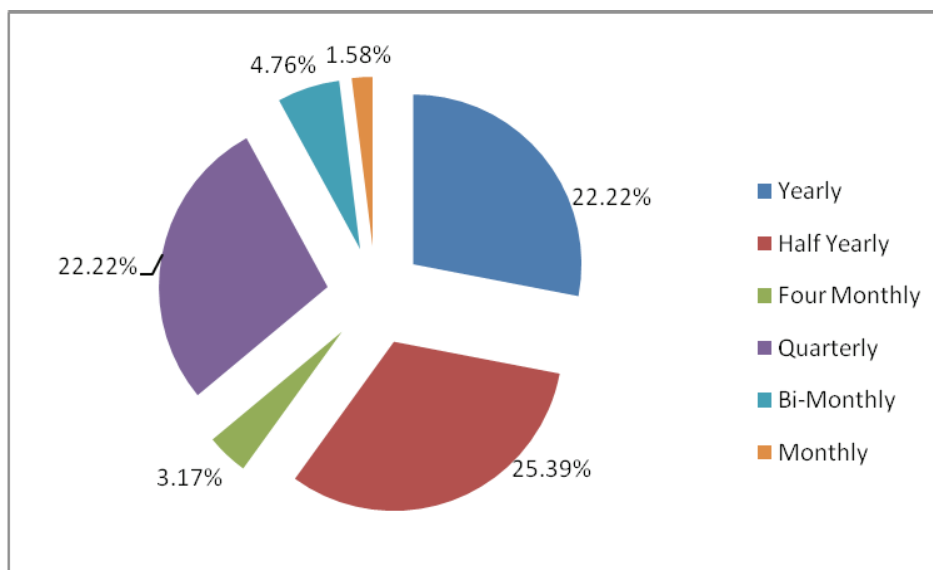
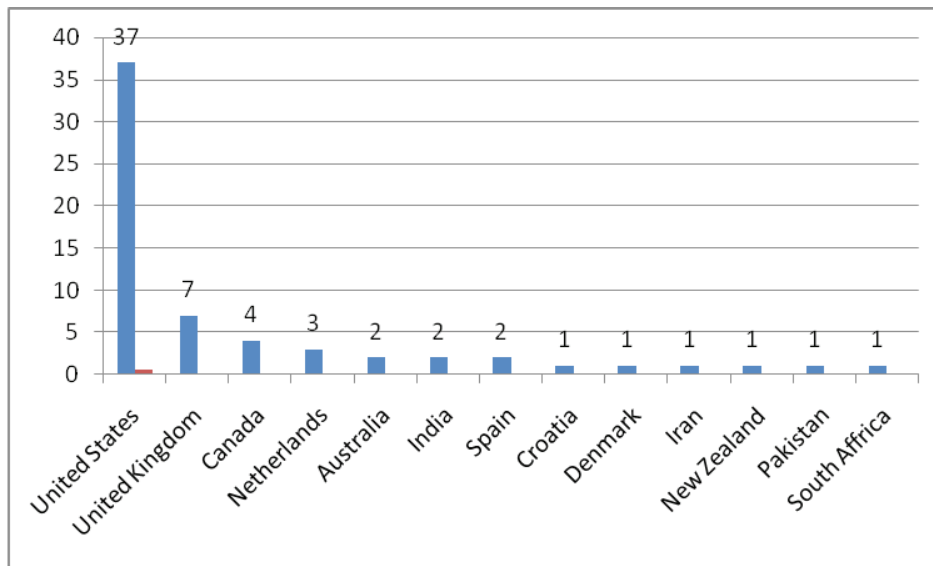
Table 2: Subject Keywords

S. No.	Name	Keywords
	Bulletin of the Medical Library Association	health sciences, librarianship
	Issues in Science and Technology Librarianship : a quarterly publication of the Science and Technology Section, Association of College and Research Libraries	library and information science
	Information Technology and Disabilities	information technology, disability, disabilities, education
	Technology Electronic Reviews, TER	information technology
	Bulletin of the American Society for Information Science and Technology	library and information science, technology
	D-Lib Magazine	library and information science
	Information Research: an international electronic journal	library and information science
	Journal of Electronic Publishing	library and information science, electronic publishing
	Ariadne	library and information science
	Chinese Librarianship: an International Electronic Journal	library and information science
	Libres: Library and Information Science Research Electronic Journal	library and information science
	Virginia Libraries	library and information services, librarianship
	Cybermetrics International Journal of Scientometrics, Informetrics and Bibliometrics	library and information science, scientometrics, bibliometrics, informetrics, Internet
	Informing Science The International Journal of an Emerging Transdiscipline	library and information science, journalism, informing science
	Journal of Digital Information	library and information science
	Journal of the Association for History and Computing	history, information science
	Library Philosophy and Practice	library and information science
	School Library Media Research	library and information science, school libraries
	Journal of Medical Internet Research	medicine, Internet
	Journal of southern academic and special librarianship	library and information science
	Liber Quarterly : The Journal of European Research Libraries	European Research Libraries, European cultural heritage, research library networks, information services
	South African Journal of Information Management	information management theory, information management technologies, knowledge management, competitive intelligence, education, business
	Annals of Library & Information Studies	documentation, information systems, bibliometrics, scientometrics
	Journal of the Medical Library Association	health sciences, librarianship
	North Carolina Libraries	libraries, librarianship, media centers, academic libraries
	Electronic Journal of Knowledge Management	knowledge management
	Sprouts : Working Papers on Information Systems	information technology, information environments, information infrastructures, socio-technical design, management information systems, information management
	The Bonefolder : an e-Journal for the Bookbinder and Book Artist	bookbinding, book arts, decorative techniques, education

	Issues in Informing Science and Information Technology	informing science, information technology, transdisciplinary
	Journal of eLiteracy	e-literacy
	Webology	information dissemination, communication processes, World Wide Web
	Online Journal of the Map and Geography Round Table of the American Library Association. Series A	maps, cartography, libraries, geography
	Online Journal of the Map and Geography Round Table of the American Library Association. Series B	maps, cartography, libraries, geography
	Interdisciplinary Journal of e-Learning and Learning Objects	knowledge, learning objects, e-learning
	International Journal of Legal Information	library and information science, librarianship, law libraries, legal literature, legal information research
	Journal of the European Association for Health Information and Libraries	health information, medical libraries
	The journal of the Rutgers University Library.	history of libraries, history of books, New Jersey history
	Electronic Journal of Health Informatics	health informatics, e-health, information technology, health care
	Evidence Based Library and Information Practice	evidence-based librarianship, evidence-based practice
	Interdisciplinary Journal of Information, Knowledge, and Management	information technology, information management, knowledge management, organizational learning
	International Journal of Digital Curation	digital curation, digital preservation, digital access
	International Journal of Doctoral Studies	informing science, information systems, information technology, information science, information security, IT education
	Journal of Information and Organizational Sciences	information systems, communication
	Journal of Information, Information Technology, and Organizations	information systems research
	Library Student Journal	library, information science
	Pakistan Journal of Library and Information Science	library and information science, Pakistan libraries
	Code4Lib Journal	library technology innovation
	Communications in Information Literacy	information literacy research
	European Journal of ePractice	eGovernment, eInclusion, eHealth, good practice exchange
	Journal of Health Informatics in Developing Countries	information science, medicine, health care
	Journal of Information Literacy	information literacy
	Library and Information Research : Research into Practice for Information & Library Services	librarianship, information science, evidence-based practice
	Urban Library Journal	urban academic libraries, librarianship
	Theological Librarianship	theology, librarianship, library, religion
	Collaborative Librarianship	libraries, librarianship, collaboration, cooperation
	Journal of Information Architecture	information architecture, shared information environments, interdisciplinary studies
	New Knowledge Environments	digital humanities, interface design, user experience, information literacy, information management
	B Sides	library and information science, librarianship, digital libraries, Internet

Journal of Library Innovation	libraries, academic libraries, public libraries, special libraries, creative librarianship, organizational innovation
Information Technology and Libraries	library and information science, library automation, information systems
International Research: Journal of Library and Information Science	library and information science, digital libraries
Kansas Library Association College and University Libraries Section Proceedings	library and information science, research libraries, academic libraries, university libraries, college libraries
Practical Academic Librarianship	academic libraries

Data Analysis



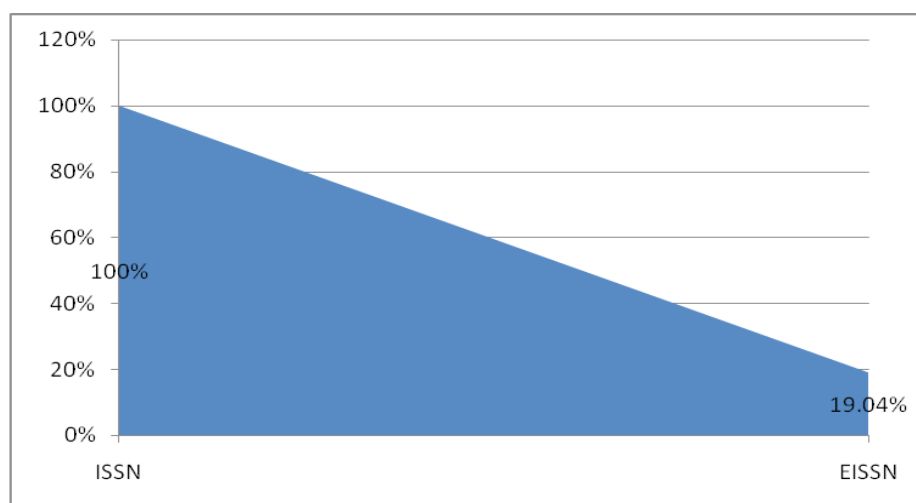
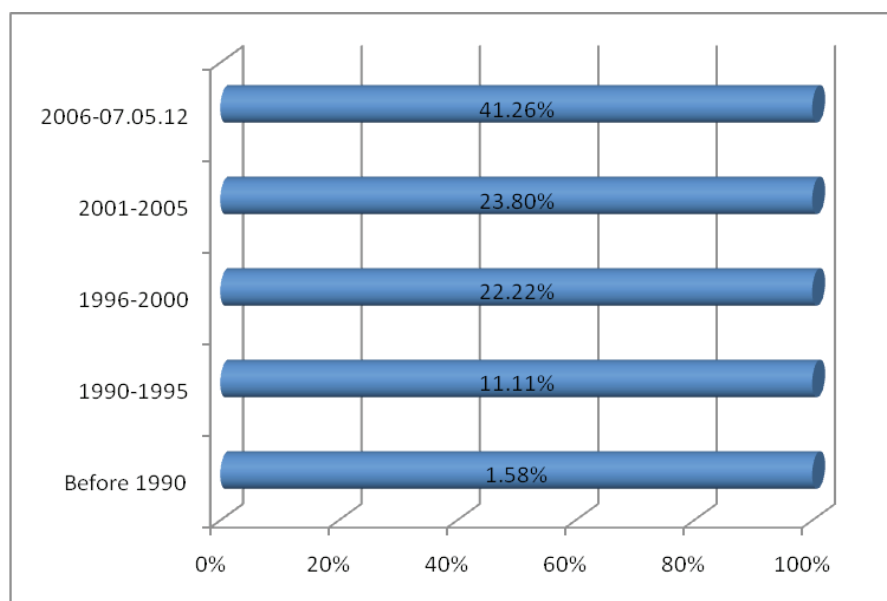


Table-3 reveals the name of country wise allotment of open access journals. United States is publishing highest number of e-journals i.e. 37 (58.73%) followed by United Kingdom 7 (11.11%), Canada 4 (6.34%), Netherlands 3 (4.76%), Australia, India and Spain 2(3.17%) and Croatia, Denmark, Iran, New Zealand, Pakistan and South Affrica 1(1.58%)

Table-4 depicts that 14 (22.22%) journals published yearly whereas 16(25.39%) journals are published on half yearly basis. 2 (3.17%) journals are published on tri-annually basis while 14 (22.22%) journals are published on quarterly basis. 3(4.76%) journals are published on bi-monthly basis and there is only one journal that is published on monthly basis. 12 (19.04%) journals website have ambiguous information regarding their periodicity including some journals sites were not working properly.

Table 3: Country-wise Classification

Country Name	Frequency	Percentage
United States	37	58.73%
United Kingdom	7	11.11%
Canada	4	6.34%
Netherlands	3	4.76%
Australia	2	3.17%
India	2	3.17%
Spain	2	3.17%
Croatia	1	1.58%
Denmark	1	1.58%
Iran	1	1.58%
New Zealand	1	1.58%
Pakistan	1	1.58%
South Affrica	1	1.58%

Table 4: Frequency of the Journal

Frequency of Publication	Frequency	Percentage
Yearly	14	22.22%
Half Yearly	16	25.39%
Tri-Annually (Four Monthly)	2	3.17%
Quarterly	14	22.22%
Bi-Monthly	3	4.76%
Monthly	1	1.58%

Table 5: Year of Commencing the Journal

Periodicity	Frequency	Percentage
Before 1990	1	1.58%
1990-1995	7	11.11%
1996-2000	14	22.22%
2001-2005	15	23.80%
2006-07.05.12	26	41.26%

Table-5 shows each open access journal starting year of publication. Only one journal is published in 1911 before 1990. After that 7 Journal was published during 1990-1995, 14 Journal published during 1996-2000, 15 Journal published during the 2001-2005 and 26 Journal published from 2006 to till date.

Table 6: Allotment of Issn/eIssn

Online Number	Frequency	Percentage
ISSN	63	100%
EISSN	12	19.04%

Table-6 shows the information regarding International Standard Serial Number and Electronic International Standard Serial Number. It reveals that all the 63 journals have ISSN but only 12 journals have both EISSN and ISSN.

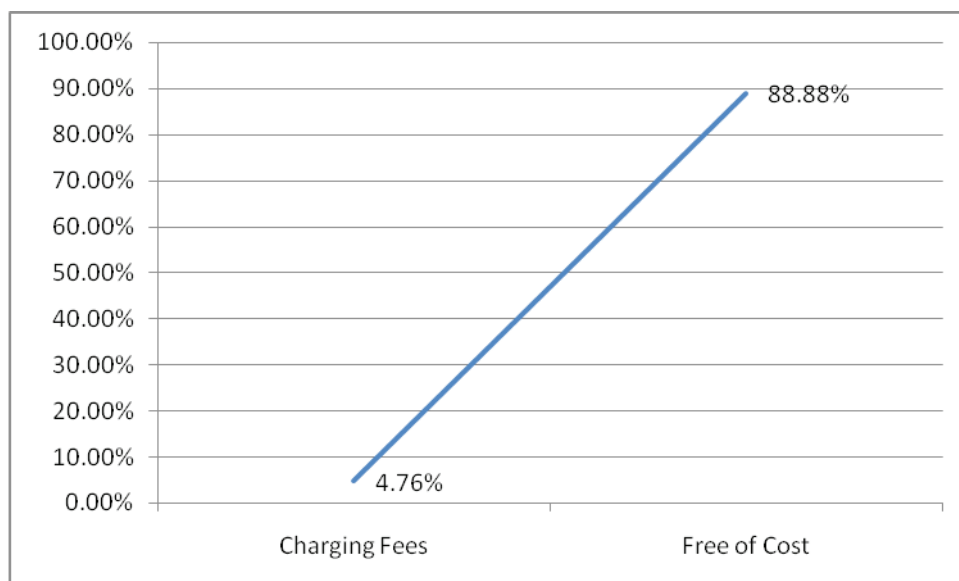
Table-7 evaluates the information regarding Charging of publication fees. Maximum e-journals i.e. 56 (88.88%) are publishing fee of cost whereas 3 (4.76%) are charging publication fee but 4 (9.09%) journals did not mention in this regard.

Table 7: Charging Publication Fee

Subscription Amount	Frequency	Percentage
Charging Fees	3	4.76%
Free of Cost	56	88.88%

Findings

- It was found that Information Technology and Disabilities E-Journal is merging with the ATHEN journal and will resume in 2012 as a new publication with the same name.
- It is noted from the website that Journal of Southern Academic and Special Librarianship continued by E-JASL: The Electronic Journal of Academic and Special Librarianship since 2001.
- The frequency of many journals is varying from year to year.
- Majority of the journal website home page designing have the same pattern followed.
- Some journals website has no apparent information including some URLs was given but they were not working.



CONCLUSION

The study was conducted to examine the status of LIS open access journals by analyzing its bibliometric phenomena like articles, subjects, cited references etc. However, the journals included in the present study differ from one another in some very important ways. The library which cannot afford the expenses of maximum journals they can build their library periodical collection very resourceful with the use of DOAJ. Research scholars, faculty members, students and library science professionals can publish their research work in online open access journals for wider visibility of their research work and for greater impact factor and citation index.

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- <http://www.doaj.org/doaj?func=home&uiLanguage=en> Accessed on 10-07-12