

Overview of Open Access Books in Library and Information Science in DOAB

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***Abstract** - Due to internet usage, open access channels have been developed and popularized in such a way so that open access e books have also been emerged. Like the Directory of Open Access Journals, the Directory of Open Access Books (DOAB) has been developed to cater thought content of the books to every user to save his/her time. The DOAB is a service of OAPEN foundation and it contains e books of seventeen branches of knowledge including library and information science. The paper aims to highlight open access e books in library and information science available in DOAB. The requisite data has been collected from DOAB database up to 14th October, 2017. Total 35 books have been found to be available under the subject heading-- library and information science. Out of 35 e books, 22 books have been published in English language and 22 books have been registered under CC BY licenses. Moreover De Gruyter –the publisher deposits the highest number of e books to DOAB. The notable attribute of the study is that a steady growth in publication of library and information science e books has been observed from the year of 2009 to 2016. At the end some suggestions have been incorporated to increase the number of e books in library and information science to maximize the availability.*

Keywords: Open access (OA), e-books, Creative Commons (CC), Directory of Open Access Books (DOAB), Licenses, Library and Information Science.

1. Introduction

In the present century, people are entering into the open world due to invention of ICT. The term ‘Open Access’ became popularized in the past decades but various open access channels have been emerged from the recent past. After the successful use of Directory of Open Access Journals, the Directory of Open Access Books has been emerged in this era. The DOAB (<http://www.doabooks.org>) was started its journey on the 1st of July in the year of 2013 (Adema, 2013) as a ‘searchable index with links to the full-texts of the publications available at the OAPEN library or publisher’s website or repositories’ and it is compatible with open archives initiative protocol for harvesting of metadata. It is a service of OAPEN foundation, a non-profit making organization of Netherlands which conducts two services— OAPEN Library and DOAB .Lars Bjornshauge and Salam Baker Shanawa (Adema, 2012) helped to develop DOAB and Semper Tool (<http://www.sempertool.dk/about>), a software developer company maintains the system of DOAB. The principal aim of DOAB is to ‘discoverability of peer reviewed Open Access e books’. There are seventeen subject fields with their sub divisions in all branches of knowledge available in DOAB. Generally academic

publishers are encouraged to deposit the metadata of open access e books to DOAB for maximum visibility. Libraries can also incorporate the metadata of e books to their online catalogues for maximum utilization and visibility of e books.

2. Related works

The related works have been stated here to find out the cause to undertake the present study and also to find out the various lacunas in the previous study. Snijder (Snijder, 2012) in his study showed that the impact of aggregation in the DOAB had a enormous effect on number of downloads. He actually studied the impact of open licenses and aggregation in DOAB (<http://jisc-pub.org/articles/abstract/10.7710/2162-3309.1187/>) Loan and Rafhat-un-nisa undertook a study on 307 Science and Technology e books indexed in DOAB and showed a large number of e books having creative common license are indexed in DOAB. They also showed the trends of open access e books available in DOAB (Loan& Rafhat-un-nisa,2015) Khanchandani and Kumar studied 1052 e books in Science and Technology available in DOAB and opined the same as stated by Loan and Rafhat-un-nisa in their study. (Khanchandani and Kumar, 2017) Dhanavandan and Tamizhchelvan studied on e books available in DOAB and studied e books language-wise, publisher-wise, author-wise, etc. (Dhanavandan and Tamizhchelvan,2016) and Dhanavandan in his study analyzed the open access books available in DOAB from the global perspectives and analyzed the e books from different perspectives. (Dhanavandan ,2016)

3. Statement of the problem

To present an overview of Library and Information Science e books available in DOAB, the present study has been undertaken to maximize the visibility of e books of Library and Information Science in DOAB. All these stakeholders will be benefitted after analyzing the results from different perspectives derived from the study. The study will be also helpful for the future prospects of DOAB.

4. Objective of the study

The main objective of the study is to find out the latest trend of open access e books in Library and Information Science available in DOAB and also to analyze e books in respect of their publication, publishers, license type, language, and pattern of authorship, etc.

5. Scope and Limitations

The study covers the open access e books in Library and Information Science available in DOAB and the study is restricted to Library and Information Science and period of coverage is up to the 14th October, 2017.

6. Methodology

The relevant data was collected by visiting the URL of DOAB on the 14th October, 2017 by entering key word--Library and Information Science in DOAB search box. After that the retrieved data was entered in an excel file for calculation of percentage for better interpretation and analysis. Then the data was analyzed by using simple percentage and was presented in tabular and graphical forms to reveal the real truth.

7. Analysis and interpretation of data

At first, thirty-five e books in Library and Information Science have been identified from DOAB. After analyzing the data of thirty-five e books in Library and Information Science indexed in the DOAB, the following results have been prepared. For better understanding and keeping in the view of above mentioned objective of the study, the following tables and graphs have been prepared as per results derived from the study.

Table-1: Contributor-wise distribution of e books in DOAB

Authorship	Number of e books	Percentage
Single	14	40
Double	16	45.71
Triple	02	05.71
Not mentioned	03	08.58
Total	35	100

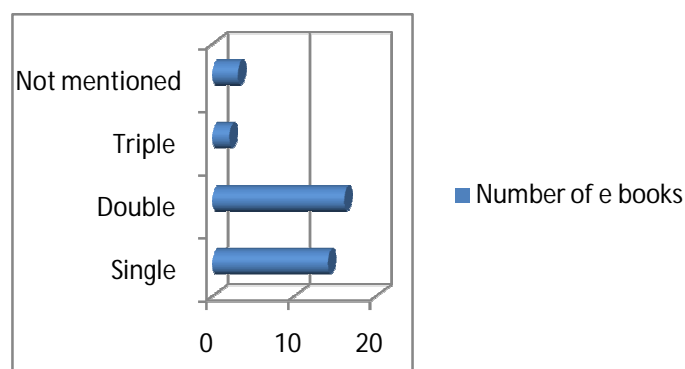


Fig-01: Contributor-wise distribution of e books

The table -01 and figure-01 indicate the presentation of e books contributor wise. Contributors mean either editors or authors here. The study shows the contributions of double author is the highest in position i.e.45.71% followed by single author contributions (40%). The same result was observed in the study of e books in Science and Technology in DOAB where they showed double authors and editors stand the first position followed by single authors or editors. (Khanchandani and Kumar, 2017)

Table- 2: Publisher-wise distribution of e books in DOAB

Name of the Publishers	Number of e books	Percentage
De Gruyter	20	57.14
EDP Sciences	01	02.86
IOS Press	01	02.86
LEDIZIONI-Ledi Publishing	07	20.00
Open Edition Press	02	05.71
Universidad Carlos III de Madrid. Figuerola Institute of Social Science History	01	02.86
Presses de l'Université de Montréal	01	02.86
Universidad Nacional de La Plata. Facultad de Humanidadesy Ciencias de la Education	01	02.86
Presses de l'Université de Montréal	01	02.86
Total	35	100

The notable feature of the study is that the publisher--De Gruyter mostly publishes e books in library and information science i.e. 57.14% followed by LEDIZIONI (20%). The other publishers presented in the table-02 publish more or less same number of books in library and information science i.e. either 1 or 2.

Table-3: Major subject and their subfield-wise distribution of e books

Library & Info. Sc. & their subfields	Number of e books	Percentage
Library and Information Science	29	82.85
Information theory	01	02.86
History	01	02.86
General science	01	02.86
Media and communication	01	02.86
Languages and literature-religion	01	02.86
Sociology-media and communication	01	02.86
Total	35	100

It is evident from the table-03 that 82.85% e books belong to major subject-- Library and Information Science without any sub-field but 2.86% e books have different sub fields like information theory, history, general science, media and communication, etc. But they are also under the major subject-- library and information science.

Table-4: Publication Year-wise distribution of e books in DOAB

Year	Number of e books	Percentage
1977	01	02.86
2012	04	11.43
2013	02	05.71
2014	03	08.58
2015	01	02.86
2016	04	11.43
2017	03	08.58
2010	03	08.58
2003	01	02.86
2005	01	02.86
2001	01	02.86
2004	01	02.86
2006	01	02.86
2008	02	05.71
2007	01	02.86
2009	04	11.43
Total	35	100

The above table-04 shows the growth of publication of library and information science e books. It is clear from the above table that a steady growth in publication of library and information science e books has been observed from the year of 2009 to 2016 but in 2017 the growth has been decreased. The point to be remembered is that the e book in library and information science started its journey from 1977 as recorded in DOAB.

Table-5: Language- wise distribution of e books in DOAB

Name of the Languages	Number of e books	Percentage
Deutsch	01	02.86
English	22	62.86
Fr	02	05.71
French and English	01	02.86
German	03	08.58
Italian	03	08.58
Italian and English	02	05.71
Spa	01	02.86
Total	35	100

In table-05, it is found that a vast number of books (62.86%) have been published in English language. Some books are published bilingually and a very few books have been published in other languages like Deutsch, Fr, Spa, etc.

Table-6: Page-wise distribution of e books in DOAB

Pagination	Number of e books	Percentage
Up to 100	01	02.86
101-200	07	20.00
201-300	10	28.57
301-400	05	14.28
401-500	05	14.28
501-600	01	02.86
601-700	00	00.00
701-800	01	02.86
Not Specified	05	14.28
Total	35	100

The table-06 depict that 28.51% e books have pages in the range of 201-300 and it is also noted that 14.28% e books have pages in the range of 301-400 & 401-500. The e book having the lowest number of pages is 68 and the highest number of pages is 756.

Table-7: License-wise distribution of e books

Type of Licenses	Nature of Licenses	Number of e books	Percentage
CC BY	Attribution alone	22	62.86
CC BY-NC-SA	Attrib. & non-commercial & share- a- like	05	14.28
CC BY-NC	Attrib. & non-commercial	02	05.71
CC BY-SA	Attrib.& share- a- like	02	05.71
Open Edition License for books	Open	04	11.43
Total	-----	35	100

The above table-07 explicates that 62.86% e books have CC-BY type of licenses whereas 05.71% e books both have CC BY-NC and CC BY-SA type of licenses. The point to be remembered is that 11.43% e books have open edition licenses. So it is clear that the maximum number of e books in Library and Information Science are registered under CC

license (<https://creativecommons.org/share-your-work/licensing-types-examples/>). The same result was observed in the study of Loan and Rafhat-un-nisa in which they showed that maximum number of Science and Technology e books are registered under Creative Commons (CC) .(Loan& Rafhat-un-nisa,2015)

Table-8: Series-wise distribution of e books

Name of the Series	Number of e books	Percentage
Bibliotheks- und Information praxis	02	05.71
Age of Access? Grundfragen der Information sgesellschaft	01	02.86
IFLA Publications	13	37.14
Biblioteca	01	02.86
Copyleft	01	02.86
Praxiswissen	01	02.86
Historia de las Universidades	01	02.86
Studies in Manuscript Cultures	02	05.71
Editoria - Presente e Futuro	01	02.86
Not in Series/ Not specified / Not mentioned	12	34.28
Total	35	100

The table-08 presents the series –wise distribution of e books and it is observed that most of the books are part of any series. The notable attribute of the study is that majority of e books (37.14%) in library and information science is part of INFA Publication series.

Table-9: Standard Number-wise distribution of e books

Types of Standard Number	Number of e books	Percentage
Both ISSN and ISBN	24	68.57
Only ISBN	11	31.43
Only ISSN	00	00.00
Total	35	100

It is evident from the table-09 that majority of e books (68.57%) have both ISBN and ISSN as the available e books in library and information science belong to any series.

Table-10: DOI wise distribution of e books

Types of Standard Number	Number of e books	Percentage
DOI enabled e book	19	54.29
DOI not enabled e book	16	45.71
Total	35	100

The table-10 presents information about the digital object identifier of e books and it is found that 54.29% e books are DOI enabled e-book. So it is clear from the table that DOI are not still unavailable for almost half (45.71%) of e books in library and information science.

8. Discussions on findings of the study

The study presented useful findings and achieved its objective successfully. The major findings derived from the study are presented below---

- The very few titles in Library and Information Science are available in DOAB.

- The growth of publication is observed from the year 2009 to year 2017.
- CC BY type of licensed e books i.e. maximum utilization of licensed material is available in a large number in DOAB.
- The content format is available in interoperable metadata format which is user friendly.

9. Suggestions

Based on the findings of the study the following suggestions have been enumerated:

- Both authors and publishers should publish their works through open access channels.
- Proper indexing and infrastructural facilities should be provided in the DOAB website to increase the usage of free e-books.
- In all types of library's website, a link of DOAB should be incorporated to reach all types of user.
- More library and information science books should be available in DOAB

10. Conclusion

The present age is an age of Open Age i.e. people are entering into the open world. As a result of which the growth rate of open access documents are increasing day by day. So open access e books are not far behind it. They have placed their strong position in the digital era. In this respect DOAB is a collection of open access e books to maximize the visibility and utilization of e books. Academic publishers are encouraged to submit metadata in DOAB. But it is a matter of regret that the considerable number of e books in library and information science are not available in DOAB. In spite of that the steady growth of publication of e books has been observed from the present study. The e books in Library and Information Science regarding license is noteworthy as considerable number of books are registered under CC BY license. This type of licenses allow user to disseminate, remix and construct the existing work commercially with due credit the author of original work. The publishers and authors should come forward to enrich the DOAB by providing their e books in DOAB for maximum visibility and optimum utilization. The professionals in the field of Library and Information Science preaches about DOAB by incorporating the link of DOAB either in Catalogue or in the website concerned. In short, the success of Open Access Movement depends upon the open mind of institutions, organizations, authors or editors or publishers contributions of e books in DOAB.

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