



Trends in Library and Information Science: a content analysis of Library Hi Tech News 2017-2021

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Abstract

This paper analyses the various areas of library and information science (LIS) research published in Library Hi Tech News journal, focusing on authorship patterns, collaboration trends, and globalisation. This study looked at research and changes in the LIS fields. It did this by looking at all of the Library Hi Tech News articles that came out between 2017 and 2021. The total number of papers published in each issue, the number of authors, the national rankings of publications, the research field, research design, bibliographic analysis, and downloads are just a few elements of key criteria for data analysis. Results are based on a statistical analysis of published articles available in the journal portal based on different parameters i.e. - article per issue, authorship, locations, keywords, research area, research design, references, downloads, etc. In light of this, this article may be helpful for all library scholars and professionals working in the world of LIS who are involved in various initiatives, including the usage of cutting-edge ICT and other pertinent fields.

Keywords: Bibliometrics, Content Analysis, Data analysis, ICT, Library and Information Science, Library Hi Tech News

1. Introduction

Library Hi Tech News is a very popular journal in the LIS field and many articles are published in the fields of artificial intelligence, big data, etc. in this journal. Library High Tech News (LHTN) is one of the leading international journals on library technology. This journal's current H-Index is 20 and its last five-year impact factor was 1.697. In LHTN, you'll find articles of various lengths, conference reports, and in-depth assessments of technology's implications for libraries. Everyone who reads LHTN agrees that it is the ideal source for information about upcoming technology developments for

academic and public libraries. In this study, the importance of this journal in the domain of LIS is shown from different points of view and through statistical data analysis.

2. Literature review

Trends in distance education research areas, keywords indicated, data collection tools, references cited, etc. were investigated by Bozkurt et al. (2015) in seven journals, i.e.- AJDE, DE, EURODL, JDE, JOLT, OL, and IRRODL. These periodicals contributed a total of one thousand two hundred twenty-five papers that were chosen and published during the years 2009 and 2013. The findings of the



study shed light on developing research challenges. Seven academic journals in the field published articles with these results. Zawacki-Richter carried out several research projects as part of their investigation into the DE research field. A categorisation of research fields was developed via the use of a Delphi approach (Zawacki-Richter, 2009). Another study (Zawacki-Richter, Backer, & Vogt, 2009) held on reviewed 695 papers that were published in five of the most famous DE journals between the years 2000 and 2008 and highlighted gaps as well as priority areas. Researchers looked at how gender and how researchers worked together affected how they did research, what they studied, and what they found (Zawacki-Richter & von Prümmer, 2010). Zawacki-Richter (2009) constructed a classification system for research fields in distance education and determined the research fields in distance education that are considered to be of the greatest significance as well as those that are given the least amount of attention. From September to December of 2008, Zawacki-Richter undertook an exhaustive literature review and a Delphi study, both of which solicited the most prominent journals. As a result, she was able to identify 15 research areas, which she then grouped into three overarching categories. There was a total of 19 experts who volunteered their time to take part in the research. Zawacki-Richter classified the 15 study topics into three distinct groups using the replies from the industry professionals. This round asked the experts to rank the importance of each category. This was determined by Zawacki-Richter after comparing the results of the study with a previous study conducted in Australia of Jegede (1994). Although the priority of DE research areas has not changed drastically, Zawacki-Richter came to this conclusion with the findings of the study. It was pointed out that the rise of online distance

learning demonstrates the urgent need for universities to be open to development. Those who participated in the Delphi survey reached a consensus that the fields of innovation and change, should be prioritised. In addition, they agreed that the fields as well as Web 2.0 application software, smart devices, and other modern tools afforded for educational activities and evaluation deserved further attention. A content study of five main publications on contemporary mixed methods practiced in qualitative research was carried out by Archibald et al. (2015). In all, 5254 different journal articles were investigated for this study's outcome. Among the findings was a mixed approach of studies, which is regularly published in reputable publications. There are a variety of roles of integration in qualitative research journals, as well as processes of occurrence for mixing in qualitative research journals, etc.

3. Objectives

- To investigate current trends in research in the area of LIS domain from 2017 to 2021 by analysing research publications published in the field
- To understand the highly downloaded research article topic of Library Hi Tech News
- To examine the contributions of authors from various countries to the publication of Library Hi Tech News between 2017 and 2021
- To analyse the variation of different types of articles published in this journal across these five years
- To investigate the variation in research trends from 2017 to 2021, taking into account the country, contribution, research type, and research subject of the papers.



4. Methodology

The authors selected the content analysis approach to investigate empirical documentation for this research. The process of condensing numerous words of text into fewer content categories based on specific principles of coding is called content analysis. Content analysis is a methodical and reproducible methodology. Content analysis is a means of assessing written, spoken, or visual communication messages because it encompasses both qualitative and quantitative methods. It was decided that content analysis would be the most suitable method to use for this research. The criteria for the themes to be studied were set by the authors, and the content of articles in the journal Library Hi Tech News was then coded based on these categories. The descriptive analysis method was used to get the same

results as the content analysis method. This study looked at the trends in research in the field of LIS by looking at all the papers published in Library Hi Tech News from 2017 to 2021. This was a five-year period. There are 234 articles to be looked at.

5. Data analysis and interpretation

5.1 Total number of articles per issue

In the course of this research, a total of 234 articles from Library Hi Tech News were investigated, covering the years 2017 through 2021. Every volume has covered four to five articles, and sometimes even six articles. Out of these, volume 34 includes the most articles, while volume 35 contains the lowest articles of any of these volumes. Both volume 36 and volume 37 have the same number of articles, which is 45 in total.

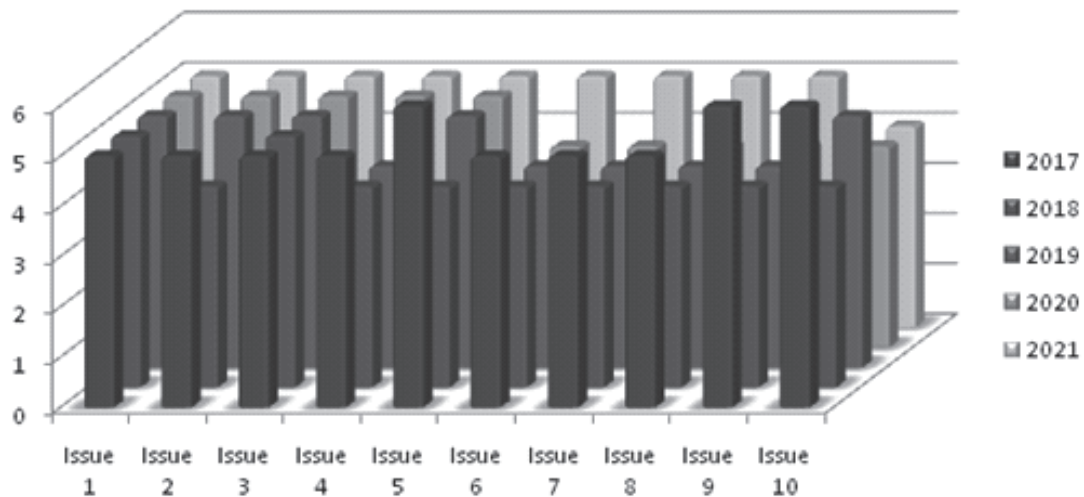


Figure1: Article per issue



5.2 *Number of authors*

The graph below shows that most of the articles in Library High Tech News in the last

five years were written by a single author, followed by double authors, triple authors, and multiple authors.

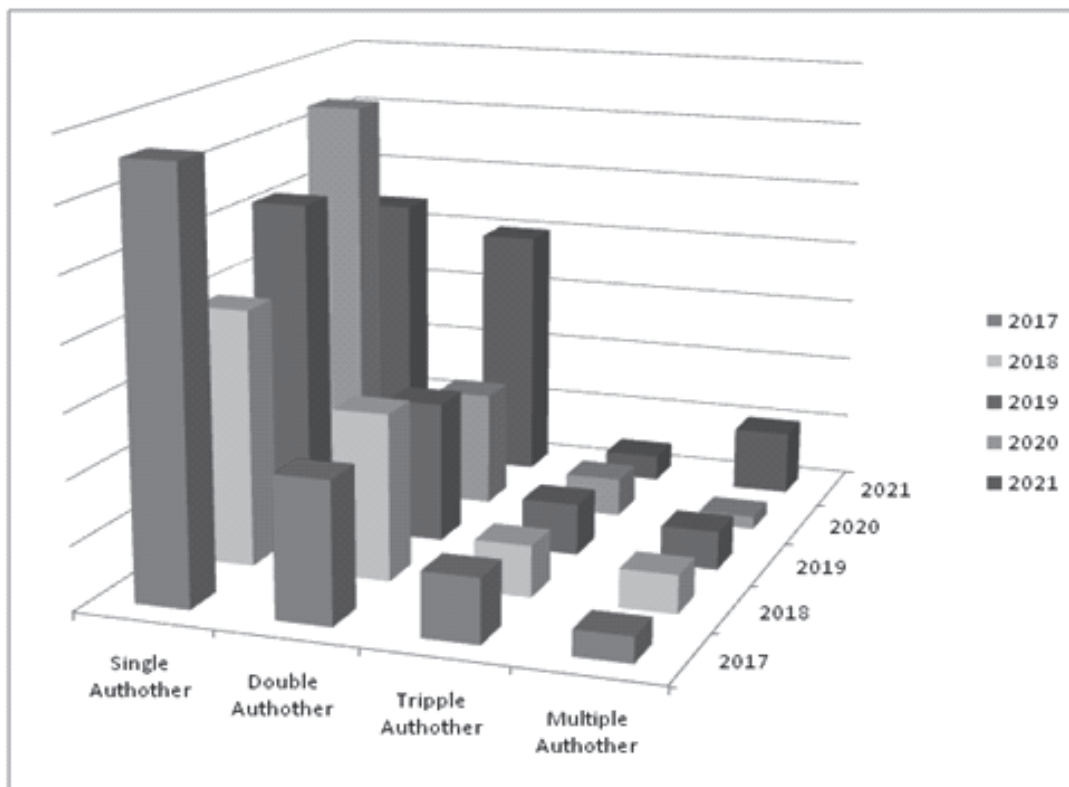


Figure 2: Number of authors

5.3 *Country ranks of publications*

The findings indicate that the three countries (USA, India, and Nigeria) contributed the highest number of articles during the five years from 2017 to 2021.

However, compared with their performance, other countries had decreasing numbers of contributions. Almost eleven countries have contributed their research articles to Library Hi Tech News during the last five years.

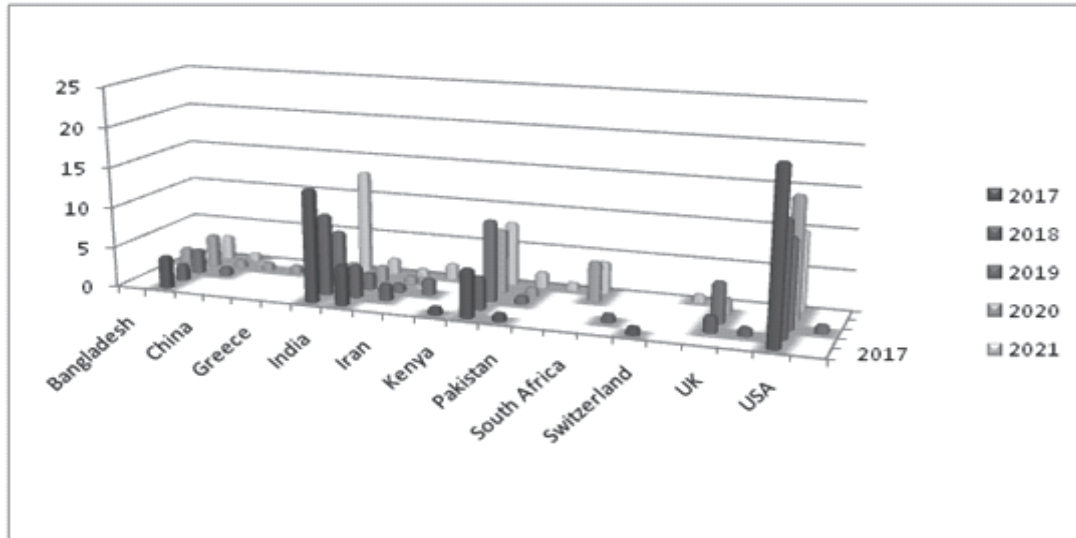


Figure 3: Country ranks of publications

5.4 Keyword indicated

The first conclusion of the research is based on a descriptive keyword analysis, and the underlying premise is that the keywords that are mentioned in the articles give a

comprehensive depiction of the themes that research papers cover. In the course of this research, a total of 485 different keywords were investigated and arranged in order of how frequently they were used.

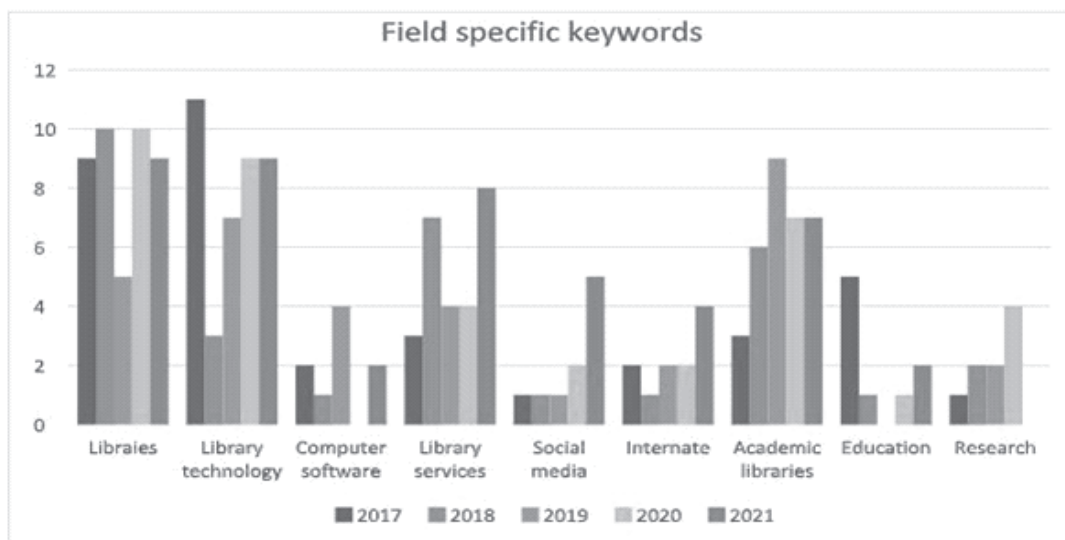


Figure 4: Field specific keywords



The graph displays the keywords unique to each field. Figure 4 illustrates how the term "Library technology" is used to describe this topic in general. The word "Library" is employed as a descriptive phrase, which is

another intriguing discovery. One last observation: Over the past two years, in particular, the phrase "Research" has been used more and more.

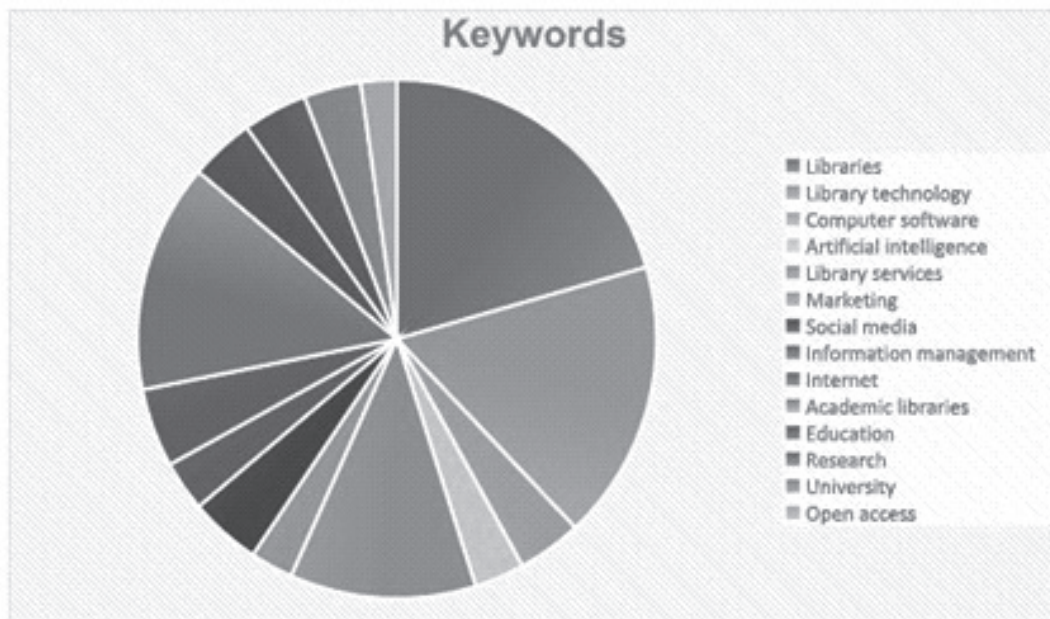


Figure 5: Keywords indicated

The second discovery pertains to the use of research-oriented key phrases (Figure 5). To conduct this research, every term that appeared in the papers was extracted and ranked according to the frequency with which it was used throughout the articles in their entirety. To conduct this analysis, each of the keywords was given a rank, and only the top 14 keywords were considered for inclusion in this study.

5.5 *Research area*

Analysis of the highlighted count numbers each year reveals a significant mismatch across study disciplines. It is interesting to note that the highest number of research articles in Library Hi Tech News are published in the field of library technology, followed by library and information services and social media. While the field of library extension services is still neglected.

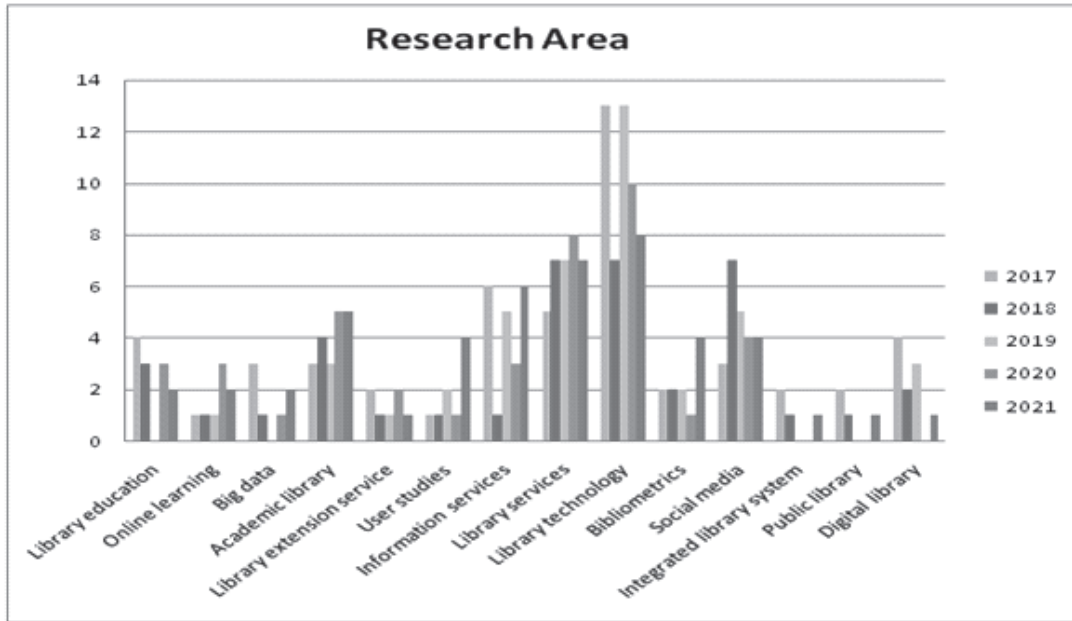


Figure 6: Research area

5.6 Research design

In LIS research, researchers can use a quantitative, qualitative, or mixed design, just like in many other fields. This figure shows the types of research design categories that

LIS researchers have liked the most over the last five years. This graph shows that most LIS researchers used qualitative (73%) and mixed (15%) research designs, while only a few used quantitative (11%) designs.

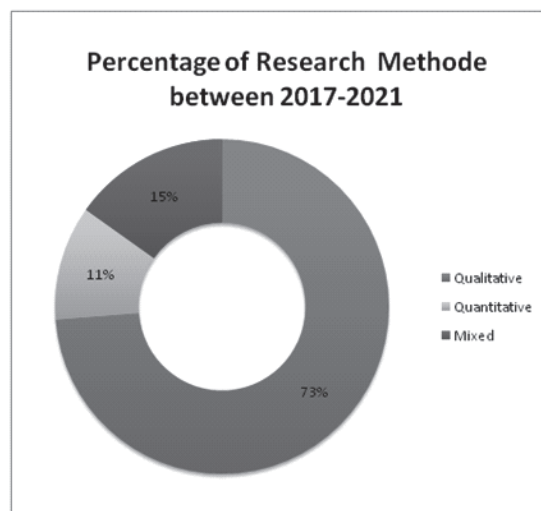


Figure 7: Research design



5.7 Bibliographic analysis

This is a method for categorising knowledge-disseminating publications. It is essential to understand the types of papers utilised and consulted by users since this information may be used to establish their interests. This is a method for categorising knowledge-disseminating publications. It is essential to understand the types of

documents utilised and examined by users to evaluate their information requirements. These values of the indicators were calculated based on the frequency of the different sorts of sources referenced in the research papers evaluated by Library Hi Tech News from 2017 to 2021. Articles from magazines, books, the Internet, theses, reports, conference papers, and other types of documents were looked at.

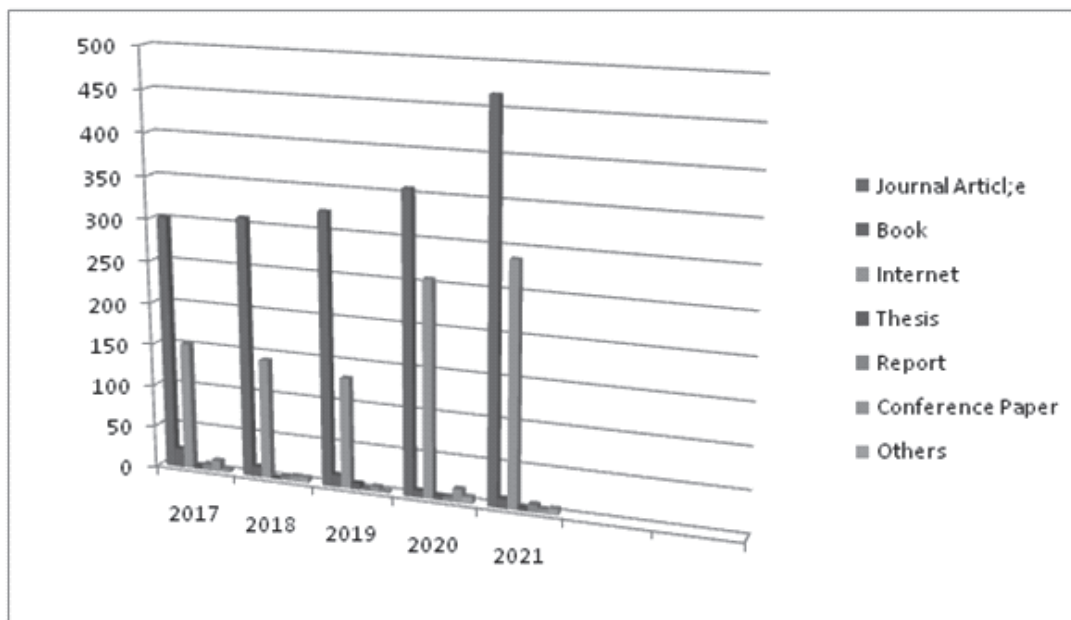


Figure 8: References

5.8 Articles downloaded

Library Hi Tech News is a very famous journal in the field of LIS. Articles from this journal have been downloaded many times. In the last five years, articles from Library Hi Tech News have been downloaded 146084 times. The highest number of articles downloaded in the year 2017.

6. Findings

- Each volume of Library Hi Tech News from 2017 to 2021 contains 4, 5, or 6 articles.
- Most of the articles in Library Hi Tech News over the last five years were written by a single author.
- The USA, India, and Nigeria contributed the highest number of articles during the last five years.
- "Library technology" is the most used keyword from 2017 to 2021 in Library Hi Tech News.
- The highest number of research articles in the library Hi Tech News is published from the field of library



technology.

- The quantitative research technique has been used mostly to write research articles during the last five years in Library Hi Tech News.
- Most journal articles and internet articles are cited in the articles from 2017 to 2021.
- In the last five years, most articles have been downloaded from Library Hi Tech News issues from 2017.

7. Conclusion

The findings of this study indicate challenges and trends in the area of LIS that have been raised by academic publications in journals published by Library Hi Tech News. This study aims to illustrate the existing state of affairs and provide a route for further investigation. The content analysis carried out for this research is beneficial. This research looked at the articles in terms of the nationalities of the writers. The nationality analysis may better represent the research community's increasingly global nature. Furthermore, this study examined research kinds and themes, allowing academics to better understand the present state of research and trends in the area. It is believed that the study would provide some assistance that will assist instructors in LIS, especially young researchers, in making suitable judgments and expanding their scopes in the future while doing research and producing academic papers. In addition, it has been suggested that an identical study should be carried out once every five years for educators in LIS to be able to monitor and evaluate the developments in the field of research. This research also helps to find out what other countries have contributed to the subject and what research trends are happening.

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