

Editorial

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I welcome you all to the volume 2, issue 3 of the “Journal of Scientometric Research” (www.jscires.org). I am sure like me you will find this issue interesting and of high relevance; rich diversity of topics and global in scope. The authors profile and download statistics of the articles in previous issues demonstrates the journal reaching out to scholars in different countries. This diversity is helping to bring out salient aspects of research activity of different countries, and also contributing towards strengthening the methodological tools and techniques in scientometrics. I thank the research community for giving their intellectual support to the journal.

Mathematics is providing new pathways for solving problems in cutting edge science and technologies (S&T). STEM is a new acronym being adopted in the science-technology-innovation policy parlance of countries, signifying that along with S & T and engineering, the need to develop mathematical competency for a country's competitiveness. Thus, the paper by Gutierrez et al. of Brazil's scientific production in mathematics is highly relevant in the present context. The article attempts to highlight the publication profile of Brazil, and publication activity of its major institutions to show how the research contour of the country is changing with international collaboration becoming an important factor in productivity.

Science and technology indicators increasingly influence science policy interventions in many countries. There is thus a constant demand for constructing more reliable and

valid indicators that can properly capture the constructs (such as performance, quality) that form the basis of policy interventions. Article by Mehdi and Jenab posits a novel approach for capturing the scientific strength of different countries. The article may pose a fresh debate on merits/demerits of their method, which this journal would be looking forward to carry in future issues.


Journal is an important scientific infrastructure of a country engaged in research. A highly skewed pattern is seen when journals are mapped with countries of origin. The map becomes more skewed when the journal impact factor is taken into consideration. Developing countries particularly those that are termed scientifically proficient countries have over the years progressed in terms of scientific productivity and have emerged in some key research domains among the global leaders. However, the journals from these countries are still in periphery and plausibly only a few are regarded highly by the global research community. The article by Arik draws attention to this issue by analytically examining a national psychology journal from Turkey. The article shows that the journal is highly local and its characteristic has not changed over the years. It may not attract very high citations because of this, but is highly regarded by the research community in Turkey. Thus the article demonstrates that even if it is in the periphery globally, it is playing an important role in the research community of psychology in Turkey. It leaves an important question to probe, i.e. do we need to change the characteristic of a national journal and make it global, highly influential but becoming alien to the research community of its own country?

Sagar *et al.* makes a global assessment of agriculture research. The article draws attention to some of the research questions such as: How much research globally is happening in this field? Which countries are dominating the global landscape? What are the major trends? This type of assessment is important for policy makers as it is difficult to estimate research activity in a country and more so globally. Thus in spite of this paper falling within

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the traditional ambit of scientometrics, relevance of these types of studies is very high.

It is always interesting and important to see activities in key emerging research-technology domains. The scientometric analysis of robotic medicine research by Kumarval *et al.* provides some indications of how publication and authorship pattern is changing in this field.

One of the characteristics of an emerging area is its high inter-disciplinarity with researchers from different streams joining together to form teams to solve scientific and technological challenges. Tracing migration provides interesting insights of how the intellectual domain of a field is shaped and provides a more rational basis of policy intervention for attracting and developing the scientific infrastructure. The study by Kissin *et al.* is an interesting and challenging exercise undertaken to test the hypothesis that researchers with high productivity in a discipline are more heavily represented in novel areas of research that emerge in their field than in established areas. The proposition is tested on the publication activity of 98 Jewish scientist's (whose article-related productivity was established previously by the author) migration in novel areas of biomedical research. The case study supports the above proposition. The research also contributes towards strengthening the methodology for capturing migration of author population from one stream of research to another.

The Triple Helix is an analytical framework to examine the interactions between the three stands of a research-innovation ecosystem namely academia, industry and government. The nature and intensity of the interactions among the three strands and other issues have been extensively researched for developed economies and to an extent for emerging economies. The present study by Mègnigbèto examines through

publication profile of researchers in West Africa, the activity of the three actors and interactions between them. A few studies have been undertaken to understand the research-innovation ecosystem of this region. Exploring this through publication profile would be a useful addition to the sparse literature.

Lang *et al.* study map on the web the relationship between the main institutions of health research in the world. The analysis reveals the distinct groups based on intensity of web linkages. Do the inter-linkages among institutions points to the dynamics and also gaps in research collaboration/cooperation in health? The article provides insightful view of the linkages among research institutions in health research and can play an influential role in designing new strategies for developing cooperative linkages in health research globally. The methodology is robust and will be a useful addition to further research of this type.

Tohidinasab and Jamali study would plausibly be one of its kind to examine the motivation for citing Wikipedia in research papers. The authors rightly conclude that the motivations behind citations in research publications to papers discerned by various researchers will not be similar when citations are given to Wikipedia. The paper reveals some very different set of motivations that is behind citations to Wikipedia. The study also shows that in spite of skepticism that is generally seen among researchers to Wikipedia, it is proving a useful research repository for researchers.

We look forward to your contributions to the future issues of this journal.

Happy Reading!

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