



M.Tech. Dissertations Submitted between 2006 and 2010 in the Department of Electrical and Instrumentation Engineering at Sant Longowal Institute of Engineering and Technology (Deemed University of Govt. of India), Longowal (PB.): A Citation Analysis
***Prithvi Singh ** Mohd Majid**

* Librarian, Central Library

** Assistant Professor, Department of Mechanical Engineering

ABSTRACT

Citation analysis has become hot topic of discussion for LIS professionals

It is an important tool of research in library and information science, documentation and archives in today's environment. It is a statistical tool to present contribution of citations. The present study analysed the 1780 citations in the M.Tech. Dissertations submitted between 2006 and 2010 in the department of EIE, SLIET, Longowal to ascertain the distribution of literature by format and rank. It is found that journals are most dominant form of literature cited. Reports are least consulted form of citation.

Keywords : Citation analysis; Bibliometrics; M.Tech. Dissertation; Electrical Engineering; Instrumentation Engineering

1. Introduction

Citations play a significant role in research of LIS. Every research activity is incomplete without citations. Citations analysis is one of the popular methods employed in recent years for identification of core documents and complex relationship between citing and cited documents for a particular scientific community in a particular geographical area. The purpose of study is to investigate the use pattern of literature as revealed through the citations analysis of the M.Tech. Dissertations submitted between 2006 and 2010 in the department of EIE, SLIET, Longowal, Punjab (India).

1. Literature Review

A review of literature shows that a considerable number of studies have been carried out on bibliometrics and citation analysis in various disciplines.

Nasir and Kumar (2011) studied citation analysis of doctoral dissertation during the year 2011. It was reported that books account for 44.77% of the total citations while journal activities 42.01%. Books were found most cited reference source.

Thanuskodi (2010) did study on bibliometrics. During study it is revealed that majority of articles (96.85%) contains references which include journals, books, conference proceedings, dissertations etc.

Husain and Fatima (2011) during their study found that journals are most used source of information followed by books and other reading materials.

Battler (1999) did citation analysis of 61 LIS dissertations. He found that journal articles were cited more than books, proceedings, book chapters, thesis and other printed resources.

Choudhary, Prabhat Kumar (2010) conducted bibliometrical study of S&T publications of the period 1998 to 2009. It has been reported that 63.4% of the total publications were contributed in S&T subject area followed by multidisciplinary subjects areas.

2. Scope of the study.

Scope of the present study is the M.Tech dissertations submitted in the department of EIE, SLIET at Longowal between 2006 and 2010. The main purpose of the study is to find out

the current trends of the citations of the M.Tech. dissertations in engineering sciences. For this purpose each book, journal, report, conference proceedings and other documents like M.Tech and PhD dissertations, patents, workshop papers etc. are taken for analysis.

3. Objective of the study.

The main objectives of the study are as under:-

- To identify the distribution of citations by format.
- To trace out frequency of citations.
- To find ranking of citations,

4. Research Methodology

References from 43 M.Tech dissertation submitted in the department of EIE, SLIET, Longowal between 2006 and 2010 were consulted. A total of 1780 citations were collected, tabulated and analyzed.

5. Data analysis and interpretation

1780 citations were analysed to ascertain the format of literature cited, frequency and ranking of citations.

Table 1. Distribution of literature cited by format.

S. No.	Format of Literature	Frequency	Frequency %	Cumulative frequency %
1	Books	403	22.64	22.64
2	Journals	856	48.09	70.73
3	Reports	13	0.73	71.46
4	Conferences Proceedings	325	18.26	89.72
5	Others	183	10.28	100
	Totals	1780	100	

Table.1 shows variety of resources such as books, journals, reports conferences/proceedings and other documents. It is revealed that periodical (48.09%) are most dominant form of information cited followed by books (22.66%), conferences/proceedings (18.26%), other resources (10.28%), and reports (0.73%).

Table 2 Distribution of Literature Cited by Rank

S. No.	Type of Literature	Rank
1	Periodicals	I
2	Books	II
3	Conferences Proceedings	III
4	Others	IV
5	Reports	V

Table 2. depicts that periodicals are main source of information for M.Tech students. Journals hold 1st rank in literature consulted, books 2nd, conferences / proceedings 3rd, others 4th and reports 5th rank.

Conclusion

There is no doubt that the citations play a vital role in carrying out research. It is evident from the citations that M. Tech student consulted enormous literature while preparing their dissertations. These sources provided factual information to the researchers. For M.Tech students at SLIET, the preferences of literature cited in their dissertations are periodicals followed by books, conference proceedings, other documents, and reports.

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