CHAPTER III

PROFILE OF DOAJ SOCIAL SCIENCE JOURNALS

3.1 Introduction

Bibliometrics is a set of methods for measuring the production and dissemination of scientific knowledge. Derek de Solla Price and Vasilij Vasilevich Nalimov were the originators of the discipline, which they developed for the purpose of providing research tools to historians and sociologists of science.

However, it was only with the advent of the tools developed by the Institute for Scientific Information (now Thomson ISI) and the research conducted by its founder, Eugene Garfield, that the use of bibliometrics became widespread. With their systematic archiving of articles from a selection of some of the most prestigious and most often cited scholarly journals, the Thomson Institute for Scientific Information databases considerably reduce the effort required to carry out bibliometric analysis. The field grew out of the sociology of science, information science and library science, but it quickly carved out a place for itself in quantitative research evaluation. Whether used for historical or sociological research or for evaluation in a science policy context, bibliometrics is used most of all in the natural sciences and engineering, because these fields have appropriate bibliographical characteristics for bibliometric analysis as currently practised.

The same cannot be said for the social sciences and humanities. In these fields, research results are disseminated through a much broader range of media than in the natural sciences and engineering. Furthermore, social science and humanities research often focuses more on local issues, with the result that its cognitive structure is sometimes quite fragmented. Thus the application of bibliometrics to social science and humanities faces specific problems. The purpose of this report is to identify the limitations of bibliometrics in the
context of social science research and then propose methods to offset those limitations, particularly with a view to benchmarking research output in a variety of countries and identifying emerging research fields

3.2 Bibliometrics

Many articles have been written on the use of bibliometrics in the Social Sciences and Humanities. Before presenting the various viewpoints on the strengths and limitations of bibliometric tools for evaluation, it is necessary to define bibliometrics and outline its main indicators. Bibliometrics is made up of methods for conducting quantitative analysis of science. Some of the methods serve to measure sociological aspects of one of the researcher's most important activities - dissemination of research results in published form. Bibliometrics is based on two assumptions: (1) the goal of researchers is to advance knowledge, and this means disseminating the results of their research and studies through a variety of communication media, including writing, which lies at the core of the academic tradition; (2) scholars have to publish in order to build a reputation and advance their careers.

A publication count is one means of measuring and comparing the production of various aggregates such as institutions, regions and countries. It can also be used to evaluate output in individual disciplines, such as philosophy and economics, and to track trends in research fields, collaborative research and many other aspects of research output.

3.3 Directory of Open Access Journals

The Directory of Open Access Journals (DOAJ) is a free service having over 2800 fully open access peer reviewed scholarly journals. DOAJ is growing at a rate of more than one title a day. The DOAJ home page provides an overview of the DOAJ service, an up-to-date count of journals listed in DOAJ, how many journals can be searched at the article level through DOAJ, and how many articles can be retrieved through such a search.
3.3.1 Definitions

Open access journals are defined as the journals which do not charge readers or their institutions for access. As defined by Budapest Open Access Initiative an open access is where one supports the rights of users to read, download, copy, distribute, print, search or link to the full texts of these articles, which is mandatory for a journal to be included in the directory.

3.3.2 Aims and Scope

DOAJ has the aim to ease the use of open access scientific journals and to increase the visibility of scholarly journals which in turn promote their increased usage and impact. It uses a quality control system to guarantee the content as it aims to be comprehensive and cover all open access scientific and scholarly journals. Therefore, it aims to be the one-stop shop for users of open access journals.

3.3.3 Metadata Information

Resources will be catalogued on journal title level. To make article level content searchable in the system, journal owners are encouraged to supply us with article metadata when a journal has been added into the directory.
3.3.4 Project Background

The proliferation of freely accessible online journals, the development of subject specific pre- and e-print archives and collections of learning objects provides a very valuable supplement of scientific knowledge to the existing types of published scientific information (books, journals, databases etc.). However these valuable collections are difficult to overview and integrate in the library and information services provided by libraries for their user constituency.

At the First Nordic Conference on Scholarly Communication in Lund/Copenhagen the idea of creating a comprehensive directory of Open Access Journals was discussed. The conclusion is that it would be a valuable service for the global research and education community. Open Society Institute supported the initial project work.

Available technologies make it possible to collect and organize these resources in a way that allows libraries worldwide to integrate these resources in existing services thus offering added value both for the service providers of these resources and for the global research and education community

3.3.5 Description of the quality control process

If the journal charges any handling fees, publication fees or similar payment from their authors or author’s institutions, the amount should be clearly stated in the author guidelines.

3.3.6 Statement about Open Access

Since DOAJ is a collection of open Access journals, it is strongly recommended that along with mentioning, it helps to thoroughly describe the journal's Open Access policy on the web site. Clearly stating exactly which rights readers have to use the material is a way of showing that one is sharing one’s published material to support a greater global exchange of knowledge.

So the researcher has chosen ten Social Science research journals in which three are published from UK, two from USA, two from Canada, one from
France, one from Germany and one from Denmark. All the needed data were downloaded from DOAJ. The following are the details about the journals.

3.4 The International Journal of Qualitative Method

The International Journal of Qualitative Methods is an international open access journal publishing articles across the entire field of social science. The journal is published by International Institute for Qualitative Methodology at the University of Alberta, Canada, and its International affiliates. In addition to full length articles, notes and comments it advances the development of qualitative methods, and aims to disseminate methodological knowledge to the broadest possible community of academics, students, and professionals who undertake research. By keeping the journal free of charge, it hopes to reach an audience who, for whatever reason, do not read traditional, subscription based journals. It has a frequency of four issues and a quarterly journal. The full text is available in DOAJ from 1984 onwards. The International Journal of Qualitative Methods (ISSN: 16094069) is a peer reviewed, web based journal.

Figure 3.2: The International Journal of Qualitative Method
3.5 Electronic Journal of Contemporary Japanese Studies

Electronic Journal of Contemporary Japanese Studies is an academic journal published by University Sheffield United Kingdom. The bibliographic records are available from 2001 onwards as Full Text in this open access. The journal adopts a multi-disciplinary stance in the hope that it will contribute to a deeper understanding of Japan and Japanese people and that it will, consequently, enrich our understanding of the totality of human experience. All areas of academic endeavor not only have contemporary Japan as their focus but also relate Japan to broader developments elsewhere. It’s a quarterly journal and its URL is and ISSN Number is: -1476-9158. Articles are fully peer-reviewed, edited and complete and are made available for viewing by the academic community as quickly as possible, thereby reducing time to publication without sacrificing quality or completeness.

Home page: http://www.japanesestudies.org.uldcontents/intro.html

Figure 3.3: Electronic Journal of Contemporary Japanese Studies
3.6 Disability Studies Quarterly

Disability Studies Quarterly (DSQ) is the journal of the Society for Disability Studies (SDS). It is a multidisciplinary and international journal of interest to social scientists, scholars in the humanities, disability rights advocates, creative writers, and others concerned with the issues of people with disabilities. It represents the full range of methods, epistemologies, perspectives, and content that the multidisciplinary field of disability studies embraces. DSQ is committed to developing theoretical and practical knowledge about disability and to promoting the full and equal participation of persons with disabilities in society. (ISSN: 1041-5718; eISSN: 2159-8371)
3.7 IASSIST Quarterly

The IASSIST Quarterly (ISSN: 0739-1137) is a peer-reviewed, indexed, open access quarterly publication of articles dealing with social science information and data services. IQ represents an international cooperative effort on the part of individuals managing, operating, or using machine-readable data archives, data libraries, and data services. IQ reports on activities related to the production, acquisition, preservation, processing, distribution, and use of machine-readable data carried out by its members and others in the international social science community. The journal is published by International association for social science information service and technology from Denmark. The full text is available from 1993 onwards. IASSIST Quarterly is published four times per year.

Figure 3.5 : IASSIST Quarterly
3.8. The Catholic Social Science Review

The Catholic Social Science Review is published annually in September, by the publisher society for catholic social scientists in United States. Submissions of articles and communication concerning them and concerning editorial matters or permission to reproduce material should be directed via e-mail to Kevin Schmiesing (kschmiesing at acton.org). Decisions about publication of submissions for the Symposia and Articles sections are made by the Editor-in-Chief after peer refereeing and, if needed, consultation with the rest of the Editorial Board. Communication concerning book reviews or review essays should be directed to board members. The journal is available from 1996 onwards. ISSN/EISSN: 10910905 19446292. The views expressed in this journal are those of the individual authors and not necessarily those of the Editorial Board of The Catholic Social Science Review, or the Society of Catholic Social Scientists, Inc. The Catholic Social Science Review is abstracted in Religious and Theological Abstracts, indexed in The Catholic Periodical and Literature Index, and searchable in full text through EBSCO Host's Academic Search Complete.

Figure 3.6: The Catholic Social Science Review
3.9 Ephemera: Theory and Politics in Organization

Ephemera is an independent journal founded in 2001, published by University of Leicester, University of Essex and supported by the School of Business and Management, Queen Mary, University of London. Ephemera provides its content free of charge, and charges its readers only with free thought. ISSN/EISSN: 20521499 14732866. Ephemera encourages contributions that explicitly engage with theoretical and conceptual understandings of organizational issues, organizational processes and organizational life. This does not preclude empirical studies or commentaries on contemporary issues, but such contributions consider how theory and practice intersect in these cases. It especially publishes articles that apply or develop theoretical insights that are not part of the established canon of organization studies. Ephemera counters the current hegemonization of social theory and operates at the borders of organization studies in that it continuously seeks to question what organization studies is and what it can become. Journal Homepage: http://www.ephemeraweb.org/ ISSN. 2052-1499 EISSN: 1473-2866.

Figure 3.7: Ephemera: Theory and Politics in Organization
3.10 International Journal on Multicultural Societies

International Journal on Multicultural Societies (IJMS) has undergone a title change. The new title as of May 2010 is Diversities. Diversities is a scholarly and professional journal, published by UNESCO, to provide a platform for international, interdisciplinary and policy-related social science research in the fields of migration, multicultural policies, and human rights. The new ISSN for Diversities (2079-6595) has been linked to the ISSN for the IJMS (1817-4574) for bibliographic reference and records. Generic reference to the journal may be made using the URL www.unesco.org/shs/diversities. Diversities is an on-line only publication. Formerly it was called the International Journal on Multicultural Societies.

Figure 3.8: International Journal on Multicultural Societies
3.11 Surveillance and Society

The International Interdisciplinary open access peer reviewed journal of Surveillance Studies. Surveillance and Society ISSN 1477-7487. The journal was founded in 2000. Publisher: Surveillance Studies Network Country: Canada. They recruited a distinguished international advisory board, issued calls, and designed and built a website. In September 2002 Surveillance and Society was born, with the first issue read by over 5000 until 2007, when the journal was in danger of closing: the journal was a quarterly publication, but it published only one single and one double issue in 2005, two single issues in 2006, and two issues that were really only one split issue in 2007. Home page: http://library.queensu.ca/ojs/index.php/surveillance-and-society/index

Figure 3.9: Surveillance and Society
3.12 Demographic Research

Demographic Research is a peer-reviewed, open-access journal of Population Sciences published by the Max Planck Institute for Demographic Research in Rostock, Germany. It started publishing open access content in 1999. ISSN (s) 1435-9871. Demographic Research is open to submissions of research and reflections. It also provides researchers with a unique forum for material that conventional journals are unable or reluctant to publish such as descriptive findings, research replications and materials. Home page: http://www.demographic-research.org/

Figure 3.10: Demographic Research
3.13 Journal of Artificial Societies and Social Simulation

The Journal of Artificial Societies and Social Simulation is an interdisciplinary journal for the exploration and understanding of social processes by means of computer simulation. Since its first issue in 1998, it has been a world-wide leading reference for readers interested in social simulation and the application of computer simulation in the social sciences. The journal is published quarterly at the end of January, March, June and October on the World Wide Web with free access at the address: http://jasss.soc.surrey.ac.uk/JASSS.html.

![Journal of Artificial Societies and Social Simulation](image)

**Figure 3.11: Journal of Artificial Societies and Social Simulation**

Thus the researcher took the ten Social Science journals which are available in the Directory Open Access Journals web site. The full text is also available for a period of thirteen years. All the journals mainly concentrate on the field of Social Science.