

A Study of Grey literature Referred in Karnataka state Universities Ph.D. Thesis: A Analytical Study

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Abstract - *In this attempt, authors have analysed the Grey Literatures citations, cited in the “Thesis submitted to Karnataka State Universities with special reference to engineering and technology” Thesis during 1960-2017. In this study investigation has been taken through the various types of grey literatures such as Conference, thesis/dissertations, Web links, research reports, newspapers, seminar/workshops, etc. At the end the study authors have concluded with major findings which found during the research process, could serve as a user study with consequences for collection development and to provide an appropriate services to the user of libraries.*

Keywords: Citation Analysis, Grey Literature, Thesis, Synopsis, Research paper, etc.

Introduction:

The Grey literature has been discussed and studied from long years ago but users are rarely mentioned about it. This paper summarizes what is the grey literature and how many grey literatures referred by research scholars of Karnataka state universities and knowledge gained from interviewing librarians who deal with both the grey literature in their collections and the patrons who use it.

Grey literature covers a very wide range of substantial, which includes various reports, guidelines, thesis submitted to award Ph. D., conference proceedings, technical specifications and standards, working papers, commercial and official documentation, data sets and policy documents. It can be produced by any organization, but it is most habitually authored by government departments, NGOs, research centres, academic institutions, and international organizations.

The grey literature is difficult to find due to its momentary nature, because it is not collected or indexed in any kind of databases, in the same format as published material, so you may need to look into several places to find them out. In the existing situation, “the internet is playing a vital role in publishing literature as it offers channels and tools for the scientific community to generate, publish and access scientific information and materials” (Schöpfel, 2006). Because of a “wide range of access and increasing new challenges, it is quite difficult to provide reliable assistance in using Grey Literature and maintaining the authenticity of Grey Literature” (De Castro and Salinetti, 2004).

Objectives of the study

The objectives of the present study are specified as follows.

1. To determine, the availability of Grey literature in the field of Engineering and Technology.
2. To analyze, grey literature in Ph.D. thesis submitted to in Karnataka state Universities.
3. To list out total number of Thesis submitted to the respective University;
4. The total number of grey literature referred by the particular Departments.

Limitations of the Study:

1. The study covering the Ph.D. Thesis submitted to Karnataka State Universities with special reference to Engineering and Technology.
2. The study is restrained to only available Thesis in a library and the concern departments.
3. This study is confined with only Biotechnology, Chemical Engineering; Civil Engineering, Computer and information science and Mechanical Engineering (Five Subjects) Thesis.
4. This study is confined from 1960-61 to 2016-17.

Methodology:

For the Present study, data is collected from the Thesis, in which every thesis submitted during the study period is examined. Title pages and reference sections were photocopied from each of the Thesis submitted to the university during 1960-61 to 2016-17 covered by the study. Data concerning the total number of Thesis, the total number of cited papers of each thesis examined by applying scientometric techniques, especially focussing on citation analysis. An appropriate tables and graphs were used to represent the collected data in a systematic manner.

Table No. 1: Distribution of citations in Biotechnology

Sl.No.	Form	Citations	Cumulative	Percentage	Cumulative %
1	Conference	58	58	47.93	47.93
2	Thesis/Diss.	30	88	24.79	72.73
3	Research Reports	14	102	11.57	84.30
4	Web links	10	112	8.26	92.56
5	News paper	5	117	4.13	96.69
6	Workshop	2	119	1.65	98.35
7	Seminar	2	121	1.65	100
	Total	121	121	100	100

Chart No. 1: Distribution of citations in Biotechnology

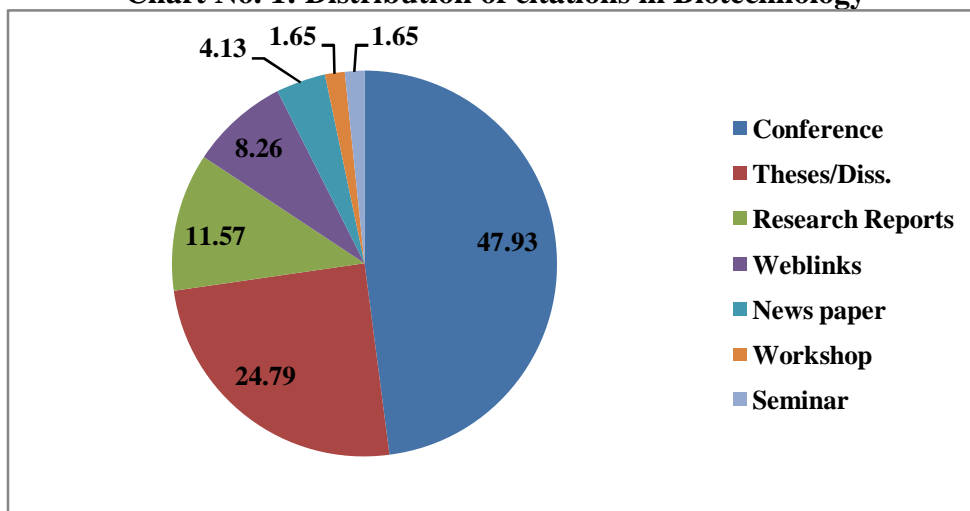


Table 1 the literature in any discipline is published in different bibliographic format such as PG dissertations and Ph. D. thesis, various reports, newspapers, Magazines, seminar/conferences proceedings workshops conducted on various subjects etc. It is evident from the table that the conferences contribute the highest number of citations accounting with 47.93% of total citations. Thesis secured second highest number of citations accounting for 24.79% of total citations. Research Reports secured third highest number of citations accounting for 11.57% of total citations. Web links secured fourth highest number of citations accounting for 08.26% of total citations. Newspaper secured fifth highest number of citations accounting for 04.13% of total citations. 01.65% of the citations, accounting for workshops & seminars respectively.

Table No. 2: Distribution of citations in Chemical Engineering

Sl.No.	Form	Citations	Cumulative	Percentage	Cumulative %
1	Conference	24	24	60	60
2	Web links	6	30	15	75
3	Thesis/Diss.	4	34	10	85
4	Research Reports	2	36	5	90
5	News paper	2	38	5	95
6	Workshop	1	39	2.5	97.5
7	Seminar	1	40	2.5	100
	Total	40	40	100	100

Chart No. 2: Distribution of citations in Chemical Engineering

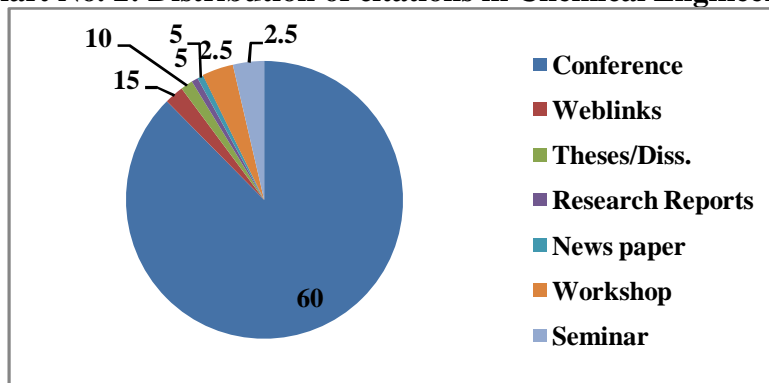


Table No. 4: Distribution of citations in Computer and Information Science

Sl.No.	Form	Citations	Cumulative	Percentage	Cumulative %
1	Conference	366	366	62.67	62.67
2	Thesis/Diss.	132	498	22.60	85.27
3	Workshop	48	546	8.22	93.49
4	Research Reports	17	563	2.91	96.40
5	News paper	11	574	1.88	98.29
6	Seminar	5	579	0.86	99.14
7	Web links	5	584	0.86	100
	Total	584	584	100%	100%

Chart No.4: Distribution of citations in Computer and Information Science

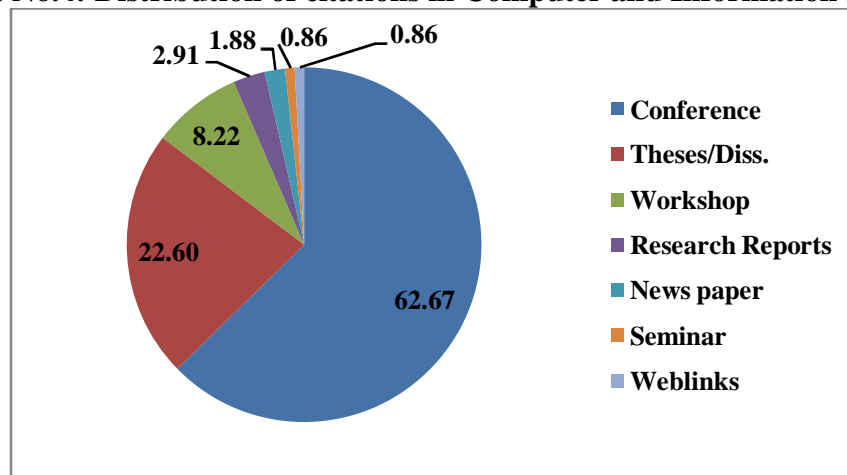


Table 4 reveals that the conference contribute the highest number of citations accounting for (62.67%) of total citations. Thesis secured second highest number of citations accounting for (22.60%) of total citations. workshop secured third highest number of citations accounting for (08.22%) of total citations. Research reports secured fourth highest number of citations accounting for (02.91%) of total citations. Newspaper secured fifth highest number of citations accounting for (01.88%) of total citations. the remaining seminar & weblink are same accounting for (0.86%) of the citations. The distribution of citations among subjects in Computer and Information Science is shown in Chart 4.

Table No. 5: Distribution of citations in Mechanical Engineering

Sl.No.	Form	Citations	Cumulative	Percentage	Cumulative %
1	Conference	232	232	44.96	44.96
2	Thesis/Diss.	208	440	40.31	85.27
3	Research Reports	19	459	3.68	88.95
4	Web links	17	476	3.29	92.25
5	News paper	16	492	3.10	95.35
6	Workshop	15	507	2.91	98.26
7	Seminar	9	516	1.74	100
	Total	516	516	100%	100%

Chart No.3: Distribution of citations in Mechanical Engineering

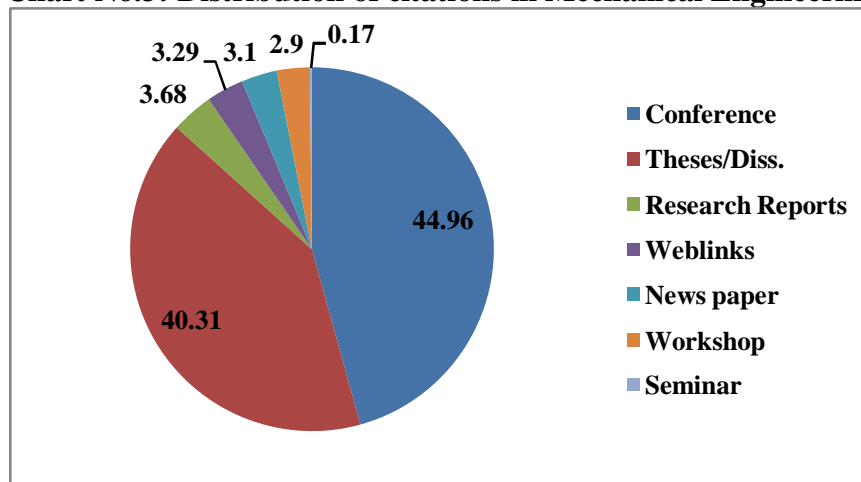


Table 5.4.5 reveals that the conference contribute the highest number of citations accounting for (44.96%) of total citations. Thesis secured second highest number of citations accounting for (40.31%) of total citations. Research report secured third highest number of citations accounting for (03.68%) of total citations. we blink secured fourth highest number of citations accounting for (03.29%) of total citations. Newspaper secured fifth highest number of citations accounting for (03.10%) of total citations. Newspaper secured sixth highest number of citations accounting for (01.85%) of total citations. workshop secured fifth highest number of citations accounting for (02.20%) of total citations. the remaining seminar accounting for (0.17%) of the citations. The distribution of citations among subjects in Mechanical Engineering is shown in Chart 5.

Conclusion:

This Study analysis the grey literatures referred in Ph.D. thesis Submitted to Karnataka state Universities with special reference to engineering and technology during 1960-61 to 2016-17, were analysed for citing Grey Literature and Grey Literature forms. Frequency and percentage distributions (presented in charts and tables) and measures of central tendency were used to analyse data. Grey Literature was the most utilized reference materials in the engineering thesis. The highest number of Grey Literature (Conference) cited in the Computer and information Science, 366 and lowest number of Grey Literature (Conference) cited in the Chemical engineering Subject only with 24. Likewise Thesis/Dissertation, Web links, Newspapers, etcanalysed.

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