Data Article

Exploration of editorial board composition, Citescore and percentiles of Hindawi journals indexed in Scopus

Hilary I. Okagbue\textsuperscript{a,\*}, Aderemi A. Atayero\textsuperscript{b}, Muminu O. Adamu\textsuperscript{c}, Sheila A. Bishop\textsuperscript{a}, Pelumi E. Oguntunde\textsuperscript{a}, Abiodun A. Opanuga\textsuperscript{a}

\textsuperscript{a} Department of Mathematics, Covenant University, Canaanland, Ota, Nigeria
\textsuperscript{b} Department of Electrical and Information Engineering, Covenant University, Canaanland, Ota, Nigeria
\textsuperscript{c} Department of Mathematics, University of Lagos, Akoka, Lagos, Nigeria

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\textbf{A B S T R A C T}

The statistical analysis of editorial board composition, Citescore and percentile of 180 Hindawi journals currently indexed in Scopus are presented in this data article. The three indicators (editorial board composition, Citescore and percentile) can be helpful for researchers to make informed decision about the impact of Hindawi journals. The last two indicators are components of Scopus Citescore metrics.

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\* Corresponding author.
\textit{E-mail address: hilary.okagbue@covenantuniversity.edu.ng} (H.I. Okagbue).

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**Specifications Table**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th><strong>Subject area</strong></th>
<th>Decision Sciences</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td><strong>More specific subject area</strong></td>
<td>Bibliometrics, Statistical data analysis</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Type of data</strong></td>
<td>Table, Figure and MS Excel</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>How data was acquired</strong></td>
<td>The data was obtained from freely open access hindawi journals</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Data format</strong></td>
<td>Raw, partially analyzed</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Experimental factors</strong></td>
<td>Patterns of distribution of editorial board members, Citescore and percentiles of journals indexed in Scopus.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Experimental features</strong></td>
<td>Only the Journals indexed in Scopus were considered</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Data source location</strong></td>
<td>Hindawi Publisher</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Data accessibility</strong></td>
<td>All the data are in this data article</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**Value of the data**

- The data could be in helpful in monitoring imbalances in editorial board composition across the continents.
- The data could be helpful in monitoring the performances of journals over time.
- The data could be helpful in making informed decisions by researchers.
- The data can be used in bibliometric analysis.

1. **Data**

   The datasets contained in this article are listed as follows:

   a. The dataset of editorial distribution of 180 Hindawi journals indexed in Scopus. This can be assessed as Supplementary data.
   b. The frequency of editorial board composition of the 180 Hindawi journals and their summary statistics (Table 1). These are also presented as bar charts (Figs. 1–6).
   c. The summary statistics of the total number of editorial board members presented in Fig. 7.
   d. The summary statistics of the Citescore values of the 180 Hindawi journals shown in Fig. 8.
   e. The summary statistics of the percentile values of the 180 Hindawi journals shown in Fig. 9.

1.1. **Detailed data description**

Currently, Hindawi publishing Corporation publishes 180 journals indexed in Scopus. Scopus is a citation and abstract database launched in 2004 but covers records of previous years dating as far as 1950. The database is provided and managed by Elsevier and currently holds over 70 million records of peer reviewed articles, reviews, notes, editorials, survey, book and book chapters, monographs, patents and conference proceedings of publishers of all academic domains. Scopus uses four quality assessment measures to rank and determine the impact of journals indexed in it. These include: h-index, Citescore, SJR (SCImago Journal Rank) and SNIP (Source Normalized Impact per Paper). A database called SciVal uses data mining to analyze the indexations in Scopus.

Citescore is a subset of Citescore metrics launched as a new metric to track the performance of journals over time while the journal percentile maps the Citescore into a 100 percentage scale which clearly measures the impact of the journal as a result of its citation. The 100 percentage is scaled into Quartiles. Q₁, Q₂, Q₃ and Q₄. Citescore is basically the average number of citations per document that a publication title receives over a three-year period. Journals with high percentiles (Q₁) are higher desirable because of their high impact. Furthermore other metrics include document-and-citation count and percentage cited.
Generally, Citescore metrics comprise of Citescore, Citescore tracker, Citescore percentile, Citescore Quartiles, Citescore rank, Citation count, document count and percentage cited. It is comprehensive, transparent, current and relevant.

### Table 1
Summary statistics of editorial composition of Hindawi journals indexed in Scopus.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th></th>
<th>North America</th>
<th>Europe</th>
<th>Asia</th>
<th>South America</th>
<th>Australia</th>
<th>Africa</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>N</td>
<td>180</td>
<td>180</td>
<td>180</td>
<td>180</td>
<td>180</td>
<td>180</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Mean</td>
<td>14.78</td>
<td>27.36</td>
<td>9.67</td>
<td>1.19</td>
<td>1.68</td>
<td>0.51</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Std. Error of Mean</td>
<td>2.536</td>
<td>4.534</td>
<td>2.079</td>
<td>0.326</td>
<td>0.271</td>
<td>0.109</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Median Q2</td>
<td>8</td>
<td>10</td>
<td>3</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>0</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Mode</td>
<td>3</td>
<td>4</td>
<td>3</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>0</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Std. Deviation</td>
<td>34.028</td>
<td>60.83</td>
<td>27.89</td>
<td>4.367</td>
<td>3.641</td>
<td>1.459</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Variance</td>
<td>1157.903</td>
<td>3700.309</td>
<td>777.853</td>
<td>19.074</td>
<td>13.257</td>
<td>2.128</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Skewness</td>
<td>7.013</td>
<td>5.826</td>
<td>7.242</td>
<td>6.418</td>
<td>4.853</td>
<td>4.89</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Kurtosis</td>
<td>54.534</td>
<td>38.728</td>
<td>61.381</td>
<td>44.554</td>
<td>27.281</td>
<td>29.805</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Range</td>
<td>326</td>
<td>528</td>
<td>282</td>
<td>37</td>
<td>29</td>
<td>11</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Minimum</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>0</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Maximum</td>
<td>327</td>
<td>528</td>
<td>282</td>
<td>37</td>
<td>29</td>
<td>11</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Sum</td>
<td>2661</td>
<td>4924</td>
<td>1741</td>
<td>215</td>
<td>303</td>
<td>92</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Percentiles Q1</td>
<td>5</td>
<td>6</td>
<td>1.25</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>0</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Q3</td>
<td>13</td>
<td>25.75</td>
<td>7</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>2</td>
<td>0</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**Fig. 1.** Editorial Board members with affiliations in North America.

**Summary statistics of editorial composition of Hindawi journals indexed in Scopus.**

Table 1
**Fig. 2.** Editorial Board members with affiliations in Europe.

**Fig. 3.** Editorial Board members with affiliations in Asia.
Fig. 4. Editorial Board members with affiliations in South America.

Fig. 5. Editorial Board members with affiliations in Australia.
The high values of the skewness in Table 1 imply that the difference among the statistic of the first moment is large. Similarly the high values of the Kurtosis imply the some of the observations are far from the mean.

2. Experimental design, materials and methods

The data is openly available at the various webpages of the journals. The data was subsequently extracted and transferred to an Excel file. The stated affiliations posted on the website for the different editorial board members formed the basics for their classifications to their respective continents. In addition, it must be noted that the six continents are differed largely in population, education and development level. The data does not consider the variances because of the following: firstly, the editorial board members are recruited based on their expertise and not based on their country of origin or affiliation. This means that it is possible for all the affiliations of the board members to be the same. This is quite different from paper publication because countries with larger population are most likely to send articles for publication. Secondly, only the official affiliations stated by the editorial board members were obtained which may be different from their country of origin. Lastly, the gender was not considered because it was not officially stated by the publisher.

Again, the Citescore and journal Citescore percentiles were extracted from www.scopus.com. Journals without Citeescore and percentiles were also chosen as long as they are currently abstracted and indexed in Scopus.

The statistical analysis was done to explore the pattern of distribution. Some other statistical analysis can be applied based on the research aim of the researchers. See [1–29] for details.

![Fig. 6. Editorial Board members with affiliations in Africa.](image-url)
2.1. Chi-square test of goodness of fit

Chi-square goodness of fit is often used to assess the observed data differs significantly from the expected. It can be used in quality assurance to test the level of compliance to stated policies or standards. The test is used to change in monitoring imbalances in editorial board composition across the continents. The null hypothesis is that there is absence of imbalance in the editorial composition and the alternative hypothesis is the reverse. This is presented in Table 2.

2.2. Correlation between the editorial board composition and the Citescore and journal percentile

The Kendall tau and Spearman rank correlation coefficients were used. The Pearson correlation was not used because the data is highly skewed as seen in Table 1 and as such, normality cannot be assumed. Also the hypothesis is based on the p value equals 0.05.

The correlation coefficient for the total editorial board composition and the Citescore is $0.022110$ while the $p$-value of $0.776704$ while the correlation coefficient for the total editorial board composition and the percentile is $0.095$ with the $p$-value of $0.222$. These imply that the Citescore and the percentile of the journals are independent of the total editorial board composition.

The correlation coefficient for the editorial board composition (NAM) and the Citescore is $0.041$ while the $p$-value of $0.445$ while the correlation coefficient for the editorial board composition (NAM) and the percentile is $0.075$ with the $p$-value of $0.164$. These imply that the Citescore and the percentile of the journals are independent of the editorial board composition (NAM).

The correlation coefficient for the editorial board composition (EURO) and the Citescore is $0.056$ while the $p$-value of $0.288$ while the correlation coefficient for the editorial board composition (EURO) and the percentile is $0.075$ with the $p$-value of $0.164$. These imply that the Citescore and the percentile of the journals are independent of the editorial board composition (EURO).
(EURO) and the percentile is 0.038 with the p-value of 0.474. These imply that the Citescore and the percentile of the journals are independent of the editorial board composition (EURO).

The correlation coefficient for the editorial board composition (ASIA) and the Citescore is \(-0.184\) while the p-value of 0.001 while the correlation coefficient for the editorial board composition (ASIA) and the percentile is \(-0.112\) with the p-value of 0.025. These imply that the Citescore and the percentile of the journals are dependent of the editorial board composition (ASIA).

The correlation coefficient for the editorial board composition (SAM) and the Citescore is \(-0.102\) while the p-value of 0.092 while the correlation coefficient for the editorial board composition (SAM) and the percentile is \(-0.094\) with the p-value of 0.122. These imply that the Citescore and the percentile of the journals are independent of the editorial board composition (SAM).

The correlation coefficient for the editorial board composition (AUST) and the Citescore is \(-0.004\) while the p-value of 0.950 while the correlation coefficient for the editorial board composition (AUST) and the percentile is 0.057 with the p-value of 0.331. These imply that the Citescore and the percentile of the journals are independent of the editorial board composition (AUST).

The correlation coefficient for the editorial board composition (AFR) and the Citescore is \(-0.163\) while the p-value of 0.008 while the correlation coefficient for the editorial board composition (AFR) and the percentile is \(-0.087\) with the p-value of 0.160. These imply that the Citescore of the journals are dependent of the editorial board composition (AFR) and the percentile of the journals is independent of the editorial board composition (AFR).

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**Fig. 8.** The distribution of the Citescore. Remarks: The average, median, standard deviation, skewness and kurtosis of the Citescore for the 180 Hindawi journals indexed in Scopus are computed to be 1.506287, 1.38, 0.870669, 1.234816 and 2.624597 respectively. Also, 13 journals are yet to be given their Citescore by Scopus.
Acknowledgements

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Transparency document. Supporting information

Transparency data associated with this article can be found in the online version at https://doi.org/10.1016/j.dib.2018.05.066.
Appendix A. Supporting information

Supplementary data associated with this article can be found in the online version at https://doi.org/10.1016/j.dib.2018.05.066.

References