

Extended Abstract

Landscape of Open Access Repositories with Special Reference to Electronic Theses and Dissertations (ETD) across SAARC and BRICS Nations: A Comparative Analysis

Topics: - ETDs and Open Access.

Keywords: *Open Access Repositories (OARs), Electronic Theses and Dissertations (ETDs), Artificial Intelligence (AI), SAARC (South Asian Association for Regional Cooperation), BRICS (Brazil, Russia, India, China, South Africa)*

Background of the Study:

Research Outputs stored as softcopy and archived through Open-Access is getting with momentum across the globe. Academic and Research Institutes, meticulously following the research guidelines and policies, are systematically producing and storing research results in sophisticated ETDs in almost every nation. In the digital age, global visibility of research is crucial, with Electronic Theses and Dissertations (ETDs) playing a vital role. Open Access Repositories (OARs) have gained traction, led by Europe, North America, and increasingly by Asia. Key repositories like ProQuest Dissertations & Theses Global and DART-Europe are instrumental in this movement. Noteworthy ETD repositories in SAARC and BRICS nations which include Shodhganga in India maintained by INFLIBNET Centre, the Digital Archive on Agricultural Theses and Journals in Bangladesh, Pakistan Research Repository, and Biblioteca Digital Brasileira de Teses e Dissertações in Brazil. Starting little late in 2010, India gradually created its Repository and stands out for its substantial contributions to the ETD landscape. (Open ROAR). However, a few challenges remain in establishing comprehensive ETD

repositories, given the diverse characteristics of these nations in terms of population size and higher education institutions. Structure and architecture of ETDs, workflow of submissions and authentication, Metadata Standards used, harvesting methods implemented, scalability and interoperability, DRM issues etc. are major concerns while comparing the ETDs across the globe. In order to find out the commonalities and differences, a detailed analysis of ETD repositories across SAARC and BRICS nations is essential.

Objectives

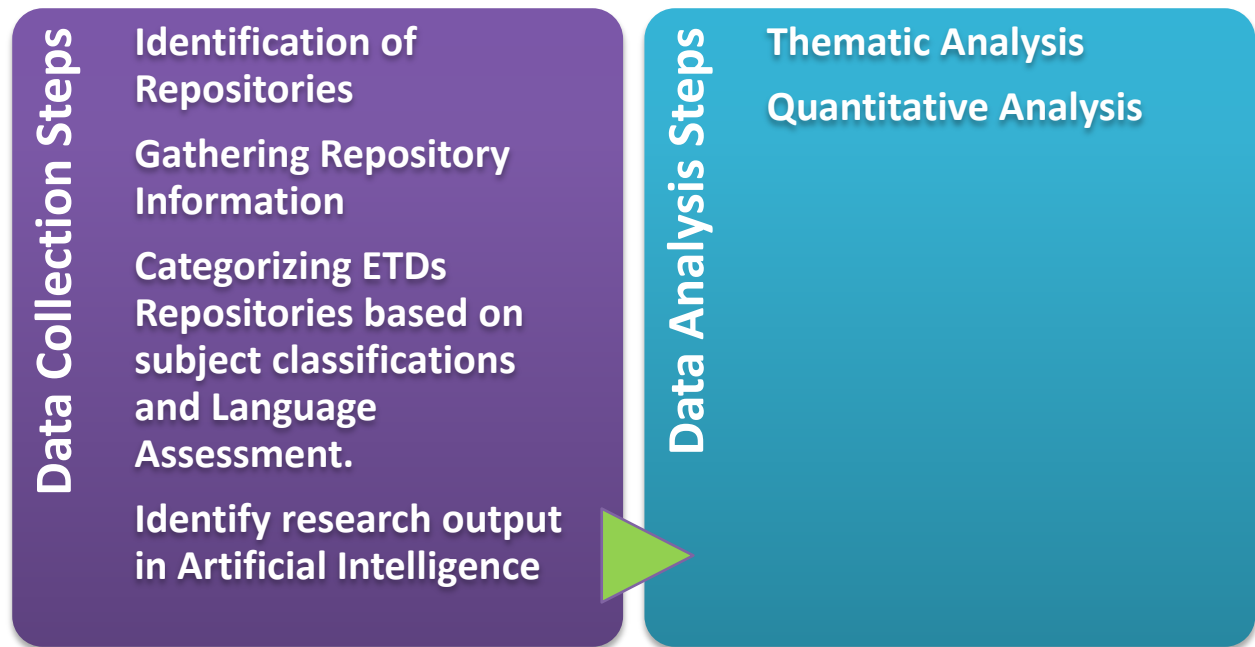
1. To compare open access ETD repositories in SAARC and BRICS countries, focusing on subject coverage and regional language contributions.
2. To investigate the software used for open access ETD repositories across SAARC and BRICS nations.
3. To analyze copyright policies relevant to open access ETD repositories across SAARC and BRICS nations.
4. To evaluate persistent metadata standards within the open access ETD repositories across SAARC and BRICS nations.
5. To examine the history and availability of interoperability protocols within the open access ETD repositories across SAARC and BRICS nations.
6. To identify research output related to Artificial Intelligence within Open Access Electronic Theses and Dissertations (ETD) repositories across SAARC and BRICS nations.

Methodology:

The available Open-Access ETD repositories under Open ROAR/DOAR are examined for deriving the sample size for analysis. The study employs a systematic approach for ETD data collection and analysis. It identifies active ETD repositories based on accessibility and content relevance. Information on software platforms, copyright policies, metadata standards, and subject coverage are gathered. Both thematic analysis and quantitative methods are used to identify patterns and trends.*(Details will be available in full paper)*

Data Analysis:

Based on the research methodology, data collection and analysis strategy involves following steps:



The depicted picture outlined a comprehensive overview of the strategy for data analysis and collection. It encompasses essential steps such as conducting thorough searches to identify active ETD repositories, gathering repository information on software platforms, copyright policies, and metadata standards, categorizing ETDs based on subject classifications and language assessment, developing a search strategy for AI-related ETDs, and performing both thematic and quantitative analyses to discern patterns and trends in the data. *(Details will be available in full paper)*

Results:

The analysis shows a varied landscape of ETD repositories across SAARC and BRICS nations. India's Shodhganga is a significant contributor, reflecting the country's leadership in this area. It also highlights differences in repository management software and metadata standards, with some countries adopting more advanced systems than others. Copyright policies also vary, affecting the accessibility and use of ETDs. *(Details will be available in full paper)*

Conclusion:

The analysis underscores diverse open access ETD repositories across SAARC and BRICS nations, differing in subject coverage, language representation, software, copyright policies, metadata standards, and interoperability. By spotlighting regional languages and AI research, this study suggests a democratization of knowledge access and innovation. It emphasizes embracing linguistic diversity and leveraging AI's potential for transformative scholarly communication. This exploration paves the way for a more inclusive and innovative global academic landscape.

References:

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Comments

This abstract outlines a study on open access ETD repositories across SAARC and BRICS nations. Objectives include comparing OARs and ETDs in terms of subject coverage, software usage, and copyright policies. The methodology combines quantitative data analysis and qualitative approaches. This research aims to contribute insights into global open access initiatives and their impact on scholarly communication.