Title: Use of Publication and Citation Patterns in the decision-making process for the subscription or acquisition of bibliographic databases in university libraries

**Response Letter to the Editor**

Dear Ms. ,

We thank you for the opportunity to revise our manuscript. We are grateful for the thoughtful comments and suggestions that reviewers provided. We believe that we have responded to each comment with a revision to the manuscript. In this letter we describe how we have aimed to respond to the comments and concerns raised. We do this by first restating or summarizing the comment and then explaining our response.

**Reviewers' comments:**

**Reviewer #1:**

* *In page 3, 1st paragraph, 3rd line, it mentioned, “This study focused on two digital databases: Scopus, of great international relevance, and Scielo, which stands out in the Hispanic region, allowing complete research.” Scopus and Scielo were mentioned. It is suggested that “Others” category be included to cater the other papers that were neither Scopus nor Scielo-based.*

**Response:**

**It is not possible to add the category "Others" because for the construction of the findings matrix, only documents indexed in the two bibliographic databases Scopus and Scielo were reviewed. External documents are not included in the analysis.**

* *References were correctly cited, but, the paper is expected to have more references since the title in on methods, indicators, and tools.*

**Response:**

**The recommendation was taken into account, and more references were added to support the results presented in the article.**

* *It is recommended to include findings from other papers be presented to support the findings. Example, page 9, the paragraph after Table 3 – “Data mining techniques come from artificial intelligence and statistics. They are algorithms applied to a set of data to obtain valuable information. In terms of productivity analysis, evaluating information after using a data mining technique is critical.” It mentioned that using a data mining technique is critical. Add reference to support this statement same is true with, “… VOSviewer as a software tool to build and visualize bibliometric networks.” Provide a reference for this line.*

**Response:**

**Findings from other documents were included to support the findings.**

**Example: “Data mining techniques are usually used to find hidden information in big amounts of data [51]. It can be applied to different areas, for example, Torres Berrú et al. presents a study whose purpose is to find algorithms that identify specific characteristics of fraud or corruption [52]. On the other hand, Marcos-Pablos et al. describes a methodology with the objective of helping to adapt, filter and synchronize the search and selection of articles for bibliographic reviews [53].**

* *In addition, some sentences are too lengthy; it goes around the bush. Some sentences are hanging that does not convey the idea clearly. Examples are the first three lines of the Introduction. Consider using a software app to check the grammar for the entire paper.*

**Response:**

**The entire document was reviewed, and the sentences that did not convey a clear idea were corrected, and the grammar was also checked.**

* *The paper was written in an easy-to-follow format. Some parts need justification for easy understanding on the part of the reader. Example; Metadata Analysis and Content Analysis were considered. Authors should cite references that used this type of analysis and identify the benefit/s that will be drawn to the readers.*

**Response:**

**Some justifications were added for better understanding of the reader, for example, in the topic metadata analysis and content analysis it was justified why they were used in the literature review. As well as the use of the PICO structure.**

**Example: “Metadata analysis and content analysis were used. Because metadata analysis is an approach to improve the accuracy of resource discovery, it allows information to be organized in a structured way [21], a range of criteria and procedures may be necessary for different types of metadata. It supports content analysis that will contribute to developing a dialogue about assessing the quality of the metadata [22] and whether it meets the purpose and objectives of the selected study.”**

* *The idea of the paper is relevant to any area of research. However, the Abstract does not give a clear background of the paper. Thus, the following [parameters] must be established in the Abstract: WHAT – Clearly present the research, HOW – methods how you execute your research that will lead to the Results and Discussion then to Conclusion, and WHY – reason behind the research, impact of research to where it will be applied. In the last line of the Abstract, “Among the study's primary results, … add the article “the” to number of citations, and the VOSviewer collection and visualization tool have been the most outstanding for the literature study.”*

**Response:**

**The summary was rewritten considering the elements mentioned in the commentary (WHAT, HOW, WHY) to present a clear background of the article.**

* *The direction of the contents of the paper to the title is unlikely to be seen. There were differing objectives mentioned in the different parts of the paper.*

**Response:**

**The entire document was reviewed, and the respective corrections were made to clarify the main objective of the article, giving it a single direction.**

* *In the Methodology, a tab should be applied in the beginning of the first paragraph. Also, it stated “In this literature review...” but it was observed that there were only 3 references mentioned. It was expected that more references are to be cited and elaborate since your title is on methods, indicators, and tools.*

**Response:**

**Added more references dealing with the methods and tools used for the literature review.**

* *Also, “PICO” was mentioned in the paper. Mention the advantage/s this structure can give, why was it chosen just like in Arlene Fink’s.*

**Response:**

**Justified because the PICO structure was used for the selection of research questions.**

**“the PICO structure was used to design the questions and, to develop search strategies that allow delimiting the objective of the study [15, 16]”**

* *The first step in Arlene Fink’s methodology is “selection of research questions”.  The authors used formulation. It is recommended that authors should stick with the right term which is selection.*

**Response:**

**Changed to Selection.**

* *In the second paragraph of the Methodology, line 4, “The current case study analyzes…”. It again mentioned a type of paper. The authors should identify be consistent with their paper.*

**Response:**

**Clarified throughout the document the type of article that was developed.**

* Still on Methodology, start of line 7. The pronoun “They” was mentioned. It must be replaced with specific nouns.

**Response:**

**It was replaced by a specific pronoun "patterns".**

* *Line 8 of the Methodology – “Consequently, the following questions were considered:…” What brought the authors to consider these questions? Any reference for this?*

**Response:**

**The questions were considered on the basis of the PICO structure, which allows us to design the questions and determine search strategies in literature reviews, allowing us to have a clear idea of the objective of the study.**

* *3rd paragraph, line 1 of Methodology – “The second step corresponded to the selection of digital databases.“ The authors used digital instead of bibliographic. Again, be consistent.*

**Response:**

**Changed the term digital database to bibliographic database.**

* *3rd paragraph, line 3 of Methodology – “This study focused on two digital databases: Scopus, of great international relevance, and Scielo, which stands out in the Hispanic region, allowing complete research.” The authors must cite their references to support this claim. The same is true with 3rd paragraph, line 4 of Methodology – “Subsequently, as a third step, it was necessary to determine the keywords, which, for this research, were derived mainly from the following basic terms: "Acquisition and Subscription", "Bibliometric Methods and Indicators", "Data Mining Techniques and Visualization Tools". References must be noted.*

**Response:**

**The corresponding references have been added; however, the keywords are not cited since they are chosen at our discretion.**

* *A tab must be applied before “The fourth step…” .*

**Response:**

**According to the paper format, TAB should not appear at the beginning of the first paragraph.**

* *4th paragraph, line 2 of Methodology. The line “In this case, several articles did not contain relevant information for this study when using the search terms.” can be omitted. There is no relevance in the paper. Instead, after the 1st line, it is suggested that “2016-2020 articles published in English and Spanish were selected. Furthermore, the Spanish language made it possible to find principles, guidelines, and indicators applied in local institutions. English is the universal scientific language [16]; therefore, it is essential in all investigations.*

**Response:**

**Suggestions were accepted, and the second line of Methodology in the 4th paragraph was omitted.**

* *5th paragraph, 1st line. Cite your reference.*

**Response:**

**The corresponding citation was added as to why the practical criteria was applied. “The main reason for this decision was that journal articles currently represent the highest level of research with current and high quality information, unlike conferences which are works in progress and have not been concluded; on the other hand, in books the information is more mature. Therefore, the places where practical applications are found are the scientific articles [20].”**

* *The term “Finding Matrix” was mentioned but not included in the abstract. It is recommended cite your reference and include in the abstract.*

**Response:**

**"Matrix of Findings in the abstract" was mentioned.**

* *Results and Discussion were divided into two: Metadata Analysis and Content Analysis and the figures and tables were clearly presented. Discussions on the findings were vague because the objective/s of the research is not well-established. Different methodologies, indicators and tools used in the paper should be discussed and supported by references established integrity. It mentioned on Arlene Fink’s methodology then later, applied PICO structure.*

**Response:**

**Objectives were more clearly defined and results were better described.**

* *Under Metadata Analysis, a tab must be applied at the beginning of the sentence.*

**Response:**

**According to the paper format, TAB should not appear at the beginning of a first paragraph.**

* *2nd paragraph, 2nd line – “… this began with the criteria of purchase OR subscription to digital databases.” Fig 1. is labeled as Amount of information retrieved on purchasing AND subscription criteria per country. Observe proper connective.*

**Response:**

**Corrected the name of figure 1.**

* *In page 6, Fig. 3, \*PHL = Philosophy was presented. But Philosophy was never mentioned in the paper.*

**Response:**

**\*PHL was included in Figure 3.**

* *A tab must again be applied on the first paragraph of the Content Analysis. Also, consider rewording the 1st three lines – “In the content analysis, the research questions established in Section 2 are answered. Regarding the question: 1) What are the criteria, methods, or strategies for acquiring digital databases in university libraries? Previously, the articles describing the entities or institutions that subscribe or acquire a digital repository were located.” It is more appropriate to say: “In this part of the paper, research questions established in Section 2 were answered… The articles describing the entities or institutions that subscribe or acquire a digital repository were identified.”*

**Response:**

**Comments were accepted, and the first three lines were rewritten.**

* *A tab must again be considered in the 1st paragraph of the Conclusions.*

**Response:**

**According to the paper format, TAB should not appear at the beginning of a first paragraph.**