

# **UTILITY OF OPEN PLATFORMS AMONG LIBRARY PROFESSIONALS WITH REFERENCE TO GOOGLE SCHOLAR AND RESEARCH GATE**

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## **ABSTRACT**

Research Gate and Google scholar is one of the open platforms where researchers can share their publications among professional communities. Both platforms provide researchers to search for literatures, place for online repositories, and to calculate various metrics. This study is to be conducted among the librarians on the usage of Research Gate and Google Scholar for sharing publications and to know how best these tools are helping the library professional to sharing their research, what are the metrics they are calculating by using tools, what are the major issues and difficulties in these platforms and whether all librarians are familiarized with these tools. The data obtained in this research was based on the objective survey. Data collection techniques adopted by Online Questionnaire by using Google forms to collect the primary data from the librarians. And the collected data will be analyzed using Statistical tool for finding the result.

**Keywords:** Open research sharing tools, Usage of Google scholar, Usage of Research Gate, Comparative study of Google Scholar and Research Gate.

## **Introduction:**

Research Gate and Google scholar is an open source platform where researchers can share their publications among professional communities. Both platforms provide researchers to search for literatures, place for online repositories, and to calculate various metrics. This study is to be conducted among the librarians on the usage of Research Gate and Google Scholar for sharing publications and to know how best these tools are helping the library professional to sharing their research, what are the metrics they are calculating with these tools, what are the major issues and difficulties in these platforms and whether all librarians are familiarized with these tools. The data obtained in this research was based on the objective survey. Data collection techniques adopted by Online Questionnaire by using Google forms to collect the primary data from the librarians. And the collected data will be analyzed using Statistical tool for finding the result.

## **Research Methodology:**

Tool used for survey – Google survey

No. of Responded- 50

## **Pros and Cons of Research Gate and Google scholar:**

### **Pros**

- Sharing of publications among our community
- Connecting with subject matter experts
- Collaborations among the members

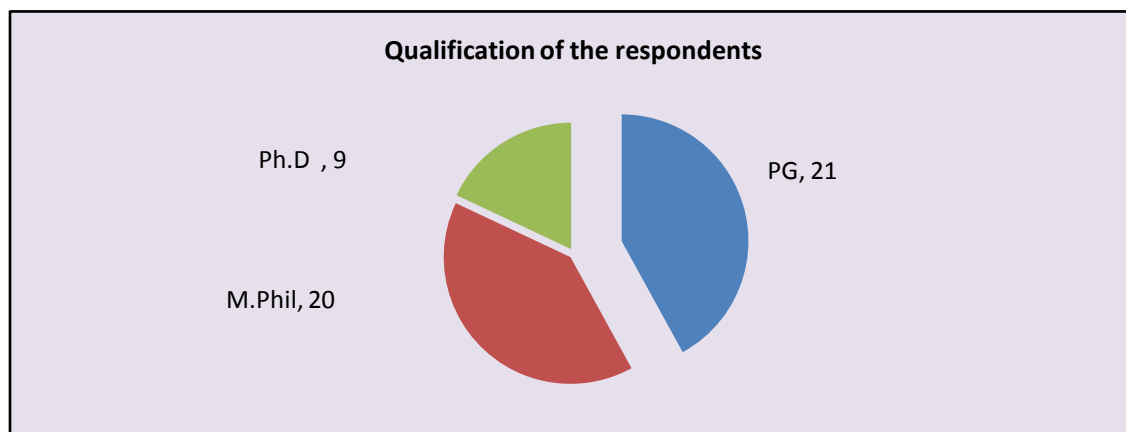
- Obtaining statistics and metrics on our publication and usage of our publication by others
- Place where we can ask questions among other researchers
- Connect through other social medias like FB, LinkedIn, Twitter etc
- Evaluate our self by endorsement

**Cons**

- Most of the profiles are not updated
- Missing of publication details
- Getting unwanted mails every day
- No new feature added by research tools for the users

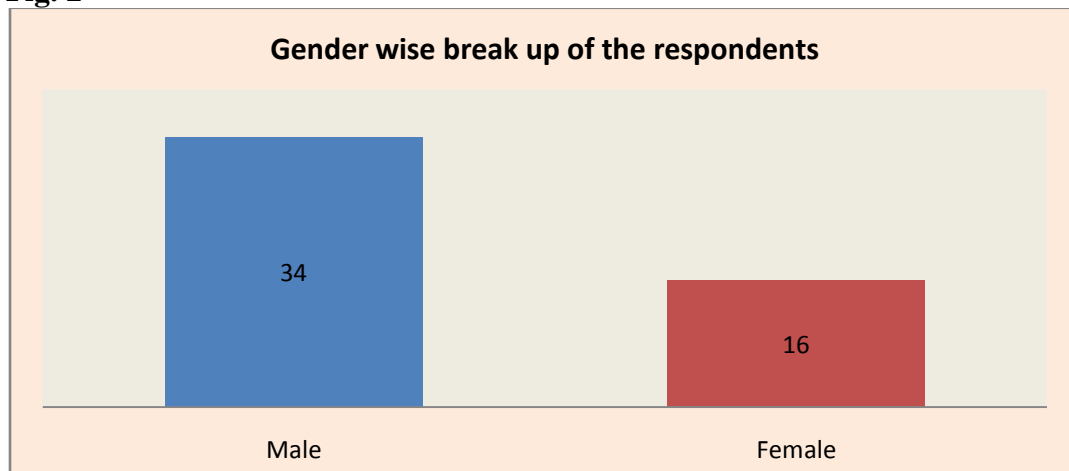
**Findings:**

**Fig. 1**

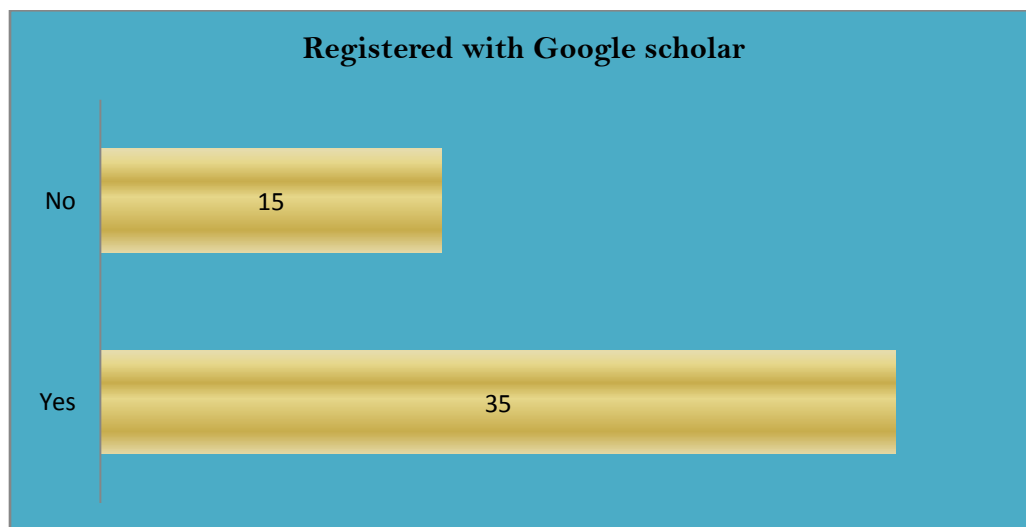


Among 50 respondents we have more than 29 are having research experience. Under those 29 librarians, only 18 librarians are registered with Google scholar and another 18 are registered with Research Gate. But those who have registered with Google scholar but not in Research Gate are 4 and the same vice versa.

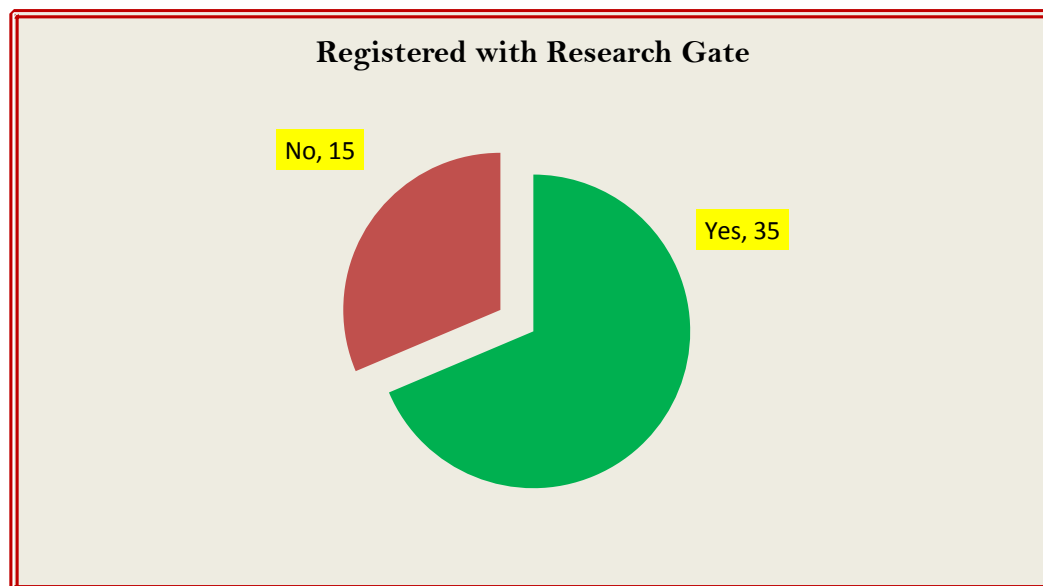
**Fig. 2**



**Fig. 3**

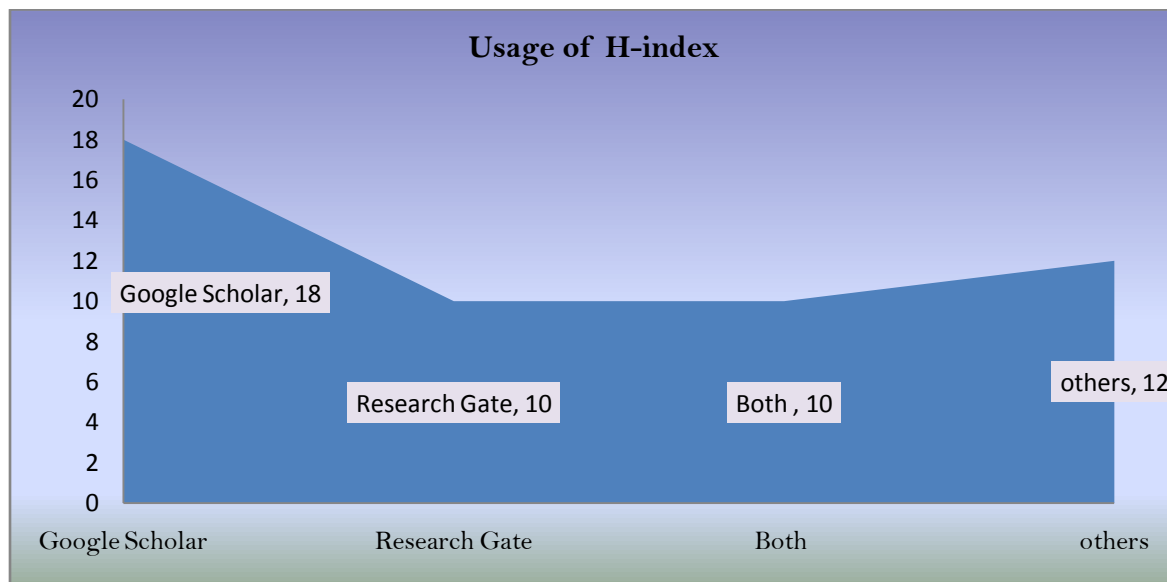


**Fig. 4**



Above Figure 3 and 4 shows that among 50 respondents 35 members were registered with Google scholar and 15 were not yet registered with Google scholar. And also it is analyzed that among the 35 members who having their account in Google Scholar, but not in Research Gate are 7, the same who have not registered with Google scholar but having account with Research Gate are 8.

Fig: 5

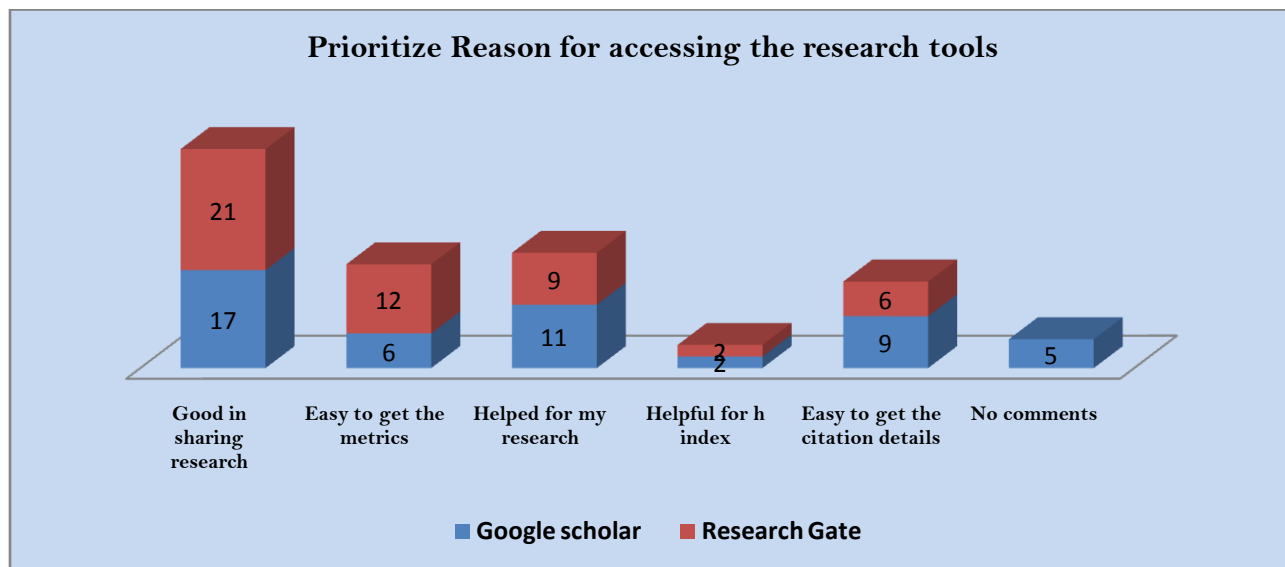


Above figure is analyzed to know the usage of H-index among the respondents, here Google Scholar is leading with Research Gate for getting the H-index. And also 12 members who would like to get the h-index from other research tools.

**Table : I**

Prioritize Reason for accessing	Google scholar	Research Gate
Good in sharing research	17	21
Easy to get the metrics	6	12
Helped for my research	11	9
Helpful for h index	2	2
Easy to get the citation details	9	6
No comments	5	
Total	50	50

**Fig. 6**



Above figure and table is perfectly explaining the prioritization of the researchers and librarians in the usage of Google Scholar and Research Gate. Here the Research Gate has more impact than the Google scholar.

**Conclusion**

Based on the above survey findings, it seems researchers are not regularly updating their profile and uploading the publications in these platforms. But few institutions started collecting Google scholar data for providing their research output. But comparing to the Research Gate, Google Scholar is more helpful to get the citation in various styles and also useful for citation analysis for our publication. But funding agencies and NIRF is not too much focusing on the above tools; it recommends Web of Science and Scopus for best research output. But still Google scholar is one the familiarized open source platform for sharing your research among professionals.

**References:**

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