Abstract

This data article contains the statistical analysis of the total, percentage and distribution of editorial board composition of 111 Hindawi journals indexed in Emerging Sources Citation Index (ESCI) across the continents. The reliability of the data was shown using correlation, goodness-of-fit test, analysis of variance and statistical variability tests.

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**Specifications table**

| Subject area                      | Decision Sciences             |
|-----------------------------------|-------------------------------|
| More specific subject area        | Bibliometrics, Statistical data analysis |
| Type of data                      | Table, Figure and MS Excel    |
| How data was acquired             | The data was obtained from freely open access hindawi journals |
| Data format                       | Raw, partially analyzed       |
| Experimental factors              | Patterns of composition of editorial members of journals indexed in ESCI. |
| Experimental features             | Only the Journals indexed in ESCI were considered |
| Data source location              | Hindawi Publisher             |
| Data accessibility                | All the data are in this data article |

**Value of the data**

- The data could be helpful in the determination of the impact of journal indexing on scientific publications.
- The analysis can be extended to other publishers.
- The dataset can be helpful in bibliometric analysis.
- The dataset can be helpful as a ranking analytics for journals and management of smart campuses.
- The dataset can be helpful in monitoring the impact of editorial composition in the acceptance and rejection of manuscripts submitted to different Hindawi journals.
- The dataset can provide insight to the following: stereotyping in academic publications, duration differences in acceptance or rejection of manuscript, bias in publication. See [1] for the case of management academic area.
- The dataset can spur academic discourse on the effect of geographical distribution of editorial board membership on perceived research output using the journals indexed in ESCI as case study. This can be achieved when citation analysis is incorporated. See the conclusions of [2].
- Several statistical models and methods can be applied to the dataset for further analysis.

1. **Data**

The dataset contained in this article are listed as follows:

a. The dataset of editorial composition of 111 Hindawi journals indexed in ESCI. This can be assessed as Supplementary data 1.

b. The frequency of editorial board composition of the 111 Hindawi journals and their summary statistics. This is presented in Fig. 1.

c. The editorial board membership grouped into six continents. These are presented in bar charts. See Fig. 2a, b, c, d and e.

d. The detailed statistical analysis such as correlation analysis, test of normality and analysis of variance

e. The detailed dataset showing the Poisson distribution goodness-of-fit test of the data classified into six continents namely North America (NAM), Europe (EURO), Asia (ASIA), South America (SAM), Australia (AUST) and Africa (AFR).

1.1. **Detailed data description**

Hindawi Publishing Corporation is one of the leading academic publishers of medical, technical, social and scientific peer-reviewed literature. Currently, they publish 302 journals that cut across
different academic domains. The publisher operates on fully open access model under Creative Commons Attribution License (CC-BY). The editorial policies of the journals stipulate that they operate without editor-in-chief but rather through editorial boards. Manuscripts submitted to the journals are first processed at the editorial office and sent to an assigned editor chosen from the pool of editorial board members of the journal. The assigned editor is then saddled with the responsibility of sourcing for qualified reviewers for the manuscript. The decision to accept or reject solely rests on the shoulders of the editors. The business model used by the publisher is that indexing determines the article processing charges.

Currently, Hindawi publishing Corporation publishes 111 journals indexed in emerging sources citation index (ESCI). ESCI is part of web of science owned and maintained by of Clarivate Analytics (formerly Thomson Reuters). ESCI has been in existence since 2015 and it includes peer reviewed academic journals.

2. Experimental design, materials and methods

The experimental design used in this paper is the application of statistical methods targeted at revealing the hidden patterns of the datasets. Text mining was used to extract the dataset from the publisher’s website. Similar analysis on statistical methods and the applications in bibliometrics can be found in Ref. [3–16]. In addition, those works have helped in deeper understanding of pattern of editorial composition, citation analysis, rejection and acceptance rates and others.

2.1. Distribution of Editorial board membership (composition) across the six continents

The editorial board membership of the publisher is classified into six continents. The summary statistics is as shown in Table 1.

2.2. Percentage editorial board membership composition

Percentage editorial board membership composition of Hindawi journals indexed in ESCI was obtained to show the actual percentage composition across the continents. This is shown in Table 2.
2.3. Correlation

The correlation results using Spearman, Pearson and Kendall correlation coefficient are obtained in the form of matrices shown in Tables 3a, 3b and 3c.

The distances between the correlations are computed using the following:

\[ A_1 = |\text{Pearson} - \text{Spearman}| \]

\[ A_2 = |\text{Kendall} - \text{Pearson}| \]
The application of the transformations and their percentages using Table 3a, 3b and 3c are presented in Table 4. Correlation analysis often reveals some interesting hidden pattern in data. See [17–21] for details.
### Table 3b
A correlation matrix of the editorial board composition (Spearman correlation coefficient).

| Variables | NAM | EURO | ASIA | SAM | AUST | AFR |
|-----------|-----|------|------|-----|------|-----|
| NAM       | 1   |      |      |     |      |     |
| EURO      | 0.076240 | 1   |      |     |      |     |
| ASIA      | 0.134405 | 0.540343 | 1   |     |      |     |
| SAM       | 0.101428 | 0.257115 | 0.294628 | 1  |      |     |
| AUST      | 0.242937 | 0.122644 | 0.095750 | 0.186542 | 1 |     |
| AFR       | 0.173750 | 0.254738 | 0.278440 | 0.316884 | 0.178483 | 1 |

### Table 3c
A correlation matrix of the editorial board composition (Kendall correlation coefficient).

| Variables | NAM | EURO | ASIA | SAM | AUST | AFR |
|-----------|-----|------|------|-----|------|-----|
| NAM       | 1   |      |      |     |      |     |
| EURO      | 0.047338 | 1   |      |     |      |     |
| ASIA      | 0.090226 | 0.411477 | 1   |     |      |     |
| SAM       | 0.082719 | 0.213338 | 0.241630 | 1  |      |     |
| AUST      | 0.198969 | 0.096349 | 0.071850 | 0.169551 | 1 |     |
| AFR       | 0.142385 | 0.211057 | 0.231271 | 0.293869 | 0.167058 | 1 |

### Table 4
Absolute difference between the correlations coefficients and their percentages.

| Variables | $A_1$ | $A_2$ | $A_3$ | %$A_1$ | %$A_2$ | %$A_3$ |
|-----------|-------|-------|-------|--------|--------|--------|
| (NAM, EURO) | 0.874514 | 0.903416 | 0.028902 | 87.4514 | 90.3416 | 2.8902 |
| (NAM, ASIA) | 0.521181 | 0.56536 | 0.044179 | 52.1181 | 56.536 | 4.4179 |
| (NAM, SAM) | 0.634773 | 0.653482 | 0.018709 | 63.4773 | 65.3482 | 1.8709 |
| (NAM, AUST) | 0.650619 | 0.694587 | 0.043968 | 65.0619 | 69.4587 | 4.3968 |
| (NAM, AFR) | 0.134723 | 0.166088 | 0.031365 | 13.4723 | 16.6088 | 3.1365 |
| (EURO, ASIA) | 0.225296 | 0.354162 | 0.128866 | 22.5296 | 35.4162 | 12.8866 |
| (EURO, SAM) | 0.518045 | 0.561822 | 0.043777 | 51.8045 | 56.1822 | 4.3777 |
| (EURO, AUST) | 0.747501 | 0.773796 | 0.026295 | 74.7501 | 77.3796 | 2.6295 |
| (EURO, AFR) | 0.164524 | 0.208205 | 0.043681 | 16.4524 | 20.8205 | 4.3681 |
| (ASIA, SAM) | 0.23267 | 0.285668 | 0.052998 | 23.267 | 28.5668 | 5.2998 |
| (ASIA, AUST) | 0.481262 | 0.505162 | 0.0239 | 48.1262 | 50.5162 | 2.39 |
| (ASIA, AFR) | 0.216983 | 0.264152 | 0.047169 | 21.6983 | 26.4152 | 4.7169 |
| (SAM, AUST) | 0.528166 | 0.545157 | 0.016991 | 52.8166 | 54.5157 | 1.6991 |
| (SAM, AFR) | 0.158346 | 0.181361 | 0.023015 | 15.8346 | 18.1361 | 2.3015 |
| (AUST, AFR) | 0.107313 | 0.118738 | 0.011425 | 10.7313 | 11.8738 | 1.1425 |

### Table 5
Partial correlation coefficients $r$.

| Variables | $r_1$ | $r_2$ | $r_3$ |
|-----------|-------|-------|-------|
| (NAM, EURO, ASIA) | 0.92396 | −0.36286 | 0.60816 |
| (NAM, EURO, SAM) | 0.88896 | −0.00400 | 0.35857 |
| (NAM, EURO, AUST) | 0.78299 | 0.43382 | 0.14799 |
| (NAM, EURO, AFR) | 0.95117 | −0.32034 | 0.42729 |
| (EURO, ASIA, SAM) | 0.66486 | 0.67958 | −0.16288 |
| (EURO, ASIA, AUST) | 0.65482 | 0.81534 | −0.28140 |
| (EURO, ASIA, AFR) | 0.70747 | 0.07149 | 0.29866 |
| (ASIA, SAM, AUST) | 0.20115 | 0.33679 | 0.59146 |
| (ASIA, AUST, AFR) | 0.52308 | −0.42229 | −0.00001 |
| (SAM, AUST, AFR) | 0.68657 | 0.40428 | −0.08751 |
Table 6
Goodness-of-fit test for Poisson distribution (North America).

| NAM | Observed | Poisson Probability | Expected | Contribution to Chi-Sq |
|-----|----------|---------------------|----------|------------------------|
| <=4 | 28       | 0.020906            | 2.3206   | 284.171                |
| 5   | 11       | 0.029080            | 3.2279   | 18.714                 |
| 6 - 7 | 19      | 0.127488            | 14.1512  | 1.661                  |
| 8 - 9 | 23      | 0.218069            | 24.2057  | 0.060                  |
| 10 - 11 | 12     | 0.241587            | 26.8162  | 8.186                  |
| 12 - 13 | 3       | 0.187090            | 20.7670  | 15.200                 |
| 14 - 15 | 5       | 0.106851            | 11.8605  | 3.968                  |
| 16 - 17 | 5       | 0.046826            | 5.1976   | 0.008                  |
| >=18 | 5        | 0.022103            | 2.4534   | 2.643                  |

| N | DF  | Chi-Sq | P-Value |
|---|-----|--------|---------|
| 111 | 7   | 334.612 | 0.000   |

3 cell(s) (33.33%) with expected value(s) less than 5.

Table 7
Goodness-of-fit test for Poisson distribution (Europe).

| EURO | Observed | Poisson Probability | Expected | Contribution to Chi-Sq |
|------|----------|---------------------|----------|------------------------|
| <=6  | 43       | 0.028454            | 3.1584   | 502.578                |
| 7    | 11       | 0.030312            | 3.3646   | 17.327                 |
| 8    | 10       | 0.048642            | 5.3993   | 3.920                  |
| 9    | 11       | 0.069384            | 7.7017   | 1.413                  |
| 10   | 5        | 0.089075            | 9.8873   | 2.416                  |
| 11   | 4        | 0.103957            | 11.5392  | 4.926                  |
| 12   | 0        | 0.111215            | 12.3449  | 12.345                 |
| 13   | 3        | 0.109828            | 12.1909  | 6.929                  |
| 14   | 2        | 0.100711            | 11.1789  | 7.537                  |
| 15   | 6        | 0.086194            | 9.5675   | 1.330                  |
| 16   | 4        | 0.069159            | 7.6766   | 1.761                  |
| 17   | 2        | 0.052227            | 5.7971   | 2.487                  |
| 18   | 0        | 0.037249            | 4.1346   | 4.135                  |
| >=19 | 10       | 0.063595            | 7.0590   | 1.225                  |

| N | DF  | Chi-Sq | P-Value |
|---|-----|--------|---------|
| 111 | 12  | 570.328 | 0.000   |

3 cell(s) (21.43%) with expected value(s) less than 5.
The result of the partial correlation is presented in Table 5.

### 2.4. Goodness-of-fit test

The uneven editorial board membership composition across the continents necessitated the conduct of goodness-of-fit test using Poisson distribution. The goodness-of-fit results are divided into two. Firstly, the detailed tests are shown in Tables 6–11 and the chart of the observed and expected values are shown in Figs. 3–8.

#### Table 8
Goodness-of-fit test for Poisson distribution (Asia).

| Poisson | Contribution to Chi-Sq |
|---------|------------------------|
| ASIA    | Observed   | Probability | Expected |  |
| <=2     | 44         | 0.051615    | 5.7293   | 255.643 |
| 3       | 13         | 0.078458    | 8.7089   | 2.114   |
| 4       | 15         | 0.122635    | 13.6125  | 0.141   |
| 5       | 8          | 0.153350    | 17.0218  | 4.782   |
| 6       | 3          | 0.159797    | 17.7374  | 12.245  |
| 7       | 3          | 0.142727    | 15.8427  | 10.411  |
| 8       | 1          | 0.111546    | 12.3816  | 10.462  |
| 9       | 2          | 0.077490    | 8.6014   | 5.066   |
| 10      | 3          | 0.048449    | 5.3778   | 1.051   |
| 11      | 2          | 0.027538    | 3.0567   | 0.365   |
| >=12    | 17         | 0.026395    | 2.9299   | 67.569  |

| N | DF | Chi-Sq | P-Value |
|---|----|--------|---------|
| 111 | 9  | 369.850 | 0.000   |

2 cell(s) (18.18%) with expected value(s) less than 5.

#### Table 9
Goodness-of-fit test for Poisson distribution (South America).

| Poisson | Contribution to Chi-Sq |
|---------|------------------------|
| SAM     | Observed   | Probability | Expected |  |
| 0       | 77         | 0.440511    | 48.8967  | 16.1523 |
| 1       | 20         | 0.361140    | 40.0865  | 10.0649 |
| 2       | 8          | 0.148035    | 16.4319  | 4.3267  |
| >=3     | 6          | 0.050315    | 5.5849   | 0.0308  |

| N | DF | Chi-Sq | P-Value |
|---|----|--------|---------|
| 111 | 2  | 30.5748 | 0.000   |

The result of the partial correlation is presented in Table 5.
Table 10  
Goodness-of-fit test for Poisson distribution (Australia).

| Poisson | Contribution to Chi-Sq |
|---------|-------------------------|
| AUST    | Observed | Probability | Expected |  |
| 0       | 52       | 0.374568    | 41.5770  | 2.61293 |
| 1       | 39       | 0.367819    | 40.8279  | 0.08184 |
| 2       | 13       | 0.180596    | 20.0461  | 2.47669 |
| >=3     | 7        | 0.077017    | 8.5489   | 0.28063 |

N DF Chi-Sq P-Value
111 2 5.45209 0.065

Table 11  
Goodness-of-fit test for Poisson distribution (Africa).

| Poisson | Contribution to Chi-Sq |
|---------|-------------------------|
| AFR     | Observed | Probability | Expected |  |
| 0       | 90       | 0.691170    | 76.7199  | 2.2988 |
| 1       | 11       | 0.255297    | 28.3380  | 10.6079 |
| >=2     | 10       | 0.053533    | 5.9421   | 2.7711 |

N DF Chi-Sq P-Value
111 1 15.6777 0.000

Fig. 3. Chart of observed and expected values (North America).
Fig. 4. Chart of observed and expected values (Europe).

Fig. 5. Chart of observed and expected values (Asia).

Fig. 6. Chart of observed and expected values (South America).
2.5. Analysis of variance

The data is subjected to analysis of variance (ANOVA) and the result is shown in Table 12. Furthermore the boxplot and interval plot of the data are displayed in Figs. 9 and 10 respectively.

2.6. Statistical variability analysis

Different variability measures are conducted for editorial board composition of ESCI indexed Hindawi journals across the continents. These are summarized in Tables 13–18.
Table 12
Analysis of variance of the editorial board composition across the continents of ESCI indexed Hindawi journals.

| Source | DF | Adj SS | Adj MS | P-Value | P-Value |
|--------|----|--------|--------|---------|---------|
| Factor | 5  | 16421  | 3284.2 | 14.55   | 0.000   |
| Error  | 660| 148948 | 225.7  |         |         |
| Total  | 665| 165369 |        |         |         |

Model Summary

\[ S \quad R-sq \quad R-sq(adj) \quad R-sq(pred) \]
\[ 15.0226 \quad 9.93\% \quad 9.25\% \quad 8.28\% \]

Means

| Factor | N   | Mean | StDev          | 95% CI           |
|--------|-----|------|----------------|------------------|
| NAM    | 111 | 10.51| 24.24          | (7.71, 13.31)    |
| EURO   | 111 | 12.84| 25.38          | (10.04, 15.64)   |
| ASIA   | 111 | 6.252| 10.392         | (3.452, 9.052)   |
| SAM    | 111 | 0.820| 2.877          | (-1.980, 3.620)  |
| AUST   | 111 | 0.982| 2.240          | (-1.818, 3.782)  |
| AFR    | 111 | 0.3694| 0.9335        | (-2.4304, 3.1692)|

Pooled StDev = 15.0226

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Fig. 9. Box plot of editorial board composition across the continents.
Table 13
Variability analysis of the North America data.

|                                |        |
|--------------------------------|--------|
| Absolute range                 | 250    |
| Relative range (unbiased)      | 10.3118|
| Variance (unbiased)            | 587.779|
| Standard Deviation (unbiased)  | 24.2442|
| Coefficient of Variation (unbiased) | 2.306  |
| Squared Differences between all Pairs of Observations | 1175.56 |
| Mean Absolute Differences between all Pairs of Observations | 10.2165 |
| Gini Mean Difference           | 10.2165|
| Leik Measure of Dispersion     | 0.559367|
| Index of Diversity             | 0.943516|
| Index of Qualitative Variation | 0.952093|
| Coefficient of Dispersion      | 1.0223 |
| Observations                   | 111    |

Table 14
Variability analysis of the Europe data.

|                                |        |
|--------------------------------|--------|
| Absolute range                 | 248    |
| Relative range (unbiased)      | 9.77153|
| Variance (unbiased)            | 644.137|
| Standard Deviation (unbiased)  | 25.3799|
| Coefficient of Variation (unbiased) | 1.97696|
| Squared Differences between all Pairs of Observations | 1288.27 |
| Mean Absolute Differences between all Pairs of Observations | 12.9369 |
| Gini Mean Difference           | 12.9369|
| Leik Measure of Dispersion     | 0.56356|
| Index of Diversity             | 0.956098|
| Index of Qualitative Variation | 0.96479 |
| Coefficient of Dispersion      | 1.19229|

Fig. 10. Interval plot of editorial board composition across the continents.
Table 15
Variability analysis of the Asia data.

| Statistic                                             | Value    |
|-------------------------------------------------------|----------|
| Absolute range                                        | 71       |
| Relative range (unbiased)                             | 6.83228  |
| Variance (unbiased)                                   | 107.99   |
| Standard Deviation (unbiased)                         | 10.3918  |
| Coefficient of Variation (unbiased)                   | 1.6621   |
| Squared Differences between all Pairs of Observations | 215.981  |
| Mean Absolute Differences between all Pairs of Observations | 7.86306  |
| Gini Mean Difference                                  | 7.86306  |
| Leik Measure of Dispersion                            | 0.510375 |
| Index of Diversity                                    | 0.966327 |
| Index of Qualitative Variation                        | 0.975112 |
| Coefficient of Dispersion                             | 1.95157  |

Table 16
Variability analysis of the South America data.

| Statistic                                             | Value    |
|-------------------------------------------------------|----------|
| Absolute range                                        | 23       |
| Relative range (unbiased)                             | 7.99482  |
| Variance (unbiased)                                   | 8.27633  |
| Standard Deviation (unbiased)                         | 2.87686  |
| Coefficient of Variation (unbiased)                   | 3.50914  |
| Squared Differences between all Pairs of Observations | 16.5527  |
| Mean Absolute Differences between all Pairs of Observations | 1.41523  |
| Gini Mean Difference                                  | 1.41523  |
| Leik Measure of Dispersion                            | 0.59021  |
| Index of Diversity                                    | 0.881053 |
| Index of Qualitative Variation                        | 0.889063 |
| Coefficient of Dispersion                             | n/a      |

n/a not available.

Table 17
Variability analysis of the Australia data.

| Statistic                                             | Value    |
|-------------------------------------------------------|----------|
| Absolute range                                        | 22       |
| Relative range (unbiased)                             | 9.82118  |
| Variance (unbiased)                                   | 5.01785  |
| Standard Deviation (unbiased)                         | 2.24006  |
| Coefficient of Variation (unbiased)                   | 2.28116  |
| Squared Differences between all Pairs of Observations | 10.0357  |
| Mean Absolute Differences between all Pairs of Observations | 1.33202  |
| Gini Mean Difference                                  | 1.33202  |
| Leik Measure of Dispersion                            | 0.53995  |
| Index of Diversity                                    | 0.944533 |
| Index of Qualitative Variation                        | 0.95312  |
| Coefficient of Dispersion                             | 0.920055 |

Table 18
Variability analysis of the Africa data.

| Statistic                                             | Value    |
|-------------------------------------------------------|----------|
| Absolute range                                        | 5        |
| Relative range (unbiased)                             | 5.3562   |
| Variance (unbiased)                                   | 0.871417 |
| Standard Deviation (unbiased)                         | 0.931497 |
| Coefficient of Variation (unbiased)                   | 2.52727  |
| Squared Differences between all Pairs of Observations | 1.74283  |
| Mean Absolute Differences between all Pairs of Observations | 0.649304 |
| Gini Mean Difference                                  | 0.649304 |
| Leik Measure of Dispersion                            | 0.512639 |
| Index of Diversity                                    | 0.933968 |
| Index of Qualitative Variation                        | 0.942458 |
| Coefficient of Dispersion                             | n/a      |

n/a not available.
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Transparency document. Supporting information

Supplementary data associated with this article can be found in the online version at http://dx.doi.org/10.1016/j.dib.2018.02.044.

Appendix A. Supplementary material

Supplementary data associated with this article can be found in the online version at http://dx.doi.org/10.1016/j.dib.2018.02.044.

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