Coverage of Malaysian Scholarly publications in the Directory of Open Access Journals: An exploratory study

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ABSTRACT

The aim of this study is to assess the current status of Open Access journals published in Malaysia by analysing the Malaysian journals listed in the Directory of Open Access Journals (DOAJ). This exploratory and descriptive study is guided by the following research questions: (a) What growth trends are evident in Malaysian journals covered in DOAJ? (b) Are these journals also indexed in Web of Science (WoS), Scopus, and MyCite? (c) What are distribution, and publishing dynamics of Malaysian journals covered in DOAJ? Data was collected from DOAJ, with information on indexed journals prior to 2024. The performance of Malaysian journals listed in DOAJ was further evaluated using data from WoS, Scopus, and MyCite. A total of 101 Malaysian journals were identified, of which 27 are indexed in WoS (ESCI), 36 in Scopus, and 69 in MyCite. The publishers of these journals can be categorised into four groups: university publishers, commercial publishers, publishers affiliated with societies or associations, and government-affiliated publishers. Notably, public university publishers are the major players in Malaysian Open Access journals. Approximately two-thirds of the journals are concentrated in four main subject categories, indicating an unbalanced development across different fields. There remains significant room for improvement in the openness of these journals. This study provides an overview of Malaysian journals included in DOAJ and highlights their key characteristics. The findings can serve as a valuable reference for journal publishers in Malaysia striving to meet global standards for Open Access.

Keywords: Open Access Journals; Directory of Open Access Journals (DOAJ); Malaysian journals; Scholarly publishing; Journal performance studies.

INTRODUCTION

With the advent of new communication and information technologies, the global Open Access (OA) movement has sparked the growth of journals. The Budapest Open Access Initiative (BOAI) has significantly benefited the public by harnessing the Internet's capacity to share information freely and building on the academic tradition of openly distributing scholarly articles and providing peer-reviewed services (Budapest Open Access Initiative, 2002). Malaysia has sought to promote and develop OA at various levels and has made significant progress in publishing through OA (Koleini et al., 2013). The Malaysian Citation Centre (MCC) has been instrumental in indexing, promoting, and elevating the visibility of Malaysian journals, many of which follow OA models. Through Malaysian Citation Index (MyCite) (Zainab et al., 2013), these initiatives have greatly expanded the global reach of Malaysian scholarly work and improved access to academic research. Recognising the value of maximising the potential impact of Open Science, the Ministry of Science, Technology and Innovation (MOSTI) initiated and funded the Malaysia Open Science Platform (MOSP) pilot programme in 2019. The aim is to transform Malaysia's research data into a significant national asset by creating a reliable platform that facilitates access to and provision of research data in line with national priorities and global best practises (Malaysia Open Science Platform, 2020). In 2020, National Open Science Guidelines were established to ensure consistent data management, particularly in relation to research data (Academy of Sciences Malaysia, 2020). These practices show that the Malaysian government has made many attempts to promote not only OA but also a much broader concept of "open science". In addition, the growth of OA repositories and journals in Malaysia has improved the visibility and availability of research outputs. OA has accelerated the sharing of knowledge and ideas among academic communities in relevant fields in Malaysia (Nisa et al., 2021).

The Directory of Open Access Journals (DOAJ) is globally recognised for its rigorous criteria for journal inclusion, serving as a benchmark for Open Access (OA) publishing quality. Journals listed in the DOAJ are automatically labeled as OA in Scopus (Susanne & Ian, 2015). In September 2022, key organizations in scholarly publishing, including the Committee on Publication Ethics (COPE), DOAJ, the Open Access Scholarly Publishers Association (OASPA), and the World Association of Medical Editors (WAME), collaboratively released version 4.0 of the *Principles for Transparency and Best Practices in Scholarly Publishing*, first introduced in 2013 (DOAJ, 2023). These principles draw heavily from the DOAJ's inclusion guidelines (Olijhoek et al., 2015), further reinforcing their significance in setting industry standards. Given the DOAJ's reputation for maintaining international benchmarks in journal quality and OA policies, it is widely used as a reference point in scholarly research. Studies often assess the prevalence and proportion of OA journals by analyzing those indexed in the DOAJ, reflecting its central role in the academic publishing ecosystem (Björk, 2019).

Although the Malaysian government has implemented various initiatives to promote OA, studies focusing specifically on Malaysian OA journals remain scarce. This lack of research makes it challenging for policymakers to evaluate the effectiveness of existing policies and make informed adjustments to further support OA development in the country. The limited availability of data on Malaysian OA journals applying for indexing in the DOAJ further exacerbates this issue. Given the DOAJ's stringent inclusion criteria and its role in setting international standards, there is a pressing need to analyze the strengths and weaknesses of Malaysian journals currently indexed in DOAJ. Such insights could guide improvements in

journal quality and OA policy alignment, ultimately enhancing the visibility and impact of Malaysian scholarly publishing (Druelinger & Ma, 2023).

This study looks at the attributes of Malaysian OA journals from the perspective of the basic information of journals registered in DOAJ and attempt to get an overview of OA in Malaysia, such as geographical location, subject areas, languages, publishers and article data. In addition, this study examines whether journals allow authors to retain full copyright and licencing types. It also examines and discusses the journals' peer review process, fee policy and best practises. The findings could help Malaysian journal publishers and editors to understand the current situation of Malaysian OA journals and how to efficiently improve Malaysian OA journal policies and services to meet international publication standards. At the same time, identifying these features could play a key role in producing highly cited Malaysian publications.

THE ROLE OF DOAJ IN OPEN ACCESS: CRITERIA AND GLOBAL TRENDS

The DOAJ, an online directory of peer-reviewed OA journals, was founded in 2003 and initially comprised around 300 OA journals (DOAJ, 2023). It was supported by the Open Society Institute in 2002 to create an international index of OA journals (Olijhoek et al., 2015; Van Noorden, 2014). Originally hosted by Lund University in Sweden, DOAJ is now managed by Infrastructure Services for Open Access (IS4OA), an independent non-profit organisation with a more formal structure (Marchitelli et al., 2017). The main objectives of DOAJ are to maintain and expand the availability of trustworthy information about peer-reviewed OA journals and to improve the accessibility of these journals. The directory tracks whether the journals listed there fulfil the required quality criteria (Domnina, 2018). There are several criteria that the DOAJ uses to assess a journal's eligibility for indexing. A journal must submit a formal online application to the DOAJ.

Following a series of evaluation procedures, the journal is indexed if it fulfils all the criteria in Appendix 1. Journals that do not meet these standards are rejected and must wait six months before submitting a new application. To support applicants, the DOAJ provides a comprehensive application guide, translated into 12 languages, available on its official website. Since 2014, this guide has been published in seven editions, which have been updated at least once a year since 2021. The last revision was made by the DOAJ in January 2024. It shows the additional inclusion criteria for journals that publish special issues or other content organised by guest editors in terms of the responsibility of the editor-in-chief, editorial supervision, as well as the credentials of guest editors, indicating that the DOAJ continues to strive for quality control of journals by perfecting the inclusion criteria. The new DOAJ criteria are divided into six sections: (1) Open Access Compliance, (2) About the Journal (basic information about the journal), (3) Copyright and Licencing, (4) Editorial Board, (5) Business Model, and (6) Best Practise. Using the DOAJ to assess OA development provides a standardised framework to understand the state of OA publishing worldwide (Mishra et al., 2022; Cho, 2023).

DOAJ statistics have been widely utilised in previous studies to monitor and examine the status of OA journals. These studies analyzed the general characteristics of journals indexed in the DOAJ from various perspectives. From an economic aspect, Morrison et al. (2015) found that the article processing charge (APC) market for OA journals is characterised by large price

differences after examining APC-funded journals registered in DOAJ. Solomon and Björk (2012) found that the average publication price for English-language journals registered in DOAJ in 2009 was between $900 and $1,000. Druelinger and Ma (2023) examined the trends observed in previous OA publications by merging article metadata from DOAJ-indexed journals with national income statistics from the World Bank. In terms of discipline, the status of DOAJ-indexed OA journals has been discussed in various fields (Chakravarty et al., 2022; Sahoo et al., 2017). For example, Walters and Linvill (2011) summarised the common characteristics of 663 journals selected from the DOAJ in six different subject areas. Nisha et al. (2018) explained the various characteristics of "biochemistry" journals indexed in the DOAJ, such as thematic coverage, geographical distribution of articles and publication fees. Mushtaq et al. (2017) analysed the DOAJ-registered OA journals in the field of health and medicine. The results show that the number of OA journals in these two fields is growing exponentially. The status of 497 DOAJ-registered OA journals in the field of agriculture was analysed by Acharya (2018). In addition, there have been further discussions on specific features of DOAJ-indexed journals, such as digital archiving policies (Marijanović & Stančić, 2023) and licencing types (Kim & Choi, 2019). These continuous studies examined the impact of OA practises in different disciplines, explored how the different specific journal characteristics were influenced during OA development, and highlighted the diversity of DOAJ-indexed journals that can influence OA practises, emphasising the importance of continuous monitoring and analysis to understand their status and impact within the global academic community and to reflect the trends of OA development.

The examination of geographical differences in research through DOAJ-indexed journals provides valuable insights into the global OA landscape. The state of OA development in any given country is influenced by factors such as economic conditions (Druelinger & Ma, 2023). For instance, Yi (2023) utilised the DOAJ database to explore the characteristics and pricing practices of Chinese OA journals, revealing that only a small number of Chinese OA journals are included in the DOAJ and that their distribution across disciplines is uneven. Similarly, Ghane and Niazmand (2016) evaluated the status of DOAJ-indexed journals in D8 countries, identifying both the strengths and challenges of OA journals within the competitive global environment. Björk (2019) examined the number of DOAJ-indexed journals in Nordic countries, shedding light on regional OA practices. Research often reflects region-specific priorities and focuses on topics relevant to local contexts (Wang & Ni, 2024; Barik & Jena, 2022). However, there is a notable lack of research on Malaysian OA journals, leaving a significant gap in understanding their global standing, unique characteristics, and areas for growth.

MATERIALS AND METHOD

This study analyses the representation of Malaysian journals in the DOAJ, focusing on their coverage and indexing across key scholarly databases such as Web of Science (WoS), Scopus, and MyCite. By examining the distribution and publishing dynamics of these journals, the study seeks to identify trends and provide valuable insights into the inclusion of Malaysian OA journals in global indexing platforms. The key research questions include:
(a) What growth trends can be observed in Malaysian journals indexed in DOAJ?
(b) To what extent are these journals also indexed in Web of Science (WoS), Scopus, and MyCite?

(c) What are the distribution patterns and publishing dynamics of Malaysian journals covered in DOAJ?

Data was collected from the official DOAJ website (https://doaj.org/). A list of all journals indexed by DOAJ was downloaded as a CSV file. As of 1 January 2024, 20,294 journals were registered in DOAJ. Since DOAJ determines a journal's country based on where its publisher is located, a total of 101 Malaysian journals were found in the database after being refined by "Country of publisher: Malaysia". To gain a comprehensive understanding of OA publishing in Malaysia, this study analyses various characteristics of the journals in terms of subjects, languages, publishers, editorial process, publication fees, copyright and licencing, best practises and other DOAJ acceptance policy criteria.

The 101 Malaysian journals indexed in DOAJ were cross-checked with WoS, Scopus and MyCite databases. It was found that the journal names in the different databases may have slight variations, such as abbreviations or different capitalisation during the search phase. Therefore, in this study, the search was conducted by journal title and ISSN, which are checked in DOAJ to ensure the accuracy of the data. "Impact Factor", "JCI Quartile", "1st Electronic JCR Year" and "Edition" were used for the journals indexed in WoS. "CiteScore 2022", "Rank" and "Index Time" were recorded in Scopus. To achieve these objectives, the journal titles and ISSNs checked in DOAJ were used to search the other three databases to obtain the sample data.

The number of Malaysian journals indexed in DOAJ shows a general upward trend from 2006 to 2023 (Figure 1), indicating a gradual but steady growth of Malaysian OA journals. However, during this period, two significant fluctuations were observed in 2018 and 2021, likely due to group applications submitted by publishers. MyCite includes the majority of Malaysian OA journals indexed in DOAJ (68.3%), followed by Scopus (35.6%) and WoS (26.7%). However, based on the impact metrics from Scopus and WoS, these OA journals are predominantly positioned in the middle quartile (72.22% in Scopus and 44.4% in WoS) and lower quartile (25% in Scopus and 52.9% in WoS) of these databases. Only a small proportion are ranked in the top quartile (5% in Scopus and 3.7% in WoS).

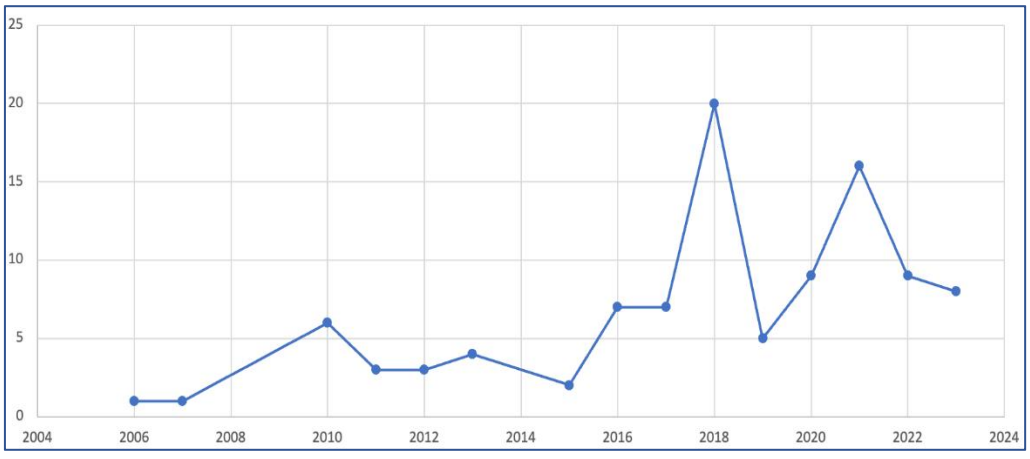

Figure 1: Trends in the Number of Malaysian Journals registered in DOAJ (2006-2023)

RESULTS

The Growth Trend of Malaysian Journals indexed in the DOAJ

The number of Malaysian journals indexed in the DOAJ demonstrates a clear upward trend from 2006 to 2023. The lowest number of indexed journals was recorded in the initial years, 2006 and 2007, while the peak occurred in 2018, with 20 journals included in the database (see Figure 1). Notably, the first Malaysian journal indexed by the DOAJ was the *International Journal of Asia-Pacific Studies* in 2006. As shown in Table 1, 31 journals (30.7%) had 0 article record, indicating that these journals had not uploaded any articles to DOAJ. This highlights that DOAJ permits the registration of journals even without article records at the time of inclusion. Journals have the option to upload articles after their registration in the DOAJ database, as this is not a mandatory requirement during the registration process.

Table 1: Malaysian Journals in DOAJ with Number of Article Records

Number of Article Records	No of Titles
0	31
1-500	63
501-1000	6
More than 1000	1

DOAJ Coverage and Its Relation to Other Global and National Databases

Indexing in the DOAJ shows that the journals are committed to the principles of OA and are in line with the global trend of making research freely accessible. Inclusion in international indexing databases such as WoS and Scopus is a sign of the quality of a journal, which is reflected in its impact metrics. WoS and Scopus provide important bibliometric indicators such as Journal Impact Factors (WoS) and CiteScore (Scopus), which are widely recognised measures of a journal's influence in its field. Inclusion in the MyCite database, a country-level index, is important to show the quality of journals at national and regional levels. Table 2 shows that of the 101 journals indexed in DOAJ, 27 were indexed in WoS (including ESCI[1]), 36 in Scopus and 69 in MyCite.

Table 2: Malaysian Journals Covered in DOAJ and Their Overlaps with WoS, Scopus and MyCite

Database	Overlaps with DOAJ	Percentage of Overlaps
WoS (including ESCI)	27	26.7%
Scopus	36	35.6%
MyCite	69	68.3%

The journals indexed in the WoS database have been subjected to rigorous and prudent screening to ensure the quality of the journals. The journal impact factor (JIF) is considered one of the important metrics for indexing in the Journal Citation Report (JCR) to represent the quality of the WoS-indexed journals (Ghane & Niazmand, 2016). The WoS Core Collection, in contrast to DOAJ, identifies five categories of OA (namely Gold DOAJ, Gold other, Bronze, Green published, and Green accepted), which results in a more expansive definition of OA.

[1] Emerging Source Citation Index - As of June 2021, all journals indexed in ESCI are also included in the Journal Citation Reports.

Because of these different definitions, certain journals might be indexed in DOAJ but not in WoS. Of the 101 journals in the sample indexed in the DOAJ, none of the journals were indexed in the Science Citation Index Expanded (SCIE), Social Sciences Citation Index (SSCI), and Arts & Humanities Citation Index (AHCI). This is primarily because SCIE, SSCI, and AHCI place greater emphasis on citation metrics during their assessment processes, which can lead to the exclusion of high-quality, OA journals that have not yet gained sufficient recognition or established a substantial citation history within the academic community. However, 27 journals (26.7%) were newly included in the ESCI in 2020, and their mean JIF was 0.752. Of the 27 journals indexed in ESCI, 14 journals (51.9%) were in Journal Citation Indicator (JCI) Q4 according to their JIF, followed by 10 journals (37.0%) in JCI Q3, two journals (7.4%) in JCI Q2, and only one journal (3.7%) in Q1. ESCI is designed to highlight journals with potential for future impact, it aims to make important research with high quality and peer review visible in the Web of Science Core Collection by expanding the scope of publications (Taylor & Francis, 2023).

Scopus, the largest abstract and citation database for peer-reviewed literature, requires journals to undergo a rigorous evaluation process to ensure they meet strict criteria for high-quality selection (Elsevier, 2017). Out of 101 journals, 36 journals (35.6%) are also indexed in Scopus. In terms of the respective field ranking, there are five journals that rank in the top 25.0% and only two of the five journals that rank in the top 2.0%. A total of 26 journals (72.2%) rank between 25-75%. The remaining five journals rank in the bottom 25.0% of the 36 journals. In terms of when they were indexed, 20 journals were indexed by Scopus before 2012. Meanwhile, the data revealed that of the seven journals added to Scopus as of 2019, the number of journals added in a single year has reached its highest level since 2003. However, there are no Malaysian journals indexed in DOAJ that have been newly added to Scopus as of 2020. The inclusion criteria used by Scopus and DOAJ differ. While DOAJ selects journals based on their OA status and adherence to publishing standards, it does not always evaluate impact metrics. This distinction may result in the limited overlap between the two databases, with only 35.6 percent of journals being included in both DOAJ and Scopus.

The Malaysian Citation Centre (MCC) manages MyCite, a database that offers access to bibliographic and citation data from scholarly literature published in Malaysian journals (Malaysian Citation Centre, 2024). Of the 101 Malaysian journals indexed in DOAJ, 69 (approximately 68.3%) are also included in MyCite, highlighting a significant overlap between national and international indexing systems. The significant overlap of 68.3 percent between DOAJ and MyCite-indexed journals can be attributed to several factors. First, MyCite is designed to enhance the visibility of Malaysian scholarly output, making it a natural complement to the global reach of DOAJ for OA journals. The inclusion of these journals in both databases reflects a concerted effort to increase their accessibility and credibility within both national and international academic communities. Additionally, MyCite's focus on high-quality, regionally relevant publications likely aligns with the selection criteria of DOAJ, further supporting the substantial overlap. This dual inclusion helps raise the profile of Malaysian research while ensuring that local journals meet international standards of visibility and academic impact.

Attributes of Malaysian Journals Covered in DOAJ

The distribution of Malaysian journals in the DOAJ, classified using the Library of Congress Classification System, reveals a clear concentration in the fields of technology, science, social

sciences, and medicine. This distribution reflects Malaysia's strong research focus on these disciplines, aligning with the country's priorities in technological innovation, scientific inquiry, and addressing social issues. The analysis also examines other key characteristics of Malaysian journals listed in DOAJ, including language, publisher, copyright and licensing practices, editorial quality control, business models, and adherence to best practices.

(a) Subject Classification

The DOAJ employs the Library of Congress Classification System, which currently encompasses 20 major subjects and 529 subtopics. This study primarily focuses on the distribution of Malaysian journals across the major subjects. As shown in Table 3, Malaysian journals cover 15 of the 20 major subjects, with five areas (history of the Americas, auxiliary sciences of history, military science, music, and naval science) remaining unrepresented. The subject classification is dominated by technology (29 journals), followed by science (15), social sciences (15), and medicine (11). These four subject areas account for approximately 70.0 percent of the total Malaysian journals. Additionally, the study reveals that Malaysian OA journals indexed in DOAJ are relatively underrepresented in fields such as bibliography, library science, information resources (1 journal), fine arts and general history (1 journal), and history of Europe (1 journal). This may indicate an uneven development of OA publishing across different disciplines in Malaysia.

Similarly, the global composition of journals in DOAJ, as reported by DOAJ (2023), shows that technology, science, social sciences, and medicine dominate the major subjects ($n > 2000$). In contrast, subjects such as bibliography, library science, history of the Americas, military science, music, and naval science are less represented ($n < 200$), as shown in Table 3. This indicates that the composition of Malaysian OA journals aligns with the global trends, though a small percentage reflect unique regional characteristics. Additionally, this study identified the main subtopics within each discipline, as listed in Table 3, providing further insight into the subdivisions of these key research areas among Malaysian journals in DOAJ. Notably, the subject “history of the Americas” is unlikely to be covered in Malaysian journals. The uneven distribution of subjects in DOAJ across different countries may be influenced by the varying levels of development in specific disciplines within each region.

(b) Language

As shown in Table 4, English is universally accepted as a language of publication by all the journals analyzed. A significant majority, 74 journals (73.3%), exclusively accept manuscripts in English, underscoring its dominance as the preferred medium for scholarly communication. Additionally, 22 journals (21.8%) support bilingual publication, accepting manuscripts in both English and Malay. Notably, four journals accommodate three languages - Arabic, English, and Malay - reflecting a commitment to linguistic diversity. However, only one journal is exclusively dedicated to publishing manuscripts in Malay, highlighting a limited representation of publications solely in the national language. This could indicate a preference for English as the primary medium to reach a global academic audience, as English is widely recognised as the lingua franca of research and scholarship.

Table 3: Distribution of Malaysian Journals Indexed in DOAJ by Major Subjects Using the Library of Congress Classification System

No.	Subjects	Main Sub-Subjects	No of titles	Overall journal titles in DOAJ
1	Technology	Electrical engineering, Nuclear engineering, Mechanical engineering and machinery, Applied mechanics, Engineering (General), Civil engineering (General), Industrial engineering, Information technology etc.	29	2624
2	Science	Biology (General), Geology, Mathematics, Physics, Electronic computers. Computer science etc.	15	3180
3	Social Sciences	Business, Finance, Accounting, Land use, Industrial management, Agricultural industries, Economic theory etc.	15	3585
4	Medicine	Medicine (General), Dentistry, Internal medicine, Sports medicine, Pharmacy and material medica, Surgery, Therapeutics. Pharmacology etc.	11	4503
5	Education	Education (General), Theory and practice of education, Special aspects of education, Oriental languages and literatures etc.	6	1908
6	Geography, Anthropology, Recreation	Geography (General), Anthropology, Environmental sciences, Recreation, Leisure	5	1305
7	Language and Literature	English language, English literature, Literature (General) etc.	5	1912
8	Agriculture	Agriculture (General), Animal culture, Animal biochemistry, Aquaculture, Fisheries Angling	3	923
9	General Works	History of scholarship and learning, humanities etc.	3	375
10	Law	Islamic law etc.	2	847
11	Philosophy, Psychology, Religion	Islam, Bahai Faith Theosophy, etc.	2	1453
12	Political science	International relations etc.	2	647
13	Bibliography, Library science, Information resources	Information resources (General) etc.	1	197
14	Fine Arts	Architecture, Geography, Anthropology, Human ecology, Anthropogeography etc.	1	635
15	History (General) and history of Europe	History of Asia, Philosophy, Psychology, Religion etc.	1	630
16	History of the Americas	America, Latin America, Spanish America, United States, United State local history	0	157
17	Auxiliary sciences of history	Archaeology, Biography, Diplomatics, Archives, Seals, Genealogy, History of Civilization	0	241
18	Military science	Not available	0	61
19	Music and books on music	Literature on music, Music, Musical instruction and study	0	95
20	Naval Science	Naval architecture, Shipbuilding, Marine engineering	0	32

Table 4: Language Preferences of Malaysian Journals Indexed in DOAJ

Languages	No of Titles	Percentage
English	74	73.3%
English, Malay (macrolanguage)	22	21.8%
Arabic, English, Malay (macrolanguage)	4	4.0%
Malay (macrolanguage)	1	0.9%

(c) Publishers

This study found that the 101 Malaysian journals listed in the DOAJ (see Appendix 2) were categorised into four groups: university publishers (63 journals), commercial publishers (23 journals), publishers affiliated with a society or association (11 journals), and government-affiliated publishers (4 journals). University presses represent the largest group, accounting for 62.4% of the total, with 58 journals from public universities and only five from private universities, as shown in Table 5. Universiti Utara Malaysia publishes the most journals, with 10, followed by Universiti Malaya, Universiti Sains Malaysia, and Universiti Teknologi MARA, each contributing 9 journals. Overall, most journals are published and managed by local publishers, especially university presses, while large international commercial publishers are still not present in the Malaysian academic publishing landscape. Notably, Zibeline International Publishing stands out as the largest commercial publisher, contributing 16 journals to the DOAJ. There are 11 publishers affiliated with societies or associations, making up 10.9% of the total. Each of these societies or associations typically publishes only one journal, which has not led to the development of journal groups with shared resources and intensive management.

Table 5: Distribution of Malaysian Journals in DOAJ by University Publishers

Category	University Publishers	No of Titles
Public University (58)	Universiti Utara Malaysia (UUM)	10
	Universiti Malaya (UM)	9
	Universiti Sains Malaysia (USM)	9
	Universiti Teknologi MARA (UiTM)	9
	Universiti Kebangsaan Malaysia (UKM)	8
	Universiti Malaysia Sarawak (UNIMAS)	4
	Penerbit Universiti Teknikal Malaysia Melaka (UTeM)	3
	International Islamic University Malaysia (IIUM)	2
	Universiti Teknologi Malaysia (UTM)	1
	Universiti Pendidikan Sultan Idris (UPSI)	1
	Universiti Sains Islam Malaysia (USIM)	1
	Penerbit UTHM (UTHM)	1
Private University (5)	Taylor's University (TU)	1
	UNITAR International University (UNITAR)	1
	Universiti Sultan Azlan Shah (USAS)	1
	Multimedia University (MMU)	1
	Universiti Teknologi Petronas (UTP)	1

(d) Copyright and Licensing

In OA publishing, best practices recommend that authors retain full copyright for their published articles. The DOAJ aligns with this principle, favouring policies that allow authors to retain ownership of their work. While DOAJ accepts journals requiring copyright transfer to the publisher, this is contingent on the copyright policy being clearly stated on the journal's website. However, DOAJ discourages such transfers, emphasising that retaining copyright empowers authors and prevents commercial control of their content by publishers (Olijhoek et al., 2015). As shown in Table 6, among the Malaysian journals listed in DOAJ, 55.4 percent require copyright transfer to the publisher, while 44.6 percent allow authors to retain copyright. This highlights that a significant portion of Malaysian OA journals still adhere to traditional copyright practices, which may limit authors' control over their work and its

subsequent reuse. Encouraging more journals to adopt author-owned copyright policies would better align with global OA best practices.

Licensing provides clarity to authors and users on how published content can be utilised and what secondary uses are permitted, ensuring protection against unauthorised usage. This distinction is critical in differentiating freely accessible journals from OA journals (Olijhoek et al., 2015). The DOAJ encourages journals to adopt Creative Commons (CC) licences or equivalent alternatives to align with OA principles. Findings show that 97.0 percent of Malaysian journals listed in DOAJ use a CC licence, while only three journals opt for a publisher-specific licence. Among the CC licences, CC BY is the most widely adopted (60.4%), as it allows unrestricted distribution, remixing, and adaptation, provided proper credit is given to the original creator. This is followed by CC BY-NC (17.8%), CC BY-NC-ND (7.9%), and CC BY-NC-SA (6.9%), as shown in Table 6. These findings highlight that the majority of Malaysian journals prioritise relatively open licensing models, particularly those that permit broad sharing and reuse while ensuring author attribution. This openness enhances knowledge dissemination, increases research visibility, and supports the goals of OA publishing.

Table 6: Copyright Policies and Licensing Types Adopted by Malaysian Journals in DOAJ

Author holds copyright without restrictions	**No of Titles**	**Percentage**
Yes	45	44.6%
No	56	55.4%
Journal licence	**No of Titles**	**Percentage**
CC BY	61	60.4%
CC BY-NC	18	17.8%
CC BY-NC-ND	8	7.9%
CC BY-NC-SA	7	6.9%
Publisher's own license	3	3.0%
CC BY-SA	3	3.0%
CC BY-ND	1	1.0%

(e) Editorial Quality Control

Journals are required to implement a rigorous peer review process and clearly outline the specific review categories and procedures on their websites. Typically, a minimum of two independent reviewers is essential for this process. All Malaysian journals listed in DOAJ, all adhere to a peer review system, with over 62.4 percent explicitly stating that they utilise an double-anonymous peer review process, widely recognised as one of the most rigorous forms of peer review (Table 7).

Table 7: Peer Review Processes and Turnaround Time of Malaysian Journals Listed in DOAJ

Review process declared	**No of Titles**	**Percentage**
Double-anonymous peer review	63	62.4%
Anonymous peer review	31	30.7%
Peer review	7	6.9%
Article processing time (Average weeks)	**No of Titles**	**Percentage**
Less than 10 weeks	14	13.9%
10 weeeks-20 weeks	63	62.4%
More than 20 weeks	24	23.7%

The DOAJ does not mandate a specific turnaround time for the publication process, leaving it to individual journals to define their own policies. The data indicate that approximately 62.4 percent of Malaysian journals require 10 to 20 weeks from article submission to publication, while around 23.7 percent take more than 20 weeks. Only 13.9 percent of journals specify a turnaround time of less than 10 weeks, as shown in Table 7. Notably, none of the journals have adopted an open peer review process, reflecting a broader trend in academic publishing that continues to favour traditional peer review methods.

Although plagiarism checking is not a requirement for inclusion in DOAJ, it remains an essential component of quality control. About 73.3 percent of Malaysian journals listed in DOAJ conduct plagiarism checks, which play a key role in ensuring journal quality and preventing academic misconduct. It is recommended that journals disclose the name of the plagiarism detection software they use and provide a link to it on their websites for greater transparency.

(f) Business Model

This study also examined the publishers of 19 journals that charge article processing charges (APCs). Among these, all journals published by private publishers (7 publishers, 7 journals) require APCs. Additionally, 40.0 percent of journals from private university presses (2 publishers, 2 journals) and 27.3 percent of journals affiliated with societies or associations (3 publishers, 3 journals) charge APCs. For public university publishers, 41.7 percent (5 publishers, 7 journals) impose APCs. Notably, of the 58 journals operated by public university presses, only 7 (12.1%) require APCs, indicating that the majority (51 journals) do not charge authors APCs. The data suggest that Malaysian public university presses are the most author-friendly regarding APCs, while private publishers universally adopt the APC model, reflecting differing financial approaches.

When authors or their institutions are not required to pay APCs and instead receive support from publishers, these publishers are often affiliated with higher education institutions or foundations whose mission centres on the "free dissemination of scholarly research." This model is referred to as Diamond Open Access. It is important to note that not all OA journals are accepted by DOAJ, as DOAJ only includes Gold OA and Diamond OA journals that provide immediate free access to the full text of articles. Currently, only five journals offer publication fee waivers for authors from low-income countries, discounts for those from low- and middle-income countries, or waivers and discounts for authors with demonstrated financial need. For transparency, it is recommended that journals clearly indicate the sponsor and the expiry date of remission policies. Furthermore, only three journals disclose the existence of other fees, such as editorial charges, language editing fees, color fees, submission fees, page charges, membership fees, print subscription costs, or additional fees (see Table 8).

Table 8: Publication Fee, Waivers and Additional Charges in Malaysian Journals Listed in DOAJ

Charge Policy	Option	No of Titles	Percentage
APC	Yes	19	18.8
	No	82	81.2
Journal waiver policy	Yes	5	5.0
	No	96	95.0
Additional fees	Yes	3	3.0
	No	98	97.0

(g) Best Practices

The DOAJ Seal is awarded to journals that uphold exemplary practices in OA publishing. To receive the seal, a journal must meet seven key criteria: (a) Long-term archiving, ensured by services such as CINES, CLOCKSS, LOCKSS, or a national library. Additionally, the repository policy must specify how authors can deposit their work in submitted, accepted, and published forms; (b) Use of persistent identifiers (PIDs) such as DOIs, to ensure articles can be consistently located, while ORCID iDs provide unique identification for authors; (c) Discoverability, ensuring articles are easily located through comprehensive indexing and adherence to metadata standards; (d) Accessibility, guaranteeing immediate and unrestricted access to published content; (e) Openness, demonstrating transparency in policies and practices (f) Reuse, allowing flexible and generous reuse policies aligned with OA principles; and (g) Author permissions, highlighting the importance of author rights and ensuring they align with best practices in openness. Additionally, the standard set by the Initiative for Open Citations (I4OC) requires citations to be structured, transparent, and freely accessible, further emphasising the journal's commitment to excellence.

Approximately 10.0 percent of journals listed in DOAJ have been awarded the DOAJ seal (DOAJ, 2023). However, none of the Malaysian OA journals have received this recognition, indicating a need for improvement in the level of openness among Malaysian journals. The data reveals that around 93.1 percent of Malaysian journals upload fewer than 500 articles to the DOAJ database, which may be a contributing factor. To qualify for the DOAJ seal, journals are required to regularly upload article metadata, a criterion that Malaysian journals appear to fall short of meeting.

DISCUSSION

The analysis of the 101 Malaysian journals listed in DOAJ as of January 1, 2024, reveals important trends and characteristics of Malaysian OA journals. The steady increase in their inclusion reflects Malaysian journal publishers' growing commitment to enhancing the international visibility of their scholarly publications. Notably, the sharp increases observed in 2018 and 2021 were largely attributed to coordinated group submissions by specific publishers. Zibeline International, a commercial publisher, contributed significantly to the 2018 peak with 12 journals, while Universiti Utara Malaysia (UUM) added five journals in 2021. Interestingly, Zibeline International stands out for its unique approach of offering journal publications without imposing APCs, which may encourage broader participation from authors and align with the principles of accessible scholarly communication.

In terms of subject categories, approximately 70.0 percent of Malaysian OA journals are concentrated in four main areas: engineering, natural sciences, social sciences, and medicine. Conversely, five subject areas - music and books on music, history of the Americas, military sciences, auxiliary sciences of history, and naval sciences - have no representation, highlighting an unbalanced development of Malaysian OA journals across disciplines. While this imbalance is a common phenomenon globally, influenced by each country's strengths and priorities in various fields, Malaysian journals may understandably focus on topics relevant to Malaysia or Southeast Asia. For instance, history of the Americas is unlikely to align with the primary interests of Malaysian scholars, leading to limited research and publication in this area.

Regarding journal publishers, Malaysian OA journals are predominantly managed by four types of organizations: university presses, commercial publishers, publishers affiliated with societies or associations, and government-affiliated publishers. Most journals are operated by public university presses. This differs from global trends reported by Rodrigues et al. (2020), which found that OA publishing in DOAJ is dominated by large commercial publishers such Springer (35% of journal titles) and PLOS (over 20%). The prominence of public university presses in Malaysia can be attributed to government funding, which covers more than 90.0 percent of public university budgets. The government has also authorised these universities to generate additional revenue for financial sustainability (Hasbullah & Rahman, 2021), enabling them to provide adequate institutional support for maintaining OA journals. In contrast, private university presses and commercial publishers in Malaysia receive significantly less support, limiting their capacity to operate OA journals on a similar scale.

When assessing journal quality through indexation, a review of Malaysian journals listed in DOAJ, WoS, and Scopus reveals areas needing improvement in the overall quality of Malaysian OA journals. Currently, no Malaysian OA journal listed in DOAJ is indexed by the Science Citation Index Expanded (SCIE) and Social Science Citation Index (SSCI). Additionally, only 26.7 percent of these journals are included in the ESCI, and over 80.0 percent percent of these ESCI journals are ranked in JCI Q3 and Q4 based on their JIF. Furthermore, no Malaysian journals listed in DOAJ have been newly indexed in Scopus since 2020. A comparison of journals across WoS, Scopus, and MyCite indicates that MyCite has the highest representation, covering 68.3 percent of Malaysian journals in the sample. Scopus offers broader subject area coverage, with many Malaysian journals indexed before 2012, while WoS includes relatively few Malaysian journals due to its stringent criteria and emphasis on global prestige. MyCite primarily focuses on national journals, making it the most inclusive, whereas Scopus and WoS evaluate journals based on citation metrics, impact factors, and academic reputation, often favouring global recognition. Interestingly, many Malaysian journals indexed in Scopus and WoS are OA but are not listed in DOAJ. This disparity arises because Scopus and WoS prioritise citation metrics and impact over transparency and OA quality standards required by DOAJ (Pranckutė, 2021; Liu 2024). As a result, Malaysian journals aiming for global visibility may prioritise indexing in Scopus and WoS, potentially neglecting the criteria for DOAJ inclusion, despite the benefits of being recognised in the OA community. This highlights the need for Malaysian journals to balance visibility in citation-focused databases with adherence to OA best practices.

Improving the quality and openness of Malaysian OA journals is essential for advancing their global visibility and adherence to international standards. Currently, about 81.2 percent of Malaysian OA journals where authors do not pay publication fees are published by public university presses, reflecting their dominant role compared to other types of organisations. However, there is a pressing need for these journals to enhance their openness, as represented by the DOAJ seal, which Malaysian journals should aim to achieve. To improve openness, it is recommended that journals allow authors to retain copyright without restrictions and adopt Creative Commons licences that permit the creation of derivative works. Guidelines for journal archiving, repository usage, unique identifiers, and metadata provision should also be carefully implemented. Journals must adhere to DOAJ acceptance criteria and align with OA policies, which may include the use of any Creative Commons licence, as long as it is consistent with the journal's copyright policy. However, different licences reflect varying levels of openness. For instance, the CC BY licence offers the highest level of openness, while the CC BY-NC-ND licence is the most restrictive.

The DOAJ seal also signify a journal's commitment to a high level of openness, encompassing archiving, repository practices, metadata policies, and more, even though these elements are not mandatory for DOAJ inclusion. Additionally, journals should transparently display fees, including APCs, waivers, and any other costs on their websites. Ensuring robust quality control processes, such as peer review, plagiarism checks, editorial board composition, and addressing endogeneity issues, should also be prioritised. These improvements serve as benchmarks for Malaysian journals aspiring for DOAJ inclusion and broader international recognition. By addressing these areas, Malaysia can accelerate the development of OA practices and foster a culture of scientific transparency and information sharing, strengthening its contribution to global scholarship.

CONCLUSIONS

As of January 1, 2024, Malaysia leads Southeast Asia in research output, contributing 454,998 publications, surpassing Singapore and Indonesia (Scimago Journal & Country Rank, 2024). The rise of the OA movement, exemplified by the DOAJ database, has offered a centralised platform for fully OA journals that meet high-quality standards. Malaysian OA journals, covering diverse subject areas and supported by a variety of publishers, exemplify a vibrant and inclusive publishing ecosystem. These journals provide an essential avenue for disseminating Malaysian research, promoting accessibility, and enhancing global visibility. Public university presses are the dominant contributors to Malaysian OA journals, emphasising their critical role in advancing OA. However, many publishers often prioritise indexing in Scopus and WoS for visibility and credibility, potentially overshadowing the adherence to OA models required by DOAJ. This reflects the complexities of scholarly communication and highlights the need for balanced policies that support both traditional indexing and OA initiatives.

The study affirms that the Malaysian journals listed in DOAJ are representative of the nation’s diverse OA journal ecosystem. Their strengths can guide journals aiming for DOAJ inclusion, while their weaknesses provide actionable insights for improving governance and policy. Addressing disparities across disciplines and expanding support for underrepresented areas can further enhance the inclusivity and impact of Malaysian scholarly publishing. However, the study has limitations that should be acknowledged. It focuses exclusively on journals listed in DOAJ as of January 2024, potentially overlooking significant OA journals not included in the database. Additionally, the study does not fully explore the perspectives of publishers, authors, or policymakers, which could provide a deeper understanding of the challenges and opportunities within Malaysia’s OA landscape.

In conclusion, this study provides a comprehensive analysis of the 101 Malaysian journals in DOAJ, alongside comparisons with WoS, Scopus, and MyCite. It highlights the strengths and challenges of Malaysia’s OA landscape, offering a foundation for future studies on OA development, including repositories, mandates, and policies, to foster a more equitable and robust OA ecosystem.

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CONFLICT OF INTERESTS

The authors declare that they have no competing interests, including no conflicts of interest

AUTHOR CONTRIBUTION

Conceptualization: [J.Liu, J.Xu and A.Noorhidawati], Methodology: [J.Liu and A.M.K. Yanti Idaya], Formal analysis and investigation: [J.Liu, J.Xu], Writing - original draft preparation: [J. Liu, C. Shen and J.Xu], Writing - review and editing: [all authors]

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Appendix 1: DOAJ Inclusion Criteria

Criteria	Details
Basic Journal Information	Journal title, journal's homepage, ISSN, subject keywords, languages in which the journal accepts manuscripts, publisher, society or institution
Open Access Compliance	Only fully open access journals can be indexed by DOAJ. DOAJ accepts a form of libre open access which requires not only that digital content is freely accessible online but also user rights and copyright ownership need to be clear. The DOAJ definition of open access must be met, and an open access statement on the journal website is needed to confirm this.
Copyright & Licensing	DOAJ suggests that journals allow authors to retain their copyright and full publishing rights without restriction, but the author may choose to transfer the copyright to the publisher through a "copyright transfer agreement" and the author will no longer be the copyright holder. However, it should be noted that conflicts between the content of the transfer agreement and the licensing should be avoided. The journal must use some form of licensing to be considered for indexing in DOAJ. If Creative Commons licensing is not used, then select Publisher's own license and enter more details below; At the same time, DOAJ encourages copyright and licensing information (CC logo and text description) to be embedded in PDF or HTML file of article for users who only have access to individual articles.
Editorial	The names and affiliations of the editorial board members must be posted on the website. Meanwhile, editorial board members who all come from the same institutions are not recommended. The journal should clearly state its review process and peer review type. The usage of a plagiarism checking service is not mandatory for DOAJ inclusion.
Business Model	The business model focuses on the costs that authors ought to pay when publishing their work, including article processing fees and any other costs to authors. There are some examples for additional expenses: editorial processing charges, language editing fees, colour charges, submission fees, page charges, membership fees, and print subscription costs. A journal must make it clear if there are no fees or if there are applicable waiver policies, related statements should be easily found on the journal website.

Appendix 2: 101 Malaysian Journals included in DOAJ

No.	Journal title	Main Subject Discipline	Publisher	Indexation (WoS, Scopus, MyCite)
1	*3L Language, Linguistics and Literature: The Southeast Asian Journal of English Language Studies*	Language, Linguistics, Literature, Language Teaching, Language Research, English	Penerbit UKM	WoS, Scopus
2	*Acta Informatica Malaysia*	Information Science, Knowledge Management	Zibeline International	N/A
3	*Acta Scientifica Malaysia*	Art, Subatomic Chemistry, Mathematical, Physical Sciences	Zibeline International	N/A
4	*Advances in Industrial Engineering and Management*	Production Management, Logistics and Supply Chain, Project Management, Modeling and Simulation, Human Reliability Analysis, Engineering and Management	Zibeline International Publishing	N/A
5	*Akademika*	Southeast Asia, Humanities, Language, Sociology, Anthropology	Universiti Kebangsaan Malaysia	WoS, MyCite
6	*Annals Dentistry*	Dentistry, Oral and Maxillofacial Science, Oral Pathology, Oral Medicine, Oral Biology, Oral Public Health	University of Malaya	MyCite
7	*Applications of Modelling and Simulation*	Modelling, Simulation, Engineering, Applications	ARQII Publication	MyCite
8	*Asian Academy of Management Journal of Accounting and Finance*	Accounting, Finance, Auditing, Corporate Governance, Banking	Universiti Sains Malaysia	WoS, Scopus, MyCite
9	*Asian Fisheries Science*	Aquatic Science, Food Science, Ecology, Agriculture and Biological Science, Fisheries, Aquaculture	Asian Fisheries Society	Scopus, MyCite
10	*Asian Journal of Accounting Perspectives*	Asian, Accounting, Accounting Perspectives, Finance	Universiti Malaya	MyCite
11	*Asian Journal of Social Science Research*	Communications, Management, Sociology, Education, Information and Technology, Hospitality and Tourism	UNITAR International University	MyCite
12	*Asian Journal of University Education*	Asian, University, Learning, Higher Education	UiTM Publisher	Scopus, MyCite
13	*Asia-Pacific Journal of Information Technology and Multimedia*	Computer Science, Information Technology, Multimedia, Artificial Intelligence, Software Technology, Cybersecurity	UKM Press	N/A
14	*ASM Science Journal*	Medical, Engineering, Mathematical, Physical, Chemical, ICT	Academy of Sciences Malaysia	Scopus, MyCite
15	*Big Data in Agriculture*	Big Data, Virtual Reality/Augmented Reality Technology, Agricultural Sciences, Agricultural Engineering	Zibeline International Publishing	N/A

No.	Journal title	Main Subject Discipline	Publisher	Indexation (WoS, Scopus, MyCite)
16	*Borneo Journal of Resource Science and Technology*	Technology, Chemistry, Ecology, Environmental Science, Bioinformatics, Resource Science	UNIMAS Publisher	Scopus, MyCite
17	*Bulletin of the Geological Society of Malaysia*	Geology, Sedimentology, Geochemistry, Petroleum	Geological Society of Malaysia	Scopus, MyCite
18	*Earth Science Malaysia*	Physical Geography, Geomorphology, Soil Study, Geology	Zibeline International	N/A
19	*Earth Sciences Pakistan*	Geophysics, Geology, Environmental Science, Earth Sciences	Zibeline International	N/A
20	*Engineering Heritage Journal*	Environmental Engineering, Engineering Methods	Zibeline International	N/A
21	*Environment & Ecosystem Science*	Environment, Global Ecology, Ecosystems	Zibeline International	N/A
22	*Food Research*	Food Research, Food Science, Food Technology, Food Processing, Food Engineering, Food Safety	Rynnye Lyan Resources	Scopus, MyCite
23	*GEMA Online Journal of Language Studies*	Language Studies, TESL, TEFL, Foreign Languages, Literature	Universiti Kebangsaan Malaysia	WoS, Scopus, MyCite
24	*Geological Behavior*	Geology, Geosciences, Geography, Earth Sciences, Multidisciplinary	Zibeline International	N/A
25	*Global Journal Al-Thaqafah*	Islamic Development, Science, Social Science, Art, Humanities	Universiti Sultan Azlan Shah	WoS, Scopus
26	*Global Journal of Public Health Medicine*	Public Health, Epidemiology, Infectious Diseases, Nutrition, Medicine	Education in Action Club	N/A
27	*Higher Education and Oriental Studies*	Education, Communication, Social Sciences, Technology, Entrepreneurship	HEOS Journal Publication	MyCite
28	*International Islamic University Malaysia Engineering Journal*	Biotechnology Engineering, Aerospace Engineering, Applied Science, Communications Engineering, Civil Engineering	IIUM Press, International Islamic University Malaysia	WoS, Scopus
29	*International Journal of Asia-Pacific Studies*	Asia Pacific, Politics, History, Anthropology, Literature	Penerbit Universiti Sains Malaysia	WoS, Scopus
30	*International Journal of Automotive and Mechanical Engineering*	Automotive Engineering, Mechanical Engineering, Multidisciplinary Design Optimization, Energy Conversion	Universiti Malaysia Pahang	WoS, Scopus, MyCite
31	*International Journal of Built Environment and Sustainability*	Urban Studies, Architecture, Quantity Surveying, Landscape Architecture, Social Sustainability	Universiti Teknologi Malaysia	WoS, MyCite
32	*International Journal of Electrical Engineering and Applied Sciences*	Electrical Engineering, Applied Sciences, Sustainable Energy, Control System, Industrial Automation, Technical and Vocational Education and Training	Penerbit Universiti Teknikal Malaysia Melaka	MyCite
33	*International Journal of Engineering Materials*	Engineering Materials, Manufacturing Engineering,	Deer Hill Publications	MyCite

No.	Journal title	Main Subject Discipline	Publisher	Indexation (WoS, Scopus, MyCite)
	and Manufacture	Micro/Nano Manufacturing, Manufacturing Systems		
34	*International Journal of Islamic Thought*	Islamic Studies, Islamic Thought, Islamic Philosophy, Islamic Theology	Universiti Kebangsaan Malaysia	WoS, Scopus, MyCite
35	*International Journal of Language, Literacy and Translation*	Language, Literacy, Translation, Educational Studies, Applied Linguistics, IJoLLT	School of Languages, Literacies and Translation, Universiti Sains Malaysia	MyCite
36	*International Journal of Management Studies*	Strategic Management, Marketing, Human Resource Management, Research and Development Management, International Business Management	UUM Press	WoS, MyCite
37	*International Journal of Software Engineering and Computer Systems*	Software Engineering, Computer Systems, Computers, It, Networks, Software Testing	UMP Publisher	MyCite
38	*Issues in Language Studies*	Language Studies, Applied Linguistics, Language Teaching, Language Learning, Language Education, Foreign Language	Universiti Malaysia Sarawak	Scopus, MyCite
39	*Journal CleanWAS*	Clean, Water, Air, Soil, Environmental Science	Zibeline International	N/A
40	*Journal of Academia*	Multidisciplinary, Science and Technology, Social Sciences	Universiti Teknologi MARA, Negeri Sembilan	MyCite
41	*Journal of Advanced Manufacturing Technology*	Industrial Automation and Robotics, Manufacturing Process, Technology and Design, Industrial Automation and Robotics, Technology Management and Entrepreneurship, Automotive Engineering and Energy	Penerbit Universiti, Universiti Teknikal Malaysia Melaka	Scopus, MyCite
42	*Journal of Agribusiness Marketing*	Agribusiness, Supply and Demand, Supply Chain Management, Logistic, Marketing Policies, Food Safety	Federal Agricultural Marketing Authority	MyCite
43	*Journal of Al-Tamaddun*	Muslim Community, History of Civilization, Religion, Islam, Islamic History	University of Malaya	WoS, Scopus
44	*Journal of Applied Science & Process Engineering*	Applied Sciences, Electrical and Electronic Engineering, Engineering Ethics and Management, Chemical Engineering, Engineering, Process Engineering	UNIMAS Publisher	MyCite
45	*Journal of Applied Structural Equation Modeling*	Business Research Methods, Statistical Analysis, Applied Structural Equation Modelling, Multidisciplinary, Quantitative Data Analysis, Business Statistics	Sarawak Research Society (SRS)	Scopus, MyCite

No.	Journal title	Main Subject Discipline	Publisher	Indexation (WoS, Scopus, MyCite)
46	*Journal of Business Management and Accounting*	Management, marketing, finance, economics, banking, entrepreneurship	UUM PRESS	MyCite
47	*Journal of Civil Engineering, Science and Technology*	Civil Engineering, Environmental Engineering	UNIMAS Publisher	MyCite
48	*Journal of Clinical and Health Sciences*	Health sciences, public health, clinical medicine, clinical research, basic medical sciences, basic sciences	UiTM Press	MyCite
49	*Journal of Computing Research and Innovation*	Computer Science, Information Technology, Applied Mathematics, Statistics	Faculty of Computer and Mathematical Sciences, Universiti Teknologi MARA Perlis	MyCite
50	*Journal of Construction in Developing Countries*	Rural and Regional Development, Management and Resource Issues, Housing, Urban Economics, Sustainability, Knowledge and Technology Transfer	Penerbit Universiti Sains Malaysia	WoS, Scopus, MyCite
51	*Journal of Design and the Built Environment*	Design, Architecture, Building, Construction, Built Environment, Surveying	University of Malaya	Scopus
52	*Journal of Emerging Economies and Islamic Research*	Business, Economics, Finance, Islamic Economics, Emerging Markets, Management	Penerbit Press	MyCite
53	*Journal of Engineering Science and Technology*	Engineering, Technology	Taylor's University	WoS, Scopus, MyCite
54	*Journal of Engineering Technology and Applied Physics*	Electronics, electrical, physics, engineering, technology, information technology	MMU Press	MyCite
55	*Journal of ICT*	Machine Learning, Scheduling, Internet of Things, Metaheuristics, Optimization, Network Security	UUM Press	WoS, Scopus
56	*Journal of International Business, Economics and Entrepreneurship*	Business, economics, entrepreneurship, finance	UiTM Press	MyCite
57	*Journal of International Studies*	International Relations, Cross-Cultural Management, Diplomacy, Business, Sustainable Development, Trade	UUM Press	WoS, Scopus, MyCite
58	*Journal of Mechanical Engineering and Sciences*	Computation, Experimental Mechanics, Dynamics, Fluids Engineering, Tribology, Manufacturing Engineering	Universiti Malaysia Pahang Publishing	WoS, MyCite
59	*Journal of Mechanical Engineering and Technology*	Mechanical Engineering, Mechanical Technology, Mechanics	Universiti Teknikal Malaysia Melaka	WoS, MyCite
60	*Journal of Mechanical Engineering Research and Developments*	Termal & Fluid Engineering, Mechanics, Kinematics, Mechatronics, Product Development, Human & Machines Heptics	Zibeline International	N/A

No.	Journal title	Main Subject Discipline	Publisher	Indexation (WoS, Scopus, MyCite)
61	*Journal of Pharmacy*	Pharmacy, Pharmacy Practice, Pharmaceutical Chemistry, Pharmaceutical Technology, Pharmacology, Social and Administrative Pharmacy	IIUM Press, International Islamic University Malaysia	MyCite
62	*Journal of Research, Policy & Practice of Teachers & Teacher Education*	Teaching Effectiveness, Continuing Education, Professional Development, Innovative Education, Social Context, Teaching Profession	Universiti Pendidikan Sultan Idris	MyCite
63	*Journal of Smart Science and Technology*	Smart Materials, Materials Data Science, Construction and Building Materials, Smart Building, Structural Health Monitoring, Smart Devices and Application	UiTM Press	MyCite
64	*Journal of Techno-Social*	Social Sciences, Technology, Environment	Penerbit UTHM	N/A
65	*Journal of Tourism, Hospitality and Culinary Arts*	Tourism, Culinary Arts, Hospitality	Penerbit UiTM Malaysia	N/A
66	*Journal of Wildlife and Parks*	Biodiversity Management and Conservation, Wildlife Forensics, Wildlife Genetics, Protected Areas, Ecology, Taxonomy and Systematics	Department of Wildlife and National Parks Peninsular Malaysia	N/A
67	*Jurnal Bahasa*	Latest Linguistics, Malay Language, Cognate Language	Dewan Bahasa dan Pustaka	MyCite
68	*Jurnal Kejuruteraan*	Built Environment, Engineering, Engineering Education, Engineering Management	UKM Press	WoS, MyCite
69	*Jurnal Sains Kesihatan Malaysia*	Health Science	Penerbit Universiti Kebangsaan Malaysia	MyCite
70	*Jurnal Tribologi*	Tribology, Engineering, Science, Physics, Materials	Malaysian Tribology Society	WoS, Scopus, MyCite
71	*Kajian Malaysia*	Social Sciences, Humanities, Politics, Malaysian Studies	Universiti Sains Malaysia	WoS, Scopus, MyCite
72	*Kemanusiaan: The Asian Journal of Humanities*	Civilisation, History, Geography, Language, Literature, Linguistics	Penerbit Universiti Sains Malaysia	Scopus, MyCite
73	*Life Sciences, Medicine and Biomedicine*	Life Sciences, Medicine, Biomedicine, Biological Sciences, Medical Education, Health Sciences	Biome Scientia	MyCite
74	*Malaysian E Commerce Journal*	Business Management, E Commerce	Zibeline International	N/A
75	*Malaysian Family Physician*	Family Physician, Primary Care, Family Medicine	Academy of Family Physicians of Malaysia	Scopus, MyCite
76	*Malaysian Journal of Animal Science*	Tropical Environment, Animal Science, Livestock, Animal Production, Biotechnology, Environmental Management	Malaysian Society of Animal Production	MyCite

No.	Journal title	Main Subject Discipline	Publisher	Indexation (WoS, Scopus, MyCite)
77	*Malaysian Journal of Computing*	Computer science, information systems, information technology, computer technology & networking, computational mathematics, statistic & analytics	UiTM Press	MyCite
78	*Malaysian Journal of Geosciences*	Geosciences, Geography, Earth sciences, Multidisciplinary	Zibeline International	N/A
79	*Malaysian Journal of International Relations*	Malaysian Politics and International Relations, Foreign Policy, Contemporary Malaysia and Southeast Asia, Asia Pacific Affairs, International Security, Strategic and Security Studies	Department of International and Strategic Studies, University of Malaya, Malaysia'	MyCite
80	*Malaysian Journal of Learning and Instruction*	Innovative Modes of Delivery, Impact of Socio-Psychological, Learning and Teaching, Social and Cultural Impacts on Learning, Instructional Design and Technology, Institutional Effectiveness	UUM Press	WoS, Scopus
81	*Malaysian Journal of Medical Sciences*	Biotechnology, Biodeterioration, Microbial Genetics, Environment, Plant Pathology	Malaysian Society for Microbiology	WoS, Scopus, MyCite
82	*Malaysian Journal of Microbiology*	Pharmaceutical and Medicinal Chemistry, Pharmacology, Pharmaceutical Technology, Clinical Pharmacy, Social and Administrative Pharmacy, Pharmacy Education	Universiti Sains Malaysia	WoS, Scopus, MyCite
83	*Malaysian Journal of Pharmaceutical Sciences*	Malaysian, Public Health, Medicine	Malaysian Public Health Specialists Association	N/A
84	*Malaysian Journal of Public Health Medicine*	Engineering and Technology, Sciences, Technology	Penteract Technology	Scopus, MyCite
85	*Malaysian Journal of Science and Advanced Technology*	Agriculture, Sustainability, Development	Zibeline International	MyCite
86	*Malaysian Journal of Sustainable Agriculture*	Sharia, Islamic Law, Islamic Studies, Syariah, Law, Jurisprudence	Universiti Sains Islam Malaysia	N/A
87	*Malaysian Journal of Syariah and Law*	Corporate Governance, Industrial Organization, Business Economics, Global Business and Crisis Management, Business Management, Business Strategy	UUM Press	MyCite
88	*Malaysian Management Journal*	Educational Studies, Education, Educational Research, Educational Science, New Horizons in Education	University of Malaya	MyCite
89	*Malaysian Online Journal of Educational Sciences*	Orthopaedics, Musculoskeletal System, Deformity, Developing Nations, Fracture	Malaysian Orthopaedic Association	MyCite

No.	Journal title	Main Subject Discipline	Publisher	Indexation (WoS, Scopus, MyCite)
90	*Malaysian Orthopaedic Journal*	General, Interdisciplinary Studies, Ethics and Religion, Science, Sustainability and Society, Arts and Humanities	Penerbit UKM	WoS, Scopus, MyCite
91	*MALIM: Jurnal Pengajian Umum Asia Tenggara*	Mirjo, Multi-Disciplinary	Malaysia Technical Scientist Association	MyCite
92	*MALTESAS Multi-Disciplinary Research Journal*	Mathematics, Statistics, Applied Mathematics	Zibeline International	N/A
93	*Matrix Science Mathematic*	Sports Engineering, Rehabilitation, Sports Medicine, Human Performance, Physical Activity, Sports Studies	Universiti Malaysia Pahang	N/A
94	*Movement, Health & Exercise*	Electrical and Electronic, Mechanical Engineering, Civil Engineering, Petroleum Engineering, Chemical Engineering	UTP Press	MyCite
95	*Platform, a Journal of Engineering*	Microbiology, Molecular Biology, Genetics, Biology, Bacteriology, Virology	HH Publisher	MyCite
96	*Progress in Microbes and Molecular Biology*	Applied Science, Basic Science, Mathematics, Computer Science, Physics	Zibeline International	Scopus
97	*Science Heritage Journal*	Commonwealth Literature, Literary, Southeast Asian Culture, Language and Literature, Creative Writing	Universiti Malaya	
98	*Southeast Asian Review of English*	Behavioural Economics, Corporate Finance, Financial Institutions and Markets, Financial Services, International Finance, Financial Economics	Universiti Utara Malaysia	WoS, Scopus, MyCite
99	*The International Journal of Banking and Finance*	Medicine, Medical Sciences, Biomedical, Allied Health, Clinical and Social Sciences	Penerbit Universiti Sains Malaysia	MyCite
100	*Tropical Life Sciences Research*	Biochemistry, Microbiology, Biotechnology, Animal Science, Plant Science, Environmental Science	Penerbit Universiti Sains Malaysia	WoS, Scopus, MyCite
101	*UUM Journal of Legal Studies*	Criminal Law, Business Law, Islamic Banking and Finance Law, Public International Law, Consumer Law, Islamic International Law	UUM Press	Scopus, MyCite