OPEN ACCESS RESOURCES: AN OVERVIEW

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Abstact:

Open access resources (OAR) an important tool by which academic community getanswers of their problems with just a click.This paper mainly discussintroduction to open access resources, various free open educational resources like Open E-databases, Open Access Books, Open Access Journals, Open Access Repositories, Open Access Theses and Dissertations, Open Educational Resources, Open Access E-Print Archive, Open patent search database, Open access Standards, Bibliographic Databases, Open Digital Library, Research Profile Creation Platforms, Online Meeting/Video Conferencing Applications, Plagiarism Detection Tools.

Keywords: Open access, free access, Open Access resource, Open Access Journals

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Introduction:

According to Materu, the present decade can be called the o-decade (open source, open systems, open standards, open archives, open everything) just as the 1990s were called the e-decade. The two most important features of openness have to do with free availability over the internet and as limited restrictions as possible on the use of the resource, whether technical, legal or value barriers.Generally,the documentsaccessiblefor users are two types, Open access and theother one is closed access. In the open access system readers can have the documentseasily as their requirements.In this digital era, Open Access is a method by whichscholarly information are made freely available to anyoneanywhere over the World Wide Web.
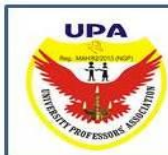
Objectives:

The objectives of the study as follow,

- ➢ To know about Open Access, Open Access Resources
- ➢ To describe various Open Educational Resources
- ➢ To enumeratethe free Open Access Resources

Open access: concept and meaning:

The Budapest Open Access Initiative (2002) defines open access as "free availability on the public Internet, allowing any user to read, download, copy, distribute, print, search, or link to the full texts of these articles, to crawl them for indexing, to pass them as data to software, or to use them for any other lawful purpose, without any financial, legal, or technical barriers other than those inseparable from access to the Internet itself."

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Open Access Resources:

Bjork, Bio – Christer defines, "Open Access" (OA) means that a reader of a scientific publication can read it over the internet, print it out and even further distribute it for non-commercial purposes without any payments or restrictions.

Suber (2012) defines Open Access as "Open Access literature is digital, online, free of charge, and free of most copyright and licensing restrictions".

Open access resources are electronic resources which can be accessed freely online by the users at free of cost without any restrictions. In open access, either the institution or the individual need not to pay for accessing, and downloading scientific publications/articles. Users can search, read, copy, download, distribute, and print full texts of articles or resources. These resources are not restricted only to open access journals but it may be diverse in forms such as open e-books, open access databases, open-source software,videos, audios, personal websites, discussion forums, institutional websites, personal blogs, open access repositories and institutional repositories.

Some of free Open Educational Resources are discussed here

i) Open Access Books: The directory welcomes all academic publishers releasing peer-reviewed books through Open Access. It aims to encompass a vast collection of books, as long as they adhere to Open Access principles and maintain academic standards.

- Directory of Open Access Books: DOAB
- E-Book Engineering Core (EBSCO)
- E-learningforkids

ii) Free E-Books- This implies that the Directory of Open Access Books is a collaborative initiative that catalogues and grants access to scholarly, peer-reviewed open access books. It helps users in discovering decent open access book publishers. All services offered by DOAB are without charge, and the data is readily accessible. E-books covering a wide range of subjects, both fiction and non-fiction, are available. For avid readers who prefer not to spend money on books, electronic books are an excellent alternative.

- 24symbols
- A Story Before Bed
- BookRix
- FunBrain
- Geronimo Stilton
- Kobo

- Knovels
- Listening-books
- Manybooks4u
- Nc kids
- Public Bookshelf
- Read.gov

- ReadCentral
- Sacred-text
- Short stories
- Si.edu
- Story Online
- ReadCentral

iii) Open Access Journals: These Journals was established to create a dependable platform, providing unfettered access to scientific literature for the swift dissemination of recent advancements across various scientific and technological disciplines. The primary goal of Open Access Journals is to foster accurate, unbiased research information and data, ensuring utmost transparency and adhering to established international publishing standards.

- Directory of Open Access Journals (DOAJ)

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- Sankhya: The Indian Journal of Statistics

iv) Open E-Databases: Databases in all subject areas that are easily available on the Internet, including article abstracts, indexes and occasional full text.

▪ Base	▪ Digital Commons Network	▪ Science Open
▪ Core	▪ Microsoft Academic	▪ Springer Open
▪ Math	▪ Research Gate	▪ Science Alert
▪ Find Articles	▪ Research Project Database	▪ Science Open
▪ HighWire	▪ World Digital Library	▪ Springer Open

v) Open Access Repositories: The repository refers to a compilation of electronic full-text documents, such as journal articles, reprints or preprints, audio, video, and other digital data. These resources are accessiblein online databases on the Internet, allowing free and immediate access. These repositories can be institutionally-based, serving the authors and researchers within the institution, or open for deposits from researchers in a specific subject area. The purposes of repositories can vary, whether it's to offer Open Access to an institution's research output, support subject-based research, or contribute to a national repository system. It's important to note that repositories do not conduct their own peer-review but may offer access to edited, peer-reviewed documents.
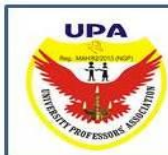
- https://v2.sherpa.ac.uk/opendoar
- https://www.csulb.edu/university-library
- lib.asu.edu/
- http://ir.unishivaji.ac.in:8080/jspui/

vi) Open Access Theses and Dissertations: Theses and dissertations serve as valuable forms of scholarly communication, stemming from research studies at the doctoral, pre-doctoral, and post-doctoral levels conducted in universities and research institutions.

- EThOS
- biblioboard.com/opendissertations
- Openthesis
- Shodhganga
- Oatd.org
- www.dart-europe.eu/basic-search.php
- Shodhganga
- NDLTD

vii)Open Educational Resources (OER): These are the resources which are freely available, openly licensed text, media, and other digital assets that are beneficial for continuous education, lifelong learning, vocational education, and distance erudition and for research purposes. Term OER describes openly available materials and resources for any user to use, re-mix, improve and restructure under some licenses.Open Textbooks, Open Courseware and Massive Online Courses (MOOCs) are also associated with global deployment of OER.

- eGyankosh
- Swayam

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- SAKSHAT
- DIKSHA
- NPTEL
- National Digital Library of India
- MIT Open Courseware

viii) Open Access E-Print Archive: E-Prints is a free and open-source software package for structure open access repositories that are acquiescent with the Open Archives Initiative Protocol for Metadata Harvesting. It shares many of the features commonly perceived in document management systems, but is mainly used for institutional repositories and scientific journals.

- arXiv, bioExiv, medRxiv, chemRxiv, TechRxiv, SocArXiv
- E-prints Archives in Physics, Mathematics, Nuclear Sciences and Computer Sciences
- E-Prints Repository in Electronics and Computer Science
- OSF PrePrints, Research Square, CogPrints, PrePrints, Authorea
- Social Science Research Network (SSRN)

ix) Open patent search database- Patent search analysis performed by an inventor to determine whether the invention is new, useful, and non-obvious. Patent information databases assist as an inspiration and a tool for explaining problems for researchers in their regular work. Patent information databases offer information on competitor's activities.
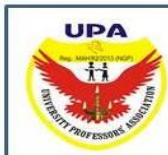
- Espacenet
- Google Patents
- Lens
- Indian Patent Search
- US Patent and Trademark Office

x) Open access Standards: Pountain (2003) defines an open standard as "A standard that is independent of any single institution or manufactures, and to which users may propose amendments"

- ORCID
- CrossRef

xi) Bibliographic Databases: These databases providing full-text and access to bibliographies of scientific literature in various subjects.

- Education Resources Information Center (ERIC)
- Open Index Initiative
- PubMed
- Science Direct
- Dimensions

- archive
- Vidyamitra
- hathitrust
- NDL
- Rare Book Room
- TKDL

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xii)
- Rare Books and Manuscripts
- World E-Book Library
- khanacademy
- Universal Digital Library

Open Digital Library: Bainbridge's definition states that "A digital library is a focused collection of digital objects, along with methods for access and retrieval, for selection and organization, and for maintenance of the collection". The digital objects that may be: text, audio, video, 2D or 3D graphics, animation, simulations, dynamic visualizations etc.

xiii)Research Profile Creation Platforms: Thisoffers various services for researchers and authors. Opening an individual online account and filling it with scholarly contents increase visibility of research output and enhance its influence.

- Academia
- Google Scholar Profile
- Research Gate
- Mendeley
- ORCID
- Vidwan
- Kudos
- Impactstory

xiv) Video Conferencing Applications/Online Meeting: Video conferencing is a form of online meeting where two or more people involve in a live audio-visual call. Video conferencing is a highly convenient usage of technology that permits users in different locations to hold face-to-face meetings.

- Microsoft Teams
- Cisco Webex
- Google Meet
- Google Hangouts
- Skype
- Zoom

xv)Plagiarism Detection Tools: Plagiarism checkers scan user content using advanced technologies against a repository to detect similarity as well as other types of plagiarism.

- Copyleaks
- duplichecker
- PaperRater
- Plagiarism Checker
- Search engines Report

Thus,open access is a method of removing price barriers such as subscription fees, royalties, pay-per-views charges, and authorization from copyright and licensing restrictions. Open access resources benefit academic institutions, researchers, the public, and on a global scale and the world community.

List of Open Access Resources:

Free E Databases			
DOAJ	HighWire	Base	Science Open
Google Scholar	Academia	Microsoft Academic	Research Gate
EBSCO	Math	Find Articles	Magportal
Springer Open	Science Alert	Research project Database	
Patent Search Databases			
Espacenet	Google Patents	US Patent and Trademark Office	
Lens	Indian Patent Search		
Citation Databases			
Dimensions	PubMed	Crossref	Google Scholar
Retracted Articles Database			
Retraction Watch Database			

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Bibliographic Databases			
Emerald Insight	LOADB(Listof OA Database)	Open Index Initiative	Science Direct

Free Internet Based Research Database	
Digital Commons Network	World Digital Library
Core	Science Open

Natural/Medical Sciences/Technology	
USDA	Energy Citations Database

AICTE Free Learning Resources			
Learn Engg	EBox	Talent Rank	English Bolo
Career Path Navigator	Job Readiness	Codetantra- Learn Coding Online	

Social Sciences and Humanities			
ERIC Database	IMF eLIBRARY	ISID	

Other E-Resources			
BharatavaniProject	Swayam	E-PG Pathashala	NPTEL
Niscair online repository		Open Access Library (OA lib)	
E-prints Archives in Physics, Mathematics, Nuclear Sciences and Computer Sciences		E-Prints Repository in Electronics and Computer Science	
Math Archives	RePEc	SOSIG	SSRN
South Asia Archive (National Digital Library)		Yojana magazine	

Free Open Thesis			
EThOS	Openthesis	oatd.org	Shodhganga
NDLDT	biblioboard.com/opendissertations		www.dart-europe.eu/basic-search.php

Free Institutional Repositories		
https://v2.sherpa.ac.uk/opendoar/	https://www.csulb.edu/university-library	lib.asu.edu

Open Access PreprintsRepositories				
Science Related Preprint Repositories				
arXiv	bioRxiv	medRxiv	chemRxiv	TechRxiv
Social Science and Humanities Related Preprint Repositories				
Social Science Research Network (SSRN)		SocArXiv		

Multidisciplinary Preprint Repositories				
OSF PrePrints	Research Square	CogPrints	PrePrints	Authorea

Free Digital Library			
NDL	Archive	hathitrust	khanacademy
Rare Book Room	Vidyamitra	digitallibrary	TKDL

Free Open Library			
Openlibrary			

Free E-Books			
Geronimostilton	publicbookshelf	funbrain	A storybeforebed
Nckids	shortstories	Kobo	Knovels
24symbols	Bookrix	readcetral	openculture
Si.edu	e-learningforkids	Sacred-text	Storyonline
Doab	Manybooks4u	Read.gov	Listening-books

E Reports and Publications			
UNDP - Human Development	UNESCO Repots	WHO Publications	
FAO – UN Pubs & Reports	Statistical Reports from WHO Programmes		
E-Learning Platforms			
Indian Initiatives			
e- PG Pathshala (INFLIBNET)	eGyankosh (IGNOU)	Swayam	SAKSHAT
National Digital Library of India (NDL)	NPTEL	DIKSHA	
Global Initiatives			
MIT Open Courseware	Khan Academy	edX	Open Syllabus Explorer
Research Profile Creation Platforms			
Academia	Mendeley	ORCID	Impactstory
Google Scholar	Vidwan	Kudos	Research Gate
Online Meeting/Video Conferencing Applications			
Google Meet	Zoom	Cisco Webex	Microsoft Teams
Skype	Google Hangouts		
Scientometric/Bibliometric Analysis Software & Tools			
VOSviewer: Visualizing Scientific Landscapes	Publish or Perish Software		
Cite Space - Visualizing Patterns and Trends in Scientific Literature	BibExcel		
SciMAT – Science Mapping Analysis Tool	ScientoPy	Scholarometer	Pajek
Knowledge Mapping Tools			
Open Knowledge Map	Citation Gecko	My Science Work	
Citation Tools			
BIB ME	Easybib	Cite this for Me	Citefast
Plagiarism Detection Tools			
Copy Leaks	Dupli Checker	Plagiarism Checker	
Paper Rater	Search engines Report		
Information Repackaging Tools			
Automatic Text	Summarizer	Summary	SMMRY	Online Summarize

CONCLUSION:

Open access resources remove access barriers to the scholarly literature and beneficial for the global academic & scholarly community by sharing the information. Open Access resources consist of lower costs, better prospects and great accessibility for long term preservation of scholarly works. It also provides good impact factor and visibility of work to the authors. The benefits of open access resources over the printed resources are economic, access anywhere, availability in time and up to date in the world. Open access resource isan opportunity for the worldwide academic and research community to share their knowledge with colleagues and all.

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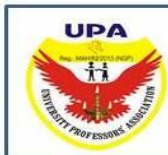
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