



# PASTIC

Volume 8, Issue 1

# NEWSLETTER

## January 2025

### THREE days TRAINING workshop ON "SPSS" AT PASTIC, Islamabad

Pakistan Science and Technology Information Centre (PASTIC) hosted an intensive three-day hands-on training workshop on Statistical Package for the Social Sciences (SPSS) from 01 – 03 January, 2025. Dr. Maryam Ibrar, Additional Director (STI) PASTIC was the resource person. Twenty-three (23) research scholars from Quaid-e-Azam University attended the training workshop.

PASTIC has a long-standing commitment to advancement of scientific innovation and research in Pakistan. Through this workshop, the center continues its efforts to bridge the gap between the theoretical knowledge and practical application, helping participants apply advanced tools and methodologies in their research work.

Principal System Analyst, Mr. Saifullah Azim concluded the training session. He briefly introduced the different PASTIC services and explained the objective to organize such training workshops. At the end of the session, Principal System Analyst, Mr. Saifullah Azim distributed the training certificates amongst the participants.

In this training workshop, participants were introduced to PASTIC information services for the scientific community. They learned basic concepts in statistics and gained hands-on experience with SPSS Statistics, learning how to leverage its functionalities to analyse and interpret statistics, providing a comprehensive understanding of how SPSS Statistics can be applied across various domains. Participants commended the workshop as a highly valuable and hands-on experience that provided them with practical skills and actionable knowledge.



*Principal System Analyst, Mr. Saifullah Azim distributing training certificates amongst the participants*

### THREE days TRAINING workshop ON "SPSS" AT PASTIC, Islamabad

Pakistan Science and Technology Information Centre (PASTIC) successfully concluded three-days training workshop on Statistical Package for the Social Sciences (SPSS) at PASTIC National Centre, QAU Campus, Islamabad. The hands-on training workshop held from 29-31 January, 2025, designed to empower researchers, students, and professionals with the necessary skills to effectively utilize SPSS software for advanced data analysis.



*Group photo of the 3 days training workshop "SPSS" at PASTIC National Centre, Islamabad*

Dr. Muhammad Usman was the Resource Person and thirty-two (32) research scholars from various universities, including QAU, IIU, and COMSATS participated in the training workshop. The training brought together professionals, researchers, academicians, and students from diverse backgrounds, all eager to enhance their statistical analysis capabilities. Expert facilitators led engaging sessions covering key SPSS functionalities, including data entry, manipulation, descriptive statistics, inferential statistics, and graphical representation of data. Hands-on exercises and real-world case studies provided participants with practical experience in using the software effectively.

Participants appreciated the program for its insightful sessions on advanced research tools, instructional leadership, and modern teaching methodologies. They highlighted the practical approach and interactive learning environment as key take-aways, emphasizing its impact on their research and professional growth.

PASTIC remains committed to empowering researchers by providing a dynamic platform for learning and skill



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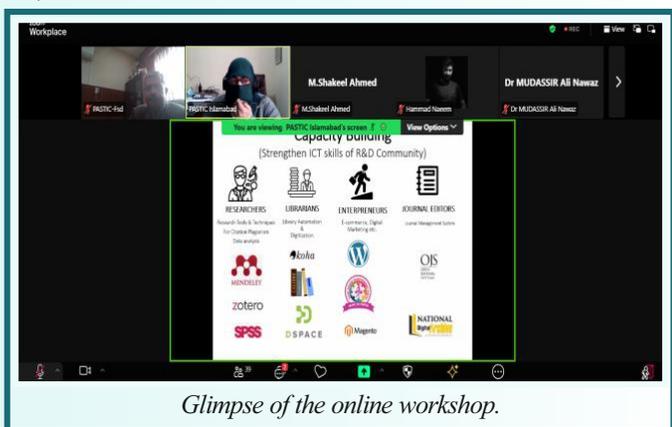
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## January 2025

development. The workshop concluded with a certificate distribution ceremony, recognizing the participants' dedication and newly acquired skills. Principal System Analyst, Mr. Saifullah Azim distributed the training Certificates amongst the participants.

### A WEBINAR ON "RESEARCH SMARTLY WITH AI TOOLS: SEARCH TO CITATION"

A Webinar on "Research Smartly with AI Tools: Search to Citation" was organized by PASTIC Faisalabad on January 29, 2025.



*Glimpse of the online workshop.*

Around 40 participants comprising Deans, Directors, Faculty members, and Researcher students from various organizations participated in this online event. The session was commenced with an introduction of PASTIC information services for scientific community. Participants were introduced with the AI powered research tools e.g. Semantic Scholar, Science Space, Research Rabbit, Connected Papers for reading, writing, summarizing, literature review and citation/reference management.

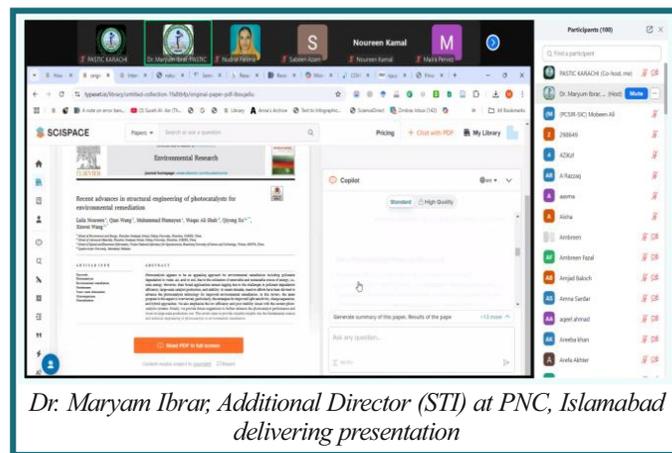
Participants commented on the case of using AI for conducting in-depth literature review, with its automated features of integrating different citation styles while fostering a smarter approach to information gathering.

### WEBINAR ON "HOW TO RESEARCH SMARTLY WITH AI TOOLS: FROM SEARCH TO CITATION"

PASTIC Sub-Centre Karachi organized a webinar titled "How to Research Smartly with AI Tools: From Search to Citation" on January 7, 2025, via Zoom at PSCK. The session attracted over 100 participants, including students, faculty

members, and professionals from various universities and organizations. The event began with the recitation of The Holy Quran, followed by a welcome address from Ms. Afsheen Tariq, Assistant Director (STI) at PASTIC Sub-Centre Karachi, who emphasized the growing role of AI in modern research methodologies. The keynote speaker, Dr. Maryam Ibrar, Additional Director (STI) at PASTIC National Centre Islamabad, shared valuable insights on leveraging AI tools to enhance research efficiency, from conducting smart searches to managing citations effectively. The webinar provided an interactive platform for attendees to explore innovative AI-driven techniques, fostering greater awareness and skill development in academic research.

The webinar concluded with an interactive Q&A session, where attendees engaged with the speaker to deepen their understanding of AI-driven research tools.



*Dr. Maryam Ibrar, Additional Director (STI) at PNC, Islamabad delivering presentation*

In her closing remarks, Ms. Afsheen Tariq expressed gratitude to the speaker, participants, and the organizing team, reaffirming PASTIC's dedication to equipping researchers with the latest tools and methodologies for effective knowledge management and dissemination.

### EVENT/WEBINAR/MEETING ATTENDED

a. Ms. Afsheen Tariq, Assistant Director (STI) at PASTIC Sub-Centre Karachi (PSCK), attended an awareness seminar titled "From Rote Learning to Conceptual Understanding through Assessment" on January 14, 2025, at Dawood University of Engineering and Technology (DUET) in Karachi, Organized by the Inter-Board Coordination Commission (IBCC) under the Federal Ministry of Education.



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b. Mr. Syed Shabib Zaidi, Science Assistant at PSCK, participated in the 4<sup>th</sup> Research & Technology Showcase 2025 on January 23, 2025, at the Expo Centre Karachi, Organized by the Sindh Higher Education Commission (SHEC), Government of Sindh.



*Dr. Muhammad Usman holding his PhD degree at University of Science and Technology of China (USTC)*

c. Mr. Muhammad Usman, Database Administrator PASTIC National Centre, Islamabad earned PhD in Computer Science from University of Science and

Tecnology of China (USTC), China in December 2024. His research focused on tackling critical challenges in imbalanced data classification in real-time evolving data streams. His work aimed at improving the detection of rare instances, adapting to concept drift, and handling missing data challenges crucial in real-world applications like risk assessment, healthcare monitoring, and environmental surveillance.

During his PhD journey, Dr. M. Usman published four research papers as the first author and contributed to 12 additional publications as a co-author in highly reputable IEEE and Elsevier journals. His research significantly advances machine learning techniques for dynamic environments, paving the way for more reliable and efficient AI-driven systems. This achievement highlights his dedication and contribution to the field of computer science. His expertise in handling complex data classification problems makes a profound impact on real-world applications where accurate decision-making is critical. Congratulations to Dr. Muhammad Usman on this remarkable achievement!



# PASTIC



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