

## Plagiarism: Concept and Tools for Detection

**Himan Chowdhury**

Librarian

Kandi Raj College

Kandi, Murshidabad, W.B.

[himan.chowdhury@gmail.com](mailto:himan.chowdhury@gmail.com)

### **Structured Abstract:**

**Purpose:** This paper focuses on plagiarism and discusses the definition of plagiarism, types of plagiarism, anti-plagiarism tools and also suggests the way to avoid plagiarism.

**Design / Methodology / Approach:** This study based on secondary sources of information, collected from different articles, books and related websites.

**Findings:** Plagiarism is that the act of stealing somebody else's work. This could apply to something, from term papers to images to songs, even ideas. Plagiarism breaks the part of trust, expectation and honesty, that could be a demand for intellectual add a moral framework. In addition plagiarism undermines the fundamental objective of education and study by unwarranted short-cut process of research and inquiry that guides to knowledge, learning and resource. The arrival of ICT is the major issue for the rise in plagiarism.

**Originality and Value:** Presently plagiarism is a very serious issue in academic world. We all know that prevention is better than cure hence an effective anti-plagiarism policy must be implemented in academic institutions to uproot the weeds of plagiarism before they grow and develop.

**Keywords:** Plagiarism, Copyright, Self-Plagiarism, Joint Information Systems Committee, Anti-Plagiarism Tools, Shodhganga, Shodhgangotri, Shodh Shuddhi.

**Paper Type:** Evaluative

### **Introduction:**

Plagiarism among academics is a problem of great concern. Plagiarism is a concern that is moral, ethical, and legal. Plagiarism has been around for decades, but the issue has been

made more acute by the arrival of Internet and easy availability of Information and Communication Technology (ICT). Plagiarism takes the work of someone else and passes it off as one's own. Many people think of plagiarism as copying the work of someone, or borrowing the original ideas of someone else. But the seriousness of the crime can be masked by words like "copying" and "borrowing."

### **Review of Literature:**

**Kumar and Tripathi (2009)**, pointed out the definition of 'plagiarism' and investigated the tools, types, studies on plagiarism and the methods to control plagiarism. It revealed that plagiarism is so prevalent in India because there is no thesis and dissertation database, so it is easy to plagiarise them from one university to another and even at the same university. An anti-plagiarism policy must be needed in academic fields in India and develop its own anti plagiarism software. It suggested that that if plagiarism is easy the tools to detect the plagiarism are also available easily.

**Fishman (2009)**, investigated the difference between the elements of plagiarism from those of theft and copyright violations, and defined plagiarism in terms that accurately describe its essential elements. The study described the elements of plagiarism which are *actus reus*—using someone else's words or ideas without attributing them when they can and should be attributed and *mens rea*—to gain credit that was not legitimately earned. It indicated that plagiarism is an offense in academic world.

**Hexham (2013)**, highlighted the seriousness of plagiarism in academic globe. It described the meaning, types and indications of plagiarism. The study revealed that plagiarism must be taken very seriously. An agreed punishment, definition, examples and standards must be needed for academics. Academics have to face questions by the granting agencies and government bodies where their money is going and why they did nothing when clear fraud occurred.

**Ahmed (2015)**, defined plagiarism, explained the benefit of it and stated twenty one different plagiarism service tools provided on the Internet in order to detect the plagiarism process. It observed most universities, journals, institutes and sites are using 'Turnitin' for plagiarism detection. However despite having lots of anti plagiarism tools the human eye is the best plagiarism detection tool.

**Kumar and Arora (2015)**, discussed the model introduced in India for deterring plagiarism with brief history of Shodhganga initiative and its present status, criteria adopted by the Centre for selection of plagiarism detection platform, guidelines set-up on methodology to check plagiarism in universities, policy for hosting / removing theses from Shodhganga, guidelines for submission of theses, IPR issues and policies and future plans. The study indicated that quality of thesis content is maintained by Shodhganga and it is also essential that content produced by the research scholar should be validated before the PhD is awarded. Anti-plagiarism tools made available to universities will play an important role in curbing the plagiarism in universities, thus improving the quality of research in universities.

**Chrispin et al. (2020)**, tried to throw an overall look at the plagiarism types and some advanced plagiarism checker tools and software. The study suggested that online plagiarism checkers are the best tool that allows students and researchers to easily escape plagiarism and to improve their writing skills. The idea of plagiarism and plagiarism checker software leads to better comprehension and successful writing.

### **Objective of Study:**

The objective of this study is to evaluate the logical concepts relevant to plagiarism, its factors and origins, its occurrence in the academic world and tools to detecting it in order to enhance the awareness of academics about plagiarism.

### **Methodology:**

This study based on secondary sources of information collected from different sources like articles, books and related websites. Discussions took place from the obtained information. On the basis of discussions the author finally arrived at a conclusion and suggestions.

### **Discussion:**

#### **What is Plagiarism?**

According to the *American Heritage Dictionary of the English Language* the Latin “*plagium*” means “*kidnapping*”. It is intellectual theft. It is a serious scientific misconduct.

According to the *Merriam-Webster Online Dictionary*, to “*plagiarize*” means

- 1) “*to steal and pass off (the ideas or words of another) as one's own*”

2) “to use (another's production) without crediting the source”

3) “to commit literary theft”

4) “to present as new and original an idea or product derived from an existing source”

Concisely, we can define plagiarism as an act of fraud.

Plagiarism is an issue of great worry amongst the scholars. Plagiarism is a moral, ethical, and legal issue. In this 4G era internet supplies users with easy access to various kinds of data and information. The large quantity of information available makes it easier and increases the temptation to steal other's ideas, therefore now the disease of plagiarism has taken the shape of an epidemic. Plagiarism is taking someone else's work and passing it off as one's own, is sometimes committed deliberately and other times accidentally. Often, copyrights are violated, which is considered to be unethical act by society, and thus is punishable offense.

### **Types of Plagiarism:**

The types of Plagiarism can be classified and listed as given below:

***The Ghost Writer:*** This type of plagiarism occurs when writer copied word for word from another work and pass it of as his/her own.

***The Photocopy:*** This type of plagiarism takes place when writer copies important parts of a particular work without any alteration.

***The Potluck Paper:*** This type of plagiarism occurs when sentences are copying from different work and modified to fit together while retaining most of the original phrasing.

***The Poor Disguise:*** Though the writer has maintained the essential content of the source, he/she has altered the paper's exterior slightly by changing key words and phrases.

***The Labour of Laziness:*** The writer takes the time to paraphrase most of the paper from different sources and make it fit together, rather than putting some effort on original work.

***Self-Stealer:*** Self-Stealer is self-plagiarism or recycling fraud. In this situation writer copied from his/her own prior work. It is a serious ethical issue hence it should not apply to public-interest texts, such as social, professional, and cultural opinions usually published in newspapers and magazines.

***The Forgotten Footnote:*** This type of plagiarism occurs when author's name of a source mentioned but the detail information of the source neglected. This usually masks alternative other forms of plagiarism by obscuring source locations.

***The Misinformer:*** The writer provides inaccurate information about the sources to create difficulties to find them.

***The Too-Perfect Paraphrase:*** This type of plagiarism occurs if the writer neglects to put in quotation marks the text has been copied but properly cites the source.

***The Resourceful Citer:*** The writer properly cites all sources, paraphrasing and using quotations perfectly. In this situation it is difficult to detect plagiarism.

***Copy and Paste Plagiarism:*** Any time a sentence or significant phrase intact from a source is lifted; in this condition quotation marks and reference the source must be use.

***Incremental Plagiarism:*** This type of plagiarism takes place when author fails to give credit specific portions or increments of a text that are borrowed from various sources.

***Word Switch Plagiarism:*** If a sentence taken from a source and alter around a few words, it is still plagiarism. If a sentence is quoted, then it should be put in quotation marks and cite the author and article.

***Metaphor Plagiarism:*** This type of plagiarism takes place when an exclusive, innovative metaphor is taken from the original author without cited or giving credit for it. The original words may not be copied but the metaphor is used again.

**Idea Plagiarism:** When the innovative idea or the way to solve a problem has been copied from the author of the original source.

**Reasoning Style/Organization Plagiarism:** Although none of the sentences are exactly the same or in the same order like those in the source but copying the reasoning style of the original author.

**Data Plagiarism:** When data is copied from various sources in research.

### **Plagiarism v. Copyright Infringement:**

There is an excellent deal of confusion concerning the variations between copyright infringement and plagiarism. Infringement and plagiarism are distinct and should not occur at the same time. These are combined each time the media refer to copyright infringement cases as “plagiarism,” and it is true that the two have several features in common. Usually copyright exists in a work till sixty years from the death of an author but the right of an author to be attributed continuously. Copyright infringement occurs when someone takes work that is subject to copyright law and deprives its lawful owner of benefits by distributing it. Copy right act came into force to protect the legal rights of the copyright holder. In fraud case plagiarism and copyright infringement clearly overlaps. As such, if a copyrighted work is plagiarized in a manner violating Section 14 of the Copyright Act, possibly through an exact reproduction, then both plagiarism and infringement occur simultaneously. Consequently if a work has been plagiarized after sixty years of death of its author it is not a case of copy right infringement. There are several instances where plagiarism occurs but no copyright infringement is committed. For instance, when using a work with permission without citation does not constitute copyright infringement but is clearly plagiarism. Thus, even without addressing the question of material benefits, it is clear that copyright violation is not co-identical with plagiarism.

### **Prevention of Plagiarism:**

In order to stop plagiarism from occurring people must be cautious and careful when borrowing someone else’s ideas and make sure that getting the full source of material from the Internet, so that it can be cite later. For using note cards when read books and journal

articles, take the time to list the full source including page numbers on the passages. For cut and paste from the Internet into a document are created, it should be highlighted in another color so that it sticks out. Do not copy material, say, three paragraphs, from an original source and indicate at the end of the third paragraph with a footnote that the material was borrowed. If someone use material verbatim (the exact words), then use quotation marks and cite the source.

To prevent plagiarism the steps should be taken at two different levels. First at student's level there should be strict guide lines of the student's writing that they do not copy from other source. Second at institution level, the institutions should play a major role in preventing of plagiarism; it is of great importance that the institutions needs to lay down the policies & rules to be followed by all and should set down penalties for this offense which shall dissuade anybody from committing such acts. As per the UGC Notification (Minimum Standards & Procedure for Award of M.Phil. / Ph.D Degree, Regulation, 2016) dated 5th May 2016 it is mandatory to submit electronic version of theses and dissertations by the researchers in universities and this digital repository of Indian Electronic Theses and Dissertations hosted and maintained by the INFLIBNET Centre in the name of "Sodhganga". In 2018 University Grants Commission made a regulation to prevent plagiarism at institutional level that is UGC (PROMOTION OF ACADEMIC INTEGRITY AND PREVENTION OF PLAGIARISM IN HIGHER EDUCATIONAL INSTITUTIONS) REGULATIONS, 2018.

Plagiarism, which is still protected under the copyright act, is very weak in practise. To avoid plagiarism, no separate laws are made. It is also proposed that a new and specific legislation may be included under the copyright act or a separate clause may be included in the Indian Penal Code 1860 relating to plagiarism which must be effectively enforced.

### **Anti-Plagiarism Tools:**

There are many anti plagiarism tools are available nowadays.

**Plagium:** Plagium is a very good plagiarism detection tool. This is a service of Septet Systems Inc. which is a New York-based company that expertises in advanced search solutions for industry, the public sector, and government. It provides an easy to use service that applies to a broad base of users.

**Turnitin:** Turnitin is one of the leading anti plagiarism tool across the world. The company's cloud-based service for originality checking, online grading and peer review saves instructors time and provides rich feedback to users.

**Duplichecker:** Duplichecker analyzes each sentence entered in the text box. It provides free online service (<https://www.duplichecker.com/>) to the users.

**Plagiarismdetector:** It works like *Duplichecker*. It also provides free plagiarism detection service.

**Glatt Plagiarism Program:** Since 1990, Glatt Consulting Services has assisted academic institutions with Plagiarism Forensics. Its consulting services include developing policies and procedures to deal with issues of academic dishonesty and plagiarism.

**EVE2: Essay Verification Engine:** EVE2 is a very powerful tool that allows teachers at all levels of the education system to determine if students have plagiarized material from the World Wide Web.

**PlagiServe:** The PlagiServe Team viz. Olexiy Shevchenko, Max Litvin and Sasha Lugovskyy came up with the concept of a plagiarism detection device in June2000. The software used by PlagiServe not only detects papers that have been obtained from a term paper company and turned into an instructor, but it also looks for any changes or modifications made to these papers.

**Plagiarism.org:** This was created by the students and alumni of University of California, Berkeley. This software doesn't differentiate between quoted materials and original writing.

**Plagiarisma.net:** It has a search box as well as a software that can be download for Windows and for Smart phones as a mobile app. Users can also search for entire URLs and files in HTML, DOC, DOCX, RTF, TXT, ODT and PDF formats.

**CopyCatch Gold:** A forensic linguist at CFL Software Development which is primarily aimed at collusion detection, but can be used anywhere there is a requirement to check on the independent production of documents.



**EduTie.com:** It was established in August 2000, and is designed to help institutions prevent Internet plagiarism. It is built on the PlagiServe (<https://www.plagiserve.com/>) core design. Papers submitted are compared to more than one billion “high risk” Web pages in an attempt to detect plagiarism. Free trials of the software are available.

**Joint Information Systems Committee (JISC): Electronic Plagiarism Detection:** In 2001 JISC completed a plagiarism project then they founded a plagiarism advisory service

There were 4 parts to their plagiarism project, and they include:

1. Technical review of free-text plagiarism detection software
2. Technical review of source code plagiarism detection software
3. A pilot of free-text detection software in 5 UK institutions
4. A good practice guide to plagiarism detection.

A listserv has also been set up to continue discussions regarding academic dishonesty and plagiarism issues.

**JISC Plagiarism Advisory Service:** JISC Plagiarism Advisory Service is a new offering that began in September 2002. It is based in the Information Management Research Institute at Northumbria University (UK).

**Jplag:** This system finds similarities among multiple sets of source code files. This way it can detect software plagiarism. It is not only compare bytes of text, but also aware of programming language syntax and program structure and hence is robust against many kinds of attempts to disguise similarities between plagiarized files. JPlag currently supports Java, C#, C, C++, Scheme and natural language text.

**WordCHECK:** WordCHECK is used by a diverse group including information researchers, copyright attorneys and classroom teachers. It was developed by Information Analytics, a Lincoln, NE company owned by Kenneth Livingston and Mark Dahmke.

**MOSS:** MOSS or Measure of Software Similarity is a tool that has been used primarily to detect plagiarism. MOSS works with programs written in C, C++, Java, Pascal, Ada and other languages and looks out for similar code structure in different documents.

**Urkund:** It is a fully automated plagiarism detecting system. Urkund become very popular plagiarism detection tool in higher education institute all over the globe. It verifies all documents against three central sources: the Internet, published materials, and materials previously submitted by students such as projects or assignments etc.

**PlagScan:** It is a completely browser-based web service that checks the genuineness of documents. Files can be uploaded in all common file formats like .doc, .pdf etc. Users can paste text directly into PlagScan as well and check for authenticity. This service employs an extremely advanced two-step algorithm based on the latest research in computer linguistics.

**Viper:** Viper is a piece of free software that will help to keep essays plagiarism-free.

**Quetext:** Quetext is free intelligent plagiarism detection software. Simply input text, then it will be analyzed based on lexical frequencies, phrase patterns, and many other factors. Then the text is mapped into an internal network where it is compared against the entire internet and other databases. After the text is finished being scanned, results will appear with an indication of an exact match, or a similar match with a percentage of similarity along with the similar text.

**Copyleaks:** Copyleaks plagiarism checker fights plagiarism and copyright infringement online. It has advanced technology that works in any language. Check for plagiarism to detect if the content is being used by others.

**PaperRater.com:** PaperRater.com analyzes documents immediately, 24/7, in real-time. It provide in depth analysis to plagiarism detection and grammar and spelling check.

**PlagiarismChecker.com:** It helps to find out whether a work of a student has been copied from the Internet or not.

**PlagTracker.com:** It is online plagiarism detection software to ensure that the texts are unique.

**Google:** Google is not designed to be a plagiarism recognition tool, but its advanced search engine capabilities are helpful to locating key phrases that may appear in students' research papers.

**Shodhganga: A Reservoir of Indian Theses:** The Information and Library Network Centre provides a platform for research scholars to deposit electronic copy of their PhD theses and make it accessible to the entire scholarly community in open access. Since the awarded PhD thesis is accessible online, the previous researcher can check how much work has been completed and the scope for further study can be drawn up.

**Shodhgangotri: Repository of Indian Research in Progress:** Under the 'ShodhGangotri' initiative, university research scholars and research guides/ supervisors are requested to deposit the electronic version of the accepted synopsis submitted to universities by research scholars for registration for the PhD programme. The duplicity of the works can be avoided at an early point, as the synopsis is open to everyone.

**ShodhShuddhi: Enhancing Research Quality:** Last year, the Education Ministry, Govt. India has introduced a "ShodhShuddhi" programme that provides all universities / institutions in India with access to Plagiarism Detection Software. URKUND is web-based anti-plagiarism software given to all universities / intuitions in the country under this initiative.

### **Conclusion:**

Plagiarism must be taken very seriously indeed particularly in academic sphere. Now is the time to act by clearly distinguishing what plagiarism is and ways to be handled among both students and faculty.

The some of the reasons of plagiarism are idleness, fecklessness, and ignorance. But there are cases when plagiarism is committed accidentally one may choose write on the same topic as the other odds are that he or she may even express the same concepts and express them similarly in his or her paper also if this does happened it is extremely unlikely that one will accuse of plagiarism.

### **Suggestions:**

The original source must be cited at the end of the paraphrased passage when paraphrasing or rewriting someone else's text in own words. If someone's ideas, quotes, phrases etc. has been used then it should be duly acknowledged to the original authors. Academic Institution should take the initiative to encourage academics to do basic researches, writings and develop innovative ideas. The Library professionals should organize workshops to create awareness on Plagiarism.

Free of cost plagiarism detection tool or software should be provided by the government agencies to every academic institution as needed.

Further distinctions may be made between various elements of these plagiarism tools. Plagiarism detection systems may also be focused on the combination of various methods of detecting plagiarism, and certain techniques such as watermarking, cryptographic or natural language processing techniques may be used to improve the plagiarism tool design.

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