

Editorial: Special selection on current bibliometrics and reviews

Recently, we have started selecting articles of similar themes for regular issues and writing editorials to guide readers better to the *Library Hi Tech* and other related literature, such as “Bibliometrics and literature review” (Chiu and Ho, 2021, 2022a, 2023a) in 39(4), 40(3) and 41(2), “Information and Knowledge Management” (Chiu and Ho, 2023c) in 41(4), “Digital culture and reading” (Chiu and Ho, 2022b) in 40(5), “Social Media and Social Network Research” (Chiu and Ho, 2023b) in 41(3), “Advances in Learning Technologies” (Chiu and Ho, 2023d) in 41(6) and “40th anniversary: contemporary library research” (Chiu and Ho, 2022c) in 40(6). In this issue, we select 15 current bibliometrics and reviews that should be interesting to the broad readers of *Library Hi Tech*.

Education

For education, Abd Majid *et al.* (2024) performed a bibliometric analysis on technical vocational education training (TVET) to assess the state of the art over the past 23 years. Results indicate that Phase I (1999–2006) focused on human capital resources development, Phase II (2007–2014) focused on technology transition in education and Phase III (2015–2021) focused on vocational studies in higher education towards increasing the productivity of human resources via the implementation of technology transition. Readers may also be interested in reading about bibliometric studies on innovation and entrepreneurship education (Feng *et al.*, 2023) and special education (Inaam ul haq *et al.*, 2023). Please also note some recent educational developments in a recent special issue (Chen *et al.*, 2023).

Feng *et al.* (2024c) conducted a bibliometric analysis of maker education to reveal the research hotspots and frontiers. Results indicate that such research is still in development, and the COVID-19 pandemic has severely inhibited related research and education (Conrad *et al.*, 2022; Fasaie *et al.*, 2021; Guo *et al.*, 2023; Meng *et al.*, 2023; Yu *et al.*, 2023; Zhang *et al.*, 2023). Readers may also be interested in reading further about makers’ learning needs and behaviors (Zhang and Hu, 2022), makerspace curriculum and libraries’ use of single-board computers out of the makerspace (Maceli, 2019, 2022).

Healthcare

Regarding healthcare, Borgohain *et al.* (2024a) conducted a bibliometric investigation on mucormycosis, a fungus that evolved as a post-COVID-19 complication globally, to reveal the related research hot spots to inform researchers, policymakers and scientists. Balaei-Kahnamoei *et al.* (2024) conducted a bibliometric analysis related to lung disease and found an upward trend from 1984 to 2021, with a surge in 2013. Tyagi (2024a) sketched the global research landscape of India’s National Institute of Pharmaceutical Education and Research (NIPER) with bibliometrics to reveal the research trends and collaborative practices of NIPER’s researchers. Batool *et al.* (2024) systematically reviewed the literature and found a statistically significant relationship between parents’ health literacy and their child’s health, and most of such research was conducted in the USA and employed quantitative methods.

Though we are recovering from COVID-19 (Abbass *et al.*, 2022; Suh and Alhaery, 2022; Kumar *et al.*, 2021), readers may still want to review some articles from our special issues on the pandemic (Huang *et al.*, 2021, 2022, 2023).



Technological development

For technologies, [Borgohain et al. \(2024b\)](#) performed a bibliometric analysis on the growth, collaboration network, trending topics and research hot spots to highlight the challenges and opportunities in adopting artificial intelligence (AI) for library-related applications. Hot topics include machine learning, large datasets, deep learning and high-level languages. Readers may also be interested in reading recent articles on AI library service innovation ([Okunlaya et al., 2022](#)), patterns of AI policies ([Wang et al., 2023a](#)), intelligent recommendations ([Bokharai Nia et al., 2023](#); [Nawaz et al., 2023](#); [Senthil Kumaran and Latha, 2023](#); [Shi et al., 2023](#)), library robotic process automation ([Basumatary et al., 2023](#); [Chin and Chiu, 2023](#); [Lin et al., 2022](#); [Wójcik, 2023](#)), smart libraries ([Khan et al., 2023](#); [Wang, 2023b](#)), AI awareness in libraries ([Harisanty et al., 2022](#); [Yoon et al., 2022](#)), AI in library repositories ([Nugroho et al., 2023](#)) and ChatGPT ([Afjal, 2023](#); [Bin-Hady et al., 2023](#)). Further, readers may be interested in our special section on smart cities ([Chang and Abdel-Basset, 2022](#)).

[Khan et al. \(2024b\)](#) conducted a bibliometric analysis of publications related to image processing and found that such research was meager in the past decade but has increased dramatically since 2014. Readers may be interested in reading recent articles on mobile visual search ([Zeng et al., 2022](#)) and multimedia information retrieval ([Lo, 2024](#)).

[Feng et al. \(2024b\)](#) conducted a bibliometric analysis and found increasing research and achievements related to the metaverse, but the depth and breadth are insufficient and unevenly distributed and cannot catch up with the industry. Research hotspots gradually developed from conceptual research to artificial intelligence, blockchain, NFT and other technical applications. Readers may be interested in reading recent articles on metaverse applications to urban libraries ([Guo et al., 2023](#)) and bibliometrics on metaverse applications in health education ([Agac et al., 2023](#)).

Public and culture

[Ramzy and Ibrahim \(2024\)](#) conducted a bibliometric analysis of e-government research to reveal global development trends. Results indicate that the research growth rate is expected to gradually increase and reveal countries and topics of research focus. Readers may be interested in reading recent articles on curriculum development for the Master of Public Administration ([Ho et al., 2023a](#)), urban governance ([Zhang et al., 2023](#)), IoT as a societal transformer ([Chohan et al., 2023](#)), open government data ([Dai et al., 2023](#); [Wu et al., 2022](#); [Wang et al., 2023c](#)) and knowledge management in governments ([Lam et al., 2023](#)).

[Khan et al. \(2024a\)](#) performed a systematic review and found a significant impact of information credibility on the information adoption behavior of social media users. Readers may be interested in reading recent articles on fake news and misinformation ([Au et al., 2022](#); [Ho et al., 2022, 2023a, b, c](#); [Meng et al., 2023](#); [Mirzabeigi et al., 2023](#); [Zhang et al., 2022](#)).

[Feng et al. \(2024a\)](#) performed a bibliometric investigation and found that cultural self-confidence and strategy have received increasing attention from Chinese scholars. Research hotspots include cultural and creative design theory, cross-integration, the construction of innovative cultural and creative industry systems and integration of emotion with the product industry. Readers may be interested in reading recent articles on digital cultural spaces ([Noh, 2022](#); [Wang et al., 2023a, b, c](#)). Readers may also be interested in our special section on contemporary digital culture and reading ([Chiu and Ho, 2022b](#)).

Current research trends

Regarding research trends, [Wani and Ganaie \(2024\)](#) conducted a bibliometric analysis and found the publication of gray literature, information produced outside of traditional publishing and distribution channels, has been increasing recently, with prominent sources like PLOS One

and NeuroImage. [Yan et al. \(2024\)](#) provide a systematic knowledge map for researchers in the field of research data management and found that collaboration between scholars and institutions is weak. Results also identified current hotspots, including data literacy education, research data sharing, data integration management, joint library cataloging and data research support services. [Tyagi \(2024b\)](#) investigated the research productivity of the top four premier Indian Institute of Management (IIM) institutions and found a trend of increasing publication, which involves wide collaboration with 125 countries worldwide. Readers may also be interested in reading articles related to research trends in library and information science ([Wijewickrema, 2023](#); [Zhu, 2023](#)), techno-ethics ([Verma and Garg, 2023](#)) and massive open online courses (MOOCs) ([Cheng et al., 2023](#); [Ratnasari et al., 2024](#)).

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