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Business Initiatives among Expatriates: A Bibliometric Analysis

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Abstract: *Business initiatives including entrepreneurship, start-ups are fast growing and dynamic academic research field with a long intellectual tradition. In academics it attracts scholars who have distinct background and theoretical frameworks with different levels of analyses and methodological orientations. The study aims to examine the extent of research conducted on materials by employing a bibliometric review and data mapping methodology. The use of bibliometrics is progressively expanding across various academic fields. Bibliometrics is particularly well-suited for science mapping, especially during a time when there is a growing emphasis on empirical contributions, resulting in extensive, fragmented, and contentious research streams. Science mapping can be challenging and cumbersome due to its multi-step nature, often necessitating the use of multiple and varied software tools. Research data on materials were obtained from Scopus database including business initiatives among expatriate for the world landscape during the period 1975 to 2023. The search methodology involves focusing on a specific subject area and using titles, keywords, and abstracts of the study materials. The mapping process is done using R-tool and VOSviewer. A total of 623 articles were found. The results showed that the most studied study material was in the 1975-2023 range. This review can certainly provide a reference point for further research related to materials.*

Keywords: *Business Initiatives, Expatriates, Bibliometric Analysis, R – tool, VOSviewer*

I. INTRODUCTION

Business initiatives including entrepreneurship, start-ups are having advanced significantly over the past few decades as a result of entrepreneurship academics strong commitment to expanding its theoretical foundation through increasingly sophisticated research. There are many chances for multilevel study because the field of entrepreneurship can be studied from a variety of perspectives, including disciplines, functions, and contexts (Audretsch et al., 2019; Douglas & Prentice, 2019). The need for more rigour in quantitative business research is currently very strong. Currently, (Maula & Stam, 2020) point out there is a significant movement towards enhancing the thoroughness of quantitative research in business. This shift is motivated by various recent advancements, including the realization that commonly used empirical methods in business research have significant drawbacks, a general unease about the ability to reproduce previous findings in social science research, and the rapid progress in research techniques that enable the execution of more rigorous investigations. Research on expatriates (Dabic et al., 2015) can be categorized into two distinct yet interconnected areas: human resource management (HRM) and practices, and international business management (IBM). Given the extensive empirical research conducted over the past four decades, there appears to be a need for a comprehensive review to establish a solid groundwork for developing a theory of expatriate management. An expatriate can also be an individual who has relinquished citizenship in their home country to become a citizen of another. In the cross-cultural adjustment literature, expatriates (Peltokorpi & Froese, 2009) have traditionally been portrayed as a uniform and diverse group. Nevertheless, recent studies have started to differentiate between two specific types of expatriates: organizational expatriates (OEs), who are sent by their home companies to international assignments, and self-initiated expatriates. Bibliometric analysis (Osareh, 1996) examines metadata extracted from academic research databases to offer a comprehensive overview of the current advancements within a specific research field. It is evident that (Velt et al., 2020) one of the research methodologies that facilitate the execution of more rigorous studies in this field is bibliometric analysis. In comparison to other approaches for literature review, bibliometric studies possess the potential for greater stringency, reduced bias, and provide an overview of the scientific literature within a specific domain, thus complementing meta-analyses and systematic literature reviews. Metadata comprises (Zupic & Čater, 2015) essential elements, including source titles, abstracts, keywords, authors, references, and citation counts. These databases provide valuable information that can be utilized for various analyses and visualizations, shedding light on the research landscape. Through bibliometric studies, one can gain an understanding of the current scope and progress of a particular research field, examining publication and citation records. Additionally, these studies can assist in identifying intellectual frameworks, thematic clusters, and their corresponding findings.

In contrast to alternative approaches for literature review, bibliometric studies offer the potential for increased rigor, reduced bias, and provide a comprehensive overview of the scientific literature within a specific field. They serve as a valuable complement to meta-analyses and systematic literature reviews.

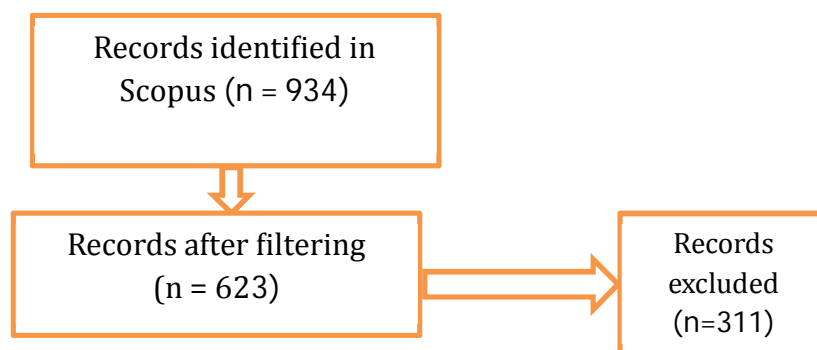


Fig. 1. Data collection flow diagram.

A bibliometric analysis was conducted using the Biometrics R-tool on two combined databases. The primary achievement of this study lies in recognizing the primary areas of study and the most enduring research topics, providing valuable insights for future investigations. The structure of this study is as follows: Initially, the methodology section outlines the approaches and databases used. Subsequently, the main findings from both the descriptive and bibliometric analyses are presented, accompanied by a corresponding discussion. Lastly, the conclusions section addresses limitations and includes a subsection proposing future research directions.

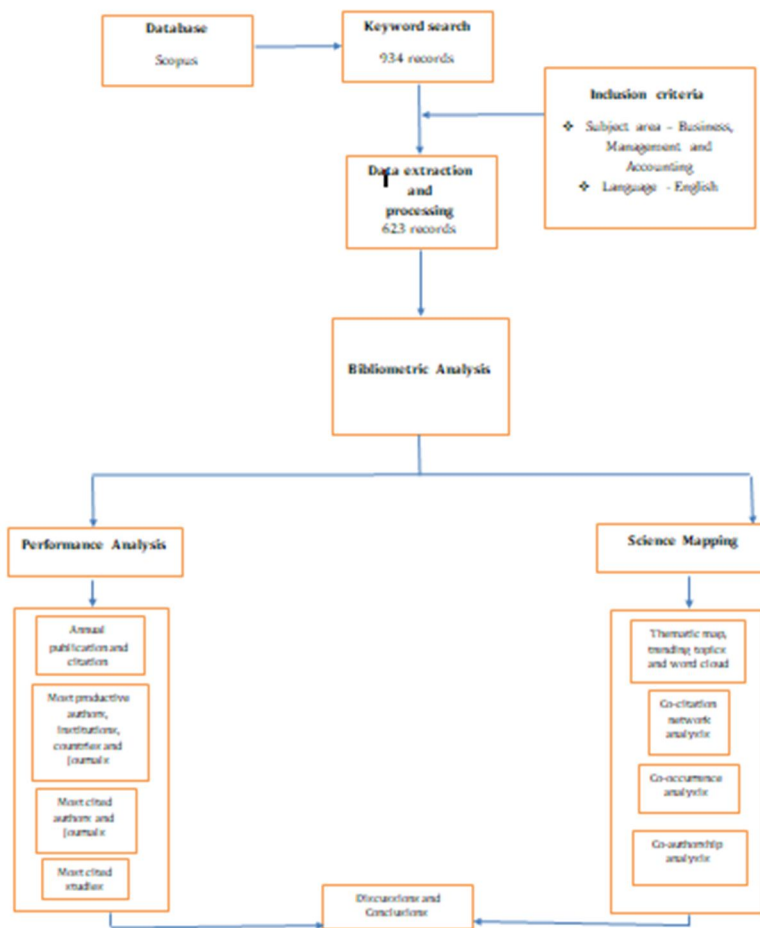


Fig. 2. Bibliometric analysis flow chart.

In this study, bibliometric data extracted from Scopus database. Total results get from ‘Business initiatives among expatriates’ as a keyword for 934 records. Here, adapts data extraction and processing for the study limited to the scope as only consider Business, Management and Accounting area, then to data shrinks 634 records. (Bakır et al., 2022) In this study, different measures were employed, including the overall publication count, the total citations received, the 2-year impact factor, and the h-index. These indicators are widely recognized metrics that comprehensively showcase bibliometric data. While the productivity of a research unit (such as a journal, author, institution, or country) can be assessed by considering the total number of publications, the impact and quality of those publications can be determined by examining the total number of citations they have received.

II. FINDINGS

A. Performance Analysis Findings

In this study, which is based on the Scopus database, we accessed 623 (n=623) studies on business initiatives among expatriates, especially limited to the area of business, management and accounting for the period 1975-2023.

Description	Results
Timespan	1975-2023
Sources (Journals, Books, etc)	257
Documents	623
Average years from publication	12.3
Average citations per documents	29.8
Average citations per year per doc	2.193
References	31052
DOCUMENT TYPES	
article	490
book	17
book chapter	69
conference paper	7
conference review	2
erratum	1
note	3
review	33
short survey	1
DOCUMENT CONTENTS	
Keywords Plus (ID)	238
Author's Keywords (DE)	1443
AUTHORS	
Authors	1037
Author Appearances	1326
Authors of single-authored documents	137
Authors of multi-authored documents	900
AUTHORS COLLABORATION	
Single-authored documents	180
Documents per Author	0.601
Authors per Document	1.66
Co-Authors per Documents	2.13
Collaboration Index	2.07

The main information extracts from the Scopus database shows the business initiatives among expatriates, the time span of the study 1975-2023 and the sources extracts from the information mainly 257 journals and book. Average years from the publication is 12 and citation per documents 30 per year. 31052 is the total number of references. In this bibliometric material 490 articles reviewed and 17 books, 69 book chapter and 7 conference paper. 1037 authors paper includes in the extracted list and 1326 author appearances.

Annual Scientific Production

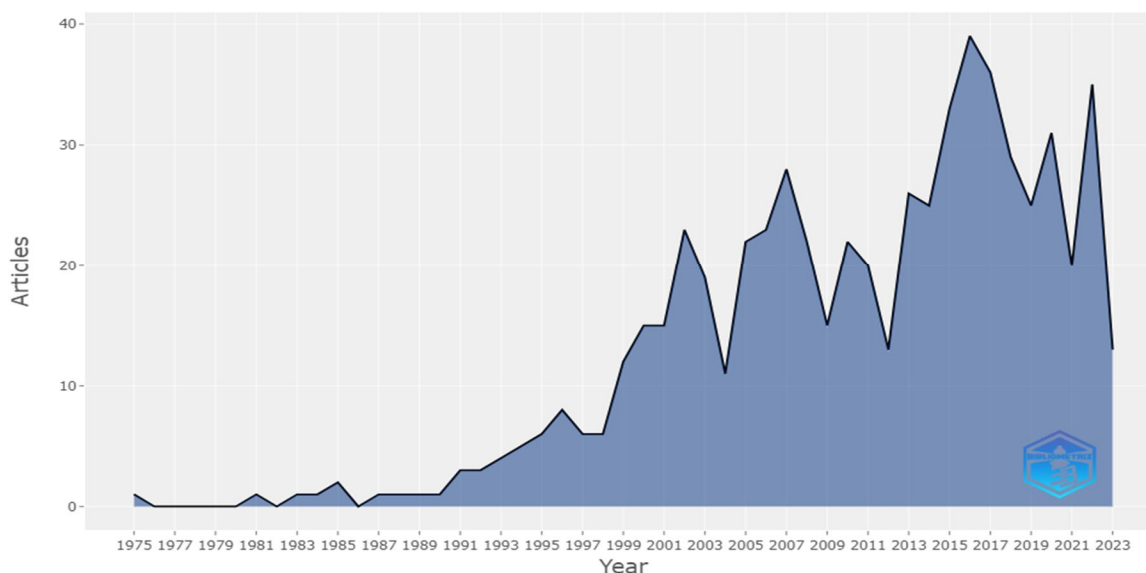


Figure 3. Plot of Annual Scientific Production

These materials encompass a wide range of research articles, conference papers, books, and other scholarly outputs that investigate various aspects of bibliometric analysis, metrics, and data. By analysing the annual scientific production of bibliometric materials, researchers can gain insights into the trends, advancements, and evolving practices within the field of bibliometrics. It can also provide valuable information on the growth, productivity, and impact of researchers, institutions, and countries involved in bibliometric research. The data source discloses expatriates business initiatives bibliometric material annual scientific production from 1975 to 2023. From 90's there is a slight increase or improvements of business initiatives by expatriate journals including articles scientific production. 21st century witnesses there is a good jump to number of articles produced. Identifying the most productive authors is a crucial aspect of performance analysis because advancements in a specific research field heavily rely on the authors who actively engage in scientific production. These authors play a pivotal role in expanding the knowledge and pushing the boundaries of their respective scientific domains. Recognizing and evaluating their productivity provides valuable insights into the overall progress and development of a scientific area. By understanding the contributions of these authors, researchers can gain a better understanding of the current state and limitations of the field, facilitating further exploration and advancements.



Figure 4. Plot of most relevant sources

Figure 4 describes the most relevant sources based on the number of publications. The number of publications determines the intensity of the colour of the ball and its size; deeper colour and bigger size indicate a higher number of publications. Most number of papers published by international journal of human resource management (59) furtherly, Journal of global mobility (27) and Journal of international business studies (27) etc.

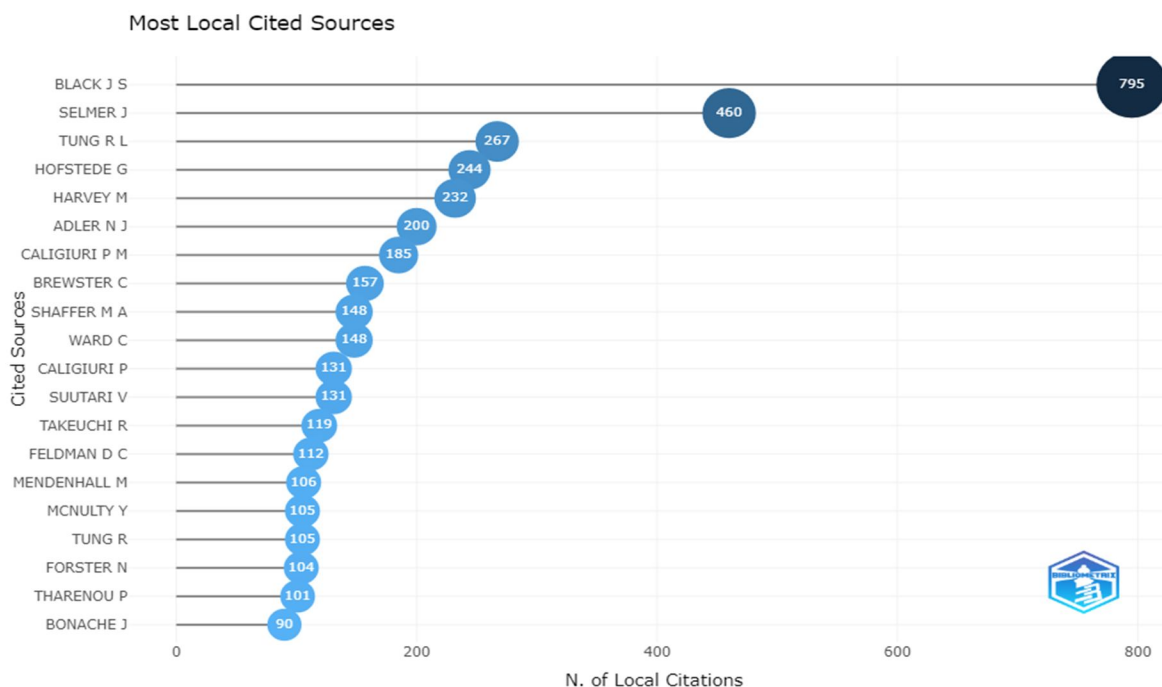


Figure 5. No. of local citations

Top most locally cited sources. The local citation measures the number of times each source was cited by publications within the dataset analysed. The number of publications determines the intensity of the colour of the ball and its size; deeper colour and bigger size indicate a higher number of publications.



Figure 6. Word Cloud

Most relevant keywords in scheduling business initiatives among expatriates research. The size of a keyword is determined by its frequency of occurrence in the entire dataset. Keywords analysis helps to understand the trends in topics and concepts that are gaining attention in a research field. The results of the keyword analysis are shown in Figures 6. The trend topic analysis was carried out on the keywords in the titles of articles only. Minimum frequency (50).

Trend Topics

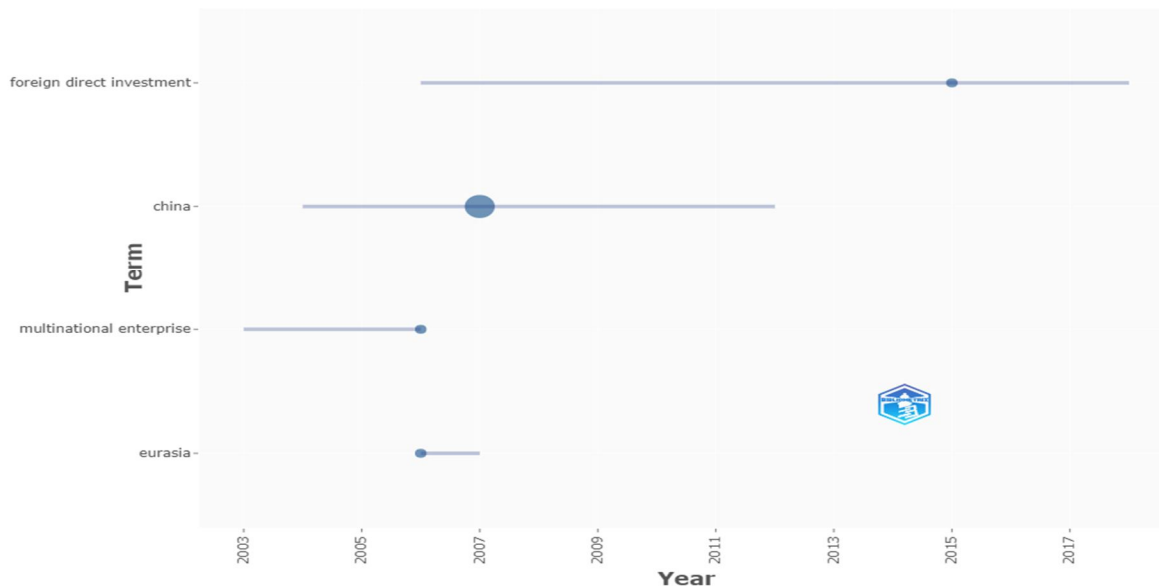


Figure 7. Trend Topics

The trend analysis in Figure 7 also shows that the themes are not recurring in recent times.

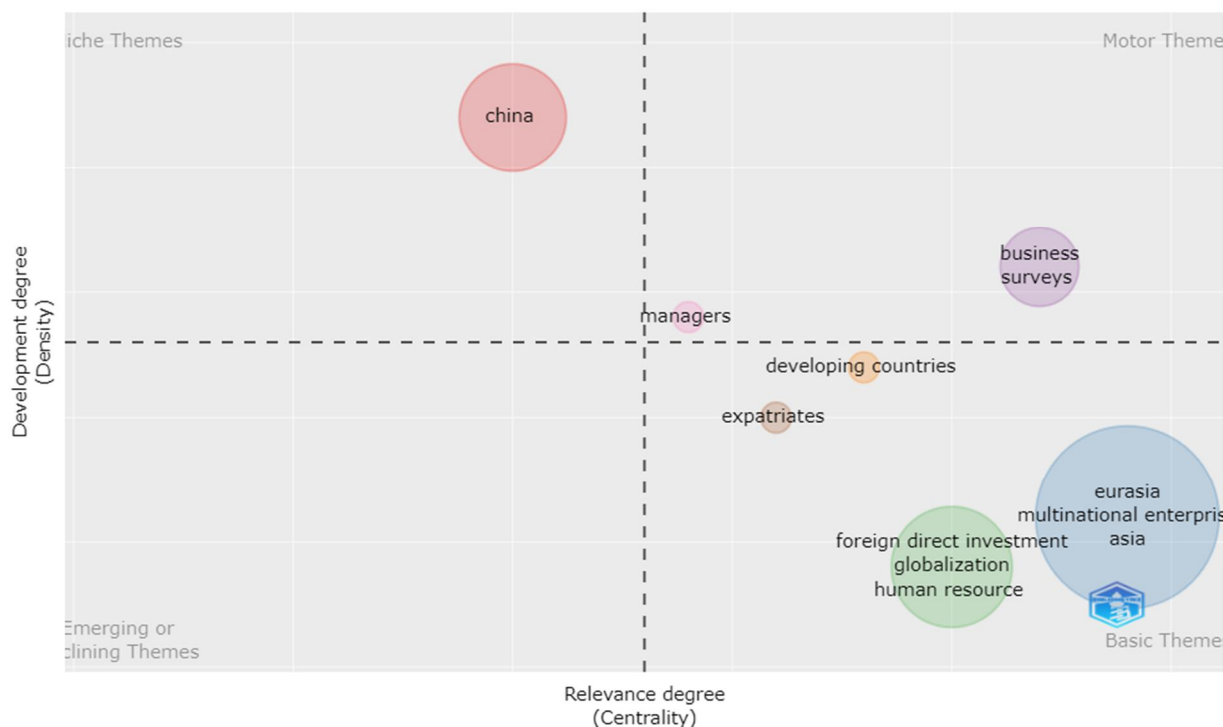


Figure 8. Thematic map

Thematic map of concepts in scheduling the research. The themes/sub-themes are generated from Keyword Plus (ID); author keywords, keywords in articles, and other essential keywords within the abstract of the literature. The upper-right quadrant (Q1) shows the driving or motor themes, the lower-right quadrant (Q2) shows the basic themes, the lower-left quadrant (Q3) shows the emerging or declining themes, and the upper-left quadrant (Q4) shows the developed themes less used and possibly understudied.

Country Collaboration Map

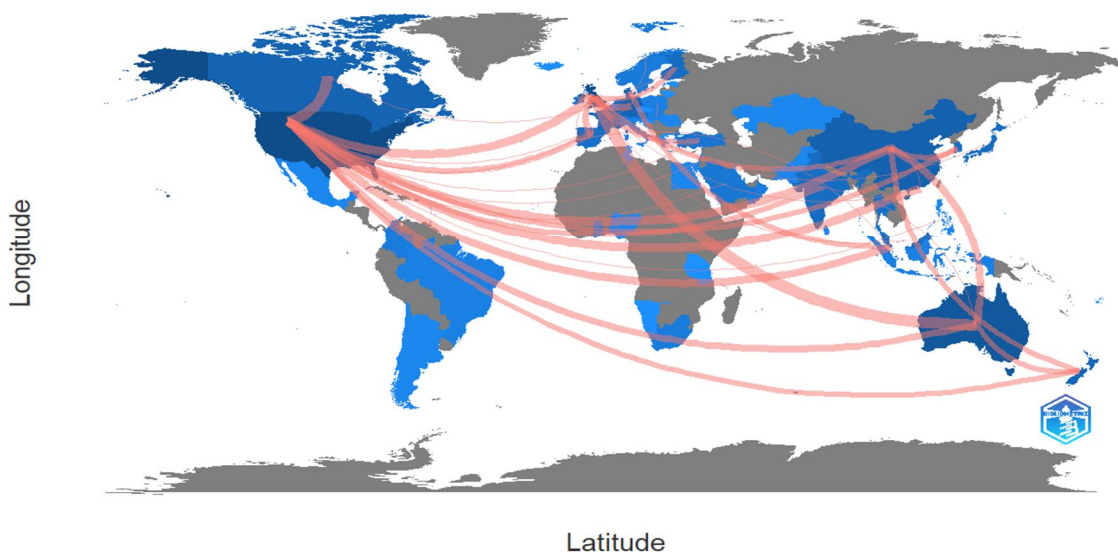


Figure 9. Country collaboration map

The thickness of connecting lines indicates the frequency of collaboration.

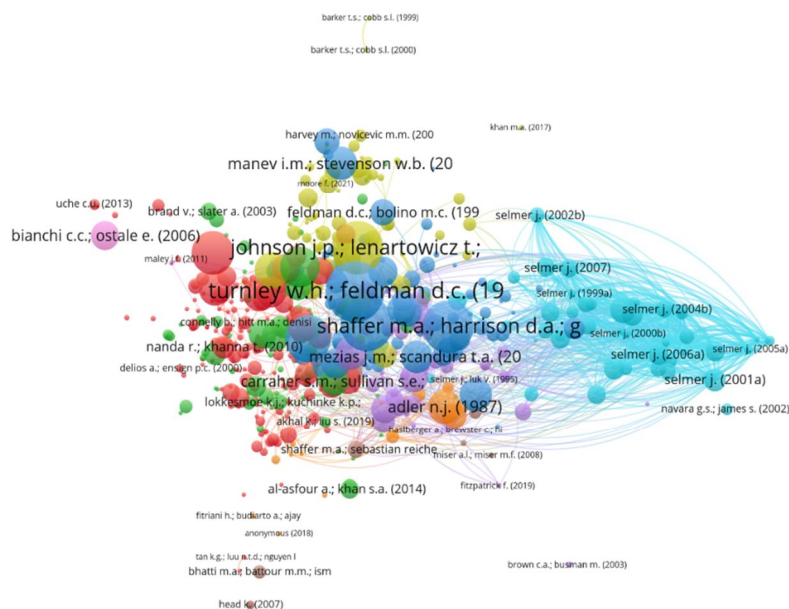


Figure 10. Bibliographic coupling

III. CONCLUSION

The study relates to business research, which encompasses various disciplines, has made significant progress in establishing its credibility. However, there is still room for improvement by drawing lessons from other fields that have recently endeavoured to enhance their research methodologies. Business research (Baker, 2016; Camerer et al., 2016; Gelman, 2018; Honig et al., 2018; Miguel et al., 2014; Open Science Collaboration, 2015) is experiencing rapid growth, partly due to the increasing acknowledgment across multiple fields of the potential flaws and limitations in research findings. Bibliometric methods show significant promise in quantitatively validating subjectively determined categories in published reviews. Additionally, these methods offer valuable insights into the research landscape and facilitate the identification of various categories.

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