Scientometric Study on Authorship Pattern in Knowledge Management: A Global Trend

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ABSTRACT

The Present study focuses on authorship patterns in Knowledge Management using scientometrics. The study found Del Giudice M as the most productive author with an h-Index of 20. The study found that Del Giudice M. is the most locally cited author with 25 articles with a fractionalised value of 7.05. The study identified Del Giudice M, Lee S, Bontis N, Ferraris A, and Serenko A as the most prolific authors from 2010 to 2023 The most striking observation is the presence of an Indian author, whose paper published in the Journal of Service Research was cited 738 times with a TCpY of 52.71. The study also reveals that more documents were collaborative, which accounts for the prevalence of publications with multiple authors with the USA leading the scene. This study deliberates mostly on authorship patterns in Scientometric research connected to Knowledge Management to cultivate a fairer, more varied, and influential research environment that accurately represents the depth and complexity of Knowledge Management practices and issues. This paper analysis Lotka's Law, Most Local Cited Authors in KM, the authorship pattern, most locally cited authors, the productivity of authors over time, and most globally cited publications in Knowledge Management.

Keywords: Author productivity; Authorship pattern; Biblioshiny; Degree of collaboration; Globally cited documents; Local cited authors; Lotka's law; Knowledge management (KM)

1. INTRODUCTION

Knowledge Management as a concept was first introduced in the business sector as an effort to recognize the significance of knowledge in the twentieth century. It is the process of enhancing organisational learning by capturing and creating new knowledge through internal and external knowledge sharing[1]. It helps to organize and provide access to intangible resources in the form of personal knowledge and transform it into organisational knowledge[2]. Nowadays, departments of research and development, universities, government agencies, and other organisations are implementing Knowledge Management (KM) techniques. The company's ability to offer a product or service to clients is made possible by the knowledge that is ingrained in its business procedures and the skills of its employees. It is a type of expertise-centered management that extracts implicit knowledge and makes it available for particular uses to enhance organisational performance. Application of these techniques successfully necessitates comprehension of and useful application of information for organisational learning. Because social science institutions, government agencies, non-governmental organisations, etc. require a lot of information, the application of cutting-edge technology has the potential to change them in the future[3]. Knowledge Management has been linked to computers and information systems for the past two decades. Initially, initiatives focused on finding suitable software packages for knowledge management. Software vendors repackaged existing products as KM systems, strengthening the belief in technology and project progress[4].

The success of Knowledge management depends on the knowledge workers' ability to retrieve stored information from existing as well as new sources and determine the authenticity and reliability of such information[5]. Library professionals with expertise in information retrieval and information literacy instruction tend to be more familiar with Knowledge management and will be able to successfully cater to the continued requirement for high levels of support for teams pursuing creative endeavours[6]. LIS specialists also bring a client-centered perspective in which technology is significant but not omnipresent. Despite their potential, librarians are not able to be experts in every field. To satisfy the information needs of its many users in the current information millennium, academic libraries must thereby demonstrate their relevance and improve the effectiveness of their operations[5].

Scholarly communication has featured a variety of authors, including corporate entities, solo or group authors, and anonymous publications[7]. The majority of research done in recent years has been done in tandem to support the global expansion of information and communication

technology for managing knowledge with the collaboration of one or more authors from the same institutions or other institutions at national and international levels[8]. A subfield of scientiometric called "authorship study" looks into the various aspects of authorship, including the type of authors, the type and level of collaboration, the influence of citations, and the trend of authorship collaboration. This trend is concerned with analysing the traits and patterns of authorship in academic works[9]. Analysing author productivity, influence, connections, partnerships, and affiliations with other authors is part of this[10]. Authorship studies help to identify the most prominent authors in the field of the study and will help to understand the geographical context in which the study has been undertaken. Analysis of global citations helps to identify the most recognised journal and shows the future trend of knowledge management. The present paper analyses the authorship pattern, most locally cited authors, author's productivity over time, and most globally cited documents in Knowledge Management.

2. REVIEW OF LITERATURE

Some prominent studies at the national and international levels dealing with Scientometric studies in knowledge management are discussed below.

Kaur[11] conducted a scientiometric study to identify major concepts in knowledge management and dynamic capabilities. The study identified new clusters in knowledge-based dynamic capability such as organisational learning, social capital, absorptive capacity, and knowledge-based view. Schiuma[12], *et al.* conducted a bibliometric study of articles published in *Knowledge Management Research and Practice (KMRP)* focusing on authorship patterns to understand the journal's impact, major themes, most contributing authors, their affiliation, and countries. The author conducted network analysis and bibliographic coupling analysis to identify the evolving trends in knowledge management

Pradhan[13] presents a scientometric study of papers published in the Annals of Library and Information Studies focusing on article distribution, growth rate, productivity, authorship, collaboration, and citation analysis. Kirtania[14] analysed the pattern of authorship and collaboration observed in a journal titled Library Philosophy and Practise and results showed a trend towards shared or joint authorship based on "degree of Collaboration", "Collaborative Coefficient", and "Collaborative Index". Rahman[15], *et al.* investigate knowledge transfer and sharing processes in Malaysian Research Universities (RUs) by analysing co-authorship patterns using the SNA approach, revealing authorship collaboration networks.

Hazeri[16], *et al.* examine co-authorship patterns in Knowledge Management (KM) using Zipf Law, identifying 133 most productive authors and showing a prevalence of dual authorship and a "geometric exponential growth" pattern. Farooq[17] analyses the Journal of Knowledge Management (JKM) using bibliometric techniques show a significant increase in publications, indicating a growing interest in KM among researchers. Farooq[18], *et al.* research

identifies emerging topics, prolific authors, affiliations, author collaboration networks, countries, institutions, and co-occurrences of keywords.

Ashiq[19], *et al.* examined patterns of publication and citation in library service quality (LSQ) and found the USA as the most productive country. The USA was also found to have the most productive institutions with a collaborative authorship pattern. Serenko[20] identified an increase in the volume of scientometric KM research and suggests that the KM discipline may evolve into a cluster of distinct schools of thought. Serenko and Bontis[21] study focuses on updating the global ranking of knowledge management and intellectual capital academic journals and found the Journal of Knowledge Management as the top journal in Knowledge Management.

3. OBJECTIVES OF THE STUDY

The objectives of the study include:
- To analyse author productivity in knowledge management
- To examine Lotka's law of scientific productivity in knowledge management
- To discuss the most local cited authors in knowledge management
- To find out the author's productivity over time in knowledge management
- To identify the most relevant affiliations in knowledge management
- To determine the most globally cited documents in knowledge management.

4. METHODOLOGY

The methodology adopted for the study is the scientiometric technique through the Quantitative Method. Web of Science (WoS) Core Collection from Clarivate Analytics regarded as a high-quality, broadly ranging, trustworthy, curated trans-disciplinary data source was used to conduct the study. This study systematically collected data from the WoS Core Collection on January 21, 2024. Surely, this Scientometric analysis included all the areas, a search was done for papers with specific keywords with the combination of "Knowledge Management", "Business", "Management", "Engineering", "Library and Information Science". The Search yielded 8742 results from the entire document corpus from 2010 to 2023. Analysis excludes informal publications and other sources not covered by WoS. Open-source software RStudio with bibliometrix-biblioshiny is used to identify authorship patterns and trends. The first step in the analysis was data extraction, cleaning, and loading using Biblioshiny. The search metadata is exported to Biblioshiny in plain text format for analysis and visualisation. The study concentrates only on authorship-related analysis.

5. ANALYSIS & INTERPRETATION

The authors analysed and interpreted the available data based on most productive authors, Lotka's law,

most local cited authors in knowledge management, author production over time, and most globally cited documents.

5.1 Most Productive Authors

Author productivity is measured by analysing the h-index, g-index, m-index, and total citation. Table 1 presents the h-index, g-index, m-index, and TC of the most productive authors in the field of KM.

From Table 1 it is clear that Del Giudice M is the most productive author with the highest h-index of 20, g-index of 25, and TC 2125. The second position is shared by two authors Ferraris A and Bontis N with an h-index of 17 and g-index of 22 and with a total citation of 1709 and 1070 respectively. Serenko A has a total citation of 1103 an h- h-index of 16 & and a g-index of 22 thus becoming the third most productive author. In the 4th position is Kianto A. with an h-index of 15 and a g-index of 19 followed by Soto-Acosta P. (TC 1188) and with an h-index of 14 & g-index is 18. Scuotto V and Cegarra-Navarro JG occupy the next position with h- an index of 13.

5.2 Lotka's Law

According to Lotka's law, "the number of writers who publish a specific number of articles is a set ratio to the number of authors who publish a single piece, and this represents the frequency of publication by authors in any given subject as an inverse square law"[17]. Most productivity authors by application of Lotka's law shown in Table 2.

Table 2 shows that Lotka law predicts that 16077 authors contributed mainly one paper. 2161 authors contributed two articles, 644 authors contributed three articles, 291 authors contributed four articles, and only 159 authors contributed five articles. This table shows that most of the author's contributions are in single.

Figure 2 depicts a graph developed using Biblioshiny showing Lotka's law comparing authors and the number of papers published. It can be seen that the percentage of authors with fewer than three articles published is relatively high in comparison to the percentage of authors with more than three papers published.

Table 2. Author productivity through Lotka's law

Documents written	Number of authors	Proportion of authors
1	16077	0.821
2	2161	0.11
3	644	0.033
4	291	0.015
5	159	0.008
6	67	0.003
7	59	0.003
8	31	0.002
9	19	0.001
10	17	0.001

Table 1. Most productive authors

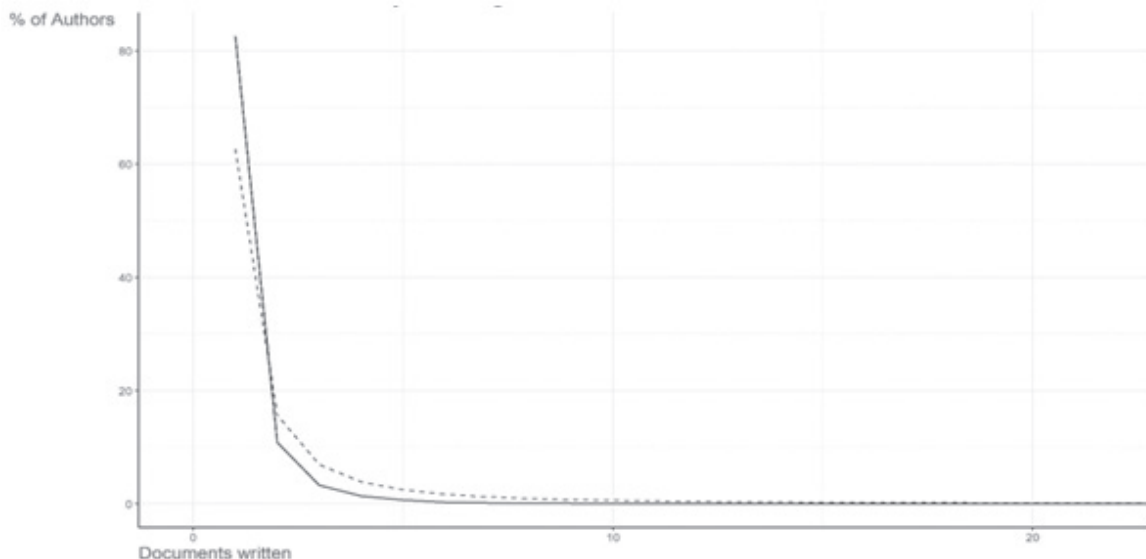| Authors	h-index	g-index	m-index	TC
Del Giudice M	20	25	1.82	2125
Ferraris A	17	22	2.12	1709
Bontis N	17	22	1.13	1070
Serenko A	16	22	1.07	1103
Kianto A	15	19	1	769
Soto-Acosta P	14	18	1	1188
Scuotto V	13	15	1.62	1018
Cegarra-Navarro JG	13	18	1	1262
Vrontis D	11	15	1	804
Sahibzada UF	11	17	1.83	724
Papa A	11	17	1.57	612

Figure 1. Author productivity through lotka's law.

5.3 Most Local Cited Authors in Knowledge Management

References can be studied from both global and local viewpoints in citation analysis. All citations from any text are included in the globally cited references, but the locally cited references are understood as internal citations within the processed sample. Bibliometric counts the local citations that a reference has gotten from other documents in the collection. Citations obtained by a reference article "internally to your collection" are therefore considered local citations[22]. Table 3 presents the most local cited authors in knowledge management.

Del Giudice M. is the most locally cited author with 25 articles (7.05 Fractionalised value), and Lee S with 25 articles (8.41 Fractionalised value), followed by Bontis N with 23 articles (8.98 Fractionalised value). Even though Serenko A has 22 articles his articles have the highest fractional value of 12.12

Table 3. Most local cited authors in knowledge management

Authors	Articles	Articles fractionalised
Del Giudice M	25	7.05
Lee S	25	8.41
Bontis N	23	8.98
Ferraris A	22	5.91
Serenko A	22	12.12
Chen YM	21	5.85
Cegarra-Navarro JG	19	6.11
Kianto A	19	6.85
Soto-Acosta P	19	5.82
Lee J	18	6.83

5.4 Author Production Over Time

Author production over time deals with the frequency of publication of the authors in a particular year. Table 4 presents the productivity of the author in each year from 2010 to 2023, the frequency of publication in each year, Total count (TC), and Total count per year (TCPY).

Results show the top twenty most prolific scholars in the field of KM from 2010 to 2023. Del Giudice M is the most prolific author with a total of 25 papers from 2010 to 2023. He published 3 in 2022, 4 in 2021, 3 in 2020, 2in 2019, 4 in 2018, and 6 in 2017 with a TC of 14, 251. 208. 186 and 523 in these years. Lee S has a total of 22 papers spread over 4 papers in 2012, 3 papers in 2014, 2 papers in 2018, 2016, 2015, 2011, and 2010, and 1 paper in 2022, 2020, and 2013. Bontis N, Ferraris A, and Serenko A follow him with 22 papers each. Bontis N has 4 papers in 2017 with a TC of 320, 3 papers each in 2013 (TC 180) and 2011 (TC 136), and 1 paper each in 2023, 2021, 2020, 2019, 2014, and 2010. Serneiko A is a consistent author with 4 papers in 2013 (TC 282, 3 papers in 2023 (TC 47), and 2 papers each from 2017 to 2015 and 2012 to 2010. All other authors in this data set have consistently published 1 to 3 articles ranging from 2010 to 2023. Authors presented in Table 4 are observed to be consistently contributing to Knowledge Management.

Table 4. Author production over time new

Author	Year	Frequency	TC	TCpY
Serenko A	2023	3	47	23.5
Ferraris A		2	5	2.5
Bontis N		1	3	1.5
Cegarra-Navarro JG		1	18	9
Ferraris A	2022	6	152	50.67
Del Giudice M		3	14	4.667
Bontis N		2	18	6
Kianto A		2	15	3
Lee S		1	4	1.333
Serenko A		1	14	4.667
Del Giudice M	2021	4	251	62.75
Cegarra-Navarro JG		3	26	6.5
Ferraris A		2	101	24.8
Bontis N		1	34	8.5
Kianto A		1	10	2.5
Soto-Acosta P		1	11	2.75
Del Giudice M	2020	3	208	41.6
Ferraris A		3	122	24.4
Cegarra-Navarro JG		2	173	34.6
Bontis N		1	30	6
Lee S		1	8	1.6
Serenko A		1	30	6
Ferraris A	2019	5	684	114
Cegarra-Navarro JG		3	340	56.67
Del Giudice M		2	186	31
Lee S		2	8	1.334
Bontis N		1	30	5
Kianto A		1	50	8.333
Soto-Acosta P	2018	6	314	44.86
Del Giudice M		4	318	45.43
Kianto A		3	146	20.86
Ferraris A		2	292	41.714
Lee S		2	30	4.286
Del Giudice M	2017	6	523	65.38
Bontis N		4	320	40
Soto-Acosta P		3	240	30
Cegarra-Navarro JG		2	23	2.875
Ferraris A		2	353	44.13
Kianto A		2	184	23
Serenko A		2	77	9.625

Author	Year			
Kianto A	2016	4	386	42.89
Bontis N		2	334	37.11
Cegarra-Navarro JG		2	238	26.44
Lee S		2	14	1.555
Serenko A		2	334	37.111
Soto-Acosta P		2	238	26.44
Lee S	2015	2	14	1.4
Serenko A		2	123	12.3
Soto-Acosta P		2	102	10.2
Del Giudice M		1	67	6.7
Kianto A		1	136	13.6
Soto-Acosta P	2014	3	141	12.82
Lee S		3	17	1.546
Del Giudice M		1	338	30.727
Chen YM		1	163	14.818
Bontis N		1	28	2.545
Serenko A	2013	4	282	23.5
Chen YM		3	58	4.833
Bontis N		3	180	15
Lee S		1	15	1.25
Kianto A		1	95	7.917
Lee S	2012	4	151	11.62
Serenko A		2	35	2.693
Chen Ym		2	38	2.923
Cegarra-Navarro JG		2	36	2.769
Kianto A		1	325	25
Bontis N	2011	3	136	9.715
Chen YM		2	4	0.285
Kianto A		2	255	18.21
Lee S		2	29	2.072
Serenko A		2	69	4.929
Lee S	2010	2	48	3.2
Serenko A		2	179	11.93
Bontis N		1	143	9.533
Kianto A		1	51	3.4
Soto-Acosta P		1	39	2.6

5.5 Most Globally Cited Documents

The term "Global Citations" (TC) refers to the "total number of citations" received from sources that are indexed in a bibliographic database. Thus, citations obtained by a chosen article are counted "all over the world" by TC17. Most globally cited documents in the field of KM were analysed & explained in Table 5.

Table 5 shows that the most globally cited document is Fiss P.C., 2011, Academy of Management Journal, with a Total Citation of 2236 and a normalised TC of 41.09. It has a total citation of 172 per year. The second most cited document was published by Wang S., 2010 in Human Resource Management Review (TCpY 104. 2) with a total citation of 1563 and a normalised TC of 40. Lavie D., 2010 paper published in the Academy of Management Annals has a total citation of 905 and a normalised TC of 23.16, followed by Jiménez-Jiménez D., 2011 paper published Journal of Business Research (TC 777; NTC 21.64). Kumar V., who published a paper in 2010 in the Journal of Service Research is the only Indian author who has a total citation of 738, and TCpY 52.71. This reveals that the field of management contributed to many of the most cited journals in KM.

6. DISCUSSION AND CONCLUSION

Authorship studies are conducted on a wide range of subjects globally based on various parameters related to publications. These have been done in the past on a variety of topics, including the humanities, social sciences, and sciences. Authorship analysis in KM using Scientometric helps to examine global trends and the impact of research on practical applications in the dissemination of knowledge. Scientometric methods can be used to explore patterns of collaboration and identify key contributors, author productivity, scientific productivity, most locally cited authors, most relevant affiliations, and most globally cited documents in knowledge management. Scientometric studies are not just complementary, but essential, for robust and impactful research by providing qualitative frameworks and practical tools in knowledge management. KM empowers researchers to move beyond mere numbers and delve into the deeper meaning, dynamics, and implications of scientific knowledge.

This paper tries to portray the present scenario in Knowledge Management based on documents retrieved from the WoS database from 2010 to 2023. The primary goal of this paper is to present the authorship trends prevailing in KM. The examination of these criteria indicates that authorship studies should be extended to other areas to undertake additional quantitative research in the future. The study found Del Giudice M as the most productive author with an h-index of 20. The study found that the percentage of authors with fewer than three articles published is relatively high in comparison to the percentage of authors with more than three papers published thus proving Lotka's rule. 16077 authors contributed one article while only 644 authors contributed three articles. The study found that Del Giudice M. is the most locally cited author with 25 articles with a fractionalised value of 7.05. The study also conducted an author production over time analysis and found that scholars have been consistently contributing to KM. Del Giudice M, Lee S, Bontis N, Ferraris A, and Serenko A were found to be the most prolific authors in KM from 2010 to 2023. The study found that the most cited document in KM during this period was published by Fiss Pc, 2011, Academy of Management Journal with a total citation of 2236. The most striking observation is the presence of an Indian author, whose paper published in the Journal of Service Research was cited 738 times

Table 5. Most globally cited documents

Paper	DOI	Total citations	TC per year	Normalised TC
Fiss Pc, 2011, Acad Manage J	10.5465/AMJ.2011.60263120	2236	172.00	41.09
Wang S, 2010, Hum Resour Manage R	10.1016/j.hrmr.2009.10.001	1563	104.20	40.00
Lavie D, 2010, Acad Manag Ann	10.1080/19416521003691287	905	60.33	23.16
Leonardi PM, 2011, Mis Quart	NA	821	58.64	22.87
Jiménez-Jiménez D, 2011, J Bus Res	10.1016/j.jbusres.2010.09.010	777	55.50	21.64
Volberda HW, 2010, Organ Sci	10.1287/orsc.1090.0503	763	50.87	19.53
Teece DJ, 2014, Acad Manage Perspect	10.5465/amp.2013.0116	739	73.90	16.69
Kumar V, 2010, J Serv Res-Us	10.1177/1094670510375602	738	52.71	11.87
Duan YQ, 2019, Int J Inform Manage	10.1016/j.ijinfomgt.2019.01.021	675	112.50	26.34
Von Nordenflycht A, 2010, Acad Manage Rev	10.5465/AMR.2010.45577926	672	48.00	10.81
Jüttner U, 2011, Supply Chain Manag	10.1108/13598541111139062	582	41.57	16.21
Yates D, 2011, Int J Inform Manage	10.1016/j.ijinfomgt.2010.10.001	548	39.14	15.26
Zheng W, 2010, J Bus Res	10.1016/j.jbusres.2009.06.005	542	36.13	13.87

Note: TC: Total Citations; Normalised TC: calculated by dividing the actual count of citing items by the expected citation rate for documents with the same year of publication.

with a TCpY of 52.71. Journals in the Management discipline were found to publish the majority of the most cited documents in the field of KM. In terms of format, the majority of these published research materials are in the form of journals, which are followed by reviews and conference papers. It also reveals that more documents were collaborative, which accounts for the prevalence of publications with multiple authors. The USA led the world in author collaboration.

This study employed bibliometrics as the primary tool to analyse authorship patterns in KM which is an emerging discipline in library and information science. The study aimed to identify the most prolific author and authorship pattern in Knowledge Management based on analytical tools such as total citation count, h-index, g-index, etc. Study shows that global trends in Knowledge Management are an emerging and promising area of research needing further exploration along the lines of emerging tools in knowledge dissemination such as artificial intelligence, blockchain technology, etc**.**

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