



Analyzing the Intellectual Structure of World Information Literacy Literature through Citations and Co-Citations

Zehra Taşkın, Güleda Doğan & İpek Şencan

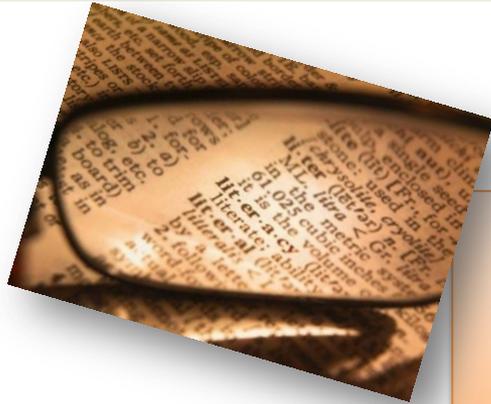
Hacettepe University, Department of Information Management

ztaskin@hacettepe.edu.tr

@zehrataşkın



Information Literacy



Information literacy; “recognizing an information need and having the ability to locate, evaluate, and use it effectively”
(Zurkowski, 1974)



Research Questions

- Aim: Evaluating the field of information literacy by using bibliometrics and scientific visualization techniques
 - Who are the most prominent authors?
 - Which papers are cited most often?
 - How many publications are not cited?
 - What are the most important journals for the field?
 - Which types of papers are preferred by the authors of this field?
 - What is the half-life for the field of information literacy?
 - What are the most prominent terms used in this field?



Bibliometrics

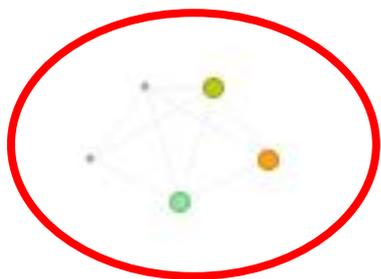
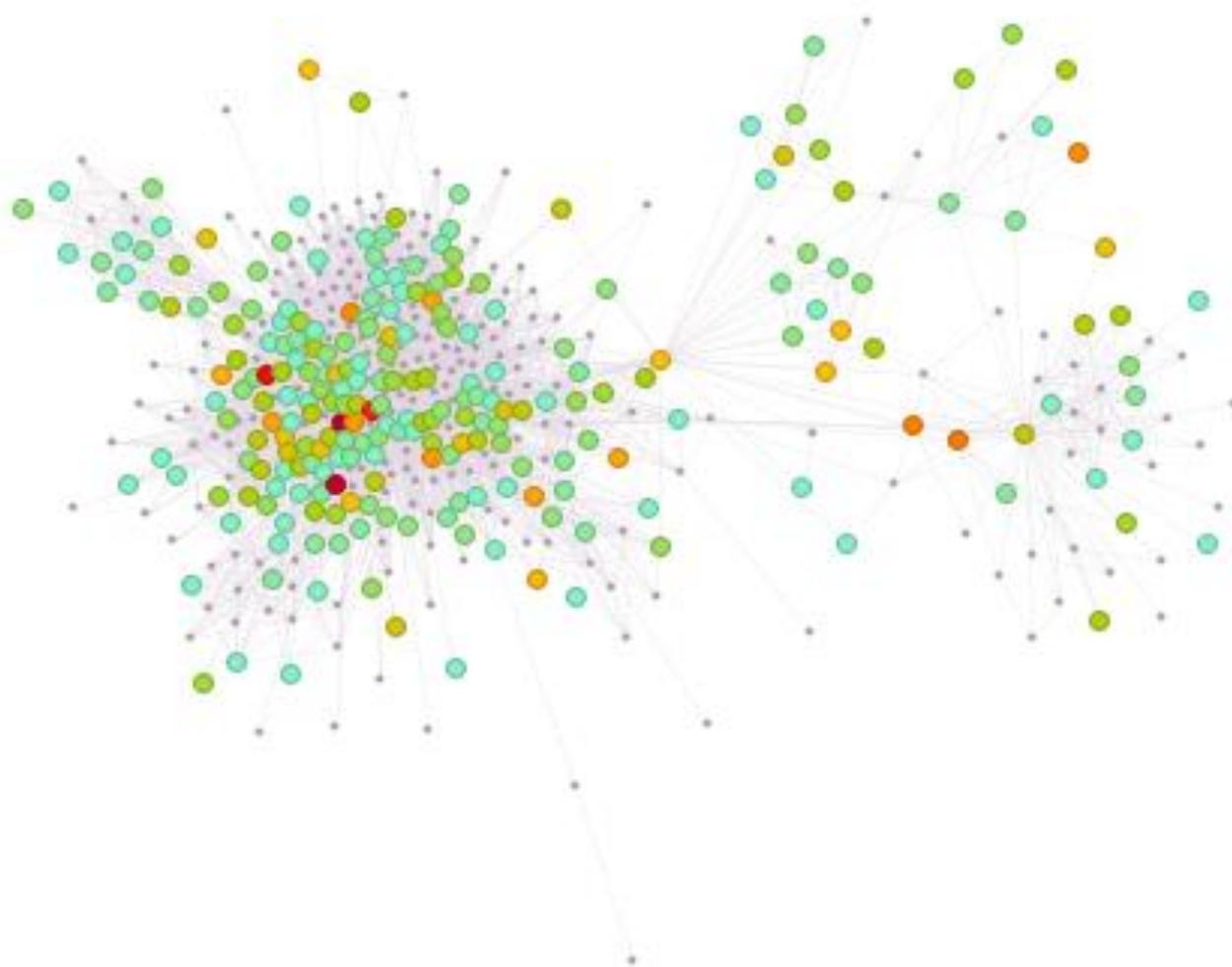
- “The application of mathematical and statistical methods to books and other media of communication” (Pritchard, 1969)
- Quantitative and qualitative research evaluation studies
 - Number of publications, citations, citation per publication
 - Impact factor
 - h-index
 - Relative citation impact





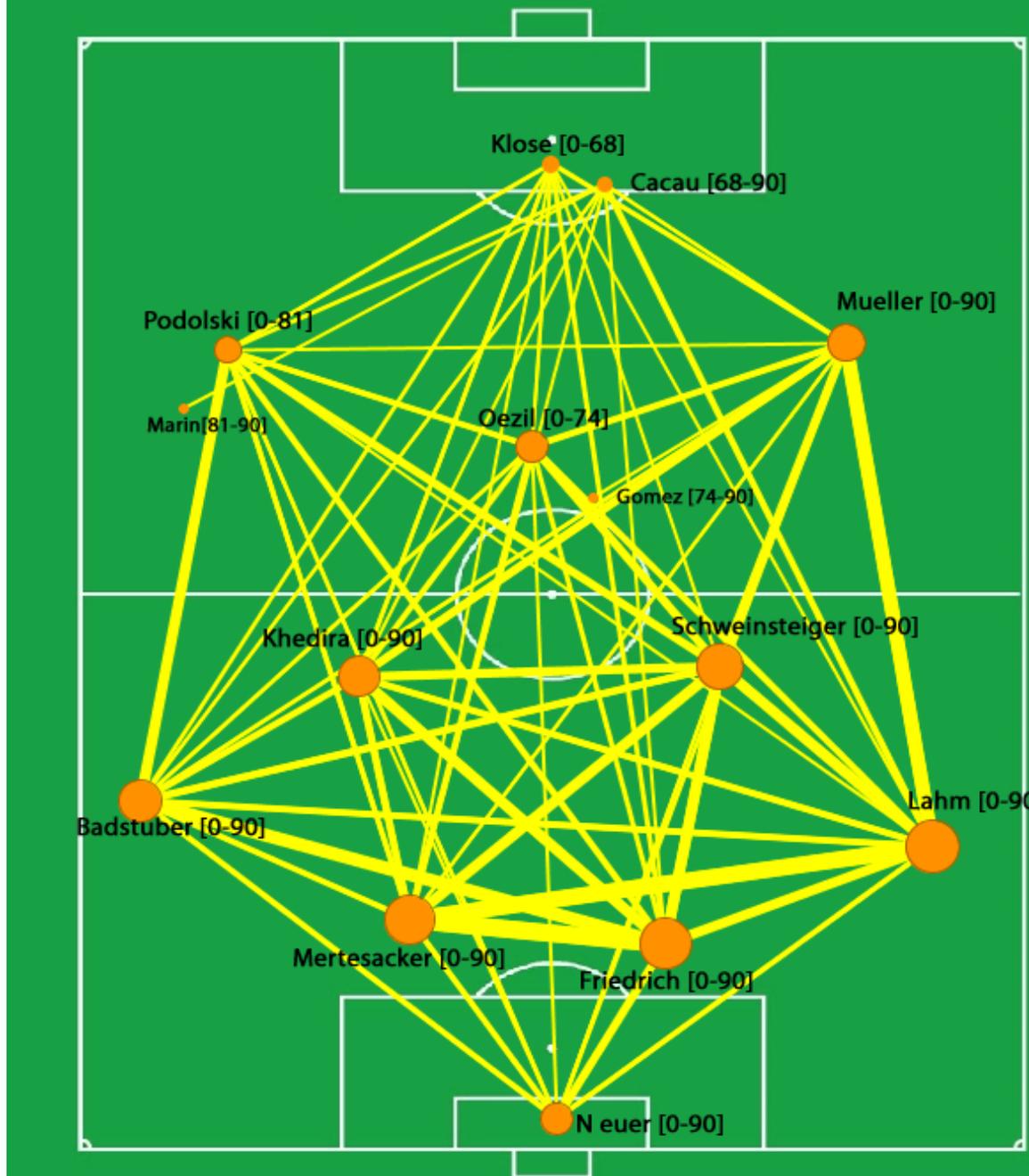
Visualization: Social Network Analyses

- “SNA is motivated by a structural intuition based on ties linking social actors,
- It is grounded in systematic empirical data,
- It draws heavily on graphic imagery,
- It relies on the use of mathematical an/or computational models” (Freeman 2004)
- Different application areas
- Anthropology, social psychology, economics...



Germany pass-networks
(against Australia)
2010 FIFA World Cup
4-0

GER 4:0 AUS, 13 June 2010



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Method

- A total of 1,218 papers
- From 1980 to 2013
- Related to information literacy
- In Web of Science (Science Citation Index, Social Science Citation Index and Arts & Humanities Citation Index)
- Searches were carried out on April 23, 2013



Method

- All metadata about authors, journals, keywords etc. were unified and standardized
- VosViewer visualization tool were used for co-citation analyses



Findings

Most productive authors for the information literacy field

Author	Publication number
Julien, H	21
Pinto, M	16
Bruce, C	15
Lloyd, A	13
Fourie, I	10

1,218 papers were written by 2,235 authors.

There are only five authors who published 10 or more papers.

- Means; no primary authors



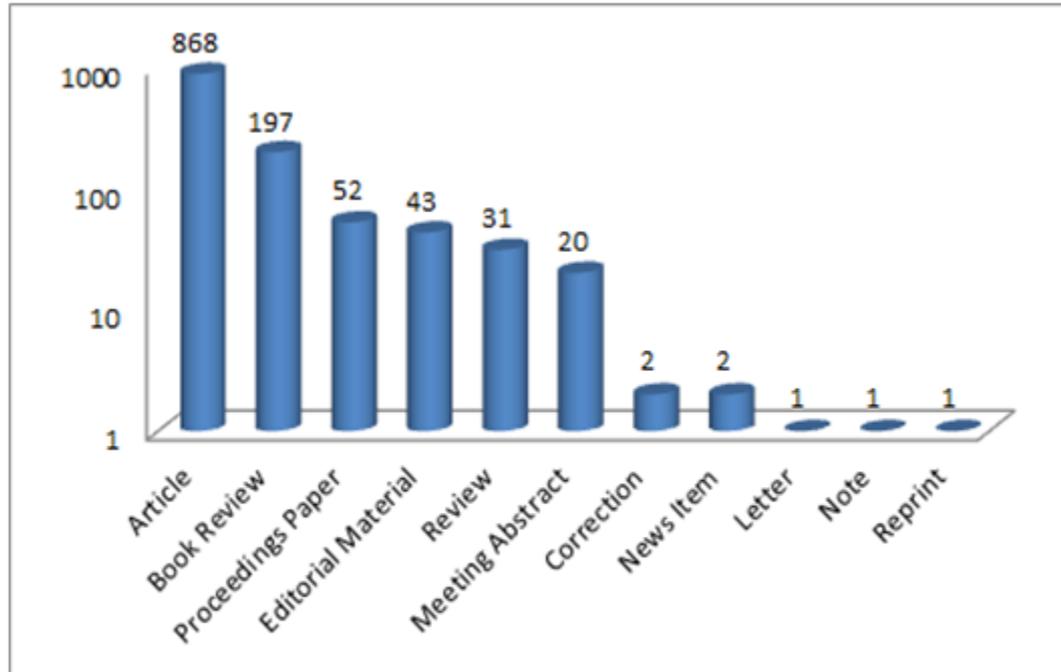
Findings

Primary journals in the information literacy field

Journal	Publication number
Journal of Academic Librarianship	124
Portal-Libraries and the Academy	67
College & Research Libraries	64
Electronic Library	42
Reference & User Services Quarterly	42
Journal of Librarianship and Information Science	40
Library Trends	40
Libri	37
Information Research-an International Electronic Journal	35
Journal of Documentation	35



Findings

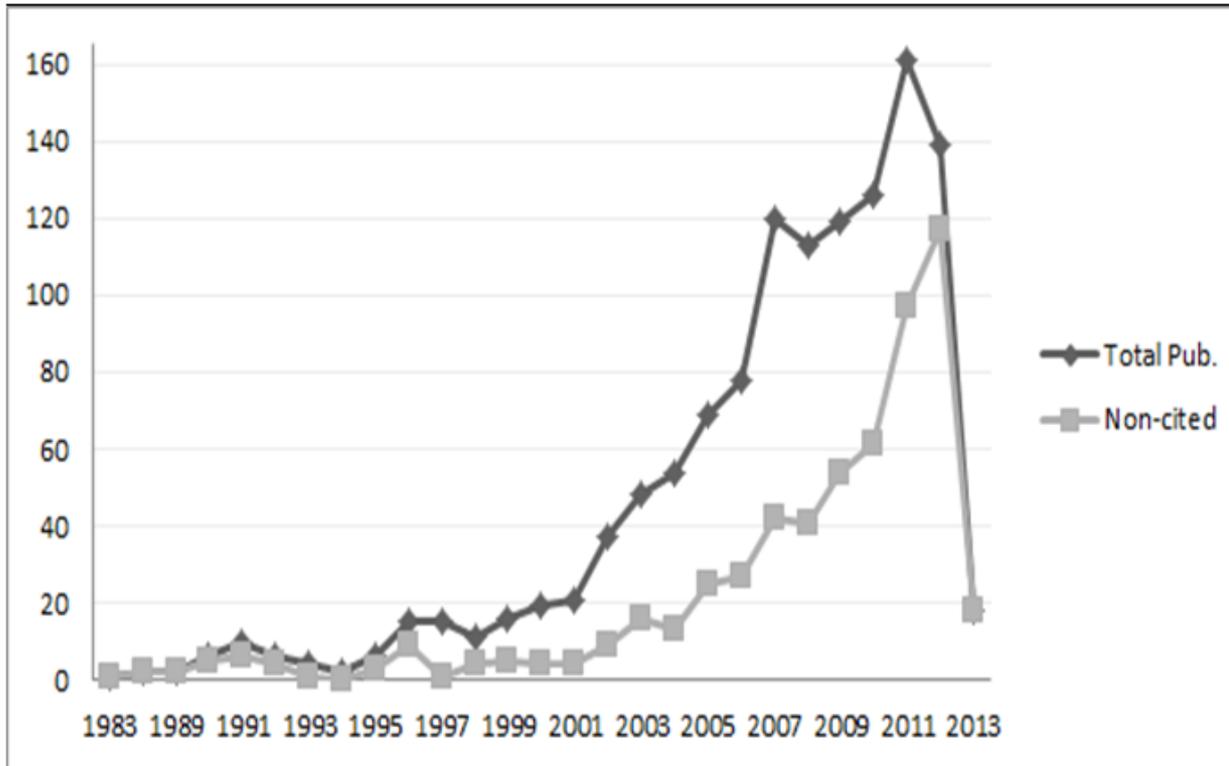


Published document types for the information literacy field

- Articles are expected - Web of Science
- Book reviews



Findings



Publication numbers and not-cited publications by years

The 1,218 papers were cited 4,727 times, nearly half of which were self-citations (2,104)

More than half of the papers (648) had been cited

For the first 20 years (1983-2002) almost all published papers have an impact on the field.

Web of Science's content development in 2002

Half-life of publications in the information literacy field is 11 years.
The obsolescence rate for the field is 11 years.



Findings

Most cited first three publications, their authors and publication years

Publications	Authors	Publication years
Information and digital literacies: A review of concepts	Bawden, D	2001
Children's relevance criteria and information seeking on electronic resources	Hirsh, SG	1999
The problem of information overload in business organisations: a review of the literature	Edmunds, A; Morris, A	2000



Conclusion

- This study presents the general view of information literacy field based on the papers published in Web of Science.
- The findings of the study may be helpful for students and other starters in this area.
- These findings may be interpreted widely by the information literacy professionals.



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