

## Examination of Published Articles About Solo Travel with Bibliometric Mapping Technique

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### Abstract

While the number of solo travelers is increasing, there is limited research on this topic. This study aims to analyze the articles published on solo travel by using the bibliometric mapping method. Using the Web of Science database, all fields were selected in the search tab and "solo travel" was scanned. Article was selected as the document type, 170 journals were determined without any year or other limitations within the scope of the study, and 266 articles published between 1990-2023 were examined. Articles were analyzed using VOSviewer in terms of publications, authors, countries of authors, keywords in the publication and citations, using bibliometric analysis methods and visualized with network analysis. In line with the findings of the study, it was determined that the articles about traveling alone started to be published in the literature as of 1990 and showed fluctuations after 2005. It has been determined that the most cited journals are "Current Issues in Tourism" and "Tourism Review International", respectively. In addition, it was determined that the most frequently cited keywords were "solo travel", "motivation" and "pressure" in the articles examined, and Little and Wilson were the most cited authors. However, it has been determined that the most productive countries for solo travel are Australia, New Zealand, England and the USA, respectively. This study reveals that solo travel still offers unexplored areas for academic research and provides a basis to inspire future studies.

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## INTRODUCTION

Solo travel, an enduring phenomenon from ancient times to the present day, has become a significant life experience for many individuals. While its origins date back to antiquity, the process of popularization and the motivations behind people's inclination towards solo travel have evolved over time (Seyhan & Evcim, 2012). According to tourism literature, a 'solo traveler,' simply put, refers to an individual who arrives alone in a country (Foo, 1999). Furthermore, the person traveling alone may or may not be a completely independent explorer, but based on a limited number of experimental studies on solo travelers (Gibson & Jordan, 1998a, b; Mehmetoglu, Dann & Larsen, 2001; Slavik and Shaw, 1996a, b), it can be said that solo travelers typically exhibit a preference for independence in their travel experiences, although some may also appreciate the structured nature of package tour arrangements.

The rise in popularity of solo travel and its appeal to broader audiences occurred in the mid-20th century. During this period, transportation became more accessible, and the world began to globalize. Technological advancements, communication tools, and the internet made solo travel more attainable for people. Additionally, social changes that allowed women to travel more independently and ensure their own safety have also played a significant role in this regard (Frederick & McLeod, 1993).

People may be drawn to solo travel for various motivations. Foremost among these is the pursuit of personal freedom and independence. By traveling alone, individuals find opportunities to better understand themselves, make their own decisions, and take on responsibilities. This experience can contribute to personal development and increased self-confidence (Jordan & Gibson, 2004; Bianchi, 2016; Yang, Yang, & Khoo-Lattimore, 2019). In light of these motivations, it is important to understand the academic research landscape related to solo travel.

Additionally, solo travel can also be associated with the desire to encounter new cultures and have diverse experiences. Exploring different places, engaging with the local population, and forming new friendships broaden individuals' perspectives and offer the opportunity to experience cultural richness. Solo travel can also serve as an escape from stress and routine. Some choose a solitary journey to detach from the demands of daily life, connect with nature, or simply find inner peace (Tükenmez, 2019; Harman, 2014).

The primary objective of this study is to identify and analyze articles related to solo travel in the Web of Science database using bibliometric methods. In this context, a total of 266 international articles related to solo travel were identified from the WoS database without any specific year or other restrictions, and these articles were examined using bibliometric methods.

### Solo Travel

In the international tourism literature, the concept known as "solo travel" has been discussed with different definitions. The term "solo travel" in tourism literature can often be defined simply as a person traveling alone to a particular destination (Foo, 1999). According to another definition, Wilson (2004) stated that solo travel is a type of travel that is similar to independent travel and is a form of travel that prefers freedom and flexibility rather than more structured tour packages or organized travel. He also stated that tourists traveling alone and independently have different wishes, expectations and needs than tourists participating in mass tourism (Wilson, 2004). The increase in demand for independent and solo travel types reflects a trend called "new tourism", which reflects a

broad and global tourism phenomenon (Buhalis, 2001; Poon, 2003).

Yang, Yang and Khoo-Lattimore (2019) discussed the meanings of solo travel for Asian women in their study. In the study, it is aimed to examine Asian women's understanding of solo travel experiences, their motivations and the relationship of these experiences with factors such as personal development, freedom seeking and gender roles. Using in-depth interviews, one of the qualitative research methods, first-hand data was collected to understand the solo travel experiences of Asian women. The participants of the study consisted of 15 women from different Asian countries with solo travel experience. It has been determined that solo travel is associated with important factors such as personal development, seeking freedom, independence, self-confidence, experiencing new experiences and pushing personal boundaries. In addition, factors such as gender roles and challenging social norms have also been observed to affect the meaning of solo travel experiences. Laesser, Beritelli, and Bieger (2009) provide exploratory insights into solo travel in a mature market (Switzerland). The study aims to examine the motivations, travel preferences, and experiences of Swiss tourists with solo travel experiences. Participants consisted of 420 tourists with solo travel experience from various age groups and demographic characteristics in Switzerland. The most common motivations among the participating tourists were personal freedom, self-realization, seeking new experiences, relaxation, and rejuvenation. It was found that solo travelers generally feel better about themselves and enjoy this experience. The study offers valuable recommendations to understand the trend of solo travel and provide better services to solo travelers for the travel industry and tourism service providers. Jordan and Gibson (2004) aimed to investigate the solo travel experimentation of English and American females. The researchers conducted face-to-face interviews and used focus groups to better understand participants' experiences. The study highlights the motivations, experiences, and challenges of English and American women when traveling alone. Within the study, it was determined that the women interviewed embarked on solo travel with motivations such as personal development, independence, freedom, exploration, and the quest for adventure. The solo travel experiences were observed to enhance participants' self-confidence, contribute to personal growth, and create lasting memories. Additionally, the challenges faced by women traveling alone were addressed. These challenges included concerns about safety, feelings of loneliness, communication difficulties, and the impact of societal expectations. Nevertheless, participants expressed that they developed strategies to cope with these challenges and expressed a desire to repeat the experience due to its positive outcomes.

Bianchi (2022) aims to examine the antecedents of tourists' solo travel intentions. In the study, data was collected through a questionnaire. Participants completed various demographic and psychographic scales to provide information about the factors affecting their solo travel intentions. The obtained data were evaluated with statistical analysis techniques. The findings show that there are major important factors affecting solo travel intentions of tourists. These include individual characteristics, travel motivations, perceived benefits, perceived risks and social norms, and also reveal some demographic factors that influence tourists' solo travel intentions. For example, demographic characteristics such as gender, age, income level and education may differ in tourists' intention to travel alone. Heimtun and Abelsen (2013) aimed to examine the holiday preferences of singles and individuals traveling solo, and how these preferences are associated with gender. Within the framework of the study methodology, data was collected through surveys in Norway. Participants indicated their marital status, solo travel experiences, and preferred types of vacations. Additionally, information was gathered about participants' demographic characteristics, travel habits, and holiday motivations. The study's findings reveal that gender plays a

role in the holiday preferences of singles and solo travelers. For instance, men tend to prefer vacation types focused on exploration and adventure, while women generally lean towards relaxation and rejuvenation-oriented holiday options. Moreover, the study demonstrates that the holiday preferences of singles and solo travelers are associated with demographic characteristics. These findings provide valuable insights for developing targeted marketing strategies in the holiday industry.

Otegui-Carles, Araújo-Vila, and Fraiz-Brea (2022) examine solo travel studies with the gender equality of these studies. It is aimed to evaluate the status of research on solo travel in the literature and how gender is handled in these studies with a critical bibliometric review. According to the findings of the study, it has been seen that solo travel studies are increasing in the literature. Yang and Tung (2018) studied the theme of family influence in the travel restrictions of individuals traveling alone. The focal point of the study is the travel restrictions felt by the families of individuals traveling alone. Researchers have developed a structure and scale to identify what these restrictions are and how they affect solo travelers' travel preferences. Factors such as family pressure of solo travelers, family expectations, and resources offered by the family have been found to play an important role in travel restrictions. Solo travelers limit their travels for reasons such as their families' negative attitudes towards their travel choices, safety concerns, or lack of financial support.

Abdullah, Ali, Javid, Dias, and Campisi (2021) examined the link between public transport and individual travel preferences during the COVID-19 pandemic. The focus of the study is how people's choices to use public transport are affected during the COVID-19 pandemic. Researchers learned the travel preferences of the people and the reasons for their preference through surveys. Using this dataset, it was analyzed what the preferences are between public transport and individual mode of travel and how these preferences relate to the spread of the pandemic and security measures. In the context of the results of the research, it has been revealed that during the COVID-19 pandemic, the public avoids using public transport and prefers the individual travel mode. Factors such as safety concerns, social distancing measures and self-control have led people to prefer their own vehicles or alternative individual modes of travel over public transport. Mani and Jose (2020) suggested in their study that solo travel is a transducer experimenting for women. The study was conducted to understand women's solo travel experiences and to investigate how these experiences contribute to personal, social and emotional transformations. Using a series of in-depth interviews and surveys, the researchers examined women's experiences of traveling alone. Whereby the study find out that solo travel is a substantial transformative experience for women. It has been found that traveling alone increases women's self-confidence, contributes to their personal development, and enables them to discover their own strengths.

Liu, Choi, and Tak Lee (2008) examined tourists' satisfaction levels and shopping preferences under the solo travel policy in Hong Kong. The study aimed to investigate the impact of the solo travel policy on tourists' experiences and changes in their shopping preferences. Surveys were conducted to explore the relationship between tourists' satisfaction levels and shopping preferences. It was found that solo travelers generally had higher satisfaction levels, positively influencing their shopping preferences. The research also indicated that solo travelers experienced a greater sense of freedom, enjoyed shopping experiences more, and spent more money. Chen, Joya, Choi, and Choi (2017) aimed to explore the experience of self-regulation through individual travel. The study sought to understand how individual travel contributes to an individual's process of self-transcendence. Findings of

the study reveal that individual travel contributes to an individual's self-regulation process. Individual travel assists individuals in better understanding themselves, undergoing personal growth and development, increasing self-confidence, and pushing their own boundaries. Participants expressed gaining new experiences through individual travel, developing awareness of their own strengths and independence, and experiencing themselves in a more holistic way. The study emphasizes the positive impact of individual travel on personal development and well-being in terms of computer systems and human factors.

### **Bibliometric Analysis**

Bibliometrics is a discipline that enables the measurement and evaluation of scientific knowledge by analyzing the bibliographic data of academic and scientific studies (Pritchard, 1969). These analyses include citations and citations of articles, books, conference proceedings, and other scientific documents. Bibliometrics is used to examine research trends, interdisciplinary interaction, authors' activities, and the impact of scientific publications (Garfield, 1972). Such analyses provide important information about the prevalence, impact, and growth of scientific studies. Bibliometric analyses are frequently used by researchers, academics, and librarians to track the development of research fields, identify important discoveries, and support literature reviews (Lawani, 1981). Such analyses are also an important tool for expanding the scope of research, identifying collaboration opportunities, and improving academic publishing strategies.

Pritchard (1969) provides an overview of bibliographic statistics and bibliometrics. The author discusses the basic concepts and applications of the field of bibliometrics, discussing the relationship between statistical analysis of bibliometrics and the measurement of scientific literature. In the study, it is emphasized that the importance of examining the numerical characteristics and publication trends of scientific publications and that bibliometrics is an interdisciplinary approach. In the study, it is argued that the bibliometric analysis method is a powerful tool that can be used in the areas of evaluating scientific research and forming science policies. This study is one of the early studies on bibliometrics and is considered to be the cornerstone of studies on bibliometric analysis. Lawani (1981) examined the theoretical foundations, methods and applications of bibliometrics. The author defines bibliometrics as a field used to develop science metrics tools through the analysis of bibliographic data of scientific studies and also emphasizes that bibliometrics can be applied in various fields of science. In the study, information about the potential difficulties, criticisms and future research areas of the bibliometric method is presented, along with a number of methods that can be used in areas such as the numerical characteristics of scientific publications, measuring the publication trends and impact, and evaluation of scientific research.

Broadus (1987a) aimed to establish a definition for the term 'bibliometrics.' Within the scope of this study, the objective was to develop an understanding of the fundamental concepts and uses of bibliometrics. Additionally, the study emphasizes measurement and analysis methods within bibliometrics. The author drew attention to the lack of a widely accepted definition for bibliometrics and analyzed definitions derived from various studies in the field. As a result, Broadus defines bibliometrics as the 'measurement and analysis of scientific literature.' Broadus (1987b) examined early approaches to bibliometrics. Focusing on significant works from the early period was crucial to understanding the origins and development of bibliometrics. The study delves into the emergence and evolution of the bibliometrics concept, defining its fundamental ideas and principles. It is noted that early bibliometric studies aimed to evaluate scientific communication and performance through the analysis of bibliographic data and the use

of scales.

Hood and Wilson (2001) have examined the literature on bibliometrics, scientific metrics, and information metrics. This study represents a review work conducted to comprehend the development of the field of bibliometrics and the relationships among various terminologies. The authors elucidate the scope of bibliometrics, scientometrics, and informetrics terms, and how these fields are interconnected. Furthermore, they delve into the historical evolution, usages, and diverse application areas of these terms. The study provides an overview of the research conducted in the realms of bibliometrics, scientometrics, and informetrics. Essential works and significant articles within the scope of the study are exemplified. Moreover, the study imparts information about the methodologies, data sources, analytical techniques, and scales employed in bibliometrics and related fields. Godin (2006) examined the origins of bibliometrics. This study was conducted to comprehend the history of bibliometrics. The emergence and stages of development of the bibliometrics concept are outlined. Additionally, the factors contributing to the acceptance and proliferation of the bibliometrics concept are discussed. The author emphasizes how bibliometrics has gained recognition and become widespread both within the scientific community and the field of knowledge management.

Ellegaard and Wallin (2015) discuss the bibliometric analysis of scientific yield. In this study, the effect of analyses conducted in the field of bibliometrics on scientific output is investigated. The authors emphasize that bibliometric analysis is a means used to dimensions the impression of published articles and plays a fundamental role in the evaluation of scientific production. Within the framework of the study, the application of bibliometric analysis, its usability in identifying trends, understanding collaboration networks, the strengths, and limitations of analysis are discussed. The conclusion of the article highlights that bibliometric analysis is an important tool for evaluating scientific output and can ensure precious foresight into understanding the impact of scientific studies when effectively utilized.

## Method

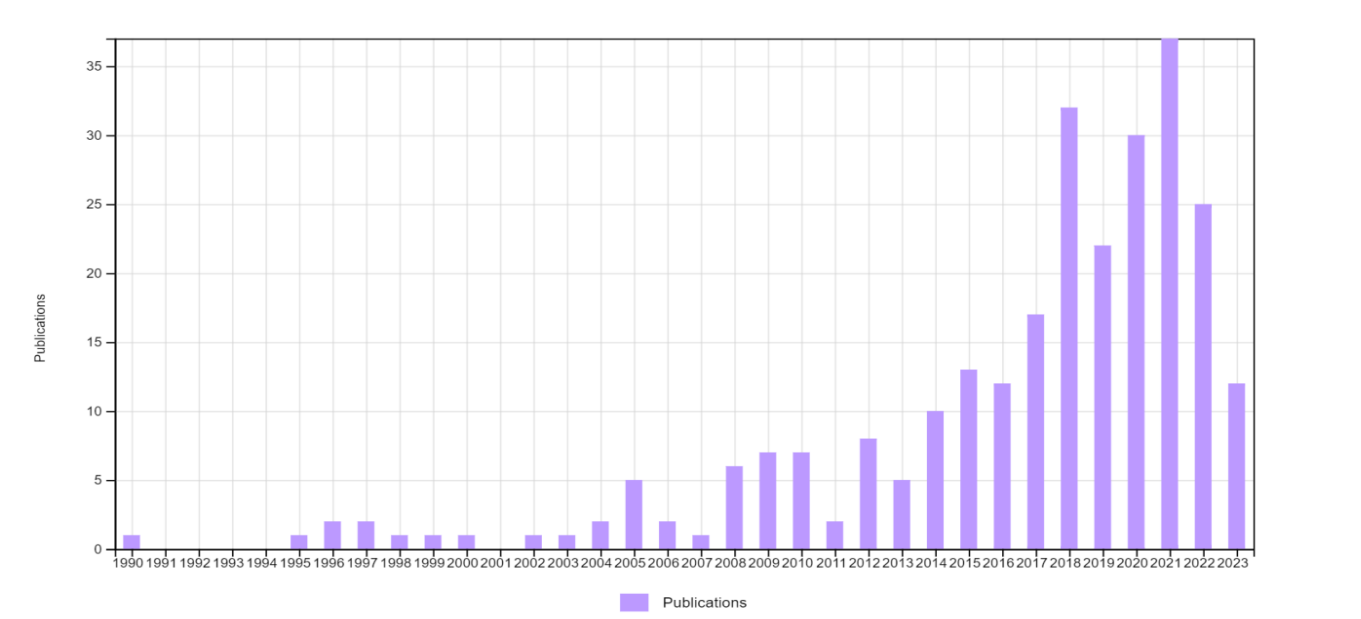
The purpose of this work is to specify the chronology, current state, and emerging trends of articles related to "solo travel" in the Web of Science (WoS) database. In this context, the study utilizes the bibliometric method. The bibliometric method is used to analyze scientific publications, examining publication trends, citation counts, and other metrics (Leydesdorff & Wagner, 2019). Therefore, the universe of the research consists of international articles containing the keyword "solo travel" in the WoS database. The data was collected on June 11, 2023. Upon examining the database, it was determined that articles on the subject began to be published from the year 1990. In this context, the sample of the study includes 266 articles obtained through a search with the keyword "solo travel" in the WoS database from 1990 up to June 2023.

The reason for selecting this database is its inclusion of high impact factor journals and its user-friendly and straightforward interface (Özbay & Sarıca, 2019). Moreover, it is one of the richest databases in terms of social science literature. Therefore, the selection of this database is based on its inclusion of scientifically influential publications. The "articles" option was chosen to filter the results in the Web of Science database. The obtained data underwent various network analyses using the VOSviewer software, and the results were visually presented through mapping techniques.

Publication Years of Solo Travel

According to the information obtained from documents in the WoS database, a total of 266 articles related to the concept of solo travel have been identified in the period from 1990 to 2023. When examining the distribution of studies by year, it is observed that there were fewer articles between 1990 and 2004, and the number of articles varied between 2005 and 2013. In terms of publication numbers over the years, there was a steady progression until 2005, followed by a fluctuating increase. After the decline in 2013, the number of publications reached the maximum level in 2021. This indicates that the subject of solo travel is gaining increasing importance.

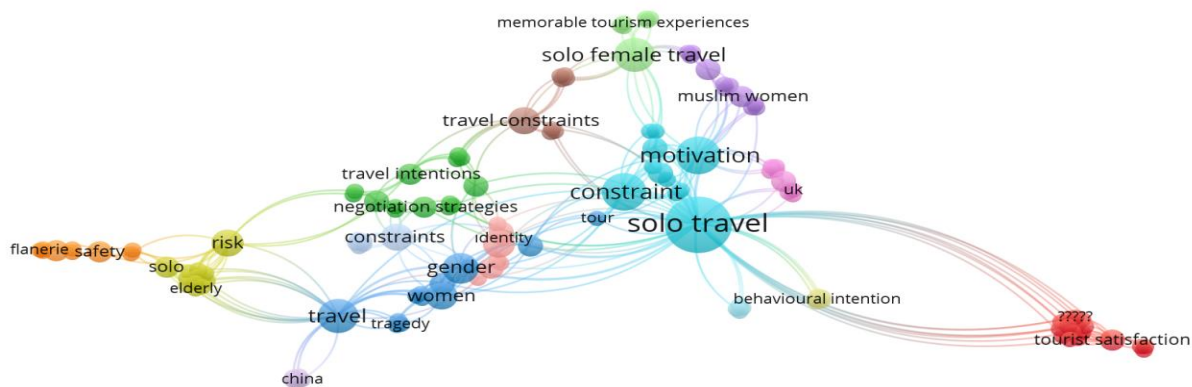
Table 1. Solo Travel Articles by Years



Mostly Used Keywords in Solo Travel

According to the WOS database, it has been determined that a total of 194 keywords were commonly used by authors in the 266 documents published between 1990 and 2023. As shown in Figure 2, the keyword data matrix has been visualized as a topic network. To enhance better connectivity in the visualization, a condition was set in the VOSviewer program that author keywords must be used at least once. As a result, out of the 194 author keywords used at least once, the most central one (most frequently used) is the concept of "solo travel," which has been used 13 times. It was found that the keyword "solo travel" is associated with terms such as motivation (f=6), constraint (f=6), travel (f=5), and solo female travelers (f=5).

Table 2. Mostly Repeated Keywords

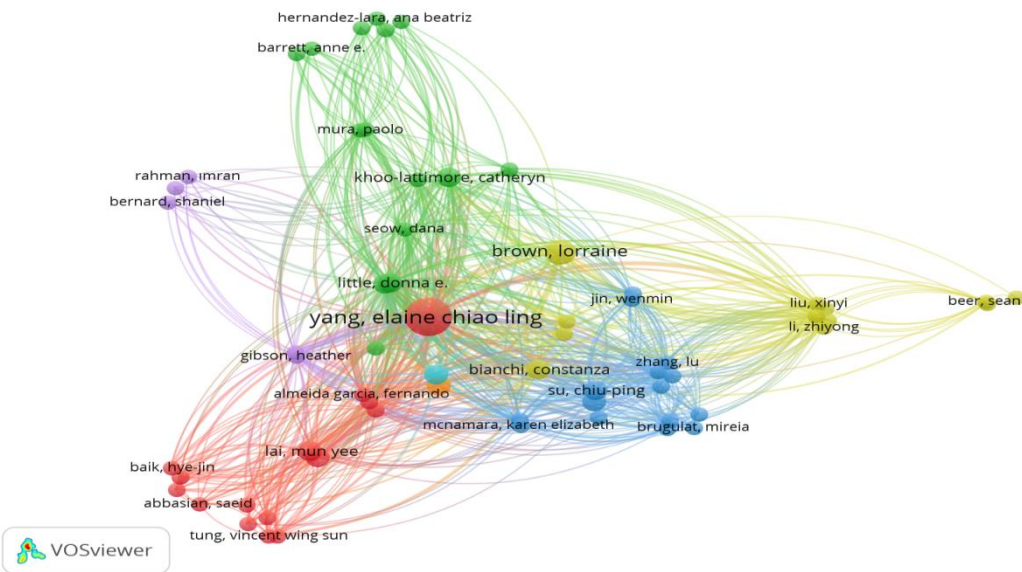


Citation Analysis

The Most Cited Authors

The analysis of the most cited authors is presented in Figure 3. Consistent with the author citation analysis results, Little and Wilson (2 documents, 222 citations) are academics who have garnered significant scholarly interest in the concept of solo travel. Yang (7 documents, 114 citations), Brown (3 documents, 98 citations), Gibson (1 document, 86 citations), and Jordan (1 document, 86 citations) are among the most cited authors.

Table 3. The Most Cited Authors

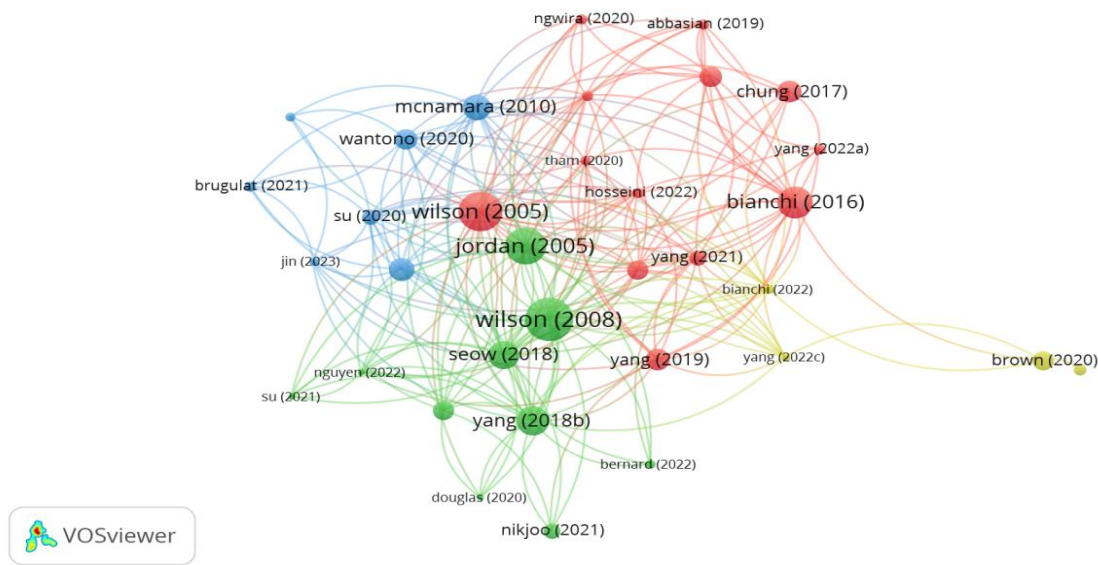




The Most Cited Documents

Some other citation analysis was conducted to identify the most frequently cited publications. A imaginative map is offered in Figure 4. Conformable to the obtained outcomes, the most cited publications are as follows: Wilson (2008), Wilson (2005), Jordan (2005), Bianchi (2016), and Yang (2018b), in respective order. To shore the data, citation numbers for these studies are procure as chase: Wilson 2008 (f=120), Wilson (f=102), Jordan (f=86), Bianchi (f=63), and Yang (f=54).

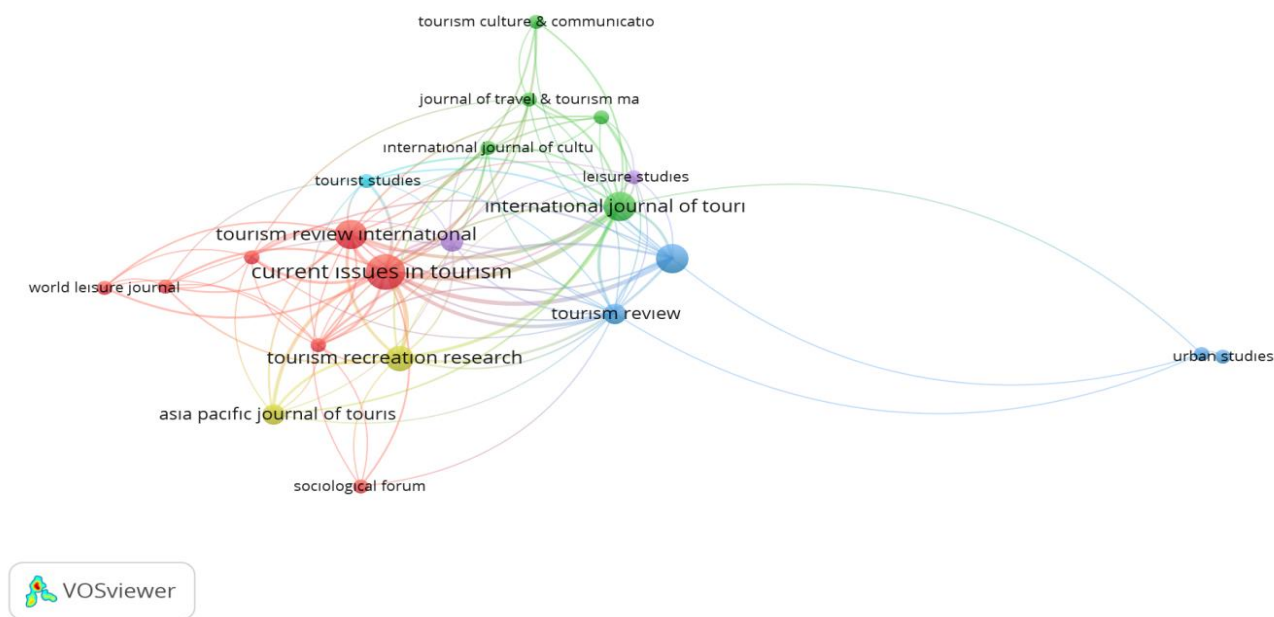
Table 4. The Most Cited Documents



The Most Cited Journals

When examining documents related to the concept of solo travel, a total of 266 sources have been identified. Through the utilization of the VOSviewer program, data obtained from these sources were transferred to Excel, and those with citation counts of at least 1 or more have been presented in Figure 5. In terms of citation count, the sources that have attracted the highest academic interest are "Current Issues in Tourism (6 documents, 224 citations)" and "Tourism Review International (4 documents, 192 citations)." In addition to these leading sources, "International Journal of Tourism Research (4 documents, 118 citations)," "Tourism Management (1 document, 54 citations)," and "Tourism Recreation Research (3 documents, 51 citations)" are among the sources that have garnered significant academic interest.

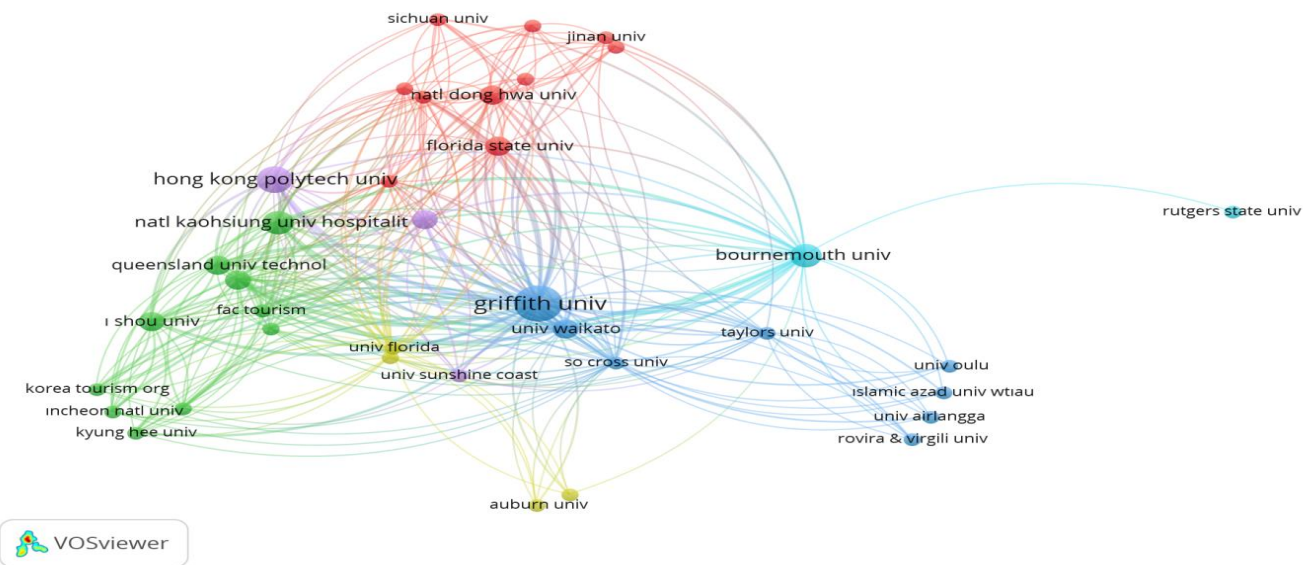
**Table 5.** The Most Cited Journals



**The Most Cited (Productive) Universities**

Bibliometric mapping analysis excuses for the rendition of several relation based on authors, letter, and journals. Additionally, the evaluation of contributions by institutions/organizations holds critical importance in this study. Among worldwide institutions, The University of Waikato/New Zealand ranks first with 2 documents and 222 citations. Griffith University/Australia (7 documents, 114 citations), Bournemouth University/United Kingdom (3 documents, 98 citations) and The Southern Cross University/Australia (1 document, 120 citations), are among the most productive institutions conducting research on solo travel in the literature.

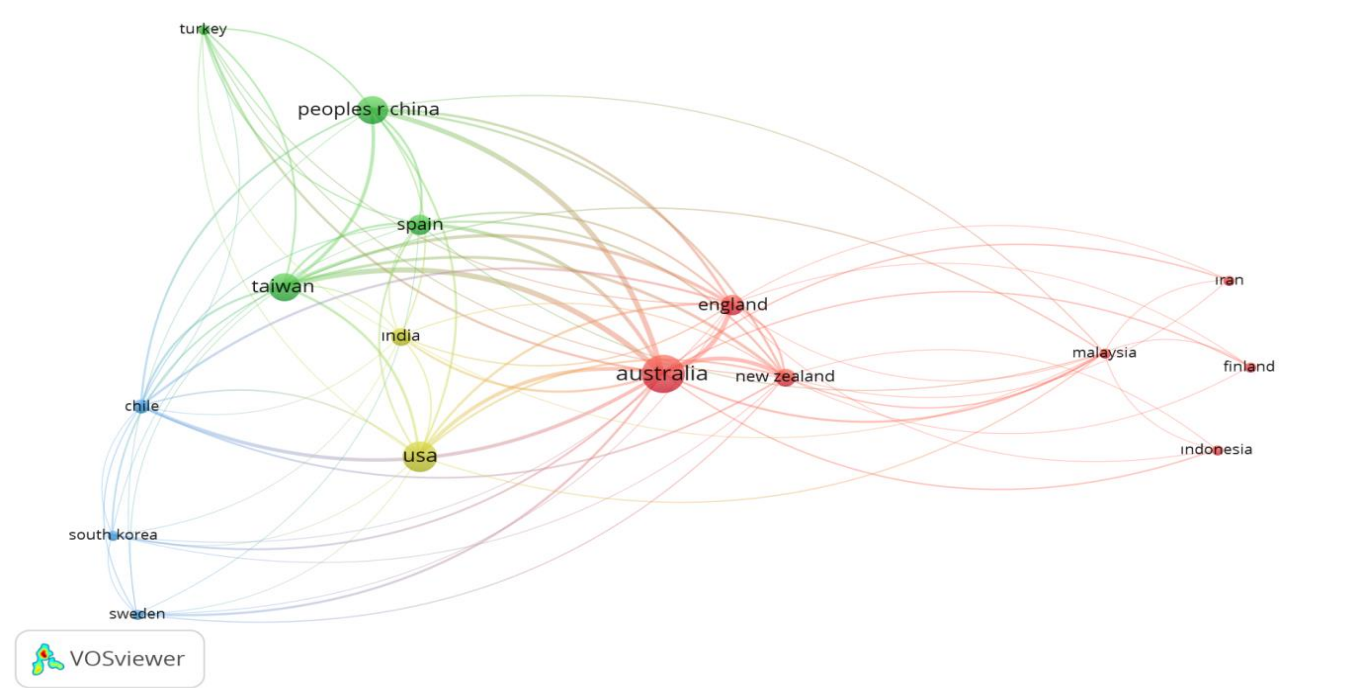
**Table 6.** The Most Cited Universities



The Most Cited (Productive) Countries

The top 5 countries with the highest citations for disseminations relevant to the concept of solo travel are shown in Figure 7. Among 19 countries with 14 documents and 466 citations, Australia stands out as the most productive country. In addition to the leading countries, New Zealand ranks second with 3 documents and 222 citations. The United Kingdom (4 documents, 184 citations), the United States (9 documents, 158 citations), and China (8 documents, 111 citations) are also among the most influential countries.

Table 7. The Most Cited Countries

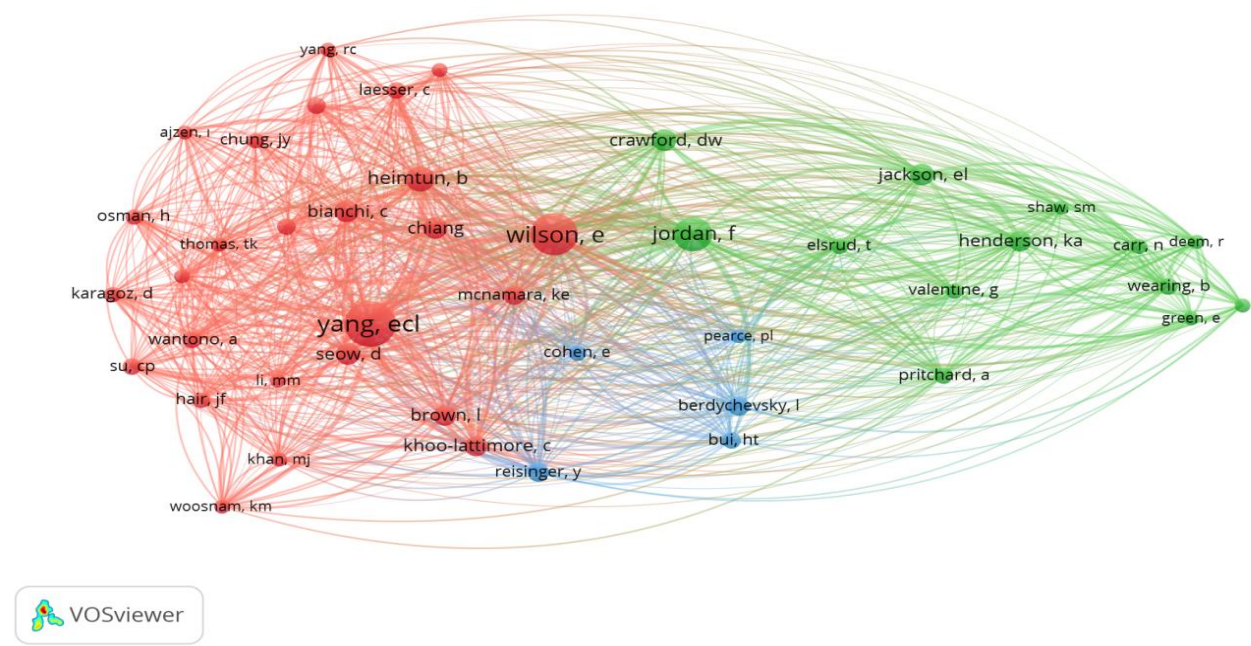


Co-citation Analysis

Authors' Co-citation Analysis

Collaboration networks among authors (co-citation networks) are formed based on the co-occurrence of two documents (articles, etc.) in other documents. The more frequently these articles appear in other articles, the larger the nodes in the co-citation network grow, and authors come closer to each other in the resulting structure. Figure 8 illustrates the intellectual connections among authors. According to author co-citation analysis results, Yang is the author with the most shared citations among 44 authors, with 104 citations. Additionally, Wilson (f=88), Jordan (f=58), Heimtun (f=34), and Seow (f=25) are the most cited authors in sequence.

**Table 8.** Author Co-Citation Analysis

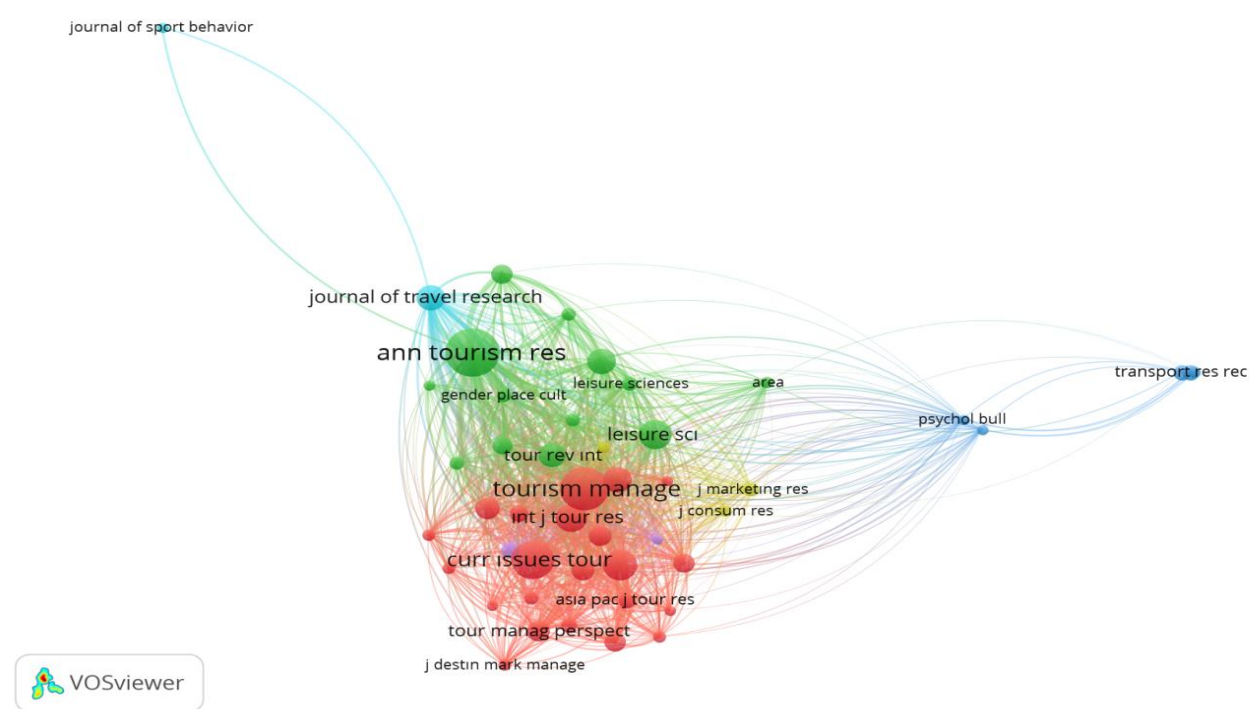


**Journals' Co-citation Analysis**

After imposing the condition of a minimum of 10 citations for the 266 publications related to the concept of solo travel in the WOS database over the past 33 years, it was determined that a total of 47 sources met this criterion. In the visual representation in Figure 9, when examining the relationships among these sources, *Annals of Tourism Research* (218 citations and 7,733 total link strength), *Tourism Management*, and *Current Issues in Tourism* journals have the highest numbers both in terms of publication count and received citations. Accordingly, it come to a conclusion that "*Annals of Tourism Research*," "*Tourism Management* (181 citations, 7,540 total link strength)," and "*Current Issues in Tourism* (134 citations, 5,943 total link strength)" are more interconnected journals that refer to each other compared to other sources. "*Journal of Travel Research* (86 citations, 4,047 total link strength)" and "*Leisure Science* (81 citations, 3,035 total link strength)" journals also stand out in this context.



**Table 9.** Journals Co-Citation Analysis



**Conclusion**

Solo travel, which has become increasingly popular in the tourism sector recently, is actually a reflection of people's changing holiday preferences in response to the evolving world. In this study, published articles on solo travel have been examined using bibliometric mapping methods in an attempt to fill an important research gap. The conducted analyses demonstrate that research on solo travel is rapidly growing and being approached from an interdisciplinary perspective. This indicates that solo travel has garnered interest not only in the tourism field but also in various disciplines such as sociology, psychology, communication, and cultural studies. The bibliometric analyses conducted reveal that fundamental topics and trends in solo travel can be identified. Particularly, there is a notable abundance of studies focusing on the motivations, experiences, destination preferences, and gender-related aspects of solo travelers. These findings will serve as a guide for identifying focal points for future research and directing new studies.

Bibliometric studies aim to compile various data related to research publications, such as authors, their affiliations, keywords, and citation information, in order to analyze the current state and determine future publication strategies. In pursuit of this objective, publications that combine the concepts of tourism and crime were compiled, and network graphs were created using the VOSviewer program. Through this method, interactions among authors, countries, author keywords, and sources in the relevant field can be identified and visualized. In the context of this study, a bibliometric analysis was transmitted using VOSviewer on 266 articles published in 170 journals between 1990 and 2023. The study revealed that publications on solo travel themes exhibited fluctuations over the years, with a significant increase observed after 2005. In their study, Otegui-Carles et al. (2022) emphasized a growing interest in solo travel, particularly in recent years. Previous studies corroborate the findings of this study.

In studies related to solo travel, the primary themes include pressure, motivation, solo female travelers, and safety. Both publication and citation numbers in solo travel research are higher in socioeconomically developed countries when considering their distribution by countries. Findings from the context of future trends in research suggest that the literature on solo travel has expanded and become more comprehensive. In this regard, it can easily be predicted that the theme of solo travel will become an important research agenda in the future.

One limitation of the study is that only the Web of Science database was used as the data source. In future research, comparative analyses can be conducted by utilizing other databases like Scopus. Another limitation is that only articles were examined. Therefore, studies that include conference proceedings and book chapters from the Web of Science database can be incorporated. Similarly, different programs can be employed to create diverse methods and approaches, and content analysis can be utilized to conduct a detailed analysis of publications related to solo travel. Additionally, this research can provide valuable insights for those who are conducting research or have an interest in this field.

When examining the bibliographic outcomes of author analyses in the study, it is observed that the most cited and influential authors in this research area are Little and Wilson (2 documents, 222 citations). Little and Wilson's works, which focus on solo travel and the experiences of solo female travelers, are considered to be guiding for researchers working in this field. In view of the author citation analysis results, it can be finalization that solo travel-related studies are observed by remarkable researchers and powerful collaborations among authors are observed.

According to the bibliographic descriptions of journals, "Current Issues in Tourism" stands out as the most significant journal in solo travel literature, both in terms of publication count and citations received. Additionally, "Tourism Review International" and "International Journal of Tourism Research" are also prominent journals in the ranking. Established in 1998, "Current Issues in Tourism" is a highly important journal with an impact factor of 10.23.

In the context of this research, the universities that receive the most citations are identified as Waikato University (New Zealand), Southern Cross University (Australia), Griffith University (Australia), and Bournemouth University (United Kingdom). The countries where these universities are located are generally considered to be advanced and/or economically prosperous.

Yang et al. (2019), Laesser et al. (2009), Jordan and Gibson (2004), Bianchi (2022), Mani and Jose (2020) and Chen et al. (2017) have revealed that solo travel-themed publications often revolve around themes such as personal development, seeking freedom, exploration and adventure, increased self-confidence, and motivation. Otegui-Carles et al. (2022); Yang et al. (2019); Jordan and Gibson (2004); Mani and Jose (2020) have addressed the impact of the gender factor on solo travel activities. They have highlighted challenges faced by women during travel, women's safety concerns, and societal pressures.

The imparted citation and co-citation analyses help researchers identify research lines that constitute the intellectual structure of the topic. This allows new researchers to gain a clear understanding of the themes and knowledge foundations. Solo travel has emerged as a new and growing travel trend today. The increasing number of studies and research in this area highlights the importance of solo travel in the tourism industry. More research

can be done on this subject and different databases can be examined. Understanding issues such as why solo travel is preferred and the needs and experiences of solo travelers is important for the tourism industry. Additionally, understanding what impact the solo travel trend has in terms of destinations, hotels and travel services can also be an interesting topic for researchers. Consequently, stakeholders, educators, and students can learn up-to-date information on solo travel topics that they can apply in their future studies. The research findings can also serve as a foundation for future studies to survey the relationship between theory and practice, and the present study can be used as a practical guide. Comprehensive research can be conducted on topics such as "The impact of solo travel on relationships", "The role of solo travel in personal development", "The impact of solo travel on gender and sexuality", "The impact of solo travel on the environment" and "The future of solo travel".

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