

Leadership Journey in School: A Bibliometric Analysis of Instructional Leadership from 1941 to 2022

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Abstract: Leadership in educational settings, especially in schools, has a long history. Instructional leadership is a leadership style that is seen to increase school effectiveness. This study aims to map bibliographic data on instructional leadership over the past eight decades (1941-2022). The quantitative research approach to analyzing bibliographic information using bibliometric analysis was sourced from the Scopus database, which initially amounted to 951 documents, then became 717 documents after the screening process. Hallinger P. is the author with the most co-authorship networks, and the United States is the most co-authorship network on instructional leadership. The article "The Impact of Leadership on Student Outcomes: An Analysis of the Differential Effects of Leadership Types" by Robinson, V. M. J. (2008) is the article with the highest number of citations, and Hallinger P. is the author with the highest number of citations. The author's co-citation visualization of instructional leadership reveals 4 clusters: 1) measuring the instructional leadership, 2) school effectiveness and improvement, 3) the role of the school principal, and 4) leadership for school restructuring, performance, and achievement. The keyword network visualization for instructional leadership reveals 4 clusters: 1) the impact of instructional leadership on school climate, 2) the application of instructional leadership in school settings, 3) the relationship of instructional leadership with the concept of educational leadership in general, and school principals in particular, 4) instructional leadership efforts in developing professional and leadership teachers and teaching and learning processes that ultimately improve accountability. Future research about instructional leadership focuses more on teacher efficacy, school climate, principal preparation, and teacher professional learning.

Keywords: Instructional Leadership, Bibliometric Analysis, School Principal, School Effectiveness, School Climate

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Introduction

Instructional leadership has a positive impact on schools. Effective instructional leadership can create an excellent school (Bafadal et al., 2021); by supporting that facilitates learning for all school community (Hallinger & Hosseingholizadeh, 2020); explaining the vision and mission of the school, guiding teachers in curriculum preparation, and creating a safe and comfortable environment for learning to influence the teaching and learning process in schools and classrooms to improve for all students (Hallinger et al., 2020). Research shows that instructional leadership can create effective learning and teaching activities to create excellent schools. The principal's practice as a learning leader has a significant effect on learning outcomes and student achievement (Jalapang & Raman, 2020), improving student learning outcomes (Robinson et al., 2008) and developing teacher professions and competencies to enhance the quality of learning in schools (Brauckmann et al., 2016; Bush, 2015). The principal works with the teacher and provides feedback on the teaching and learning process in the classroom (Stewart, 2006), in the way the principal exerts his influence on the learning process of students through the practice of teachers (Hallinger & Hosseingholizadeh, 2020). Learning and teaching activities are the main focus and elements that distinguish instructional leadership from other leadership models. Curriculum and teaching management, monitoring and evaluating teacher performance and student development, identifying learning and teaching difficulties, and developing corrective strategies that have an impact on improving learning are requirements of instructional leadership (Alanoglu, 2022); effective school management will create a healthy child or student and a conducive learning environment (Sunandar et al., 2022). Thus, the positive impact of learning leadership carried out by the principal affects teachers, students, and school community. The principal is a dreamer of learning in the school. Principals who take on the most important roles as learning leaders are considered effective principals in the 21st century (Hallinger, 2011). In addition, instructional leadership focuses on the principal's concentration on the teaching and learning process and avoiding time-consuming administrative or managerial tasks (Brewster & Klump, 2005); the principal encourages teachers to make decisions according to student achievement or develop students, not just administrative matters (Stronge et al., 2008). A systematic review reveals that instructional leadership has emerged as one of the most influential models to guide research, policy, and practice in school leadership (Hallinger et al., 2020).

The concept of instructional leadership came to the fore because scholars identified the factors that influence the creation of effective schools. Initially, this concept appeared in the United States based on the evidence that leadership can positively impact student learning outcomes (Bush, 2015) and improve the effectiveness and efficiency of learning in schools (Spears, 1941). Path-goal theory by House forms the basis of an instructional

leadership approach. It is based on the idea that the leader sets goals for subordinates, guides and supports them to achieve the goals already set (House, 1996). Instructional leadership is a form of directive leadership centered on educational activities and transforming schools (Hallinger & Murphy, 1985). It is a blend of expertise and charisma that builds a culture and is oriented toward the school's vision, mission and goals (Alanoglu, 2022). Instructional leadership is directed at the teaching and learning process that results in interaction between teachers and students to achieve curriculum goals (Sim, 2011) in the form of actions taken or delegated by the principal to promote a quality learning process in the school (Mestry et al., 2013). Instructional leadership is a behavior demonstrated by the principal, which directly or indirectly affects teaching and learning (Çalik et al., 2012); to improve teacher performance in curriculum delivery through the learning process (Chabalala & Naidoo, 2021). Therefore, instructional leadership is the principal's ability to lead the school by performing roles and actions that are very important to develop the curriculum, improve teacher competence, and create a positive learning climate for students.

There have been many publications about instructional leadership research conducted in various countries recently such as in di Azerbaijan (Sindhvad et al., 2022) factors influencing instructional leadership capacity; Israel (Shaked et al., 2021) sociocultural norms that make up the principal's instructional leadership; U.S. and Belgium (Urick et al., 2022) instructional leadership influence opportunity to learn; Turkey (Bellibaş et al., 2022) linking instructional leadership to teacher practices; Kuwait (Alsaleh, 2022) the influence of heads of departments' instructional leadership, cooperation, and administrative support on school-based professional learning; Maldives (Shafeeu, 2022) the Effect of Instructional Leadership on Student Achievement; Malaysian (Awang et al., 2022) influence of virtual instructional leadership on teachers' commitment, (Fred & Singh, 2021) instructional leadership practices in under-enrolled rural schools; China (Liu et al., 2022) instructional leadership related to teacher self-efficacy and student academic performance; Indonesia (Nurabadi et al., 2022) digital principal instructional leadership in new normal era (Puruwita et al., 2022) instructional leadership practices and teachers' job performance at high-performing vocational schools, (Anselmus Dami et al., 2022) principal self-efficacy for instructional leadership in the perspective of principal strengthening training; South Africa (Mestry & Govindasamy, 2021) perceptions of school management teams and teachers of the principal's instructional leadership role in managing curriculum changes, (Malinga et al., 2021) instructional leadership capacity of secondary school science heads of department; Sweden (Liljenberg, 2021) professional development practice to enhance principals' instructional leadership-enabling and constraining arrangements; and many more documents about instructional leadership since it was first published in 1941 until 2022 in international journals indexed by Scopus. However, no document examines instructional leadership using bibliometric analysis. This study aims to map bibliographic data on instructional leadership for the last eight decades (1941-2022).

Method

The authors use a quantitative research approach to analyze bibliographic data related to the literature collection on instructional leadership. The bibliometric analysis aims to explore clearly defined bodies of knowledge

(Kuzhabekova, 2021; Zupic & Čater, 2015), to highlight broad trends in knowledge production and dissemination (Hallinger & Kovačević, 2019), and to identify thematic research trends, and (co)citation analysis to locate the most highly cited researchers (McGinity et al., 2022). The bibliometric analysis leverages the capabilities of the VOSviewer software program to analyze a more significant number of documents when compared to previous review research (Hallinger & Kovačević, 2022). VOSviewer is a program we developed for constructing and viewing bibliometric maps (Van Eck & Waltman, 2010). Thus, bibliometric analysis with VOSviewer is considered appropriate for reviewing documents to reflect on the accumulated knowledge of instructional leadership after 80 years since it was first published.

Identification of documents

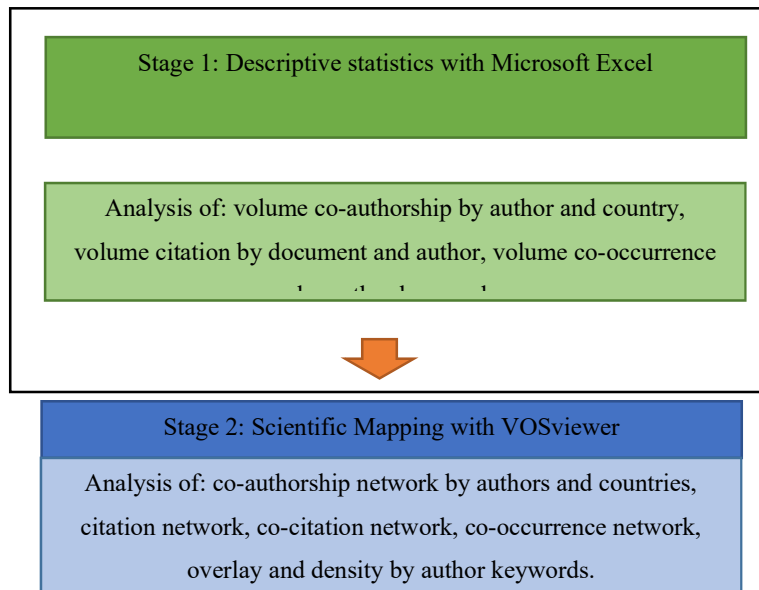
The Scopus index is used to identify published documents about instructional leadership. Authors use keywords TITLE-ABS-KEY ("instructional leadership"). The search yielded 951 published documents on instructional leadership from 1941 to 2022. The author uses the Scopus filter to limit only 'articles' to the document type, "final" to the publication stage, "journal" to the source type, "English" to the language to change the search keywords to TITLE-ABS-KEY ("instructional leadership") AND (LIMIT-TO (PUBSTAGE , "final")) AND (LIMIT-TO (DOCTYPE , "ar")) AND (LIMIT-TO (LANGUAGE , "English")) AND (LIMIT-TO (SRCTYPE , "j")). This led to the elimination of 231 documents. Thus, the final database consists of 720 articles. The bibliographic data is exported from Scopus to MS Excel in CSV format. The database consists of 720 rows corresponding to the document that has gone through the filter process and 54 columns of bibliographic data that describe the features of the document. Then, the author manually checks the database exported from Scopus so that it finds some unqualified documents. Four documents are unqualified because the author data and publication year are unclear, and three documents are unqualified because the document type, publisher, and ISSN are unclear, so 717 documents are obtained for bibliometric analysis.

Data analysis

The author performs two stages of analysis. The first research stage uses descriptive statistics to describe trends related to the volume of co-authorship by author and country, citation by document and author, co-occurrence by author keywords. Descriptive analysis is performed with Microsoft Excel. The second stage of analysis is using VOSviewer version 1.1.18 to displaying maps constructed using multidimensional scaling techniques (Van Eck & Waltman, 2010; Zupic & Čater, 2014). The bibliometric analysis includes co-authorship analysis, co-occurrence analysis, citation analysis, etc., which can be displayed in network visualization, overlay visualization and density visualization (Van Eck & Waltman, 2011).

Co-authorship network analysis is used to identify relationships between authors and between authors' countries. The applicability of co-authorship networks has been regarded for evaluation of research collaborations (HabibAgahi et al., 2022). Citation analysis is used to identify "high-impact" leadership documents. A high number of citations is generally construed as an indicator of 'scientific impact' based on the assertion that other

scholars' ideas in the cited documents have been read and used (Garfield, 2007). Co-citation analysis is used to identify the documents that most significantly influence articles on instructional leadership. When a couple of authors are frequently cited in the same list of references, there will likely be intellectual similarities in the content of their work (Small, 1973). Co-citation analysis is used to calculate the frequency of 'author pairs' cited in the reference list of instructional leadership articles which can ultimately identify the 'intellectual structure' of instructional leadership. The intellectual structure delves into authors, documents, or sources that significantly impact the academic field and help transmit knowledge (Khare & Jain, 2022). Finally, keyword analysis is used to highlight trends in publications. A keyword analysis is used to create a network map that visualizes the relationships between keywords which is then used to highlight the 'conceptual space' that appears in instructional leadership publications (Ding et al., 2001; Zupic & Čater, 2015).



Gambar 1. The bibliometric analysis process of the instructional leadership database

Results

Co-authorship Analysis

The author with the most collaborations with other authors on the topic of instructional leadership, namely: Hallinger P. collaborated with 43 authors, Goldring E. collaborated with 34 authors, Shaked H. collaborated with 16 authors, Bellibas M. S. collaborated with 15 authors, and Neumerski C. M. collaborated with 15 authors.

Based on Figure 1, it is clear that the co-authorship network by author consists of 4 clusters. The first cluster (C1) has the most co-authorship networks, consisting of 70 authors with Hallinger P. and Shaked H. as the

dominant writers. The second cluster (C2) has a co-authorship network of 40 authors with Goldring E. as the dominant author. The third cluster (C3) has a co-authorship network of 37 authors, but no dominant authors exist in this cluster. The fourth cluster (C4) has a co-authorship network of 35 authors with Bellibas M.S. as the dominant author. It can be seen that the dominant authors in each cluster are the top 5 co-authorships.

Table 1. Top 5 Co-authorship by author of instructional leadership, 1941–2022 (ranking by total link strength)

Author	Citations	Documents	Total Link Strength
Hallinger P.	23	1567	43
Goldring E.	10	366	34
Shaked H.	15	79	16
Bellibas M.S.	8	115	15
Neumerski C.M.	4	312	15

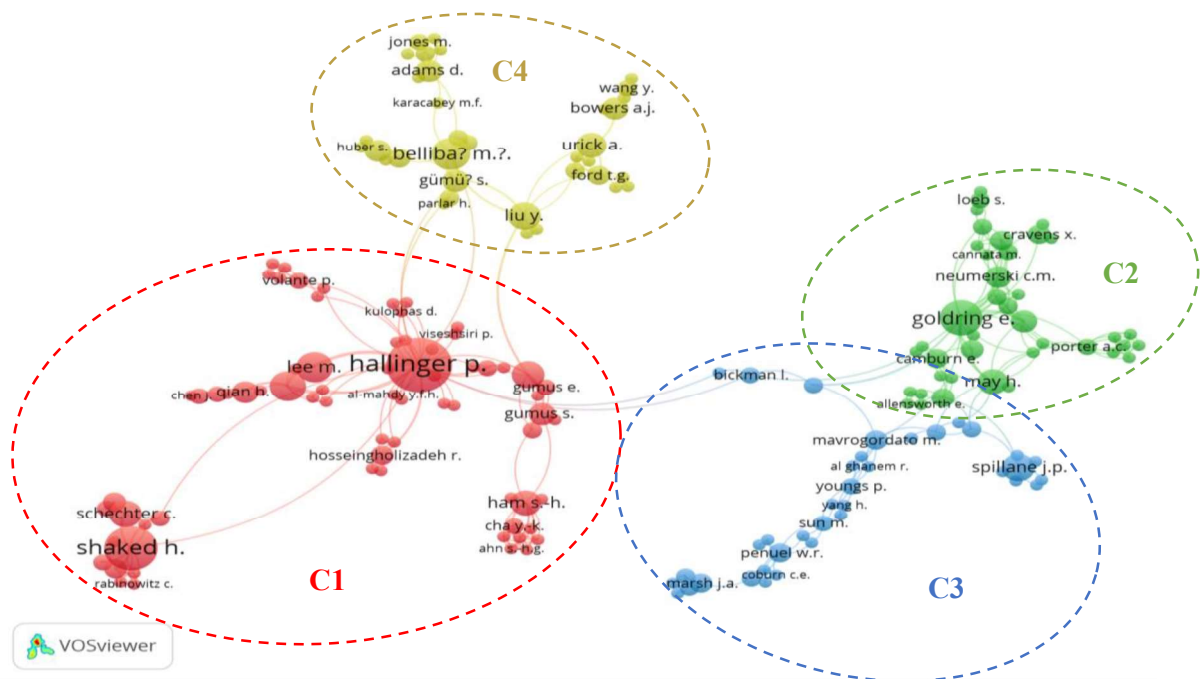


Figure 1. Network Visualization of Co-authorship by author of instructional leadership, 1941–2022

Table 2 shows the countries with the most collaborations with other countries on the topic of instructional leadership, namely: The United States collaborates with 44 countries, Thailand collaborates with 28 countries, South Africa collaborates with 26 countries, Hong Kong collaborates with 22 countries, and Malaysia collaborates with 19 countries.

Based on Figure 2, it is clear that the co-authorship network by country consists of 4 clusters. The first cluster (C1) has the most co-authorship networks, composed of 18 countries with South Africa as the dominant country.

The second cluster (C2) is a cluster with a co-authorship network of 12 countries but there is no dominant. The third cluster (C3) has a co-authorship network of 9 countries with the United States as the dominant country. The fourth cluster (C4) has a co-authorship network of 8 countries with Malaysia as the dominant country. It can be seen that the dominant country in each cluster is the top 5 co-authorship.

Table 2. Top 5 Co-authorship by country of instructional leadership, 1941–2022 (ranking by total link strength)

Country	Documents	Citations	Total Link Strength
United States	344	7245	44
Thailand	21	1022	28
South Africa	49	467	26
Hong Kong	28	565	22
Malaysia	42	211	19

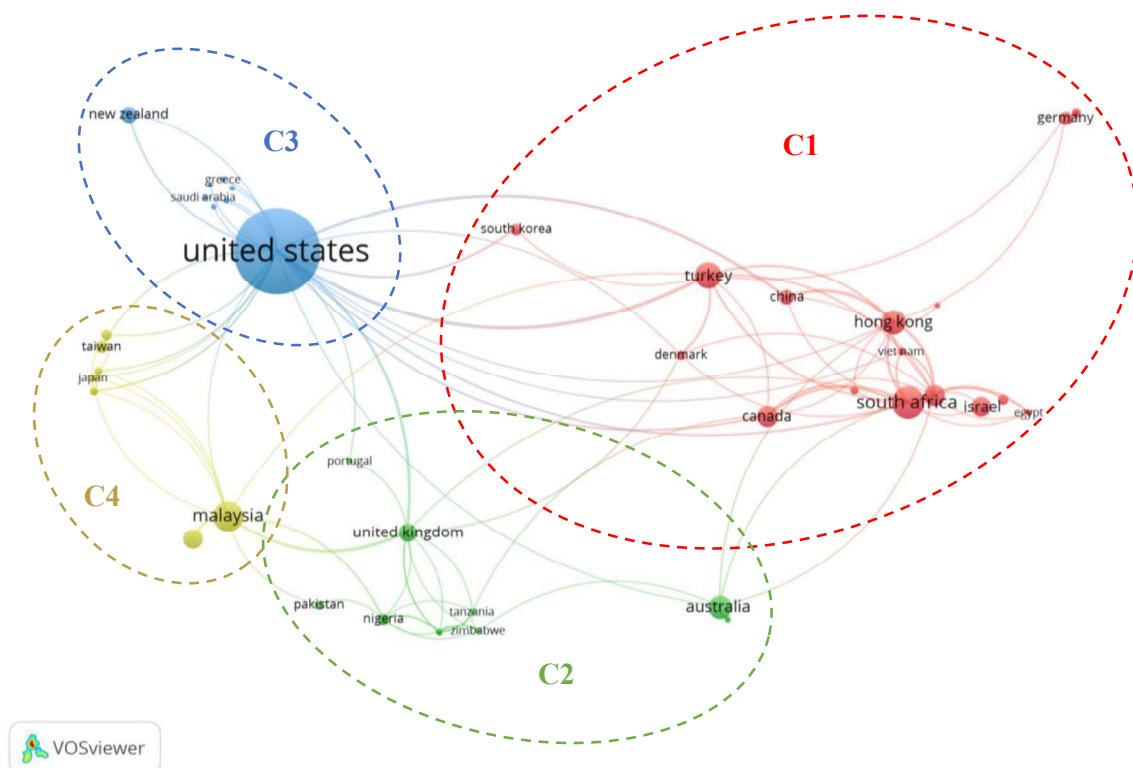


Figure 2. Network Visualization of Co-authorship by country of instructional leadership, 1941–2022

Citation Analysis

The document with the most citations on the topic of instructional leadership is "The Impact of Leadership on Student Outcomes: An Analysis of the Differential Effects of Leadership Types" with a total of 1,032 (Robinson et al., 2008), followed by "Leading Educational Change: reflections on the practice of instructional and

transformational leadership" with a total of 635 citations (Hallinger, 2003), "Leadership for School Restructuring" with 367 citations (Leithwood, 1994), "Teachers sense of efficacy and commitment to teaching" with 350 citations (Coladarci, 1992), and "The Impact of Leadership on Student Outcomes: How Successful School Leaders Use Transformational and Instructional Strategies to Make a Difference" with a total of 274 citations (Day et al., 2016).

Table 3. Top 5 Citation by document of instructional leadership, 1941–2022 (ranking by citations)

Document	Citations
Robinson V.M.J. (2008)	1032
Hallinger P. (2003)	635
Leithwood K. (1994)	367
Coladarci T. (1992)	350
Day C. (2016)	274

Table 4 shows the authors with the highest citations on instructional leadership. Hallinger P. is the author with the highest number of citations at 1,567, followed by Robinson V.M.J. with 1,199 citations, Spillane J.P. with 399 citations, Goldring E. with 366 citations, and Camburn E. with 355 citations. Robinson V.M.J is only four documents but has high citations.

Table 4. Top 5 Citation by author of instructional leadership, 1941–2022 (ranking by citations)

Author	Documents	Citations
Hallinger P.	23	1567
Robinson V.M.J.	4	1199
Spillane J.P.	6	399
Goldring E.	10	366
Camburn E.	3	355

Co-citation Analysis

The author's co-citation map for instructional leadership reveals 4 clusters, each comprised of scholars associated with a particular school of thought. Cluster 1 (C1) is about measuring instructional leadership. Scholars led by Spillane J.P., Louis K.S., and Goldring E. began to apply forms of capital and construction of instructional leadership, measuring school principals' instructional leadership competence and teacher evaluation systems. Cluster 2 (C2) is about school effectiveness and improvement. Scholars led by Hallinger P., Jantzi D., Walker A. dan Hoy W.K. began to apply leadership development for school effectiveness and improvement, program implementation, professional teacher learning, and leader development. Cluster 3 (C3) is about role of the school principal. Scholars led by Murphy J., Harris A., Bush T., Blasé J. and Day C. began to apply to assess and develop the instructional leadership of school principals, and barriers to implementing the

instructional leadership role. Cluster 4 (C4) is about leadership for school restructuring, performance and achievement. Scholars led by Leithwood K., Heck R.H., and Rowan B. began to apply leadership in schools responding to a variety of restructuring initiatives, principals' instructional leadership and school performance, principal instructional leadership and the identification of high-and low-achieving schools.

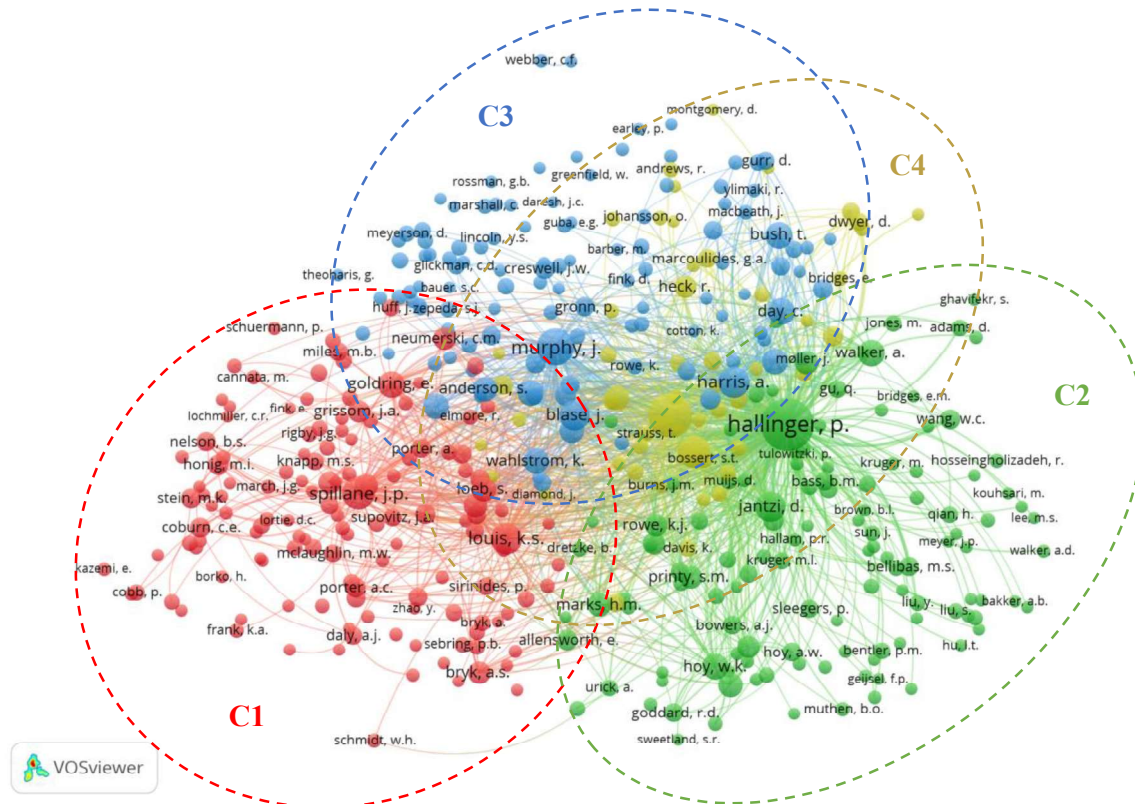


Figure 3. Author co-citation map of instructional leadership, 1941–2022 (threshold 20 citations, display 422 authors).

Co-occurrence Analysis

The most occurrence of keywords on the topic of instructional leadership, namely: leadership, principal, professional development, school leadership, transformational leadership, distributed leadership, school improvement, teacher leadership, management, educational leadership, principal preparation, student achievement accountability, teacher evaluation, and school climate. Other keywords only have occurrences below 11.

Keyword network visualization for instructional leadership reveals 4 clusters. Each cluster represents a subfield of scientific analysis. Cluster 1 (C1) consists of 19 keywords, such as school climate, teacher efficacy, self-efficacy, teacher professional learning, teacher collaboration, student achievement, student outcomes, etc.,

which is the impact of instructional leadership on school climate (Akhir et al., 2019; Dutta & Sahney, 2016; Jalapang & Raman, 2020), teacher (Ma & Marion, 2021; Qadach et al., 2020; Siriparp et al., 2022) and student (Goddard et al., 2021; Kazi, 2021; Rodrigues & Ávila de Lima, 2021). Cluster 2 (C2) consists of 18 keywords, such as school and district management, collaboration, school climate and culture, district-based administration, and administrators, etc. is the application of instructional leadership in a school setting (Kasprzhak et al., 2022; Lingam et al., 2021; Shaked, 2021), district management (Mestry, 2019; Mpundu et al., 2021; Sumintono et al., 2019) and school culture (Gümüş et al., 2022; Ismail et al., 2021; Liu et al., 2021). Cluster 3 (C3) consists of 17 keywords, such as leadership, educational leadership, principals, principal preparation, leadership preparation, and school principal, etc. is a relationship between instructional leadership and the concept of educational leadership in general (Wang, 2011), school Principal in particular (Aas & Paulsen, 2019; Goff et al., 2012). Cluster 4 (C4) consists of 16 keywords, such as professional development, accountability, teaching and learning, teacher professional development, teacher leadership, etc. are instructional leadership efforts in developing professional and leadership teachers and teaching and learning processes that ultimately increase accountability (Blasé & Blasé, 2000; Kim & Lee, 2020; Lee et al., 2012).

Table 5. Top 15 Co-occurrence by author keywords of instructional leadership, 1941–2022 (ranking by occurrences)

Keyword	Occurrences	Total Link Strength
Leadership	68	143
Principal	43	87
Professional Development	35	54
School Leadership	29	68
Transformational Leadership	28	63
Distributed Leadership	24	50
School Improvement	23	48
Teacher Leadership	23	72
Management	15	36
Educational Leadership	14	28
Principal Preparation	13	30
Student Achievement	13	31
Accountability	12	34
Teacher Evaluation	12	26
School Climate	11	44

The items are colored differently based on the year of publication. Based on Figure 5, shows that the topic of instructional leadership today (in 2020 and the future) is more focused on teacher efficacy (Siriparp et al., 2022; Sukarmin & Sin, 2021; Thien, Lim, et al., 2021), school climate (Dutta & Sahney, 2022; Jalapang & Raman, 2020), principal preparation (Vogel & Alhudithi, 2021), and professional teacher learning (Bellibaş et al., 2021;

Thien, Liu, et al., 2021).

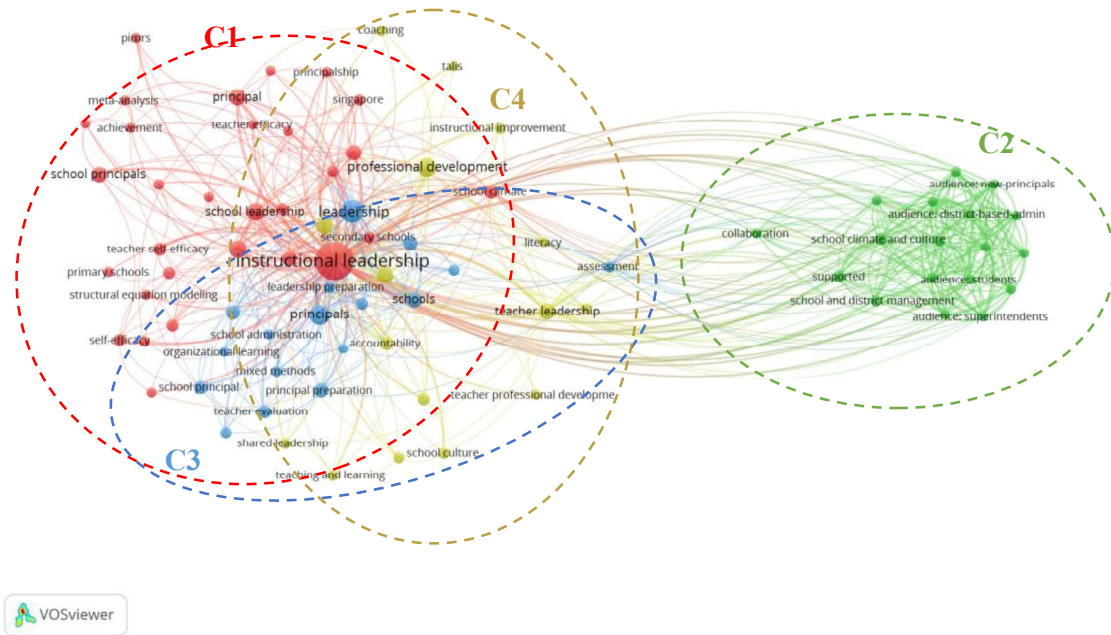


Figure 4. Keywords network visualization of instructional leadership (threshold 5 occurrences, display 81 keywords).

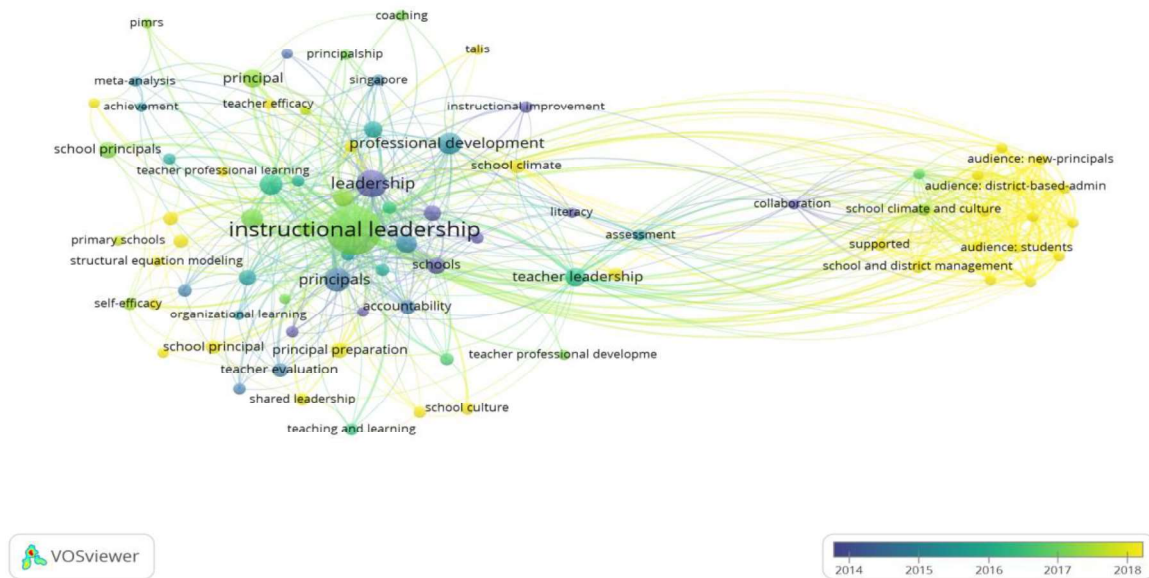


Figure 5. Keywords overlay visualization of instructional leadership (threshold 5 occurrences, display 81 keywords).

Figure 6 shows that the keyword instructional leadership is often found in various documents in the Scopus database. Instructional leadership is often associated with student achievement, leadership, and school

effectiveness.

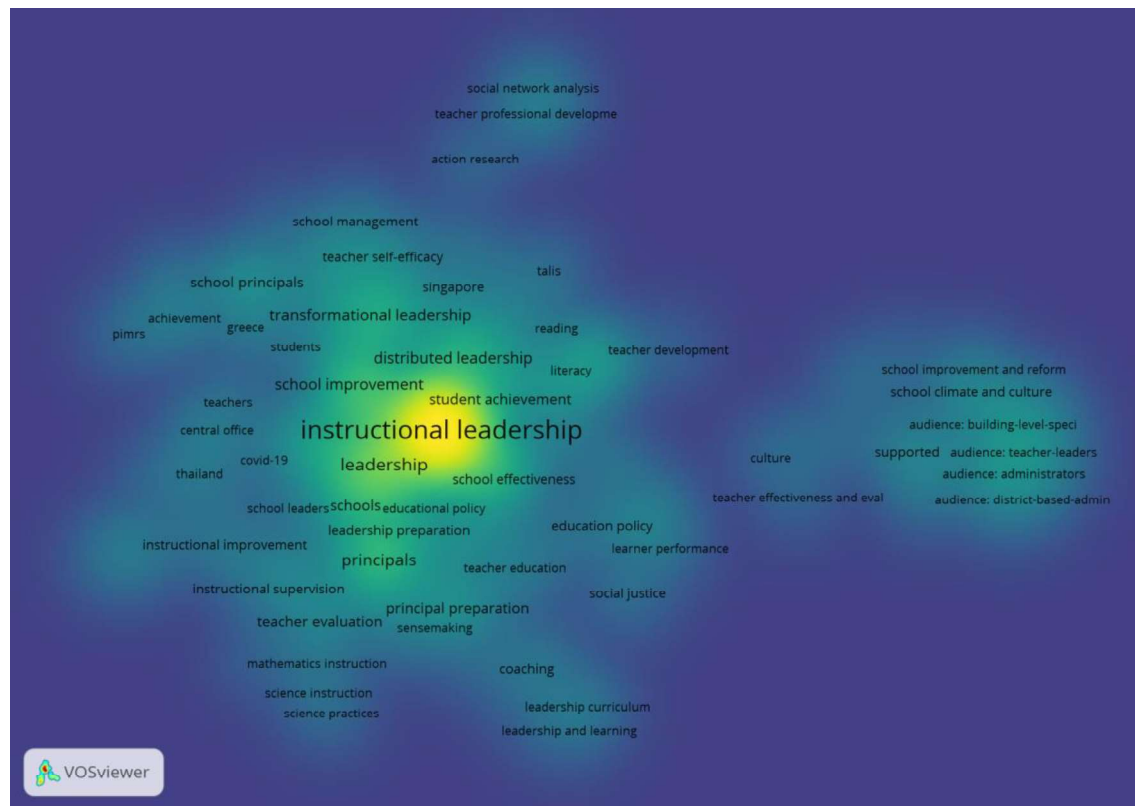


Figure 6. Keywords density visualization of instructional leadership (threshold five occurrences, display 81 keywords).

Discussion

Limitations

Earlier, we highlighted the methodological limitations of this review. Here we wish to add one additional limitation that concerns the generalizability of our findings to the field of instructional leadership. Our study examined a Scopus database of journal articles about instructional leadership. Moreover, co-authorship, citation, co-citation, and co-occurrence analysis enabled the identification of authors, countries, documents, and keywords beyond those contained in our dataset of instructional leadership journal articles. Thus, the results of this review should be interpreted as tentative benchmarks that can be reinterpreted through studies that use alternative methods and against new trends as they develop in the future.

Interpretation of the findings

The bibliometric analysis employed in this review offers a unique perspective on the long-term historical development of instructional leadership. We observed that there had been relationships between authors and

between countries on the topic of instructional leadership. The highest relations between authors amounted to 43 collaborations, and between countries amounted to 44 collaborations. Co-authorship is still an essential indicator of collaborative work and an appropriate means of studying patterns of cooperation (Santos & Santos, 2016). The development of citations from documents and authors on the topic of instructional leadership can be seen from the highest number of citations in documents 1,032 and authors 1,567 citations. To measure the influence of an author or paper, then citation is the most frequently used method since it can quickly identify existing scientific articles (Rashid, 1991; Zupic & Čater, 2015). The author's co-citation visualization of instructional leadership reveals 4 clusters: 1) measuring the instructional leadership, 2) school effectiveness and improvement, 3) the role of the school principal, and 4) leadership for school restructuring, performance and achievement. Co-citation has evolved as a complementary approach to analyzing scholarly impact (Zupic & Čater, 2015). Co-citation is the frequency with which two units (e. g. authors) are cited together in other documents (Small, 1999). Co-citation analysis assumes that when two authors are frequently 'cited together,' they share an intellectual affinity (Small, 1999; Zupic & Čater, 2015). The keyword network visualization for instructional leadership reveals 4 clusters: 1) the impact of instructional leadership on school climate, 2) the application of instructional leadership in school settings, 3) the relationship between instructional leadership and the concept of educational leadership in general, and school principals in particular, 4) instructional leadership efforts in developing teacher professional and leadership and the teaching and learning process which ultimately increases accountability. Co-occurrence analysis to analyze the structure and development of the scientific literature (Chen et al., 2016). The topic of instructional leadership today (in 2020 and the future) focuses more on teacher efficacy, school climate, principal preparation, and teacher professional learning. The overlay visualization is chosen as a more useful tool for verifying recent trends in the academic field as soon as it allows us to classify the items using a timescale (Shvindina, 2019). Instructional leadership is often associated with student achievement, leadership, and school effectiveness. Density visualization can be seen in the keywords that often appear (Hamidah et al., 2020).

Conclusion

Hallinger P. is the author with the most co-authorship networks, and United States is the country with the most co-authorship networks on instructional leadership. The article "The Impact of Leadership on Student Outcomes: An Analysis of the Differential Effects of Leadership Types" by Robinson, V. M. J. (2008) is the article with the highest number of citations. Still, Hallinger P. is the author with the highest number of citations. The author co-citation visualization of instructional leadership reveals 4 clusters: 1) measuring the instructional leadership, 2) school effectiveness and improvement, 3) role of school principal, and 4) leadership for school restructuring, performance and achievement. The keyword network visualization for instructional leadership reveals 4 clusters: 1) the impact of instructional leadership on school climate, 2) the application of instructional leadership in school settings, 3) the relationship of instructional leadership with the concept of educational leadership in general and school principals in particular, 4) instructional leadership efforts in developing teacher professional and leadership and the teaching and learning process which ultimately increases accountability

Recommendations

Future research about instructional leadership focuses more on teacher efficacy, school climate, principal preparation, and teacher professional learning.

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