TOURISM GROWTH: A BIBLIOMETRIC ANALYSIS FROM THE WEB OF SCIENCE (WoS) DATABASE

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Abstract

This study aims to conduct a bibliometric analysis of published studies related to tourism growth. Based on the titles of publications with the phrase "tourism growth" in the title, it was scanned from the Web of Science database. The research findings are limited to the Web of Science database since this is the preferred database. The scanning process did not include any field filtering; therefore a total of 941 publications were found. The source countries of the publications were found to be primarily China, the United States of America, and Turkey. Tourism development, economic growth, and tourism growth are the three most frequently used keywords. Eastern Mediterranean University has the highest average number of citations, while Turkey has the highest number of studies and citations. Furthermore, studies often employ the panel co-integration method. Tourism and economic growth do not appear to have a clear relationship. Based on the sample and time period selected, the findings vary. The study recommends the use of regime-switching models in this area, apart from cointegration and causality analysis.

Keywords: Tourism, Tourism Growth, Bibliometric Analysis, Visualization

JEL Codes: Z30, Z32, Z39

TURİZMDE BÜYÜME: WEB OF SCIENCE (WoS) VERİ TABANINA DAYALI BİBLYOMETRİK BİR ANALİZ

Öz

Bu çalışma, turizm büyümesi ile ilgili yayınlanmış çalışmaların bibliyometrik bir analizini yapmayı amaçlamaktadır. Başlığında “turizm büyümesi” ibaresi bulunan yayınların başlıkları esas alınarak Web of Science veri tabanında tarama yapılmıştır. Araştırma bulguları, Web of Science veri tabanı tercih edildiğinden sadece bu veri tabanı ile sınırlıdır. Tarama işlemi herhangi bir alan filtrelemesi içermemektedir ve toplam 941 yayına ulaşılmıştır. Yayınların kaynak ülkeleri başta Çin olmak üzere Amerika Birleşik Devletleri ve Türkiye olarak tespit edilmiştir. Turizm gelişimi, ekonomik büyüme ve turizm büyümesi en sık kullanılan üç anahtar kelimedir. Doğu Akdeniz Üniversitesi en yüksek ortalama atıf sayısına sahipken, Türkiye en fazla çalışma ve atıf sayısına sahip ülkedir. Ayrıca, çalışmalar genellikle panel eş bütünleşme yöntemini kullanmakta ve turizm ve ekonomik büyüme arasındaki ilişki konusunda net bir sonuca ulaşamamaktadır. Bulgular, seçilen örneklem ve zaman periyoduna bağlı olarak değişiklik göstermektedir. Son olarak, çalışma eş bütünleşme ve nedensellik analizleri dışında rejim değişimi modellerinin kullanılmasını önermektedir.

Anahtar Kelimeler: Turizm, Turizm Büyümesi, Bibliyometrik Analiz, Görselleştirme

JEL Kodları: Z30, Z32, Z39

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1. Introduction

The growth rate of the World Economy has had a downward trend in the last sixty years. It was 3.8 % in 1961 and 2.6 % in 2019 (World Bank, 2023). The numbers indicate that the global economy has slowdown. Hence, many countries are seeking ways to increase their economic growth rates. Tourism is one of the sectors that has contributed significantly to economic growth, especially in Mediterranean countries. Yet, the covid-19 pandemic experienced in 2019 caused severe constriction in the tourism sector, as in many areas, and so 2020 has been the crisis year for the tourism sector (Kışla et al., 2023, p. 40), but as of 2021, the contribution of tourism to the economy started to increase again (Kışla et al., 2023, p. 43). On the other hand, it is not clear whether the causal connection from the tourism sector to economic growth in all the examples. There is also evidence in the literature that causation is in the opposite direction and reciprocal or no causality in the long term (Oh, 2005; Chen & Chiou-Wei, 2009; Katircioglu, 2009).

In the literature, Brida and Pulina (2010) result from an extensive literature survey on the tourism-led growth hypothesis that tourism activity drives economic development in all the countries analyzed. Similarly, Brida et al. (2016) assert that international tourism promotes economic growth, but this is a disputable finding because many studies have contrary or no causality evidence in the literature. For instance, Oh (2005) concluded that the tourism-led growth hypothesis is not valid in the Korean economy. Causality is obtained from economic growth to the tourism sector by the Granger causality test and there is no long-run relationship between them, but Chen and Chiou-Wei (2009) a bilateral causal relationship is found for South Korea. It indicates that findings are changeable. According to Antonakakis et al. (2015), the tourism-led economic growth (TLEG) and the economic-driven tourism growth (EDTG) hypotheses are time-dependent and also highly economic event-dependent. Likewise, Tugcu (2014) emphasized that the direction of the relationship between tourism and growth depends on the selected country group and the tourism indicator.

This paper aims to reveal the retrospective nature of tourism growth studies, and also provide bibliometric data for researchers. In this way, the study aspires to provide producing scientific knowledge and constitutes a general framework of the relevant research field. In this respect, a bibliometric analysis of 941 works referred to tourism growth in the “Web of Science” database between 1984 and 2022 was performed by the VOS (visualization of similarities) viewer program. The reason for choosing this database is that it is older and rooted compared to databases such as Scopus and Google Scholar (Karasözen et al., 2011, p. 244).

2. What is Tourism Growth?

The tourism sector affects the economies in many ways. Brida et al. (2016) summarize the influences of tourism on long-term economic growth in five channels. These; (Brida et al., 2016, p. 396-397).

1. Providing inflow of foreign currency.
2. Playing a significant role in stimulating investments with new infrastructure, employment, and competition.
3. Encouraging other sectors with direct, indirect, and induced effects.
4. Creating jobs and increasing income.
5. Helping lower average costs by taking advantage of economies of scale.

Tourism growth can be discussed from two perspectives, both supply and demand. On the demand side, it contributes to the increase in production, in other words, to economic growth by increasing the demand amount in the economy. However, in this growth model, tourism takes place as exogenous. On the supply side, it is an endogenous variable in countries' economic growth models, especially countries that have notable tourism destinations. However, on both counts, it seems possible to define a tourism-based economic growth model (Brida et al., 2016). Since tourism is a form of export, we can define tourism-led growth inspired by the export-led growth model. Export-led growth is based on two fundamental

assumptions. First, it improves the country's foreign exchange deficits. Second, the increase in exports stimulates more productivity, creating a cycle that increases exports again (McCombie & Thirlwall, 1994). Considering the foreign exchange inflow provided by the tourism sector, it will be the engine of growth when it leads to a cycle as in the export-oriented growth model. However, it is possible as well as tourism-led economic, growth economic growth will lead to tourism growth. Therefore, two hypotheses are defined in the literature on this subject, namely the Tourism-Led Growth (TLG) Hypothesis and Economic Driven Tourism Growth Hypothesis (EDTG) (Kum et al., 2015). The Tourism-Led Growth (TLG) Hypothesis assumes tourism is the fundamental determinant of long-term economic growth. In short, it is the use of foreign currency earned from tourism activities to import capital goods that produce goods and services (Brida et al., 2016). The Economic Driven Tourism Growth Hypothesis (EDTG) refers to unidirectional causality from economic growth to tourism. In sum, economic growth encourages tourism activities. In terms of causality, it is possible to define two hypotheses as Neutrality Hypothesis (Non-Causal-NC) and the Directional Hypothesis (BiCausal-BC). Neutrality Hypothesis (NoCausal-NC) states that there is no relationship between tourism and economic growth. Bidirectional Hypothesis (BiCausal-BC) expresses that there is a causality running from economic growth to tourism and from tourism to economic growth (Kum et al., 2015, p. 1076-1077).

3. Importance of Tourism Development

The importance of the tourism sector comes from its effects on many different industries and areas. The impacts of tourism can be classified into three subgroups such as environmental, social/cultural, and economic (Petruzzi et al., 2023, p. 124). These effects can be either positive or negative. However, in this section, we will focus on the positive effects of tourism to explain its importance for countries.

First of all, improving the visual appearance of the area is one of the positive environmental externalities of tourism. Also, government or policy practitioners protect historical buildings and monuments to ensure the sustainability of tourism (Kreag, 2001, p. 7-8). Protecting nature or the environment or trying to reduce the negative effects on people is another positive environmental impact of tourism. Additionally, tourism has social and cultural effects because people contact each other in direct or indirect ways. This circumstance encourages the people to affect the values and custom of each other and also increases the demand for historical, cultural, and natural places and exhibitions that includes gastronomy, handcrafts, art and music, architecture, language, and religion (Kreag, 2001, p. 8-9; Mason, 2017, p. 102-103; Petruzzi et al., 2023, p. 124). In another respect, economic factors make tourism very important for the countries (Pablo Romero & Molina, 2013, p. 28). Primarily, tourism development will lead to income increases, and it also allows for an increase in living standards. Furthermore, as tourism grows some other industries follow these tendencies and so tourism has multiplier effects directly or indirectly. When the tourism industry progress, tax and visa revenues increase, and accommodation, transportation, food and beverage sector, and construction industries grow with tourism. Tourism also increases employment opportunities and creates additional jobs and facilities (Smeral, 1995, p. 20-21; Kreag, 2001, p. 6-7). In brief, tourism development provides job opportunities, investment, infrastructure and superstructure facilities, and development. Hence, all these economic activities concerning tourism activities support economic growth.

Finally, all the positive social, cultural, environmental, and economic effects demonstrate the importance of the tourism sector for the countries. In this respect, the working paper or studies in this field have substantial for literature to inform the researcher about these global effects.

4. Method and Data Set

The term bibliometrics was first used in 1969 in Alan Pritchard's article entitled "Statistical Bibliography or Bibliometrics?" (Pritchard, 1969). Bibliometric analysis is a very popular method to investigate a large amount of scientific data. Citation and publication numbers and the distribution of keywords or topics tend to be objective by the nature of large volumes of data in the bibliometric analysis. Interpretations are based on purposes such as performance analysis and thematic analysis, with knowledge-based techniques and procedures (Donthu et al., 2021, p. 285).

The method of this research is bibliometry because of revealing the retrospective nature of tourism growth studies. It is aimed that this study will be a guide to see the shortcomings in the literature. To reach this aim VOSviewer (visualization of similarities) and Excel programs are used in this study to display the relationship between sources, document types, countries, publishing years, and research areas. We preferred the WoS database because it focuses on social sciences in publication content (Jacso, 2005). In addition, the WoS database goes into more detail on the social sciences, arts, and humanities topics compared to the Scopus database (Karasözen et al., 2011: 244). It comprises SSCI, ESCI, SCI-EXPANDED, CPCI-SSH, BKCI-SSH, CPCI-S, and A&HCI indexes, and there is no limit for any categories in the WoS database. Only in the time dimension, 2022 is taken as the last year. The nine hundred forty-one studies data in the WoS were obtained as a file on January 23, 2023.

VOSviewer's mapping is an alternative technique to multidimensional scaling (Van Eck et al., 2010, p. 2405). This program can be used to create maps such as citation networks (Sinkovics, 2016, p. 332). The VOSviewer mapping technique effectively regards with large numbers of null data particularly (Van Eck et al., 2010). Vosviewer combines techniques such as visual mapping, clustering of objects, and selection and subtraction (Lee et al., 2014, p. 340). Network visualization exhibits images and vision according to their importance. The large identification or circle implies that the period is more substantial (Sinkovics, 2016, p. 333). A high numerical link strength value shows intense ties between items (Perianes-Rodriguez et al., 2016). Closer articles in the map mean similar phrases, abstracts, and titles (Lee et al., 2014).

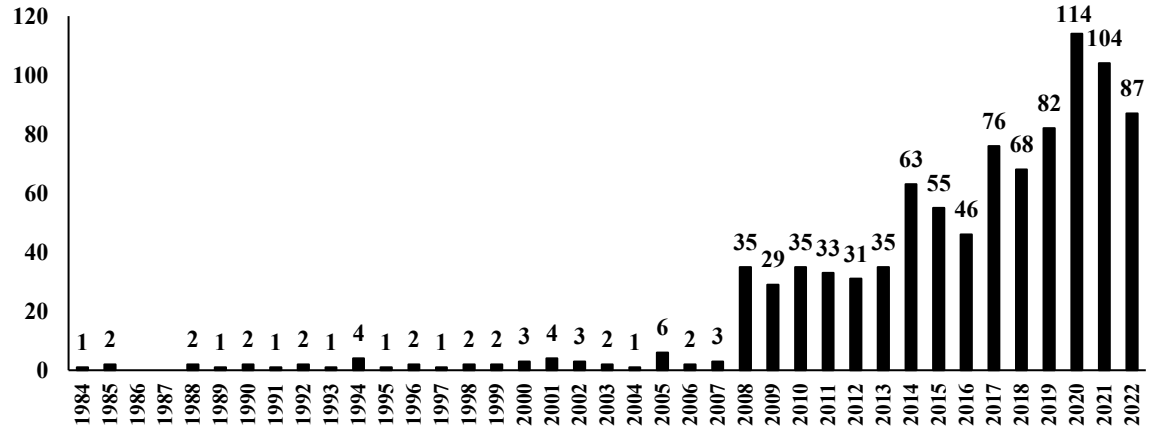
5. Findings

The bibliometric analysis of the data from Web of Science (WoS) is divided into two parts numerical analysis of data and keywords co-occurrences.

5.1. Numerical Analysis of Data

There are 941 studies on "tourism growth" title in 1984-2022. The first paper was published in 1984, and the number of papers rise after 2007. Figure 1 shows the quantitative distribution of studies.

Figure 1. The Number of Tourism Growth Studies, 1984–2022.



Source: Created by author.

There are 941 studies, and 96.17 % of the total are in English (905). Other languages are Spanish (24), German (2), Portuguese (2), Turkish (2), Chinese (1), French (1), Icelandic (1), Lithuanian (1), Slovak (1) and Unspecified (1). 77.78 % of these studies are articles. Other types are proceeding papers, chapters, book reviews, editorial material, review articles, and books in Table 1.

Table 1. Distribution of the Type of Publications

Document Type	N	Share (%)
Article	732	77.78
Proceedings Paper	111	11.80
Book Chapters	44	4.68
Book Review	26	2.76
Editorial Material	14	1.49
Review Article	11	1.17
Book	3	0.32
Total	**941**	**100**

Table 1 shows the number and the type of publications. Studies grouped only one or multiple research categories. Tourism growth issue has intrigued economists and also tourism researchers. Many of the studies (461 of total) take place in Hospitality, Leisure, Sport & Tourism, and (432 of total) economics (261), business (71), and management (100).

Table 2. Journals Ranked by Total Publications

Rank	Journal	Quantity	Citations	Number of Average Citations
1	Tourism Economics	75	2033	27.10
2	Current Issues in Tourism	41	1540	37.56
3	Tourism Management	37	3733	100.89
4	Sustainability	30	363	12.1
5	Environmental Science and Pollution Research	22	519	23.59
6	Annals of Tourism Research	20	676	33.8
7	International Journal of Tourism Research	19	896	47.15
8	Asia Pacific Journal of Tourism Research	17	395	23.23
9	Journal of Travel Research	16	907	56.68
10	Journal of Sustainable Tourism	16	584	36.5

Table 2 shows the top 10 journals ranked by total publications. Most cited journals have focused on different issues. In general, the Tourism Economics journal includes articles about the tourism growth model, the tie between tourism and economic growth, and testing the validity of the tourism-led growth hypothesis like *Tourism Management* and *Current Issue in Tourism*. Yet, the articles in *Current Issue in Tourism* also focus on sustainability of tourism specifically. According to the citation performance, *Tourism Management* is the leader 100.89 citations per paper on average.

Table 3. Most Cited Papers

Rank	Author/s	Title	Journal	Year	Citations
1	Balaguer and Cantavella-Jorda	Tourism as a Long-Run Economic Growth Factor: The Spanish Case	Applied Economics	2002	707
2	Lee and Chang	Tourism Development and Economic Growth: A Closer Look at Panels	Tourism Management	2008	492
3	Oh	The Contribution of Tourism Development to Economic Growth in the Korean Economy	Tourism Management	2005	492

4	Lee and Brahmasrene	Investigating the Influence of Tourism on Economic Growth and Carbon Emissions: Evidence from Panel Analysis of the European Union	Tourism Management	2013	347
5	Katircioglu	Revisiting the Tourism-Led-Growth Hypothesis for Turkey Using the Bounds Test and Johansen Approach for Cointegration	Tourism Management	2009	320
6	Gunduz and Hatemi-J	Is the Tourism-Led Growth Hypothesis Valid for Turkey?	Applied Economics Letters	2005	315
7	Paramati et al.	The Effects of Tourism on Economic Growth and CO2 Emissions: A Comparison between Developed and Developing Economies	Journal of Travel Research	2017	246
8	Brida et al.	Has the Tourism-Led Growth Hypothesis been Validated? A Literature Review	Current Issues in Tourism	2016	238
9	Schubert et al.	The Impacts of International Tourism Demand on Economic Growth of Small Economies Dependent on Tourism	Tourism Management	2011	199
10	Tugcu	Tourism and Economic Growth Nexus Revisited: A Panel Causality Analysis for the Case of the Mediterranean Region	Tourism Management	2014	196

Table 3 shows the most cited studies in the literature. Top most cited papers investigated very different economies such as Turkey, Spain, Korea, various Mediterranean, European, and OECD countries, etc. Balaguer and Cantavella-Jorda (2002) investigate the function of tourism in the long-run period for economic development for Spain in 1975Q1-1997Q1. Gross Domestic Product (GDP) and tourism receipts are included in the model as dependent and independent variables, respectively. The real effective exchange rate is a proxy variable of external competitiveness. As a result of the analysis, a long-term relationship was determined between tourism and economic growth and this result supports the tourism-led growth hypothesis in the Spanish case. Lee and Chang (2008) is another study that performs cointegration analysis for OECD and non-OECD countries (including those in Asia, Latin America, and Sub-Sahara Africa) for the 1990–2002 period. This investigation found a long-term relationship between tourism and economic growth on a global scale. Oh (2005) used, a similar method, the Engle and Granger two-stage approach, and a bivariate Vector Autoregression (VAR) model to examine tourism growth and economic expansion in the Korean economy for the period 1975Q1 – 2001Q1. According to the results, the tourism-led economic growth hypothesis is not valid in the Korean economy. Similarly, for Turkey, according to Katircioglu (2009), the tourism-led growth (TLG) hypothesis is not valid in the 1960-2006 period. However, Gunduz and Hatemi-J (2005) support the tourism-led growth hypothesis in the 1963-2002 period empirically. Another study by Schubert et al. (2011) confirms that causality is from international tourism demand to the per capita GDP of Antigua and Barbuda for the 1970-2008 period. Also, Tugcu (2014) supports the tourism-led growth hypothesis for the Mediterranean region. It has also been reached that the causality between tourism and economic growth depends on the country group and tourism indicator. According to Brida et al. (2016), who reviewed nearly 100 studies, empirical findings propose that international tourism drives economic growth, with few exceptions. On the other side, Lee and Brahmasrene (2013) and Paramati et al. (2017) investigate the effect of tourism on economic growth and CO2 emissions in the 1998-2009 and 1995-2012 periods, respectively. According to Lee and Brahmasrene (2013), tourism which has positive impact on economic growth, effect CO2 emissions negatively in European Union Countries. Paramati et al. (2017) used panel data analysis technics to examine the influence of tourism on economic growth and CO2 emission for 26 developed and 18 developing countries in 1995-2012. Their findings supported the tourism-led economic growth hypothesis and, in addition to this, emissions for not only developed but also developing countries.

Table 4. The Density of Main Research Countries

Rank	Country	Quantity	Citations	Number of Average Citations
1	People's Republic of China	178	2658	14.93
2	United States of America	105	3142	29.92
3	Turkey	69	2983	43.23
4	England	69	1731	25.08
5	Spain	68	2631	38.69
6	Malaysia	50	1528	30.56
7	Australia	48	1158	24.12
8	Pakistan	40	963	24.07
9	Italy	37	1464	39.56
10	Croatia	33	281	8.51

Table 4 indicates the main research countries. The most productive country is China according to the table, but the USA and Turkey are abundant for the number and average number of citations criteria, respectively.

Figure 2. The Network of Main Research Countries

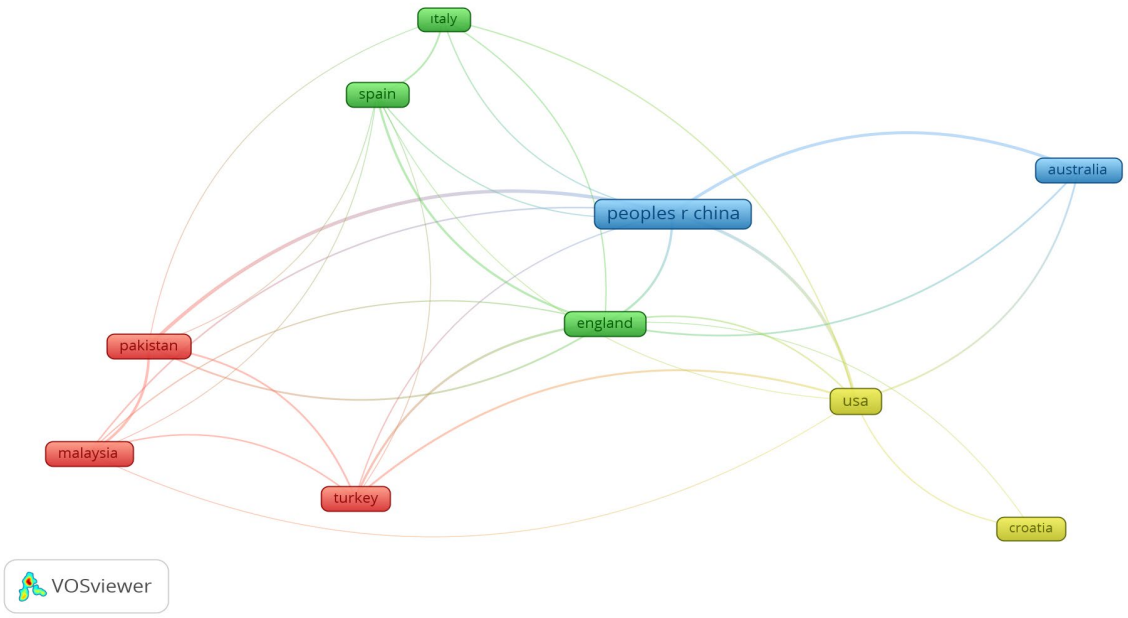


Figure 2 shows networks between the countries. We chose 32 documents for threshold in the co-authorship analysis for the top 10 research countries. China is in a prominent position, and there 4 clusters for co-authorship networks.

Cluster 1 (red): Malaysia, Pakistan, and Turkey.
Cluster 2 (green): England, Italy, and Spain.
Cluster 3 (blue): Australia and China.
Cluster 4 (yellow): Croatia and The USA.

Table 5. Organizations Ranked by Number of Average Citations

Rank	Organization	Country	Quantity	Citations	Number of Average Citations
1	Eastern Mediterranean University	Turkish Republic of Northern Cyprus	23	1457	63.34
2	Free University of Bozen-Bolzano	Italy	15	699	46.60
3	Griffith University	Australia	11	431	39.18
4	University of Portsmouth	England	10	336	33.60
5	Bournemouth University	England	13	436	33.53
6	University of Science, Malaysia	Malaysia	17	570	33.52
7	Sun Yat-sen University	People's Republic of China	12	286	23.83
8	The University of the South Pacific	Fiji	18	287	15.94
9	The Hong Kong Polytechnic University	Hong Kong	13	187	14.38
10	Changwon National University	South Korea	10	102	10.2

Table 5 includes the most cited organizations. Surprisingly, there are not many institutions from productive countries. While there is only one university from Turkey and China, there are no institutions from the USA.

5.2. Keywords Co-occurrences Analysis

There are 1978 keywords in tourism growth studies from the WoS database in our study. VOSviewer program selected keywords with a full counting method. Table 6 represents the top 10 keywords.

Table 6. The Top 10 Co-occurrences

Rank	Key Words	Occurrences	Total Link Strength
1	Economic Growth	308	570
2	Tourism	236	387
3	Tourism Development	62	106
4	Granger Causality	48	125
5	Cointegration	34	93
6	Causality	33	80
7	Tourism-led Growth Hypothesis	33	49
8	Tourism Growth	28	23
9	Sustainable Tourism	27	39
10	Sustainable Development	26	37

As a result of the literature review with the words "tourism growth" in the titles, it is not surprising that the first two most repeated keywords are economic growth and tourism, respectively. The keywords causality, granger causality, and cointegration also show that cointegration and causality analysis methods are used in the relevant literature. The keyword Tourism-led Growth Hypothesis also indicates that studies focus on the relationship between tourism and economic growth. Considering the methods,

it is clear that studies in this field focus on the long-term relationship between economic growth and tourism. Finally, the keywords "sustainable tourism" and "sustainable development" indicate that one of the main focuses of the subject is sustainability.

Figure 3. The Top 10 Keywords Co-Occurrence Network of Tourism Growth Studies

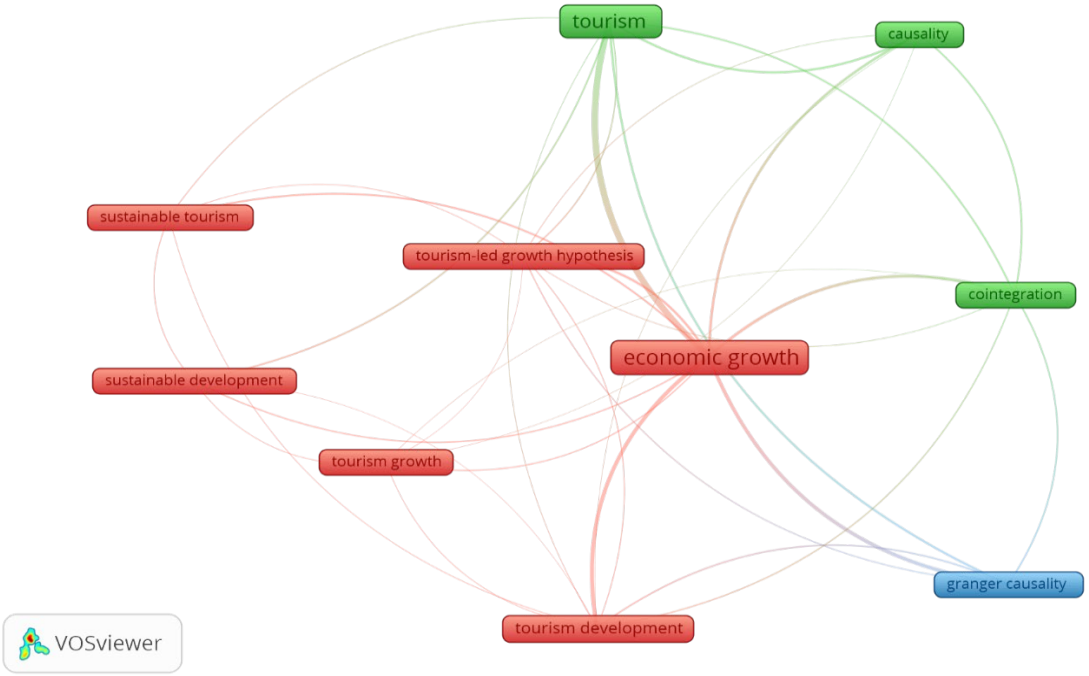


Figure 3 shows the top 10 keywords. The size of the node and the connections between them refer to the number of repeated and links, respectively. We chose 26 occurrences for threshold in the co-occurrence analysis. There are ten nodes, 34 total links, and 378 total link strengths associated with tourism growth in Figure 3. The above keywords related to tourism growth constitute 3 clusters.

Cluster 1 (red): Economic Growth, Sustainable Development, Sustainable Tourism, Tourism Development, Tourism Growth, Tourism-Led Growth Hypothesis.

Cluster 2 (green): Causality, Cointegration, Tourism.

Cluster 3 (blue): Granger Causality.

Table 7. Number of Links The Top Three Keywords

Rank	Economic Growth (9 Links) With	Link Strength	Tourism (8 Links) With	Link Strength	Tourism Development (8 Links) With	Link Strength
1	Tourism	109	Economic Growth (to Tourism)	109	Economic Growth (to Tourism Development)	40
2	Tourism Development	40	Causality (to Tourism)	16	Granger Causality (to Tourism Development)	7
3	Granger Causality	36	Granger Causality (to Tourism)	15	Cointegration	5
4	Cointegration (to Economic Growth)	24	Cointegration (to Tourism)	10	Tourism-led Growth Hypothesis	3

5	Causality (to Economic Growth)	19	Sustainable Development (to Tourism)	8	Tourism (to Tourism Development)	2
6	Tourism-led Growth Hypothesis	16	Tourism-led Growth Hypothesis	5	Tourism Growth	2
7	Sustainable Tourism	10	Sustainable Tourism (to Tourism)	3	Sustainable Tourism (to Tourism Development)	2
8	Sustainable Development	5	Tourism Development	2	Sustainable Development (to Tourism Development)	1
9	Tourism Growth	4				

Table 7 represents the link strength between the top 3 keywords. Economic growth is associated with nine keywords. Tourism and tourism development are related to eight keywords. The link strength of tourism development with economic growth is lower than the link strength between tourism and economic growth.

6. Conclusion

This article aimed to contribute to both tourism and economics literature with the bibliometric analysis of studies that discuss the relationship between tourism and economic growth. In this investigation, reaching 941 articles even by scanning the phrase "tourism growth" in the title shows how broad the literature on the subject is. The fact that more than 10 thousand publications were reached as a result of searching the same phrase in all fields of the topic indicates an entire corpus related to the tourism-economic growth relationship. The findings obtained in this study are limited because the WoS database was preferred and only the titles were scanned.

The first of the studies in the WoS database was published in 1984. It shows that the literature is not very old. One of the significant findings is the rise in the number of studies on the relationship between economic growth and tourism after 2007. It is thought that the search for accelerating economic growth after the 2007-2008 global crisis may play a role in this increase. In this sense, it is a significant research question whether the number of studies on this subject is affected by the economic developments in the world conjuncture. On the other hand, the common feature of the most cited articles is that most of them do panel data analysis. In addition, the most repeated words Granger Causality, Cointegration, and Causality indicate that cointegration analysis, which investigates long-term relationships, is used as a method. Although it is tried to reach a generalization with panel data sets containing many countries, it is clear that there is no consensus in the literature about the relationship between economic growth and tourism. The results differ according to the selected sample and period. Thereby, it is clear that it is not always an effective method for policymakers to focus on the tourism sector to trigger economic growth.

On the other side, the results for the countries of origin are striking. Turkey, which is the country that produces the most publications with 69 studies, also ranks first in the number of citations per publication. It is also a remarkable finding that the institution producing the most publications is Eastern Mediterranean University from the Turkish Republic of Northern Cyprus. In addition, it is a significant limitation that the study only searches for the tourism growth phrase and only in the title. Therefore, it may be recommended to repeat the analysis with keywords such as tourism development and tourism-led growth hypothesis for future studies. Finally, a significant shortcoming of the literature is that studies only use a limited number of empirical methods like cointegration and causality analysis. In this sense, using various empirical methods (e.g. regime switching and threshold models) to deduce the tourism-

growth relationship in future studies will be a substantial contribution to the progress of the literature. This study contributes to the literature by suggesting methods such as regime switching and threshold model in addition to causality and cointegration analyses in tourism and economic growth studies.

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