

The rapid rise in bibliometric analysis of scholarly production

Ellegaard, Ole

Publication date:
2021

Document version:
Final published version

Document license:
Unspecified

Citation for pulished version (APA):
Ellegaard, O. (2021). *The rapid rise in bibliometric analysis of scholarly production*. Poster session presented at Nordic Workshop on Bibliometrics and Research Policy 2021, Odense, Denmark.

Go to publication entry in University of Southern Denmark's Research Portal

Terms of use

This work is brought to you by the University of Southern Denmark.
Unless otherwise specified it has been shared according to the terms for self-archiving.
If no other license is stated, these terms apply:

- You may download this work for personal use only.
- You may not further distribute the material or use it for any profit-making activity or commercial gain
- You may freely distribute the URL identifying this open access version

If you believe that this document breaches copyright please contact us providing details and we will investigate your claim.
Please direct all enquiries to puresupport@bib.sdu.dk



THE RAPID RISE IN BIBLIOMETRIC ANALYSIS OF SCHOLARLY PRODUCTION



Ole Ellegaard, Research Librarian, Emeritus. University Library of Southern Denmark

Abstract

Bibliometric analysis (BA) is increasingly used to evaluate the literature in various scientific as well as applied fields. Recent data shows an almost exponential increase in the number of published BAs. The area is now dominated by scholars with affiliations outside the traditional LIS (Library and Information Science).

We analyse and discuss the production as well as the impact of the literature that uses bibliometric analysis. This may shed light on who are newcomers to the field and what motivates their use of bibliometric methods.

Topics studied

Glänzel: Issues of bibliometric standards in bibliometric research

Wallin: Methodological discussions

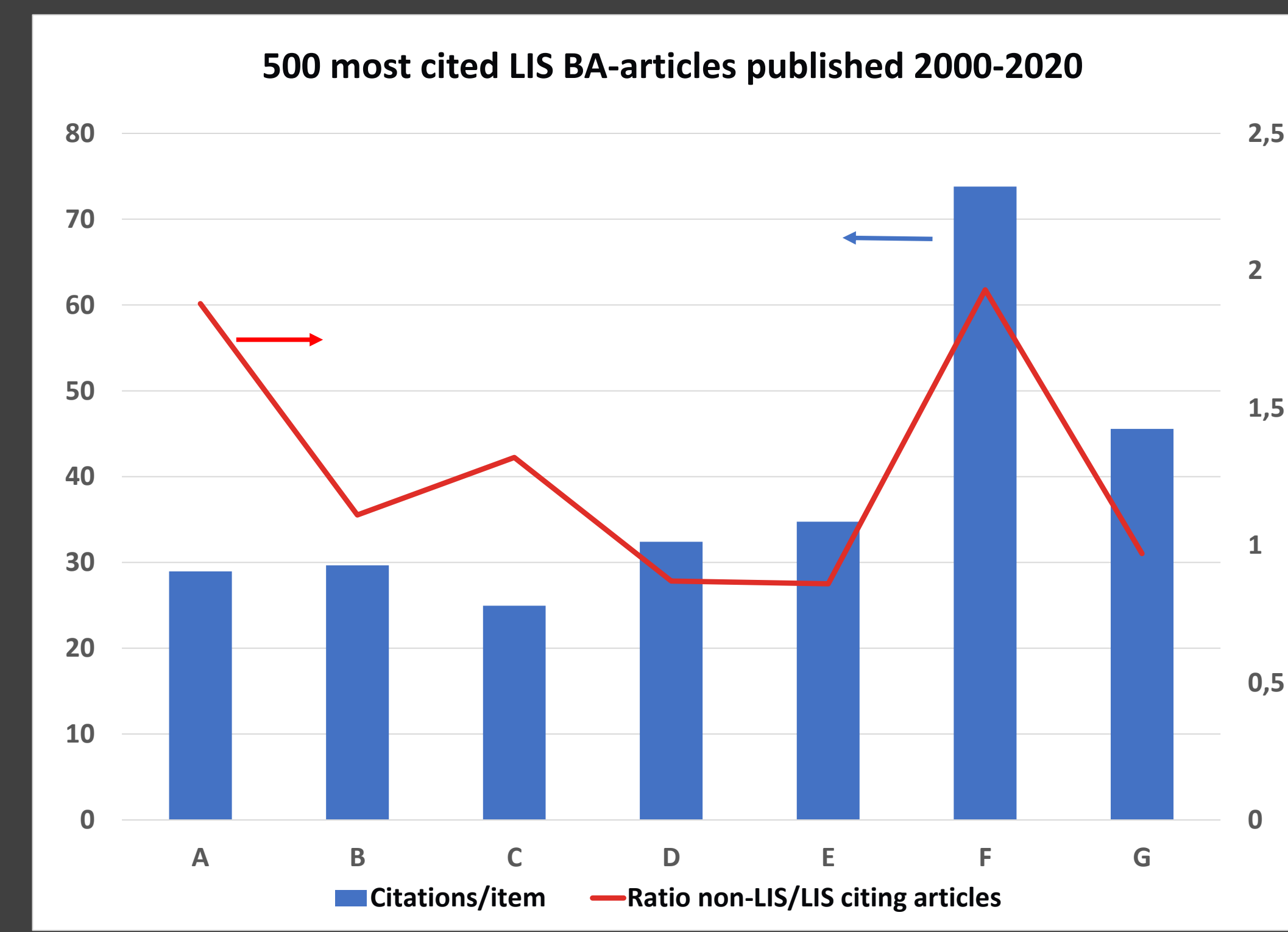
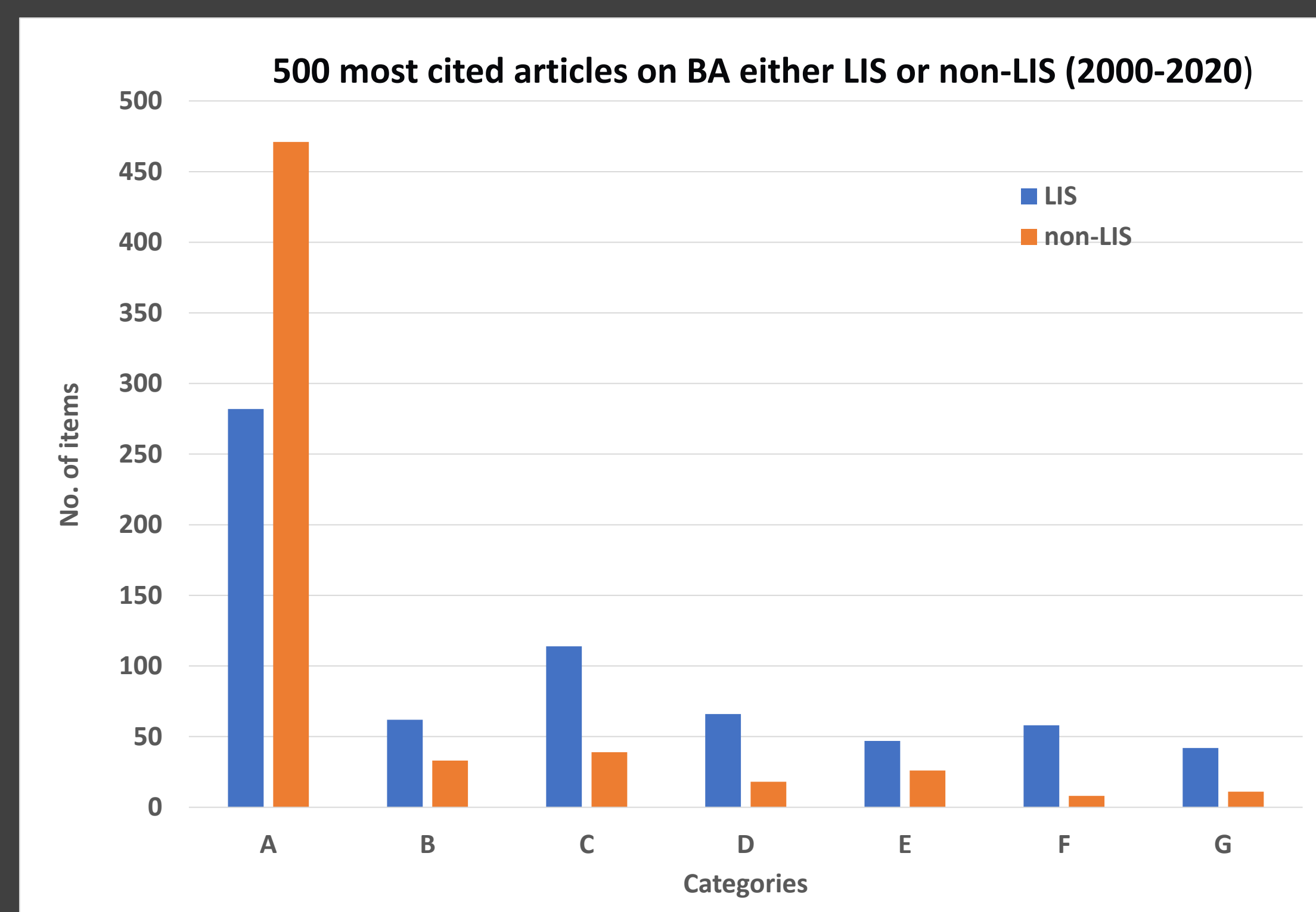
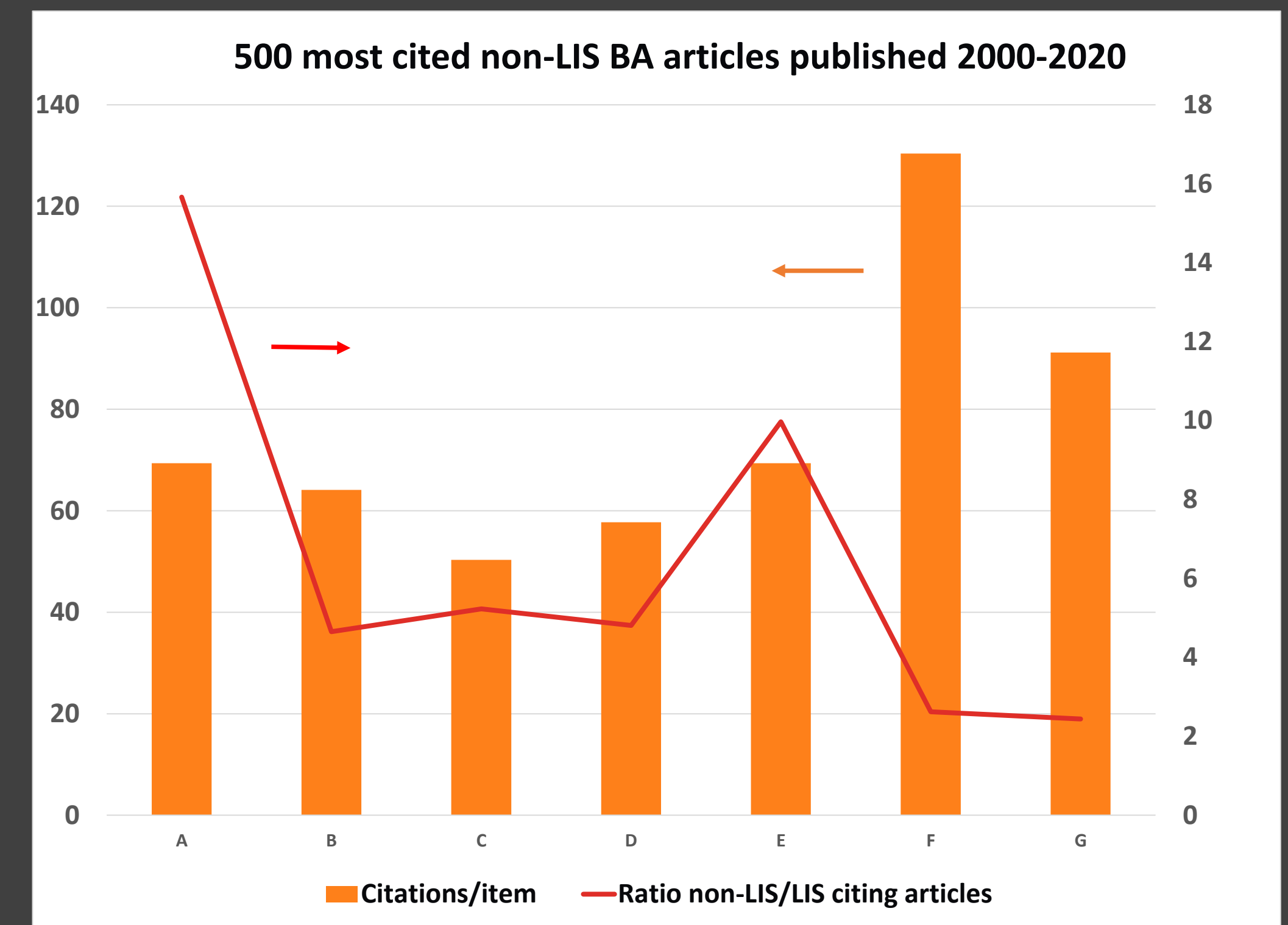
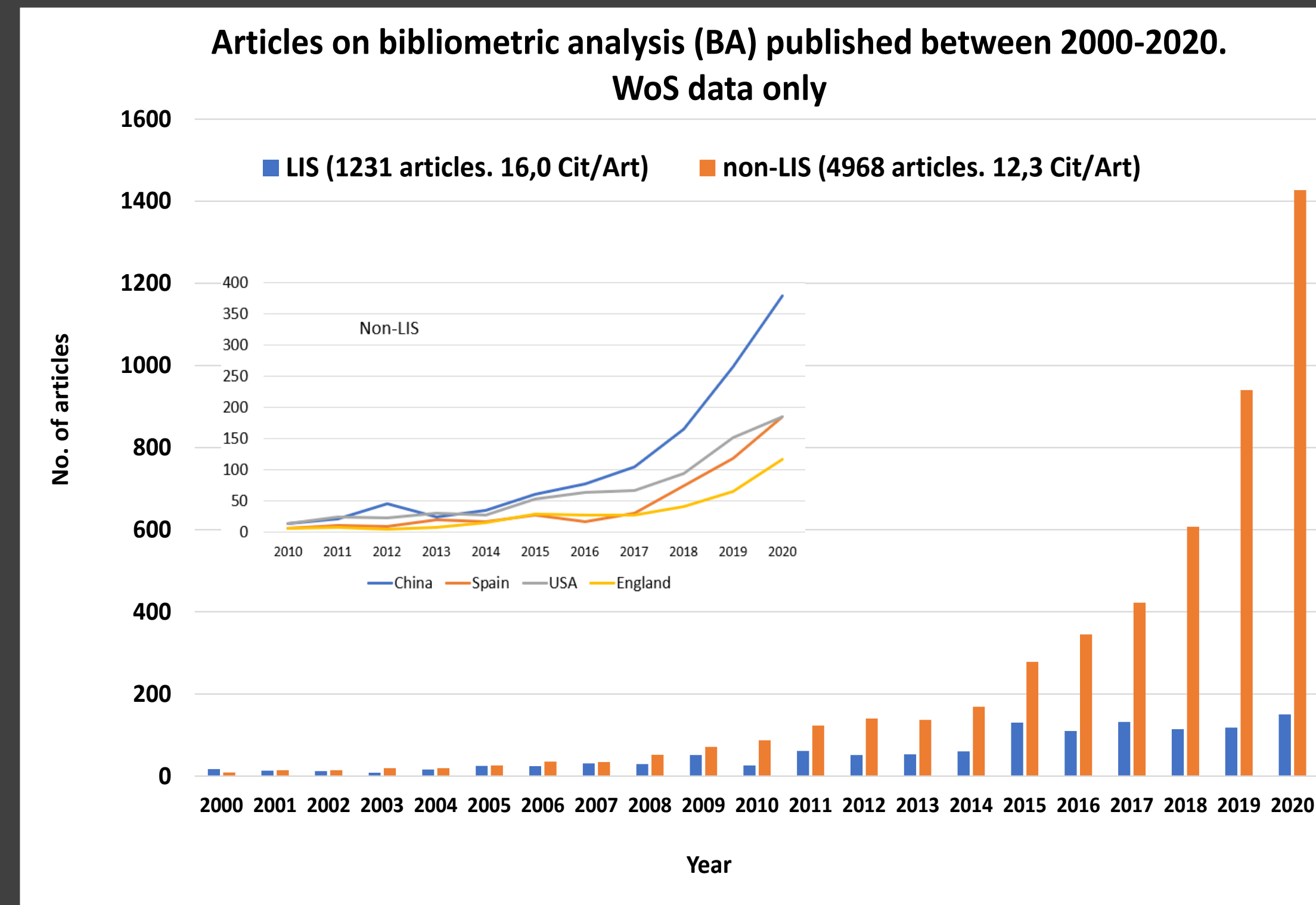
Hicks et al: Leiden manifesto. Proliferation of metrics

Derrick et al, Ellegaard et al: Gain insight by analyzing characteristics of bibliometrics research and the field's development within and outside of the specialist LIS literature. Co-operation between LIS and non-LIS groups

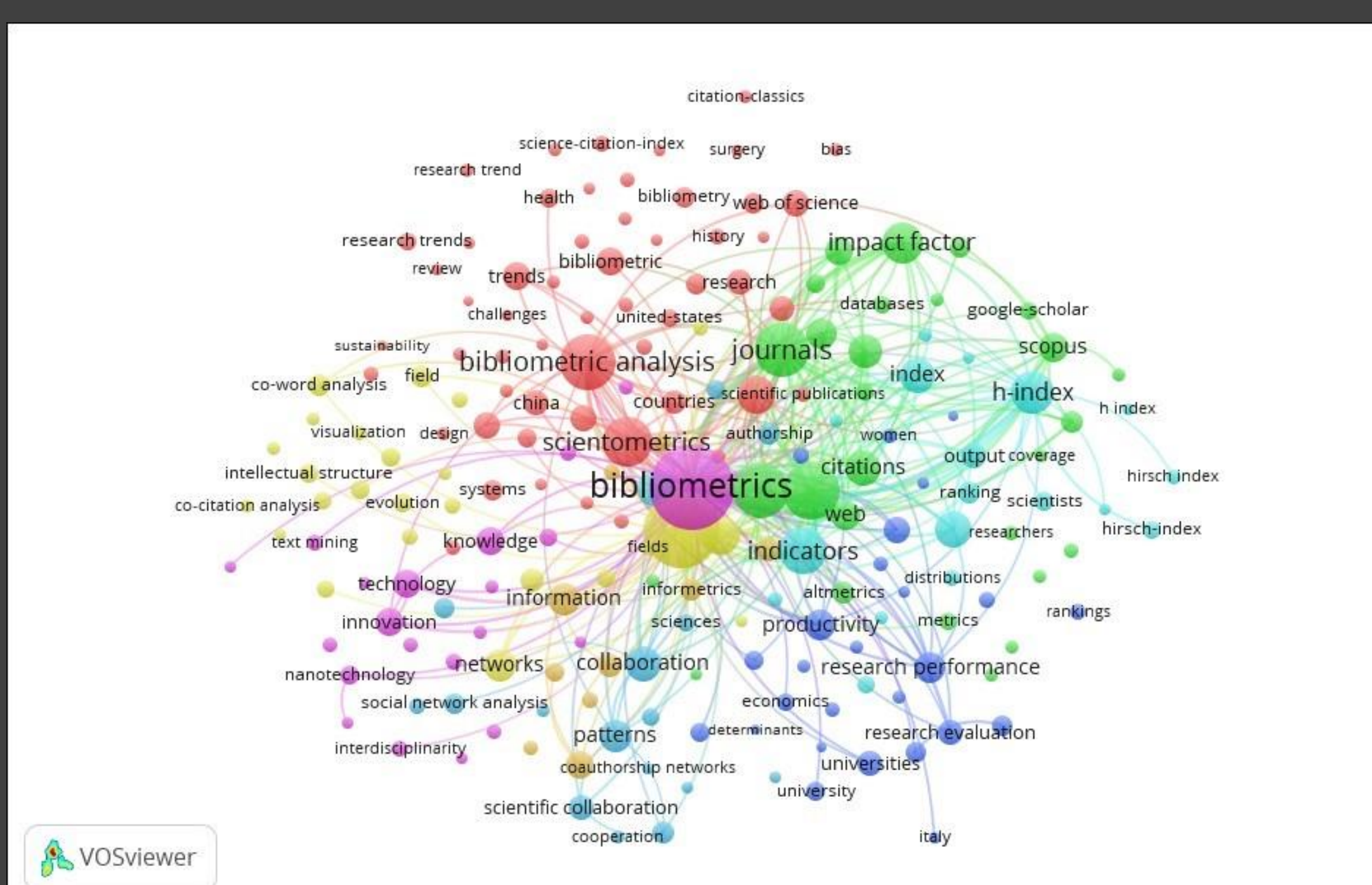
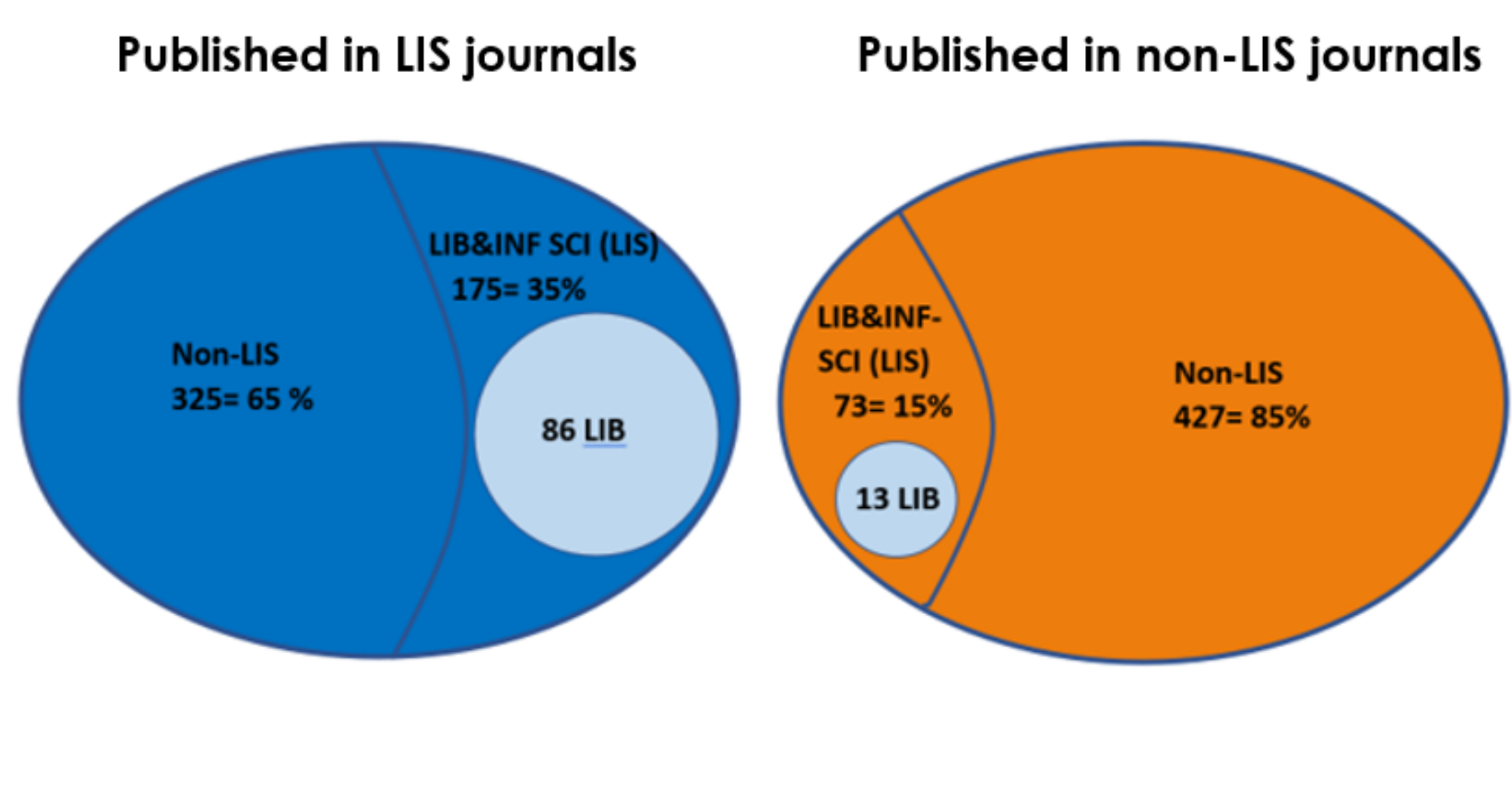
González-Alcaide: Discusses the importance of the very large increase in numbers of bibliometric analyses. Observes a large number of transient authors and links it to possible 'opportunistic' behaviour.

Bibliometric categories

- A** Analyses a field or topic
- B** Analyse journals or databases
- C** Analyse countries
- D** Analyses a researcher, group or organisation
- E** Analyses collaboration, networks or author behaviour
- F** Analyses, develops, discusses or improves bibliometric indicators, methods, theory or law
- G** Discusses policy implications, the merits (or not) of bibliometrics, peer review issues or evaluation systems
- H** Analyses patents



Which professional groups publish articles on bibliometric analysis? 500 most cited articles 2000-2020



Conclusion

Since 2014, one observes a staggering growth in the numbers of bibliometric analysis especially in the category: Analyses a field or topic. It necessitates more than ever the discussion about the use of bibliometric methods. We found that this discussions still takes place mainly in LIS journals although LIS articles on bibliometric indicators and methods are well cited in the non-LIS literature. So called 'up-and-coming' countries are well represented in the field. Recent analysis has shown that newcomers in the field as well as easy availability of data could play a role in the rapid rise in the numbers of bibliometric analysis. A new book even tries to standardize the method (Ahmi, A. 2021, Bibliometric Analysis for Beginners. To be published)

References

1. Glänzel, W. (1996). The need for standards in bibliometric research and technology. *Scientometrics*, 35(2), 167–176
2. Hicks, D., Wouters, P., Waltman, L., De Rijcke, S., & Rafols, I. (2015). The Leiden manifesto for research metrics. *Nature*, 520(7548), 429..
3. Wallin, J. A. (2005). Bibliometric methods: Pitfalls and possibilities. *Basic & Clinical Pharmacology & Toxicology* 97(5), 261–275
4. Derrick, G., Jonkers, K., & Lewison, G. (2012). Characteristics of bibliometrics articles in library and information sciences (LIS) and other journals. In *Proceedings, 17th int. conference on science and technology indicators*, 449–551;
- Ellegaard, O. & Wallin, J.A. (2015). The bibliometric analysis of scholarly production: How great is the impact? *Scientometrics* 105: 1809-1831.
5. González-Alcaide, G.(2021). Bibliometric studies outside the information science and library science field: uncontrollable or uncontrollable. *Scientometrics* 126: 6837–6870