Review of: "A Bibliometric Review of CSR in China Based on CNKI Database: 2006-2022"

Sadia Samar Ali[1]

1 King Abdul Aziz University

Potential competing interests: No potential competing interests to declare.

Introduction: The paper titled "A Bibliometric Review of CSR in China Based on CNKI Database: 2006-2022" provides a comprehensive analysis of corporate social responsibility (CSR) in China over a 16-year period. Utilizing bibliometric techniques and data from the Chinese National Knowledge Infrastructure (CNKI) database, the authors explore various dimensions of CSR research in China, including publication trends, without considering research areas, and influential authors and institutions.

Strengths:

1. Rigorous Methodology: The paper employs a bibliometric approach without using established techniques to analyse a large dataset from the CNKI database. By focusing on objective bibliographic data, the research provides an unbiased and comprehensive overview of CSR research in China.
2. Comprehensive Data Analysis: The authors extract valuable insights from a broad range of variables, including publication growth, keyword analysis, author collaboration networks, and citation patterns. However, it is not a comprehensive analysis that enables a holistic understanding of the evolution and trends in CSR research in China.
3. Contribution to Knowledge: The study fills a critical research gap by offering an extensive review of CSR literature in China. This paper does not serve as a valuable resource for scholars, policymakers, and practitioners interested in understanding the development and current state of CSR in the Chinese context.

Suggestions for improvement:

1. It would be easier to understand and repeat the study if there was more information about the exact search terms, criteria for including or excluding items, and data extraction process. The paper only gives a brief overview of the bibliometric approach.
2. Contextualise Findings: The paper does a good job of analysing the landscape of CSR research, but it would be helpful to have more conversations about what the trends and patterns mean and how they fit into the bigger picture. The paper could make a bigger contribution if it went into more detail about the possible causes of the changes that were seen and how they relate to the larger conversation about CSR in China.

Additional Comments: The paper exhibits a clear structure and organisation, allowing readers to easily navigate the study's findings. The extensive use of figures, tables, and visuals enhances the clarity of the analysis and aids in visualising the research trends and patterns are not done. The authors also do not acknowledge the limitations of their

study, such as potential biases resulting from the CNKI database selection and the exclusion of non-Chinese-language articles.

The paper does not make a strong contribution to the existing literature on CSR in China. Its strong methodology and thorough analysis are missing, but they could have given us useful information about the growth, main areas of focus, and important people who have contributed to CSR research in China. The study's findings and recommendations would be of significant interest to both academic researchers and practitioners seeking to better understand the evolution and current state of CSR in China.