

METAVERSE THE NEXT RENAISSANCE OF FINANCIAL INCLUSION: SCIENTIFIC MAPPING AND FUTURE RESEARCH DIRECTIONS

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ABSTRACT

"Fintech" or "financial technology" a new age covering the area of financial services industry. Revolutions in technology has opened new paradigm and one such paradigm is "Metaverse". The term "metaverse" was given by Neal Stephenson in his work Snow Crash during 1992. It has the potential to provide a unique and immersive experience unlike anything else on the Internet. Hence, in the present study we have tried to map the existing literature on new avatar of financial services i.e., fintech. The present study is bibliometric for which the documents are extracted from Scopus database. After exclusion of the incomplete information, we have analysed 432 set of documents. Basic performance analysis and science mapping have been attempted to explore the key areas and themes in this domain. Author impact reveals the most influential authors working in the area of fintech. The findings reveals that there has been exponential increase in studies in the area of fintech after 2016 and it has been maximum during the COVID-19 pandemic times. Blockchain, innovation, financial services, Fintech and banking are the key areas in which researchers have focussed their work. Studies suggested various key research areas where more can be done to explore more of fintech.

Keywords: Fintech, Financial technology, literature review, bibliometric analysis,

1. Introduction

Information technology progressions posit a powerful bearing on day-to-day life leading to transformation and augmenting humanoid touch, communiqué besides societal relationships. From the perception of endoperators, three significant technological invention cycles have been documented. These

waves were successively revolved around advancement of special computers, the Cyberspace, and wireless devices (Mystakidis, 2021). The fourth wave of technological invention is presently being propelled by multidimensional, immersive technologies like *simulated 3-D environment* and *augmented reality (AR)*. The "Metaverse", a novel revolution that

this wave is likely to produce for pervasive which has computing, the ability revolutionize electronic commerce, teaching, and theatre. The metaverse is a computer industry notion for the next incarnation of the internet. It is a unique, distributed, holistic, enduring, three - dimensional virtual arena where users can engage with computergenerated items and avatars in ways, they are unable to do in the real world (Tucci, 2022). This has the potential to provide a unique and immersive experience unlike anything else on the internet. Metaverse can be used to create virtual worlds that mirror reality or to create entirely new and imaginary worlds. A shared, immersive virtual environment known as a "metaverse" allows its users, who represented by avatars, to engage in a variety of activities (Vidal-Tomás, 2022). Author Neal Stephenson first utilized the term "metaverse" in his book Snow Crash published in 1992 (Sparkes, 2022), that work on the systems which support an internet based on virtual reality has been ongoing for decades.

For the overall and inclusive development of any economy, it is imperative to include each and every section of society under the umbrella of financial system (Singh & Tandon, 2012). Majority of households lack access to finance mainly due to low level of financial literacy (Tandon & Singh, 2021). Moreover, number of commercial bank branches also pay significant role in explaining level of financial inclusion (Tripathi, Tandon & Yadav, 2019). Surprisingly, increased access to finance also contributes towards lower environmental quality (Singh, Tandon & Jasuja, 2022). Hence, interest has shifted towards the digitally transformed financial services. Although there are countless chances for the financial services sector in the present, the renaissance's value creation may serve as the best comparison. Due to the transformative potential and experiences that the Metaverse provides to customers and businesses worldwide, interest in it has recently increased (Cho, Dieck & Jung, 2023). The metaverse, which is a 3D depiction of the internet, is the next step in the growth of the internet, according to Fidelity Investments (Biller, 2022). The Renaissance, one of the most significant eras in heritage for science, math, and art, did something similar. The use of linear perspective to show threedimensional depth in art was refined by masters like Michelangelo and Alberti. The metaverse of today places us on the same path, and fintech may very well be the means to get there. Since its inception, the fintech space has been dominated by categories such as wealth management and payment innovation. Innovative companies have replaced the metaphorical mattock approach to developing new product and service delivery channels in financial services with technologies that streamline infrastructure and, increasingly, to boost human intellect. These cutting-edge fintech systems make it possible to combine and analyse client data considerably more effectively and robustly while also utilising connectivity. This means that financial services have been capable to approach more clients in more efficient and targeted ways than ever before. IoT, robots, data communicators and storage, data processor and presenters, and Metaverse are some probable technologies that will power future Fintech applications and breakthroughs where metaverse is the major data processor boosting financial services in the next era (Bhat, AlQahtani & Nekovee, 2023). Now-a-days customers want multi-way online involvement for banking-related activities in the wake of COVID-19's global convulsion. Consequently, Metaverse appears to be the best option. However, Metaverse's use cases go far beyond banking and will eventually be used to many aspects of life. Furthermore, leading financial institutions such as HSBC and JP Morgan have also started their virtual branches in the Metaverse to provide consumers with the finest user experience (such as cash withdrawal, deposit, stores, etc.). The usage of the Metaverse in financial transactions will improve user experience, reduce operating costs, and other factors and hence (Bhat, AlQahtani & Nekovee, 2023) proposed the metaverse model for application in banking and financial services industry (figure 1). With this backdrop, the present study intends to review the extensive literature on metaverse which is one of the enabler of fintech.

To be sure, there is much more to be done here; however, an important result of these efforts has been a future financial services industry with broader access, lower marginal costs, and greater transparency (Agarwal & Zhang 2020). As documented by Singh et al. (2020) and Qiu et al. (2015) fintech is having a substantial effect on the financial services sector (Singh et al. 2020), and other industries.

Remittances. custodial and adherence. institutional and retail investing, real estate, insurance, and various industries of financial services have prospered from cutting-edge fintech solutions over the past ten years, no doubt hastened by the global health crisis. The majority of fintech literature have emerged after 2015 (refer figure 2). Consequently, various books, journals, and conference papers have lately scrutinized the available FinTech literature (Gomber et al., 2017). However, previous literature review study has not covered future research directions and offer gap in this domain. Against this backdrop, this study attempts to conduct more in-depth bibliometric analysis covering each and every aspect and hence answered below research queries:

- 1. Which are primary fintech research areas?
- 2. Which have been dominant institutions, countries, sources, authors and documents in fintech research?
- 3. Which are the most influential and trending articles and topics?
- 4. What are the key research themes in fintech literature?
- 5. What are the various research gaps in fintech literature?

Additionally, the present research work is planned as under- section two discussed the methodology, section three presents the results followed by section four discussion and section five future research directions.

2. Data and approach

Both quantitative and qualitative techniques are used to conduct the literature review (Gupta et al., 2020 and Dubey, Gunasekaran & Papadopoulos, 2017). A quantitative technique used in many areas to evaluate the literature currently published is called bibliometric analysis (Aria and Cuccurullo, 2017). Ramos et al. (2020) argued that literature review study employs a quantitative viewpoint to track a specific area of research and processes the findings scientifically through a standardised review procedure. Similar argument has been given by (Singh and Dhir, 2019). The bibliometric review of study offers systematic scientific mapping, establishes trends over the period, pinpoint's most researched areas, and uncovers the organisations, authors, and

nations that have made major contributions to the field of study (Saha et al., 2020). Scholars can use a variety of software tools for bibliometric review of studies such as library Biblioshiny in R studio (Aria and Cuccurullo, Bibexcel (Persson et al., VosViewer (Van Eck and Waltman, 2010) and VosViewer offers simple SciMat. The visualisation of citation networks (Fabregat-Aibar et al., 2019). In contrast to the majority of free software (such as CiteSpace and bibliometrix package of R Vosviewer), emphasises the accuracy and statistical completeness of the results in addition to the data presentation (Derviş, 2019).

2.1 Selection of period

The data for the present study are reviewed over almost 37 years spanning from 1985-2022. The first article on fintech is reported to be in 1985 and year 2022 is terminating period as data was retrieved in December 2022.

2.2 Selection of database

The information was gathered from Elsevier's Scopus database. It comprises the top-ranked and most cited journals from around the world and has twenty percent more database than Web of Science (indexed in business, management, and accounting) (Gusenbauer, 2019; Zhang et al, 2019). In-depth mapping capabilities for minor study domains are another strength of Scopus (Zupic and ate, 2015).

2.3 Selection of keywords for search of articles and Initial Search Criteria

The search was conducted using the keyword "Fintech" or "Financial technology". The language chose was English and only those articles were selected which were finally published in journal. The detail search string is given in annexure. A total of 470 documents were extracted after applying filters. Further, documents are checked for any duplicate items and final count of documents are 452.

3. Results

3.1 Sample characteristics

Data features are shown in Table 1 with 452 publications published between 1985 and 2022 and 297 sources that produced 414 articles and 38 reviews. There are 12.27 citations on average for each document. The number of references (21,936) and keywords (1,159) used in these 993-authored publications

demonstrates the power of the scholarly collaboration in the field of fintech.

3.2 Annual scientific production
Below figure 2 depicts the publication trend in
the area of "fintech". It is clearly visible that

Table 1: Data characteristics on Fintech

Timespan	1985: 2022	
Sources	297	
Documents	452	
Yearly growth rate (in %)	13.84	
Document Average life	2.67	
Average citations per document	12.27	
References	21936	
Document Details	·	
Keywords	111	
Author's Keywords 115		
Authors		
Authors 9		
Authors of single-authored docs	135	
Collaborating author(s)		
Documents with sole author	140	
Joint author per Document	2.37	
Global co-authorships (in %)	20.35	
Document Categories		
Article	414	
Review	38	

Source: author(s) calculations

Primary keywords "Fintech" *OR* "Financial technology"

460 articles were extracted in the TITLE,

ABSTRACT and KEYWORDS



Title-ABS ("fintech" OR "financial technology") **Document type:** article, review, book chapters

Source type: Journal



Deletion criteria

Total 5 articles that were duplicates and 6 articles with no author information were removed.
452 documents were identified for final analysis after deletion

Figure 1: Flowchart of workflow

Source: author(s) compilation

there has been minimal research on fintech from year 1985-2015. The first article covering the aspect of fintech was published by Chandavarkar (1985) in which he discussed the contribution of fintech in developing the financial assistance. But the year 2016 is the trigger year, post which there have been exponential increase in research in this domain. This is because there are already over 12,000 start-ups in the world, and in 2015, the Fintech industry received major global investment totalling USD 19 billion (KPMG, 2016).

3.3 Influential aspect: Affiliation and Sources

The table 2 below depicts the top 10 publication outlet publishing in the zone of financial technology. "Financial innovation" journal is the topmost influential journal which has published 9 articles in the domain of fintech. It is followed by banking law journal with 7 articles to be published and h-index 5, Cutter business technology journal and finance research letters both published 7 articles. Amongst the top 10 influential journals Finance research letters, European journal of finance, international journal of bank marketing is the top

Brawijaya University and Universitas Padjadjaran.

Table 2: Top 10 publication outlet

Sources	Articles	h-index
Financial Innovation	9	25
Banking Law Journal	7	5
Cutter Business Technology		
Journal	7	4
Finance Research Letters	7	62
Journal of Risk and Financial		
Management	7	4
Journal of Payments Strategy and		
Systems	6	4
European Company and Financial		
Law Review	5	5
European Journal of Finance	5	39
International Journal of Bank		
Marketing	5	87
Law And Financial Markets		
Review	5	7

Source: author(s) calculations

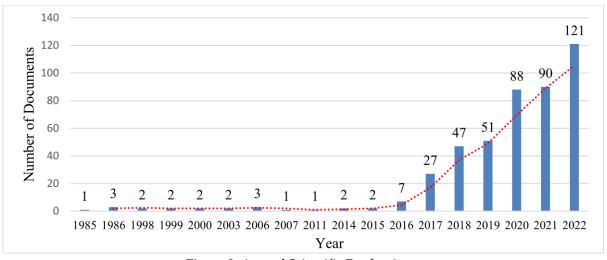


Figure 2: Annual Scientific Production

Source: author(s) calculations

rank ranked journal in the area of finance and financial services. The data clearly indicates that there has been wide research done in this domain in variety of spectrum of journals. Furthermore, figure 3 presents the most influential affiliations in the area of fintech. It is clearly understood that *Southwestern University of Finance* is the top institution publishing in this domain followed by

3.4 Citation analysis

Citation analysis counts the citations made to a specific document over a specific time frame. A highly cited article is thought to be more influential and successful than publications with fewer citations (Goyal & Kumar, 2021). It is among the most effective ways to gauge the impact of a research piece (Tsay, 2009). There are two broad categories of citation analysis: global citations and local citations. How

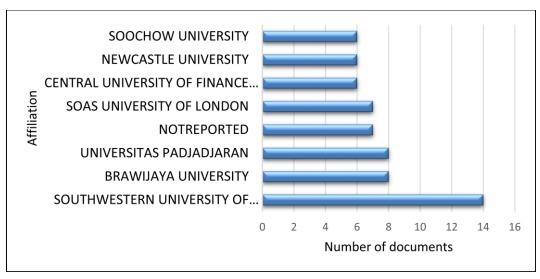


Figure 3: Top 10 most influential affiliations in the area of fintech

Source: author(s) calculations

frequently this document has been referenced in other research pieces found in different databases is shown by Global Citations (Tandon et al., 2022). The top cited study is done by Gomber (2017) titled "Digital Finance and Fintech: current research and future research directions" attracted 351 citations. In this study authors examined the state of research on these fresh and cutting-edge business

operations in digital finance today. Second most highly cited stud globally is by Berger (2003) titled "The Economic Effects of Technological Progress: Evidence from the Banking Industry" attracted 266 citations. In this study, author investigated the technological advancement in the banking industry. All the globally cited documents presented in table 3 have garnered more than 100 citations.

Table 3: Top ten globally cited documents

Article title	Source	Author(s)	Citations
Digital finance and finTech: current	Journal of Business	Gomber P. (2017)	351
research and future research directions	Economics	, ,	
The Economic Effects of Technological	Journal of Money credit	Berger A. N	266
Progress: Evidence from the Banking	and Banking	(2003)	
Industry			
Taming the Beast: A Scientific	Journal of Innovation	Schueffel P.	165
Definition of Fintech	Management	(2016)	
How Valuable is FinTech Innovation?	The Review of Financial	Chen, Wu &	145
	Studies	Yang (2019)	
The Role of Technology in Mortgage	The Review of Financial	Fuster et al.	139
Lending	Studies	(2019)	
A Systematic review of Blockchain	Financial Innovation	Chu, Chen & Kou	135
		(2019)	
Socio-Technical Agency in Financial	Social Studies of Science	Preda (2016)	133
Markets: The Case of the Stock Ticker			
"Informing" technologies and the	Accounting,	Neu et al. (2016)	122
World Bank	Organizations and		
	Society		
How Blockchain can impact financial	Technological	Chang et al.	119
services - The overview, challenges	Forecasting and Social	(2020)	
and recommendations from expert	Change		
interviewees			

Further, table 3 presents the top 10 locally cited documents. The top cited article is written by Lee & Shin (2018) titled "Fintech: Ecosystem, business models, investment decisions, and challenges" which attracted 116 citations. The fintech industry's ecology is described by the authors of this report and provides a historical perspective on the field and discussing different fintech business strategies and funding categories.

3.5 Author impact

The most important contributors to the field of study are the prolific authors, and this research sheds light on the authors' overall body of work grounded on the quantity of papers, co-authorship, and citations they have obtained (Naeem et al., 2022). This analysis is based on how many articles a certain author has written overall. Figure 5 illustrates that Zhang Y is the productive author with 14

Table 4: Top ten locally cited documents

Article title	Source	Author	Citations
Fintech: ecosystem, business models,	Business Horizons	Lee and Shin	116
investment decisions, and challenges		(2018)	
On the Fintech Revolution: Interpreting	Journal of Management	Gomber et al.	107
the Forces of Innovation, Disruption, and	Information System	(2018)	
Transformation in Financial Services	-		
Fintech	Business & Information	Puschmann (2017)	102
	System Engineering		
Digital Finance and fintech: current	Journal of Business	Gomber, Koch &	88
research and future research directions	Economics	Siering (2017)	
Fintech, regulatory arbitrage, and the rise	Journal of Financial	Buchak et al.	73
of shadow banks	Economics	(2018)	
The emergence of the global fintech	Small Business	Haddad & Hornuf	67
market: economic and technological	Economics	(2018)	
determinants			
	The review of financial	Chen, Wu & Yang	47
How Valuable is fintech Innovation?	studies	(2019)	
A current on EinToch	Journal of Network and	Gai, Qiu & Sun	46
A survey on FinTech	Computer Applications	(2018)	
The Role of Technology in Mortgage	The Review of financial	Fuster et al. (2019)	46
Lending	studies		
Do fintech lenders penetrate areas that are	Journal of economics	Jagtiani &	45
underserved by traditional banks?	and business	Lemieux (2018)	

Source: author(s) calculations

| Section | 2017 | Section | 2017 | Section | 2017 | Section | 2017 | Section | 2018 | Sect

Figure 4: Most cited authors

articles followed by Liu Y (10 articles) and Chen X (9 articles).

Further, figure 6 analyses the active authors on the basis of publications produced, total citations and h_{\perp} index. As per the data author

Kaufferman J has the maximum citations (751) followed by Ozili (351) and Arner (305) and Buckley (305). On the basis of h_index Giudici P has the highest h_index of 7 followed by Arner D W, Buckley R P, Li X, Zhang X and Zhang Y. They all have h_index of 5. This data

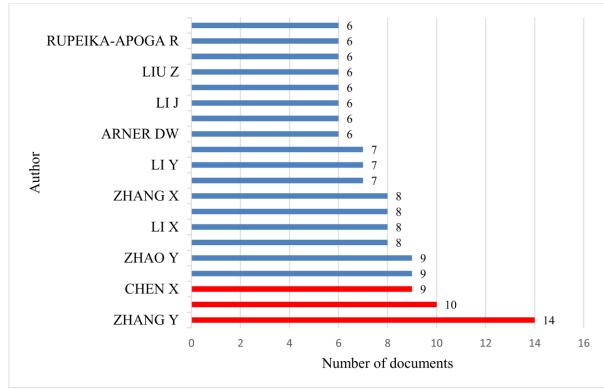


Figure 5: Most prolific authors

Source: author(s) calculations

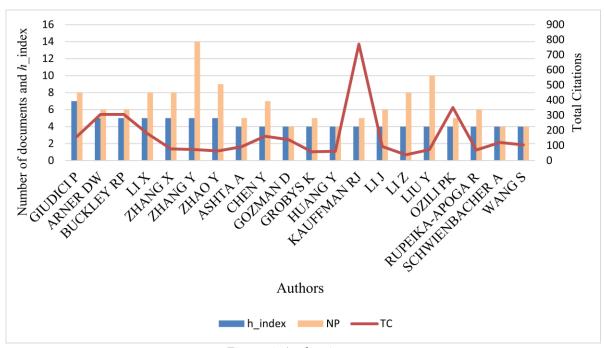


Figure 6: Author impact

clearly demonstrates that since 2015, this field has drawn a large number of additional experts who routinely research the various facets of fintech.

3.6 Bibliographic coupling

A comprehensive method to assess source similarity is bibliographic coupling (Naeem et al., 2022). A strategy for science mapping called bibliographic coupling works under the premise that two publications comparable references also have similar content (Kessler, 1963). If two documents quote the same third document, they are considered to be bibliographically connected (Garfield, 2004). Figure 5 presents bibliographic coupling on the basis of documents. Making bibliographic maps with VOSviewer is quite helpful for identifying commonalities between papers referencing the same work (Moral-Muñoz et al., 2020). The minimal number of documents and citations for a source to be displayed on the map remains 5, and 20, respectively. The figures 7 illustrates that it consists of 31 documents made up of seven clusters. Cluster 1 (Red) entails of 7 documents, Cluster 2 (green) comprises of 6 documents, cluster 3 (sky blue) five documents, cluster 4 (yellow) five documents, cluster 5(purple) three documents, cluster 6 (light blue) three documents and cluster 7 (orange) two documents.

3.7 Keyword co-occurrence analysis

The frequency of the words reveals the development and central idea of a certain area of study (Kumar et al., 2021). The most popular research stream and its sub streams, as well as the most common words writers employ in their titles, keywords, or abstracts, can all be learned about through this analysis (Wu et al., 2021). The co-word analysis is a method that looks at the publication's real content (Donthu et al., 2021). By setting the minimum frequency at 10, the Biblioshiny application generates the words that are most frequently used. Finance, technological development, financial services, Innovation, blockchain are the most frequent keywords used in the studies as depicted in table 5 and figure 8. It shows that scholars are exploring these themes in the context of fintech.

Further, figure 9 shows the keyword cooccurrence map. The criterion for minimum occurrence is set as 4; out of 1,160 author's keywords, only 15 met the threshold criteria. The output map forms six clusters. Cluster 1(red) has seven keywords, cluster 2(green) four keywords, cluster 3(blue) four keywords, cluster 4(yellow) four keywords, cluster 5 (purple) three keywords and cluster 6 (sky blue) one keyword. There clusters are namely: artificial intelligence, big data, blockchain, financial innovation, digital lending and digital payment.

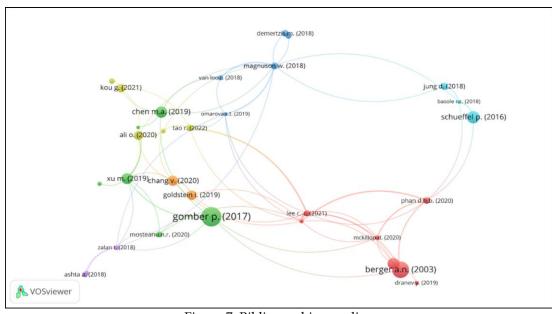


Figure 7: Bibliographic coupling

Table 5: Top 10 frequently occurred keywords

Words	Occurrences
Finance	7
Technological Development	5
Financial Services	4
Financial Service	3
Innovation	3
Blockchain	2
Financial Market	2
Global Perspective	2

Source: author(s) calculations



Figure 8: Word Cloud

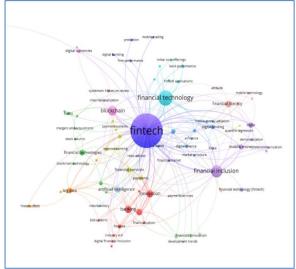
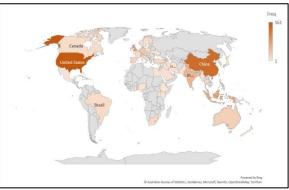


Figure 9: Keyword co-occurrence map

3.3 Publishing activity

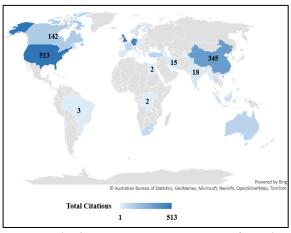
Fintech has been recognized by the academicians and policy makers all around

the globe and has been widely researched post 2016. Figure 10 presents the most active countries involved in the research in this area. In this table, it can be interpreted that USA is the highest publishing country followed by China, UK, Indonesia and India. With politicians, bankers, and legislators taking steps to support inclusive growth, India is recognised as the world leader in the study of economic growth through financial technology. Further figure 11 presents the country wise publication on the basis of citations. USA has maximum citation (513) followed by United Kingdom (478), Germany (466), China (345) and Canada (142).



Source: author's computation using Microsoft excel

Figure 10: Top countries publishing in the area of "Fintech"

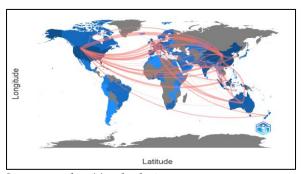


Source: author's computation using Microsoft excel

Figure 11: Countries with most cited documents

3.9 Country collaboration network

This section discusses the collaboration of different countries on the given theme. Figure 12 depicts that there has been maximum collaboration between China and USA (31) followed by China and United Kingdom (24). It is also seen that USA is the most cooperative country as it has maximum collaboration with other countries.



Source: author(s) calculations

Figure 12: Country collaboration map

3.4 *Co-citation analysis*

The number of times two articles are quoted together is known as co-citation (Small, 1973). Co-citation analysis is a science mapping technique that makes the assumption that publications that are frequently referenced

together have comparable subject content (Hjørland, 2013). When two publications appear together in the reference list of another publication, they are linked in a co-citation network (Donthu et al., 2021). The analysis can be used to show how a study field is conceptualised (Rossetto, Bernardes, Borini & Gataz, 2018). Therefore, it is crucial to establish the research domain's intellectual framework using the key texts.

3.10 Cluster Analysis

Cluster-1: Fintech and big-data applications

After a thorough review of all articles in cluster 1 (table 5), it can be inferred that the cluster 1 can be named as "Fintech and bigdata applications". The top cited article in the cluster is by Chen, Wu & Yang (2019) on "How Valuable Is Fintech Innovation?". The article offers extensive proof of the prevalence and importance of FinTech innovation. The findings indicated that the majority of FinTech breakthroughs provide significant value to inventors, with blockchain being especially useful. Further, Fuster (2019) attempted study

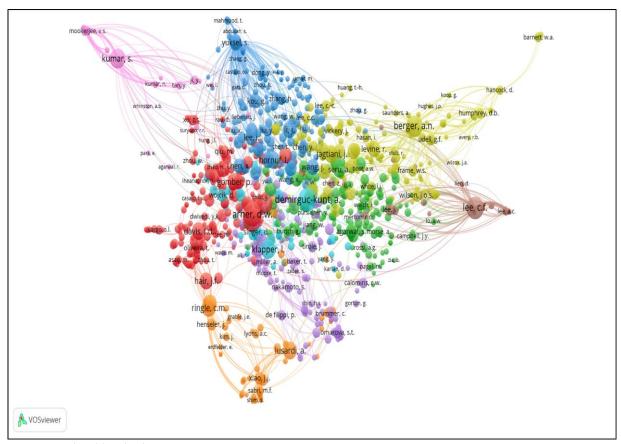


Figure 13: Network diagram presenting co-citation analysis

on "The Role of Technology in Mortgage Lending". In this article, author demonstrated that FinTech lenders execute mortgage applications twenty percent more quickly than traditional lenders, adjusting for observable variables, leveraging loan-level information regarding financing options and issuances. Moreover, author don't discover any proof that FinTech lenders specifically target creditchallenged borrowers. This article garnered 139 citations. Another article written by Goldstein, Jiang & Karolyi (2019) on "Fintech and beyond" discusses the developments in the area of fintech. It can be seen here that majority of research focus on application of big-data application in the area of fintech which is the new frontier in the financial services industry.

explanation of fintech as a comprehensive, global issue. The article reveals the moral and political relevance of the emerging fintech era by positioning the assessment of changing fintech patterns within a broader institutional framework. The introduction of fintech, it contends, opens the door to a potentially significant change in the fundamental publicprivate system of checks, capabilities, and functions in the financial system. Another article by (Bu, 2022) on "Effective Regulations of Fintech Innovations: The Case of China". Author precisely characterises the current state of development and key traits of FinTech businesses and regulatory bodies. In order to illustrate the evolutionary game behaviour between FinTech enterprises and regulatory bodies and to study the influencing variables

Table 5: Top 10 articles in cluster 1- "Fintech and big-data applications"

Article title	Author(s)	Citations
How valuable is fintech innovation?	Chen, Wu and Yang (2019)	145
The role of technology in mortgage lending	Fuster A. (2019)	139
To fintech and beyond	Goldstein, Jiang & Karolyi	
	(2019)	107
Bricks, mortar, And proptech: The economics of IT	Saiz A. (2020)	
in brokerage, space utilization and commercial real		
estate finance		10
Can fintech improve corporate investment	IV P. (2022)	
efficiency? Evidence from China		10
Robo-Advisors (RAS): The programmed self-service	Wexler M. Y. (2020)	
market for professional advice		5
Deciphering big data in consumer credit evaluation	Jiang et al. (2021)	5
Big Data Applications the Banking Sector: A	Nobanee et al. (2021)	
Bibliometric Analysis Approach		5
Givers Or Receivers? return and volatility spillovers	Chen, Chiu and Chung	
between fintech and the traditional financial	(2022)	
industry		5
Fintech credit, bank regulations and bank	Nguyen, Tran and Ho (2022)	
performance: A cross-country analysis		5

Source: author(s) calculations

Cluster 2: "Regulatory framework for fintech"
The below table 6 presents the top 8 articles in cluster 2 "Regulatory framework for fintech". Van (2018) authored document titled "Making Innovation More Competitive: The Case of Fintech". This article makes the claim that the framework for existing competition legislation is preventing consumer financial innovation. Omarova (2019) in their article titled "New Tech vs. New Deal: Fintech as A Systemic Phenomenon". Such narratives are contested in this article, which also offers a different

of their strategic decisions, we secondly create a two-player evolutionary game model. By looking after the articles in cluster 2, it is clear that the studies focus more innovations in the area of fintech or how fintech can be further utilized as the innovative financial services platform.

Cluster 3: "Fintech and Banking industry"
Table 7 presents the top 10 article in cluster 3
"Fintech and Banking industry". The top cited article in this cluster is by (Phan, 2020) titled

Table 6: Top 8 articles in cluster 2- "Regulatory framework for fintech"

Article title	Author(s)	Citations
Making innovation more competitive: The case of fintech	Van Loo R. (2018)	43
New tech vs. new deal: fintech as a systemic phenomenon	Omarova S.T. (2019)	26
Regulating fintech in the EU: the case for a guided sandbox	Ringe & Christopher	16
	(2020)	
Effective regulations of fintech innovations: The case of China	Bu, Li & Hu (2022)	7
the new data of student debt	Odinet C.K. (2019)	6
Consensus-based multidimensional due diligence of fintech-	Liu et al. (2021)	6
enhanced green energy investment projects		
The racial landscape of fintech mortgage lending	Haupert T. (2022)	6
Cross-border regulation and fintech: are transnational	Ivanova P. (2019)	4
cooperation agreements the right way to go?		

Source: author(s) calculations

"Do Financial Technology Firms Influence Bank Performance?". Financial technology being now integral aspect in financial services industry need to be studied as to how it influences the bank performance especially post COVID-19. Authors formulated the theory that the expansion of fintech has a detrimental impression on bank performance. Further, they examined the Indonesian market, where FinTech has experienced significant growth and demonstrated that the expansion of Fintech firms posits detrimental effect on bank effectiveness using a sample of 41 banking organizations. Second most cited document is

by (Wonglimpiyarat, 2017a) titled "Fintech Banking Industry: A Systemic Approach". The author in their study tries to examine FinTech and the banking sector's dynamic changes as a result. The study specifically examines the systemic character of innovations based on FinTech. The primary motivation for conducting this study endeavour creation of a holistic initiative, that can serve as a flexible instrument to tracce the advancement and adoption of technology. The electronic payment system in Thailand, the most recent financial innovation from PromptPay FinTech, is also included in the study. Further, (Hung,

Table 7: Top 10 articles in cluster 3 "Fintech and Banking industry"

Article title	Author(s)	Citations
Do financial technology firms influence bank	Phan, Narayan & Rahman	59
performance?	(2020)	
Fintech banking industry: a systemic approach	Wonglimpiyarat J. (2017a)	46
Entry of fintech firms and competition in the retail		34
payments market	Jun & Yeo (2016)	
Fintech in Taiwan: a case study of a bank's strategic		37
planning for an investment in a fintech company	Hung & Luo (2016)	
	Dranev, Frolova &	27
The impact of fintech M&A on stock returns	Ochirova (2019)	
The rise and rise of financial technology: the good, the		16
bad, and the verdict	Iman N. (2020)	
Economic basis of digital banking services produced by		12
fintech company in smart city	Popova Y. (2021)	
Liability and antifraud investment in fintech retail		9
payment services	Yoon & Jun (2019)	
Effects of fintech on stock return: evidence from retail		4
banks listed in Indonesia stock exchange	Asmarani & Wijaya (2020)	
Technology acceptance model of financial technology in		4
micro, small, and medium enterprises (MSME) in		
Indonesia	Purnamasari et al. (2020)	

2016) conducted study on "Fintech in Taiwan: A Case Study of a Bank's Strategic Planning for An Investment in A Fintech Company". Above study employed a case based approach of top five leading banks in Taiwan. The primary information is collected using interviews with team members and the meeting minutes of the FinTech investment task group. The PARTS techniques in co-petition theory served as the basis for the interview questions, which were utilised as the theoretical framework. After detailed scrutiny of the studies in this cluster, majority of studies are focussing on application and influence of fintech revolution to banking industry.

Cluster 4: Fintech and Development

Below table 8 presents the articles that are formed as a cluster 4 "Fintech and Development". majority of the studies in this cluster discusses how fintech leads to the overall development. Gomber (2017) conducted study on "Digital finance and Fintech: current research and future research directions". This article examines the state of research on these fresh and cutting-edge business operations in digital finance today. Additionally, it provides a preview of possible future study trajectories. The online financing

triad, that encompasses trio elements namely, the corresponding business operations, the technologies and technological notions utilised, as well as the establishments concerned, is given as a conceptual framework for examining this area. This article is the most cited article as it articulates one of the crucial aspects of fintech development. Further, (Tao, 2022) conducted study on "Can Fintech Development Pave the Way for a Transition Towards Low-Carbon Economy: A Global Perspective". Author in this study

Cluster 5- Innovation and fintech

Table 9 below displays the top articles in cluster 5. After doing the initial scrutiny of the articles it can be concluded that studies in cluster focusses on new advancements in the area of fintech. Hence, the cluster can be named as "Innovation and fintech". The top cited article in this cluster is by (Xu, 2019) on "A Systematic Review of Blockchain". This study examines the most recent scholarly studies on blockchain, particularly in the field of business management. It is one of the top cited articles as blockchain is the new advancement in the area of financial technology. Hence, this study acts a guiding inspiration for the other researchers. Another study by (Chen, 2017)

Table 8: Top 9 articles in cluster 4 "Fintech and Development"

Article Title	Author(s)	Citations
Digital finance and fintech: current research and future research directions	Gomber P. (2017)	351
Can fintech development pave the way for a transition towards	Tao et al. (2022)	60
low-carbon economy: a global perspective		
From fintech to finlife: the case of fintech development in China	Chen L. (2016)	70
VAR and market value of fintech companies: an analysis and	Najaf, Schinckus,	19
evidence from global data	& Yoong (2020)	
Fintech in the time of covid-19: technological adoption during	Fu & Mishra	19
crises	(2022)	
An exploratory study of the fintech (financial technology) education and retraining in UK	Sung et al. (2019)	14
Financial technology as a driver of poverty alleviation in China:	Ye, Chen & Li	8
evidence from an innovative regression approach	(2022)	
Impact of fintech on bank risk-taking: evidence from China	Deng et al. (2021)	7
	Salerno,	7
Fintech and IPO under-pricing: an explorative study	Sampagnaro &	
	Verdoliva (2022)	
The long tail thesis: conceptualizing China's entrepreneurial	Dai & Taube	6
practices in fintech and electric vehicles	(2020)	

focussed on "The Transition from Traditional Banking to Mobile Internet Finance: An Organizational Innovation Perspective - A Comparative Study of Citibank and ICBC". The Industrial and Commercial Bank of China (ICBC) and Citibank are compared and analysed using a comparative case study approach in this paper. It examines the approaches taken by these two banks to address the effects of FinTech in terms of their organisations, HR systems, and product innovations. For ICBC and Citibank, this research suggests an "electric vehicle mode" and an "aeroplane mode," respectively. It also discusses the challenges the Chinese banking sector is facing and suggests some workable improvements. Future financial organisations' primary competitive principle will "technology power." The study conducted by (Chiu, 2017) titled "A New Era in Fintech Payment Innovations? A Perspective from The Institutions and Regulation of Payment Systems". This article examines the infrastructure and institutions that are currently in place for Both higher magnitude and payments. remittances consumer are considered necessary for competent clearance based on central bank support, and in the EU, UK, and US, it is recognised how important it is to regulate to provide shield to consumers who avail remittances services. Hence, the studies

mostly focussed on fintech innovations and their implication on financial services industry.

4. Discussion

Fintech is still in its infancy (Li & Xu, 2021). blockchain, Digital lending, financial regulation machine learning, big data, and innovation are the core study fields that combine with the thematic map and cooccurrence diagram of author keywords. We have conducted bibliometric analysis by extracting documents using the Scopus database for the time period 1985:2022. In total 452, documents were extracted and further analysed. The study's key discovery is that although the field of fintech is relatively young, it has enormous potential for growth. The observations along with the findings are discussed below.

First, there have been minimal number of studies in this domain but tend to surge post 2016 due to more and more fintech solutions came into field. The rise of publications over the past several years, particularly in 2020 (refer figure 2, is evidence of the growing interest in Fintech. This acceptance may be attributed to Fintech solutions' quick development and adoption, which was expedited by the COVID-19 epidemic.

Table 9: Top 8 articles in cluster 5 "Innovation and fintech"

Article title	Author(s)	Citations
A systematic review of blockchain	Xu, Chen & Kou (2019)	135
The transition from traditional banking to mobile internet finance: an organizational innovation perspective - a comparative study of Citibank and ICBC	Chen et al. (2017)	73
Fintech evolution: strategic value management issues in a fast-changing industry	Ashta & Biot- Paquerot (2018)	45
A New Era in Fintech Payment Innovations? A Perspective from The Institutions and Regulation of Payment Systems	Chiu (2017)	31
Artificial Intelligence and Fintech: An Overview of Opportunities and Risks for Banking, Investments, And Microfinance	Ashta & Herrmann (2021)	23
Strategic Implications of Fintech on South African Retail Banks	Coetzee (2018)	15
Fintech In India: An Analysis on Impact of Telecommunication on Financial Inclusion	Siddiqui & Siddiqui (2020)	9
The Influence of Halal Product Expectation, Social Environment, And FIQIH Knowledge on Intention to Use SHARIAH Financial Technology Products	Marzuki & Nurdin (2020)	4

Publication of studies in top ranked journal such as financial innovation and finance research letters demonstrate the academic community's keen interest in this area but because this interest is still in its infancy, there have only been a few books produced on the subject, exclusively when contrasted to the greater sum of articles and conference papers that have been published. On the subject at hand, further books and book chapters may be released in the near future (Aysan & Nanaeva, 2022). Concerning the most cited sources (refer table 4), Journal of financial economics is most cited journal followed by Review of financial studies, Journal of finance, Journal of business research and international journal of bank marketing. Furthermore, Southwestern University of Finance and Economics is the most relevant affiliation producing 14 articles in this domain Second, analysis of utmost productive country on the basis of documents produced reveals that United States of America (161) is the most productive country followed by China (138), United Kingdom (79), Indonesia (75) and India (54). Moreover, on the basis of citations, USA (513) is the most cited country followed by UK (478), Germany (466), China (345) and Canada (142). With regard to collaborative study, USA and China has maximum collaborative study (31) followed by China and UK (24). Third, after conducting author analysis, it is discovered that Kauffman RI is the most cited author with 771 citations followed by Gomber P (745), Shin YJ (418), Lee I (399) and Parker C (394). Interestingly, findings revealed that Arner DW, Buckley RP and Li X are the authors with the highest impact as measured by h_index. Fourth, keyword revealed analysis the most prominent keywords "blockchain", "innovation", are "financial services", "global perspective" and "technological development". The linkage authors researching disruption and the development of blockchain technology may account for the relative prominence of the term "blockchain" (Aysan & Nanaeva, 2022). Furthermore, Biblioshiny mapped the term "digital lending" among the primary themes that require further research. Similar to this, a shift in trending themes towards "digital transformation" "disruptive innovation" shows that academics have just recently become interested in the subject. The growing use of phrases like "blockchain technology" and "artificial intelligence" may be a sign that Fintech is

moving in that direction. The word "financial inclusion" is becoming more and more widespread, which may indicate that academics are interested in its potential social influence. The most prominent theme is briefly discussed below:

4.1 Blockchain

Big data, a crucial know-how and one amongst FinTech-related subjects, has a significant impact on changing the marketplace by presenting new code based techniques and serve as primary driver of digitalization and the digital economy (Gruin, 2020). Integration of technologies like big data and cloud computing, which has led unprecedented expansion in the volume of data, has aided the Internet of Things' quick development, realising the interconnectedness interprocess communication individuals, individuals and things, and things and things (Li & Xu, 2020). More and more financial institutions, including banks, P2P, insurance, and securities firms, are starting to develop their big data platforms in response to the growth of the social economy. A crucial role will be played by safeguarding data increasing data utilisation haven and getting better models effectiveness, financial products by recognising and filtering out the disruptive components.

4.2 Innovation and fintech

There has been more focus on innovation and fintech. Articles such as "The Transition from Traditional Banking to Mobile Internet Finance: An Organizational Innovation Perspective - A Comparative Study of Citibank and ICBC", "Making Innovation More Competitive: The Case of Fintech" and "Effective Regulations of Fintech Innovations: The Case of China "clearly signifies that researchers are more inclined towards exploring this area. The relevance of financial technologies and innovations in business is reflected in the importance of fintech and sustainability in 2021 (Ellilli, 2022). However, there is need to further explore such area with the concept of design thinking and creativity.

5. Future research agenda

The findings of the study discovered that since digital innovation expanded to include financial services ten years ago, fintech has grown quickly. Financial services have also been impacted by international trends in economics and finance, which has led to a rise in articles worldwide. Additionally, this study provides a list of the top Fintech publications, authors, nations, organisations, and journals based on the Scopus database. Apart there are few gaps which have been identified after conducting this study. First, the fintech research is concentrated in nature, studies have mostly prominent in developed countries. It provides the future research scope for the developing economies as well to explore such as enthralling area. Second, social implication is missing, meaning thereby there no such study which can clearly explain what the social implication of fintech revolution are. As research is all about the development and novelty for the society such a kind of study is desirable. Third, more focus on technology, the study in this area is more stressed towards technological aspect such as blockchain, artificial intelligence. Hence, fintech should be studied correlation in with interdisciplinary areas as well. Fourth, there are many aspects in fintech domain which have been less explored such as digital worthiness, consumer lending, credit awareness about fintech applications. These areas are emerging themes which can be studied to gain the in-depth field insight of the financial services industry.

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