



Half a century of Empirical Economics: a bibliometric retrospective

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Received: 19 March 2026 / Accepted: 30 May 2026
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Abstract

Empirical Economics celebrates its 50th anniversary in 2026. Motivated by this event, this paper provides a detailed bibliometric study of the journal between 1976 and 2025. Through publication and citation patterns, keyword co-occurrence networks, thematic maps, bibliographic coupling, and co-citation analysis, the article explores the intellectual development, methodological focus, and global research collaboration patterns of the journal. The results show an increase in publication activity, especially since the mid-2000s, accompanied by a significant growth in citation impact. Thematic analysis shows the existence of core themes such as economic growth, monetary policy, income inequality, business cycles, and forecasting, as well as new themes such as climate change, COVID-19, innovation, and machine learning. The rising importance of more advanced econometric approaches such as panel data models, cointegration analysis, and structural break analysis indicates the increasing methodological sophistication and integration with data science approaches. Bibliographic coupling and co-citation analysis shows the dominant role of core econometric publications in the journal's intellectual structure, while institutional and country-level analysis shows strong global collaboration patterns, with leading contributions from the USA, UK, Germany, Australia, and increasing collaboration from emerging economies. In summary, the results of this paper show that *Empirical Economics* has developed into a globally networked, methodologically sophisticated, and policy-engaged journal that connects economic theory and empirical research. This paper helps to understand the development path of empirical economic research and provides directions for future research.

Keywords Empirical economics · Bibliometrics · Scopus · Web of science · VOSviewer · Bibliometrix

Extended author information available on the last page of the article

1 Introduction

Empirical Economics (link.springer.com/journal/181) is an international peer-reviewed hybrid journal publishing high-quality, original research in advanced econometric or statistical methods to link economic theory with real data. The scope of the journal covers topics like estimating relationships among economic variables, tests implications of economic theory, evaluation of policy interventions, simulations and forecasting of economies, and development of econometric methods. It is publishing under the leadership of Robert M. Kunst (Editor-in-Chief) from University of Vienna, Austria. The editorial team of *Empirical Economics* (*EE*) consist of prominent economists worldwide. This board ensures the journal's academic quality by managing the manuscript review process, making publication decisions, and advising on questions of editorial strategy in the journal's field of rigorous applied economic analysis.

EE is indexed in Scopus (Scopus [2025](#)) and Web of Science (WoS) (Clarivate [2025](#)) databases. In 2024, it has a CiteScore of 5.6 based on 4649 citations received between 2021 and 2024 across 825 documents. The SJR metric of 2024 shows a SJR value of 0.760 and a SNIP value of 1.347. In terms of subject classifications, it ranks 10/109 (91st percentile) in Mathematics (misc.), 26/293 (91st percentile) in Statistics and Probability, 60/674 in Social Sciences (91st percentile), and 157/731 in Economics, Econometrics and Finance (78th percentile), showing that it also performs well across subject categories. In WoS, it is indexed in the Social Sciences Citation Index (SSCI) with a Journal Impact Factor (JIF) of 1.9, and a 5-year Impact Factor of 2.6. It is ranked as a quartile 2 (Q2) journal based on percentile values in Social Sciences (Mathematical Methods).

EE is publishing research of high quality since 1976, and it is therefore important to examine its publication trends, citation impact and overall position of the journal in the scientific community. A bibliometric analysis of *EE* is important, as it allows us to assess the journal's visibility, background and academic influence in the field of social science. This study aims to fill this gap. The motivation is to explore the evolution of *EE*, identify its primary contributors, trending topics, examine author and institutional collaboration patterns, as well as to evaluate where the journal rank in terms of citations and influence. *VOSviewer* (Van Eck and Waltman [2010, 2023](#)) and *Bibliometrix* (Aria and Cuccurullo [2017](#)) software tools were used to provide visual analysis through graphical maps of the journal's network and thematic evolution, providing relevant insights into the history of the *EE* and identifying interesting trends in its future. The study provides a comprehensive overview of the history of *EE*, its strengths and possible ways in which can be improved, to be considered by authors, editors, and researchers. This information can help to align future submissions, editorial directions and collaborations.

The paper's structure is as follows: Section [2](#) presents the literature review. Section [3](#) consists of the methodology employed. Section [4](#) showcases the publication and citation structure of *EE*. Section [5](#) shows the keyword and topic analysis of the journal. Section [6](#) presents the most influential papers. Section [7](#) lists the most productive authors, institutions, and countries, and Sect. [8](#) illustrates the citation analysis of the

journal. Finally, Sect. 9 presents the key findings, future implications, and limitations of the study.

2 Literature review

In this section, we provide a brief literature review of the term bibliometrics, and bibliometric studies in economics along with journals.

2.1 Bibliometrics

Bibliometrics is the quantitative study of scientific literature via measurement of publications, citations, and related metadata. Bibliometric foundations were first formulated by Broadus (1987) and Pritchard (1969), which defined the scope and methodological perimeters of bibliometric research, distinguishing its boundaries from similar fields like scientometrics and informetrics (Bar-Ilan 2008). This approach followed the pioneering work of Eugene Garfield (1955), the creator of the Institute for Scientific Information (ISI), that today is known as the Web of Science (Bensman 2007; Clarivate 2025). Recently, Rousseau (2014) emphasized that bibliometrics is never static, as bibliometric practices become integrated with digital information retrieval systems, computational tools and complex network analysis methods. Thus, these studies have made bibliometrics an increasingly rigorous, data-driven technique for exploring scientific literature output and the intellectual formations within those disciplines. For more information on methodologies related to bibliometrics and other connected subfields, see for example, Ding et al. (2014) and Glanzel et al. (2019).

2.2 Bibliometric studies in economics

Bibliometric and citation-based approaches have become the key method to assess the structure, impact and evolution of research in the field of economics (García-Castrillo et al. 2002; Kim et al. 2006). The initial evaluations inclined to identify which journals, authors, and institutions were relatively more significant and revealed large-scale patterns of scholarly impact and productivity by subfield (Alexander and Mabry 1994; Allen and Kau 1991; Laband and Piette 1994). Further studies relied on these approaches to create rankings of economists, ranking departments, and journals stimulating a further shift towards quantitative metrics within scientific literature (Borokhovich et al. 2011; Coupé, 2003; Zimmermann 2013). Simultaneously, retrospective assessments of top journals explored the changes in editorial practices, publication trends, and disciplinary impact (Wei 2019; Wu 2007).

Recent research has provided an impactful analysis of citation behaviour and academic hierarchies, showing how markets adopt citation data (Card and Della Vigna 2013) and how quality metrics like the *h*-index create effects in the field (Ellison 2013; Hamermesh 2013, 2018). Towards the macrodynamic of economics as a discipline, bibliometric histories have outlined shifts in thematic focus and intellectual hegemony

(Claveau and Gingras 2016; Fourcade et. al. 2015; Kelly and Bruestle 2011). Similar studies have used citation analysis in individual disciplines, such as econometrics (Baltagi 2007), environmental and ecological economics (Hoepner et al. 2012), health economics (Ma and Stern 2006; Pitt et al. 2016; Wagstaff and Culyer 2012), tourism economics (Comerio and Strozzi 2019), artificial intelligence in finance (Goodell et al. 2021), and sustainability research where bibliometric tools are mapping emerging themes, key contributors, and evolving clusters of research (Belmonte-Ureña et al. 2021; Costa et al. 2019). Additionally, some other works have focused on specific regions like Canada (Davies et al. 2008), Australia (Neri and Rodgers 2015), and China (Yu and Gao 2010). Collectively, these studies highlight both the relevance of bibliometric methodologies to understanding knowledge production and disciplinary development as well as measuring economic impact both scholarly and policy-oriented in economics and related fields.

This growing interest is reflected in recent publications that emphasize the new prominence of bibliometric and intellectual-structure analyses for mapping trends in economics and sustainability-related research. Different studies have examined the conceptual foundations and knowledge dynamics of economic policy uncertainty (Bhatia et al. 2026), while a recent study on emerging cross-sections between studies of circular economy versus energy transitions in the process highlights areas for future research (Ng and Chen 2026). Other parallel contributions have explored health-care innovations for sustainable economies (Tripathi et al. 2026). Different works have examined thematic progress in environmental policy and social science research (Qadeer and Bouri 2026), evaluated the role of large language models in synthesizing econometric findings (Guo et al. 2026), and the evolution of health economics as a research field (Gschwent et al. 2026). Collectively, these studies show how bibliometric methods provide systematic insights into trends across disciplines, research clusters, and the changing intellectual landscape of economics and sustainability science.

2.3 Bibliometric studies for journals in economics

The preparation of special activities of a journal, motivated by the celebration of a remarkable anniversary, is becoming very popular in the academic community (Gorsky and Arnold-Forster 2023; Monastersky and Van Noorden 2019). Some journals decide to publish a special anniversary issue like the 125th birthday of the *Journal of Political Economy* (List and Uhlig 2017), the 100th celebration of the *American Economic Review* (Arrow et al. 2011), and the 50th anniversary of the *Journal of Econometrics* (Ng and Tamer 2023). Other journals prefer to publish an editorial or some representative review. For example, the centennial anniversary of the *Review of Economics and Statistics* (Khawaja and Mangal 2018), and the 50th birthday of *Econometrica* (Christ 1983) and the *Review of Economic Studies* (Hart and Mizon 1983). Sometimes, the journals also publish a lot of additional information in the webpage of the journal like the 100th anniversary of *Land Economics* (Khorshidi et al. 2026).

The preparation of a bibliometric analysis of the journal is one of the representative activities involved in the anniversary celebrations. This approach has been developed for a long time. For example, the *American Economic Review* published a pioneering

work in this direction in 1960 studying the main contributors in the fifties (Cleary and Edwards 1960). Heck et al. (1986) studied the *Journal of Finance* and Heck and Bremser (1986) focused on *The Accounting Review*. Allen and Kau (1991) presented a general overview of the *Journal of Urban Economics*, Schwert (1993) provided a retrospective evaluation of the *Journal of Financial Economics*, and Watts (1998) analysed the publications of the *Journal of Accounting & Economics*. Later, Kirchler and Holzl (2006) considered the *Journal of Economic Psychology*, Chan et al. (2009) focused on *European Financial Management*, and Autor (2012) on the *Journal of Economic Perspectives*.

During the last years, many other journals in economics have published a bibliometric overview of the journal usually motivated by the celebration of a special anniversary. For example, Amiguët et al. (2017) developed a general overview of the first 125 years of the *Journal of Political Economy* and Kube et al. (2018) of the *Journal of Environmental Economics and Management* at 40. Kumar et al. (2022) studied the *Journal of Behavioral and Experimental Economics*, Baker et al. (2023) presented a retrospective of the *International Journal of Finance & Economics*, and Yao et al. (2023) analysed *Energy Policy*.

More recently, there are other studies that map the intellectual evolution of leading journals in economics and allied fields. Figuerola-Wischke et al. (2024) explored the bibliometric profile of the *Scandinavian Journal of Economics* on its 125th anniversary, Merigó et al. (2024) trace 50 years of *Resources Policy* mapping significant thematic shifts and contributions, and Araral and Orazgaliyev (2026) study the leading topics published in *World Development*. Recent centennial anniversary retrospectives of *The Economic Record* (Atif et al. 2025) and *Land Economics* (Khorshidi et al. 2026) provide systematic insights into publication trends, influential contributions, and thematic development over time. All these studies demonstrate how citation patterns, collaboration networks, and research fronts evolve over decades, reinforcing the methodological robustness of bibliometric techniques in assessing disciplinary maturity and scholarly impact.

3 Methods

The bibliometric data for *EE* were retrieved from Scopus and WoS Core Collection. In Scopus, the search using the source title "*Empirical Economics*" yielded 3927 documents. After filtering the data using the source title, the dataset was reduced to 3670 documents. Filtering the dataset based on publication years between 1976 and 2025 reduced the dataset to 3654 documents. Finally, filtering the dataset based on document type Article, Review, and Conference Paper (SI) reduced the dataset to 3582 documents. This dataset is used as the reference dataset for all bibliometric tables and analyses generated using Scopus (Scopus 2025).

For the WoS Core Collection, the search was performed using the publication title "*Empirical Economics*" between 2005 and 2025. The initial search yielded 2884 documents. After excluding publications from 2026 and 2002 to strictly adhere to the 2005–2025 time frame, the dataset was reduced to 2858 documents. Filtering the results to include only Articles and Reviews reduced the data set to 2800 documents.

Moreover, removing Early Access and Retracted documents resulted in a final WoS dataset of 2795 documents. These filtered datasets ensure consistency, reliability, and comparability of bibliometric data across both databases (Clarivate 2025).

The bibliometric study uses well-established indicators and mapping approaches commonly used in scientometric studies. Citation-based performance indicators such as the *h*-index (Hirsch 2005) and additional indicators (Alonso et al. 2009; Hussain et al. 2025; Leong et al. 2025) were used to assess research performance. Network analyses were performed using co-citation analysis (Small 1973), bibliographic coupling (Kessler 1963), and keyword co-occurrence analysis (Callon et al. 1983). Visualization and mapping were carried out using *VOSviewer* (Van Eck and Waltman 2010) and the *Bibliometrix/Biblioshiny* package (Aria and Cuccurullo 2017). These approaches collectively offer a comprehensive overview of the intellectual structure, thematic developments, and collaborative patterns in *EE*.

Table 1 presents the procedure for the bibliometric study of *EE*, following the scientific procedures and rationales outlined in the (SPAR-4-SLR) protocol (Donthu et al. 2021; Khorshidi et al. 2025, 2026; Paul et al. 2021). This study addresses several research questions about the publication and citation development of *EE*, the journal's impact in the scientific community, the top-cited articles, the most productive authors and institutions, the co-citation and bibliographic coupling networks, and the journal's keyword and topical structure.

4 Publication and citation structure of *EE*

Figure 1 plots the annual number of articles published in *EE* from 1976 to 2025. From the data, one observes a comparatively slow and steady increase in publications from late 1970s through early 2000. There is a very strong increase in article production from 2005 on, with published papers going up to sharp peak in the 2010s. This rapid expansion demonstrates an increasing academic interest in evidence related to economic development, supported by advancement in econometric techniques, access to new data sources and an increased social demand for economic policy analysis based on evidence.

The trend highlights certain fluctuations in the number of publications, with significant decline in some years (e.g. 2021 and 2024). Such variations may even reflect external influences like economic crises, journal publishing policy or research funding changes. However, the bigger picture demonstrates a noticeable upward trend in research activity, indicating that *EE* is becoming an increasingly significant part of contemporary economic research. Overall, the data highlight how *EE* has gained ground since the 1980s, both in terms of newly published papers and citations to them. Recent years have seen an increase in the number of publications, indicating greater mainstream adoption and incorporation of empirical methods into economic theory and policy, as well as expansion of the journal's reach in academia.

Table 2 presents a full summary of the publication and citation dynamics in an average year for *EE* papers between 1976 and 2025. It tabulates total papers (TP), total citations (TC), and papers with different citation thresholds (≥ 200 , ≥ 100 , ≥ 50 , ≥ 20 , ≥ 10 , ≥ 5 and 1). The statistics are then presented year-by-year, shedding

Table 1 Procedure of the study based on the SPAR-4-SLR protocol

Activity

Identification

Journal: *Empirical Economics* (*EE*)

Research objective: Present a bibliometric retrospective of *EE*

Research questions:

1. What are the publication and citation trends in *EE*?
2. How well is *EE* performing in the research community?
3. Which *EE* papers are cited the most, and which sources does *EE* cite the most?
4. Who publishes the most in *EE* (authors, institutions, and countries)?
5. How's *EE*'s co-citation and bibliographic coupling networks look like?
6. What are the main keywords and topics in *EE*?

Assembling

Search platform: Scopus

Search period: 1976–2025. The search was retrieved in January–February 2026

Source Title: Empirical Economics. Results = 3927

Scopus. Filter Source Titles: Empirical Economics: 3670

Search in WoS Core Collection (Publication Titles): 2884 documents

Computer software: *VOSviewer*, *bibliometrix*, *biblioshiny* and Microsoft Excel

Arranging

Scopus: Filter 1: Exclude 2026 (1976–2025): 3654 documents (3567 articles, 39 erratum, 29 editorials, 10 conference papers, 5 reviews, 2 note, 1 retracted, 1 letter)

Filter 2: Article & Review and Conference Paper (special issue). Final number: 3582 documents

WoS Core Collection: Exclude 2002 and 2026 (2858), select Article + Review (2800) and exclude Early Access and Retracted (2795)

Additional results: JCR (WoS) and SciVal (Scopus)

Evaluation

Performance analysis:

1. Classify and rank *EE* using bibliometric indicators
2. Use indicators like total articles/citations, citations per article, *h*-index, citations per year, articles/citations per capita, and trends over time

Graphical analysis:

1. Create visual maps using *VOS viewer* and *Bibliometrix*
2. Analyze networks using co-citation, bibliographic coupling, and keyword co-occurrence
3. Use methods like network maps, thematic maps, and word clouds

Agenda proposal method:

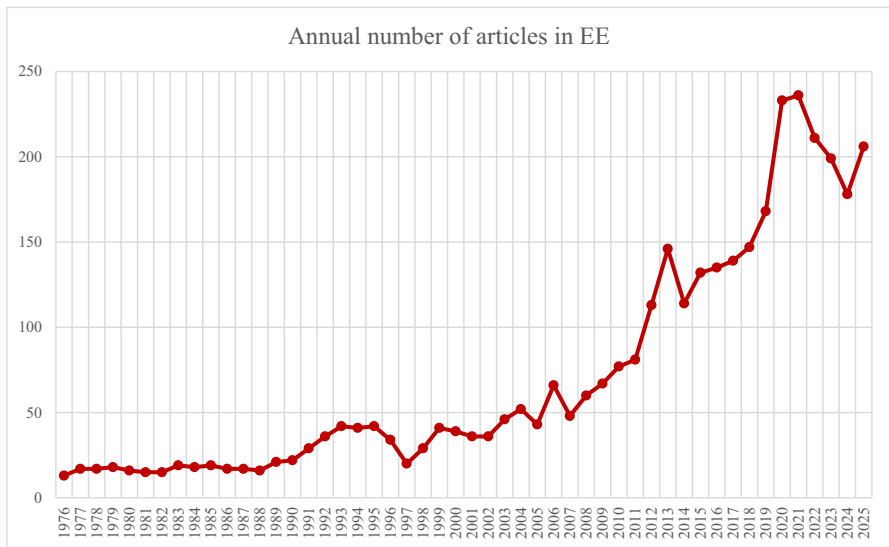
1. To mark *EE*'s 50th anniversary, do a bibliometric review from 1976 to 2024
2. Identify key and emerging *EE* trends and highlight future research questions

Assessing

Reporting conventions: explanations with numbers, tables and figures

Table 1 (continued)**Activity****Limitations:**

1. The bibliographic data was collected in February 2026, but *EE* publishes a new issue every two months. So, the results will need future updates to reflect new publications and citations
2. This study is limited by Scopus and Web of Science coverage and indexing practices, including the use of full counting and author affiliations recorded at the time of publication
3. Publication and citation patterns vary across papers, so individual articles may not follow the overall trend

**Fig. 1** Annual number of papers published in *EE*

light on citation increases, academic impact and the top countries helping to drive the journal influence. In the period 1976–1985, publication rates and citation frequency were generally low in *EE* (total citations: 34 in 1976, only 3 documents with ≥ 5 citations). It is, however, in the 1990s when both publications and citations increase substantially.

The 2000s was a period of sharp increase in the impact of *EE*, from 1506 citations in total in 2001 to as high as 3078 in 2008, where more than ≥ 20 papers are cited ≥ 10 times each year. Similarly, the concentration of highly cited papers was higher during this period; the counts increased steadily for ≥ 200 citation papers. This trend accelerated in the 2010s, with cumulative citations reaching a total of 13,195 by year 2015 and a substantial increase in the number of papers with ≥ 50 citations.

The most recent several years (2021–2025) see the growth of *EE* continue, with 2016 and 2083 papers in the years 2021 and 2023, respectively. In these years, the

Table 2 Annual citation structure of *EE*

Year	TP	TC	≥ 200	≥ 100	≥ 50	≥ 20	≥ 10	≥ 5	≥ 1	1*	2*	3*
1976	13	34	0	0	0	0	0	3	10	GER (4)	CAN (2)	ITA (2)
1977	17	176	0	1	1	2	4	5	12	GER (6)	BEL (3)	AUT (2)
1978	17	34	0	0	0	0	1	2	11	USA (4)	GER (3)	UK (3)
1979	18	27	0	0	0	0	0	1	12	USA (9)	AUS (2)	CAN (2)
1980	16	39	0	0	0	0	1	2	12	USA (4)	ISR (3)	UK (3)
1981	15	26	0	0	0	0	0	1	10	USA (5)	UK (3)	AUS (2)
1982	15	62	0	0	0	1	1	4	11	USA (4)	FIN (3)	UK (3)
1983	19	60	0	0	0	0	1	6	13	USA (6)	CAN (4)	NED (3)
1984	18	63	0	0	0	1	2	4	11	CAN (6)	USA (3)	AUT (2)
1985	19	40	0	0	0	0	0	4	13	UK (4)	CAN (3)	FIN (2)
1986	17	161	0	0	1	3	5	5	12	CAN (5)	GER (3)	FIN (2)
1987	17	50	0	0	0	1	1	4	11	USA (6)	CAN (5)	UK (3)
1988	16	212	0	1	1	2	5	8	14	USA (9)	CAN (4)	NED (3)
1989	21	87	0	0	0	1	2	8	16	GER (8)	USA (4)	CAN (3)
1990	22	188	0	0	0	3	6	9	19	USA (7)	CAN (5)	GER (4)
1991	29	294	0	0	2	5	8	11	27	CAN (10)	USA (9)	GER (6)
1992	36	638	0	2	2	5	18	21	31	USA (13)	CAN (5)	NED (4)
1993	42	658	0	0	4	9	16	25	37	CAN (11)	USA (9)	GER (8)
1994	41	665	0	0	3	13	17	22	36	USA (16)	GER (8)	CAN (4)
1995	42	4447	1	1	3	7	16	27	37	USA (16)	GER (6)	NED (6)
1996	34	900	0	2	7	13	18	24	32	USA (13)	AUS (5)	BEL (3)

Table 2 (continued)

Year	TP	TC	≥ 200	≥ 100	≥ 50	≥ 20	≥ 10	≥ 5	≥ 1	1*	2*	3*
1997	20	836	1	1	2	3	7	12	18	CAN (3)	GER (3)	UK (3)
1998	29	482	0	0	4	8	15	22	29	USA (9)	GER (6)	ITA (4)
1999	41	687	0	0	3	9	16	28	39	USA (13)	CAN (4)	GER (4)
2000	39	654	0	1	2	14	20	26	36	GER (8)	CAN (5)	NED (5)
2001	36	1506	0	6	12	20	25	31	35	USA (12)	GER (5)	ESP (3)
2002	36	1407	1	3	6	21	27	29	36	USA (10)	CAN (6)	UK (6)
2003	46	1241	1	2	8	17	25	36	45	USA (15)	CAN (5)	GER (5)
2004	52	1230	1	1	4	23	36	40	52	USA (10)	GER (7)	AUS (6)
2005	43	1176	0	2	7	16	23	30	42	USA (10)	GER (7)	ESP (5)
2006	66	980	0	0	2	20	34	49	64	GER (13)	USA (11)	UK (8)
2007	48	1385	1	3	5	19	33	38	48	USA (11)	GER (10)	UK (7)
2008	60	3078	3	3	12	29	43	52	59	USA (10)	ITA (9)	GER (8)
2009	67	1198	0	0	3	24	41	55	66	GER (14)	UK (10)	USA (8)
2010	77	1593	1	3	6	22	38	54	75	USA (20)	ITA (10)	SWE (8)
2011	81	1825	1	1	10	27	47	62	78	GER (16)	USA (14)	UK (13)
2012	113	2950	2	5	13	34	58	88	111	USA (30)	GER (18)	ITA (15)
2013	146	3598	4	7	11	37	76	116	143	USA (31)	GER (27)	ITA (17)
2014	114	1440	0	0	4	19	49	78	108	USA (23)	GER (21)	ESP (19)
2015	132	1789	0	1	5	26	57	91	127	USA (37)	ITA (15)	UK (15)
2016	135	2022	1	2	7	25	53	94	130	USA (31)	GER (22)	UK (14)
2017	139	2016	1	2	5	30	56	98	133	USA (38)	ESP (15)	GER (13)

Table 2 (continued)

Year	TP	TC	≥ 200	≥ 100	≥ 50	≥ 20	≥ 10	≥ 5	≥ 1	1*	2*	3*
2018	147	2197	0	1	11	32	59	104	142	USA (44)	GER (21)	AUS (14)
2019	168	1889	0	0	3	31	65	102	162	USA (35)	GER (25)	UK (24)
2020	233	2655	0	1	8	32	88	143	215	USA (47)	GER (41)	AUS (26)
2021	236	4626	3	4	7	25	73	141	224	USA (42)	GER (31)	CHN (30)
2022	211	2083	1	1	4	25	52	107	185	USA (42)	GER (30)	AUS (20)
2023	199	827	0	0	0	2	19	66	168	USA (25)	CHN (24)	UK (22)
2024	178	713	0	1	1	5	16	39	138	USA (38)	CHN (25)	ITA (20)
2025	206	215	0	0	0	2	4	10	76	USA (53)	CHN (51)	GER (15)
76–85	167	561	0	1	1	4	10	32	115	USA (39)	CAN (25)	UK (23)
86–95	283	7400	1	4	16	49	94	140	240	USA (91)	CAN (55)	GER (47)
96–05	376	10,119	4	18	55	144	212	278	364	USA (96)	GER (51)	CAN (35)
06–15	904	19,836	12	23	71	257	476	683	879	USA (195)	GER (147)	ITA (106)
16–25	1852	19,243	6	12	47	210	486	905	1574	USA (453)	GER (230)	CHN (211)
Total	3582	57,127	23	58	190	662	1276	2036	3170	USA (874)	GER (492)	UK (355)
%	100	100	0.64	1.62	5.30	18.48	35.62	56.84	88.50	–	–	–

EE and TC = total papers and citations; ≥ 200 , ≥ 100 , ≥ 50 , ≥ 20 , ≥ 10 , ≥ 5 , ≥ 1 = number of papers with equal or more than 500, 200, 100, 50, 20, 10, 5 and 1 citations;

1*, 2* and 3* = Top 3 most productive countries each year

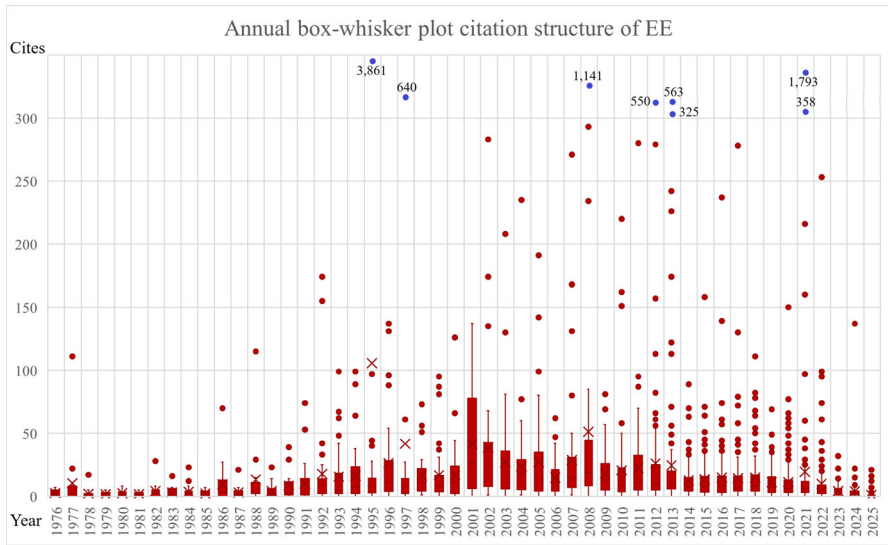


Fig. 2 Annual box-whisker plot citation structure of all articles and reviews published in *EE*

number of papers with ≥ 200 citations further took off, mirroring the high academic impact on the global research picture that still characterizes our journal. The three most productive countries from the field of research are USA, Germany, and UK, and they rank consistently in the top three ranked list and with maximum citations.

Overall, the table illustrates an inclination in both publications and citations for *Empirical Economics*, with evidence of accelerating input from established academic countries and a clear upward trend in the number of papers meeting high citation cut-offs. The data presented indicate that the journal has gained prominence in a field and continues to gain importance in the global economics research community.

Figure 2 provides an annual box-whisker plot (Tukey 1977) showing the citation structure of *EE* articles by publishing year. This plot shows both the distribution of citation counts and long-term trends for that journal, where the whiskers are the range of citations and boxes represent interquartile range. The presence of individual data points (outliers) and crosses show years when the citation count was particularly high, which can be significant for articles published in the early 2000s and 2010s. These blue ranges above the plot represents the highest citation counts each year, such as 3861 citations in a peak year, which shows that some articles hold significance within this journal's history. The analysis shows that the year 2000 marked a sharp rise in citations, corresponding with an upward increase in the number of articles (Fig. 1).

The increase in citation counts is a sign that *EE* has been gaining increasing recognition and begetting more influence among the academics. Over time the growing range of citations indicates that although the journal has a constant base of moderately cited papers, in addition there is a smaller group of highly impactful articles published in (1995, 2008, 2021) drawing more academic attention. Indeed, these impactful articles have probably been instrumental in the evolution of the field. Overall, Fig. 2 presents

a sequential picture of how *EE* was spreading in terms of scholarly impact. Citation counts continue to increase, and the journal will remain a major venue for economic research.

An analysis of *EE* in WoS (Clarivate 2025) and Scopus (Scopus 2025) from 2007 to 2024 shows interesting trends about citation metrics, impact factors, and topics pursued (Table 3). Total citations in JCR (TCJ) have increased significantly, from 352 in 2007 to 5536 in 2023, indicative of the development and impact that the journal has been able to accomplish. The IF also rose from 0.28 in 2007 to 3.2 in 2022, which indicates the increasing influence of it on the economics domain. This increasing trend is also reflected by the 5-year impact factor (5YIF), suggesting continuing significance across years.

Several other important indicators further highlight *EE*'s academic impact. The immediacy index (ImIn), reaching its peak in 2021 with ImIn = 0.64. The Article Influence Score (AIS) (Bergstrom et al. 2008) is also indicative of a strong influence, and it has increased consistently over the years and from 2020 to 2024. For the ranking in the WoS category of Economics (RE), the position of the journal has promoted by these measures which shows that its recognition in this field is growing. In addition, the

Table 3 Analysis of *EE* in the JCR of the WoS and Scopus

Year	TCJ	IF	5YIF	ImIn	AIS	RE	PE	RSM	PSM	CS	BPS
2007	352	0.28	–	0.08	–	160/191	16.49	32/35	10	–	–
2008	551	0.42	–	0.08	–	163/209	22.25	33/37	12.16	–	–
2009	677	0.57	–	0.07	–	159/247	35.83	31/38	19.74	–	–
2010	716	0.71	0.82	0.09	0.50	159/305	48.03	24/43	45.35	–	–
2011	783	0.59	0.87	0.08	0.51	193/321	40.03	30/45	34.44	1.5	66-SS
2012	879	0.61	0.96	0.03	0.52	203/333	39.19	35/45	23.33	1.2	61-M
2013	1014	0.62	0.93	0.11	0.46	203/333	39.19	34/45	25.56	1.3	67-M
2014	1120	0.69	0.84	0.11	0.44	196/333	41.29	37/46	20.65	1.4	64-M
2015	1209	0.61	0.81	0.06	0.45	224/345	35.22	38/49	23.47	1.5	60-M
2016	1580	0.64	0.98	0.16	0.47	236/347	32.13	37/49	25.51	1.6	63-M
2017	1909	0.97	1.08	0.07	0.41	207/353	41.5	31/49	37.76	1.4	64-M
2018	2233	1.02	1.22	0.27	0.48	220/363	39.53	33/49	33.67	1.7	70-M
2019	2537	1.30	1.29	0.35	0.39	201/373	46.25	30/51	42.16	1.9	81-M
2020	3886	1.71	1.84	0.51	0.59	217/376	42.42	36/52	31.73	2.0	75-M
2021	4736	2.64	2.38	0.64	0.56	144/381	62.34	18/53	66.98	2.5	75-SS
2022	5276	3.2	2.6	0.6	0.62	119/380	68.8	14/53	74.5	3.3	85-M
2023	5536	1.9	2.9	0.3	0.64	224/600	62.7	20/67	70.9	4.4	89-M
2024	5377	1.9	2.6	0.4	0.57	225/620	63.8	25/68	64	5.6	91-M

TCJ, total citations in the JCR; IF, impact factor; 5YIF, 5-year impact factor; ImI, immediacy index; AIS, Article Influence Score; EIG, eigenfactor; RE, ranking in the WoS category of economics; PE, journal impact factor percentile in economics; RSM, ranking in the WoS category of social sciences, mathematical methods; PSM, journal impact factor percentile in social sciences, mathematical methods; CS, CiteScore (Scopus); BPS, best percentile in Scopus (EE is indexed in: EET, economics and econometrics; M, mathematics (miscellaneous); SS, social sciences (miscellaneous); SP, statistics and probability)

ranking in the WoS category of Social Sciences, Mathematical methods (RSM), and Journal impact factor percentile in Social Sciences (PSM), Mathematical Methods of *EE* in Scopus shows continuous influential performances, signalling its high citation performance in mathematics and social sciences.

A notable direction is that the journal becomes more collaborative and interdisciplinary, and more emphasis has been placed on the point to which economics, social sciences, and mathematical approaches meet. This is also evidenced by *EE*'s increased Journal Impact Factor Percentile in Social Sciences (PSM), particularly over the last few years, indicative of *EE*'s wide interdisciplinary attraction. Also, trends from themes show that research in econometrics is increasingly present (though modest) with some contributions from mathematical or/and statistical modelling as patterned by the classification of source years into "Mathematics" and "Social Science" per best percentile in Scopus (BPS).

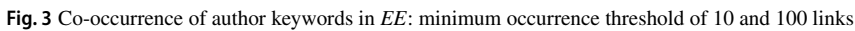
In short, *EE* has been growing in number of citations, impact and interdisciplinarity with a clear positive trend in both traditional as well as emerging fields of economics research.

5 Keyword and topic analysis of *EE*

Figure 3 presents an author keyword co-occurrence network mapping of *EE*, specifically those used at least ten times with one hundred links as the minimum threshold. The network, created with *VOSviewer* (Van Eck and Waltman 2010, 2023) visualizes the interconnectedness between dominant research themes in the journal. Each colour in the network represents the temporal development of keywords, where novel themes are assigned warmer colours. The terms "economic growth", "business cycle", and "forecasting" are more frequent in the central part of the map, denoting their importance in the recent journal's publications. Those clusters indicate that much cognitive attention is paid to matters such as global economic expansion and the income distribution dilemma, especially with respect to foresight. The network also demonstrates the usage of advanced econometric techniques like "cointegration," "panel data" and "granger causality," which are commonly employed within many research disciplines.

A growing number of specialized words such as 'machine learning, structural break' and 'monetary policy' suggest that the journal welcomes interdisciplinary work especially that mixing traditional econometrics with new tools from data science. This reflects an increasing methodological pluralism among economists as they seek new and creative ways to investigate economic challenges. The analysis highlights the growing sophistication and interplay of empirical techniques in economic research, echoing the journal's position as a conduit between economic theory and contemporary techniques. Further, the journal's contribution to research is evident in its wide-ranging topics covering such themes as economic growth and inequality that continue to dominate policy discussions, and in the use of econometric methods or machine learning techniques.

The trend topics in *EE* are shown by Fig. 4, generated using *bibliometrix* package in R (Aria and Cuccurullo 2017). The horizontal lines indicate the timeline, while the size of the circles represents how commonly a topic was present in journals publications.



Meanwhile, as previous subjects' research interest declines in favour of "autocorrelation" and "consumer demand," for example, they appear less frequently and support changing academic interests. The analysis of trend topics in journal indicates that this field is dynamic and progressive towards policy relevant and contemporary issues like climate change effects on business cases or economic impacts of global health crisis events. This development captures both the journal's response to global challenges and its commitment to economic fundamentalism.

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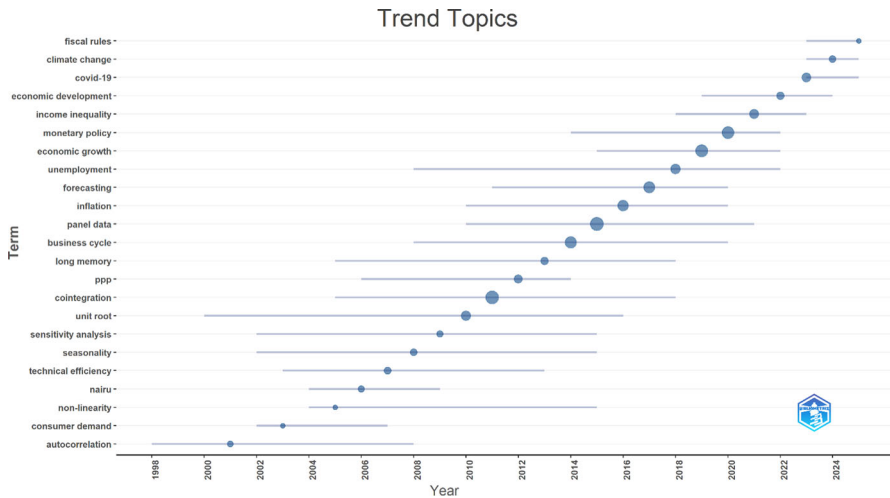


Fig. 4 Trend topics in *EE*

Panel Data was the most frequently referenced (91) keyword, attesting its prominence in empirical research in the journal. Economic Growth with (77) and Monetary Policy with (76) confirm that these keywords significantly influenced the thematic orientation of the journal.

Other themes trending in the past years are Forecasting, Income Inequality, Inflation, and Unemployment. The surges of the keywords Inequality and China show increasing concerns for social inequalities, as well as the impact of major economies on international economic pathways. Additionally, econometric techniques (Quantile Regression, Endogeneity and Granger Causality) are also among keywords raising attention to the methodological shift in *EE* research. There have been certain keywords that have maintained a constant presence, such as Financial Development, Convergence and Exchange Rate, which signal continued research into financial markets and global economic interactions.

There are also more occurrences of words such as COVID-19, Volatility, and Uncertainty, which reflect the journal's readiness to respond to global crises and shocks in financial markets through a broadening of economic research to include current issues. These developments indicate a shift towards interdisciplinary research, especially at the nexus between economics, statistical modelling and global topics.

The most used author keywords of *EE* are shown in the word cloud in Fig. 5. The size of each word corresponds to how often it appears in the journal's publications, with larger words representing more common topics in the publications. The most common author keywords are panel data, cointegration, economic growth, and monetary policy which showed strong emphasis of empirical methods in the journal and on macro topics. "Forecasting" and "business cycle" are also prominent, indicating that predictive models and business cycles is an important focus area in the field.

There are some other keywords such as "inequality", "inflation", and "economic development", which reflects on journal's involvement in critical global issues. So,

Table 4 Dynamic evolution of the most frequent author keywords

R	Keyword	06	07	08	09	10	11	12	13	14	15	16	17	18	19	20	21	22	23	24	25	Total
1	Panel Data	2	2	0	4	4	8	6	4	3	7	2	7	4	2	8	10	3	7	5	3	91
2	Economic Growth	0	0	1	1	1	3	5	2	0	3	3	6	6	8	10	6	6	7	5	4	77
3	Monetary Policy	1	1	0	2	1	0	2	6	4	2	3	2	7	4	12	6	7	2	7	7	76
4	Cointegration	6	1	3	4	4	7	3	4	2	5	3	1	8	6	6	3	3	3	1	1	74
5	Forecasting	2	2	1	0	2	3	1	4	2	2	5	8	1	2	8	5	2	4	1	4	59
6	Business Cycle	2	1	2	3	2	3	4	3	4	3	3	3	0	5	4	3	1	6	3	3	58
7	Inflation	2	0	1	0	2	2	3	3	2	2	1	1	3	6	5	3	2	2	2	4	46
8	Structural Break	0	1	3	3	2	3	1	3	1	3	2	3	0	4	4	4	4	2	1	2	46
9	Income Inequality	0	0	0	0	1	0	1	1	0	1	3	2	2	0	4	6	5	2	5	3	36
10	Unemployment	3	0	0	1	1	1	1	0	1	2	0	3	1	3	5	2	1	4	5	1	35
11	Inequality	0	0	1	0	1	2	2	0	0	2	2	1	2	1	4	2	4	4	3	4	35
12	China	0	0	0	0	0	1	1	0	1	2	2	2	0	2	5	4	4	1	6	4	35
13	Covid-19	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	5	12	6	10	33

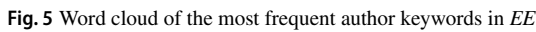
Table 4 (continued)

R	Keyword	06	07	08	09	10	11	12	13	14	15	16	17	18	19	20	21	22	23	24	25	Total
14	Quantile Regression	2	0	0	1	1	0	1	1	0	1	2	2	0	1	5	2	5	4	0	4	32
15	Financial Development	0	0	0	0	5	2	0	0	0	2	1	2	2	4	4	6	0	1	2	0	31
16	Growth	0	4	2	0	3	0	1	0	0	2	1	0	1	2	4	4	2	1	2	1	30
17	Convergence	2	1	1	0	0	1	3	3	2	0	2	3	0	0	4	3	1	0	2	1	29
18	Exchange Rate	0	1	2	0	0	0	1	0	2	0	1	2	3	1	6	1	2	1	4	1	28
19	Productivity	1	1	1	0	0	3	0	2	2	2	0	0	0	0	3	4	0	2	2	4	27
20	Fiscal Policy	0	0	0	0	0	2	2	0	2	3	3	0	5	0	2	1	1	2	3	1	27
21	Education	0	3	0	0	1	1	2	0	0	4	0	1	2	2	2	2	4	0	1	1	26
22	Instrumental Variables	0	0	2	0	1	0	3	4	0	3	0	0	1	1	2	1	2	3	1	1	25
23	FDI	0	0	0	0	0	0	1	3	1	1	2	3	3	1	1	3	4	0	2	0	25
24	Unit Root	2	0	1	0	2	1	2	1	2	0	4	1	1	2	1	1	0	2	1	0	24
25	VAR	0	1	0	0	0	1	0	2	2	0	2	2	1	1	2	5	2	1	1	0	23
26	Endogeneity	0	0	1	0	0	2	1	3	0	2	1	0	2	1	0	3	2	0	3	2	23
27	Volatility	0	1	1	0	1	1	1	0	0	0	2	2	1	2	2	4	0	1	2	2	23
28	Bootstrap	0	0	0	2	1	1	1	1	2	2	3	0	2	1	0	3	1	1	0	1	22

Table 4 (continued)

R	Keyword	06	07	08	09	10	11	12	13	14	15	16	17	18	19	20	21	22	23	24	25	Total
29	Human Capital	0	1	1	0	0	0	2	2	1	2	0	2	0	1	1	5	2	1	1	0	22
30	Heterogeneity	1	1	0	2	0	1	1	2	1	1	0	1	0	2	1	1	2	2	1	2	22
31	Euro Area	2	1	0	1	0	0	1	0	1	3	1	0	1	1	1	3	1	1	3	1	22
32	Consumption	1	0	0	0	2	1	1	2	1	0	0	0	0	1	2	2	2	3	1	2	21
33	Granger Causality	2	0	0	0	1	0	1	1	1	0	0	2	2	5	0	3	1	1	1	0	21
34	Uncertainty	0	0	0	0	1	0	0	0	0	1	2	3	1	0	1	1	3	2	4	2	21
35	PPP	2	0	1	1	1	1	4	3	1	1	0	1	1	0	0	1	2	0	0	0	20
36	Employment	0	0	1	0	1	0	0	0	2	0	0	0	1	3	1	1	1	6	1	2	20
37	Causality	0	0	1	1	0	3	0	1	1	0	2	2	1	1	1	2	0	2	0	0	18
38	Efficiency	0	0	0	0	0	1	0	0	0	3	1	0	0	1	2	6	0	3	0	1	18
39	Cross-Sectional Dependence	0	0	2	1	0	1	3	1	0	0	0	2	0	1	2	3	0	0	0	2	18
40	Financial Crisis	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	1	1	1	0	1	0	2	4	2	1	3	1	1	18

R, rank; 06–25 = annual number of occurrences of the author keyword



Thematic map based on 250 most frequent author keywords in *EE*, using clustering algorithm Walktrap (Pons and Latapy 2006); shown in Fig. 6. The map plots the thematic evolution of research topics, based on their relevance (centrality) and development degree (density), and divided into four quadrants, referring to the theme categories of the journal publications. Motor themes (top-right): A set of well-formed and salient topics, e.g. "Economic Growth", "inequality Income", and "monetary Policy" became prominent. High density and high-centrality topics indicate their general importance or that further research is ongoing. Basic themes (bottom-right): This quadrant contains such already well-defined themes as "cointegration," "unit root", and "structural break;" their relevance is significant; however, they have lower levels of its expansion. Niche themes (top-left) consist of topics like "COVID-19," "spillovers," and "innovations", which are the emerging themes gaining relevance but not yet globally developed. This inclusion in *EE* marks the awakening of academic interest in recent publications. Emerging or declining themes (bottom left) contain less connected topics.

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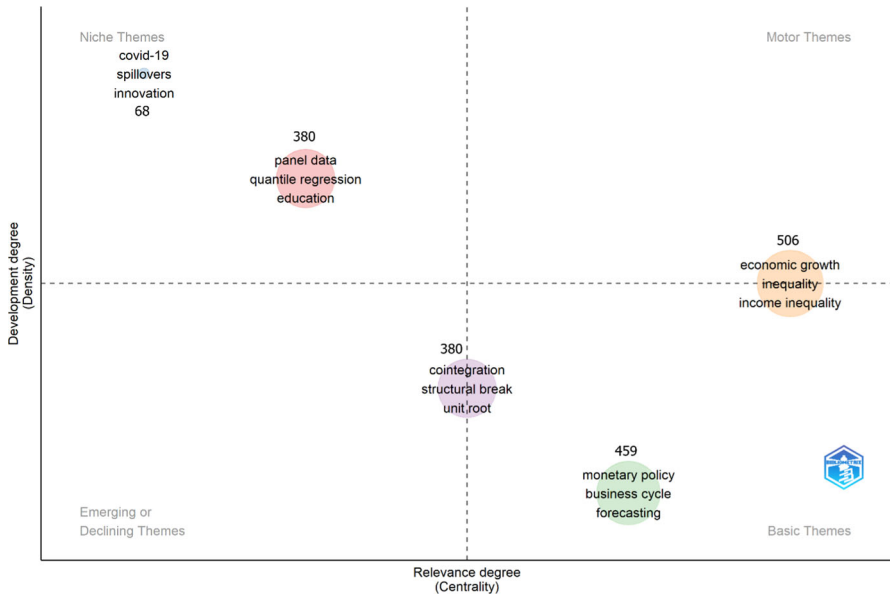


Fig. 6 Thematic map built with the 250 most frequent author keywords and minimum cluster frequency (per thousand documents) of 5

themes were and the emergence of new models in our discipline, the map gives an excellent overview over what areas gain or lose traction over time.

Table 5 presents the most common index keywords in *EE* showing an indication of emerging trends and important research topics for the period between 1976 and 2025. The most frequently used keyword is United States, Which ranks the first places for both total papers and citations per paper, making an overwhelmingly contribution to this field with 415 publications of high citation rate, indicating that research conducted in USA dominate the research field. Followed by the keyword numerical model which suggests that there has been an increasing focus in recent period towards computational and quantitative methods. Panel Data and Empirical Analysis are found as underlying topics, being persistent all over the period, besides there is a strengthened prominence for the journal concerning sophisticated statistical techniques.

Geographically, phrases such as Europe and Germany appear quite often, reflecting the large participation of European countries, mainly in economic modelling and analysis. The mid-2010s express China's increasing ascendancy in the realm of global economic research, while modelling and macroeconomics suggest a growing focus on more sophisticated and advanced theoretical and applied economic research. Also, forecasting method and regression analysis represent the trend of *EE* increasingly stressing econometrics and predictive analysis to meet more analytical requirements.

The thematic evolution of the journal also suggests a significant preference for classical economic issues, such as Economic Growth, Monetary Policy, Inflation and Financial Crisis. These key phrases that appear multiple times indicate the commitment of *EE* to deal with global economic challenges and policy responses. Additionally,

Table 5 The most frequent index keywords in *EE*

R	Index keyword	TP	TC	H	C/P	D1	D2	D3	D4	COAU
1	United States	415	5522	35	13.31	0	42	108	264	USA (168)
2	Numerical Model	359	5303	29	14.77	0	2	166	191	USA (96)
3	Panel Data	320	12,502	38	39.07	2	22	117	179	USA (70)
4	Empirical Analysis	313	7122	38	22.75	0	11	126	176	USA (48)
5	Estimation Method	288	4148	31	14.4	1	12	107	168	USA (87)
6	Europe	277	5726	39	20.67	3	50	112	112	GER (66)
7	Regression Analysis	277	4942	34	17.84	0	22	77	178	USA (69)
8	Price Dynamics	258	3568	28	13.83	0	23	80	155	USA (76)
9	Econometrics	250	4209	31	16.84	2	7	100	141	USA (63)
10	Economic Growth	243	7095	39	29.2	3	17	61	162	USA (40)
11	Inflation	224	2773	21	12.38	1	24	76	123	USA (46)
12	Gross Domestic Product	215	3458	31	16.08	1	15	57	142	GER (37)
13	Macroeconomics	204	2206	23	10.81	0	9	45	150	USA (39)
14	Monetary Policy	186	1551	21	8.34	1	11	46	128	USA (43)
15	Forecasting Method	177	2051	21	11.59	0	12	39	126	USA (32)
16	Modelling	175	3234	31	18.48	0	24	87	64	USA (44)
17	China	170	1983	23	11.66	0	0	11	159	CHN (104)
18	Cointegration Analysis	161	2510	23	15.59	0	20	70	71	GER (23)
19	Economic Analysis	157	2218	23	14.13	0	10	63	84	USA (36)
20	Labor Market	157	1496	21	9.53	0	19	43	95	GER (42)
21	Stock Market	153	2385	25	15.59	0	15	40	98	GER (23)

Table 5 (continued)

R	Index keyword	TP	TC	H	C/P	D1	D2	D3	D4	COAU
22	Germany	150	2689	29	17.93	4	31	56	59	GER (112)
23	Income Distribution	150	2306	25	15.37	2	13	34	101	USA (35)
24	Interest Rate	145	1355	19	9.34	0	14	41	90	USA (28)
25	Financial Market	144	1924	23	13.36	0	10	21	113	USA (30)
26	Unemployment	143	1463	21	10.23	1	19	51	72	GER (31)
27	Eurasia	139	3765	34	27.09	0	42	97	0	GER (31)
28	Investment	139	1768	23	12.72	0	11	34	94	USA (21)
29	Financial Crisis	136	1354	18	9.96	0	1	22	113	USA (23)
30	Exchange Rate	130	1860	21	14.31	1	18	33	78	USA (28)
31	Business Cycle	124	1570	22	12.66	2	20	39	63	USA (22)
32	Consumption Behaviour	122	1509	17	12.37	0	19	35	68	USA (28)
33	Banking	118	1695	20	14.36	0	6	21	91	USA (22)
34	Monte Carlo Analysis	115	3378	17	29.37	0	9	39	67	USA (35)
35	Data Set	115	2749	24	23.9	0	0	40	75	USA (30)
36	Bayesian Analysis	113	712	14	6.3	0	4	24	85	USA (29)
37	Vector Autoregression	112	1202	20	10.73	0	17	28	67	USA (22)
38	Employment	107	1088	18	10.17	1	9	30	67	USA (30)
39	Stochasticity	106	1223	18	11.54	0	2	31	72	USA (39)
40	Income	102	2109	25	20.68	0	11	35	56	USA (23)

Abbreviations are available in Table 2 except for: H = *h*-index; C/P = Cites per paper; D1 = TP between 1976–1995; D2 = TP 1996–2005; D3 = TP 2006–2015; D4 = TP 2016–2025; COAU = top country coauthor

the growing role of topics such as Consumption Behaviour and Behavioural Economics signals a broadening of the emphasis on research themes towards behavioural considerations, reflecting an interdisciplinary orientation in economic research. The continuation of keywords in econometrics, financial markets, and macroeconomic problems indicates that the journal remains an ongoing force in current economic research.

Table 6 presents the top topic clusters in *EE*, based on data between 2015 and 2024 (SciVal. 2024), and shows what has been an emerging research area and how it evolves over the decade. The largest topic cluster, of Monetary Policy and Economic Dynamics in Markets with 271 documents, which represents a great portion to the journal as whole. The cluster with view count and the total 7979 citation reflects that *EE* publication's attention on macroeconomic policies and implication on market behaviour. Other journals, such as Interconnections of Economic Growth and Environmental Impact, appear in second place with 216 papers illustrating a growing interest in the intersection between economics and sustainability, underpinned by high values of field-weighted citation impact (FWCI) of (2.28) (Purkayastha et al. 2019).

There appears to be a clear financial market orientation in the journal, as evidenced by the fact that a critical mass of papers (in cluster Volatility and Investor Behaviour in Financial Markets) is being discussed. This research field, focusing on behavioural finance, is also highly cited (5456 views) and has a high FWCI as well as established scholarly impact. Other clusters that are of relevance to market dynamics such as Trade Dynamics, Economic Development Insights, and Investment Strategies and Financial Structures in Banking illustrate the interdisciplinary nature of examination *EE* applies to world economic structures and financial systems.

The second one, Income Inequality and Financial Literacy Dynamics, is a relevant subject of study that mirrors the increasing attention being given by academia to tackling economic gaps while promoting financial knowledge in contemporary economies. Clusters such as Causal inference and estimation in health research, and Sustainable development in the tourism industry, are other examples that display how the field of *EE* has opened towards nontraditional domains through addressing social and environmental concerns decisively. Clusters such as Monetary Policy, and Economic Dynamics in Markets and Interconnections of Economic Growth and Environmental Impact have garnered the highest prominent percentile (PP) (Klavans and Boyack 2017) impact, which are indicative of their centrality to *empirical economics* research. They also have the highest field-weighted citation impact (FWCI), indicating their global reach and influence on modern economic science.

EE as a journal seems to have managed well to broaden its scope away from standard economic theories and towards multidisciplinary approach to current international problems (sustainability, financial literacy, or economic inequality).

In conclusion, the keyword analysis presented in this section reveals that *EE* has grown a methodologically sophisticated and thematically diverse research identity over its publication history. Core econometric techniques like cointegration, panel data, Granger causality, quantile regression, and structural break analysis, appear persistently as dominant keywords, confirming the journal's role as a primary venue for applied econometric inquiry. Panel data, the most frequently referenced keyword (91

Table 6 Leading topic clusters in *EE* between 2015 and 2024 (SciVal—Scopus)

R	Topic cluster	TP	VC	TC	TC/TP	FWCI	PP
1	Monetary Policy and Economic Dynamics in Markets	271	7979	1533	5.66	0.51	68.73
2	Interconnections of Economic Growth and Environmental Impact	216	6746	4804	22.24	2.28	99.54
3	Volatility and Investor Behaviour in Financial Markets	164	5456	2324	14.17	1.33	96.14
4	Trade Dynamics and Economic Development Insights	107	3900	1452	13.57	1.3	92.02
5	Income Inequality and Financial Literacy Dynamics	68	2454	910	13.38	0.96	77.82
6	Efficiency and Sustainability in Fisheries Management	63	1530	807	12.81	1.22	79.72
7	Dynamics of Housing Market and Labor Mobility	62	1890	460	7.42	0.67	37.60
8	Investment Strategies and Financial Structures in Banking	59	2403	673	11.41	1.03	86.46
9	Spatial Dynamics in Real Estate Valuation Models	58	1315	837	14.43	1.18	47.48
10	Economic Growth and Structural Change in Development	55	2082	872	15.85	1.16	57.22
11	Causal Inference and Estimation in Health Research	45	1234	340	7.56	0.76	84.89
12	Gender Discrimination and Educational Policy Dynamics	35	1406	670	19.14	0.67	55.78
13	Sustainable Development in the Tourism Industry	29	1252	411	14.17	1.27	97.90
14	Corporate Governance and Ownership Impact on Performance	27	1306	211	7.81	0.72	98.03
15	Bayesian Mixture Models in Regression Analysis	25	506	133	5.32	0.9	53.23
16	Risk Management and Optimization in Financial Markets	23	739	94	4.09	0.32	70.24
17	Market Dynamics in Cooperative Auctions and Games	23	682	210	9.13	0.89	36.42
18	Migration Dynamics and Socioeconomic Impacts	21	718	271	12.90	1.15	83.51
19	Internationalization and Cultural Dynamics in Emerging Markets	20	1129	372	18.60	1.34	74.88
20	Collective Bargaining and Taxation in Labor Markets	18	541	134	7.44	0.67	55.19
21	Democracy, Trust, and Political Dynamics in Society	15	436	218	14.53	1.21	51.27

Table 6 (continued)

R	Topic cluster	TP	VC	TC	TC/TP	FWCI	PP
22	Corruption, Plagiarism, and Economic Dynamics	14	732	216	15.43	1.72	59.32
23	Gender Roles and Work-Family Dynamics in Society	13	456	117	9.00	0.65	79.39
24	Statistical Models for Reliability and Risk Assessment	12	291	108	9.00	0.61	59.90
25	Quality Child Care and Early Education Programs	12	379	87	7.25	0.62	41.46
26	Entrepreneurship and Family Business Dynamics	10	397	133	13.30	1.13	96.99
27	Criminal Justice and Social Dynamics in Criminology	10	389	137	13.70	1.05	74.55
28	Social Capital and Housing Dynamics in Urban Areas	10	328	133	13.30	1.09	56.24
29	Integrated Care Models for Chronic Health Management	10	251	71	7.10	0.67	48.98
-	114 Topic Clusters	[1, 10]	-	-	-	-	-

R, rank; TP, total papers; VC, views count; TC, total citations; FWCI, field-weighted citation impact (data from Scopus); PP, worldwide prominent percentile (according to Scopus and FWCI)

occurrences), reflects the journal's deep commitment to micro- and macro-panel estimation frameworks widely used in policy evaluation and cross-country comparisons. The growing co-presence of machine learning, endogeneity and volatility, alongside classical methods signals a methodological pluralism in which traditional econometric identification strategies increasingly coexist with data-driven approaches, reinforcing the journal's citation competitiveness observed in Table 16.

The thematic map and topic cluster analysis further illuminate *EEs'* strategic positioning within the econometrics literature. The journal's motor themes like economic growth, income inequality, and monetary policy represent high-centrality research areas that sustain strong citation flows. The largest topic cluster, Monetary Policy and Economic Dynamics in Markets (271 documents), captures a core area of applied macro-econometrics where VAR frameworks and dynamic panel estimations dominate, while emerging clusters such as Interconnections of Economic Growth and Environmental Impact (FWCI: 2.28) signal the journal's growing engagement with quasi-experimental methods applied to nontraditional domains. This cross-domain thematic expansion aligns precisely with Candelon et al. (2024) finding that connectivity across knowledge domains is a key driver of citation success, suggesting that *EE's* broadening scope is a citation-enhancing strategy grounded in the network dynamics of modern econometric publications.

6 Influential papers in *EE*

The 50 most-cited documents in *EE* table reflect the classic articles which have contributed to the journal's impact factor. A "model for technical inefficiency effects in a stochastic frontier production function for panel data" (Battese and Coelli 1995) has drawn significant attention from the literature with 3861 total citations due to its pioneering strength in econometric modelling and technical efficiency analysis. Followed by "General diagnostic tests for cross-section dependence in panels" by Pesaran (2021) with 1793 citations and amazing citations per year value of 358.60, further confirming the essential role played by Pesaran's work in panel data econometrics.

Other highly cited papers include methodological comparisons in measuring the relationship between production and cost measures of firm performance by O'Donnell et al. (2008), with 1141 cites who underscore its role in resource management and productivity analysis at the firm level of economics. Other important articles are "a new approach to the decomposition of the Gini income inequality ratio" by Dagum (1997) with 640 citations and Kremer et al. (2013), which has 563 citations. These papers reflect ongoing research on inequality, economic development, and inflation in *EE*. The list additionally associates a more directed attention to issues in finance and economic stability, with papers that concern financial market dynamics; improving GARCH volatility forecasts with regime-switching GARCH by Klassen (2002) directly addresses the estimation of econometric forecasting methods used in analysing markets.

Overall, this Table 7 illustrates the continued publication of influential work that moves forward our understanding in theoretical and applied economics across a breadth of topics ranging from econometric methods to global financial markets and inequality.

The network presented in Fig. 7 is based on a bibliographic coupling of documents published in *EE*, has a minimum citation threshold of 50 documents and 100 links, visualized by *VOSviewer*. In the network, each node is a document, and the weight of citation is indicated by size (larger nodes correspond to more highly cited works). The edges that connect the nodes indicate bibliographic coupling, i.e. papers that share more references in common are near each other in the network.

The diagram shows some of the most central ones, for instance Pesaran (2021) or Battese and Coelli (1995), which form the biggest cluster and point out their status as determinant pieces for empirical work in economics. Similarly, other influential works including (Banerjee et al. 2005) and Balli and Sørensen (2013) are also highly interconnected with several papers, resting at the core of foundational contributions in the journal. The colouring of the nodes represents the works that are connected and share similar content. One example from the above figure is the cluster surrounding Pesaran (2021), which is highlighted in a different colour and indicates its importance amongst the more recent research. Overall, this bibliographic coupling map illustrates the intellectual structure of journal and helps us understand how important papers are interrelated. The analysis showcases how certain works underline major contributions while also drawing out the collaborative nature of the field whereby several research themes and approaches build upon these core studies.

Table 8 presents the 50 most-cited documents in *EE* from 2005 to 2025. The doc-

Table 7 The 50 most-cited documents in *EE*

<i>R</i>	Title	Author/s	Year	TC	C/Y
1	A model for technical inefficiency effects in a stochastic frontier production function for panel data	Battese, G.E.; Coelli, T.J	1995	3861	124.55
2	General diagnostic tests for cross-sectional dependence in panels	Pesaran, M.H	2021	1793	358.60
3	Metafrontier frameworks for the study of firm-level efficiencies and technology ratios	O'Donnell, C.J.; Prasada Rao, D.S.P.; Battese, G.E	2008	1141	63.39
4	A new approach to the decomposition of the Gini income inequality ratio	Dagum, C	1997	640	22.07
5	Inflation and growth: New evidence from a dynamic panel threshold analysis	Kremer, S.; Bick, A.; Nautz, D	2013	563	43.31
6	Asymmetric causality tests with an application	Hatemi-J, A	2012	550	39.29
7	A homogeneous approach to testing for Granger non-causality in heterogeneous panels	Juodis, A.; Karavias, Y.; Sarafidis, V	2021	358	71.60
8	Interaction effects in econometrics	Balli, H.O.; Sørensen, B.E	2013	325	25.00
9	Tests for cointegration with two unknown regime shifts with an application to financial market integration	Hatemi-J, A	2008	293	16.28
10	Improving GARCH volatility forecasts with regime-switching GARCH	Klaassen, F	2002	283	11.79
11	Oil and the macroeconomy: Using wavelets to analyze old issues	Aguiar-Conraria, L.; Soares, M.J	2011	280	18.67
12	Mixed logit estimation of willingness to pay distributions: A comparison of models in preference and WTP space using data from a health-related choice experiment	Hole, A.R.; Kolstad, J.R	2012	279	19.93

Table 7 (continued)

<i>R</i>	Title	Author/s	Year	TC	C/Y
13	The role of news-based uncertainty indices in predicting oil markets: a hybrid nonparametric quantile causality method	Balcilar, M.; Bekiros, S.; Gupta, R	2017	278	30.89
14	What accounts for international differences in student performance? A re-examination using PISA data	Fuchs, T.; Wößmann, L	2007	271	14.26
15	Quantile regression with nonadditive fixed effects	Powell, D	2022	253	63.25
16	Endogenous product versus process innovation and a firm's propensity to export	Becker, S.O.; Egger, P.H	2013	242	18.62
17	Financial development and income inequality: a panel data approach	Jauch, S.; Watzka, S	2016	237	23.70
18	Efficiency measurement using a latent class stochastic frontier model	Orea, L.; Kumbhakar, S.C	2004	235	10.68
19	Errors in variables and spatial effects in hedonic house price models of ambient air quality	Anselin, L.; Lozano-Gracia, N	2008	234	13.00
20	The export-output growth nexus in Japan: A bootstrap rolling window approach	Balcilar, M.; Özdemir, Z.A	2013	226	17.38
21	A metafrontier approach for measuring Malmquist productivity index	Oh, D.-H.; Lee, J.-D	2010	220	13.75
22	Feasible generalized least squares for panel data with cross-sectional and serial correlations	Bai, J.; Choi, S.H.; Liao, Y	2021	216	43.20
23	The proper panel econometric specification of the gravity equation: A three-way model with bilateral interaction effects	Egger, P.; Pfaffermayr, M	2003	208	9.04
24	Testing for PPP: Should we use panel methods?	Banerjee, A.; Marcellino, M.; Osbat, C	2005	191	9.10

Table 7 (continued)

<i>R</i>	Title	Author/s	Year	TC	C/Y
25	Comparing alternative methods to estimate gravity models of bilateral trade	Gomez-Herrera, E	2013	174	13.38
26	The European community household panel: A review	Peracchi, F	2002	174	7.25
27	Can cohort data be treated as genuine panel data?	Verbeek, M.; Nijman, T	1992	174	5.12
28	The effects of education on agricultural productivity under traditional and improved technology in northern Nigeria: An endogenous switching regression analysis	Alene, A.D.; Manyong, V.M	2007	168	8.84
29	How much does money really matter? Estimating the causal effects of income on happiness	Powdthavee, N	2010	162	10.13
30	The volatility of Bitcoin and its role as a medium of exchange and a store of value	Baur, D.G.; Dimpfl, T	2021	160	32.00
31	The evolution of economic convergence in the European Union	Borsi, M.T.; Metiu, N	2015	158	14.36
32	The role of the log transformation in forecasting economic variables	Lütkepohl, H.; Xu, F	2012	157	11.21
33	The demand for football: Some evidence on outcome uncertainty	Peel, D.A.; Thomas, D.A	1992	155	4.56
34	Non-attendance and dual processing of common-metric attributes in choice analysis: A latent class specification	Hensher, D.A.; Greene, W	2010	151	9.44
35	Carbon emissions, income inequality and economic development	Hailemariam, A.; Dzhumashev, R.; Shahbaz, M	2020	150	25.00
36	Public–private sector wage differentials in Germany: Evidence from quantile regression	Melly, B	2005	142	6.76
37	Revolution empirics: predicting the Arab Spring	Simplice, S.A.; Nwachukwu, J.C	2016	139	13.90

Table 7 (continued)

<i>R</i>	Title	Author/s	Year	TC	C/Y
38	Ecological footprint, electricity consumption, and economic growth in China: geopolitical risk and natural resources governance	Magazzino, C	2024	137	68.50
39	How wide is the gap? An investigation of gender wage differences using quantile regression	García Villar, J.; Hernández, P.J.; López-Nicolás, A	2001	137	5.48
40	A spectral decomposition for structural VAR models	Stiassny, A	1996	137	4.57
41	Uncertainty of outcome versus reputation: Empirical evidence for the first German football division	Czarnitzki, D.; Stadtman, G	2002	135	5.63
42	Conditional value-at-risk: Aspects of modeling and estimation	Chernozhukov, V.; Umantsev, L	2001	132	5.28
43	The shadow economy in three Mediterranean countries: France, Spain and Greece. A MIMIC approach	Dell'Anno, R.; Gómez-Antonio, M.; Alañón-Pardo, A	2007	131	6.89
44	The engine of growth or its handmaiden? A time-series assessment of export-led growth	Riezman, R.G.; Whiteman, C.H.; Summers, P.M	1996	131	4.37
45	Regional club convergence in the EU: evidence from a panel data analysis	von Lyncker, K.; Thoennessen, R	2017	130	14.44
46	Unit roots, postwar slowdowns and long-run growth: Evidence from two structural breaks	Ben-David, D.; Lumsdaine, R.L.; Papell, D.H	2003	130	5.65
47	Individual heterogeneity in the returns to schooling: Instrumental variables quantile regression using twins' data	Arias, O.; Hallock, K.F.; Sosa-Escudero, W	2001	130	5.20
48	R and D spillovers and productivity: Evidence from U.S. manufacturing microdata	Los, B.; Verspagen, B	2000	126	4.85

Table 7 (continued)

R	Title	Author/s	Year	TC	C/Y
49	Propensity score matching and variations on the balancing test	Lee, W.-S	2013	122	9.38
50	Technical efficiency analysis correcting for biases from observed and unobserved variables: An application to a natural resource management project	Bravo-Ureta, B.E.; Greene, W.; Solís, D	2012	115	8.21

R, rank; R*, rank in Verma et al. (2021); TC, total citations; C/Y, cites per year

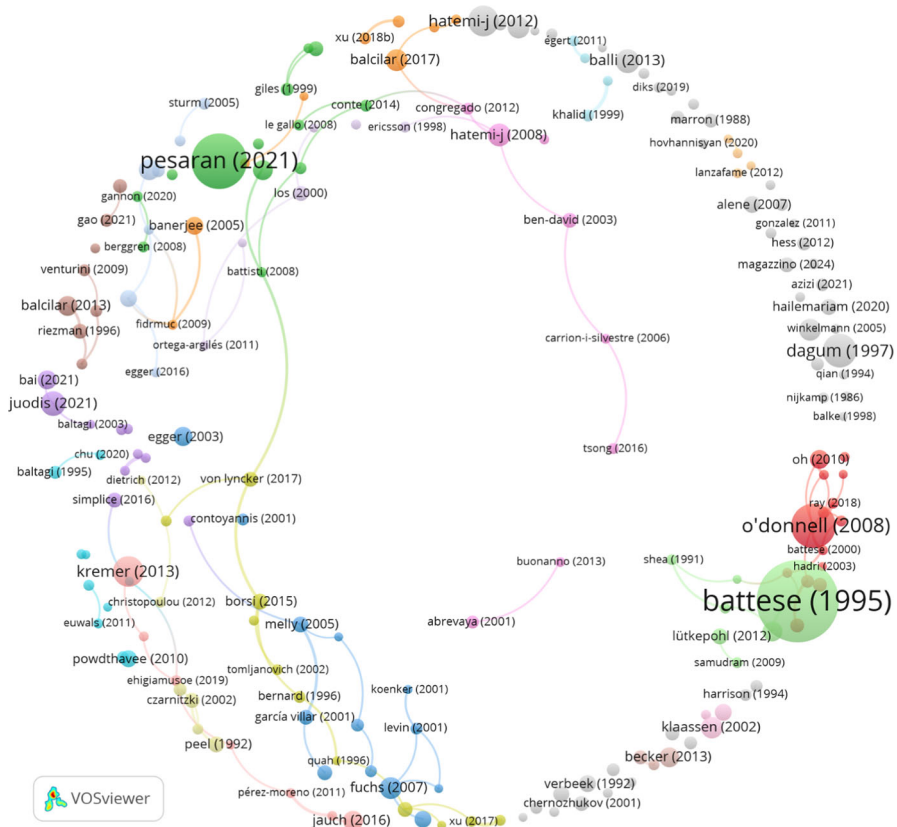


Fig. 7 Bibliographic coupling of documents published in *EE*: minimum citation threshold of 50 documents and 100 links

Table 8 Top 50 most-cited documents in *EE* publications (WoS 2005–2025)

R	First author	Reference	Year	Vol	Page	Type	TC	C/Y	TCW	WC/Y
1	Arellano M	Rev Econ Stud	1991	v58	p277	A	145	4.14	18,148	518.51
2	Blundell R	J Econometrics	1998	v87	p115	A	123	4.39	15,464	552.29
3	Engle RF	Econometrica	1987	v55	p251	A	108	2.77	15,253	391.10
4	Im KS	J Econometrics	2003	v115	p53	A	103	4.48	8843	384.48
5	Arellano M	J Econometrics	1995	v68	p29	A	93	3.00	11,601	374.23
6	Kwiatkowski D	J Econometrics	1992	v54	p159	A	92	2.71	7238	212.88
7	Dickey DA	J Am Stat Assoc	1979	v74	p427	A	89	1.89	13,650	290.43
8	Diebold FX	J Bus Econ Stat	1995	v13	p253	A	88	2.84	5497	177.32
9	Phillips PCB	Biometrika	1988	v75	p335	A	86	2.26	9992	262.95
10	Levin A	J Econometrics	2002	v108	p1	A	77	3.21	7486	311.92
11	Elliott G	Econometrica	1996	v64	p813	A	77	2.57	4113	137.10
12	Pesaran MH	J Appl Economet	2007	v22	p265	A	74	3.89	8088	425.68
13	Johansen S	J Econ Dyn Control	1988	v12	p231	A	70	1.84	8099	213.13
14	Newey WK	Econometrica	1987	v55	p703	A	66	1.69	10,231	262.33
15	Pesaran MH	Econometrica	2006	v74	p967	A	64	3.20	3177	158.85
16	Ng S	Econometrica	2001	v69	p1519	A	64	2.56	2283	91.32
17	Perron P	Econometrica	1989	v57	p1361	A	64	1.73	4101	110.84
18	Bai JS	Econometrica	2002	v70	p191	A	61	2.54	2184	91.00
19	Bai JS	Econometrica	1998	v66	p47	A	59	2.11	3463	123.68
20	Koenker R	Econometrica	1978	v46	p33	A	59	1.23	10,964	228.42
21	Johansen S	Econometrica	1991	v59	p1551	A	58	1.66	5244	149.83

Table 8 (continued)

R	First author	Reference	Year	Vol	Page	Type	TC	C/Y	TCW	WC/Y
22	Maddala GS	Oxford B Econ Stat	1999	v61	p631	A	57	2.11	4389	162.56
23	Hamilton JD	Time Series Analysis	1994	v2	-	B	56	1.75	8141	254.41
24	Nickell S	Econometrica	1981	v49	p1417	A	55	1.22	4786	106.36
25	Heckman JJ	Econometrica	1979	v47	p153	A	53	1.13	17,106	363.96
26	Bai J	J Appl Economet	2003	v18	p1	A	52	2.26	3530	153.48
27	Pesaran HH	Econ Lett	1998	v58	p17	A	50	1.79	3613	129.04
28	Hodrick RJ	J Money Credit Bank	1997	v29	p1	A	50	1.72	3329	114.79
29	Hansen LP	Econometrica	1982	v50	p1029	A	49	1.11	7553	171.66
30	Mankiw NG	Q J Econ	1992	v107	p407	A	48	1.41	6017	176.97
31	Bloom N	Econometrica	2009	v77	p623	A	47	2.76	3311	194.76
32	Windmeijer F	J Econometrics	2005	v126	p25	A	47	2.24	3693	175.86
33	Koop G	J Econometrics	1996	v74	p119	A	47	1.57	3076	102.53
34	Roodman D	Oxford B Econ Stat	2009	v71	p135	A	46	2.71	3283	193.12
35	Sims CA	Econometrica	1980	v48	p1	A	46	1.00	5827	126.67
36	Granger CWJ	Econometrica	1969	v37	p424	A	46	0.81	14,520	254.74
37	Rosenbaum PR	Biometrika	1983	v70	p41	A	45	1.05	21,142	491.67
38	Aigner DJ	J Econometrics	1977	v6	p21	A	44	0.90	5329	108.76
39	Wooldridge JM	Economet Anal Cross S	2001	v1	-	B	43	1.72	7882	315.28
40	Pesaran MH	J Econometrics	1995	v68	p79	A	43	1.39	2950	95.16
41	Lucas RE	J Monetary Econ	1988	v22	p3	A	43	1.13	10,620	279.47
42	Wooldridge JM	Economet Anal Cross S	2010	2ed	p3	B	42	2.63	9077	567.31

Table 8 (continued)

R	First author	Reference	Year	Vol	Page	Type	TC	C/Y	TCW	WC/Y
43	Zivot E	J Bus Econ Stat	1992	v10	p251	A	42	1.24	3968	116.71
44	Johansen S	Oxford B Econ Stat	1990	v52	p169	A	42	1.17	6261	173.92
45	Hamilton JD	Econometrica	1989	v57	p357	A	42	1.14	4852	131.14
46	Baker SR	Q J Econ	2016	v131	p1593	A	41	4.10	7183	718.30
47	Pesaran MH	J Appl Economet	2001	v16	p289	A	41	1.64	10,292	411.68
48	Barro RJ	Q J Econ	1991	v106	p407	A	40	1.14	5227	149.34
49	Schwarz G	Ann Stat	1978	v6	p461	A	40	0.83	34,181	712.10
50	Solow RM	Q J Econ	1956	v70	p65	A	40	0.57	9840	140.57

R = rank; TC = total citations in *EE*; C/Y = cites per year; TCW = total citations in WoS core collection; WC/Y = WoS cites per year; A = article; B = book

ument by Arellano and Bond (1991) received 145 total citations with an average per year citations 4.14 C/Y. The documents by Blundell and Bond (1998) and Engle and Granger (1987) are among the most-cited authors of influential documents. The repeated focus on journals, such as *Econometrica* and *Journal of Econometrics*, underscores that they play a key role for the reproduction of high-quality economic research. The attention to econometric techniques the field has made progress in time-series analysis, cointegration and panel data models suggests that the journal's coverage still retains a heavy emphasis on rigorous quantitative studies.

Other influential contributors are for time series, and for econometric modelling with many citations. These topics from econometrics to financial economics, to macroeconomic theory highlight *EE*'s wide-ranging intellectual reach as well as its use of different approaches in the study of economic dynamics. Overall, this list highlights the most-cited papers in *EE* for the last two decades and shows econometric innovation, time-series analysis and dynamic modelling to be key themes where authors such as Pesaran and Arellano were influential in shaping the intellectual environment of the journal.

Figure 8 presents the co-citation network of documents cited in *EE*, with minimum citation threshold of 25 and 100 links. In this network, entries represent individual papers and edges between them indicate how often two papers are co-cited; high-density clusters of co-citations represent centres of publications. Its size indicates the frequency with which a document is co-cited with others, and the colour of node represents the documents based on thematic clusters.

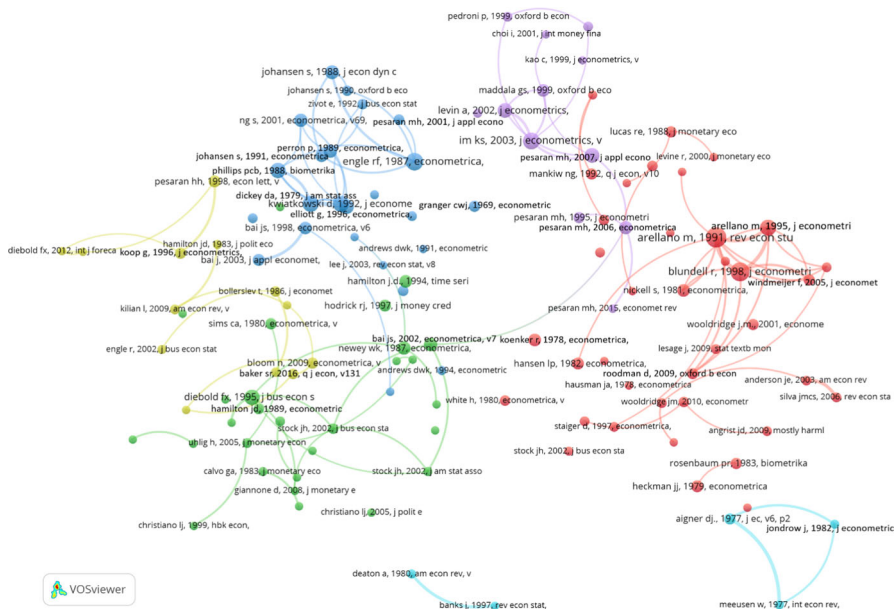


Fig. 8 Co-citation of documents cited in *EE*: minimum citation threshold of 25 and 100 links (WoS 2005–2025)

The co-citation network of the cited works identifies a few clusters of papers around "Pesaran" that are usually cited in batches, which implies their role as the benchmark papers for the methodological foundations of the journal, especially around such topics as panel data, cointegration or economic modelling. Another important cluster consists of books written by Arellano and Bond (1991) and Blundell and Bond (1998) considering their fundamental importance in the field of econometrics as this technique is used for an applied analysis in various contexts, particularly when using dynamic panel data models. Overall, this map of co-citation demonstrates the conceptual foundation of *EE* over the past two decades and identifies some of the iconic econometric methods and theories that preserve importance. The networks created from commonly cited pairs also highlight the foundational papers that continue to shape current work.

7 Most productive authors, institutions, and countries

Table 9 lists the most productive authors of *EE*. Leading the the list of the authors, Kumbhakar from Binghamton University (USA) has a total number of 21 documents and a very good cites per paper ratio of 25.48 and 11 documents in the last decade, which shows his superior contribution with significant productivity to the field. Gupta from the University of Pretoria (South Africa) is second with 20 publications and a comparable cites per paper ratio of 23.80, demonstrating high influence on economic research. Among other authors, Gil-Alana from the University of Navarra (Spain), and Balcilar from Syracuse University (USA) are prominent authors who continued to publish in all periods, but the numbers increase in the last decade (D4).

The table further reveals the international disposition of the *EE*, with leading authors from different parts of the world such as USA, UK, Australia, Netherlands, Spain, and Sweden enhance this international influence of *EE*'s scholarly network. In the recent decade, the productivity of authors such as Pesaran and Jones indicates persistence in working on econometrics and time-series analysis, respectively, but also suggests a strong international collaboration with large numbers of authors from various institutes internationally from different continents.

The network in Fig. 9 shows the bibliographic coupling of authors publishing in *EE*, where nodes are individual researchers and edges are co-authorship or citation relationships between those researchers. The size of each node indicates the centrality measure for that author, with larger nodes indicating more citation activity. The colour scale, from blue to red, corresponds to the temporal development of each author's publication activity over time, where authors that are older (i.e. published in earlier decades) appear cooler (blue) and more recent contributors warmer (red).

Some key authors, such as Gupta, Baltagi, and Pesaran, occupy the central positions of the network graph. In fact, these authors have strong ties with many collaborators because they are central to the development of knowledge flow, both in research and methodologies. The dense nodes of some authors, such as Kumbhakar and Gil-Alana, indeed underscores their significant concentration in certain subfields of econometrics (namely, panel data and efficiency analysis), and the field of research is collaborative and has many interconnected networks of experts across techniques and areas. The

Table 9 The most productive authors in *EE*

R	Author name	Institution	Country	TP	TC	H	C/P	D1	D2	D3	D4
1	Kumbhakar, S.C	Binghamton U SUNY	USA	21	535	11	25.48	0	4	6	11
2	Gupta, R	U Pretoria	RSA	20	476	7	23.8	0	0	2	18
3	Gil-Alana, L.A	U Navarra	ESP	17	96	6	5.65	0	3	5	9
4	Baltagi, B.H	Syracuse U	USA	16	406	9	25.38	3	2	5	6
5	Stengos, T	U Guelph	CAN	12	71	5	5.92	3	2	3	4
6	Balcilar, M	U New Haven	USA	9	545	5	60.56	0	0	2	7
7	Awaworyi Churchill, S	RMIT U	AUS	9	220	7	24.44	0	0	0	9
8	Peel, D.A	Lancaster U	UK	9	164	2	18.22	9	0	0	0
9	Li, Q	Texas A&M U	USA	9	140	6	15.56	0	1	3	5
10	Jones, A.M	U York	UK	9	100	5	11.11	0	1	4	4
11	Raj, B	Wilfrid Laurier U	CAN	9	86	3	9.56	6	3	0	0
12	Lahiri, K	SUNY Albany	USA	9	37	3	4.11	3	1	0	5
13	Lee, C.C	City U Macau	CHN	8	216	7	27	0	0	1	7
14	Österholm, P	NIER	SWE	8	133	5	16.63	0	0	3	5
15	Apergis, N	U Piraeus	GRE	8	86	5	10.75	0	0	1	7
16	Molina, J.A	IZA—Inst Labor Econ	GER	8	72	5	9	0	0	2	6
17	Caporale, G.M	Brunel U London	UK	8	71	5	8.88	0	0	4	4
18	Krämer, W	Tech U Dortmund	GER	8	56	4	7	3	3	1	1
19	Kunst, R.M	Vienna	AUT	8	49	3	6.13	2	0	5	1
20	Theil, H	U Florida	USA	8	35	4	4.38	6	2	0	0
21	Lechner, M	CESifo GmbH	GER	7	145	5	20.71	3	0	3	1
22	Franses, P.H	Erasmus U Rotterdam	NED	7	124	5	17.71	2	1	1	3
23	Camarero, M	U Jaume I	ESP	7	121	4	17.29	0	2	2	3
24	Pinar, M	U Sevilla	ESP	7	79	5	11.29	0	0	2	5

Table 9 (continued)

R	Author name	Institution	Country	TP	TC	H	C/P	D1	D2	D3	D4
25	Van Ours, J.C	Erasmus U Rotterdam	NED	7	59	5	8.43	1	0	1	5
26	Tsionas, M.G	Lancaster U	UK	7	51	4	7.29	0	0	0	7
27	Sickles, R.C	Rice U	USA	7	50	5	7.14	0	1	3	3
28	Parikh, A	U East Anglia	UK	7	37	2	5.29	7	0	0	0
29	Serletis, A	U Calgary	CAN	7	25	3	3.57	1	0	0	6
–	9 authors			6							
–	31 authors			5							
–	64 authors			4							

Abbreviations are available in Tables 2 and 5

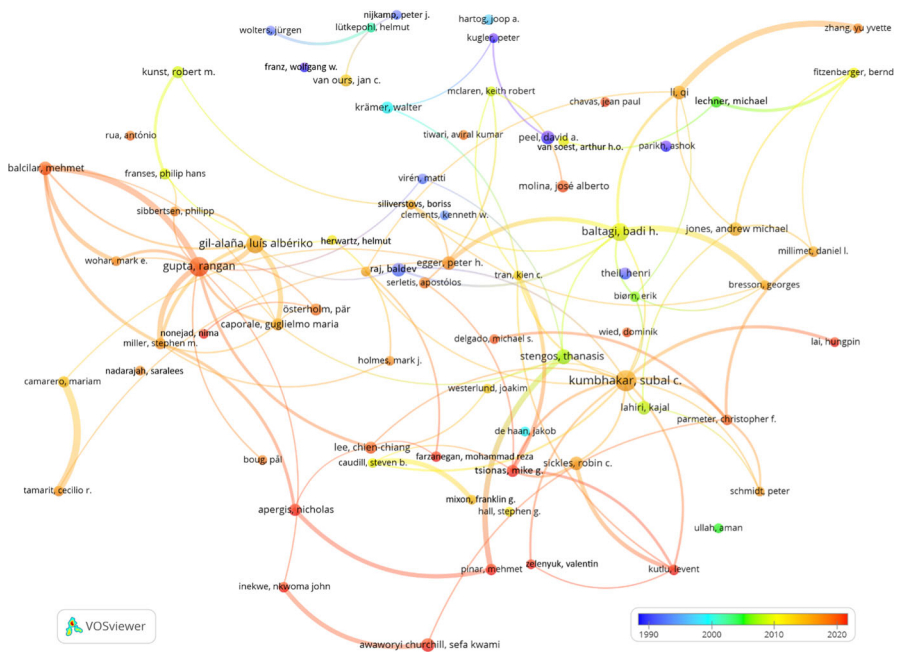


Fig. 9 Bibliographic coupling of authors publishing in *EE*: minimum publication threshold of 5 documents and 100 links

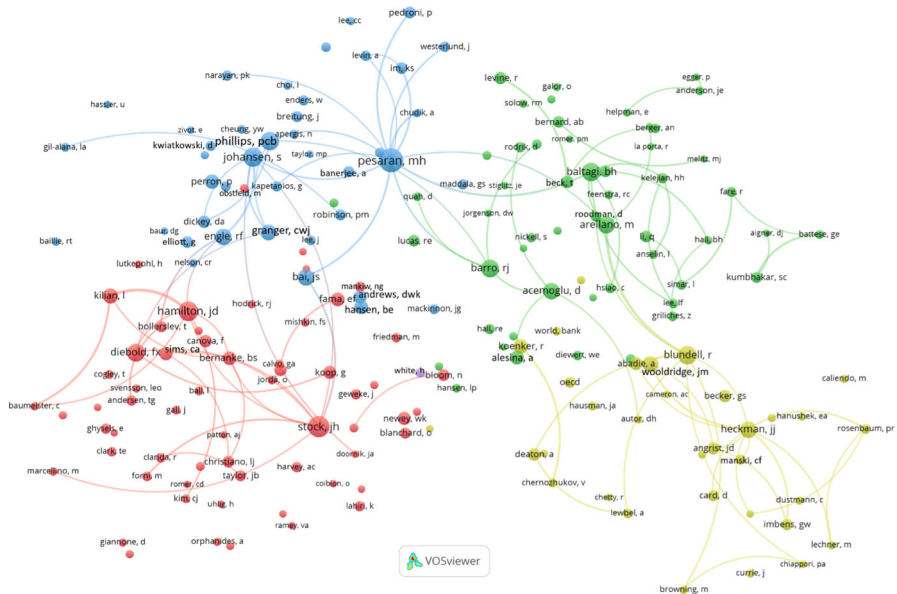


Fig. 10 Co-citation of authors cited in *EE*: minimum citation threshold of 50 and 100 links (WoS 2005–2025)

density of connections between authors reflects the journal's orientation towards collaborative research and the lasting impact of leading scholars. This network shows how the field has matured with time, as newer authors emerge and interact at the same level as established ones, indicating a growing strength of the journal publications.

The co-citation network of authors cited in *EE* appears in Fig. 10, generated by considering minimum citation threshold of 50 and 100 connections, respectively. The co-citation network visualized through *VOSviewer* shows the frequency of authors being cited together, thus indicating how this intellectual relationship persists throughout years over the field. These nodes represent each author, and the edges between them represent their co-citation relationships, the larger referring to stronger direct connections. The clusters (labelled by colour on the right) identify groups of authors that are typically co-cited together, denoting significant intellectual neighbourhoods in and around the field.

The left-side blue cluster contains famous econometricians like Pesaran, Phillips, and Granger highlighting their pivotal contribution to empirical modelling and time-series methods. The number of nodes in the red cluster at the centre, numbered with names such as Stock, Hamilton, and Diebold includes scholars benefiting to macro-econometrics and financial econometrics, emphasizing their relevance in contributing significantly towards empirical substantive economic research. The green and yellow clusters represent authors such as Baltagi, Arellano, Blundell, and Heckman, considered cornerstones of panel data econometrics and labour economics, a further testament to the diversity in themes and methodologies encompassed by the journal. Overall, this co-citation map emphasizes the interconnected nature of leading authors in *EE* while demonstrating the intellectual communities that shape the journal's research output.

Table 10 presents the most productive institutions in *EE* publications. IZA—Institute of Labor Economics (Germany) leads the table with 66 publications and *C/P* of 13.68, followed by European Central Bank (Germany) and Monash University (Australia), that have high productivity and total citations of 864 and 1063 respectively proving their role in economic and financial provision research leadership. The German Institute for Economic Research play important role in economic research development. These are followed by Texas A&M University (USA), University of Mannheim (Germany) and International Monetary Fund (USA), demonstrating the worldwide dispersion and the heterogeneity of research published in *EE*. The table also reflects the growing impact from non-Western economies institutions, such as University of Pretoria (South Africa) and University of Queensland (Australia), that have made significant contributions to *EE* with a high number of citation influence. University of Bologna (Italy) and University of Amsterdam (Netherlands) are both strong, proving that Europe remains a force in economics.

The results show that more productive institutions also tend to have high levels of citation, illustrating the reach of their publications in leading progress about economic research worldwide. UK institutions such as the London School of Economics and other well-known names on the list that are not US institutions also show that the UK is still making its contribution to *EE* in the list of QS and THE (QS World University Rankings & Times Higher Education) world rankings, where they have prominent positions. In conclusion, this overview confirms not only the continued relevance of institutions from Germany, the USA, and the UK in shaping *EE*, it also recognizes major roles played by both well-established as well as emerging academic centres around the globe, underlining their global importance for advancing our discipline.

Figure 11 shows the bibliographic coupling network of institutions publishing in *EE* with minimum threshold of 10 documents and 100 links. The network illustrates the academic institutions interconnectedness, where nodes represent universities and research organizations. Each edge between nodes represents bibliographic coupling, where two institutions are more closely adjacent if they share references in their published papers. The transition of colours from blue to red reflects the average year of publication activity (blue if the institution is older, red if it is newer).

The network highlights Monash University, Queensland University, and York University are the top three central nodes. Other institutions such as the European Central Bank and World Bank are similarly well linked, indicative of their powerful roles in economic policy making and finance. Overall, the bibliographic coupling map of the journal presents the topical analysis about the intellectual and institutional structure. This map illustrates the increasingly interconnected web of international institutions conducting research, from leading centres to up-and-coming contributors.

Table 11 summarizes the most influential countries in *EE* based on their publication statistics. At the first place is the United States, with an outstanding 874 papers, 15,830 citations, and a high *C/P* rate of over 15.82. This is indicative of its leading role in discipline both by volume and academically. Germany is followed by with 492 papers, 8374 citations and 17.02 (*C/P*). The UK, Italy, and China (including Hong Kong and Macao) are at the top third-to-fifth ranks; particularly noteworthy is a growing research contribution in *EE*. The influence of China also matters as it is second in terms of

Table 10 The 50 most productive and influential institutions in *EE*

R	Institution	C	TP	TC	H	C/P	D1	D2	D3	D4	QS	ARWU	THE
1	IZA—Inst Labor Econ	GER	66	903	16	13.68	0	3	20	43	—	—	—
2	European Central Bank	GER	44	864	16	19.64	0	9	18	17	—	—	—
3	Monash U	AUS	40	1063	13	26.58	2	4	9	25	36	76	58
4	CESifo GmbH	GER	39	842	12	21.59	0	2	8	29	—	—	—
5	Texas A&M U	USA	31	504	11	16.26	5	4	8	14	144	201–300	151
6	U Mannheim	GER	29	426	11	14.69	14	5	8	2	416	701–800	201–250
7	Int Monetary Fund (IMF)	USA	29	278	10	9.59	2	3	7	17	—	—	—
8	German Inst Econ Res	GER	28	688	15	24.57	1	2	16	9	—	—	—
9	U Bologna	ITA	26	1026	12	39.46	4	6	10	6	138	201–300	130
10	Christian Albrechts U Kiel	GER	26	569	11	21.88	3	5	11	7	618	201–300	351–400
11	The World Bank, USA	USA	25	339	10	13.56	3	1	6	15	—	—	—
12	UC Louvain	BEL	25	310	9	12.4	5	5	7	8	191	201–300	184
13	Inst Adv Studies, Vienna	AUT	24	264	10	11	11	3	7	2	—	—	—
14	Binghamton U SUNY	USA	23	526	11	22.87	0	3	8	12	1001–1200	601–700	601–800
15	U Pretoria	RSA	23	505	8	21.96	0	0	3	20	362	501–600	501–600
16	U València	ESP	23	404	12	17.57	0	4	8	11	430	201–300	501–600
17	Australian National U	AUS	23	198	8	8.61	2	1	5	15	32	101–150	73
18	U Amsterdam	NED	22	1071	13	48.68	4	7	4	7	53	101–150	62
19	U York	UK	22	468	10	21.27	2	2	8	10	169	201–300	154
20	U Queensland	AUS	21	1422	10	67.71	1	1	1	18	42	65	80
21	C Econ Pol Res (CEPR)	UK	21	670	10	31.9	1	1	6	13	—	—	—

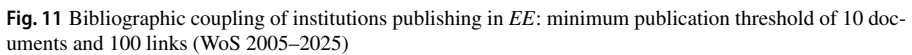
Table 10 (continued)

R	Institution	C	TP	TC	H	C/P	D1	D2	D3	D4	QS	ARWU	THE
22	ETH Zürich	SWZ	21	502	9	23.9	0	1	7	14	7	22	11
23	U Florida	USA	21	246	8	11.71	10	0	1	10	212	150–200	134
24	U Melbourne	AUS	21	224	8	10.67	2	4	0	15	19	38	37
25	Statistics Norway	NOR	21	165	7	7.86	1	0	10	10	–	–	–
26	U Groningen	NED	20	396	8	19.8	5	2	3	10	147	73	82
27	Uppsala U	SWE	20	250	9	12.5	1	1	11	7	93	93	128
28	Banca d'Italia	ITA	20	228	8	11.4	0	4	2	14	–	–	–
29	U Navarra	ESP	20	113	6	5.65	0	3	5	12	262	501–600	251–300
30	Tilburg U	NED	19	590	11	31.05	2	5	8	4	347	701–800	301–350
31	London Sch Econ Pol Sci	UK	19	312	8	16.42	1	1	8	9	56	151–200	52
32	U Piraeus	GRE	19	250	9	13.16	0	0	7	12	–	–	1001–1200
33	Brunel U London	UK	19	213	8	11.21	0	0	8	11	385	601–700	401–500
34	Capital U Econ Bus	CHN	19	182	7	9.58	0	0	3	16	–	–	–
35	Athens U Econ Bus	GRE	19	173	8	9.11	2	1	6	10	951–1000	–	1001–1200
36	Banco de Portugal	POR	19	154	8	8.11	0	1	6	12	–	–	–
37	U Maastricht	NED	18	275	8	15.28	3	4	5	6	239	301–400	131
38	Inst Employ Res, Nuremberg	GER	18	206	9	11.44	0	0	5	13	–	–	–
39	Southwestern U Fin Econ	CHN	18	116	6	6.44	0	0	1	17	–	701–800	–
40	U Helsinki	FIN	18	111	5	6.17	5	1	6	6	116	94	105
41	Macquarie U	AUS	18	108	6	6	1	0	0	17	138	201–300	166
42	ZEW – Leibniz C Eur Econ Res	GER	17	435	7	25.59	2	3	7	5	–	–	–

Table 10 (continued)

R	Institution	C	TP	TC	H	C/P	D1	D2	D3	D4	QS	ARWU	THE
43	U Politech Marche	ITA	17	258	8	15.18	0	1	8	8	–	601–700	401–500
44	Vrije U Amsterdam	NED	17	247	8	14.53	6	4	3	4	194	151–200	176
45	U Guelph	CAN	17	182	7	10.71	4	3	5	5	504	501–600	401–500
46	Free U Berlin	GER	16	776	9	48.5	4	3	4	5	88	202–301	113
47	LMU München	GER	16	733	10	45.81	3	1	6	6	22	42	34
48	RMIT U	AUS	16	423	10	26.44	0	1	2	13	125	301–400	251–300
49	Tinbergen Inst—TI	NED	16	380	9	23.75	2	4	1	9	–	–	–
50	U Western Australia	AUS	16	357	9	22.31	3	1	2	10	77	101–150	153
51	U Oxford	UK	16	239	9	14.94	1	5	4	6	4	6	1
52	Tech U Dortmund	GER	16	184	8	11.5	2	4	4	6	673	601–700	501–600

Abbreviations are available in Tables 2 and 5 except: C = country; QS = quacquarelli and Symonds University Ranking; ARWU = Shanghai Academic Ranking of World Universities; THE = Times Higher Education University Ranking; COAU = Top country coauthor



European nations, such as Germany, Italy, France, and Spain are most prolific in publications not only metrically but also by their strong citation impact. Australia and Canada among other countries also gain substantial contribution in *EE* research. Asian countries, especially Japan, Turkey, and South Korea, have been increasing their contributions to *EE*. One of the distinctive author countries is Turkey, demonstrating its increasing impact on the field in terms of academic contributions, with 87 articles and 1153 citations. Additional countries which include Brazil, India and Mexico stand out also showing the growing internationalization of *EE* publications.

In relation to emerging research countries, Egypt, Nigeria, and Saudi Arabia are among the list illustrates that the journal's international reach is increasing and contributions come from areas of the world, which were traditionally underrepresented in academic economics. The country-level data show a heavy domination of USA and Germany by amount of publication as well as citation impact, while it contributed with notable efforts to a lesser extent of UK, Italy, and China. Moreover, contributions from emerging economies and from across the globe witness the growing internationalization of *EE*.

Table 11 The most productive and influential countries in *EE*

R	Country	TP	TC	H	C/P	D1	D2	D3	D4	≥ 100	≥ 10	P/Po	C/Po	COAU
1	USA	874	13,830	50	15.82	130	96	195	453	16	306	2.5	40.0	CHN (59)
2	Germany	492	8374	41	17.02	64	51	147	230	10	203	5.8	99.0	UK (43)
3	UK	355	7900	37	22.25	43	35	104	173	10	137	5.1	114.3	USA (48)
4	Italy	263	5387	36	20.48	7	25	106	125	7	119	4.4	90.8	UK (37)
5	China	246	2122	22	8.63	0	2	25	219	0	66	0.2	1.5	USA (59)
6	Australia	244	9232	31	37.84	19	22	34	169	9	109	9.1	345.6	USA (34)
7	Canada	230	2178	23	9.47	80	35	36	62	0	73	5.8	54.8	USA (42)
8	Spain	228	3891	31	17.07	2	22	83	121	5	98	4.8	81.2	USA (21)
9	Netherlands	138	3083	28	22.34	29	26	30	53	4	71	7.6	169.1	UK (17)
10	Switzerland	108	1688	20	15.63	19	11	31	47	2	41	12.1	189.2	GER (24)
11	France	98	1663	20	16.97	6	15	26	51	2	45	1.5	25.0	USA (20)
12	Sweden	97	1734	19	17.88	12	14	36	35	3	45	9.1	163.5	USA (9)
13	Greece	95	1174	21	12.36	8	7	29	51	0	37	9.5	116.8	UK (19)
14	Japan	91	519	12	5.7	3	8	24	56	0	14	0.7	4.2	AUS (7)
15	Turkey	87	1153	14	13.25	1	2	19	65	2	24	1.0	12.9	USA (19)
16	Austria	85	1335	18	15.71	23	12	14	36	2	34	9.3	146.4	GER (10)
17	Norway	82	1753	20	21.38	5	12	32	33	2	35	14.7	314.3	USA (9)
18	South Korea	82	951	15	11.6	1	4	17	60	1	23	1.6	18.4	USA (23)
19	Taiwan	71	790	16	11.13	1	3	15	52	1	26	3.1	34.0	USA (17)
20	Belgium	69	911	17	13.2	10	8	22	29	1	26	5.9	77.6	GER (17)
21	Portugal	64	1143	17	17.86	1	10	25	28	1	25	6.1	109.6	GER (8)

Table 11 (continued)

R	Country	TP	TC	H	C/P	D1	D2	D3	D4	≥ 100	≥ 10	P/Po	C/Po	COAU
22	Brazil	64	403	11	6.3	0	2	8	54	0	13	0.3	1.9	USA (8)
23	India	63	796	16	12.63	2	2	12	47	1	28	0.0	0.5	USA (9)
24	Finland	60	323	10	5.38	20	3	17	20	0	10	10.7	57.5	GER (3)
25	Denmark	52	684	14	13.15	2	9	21	20	0	20	8.7	114.4	GER (7)
26	South Africa	41	645	11	15.73	0	0	5	36	1	13	0.6	10.1	USA (10)
27	New Zealand	30	696	12	23.2	0	3	8	19	2	12	5.8	133.5	USA (5)
28	Singapore	30	409	11	13.63	2	2	6	20	0	12	5.1	70.1	CHN (8)
29	Czech Republic	29	374	9	12.9	1	1	4	23	0	9	2.7	34.8	GER (11)
30	Malaysia	28	591	10	21.11	0	0	5	23	0	12	0.8	16.6	AUS (6)
31	Chile	25	288	8	11.52	1	0	5	19	1	7	1.3	14.6	USA (10)
32	Cyprus	23	536	8	23.3	0	3	6	14	1	7	16.9	394.6	GRE (4)
33	Poland	22	247	10	11.23	0	1	2	19	0	11	0.6	6.4	GER (3)
34	UAE	21	839	10	39.95	0	1	4	16	1	10	1.9	76.1	USA (5)
35	Colombia	21	188	8	8.95	0	0	5	16	0	7	0.4	3.6	USA (4)
36	Mexico	20	159	8	7.95	1	2	4	13	0	6	0.2	1.2	USA (8)
37	Viet Nam	18	264	9	14.67	0	0	0	18	0	9	0.2	2.6	AUS (7)
38	Ireland	18	148	8	8.22	1	0	3	14	0	6	3.4	28.2	USA (3)
39	Israel	17	246	6	14.47	7	3	2	5	1	4	1.8	26.2	UK (2)
40	Pakistan	16	380	8	23.75	1	0	4	11	1	8	0.1	1.5	UK (5)
41	Russia	14	192	10	13.71	0	0	0	14	0	10	0.1	1.3	AUS (2)
42	Luxembourg	14	107	6	7.64	0	0	6	8	0	3	20.8	159.0	GER (4)

Table 11 (continued)

R	Country	TP	TC	H	C/P	D1	D2	D3	D4	≥ 100	≥ 10	P/Po	C/Po	COAU
43	Tunisia	11	205	6	18.64	0	1	1	9	0	6	0.9	16.7	FRA (2)
44	Iran	11	203	8	18.45	0	0	1	10	1	5	0.1	2.2	USA (2)
45	Slovakia	11	130	6	11.82	0	1	1	9	0	3	2.0	23.6	AUT (2)
46	Saudi Arabia	11	123	5	11.18	0	0	2	9	0	4	0.3	3.6	UK (3)
47	Nigeria	11	79	5	7.18	3	0	0	8	0	2	0.0	0.3	RSA (2)
48	Hungary	9	140	7	15.56	0	3	1	5	0	4	0.9	14.5	BEL (2)
49	Egypt	9	77	6	8.56	0	0	1	8	0	4	0.1	0.7	GER (5)
—	3 countries	8	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—

Abbreviations are available in Tables 2 and 5 except for: P/Po and C/Po = papers and cites per million inhabitants; COAU = top country coauthor

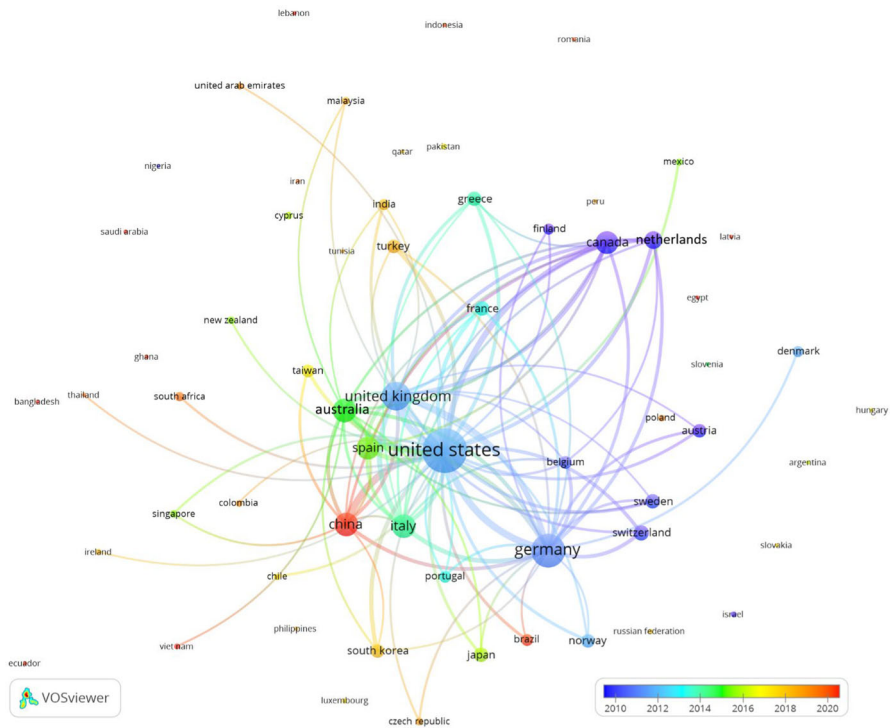


Fig. 12 Bibliographic coupling of countries publishing in *EE*: minimum publication threshold of 5 documents and 100 links

The bibliographic coupling network of countries publishing in *EE* is shown in Fig. 12, considering only those with at least 5 documents and excluding any links below 100. The nodes of this network are the countries, while edges represent the amount of bibliographic coupling, meaning if two countries have published more than 100 citations in *EE* publications they will be connected by an edge. The colour gradient changes from blue to red, reflecting the time evolution of publications, with older manuscripts appearing in cooler colours (blue) and more recent titles in warmer tones (red).

Countries such as the USA, UK, Germany, and Australia are positioned at the centre of the map a sign that they play a major role in *EE* research. These countries are well connected to each other and form a dense cluster, indicating that these nations have shared high citation in international collaboration. So do the USA and the UK with other significant contributors such as Spain and Italy, exemplifying their leading role in journal publications. Other countries like China and South Korea are also emerging as important participants, which is evidenced by their more recent publications and increasing network of collaborations. The bibliographic coupling map confirms that the role of *EE* is something global. It demonstrates that leading nations have retained strength networks of research, while emerging economies such as Brazil and China are becoming more integrated in the field. It not only tells the story of how interconnected

global research efforts are but also shows how different countries have been leading or following in time and an increasing number of countries contributing to this ever-evolving discourse in the journal.

Table 12 lists the quinquennial and annual count of *EE* publications per country between 2005 and 2024. The USA is the top productive country in the journal. The USA is stable overtime in terms of productivity, with an average number of articles per year as 54, indicating steady dominance in the field. Germany is next, with 492 papers and major productivity in recent years (most notably between 2015 and 2024), demonstrating their ongoing academic impact in economic research.

Among other, noteworthy contributors include UK (355 papers), Italy (263), and China (232) papers having increased significantly in terms of influence within the discipline *Empirical Economics* over the last year. This mirrors the beginning of Chinese research output and internationally collaborative work in economics. Australia, Canada, Spain, and the Netherlands are also major countries indicating *EE* is an area of international connection. In countries like Turkey, Austria, and South Korea there was significant growth in the number of publications output, since the last quinquennial periods (2015–2024), showing their increasing involvement with academic economics. Remarkably, China has exhibited a remarkable rise in productivity, much of which has been published during the period 2015–2024.

USA and Germany have always been the top two countries that published research papers per year, with several emerging economies, such as Brazil, India, and South Korea seeing growing shares of publications. It is indicative of a vibrant, emergent global network of scholars engaging in *Empirical Economics* including a clear increase of output from countries other than established Western elites. In addition to geographical trends, the table also shows trends in global academic collaboration and changes in the contributions of major countries like China, Turkey and South Korea.

The country collaboration map of *EE* is shown in Fig. 13. This map shows the worldwide research relationship that has grown around this journal, in which each line represents a collaborative relationship between two countries based on co-publishing papers together. The countries are shown in colour, and the intensity of the colour indicates how active they are in research. Map reveals a high degree of clustering between countries in North America, Europe and some parts of East Asia, with the US/UK/Germany plays a central role in research. It is also important to note that there are many red lines listed from these centres showing how research in this journal is Globalized. Other significant contributors include China, Australia and Brazil which together are part of an expanding network of countries involved in *EE*. The map clearly demonstrates the interconnected nature of global research, with countries across several different continents collaborating.

The map highlights the leading role of several countries that are shaping the field; it also highlights the emerging countries that are now playing a decisive role in international knowledge exchanges. The map gives an intense overview of the state of economic research in the world, as well as the interconnectedness that is a defining feature of academic life in *EE* publications.

Table 13 reports the distribution of publication in *EE* by supranational regions. The continent with the highest number of total papers as well as total citations is Europe (2215 papers and 35,160 citations). North America (1104 papers and 15,512 citations)

Table 12 Quinquennial and annual number of papers classified by countries (2005–2024)

R	Country	TP	Q1	Q2	Q3	Q4	Q5	Q6	Q7	Q8	Q9	05	06	07	08	09	10
1	United States	874	37	23	54	52	50	50	118	185	252	10	11	11	10	8	20
2	Germany	492	17	14	27	22	28	52	88	95	134	7	13	10	8	14	6
3	United Kingdom	355	19	11	11	13	20	37	56	76	97	4	8	7	8	10	6
4	Italy	263	6	0	1	7	15	26	68	59	68	3	4	4	9	6	10
5	Australia	244	6	3	7	13	14	15	16	63	100	2	5	2	3	3	4
6	China	232	0	0	0	1	0	2	8	44	126	0	0	0	0	2	0
7	Canada	230	22	20	35	14	21	20	26	27	38	3	5	4	4	4	7
8	Spain	228	0	1	0	4	14	24	55	52	67	5	3	4	6	6	7
9	Netherlands	138	4	7	12	13	16	12	17	22	28	3	1	2	1	5	3
10	Switzerland	108	6	5	6	3	3	13	16	24	28	5	2	1	2	3	1
11	France	98	0	1	5	3	10	7	19	16	33	2	1	0	3	1	2
12	Sweden	97	1	1	8	6	8	11	24	19	14	2	1	1	4	3	8
13	Greece	95	2	2	3	2	5	6	17	23	32	1	3	1	1	0	3
14	Japan	91	1	1	1	3	5	9	12	19	29	0	2	1	0	6	2
15	Turkey	85	0	0	1	1	1	1	16	23	35	0	0	0	1	0	2
16	Austria	85	11	3	9	4	8	5	7	14	22	0	1	1	3	0	1
17	South Korea	82	0	0	1	1	3	5	7	16	43	0	1	1	0	3	3
18	Norway	82	1	0	2	6	8	9	18	16	22	0	3	1	3	2	3
19	Taiwan	71	0	0	1	1	2	2	13	24	24	0	1	0	0	1	2
20	Belgium	69	7	1	2	3	5	8	10	12	18	0	4	1	1	1	2
21	Portugal	64	0	0	1	2	4	9	16	16	16	4	2	1	1	1	1
22	Brazil	64	0	0	0	0	1	3	4	13	35	1	0	0	0	2	1
23	India	63	1	0	1	1	1	2	9	14	27	0	1	0	1	0	1
24	Finland	60	8	5	4	4	2	5	10	9	12	0	2	1	1	1	0
25	Denmark	52	0	0	2	3	6	8	13	9	12	0	3	3	2	0	2
26	South Africa	41	0	0	0	0	0	0	3	18	19	0	0	0	0	0	0
27	New Zealand	30	0	0	0	2	1	3	5	7	11	0	1	0	2	0	2

Table 12 (continued)

R	Country	TP	Q1	Q2	Q3	Q4	Q5	Q6	Q7	Q8	Q9	05	06	07	08	09	10
28	Singapore	30	1	0	1	1	1	3	2	6	13	0	1	1	0	1	0
29	Czech Republic	29	0	0	0	2	0	0	3	8	14	0	0	0	0	0	0
30	Malaysia	28	0	0	0	0	0	2	3	12	10	0	0	0	1	1	1
R	Country	TP	11	12	13	14	15	16	17	18	19	20	21	22	23	24	25
1	United States	874	14	30	31	23	37	31	38	44	35	47	72	42	53	38	38
2	Germany	492	16	18	27	21	14	22	13	21	25	41	29	30	20	14	14
3	United Kingdom	355	13	14	10	13	15	14	12	11	24	17	23	19	22	16	16
4	Italy	263	12	15	17	14	15	12	10	8	14	6	15	15	12	20	20
5	Australia	244	2	1	6	3	5	10	11	14	23	26	24	20	14	16	16
6	China	232	1	3	3	1	10	8	6	11	9	22	27	19	33	25	25
7	Canada	230	3	10	4	2	10	3	5	4	5	8	11	5	7	7	7
8	Spain	228	6	10	13	19	9	10	15	6	12	15	8	17	15	12	12
9	Netherlands	138	2	2	7	3	4	6	1	7	4	3	9	5	8	3	3
10	Switzerland	108	0	4	8	3	7	6	1	4	6	9	4	6	5	4	4
11	France	98	4	4	4	5	2	2	4	5	3	9	5	6	7	6	6
12	Sweden	97	1	4	5	6	3	5	7	2	2	5	5	1	2	1	1
13	Greece	95	1	5	6	2	7	4	4	1	7	4	9	6	6	7	7
14	Japan	91	0	0	5	5	3	3	5	6	2	3	4	11	5	6	6
15	Turkey	85	4	2	5	3	2	9	6	4	2	5	12	5	5	8	8
16	Austria	85	1	1	1	3	2	6	1	3	2	7	4	5	4	2	2
17	South Korea	82	0	3	1	0	5	4	4	0	3	11	9	12	7	4	4
18	Norway	82	3	4	4	4	5	2	6	3	0	6	8	3	3	2	2
19	Taiwan	71	1	6	3	1	0	4	7	10	3	5	9	4	3	3	3
20	Belgium	69	1	4	2	1	5	0	1	1	5	4	5	5	3	1	1
21	Portugal	64	6	4	5	0	4	2	3	4	3	5	2	3	3	3	3

Table 12 (continued)

R	Country	TP	11	12	13	14	15	16	17	18	19	20	21	22	23	24	
22	Brazil	64	0	0	2	1	2	3	4	1	3	9	6	5	9	6	
23	India	63	1	2	2	3	1	1	4	7	1	4	5	4	7	7	
24	Finland	60	1	3	2	4	2	3	1	1	2	3	0	3	2	4	
25	Denmark	52	2	1	6	0	2	2	2	2	1	3	2	4	1	2	
26	South Africa	41	1	0	1	1	2	3	4	2	7	8	3	1	5	2	
27	New Zealand	30	0	1	2	0	0	2	1	2	2	2	0	5	3	1	
28	Singapore	30	0	0	2	0	1	0	0	3	2	2	3	3	3	2	
29	Czech Republic	29	1	1	0	1	1	3	0	2	2	2	1	3	1	7	
30	Malaysia	28	1	1	0	0	0	2	3	4	3	2	2	1	1	4	
R	University	TP	Q1	Q2	Q3	Q4	Q5	Q6	Q7	Q8	Q9	05	06	07	08	09	10
1	IZA—Inst Labor Econ	66	0	0	0	0	1	6	14	15	26	2	1	1	0	2	1
2	European C Bank	44	0	0	0	2	5	4	13	9	8	2	0	1	1	0	2
3	Monash U	40	0	1	0	2	2	4	5	9	15	1	0	1	0	2	2
4	CESifo GmbH	39	0	0	0	0	1	4	4	10	19	1	0	1	0	2	0
5	Texas A&M U	31	0	0	3	2	4	2	3	8	8	0	1	1	0	0	0
6	U Mannheim	29	4	2	7	2	3	3	5	2	1	1	1	1	0	0	0
7	Int Mon Fund (IMF)	29	0	0	2	1	1	3	3	7	10	1	1	1	0	0	1
8	German Inst Econ	28	1	0	0	0	0	6	11	5	4	2	2	0	0	2	0
9	C Albrechts U Kiel	26	1	2	0	1	4	2	7	3	6	0	1	0	0	1	0
10	U Bologna	26	4	0	0	1	5	0	6	9	2	0	0	0	0	0	2
R	University	TP	11	12	13	14	15	16	17	18	19	20	21	22	23	24	
1	IZA—Inst Labor Econ	66	1	1	7	4	2	4	2	1	6	8	3	7	4	4	
2	European C Bank	44	2	6	1	2	3	0	1	2	3	5	1	1	1	0	
3	Monash U	40	2	0	1	0	1	2	1	2	3	4	3	3	3	2	

Table 12 (continued)

R	University	TP	11	12	13	14	15	16	17	18	19	20	21	22	23	24
4	CESifo GmbH	39	1	0	2	1	1	5	0	1	2	3	4	5	4	3
5	Texas A&M U	31	3	0	0	0	3	2	2	1	0	4	2	0	2	0
6	U Mannheim	29	1	0	3	1	1	0	1	0	0	1	0	0	0	0
7	Int Mon Fund (IMF)	29	0	0	1	1	2	0	0	3	2	2	2	1	0	5
8	German Inst Econ	28	2	2	4	3	1	0	1	2	1	1	0	1	1	1
9	C/Albrechts U Kiel	26	2	1	2	2	2	0	0	0	1	4	0	1	1	0
10	U Bologna	26	0	0	2	2	4	2	1	1	1	0	0	0	0	1

R = rank; EE = total papers; Q1 = number of articles between 1976 and 1984; Q2 = 1985–1989; Q3 = 1990–1994; Q4 = 1995–1999; Q5 = 2000–2004; Q6 = 2005–2009; Q7 = 2010–2014; Q8 = 2015–2019; Q9 = 2020–2024; 05–24 = annual number of documents published between 2005 and 2024

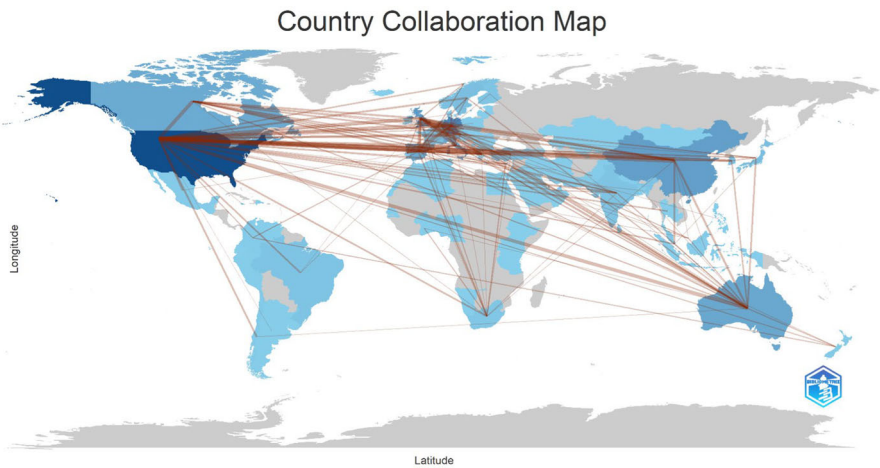


Fig. 13 Country collaboration map in *EE*

Table 13 Publication structure classified by supranational regions

R	Region	TP	TC	H	C/P	D1	D2	D3	D4	P/Pop	C/Pop
1	Europe	2215	35,160	70	15.87	243	247	645	1080	2.98	47.23
2	North America	1104	15,512	50	14.05	199	124	238	501	2.85	40.03
3	Asia	778	8046	40	10.34	17	24	120	617	0.16	1.66
4	Oceania	274	9901	32	36.14	19	25	42	185	0.18	6.39
5	Latin America	166	1373	17	8.27	3	7	28	128	0.25	2.06
6	Africa	113	1522	19	13.47	3	1	11	98	2.42	32.65

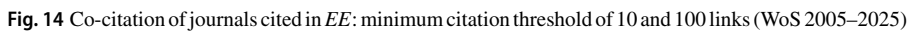
Abbreviations are available in Tables 2, 9 and 11

is not far behind and again has an impressive *C/P* ratio of 14.05. That the middle line is well above zero throughout each quinquennial period of the last mid-decade years indicates that the strong publications record is a continuation of its traditional leadership in *EE*. In North America, the USA leads in publications, further affirming its position as a leader in economic studies around the world.

Asia is the outstanding performer with 778 papers and 8046 cites—a high *C/P* ratio of 10.34. This emergent prominence underscores Asia's growing significance in economic research, particularly over the past two decades as the region has seen substantial academic expansion and international collaboration. China, Japan, and India remain the main countries in overall production. Contributions of Oceania, especially those from Australia, stand out in such a manner that for the number of papers (274) published when compared to other regions is low, but its *C/P* ratio 36.14 reveals the

In contributions per capita (P/Pop), the leading regions are Europe, North America, and Oceania, with Europe having the largest P/Pop at 2.98 (with research output outstripping population size). Per capita, Africa has the largest contribution of 32.65 and thus a large academic productivity compared to the small quantity of articles. Europe and North America are the largest contributors to *EE*, but Asia, Oceania, and Latin America are overtaking them as time goes by with Africa being more involved in academia even if less so with good publications per capita.

The co-citation-based network of journals that had been cited in *EE* are shown in Fig. 14. This network, illustrated with *VOSviewer*, reflects how frequently journals are cited together in *EE* publications. Here, the nodes are individual journals and the edges between them represent co-citations. The size of the nodes indicates the frequency of co-citations, where larger nodes are more influential journals in the area. The network shows clear clusters of co-cited journals, with a central hub within the network consisting of journals such as *Econometrica*, *Journal of Econometrics*,



Review of Economics and Statistics, *American Economic Review*, *Quarterly Journal of Economics* and the *Journal of Political Economy*.

These journals are often cited together, reflecting their considerable influence in methodological and theoretical advancements in the field of empirical economics. The green cluster show a concentration of finance-related journals, including *Journal of Financial Economics* and *Journal of Finance*, highlighting the increased merger between efforts of empirical economics and financial research. The blue cluster consists of journals dedicated to monetary economics; the red and orange ones are primarily related to public economics, development and labour economics. Overall, the co-citation network shows the importance of leading journals in expanding empirical economic research and the increasing interdisciplinarity of the field.

Table 14 shows the most-cited journals in *EE* globally and under three different time frames: 2021–2025, 2016–2020, and 2005–2015. The *Journal of Econometrics* is the globally most-cited journal. The *American Economic Review* and *Econometrica* are also highly cited with changing score globally and temporally, but persistently ranked high, due to their influence over time, reflecting their centrality for the dissemination of influential econometric and theoretical research.

For the periods 2016–2020 and 2021–2025, the first six journals in the ranking are the same and only the first and second place are changed between the *Journal of Econometrics* and the *American Economic Review*. Another interesting result is that the self-citations of *EE* are not so significant as in many other journals. Considering the period 2005–2025, the self-citations of *EE* only reaches the 10th position, which indicates that the journal has a very interdisciplinary profile and does not depend only upon previous contributions published in the journal.

Economic development journals are becoming popular in the journal as it is reflected by the growth in the ranking of journals like the *Journal of Development Economics* and *World Development*. Finance journals such as the *Journal of Finance*, the *Journal of Financial Economics* and the *Journal of Banking and Finance*, are also improving their performance in the ranking. *Journal of Monetary Economics* and *Journal of Applied Econometrics* are also prominent in recent years showing more focus on monetary policy and applied econometric model analysis. This itself is an indication of the trend towards empirical research in economic model building and policy design based on data. Overall, Table 14 reveals the strong influence of top journals like the *Journal of Econometrics*, *Econometrica* and the *American Economic Review*, but also indicates the rise of journals dedicated to empirical and applied economic research.

Table 15 summarizes the citing articles in *EE* broken down by year, author, university, country, and referring journal. The authors most frequently citing *EE* are Gupta and Gil-Alana. In total, six authors have cited *EE* in more than 100 of their articles. The ranking is very diverse and includes authors from all over the world visualizing the global reach that *EE* is currently achieving.

Looking at the institutions that cite more frequently *EE*, we see 10 institutions that have cited *EE* in more than 200 papers. The list is led by the IZA—Institute of Labor Economics (Germany) with 357 citing articles, followed by the University of Pretoria (South Africa), CNRS (France), the Chinese Academy of Sciences and Monash University (Australia). It is worth noting that only one institution from North

Table 14 Most-cited journals in *EE*: Global and temporal classification (2005–2025)

R	2021–2025		2016–2020		2005–2015	
	Journal	Cit	Journal	Cit	Journal	Cit
1	J Econometrics	3921	J Econometrics	1619	Am Econ Rev	1070
2	Econometrica	3766	Am Econ Rev	1587	J Econometrics	1047
3	Am Econ Rev	3712	Econometrica	1296	Am Econ Rev	1055
4	Rev Econ Stat	2262	Rev Econ Stat	889	Rev Econ Stat	747
5	Q J Econ	1892	Q J Econ	825	J Polit Econ	671
6	J Polit Econ	1787	J Polit Econ	626	J Monetary Econ	541
7	J Monetary Econ	1520	Econ Lett	589	J Bus Econ Stat	509
8	J Bus Econ Stat	1504	Empir Econ	574	Q J Econ	491
9	Econ Lett	1472	J Bus Econ Stat	545	Econ Lett	474
10	Empir Econ	1315	J Monetary Econ	519	J Am Stat Assoc	457
11	J Appl Economet	1154	Energ Econ	496	Econ J	391
12	Rev Econ Stud	1151	J Financ	481	Rev Econ Stud	347
13	J Am Stat Assoc	1141	Rev Econ Stud	479	Oxford B Econ Stat	343
14	J Financ	1137	J Dev Econ	455	Eur Econ Rev	318
15	Econ J	1110	J Appl Economet	444	Empir Econ	316
16	Energ Econ	987	Econ J	436	J Money Credit Bank	315
17	J Money Credit Bank	969	J Financ Econ	429	J Appl Economet	314
18	J Int Econ	925	Econ Model	416	J Financ	314
19	Appl Econ	922	J Bank Financ	408	Appl Econ	297
20	Oxford B Econ Stat	909	J Int Econ	378	J Int Econ	250

Table 14 (continued)

R	Global		2016–2020		2005–2015	
	Journal	Cit	Journal	Cit	Journal	Cit
21	Eur Econ Rev	887	J Am Stat Assoc	375	J Appl Econom	239
22	J Int Money Financ	874	J Int Money Financ	366	J Int Money Financ	217
23	Econ Model	861	J Money Credit Bank	365	Biometrika	212
24	J Dev Econ	833	World Dev	361	J Econ Lit	210
25	J Bank Financ	825	Appl Econ	343	Int Econ Rev	203
26	J Financ Econ	791	Eur Econ Rev	334	Economet Theor	199
27	J Econ Perspect	736	J Econ Perspect	326	J Hum Resour	193
28	J Econ Lit	649	Rev Financ Stud	282	J Econ Perspect	192
29	J Public Econ	593	Oxford B Econ Stat	272	J Econ Dyn Control	169
30	Int J Forecasting	587	J Public Econ	264	J Health Econ	169
31	Int Econ Rev	583	Int J Forecasting	257	Ann Stat	160
32	World Dev	569	J Econ Lit	236	J Public Econ	158
33	Economet Theor	548	Economet Theor	226	Am J Agr Econ	156
34	Rev Financ Stud	504	Int Econ Rev	224	J Dev Econ	156
35	J Hum Resour	494	J Prod Anal	214	J Labor Econ	150
36	Am J Agr Econ	476	Financ Res Lett	205	J Financ Econ	148
37	J Econ Dyn Control	475	J Labor Econ	197	J Bank Financ	140
38	Biometrika	473	J Hum Resour	195	Appl Econ Lett	129
39	J Appl Econom	468	Economet Rev	183	J Prod Anal	118
40	J Labor Econ	459	Energy Policy	183	Int J Forecasting	111

R = rank; Cit = citations

Table 15 Citing articles of *EE*: years, authors, universities, countries, and journals

R	Year	TP	Author	TP	University	TP	Country	TP	Journal	TP
1	2025	4923	Gupta, R	181	IZA—Inst Labor Econ	357	China	7716	Empirical Econ	1062
2	2024	4889	Gil-Alana, L.A	142	U Pretoria	291	United States	7058	Applied Econ	915
3	2023	4479	Asongu, S.A	116	CNRS France	246	United Kingdom	3678	Sustainability	824
4	2022	4071	Shahbaz, M	107	Chinese Acad Sciences	240	Germany	3344	Econ Modelling	592
5	2021	3293	Su, C.W	107	Monash U	233	Spain	2724	Energy Econ	507
6	2020	2944	Tiwari, A.K	106	Southwestern U Fin Econ	221	Italy	2454	Env Sci Pollution Res	468
7	2019	2410	Lee, C.C	94	Beijing Inst Tech	222	Australia	2062	Resources Policy	443
8	2018	2076	Balcilar, M	71	London Sch Econ Pol Sci	216	Turkey	1954	Applied Econ Letters	305
9	2017	1812	Ha, L.T	70	GESifo GmbH	215	India	1684	J Cleaner Production	297
10	2016	1637	Odhiambo, N.M	70	Xiamen U	213	France	1665	Int Rev Econ Finance	285
11	2015	1391	Kumbhakar, S.C	67	Lebanese American U	195	Malaysia	1162	PLOS One	283
12	2014	1336	Xu, X	64	U South Africa	190	Canada	1156	Econ Letters	222
13	2013	1163	Lin, B	62	U València	189	Netherlands	1124	J Productivity Analysis	222
14	2012	985	Chang, T	56	U Putra Malaysia	188	Taiwan	1100	Econ Bulletin	211
15	2011	864	Murshed, M	51	GA U Göttingen	185	South Africa	1091	J Environmental Manag	209
16	2010	781	Wohar, M.E	48	U Johannesburg	184	Pakistan	1000	Energy	208
17	2009	679	Caporale, G.M	46	U Econ Ho Chi Minh City	183	South Korea	962	Energy Policy	205
18	2008	575	Chiu, Y.H	46	Hunan U	178	Greece	851	Int J Finance and Econ	204
19	2007	455	Bouri, E	45	Australian National U	175	Japan	787	Finance Research Letters	203
20	2006	437	Umar, M	45	U Navarra	175	Viet Nam	753	J Econometrics	201
21	2005	397	Mahalik, M.K	44	U Bologna	174	Poland	730	Cogent Econ and Finance	195

Table 15 (continued)

R	Year	TP	Author	TP	University	TP	Country	TP	Journal	TP
22	2004	268	Pierdzioch, C	44	U Groningen	173	Nigeria	692	Economics	185
23	2003	235	Qin, M	43	Renmin U China	173	Portugal	676	Physica A Stat Mech Appl	172
24	2002	217	Apergis, N	42	Qingdao U	170	Saudi Arabia	654	Research Int Bus Fin	169
25	2001	206	Smyth, R	42	Wuhan U	169	Brazil	640	J Econ Studies	168
26	2000	146	Mensi, W	41	U Barcelona	165	Sweden	621	North American J Econ Fin	167
27	1999	149	Ozturk, I	41	The World Bank, USA	164	Switzerland	620	Energies	166
28	1998	141	Adebayo, T.S	40	HSE U	163	Russia	615	Int Rev Fin Analysis	166
29	1997	105	Asche, F	40	Xi'an Jiaotong U	161	Norway	585	J Risk Fin Manag	165
30	1996	117	Barros, C.P	40	U Zaragoza	157	Belgium	568	Heliyon	163
31	1995	85	Solarin, S.A	40	U Maastricht	155	Indonesia	506	Labour Econ	159
32	1994	60	Bahmani-Oskooee, M	39	Peking U	153	Tunisia	503	Int J Energy Econ Policy	150
33	1993	42	Pata, U.K	39	U Oxford	148	Czech Republic	494	J Int Money Finance	149
34	1992	29	Vo, X.V	39	European Central Bank	148	Austria	442	Social Indicators Research	149
35	1991	19	Mishra, A.K	37	Sapienza U Roma	147	New Zealand	424	Econ Analysis and Policy	147
36	1990	32	Balsalobre-Lorente, D	36	U Lisboa	147	Iran	413	European J Oper Res	142
37	1989	19	Kang, S.H	36	U Sains Malaysia	146	Denmark	411	Emerging Markets Fin Trade	141
38	1988	14	Kirikkalali, D	36	Erasmus U Rotterdam	146	Romania	402	Int J Env Res Public Health	141
39	1987	13	Magazzino, C	36	U Oviedo	144	Bangladesh	394	J Forecasting	136
40	1986	17	2 authors	36	Athens U Econ Business	144	Ghana	387	Oxford Bulletin Econ Stat	136

R = rank; EE = total papers

America appears in the list, the World Bank which is ranked 28th. Currently, European institutions are the leaders in the Table 20 institutions in the Top 40.

At the country level, China and the USA have the highest number of citing articles, which is an expected result due to the huge size of these countries. The UK, Germany, Spain, and Italy also cite very frequently the journal. If all the European countries were calculated together, then obviously their number of citing articles would be much higher than the USA and China. Other less populated countries rank high in the list including Australia, Malaysia, Netherlands, and Taiwan. It is also remarkable that many developing countries obtain a good ranking indicating their interest in topics connected to *EE*.

From the journals point of view, the self-citations of *EE* are the most representative followed by the citations received from *Applied Economics* and *Sustainability*. Although most of the journals in the list are from the field of economics, there is a great diversity between different subfields like energy (*Energy Economics*, *Energy* and *Energy Policy*), environmental economics (*Environmental Science and Pollution Research* and *Journal of Environmental Management*), financial economics (*International Review of Economics and Finance*, *International Journal of Finance and Economics* and *Finance Research Letters*) and econometrics (*Journal of Econometrics*).

The journals involved are seen to have a wide and diverse thematic interest for empirical economics, highlighting the interdisciplinary scope of *EE* to tackle modern economic problems, ranging from the energy sector to productivity studies. The analysis confirms the extensive and increasing impact of *EE* on academic research throughout the world, involving contributors from an internationally diverse set of countries and affiliations, but especially in areas such as applied economics, energy policy issues, and econometric modelling.

Finally, let us examine the publication and citation record of some leading journals strongly connected to *EE*, especially in econometrics. Table 16 can be reproduced entirely through the Scopus database using the “Analyze Search Results” function. For each of the 30 journals included in the table, researchers should choose Source Title, enter the journal title, restrict the document type to Articles, Reviews, and Conference Papers (special issues), select only publications with Final publication stage, and exclude records from 2026. The same search criteria are applied for both the full-period indicators and the last-decade indicators (2016–2025), with the latter additionally requiring a publication-year restriction. Although abbreviated journal names are used in the table, their complete titles are easily identifiable through the Scopus source lookup system. Impact Factor (IF) values were obtained from the WoS Journal Citation Reports, whereas CiteScore (CS) metrics were collected directly from Scopus, ensuring that all reported indicators are independently verifiable.

Table 16 reports publication and citation performance measures for 30 representative economics journals indexed in Scopus and ranked according to citations per paper (C/P). At the top of the ranking are the major econometrics journals, including *Econometrica* (C/P: 147.08), the *Journal of Econometrics* (88.13), and the *Review of Economics & Statistics* (106.13). These journals naturally dominate citation performance because of their methodological importance within the discipline and their

Table 16 Publication and citation performance of 30 representative journals in economics (Scopus)

R	Journal name	TP	TC	H	C/P	TP10	TC10	H10	C/P10	IF	CS	YS	Y
-	Empirical Economics	3582	59,343	83	16.57	1852	20,694	51	11.17	1.9	5.6	1976	1976
1	Econometrica ^a	1959	288,121	252	147.08	702	29,463	84	41.97	7.1	13.1	1974 ^a	1933
2	Rev Econ & Stat ^a	2272	241,139	225	106.13	781	29,446	82	37.70	6.8	8.3	1978 ^a	1919
3	J American Stat Assoc	10,389	987,976	375	95.10	1648	48,119	87	29.20	3	7.1	1922	1922
4	J Econometrics	5327	469,487	272	88.13	1629	45,661	73	28.03	4	12.9	1973	1973
5	J Applied Econometrics	1858	125,163	142	67.36	650	11,519	51	17.72	3.1	4.0	1986	1986
6	J Business & Econ Stat	2232	141,445	167	63.37	754	16,526	49	21.92	2.5	5.3	1983	1983
7	Int J Forecasting	2428	126,336	144	52.03	949	36,125	81	38.07	7.1	17.1	1985	1985
8	Oxford Bulletin Econ Stat	1896	85,869	108	45.29	534	6536	34	12.24	1.4	3.5	1973	1973
9	J Productivity Analysis	1144	51,737	106	45.22	325	3970	32	12.22	1.8	2.9	1989	1989
10	J Financial Econometrics	555	18,690	60	33.68	309	5059	29	16.37	2.2	4.1	2005	2003
11	Econometrics J	494	16,363	55	33.12	237	6591	28	27.81	7	7.2	2006	1998
12	Econometric Reviews	1247	41,136	83	32.99	486	4526	31	9.31	1	2.0	1982	1982
13	Econometric Theory	2081	61,412	107	29.51	348	3269	25	9.39	1	2.3	1985	1985
14	J Time Series Analysis	1780	48,013	90	26.97	425	3533	24	8.31	1	2.1	1980	1980
15	Economic Modelling	6094	150,586	138	24.71	3130	68,209	101	21.79	4.7	8.7	1984	1984
16	J Forecasting	2084	47,626	89	22.85	875	10,651	45	12.17	2.7	4.5	1982	1982
17	Quantitative Economics	477	9227	42	19.34	379	5051	32	13.33	2.2	5.0	2010	2010
18	Economics Letters	13,964	227,838	159	16.32	4298	44,573	79	10.37	1.8	3.4	1978	1978
19	Applied Economics	11,756	189,409	125	16.11	4597	51,680	73	11.24	2.1	4.1	1969	1969
20	Theoretical Economics	627	9375	45	14.95	447	4142	28	9.27	1.3	2.3	2007	2006

Table 16 (continued)

R	Journal name	TP	TC	H	C/P	TP10	TC10	H10	C/P10	IF	CS	YS	Y
21	J Econometric Methods	117	1456	17	12.44	91	989	15	10.87	–	2.2	2012	2012
22	Computational Economics	2113	24,367	57	11.53	1337	11,698	43	8.75	2.2	4.9	1993	1988
23	Studies Nonlinear Dynamics Econometrics	689	7922	38	11.50	329	1676	17	5.09	–	1.4	2002	1997
24	Econometrics and Statistics	350	3064	24	8.75	350	3064	24	8.75	2.5	4.0	2017	2017
25	Romanian J Econ Forecasting	779	4178	24	5.36	394	1778	16	4.51	1	1.5	2008	2000
26	Int J Computational Econ Econometrics	184	652	10	3.54	184	652	10	3.54	0.3	0.7	2017	2009
27	J for Studies in Econ Econometrics	305	997	12	3.27	175	417	8	2.38	–	0.8	2008	1977
28	J Time Series Econometrics	70	218	8	3.11	70	218	8	3.11	0.1	1.7	2016	2009
29	China J Econometrics	234	486	8	2.08	234	486	8	2.08	–	1.6	2021	2021
30	Central Eur J Econ Model Econometrics	119	244	8	2.05	119	244	8	2.05	0.3	0.7	2017	2009

Abbreviations are available in Table 5 except: TP10, TC10, H10, C/P10 = total papers, citations, *h*-index and cites per paper of the last 10 years (2016–2025); IF = impact factor (WoS); CS = CiteScore (Scopus); YS = year of origin in Scopus; Y = year of origin

^aUntil 1996 only some articles are available in Scopus

long indexing histories dating back to the 1970s and early 1980s. Within this context, *EE* performs fairly, with a C/P value of 16.57 since its inclusion in Scopus in 1976. This indicates that the journal has maintained citation relevance for nearly five decades, demonstrating its continuing contribution to empirical and applied econometric research. Its C/P10 value of 11.17 further shows that this influence is not simply driven by older publications but reflects ongoing scholarly engagement during the most recent decade.

When compared with journals specializing in statistics and forecasting, *EE* also remains competitive. *The Journal of the American Statistical Association* records a very high C/P value of 95.10, although its disciplinary scope extends far beyond economics and therefore attracts citations from a much broader scientific audience. More directly comparable journals such as the *International Journal of Forecasting* (C/P: 52.03, CS: 17.1) and the *Journal of Forecasting* (C/P: 22.85, CS: 4.5) demonstrate that the CiteScore of *EE* (5.6) remains solid, particularly given the growing interest in forecasting and predictive modelling research. The journal's long publication history beginning in 1976 is also relevant because older journals often experience lower average citation ratios due to the expansion of their cumulative publication base over time. In this respect, the sustained performance of *EE* becomes even more significant.

Relative to applied and general economics journals such as *Applied Economics* (C/P: 16.11, CS: 4.1) and *Economic Modelling* (C/P: 24.71, CS: 8.7), *EE* compares positively, especially with respect to CiteScore, where its value of 5.6 exceeds that of *Applied Economics* and approaches journals with much larger publication volumes. Its C/P10 value of 11.17 also surpasses several older peer journals, suggesting that the journal's more recent publications are receiving increasing scholarly attention. Collectively, these metrics consolidates *EE* as a mature and consistently influential journal that maintains a strong position across multiple peer groups while showing growing citation momentum within economics and econometrics.

During the most recent decade (2016–2025), *EE* demonstrates a strong and competitive performance profile according to the TP10, TC10, H10, and C/P10 indicators. With 1852 publications during this period, the journal ranks among the most productive outlets in Table 16. Its TC10 value of 20,694 and H10 value of 51 place it ahead of several respected journals, including the *Journal of Applied Econometrics* (TC10: 11,519; H10: 51), the *Journal of Business and Economic Statistics* (TC10: 16,526; H10: 49), and *Econometric Reviews* (TC10: 4,526; H10: 31). These indicators show that the journal's recent output is not only extensive but also consistently influential across a wide range of articles. In terms of C/P10, which arguably provides one of the clearest normalized indicators of citation impact, *EE* records a value of 11.17. This exceeds or closely matches journals such as *Applied Economics* (11.24), *Economics Letters* (10.37), *Computational Economics* (8.75), and *Econometrics and Statistics* (8.75). Although leading theoretical journals such as *Econometrica* (C/P10: 41.97) and the *Review of Economics and Statistics* (37.70) remain substantially ahead on this measure, the decade-level indicators clearly position *EE* within the top-middle tier of the field and indicate that its scholarly influence continues to strengthen over time.

From the discussions above, *EE* can be placed among the strong middle journals in the category of economics and econometrics publications. Although leading theoretical economic journals like *Econometrica* and the *Review of Economics and Statistics*

remain at the top of citation tables with a significant margin, *EE* shows steady growth and success, especially in the last-decade performance and high citation ratio of articles ($C/P10$) equal to 11.17. Comparing *EE* with directly competing economics journals, it becomes obvious that it performs well in citations per paper and CiteScore.

The results of the study performed by Candelon et al. (2024) provide a valuable complement to the bibliometric results reported in Table 16. Based on an analysis of more than 17,000 econometric publications between 1980 and 2020, the authors show that citation success in econometrics is influenced not only by research quality but also by thematic alignment and social connectivity. This is consistent with the patterns observed in Table 16, where journals such as *Econometrica*, the *Review of Economics and Statistics*, and the *Journal of Econometrics*, tend to attract highly connected and collaborative research communities consistently dominating citation rankings. The Matthew effect identified in their study helps explain why these established journals maintain strong advantages in both C/P and $C/P10$ metrics, as their prestige and visibility amplify the reach of already well-networked scholars.

For *EE*, the implications of Candelon et al. (2024) are particularly positive. The journal's broad empirical orientation covering applied econometrics, macroeconomics, finance, and regional studies aligns with the kind of thematic connectivity that the authors identify as a key driver of citation impact, since work that bridges multiple knowledge domains tend to attract more citations. In addition, the steady increase in $TP10$ and $TC10$ suggests a growing share of collaborative and potentially interdisciplinary outputs, which is consistent with the study's finding that team-based social connectivity enhances the diffusion of ideas over both medium and long-term horizons. Taken together, these insights indicate that *EE* is well positioned to further strengthen its citation performance, provided it continues to support diverse, collaborative and cross-domain research contributions.

9 Conclusions

This bibliometric study of *Empirical Economics (EE)* from 1976 to 2025 provides a broad perspective on the journal's development in terms of productivity, citation impact, thematic evolution, and global collaboration. The results clearly show that *EE* has evolved from a comparably small publication in its first several decades to a highly influential and globally integrated platform for empirical economic studies. The journal mirrors both the methodological evolution of econometrics and the increasing relevance of policy studies for the solution of contemporary global challenges.

9.1 General findings

The study shows an explicitly positive trend in publication activity, especially since the mid-2000s, and a corresponding rise in citation impact. Although some short-term oscillations existed, the overall trend confirms the journal's growing academic impact. The distribution of citations suggests that there is a coexistence of a stable

core of moderately cited publications and a group of highly influential contributions that have shaped the methodological foundations of the field.

The analysis of keyword co-occurrence networks, thematic maps, and trend studies shows that the core themes of economic growth, monetary policy, income inequality, and business cycles are still at the heart of the journal's intellectual structure. Simultaneously, new themes such as climate change, COVID-19, innovation, and machine learning indicate the journal's responsiveness to global economic crises and technological progress. The increasing relevance of advanced econometric methods such as panel data analysis, cointegration analysis, structural break analysis, and data science tools reflect the journal's methodological pluralism and the integration of traditional econometrics with modern computer science. The findings of Candelon et al. (2024) confirm that citation success in econometrics depends on thematic connectivity and social collaboration, consistent with patterns observed in Table 16. For *EE*, its broad empirical orientation and growing collaborative output align well with these themes, positioning the journal favourably for continued citation growth.

The bibliographic coupling and co-citation analysis also show that there is a clearly identifiable intellectual backbone that is rooted in the journal's foundational econometric literature. Key authors and key methodological publications continue to provide the journal's research agenda with its guiding intellectual landmarks. Institutional and country-level network analyses demonstrate that the journal has a highly developed global collaboration structure. The main contributors come from the USA, UK, Germany, and Australia, but there is also a growing engagement of countries like China and Brazil. Overall, *EE* has a mature, collaborative, and globally integrated research environment.

9.2 Practical implications

The practical implications of the findings suggest that *EE* is on a strong trajectory towards global influence, with a clear path for further growth and expansion. The predominance of authors from USA, Germany, and UK has overshadowed the growing input from other countries like China and India. The increasing number of authors from many countries working together suggests the growing network and research themes of *EE* worldwide. *EE* should strategically adapt its editorial focus to reflect emerging trends in climate change, innovation, machine learning, inequality, inflation, COVID-19, China, euro area and economic development, which reflects on journal's involvement in critical global issues.

Fostering co-authorship with prominent scholars and leading institutions and bringing more ideas and researchers from different parts of the world, can further enhance the visibility and academic influence of *EE*. Continuous evaluation of authorships, research themes, citation and co-citation patterns will guide editorial decisions and support data-driven strategies for the journal's future growth.

9.3 Limitations and future research

There are several limitations in this bibliometric study. It is a general analysis of *EE* up to 2025. But future emerging topics, authors and institutes, can vary due to publication trends. Therefore, future updates of these results will be needed, for example, for the 60th or 75th anniversary of *EE*.

The study is conducted using the data from Scopus database but may exclude significant contributions from platforms such as WoS or Google Scholar. A limitation of this study is the potential impact of missing author address information in the Scopus database. Incomplete address data can affect the analysis of institutional contributions and geographic research patterns. Another limitation of this study is the inconsistency and incompleteness of the author keyword field in the database, particularly in older publications. Moreover, citation-based impact measures may not adequately capture the impact of recent publications because of the time lag of getting cited. The study is mainly based on universal quantitative indicators like the publication and citation numbers and may not reflect qualitative factors such as theoretical significance of individual work.

Acknowledgements We would like to thank Bertrand Candelon, Verena Schallert-Zech, the rest of editors of *EE*, and the anonymous reviewers, for valuable comments that have improved the quality of the paper.

Funding Open access funding provided by Institute for Advanced Studies Vienna.

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Publisher's Note Springer Nature remains neutral with regard to jurisdictional claims in published maps and institutional affiliations.

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