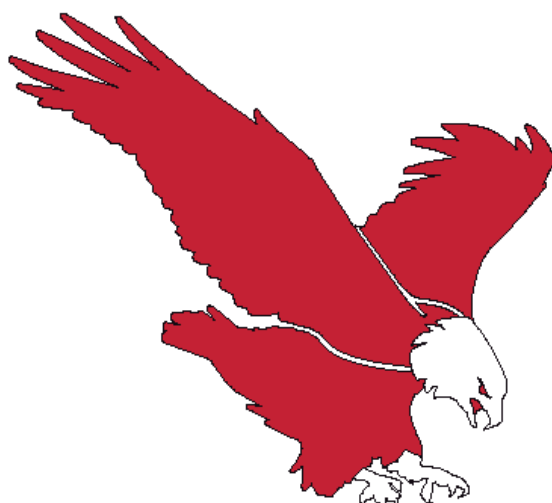


**3rd World Scientific Congress
of Combat Sports and Martial Arts
and 3rd IMACSSS International Conference**

ABSTRACT BOOK

October 15–17, 2014, Rzeszów, Poland

Wojciech Jan Cynarski and Anna Nizioł [Eds.]



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BIBLIOMETRIC ANALYSIS OF TAEKWONDO ARTICLES PUBLISHED IN WEB OF SCIENCE

Key words: taekwondo, web of science, bibliometrics, scientific literature, review

Introduction

Academics have been developing a progressive and constant research on martial arts, performing comprehensive reviews about several topics such as judo injuries [Pocecco *et al.* 2013], scientific literature on judo [Peset *et al.* 2013], the outcomes of martial arts [Vertonghen, Theeboom 2010], or mixed martial arts matches [Del Vecchio *et al.* 2011], for naming a few. Taekwondo is also a main topic of study among martial arts scholars and there exists a great variety of literature about this combat sport and martial art nowadays. Therefore, the aim of the present study was to carry out a bibliometric analysis of the taekwondo articles published in Web of Science until 2013, for drawing an overview of its scientific development.

Methods

Taekwondo articles published in Web of Science (SCI-Expanded, SSCI and A&HCI) were included in the present study. Attending to Pérez-Gutiérrez *et al.* [2011] recommendations, taekwondo, taekwando, tae-kwon-do, tae-kwan-do and taekwon-do terms were used for data mining and they were introduced in the topic field. Data mining was performed on May, 2014. The search was done from 1900 to 2014 for obtaining a comprehensive data retrieval and filtered by document type for including articles and reviews only. Finally, documents were individually consulted for assessing their topic and year of publication (published until 2013). Bibliometric analysis was focused on distribution of articles per year, research area, author, country and journal.

Results

A total of 176 articles were published from 1989 to 2013 in Web of Science, with a considerable increase from 2009 onwards. There are 38 different research areas, being sport sciences the main one (57.3%). A total

of 476 authors have been involved in taekwondo research, highlighting the contribution of Pieter and Chiodo (15 and 8 articles respectively). South Korea, USA and Turkey have supported most of taekwondo research publishing 31, 29 and 20 studies each one. Finally, scientific literature on taekwondo has been published in 83 different journals; authors preferring the *Journal of Strength and Conditioning Research*, which collects a 5.6% of total.

Discussion and Conclusions

From 2003 onwards, the publication of articles shows a progressive increase until present time, but most of them (71%) have been published from 2009 to 2013 in areas such as sport sciences, psychology, rehabilitation and physiology. The inclusion of taekwondo within the Olympic programme, the growth and development of Sport Sciences field and the increase of the number of journals included within Web of Science's master journal list could have triggered the amount of publications.

In relation with authors, it should be highlighted the contribution of Pieter, who has become a reference source with the publication of 15 articles. Taking into consideration the rate of articles and academics (176 vs 476), it should be pointed out that taekwondo research seems to present a collaborative pattern.

As the birthplace of taekwondo, South Korea has supported the development of quite a lot studies about taekwondo. Taekwondo research by country should be related with each country's research development or sport results.

Finally, it should be highlighted the role played by sports journals for presenting taekwondo research results as well as the appearance of a martial arts journal, *Archives of Budo*, among the most productive ones in this field.

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