

THE SOCIAL SPACE OF SUSTAINABILITY SCIENCE: A BIBLIOMETRIC STUDY OF LEADING JOURNALS (2001-2021)



THE SWEDISH SCHOOL OF LIBRARY
AND INFORMATION SCIENCE
UNIVERSITY OF BORÅS

Marco Schirone
University of Borås &
Chalmers University of Technology
marco.schirone@hb.se

PIERRE BOURDIEU'S SOCIAL SPACE

Field or
Champ

Agents

Capital

Habitus

Historical
perspective

(SOME) PREVIOUS RESEARCH

Gingras (1991) on the field of Canadian Physics (historical perspective)

Cronin (2005) and Gingras (2008) on symbolic capital

Social capital & co-authorship (Abbasi et. 2014)

Other proxies for capital besides citations (Desrochers et al., 2018)

Costly collaboration and negative capital (Mongeon & Larivière, 2016)

SUSTAINABILITY SCIENCE



Emerging field



Journals as “objectified capital”

- Leading journals embed more symbolic capital
- (JIF > the average in the field)

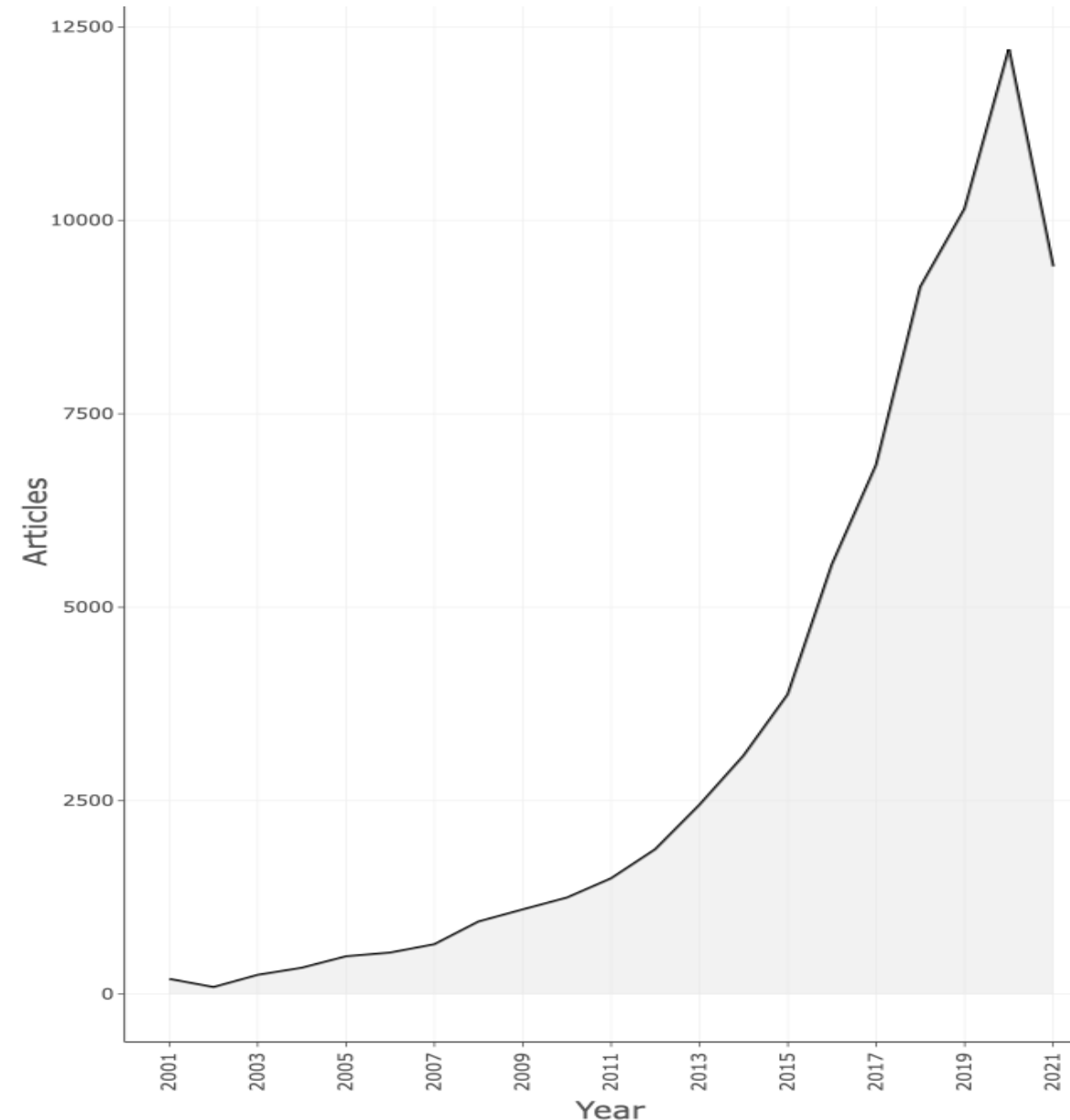


Which agents?

- university and research centers as collective agents

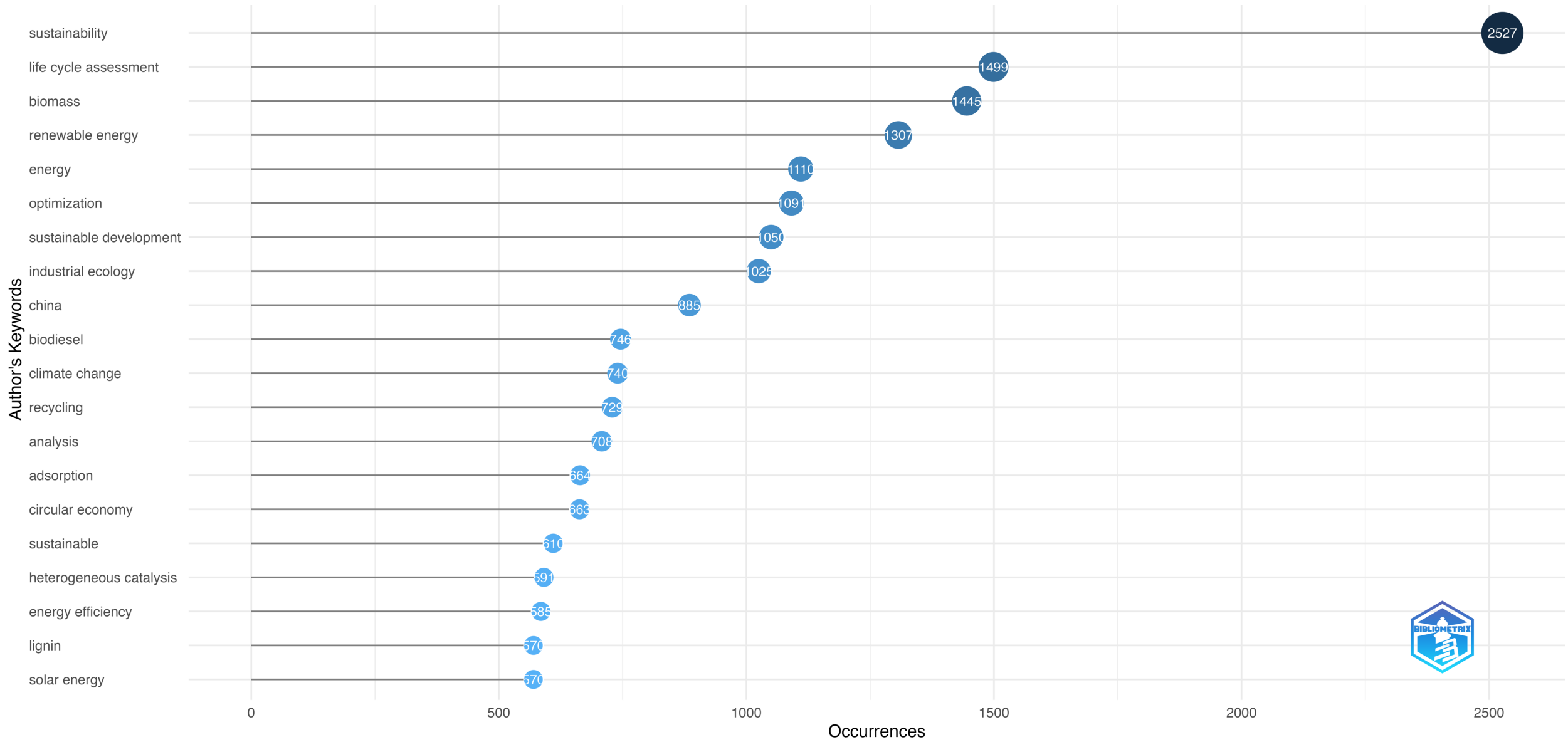
THE DATA

- ❖ From *Web of Science (Core Collection)*
- ❖ Category “Green & Sustainable Science & Technology” (Bautista-Puig et al. 2021)
- ❖ Number of documents: 71871 (articles only)
- ❖ Data analysis with *bibliometrix* (Aria & Cuccurullo, 2017)
 - Focus on:
 - symbolic capital through journal co-citation (see Gingras, 2008);
 - Countries and Affiliation co-authorship (social and symbolic capital)



MAIN INFORMATION ON THE DATASET

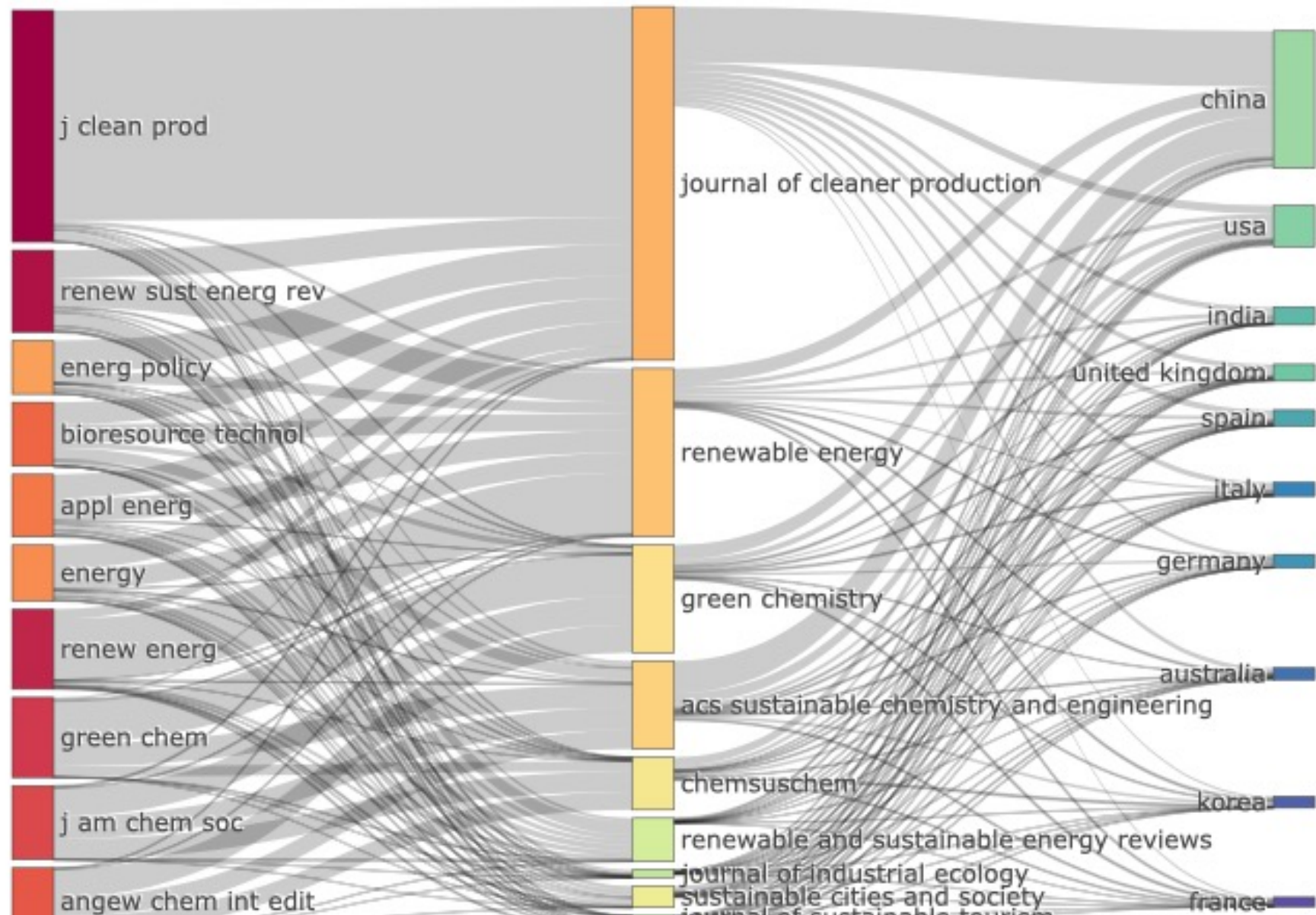
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Authors	122227	
Authors of single-authored docs	2333	
International Co-Authorship	29.2 %	
Author's Keywords (DE)	122760	
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Document Average Age	5.05	



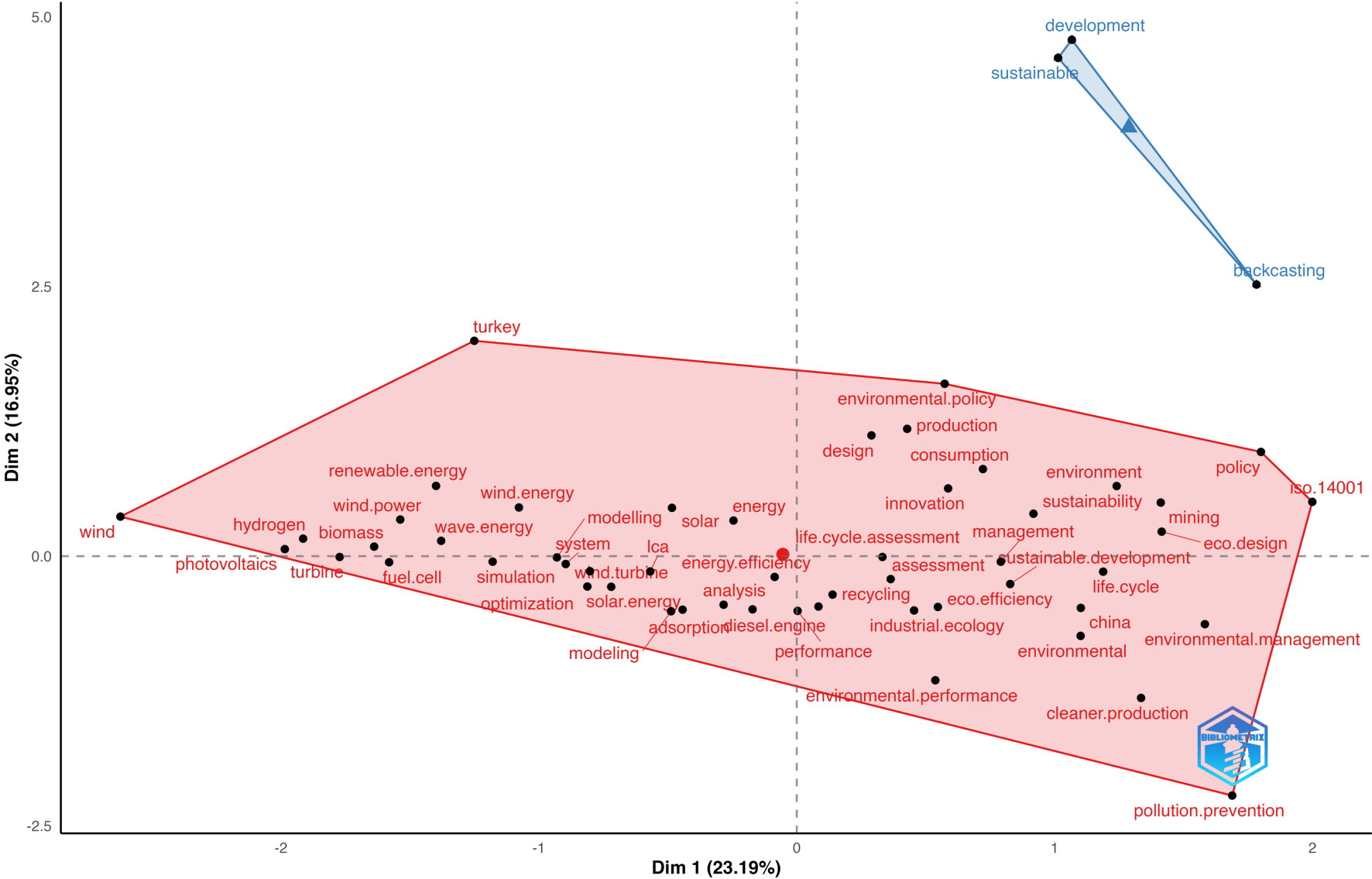
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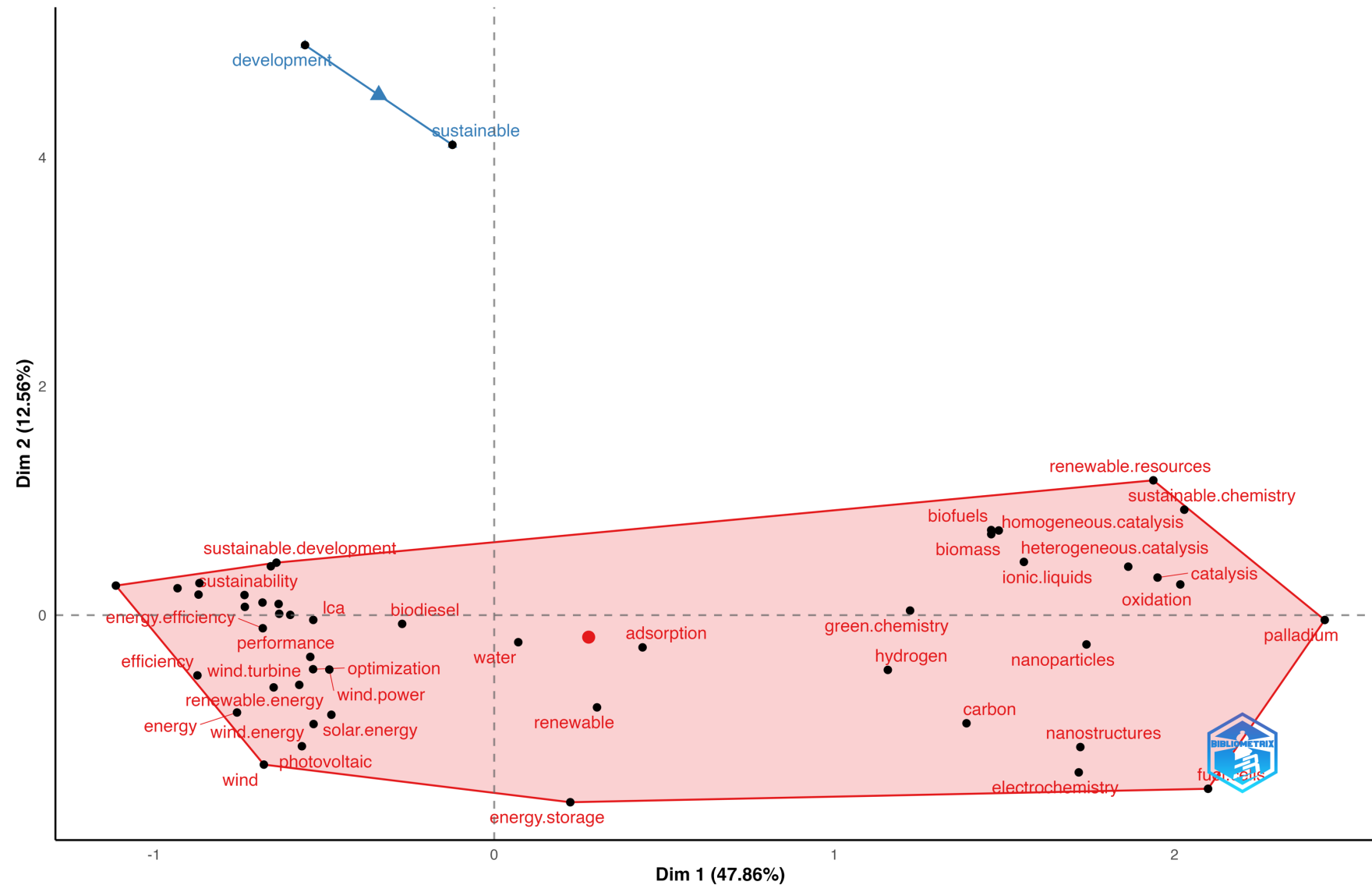
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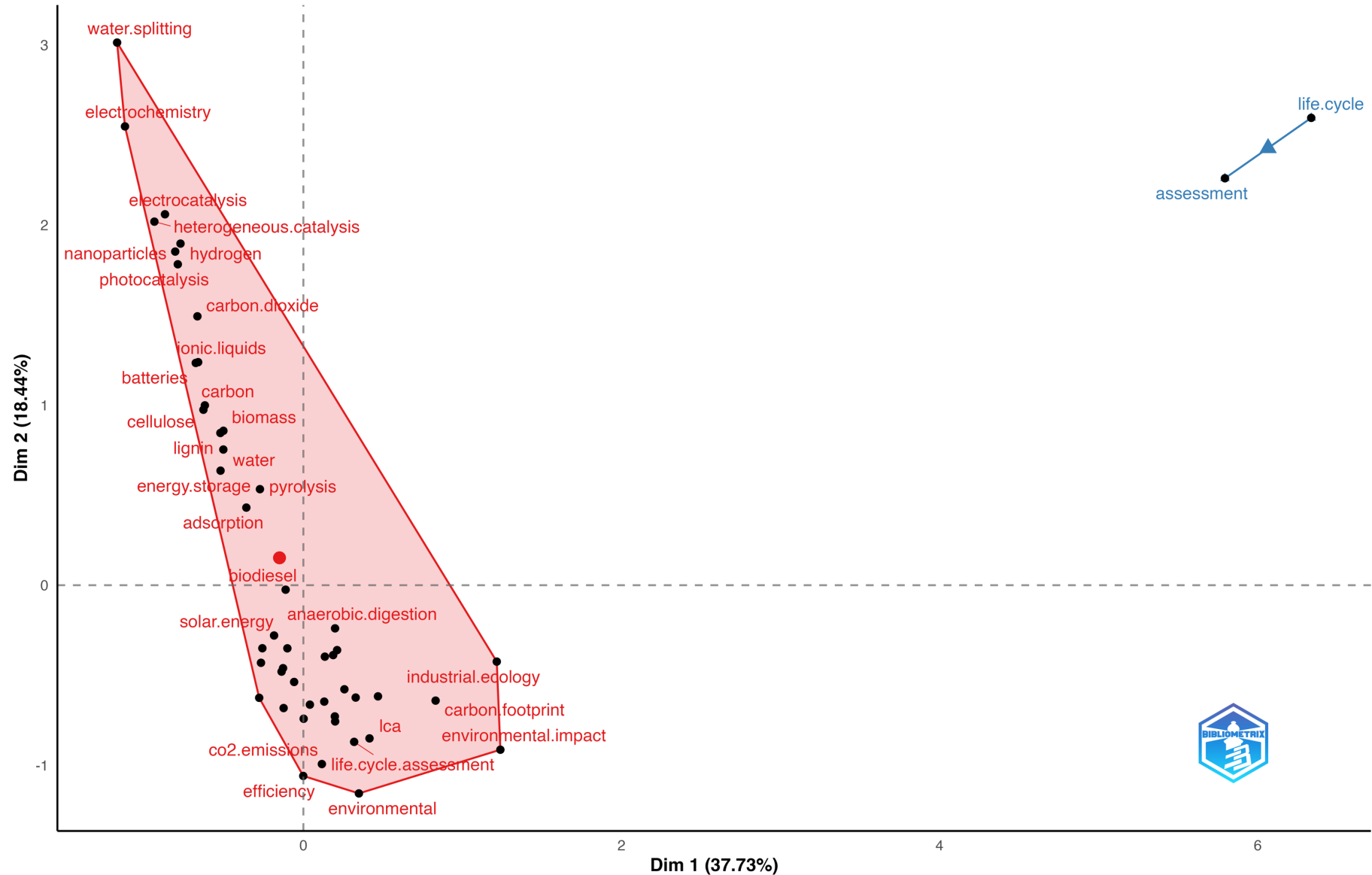
MCA – AUTHOR KEYWORDS 2001-2007



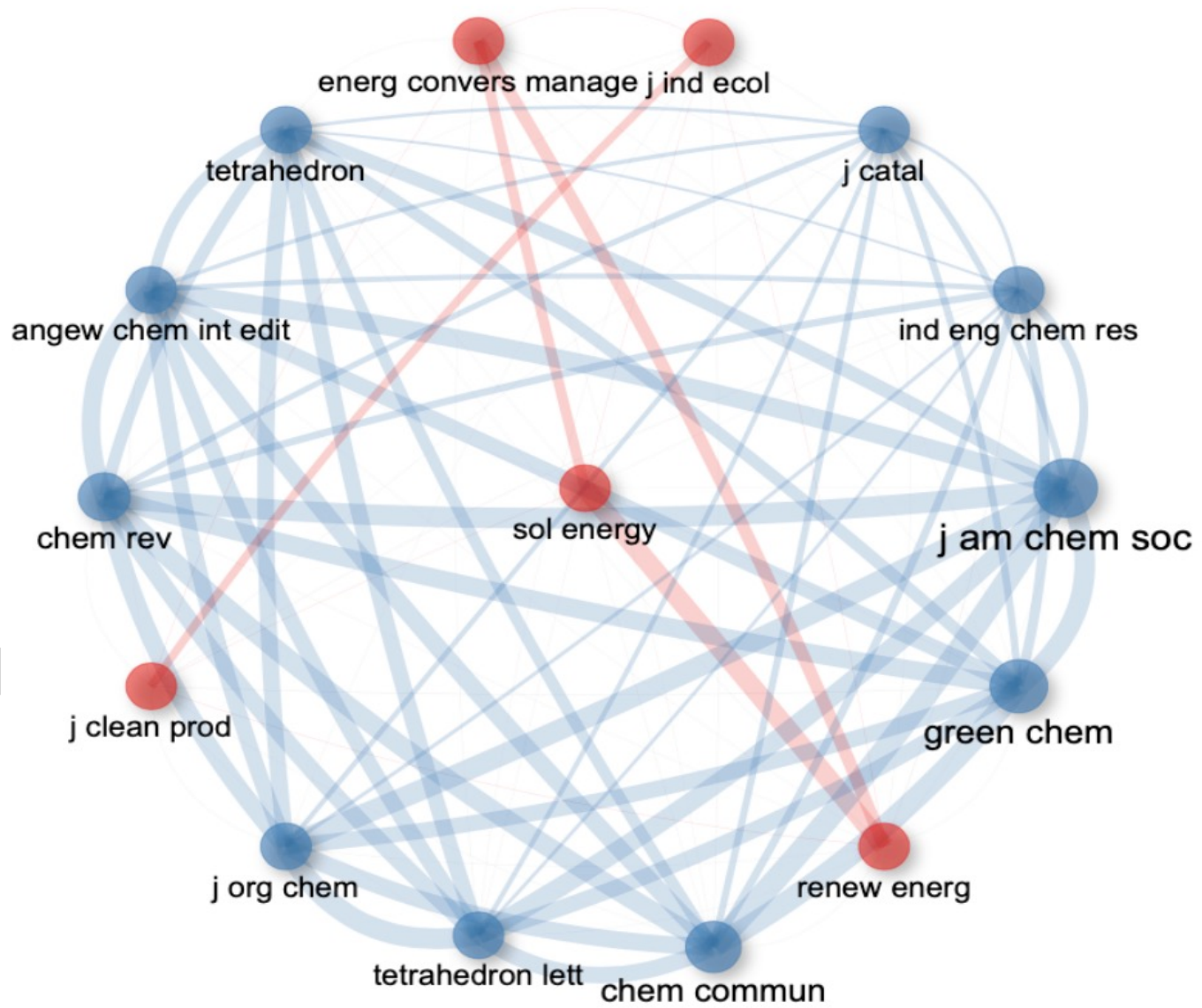
MCA – AUTHOR KEYWORDS 2008-2014



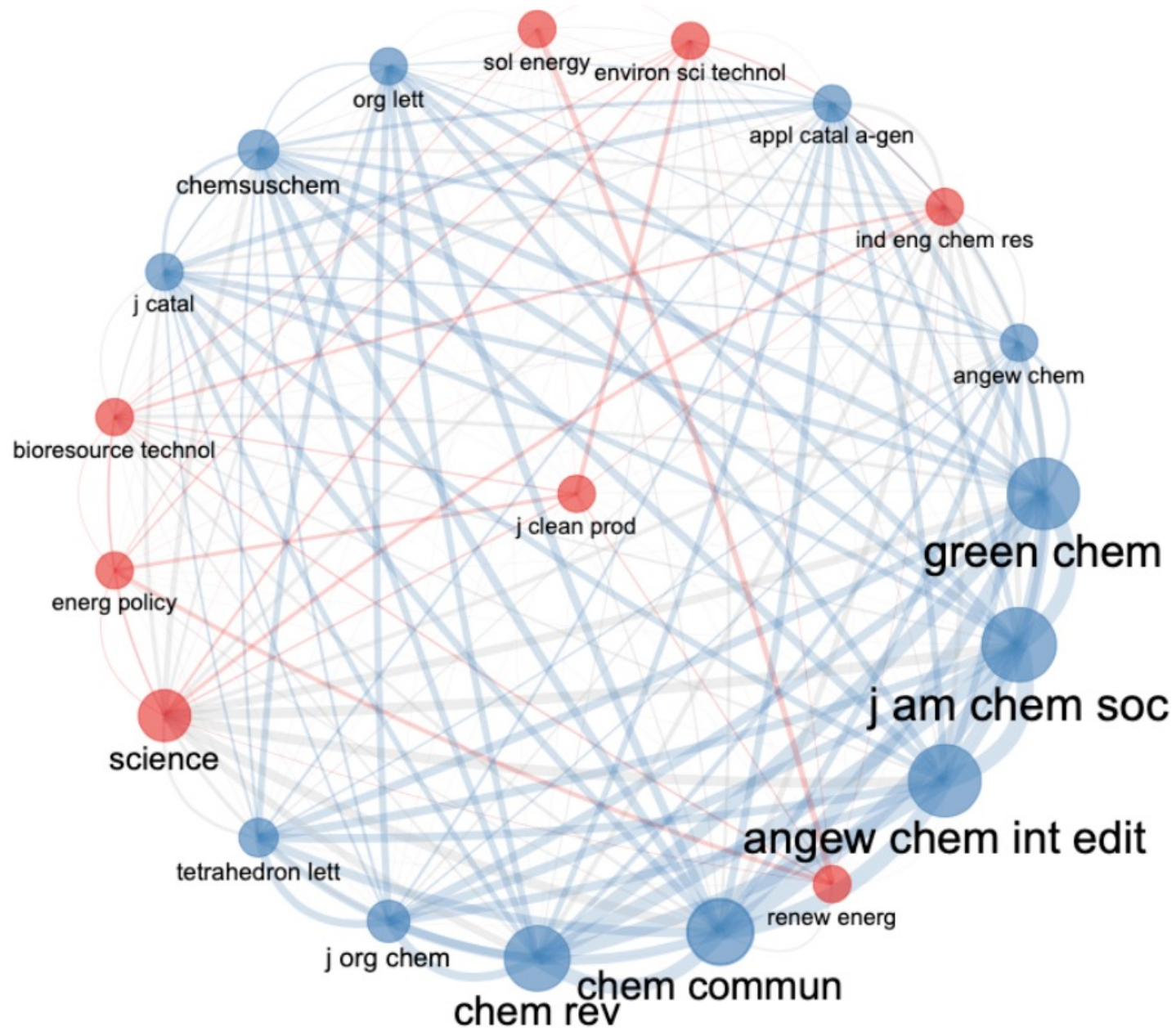
MCA – AUTHOR KEYWORDS 2015-2021



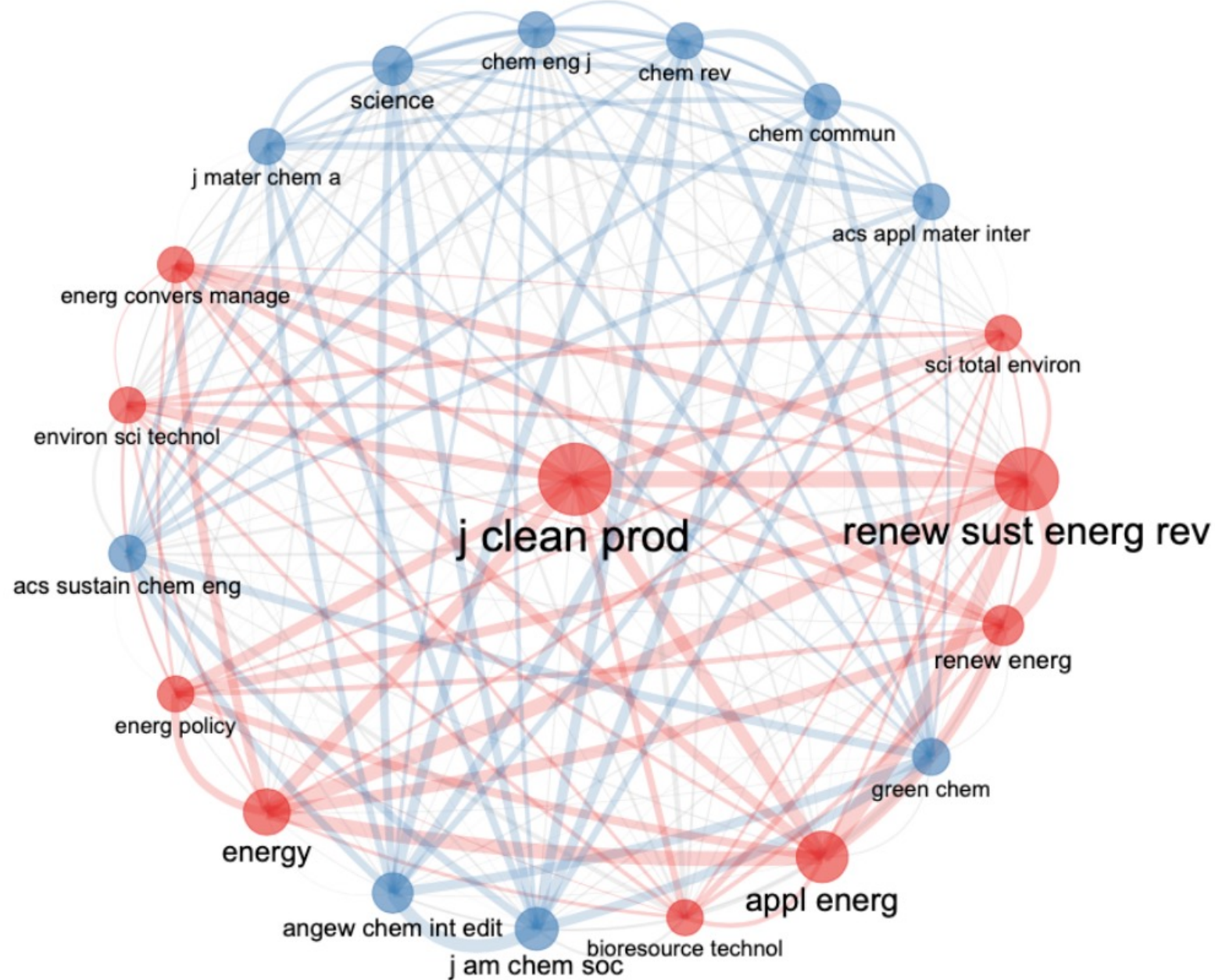
2001-2007 JOURNAL CO-CITATION



2008-2014 JOURNAL CO-CITATION



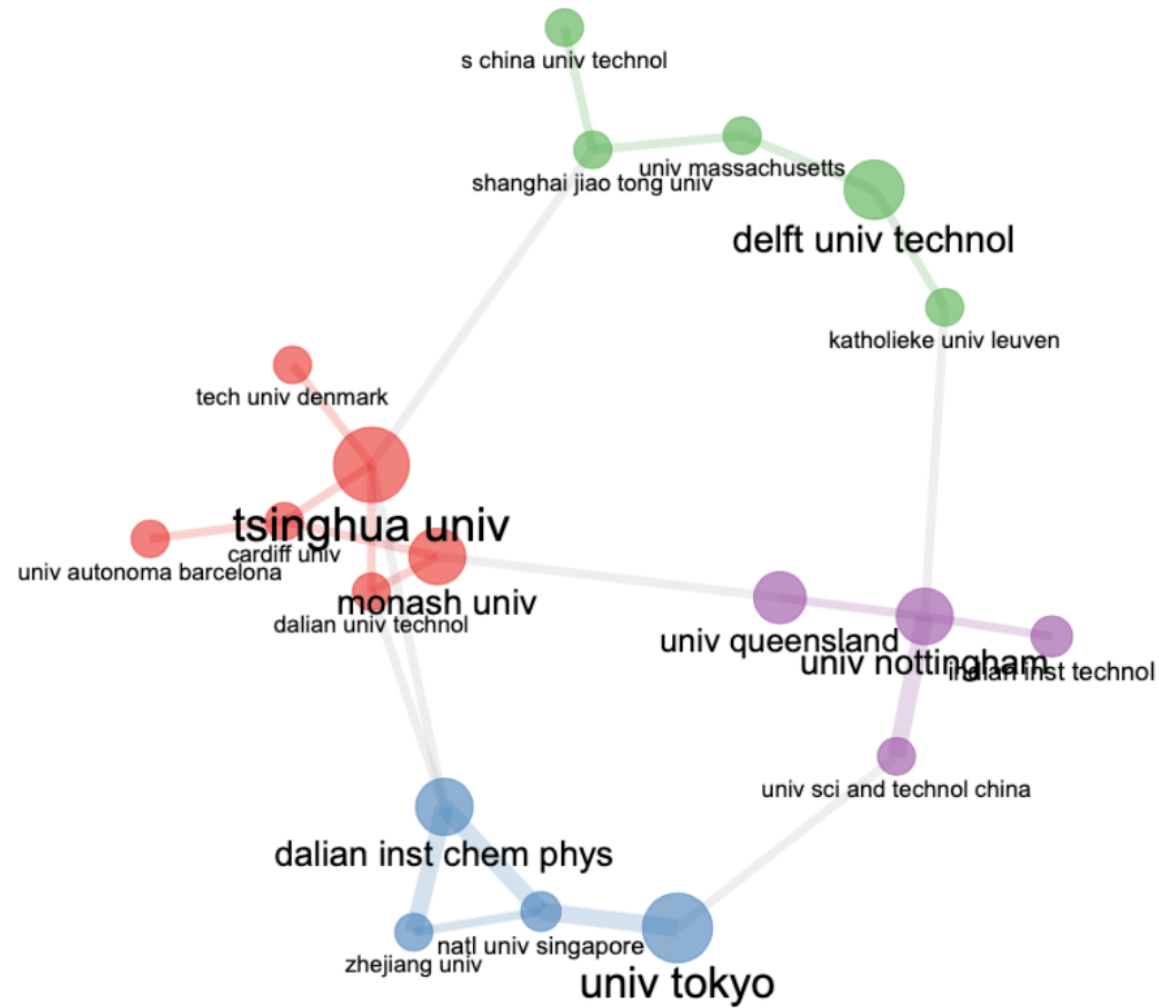
2015-2021 JOURNAL CO-CITATION



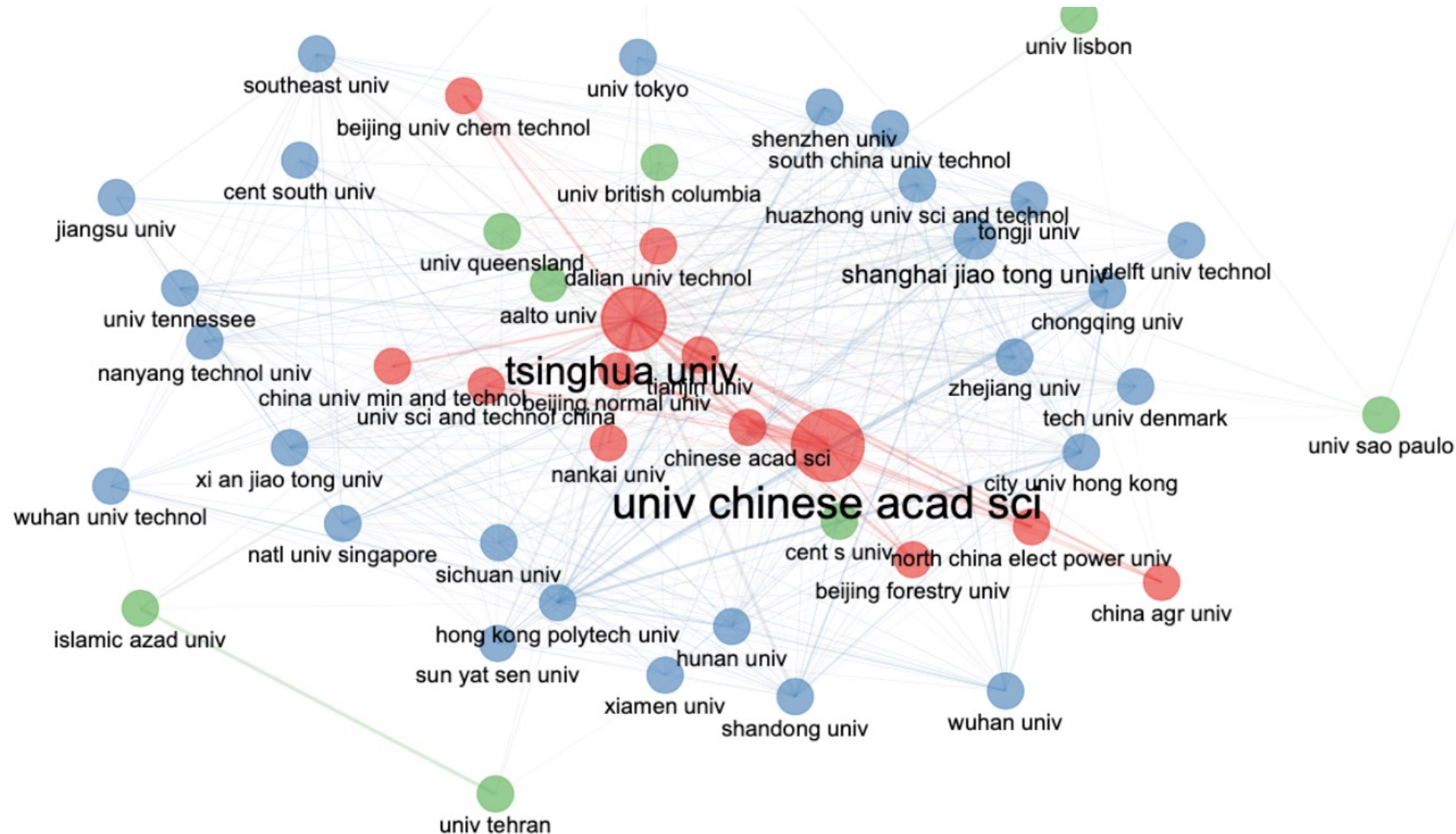
2001-2007 AFFILIATION CO-AUTHORSHIP



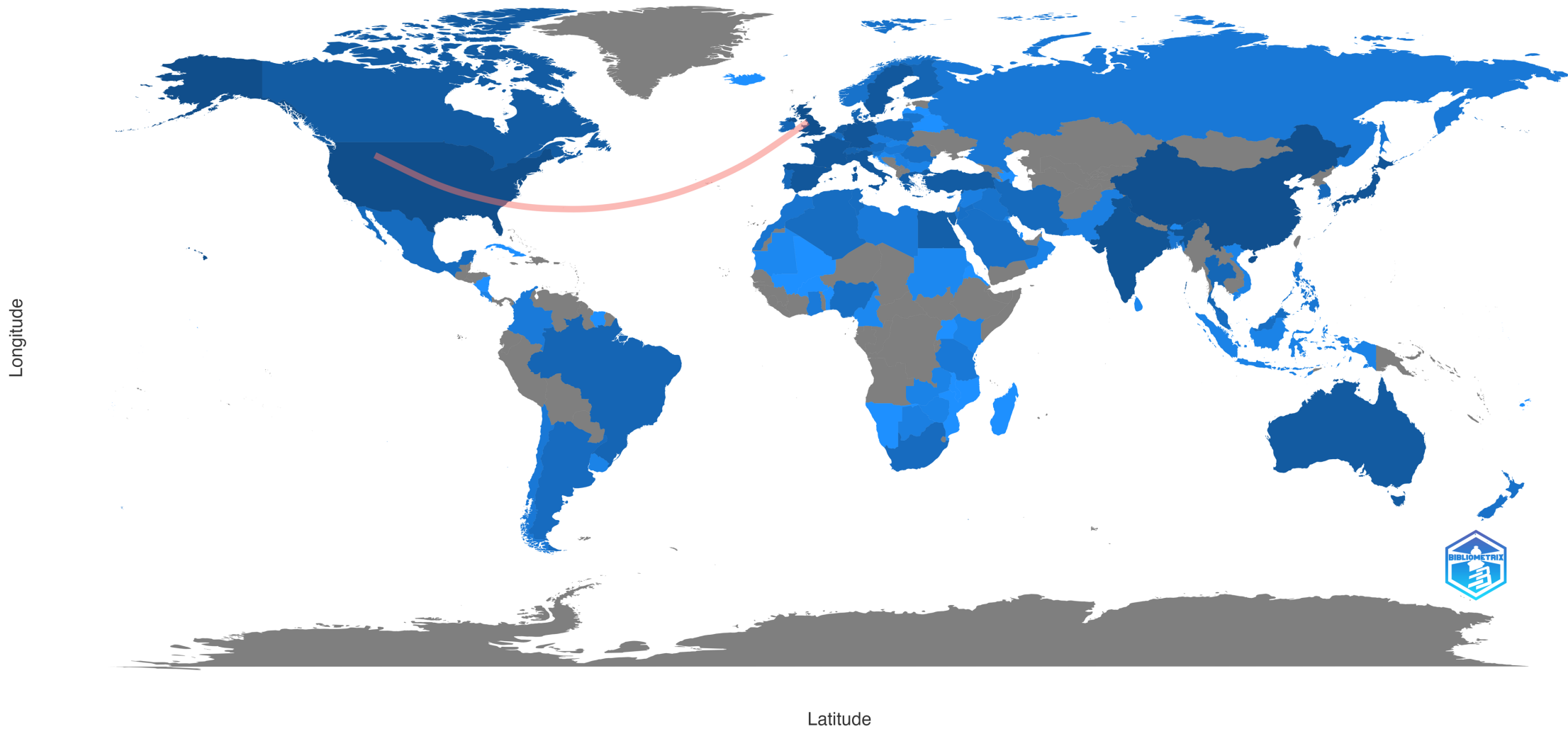
2008-2014 AFFILIATION CO-AUTHORSHIP



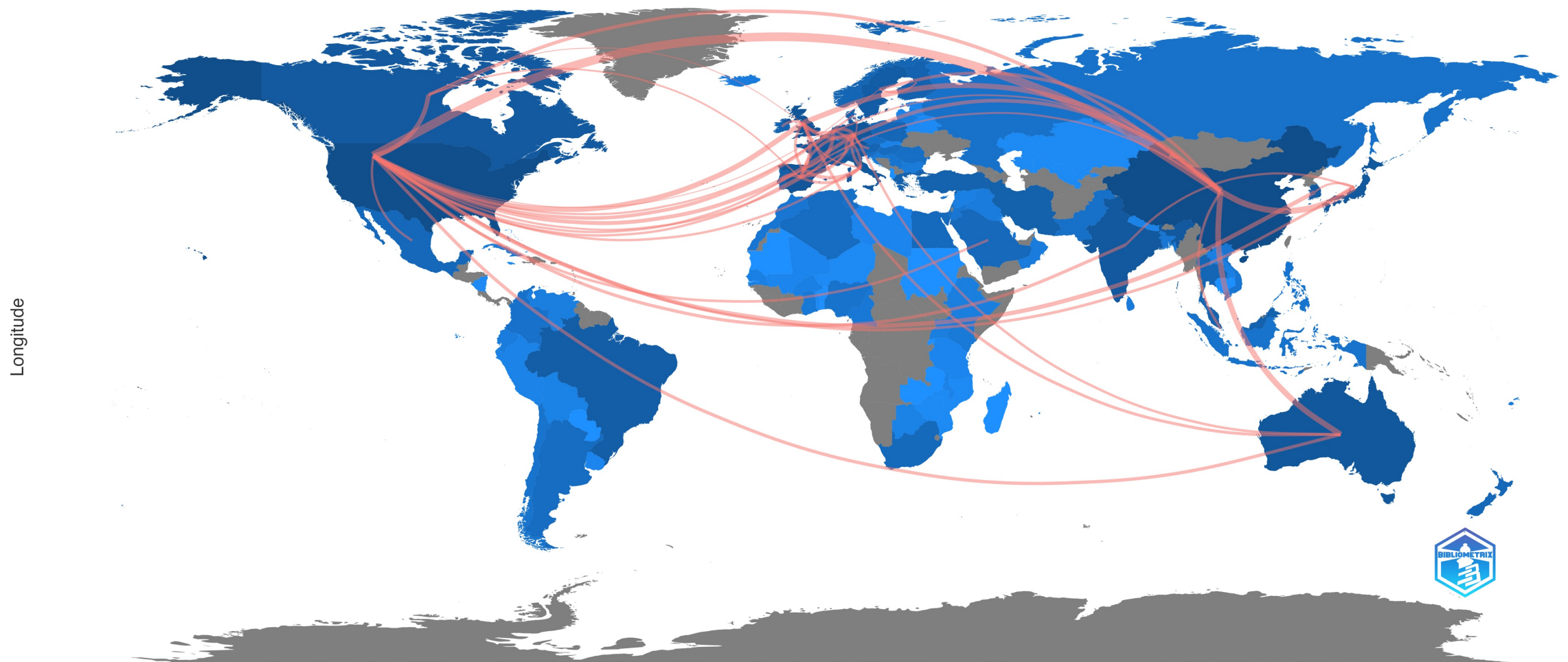
2015-2021 AFFILIATION CO-AUTHORSHIP



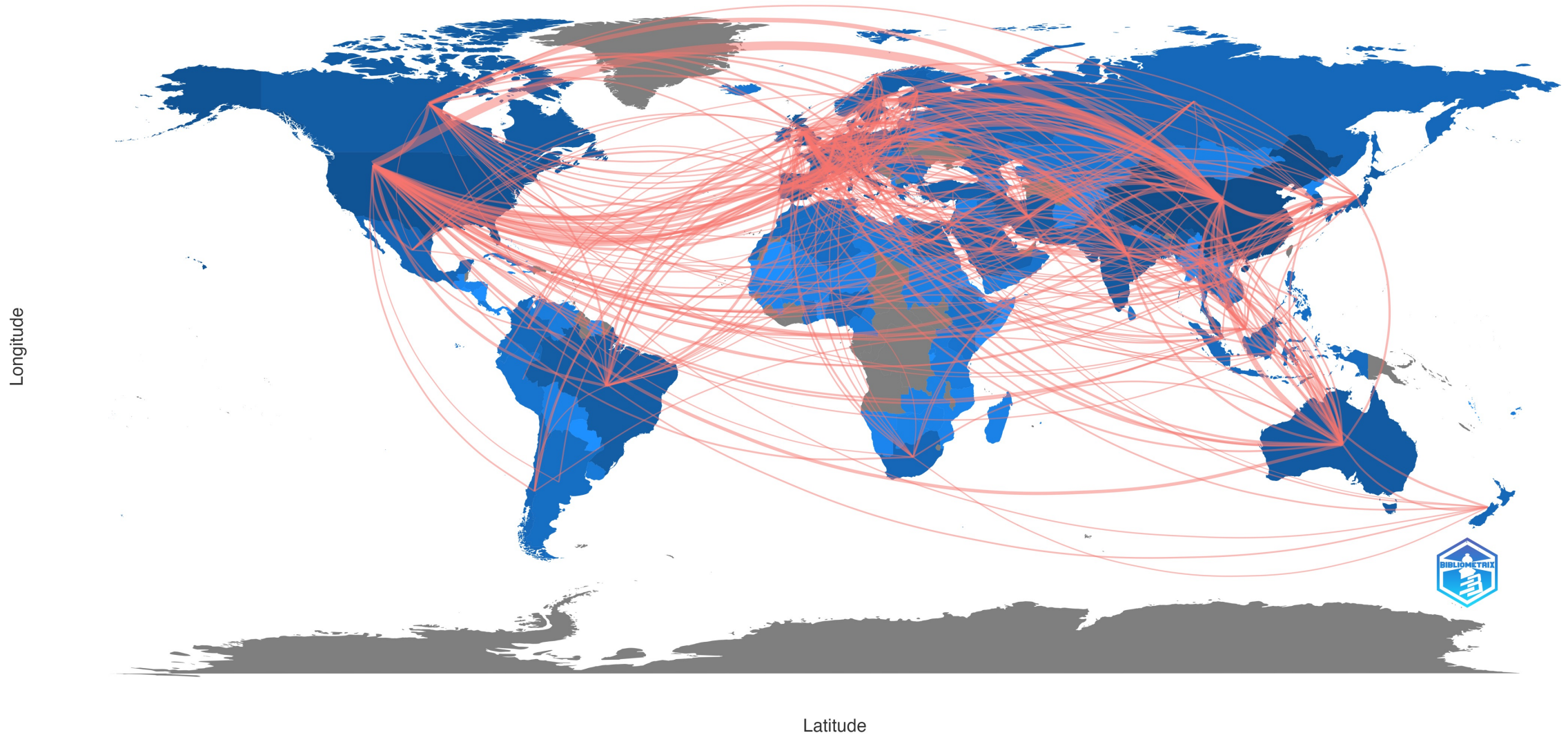
2001-2007 CO-AUTHORSHIP MAP



2008-2014 CO-AUTHORSHIP MAP



2015-2021 CO-AUTHORSHIP MAP



FINDINGS

- Shift from the chemistry-related journals to the energy research + life cycle assessment.
- Increase in the symbolic capital associated with the *Journal of Cleaner Production*.
- More significant presence of Chinese universities in 2015-2021.
- Social capital at a global level of countries (with the extension to more countries in the Global South). Sustainability research *with* vis-à-vis research *on*?
- Role of Japan (and the University of Tokyo) in the “disciplinaryisation” of the field (the journal *Sustainability Science*).
- The topic of “Sustainability” versus “Sustainable Development.”

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