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Evaluation Process: Double Blind Review pelo SEER/OJS

State Capacity: Bibliometrics of Publications in the Period 2009-2019

ABSTRACT

Objective: In the late 1980s, the attributes of the State were seen as fundamental requirements for quality of life, constituting its State Capacity. Through analysis of research on the subject, it is possible to better understand how studies have been developed. The objective of this work was to know the panorama of publications on the theme State Capacity, in the Period 2009-2019, in the Web of Science and Scopus databases.

Method: We carried out a bibliometrics/scientometrics considering the publications between the period 2009-2019 in eight stages of analysis, defining and identifying: database, search filters, authors and most cited terms, references, cooperation between authors, place of research and emergence of new expressions. Also, was used the web-based app Bibliometrix to expand the analysis.

Originality/Relevance: Combines both the quantitative aspects of publications dealing with the theme State Capacity and the content aspects, seeking a comprehensive analysis, under the logic of multiple paradigms.

Results: It was possible to identify seven categories of studies in specific areas of State Capacity. The analysis showed that the theme is under development, with a multiplicity of concepts and approaches, with the emergence of new areas as a research focus. The studies converge to a perspective of the State's capacity as multidimensional, formed by (sub)capacities, which represent the varied possibilities of government action.

Theoretical/Methodological contributions: It shows the focus (categories) of the research, the subjects associated with the study proposals, the locations studied, as well as the collaboration networks, and the publication flows of the authors.

Keywords: State Capacity; multidimensional; bibliometrics; scientometry.

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Received: April 1, 2021

Revised: January 31, 2022

Accepted: January 31, 2022

Published: April 30, 2022



How to Cite (APA)

Silva, R. G., Valadão Júnior, V. M., Silva, V. V., & Dantas, A. H. (2022). *State Capacity: Bibliometrics of Publications in the Period 2009-2019*. *Journal of Accounting, Management and Governance*, 25 (1), 80-102.
http://dx.doi.org/10.51341/1984-3925_2022v25n1a5

1 INTRODUCTION

The evaluation within a certain field of study allows to enhance and bring veracity to knowledge when reliable and systematic methods are used. These methods seek to show how specific knowledge is developed and how it contributes to solving problems in the field of study (Vanti, 2002).

This research uses bibliometric and scientometric methods to understand the overview of research in the field of State Capacity.

The quest to understand the quality of a government has shown to be of interest by societies and sciences (political science, sociology, economics, administration). In the late 1980s, the attributes of the State were seen as fundamental requirements for life quality, although not sufficient. These attributes constitute the state capacity that enables the State to establish its objectives, implement actions and generate results, derived from various factors, for example, political, institutional, administrative, coercive, legal, fiscal, territorial and technical (Cardoso & Marenco, 2019).

In the 1990s, the importance of the State for the making of life quality becomes a relevant theme in management. Currently, there is an explicit recognition of the role of institutions, including state institutions, for the development of society (Besley & Persson, 2010; Marenco, Strohschoen, & Joner, 2017; Zurbriggen & Travieso, 2016).

In this sense, how the research that seek to understand, at some level, the capacity of the State, are presented? Being aware of these studies and their results supports in understanding the advances and limits, as well as proposing new research based on a better understanding of the elements of State capacity.

As a starting point, State Capacity is comprehended as the set of qualities, competencies and skills that the State needs to have to be able to govern and improve the life quality of its citizens in the exercise of government (Gomide, 2016).

In bibliometric/scientometric studies, the growth of research supported by content analysis stands out, mainly in the main bibliographic instruments (summaries, for example), which expand possibilities of knowing the development of certain areas, the geographic scope and the clippings relating to sub-themes (Bufrem & Prates, 2005).

The purpose of this study is to know the overview of publications on the topic State Capacity, between 2009-2019, in the Web of Science and Scopus databases.

As the central point, the research categories and the subjects associated with the study proposals were identified. Furthermore, the appearing of new themes was revealed and the studies location, the collaboration networks and the authors' publication flows were analyzed.

This article follows Soares, Picolli and Casagrande (2018) indications for bibliometric studies: a systematic study structure consisting of an introduction, followed by a literature review, methodology, results and discussion, closing with the final considerations.

Eight stages make up the research, in a quantitative phase (stages 1 to 4): definition of databases, definition of search filters, Bibliometrix, database tools; and a qualitative phase (stages 5 to 8): download of articles, selection of articles of interest, identification of categories.

2 THEORETICAL FRAMEWORK

2.1 State Capacity Analysis: Exploring the Field of Information Science

With various forms of internal interference, the State is a fundamental participant in society's life quality, even though permeated by external influences (Gomes, Ferreira, & Amâncio, 2017). The primary function of the State is to govern by controlling the allocation of resources across society, creation of rules and institutions operations, as well as managing the symbolic resources that build the basis of political legitimacy in society (Howlett & Ramesh, 2015). State capacities can be broadly characterized by worrying with the State's abilities and competences to set objectives and achieve them (Pires & Gomide, 2016).

A lot has been discussed about the importance and performance of the State in the development and life quality, and in the ability to provide the necessary services to the population. In the literature, it has been recurrent to inquire the link between the means to build state capacity and the results achieved (Cingolani, Thomsson, & Crombrughe, 2015; Marengo, 2017). The research arises from concerns about understanding the objectives and the States' action guidelines, as well as evaluating their actions, the potential for achievements and the results achieved.

According to Silva, Hayashi and Hayashi (2011), one of the possibilities of examining the progress of a given field of study is associated with methods that allow measuring the productivity of researchers/research groups or knowing how a given theme was originated, how it has been addressed and developed.

In Information Science, there are several possibilities for analysis with extensive propagation of quantifiable terms and techniques. According to Bufrem and Prates (2005) and Vanti (2002), these techniques can be subdivided into bibliometrics, scientometrics, informetrics and webometrics. In general, they allow to: identify trends/growth of knowledge in the area; predict publishing trends; study dispersion/obsolescence of scientific literature; predict productivity of authors/organizations/countries; analyze citation/co-citation processes; measure the growth of areas and the emergence of new ones. Webometrics uses bibliometric and scientometric tools to measure information on the web. Informetrics considers information in any format and social group. Araújo and Alvarenga (2011) add that when bibliometrics is intended to analyze materials and scientific fields, it is called scientometrics, in which the analysis is supported by statistical techniques of verification and treatment of materials/publications, exclusively scientific and technological.

Bibliometrics, in contrast, uses indicators that seek to picture the behavior and development of fields of knowledge (Araújo & Alvarenga, 2011). The difference between bibliographic research from bibliometric research is the way in which information is measured, which, in the case of the latter, must be composed of quantitative data (Soares *et al.*, 2018; Vanti, 2002).

Bibliometrics, according to Spinak (1996, p. 34, our translation), citing Pritchard, "is the application of quantitative treatments to the properties of written speech and its typical behaviors". More recently, Bufrem and Prates (2005, p. 11, our translation) associated bibliometrics "to the measure aimed at any type of document".

In the field of scientometry (*naukometriya*, scientometry), according to Santos and Kobashi (2009), Derek de Solla Price stands out, when, in the 1960s, using the laws of Lotka, Bradford and Zipf, developed a model that integrated bibliometrics to the study of scientific activity based on scientometric laws that gave quantitative studies new perspectives: scientific activity as something dynamic that should include both the products of science and their

producers. As mentioned by Bufrem and Prates (2005, p. 13, our translation), “when quantitative methods are used to study scientific or technical activities, from the point of view of their production or communication, they are usually called scientometrics, the science of science.”. According to Spinak (1996) and Silva *et all.* (2011), scientometrics refers to the application of bibliometric techniques to science. Araújo and Alvarenga (2011) add that it is a quantitative technique to analyze the behavior/history of science.

Silva *et all.* (2011) and Spinak (1996) draw attention to the fact that neither bibliometrics nor scientometrics are exclusive to “measurement”, but relative and valid numbers only in a context of interpretation associated, firstly, with a subjective phenomenon, corresponding to the frame that is analyzed at the time and in the interest of the hypotheses that are established.

Even among specialists in the field, there is no consensus on the terminology used and the limits that demarcate each denomination. The concept in bibliometrics and scientometrics is that the first has books and scientific journals associated with the management of libraries and databases as objects of analysis; the second technique has, as its object of analysis, the production, circulation and consumption of scientific production associated with the dynamics of science as a social activity (Santos & Kobashi, 2009).

According to Silva *et all.* (2011) bibliometrics and scientometrics are subject to criticism, both for their use focused on a quantitative approach, and for the technical complexity in generating and interpreting indicators that require multidisciplinary partnerships in order to share knowledge in diverse areas. Regarding citation analyses, the authors consider that these may be associated with what Price presented as a process of accumulated advantages (documents that are initially cited tend to continue to be cited). In this sense, other factors (other than the value of the contribution itself) may be interfering with the results of the most cited, such as association with more recognized institutions or renowned researchers.

According to Santos and Kobashi (2009), a multidimensional analysis associated with techniques that consider bibliographic material keywords has been the most recent contribution, being applied together with quantitative methods. Endorsing, Silva *et all.* (2011) mention that quantitative methodologies have been the starting point of research to understand the scenario of scientific production in the areas and, from this moment, going beyond quantitative data, the analyzes are associated with other knowledge in the area.

Given this framework, this article intends to carry out an analysis of publications on the theme State Capacity based on elements of bibliometrics and scientometrics. In the light of the amount of information to be presented, the objective is to know the (general) overview of the research and not to delve into specific contents of the theme and its sub-themes.

3 METHODOLOGY

To achieve the objective of this work, the quantitative aspects of the publications and the content aspects were combined in quest of a comprehensive analysis in eight stages (Figure 1).

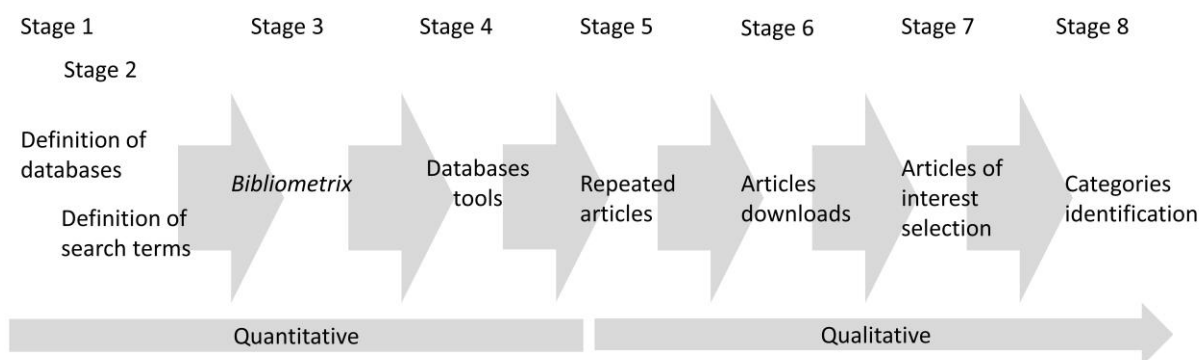


Figure 1. Research roadmap

Table 1 describes each of the stages.

Table 1
Stages and description of methodological aspects

Stage	Description
1 - Definition of databases and search term (no filters)	- Web of Science and Scopus - “state capacity” (title, abstract and keywords)
2 – Definition of search terms	- Period: 2009-2019; Document type: article; Knowledge area: Social Sciences
3 - Web-based app Bibliometrix usage (no restriction access) ⁱ	- Filters (Web of Science): Database: Web of Science Core collection; Period: 2009-2019; Document Type: article - Filters (Scopus): Period: 2009-2019; Document type: article; Knowledge area: Social Sciences
4 – Analysis from the database own tools (no restriction access)	- Filters (Web of Science e Scopus): Period: 2009-2019; Document type: article; Knowledge area: Social Sciences - Proportion associated with categories, studied countries/regions, publications/year, publication countries and regions
5 – Repeated articles identification (open access)	- Filters (Web of Science e Scopus): Period: 2009-2019; Document type: article; Knowledge area: Social Sciences; Access: open - Database titles and authors comparison
6 – Articles download	- As indicated in the previous stage
7 – Article selection based in themes of interest	- State Capacity was addressed as the main theme of the study
8 – Categories identification	- Coercive; State capacity building; Extractive/ Fiscal; Political Regime; State functions; Theoretical/Conceptual; Bureaucratic/ Administrative

For databases selection (Stage 1), it was considered that Web of Science is the oldest Social Sciences database (Hurtado, Carpes, Inomata, & Rados, 2012), and may be the most important source of data for bibliometric analysis. (Van Leeuwen, 2006), with 4 collections in the areaⁱⁱ. On the other hand, Scopus database is the largest database of bibliographic references in scientific literatureⁱⁱⁱ.

Still in Stage 1, the choice of the term “state capacity”, in English, was due because it is the language used in most publications, that is, 90%^{iv}, in addition to being used in titles, abstracts and keywords of publications in other languages (Spanish, Russian and Portuguese). It was chosen to use only this term due to the substantial result of a first search. Table 2 shows the quantitative detail of each stage.

Table 2
Quantitative detailing of located/selected works

Stage	Total of works (general)	Total of works (between databases)		
		Web of Science	Scopus	Coincide (two databases)
1	2.849 ^v	1.199	1.650	-
2	1.513 ^{vi}	803	710	-
3	1.527 ^{vii}	798	729	-
4	1.568 ^{viii}	839	729	-
5	242	167	75	-
6	200	125	33	42
7	74	44	10	20

To define the search filters, it was observed that, in 2010, the publications increased from 15 to 47^{ix} (Scopus – 3 times more) and from 9 to 33⁶ (Web of Science – 4 times more). From 2010 onwards, at least, the number is close to 50/year, with this behavior being similar in both bases. From the 2009-2019 period filter, on 11/15/2019, tests were carried out, observing the search term location (title, abstract, keywords) and the permission access (open, restricted).

Based on these tests, the search was carried out systematically, on 11/21/2019, and the filters were defined as follows (Stage 2): documents type “article” (approximately 85%^x of the total in the two bases, with the understanding that journals are significant vehicles for research dissemination); knowledge area, with the pre-reading of titles and abstracts. It was found that the works addressed the topic in areas of knowledge outside the intended scope and, therefore, it was decided to select the “Social Sciences” filter (86%⁷ of the total in both bases). The last filter was applied in the content analysis phase so that it was possible to access the articles in full format, "open access", for reading the introduction and analysis of other content (if necessary), as proposed by this study.

In Stage 3, the Bibliometrix^{xi} web-based app version 3.6.1 (07/05/2019) was used, which has metric analysis level (journals, authors and documents words) and structural level (concept evolution, author networks and collaboration) bibliometric tools. By the creation of data files extracted from the Web of Science and Scopus databases, it was possible to know a broader overview of the publications, considering the 1,527 works located, since the databases and the web-based app allow the extraction of information from files with restricted access.

In Stage 4, the analysis tools provided by the bases were used. Thus, it was possible to complement the study and make a total survey of articles in the area of Social Sciences, published in both databases, with information on authors, production and regions.

Up to this point of the analysis, it was possible to obtain information that allows for greater knowledge of the scenario of State Capacity studies by using tools from the two bases and the Bibliometrix: relationship between authors, references and keywords; collaboration between authors; production of authors over time; terms that appear most in the documents and in referenced documents; emergence of new themes; countries/regions of publication; distribution of publications over the years; and the most publishing journals.

The subsequent stages considered the articles content analysis. In stage 5, the open access filter was used and, among the 242 studies found, those that coincided between the bases were identified (remaining 200 articles in the analysis). The articles were also downloaded (Stage 6) and the title, keywords, abstract and introduction were read in order to select those that deal with the topic State Capacity (Stage 7), according to the intended scope of this study.

The concept of state capacity emerged from the studies of political sociology and

political economy on the functions of the state in promoting development, until then, with a focus on the economic area. In this sense, for the selection of works, those that referred, at some level of mention, to the concept of State Capacity, to the effectiveness of the State, to the understanding of the qualities, competences and abilities that the State must have to be able to promote development (not just economic), the identification of types of State capabilities and/or their consequences, the association between the ability to implement decisions and achieve the ends desired by the State (Gomide, 2016) and the evidence of aspects/elements that allow governments to act according to their capacities (or incapacities), allowing (or not) certain conditions in the formulation and implementation of public policies (Gomes *et all.*, 2017).

It is noteworthy that the reading was limited to the title, keywords, abstract and introduction of the 200 articles, some of which were completely read (as identified in the topic “References”). Of the total, 74 works presented the theme in a pronounced way, or based on theory, or as the focus of the study.

Subsequently (Stage 8), the study categories of the works selected in the previous stage were determined. In this second moment of the analysis, it was possible to know categories and words associated with the published studies, the proportion associated with the categories and countries/regions studied.

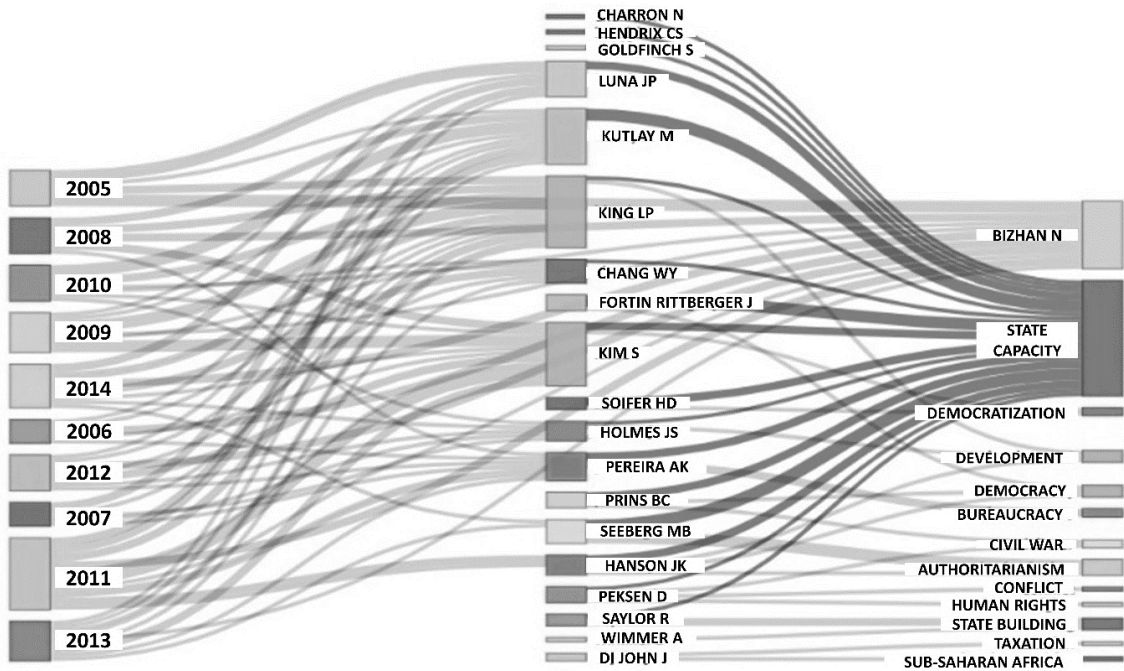
4 RESULTS PRESENTATION

The broader context of the analysis is associated with the Bibliometrix tools, as the entire universe of articles (restricted and open access) and analyzes in the metric and content scope were considered. At this point, two technical observations are appropriate: the first concerns the information from documents (articles) from the databases that were extracted separately and are kept separate in the Bibliometrix analysis, analyzing and presenting separately by base; the second refers to the fact that Web of Science only allows exporting up to 500 documents at a time, so there will be two presentation charts for the base (37% of articles, 2009-2015; 63% of articles, 2015-2019) . Thus, three blocks of analysis will be identified as: (a) Scopus; (b) Web of Science 2009-2015; and (c) Web of Science 2015-2019.

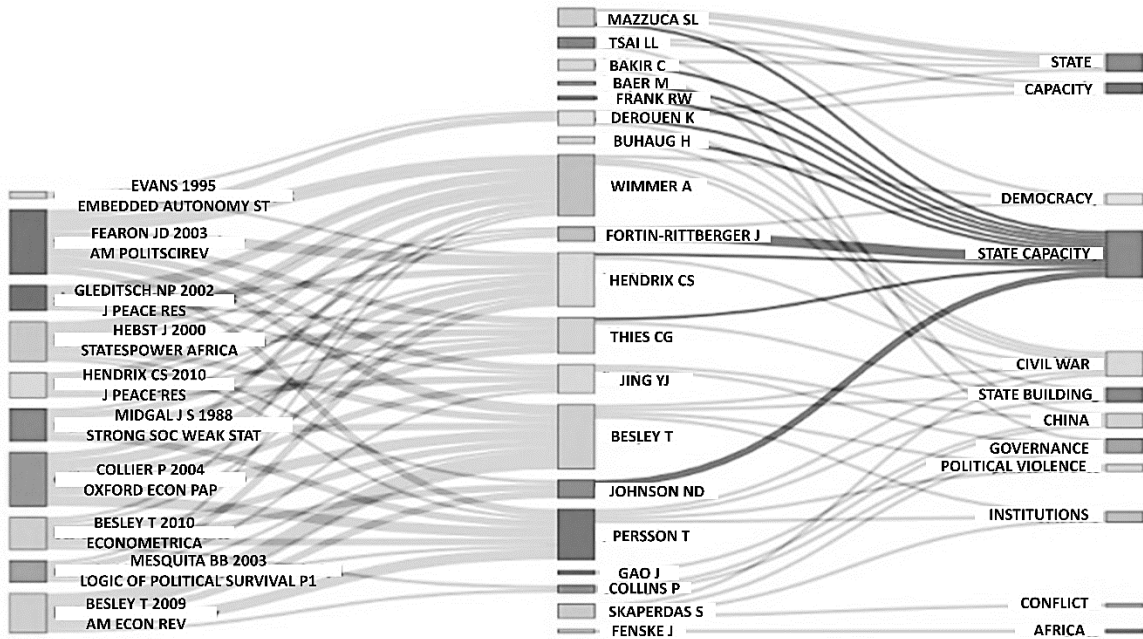
The initial analyzes show relationships between the general information set of the articles (three-field graph). Figure 2 shows the most expressive relationships between the 20 authors who published the most (center), the 10 references they cited the most (left) and the 20 keywords that appeared the most (right). The thickness of the lines and the size of the bars represent the amount of information in each stream.

Another resource of analysis (Figure 3) enabled to identify the authors who stood out the most, considering how many were cited (intensity of the color in the circles), how much they published (size of the circles) and how these publications occurred over the period. There is a minority of authors who present a continuous flow of publications over time throughout at least 5 years – 8(a), 7(b) and 4(c).

It was also possible to verify the collaboration between authors from different countries. The analysis is performed considering the number of articles in which at least one co-author is from a different country. It can also be noted that collaboration is reduced, highlighting the United States and the United Kingdom, which is similar in the three analyzes (a), (b) and (c), but not significant. Evaluating the results of blocks (b) and (c), there is a drop in collaboration for publications from Brazil, Korea, Chile and Greece, but there is an upward trend for the United States and the United Kingdom.



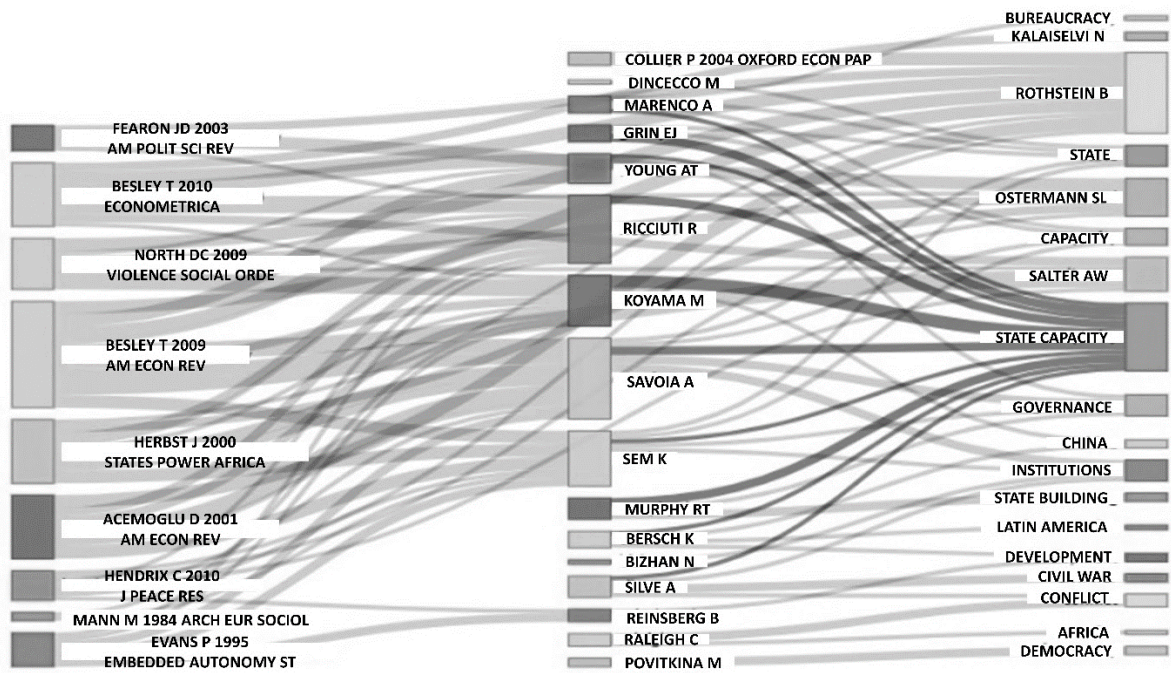
(a) Scopus



(b) Web of Science 2009-2015

Figure 2. Three-field graph – Dataset

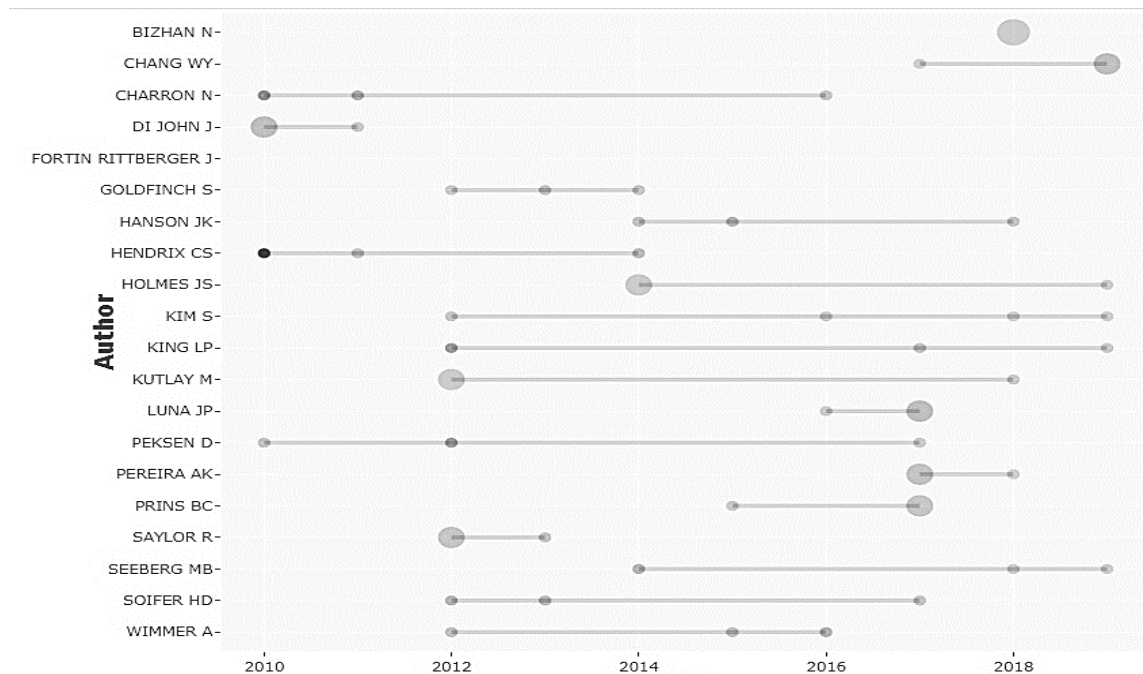
Source: Adapted from web-based app Bibliometrix. (version 3.6.1).



(c) Web of Science 2015-2019

Figure 2. Three-field graph – Dataset

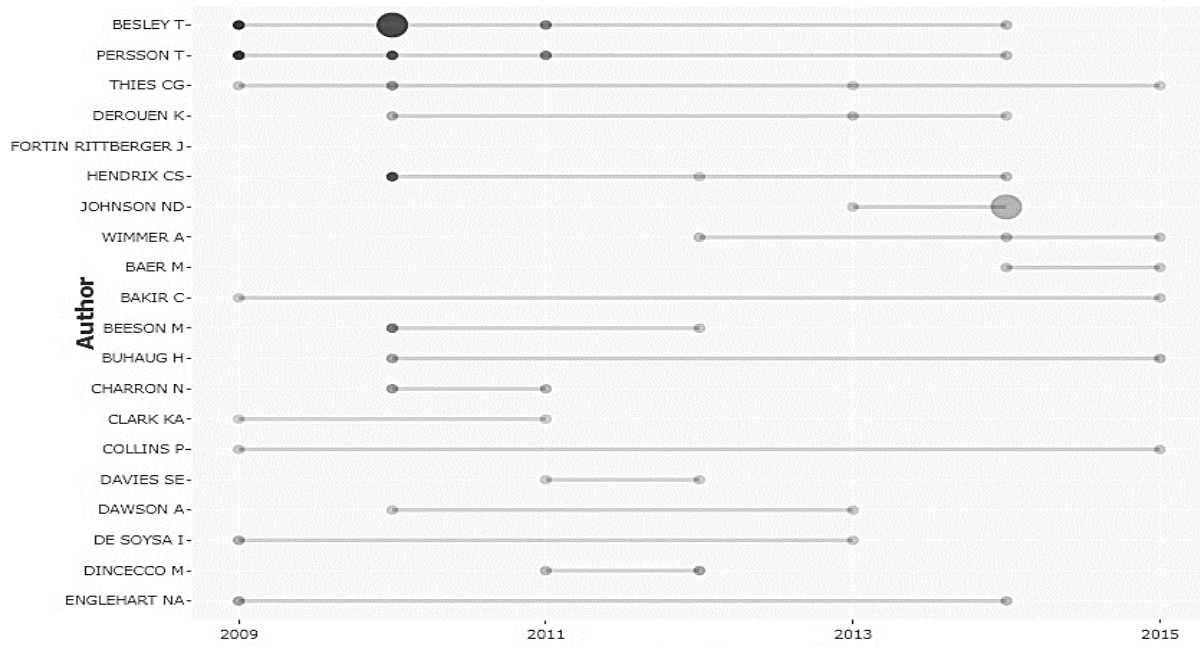
Source: Adapted from web-based app Bibliometrix. (version 3.6.1).



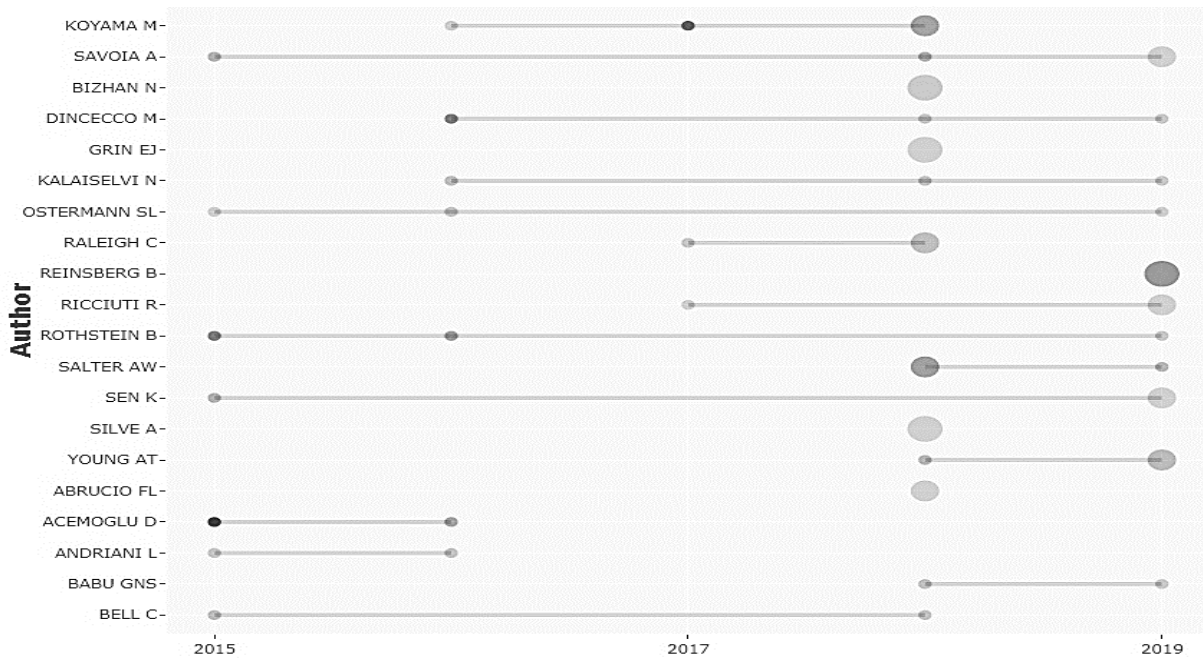
(a) Scopus

Figure 3. Production over time

Source: Adapted from web-based app Bibliometrix. (version 3.6.1).



(b) Web of Science



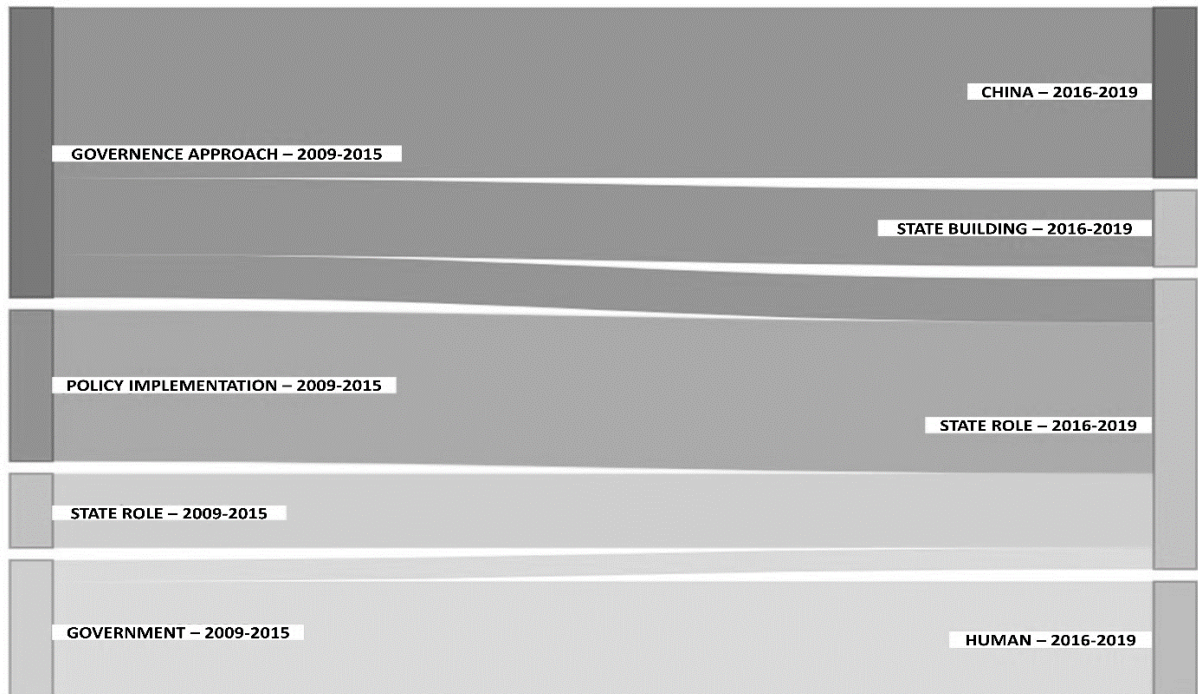
(c) Web of Science

Figure 3. Production over time

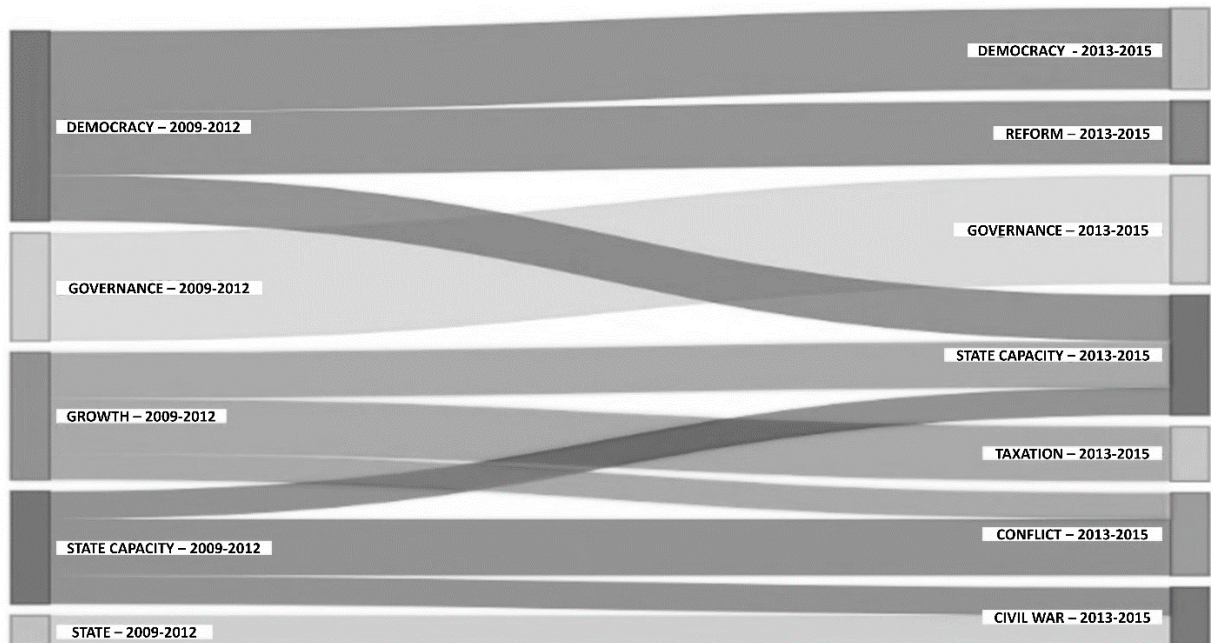
Source: Adapted from web-based app Bibliometrix. (version 3.6.1).

In addition, the analysis from the perspective of social structure (collaboration network) does not identify, for the three blocks (a), (b) and (c), the existence of collaboration network(s). Despite modest net formations in block (c) (Babu, G. N. S.; Kalaiselv, N.; Mani, V.), (Ricciuti, R.; Savoia, A.; Sen, K.) and (b) (Clark, K A.; Farel, A. M.; Mayer, M.; Margolis, L. H.), the results for collaboration between authors show that there are no regular authorship groups.

Another tool focused on the conceptual structure (thematic evolution map) proposes to visually identify the emergence of new themes from previous themes, considering the words occurrence. In this analysis, 500 “plus keywords” were selected, that is, words that also appear in the titles of the cited references were considered (Figure 4).



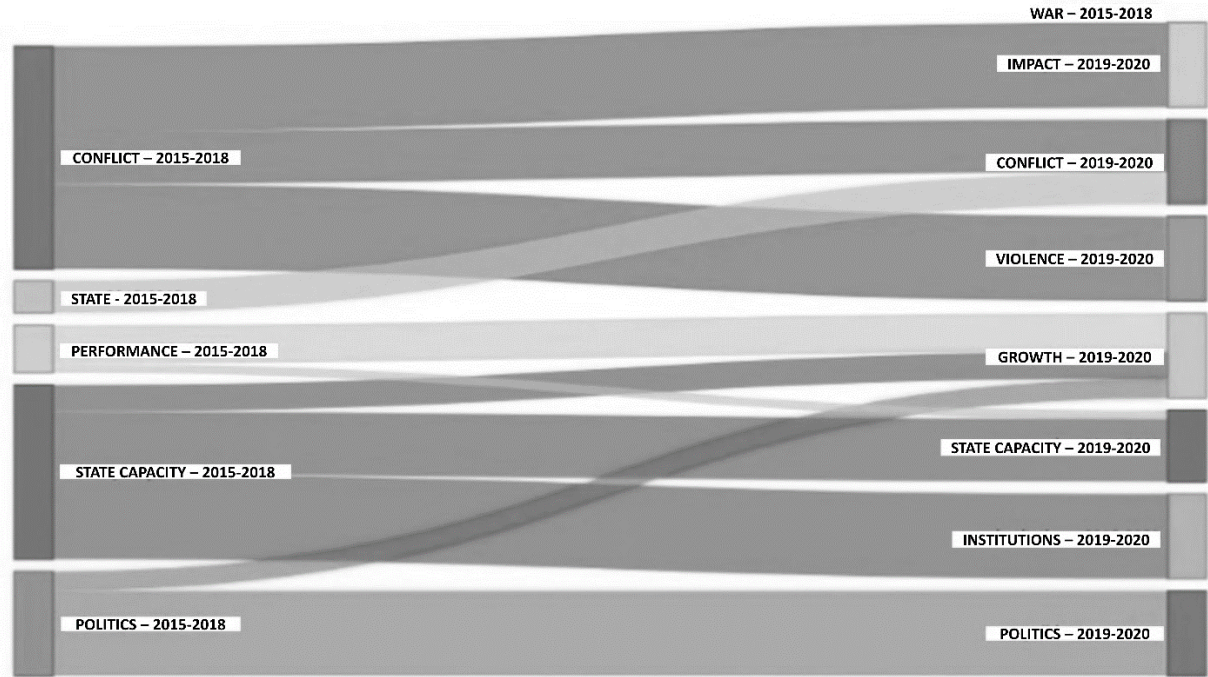
(a) Scopus



(b) Web of Science 2009-2015

Figure 4. Thematic evolution map – Conceptual Structure

Source: Adapted from web-based app Bibliometrix. (version 3.6.1).



(c) Web of Science 2015-2019

Figure 4. Thematic evolution map – Conceptual Structure

Source: Adapted from web-based app Bibliometrix. (version 3.6.1).

The word cloud is another tool of the web-based app that indicates the most prominent terms being in the articles. When “plus keywords” is selected (articles and citations titles) and the 50 most appearing terms, the highlights are: (a) Role of the State, China, State Construction; (b) Institutions, Politics, Conflicts; (c) Democracy, Conflicts, Politics (in the order they appear).

To complement the overview of publications, the behavior of publications per year is presented using tools from the databases (Figure 5).

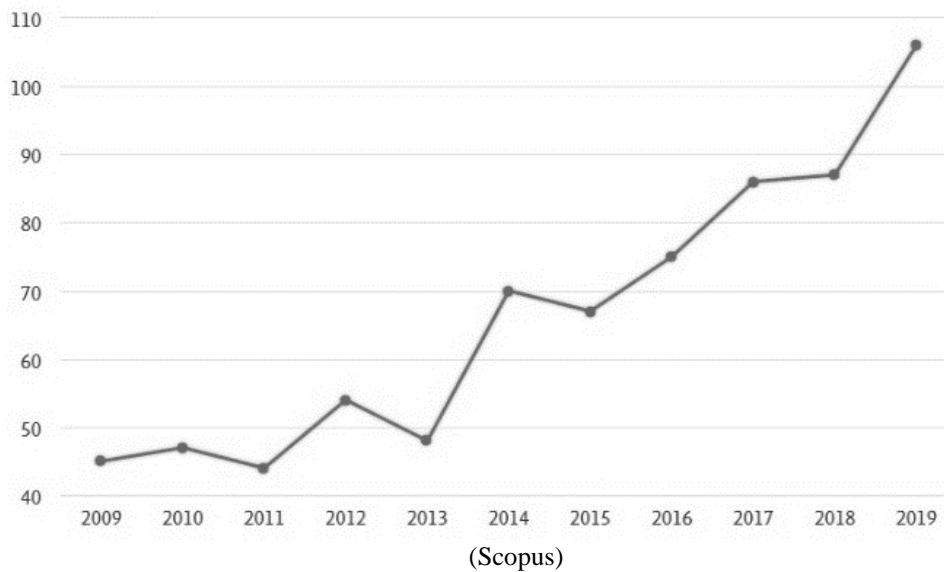


Figure 5. Publications/year

Source: (<https://www.scopus.com>); (<http://wcs.webofknowledge.com>), retrieved on May 19, 2020.

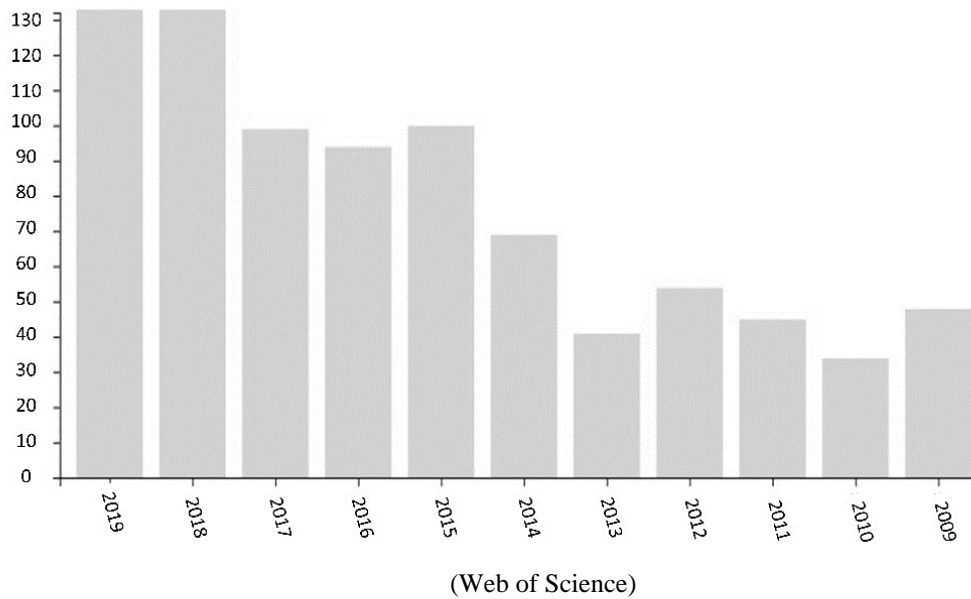


Figure 5. Publications/year

Source: (<https://www.scopus.com>); (<http://wcs.webofknowledge.com>), retrieved on May 19, 2020.

Another tool of the databases is the indication of the journals that published the articles. There is a concentration in absolute numbers, with 20-14 articles in each of the journals that published the most (Studies In Comparative International Development; Journal of Peace Research; World Development; Democratization).

Thenceforth, the results started to consider the analysis of the contents supported, mainly, by the reading of the introduction. Considering the articles from Stage 7, study categories were identified. The objective, at this point of the analysis, was to understand which aspects of state capacities cause concerns to the point of turning into research questions and which issues associated with the theme are triggered from the objective of the studies. Thus, 7 categories were defined as a way to bring together the themes addressed in the 74 analyzed studies (Table 3):

Table 3
Studies Categories

Author(s), year of study publication	Study category	Related subjects	Number of studies, percentage
Ore Koren e Anoop K. Sarbahi, 2018; Eduardo Dargent e Madai Urteaga, 2016; Otoabasi Akpan e Ubong Essien Umoh, 2016; Navin A. Bapat, Luis De la Calle, Kaisa H. Hinkkainen e Elena V. McLean, 2016; Nicola Gennaioli e Hans-Joachim Voth, 2015; Thomas O'Brien, 2015	Coercive	Civil war, illegal gold, terrorism, national security, international security, strong/weak state, state capacity building	6, 8%

Author(s), year of study publication	Study category	Related subjects	Number of studies, percentage
Luma Neto do Nascimento, 2018; Oli Hellmann, 2018; Pablo Andrade e Esteban Nicholls, 2017; Cristina Zurbriggen e Emiliano Travieso, 2016; Yasmine Shamsie, 2014; Eli Diniz, 2013, Dhikru Adewale Yagboyaju e Adeoye O. Akinola, 2019, Merima Ali, Odd-Helge Fjeldstad, Boqian Jiang e Abdulaziz B. Shifa, 2018, Sebastian Dellepiane, Niamh Hardiman, George Pagoulatos e Spyros Blavoukos, 2018, Jorgen Moller, 2018, Mark Weatherall, Min-Hua Huang e Taehee Whang, 2018, Javier Osorio, Livia I. Schubiger e Michael Weintraub, 2018; María Claudia Augusto Meléndez, Eduardo Dargent Bocanegra e Stéphanie Rousseau, 2017; Lenka Bustikova e Cristina Corduneanu-Huci, 2017; Madai Urteaga Quispe, 2017; Jonson N. Porteux e Sunil Kim, 2016; Laura J. Enríquez e Simeon J. Newman, 2016; Gudrun Ostby, Henrik Urdal e Ida Rudolfsen, 2016; J. Durham, Marcos Michael, P. S. Hill e E. Paviignani, 2015; Francesca Refsum Jensenius e Pavithra Suryanarayan, 2015; Marília Silva Oliveira, 2015; Daniel Lambach, Eva Johais e Markus Bayer, 2015; Imke Harbers, 2015; Tuan-Hwee Sng e Chiaki Moriguchi, 2014; Sanjay Jain, Sumon Majumdar e Sharun Mukand, 2014; Park, S-H. e Wilding, M. A., 2014; Daniel M. Brinks, 2012; Deborah Gleeson, David Legge, Deirdre O'Neill e Monica Pfeffer, 2011; Jonathan Di John, 2010; Timothy Besley e Torsten Persson, 2009	State capacity building	State capacity, State inability, trust, civil society, levels of capacity between States, fight hunger, armed conflict, cooperation, health, education, gender, decentralization, taxes, market, development/growth, government quality, strong/weak State, security, corruption, political regime, international/external context, authority, exchange, regionalism, ethnic differences, types of democracy, wars, property rights, agrarian transformation, inequality, globalization, historical conditions, infant mortality, subnational governments, culture, state repression, variation and change in capacity, legitimacy, Rule of Law, public policies, power relations, assemblies/councils, (under)capacities (legal, fiscal, bureaucratic/administrative, coordinative, institutional/organizational, political, coercive, economic)	31, 42%
Jorge Atria, Andrés Biehl e José Tomás Labarca, 2019; Eduardo José Grin, Alex Bruno do Nascimento, Fernando Luiz Abrucio e Antônio Sérgio Araújo Fernandes, 2018; André Marengo, Maria Tereza Blanco Strohschoen e William Joner, 2017; Alisha C. Holland, 2015	Extractive/ Fiscal	Elections, cooperation, demography, state capacity building, groups of interest, authority, social inequality, autonomy, intergovernmental transfers, historical conditions, undercapacity (bureaucratic/administrative)	4, 5%
Marcus Mietzner, 2018; Daniel Walther, Johan Hellström e Torbjörn Bergman, 2018; Julián Arévalo Bencardinoa, 2018; Erik H. Wang e Yiqing Xu, 2018; Gilles SaintPaul, Davide Ticchi e Andrea Vindigni, 2016; Simone Dietrich e Michael Bernhard, 2016; Davide Grassi e Vincenzo Memoli, 2016; Hugh Ward, Xun Cao e Bumba Mukherjee, 2014; Jessica Fortin-Rittberger, 2012; Nicholas Charron e Victor Lapuente, 2011, Nicholas Charron e Victor Lapuente, 2010	Political regime	Elections, power, democracy, authoritarianism, environment, communism, State capacity building, resistance, Government stability, (under)capacity, public policies, government quality, undercapacity (administrative/bureaucratic, institutional, legal)	11, 15%

Author(s), year of study publication	Study category	Related subjects	Number of studies, percentage
Darshan Vigmeswaran, 2019; Mariano I. Palamidessi, Jorge M. Gorostiaga e Claudio Suasnabar, 2014; Laszlo Bruszt e Nauro F. Campos, 2018; Jordan Kyle e Danielle Resnick, 2018; Mark Koyama, Chiaki Moriguchi e Tuan-Hwee Sng, 2017; Timothy Besley e Torsten Persson, 2010	State functions	Economic integration, defense, development, markets, immigration, national and international conflicts, education, institutions, taxes, regionalism, service provision, knowledge transmission	6, 8%
Enzo Ricardo Completa, 2016; Sebastián L. Mazzuca, 2012; Hillel David Soifer, 2012; Marcus J. Kurtz e Andrew Schrank, 2012	Theoretical/ Conceptual	Levels of capacity, concept, legitimacy, authority, State capacity building, effectiveness, measurement, (under)capacities (extractive/fiscal, coercive, administrative/bureaucratic, institutional)	4, 5%
André Luis Rabelo Cardoso e André Marengo, 2019; Roberto Ricciuti, Antonio Savoia e Kunal Sen, 2019; Ciro Campos Christo Fernandes e Pedro Lucas de Moura Palotti, 2019; Johann N. Neem, 2019; Alexandre de Ávila Gomide e Ana Karine Pereira, 2018; Natália Guimarães Duarte Sátyro e Eleonora Schettini Martins Cunha, 2018; M. Niaz Asadullah e Antonio Savoia, 2018; Eduardo José Grin e Fernando Abrucio, 2018; André Marengo, 2017; Neusa Goya, Luiz Odorico Monteiro de Andrade, Ricardo José Soares Pontes, Fábio Solon Tajra e Ivana Cristina de Holanda Cunha Barreto, 2017; Celina Souza, 2017; Roberto Rocha Coelho Pires e Alexandre de Ávila Gomide, 2016	Bureaucracy/ Administrative	Bureaucratic professionalism, fighting hunger, institutional capacity, governance, health, social capital, articulation, authority, environment, regionalization	12, 16%

Entering the analysis of the studied places, Table 4 concerns the regions/countries.

Table 4
Studied countries and regions

Country/Region	Nr. of studies
Africa (Nigeria, Ghana, Guinea Bissau, Tajikistan, Uganda, Chad, Somalia, Liberia, Laos, Angola, Sub-Saharan Africa, South Africa and region as a whole)	6
Europe (region as a whole)	4
Asia (Nepal, India, Indonesia)	5
Asia - East (China, Japan, South Korea, Singapore, Taiwan, Hong Kong)	8
Latin America (Mexico, Colombia, Peru, Venezuela, Ecuador, Chile, Argentina, Paraguay, Uruguay, Haiti and region as a whole)	24
Middle East (Iraq, Lebanon, Georgia, Afghanistan, region as a whole)	4
Brazil	15
United States of America	1

Note. For studies that analyzed more than 5 countries, was counted as 1 study, considering the region to avoid distort the visualization of information (3 articles).

In addition to these places, there were works that analyzed global data, developing countries, over 50 years old, post-communist and authoritarian (11 articles), as well as theoretical works without association with a specific place (11 articles).

5 DISCUSSION OF RESULTS

Regarding Figure 3, the highlight is the flows around state capacity. In general, relationships and exchanges are expressive and have a similar distribution, but a less intense and restricted flow can be observed in the lower-right area of the graphs, indicating less flow in the keywords related with: taxation, sub-Saharan Africa, conflict/war, Africa, democracy, as well as authors who appear more isolated, such as: Fenske, J.; Skaperdas, S.; Collis, P.; Gao, J. Povitkina, M.; Raleigh, C.; DiJohn, J.; Wimmer, A.; Saylor, R; Peksen, D. This visualization directs fields and authors that deal with the theme and that are presented in a more dispersed way in the information flows.

Considering the authors' production over time, amongst the 20 who published the most, the most cited were: Besley, T. and Persson, T. with approximately 40 citations each in 2009-2010; and Hendrix, C. R. with approximately 20 citations in 2010. In block (a), in which the Scopus database allows the analysis of a 10-year period in a single graph, only 3 authors present a longer timeline (7 continuous years): Kim S., King L. P. and Peksen D. Overall, the permanence of authors who publish on the subject is not significant, which indicates research discontinuity.

In general, the analysis of social structure does not show significant integration between studies. Research is dispersed, which is reinforced by the lack of significant collaboration between authors from different countries and collaboration networks, making it difficult to associate research results with better directions in terms of scientific contribution to the study of the topic.

The Figure 4 maps show the development of the field from the multiplication of new themes. Mainly, in the Web of Science blocks, there is an indication of a greater dispersion of themes. This suggests diversity for the understanding of State Capacity in the search for new foundation, contours and research perspectives that, consequently, have increased the complexity of studying the theme. In block (c), for example, state capacity is broken down into institutions and growth, which is also formed by policies.

The word cloud tool provided “clues” (which, in the content analysis phase, were confirmed) of the subjects and subcategories of state capacity (with the exception of “China”, which was not confirmed as featured).

By the time the analysis considered publications/year, the upward trajectory towards 2019 indicated greater interest in the topic, proving the importance given to it in recent studies, with production peaking in the years 2019 (Scopus) and 2018-2019 (Web of Science).

The significant leap in the year 2000 reflects the observation of Zurbriggen & Travieso (2016), when the authors mention that, in the 1990s, the importance of the State for the building of society's quality of life began to be confirmed. From the public sphere, mechanisms can be generated to improve functions and solve problems, as well as in the mobilization and adaptation of state institutions in response to public problems, and in the formulation, implementation, coordination, monitoring, evaluation and accountability of an entire governance system.

Although the existence of concentration in absolute numbers in the journals that published the most (20-14), when analyzed through the lens of percentages, this number represents 3-2% in each journal. This shows that there is not a significant concentration of journals that publish the topic.

In the content analysis phase, the categories definition came from Cingolani *et al.* (2015) and Nascimento (2018) who, in an overview of the theme, mentioned three fundamental dimensions of State capacity: i) bureaucratic (or administrative) capacities to

provide stable public goods through an autonomous bureaucracy, ii) capacity of the coercive power to maintain order and avoid conflict, and iii) extractive or fiscal capacity of States to centralize power and provide other socially desirable public goods.

However, studies that did not fit into any of these three categories were identified. Thus, new categories were included, specifically, those that focused on analyzing political regime or democracy/authoritarianism (Political Regime) and that addressed State Capacity in a theoretical framework (Theoretical/Conceptual).

Two other categories proved to be significant: State Capacity Building and State Functions. The first considered the works that deal with some element of the State's capacity in order to present links between different types of capacities/skills, which the State needs to develop for certain results to occur, or to have a stronger/better capacity, or to obtain a certain level of capacity, or government quality indicators. The works encompass the complexity in the formation of the capacity as a process of construction of a set of conditions to be reached by the State. The second, Functions of the State, concerns articles that propose to research a certain aspect as something that the State should (or should not) offer to the society it governs, with the analysis of this function being the central point.

The State Capacity Building category was featured in terms of number of studies. This showed concern to know elements that are related with this construction, which shows complexity in the understanding of State Capacity, as also observed in the thematic evolution map (Figure 4). The works presented a broad horizon of associated themes and, in general, seek to understand elements that allow measuring and/or comparing state capacity between regions and/or identifying elements that make (under)capacities stronger/effective. Considering that the State/Union has been the focus of research, it was also highlighted the concern (albeit initial) with issues that consider decentralization and subnational governments.

The Bureaucratic/Administrative category had the second highest percentage, in accordance with the importance given to the dimension. This category stands out among the others, since all the capacities of the State are permeated by bureaucratic capacities, so this is an essential dimension (Sátyro, Cunha & Campos, 2016). For the State to tax, create laws/regulations, ensure adherence/adequacy to rules and offer public goods, it is necessary to have professionals willing to execute coercion, make decisions, comply with regulations and adhere to procedures and laws (Marenco, 2017). The combination of highly professionalized and coordinated bureaucratic professionalism elevates capabilities (Pires & Gomide, 2016).

In general, the studies in this category sought to investigate aspects of professionalism, administrative capacity and the effectiveness of public administration in delivering public services and products in various contexts (related themes presented in Table 3).

Analyzing the column of subjects associated with the categories (Table 3), we can see the variety of elements researched, which once again reinforces the complexity related to the theme. The subjects are approached from different categorical perspectives and are repeated among them, suggesting an intertwined network between the elements that compose, indicate and allow the development of certain (under)capacities (legal, fiscal, administrative/bureaucratic, coordinating, institutional/organizational, political, coercive, economic) to achieve results (development, societal trust, quality and government level) in the most diverse areas (health, education, security, international relations, elections, environment, food, control, taxes, among others). This diversity suggests that the field is open to “n” directions, with a wide range of options for analysis, but without elements that are pre-determined as fundamental sources for research.

The findings of Saguin, Tan and Goyal (2018) point in this direction. The discussion seems to be diverse and has not established rules/norms to be applied universally, making the

understanding (unifying) of the capability challenging. The multiplicity and heterogeneity of concepts make the studies fragmented, and it is necessary to unpack the interrelations, interactions and interdependencies of the different (under)capacities/dimensions/domains in order to arrive at a better understanding of State Capacity.

In general, when it comes to the concept, research converges towards a state capacity that comprises comprehensive perspectives in a multidimensional format. According to Hanagan and Tilly (2010), there is a two-way street. This condition makes the capacity be the cause and consequence, making the capacities being influenced by several and distinct elements, also being influenced by them at the same time.

Only one study from the United States of America draws attention (where most of the articles were published: Scopus 40%; Web of Science 40% – Stage 4^{xii}). The category addressed was Administrative/Bureaucratic and the subject of emphasis dealt with the local social capital, and this discussion was not addressed in other studies.

Another aspect is that, in proportion to the number of countries in each region, Latin America stands out with the majority (39 in total – Latin America: 24; Brazil: 15). According to Quispe (2017), Latin America, despite the common colonial experience and the turbulent process of independence/dependence, is characterized as a region with states of intermediate capacity, with significant variation in its interior: weak states (such as Bolivia, Ecuador and Peru) coexist with strong states (such as Chile and Uruguay). This heterogeneity allows exploring its causes, consequences and comparisons. Other authors also mention characteristics of the region that generate interest: weak state capacities, low taxation capacity, periods with right/left governments and the influence of powerful social groups (Grassi & Menolli, 2016). In addition, research in the region is still limited in understanding that there is a relationship between the State, the democratic regime, economic changes and social needs (Zurbriggen & Travieso, 2016).

Considering the categories and research locations, in Extractive/Fiscal, they all analyzed Latin America. In the Bureaucratic/Administrative category, Brazil was researched in 75% of the works and, of these, 42% addressed the municipal context. In general, in the other categories, there were several countries/regions studied.

In Brazil, the 1988 Constitution decentralized policy and transferred revenues, responsibilities and administrative, fiscal and political authority to subnational governments. There was also an expansion of authority and political and administrative responsibilities for local governments, promoting greater taxation of their own and an increase in constitutional transfers from the Union and the States to the municipalities. As a result, the municipalization of services took place, with the municipalities being given greater responsibilities in promoting local development and public goods (Grin, Nascimento, Abrúcio, & Fernandes, 2018; Marengo *et al.*, 2017).

With the three federated entities (Union, states and municipalities) in a position to contribute to the provision of services to society, interest in analyzing state capacities at the subnational level emerged. According to Gomes *et al.* (2017), although the concept of state capabilities was initially related with the existence of attributes of the state (as a whole), the theme has also been shown to be appropriate for the analysis of autonomous federated entities, such as states and municipalities.

6 FINAL CONSIDERATIONS

Much has been debated about the importance of the State in the development and life quality and its ability to provide the services necessary to improve the population's life. In this sense, several elements have been pointed out to understand the State and development.

Analyzing the period 2009-2019, it was found that the research covered different regions of the world and could be organized into seven intertwined categories (Coercive; Bureaucratic/Administrative; Extractive/Fiscal; State Functions; Political Regime; Capacity Building of the State; Theoretical/Conceptual). The findings show that the field of study is favorable for new concepts and associations in a variety of approaches and objects of analysis.

The theme has advanced in identifying elements associated with the capacities themselves, (under)capacities and levels of capacity. There is also a direction of state capacity composed of several dimensions, such as coercive/military, fiscal, administrative/bureaucratic, transformative, territorial, legal, political, institutional/relational and technical.

However, there are limitations to more significant advances in understanding, directions of analysis and practical application of research results. This may be associated with the lack of structure of collaborative networks, co-authorship between countries and continuity in research.

As contributions of this study, the categories and associated subjects help in the knowledge of how the (under)capabilities make up the capacity as a whole and under which elements have been analyzed, which can provide a better understanding of the aspects to be considered in the research according to each (under)capacity and type of need care that is expected from the State. These studies, on the other hand, can help to point out limits in the management of the State and better practices of service to society.

As limitations of this study, it is pointed out the need to break the extraction of data from the Web of Science database, which prevented a single comparison horizon for the period considered. Another limitation concerns the choice of data only from scientific journal articles.

For future research, it is suggested (i) to reduce the number of documents, using the search filters and/or reducing the period of analysis (in order to avoid/reduce the limits), (ii) to carry out analyzes year by year for comparing and visualizing trends and (iii) focusing on certain categories/dimensions to study specific elements of State action.

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NOTES

ⁱ Different filters were used between the bases, as the Web of Science does not allow the selection of Social Sciences from the choice of the “Web of Science Core collection”, an option necessary for using the web-based app).

ⁱⁱ Higher Education Personnel Improvement Coordination [CAPES], https://www.periodicos.capes.gov.br/?option=com_pcollection&mn=70&smn=79&cid=81, retrieved on May 22, 2019.

ⁱⁱⁱ SCOPUS, <https://www.elsevier.com/pt-br/solutions/scopus>, retrieved on May 24, 2020.

^{iv} (<http://wcs.webofknowledge.com>, retrieved on May 19, 2020). Considering the filters: 2009-2019, articles, Social Sciences.

^v (<http://wcs.webofknowledge.com>; <https://www.scopus.com>, retrieved on November 15, 2019).

^{vi} (<http://wcs.webofknowledge.com>; <https://www.scopus.com>, retrieved on November 15, 2019).

^{vii} (<http://wcs.webofknowledge.com>; <https://www.scopus.com>, retrieved on May 19, 2020).

^{viii} (<http://wcs.webofknowledge.com>; <https://www.scopus.com>, retrieved on May 19, 2020).

^{ix} (<http://wcs.webofknowledge.com>; <https://www.scopus.com>, retrieved on May 19, 2020). The data was initially queried on 11/15/2019 and updated on 05/19/2020.

^x (<https://www.scopus.com>; <http://wcs.webofknowledge.com>, retrieved on May 19, 2020). The data was initially queried on 11/21/2019 and updated on 05/19/2020.

^{xi} For further information: <http://www.bibliometrix.org/>

^{xii} (<https://www.scopus.com>; <http://wcs.webofknowledge.com>, retrieved on February 17, 2021). The data was initially queried on 11/21/2019 and updated on 02/17/2021.

Capacidade Estatal: Bibliometria das Publicações entre 2009-2019

RESUMO

Objetivo: No final da década de 1980, os atributos do Estado eram vistos como requisitos fundamentais de qualidade de vida, constituindo sua Capacidade Estatal. Por meio de análises das pesquisas sobre o tema, é possível compreender melhor como os estudos têm se desenvolvido. O objetivo deste trabalho foi conhecer o panorama das publicações acerca da temática Capacidade Estatal, entre 2009-2019, nas bases Web of Science e Scopus.


Método: Considerando as publicações entre o período 2009-2019, foi realizada a bibliometria/cientometria em oito etapas de análises, definindo e identificando: base de dados, filtros de busca, autores e termos mais citados, referências, cooperação entre autores, local das pesquisas e surgimento de novos termos. Também foi utilizado o web-base app Bibliometrix para ampliar a análise.

Originalidade/Relevância: Combina tanto os aspectos quantitativos das publicações que tratam a temática Capacidade Estatal quanto os aspectos de conteúdo, buscando uma análise abrangente sob a lógica de múltiplos paradigmas.

Resultados: Foi possível identificar sete categorias de estudos em áreas específicas da Capacidade Estatal. As análises mostram que a temática está em desenvolvimento, havendo multiplicidade de conceitos e abordagens, assim como surgimento de novas áreas como foco das pesquisas. Os estudos convergem para uma perspectiva da capacidade do Estado como multidimensional, formada por (sub)capacidades, que representam as variadas possibilidades de ação do governo.

Contribuições teóricas/metodológicas: Mostra o foco principal (categorias) das pesquisas, os assuntos associados às propostas de estudo, os locais estudados, assim como as redes de colaboração e os fluxos de publicações dos autores.

Palavras-chave: Capacidade Estatal; multidimensional; bibliometria; cientometria.

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Recebido: Abril 1, 2021

Revisado: Janeiro 31, 2022

Aceito: Janeiro 31, 2022

Publicado: Abril 30, 2022

