

## A bibliometric overview of SCOPUS-indexed journal in Islamic finance and economy: Research productivity and influence

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This study attempts to provide a thorough overview of Islamic Finance and Economy (IFE) Scopus-indexed journal publications and probes its productivity and influence on the IFE discipline. The study sample includes 1036 articles from four Scopus-indexed journals, namely (1) International Journal of Islamic and Middle Eastern Finance and Management (IJIMEFM); (2) Journal of King Abdulaziz University (JKAU); (3) Journal of Islamic Accounting and Business Research (JIABR); and (4) Journal of Islamic Marketing (JIM). The study adopts quantitative and qualitative methods using Bibloshiny and VOSviewer software to analyze the aforementioned aspects of four IFE Scopus-indexed journal articles published between 2010 and 2019. Overall, the study findings confirm the increasing research outputs' quantity and quality of four IFE Scopus-indexed journals. It also gives insightful information that may assist the respective four IFE Scopus-indexed journal editorial boards and academic community in formulating significant and impactful research agendas and strategies for the IFE discipline.

**Keywords:** *Bibliometric analysis, Scopus-indexed journals, Islamic finance, Islamic economics.*

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### 1. Introduction

An overview of Islamic history, beginning from the Prophet's Madinah period to all Muslim dynasties, shows that the marriage of commerce and Islam was well-observed to promote fairness and disapprove exploitation in dealings

to create a healthy socio-economic environment. The terms Islamic economics, Islamic banking, and Islamic finance were coined back in the mid-to-late 1930s and 1940s by South Asian scholars (Islahi, 2010). Later, it caught the attention of Muslim economists in the 1950s and 1960s. Ever since the Islamic Finance and Economy (IFE) phenomenon has been growing steadily among Muslim economists and others. It has attracted almost all economic ideologies and think tanks, including the IMF, the World Bank, and other purely religious communities like the Vatican. It has paved the way for other faith-based, ethical, and socially responsible investments (SRIs). Today, other lines of investment, such as sustainable finance, responsible finance, and Environment, Sustainable, and Corporate Governance (ESG), are becoming increasingly popular. Parallel to this, charities and philanthropic institutions have emerged, dominating the global economic scene.

With this backdrop, the Islamic finance industry has witnessed enormous growth. For several decades, IFE has been recognized as a distinct academic field in own right – with a plethora of academic publications, ranging from specialized journals to books that aid the academic field. However, one concern among many is the lack of recognition of significant IFE research within mainstream publications.

The challenges of IFE as a discipline can be viewed from a bifurcated perspective in form and substance. The former looks at how the research output is disseminated, whilst the latter looks at the quality of the research output. This can simply be grouped into research and publication.

For IFE research, many questions about what kind of research is produced need to be answered. It will be interesting to know if research in IFE takes more of an applied, empirical, or descriptive approach. It is worth noting that in mainstream economics, focus is given to applied mathematics and the normative nuance of economics has degenerated. In Islamic economics, as a normative discipline, we may consider looking at classical normative economics and see how it fits with Islamic economics.

Whereas for IFE publication, the focus will be on its quality and how IFE research dissemination can improve its impact factor. Currently, there are more than 50 IFE journals, and they are indexed by secondary publication sources such as SCOPUS, Web of Science, Econlit, JSTOR, ABI, etc. as identified by (Ali & AlQuradaghi, 2019).

With this perspective, this study aims to provide a comprehensive overview of four IFE Scopus-indexed journals<sup>1</sup> concerning publication productivity and influence by adopting several bibliometric indicators. These four IFE Scopus-indexed journals are the International Journal of Islamic and Middle Eastern Finance and Management (IJIMEFM), Journal of King Abdul Aziz Islamic University: Islamic Economics (JKAIUE), Journal of Islamic Accounting and Business Research (JIABR), and Journal of Islamic Marketing (JIM). In addition, this study attempts to address three main research questions (RQs) as follow:

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<sup>1</sup> Out of seven IFE Scopus-indexed journals listed, four were selected for this study due to their comparison compatibility and occurrence records across the study period (2010 – 2019), as explained in the “Data and Methodology” section of the paper.

1. What are the four IFE Scopus-indexed journals' research productivity and influence (citations) during 2010–2019, and how has it evolved?
  - a. How much is published in IFE Scopus-indexed journals?
  - b. How many citations IFE Scopus-indexed journals' publications have received?
2. What are the four IFE Scopus-indexed journals research constituents, and how have they changed during 2010–2019?
  - a. Who (and how) much has published in IFE Scopus-indexed journals (i.e., authors, affiliated institutions, and countries)?
3. What is the knowledge base of the four IFE Scopus-indexed journals (i.e., thematic structure across all journals)?

The study noted that there are recent literatures that have conducted bibliometric analysis on aforementioned journals. However, those recent studies were done on an individual journal basis. Therefore, the sample size was far less, and the methods deployed were significantly different. Table 1 records the brief differences that reveal this study's novelty and further explains the nature of the data and the scope of our research work.

Mubarrok et. al., (2020) performed a bibliometric analysis of JIM publications to document the existing research pattern and scientific advancement of JIM between 2010 and 2020 to commemorate the journal's 11th anniversary. The study used 454 articles, reviews and editorials extracted from the Scopus database for bibliometric analysis of co-authorships, co-citation, and bibliographic coupling via the VOSviewer program. Furthermore, the study used co-occurrence of keywords to visualize the thematic and intellectual structure of the journal and pinpoint any gaps in the literature.

Likewise, Hassan et. al., (2021) studied the bibliometric patterns of articles and reviews published in JIABR for the period 2010–2020 in the celebration of its 10th year since its establishment. In this study, the authors retrieved 287 articles and reviews from the Scopus database and conducted a bibliometric analysis using MS Excel, Rstudio and VOSviewer. The software facilitated the co-citation network analysis, bibliographical coupling and co-occurrence of keywords. The objective of this study was to identify the journal's past and present trends by offering a retrospective overview to journal's theoretical and practical contributions to the field of Islamic finance.

Özdemir and Selçuk (2021) conducted a bibliographical study to investigate the progress and prospects of the journal of IJIMEFM in Islamic economics, finance, management and middle eastern studies between 2008 and 2019. The analysed dataset comprised 319 peer-reviewed articles downloaded from the Web of Science (WoS) database and archives of IJIMEFM. Similar to the previous studies, the study used the VOSviewer program to analyze co-authorship, citation, and keywords.

Overall, the three bibliometric studies can be classified as a "Journal based bibliometric study" as each study undertakes a retrospective analysis of a single journal. This study, however, is classified as "Project-based bibliometric study" as it intends to delineate an overview landscape of academic literature in the field of Islamic finance and economics

**Table 1**  
**Comparison between our study and the recent studies**

Literature	Mubarrok et. al., (2020)	Hassan et. al., (2021)	Özdemir and Selçuk (2021)	Our Study
Objective	Evaluating the publication pattern and scientific advancement of JIM between 2010 and 2020.	Providing a bibliographical overview of the Journal in the celebration of its 10 <sup>th</sup> year since establishment.	Investigating current state of studies on Islamic finance, economics and management through a bibliometric analysis.	Providing a thorough overview of four IFE Scopus-indexed journals publications and probe its productivity and influence on Islamic finance discipline.
Sample	JIM-based (454 articles, reviews, and editorials)	JIABR-based (287 articles and reviews only)	IJIMEFM-based (319 peer reviewed articles)	IJIMEFM; JKAIUE; JIABR; and JIM- based (1036 articles)
Timespan	2010 – 2020	2010 – 2020	2008 – 2019	2010 – 2019
Study classification	Journal-based bibliometric study	Journal-based bibliometric study	Journal-based bibliometric study	Project based bibliometric study
Methodology	Bibliometric analysis	Bibliometric analysis	Bibliometric analysis	Bibliometric analysis
Software	VOS viewer	RStudio, VOS viewer and MS Excel	VOSviewer and MS Excel	Rstudio, Bibioshiny, VOSviewer and MS Excel
Source	Scopus	Scopus	Web of Science and archives of IJIMEFM	Scopus
Techniques	Analysis of: Bibliographic coupling, co-citation, co-authorships and co-occurrence of keywords.	Analysis of: Citation, co-authorship, co-occurrence, co-citation network, and bibliographic coupling.	Co-authorship analysis, citation analysis, occurrence of keywords and content analysis	Co-occurrence analysis, citation, co-citation, bibliographic coupling, co-authorship analysis and content analysis.
Methodology for cluster analysis	Briefly via co-occurrence of keywords	Co-citation mapping	Unspecified	Keywords occurrence and bibliographic coupling of docs

published in four specialized Scopus indexed journals. The significance of this study and its distinctive features dwell on four main reasons:

1. Unlike other studies that provide a retrospective analysis of the progress and prospects of the literature in a single journal, this study instead evaluates the development in IFE discipline and the existence of corresponding studies in the four IFE Scopus-indexed journals. Hence, the appropriate classification of our study will be “project-based bibliometric study”.
2. This study dataset is relatively more extensive (1036 published articles) compared to previous studies, as shown in Table 1.
3. The selection of the journals is limited to top-tier reputable Islamic finance and economics journals. To the best of our knowledge, this is the first study to conduct a bibliographical analysis on multiple journals.
4. This study used more bibliometric analysis software and programs with more effective analyzing techniques and produced more robust results

## 2. Data and Methodology

This paper conducts a bibliometric analysis to examine the distribution of IFE-related publications in selected Scopus-indexed journals. Bibliometric analysis, as defined by (Pritchard, 1969), is a statistically based qualitative analysis of scientific activities within a specific area of research to assess the influence of publications, authors, organizations, and countries over time (Caviggioli & Ughetto, 2019; Small, 1973). Bibliometric analysis delineates an overview landscape of academic literature in a field of study and aids in identifying new directions for future research (Donthu et. al., 2021). The Scopus database was chosen for our study due to its high quality and large number of data sources referring to citations and summaries of peer-reviewed research literature. A systematic search of the Scopus database was conducted, followed by data analysis using MS Excel, the Biblioshiny, and the VOSviewer software to construct and visualize co-occurrence analysis, citation, co-citation, bibliographic coupling, and co-authorship (Van Eck and Waltman, 2017).

### 2.1 Sample Selection

Our sample selection approach began with the identification of key IFE journals that are indexed in Scopus. We used the keyword “Islamic” as the “source title” search query in the Scopus database. Then, we limit the subject area to “business management and accounting” and “economics, econometrics, and finance” to generate search results that are relevant to the subject of the current study. In addition, we used document type filters to exclude books and book chapters to ascertain that the sample data is journal-sourced data. The initial search yielded seven IFE related journals. Next, to streamline the timespan of the data, we removed journals that do not have a publication history from the year 2010. The final sample includes four Scopus-indexed journals and 1036 articles published between 2010 and 2019 (see Table 2).

## 2.2 Sample Data Summary

Table 2 summarizes the input data used in the analysis. For the purpose of homogeneity, our sample was limited to publications between 2010 and 2019. Hence, there were a total of 1036 articles investigated in our sample that were linked to four journal sources. Furthermore, 1082 authors contributed to the publication of these articles, with authors of multi-authored documents accounting for 84% of the total number of authors for IJIMEFM with a collaboration index (CI) of 2.31; 55% for JKAUIE with a CI of 2.12; 87% for JIAB with a CI of 2.19; and 90% for JIM with a CI of 2.35. This validates the indication of a growing trend of collaboration in scholarly work (Alshater et. al., 2021).

**Table 2**  
Summary bibliographic statistics for IFE journal indexed in Scopus, 2010–2019

	International Journal of Islamic and Middle Eastern Finance and Management (IJIMEFM)	Journal of King Abdulaziz University: Islamic Economics (JKAUIE)	Journal of Islamic Accounting and Business Research (JIABR)	Journal of Islamic Marketing (JIM)
Timespan	2010:2019	2010:2019	2010:2019	2010:2019
Documents	279	231	198	328
Article	272	222	184	306
Editorial	1	1	3	2
Review	6	3	11	20
Note	0	5	0	0
Authors	522	255	374	651
Authors of single-authored documents	83	115	47	67
Authors of multi-authored documents	439	140	327	584
Authors per Document	1.87	1.10	1.89	1.98
Collaboration Index	2.31	2.12	2.19	2.35

## 3. Research productivity and influence of IFE Scopus-indexed journals

**between 2010 and 2019**

To address RQ1 (a and b), Table 3 summarizes the number of IFE articles published and the number of citations obtained between 2010 and 2019. The results indicate that the IFE publication count has increased threefold since 2010 across all sample journals except for IJIMEFM, which has almost doubled. From 2010 to 2015, all four journals published an average range of 12–23 articles per year, increasing to an average range of 32–48 articles per year for the next four years (2016–2019). This demonstrates that the number of publications in IFE has increased substantially (productivity). Additionally, the findings indicate that the IFE Scopus-indexed journals are not susceptible to the rising trend of co-authorship in academic publications (Acedo et. al., 2006; Sciabolazza et. al., 2020).

**Table 3**  
Annual scientific production and average article citations per year

Journal	Year	TP	TC	ACA (TC/TP)	TCP (ACA/CY)	SP	CP
<b>International Journal of Islamic and Middle Eastern Finance and Management (IJIMEFM)</b>	2010	23	655	28.48	2.59	7	16
	2011	20	301	15.05	1.51	5	15
	2012	20	289	14.45	1.61	8	12
	2013	19	372	19.58	2.45	12	7
	2014	28	289	10.32	1.47	8	20
	2015	28	287	10.25	1.71	14	14
	2016	32	277	8.66	1.73	9	23
	2017	32	244	7.63	1.91	10	22
	2018	37	302	8.16	2.72	7	30
	2019	40	185	4.63	2.31	9	31
<b>Journal of King Abdulaziz University: Islamic Economics (JKAUIE)</b>	2010	12	74	6.17	0.56	9	3
	2011	12	28	2.33	0.23	7	5
	2012	15	42	2.80	0.31	13	2
	2013	14	27	1.93	0.24	10	4
	2014	16	30	1.88	0.27	12	4
	2015	19	53	2.79	0.46	12	7
	2016	35	37	1.06	0.21	24	11
	2017	45	73	1.62	0.41	32	13
	2018	29	29	1.00	0.33	17	12
	2019	34	24	0.71	0.35	29	5

*Contd...*

<b>Journal of Islamic Accounting and Business Research (JIABR)</b>	2010	10	269	26.90	2.45	3	7
	2011	10	348	34.80	3.48	1	9
	2012	12	82	6.83	0.76	6	6
	2013	10	151	15.10	1.89	0	10
	2014	12	139	11.58	1.65	4	8
	2015	16	149	9.31	1.55	3	13
	2016	21	181	8.62	1.72	7	14
	2017	26	251	9.65	2.41	7	19
	2018	39	184	4.72	1.57	8	31
	2019	42	103	2.45	1.23	10	32
<b>Journal of Islamic Marketing (JIM)</b>	2010	25	1128	45.12	4.10	11	14
	2011	23	1275	55.43	5.54	8	15
	2012	22	1020	46.36	5.15	8	14
	2013	20	633	31.65	3.96	7	13
	2014	23	400	17.39	2.48	6	17
	2015	22	573	26.05	4.34	5	17
	2016	26	395	15.19	3.04	7	19
	2017	41	579	14.12	3.53	5	36
	2018	49	536	10.94	3.65	9	40
	2019	77	514	6.68	3.34	14	63

Note: TP = total publications; TC = total citations; ACA = average citations per article; TCP = mean total citations per citable year; SP = number of single-authored publications, CP = number of co-authored publications.

More precisely, the number of IFE Scopus-indexed papers representing co-authored publications has increased significantly during the last ten years, particularly in the last few years. However, this was not the case for JKAUIE, as single-authored publications constantly outnumbered co-authored publications by twofold or more since 2010. The reason may be that JKAUIE publishes both Arabic and English articles, and it is common for Arabic articles to be mostly single-authored.

Despite the increasing number of publications, findings concerning the citations between 2010 and 2019 reveal that the average yearly citations for the four IFE Scopus-indexed journals have not grown exponentially. Almost all journals show a decline in total citations per citable years except for IJIMEFM. One factor contributing to this result is that IFE as a scientific discipline is still in its early stages and is still “conceptually driven.” Thus, many current IFE papers still rely on early “conceptually-driven” papers to build upon and supplement their research (Svensson, 2010; Donthu et. al., 2021). Nonetheless, it is commonly accepted that a constant increase in productivity and influence metrics indicates that a journal’s readership, acceptance, and influence within the scientific community is

expanding. This is also true for all four journals, which have earned the global research community's recognition, authorship, and readership (Ali & AlQuradaghi, 2019).

#### **4. Research constituents of ife scopus-indexed journals: main authors, institutions, countries contribution and collaboration between 2010 and 2019**

The data was collected to examine the constituents of IFE Scopus-indexed publications with regard to authors, institutions, and countries' contributions as well as their collaboration structure. Two variables were analyzed to determine the extent to which each constituent contributed and to identify the primary sources of IFE Scopus-indexed papers (RQ2). Total publications (TP), which indicates how many publications each author has contributed (Table 3), and total citations (TC), which suggests how influential each author's contributions. The same two variables are also used to analyze each affiliated institution and country's contributions.

##### *4.1 Most Contributing Authors*

Overall, the authorship analysis of IFE Scopus-index articles suggests that all four journals have attracted a sizable sum of articles from highly performing and renowned international scholars.

Based on publication and citation data, Table 4 highlights the most contributing and influential authors of IFE Scopus-indexed journals between 2010 and 2019. Authors are ranked primarily based on TP then based on TC while comparing author with the same amount of TP. Also, the ACA is presented as a measurement of productivity and citation impact.

For the TP, Mohammad Kabir Hassan is noted to have the most publications in both IJIEFM (8 publications) and JKAUIE (4 publications), followed by Roszaini Haniffa in JIABR (8 publications) and Jonathan A.J. Wilson in JIM (9 publications).

Similarly, for TC, Mohammad Kabir Hassan is the most cited author on the list (with 124 citations for IJIEFM; 86 citations for JKAUIE; and 164 citations for JIABR) except for JIM, where Jonathan AJ Wilson is shown to be the most cited with 982 citations. The findings of the TP and TC highlight one critical issue shared by all four journals (except JKAUIE), whose Editor-in-Chief is discovered to be the most contributing author of their affiliated journal.

In terms of ACA, both Sylvia Veronica Siregar and Sofyan Syafri Harahap hold the highest ACA for IJIMEFM, with 101 citations from 1 publication. Respectively, Hesham Jamil Mahmoud Merdad and Yasser Alhenawi for JKAUIE with 60 citations from 1 publication, Sayd Farook and Roman Lanis for JIABR with 129 citations from 1 publication, and Jonathan Liu for JIM with 239.67 citations from 3 publications. This high ACA count may be attributed to the importance of the paper's topic in the field of Islamic finance and economy and the profile of the author.

**Table 4**  
**Most contributing authors of IFE Scopus-indexed journal published between 2010 and 2019**

Journal	Author	PY_start	TP	TC	ACA
					(TC/TP)
International Journal of Islamic and Middle Eastern Finance and Management (IJIMEFM)	HASSAN MK	2011	8	124	15.5
	ISMAL R	2010	4	38	9.5
	HASSAN A	2010	2	104	52
	ABDUL RAHMAN A	2010	2	72	36
	ABDUH M	2012	2	71	35.5
	KASSIM SH	2010	2	70	35
	SMOLO E	2010	2	66	33
	GRASSA R	2014	2	48	24
	BACHTIAR Y	2010	1	101	101
	VERONICA SIREGAR S	2010	1	101	101
Journal of King Abdulaziz University: Islamic Economics (JKAUIE)	HASSAN MK	2010	4	86	21.5
	ZAMAN A	2012	3	16	5.33
	MEERA AKM	2015	2	25	12.5
	ARIFF M	2013	2	12	6
	BELOUAFI A	2011	2	11	5.5
	ALHENAWI Y	2010	1	60	60
	MERDAD H	2010	1	60	60
	KAMARUDIN F	2012	1	26	26
	NOOR NHHM	2012	1	26	26
	SUFIAN F	2012	1	26	26
Journal of Islamic Accounting and Business Research (JIABR)	HANIFFA R	2010	8	126	15.75
	HUDAIB M	2010	5	42	8.4
	SHERIF M	2013	4	59	14.75
	RAHIM ABDUL RAHMAN A	2011	3	162	54
	BOULILA TAKTAK N	2010	3	57	19
	FAROOQ O	2014	3	38	12.67
	HASSAN MK	2010	2	164	82
	ARCHER S	2010	2	46	23
	FAROOK S	2011	1	129	129
	LANIS R	2011	1	129	129

Contd...

<b>Journal of Islamic Marketing (JIM)</b>	WILSON JAJ	2010	9	982	109.11
	ZAILANI S	2017	7	120	17.14
	HANZAE KH	2010	6	130	21.67
	TIEMAN M	2011	5	374	74.8
	ABDUL-TALIB AN	2010	5	136	27.2
	BUTT MM	2010	4	283	70.75
	ALSERHAN BA	2010	4	167	41.75
	AB TALIB MS	2014	4	155	38.75
	MIZERSKI D	2010	4	133	33.25
	LIU J	2010	3	719	239.67

Note: TC = total citations; TP = total publications; ACA = average citation per article; Bold letter = most cited author.

#### 4.2 Most Contributing Institutions

Table 5 identifies the most contributing institutions. Based on TP, International Islamic University Malaysia (IIUM) is found to be the top contributing institution across all four journals, except for JKAUIE, where it is ranked second. Nonetheless, with 122 publications, authors affiliated with IIUM contributed 11.78% of the total the four IFE Scopus-indexed publications. Moreover, IIUM has the largest overall number of citations (1441), indicating that they have produced the most influential IFE Scopus-indexed publications. This is unsurprising, given IIUM's reputation as a leader in IFE research in Malaysia and worldwide (considering the faculty size and output). Furthermore, it is worth mentioning that the top contributing institutions are predominantly from Malaysia, which is widely regarded as a major centre for both IFE industry and research.

**Table 5**

Most contributing institutions to IFE Scopus-indexed journal published between 2010 and 2019

Journal	Institution	TP	TC	ACA (TC/TP)	% CJ
<b>International Journal of Islamic and Middle Eastern Finance and Management (IJIMEFM)</b>	INTERNATIONAL ISLAMIC UNIVERSITY MALAYSIA	23	304	13.22	8.24
	UNIVERSITY OF INDONESIA	16	190	11.88	5.73
	UNIVERSITY OF MALAYA	12	37	3.08	4.30
	UNIVERSITY OF NEW ORLEANS	8	124	15.50	2.87
	UNIVERSITI UTARA MALAYSIA	7	108	15.43	2.51
	UNIVERSITI TEKNOLOGI MARA	6	55	9.17	2.15
	GRIFFITH UNIVERSITY	5	35	7.00	1.79
	SULTAN QABOOS UNIVERSITY	5	35	7.00	1.79
	UNIVERSITI KEBANGSAAN MALAYSIA	5	13	2.60	1.79
	UNIVERSITY OF TEHRAN	5	72	14.40	1.79

*Contd...*

Journal of King Abdulaziz University: Islamic Economics (JKAUIE)	KING ABDULAZIZ UNIVERSITY	38	18	0.47	16.45
	INTERNATIONAL ISLAMIC UNIVERSITY MALAYSIA	15	80	5.33	6.49
	HAMAD BIN KHALIFA UNIVERSITY	5	8	1.60	2.16
	ISLAMIC RESEARCH AND TRAINING INSTITUTE	8	12	1.50	3.46
	UMM AL-QURA UNIVERSITY	4	1	0.25	1.73
	YARMOUK UNIVERSITY	4	4	1.00	1.73
	DURHAM UNIVERSITY	3	86	28.67	1.30
	EFFAT UNIVERSITY	3	2	0.67	1.30
	UNIVERSITY OF NEW ORLEANS	3	10	3.33	1.30
	UNIVERSITY OF READING	3	15	5.00	1.30
Journal of Islamic Accounting and Business Research (JIABR)	INTERNATIONAL ISLAMIC UNIVERSITY MALAYSIA	32	316	9.88	16.16
	UNIVERSITI UTARA MALAYSIA	12	129	10.75	6.06
	HERIOT-WATT UNIVERSITY	10	144	14.40	5.05
	UNIVERSITI KEBANGSAAN MALAYSIA	8	67	8.38	4.04
	UNIVERSITY OF MALAYA	8	45	5.63	4.04
	UNIVERSITI SAINS MALAYSIA	7	84	12.00	3.54
	UNIVERSITI TEKNOLOGI MARA	5	38	7.60	2.53
	UNITED ARAB EMIRATES UNIVERSITY	4	10	2.50	2.02
	UNIVERSITY OF MANOUBA	4	81	20.25	2.02
	UNIVERSITY OF TUNIS	4	104	26.00	2.02
Journal of Islamic Marketing (JIM)	INTERNATIONAL ISLAMIC UNIVERSITY MALAYSIA	29	741	25.55	8.84
	UNIVERSITI SAINS MALAYSIA	22	324	14.73	6.71
	UNIVERSITY OF MALAYA	22	297	13.50	6.71
	ISLAMIC AZAD UNIVERSITY	18	192	10.67	5.49
	UNIVERSITI PUTRA MALAYSIA	15	248	16.53	4.57
	UNIVERSITI UTARA MALAYSIA	14	292	20.86	4.27
	UNIVERSITI TEKNOLOGI MALAYSIA	13	273	21.00	3.96
	UNIVERSITI MALAYSIA SABAH	11	209	19.00	3.35
	UNIVERSITY OF GREENWICH	9	903	100.33	2.74
	UNIVERSITY OF TEHRAN	9	84	9.33	2.74

Note: TP = total publications; TC = total citations; ACA = average citations per article; % CJ = percentage of total contribution to journal.

#### 4.3 Most Contributing Countries

Table 6 summarizes the most contributing and prolific countries between 2010 and 2019 in terms of IFE Scopus-indexed journal publication and citation performance. The majority of IFE Scopus-indexed journal publications (205 articles; 19.79%) are generated by Malaysian-affiliated authors, followed by authors from Saudi Arabia (63 articles; 6.08%), the United Kingdom (54 articles; 5.21%), Pakistan (43 articles; 4.15%), and Indonesia (40 articles; 3.86%). Likewise, Malaysian-affiliated authors have contributed the most influential articles, with around 25% of the total citations to the four IFE Scopus-indexed journals attributed to works produced by Malaysian academics. This finding reaffirms the academic community's significance of IFE research in Malaysia, as shown in the INCEIF Refinitiv Islamic Finance Knowledge Outlook Report (2020).

**Table 6**  
**Most contributing countries to IFE Scopus-indexed journal published between 2010 and 2019**

Journal	Country	TP	TC	TCA (TC/TP)	% CJ
International Journal of Islamic and Middle Eastern Finance and Management (IJIMEFM)	MALAYSIA	49	576	11.76	17.56%
	UNITED KINGDOM	17	379	22.29	6.09%
	INDONESIA	16	235	14.69	5.73%
	SAUDI ARABIA	15	113	7.53	5.38%
	PAKISTAN	12	124	10.33	4.30%
	BAHRAIN	9	89	9.89	3.23%
	TUNISIA	9	156	17.33	3.23%
	USA	9	93	10.33	3.23%
	JORDAN	7	44	6.29	2.51%
	OMAN	7	110	15.71	2.51%
Journal of King Abdulaziz University: Islamic Economics (JKAUIE)	SAUDI ARABIA	44	15	0.34	19.05%
	MALAYSIA	16	63	3.94	6.93%
	PAKISTAN	9	20	2.22	3.90%
	QATAR	5	9	1.80	2.16%
	USA	4	76	19.00	1.73%
	JORDAN	3	1	0.33	1.30%
	ALGERIA	2	0	0.00	0.87%
	AUSTRALIA	2	3	1.50	0.87%
	INDIA	2	1	0.50	0.87%
	INDONESIA	2	4	2.00	0.87%

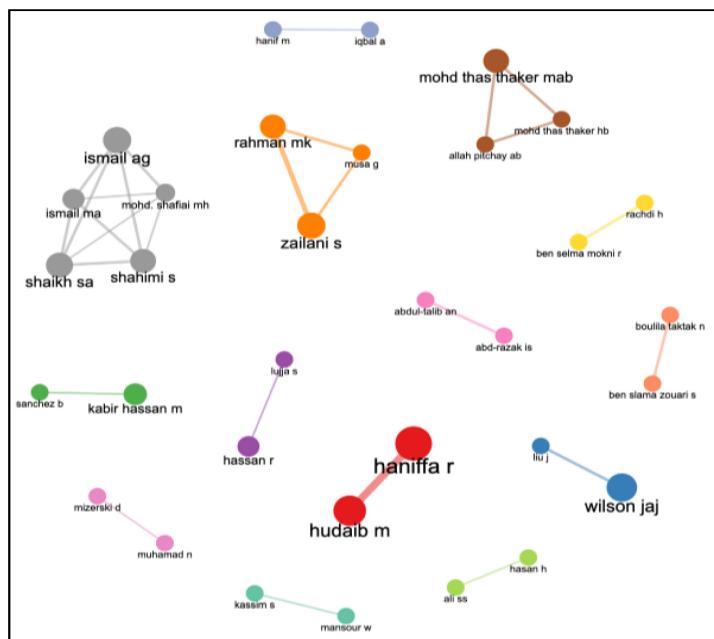
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<b>Journal of Islamic Accounting and Business Research (JIABR)</b>	MALAYSIA	52	490	9.42	26.26%
	UNITED KINGDOM	17	214	12.59	8.59%
	TUNISIA	12	106	8.83	6.06%
	INDONESIA	8	33	4.13	4.04%
	PAKISTAN	8	42	5.25	4.04%
	EGYPT	6	50	8.33	3.03%
	SAUDI ARABIA	4	48	12.00	2.02%
	TURKEY	4	7	1.75	2.02%
	BAHRAIN	3	74	24.67	1.52%
	BANGLADESH	3	30	10.00	1.52%
<b>Journal of Islamic Marketing (JIM)</b>	MALAYSIA	88	2064	23.45	26.83%
	IRAN	22	290	13.18	6.71%
	UNITED KINGDOM	20	1120	56.00	6.10%
	INDONESIA	14	136	9.71	4.27%
	PAKISTAN	14	608	43.43	4.27%
	EGYPT	10	110	11.00	3.05%
	INDIA	10	147	14.70	3.05%
	TURKEY	9	184	20.44	2.74%
	AUSTRALIA	8	156	19.50	2.44%
	USA	8	53	6.63	2.44%

Note: Country = Corresponding author's Country; TP = total publications; TC = total citations; ACA = average citations per article; % CJ = percentage of total contribution to journal; SCP = Single Country Publications; MCP = Multiple Country Publications.

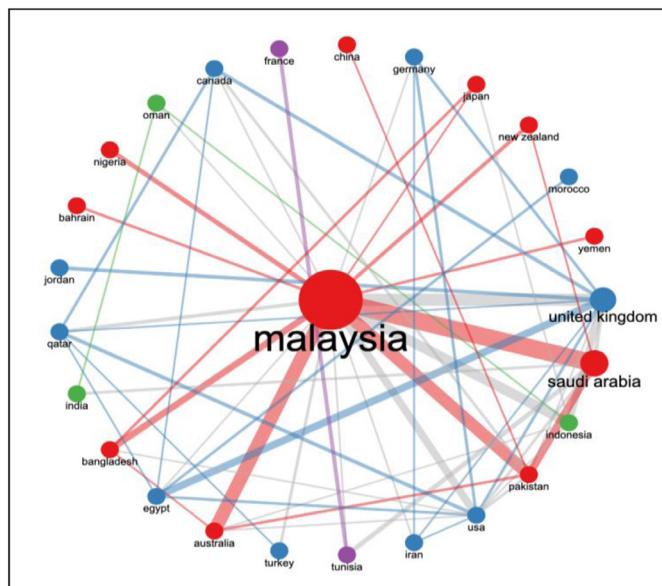
#### 4.4 Collaboration Structure Among IFE Scopus-Indexed Journals Authors and Countries

Collaboration network analysis was utilized to examine the relationship structure of IFE Scopus-indexed journal authors and their affiliated countries since co-authorship has become a worldwide trend in research and is recognized as a formal way to collaborate on their work intellectually (Acedo et. al., 2006). Figures 1 and 2 depict the collaboration networks of IFE Scopus-Indexed journals' most participating authors and countries, respectively, by using Biblioshiny software to build the networks. The node size signifies the sum of collaborations (i.e., the sum of publications co-authored) that the node has had with other nodes. Hence, a larger node indicates a higher sum of collaboration with other nodes. On the other hand, the link density represents the collaboration that occurs between the two nodes.



**Figure 1**

IFE Scopus-Indexed journals authors collaboration network between 2010 and 2019.



**Figure 2**

IFE Scopus-Indexed journals countries collaboration network papers published between 2010 and 2019.

Overall, four main author collaboration networks (Figure 1) are observed, which are centered around authors who hold similar country affiliations. For example, Zailani S., Rahman M.K., and Musa G. are affiliated with a Malaysian university. This is further verified by Figure 2, which depicts two main country collaborations centered around Malaysia, the United Kingdom, and Saudi Arabia.

Furthermore, the author network analysis reveals that Haniffa R., Hudaib M., Ismail A.G., and Shaikh S.A. are among the most collaborative authors in IFE Scopus-indexed journal articles, since they share the higher sum of collaboration links with others. In addition, the analysis on country network collaboration reveals that the following countries have strong collaboration links with others: Malaysia, the United Kingdom, Saudi Arabia, Indonesia, Pakistan, and the USA.

The network analysis confirms the current trend and necessity for collaboration across different local and international institutions for academicians to enhance their publication performance.

## 5. IFE scopus-indexed journal thematic structure

The thematic structure of IFE Scopus-indexed journal publications (RQ3) is explored by using bibliographic coupling analysis via VOSviewer to map the intellectual thematic structure of a research field within the four journals. Bibliographic coupling analyzes the relationship between citations of individual articles to visualize clusters and main topics discussed within the investigated dataset. To have meaningful results, we set the threshold of our bibliographic coupling analysis at a minimum of 20 citations per article. The results of our analysis indicated that out of 1036 documents in our sample, only 161 documents met the threshold and 154 documents in the network are connected to each other as bibliographic couples, with a particularly noteworthy contribution of articles published by Wilson J.A.J (2010), which accumulated a total of 273 citations with 17 links and a total link strength of 9, followed by Wilson J.A.J (2011) with 262 citations, 43 links and a total link strength of 13, and Mukhtar A (2012) with 185 citations, 49 links and a total link strength of 18 as presented in Table 7.

**Table 7**  
**Bibliographic coupling analysis of documents**

	Documents	TC	TLS	Links	Source
1	Shaping the halal into a brand	273	9	17	JIM
2	The challenges of Islamic branding: Navigating emotions and halal	262	13	43	JIM
3	Intentions to choose halal products: The role of religiosity	185	30	49	JIM

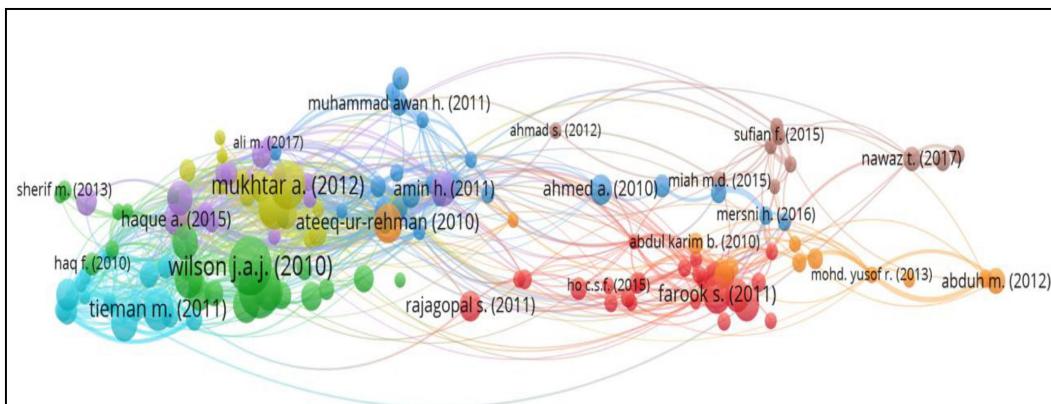
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4	Is religiosity an important determinant on Muslim consumer behavior in Malaysia?	152	18	30	JIM
5	The application of halal in supply chain management: in-depth interviews	142	17	43	JIM
6	The relationship between religiosity and new product adoption	125	6	13	JIM
7	Determinants of corporate social responsibility disclosure: The case of Islamic banks	120	33	24	JIABR
8	Crescent marketing, Muslim geographies and brand Islam: Reflection from the JIMA senior advisory board	118	27	45	JIM
9	Researching Islamic marketing: Past and future perspectives	113	27	60	JIM
10	Principles in halal supply chain management	109	38	41	JIM

Note: TC = total citations; TLS = total link strength.

### 5.1 Bibliographic Coupling Analysis

The bibliographic coupling analysis enabled us to enumerate eight interlinked research clusters with a minimum of 10 documents per stream, as illustrated in Figure 3. These clusters are represented by different colors of the nodes, where each node represents a single or multi-authored document. The size of the node depicts the degree of influence a document has in the dataset. A shorter span indicates a stronger connection between the respective documents due to the commonness of references cited. Table 8 demonstrates the eight identified coupling streams by our analysis.



**Figure 3**  
**Bibliographic coupling of documents**

**Table 8**  
**An overview of bibliographic clusters**

	Cluster summary	Color	Docs	Most cited	TC	Source
1	Halal tourism, spiritual tourism and Islamic tourism concept, challenges, and proposed solutions.	Green	27	Wilson J.A.J (2010)	273	JIM
2	Shariah governance practices, halal certification, Shariah investment screening, Islamic accounting standards and Shariah auditing	Red	27	Farook S (2011)	120	JIABR
3	Islamic banking: determinants, income smoothing practices, service quality and customer satisfaction, barriers and mobile banking	Blue	25	Ahmed A (2010)	77	IJIMEFM
4	The role of religiosity on both the attitude and consumer behavior in the context of Islamic banking services and halal products	Yellow	19	Mukhtar A (2012)	185	JIM
5	Consumers' awareness and perception of halal branding and determinants of adoption Islamic credit cards and Islamic personal financing.	Purple	17	Amin H (2011)	103	JIABR
6	Halal food supply chains: critical success factors, risks, and challenges.	Aqua	16	Tieman M (2011)	142	JIM
7	Islamic finance contribution to economic growth, characteristics of Islamic financial institutions and performance of Islamic mutual funds	Orange	13	Ateeq ur Rehman (2010)	125	JIM
8	Efficiency and performance analysis of financial institutions.	Brown	10	Nawaz T (2017)	48	JIABR

**Cluster 1** (Green), which comprises of 27 articles, explored a new dimension of Islamic marketing (Arham, 2010) in the form of spiritual tourism (Haq & Wong, 2010), halal tourism (Battour et. al., 2018) and Islamic tourism (Boğan & Sarışık, 2018). While some studies of this cluster identified the concepts of the aforementioned types of tourism (Khan & Callanan, 2017; Boğan & Sarışık, 2018; Wilson, 2012) and pinpointed the impact of knowledge, willingness and religiosity on attitudes towards halal cosmetics products (Aoun & Tournois, 2015), other studies identified key concerns associated with these types of tourism (F. Khan & Callanan, 2017), drew attention to some conceptual and practical challenges in the halal tourism industry such as socio-cultural implications (Stephenson et. al., 2010; Sobh & Belk, 2011) and highlighted the most important issues pertinent to the emerging field of Islamic branding (Alserhan, 2010) in an attempt to address the challenges inherent in the concept of halal (Kadirov, 2014; J. A. J. Wilson & Liu, 2011; Jafari, 2012).

Overall, the proposed solutions include capitalizing on the perspective of strategic export market orientation behaviors, for an industrial innovation to form a halal economy as a way forward to overcome the challenges facing halal marketing (Abdul-Talib & Abd-Razak, 2013), the adoption of new theoretical and methodological positions that would enhance the understanding of multiple marketing and market dynamics in Muslim societies (Jafari, 2012), and the introduction an Islamic market oriented cultural model to illustrate the role of market orientation within an Islamic culture (Zakaria & Abdul-Talib, 2010).

**Cluster 2** (Red) elaborated on Shariah governance (Haniffa & Hudaib, 2010) and ways in which it can not only enhance its effectiveness but also bolster Shariah compliancy and fulfil *Maqasid Shariah* (Akram Laldin & Furqani, 2013). Topics in this cluster cover the areas of halal certification, Shariah investment screening, Islamic accounting standards, and Shariah auditing (Rajagopal et. al., 2011; Abdul Rahman et. al., 2010; Ho, 2015; Mohammed Sarea & Mohd Hanefah, 2013; El-Halaby & Hussainey, 2016; Azhar Rosly, 2010; Ullah, 2014). Abdul Rahman et. al., (2010) compared the criteria used by the Kuala Lumpur Stock Exchange Shari'ah Index (KLSESI) and the Dow Jones Islamic Market Index (DJIM) in screening permissible companies for investment purposes. Similarly, Ho (2015) reviewed the Shari'ah investment screening methodologies of 34 prominent global Islamic finance users using qualitative and quantitative screening analysis. Mohammed Sarea & Mohd Hanefah, (2013) and El-Halaby & Hussainey (2016), on the other hand, explored the need for Islamic accounting standards and the motives behind Islamic financial institutions' adoptions of such standards. Other studies in this cluster have researched on Islamic banks' social disclosure (Hassan & Syafri Harahap, 2010; Haniffa & Hudaib, 2010; Bukair & Abdul Rahman, 2015; Salma Sairally, 2013), application of corporate governance ideas in Islamic financial theory (Alam Choudhury & Nurul Alam, 2013), and customers perceptions towards Islamic financial institutions and its instruments and products (Akbar et. al., 2012 et. al.; Razak & Taib, 2011; E Smolo & Kabir Hassan, 2011).

Various aspects of Islamic banking are deliberated in Cluster 3 (Blue). Determinants and motivational factors of customers' selections of Islamic banks were found to be the most discoursed topics in the stream (Islam & Rahman, 2017; Lee & Ullah, 2011; Mahdzan et. al., 2017). Several studies considered that awareness and willingness of Muslims toward Islamic banking (Islam & Rahman, 2017), service quality (Muhammad Awan et. al., 2011), speed, efficiency, and effectiveness of the credit cards, which are technically sound and work in an appropriate manner, the ability to reduce the interest rate in the long run (Jamshidi & Hussin, 2016), consumer innovativeness, and bank personnel's professionalism (Mahdzan et. al., 2017) had significant effects on Islamic banking adoption. The rest of the cluster discussed topics focusing on different aspects of Islamic banking, such as examining income smoothing practices in Islamic banks (Boulila Taktak et. al., 2010), measuring customer satisfaction in the Islamic banking sector (Estiri et. al., 2011; Ahmad et. al., 2011), identifying barriers perceived by users and non-users of Islamic banking when selecting Islamic banks (Butt et. al., 2011), and pinpointing the key factors underlying customer satisfaction with electronic banking services (Janahi & Al Mubarak, 2017; Sadeghi & Hanzaee, 2010; Sun et. al., 2012; Raza et. al., 2018; Goh et. al., 2014).

**Cluster 4** (Yellow) assessed the role of religiosity on both the attitude and behavior of consumers in the context of Islamic banking services and halal products (Alam et. al., 2011; Yousaf & Malik, 2013; Muhamad & Mizerski; 2010). The studies of this cluster acknowledge the influence of religiosity as the main decisive factors for: choosing Islamic financial services (Usman et. al., 2017), Muslim youth attitude towards fashion (Farrag & Hassan, 2015) and advertisements (Haque et. al., 2010; de Run et al.; 2010, Kamalul Ariffin et. al., 2016), consumers' boycotts of products (Al-Hyari et. al., 2012), purchase decision making process (Razzaque & Chaudhry, 2013), consumers' ethical judgement (Bakar et. al., 2013), and Islamic marketing practices and promotional strategies (Abdullah & Ahmad, 2010). Mukhtar & Butt (2012) extended the applicability of the theory of reasoned action model by investigating the role of inter-personal and intra-personal religiosity in the intention to choose Halal products. Overall, these studies offer insights on the influence of religiosity and consumers' knowledge on products and services subjected to fatwa ruling and their subsequent cognitive and behavioral responses (Muhamad et. al., 2016; Hashim & Mizerski, 2010).

The focus of **Cluster 5** (Purple) is twofold. First, it explores consumer's awareness and perception of halal branding and its influence on consumer behavioral intention to patronize halal stores (Rezai et. al., 2012; Haque et. al., 2015; Abd Rahman et. al., 2015; Mohd Suki & Abang Salleh, 2016) and takaful (Md Husin et. al., 2016) using the theory of planned behavior (Garg & Joshi, 2018; Md Husin & Ab Rahman, 2016). Second, it purports to investigate factors influencing public intention to adopt Islamic personal financing (Amin et. al., 2011) and Islamic credit cards using the theory of reasoned action (TRA) model (Amin, 2013; Ali et. al., 2017; Lujja et. al., 2016; Al Jaffri Saad & Haniffa, 2014).

**Cluster 6** (Aqua) explored halal logistics (Ab Talib et. al., 2016; Ab Talib & Hamid, 2014), the application of halal food supply chains (Tieman & Ghazali, 2013; Tieman, 2011) and the challenges and risks incorporated into the halal food supply chain (Zailani et. al., 2017; S. Khan et. al., 2019; Prabowo et. al., 2015). In his study, Ab Talib et. al., (2015) analyzed critical success factors (CSFs) for the halal supply chain management to ensure the integrity of halal food at the point of production and consumption. Similarly, Ngah et. al., (2015, 2017) identified the drivers of adopting halal warehousing services among Halal manufacturers using the technology, organization, and environment (TOE) model. Overall, these studies contribute to optimizing the design of the operations of halal food supply chains (Tieman et. al., 2012; Zulfakar et. al., 2018) to better organise production and trade of halal food (Tieman, 2015).

Articles in **Cluster 7** (Orange) mainly focus on the contribution of Islamic finance and Islamic banks to the development and economic growth of selected countries (Gudarzi Farahani & Dastan, 2013; Abduh & Azmi Omar; 2012, Mohd. Yusof & Bahlous, 2013). Sukmana & Kassim, (2010) emphasized on the importance of the Islamic banks in the monetary transmission process in the Malaysian economy by analyzing the relevance of Islamic banks' financing and deposit in channeling the monetary policy effects to the real economy. Using panel cointegration analysis, VDCs and impulse response functions on the set of annual data for the period of 2000-2009, Mohd. Yusof & Bahlous (2013) analyzed the

contribution of Islamic finance to economic growth in countries that were early adopters of Islamic banking: Malaysia, Indonesia and the Gulf Cooperation Council (GCC) countries. Other topics discussed in this cluster include: performance analysis of Islamic mutual funds (Merdad et. al., 2010; Ashraf, 2013; Kabir Hassan et. al., 2010), the role of Shariah supervisory board in governing Islamic financial institutions (Nathan Garas, 2012), and the validity of the proposition that characteristics of Islamic financial institutions fortify the resilience of Islamic financial institutions to financial shocks and global crisis (Kassim & Shabri Abd. Majid, 2010; Abdul Karim et. al., 2010) and induce better disclosure of reported earnings (Farooq & AbdelBari, 2015).

The central theme of **Cluster 8** (Brown) is efficiency and performance analysis of financial institutions (S. Ahmad & Rahim Abdul Rahman, 2012; Sufian & Kamarudin, 2015; Zarrouk et. al., 2016; Sufian et. al., 2012). Articles in this cluster examined various factors which have a significant impact on the performance of financial institutions, such as intangible sources (Nawaz & Haniffa, 2017), intellectual capital (Hamdan, 2018; Al-Musali & Ku Ismail, 2016), macroeconomic, industry-specific and, bank-specific determinants (Ben Selma Mokni & Rachdi, 2014), capital structure and risk (Duasa et. al., 2014; Miah & Sharmin, 2015), and capitalization, liquidity, and market power (Sufian et. al., 2012).

## 5.2 Keyword Occurrence Analysis

A Co-occurrence of authors keywords analysis was used to pinpoint the most frequently used keywords across the four journals (Callon et. al., 1991) throughout the investigated period. We divided our dataset into three clusters to demonstrate the temporal evolution of research topics across the four journals. To have a meaningful result, we set a threshold of a minimum of 5 occurrences of keywords in VOSviewer. A summary of keywords analysis and the top 10 frequently used keywords are presented in Table 9.

**Cluster 1 (2010–2013)** is the least number of publications (267 documents), constituting 25.77% of all publications. However, it has accumulated the most citations (6694 citations) with an average of 25.07 citations per publication. This cluster has experienced steady growth in publications, with the majority of the documents published in 2010 (71 publications). The literature initially discusses the fundamental features of Islam, with a special emphasis on banking, finance, and consumer behavior. As an Islamic financial hub, Malaysia earned an honorable mention in several articles published between 2010 and 2013. As elaborated in Figure 4, the cluster also explored issues of marketing, Islamic finance, and financial risks, among others.

**Cluster 2 (2014–2016)** comprises articles published between 2014 and 2016. A total of 278 documents were published in this period, constituting 26.83% of all publications, and has attracted a total of 2810 citations, averaging 10.11 citations per publication. The year 2016 witnessed an exponential hike in the number of publications (114 publications) for cluster 2. The keywords “Islamic bank\*” and “Islamic market\*” are the most frequently used keywords in cluster 2. The aforementioned keywords made more than 35 appearances each, followed by “Islamic finance” and “the Muslim consumer” with 25 and 17 occurrences, respectively. Topics addressing different aspects of Islam, Islamic business ethics, and

**Table 9**  
**Summary of keyword analysis**

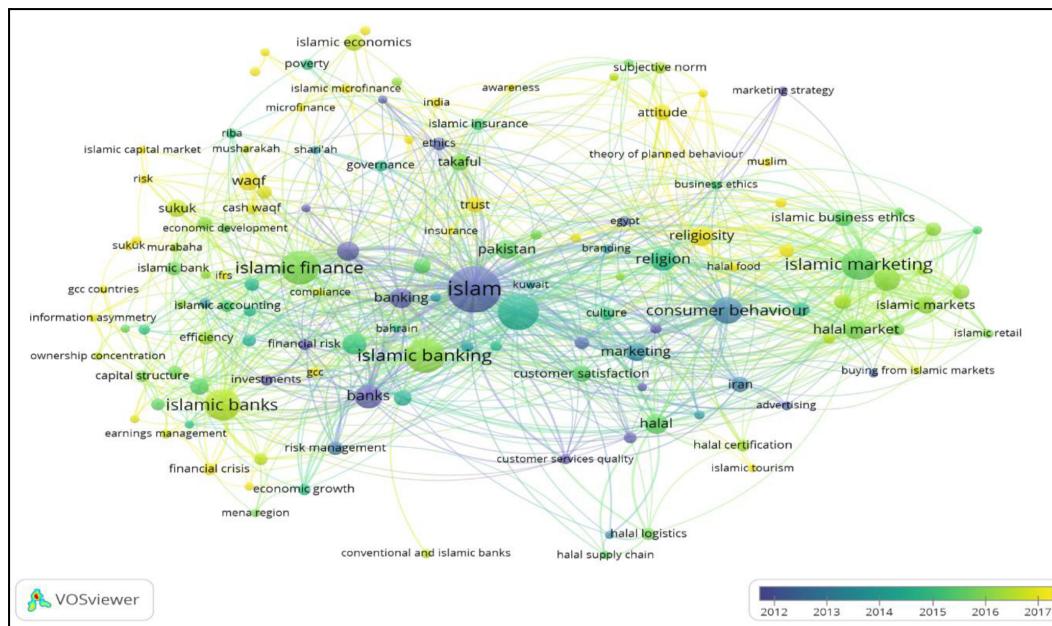
<b>Time Period</b>	<b>Cluster 1</b>		<b>Cluster 2</b>		<b>Cluster 3</b>	
	<b>2010-2013</b>		<b>2014-2016</b>		<b>2017-2019</b>	
<b>Total Publications</b>	267		278		491	
<b>Total Citations</b>	6694		2810		3024	
<b>Average Citations</b>	25.07		10.11		6.16	
<b>Most frequently used authors keywords</b>	Islam	112	Islamic bank*	37	Islamic bank*	87
	Bank*	57	Islamic market*	35	Religio*	46
	Malaysia	38	Islamic finance	25	Malaysia	34
	Consumer behavior	34	Muslim consumer	17	Islamic finance	33
	Finance	21	Malaysia	12	Islamic marketing	29
	Islamic banking	15	Islam	10	Waqf	18
	Marketing	15	Islamic business ethics	10	Islam	17
	Islamic finance	14	Consumption pattern	9	Attitude	16
Most cited articles: concentration and citations received	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Wilson &amp; Liu (2010), Halal consumption; 297</li> <li>• Wilson &amp; Liu (2011), Islamic branding; 290</li> </ul>		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Abd Rahman et. al., (2015), Consumer behavior; 103</li> <li>• Haque et. al., (2015), Consumer behavior and halal products; 91</li> </ul>		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Ngah et. al., (2017), Halal warehousing; 60</li> <li>• Nawaz &amp; Haniffa (2017), Financial performance of Islamic banks; 49</li> </ul>	

Note: \* = other word variations. For example, bank\* denotes banks and banking.

consumer consumption pattern are considered the hallmarks of this cluster, as illustrated in figure 4. In addition, the analysis observed the word “Malaysia” to be the top 10 most used words in this cluster.

**Cluster 3 (2017-2019)** is the largest cluster in terms of the number of publications (491 publications). This cluster comprises articles published between 2017 and 2019, with half of these documents published in 2019. Cluster 3 generated 3024 citations, collectively recording the lowest average citation contribution per article of 6.16 citations. The top 3 most frequently used keywords in this cluster are “Islamic bank\*,” “Religio\*<sup>2</sup>,” and “Malaysia,” with 87, 46, and 34 occurrences, respectively. Other topics discussed in this cluster include Islamic finance, Islamic marketing, waqf, Islam, and attitude. Figure 4 represents the most common keywords in cluster 3.

<sup>2</sup> Denotes the word variations such as “religion” and “religiosity”.



**Figure 4**  
The evolution of authors' keywords

In a nutshell, the keyword occurrence analysis delineates the great diversity of topics and the evolution of research disciplines and methodological approaches that the four journals have experienced from 2010 to 2019. Our results suggest that the four journals have consistently thrived in publishing new and emerging themes related to various aspects of Islamic finance over the years as an attempt to address contemporary issues which reflect the evolution of various sectors of Islamic finance (i.e., banking, marketing, and capital markets, among others).

## 6. Conclusion

The objective of this study is to provide a comprehensive overview of four IFE Scopus-indexed journals concerning the publication productivity and influence from 2010 to 2019 by adopting several bibliometric indicators. The four IFE Scopus-indexed journals are IJIMEFM, JKAIUE, JIABR, and JIM, and they were selected due to their reputation within the IFE academic communities.

While this study provides a complete overview of IFE research in four IFE Scopus-indexed journals between 2010 and 2019, it has several limitations, some of which are inherent in the bibliometric study methodology. The number of citations used for our bibliometric study analysis may yield biased results (Lopes and de Carvalho, 2018). Additionally, our data sample is confined to a single database (Scopus) for homogeneity.

Nonetheless, the findings confirm the increasing quantity and quality of research outputs from IFE Scopus-indexed journals. It also reaffirms Malaysia's institutions and affiliated authors' significant contribution to the overall knowledge of IFE, as reported in the INCEIF Refinitiv Islamic Finance Knowledge Outlook Report (2020).

Furthermore, it gives insightful information that may assist the respective IFE Scopus-indexed journal editorial board and academic community in formulating significant and impactful research agendas and strategies for the IFE discipline.

All four Scopus-indexed journals have developed into internationally renowned IFE publication sources in their own right, gaining significant awareness among general academicians. To maintain this level of excellence, IFE Scopus-indexed journals must continue to be comprehensive in terms of publication themes and methods (qualitative and quantitative). It will also need to continue identifying and engaging scholars worldwide representing a diverse range of traditional and innovative IFE fields that have and can further enrich IFE research. Scholars should be encouraged to do multidisciplinary research that allows them to look at IFE research from new angles in order to achieve this goal.

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