

A bibliometric analysis of a national Journal: The case of the Turkish Journal of Psychology

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ABSTRACT

What contributions do researchers in the social sciences and humanities in Turkey make to science internationally? In an attempt to answer this question, this study conducts a bibliometric analysis of the Turkish Journal of Psychology (Turk Psikoloji Dergisi [TPD]) as indexed in the Social Science Citation Index Multidisciplinary Psychology since 1995, volume 10, issue 35. Descriptive data showed that TPD published a total of 215 articles, about 11 per year, in Turkish (84.65%) and English (15.35%). On an average, an article was authored by 2 (2.01) authors and the article/unique author ratio was about 1:1 (.98). Apart from Turkey, authors were affiliated with the USA, Canada, The Netherlands, Australia, Cyprus, England, and Germany. Most of the publications were products of authors affiliated with universities in Ankara, Turkey. TPD was ranked 115 out of 126 journals in the category of Multidisciplinary Psychology in the Journal Citation Reports-Social Sciences Edition, with an impact factor of 0.214 in 2012 and a 5-year impact factor of 0.154. Aside from the most common words such as the, in, and so on, "Turkish" ($n = 30$), followed by "study" and "memory," were the most frequently used words in titles; "study," ($n = 325$) "memory," ($n = 206$) and "between" ($n = 201$) were the most frequently used words in abstracts. On an average, articles had about five keywords, including about four keywords unique to the article. These findings suggest that TPD is an extremely local, but highly impactful journal publishing articles on very diverse topics from self to culture, and from memory to depression to scale development.

Keywords: Bibliometric analysis, Social Science Citation Index, Social Science Publications in Turkey, Turkish Journal of Psychology

INTRODUCTION

Citation indices offering bibliometric indicators about scientific publications are very important for storing, accessing, and disseminating information in previous and current scientific research. Publications accessible by databases have become very crucial not only for scientific productivity, quality of publication, and competition (inter) nationally, but also for job hunting, promotions, and

respectability of researchers.^[1-5] From this perspective, leading international journals, that is, highly respectable journals with high impact factors in a given field, may have more advantages than the local or national journals. Given that, how do national journals survive? What are the main bibliometric characteristics of national journals?

To answer these questions, in this study, I focus on the journal Turkish Journal of Psychology (Turk Psikoloji Dergisi [TPD]), published twice a year by the Turkish Psychological Association. I analyze it as it appears in the Social Science Citation Index (SSCI). The rationale behind the focus of this study was because TPD is one of the main ways for Turkish psychologists to contribute to the field of psychology as represented in SSCI. TPD is the only psychology journal indexed in SSCI with a Turkish address. This journal has published a total of 215 articles indexed in SSCI since 1995, of a total of 2152 articles indexed in psychology indices in SSCI with an address in Turkey. This

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result indicates that TPD carries about 10% of Turkish contributions to psychology as reflected in SSCI. TPD is also a very important journal for the Turkish science community, since it is one of the fourteen Turkish journals indexed in SSCI.^[6] In this study, I will show that TPD is an extremely local, but locally very important journal, which publishes articles on very diverse topics.

There are several databases, which are specific to psychology journals. For example, PsycINFO and PsycARTICLES are of high importance since they are run by the American Psychological Association (APA). Thomson Reuter's Web of Science (WoS) lists psychology in SSCI. For bibliometrics, SSCI is more important than the others because, according to Russ-Eft,^[7] SSCI indexes timely published journals which have referee systems and higher impact factors than those not in SSCI. This might be misleading because publications, which are not in SSCI, may also provide significant contributions to the field. For example, one study^[8] investigated non-SSCI but highly cited publications in political science, economics, and psychology, and showed that 62% of those publications in psychology were books, almost all published in the USA and Europe. Nevertheless, analyzing bibliometric indicators from SSCI provides us a better picture of the quality of a journal.

Currently, SSCI has eleven subcategories of psychology: Psychology, Multidisciplinary Psychology, Clinical Psychology, Experimental Psychology, Developmental Psychology, Applied Psychology, Educational Psychology, Biological Psychology, Mathematical Psychology, and Psychoanalysis Psychology. A journal can be listed within one or more subcategories. Lluch^[9] showed that most of the journals were in Multidisciplinary Psychology ($n = 102$) and in Clinical Psychology ($n = 83$) in Thomson Reuters' Journal Citation Reports. TPD is also listed in Multidisciplinary Psychology.

Previous research indicates that there has been an increase in the number of psychology publications appearing in SSCI. One study^[10] showed that this increase has been observed in the psychology publications indexed in SSCI with addresses in Turkey, Iran, Greece, England, Germany, The Netherlands, and the USA in the last three decades. That study also showed that the total number of publications from Turkey were higher than those from Greece and Iran, but lower than those from England, Germany, The Netherlands, and the USA. The findings indicated that the ratio of psychology publications to all social science and

humanities publications in SSCI was quite considerable in seven countries: on an average, Turkey (11.31%), Iran (10.93%), Greece (13.22%), England (15.86%), The Netherlands (24.90%), Germany (22.54%), and the USA (21.14%).

Another study also provided evidence for this increase. Guilera, Barrios, and Gomez-Benito^[11] analyzed psychology publications in Science Citation Index-Expanded and SSCI databases until 2010, conducting a meta-analysis of previous findings on a specific topic. They found that there was an increase not only in the number of publications, but also authors per publication in psychology since the 1970s. They also found that there was an increase in international collaborations among authors since the 1990s. Of those publications, 57.52% were conducted in the USA; 7.41% in Canada; 7.41% in England; 6.09% in The Netherlands; and 5.29% in Germany.

This increase in the number of publications can also be observed in the increasing number of international collaborations. Kliegl and Bates^[12] studied 12 highly impactful journals published by the APA and the American Psychological Society, including *Developmental Psychology*, *Journal of Experimental Psychology: General*, *Journal of Experimental Psychology: Human Perception and Performance*, *Journal of Experimental Psychology: Learning, Memory, and Cognition*, *Journal of Personality and Social Psychology*, *Psychology and Aging*, *Psychological Bulletin*, *Psychological Review*, and *Psychological Science*. They found an increase in the number of publications with co-authors from various countries. They also showed that these collaboration patterns started in the 1970s and proceeded at an accelerated rate from the beginning of the 1990s.

There already exists considerable research on SSCI publications with their addresses listed in Turkey. Gulgoz *et al.*^[13] conducted a study in which they analyzed a total of 1916 SSCI publications from Turkey between 1970 and 1999, and showed that there was an increase in the number of publications in this period; however, this increase seemed to be slower than what was observed worldwide. They also showed that there was a decrease over the years in the number of citations that those articles received. One of the reasons for this, they argued, was that there were a limited number of collaborations among Turkish scholars and those abroad. Tonta and İlhan^[14] conducted research focusing on SSCI publications between 1985 and 1996. They found that there were a total of 887 publications listing an address in

Turkey. In 1996, the ratio of the publications ($n = 166$) from Turkey to publications worldwide in SSCI was 0.14%. What is interesting is that the majority of these publications were authored by researchers affiliated with only a few universities. In another study, Gossart and Ozman^[15] analyzed publications from Turkey indexed in SSCI and by the Turkish Academic Network and Information Center of the Scientific and Technological Research Council of Turkey. They found that some researchers in Turkey published only internationally and some only nationally. They also found that the scientific network was very limited among both universities and researchers.

There also exists an earlier study^[16] focused only on TPD which showed that this journal published most of its articles in Turkish, and that most were written by researchers affiliated with a few universities, such as Hacettepe University, Ankara University, and the Middle East Technical University. The citation patterns of the articles indicated that 69% of the cited references were given to studies published in TPD. In addition, although those articles received a total of 135 citations, the majority of them were not cited at all. Of the 135 citations, 35% were author self-citations and 41% were journal self-citations. This resulted in a low impact factor: In 2004, TPD was ranked 415 of 425 journals in JCR.

METHODS

In order to gather data on TPD, WoS was accessed at <http://apps.webofknowledge.com/> on October 10, 2013 through Purdue University Libraries. "TPD" was entered as a keyword in publication name. Timespan was adjusted to all years. After clicking the search button, results showed that there were 215 articles and 7 editorial materials. The results were refined by selecting articles in the document type. In the refined results, there were several categories. Of them, the WoS categories showed that TPD was categorized as a Psychology Multidisciplinary Journal. Under Research areas, only psychology was listed. After clicking authors then more options/ values, the first 100 authors and their number of publications were accessed. Since this result was limited to the first 100 authors only, the search was refined later by analyzing the information from the article entries. Source titles were TPD. There was no record under book series titles, conference titles, or funding agencies. By clicking on the sections on the left, and then more options/values, I also noted the publication years, the number of publications each year, the authors' affiliations (organizations-enhanced), the languages of publications, and the authors' countries/

territories. I then went back to the articles, selected all of them, then saved a record by clicking print records then selecting full record and cited references. The results page was then saved in pdf, html, and txt formats for further analysis. By doing this, I was able to access the following information for each article: Full title of the publication, author(s), source, times cited, cited references, abstract, accession number, document type, language, author keywords, keywords plus, reprint address, addresses, e-mail addresses, publisher, WoS categories, research areas, IDS Number: 783HL, ISSN: 1300-4433, 29-character long source abbreviation, iso source abbreviation, and source item page count. In my analysis, I focused on publication years and language, page count, author(s), and their countries and organizations, cited references and received citations, titles of the papers, their abstracts, and keywords.

In order to further analyze titles, abstracts, and keywords, I used a corpus linguistics software, AntConc.^[17] With this software, I counted the total number of words (tokens), word types, and phrasal patterns.

RESULTS

Editors

Even though, they were not listed in SSCI, TPD had an editor,^[18] three associate editors (O. C. Cirakoglu, D. Kokdemir, T. Ozkan), and an advisory board consisting of 70 people, all of which were Turkish and currently affiliated with a Turkish University. This finding provides supporting evidence to my claim that TPD is a very local journal.

Publication Years

Turk Psikoloji Dergisi normally published two issues per volume per year. On an average, TPD published about 11 (11.31) articles per year. Figure 1 gives the number of publications per year between 1995 and 2013.

Page Count

On an average, each article was 17 (16.71) pages long. The longest article was 39 pages,^[19] whereas the shortest article was 3 pages.^[20]

Language

Of the 215 articles, 182 (84.65%) were in Turkish and 33 were in English.

Author(s)

Including repeated authors, there were a total of 434 authors of the various articles. This finding indicated that on average, each article had 2 (2.01) authors. The highest number of co-authors was 8 and the lowest was 1. Results by AntConc showed that there were 211 different authors, suggesting that the article/author ratio was about 1 (.98). Only 14 authors were not of Turkish origin. N. Er authored the most articles, 8, as a first author, and was followed by N. Sumer, who authored 6 articles. 141 scholars published only once. Figure 2 gives the ranking of authors who published most as a co-author.

Countries

In addition to Turkey (209), authors were affiliated with The USA (8), Canada (3), The Netherlands (2), Australia (1), Cyprus (1), England (1), and Germany (1). A closer

examination of this finding showed that almost all of the articles had at least one Turkish author with the exception of Backs and Dobson,^[21] which was written by authors of non-Turkish origin. Apart from these two individuals, there were only seven co-authors of non-Turkish origin. This finding suggests that TPD remains entirely a national journal.

Organizations

The authors of the articles in TPD were affiliated with a variety of universities. Considering that there are currently 58 universities in Turkey which have psychology departments, with a total of 360 faculty members with a doctoral degree, this variation does not represent the majority of the universities. However, most of these departments were recently established. For example, there were only 10 psychology departments in 1996, whereas there were 22 in 2005 and 58 in 2013. Nevertheless, most of the

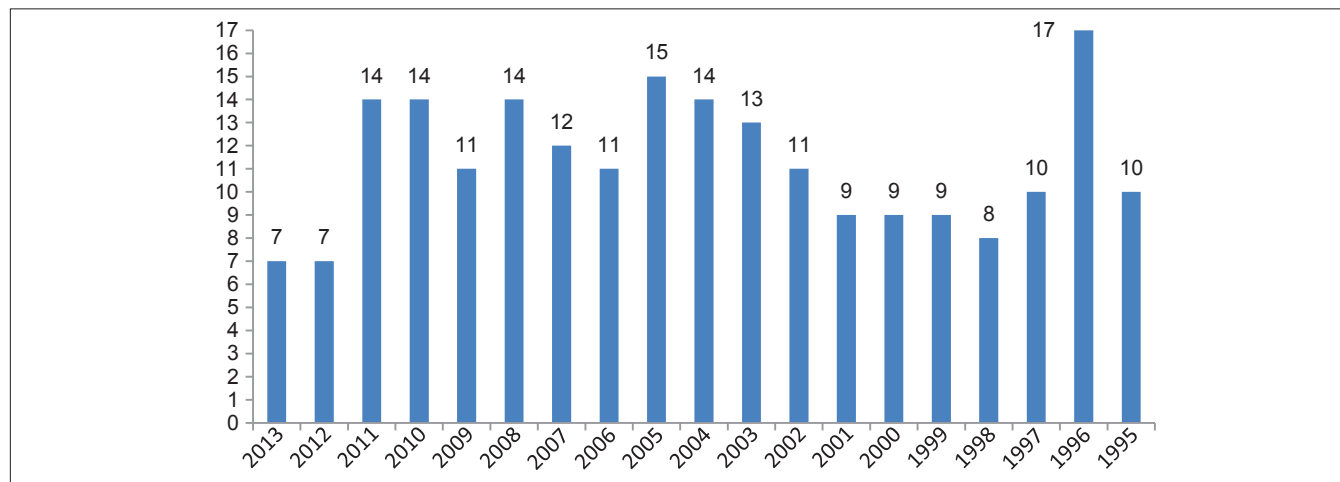


Figure 1: The number of publications between 1995 and 2013

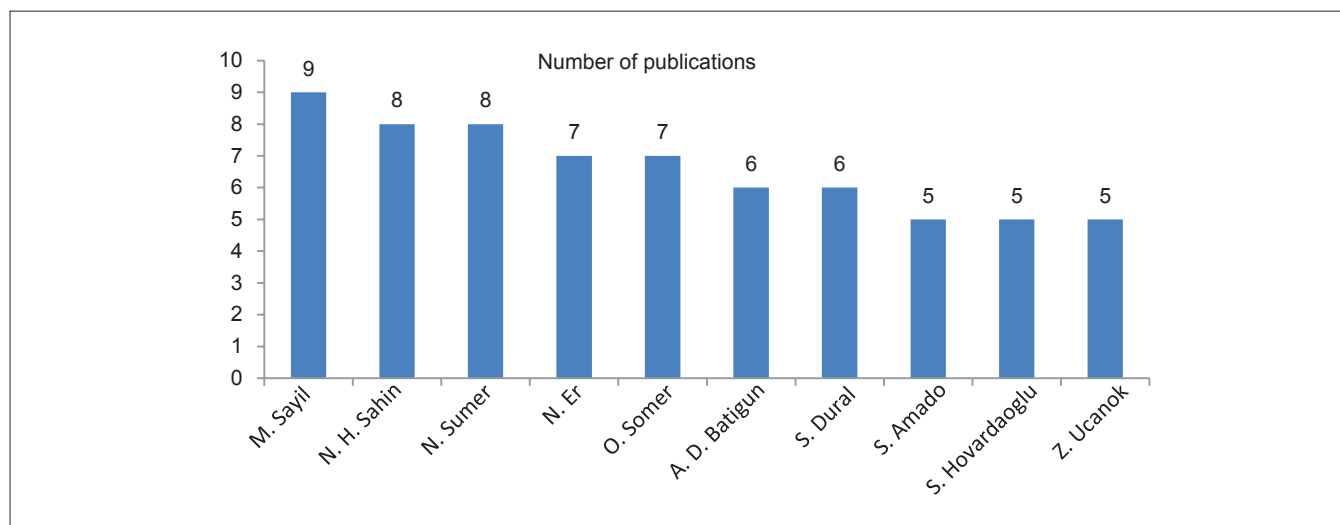


Figure 2: The ranking of authors who published most as a co-author

publications were products of authors who were affiliated with universities in Ankara, such as Hacettepe, Ankara, and Orta Dogu Teknik (METU). Thus, this finding also shows that TPD remains a local journal, with contributions from local Turkish researchers. Figure 3 provides the affiliated universities, their languages of instruction, main campus locations, and the number of published authors.

Full Title of the Scholarly Publications

Social Science Citation Index provided 215 titles of TPD articles. Results showed that the total numbers of word

types and word tokens were 912 and 2710, respectively, suggesting that on average a title had 4.24 different words and a total of 12.60 words. Figure 4 gives the 10 most common words and their occurrences in the titles.

Figure 5 provides another 10 most common words and their occurrences in the titles, omitting the six most frequent words according to English language corpora. The fact that “Turkish” was the most frequent word in the titles shows that being a local journal, articles published in TPD focused more on issues in psychology in Turkey than in any other region.

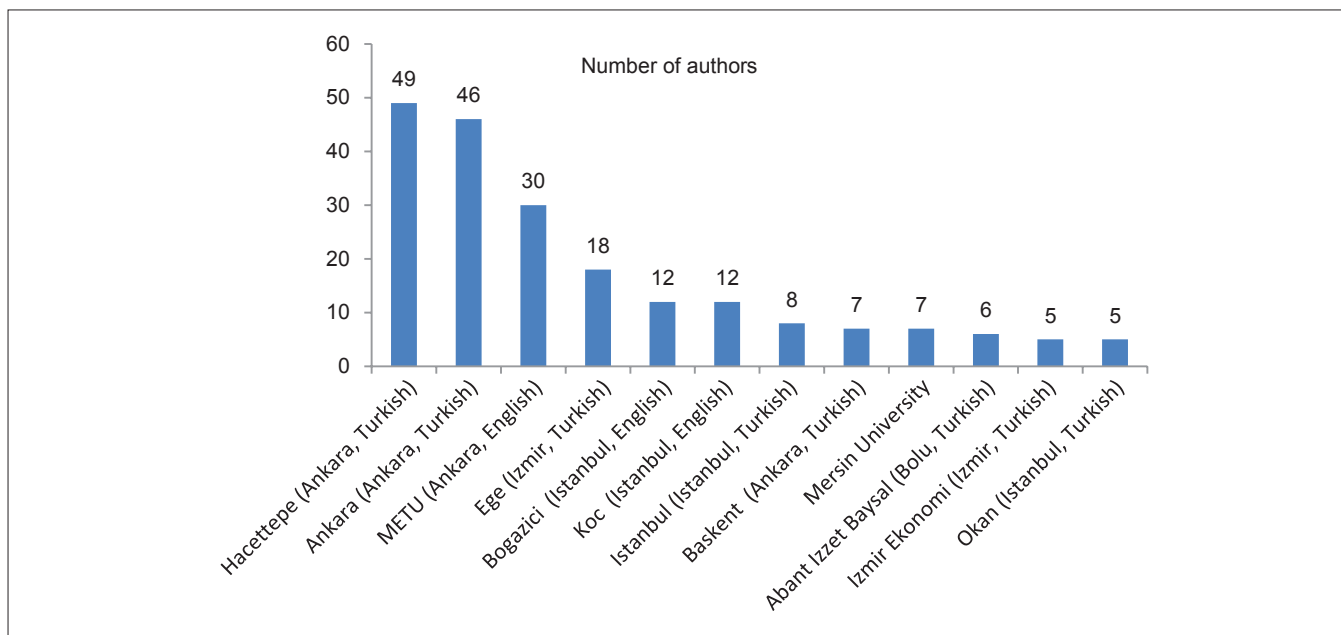


Figure 3: The Top Ten contributing universities

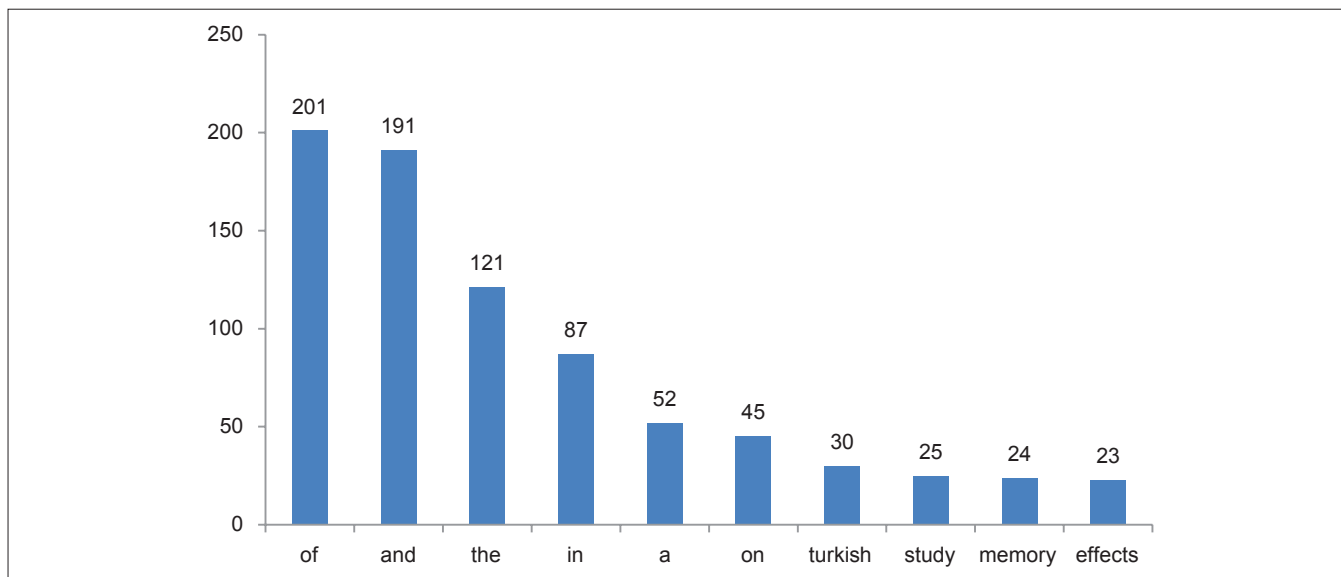


Figure 4: The 10 most common words and their occurrences in the titles of Turk Psikoloji Dergisi articles

Abstract

There were a total of 213 abstracts from TPD accessible in SSCI. The total number of word types and tokens in the abstracts were 3802 and 38,197, respectively. An abstract had about 178 (178.40) words on average. The longest abstract was of Sahin,^[22] which had 336 words. The shortest abstract was of Ardah and Erten^[23] which had 38 words. Figure 6 gives the 10 most common words and their frequencies found in the abstracts. Omitting the most frequent words in any corpora of English, Figure 7 shows the 10 most common words in the TPD abstracts. The most frequent word in the abstracts was “study.”

Considering voice in the abstracts, almost all of the sentences consisted of passive voice, such as “It was found...” or generic voice “The study showed...” Authors referred to themselves very rarely; the frequency of use of first-person singular “I” was 0. The use of the third person singular “we” was 20, “us” was 1, and generic “authors” were 3, including 1 of which was a single authored publication.

As expected from literature in psychology, authors referred to people who took part of their studies as “participants” (127 times) and “subjects” (35 times), both of which are accepted by APA^[24]. In terms of the year, the

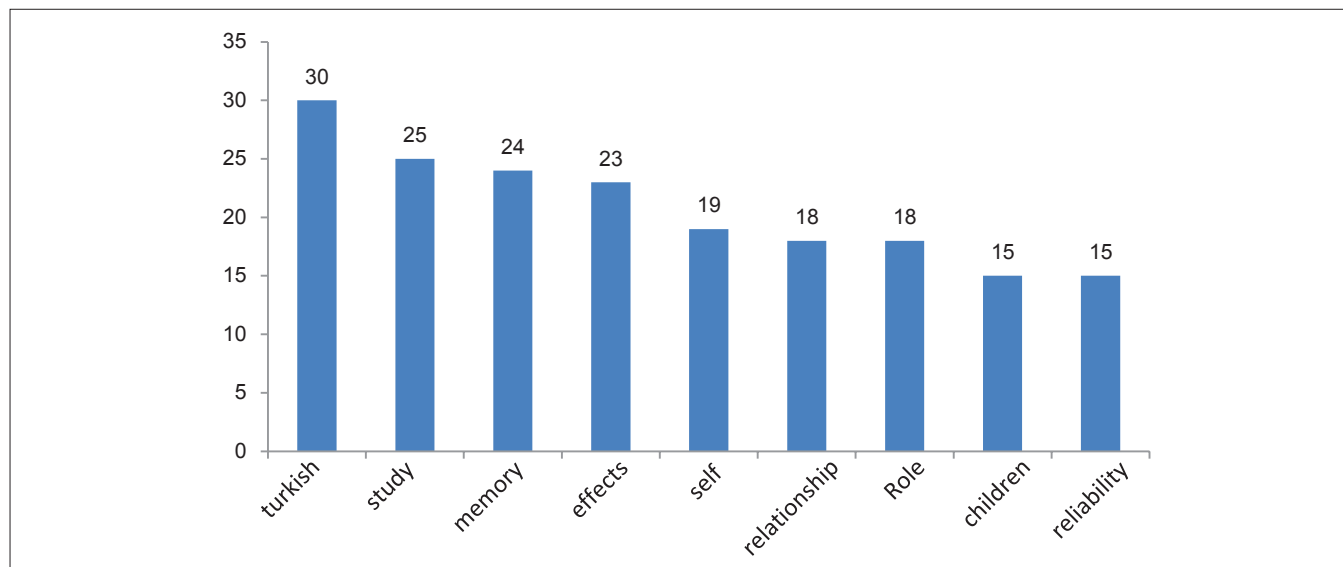


Figure 5: The most common words and their occurrences in the titles omitting the first six common words according to English corpora

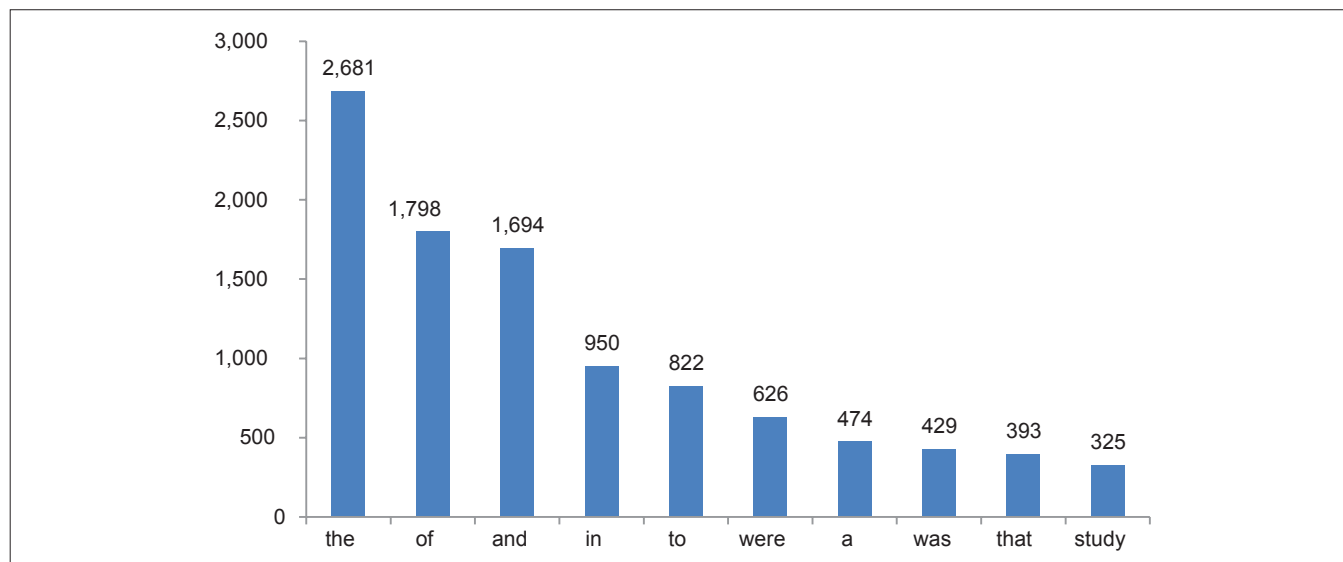


Figure 6: The 10 most common words and their frequencies found in the abstracts of Turk Psikoloji Dergisi articles

earliest use of participants in an abstract was in Demir and Demir^[25] and the latest use of subjects was in Gulbetekin *et al.*^[26]

In order to analyze the number of sentences in the TPD abstracts, I counted the number of periods “.” in AntConc, and then removed them outside the sentence endings. However, there were several sentences without a period which I did not count. In total there were 1686 sentences, indicating that an abstract consisted of about 8 (7.91) sentences on average. Considering only the main clause of the sentences, which numbered 1686, about 19.86% of the sentences ($n = 335$) contained non-past tense; the rest contained past tense markers. Most of the non-past

tense usage appeared in the first sentence of the abstract, e.g. “The aim of the study is...” or the last sentence of the abstract, e.g. “implications are discussed...” Yet, there were also many random tense shifts in the articles.

Author Keywords

There were 779 different author keywords in TPD. Articles had about 5 (4.69) keywords on average. Articles which had 5 keywords tended to have 3-4 (3.62) keywords that were different from any other article, suggesting that the articles concerned very diverse topics. Figure 8 represents the keywords that appeared more than 5 times among all keywords.

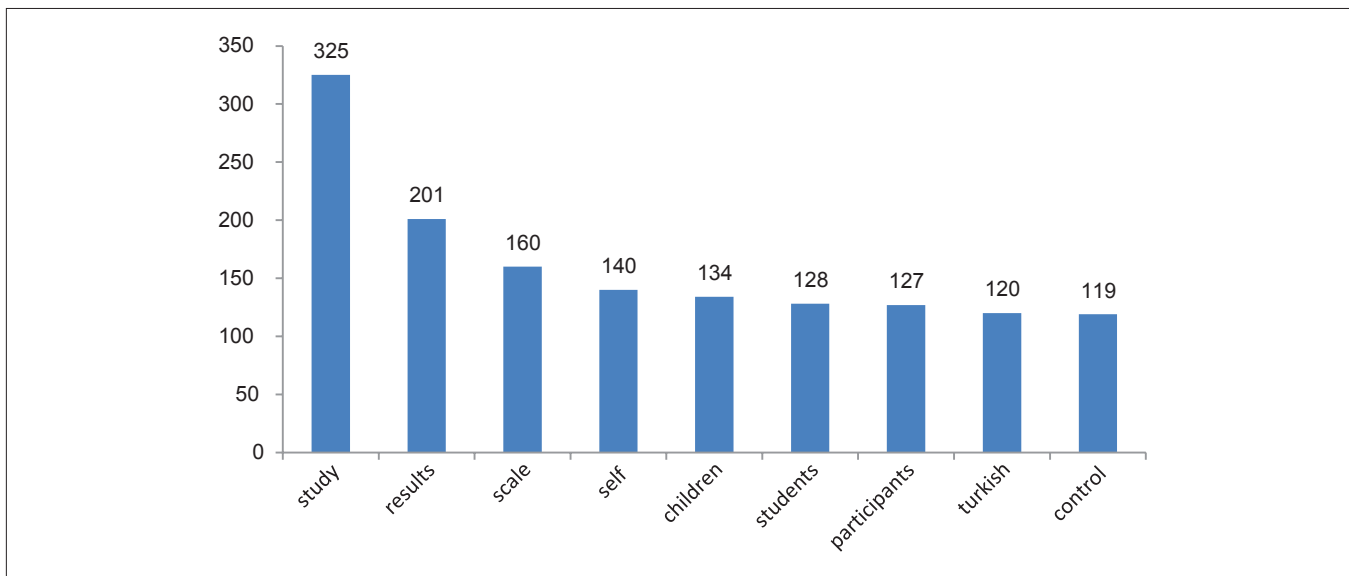


Figure 7: The most common words, omitting the common English words, and their frequencies found in the abstracts of Turk Psikoloji Dergisi articles

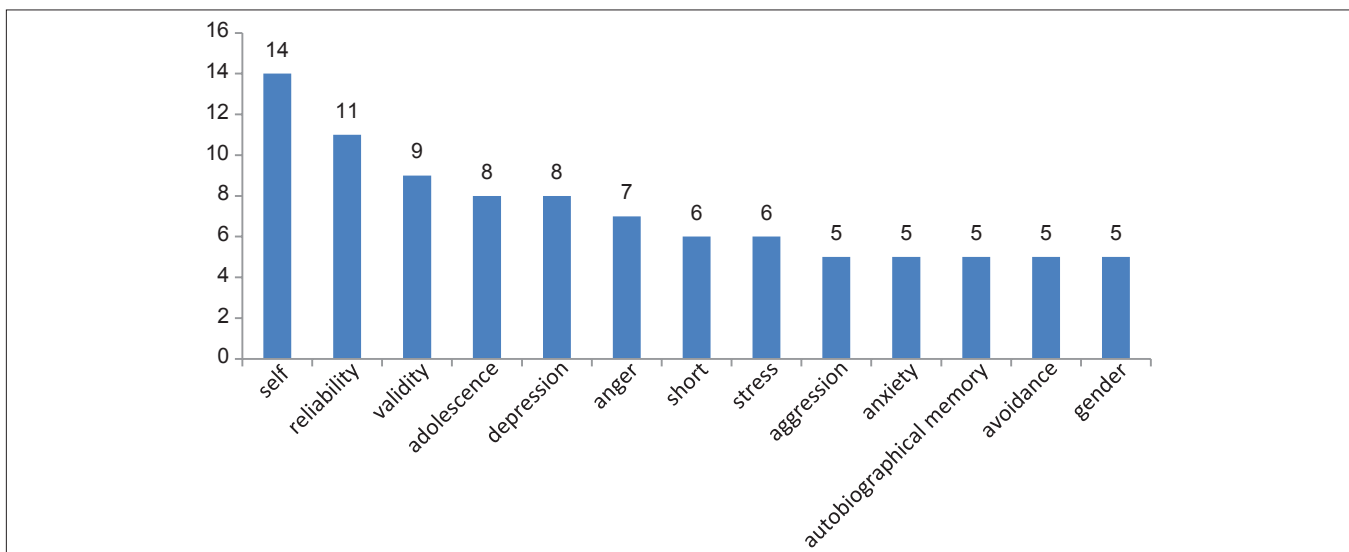


Figure 8: The ranking of most frequently used keywords in Turk Psikoloji Dergisi articles

KeyWords Plus

There were 886 different words in KeyWords Plus in the TPD bibliometric data in SSCI. On average, each article had about 8 (7.52) keywords. Articles which had 8 keywords tended to have 4 (4.12) that were different from any other article. Figure 9 shows the keywords which appeared more than 10 times among all keywords used in TPD during this period.

Citations

Because articles in TPD received few citations, and the few they did receive were self-citations, its impact factor was relatively low. According to JCR, TPD was ranked 115 out of 126 journals in the category of Psychology, multidisciplinary with an impact factor of 0.214 in 2012. Comparatively, JCR listed Psychological Bulletin as having the highest impact factor (15.575) and Revista Latinoamericana de Psicopatologia Fundamental with the lowest (0.013). TPD's impact factor ranged between 0.076 and 0.278^[16] from 1995 to 2005, and between 0.056 and 0.263 from 2005 to 2013 [Table 1]. Its 5-year impact factor was 0.154. In the following subsections, I analyze its citation patterns.

Times Cited

Articles in TPD were cited 702 times, indicating that on average, an article was cited 3.26 times. Out of the 215 articles, 95 did not receive any citations. Only 42 articles received citations above the average amount. The most cited article was Sumer and Gungor^[19] (59), followed

by Gencoz^[27] (48); Eker and Arkar^[28] (36); Kostakoglu *et al.*^[29] (33); and Sahin and Durak^[30] (32).

A previous study^[16] found that of the 118 publications TPD published between 1995 and 2005, almost half of them did not receive any citations. Of the 135 which did, 35% were author self-citations and 41% were journal self-citations. Between 2005 and 2012, only 37 (38%) of the 98 published articles were cited by another article indexed in SSCI or Arts and Humanities Citation Index, and the total number of citations was 87. 34 (39%) out of which 87 were author self-citations and 26 were journal self-citations.

Table 1: The impact factors of TPD in last 5 years

Year	Impact factor
2012	0.214
2011	0.160
2010	0.056
2009	0.263
2008	0.087

TPD=Turk Psikoloji Dergisi

Table 2: The articles cited more than 3 times published between 2005 and 2012

Article	Author self-citation	Journal self-citation	Total citations in SSCI
Yağmurlu <i>et al.</i> ^[32]	4	2	8
Sumer ^[31]	4	6	16
Batigun and Utku ^[33]	1	2	6
Pekel-Uludagli and Ucanok ^[34]	0	2	6
Coşkun ^[35]	5	2	6

SSCI: Social Science Citation Index

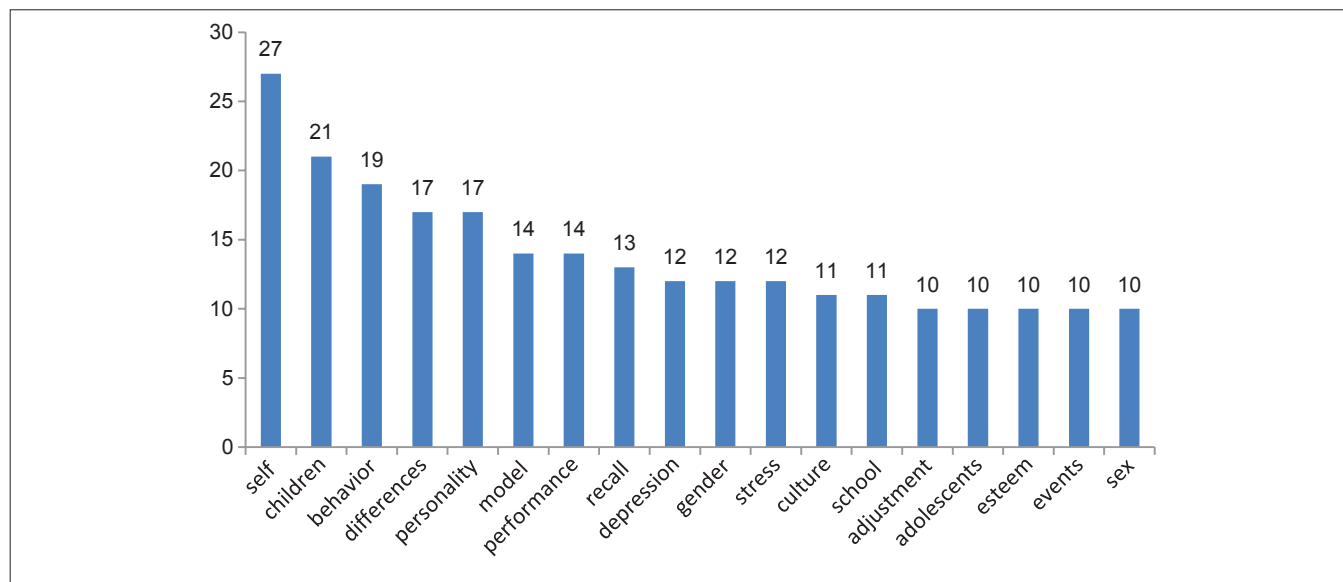


Figure 9: The ranking of mostly used keyword plus keywords in Turk Psikoloji Dergisi articles

There were only five articles, which received more than three citations [Table 2]. Only one article^[31] was cited 16 times, including four author self-citations and six journal self-citations. Another article^[32] was cited eight times (four author self-citations and two journal self-citations). Batigun and Utku,^[33] Pekel-Uludagli and Ucanok^[34] and Coşkun^[35] received six citations each. The total number of the citations of these five articles was 42, 48.27% of all citations within the last 5 years.

A closer examination reveals the author self-citation patterns [Table 3]. Author self-citations occurred in journals mostly of Turkish origin: 14 articles in TPD, 3 articles in the Turkish Journal of Psychiatry, 1 article in Kuram ve Uygulamada Eğitim Bilimleri and 1 article in Eğitim ve Bilim. Of these journals, the Journal of Mathematical Psychology had the highest impact factor (1.622).

An analysis of citations excluding author self-citations revealed that, again, these citations were mostly received from journals of Turkish origin: TPD (16 times), the Turkish Journal of Psychiatry (1 time), Kuram ve Uygulamada Eğitim Bilimleri (8 times), Eğitim ve Bilim (1 time), Eğitim Araştırmaları (2 times), Noropsikiyatri Arsivi (1 time), Anadolu Psikiyatri Dergisi (1 time), Hacettepe Üniversitesi Eğitim Fakültesi Dergisi (1 time), and İktisat İşletme ve Finans (1 time) [Table 4]. Of these journals, developmental review had the highest impact factor (3.452). The fact that these author self-citations occurred mostly in journals

from Turkey provides yet another indication of TPD's locality.

Cited References

Articles in TPD cited a total of 9843 sources, with each article citing 46 (45.78) sources on average. The three articles citing the most sources were Sahin *et al.*^[36] (110); Nacak *et al.*^[37] (101) sources; and Batigun^[38] (101). The three articles citing the least sources were Kaplama and Varoglu^[39] (4); Uluc^[40] (3); and Sumer^[20] (3). The most cited authors (as first authors) and articles are given in Figure 10 and Table 5. Interestingly, the majority of these cited authors and articles were of Turkish origin, indicating that TPD stands as a local journal in cited references.

Table 4: The journals citing the TPD articles published between 2005 and 2013

Name of the journal	Number of citations	Impact factor in 2012
Anadolu Psikiyatri Dergisi-Anatolian Journal of Psychiatry	1	0.184
Australian Journal of Guidance and Counselling	1	1.152
Clinical Linguistics and Phonetics	1	0.783
Contemporary Nurse	1	0.439
Cyberpsychology Behavior and Social Networking	1	1.842
Developmental Review	1	3.452
Eğitim Araştırmaları-Eurasian Journal of Educational Research	2	0.455
Eğitim ve Bilim-Education and Science	1	0.429
European Journal of Pediatrics	1	1.907
Group Processes and Intergroup Relations	1	1.528
Hacettepe Üniversitesi Eğitim Fakültesi Dergisi-Hacettepe University Journal of Education	1	0.350
İktisat İşletme ve Finans	1	0.278
International Journal of Intercultural Relations	1	0.940
Journal of Adolescence	1	1.882
Journal of Hydrologic Engineering	2	1.379
Kuram ve Uygulamada Eğitim Bilimleri	8	0.316
Noropsikiyatri Arsivi-Archives of Neuropsychiatry	1	0.221
Procedia Social and Behavioral Sciences	4	-
Proceedings of the Institution of Civil Engineers-Water Management	1	0.536
Safety Science	1	1.359
Sprache-Stimme-Gehör	1	0.104
Thinking Skills and Creativity	1	1.033
Türk Psikiyatri Dergisi-Turkish Journal of Psychiatry	1	0.615
TPD	16	0.214

Table 3: The journals in which TPD authors cited themselves between 2005 and 2012

Journal	No. of author self-citations	Impact factor in 2012
Applied Psychology-An International Review-Psychologie Appliquee-Revue Internationale	1	1.533
Eğitim ve Bilim-Education and Science	1	0.429
Infant and Child Development	2	0.867
International Journal of Behavioral Development	1	1.591
Journal of Child and Family Studies	3	1.422
Journal of Creative Behavior	2	0.594
Journal of Mathematical Psychology	1	1.622
Journal of Psychology	1	0.804
Journal of Social and Personal Relationships	1	1.131
Kuram ve Uygulamada Eğitim Bilimleri	1	0.316
Procedia Social and Behavioral Sciences	1	-
Revista Latinoamericana de Psicología	1	0.382
Türk Psikiyatri Dergisi	3	0.615
Türk Psikoloji Dergisi	14	0.214

TPD=Türk Psikoloji Dergisi

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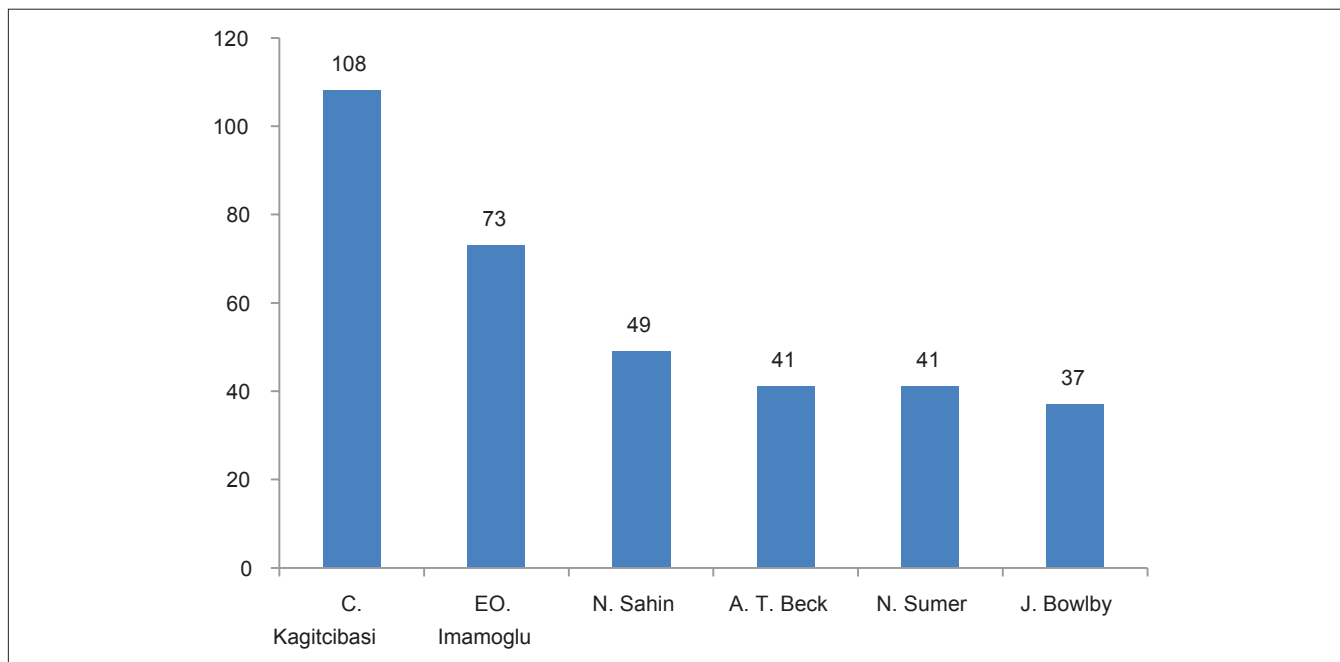


Figure 10: The ranking of the most cited authors in Turk Psikoloji Dergisi articles

Table 5: The ranking of the most cited publications in TPD articles

Name	No. of citations
Hisli ^[41] in TPD	12
Baron and Kenny ^[42] in Journal of Personality and Social Psychology	11
Sumer and Gungor ^[19] in TPD	8
Sahin and Durak ^[43] TPD	8
Markus and Kitayama ^[44] in Psychological Review	8
Imamoglu ^[18] in Journal of Psychology	8
Goregenli ^[45] in Journal of Cross-Cultural Psychology	8

TPD=Turk Psikoloji Dergisi

CONCLUSION

In this study, I have investigated the main bibliometric characteristics of a local/national journal, TPD, one of the leading journals in Turkey indexed in SSCI's Multidisciplinary Psychology section. The journal is highly respectable in Turkey because it is one of the fourteen journals, and the only psychology journal from Turkey, indexed in SSCI. The results showed that in spite of its reputation, TPD remains extremely local without a clear focus indicating that it does not carry characteristics of high impact journals in the field.^[46]

This locality was observed in almost all domains of bibliometric data from SSCI. TPD's scientific and advisory board consisted of only local researchers, similar to what was found in that of other Turkish journals indexed in SSCI.^[47] It has published articles mostly (84.65%) in Turkish despite the fact that English

is becoming the international language of science.^[48] The articles have been authored by a group of, almost all, Turkish researchers with few collaborations (2 authors per article), contrary to the general increase in international collaborations in scientific publications.^[12] These findings echo what was observed by Gulgoz *et al.*^[13] and Gossart and Ozman^[15] regarding the limited nature of scientific networks in Turkey. The findings also indicate very little contribution of Turkish publications to psychology internationally.

Furthermore, TPD has a very low 5-year impact factor due to its citation patterns (0.154). In the last 7 years, only 38% of all articles were cited by another article, and among these 39% were author self-citations and 30% were journal self-citations. These impact factor and citation patterns seem to have stagnated over the years and are similar to the observations on TPD made earlier by Al and Costur.^[16] It appears that most of the highly cited references were authored by local researchers, even though there was not a single Turkish researcher listed among highly eminent psychologists by Simonton^[49] and Haggblom *et al.*^[50] TPD contained articles focusing on very diverse topics from self to culture, memory to depression to scale development. This was indicated by highly diverse keywords: (3.62) Keywords unique to an article on average. The titles also reflected that TPD is a local journal because, other than common words such as the, in, and of, the most frequently used the word in the titles was "Turkish." The findings also indicate little impact of Turkish publications to psychology internationally.

Going back to the main questions of this study, the findings from the current study suggest that national journals can survive by remaining extremely national without attempting to become international as apparent in many domains of bibliometric data from WoS. TPD has been included in SSCI since 1995, but the data have shown that its bibliometric characteristics have not changed much. Its advisory board consists of only Turkish scholars if the journals aim at becoming an international journal one might expect to see board members from various countries. TPD does not change its publication frequency. It publishes only two issues per year even though there is an increase in the number of publications (inter) nationally in WoS. One could expect to see articles mainly written in English to reach an international audience, but TPD does not do that. Most of its articles are in Turkish. Similarly, almost of all of the authors reside in Turkey mainly from several Turkish universities but not all. The articles in TPD cite Turkish studies more than internationally highly cited studies and they receive few citations mainly self-citations or citations from other national journals. It publishes articles from all domains of psychological studies focusing on Turkish population. Yet, an international journal would do otherwise. Overall, the data on TPD suggest that national journals stay local from their editors to the topics they covered and from their publication frequency to citation patterns even if they are covered in WoS. Future research will investigate other national journals to further test these predictions.

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