



## Mapping the field: A bibliometric analysis of oral tradition research in Indonesia

(Pemetaan lapangan: Analisis bibliometrik penelitian tradisi lisan di Indonesia)

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**Abstract:** The study of oral traditions in Indonesia has a long history, dating back to the Dutch colonial period. The field developed following the country's independence. Subsequently, it received support from the Balai Pustaka and the Regional Government Language Center in the post-New Order period. Nevertheless, the current state of knowledge remains undocumented. This study employs bibliometric methods to map the knowledge landscape of oral tradition research in Indonesia over a 44-years (1980-2024), focusing on performance analysis and science mapping. This research analyzed 139 documents from 102 sources written by 312 authors from 10 countries from the Scopus database. The results indicate an increase in publication trends over the past nine years. The Malay World is the most prolific journal in terms of oral tradition research output in Indonesia. Research themes related to disasters and the environment have emerged as a significant area of interest. Fourth G is the most productive author in this field. The science mapping analysis indicates that oral tradition research in Eastern Indonesia is emerging as a new field of study. Topics on wisdom and the environment are unique to oral tradition research in Indonesia, and emerging themes are related to using oral tradition in education. Future research areas include ecological wisdom, regional architecture, and traditional ecological knowledge. These findings provide an overview of the development and direction of oral tradition research in Indonesia and insight into the current position of oral tradition research in the country. They are also helpful for researchers and decision-makers seeking a deeper understanding of the current state of oral tradition research in Indonesia.

**Keywords**      **Bibliometric analysis, Oral tradition research, Indonesia, Science mapping**

**Abstrak:** Di Indonesia, penelitian tradisi lisan telah dilakukan sejak masa Hindia-Belanda. Penelitian tradisi lisan berkembang pasca kemerdekaan di bawah Balai Pustaka dan mendapat dukungan Pusat Bahasa Pemerintah Daerah pasca Orde Baru. Akan tetapi, hingga saat ini bagaimana map of knowledge penelitian tradisi lisan di Indonesia belum diketahui. Dengan memanfaatkan metode bibliometric, penelitian ini bertujuan memetakan map of knowledge penelitian tradisi lisan di Indonesia selama kurun waktu 44 tahun (1980-2024) dengan berfokus pada performance analysis dan science mapping. Penelitian ini menganalisis 139 dokumen dari 102 sumber yang ditulis oleh 312 penulis dari 10 negara. Sumber data berasal dari basis data Scopus. Hasil penelitian terhadap performing analysis menunjukkan peningkatan tren publikasi sembilan tahun terakhir, sudah terbangunnya jejaring antarpeleliti Indonesia dan manca negara, The Malay World merupakan jurnal yang paling banyak mempublikasi penelitian tradisi lisan di Indonesia, tema penelitian mengenai bencana dan lingkungan merupakan yang paling banyak dibicarakan peneliti, dan Forth G adalah penulis paling produktif. Analisis science mapping menunjukkan penelitian tradisi lisan di wilayah Indonesia Timur mulai banyak dilakukan, topik mengenai kearifan dan lingkungan menjadi kekhasan penelitian tradisi lisan di Indonesia, emerging themes penelitian berkaitan dengan pemanfaatan tradisi lisan di bidang pendidikan, dan topik kearifan ekologi, arsitektur kedaerahan, dan pengetahuan ekologi tradisional menjadi area penelitian ke depan. Temuan ini dapat menjadi gambaran mengenai perkembangan dan arah penelitian tradisi lisan di Indonesia. Selain itu juga membantu peneliti dan pembuat keputusan memahami posisi penelitian tradisi lisan di Indonesia saat ini.

**Kata Kunci**      **Analisis bibliometrik; penelitian tradisi lisan; Indonesia; pemetaan bidang penelitian**

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## INTRODUCTION

The study of oral tradition has a long history, with significant developments occurring in the 17th century, particularly in England (Ben-Amos, 2020; Dorson, 1969; Pratiwi et al., 2018; Wright, 2024). It is widely accepted that oral tradition is an invaluable repository of cultural heritage, as it is relatively immune to the influence of modernization (Andalas, 2020). This romantic view developed in Europe and became widespread in the 19th century (Finnegan, 1979; Oring, 1986; Sims & Stephens, 2011). A considerable number of newly independent countries employ a variety of products of oral tradition to establish and define their cultural identity (Harvilahti, 1997). For example, the brothers Wilhelm and Jacob Grimm endeavoured to reconstruct the ancient Teutonic mythology that had been obliterated by the invading Romans and Greeks (Kelin, 1997; Oring, 1986). Other countries, such as Ireland and Finland, sought to establish cultural autonomy by documenting oral traditions (Dorson, 1969).

A parallel development is also occurring in Indonesia. In Indonesia, research into oral traditions has been conducted since the Dutch East Indies period, which lasted from 1600 to 1942. Historically, research in Indonesia was primarily conducted by Dutch researchers. One noteworthy figure is Jan de Vries, regarded as the sole Dutch researcher to have amassed a comprehensive collection of Indonesian folklore (Danandjaja, 1980). Nevertheless, as Danandjaja (1997) asserts, many of the initial studies conducted by Dutch researchers were flawed due to an inadequate comprehension of the cultural nuances inherent to Indonesian society.

Following Indonesia's independence, the Balai Pustaka was pivotal in preserving oral traditions (Teeuw, 1972). In the post-New Order era, the central government's initiatives were reinforced by the contributions of local government language centres (Moriyama & Budiman, 2010). Studying oral traditions in Indonesia is gradually becoming more rigorous and comprehensive. In 2022, the government issued Presidential Regulation 114 of 2022 concerning Cultural Strategy. This document provided guidelines for cultural promotion efforts and became a reference point for the central government, local governments, and all those engaged in promoting culture.

Oral tradition research in Indonesia plays a significant role in the country's national cultural promotion strategy. This understanding is related to extracting past societies' values, attitudes, worldviews, and the community's cultural identity. Novianti (2022) demonstrates that, despite claims that oral tradition research in Indonesia serves to bolster the literacy movement and character development, the government's initiatives to amass Indonesian folklore can be interpreted as an attempt to fortify national identity, advance a culture of diversity, and disseminate national values. Over two decades have elapsed since Danandjaja's (1997) seminal work, regarded as a landmark in modern oral tradition research in Indonesia. Consequently, the extant map of knowledge about oral tradition research in Indonesia remains uncertain. To the best of their knowledge, researchers have yet to identify a systematic study that examines the intellectual structure of oral tradition research in Indonesia. The objective of this study is to utilise bibliometric methods in order to map the intellectual structure of oral tradition research in Indonesia over the past 44 years.

A review of studies mapping the intellectual development of oral tradition research reveals the existence of numerous studies conducted in other countries. Some bibliometric research on oral tradition research in the world has been carried out, including Halim et al., (2021) who analyzed oral tradition research publications worldwide over the past century, while Sari et al., (2024) examined the utilization of oral tradition research in the field of education. Malapane et al., (2022) explored traditional knowledge in Africa between 1990 and 2020, while Ali et al., (2016) examined global traditional knowledge between 1989 and 2015. Maluleka and Ngulube (2019) focused on local knowledge in Africa. Prior research has predominantly focused on oral tradition studies within the

African context. The Asian region is incorporated into the global region in the research context. Indeed, understanding the landscape of oral tradition research in Indonesia can provide insights into scientific developments and researchers' influence and communication patterns (Raan, 1996).

This research contributes to the elucidation of the map of knowledge about oral tradition research in Indonesia. This is a valuable exercise, as it will demonstrate the trajectory of oral tradition research in Indonesia over the past 44 years. Furthermore, it offers an overview of the areas that have been the subject of research and those that have yet to be explored. This article aims to elucidate the intellectual structure of oral tradition research in Indonesia.

## METHOD

This research employs bibliometric methods. Bibliometric analysis is a method employed to explore and analyze substantial quantities of data. The application of this method enables the elucidation of the evolution of a field, while simultaneously identifying nascent fields (Donthu et al., 2021). The analysis was conducted quantitatively to measure and examine the publication documents of oral traditions in Indonesia (Broadus, 1987; Roemer & Borchardt, 2015). Researchers have employed this method for a variety of purposes, including the examination of the intellectual structure of a given field and the identification of trends based on factors such as article and source productivity, the construction of relationship networks, and the investigation of thematic patterns (Donthu et al., 2021). This data analysis is done through data collection, analysis, visualization, and interpretation (Aria & Cuccurullo, 2017; Broadus, 1987; Donthu et al., 2021; Yumnam & Singh, 2024).

The data were obtained from the Scopus database. The Scopus database was selected for its comprehensive coverage and exhaustive metadata (Liu, 2013; Vieira & Gomes, 2009). Moreover, the credibility of the Scopus database is substantiated by the considerable number of bibliometric studies that utilize this database. The data were collected by applying search filters on the following variables: topic, period, subject area, language, publication type, and content. The document search employed a set of keywords: (oral AND tradition AND indonesia) OR (folklore AND indonesia) OR (oral AND literature AND indonesia) OR (folktales AND indonesia) OR (myth AND indonesia) OR (legend AND indonesia) OR (fabel AND indonesia) OR (oral AND poetry AND Indonesia). The following criteria were employed in the sourcing of research data: 1) topic: only articles about oral tradition research in Indonesia were selected, 2) period: 1980-2024, 3) subject area: only articles in the field of social sciences and arts and humanities were selected, 4) language: only articles written in English were selected, 5) publication type: only peer-reviewed articles were selected, and 6) content: oral tradition research in Indonesia. The results of the search conducted in the Scopus database and the screening outcomes based on the established inclusion and exclusion criteria are presented in Table 1.

**Table 1**  
**Sampling Process from Scopus Database (July 15, 2024)**

Keywords	Filter	Criteria	Articles
(oral AND tradition AND indonesia) OR (folklore AND indonesia) OR (oral AND literature AND indonesia) OR (folktales AND indonesia) OR (myth AND indonesia) OR (legend AND indonesia) OR (fabel AND indonesia) OR (oral AND poetry AND indonesia)	Search Filters	Topic (title and keywords)	208
	Publications Periods	1980-2024	208
	Research Fields	Social Sciences & Arts and Humanities	208
	Language	Inggris	208
	Publication Type	<i>peer-review article</i>	208
	Content	Oral Tradition Research in Indonesia	139

The analysis encompasses two key elements: performance analysis and science mapping. Performance analysis is conducted by examining the descriptions of the contributions made, whereas science mapping is employed to identify relationships between research elements (Ramos-Rodríguez & Ruíz-Navarro, 2004). In this study, the techniques proposed by Aria & Cuccurullo (2017) were

employed to analyze oral tradition research publications in Indonesia. In order to gain insight into the geographical distribution of oral tradition research in Indonesia, we analyzed the annual literature publication map of total research articles published by affiliation, country, author, and collaboration network. Moreover, the most significant journal sources, most pertinent works, and authors contributing to oral tradition research in Indonesia were identified by applying diverse parameters, including the total number of published works, global citations, and fractionated articles. This aligns with this study's primary objective, which is to trace the evolution of themes in oral tradition research in Indonesia and identify potential future research areas.

In order to gain insight into the thematic foundation and development of oral tradition research, this study employs three bibliometric science mapping techniques, namely co-occurrence, thematic maps, and co-citation analysis. Furthermore, a thematic evolution map, a research trend topic chart, and a co-occurrence visualization map (overlay) based on author keywords are provided to suggest prospective investigation areas. Thematic maps, thematic evolution maps, Word TreeMaps, co-occurrence maps, and collaboration network plots were created with the assistance of Biblioshiny. Furthermore, VosViewer was employed to create visual representations of the shared keyword overlay, bibliometric merging, and co-citation analysis.

## RESULTS AND DISCUSSION

This section is divided into two sub-sections: performance analysis and science mapping. The performance analysis section examines 44 years of Oral Tradition research publications in Indonesia, encompassing several aspects, including country, institution, and author. Furthermore, this section presents an overview of the most influential journals, authors, and documents in the field of oral tradition research in Indonesia. Furthermore, this study employed a range of bibliometric techniques to map networks between keywords, conduct thematic mapping, analyze co-citation networks, undertake thematic evolution mapping, examine new trend topic analysis, and utilize overlay mapping to identify clusters of themes and potential avenues for future research in the field of oral traditions in Indonesia.

**Table 2**  
**Descriptive Statistics of Oral Tradition Research Publications in Indonesia (1980-2024)**

No	Description	Result	(%)
1	Source	102	
2	Average citation per document	4.295	
3	Total author	312	
	Single-authored document	59	42.44
	Multi-Authored document	80	57.56
4	Document type: Peer-reviewed article	139	100

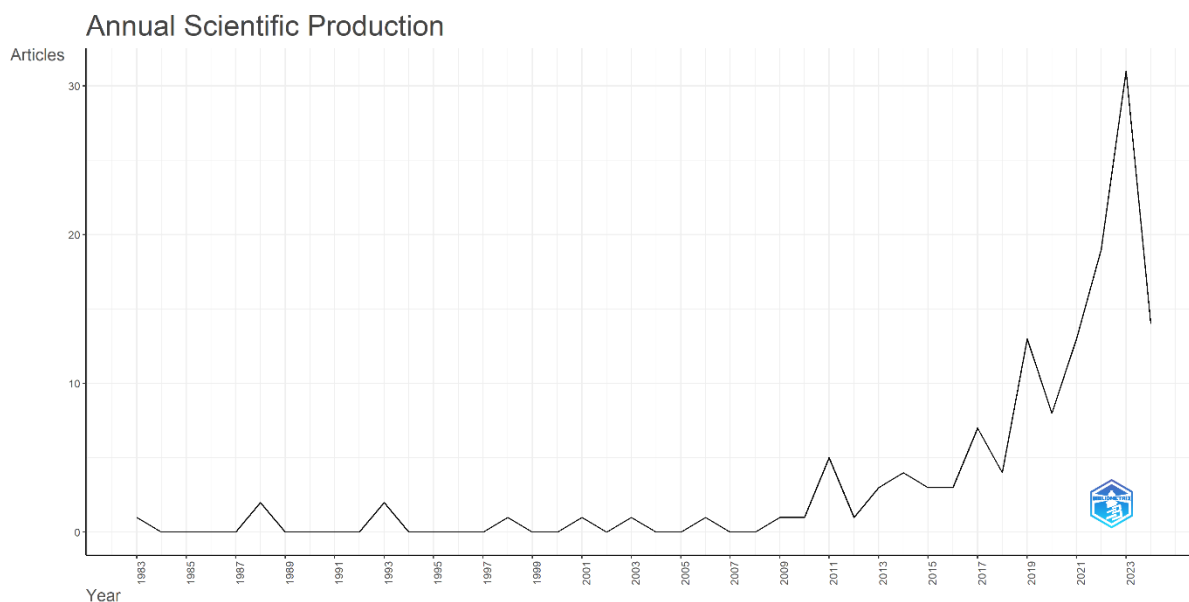
The results of the bibliometric analysis of oral tradition research in Indonesia, obtained through Biblioshiny, are presented in Table 2. The search yielded 139 documents from 102 sources, written by 312 authors from 10 countries, covering the period from 1983 to 2024. All of the identified documents were scientific articles. The mean number of citations per document was 4,295. Of the 139 documents, 59 were single-authored (42.44%), while 80 were multi-authored (57.56%).

### Performance Analysis

A performance analysis was conducted to evaluate the impact of the research. Figure 1 illustrates the growth of publications on oral tradition research in Indonesia from 1983 to 2024. The data provides valuable insights into the evolution of interest in oral tradition research in Indonesia. While the pace of publication was initially gradual, the output of oral tradition research in Indonesia began to accelerate significantly from 2011 onwards. Over 44 years of oral tradition research in Indonesia has produced one hundred thirty-nine documents. The highest number of publications in 2023 was 31, followed by 19 in 2022 and 13 in 2019 and 2021. The total scientific output over the

past four years (2019-2024) accounts for 75.5% of the total articles published in the field of oral tradition in Indonesia.

The interval between 1983 and 2010 was characterized by a notably low level of publication activity. Throughout the 27 years, only 11 publications were produced, representing a mere 7.91% of the total number of publications. The period of increasing publications, although exhibiting some fluctuation, commenced in 2011-2016, with 19 publications occurring within five years. However, since 2016, there has been a notable increase in publications, with 109 articles (representing 78.41% of the total). This increase in publications is consistent with the global growth trend in research publications on oral tradition during the same period (Halim et al., 2021). This increasing trend may indicate a growing interest in the richness of Indonesia's oral traditions, which have hitherto been relatively unexplored. Historically, the initial efforts to acknowledge the existence of oral traditions can be traced back to the Convention on the Protection of Intangible Cultural Heritage, held by UNESCO (United Nations Educational Scientific and Cultural Organization) on October 17, 2003 (UNESCO, 2022). Subsequently, the Government of Indonesia ratified the Convention on the Protection of Intangible Cultural Heritage on October 17, 2007, as an initiative to ensure cultural sustainability by inventorying, securing, maintaining, saving, and publishing these traditions. In a broader context, the protection of oral traditions in Indonesia is enshrined in Law Number 24 of 2009 concerning Flags, Languages, State Emblems, and National Songs. This law pertains to the development, promotion, and safeguarding of language and literature. A review of the number of publications and the law's mandate reveals that the current efforts are insufficient. In 2022, the Government of the Republic of Indonesia published a book, Technical Guidelines for Revitalizing Oral Literature, to provide researchers in Indonesia with guidelines (Luthfiah et al., 2022). This trend indicates considerable scope for further research into oral tradition studies in Indonesia. The findings of research conducted by Halim et al., (2021) corroborate this conclusion, indicating that the volume of oral tradition research in Indonesia is markedly lower compared to the output of such research in other countries. For instance, the ratio of research in Indonesia to that of the United States is 26:1, while the ratio of Indonesian research to that of the United Kingdom is 7:1.



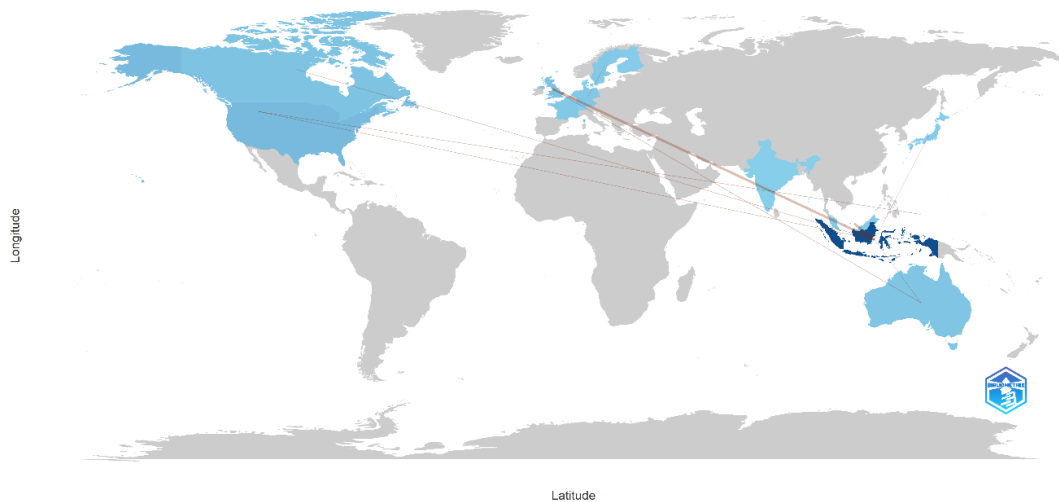
**Figure 1**  
**Publication Trend**

Figure 2 illustrates the extent of collaboration among oral tradition researchers in Indonesia across countries. The lines connecting countries indicate a collaborative relationship, with the thickness of the line serving as a reflection of the level of collaboration. The frequency of publications indicates collaborative relationships between Indonesia and several other countries, including Malaysia

(2), the UK (2), Australia (1), Canada (1), Japan (1), and the United States (1). Additionally, collaborative research on oral traditions in Indonesia was conducted between researchers outside Indonesia. These include a research partnership between Swedish and German researchers (1), a collaboration between UK and Australian researchers (1), and a joint project between US and Palau researchers (1).

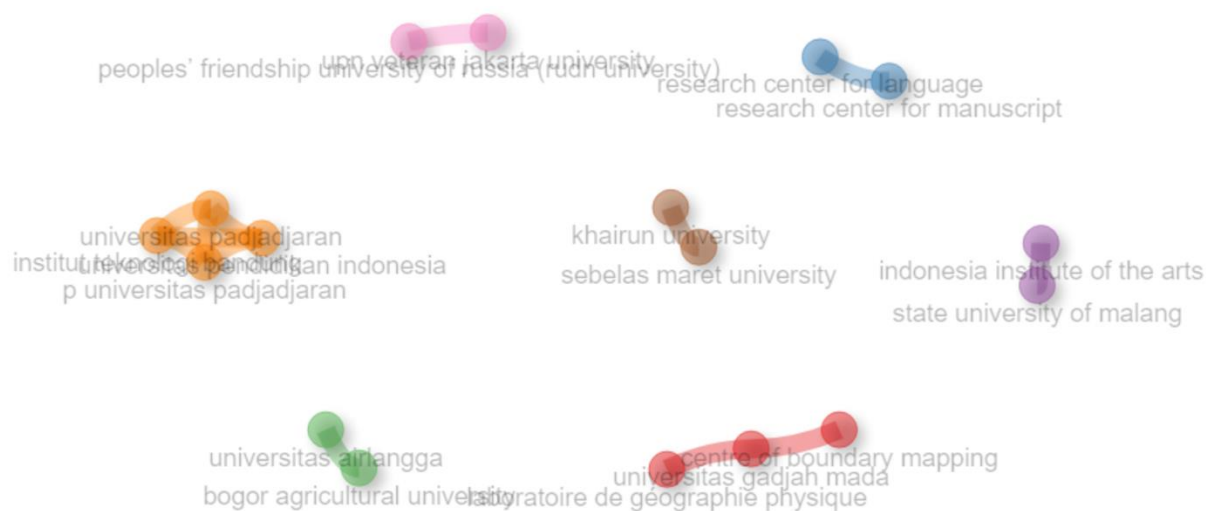
Regarding the country of correspondence, 48 Indonesian researchers (34.5%) produced the most significant number of publications, followed by those from Canada, the Netherlands, the UK, and the US, with four publications each (2.9%). This network of collaboration demonstrates several vital points. Firstly, it can be observed that research into oral traditions in Indonesia is of interest not only to Indonesian researchers but also to those based outside the country. In addition to collaborative research involving Indonesian researchers, three articles were also identified by non-Indonesian researchers. Secondly, there is a growing network of research collaboration between countries, between Indonesian and foreign researchers. This increases research collaboration between institutions and facilitates the exchange of ideas between Indonesian and foreign researchers.

### Country Collaboration Map



**Figure 2**  
**Collaborative Publication Between Countries**

Figure 3 illustrates the network of institutional collaboration. In Indonesia, there are seven clusters of collaborative research into oral traditions. The cluster highlighted in orange represents the densest concentration of research activity. The collaborative research is conducted by authors affiliated with Padjajaran University, Universitas Pendidikan Indonesia, and Bandung Institute of Technology. The red cluster represents the second-largest collaboration network between researchers from Gadjah Mada University, the Center of Boundary Mapping, and Laboratoire de Géographie Physique. An examination of the collaboration network between institutions reveals the existence of a network of collaboration extending beyond the geographical area, encompassing interactions between provinces and between countries, except the orange cluster. The orange cluster is characterized by the participation of institutions based in Bandung city.



**Figure 3**  
**Researcher Collaboration Network**

Table 3 presents the ten most-cited journal publications, as determined by the times they have been cited (TP). The table presents a series of data points, including a data set that includes the following publisher-specific metrics: Scopus Coverage Years (SCY), 2023 CiteScore (CS 2023), and 2023 Source Normalized Impact per Paper (SNIP).

**Table 3**  
**Most Relevant Journal**

Journal Title	TP	Publisher	SCY	CS 2023	SNIP 2023
Indonesia and The Malay World	11	Taylor & Francis	2000	2.0	1.653
Isvs E-Journal	4	Center for Cities, University of Moratuwa	2015	0.9	1.857
Theory and Practice in Language Studies	4	Academy Publication	2011	0.9	0.640
Anthropos	3	Nomos Verlagsgesellschaft mbH and Co. KG	1983	0.2	0.397
Bijdragen Tot De Taal-, Land- En Volkenkunde	3	Brill	2005	1.3	0.833
Cogent Arts and Humanities	3	Cogent OA	2014	1.6	1.196
Folklor/Edebiyat	3	Cyprus International University	2018	0.1	0.310
International Journal of Innovation, Creativity and Change	3	Primrose Hall Publishing Group	2013	0.5	0.304
Studies in English Language and Education	3	Syiah Kuala University	2019	2.4	0.903
American Ethnologist	2	John Wiley & Sons	1974	2.4	1.752

The results indicate that Indonesia and the Malay World is the most prominent journal on the list, with 11 documents, followed by Isvs E-Journal (4), Theory and Practice in Language Studies (4), Anthropos (3), and Bijdragen Tot De Taal-, Land- En Volkenkunde (3). Based on the 2023 Cite Score, the list reveals that Studies in English Language and Education and American Ethnologist achieved the highest score of 2.4, followed by Indonesia and the Malay World (2.0) and Cogent Arts and Humanities (1.6). Notably, no single publisher exercised a dominant influence over the publications. This indicates that the publication outlets for oral tradition research in Indonesia are not concentrated in a single publisher but are distributed across a range of journal publishers globally. However, when viewed based on the Scopus indexation category, it becomes evident that several journals are no longer included in the Scopus database. This includes the Isvs E-Journal (2015-2023) and the International Journal of Innovation, Creativity and Change (2013-2020). This may indicate a decline in the quality of journal publications.

**Table 4**  
**Top Ten Articles**

Rank	Title	Total Citation	TC per Year	Normalized TC
1	Anthropology of religion: Disasters and the representations of tradition and modernity	79	5,27	1,00
2	The odour of things: Smell and the cultural elaboration of disgust in Eastern Indonesia	52	1,93	1,00
3	Coconut - History, uses, and folklore	37	3,36	2,69
4	Ancient oral tradition describes volcano–earthquake interaction at merapi volcano, Indonesia	34	3,40	2,62
5	violence, sacrifice, and divination: giving and taking life in eastern Indonesia	28	0,88	1,81
6	Traditional and modern forms of Pencak Silat in Indonesia: The suku Mamak in Riau	26	1,86	2,71
7	Myths, islamic view, and science concepts: The constructed education and knowledge of solar eclipse in Indonesia	19	2,38	3,80
8	Food taboos and suggestions among Madurese pregnant women: a qualitative study	17	2,43	3,24
9	Swidden farming as an agent of environmental change: Ecological myth and historical reality in Indonesia	17	1,21	1,77
10	Ritual and cultural reproduction in non-Islamic Java	16	0,38	1,00

This study employs the number of citations on each article to identify the most relevant articles in the field of oral tradition research in Indonesia. Table 4 presents the ten most significant articles in oral tradition research in Indonesia. The study by [Schlehe \(2010\)](#) sought to elucidate how natural disasters are utilized and cultivated by individuals or social groups under community needs, and it is the most frequently cited article (79). The next most cited article was [Bubandt \(1998\)](#), which examined the meaning and symbolism of odor in Buli, a village in eastern Indonesia. This article was cited 52 times. The third most significant study is that of [Ahuja et al., \(2014\)](#), which discusses the history of the coconut through an examination of archaeological, epigraphic, and historical records, as well as its uses and interrelationship with folklore. Themes common to all three studies indicate that research on disasters and the environment is a topic of significant interest to oral tradition researchers in Indonesia.

**Table 5**  
**Top Ten Authors**

Rank	Author	Total Publication	Articles Fractionalized
1	Forth G.	5	5,00
2	Wardani N.	4	2,00
3	Andayani	3	0,92
4	Danerek S.	3	3,00
5	Ahmadi A.	2	0,58
6	Arianto T.	2	0,75
7	Brakel-Papenhuyzen C.	2	2,00
8	Djonler S.	2	1,00
9	Dole F.	2	0,67
10	Hoskins J.	2	2,00

Furthermore, this study presents the most influential authors in oral tradition research in Indonesia (Table 5) based on the number of article publications and fractionalized articles. This study employs fractionalization as the optimal author identification tool, as it offers a more precise measurement than that provided by the number of article publications. The author with the highest number of publications is [Forth \(2020, 2021, 2023a, 2023b, 2023c\)](#), with a total of four articles published in 2020, 2021, 2023a, 2023b, and 2023c, and a fractionalized rate of 5.00.



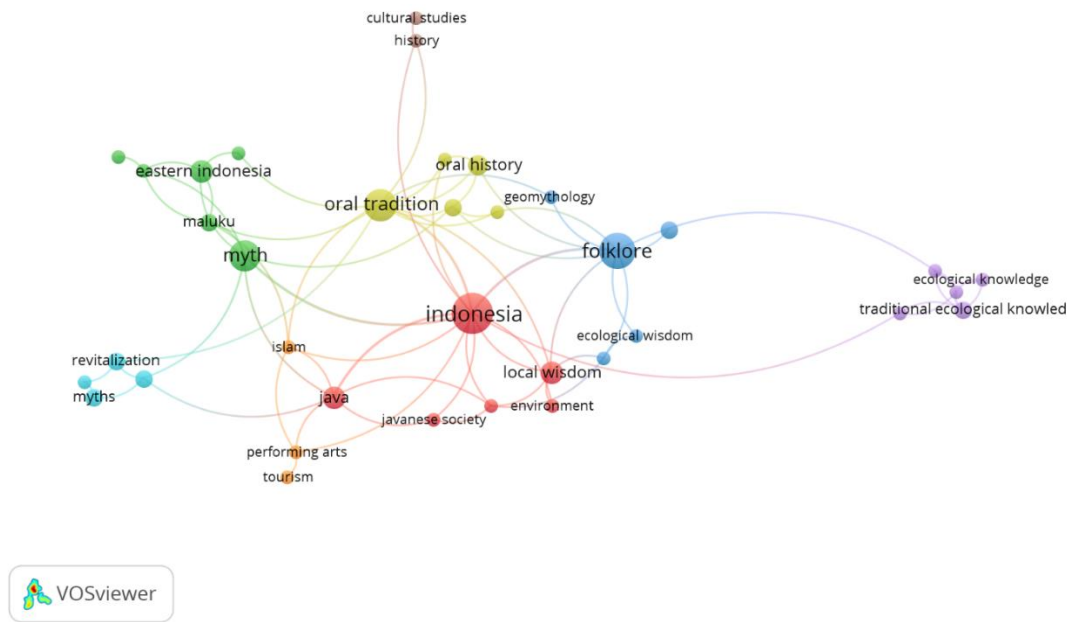
### Science Mapping

One of the primary objectives of this study was to gain insight into the intellectual landscape of oral tradition research in Indonesia, including the current research domains and areas of interest to future researchers. To ascertain the present status and focal points of oral tradition studies in Indonesia, this study employed a range of science mapping techniques, including co-occurrence analysis (Figure 5), thematic maps (Figure 6), and co-citation networks (Figure 7). Furthermore, this study employed two keyword analyses to suggest potential future areas of investigation: trend topics (Figure 9) and a co-occurrence (overlay) visualization (Figure 9) with a thematic evolution map (Figure 8). In conducting the keyword-based analysis, this study utilized keywords identified by the author (DE) as the unit of analysis.



**Figure 4**  
**Tree Word**

Figure 4 depicts the word tree generated from author keywords (DE) using Biblioshiny, which allows for investigating the most frequently utilized keywords. The proportion and colour of the sub-rectangles indicate the frequency of occurrence of keywords. The box size indicates the frequency of occurrence of the keyword within the data set. Figure 4 depicts the 50 most frequently utilized keywords in articles about oral tradition in Indonesia. The five most frequently occurring keywords in the study of oral tradition in Indonesia are "Indonesia" (16 times, 11%), "folklore" (12 times, 8%), "myth" (9 times, 6%), "oral tradition" (7 times, 5%), and "East Indonesia" (5 times, 3%). The keywords were also identified: Java, local wisdom, oral history, revitalization, tradition, traditional ecological knowledge, cultural studies, character education, dugongs, geomythology, Javanese society, literacy, Malay, mythology, and ecocriticism. Notably, the keyword "eastern Indonesia" has the same occurrences as "Java." This indicates that research on oral traditions in eastern Indonesia is now being undertaken.



**Figure 5**  
**Keywords Co-Occurrence Network Visualization**

Furthermore, the study examined the co-occurrence of researchers' keywords to identify existing research topics and monitor changes in the boundaries of scientific knowledge domains. This research employs VosViewer to generate visual representations of author keywords. To accommodate variations in word plurals and forms, instances of keywords with identical meanings (oral tradition and oral traditions) were aggregated. Given the limited number of publications on oral tradition research in Indonesia, a minimum keyword occurrence of two was established, resulting in 39 nodes comprising 513 keywords.

There are six primary keyword clusters in the oral tradition research in Indonesia. The red cluster pertains to the subjects of the environment, humanity, Indonesia, Java, Javanese society, and local wisdom. The green cluster encompasses research on various topics, including eastern Indonesia, Maluku, myth, mythology, traditional literature, and transformation. The blue cluster encompasses character education, ecocriticism, ecological wisdom, folklore, and geomythology. The yellow cluster encompasses research on Flores, oral history, oral tradition, Palu'e, and vernacular architecture. The purple cluster encompasses Malay, mythological traditions, revitalization initiatives, and traditional practices. The orange cluster encompasses the study of Islam, performing arts, and tourism. The brown cluster encompasses cultural studies and historical topics. The findings indicate that oral tradition research in Indonesia is not confined to Western Indonesia; a considerable body of research has been conducted in Eastern Indonesia. Nevertheless, some subjects about ecology have emerged relatively recently, including ecological wisdom, the environment, and ecological knowledge. Notably, ecological topics have emerged as a prominent feature within several research clusters. This observation suggests that oral tradition studies related to ecological issues are receiving sufficient attention from researchers. Furthermore, geomythology, situated within the blue cluster, continues to offer significant scope for investigation. Few oral tradition studies in Indonesia have adopted this perspective.

When juxtaposed against the bibliometric research conducted by Halim et al., (2021) on oral tradition research globally, the findings illustrate the distinctive and profound nature of the subject matter. Notably, specific keywords pertinent to oral tradition research are absent from Indonesian research, including "storytelling," "human," "history," and "female." Conversely, several keywords that are unique to oral tradition research in Indonesia are also absent from global oral tradition research, including "ecological wisdom," "revitalization," "palu'e," "vernacular architecture," "environment," and "ecological knowledge." In other words, research topics related to wisdom and the environment



Moreover, an author co-citation analysis was undertaken to ascertain the intellectual structure of oral tradition publications in Indonesia (Figure 7). The minimum number of citations was three, and 263 out of 6,022 met the requisite threshold. The three authors with the highest number of citations were Forth G. (n=28), Fox J.J. (n=14), and Samsuni S. (n=12). Forth G is in the yellow cluster, Fox J.J. is in the purple cluster, and Samsuni S. is in the red cluster. Based on the numerous sources cited, oral tradition research in Indonesia is significantly influenced by the mythology prevalent within the community.

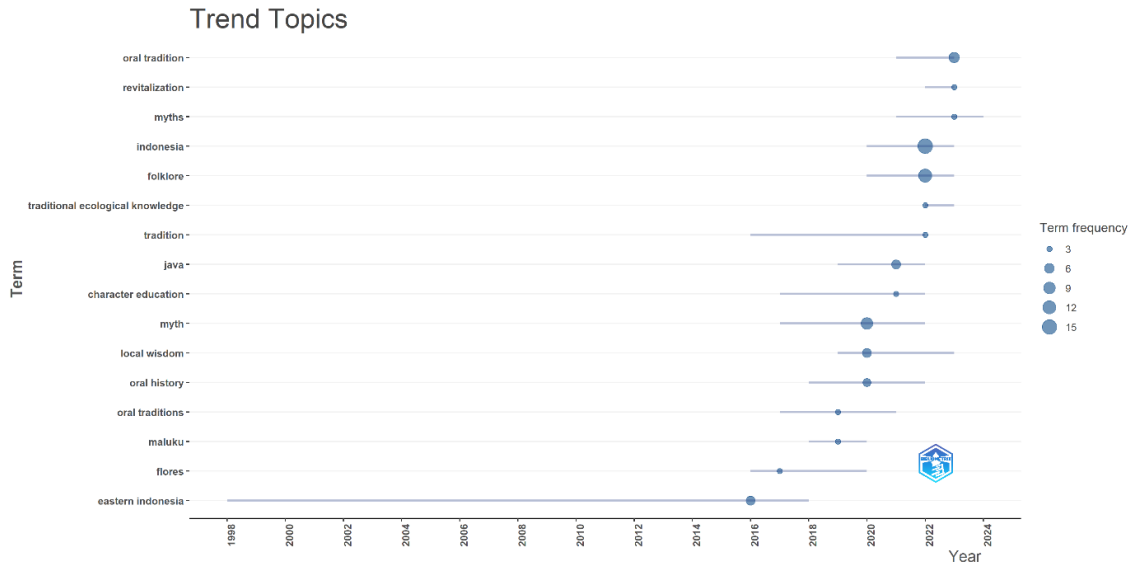


Figure 8  
Trend Topics Map

Figure 8 illustrates the evolving themes in oral tradition research within the Indonesian context. The most frequently cited keywords among researchers throughout the period from 2020 to 2024 were "oral history," "local wisdom," "character education," "Java," "tradition," "traditional ecological knowledge," "folklore," "Indonesia," "myth," "revitalization," and "oral tradition."

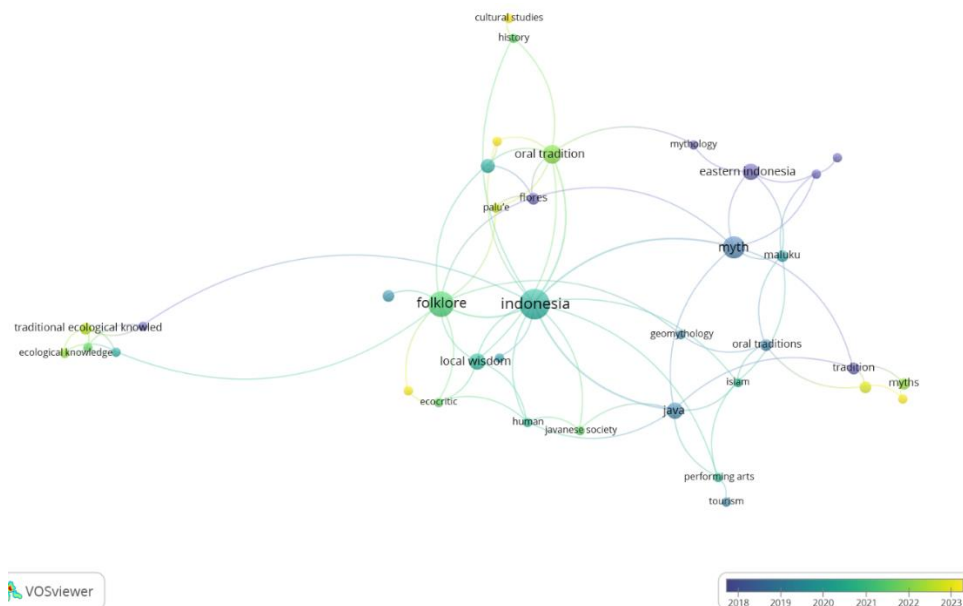


Figure 9  
Co-Occurrence (Overlay) Map

As illustrated in Figure 9, the overlay visualization indicates that future research should focus on the following areas: Malay, revitalization, ecological wisdom, palu'e, vernacular architecture, cultural studies, and traditional ecological knowledge. These areas are highlighted in yellow. These topics are currently discussed among oral tradition researchers in Indonesia.

## CONCLUSION

This study employs bibliometric techniques to examine the evolution of oral tradition publications in Indonesia over 44 years (2018-2023). The analysis comprises a performance analysis and a science mapping exercise. The performance analysis revealed that the upward trajectory of oral tradition research publications in Indonesia and globally during the same period was parallel. Nevertheless, the output of oral tradition research publications in Indonesia is markedly lower than that of the United States or the United Kingdom. Furthermore, there is evidence of nascent research collaboration between countries and the network of collaboration between Indonesian researchers. The Malay World is the most prolific journal of oral tradition research in Indonesia. The research themes most frequently discussed were disasters and the environment. Forth G was the most prolific author. The science mapping analysis revealed that oral tradition research in Eastern Indonesia is emerging. Research topics related to wisdom and the environment are distinctive to oral tradition research in Indonesia and are absent from global oral tradition research. The latest research on oral tradition in Indonesia has identified several emerging themes, mainly focusing on using oral tradition in education. A co-citation network analysis has revealed that research in this field in Indonesia is primarily aligned in terms of its research direction. This has led to identifying several future research areas, including Malay, revitalization, ecological wisdom, palu'e, vernacular architecture, cultural studies, and traditional ecological knowledge.

This research has several advantages, which are outlined below. Firstly, the data encompasses all publications about oral tradition research in Indonesia, spanning the initial publication to the most contemporary period (1980-2024). This allows for a comprehensive and accurate representation of the knowledge landscape about oral tradition research in Indonesia. This finding illustrates the development and direction of oral tradition research in Indonesia. Secondly, the findings of this study assist researchers and decision-makers in comprehending the present status of oral tradition research in Indonesia. However, it should be noted that the bibliometric database used in this study has limitations. Although Scopus is acknowledged as a reliable source due to its extensive coverage and comprehensive metadata, further research could use multiple databases concurrently to obtain more comprehensive bibliometric data. Furthermore, bibliometric research is dependent on the keywords provided by the authors. It is not uncommon for authors to include inappropriate keywords in their articles, which can potentially impact the outcomes of research studies. It would be beneficial for future research to consider utilizing index keywords as the unit of analysis to facilitate a comparison with the findings of this research.

## DECLARATIONS

<b>Author contribution</b>	:	Eggy Fajar Andalas leads and is responsible for all research projects entitled "Mapping the Field: A Bibliometric Analysis of Oral Tradition Research in Indonesia." He wrote the entire manuscript, collaborated with the second, third, and fourth authors, and served as the corresponding author, overseeing submission and revisions. The second, third, and fourth authors contributed to analyzing the data. Four authors also approved the final manuscript.
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**Additional information**

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