

Dear Prof. Lian-Sheng Ma,

Thank you very much for giving us an opportunity to revise our manuscript. We appreciate you and reviewer very much for your kind help, positive and constructive comments and suggestions on our manuscript entitled “**Knowledge Domain and Emerging Trends in Visual Hallucination Research: A Scientometric Review**” (Manuscript NO.: 61214, Scientometrics).

We have studied reviewer’s comments carefully and have made revision which **marked in red in the revised manuscript**. We have tried our best to revise our manuscript according to the comments which we would like to submit for your kind consideration. The main corrections are in the paper and the responds to the reviewer’s comments are as following:

Responds to the reviewer’s comments:

**Reviewer #1:**

**Comment 1:** In this study, the author rigorously analyzed the trend of recent research regarding visual hallucination with modern and objective way.

**Response:** *First of all, thank you very much for taking the time out of your busy schedule to read our manuscript carefully. We appreciate your affirmation of our work. We feel very honored to receive such a high evaluation.*

**Comment 2:** This method is so unique and interesting.

**Response:** *Thank you again for your positive comments. CiteSpace is specifically designed to facilitate the detection of emerging trends and abrupt changes in scientific literature by generating and analyzing networks of co-cited references based on bibliographic records retrieved from the Web of Science<sup>[1]</sup>.*

**Comment 3:** But, the author should disclose why Web of Science Core Collection was adopted for searching articles.

**Response:** *Thank you very much for this very valuable comment. It is really true as you pointed that our data was retrieved from Web of Science Core Collection (WOSCC). We mentioned in our manuscript that, “Our data were retrieved from the WOSCC, which is the specified article data source for CiteSpace”. We hope to explain in more depth:*

- 1) From the perspective of database types, Web of Science (WOS) is a typical citation database which is different from any other commonly used databases (e.g. PubMed). In addition to document abstracts, it also contains citation information, which providing the relationship between citations and citations between articles. Through citation analysis, the influence of papers can be evaluated, and then the scientific and technological strength and influence of researchers, institutions, and countries can be evaluated. So WOS is the most suitable database for bibliometric analysis.*
- 2) From the perspective of database quality, we rely on scholarly publications in the WOS as a more rigorous and reliable representation of the literature[2]. WOSCC included SCI-EXPANDED, SSCI, A&HCI, CPCI-S, CPCI-SSH, BKCI-S, BKCI-SSH, ESCI, CCR-*

*EXPANDED, and IC, which are more authoritative than Google scholar. As we all know, the retrieval certificate of the papers issued by doctoral graduates and appraisal titles must be retrieved by WOS, and the certification of highly cited papers is also subject to the WOS mark, and the evaluation of Essential Science Indicators (ESI) is also subject to WOS. The Impact Factor (IF) launched by Web of Science has now become an internationally universal journal evaluation index. It is not only a measure of the usefulness and visibility of journals, but also a measure of the academic level of journals and even the quality of papers.*

- 3) *From the perspective of software applications, WOS is the most suitable database for CiteSpace. Not only because WOS contains the citation information required by CiteSpace, but also because its data is more compatible. The data exported from WOS can be directly applied to CiteSpace analysis, while other databases can not only perform citation analysis, but also need to undergo data conversion when performing other analysis, which inevitably causes data errors and loss.*

*We hope these three points can help explain why we use WOSCC as the database. Thank you again for your suggestion. We added some explanations in the article, the following paragraph has been added: Our data were retrieved from the Web of Science Core Collection (WOSCC), which is the specified article data source for CiteSpace as it contains citation information. (Please see the first sentence of Data collection part)*

**Comment 4:** *Indeed, WOSCC is one of the largest academic databases. But, other databases (e.g. PubMed and Google Scholar) are also examined not to miss important articles in systematic reviews.*

**Response:** *Thank you very much for this really valuable comment. As an old Chinese saying goes, Pearls are everywhere but not the same as the eyes. We are touched by your attitude of accepting new things and willing to help us improve. We do acknowledge that only a more comprehensive collection of data can more truly reflect the current status of VH research. However, we think high-quality data can reflect the current mainstream status of VH research. We thought about this issue in depth and would like to explain why we didn't add other data from other databases.*

- 1) *Function of Citespace*

*We want to compare meta-analysis with CiteSpace to better explain the function of CiteSpace. Meta-analysis is widely used in the biomedical community. Meta-analysis is mainly to answer scientific questions, through statistical analysis to integrate and analyze many empirical studies on the same subject, in order to obtain the most representative conclusions process and methods. Therefore, the completeness and quality of all articles included in the analysis are very significant. However, CiteSpace focuses on a certain field. It is based on the Web of Science database, and citation analysis is its main function. It uses the citations and citation relationships between the included documents to form a network. The most central document in the network is the hot spot in this field. In recent years, the literature research sub-fields that have seen a surge in attention will become the frontiers of the research in this field. High-quality literature is definitely the most prominent in the field.*

- 2) *CiteSpace application status*

*Our team has been in contact with CiteSpace since 2014, which is a bibliometric software. In 2020, we applied this software to the analysis of articles in the clinical field for the first time, hoping to obtain the frontiers and hotspots of VH research, so the manuscript you saw was born. We are pleased to see that there are more and more examples of the application of this*

software in the field of biomedicine. We checked all the documents written by using CiteSpace and found this software is increasingly used in biomedical research (see Figure 1). Meanwhile, we listed all the articles published in 2021(see Table 1 and Figure 2). Among the 30 articles, all the articles are based on WOS, only two also used PubMed as a supplementary database, but not able to analyze the co-citation relationship. Only one article used Scopus as well, which is not now commonly used. The article titled " Analysis of the differences in lung cancer research trends between China and the United States based using project funding data." does not study the co-citation relationship of the data.

In sum, we think maybe WOS is enough for our scientometric analyze.

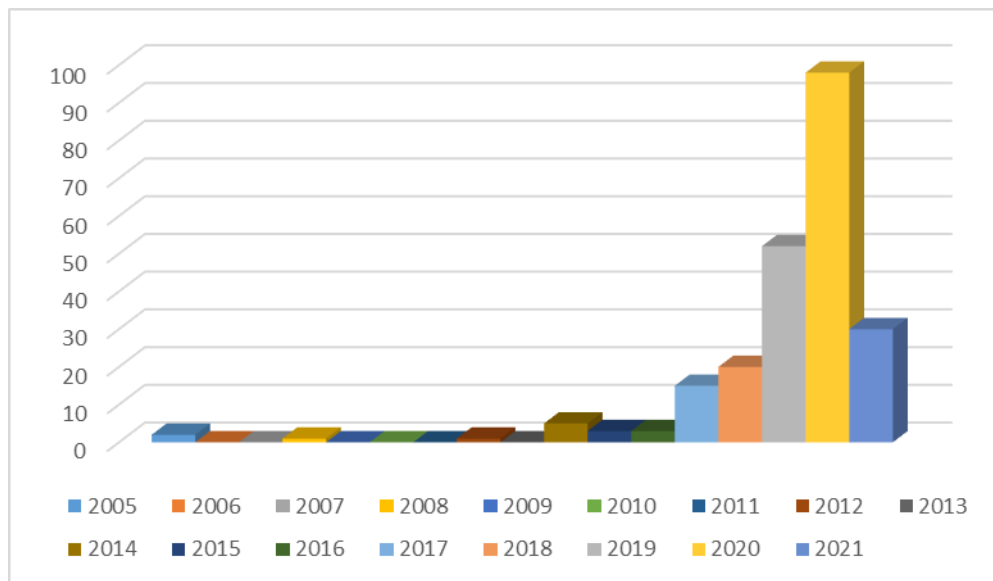


Figure 1 Annual publication volume of articles written using CiteSpace

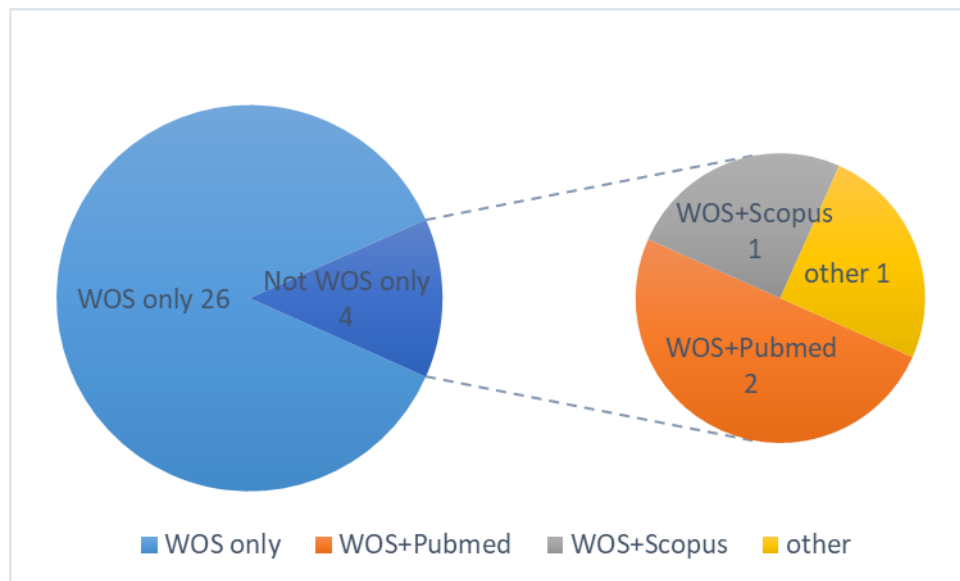
Table 1 Articles published using CiteSpace in 2021

No.	Article	database	Research field	Year
1	Global publication trends and hotspots of molecular biomarkers in DILI from 1991 to 2020: A 30-year bibliometric analysis.	Web of Science	Drug-induced liver injury	2021
2	Mapping Trends in Moyamoya Angiopathy Research: A 10-Year Bibliometric and Visualization-Based Analyses of the Web of Science Core Collection (WoSCC).	Web of Science Core Collection	Moyamoya angiopathy	2021
3	A bibliometric analysis and review of recent researches on Piezo (2010-2020)	Web of Science Core Collection	The Piezo channel protein	2021
4	Analysis of the differences in	the National	The funding apply to lung	2021

	<i>lung cancer research trends between China and the United States based using project funding data.</i>	<i>Natural Science Foundation of China (NSFC) and National Institutes of Health (NIH) official websites</i>	<i>cancer</i>	
5	<i>Bibliometric Study of Pain after Spinal Cord Injury.</i>	<i>Web of Science Core Collection</i>	<i>comorbid pain after spinal cord injury</i>	<i>2021</i>
6	<i>Bibliometric Analysis of Research on the Comorbidity of Pain and Inflammation.</i>	<i>Web of Science</i>	<i>comorbid pain and inflammation</i>	<i>2021</i>
7	<i>Research Trends of Systematic Review/Meta-Analysis on Acupuncture Therapy: A Bibliometric Analysis.</i>	<i>Web of Science Core Collection</i>	<i>acupuncture therapy</i>	<i>2021</i>
8	<i>Research tendency in lumbar spinal stenosis over the last decade: a bibliometric analysis.</i>	<i>Web of Science database</i>	<i>lumbar spinal stenosis</i>	<i>2021</i>
9	<i>A bibliometric analysis of occupational low back pain studies from 2000 to 2020.</i>	<i>Web of Science</i>	<i>occupational low back pain</i>	<i>2021</i>
10	<i>Trends and developments in oral health literacy: a scientometric research study (1991-2020).</i>	<i>Web of Science Core Collection and the Scopus</i>	<i>oral health literacy</i>	<i>2021</i>
11	<i>Global Research Trends on Prostate Diseases and Erectile Dysfunction: A Bibliometric and Visualized Study.</i>	<i>Web of Science Core Collection</i>	<i>prostate diseases and erectile dysfunction</i>	<i>2021</i>
12	<i>Bibliometric analysis of nicotinic acetylcholine receptors channel research (2000-2020).</i>	<i>Web of Science Core Collection</i>	<i>nicotinic acetylcholine receptor</i>	<i>2021</i>
13	<i>Past, present, and future perspectives on the assessment</i>	<i>Web of Science</i>	<i>Bioaccessibility/bioavailability</i>	<i>2021</i>

	<i>of bioavailability/bioaccessibility of polycyclic aromatic hydrocarbons: A 20-year systemic review based on scientific econometrics.</i>			
14	<i>Global research on cognitive behavioural therapy for schizophrenia from 2000 to 2019: a bibliometric analysis via CiteSpace.</i>	<i>Web of Science Core Collection</i>	<i>Cognitive behavioural therapy</i>	<i>2021</i>
15	<i>Knowledge Mapping of Acupuncture for Cancer Pain: A Scientometric Analysis (2000-2019).</i>	<i>Web of Science</i>	<i>acupuncture for cancer pain</i>	<i>2021</i>
16	<i>Bibliometric Analysis on Research Trend of Accidental Falls in Older Adults by Using Citespace-Focused on Web of Science Core Collection (2010-2020).</i>	<i>Web of Science Core Collection</i>	<i>accidental falls in older adults</i>	<i>2021</i>
17	<i>Research Trends on the Rotator Cuff Tendon: A Bibliometric Analysis of the Past 2 Decades.</i>	<i>Web of Science Core Collection</i>	<i>rotator cuff disease</i>	<i>2021</i>
18	<i>Bibliometric Analysis of the Inflammasome and Pyroptosis in Brain.</i>	<i>WOS Core Collection</i>	<i>inflammasome/pyroptosis in biological function</i>	<i>2021</i>
19	<i>Global Trends and Performances of Magnetic Resonance Imaging Studies on Acupuncture: A Bibliometric Analysis.</i>	<i>Web of Science Core Collection</i>	<i>MRI research on acupuncture</i>	<i>2021</i>
20	<i>Bibliometric Analysis of Research on the Comorbidity of Cancer and Pain.</i>	<i>Web of Science</i>	<i>comorbidity of cancer and pain.</i>	<i>2021</i>
21	<i>A 10-year bibliometric analysis of osteosarcoma and cure from 2010 to 2019.</i>	<i>The Web of Science and PubMed</i>	<i>osteosarcoma and cure</i>	<i>2021</i>
22	<i>Thyroid Diseases During Pregnancy: Bibliometric Analysis of Scientific Publications.</i>	<i>Web of Science</i>	<i>pregnancy-related implications of thyroid diseases</i>	<i>2021</i>
23	<i>Bibliometric and Visual Analysis</i>	<i>Web of</i>	<i>the links between the gut</i>	<i>2021</i>

	<i>of Research on the Links Between the Gut Microbiota and Depression From 1999 to 2019.</i>	Science Core Collection	<i>microbiota and depression</i>	
24	<i>External beam radiotherapy for prostate cancer: What are the current research trends and hotspots?</i>	Web of Science Core Collection	<i>The external beam radiotherapy (EBRT) applied for prostate cancer</i>	2021
25	<i>Ten Years of the Cohort Biobank: Bibliometric Outcomes.</i>	Web of Science Core Collection	<i>cohort biobanks</i>	2021
26	<i>Research trends, hot spots and prospects for necroptosis in the field of neuroscience.</i>	Web of Science	<i>necroptosis</i>	2021
27	<i>Visualization and bibliometric analysis of cAMP signaling system research trends and hotspots in cancer.</i>	Web of Science Core Collection	<i>Cyclic adenosine monophosphate</i>	2021
28	<i>The association between toxic pesticide environmental exposure and Alzheimer's disease: A scientometric and visualization analysis.</i>	Web of Science Core Collection and PubMed databases	<i>The association between environmental factors (e.g., pesticide) and AD</i>	2021
29	<i>Insights into stem cell therapy for diabetic retinopathy: a bibliometric and visual analysis.</i>	Web of Science Core Collection	<i>diabetic retinopathy</i>	2021
30	<i>A bibliometric analysis of international publication trends in premature ejaculation research (2008-2018).</i>	Web of Science Core Collection	<i>premature ejaculation</i>	2021



*Figure 2 Databases used by the articles published using CiteSpace in 2021*

**Comment 5:** Is the outcome altered when adding some data extracted from other databases?

**Response:** Thank you very much for this really kind comment. We feel very sorry that we can't add any database you recommended. Inspired by your comments, although we have not added other databases, we updated the data until the end of 2020. Because there are many changes, please refer to the revised manuscript for details. Thank you again for your help.

- [1] Chen C, Hu Z, Liu S, et al. Emerging trends in regenerative medicine: a scientometric analysis in CiteSpace[J]. Expert opinion on biological therapy, 2012, 12(5): 593-608.
- [2] Chen C, Dubin R, Kim MC. Emerging trends and new developments in regenerative medicine: a scientometric update (2000 - 2014)[J]. Expert opinion on biological therapy, 2014, 14(9): 1295-1317.