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Article

The role of media in architectural studies: An analysis of research on newspapers and periodicals

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ABSTRACT

The purpose of this study is to examine, from a comprehensive standpoint, how architecture and printed mass media -such as newspapers and periodical- interact, as well as how these media shape architectural discourses and public opinion.

This study holistically examines the relationship between architecture and printed mass media (newspapers and periodicals). Systematic literature reviews evaluate the place of these tools in architectural research, their evolution over time, and their contributions. The study employs a mixed research methodology combining quantitative and qualitative methods. As a result of querying the Web of Science database with the keywords "Architecture," "Newspaper," "Journal," "Magazine," and "Mass Media," 127 articles were selected and analyzed with RStudio software.

In terms of publications, authors, journals, and countries, the research shows the structure, trends, and patterns of this field of study. The results draw attention to the role of newspapers and periodicals in shaping architectural public opinion. Moreover, architectural discourses disseminated through the media affect not only architectural designs but also social and ideological structures. The study provides significant findings on how architectural history is rewritten through the media.

This study presents a holistic analysis of this field by discussing the role of mass media in shaping research in the discipline of architecture. This comprehensive approach to the impact of media on architectural history and public opinion aims to reveal the existing knowledge gaps in the field.

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INTRODUCTION

Throughout history, the discipline of architecture has been undergoing a continuous process of evolution under the influence of social, cultural, and technological changes.

To understand this process of change and to analyze the development of architectural practices in detail, researchers examine the existing building stock and use various written sources. These written sources, which provide essential information in fields such as architectural history, theory,

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and criticism, play a critical role in understanding the broader context of the discipline. Archival documents, visual documents (maps, engravings, paintings, etc.), books on the subject, monographs, public-private records, and mass media are among the primary sources used in architectural research. This study aims to systematically analyze how printed mass communication tools, such as newspapers and magazines, are utilized in architectural research, thereby revealing the role of these sources in shaping architectural thought.

Architectural theory has evolved in tandem with transformations in media technologies throughout history; forms of expression, representation, and circulation have been redefined in response to the technical possibilities of each era. The origins of this relationship date back to the Ancient World, when Vitruvius's *De Architectura* systematically codified written architectural knowledge; this work not only conveyed technical information but also established the intellectual framework of architecture (Rykwert, 1980). With the invention of the printing press during the Renaissance, this knowledge could be reproduced and disseminated to broader audiences; the writings of authors such as Alberti and Serlio enhanced the public nature of theoretical thought, transforming architectural practice and education (Wittkower, 1998; Alberti, 1485/1988). In the 19th century, architectural theory and history became institutionalized as distinct disciplines within the academic sphere, and this distinction facilitated theoretical diversification, particularly through its connections with art history, aesthetics, and critical thinking (Mallgrave, 2005). In the 20th century, the proliferation of printed publications - especially magazines and manifestos - paved the way for theory to circulate globally; publications such as *Architectural Review* and *Oppositions* enabled architecture to be discussed not only as a professional field but also as an ideological and cultural one (Colomina, 2020; Ockman, 2000). McLuhan's (1962) statement that "the medium is the message" emphasizes that the media are not merely a channel of transmission but also a shaper of intellectual structures; this perspective reveals that the formal structures of architectural theory cannot be considered independent of media technologies. In this context, every transformation in media technologies has reproduced the representational forms and epistemological structure of architectural theory. Today, digital media, with its speed, interactivity, and participatory structure, has not only transformed the production and circulation forms of architectural theory but has also become a constitutive framework that determines the social experience, representation, and public space of contemporary architecture (Carpo, 2011; McQuire, 2009). The relationship between media and architecture

is not just about building things, but also about shaping, discussing, and rewriting intellectual practices in the digital world, demonstrating the importance of taking an interdisciplinary approach (Lindsay et al., 2025). Thus, architecture is no longer merely a physical production that is built; it has become an intellectual practice that is shaped, discussed, and rewritten in the digital environment. In this context, the role played by mass communication tools, such as newspapers and magazines, in the production, representation, and circulation of architectural thought within the social sphere is worthy of historical examination. The interaction between architectural theory and media technologies provides a basis for systematically examining the impact of print publications on architectural studies through bibliometric analysis. The bibliometric method employed in this study aims to reveal how architectural discourse in newspapers and magazines has historically evolved and which theoretical themes have emerged, utilizing quantitative data.

This study focuses on the use of newspapers and periodicals such as magazines, little magazines, and journals in architectural research. Mass media connect societies through a communication network, allowing people to obtain information about what is happening around them (Tokgöz, 1981). The publications are essential sources of information in architectural research due to their capacity to reflect the social dynamics, cultural trends, and technological innovations of specific periods (Arabacı, 2004; Başaran, 2010). They reflect current events, developments, and a particular period's social and cultural atmosphere.

Using newspapers and periodicals in architectural research allows researchers to better understand a particular period's social and cultural context. According to Colomina, the center of architectural production is no longer just the construction site but the site of various publications and events such as magazines, posters, and exhibitions. Colomina emphasizes that mass media often outlive buildings. This shows that the structures designed by architects retain their place in history and are constantly recreated with the help of mass media (Colomina, 2020). This shows that architecture is not only a physical entity but also a phenomenon that is constantly constructed in the media and social memory.

Newspapers and periodicals can be applied to various tasks when conducting architectural research. Those works are valuable resources for documenting and comprehending the historical background. These publications are good sources for understanding the ideas, practices, and projects related to architecture within a specific time. They are also helpful for researching public opinion and perception. (Sklaire & Gherardi, 2012; Lindsay & Sawyer,

2021). They are analyzed to understand what the public thinks about architectural projects and urban planning and the social impact of these projects. Bernard Cohen (2015), in his work "The Press and Foreign Policy," defines the idea of agenda-setting as follows: "It may not be successful much of the time in telling people what to think, but it is stunningly successful in telling its readers what to think about". Print outlets are used to understand the public perception and discussion of architectural projects (Franco & Ortiz, 2020; de Oliveira Capela & Ramirez-Marquez, 2019; Lyytimäki, 2014; Hayes, 2000).

Architectural criticism also frequently appears in newspapers and periodicals. These reviews provide a valuable reference for academic studies by reflecting professional perspectives on the design, function, and aesthetics of a building. Researchers and architects can also study periodical advertisements and promotions to understand how architectural styles and materials are marketed (Hornbeck, 1999). It provides important clues to the history of architecture and the use of materials. These publications are also used to promote innovative architectural projects and technologies (Alaily-Mattar et al., 2021). Therefore, they are essential for documenting innovative solutions and techniques of the period.

Cultural and social studies utilize newspapers and periodicals to examine the influence of cultural and social norms prevailing in a particular period or region on architecture. These publications provide valuable information for understanding the relationship between architecture and social dynamics (García Estévez et al., 2019). Finally, news reports on specific architectural projects, activities, events, or debates provide researchers with a detailed examination of particular cases or examples. Thus, they are essential primary and secondary sources in architectural research.

This study examines the place of the use of newspapers and periodicals in architectural studies in the scientific literature. It is limited to Web of Science (WoS) database articles. WoS is a comprehensive online database where academic and scientific publications are indexed, and citation analysis can be performed. Global researchers use the Web of Science extensively in almost every field of knowledge. An essential resource for researchers and academics, WoS includes scientific journals, conference proceedings, and other academic works in various disciplines (Li et al., 2018).

This study aims to determine how research trends in architecture using newspapers and periodicals from mass media have evolved and diversified in the literature. In this direction, qualitative and quantitative analyses were conducted on bibliographic data. Quantitative studies consist of metric analyses, and qualitative studies consist of content analyses.

METHODOLOGY

Mixed-Method Systematic Research Approach

This study aims to analyze the relationships between architecture comprehensively and printed mass media (newspapers and periodicals) from a holistic perspective. Systematic literature reviews are comprehensive investigations based on scientific methods to make sense of large information bodies and answer specific research questions. By evaluating the existing literature in depth, these reviews reveal uncertainties and inconsistencies in the state of knowledge, identify areas where further research is needed, and provide guidance for future studies. Literature reviews combine the findings of different studies in a field, analyzing the variations between these findings and providing a clearer overall picture. It comprehensively assesses existing knowledge and methodological recommendations for future research. Systematic reviews aim to summarize the evidence in a subject area from a holistic perspective, guide research efforts more effectively, and contribute to developing new methods. Accordingly, the research questions are as follows:

- What is the place of mass media (newspapers and periodicals) in architectural research?
- How has using newspapers and periodicals in architectural research changed over time?
- What are the contributions of newspapers and periodicals as research materials in architectural research?
- How might the future role of mass media (newspapers and periodicals) evolve in architecture?
- Are there regional differences in the use of mass media? If so, how are these differences reflected in architectural research?

Data Collection: Selection of Database and Review Queries

The data collection process was initiated on August 23, 2024, using the Web of Science (WoS) database. Among the reasons for choosing WoS are that it provides comprehensive content from different disciplines, offers a wide variety of journals, covers high-impact journals, makes it easy to search, provides quality analysis content, and is widely used (Li et al., 2018). In addition, the fact that WoS defines Architecture as a field of science makes it easier to access relevant articles and provides a significant advantage to researchers in data cleaning/screening steps.

In this study, a targeted literature search strategy was employed to examine publications within the field of architecture. The Web of Science database query was performed in the "architecture" category in this database. The search was conducted within the abstract field only, using the following query, with no restrictions on

publication date: Architecture AND (newspaper OR journal OR magazine OR “mass media”).

To ensure relevance and scholarly quality, only articles indexed in the Arts & Humanities Citation Index (A&HCI), Social Sciences Citation Index (SSCI), Emerging Sources Citation Index (ESCI), and Science Citation Index Expanded (SCI-EXPANDED) were included. Furthermore, the scope was limited to English and Turkish language publications, as well as the article document type.

Although no temporal constraints were applied during the search, the resulting dataset predominantly covers the period between 2003 and 2024, reflecting the indexing span of relevant publications in WoS that meet the search criteria.

After collecting 193 articles, precise inclusion and exclusion criteria were established to efficiently filter and select only those relevant to the research topic. After importing every article into Mendeley, 4 duplicate entries were found and eliminated. The remaining articles were listed in Excel, and the full text was carefully reviewed. During this process, articles not directly related to the research topic were excluded, removing 56. Additionally, 6 articles were excluded due to inaccessible full texts. Consequently, 127 articles were selected for inclusion in the study (Figure 1).

Selected articles were saved in plain text format and analyzed in RStudio. The authors identified the newspapers and periodicals analyzed by these articles and saved their names in an Excel file. The bibliographic metadata analysis assessed the completeness of the dataset, comprising

127 documents. Most categories were rated “Excellent,” although some showed deficiency rates (Table 1). Significant deficiencies were found in the Keywords (40.94% missing) and Keywords Plus (88.19% missing) categories, rated as “Poor” and “Critical,” respectively (Table 1). Due to these metadata limitations, analyzing bigrams from article abstracts was considered a more meaningful approach for capturing content-related keyword patterns.

Data Analysis: Rstudio, Bibliometrix Package, Biblioshiny Tool

RStudio stands out as a powerful platform for scientific research, especially with the Bibliometrix package. Written in R, Bibliometrix offers comprehensive tools for scientific mapping and bibliometric analysis. The package provides efficient algorithms for the analysis and visualization of data and integrates with a broad scientific ecosystem. RStudio's open-source nature, flexibility, and integration with other R packages make it indispensable in constantly evolving scientific fields (Agnusdei & Coluccia, 2022; Kemeç & Tarakcioğlu Altınay, 2023). It is also the most user-friendly software for bibliometric studies (Moral-Muñoz et al., 2020).

Bibliometrix supports descriptive analysis of the bibliographic data framework, networking for bibliographic matching, co-citation, collaboration, and concurrency analyses. In addition, data visualization techniques such as conceptual structure mapping and network mapping are also prominent features of this package (Aria & Cuccurullo, 2017). It allows both qualitative and quantitative data to be

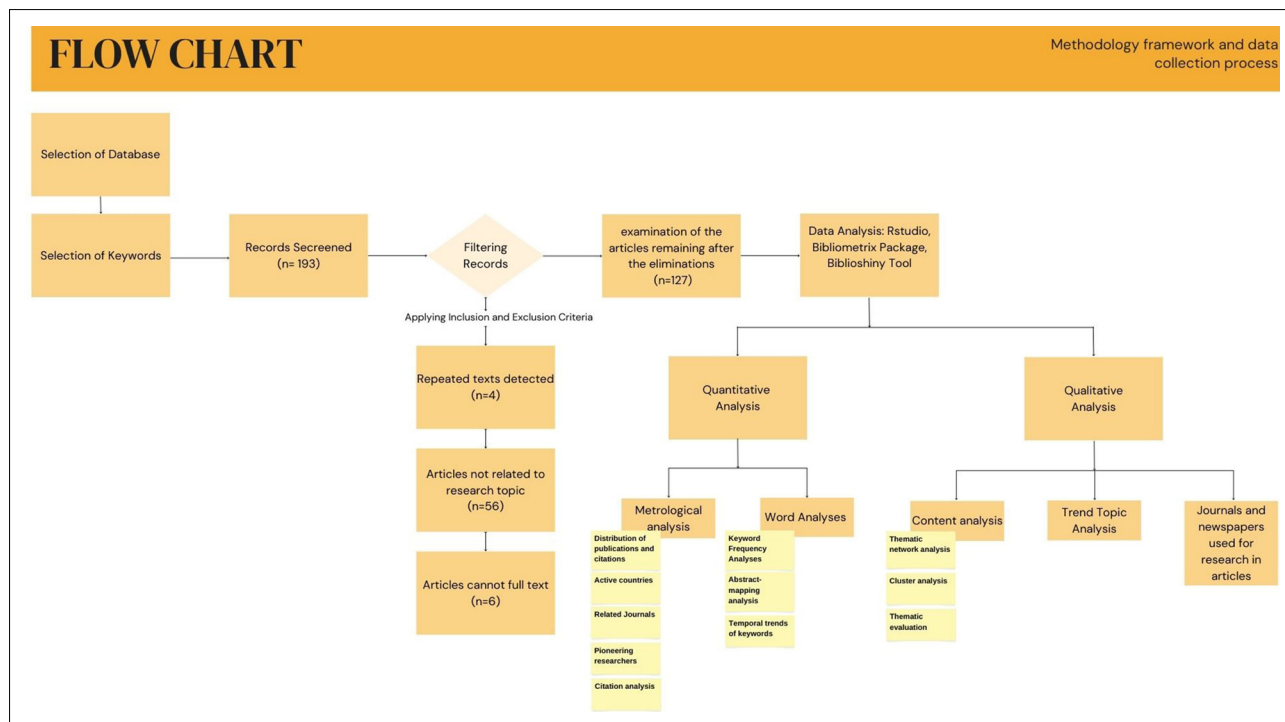


Figure 1. Methodology framework and data collection process (Generated by the Authors).

Table 1. Completeness of bibliographic metadata (Generated by the Authors using Rstudio)

Metadata	Description	Missing Counts	Missing %	Status
AB	Abstract	0	0	Excellent
AU	Author	0	0	Excellent
DT	Document Type	0	0	Excellent
SO	Journal	0	0	Excellent
LA	Language	0	0	Excellent
PY	Publication Year	0	0	Excellent
WC	Science Categories	0	0	Excellent
TI	Title	0	0	Excellent
TC	Total Citation	0	0	Excellent
CR	Cited References	3	2.36	Good
C1	Affiliation	13	10.24	Acceptable
RP	Corresponding Author	13	10.24	Acceptable
DI	DOI	17	13.39	Acceptable
DE	Keywords	52	40.94	Poor
ID	Keywords Plus	112	88.19	Critical

examined in detail in scientific research, which enables research to be conducted more comprehensively and systematically (Kemeç & Tarakcioğlu Altınay, 2023).

The Biblioshiny tool is a package that includes the core code of Bibliometrix and creates a web-based data analysis framework. This tool allows users to perform bibliometric and visual analyses through an interactive web interface and lowers the threshold of use (Xie et al., 2020). This combination makes it possible to effectively manage multi-stage processes such as collecting, analyzing, and visualizing scientific data.

In conclusion, the main reasons why RStudio is preferred in scientific research are that it is open-source, offers a broad scientific ecosystem, provides access to high-quality statistical algorithms, and offers integrated data visualization tools. These features make RStudio a preferred platform for bibliometric analysis.

The metric analysis comprised the quantitative component, covering annual article count distribution, citations, h-index, and word analysis. The content analysis comprised qualitative components, including thematic network analysis, cluster analysis, and thematic evaluation.

FINDINGS

QUANTITATIVE ANALYSES

Metrological analysis

The metrological analysis is the first stage of the quantitative analysis within the bibliometrics analysis. This section presents the distribution and citations of annual

publications, analysis of active countries based on multiple country publications, single country publication rates, most relevant journals based on the number of documents, researchers based on h-indexes, total citations (TC), number of publications (NP) and citation analysis.

Distribution of publications and citations: The RStudio Bibliometrix analysis provides essential insights into annual document volumes and citations. This review covers metrics such as yearly publication counts, Average Total Citations per Article, Average Citations per Year, and citationable years, visually represented in Figure 2.

According to the number of publication (NP) data, the highest number of articles was published in 2017, with 15, 2018, with 21, and 2016, with 11. MeanTCperArt (Average Total Citations per Article) This metric shows how many citations articles published each year receive on average. One can assess the success of articles published in specific years regarding citation by looking at how this value changes over the years. A single article published in 2003 received 12 citations. With 8.50 citations, articles published in 2021 were effective in receiving citations. MeanTCperYear (Average Citation Per Year) shows the citation rates of articles over the years. This data is essential for studying the citation trends and impact of articles in the long term. The year 2021 stands out with an average of 2.12 citations per year, indicating that recent articles are cited rapidly.

Active countries: A comprehensive analysis of the data produced through RStudio revealed active participation in research on reasons for rework in 30 countries. Table 2 highlights the top 10 countries by number of publications.

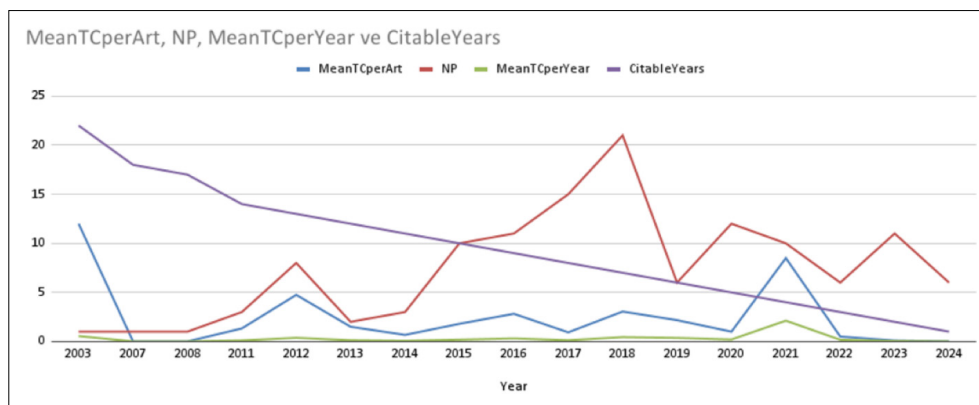


Figure 2. Distribution of publication citations and citations. (Generated by the Authors from RStudio).

Table 2. Total number of articles, SCP, and MCP by the most active countries (Generated by the Authors using Rstudio)

Country	Articles (NP)	Articles (%)	Single Country Publications (SCP)	Multiple Country Publications (MCP)	MCP % Ratio
USA	17	13.4	15	2	11.8
SPAIN	14	11	13	1	7.1
UNITED KINGDOM	14	11	14	0	0
AUSTRALIA	13	10.2	12	1	7.7
CHINA	8	6.3	7	1	12.5
ITALY	7	5.5	7	0	0
NEW ZEALAND	4	3.1	4	0	0
FRANCE	3	2.4	3	0	0
TURKEY	3	2.4	3	0	0

The table includes the number of articles (NP), Single Country Publications (SCP), Multiple Country Publications (MCP), and MCP % Ratio. The USA has published the most articles, with 17. 11.8% of its articles involve international cooperation. Spain and the UK published 14 articles each, but Spain has an MCP rate of 7.1%. It is 0% in the UK, meaning all articles are published nationally. China ranks 5th with 8 articles, but the MCP rate is relatively high at 12.5%.

Related Journals: The dataset of 127 articles published from 2003 to 2024 includes contributions from 38 journals (Figure 3).

“Journal of Architecture” stands out as the journal with the highest number of publications with 23 articles, followed by ‘Fabrications-The Journal of the Society of Architectural Historians, Australia and New Zealand’ with 11 articles and ‘EGA-Revista de Expresion Grafica Arquitectonica’ with 10 articles.

Productive Researchers: Figure 4 shows the academic productivity of the authors over the years. Hultzs A experienced a marked increase in productivity from 2018 onwards and was actively publishing until 2020. Burns,

K. and Chu, CL. worked intensively between 2016-2018. Corry, R.C. and Hogben, P. actively published between 2015-2017.

Citation analysis: This study conducted a citation analysis to identify and examine the most frequently cited publications. Table 3 shows the prominent articles according to both local and global citations. Hultzs (2020a) and Wittman (2020) have the highest number of local citations (2) and have a balanced impact both locally and globally (**Local Citations** (LC)/ **Global Citations** (GC) ratio 100%). On the other hand, Peters & Halleran (2021) stand out as the most globally cited article, with 78 global citations.

Word analyses

Keyword analysis includes keyword frequency analysis, keyword mapping, and temporal trends of keyword analysis, which are essential elements of the broader quantitative analysis.

The integrity of the bibliographic metadata list (Table 1) shows the status of keywords and keywords-plus values in the dataset as critical and poor. For this reason, subsequent word analyses were performed on abstracts as two-word phrases (bigrams).

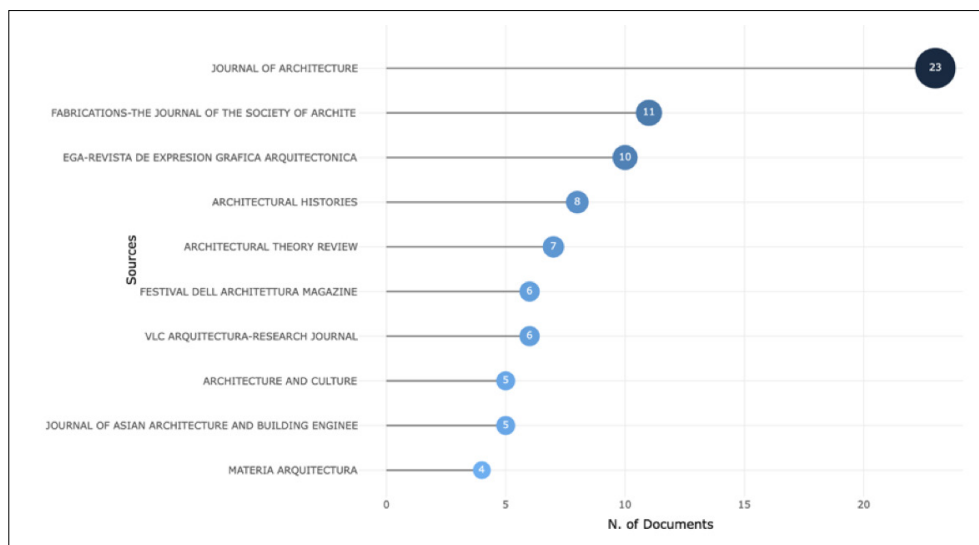


Figure 3. Top 10 journals significantly contributing to research on newspaper and periodicals (Generated by the Authors using Rstudio).

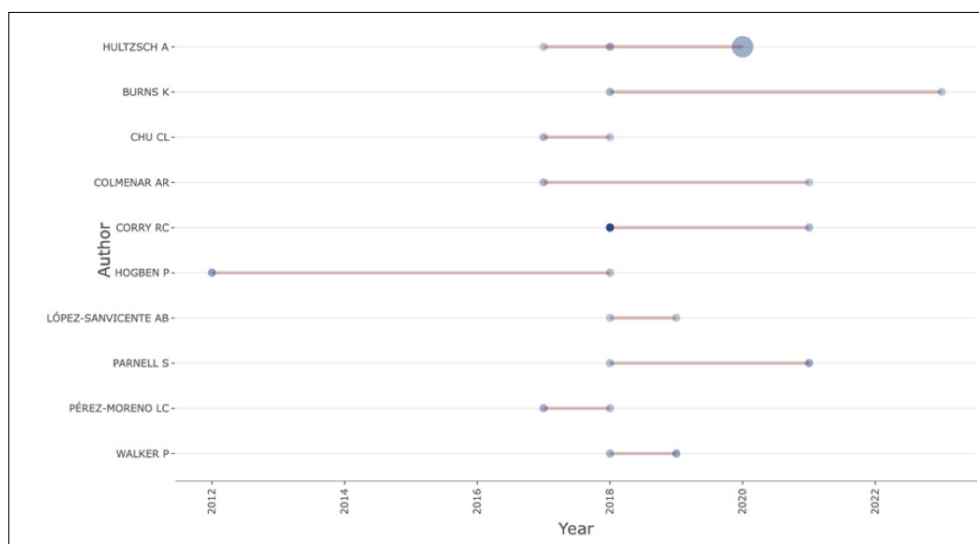


Figure 4. Productivity trends of the top 10 scholars over time (Generated by the Authors using Rstudio).

Keyword Frequency Analyses: According to Figure 5, which visualizes the frequencies of the keywords the authors used most frequently in their studies, subtopics such as history, modernism, Spain, and the 20th century were prominent around the central theme of “Architecture.” These results show that the studies are interested in the history and theory of architecture and focus on Spanish architecture and modernism.

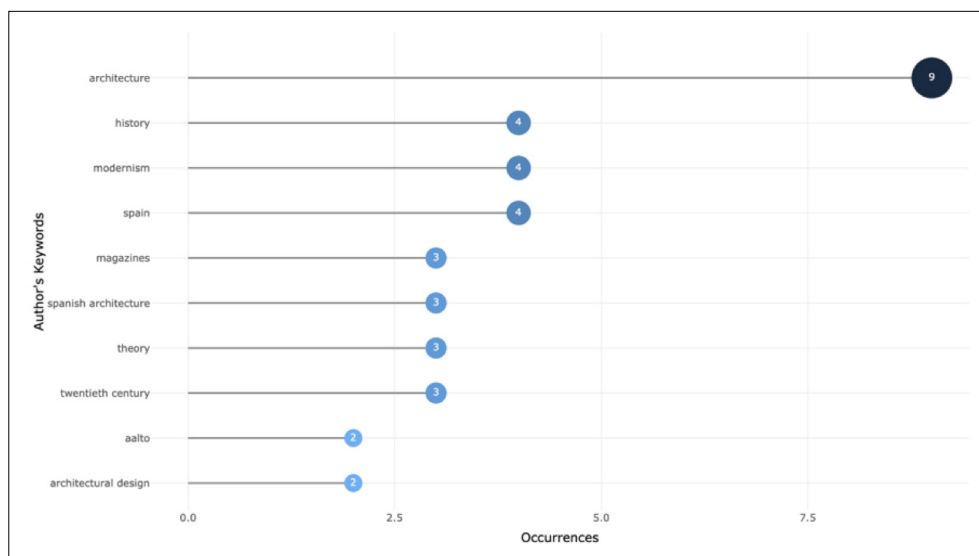
Abstract-mapping analysis: This Co-occurrence Network analysis reveals the most frequently used two-word phrases (bigrams) in the abstracts of the studies and the relationships between these phrases (Figure 6). Each phrase node represents terms used in the literature, and the links represent the relationship between these phrases.

In the graph, terms such as Modern Architecture and Architectural History stand out as the largest and central nodes, highlighting the centrality of these fields in research. The term Twentieth Century is also an essential part of this research. The clusters in different colors show how these terms are grouped and related. For example, the red cluster includes terms such as “architectural theory” and “newspaper,” while in the purple cluster, the terms “urban planning” and “architectural history” are more frequently used together. Smaller clusters, such as social media and online influences, represent more specific areas.

Temporal trends of keywords: The analysis shows how specific architectural themes have emerged in academic

Table 3. The prominent articles, according to local and global citations (Generated by the Authors using Rstudio)

Document	DOI	Year	Local Citations (LC)	Global Citations (GC)	LC/GC Ratio (%)	Normalized Local Citations	Normalized Global Citations
HULTZSCH A, 2020, J ARCHITECTURE	10.1080/13602365.2020.1833962	2020	2	2	100.00	8.00	2.00
RUIZ COLMENAR A, 2017, VLC ARQUIT	10.4995/vlc.2017.7708	2017	1	2	50.00	7.50	2.14
CHU CL, 2017, J ARCHITECTURE	10.1080/13602365.2017.1362025	2017	1	2	50.00	7.50	2.14
WITTMAN R, 2020, J ARCHITECTURE	10.1080/13602365.2020.1828996	2020	1	1	100.00	4.00	1.00
PETERS T. & HALLERAN, A., 2021, ARCHNET-IJAR	10.1108/ARCH-08-2020-0159	2021	0	78	0.00		9.18
METSPALU, P. & Hess, D. B. 2018, PLAN PERSPECT	10.1080/02665433.2017.1348974	2018	0	24	0.00		7.88
KULIC V, 2018, ARCHIT HIST-LONDON	10.5334/ah.273	2018	0	14	0.00		4.59
KULLMANN K, 2016, J LANDSC ARCHIT	10.1080/18626033.2016.1144668	2016	0	13	0.00		4.61
LANGLEY WN, & et. al. 2018, LANDSC J	10.3368/lj.37.1.9	2018	0	13	0.00		4.27

**Figure 5.** Top 10 frequently used words in studies based on keywords (Generated by the Authors using Rstudio).

debates over the years (Figure 7). Modern architecture has become one of architectural literature's most frequently used themes, significantly increasing since 2012. Similarly, the terms architectural history and architectural discourse have steadily increased after 2015. The theme of the world war started to attract attention after 2017, and terms such as landscape architecture and architectural magazines have been used since the 2010s. The geographically specific terms American and Australian architecture show a slow upward trend.

QUALITATIVE ANALYSIS

This section examined themes' development, loss of importance, and potential with Thematic Network analysis; the clustering and relationships of themes based on factor analysis with Cluster analysis; and the evolution of themes over time with Thematic evaluation. Trend Topic Analysis was used to evaluate the change in themes over the years.

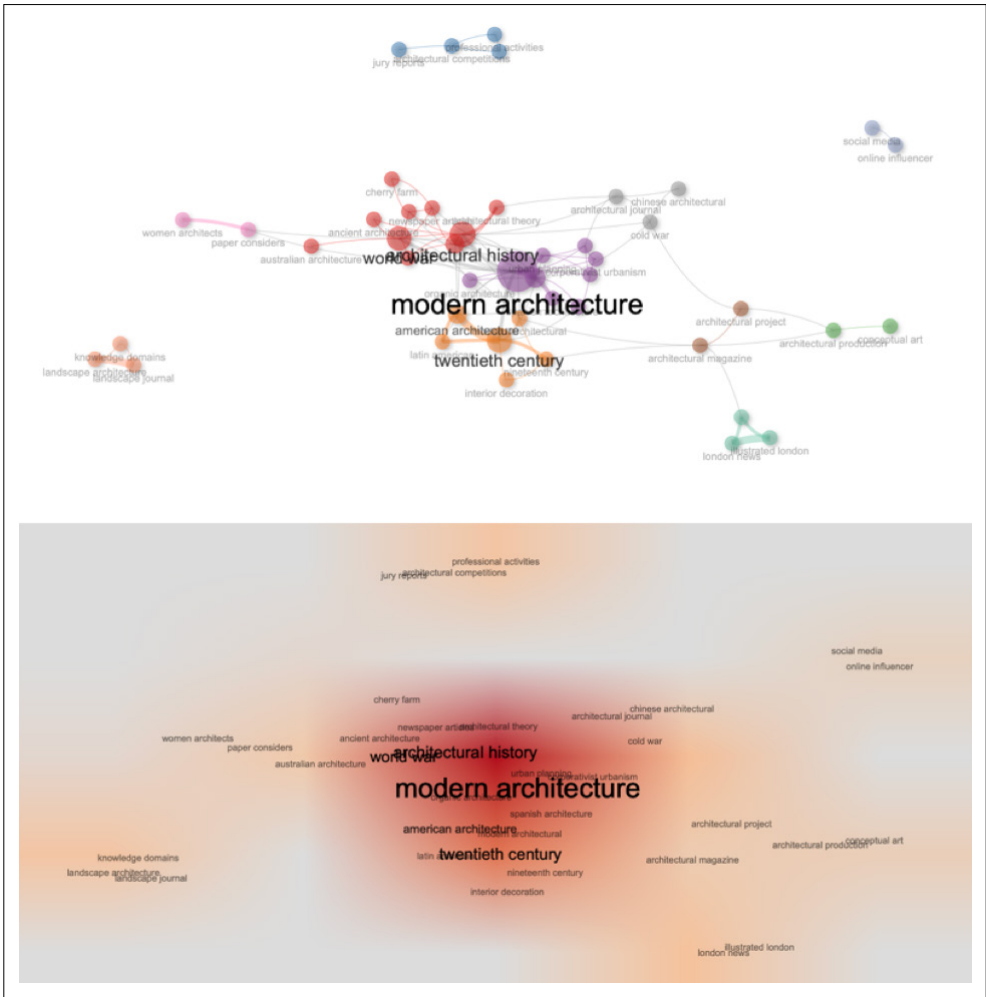


Figure 6. Abstract bigrams based, co-occurrence network analysis (Generated by the Authors using Rstudio).

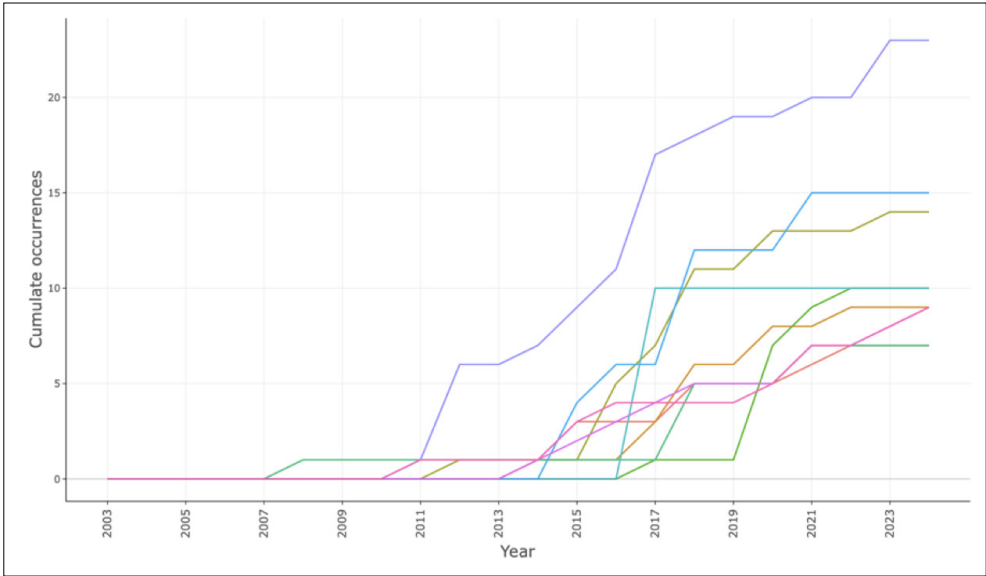


Figure 7. Frequency of word (abstract bigrams) usage over time (Generated by the Authors using Rstudio).

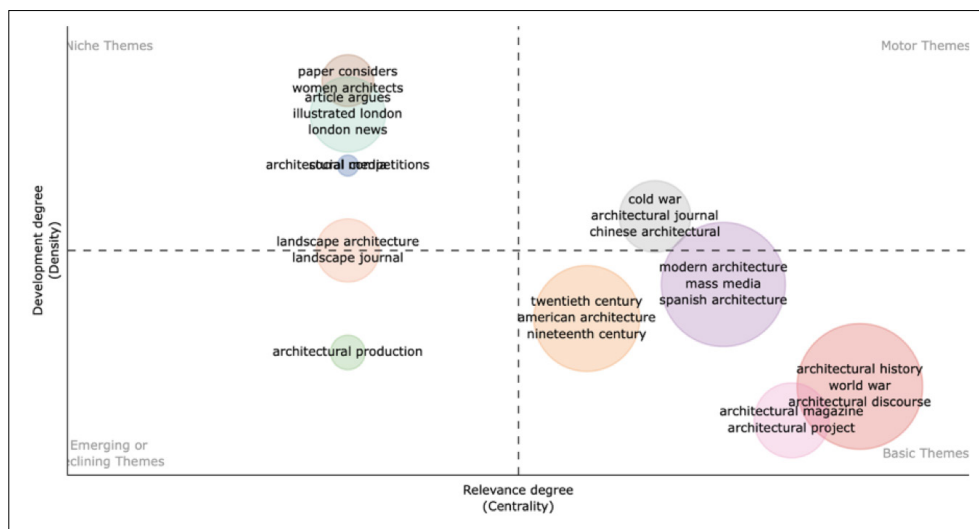


Figure 8. The thematic map (Generated by the Authors using Rstudio).

Content analysis

Thematic network analysis: In Figure 8, the thematic map shows how various themes in the field of architecture are located along the dimensions of density and centrality. On the map, motor themes, such as modern architecture, architectural history, and the twentieth century, stand out as essential and developed, dense, and centralized topics. Niche themes, women architects, and social media stand out as topics studied in depth in specialized fields but are outside the broader academic landscape. Themes such as architectural production in the bottom left-hand corner have low density and centrality and may be either emerging or have lost academic relevance. In addition, core themes such as architectural magazines and architectural projects are identified as widely discussed topics that still need to be covered in depth.

Cluster analysis: Using factor analysis, the graph in Figure 9 shows how the themes related to architecture are distributed in clusters and how they relate to each other. The links between terms can be examined along two main dimensions. The horizontal axis (Dim 1) explains 30.31% of the total variance, and the vertical axis (Dim 2) explains 25.89%.

The analysis is analyzed along two main dimensions: The red cluster, which brings together contemporary issues such as modern architecture, media, and landscape architecture, and shows that terms such as Spanish architecture and modern architecture are particularly prominent in these discussions. The purple cluster includes themes of American architecture and 19th and 20th-century architectural history. The blue cluster includes discussions on architectural theory, western architecture, and world wars. The green cluster is related to more recent architectural projects, academic debates, and publishing; the term cold war is prominent here.

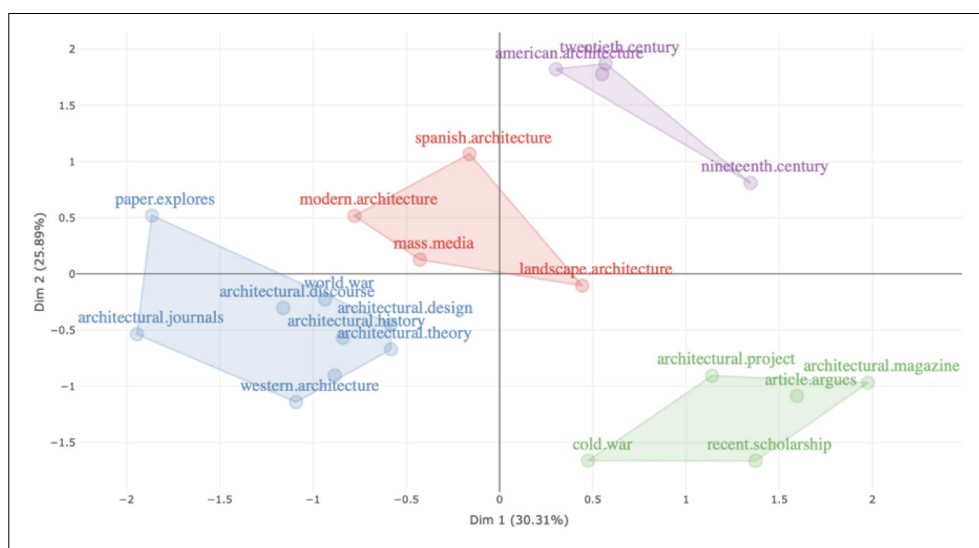


Figure 9. Cluster detection with factorial analysis (Generated by the Authors using Rstudio).

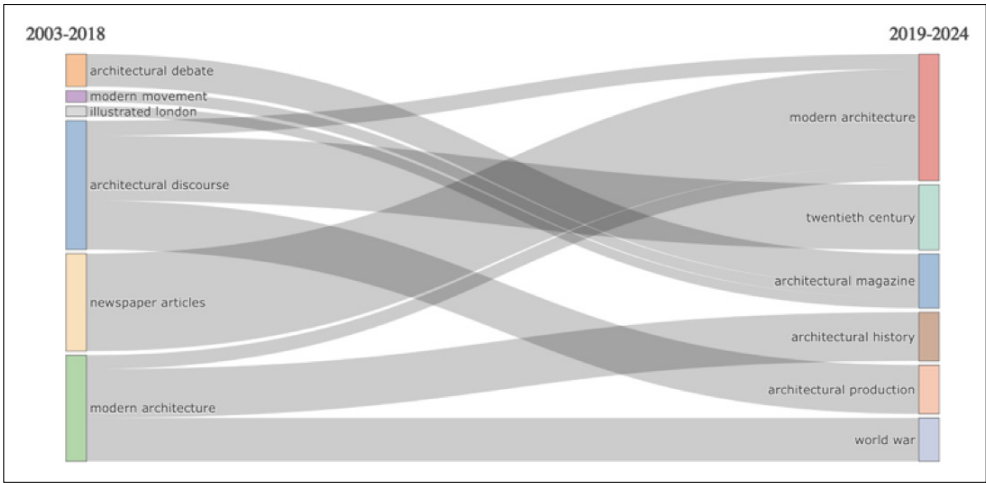


Figure 10. The thematic evolution over time, using Sankey diagram (Generated by the Authors using Rstudio).

Thematic evolution: Figure 10 shows the thematic evolution between 2003-2018 and 2019-2024. This analysis, which visualizes the connections and transformations between the themes between the two periods, highlights how architecture topics have changed over time.

Architectural discourse and newspaper articles were prominent themes in 2003-2018. They show that architectural debates are primarily addressed through print media and general discourses. Topics such as modern architecture and the modern movement reveal that elements of architectural history related to modernism were discussed intensively in this period.

In the 2019-2024 period, the theme of modern architecture

is again at the forefront, and this theme, which has maintained its influence in the previous period, shows that it is still a current focus of interest in the field of architecture. Themes such as architectural magazine and architectural history indicate that the interest in architectural history and publishing has increased in the post-2019 period. Interestingly, the theme of world war has also become prominent in this period.

Trend Topic Analysis

The Trending Topics graph (Figure 11) shows the distribution of terms that have gained prominence and importance over the years.

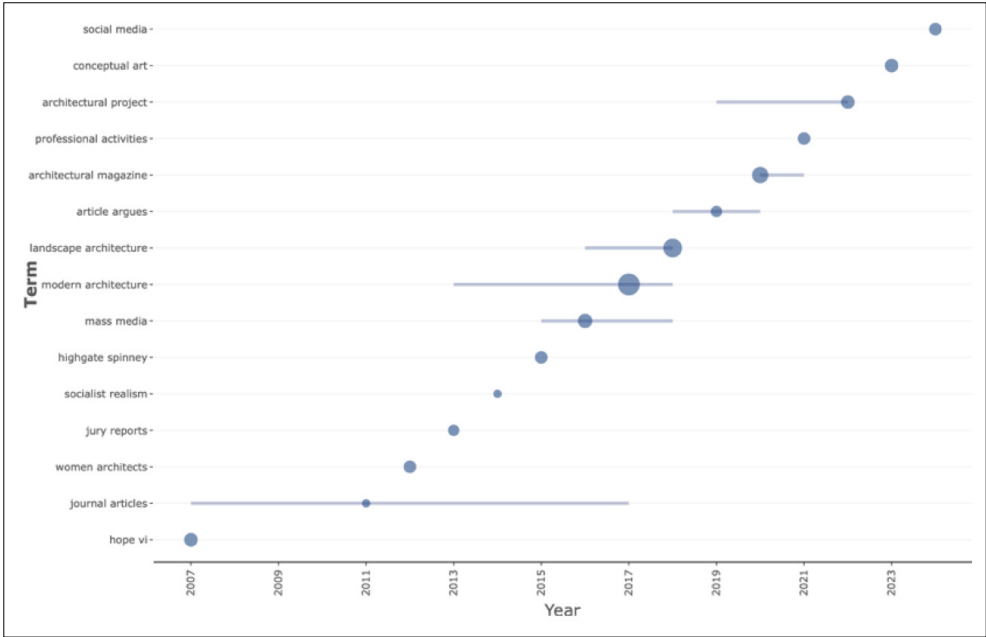


Figure 11. Trend topics in newspaper and periodical studies (Generated by the Authors using Rstudio).

Especially in the post-2020 period, concepts such as modern architecture and social media have become more prominent in architectural debates. Terms such as conceptual art and architectural project, notable in 2011–2013, lost their popularity in this period. On the other hand, niche topics such as women architects attracted more attention in 2015–2017. Notably, terms such as mass media and architectural magazine have also been addressed with increasing interest in the relationship between architecture and media. The size of the terms in the graph reflects their popularity and influence, while their horizontal length reflects the length of time they were discussed. For example, while Modern architecture had a broad impact, terms such as Hope VI were discussed more extensively. The analysis shows that such issues as social media, contemporary architecture, and gender studies are becoming increasingly prominent in architecture.

DISCUSSION

A data set of 127 academic articles published to date, consisting of studies using newspapers and periodicals in architecture, was used. These articles, taken from the WoS (Web of Science) database, were analyzed using the Rstudio program with two analysis methods: Quantitative and qualitative.

Quantitative analyses: Include the distribution of publications and citations, countries of influence, journals where publications were made, and keyword analysis.

There was a fluctuating trend in the number of publications between 2012–2018, with an increase in 2016 (11 articles), 2017 (15 articles) and 2018 (21 articles). This increase can be attributed to the popularity of topics, funding of projects, or academic policies (Figure 2).

When the countries that are active in publications are analyzed, it is seen that countries such as the USA, Spain, and China are more open to international collaborations, and the publications arising from these collaborations can be effective (Table 1). Countries such as the United Kingdom, Italy, and Turkey are more likely to publish at the national level. Countries differ in their academic production strategies and approaches to collaborations. As a result, the scholarly impact of international collaborations is distributed across countries with various approaches, reflecting each country's specific research policies.

The analysis of the most published journals reveals how newspapers and periodicals are used in architectural research and which publications stand out in this field (Figure 3). The "Journal of Architecture" hosts the highest number of publications on the relevant subject with 23 articles because the journal offers various topics. Topics such as the historical development of the architectural profession, its role in public opinion (Hultzs, 2020a; Hultzs, 2020b),

the effects of media and photography on architecture (Sealy, 2016; Popovici, 2014), regional modernism and identity (Seng, 2017; Pérez-Moreno, 2017; Vergara & Pizza, 2021; Özer & Yücel, 2018; Poppelreuter, 2012) come to the fore. This broad perspective and scope make the journal widely preferred in academic studies and provide a comprehensive analysis of different transformations within architecture.

"Fabrications - The Journal of the Society of Architectural Historians, Australia and New Zealand" has one of the highest number of articles because of its in-depth focus on the history of architecture. These articles address the region's architectural developments and international influences, as well as issues such as the search for postcolonial identity and the documentation of local architectural heritage (Walker & Burns, 2018; McLaughlan, 2012; Matthews, 2008; Memmott & Davidson, 2008; McCarthy, 2011). The journal emphasizes the relationship of architectural practices with social sciences and cultural studies, making it a publication that appeals to a broad academic audience.

The reason for the high number of articles in "EGA-Revista de Expresión Gráfica Arquitectónica" is the journal's focus on architectural history and graphic representation. The articles examine architectural representations (Morán García, 2023; Sánchez, 2015), architectural history, and drawing techniques (Ruiz Colmenar, 2021; Mendoza Rodríguez et al., 2017; López-Sanvicente, 2019; Oliva Meyer, 2014; San José Alonso, 2018) add to the academic appeal of the journal through the media.

Hultzs (2017; 2018; 2020a; 2020b) is distinguished by his continuous productivity and four publications focusing on the relationship between architecture and media from a historical perspective. His first two publications focus on the influence of architectural journals in 19th-century Europe and Britain, while the other two focus on the representation of architectural images in the press during the Victorian era. Hultzs's (2020a) publication was the most cited article locally and globally (Table 3). Chu (2017) examined the impact of modern house design on social and cultural reforms in China. Chu (2018) investigated how architectural images create local and global contrasts in Shanghai and Hong Kong. These studies provide essential analyses of how global images are represented in architecture. Ruiz Colmenar (2017) examined 20th-century Spanish architectural criticism and explored how architectural representations in the Spanish press influenced the perception of architecture in 2021. Both Chu and Ruiz Colmenar have influential citations at the local and global levels.

Walker & Burns (2018) examined the promotion of 1980s Australian architecture and postmodernism. Burns (2023) focused on the relationship between media, architecture, and conceptual art. Langley et al. (2018) examined the knowledge fields of landscape architecture,

and Corry (2021) examined the effects of academic publication processes on landscape architecture. Hogben (2012; 2018) examined the impact of American modernism on Australian architecture and the aesthetic evaluation of Sydney architectural structures. López-Sanvicente & Julian (2018) analyzed Eisenman's "model independence" and architectural renovation processes in Cuenca (López-Sanvicente, 2019). Parnell (2018) and Parnell & Sawyer (2021) examined the transformation of AD and the impact of architectural journals on the profession and culture.

Within the scope of keyword analysis, frequency analysis of the words used was carried out. It shows that subtopics such as history, modernism, and especially 20th-century architecture in Spain are frequently covered around the central theme of "architecture." This reflects an interest in architectural theory and history, with Spanish architecture and modernism receiving more specific attention. The study's engagement with modernism can help us understand the far-reaching influence of this period in architectural history and how it was interpreted in different geographical contexts. Especially considering the influence of modernism on the architectural movements of the 20th century, it is conceivable that the newspapers and periodicals prevalent during this period contributed to the conduct of historical research. It can also be considered an indicator of the emphasis on modernism in these print outlets published in the late 19th and first half of the 20th century. The analysis based on word frequency suggests that studies on the history of architecture are generally analyzed through specific periods, geographical regions, and theoretical perspectives. The emphasis on Spanish architecture provides a significant opportunity to understand the place of regional architectural studies in global architectural debates. Likewise, references to the work of prominent architects such as Aalto suggest that architectural history is also evaluated through personal conceptions of design and innovative architectural practices. Newspapers and periodicals are both a historical source and a tool for understanding contemporary architectural theories.

Qualitative analyses: In qualitative analyses, thematic and trend analyses were conducted. In addition to these, the authors revealed the subjects of the articles, the newspapers and periodicals used in the articles.

Thematic Network Analysis: Thematic map analysis provides a critical perspective in identifying important areas of research in the architectural literature. The fact that motor themes such as modern architecture, architectural history and twentieth century occupy a strong position in terms of both density and centrality indicates that these topics have been studied and widely accepted. It can be argued that these themes still have the potential to expand for researchers.

Niche themes such as "women architects" and "social media" have not yet been studied in depth in academic circles, but are receiving intense research interest in specific areas. The contributions of women architects and the impact of social media on architecture, although not fully explored, may gain more importance in the future. The growing interest in gender studies and the impact of digital technologies on architecture suggests that these themes offer significant research opportunities.

Themes with low intensity and centrality, such as "architectural production", can be considered either as topics that have lost their academic relevance or as topics that have not yet matured. In the thematic map, key themes such as "architectural magazine" and "architectural project," offer broad research areas but have not yet been explored in depth. These themes are among the topics that require further research, especially with digitalization and new technologies.

Factorial analysis evaluation: To better understand the thematic structure of the selected articles, a factorial analysis evaluation was conducted using K-means clustering. This process grouped related concepts based on their co-occurrence patterns in article abstracts, identifying four distinct clusters that reveal different aspects of the relationship between media, architectural discourse, and historical developments. These clusters provide insights into the role of newspapers and periodicals in shaping architectural thought.

The visual representation (Table 4) illustrates these clusters. Cluster 1 examines the role of media in architectural discourse through modernization and regional-global interactions. Cluster 2 explores newspapers and periodicals as research tools, emphasizing their historical and theoretical significance. Cluster 3 focuses on architectural journals, their influence on projects, and their role in Cold War narratives. Cluster 4 highlights how journals shaped professionalization, knowledge dissemination, and cultural exchange in the 19th and 20th centuries.

Thematic Evolution: From 2003 to 2018, architectural debates were mainly conducted through "newspaper articles" and "architectural discourse," studies that were associated with modernism. Between 2019 and 2024, while the theme of "modern architecture" continued, the themes of "architectural magazine," "architectural history," and "world war" came to the fore, and research focused on modern architecture, architectural history, and the effects of wars.

The thematic shifts observed between these two periods reflect both the continuing influence of modern architecture and the growing importance of historical events and publishing in the discipline of architecture. These shifts call for a reassessment of architectural practice and theory in a broader context, emphasizing the discipline's ever-evolving nature and the impact of historical events.

Table 4. Factorial analyses evaluation with content of studies (Generated by the Authors)

	Main Themes	Content	Relevant Studies
Cluster 1: Modernization, Regional Approaches in Architecture, and Global Interactions	The Role of Media in Architectural Discourse and Modernity	Architectural magazines and newspapers contribute to the formation and evolution of architectural discourse.	Pozzi (2015), Ruiz Colmenar (2017)
	The Reconstruction of Local Architectural Narratives through Media	How does media reshape architectural discourse at the local level?	Chu (2017)
	Regional Influences of Modernism	The impact of Western modernism on Korean architecture, urban modernization processes, and collective memory	Seo (2017), Méndez & Ramírez (2016)
	The Dissemination of Modern Architecture in the Mediterranean	How modern architecture was integrated into the Mediterranean region through media and magazines	Vergara & Pizza (2021)
	Architecture, Media, and Political Discourse	The role of media in using architecture as an ideological tool (socialist architecture, fascist regimes, Orientalism)	Daunt & Gosseye (2023), Kulic (2018), Rifkind (2012)
	Media and Interdisciplinary Engagement in Landscape Architecture	How media represents interdisciplinary engagements and publishing processes in landscape architecture	Kullmann (2016), Langley, Corry & Brown (2018), Cushing & Renata (2015), Corry (2021)
Cluster 2: The Role of Media and Publications in Architecture – History, Theory, and Discourse	Visual Culture and Architectural Discourse	How visualization technologies and media reinforce architectural narratives	Özemer (2015), López-Sanvicente & Julián (2018)
	Media Representations and Architectural Discourse	How does media represent socialist architecture within ideological frameworks?	Kulic (2018)
	The Regional Impact of Western Modernism	The influence of Western modernism on Korean and Indonesian architecture; the use of journals as primary sources	Seo (2017), Mahatmanto (2015)
	The Relationship Between Engineering and Modern Architecture	How do newspaper and journal archives reveal the relationship between engineering and modern architecture?	Graus (2023)
	Psychoanalytic Theory and Spatial Perception	How do journals and articles explain spatial perception through psychoanalytic theory?	Poppelreuter (2012)
	The Role of Newspaper and Periodical Archives in Research	The use of newspaper and periodical archives as critical sources for historical and theoretical analysis in architectural research	Seo (2017), Mahatmanto (2015), Graus (2023), Poppelreuter (2012)
Cluster 3: Architectural Journals, Periods, and Projects	Architectural Journals and Discourse Production	How architectural photography reproduces the architectural experience, modern representation of Mediterranean architecture, theoretical and project discussions in Lotus' first thirty years	Borree (2022), Sánchez (2015), Marzo (2018)

Table 4. Factorial analyses evaluation with content of studies (Generated by the Authors) (Cont.)

Main Themes	Content	Relevant Studies
Cluster4: The Influence of Journals on 19th and 20th Century Architectural Culture	The Impact of Architectural Journals on the Profession	Hultzsich (2020a), Parnell & Sawyer (2021)
	Architectural Projects and Publications	Sánchez (2015), Fernandez & Villarias (2022)
	Cold War Era Publications, Architecture, and Ideology	Keller (2023), Kulic (2018), Gao et al. (2022)
	Architectural Journals and Professional Practice	Hultzsich (2020b)
	Newspapers and Interior Design Education	May (2017)
	Dissemination of Architectural Imagery and Public Perception	Hogben (2018), Morán-García (2023)
	Colonial-era Architectural Publications	Walker & Achmadi (2019)
	Media and Architectural Criticism	Ruiz Colmenar (2017)
	Professionalization of Architecture Offices	Quici (2022)
	Intellectual Divisions in Architectural Culture	Giudice (2014)
	Architectural Sketches and Historical Influence	Frajndlich (2024)
	Cultural Dissemination, Modernist Projects and Urban Continuity with Publications	Grajales (2016), Radulj & Novaković (2023), Daunt & Gosseye (2023)
	The Influence of Architectural Journals on Discourse	Zuliani (2018)

Relational Interpretation of Quantitative and Qualitative Findings

This section examines the overlaps and differences that emerge from combining the quantitative and qualitative analyses used in the study. Notable relationships were observed between quantitative indicators, such as citation data, keyword trends, journal and country distributions, and qualitative data, including thematic maps, content clusters, and evolutionary analysis.

First, concepts with high frequency in keyword analysis (e.g., modern architecture, architectural history, representation) also stand out in qualitative content analysis with high centrality and density levels (e.g., “modernism” and “20th-century architecture” themes in Cluster 1, and “representation” in Cluster 3 have high centrality values). This overlap indicates a meaningful discursive continuity between the two methodological levels.

Second, during the period of increased publication numbers between 2012 and 2018, themes that emerged in qualitative analyses (e.g., identity, media, discourse) also gained prominence during these years. (For example, studies published between 2015 and 2018, such as those by Pozzi, Seo, López-Sanvicente, and Langley, coincide with both the period of increased publication numbers and the center of the thematic clusters). This parallelism indicates that thematic intensity and academic interest developed simultaneously over time.

Third, examining the thematic focus of countries with high publication output (e.g., the US, Spain, the UK, Australia, China) suggests that geographical context may influence research preferences. Quantitative data, such as the fact that the US's articles are primarily based on its sources, but also involve international collaboration, and that Spain engages in more international collaboration than the UK, suggest that national and international collaboration may influence countries' thematic choices.

Fourth, there is a high level of alignment between the journals with the highest number of publications and thematic clusters. Journals such as *The Journal of Architecture*, *Fabrications*, and *EGA-Revista de Expresión Gráfica Arquitectónica* focus on themes such as modernism and media theory; regional identity and postcolonial narratives; architectural drawing and historical representation, respectively (for example, most of the modernism-themed studies in Cluster 1 were published in *The Journal of Architecture*). This alignment demonstrates that conceptual approaches to the media-architecture relationship are also reflected in the journals' publication policies.

Finally, some highly cited studies (e.g., Peters & Halleran, 2021, with 78 global citations) do not directly align with the central themes of the content clusters. However, studies such as Hultzs (2020a) have received significant citations in their local context but have not been directly highlighted

in terms of thematic centrality. This situation demonstrates that not only content depth, but also publication channel, timing, and theoretical background, are crucial for academic visibility.

These findings reveal the complementary nature of quantitative and qualitative methods, shedding light on the multi-layered structure of research on media-architecture relations.

CONCLUSION

This study aims to evaluate the role of newspapers and periodicals in architectural research and examine these media's contribution to the discipline through quantitative and qualitative methods. The data obtained by analyzing 127 articles in the Web of Science (WoS) database shows how these publications have become essential research tools in architecture. The research is limited to newspapers and periodicals (magazines, little journals, and journals); other media types (such as TV, radio, and social media) are omitted. The study comprehensively analyzes how the media influence architectural discourses and public opinion formation. It draws attention to the importance of these sources in shaping architectural history, public perception, and critical perspectives.

The research results detail the dimensions of the contribution of newspapers and periodicals to architectural research. While quantitative analyses addressed the annual distribution of publications in this field and metric data such as the number of citations, qualitative analyses revealed the role of newspapers and periodicals in architectural discourses through a content-based approach. It was found that the increasing number of publications in the years 2012–2018 indicates a growing academic interest in the relationship between architecture and media and that journals such as *Journal of Architecture*, *Fabrications* and *EGA-Revista de Expresión Gráfica Arquitectónica* are among the prominent publications in this field. Through specific keyword analysis, the study also reveals that architectural research focuses on topics such as modernism, social media, gender, and landscape architecture. These findings confirm the media's influence on the critical issues addressed in architectural research and its power to shape architectural discourse in a social and cultural context. Studies on architecture using newspapers and periodicals cover various topics, from historical analysis to theoretical evaluations. Specific thematic analyses and clustering techniques were applied in the research, and in-depth analyses that different methods could provide were not included. However, the thematic and clustering analyses emphasize the impact of international collaborations on academic production and discourse diversity by addressing the contributions of media tools to architectural research in the context of different periods and geographies. International collaborations and the potential of regional architectural journals to increase

cultural interactions provide diversity and richness in the architectural discipline, allowing discourses from different geographies to contribute to academic production.

The study shows how newspapers and periodicals transform the transmission of knowledge about the history of architecture. It is found that architectural magazines not only document the architectural movements of a particular period but also reflect how these movements are perceived and evaluated by society. Magazines play a vital role in promoting, criticizing, and preserving a particular architectural style or project in the public memory, thus ensuring that these structures have a longer-lasting place in the social memory. In this context, it is seen that newspapers and periodicals significantly impact the history of architecture and that the buildings designed by architects are considered physical entities and phenomena reconstructed in the media and social memory. Another essential part of this study is examining how newspapers and periodicals are used in architectural research and identifying the primary sources contributing to the body of knowledge in the field. The analysis reveals the essential newspapers and periodicals frequently consulted in architecture and highlights the data potential these publications offer to academic studies. The study results show how important the use of the print outlets in architectural research is in examining the impact of regional developments on architecture and in understanding various aspects of the discipline.

This study makes an essential contribution to the literature by systematically analyzing the contributions of newspapers and periodicals to architectural research. They are valuable sources for researchers who want to understand a particular period's social, cultural, and technological context. They are used as multifaceted sources of information, for example, the transmission of historical events, the shaping of social perception, and the criticism of architecture. This study discusses them comprehensively to close the knowledge gaps in the literature. In this context, journals that can be consulted and published for studies that use sources such as newspapers and periodicals as data collection tools are presented.

One limitation of this study arises from its keyword-based search strategy, which focused solely on terms related to printed media (e.g., “newspaper,” “periodical,” “magazine,” “press”). As a result, emerging themes such as artificial intelligence, digital media, health-oriented design, and sustainability are underrepresented. This exclusion reflects not a lack of relevance but a constraint inherent in the search criteria. Future research could provide a more comprehensive framework for how media intersects with architectural thought and practice in changing contexts by expanding the scope of keywords to include interdisciplinary and technology-focused concepts.

The bigram analysis employed in this study partially mitigated the limitations resulting from the lack of keyword metadata in the articles. However, since the bigram method only analyzes word pairs that follow each other in the abstract, it cannot fully reflect the context of the original keywords and the authors' conceptual preferences. This limits the sensitivity of the thematic analyses in this study. Future studies would benefit from using detailed content analysis or manual coding techniques on full texts to overcome this limitation.

The findings indicate that print media retains its importance in historical and theoretical studies; however, its future role in architectural research will be shaped by how it adapts to digital transformations. Newspapers and magazines can evolve beyond being mere archival sources to become critical tools for analyzing the intersection of architecture, communication, and public discourse. They may even become part of social media in everyday life.

As a result, this study evaluates the impact of newspapers and periodicals in architectural research and reveals the effects of these tools on architectural discourse. For future research, it is suggested to focus on how the role of media tools in architectural research will evolve with digitalization and the development of new media technologies. Furthermore, the cultural interactions created by the international diffusion of regional architectural journals offer a rich field of research in understanding the evolving structure of the discipline. In addition, a review of databases other than WoS also has the potential to offer new perspectives.

Based on the findings of this study, several recommendations can be made for future researchers and practitioners. First, incorporating media literacy and critical media analysis into architecture education programs will enable students to evaluate representations of architecture in the public sphere more consciously. Furthermore, developing interdisciplinary collaborations between architecture and media studies will contribute to the methodological and theoretical richness of both fields. It is important to encourage research that examines the impact of new media tools, such as digital and social media, on architectural discourse, public opinion formation processes, and project communication. Finally, evaluating media as an archive and information source will contribute to understanding how architectural practice and history have been documented across different periods.

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