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Bandwagon effect revisited: A systematic review to develop future research agenda

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ABSTRACT

In business and management research, studies on the bandwagon effect are growing while remaining dispersed and multi-faceted. Against this backdrop, researchers in the field of business and management face challenges in contributing to and further advancing the state-of-the-art in a direction that is helpful to academicians and practitioners. The primary intent of this study is to epistemologically review the state of literature on bandwagon effect using a systematic literature review. The study further seeks to develop a future research agenda by analyzing the theoretical evolution, the methodological patterns, and the interrelationships of constructs within different contexts in the extant literature. Publication trends, the dissemination of articles in journals, theoretical background, methodological patterns, examination of constructs, and contexts employed in the study of the bandwagon effect from 1970 to 2021 have been meticulously identified and analyzed. Researchers, management thinkers, and practitioners of consumer psychology and behavioral research can benefit from the specific evidence on the bandwagon effect.

1. Introduction

The bandwagon effect has been gaining the considerable attention of marketing researchers as a means of studying consumer behavior from numerous perspectives (Bahri-Ammari et al., 2020; Lehr et al., 2021; Mainolfi et al., 2020; Shukla & Rosendo-Rios, 2021). The seminal work on the bandwagon effect by Leibenstein in 1950 has been discussed across various subject areas for decades. Leibenstein (1950) highlighted that external factors beyond qualities inherent in a product influence consumption behavior. The author maintains that an important external factor is the action taken by other consumers related to the product, leading to three types of action: "bandwagon effect", "snob," and "veblen." Prior to Leibenstein in 1950, Duesenberry in 1949 had initiated the discussion on factors that influence consumer behavior, suggesting that consumption is influenced by the relative spending of others. The bandwagon effect can be defined as the propensity of an individual to adopt the viewpoint of the majority even if their own viewpoint is different (Barrera & Ponce, 2021; Kessous & Valette-Florence, 2019; Leibenstein, 1950; Shaikh et al., 2017). In the words

of Leibenstein (1950), the intent to join the crowd and be "one of the boys" is termed the bandwagon effect. Kastanakis & Balabanis (2012) moved the discussion beyond the area of economics—which focused on the increase or decrease of utility based on externalities—and examined the behavior of individual consumers of luxury products influenced by the bandwagon effect. Kastanakis & Balabanis (2014) further examined the bandwagon effect in the consumption of conspicuous luxury. Kastanakis & Balabanis, (2012 and 2014) rekindled the discussion on the bandwagon effect in the 21st century. The root of the bandwagon effect can be tracked back to the discipline of politics in 1940 (Allport, 1940; Gallup & Rae, 1940; Pierce, 1940; Simon, 1954). However, the bandwagon effect only emerged in 1973 as an important independent concept within business and management (Ireland, 1973). The early footprints of this research can be discovered in the Journal of Business Research, which proclaimed to be among the first three journals to publish articles on the bandwagon effect. Presently, the bandwagon effect has been widely applied to sales psychology and is an important element within marketing and sales strategies (Chittiprolu et al., 2021; Eastman et al., 2018; Parsons et al., 2014).

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Theoretical advances in the study of the bandwagon effect include examining its relationships to self-concept (Kastanakis & Balabanis, 2012), materialism (Mainolfi et al., 2020), need for uniqueness (Shaikh et al., 2017), interdependent preferences (Bahri-Ammari et al., 2020), and conspicuous consumption (Zhen Huang & Wang, 2018; Kastanakis & Balabanis, 2014). Researchers have intensely studied the topic with respect to luxury (Kastanakis & Balabanis, 2012, 2014; Shukla & Rosendo-Rios, 2021), healthcare (Kaissi & Begun, 2008), apparel (Barrera & Ponce, 2021), tourism (Chittiprolu et al., 2021), online retail (Mainolfi et al., 2020), and consumer goods (Bell, 2002). Numerous efforts have been made to apply a theoretical lens to the core dimensions of the bandwagon effect (Akturan & Bozbay, 2018). Bahri-Ammari et al. (2020) proposed and developed a comprehensive and integrated framework for bandwagon consumption. With the impetus provided by Kastanakis & Balabanis, 2012 and 2014, research on the bandwagon effect has gathered pace in recent years. Several studies include a conceptual analysis of the bandwagon effect; however, few or no systematic literature reviews (SLRs) have examining the subject domain have been published in and prior to the last few years. This study aims to undertake a comprehensive and integrated synthesis of the literature on the bandwagon effect. Systematic literature review is a scientific review technique that builds a foundation of research domains and identifies knowledge gaps through knowledge assimilation (Gilal et al., 2021; Paul & Dhiman, 2021; Vrontis, Makrides, et al., 2021). The technique offers important avenues of future research and new directions in the subject area while establishing the theoretical bases for various types of studies within varying contexts to provide new guidance in the relevant research domain (Baima et al., 2020; Rowley & Paul, 2021). A significant number of works on the bandwagon effect have been published in last few years. However, these studies do not provide a thorough, comprehensive and integrated review of the theories, methodologies, contextual patterns, and constructs of the bandwagon effect. Therefore, this study's primary purpose is to find key theories and constructs and to evaluate the methodological trends used for studying bandwagon effect. The rest of this paper is categorized into different sections and subsections. Section two elucidates the review methodology, including the SLR selection process. The dissemination of papers in journals, prominent keywords and methodological patterns, and an elaboration of theoretical underpinnings are showcased in sections three, four, and five respectively. A discussion of constructs and context used in prior research is included in section six. Study implications are reviewed in section seven, and a future research agenda based upon the SLR is proposed in section eight. Study conclusions are provided in section nine.

2. Methodology

The SLR is a iterative process used for identifying critical studies that

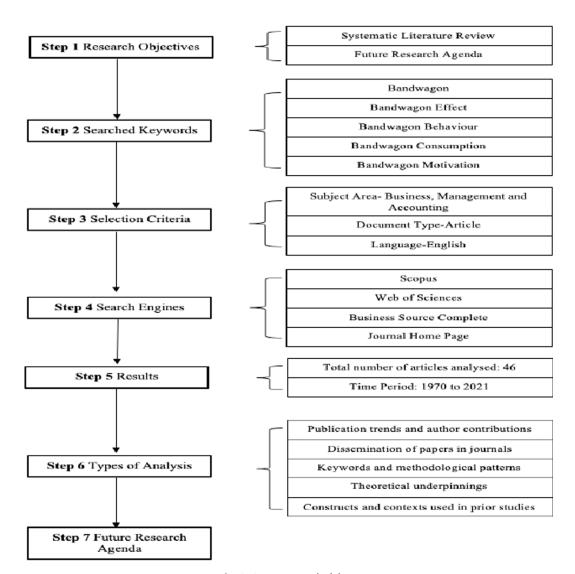


Fig. 1. Seven step methodology.

examine research questions (Chandra et al., 2020; Christofi et al., 2021; Rosado-Serrano et al., 2018). These reviews seek to assimilate, assess, and provide inferences based on past literature (Singh et al., 2021). Systematic review of literature is crafted to be an iterative and transparent process in order to present a precise view of the structure and process for identification of papers, selection of papers and the review process adopted (P. Gupta, Chauhan, Paul, & Jaiswal, 2020; Vrontis et al., 2021). Numerous past studies have suggested methodologies for conducting SLRs (Centobelli et al., 2020; S. K. Gupta et al., 2019; Paul & Feliciano-Cestero, 2021). Given the research objectives of this study, the methodology used by Paul & Dhiman (2021) was adopted. Accordingly, the seven-step methodology of Sharma et al. (2020) was used (refer to Fig. 1).

2.1. Broad classification of SLRs

Systematic literature reviews is classified into three types: domainbased analysis, theory-based analysis, and methodology- based analysis (Paul & Criado, 2020; Vrontis, Christofi, et al., 2020). Domain-based analyses are in-depth examinations of widely utilized approaches, major theories, and concepts (Mishra et al., 2021; Paul & Singh, 2017; Rebouças & Soares, 2021; Rosado-Serrano et al., 2018) and may be categorized into reviews based on frameworks (Lim et al., 2021; Paul & Benito, 2018; Sharma et al., 2020); hybrid reviews that suggest path for future research effort (Kumar et al., 2019; Paul et al., 2017; Pereira et al., 2019); analysis based on theories (Paul & Rosado-Serrano, 2019; Vrontis & Christofi, 2021); review based on a meta-analysis (Rana & Paul, 2020); and bibliometric analysis (Anand et al., 2021; Randhawa et al., 2016). This paper is crafted to be a domain-based structured literature review. This SLR included five phases (Thorpe et al., 2005). Phase I included the definition of search and selection keywords in the database. Phase II focused on searching for papers in the database. Phases III and IV involved comprehensively reading and selecting papers by reading the title, abstracts and full papers, respectively, while Phase V focused on the analysis of findings of papers included in the review. Details are provided in Fig. 2.

2.2. Criteria for inclusion or exclusion of studies

Review papers published in the recent past suggest that the criteria utilized for inclusion and exclusion in the process of identification and selection of papers is important in a SLR (S. K. Gupta et al., 2019; Sharma et al., 2020; Vrontis, Christofi, et al., 2021). Articles were considered for inclusion in the final sample in this study if the keywords were appearing in the title of the article or abstract of the article or in the keywords of the article. This review included only journal articles and did not account for studies on the bandwagon effect published in the form of books, book chapters, conference proceedings, case studies, or

any other form of publication. This section discusses the criteria utilized for inclusion or exclusion of papers in this study.

We initially identified 386 studies, and the in-depth screening of articles yielded 115 articles. After applying inclusion and exclusion criteria related to subject area and language, a total of 46 studies were included in the SLR. Appendix includes the list of articles included is this review with the name of the journal in which the article has been published. The description of the process is highlighted in Fig. 3. Gaining an understanding of the publication trend of the papers included in this study was crucial before proceeding with the literature review. Fig. 4 illustrates that the majority of studies dated from 2011 to 2020 (53.4%), with remaining studies conducted in the periods 2001–2010 (33%), 1991–2000 (9.57%), 1981–1990 (1.74%), and 1970–1980 (1.74%)—revealing that the majority of articles reviewed were recently published.

3. Dissemination of papers in journals

Following the inclusion/exclusion criteria adopted, 46 papers were selected to be included in this review. Table 1 provides the list of journals along with number of papers from each journal in which these 46 papers were published.

Out of the 46 articles discussing the topic "bandwagon effect" six were from the "Journal of Business Research", followed by three from the "Journal of Promotion Management", and three from the "Journal of Economic Behavior and Organization". Further, the "Journal of Retailing and Consumer Services" published two papers in this domain. Table 1 illustrates the detailed distribution of papers across various journals.

4. Widely used keywords and methodological patterns

4.1. Widely used keywords

Keywords are indispensable in achieving salient results in a particular field (Donthu et al., 2021). Therefore the aggregate of all keywords from the designated sample of articles was scrutinized. A total of 527 keywords were gathered for this study from 115 sourced papers obtained from 90 journals published from 1970 to 2021 for the purpose of network assembly and examination. A network digraph compiled the prominent keywords into six clusters.

The keywords emerging in orange, red, and blue clusters primarily center around the impact of bandwagon effect on the society, the economy, and organizations, respectively (see Fig. 5). The prominent keywords showcased in these three clusters are: decision making, societies and institutions, commerce, forecasting, economics, marking, and stakeholders. The common themes of these three clusters relate to the societal effect of the bandwagon effect on industries and the economy at large.

Phase I	Definition of search and keyword search in the database	
Phase II	Searching papers in the database	
Phase III	Reading and selection of titles and abstracts	
Phase IV	Reading and selection of full papers	
Phase V	Analysis of papers	
Source(s): Thorpe et al. (2005)		

Fig. 2. Phases of SLR.

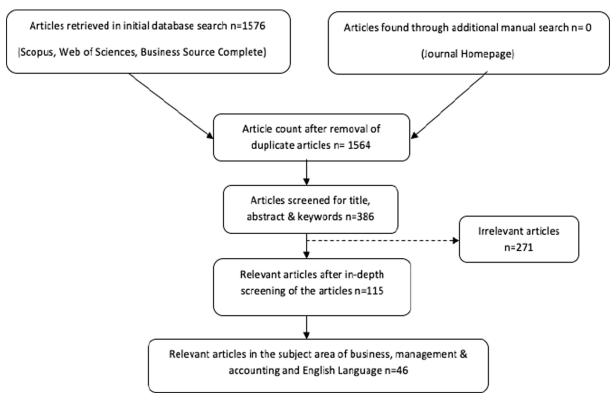


Fig. 3. Search criteria for inclusion/exclusion of the articles.

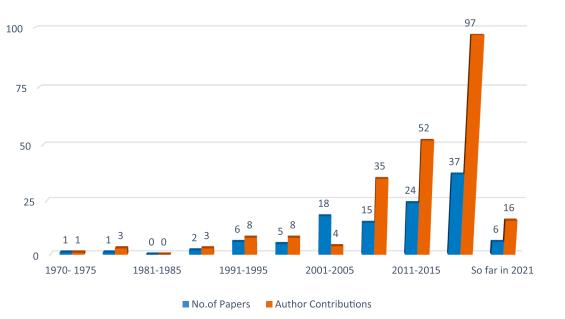


Fig. 4. Publication trends and author contributions.

The remaining three clusters involve keywords such as bandwagon effect, conspicuous consumption, snob effect, luxury, emerging markets, materialism, conformity, status consumption, product scarcity, and diffusion. These keywords suggest the essence of the bandwagon effect in emerging markets. Analysis of the network of keywords indicates that the bandwagon effect may be defined to be the propensity for individuals to follow the conduct or attitude of others as that behavior reflects the majority. Imitation of the actions or beliefs of others could result from the individual's preference to comply with the masses or because the information is derived from others. For example, in the

context of fashion trends, when a particular garment or style attains popularity, more people adopt that particular style or garment.

4.2. Key methodologies used in prior research

This section compiles methodologies utilized in studies included in the review. Table 2 highlights widely used methodologies, revealing that statistical analysis (58.7%) and experiments (15.2%) were the top two methods used in studies. Most studies employing statistical analysis used: structural equation modelling (Akturan & Bozbay, 2018; Barrera &

Table 1 Dissemination of papers in journals.

Journal	Publisher	Tota
Journal of Business Research	Elsevier	6
Journal of Promotion Management	Taylor & Francis Online	3
Journal of Economic Behaviour and	Elsevier	3
Organisation		
Journal of Retailing and Consumer Services	Elsevier	2
International Journal of Consumer Studies	Wiley Online Library	1
International Business Review	Elsevier	1
Schmalenbach Journal of Business Research	Springer	1
Consumption Markets and Culture	Taylor & Francis Online	1
International Journal of Culture, Tourism, and	Emerald	1
Hospitality Research		
Humanities and Social Sciences	Nature	1
Communications		
Management Communication Quarterly	Sage	1
Journal of Intellectual Capital	Emerald	1
Corporate Communications	Emerald	1
Asia Pacific Business Review	Taylor & Francis Online	1
Global Business Review	Sage	1
Journal of Cleaner Production	Elsevier	1
Public Relations Review	Elsevier	1
International Journal of Hospitality	Elsevier	1
Management		
Journal of Evolutionary Economics	Springer	1
Management and Organization Review	Wiley Online Library	1
International Journal of Innovation and	World Scientific	1
Technology Management		
Marketing Intelligence and Planning	Emerald	1
Journal of Brand Management	Springer	1
Psychology and Marketing	Wiley Online Library	1
Journal of Management and Business	Akademia Leona	1
Administration	Koźmińskiego	
Management International Review	Springer	1
International Marketing Review	Emerald	1
Journal of Consumer Marketing	Emerald	1
Journal of International Consumer Marketing	Taylor & Francis Online	1
Marketing Science	INFORMS	1
Intern. J. of Research in Marketing	Elsevier	1
Journal of Consumer Psychology	Wiley Online Library	1
Health Care Management Review	Jordan L. Schilling	1
Production and Operations Management	Wiley-Blackwell	1
Tourism Management	Emerald	1
Tourism Economics	Sage	1
Total		46
Source(s): Author's own compilation		

Ponce, 2021; Eastman et al., 2018; Kastanakis & Balabanis, 2014; Kiatkawsin & Han, 2019; Mainolfi et al., 2020); exploratory/confirmatory factor analysis (Kastanakis & Balabanis, 2014; Parcha & Kingsley Westerman, 2020; Shukla & Rosendo-Rios, 2021); regression analysis (Li et al., 2020; Magnier-Watanabe, 2020; Tascioglu et al., 2017; Tsai et al., 2013; Tsikriktsis et al., 2004; Verdugo & Ponce, 2020), and Anova/Mancova (Jeong & Kwon, 2012; Kim et al., 2019; Lehr et al., 2021; Murphy & Tan, 2003; Parker & Lehmann, 2011; Parsons et al., 2014; van Herpen et al., 2009; Vrontis, Christofi, et al., 2021). Overall, our analysis revealed that very few studies adopted a mixed method or mathematical analysis. Based on these findings, we propose that future studies consider more case-based and qualitative analysis.

5. Theoretical underpinnings

This section attempts to identify and enumerate theories employed to study this field. As indicated in Table 3, these theories underline the importance of theoretical contributions in field of knowledge. We observed that most researchers employed a variety of theories including optimal distinctiveness theory, attribution theory, signaling theory, psychological reactance theory (PRT), and the theory of the leisure class. The following section discusses these prominent theories in detail.

5.1. Optimal distinctiveness theory

According to Brewer (2003) every individual strives to balance social class and inclusiveness, illustrating the snob and peer conformance trends among highly affluent customers. Brewer (1991) referred to these effects as the "optimal distinctiveness theory", which involves two types of social need: the desire for conformity and the need to be unique. The desire to satisfy individuality and acceptance concurrently is acknowledged as the motivating factor behind the conduct of numerous people.

5.2. Attribution theory

The "attribution theory" considers that individuals attempt to ascertain the motivation of others. More concisely, they ascribe the mainspring of behavior. This theory relies on the cause and effect, motivation, and the human behavior (Kelley & Michela, 1980). An individual can consider several incentives in an attempt to comprehend the behavioral patterns of others. The fundamentals of attribution can be defined through a three-stage process: (1) the individual must discern or witness the behavior, (2) the individual must then trust the intentional nature of the behavior, and (3) the individual must assess whether the actions of the other person were undertaken out of necessity— in which case the inducement of their behavior is attributed to the situation—or not—in which case the cause is attributed to the other person.

5.3. Signaling theory

The signaling theory postulates that individuals utilize a prompt or indicator to determine whether or not they should involve themselves with the market interaction, particularly when the time required to acquire absolute information exceeds the benefit obtained from the information. The purpose of the signal is to offer subtle guidance to enable individuals to evaluate impalpable factors (Grau & Folse, 2007) and to drive decision-making to circumvent potential duplicity, unpredictability, and peril (Boulding & Kirmani, 1993; Olaniran, B.A., Rodriguez, N.B. and Williams, 2010).

5.4. Psychological reactance theory (PRT)

The PRT advocates the free will of individuals to decide what to do or what not to do. In case freedom is jeopardized or removed, individuals experience a psychological reaction that motivates them to recover that freedom (Torrance & Brehm, 1968).

5.5. Theory of the leisure class

The "theory of the leisure class" (Veblen, 1899) suggests a model for studying conspicuous consumption behavior in which consumer preferences are dependent on social rank. Veblen suggests that the upper class' unproductive use of time is a confirmation that it possess the ability to live indolently while considering productivity the hallmark of lower social status. Veblen argues that the possession of wealth determines the individual's social status.

6. Constructs and contexts used in bandwagon effect research

6.1. Constructs studied in prior research

The SLR allows researchers to identify the constructs used in a particular subject domain, enabling the examination of relationships established between various determinants and outcomes of the topic from previous studies. Besides examining the theoretical underpinnings in the area of bandwagon research, it is imperative to unfold the key factors determining the bandwagon effect and its outcomes from previous literature. Table 4 synthesizes in the form of findings prominent constructs and their inter-relationships from prior studies. We observe

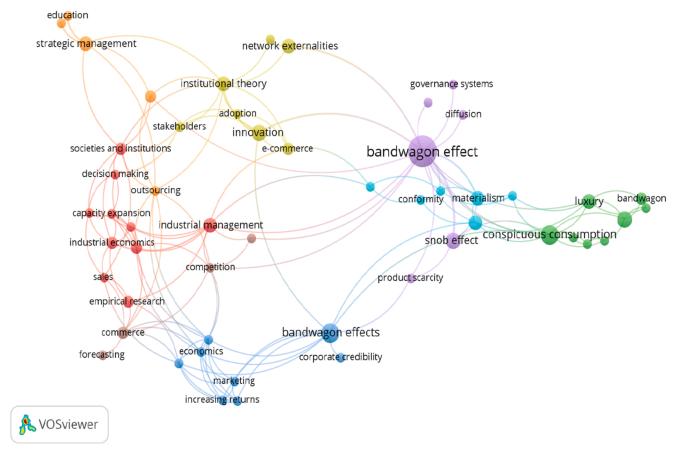


Fig. 5. Network of keywords.

Table 2 Widely-used methodologies.

Methodology Used	Articles	Percentage	References
Statistical Analysis	27	58.70	Bell, 2002; Tsikriktsis et al., 2004; Rich, 2008; Moe & Schweidel, 2012; Tsai et al., 2013; Kastanakis & Balabanis, 2014; Shaikh et al., 2017; Mertcan Tascioglu, Eastman, & Iyer, 2017; Akturan & Bozbay, 2018; Eastman et al., 2018; Li-Ying et al., 2018; K Kiatkawsin & Han, 2019; B Rengs & Scholz-Wäckerle, 2019; Mainolfi et al., 2020; Parcha & Kingsley Westerman, 2020; Magnier-Watanabe, 2020; Verdugo & Ponce, 2020; G A Barrera & Ponce, 2021; Shukla & Rosendo-Rios, 2021
Econometrics/ Mathematical analysis	2	4.35	Tsikriktsis et al., 2004; Vrontis et al., 2020
Qualitative	3	6.52	Kaissi & Begun, 2008; Kessous & Valette-Florence, 2019; S Shapiro & Borie-Holtz, 2020
Conceptual	4	8.70	Ayres, 1998; Hietanen et al., 2018; G Harding, 2021
Case Study	2	4.35	Gutsatz & Heine, 2018; Z Huang & Wang, 2018
Mixed Method	1	2.17	Beata Stępień, 2018
Experiment	7	15.22	Rich, 2008; van Herpen et al., 2009; Liao & Mak, 2019; Bernhard Rengs & Scholz- Wäckerle, 2019; Li et al., 2020; Lehr et al., 2021
	46	100%	

that the bandwagon effect in the domain of business and management is mostly influenced by the need for learning (Barrera & Ponce, 2021), uniqueness (Kastanakis & Balabanis, 2012), materialism (Mainolfi et al., 2020), self-concept (Kastanakis & Balabanis, 2012), and consumer susceptibility to normative influence (Kessous & Valette-Florence, 2019). These key factors augment bandwagon behavior (Verdugo & Ponce, 2020), purchase intentions (Mainolfi et al., 2020), product purchase and use (Barrera & Ponce, 2021), brand attachment (Kessous & Valette-Florence, 2019), bandwagon consumption (Tsai et al., 2013), and imitation behavior (Kaissi & Begun, 2008) in different contexts. As a research gap for further studies of constructs and their relationships, we identified considering an expanded horizon when establishing empirical and structural relationships using consumer acculturation, willingness to pay more, interaction cues, and perceived product popularity.

6.2. Industries and countries studied in prior research

The SLR has augmented the identification of prominent contexts to include new industries and countries. Numerous studies have extensively examined the bandwagon effect in the context of luxury, apparel, and service industries across developed and emerging economies (see Table 5). The majority of studies were undertaken in "China", the "United States of America", "India", and "United Kingdom". Moreover, though the bandwagon effect phenomenon can be seen in numerous fields, industries such as tourism, healthcare, and construction remain under-explored. Therefore, we recognize the potential to broaden the study of the effect to other nations and industries.

7. Implications

The SLR conducted on the bandwagon effect provides meaningful

Table 3
Prominent theories

Name of the Theory	Articles	References
Optimal distinctiveness	5	Kastanakis & Balabanis, 2014; Parsons,
theory		Ballantine, Ali, & Grey, 2014; Kessous &
		Valette-Florence, 2019; B Stępień, 2018
Attribution theory	2	Liao & Mak, 2019; Lehr et al., 2021
Signaling theory	2	H J Jeong & Kwon, 2012; Vrontis et al., 2020
Psychological reactance	2	H J Jeong & Kwon, 2012; Li et al., 2020
theory (PRT)		
Theory of the leisure	2	Gutsatz & Heine, 2018; Bernhard Rengs &
class		Scholz-Wäckerle, 2019
Hierarchical trait theory	1	Gustavo A. Barrera & Ponce, 2021
Theory of network effects	1	Shukla & Rosendo-Rios, 2021
Herzberg two-factor	1	Chittiprolu, Samala, & Bellamkonda, 2021
theory		
Expectancy	1	Chittiprolu et al., 2021
disconfirmation theory		-
Theory of Consumers	1	Mainolfi et al., 2020
Theory of social change	1	Parcha & Kingsley Westerman, 2020
Eclectic paradigm	1	Magnier-Watanabe, 2020
Transaction cost theory	1	Magnier-Watanabe, 2020
Institutional theory	1	Magnier-Watanabe, 2020
Social network theory	1	Magnier-Watanabe, 2020
Resource-based view	1	Magnier-Watanabe, 2020
(RBV)		
Conspicuous	1	Verdugo & Ponce, 2020
consumption theory		0
Theory of continuous	1	Termeer & Metze, 2019
change		
Theory of uniqueness	1	Kiatkawsin & Han, 2019
Theory of need	1	K Kiatkawsin & Han, 2019
Social identity theory	1	Kessous & Valette-Florence, 2019
Social comparison theory	1	Kessous & Valette-Florence, 2019
Contingent decision	1	Rich, 2008
theory	-	,
Theory of consumer	1	Granovetter & Soong, 1986
behaviour	-	23.22.23.23.23.23.23.23.23.23.23.23.23.2
Source(s): Author's own		
compilation		

implications to academicians, researchers, management thinkers, industrialists, and practitioners. Theoretical and managerial implications are outlined below.

7.1. Theoretical implications

We present several theoretical implications of the literature review to researchers and academicians. First, this study is the first SLR of the bandwagon effect covering all Scopus journals in the field of "business, management, and accounting." This comprehensive assessment provides valuable findings through knowledge assimilation and integration, which clarifies and organizes the subject area. Second, this systematic analysis applies a scientific review approach that summarizes the present contributions of the literature on the bandwagon effect and emphasizes that existing theoretical contributions to the field are relevant for guiding the future body of knowledge. Third, this review identifies the prominent theories employed in the study of this subject by disclosing the theories that require the attention of future researchers. We maintain the need to formulate and validate new propositions by developing new frameworks for future research in addition to validating existing theories in the literature. Fourth, we identify different constructs in the form of determinants and outcomes of the bandwagon effect drawn from various research studies. We conclude that the determinants of the bandwagon effect predominantly include: the necessity for uniqueness, the need for learning, consumer susceptibility to normative influence, self-concept, materialism, conformity, interdependent self, and the independent self. Similarly, practitioners can gain profound insight from our study's analysis of constructs to formulate their organization's models to enhance consumer intentions based on market context.

Table 4Constructs used and their prominent relationships.

Author(s)	Constructs	Findings
Rich, 2008	Information, Bandwagon effect, and Fad behavior	Fad-like behaviour can be influenced by incomplete information and bandwagon effects.
Kaissi & Begun, 2008	Fads, Bandwagons, Healthcare strategy, and Imitation behavior	Strategic approaches to regulatory requirements and efficient strategic decisions which are the product of systematic analysis can be separated from fads, fashion, and bandwagons.
Kastanakis & Balabanis, 2012	Self-concept, Status consumption, Bandwagon consumption behavior, Consumer susceptibility to normative influence, Need for uniqueness	Bandwagon luxury consumption is based on a consumer's interdependent self-concept. The amount of a consumer's status-seeking predispositions, susceptibility to normative influence, and need for uniqueness mediates the
Tsai et al., 2013	Need for uniqueness, Consumer susceptibility to normative influence, Social capital, Consumer acculturation, Snob consumtion, and Bandwagon	relationship. Social capital has a favourable influence on the social use and symbolic value of luxury products. In addition, bandwagon luxury consumption is favourably
Kastanakis & Balabanis, 2014	consumption Self-concept, Need for uniqueness, Status seeking, Consumer susceptibility to normal influence, Bandwagon consumption, and Snob consumption	related with culture. 1) The more generic conspicuous consumption of luxury products is based on bandwagon and snobbish buying behaviors. 2) The self-concept orientation is influenced by status seeking and determines that which of these two patterns is more dominant.
Parsons et al., 2014	Discount level, Offer type, Brand familiarity, Quality perceptions, and Purchase likelihood	3) Susceptibility to normative influence and the need for uniqueness both act as a mediator of the self- impact impact. The bandwagon/snob effect have an impact on purchase likelihood. Additionally, the findings imply that significant discounts have a detrimental effect on perceived quality, and that brand familiarity and offer type may influence perceived quality and purchase likelihood.
Akturan & Bozbay, 2018	Bandwagon consumption, Conspicuous value, Social value, Purchase intention, Willingness to pay more, and Attractiveness	Brand attractiveness, purchase intention, and willingness to pay extra for global brands are all influenced by bandwagon consumption, conspicuous
Eastman et al., 2018	Conspicuous consumption and Brand product purchase	value, and social value. The relationship between status consumption and buying intentions is influenced by cultural factors.
Kessous & Valette- Florence, 2019	Consumer susceptibility to normative influence and Brand attachment	When comparing second- hand luxury items to new luxury products, consumer motivations and behavior starts changing.
Mainolfi et al., 2020	Materialism, Product beliefs and Intentions to buy	Materialism has a substantial impact on bandwagon luxury (continued on next page)

Table 4 (continued)

Author(s)	Constructs	Findings
Li et al., 2020	Bandwagon cue, Corporate credibility, and Behavioral	consumption, brand consciousness, and purchase intentions. The effectiveness of social media can be influenced by
	intention	corporate credibility and
N Bahri-Ammari, Coulibaly, & Ben Mimoun, 2020	Interdependent self, Independent self, and Bandwagon consumption	bandwagon cues. The widespread availability of luxury products has generated new lifestyles and consumption patterns.
Verdugo & Ponce, 2020	Bandwagon behavior, Snob behavior, and Product purchase and use	In terms of purchasing and using new luxurious goods in social contexts, males exhibited greater bandwagor and snob motives than women.
Hyun Ju Jeong, Kwon, & Mainolfi et al., 2020	Online persuasion claims, Risk aversion tendency, Perceived product quality, and Purchase intentions	The popularity of the product reported to enhance quality perception and purchase intention, particularly among high risk-averse consumers.
G A Barrera & Ponce, 2021	Competitiveness, Family income, Need for learning, and Product purchase and use	Bandwagon and snob consumption of new-luxury products are influenced by competitiveness and the need for learning personality traits.
Shukla & Rosendo-Rios, 2021	Snob motivation, Bandwagon motivation, Veblen motivation, and Luxury purchase intentions	Global luxury brands' expansion has been supported by emerging markets, particularly Tier-1 cities within them.

Fifth, we amalgamated various works related to the topics investigated, including the three psychological influences deemed to have a direct or indirect effect on "bandwagon" adoption in developing countries. Characterized by the concept of increasing the demand for a product, prior research has concentrated on how the bandwagon phenomenon manifests itself in the context of the economy. Such observations and results are intended to drive further research activities to this particular end. Therefore, we identify the opportunity to further expand the area of research to include the entire business and management field. Notably, we applied the "Theory, Context, Construct, and Methodology (TCCM) framework" to provide constructive avenues for future research in the subject domain in a more integrated and organized way.

7.2. Practical implications

Further to the theoretical contributions, this study contributes to a few practical and managerial implications. The bandwagon effect has evolved to be tool to sustain and develop in dynamic and highly competitive markets in which consumer needs and desires change at an escalating pace. Retailers, marketers, and policymakers have little choice but to re-strategize and re-structure their organizational models and policies given the critical importance of analyzing consumer psychology and purchase behaviors. The identification of prominent constructs and methodologies in various contexts, together with theoretical background, can only encourage researchers and equip those who drive corporate policy. This study presents corporate policymakers with a roadmap to identify core areas profitability and sustainable existence amid intense competition.

The study further ensures that the interpretation of the theoretical, methodological, and constructional aspects of the bandwagon effect directs policy formulation, further driving competitiveness and prosperity in international markets. From a management standpoint, these outcomes will interest businesses seeking to operate within the luxury

Table 5Industries and countries studied in prior research.

Author and Year	Country of study	Industries
G A Barrera & Ponce, 2021	Chile	Clothing, perfumes and smart phones
Shukla & Rosendo- Rios, 2021	China & India	Luxury brands
Lehr, Büttgen, & Bartsch, 2021	Germany	E-scooters, press releases, Cars
Harding, 2021	London	Champagne
Chittiprolu et al., 2021	India	Heritage hotels.
Stuart Shapiro & Borie-Holtz, 2020	USA	Small manufacturing business owners
Mainolfi et al., 2020	China	Chinese residents
Parcha & Kingsley Westerman, 2020	USA	Millennials
Vrontis et al., 2020	Italy	Election Commission
Li-Ying et al., 2018	USA	Undergraduate students
Magnier-Watanabe, 2020	USA	Subsidiaries
N Bahri-Ammari et al., 2020	Tunisia	Luxury products or services
Verdugo & Ponce, 2020	Chile Latin America	Luxury goods consumption by millennial generation
Kiatkawsin & Han, 2019	Korea	Luxury restaurants
Kessous & Valette- Florence, 2019	France	Luxury product
Li-Ying et al., 2018	China	Intra firm online communities
Akturan & Bozbay, 2018	Turkey	Global sneaker brand
Eastman et al., 2018	China	Manufacturing and garment factories, construction businesses, and service sectors
Stępień, 2018	Saudi Arabia, Turkey, Germany, Portugal, and Poland	Luxury goods; luxury fashion, jewellery, and cars
Shaikh et al., 2017 M Tascioglu, Eastman, & Iyer, 2017	Pakistan USA, Turkey	Apparel Industry
Kastanakis & Balabanis, 2014	London	Luxury goods industry
Tsai et al., 2013	China	Online
Kastanakis & Balabanis, 2012	London	Luxury Goods
Tsikriktsis et al., 2004	USA	Service industry
Murphy & Tan, 2003	Singapore	Tourism
Source(s):		
Author's own compilation		

and apparel industries in developing countries. These businesses have been advised to consider that the bandwagon effect has also been intensely researched in the online context. As such, to incentivize sales, management thinkers could emphasize certain determinants and outcomes of the bandwagon effect to augment consumer choice behavior.

8. Future research agenda

8.1. Theories recommended in future studies

This review underlines how previous studies have utilized multiple hypotheses to explain the bandwagon effect. Several researchers have utilized a multi-theoretical approach to comprehend the effect (Barrera & Ponce, 2021; Chittiprolu et al., 2021; Kiatkawsin & Han, 2019; Magnier-Watanabe, 2020; Mainolfi et al., 2020; Verdugo & Ponce, 2020). We observed that numerous previous studies lacked theoretical underpinning. Five most widely employed theories include: the optimal

distinctiveness theory, the attribution theory, the signaling theory, the PRT, and the theory of the leisure class. Each is briefly summarized as they are important theories utilized to examine this area.

Authors have utilized the optimal distinctiveness theory to posit that individuals aim to strike a balance of inclusivity and distinctiveness within the social groups (Kastanakis & Balabanis, 2014; Kessous & Valette-Florence, 2019; Parsons et al., 2014). Studies examining the attribution theory advocated investigating the causal explanations provided by individuals when confronting the behavior of others; the theory is grounded in the assumptions individuals make while attaching motives to the actions of others (Lehr et al., 2021; Liao & Mak, 2019). According to the signaling theory, consumers are given contextual prompts to aid their assessment of unobservable variables (Mainolfi et al., 2020; Vrontis, Leonidou, et al., 2020). The PRT asserts that people like to exercise their right to choose and are psychologically motivated to restore this right if they feel they are being suppressed from practicing it (Jeong & Kwon, 2012; Li et al., 2020; Magnier-Watanabe, 2020). The theory of leisure class describes conspicuous consumption behavior that exhibits preferences as a symbol of societal status (Gutsatz & Heine, 2018; Rengs & Scholz-Wäckerle, 2019).

The authors of this study note that several theories have been scantly utilized in previous studies. For instance, the market imperfections theory, the theory of consumers, institutional theory, the theory of social change, resource-based view, eclectic paradigm theory, social-network theory, and the transaction cost theory have been scantly used to study bandwagon effect. These theories support in further explaining the causes of the bandwagon effect across different domains of business, societies and countries. For instance, the behavior of consumers guided by symbolic motivations may be utilized as a theoretical view in the studies undertaken in future. Therefore, researchers are encouraged to employ these theories to study the antecedents and outcomes of bandwagon effect.

8.2. Methodologies for future studies

Several efforts have been undertaken by researchers to comprehend the use of specific methodologies, which include: structural equation modeling (Akturan & Bozbay, 2018; Barrera & Ponce, 2021; Eastman et al., 2018; Kastanakis & Balabanis, 2014; Kiatkawsin & Han, 2019; Mainolfi et al., 2020; Shaikh et al., 2017); confirmatory/exploratory factor analysis (Kastanakis & Balabanis, 2014; Parcha & Kingsley Westerman, 2020; Shukla & Rosendo-Rios, 2021); simulation and regression (Bell, 2002; Li-Ying et al., 2018; Magnier-Watanabe, 2020; Moe & Schweidel, 2012; Rengs & Scholz-Wäckerle, 2019; Rich, 2008; Tascioglu et al., 2017; Tsai et al., 2013; Tsikriktsis et al., 2004; Verdugo & Ponce, 2020); econometrics (Tsikriktsis et al., 2004; Vrontis, Christofi, et al., 2021); Anova/Mancova (Jeong & Kwon, 2012; Kim et al., 2019; Lehr et al., 2021; Murphy & Tan, 2003; Parker & Lehmann, 2011; Parsons et al., 2014; van Herpen et al., 2009; Vrontis, Christofi, et al., 2020); qualitative studies (Kaissi & Begun, 2008; Kessous & Valette-Florence, 2019; Shapiro & Borie-Holtz, 2020); conceptual studies (Ayres, 1998; Harding, 2021; Hietanen et al., 2018); case studies (Gutsatz & Heine, 2018; Zhen Huang & Wang, 2018); the mixed method approach (Stepień, 2018), and experimentation (Lehr et al., 2021; Li et al., 2020; Liao & Mak, 2019; Rengs & Scholz-Wäckerle, 2019; Rich, 2008; van Herpen et al., 2009).

We observe that diverse analytical tools have been applied on the methodological front, as discussed above. Findings indicate that the bandwagon effect is primarily linked with self-concept, materialism, social comparison, interdependent preferences, and conspicuous consumption. The phenomenon is therefore considered a psychological and scientific measure within the literature. The analysis of past studies highlighted that authors have utilized a many analytical tools like the experimentation and the causality approach, case studies, the mixedmethod approach, and regression analysis. The subject field has thus moved towards the use of quantitative studies. However, the use of

qualitative methods in this area has more potential. We therefore opine that more qualitative studies on the bandwagon effect are required to enable observations of behavioral patterns for different product categories to be combined. This will enable a thorough understanding of human psychology and self-concept.

9. Conclusion

The aim of this research effort was to review the available literature to recognize the theoretical background, determinants, empirical patterns, and methodological domains associated with the bandwagon effect. Based on our results, we conclude that further research in the field of the bandwagon effect must incorporate new theoretical methods and improved structural frameworks. Against this backdrop, a comprehensive and systematic literature review was undertaken to examine and discuss the evolution of bandwagon effect research from the year of the concept's inception by Duesenberry (1949) and Leibenstein (1950)further rekindled by Kastanakis & Balabanis (2012 & 2014)— to the present (2021) within the business, management, and accounting domain. To provide better coherence, we studied the publication trends, theoretical evolution, methodological patterns, dissemination of papers in journals, and the construct formation and interaction matrix of various contexts employed in the review of the subject domain. Potential areas for future studies are suggested for academicians to further advance the subject area. The bandwagon effect has been showcased as a significant influencer of consumer consumption patterns and purchase behavior. Therefore, considerable potential still remains for research on this subject, as articulated by Kastanakis & Balabanis (2012 & 2014). Consequently, the subject of the bandwagon effect merits further attention in this present era in light of considerable complexities and consumer expectations.

Various potential areas have been suggested for future research, with emphasis on the TCCM approach proposed by Paul & Rosado-Serrano (2019). Future avenues of research using a mixed-method approach--which enables researchers to evaluate the research topic more comprehensively and validate findings by drawing upon empirical analysis—were identified through our SLR. Furthermore, we identify the need to study the theme as it relates to the consumer goods and services industries (including tourism) within different contextual settings. In addition, we recognize further opportunities to analyze the effect of COVID-19 on bandwagon behavior and bandwagon consumption within several industries and across various countries. A similar opportunity can also be explored by studying a particular industry through crosscountry examination. The COVID-19 pandemic has affected every industry by considerably altering the psychology of consumers; studying consumer behavior and purchasing patterns is this context is therefore imperative.

While this SLR has attempted to provide a synthesis of the available literature on the bandwagon effect, this study is not without limitations. We considered the subject of business management and accounting while searching for relevant literature, and limited the search to journal articles; literature on the bandwagon effect published in the form of books, conference proceedings, book chapters, and other forms of literature were not included in this study. Next, the literature on the bandwagon effect exclusively comprises the analysis of individuals' social behavior, which is further influenced by their social groups. Therefore, the study can be further enhanced in the future by considering the subject area of social sciences when searching for relevant literature. Future researchers may therefore expand this initial attempt to review the literature on the bandwagon effect.

CRediT authorship contribution statement

Sunali Bindra: Writing – review & editing, Writing – original draft, Methodology, Conceptualization. **Deepika Sharma:** Methodology, Writing – original draft, Writing – review & editing, Conceptualization.

Nakul Parameswar: Writing – review & editing, Writing – original draft, Conceptualization. Sanjay Dhir: Conceptualization, Methodology, Writing – original draft, Writing – review & editing. Justin Paul: Writing – review & editing, Writing – original draft, Supervision.

Declaration of Competing Interest

The authors declare that they have no known competing financial interests or personal relationships that could have appeared to influence the work reported in this paper.

Appendix A List of Articles included in the Review

S. No.	Journal Name	Title of the paper	Author(s)
1	Journal of Economic Behavior and Organization	"Threshold models of interpersonal effects in consumer demand"	Granovetter & Soong, 1986
2	Journal of Economic Behavior & Organization	"Snobs, bandwagons, and the origin of social customs in consumer behavior"	Corneo & Jeanne, 199
3	Tourism Economics	"Demand theory reconsidered: reflections on the demand for tourism in Cyprus"	Ayres, 1998
1	Journal of Economic Behavior & Organization	"Locally interdependent preferences in a general equilibrium environment"	Bell, 2002
5	Tourism Management	"Journey to nowhere? E-mail customer service by travel agents in Singapore"	Murphy & Tan, 2003
5	Production and Operations Management	"Adoption of e-Processes by Service Firms: An Empirical Study of Antecedents"	Tsikriktsis et al., 2004
,	Journal of Business Research	"Management fads and information delays: An exploratory simulation study"	Rich, 2008
	Health Care Management Review	"Fads, fashions, and bandwagons in health care strategy"	Kaissi & Begun, 2008
	Journal of Consumer Psychology	"When demand accelerates demand: Trailing the bandwagon"	van Herpen et al., 200
0	International Journal of Research in Marketing	"The chilling effects of network externalities"	Goldenberg et al., 201
1	Journal of Business Research	"Between the mass and the class: Antecedents of the "bandwagon" luxury consumption behavior"	Kastanakis & Balabani 2012
2	Marketing Science	"Online Product Opinions: Incidence, Evaluation, and Evolution"	Moe & Schweidel, 201
13	Journal of Promotion Management	"The Effectiveness of Two Online Persuasion Claims: Limited Product Availability and Product Popularity"	Jeong & Kwon, 2012
4	Journal of International Consumer Marketing	"Young Chinese Consumers' Snob and Bandwagon Luxury Consumption Preferences"	Tsai et al., 2013
.5	Journal of Business Research	"Explaining variation in conspicuous luxury consumption: An individual differences'	Kastanakis & Balaban 2014
	Journal of Detailing and Consumon Comices	perspective" "Deal is an I Why morals buy from doily deal susheites"	
6 7	Journal of Retailing and Consumer Services Management International Review	"Deal is on! Why people buy from daily deal websites" "Who Follows Whom? A Location Study of Chinese Private and State-Owned Companies in the	Parsons et al., 2014 De Beule et al., 2018
8	International Marketing Review	European Union" "Do luxury brands successfully entice consumers? The role of bandwagon effect"	Shaikh et al., 2017
9	Journal of Consumer Marketing	"The impact of the motivation for status on consumers' perceptions of retailer sustainability:	Tascioglu et al., 2017
20	Management and Organization Review	the moderating impact of collectivism and materialism" "An Alternative Way to Make Knowledge Sharing Work in Online Communities? the Effects of Hidden Knowledge Facilitators"	Li-Ying et al., 2018
21	International Journal of Innovation and Technology Management	"Symbolic Innovations: Consequences of Convergence of Adoption and of Implementation"	Johnson, 2018
22	Journal of Promotion Management	"Attractiveness, Purchase Intention, and Willingness to Pay More for Global Brands: Evidence from Turkish Market"	Akturan & Bozbay, 20
23	Marketing Intelligence and Planning	"Paradox and market renewal: Knockoffs and counterfeits as doppelgänger brand images of luxury"	Hietanen et al., 2018
24	Journal of Brand Management	"Is luxury expensive?"	Gutsatz & Heine, 2018
25	Journal of Business Research	"Conspicuous consumption in emerging market: The case of Chinese migrant workers"	Huang & Wang, 2018
26	Psychology and Marketing	"Do they shop to stand out or fit in? The luxury fashion purchase intentions of young adults"	Eastman et al., 2018
27	Journal of Management and Business Administration. Central Europe	"Snobbish bandwagoners: Ambiguity of luxury goods' perception"	Stępień, 2018
28	Journal of Cleaner Production	"More than peanuts: Transformation towards a circular economy through a small-wins governance framework"	Termeer & Metze, 20
29	Public Relations Review	"Comments are disabled for this video": A technological affordances approach to understanding source credibility assessment of CSR information on YouTube"	Liao & Mak, 2019
80	International Journal of Hospitality Management	"What drives customers' willingness to pay price premiums for luxury gastronomic experiences at michelin-starred restaurants?"	Kiatkawsin & Han, 20
81	Journal of Business Research	"From Prada to Nada": Consumers and their luxury products: A contrast between second-hand and first-hand luxury products"	Kessous & Valette- Florence, 2019
32	Journal of Promotion Management	"The Effects of Social Information Cues Featured in SNS Ads on Unfamiliar Product Adoption"	Kim et al., 2019
33	Journal of Evolutionary Economics	"Consumption & class in evolutionary macroeconomics"	Rengs & Scholz- Wäckerle, 2019
34	Humanities and Social Sciences Communications	"Small business response to regulation: incorporating a behavioral perspective"	Shapiro & Borie-Holtz 2020
35	Journal of Business Research	"Exploring materialistic bandwagon behaviour in online fashion consumption: A survey of Chinese luxury consumers"	Mainolfi et al., 2020
36	Management Communication Quarterly	"How Corporate Social Advocacy Affects Attitude Change Toward Controversial Social Issues"	Parcha & Kingsley Westerman, 2020
37	Journal of Intellectual Capital	"Intellectual capital, knowledge sharing and equity crowdfunding"	Vrontis, Christofi, et a 2021
38	Corporate Communications	"The role of corporate credibility and bandwagon cues in sponsored social media advertising"	Li et al., 2020
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S.	Journal Name	Title of the paper	Author(s)
No.			
39	Asia Pacific Business Review	"Japanese investment location choice in the US: a home-country firm bandwagon effect"	Magnier-Watanabe, 2020
40	Journal of Retailing and Consumer Services	"The bandwagon luxury consumption in Tunisian case: The roles of independent and interdependent self concept"	Bahri-Ammari et al., 2020
41	Global Business Review	"Gender Differences in Millennial Consumers of Latin America Associated with Conspicuous Consumption of New Luxury Goods"	Verdugo & Ponce, 2020
42	International Journal of Consumer Studies	"Personality traits influencing young adults' conspicuous consumption"	Barrera & Ponce, 2021
43	International Business Review	"Intra and inter-country comparative effects of symbolic motivations on luxury purchase	Shukla & Rosendo-Rios,
		intentions in emerging markets"	2021
44	Schmalenbach Journal of Business Research	"Don't Jump on the Bandwagon: Negative Effects of Sharewashing"	Lehr et al., 2021
45	Consumption Markets and Culture	"The making of modern champagne: how and why the taste for and the taste of champagne changed in nineteenth century Britain"	Harding, 2021
46	International Journal of Culture, Tourism, and Hospitality Research	"Heritage hotels and customer experience: a text mining analysis of online reviews"	Chittiprolu et al., 2021

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