

Business and management in China: A review of empirical research in leading international journals

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Abstract China's growing economic importance has led to a significant increase in the volume of empirical research about business and management in this country during the last few years. This study reviews the 180 empirical papers focusing on the Chinese context that were published in 12 leading international academic journals between 2000 and 2005. A summary of the methodologies used and the topics analysed is offered, along with various rankings of journals, authors, institutions, and papers.

Keywords China · Business and management · Review of empirical research · Contributions

As a result of China's growing economic importance, the number of papers focusing on the Chinese context published in prestigious international journals has increased considerably. While earlier work focused on the mode of entry into China, most recent papers deal with a wider variety of issues from many different points of view. Therefore, a review of the state of the art becomes necessary.

Previous reviews have dealt with research in the Chinese context. These include (1) reviews about management in the People's Republic of China (PRC) by Shenkar (1994) and Tsui et al. (2004); (2) reviews about organisation and management research in the context of Greater China by Peng et al. (2001) and Li and Tsui (2002); (3) discussion about the applicability of organisational theories developed in

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Table 2 Ranking of individual contributions to the empirical literature on China (2000–2005)^a.

Author	Institution	Total appearances	Adjusted appearances
1. Yadong Luo	University of Miami (US)/University of Hawaii (US)	30	22.74
2. Justin Tan	Creighton University (US)/California State University, San Marcos (US)	7	3.5
3. Mike W. Peng	Ohio State University (US)/University of Texas at Dallas (US)	5	3.33
4. Eric W. K. Tsang	Nanyang Technological University (Singapore)/Wayne State University (US)	3	3
5. John Child	University of Birmingham (UK)	6	2.83
6. Lee Li	York University (Canada)	3	2.5
7. Yigang Pan	York University (Canada)/University of Hong Kong (Hong Kong)	4	2.33
8. Dean Ijosvold	Lingnan University (Hong Kong)	5	2
9. Haiyang Li	Lingnan University (Hong Kong)/Texas A&M University (US)	4	2
10. Pierre-Xavier Meschi	Université de la Méditerranée (France)/Graduate School of Commerce of Marseille (France)	3	2
11. Mauro Guillén	University of Pennsylvania (US)/Instituto de Empresa (Spain)	2	2
11. Lisa A. Keister	Ohio State University (US)	2	2
13. Hongxin Zhao	Saint Louis University (US)	4	1.95
14. Oded Shenkar	Ohio State University (US)	5	1.91
15. Xiaohua Lin	University of Windsor (Canada)	3	1.75
16. David K. Tse	University of Hong Kong (Hong Kong)	4	1.5
17. Kwaku Anuahene-Gima	City University of Hong Kong (Hong Kong)	3	1.5
17. Yanni Yan	City University of Hong Kong (Hong Kong)	3	1.5
17. Seung Ho Park	Rutgers University (US)/CEIBS Shanghai (China)	3	1.5
20. Paul Ellis	Hong Kong Polytechnic University (Hong Kong)	2	1.5
20. Steven White	Chinese University of Hong Kong (Hong Kong)	2	1.5
20. Deli Yang	Manchester School of Management—UMIST (UK)/Bradford University School of Management (UK)	2	1.5
23. Li Li	Swedish School of Economics and Business Administration (Finland)	2	1.33
23. Jan Selmer	Hong Kong Baptist University (Hong Kong)	2	1.33
25. Chao C. Chen	Rutgers University-The State University of New Jersey (US)/New York University (US)	4	1.25
26. Yizheng Shi	Hong Kong Baptist University (Hong Kong)	2	1.25

^aTheoretical papers are excluded. The journals considered are *AMJ*, *APJM*, *ASQ*, *IBR*, *JIBS*, *JIM*, *JM*, *JMS*, *JWB*, *MIR*, *OS*, and *SMJ*. A complete table of individual contributions is posted at <http://www.ua.es/personal/diego.quer/>.

Table 4 Most cited empirical papers on business and management in mainland China (2000–2005)^a.

Social Sciences Citation Index		Google Scholar	
Paper	Total citations/ Excluding self-citations	Paper	Total citations/ Excluding self-citations
1. Peng and Luo (2000)	62/51	1. Peng and Luo (2000)	108/91
2. Park and Luo (2001)	37/35	2. Park and Luo (2001)	100/98
3. Isobe et al. (2000)	33/30	3. Pan and Tse (2000)	72/69
4. Brockner et al. (2000)	31/23	4. Christmann and Taylor (2001)	65/63
5. Christmann and Taylor (2001)	25/24	5. Isobe et al. (2000)	59/57
6. Li and Atuahene-Gima (2001)	25/22	6. Tsang (2002a)	43/42
7. Luo, Shenkar and Nyaw (2001)	21/21	7. Guillén (2002)	39/37
8. Pan and Tse (2000)	21/17	8. Li and Atuahene-Gima (2001)	38/37
9. White (2000)	19/14	9. Brockner et al. (2000)	38/32
10. Luo and Park (2001)	17/15	10. Luo (2002c)	37/37
11. Luo (2001a)	17/14	11. Yang et al. (2000)	36/35
12. Luo (2002c)	16/16	12. Luo (2001b)	35/35
13. Yang et al. (2000)	15/15	13. Farh et al. (2004)	34/33
14. Guillén (2002)	15/12	14. White (2000)	33/24
15. Luo (2001b)	14/14	15. Luo, Shenkar and Nyaw (2001)	32/31
16. Li et al. (2001)	13/12	16. Luo (2002b)	30/28
16. Luo (2002b)	13/12	17. Luo and Park (2001)	30/27
18. Luo (2002f)	12/12	18. Li et al. (2001)	28/25
19. Yan and Gray (2001)	12/10	19. Luo (2001a)	27/25
20. Luo (2002a)	11/11	20. Yan and Gray (2001)	26/22

^a All citation numbers are as of December 31, 2006.

must be pointed out that papers published in *APJM*, *JIM*, and *MIR* are not included in SSCI, which thus would under-report the citations for these journals. Table 4 lists the papers which generated the largest number of citations as of December 31, 2006. Because of self-citations, we also report the number of citations excluding self-citations.

Peng and Luo (2000), which is cited 108 times (91 times excluding self-citations) according to Google Scholar and 62 times (51 times excluding self-citations) according to SSCI, is the most frequently cited paper in this literature. The second most frequently cited paper is Park and Luo (2001), which is cited 100 times (98 times excluding self-citations) and 37 times (35 times excluding self-citations) according to Google Scholar and SSCI, respectively.

Overall, the most cited papers in the SSCI ranking were published by seven journals: *AMJ* (six papers), *JIBS* (4), *SMJ* (4), *ASQ* (2), *JMS* (2), *OS* (1), and *JM* (1). Regarding the Google Scholar ranking, the top cited papers were published by six journals: *AMJ* (six papers), *JIBS* (4), *SMJ* (4), *ASQ* (2), *JMS* (2), and *OS* (2).