Mapping fields of interest

A systematic literature review on public clients in construction

Pieter Eisma and Leentje Volker



Introduction



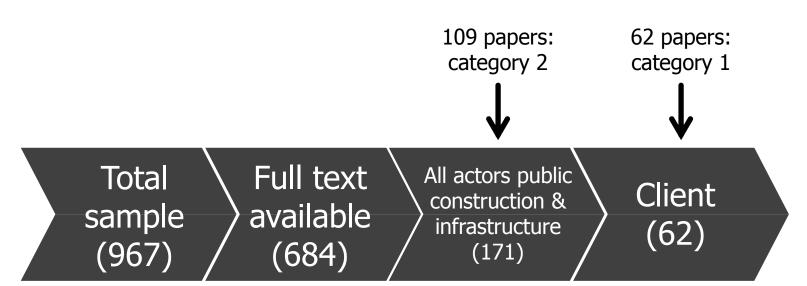


Method

- Research questions
 - What are the main research themes in the scientific field of public commissioning?
 - Which knowledge gaps can be identified?
- Systematic literature review
 - Explorative quantitative analysis
 - Explorative network analysis
- Search query in Scopus and JSTOR
 - English articles, published after 1990
 - public, client, discipline and tasks of client

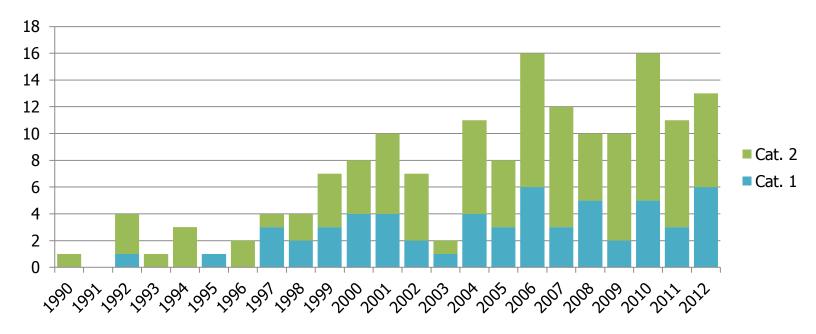


Part 1: Explorative quantitative analysis





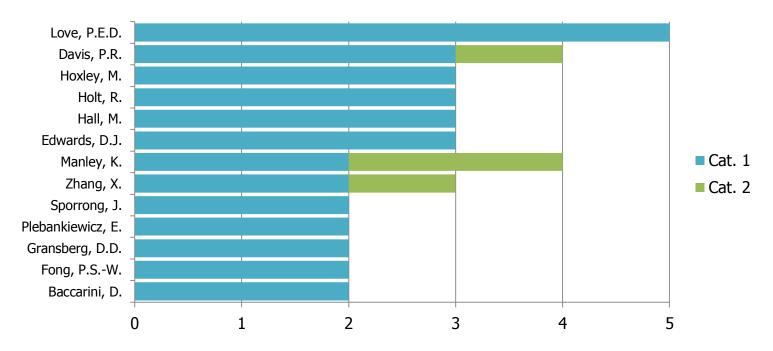
Results – papers per year



- Increase in publications
- From 1997 substantially more publications
- Low in 2003



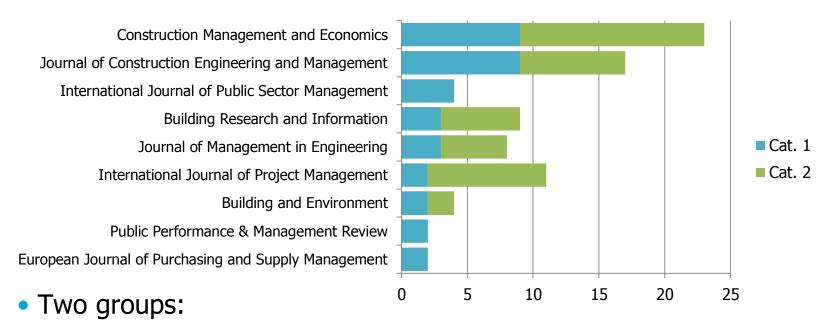
Results - authors



- Many publications by few authors
- High number of co-authorships
- Strong client focus



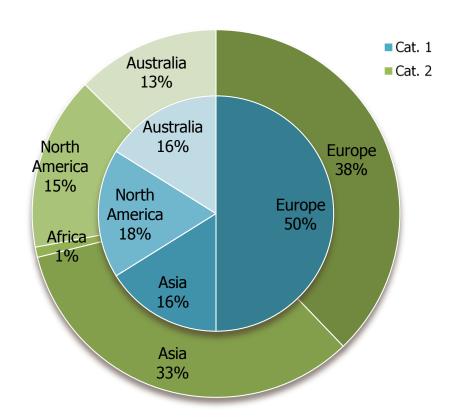
Results - journals



- 1. On construction and engineering
- 2. On management sciences and governance
- Two main journals: CME and JCEM



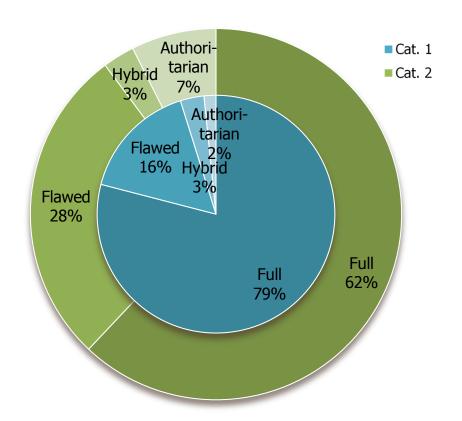
Results – paper per continent



- In Europe larger focus on public commissioning and the client
- In Asia focus on all actors, instead of only the client



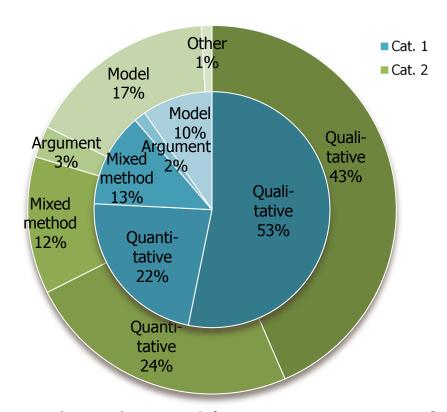
Results - government types



- More flawed democracies in category 2 due to Asian papers
- Type of government influences focus on public commissioning



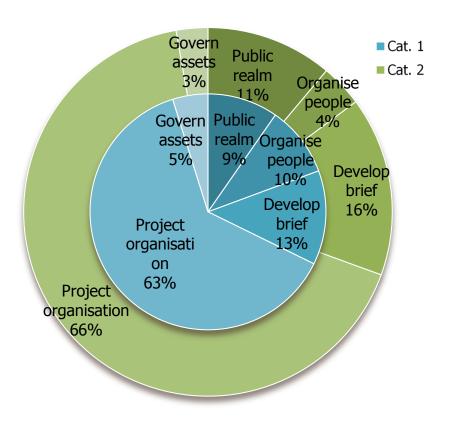
Results – research methods



- Majority of cat.1 describes public commissioning from sociological point of view
- Category 2 more focused on modelling and conducting surveys



Results - themes of papers





Conclusions from part 1

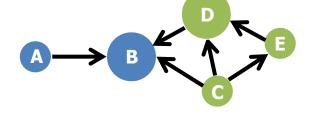
- Number of papers on public commissioning is limited
- Growing field of science
- Small number of authors, mostly from Europe and Australia
- Often referring to each other's work
- Published in few journals
- Limited scope: project management, procurement, and performance
- Mostly qualitative research methods



Part 2: Explorative network analysis

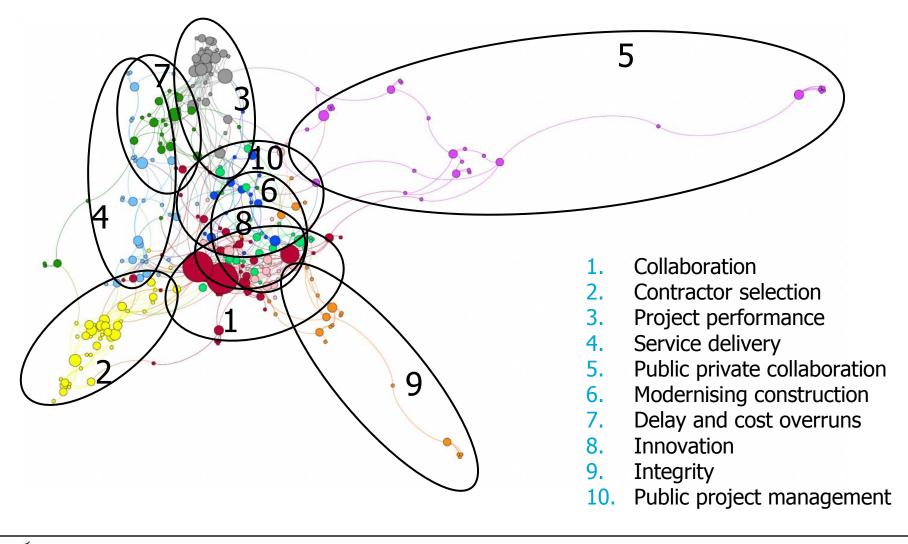
Concept

- Network with papers as nodes and citations as connections
- Example:
 - A cites B
 - C also cites B
 - Colour based on shared connections





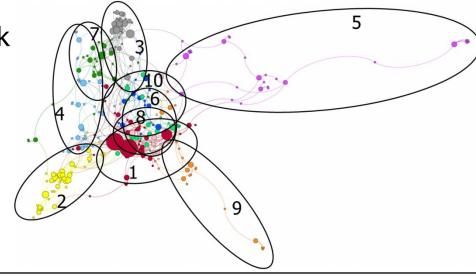
Results from network analysis (1)





Results from network analysis (2)

- Four groups centrally positioned in the network
 - 1. Collaboration
 - 6. Modernising construction
 - 8. Innovation
 - 10. Public project management
- Two groups at edge of network
 - 5. Public private collaboration
 - 9. Integrity





Conclusions from part 2

- Tightly knit network
- Two research fields
- Focus on two levels: project level and industry level → organisational level is missing
- Future research should incorporate public private collaboration, integrity and other public values



Research agenda (1)





Research agenda (2)

1. The client as a professional public organisation

- Focus on organisational structure and competences of the client
- Perception of professionalism



Research agenda (3)

2. The client as a strategic asset manager

- Aging building stock in the Netherlands and other (European) countries
- Need for transformation and renovation more prominent



Discussion

- Need from practice for practical guidelines and instrumental tools → valorisation strategy?
- Link to other fields? How?
 - public administration
 - law
 - organisation sciences



Thank you for your attention

