Editorial: Tribology: a bibliometric analysis

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Tribology is the "science and technology of interacting surfaces in relative motion and the associated subjects and practices." It includes the research and application of principles of friction, wear and lubrication. Subfields of tribology include, for example, nanotribology, biotribology, green tribology (Bhushan et al., 1995; Davim, 2011, 2016, 2017).

The bibliometric analysis used the database Scopus to search for the documents. Using the term {tribology}, TITLE-ABS-KEY ({tribology}), 88,745 documents were identified (search carried out on 29th November 2024).

The results obtained in documents can be seen in Table 1, for the first ten positions concerning year, source, author, affiliation, country, document type, scientific area, and funding support. The better results obtained show in function of the number of documents produced: year 2017 (5,491), followed by the years 2016 (4,996) and 2011 (4,559); source *Wear* – Elsevier (4,276) followed by *Tribology International* – Elsevier (3,983) and *Surface Coatings Technology* – Elsevier (2,727); author Liu, W. – Northwestern Polytechnical University (406), followed by Xue, Q. – Ningbo Institute of Industrial Technology (247) and Bhushan, B. – The Ohio State University (228); affiliation Chinese Academy of Sciences (4,137) followed by Lanzhou Institute of Chemical Physics (3,046) and Ministry of Education of China (2,124); country China (26,466) followed by USA (11,677) and India (7,422); document type article (65,566) followed by conference paper (19,009) and review (1,856); scientific area engineering (61,083) followed by materials science (55,792) and physics and astronomy (35,257) and funding support National Natural Science Foundation of China (10,582) followed by Ministry of Education of China (2,171) and National Key Research and Development Program of China (1,360).

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Table 1 Documents (88,745) by Scopus (29th November 2024)

	Year	*Source*	*Author*	*Affiliation*
1	2017 (5,491)	*Wear* (4,276)	Liu, W. (406)	Chinese Academy of Sciences (4,137)
2	2016 (4,996)	*Tribology International* (3,983)	Xue, Q. (247)	Lanzhou Inst. of Chemical Physics (3,046)
3	2011) (4,559)	*Surface and Coatings Technology* (2,727)	Bhushan, B. (228)	Ministry of Education of China (2,124)
4	2009 (4,529)	*Tribology Letters* (1,735)	Yang, J. (221)	University of Chinese Academy of Sciences (1,622)
5	2010 (4,427)	*SAE Technical Papers* (1,471)	Zhou, F. (216)	Tsinghua University (1,297)
6	2018 (4,423)	*Journal of Tribology* (1,329)	Chen, J. (196)	Harbin Institute of Technology (892)
7	2023 (4,333)	*Advanced Materials Research* (1,265)	Neville, A. (182)	Shanghai Jiao Tong University (862)
8	2015 (4,247)	*Mocaxue Xuebao Tribology* (1,239)	Wang, Q. (176)	Xi'an Jiaotong University (831)
9	2022 (3,759)	*Tribology Transactions* (1,234)	Erdemir, A. (174)	Southwest Jiaotong University (811)
10	2014 (3,715)	*Part J Journal of Engineering Tribology* (946)	Wang, L. (171)	Northeastern University (772)
	Country	*Type*	*Area*	*Funding Support*
1	China (26,466)	Article (65,566)	Engineering (61,083)	National Natural Sci. Found. of China (10,582)
2	USA (11,677)	Conference paper (19,009)	Materials Sci, (55,791)	Ministry of Education of China (2,171)
3	India (7,422)	Review (1,856)	Physics and Astr. (35,257)	National Key Res. and Dev. Program of China (1,360)
4	Japan (6,518)	Book chapter (1,030)	Chemistry (9,753)	Fundamental Res. Funds for the Central Univ. (1,358)
5	Germany (5,080)	Editorial (306)	Chemical Eng. (6,912)	National Science Foundation (1,180)
6	UK (4,463)	Conference review (281)	Computer Sc. (4,751)	China Postdoctoral Science Foundation (844)
7	France (3,175)	Book (187)	Energy (3,510)	D. Forschungsgemeinschaft (784)
8	Russian Fed. (2,575)	Note (165)	Mathematics (3,119)	Engineering and Physical Sci. Res. Council (777)
9	Poland (1,963)	Short survey (79)	Earth and P. Sc. (2,878)	European Commission (718)
10	South Korea (1,930)	Letter (41)	Environmental Sci. (2,859)	Chinese Academy of Sciences (685)

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