Interplanetary Travel: Cluster Analysis of Inspec Classification Codes to Identify Main Subject Areas

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ABSTRACT

Background. Interplanetary travel is a highly scientific and technological area. Scientific institutions and organizations, government agencies, and the media have made this subject popular. It is also a major aspect of science fiction. An exploration of the subject can be of interest to a wide audience.

Objective. To define the major scientific and technical aspects of interplanetary travel and present them to the non-scientific reader.

Method. Relevant citations on the subject were obtained from the Inspec database using applicable keywords; the bibliography of four key articles and citations were also retrieved from Inspec. All the classification codes from the citations were compiled. The visualization software Sci2 was used to create subject clusters, and the classification codes related to each cluster were extracted.

Result. Six main subject areas were found to represent the main components of interplanetary travel. These are described, together with a list of basic resources. Major publications such as books, journals and conference proceedings obtained from the searches are listed.

Contribution. This survey is targeted at librarians, teachers, and others with limited scientific background to provide them with an overview of the scientific and technical aspects of interplanetary travel. This information can be used to prepare information literacy sessions on a topic that can bring active participation and interest in a class. It can help students with non-scientific backgrounds venture into this exciting area. Finally, this can be viewed as a contribution to science literacy.

INTRODUCTION

In the early years of space exploration, Dwight D. Eisenhower's President's Science Advisory Committee (1958) referred to "the compelling urge of man to explore and to discover, the thrust of curiosity that leads men to try to go where no one has gone before." Interplanetary travel is a topic of interest both in the scientific community as well as in science fiction literature. Evidence shows that throughout all of known history, humans have studied and interpreted the sky and struggled to understand the mysteries of the cosmos (Fix, 2004). The

stories and beliefs from early mythological and astrological ideas have evolved into serious scientific and technological fields. The remarkable level of precision and quality of today's instruments and data analysis is contributing to better insights into the universe, and the alteration or confirmation of theoretical foundations. Hence this paper is based on the scientific and technological literature that represents these advances. At the same time, science fiction has also been prospering side by side with this extraordinary new knowledge creation. In this paper, we are concerned with the knowledge domains in interplanetary travel, on which a major part of science fiction literature is founded.

This is not a critical analysis or a comprehensive review of the subject. Rather, it is a descriptive exposition based on the results obtained using the Inspec database. Although limited in its scope, the results show interesting information about the components of interplanetary travel. In addition, similar works have been published with the intent of presenting basic information about a scientific subject aimed at librarians, instructors, and students, such as the works of Stankus (2014) on biofuels, Kulp (2014) on genomics, Jarrett (2014) on the Ebola virus, Delwiche (2016) on the Zika virus, and Tran (2016) on particle detectors. Furthermore, a substantial portion of science fiction is based on scientific knowledge; we are not comparing or analyzing the real scientific knowledge with the popular ideas. A better understanding of the real knowledge can be of benefit to science fiction followers.

A second motivation for the selection of this topic is the recent work done by researchers such as E. W. Davis (2006 and 2012) of the Institute for Advanced Studies, Austin, TX; by J. C. Garcia-Escartin and P. Chamorro-Posada (2013) from the Universidad de Valladolid, Departamento de Teoría de la Señal y Comunicaciones e Ingeniería Telemática; and the work of P. Lubin (2016) of the University of California, Santa Barbara, Experimental Cosmology Group. These recent contributions are important to this topic because the authors using the scientific formal communication (papers published in well-recognized proceedings and journals) present specific arguments that make extraordinary long-distance space travel a realistic event in the future. There are many other scientists with remarkable theories about the possibilities of exploring the universe but not necessarily human or robots in spaceships. NASA's Hubble Space Telescope mission is an example of a project that has renewed interest in the study of the universe.

In his first article, Davis (2008) explores faster-than-light (FTL) technological details, analyzes tentative solutions, and concludes that transversable wormholes are better suited for traveling in space since less negative energy is necessary as compared to warp drives. The need for developing a source of negative energy at large scale in space is presented, and the concerns for controlling the lab environment for negative energy experimentation is discussed. The second article by Davis (2012) presents the technical problems to be resolved in order for FTL space warps to be possible, such as the production of large-scale negative energy, the creation of guidance, manipulation, and control principles, the development of a program of space warps computer simulation, and a number of other fundamental theoretical issues. Garcia-Escartin and Chamorro-Posada (2013) proposed a number of technologies expected to recognize the signatures of artificial objects traveling at near the speed of light, which would allow the identification of extraterrestrial civilizations based on the assumption that interstellar ships would leave traces in the universe. Advanced methods of propulsion are assumed. Lubin (2016) proposed a system "that will allow us to take the step to interstellar exploration using directed energy propulsion combined with miniature probes including some where we would put an entire spacecraft on a wafer to achieve relativistic flight and allow us to reach nearby stars in human lifetime."

In this study, following established practices of bibliometrics, we identify a body of scientific literature using the Inspec database. The classification codes provided by Inspec are compiled and presented to a visualization procedure of the Sci2 visualization tool. This analysis created subject domain clusters which allow for the identification of the main subject areas pertaining to interplanetary travel.

This study has several objectives:

1. to demonstrate that using heuristic visualization techniques it is possible to identify components (clusters) of a subject;
2. to provide lists of resources of high scientific and technical quality that were obtained as a by-product of searches carried out in Inspec;
3. to present, through the authors' knowledge and extensive reading, selected resources that can be used for increasing readers' awareness about the specific components of interplanetary travel.

This paper is geared towards librarians, instructors and students that are interested in scientific topics but do not have a formal education or training about the subject. In addition, topics such as interplanetary travel can bring active participation from students in information literacy projects and can contribute to the science literacy of citizens from any country. Basic bibliographic instruction using themes from space traveling or science fiction in general has not been greatly reported in the literature. After extensive searching in databases like LISTA (EBSCO) and Academic Search Complete, only a few articles pertaining to academic libraries were retrieved. The article by Osif (1993) described how science fiction was a component of a library research methodology one-credit course; DiBianco (2005) discussed how literature can be a strategy for increasing students' interest in a subject (math, music, etc.). For example, science fiction can be used to better understand scientific theories and applications. The works of Ontell (2003) and Scott (1980) offered ideas about how science fiction has been used for this purpose. We hope that this survey will serve as an encouragement to use technology-based topics in introductory information literacy projects.

CITATION ANALYSIS AND VISUALIZATION

Citation analysis has been found to be a useful tool for studying the bibliographic characteristics of a subject. An excellent introduction to the use of bibliometric and citation analysis is the book by De Bellis (2009), *Bibliometrics and citation analysis: From the Science Citation Index to cybermetrics*. Another basic introductory work is the chapter by Nicolaisen (2007) in the *Annual review of information science and technology*. The literature of citation analysis is extensive. As indicated by Rosenberg (2015), "A plethora of citation analysis studies allow academic librarians the possibility of sharing their research studies throughout the world and the opportunity of viewing other current research studies from abroad" and then goes on to mention citation studies carried out in academic libraries in Belgium, Canada, China, Croatia, Finland, India, Iran, Nigeria, and Spain. Among several applications of citation analysis, the literature shows that it can determine the impact of a publication, or a research institution; establish linkages among authors of a subject, the importance of the contributions of a researcher, and other significant uses. In this study, we used citation analysis to determine the component areas of a subject domain.

There are many articles reporting citation analysis used for identifying the components of a subject domain, including the work of Braun, Glanzel, Maczelka, and Zsindely (1993) which discussed the literature of Analytical Chemistry, covered by a major chemistry

abstracting service. The literature of Nursing is analyzed for a three-year period, based on the citations covered by several health sciences databases (Allen, Jacobs & Levy, 2006). A study about the Information Science literature in China by Hu, Hu, Deng, and Liu (2013) used a co-words analysis and produced 13 clusters of subject terms. The structure of STEM education is studied by Assefa and Rorissa (2013), in which they performed co-word analyses and produced subject clusters. Finally, Nwagwu (2006) determined the coverage of biomedical literature produced in Nigeria by obtaining citation data from Medline, identified leading publications, and established the potential impact of these publications using Thomson's ISI Journal Citation Reports.

Visualization software and procedures are powerful tools used in bibliometric studies. Meirelles (2013), in her work about designing for information, indicates that visualization in the sciences is a means to communicate findings and a “platform for data manipulation and exploration.” Based on cognitive principles, visual displays can be used to record information, facilitate discovery, and to provide a vehicle for data manipulation.

Belter and Seidel (2013) performed a bibliometric analysis of the climate engineering research by creating a bibliographic coupling network showed components of this literature. Boyack, Wylie, and Davidson (2002) used the visualization tool VxInsight to perform a domain analysis for the management of science and technology projects. Using bibliographic citations, the data is subject to statistical procedures that produce clusters of subjects. Chen, Paul, and O'Keefe (2001) studied the discipline of Computer Graphics by collecting data from articles published in the journal *IEEE computer graphics and applications*. Using several citation analysis techniques, a series of graphics identifying subject domains were obtained. Another interesting study is the survey of Arencibia-Jorge, Vega-Almeida, and Martí-Lahera (2007), which used a multi-step procedure involving several statistical and text mining software. They obtained citation data from the Science Citation Index, identified subject domains as well as performed semantic analysis. These are examples of visualization projects where graphics softwares have been used to analyze subject domains.

RESEARCH METHODOLOGY AND DATA COLLECTION

Data Sources and Processing

We followed common practices for data gathering for bibliometric analysis. Our main objective for data collection was to find representative bibliographic information about interplanetary travel. For that purpose, the Inspec indexing and abstracting database was selected since it has strong coverage in physics as well as in electrical and electronic engineering and in computer science. Inspec is a product of the Institution of Engineering and Technology (IET), Stevenage, UK. The EBSCOhost information system was used to search the Inspec database.

The bibliographic data was obtained by searching Inspec from three angles: 1) engineering and technological aspects, 2) warps and wormholes, and 3) citations from four key articles.

The first search explores the technical aspects of interplanetary travel. To accomplish this phase, a preliminary search was done in the Compendex indexing and abstracting database, which has broad coverage of engineering and technology fields. We searched for records related to:

"space travel" OR "interplanetary travel" OR "interstellar travel"

From the 750 citations retrieved, we collected the following significant subject terms:

"space flight" or "spacecraft" or "space research" or "space physics" or "rockets" or "missiles" or "biology" or "chemical products" or "aerospace engineering" or "rocket propulsion" or "satellites" or "military engineering" or "industrial economics" or "mathematics" or "biological materials" or "tissue engineering" or "computer applications" or "solar energy" or solar phenomena" or "chemistry" or "rocket engines" or "management" or "technology on society" or "atomic physics" or "molecular physics" or "aircraft" or "avionics" or "cost engineering" or "industrial economics" or "computer software" or "data handling" or "electronics" or "engineering research" or "accidents" or "accident prevention" or "electromagnetic waves" or "mechanics" or "light optics" or "bioengineering" or "telecommunication" or "radar" or "plasma physics" or "industrial engineering" or "anatomy" or "medicine"

These were combined with the terms *"space travel" or "interplanetary travel" or "interstellar travel"* using the AND operator. This query retrieved 221 records in Inspec.

A second search looked for citations in Inspec related to warps and wormholes associated with space travel: ((warps or wormhole) AND travel). This produced 64 citations. A third search looked for citations in Inspec that had been cited by Davis (2006 & 2012), Garcia-Escartin and Chamorro-Posada (2013), and Lubin (2016). Although not all the referenced items were found in Inspec, this search retrieved 169 records or 88.8 percent of all references. The total number of citations obtained with Classification codes was 454, after duplicated citations were discarded.

The preliminary search in Compendex was carried out in order to capture significant subject terms that represent both the physics and engineering aspects of Space Travel. The second search in Inspec was necessary because of the importance of cosmological warps and wormholes as tools for travelling extraordinary long distances through space. As mentioned earlier, the four articles proposed very specific solutions for making extraordinary long-distance space travel a realistic event in the future. Therefore, it was important to include their supporting literature (references). This process of mining the literature of a scientific topic using different perspectives and components is a common practice. Further, we selected Inspec as the base database because of its coverage in both physics and technical areas; Compendex is a very strong engineering database. Also, by using only the Inspec Classification Codes the identification of clusters is consistent (using a single type of descriptive metadata) and easier to access.

An Inspec bibliographic record includes title, author, author affiliation, source, abstract, Inspec descriptors (controlled vocabulary), key phrase headings, classification codes and other fields. For the purpose of data analysis, we concentrated on the title and the classification codes. The title was used mainly for the identification of each citation; our data analysis was based entirely on classification codes. Classification codes assigned by expert indexers to each article in the Inspec database are very powerful metadata elements that identify the main subject areas covered by the article; several Classification codes are assigned to an article. Classification codes are also effective ways to retrieve significant articles on a topic. The data collected was loaded into a Microsoft Excel file and constituted the data source presented to the Sci2 procedures.

Data Analysis

Science of Science (Sci2) was used for statistical analysis and evaluation of the data. This visualization software package recommended by Cobo, Lopez-Herrera, Herrera-Viedma and

Herrera (2011) has been used for data analysis in several bibliometric projects and has the advantage of being an open source software. A co-occurrence network for the set of classification codes was constructed. In a co-occurrence network, the associative relation between terms (classification codes) is determined by the frequency with which the pair of terms occur in the same record (i.e. the number of bibliographic records that have been indexed with both classification codes). Next, the Watts and Strogatz (1998) clustering algorithm was applied to the co-occurrence network. This procedure, also known as *small-world networks*, is characterized by high clustering coefficients and an average shortest path lengths between pairs of terms (Watts-Strogatz Small World, 2009). A description of the major concepts involved follows.

We used the process of network analysis which is based on a structure of nodes and connecting links or edges. Nodes can represent bibliographic elements such as journal titles, authors, or subject terms. In our case, nodes represent classification codes or subject concepts and the links are the relationships among them (Price, 1965; Van Eck & Waltman, 2014). The use of classification codes is similar to using keywords because both represent subject concepts. Keywords are usually obtained from the title, the abstract, or a list supplied by the author; classification codes are assigned by indexers from a subject thesaurus. In either case, the number of co-occurrences of two keywords or classification codes represents the frequency of papers where both of them appear (Van Eck & Waltman, 2014). Subsets can be determined by applying a similarity or distance function to the data under study. The results create subsets with members that are similar to each other's and different to the members of other subsets. A number of algorithms are available for the analysis of the properties of a network. The type of bibliographic setting of our study has the condition for applying small-word networks procedures. For that purpose, we used the Watts-Strogatz Clustering Coefficient (Watts & Strogatz, 1998), a tool provided by Sci2. Network analysis is used in a variety of problems such as in physics, biometrics, econometrics, sociology and several others. Sci2 makes available tools to study networks occurring in bibliometric studies.

Erdős-Rényi is a very simple model that is not a good predictor of the degree of distribution or clustering formation as compared to real networks. In real networks, a high clustering coefficient is usually found; this means that there is a high likelihood that two members connected at a node are associated. But Erdős-Rényi is characterized with small path lengths (Erdős & Rényi, 1959; Steen, 2010). Milgram's (1967) famous letters experiment showed that the average path lengths in real-world situations are relatively small; a condition already stabilized in Erdős- Rényi model. At that time, it was also known that in many real-life situations, members of a network (such as people) have the tendency to group in small clusters. The Watts and Strogatz (1998) model has the properties of Erdős-Rényi random graphs, and provides us with large clustering coefficients, which resembles real-world networks.

In the Watts and Strogatz (1998) model, a network has a large number of interconnected nodes characterized by the presence of clusters, in the graph, of nodes located at short distance. Networks with a small average distance and high clustering coefficients are typical in scientific co-occurrence studies (Strobel, et al., 2011). The Watts and Strogatz (1998) model has been proven to be a reliable model but it has its limitations: it assumes a fixed number of nodes. For example, one property not covered by the Watts and Strogatz (1998) model is the condition observed that real networks grow; a process in which new nodes attach themselves to the lattice. These are known as scale-free networks. The Barabási and Albert model (1999) is also used as a procedure for establishing certain preferences in the

process of attaching new nodes. Further, the study of networks is an active area of research because of its immense possible applications.

The identification of clusters in this study is based on the process of examining a graphic to discover information from the data being graphically presented. Cleveland and McGill (1985 & 1987), introduced the concept known as graphical perception: "Graphical perception is the visual decoding of the quantitative and qualitative information encoded on graphs." In their work done in the 1980s, ahead of the computer graphics revolution, they argued that the way data is graphically presented has an important impact on its interpretation. Determining methods to study graphical perception was an important part of their research. More recently Meirelles (2013) in her book *Design for information* shows that the visualization of data from scientific research is a form of presenting research results used for data analysis and manipulation. Other benefits of using a cognitive process of visual analysis include the facilitation of discovery and creation of models from data collected. In our study, after using Sci2 tools to visualize the data collected, we created a model (clusters) based on the concepts of graphical perception and cognitive visual analysis. The results of this process were validated when we examined all the classification codes collected from the searches in Inspec.

RESULTS

This section has two distinct parts. The first part shows the results obtained using subject classification codes in the determining of the subject components of interplanetary travel. The second part defines each of these components and presents some basic significant publications. This is followed by a list of books, journals, conference proceedings, and reports, as well as a selected list of research institutions and agencies with programs related to space travel.

Analysis of Clusters Obtained From Sci2

We started by identifying ten clusters of subjects obtained by the previously explained visualization process applied to the 452 articles selected. They contained 502 unique classification codes that were assigned to the records 1,655 times; therefore the average number of classification codes assigned to each record was 3.66.

We have identified ten areas in Figure 1 that can be considered clusters of classification codes due to the close distance of the codes in each cluster. Appendix 1 lists the classification codes extracted from each of these clusters (see columns 1 and 2 of the table in Appendix 1). It is important to note how this analysis was done. The Sci2 visualization tool used allows for the magnification of the graph to a scale where the nodes with each classification code can be clearly distinguished as well as the distance between the nodes. Therefore, as indicated in the previous section, the analysis of the graph was based on graphical perception and cognitive visual analysis. Within each cluster, some concentrations of classification codes are present: for example: in cluster 1, A4200s, B4300s and B6000s; in cluster 2, A9600s; in cluster 3, A4200s, A9500s, and A9600s; in cluster 4, A0400s; in cluster 6, A8600s and B1000s; in cluster 10, A6800s and A8100s. The significance of this type of grouping is that those concentrations of classification codes represent scientific and technical topics in each group that have meaningful relationships. Examples include: in cluster 1: optics, lasers and masers, and electronic communication; in cluster 3: optics, fundamental astronomy and astrophysics, and the solar system; in cluster 6: energy research, and circuit theory, electronic circuits, and

Figure 1. Co-occurrence network of classification codes showing cluster distribution

microwave technology; in cluster 10: surfaces and interfaces, thin films and whiskers, and materials science.

In Appendix 1, codes from the ten clusters are collected, listed in alphanumerical order, and grouped by sections to provide a better perspective of the components of the visualization process. In addition, since we are exploring the major components from the codes extracted, the codes of the subject areas identified are then analyzed at categories of higher level (see Appendix 1 table, column 4). This was done by observing the lists of lower-level categories present in meaningful groups (indicated in column 3) which were then identified as members of a higher level category. In column 4, the codes representing the members of each higher-level category are marked with six different colors. Furthermore, based on the authors' knowledge of the scientific literature, a label was given to each major group.

The resulting major components obtained from this process are:

1. Astrophysics
2. Relativity and quantum fields
3. Biophysics and medical physics
4. Aerospace engineering
5. Electronics and communications
6. Materials and condensed matter

We also analyzed all classification codes cited in the 452 original documents and counted the number of times they occurred (frequency). When 60 percent of the most frequent classification codes from the 1655 codes assigned were analyzed, it showed the presence of four of the above topical areas: Astronomy, Relativity and Quantum Fields, Biophysics and Medical Physics, and Aerospace Engineering, (see Appendix 1 table, column 5). Therefore,

we can conclude that the six major cluster areas obtained from the visualization tool are reasonable.

The description of each field includes bibliographic sources that can be of value to students and librarians. A variety of sources have been included from encyclopedias and handbooks to textbooks and popular bestsellers. Selection of these materials is based on a process used by the authors of this project when identifying sources that teach or present information to the non-technical audience. It was not an easy task since these are highly technical topics. The following three sources are encyclopedias with extended coverage that can be used for almost any topic related to interplanetary travel:

- *McGraw-Hill encyclopedia of science and technology* (2012), published by McGraw-Hill Education, is a 20-volume reference source that provides information in all the major disciplines of science and technology.
- *AccessScience* (2000) is the online version of *McGraw-Hill encyclopedia of science and technology* with additional features and is updated regularly. It also includes the content of *McGraw-Hill education yearbook of science and technology* and the *McGraw-Hill dictionary of scientific and technical terms*.
- *Encyclopedia of space science & technology* by Hans (2003) is a two-volume work that summarizes an entire scientific and technological field. It is a good source for basic information.

It is common practice in academic libraries and research institutions to have staff members that are specialists in specific subjects. These librarians commonly known as subject librarians, subject specialists, or bibliographers, have the bibliographic knowledge required for tasks such as materials selection, bibliographic instruction, and authoring annotated bibliographies. In fact, librarians publish many annotated bibliographies and webliographies in the form of articles and books annually. The principal author of this paper is an experienced subject librarian, with academic degrees in the sciences while the second author has a background in science and engineering. The main challenge when selecting sources for this paper was that most of the published scientific and technical literature was written by experts for science and engineering students and researchers. We have selected secondary and tertiary resources from which a person with scientific curiosity but lacking the proper scientific foundation can obtain some solid background of these subjects. Selecting these materials was time-consuming. We do not expect that the entire reading of these sources will be necessary, in most cases reading the introductory chapter or the introduction of some chapters will provide the reader with what they need. This way of presenting a subject to a less knowledgeable audience is common practice in science and engineering librarianship. See, for example, publications such as: *Issues in science and technology librarianship*, *science and engineering libraries*, the *Journal of the Medical Library Association*, and *Collection building*. We have also found that popular non-fiction bestsellers that cover scientific topics are very valuable sources. As they are also written by experts, they often provide a less rigorous introduction to these subjects. Hence, we have selected a few as representative of this genre. The basic criteria for selection were:

1. scientific and technical encyclopedias and handbooks;
2. introductory texts;
3. introductory chapters and or introductory sections in chapters for texts which are more advanced; and
4. non-fiction best sellers.

These principles were used for all sections of the following main components of interplanetary travel. The tables in the *Resources* section were obtained straight from the 454 items used in the visualization analysis.

MAJOR COMPONENTS OF INTERPLANETARY TRAVEL

Astrophysics

Astrophysics encompasses the study of the universe, and the description and interpretation of its phenomena. Through observations, phenomena are interpreted based on extensive data collection and statistical analysis. This allows the determination of how they evolved; it also allows for the comparison to other phenomena. Some topics include black holes, quasars, neutron stars, galaxy clusters, and dark matter (Rigden, 1996).

Citations on Astrophysics and related areas cover topics such as: Relativity and Gravitation in Astrophysics; Astronomical and Space-research Instrumentation; Aerospace Instrumentation; Lunar, Planetary, and Deep-space probes; Astronomical Techniques; Other topics in astronomy and astrophysics; Black Holes; Background Cosmic Radiations; Cosmology; Theoretical Cosmology; Stars; Stellar systems, Galactic and Extragalactic Objects and Systems, Universe; Aeronomy, Space Physics; Cosmic Rays; Fundamental Astronomy and Astrophysics, Instrumentation and Techniques and Astronomical Observations.

The following are sources that can provide a better understanding of this scientific field:

- The *Encyclopedia of astronomy and astrophysics*, edited by Paul Murdin (2001) from the Particle Physics and Astronomy Council of the British National Space Center, is a comprehensive four-volume set written by several hundred experts. It is a good source for basic information. The reader will find information about *comet tails* or *starburst galaxies* in an easy to read style.
- Zombeck's (2007) *Handbook of space and astrophysics*, although written for graduate students and space researchers, presents a broad spectrum of the subject, including tools, data and information such as radiation issues, detectors, and launch vehicles.
- *Cosmology and particle astrophysics*, by Bergström and Goobar (2004), is a book for physics majors. However, readers who are not physics-inclined will benefit from reading the introduction of almost every chapter as they acquire an understanding of the fundamental issues of particle astrophysics.
- Clark's (1999) *Towards the edge of the universe: A review of modern cosmology* is a book for those who like science and are willing to make an effort to understand cosmology; the author used findings from the Hubble Space Telescope in presenting the material. Clark is a Fellow of the Royal Astronomical Society and author of the *Guardian* blog *Across the universe*.
- *Planetary sciences* of De Pater and Lissauer (2015) is a textbook and a winner of an astronomical writing award. This book can give the non-specialist reader an overview of the main topics of planetary sciences. Although the writing is highly technical, readers can skim over or skip the heavy scientific presentation and still appreciate the subject.
- Written as a first-year textbook for students of science and engineering, *Adventures in celestial mechanics* (Szebehely & Mark, 1998) provides the reader with a large number of examples in which celestial mechanical principles are applied.

- The 170 pages of *Astrophysics: A primer* by Kundt (2001) summarizes basic qualitative and quantitative tools needed for the interpretation of astrophysical phenomena.

Among popular bestsellers are: Kaku's (2006) *Parallel worlds: A journey through creation*, higher dimensions, and the future of the cosmos; Greene's (2005) *The fabric of the cosmos: Space, time, and the texture of reality*; and also Greene's (1999) *The elegant universe: Superstrings, hidden dimensions, and the quest for the ultimate theory*. Also a bestseller, *Cosmos*, written by scientist, writer and producer Carl Sagan (1980), summarized the 13-episodes of the award-winning television series *Cosmos: A personal voyage*. Written with Ann Druyan and Steven Soter, it presents the story of the universe and the development of science.

Relativity and Quantum Fields

General relativity studies the interaction of gravitational fields with objects in motion and light; *special relativity* deals with the motion of matter and radiation in non-gravitational environments. *Quantum field theory* describes systems such as electromagnetic fields as determined by the laws of quantum mechanics (Rigden, 1996). In addition, *quantum electrodynamics* studies the representation under the principles of relativity and quantum mechanics of electromagnetic radiation as interacting with electrically charged matter (McGraw-Hill encyclopedia of science and technology, 2012).

Under *relativity and quantum fields*, the results from the Inspec's searches include the following areas: Special Relativity; Quantum Theory, Quantum Mechanics; Foundations, Theory of Quantum Measurement, Miscellaneous Quantum Theories; General Relativity; Fundamental Problems and General Formalism in General Relativity; Solutions to Equations in General Relativity; Continuous Media; Electromagnetic and Other Mixed Gravitational Systems; Alternative Theories of Gravitation; Quantum Theory of Gravitation; Physics of Black Holes; Quantum Field Theory; Gauge Field Theories. This is not a complete list of topics and the resources listed next are intended to give the reader a broader perspective of the materials covered.

The following sources are recommended.

- The *Encyclopedia of physics*, edited by Lerner and Trigg (2005), is a comprehensive reference work with more than 500 articles written by experts, covering current topics such as quantum field theory, quantum fluids, quantum mechanics, quantum optics, and quantum statistical mechanics; the formation of stars and planets, quantum communication, space science and technology, and many others. This is an excellent source to start learning about a fascinating science field.
- *Discovering relativity for yourself* (Lilley, 1981) is a good introduction to the basic concepts of general relativity and the special theory of relativity. Minimum mathematical expertise is required but the author indicates that active reading is necessary as well as working on the problems presented.
- *Black holes: The edge of space, the edge of time* (Sullivan, 1979) offers an interesting coverage of black holes using a nontechnical approach; it introduces concepts such as warps and wormholes. This book can be used as initial readings or exploration on the subject.
- *Galaxies in turmoil: The active and starburst galaxies and the black holes that drive them* (Kitchin, 2007) is an appropriate reading for those interested in understanding the formation of galaxies and their composition; it provides a non-mathematical approach to exciting scientific topics.

Quantum mechanics is a challenging subject, and most books in academic libraries are for physics majors. Our choice of *Quantum physics of atoms, molecules, solids, nuclei, and particles* of Eisberg and Resnick (1985), requires lower-level undergraduate college mathematics to follow the material. In contrast, *Relativistic flight mechanics and space travel: a primer for students, engineers, and scientists* by Tinder (2007) is significantly easier to read and understand despite containing technical details. Its approach is to summarize what is known about space travel and explore the possibilities of what is not known. This book covers sections of relativity and quantum fields as well as aerospace engineering.

Some popular bestsellers are: Collier's (2014) *A most incomprehensible thing: Notes towards a very gentle introduction to the mathematics of relativity*; *Quantum field theory for the gifted amateur* of Lancaster and Blundell (2014); and *Quantum mechanics: The theoretical minimum* by Susskind and Friedman (2014). Among many of Stephen Hawking's (1988) excellent works, we have chosen *A brief history of time: From the big bang to black holes*, in which the author explores fundamental questions about the universe.

Biophysics and Medical Physics

Medical physics includes the use of radiation in treatments, diagnostic imaging, nuclear medicine, radiation protection, the use of ultrasound, ultraviolet, radiofrequency, and laser radiation. *Biophysics* is the body of knowledge from chemistry, biology, physics, and mathematics characterized by creating theories, models and technologies to understand life. Typical applications are found in aerospace medicine such as the effect of environment of flight, the effect of weightlessness, and radiation hazards (Rigden, 1996).

In these two areas, the following classification codes were identified in our cluster analysis: Biophysics, Medical Physics, and Biomedical Engineering; Interactions With Radiations at the Biomolecular Level; Cellular Biophysics; Biological Effects of Ionizing Radiations (UV, X-Ray, Gamma-Ray; Particle Radiation Effects); Radiation Dosimetry in Medical Physics; Aerospace Biophysics and Medical Physics (Effects of Accelerations, Weightlessness and Environment); Patient Diagnostic Methods and Instrumentation; Medical Physics and Biomedical Engineering.

For a better understanding of these areas, the following sources are recommended:

- *The new physics for the twenty-first century*, edited by Fraser (2006), is presented in an encyclopedic format and style. It brings to the reader many of the basic topics related to space travel. Adopting an easy-to-read approach, this work has chapters on “matter and the universe”, “quantum matter”, and sections on biophysics, medical physics and physics of materials, and presents an excellent introduction for the general reader.
- *Space physiology and medicine* (Nicogossian, Huntoon, & Pool, 2003) is considered to be a general reference manual that included substantial basic details on the foundations of space medicine and presents the results of human and animal experimentations.
- *Fundamentals of space medicine*, is authored by Gilles Clément (2011) of the International Space University, Strasbourg, France, who has participated in many experiments related to space missions particularly the International Space Station. It is a great source of information in a readable style.
- *Space physiology* by Buckey (2006) contains very practical biomedical issues for space explores such as: bone and muscle loss, psychosocial support, radiation hazards, safety, balance and motion sickness, cardiovascular issues; nutrition, long-duration flight medical planning, and flight preparation and recovery.

- *Trailblazing medicine: Sustaining explorers during interplanetary missions*, by Seedhouse (2011), emphasizes what is needed to keep a crew alive in a space mission; he discusses topics such as surgical robots, telemedicine, remote emergency care, human hibernation, euthanasia, sex, precautionary surgery and many other challenges for long-mission astronauts.
- Edited by four experts in space medicine, *Fundamentals of aerospace medicine* (Davis, Johnson, Stepanek, & Fogarty, 2008) is a comprehensive work in space medicine, including a number of clinical aspects such as cardiovascular medicine, dental considerations, endocrine system and nephrology, infectious diseases, neurology, ophthalmology, otolaryngology, psychiatry, and respiratory diseases.
- Mahaling (2009) has compiled a substantial amount of basic information in *A-Z biological physics*. The study of biological physics has an important role in space projects; this book covers in simple language selected complex topics and procedures.
- *Diagnostic nuclear medicine*, by Schiepers and Allen-Auerbach (2006), is an example of many in the medical literature that discusses the use of very sophisticated technology for the diagnosis and treatment of illnesses. It is expected that in long-mission space travels, technology of this level would be commonplace.
- The *Index of international publications in aerospace medicine*, authored by Antuñano (2010) and published by the Federal Aviation Administration, is comprehensive in scope, with international coverage of aerospace medicine, and is an excellent source for those interested in finding more literature in this field.

Aerospace Engineering

Aerospace engineering is an engineering specialization concerned with aerospace vehicles, their design, structures, flight dynamics, construction, testing, flight performance, operational safety, propulsion systems, and evaluation. It includes aircraft, space vehicles, rockets, satellites, and missiles.

The analysis of the clusters obtained from the visualization procedure produced the following classification codes: Aerospace Facilities and Techniques; Sonics and Ultrasonics; Generating Stations and Plants; Direct Energy Conversion and Energy Storage; Energy Research and Environmental Science; General Aspects of Aircraft, Space Vehicles and Satellites; Aerospace Propulsion; Aerospace Control; Aerospace Engineering Computing; Engines; and Aerospace Industry.

The following are sources can provide information about this highly-technical field:

- *The standard handbook for aeronautical and astronautical engineers*, edited by Davies (2003), provides insightful and practical guidance on the extensive field of aeronautical engineering in sixteen sections. A recommended reference guide, the handbook includes sections on aerospace structures; rockets and launch vehicles; aeronautical design; spacecraft; aircraft safety and many more; with many illustrations, diagrams, charts, and graphs.
- *Spacecraft systems engineering*, by Fortescue, Stark and Swinerd (2011), presents a systems design approach to spacecraft development and space missions. Although it is a technical book, the general reader can benefit from discovering the complexity involved in an intense scientific and technological enterprise.
- Now in its eighth edition since its first in 1949, *Rocket propulsion elements* by Sutton and Biblarz (2011) is considered one of the most popular and the enduring textbooks in aerospace engineering. By skimming through the content, the general reader can acquire

some basic concepts and technologies and gain an appreciation of spacecraft development.

- *Fundamentals of astrodynamics and applications*, by Vallado and McClain (2013), is a well-known highly-technical book, but many chapters contain good introductions to the topics as well as considerable historical background which can give readers a basic understanding of the subject.
- *Aerospace engineering on the back of an envelope*, by Alber (2012), is a compendium of five case studies that demonstrate the method used by engineers when estimating the parameters of complex systems. These case studies, all dealing with aerospace problems and solutions, provide the reader with the experience of analyzing these types of problems.
- *The jet engine*, prepared by the staff of Rolls-Royce (2015), is a simple and practical exposition of the underlying principles of one of the most complex technologies.
- *The international handbook of space technology*, by Macdonald and Badescu (2014), is a comprehensive yet accessible work that provides readers with a basic understanding of issues of space technology, such as communications, data systems, descent and landing, launch systems, power, propulsion, robotics, software, structures, and thermal systems.
- In addition, Cumpsty and Heyes (2003) are the authors of *Jet propulsion: A simple guide to the aerodynamics and thermodynamic design and performance of jet engines* which is an introductory text for the design of aircraft engines.

Electronics and Communications

Electronics is a field of technology with two major components: Analog Electronics and Digital Electronics. It includes circuit design and electronic/analog devices. Its purpose is the creation of useful applications by analyzing changes in voltages and electric current through the use of other devices. According to the *McGraw-Hill encyclopedia of science and technology* (2012), Telecommunications Engineering covers a large number of applications, such as transmission lines; networks and networks design; communications methods, protocols, telephony, and videoconferencing; signaling; terminals; traffic analysis, digital data; remote control and telemetry.

This is another area identified as a major component of space travel; it includes the following classification codes: Circuit Theory and Circuits; Circuit Theory; Electronic Circuits; Microwave Technology; Optical Materials and Applications, Electro-Optics and Optoelectronics; Optical Materials and Devices; Lasers and Masers; Communications; Information and Communication Theory; Telecommunication; Radar and Radio Navigation; Laser Optical Systems; Optical Elements, Devices and Systems.

Suggested sources are the following:

- The *Wiley encyclopedia of electrical and electronics engineering* (Webster, 1999) and its Supplements are a formidable and comprehensive work covering all aspects of electrical and electronics engineering. Highly recognized as a reference source, the 24 volumes of this work provide the reader with basic information of almost any field.
- *Electrical circuit theory and technology* by Bird (2014) is an introductory textbook with a practical approach of the subject which allows the readers to develop an understanding of fundamental techniques and principles without the heavy and abstracted theoretical details.

- Penttinen's (2015) *The telecommunications handbook* presents information appropriate for acquiring a basic understanding of fixed, mobile, and satellite communication systems. It adopts a practical approach necessary for real-world deployments.
- The *Introduction to laser technology* (Hitz, Ewing, & Hecht, 2012) is a basic reference source for this topic. As stated in its introduction, the purpose of this book is to demonstrate how a laser works and how it can be used for practical purposes. The authors present the material in a way that keeps mathematical details of quantum electronics to a minimum. The fundamentals are presented in the first ten chapters, followed by another ten chapters focusing on applications.
- The *Encyclopedia of laser physics and technology* (Paschotta, 2008) is a very good resource for finding brief descriptions of laser physics and technology such as *blue lasers* or the *Kerr effect*. Some other topics are discussed in more detail as appropriate. It is geared for researchers; the general reader can find the 700 entries of this source very useable. A free version can be accessed online (*Encyclopedia of laser physics and technology*, n.d.)
- The *Encyclopedia of optical engineering* (Driggers, 2003) is a reliable source of information on optical engineering, with over 300 entries written by experts. This encyclopedia which facilitates reader comprehension is packed with figures, photographs, tables, and equations. While technically oriented, the introduction in each section offers the reader an overall summary of each topic.
- Siciliano and Khatib (2016) are the editors of the *Springer handbook of robotics*, a reference work that presents a comprehensive compilation of classic and emerging application areas of robotics such as: Robotics Foundations; Design; Sensing and Perception; Manipulation and Interfaces; Moving in the Environment; Robots at Work; and Robots and Humans.

Materials and Condensed Matter

In addition to the study of solid matter, *condensed matter physics* includes the study of quantum liquids, liquid crystals, porous materials, and gels, among others. Superconductors fall into this area of physics too. *Materials science* includes the study of metals and ceramics, polymers, composites and semiconductors. The processing of materials for the development of useful applications is an important component of this area (Rigden, 1996).

Materials science and condensed matter are two other important aspects of space projects. The classification codes obtained are: Condensed Matter: Structure, Thermal and Mechanical Properties; Materials Science; Mechanical and Acoustic Properties of Condensed Matter; Physical Chemistry; Structure of Liquids and Solids; Crystallography; and Surfaces and Interfaces; Thin Films and Whiskers.

Sources that can provide a better understating of these two areas are listed below:

- *Encyclopedia of condensed matter physics*, edited by Bassani, Liedl and Wyder (2005), is an extended presentation of the physical properties of condensed phases of matter. Many of these properties and applications are essential in space projects. This six-volume encyclopedia is a good resource for the understanding of these aspects of physics; it has sections on: acoustics, biophysics, combinatorial catalysis, crystal binding, crystal defects, crystal growth, crystallography, dielectric properties, electrical properties, electrodynamics, electronic structure, instruments/devices, lattice dynamics, magnetic properties, materials processing, mechanical properties, micro-electro-mechanical systems, microscopy, nanostructured materials, optical properties, optics, particle sources,

plasma, quantum mechanics, radiation sources, scattering, semiconductors, spectrometry, spectroscopy, structures, superconductivity, superfluidity, thermodynamics, and transport properties.

- *Encyclopedia of applied physics*, edited by Trigg, Vera, Greulich and Immergut (1999), is a great effort for presenting the applications of physics; this 12-volume encyclopedia covers basic methods of all applied and technical areas of physics with real-world applications. The more than 700 articles present applications of laser physics, solid state, semiconductors, biophysics, atomic and nuclear physics. The online version is regularly updated.
- *The physics of solids* (Turton, 2000) is an introductory textbook on solid state physics without the rigorous mathematical and quantum treatment of the subject. It covers most of the standard topics included in a first year course and is intended for students that need an early exposure to solid state physics.
- *Understanding solid state physics* (Holgate, 2010) is a textbook for an introductory course; it presents the material with minimal mathematical formulation and covers the basic principles of solid state physics and their applications to the real world. The author is a physicist and journalist.
- The *CRC materials science and engineering handbook*, edited by Shackelford and Alexander (2001), is considered to be one of the most reliable and comprehensive sources for property data for alloys, ceramics, composites, glass, metals, and polymers. Although it provides rather technical information, the general reader can scan the vast number of possible applications.
- The *Encyclopedia of materials: Science and technology*, edited by Buschow (2001), is a good resource that shows how the study of electronic, optical, magnetic, or mechanical properties of materials is essential for the use of novel materials in adaptations of new technologically based products and applications. This extensive encyclopedia covers four major aspects of materials science: applications, materials, properties, and techniques and processing.
- The *Handbook of material science research* (Renard & Turcotte, 2010) is an interesting book that covers cutting-edge research in 16 significant areas in materials science.

RESOURCES

Books

Table 1 lists books published from 1995 to 2015 retrieved by the database searches and from the references of the four articles mentioned earlier. Earlier books are listed in Appendix 2.

Journals

The literature of space travel covers several science, engineering, medical, and technical areas. The journals presented in Table 2 correspond to the professional journals most often found in the citations and references obtained from the searches done in Compendex for this study.

Conference Proceedings

The conference proceedings retrieved in the database searches in Compendex are listed in Appendix 2.

Web Sources

Table 3 lists selected agencies, professional and research organizations, and educational sources. They were selected based on the authors' knowledge of the scientific literature. It is a representative list.

Table 1. Books cited with publication date from 2015 to 1995

Author. Title	Publisher	Date
Pelton, J. N.; Allahdadi, F. (editors). Handbook of Cosmic Hazards and Planetary Defense.	Springer	2015
Long, K. F. Deep Space Propulsion: A Roadmap to Interstellar Flight.	Springer	2012
Musha, T.; Minami, Y. Field propulsion system for space travel: physics of non-conventional propulsion methods for interstellar travel.	Bentham Books	2011
Leonhardt, U. Essential Quantum Optics: From Quantum Measurements to Black Holes.	Cambridge University Press	2010
Raine, D.; Thomas, E. Black Holes: An Introduction.	Imperial College Press	2010
Bordag, M.; Klimchitskaya, G. L.; Mohideen, U.; Mostepanenko, V. M. Advances in the Casimir Effect.	Oxford University Press	2009
Millis, M.; Davis, E. (editors). Frontiers of propulsion science.	American Institute of Aeronautics and Astronautics	2009
Vulpetti, G.; Johnson, L.; Matloff, G.L. Solar Sails: A Novel Approach to Interplanetary Travel.	Springer-Praxis	2008
Tinder, R. Relativistic flight mechanics and space travel: a primer for students, engineers, and scientists.	Morgan & Claypool Publishers	2007
Keel, W. The Sky at Einstein's Feet.	Springer	2006
Drummond, P. D.; Ficek, Z. (editors). Quantum squeezing	Springer-Verlag	2004
Novello, M.; Visser, M.; Volovik, G. Artificial black holes	World Scientific Publishing	2002
Davies, P. C. W. How to Build a Time Machine	Penguin Books	2001
Gott, J. R. Time Travel In Einstein's Universe: The Physical Possibilities Of Travel Through Time	Houghton Mifflin	2001
Milton, K. A. The Casimir Effect: Physical Manifestations of Zero-Point Energy	World Scientific	2001
Cox, A.N. Allen's Astrophysical Quantities, 4th ed.	Springer-Verlag	2000
Matloff, G.L. Deep-Space Probes	Springer-Praxis	2000
Nahin, P. J. Time Machines: Time Travel in Physics, Metaphysics, and Science Fiction, 2nd ed.	AIP Press	1999
Pickover, C. Time: A Traveler's Guide	Oxford University Press	1999
Novikov, I. D. The River of Time	Cambridge University Press	1998
Dirac, P. A. M. General Theory of Relativity	Princeton University Press	1996
Visser, M. Lorentzian Wormholes: From Einstein to Hawking	AIP Press	1995

See Appendix 2 for the rest of the cited books (published before 1995)

Table 2. Top journals cited

Title	Publisher
Physical Review D	American Institute of Physics, College Park, MD
AIP Conference Proceedings	American Institute of Physics, College Park, MD
Journal of the British Interplanetary Society	British Interplanetary Society, London, England
Proceedings of the SPIE	SPIE, Bellingham, WA
Classical and Quantum Gravity	IOP Publishing, Bristol, England
Advances in Space Research	Elsevier Science Ltd., Oxford, England
American Journal of Physics	American Institute of Physics, College Park, MD
Physical Review Letters	American Physical Society, College Park, MD
Radiation Research	Radiation Research Society, Oak Brook, IL
Acta Astronomica	Copernicus Foundation for Polish Astronomy, Warsaw, Poland
Nature	Nature Publishing Group, London, England
Physical Review A	American Institute of Physics, New York, NY
EPJ Web of Conferences	EDP Sciences, Paris, France
Modern Physics Letters A	World Scientific Publishing Co., Singapore
Physics Letters	Elsevier Science, Amsterdam, Netherlands
Science	American Association for the Advancement of Science, Washington, D.C.
Scientific American	Springer Nature, New York, NY
Astrophysical Journal Supplement	University of Chicago Press, Chicago, IL
Energiewirtschaftliche Tagesfragen	ETV Energieverlag GmbH, Essen, Germany
Journal of Spacecraft and Rockets	American Institute of Aeronautics and Astronautics, Washington, D.C.

CONCLUSION

We have used Inspec as the primary source for collecting data, concentrating on classification codes assigned to each document found. Based on the knowledge we have of the subject coverage of Inspec, we performed an auxiliary search in Compendex in order to collect meaningful terminology from an exclusive engineering index and used those terms to diversify and enrich the search in Inspec. The references included in four articles about space traveling were added because of their unique approach to interplanetary travel technology. The total number of citations obtained from this process was 452; they contained 502 unique classification codes that were assigned to the records 1,655 times.

Using the visualization procedure available from Sci2, and the techniques of analyzing a graph by graphical perception and cognitive visual analysis, the results obtained were acceptable. The graphical perception and cognitive visual analysis approach is an unorthodox approach in cluster analysis which is typically carried out by measuring clustering coefficients and distance factors between the nodes of a network. Nevertheless, when our cluster results were compared with the 60 percent frequency of all classification codes, the comparison was favorable. This unorthodox approach was used because of the limitations that Sci2 has in producing reports of numerical data; Sci2 is essentially visualization software.

We graphically identified ten clusters with concentrations of classification codes having distinct subject coverage. Since our purpose was to identify the major subject components of interplanetary travel, we proceeded to collate all the data obtained from the ten clusters into one table. Upon further study of the table, we discovered six concentrations of

Table 3. Web resources

Name	Website/Address
Across the Universe, a <i>Guardian</i> blog owned by Stuart Clark	https://www.theguardian.com/science/across-the-universe
American Institute of Aeronautics and Astronautics	http://www.aiaa.org/
Association for Unmanned Vehicle Systems International (AUVSI)	http://www.auvsi.org/home
Biosphere 2 (The University of Arizona)	http://biosphere2.org/
China National Space Administration	http://www.cnsa.gov.cn/
Departamento de Teoría de la Señal y Comunicaciones e Ingeniería Telemática	Universidad de Valladolid, Escuela Técnica Superior de Ingenieros de Telecomunicación, Campus Miguel Delibes, Paseo Belén 15. 47011 Valladolid, España 983423660
European Space Agency (ESA)	http://www.esa.int/ESA
Experimental Cosmology Group, University of California, Santa Barbara	http://www.deepspace.ucsb.edu/
Goddard Space Flight Center (NASA)	http://www.nasa.gov/goddard
Hayden Planetarium / Rose Space Center (American Museum of Natural History)	http://www.amnh.org/our-research/hayden-planetarium
Hubble Telescope / HubbleSite	http://hubblesite.org/
IEEE Aerospace and Electronic Systems Society	http://ieee-aess.org/
Indian Space Research Organisation, ISRO	http://www.isro.gov.in/
Institute for Advanced Studies	11855 Research Blvd, Austin, TX 78727, (512) 346-9947
International Space Station / NASA	http://www.nasa.gov/mission_pages/station/main/index.html
Japan Aerospace Exploration Agency	http://global.jaxa.jp/
Marshall Space Flight Center (NASA)	http://www.nasa.gov/centers/marshall/home/index.html
NASA: National Aeronautics and Space Administration	http://www.nasa.gov/
Planetary Society	http://www.planetary.org/
Roscosmos Space State Corporation (Russia)	http://en.roskosmos.ru/
Royal Aeronautical Society	http://aerosociety.com/
SETI (The Search for Extraterrestrial Intelligence)	http://www.seti.org/
Space.com	http://www.space.com/

classification codes; they were identified as the major components of interplanetary travel: astrophysics, relativity and quantum fields, biophysics and medical physics, aerospace engineering, electronic and communications, and materials and condensed matter. It was a laborious process that required knowledge of the Inspec classification codes as well as knowledge of the scientific literature.

The use of co-occurring classification codes was appropriate for this study; it is also a well-known technique use to analyze bibliometric information. In bibliographic records, it is not unusual to find keywords assigned by authors that are not relevant or that fail to represent the subject of the document accurately. Classification codes represent the specialized terminology uniquely created for the subject coverage of Inspec and are assigned to the documents by expert indexers. The number of co-occurrences of two or more classification

codes represents the frequency of documents where they appear. This phenomenon basically corresponds to the concept of small-world networks: the friends of my friends are also my friends. Therefore documents are interconnected when sharing the same classification codes. The use of the Watts-Strogatz Small World (2009) model facilitated the analysis of a large number of interconnected nodes; a model which has been considered adequate for bibliographic analysis.

In general, the identification of the six major components listed above was not a surprise, but it was a good result because it demonstrated the complexity and multidisciplinary of the topic.

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APPENDIX 1. CLASSIFICATION CODES, CLUSTERS COMPONENTS, MAJOR SUBJECT COMPONENTS, AND MOST CITED CODES

The following table includes the following data:

- Column 1 (Codes) which shows in alphabetical order all the classification codes identified.
- Column 2 (Cluster) shows cluster numbers attached to the component codes.
- Column 3 (Titles) shows Inspec assigned titles of codes.
- Column 4 (Group) shows major subject components attached to codes and identified by colors.
- Column 5 (Most cited codes) shows the most cited codes covering 60% of all cited codes, and identified by colors as members of major subject components.

Columns 4 and 5 present some new classification codes. In the case of Column 4, these new codes are of the higher level but related to the codes found in the 10 initial clusters. The additional codes in Column 5 are those which are part of the 60% threshold but that were not present in the 10 initial clusters. The note at the end of the table establishes the relationship between the color codes and the major subject components.

Code	Cluster	Title	Group	Most cited codes
A01		Communication, education, history, and philosophy		
A0130C		Conference proceedings		7
A0130E	5	Monographs, and collections		
A0150		Educational aids		10
A02		Mathematical methods in physics		
A0210		Algebra, set theory, and graph theory		13
A0240		Geometry, differential geometry, and topology		61
A0250	8	Probability theory, stochastic processes, and statistics		
A0260	5	Numerical approximation and analysis		3
A03		Classical and quantum physics; mechanics and fields	Group 1	
A0330		Special relativity	Group 1	17
A0365		Quantum theory; quantum mechanics	Group 1	6
A0365B	4	Foundations, theory of quantum measurement, miscellaneous quantum theories	Group 1	7
A04		Relativity and gravitation	Group 1	
A0420		General relativity	Group 1	22
A0420C	4	Fundamental problems and general formalism in general relativity	Group 1	47
A0420J	4	Solutions to equations in general relativity	Group 1	31
A0420M	5	Conservation laws and equations of motion in general relativity	Group 1	5
A0430	5	Gravitational waves and radiation: theory	Group 1	3
A0440	5	Continuous media; electromagnetic and other mixed gravitational systems	Group 1	6
A0455	4	Alternative theories of gravitation	Group 1	8
A0460		Quantum theory of gravitation	Group 1	48
A0470	4	Physics of black holes	Group 1	21
A06		Measurement science, general lab. techniques, and instrumentation systems		
A0620H	7	Measurement standards and calibration	Group 1	
A11		General theory of fields and particles	Group 1	
A1110	5	Quantum theory	Group 1	6
A1110N		Gauge filled theories	Group 1	16
A12		Specific theories and interac. models; particle systemat.		
A1220D		Specific calculations and limits of quantum electrodynamics		17
A20		Nuclear physics		
A24		Nuclear reactions and scattering: general		
A2475	2	General properties of fission		

A29		Experimental methods and instrumentation for elementary-particle and nuclear physics		
A2940P	7	Semiconductor detectors		
A40		Fundamental areas of phenomenology		
A42		Optics	Group 4	
A4250	4	Quantum optics	Group 4	9
A4250V	2	Mechanical effects of light	Group 4	
A4255	3	Lasing processes	Group 4	
A4255P	1	Lasing action in semiconductors	Group 4	
A4260	3	Laser optical systems: design and operation	Group 4	
A4260H	1	Laser optical systems: design and operation	Group 4	
A4262		Laser applications	Group 4	6
A4280	1	Optical	Group 4	
A4280A	1	Optical lenses and mirrors	Group 4	
A4280F	1	Gratings, echelles	Group 4	
A4280S	1	Optical communication devices, equipment and systems	Group 4	
A4281	3	Fiber optics and fiber waveguides	Group 4	
A4284	3	Nanophotonic devices and technology	Group 4	
A4285C	1	Optical testing and workshop techniques	Group 4	
A4285D	1	Optical fabrication, surface grinding	Group 4	
A4285F		Optical testing techniques	Group 4	
A60		Condensed matter: structure, thermal and mechanical properties	Group 6	
A6020H	7	Code name not available	Group 6	
A61		Structure of liquids and solids; crystallography	Group 6	
A6180	7	Radiation damage and other irradiation effect	Group 6	
A62		Mechanical and acoustic properties of condensed matter	Group 6	
A6220P	10	Tribology	Group 6	
A68		Surfaces and interfaces; thin films and whiskers	Group 6	
A6825	10	Mechanical and acoustical properties of solid surfaces and interfaces	Group 6	
A6860	10	Physical properties of thin films, nonelectronic	Group 6	
A81		Materials science	Group 6	
A8140N	10	Physical properties of thin films, nonelectronic	Group 6	
A8140P	10	Friction, lubrication, and wear	Group 6	
A8160B	10	Surface treatment and degradation of metals and alloys	Group 6	
A82		Physical chemistry	Group 6	
A8265N	10	Other gas-surface interactions (surface chemistry)	Group 6	
A86		Energy research and environmental science	Group 3	
A8610D	6	Wind energy	Group 3	
A8610N	2	Nuclear energy	Group 3	
A8630J		Photoelectric conversion; solar cells and arrays	Group 3	7
A8630N	2	Thermionic conversion	Group 3	
A8640K	6	Hydrogen storage and technology	Group 3	
A87		Biophysics, medical physics, and biomedical engineering	Group 2	
A8715M		Interactions with radiations at the biomolecular level	Group 2	7
A8725		Cellular biophysics	Group 2	11
A8745F	7	Rheology of body fluids	Group 2	
A8750G		Biological effects of ionizing radiations (UV, X-ray, gamma-ray; particle radiation effects)	Group 2	20
A8760	8	Medical and biomedical uses of fields, radiations, and radioactivity; health physics	Group 2	
A8760B	7	Sonic and ultrasonic radiation (medical uses)	Group 2	
A8760I		Medical magnetic resonance imaging and spectroscopy	Group 2	
A8760K		Nuclear medicine, emission tomography	Group 2	

A8760M		Radiation dosimetry in medical physics	Group 2	8
A8765		Aerospace biophysics and medical physics (effects of accelerations, weightlessness and environment)	Group 2	36
A8770E		Patient diagnostic methods and instrumentation	Group 2	6
A8770H	8	Radiation therapy	Group 2	
A94		Aeronomy, space physics, and cosmic rays	Group 5	
A9440C	7	Cosmic ray origin and propagation outside the solar system	Group 5	
A9460Q	9	Solar wind interaction with Moon, planets, satellites, and comets	Group 5	
A9480		Instrumentation and techniques for aeronomy, space physics, and cosmic rays	Group 5	19
A95		Fundamental astronomy and astrophysics, instrumentation and techniques and astronomical observations	Group 5	
A9510	5	Fundamental astronomy	Group 5	
A9510C	3	Celestial mechanics	Group 5	
A9530C	5	Elementary particle and nuclear processes in astrophysics	Group 5	
A9530S		Relativity and gravitation in astrophysics	Group 5	55
A9555		Astronomical and space-research instrumentation	Group 5	7
A9555J	9	Radiotelescopes	Group 5	
A9555L	3	Aerospace instrumentation	Group 5	7
A9555P	3	Lunar, planetary, and deep-space probes	Group 5	49
A9575		Astronomical techniques	Group 5	9
A9590		Other topics in astronomy and astrophysics	Group 5	35
A96		Solar system	Group 5	
A9620	2	Moon	Group 5	
A9620D	2	Lunar interior, surface, and atmosphere	Group 5	
A9630G	2	Mars and satellites	Group 5	
A9630H		Asteroids	Group 5	
A9630K	3	Jupiter and satellites	Group 5	
A9630M	3	Saturn and satellites	Group 5	
A9635G	2	Planetary surfaces and topography; tectonics	Group 5	
A9660	9	Solar physics	Group 5	
A9660S	9	Solar prominences and mass ejections	Group 5	
A9660V	3	Solar particle radiation, solar wind	Group 5	
A97		Stars	Group 5	
A9720G	9	Main-sequence: intermediate type A and F stars	Group 5	
A9760L	4	Black holes	Group 5	19
A98		Stellar systems; Galactic and extragalactic objects and systems; Universe	Group 5	
A9850T	4	Intergalactic and intracluster matter	Group 5	
A9870V		Background cosmic radiations	Group 5	8
A9880		Cosmology	Group 5	10
A9880B	5	Origin and early evolution of the Universe	Group 5	
A9880D		Theoretical cosmology	Group 5	42
B01		General electrical engineering topics		
B0160	2	Plant engineering, maintenance and safety		
B0170	6	Project and production engineering		
B0170G		General fabrication techniques		
B0170N	2	Reliability		
B02		Engineering mathematics and mathematical techniques		
B0240G	8	Monte Carlo methods		
B0240Z	8	Other topics in statistics		
B10		Circuit theory and circuits	Group 4	
B11		Circuit theory	Group 4	
B1110	6	Network topology	Group 4	

B12		Electronic circuits	Group 4	
B1205	6	Analogue circuit design, modeling and testing	Group 4	
B1220	6	Amplifiers	Group 4	
B13		Microwave technology	Group 4	
B1350	6	Microwave circuits and devices	Group 4	
B2570D	1	CMOS integrated circuits	Group 4	
B40		Optical materials and applications, electro-optics and optoelectronics	Group 4	
B41		Optical materials and devices	Group 4	
B4146	3	Nanophotonic devices and technology	Group 4	
B43		Lasers and masers	Group 4	
B4320	1	Lasers	Group 4	
B4330B	1	Laser beam modulation, pulsing and switching; mode locking and tuning	Group 4	
B4360		Laser applications	Group 4	14
B60		Communications	Group 4	
B61		Information and communication theory	Group 4	
B6140	9	Signal processing and detection	Group 4	
B62		Telecommunication	Group 4	
B6260S	1	Free-space optical links	Group 4	
B63		Radar and radionavigation	Group 4	
B6320C	1	Optical radar	Group 4	
B75		Medical physics and biomedical engineering	Group 2	
B7510H	7	Sonic and ultrasonic radiation (biomedical imaging/measurement)	Group 2	
B7510P	8	X-ray techniques: radiography and computed tomography (biomedical imaging/measurement)	Group 2	
B7520C	8	Radiation therapy	Group 2	
B76		Aerospace facilities and techniques	Group 3	
B7600		Aerospace facilities and techniques	Group 3	7
B7610		General aspects of aircraft, space vehicles and satellites	Group 3	36
B7630	3	Health physics	Group 3	4
B7640		Aerospace propulsion	Group 3	54
B78		Sonics and ultrasonics	Group 3	
B7820	7	Sonic and ultrasonic applications	Group 3	
B7900	2	Military systems and equipment	Group 3	
B82		Generating stations and plants	Group 3	
B8220	2	Nuclear power stations and plants	Group 3	
B84		Direct energy conversion and energy storage	Group 3	
B8460	2	Other direct energy conversion	Group 3	
C33		Control applications	Group 3	
C3350Z	2	Control applications in other industries	Group 3	
C3360L		Aerospace control	Group 3	12
C3370R	1	Control applications in optical communication	Group 3	
C61		Software techniques and systems		
C6170T	7	Knowledge engineering tools		
C6180	9	User interfaces		2
C7460		Aerospace engineering computing	Group 3	10
E1030	6	Research and development		
E1550A	2	Robotics		
E1810	6	Products and commodities		
E2320		Engines	Group 3	8
E3050	2	Service industries		
E3650C		Aerospace industry	Group 3	23

Group 1 = Green = relativity and quantum physics; Group 2 = Red = biophysics, medical physics;
Group 3 = Blue = aerospace engineering; Group 4 = Gray = electronics, communications;
Group 5 = Purple = astrophysics; Group 6 = Orange = materials science, condensed matter

APPENDIX 2. BOOKS AND CONFERENCE PROCEEDINGS CITED

Books Cited with Publication Dates From 2001 to 1967

Author, Title	Publisher	Year
Milonni, P. W. The Quantum Vacuum: An Introduction to Quantum Electrodynamics	Academic Press	1994
Thorne, K. S. Black Holes & Time Warps: Einstein's Outrageous Legacy	W. W. Norton & Co.	1994
Halpern, P. Cosmic wormholes: the search for interstellar shortcuts	Plume	1993
Hawking, S.W. Hawking on the big bang and black holes	World Scientific	1993
Saleh, B. E. A., and Teich, M. C. Fundamentals of Photonics	John Wiley & Sons	1991
Saunders, S.; and Brown, H. R.; editors. The Philosophy of Vacuum	Clarendon Press	1991
Barrow, J.D.; Tipler, F.J. Anthropic cosmological principle	Clarendon Press	1986
Birrell, N. D., and Davies, P. C. W. Quantum fields in curved space	Cambridge University Press	1984
Jasani, B.; editor. Outer space - A new dimension of the arms race	Taylor & Francis	1982
Hawking, S. W.; Ellis, G. F. R. The Large-Scale Structure of Space-Time	Cambridge University Press	1973
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