

Visualization-Based Analysis of Latin American Studies in China: A Comparative Perspective over the Past 30 Years

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Abstract

In the past 30 years, the domestic research on Latin America mainly focuses on three aspects: the first is the politics and international relations in Latin America, the second is the economy and trade in Latin America and the economic and trade relations between China and Latin America, and the third is the culture and society in Latin America. Due to the impact of economic development and transformation, inter-regional links and cooperation, the research topics in different periods are also different. This paper adopts the bibliometrics research method and CiteSpace software to carry out visual analysis and comparative research on the hot spots and frontiers in the domestic Latin American studies in recent 10, 20 and 30 years, respectively, in order to reveal the research priorities, frontiers and development trends in different periods, aiming to provide a more comprehensive observation for the regional studies of Latin America. This paper can help scholars better grasp the research trend of Latin America region, and provide reference for future research direction.

Keywords

Latin American studies, CiteSpace, visualized analysis.

1. Introduction

In order to clarify the key research direction of Latin America, the change of research direction and the future research trend in this field, it is necessary to review and sort out the phased achievements of domestic Latin American studies. Manual combing will be subject to many limitations, and the analysis results will be one-sided due to subjective factors. Therefore, this paper tries to choose the visual analysis software CiteSpace6.1.R6, and use this tool to create a graph to show the relationship between relevant literatures and the cooperation network. In addition, it analyzes and understands the development trend, key authors and institutions of a certain research field, as well as the evolution of the theme and other important information from multiple perspectives, so as to understand the research content more clearly and intuitively, and enhance the scientific conclusion of the research.

The sample source of this paper is CNKI. The first subject of the search is Latin America, the second is Latin America, and the third is Latin America and the Caribbean. The deadline of data statistics is December 31, 2023. Based on this analysis, the effective sample sizes of the last 10 years, 20 years and 30 years were 861, 1823 and 2472, respectively. According to the above data, knowledge maps such as keyword co-occurrence, clustering and emergence are drawn respectively, so as to comprehensively and systematically quantify and visually present the overall picture of domestic scholars' research on Latin America.

2. Overall characteristics of the last 10 years of research

In the last decade, research in Latin America has shown diversity and has made some remarkable progress in various fields. Economically, his research focuses on economic growth, trade policy, foreign investment, and financial stability. With the deepening of globalization and regional cooperation, the relationship between the Latin American economy and the international economy is also deeply discussed. Social studies focus on social structures, poverty, inequality, and social movements in Latin America. Political research focuses on political institutions, political change, democratic development, and political participation in Latin America. Researchers also focus on the formulation and implementation of government policies and the impact of political reform on national development. In general, research in Latin America is diverse and interdisciplinary, with researchers working to address local challenges and explore effective ways to advance regional development.

2.1. Hot topics and their evolution

In recent 10 years, the data generated keyword co-occurrence map, which indicates that there is a certain correlation between the keywords studied. By narrowing the threshold to get more keywords, it is found that the research themes of Latin America in the past 10 years mainly include Latin America, Latin America, China, the United States, China-Latin America relations, the Belt and Road, the left wing, Brazil, populism, etc. The centrality reflects the importance and influence of keywords in the research field. If the centrality is arranged in descending order, it can be concluded that the keywords with higher centrality are: Latin America (0.78), Latin America (0.52), China (0.07), the United States (0.05), China-Latin America relations (0.03), the Belt and Road (0.03), China-Latin America cooperation (0.03).

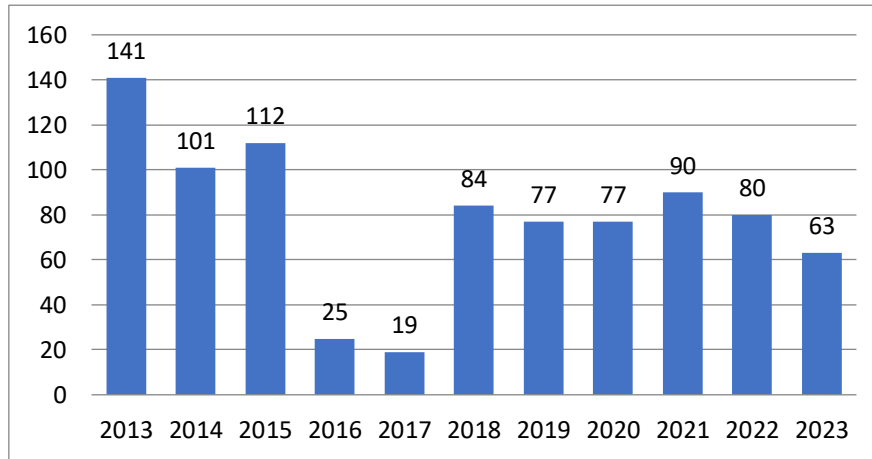
In the keyword clustering map (FIG. 2), $Q=0.6008>0.3$, which means that the keyword clustering is relatively tight and significant, and $S=0.9565>0.5$, which means that the clustering results are convincing. The LLR algorithm is used for clustering. In order to control the number of clusters for analysis, the maximum K value is set to 10, and 10 clusters are obtained, which are: Latin America, Latin America, China, Mexico, Left Wing, the United States, China-Latin America cooperation, Belt and Road, China-Latin America relations, and Africa. The overlap between clusters is high, which indicates that there is a certain inclusion relationship between research topics.

In descending order of keyword emergence duration, it can be concluded that the keywords with the longest emergence time are populism (2019-2023) and export (2019-2023). Arrange the emergence start time in ascending order, It can be concluded that some keywords, such as socialism (2013), globalization (2014), the United States (2015), modernization (2015), and the European Union (2016), started earlier than populism (2017), exports (2019), the Left (2020), the Belt and Road (2021), and the image of China (2021). With the changes of The Times, the concerns of Latin American scholars will change with the social, political and economic development, which reflects the changes in the internal and external environment of the region, as well as the trends and challenges of The Times and regional development.

In descending order of emergence intensity, it can be found that the top three keywords with the greatest emergence intensity are Belt and Road (3.74), populism (2.73), and the United States (2.34).

2.2. The appearance of academic ecology

In the past decade, the number of published papers on Latin American studies in China has shown a U-shaped trend, reaching its peak in 2013, bottoming out in 2017, and then slowly rising again.



From the journals published during this period (Figure 4), we can see that Latin American Studies, which is sponsored by the Institute of Latin American Studies of the Chinese Academy of Social Sciences, is at the top of the list, with 124 articles, accounting for 14.4% of all journals' publications. It is dedicated to promoting the study of Latin American history, politics, culture and economy. In addition, the top 10 journals in terms of publication volume include: Import and export managers (1.6%), modern International relations (0.9%), international economic cooperation (0.9%), and People's Forum (0.8%). The topics of these journals cover different fields, such as import and export managers mainly focus on international trade and supply chain management, modern international relations mainly includes articles on international politics, international organizations, foreign policy, international security and other aspects, international economic cooperation focuses on international economic cooperation and the process of globalization, and People's Forum is an academic journal sponsored by People's Daily. Covering a wide range of fields including politics, economics, society and culture, it aims to provide in-depth analysis and commentary on current important issues in China and the world. Despite the variety and specificity of academic journals in the field of Latin American studies, a relatively high level of attention to issues related to political systems, international relations, and economic and trade relations can be observed in a wide range of academic publications.

By observing the co-occurrence map of institutions, it can be seen that most research institutions are concentrated in Beijing, Shanghai and other places, and the Institute of Latin American Studies of Chinese Academy of Social Sciences has the largest node, indicating that this research institution is the most influential in this field. In addition, $N=291$, $E=104$, $Density=0.0025$ of the atlas data indicate that most of the publishing institutions have their own systems, and the cooperative relationship between institutions is relatively sparse, indicating that the Latin American research field is relatively closed, and a close academic cooperation network has not been formed.

In the co-occurrence map of authors, $N=310$, $E=166$, $Density=0.0035$, it can be seen that there is no close cooperative relationship among Latin American researchers.

In the past 10 years, the top 10 authors have contributed 50 articles, and the author with the highest output is Cheng Xiaoye, with 8 articles. Other high-yielding authors such as Wang Fei (7

articles), Lu Siheng (6 articles), Zhang Yong (5 articles), and Li Ziyang, Yang Zhimin, and Chai Yu all contributed 4 articles.

3. Qualitative analysis of research characteristics

Over the past decade, the keywords that have popped up the longest are "populism" and "export." The author analyzes the following three reasons why domestic scholars pay more attention to populism: First, during this period of time, some Latin American countries have undergone political changes, and some populist political leaders have come to power. These leaders are based on populism, courting voters by promising to address issues such as social inequality, economic hardship and the fight against traditional meritocracy. Second, most Latin American countries have experienced a surge of social unrest and popular discontent in the wake of the 2008 global financial crisis, which populist politicians have often been able to exploit with promises to address social pain points and attract voter support. The scholars wanted to understand how this political phenomenon arose in the context of social unrest and how it affected the social and political landscape in Latin America. Finally, this period is compounded by the impact of the COVID-19 pandemic, so almost all Latin American countries are facing economic instability, inflation, and rising unemployment. Scholars' concerns about populism are also related to global contexts and economic issues. At the same time, scholars pay more attention to export, probably because, first, most Latin American countries are resource-dependent and export-oriented countries, and many countries rely on export to promote economic growth, increase foreign exchange income and employment opportunities. Second, during this period, the global trade environment has undergone major changes, with the emergence of important events such as the European debt crisis, Brexit, and Sino-US trade frictions, all of which have had a direct or indirect impact on Latin American exports. Third, exports are of strategic importance to the economic and political stability of Latin American countries. Scholars studying and focusing on exports can help governments and enterprises develop more effective export strategies, improve competitiveness, and stabilize the economic foundation. Fourth, in the past few years, Latin America has actively promoted regional integration processes, such as the South American Free Trade Area, the Pacific Alliance and MERCOSUR. This has also greatly increased the research interest of scholars in Latin American exports and trade cooperation. Scholars' research and focus on these issues provide important insights and recommendations on export and trade policies to governments, businesses and academia, helping to promote economic development and enhance international competitiveness.

Before 2017, scholars of Latin American studies in China paid a lot of attention to "globalization", "United States", "modernization" and "European Union", mainly due to the influence of globalization changes, the geopolitical status of the United States, and the pursuit of modernization in Latin America and the wider cooperation with the European Union. First, globalization has had a profound impact on Latin America over the past few decades. Scholars focus on the impact of globalization on the economic, political, and social spheres, and study how to better leverage globalization trends to drive development in the region. Second, as the most important neighbor in Latin America, the United States plays an important role in the political, economic and social affairs of the region. Scholars focus on the impact of U.S. policies and decisions on the region and examine how to build closer cooperative relations with the United States. Third, modernization has always been an important goal pursued by Latin American countries, involving economic development, scientific and technological innovation, social progress and political reform. Scholars focus on various aspects of modernization and explore how to promote sustainable modernization processes. Fourthly, the European Union, as a mature example of regional integration, has attracted the attention of Latin American

scholars. They explore the EU's experience, policies and cooperation models, and seek to learn from them in order to provide inspiration for the integration practice in Latin America. After 2017, scholars have paid a lot of attention to populism, exports, the left wing and the image of China. The author's analysis is mainly influenced by the wave of worldwide populism, the evolution of international trade pattern, the transformation of left-wing politics and the gradual rise of China's image. Scholars focus on the changes and development trends of left-wing politics in Latin America in order to understand their impact on the regional political landscape and social development. At the same time, with the deepening of China-Latin America cooperation, China's economic and political influence in Latin America is rapidly increasing. As a result, scholars are paying closer attention to the cooperative relations between China and Latin American countries, and studying more deeply the impact of China's image and role on the region.

In the past decade, the top three keywords with the greatest emergence intensity are: "One Belt, One Road," "populism," and "the United States." The author analyzes the reasons as follows: In 2013, China put forward the important initiative of jointly building the Belt and Road, which aims to promote connectivity and close cooperation among countries and regions along the routes. As an important development partner, Latin America is also closely following the development of this important initiative. Under the background of the global Belt and Road Initiative, China's investment and trade activities in Latin America have gradually increased, and more and more Latin American countries hope to promote their own economic development by strengthening cooperation with China. In addition, the populist trend in Latin America has flourished since 2010, with the emergence of populist political leaders in many Latin American countries, as mentioned earlier. At the same time, as a traditional power of influence in Latin America, the United States is known as the "backyard of Latin America". In the past decade, the relations between the United States and Latin America have experienced a series of changes and challenges, such as the normalization of relations between the United States and Cuba and the political crisis in Venezuela. These events have drawn scholars' attention to the role and influence of the United States in the region. Taken together, the emergence of these keywords reflects the interest of Latin American scholars in the current political, economic, and social changes in the region, as well as their important attention to the phenomenon of populism and the role of the United States and China.

4. Overall characteristics of the last 20 years of research

In the past 20 years, with the economic rise of China and the increase of investment in Latin America, China-Latin America relations have become one of the hot spots of research. As an important neighbor in Latin America, the United States has been concerned about its political, economic and security influence in the region. Scholars of this period focused on the evolution of U.S. policy toward Latin America, the development of bilateral relations, and the interests and role of the United States in the region. In the past two decades, some left-wing political forces have emerged and come to power in Latin America, such as Venezuela, Bolivia, Ecuador and other countries. In general, during this period, the social problems, political dynamics and economic development within Latin America were the focus of scholars' attention.

4.1. Hot topics and their evolution

In the past 20 years, it can be seen from the keyword co-occurrence graph that the topics that scholars pay the most attention to are: Latin America, Latin America, China, the United States, China-Latin America relations, East Asia, modernization, left wing, enlightenment, globalization, etc. In this map, $N=677$, $E=1168$, $Density=0.0051$, indicating a close correlation between keywords. In descending order of centrality, the top ten keywords with the highest centrality

are: Latin America, Latin America, China, inspiration, the United States, China-Latin America relations, economic growth, socialism, modernization, Chile.

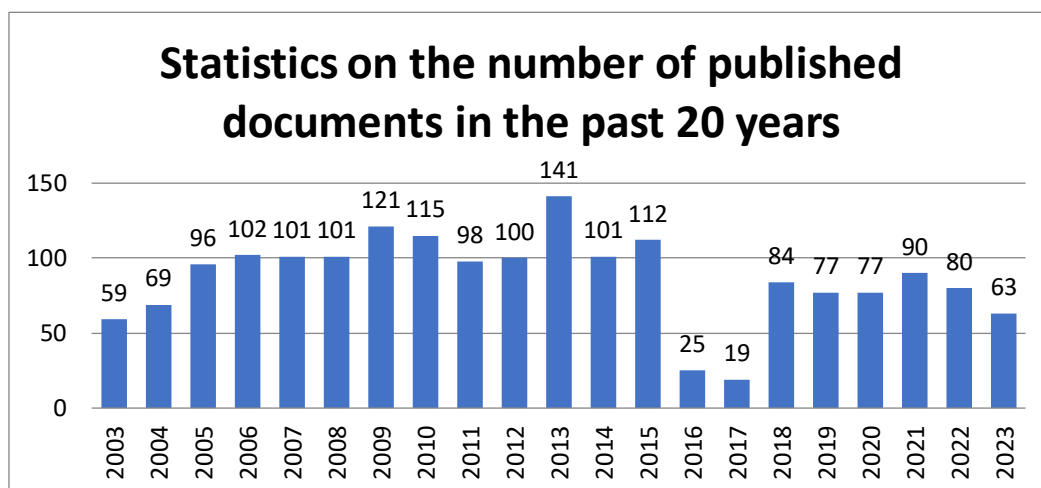
Through the analysis of keyword clustering, the clustering map was obtained: $Q=0.5881>0.3$, $S=0.9565>0.5$. By adjusting the parameter values, 10 clusters are obtained as follows: Latin America, Latin America, China, Left, East Asia, United States, Asia, Cosmetics, Mexico, China-Latin America Cooperation.

The key words outburst are analyzed from three aspects: outburst duration, outburst start time and outburst intensity. There is a significant difference between the financial crisis (2004-2009) and the keyword mutation in the past 10 years. This keyword has the longest duration of emergence in nearly 20 years of research.

In ascending order of the onset time of emergence, it can be seen that scholars' concerns about modernization, revelation, financial crisis, culture, and urbanization are earlier than those of Chile, Mexico, the Belt and Road, populism, and the left.

In descending order of emergence intensity, it can be found that the top three keywords with the greatest emergence intensity are Belt and Road (5.58), Chile (4.85), and populism (4.37).

4.2. The appearance of academic ecology



Over the past 20 years, the number of published articles first increased year by year, reaching a peak in 2013 with 141 published articles, and then falling rapidly, reaching a trough in 2017 with only 19 published articles. After 2017, the number of published papers showed a significant rebound, and the annual number of published papers remained generally stable at about 80.

The types of journals published in the last 20 years are broadly similar to those published in the last 10 years. Through observation, it is found that in the past 20 years, some new journals with a relatively high volume of articles have emerged, such as: Research on modern and modern World History (1.4%), Chinese Journal of Social Science (1.1%), Chinese Paper Industry (0.8%), Comparative Education Research (0.8%), contemporary film (0.8%), etc. The study of modern and contemporary world history includes articles on political, economic, social, cultural, and technological changes and influences from the 18th century to the present. This journal deals with various topics such as imperialism, colonialism, world wars, Cold War, etc. Sponsored by the Chinese Academy of Social Sciences, the Chinese Journal of Social Science is dedicated to promoting the development of social science research and providing the latest academic views and commentaries. Comparative education research is concerned with the comparative study of educational policy, curriculum, teaching methods, and student

assessment. The Journal of Contemporary Film is an academic journal that publishes research and criticism on contemporary film. In general, the journals published in the past 20 years are diverse and cover a wide range of fields.

In the unit co-occurrence map, $N=527$, $E=139$, $Density=0.001$, the data show that there is no close cooperative relationship between research units, and most research units are mainly independent research. Among them, the Institute of Latin American Studies of the Chinese Academy of Social Sciences has the largest node and has made outstanding contributions to the research in this field, and has cooperated closely with other institutions, such as the Chinese Latin American Society and the Institute of Marxism of the Chinese Academy of Social Sciences. The authors and their cooperative relationships were analyzed, and the contribution map was obtained: $N=579$, $E=273$, $Density=0.0016$, indicating that close cooperative relationships have not been formed among the authors.

In the past 20 years, the top 10 authors have contributed 95 articles, and the author with the highest output is Liu Weiguang, with 15 articles, followed by Yuan Shichuan (10 articles), Wu Hongying (9 articles), Huang Yanping (9 articles) and Cheng Xiaoye (8 articles).

4.3. Qualitative analysis of research characteristics

Financial crisis has the longest duration in nearly 20 years of study. The reasons are as follows: In 2008, the global financial crisis had a serious impact on the economy of Latin America, and the economy of many countries was greatly affected, including the collapse of the financial market, capital outflow, and economic recession. This has attracted a lot of attention from Latin American scholars, who are committed to studying, analyzing and understanding the consequences and impact of the financial crisis on the region. The financial crisis has also exposed some of the weaknesses and dependence of Latin American countries on economic development, and accelerated the re-evaluation of the old development model. Latin American scholars are beginning to think about how to achieve more sustainable, inclusive, and resilient development, and to develop relevant policy recommendations through research and discussion.

In the late 1990s and early 2000s, leftist political forces emerged in several Latin American countries, such as Bolivian President Evo Morales. This drew the attention of Latin American scholars to the Revelation movement, who studied and analyzed the ideas, policies, and practices of these leftist regimes. During this period, many countries in the region were in the process of modernization, and economic, social, and political changes were taking place at a rapid pace. Latin American scholars conduct research and analysis on the theory and practice of modernization to understand the region's development path and its challenges. The cultural diversity and rapid urbanization of Latin American countries are important topics of concern to scholars. However, after 2012, the focus of scholars also changed, and the focus of research on Latin America shifted to some specific countries, such as Chile and Mexico, perhaps because the development and challenges of these countries in political, economic and social aspects attracted scholars' attention. In addition, the themes of focus are also influenced by the Belt and Road Initiative, populism and the wave of the left.

Latin America is known as the "backyard of the United States", and the United States has always had a very important influence on Latin America. Through comparison, it is found that the intensity of research on the United States in 2015-2016 is greater, which may be related to the American election. 2016 is a presidential election year in the United States, a year in which the campaign and the outcome of the election have had a great impact on the world. As one of the world's largest economies and political powers, policy and leadership changes in the United States have important implications for Latin American countries. Latin American scholars may look at issues such as the U.S. electoral process, candidate positions, and foreign policy to understand the possible impact on their country.

The focus and emphasis of academic attention will change in different time periods, which is determined by the special background of history and times, as well as the knowledge and interest of scholars in current issues. This change also reflects the complexity and diversity of social, economic and political developments in Latin America. What is different from the recent decade of research is the emergence of Chile. Chile has achieved remarkable economic success during this period, with the country being noted for its stable economic growth, low inflation rate, and high per capita income level. Chile also shows a high level of socio-political stability compared to other Latin American countries. During this period, Chile did not suffer from large-scale social unrest and political crises. Scholars have paid extensive attention to Chile's stable political environment and social order, especially the success of Chile's economic model and whether it can be replicated. The scholars hope that by studying Chile's experience and practice, they can provide inspiration and reference for the development of other countries.

5. Overall characteristics of the last 30 years of research

During this period, research topics were widely distributed, reflecting the importance of the Latin American region on the global stage. Latin America is increasingly linked to the countries of the Global South, and scholars study the cooperation of Latin American countries within the framework of the Global South, including in the economic, political and cultural fields. This trend reflects Latin America's positioning in the global landscape and its common interests with other developing countries. At the same time, Latin America is rich in natural resources, and the resource cooperation between China and Latin America has become a research hotspot. Scholars focused on Chinese investment in Latin America's resource sector, models of cooperation between the two sides, and the impact of resource cooperation on the environment and local communities. Overall, the characteristics of the research at this stage reflect the interaction between Latin America and the rest of the world, and the diversity of domestic politics and culture.

5.1. Hot topics and their evolution

In the past 30 years, in the keyword co-occurrence graph, the topics that domestic scholars have paid more attention to include Latin America, Latin America, China, the United States, inspiration, China-Latin America relations, modernization, Chile, globalization, etc.

Based on the cluster analysis of keywords, the knowledge graph with $Q=0.6116>0.3$ and $0.9355>0.5$ is obtained. By adjusting the parameter values, 10 clusters are obtained, which are: Latin America, Latin America, China, the United States, Sino-Latin American relations, magical realism, private higher education, developing countries, Japan, and sustainable development. According to the descending order of centrality, keywords with high centrality can be obtained as follows: Latin America (0.8), Latin America (0.51), China (0.05), Centennial loneliness (0.05), China-Latin America relations (0.04), developing countries (0.04), all of which have certain importance and influence in this research field.

frequency	centrality	year	keyword
493	0.84	1994	Latin America
344	0.54	1997	Latin America region
73	0.08	1999	China
59	0.03	1998	America
14	0.03	2004	enlightenment
28	0.03	2002	Relations between China and Latin America
20	0.02	1999	modernization

11	0.02	2005	Chile
15	0.02	2001	globalization
22	0.02	2000	East Asia
5	0.01	2011	Africa
6	0.01	2003	Argentina
6	0.01	1999	Spain

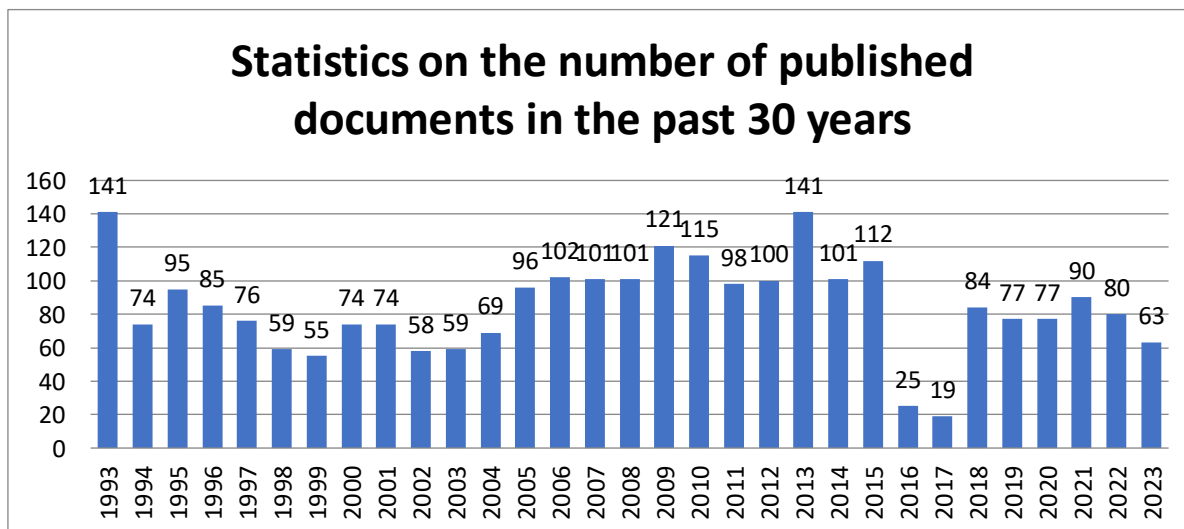
It can be seen from the ascending order of keyword emergence time that scholars began to pay attention to keywords such as modernization, culture, revelation, financial crisis and socialism from 1999 to 2009, while they paid attention to keywords such as Chile, Mexico, left, populism and the Belt and Road later.

From the descending ranking table of keyword emergence duration, it can be concluded that the emergence duration of keywords such as modernization, populism and left wing is longer.

From the descending ranking table of keyword emergence intensity, it can be seen that keywords such as "Belt and Road", "Chile", "populism", "revelation" and "financial crisis" have a strong degree of emergence.

5.2. The appearance of academic ecology

Overall, from 1993 to 2023, the number of publications showed a wave. The first stage was from 1993 to 2013, reaching the peak in 1993 and 2013 respectively, with the number of published papers reaching 141, and experiencing a trend of first decline and then rise in the middle. The second stage is from 2013 to 2023, when the number of published documents gradually declines and then slowly picks up.



Among the journals published in the last 30 years, the Journal of Latin American Studies remains at the top of the list, with 470 articles. Compared with the journals published by the Institute in the past 10 years and 20 years, there are significant changes in World history, International Journal of Social Science (Chinese version) and printing technology, with the number of articles being 16, 15 and 14, accounting for 0.8%, 0.8% and 0.7%, respectively. In the past 30 years, the journals published by the Institute are still diverse, and the degree of interdisciplinary coverage is low.

Through the analysis of cooperative network of literature institutions, it is found that most research institutions are still mainly independent research. The Institute of Latin American

Studies of the Chinese Academy of Social Sciences remains the main research unit and has some cooperation with other institutions.

The thicker the lines in the authors' diagram (shown in Figure 16), the closer the collaboration. Through observation, it can be found that the high-yield authors have stable cooperative relations with other authors, such as Jiang Shixue, Liu Jixin, Wu Guoping, Yuan Dongzhen, Zhao Chongyang, and so on.

In the past 30 years, the top ten authors have contributed 128 articles, and the author with the highest output is Jiang Shixue, with 21 articles, and the first article was published in 1994, with a long time span. This was followed by Liu Weiguang (18), Wu Hongying (14), Xu Shicheng (12) and Yuan Shichuan (10).

5.3. Qualitative analysis of research characteristics

The emergence of keywords such as modernization, culture, revelation, financial crisis, and socialism began earlier than Chile, Mexico, the left, populism, and the Belt and Road. This change may be related to the historical, political and social environment of the time. For example, the 2008 financial crisis had a profound impact on the global economy, so research and discussion of the financial crisis may have been more prominent during this period. Chile and Mexico, for example, faced a series of important social movements and political changes around 2010, which may have caused scholars to pay attention to these regions, consistent with what is explained in the 20-year period analysis.

Keywords with longer duration of emergence include modernization, populism and left wing. These topics involve in-depth discussion of history, system, ideology, and other aspects, as well as important issues such as social change, power structure, and social justice, so they have attracted long-term attention and research from scholars. Keywords with strong emergence degree are: Belt and Road, Chile, populism, revelation, financial crisis, etc. First, the process of globalization has had a profound impact on national economies and financial systems. The financial crisis is a global economic crisis that occurred in 2008, which had a wide impact on the global financial market and economy. As Chile is also an open economy, the impact of economic globalization has caused greater concern in the region about the financial crisis. Second, as a market economy, Chile's changes in economic development and the stability of the financial system may also cause concern. Chile has undergone a series of social and political changes over the past three decades. After a military dictatorship in the 1980s, Chile has seen a return to democracy and economic growth since the 1990s. These changes may have prompted scholars to pay attention to Chile's social, political, and economic development. In addition, Revelation is an important cultural movement in Latin America, covering the fields of literature, art, philosophy and so on. Latin American scholars are interested in the apocalyptic movement and its impact on society and culture, so research on the subject in the last three decades may be sustained for a longer period.

5.4. Dynamic changes of the above three periods

The recent decade (2013-2023) of Latin American studies has focused on relations between countries, possibly because of a series of geopolitical and economic changes that have taken place during this period, such as increased Chinese investment in the region and rising influence over Latin American countries. During the past 20 years (2003-2023), due to the outbreak and ongoing effects of the global financial crisis, the study of Latin America has focused on financial and economic issues. During this period, many countries suffered severe economic shocks, and trade and financial dynamics were unstable, so researchers focused on these effects and sought solutions and countermeasures. In the last 30 years (1993-2023), Latin American studies have taken on a broader range of topics, including economic, political, social, and cultural aspects. In addition, there is a higher focus on developing countries, as countries

in the Latin American region are all developing countries, and researchers work to understand and promote economic, social and human rights development in these countries. In summary, the focus of Latin American studies has changed over time with regional and global changes, reflecting the different challenges and problems of each period.

6. Thirty years of change

The research in this field, can more directly observe the dynamic changes of Latin American research in recent 10, 20 and 30 years. In the past 30 years, the number of published documents has generally shown a wave pattern, and has shown periodic changes under the influence of national policies, China-Latin America relations and other factors.

	10年	20年	30年
The number of documents presented by the graph	“U”shape	Wave shape	Wave shape
Keyword frequency	Latin America(254) Latin America region(158) China(43) America(23) Relations between China and Latin America(20)	Latin America(439) Latin America region(316) China(70) America(54) Relations between China and Latin America(27)	Latin America(555) Latin America region(406) China(73) America(59) The 20th CPC National Congress(31)
Keyword centrality	Latin America(0.78) Latin America region(0.52) China(0.07) America(0.05) Relations between China and Latin America(0.03) Belt and Road(0.03)	Latin America(0.8) Latin America region(0.58) China(0.07) enlightenment(0.04) America(0.03) Relations between China and Latin America(0.03)	Latin America(0.8) Latin America region(0.51) China(0.05) One Hundred Years of Solitude(0.05) Relations between China and Latin America(0.04) developing country(0.04)
the time span of keyword emergence in the top three emergent intensity	Belt and Road (2021-2023) Populism (2019-2023) America(2015-2016)	Belt and Road(2019-2023) Chile(2012-2013) Populism(2019-2023)	Belt and Road(2019-2023) Chile(2012-2013) Populism(2017-2023)
Author and partnership	N=310, E=166, Density=0.0035	N=579, E=273, Density=0.0016	N=2058, E=1014, Density=0.0005
Organization and partnership	N=291, E=104, Density=0.0025	N=527, E=139, Density=0.001	N=1236, E=18, Density=0

Among the changes from the last three decades to the last ten, it can be observed that the number of nodes N decreased from 2058 to 301, indicating a change in research trends in the field, possibly due to the weakening influence of certain research directions or author groups. It is more likely that some authors have dropped out of the field, or because their work is no longer cited or noticed. Conversely, the density increased from 0.0005 to 0.0035, indicating a closer collaboration between authors, which generally facilitates knowledge exchange and

innovation and improves the quality and impact of research results. The same results can be found for organizations and partnerships.

6.1. Qualitative analysis of changes

First, in the past three decades, there has been no significant change in the hot topics that scholars pay attention to. Regardless of the time period, scholars pay more attention to international relations, especially the relations between China and Latin America, followed by the relations between Latin America and the United States. In addition, in the past 30 years of research, scholars have also focused on "One Hundred years of Solitude" and developing countries. The reasons may be as follows: First, One Hundred Years of Solitude is known as the classic of Latin American literature, won the Nobel Prize in literature, has far-reaching influence. In addition, Latin American literature also occupies an important position in world literature. Latin America has a long literary tradition, and writers have brought a rich and diverse literature to a global audience through their unique storytelling styles and deep insights into society, history and humanity. Latin American literary works usually combine traditional and modern, magical and realistic elements, showing a unique aesthetic and ideological connotation. Latin American literature has also attracted much attention from scholars who have explored themes, narrative techniques, literary styles, and their significance in social and historical contexts. Through in-depth study of Latin American literature, scholars can discover the common emotions and destiny of mankind, broaden the literary horizon, and compare and dialogue Latin American literature with literature of other regions, enriching the diversity of world literature and cross-cultural exchanges. Second, "One Hundred Years of Solitude" reflects on and reviews the history of Latin America, involving rich elements of Latin American history and culture, especially the depiction of important historical events such as colonialism, independence movements, and political upheavals. In the last three decades, Latin American countries have undergone many social, political, and economic changes, which have led scholars to pay greater attention to and re-examine Latin American history, including the study of works such as One Hundred Years of Solitude. Thirdly, the Latin American region has long faced a variety of social, political and economic challenges, including poverty, inequality, civil wars and dictatorships. Therefore, scholars are interested in the study of developing countries. Second, over time, scholars have paid less attention to One Hundred Years of Solitude and the developing world. The reasons may be as follows: First, the research in this area has a certain saturation, as a classic literary work with an important status, One Hundred Years of Solitude has been widely studied and interpreted in the past few decades, and there have been a large number of articles and works on this work in major literary and humanities journals, publications and academic circles. Second, there has been a shift in focus. With the passage of time, new works, new authors and new fields of research have frequently emerged, attracting the interest of scholars. The research methods and theories of the academic community may also change and evolve, and the emergence of new theoretical frameworks and research methods may stimulate the research interest of scholars in new fields and new works, which may also lead to the reduction of research on old works.

Third, from the overall situation of the research in the past three decades to the overall situation of the research in the last ten years, the research theme has changed from China-Latin America relations to China-Latin America cooperation, which shows that the bilateral relations between China and Latin American countries have gradually strengthened, especially since the Belt and Road Initiative was put forward in 2013, and the cooperation opportunities between China and Latin America under the framework of the Belt and Road Initiative have significantly increased. The Belt and Road Initiative is not only about economic cooperation, but also includes cultural exchanges and people-to-people cooperation. Therefore, scholars of the Belt and Road Initiative have begun to focus on economic cooperation in areas including infrastructure construction,

trade and investment, and have also begun to explore the potential of cooperation in cultural exchanges and people-to-people cooperation.

Fourth, in the past 20 and 30 years of research, the keyword Chile has a strong emergence intensity, but in the last 10 years of research, Chile has not been found to have a large emergence intensity. As a country with a market economy, Chile has always been known for its open, competitive and free economic environment. Chile ranks among the best in Latin America on indicators of economic freedom and is also competitive on a global scale. This is thanks to a series of market reforms and economic liberalization measures that Chile has undertaken over the past few decades. Chile has vigorously promoted privatization, trade and investment liberalization, protected property rights, and encouraged business competition and innovation. These measures have attracted many domestic and foreign investors and promoted the growth and development of its economy. In addition, Chile is actively involved in international affairs, is a member of several international organizations and free trade agreements, and maintains extensive cooperative relations with all parts of the world. The emergence time of this keyword is from 2012 to 2013, which may have a certain relationship with the political change. In 2012, a series of political changes took place in Chile, including electoral and constitutional reforms. These changes aroused scholars' interest in Chile's political system and political development, prompting them to conduct in-depth research. Chile's economy continued to grow during 2012-2013, becoming one of the most competitive and stable economies in Latin America. For these reasons, scholars have studied the Chilean economic model and development experience to explore its success and whether it is sustainable.

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