Critical Success Parameters for online and distance education before, during and after the COVID-19 pandemic

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Contents

- Introduction

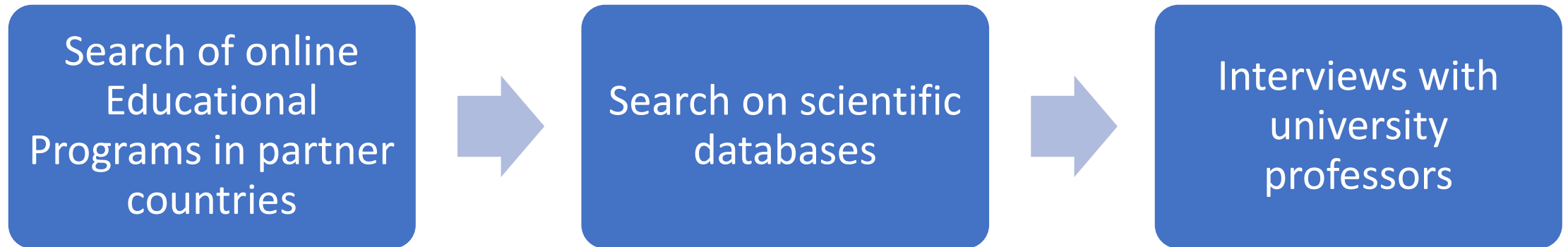- Methodology

- Results

- Conclusions

Introduction

- there is a strong awareness that online education **needs** to become more robust in order to face the immensely complex and interconnected situations that make traditional educational processes harder

- there is the **need** of appropriate systems that will allow the transfer of the educational processes to the digital realms

- there is the **need** to design systems that will exploit the advantages offered by online systems and diminish the limitations of traditional face-to-face teaching

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Introduction

- Purpose of the paper:

to identify all those parameters and characteristics that will increase the probabilities of success for online education

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Methodology

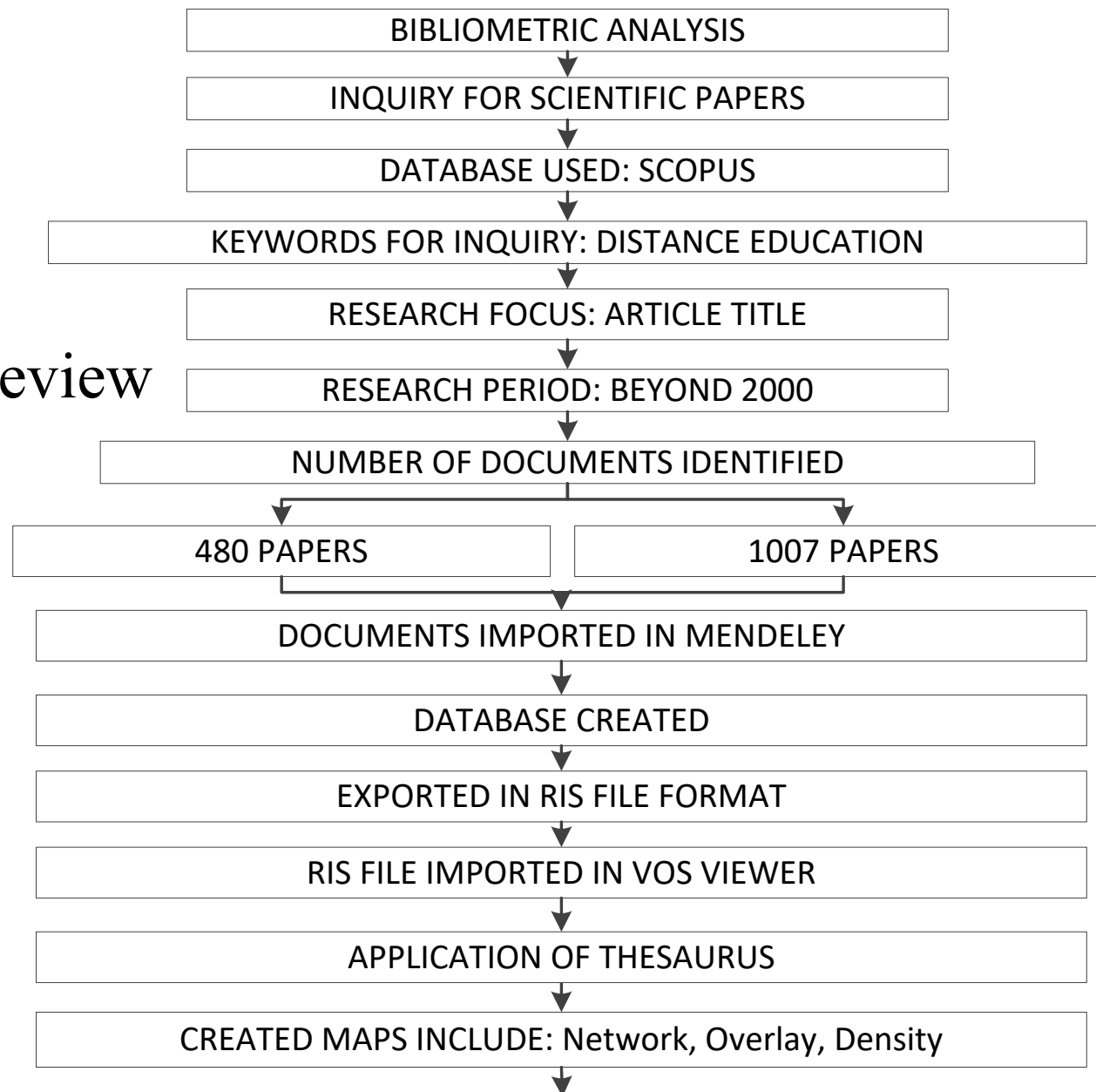| Search of online Educational Programs in partner countries | → | Search on scientific databases | → | Interviews with university professors |

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Results

- Online Educational Programs

1. Focus on the acquisition of practical skills

2. Connection with the market

3. Fees and the provision (or not) of ECTS continue to be limiting factors

ODLEP
Optimizing Distance Learning Educational Programs

Results

- ## Literature Review

BIBLIOMETRIC ANALYSIS

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INQUIRY FOR SCIENTIFIC PAPERS

↓

DATABASE USED: SCOPUS

↓

KEYWORDS FOR INQUIRY: DISTANCE EDUCATION

↓

RESEARCH FOCUS: ARTICLE TITLE

↓

RESEARCH PERIOD: BEYOND 2000

↓

NUMBER OF DOCUMENTS IDENTIFIED

↓

480 PAPERS	1007 PAPERS

↓

DOCUMENTS IMPORTED IN MENDELEY

↓

DATABASE CREATED

↓

EXPORTED IN RIS FILE FORMAT

↓

RIS FILE IMPORTED IN VOS VIEWER

↓

APPLICATION OF THESAURUS

↓

CREATED MAPS INCLUDE: Network, Overlay, Density

↓

The **first analysis** was run for five occurrences of keywords
The **second analysis** was run for four occurrences of keywords
The **third analysis** was a text based for nine occurrences of keywords
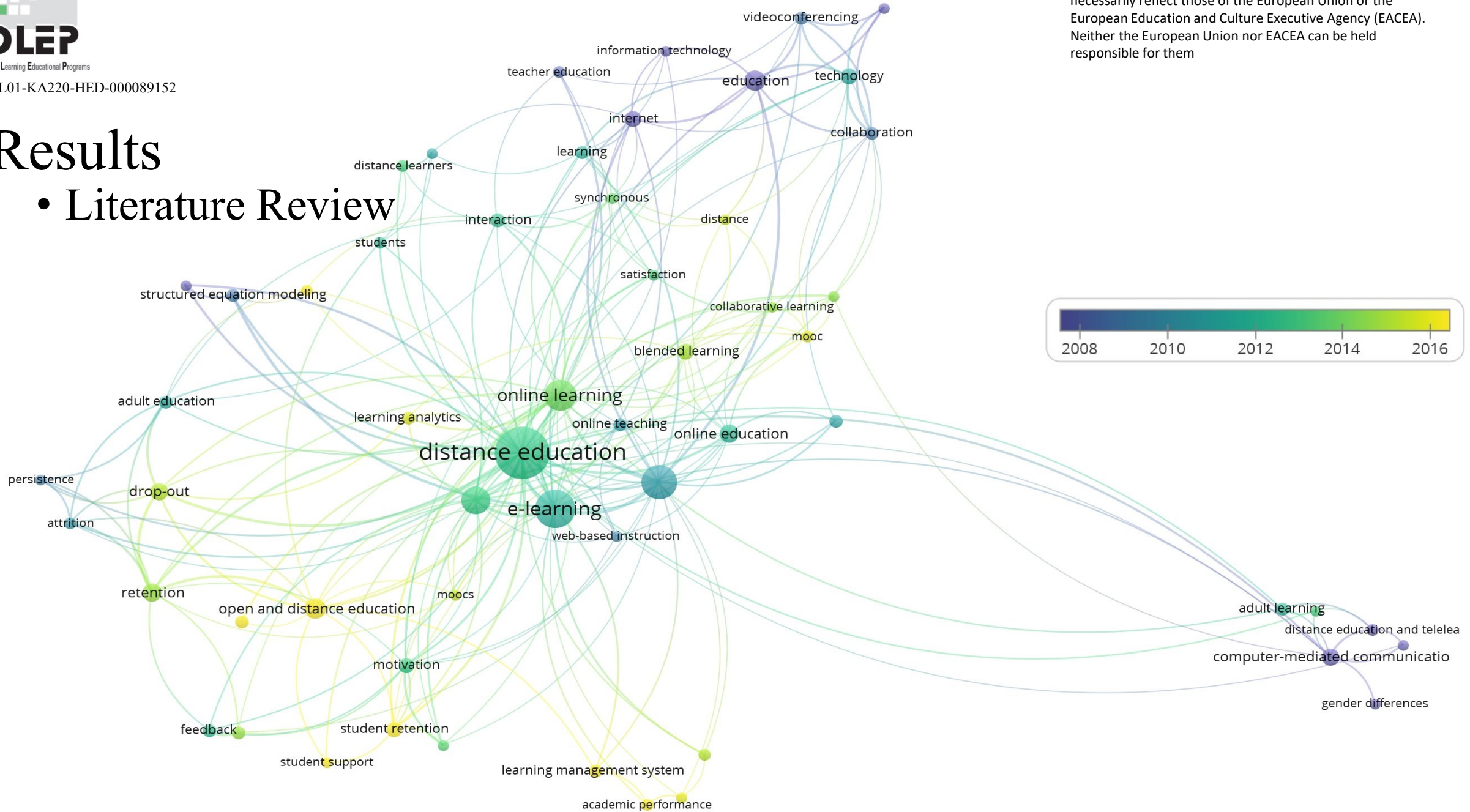
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Results

 • Literature Review

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Results

- Literature Review

- Before 2000:
  - personalized interaction with users/students can be successful in a transparent and efficient manner through the Web
  - personalization capacity of the system relies on the effectiveness of the design of the learning tasks

- After 2000 critical success factors:
  - technology (ease of access and navigation, interface design and level of interaction)
  - the instructor (attitudes towards students, instructor technical competence and classroom interaction)
  - the previous use of the technology from a student's perspective.

Results

- Literature Review

- 2020s:
  - Effect of COVID-19
  - Not enough to transfer practices from f2f teaching to the digital realm

Results

- ## Interviews with experts:

  - A certification for teachers and/or professors could assist them in using more easily any digital system with the purpose of doing courses online. Lacking that experience, increases computer expertise

  - Interaction one of the most important factors in online education and currently not sufficient from platforms

  - The homogeneity of the student groups, while in principal it is considered beneficial for the educational process, any heterogeneity could- although introduce challenges- can also offer advantages to the students

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Conclusions

- The purpose of the current paper was to communicate some initial results on a research regarding the success factors of online education

- Initial analysis of the results indicated that interdisciplinary nature of online programs and provision of ECTS can be important factors for their success, while fees are still considered a limitation of online education.

- Regarding the literature, it has been shown that problems and opportunities for online education have been identified even before 2000

- Over the years, researchers identified that familiarity with technology and opportunities for the acquisition of digital skills is important for both students and instructors if online education is to succeed

- Certification for instructors could be highly beneficial

- Interactivity in online education should become more prevalent

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Thank you!!!