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Cooperation in Research and Higher Education

Research at International Branch Campuses

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Presentation outline

1. About the study
2. Research at IBCs – global development
3. Research-active IBCs in China
4. Two triple-campus examples; University of Nottingham and New York University
5. Discussion and conclusions



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International Branch Campuses (IBC)

Definition: “An entity that is owned, at least in part, by a foreign higher education provider; operated in the name of the foreign education provider; and provides an entire academic program, substantially on site, leading to a degree awarded by the foreign education provider.”
(CBERT, 2017)

There are more than 250 such IBCs (CBERT, 2017)



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Methodology - data

- Publication data for branch campuses were extracted in Scopus using a query selecting all publications with authors stating the name of the branch campus or the mother university and an address with the branch campus city or country
- All IBCs in the C-BERT database were investigated (see <http://cbert.org/branch-campus/>)
- For all IBCs with a total of 10 or more publications, the publications were extracted for further analysis in SciVal



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Methodology - analysis

In addition to the publication sets for each IBC, data was also analysed for mothers to large IBCs and for host countries with a large total IBC publication volume

A detailed description of the methodology is available in: Pohl H and Lane JE (2018) Research contributions of international branch campuses to the scientific wealth of academically developing countries. *Scientometrics*, 116(3): 1719-1734. DOI 10.1007/s11192-018-2790-y



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Data about data

- 250 IBCs studied
- 93 IBCs with 10 or more publications
- 149 IBCs with at least one publication
- Data was extracted in May/June 2017 covering the period 1996 – 2016 (unless otherwise indicated)

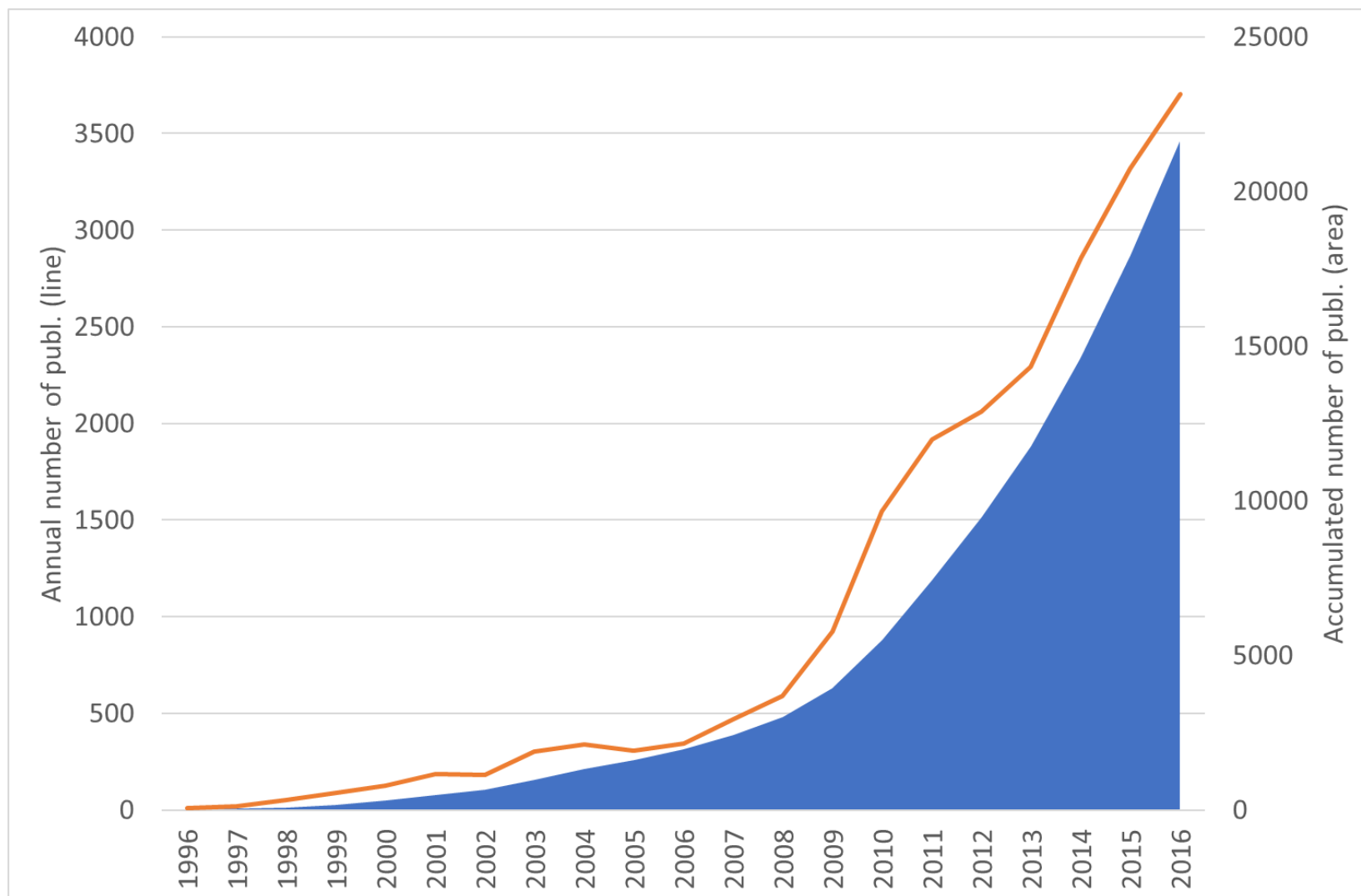


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Excluding 164 publications (<0.8%) from
IBCs with less than 10 publications.

World IBC publication volume

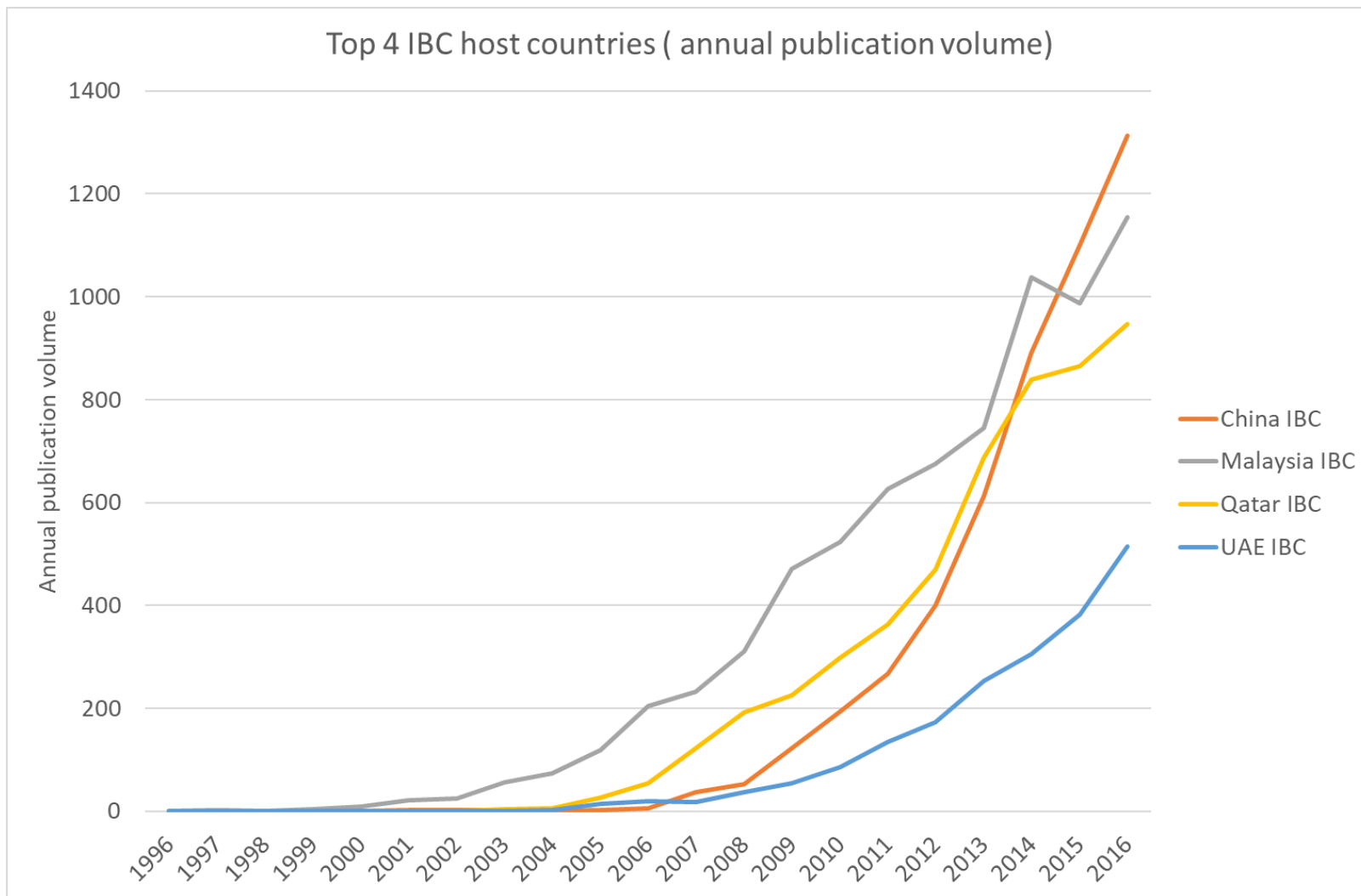




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Largest IBC host countries - volume

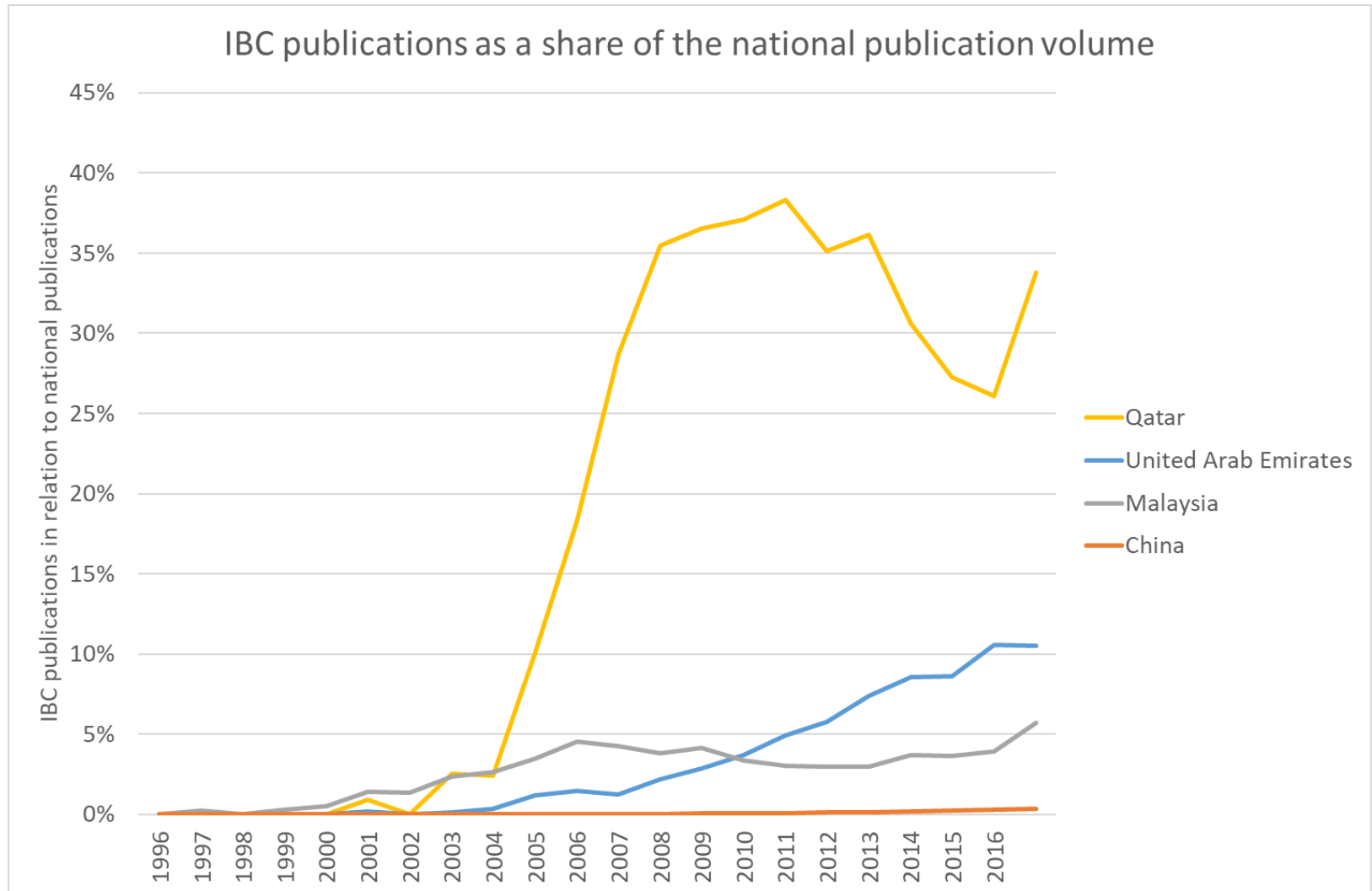




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Host countries – share of national volume

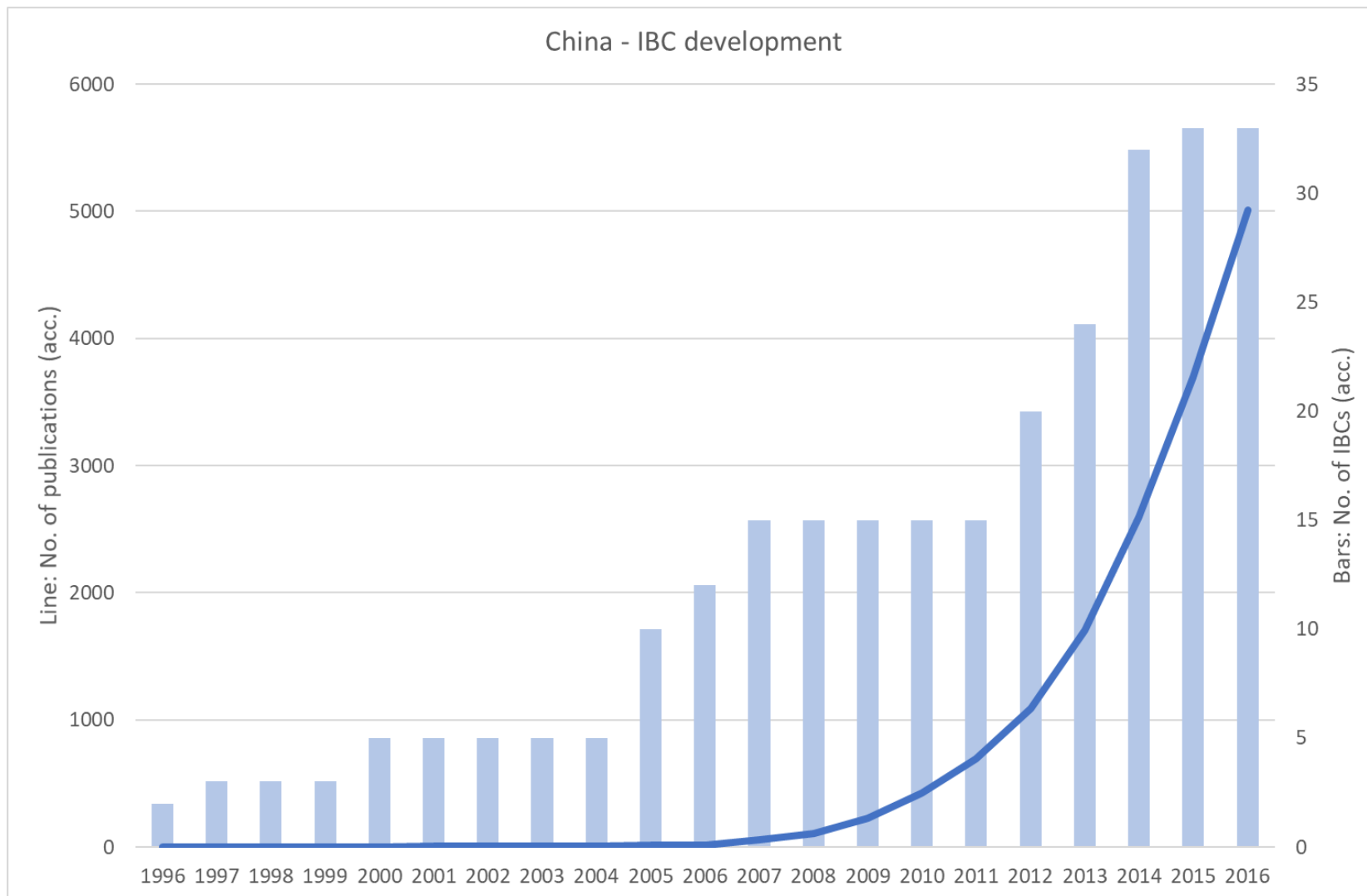




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IBCs in China – accumulated volumes

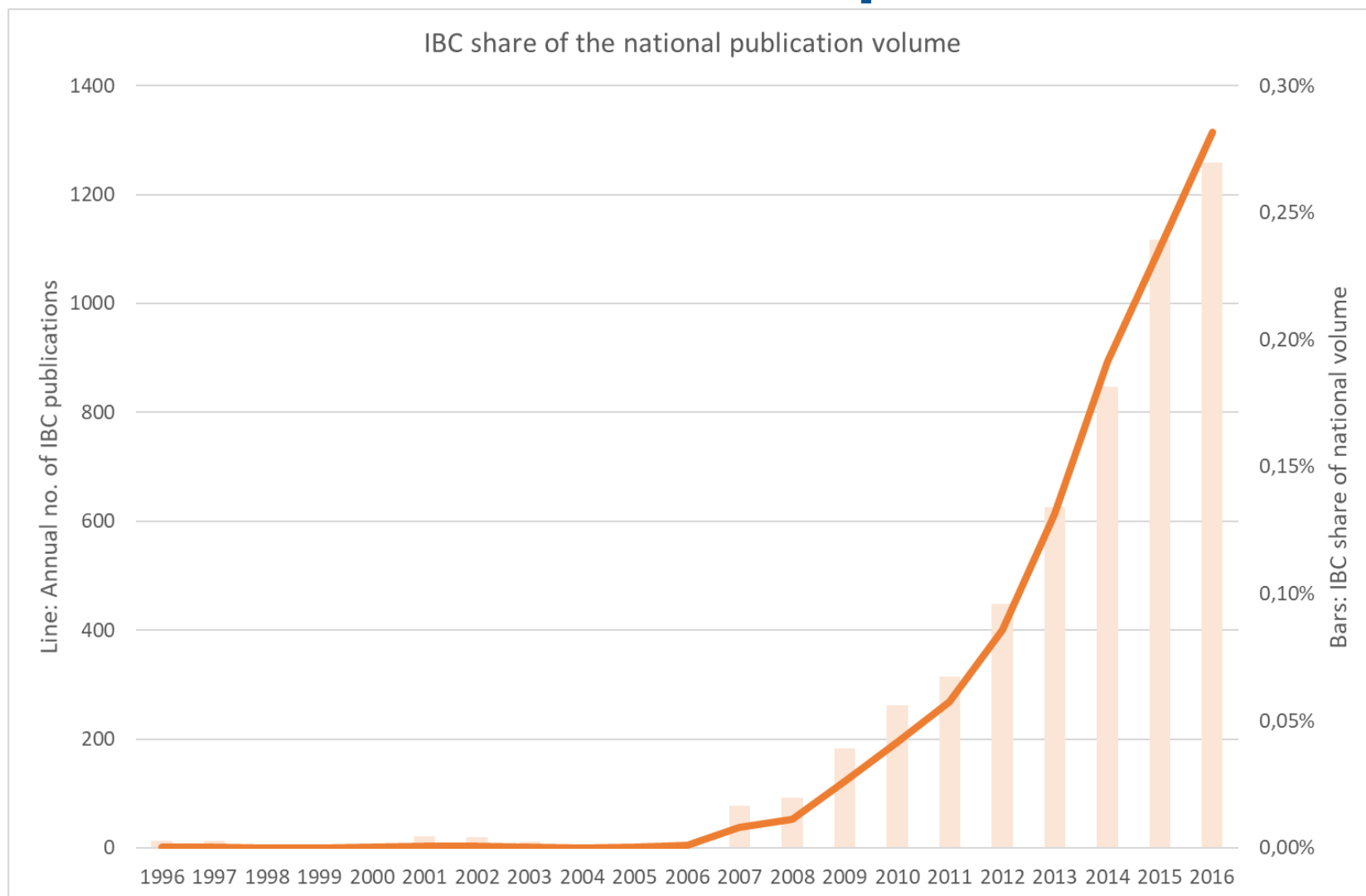




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IBCs in China – annual publ. volume



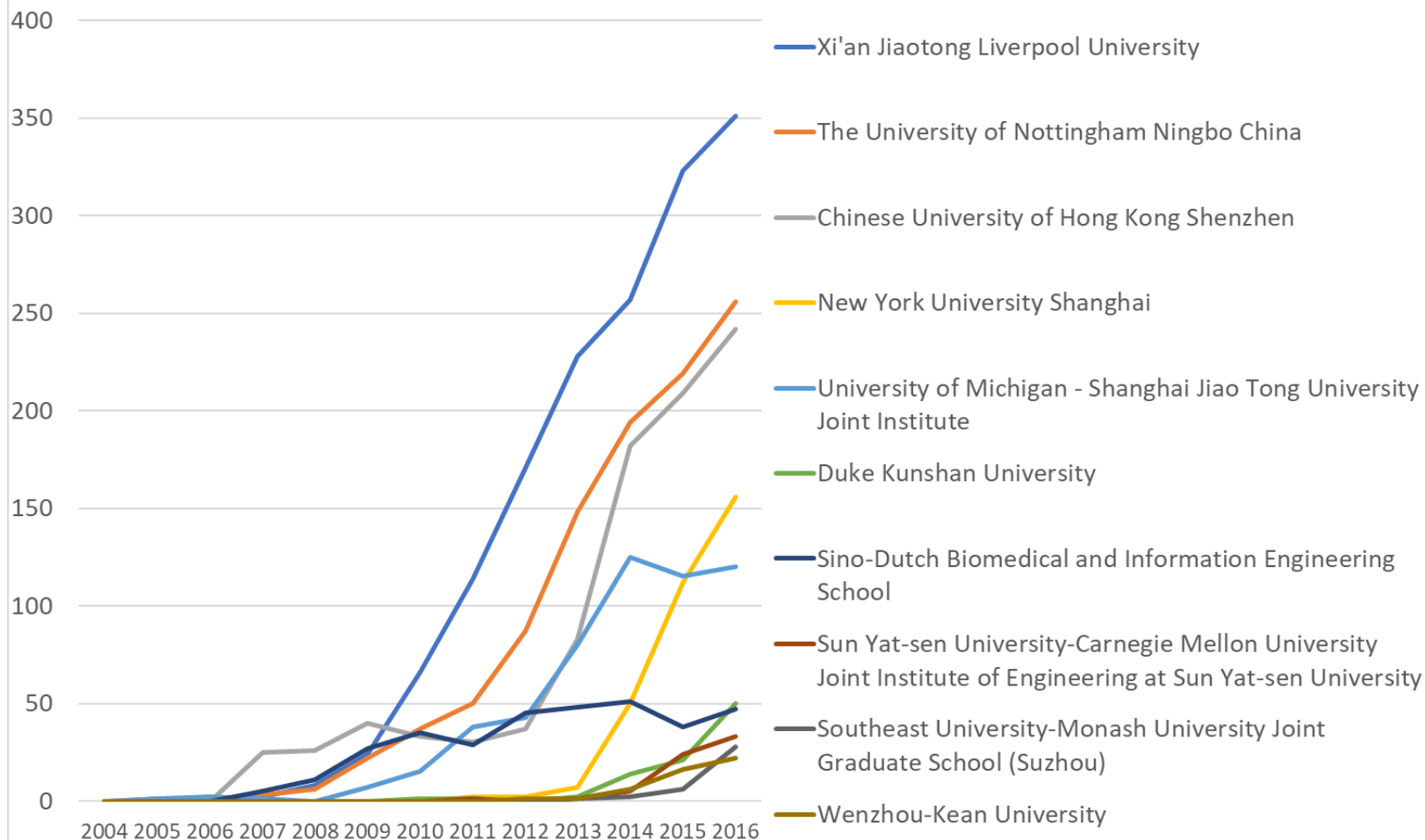


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IBCs in China – annual volumes

Annual publication volume from IBCs in China (19 with <10 publ)

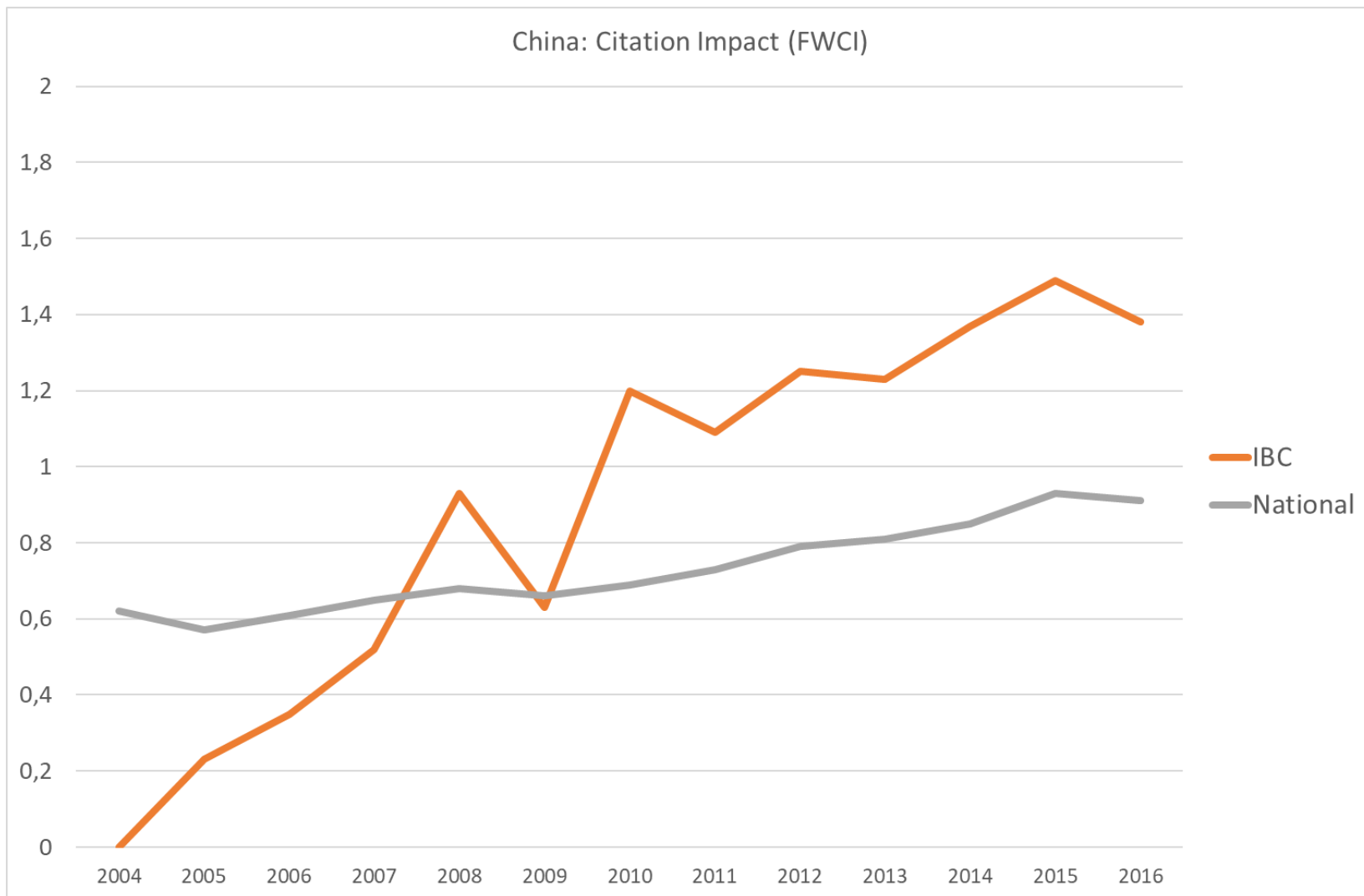




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IBCs in China – citation impact (FWCI)

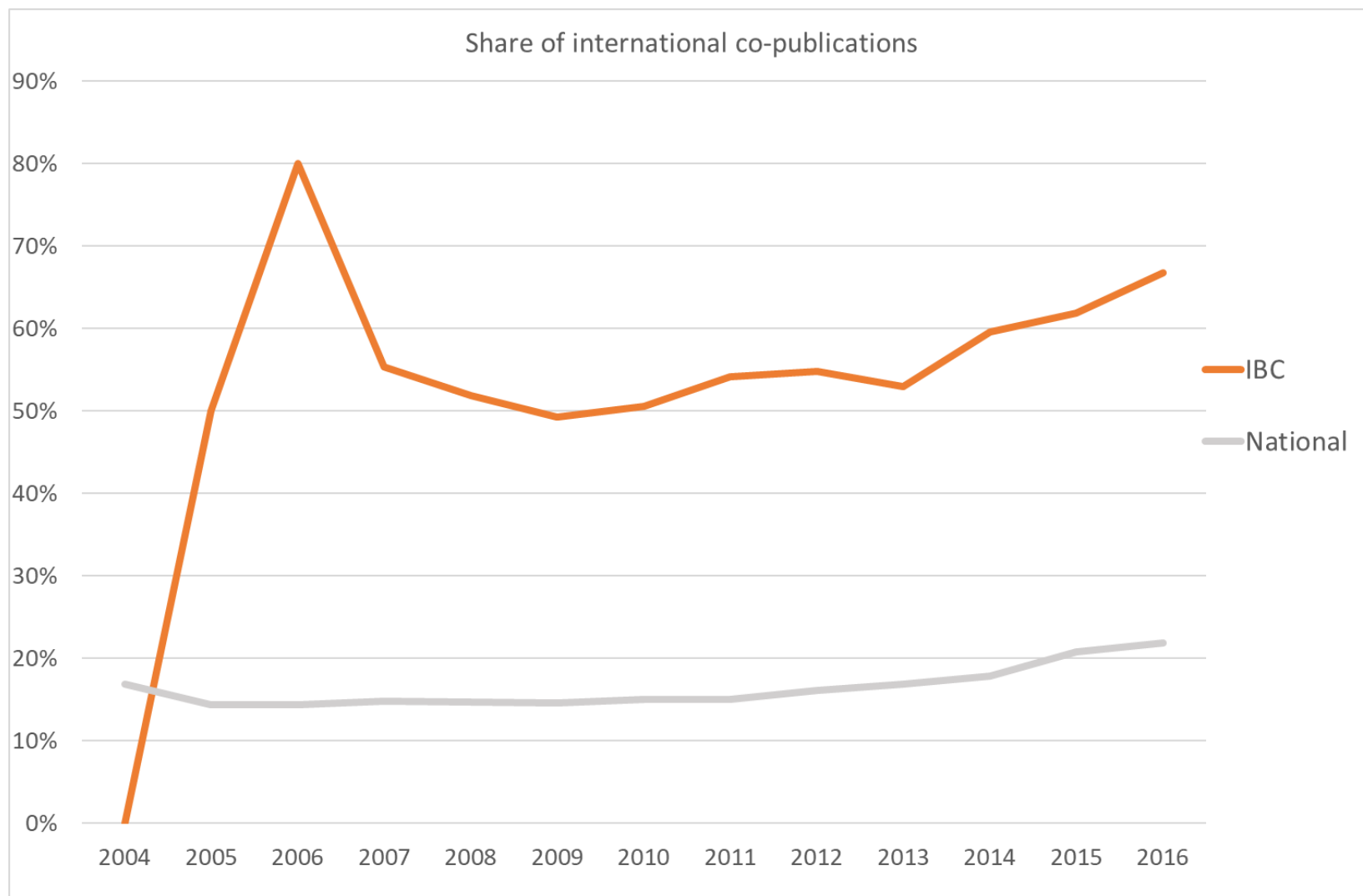




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IBCs in China – intn'l co-publications

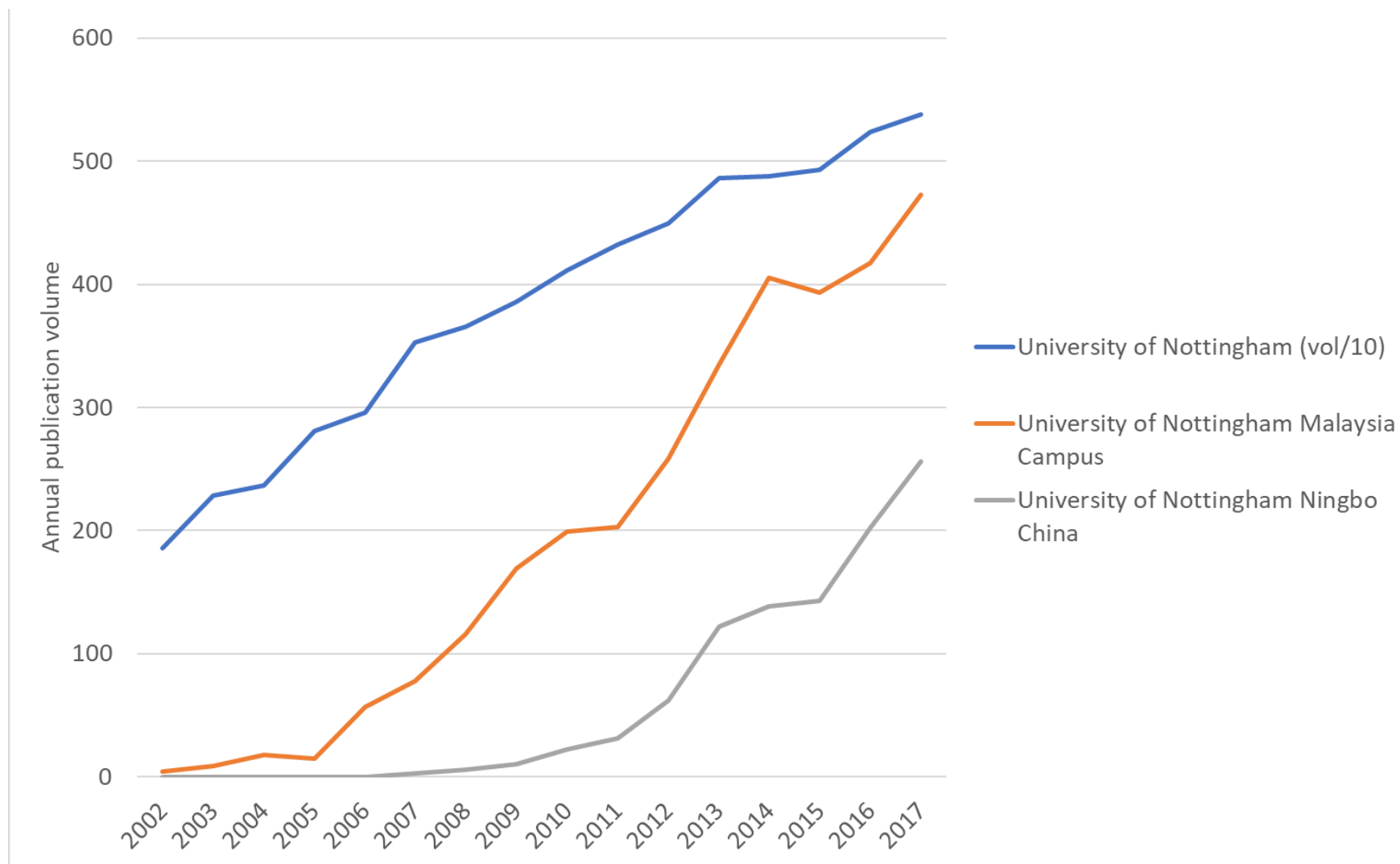




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U. of Nottingham – annual volume

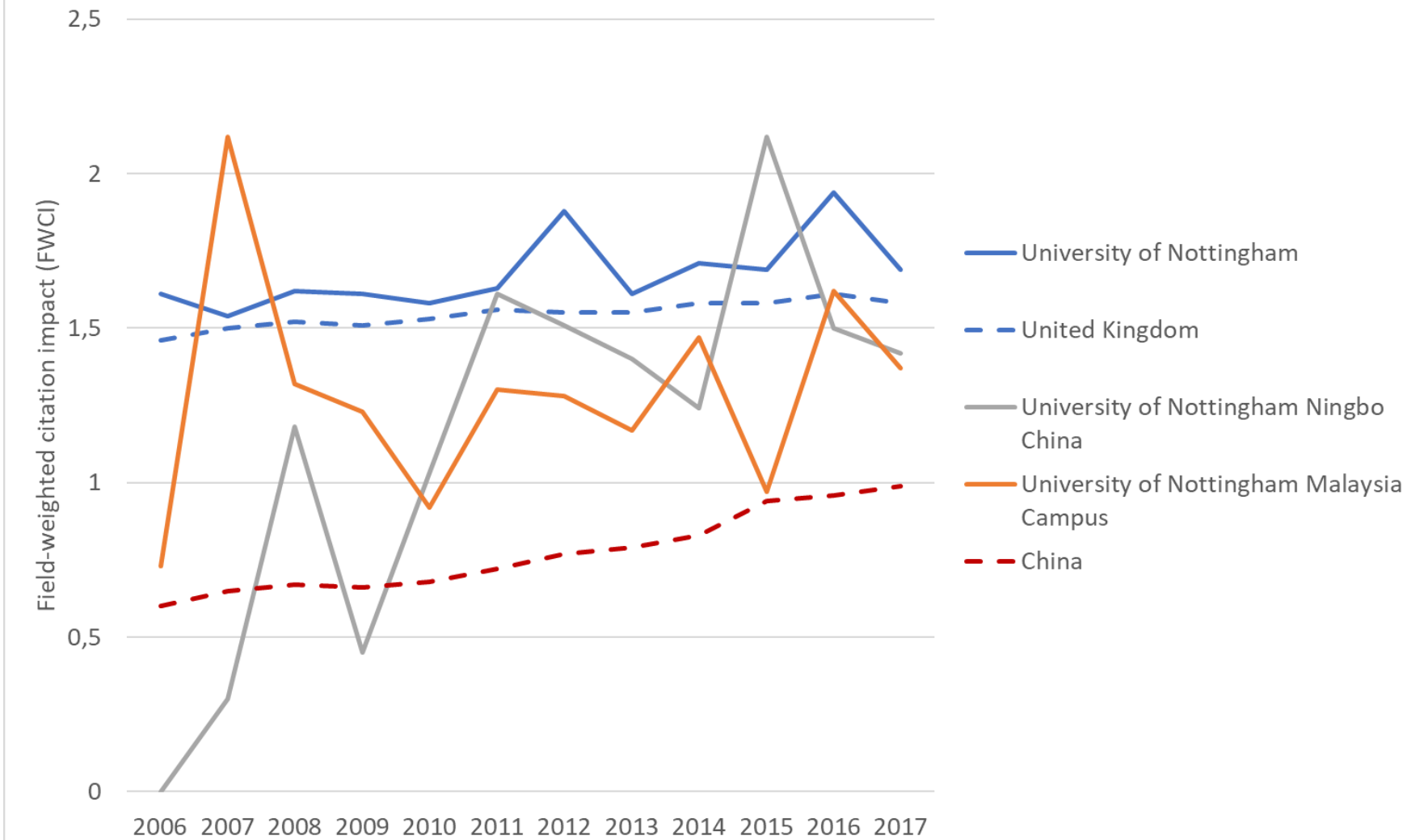




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U. of Nottingham – citation impact

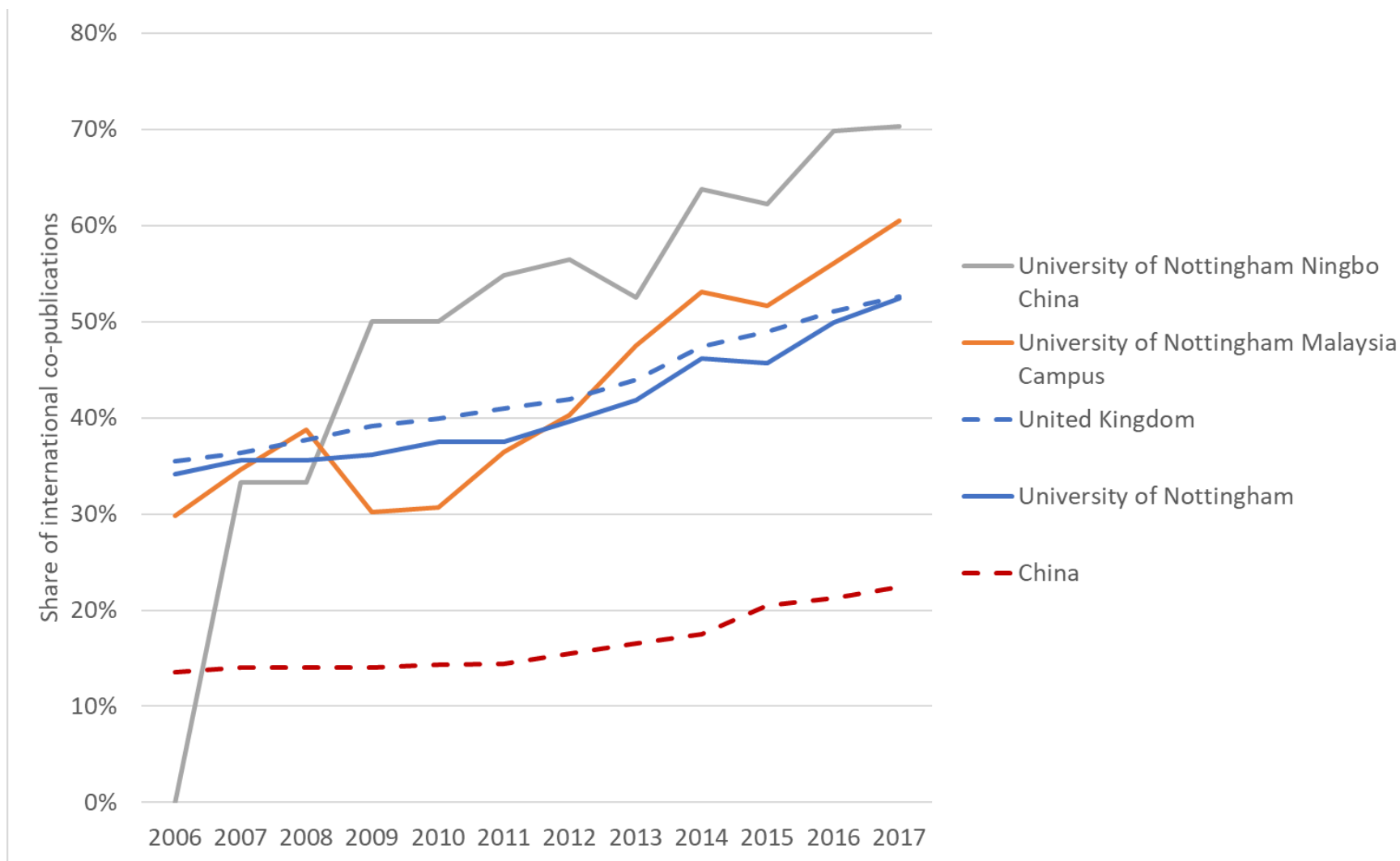




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U. of Nottingham – intn'l collaboration

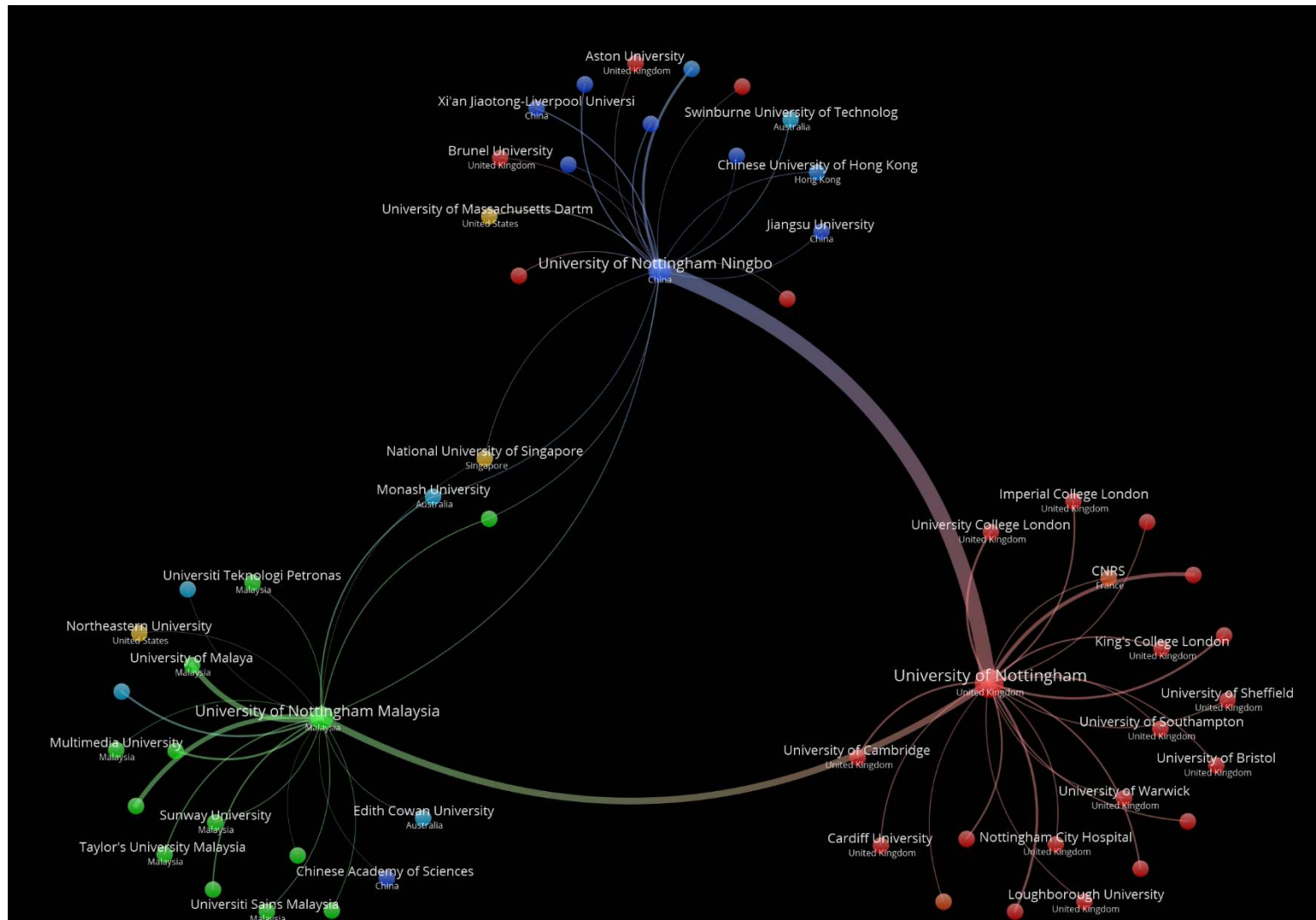


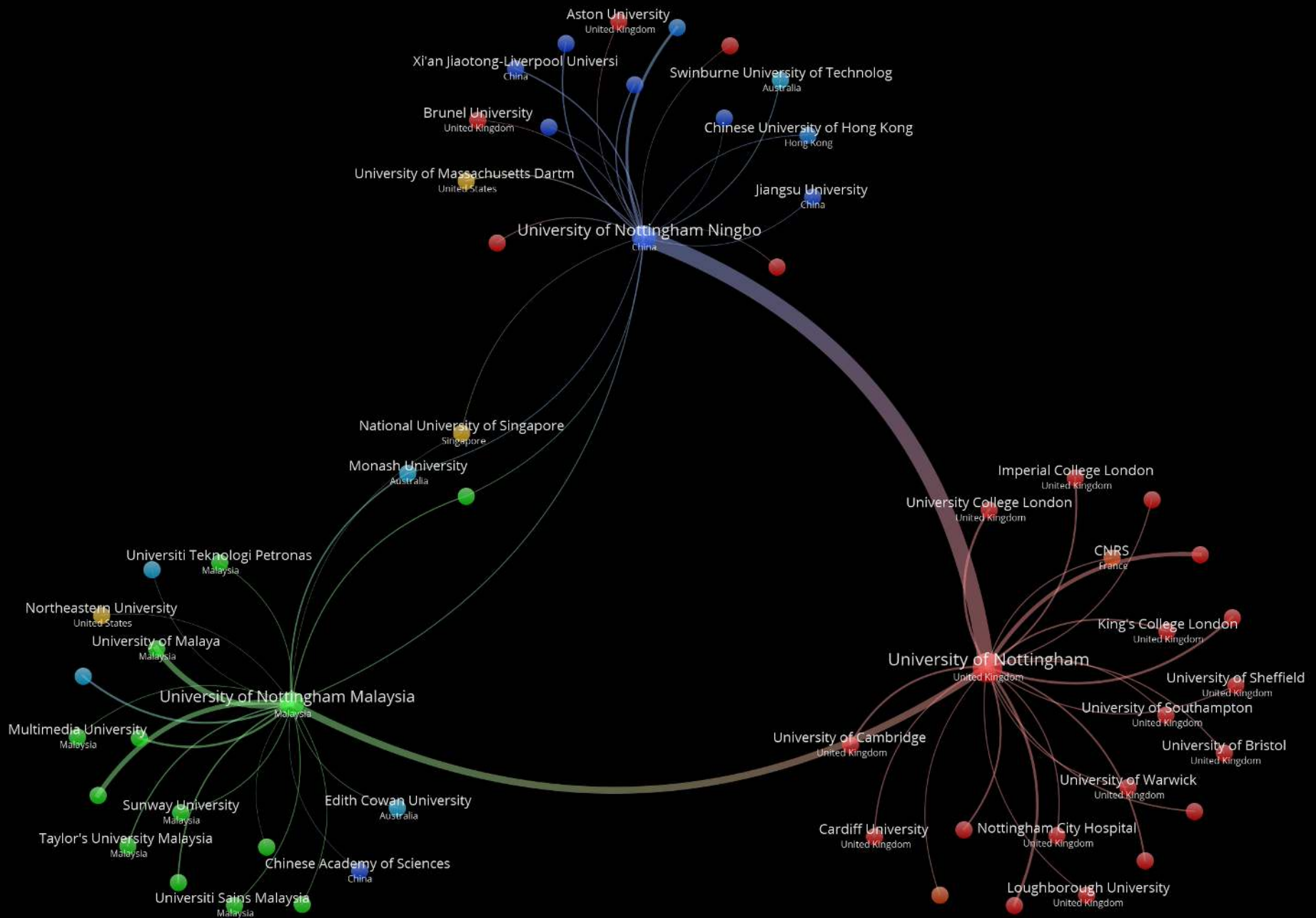


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U. of Nottingham – collaboration



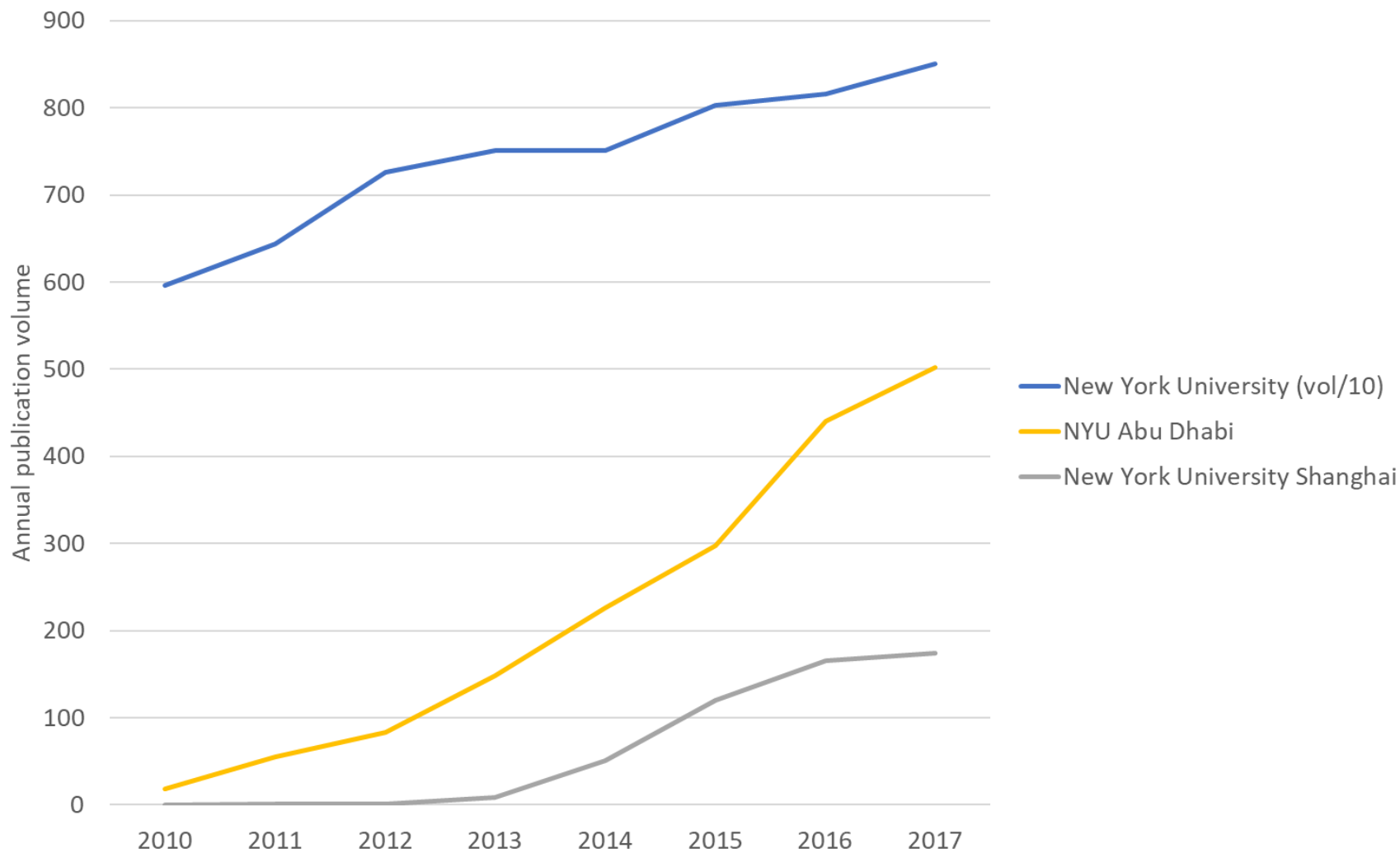




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New York U. – annual volume

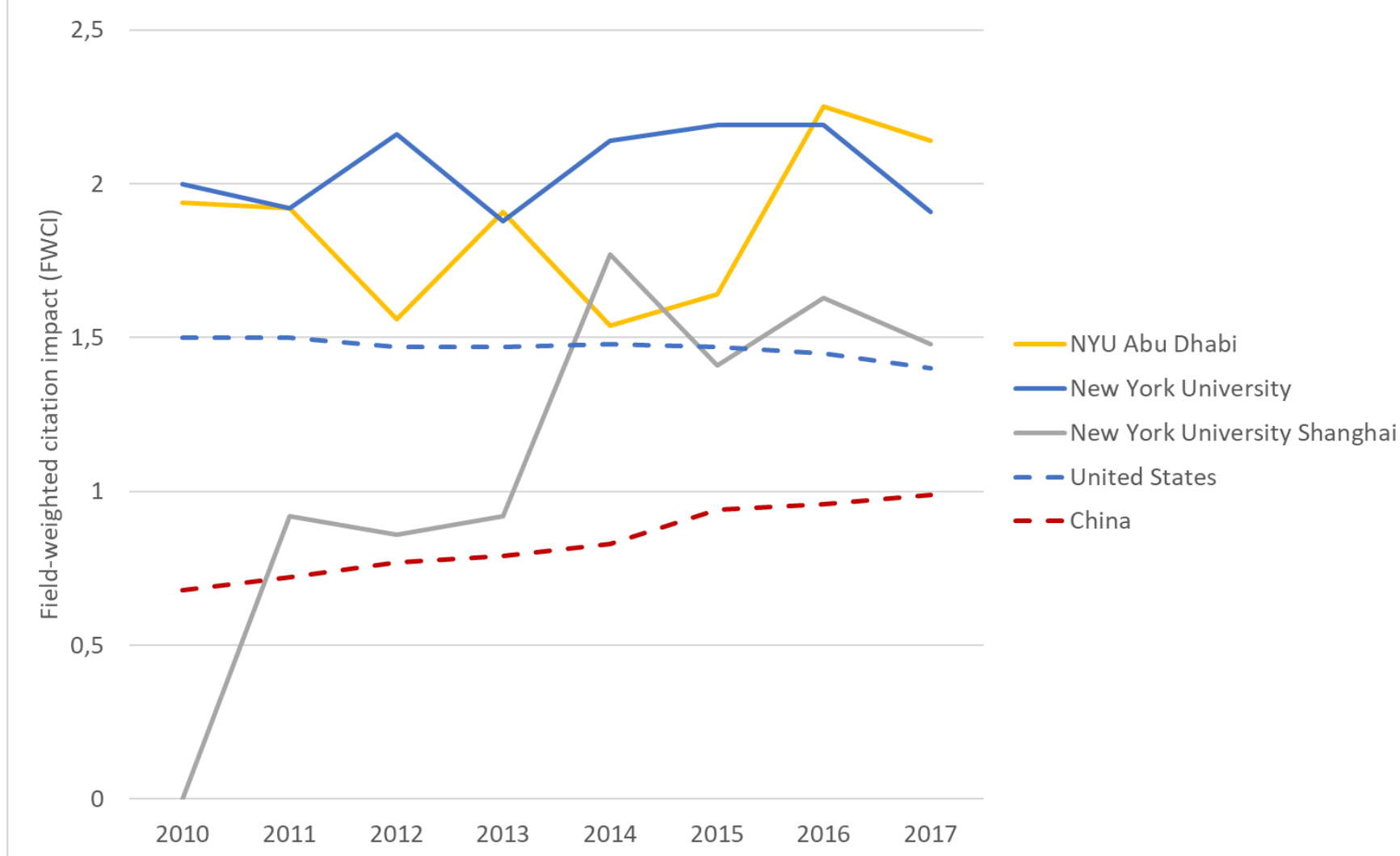




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New York U. – citation impact

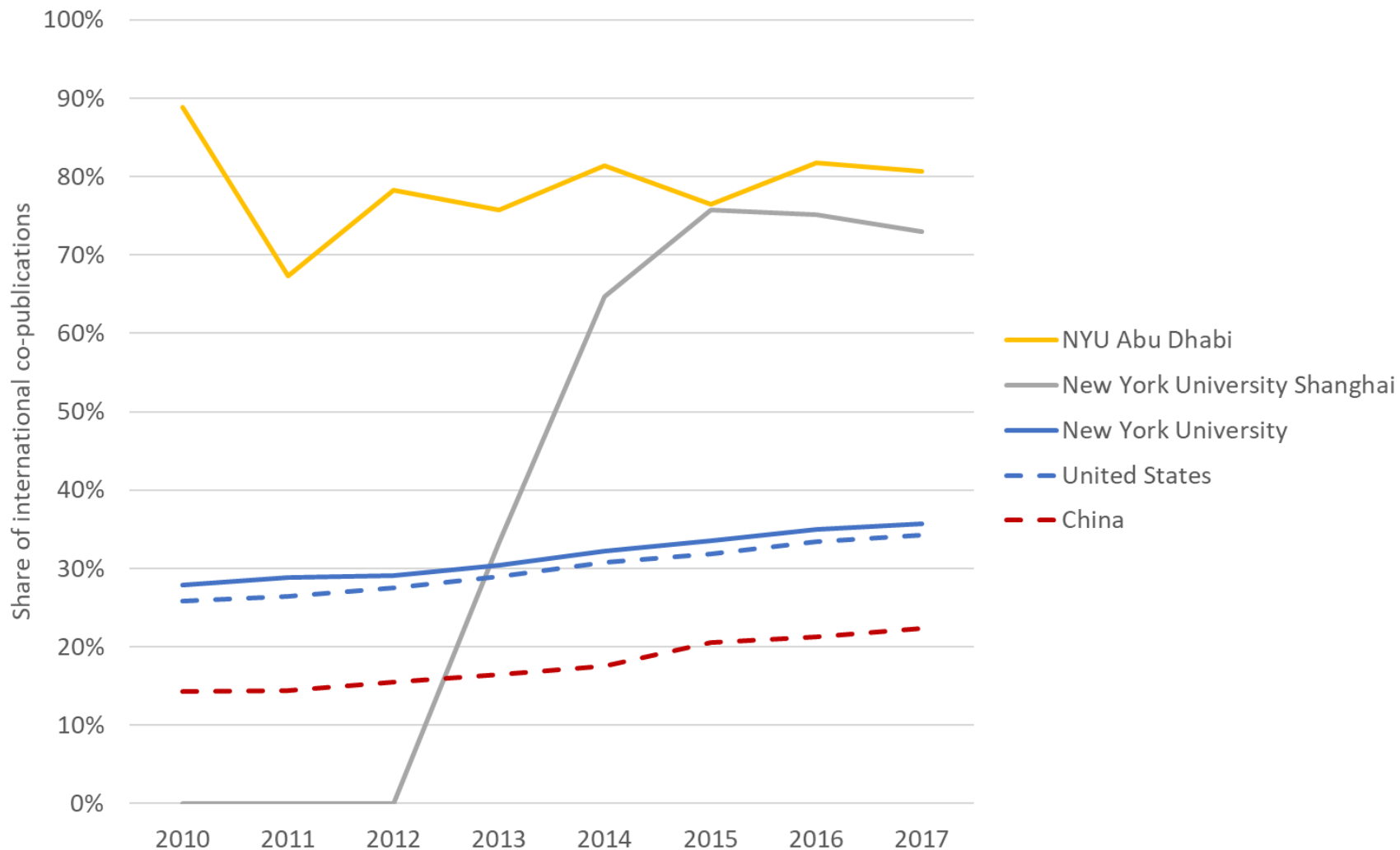




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New York U. – intn'l collaboration

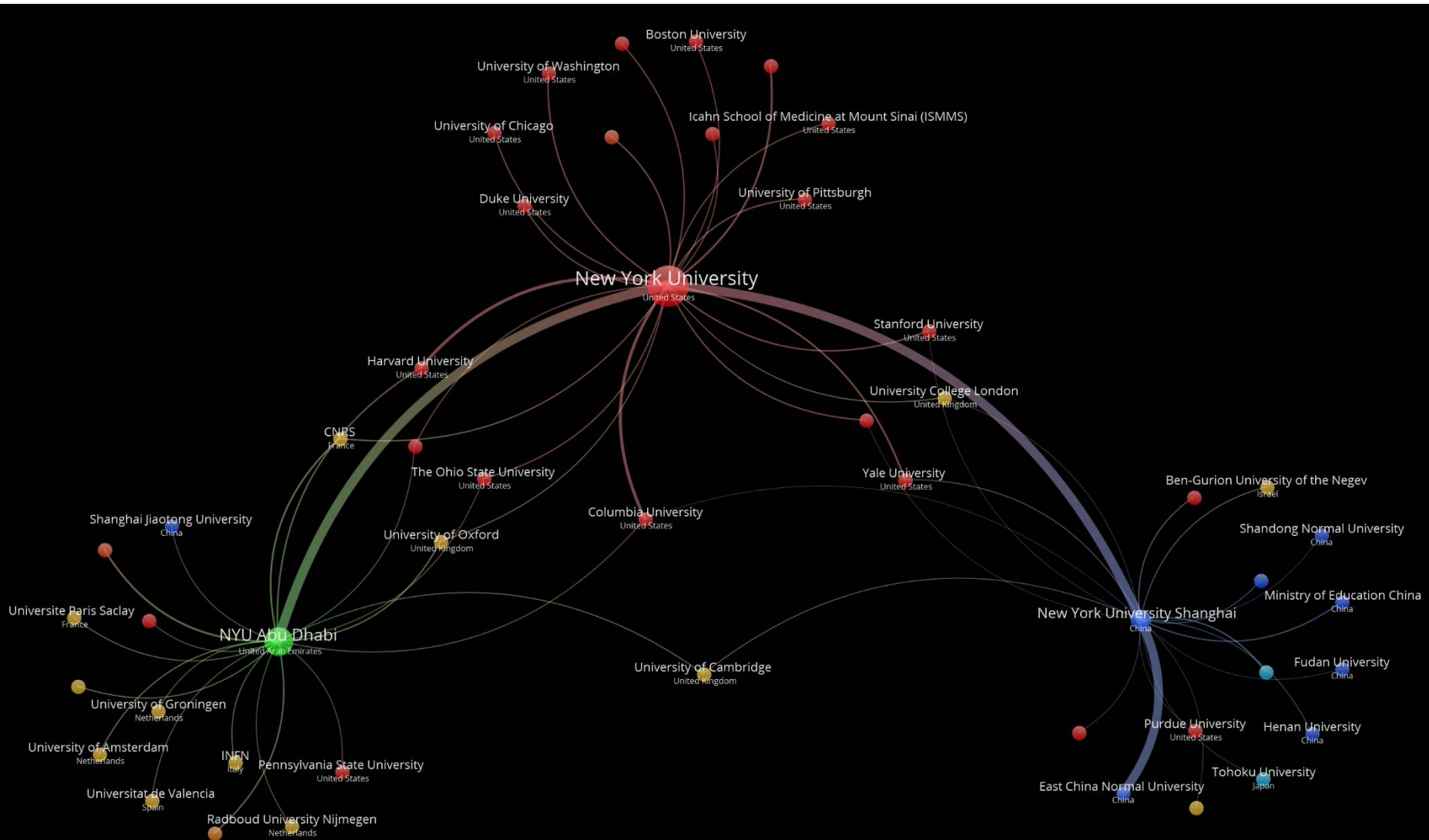




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New York U. – collaboration





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Discussion

- Some IBCs appear to deliver high-quality research. Is research requested by the home HEI and/or the host country? If so, how is it supported?
- Several IBCs in China do not appear to publish – is this sustainable?
- Most IBCs are very young – is research a priority from start or something that becomes more important at a later stage?
- The IBCs' collaboration patterns differ – is national or international collaboration preferred?



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Conclusions

International Branch Campuses are involved in research.

- Publications involving IBCs increase rapidly
- Together, IBCs in China have the highest publication output compared to other IBC hosting countries
- Several IBCs in China do not publish
- The publications tend to give higher citation impact than the host country and lower than the home HEI
- IBCs have a higher share of international co-publications than their host country and their home HEI.