Finding Articles

Article databases and indexes – full text content, citations and abstracts

- Engineering Village
- Web of Science
- CLIO

If we don’t own it – ILL (Interlibrary Loan) or Borrow Direct

Search tips: unknown item searching

- Brainstorm some search terms - start broadly and gradually refine results
  - Look at controlled vocabularies or tagged keywords in other articles
  - Start off searching in topic, keyword and title fields
- Use AND, OR and NOT to combine and build more powerful searches
  - Usually can be used in search boxes, or as drop down menu options
- Use “quotation marks” for exact phrases
- Use * to find plurals and variants (*celeration will find acceleration and deceleration; child* will find children, childhood). Very useful for author searches when used w/ first initial.
- Citation chasing – use the bibliographies of useful articles you find to locate other articles and authors to search
- Cited by – most databases will now give you information on articles that cite the article you are looking at. This is very useful not only in finding other relevant research, but also in gauging how influential that work has been in the field.

Finding Patents

Patents, Standards, and Reports
library.columbia.edu/subject-guides/engineering/patents.html

Google Patent Search
www.google.com/patents?hl=en

Espacenet

Derwent Innovations Index
www.columbia.edu/cgi-bin/cul/resolve?AUL4112
Egleston Scholars – Fall 2014

Search tips: basic strategy
Step 1: Keyword search in Patent Index
Step 2: Identify important classifications
Step 3: Search granted patents and/or patent applications
Step 4: Review documents
Step 5: Check cited and citing references
Step 6: Repeat from Step 3.

Citation Management

Why use citation management software?
• Organizes your research (citations, PDFs, screenshots, images, etc.)
• Saves time! “Cite While You Write” feature with MS Word
  o Formats in-text citations for papers
  o Creates bibliographies for papers

Software
library.columbia.edu/locations/dsc/software_biblio.html

Science & Engineering Research at Columbia

SEAS Department Websites
engineering.columbia.edu/departments

Science @ Columbia tumblr.
columbiascience.tumblr.com

Questions?

Contact Us
Ellie Ransom – ehr2125@columbia.edu
Jim Crocamo – jc2120@columbia.edu