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Researching Skills and Strategies

Grad-Tutorial 2

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Literature Review

As part of your thesis or dissertation you will need to conduct an extensive literature review in your research area



Bibliography

- [1] Z. Chen and L. S Turng. A review of current developments in process and quality control for injection molding. *Advances in Polymer Technology*, 24(3):165-182, 2005.
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- [3] Y. Sakurai K.K. Wang, J. Zhou. An integrated adaptive control for injection molding. *In ANTEC'99*, pages 611-615, 1999.
- [4] M. R. Kamal and P.G. Lafleur. Heat transfer in injection molding of crystallizable polymers. *Polymer Engineering and Science*, 24(9):692-697, 1984.
- [5] A. Mamat, F. Trochu, and B. Sanschagrín. Analysis of shrinkage by dual kriging for filled and unfilled polypropylene molded parts. *Polymer Engineering and Science*, 35(19):1511-1520, 1995.

What is a Literature Review?

- A survey of published materials that are relevant to a particular issue, theory or area of research
 - It provides a description, summary, and critical evaluation of each work
 - Materials surveyed may include: *scholarly journals, books, dissertations, conference proceedings*, etc.
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Library Resources

Print and electronic versions of:

- Books
- Journals
- Standards
- Conference proceedings / papers
- Technical reports
- Reference materials (handbooks, encyclopedias, guides, dictionaries, etc.)

Picking the Appropriate Source for Your Research

- Patents 0
- Conference Presentations 6 – 12 Months
- Conference Proceedings 1 - 2 years
- Journal Articles 1 – 2 years
- Textbooks 3 – 5 years
- Reference books 5 – 10 years

Patents

What is a patent?

- A patent is an exclusive right granted for an invention
- Example:
 - New product or a process
 - New technical solution to a problem

Patents

Why look for patents?

To determine:

- Whether or not you can get a patent
- Whether your invention has already been patented
- How an application and patent is structured
- Market Information
- Emerging technologies
- Competitors
- Help available for the preparation of application

Patent Databases (Free Online Access)

Canadian Patent Database

- ❑ <http://brevets-patents.ic.gc.ca/opic-cipo/cpd/eng/search/basic.html>

U.S. Patent Databases (USPTO)

- ❑ <http://patft.uspto.gov/>

WIPO - World Intellectual Property Organization

- ❑ <http://patentscope.wipo.int/search/en/search.jsf>

European Patent Office

- ❑ <http://www.epo.org/searching.html>



Limitations of a Patent Document

- Patent documents are not peer-reviewed
- Technical details tend to vary and sometimes vague
- Older patents tend to miss technical detail
- Some are written in technical-legal jargon often called “patentese” – Confusing
- Older documents follow less common standards

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Standards

- Standards are documents that describe the important features of a product, service or system
- There are thousands of standards in use around the world that cover everything, from the simplest screw thread to the most complex information technology network
- Standards ensure products and services are consistent, compatible, effective, and safe



What the Engineering and CS Library Holds

- ASTM, CSA, ISO, IEEE, BSI
- And many more
- As a graduate student, you can also make purchase suggestions for standards not available at the library (free of charge)



Finding Standards

WorldCat (UNB Library Catalogue)

- By title
 - By Organization
 - By subject
-
- Full text Resources (UNB databases)
 - IEEE Digital Explore

General Standards Websites

- American National Standards Institute
- International Organization for Standardization
- National Institution for standards and technology
- NSSN
- World Standard Services network

Textbooks / Books

Books will be one of the main types of sources you'll use for your research

Books typically:

- Provide in-depth coverage of a topic
- Puts topics in context with related topics
- Are written by experts in the field
- May contain **historical information** about the topic



Where Books /e-books can be Found: by searching the library catalogue and e-book collections

Example:

- UNB WorldCat provides access to books, e-books and other items
- E-book collections:
 - Springer eBook Collection
 - CRCnetBASE (Includes ENGnetBASE)
 - AccessEngineering
 - ebrary Collections
 - MyiLibrary
 - ASCE Library eBooks (American Society of Civil Engineers)

Conference Proceedings

- Conferences are a major source of cutting edge research, particularly in science and engineering
- At conferences, researchers present papers on the research they are doing and obtain feedback from the audience
- The papers presented in the conference are then usually published in a volume called a conference proceeding



How to Find Conference Proceedings

- Searching the UNB WorldCat for electronic and print proceedings

Examples of Full text Resources:

- IEEE Digital Explore
- ASME Digital Collection
- ASCE Library
- ACM Digital Library
- And in many more full text resources



Journal Articles

Reports original research and in-depth analysis:

- Written by scholars and researchers
- Audience is scholars, researchers and students
- Use scholarly language and jargon of the discipline
- Are usually peer-reviewed
- Include full documentation of sources

Example: *Journal of Manufacturing Technology
Management*



Journal Articles are Found in Databases

- **Discipline-Specific Databases:**
 - *IEEE Digital Explore & ACM Digital Library*
- **Subject-Specific Databases:**
 - *OnePetro (formerly SPE eLibrary)*
- **Multi-Disciplinary Databases:**
 - *Web of Science & Scopus*
- **Content Specific Databases**
 - *ProQuest - Dissertations & Theses*

Reference Books

- Provide short, to-the-point factual information
- Good starting point – provide definitions & general information

Examples:

- Encyclopaedias
- Dictionaries
- Directories
- Atlases and maps

Finding Reference Materials

UNB WorldCat

- Search (ENG-REF by location Code)
- kw: "term / phrase" AND b8: ENG-REF

Other electronic Resources:

- AccessEngineering
- A Biographical dictionary of people in engineering from earliest records until 2000
- Condensed encyclopedia of polymer engineering terms
- Dictionary of financial Engineering
- Handbook of Package Engineering
- Maintenance Engineering Handbook
- Manufacturing engineering Handbook
- The Pocket illustrated dictionary of engineering terms
- Encyclopedia of Computer Science

Picking the Right Database

When you're working on your Thesis or Dissertation, you will need to consult many databases

Things to Consider when Selecting Databases

- Does it cover the desired subject area?
- If the subject is covered, does it contain the key journals in this area?
- What is the time span for the coverage?
- What types of publications does it cover?
- What type of overlap in content is there with other resources?
- How often is it updated?



Search Strategy

- 1) Identifying key words
- 2) Performing a search
- 3) Acquiring relevant sources
- 4) Evaluating information sources

1) Identifying Key Words

- Once you have general subject information, identify the main subject and keywords terms that best describe your topic
- Brainstorm a list of keywords going from:
broad to specific

Examples

Broad Terms	Specific Terms
Circuits	Electronic Circuits
Programming	C++ Programming
Machining	CNC Machining
Welding	Arc Welding

Low Relevancy

High Relevancy

Note: Broader terms tends to give larger volumes of search results

2) Performing a Search

- Use your keywords and run searches in electronic resources
- Searching tips:
 - Use appropriate filters
 - Move from broad to specific
 - Keep a record

3) Acquiring Relevant Sources

Electronic OR Hardcopy (4 options)

- Library
- Inter-Library Loans (Document Delivery)
- Online Databases
- Online E-book collections

4) Evaluating Information Sources

Quick Tips

Authorship:

- Which person or organization made the site?
- What are their qualifications and or authority?
- On which type of domain was the site hosted?

Currency:

- When was the site first created?
- When was the site last updated?
- Timeliness of information

4) Evaluating Information Sources

Quick Tips (Cont.)

Publishing Body:

- Is the publisher reputable?
- Is the publication peer-reviewed or self published?

Accuracy:

- Are facts & data supported by sources ?
- What is the research methodology used?



4) Evaluating Information Sources

Quick Tips (Cont.)

Objectivity / Bias

- Is the information presented with or without bias or conflict?
- What are other viewpoints and arguments?

Appropriateness

- Is information appropriate for your level of research
- Is this the best resource available for your research needs?



Demonstrations:

Database searching:

- *Scopus*
- *IEEE*
- *Thesis and Dissertations Database*