

Searching the Literature

Starting the Search

- Sometimes, getting started is the most difficult, especially for new and obscure topics.
- Identify the key words.
- Do whatever you can to find those first one or two items from the literature. Lean on those to find more.



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Identify Sources & Databases

- PVAMU Library Search
 - <https://pvamu.libguides.com/c.php?g=1438145>
- IEEE Xplore
 - <https://ieeexplore.ieee.org/Xplore/home.jsp>
- Google Scholar
 - <https://scholar.google.com/>
- American Chemical Society (ACS) Publications
 - <https://pubs.acs.org/>
- Association for Computing Machinery (ACM) Digital Library
 - <https://dl.acm.org/search/advanced>

*These are just
some examples.*

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Consider Searching in Waves

- Wave 1
 - Pick a topic and/or question(s).
 - Download everything relevant that can be found.
 - Read what has been found and take notes.
- Wave 2
 - Refine the topic and/or question(s).
 - Download everything relevant that can be found.
 - Read what has been found and take notes.
- Repeat until new information cannot be found.



Searching the Literature

Obtaining Items from the Literature

- Most modern items in the literature are available as PDF.
- Use the university library to obtain textbooks, journal articles, etc., that cannot be accessed online.



Searching the Literature

Stay Organized!

- Organize the information.
- Take notes and make maps of subjects.
- Reference Management Tools for students and researchers to produce accurate papers with easy citation, bibliography, and reference management.
 - RefWorks
 - Endnote
 - Zotero
 - Mendeley

