

Literature Search Strategies and Resources

Searching for Literature

Conducting an efficient and effective literature search is as much art as it is science. The search terms need to be broad enough so that any relevant materials will be found and at the same time be concise enough so that a lot of non-relevant material is not retrieved. Typically, multiple iterations will be required. Different strategies can be employed, e.g., starting with very specific terms (i.e., a narrow search) and gradually expanding the search space with increasingly broader terms and/or additional terms or using the opposite approach. Further, once you locate one/few relevant publications, you should look at the “references” section of these articles to identify additional material. You should also look up the web sites of researchers whose names repeatedly show up in your search.

In the rest of this document, several resources are listed which will help you with your literature search.

Databases

Below are two databases containing bibliographic citations and abstracts from engineering journals and conference proceedings:

- Web of Knowledge www.isiknowledge.com
- Compendex and Engineering Index <http://www.engineeringvillage2.org/>

Below are two databases containing information from transportation journals, conferences proceedings, research reports and on-going research:

- TRIS Online <http://ntlsearch.bts.gov/tris/index.do>
- Research in Progress database <http://rip.trb.org/>

Other databases:

- Google Scholar <http://scholar.google.com/>
- Databases provided by UF library <http://www.uflib.ufl.edu/acqlic/quick.html>
- ASTM Digital Library http://www.astm.org/DIGITAL_LIBRARY/index.shtml
- McGraw-Hill's Digital Engineering Library <http://www.digitalengineeringlibrary.com/>
- SpringerLink <http://springerlink.com/home/main.mpx>
- Elsevier Transport Connect www.transportconnect.net

Note that some researchers and institutions also maintain a database of their publications on their own web sites.

Journals

Most of the transportation journals are available electronically from UF Library and can be accessed by the following two URLs:

http://uh7qf6fd4h.search.serialssolutions.com/?V=1.0&N=100&L=UH7QF6FD4H&S=T_W_A&C=transport

http://uh7qf6fd4h.search.serialssolutions.com/?V=1.0&N=100&L=UH7QF6FD4H&S=T_W_A&C=transportation

Print copies of several Transportation publications are available at the (1) Transportation Library (Weil 516) and (2) Marston Science Library.

You can request copies of reports and publications that either not available electronically or not in the UF library system, using the “interlibrary loan”: <http://illiad.uflib.ufl.edu/illiad/>

Journal of the Transportation Research Board (selected papers from the TRB conferences) is currently *not* available electronically. Print copies and Digital copies (CD) are available at the two libraries indicated above.

The ITE Journal is available online (for ITE members) <http://www.ite.org/itejournal/index.asp>

Major transportation journals include:

- ASCE Journal of transportation engineering
- IEEE transactions on intelligent transportation systems
- Journal of advanced transportation
- Journal of transport economics and policy
- Network and Spatial Economics
- Transport policy
- Transport reviews
- Transportation
- Transportation research, Part A, B, C, D, E, and F
- Transportation science
- Canadian transportation & logistics
- Computer-Aided Civil And Infrastructure Engineering (CACAIIE)
- Journal of air transportation
- Journal of the Eastern Asia Society for Transportation Studies
- Journal of Transport and Land Use
- Journal of transportation and statistics
- Journal of Transportation Systems Engineering and Information Technology
- Logistics and transportation review
- Open Transportation Journal
- Transportation journal
- Accident Analysis and Prevention