Topic 5: Literature Review

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The Purposes of Literature Review

- Know the state-of-the-art in the field
- Incorporate critical views
- Avoid repeating the work of others
- Highlight research possibilities either explicitly identified or overlooked
- Refine research objectives and questions
- Identify research methods and technologies

Literature Searching (1)

- Without reference to the existing literature, it is impossible to write a literature review

- Collect recognized literature related to the research title systematically
  - "Recognized" means that the literature has been verified
    - Should not be personal opinion on the webpage
    - Should be reviewed by peer expert before publication

Literature Searching (2)

- "Systematically" refers to in a structured and professional manner
  - Not in a random manner
  - Focus on literature related to the research topic
  - Along with the searching cycle, attention will gradually turn to a specific title

Literature Searching (3)

- Forms of literature
  - Books
  - Journals
  - Conference proceedings
  - Dissertations
  - Company reports
  - Manuals
  - Software
  - CD-ROMs

Literature Searching (4)

- Books
  - Starting point
  - Provide good grounding and overview of chosen title
  - Provide sufficient detail
  - Are refereed
  - May be outdated and out of line with current thinking
  - Some being more technical

Literature Searching (5)

- Journals (Open Access Journals)
  - Contain articles discussing up-to-date issues
  - Using books before journal articles
  - Only part of an article is suitable
  - Majority of references are to journal articles

Literature Searching (6)

- **Conference proceedings**
  - Published at national and international conferences
  - May contain more up-to-date ideas than journal articles
  - May present preliminary results that has yet to mature
  - The quality of articles varies widely

Literature Searching (7)

- Dissertations
    - Including doctoral theses
    - Represent students' research and provide their contribution
    - Supply ideas on current thinking and useful sources of references
    - Provide an idea of the scope and requirements of an academic degree
    - Difficult to obtain probably being lodged only at the awarding institution

Literature Searching (8)

- Company reports
  - Provide valuable information for case studies
  - Might be subjectively biased in favour of the company
  - May contain information cannot be used as the company does not wish it to be made public

Literature Searching (9)

- **Manuals**
  - Valuable source of information particularly within technical computing projects
  - Not refereed academic articles providing insight into current thinking
  - Not use them as foundations for academic discussion

Literature Searching (10)

- **Software**
  - Tools, repertories and reusable components
  - Websites
- **CD-ROMs**
  - Material is increasingly being presented on CD-ROMs
  - CD-ROMs present information from other sources in a more easily and accessible format

Literature Searching (11)

- Tracing literature
  - Online Public Access Catalogue (OPAC)
    - Search library literatures
    - Efficiency is much higher than hand or microfilm
    - Search by author names, literature titles and keywords etc.
      - National Library of China
      - British University Library
      - Library of BJTU

Literature Searching (12)

- Electronic database
  - Literatures are deposited into electronic databases in the form of electronic documents
  - Students search and download via campus network
  - In Chinese
    - CNKI：National Knowledge Infrastructure
    - The VIP Information Resource Integration Service Platform
  - In English
    - Web of Science（SCI，SSCI，CPCI-S，CPCI-SSH）
    - EI

Literature Searching (13)

- Internet
  - Search Engine
    - Google, Bing, Baidu
  - Websites produced by publishers or software developers
    - Elsevier
    - Magneto
- Subject-specialist librarian
  - Provide searching recommendations
  - Inform the area people mostly interested in and the current state of the art

Literature Searching (14)

- Supervisor
  - knows key literatures and well-known figures
  - Tell the right place to search
- References
  - Know information for further searching
  - Know active research groups
  - Know the influential people
  - Know important conferences and journals

Literature Searching (15)

- Tips for Literature Searching
  - Note interesting quotations and their reference as go along
  - Use review articles and books
  - Reference correctly from the start
  - Know when to stop

Literature Searching (16)

- Have a system to organize and catalogue (Explorer)
- Read recognized leaders and original theorists
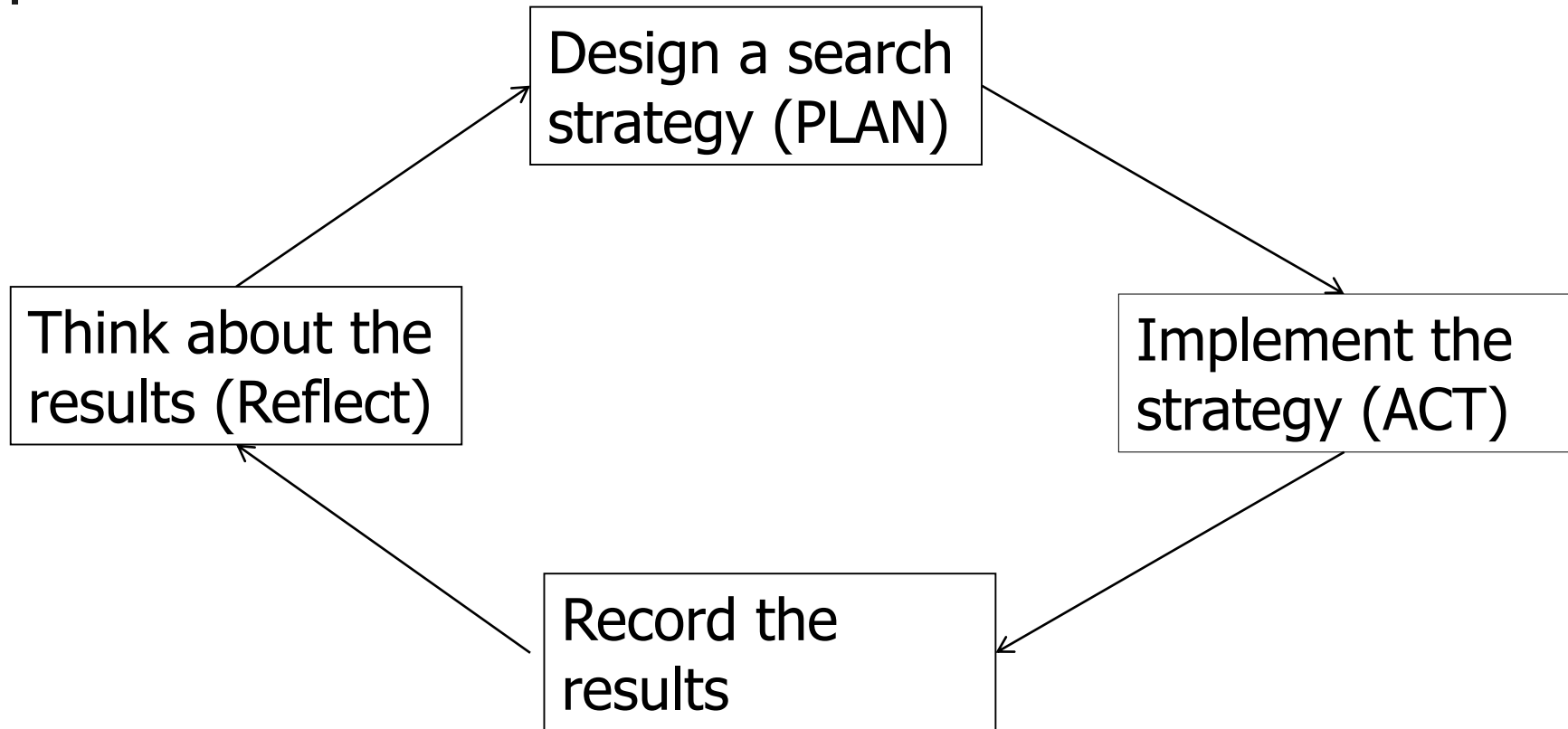- Start with a broad search before focus in

Literature Searching (17)

- Model of reflective literature searching
  - Keep returning to the field and reviewing and rereading, catching up on new text and ideas more obviously relevant
  - Go through a cyclical model, searching, recording, processing and researching

Literature Searching (18)

Design a search strategy (PLAN)

Implement the strategy (ACT)

Record the results

Think about the results (Reflect)

Literature Searching (19)

- ## Setting up Bibliography
  - ### Results of literature searching are sorted out a bibliography

For a book	For a journal article
Author(s)/editor(s)	Author(s)
Title	Title of the paper
Edition	Name of the journal
Number of volumes	Volume
Publisher	Issue
Place of publication	Page numbers
Date of publication	Year

Literature Searching (20)

- It's better to provide the following information
    - Key words for literature searching
    - Libraries with the literature
    - Views on the literature
    - Citations may be used
    - Abstracts for particularly useful literatures

Carrying out Literature Review (1)

- A literature review is not
  - A report listing all articles read – be selective
  - Dedicate a page or a paragraph to the content of each article in turn

Carrying out Literature Review (2)

- **Abstracting, noting and summarising (SQ3R)**
  - Survey
    - Quickly read through an article to identify main headings
  - Question
    - What was that about
  - Read/reread
    - Look through it all/ read it carefully and reread, but only if necessary

Carrying out Literature Review (3)

- Record
  - Take notes under main headings and take full quotations and citations of other references to follow up
  - Summarise major arguments and references where the ideas and the quotations come from
  - Make some sub-headings and sub-notes alongside the notes
  - Start to structure the notes and process the arguments

Carrying out Literature Review (4)

- Review
  - Have caught the most important points (the main arguments) and all need for own work?
  - Have recorded the references appropriately?
  - Are the quotations correct?
  - What have missed?

Carrying out Literature Review (5)

- Organize around the headings

Literatures	Headings			
	Issues	Methods	Arguments	…
1				…
2				…
3				…
…	…	…	…	…

Carrying out Literature Review (6)

- Good habits
  - Update literature search and review
  - Return to key sources to investigate further what emerged as important issues
  - Fully record the reference have found and leave it to stockpile
  - Write up and use what have found to spur on more of own ideas

Carrying out Literature Review (7)

- By practicing and reading good examples can improve writing ability
  - MEASURE and RUP based IS Business Modeling Method

Discussion

- Explain whether the case reached the purposes of literature review

- Describe the form of literatures and the way of tracking literatures you used

- What are the deficiencies of the research you chose