Effective searching procedures for relevant references on quantitative topics

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This document describes various approaches that were found to be effective within context of searching and identifying relevant references on quantitative topics.

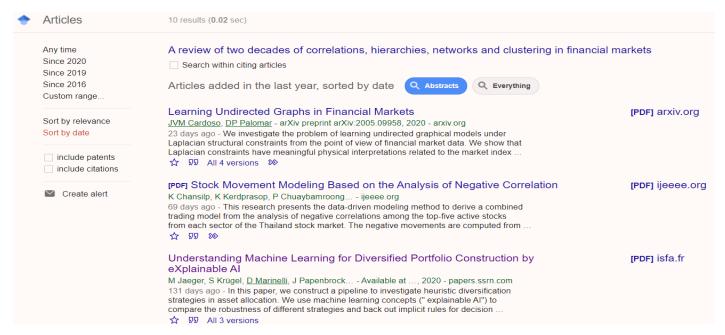
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1 Search through Google Scholar

Some relevant links: link1, link2, link3, link4, link5

One can also leverage the "Cited by" found under each article. See an example below:



2 Use academic search engines

Top list of academic search engines includes:

- Google Scholar
- Microsoft Academic
- Bielefeld Academic Search Engine BASE
- CORE
- Science.gov
- Semantic Scholar
- Baidu Scholar (NOTE: as of now interface only in Chinese)

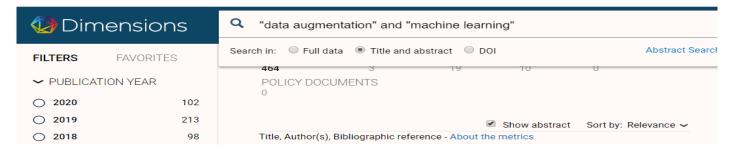
3 Search through academic research databases

Top list of academic research databases includes:

- Scopus
- Web of science
- PubMed
- ERIC
- <u>IEEE Xplore</u>
- ScienceDirect
- Directory of Open Access Journals DOAJ
- JSTOR

4 Use Dimensions.ai online search engine

A very recent addition to searching through publications is Dimensions.AI (see <u>link</u>). Searching can be based on keywords, years, title, abstract, etc.



5 Use Semantic Scholar online repository

<u>Semantic Scholar</u>, which is based at Allen Institute for AI, combines Natural Language Processing, Machine Learning, Human Computer Interaction, and Information Retrieval:

- Search through almost 190 million research works from all fields of science, with automatic extraction of abstracts, tables, figures, and citations
- Quantify impact of an article with statistics that highlight the volume and intent of the paper's citations, illuminating the influence of the research
- Provides links to related GitHub repositories, clinical trial data, presentations, videos, and other supplemental content to help reproduce the results of a paper and put it in context



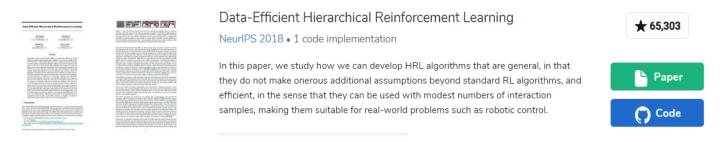
6 Use PapersWithCode online repository

Papers with code highlights trending Machine Learning research and corresponding code(s) to implement it.



See in particular the <u>State of the art</u> and the <u>Methodology</u> subsections.

Below is a snapshot example of an article with both PDF and code:



7 Use ConnectedPapers.com online search engine (network-based)

The <u>website</u>(released in June 2020) is a visual tool to analyze more than 50,000 research works (articles, working papers, etc.) and selects the few dozen with the strongest connections to the original research work.

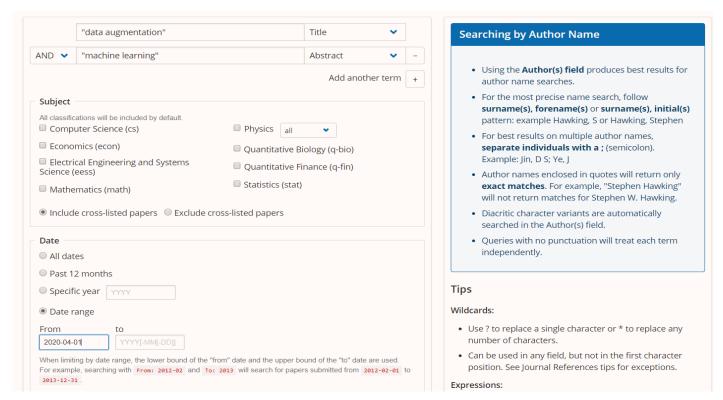
In the graph, papers are arranged according to their similarity, based on the concepts of Co-citation and Bibliographic Coupling. That means that even papers that do not directly cite each other can be strongly connected and very closely positioned.

Their algorithm then builds a Force Directed Graph to distribute the papers in a way that visually clusters similar papers together and pushes less similar papers away from each other. Their database is connected to the Semantic Scholar Paper Corpus



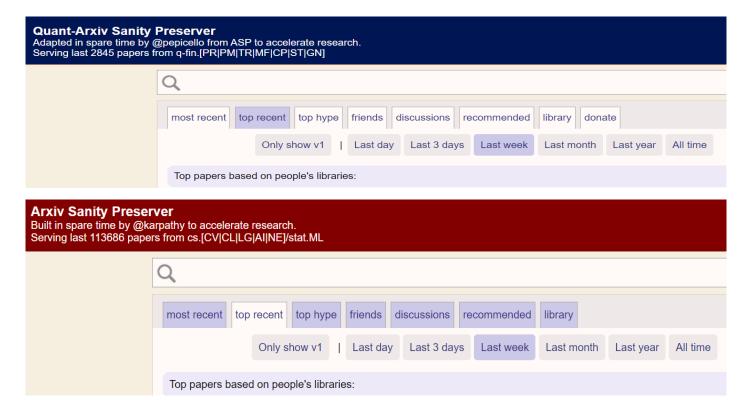
8 Search arXiv online repository

Search on arXiv can be efficiently performed through "Advanced Search" (see <u>link</u>)



Search using Quant-Arxiv Sanity Preserver and, respectively, Arxiv Sanity Preserver

Link: http://quant-arxiv-sanity.com and http://arxiv-sanity.com



9 Search SSRN online repository

Most efficient search through SSRN website is done through Browse (see snapshot below), which includes:

- Advanced search
- Browse by Network and Subject Area
- Browse by JEL code



In Advanced Search one can search in title and abstract, as well as title, abstract, keywords and full text. Searching can be done for a specific period (last week, last month, etc.) or for all dates

When Browse by JEL codes, some JEL classification codes are more relevant than others. In particular

```
G11 - Portfolio Choice; Investment Decisions
G12 - Asset Pricing; Trading Volume; Bond Interest Rates

G01 - Financial Crises
G02 - Behavioral Finance: Underlying Principles

G13 - Contingent Pricing; Futures Pricing
G14 - Information and Market Efficiency; Event Studies; Insider Trading
G15 - International Financial Markets

C11 - Bayesian Analysis: General
C12 - Hypothesis Testing: General

C51 - Model Construction and Estimation
C52 - Model Evaluation, Validation, and Selection
C53 - Forecasting and Prediction Methods; Simulation Methods
```

```
    C31 - Cross-Sectional Models; Spatial Models; Treatment Effect Models; Quantile Regressions; Social Interaction Models
    C32 - Time-Series Models; Dynamic Quantile Regressions; Dynamic Treatment Effect Models; Processes; State Space Models
    C33 - Panel Data Models; Spatio-temporal Models
    C34 - Truncated and Censored Models; Switching Regression Models
```

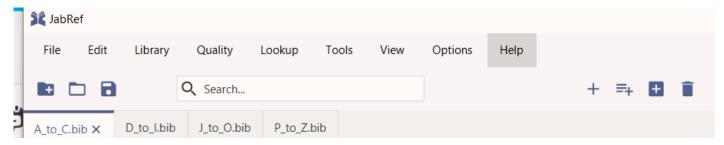
10 Use JabRef to search within bibliography (.bib) files

A bibliography (.bib file) was provided for each QWIM Project (see Bibliography folder)

Most of the entries include the abstract, and thus the search can be done across the abstracts as well.

The latest version of JabRef is 5.1 The documentation (including for search) can be found at link https://docs.jabref.org, with info on search at this section

Search can be done through keywords placed in the search window. (see snapshot below)



One can specify whether the keywords are located everywhere (default), or in title, or in abstract, or in optional fields, or in title and/or abstract, etc.

There are two search modes in JabRef: Normal Search and Advanced Search

Normal search

In a normal search, the program searches your database for all occurrences of the words in your search string, once you entered it. Only entries containing all words will be considered matches. To search for sequences of words, enclose the sequences in double quotes. For instance, the query **portfolio "mean variance"** will match entries containing both the word "portfolio" and the phrase "mean variance".

Advanced search

In order to search specific fields only and/or include logical operators in the search expression, a special syntax is available in which these can be specified. E.g. to search for entries whose an author contains **miller**, enter:

```
author = miller
```

Both the field specification and the search term support regular expressions (see below). If the search term contains spaces, enclose it in quotes. Do *not* use spaces in the field specification!

As an example, to search for entries about mean variance, type:

```
title|keywords = "mean variance"
```

You can use and, or, not, and parentheses as intuitively expected:

```
(author = miller or title|keywords = "machine learning") and not author = brown
```

The = sign is actually a shorthand for contains.

Searching for an exact match is possible using matches or ==.

Using != tests if the search term is *not* contained in the field (equivalent to not ... contains ...).

The selection of field types to search (required, optional, all) is always overruled by the field specification in the search expression. If a field is not given, all fields are searched. For example, video and year == 1932 will search for entries with any field containing video and the field year being exactly 1932.

Pseudo fields

JabRef defines the following pseudo fields:

Pseudo field	Purpose	Example
anyfield	Search in any field	anyfield contains fruit: search for entries having one of its fields containing the word fruit . This is identical to just writing apple. It may be more useful as anyfield matches apple, where one field must be exactly apple for a match.
anykeyword	Search among the keywords	anykeyword matches apple: search for entries which has the word apple among its keywords. However, as this also matches pineapple, it may be more useful in searches of the type anykeyword matches apple, which will not match apples or pineapple
bibtexkey	Search for citation keys	bibtexkey == miller2005: search for an entry whose BibTeX key is miller2005
entrytype	Search for entries of a certain type	

Regular expressions

JabRef uses Regular expressions (regex for short) as defined in Java (see <u>documentation</u> and <u>tutorial</u>). Regex can be used in the normal search mode and the advanced search mode

Regular expressions and casing

By default, regular expressions do not account for upper/lower casing. Hence, while the examples below are all in lower case, they match also upper- and mixed case strings.

Searching for entries with an empty or missing field

- . means any character
- + means one or more times

Searching for a given word

- \b means word boundary
- \B means not a word boundary

```
keywords = \buv\b matches uv but not lluvia (it does match uv-b however)
author = \bblack\b matches black but neither blackwell nor blacker
author == black does not match john black, but author = \bblack\b does.
author = \bblack\B matches blackwell and blacker, but not black.
```

Searching with optional spelling

- ? means none or one copy of the preceding character.
- $\{n, m\}$ means at least n, but not more than m copies of the preceding character.
- [] defines a character class

title =neighbou?r matches neighbour and neighbor, and also neighbours and neighbors, and neighbouring and neighboring, etc.

title = neighbou?rs?\b matches neighbour and neighbor, and also neighbours and neighbors, but neither neighbouring nor neighboring.

```
author = s[aá]nchez matches sanchez and sánchez.

abstract = model{1,2}ing matches modeling and modelling.

abstract = modell?ing also matches modeling and modelling.
```

Searching for strings with a special character (() $[] {} \-=$!|?*+.$)

If a special character (i.e. () [] { } $\ ^- =$ \$! | ? * + .) is included in your search string, it has to be escaped with a backslash, such as $\$ } for }.

It means that to search for a string including a backslash, two consecutive backslashes (\\) have to be used: abstract = $xori\{\c{c}\}\c matches xoriço$.