

# Finding information

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# Stages in the thesis trajectory

Developing a research question

Get to know your topic

Mapping the academic debate

Answering your research question

Finding research data

Communicating your answer

Formatting your bibliography

# Stages in the thesis trajectory

## Developing a research question

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# Developing a research question

## Get to know the field

Main debates & schools of thought

Recent public & academic discussions

Terminology

## Mapping the academic debate

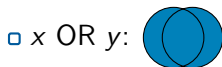
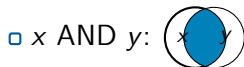
What is already known?

How can you contribute?

# How to search: "Boolean search"

## Search using keywords

- Boolean operators: 'AND' or 'OR' (see [here](#) or [here](#)),



- Also useful:

□ parentheses: (...)

□ wildcards: '\*', '?'

□ quotes: "..."

- (fdi OR "foreign direct investment" OR multinational\*) AND (tfp OR "total factor productivity")

# Good key words are key

## Where to start?

- Research question gives you keywords:  
“How does  $X$  affect  $Y$ ?”
- Textbook, article, Wikipedia  
Articles: often keywords listed below abstract

## Where to find alternatives?

- Include different spelling (US/GB: s-z, o-ou);  
Use wild cards: ‘internationali?ation’, ‘internat\*’
- Thesaurus (next slides)
- J of Economic Literature codes (next slides)

# STW thesaurus for economics

## Foreign investment

### Auslandsinvestition (german)

used for: Foreign direct investment, Direct investment

#### Narrower Terms

- [Foreign portfolio investment](#)  
- [Greenfield investment](#)  

#### Broader Terms

- [Investment](#)  

#### Related Terms

- [Foreign assets](#)  
- [International investment law](#)  
- [Joint venture](#)  

#### Subject Categories

- [B.01.07 Global management](#) ▼
- [B.02.03 Capital budgeting](#) ▼
- [V.07.03 International economic relations](#) ▼

#### Links to other Thesauri and Vocabularies

- = [Auslandsinvestition](#) (from GND)
- > [Direktinvestition](#) (from GND)
- ~ [Auslandskapital](#) (from GND)
- ≈ [Foreign direct investment](#) (from DBpedia) 
- = [direct investment](#) (from Thesoz)
- = [foreign investment](#) (from Thesoz)

Persistent Identifier (for bookmarking and linking)

## F1 Trade

### F2 International Factor Movements and International Business

**Guideline:** Covers studies about issues related to international labor and capital movements, international business, and related policies. Studies about the international transfer of technology and knowledge should be classified under O33 and O34.

**Keywords:** *None Specified*

#### F20 General

#### F21 International Investment; Long-Term Capital Movements

#### F22 International Migration

#### F23 Multinational Firms; International Business

#### F230 Multinational Firms; International Business

**Guideline:** Covers studies about issues related to multinational firm behavior and its impacts and the international competitiveness of businesses. Also includes studies about foreign direct investment at the micro-business level.

**Keywords:** Competitiveness, Direct Foreign Investment, FDI, FOB, Foreign Direct Investment, Foreign In-Foreign Ownership, International Business, International Competitiveness, International Factor Movements, International Outsourcing, Joint Venture, MNC, MNE, Multinational, Multinational Firm, Nationalisation, Nationalization, Offshore, TNC, Transfer Pricing, Transnational



# Where to search?

## [Libsearch](#)

VU Library search engine, but also other collections  
Includes books

## [Lexis Nexis Academic](#)

Newspapers, magazines, trade journals  
Not very intuitive, see [online guide](#) for help.

## [Google Scholar](#)

Full text search  
Includes unpublished work!  
Access not always clear

## [Scopus](#)

Peer-reviewed work only  
Many options to make search more specific

More resources [here](#)

# How to search: Forward and backward snowball

## Backward snowball

Which articles were used for this research?

Check the references in an article

## Forward snowball

How was this article used in other research?

Google Scholar / Scopus: “Cited by: ...”

## WARNING

Useful method, but explodes quickly!



spillovers from foreign direct investment



Scholar

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Sort by relevance

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☒ include patents

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Create alert

**[PDF]** Does **foreign direct investment** increase the productivity of domestic firms? In search of **spillovers** through backward linkages

**BS Javorcik** - American economic review, 2004 - JSTOR

Many countries strive to attract **foreign direct investment** (FDI) hoping that knowledge brought by multinationals will spill over to domestic industries and increase their productivity. In contrast with earlier literature that failed to find positive intra-industry **spillovers** from FDI, ...  
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**[PDF]** from jstor.org  
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**[PDF]** Productivity **spillovers** from **foreign direct investment**: Evidence from UK industry level panel data

**Y Liu, P Siler, C Wang, Y Wei** - Journal of International Business Studies, 2000 - JSTOR

This paper examines intra-industry productivity **spillovers** from **foreign direct investment** (FDI) in the UK manufacturing sector. The empirical analysis uses panel data for 48 UK industries over the period 1991-1995. A major contribution is empirical evidence on ...  
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**[PDF]** from jstor.org

Does inward **foreign direct investment** boost the productivity of domestic firms?

**J E Haddad**, SC Peters, MJ Siegel - The review of economics and ... - 2007 - MIT Press  
... (2012) How do Chinese industries benefit from FDI **spillovers**? China Economic Review 23342-356 ... Lingyun Huang, Xiaming Liu, Lei Xu (2012) Regional Innovation and **Spillover** Effects of **Foreign Direct Investment** in China: A Threshold Approach ...  
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**[PDF]** The determinants of host country **spillovers** from **foreign direct investment**: a review and synthesis of the literature

**M Bloomstrin, A Kohli, S Gliberman** - 2001 - Springer

Abstract The existence of **spillover** efficiency benefits to host country economies from inward **foreign direct investment** (FDI) is well documented in the literature. 1 The determinants of the size and scope of the **spillover** benefits have also been studied, but they are not as clearly ...  
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Technology, market characteristics, and **spillovers**

**A Kohli** - Journal of development economics, 1994 - Elsevier

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**Foreign direct investment** and **spillovers** through workers' mobility

**A Fasfasi, M Motta, T Rende** - Journal of international economics, 2001 - Elsevier

We analyze a model where a multinational firm can use a superior technology in a **foreign** subsidiary only after training a local worker. Technological **spillovers** from **foreign direct investment** arise when this worker is later hired by a local firm. Pecuniary **spillovers** arise ...  
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Much ado about nothing? Do domestic firms really benefit from **foreign direct investment**?

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W. J. P. Wilson, A. J. P. Wilson, V. M. Wilson, Journal of International Business Studies, 2006 - JSTOR

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[PDF] from uc3m.es

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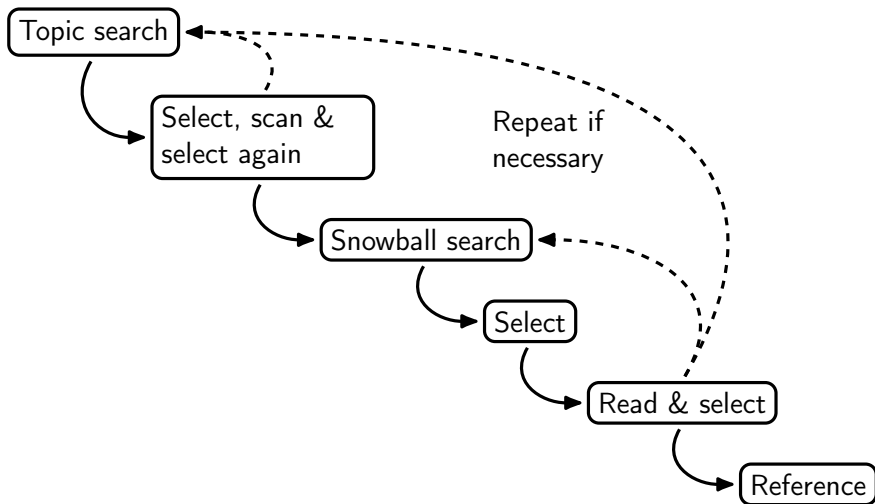
How do about nothing? Do domestic firms really benefit from **foreign direct investment**? [PDF] from oxfordjournals.org

# How to select articles?

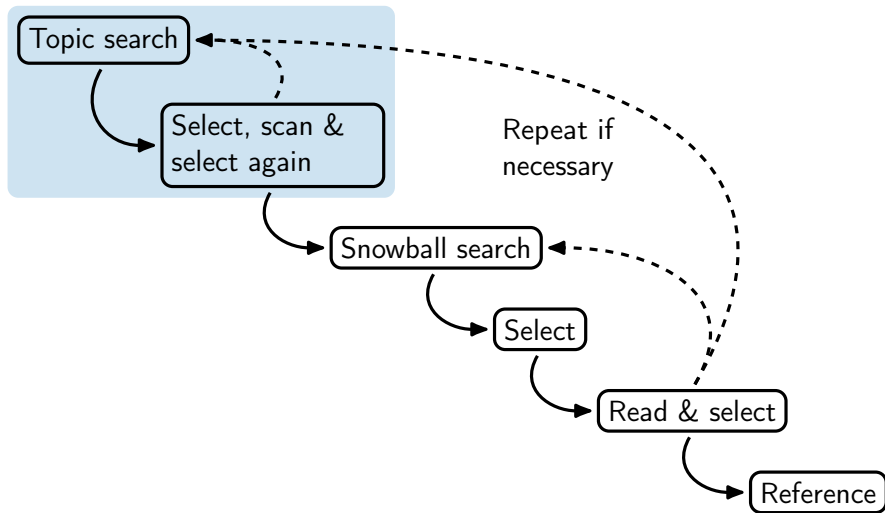
## Rules of thumb

- Peer-reviewed work (journal articles) preferred over non-peer-reviewed (eg, working papers).  
(Exceptions: [NBER](#), [IZA](#), ...)
- Articles with more citations are often more influential
- No guarantee! Use your brain first, then your advisor.

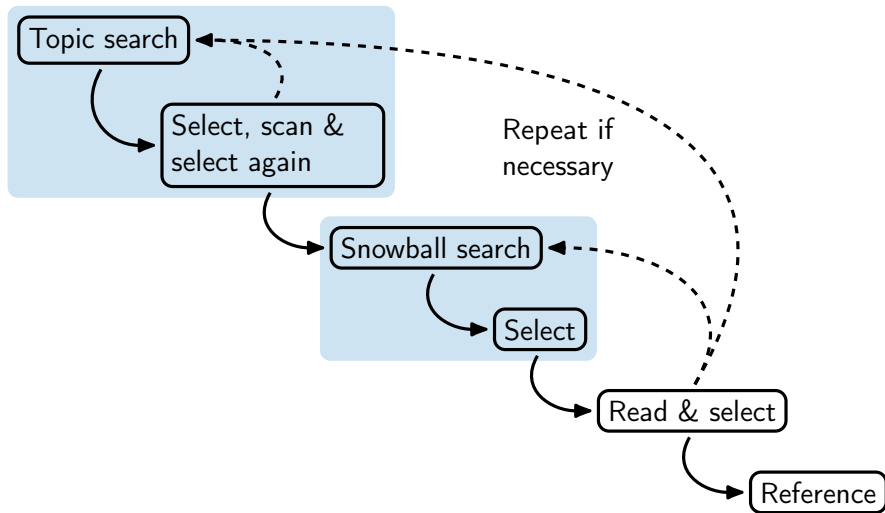
## A suggested workflow



## A suggested workflow



## A suggested workflow





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# Finding & working with data

## Finding data

Important databases for company data, financial market data, economics

Tips for downloading data (No 1: Think before you download!)

## Working with data

Collection of tips & tricks:

Organizing data, combining data from several sources, firm identifiers, event studies, ...

Complete list of resources [here](#)

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# Copy, combine, create

“Good artists copy; great artists steal.”

Academics steal and leave finger prints.

Accountability is important

What did you copy? What is your own work?

Plagiarism is a serious academic crime

Invest in automation

Endnote: [download](#), [online help](#)

[Mendeley](#)

Integration with MS Word and others





# More support

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for workshops on finding literature & data, Endnote, seminars, ...

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for questions on access, availability, ...

# QUESTIONS?

