

Working with Academic Literature

Search, Screen, Read, Appraise

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Institute for Mathematics and Applied Informatics

Academic Literacy
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Outline

Approach

Search &
Acquire

Read

Manage

1 Approach

2 Search & Acquire

3 Read

4 Manage

Phases & Theses

Work phase

Researching the topic

Exposition

Analysis

Implementation

Evaluation

Proof-editing

Presentation

Why do literature research?

Classification, clarification

Quick research, unfiltered literature (search engines, manuals, textbooks)

Systematic research

Researching current issues

Systematic research

Complete references

Reduction

Phases & Theses

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Work phase

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Systematic research

Researching current issues

Systematic research

Complete references

Reduction

Write everything down from the beginning and reference it. All scientific work needs a part “related work” that outlines the state of research & development.

Type of Literature I

Types of channels

- Monographs
 - Textbooks
- Collections
 - Conference proceedings
 - Collections on specific topics
 - Encyclopedias
 - Special purpose books
- Journals
- News media
- Limited citability → “grey literature”
 - Websites
 - Technical Reports
 - Working Papers etc.
- Non citable
 - impossible to get access to for third parties (meeting minutes, lecture notes, personal communication)

Approach

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Type of Literature II

Types of papers

Approach

Search &
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Read

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- Original article
 - Information based on original research
- Technical notes
 - describe a specific process, technology or method
- Survey
 - Detailed analysis of recent research on a specific topic
- Commentary
 - short article with author's personal opinions
- Editorial
 - often short review or critique of original articles
- Letter to the Editor
 - short & on subject of interest to readers

Relevance of Literature

■ Tendency

- Scientific journal, peer-reviewed
- Conference proceedings (usually reviewed in informatics)
- Books and chapters (with or without review)
- Reports usually without review
- Working Papers usually without review
- Popular science, usually without review

■ But: (Almost) more important than the type of publication is the publication channel

- Impact Factor
- Acceptance Rate

A workshop on IJCAI (International Joint Conference on Artificial Intelligence), CHI (Annual CHI Conference on Human Factors in Computing Systems) or SIGGRAPH (Special Interest Group on Graphics Conference) is more important than a “Multi-conference in Las Vegas”

Review

- Peer review: a publication's scientific value is assessed by other researchers in the area
- Potential factors:
 - Relevance of topics
 - Inter-subjectivity (Reproducibility and verifiability)
 - Free of contradictions
 - Understandability and readability
 - Method and innovative contribution
 - Context of existing work
 - etc.

Example review form:

*** OVERALL EVALUATION:

- 3 (strong accept)
- 2 (accept)
- 1 (weak accept)
- 0 (borderline paper)
- -1 (weak reject)
- -2 (reject)
- -3 (strong reject)

*** REVIEWER'S CONFIDENCE:

- 4 (expert)
- 3 (high)
- 2 (medium)
- 1 (low)
- 0 (null)

*** RELEVANCE TO EXACT 2011: from 1 (lowest) to 5 (high)

- 5 (excellent)
- 4 (good)
- 3 (fair)
- 2 (poor)
- 1 (very poor)

*** ORIGINALITY: from 1 (lowest) to 5 (highest)

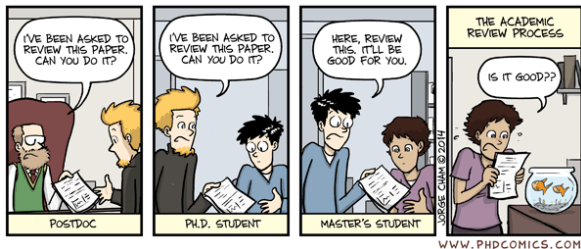
- 5 (Groundbreaking)
- 4 (An interesting contribution to the field)
- 3 (Not a major breakthrough, but a useful contribution)
- 2 (A minor step in the right direction)
- 1 (Yet another paper on a known topic)

*** SIGNIFICANCE / IMPORTANCE TO THE FIELD: from 1 (low

Versions

Usually, scientific work will go through certain phases: you might discuss first results in a workshop before presenting major results on conferences, thereafter giving an in-depth presentation of major results in journals before maybe participating in a book on the topic

Similar contents can therefore often be found in different media, the “most important” is the most citable (but it may be easier to access “less important” or earlier versions, e.g. on workshops)



👉 PhD Comics 1760

Systematic Search I

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■ Goals:

- What can help me with my problem?
 - Wheel 2.0: Do not reinvent the wheel
- Has someone solved this problem before?
 - Demarcation

■ Preparation:

- What concepts and terms are important for my topic?
- What are synonyms or related terms?
 - e.g. searching thesauri: Deutscher Wortschatz, WordNet
- For German users: what are the English terms?
 - e.g using LEO
 - partly Wikipedia
- Relation between terms & concepts

Systematic Search II

Approach

Search &
Acquire

Read

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■ Search

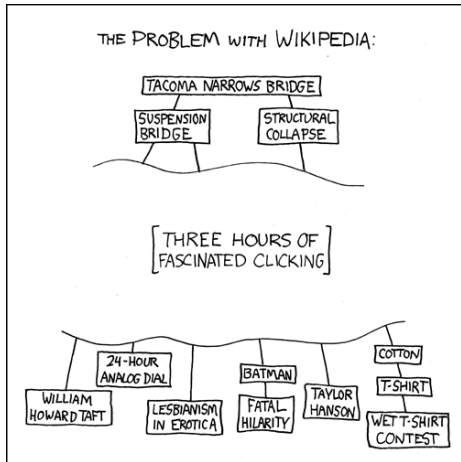
- General search engines
- Specialized search engines
- Libraries
- Bibliographies
- (Internet-) book stores

■ Acquire

- (Digital) libraries
- (Internet-) book stores

■ Read

- Skim & appraise



👉 xkcd: the problem with wikipedia

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2 Search & Acquire

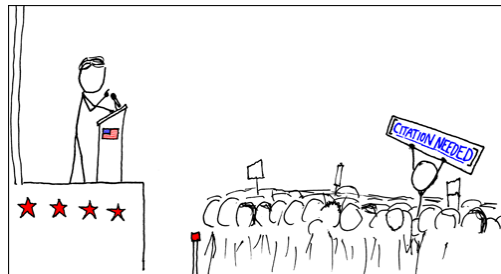
3 Read

4 Manage

👉 Dan Gillmor

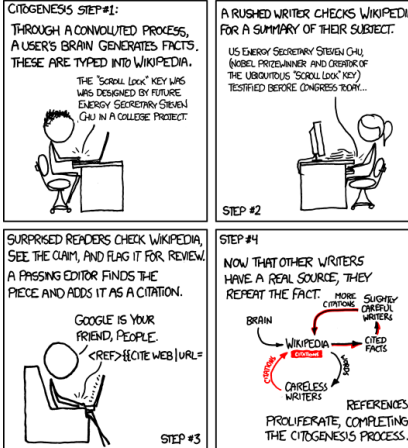
“Wikipedia is a great place to start researching and the worst place to stop”

- Use as starting point
- Not for deep research
- Not a primary source
- When to use?
 - First conceptualisation
 - Concept clarification
- No peer review
 - Read critically
- Look at the references
 - Use the source, Luke



👉 xkcd: Wikipedian Protester

WHERE CITATIONS COME FROM:



📖 xkcd: citogenesis

WHERE CITATIONS COME FROM:

CITOGENESIS STEP #1:

THROUGH A CONVOLUTED PROCESS,
A USER'S BRAIN GENERATES FACTS.
THESE ARE TYPED INTO WIKIPEDIA.

THE "SCROLL LOCK" KEY WAS
DESIGNED BY FUTURE
ENERGY SECRETARY STEVEN
CHU IN A COLLEGE PROJECT.



A RUSHED WRITER CHECKS WIKIPEDIA
FOR A SUMMARY OF THEIR SUBJECT.

US ENERGY SECRETARY STEVEN CHU,
(NOBEL PRIZEWINNER AND CREATOR OF
THE UBIGUITOUS "SCROLL LOCK" KEY)
TESTIFIED BEFORE CONGRESS TODAY...



STEP #2

SURPRISED READERS CHECK WIKIPEDIA,
SEE THE CLAIM, AND FLAG IT FOR REVIEW.
A PASSING EDITOR FINDS THE
PIECE AND ADDS IT AS A CITATION.

GOOGLE IS YOUR
FRIEND, PEOPLE.

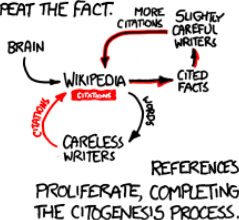
<REF>{{CITE WEB|URL=




STEP #3

STEP #4

NOW THAT OTHER WRITERS
HAVE A REAL SOURCE, THEY
REPEAT THE FACT.




Search Engines

- Google – known and loved by everyone
- Specialized version for academic literature: Google Scholar
 -  scholar.google.com
 - Search for literature
 - With ranking (where published? cited how often?)
 - Links to sources for full texts
 - Author profiles
 - Includes lot of older “grey” literature like technical reports and makes them accessible

Google Scholar

☒ Articles ☐ Case law

 Stand on the shoulders of giants




Informatics Libraries: Publishers I

Approach

Search &
Acquire


Read

Manage


- Starting point Hildesheimer Katalog (HILKAT)
 -  hilkat.uni-hildesheim.de
- ACM Digital Library
 -  dl.acm.org
 - Full texts of all ACM Publications
 - Additional information, e.g. citations (BibTex, EndNote, ACMRef)
- Springer LINK Online Library in Computer Science
 -  link.springer.com
 - Over 100 journals in informatics
 - Contains LNCS (Lecture Notes in Computer Science) and sub-series (such as LNAI)

Informatics Libraries: Publishers II


■ IEEE Digital Library

-  www.computer.org/csdl
- all IEEE publications
- Additional information (citations, e.g. EndNote)

■ Wiley Online Library

-  onlinelibrary.wiley.com
- Life sciences, medicine, social sciences & humanities
- Additional information (citations)

■ De Gruyter

-  degruyter.com
- Informatics, engineering, computational linguistics
- Best supported by Unibibliothek

■ Elsevier

-  sciencedirect.com
- Informatics, computational linguistics, medicine

Approach

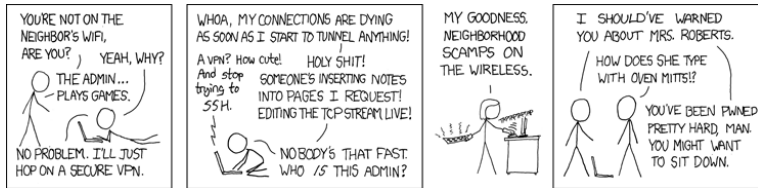
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Note: VPN


- For those digital libraries where the university has access to full texts, access is restricted to the IP-range of the university
- To use them from outside, you need to use 🖱️ VPN
 - Make sure to configure that traffic to **all** IP addresses is routed via the university
 - You may have to start a new browser session




🖱️ xkcd: 1337 part 1

Informatics Libraries: Independent I

■ DBLP Computer Science

-  dblp.uni-trier.de/db
- Uni Trier and Schloß Dagstuhl, Content CC0 (sic!)
- More than 5800 conference and workshop series, more than 1600 journals in computer science
- Almost 5 Mio publications with more than 2 million authors
 - Many links to author home pages
- List of conferences and journals including tables of content

■ The Collection of Computer Science Bibliographies

-  liinwww.ira.uka.de/bibliography/
- Karlsruhe Institute of Technology
- More than 7 million references (2,3 GB BibTeX-entries)
- More than 1 million of references contain URLs to online versions of articles
- Comprised of several bibliographies, manually supported
- Mostly journal articles, conference papers, technical reports
- Partially includes full texts

Approach

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Informatics Libraries: Independent II


Approach

Search &
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■ Semantic Scholar

-  semanticscholar.org
- Allen Institute for Artificial Intelligence
- Almost 180 million scientific papers from sources like PubMed, Nature, and ArXiv
- AI analyzes research papers and pulls out authors, references, figures, and topics
- Partially includes full texts


■ Citeseer X

-  citeseerx.ist.psu.edu
- PennState University
- Scientific literature digital library and search engine
- Automated harvesting and processing of articles
 - author data
 - citation data
 - related documents
- Partially includes full texts


■ ORCID

-  orcid.org
- Nonprofit organisation
- Goal: “all who participate in research, scholarship and innovation are uniquely identified and connected to their contributions and affiliations, across disciplines, borders, and time”
- Researchers can get a unique ID and curate their bibliographies
- Links to other tools like DBLP, Scopus, ReasearcherID


■ ResearcherID

-  researcherid.com
- Clarivate Analytics (ex Thomson Reuters)
- Each member is assigned a unique identifier
- Self-curation of bibliographies
- Integrates with Web of Science


■ CrossRef



-  crossref.org
- Publishers International Linking Association
- Interlinks millions of items from a variety of content types, including journals, books, conference proceedings, working papers, technical reports, and data sets
- Official Digital Object Identifier (DOI) Registration Agency

■ Web of Science

-  webofknowledge.com
- Clarivate Analytics (ex Thomson Reuters)
- Comprehensive citation search

■ Scopus

-  scopus.com
- Elsevier
- Comprehensive citation search & ranking

- Open Access: free (as in beer) access to full texts
- www.open-access.net
- Open Access Journals sometimes called “Golden Road”
 - New economic model: author/institutions pays for publication, not access
 - Directory of Open Access Journals (DOAJ)
 -  www.doaj.org
- Self-archiving, often called “Green Road”
 - e.g. on institutional document servers
 - Sometimes includes peer-reviewing (Preprints, Postprints)
 - arXiv.org (Cornell University)
 -  arxiv.org

Self-archiving on specialized social networks

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The screenshot shows a web browser window displaying the ResearchGate profile of Babak A. Farshchian. The profile includes a list of publications, a 'Following' section with 167 members, a 'Followers' section with 94 members, and a 'Followed research items' section with 99 items. The publications listed are:

- Article: The role of ICT in addressing the challenges of age-related falls: A research agenda based on a systematic mapping of the literature**
Babak A. Farshchian · Yngve Dahl
Full-text available · Article · Jun 2015 · Personal and Ubiquitous Computing
33 Reads, 0 Citations
- Article: Stakeholder Attitudes Toward and Values Embedded in a Sensor-Enhanced Personal Emergency Response System**
Yngve Dahl · Babak Farshchian · Thomas Vilarinho · [...] · Per Bendik Wik
Article · Oct 2015 · Interacting with Computers
23 Reads, 1 Citation
- Conference Paper: A Combined Smartphone and Smartwatch Fall Detection System**
Thomas Vilarinho · Babak Farshchian · Daniel Gloppstad Bajer · [...] · Sam Mathias Weggersen
Full-text available · Conference Paper · Oct 2015
178 Reads, 1 Citation

The right sidebar shows a 'Following' section with 167 members, a 'Followers' section with 94 members, and a 'Followed research items' section with 99 items. The 'Followed research items' section includes:

- Article: Patient empowerment, patient participation and patient-centeredness in hospital care: A concept anal...
- Conference Paper: Wellbeing and HCI in later life – what matters?
- Article: Involvement of older people in the development of fall detection systems: A scoping review

ResearchGate, Academia

Illegal Sources

Approach

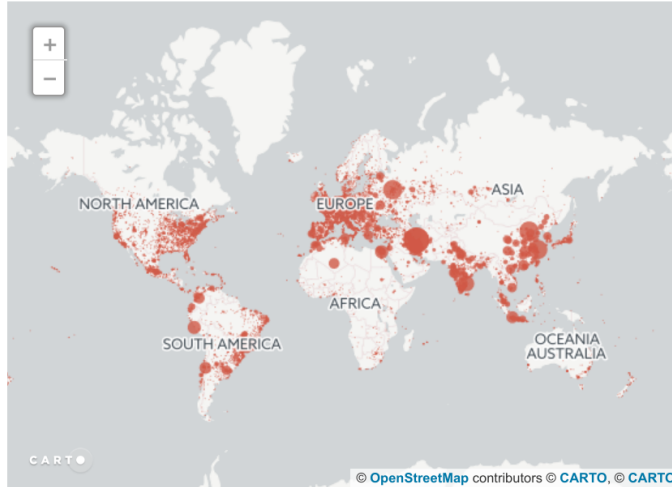
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They do exist.

Illegal Sources



👉 Who's downloading pirated papers? Everyone. Science Magazine, 2016.

Illegal Sources

Approach

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Taylor R. Genovese @trgenovese · Oct 23

I have some bad news for you. WILEY's CEO makes \$4 million. Elsevier's CEO? £10.5 million. Or \$13.8 million.

[telegraph.co.uk/business/2016/...](https://www.telegraph.co.uk/business/2016/10/23/wiley-ceo-salary-4-million-elsevier-ceo-10-5-million-or-13-8-million/)

M. Zeppel @MelanieZeppel

Is this true? Does the #elsevier CEO really make \$4 mill p.a. ? While we write/review for free for them? Huh! @ElsevierNews
[twitter.com/trgenovese/sta...](https://twitter.com/trgenovese/status/811111111111111111)



Jörg Cassens @cassens · Oct 23

As a reference for the numbers: www1.salary.com/Mark-J-Allin-S...



Taylor R. Genovese @trgenovese

As long as the CEO of Wiley is making \$4,017,769/year off of academics work, I'll be posting anything I publish wherever the hell I please.

👉 Taylor R. Genovese, 👉 Melanie Zeppel, 👉 Jörg Cassens

Outline

Approach

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1 Approach

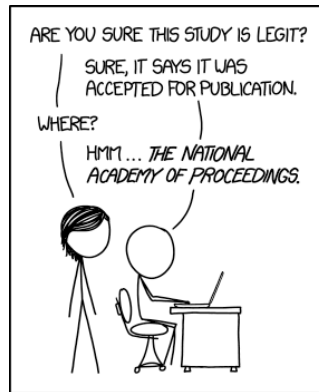
2 Search & Acquire

3 Read

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General Structure

- Title
- Abstract
- Introduction
- Methods
 - Analysis
 - Design
 - Implementation
- Results
 - Evaluation
- Discussion/Conclusions
 - Further Works
- Acknowledgements
- References



IF SOMETHING IS FORMATTED LIKE A SERIOUS SCIENTIFIC PAPER, IT CAN TAKE ME A WHILE TO REALIZE IT ISN'T ONE.

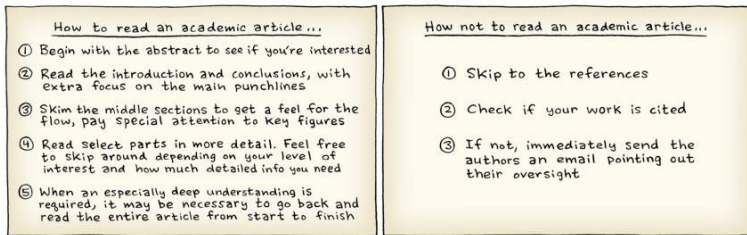
👉 xkcd: dubious study

Skim & Read

■ Do not read from start to finish

- 1 Abstract
- 2 Conclusions
- 3 Introduction
- 4 “the rest”

■ Whether you continue with the conclusions or the introduction depends on your familiarity with the topics...and on the length of the sections



calamitiesofnature.com © 2012 Tony Piro

☞ Calamities of Nature



How to read an academic article...

- ① Begin with the abstract to see if you're interested
- ② Read the introduction and conclusions, with extra focus on the main punchlines
- ③ Skim the middle sections to get a feel for the flow, pay special attention to key figures
- ④ Read select parts in more detail. Feel free to skip around depending on your level of interest and how much detailed info you need
- ⑤ When an especially deep understanding is required, it may be necessary to go back and read the entire article from start to finish

How not to read an academic article...

- ① Skip to the references
- ② Check if your work is cited
- ③ If not, immediately send the authors an email pointing out their oversight

Skim, Re-Read, Examine, Summarize

- Another approach championed by Natalia Rodriguez
- Four steps
 - Skim
 - Read for “big picture”
 - Re-read
 - Examine graphs, tables, figures
 - Interpret the data yourself
 - Examine
 - What problems are addressed?
 - Why is it important?
 - Is the method good?
 - Summarize
 - Write a summary of key point in own words
-  Elsevier Connect,  research4life.org

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Three Pass Reading

Approach

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■ Read the Paper in three passes

1 Quick scan to get a bird's-eye view of the paper to be able to answer the five C:

- 1 Category: What type of paper is this?
- 2 Context: Which other papers is it related to?
- 3 Correctness: Do the assumptions appear to be valid?
- 4 Contributions: What are the main contributions?
- 5 Clarity: Is the paper well written?

2 Read the paper with greater care, but ignore details such as proofs

- Afterwards, you be able to summarize the main thrust of the paper, with supporting evidence, to someone else

3 Attempt to virtually re-implement the paper

- Making the same assumptions as the authors, try to re-create the work

■ 📖 S. Keshav: How to Read a Paper

What to Look For

Approach

Search &
Acquire

Read

Manage

- Five elements to look out for:
 - 1 A significant question or claim
 - 2 A position in the academic debate
 - 3 An explanation of the research method or approach
 - 4 A presentation of the findings and argument
 - 5 A statement of the implications and contributions of the research study
- You should also aim to place a journal article within the broader academic debate
- 📖 Nicholas Carah and Eric Louw: Guide to reading journal articles

RV Subramanyam

“The reader should begin by reading the title, abstract and conclusions first. If a decision is made to read the entire article, the key elements of the article can be perused in a systematic manner effectively and efficiently. A cogent and organized method is presented to read articles published in scientific journals.”

Subramanyam R V. Art of reading a journal article: Methodically and effectively. *J Oral Maxillofac Pathol [serial online]* 2013; 17:65-70. Available from: <http://www.jomfp.in/text.asp?2013/17/1/65/110733>

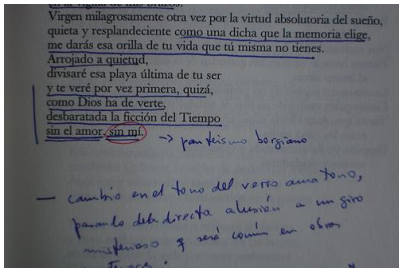
Notes & Annotations

■ Annotations

- The paper advantage
- Notes, marks, scribbles, Post-Its are sign of active, creative examination of the content

■ Notes

- Never read a text without pen & paper



cc by-nc Manuel Sanfuentes



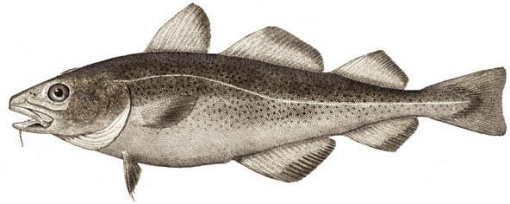
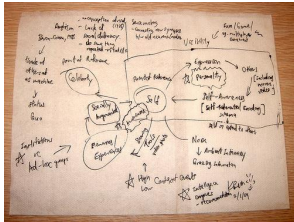
cc by Kristian D.

- Reproducing parts of a text
- Paraphrased or word-by-word
- WordNet synonyms: excerpt, excerption, extract, selection

- 1 Orientation
 - Get a grip of the structure of the text
- 2 Excerpt
 - Work with the text – “what is the contribution of this part of the text?” and “what are the main points made?”
- 3 Compact
 - Summarize the texts and the excerpts

Visualisation & Focus

- Visualisation
 - Mindmaps, Concept Maps, ...
- Individual preferences
- Focus
 - You start with a limited amount of literature
 - You widen the search
 - But need to come back to your topic in the end



cc by-nc-sa Kevin Lim

cc 0

- There is no final and comprehensive key to judge and appraise a publication
- The “value” is always in the context
- A working paper without peer review can be very relevant for your own work when from a related area
- But most of you will not find the following article useful, even although published in a prestigious journal:
 - Bin Zou, Luoqing Li, and Zongben Xu: The generalization performance of ERM algorithm with strongly mixing observations. In: Machine Learning, Volume 75, Number 3/June, 2009.
- Citations and ranking might provide a clue, though

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Why Manage Literature?

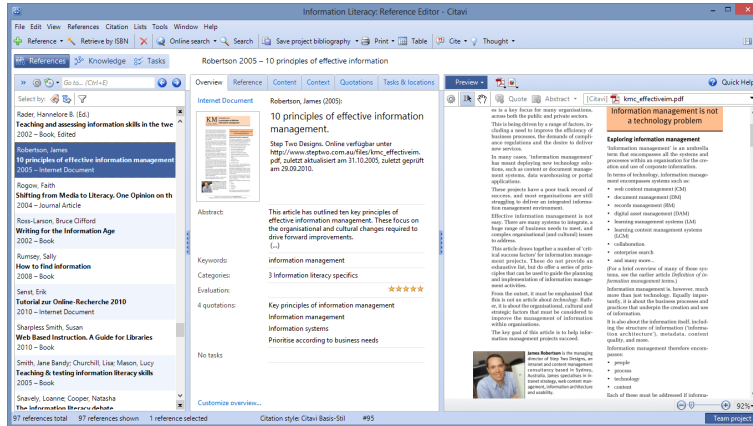
Approach

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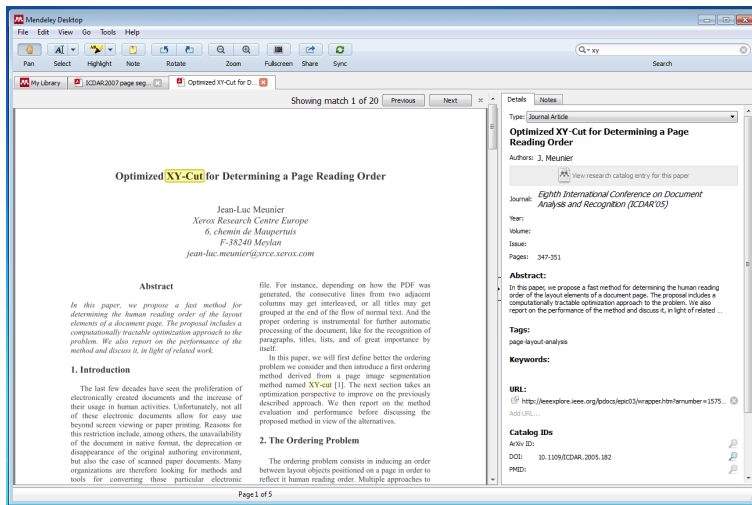
Manage

- Write everything down from the start
 - what do you read?
 - what do you need to read?
 - what do you want to read?
- Make short notes & comments on what you read
- Make use of tools for literature management
 - Collecting references
 - Notebook and bookmarks
 - For the list of references
- Again: no “Silver Bullet”, different requirements



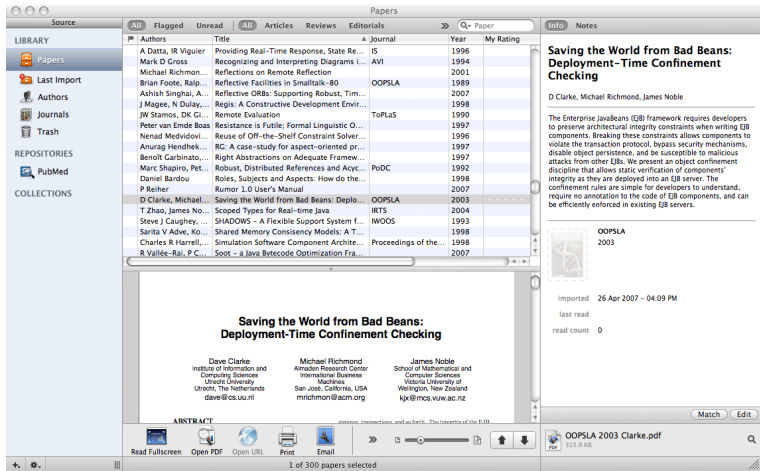
Source  citavi.com

- Commercial desktop software for Windows
- Campus license  www.citavi.com/uni-hildesheim
- Manual or automatic import (ISBN, DOI), Citavi retrieves the bibliographic information
- “Citavi Pickers” for Internet Explorer, Firefox, Chrome, and Adobe Reader and Adobe Acrobat
- Find full text and use PDF in preview
 - Annotate, search
- Export to Word processors via RTF or use Microsoft Word plugin
- Works with LaTeX editors



Source  mendeley.com

- Commercial, free to use (Freemium)
- Owned by Elsevier
- Notes and Annotations for papers
- PDF preview
- Web, mobile (Android, iOS) or desktop (Windows, Linux, Mac)
- Plugins for Chrome, Firefox to add content from Web
- Citations and bibliographies in Microsoft Word, OpenOffice.org, and LibreOffice
- BibTeX export/file synchronisation
- Uses XMP Metadata in PDF
- Integrates with ORCID and others



The screenshot shows the Zotero application window. On the left is a sidebar with a 'LIBRARY' section containing 'Papers', 'Last Import', 'Authors', 'Journals', and 'Trash'. Below this are 'REPOSITORIES' (PubMed) and 'COLLECTIONS'. The main pane displays a list of papers with columns for Authors, Title, Journal, Year, and My Rating. The selected paper is 'Saving the World from Bad Beans: Deployment-Time Confinement Checking' by D. Clarke, Michael Richmond, and James Noble, published in OOPSLA 2003. The right pane shows the paper's details, including a description of the Enterprise JavaBeans (EJB) framework and a download link for 'OOPSLA 2003 Clarke.pdf'. The bottom status bar indicates '1 of 300 papers selected'.

Authors	Title	Journal	Year	My Rating
A Datta, IR Viguer	Providing Real-Time Response, State Re...	IS	1996	
Mark D Gross	Recognizing and Interpreting Diagrams ...	AVI	1994	
Michael Richmon...	Reflections on Remote Reflection		2001	
Brian Foote, Ralph...	Reflective Facilities in Smalltalk-80	OOPSLA	1989	
Ashish Singhal, A...	Reflective ORBs: Supporting Robust, Tim...		2007	
J Magee, N Dulay...	Regis: A Constructive Development Envir...		1998	
JW Stamos, DK Gl...	Remote Evaluation	ToPLAS	1990	
Peter van Emde Boas	Resistance is Futile; Formal Linguistic O...		1997	
Nenad Medvidovi...	Reuse of Off-the-Shelf Constraint Solver...		1996	
Anurag Hendhek...	RG: A case-study for aspect-oriented pr...		1997	
Benoit Garbinato...	Right Abstractions on Adequate Framew...		1997	
Marc Shapiro, Pet...	Robust, Distributed References and Acyc...	PoDC	1992	
Daniel Bardou	Roles, Subjects and Aspects: How do the...		1998	
P Reiher	Rumor 1.0 User's Manual		2007	
D Clarke, Michael...	Saving the World from Bad Beans: Deplo...	OOPSLA	2003	
T Zhao, James No...	Scoped Types for Real-time Java	IRTS	2004	
Steve J Caughey, ...	SHADOWS - A Flexible Support System f...	IWOOS	1993	
Sarita V Adve, Ko...	Shared Memory Consistency Models: A T...		1998	
Charles R Harrell...	Simulation Software Component Archite...	Proceedings of the...	1998	
R Vallée-Rai, P C...	Soot - a Java Bytecode Optimization Fra...		2007	

Saving the World from Bad Beans: Deployment-Time Confinement Checking

Dave Clarke
Institute of Information and
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Michael Richmond
Almaden Research Center
International Business
Machines
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ABSTRACT
The Enterprise JavaBeans (EJB) framework requires developers to preserve architectural integrity constraints when writing EJB components. Breaking these constraints allows components to violate the transaction protocol, bypass security mechanisms, disable object persistence, and be susceptible to malicious attacks from other EJBs. We present an object confinement discipline that allows static verification of components' integrity as they are deployed into an EJB server. The confinement rules are simple for developers to understand, require no annotation to the code of EJB components, and can be efficiently enforced in existing EJB servers.

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