Web of Science - Scopus

Searching the databases

Main research indicators

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Contents

Designing the search strategy

a) Keywords

b) Boolean operators

c) Exact phrase

d) Truncation

e) Filters or limits

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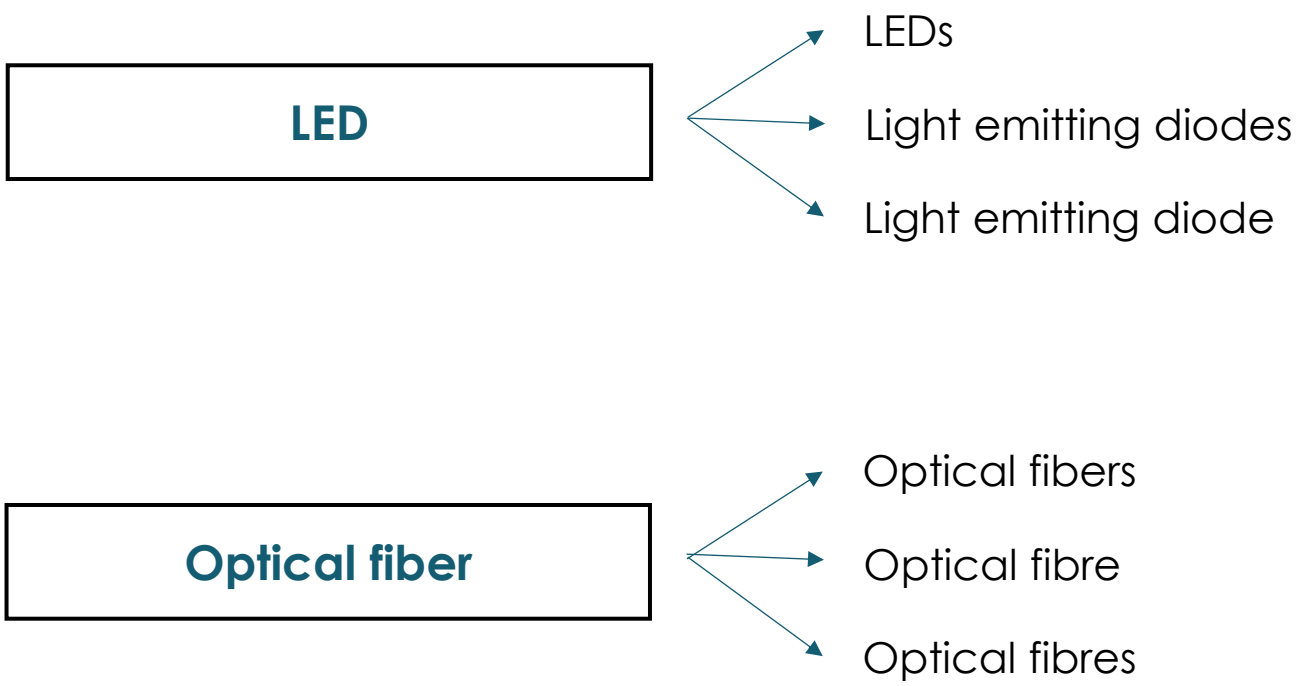
b) Keywords

Concepts that **better express** what you are looking for

Keep in mind:

- ✓ Abbreviations and acronyms
- ✓ Synonyms
- ✓ Related concepts

Image: sarang / Wikipedia / Public domain



In order to look for synonyms and variations of the keywords, you have to search in general and specialized dictionaries, but also there is a very useful tool:

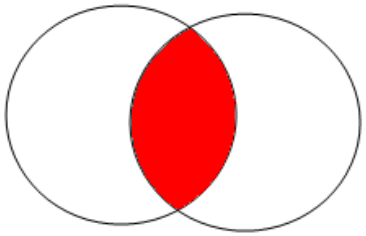
Library of Congress Subject Headings - http://id.loc.gov/authorities/subjects.html

a) Boolean operators

AND

It retrieves results where **ALL** search terms are present in the same record

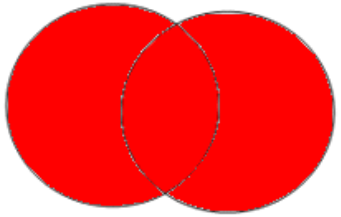
LED AND Optical fiber



OR

It retrieves results that includes **AT LEAST ONE** of the search terms in the resulting records

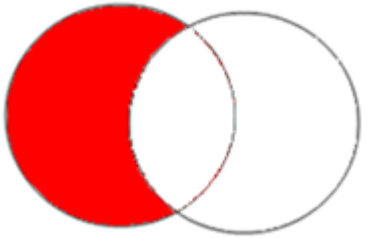
LEDs OR Light emitting diodes



NOT

It **EXCLUDES** the retrieval of terms from your search

Electroluminescent devices NOT LEDs

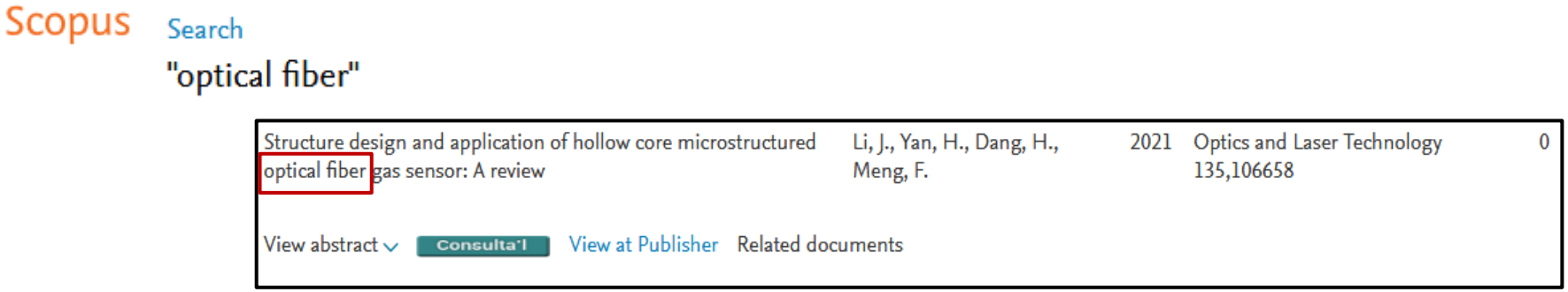


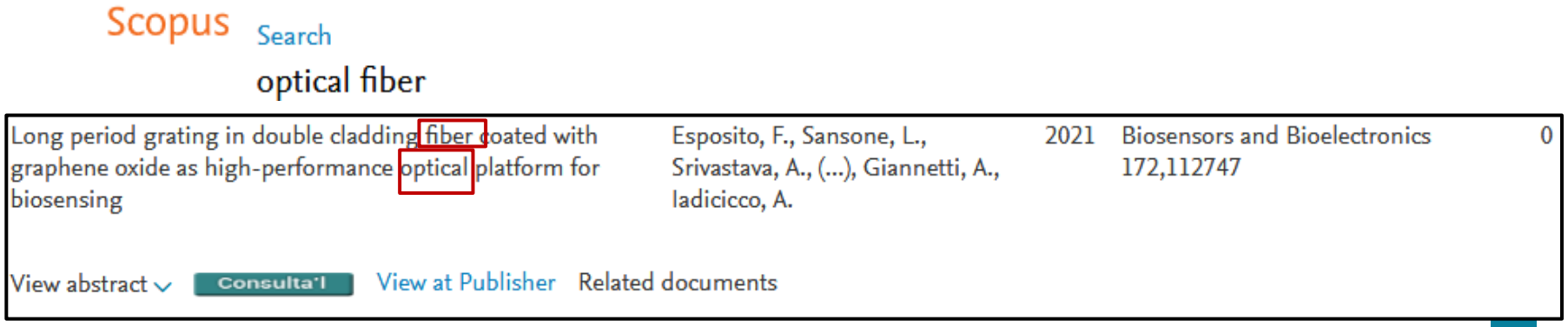
c) Exact phrase

“ “ (quotations)

It retrieves only records with the **SAME WORDS IN THE SAME ORDER**

“Optical fiber”





d) Truncation

*

It is used to search for all terms that begin with a word: truncation broadens your search to include different word endings (singular and plural… all kind of suffixes).

The most common symbol used in truncations is the asterisk

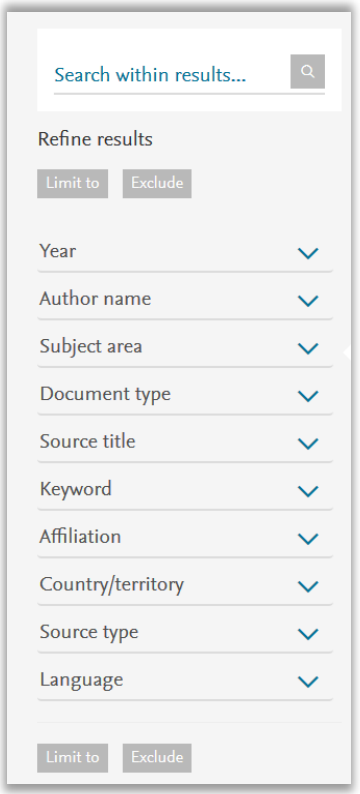
Transm*

Transmission
Transmissions
Transmit
Transmitting
Transmitted
.
.
.
Transmembrane

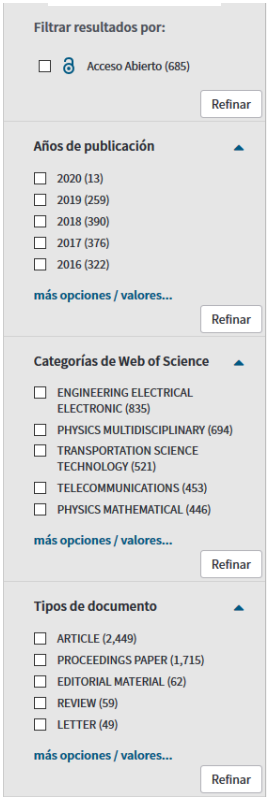
e) Filters or limits

All databases include tools to refine and filter the search results (by year, subject area, document type, etc.)

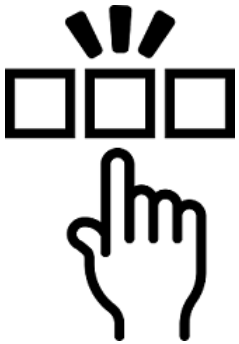
Scopus



WEB OF SCIENCE



Searching within databases



a) Web of Science (WoS)

b) Scopus

Clarivate
Web of Science™

Web of Science platform

Image: https://clarivate.com/webofsciencegroup/support/wos/

Web of Science Core Collection

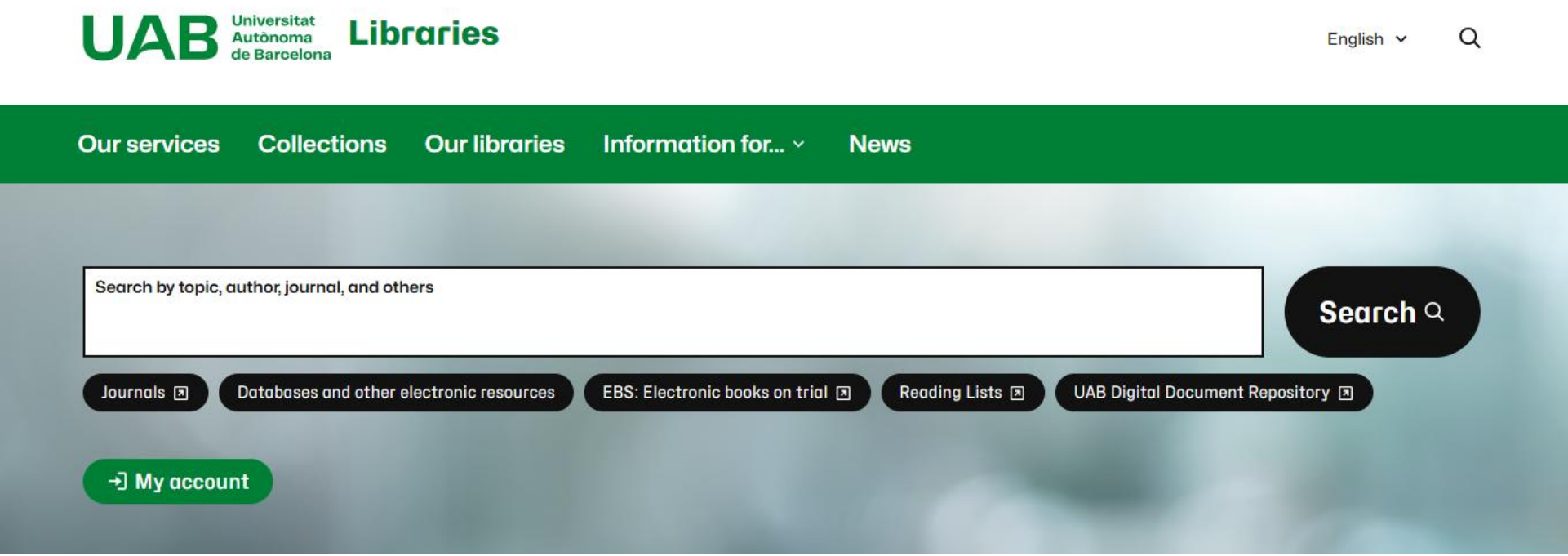
-**2.4** bilion references from 1900
- **22.171** journal titles, books or proceedings
-More than **97** milions records

November 2025

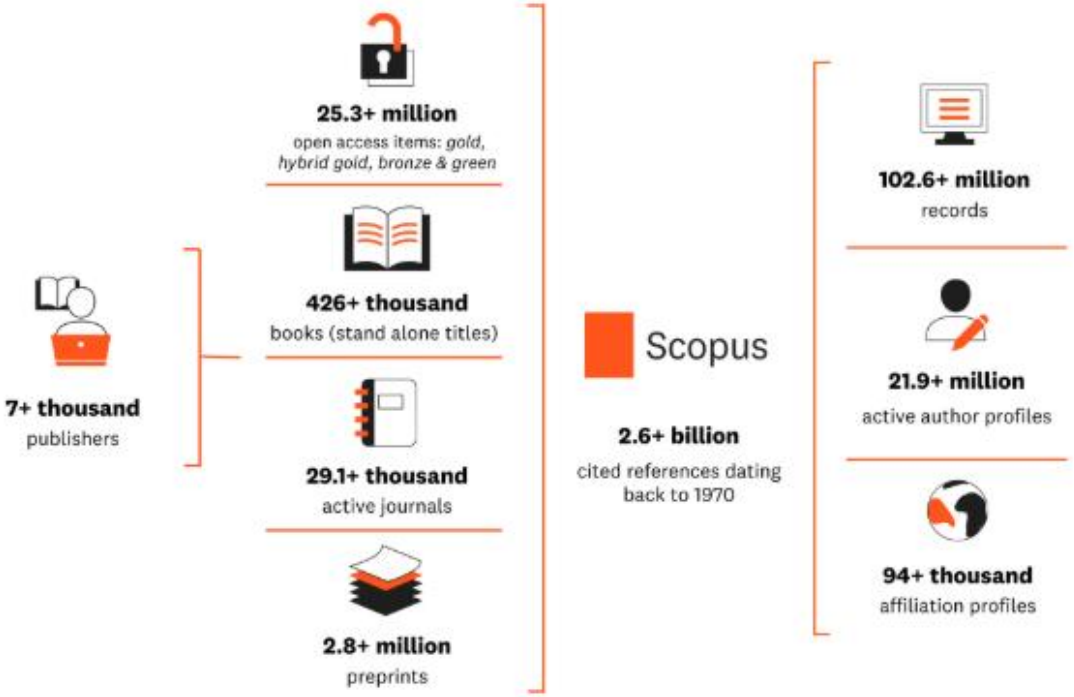
WEB OF SCIENCE CORE COLLECTION COVERAGE:

- **Science Citation Index Expanded™ — from 1900 to present**
  Fully indexes over 14,900 major journals across 150 disciplines
- **Social Sciences Citation Index® — from 1900 to present**
  Fully indexes over 4,900 journals across 55 social science disciplines, as well as selected items from over 14,920 of the world's leading scientific and technical journals
- **Arts & Humanities Citation Index® — from 1975 to present**
  Fully indexes over 2,500 arts and humanities journals, as well as selected items from over 18,800 scientific and social sciences journals
- **Conference Proceedings Citation Index™ — from 1990 to present**
  Fully indexes over 160,000 journal and book-based proceedings in science and social sciences and humanities, across 256 disciplines
- **Book Citation Index[SM] — from 2005 to present**
  Indexes over 60,000 editorially selected books in the sciences, social sciences and humanities, with 10,000 new books added each year

http://www.uab.cat/en/libraries



Scopus®



Numbers shown are rounded and current as of July 2025. Scopus is updated daily.

Image: https://www.elsevier.com/solutions/scopus/how-scopus-works/content

Main research indicators

Authors

H Index and citations

Journals

Impact Factor

CiteScore

Image: janexx / OpenClipart / Public domain

Impact Factor (IF)

Where?:

✓ *Journal Citation Reports* (Web of Science)

How?

✓ IF of a journal is calculated:

$$\textbf{2024 IF} = \frac{\text{Number of citations in 2024 to articles published by that journal in 2022 and 2023}}{\text{Total articles published by that journal in 2022 and 2023}}$$

Journal Citation Indicator (JCI)

Where?:

✓ *Journal Citation Reports* (Web of Science)

How?

✓ JCI Calculation:

The citations received during the 4 years prior to the year for which we want to obtain the indicator, the articles and reviews published in a journal during the previous 3 years are collected. Once this information is available, the citations received are related to those expected according to the same type of document, year and category, and the standardized impact for these three years of publication is calculated. The average for these three years will be the Journal Citation Indicator of the year.

CiteScore

Where?:

✓ *Sources (Scopus)*

How?

✓ CiteScore of a journal is calculated:

$$\text{2024 CiteScore} = \frac{\text{Number of citations in 2024 to articles published by that journal from 2021 to 2024}}{\text{Total articles published by that journal from 2021 to 2024}}$$

H index and citations

Where?:

✓ *Author search* } Scopus
Web of Science Core Collection

How?

✓ Citation count: how many times an author has been cited by other authors

✓ H-index: an author has index *H* if *h* of his or her N_p papers have at least *h* citations each and the other (N_p – *h*) papers have ≤*h* citations each.

*If a researcher has an **H-index = 9**, it means that 9 of their articles have received **at least** 9 citations each. This would mean that the tenth article and the following ones must have received less than 9 citations.*

Exercises

Please answer the questions regarding the Impact Factor, CiteScore and H Index.

Exercise 1

Impact Factor

Exercise 2

CiteScore

Exercise 3

H Index

Thank you!

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