

Emerald Abstracts - Computer and Civil Engineering Databases

Emerald Abstracts lets you search two databases: International Civil Engineering Abstracts and the Computer Abstracts International Database. Use these databases to find details about articles on these subjects.

Getting started

Open an Internet browser, type **www.emeraldinsight.com** in the location box and press enter. Select **Abstracts** from the "Access our products" menu at the top right corner to access the databases.

Introduction

The Emerald Abstracts home page displays links to four databases. The library subscribes to International Civil Engineering Abstracts (coverage 1976-) and the Computer Abstracts International Database (coverage 1987-). Click on the database link relevant to your work.

The Quick Search screen

The first screen is the **Quick Search** screen. To the left is a box which tells you which search you are using and gives you a link to the **Advanced Search** screen. It also shows which database you are using and a link that takes you back to the menu page to **Change Database**.

The main part of the screen has a single search box in which you can type the words you want to find in article references. Beneath this search box is a list of **Fields to Search** with check boxes next to them. Use these options to make your search more specific. For example, if you are looking for articles by a specific author, click next to **Author(s)** and enter the surname and initials in the box; if you want certain words to be present in the title of an article, click next to **Article Title**

before typing in your words etc. Click **Go** to run your search.

If you are looking for an exact phrase, type the phrase into the search box and tick the **Phrase** box.

Tick the **Exact match** box if you know precisely what you are looking for: e.g. *computing* as exact match for journal title will only return articles from the journal named *Computing* and not from *Computing in science & engineering*, *Image and vision computing* etc.

To find words with more than one ending, type the keyword you want to use and then tick the **Truncation** box, e.g. *comput* will find *computers*, *computing*, *computational* etc.

The Advanced Search screen

The Advanced Search screen lets you combine words in different fields (use the drop down menus in the **Search Field** options to choose the fields you want). This allows you to create more complex searches.

For example, you can search for works that are both by a specific writer (**Author(s)** field) **and** in a specific publication (**Journal Title** field). You can also search for articles published in a specific year or range of years using the **Published between** boxes at the bottom of the screen.

Combining search words

When searching articles, you can combine your keywords using the Boolean operators **AND**, **OR**, **NOT**:

Find articles that match all of your terms by using the word **and**, e.g. *Internet and XML* will only match articles that contain both of those words.

To find articles that contain some of your words, use **or**, e.g. *Internet or network* will match articles that contain either word or both.

The operator **not** excludes certain words from your search results: e.g. *Internet not Intranet* will retrieve only articles that contain the word Internet but **not** the word Intranet.

Using results after searching

A numbered list of the titles of articles matching your search words will be displayed. View the abstract and follow links for full-text access options. Click **view as abstracts** to see the abstracts of all the results.

As you use the database, a list of all the searches you have performed will display on the bottom of the search screen - click on the number to the left of a search to review its results. Click **clear history** to get rid of previous searches.

When you find a reference to an article you want to read, you can mark the reference and either display and then save it or email it to yourself.

Finding the articles

Once you have a list of articles you want to read, use the Voyager catalogue (<http://library.cardiff.ac.uk>) to see if we subscribe to the journal in print or electronic form. If you are only interested in electronic articles you can also check our Electronic Journals page (<http://ejournals.cardiff.ac.uk>). Remember to search for the title of the journal which published the article, **not** the title of the article itself.

If we do not subscribe to the journal that contains the article, we may be able to obtain it for you via Inter-library loan. Please ask in your library for details.

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