



Episode 3: You want to do a search but don't know where to start?

The easiest way to search is in **Primo Central**, a very large article database containing hundreds of millions of references to scientific articles. Primo Central is already pre-selected on findit.lu, so all you need to do is enter your keywords in the search field and click on “Go”.

Note: Primo Central is not available as a standalone database like the others, it can only be searched from findit.lu.

Start here for searching Primo Central: findit.lu

Other good starting points for a search are the large scientific databases like Web of Knowledge/Web of Science, Scopus, Google Scholar, OLC or EbscoHost. Consulting these databases will give you an overview of the available articles for your query.

Web of Knowledge (also known as **Web of Science**): Web of Knowledge is an online academic citation index: It is designed for cross-disciplinary research and in-depth exploration of specialized subfields within an academic or scientific discipline. As a citation index, any cited paper will lead to any other literature (book, academic journal, proceedings, etc.) which currently, or in the past, cites this work.

Web of Science has indexing coverage from the year 1900 to the present.

<http://apps.webofknowledge.com.proxy.bnl.lu/>

Scopus: Scopus, officially named “SciVerse Scopus”, is a bibliographic database containing abstracts and citations for academic journal articles. It covers nearly 19,500 titles from over 5,000 international publishers, of which 16,500 are peer-reviewed journals in the scientific, technical, medical, and social sciences (including arts and humanities).

<http://www-scopus-com.proxy.bnl.lu/home.url>

GoogleScholar: Google Scholar is a freely accessible web search engine that indexes the full text of scholarly literature across an array of publishing formats and disciplines . The Google Scholar index includes most peer-reviewed online journals of Europe and America’s largest scholarly publishers, plus scholarly books and other non-peer reviewed journals. Additionally, you will find a lot of open access publications Google Scholar is as easy to use as the regular Google web search.

Try it at scholar.google.com

Important: To get the most out of Google Scholar, edit your personal settings to display direct links from Google Scholar to articles from findit.lu in [Episode 6](#).

OLC: “Online Contents” is an article database containing over 20 million references. It is produced by Swets and enriched daily by German libraries specializing in one subject (Sonder-Sammel-Gebiete. SSG). You can search all of OLC – Online Contents or search one of the special subject areas.

Search in the whole [OLC database](#) or choose one of the [sub-bases](#).

EbscoHost: Ebscohost is a collection of databases, including the flagship “Academic Search Premier” database, a scholarly, multidisciplinary full-text database which provides indexes and abstracts for more than 8.500 journals, with full text for more than 4.600 of those titles but sometimes with access embargos that make the last 6 or 12 months unaccessible. About 20 other databases are also available through the EbscoHost platform.

See what [Ebsco has to offer](#).

PubMed: PubMed comprises over 22 million citations for biomedical literature from MEDLINE, life science journals, and online books. PubMed citations and abstracts include the fields of biomedicine and health, covering portions of the life sciences, behavioral sciences, chemical sciences, and bioengineering. PubMed also provides access to additional relevant web sites and links to the other NCBI molecular biology resources.

Learn how to edit your personal settings to get easy access to articles found in PubMed via findit.lu in [Episode 6](#).

Find out how to get access to these or other databases via findit.lu in our next episode – [Episode 4 “Finding a database \(alphabetical list or by name\)”](#).

List of all Episodes: <http://blog.findit.lu/help>