

WHAT IS SCIEDIRECT?

ScienceDirect offers more than a quarter of the world’s scientific, medical and technical information online, including peer-reviewed journals with fulltext published by Elsevier.

HOW DO I ACCESS SCIEDIRECT?

Access from the UNSW Library home page info.library.unsw.edu.au via

- Databases & e-Journals (Sirius) or
- Catalogue (LRD) or
- Science related Subject Guides

(Note: click on ScienceDirect, NOT ScienceDirect via SCIRUS)

SEARCH TIPS

1. USE A PERSONALISED ACCOUNT

This is free and it is very useful!

- Allows you to use the powerful tools in Science Direct which enable you to save your searches, set up alerts and search feeds, and edit your searches using the search history. (See PERSONALIZATION)

2. TRUNCATION

Use wildcard characters and truncation to expand your search. E.g.

- behavio*r will find behavior and behaviour
- myopi* will find myopia, myopic, myopie, myopian, myopically
- transplant?? will find transplanted or transplanter, but will not find transplantation

3. SEARCH LEVEL

- Use *Quick* to locate a known article with citation details
- Use *Advanced* for a topical search or search with a **plan**. Using a plan is highly recommended in most searching
- Use *Expert* to create more complicated searches using Boolean syntax, proximity operators, and wildcards. For experienced users

4. ONLINE HELP

- Click **Help** for help information in context

PERSONALIZATION

- Many features available in ScienceDirect are based on your personal preferences and require a one-time registration and a per-session login. Once registered and logged in you will be able to access your **search history** and **saved searches**, **create favourite** journal lists, set up email **alerts** and **RSS** search feeds
- At the top of most pages within ScienceDirect you’ll see the Register / Login box until you log in
- Click **My Settings** on the navigation bar to manage your account

SEARCH EXAMPLE

You need to find information about the use of lasers in the correction of shortsightedness on children.

PLANNING YOUR SEARCH

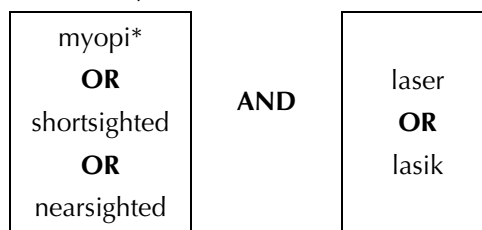
DEFINE THE KEY CONCEPTS

Consider your key concepts before you begin typing in the database search form. Choose search terms that are specific or closely related to your topic of interest. Avoid using terms that are too general. In this example the key concepts could be **laser** and **shortsighted**. (Note: “**children**” is a key concept, but we will tackle it in “Refining Your Search”.)

LIST ALTERNATIVE TERMS & TRUNCATION

Authors express a concept with various terms. E.g. shortsighted is also known as nearsighted, myopia & myopic. LASIK is commonly discussed in the laser correction of eyesight.

So, useful terms for your search could be:



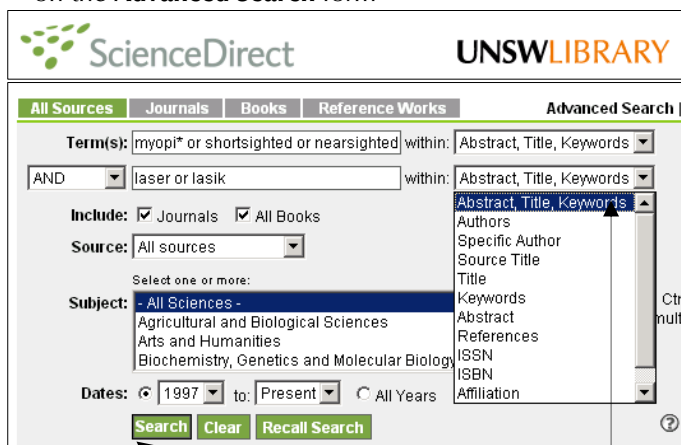
Adding the Boolean operators **AND** and **OR** to connect key concepts and alternative search terms allow you to create a “Search Plan” which you can apply in the advanced search of most databases. (Both the asterisk * and **OR** are used to broaden your search.)

SEARCHING WITH ADVANCED SEARCH

ScienceDirect’s ‘quick’ search engine is powerful like Google and is similarly easy to search, however make sure you are registered and logged in (See *Search Tips 1* above) to use the more powerful features of the advanced and expert searches.

Your search plan (See *Planning Your Search* above) can be used as one search,

- Click on the **Search** tab
- Transfer your search plan (i.e. myopi* **OR** shortsighted **OR** nearsighted **AND** laser **OR** lasik) to the search boxes on the **Advanced Search** form



Click **Search**

Field options are available

Click **Search** and you will see the results displayed on the next screen. Click on **“Sort by relevance”** to show more important results on top

COMBINING SEARCHES & VIEWING RESULTS

REFINING YOUR SEARCH BY COMBINING SEARCHES

Now, you may refine your search further to “children”. You can **conduct a separate search for “children”** i.e. repeat the search steps above but use **child*** as your term.

The results for all your searches are listed in the **Search History** which is visible only after you have logged in. (See *Search Tips 1* above).

The screenshot shows a search bar with the text 'Term(s): child*' and a dropdown menu for 'within:' set to 'Abstract, Title, Keywords'. Above the search bar are tabs for 'All Sources', 'Journals', 'Books', 'Reference Works', and 'Advanced Search'.

Then, combine this search with the previous using AND.

SEARCH HISTORY

- From the Search results page click on the **Edit Search** link on top (or click on the **Search** tab) to return to the **Advanced Search** form and scroll down to the bottom of the screen for **Search History**
- Combine searches by ‘ticking’ the two search sets and select: **Combine with And**

The screenshot shows the 'Search History' section with two search entries. Annotations include: 'Turn panel on/off & see other options on bar' pointing to the 'Turn Off' link; 'Combine searches with AND/OR' pointing to the 'Combine with And' button; 'Tick the boxes to select your searches' pointing to the checkboxes next to the search entries; and 'Go back to refine each search' pointing to the 'edit' links.

SEARCH RESULTS – THE ARTICLE LIST

- The Search results page lists 18 articles that meet your search criteria. (Notice your search is written in Boolean syntax)

The screenshot shows the search results page with the Boolean search query '(pub-date > 1996 and TITLE-ABSTR-KEY(child*) AND (pub-date > 1996 and TITLE-ABSTR-KEY(myopi (laser or lasik)))'. It includes options like 'Full-text available', 'Non-subscribed', and 'What does this mean?'. Below is an 'Article List' with two articles shown: 'Facilitation of amblyopia management by laser in situ keratomileusis in high anis...' and 'Clinical results of excimer laser photorefractive keratotomy for high m...'. Each article has a checkbox and links for 'SummaryPlus', 'Full Text + Links', and 'PDF'.

- Click either of the following links to see the full text of the article: **SummaryPlus** | **Full Text + Links** | **PDF**

- For the non-subscribed result click on **Abstract** and then click on the **SFX** button on the next page, (SFX provides alternative access to the fulltext of the article in the UNSW collection)

SAVING THE SEARCH

Most saving features request you to log in. (See *Search Tips 1* above). On the result display page, look for the following icons and the features they offer:

SAVING & RECALLING YOUR SEARCH

- Click the **Save Search** link
- The screen will refresh with a message “Your search was saved as...” giving you the date on which you saved the search and displaying the search written in Boolean syntax
- You can then recall this same search in the future from the search page after logging in

SAVING AS A SEARCH ALERT

- A Search Alert is a saved search that you can schedule to run daily, weekly, or monthly
- An email will be sent to you with a link into ScienceDirect to access these new articles
- Setting it up is easy. Click on **Save as Search Alert** and follow the instructions

SETTING UP AS A SEARCH FEED

- ScienceDirect RSS feeds allow you to see when new articles, citations or search results are available on ScienceDirect
- To use RSS feeds you will need an RSS reader
- To set it up click on **Search Feed** and follow the directions. If you have one of the recommended readers, click on the link and, enter your login to the reader site, and the RSS Feed availability for the search is listed for you to subscribe to

SAVING THE SELECTED RESULTS BY:

Emailing the citation list to yourself

- Citations from a document you have opened, or from one or more documents in a search results list can be emailed. The email message will contain the citation and a link to the document text
- Click on **Email Articles** and follow directions

Exporting the citation list to EndNote

Individual document citations or article lists can be exported to citation management programs, e.g. EndNote.

- From an open document: click on **Export Citation** and follow directions
- From a list: select the check box next to each document you want to export, then click on **Export Citations** and follow directions

For more detailed information about using databases, go to the Library’s How to Use...Guides:
<http://info.library.unsw.edu.au/skills/howto/howto.html>

For Science Direct Interactive Tutorials and user guides from Elsevier go to one of the following links:
<http://www.info.sciencedirect.com/using/>
<http://www.info.sciencedirect.com/using/display/>
<http://www.info.sciencedirect.com/using/personalization/>