

# Taxonomies in support of search

Taxonomy Boot Camp London

17 October 2018

Presented by

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Gale, A Cengage Company

## About Heather Hedden

- Controlled vocabulary editor at a library database vendor, Gale, a Cengage company, 1996 – 2004, 2014 – present
- Taxonomy consultant
- Author, *The Accidental Taxonomist* (Information Today, Inc.)
- Instructor, 5-week online course in taxonomy creation
- ISO and NISO index/controlling vocabulary working group member
- North American representative for BARTOC (Basel Register of Thesauri, Ontologies & Classifications)




# Outline

- Trends in taxonomy implementation and end-user display
  - Taxonomy for browsing
  - Taxonomy to be searched on
  - Facets and post-search refinements
- Options in searching on taxonomies
  - Different types of search on taxonomy
  - Displayed and nondisplayed taxonomy terms
  - Alternative labels / synonyms / nonpreferred terms
- Benefits of taxonomies over search alone

## Trends in taxonomy implementation and display

1. Originally, full taxonomy hierarchical browse or thesaurus alphabetical browse.  
Search was separate from browse and from taxonomies.
2. Full large taxonomies came to be displayed less.  
Search on taxonomy terms.
3. Search on more than just the taxonomy terms.  
Search on a combination of taxonomy terms and words in titles, texts, etc.  
(default keyword/basic search).
4. Faceted taxonomies – combining search and limited browsing.  
Especially with smaller taxonomies.
5. Large taxonomies/thesauri also integrated into faceted displays.  
Taxonomy terms as post-search filters.

# Trends: Full taxonomy browse

New User? Register | Sign In | Help Get new Yahoo! Mail apps  |  Mail | My Y! |  Yahoo!

**YAHOO! DIRECTORY**  Search Web

**Yahoo! Directory** [Advanced Search](#) [Suggest a Site](#)

<b>Arts &amp; Humanities</b> Photography, History, Literature...	<b>News &amp; Media</b> Newspapers, Radio, Weather, Blogs...
<b>Business &amp; Economy</b> B2B, Finance, Shopping, Jobs...	<b>Recreation &amp; Sports</b> Sports, Travel, Autos, Outdoors...
<b>Computer &amp; Internet</b> Hardware, Software, Web, Games...	<b>Reference</b> Phone Numbers, Dictionaries, Quotes...
<b>Education</b> Colleges, K-12, Distance Learning...	<b>Regional</b> Countries, Regions, U.S. States...
<b>Entertainment</b> Movies, TV Shows, Music, Humor...	<b>Science</b> Animals, Astronomy, Earth Science...
<b>Government</b> Elections, Military, Law, Taxes...	<b>Social Science</b> Languages, Archaeology, Psychology...
<b>Health</b> Disease, Drugs, Fitness, Nutrition...	<b>Society &amp; Culture</b> Sexuality, Religion, Food & Drink...
<b>New Additions</b> 4/13, 4/12, 4/11, 4/10, 4/9...	<b>Subscribe via RSS</b> Arts, Music, Sports, TV, more...

13 April 2013

# Trends: Full taxonomy browse



[Web](#) [Images](#) [Groups](#) [News](#) [Shopping](#) [Maps](#) [Scholar](#) [more »](#)  
  [Directory Help](#)

The web organized by topic into categories.

## Arts

[Music](#), [Movies](#), [Performing Arts](#), ...

## Business

[Industrial Goods and Services](#), [Finance](#), ...

## Computers

[Software](#), [Internet](#), [Programming](#), ...

## Games

[Video Games](#), [Roleplaying](#), [Board Games](#), ...

## Health

[Conditions and Diseases](#), [Medicine](#), [Animal](#), ...

## World

[Deutsch](#), [Español](#), [Français](#), [Italiano](#), [Japanese](#), [Korean](#), [Nederlands](#), [Polski](#), [Svenska](#), ...

## Home

[Cooking](#), [Family](#), [Gardening](#), ...

## Kids and Teens

[International](#), [School Time](#), [Games](#), ...

## News

[Newspapers](#), [Media](#), [Colleges and Universities](#), ...

## Recreation

[Pets](#), [Outdoors](#), [Food](#), ...

## Reference

[Education](#), [Biography](#), [Museums](#), ...

## Regional

[North America](#), [Europe](#), [Oceania](#), ...

## Science

[Biology](#), [Social Sciences](#), [Technology](#), ...

## Shopping

[Home and Garden](#), [Crafts](#), [Sports](#), ...

## Society

[Religion and Spirituality](#), [Law](#), [Issues](#), ...

## Sports

[Soccer](#), [Equestrian](#), [Football](#), ...

19 July 2011



# Trends: Full taxonomy browse

## USA TODAY Content Tree

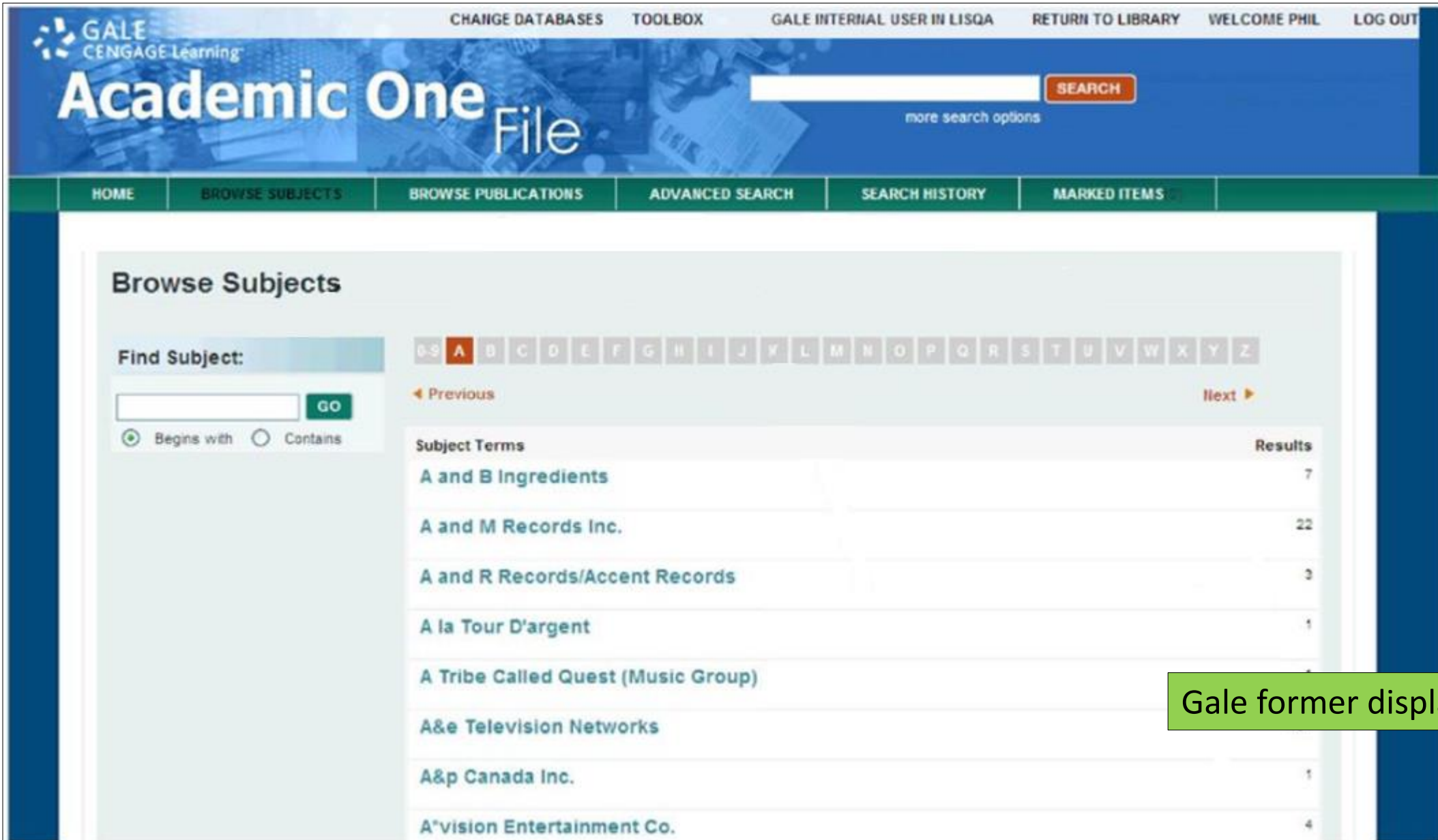
The following topic tree represents the entire USA TODAY story collection going back as far as late 2003. We've presented these stories within our site structure, which has up to four (4) levels in each of our seven (7) site sections. Clicking on each tree label will take you to a master index for that part of the site structure. You can expand and collapse the site structure to expose as much content as you would like to see. Happy browsing and be sure to [let us know](#) if you can't find something you are looking for.

Browse: [Tag categories](#) | [Index of reporters](#)

- [-] USA TODAY Content Tree
  - [-] news 245,086 stories
    - americawants 12 stories
    - breakingnews 7,406 stories
    - bythenumbers 25 stories
    - education 2,854 stories
    - elections 190 stories
  - [+] gallery 421 stories
  - [-] health 10,633 stories
    - backtoschool 7 stories
    - bonus 4 stories
    - painter 163 stories
    - spotlight 4 stories
    - spotlighthealth 47 stories
    - weightloss 398 stories
    - wellness 68 stories
    - yourhealth 49 stories
  - lottery 14 stories
  - military 1,262 stories
  - [+] nation 43,745 stories



# Trends: Alphabetical browse



The screenshot displays the Gale Academic One File website interface. At the top, there is a navigation bar with links for 'CHANGE DATABASES', 'TOOLBOX', 'GALE INTERNAL USER IN LISQA', 'RETURN TO LIBRARY', 'WELCOME PHIL', and 'LOG OUT'. The main header features the 'Academic One File' logo and a search bar with a 'SEARCH' button and a link to 'more search options'. Below the header is a green navigation menu with options: 'HOME', 'BROWSE SUBJECTS', 'BROWSE PUBLICATIONS', 'ADVANCED SEARCH', 'SEARCH HISTORY', and 'MARKED ITEMS'. The main content area is titled 'Browse Subjects' and includes a 'Find Subject:' search box with a 'GO' button and radio buttons for 'Begins with' (selected) and 'Contains'. A horizontal navigation bar shows letters from A to Z, with 'A' highlighted. Below this is a table of subject terms and their corresponding result counts.

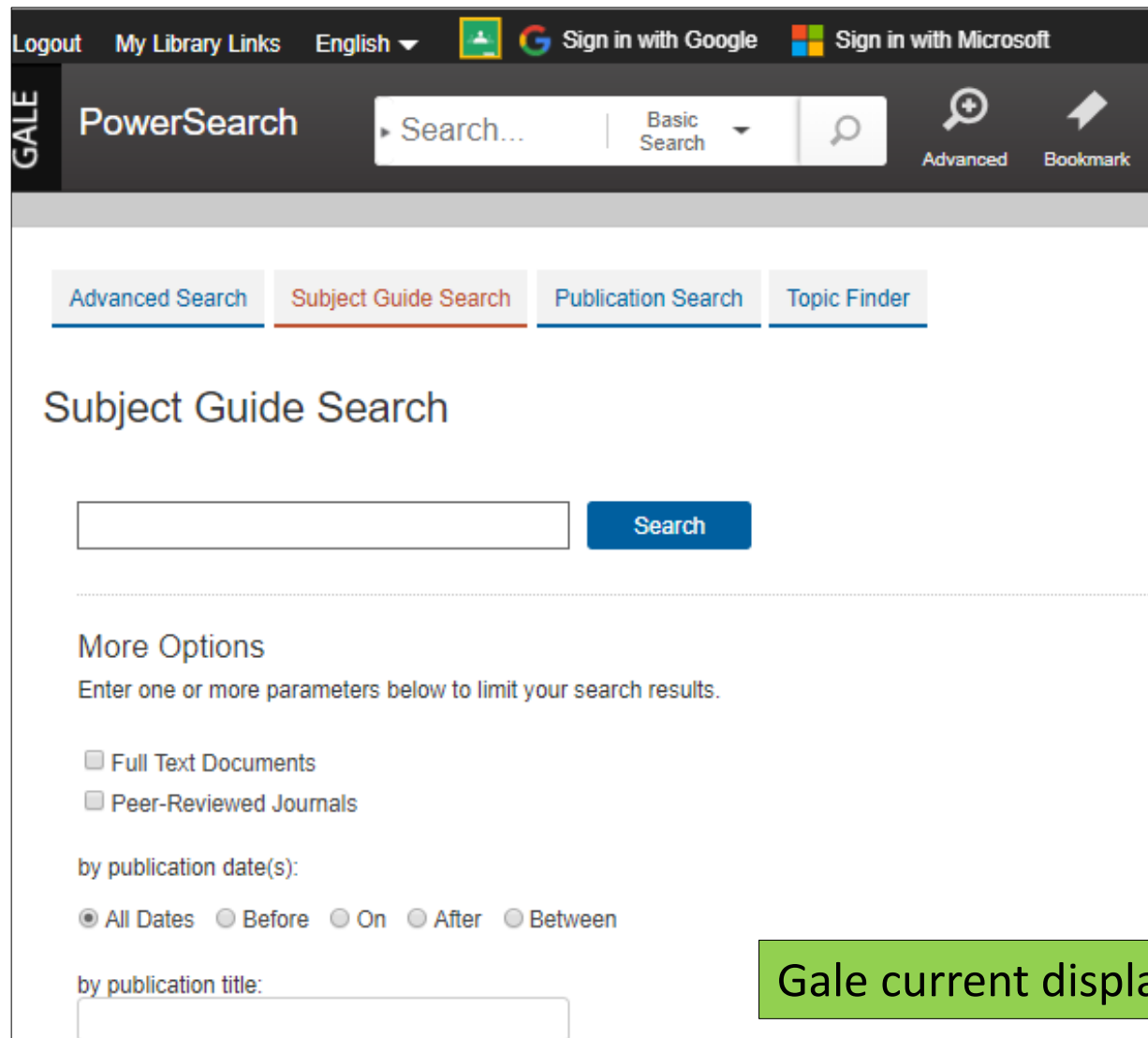
Subject Terms	Results
A and B Ingredients	7
A and M Records Inc.	22
A and R Records/Accent Records	3
A la Tour D'argent	1
A Tribe Called Quest (Music Group)	1
A&e Television Networks	
A&p Canada Inc.	1
A*vision Entertainment Co.	4

Gale former display



# Trends: Search on taxonomy terms

## In Advanced Search



Logout My Library Links English Sign in with Google Sign in with Microsoft

GALE PowerSearch Search... Basic Search Advanced Bookmark

Advanced Search Subject Guide Search Publication Search Topic Finder

### Subject Guide Search

### More Options

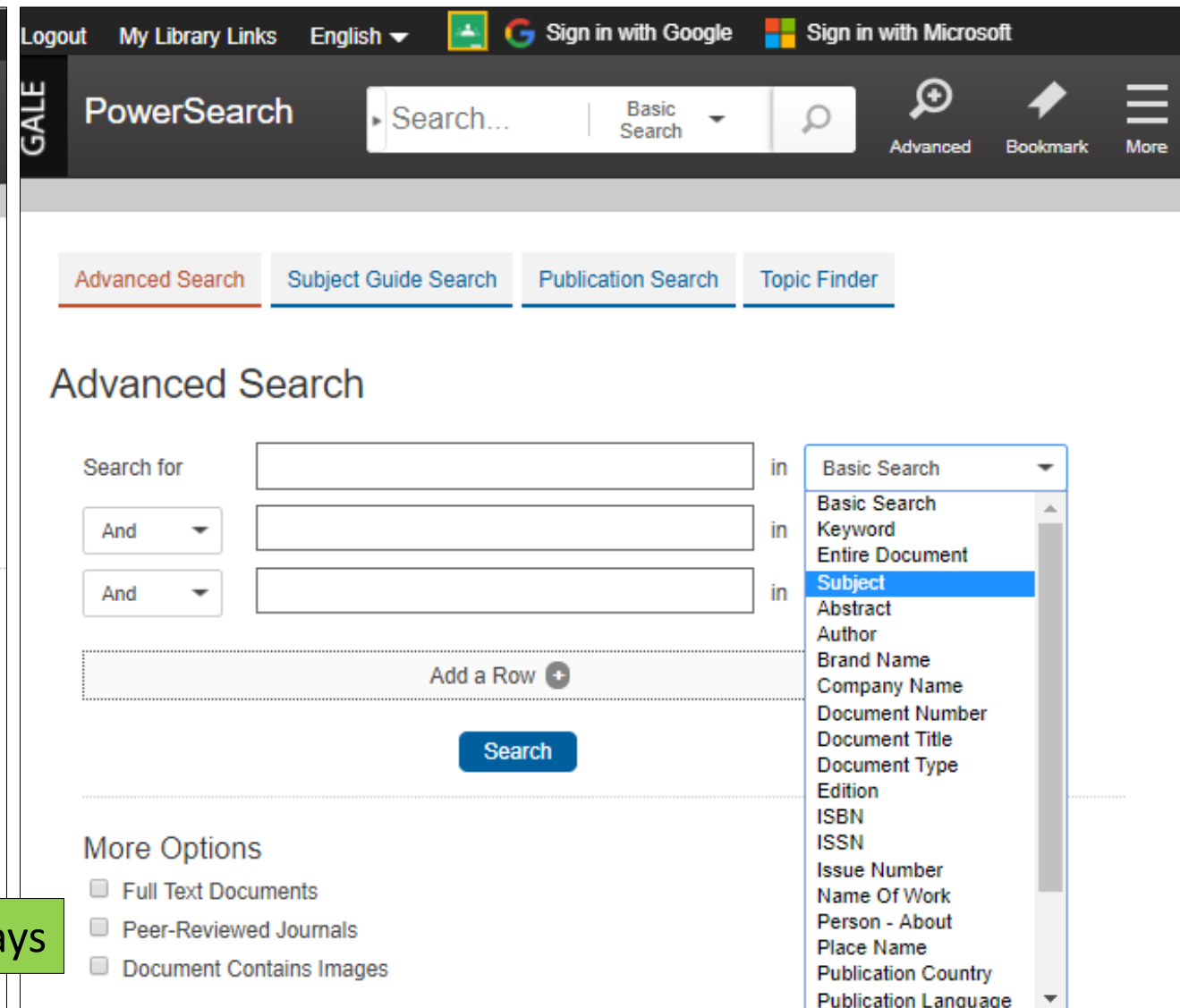
Enter one or more parameters below to limit your search results.

Full Text Documents  
 Peer-Reviewed Journals

by publication date(s):  
 All Dates  Before  On  After  Between

by publication title:

Gale current displays



Logout My Library Links English Sign in with Google Sign in with Microsoft

GALE PowerSearch Search... Basic Search Advanced Bookmark More

Advanced Search Subject Guide Search Publication Search Topic Finder

### Advanced Search

Search for  in

And  in

And  in

Add a Row

### More Options

Full Text Documents  
 Peer-Reviewed Journals  
 Document Contains Images

- Basic Search
- Basic Search
- Keyword
- Entire Document
- Subject**
- Abstract
- Author
- Brand Name
- Company Name
- Document Number
- Document Title
- Document Type
- Edition
- ISBN
- ISSN
- Issue Number
- Name Of Work
- Person - About
- Place Name
- Publication Country
- Publication Language

# Trends: Search on more than the taxonomy

Search boxes in library databases

The image displays three overlapping screenshots of library database search pages:

- Gale PowerSearch:** Shows a search bar with the text "Search..." and a magnifying glass icon. Above it are navigation links for "Logout", "My Library Links", "English", and sign-in options for Google and Microsoft. The main heading reads "DISCOVER A COLLECTION OF AUTHORITATIVE PERIODICALS, SCHOLARLY JOURNALS, NEWSPAPERS, AND REFERENCING SERVICES".
- ProQuest Central:** Features a search bar with a magnifying glass icon. Below the search bar are filters for "Full text" (checked) and "Peer reviewed" (unchecked). Navigation links include "Basic Search", "Advanced Search", "Publications", "Browse", and "About".
- EBSCOhost:** Includes a search bar with the placeholder text "Enter any words to find books, journals and more" and a green "Search" button. It also has a "Search Options" dropdown menu with "Basic Search", "Advanced Search", and "Search History" options. The EBSCOhost logo is visible.

Additional elements in the collage include a "TOPIC FINDER" section with a circular icon and text "Use the Topic Finder to explore connections of your search terms", and a "SCREENCASTOMATIC" logo at the bottom.

# Trends: Search on more than the taxonomy

Search on subjects and titles in the same field

amazon **Books** family health

Hello Select your address Departments Your Amazon.com EN

Books Advanced Search New Releases Amazon Charts Best Sellers & More The New

13-24 of over 60,000 results for **Books** : "family health"

Show results for

- Any Category
- Books**
- Family Health**
- Health, Fitness & Dieting
- Parenting & Relationships
- See more

Refine by

- Amazon Prime  prime
- Eligible for Free Shipping  Free Shipping by Amazon
- New Releases Last 30 days

**THINK YOURSELF THIN**  
A 30-DAY GUIDE TO PERMANENT WEIGHT LOSS  
JJ Smith  
SPONSORED BY SIMON & SCHUSTER  
**The Secret to Permanent Weight Loss**  
Shop now

**MAMA BEAR Kusi's weekly MEAL**  
with Grocery Lists  
by Ashley Kusi and Marissa Kusi  
Paperback \$8.99 prime

amazon **Books** accidental taxonomist

Hello Select your address Departments Your Amazon.com EN Hello. Sign in Account & Lists

Books Advanced Search New Releases Amazon Charts Best Sellers & More The New York Times® Best

3 results for **Books** : "accidental taxonomist"

Show results for

- Any Category
- Books**
- General
- Taxonomic Classification
- Biological Sciences
- See more

Refine by

- Amazon Prime  prime
- Eligible for Free Shipping  Free Shipping by Amazon
- Avg. Customer Review 4.5 stars & Up

Showing results for accidental taxonomist. Search instead for accidental taxonomist. Showing selected results. See all results for accidental taxonomist.

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# Trends: Facets

## Examples of ecommerce facets

**Narrow Selection By:**

Size Range  
Show All  
(Reg, Plus, Slim, Big & Tall, etc.)

Specific Size  
Show All

Color  
Show All

Sleeve Length  
Show All

Fabric  
Show All

Style  
Show All

- Show All
- All Others (56)
- Casual (51) **Clothes**
- Tailored (11)
- Buttondown (6)
- Split Neck (3)

**Format**

- Paperback (386,973)
- Hardcover (240,008)
- Kindle Edition (17,788)
- Audible Audio Edition (151)
- HTML (15,520)
- PDF (13,078)
- Audio CD (529)
- Board Book (296)
- Audio Cassette (413)
- Calendar (1,823)
- School Binding (481)
- MP3 CD (27)

**Author**

**Any Author**

- David S. Moore (525)
- Ron Larson (518)
- Charles Darwin (464)
- Margaret L. Lial (388)
- David Halliday (295)
- Deborah Hughes-Hallett (221)
- E. John Hornsby (219)
- > [See more...](#)

**Series**

**Any Series**

- Unleashed (94)
- Sams Teach Yourself (81)
- Apogee Books Space (56)
- Essential
- Mathsta
- Oxford Log
- Demystified (42)
- > [See more...](#)

**Shipping Option** ([What's this?](#))

**Any Shipping Option**

**Format** see all

- CD
- DVD
- E-Mail

**Platform** see all

- Mac
- Universal
- Windows

**Language** see all

- Arabic
- English
- Multilingual
- Russian
- Spanish

**Brand** see all

- Adobe Systems
- Corel
- Intuit
- McAfee
- Microsoft
- Nero
- Norton **Software**
- Unbranded

**Operating Systems** see all

- Microsoft Windows 10
- Microsoft Windows 7

**Category**

Select category(s) Clear

- Banquet Tables (4)
- Bistro Table (2)
- Bistro Tables (5)
- Counter-Height Table (1)
- Counter-Height Tables (6)
- Dining Table (10)
- Dining Tables (52)
- Folding Table (8)
- Folding Tables (12)
- Kitchen Table (1)
- Kitchen Tables (1)
- Nook Table (1)
- Nook Tables (1)
- Pub Table (7)
- Pub Tables (29)

**Material**

Select material(s) Clear

- Hardwood (29)
- MDF Composite (1)
- Metal (28)
- Plastic (1)
- Wood (48)
- Wood Composite (35)

**Finish**

Select finish(s) Clear

- Cherry (4)
- Dark Cherry (1)
- Ebony (1)
- Espresso (11)
- Mahogany
- Natural (1)
- Oak (7)
- Painted (8)
- Unfinished (1)
- Walnut (8)

**Color**



# Trends: Facets

## Examples of internal content facets

Department

- Research
- Sales
- Finance
- Marketing
- Exec Office
- SHOW MORE

Job Title

- Communications Director
- Developer
- Financial Controller
- Finance Assistant
- Head of IT Services
- SHOW MORE

Office Location

- London
- New York
- Shanghai

**For people**

File Type

- Word
- Document Type
- Feature Overview
- Technical Specifications

Item Type

- Project Document

Project

- All
- CRM Support

Sprint

- Sprint 23
- Sprint 22

Preference

- XML - mriedel2
- MSCRM mriedel2
- MSCRM mriedel2
- MSCRM mriedel2
- Market mriedel2
- MSCRM Feature Ov mriedel2

**For documents**

Result type

Word

Author

User1

System Account

AATISH AGARWAL

SHOW MORE

Modified date

All

Community

- Technical
- Recreational
- Other Value
- Apply | Clear

Language

- English
- German

Content Manager

- Content Manager (7)
- Content Manager (9)
- Content Manager (1)
- Content Manager (1)

Other Value

Apply | Clear

Distribution Channel

- TechNet Library (7)
- OfficeOnlineVNext (2)
- MSDN Code Gallery (1)
- MSDN Library (1)
- MSN Video (1)

Other Value

Apply | Clear

Request status

- Published (12)

Other Value

Apply | Clear

Content Type

- HVC library content item (8)
- OCMS article (2)
- Code Gallery content (1)
- Video content (1)

Other Value

Apply | Clear

Internal Writer

## Trends: Facets

### Issues with faceted taxonomy

- Content needs to be of a uniform type sharing the same set of multiple facets
  - Examples: employees, colleges, films, music, clothing products, museum artifacts
- Controlled vocabularies for each facet should be small to display well.
  - A large subject thesaurus or multi-level taxonomy cannot easily be browsed.
  - A large topic taxonomy could be the first step, with facets for further refinement.

## Trends: Taxonomy terms to refine post-search results

- A display of taxonomy terms that have been used to index the content items in the search result set (not all taxonomy terms).
- A display of selected terms from the taxonomy, not the taxonomy itself.
- Any relationships between terms are not indicated.
- Displayed in order of usage frequency of the search result set.

Suitable when a large taxonomy or thesaurus does not fit into a facet.





Browse by Discipline

## Magazines (3,776)

Search Terms: *Basic Search* ("Internet of things")

Sort by: Relevance

Citation: *ARTICLE*

[NO BATTERIES INCLUDED: New forms of energy harvesting and low-powered sensors promise to eliminate batteries and enable the Internet of Things](#)

Amit Katwala.

Professional Engineering Magazine.

30.9 (Oct. 2017) p24+. *Word Count*: 1990. Reading Level (Lexile): 1360.[Link to CDL Materials Catalog](#) [ILL](#) [My Library](#) [OpenURL Link](#)

Save

Citation: *BRIEF ARTICLE*

[INTERNET OF THINGS IS 'COMING OF AGE'](#)

Amit Katwala.

Professional Engineering Magazine.

30.9 (Oct. 2017) p6. *Word Count*: 217. Reading Level (Lexile): 1110.[Link to CDL Materials Catalog](#) [ILL](#) [My Library](#) [OpenURL Link](#)

Save

Full-text: *ARTICLE*

[The internet of things that can be hacked](#)

## Content Types

Academic Journals (6,397)

**Magazines (3,776)**

Books (24)

News (38,942)

Images (2)

Videos (4)

## Search within results

## Limit Search by:

- Full Text  
 Contains Images

## Publication Dates:

- Past Week  
Past Month  
Past Year  
Custom Date Range

## Subjects

- Internet of things (724)  
Software industry (197)  
Semiconductor indust... (120)

Subjects for post-searching filtering in Gale search results

20060101-20161231

**Limit To**

- Full Text
- References Available
- Scholarly (Peer Reviewed) Journals

2006 Publication Date 2016

Show More

**Source Types**

- All Results
- Journals (145)
- Academic Journals (145)

**Subject: Thesaurus Term**

**Subject: Major Heading**

**Subject**

**Publication**

**Publisher**

## 2. Pitfalls in the Use of Time Series Methods to Study **Deterrence** and **Capital Punishment**.



Academic Journal

By: Charles, Kerwin; Durlauf, Steven. Journal of Quantitative Criminology. Mar2013, Vol. 29 Issue 1, p45-66. 22p. DOI: 10.1007/s10940-012-9169-7. , Database: Criminal Justice Abstracts with Full Text

**Subjects:** CAPITAL punishment; CRIMINAL law; PUNISHMENT in crime deterrence; CRUELTY; CRIMINAL investigation; DECISION theory



PDF Full Text



Save PDF to Cloud (288KB)

## 3. **Deterrence** and the death penalty: Why the statistics should be ignored.



Academic Journal

By: Nagin, Daniel. Significance. Apr2014, Vol. 11 Issue 2, p9-13. 5p. DOI: 10.1111/j.1740-9713.2014.00733.x. , Database: Academic Search Complete

**Subjects:** Punishment in crime deterrence; Capital punishment; Murder -- Law & legislation; Statistics; National Research Council (U.S.); Nagin, Daniel



PDF Full Text



Save PDF to Cloud (851KB)

## 4. **Deterrence** and the Death Penalty: Partial Identification Analysis Using Repeated Cross Sections.



Academic Journal

By: Manski, Charles; Pepper, John. Journal of Quantitative Criminology. Mar2013, Vol. 29 Issue 1, p123-141. 19p. DOI: 10.1007/s10940-012-9172-z. , Database: Criminal Justice Abstracts with Full Text

**Subjects:** CAPITAL punishment; CRIMINAL law; PUNISHMENT; EXECUTIONS & executioners; HOMICIDE; CRIMINOLOGY

Show all 6 images



Subjects for post-searching filtering in EBSCO search results

## Narrow results by

Full text

Peer reviewed

Scholarly journals

Source type

Newspapers (148)

Scholarly Journals (123)

Dissertations & Theses (114)

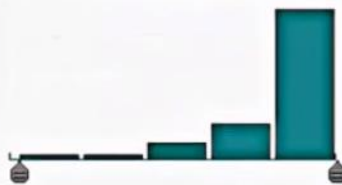
Trade Journals (45)

Reports (34)

More options...

Publication date

1977 - 2015 (decades)



Update

Enter a specific date range

Publication title

Document type

Subject

hydraulic fracturing (129)

natural gas (76)

groundwater (75)

groundwater pollution (74)

environmental protection (60)

More options...

Classification

... Draft **Environmental Impact Statement (EIS)**  
...of the **impacts** of mining on the **environment**. Almost all the literature  
...hydrologic **impact** assessment must be "accomplished in an **environmentally** and  
Abstract/Details [Full text](#)

2 **First gas, now it's oil they want**  
Carnie, Tony. **The Mercury** [Durban] 10 July 2015: 4.  
...could involve **fracking** - has changed  
... Last month **environmental** consultants acting  
... **fracking** (artificial **fracturing** of underground  
Abstract/Details [Full text](#)

3 **Frac Sand Mines Are Preferentially Sited in Unzoned Rural Areas: e0131386**  
Locke, Christina. **PLoS One** 10.7 (Jul 2015).  
...deposits. **Hydraulic fracturing** ("hydrofracking" or "**fracking**") is an established  
...other than **hydraulic fracturing**  
...worth the **environmental impacts** and potential  
References (40)  
Abstract/Details [Full text](#) [Full text - PDF](#)

4 **Stochastic contaminant transport monitoring in heterogeneous sand and gravel aquifers of the United Arab Emirates**  
Paleologos, E K; Papapetridis, K; Kendall, Chr G; St; C. **Stochastic Environmental Research and Risk Assessment** 29.5 (Jul 2015) 1435.  
...solved for **hydraulic** conductivities  
...geological **environments**, in order  
...subsurface **environments** led all monitoring  
References (49)  
Abstract/Details [LINK to Full Text](#)

5 **Environmental groups sue to block oil, gas activity on Calif. federal land**  
Passwaters, Mark. **SNL Energy Gas Utility Week**. (Jun 22, 2015).

6 **Environmental groups sue to block oil, gas activity on Calif. federal land**  
Passwaters, Mark. **SNL Energy Daily Gas Report**. (Jun 16, 2015).  
...production, but **environmental** groups have  
...drilling and **fracking** on vast stretches  
...adopted an **environmental impact** statement  
Details [Full text](#)

7 **Are restrictions on **fracking**, oil exports stifling prosperity?: New rules are promising, but may not be tough**

Subjects for post-searching filtering in ProQuest search results



# NO BATTERIES INCLUDED: New forms of energy harvesting and low-powered sensors promise to eliminate batteries and enable the Internet of Things

Amit Katwala

*Professional Engineering Magazine*. 30.9 (Oct. 2017): p24+.

## Source Citation (MLA 8<sup>th</sup> Edition)

Katwala, Amit. "NO BATTERIES INCLUDED: New forms of energy harvesting and low-powered sensors promise to eliminate batteries and enable the Internet of Things." *Professional Engineering Magazine*, Oct. 2017, p. 24+. *Academic OneFile*, <http://link.galegroup.com/apps/doc/A514405340/AONE?u=gale&sid=AONE&xid=61541bac>. Accessed 15 Mar. 2018.

Gale Document Number: GALE|A514405340

## RELATED RESOURCES










### Studies Conducted at Zhongy...

*Energy Weekly News*. (Mar. 16, 2018)  
p155. Word Count: 391.


### Global AI Market in Agricultur...

*PR Newswire*. (Mar. 9, 2018)  
Word Count: 924.

## Tools

-  Citation Tools
-  Send to Google Drive™
-  Send to OneDrive™
-  Print
-  E-mail
-  Download
-  Save to My Folder
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Translate Article 

within publication 

limit to this issue

**Related Subjects** 

Electric power generation

Internet of things

Renewable energy

Sensors

## Taxonomy search options

- Different types of search on taxonomy
- Displayed taxonomy terms in type-ahead or search-suggest
- Alternative labels / nonpreferred terms / synonyms

# Taxonomy search options: Different types of search on terms

## Types

- **Exact** – exact match
- **Contains** – exact match phrase with additional words before or after
- **Begins** – alphabetical from start, but allows end truncation
- **Smart** – words within the term in any order and also internal word stemming (singular/plural)

## Implementations

- **Exact** – option if there is a type-ahead display of terms
- **Contains** – also called phrase search. Can be done with quotation marks.
- **Begins** – option if there is a type-ahead display of terms
- **Smart** – sometimes the default, if no other options, and terms are not displayed

# Taxonomy search options: Different types of search on terms

Browsing: ERIC -- Thesaurus

Term Begins With  Term Contains  Relevancy Ranked

Search

What word or phrase would you like to search for?

Return results containing:

Match Any of the words

Match Exact word or phrase

Match Any of the words

Case-Sensitive

in the title  contains  (Donald Duck) OR (Mickey Mouse) NOT

in subject  is (exact)  Amusement Parks

Publication Date:  Any year

Material Type:  Articles

Language:  English

Start Date:  Day  Month  Year

End Date:  Day  Month  Year

## Find items that have:

All these words:

This exact phrase:



# Taxonomy search options: Type-ahead or search-suggest

## Type-ahead

CityName

- Santa Ana
- Santa Anna
- Santa Barbara
- Santa Clara
- Santa Clarita
- Santa Claus
- Santa Cruz
- Santa Elena
- Santa Fe
- Santa Fe Springs

## Search-suggest

- Taxonomy (Biology)
- Taxonomy of Educational Objectives (Nonfiction work)
- Taxonomy (Web browser)
- Taxonomy of My Fossil Megafaunal Heart (Poem)
- Animal taxonomy
- Plant taxonomy
- Taxonomía vegetal
- Taxonomía animal
- Taxonomists

# Taxonomy search options: Alternative labels/nonpreferred terms/synonyms

- “Synonyms” are very important in helping users find desired content.
- Synonyms are especially important if the taxonomy is not fully displayed.
- Synonyms are displayed in back-end view of the taxonomy for taxonomists and indexers, but rarely displayed for end-users
- Type-ahead/search suggest could make use of synonyms without displaying them.

The screenshot shows the AGROVOC Multilingual Thesaurus interface. At the top, there is a blue header with the text "AGROVOC Multilingual Thes". Below the header, there is a navigation menu with two tabs: "Alphabetical" and "Hierarchy". The "Alphabetical" tab is selected. Below the navigation menu, there is a grid of letters and symbols: A, B, C, Ç, D, E, F, G, H, I, J, K, L, M, N, O, P, Q, R, S, Ş, T, U, V, W, X, Y, Z, 0-9. Below the grid, there is a list of terms for the letter 'C':  
C (symbol) → carbon  
C horizons  
C3 plants  
C4 plants  
Ca (symbol) → calcium  
CA storage (controlled atmosphere) → controlled atmosphere storage  
caapi → Banisteriopsis caapi  
cabbage (plant) → Brassica oleracea capitata  
cabbage lettuce → head lettuce  
cabbage palm → Sabal palmetto  
cabbage palmetto → Sabal palmetto  
cabbages

# Taxonomy search options: Alternative labels/nonpreferred terms/synonyms



<https://designnotes.blog.gov.uk/wp-content/uploads/sites/53/2017/04/location-picker-general-lq.gif>

- Synonyms are rarely displayed for end-users.
- Users who enter synonyms are often taken directly to the indexed content.
- Preferred term matches to synonyms typed in by users may be proposed/shown to the users.
- If the taxonomy is not displayed at all, not even in type-ahead, then no preferred label is needed. All labels for a concept are synonyms.
  - Called “synonyms ring” or “search thesaurus”



Advanced



Bookmark



More

Browse by Discipline

## Academic Journals (4,407)

Search Terms: Basic Search ("cybersecurity")

Sort by: Relevance

Also Try: [Data security](#)

Full-text: *ARTICLE*

### Cybersecurity and Employee Benefit Plans: What Prudent Steps Should a Fiduciary Take?

Amy Gordon, Joseph Adams, and Sheryl Falk.

Benefits Law Journal.

31.1 (Spring 2018) p55+. Word Count: 1828. Reading Level (Lexile): 1490.

Many issues keep fiduciaries of employee benefit plans awake at night, but cybersecurity is especially troubling for many reasons. Employee benefit plans face significant cybersecurity threats and, given the incredibly...

## Content Types

Academic Journals (4,407)

Magazines (5,792)

Books (232)

News (63,718)

Images (9)

Videos (78)

## Search within results



Preferred term (Data security) matched to synonym entered by user (cybersecurity) proposed/shown to the user

## Benefits of taxonomies over search alone

- Indexing and retrieval based on concepts, not just words/phrases improves search results in both precision (accuracy) and recall (comprehensiveness)
- Taxonomy terms allow limiting/filtering search by topic.
- Broader categories/terms allow users to choose a broad subject first and then limit by other metadata.
- Relationships between terms allow users to explore related topics.
- Subjects displayed on search results (post-search) allow users to refine and focus their searches by precise topic or explore related topics.
- Taxonomies support the indexing of nontext content (images, video, audio).
- Multilingual taxonomies support accurate search and retrieval across multilingual content.

## Conclusions

- The growing size of taxonomies and thesauri may make full displays impractical.
- Searching on the taxonomy is an important end-user feature.
- There are different methods for searching on and displaying taxonomy terms.
- Faceted taxonomies combine search and browse functions, and are useful for many but not all content and taxonomy implementations.
- Taxonomy terms as post-search filters are especially suitable when taxonomies are too large for full display browsing.
- Taxonomies have many benefits over search alone.

## Questions/Contact

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