CVT PROJ: Research Review

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AGENDA

- Apply advanced searching strategies
- Identify source types suitable for secondary research
- Understand industry specific resources available
WHY DO WE DO SECONDARY RESEARCH?
(ALSO KNOWN AS “REVIEWING THE LITERATURE”)
WHY DO WE DO SECONDARY RESEARCH? (ALSO KNOWN AS “REVIEWING THE LITERATURE”)

- To avoid replication
- To replicate
- To notice trends
- To provide proof for experiences
- To engage with others
Search phrases

Research topic: How can I use sensors to remotely monitor the structural health of a bridge?

Main concepts?
SEARCH PHRASES

Research topic: How can I use sensors to remotely monitor the structural health of a bridge?

Smart sensor, structural, bridge
SEARCH OPERATORS

• AND
• OR
• NOT
• * [truncation]
• “ ” [quotation marks]
SEARCH OPERATORS

• **AND** — connects different concepts, limits search, reduces results
• **OR** — finds different ways to say something, expands search, increases results
• **NOT** — excludes results with the specified word, reduces results
• * [truncation] — search any ending on a root word
• “ ” [quotation marks] — reduces results to those with all words in exact order
SEARCH OPERATORS

Search terms: Smart sensor, structural, bridge

Search phrase: ("smart sensor*" OR "intelligent sensor*") AND bridge* AND structur*

Other examples:
smartphone NOT iphone
electric* [= electric, electricity, electrical, electrician]
SEARCH OPERATORS

TASK:

1) Write a succinct research question or topic

2) Develop a search string based upon that topic using Boolean operators, quotes for phrases (" "), and/or truncation for potential suffixes (*)
Remember RADAR?
Relevance
Authority
Date
Appearance
Reason
**Relevance** - How relevant is the information to your assignment?

**Authority**

**Date**

**Appearance**

**Reason**
Relevance - How relevant is the information to your assignment?

Authority - Who is the source (author, publisher) of the item?

Date

Appearance

Reason
Relevance - How relevant is the information to your assignment?
Authority - Who is the source (author, publisher) of the item?
Date - When was the information first published or last updated?
Appearance
Reason
Relevance - How relevant is the information to your assignment?
Authority - Who is the source (author, publisher) of the item?
Date - When was the information first published or last updated?
Appearance - What does the source of information look like?
Reason
Relevance - How relevant is the information to your assignment?
Authority - Who is the source (author, publisher) of the item?
Date - When was the information first published or last updated?
Appearance - What does the source of information look like?
Reason - Why was the information published in the first place?
SOURCE TYPES

• Academic journals
• Trade publications
• Magazines/news
SOURCE TYPES

• Academic journals – empirical evidence, research results
• Trade publications – experts in the field, product reviews/information, new techniques/processes derived from academic journals
• Magazines/news – public or popular opinion/perceptions
SOURCE TYPES

• Academic journals
• Trade publications
• Magazines/news

• Advertisements/manufacturer information
• Government information/legislation
• Conference proceedings
• Standards and codes
• Raw data
• Interviews
• Case studies
• Patents
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- Raw data
- Interviews
- Case studies
- Patents
INDUSTRY SPECIFIC

• Reference USA: Canadian Businesses
• Google Patents
• Costing Tips
COSTING

- Contact vendors directly for pricing
- Search “cost estimating” or “construction costs” in the Library, limit to “catalogue only” to find books, e-books, videos.
- Locate government contracts for similar projects (hint: google search with site:.gc.ca, or ask Kevin for help!)
- RSmeans (free trial available, book on using the program available on reserve in the Library)
CITATIONS

• Don’t forget them!!