

Methods of Library Research



September 14, 2020

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(modified from Frank O. Nitsche 2017 and Satyajit Bose 2012)



Why search the
literature?

Why do a literature search?

“To gain further insight into the topic at hand”

“Context for your research”

“useful to develop a starting point for a broad topic of interest”

“Makes research more credible if it fits into a larger context”

“To understand the material and understand the current academic thought and research on that topic”

“To understand past works”

“To see what work has already been done or what has not, where there is room to research further”

“To learn about what has been done and to build on that”

“To know what knowledge already exists and be familiar with the topic”

“To find research about the topic you're currently working on”

“Find data to support my hypothesis”

“find a topic”

“You want to know what other people already know, so you can find out something people don't already know”

“Find relevant information”

“To understand how you can contribute to what's already out there in your subject”

“Establishing a research question.”

“So you know you're not repeating a question”

“Learn more about your thesis subject”

“To understand the breadth of existing research”

“to know what research to build upon”

“to learn from past scholars”

Why search the literature?

- Because new research is built on existing findings
- To help you get better understanding of the topic and what has been done before
- To back up your rationale for your question or interpretation of results

How to get started?

- If you have a mentor...
ask for 2-3 recent papers that help to frame your topic
- If you do not have a mentor...
start your own library search and ask your advisor and everyone you meet on your quest for a mentor
- Then investigate the reference section of these papers

What kinds of papers are ideal?

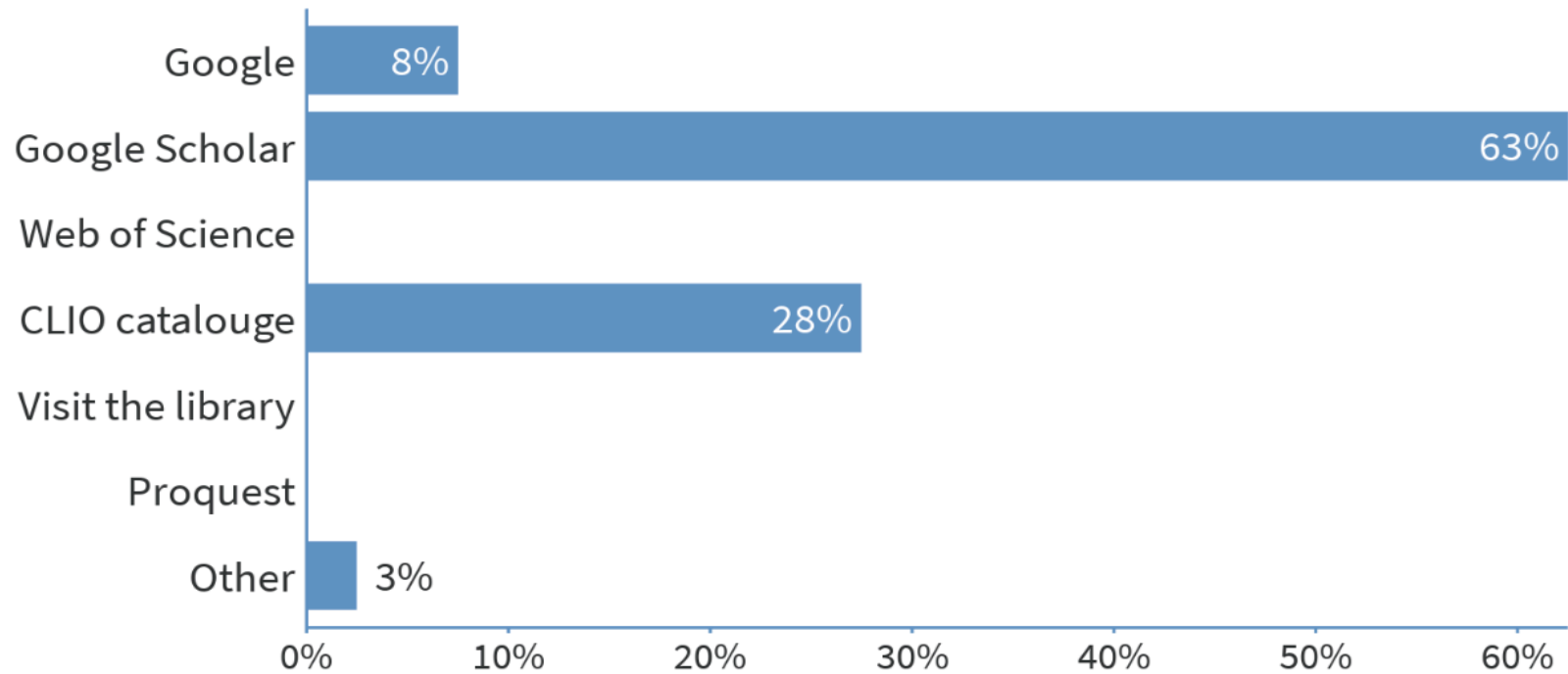
- 1-2 papers which give you the broad context
- 1-2 papers which are examples of detailed analysis closely related to your thesis question
- Remember to read an example senior thesis proposal with your advisor

Continuing your literature search?

- Columbia Libraries webpage: <http://library.columbia.edu/>
- [CLIO catalogue](#)
- Citation indexes:
 - [ISI Web of Science](#)
 - [Google Scholar](#) (convenient, might NOT be as comprehensive... but getting better!)
- Physical visit to the library (if accessible)

How do I do literature searches?

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Compare results across
platforms



Any time

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Populations and home range relationships of the **box turtle**, *Terrapene c. carolina* (Linnaeus)

LF Stickel - *Ecological Monographs*, 1950 - JSTOR

A quantitative field study of a local population of the **box turtle**, *Terrapene c. Carolina* (Linnaeus) was made at the Patuxent Research Refuge, Maryland, during the years 1944-1947. The main goals of the project were, first, an understanding of home range ...

☆  Cited by 222 Related articles All 3 versions

Changes in a **box turtle** population during three decades

LF Stickel - *Copeia*, 1978 - JSTOR

Studies of a Maryland population of marked **box**-turtles (*Terrapene carolina*) in 1945, 1955, 1965 and 1975 showed a pronounced decline in population size during the three decades; the greatest change came between 1965 and 1975, when numbers were reduced by half ...

☆  Cited by 107 Related articles All 3 versions 

The natural history of the **box turtle**

HA Allard - *The Scientific Monthly*, 1935 - JSTOR

CONDITIONS THE writer for several years has studied the behavior of the common **box turtle** under fairly natural conditions. It was necessary to confine them, but they were given the freedom of a good-sized enclosure embracing about 1,150 square feet, surrounded by ...

☆  Cited by 63 Related articles All 2 versions

Habitat selection in the three-toed **box turtle**, *Terrapene carolina triunguis*

DP Reagan - *Copeia*, 1974 - JSTOR

A quantitative study of habitat selection in *Terrapene carolina triunguis* was conducted from August 1969 through January 1972. Thirty-three microenvironmental variables were measured in the vicinity of 201 form locations. Principal component analysis of these data ...

☆  Cited by 108 Related articles All 2 versions 

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- ☐ 2020 (26)
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- ☐ 2018 (40)
- ☐ 2017 (33)
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1 of 64

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- ☐ 1. **Effects of relocation on movements and home ranges of eastern box turtles**

By: Hester, Joy M.; Price, Steven J.; Dorcas, Michael E.

JOURNAL OF WILDLIFE MANAGEMENT Volume: 72 Issue: 3 Pages: 772-777 Published: APR 2008

e-link View Abstract

- ☐ 2. **Multivariate analyses of shell morphology of putative hybrid box turtles**

By: Lutterschmidt, William I.; Escobar, Sian A.; Wilson, Everett D.

SOUTHEASTERN NATURALIST Volume: 6 Issue: 4 Pages: 571-576 Published: 2007

e-link View Abstract

- ☐ 3. **Isolation and characterization of polymorphic microsatellite loci for the three-toed box turtle (Terrapene carolina triunguis) and cross-amplification in other Terrapene species**

By: Buchman, A. B.; Deaton, R.; Randle, C. P.; et al.

MOLECULAR ECOLOGY RESOURCES Volume: 9 Issue: 4 Pages: 1169-1171 Published: JUL 2009

e-link View Abstract

- ☐ 4. **One foot out the door: limb function during swimming in terrestrial versus aquatic turtles**

By: Young, Vanessa K. Hilliard; Vest, Kaitlyn G.; Rivera, Angela R. V.; et al.

BIOLOGY LETTERS Volume: 13 Issue: 1 Article Number: 20160732 Published: JAN 1 2017

e-link Free Full Text from Publisher View Abstract

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Catalog

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The Three-toed box turtle in central Missouri

Published Jefferson City, Mo. : Missouri Dept. of Conservation, 1974-
 Online pt.1
 Format Book, Online

Natural History of the Ornate Box Turtle, *Terrapene ornata ornata* Agassiz

Author Legler, John M.
 Published [Place of publication not identified] : Project Gutenberg, 2011.
 Online [Project Gutenberg Online Catalog](#)
 Format Book, Online

New box turtle from southeastern Sonora, Mexico. *American Museum novitates* ; no. 1226

Published [Place of publication not identified] : [publisher not identified]
 Online [Biodiversity Heritage Library](#)
 Format Book, Online

Humphrey; one hundred years along the wayside with a box turtle

Author Flack, Marjorie, 1897-1958
 Published Garden City, N.Y. : Doubleday, Doran & company, inc., 1934.
 Location Offsite Shared Collection (NYPL)
 Format Book

Turtle, swan ; & Bethlehem in broad daylight : two volumes of poetry

Author Doty, Mark
 Published Urbana : University of Illinois Press, [2000], ©2000.
 Location Offsite PS3554.O798 A6 2000
 Format Book

Articles+

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Thermal consequences of subterranean nesting behavior in a prairie-dwelling turtle, the Ornate Box Turtle (*Terrapene ornata*)

Author Strickland, Jeramie T
 Tucker, Charles R
 Ligon, Day B
 Delaney, David K
 Citation Canadian Journal of Zoology, 2017, ISSN: 0008-4301, Volume 95, Issue 2, p. 123
 Format Journal Article: [Full Text Available](#)

Adenovirus and mycoplasma infection in an ornate box turtle (*Terrapene ornata ornata*) in Hungary

Author Farkas, Szilvia L
 Gál, János
 Citation Veterinary microbiology, 2009, ISSN: 0378-1135, Volume 138, Issue 1, p. 169
 Format Journal Article: [Full Text Available](#)

Delineating modern variation from extinct morphology in the fossil record using shells of the Eastern Box Turtle (*Terrapene carolina*)

Author Vitek, Natasha S
 Citation PloS one, 2018, ISSN: 1932-6203, Volume 13, Issue 3, p. e0193437
 Format Journal Article: [Full Text Available](#)

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Organizing your references

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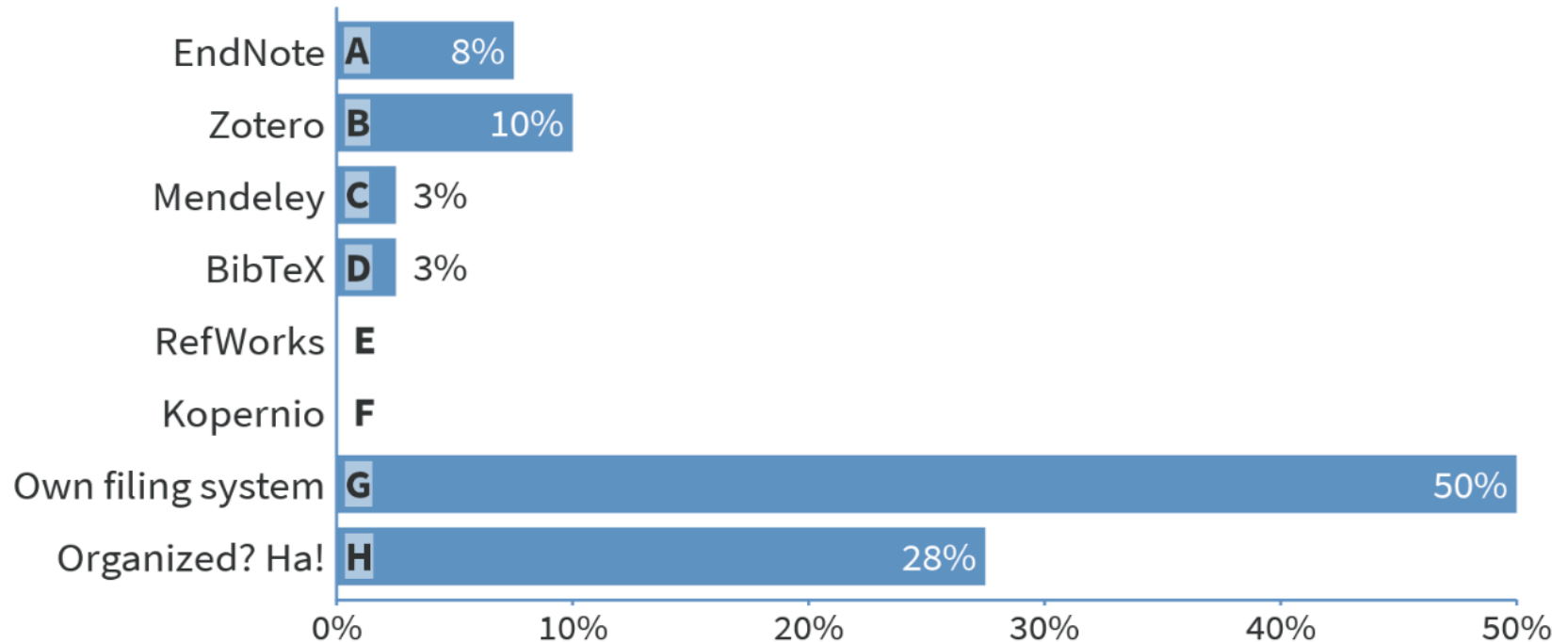
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Citation managers...

- Keep references (and pdfs) organized in a database and during writing
- Assist with uniform formatting



Columbia library offers [workshops](#)

- Fall 2020 Zotero Workshops
 - 9/16, 9/21, 10/6, 10/16, 11/4
- Also lots of others worth checking out!
 - R workshops, GIS workshops, Research Databases workshops



How to format your references?



Citing in text

- **Format: (Author, year)**

- ... future generations ([Hays, 1994](#))
- ... argument ([Miller and Smith, 2016](#); [Bostick, 2019](#))
- [Smith et al. \(2006\)](#) reported that ...

Reference list

- **All cited reference in alphabetical order**

REFERENCES CITED

Aüllo, T., Ranchou-Peyruse, A., Ollivier, B., and Magot, M., 2013, *Desulfotomaculum* spp. and related gram-positive sulfate-reducing bacteria in deep subsurface environments: *Frontiers in Microbiology*, v. 4, p. 362, <https://doi.org/10.3389/fmicb.2013.00362>.

Baker, B.J., and Banfield, J.F., 2003, Microbial communities in acid mine drainage: *FEMS Microbiology Ecology*, v. 44, p. 139–152, [https://doi.org/10.1016/S0168-6496\(03\)00028-X](https://doi.org/10.1016/S0168-6496(03)00028-X).

See the [Senior Seminar web page](#) for more details

GSA Reference Guidelines and Examples

- In the References Cited section, list all references mentioned in the text, figures, captions, tables, and appendices. List references mentioned in the Data Repository as well, unless the DR item has its own reference section.
- Do not cite papers that are unpublished, in preparation, submitted, in review, or in revision. If a reference has not been formally accepted, cite it as a personal communication along with the year of communication.
- In the References Cited section, list references alphabetically by author's surname. For references with two authors, list alphabetically by first author and then alphabetically by second author. For references with more than two authors, list alphabetically by first author and then chronologically, earliest year first.
- For references with more than 10 authors, shorten the author list to the first author's name plus "et al." If author list includes co-chief scientists, please include all of their names, with the rest of the author names shortened to "et al." See example in the "Book" section below.
- Spell out journal titles and book publishers. Include the city of publication for books.
- Include DOI numbers when available.
- For website citations, include the month and year the site was accessed in parentheses at the end of the reference.
- For translated works, please see the Varnavskiy et al., 1995, example in the "Journal Article" section below.
- For references that do not match any of the examples given here, include all information that would help a reader locate the reference.

Abstract

Fitzgerald, P.G., 1989, Uplift and formation of Transantarctic Mountains: Applications of apatite fission track analysis to tectonic problems: International Geological Congress, 28th, Washington, D.C., Abstracts, v. 1, p. 491.

LeMasurier, W.E., and Landis, C.A., 1991, Plume related uplift measured by fault displacement of the West Antarctic erosion surface, Marie Byrd Land [abs.]: Eos (Transactions, American Geophysical Union), v. 72, p. 501. *[Previous format for AGU abstracts. See Reusch et al., 2013, for new format.]*

co-chief scientists; additional names may be substituted with "et al."

Hatcher, R.D., Jr., Carlson, M.P., McBride, J.H., and Martínez Catalán, J.R., eds., 2007, 4-D Framework of Continental Crust: Geological Society of America Memoir 200, 632 p.

Vogt, P., and Tucholke, B., eds., 1986, The Western North Atlantic Region: Boulder, Colorado, Geological Society of America, Geology of North America, v. M, 696 p., 11 pl.

Chapter in a Book/Paper in a Multiauthor Volume

Start your bibliography...

- Include 5 references (cited and formatted correctly) in your Outline
- Questions? Follow up with your advisor.