



# Searching For **SCHOLARLY** **INFORMATION:** Where & How

**LIBRARY SESSION FOR ENCS 282**

Chloe Lei

Teaching & Research Librarian, Engineering & Computer Science

[chloe.lei@concordia.ca](mailto:chloe.lei@concordia.ca)

# AGENDA

1. Where to search?
2. How to evaluate?
3. What are scholarly sources?
4. What are the major library search tools?



**WHAT SEARCH TOOL  
DO YOU USE TO FIND  
ACADEMIC  
INFORMATION?**

# WHAT IS THE DIFFERENCE?

## GOOGLE SCHOLAR



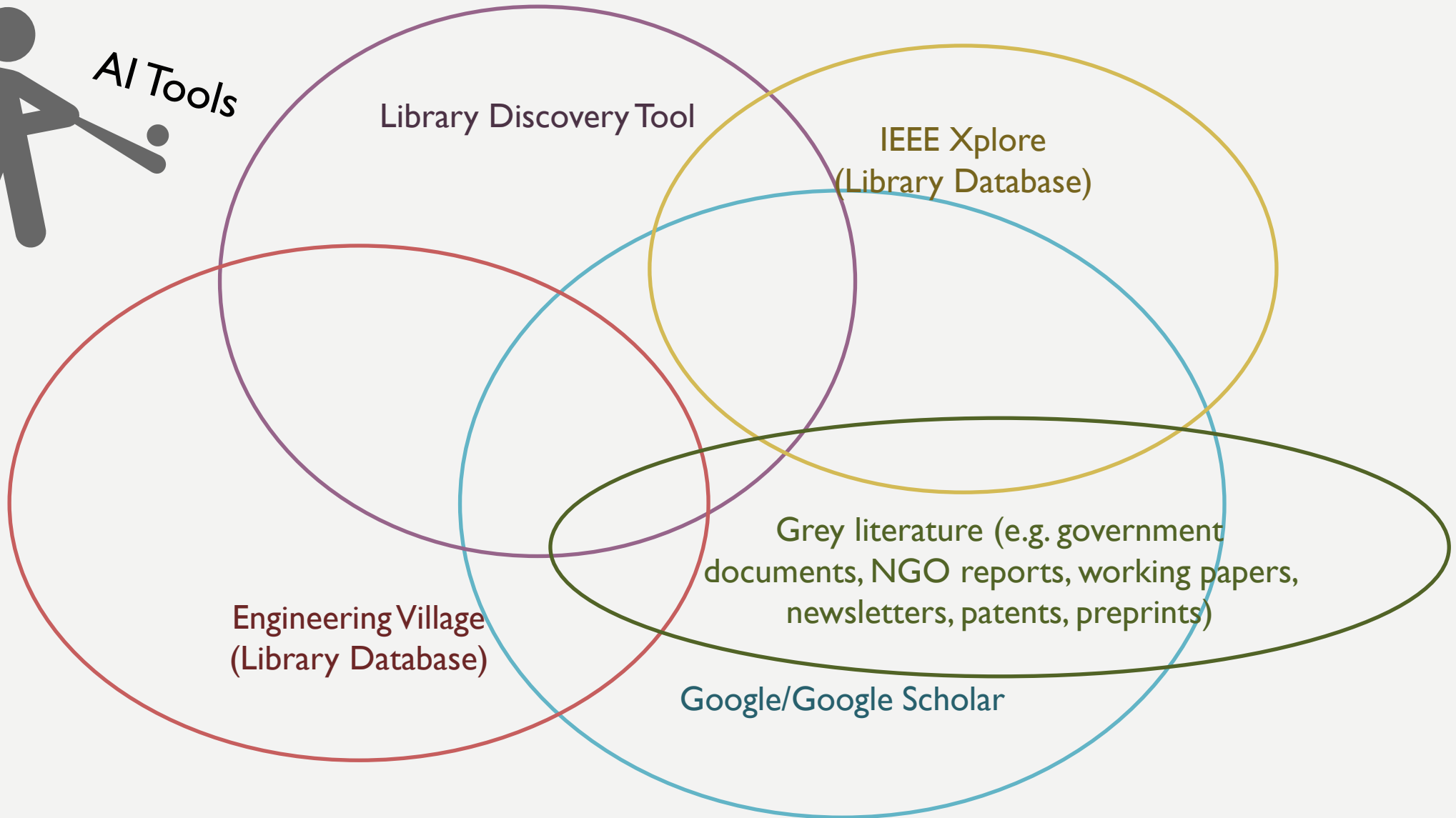
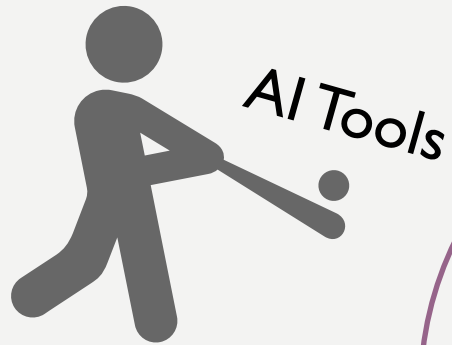
Volume | Quantity | Quick

## LIBRARY DATABASES



Depth | Quality | Thorough

# WHERE SHOULD YOU SEARCH?





**HOW IS USING  
CHATGPT DIFFERENT  
FROM GOOGLING?**

# HOW ARE THEY DIFFERENT?

## GOOGLE SCHOLAR

An index of webpages with scholarly contents

List-based results, at a very quick speed

Retrieve results based on keyword matching, and other ranking factors (e.g. location, page linking)

## CHATGPT

Human-like responses to prompts

Conversation-based results, often very persuasive

Generate new text based on what it has learned about patterns and sequences of words from massive training datasets

# SOME IMPLICATIONS

## FOR INFORMATION SEARCHING AND RELATED SKILLS

- Prompt engineering (e.g. [CLEAR framework](#) = Concise, Logical, Explicit, Adaptive, Reflective)
- Cite contents generated by AI tools properly (e.g. [IEEE citation style for AI-generated content](#))
- Think critically about capabilities and limitations of these new tools and platforms
- Navigate the information landscape critically (e.g. hallucination, deepfake)





# **EVALUATING INFORMATION**

**STRATEGIES AND CONSIDERATIONS**

# THINK, PAIR, SHARE

Talk to the person next to you for 5 minutes:

What are some ways to ensure that the information you find online is accurate and reliable?

# EVALUATING INTERNET INFORMATION


## What do fact checkers do?

- Spend more time scanning the snippets on the results page **before clicking**
- Know what you read **before you read it**
- More **lateral reading** than vertical reading

# BE MORE INTENTIONAL

Consider these factors **as much as possible**

- Who is behind the information?
- Who is the intended audience?
- What is the evidence?
- What is scope/depth/breadth?
- What do other sources say?
- How current is the information?



# TYPES OF INFORMATION SOURCES

WHAT IS CONSIDERED SCHOLARLY?

# **NAVIGATING SCHOLARLY INFORMATION**

**ANSWER POLL QUESTIONS ON MENTIMETER**

# CONTEXTUALIZE THE PROBLEM WITH INFORMATION

You need to design a playground for a neighbourhood

Economical

Environmental

Political

Legal

Cultural

Social

Historical

Government data and statistics

Trade magazines

Photos

Encyclopedias

Standards and codes

Materials properties

Books

Handbooks

Conference proceedings

Maps

Technical reports

Research articles



# **LIBRARY DISCOVERY TOOL**

**THE MAIN LIBRARY SEARCH TOOL**



## Sofia Discovery tool

Books, ebooks, articles, and more

Search

[User guide](#)

Searching Sofia 

[Advanced search](#)



DATABASES BY  
SUBJECT



E-JOURNALS



COURSE  
RESERVES &  
TEXTBOOKS



CITATION GUIDES  
& ZOTERO



LOANS &  
RETURNS



BOOK A GROUP  
STUDY ROOM

## LIBRARY DISCOVERY TOOL

- Front and centre on the library homepage
- A good starting point for a general search across library resources
- Answer questions such as:
  - Does the library have this book?
  - Does the library have this journal article?
  - Does the library have some background/overview information on a topic?

Sofia **Concordia**  Hello Sign In

Advanced Search Resources

Sort: **Best Match** ★ Saved Items (0)

Group This Search  
 Group Related Editions

Library  
 Libraries Worldwide  
 Bibliothèques universitaires du Québec  
 Concordia University Library  
 Webster Library  
 Vanier Library  
 Special Collections

Format  
[All](#)  
[Article \(13.9K\)](#)  
[Book \(1K\)](#)

Article, Chapter (17K)  
 Article (13.9K)  
 Downloadable Article (2.1K)  
 Chapter (1.3K)


Book (1K)  
 eBook (975)  
 Print Book (31)  
 Thesis, Dissertation (3)

Video (46)  
 eVideo (46)

Journal, Magazine (9)  
 eJournal, eMagazine (9)

---

1



**Blockchain**  
 Authors: [Matthieu Quiniou](#) (Author), [Safari, an O'Reilly Media Company](#).  
 eBook 2019, 1st edition.  
 Wiley-ISTE, 2019.

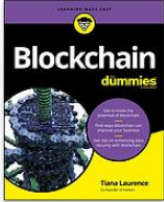
Summary: The dominance of trusted intermediaries could be weakened by **blockchain**, a distributed ledger technology, one of the functions of which is to constitute timestamped proofs by replacing inter-individual trust with algorithmic trust. **Blockchain** self-executing smart contracts allow us to rethink the practice in the domain of e-commerce, interbank communication,  
 Show More

Available  
 Concordia University Library

Worldwide Editions and Formats [View All \(2\)](#)

---

2



**Blockchain for dummies**  
 Authors: [Tiana Laurence](#) (Author)  
 eBook 2017  
 [Place of publication not identified]: Wiley, [2017]

Summary: Find out what **Blockchain** is, how it works, and what it can do for you **Blockchain** is the technology behind Bitcoin, the revolutionary 'virtual currency' that's changing the way people do business. While Bitcoin has enjoyed some well-deserved hype, **Blockchain** may be Bitcoin's most vital legacy. **Blockchain For Dummies** is the ideal starting place for business pros looking to gain  
 Show More

Available  
 Concordia University Library

## LIBRARY DISCOVERY TOOL

- A search for a broad keyword such as *blockchain*
- Refine options include:
  - Format types (e.g. ebooks)
  - Publication years
- Shows results with Concordia full text access by default
  - Easily expand to other university libraries in Québec or Worldwide
  - Easily make requests for items from other university libraries

# **LIBRARY DATABASES**

**OVER 400 OF THEM ORGANIZED BY DISCIPLINE**

# Engineering Village™

**IEEE**  
*Xplore*®  
*Digital Library*

 **Clarivate**  
**Web of Science**™

 **SCIFINDER**<sup>n</sup>®  
A CAS SOLUTION

**Scopus**®

**Knovel**®

## LIBRARY DATABASES

- Content is usually more in-depth and specialized
- More options to search, expand, or refine
- Answer questions such as:
  - Where can I find journal articles on a specific aspect of a topic
  - How can I combine different elements/keywords in a search?

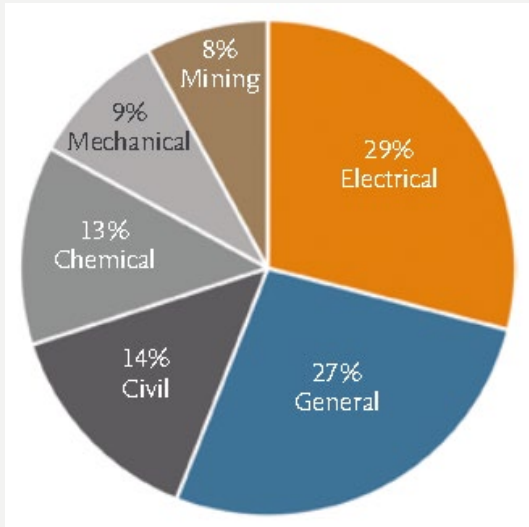


# **ENGINEERING VILLAGE**

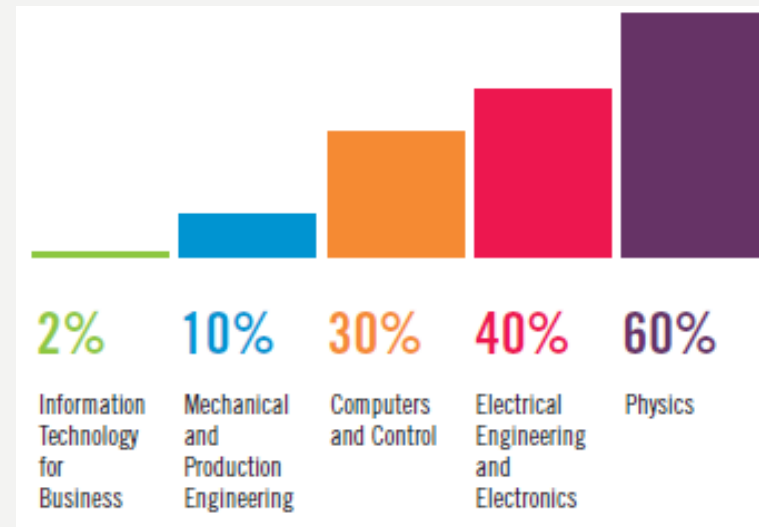
**A CLOSER LOOK AT AN ENGINEERING DATABASE**

## WHAT CONTENT IS INCLUDED?

With a coverage of 1884 to the present, the three indexes **Compendex**, **Inspec**, and **GEOBASE** provide content in general engineering as well as more specialized engineering disciplines.

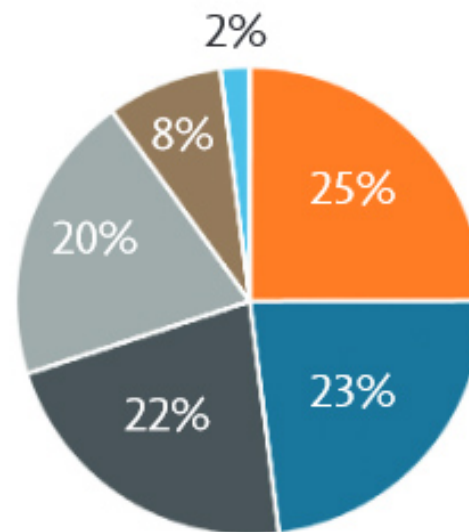


**Compendex**



**Inspec**

- Human Geography – 25%
- Environmental Sciences – 23%
- Physical Geography – 22%
- Geology – 20%
- Oceanography – 8%
- Geomechanics – 2%



**GEOBASE**

## Document type



Filter results:



<input type="checkbox"/> Conference article	(395,204)	<input type="checkbox"/> Erratum	(329)
<input type="checkbox"/> Journal article	(290,757)	<input type="checkbox"/> Retracted	(218)
<input type="checkbox"/> Preprint	(129,714)	<input type="checkbox"/> Data Paper	(98)
<input type="checkbox"/> Conference proceeding	(11,442)	<input type="checkbox"/> Report review	(85)
<input type="checkbox"/> Article in Press	(6,696)	<input type="checkbox"/> Standard	(43)
<input type="checkbox"/> Book chapter	(5,173)	<input type="checkbox"/> Editorial	(38)
<input type="checkbox"/> Dissertation	(2,049)	<input type="checkbox"/> Patent	(4)
<input type="checkbox"/> Book	(566)	<input type="checkbox"/> Report chapter	(4)

View: 10 Max

Limit to

Exclude

## IS THE CONTENT PEER-REVIEWED?

- Journal articles are peer-reviewed
- Some conference articles/proceedings are peer-reviewed
- Recently, preprints have been included in the results in Compendex
- Preprints are NOT peer-reviewed, but are helpful in exploring the latest papers

## Thermal effects and anomalies in the low-temperature plasticity of crystals

Malygin, G.A. (A.F. Ioffe Physicotech. Inst., St. Petersburg, Russia) Source: *Physics of the Solid State*,

Database: Inspec

Document type: Journal article (JA)

Detailed Show preview ▾ Cited by in Scopus (2) [Full text ↗](#) [Find it @ Concordia](#)

“Full text” button, if one exists

“Find it @ Concordia” button to check the library’s other subscriptions. If not available, request it via **Interlibrary Loan**.

## HOW TO ACCESS FULL TEXT?

Full text may be readily available. If not, the “Find it @ Concordia” button can help check for full text availability in the library.



Contactless Book Pickup and Article/Chapter Scan & Deliver are available, see [Library services and resources during COVID-19](#).



INFO

### Distribution pattern of heavy metals in soils with respect to typical land uses in electron

Article, Chapter

Authors: Wen-Cheng Wu

Publication: Zhongguo Huanjing Kexue/China Environmental Science, Volume:38, Issue:7, Page(s):2632-2638

Published: 2018

ISSN: 1000-6923

Access full text via journal or collection links below. We were unable to find direct full text links for this item.

[Check for print holdings](#)



VIEW FULL  
TEXT

BROWSE  
RELATED  
ARTICLES



IN LIBRARY



REQUEST



CITE

#### Print copies at your library

[Check for print holdings](#)

#### Request a copy of this item

[Request via Interlibrary Loan](#)



## INTERLIBRARY LOAN

- If Concordia Library doesn't have it, use Interlibrary Loan
- Takes a few days or longer to process depending on the item

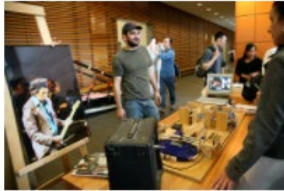
**A QUICK DEMO OF  
ENGINEERING  
VILLAGE**

## Help & how-to

### Subject & course guides



Business



Engineering & Computer Science



Fine Arts



Humanities



Sciences



Social Sciences



Interdisciplinary

## HELP & HOW-TO GUIDES

Subject guides are available for all schools, including one for Engineering and Computer Science.

General guides cover various topics from peer review articles to annotated bibliography.

### General guides



#### Finding

- › Articles (What's peer review?)
- › Books
- › Open Access journals
- › Primary sources
- › [More...](#)



#### Evaluating

- › Books
- › Articles
- › Media
- › Websites
- › [More...](#)



#### Writing

- › Annotated bibliographies
- › Literature reviews
- › Book reports
- › Research papers



#### Citing

- › [APA style](#)
- › [MLA style](#)
- › Chicago style
- › Zotero (formerly RefWorks)
- › [More...](#)



#### Using

- › Discovery Search
- › Find it! @ Concordia
- › [More...](#)

## Chloe Lei

Teaching & Research Librarian, Engineering & Computer Science

[chloe.lei@concordia.ca](mailto:chloe.lei@concordia.ca)

514-848-2424 ext. 7909

Feel free to contact me for an appointment in-person or online.

## SCHEDULE AN APPOINTMENT

I can help you with library resources and services, including but are not limited to:

- Locate specific items (e.g. books, articles)
- Navigate resources related to engineering and computer science
- Literature searching
- Citations and references
- Recommend new resources

## ASK A LIBRARIAN

Contact the library in-person, by email, chat, or phone.

Contact your subject librarian (that's me!)

## Today's opening hours

Webster Library: 24 hours  
Vanier Library: 24 hours  
Grey Nuns: Closed until October 2022

[Look ahead](#)



Ask a Librarian

Hi! What can I help you with today?

[Chat now](#)

[No, thanks](#)



**QUESTIONS?**

# SELF-REFLECTIVE QUESTIONS



<https://tinyurl.com/ycxxxf6r>