

Recipes for creating bibliographies

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Let's start cooking:

The bibliography subsystem draws on bibliography databases: lists of references, books, periodicals, reports, websites, etc. In scholarly research, one is influenced by a corpus of sources, which remains necessarily finite in our lifetime due to our “*bounded rationality*”.

Our work is rarely unique, and we inevitably will reuse favorite sources. Good examples are [1] and, of course, [2].

1 Hagen, H. (2010). *Metafun*. Hasselt, NL, Boekplan

2 Knuth, D.E. (1986). *The TeXbook*, volume A of *Computers & Typesetting*. Reading, MA, Addison Wesley

But just how do we make our bibliography database files?

1 By hand

The easiest way is to edit the entries using our favorite text editor, manually entering all of the information that is needed. Then we build upon this file or these files; after all, the number of really useful sources is finite. But this is only a good solution for a very small library, *for those who do not read too many books.*

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```
@BOOK{Darwin1859,  
  author    = {Darwin, C.},  
  year      = {1859},  
  title     = {On the Origin of Species by Means of Natural Selection,  
             or The Preservation of Favoured Races in the Struggle for Life},  
  publisher = {John Murray},  
  address   = {London},  
}
```

“So melancholy a neglect of Darwin’s work suggests reflections upon the use of those rare and precious possessions of man—great books.”

“So melancholy a neglect of Darwin’s work suggests reflections upon the use of those rare and precious possessions of man—great books. It was, we believe, the custom of the late Professor Freeman to warn his students that mastery of one great book was worth any amount of knowledge of many lesser ones. The tendency of modern scientific teaching is to neglect the great books, to lay far too much stress upon relatively unimportant modern work and to present masses of detail of doubtful truth and questionable weight in such a way as to obscure principles. Everything depends upon the view the lecturer takes of his responsibilities. Experience in the lecture room suggests that his main concern is, in most cases, to be ‘up to date.’ Credit must, no doubt, be given for

the assumption that students will themselves turn their information into knowledge by reference to co-ordinating principles; but his course is not urged upon them. How many biological students of to-day have read the *Origin*? The majority know it only from extracts, a singularly ineffective means, for a work of genius does not easily lend itself to the scissors; its unity is too marked. Nothing can really take the place of a first-hand study of the work itself. Many lecturers give the impression that they are using a great work merely as a background against which to display the brilliance of modern research. Eagerness to announce revolutionary discoveries is an unfailing sign of a superficial intelligence, and is surly beneath the dignity of the Professorial Chair.”

“So melancholy a neglect of Darwin’s work suggests reflections upon the use of those rare and precious possessions of man—great books.”

```
\placecitation [fisher1915cuenot]
```

```
@article{fisher1915cuenot,  
  title={Cu{\e}not on preadaptation: a criticism},  
  author={Fisher, Ronald Aylmer and Stock, CS},  
  journal={The Eugenics review},  
  volume={7},  
  number={1},  
  pages={46--61},  
  year={1915},  
  publisher={Oliver and Boyd}  
}
```


2 Finding a .bib file

Of course, one can reuse a .bib bibliographic data file from a previous project or swipe one from someone else.

For example,

<https://www.google.com/ncr#q=filetype:bib>

gives “About 1,100,000 results”

(although not all *.bib files are Bib_T_EX files and not all Bib_T_EX files are named *.bib).

Or, the TUG bibliography archive:

<http://ftp.math.utah.edu/pub/tex/bib/index.html>

“By early 2014, the TUG bibliography archive covers scores of subjects, and hundreds of journals, with more than 925,000 BibTeX entries.”

3 Google™ scholar

“Google Scholar provides a simple way to broadly search for scholarly literature. From one place, you can search across many disciplines and sources: articles, theses, books, abstracts and court opinions, from academic publishers, professional societies, online repositories, universities and other web sites. Google Scholar helps you find relevant work across the world of scholarly research.”

(+ patents)

The search heuristic is secret and proprietary (and changing).

[http://scholar.google.com/scholar?q="great books" author:"RA Fisher"](http://scholar.google.com/scholar?q=)

4 PubMed/NCBI/MEDLINE

“MEDLINE is the U.S. National Library of Medicine® (NLM) premier bibliographic database that contains over 21 million references to journal articles in life sciences with a concentration on biomedicine. A distinctive feature of MEDLINE is that the records are indexed with NLM Medical Subject Headings (MeSH®).”

**[http://www.ncbi.nlm.nih.gov/pmc/?term="great books
" author:"R. A. Fisher"](http://www.ncbi.nlm.nih.gov/pmc/?term=)**

PMC - PMC2987108
PMID- 21259602
VI - 7
IP - 1
DP - 1915 Apr
TI - Cu?not on preadaptation: A criticism.
PG - 46-61
FAU - Fisher, R. A.
AU - Fisher RA
FAU - Stock, C. S.
AU - Stock CS
LA - eng
PT - Journal Article
TA - Eugen Rev
JT - The Eugenics Review
SO - Eugen Rev. 1915 Apr;7(1):46-61.

5 Google™ books

The collections of great libraries are being digitalized, and one can now perform full text search in a huge corpus of published material. This is a great tool for identifying citations (as well as for detecting plagiarism)!

Most other publication databases do not include books.

However, Google is quite difficult to control (redirections, substitutions, ...) and its aim is commercial (to sell books).

https://www.google.com/search?q=inauthor%3A%2%A8RA+Fisher%2%A8+%2%A8particulate+inheritance%2%A8&btnG=Search+Books&tbm=bks&tbo=1&gws_rd=ssl

6 ISI Web of Knowledge™

Thompson/Reuters, the providers of the EndNote™ PC bibliographical software, run commercial publication databases including one called the Web of Science™. It is accessible by subscription only and is widely used to include bibliographies in MS/Word™.

The screenshot displays the ISI Web of Knowledge search results page. At the top, the navigation bar includes 'Web of Science™', 'InCites®', 'Journal Citation Reports®', 'Essential Science Indicators™', and 'Elastic®'. The main header features the 'WEB OF SCIENCE™' logo and the 'THOMSON REUTERS' logo. Below the header, there are navigation options like 'Back to Search', 'My Tools', 'Search History', and 'Marked List'. The search results are sorted by 'Times Cited - highest to lowest' and show 142 results. The first 10 results are listed, each with a title, author(s), journal name, volume, issue, pages, and publication date. For example, the first result is 'On the Lambert W function' by Corones, RM; Corones, GH; Haim, DEG, et al., published in 'ADVANCES IN COMPUTATIONAL MATHEMATICS' in 1996. The interface also includes a left sidebar for refining results by categories like 'Web of Science Categories', 'Document Types', and 'Research Areas'. At the bottom, there are links for 'Terms of Use', 'Privacy Policy', and 'Feedback'.

FN Thomson Reuters Web of Science™

VR 1.0

PT J

AU Corless, RM

Gonnet, GH

Hare, DEG

Jeffrey, DJ

Knuth, DE

AF Corless, RM

Gonnet, GH

Hare, DEG

Jeffrey, DJ

Knuth, DE

TI On the Lambert W function

SO ADVANCES IN COMPUTATIONAL MATHEMATICS

AB The Lambert W function is defined to be the multivalued inverse of the function $w \rightarrow we(w)$. It has many applications in pure and applied mathematics, some of which are briefly described here. We present a new discussion of the complex branches of W, an asymptotic expansion valid for all branches, an efficient numerical procedure for evaluating the function to arbitrary precision, and a method for the symbolic integration of expressions containing W.

SN 1019-7168

PY 1996

VL 5

IS 4

BP 329

EP 359

DI 10.1007/BF02124750

UT WOS:A1996VQ64200003

ER

tag	category	fields
AMBLE1974	article	af author doi index journal number pages sn title ut volume year
ANISIMOV1979	article	af author doi index journal number pages sn title ut volume year
Andersen1997	article	af author index journal month number pages sn title ut volume year
BENDER1969	article	af author index journal number pages title ut volume year
BOSE1960	article	af author index journal number pages sn title ut volume year
BOSE1961	article	af author doi index journal number pages sn title ut volume year
BREACH1984	article	af author doi index journal number pages sn title ut volume year
Corless1996	article	abstract af author doi index journal number pages sn title ut volume year
FLAJOLET1989	article	af author doi index journal month number pages sn title ut volume year
FLOYD1990	article	af author doi index journal month number pages sn title ut volume year
FREDMAN1971	article	af author index journal number pages title ut volume year
FREDMAN1974	article	af author doi index journal number pages sn title ut volume year
FUCHS1985	article	af author doi index journal number pages sn title ut volume year
GAREY1976	article	af author index journal number pages title ut volume year
GAREY1978	article	af author doi index journal number pages sn title ut volume year
GARFIELD1990	article	af author doi index journal month number pages sn title ut volume year
GUIBAS1990	article	af author index journal pages sn title ut volume year
GUIBAS1992	article	abstract af author doi index journal number pages sn title ut volume year
HALL1965	article	af author doi index journal number pages ri sn title ut volume year
HUANG1986	article	af author index journal number pages sn title ut volume year
Haland1995	article	abstract af author index journal number pages sn title ut volume year
INY1989	article	af author index journal month number pages sn title ut volume year
JANSON1993	article	abstract af author doi index journal number pages sn title ut volume year
JEFFREY1995	article	abstract af author index journal month number pages sn title ut volume year
JONASSEN1978	article	af author doi index journal number pages sn title ut volume year
Janson1997	article	abstract af author index journal month number pages sn title ut volume year
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KNUTH1972	article	af	author	doi	index	journal	number	pages	sn	title	ut	volume	year	
KNUTH1972a	article	af	author		index	journal	number	pages	sn	title	ut	volume	year	
KNUTH1972b	article	af	author	doi	index	journal	number	pages	sn	title	ut	volume	year	
KNUTH1972c	article	af	author		index	journal	number	pages	sn	title	ut	volume	year	
KNUTH1972d	article	af	author		index	journal	number	pages	sn	title	ut	volume	year	
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KNUTH1974b	article	af	author		index	journal	number	pages	sn	title	ut	volume	year	
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KNUTH1975b	article	af	author	doi	index	journal	number	pages	sn	title	ut	volume	year	
KNUTH1975c	article	af	author	doi	index	journal	number	pages	sn	title	ut	volume	year	
KNUTH1976	article	af	author		index	journal	number	pages	sn	title	ut	volume	year	
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KNUTH1981b	article	af	author	doi	index	journal	number	pages	sn	title	ut	volume	year	
KNUTH1981c	article	af	author	doi	index	journal	number	pages	sn	title	ut	volume	year	
KNUTH1982	article	af	author		index	journal	number	pages	sn	title	ut	volume	year	

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KNUTH1987c	article	af author index journal month number pages sn title ut volume year
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KNUTH1990b	article	af author index journal pages sn title ut volume year
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KNUTH1993a	article	af author index journal month number pages sn title ut year
KNUTH1993b	article	abstract af author doi index journal month number pages sn title ut volume year
KNUTH1994	article	af author doi index journal month number pages sn title ut volume year
KNUTH1994a	article	abstract af author index journal number pages sn title ut volume year
KNUTH1994b	article	af author index journal month number pages sn title ut volume year
KNUTH1995	article	abstract af author doi index journal month number pages sn title ut volume year
Knuth1996	article	abstract af author doi index journal month number pages sn title ut volume year
Knuth1996a	article	abstract af author doi index journal month number pages sn title ut volume year
Knuth1997	article	abstract af author doi index journal month number pages sn title ut volume year
Knuth1997a	article	abstract af author doi index journal month number pages sn title ut volume year
Knuth1998	article	abstract af author doi index journal month number pages sn title ut volume year
Knuth1998a	article	af author index journal month number pages sn title ut volume year
Knuth1999	article	af author index journal pages se sn title ut volume year
Knuth2002	article	af author index journal month number pages sn title ut volume year
Knuth2004	article	af author index journal month number pages sn title ut volume year
Knuth2004a	article	abstract af author index journal pages ri se sn title ut volume year
Knuth2011	article	af author doi index journal month number pages sn title ut volume year
NELSON1969	article	af author index journal number pages sn title ut volume year
YA01975	article	af author doi index journal number pages sn title ut volume year
ZWIER1988	article	af author index journal month number pages sn title ut volume year

7 Science Direct

“ScienceDirect is a website operated by the Anglo-Dutch publisher Elsevier. It was launched in March 1997. It is a platform for access to nearly 2,200 academic journals and over 25,000 e-books. The journals are grouped into four main sections: Physical Sciences and Engineering, Life Sciences, Health Sciences, and Social Sciences and Humanities. For most articles abstracts are freely available; access to the full text generally requires a subscription or pay-per-view purchase.”

<http://www.sciencedirect.com/science/search>

8 Springer Link

“Providing researchers with access to millions of scientific documents from journals, books, series, protocols and reference works.”

<http://link.springer.com>

9 Physical Review OnLine Archive

“PROLA, Physical Review On-Line Archive, presently consists of a nearly complete electronic version of Physical Review from 1985 through 1996. Soon it will allow electronic access to the entire Physical Review archive, back through 1893. It is made up of scanned images of the printed journals, most of the original electronic data used in typesetting, and a searchable SGML bibliographic database. PROLA brings the century’s achievements in physics straight to the desktop in a form that allows fast customized extraction of data for research purposes or out of pure curiosity.”

<http://journals.aps.org/search>

10 Other online resources

And dozens and dozens more: professional societies, publishers, online archives, ...

11 JabRef

Many tools are available to manage BibT_EX (and other) databases: kbibtex (KDE), zotero (firefox plugin), mendeley (web), jabref (Java), ...

JabRef is an open source bibliography reference manager. The native file format used by JabRef is BibT_EX, the standard LaTeX bibliography format. JabRef runs on the Java VM (version 1.6 or newer), and should work equally well on Windows, Linux and Mac OS X.

<http://jabref.sourceforge.net/>