Information seeking tools for specific information seekers in digital age

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Abstract

Explosion of information has left the scholars on the way from where large number of roads split and he feels like lost there. Whereas the information seeking tools work like a guiding bay to select the correct path. In this article an attempt has been made to make these scholars aware about the different types of Information seeking tools so that time and efforts of them can be saved.

Keywords

Academic Search Engines, , Information seeking tools, Information super highway.

1. Introduction

Change is the law of nature Bill Gates said The Internet is becoming the town square for the global village of tomorrow. As we see information term has been replaced with information superhighway. In this environment users, librarians, researchers has to face **many challenges to find out pinpoint information. To overcome these hindrance these** information seeking tools helps filter the information on the base of patron requirement. In simple words we can say these tools provide ready to use information. This paper is to aware about tools like general search engines, academic search engines, directories for researchers, teachers, and librarians for seeking specific type of information.

There was a time when libraries were regarded as a store house and librarian was supposed to be a store keeper to just hold the books in the library for the storage purpose only. There were no use of the books as the books were lying kept on the shelves. But with the passage of time that trend has totally been changed. Today 21st century libraries are regarded as social institutions with the aim to disseminate the information not only through the books but through the other information resources for example: through mail, social networking sites-facebook, twitter, linkedin, quicker, whatsapp, etc. Due to the tremendous growth of literature in our day to day life, nobody wants to read the full text thoroughly page by page. Everybody wants to grab up to the mark information which keeps them update with the tech savvy world. There is no doubt that each and everything is available with Google father with end number of options. But sometimes what we need did not find exactly. To overcome this problem we have some special information tools for specific information seekers. Let us discuss through this paper!!!!!

2. Objectives

To aware the user about the resources to save the time;
To provide ready to use information;
To lash the patrons with up to date information;
To explore an authoritative information;
To determine the function of Just in time information;
To provide only contextual information.

3. **Definition of related terms**

3.1   What is Information?

The English word was apparently derived from the Latin stem (information-) of the nominative (information): this noun is derived from the verb informare (to inform) in the sense of "to give form to the mind", Information is data in processed form, which can be used to fulfil the required information need.

According to Davis and Olson (1985) "Information is data that has been processed into a form that is meaningful to the recipient and is of real or perceived value in current or prospective action or decisions".

3.2   **Information Superhighway**

It is an extensive electronic network such as the Internet, used for the rapid transfer of information such as sound, video, and graphics in digital form.

3.3   **Information seeking tools**

Although Google, Yahoo and Lycos etc are most popular information seeking tools but these tools are little bit time consuming also. To fetch information required is like finding a needle in hay. To save the time of reader and provide subject specific information a number of information tools have been designed and these have been discussed in this paper.
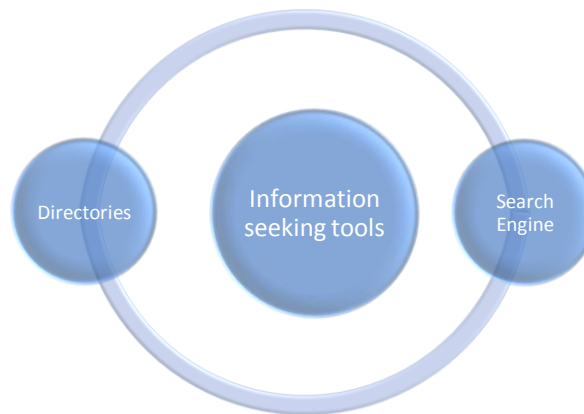

Fig1: Information seeking tools

3.4   **Search Engine:**

A Web Search Engine is software, program or a system which is designed to search for some useful information and data on the World Wide Web. The search results are generally presented in a proper list of results which is referred to as SERPs (Search Engine Results Pages). Those information or search results may be a mix of web pages, video links, images and other different types of files.

3.4.1   Different categories of search Engine

Fig2: Different categories of search engine

3.5   General Search Engines

AltaVista Search: - http://altavista.digital.com/
Ask Jeeves! - http://www.aj.com/
Excite Home - http://www.excite.com/
HotBot - http://www.hotbot.com/
Infoseek - http://guide.infoseek.com/
Lycos - http://www.lycos.com/
Magellan! - http://www.mckinley.com/
SavvySearch - http://www.cs.colostate.edu/~dreiling/smartform.html
Starting Point - http://www.stpt.com/
Verio: Search - http://search.verio.net/
WWWW – world wide web worm-
 http://wwww.cs.colorado.edu/wwww
Yahoo! - http://www.yahoo.com/

3.6   Academic Search Engine

The objective of academic search engine to provision of consolidate and contextual information in just in time especially to the researchers, teachers, librarians and keen readers.
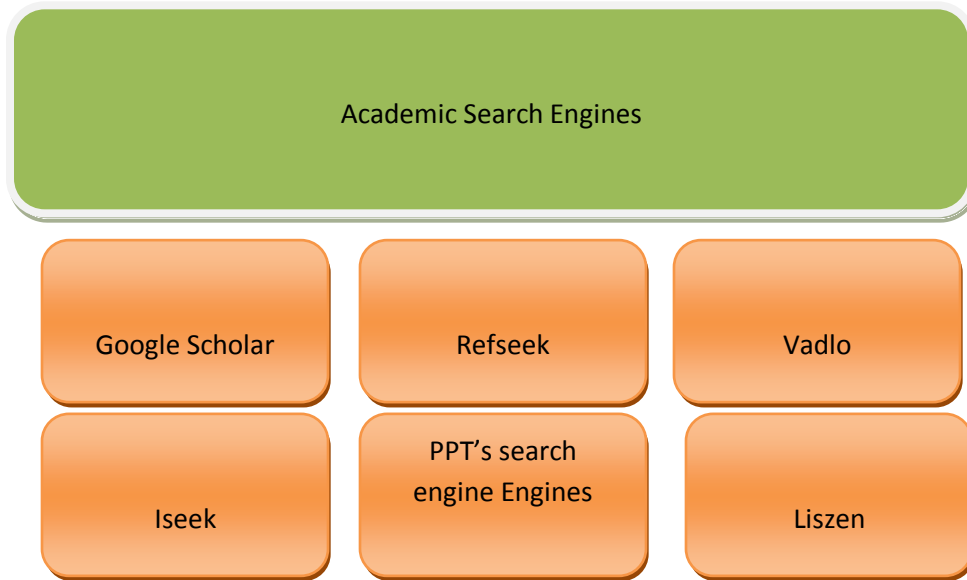
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                        Academic Search Engines



      Google Scholar              Refseek                  Vadlo


                              PPT's search
           Iseek              engine Engines                Liszen
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Fig3: Academic Search Engine

3.6.1   Google Scholar

Google Scholar is a freely accessible web search engine that indexes the full text or metadata of scholarly literature across an array of publishing formats and disciplines. Released in beta in November 2004, the Google Scholar index includes most peer-reviewed online journals of Europe and America's largest scholarly publishers, plus scholarly books and other non-peer reviewed journals. Google Scholar allows users to search for digital or physical copies of articles, whether online or in libraries. It indexes "full-text journal articles, technical reports, preprints, thesis, books, and other documents, including selected Web pages that are deemed to be 'scholarly.

3.6.2   RefSeek

RefSeek is a web search engine for students and researchers that aim to make academic information easily accessible to everyone. RefSeek searches more than one billion documents, including web pages, books, encyclopedias, journals, and newspapers. RefSeek's unique approach offers students comprehensive subject coverage without the information overload of a general search engine—increasing the visibility of academic information and compelling ideas that are often lost in a muddle of sponsored links and commercial results.

3.6.3   VADLO

VADLO is brought to us by Life in Research, LLC., a company founded by two biology scientists who wish to make it easier to locate biology research related information on the web. The fastest growing search engine in Biology, VADLO caters to all branches of life sciences. With more than 500,000 visitors and 1.5 million page views per month, VADLO allows scientists to search within four unique categories: Protocols, Products, Powerpoints and Bioinformatics. Protocols category lets you search for methods,

techniques, essays, procedures, reagent recipes, plasmid maps, etc. Products category allows searching for commercially available life sciences research reagents. PowerPoint's category finds PowerPoint files for presentations, seminars, lectures and talks. Bioinformatics category caters calculators, servers, prediction tools, sequence alignment and manipulation tools, primer design etc.

3.6.4   ISEEK

ISEEK Education is a targeted search engine that compiles hundreds of thousands of authoritative resources from university, government, and established non commercial providers. It provides time-saving intelligent search and a personal Web-based library to help you locate the most relevant results immediately and find them quickly later.

3.6.5   PPT's Search engine

This powerful search engine facilitates its users through providing the specific power presentations to the concerned keywords .

3.6.6   LISZEN

LISZEN is a search engine of library science terms it helps the library science user to access of information easily and timely.

3.6.7   Open Access Journals Search Engine (OAJSE)

Open Access Journals Search Engine (OAJSE): The Open Access Journals Search Engine (OAJSE) service covers free, full text, quality controlled journals. It aims to cover journals in all subjects that are published in English language. There are now 4,775 journals in the directory. All are searchable at article level.

3.7   Directories

According to World Wide Web, a *directory* is a subject guide, typically organized by major topics and subtopics for example Directory of Open Access Books (DOAB)

3.7.1   Directory of Open Access Books (DOAB)

The primary aim of DOAB is to increase discoverability of Open Access books. Academic publishers are invited to provide metadata of their Open Access books to DOAB. Metadata will be harvestable in order to maximize dissemination, visibility and impact. Aggregators can integrate the records in their commercial services and libraries can integrate the directory into their online catalogues, helping scholars and students to discover the books. The directory is open to all publishers who publish academic, peer reviewed books in Open Access and should contain as many books as possible, provided that these publications are in Open Access and meet academic standards.

A Monthly Double-Blind Peer Reviewed Refereed Open Access International e-Journal - Included in the International Serial Directories

International Journal in Management and Social Science

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Directory of Open Access Books (DOAB)

Directories

Directory of Open Access Journals (DOAJ)

Fig4: Directories and its types

3.7.2   Directory of Open Access Journals (DOAJ)

The Directory of Open Access Journals was launched in 2003 at Lund University, Sweden, with 300 open access journals and today contains more than 10000 open access journals covering all areas of science, technology, medicine, social science and humanities. DOAJ is a white list of open access journals and aims to be the starting point for all information searches for quality, peer reviewed open access material. To assist libraries and indexers keep their lists up-to-date, we make public a list of journals that have been accepted into or removed from DOAJ.   The aim of the DOAJ is to increase the visibility and ease of use of open access scientific and scholarly journals, thereby promoting their increased usage and impact. The DOAJ aims to be comprehensive and cover all open access scientific and scholarly journals that use a quality control system to guarantee the content. In short, the DOAJ aims to be the one-stop shop for users of open access journals.

3.8   Conclusion
In the present scenario of information technology with little modifications, we can say that by using these tools we can fulfil the laws of library science, as information seeking tools are for use, it saves the time of reader, every tool has its reader and every reader has its tool. As the technology is going high day by day, so our information seeking tools are growing.

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4. **http://www.seotutorials.co.in/basics-for-seo/difference-between-portal-and-search-engines/**
5. https://www.google.co.in/webhp?sourceid=chrome-instant&ion=1&espv=2&ie=UTF-8#q=information%20superhighway%20meaning
6. http://www.refseek.com/
7. http://vadlo.com/
8. https://scholar.google.co.in/
9. http://www.iseek.com/iseek/home.page
10. https://doaj.org/
11. http://www.doabooks.org/
12. http://liszen.com/
13. http://www.oajse.com/about_us.html
14. http://www.pptsearchengine.net/