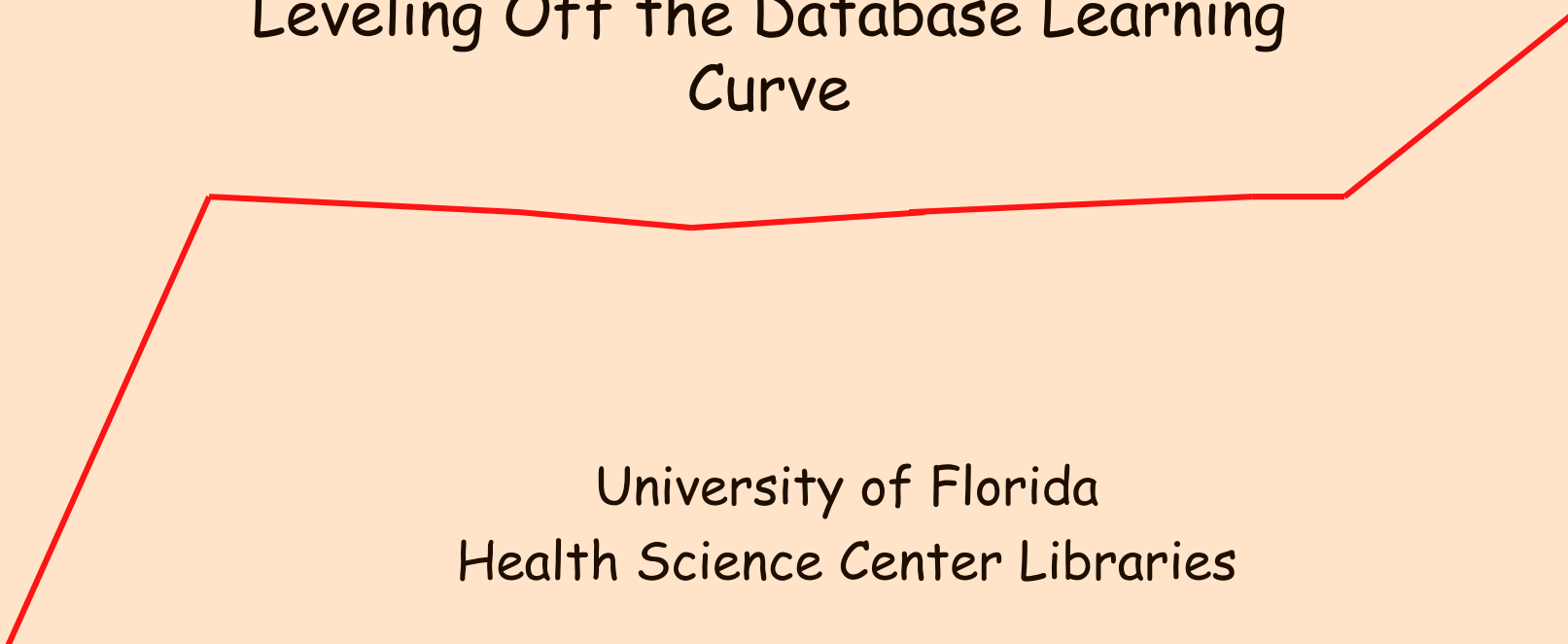


# databasics

Or

Leveling Off the Database Learning  
Curve

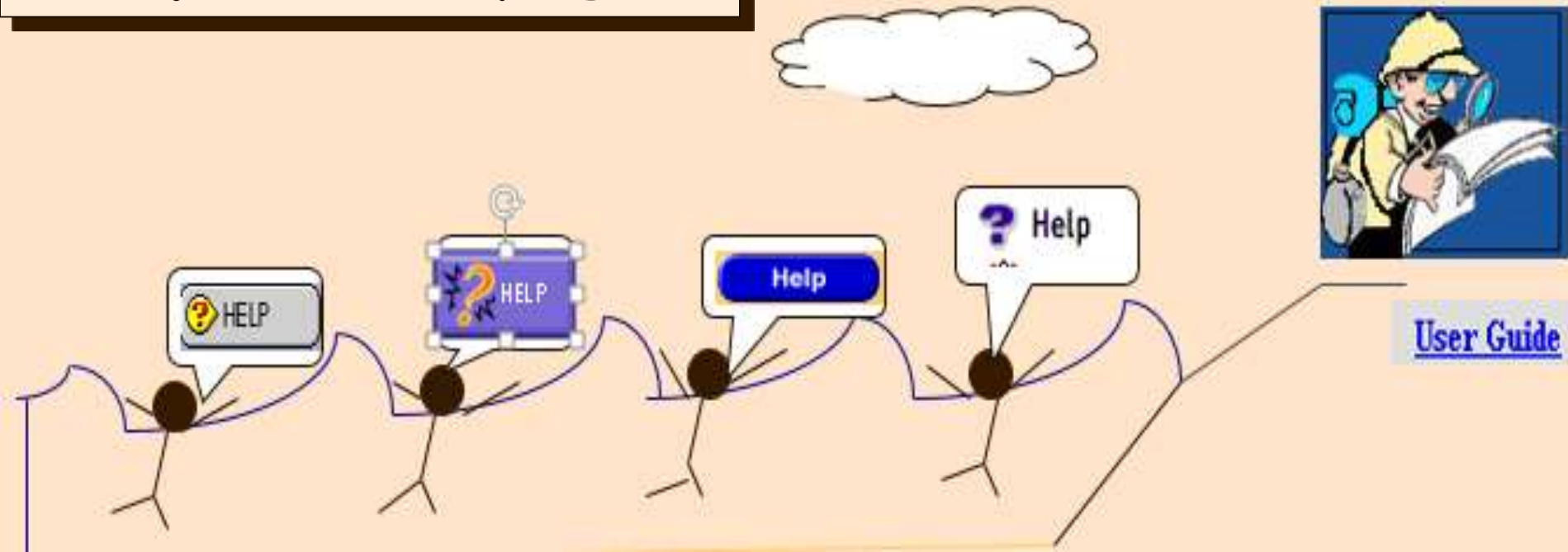


University of Florida  
Health Science Center Libraries

# Common database functions

- ✓ **Help/Guide page**
- ✓ **Truncation/Wildcard**
- ✓ **Phrase searching**
- ✓ **Controlled vocabulary**
- ✓ **Limits**
- ✓ **Combining searches**
- ✓ **History of search session**
- ✓ **Links** (to electronic full-text or the library's record of its print journals)
- ✓ **Saving search strategies & results**
- ✓ **Alerts:** New results sent to your email

# Help/Guide pages

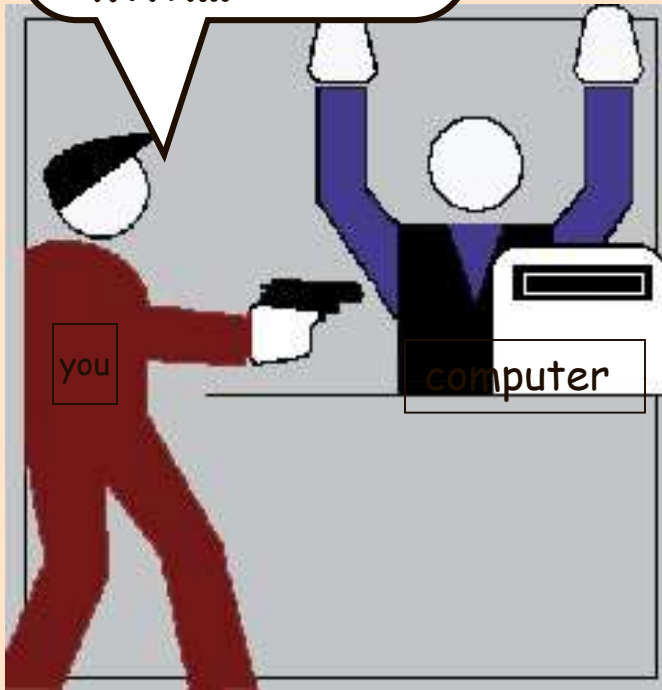


Don't drown in a new database!

Look for a **Help** or **User Guide** button in the upper left or right corner or the top center of the screen.

# Truncation

Give me everything ya got that starts with...



## What it does

Searches for word variations:  
*therap\** retrieves *therapy, therapies, therapeutic, therapeutics*

## How to

1. Type the beginning of a search term--up to the point at which its forms/spellings differ (after the *p* in the *therap\** example above)
2. Add the database's truncation symbol (usually *\**)

Databases may use different symbols for truncation.

See each database's **Help/Guide** page to learn:

1. its truncation symbol
2. how many letters must precede a truncation symbol. In most databases you need 3 characters before you truncate (no *\*etiology* for *aetiology*, for example.)

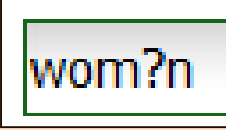
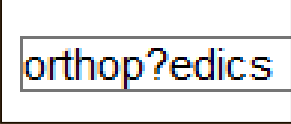
diabet\*

diabet?

diabet\$

Over the past 2 decades, the asterisk has become nearly universal across bibliographic (library) databases as a truncation symbol. In the past, some databases used question marks and dollar signs also/instead.

# Wildcards

- A **WILDCARD** symbol substitutes for one or sometimes no character(s) to retrieve similar words in one search. For example: :
  - both **woman** and **women** 
  - both **American orthopedics** and **British orthopaedics** 
- Like truncation symbols, wildcard symbols vary between databases and usually cannot be used at the beginning of a search term.

# Phrase Searching

- Many health ideas are expressed as phrases of two or more words.
- To ensure they're only retrieved when adjacent without intervening words and in the order entered, place the multiword phrase in quotation marks:

"health care"    "closed head injury"

# Controlled vocabulary? What's that?



A "lead" or standardized term chosen to gather related terms and word forms under.

## Adolescent:

- Youth
- Teen
- Teenager
- Adolescence
- Post-elementary student
- Young adult....

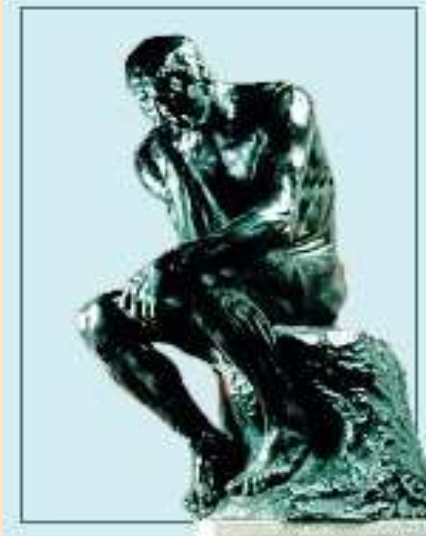


# Controlled Vocabulary— worth the effort?

You decide!



vs.



Computer matches  
individual letters

Human brains process  
whole-sentence or  
whole-article meaning

# Why we controlled vocabulary!!!

- Collects alternate spellings/word forms and synonyms:

*therapy, therapies, treatment, treatments*

- Separates meanings of homonyms:

*hearing* (ear function)  $\neq$  *hearing* (judicial function)

- Judges relative importance of term in the context of whole article (only "names" the most important concepts in articles)

- Notes negating terms like *but, except, not*

# "Hidden" in full view

Most databases show you exactly where to find their controlled vocabulary.

They just use different names for it:

The image displays four screenshots of database interfaces, each with a red circle highlighting a link to the controlled vocabulary and a green box highlighting a search term. The screenshots are:

- ERIC:** The word "ERIC" is highlighted in a purple box. The link "Thesaurus" is circled in red. The search term "MAINSUBJECT.EXACT 'Graduate Medical Education'" is highlighted in a green box.
- CINAHL:** The link "CINAHL Headings" is circled in red. The search term "(MH 'Neuromuscular Massage'" is highlighted in a green box.
- PsycINFO:** The link "Thesaurus" is circled in red. The search term "DE 'Abnormal Psychology'" is highlighted in a green box.
- PubMed:** The link "MeSH" is circled in red. The search term "'Stroke' [Mesh]" is highlighted in a green box.

These weed out unwanted results.  
Common limits:

- Language
- Publication date
- Type of publication
- Age of patient/client

# Limits

<b>Tests &amp; Measures</b> <input type="text"/> <hr/>	<b>Peer Reviewed</b> <input type="checkbox"/>
<b>Publication Type</b> <input type="text" value="All"/> All Journals Peer Reviewed Journal Peer-Reviewed Status-Unknown	<b>Publisher</b> <input type="text"/> <hr/>
<b>Age Groups</b> <input type="text" value="All"/> Childhood (birth-12 yrs) Neonatal (birth-1 mo) Infancy (2-23 mo)	<b>Publication Status</b> <input type="text" value="All"/> first posting fully published
<b>Intended Audience</b> <input type="text" value="All"/> General Public Juvenile Psychology: Professional & Research	<b>English</b> <input type="checkbox"/>
<b>Book Type</b> <input type="text" value="All"/> Classic Book Conference Proceedings Handbook/Manual	<b>Language</b> <input type="text" value="All"/> Afrikaans Arabic Bulgarian
<b>Classification Codes</b> <input type="text" value="All"/> 2100 General Psychology 2140 History & Systems 2200 Psychometrics & Statistics & Methodology	<b>Population Group</b> <input type="text" value="All"/> Human Animal Male
	<b>Document Type</b> <input type="text" value="All"/> Abstract Collection Bibliography Chapter
	<b>Methodology</b> <input type="text" value="All"/> BRAIN IMAGING CLINICAL CASE STUDY EMPIRICAL STUDY
	<b>Exclude Dissertations</b> <input type="checkbox"/>

clear

**Article types**

- Clinical Trial
- ✓ **Meta-Analysis**
- Review
- ✓ **Systematic Reviews**
- Customize ...

**Text availability**

- Abstract
- [Free full text](#)
- Full text

**PubMed Commons**

- Reader comments
- Trending articles

**Publication dates**

- 5 years
- 10 years
- Custom range...

**Species**

- Humans
- Other Animals

**Languages**

- English
- Customize ...

**Sex**

- Female
- Male

**Ages**

- Child: birth-18 years
- Infant: birth-23 months
- Adult: 19+ years
- Adult: 19-44 years
- Aged: 65+ years
- Customize ...

## Cochrane

**Search limits**

By default, your search will be of all Cochrane databases, all document statuses, fo

<b>Database</b> <input type="checkbox"/> Cochrane Reviews <input checked="" type="radio"/> All <input type="radio"/> Review <input type="radio"/> Protocol <input type="checkbox"/> Other Reviews <input type="checkbox"/> Trials <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Methods Studies <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Technology Assessments <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Economic Evaluations <input type="checkbox"/> Cochrane Groups	<b>Status</b> Limit search to the following <input type="checkbox"/> New (all products)  For Cochrane Reviews only <input type="checkbox"/> New Search <input type="checkbox"/> Conclusions Changed <input type="checkbox"/> Major Change <input type="checkbox"/> Commented <input type="checkbox"/> Withdrawn
--	--

## PsycINFO

## PubMed

[Clear all](#) [Show additional filters](#)

# Combining

Most databases allow you to combine searches of different "fields" in one search . . .

Search interface showing two search fields: "jama" and "intubation". The first field is set to "SO Publication Name" and the second to "MH Exact Subject He...". A green "Search" button is visible.

. . .or to combine previous searches with AND, OR, NOT

CINAHL

Cochrane Library

Search Manager interface showing a list of search results:

- Search
- Search Manager
- Medical Terms (MeSH)
- Browse

To search an exact word(s) use quotation marks, e.g. "hospital" finds hospital; hospital (no quotation marks) finds hospital and hospitals; pay finds paid, pays, paying, payed)

[Add to top](#)

-	+	#1	MeSH descriptor: [Brain Concussion] explode all trees and with qualifier(s): [Etiology - ET]	m	10	
-	+	#2	MeSH descriptor: [Sports] explode all trees	m	10302	
-	Edit	+	#3	#1 and #2	TH	3

# History

- Lists previous searches
- Enables you to combine previous searches.
- Lists terms and combinations you've tried in case you have to redo a search or pick up where you left off.

("Rehabilitation"[Mesh]) AND "Brain Injuries"[Mesh]

[Edit](#)

[Clear](#)

### Builder

	All Fields	▼	"Rehabilitation"[Mesh]	⊖	<a href="#">Show index list</a>	
AND	▼	All Fields	▼	"Brain Injuries"[Mesh]	⊖	<a href="#">Show index list</a>
AND	▼	All Fields	▼		⊖ ⊕	<a href="#">Show index list</a>

or [Add to history](#)

### History

[Download history](#) [Clear history](#)

Search	Add to builder	Query	Items found	Time
#8	<a href="#">Add</a>	Search "Brain Injuries"[Mesh]	<a href="#">53690</a>	14:32:59
#6	<a href="#">Add</a>	Search "Rehabilitation"[Mesh]	<a href="#">160715</a>	14:32:42

Connect to

- publishers' full-text e journals in databases

OR

- full-text e journals in the UF libraries' catalog

# Links

PubMed

[J Neurol](#). 2014 Dec;261(12):2460-2. doi: 10.1007/s00415-014-7543-0. Epub 2014 Oct 16.

**Active music therapy approach in disorders of consciousness: a controlled observational case series.**

[Raqlio A<sup>1</sup>](#), [Guizzetti GB](#), [Bolognesi M](#), [Antonaci D](#), [Granieri E](#), [Baiardi P](#), [Maggioni G](#), [Pistarini C](#).

**Author information**

PMID: 25319023 [PubMed - indexed for MEDLINE]

[Similar articles](#)

University of Florida Libraries Catalog

Basic Search  Search begins with (browse)  Advanced Search

Search: 'experimental brain research' : Journals/Serials   
We found 4 matching items at University of Florida, 1 of these is available online.

Did you mean [Experimental brain research. Supplementum?](#) (see more Journal Abbreviation Search results...)

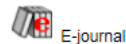
Limit by: Publication Year

Narrow Results By:

- Library/Collection
  - UF HEALTH SCIENCE CENTER LIBR (3)
- Format
  - Journal (2)
  - Online Resource (1)
- Subject: Topic

## 1. Experimental brain research

Published: Heidelberg : Springer-Verlag



[Click here for full text options](#) UF: Off-campus access limited to current UF students & employees  
UF ONLINE See Link to Connect

[Brain Inj](#). 2014;28(13-14):1645-56. doi: 10.3109/0289052.2014.946448. Epub 2014 Aug 25.

**Revisiting the neurofunctional approach: conceptualizing the core components for the rehabilitation of everyday living skills.**

[Clark-Wilson J<sup>1</sup>](#), [Giles GM](#), [Baxter DM](#)

**Author information**

**Abstract**

**BACKGROUND:** Introduced in the 1980s, the neurofunctional approach (NFA) is one of the few interventions designed primarily for clients with severe deficits following traumatic brain injury (TBI). Specifically the NFA was intended for those individuals who were limited in their ability to solve novel problems or generalize skills from one setting to another and whose lack of insight limited their engagement in the rehabilitative process.

**DESCRIPTION OF THE APPROACH:** The NFA is a client-centred, goal-driven approach that incorporates the principles of skill learning and promotes the development of routines and competencies in practical activities required for everyday living. Programmes based on the NFA are developed specifically to meet each client's unique needs, using a range of evidence-based interventions.

**RECENT EVIDENCE:** Recently the NFA has been found to be more effective than cognitive-retraining for some individuals with moderate-to-severe TBI who have deficits in activities of daily living. This paper aims to define the core features of the NFA, outline the theoretical basis on which it is founded and consider implications of the findings for rehabilitation after TBI in general. The NFA is highly relevant for clients living in the community who require a case manager to direct an integrated, rehabilitation programme or provide structured input for the long-term maintenance of skills.

**KEYWORDS:** Brain injury; cognition; learning; neurofunctional approach

[Similar articles](#)

# Saving Search Strategies and Results; Setting up Alerts

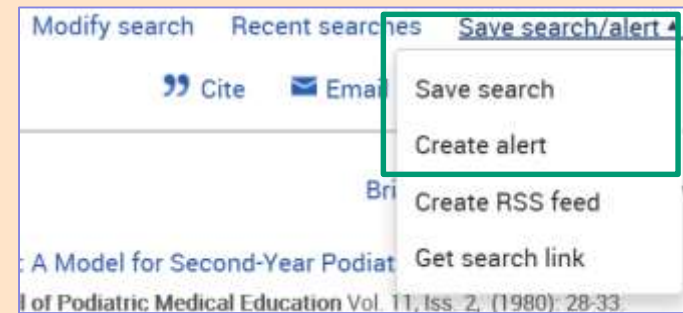
- Most databases enable you to save your search strategies and their results either directly from the results page or from the Search History
- You can also set up alerts: the database will email citations of new items that fit your search parameters when they enter the database

PubMed (My NCBI section)



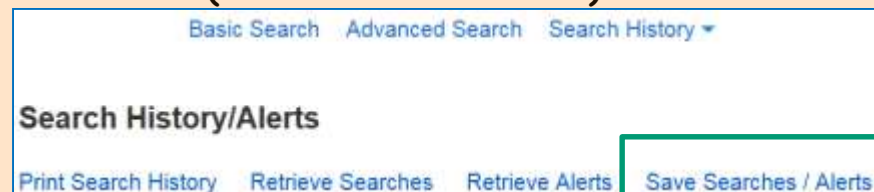
The screenshot shows a table titled "Saved Searches" with the following data:

Search Name	What's New	Last Searched
<a href="#">HepatitisHIVAIDS</a>	62888	2 years ago
<a href="#">SubstanceAbuseMeSH&amp;Keywords</a>	25752	2 years ago
<a href="#">hlthsvcpplansAgedEng2vrsHuman</a>	23	3 years ago



ERIC (a ProQuest database)

CINAHL (an Ebsco database)





# Cast of Databases that Appeared in Examples

## Databases

Quick picks – the most popular databases

[AccessMedicine](#)

[BIOSIS](#)

[CAB](#)

[CINAHL](#)

[Clinical  
Pharmacology](#)

[Cochrane Library](#)

[EBSCOhost  
Web Databases](#)

[ERIC \(ProQuest\)](#)

[HaPI](#)

[InCites Journal  
Citation Reports](#)

[IPA](#)

[NCBI](#)

[ProQuest Databases](#)

[PsycINFO](#)

[PubMed](#)

[SportDiscus](#)

[STAT!Ref  
e-books](#)

[TOXLINE](#)

[UpToDate \(VPN  
access only\)](#)

[Web of Science](#)