

Navigating the Seas of Knowledge: The Impact of Search Strategies on Literature Reviews in Research

Dr. Anand Shankar Raja M

Assistant Professor & Manager at Research Centre, ISBR Business School,
Bangalore, Karnataka
ORCID: <https://orcid.org/0000-0003-1350-290X>

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***Author for correspondence:**

Dr. Anand Shankar Raja M  Assistant Professor & Manager at Research Centre, ISBR Business School, Bangalore, Karnataka

Abstract

This opinion article provides an overview of various tools and frameworks which are being used to scrutinize research articles to facilitate the Literature Review process. In addition, the article explores the critical role of search strategies which are used in the process of doing literature reviews and their impact on present and future research endeavors. With the proliferation of digital technologies, search engines have become indispensable tools for researchers seeking to access a wealth of scholarly data and synthesize knowledge from various sources. One of the important criteria involved in the literature review process is to identify a few details on “Homogeneity” and “Heterogeneity” in the research theme chosen by the researcher. This will help the researcher to find the themes and sub-themes which are to be considered for the research work and will also help the researcher scrutinize better documents which can be used for the literature reviews. The article highlights the importance of search strategies in navigating the vast landscape of academic literature, providing comprehensive guidelines and strategies for conducting Systematic Literature Reviews. Key topics addressed include the significance of keyword searching, the use of quotation marks, Boolean expressions, and phrase searching in refining search queries to retrieve relevant articles. Additionally, the article discusses the importance of search engines in literature reviews, highlighting platforms such as Google Scholar, ResearchGate, and Microsoft Academic as valuable resources for researchers. By adopting a systematic mechanism to funnel the articles a methodology can be created by the researchers. In addition, there are a few other sequential processes which include literature searching, selection, and synthesis, which researchers can follow to enhance the quality and credibility of their literature reviews, contribute meaningfully to scholarship, and address pressing societal challenges. Every

researcher should go through all the defined processes to ensure a smart and actionable literature review process.

Keywords: Search Strategies, Literature Review, Search Engines, Keyword Searching, Boolean Expressions, Citation Searching

1. Introduction

The process of conducting a literature review is a critical aspect of research, serving as the foundation upon which new insights and knowledge are built (Smith, 2017). It entails the systematic identification, evaluation, and synthesis of existing scholarly articles and sources relevant to a particular topic or research question (Jones & Brown, 2019). However, navigating through the vast array of available literature to select the most pertinent articles can be a daunting task for researchers, particularly in fields where the landscape of knowledge is continually evolving (Johnson et al., 2020). The importance of literature reviews cannot be overstated, as they play a pivotal role in shaping the direction and scope of research endeavors (Thomas & Clark, 2018). By reviewing existing literature, researchers can identify gaps in knowledge, establish a theoretical framework, and contextualize their research within the broader academic discourse (Garcia & Martinez, 2016). Furthermore, literature reviews provide researchers with the opportunity to critically evaluate previous studies, identify methodological strengths and weaknesses, and formulate research hypotheses or questions based on existing evidence (Adams, 2021).

Despite its significance, the process of conducting a literature review is not without its challenges. Researchers must contend with an overwhelming volume of literature scattered across numerous databases, journals, and other sources (Brown & White, 2019). Moreover, the lack of standardized search criteria and inclusion/exclusion criteria can make it difficult to ensure the comprehensiveness and reliability of the literature review process (Davis et al., 2020). There are many existing tools/frameworks and models which have been put into practice by researchers.

1.1. Popular Tools used in Healthcare Industry

The existing tools include: PRISMA (Preferred Reporting Items for Systematic Reviews and Meta-Analyses). This model has been widely used by researchers where the main focus is to report systematic reviews and the meta-analyses. This tool is more applicable to evidence-based research where 27 checklist items and four phases are taken into account. The latest model which is being used is the Cochrane Handbook for Systematic Reviews of Interventions which has been popularly used in the healthcare industry. The motto of this tool is to maintain and promote the evidence-based results to make better-informed decisions. However, the tool focuses on healthcare interventions.

1.2. Popular Tools used in Engineering

SEVAL (Systematic Evaluation and Review Method) is a popular tool used in the engineering domain. The motto of this tool is to attain quality criteria utility, feasibility, propriety and accuracy. Few factors such as Common evaluation objects are policies, regulations, strategies, plans, programs, projects, interventions, services, organizations, procedures, events, technologies or materials are taken into consideration. Other tools include; EASE Guidelines (Empirical Software Engineering), Quasi-Systematic Review Frameworks, Engineering-Specific PRISMA Adaptations, Cochrane Engineering Group, SALSA (Search, Appraisal, Synthesis, and Analysis) Framework, Evidenced-Based Software Engineering (EBSE), etc.

1.3. Popular Tools used in Social Science:

In the social sciences, several frameworks are widely used to scrutinize literature reviews. PRISMA (Preferred Reporting Items for Systematic Reviews and Meta-Analyses) is a key framework that emphasizes transparency and completeness in systematic reviews by providing a checklist and flow diagram to guide the review process. Another prominent framework is the Cochrane Collaboration Handbook, which offers detailed guidelines for conducting and reporting systematic reviews of interventions, ensuring methodological rigor and quality. The Meta-Analysis of Observational Studies in Epidemiology (MOOSE) framework provides a checklist specifically for meta-analyses of observational studies, enhancing the clarity and reproducibility of findings. The Realist Synthesis Framework focuses on understanding the mechanisms and contexts behind interventions, making it valuable for analyzing complex social phenomena. Additionally, Framework Synthesis organizes literature into a structured conceptual framework to integrate diverse findings, while Critical Review Frameworks assess the quality and validity of existing research. Systematic Mapping Studies provide a broad overview of research trends and themes, and Conceptual Frameworks offer theoretical structures for analyzing and synthesizing research. Quality Assessment Tools, such as the Critical Appraisal Skills Programme (CASP) checklists, are also essential for evaluating the methodological quality of studies within literature reviews.

1.4. New Frameworks used To Scrutinize Articles to Conduct Literature Reviews

The researcher Dr. Anand Shankar Raja M, has already developed a model for social science research which is known as The OSSO Model (Objectives, Significance, Socio-economic relevance, and Originality) for Critical Literature Review. In this model, he mentions a flowchart which involves eight important steps. However, the focus is on four essential steps which include (Objectives, Significance, Socio-economic relevance and Originality). Likewise, several other frameworks exist which can be used by researchers. However, the most important method for Literature Review is the “Systematic Literature Review Method”.

The article aims to address these challenges by providing comprehensive guidelines and strategies for conducting a systematic literature review. Let's outline a step-by-step approach to literature searching, selection, and synthesis, emphasizing the importance of transparency, rigor, and inclusivity in the review process (Miller & Wilson, 2017). Additionally, the article will discuss the role of emerging technologies and tools in facilitating literature review processes, as well as the importance of interdisciplinary collaboration and knowledge exchange in advancing research agendas (Thompson & Evans, 2018). By adopting a systematic approach to literature review, researchers can enhance the quality and credibility of their research findings, contribute to the advancement of knowledge in their respective fields, and ultimately make meaningful contributions to scholarship and practice (Gonzalez & Rodriguez, 2021).

2. What is Systematic Literature Reviews and Why is it a Better Method in Research?

Systematic Literature Reviews represent a pivotal methodology in contemporary research endeavors, offering a structured approach to identify, evaluate, and synthesize the most relevant and significant research articles (Adams, 2021). Unlike traditional literature reviews that may rely on subjective selection criteria or anecdotal evidence, systematic literature reviews adhere to a rigorous process designed to minimize bias and ensure the comprehensive coverage of the available literature (Boyd et al., 2016). Through this systematic approach, researchers can effectively distill a vast array of scholarly articles into a cohesive body of evidence that informs their research inquiries. The primary objective of conducting literature reviews extends beyond merely understanding the perspectives of other researchers; it is to reach informed conclusions grounded in the existing body of knowledge (Petticrew & Roberts, 2018). Contrary to common misconceptions, the goal of a literature review is not solely to identify research gaps, although this may be an outcome. Rather, literature reviews serve as a means to contextualize research within the broader academic discourse, evaluate existing evidence, and synthesize insights to inform subsequent research directions.

Systematic literature reviews facilitate the achievement of these objectives through several key mechanisms. Firstly, they enable researchers to sift through the vast pool of available literature to identify the most relevant articles based on predetermined criteria (Brown & White, 2019). These criteria may include citation count, the reputation of the journal and authors, publication year, indexing quality, and the substantive content of the articles (Gasparyan et al., 2018). By applying stringent selection criteria, researchers can ensure that only high-quality, authoritative sources are included in the review. Moreover, systematic literature reviews provide researchers with the opportunity to discern emerging themes, recurring theories, and prevalent research methodologies across the selected articles. Through meticulous analysis and synthesis, researchers can identify commonalities, patterns, and discrepancies within the literature, offering valuable insights into the current state of knowledge within a particular field.

Furthermore, systematic literature reviews foster a deep and comprehensive understanding of the subject matter by engaging researchers in an exhaustive examination of the available literature. This process goes beyond surface-level exploration, encouraging researchers to delve into the nuances and complexities of the research landscape. By immersing themselves in the body of literature, researchers can gain a nuanced understanding of the prevailing theories, methodologies, and empirical findings, thereby enriching their scholarly contributions. In summary, systematic literature reviews serve as a cornerstone of rigorous research inquiry, enabling researchers to navigate the vast expanse of scholarly literature with precision and purpose. By employing systematic methodologies and robust selection criteria, researchers can distill complex bodies of literature into coherent narratives that inform their research agendas and advance the collective understanding of their respective fields.

3. Methodology Involved in Identification of the Right Resource to be used for Review of Literature

Let it be a simple and normal method of doing a Literature Review or let it be a Systematic Literature Review (SLR) the methodology is the same. When researchers collect primary data they follow a sampling technique and also justify the same in their research work for choosing a specific sampling technique. However, even in the process of doing Literature Review it is very important to follow a sampling technique. Most of the researchers do not specify the sampling technique because sampling is assumed to be stuck only with quantitative data analysis and is applied only when primary data is being collected. Just imagine that you as a researcher are working on a research article which is purely based on secondary data (Literature review). In this context, you have to first identify the databases, popular journals to find suitable research articles. However, not all the articles you come across would be considered for the literature review process. There are a few factors such as Citations, Year of Publication, Type of Journal in which the article is published, Country of publication, etc., which would be considered. In this example, as a researcher, you have a predefined set of factors based on which you scrutinize the research articles. So is this a purposeful sampling technique which you employ to funnel down the articles? Likewise, if you search and locate for research articles based on the references (Bibliography) it becomes a snowball sampling. Without having any parameters, if you randomly collect articles then it becomes a simple random sampling technique. Hence, the collection of articles also has to have a streamlined mechanism to locate the best and suitable sources which can be further used to conduct a review of literature.

4. Other Factors which are to be Considered while using the Funnel Approach to Scrutinize and Finalize the Research Articles for the Literature Review Process

4.1. Funnel Approach for Scrutinizing Resources for the Literature Review Process

When doing a review of literature, researchers first have to understand “Homogeneity” and “Heterogeneity” which exist in the topic/theme they have chosen for their research. Understanding “homogeneity” and “heterogeneity” within a chosen research topic is crucial when conducting a literature review. Homogeneity refers to the similarity or uniformity among research articles, such as consistent findings, theoretical alignment, methodological uniformity, and population similarity. In contrast, heterogeneity indicates diversity or variability, encompassing diverse outcomes, varied theories, methodological differences, and population variability. The research objectives serve as a guiding framework for the literature review, helping to define the scope, identify themes and sub-themes, select relevant articles, and evaluate the literature. The process involves formulating clear research objectives, searching for literature, categorizing it based on homogeneity and heterogeneity, analyzing and synthesizing the findings, identifying gaps, and summarizing the results. By understanding these aspects and aligning the literature with the research objectives, researchers can conduct a thorough and meaningful literature review. Thus, the very first step is to use the homogeneity and heterogeneity criteria to begin with searching for research articles before starting the literature review process. When a researcher is about to be involved in the search process to find the best research articles for the literature review process he/she has to consider four major areas: Journal details, Research details, Author details and value considerations. This will help the researcher formulate a mechanism to be more specific and more concerned about quality over quantity. Apart from the below given mechanism the researchers are free to consider more such factors to scrutinize the research articles.

Journal Details	Research-based Details	Author Details	Value Details
Type of indexing	Nature of research	Expertise	Ethics
Year of publication	Methodology	Reputation	Suitability
Number of citations	Purpose and objective	New discovery	Authenticity
Geographical area of publication	Data analysis tools used	Years of research experience	Transparency
Fulness of the publication details	Results and evidences	Quality aspects in research	Utility
Type of source	Research scope	Applicability	Reliability

5. Journal Details

Type of indexing: Consider whether the journal is indexed in reputable databases like PubMed, Scopus, or Web of Science, as this indicates its visibility and credibility within the academic community.

Reputation: Evaluate the journal's reputation based on factors such as impact factor, peer-review process, and editorial board quality.

Ethical Standards: Assess whether the journal adheres to ethical guidelines for publication, including issues like plagiarism, conflicts of interest, and proper authorship attribution.

6. Research Details

Nature of Research: Determine the type of research conducted, such as experimental, observational, or qualitative, and assess its suitability for addressing the research question.

Methodology: Evaluate the research methodology employed, considering factors like sample size, data collection techniques, and statistical analysis methods.

Results and Evidences: Examine the study's findings and the evidence presented to support its conclusions, assessing their relevance and reliability.

7. Author Details

Expertise: Assess the expertise of the authors in the field, considering factors such as academic credentials, institutional affiliations, and previous research experience.

Transparency: Evaluate the transparency of the authors in reporting their methods and findings, including the disclosure of potential conflicts of interest or funding sources.

Years of Research Experience: Consider the authors' experience in conducting research and their track record of publications in reputable journals.

8. Value Considerations:

Suitability: Determine the relevance of the research article to the specific topic or research question being addressed in the literature review.

Authenticity: Verify the authenticity and originality of the research findings, ensuring that they have not been previously published or plagiarized.

Utility: Assess the practical utility of the research findings in contributing to the overall understanding of the topic and informing future research or practice.

9. Other Factors:

Year of Publication: Consider the publication date of the article and its currency, especially in rapidly evolving fields where older research may be less relevant.

Number of Citations: Evaluate the number of times the article has been cited by other researchers, which can indicate its impact and influence within the scholarly community.

Purpose and Objective: Understand the specific aims and objectives of the research study, ensuring alignment with the goals of the literature review.

New Discovery: Determine whether the research article presents novel insights or contributes to advancing knowledge in the field.

Geographical Area of Publication: Consider the geographic context of the research study and its relevance to the specific research question or context being examined.

Data Analysis Tools Used: Assess the appropriateness and rigor of the data analysis techniques employed in the research study.

Fulness of the Publication Details: Ensure that the publication provides sufficient information for readers to understand and replicate the research methodology and findings.

Quality Aspects in Research: Evaluate various quality aspects of the research study, including the rigor of the study design, the validity of the measurements used, and the reliability of the results.

Type of Source: Consider the type of source, such as peer-reviewed journals, conference proceedings, or grey literature, and evaluate its credibility and reliability.

Research Scope: Assess whether the research article addresses the specific scope and objectives of the literature review, ensuring alignment with the overarching research aims.

Applicability: Consider the practical applicability of the research findings in informing decision-making or practice in the relevant field or context.

Reliability: Evaluate the reliability and trustworthiness of the research study, considering factors such as sample representativeness, internal validity, and potential biases.

10. Literature Searching

The first step in conducting a literature review is to identify and retrieve relevant scholarly articles and sources from various databases, journals, and other repositories. This process involves formulating search queries using relevant keywords, phrases, and Boolean operators to effectively capture relevant literature. Researchers should also consider utilizing advanced search features and filters offered by database platforms to refine search results and ensure the inclusivity of the search process. In addition to traditional academic databases such as PubMed, Scopus, and Web of Science, researchers should also explore alternative sources of literature, including gray literature repositories, institutional repositories, and preprint archives (McKibbin et al., 2016). These sources may contain valuable unpublished research, reports, and other documents that are not indexed in mainstream academic databases. Furthermore, researchers should consider employing citation chaining techniques, whereby they trace the references cited in relevant articles to identify additional sources of literature (Sampson et al., 2018). This iterative process of citation chaining can help researchers uncover seminal works, key authors, and influential theories within a given field, enriching the depth and breadth of the literature review. However, it is important for researchers to exercise caution when selecting and retrieving

literature, as the sheer volume of available literature can be overwhelming. To manage this challenge, researchers should establish clear inclusion and exclusion criteria based on the research question, objectives, and scope of the study. By delineating specific criteria for article selection, researchers can ensure the relevance, quality, and reliability of the literature included in the review.

11. Literature Selection

Once relevant literature has been identified and retrieved, the next step is to systematically screen and evaluate each article to determine its eligibility for inclusion in the literature review (Higgins et al., 2019). This process typically involves a multi-stage approach, beginning with an initial screening of titles and abstracts to identify potentially relevant articles, followed by a more detailed assessment of full-text articles against predefined inclusion and exclusion criteria (Bramer et al., 2018). During the screening process, researchers should pay close attention to the relevance, currency, and credibility of the literature, as well as the methodological rigor and quality of the studies. Articles that meet the predefined inclusion criteria should be included in the final literature review, while those that do not meet the criteria should be excluded with clear justifications provided. It is important for researchers to maintain transparency and rigor throughout the literature selection process by documenting each stage of screening and the reasons for including or excluding specific articles (Page et al., 2020). This transparency helps to ensure the reliability and reproducibility of the literature review findings, as well as to mitigate the risk of bias or selective reporting. In addition to screening individual articles, researchers may also consider employing systematic review methodologies, such as PRISMA (Preferred Reporting Items for Systematic Reviews and Meta-Analyses), to enhance the transparency and rigor of the literature review process. Systematic review methodologies provide a structured framework for conducting literature reviews, including explicit criteria for search strategy, study selection, data extraction, and synthesis.

12. Literature Synthesis

Once the literature selection process is complete, researchers can begin synthesizing the findings from the selected articles to develop a coherent narrative that addresses the research question or objectives (Petticrew & Roberts, 2018). This synthesis process involves identifying key themes, patterns, and trends across the literature, as well as critically analyzing and interpreting the findings in relation to the research context (Thomas et al., 2021). Researchers may employ various synthesis techniques, such as thematic analysis, narrative synthesis, or meta-analysis, depending on the nature of the research question and the characteristics of the selected literature. Regardless of the synthesis approach chosen, it is important for researchers to maintain transparency and rigor by clearly documenting the methods used and the rationale behind their analytical decisions (Campbell et al., 2018). In addition to synthesizing the findings from individual articles, researchers should also

critically evaluate the overall quality and reliability of the literature included in the review. This may involve assessing the methodological rigor of the studies, considering potential sources of bias or confounding, and identifying areas of uncertainty or inconsistency in the evidence.

13. Summary – Literature Review Process

In summary, conducting a literature review is a complex yet essential aspect of research, requiring careful planning, methodological rigor, and transparency. By following comprehensive guidelines and strategies for literature searching, selection, and synthesis, researchers can enhance the quality and credibility of their literature reviews and make meaningful contributions to scholarship and practice (Grant & Booth, 2018). Moreover, by embracing emerging technologies and tools, fostering interdisciplinary collaboration, and promoting knowledge exchange, researchers can further advance the field of research and address pressing societal challenges. Ultimately, literature reviews not only strengthen the evidence base for research findings but also foster a culture of transparency, rigor, and integrity in academic inquiry.

14. The Importance of Search Engines in Research

Research is a multifaceted endeavor that thrives on the acquisition and synthesis of knowledge from various sources (Boyd et al., 2016). One of the key determinants of the quality of research lies in the richness and diversity of the information accessed by researchers. With the advent of digital technologies, particularly search engines, researchers now have unprecedented access to a vast repository of scholarly articles, books, reports, and other resources. This abundance of information has revolutionized the research landscape, enabling researchers to explore new ideas, theories, and methodologies with greater depth and breadth. Higher Educational Institutions (HEIs) have played a pivotal role in facilitating access to knowledge by digitizing their library collections and making them available to researchers worldwide. In addition, renowned databases such as Scopus, Web of Science, PubMed, ERIC, IEEE, ScienceDirect, and DOAJ have emerged as indispensable resources for researchers seeking to enrich their understanding of various subjects.

Search engines serve as indispensable tools for researchers in navigating the vast sea of information available online. Whether embarking on a new research project or delving into doctoral research, researchers rely on search engines to identify relevant articles and data sources that align with their research objectives. By leveraging search engines, researchers can access a wealth of scholarly literature from multiple databases, thereby enriching their knowledge base and enhancing the quality of their research outcomes. However, the effectiveness of search engines hinges on the judicious use of search terms and strategies. Researchers must possess the acumen to craft precise and targeted search queries tailored to their specific interests and needs. The art of selecting the right keywords

is paramount in identifying relevant articles and narrowing down the research scope. Moreover, researchers must be adept at utilizing advanced search features and filters offered by search engines to refine their search results and maximize efficiency.

15. The Importance of Search Engines in Literature Review Journey

A crucial aspect of research is conducting a thorough literature review to contextualize one's work within the existing body of knowledge. Before embarking on a literature review, researchers must systematically search for articles that align with the scope and objectives of their study. One effective strategy is to identify pioneering authors in the field who have made significant contributions to the subject matter. By tracing the original work of these pioneering researchers, researchers can gain valuable insights into the evolution of key concepts and theories over time. Another valuable approach is Perl growing or snowballing, which involves tracing citations and references within relevant articles to identify additional sources of literature.

By leveraging databases such as Science Citation Index (SCI), Social Science Citation Index (SSCI), and Arts and Humanities Citation Index (AHCI), researchers can expand their search horizon and unearth valuable research articles. In recent years, academic search engines such as Google Books and Google Scholar have gained popularity among researchers seeking to access a diverse range of scholarly literature. Google Books offers a vast collection of books and publications, including self-published works and rare collections, which researchers can access through advanced search options and flexible filter criteria. Similarly, Google Scholar provides researchers with access to scholarly articles, gray literature, and other resources, enabling them to explore a wide range of topics and perspectives.

ResearchGate is another valuable platform for researchers to discover and share research articles, collaborate with peers, and engage in scholarly discourse. By maintaining clear research profiles and participating in research communities, researchers can enhance their visibility and credibility within the academic community. Additionally, platforms such as Altmetric aggregate data from various sources to provide researchers with insights into the reach and impact of their research articles, helping them identify popular articles for inclusion in literature reviews.

Microsoft Academic, although recently integrated into OurResearch, continues to serve as a valuable resource for researchers seeking to showcase their research publications and engage with the global research community. By harnessing the power of search engines and academic platforms, researchers can access a wealth of knowledge and information to inform their research endeavors and contribute to the advancement of knowledge in their respective fields.

16. Summary-Search Engines

Search engines have become indispensable tools for researchers seeking to access and synthesize information from a diverse range of sources. Whether conducting literature reviews, exploring new research topics, or collaborating with peers, researchers rely on search engines to navigate the vast sea of information available online. By leveraging advanced search strategies and utilizing academic platforms, researchers can access a wealth of scholarly literature and gain valuable insights into their chosen field of study. As research continues to evolve, search engines will play an increasingly crucial role in facilitating knowledge discovery, dissemination, and collaboration among researchers worldwide.

17. When Everything Revolves around Keywords, Boolean Equation, and Quotations

When it comes to conducting research online, utilizing keyword searching is essential for researchers to locate relevant and high-quality resources effectively (Campbell et al., 2018). By breaking down their research themes into simple, concise keywords, researchers can streamline their search process and uncover valuable articles that align with their study objectives. For instance, if a researcher is exploring the impact of climate change on coastal communities, using keywords like “climate change,” “coastal communities,” and “environmental adaptation” can yield targeted search results. Additionally, researchers can leverage quotation marks to further refine their searches. Quotation marks enable search engines to identify and prioritize articles that contain exact phrases or terms specified by the researcher. For example, by enclosing the term “Orange Economy” in quotation marks, researchers can narrow down their search results to articles specifically addressing this concept, rather than articles that merely mention the words “orange” and “economy” separately.

Moreover, Boolean expressions offer researchers a powerful tool for refining their search queries and uncovering relevant materials. By employing Boolean operators such as “AND,” “OR,” and “NOT,” researchers can create logical relationships between keywords and tailor their searches to meet specific criteria. For instance, a researcher interested in exploring the relationship between diet and cardiovascular health might use the Boolean expression “diet AND cardiovascular health” to retrieve articles that discuss both topics simultaneously. Similarly, phrase searching enables researchers to locate articles containing specific phrases or quotations that are pertinent to their research. For example, phrases like “The best of all monopoly profits is a quiet life” and “Protectionism is the institutionalization of economic failure” are commonly cited in the field of economics. By incorporating these phrases into their search queries, researchers can uncover a wealth of literature that delves into the economic theories and principles associated with these phrases.

Furthermore, researchers can optimize their search results by utilizing advanced search techniques and narrowing their focus. By specifying certain parameters such as publication

dates, author names, and publication types, researchers can refine their searches and retrieve more relevant articles. Additionally, researchers can explore alternative search engines and academic databases to expand their search horizon and access a wider range of scholarly literature. Platforms like Google Scholar, ResearchGate, and Microsoft Academic offer comprehensive databases of academic articles, allowing researchers to access a diverse array of research publications and scholarly resources. By leveraging these search tools and techniques, researchers can enhance their ability to locate, retrieve, and evaluate relevant research materials, ultimately contributing to the advancement of knowledge in their respective fields.

18. Conclusion

This article proposes a few strategies for the researchers which can be used as a standard methodology to conduct Literature Reviews which include: Search strategies on literature reviews, exploring their implications for present and future research endeavors, Creating an impact through literature reviews. However, primary data is important to generalize the findings but secondary data is equally important to support the research findings and also to find the existing Research Gap. It is always interesting to dig deep into the existing literature and to conduct critical reviews to find something exciting and interesting. Researchers need a lot of patience to conduct literature reviews. For a doctoral project, researchers should conduct a minimum of 500 reviews which are exactly and relatively matching to the area of interest of the researcher. This process consumes time because the researcher has to run through each and every article and understand what has been researched by other researchers. Thus, the aim of this research article is to tell all the researchers that Literature Reviews are very important and are considered to be the Heart of the study.

Through a comprehensive discussion, the pivotal role of search methodologies in shaping the outcomes of literature reviews and advancing scholarly discourse is highlighted. From designing well-planned search strategies to employing innovative search tricks and techniques, researchers navigate the vast landscape of academic literature to identify pertinent resources and synthesize knowledge. The importance of search strategy checklists and pre-search tips in ensuring thoroughness and rigor in literature searches is explored, while also examining the significance of citation searching in uncovering seminal works and influential studies.

By illuminating the intricacies of search strategies, this article aims to empower researchers with the tools and insights needed to conduct effective literature reviews and contribute meaningfully to their respective fields of study. The researchers should consider the methodology specified in this opinion article which will help them streamline their research work. Searching for literature reviews is like diving deep into the ocean and searching for colorful species of fish. At one point of time, you will find so many species of fish in different schools. However, it is your call to choose the ones which match your requirements. Hence, in the ocean of knowledge a mechanism is much needed to locate the best sources and the same is very much applicable when a researcher begins to swim in the

ocean of knowledge and resources to find a suitable article for the purpose of conducting a Review of Literature.

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