

# Database Guide

## ACM Digital Library

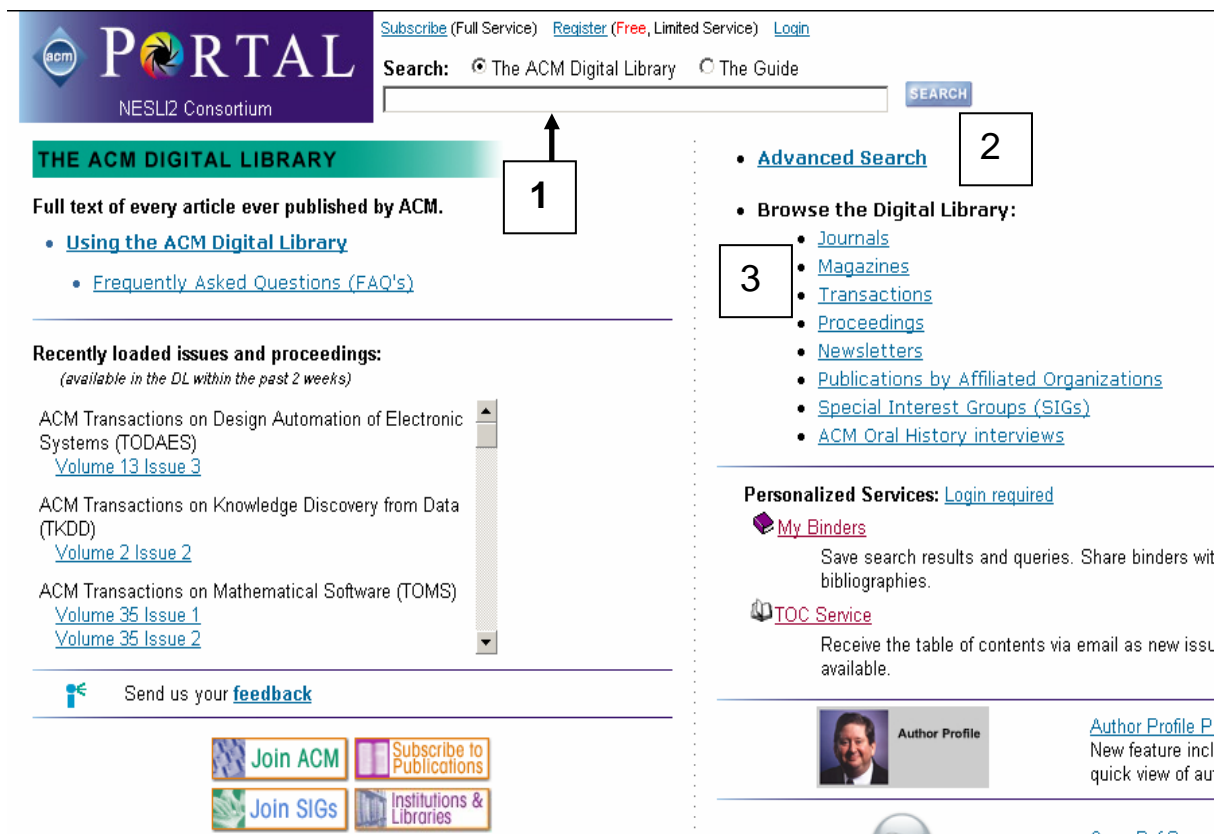
(ACM is the Association for Computing Machinery)

### How do I begin a search on ACM Digital Library?

There are 3 search options available:

#### 1. How you conduct a **basic search**

Type your word or phrase into the text box. Tip: the search engine searches on each word individually as well as on the whole phrase, so put quotation marks (" ") around the phrase to search an exact phrase e.g. "neural networks". Also insert an asterisk (\*) to broaden phrase searches e.g. comput\* = computer, computers, computing, compute etc.



The screenshot shows the ACM Digital Library homepage. Callout 1 points to the search input box. Callout 2 points to the 'Advanced Search' link. Callout 3 points to the 'Browse the Digital Library' section.

#### 2. How you conduct an **advanced search**

We recommend you use this function because it enables you to customise your search i.e. focus on doing a search that best fits your research topic. You can narrow down your search results by:

**Words and phrases** – functions the same as the basic search (see point 1 above).

**Names** – search for specific authors, editors etc. Tip: if you know the authors full name or initials and surname put quotation marks (" ") around it e.g. "rick mercer".

**Keywords** – using this search you are searching for the keywords that have been assigned by the author which describe the subject of their material.

**Affiliations** – search for a specific company or organisation.

**Publication** – search for a particular publication or report and narrow down further by specifying the date it was published.

**Conference** – search for papers presented at ACM conferences.

The screenshot shows the 'Advanced Search' page of the ACM Portal. At the top left is the 'acm PORTAL NESLI2 Consortium' logo. To the right are links for 'Subscribe (Full Service)', 'Register (Limited Service, Free)', and 'Login'. Below the logo is a green bar with 'THE ACM DIGITAL LIBRARY'. The main search area has a text input field with the instruction 'Enter words, phrases or names below. Surround phrases or full names with double quotation marks.' Below this is a 'SEARCH' button. The search criteria are organized into several sections: 'Words or Phrases' with a dropdown for 'Find [any field] with' and three radio buttons for 'all of this text (and)', 'any of this text (or)', and 'none of this text (not)'; 'Names' with a dropdown for 'Find [any field] with names'; 'Keywords' with a text input for 'Find author's keywords' and radio buttons for 'all', 'any', and 'none of the keywords'; 'Affiliations' with a text input for 'Find company or school' and a radio button for 'any'; 'Publication' with a text input for 'Find publication' and radio buttons for 'all', 'any', and 'none of the names'; and 'Find publisher' with a text input and a radio button for 'any'. At the bottom, there are dropdowns for 'Published since [year]' and 'Published before [year]'.

### 3. How to browse the Digital Library

You can also browse by collection of journals, magazines, proceedings etc.

### How do I use the results?

Results are displayed in relevance order i.e. by the number of time or location of the search keywords appear in the document.

Results can be re-arranged by title, publication, or publication date.

Each result has an abstract, the full-text is available from the pdf link. You have options to print, save or email the pdf document.

The screenshot shows the search results page for 'neural network'. At the top left is the 'acm PORTAL NESLI2 Consortium' logo. To the right are links for 'Subscribe (Full Service)', 'Register (Limited Service, Free)', and 'Login'. Below the logo is a green bar with 'THE ACM DIGITAL LIBRARY'. The search criteria are 'Search: The ACM Digital Library' and 'The Guide'. Below this is a 'SEARCH' button. The results are displayed in a table with columns for 'Sort results by' (set to 'relevance') and 'Display results' (set to 'expanded form'). There is a 'Save results to a Binder' button and a link to 'Refine these results with Advanced Search'. The first result is '1 A neural network for probabilistic information retrieval' by K. L. Kwok, May 1989, published by ACM. The full text is available as a PDF (1.05 MB). Additional information includes 'full citation', 'abstract', 'references', 'cited by', and 'index terms'. Bibliometrics show 11 downloads in 6 weeks, 97 downloads in 12 months, and a citation count of 23. The abstract text is: 'This paper demonstrates how a neural network may be constructed, together with learning algorithms and modes of operation, that will provide retrieval effectiveness similar to that of the probabilistic indexing and retrieval model based on single terms ...'