ACS Web Editions and Archive

The ACS Web Editions and Archive database provides access to peer-reviewed publications of the American Chemical Society. The database includes over 750,000 articles spanning 130+ years of publication, beginning with the inaugural edition of the Journal of the American Chemical Society in 1879. In addition to articles, you can search the ACS booklist with over 500 titles.

Searching

You can search individual publications by browsing through the titles alphabetically or by subject. The link for the publication will take you to the current issue, and you can also explore back issues. You’ll also notice each publication lists the most recently published articles that are available electronically before they are in print publications. You can also explore a list of recently accepted articles, most read and most cited.

If you want to search across the publications, use the Quick Search box, located in the upper right corner, where you can enter in the terms or search string you want to use.

A username allows you access to personalized features such as creating saved searches and lists of recommended articles. You can create a username and log in at the beginning of your search process. There is no charge for creating a username.

If you are interested in creating a more complicated search and are not comfortable using the search rules discussed later in this document, you can also use the Advanced Search interface accessed by clicking on the link in the Quick Search box.
Advanced Searching

Advanced searching allows you to combine search terms without having to create a complicated search string.

You'll notice in the interface that a list of search hints appears below each search engine field. You can use those search hints to further limit your results.
Search Tips
The following Boolean operators can be used within all of the search fields.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Operator</th>
<th>Description</th>
<th>Example</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Quotation marks “ “</td>
<td>Searches for words between the quote marks exactly as they appear.</td>
<td>“chemical reaction”</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>AND</td>
<td>Searches for items where all of the terms appear. More inclusive with fewer results.</td>
<td>oxygen AND hydrogen</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>OR</td>
<td>Searches for all the search terms listed. The more terms listed the more results you get.</td>
<td>neutron OR proton</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>NOT</td>
<td>Removes certain words from the search. Allows you to limit result you might not want.</td>
<td>“chemical reaction” NOT oxygen</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Nesting ()</td>
<td>Groups similar terms together for better search results.</td>
<td>“chemical reaction” AND (caffeine OR coffee)</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

To search for multiple authors, separate each author name with either AND or OR. Using AND will search for content that has been co-authored by the authors. Using OR will search for content that has been authored by either of the authors.

Wildcards allow you to search for one or more letters when you do not want to include, or do not know, exact spellings. Wildcards cannot be used at the beginning of a word (“ology) or in a phrase enclosed in quotation marks.

- The asterisk (*) represents any number of characters including no characters at all at the end of a word. For example, searching environ* will return results containing environment and environmental.
- The question mark (?) represents any single character (e.g., wom?n finds woman and women).
- The exclamation mark (!) represents one of no additional characters. (e.g., colo!r finds color and colour).

Take care when using wildcards as you may not want to use one with all searches. For instance, when looking for singular and plural forms of a word, you might receive fewer results by searching for the terms instead of adding a wildcard.

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Search Results

Each of the results is available in full text as a PDF. (Some articles are also available in HTML.)

You can filter your results by clicking on the appropriate link on the left side of the screen. You can also switch back to your search by clicking the Refine Search link at the top of the results list. You can then modify your search if needed.

If you would like to see more information about the article, click on the Abstract link to the right of the item title. You will be taken to the abstract as well as additional information, including the link for downloading the article to bibliographic software like EndNote. If you would prefer to download more than one article at a time, you can do so by marking the articles you are interested in from the results page.

ACS offers RSS feeds based on search criteria. If you are interested in being alerted when a new article is added, click on the RSS feed link at the top of the results page.

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