

Your research process isn't limited to searching in databases. It is likely that you will identify articles relevant to your topic as you do your reading.

For example, you're reading this paper and you decide you'd like to follow up on these other reports. Specifically, let's look for Lek & Simpson, 1987.

Go to the reference section of the paper to find the full citation. This citation does not have a convenient link as in the other cases. You will need to note down some key pieces of information to see if the library has access to this journal. The journal title here is given as an abbreviation. And oftentimes a simple Google search will get you the full title. The publication year is 1987 and these numbers: 74: 360-370, refer to the volume and page numbers respectfully. Now let's go over and do a quick Google search on that abbreviation. Here we see that the full title most likely is American Journal of Botany. If you ever come across an abbreviation that you cannot figure out please feel free to reach out to the library for help.

Next let's go to the library webpage and go to the E-Journals page where we'll type in the title and search for access. Good news! Here we see that the library has two databases which carry this title. Our publication year is 1987, so JSTOR has the date range that will cover that.

Here we are on the journal archive page and we're going to slide down to the 1980s and search for 1987, volume 74. Our page numbers were 360-370, and we will find our article in issue No. 3 of March. Next scroll down through the list until you see the article of interest. Here it is: Lek and Simpson.

We can read the article online, we can download a PDF, we can click on the title to get to the article web page. Remember if the library doesn't have something you need you can always request it through Interlibrary Loan. And of course, if at any stage in your research process you have any trouble, please contact the library for help.