Searching for information on the internet: A short introduction

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Internet Search tools

- The internet is full of information
- But the information is useless unless it can be retrieved
- Search tools are needed to retrieve the information necessary to you
- Which search tools are available?
  - Gateways
  - Databases
  - Search Engines

Gateway

- A node or network that serves as an entrance to another network, gateways organize information in a structured way in general or subject categories

- WHO A-Z health topics list http://www.who.int/topics/en/
- HINARI
- AGORA
- OARE
- AJOL

Database

- A collection of information organized in such a way that a computer can be used to quickly access it
  - an electronic filing system
  - the program can quickly select desired pieces of data
  - Example:
  - PubMed - a free search tool to over 16 million citations http://www.ncbi.nlm.nih.gov/entrez/
  - CINAHL
  - EMBASE

Search Engine

- A program that searches documents for specified keywords and returns a list of documents where the keywords were found
- Search engines utilize automated robotics (called spiders) to gather and index information
- Search Engines:
  - Google http://www.google.com
  - Google Scholar (more focused) http://www.scholar.google.com
  - Bing http:bing.com
  - Yahoo http://www.yahoo.com/

About Google Scholar https://scholargoogle.com/

- Google “harvests” information from full-text articles with publisher permission, then makes them fully searchable.
  - Not all publishers are included.
- Also includes non journal sources like books, free and “open source” resources, digital libraries, and other scholarly sources on the Web
- 2 different types of entries
  - Main entries for publication itself
  - Mini-entries for cited references that GS cannot find online. [citation]

About MEDLINE

- Largest database of indexed journal citations for health sciences literature
  - Indexed records = Organized records that include standard descriptors of topics
- >16 million citations from 5000 journals back to 1949
- Produced by National Library of Medicine (NLM), one of the National Institutes of Health

About MEDLINE

- Available with different interfaces developed by different organizations
  - Interface = screen you see + search engine in background
- Interphase include
  - PubMed
  - Ovid MEDLINE
  - Other versions which look different but have the same raw data.
    - ClusterMed
    - Web of Science
    - EBSCOhost

Medline Limitations

- New journals generally not included until they have proven themselves over several years
- Does not cover literature from many disciplines and from non-journal sources
- Includes primarily journals related to the health sciences and a few major journals from related disciplines
  - Does not include health-related articles from journals in other disciplines

AJOL

- African Journal Online
- Repository of journals published across Africa
- Contains articles, many free, that are not obtainable elsewhere on the internet
- Will not allow you to download articles from journals domicile in your country.

Searching Strategy Overview

- Define your information need
  - What sort of information are you looking for?
    - Is it for specific information? - from a data book, encyclopaedia, dictionary or textbook
    - Is it general information within a subject area?
    - Does the search require more thought and information?
  - Who is going to use the information?
    - Is it for a clinician, researcher, student or a member of the public?

Choose your search terms

- What are the key phrases and/or unique words that might appear in a website or article?
- Are there synonyms, alternate spellings, plurals or capitals that should be considered?
- What broader topic is the search part of or related to?

Decide which sources to use

- What sources are appropriate?
- This can range from organizations' websites and news articles to subject gateways and databases, journals, reference resources, e-books or reports and grey literature.

Review and revise your search

- Be prepared to review and revise your search scope and strategy – by using other sources of information or other search terms or different combinations of terms or by using a different type of search
- Try new sources of information: PubMed vs. AJOL vs. Google Scholar vs CiNAHL etc
- **Check the references of the journal articles you retrieved for even more relevant articles**

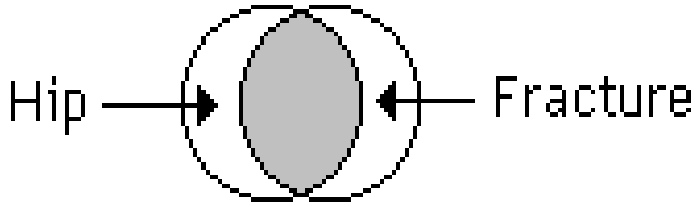
Boolean Operators

- Allow you to focus your search by linking search terms and defining the relationship between them.
- Some operators take precedence over others when searching a database.
- Not functional when they are at the beginning or end of a search expression.

Boolean Operators

- These are connecting words used in text searches that allow the search engine to include or exclude terms.
- They are three
    i. AND
    ii. OR
    iii. NOT
- Inserted in a search box.
- Must be in UPPERCASE when used.

AND Operator

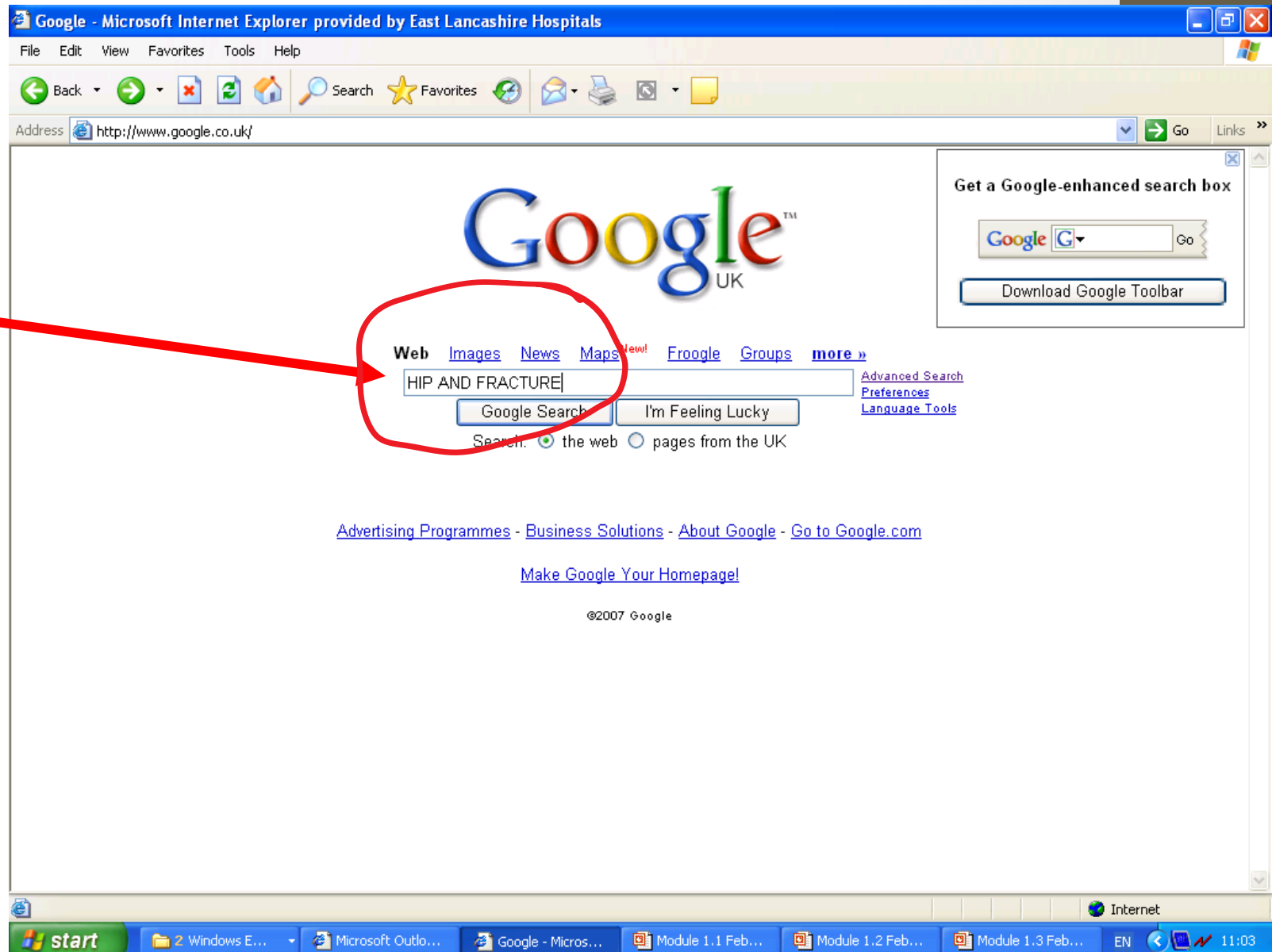


hip **AND** fracture

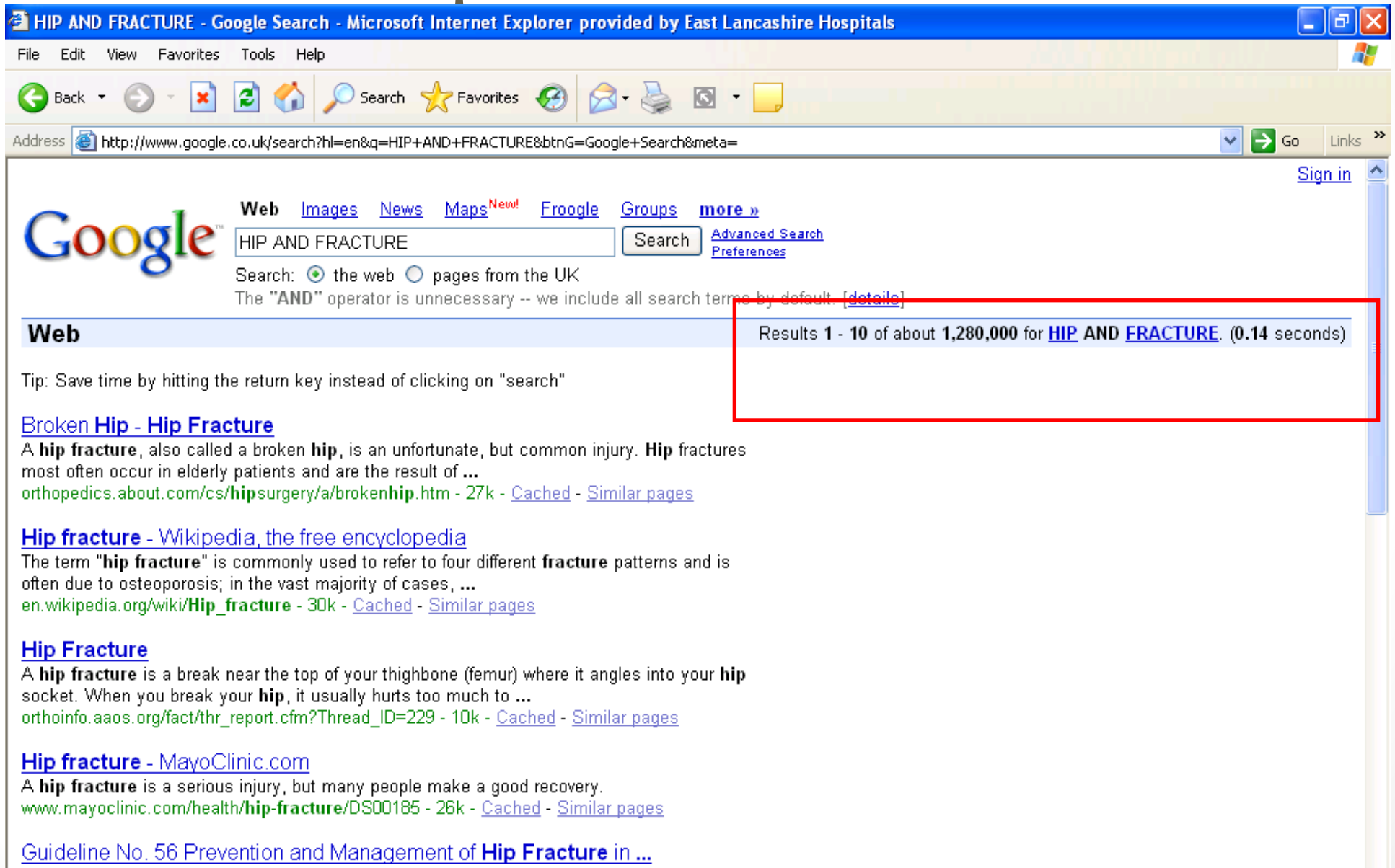
- The **AND** operator is used to combine two or more search terms and narrow a search
- Only documents containing all the search items will be retrieved
- In the example above, only items in the shaded area will be retrieved
- It is the default search method for most search engines

Boolean AND example

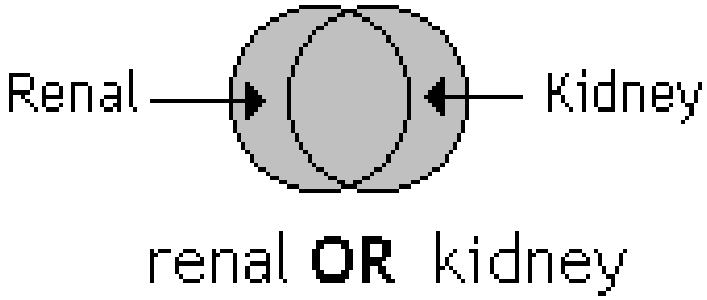
Hip AND fracture has been entered into the search box



Boolean example AND results

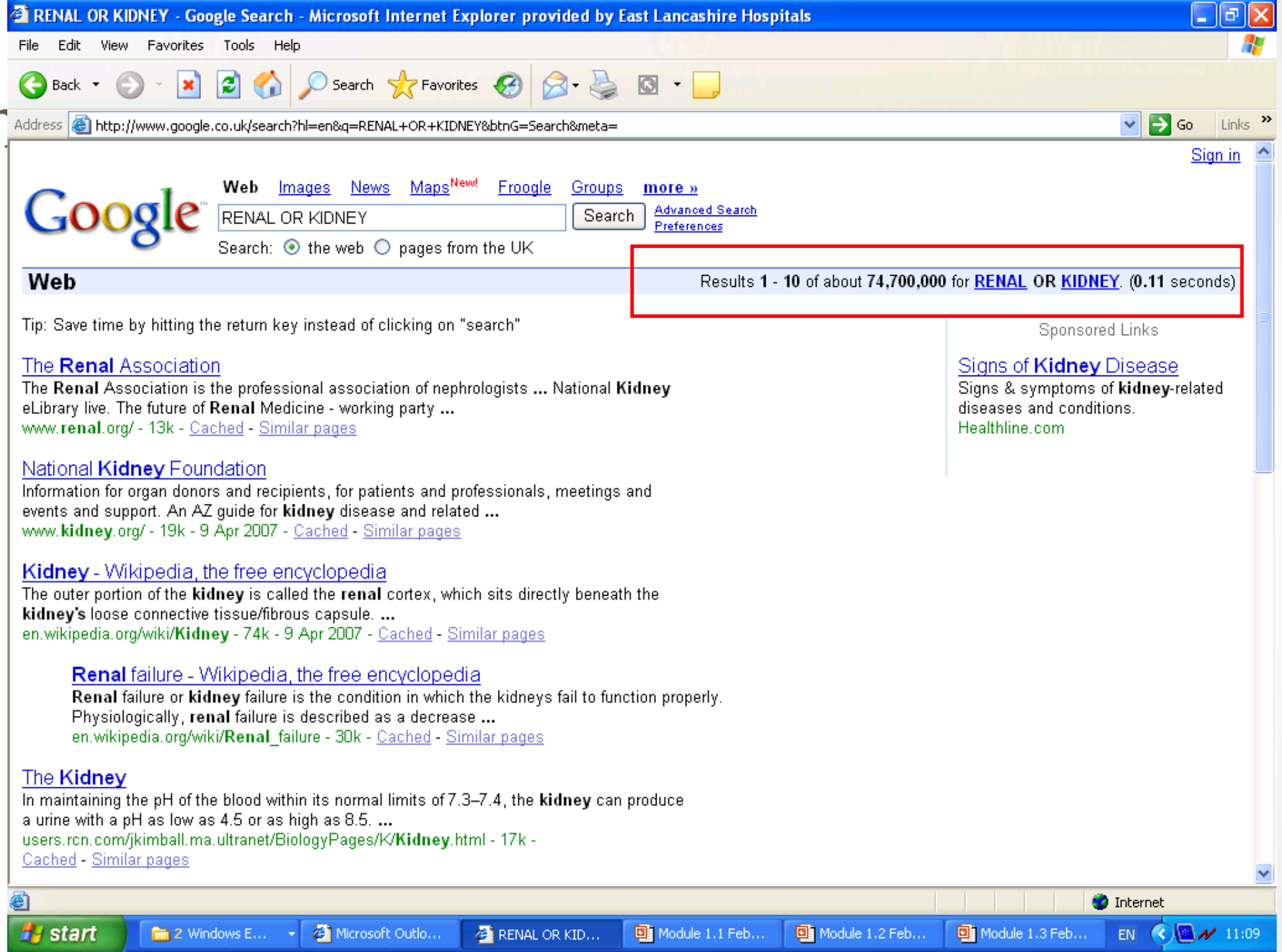


OR Operator



- The **OR** operator retrieves document containing one or other search terms. Will broaden a search
- Any documents containing any of the search items will be retrieved
- In the example above, all items in the shaded area will be retrieved
- It is most useful when you want to include all versions of the same word (synonyms): Renal/kidney, paediatric/children, cancer/neoplasm

Rer


RENAL OR KIDNEY - Google Search - Microsoft Internet Explorer provided by East Lancashire Hospitals
File Edit View Favorites Tools Help
Back Search Favorites
Address http://www.google.co.uk/search?hl=en&q=RENAL+OR+KIDNEY&btnG=Search&meta=
Go Links
Sign in
Google
Web Images News Maps New! Froogle Groups more »
RENAL OR KIDNEY
Search
Advanced Search
Preferences
Search: the web pages from the UK
Web
Results 1 - 10 of about 74,700,000 for RENAL OR KIDNEY. (0.11 seconds)
Tip: Save time by hitting the return key instead of clicking on "search"
The Renal Association
The Renal Association is the professional association of nephrologists ... National Kidney eLibrary live. The future of Renal Medicine - working party ...
www.renal.org/ - 13k - Cached - Similar pages
National Kidney Foundation
Information for organ donors and recipients, for patients and professionals, meetings and events and support. An AZ guide for kidney disease and related ...
www.kidney.org/ - 19k - 9 Apr 2007 - Cached - Similar pages
Kidney - Wikipedia, the free encyclopedia
The outer portion of the kidney is called the renal cortex, which sits directly beneath the kidney's loose connective tissue/fibrous capsule. ...
en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Kidney - 74k - 9 Apr 2007 - Cached - Similar pages
Renal failure - Wikipedia, the free encyclopedia
Renal failure or kidney failure is the condition in which the kidneys fail to function properly. Physiologically, renal failure is described as a decrease ...
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The Kidney
In maintaining the pH of the blood within its normal limits of 7.3–7.4, the kidney can produce a urine with a pH as low as 4.5 or as high as 8.5. ...
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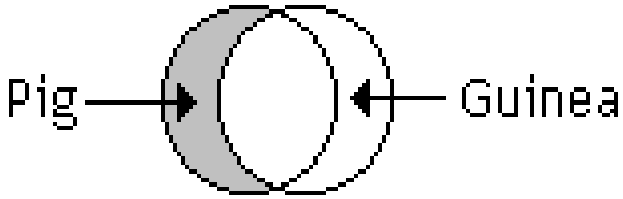
NOT Operator
(in one term or the other - will narrow a search)



pig **NOT** guinea

- In one term or the other - will narrow a search
- In the example above, pig **NOT** guinea eliminates items containing guinea. So, item containing either guinea or guinea pig will be eliminated.

Phrase Searching

- Some databases and search engines allow searching of a phrase by enclosing it in **single or double quotes** (PubMed uses double quotes).
- Useful for searching for phrases.
- Example
  - Using the search term spinal anaesthesia will retrieve items containing spinal and anaesthesia anywhere in the article
  - Using “spinal anaesthesia” (with the quotes) will retrieve only articles containing the exact phrase.

Advanced Searching Techniques - Tips

- Truncation or Wild Cards
  - * or $ is inserted to find all alternative endings of a word
    - child* for **child** OR **childs** OR **children**
    - staph$ will search for information on **staphylococcus** OR **staphylococcal** OR **staphylococci**
  - ? can be used to substitute for a single letter anywhere in a word for alternate spellings
    - wom?n would search for "**woman**" and "**women**"

Why Use Google Scholar??

- Google Scholar provides a convenient method for searching scholarly literature.
- From just one website, you can search various disciplines and types of sources: articles, theses, books, abstracts etc.
- Google Scholar helps you find relevant research quickly, from a wide variety of academic sources available online.

About Google Scholar

Google Scholar

Stand on the shoulders of giants

Launched: November 20, 2004

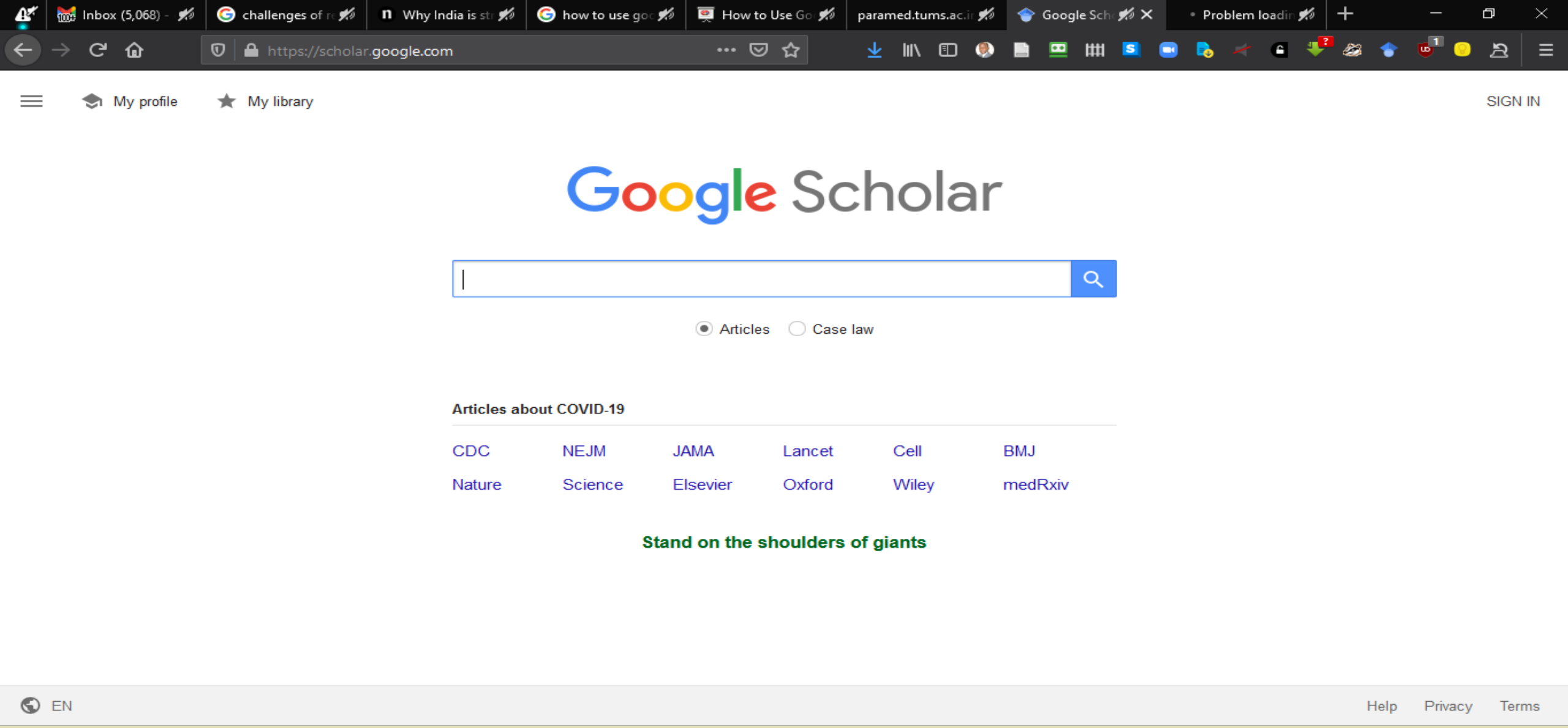
Owner: Google

Available at: scholar.google.com

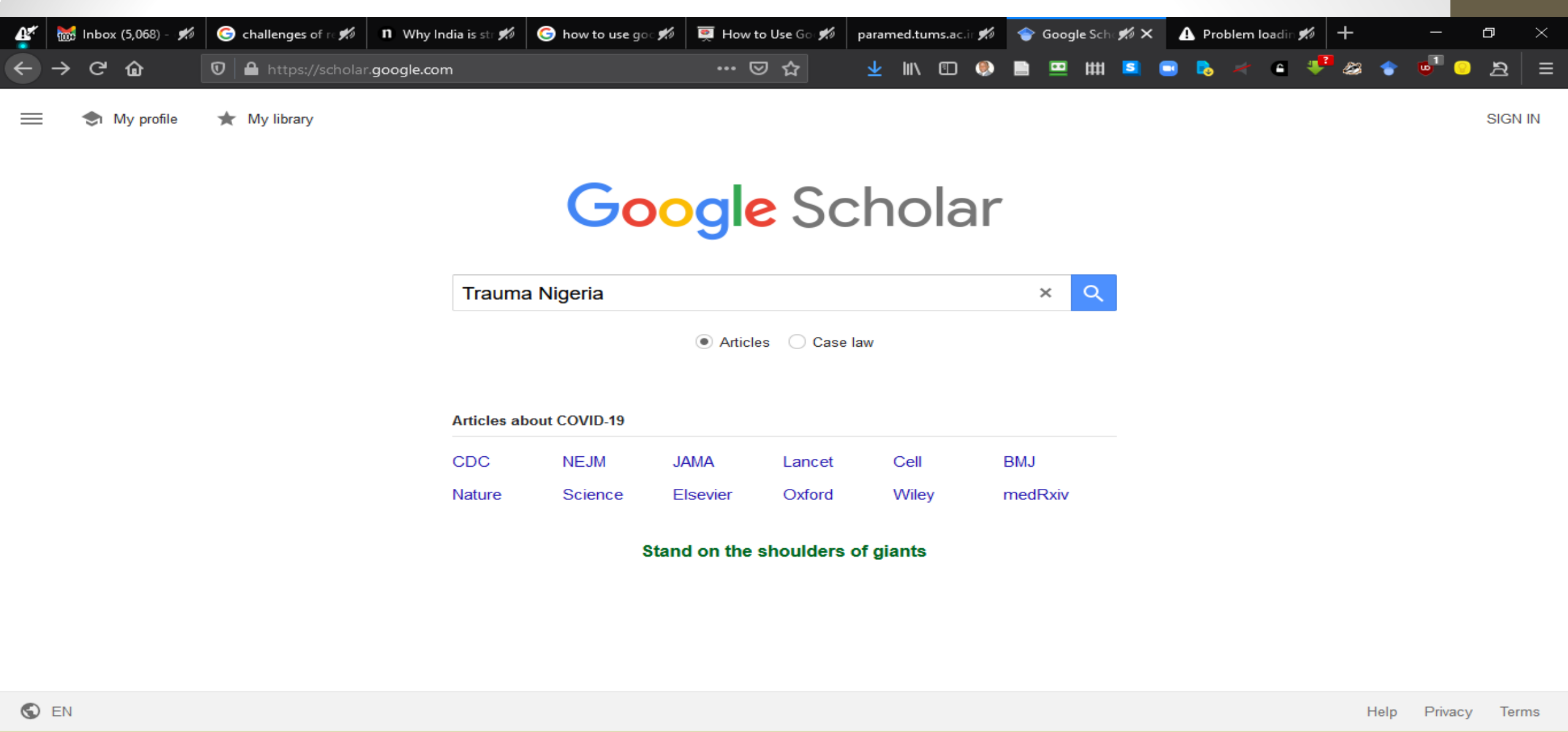
Goal: Allowing easier and more accurate access to scientific knowledge

Section 1:

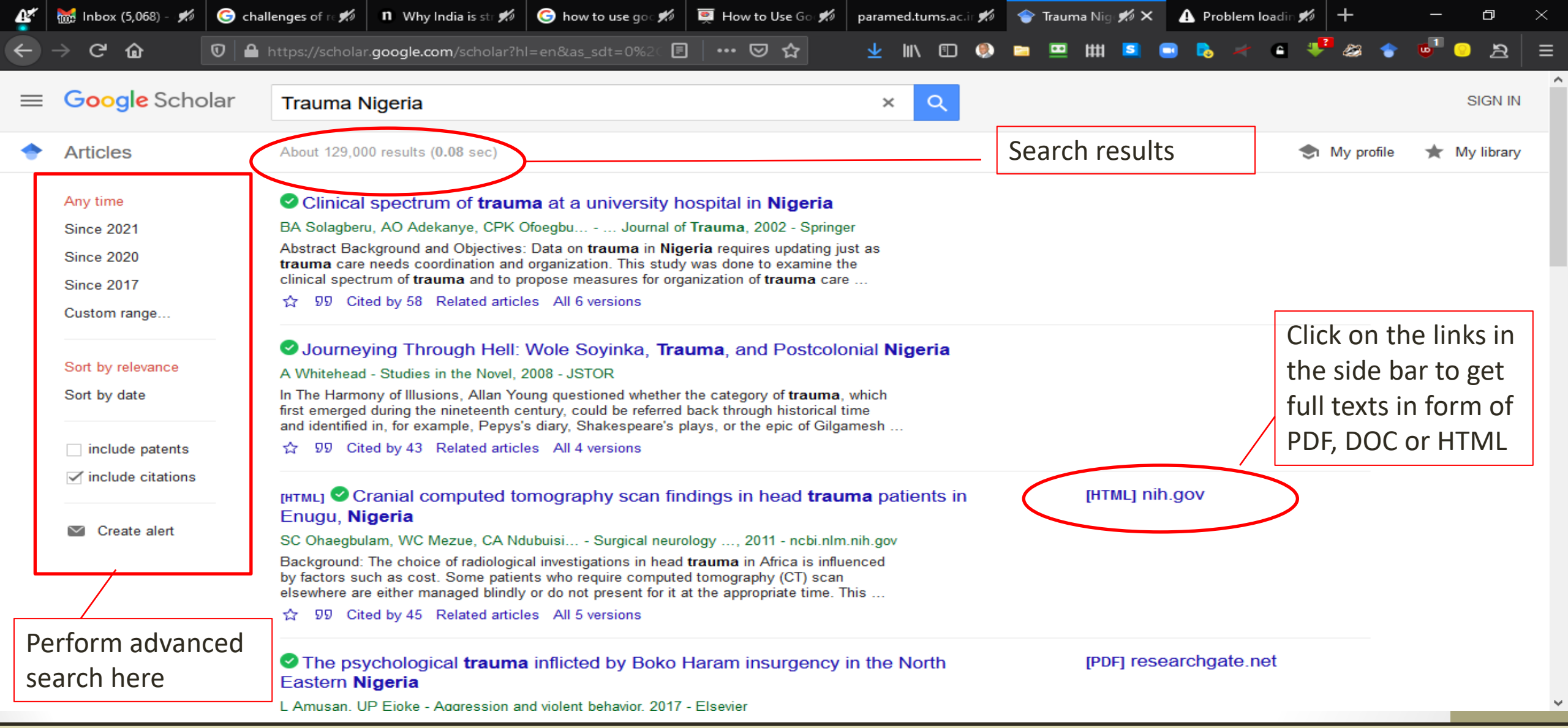
How to Search?



To begin, proceed to scholar.google.com



Enter the search term e.g., Trauma Nigeria



The results are displayed just like a normal Google search

Divergent views emerge on the rationale behind Boko Haram Islamic insurgency in **Nigeria**. Some see it as an attempt to Islamise the secular Nigerian state, while some believe it to be an attempt to change the status quo in order to concretise the perceived dominance of the ...

☆ 99 Cited by 25 Related articles All 7 versions

Related searches

trauma nigeria **utilization head**

blunt trauma nigeria

trauma nigeria **ct**

maxillofacial trauma nigeria

cranial trauma nigeria

trauma **in** nigeria **multicentre study**

ocular trauma nigeria

psychological trauma **north eastern** nigeria

Maxillofacial **trauma** due to road traffic accidents in Benin City, **Nigeria**: a prospective study

[PDF] ajol.info

ON Obuekwe, MA Ojo, O Akpata, M Etetafia - Annals of African Medicine, 2003 - ajol.info

Background: The incidence and causes of road traffic accidents (RTAs) vary with geographical location. The economic and social costs of RTAs are enormous. The knowledge of aetiologic factors and associated injury patterns may be important in planning ...

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[HTML] ... **-trauma**, psychosocial adjustment, and symptomatic post-traumatic stress disorder among internally displaced persons in Kaduna, Northwestern **Nigeria**

[HTML] frontiersin.org

TL Sheikh, A Mohammed, S Agunbiade, J Ike... - Frontiers in ..., 2014 - frontiersin.org

Background In April 2011, a post election violent conflict in Northern **Nigeria** led to resettlement of internally displaced persons (IDPs) in a camp in Kaduna, the worst-affected state. We set out to determine prevalence and socio-demographic factors associated with ...

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Annals of African Medicine
Vol. 2, No. 2: 2003: 58 - 63

MAXILLOFACIAL TRAUMA DUE TO ROAD TRAFFIC ACCIDENTS IN BENIN CITY, NIGERIA: A PROSPECTIVE STUDY

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Reprint requests to: Dr. O. N. Obuekwe, School of Dentistry, University of Benin, P.M.B. 1154, Benin City, Edo State, Nigeria

Abstract

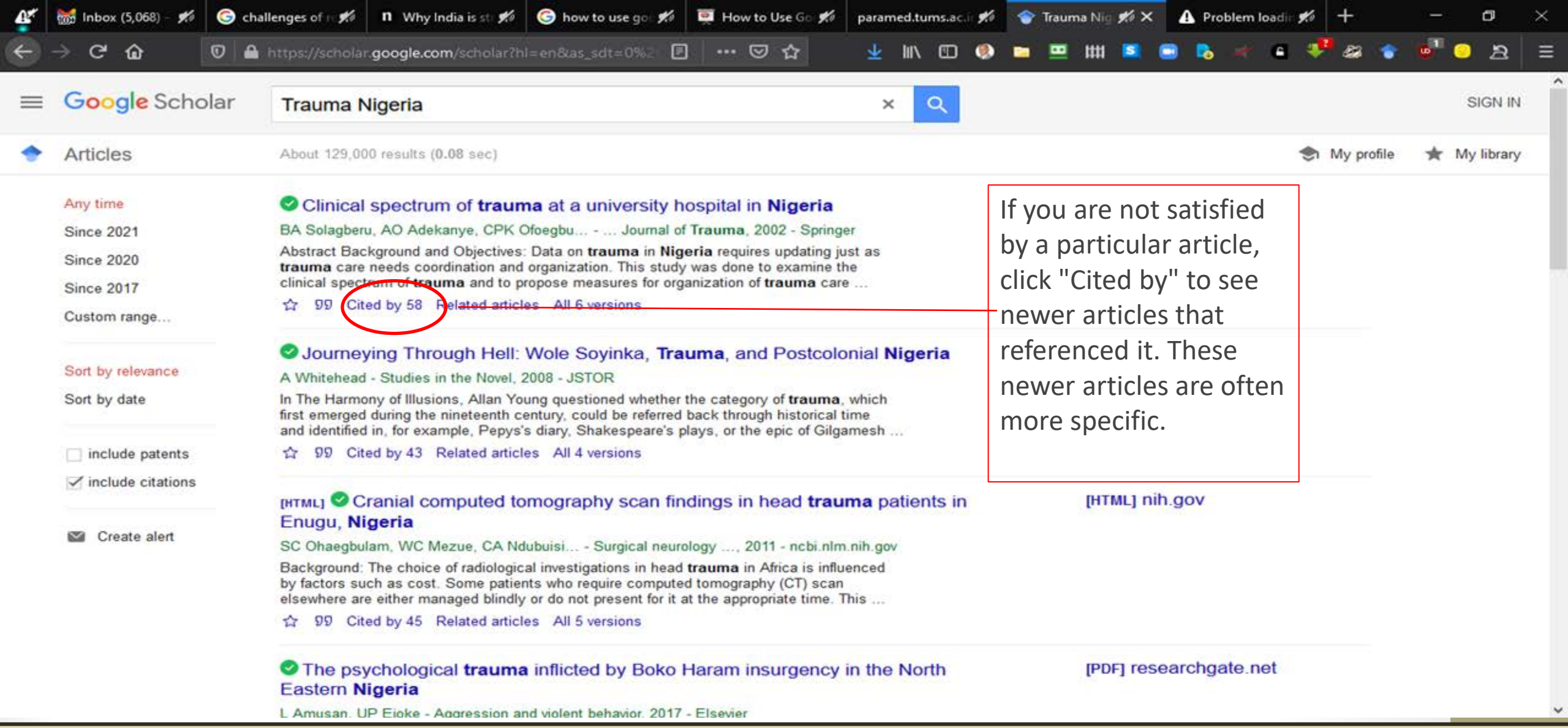
Background: The incidence and causes of road traffic accidents (RTAs) vary with geographical location. The economic and social costs of RTAs are enormous. The knowledge of aetiologic factors and associated injury patterns may be important in planning for prevention and treatment. The aim of this study was to document the aetiological factors and the frequency of maxillofacial injuries due to RTAs.

Methods: Over a six-month period, 312 patients with facial trauma due to RTAs were prospectively studied. The demographic parameters, the cause of the RTA, the vehicle type, the use of seat belts, helmets, and other safety devices were recorded. Distribution of maxillofacial bone and soft tissue injuries by vehicle type as well as associated injuries were documented.

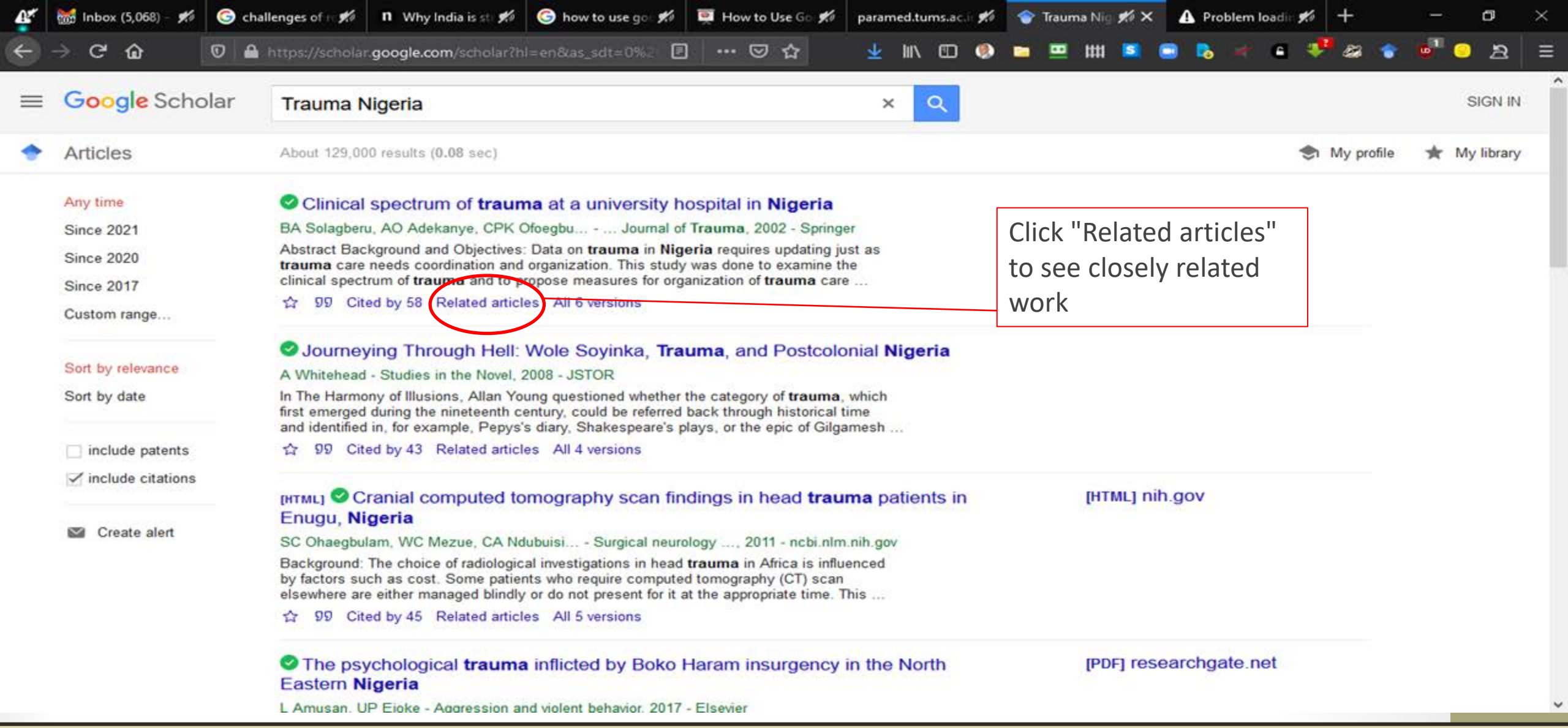
Results: The minibus was the vehicle type most often involved (36.2%) and tyre blowout (21.2%) was identified as the most common contributory factor. Males 117 (37.5%) in the 21 – 30 year- age range were most

Clicking on the PDF link here

Gives you the PDF of the full article



Use “Cited by” to fine-tune your results!



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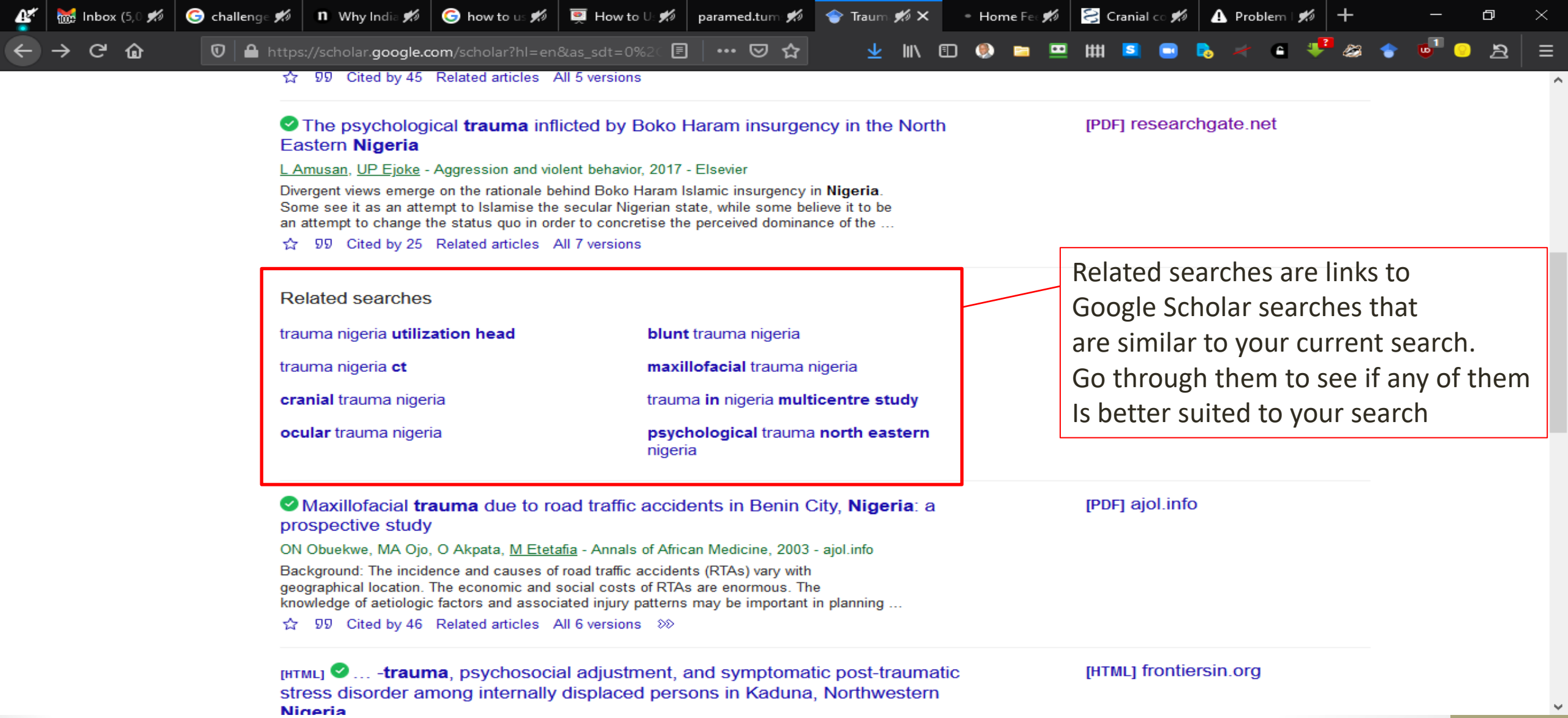


Scroll down to the “Related searches” section for more ideas on your search.

Create your Google Scholar Profile..

- According to Google Scholar, a **Google Scholar Profile** is a very simple way of collating your publications (and citations to them) so that others can find your work and often find an accessible copy that they can read .

Steps to building your Google Scholar Profile

https://libguides.reading.ac.uk/boost/google-scholar-profile

Setting up a Google Scholar Profile

Setting up a profile only takes a few minutes.

1. You'll need a Google account before you can begin - use your existing account or create one.
2. Go to Google Scholar and click on 'My citations'
3. Follow the instructions, adding your affiliation information and your University email address. (Remember to validate the address - you'll receive an email asking you to do this).
4. Add keywords relating to your research and add a link to your University home page (if you have one)
5. Add a photo if you want to personalise your profile.
6. Click on 'Next step' to create your basic profile.
7. Add your publications - Google will probably suggest the correct ones and ask you to confirm that they are yours. Be careful if you have a common name as publications by others may be included in the suggestions. There may also be some types of articles that you don't want to include (Google indexes lots of content such as newsletters, book reviews etc, not just scholarly articles).
8. To find missing publications, you can search using article titles or DOIs. You can also add missing publications manually if required.
9. Make your profile public - this means that others will be able to find it and discover your body of work.

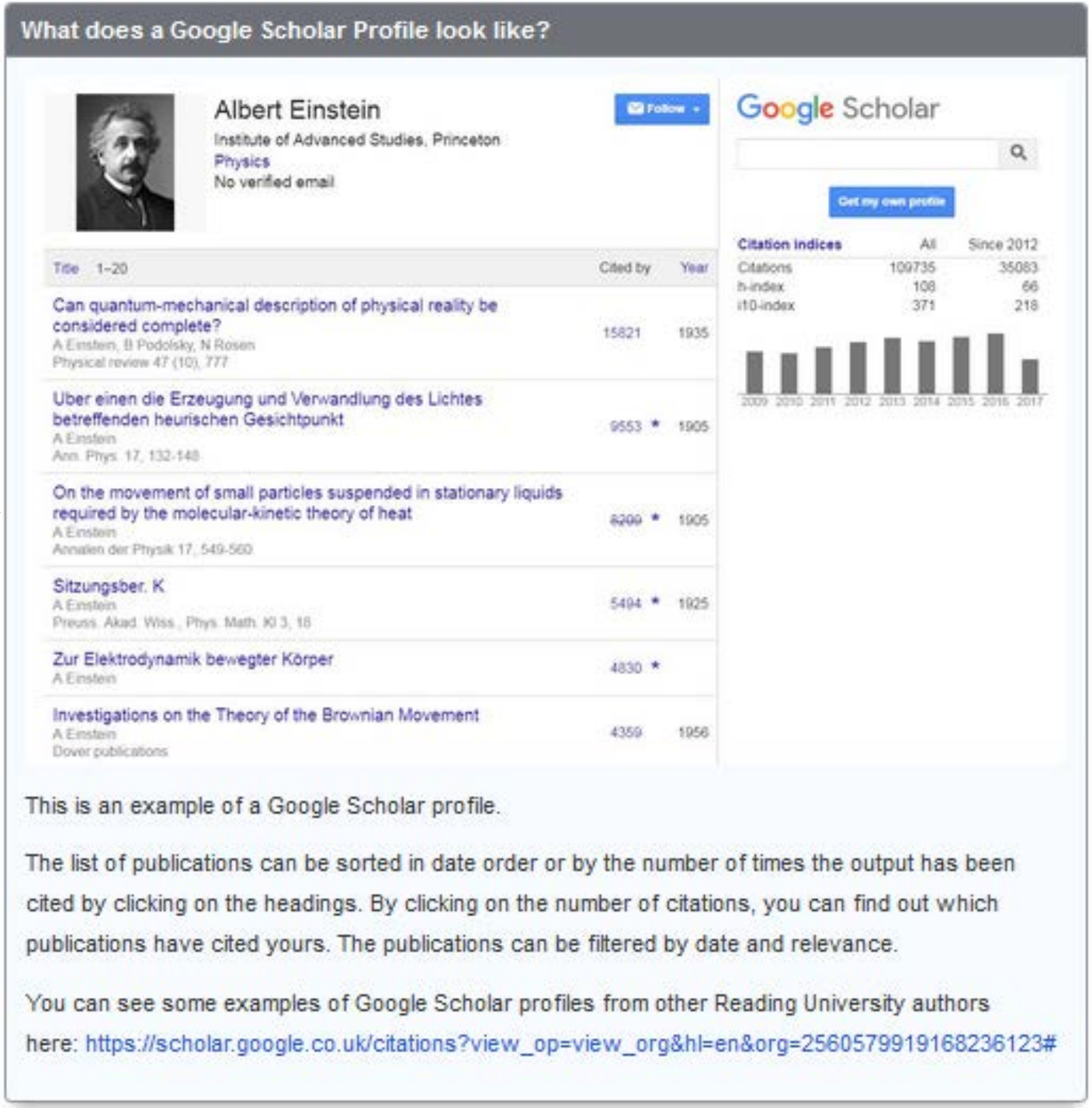
Once you've set up your profile, Google Scholar will update it with publications that it thinks are yours. You can choose between automatic updating and manual updating during the set-up process.

- Creating a Google Scholar Account
  This handout takes you through the steps needed to create a Google Scholar account

What does a Google Scholar Profile look like?

Here is the Google Scholar Profile of Albert Einstein

https://libguides.reading.ac.uk/boost/google-scholar-profile



THANK YOU

To ask questions, please join the forum at www.oluwadiya.com