

# Indexing and Abstracting Bibliographic Electronic Database: A Comparative Analysis

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## ABSTRACT

Indexing and abstracting services provide brief documents assigning descriptors referencing documents. The product of the service may be of abstract of the journal, conference proceeding or any other document which is published in the legitimate manner. This can be served through the gateway of subject bibliography and/or of bibliographic databases. It is required to locate data without being confused and wasting the precious time of the users without searching every row of the database table every time. So, it is highly requires for every categories of users' in general and students, research scholars and faculty members in particular in academic perspectives. So, the aim of this paper is to highlight the importance of the electronic indexing and abstracting databases in the present scenario.

**KeyTerms:** Indexing, Abstracting, Bibliographic Database, Reference, Scopus, Web of Science, Google Scholar, Open Access

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## INTRODUCTION

A bibliographic database is an aid to search the organised digital collections of published literatures including newspaper articles, journal and conference articles, government publications, books, reports, patents, and legal publications ([https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Bibliographic\\_database](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Bibliographic_database))<sup>1</sup>. It may be a compilation records of a single subject or collection of records of the multiple subjects. Philosopher's index, Biography index, Newspaper Abstracts, New York time index and many others are the typical examples of indexing and abstracting services. Earlier, these kinds of services were being provided through the manually compiled index cards. But now-a-days, it is possible to provide through the electronic compilation process and developed over the time by the indexing services which is called as controlled vocabulary. Index is a synonymous with a catalogue. It locates a subject whereas a catalogue entry includes descriptive specification of a document (ibid.). The database focuses on a particular field of knowledge (<http://web.nli.org.il/sites/NLI/English/infocannels/Catalogs/bibliographic-databases/Pages/default.aspx>)<sup>2</sup> and contains various types of publications which can be searched through the keywords, abstracts and sub-themes. It is a search engine dependant where published articles can be searched separately for

grey literature.

### Why is indexing essential?

Indexing is essential because:

- It will help the journal archive and it would be accessible to the wide audience (<https://www.editage.com/insights/journal-indexing-101-understanding-the-basics>)<sup>3</sup>;
- It will improve the reputation of the journal and as a source of information to the elated field; and
- It will help the researcher to find the relevant information for their study and being indexed in the well-established databases and increasing readership.

### A comparative analysis between Scopus and Web of Science Bibliographic Databases

Web of science published by Thomson Reuter is a multidisciplinary indexing and abstracting service. It is the amelioration of different subjects for the academic necessities and it is subscribed by the different libraries and academic institutions for catering to the needs of the students, research scholars and the faculty members. It is also highly necessary for research and development and a greater source for gathering information for different academic purposes. Web of science impact factor is a viable, and widely used