How to Use Topic Search in Web of Science

You can use several searches in Web of Science. I am going to show a topic search in this tutorial. More information about the other searches can go to help from the main menu.

Let’s say we are interested in medium access control in sensor networks or embedded systems. Essentially, there are two parts to this search, so I will type () the word AND () to start with.

In the first parenthesis, I type mac because it is a popular acronym. Then I type the word OR medi* the command NEAR/1 "access control". The quotes enclose an exact phrase. The asterisk or * character will find terms that begins with medi, so this portion of the search will find terms like mac or medium access control or media access control.

The second portion of the search addresses our interest in sensors and embedded systems. In the second pair of parenthesis, I type sensor the word OR embedded the command NEAR/1 again system) because using the singular term will find the plural too like sensor and sensors.

Select search button and the results set will appear.

This concludes this presentation. Please select the next presentation in the series, "How to Filter Results in Web of Science." Thank you.