Search Example: ACM Digital Library

You will retrieve more predictable results and gain more control over your search by using the plus operator directly and placing parenthesis in the appropriate places. Let’s say we are interested in parallel computing used in biomedical applications. A search query could be

\[(\text{biomedical}) + (\text{"parallel processing" "parallel computing" "distributed computing"})\]

entered in the single search box. Using this query will catch variations in terminology for grid computing. Anything in quotation marks is searched as a phrase. Singular terms seek the singular and plural version of the word. There are not right and wrong answers here. Experiment with different keywords to find the best search. Let’s broaden the search by using the terms biology and biological. Edit your query in the single search box to be

\[(\text{biomedical biology biological}) + (\text{"parallel processing" "parallel computing" "distributed computing"})\]

If you find an article that is relevant, you can use the index terms (ACM Computing Classification System – CCS rev. 2012) to narrow your results to make them more relevant. You could use the query

\[(\text{biomedical biology biological}) +\text{acmdlCCS:("parallel computing methodologies")}\]

to this end.

Example of the ACM Computation Classification System for a Particular Article

In addition, you can use the classification system to search for articles for a particular index term by selecting it.