Search Example: IEEE Xplore Subject/Keyword Search

We are interested in least mean squares methods and their noise performance, so we searched "least mean squares methods" AND noise [1]. However, we know that these terms must be in the title, abstract, keywords, etc. There could be relevant documents that do not appear.

We found a subject or index term from a relevant article to contain the term Gaussian. You can use subject terms to narrow your results if you have too many, but you can use it in combination with keywords to perform a more thorough search too.

We will look for either the term Gaussian or the term noise to increase the number of documents we get from a search.

Advanced Keyword/Phrase Search Screen in IEEE Xplore [2]

Search: Metadata Only Full Text & Metadata

- noise in Metadata Only
- OR Gaussian in Index Terms
- AND "least mean squares methods" in Metadata Only

Now our search is (noise OR gaussian) AND ("least mean squares methods") where the term Gaussian is sought in the index terms only.

Keep in mind that IEEE Xplore provides multiple sources of subject terms with different terminologies. Some articles have no subject terms and others have IEEE Terms, INSPEC Controlled and INSPEC non-controlled Indexing Terms, MESH Terms and/or DOE Terms.

Additional information is available from the help within IEEE and training videos.

[1] Terms in quotation marks are searched as a phrase. In our example, least mean squares methods is searched as a phrase.

[2] If there was another term that could be used for least mean squares methods, a command search would be necessary because it is needed for searches with the structure (term₁ OR term₂) AND (term₃ OR term₄). When using the Advanced Keyword/Phrase Search, this structure can’t be used.