



**Association for  
Computing Machinery**

*Advancing Computing as a Science & Profession*

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**ACM INTRODUCES NEW SEARCH TECHNOLOGY FOR ITS DIGITAL LIBRARY**

*New Class of Database Enables Users to Access and Analyze Data*

**NEW YORK** – December 9, 2008 –ACM (the Association for Computing Machinery) has introduced a powerful new search capability for its Digital Library <http://www.acm.org/dl> that enables users not only to explore existing data but also to discover unexpected information that goes beyond simple query results and helps to foster more research. This technology, based on a new class of database designed for researching information, is part of ACM’s ongoing investment in the content, features, performance, and worldwide reach of its Digital Library (DL). This vast online collection of resources is used by tens of thousands of computing professionals from industry and academia. The DL holds more than two million pages of full-text articles from ACM publications as well as a bibliographic database of published computing literature that currently holds nearly 1.5 million records.

“The new search capability in ACM’s Digital Library is fundamentally changing the way people access and interact with information,” said John White, ACM CEO and Executive Director. “The search platform was built specifically to address the evolving needs of our DL users. By allowing them to personalize their choices and gain greater control over searches, ACM DL users can plumb new depths in knowledge and data discovery.”

White noted that this platform provides a huge advantage in the computing field, which generates ever-increasing volumes of bibliographic and digital resources. “The ACM DL captures this information as part of its growing collection, and it needs to be easily and efficiently accessible to our users,” he said.

The new search technology employs the Endeca Information Access Platform, which is designed for discovering information, not just managing transactions. Using a “guided navigation” approach, it creates a new search results interface, which makes the data available in different views or “facets” of the information. Users can then segment and display the underlying content in different ways.

For example, a search on the new ACM platform returns standard query results, but also provides dynamic summaries of all the data and content in those results. These summaries instantly change as users select filters and other refinements. As a result, they gain unexpected insights as they accelerate the search process. Among the refinements applicable to the search are keywords, people, publications, and conferences.

Users can also find related journals, magazines, ACM Special Interest Groups, and meetings through the search process.

The new search capability is the latest improvement to the ACM DL. ACM Author Pages were recently instituted to show the collected works of an author, an institutional affiliation, and individual and aggregate citations and download counts. This advance enables users to see which articles are actually downloaded for research and reference. In addition, new methods of citation and content analysis, known as bibliometrics, used to study or measure texts and information, are now associated with each article. They are currently aggregated for authors, and soon will be available for institutions as well. A major effort was recently completed to normalize author and institution names, increasing the speed and accuracy of finding the published works of specific authors and institutions.

The Digital Library, which contains the full text of every document ACM has published in its more than 60 years, is an extensive collection of more than 40 ACM journals, magazines, and peer reviewed articles as well as five decades of ACM Special Interest Group (SIG) newsletters and conference proceedings. The Guide to Computing Literature is a bibliographic database of the key publications across the entire computing field. It provides links from its bibliographic records to original source material, and covers core works in computing in journals, proceedings, books, technical reports, dissertations, and requests for comment.

More information on the ACM Digital Library is available at <http://www.acm.org/membership/newdlsearch> .

#### **About ACM**

*ACM, the Association for Computing Machinery [www.acm.org](http://www.acm.org), is the world's largest educational and scientific computing society, uniting computing educators, researchers and professionals to inspire dialogue, share resources and address the field's challenges. ACM strengthens the computing profession's collective voice through strong leadership, promotion of the highest standards, and recognition of technical excellence. ACM supports the professional growth of its members by providing opportunities for life-long learning, career development, and professional networking.*

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