

FDsys: Advanced Search Techniques & Tips

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1

Agenda

- Boolean and other search basics
- Basic search
- Search tips
- Advanced search screen
- Using field operators

2

Boolean and Other Search Operators

*default operator is AND (in GPO Access it was OR)

- Normal Boolean operators: **and**, **or**, **not** (or “-” sign)
- Exact phrase: use “double quotes”
- Find the words: (in any order)
- Proximity: **near/#**
 - "Health care" near/10 Obama
- Ordered proximity: **before/#**
 - (Bill Clinton) before/50 (Hillary Clinton)
- Truncation/wild cards:
 - * to replace multiple characters, congress* for congressional or congressmen
 - ? to replace a single character, capitali?e for capitalize or capitalize

3

Relevance Tweaking

“+” sign adds weight to a term – use it to tweak the relevancy of the search results

Look at the change in the search results for the following searches:

"tea party" job +education

vs.

"tea party" +job education

4

Collections

- Over 40 collections now
- The collections in FDsys are primarily comprised of legislative and executive publications (almost 50/50 ratio)
- Most collections begin around 1994, but some are earlier and others later. For example, the Statutes at Large has been digitized from 1951-2002
- There are some new collections that have never been on GPO Access, like the Coastal Zone Information Center
- Some collections are only available for a short time frame, like the Commerce Business Daily which ceased publication in 2001

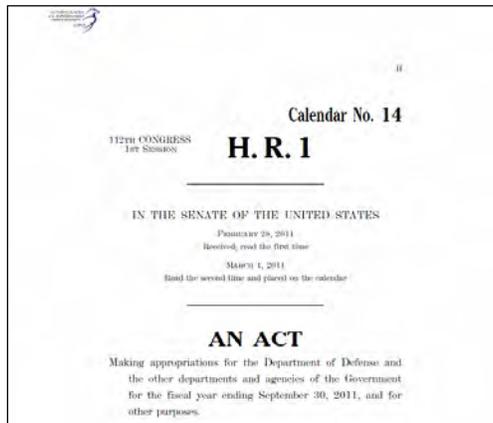
5

What is Metadata?

- MODS: data about the publication
- PREMIS: preservation data

6

PDF example



7

MODS Metadata Example

```
<titleInfo>
- <title>
  An Act Making appropriations for the Department of Defense and the other departments and agencies of the Government for the fiscal year ending September 30, 2011, and
  for other purposes.
</title>
</titleInfo>
- <titleInfo type="alternative">
  <title>H.R. 1 (PCS)</title>
</titleInfo>
- <originInfo>
  <publisher>U.S. Government Printing Office</publisher>
  <dateIssued encoding="w3cdtf">2011-03-01</dateIssued>
  <issuance>monographic</issuance>
</originInfo>
- <physicalDescription>
  <note type="source content type">deposited</note>
  <digitalOrigin>born digital</digitalOrigin>
  <extent>384 p. </extent>
</physicalDescription>
  <classification authority="sudocs">Y 1.6.</classification>
  <classification authority="sudocs">Y 1.4/6.</classification>
  <identifier type="local">F0b002ec180c12a45</identifier>
  <identifier type="uri">http://www.gpo.gov/fdsys/pkg/BILLS-112hr1pcs</identifier>
```

8

Search Results Example

SEARCH RESULTS

Search Government Publications Advanced Search
Retrieve by Citation
[Help](#)

hr. 1 Within Results

Results 1 - 3 of 3 Sort by: Relevance 10 per page

1. [H.R. 1 \(PCS\)](#) [An Act Making appropriations for the Department of Defense and the other departments and agencies...](#) [PDF 748 KB]
[Congressional Bills](#) | [112th Congress](#) | [Placed on Calendar Senate](#) | [Tuesday, March 1, 2011](#)
 ...Congressional Bills 112th Congress | [H.R. 1](#) | [Placed on Calendar Senate](#) (PCS...No. 14 112th CONGRESS 1st Session H. R. 1...No. 14 112th CONGRESS 1st Session H. R. ... [More Information](#)

Select Fields from MODS.xml file used in search results:

```
<title>H.R. 1 (PCS)</title>
<title>An Act Making appropriations for the Department of Defense and the other departments and agencies of the Government for the fiscal year ending September 30, 2011, and for other purposes.</title>
<collectionCode>BILLS</collectionCode>
<congress>112</congress>
<billVersion reprint="false">pcs</billVersion>
<dateIssued encoding="w3cdtf">2011-03-01</dateIssued>
```

9

Browse example

<p>Select Fields from MODS.xml file used in browse tree:</p> <pre><congress>112</congress> <docClass>hr</docClass> <billNumber>1</billNumber></pre> <p>Select Fields from MODS.xml file used in browse results:</p> <pre><docClass>hr</docClass> <billNumber>1</billNumber> <billVersion reprint="false">pcs</billVersion> <title>An Act Making appropriations for the Department of Defense and the other departments and agencies of the Government for the fiscal year ending September 30, 2011, and for other purposes.</title></pre>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> 112th Congress (2011 - 2012) <ul style="list-style-type: none"> House Concurrent Resolution (H. Con. Res.) House Joint Resolution (H.J. Res.) House Bill (H.R.) <ul style="list-style-type: none"> 0 - 99 <p>H.R. 1 (Introduced in House) - Making appropriations for the Department of Defense and the other departments and agencies of the... PDF Text More</p> <p>H.R. 1 (Engrossed in House) - An Act Making appropriations for the Department of Defense and the other departments and agencies... PDF Text More</p> <p>H.R. 1 (Placed on Calendar Senate) - An Act Making appropriations for the Department of Defense and the other departments and agencies... PDF Text More</p> <p>H.R. 2 (Introduced in House) - To repeal the job-killing health care law and health care-related provisions in the Health Care... PDF Text More</p> <p>H.R. 2 (Engrossed in House) - Repealing the Job-Killing Health Care Law Act PDF Text More</p>
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10

More Information Example

H.R. 1 (PCS) AN ACT MAKING APPROPRIATIONS FOR THE DEPARTMENT OF DEFENSE AND THE OTHER DEPARTMENTS AND AGENCIES OF THE GOVERNMENT FOR THE FISCAL YEAR ENDING SEPTEMBER 30, 2011, AND FOR OTHER PURPOSES.
[Click to search results](#)

Download Files

Formats	Text (504 KB) PDF (240 KB) XML (751 KB)
Descriptive Metadata	MODS
Authenticity Metadata	PREMIS
All Format & Metadata Files	ZIP

Metadata

Category	Bills and Statutes
Collection	Congressional Bills
RefDoc Class Number	V1.B V1.AB

Select fields from MODS.xml used on More Information page:

```
<title>H.R. 1 (PCS)</title>
<title>AN Act Making Appropriations for the Department of Defense and the other departments and agencies of the Government for the fiscal year ending September 30, 2011, and for other purposes.</title>
<category>Bills and Statutes</category>
<collectionCode>BILLS</collectionCode>
<classification authority="sudocs">Y1.6.</classification>
<classification authority="sudocs">Y1.A/B.</classification>
```

11

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FDsys > Search Results > More Information

Search Government Publications

[SEARCH](#) [Advanced Search](#) [Retrieve by Citation](#) [Help](#)

HOUSE HEARING, 106TH CONGRESS - FUNDAMENTAL TAX REFORM
[Back to search results](#)

Download Files

Formats	Text (1545 KB) PDF (2747 KB)
Descriptive Metadata	MODS
Authenticity Metadata	PREMIS
All Format & Metadata Files	ZIP

Metadata

Category	Congressional Committee Materials
Collection	Congressional Hearings

12

What is the big deal with metadata?

- Relevant search results
- GPO Access vs. FDsys
- Zero in on captured metadata for precision searching
- Different metadata is captured for different collections, this allow you to do very specific searches over collections

13

Examples of search techniques

- Basic search: [south sudan](#)
- Search results page: [More Information](#) > [Document in Context](#) = gives context to your search result
- Use filters to narrow down search results (tailored to each collection)
- [Retrieve by Citation: 75 FR 81766](#) (ban on drop-side cribs)

14

More examples...

- Browse search: [14 CFR 1214.702](#) (Authority of Space Shuttle Commander)
- Advanced search screen: [Additional Government Publications](#), search in [Publication Name](#) = [CONAN](#) and “church”
- Advanced search screen: [Date is after January 1, 2011](#), “[debt ceiling](#)” and limit to [Budget of the United States Government](#) = note the search string in the search box

15

More examples...

- Field Operators:
 - Use to zero in on publication
 - Some common to all collections, some are unique
 - Find in [FDsys Help](#)
- Bookmark your search results page to re-execute your search (your search is embedded in the URL)
- Fun search: [witness:\(stephen colbert\)](#)

16

More examples...

- `collection:CFR ice cream` and use `Document in Context` to get a general sense of the various ways ice cream is regulated.
- Citation searching:
 - `citation:"public law 104-191"` (exact publication)
 - `citation:"104-191"` (some non-relevant mixed in)
 - `refcitation:"public law 104-191"` (what refers to your citation?)

17

More examples...

- **Parallel Table of Authorities & Rules** and the **U.S. Code Classification Tables** are available under Related Resources in the CFR and US Code collections
- `yescount:219 nocount:212` = Affordable Healthcare Law and an amendment to a Congressional Record entry

18

Authentication



GPO Seal of Authenticity:

Means the collection has undergone the Authentication process



Blue ribbon:

Means the document being viewed has not been altered since GPO made it available on FDsys