www.researchrabbit.ai

Revolutionising Student Research: Transforming Learning with ResearchRabbit.ai

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Session Aims and Outline

- Aims
  - Develop an understanding of and evaluate ResearchRabbit.ai
  - Understand the basic features through a demonstration
  - Consider students' views and perspectives on the tool

- Outline
  - Background and Teaching Context – Panna
  - Demonstration of ResearchRabbit – Rhodri
  - The Student View and Experience – Liam
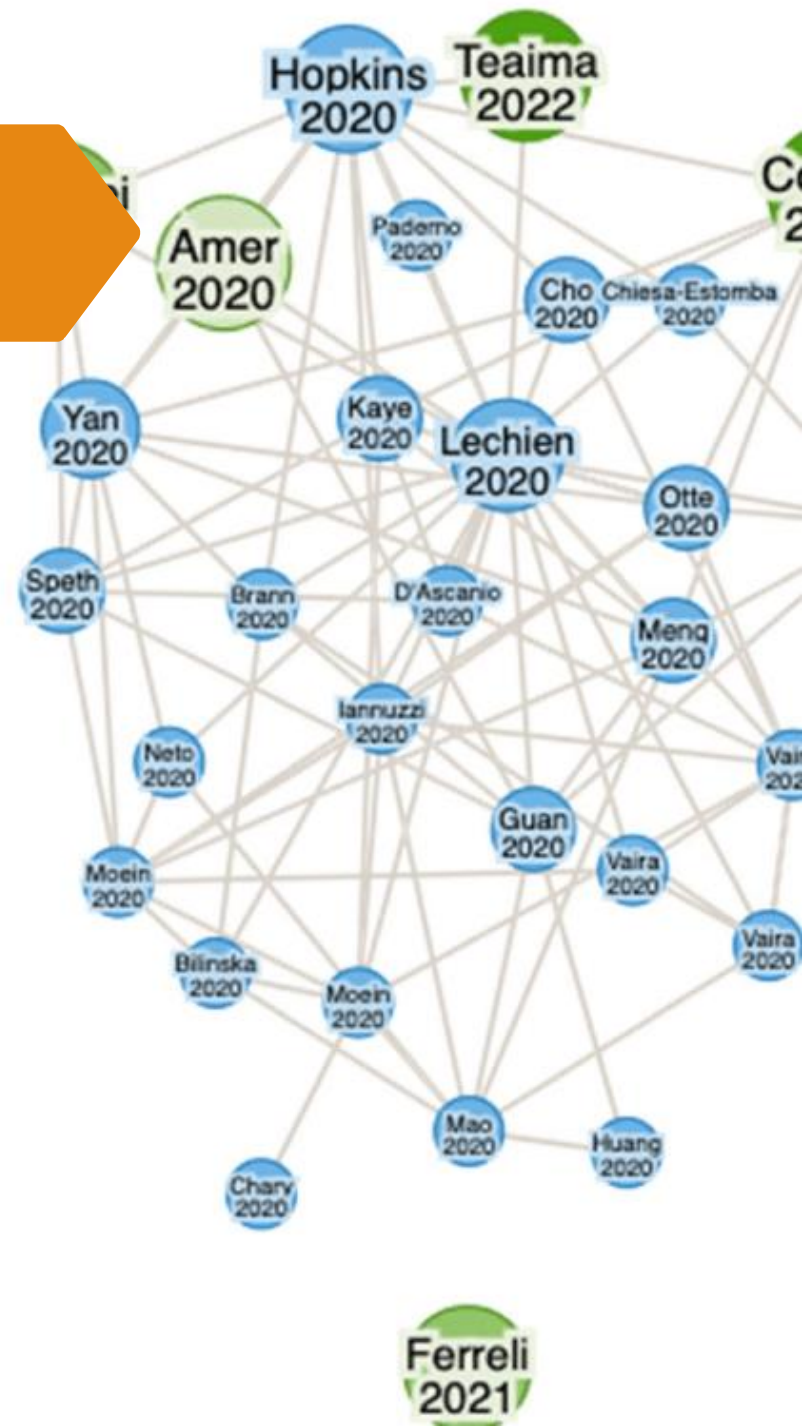
Background and Context

Panna Karlinger

Introduction to ResearchRabbit.ai

- 'Spotify for Research'

- Visual literature mapping tool

- Similar to Litmaps & Connected Papers

- Uses 'seed papers' and their citations, metadata and semantic understanding

- 'Search' based on "*All citations*", "*All references*", "*Similar works*", "*These authors*", "*Suggested authors*"

- MAG (originally) - now PubMed and Semantic Scholar

- Enables browsing and searching in a clear visual manner

Teaching Context

- Student challenges
  - Practical route into HE
  - Lack of patience / time to read
  - Always needing more reading suggestions
- Need for positive examples of using AI
  - Ethical and efficient
  - Aligning to policy
- Pilot (Key skills & Research Methods)
- Supporting literature reviews (PGR)

Case Study: AD/ED20320 – Dulliau Ymchwil / Research Methods

Student were introduced to *Research Rabbit* during **the initial weeks of selected trial courses**. **A live demonstration** was provided as part of the seminar provision, and links to a **tutorial video** re-iterating the site's features were shared.

Research Rabbit was presented in conjunction with an assignment asking **students develop a research proposal, including a literature review, and research questions.**

Students were then asked to complete an activity where they were asked create **a simple research collection** on a topic related to the module assessment.

Benefit:

Students noted how the website supported them in:

- **Visualising** how different studies were **interconnected** and could be used in the assignment.
- **Identifying relevant existing research**.
- Identifying **additional key materials** which supported the review.
- See where there was a **saturation of papers**, and around which topics/issues there may be opportunities for further research based on the **connections (or lack of) between papers**.
- **Organising and managing large numbers of papers** – including identifying and sorting to themes.

Strengths and Limitations

- **Strengths**
  - User-friendly, easy to navigate
  - Works with screen readers
  - Completely free / no credit limit
  - No cap on seed papers
  - Integrated with EndNote, Zotero, Mendeley and BibTex
  - Collaboration
  - Email alerts
- **Limitations**
  - Somewhat limited database
  - Time investment to learn advanced features
  - Exploration on a single linear path only
  - Possibility of bypassing learning by just using abstracts

Demonstration

Rhodri Evans

The Student View and Experience

Liam Knights

Testimonials

Having started my academic studies at Aberystwyth University with an integrated foundation year, research and citation acquisition were a significant focus of my initial inquiry into academia. While sound in nature, the methods taught to me, such as **university search platforms and Google Scholar, took a great deal of time and effort to collate enough relevant, recent and peer-reviewed papers** necessary for my modules. Since the introduction of Research Rabbit, my **work rate and quality have increased exponentially**. Its ability to aid in exploring **a range of avenues, including similar, earlier or later work, suggestions of relevant authors and the ability to map these pieces across a timeline makes structuring my work much easier**. Research Rabbit **works in tandem with other assistive technologies, such as Zotero**, to create a streamlined research system that can pull citations from prior research and then reintegrate later works. Due to the immature nature of my academic experience, this tool **has and will continue to play a fundamental role in my development** as a student.

Liam - First Year Education student

Testimonials

Research Rabbit has helped my studies by **broadening my research capacity without days of sifting through Primo and google scholar**. It allows for development of a particular theme or subject of interest, by **suggesting academic sources in parallel to your desired field**. It also **benefits the organisation and collection of resources for utilisation** at a later period, whilst **ensuring relevance to your study**. The **platform has enhanced my efficiency** and **has given a much wider scope of discovery within an instant**. This will really **assist my dissertation** as I collate imperative papers and uncover similar works to gain **a more holistic view** of my thesis.

Jodie - Second Year Education student

Testimonials

Once you have a hold on the interface, it can be a **highly useful tool to both gather - and find connections between - papers** that are of interest to you. It **synchronised seamlessly with my previous reference manager**, Zotero, reducing much of the workload of making the switch. What works best for me the **collaboration features,** allowing you to work with multiple people on a collection, sharing comments, notes, and papers, and **being able to export it all to BibTeX is super helpful**!

Cyrus – Year 1 PhD in Education student

Testimonials

I was **initially sceptical** about Research Rabbit. After the intro I was thinking it was going to be another "waste of time" resource but after trying it I found it quite helpful. It really **helped with finding relevant papers for my lit review**, and Research Rabbit helped me **discover relevant papers**, it would give me stuff which I would have missed by just using Primo. The way it suggested other stuff by the authors and connected stuff on the same topic **must have saved me a load of time**. I'm actually pretty happy I was introduced to it.

Anonymous – Year 3 student

References and Links

- **ResearchRabbit is available here: https://www.researchrabbit.ai/**

- **Tutorial video of ResearchRabbit: https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=7yTs-jZygE0**

- Cole, V. & Boutet, M. (2023). 'ResearchRabbit', *Journal of Canadian Health Libraries Association*, 44(2):43–7.

- Sharma, R., Gulati, S., Kaur, A., Sinhababu, A., & Chakravarty, R. (2022). 'Research discovery and visualization using ResearchRabbit: A use case of AI in libraries', *COLLNET Journal of Scientometrics and Information Management*, 16(2), 215-237.

- Tay, A. (2021). *ResearchRabbit is out of beta- my review of this new literature mapping tool* [online] Available at: https://medium.com/a-academic-librarians-thoughts-on-open-access/researchrabbit-is-out-of-beta-my-review-of-this-new-literature-mapping-tool-3c593d061c63 [accessed 05/09/2024]

Thank you!

Any questions?