
Subject: Tools to search this group, now that Google has screwed up their search?
Posted by [Mariolncandenza](#) on Wed, 02 Sep 2009 15:55:05 GMT

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This was discussed in a thread a few weeks back, but (haha) I can't find it.

Google Groups, which I have been using to browse this group for years, has recently changed their search options to return only recent results. This makes the search basically useless for this group. There is an "advanced search" which allows you to search archives, but it's complicated and I am lazy. I mean, it's not clickable straight from the groups page, it requires you to type in the name of the group, and requires 5-6 extra clicks besides. Very un-Google-like.

What other tools do people use to search this archive?

Is there a super-long string I can put in the Google search bar that will make it do the right thing, that I can just copy/paste?

Thanks for your help,

--Edward H.

Subject: Re: Tools to search this group, now that Google has screwed up their search?

Posted by [Michael Galloy](#) on Wed, 02 Sep 2009 20:32:36 GMT

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Ed Hyer wrote:

> This was discussed in a thread a few weeks back, but (haha) I can't
> find it.

Here is the discussion from a few weeks ago:

http://groups.google.com/group/comp.lang.idl-pvwave/browse_thread/thread/2b6813c56b514ca0/c22fad23b15129f6?lnk=raot

> Google Groups, which I have been using to browse this group for years,
> has recently changed their search options to return only recent
> results. This makes the search basically useless for this group. There
> is an "advanced search" which allows you to search archives, but it's
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> the groups page, it requires you to type in the name of the group, and
> requires 5-6 extra clicks besides. Very un-Google-like.
>
> What other tools do people use to search this archive?

Personally, I use the custom Google search that's on my website (it's on the second search bar on the right on michaelgalloy.com). This will search the newsgroup, David's site, the IDL documentation, and a few others.

> Is there a super-long string I can put in the Google search bar that
> will make it do the right thing, that I can just copy/paste?

If you use Firefox, it might be worth it to learn to use smart keywords so that you can access that search from your URL bar (instead of having to visit my page to make each search):

<http://support.mozilla.com/en-US/kb/Smart+keywords>

I made a smart keyword "idl" to access that search, so now I can type "idl histogram" on the URL bar to search for histogram across those sites.

Mike

--

www.michaelgalloy.com
Associate Research Scientist
Tech-X Corporation

Subject: Re: Tools to search this group, now that Google has screwed up their search?

Posted by [Matt\[2\]](#) on Wed, 02 Sep 2009 21:15:54 GMT

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Gianguido <gianguido.cianci@gmail.com> writes:

> This works in Firefox, and might work in other browsers too.

> Go to:

> http://groups.google.com/groups/search?as_q=where&as_epq=&as_oq=&as_eq=&num=10&lr=&as_sitesearch=&as_qdr=&as_mind=1&as_minm=1&as_miny=2009&as_maxd=1&as_maxm=1&as_maxy=2009&as_ugroup=comp.lang.idl-pvwave&as_usubject=&as_uauthors=&saf e=off

This is good, but search in general is still broken on google. In the last thread, I mentioned that "map_set" came up with 165 posts but MAP_SET came up with 1,020 and that when you ordered by date you got 195.

Well now I can only get 158/191 to return in the advanced search box however I try to serach for map_set. There are lots of old postings

missing from the advanced search result.

Check the google groups help search for "search broken"

Lots of complaints about missing posts.

I think for the time being, there isn't a good search mechanism for old posts. :(

Matt

--

Matthew Savoie - Scientific Programmer
National Snow and Ice Data Center
(303) 735-0785 <http://nsidc.org>

Subject: Re: Tools to search this group, now that Google has screwed up their search?

Posted by [cgguido](#) on Wed, 02 Sep 2009 21:47:47 GMT

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On Sep 2, 4:18 pm, mgalloy <mgal...@gmail.com> wrote:

> Yes, I believe this is the same as a smart keyword. But you can make one
> by just right clicking on the search box and selecting "Add a keyword
> for this search".
>

Nice!

-G

Subject: Re: Tools to search this group, now that Google has screwed up their search?

Posted by [MariIncandenza](#) on Thu, 03 Sep 2009 00:35:00 GMT

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On Sep 2, 2:47 pm, Gianguido <gianguido.cia...@gmail.com> wrote:

> On Sep 2, 4:18 pm, mgalloy <mgal...@gmail.com> wrote:
>
>> Yes, I believe this is the same as a smart keyword. But you can make one
>> by just right clicking on the search box and selecting "Add a keyword
>> for this search".
>

> Nice!
>
> -G

I have tried a bunch of different things, and I am not succeeding in reverse-engineering the search API. Sometimes I can get results from the whole group archive (map_set returns 1,040), sometimes not (map_set returns 1).

Maybe they will fix this and issue a press release, maybe they will fix it quietly, maybe they just don't care.

Michael Galloy's neat search tool is not immune to this problem. Of course, if we can't search the group archive, maybe we will lean more heavily on the other sites?

--Edward H.

Subject: Re: Tools to search this group, now that Google has screwed up their search?

Posted by [jameskuyper](#) on Thu, 03 Sep 2009 10:01:08 GMT

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Ed Hyer wrote:

> This was discussed in a thread a few weeks back, but (haha) I can't
> find it.
>
> Google Groups, which I have been using to browse this group for years,
> has recently changed their search options to return only recent
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>
> What other tools do people use to search this archive?

I always select the "advanced search" option when using any search engine, I don't mind complicated, and I do like to be in control of the details of how the search is performed.

The archive you're searching with Google Groups is Google's own usenet archive; as far as I know, there are no other tools that can be used by the general public to search that archive.

I think that what you're really asking is what other usenet archives do people search in. Unfortunately, while I'm aware of many different

usenet archives, I'm not aware of any with anything approaching the depth and breadth of coverage of Google Groups. I say "unfortunately", because Google's search engine is one of the flakiest pieces of software that I've had to misfortune of not being able to avoid using. It used to be a lot better; I'm not sure why they broke it.
