Scopus: Basic Search

Step 1.
To conduct your search, type your search term into the search box, as shown below.

Step 2.
The default search setting is for ‘Article Title, Abstract, Keywords’, which is often the best option. However, you can change this by using the drop down menu and scrolling to find other options, such as ‘Author’ or ‘Source Title’ which will search journal titles.

Scrolling to the bottom of the list will also reveal the options to search by ‘Chemical Name’ or ‘CAS number’.
Step 3.

Underneath the search box is an option to ‘limit’ your search. This allows you to change additional variables such as ‘date range’ of the search, ‘document type’ or when items were last ‘added to Scopus’. Click ‘search’ to run your search.

Step 4.

On the results page you will have additional options to refine your search. You can select by year, document type, author etc. and then either limit your search to your selection or exclude your selection from your search.

There is a caveat that comes with utilising the ‘subject area’ refinement. As it is so subjective, we would dissuade use of this except to exclude an obviously out of place subject area (e.g. if you are looking for biology and retrieve many detailed engineering papers, you may wish to exclude these).
Step 5.

Clicking on a title will take you to more information about that item such as bibliographic details required to cite the article, abstract, references etc.

![Image of library and digital support interface]

Step 6.

To access a document, just click on the tiny ‘sfx@UoP’ button. This will take you to Primo and show you instantly whether you have access to that item via our subscriptions or not.

![Image of Scopus document details]

Library and Digital Support- University of Plymouth
K. Davis
14/12/18
Step 7.

If the item says ‘Fulltext available’ then you have access through library subscriptions and can click one of the links provided to access the article.

If it states ‘no Fulltext’ or ‘check availability’ then you may need to find an alternative item, check online for an openly available version or request it via Inter Library Loan (Stage 3+ only).