

Alfasoft Online Demo Days 2025 – Day 1, **Scite.ai**

Question	Answer
How is “Scite.ai for Research” different from Scholar AI 5 available through OpenAI?	The primary difference is our publisher relationships and coverage. Scite combines LLMs with a proprietary, publisher-licensed retrieval-augmented generation (RAG) system. Our data come directly from millions of full-text scientific papers—including citation statements and context—not just abstracts or metadata. This means that when Scite answers a question, it shows where in the literature each claim is discussed and how it is cited (supporting, contradicting, or mentioning). In contrast, general models retrieve from open web or unverified sources without Smart Citations or verified provenance.
Which publishers and databases are currently indexed in Scite.ai, and how do you ensure comprehensive, up-to-date coverage?	Scite indexes over 1.4 billion citation statements extracted from more than 190 million scholarly articles and integrates full-text data through direct agreements with leading publishers such as Wiley, Sage, Taylor & Francis, BMJ, Karger, and others. We supplement these with open-access repositories (PubMed Central, Crossref, DOAJ, arXiv, etc.) and continually update our database as new literature is published—ensuring that users always access the most current citation contexts. More information on journals can be found here: https://scite.ai/journals
Are Elsevier and Springer included?	Yes, both are included—but with nuance. Scite indexes citation statements from open access Elsevier and Springer Nature journals, which means you’ll see Smart Citation data (e.g., how an Elsevier or Springer article is cited). We have full-text ingestion and licensing agreements with many major publishers, including Wiley, Sage, Taylor & Francis, and others. For publishers where full-text access is restricted, Scite uses metadata and abstracts, as well as traditional citations. We have all citation information from these publishers but do not have all full text.
How does it work with publishers you don't have agreements with?	When we don’t have full-text rights, Scite still includes metadata, reference lists, and Smart Citation context extracted through Crossref, open repositories, and licensed partner data.
How does Scite decide whether a citation is supportive, contradictory, or neutral? How can researchers use this information?	Scite uses a combination of natural language processing and expert-trained machine learning models to classify the intent of each citation. We analyze the sentence where a citation occurs and surrounding text to determine whether it supports, contrasts, or merely mentions the referenced work. You can read more on that here: https://direct.mit.edu/qss/article/2/3/882/102990/scite-A-smart-citation-index-that-displays-the

How does Scite identify predatory journals?	Scite flags journals using a combination of trusted third-party datasets (e.g., Cabells Journalytics/Bealls List).
For a PhD literature review, how much time does Scite actually save compared to traditional search strategies?	This is hard to quantify but Scite can dramatically save researchers and students time on literature reviews. By surfacing not just relevant papers but how they are cited (supporting or contradicting), Scite eliminates the need to manually open and scan dozens of PDFs to assess credibility. It transforms hours of searching and note-taking into minutes of verified synthesis.
Does Scite.ai have access to book chapters?	Book chapters are partially included. We index those with DOIs and accessible metadata via Crossref or publisher feeds (e.g., SpringerLink, Taylor & Francis, and Elsevier where available). However, citation statement coverage is strongest for journal literature, which remains our core focus.
What is the most important unique selling point of the Scite Assistant?	The Scite Assistant is the only research assistant that grounds every claim in verified citation evidence. It doesn't just summarize—it shows why an answer is true, where it comes from, and how the literature supports or challenges it. This transparency makes it uniquely suited for academic and professional research, unlike general AI tools that cannot reliably trace their sources. It has the world's best coverage of research articles, going beyond even competing tools like Science Direct AI, etc.
How user-friendly is it? How long, on average, does it take to be good at using Scite?	It is not possible to answer as all people are different, but we can make an educated guess. Scite.ai is very user-friendly — Scite is designed for researchers, not data scientists. Beginner (Days 1), Intermediate (Days 2–3), Advanced (Week 1).