Text and data mining is defined as using automated programmes or techniques to continuously or automatically download, extract and index thousands of articles or other resources.

Copyright law in the UK allows text and data mining for the purpose of non-commercial research. Copyright law in the UK does not allow the use of text and data mining for the purpose of constructing a new database of articles or other resources.

Providers of database systems generally support text and data mining for non-commercial research. However, some providers require use of a specific system or programme and most providers require to be informed of the text and data mining of their systems. This is due to the impact of high-volume extraction of data on the database system efficiency. In addition, providers need to be able to differentiate between text and data mining and the practice of hacking or trawling.

If your research project requires the text and data mining of specific databases, please get in touch with the Library e-resources team at e-resources@uws.ac.uk

Please include the information below in your request:

- Name of lead researcher
- UWS School of lead researcher
- Details of research project
- Databases to be mined
- Programme/software to be used for data mining
- Planned dates of data mining

UWS staff and students who carry out text and data mining without informing the Library may cause database providers to block all UWS staff and students from accessing their resources. Disciplinary action may be taken against these staff and students.

Last updated: March 2018