

LeapSpace Webinar Q&A — 28 May 2026

Q1: Will that make our work easier to complete, or will it take more time than usual if we include the time needed to evaluate the reliability of AI findings?

LeapSpace is designed to save time overall. While evaluating reliability is important, LeapSpace streamlines this through built-in tools: Trust Cards show how closely each claim aligns with its underlying source and Claim Radar tests claims against up to 40 of the most relevant sources across 106M+ Scopus-indexed papers in seconds rather than hours. These features are designed to reduce the burden of verification rather than add to it.

Q2: If I am interested in writing a review on a subject, can I use LeapSpace to feed it with a bunch of references and it can propose a frame for a review that would be sensible, to propose something not already addressed before?

Yes, LeapSpace is well-suited to support this kind of work. It helps kickstart literature reviews by providing summaries, deeper insights, visualisations, and highlighting hidden connections. Deep Research mode in particular generates a comprehensive, multi-page referenced report that identifies emerging patterns, contradictions, and evidence gaps — helping to surface areas not yet addressed. You can also upload your own reference files (up to five PDFs/DOCXs per conversation) and ask LeapSpace to combine them with its knowledge base to identify gaps, contradictions, or areas for novel contribution. Note that LeapSpace responses are not suitable for citing directly; you should always cite the underlying papers.

Q3: What type of license do HEAL-Link members have?

If your university is a HEAL-Link member, then you can access LeapSpace as you would all your other Elsevier solutions using your Elsevier credentials to sign in in the usual way.

Q4: Is there any limit on the use of LeapSpace and does it have a daily limit?

There is no limit on the number of concurrent users within an institutional account, and no performance-based limitation either. The platform is designed to support simultaneous use across an organisation. Conversational History stores up to 200 conversations in total, with a maximum of 20 exchanges per conversation, and Conversational Follow-Up queries are limited to 500 characters. There is no daily use limit.

Q5: How many PDFs can you upload?

You can upload up to five PDF/DOCX files per conversation thread — either all five in your first query, or spread across up to five different messages within the same conversation. The maximum size per individual file is 10MB.

Q6: Currently we have access to LeapSpace (via HEAL-Link). Can we also have access to ScienceDirect AI? Because I have seen (a couple of months ago) one could compare experiments there, and now I don't see that choice on LeapSpace.

ScienceDirect AI has now transitioned into LeapSpace and is no longer an active standalone solution (as of 31 March 2026). The Compare Experiments feature from ScienceDirect AI is currently still available to LeapSpace subscribers via ScienceDirect search — it appears alongside the 'download selected articles' button, above the individual article results. A new **Compare tool** will build on ScienceDirect AI's popular Compare Experiments feature by providing structured evidence comparison across papers; coming soon. Reading Assistant remains available on ScienceDirect, with unlimited access for LeapSpace subscribers.

Q7: Could I share a discussion in LeapSpace with my colleagues?

Deep Research reports can be downloaded as PDFs (via the option at the top of each report), which can then be shared.

Q8: Can I combine 'upload file' and 'deep research' at the same time?

Yes. The File Upload feature works alongside LeapSpace's tools, including Deep Research. LeapSpace blends the content of uploaded files with its knowledge base of abstracts and full text, so responses are grounded in both. This enables you to provide additional context and enrich the analysis that Deep Research generates.

Q9: How do our Mendeley users benefit from using LeapSpace?

Fuller integration of Mendeley's reference management with LeapSpace is on the 2026 development roadmap. The planned integration will enable users to manage their personal library, sync references, and use AI-assisted writing — all from the Word plugin and LeapSpace. In the meantime, references can currently be exported from LeapSpace in CSV, RIS, BibTeX, and plain text formats, which are compatible with Mendeley.

Q10: Is it free for our students?

If your institution has a LeapSpace subscription, students at that institution will be covered.

Q11: Could you please clarify how the tool's reference recommendations are validated? Is there any measured error or hallucination rate regarding irrelevant papers, incorrect citations, or unsupported paper connections?

LeapSpace uses several layers of validation. References are generated through a hybrid vector and keyword search, then re-ranked by a CrossEncoder (a small language model 'second pair of eyes') for relevancy. Every claim must be accompanied by at least one reference, and Trust Cards show how closely each claim aligns with its cited source. Claim Radar then tests each claim against up to 40 sources across 106M+ Scopus-indexed papers to show whether the broader literature supports, contradicts, or presents mixed findings.

Regarding hallucination rates: rigorous evaluation frameworks are used for each new release — one focused on response quality (relevancy, coherency, safety) and one checking for harmful bias. A cross-functional Elsevier team provides human oversight of

these evaluations. Prompt engineering strictly instructs LeapSpace not to speculate when evidence is insufficient.

Q12: Could you please tell us the names of the publishers?

As of February 2026, new licensing agreements have been signed with Emerald Publishing, IOP Publishing, NEJM Group, Oxford University Press, and Sage Publishing, adding more than 3 million OA (CC-BY) and subscription journal articles to LeapSpace. These are in addition to Elsevier's own 12 million articles and approximately 1.1 million book chapters. LeapSpace also draws on the full Scopus corpus of abstracts from more than 7,000 publishers worldwide. Further publisher partnerships are in the pipeline.

Q13: Could you specify what a conversation is — is it limited by keywords or something else?

A conversation in LeapSpace is a single continuous exchange thread between you and LeapSpace. Each conversation can contain a maximum of 20 exchanges (query-response pairs). LeapSpace stores up to 200 conversations in total in your Conversational History. There is no keyword limit within a conversation, but individual Conversational Follow-Up queries are limited to 500 characters. LeapSpace uses the most recent 10 exchanges in a conversation for context when generating responses.

Q14: So LeapSpace is suitable for literature reviews. Is this its main goal?

Literature review support is one important use case, but not the sole goal. LeapSpace is designed as a comprehensive research-grade workspace covering multiple stages of the research workflow, including: literature discovery and synthesis, deep multi-step investigation (via Deep Research mode), finding funding opportunities (39,000+ active opportunities), identifying potential collaborators (Topical Author Search and reading and interrogating individual articles (Reading Assistant). The aim is to support researchers across the entire research workflow in a single secure location.

Q15: Can LeapSpace produce results only from references which can be ranked as high-quality? For example, in Business and Economics, can I get only results from ABS-ranked references?

LeapSpace does not currently support filtering by specific journal ranking lists such as the ABS (Association of Business Schools) list. You can filter by citation count, time range, country of primary author, and document type, which can help prioritise higher-impact content. All content LeapSpace draws on comes from journals indexed in Scopus, which itself applies rigorous quality criteria. Filtering by specific external ranking frameworks (like ABS) is not available at this time; citation count can serve as a proxy. If this is an important requirement, you can submit feedback to your Customer Success Manager.

Q16: I'm limited to 500 characters per query. Is there a way to increase this limit, or is it fixed by LeapSpace?

The 500-character limit applies specifically to the Conversational Follow-Up field for additional queries within an existing conversation. For your initial query (the first message in a new conversation), this limit does not apply in the same way. If you need to ask a complex question that exceeds the follow-up limit, the recommended approach is to start a new conversation with a fuller prompt, or break your question into a series of follow-up queries within the same thread.

Q17: Does LeapSpace provide an API?

API access is on the 2026 development roadmap and is planned to be made available later this year.

Q18: Are our PDFs safe when we upload them?

Yes. Uploaded files are private, secure, and encrypted. Specifically: your files will not be used to train Elsevier's models or any third-party models; they cannot be viewed or accessed by other users, and their content is not used in responses for other users; they are encrypted at rest using AES-256; and they are stored in a controlled cloud environment in line with Elsevier's security policy and Responsible AI Principles. Files are retained for 24 hours in Temporary mode or 30 days in Standard mode, and you can delete them at any time.

Q19: Will it give us the level of evidence for each article?

LeapSpace provides several confidence signals. Trust Cards (via the Link to Statement feature) show how closely each AI-generated claim aligns with the cited underlying source. Claim Radar goes further, showing how a claim holds up against up to 40 of the most relevant sources across 106M+ Scopus-indexed papers — indicating whether the broader literature supports, contradicts, or presents mixed findings. For evidence-based queries, LeapSpace may also include a 'Confidence level' paragraph explaining how confident it is that the sources used are relevant. These signals help you calibrate the strength of the evidence, though they are not a formal evidence-grading system (such as GRADE levels used in clinical research).

Q20: Does the research prioritise the most recent sources?

Relevancy to your query is the primary ranking factor. There is a small recency boost applied, but it does not override relevancy. The most pertinent documents are always prioritised regardless of publication date. The LeapSpace knowledge base is updated daily, so newly published content is incorporated quickly.

Q21: Is there a way to improve the suggested references? I've noticed LeapSpace sometimes supports claims using case reports or small studies rather than larger or more robustly supported studies.

Yes, there are several ways to influence this. You can specify filters directly in your natural language query — for example, requesting only papers with a minimum citation count (e.g., 'only include papers with 25 or more citations'), limiting to specific time ranges, or

specifying document types. You can also use Conversational Follow-Up to refine results. For clinical or evidence-based work, you might specify that you want systematic reviews or meta-analyses. Filtering by formal journal quality rankings is not currently available, but citation count is a useful proxy. Feedback on response quality can also be submitted using the in-product feedback button.

Q22: Does it offer a 'suggestion' function after the search was conducted — when we want to add a new source or provide a 'better' source?

Yes. Every Copilot and Deep Research response ends with three suggested follow-up questions to help you continue exploring. You can use Conversational Follow-Up to ask LeapSpace to find additional or alternative sources or refine the search. Claim Radar can also direct you to related literature. However, there is not currently a feature that proactively suggests a 'better' replacement for a specific cited source — this type of refinement would need to be requested through follow-up queries.

Q23: Does it also include journals outside of Scopus?

All full-text content and abstracts that LeapSpace uses come exclusively from journals indexed in Scopus. Content from journals not indexed in Scopus is not directly used. If a non-indexed paper is mentioned in a Scopus-indexed record, LeapSpace treats it as bibliographic context only. Scopus itself indexes content from more than 7,000 publishers across 330 disciplines.

Q24: Claim Radar for all claims I have tested gives: 'No claims could be identified in the given text.' Any idea how to overcome this?

Claim Radar works best on specific, testable factual assertions rather than general summaries or narrative text. To get better results: try using it on specific factual sentences from a Copilot or Deep Research response rather than on an entire passage; ensure the text contains a clear, discrete assertion (e.g., 'X treatment reduces Y by Z%' rather than a broad summary statement); and try Claim Radar on individual cited claims within a response by clicking on a specific reference. If the issue persists, using the in-product feedback button to report this will help the Elsevier team investigate.

Q25: Can we upload a PDF in Greek?

The technology currently used to extract PDFs is primarily focused on English, German, and French. However, LeapSpace's search tools can understand queries written in more than 50 languages. If support for Greek PDF extraction is important to you, let the product team know through your Customer Success Manager or the in-product feedback tool.

Q26: When LeapSpace synthesizes an answer from multiple sources, how does it ensure that specific methodological limitations (sample size, demographic constraints, in-vitro settings) do not disappear? How does the system protect the researcher from 'epistemic inflation'?

This is an important concern. LeapSpace addresses it in several ways. Deep Research mode uses a meta-analysis agent specifically instructed to identify overlaps, contradictions, and connections across disciplines — including surfacing 'negative space' where understanding has yet to catch up. Claim Radar shows whether claims are supported, contradicted, or mixed across the broader literature, flagging when a finding is not universally accepted. Trust Cards link every claim back to its specific source, so researchers can verify the original context.

That said, LeapSpace is designed as a research starting point and springboard, not a replacement for critical reading of primary sources. The Deep Research report intentionally does not mimic a literature review — it aims to think with the researcher, expose gaps and contradictions, and surface ideas for further exploration rather than present conclusions as settled. Researchers are encouraged to read the cited papers directly and apply their own critical judgement, especially regarding methodological nuances.

Q27: What's the future of AI? Can it destroy human existence in some way or not?

For Elsevier's perspective, LeapSpace is developed in alignment with Elsevier's Responsible AI Principles, emphasising transparency, explainability, and human oversight. The development philosophy is explicitly that AI should elevate human ingenuity, not replace it.

Q28: How can we write an analytical prompt exceeding the limitations of a single prompt?

There are several approaches. For Copilot, you can break a complex question into a series of Conversational Follow-Up queries within the same thread — LeapSpace uses the most recent 10 exchanges for context, so you can build up a complex investigation incrementally. For Deep Research mode, the initial prompt can be broad and the system will autonomously decompose it into multiple sub-questions and research steps. You can also combine File Upload with your queries to provide additional context that would otherwise need to be included in the prompt. Starting a new conversation with a clear, well-structured initial prompt is often more effective than trying to fit everything into a follow-up query.

Q29: Can we download search results in PDF or Word format?

Deep Research reports can be downloaded as PDFs via the option at the top of each report. References can be exported in CSV, RIS, BibTeX, and plain text formats. Export of visualisations (flowcharts and tables) is not yet available, but richer export formats including PNG, SVG, CSV, and Excel are planned for Q3 2026. Microsoft Word export of full responses is not currently available. In the meantime, screenshots are suggested as a workaround for visualisations.

Q30: Do we need strong critical thinking and caution regarding AI results? The results are from peer-reviewed journals, so is it still necessary to double-check them?

Yes — critical thinking remains essential, and Elsevier actively encourages it. While all content LeapSpace draws on is peer-reviewed and Scopus-indexed, there are still reasons to evaluate responses carefully: AI responses are non-deterministic and may vary; there may be bias in the published literature itself (e.g., overrepresentation of certain age groups, ethnicities, or geographic regions); and even accurately cited claims may not be universally accepted across a field — which is precisely why Claim Radar exists. LeapSpace is designed to stimulate critical thinking, not replace it. As the FAQ notes: 'Most AIs are designed to sound persuasive, not to help you think and show you the evidence.'

Q31: If you already have a database containing the articles you are researching, can you ask questions about your searches and the contents of your database?

You can upload up to five PDF/DOCX files per conversation thread and ask LeapSpace questions that combine the content of those files with its broader knowledge base. This enables queries such as comparing your findings with the wider literature or identifying gaps. However, there is no feature to connect an external database directly to LeapSpace at this time. Integrations with institutional platforms and API access are planned for later in 2026.

Q32: What exact databases and full-text sources does LeapSpace search, beyond ScienceDirect and Scopus?

LeapSpace draws on: (1) Scopus — the full corpus of 106+ million abstracts and metadata from 7,000+ publishers across 330 disciplines; (2) Elsevier full text — approximately 12 million articles, book series, handbooks, major reference works, and ~1.1 million book chapters; (3) Non-Elsevier full text — 3M+ OA (CC-BY) and subscription journal articles, including content from Emerald Publishing, IOP Publishing, NEJM Group, Oxford University Press, and Sage Publishing (as of February 2026); and (4) Elsevier's Funding database — 39,000+ active funding opportunities. All full-text content comes exclusively from journals indexed in Scopus.

Q33: 1. Can we suggest which database should be searched? 2. Is there access to public policy papers, such as from the EU or WHO?

1. You cannot currently select a specific database to search — LeapSpace searches across its full knowledge base and ranks results by relevancy. You can, however, filter by country of primary author, time range, citation count, and document type within your natural language query.

2. LeapSpace focuses on peer-reviewed, Scopus-indexed journal content. Grey literature such as EU policy papers or WHO reports is not currently part of the core knowledge base. If access to policy literature is important, this can be submitted as a feature request through your Customer Success Manager.

Q34: Can we download the list of references?

Yes. Users can export lists of references in multiple formats: CSV, RIS, BibTeX, and plain text. References are currently exported in APA (American Psychological Association) citation style. Other citation styles may be considered if requested.

Q35: Is there a citation option in references?

Yes. References are exported in APA citation style by default. BibTeX and RIS formats are also available for use with reference management tools such as Mendeley, Zotero, and EndNote. Other citation styles may be considered if there is sufficient user demand — you can request this through your Customer Success Manager or the in-product feedback tool.

Q36: What are the privacy and data-retention policies for files uploaded through the File Upload tool? If I upload unpublished research or a manuscript, can I be certain it remains private and is not used to train the AI model?

Yes, you can be certain. Uploaded files are: not used to train Elsevier's models or any third-party models (including OpenAI's GPT); inaccessible to other users — their content is not used in responses for anyone else; encrypted at rest using AES-256; stored only in Elsevier's controlled cloud environment. Retention periods are 24 hours in Temporary mode and 30 days in Standard mode. You can delete files at any time manually, or submit a deletion request to the LeapSpace team. Note: before uploading any files, you should ensure this is permitted by the copyright holder and/or your institution's policies.

Q37: This tool — is it like Gemini or other AI tools, or can I use it as academic evidence?

LeapSpace is specifically designed for academic research and differs meaningfully from general AI tools like Gemini or ChatGPT. Unlike those tools, which draw on unverified web data, LeapSpace uses only peer-reviewed, Scopus-indexed content and provides a full reference for every claim it makes. However, LeapSpace responses themselves are not suitable for citing — because the underlying large language models are non-deterministic, responses may vary, and LeapSpace does not include versioning. You should always cite the original peer-reviewed papers that LeapSpace uses to compile its responses, not the LeapSpace response itself.

Q38: Can you show us an exported PDF of our search in LeapSpace because our search will be deleted after?

Deep Research reports can be exported as PDFs via the option at the top of each report. For Copilot responses, a direct PDF export is not available, but Conversational History stores up to 200 conversations (with up to 20 exchanges each). In Standard mode, conversations are retained for up to 30 days; you can also manually save or screenshot responses. Richer export formats for responses are planned for Q3 2026.

Q39: How can we be sure AI-generated summaries are reliable and accurately perform their intended function? Is your team working on that?

Yes — this is an active and ongoing focus. LeapSpace uses two rigorous evaluation frameworks for every new release: one assessing response quality (relevancy, coherency, and safety) and one checking for harmful bias. These are overseen by a cross-functional Elsevier team spanning product, data science, and engineering. Elsevier also conducts periodic algorithmic impact assessments based on a framework used by the Ada Lovelace Institute. Additionally, thousands of researchers have contributed to testing through

surveys, webinars, and continuous user testing. In-product feedback is closely tracked and can prompt rapid improvements.

Q40: Can LeapSpace give research questions?

Yes. Every Copilot and Deep Research response ends with three suggested follow-up questions to help guide further exploration. Reading Assistant also suggests research questions. Deep Research reports are specifically designed to surface evidence gaps and novel avenues of exploration.

Q41: In which databases does LeapSpace conduct the search, other than Scopus and ScienceDirect?

Beyond Scopus and Elsevier's ScienceDirect content, LeapSpace also searches full-text content from Emerald Publishing, IOP Publishing, NEJM Group, Oxford University Press, and Sage Publishing (as of February 2026), plus 3M+ open access (CC-BY) articles from other publishers. For funding searches, it draws on Elsevier's Funding Institutional database (39,000+ active opportunities). All full-text content is drawn exclusively from journals indexed in Scopus. Further publisher partnerships are in progress.

Q42: Any hint of when Writing Coach would be widely available? I have tried it as a beta user.

Writing Coach launched in beta at the end of March 2026 with a small group of users and as of 25 June 2026. Writing Coach is now available in LeapSpace! Writing Coach is a conversational AI tool designed to help researchers strengthen their manuscripts with feedback grounded in published literature. Researchers can paste draft text, ask questions, and receive insights that not only improve clarity and structure, but also validate claims against a vast body of peer-reviewed research. Check out our [quick demo video](#) to see the Writing Coach in action.

Q43: How can we use the PDF with AI tools?

You can upload up to five PDFs/DOCXs per conversation thread (maximum 10MB each). Once uploaded, you can ask LeapSpace questions that combine the content of those files with its broader knowledge base. Useful queries include: asking what recent literature supports, extends, or contradicts your uploaded work; identifying gaps the uploaded research doesn't address; comparing your methodology or findings with other published work; or simply asking for a summary of the uploaded document. The feature currently supports PDFs/DOCXs only; additional formats (TXT, CSV) are planned.

Q44: Regarding PDF uploading: what about the copyrights of the authors who have written the manuscripts?

Before uploading any files to LeapSpace, users should ensure that this kind of usage is permitted by the copyright holder and/or their institution's policies. LeapSpace does not use uploaded files to train AI models, and the content remains private to the uploading user. However, it is the user's responsibility to ensure they have the right to upload any

given document — particularly for published articles where the copyright may sit with the publisher.

Q45: Is there a rationale regarding the series/order of references?

Yes. References are ranked primarily by relevancy to your query, as determined by a hybrid vector and keyword search, followed by re-ranking via a CrossEncoder (a secondary small language model). There is a small boost for recency; citation counts are provided as context but do not form part of the primary ranking. Publisher ownership and discipline do not influence ranking — all in-scope documents have an equal opportunity to be chosen. The first reference listed is the one judged most relevant to your specific query.

Q46: Is the Reading Assistant that pops up when reading a citation the same agent as the one in the main AI site, or should we come back to the app for more complicated information?

Reading Assistant on ScienceDirect is a separate, more focused conversational feature designed to help you interrogate a specific full-text article or book chapter. The main LeapSpace interface (Copilot and Deep Research) is the more powerful agentic tool capable of cross-document, multi-step investigation across millions of sources. For complex, multi-source research questions, the main LeapSpace interface is more appropriate. LeapSpace subscribers have unlimited access to Reading Assistant on ScienceDirect.

Q47: Is there a limit on the number of articles searched?

Copilot can draw on up to 100 sources (this limit was increased in March 2026 to improve responses to complex queries). Deep Research mode can draw on up to 500 sources, though the number used is typically lower depending on the query. The full-text and abstract knowledge base that LeapSpace searches encompasses 106M+ Scopus-indexed records and 15M+ full-text articles.

Q48: If I ask the exact same question at different times, will I get the exact same papers in tools like Claim Radar and Compare Experiments?

Not necessarily. Because large language models are non-deterministic, responses to the same query can vary. Additionally, the LeapSpace knowledge base is updated daily as new literature is added. Elsevier has done significant work to limit short-term variation, but longer-term differences are expected. This is also why LeapSpace responses are not suitable for citing — you should always cite the original underlying papers.

Q49: What are Trust Cards?

Trust Cards are a confidence signal in LeapSpace that tells you 'this answer is grounded, verifiable and trustworthy' by showing how closely an AI-generated claim aligns with the specific source cited for it. The Trust Card signal appears in two complementary features: (1) Link to Statement, where you verify a claim against its cited source; and (2) Claim Radar, where you test a claim against the broader published literature. Together they

provide two layers of trust — claim-to-source accuracy and research-level context. LeapSpace is currently the only AI research tool to offer both features.

Q50: Is the text produced by LeapSpace detected as AI text?

LeapSpace responses are generated using large language models (including OpenAI GPT) and would likely be flagged by AI-detection tools, as is the case with any AI-generated text. This is relevant if you intend to submit work that incorporates LeapSpace outputs — many journals, institutions, and publishers have their own policies on the use and disclosure of AI-generated content. Responses are not suitable for citing. You should always cite the papers used to compile the summaries. Researchers should consult Elsevier's guidance for [authors](#), [reviewers](#), [editors](#) and [FAQs](#) on the use of AI, as well as their institution's and funding body's AI policies, for best practice on responsible use and disclosure.

Q51: Do we have to declare that we used LeapSpace, as is done with other AI tools?

Researchers should consult Elsevier's guidance for [authors](#), [reviewers](#), [editors](#) and [FAQs](#) on the use of AI, as well as their institution's and funding body's AI policies, for best practice on responsible use and disclosure.
