TUESDAY PATENT CLASS

Lisha Li
PTRC Representative
Georgia Tech PTRC
Spring 2019
CLASS OBJECTIVES

Get you started on the right track for patent search:

After the class, you shall be able to:

- identify different parts of patents
- conduct basic patent searches using patent databases: PatFT, AppFT, and Espacenet
- locate specific patents using different criteria
- look for patent classifications and to apply classification into your patent searches
OUTLINE

Part I – Introduction
- Patentability Requirements
- Types of Patents, Patent Terms, Fees
- Provisional Patent Application
- Patent Documents
- Patent Search Strategies
- Patent Classifications and Patent Databases

Part II – Demos and hands-on practice
- Find specific patent(s) by patent number, inventor, assignee, etc.
- Keyword Search using Google Patents and others
- Classification Search using USPTO databases and Espacenet
- Hybrid search using classification and keywords
PART I: INTRODUCTION
INSTANT POLLING:
QUESTION: A PATENT GIVES THE OWNER THE RIGHT TO...

A) make his/her invention
B) commercialize his/her invention
C) prevent others from making his/her invention
D) collect a monetary reward from the government
E) publish the results of tests using the invention
F) do all of above
C) prevent others from making his/her invention
WHAT IS A PATENT?

A grant of property right by the government to the inventor (or his heirs or assigns), acting through the United State Patent and Trademark Office (USPTO).

In exchange, the assignee (owner) of the patent has the right to exclude others from making, selling, or using the invention for a limited period of time, usually 20 years from the time of application. This right extends throughout the United States and its territories and possessions.

Patents represent the latest advances in technology and as such are indicators of the leading technology in any field and are an excellent resource for researchers.
PATENTABILITY REQUIREMENTS

Allowable subject matter
(Statutory class - 35 U.S.C. S101):

1. **Usefulness** – the invention must have a *function* (useful purpose)
2. **Novelty** – there must be no previous patent or mention in any publication (“prior art”)
3. **Nonobviousness** – the invention must not be easily apparent to someone “skilled in the art”
4. **Full Disclosure**
NONOBIUSNESS

- Hotchkiss Case (1851)
  - Hotchkiss v. Greenwood, Supreme Court (1851)
  - Doornobs (clay, porcelain -> metallic)
  - It would have been within the level of skill of an ordinary artisan in that art to combine those known features to make the claimed invention

- 1952 codification of Hotchkiss
  - A patent for a claimed invention may not be obtained, notwithstanding that the claimed invention is not identically disclosed as set forth in section 102, if the differences between the claimed invention and the prior art are such that the claimed invention as a whole would have been obvious before the effective filing date of the claimed invention to a person having ordinary skill in the art to which the claimed invention pertains. Patentability shall not be negated by the manner in which the invention was made.

- PHOSITA (Person Having the Ordinary Skill in the Art)*
WHAT CAN NOT BE PATENTED?

The laws of nature
Physical phenomena
Abstract ideas
Inventions useful solely for atomic weapons (Atomic Energy Act of 1954)

Examples: Are these patentable?
New mineral discovered in the earth?
New plant found in the wild?
E=mc^2 (Einstein)? or the law of gravity (Newton)?
Electrical signal?
Mixtures of ingredients, such as medicines?
Engineered mice for cancer research?
TYPES OF US PATENTS AND PATENT TERMS

**Utility Patents** – to protect the functionality of an invention
- Term: 20 years from filing (June 1995- )

**Design Patents** – to protect the ornamental design
- Term: 15 years from issuing (May 2015- )

**Plant Patents** – to protect new variety of plant
- Term: 20 years from filing
EVOLUTION OF A PATENT—FROM CONCEPTION TO ISSUANCE*
“Artificial Intelligence (AI) will transform every facet of society.” - an expert

(Source: WIPO Magazine, Feb. 2019)
FY 2018 PATENTING STATISTICS

Total US Patent Applications Filed: 643,349
Total Provisional Applications Filed: 168,902
>90% Utility patents
US Published Applications: 371,502

Pendency Time Average: 23.8 mon.
PCT Filing at USPTO: 55,849
US Patents Expired: 118,705

World Wide Patenting Statistics
US PATENTS PENDENCY BY TECHNOLOGY

Technology Center 1600 Biotechnology and Organic fields.
Technology Center 1700 Chemical and Materials Engineering fields.
Technology Center 2400 Computer Networks, Multiplex, Cable and Cryptography/Security.
Technology Center 2600 Communications.
Technology Center 2800 Semiconductors, Electrical and Optical Systems and Components.
Technology Center 2900 Designs.
Technology Center 3600 Transportation, Electronic Commerce, Construction, Agriculture, Licensing and Review.
Technology Center 3700 Mechanical Engineering, Manufacturing and Products.

(Source: USPTO)
PATENT IN FORCE

*40%+ of patents remain in force after 6-10 year.
* 20%+ of patents lasted the full term.
# U.S. PATENTING FEES

*Effective March 1, 2019*

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Service</th>
<th>Micro Entity</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Basic filing fee - Utility (paper filing + non-electronic filing fee)</td>
<td>$75</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Basic filing fee – Design</td>
<td>$50</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Provisional application (utility) filing fee</strong></td>
<td>$70</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Utility Search Fee</td>
<td>$165</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Utility Examination Fee</td>
<td>$190</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Utility <strong>issue fee</strong></td>
<td>$250</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Maintenance fee due at 3.5 years</td>
<td>$400</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Maintenance fee due at 7.5 years</td>
<td>$900</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Maintenance fee due at 11.5 years</td>
<td>$1850</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

SHOULD YOU FILE A PATENT APPLICATION ON YOUR OWN (DIY)?

DIY: Do It Yourself*?

- AT: Available Time √
- WA: Writing Ability √
- D: Diligence √
- DC: Desire to Control things √
- AF: Available Funds X
BENEFITS OF FILING A PROVISIONAL APPLICATION FOR PATENT

- Filing date (priority)
- Simplified filing (Not required: patent claims, oath of declaration, and disclosure of prior art)
- 12-month pendency
- Patent pending status
PROVISIONAL PATENT APPLICATION (PPA): BASIC REQUIREMENTS

- Provisional application filing status
- Micro Entity status (gross income <$184,116)
- Small Entity status
- Provisional application cover sheet
- The name(s) of all inventors
- Title of the invention
- Correspondence address
- Specification
- Drawings
FACTS ABOUT PPA

A PPA expires after one year.
You cannot extend a PPA.
You cannot renew a PPA.
A PPA will never become a patent.
You cannot file a PPA for a design.
The USPTO does not examine PPAs.
The USPTO does not conduct a prior art search on PPAs.

The USPTO does review PPAs to make sure they meet minimum filing requirements.
PPAs are not published by the USPTO (unless claimed as priority in a later-issued or published non-provisional application).
You can use the term "patent pending" for the duration of the one-year pendency of a PPA.

(Source: USPTO)
KEY PARTS OF A PATENT: FRONT PAGE

Priority data may serve for identifying patent documents published in different countries and languages but referring to the same invention (“Patent Family”). (WIPO)

Who
- Applicant, Inventor, Assignee, Examiner, Attorney/Agent

When
- Filing Date, Issue Date, Prior Publication Date

Where
- Inventor city, state, country

What
- Patent Number
- Title
- Abstract
- Classification Codes
- References
- Drawing(s)
- Number of Claims

Other
- Notices
INID CODES (ON PATENT FRONT PAGE)

• INID: International agreed Numbers for the Identification of (bibliographic) Data

• Internationally agreed numbers that are used to identify bibliographic data and usually shown in brackets or circles. These numbers are consistent in every country and enables reading of important information on a patent document, even if one does not understand the language in which it is printed.

• First included on U.S. patents on Aug. 4th, 1970

• Identified by
  • parentheses (21), or square brackets [21] prior to Jan. 1, 2001
COMMON INID CODES

(54) – **Title**

(56) – References

(57) – **Abstract or claim**

(58) – Field of search

(60) – Provisional application data

(65) – Prior publication data

(71) – Applicant

(72) - **Inventor**

(73) – **Assignee** (owner)

(74) – Attorney, agent or firm

(75) – Inventor(s)

(10) or (11) – **Patent number**

(12) or (19) – **Country code**

(21) – Application number

(22) – Date of application

(30) or (31) – Priority filing number

(32) – **Priority filing date**

(33) – Priority country

(43) – Publication date

(45) – **Date of patent**

(51) – IPC classification

(52) – National classification
## PATENT NUMBER FORMAT

**Country Codes**
- AU  Australia
- CA  Canada
- CN  China
- DE  Germany
- EP  EPO
- GB  United Kingdom
- JP  Japan
- KR  Korea
- SE  Sweden
- US  U.S.
- WO  WIPO

*Country Code Table*

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Kind Code (WIPO ST.16)</th>
<th>Description</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>A1</td>
<td>Utility application, 1\textsuperscript{st} pub.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>A2</td>
<td>Utility application, 2\textsuperscript{nd} or subsequent pub.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>B1</td>
<td>Utility patent, no pre-grant pub.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>B2</td>
<td>Utility patent, with pre-grant pub.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>C</td>
<td>Reexamination certificates, C1, C2, etc.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>E</td>
<td>Reissue patent</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>H</td>
<td>Statutory invention registration</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>P1</td>
<td>Plant patent application, 1\textsuperscript{st} pub.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>P2</td>
<td>Plant patent, no pre-grant pub.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>P3</td>
<td>Plant patent, with pre-grant pub.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>P4</td>
<td>Plant patent application, 2\textsuperscript{nd} or subsequent pub.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>P9</td>
<td>Plant patent application, correction</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>S</td>
<td>Design patent</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**Example Patent Number**

CC 1,234,567 KK

- **Country Code**
- **Document Number**
- **Kind Code**
## PATENT DOCUMENTS KIND CODES

Summary of **USPTO** Kind Codes Used on Documents Published (2001-)

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>WIPO ST.16 Kind Codes</th>
<th>Kind of document</th>
<th>Comments</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>A1</td>
<td>Patent Application Publication</td>
<td>Pre-grant publication available March 2001</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>A2</td>
<td>Patent Application Publication (Republication)</td>
<td>Pre-grant publication available March 2001</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>A9</td>
<td>Patent Application Publication (Corrected Publication)</td>
<td>Pre-grant publication available March 2001</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>B1</td>
<td>Patent</td>
<td>No previously published pre-grant publication</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>B2</td>
<td>Patent</td>
<td>Having a previously published pre-grant publication and available March 2001</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
A Patent Number may include up to 8 characters and is formatted as follows:

- **Utility**: Patent numbers consist of 6, 7 or 8 digits. Enter the Patent number excluding commas and spaces and omit leading zeroes.
- **Reissue**: (e.g., Rennnnnnn, RE000126) must enter leading zeroes between "RE" and number to create 6 digits.
- **Plant Patents**: (e.g., PPnnnnnnn, PP000126) must enter leading zeroes between "PP" and number to create 6 digits.
- **Design**: (e.g., Dnnnnnnnn, D0000126) must enter leading zeroes between "D" and number to create 7 digits.

**Application Number***: (e.g. **15/731369**) Two digit series code followed by a 6 digit serial number which is assigned by the USPTO.

KEY PARTS OF A PATENT: DRAWING PAGE(S)

Drawing (s)
KEY PARTS OF A PATENT: CLAIM(S)

“The part of a patent document which defines the matter for which protection is sought or granted.” (WIPO)

**Claim(s)**

- Numbered paragraphs at the end of the specification
- Defines invention’s legal boundaries
- Claim language can be complicated.
I claim:
1. A system for engaging shoes with a hitch mans to permit a person standing on a stage surface to lean forwardly beyond his or her center of gravity, comprising:
at least one shoe having a heel with a first engagement means, said first engagement means comprising a recess formed in a heel of said shoe covered with a heel slot plane located at a bottom region of said heel, said heel slot plate having a slot formed therein...

MPEP Article 6:
▪ The claim or claims shall define the matter for which protection is sought.
▪ Claims shall be clear and concise. They shall be fully supported by the description.

(Searchable MPEP: https://mpep.uspto.gov/RDM S/MYPEP/current#/current/d0e18.html)
What is claimed is:
1. An aqueous cosmetic emulsion comprising:
   i) an isoparaffin;
   ii) a C₈–C₂₂ alkyl phosphate salt;
wherein the isoparaffin and alkyl phosphate salt are present in a respective weight ratio of from about 40:1 to about 1:1, and said emulsion having a viscosity ranging from 35 to about 90 Brookfield units as measured with a Brookfield Viscometer Model LVT using a #4 spindle rotating at 60 rpm at 25°C.
2. An aqueous cosmetic emulsion according to claim 1 wherein said ratio ranges from about 10:1 to about 4:1.

Title: Cosmetic emulsions with hydrocarbon thickening agents
Patent No. : US4,939,179
Abstract: An aqueous cosmetic emulsion is provided that includes an isoparaffin and an alkyl phosphate salt wherein the relative ratio of isoparaffin to alkyl phosphate sale ranges from about 40:1 to 1:1. The combination of isoparaffin with alkyl phosphate salt provides an unexpected thickening effect and results in a non-greasy product relative to a mineral oil bearing formula.
KEY PARTS OF A PATENT: SPECIFICATION

Specifies the technical field to which the invention relates, and describes the essential features of the invention with reference to any accompanying drawings. (WIPO)

• Specification
  ▪ Background of the invention and prior art
  ▪ Brief description of the drawings
  ▪ Detailed description of the invention, and the manner and process of making it or using it

DESCRIPTION OF THE PREFERRED EMBODIMENT

Referring now to the drawings, there is illustrated, in FIG. 1, a front perspective view of the shoe 10 utilized in this invention, with fastening straps 12, 14, and 16 (not fastened) to reveal lacing eyelets 18 and lacing hooks 20. The shoe 10 rides relatively high on the wearer's ankles, as shown in FIG. 2 and 3, and can be snugly secured around the wearer's ankles by use of the straps 12, 14 and 16 and/or shoe laces (not shown) which can be tightly laced through the eyelets 18 and lacing hooks 20. The use of shoe laces provides for a snugger fit than by the straps 12, 14 and 16 straps, but the use of straps 12, 14 and 16 allows the shoes 10 to be put on and removed more quickly as timing, for this particular "move," may be extremely critical and of short duration. In order to conceal the nature of the shoes 10, the front of strap 12 can be made to appear as the tongue and strap of a penny loafer. Spats (not shown) or pant legs can be used to cover the upper part 22 of the shoes 10, as best shown in FIG. 6, and the lower part 24 of the shoe 10 will thus be made to appear as a normal walking or dance shoe. Also, as shown in FIGS. 4 and 5, an upper sock section 26 can be used to conceal the upper part 22 of the shoe 10, the sock section 26 fitting around a peripheral edge 28 of the shoe 10.

Referring to FIGS. 7-10, the heels 30 of the shoes 10 have a recess 32 formed therein adapted to detachably receive a hitch or post 34, thereby locking the heels 30 of the shoes 10 in place relative to the stage surface S through which the hitch 34 protrudes. A V-shaped guide 40 is located below recess 32, with the mouth of the V located at the leading edge 42 of the heel 30. The guide 40 forms the entrance to the recess 32. The front of the V-shaped guide 40 lies flush with the leading edge 42 of the heel 30. Edges 44, forming the V-shaped guide 40 terminate rearwardly of leading edge 42 at a terminal end point 46.

The V-shaped slot 40 is formed in the lower region 36 of the heel, preferably by two layers of materials, an outer or exposed layer 60, preferably made of leather, and an inner overlying layer, preferably consisting of a metal plate 52. The upper region 38 of the heel, above the metal plate layer 52 has the hitch-post receiving recess 32 formed therein. The metal plate 52 is affixed to the heel portion of the shoe, as described hereafter.
TYPES OF PATENT SEARCHES

Patentability
- Identify prior art to support patent prosecution
- **novelty, non-obviousness**

State-of-the-Art
- Patentability search + NPL

Freedom to Operate (Clearance)
- Identify obstacles (roadblocks) to product commercialization

Technology tracking (the latest in a field)

Validity
- Discover important prior art to support litigation

Mining
- Patent assets, portfolio (for a patent owner in a given technology field)

Patent Landscape
- Get a good look at IP opportunities
KEYWORD SEARCH PROBLEMS

Vague or inconsistent terminology
- “Toy and process of use”

Obsolete names and terms
- Hi-Fi; laser disc; VHS

Different meanings in different fields
- “mouse” the animal v. computer “mouse”

Different spellings
- neighbour v. neighbor;
- anaesthesia v. anesthesia

Synonyms
- bucket v. pail (brazier, can, canister, pot, ...)
- mouse v. rodent (e.g. US5,185,953)

USPTO web database limit keyword search in full text from 1976 on. (Prior 1976: issue date, patent no. & classification search only.)
WHAT PATENT IS THIS?

Patent Title: “Hoop toy”

Patent Title: “Spinning toy”
WHAT PATENT IS THIS?

Patent Title: “Generally spherical object with floppy filaments to promote sure capture” (1988)

Patent Title: “Toy and process of use” (1947)
ONLINE PATENT SEARCH TUTORIAL (USPTO)

Preview Video:  How to Conduct a Preliminary U.S. Patent Search: A Step by Step Strategy (38 minutes)


Additional patent search tutorials:  
• http://libguides.gatech.edu/c.php?g=53972&p=348356
1. **Brainstorm terms** to describe your invention based on its *purpose, composition and use*.

2. Use these terms to find initial relevant **CPC** using the **USPTO website's Site Search box** ([www.uspto.gov](http://www.uspto.gov)).

3. Verify the relevancy of **CPC** classification you found by **reviewing the CPC Classification Definition** linked to it (if there is one).

4. Retrieve U.S. patent documents with the **CPC** classification you selected in the **PatFT** (Patents Full-Text and Image) database ([http://patft.uspto.gov](http://patft.uspto.gov)).

5. Using this selected set of most relevant patent publications, **review each one in-depth** for similarity to your own invention, esp. additional drawings pages, the specification and especially the claims. References cited may lead you to additional relevant patents.

6. **Retrieve U.S. published patent applications with the CPC classification you selected in Step 3 in the AppFT database** ([http://appft.uspto.gov](http://appft.uspto.gov)).

7. **Broaden your search** to find additional U.S. patent publications using keyword searching in PatFT or AppFT, classification searching of non-U.S. patents on the EPO’s **Worldwide Espacenet** patent database.

Description of Invention

What does it do?
- Essential function of the invention

What’s the end result?
- Essential effect or basic product resulting from the invention

What is it made of?
- Physical structure of the invention

What is it used for?
- Intended use for the invention

Example: A heated dog bowl
- A bowl that holds and heats water for dogs
- Liquid is kept above freezing using a heating element
- Aluminum, stainless steel, electric heating element, electric cord
- Could be also used for other liquids, soft food, other pets and animals, too
BRAIN STORM

**Synonyms**
- Dog, cat, pet, bird, animal, etc.
- Bowl, dish, receptacle, cylinder, etc.
- Warm, heat, melt, temperature, frozen, freeze, etc.
- Electric, electricity, cord, battery, element, etc.

**Next Step**
- Look up terms in Patent Classification
PATENT CLASSIFICATIONS

**CPC** – Cooperative Patent Classification - a common classification scheme (260K entries)
- Developed and used by USPTO and EPO
- To be extended to other offices

**USPC** – US Patent Classification (170K entries)
- Stopped signing USPC to new utility patents beginning Jan. 2015

**IPC** – International Patent Classification (70K entries)
- Used by many other patent offices
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Symbol</th>
<th>Classification and description</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>A</td>
<td>HUMAN NECESSITIES</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>B</td>
<td>PERFORMING OPERATIONS; TRANSPORTING</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>C</td>
<td>CHEMISTRY; METALLURGY</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>D</td>
<td>TEXTILES; PAPER</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>E</td>
<td>FIXED CONSTRUCTIONS</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>F</td>
<td>MECHANICAL ENGINEERING; LIGHTING; HEATING; WEAPONS; BLASTING ENGINES OR PUMPS</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>G</td>
<td>PHYSICS</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>H</td>
<td>ELECTRICITY</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Y</td>
<td>GENERAL TAGGING OF NEW TECHNOLOGICAL DEVELOPMENTS; GENERAL TAGGING OF CROSS-SECTIONAL TECHNOLOGIES SPANNING OVER SEVERAL SECTIONS OF THE IPC; TECHNICAL SUBJECTS COVERED BY FORMER USPC CROSS-REFERENCE ART COLLECTIONS [XRACs] AND DIGESTS</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
CPC ANATOMY: A45B25/22

Section A

Class 45

Subclass

Group

B

Subgroup 25/22

(25/00 Main Group)
CPC HIERATICAL VIEW

A45B25/22
A - HUMAN NECESSITIES
- A45 - HAND OR TRAVELLING ARTICLES
- A45B - WALKING STICKS; UMBRELLAS
  - A45B25/00 - Details of umbrellas
  - A45B25/22 - Devices for increasing the resistance of umbrellas to wind
CPC CLASSIFICATION EXAMPLE- ESPACENET VIEW
(PUBEAST/PUBWEST)

CPCI: Inventive

CPCA: Additional
HOW TO FIND THE RELEVANT CLASSIFICATION?

• Search the USPTO site (http://www.uspto.gov/web/patents/classification/)
• CPC Scheme (keyword)
• USPC Index -> USPC -> Statistical Mapping to CPC

Search the EPO site (http://worldwide.espacenet.com)
• CPC (keyword)

Search Google Patents (https://patents.google.com)
• Keyword Search and identify classification from selected patents
• Limit to classification
PATENT DATABASES

Free Patent Databases Online:
- USPTO web: **PatFT, AppFT, Public PAIR**
  - [http://www.uspto.gov](http://www.uspto.gov)
- Espacenet
  - [http://worldwide.espacenet.com](http://worldwide.espacenet.com)
- Google Patents
  - [https://patents.google.com/](https://patents.google.com/)
- PatentScope (WIPO)
  - [https://patentscope.wipo.int/](https://patentscope.wipo.int/)

FreePatentsOnline

LENS (Patent Lens)
- [https://www.lens.org/lens/](https://www.lens.org/lens/)

Pat2PDF

Special Patent Databases at PTRCs
- PubEAST
- PubWEST

Georgia Tech only
- SciFinder;
- Derwent Innovation Index;
- InnovationQ Plus
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Pros</th>
<th>PatFT/AppFT</th>
<th>Espacenet</th>
<th>Google Patents</th>
</tr>
</thead>
</table>
|      | - Advanced search allows detailed field search.  
|      | - Quick navigation within large result set  
|      | - CPC classification search back to 1790  
|      | - Full text search from 1976 | - One of the largest international patent database (over 100 m.) from 100+ offices  
|      |                                                                      | - Search by titles back to 1920 for major offices  
|      |                                                                      | - Search CPC back to 1800s  
|      |                                                                      | - Export data (title, applicant, assignee, CPC) up to 500 per page  
|      |                                                                      | - Proximity search | - Familiar search engine with defaults to relevance ranking.  
|      |                                                                      | | - Very fast.  
|      |                                                                      | | - Search granted patent and pre-grant application at once  
|      |                                                                      | | - Search for pre 1976 text (OCR search) |
| Cons | - Separate search for granted patent and pre-grant published applications  
|      | - Slow navigation form result list to full text and back  
|      | - No proximity search (can only do phrase search in quotes or Boolean AND, OR, and ANDNOT | - PDF navigation can be a bit slow  
|      |                                                                      | - No full text search except EPO and WIPO documents | - Limited fields are separately searchable  
|      |                                                                      | | - Search algorithm changes  
|      |                                                                      | | - No guarantee of completeness |
DISCUSSION: WHY PATENT SEARCH?

Scenario: Joe attended a patent seminar at a PTRC and went home to conduct his own preliminary patent search. After hours of research, he found prior art showing the same claims.

- *Is it good or bad?*
  - Think about time, money, efforts, process, up-to-date knowledge
- *What should Joe do next?*
  - Find a patent attorney, or Pro Bono Program
  - Conduct freedom to operate (FTO) search
  - Keep improving
HOW TO FILE?

- **EFS-Web for Registered eFilers**: Enhanced filing, follow-on processing, saved submissions and more.

**EFS-Web for Unregistered eFilers**: Basic initial filing of new patent applications

(not permitted to file follow-on submissions/fees in EFS-Web).

- Create **MyUSPTO account at**: [https://www.uspto.gov](https://www.uspto.gov)

ADDITIONAL INFORMATION/HELP


Pro Bono Program for Georgia – Georgia Patents (http://gapatents.org)
  • Phone: 404-873-3911

Law School Clinic Certification Program

USPTO Inventors Assistance Center (IAC) (https://www.uspto.gov/learning-and-resources/support-centers/inventors-assistance-center-iac)
  • Toll-free: 800-PTO-9199 (800-786-9199) - Hours: M-F, 8:30 AM – 8:00 PM (ET), except federal holidays

USPTO Pro Se Assistance Program (http://www.uspto.gov/prosepatents)
  • Email: IndependentInventor@uspto.gov
  • Toll free phone number: 1-866-767-3848

USPTO Patent Electronic Business Center
  • Toll free phone number: 1-866-217-9197

Southeastern Inventors Association (http://www.southeasterninventors.org/)

IP Awareness Assessment: https://ipassessment.uspto.gov/

Georgia Tech PTRC: http://libguides.gatech.edu/patent_guide/
  • Email: patentscoordinator@library.gatech.edu; Phone: 404-385-7185
FURTHER READINGS


QUESTIONS?
PART II: DEMOS & HANDS-ON PRACTICES