

Topic 7: Interpreting and using search and examination reports

Lutz Mailänder
Head, Patent Information Section
Global IP Infrastructure Sector

Yaounde 31 January 2013

Agenda

- Utilization of intermediary reports
- Reading enriched search reports
- Reviewing search strategies
- Issues



Types of intermediary results

- Search report types:
 - **Basic**, i.e. just citations of prior art
 - **Enriched**, i.e.
 - categories of citations (whether cited by applicant, examiner, 3rd parties)
 - relevance for particular claims
 - references to pages, drawings,...
 - (search strategies)
- Written opinions (WO), (preliminary) examination reports (IPER, IPRP)
- Communications between applicant and examiner
- Third party observations



Issues with intermediary results

- Implies some but smaller delay than waiting for final results
- Searches are based on claims; the foreign search results may be incomplete/inappropriate if claims are different
- Requires checking if same priorities
- Different priorities and priority dates can lead to different claims or prior art
- Usually no problems if simple family
- Using results for members of extended family may be problematic



Sources for search reports & citations of prior art

- Publications (PDF) of pending applications (A1, A3,... kind codes)
- Publications of granted patents, or re-examined patents, ie maintained after opposition
- Separate records in databases

Citations only, e.g. EP-B1

Patent literature

References cited: GB-A- 2 131 952

> THE MARCONI REVIEW, vol. XLIII, no. 218, 1980, pages 156-175, Rugby, GB; R.M. LANG-DON: "Vibratory process control transducers"

IEEE TRANSACTIONS ON INSTRUMENTA-TION AND MEASURMENT, vol. IM-32, no. 3, September 1983, pages 434-437, IEEE, New York, US; E. STEMME et al.: "Measuring liquid density with a tuning-fork transducer"

LS.A. TRANSACTIONS, vol. 20, no. 3, 1981, pages 67-75, Research Triangle Park, NC, US; B.W. BALLS: "A new on-line density meter for viscous liquids and slurries" raininani Juney(GD)

Representative: Stoole, Brian David et al Schlumberger Electronics (U.K.) Limited 124 Victoria Road Farnborough Hampshire GU14 7PW (GB)

Non patent literature

European Patient Office
Office puroplem disk brevists

© Publication number: © 282 251 B1

EUROPEAN PATENT SPECIFICATION

© Date of publication any past specification: 17,000 © ps. CA GOTN 9:00, GOTN 11/16

Application number: 80019572

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Note: Within nine months from the publication of the mention of the grant of the European patent, any person may give notice to the European Patent Office of opposition to the European patent granted. Notice of opposition shall be filed in a written reasoned statement. It shall not be deemed to have been filed until the opposition fee has been paid (Art. 99(1) European patent convention).

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P 0 282 251 B1

US-A



United States Patent [19]

Grenier et al.

[11]	Patent Number:	5,137,548
[45]	Date of Patent:	Aug. 11, 1992

[54]	PROCESS AND APPARATUS FOR PURIFYING AIR TO BE DISTILLED BY ADSORPTION		
[75]	Inventors:	Maurice Grenier, Paris; Sophie Gastinne, Notre Dame de Gravenchon; Pierre Petit, Chatenay Malabry; François Venet, Paris, all of France	

[73]	Assignee:	L'Air Liquide, Societe Anonyme pour
		l'Etude et l'Exploitation des Procedes

Georges Claude, Paris, France

[21]	Appl. No.:	695,927	
[22]	Filed:	May 6, 1991	
[30]	Foreig	n Application	Priority Data
M	ıy 9, 1990 [F	R] France	

M	ay 9, 1990	[FR]	France		9	0 05779
						53/04
[52]				5/33; 55/62		

[58] Field of Search 55/23, 25, 26, 31, 33, 55/62, 74, 75, 179, 267-269, 387, 389; 62/13, 17, 18, 31

[56]

References Cited

U.S. PATENT DOCUMENTS

2,224,227	12/1940	Keith, Jr. et al	55/33 X
2.588,296	3/1952	Russell, Jr	55/33 X
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3.210.950	10/1965	Lady	62/18 X
3,594,984	7/1971	Toyama et al	55/33
3,722,226	3/1973	McDermott et al	62/18 X
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4,092,131	5/1978	Rohde	55/33
		Theobald	
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4,557,735	12/1985	Pike	55/26
4,711,645	12/1987	Kumar	55/33 X
4,746,343	5/1988	Ishizu et al	62/18 X
4,806,136	2/1989	Kiersz et al	62/18
4,957,523	9/1990	Zarate et al	62/18 X

44679	1/1982	European Pat. Off	
		Japan	55/25
		Japan	
54-152667	12/1979	Japan	55/31
1450164	9/1976	United Kingdom .	
1586961	3/1981	United Kingdom .	

Primary Examiner—Robert Spitzer Attorney, Agent, or Firm-Curtis, Morris & Safford

[57] ABSTRACT

According to this process, compressed air is cooled and purified by adsorption by passing same in a first direction through a mass of adsorbent material (8), then a residual gas from the distillation apparatus passes in opposite direction through this mass to regenerate same. During the entire regeneration, the residual gas is at a constant regeneration temperature which is between the temperature of the air entering into the mass of adsorbent material and at a temperature which is about 50° C. above this temperature.

10 Claims, 2 Drawing Sheets

EUROPEAN SEARCH REPORT

			/		
<u>0</u>))	European Patent Office	EUROPEAN SEARCH REPORT	EP		n Numbe

	DOCUMENTS CONSID	ERED TO BE RELEVANT]
Category	Citation of document with it of relevant pass	ndication, where appropriate, ages	Relevant to claim	CLASSIFICATION OF THE APPLICATION (IPC)
x	AL) 19 May 1998 (19 * column 11, line 5		1	INV. H01H71/24 H01H71/12 H01F7/18
(DE 199 57 260 A1 (5 23 May 2001 (2001-0 * the whole documen	SIEMENS AG [DE]) 05-23)	1	
A	EP 1 009 003 A1 (SC [FR] SCHNEIDER ELEC 14 June 2000 (2000 * the whole documen	-96-14)	4 1	
				TECHNICAL FIELDS SEARCHED (IPC)
				H01H H01F
	The present search report has		1	
	Munich	Date of completion of the search 1 July 2008	Date	nirez Fueyo, M
c/	ATEGORY OF OITED DOCUMENTS	T: theory or princip		
X : part Y : part doos A : tech O : non	icularly relevant if taken alone icularly relevant if combined with anot irrent of the same category relogical background -written disclosure irrediate document	E : earlier patent d after the filing d	ocument, but publi ste in the application for other reasons	shedon, or

INTERNATIONAL SEARCH REPORT				
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	INTERNATIONAL SEARCH I	REPORT	International appli PCT/IB2008	
	FICATION OF SUBJECT MATTER G02B26/10 G12B21/20 G02B7/00		101715200	0,00000
B. FIELDS	International Patent Classification (IPC) or to both national classific SEARCHED			
Minimum do G02B	cumentation searched (classification system followed by classification $$12B$$	ion symbols)		
Documental	ion searched other than minimum documentation to the extent that of	such documents are inc	luded in the fields se	earched
	ata base consulted during the international search (name of data baternal), WPI Data	se and, where practice	l, search terms used	
	,			
_	ENTS CONSIDERED TO BE RELEVANT			
Category*	Citation of document, with indication, where appropriate, of the rel	levant passages		Relevant to claim No.
X	US 4 696 566 A (SEKIMOTO YOSHIHI AL) 29 September 1987 (1987-09-29 abstract; figures 3,5,9,10 column 2, 1ine 24 - column 3, lin column 4, lines 14-66	9)		1,6,8,9
X ·	US 2002/018291 A1 (FUKUYAMA HIROYA [JP]) 1,6,8,9 14 February 2002 (2002-02-14) cited in the application paragraph [0063]; figure 4 paragraph [0063]; (0054) paragraph [0191; claims 1,5			
X	JP 62 054843 A (BROTHER IND LTD) 10 March 1987 (1987-03-10) abstract; figures	-/	,	1,5,6,8,
X Furth	er documents are listed in the continuation of Box C.	X See patent far	nily annex.	-
**Special categories of cited documents: **If columns defining the general state of the and which is not considered to be of particular evisions and columns of the product of the considered to be of particular evisions and the considered to the original evisions and the considered to the conside				
	ctual completion of the international search		he international sear	ch report
	February 2009	09/02/2 Authorized officer	009	
	European Patant Cifice, P.B. 5816 Patentisan 2 N. – 2290 HV Fillpwijk Tol. (+31-70) 340-2040, Fax: (+31-70) 340-3016		Winfried	

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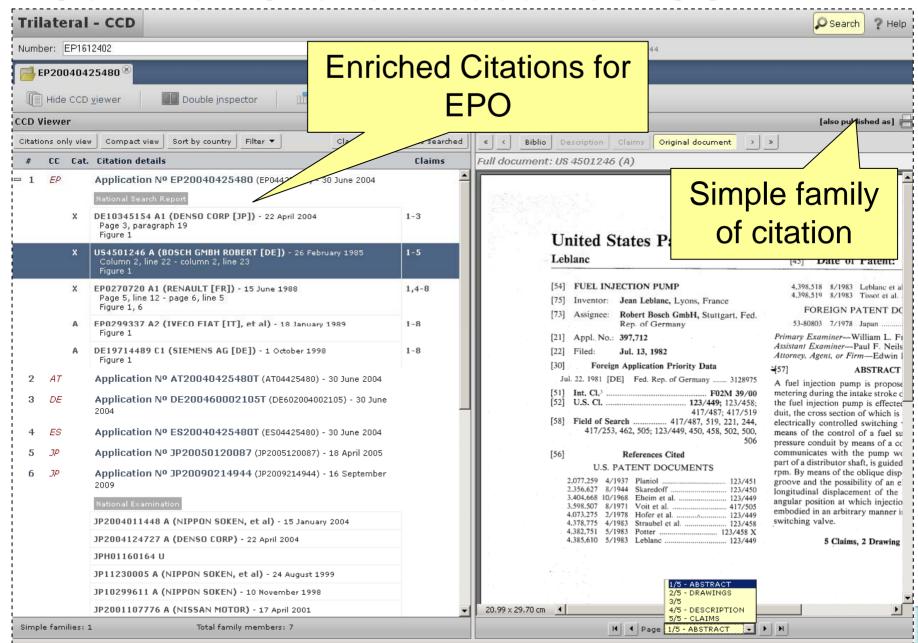
Search reports as part of publications

Various policies for publishing prior art

- WO-A1, EP-A1: 18 month publication with enriched SR
- WO-A3, EP-A3: publication of delayed enriched SR (after A2)
- US-A (- 11/2000): citations only
- US-A1: no citations (available then in US-PAIR)
- US-B1: citations only
- DE-A1: 18 month publication, with citations (only) if available; no A3 (available then in DPMA register)
- DE-B1: citations only



Common Citation Document CCD



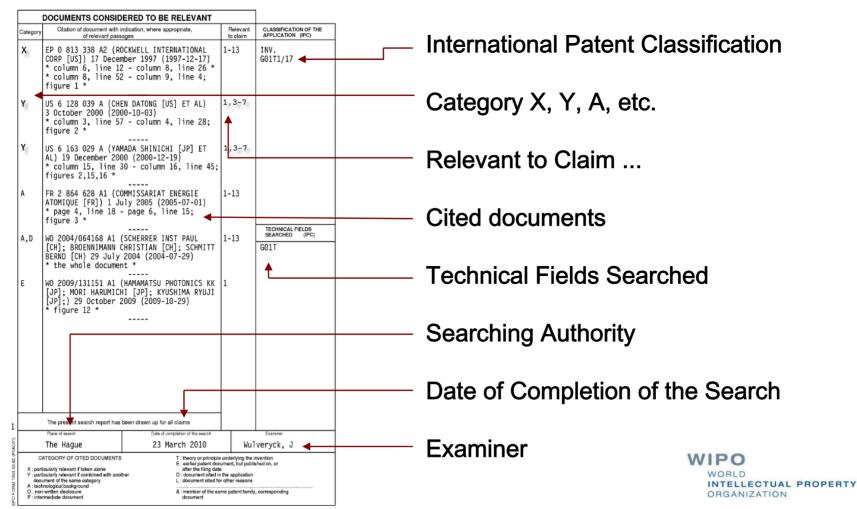
Enriched prior art search reports



EUROPEAN SEARCH REPORT

EP 09 16 8955

Application Number
Application number



Categories of Citations

- X particularly relevant if taken alone
- Objection: Lack of novelty or lack of inventive step with one document
- Y particularly relevant if combined with another Y-document

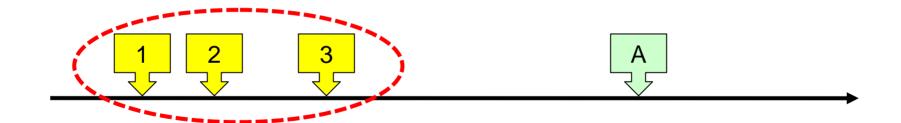
 Objection: Lack of inventive step by combination of two (or more) documents, always in pairs
- A technological background, no objection of lack of novelty or inv. step
- O non-written (e.g. oral) disclosure
- P intermediate document, published after priority date but before filing date of the application; used in combination with X, Y, A (e.g. XP)
- T theory or principle underlying the invention
- E earlier patent document, but published on, or after the filing date
- D cited in the application
- L cited for other reasons



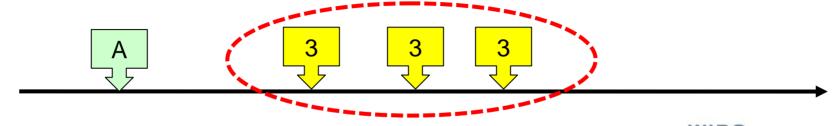
Backward and forward citations

For any publication A:

Publications cited in A → Backward citations of A



Publications citing A → Forward citations of A



SR in EP Register

		Link to publisher
Renewal fee		websites for non-
22.01.2010	Renewal fee patent year 03	patent literature
Search	[] See references of WO 2008095040A2	
International search	[Y] > EP1568704	
	[Y] P. POIJÄRVI ET AL: "2,2-Bis(ethoxycarbor 3-(pivaloyloxy)propyl Groups as Biodegradable BIOCONJUGATE CHEMISTRY, vol. 16, 2005, DOI: ↗ http://dx.doi.org/10.1021/BC05014	Protections of Oligonucleotides"
	[Y] P. POIJÄRVI ET AL: "Towards Oligor 2-(Alkylaminocarbonyl)-2-cyano Substit ed 3-Groups for Internucleosidic Phosphor monothi 2004, pages 183-188, XP009113722 DOI: > http://dx.doi.org/10.2174/1570178043	(Pivaloyloxy)Propyl Groups as Biodegradable Protecting oate Linkages" LETTERS IN ORGANIC CHEMISTRY, vol. 1,



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Journal of Virology

Generation of an Influenza A Virus Vector Expressing Biologically Active Human Interleukin-2 from the NS Gene Segment

Christian Kittel, Boris Ferko, Martina Kurz, Regina Voglauer, Sabine Sereinig, Julia Romanova, Gabriela Stiegler, Hermann Katinger and Andrej Egorov J. Virol. 2005, 79(16):10672. DOI: 10.1128/JVI.79.16.10672-10677. 2005.

Updated information and services can be found at: http://ivi.asm.org/content/79/16/10672

These include:

REFERENCES This articl

This article cites 34 articles, 11 of which can be accessed f at: http://jvi.asm.org/content/79/16/10672#ref-list-1

CONTENT ALERTS

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Table of Contents

doi: 10.1128/JVI.79.16.10672-

J. Mrol. August 2005 vol. 79 no. 16 10672-10677

in full window

fications

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This Article

10677 2005

Abstra

Figure

Full

Current Issue
July 2012, Volume 86, Issue 13

Journal of Virology

Spotlights in the Current
Issue
Determinants of Simian Virus 40
Receptor Usage and Cell Tropism
Flavivirus NS1 Binding Partner Identified
One Step Closer To Understanding Influenza A Virus Genome
Packaging

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of JVI

.org/ on June 18, 2012

by

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+ PubMed

+ Social Bookmarking

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| Reviewers

Advertisers

Retrieving non patent literature

- Usually copyright protected
- Access usually requires subscription
- For LDC's and certain DCs: WIPO's ARDI program
- See Mr. Elangi's presentation



Sources for examination reports

- Examination reports are never published like search reports
- Examination reports are only part of the file wrapper (i.e. the set of all communications between applicant and patent office, e.g. examiner)
- Access depends on policy of individual IPO
- Examination reports are only accessible through
 - public online file inspection (EPO Register, US PAIR, Patentscope)
 - if submitted by applicant (upon request)
 - Non-publicly shared between IPOs (e.g. AIPN)

Examination reports

Most of the communications in examination usually follows a structure:

- Clarity issues, Insufficiency of Disclosure (if any)
- Unallowable Amendments (if any)
- Prior Art (mandatory)
- Assessment of Novelty and Inventive Step (mandatory)
- Formal Comments: reference signs, acknowledgement of prior art

A Communication shall contain **all the grounds** hindering the grant of a Patent (Rule 71(2) EPC)

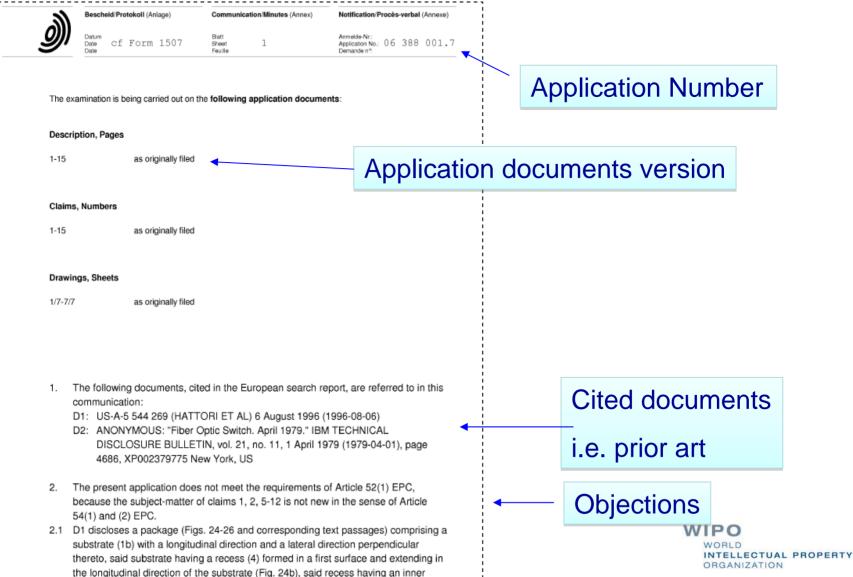
Grounds may be supported by references to the Case Law



The Search Opinion

- Rule 62 EPC : Extended European Search Report (EESR)
 - (1) The European search report shall be accompanied by an **opinion** on whether the application and the invention to which it relates seem to meet the **requirements of this Convention** [...].
- Rule 43bis.1 PCT: Written Opinion (WO-ISA)
 - (a) [...] the International Searching Authority shall [...] establish a written opinion as to:
 - (i) whether the claimed invention appears to be **novel**, to involve an **inventive step**, [...] and to be **industrially applicable**;
 - (ii) whether the international application complies with the requirements of the Treaty and these Regulations [...].

European Search Opinion- Example



PCT - WO

Box No. V Reasoned statement under Rule 43bis.1(a)(i) with regard to novelty, inventive step or industrial applicability; citations and explanations supporting such statement

1. Statement

Novelty (N)

es: Claims

3, 19 1, 2, 4-18, 20

Inventive step (IS)

Yes: Claims

Yes:

No: Claims

Industrial applicability (IA)

Claims

1-20

1-20

2. Citations and explanations

see separate sheet

Form PCT/ISA/237 (April 2007)

WRITTEN OPINION OF THE INTERNATIONAL SEARCHING AUTHORITY (SEPARATE SHEET)

International application No.

PCT/US2010/020787

Re Item V

Reasoned statement with regard to novelty, inventive step or industrial applicability: citations and explanations supporting such statement

- 1 Reference is made to the following documents:
 - D1 US 2002/186921 A1 (SCHUMACHER LYNN C [CA] ET AL) 12 December 2002 (2002-12-12)
 - D2 WO 2007/136816 A2 (MASSACHUSETTS INST TECHNOLOGY [US]; BULOVIC VLADIMIR [YU]; KYMISSIS IO) 29 November 2007 (2007-11-29)
- 2 The present application does not meet the criteria of Article 33(1) PCT, because the subject-matter of claims 1, 4-15, 17-18, 20 is not new in the sense of Article 33(2) PCT.
- 2.1 D1 discloses

an optical fiber capable of being diagnosed non-invasively comprising an optical fiber (12) for conveying a light beam; said optical fiber comprising a first end for receiving said light beam and a second end opposed thereto, a core (14) comprising an inner wall, and a cladding (16) surrounding said core,

said optical fiber further comprising at least one uncladded portion comprising a plurality of quantum dots (26) dispersed in a medium,

wherein said quantum dots become activated by evanescent wave coupling resulting from total internal reflection of said light beam contacting said inner wall of said optical fiber core and wherein said activation results in emittance of light from said quantum dots (Fig. 2c; paragraphs [0033], [0045]).

Therefore, the subject-matter of present claim 1 is not novel over the teachings of D1.

2.2 D1 also discloses

ORGANIZATION

Strategy

- Check if results are available for more than one family member
- Compare:
 - Your claims are similar to claims examined by other IPO?
 - Additional citations in other SRs?
 - Similar wording of granted claims?



National sovereignty

Paris Convention:

- No obligation to use results of others, or to follow their conclusions
- IPO has obligation to observe national legislation
- IPO has responsibility/liablity for quality patents

Thank you