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Patents

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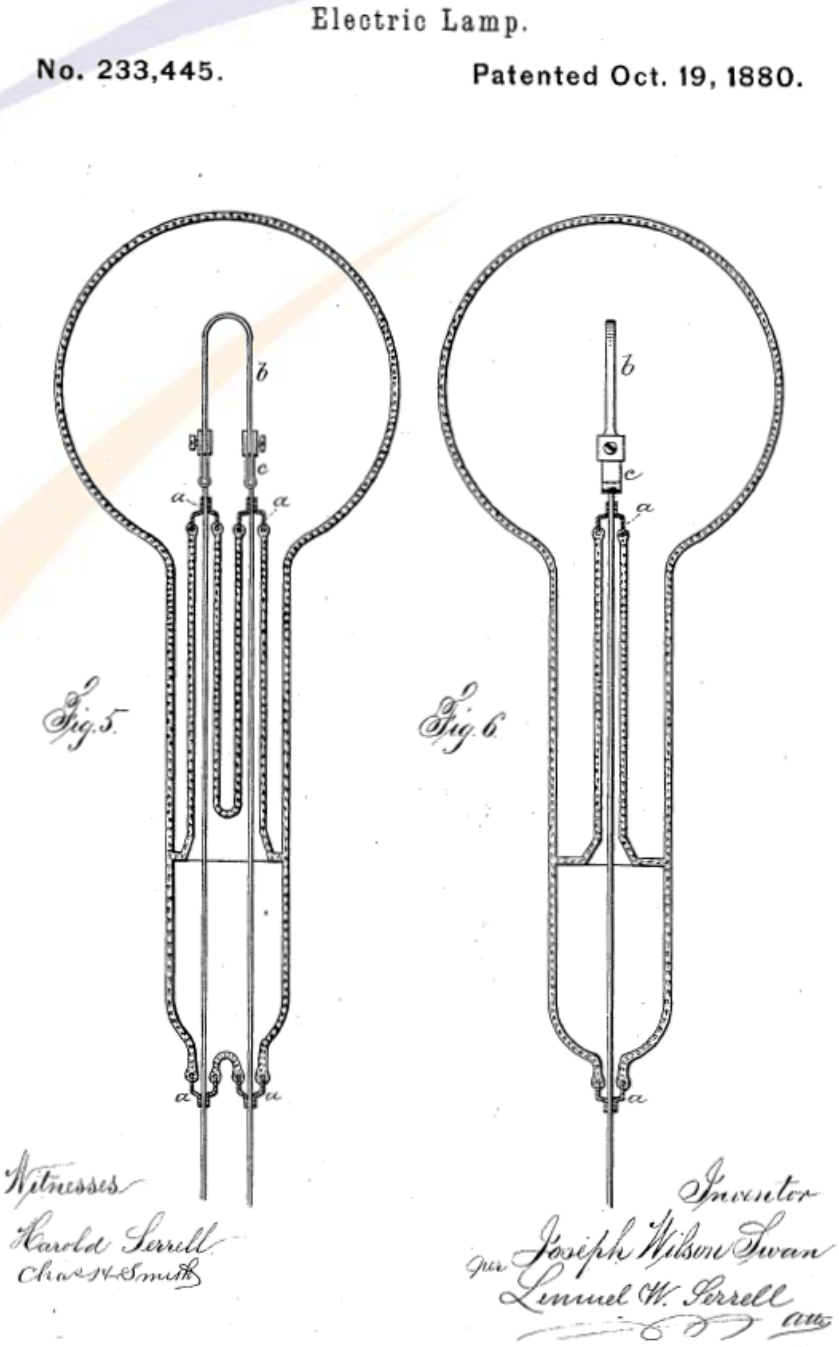
Agenda

- Patents
  - → What is a patent?
  - → What can be patented and what not?
  - → What do you get from a patent?
  - → How do you get it?
- International aspects
  - → EPA
  - → PCT
  - → The London Agreement

Patents



Electric Lamp.

No. 233,445. Patented Oct. 19, 1880.

Fig. 5.

Fig. 6.

Witnesses
Harold Serrell
Chas. H. Smith

Inventor
Joseph Wilson Swan
per Samuel W. Serrell
atty

Note:

We discuss the Austrian patent law, which is very similar to the German/European law.

The US and Japan patent law is quite different!

What is this, a "patent"?

- A patent is a right on an invention
- Inventions are …
  - » Sorry! No official definition available!
  - → Teaching for systematic acting by employing controllable forces of nature to achieve a causally predictable goal
  - → Mental fabrication, resulting in a technical advance through predictable and controllable utilization of forces of nature
  - → Repeatability, Goal-orientation, Forces of nature
- Characteristics:
  - → Result of the mind, idea (implementation not required!)
  - → Technical advance (not in the USA!)
  - → Protection also against independent "second inventions“
    - » (Theoretically?) Important distinction to copyright!

What you get from a patent ...

- Monopoly on the use/ownership of the invention
  - → Maximum 20 years; yearly/periodic fees increase
    - » Duration according to filing, not priority!
  - → Independent from the knowledge of the patent!
  - → (Full) Right starts with the day of the publication of the grant
    - » Some protection also exists before!
  - → Product patent: Producing "devices"
  - → Process patent: How to produce something
    - » Exclusivity includes products created directly through procedure!
- Disclosure of the invention
  - → “Return” of inventor to society for monopoly
- Compensation, information disclosure, destruction
  - → On infringements!
- Claim on mentioning as inventor: Personal right!

... and what not!

- No right of usage
  - → You can prohibit others from using it, but …
  - → this does not mean, that you may (immediately) use it!
    - – Example: Drugs, dangerous devices, factories for building it etc.
      - » Approbation, governmental checks, general rules etc.
- No requirement to use
  - → You can leave the patent just "on ice"
- No international right
  - → Patents are exclusively national (=geographically limited)
  - → This includes the EU-/International patents!
    - » "Joint" examination; Fees etc. must be paid for each country separately; validity separately in each country!
- Private usage and research is always allowed!
  - → Usage as subject of research, but not as object used in research!

Requirements for an invention: New (1)

- New = Comparison to the state of the art
  - » What is available to the public: written, orally, through using, …
  - → Practice: Written state of the art, i.e. journals and all "protection" rights (patents, utility patents, ...)
    - » Patent offices can find it during their search
  - → Theory: Any public disclosure at all
    - » If everybody could have heard it, this is sufficient
      - – Even if we can prove that nobody did hear it!
  - → Closed group + Obligation of secrecy ≠ Public
    - » Public: Course, Conference presentation, press release, non-restricted theses, ...
    - » Private: Disclosure to selected single other scientists
      - – Important: NDA (Non-Disclosure Agreement)
- Patents are national, but state of the art is international!
  - → May occur anywhere on the world and in any language

Requirements for an invention: New (2)

- → Independent of who published it (not: USA)!
  - » Exemption: Special inventors events, obvious misuse to the detriment of the applicant
    - – E.g. stealing confidential papers and publishing them
- Point in time: Date of filing
  - → Actually: Priority, which might be earlier than the date of filing for this specific patent application
  - → "Priority": The date of the first filing for a patent
  - → Other patents (=same content, different country/PCT/EPA) may be applied for within one year (=exactly!) after this priority date, but will be examined (SotA, …) as if filed at the date of priority
    - » Note: Patent duration (20 years) is still calculated from filing!
    - » Otherwise a patent would have to be filed in all countries exactly on the same day all over the world

Requirements for an invention: Usable in business

- Usable in business = Practicable and useful
  - → "Business" ≠ Trade regulation laws; includes e.g. farming
  - → Actual profit is not necessary, not even potentially!
    - » For instance when unlicensed usage cannot be proven
  - → “Could be sold to someone”
- Examples which are not usable:
  - → Perpetuum mobile
    - » Cannot actually be built, so not practicable
  - → Device for decapitating flies
    - » Not useful (BGH decision!)
      - – Note: If such a device would be necessary e.g. for developing drugs (like test), it might be useful and then patentable!
- This is very rarely a problem!

Requirements for an invention: Inventive

- Inventive = For an expert not derivable easily from the SotA
  - → Implicitly includes a "technical part"
  - → "Normal" technological development is "free“
    - » “Trivial” development are not an invention
  - → Expert = Average person/team from business
    - – Approximately equivalent to "engineer"
    - » This is significantly less than the typical university scientist!
    - » Average abilities and complete knowledge of the single affected area (and in no others at all!)
  - → Combination of known elements in a "new" way suffices
    - » But not the simple putting together (only additive)
      - – The combination must be **more** than the **collection** of the parts!
- Practice: The level required is very low
  - → This leads to the problem of “trivial patents”!

Verifying the “inventiveness”: The “Problem-and-Solution”-Approach

1. Select closest state of the art (=“prior art”)
   - One single reference (not several publications together!)
   - Describe differences between invention and state of the art
     - Only regarding the independent claims! (=What is “new”?)
   - Description of technical effects resulting from difference
     - What do the new elements "produce"?
2. Description of objective problem solved by invention
   - "How to modify the closest prior art to achieve the technical effect which the invention provides over the closest prior art"

   → What part of the newly produced effects are actually needed?
3. Explanation, why SotA (even combining several elements) does not provide any hint how to solve objective problem

   → Why it is more than just assembling two old inventions?

Verifying the “inventiveness”: The “Problem-and-Solution”-Approach

“In other words, the point is not whether the skilled person could have arrived at the invention by adapting or modifying the closest prior art, but whether he **would have done** so because the prior art incited him to do so in the hope of solving the objective technical problem or in expectation of some improvement or advantage.”

…

“This must have been the case for the skilled person before the filing or priority date valid for the claim under examination.“

EPO Guidelines 11.5.3 (http://www.epo.org/law-practice/legal-texts/html/guiex/e/c_iv_11_5_3.htm)

Requirement for patentability: Disclosure

- Sufficient disclosure: Experts must be able to repeat it
  - → Aim and reason for patents is the disclosure to the public; if it is missing/incomplete, the patent is invalid!
    - » The “expert” (→ Inventive) must be able to repeat it with his own knowledge (→ SotA) and the description within the patent alone
  - → Generally the method must be described, not the aim
    - » Description how to do it, not the result!
- Practice: Cannot be really verified by patent offices
- USA: Additional “best mode” requirement
  - → The best version the inventor knows of at the time of filing
  - → Example: “add between 10% and 30% of chemical A”
    - » If he knows it works best at 25%, then this patent is invalid!
  - → Practice: Very difficult to prove
  - → Recent change: Still required, but no longer a basis for invalidating a patent!

What cannot be patented

- Discoveries: Pre-existing things, e.g. laws of nature, species
  - → Patents protect creativity (=what can be changed)
    - » What already exists and just nobody (→ natives?) has found is not new, it was just not known to exist, although it did!
- Scientific theories and mathematical methods
  - → In their abstract form, i.e. "as such"
    - » Example: A method for faster calculation of matrix multiplications
  - → Their concrete application is patentable!
    - » $a^2+b^2=c^2$ is not patentable, but a triangle calculated through it might perhaps be patented (but: New? Inventive?)!
    - » Example: Fast matrix multiplication for picture analysis
      - – Not "as such"; has technical aspect/effect (“picture” → “picture”!)
- Aesthetical creations: Design, art, ...
  - → Design patent, copyright: These are protected, just differently
  - → No "technical" influence, just "appearance" (non-functional)

What cannot be patented

- Schemes, rules and methods for performing mental acts or playing games
  - → "Thoughts are free"
  - → Practical reason: Proving someone thought in a certain way could be quite difficult …
  - → Games:
    - » These are not really "business"; might be seen differently today!
    - » Refers to the "concept"/"rules" of the game, i.e. "ego-shooter"
      - – But see copyright and design patents for all materials, rule texts, …!
- Business methods
  - → Would be too harmful for the economy as a whole
  - → See also software patents!
  - → Only "as such", i.e. devices to support them can be patented, just not the method itself
  - → Attention: In the USA this is possible!

What cannot be patented

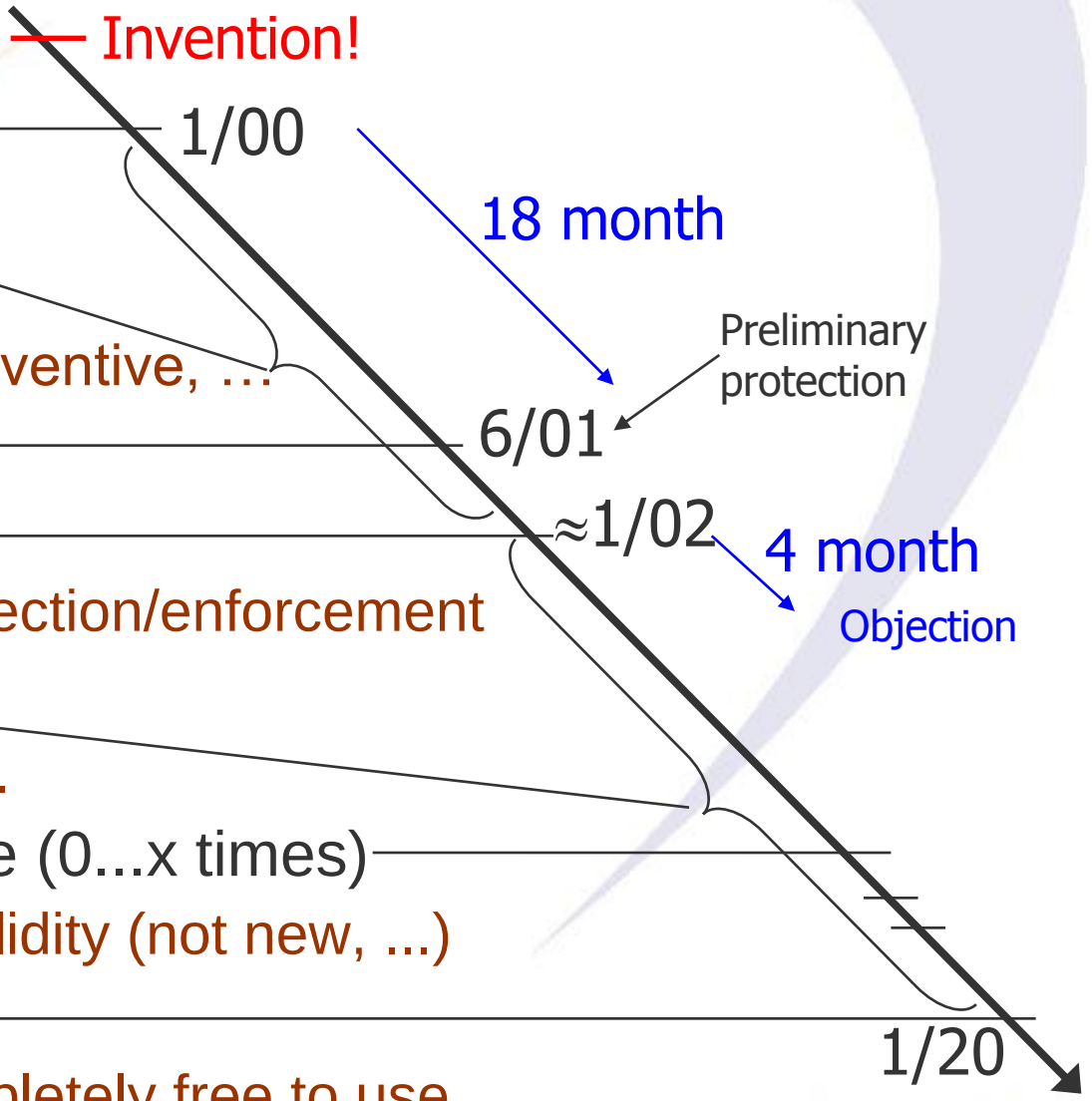
- Presentation of information
  - → Showing some data: Tables, forms etc.
    - » Might be protected by copyright, but often not (no creativity)
- Illegal or immoral inventions
    - » “Normal” legal prohibitions alone are insufficient!
  - → Letter bombs, anti personnel mines (not in every country!)
  - → Probably also: Viruses, trojans, bugs
  - → Legal examples: Cloning humans, chimeras, …
- Many "biological" aspects: plant/animal species, etc.
  - → For these special laws exist; very similar to patents!
    - » E.g. additional “deposition” of seeds required for “disclosure”
      - – Regrowing the plant/animal must be possible
      - – Otherwise it would not be a "disclosure", as others couldn't repeat the "invention" at all!

What cannot be patented

- Methods for treatment of body by surgery or therapy and diagnostic methods
  - → A kind of "immorality" to monopolize these
    - » Example: How to cut in surgery
  - → Tools, drugs, … all kinds of medical devices for this **are** patentable, just not the method of using them!
    - » Example: With what to cut in surgery
- Computer programs: See software patents!
  - → Not patentable “as such”

The lifecycle of a patent

- Application
  - → Priority starts here
- Patenting procedure
  - → Verification new, inventive, …
- Publication
- Grant
  - → From here full protection/enforcement
- Continuation
  - → Licensing, using, ...
- Invalidation procedure (0...x times)
  - → Challenging the validity (not new, ...)
- Termination
  - → From here on completely free to use



International patent law: EPA

- "Unified" European patent
  - → EPA = European patent agreement
  - → Independent of the EU (originated from Council of Europe)!
- One submission, one examination, one procedure
  - → Result: Separate nat. patents (fees, validity, ...)
  - → Desired countries can be selected freely from the member states (Note: Fees depend on the states and their number!)
- Advantages:
  - → Cheap (-er: relatively; compared to x national patents!)
  - → Faster (depends on national patent system!)
  - → Simpler than obtaining national patents (“one-stop shop”)
  - → Single unified resulting patent
    - » Same claims etc. → national patents might differ significantly

International patent law: EPA

- Disadvantages:
  - → High initial costs, e.g. fees, translation (G, E, F), attorney
  - → Translation costs (have been reduced by London Agreement)
  - → Enforcement and validity is national, i.e. in problems the patent must be enforced/destroyed in each state separately
- A patent can be filed by any one or more persons
    - » Including legal persons!
  - → It must designate the inventor(s)
    - » These are not necessarily the applicants, e.g. for employees
  - → Who gets the patent?
    - » The inventor or the legal successor (→ employee inventions!)
- Filing: National patent offices or EPA
  - → No attorney needed (if living within a member state of the EPA), but highly advisable!

International patent law: PCT

- Patents are national; but there is an international procedure!
  - → PCT = Patent Cooperation Treaty
- Single application, but patents are issued for arbitrarily selected countries
  - → These remain separate patents (procedures, fees, validity, ...)
- Application at most 1 year after "local" application (incl. EPA)
  - → Priority of the application according to the first patent!
- International examination (not binding for countries!)
  - → With a positive examination the national checks are usually less of a problem; but claims might have to be adapted
- Advantage: 30 month time for evaluation with little costs
  - → Cost-savings with many countries
  - → Significant costs occur only very late in the procedure (transl.)
- Disadvantage: Long procedure (but this might be desirable!)

EPA vs. PCT

- EPA: One examination, resulting in a “single” patent
  - → This is then translated and issued as national patents
  - → These are just “translations”
- PCT: One examination, report is sent to national offices
  - → Each national patent office then checks whether the patent can be granted according to the examination report
    - » Might also require additional examination, changing claims, …
- EPA is "more unified" than the PCT
  - → But the end result is the same: Independent national patents
  - → PCT is worldwide, EPA only regional
    - » There also exist Asian and African counterparts of EPA
- Several countries prohibit now “PCT → National” and require “PCT → EPA → National”

European patent with unitary effect

- “Community patent”, “COMPAT”: One patent for whole EU
  - → Often tried (start 1970; failed all the time)
  - → Typical problem: Languages
    - » Reason why Spain & Italy are **NOT** part of this “EU-wide” patent!
- Idea: Single application, single procedure, **single patent**
  - → Pay fees once for whole EU & valid for all of EU (except …!)
  - → Unified patent court has not yet been agreed upon, as this is not possible within the EU but is rather an international treaty
    - » Planned for 2013
- Entry into force: Not before 2014 (earliest!)
- Court would be located in Paris, thematic branches in London (chemistry and human necessities) and Munich (mechanical engineering); each approx. 1/3 of cases

European patent with unitary effect

- Basic idea of the patent with unitary effect
  - → You apply for a “normal” European patent (EPA)
  - → This patent is granted and published
  - → If the claims are the same for all countries, an application for unitary effect is possible
  - → Result: European patent + national patents “die” retroactively and the patent with unitary effect exists from the time of publication (of the European patent!) on
- Unitary effect:
  - → Uniform protection and equal effect in all member states
  - → It may only be limited, transferred, revoked or lapse in respect of all member states
  - → Licensing is possible in territorial subsets as well
  - → License offer may added to the registry

European patent with unitary effect

- Advantages:
  - → Translation requirements reduced: German, English, French
  - → Single court for all of EU (and with EU-wide effect!) for infringement and revocation; court of first instance / appeal
    - » But: No path to the European Court of Justice!
  - → Cost reduction: Estimate € 6.500 (EU+Spain+Italy) instead of approx. € 32.000 currently
  - → Little separate “offices&workers”: Most work will be outsourced to the EPO
- Disadvantages:
  - → Spain & Italy
  - → Unclear on subject of patents: Software, …?
    - » Especially as processed by the EPO
  - → Unclear how unified court will decide

Applying for a patent

- Applying for a patent is quite easy…
  - → But to be successful with it, i.e. receive a high-quality patent, is a bit more difficult (and expensive) …
- There is some obligatory content:
  - → Filling in some forms (content see next slide)
- Must be handed in "physically" at patent office
  - → Can be handed in personally, put in mailbox, sent by post/fax
  - → Electronic submission now also possible for National/EP/PCT
    - » National patents: Smartcard from EPO required and registration of the smartcard with the Austrian patent office
      - – Smartcard (once every three years), reader (once for every model required by the EPO) and software are free!
- Cost (Austria): ≈ € 530 for application + publication
  - → Yearly fees: € 100/year (from 6th year on; 6: 100, 20: 1700)
  - → Not included: Patent attorney (> € 2000)

Content of a patent application

- Procedural matters: Registrant, inventor, address, …
- Title
  - → Will be published immediately
    - » Often very vague because of this!
- Main content (see next slide)
  - → Description: What your application does and how it works
- Claims: Exactly what will be the monopoly
  - → Description is used in interpretation of these only!
- Figures: Some visual representation
  - → Ranges between useful and useless

Main content of a patent application

1. Technical area of the invention
2. The current state of the art
3. The technical problem the invention should solve
4. The invention, i.e. how it works
5. How to realize/produce the invention
6. Advantages over the state of the art through the invention

7. Claims
    1. ***(... Known ..... comprising of ..... new aspect .....)***
       " … SotA … characterized in that … inventive element … "
    2. ***At least one main claim***
    3. ***Optionally an arbitrary number of dependent claims***

Patent example EP 0 378 271

(19) Europäisches Patentamt
European Patent Office
Office européen des brevets

(11) EP 0 378 271 B1

(12) **EUROPEAN PATENT SPECIFICATION**

(45) Date of publication and mention of the grant of the patent:
03.04.1996 Bulletin 1996/14

(51) Int Cl.[6]: **G06T 17/50**

(21) Application number: **90200044.7**

(22) Date of filing: **08.01.1990**

(54) **Method for the perspective display of a part of a topographic map, and device suitable for performing such a method**

Verfahren zum visuellen Darstellen eines Teils einer topografischen Karte, sowie für ein derartiges Verfahren geeignete Anordnung

Procédé pour visualiser une partie d'une carte topographique et dispositif convenant pour un tel procédé

(84) Designated Contracting States:
DE FR GB IT SE

(30) Priority: **11.01.1989 NL 8900056**

(43) Date of publication of application:
18.07.1990 Bulletin 1990/29

(73) Proprietor: **Philips Electronics N.V.**
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(56) References cited:
FR-A- 2 610 752

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EP 0 378 271 B1

a given value, for example to at the most 20 meters. As a result, the user experiences a more or less continuous change of altitude when the speed changes or when the traffic relevance of the route followed changes.

By temporarily adopting a fictitiously higher speed of the vehicle, it can be simulated that the current position of the vehicle along the route to be followed changes more quickly than in reality, for example three times as fast. The user can thus already "scout" a part of the route yet to be travelled.

Fig. 5 shows a device which is suitable for generating a perspective view of surroundings of the vehicle. Sensors 1 and 2 supply measuring data (for example the instantaneous tractive wheel velocity and the instantaneous steering angle) to the detection means 3 which determine a current position of the vehicle on the basis thereof. This determination of the position, however, can also be realised by the reception of external data, for example from a satellite or another transmitter supplying measuring data.

A bus 4 acts as a signal path and supplies, via a control unit 5, a mass memory 6 with a selection signal so that the processor 7, comprising a foreground memory 8 and a microprocessor 9, receives a relevant sub-set of topographic information. Via coordinate transformation, the microprocessor 9 produces a perspective image of the part of the map which is applied to the display unit 11, comprising an image memory, via a control unit 10.

If desirable, the microprocessor 9 can temporarily supply, via the bus 4, the detection means 3 with a non-real, but simulated variation of the current position, obtained by a fictitiously higher speed of travel.

Fig. 6 shows a flowchart illustrating the determination of a perspective image. A start is made in block 21. In block 22 a current position is determined. In block 23 a relevant part of the map is selected and applied to the foreground memory. If desirable, in block 24 a further selection is performed on the selected information on the basis of, for example, the geographic distance from the current position of the vehicle and the relevance of the items to be displayed. This block also may be skipped. In block 25 the coordinate transformation is performed on the information ultimately selected. This procedure takes into account, if applicable, the limitation to a maximum value of the change of the angle between successive images wherethrough a rotation constituting the coordinate transformation takes place in order to make the viewing direction coincide with the direction of travel of the vehicle. In block 26 the transformation result is pixel-wise applied to the image memory in the display element. In block 27 the display is completed and a new start may be made.

Claims

1. A method for the perspective display of a part of a topographic map by selecting, in dependence of a position (c) of a vehicle, topographic information from a data structure, where under the influence of a coordinate transformation the display takes place according to a viewing position (k) which moves together with the position (c) of the vehicle and with a solid angle (g) that takes into account the instantaneous motion of the vehicle, characterized in that for an earthbound vehicle the viewing position is above the earth and the solid angle (g) contains an actual simulated position of the vehicle itself.

2. A method as claimed in Claim 1, wherein the viewing position (k) is fixed relative to the actual (c) position of the vehicle.

3. A method as claimed in any one of the Claims 1 to 2, characterized in that the coordinate transformation includes a rotation through an angle a(t) which makes a predetermined direction in the image permanently coincident at least substantially with a direction of travel of the vehicle.

4. A method as claimed in any one of the the Claims 1 to 3, characterized in that the position of the vehicle on the map is displayed.

5. A method as claimed in any one of the Claims 3 to 4, characterized in that a change of the angle a(t) between successive images in time is limited to a predetermined value.

6. A method as claimed in any one of the Claims 1 to 5, characterized in that from the selected information items to be displayed are determined by a further selection operation.

7. A method as claimed in Claim 6, characterized in that the further selection is based on the distance between the items and the current position of the vehicle.

8. A method as claimed in Claim 6 or 7, characterized in that the further selection is based on an index indicating the traffic relevance of the items.

9. A method as claimed in any one of the Claims 6 to 8, where an optimum route is determined for the vehicle by a route planner, characterized in that the further selection is based on the distance between the items and the optimum route.

10. A method as claimed in any one of the Claims 6 to 9, where the route planner generates a tree structure with feasible routes, characterized in that the further selection is based on the presence of the items in a predetermined part of the tree structure.

Patent example
EP 0 378 271

FIG.1

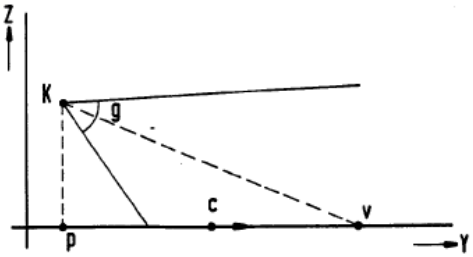


FIG.2A

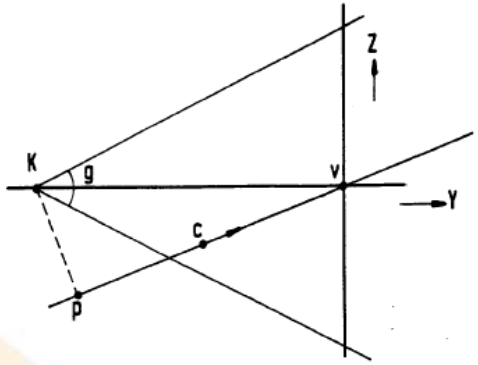


FIG.2B

EP 0 378 271 B1

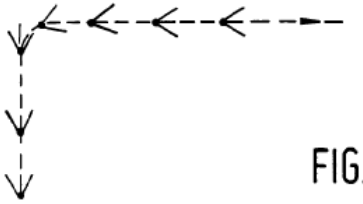


FIG.3

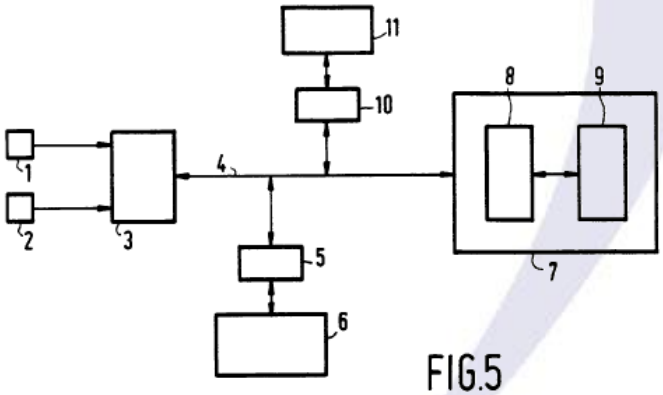


FIG.5

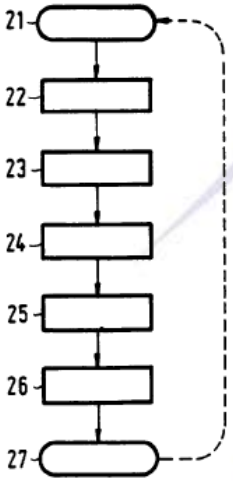


FIG.6

What does the patent attorney need?

1. The draft of the publication
2. The planned publication as a draft
3. A draft for that, which should be published
4. A preprint of the publication

   → Additionally: The inventor and some explanations …

- Generally a good description of the invention is necessary
- What is **not** needed, are:
  - → Prototype
  - → How to measure the results
  - → How to manufacture the invention
  - → Invoices, cost estimates, prospective buyers, …
    - » But good attorneys will investigate whether a patent is a sensible idea, i.e. whether this is something which might pay off!

What the patent attorney does

- Does the invention fulfil all necessary criteria?
  - → Sufficient disclosure of the invention?
  - → What can be claimed and to which extent?
- Formulating the application
  - » This is very important! Only a professional can draft claims to be as wide as possible and narrow enough to be accepted
  - » Additionally, a lot of experience is necessary to draft patents which are difficult to circumvent (wording, pitfalls, …)
  - → Formulating claims and description
  - → Drawing of figures
- Analysis of and response to examination reports and procedural communication
  - → Support on rejections, modifications, oppositions, ... By the patent office or third persons
- Payment of (yearly) fees at correct point in time

Practical hints

- Do not provide application examples in abstracts, publications, etc.: Especially important for "as such" patents
  - → See Vicom: Algorithm no; algorithm for certain application yes
    - » Mentioned in abstract = Publication = No patent any more!
      - – Exactly such a case occurred in Linz! Exemplary application at the end of an abstract prevented patenting the invention!
- Do not think only of Austria: There are the USA too
  - → If it is not patentable in AT/EU, it might still be sensible to go for a patent in the USA
    - » Costs are higher → Economic aspects should be much clearer
      - – E.g., already a prospective buyer/licensee available
- Always use an patent attorney
  - → Getting a patent is easy, but receiving one that can be enforced successfully is not that trivial!

Not quite a full patent: Utility patents

- Similar to patents: Inventions are protected
  - → Austria: Program logic can explicitly be protected "as such"!
- Maximum duration: 10 years
- Difference to patents:
  - → There is no examination regarding new or inventiveness
    - » Non-binding (!) examination regarding prior art
  - → Actual examination occurs only in nullification proceedings (no legal guarantees)
    - » Everybody can request this (Deletion ex-tunc!)
  - → Only national: No EU/international procedures
- Transformation into patent possible before granting!
  - → A patent can simultaneously be applied for as a utility patent: Quick procedure for the time until patent is granted!

May have been published by the inventor up to 6 month before the application!

The "London Agreement"

- Translation is a significant portion of an EPA patent's costs
  - → Translating a whole patent into another language: ≈ 1.400 €
    - » All 31 member states: 30.800 €
    - » Average (7 countries): 7.000 €
- Note: These translations have no legal importance, they exist only to inform the citizens!
  - → If there is a patent violation, the basis is the patent as granted in the official EPA languages (G, E, F)!
- Also, they are not very helpful, as very late in the procedure!
  - → On average 3 to 4 years after initial application
- Remedy: London Agreement
  - → Concluded 17.10.2000, entered into force 1.5.2008
    - » In force for: Croatia, Denmark, Finland, France, Germany, Hungary, Iceland, Latvia, Liechtenstein, Lithuania, Luxembourg, Macedonia, Monaco, Netherlands, Slovenia, Sweden, Switzerland, UK

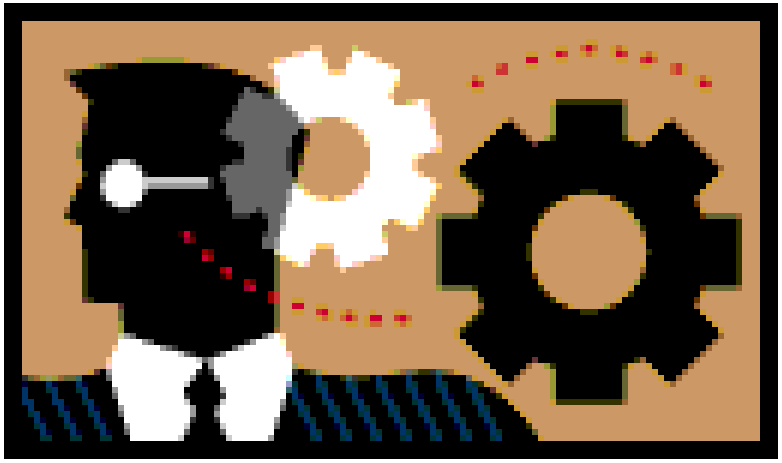
The "London Agreement"

- Official language is German, English, or French:
  - → No translation of description and drawings if proceedings language is not their own
  - → Claims must be translated to all these three languages
- Official language is different: Optionally …
  - → state selects one language from G, E, and F, and/or
    - » Patent must be translated in full into this language
    - » In practice currently only English has been selected
  - → claims must be translated into national language
- In case of disputes, the patent owner must provide a full translation (at own expense) to alleged infringer and court in the language of the state, where infringement took place
  - → If they demand it
- Result: Most patents will have to be fully translated to E
  - → Claims (comparatively tiny!) might require more translations

The "London Agreement"

- Translation example:
  - → Proceedings are performed in French
  - → Result of EPA proceedings:
    - » Proceedings and full patent are in French
    - » Claims must be translated to German and English
  - → Nationalization for Croatia:
    - » Translation of claims into their official language
      - – Croatia made use of this optional provision
    - » Translation of whole patent into English, as this is the designated language selected by Croatia
  - → Nationalization for Slovenia
    - » Translation of claims into their official language
    - » No other translation as no language designated
  - → Nationalization for Germany/Luxembourg
    - » No additional translation at all, as German is (one of) their national language(s)

What your patent advisor can do for you



Support by the patent advisors

- Filling in the invention disclosure form
  - → Help in deciding whether it is an employee invention or not
  - → Help in filling in the form
  - → Take over further proceedings
- Questions to patenting and licensing
  - → Directly or with special problems in connection with the legal department or the AWS-Tecma
- Help with contracts for third-party-employees regarding IPR
  - → Ceding of patents and other IPRs, …
- Information on cooperation treaties
  - → How to cover patents, copyright, publications, ...
  - → Division of IPRs between the parties
- Advising on various IPRs

Summary

- Cooperation with companies: Do not forget the university!
  - → At least secure rights for use in research and teaching
  - → Better: Fair division of rights of exploitation
    - » Example: Non-exclusive license for cooperation partner
- Patents: Do not forget them on any practical result
  - → On new and innovative products → Contact the inventors assistant whether a patent is possible
    - » No costs to the institute!
    - » Important for the university and advantageous for the inventors!
- Any questions regarding patents, IPRs, exploitation, …

Your patent advisor is always there for you!

Questions?

Your patent advisor is always there for you!

For individual discussions and other questions:
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