

Riccardo Pietrabissa

Intellectual property:

what is and how to use it in public research organizations (PRO)

The property is an exclusive right characterized by the possibility

- to use the object of the property for every purpose that is not prohibited
- and to transfer the ownership to others.

George Bernard Shaw:

"If you have an apple and I have an apple and we exchange these apples then you and I will still each have one apple.  
But if you have an idea and I have an idea and we exchange these ideas, then each of us will have two ideas"

tangible/material  
goods

intangible/immaterial  
goods

property  
acquisition  
use  
value  
rights

# One product - many IP rights

## Trade marks

- NOKIA
- Product "208"
- Start-up tone

## Copyright

- Software
- User manuals
- Ringtones
- Start-up tone
- Images



© Nokia Corporation

## Patents and utility models

- Data-processing methods
- Operating system
- Operation of user interface

## Designs

- Form of overall phone
- Arrangement and shape of buttons
- Position and shape of screen

## Trade secrets

- Some technical know-how kept "in-house" and not published

# The different types of IP (I)

## Legal right

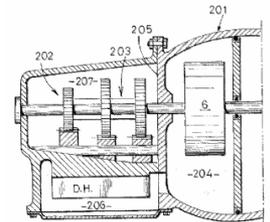
## What for?

## How?

Patents

New inventions

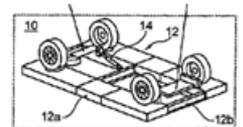
Application and  
examination



Utility models

New inventions

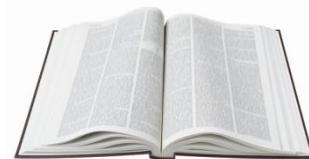
Application and  
registration



Copyright

Original creative or  
artistic forms

Exists  
automatically



Our reference: *[Elsevier reference number]*

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*[Journal copyright owner name]*  
(hereinafter the “Copyright Owner”)

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# The different types of IP (II)

## Legal right

## What for?

## How?

Trade marks

Distinctive identification  
of products or services

Use and/or  
registration

Registered  
designs

External appearance

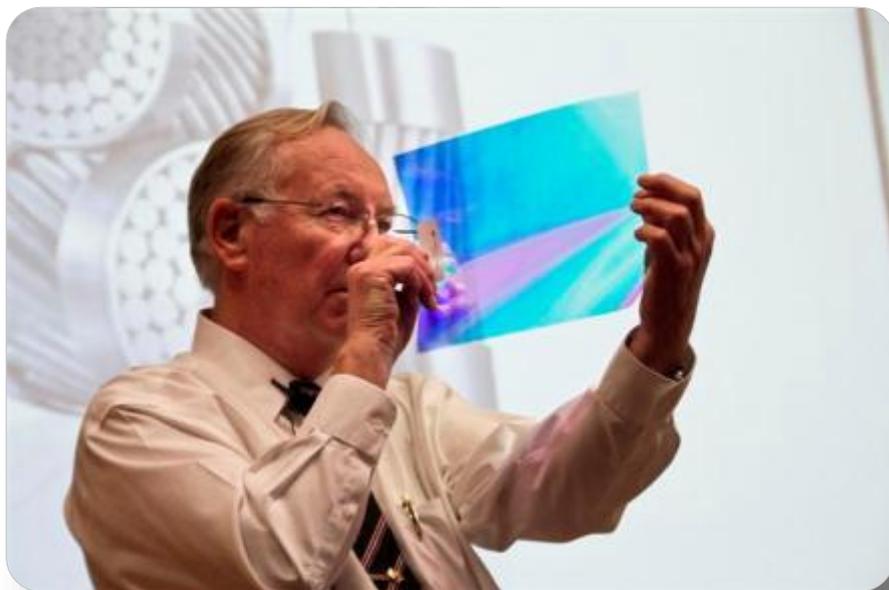
Registration

Trade secrets

Valuable information  
not known to the public

Reasonable efforts  
to keep secret





Geoffrey C. Nicholson, Geoff, served as Vice President of Corporate Technical Planning and International Technical Operations of 3M Corporation. He served at 3M Corporation from 1963 to 2001. During his career at 3M, he was instrumental in the development of its "Post-it" Notes as well as oversaw 2500 3M employees internationally.

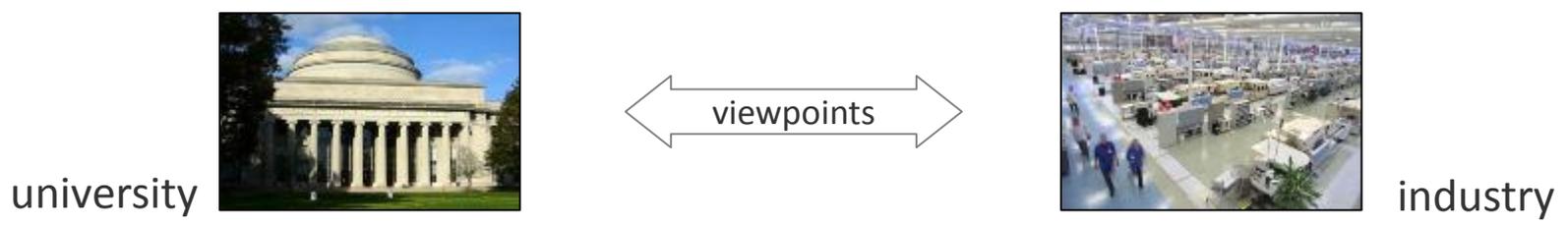
**Imperial College  
London**

Department of Chemistry Centenary Lecture on Innovation,  
22 February 2007  
*Innovation: A Survival Issue*  
Dr Geoff Nicholson

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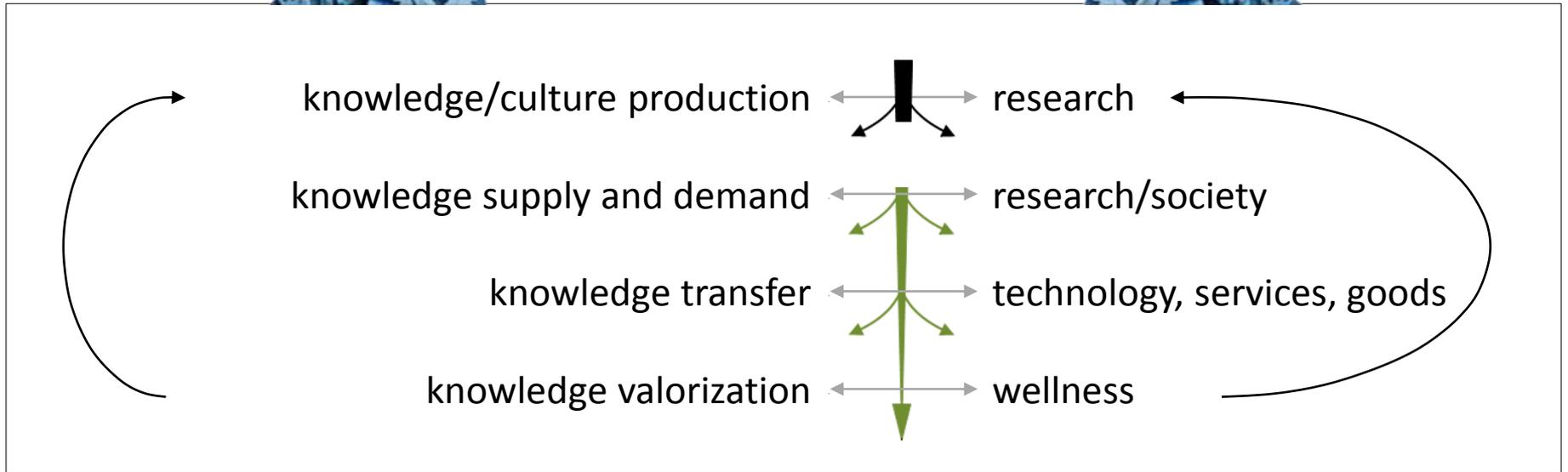
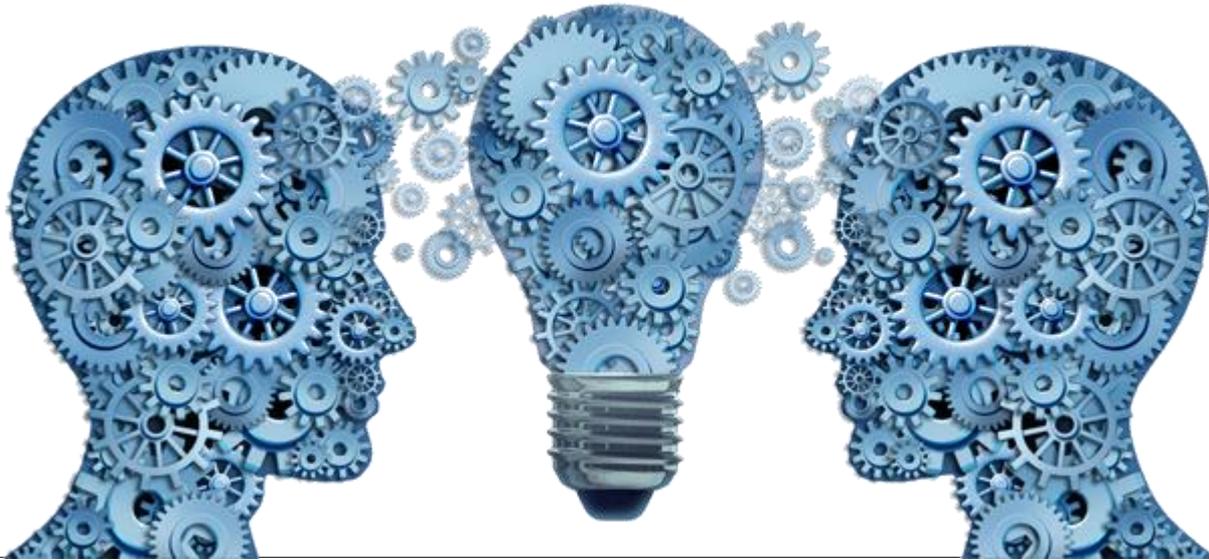
**“...research is the transformation of money into knowledge  
and  
innovation is the transformation of knowledge into money...”**

**“...research is the transformation of money into knowledge  
and  
innovation is the transformation of knowledge into money...”**



- 1. research produces knowledge and
- 2. innovation uses knowledge

- 1. research consumes money and
- 2. innovations produces money



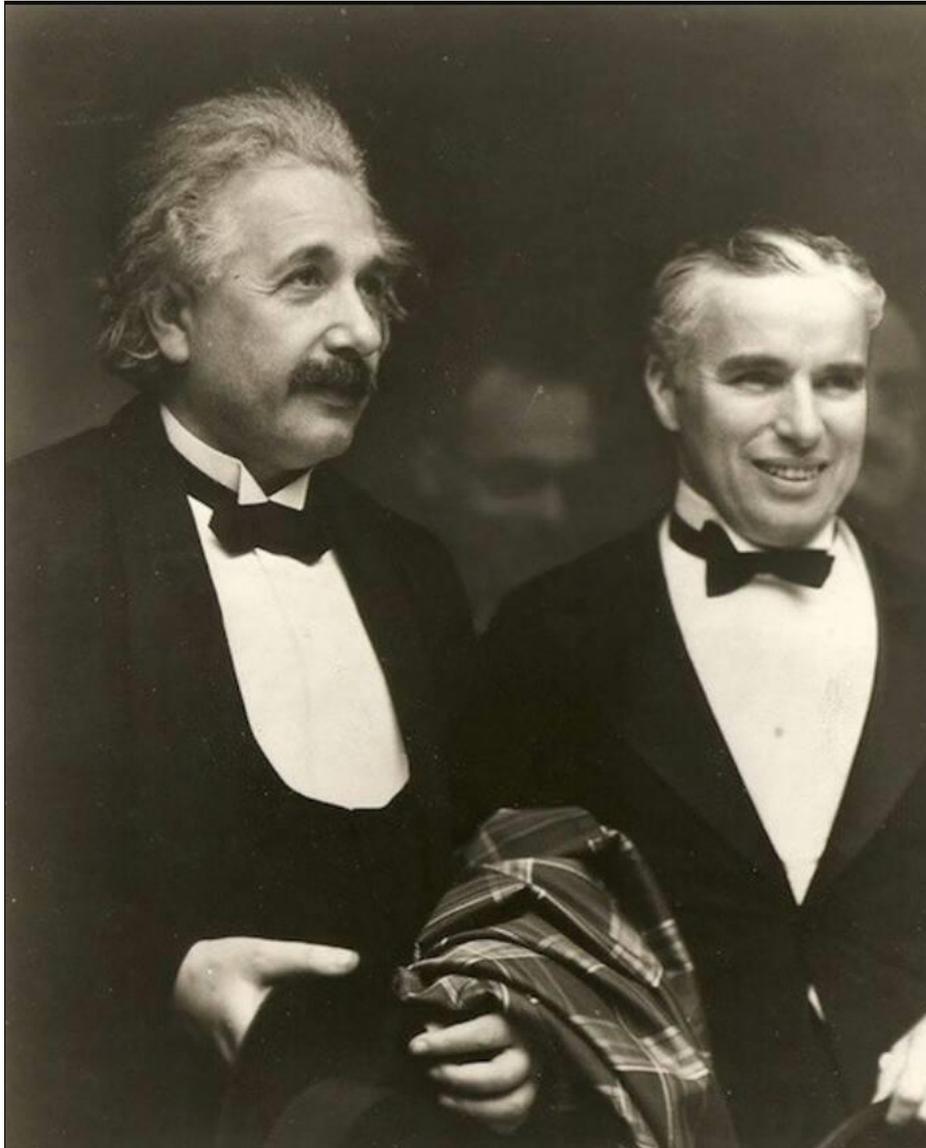


$$\begin{array}{cccccccccccc}
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 \end{array}$$

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$$\sum_{n=a}^b n = (a+b) \times (b-a+1) / 2$$



In 1930 Charlie Chaplin e Albert Einstein met and an anecdote is reported.

Einstein said:

"What I most admire about your art, is your universality. You don't say a word, yet the world understands you!"

Chaplin replied:

"True. But your glory is even greater! The whole world admires you, even though they don't understand a word of what you say."



which is the aim of research?

what is expected from researchers?

publication of papers → number of papers

education of the ruling class → quality of politicians and decisors

contribution to the progress of the nation → GDP / wealth / wellbeing

generation of culture → quality of population



**about**

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undergrad | graduate | financial aid

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OpenCourseWare | MITx | edX

**research**

labs+centers | lincoln lab | libraries

**community**

students | faculty | staff | alumni

**life@MIT**

arts | athletics | social media

**initiatives**

energy | cancer | diversity | global

**impact**

industry | public service

**commencement**



*today's spotlight*

**Rumor has it**

Study: Trying to correct political gossip may only entrench it further

**news**

Startup's platform gives free data to cellphone users in developing countries

Researchers explain India's rapid move north 80 million years ago

John Tirman's new book explores cultural clash over immigration

National Academy of Sciences elects four MIT professors

research | campus | press

**events**

xTalks: Willcox & Seering (May 6)

Kendall Community Meetings (May 6)

Today's image  
Compton Lecture (May 11)

Reminder to graduating students from the Registrar



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**Impact**

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**MIT 2016**

Celebrating a Century in Cambridge

**news**

Before spreading, cancer cells remodel their environments

Andy Sellars to lead clinic advising MIT students on cyberlaw

Frank Perkins, MIT professor emeritus and former dean, dies at 82

U.S., EU leaders discuss Web policy and world economy

research | campus | press

**events**

xTalks: Integrating MITx into First-Year Physics (today)

Emile Bustani Middle East Seminar (today)

Boston Police Gaelic Column of Pipes and Drums (Mar. 17)

2016 Ilona Karmel Writing Prize Competition

Today's image



*Today's Spotlight*

**Sugar-coated power**

Battery substitutes produce current by burning sucrose-coated carbon nanotubes like a fuse

GIVE TO MIT



# about

The mission of the Massachusetts Institute of Technology is to advance knowledge and educate students in science, technology, and other areas of scholarship that will best serve the nation and the world in the 21st century. We are also driven to bring knowledge to bear on the world's great challenges.

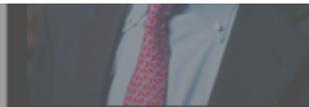
has some 7,000 faculty members, more than 47,000 undergraduate and graduate students, and more than 130,000 living alumni.

At its founding in 1861, MIT was an educational innovation, a community of hands-on problem solvers in love with fundamental science and eager to make the world a better place. Today, that spirit still guides how we educate students on campus and how we shape new digital learning technologies to make MIT teaching accessible to millions of learners around the world.

MIT's spirit of interdisciplinary exploration has fueled many scientific breakthroughs and technological advances. A few examples: the first chemical synthesis of penicillin and vitamin A. The development of radar and creation of inertial guidance systems. The invention of magnetic core memory, which enabled the development of digital computers. Major contributions to the Human Genome Project. The discovery of quarks. The invention of the electronic spreadsheet and of encryption systems that enable e-commerce. The creation of GPS. Pioneering 3D printing. The concept of the expanding universe.

Current research and education areas include digital learning; nanotechnology; sustainable energy, the environment, climate adaptation, and global water and food security; Big Data, cybersecurity, robotics, and artificial intelligence; human health, including cancer, HIV, autism, Alzheimer's, and dyslexia; biological engineering and CRISPR technology; poverty alleviation; advanced manufacturing; and innovation and entrepreneurship.

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## Institute Initiatives

Digital learning

Integrated Learning Science

Climate Change

Energy

Environmental solutions

Innovation

Entrepreneurship

Cancer

Global

## Institutional Awards and Honors

MIT ranked No. 1 among world's universities

MIT ranked No. 1 in architecture globally

MIT named No. 1 university worldwide for social sciences

research/researchers/Univ-PRO

which rights?

autonomy

which duties?

responsibility

topics

use of results

publications

exploitation

**United States Patent** [19]  
**Sedlmayr**

[11] **4,294,458**  
 [45] **Oct. 13, 1981**

[54] **SKI STOP**

[75] Inventor: **Gerhard Sedlmayr, Farchant, Fed. Rep. of Germany**

[73] Assignee: **Hannes Marker, Garmisch-Partenkirchen, Fed. Rep. of Germany**

[21] Appl. No.: **961,488**

[22] Filed: **Nov. 16, 1978**

[30] **Foreign Application Priority Data**  
 Nov. 18, 1977 [DE] Fed. Rep. of Germany ..... 2751602

[51] Int. Cl. .... **A63C 7/18**

[52] U.S. Cl. .... **280/605**

[58] **Field of Search** ..... **280/605**

[56] **References Cited**

**U.S. PATENT DOCUMENTS**

3,741,575	6/1973	Borok	
3,933,361	1/1976	Beyl	280/605
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4,173,354	11/1979	Merals	280/605

**FOREIGN PATENT DOCUMENTS**

2118849	5/1970	Fed. Rep. of Germany	
7504420	6/1975	Fed. Rep. of Germany	
2517861	11/1976	Fed. Rep. of Germany	
2526908	12/1976	Fed. Rep. of Germany	

*Primary Examiner—Joseph F. Peters, Jr.  
 Assistant Examiner—Milton L. Smith  
 Attorney, Agent, or Firm—Flatt & Jacobson*

[57] **ABSTRACT**

A ski brake has two pivotable prongs, one on each side of the ski and having coaxial pivot shafts which are mounted on the ski to extend across the ski adjacent the upper ski surface and are each integral with an actuating arm depressible by a ski boot against spring action whereby to turn the pivot shafts and swing the brake prongs to an inoperative position. The spring action is exerted by way of a link member hinged to the ski by one end at a fixed position spaced lengthwise of the ski from the coaxial pivot shafts and connected by the other end to both actuating arms so as to be displaceable therealong when the actuating arms are depressed.

**10 Claims, 4 Drawing Figures**

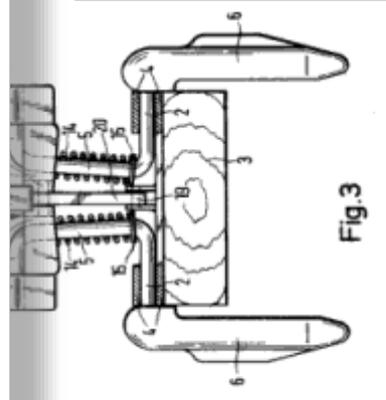
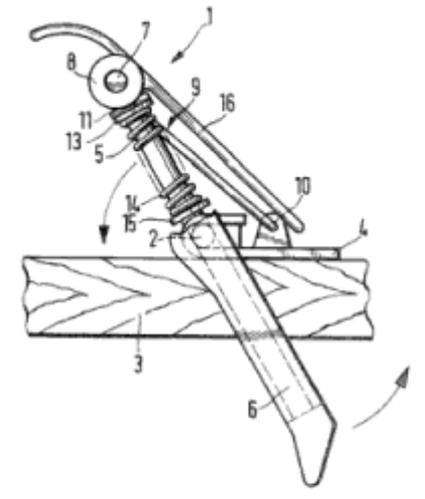
981 Sheet 2 of 2 4,294,458

**United States Patent** [19]  
**Sedlmayr**

[54] **SKI STOP**

[75] Inventor: **Gerhard Sedlmayr, Farchant, Fed. Rep. of Germany**

[73] Assignee: **Hannes Marker, Garmisch-Partenkirchen, Fed. Rep. of Germany**



# What is a patent?

The patent is a set of **exclusive rights**

the right to exclude others

**granted** by a **sovereign state**

given under a law

in the territory of a nation

to an **inventor or assignee**

who has the ownership of the patent

for a **limited period of time**

the term of the right is 20 years

in exchange for **detailed public disclosure**

the publication is a teaching to reproduce the invention for an expert

of an **invention**

the solution of a technical problem

If

The patent is a set of **exclusive rights**

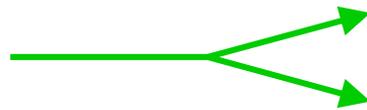
the right to exclude others

why a PRO should patent an invention?

- ~~for error~~ (lack of evaluation)

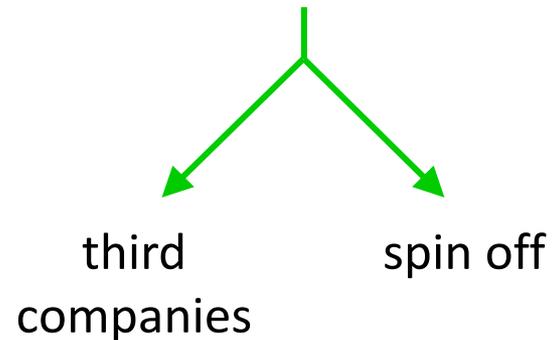
- ~~to generate a portfolio~~ (lack of exploitation)

• to use it

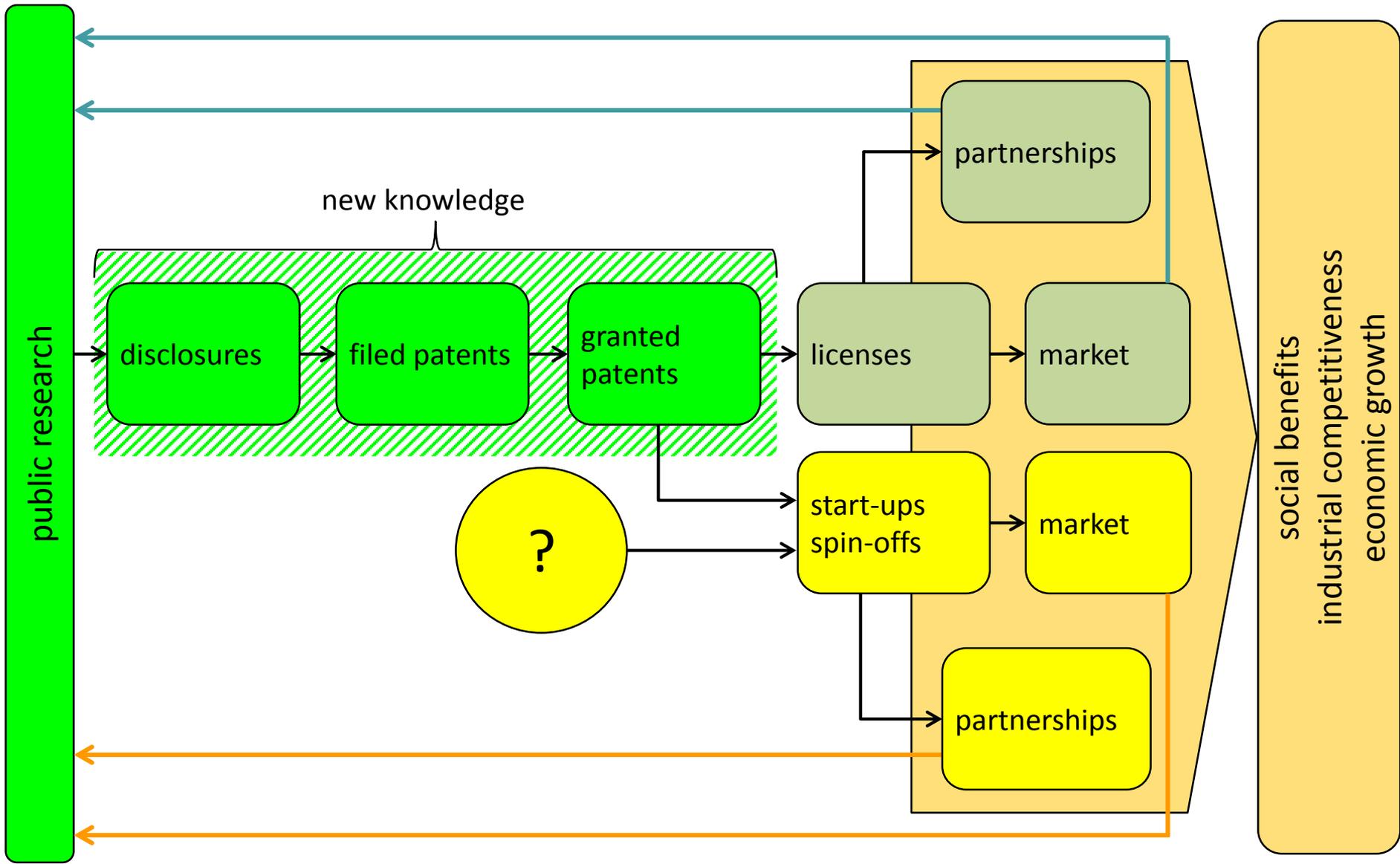


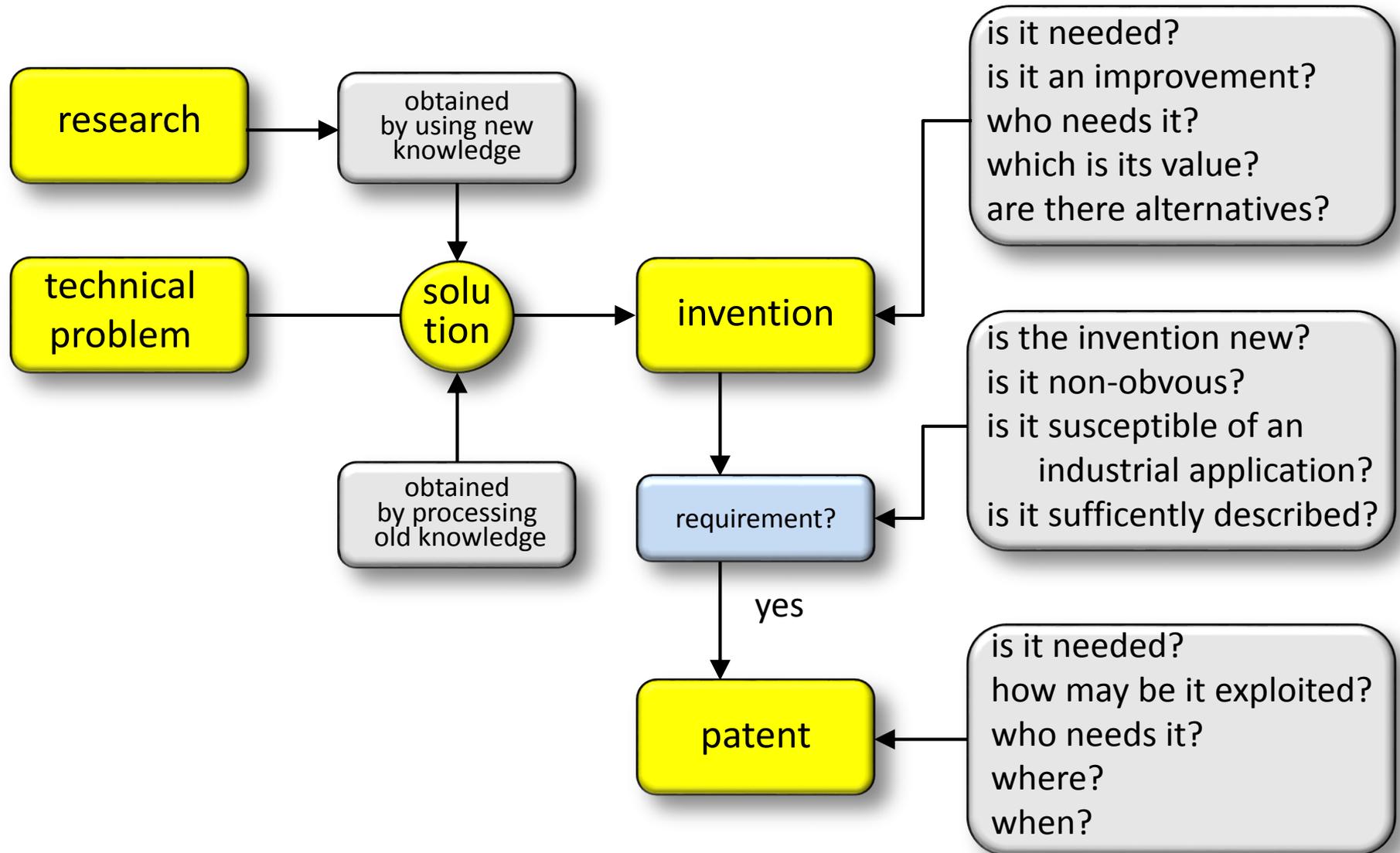
- ~~by excluding others~~

- by granting the exclusive to others



# The line from research to market





# Protect your ideas

An introduction to patents for students of  
natural sciences, engineering, medicine  
and business administration

<http://www.epo.org/learning-events/materials/kit.html>



# PATENTS

# Rights conferred by patents

- Right to prevent others from making, using, offering for sale, selling or importing infringing products in the country where the patent was granted



Exception: non-commercial purposes (private use, academic research)

- Right to assign, sell or license these rights



These rights belong to the patent holder.



# What is a patent?

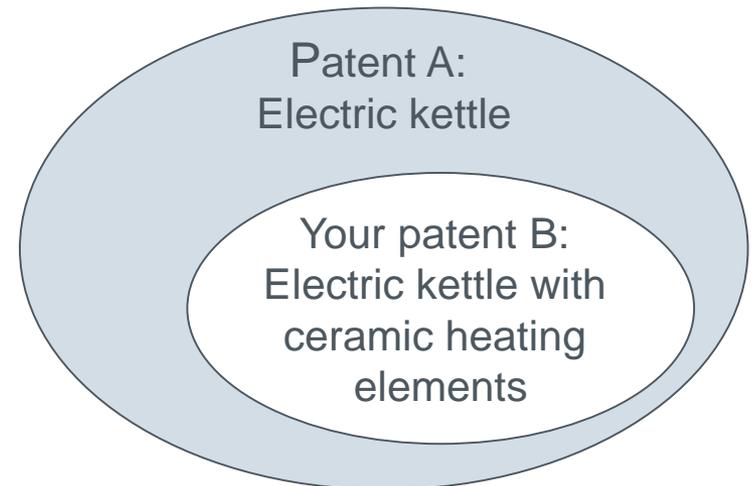
- Does a patent give you the right to exploit an invention?

**- NO!**



- A patent is a negative right.  
It gives you the right to prevent others from exploiting the invention.  
It is not an enabling right.
- Patents owned by others may overlap or encompass your own patent.  
-> Seek a licence before commercialising

For example:



# What do patent documents look like?

Date of publication

Date of filing

Applicant



Abstract

EP 1 520 497 A2

Europäisches Patentamt  
European Patent Office  
Office européen des brevets

(11) EP 1 520 497 A2

(12) EUROPEAN PATENT APPLICATION

(43) Date of publication: 06.04.2005 Bulletin 2005/14 (51) Int. Cl.: A47G 19/22, C02F 1/00

(21) Application number: 04256130.8 (22) Date of filing: 04.10.2004

(84) Designated Contracting States: AT BE BG CH CY CZ DE DK EE ES FI FR GB GR HU IE IT LI LU MC NL PL PT RO SE SI SK TR Designated Extension States: AL HR LT LV MK

(72) Inventor: Scott, Michael James  
Ile of Man IM9 5PH (GB)

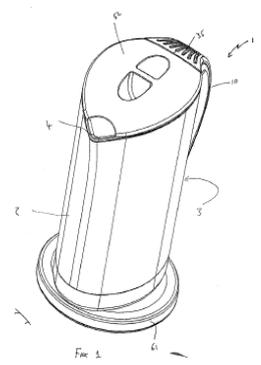
(74) Representative: Samuels, Adrian James  
Frank B. Dehn & Co.,  
179 Queen Victoria Street  
London EC4V 4EL (GB)

(30) Priority: 03.10.2003 GB 0323237  
27.02.2004 GB 0404293

(71) Applicant: STRIX LIMITED  
Ronaldsway, Isle of Man IM9 2RG (GB)  
Designated Contracting States: DE FR IT

(54) Water Storage Apparatus

(57) A water treatment and storage vessel has a reservoir 50 for untreated water and filter means 51 in fluid communication with the reservoir 50. A main vessel portion 2 is provided for receiving and storing treated water which comprises a Pellet-effect device 25 for removing heat from treated water therein, thereby cooling the water.



Printed by Jouve, 75001 PARIS (FR)

Application number  
Technical class  
Inventor



Claims

1. A portable water treatment and storage vessel comprising:
  - a reservoir for untreated water;
  - filter means in fluid communication with said reservoir; and
  - a main vessel portion for receiving and storing treated water;
 wherein said main vessel portion comprises electro-thermal cooling means for removing heat from the treated water therein, thereby cooling the water.

Claim(s)

EP 1 520 497 A2

**Description**

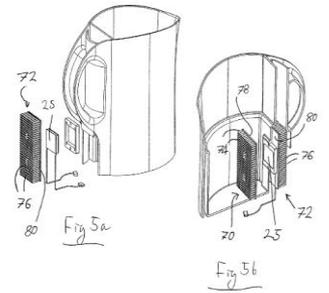
has aim for the filter device is provided under the cover and will be used to remove the water from the water.

**FIG. 1** shows a perspective view of the water storage apparatus in accordance with the invention. The apparatus comprises a main vessel portion 2 for receiving and storing treated water, and a reservoir 50 for untreated water. The reservoir 50 is in fluid communication with the main vessel portion 2 via a filter means 51. The filter means 51 is a Pellet-effect device 25 which is used to remove heat from the treated water in the main vessel portion 2, thereby cooling the water.

**FIG. 2** is a cross-sectional view of the apparatus showing the internal components. The reservoir 50 is at the top, and the filter means 51 is located below it. The main vessel portion 2 is at the bottom and contains the Pellet-effect device 25. The device 25 is a cylindrical component with a central opening and is surrounded by a series of pellets. The pellets are arranged in a ring around the central opening and are used to remove heat from the water passing through the filter means 51.

**FIG. 3** is a cross-sectional view of the apparatus showing the internal components. The reservoir 50 is at the top, and the filter means 51 is located below it. The main vessel portion 2 is at the bottom and contains the Pellet-effect device 25. The device 25 is a cylindrical component with a central opening and is surrounded by a series of pellets. The pellets are arranged in a ring around the central opening and are used to remove heat from the water passing through the filter means 51.

Description



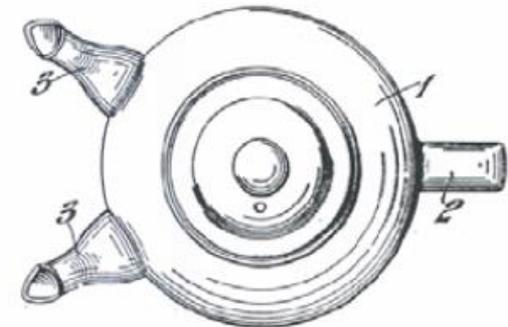
Drawing(s)

## What does the description contain?

- Prior art
  - *teapot with one spout*
- Drawback of prior art
  - *time-consuming*
- Problem to be solved
  - *reduce filling time for multiple cups*
- Solution
  - *provide a second spout*
- Advantage of the invention
  - *filling time is reduced*



*Fig. 1.*



*Fig. 2.*

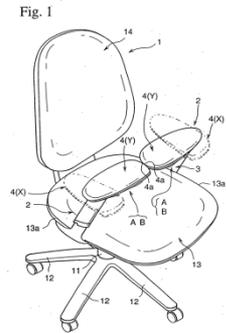
# What can and can't be patented

Patents protect technical inventions which solve technical problems:

- Products, devices, systems



- Chemical substances, pharmaceuticals
- Processes, methods, uses



For an invention to be patentable, it must usually be

- ✓ **new** to the world (i.e. not available to the public anywhere in the world)
- ✓ **inventive** (i.e. not an "obvious" solution), and
- ✓ susceptible of **industrial application**

In most countries, patents are not granted for mere business methods or rules of games, or for methods of treatment, diagnostics and surgery of the human or animal body, or for inventions that are contrary to *ordre public* or morality, or for plant and animal varieties.



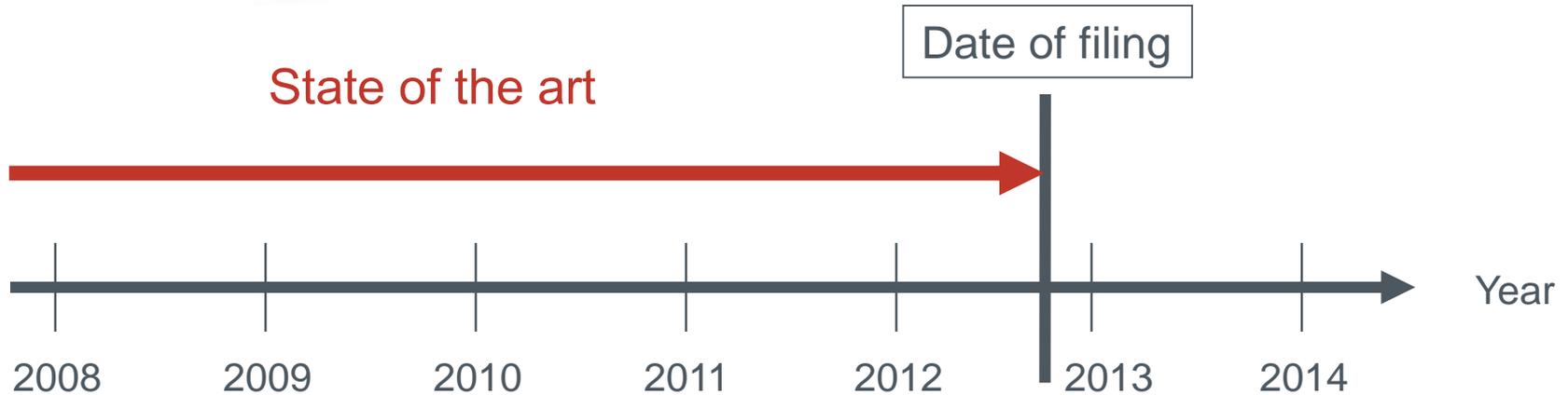
# When is an invention "new"?

- When it is not part of the state of the art
- State of the art = everything made available to the public before the date of filing

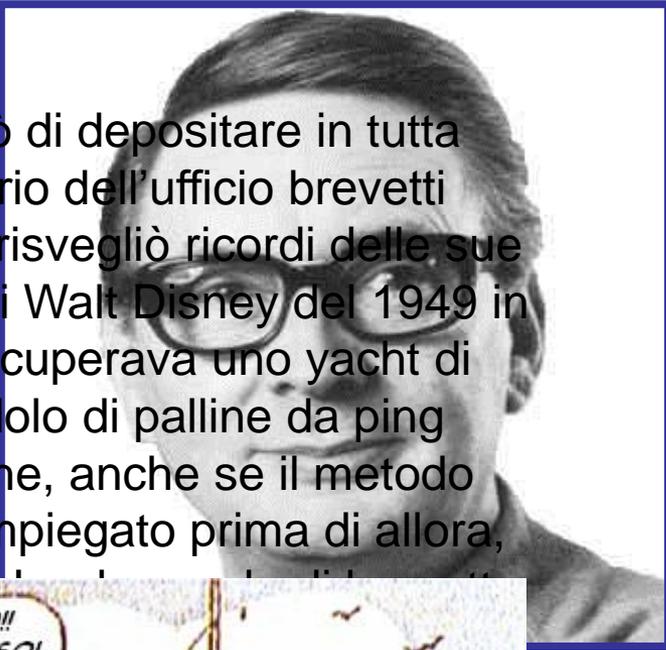
**Keep your invention confidential until you have filed your application!**



Patent application



La compagnia danese di assicurazione nel 1964 il  
 rivolse agli ingegneri della BASF e l'incarico  
 Per un metodo tanto geniale non si trascurò  
 fu affidato a Karl Kroyer. Nella zona adagiandosi  
 c'erano gru galleggianti e a Kroyer balzando  
 l'idea di riempire il relitto di polistirolo  
 tedesco il metodo descritto nella domanda  
 espanso utilizzando lo Styropor®. In un altro  
 brevettato dalla BASF nel 1950. Esso viene  
 Styropor® occupato al 98% da aria, recuperava uno yacht di  
 Kroyer questo si sarebbe sostituito nei  
 facendo così riemergere il relitto dov'aveva esse



Walt Disney 1949

# Do's and don'ts for safeguarding novelty



## Don'ts

- Do not publish any articles, press releases, conference presentations/ posters/ proceedings, lectures or blog posts, etc. before you file
- Do not sell any products incorporating the invention before you file



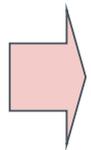
## Do's

- Sign a non-disclosure agreement (NDA)
- Seek professional advice at an early stage
- File before anyone else does!

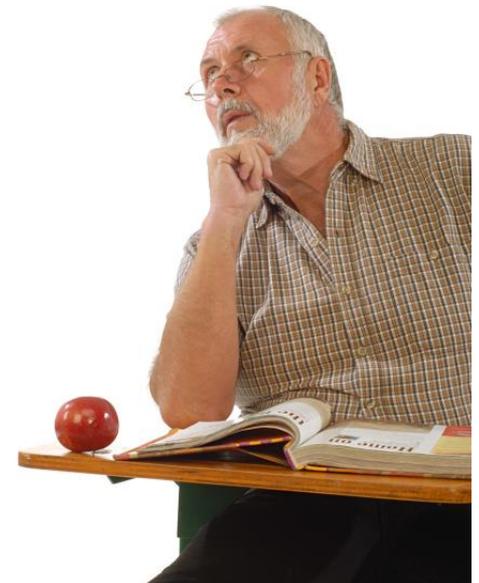
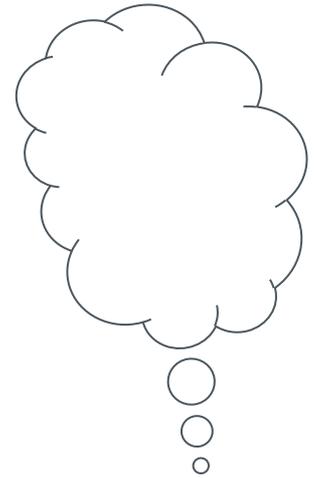


# When is an invention "inventive"?

- When it is not obvious to the person skilled in the art in view of the state of the art
- The person skilled in the art
  - is a skilled practitioner in the relevant technical field
  - has access to the entire state of the art
  - is aware of general technical knowledge
  - is capable of routine work



**He knows EVERYTHING,  
but has ZERO imagination!**



# Assessing novelty

Claim: A pouring vessel comprising  
(a) a compartment for liquids (1),  
(b) a handle (2),  
(c) a lid, and  
(d) two spouts (5) extending from the compartment (1),  
(e) whereby the tops of the two spouts are arranged at the same height.



*Fig. 1.*

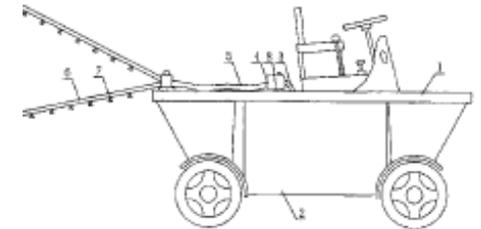
Stage 1: Prior art

The prior art search revealed the following documents:

**Document D1:**  
A teapot with one spout.



**Document D2:**  
High efficiency distributor for fertilizer. Each rod has several nozzles for spraying liquid.



**Document D3:**  
A filter handle with two spouts to be used with a coffee-maker.



**Document D4:**  
An oil and vinegar bottle which reveals a second bottle inside. The two spouts are cleverly arranged to ensure the second bottle never drips while the first one is in use.



# Assessing inventive step (I)

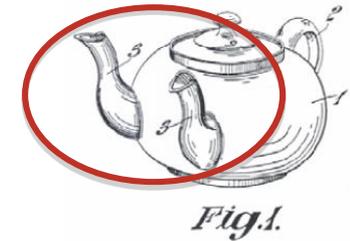
Stage 1

- Determine the closest prior art and common features:
  - (a) a compartment for liquids
  - (b) a handle
  - (c) a lid
  - (d) one spout



Stage 2: Problem

- Differences over D1:
  - two spouts instead of one
  - particular arrangement of the spouts
- Drawback of prior art:
  - time-consuming
- Advantage/effect of the invention:
  - the time needed to fill multiple cups is reduced
- Objective problem to solve:
  - how to modify the teapot of D1 to reduce the time needed to fill multiple cups



# Assessing inventive step (II)

Is the claimed solution obvious in view of the prior art?

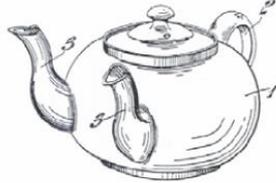
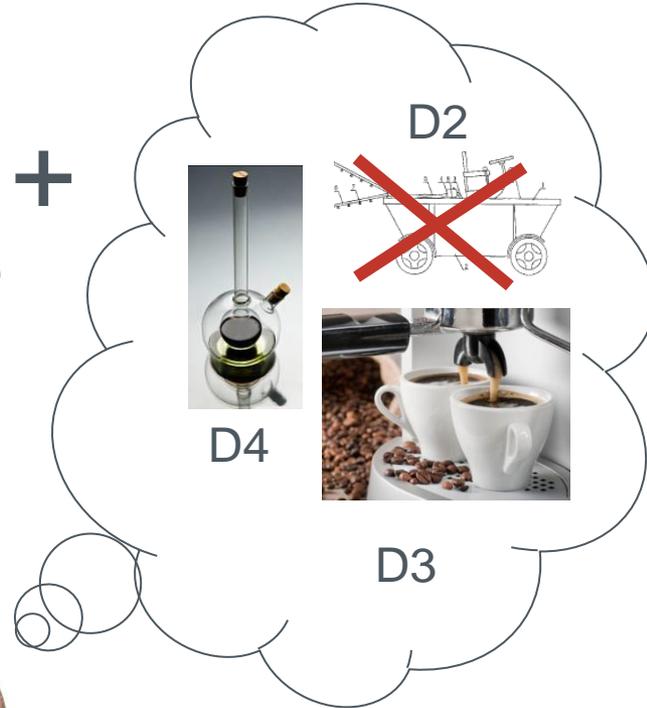


Fig. 1.



+



Objective problem for the skilled person: How to modify the teapot of D1 in order to reduce the time needed to fill multiple cups



# Programs for computers

- Program for a computer "as such" is excluded from patentability (Article 52(2)(c) EPC), but...
- Not excluded from patentability if, when running on a computer, it causes a further "technical effect" going beyond the "normal" physical interaction between the program (software) and the computer (hardware)
- Programs for computers are therefore not automatically excluded from patentability

# Requirements for a patentable invention

1. Novelty (demonstration)
2. Inventive step
3. Susceptible of industrial application
4. Sufficient written description

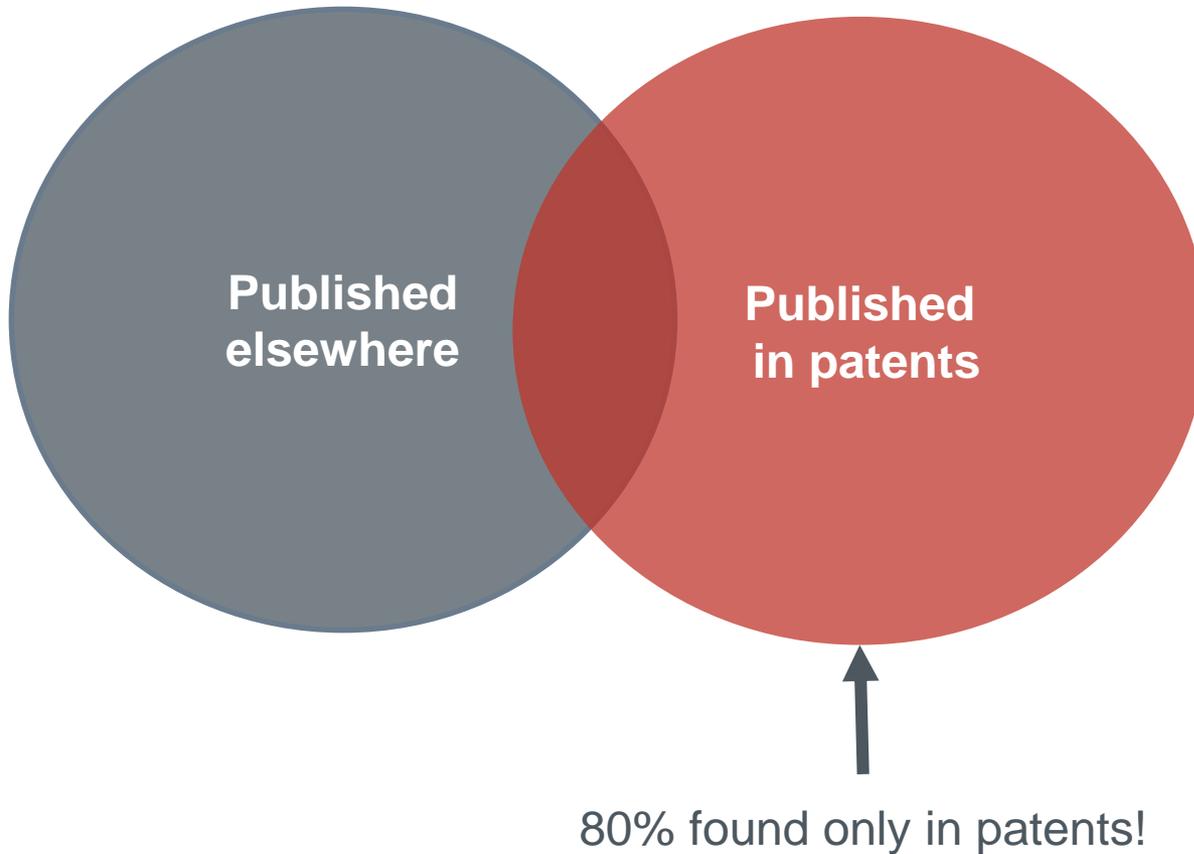
# Rights conferred by the patent

- **Prevent others** from making, using, offering for sale, selling or importing infringing products **in the country where the patent was granted**
- **Sell these rights** or conclude licensing contracts
- For up to **20 years** from the date of filing of the patent application

The patent does **not** grant the **right to use** the invention!

*A patent search  
is indispensable!!!*

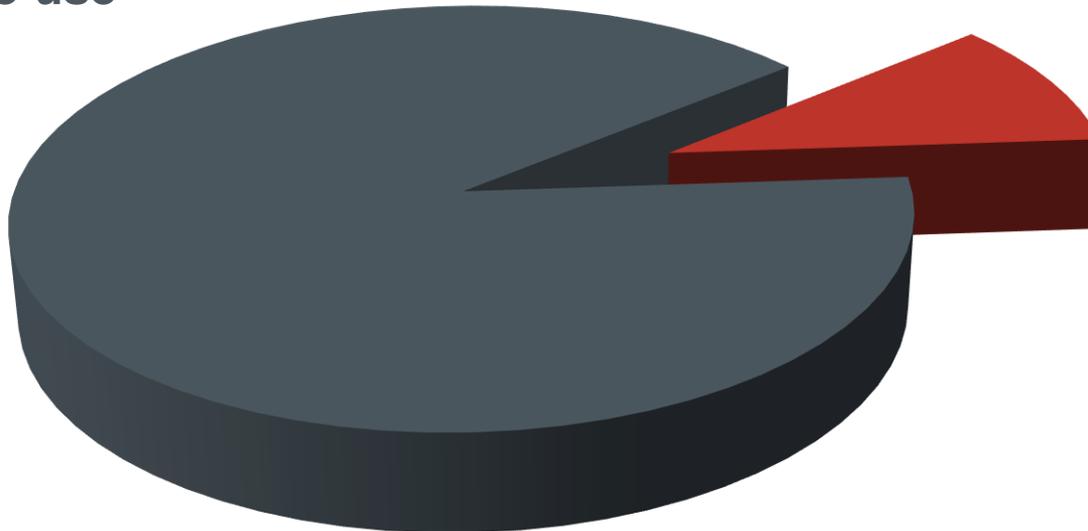
# Much information only available in patents



Where do secretive competitors publish their R&D?

# Solutions found in patent documents

90%  
Free to use



10%  
Protected

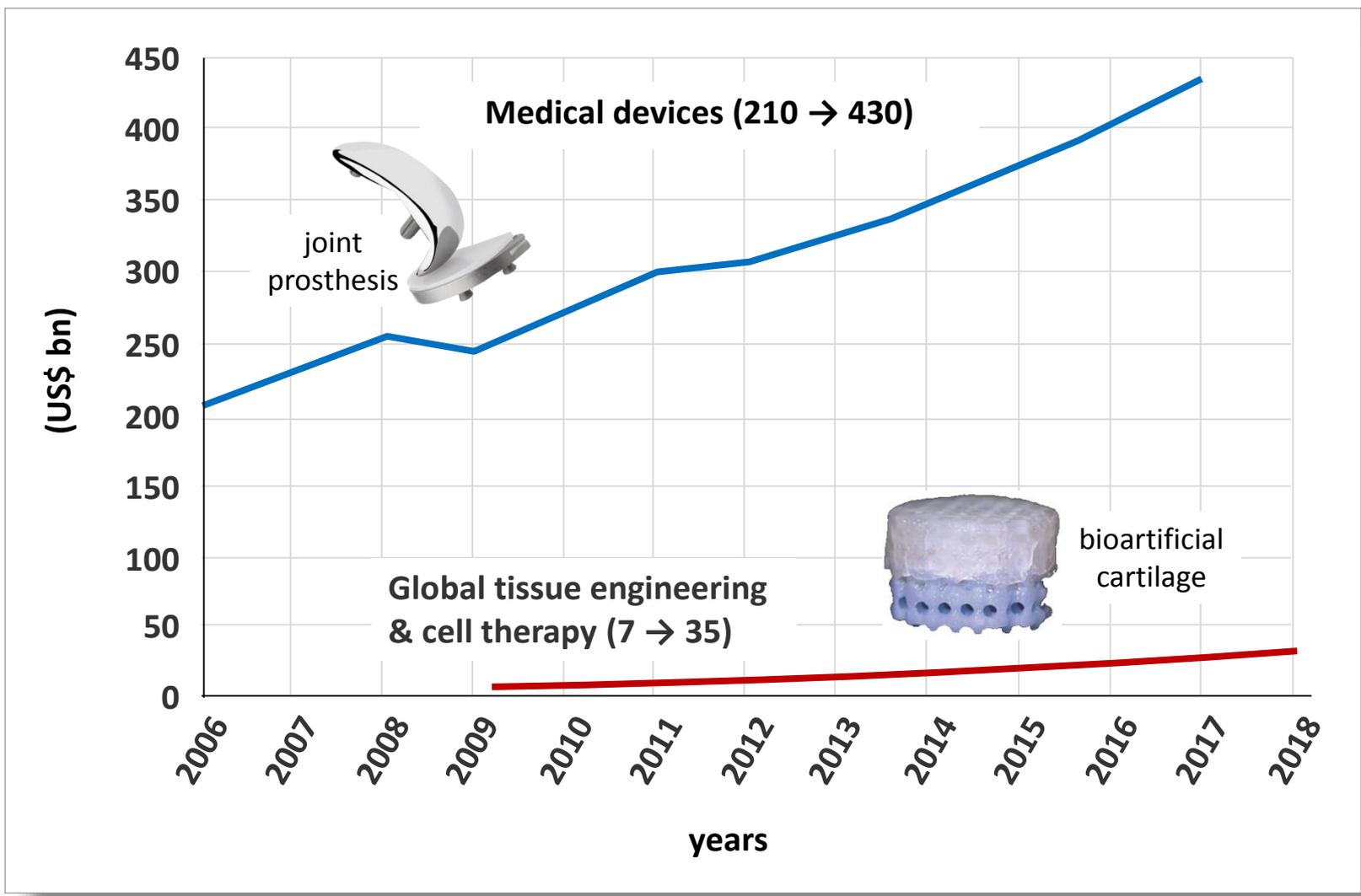
You can find many great solutions for free!

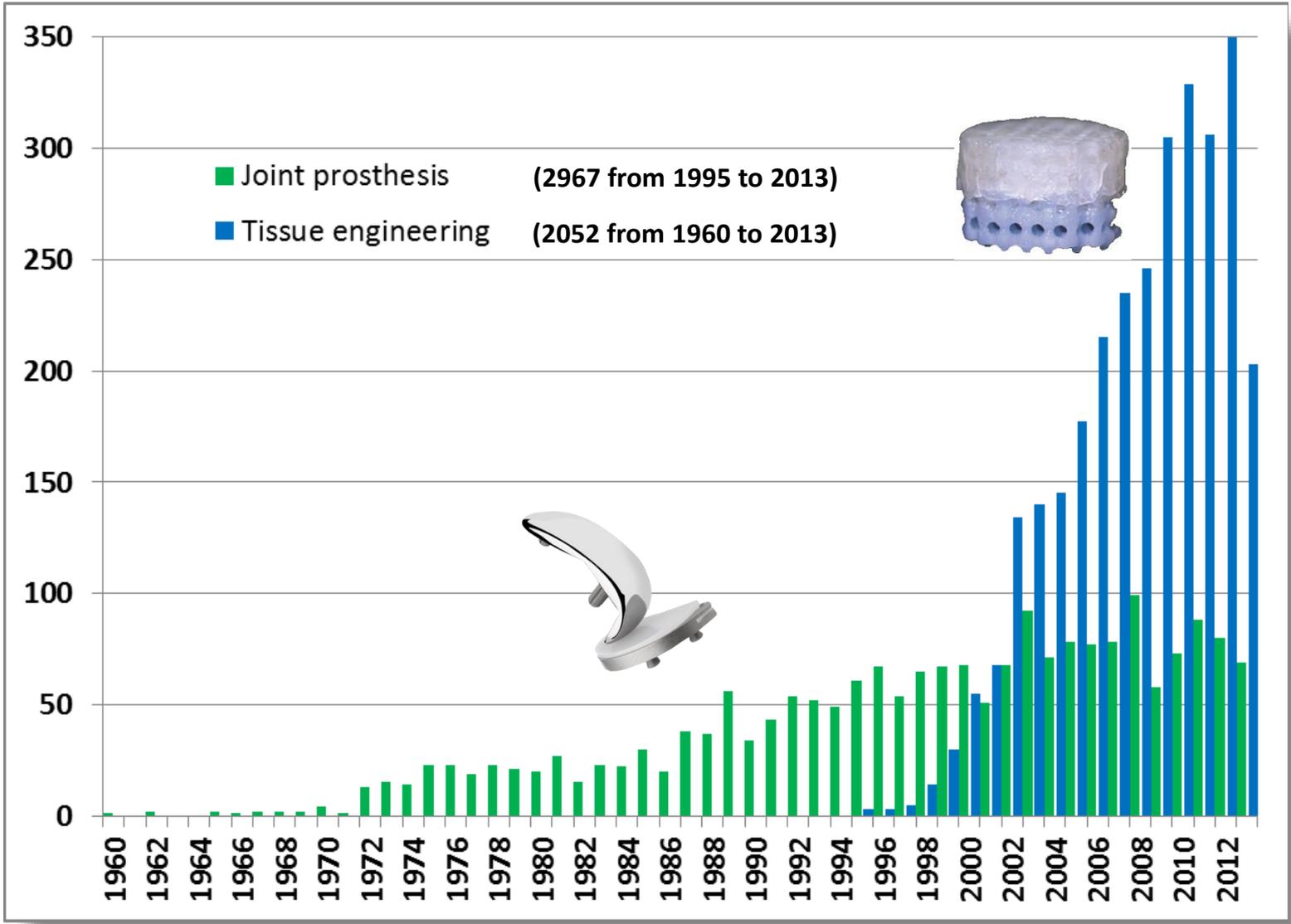


joint prosthesis

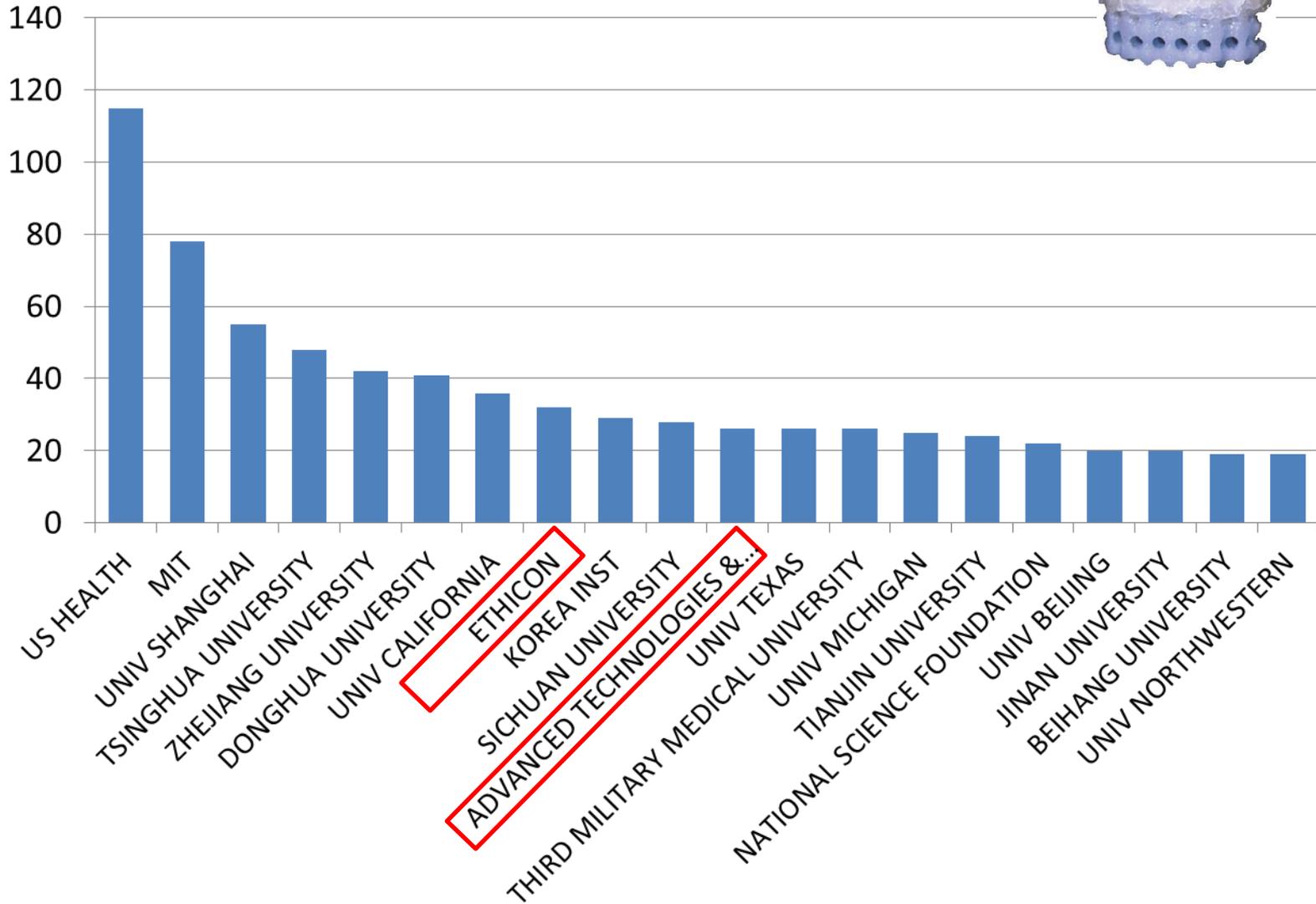


bioartificial cartilage



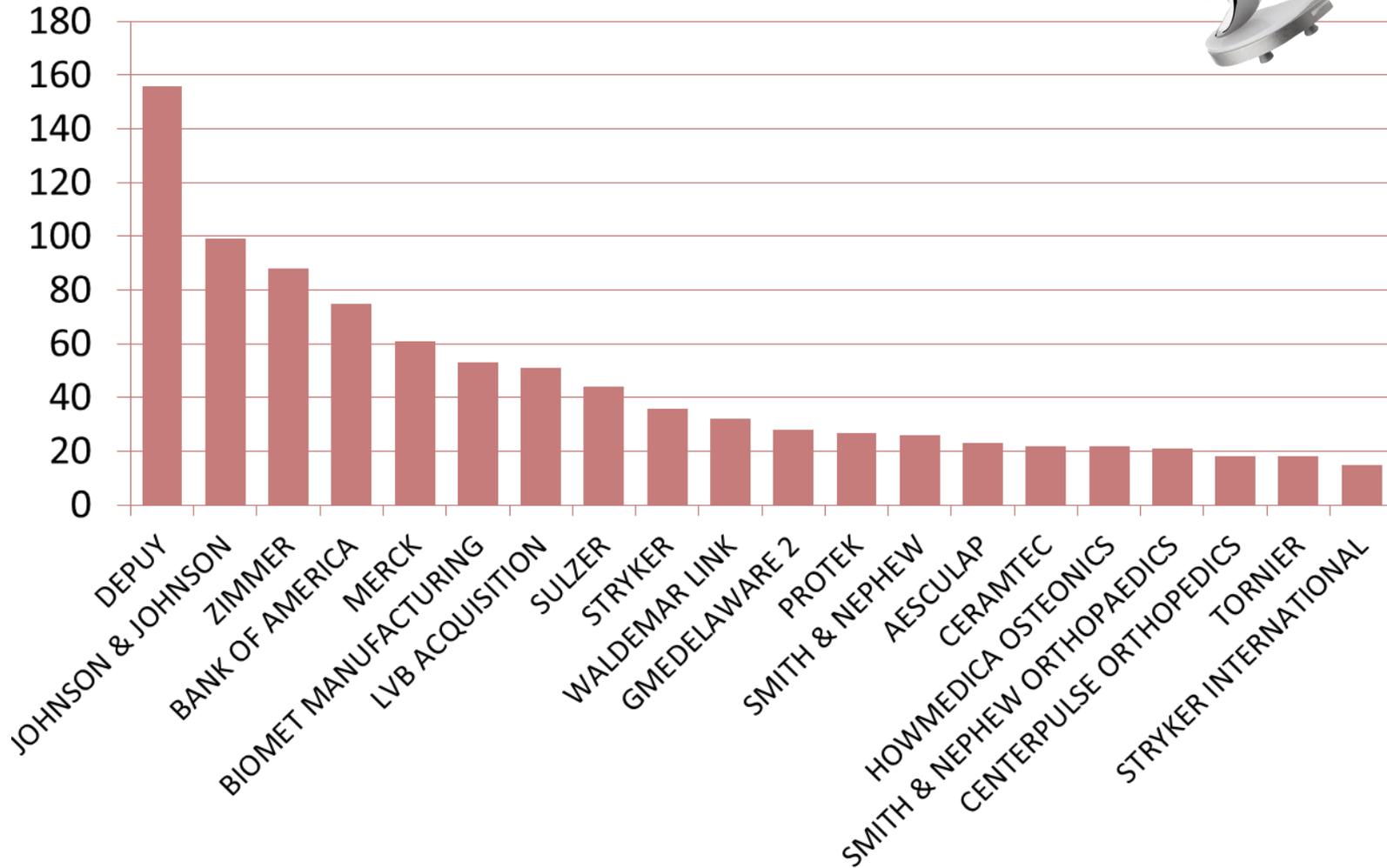


first 20 patent applicants "tissue engineering"

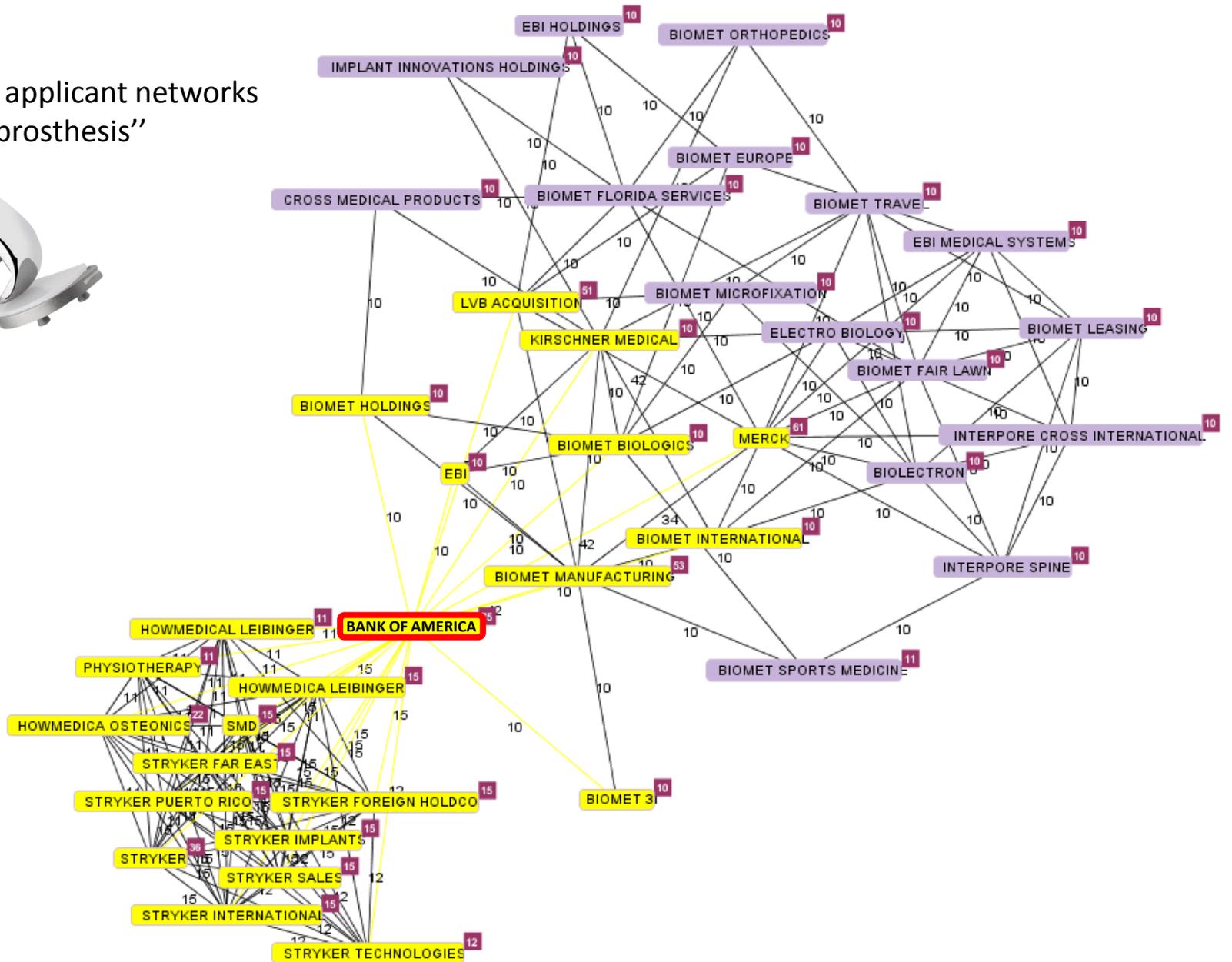




first 20 patent applicants "joint prosthesis"



patent applicant networks  
"joint prosthesis"



# Life of a Stanford Invention





Stanford inventions begin as nascent ideas

supported by over **\$1 billion per year** of funding  
for research across 7 schools and SLAC.

## Big Picture

Stanford Budget FY13-14:

\$4.8B Total

\$1.35B for research

\$931.6M of gifts (FY13)

\$18.7B Endowment

OTL \$87.0M income in FY13



Stanford has over **15,000 students** and over **2,000 faculty** members that teach and conduct research.

## Disclosures

Then. . .

28 in 1970

Now. . .

502 in 2013

9,897 cumulative

# Licenses

Then. . .

3 in 1970

Now. . .

103 in FY13

~1200 active licenses from ~3500 active inventions

~3300 cumulative licenses

some inventions have many licensees

# Income

Then...

\$50K in 1970

Now...

\$87.0M in FY13

~\$1.6B cumulative

Big Winners...

Cohen-Boyer Recombinant DNA (\$255M)

Google (\$339M)

Functional Antibodies (\$426M)



ECONOMY VALUES  
PLAN RESULTS SKILLS  
QUALITY LEADERSHIP  
IDEAS SUCCESS GOALS MONEY  
SOLUTIONS BUSINESS TRAINING  
FUTURE FINANCE  
PARTNERSHIP STRATEGY RISK  
GROWTH INNOVATION MANAGEMENT MARKET  
EXCELLENCE PRODUCTIVITY  
TEAMWORK VISION

Since 1970, Stanford inventions have generated ~  
\$1.6 Billion in licensing income, **BUT**

**only 3 out of 10,000** inventions was a big winner  
and **only 75** have generated over \$1 million.

## Most Income Comes from a Few Dockets

622 inventions generated income in FY13

```
graph TD; A[622 inventions generated income in FY13] --> B[42 of those generated over $100K]; B --> C[6 of those generated over $1M]; C --> D[1 invention generated over $55M];
```

42 of those generated over \$100K

6 of those generated over \$1M

1 invention generated over  
\$55M

## Licensing Takes Time

10 to 15 years can elapse between initial invention disclosure and significant royalties

## OTL Shares the Royalties

After deductions for overhead (15%) and expenses, the net cash royalties are divided:

1/3 to inventors

1/3 to inventors' departments

1/3 to inventors' school



## Background: OTL and the Bayh-Dole Act

~83% of research at Stanford is funded by the U.S. government

Bayh-Dole Act: Federal law that created uniform patent policy regarding inventions made under federally-funded research program.  
(Council on Governmental Relations publications on intellectual property)