Patent Databases: Glossary

Database title

Name of the database, example: PATENTSCOPE

Database package

Name of the package (a specific set of features) of the database, example: Bronze

Provider

Name of the database provider, example: World Intellectual Property Organization

Database languages

Languages in which interfaces are available for the database

Website URL

URL of the database (either the landing page or direct database page), example: http://patentscope.wipo.int

Coverage

Specific countries or regional/international systems for which data is available in the database and extent of data which is available for each

- **Bibliographic data:** The extent of data available for a given country or regional/international system includes at least one of the following: application number, publication number, patent number, filing date, grant data, applicant name, inventor name, patent classification

- **Partial text:** The extent of data available for a given country or regional/international system includes at least one of the following (but not all): title, abstract, description, claims

- **Full text:** The extent of data available for a given country or regional/international system includes all of the following (where applicable in the given patent system): title, abstract, description, claims

Alerts

- **Legal status:** Notifications of changes to the procedural status of a patent right in patent-granting process or during the lifetime of a patent (e.g. by RSS, email, in-system notification) can be received

- **Search results:** Notifications of changes in the set of documents retrieved by a specific search query (e.g. by RSS, email, in-system notification) can be received

General search tools

- **Cross-lingual semantic search:** Search queries can be expanded to include variants and related terms in multiple languages based on user-entered query terms (taking into account the context of the search)

- **Non-Latin character search:** Search queries can be entered using non-Latin characters (e.g. Chinese, Cyrillic, Japanese, Korean) for at least one field (e.g. applicant name)

- **Search history queries:** Search queries can incorporate previous queries by reference to the latter queries in the search history (e.g. $1 AND $2, where $1 and $2 represent queries in the search history).

- **Semantic search:** Search queries can be expanded to include variants and related terms based on user-entered query terms (taking into account the context of the search)

- **Similarity search:** Search queries can be expanded to lexically similar query terms in a query based on user-entered query terms

Classification

- **Cooperative Patent Classification**: Patent documents can be searched on the basis of patent classification symbols from the Cooperative Patent Classification scheme. See: https://worldwide.espacenet.com/classification,
see: https://www.uspto.gov/web/patents/classification/cpc/html/cpc.html

- **Classification:** FI/F-Terms Patent documents can be searched on the basis of patent classification symbols from the File Index (FI) and File Forming Terms (F-Terms) system. See: https://www.jpo.go.jp/e/system/patent/gaiyo/seido-bunrui/

- **Classification:** International Patent Classification Patent documents can be searched on the basis of patent classification symbols from the International Patent Classification scheme. See: http://www.wipo.int/ipcpub

- **Classification:** US Patent Classification Patent documents can be searched on the basis of patent classification symbols from the US Patent Classification system. See: https://www.uspto.gov/web/patents/classification/uspcindex/indextouspc.htm

- **Other:** Patent documents can be searched on the basis of patent classification symbols from one or more patent classification systems not otherwise covered

Analysis

- **Graphical**: A summary of data from a set of documents can be presented in a graphical format. Example: pie chart, line graph, histogram, topographical map, network map

- **Statistical**: A summary of data from a set of documents can be presented as statistics. Example: top applicants, most cited documents

Analysis data

Applicant and/or inventor Names of applicants and/or inventors in a set of documents can be analyzed statistically and/or graphically

- **Citation:** References between patent and/or non-patent documents made by a patent applicant and/or patent examiner in a set of documents can be analyzed statistically and/or graphically

- **Classification:** Patent classification symbols from one or more patent classification schemes in a set of documents can be analyzed statistically and/or graphically. Example: International Patent Classification, Cooperative Patent Classification

- **Dates:** Filing dates, publication dates, and/or grant dates in a set of documents can be analyzed statistically and/or graphically

- **Invention text:** Title, abstract, description, claims, and/or indexing keywords in a set of documents can be analyzed statistically and/or graphically

Value-added data

- **Harmonized titles and/or abstracts:** Database content includes titles and/or abstracts prepared according to a harmonized methodology (e.g. structure, terminology). Example: DWPI Titles, DWPI Abstracts

- **Standardized applicant names**: Database content includes applicant designations (e.g. names, codes, numbers) uniquely and consistently representing specific applicants

- **Standardized ID numbers**: Database content includes ID numbers (application numbers, publication numbers, patent numbers) formatted according to a single standardized system of numbering (e.g. following WIPO Standard ST.13)

Non-patent content

- **Industrial designs**: Database content includes rights covering ornamental aspects of an article
- **Non-patent literature**: Database content includes periodicals to be used for patent search and examination

Fee

The database (package) is available to the public at a cost (Fee paying) or no cost (Free)

ASPI

The database (package) is made available through the Access to Specialized Patent Information (ASPI) program. See: https://www.wipo.int/aspi

Biological sequence

- **BLAST:** Biological sequences in search queries can be processed and compared for similarity to biological sequences disclosed in documents using the Basic Local Alignment Search Tool (BLAST)

- **FASTA:** Biological sequences in search queries can be processed and compared for similarity to biological sequences disclosed in documents using the FAST-All (FASTA) program

Chemical structure search

- **Draw structures:** Search queries for chemical compounds can be entered by drawing chemical structures

- **Import structures:** Search queries for chemical compounds can be entered by uploading data files (e.g. MDL Molfile)

- **Identity search:** Search queries can be carried out to retrieve documents disclosing chemical compounds exactly matching chemical compounds in the queries

- **Similarity search:** Search queries can be carried out to retrieve documents disclosing chemical compounds similar to chemical compounds in the query

- **Substructure search:** Search queries can be carried out to retrieve documents disclosing chemical compounds encompassing chemical compounds (substructures) in the query

- **Superstructure search:** Search queries can be carried out to retrieve documents disclosing chemical compounds encompassed by chemical compounds (superstructures) in the query

- **Markush structure search:** Search queries can be carried out to retrieve documents disclosing chemical compounds as Markush structures (representing a set of related chemical compounds) matching chemical compounds in the query

Collaboration tools

- **Shared workfiles:** Sets of documents (e.g. sets of search results), summaries, queries, and/or notes can be shared by multiple users of the patent database

Patent family data

- **Artificial:** Patent documents can be grouped by patent families consisting of a collection of equivalent patent documents (i.e., documents relating to the same invention) published by different offices and at least some of which do not share a common originating application or applications (or where data relating to such a common originating application is not disclosed).
  See: https://www.wipo.int/export/sites/www/standards/en/pdf/08-01-01.pdf

- **Complex:** Patent documents can be grouped by patent families relating to the same invention or to several inventions sharing a common aspect, each member of which has for the basis of its "priority right" at least one originating application in common with the other members of the family.
  See: https://www.wipo.int/export/sites/www/standards/en/pdf/08-01-01.pdf

- **Extended:** Patent documents can be grouped by patent families relating to one or more inventions, each member of which has for the basis of its "priority right" at least one originating application in common with at least one other member of the family.
  See: https://www.wipo.int/export/sites/www/standards/en/pdf/08-01-01.pdf

- **Simple:** Patent documents can be grouped by patent families relating to the same invention, each member of which has for the basis of its "priority right" exactly the same originating application or applications.
  See: https://www.wipo.int/export/sites/www/standards/en/pdf/08-01-01.pdf

General operators

- **Anti-proximity:** Operators can be used in search queries to define the minimum distance between query terms in search results, example: NOT NEAR, NOT WITHIN

- **Boolean:** Operators can be used in search queries to determine the inclusion or exclusion of query terms in search results, example: AND, OR, ANDNOT, NOT, XOR

- **Comparison:** Operators can be used in search queries to define the value or set of values (usually numerical) that must be present in search results based on a comparison with the value of a query term, example: Equal to, larger than, smaller than, larger or equal to, smaller or equal to, between

- **Proximity:** Operators can be used in search queries to define the maximum distance between query terms in search results, example: NEAR, BEFORE, WITHIN, SENTENCE, PARAGRAPH

- **Special:** Operators can be used in search queries to otherwise define documents retrieved by a search query or the manner in which these documents are presented, example: query term weighting

- **Wildcard operators:** Operators representing a defined number of characters, expanding a user-defined query term to include lexically related terms, example: 0-1 characters, 1 character, or unlimited number of characters

Truncation

- **Center truncation:** Query terms can be truncated internally, with a variable part in the center and fixed character strings at the start and end of the term

- **Left truncation:** Query terms can be truncated on the left side, with a variable part at the start of the term and a fixed character string at the end of the term

- **Right truncation:** Query terms can be truncated on right side, with a variable part at the end of the term and a fixed character string at the end of the term

- **SLART:** Query terms can be simultaneous truncated on the left and right side, with variable parts at the start and end of the term and a fixed character string in the center

Results type

- **Annotation:** Notes can be added by the user to individual search results or sets of search results
- **Flagging:** Markers (e.g. flags, stars) can be added to search results
- **Keyword in context (KWIC) highlighting:** Defined terms (e.g. query terms) can be highlighted in search results
- **Keyword map:** Locations of defined terms (e.g. query terms) can be highlighted in a summary overview of the document
- **Machine translation:** Translations of documents or parts of documents can be generated on-the-fly
- **Sorting by relevance:** Search results can be sorted according to their relevance to the search query (e.g. by frequency of query terms)
- **Translated titles and/or abstracts:** Translations of titles and/or abstracts can be viewed within the database

Index lists

- **Applicant name:** An unstructured summary of applicant names can be viewed within the database
- **Corporate tree:** A structured summary of applicant names can be viewed within the database, organized according to the hierarchical relationships between applicants (e.g. parents, subsidiaries)
- **Field index search:** Terms indexed for specific fields in a database can be searched or browsed
- **Invention text:** A summary of terms in titles, abstracts, descriptions, claims, and/or indexing keywords can be viewed within the database

Data export

- **Bibliographic data:** Document-level data from at least one of the following fields can be exported from the database: at least one of the following: application number, publication number, patent number, filing date, grant data, applicant name, inventor name, patent classification

- **Citation:** Document-level data on from citation fields (applicant citations and/or patent examiner citations) can be exported from the database

- **Classification:** Document-level data from patent classification fields can be exported from the database

- **Description and/or claims:** Document-level data from description and/or claims fields can be exported from the database

- **Dossiers:** Dossiers (file wrappers), comprising scans of documents associated with the patent granting process (e.g. search reports, office actions, correspondence, forms, declarations), can be exported from the database

- **Full document scans:** Scans of full patent documents can be exported from the database

- **Legal status:** Document-level data from legal status fields (procedural status during the patent granting process or lifetime of the patent) can be exported from the database

- **Title and/or abstract:** Document-level data from title and/or abstract fields can be exported from the database