Patent Law

Prof. Roger Ford September 13, 2017 Class 5

Disclosure: Written Description

Recap

Recap

- \rightarrow The patent bargain and § 112
- → Patent breadth
- → Experimentation
- → Timing & speculation

Today's agenda

Today's agenda

- → Written description versus enablement
- → Written description: Timing and limitations on amendments
- → Written description: Scope and limitations on claim breadth

Written description versus enablement

(post-AIA) 35 U.S.C. § 112 — Specification

- (a) In General.— The specification shall contain a written description of the invention, and of the manner and process of making and using it, in such full, clear, concise, and exact terms as to enable any person skilled in the art to which it pertains, or with which it is most nearly connected, to make and use the same, and shall set forth the best mode contemplated by the inventor or joint inventor of carrying out the invention.
- (b) Conclusion.— The specification shall conclude with one or more claims particularly pointing out and distinctly claiming the subject matter which the inventor or a joint inventor regards as the invention. * * *

Disclosure requirements

- → § 112(a): Written description
- \rightarrow § 112(a): Enablement
- $\rightarrow \frac{§ 112(a): Best mode}{}$
- → § 112(b), (f): Definiteness

Disclosure requirements

- → § 112(a): Written description
- \rightarrow § 112(a): Enablement
- \rightarrow § 112(a): Best mode
- → § 112(b), (f): Definiteness

Ariad v. Eli Lilly

→ Ariad's reading of § 112:

The specification shall contain:

- [1] A written description
 - [a] of the invention, and
- [b] of the manner and process of making and using it,

in such full, clear, concise, and exact terms as to enable any person skilled in the art to which it pertains, or with which it is most nearly connected, to make and use the same ...

\rightarrow Eli Lilly's reading of § 112:

The specification shall contain a written description:

[a] of the invention, and

[b] of the manner and process of making and using it, in such full, clear, concise, and exact terms as to enable any person skilled in the art to which it pertains, or with which it is most nearly connected, to make and use the same ...

"We agree with Lilly and read the statute to give effect to its language that the specification 'shall contain a written description of the invention' and hold that § 112, first paragraph, contains **two separate description requirements**: a 'written description [i] of the **invention**, and [ii] of the **manner and process of making and using** [the invention']."

Ariad, Merges & Duffy at 305 (citations omitted)

Written description versus enablement

- → Enablement: Would someone of ordinary skill in the art be able to know how to implement the invention?
- Written description: Does the patent make clear that the inventor invented ("possessed") the full scope of the invention at the time of filing?

Written description

→ What purposes does the separate written-description requirement serve?

Enablement

→ Three big purposes:

- <u>Bargain</u> advance the state of the art so society gets technical knowledge for future inventors to use
- <u>Timing</u> ensure the right person gets the patent and the invention is sufficiently concrete and advanced to warrant a patent
- Scope ensure patentee gets rights commensurate with actual contribution

Written description

→ Enablement:

 <u>Bargain</u> – advance the state of the art so society gets technical knowledge for future inventors to use

→ Written description:

 <u>Bargain</u> — make clear what exactly the inventor actually contributed to the public

Written description

→ Enablement:

 <u>Timing</u> — ensure the right person gets the patent and the invention is sufficiently concrete and advanced to warrant a patent

→ Written description:

 <u>Timing</u> — ensure the right person had invented the invention when she filed for a patent

Written description

→ Enablement:

 Scope – ensure a patentee gets rights commensurate with actual contribution

→ Written description:

 Scope – ensure a patentee gets rights commensurate with intended contribution

Written description versus enablement

- → Three roles, then:
 - Scope had the inventor <u>really</u> <u>invented it</u>?
 - Timing had the inventor really invented it by the time of filing?
 - Bargain did the inventor <u>make clear</u> to the <u>public what she had invented</u>?

Timing: Limitations on amendments

35 U.S.C. § 112 — Specification (post-AIA)

(a) In General.— The specification shall contain a written description of the invention, and of the manner and process of making and using it, in such full, clear, concise, and exact terms as to enable any person skilled in the art to which it pertains, or with which it is most nearly connected, to make and use the same, and shall set forth the best mode contemplated by the inventor or joint inventor of carrying out the invention.

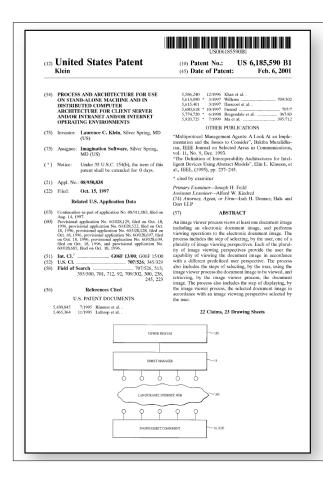
* * *

35 U.S.C. § 120 — Benefit of Earlier Filing Date in the United States (Post-AIA)

An application for patent for an invention disclosed in the manner provided by section 112(a) (other than the requirement to disclose the best mode) in an application previously filed in the United States, * * * which names an inventor or joint inventor in the previously filed application shall have the same effect, as to such invention, as though filed on the date of the prior application, if filed before the patenting or abandonment of or termination of proceedings on the first application or on an application similarly entitled to the benefit of the filing date of the first application and if it contains or is amended to contain a specific reference to the earlier filed application. * * *

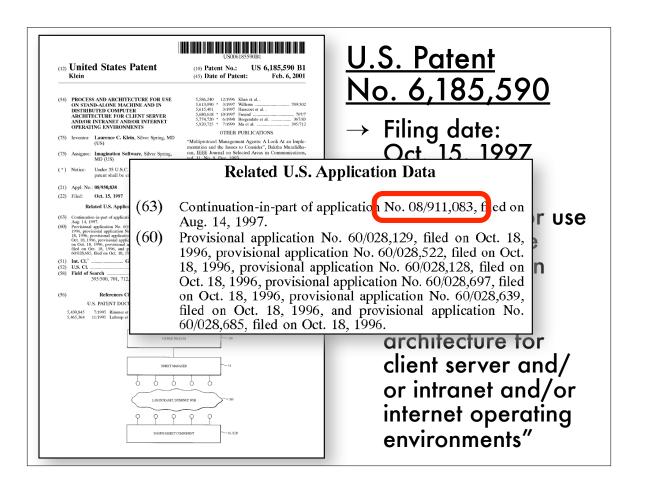
35 U.S.C. § 132 — Notice of rejection; reexamination (Post-AIA)

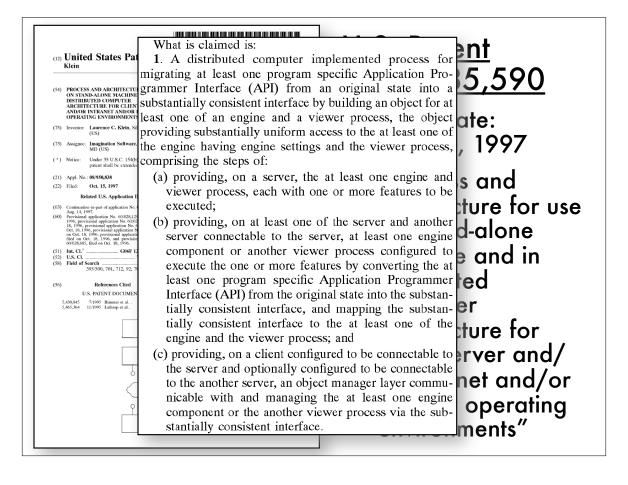
(a) Whenever, on examination, any claim for a patent is rejected, or any objection or requirement made, the Director shall notify the applicant thereof, stating the reasons for such rejection, or objection or requirement, together with such information and references as may be useful in judging of the propriety of continuing the prosecution of his application; and **if after receiving such notice**, **the applicant persists** in his claim for a patent, **with or without amendment**, the application shall be reexamined. **No amendment shall introduce** new matter into the disclosure of the invention. * * *



<u>U.S. Patent</u> No. 6,185,590

- → Filing date: Oct. 15, 1997
- → "Process and architecture for use on stand-alone machine and in distributed computer architecture for client server and/or intranet and/or internet operating environments"





(10) Patent No.: US 6,771,381 B1 (45) Date of Patent: Aug. 3, 2004

(12) United States Patent

(76) Inventor: Laurence C. Klein, 1010 Wayne Ave., Silver Spring, MD (US) 20910

(*) Notice: Subject to any disclaimer, the term of this patent is extended or adjusted under 35 U.S.C. 154(b) by 0 days.

(21) Appl. No.: 09/438,300

Related U.S. Application Data
(60) Provisional application No. 60/108,798, filed on Nov. 13, 1998.

(60) Provisional application No. 001/185/98, filed on Nov. 15, 1998.
(51) Int. Cl. Gold K. 15/00 (52) U.S. Cl. 358V.1.15, 358V.1.1 (58) Field of Search 388V.1.1, 1.6, 11.3, 358V.1.5, 1.16, 402, 403, 407, 425; 7108, 14, 15, 33, 62, 63, 64, 65, 72, 73

References Cited U.S. PATENT DOCUMENTS

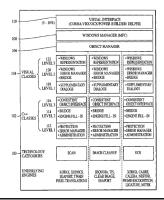
* cited by examiner

Primary Examiner—Arthur G. Evans (74) Attorney, Agent, or Firm—Irah H. Donner, Esq.; Wilmer, Cutter, Pickering Hale and Dorr LLP

ABSTRACT

(57) AISTRACT

The purpose of the Virtual Copier invention ("VC") is to enable a typical PC user to add electronic paper processing to their existing business process. VC is an extension of the concept we understand as copying, in its simplest form it extends the notion of copying from a process that involves paper going through a conventional copier device, to a one location and copied to a device at another location. In it can be concept to the control of the copy paper from a device at one location directly into a business application residing on a network or on the Internet, or visa versa. The VC invention is software that manages paper so that it can be electronically and seamlessly copied in and out of devices and business applications. (such as Microsoft Offsic, Microsoft Exchange, Lotus Notes) with an optional single-step Go operation. The VC software can reside on a PC. LANWAMS arrext, digital device, does has a digital copier, LANWAMS arrext, digital device, does has a digital copier, LANWAMS arrext, digital device, does has a digital copier, LONGING College AM Devictor Section 1981.



U.S. Patent No. 6,771,381

- → Filing date: Nov. 12, 1999
- → "Distributed computer architecture and process for virtual copying"

(12) United States Patent

(45) Date of Patent:

(54) DISTRIBUTED COMPUTER ARCHITECTURE (56) AND PROCESS FOR VIRTUAL COPYING

- (76) Inventor: Laurence C. Klein, 1010 Wayne Ave., Silver Spring, MD (US) 20910
- (*) Notice: Subject to any disclaimer, the term of this patent is extended or adjusted under 35 U.S.C. 154(b) by 964 days.

This patent is subject to a terminal dis-claimer.

- (21) Appl. No.: 10/874,172
- (22) Filed: Jun. 24, 2004

Related U.S. Application Data

- (63) Continuation of application No. 09/438,300, filed on Nov. 12, 1999, now Pat. No. 6,771,381.
- (60) Provisional application No. 60/108,798, filed on Nov. 13, 1998.

- (51) Int. Cl.

 G06F 3122 (2006.01)

 G06F 1520 (2006.01)

 (52) U.S. Cl. (2006.01)

 S8VL15; 358VL1

 (58) Field of Classification Search ... 358VL1

 S8VB 15, 113, 113, 116, 402, 403, 407, 358VB 21, 118, 12, 13, 14, 15, 17, 18, 38VB 21, 111, 121, 141, 147, 408, 7108,

References Cited

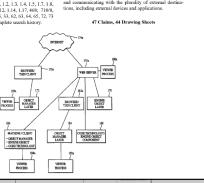
5,303,336	Λ	*	4/1994	Kageyama et al	358/1.15
5,666,495	\mathbf{A}	*	9/1997	Yeh	710/303
5,689,625	Α	*	11/1997	Austin et al	358/1.15
5,754,747	Α	*	5/1998	Reilly et al	358/1.15
5,761,396	Α	*	6/1998	Austin et al	358/1.15
6.401.150	RI	٠	6/2002	Poilly	710/104

* cited by examiner

Primary Examiner—Dov Popovici
(74) Attorney. Agent, or Firm—Thomas, Kayden,
Horstemeyer & Risley LLP

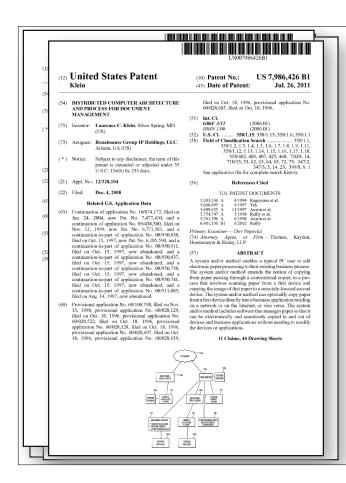
ABSTRACT

A computer data management system is capable of transmit-ting one or move of an electronic image, electronic graphics and electronic document to external destinations including one or move of external devices and applications. The com-puter data management system includes at least one memory storing a plurality of interface protocols for interfacing and communicating and at least one processor. The processor is communicating and at least one processor. The processor is interface protocols as a software application for interfacing and communicating with the plurality of external destina-tions, including external devices and applications.



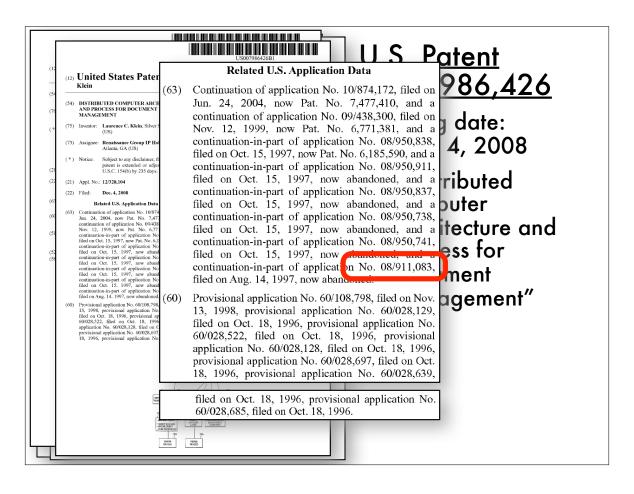
U.S. Patent No. 7,477,410

- → Filing date: June 24, 2004
- → "Distributed computer architecture and process for virtual copying"



<u>U.S. Patent</u> <u>No. 7,986,426</u>

- → Filing date: Dec. 4, 2008
- → "Distributed computer architecture and process for document management"



ent What is claimed is: 1. A computer data management system including at least (12) United States one of an electronic image, graphics and document management system capable of transmitting at least one of an electronic image, electronic graphics and electronic document to a plurality of external destinations including one or more of external destinations including one or more of external destinations. , 2008 external devices and applications responsively connectable to at least one of locally and via Internet, comprising: at least one scanner, digital copier or other multifunction buted (21) Appl. No.: 12/328,104 peripheral capable of rendering at least one of said elec-(22) Filed: Dec. 4, 2008 tronic image, electronic graphics and electronic docu-Related U.S. App ment: at least one memory storing a plurality of interface proto- cture and cols for interfacing and communicating; s for at least one processor responsively connectable to said at least one memory, and implementing the plurality of ent interface protocols as a software application for interfacing and communicating with the plurality of external gement" destinations including the one or more of the external devices and applications, wherein the computer data management system includes integration of at least one of said electronic image, electronic graphics and electronic document using software so that said electronic image, electronic graphics and electronic document gets seamlessly replicated and transmitted to at least one of said plurality of external destinations.

To assist you in confirming that you need a license, we provide you an example of an infringing system (of at least certain claims of the patents) below in the form of a brief checklist that you can use to determine if your system is one for which you should contact us about a license. If you can answer "YES" to each question under the scenario below, then you should contact us.

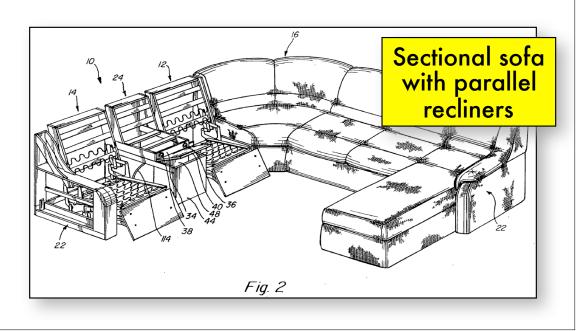
contact us.								
Yes	No	Int	ternetworking of Scanner/MFP and Email					
		1.	Does your company use document scanning equipment that is network addressable (i.e., it has an IP address and can communicate on your network);					
		2.	Does your company use Microsoft Exchange/Outlook, Lotus Domino/Notes or a comparable system for company email;					
		3.	Are at least some of your employees' email addresses loaded into the scanner, so that you can select to whom you wish to send a scanned document by email; or, alternatively, can you manually input an employee's email address into the scanner to whom you wish a scanned document to be sent; and					
		4.	Can you cause your scanner to transform your paper document to a .pdf file, and have it automatically transmitted to one or more of your employees by email. By automatically, we mean that pressing a "Start" or "Go" button instigates both the copying of the document and the automatic transmission of the document to its intended destination (such as a Microsoft Outlook email inbox)					

"While they are engaged in this process of negotiating and amending, patent lawyers also keep an eye on the inventor's follow-up research and the market into which the invention has found (or will find) its way. As events unfold in these corners, the lawyer may tailor the more narrowly drafted claims to cover the embodiments subsequently found to be promising by either the inventor or the inventor's competitors."

Merges & Duffy, *Patent Law and Policy: Cases & Materials* (6th ed.), at 291







→ Accused infringer

 "In the allegedly infringing sofas, the recliners were separated by a seat which has a back cushion that may be pivoted down onto the seat, so that the seat back may serve as a tabletop between the recliners."



→ So what was wrong with the claims? Why were they invalidated?

- → So what was wrong with the claims? Why were they invalidated?
 - They were too broad, at least as construed by the court
 - They covered sofas with controls in places other than the fixed console

- → So what was wrong with the claims? Why were they invalidated?
 - Note: the specification was probably enabling!
 - Someone of ordinary skill in the art could probably figure out how to mount the control somewhere else

Written description

- → Timing:
 - Prevent inventors from later claiming things they did not describe in their initial disclosure
 - Ensuring patent-holder only receives exclusivity to what he/she actually invented

What is claimed is:

- 1. A sectional sofa comprising:
- a pair of reclining seats disposed in parallel relationship with one another in a double reclining seat sofa section. said double reclining seat sofa section being without an arm at one end whereby a second sofa section of the sectional sofa can be placed in abutting relationship with the end of the double reclining seat sofa section without an arm so as to form a continuation thereof,
- each of said reclining seats having a backrest and seat cushion and movable between upright and reclined positions, said backrests and seat cushions of the pair of reclining sets lying in respective common planes when the seats are in the same positions.
- a fixed console disposed in the double reclining seat sofa section between the pair of reclining seats and with the console and reclining seats together comprising a unitary structure,
- the reclining seats, said arm rests remaining fixed when the reclining seats move from one to another of their positions,
- and a pair of control means, one for each reclining seat; mounted on the double reclining seat sofa section and each readily accessible to an occupant of its respective reclining seat and when actuated causing the respective reclining seat to move from the upright to the reclined position.

"In this case, the original disclosure clearly identifies the console as the **only possible location** for the controls. It provides for only the most minor variation in the location of the controls, noting that the control 'may be mounted on top or side surfaces of the console rather than on the front wall ... without departing from this invention.' No similar variation beyond the console is even suggested. Additionally, the **only discernible purpose** for the console is to house the controls. As the disclosure states, identifying the only purpose relevant to the console, '[a]nother object of the present invention is to provide ... a console positioned between [the reclining seats] that accommodates the controls for both of the reclining seats.' Thus, locating the controls anywhere but on the console is outside the stated purpose of the invention." Nard 141 (citations omitted)

Written description versus enablement

- → Enablement: Would someone of ordinary skill in the art be able to know how to implement the invention?
- → Written description: Does the patent make clear that the inventor invented ("possessed") the full scope of the invention at the time of filing?

"For greater clarity on this point, consider the case where the specification discusses only compound A and contains no broadening language of any kind. This might very well enable one skilled in the art to make and use compounds B and C; yet the class consisting of A, B and C has not been described."

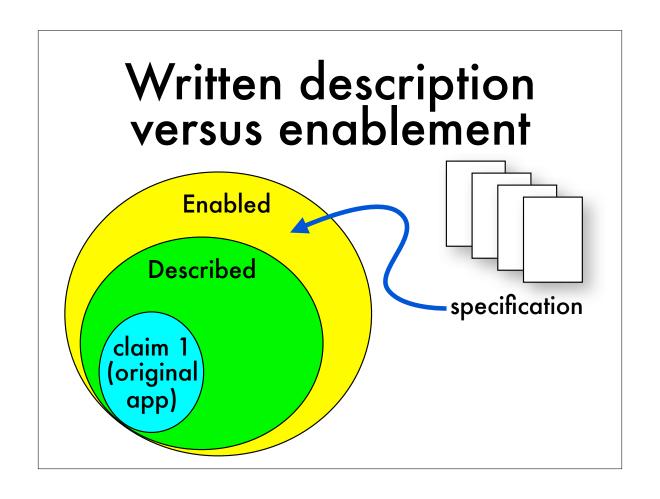
In re DiLeone, 436 F.2d 1404, 1405 n.1 (C.C.P.A. 1971)

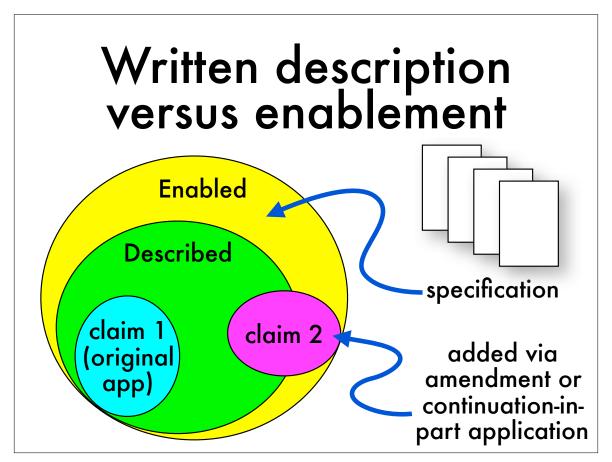
Written description

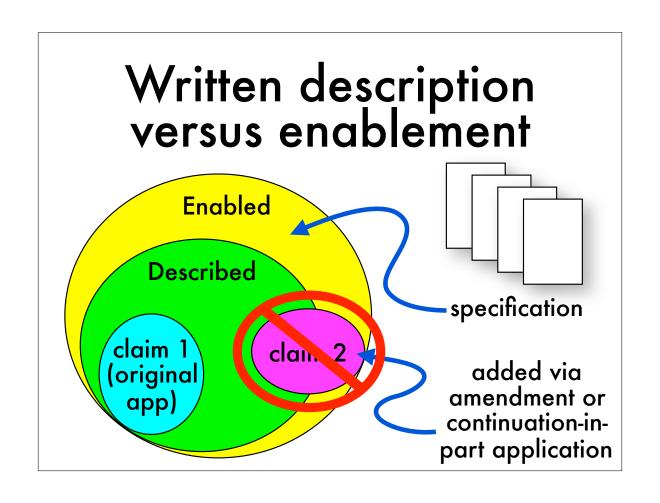
→ So if the inventor <u>enabled</u> an invention, why do we care if she realized it and disclosed it?

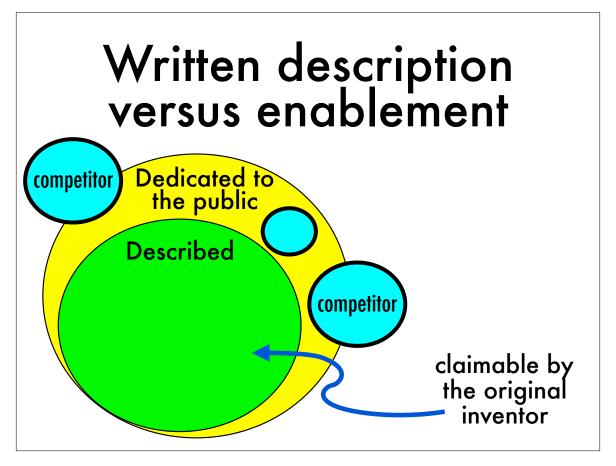
Written description

- → Three big purposes:
 - <u>Bargain</u> advance the state of the art so society gets technical knowledge for future inventors to use
 - <u>Timing</u> ensure the right person gets the patent and the invention is sufficiently concrete and advanced to warrant a patent
 - Scope ensure patentee gets rights commensurate with actual contribution



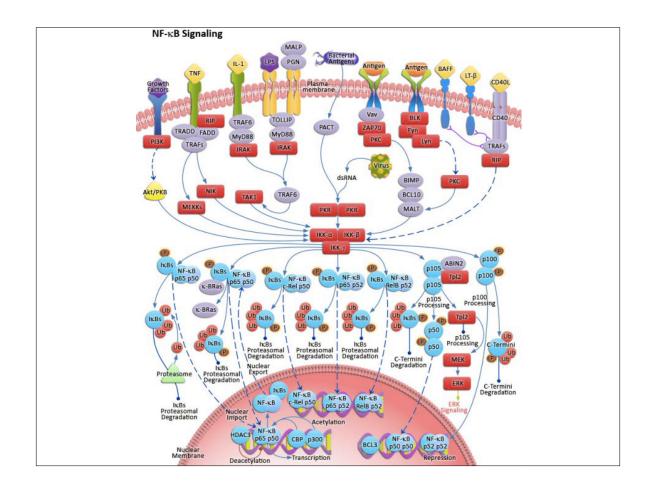






Scope: Limitations on claim breadth

- 7. A method for modifying effects of external influences on a eukaryotic cell, which external influences induce NF-κB-mediated intracellular signaling, the method comprising altering NF-κB activity in the cells such that NF-κB-mediated effects of external influences are modified.
- 8. The method of claim 7, wherein NF-κB activity in the cell is reduced.
- **80**. The method of claim **8** wherein reducing NF-κB activity comprises reducing binding of NF-κB to NF-κB recognition sites on genes which are transcriptionally regulated by NF-κB.



- 7. A method for modifying effects of external influences on a eukaryotic cell, which external influences induce NF-κB-mediated intracellular signaling, the method comprising altering NF-κB activity in the cells such that NF-κB-mediated effects of external influences are modified.
- 8. The method of claim 7, wherein NF-κB activity in the cell is reduced.
- **80**. The method of claim **8** wherein reducing NF-κB activity comprises reducing binding of NF-κB to NF-κB recognition sites on genes which are transcriptionally regulated by NF-κB.

→ So what's the problem?

- → So what's the problem?
 - The patent explains that if you reduce NF-KB binding, you can regulate its activity
 - But they don't really describe the specific substances that do that

→ So how could they do that?

"[A] sufficient description of a genus instead requires the disclosure of either a representative number of species falling within the scope of the genus or structural features common to the members of the genus so that one of skill in the art can 'visualize or recognize' the members of the genus. We explained that an adequate written description requires a precise definition, such as by structure, formula, chemical name, physical properties, or other properties, of species falling within the genus sufficient to distinguish the genus from other materials. We have also held that functional claim language can meet the written description requirement when the art has established a correlation between structure and function. But merely drawing a fence around the outer limits of a purported genus is not an adequate substitute for describing a variety of materials constituting the genus and showing that one has invented a genus and not just a species."

Nard 130 (citations omitted)

"Specifically, the description must 'clearly allow persons of ordinary skill in the art to recognize that [the inventor] invented what is claimed.' In other words, the test for sufficiency is whether the disclosure of the application relied upon reasonably conveys to those skilled in the art that the inventor had possession of the claimed subject matter as of the filing date."

Nard 130 (citations omitted)

Ariad v. Eli Lilly

→ Why?

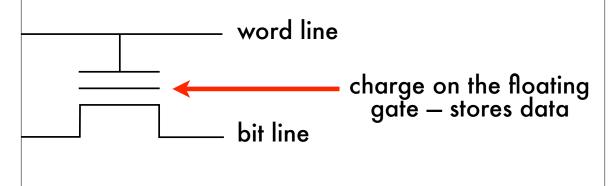
"In *Rochester*, we held invalid claims directed to a method of selectively inhibiting the COX-2 enzyme by administering a nonsteroidal compound that selectively inhibits the COX-2 enzyme. We reasoned that because the specification did not describe any specific compound capable of performing the claimed method and the skilled artisan would not be able to identify any such compound based on the specification's function description, the specification did not provide an adequate written description of the claimed invention. Such claims merely recite a description of the problem to be solved while claiming all solutions to it and, as in Eli Lilly and Ariad's claims, cover any compound later actually invented and determined to fall within the claim's functional boundaries—leaving it to the pharmaceutical industry to complete an unfinished invention."

Nard 132 (citations omitted)

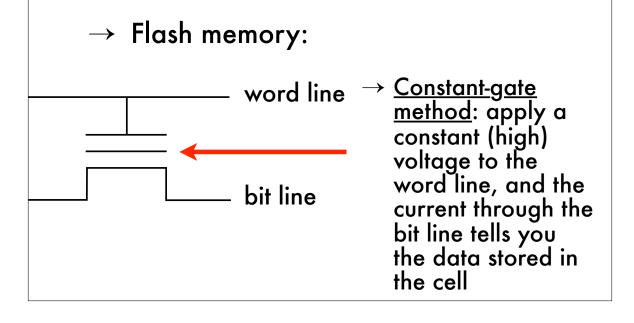
- Three types of molecules capable of reducing NF-κB activity:
 - specific inhibitors one disclosed
 - dominantly interfering molecules none disclosed, and mentioned in spec as hypothetical
 - <u>decoy molecules</u> mentioned and enabled, without describing how they work

Fundamentally different technologies

→ Flash memory:

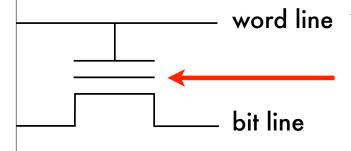


Fundamentally different technologies



Fundamentally different technologies

→ Flash memory:



→ <u>Variable-gate</u>
<u>method</u>: apply
different (low)
voltages to the word
line, and whether
current flows at all
through the bit line
tells you the data
stored in the cell

United States Patent [19] [11] Patent Number: [45] Date of Patent: Jun. 9, 1998 [54] ELECTRICALLY ALTERABLE NON-VOLATILE MEMORY WITH N-BITS PER CELL OTHER PUBLICATIONS M. Bauer et al.. A Multilevel-Cell 32Mb Flash Memory, 1995 IEEE International Solid-State Circuits Conference, Session 7, Paper TA7.7. John A. Bayliss et al., The Interface Processor for the 32h [75] Inventor: Gerald J. Banks. Fremont, Calif. [73] Assignee: BTG USA Inc., Gulph Mills, Pa. [21] Appl. No.: 410,200 Related U.S. Application Data U.S. PATENT DOCUMENTS U.S. PATENT DOCUMENTS 3,600,819 5,1972 Prohama-Benchovsky ... 317,235 R 3,801,965 4,1974 Keller et al. 340,473 R 4,004,159 1,1977 Rair et al. 30,7238 4,005,486 1,01977 Audiar et al. 340,773 R 4,090,225 5,1978 Cricchi ... 365,784 (List continued on next page.) ABSTRACT FOREIGN PATENT DOCUMENTS 0 390 404 10/1990 European Pat. Off. 2 630 574 10/1989 France . W082/02276 7/1982 WIPO . W082/02976 9/1982 WIPO . 47 Claims, 14 Drawing Sheets

<u>U.S. Patent</u> No. 5,764,571

- → "Electrically alterable non-volatile memory with n-bits per cell"
- → Describes only the constantgate method

Next time

Next time

→ Disclosure: claim definiteness; best mode