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## Non-IP Uses for Patent Data

Nils C. Newman  
Search Technology  
Atlanta, Georgia  
USA  
newman@searchtech.com

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## Patent Data The untapped resource

- Patent Data provide a wealth of information
- They provide indicators of technological activity
- They provide insight into knowledge generation

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## Patent Data

### The untapped resource

- Unfortunately, outside of the intellectual property and the scientometric communities, few know how to convert patent information into useful indicators
- Within the broader policy community - the majority of the potential users - there is little understanding of how to use patent data and patent-based indicators in policy analysis.

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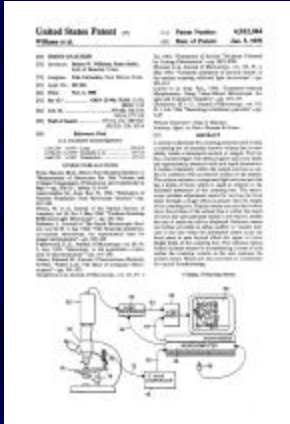
## What Patents Tell Us

The diagram features a central image of a patent document. Four arrows point towards the document from the words 'Who?', 'Where?', 'What?', and 'When?' arranged around it. 'Who?' has a red arrow pointing to the inventor information. 'Where?' has a green arrow pointing to the classification codes. 'What?' has a yellow arrow pointing to the abstract and claims. 'When?' has an orange arrow pointing to the date of the patent.

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## ... and with the help of a Subject Matter Expert

How? Why?



The image shows a patent document with a technical diagram. The document is titled 'Global Status Patent' and includes a 'Page Number' of 4285194. The diagram illustrates a system with various components and connections, likely related to the patent's subject matter.

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## Much can be learned from Who, What, When and Where

- One can construct very complex indicator systems involving theories of innovation, network formation, economic models, etc....
- Much is written about the power and potential of patent-based indicators.

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## However....

- This area suffers greatly from technology push instead of user pull
- The ultimate user community had only a vague understanding of the simple indicators delivered years ago and really does not understand the complex ones created today

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## So....

- Instead of looking at patent data and figuring out what questions can be answered...
- It can be beneficial to start with policy questions and figure out how patent data help solve the problem

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## Creating Useful Indicators

- Policy Questions MUST DRIVE Indicator Development
- Indicators must incorporate all relevant information sources including patents, literature and other data including surveys
- Indicator development is a multidisciplinary process
- Simplicity is a must for the initial buy-in

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## Stories from the Field – Knowledge Creation in an Emerging Economy

- Is the knowledge production system working?
  - Mapping S&T – Publications, Patents, and Exports
    - Is our Public R&D helping?
    - Does the IP system work?

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## Stories from the Field – Knowledge Creation in an Emerging Economy

- How do we relate to the rest of the world
  - What are the MNC's up to?
    - Local ideas yield foreign priority filings
  - Where are the ideas created?

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## Stories from the Field – Knowledge Creation in an Emerging Economy

- If we use the same kind of measures on other countries, what can we learn about...
  - Industrial development
  - Trade and IP practices
  - Public policy best practice

## Conclusions

- Patent indicators have become quite evolved
- Usage of patent indicators is still somewhat limited
- There is a disconnect between the users of patent indicators and creators of patent indicators
- Bridging that gap requires sensitivity to the needs of user communities, an understanding of their problems and their active participation in the development of solutions that include all relevant data sources