

EP full-text search

User manual



USER MANUAL REVISION SHEET

Revision	Date	Description
2.3	2021/09	Amendments for CPC information (search criteria, result list columns, document fields, statistics parameters) available as of 2021 week 37
2.2	2019/04	Addition of Euro-PCT applications published by WIPO and not republished by the EPO (i.e. international applications filed in English, French or German) in the form of full-text (descriptions and claims) and scanned pages of international publications: • Full-text: • International publications present in the database were published by WIPO as of 2019 week 1 – international publications published before 2019 week 1 will be included progressively • International publications published as of 2019 week 1 become available in the user interface once they have been mentioned in the European Patent Bulletin, i.e. once WO publication numbers can be combined with EP publication numbers • Scanned pages: All international publications (whatever their publication dates) that have been mentioned in the European Patent Bulletin are retrieved on-the-fly in the user interface using the EPO web service OPS More information in Document box and Database content.
2.1	2016/12	Change of product name and other minor changes.
2.0	2015/05	Full document rebuild (combination of former EPAB and user interface user manuals, including new functionalities). EPAB database content: searchable full-text of all EP A and B publications from 1978 to present.
1.0	2013/09	Document creation.

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1. INTRODUCTION

EP full-text search (referred to as EPAB in this document) is a free database available in the **Patent information services for experts** user interface (UI) accessible here.

With EPAB you can carry out detailed searches in the full-text of European patent applications (A documents) and patent specifications (B documents) published by the EPO from 1978 to the present day, and in the full-text of Euro-PCT applications published by WIPO as of **2019 week 1** and not republished by the EPO, i.e. international applications filed in an EPO official language (French, English or German).

In the case of a Euro-PCT application published by WIPO and not republished by the EPO, an EP document is a combination of bibliographic data generated by the EPO and the data of the corresponding international publication(s) provided by WIPO to the EPO.

EPAB is not a legally authoritative publication medium for European A and B documents. It is a complement to the European Publication Server, which has been the sole legally authoritative publication medium for European A and B documents since 1 April 2005.

₽ Note:

You are reminded of your acceptance of the terms and conditions <u>here</u>. It is essential that you read these terms and conditions to use EPAB correctly.

1.1. SECURITY

The use of HTTPS, combining the regular HTTP protocol with the Secure Sockets Layer (SSL) protocol, means that all communications between your computer and the EPAB server are encrypted in both directions.

1.2. CONTACT POINT

For assistance on all matters relating to EPAB (including database content, UI features and anomaly reports), please contact our user support team at support@epo.org.

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1.3. WHAT YOU NEED TO USE EPAB

- Basic skills in Boolean language (see the <u>Query syntax</u> section, which contains multiple sample queries).
- An HTML5-compatible internet browser.
- A recommended minimum screen resolution of 1366 x 768.

Note: The quality of the display of the images (first page images, embedded images in descriptions and claims, drawings, search reports) varies depending on the internet browser you use. Please contact our support team at support@epo.org for more information on this matter.

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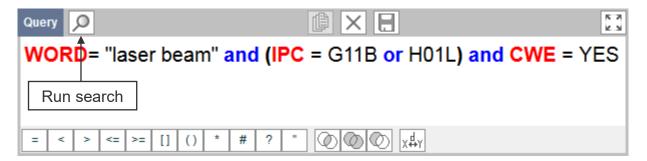
2. RUN YOUR FIRST SEARCH

- Launch Patent information services for experts, available here.
- 2 Click **EP full-text search** in the list of databases in the <u>Welcome window</u>. You do not have to identify yourself (EPAB is free of charge).
- **3** The <u>Search window</u> is now displayed. In the <u>Query box</u>, you can manually type in a query or copy and paste it, e.g.

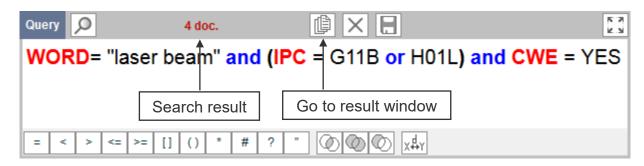
```
WORD= "laser beam" and (IPC = G11B or H01L) and CWE = YES
```

to search for all documents (patent publications) having the expression "laser beam" in their title, abstract, description or claims (criterion WORD), limited to IPC classes G11B or H01L (criterion IPC – all editions), and published in the current week (criterion CWE – Current week, with value "YES").

Then click the **Search** button to run your first search:



4 Once the search result is displayed you can click the **Result** button to go to the **Result window**:



⑤ The result list and documents are now displayed and ready for browsing, running statistics and downloading in multiple formats.

Note: You can customise the result list and document content.

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3. WELCOME WINDOW

In the Welcome window you can:

- Select the UI language in the top right-hand corner.
- Select (click) **EP full-text search** (EPAB):

	Database name		Database edition	
	EP full-text search	EPAB	2019/08	info
	EP Bulletin search	BULL	2019/08	info
a	Global Patent Index	GPI	2019/07	info
	PATSTAT Online	PATSTAT	2018 Autumn	info
A	PATSTAT Online	PATSTAT	2018 Spring	info

In the **Database edition** column, the latest available edition is numerically displayed in YYYY/WW form, signifying the year (four digits) and calendar week (two digits), e.g. 2019/08.

Note: The database is updated every Wednesday at 14.00 hrs CET, which means that in EPAB the week starts on Wednesday at 14.00 hrs CET.

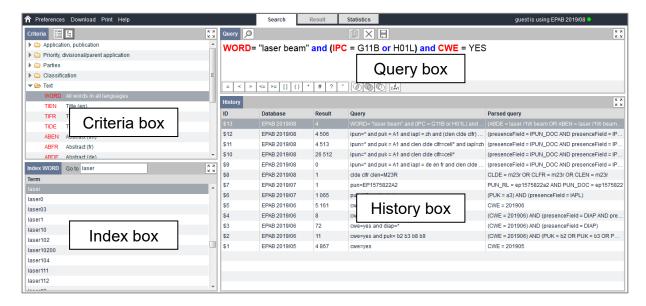
When you click on the EPAB database, the <u>Search window</u> appears.

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4. SEARCH WINDOW

Once you have logged in and have selected the EPAB database in the <u>Welcome window</u>, the **Search** window is displayed. It has four boxes with the following functions:

- <u>Criteria box</u>: Navigate the list of search criteria to identify and select the criteria you need for your searches.
- <u>Index box</u>: Browse the contents of the database for a search criterion selected in the **Criteria** box, e.g. for identifying possible variations of an applicant's name or a keyword.
- Query box: Create queries, run searches, save/load queries.
- <u>History box</u>: Browse your search history and re-use history entries in your queries. The history content is also used for saving queries.



You can adjust the proportions of the boxes by dragging the horizontal and vertical dividers. Dividers are the dark lines between boxes. For example, there is a vertical divider between the **Query** and **History** boxes which can be dragged up and down to resize them.

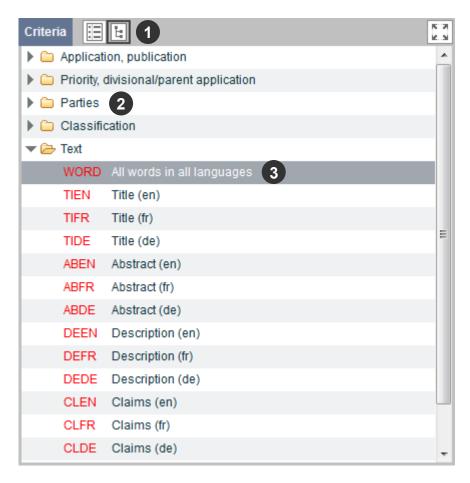
Boxes can also be minimised and maximised by clicking the **minimise/maximise** button (located in the top right-hand corner of each box) or by double-clicking the box top toolbar.

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4.1. CRITERIA BOX

The criteria used in EPAB are described in detail in Annex 1.

A criterion is identified by a code and a name. For example, the code "WORD" stands for "all title, abstract, description and claim words in all languages".



- Buttons to display the criteria list in alphabetical order or by predefined categories, e.g. **Parties**.
- ② Open/close a category by clicking the arrow or double-clicking the category name.
- 3 Select (one click) a criterion to see the contents of its corresponding index.
- **3** Move the selected search criterion to the <u>Query box</u> by drag & drop or double-clicking (criteria can also be manually entered in the **Query** box).

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4.2. INDEX BOX

An index reflects the database content for the data corresponding to a search criterion. It does not reflect the database content limited to the current search. For example, the WORD index contains all the words in all the indexed titles, abstracts, descriptions and claims of all the patent documents stored in the EPAB database.



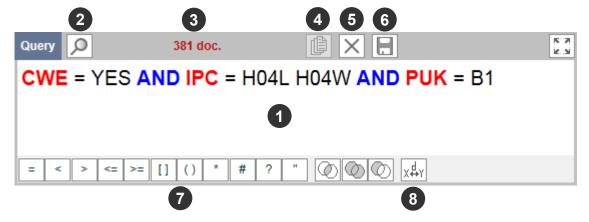
- The **Go to** box lets you scroll quickly and easily. The index content helps you to check the availability, spellings and formats of the data you want to search for, e.g.:
 - To identify possible variations of an applicant name or a keyword.
 - To check the indexing format of classification symbols and dates.
- 2 You can move selected index terms to the Query box by:
 - Dragging and dropping one or more selected terms.
 - Double-clicking.

Note: As shown in the above screenshot, white space is often missing between words. For accurate results, use right truncation for all the terms of your query.

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4.3. QUERY BOX

The **Query** box enables you to create queries, run searches and save/load queries. See the <u>Query syntax</u> and <u>Search features</u> sections, which contain multiple sample queries.



- Query edit zone. The text of a query can be:
 - Entered manually.
 - Dragged from the list of search criteria and dropped.
 - Dragged from an index and dropped.
 - Dragged from the search history and dropped.
 - Loaded from a user query file.
 - Pasted from an external application.
- 2 Search button.
- **3** Search results: Number of publications matching your search.
- **4** Go to result list button: Opens the Result window.
- **5** Delete current query button.
- **6** Save/load queries button: Queries listed in the <u>History box</u> can be saved locally (with or without comments) for future use (see section <u>Save/load queries</u>).
- **Operator** toolbar: All the arithmetic and Boolean operators and wildcards that you need for your queries are displayed in this bar.
- **9 Proximity search** button: Searches for titles, abstracts, descriptions, claims, inventors, applicants, representatives and references to NPL (non-patent literature) citations are possible with proximity operators, e.g. search word1 up to a maximum of x word(s) apart from word2 in that order / whatever the order.

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A proximity operator can also be entered manually between two words as follows:

WORD = laser +2w beam*

This query construction means: "laser" up to a maximum of one word apart from "beam" or "beams", in that order, to retrieve laser beam, laser light beam, laser welding beam, etc.

See also the <u>Query syntax</u> and <u>Search features</u> sections, which contain multiple sample queries.

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4.4. HISTORY BOX

A query is added to the **History** box only if the associated search is successful, in other words if there is no syntax error in the query.

The 100 most recent queries are stored locally in the search history. Stored queries are usually used for:

• Combining queries in the query edit zone, e.g.:

```
IPC = A61K and $10
```

\$3 andnot \$2

or

• Saving queries: History queries can be saved for future use (see Save/load queries section).

If the search returns zero documents, or an unexpectedly high number of documents, then the parsed query (i.e. the user query transformed into a query that is used by the search engine - see item **6** below) may help you understand if there is an error in the logic of the query.

For example, we want to retrieve publications on the purification ("Reinigung" in German) of argon. If we enter:

```
WORD = argon and purification or reinigung
```

the corresponding (simplified) parsed query would be:

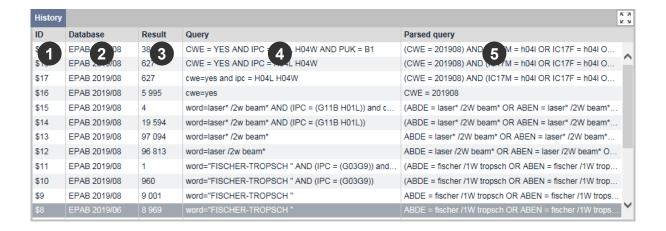
```
WORD = (argon and purification) or reinigung
```

In the above example, EPAB would return a surprisingly high number of results due to the omission of brackets. Many documents would contain the word "Reinigung" but not in conjunction with argon. Correct queries would be:

```
WORD = argon and (purification or reinigung)

WORD = purification or reinigung and argon
```

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- **1** Column: This is the history query number. As 100 of the most recent queries are stored, once the **History** box contains 100 queries, the next new query stored is given the ID number \$1 and the previous query number \$1 is deleted.
- **Database** column: Database identifier (current year and week number an EPAB week starts with the day/hour of the database update, which is Wednesday at 14.00 hrs CET).
- 3 Result column: The number of documents matching the search.
- **4** Query column: The query as built by you in the query edit zone.
- **S** Parsed query column: Your query as transformed by the parser for the search engine.

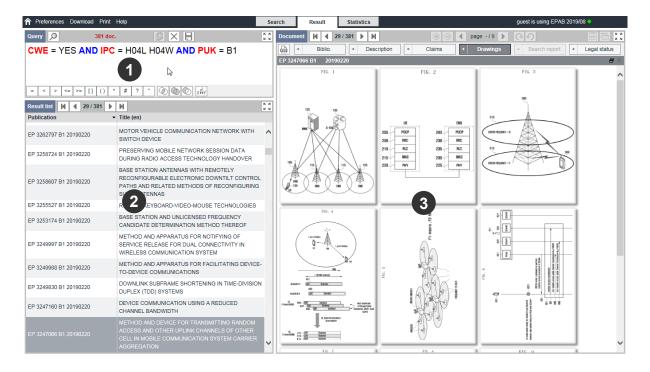
Context menu (right-click):

- Append selected queries: Add to the current query displayed in the query edit zone. The two queries are connected with a default Boolean operator defined in User preferences/General.
- Replace selected queries: Replace the current query displayed in the query edit zone with the selected query.
- Delete selected queries
- Print selected queries
- Download selected queries: Download the selected queries to a PDF file (see also <u>Download and print</u> section).

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5. **RESULT WINDOW**

Result lists and documents are available for browsing and downloading in multiple formats.



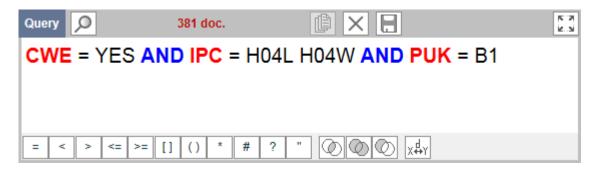
- Query box: Identical to the Query box of the <u>Search window</u>.
- 2 Result list box: Content can be customised to focus on relevant data.
- **3 Document** box: Content comprises bibliographic data (<u>customisable</u>), descriptions, claims (<u>customisable</u>), drawings, search reports and INPADOC legal status data.

Note: The content displayed in the **Result list** box is always bibliographic data generated by the EPO. By contrast, the content displayed in the **Document** box is, in the case of Euro-PCT applications published by WIPO and not republished by the EPO, a combination of data generated by the EPO (bibliographic data) and data generated by WIPO and made available to the EPO (in particular the full-text of descriptions and claims of international publications).

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5.1. QUERY BOX

All features are identical to those detailed in the <u>Query box</u> of the <u>Search window</u>. The **Query** box allows you to refine the current search without going back to the Search window.



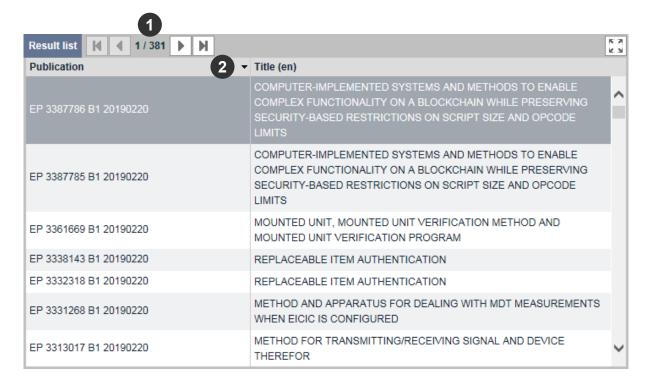
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5.2. RESULT LIST BOX

Browse the list of documents matching your search, and <u>customise the content</u> to suit your needs by adding new columns.

By default the result list has one column only (**Publication** column).

All result list columns are described in Annex 2.



- **10** Navigation buttons: If your search returns more than 10 000 documents, only the first 10 000 will be included in the scrollable part of the result list.
- **2 Column headers**: Click the arrow in a column header to trigger the sort feature (ascending/descending). The sort feature is currently available for the following columns: publication, publication date, application filing date, oldest priority date.

Documents can be selected and displayed in the **Document box**:

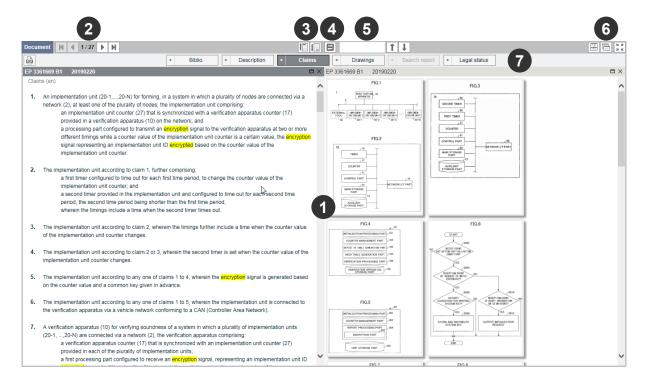
- With the navigation buttons.
- With a simple mouse-click in the list.
- By drag and drop the documents displayed in the **Document** box are tiled.

Note: The content displayed in the Result list box is bibliographic data generated by the EPO, even in the case of Euro-PCT applications published by WIPO and not republished by the EPO, i.e. a result list is always a list of EP documents and not a list of EP and WO documents. The bibliographic data displayed for a given EP document may differ from that of the corresponding WO publication(s) as published by WIPO.

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5.3. DOCUMENT BOX

View the contents of a document and <u>customise</u> them to suit your needs (remove unnecessary fields and re-order relevant fields of the bibliographic data).



- **Document** content.
- **Result list navigation** buttons: If your search returns more than 10 000 documents, only the first 10 000 will be included in the scrollable part of the result list.
- **3** Hit navigation buttons: Go to next/previous term searched.
- **4 Translation** button: Activates the <u>translation feature</u> for titles, abstracts, descriptions and claims.
- **6** Find feature: Enter a term to be found in the document currently displayed.
- **6** Arrange window buttons (tile, cascade, minimise/maximise): A maximum of four windows can be opened simultaneously.
- **Document sections navigation** toolbar: Click the item you want to see in the current document window, or click "+" to show it in a new document window.

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5.3.1. EP document content

An EP document displayed in the UI is not always limited to the data of an EP publication: In the case of a Euro-PCT application published by WIPO and not republished by the EPO, the EP document includes data of the corresponding international publication(s).

For example, an EP A2 document may combine the bibliographic data of the EP A2 with the data of the corresponding WO A2, A4 and A9, where available.

An EP document may include the following sections: bibliographic data, description, claims, drawings, search report and INPADOC legal status data (see also <u>Annex 3</u> for more detailed information). Data is available in image and/or text format, the images being scanned pages of the original publication.

EP document	Bibliographic data		
Li doddinont	Image format	Text format	
EP publication	N/A	Searchable data generated by the EPO	
WO publication	Retrieved from OPS	N/A	

EP document	Description and claims		
Zi dodamoni	Image format	Text format	
EP publication	N/A	Searchable data of the EP publication	
WO publication	Retrieved from OPS	Searchable data of the WO publication(s)	
		if published as of 2019 week 1	

EP document	Drawings		
Li document	Image format	Text format	
EP publication	Retrieved from the EP publication	N/A	
WO publication	Retrieved from OPS	N/A	

EP document	Search report	
	Image format	Text format
EP publication	Retrieved from the EP publication	Searchable data of the EP publication if published as of 2012 week 27
WO publication	Retrieved from OPS	N/A

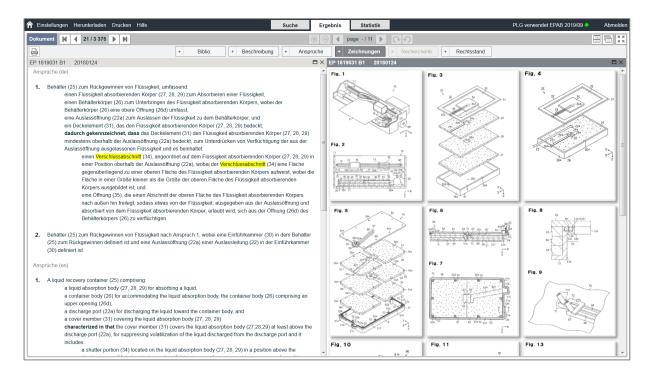
EP document	INPADOC legal status		
E. doddinon	Image format	Text format	
EP publication	N/A	Non-searchable data retrieved from OPS for the selected EP publication	
WO publication	N/A	N/A	

Note: The full-text of an international publication published as of 2019 week 1 becomes available in the user interface once the international publication has been mentioned in the European Patent Bulletin. The full-text of international publications published before 2019 week 1 will be included progressively.

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5.3.2. EP document examples

Example 1 – EP document with corresponding EP publication (EP/Euro-PCT patent applications and granted patents published by the EPO)



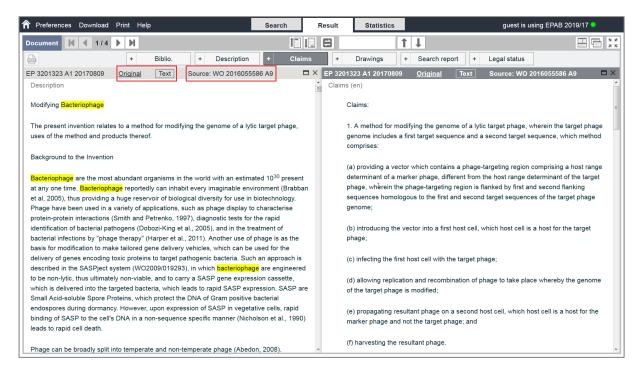
In this example where the UI language is German:

- Claims (Ansprüche) and drawings (Zeichnungen) are selected. By default and for granted patents that include the claims in three languages, the English claims appear first. In this example we have re-ordered the data to view the German claims first (go to **Preferences** → <u>Document content</u>, then go to the end of the list, where you can re-order the claims).
- The size of the document window is maximised (click at the top right corner to maximise/minimise the **Document** box).

Click an image in the mosaic to enlarge it and browse the list of drawings using the navigation buttons (top middle).

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Example 2 – EP document without corresponding EP publication (case of a Euro-PCT application published by WIPO and not republished by the EPO) and with corresponding WO publication having searchable description and claims



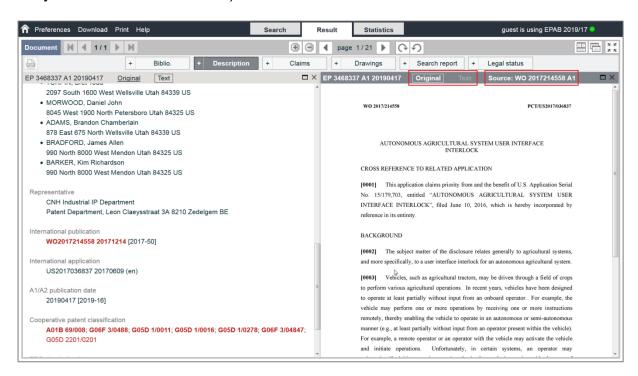
In this example:

- Claims and description are displayed side by side and the document box is maximised (click at the top right corner to maximise/minimise the Document box)
- The claims and description of WO 2016055586 A9 are used as the source (see red square) for the claims and description of EP 3201323 A1. The claims and description are searchable and can also be translated using Patent Translate.
- The links Original and Text (see red square) are both enabled Original for scanned pages of the international publication as published by WIPO and retrieved from OPS, Text for the claims and description in text format provided by WIPO to the EPO.

International publications can be accessed via the link to WIPO's PATENTSCOPE in the bibliographic data under **International publication**.

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Example 3 – EP document without corresponding EP publication (case of a Euro-PCT applications published by WIPO and not republished by the EPO) and with corresponding WO publication having no searchable full-text (description and claims not yet available in text format)



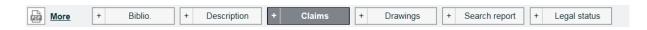
In this example:

- Bibliographic data and description are displayed side by side (click at the top right corner to maximise/minimise the **Document** box)
- The description of WO 2017214558 A1 is used as the source (see red square) for the description of EP 3468337 A1
- The bibliographic data in text format is always the data generated by the EPO,
 i.e. the source is not WO 2017214558 A1
- The **Text** link (see red square) in the **Description** window is disabled as the description is not yet available in text format for this particular WO publication

International publications can be accessed via the link to WIPO's PATENTSCOPE in the bibliographic data under **International publication** as visible in the above screen-shot.

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5.3.3. Document sections navigation toolbar



- Displays the original EP publication (PDF file) also available in the EPS.
- More: Access to additional data of the EP publication such as sequence listings – this link becomes visible with the following query: PSL = YES (PSL stands for "presence of sequence listings").
- Biblio. to Legal status sections:
 - Click the section you want to see in the current document window, or
 - Click "+" to show it in a new document window.
 - European search reports are available in image format and text format as of 2012 week 27.

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6. STATISTICS WINDOW

The statistics window appears when you click **Statistics** on the <u>UI top toolbar</u>. It has two boxes with the following functions:

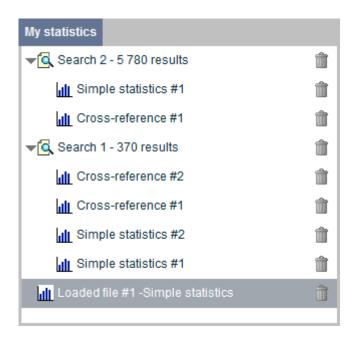
- My statistics box: Navigate the list of searches and associated statistics that you have created.
- <u>Configure/view statistics box</u>: Create and visualise new statistics for the search selected in the **My statistics** box. Two types of statistics are available:
 - Simple statistics: The outcome is a simple table of the top 50 ranked items corresponding to the parameter that you have selected, e.g. IPC, Applicant.
 - <u>Cross-reference</u>: The outcome is a bubble chart for your selected parameters for the X and Y axis, e.g. IPC and Applicant.

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6.1. MY STATISTICS BOX

The content of this box is a list which may include the following items:

- Searches with result sets which have been or will be used to create and visualise statistics (most recent search at the top).
- For a given search, a list of statistics that you have created (most recent statistics at the top). EPAB currently offers two types of statistics: Simple statistics and Cross-reference.
- Loaded files (statistics can be saved locally manually and then loaded later on), which always appear at the bottom of the list as shown below:



See Configure/view statistics for creating, visualising, saving and loading statistics.

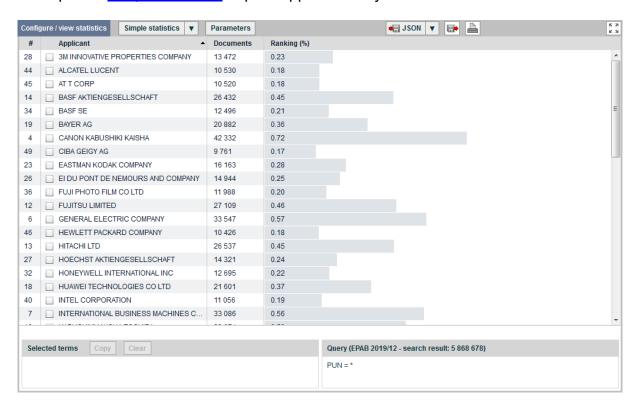
Searches, statistics and loaded files can be deleted from the list by clicking the Delete icon .

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6.2. CONFIGURE/VIEW STATISTICS BOX

This box enables you to create **Simple statistics** or **Cross-reference** charts, visualise and save/load them.

Example for Simple statistics: top 50 applicants of your search result set:



Example for Cross-reference: top 20 applicants and IPC of your search result set:

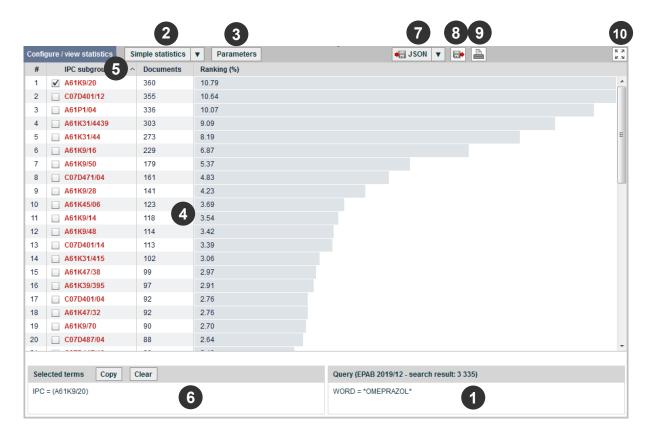


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6.3. SIMPLE STATISTICS

You can use **Simple statistics** for the following purposes:

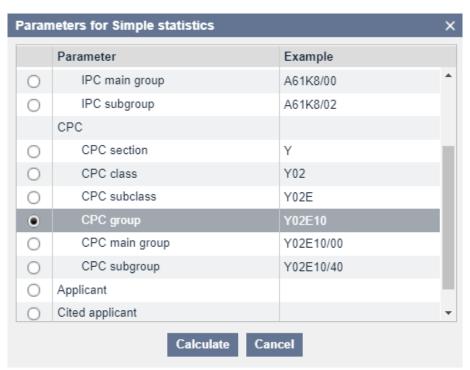
- To identify the most frequent IPC symbols in your result set corresponding to a
 preliminary query based on keywords. You can then select possible relevant
 symbols and append them automatically to your current query.
- To identify the most frequent applicants or inventors in your result set.



- Query area: Shows the query and search result used to compute the statistics.
- **2 Statistics** button list: May be used as follows:
 - Click the button to run the selected statistics (the parameter used for the previous statistics calculation will then be re-used), or
 - Open the list to change the type of statistics, e.g. use **Cross-reference** instead of **Simple statistics**, and then click the **Parameters** button **⑤** to select the parameters which will apply to the selected statistics.

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9 Parameters button for simple statistics: When you click this button the following parameters show up: IPC, CPC, applicants, cited applicants (i.e. applicants of cited patent documents) and inventors.



Select (click) the parameter you want to use ("CPC group" in the example) and press the **Calculate** button to run your simple statistics.

- **Simple statistics** outcome visualisation: Includes the top 50 items of the parameter you selected in **③**. This list is calculated on the result set corresponding to the search selected in the **My statistics** box (it could be your most recent search or an older one − the selected search shows up in **①**). Note that you can select each item of the list by clicking its check box and re-use it in your current query (see point **⑤** below). Also note that if you run statistics using the IPC, each classification symbol is a link to its description in WIPO IPC.
- **Sort** button: The content of a column can be sorted in ascending or descending order by clicking the arrow located in the column header.
- **6** Selected terms area: Each item included in the top 50 can be selected by clicking its check box. To re-use the selected items in your current query click the **Copy** button. Clicking the **Clear** button empties this area and clears all check boxes.
- **Save** button list: The following formats are available:
 - JSON: format frequently used in and between HTML applications. You can
 use this format for example to archive statistics output which can be loaded
 and visualised later.
 - HTML

CSV

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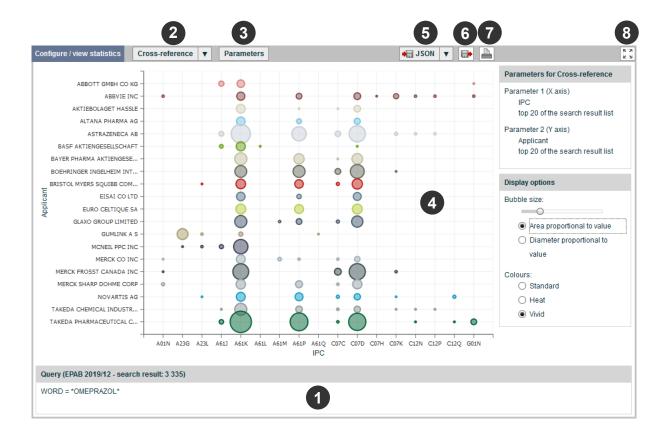
- **3** Load button: Use to load statistics (**Simple statistics** or **Cross-reference**) previously saved in JSON format.
- **9** Print button.
- **Maximise/minimise**: Click this button to maximise or minimise your **Configure/view statistics** box. You can also maximise or minimise the box by double-clicking its toolbar.

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6.1. CROSS-REFERENCE

You can use **Cross-reference** for the following purposes:

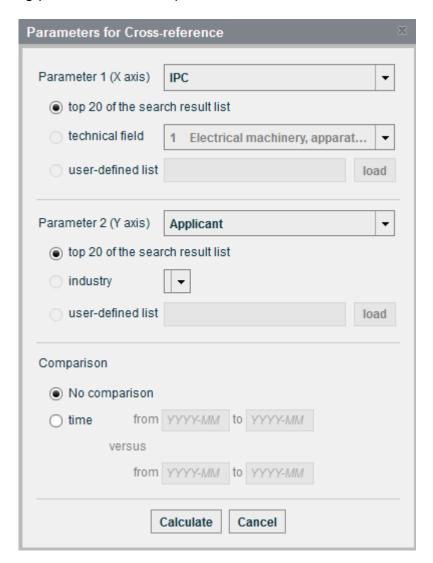
- To visualise technology trends over the years for the top 20 IPC subclasses.
- To visualise the activities of the top 20 applicants over the years or in the top 20 IPC subclasses.



- Query area: Shows the guery and search result used to compute the statistics.
- **2 Statistics** button list: May be used as follows:
 - Click the button to run the selected statistics (the parameter used for the previous statistics calculation will then be re-used), or
 - Open the list to change the type of statistics, e.g. use **Simple statistics** instead of **Cross-reference**, and then click the **Parameters** button **⑤** to select the parameter(s) which will apply to the selected statistics.

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9 Parameters button for cross reference statistics: When you click this button the following parameters show up:



Parameter 1 (X axis) and parameter 2 (Y axis) can be one of the following items:

- Date of priority
- Date of filing
- Date of publication
- IPC (subclass level)
- CPC (subclass level)
- Applicant
- Inventor

After selecting parameter 1 and 2 ("IPC" and "Applicant" in this example), press the **Calculate** button to run your cross-reference.

Note that parameters 1 (X axis) and 2 (Y axis) can be identical, e.g. IPC and IPC to spot associations of technical fields, or applicant and applicant to spot collaborations.

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- **Oross-reference** outcome visualisation: This is a bubble chart showing the top 20 items corresponding to the parameters you selected for the X and Y axes. You can modify the style of your chart using the display options located on the right-hand side of the bubble chart.
- **5** Save button list: The following formats are available:
 - JSON: format frequently used in and between HTML applications. You can
 use this format for example to archive statistics output which can be loaded
 and visualised later.
 - PDF
 - CSV
- **6** Load button: Load statistics (**Simple statistics** or **Cross-reference**) previously saved in JSON format.
- **Print** button.
- **3** Maximise/minimise: Click this button to maximise or minimise your **Configure/view statistics** box. You can also maximise or minimise the box by double-clicking its toolbar.

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7. UI TOP TOOLBAR

The top toolbar is visible in the **Search**, **Result** and **Statistics** windows. It provides access to the **Download**, **Print** and **Preferences** functionalities, and navigation between the **Welcome**, **Search**, **Result** and **Statistics** windows:



- **1** Go to the Welcome window.
- 2 Menu:
 - **Preferences**: Set your user preferences, e.g. for customising the result list content and document content.
 - **Download**: <u>Download</u> e.g. your current result list or documents.
 - Print: Print e.g. your current result list or document.
 - Help: Access to this user manual, access to the forum to discuss the latest topics, or click About to see the current version of Patent information services for experts.
- 3 Navigate between the <u>Search</u>, <u>Result</u> and <u>Statistics</u> windows.
- **4** User name ("guest" if you do not have a subscription to other products (GPI and/or PATSTAT Online) available in the same user interface), EPAB database edition number, and **Log out** (if logged on to access other products).

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8. QUERY SYNTAX

An EPAB query is usually a combination of the following:

- Search criteria codes, e.g. WORD for title, abstract, description and claim words in all languages.
- Terms to be searched for, e.g. description/claim keywords, IPC/CPC symbols, applicant/inventor names, kind codes, publication/filing dates, etc.
- Boolean operators to connect criteria and terms for a given criterion
 - AND Example:
 Documents with "argon" and "purification" in their title or abstract (whatever the language):
 WORD = argon and purification
 - OR Examples:
 Documents with "laser" and "beam" in their English title or abstract:
 TIEN or ABEN = laser and beam
 Documents with "E coli" or "Escherichia coli" in their title, abstract, description or claims (whatever the language):
 WORD = "E coli" or "Escherichia coli"
 - NOT, ANDNOT Examples:
 Documents without applicant:
 not (APP = *)
 Documents with IPC A01B13/08 but not A01B13/12:
 IPC = A01B13/08 and not A01B13/12 identical to:
 IPC = A01B13/08 and not (IPC = A01B13/12)
 Note the use of brackets when not used alone.
- Arithmetic operators
 - = equal to Example:
 Documents with "laser" in their title, abstract, description or claims:
 WORD = laser
 - > greater than, >= greater than or equal to
 Documents filed as of 2010/01/01:

 APD >= 2010/01/01 (identical to APD >= 2010)
 - < less than, <= less than or equal to
 <p>Documents published before 1900/01/01:
 PUD < 1900/01/01 (identical to PUD < 1900, PUD < 01011900)</p>

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[] date range Example:
 Documents published in the first half of 2010:
 PUD [2010/01/01, 2010/06/30]
 Documents published between 1900 and 1920:
 PUD [1900, 1920] - note that PUD=[1900, 1920] is not correct syntax due to the presence of "=".

- () brackets to force the order of operations Example:
 Documents about the "purification" ("Reinigung" in German) of "argon":
 WORD = argon and (purification or reinigung)
- Proximity operators Examples:

To retrieve documents where "argon" is up to a maximum of two words apart from "purification", whatever the order (e.g. "argon purification", "purification of argon"):

WORD = argon /2w purification

To retrieve documents where "nano" is one word apart from "particle" or "particles", in the same order:

WORD = nano +1w particle*

- Wildcards
 - * (asterisk) stands for zero or more characters Examples:

Documents containing the words "particle", "particles":

WORD = particle*

Documents containing the words "dihydroxyphenyl", "trihydroxyphenyl":

WORD = *hydroxyphenyl

Documents containing the words "disaccharide", "disaccharides",

"monosaccharide", "monosaccharides":

WORD = *saccharid*

Documents containing the words "hydroxydiphenyl",

"hvdroxvcarbophenvl":

WORD = hydroxy*phenyl

- # (hash) stands for one mandatory character Example:
 Documents containing the words "paralyse", "paralyze":
 WORD = paraly#e
- ? (question mark) stands for zero or one character Example: Documents containing the words "color", "colors", "colour", "colours": WORD = colo?r?

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• String delimiters " " (double quotes)

Double quotes cannot be used in combination with wildcards.

Examples: If an IPC symbol is copied from the first page of a patent document and pasted into the <u>Query box</u>, the symbol may be composed of two terms separated by white space, e.g. A61K 49/00.

In this case the query

$$IPC = A61K 49/00$$

will be interpreted as

The above query does not return the expected result. This is due

(i) to the presence of white space between A61K and 49/00, and (ii) to the use of the default operator OR between terms - see

User preferences / General on setting the value of default operators.

The correct syntax should be

which is equivalent to

$$IPC = A61K49/00$$

In other words, use string delimiters to search for expressions.

Examples

```
WORD = hydrophobic nano particles
```

may be an incorrect query, whereas

```
WORD = "hydrophobic nano particles"
```

would retrieve a more accurate result.

```
INV = FROMONT GAELLE
```

may be an incorrect query, whereas

```
INV = "FROMONT GAELLE"
```

would retrieve a more accurate result.

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Note - Hints for syntax queries in EPAB:

 The search for an expression is automatically transformed into a proximity search. Example:

```
WORD = "hydrophobic nano particles"
```

is transformed into

WORD = hydrophobic /1w nano /1w particles

• Wildcards cannot be placed between string delimiters. Example:

```
WORD = "laser beam?"
```

does not return the expected result (documents containing "laser beam" or "laser beams").

The correct query is

```
WORD = laser +1w beam?
```

Queries are evaluated from left to right, and brackets must sometimes be used to force the order of operations. Example: You want to retrieve documents on the purification ("Reinigung" in German) of argon. If you enter:

```
WORD = argon and purification or reinigung
```

the real guery used by the search engine would be (evaluation from left to right):

```
WORD = (argon and purification) or reinigung
```

EPAB would return a surprisingly high number of results due to missing brackets, and many documents would contain "Reinigung" but not in association with "argon". A correct query would be:

```
WORD = argon and (purification or reinigung)
```

Due to left-to-right evaluation, the following query would also be correct:

```
WORD = purification or reinigung and argon
```

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9. SEARCH FEATURES

9.1. SEARCHING WITH NUMBERS AND KIND CODES

If you identify any criteria relevant for your searches that are not described in this section, see the description of all EPAB criteria in Annex 1.

See <u>Query syntax</u> for information on essential query-building practices and more search examples.

Most common search criteria

PUN PUK IPUN: Publication number, publication kind code, international publication

number

APN IAPN: Application number, international application number

PRN: Priority number

CPAT: Patent citation (all types)

Data indexing rules

Patent identifiers are usually composed of the following:

- Country code CC
- Number NB
- Kind code KC

At indexing time a patent identifier CCNBKC is split as follows:

NB CC CCNB CCNBKC

Each individual term can be used in a query without right truncation.

Example: In the case of EP1000000A1, the PUN <u>index</u> contains 1000000, EP, EP1000000, EP1000000A1, and each term can be used in a query without right truncation. The same rule applies to APN, PRN and CPAT.

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Query examples

PUN = EP1000000

Retrieves the EP1000000 A1 and B1 publications

APN = EP99974258 EP99974259 EP99974260 EP99974261 EP99974262 Retrieves publications of the listed applications

PRN = ES9000186 ES9000088 ES9000111 ES9000126 ES9000130 ES9000175 Retrieves publications of the listed priorities

CPAT = AT327449 US2461348 US1905990 WO9718892 Retrieves publications citing the listed documents

Note that, in the three examples above, white space can be used between numbers, assuming that the default operator between terms is set to "OR" in your <u>User preferences/General</u>.

PUK = B1 B2 B3 and CWE = YES

Retrieves all B1 B2 and B3 publications published in the current week (the EPAB week starts Wednesday at 14.00 hrs)

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9.2. SEARCHING WITH DATES

If you identify any criteria relevant for your searches that are not described in this section, see the description of all EPAB criteria in Annex 1.

See <u>Query syntax</u> for information on essential query-building practices and more search examples.

Most common search criteria

PUD: Publication date APD: Application date PRD: Priority date

Data indexing rules

Dates are usually formatted as follows: YYYYMMDD (Y=year M=month D=day). For the publication date 20150506, the following terms appear in the PUD <u>index</u> (same principle for APD and PRD):

2015 201505 20150506

Each individual term can be used in a query without right truncation.

Search filter

A filter enables you to enter a date in multiple formats:

- YYYYMMDD or DDMMYYYY or YYYYMM or MMYYYY
- YYYY/MM/DD or DD/MM/YYYY or YYYY/MM or MM/YYYY
- YYYY-MM-DD or DD-MM-YYYY or YYYY-MM or MM-YYYY
- YYYY.MM.DD or DD.MM.YYYY or YYYY.MM or MM.YYYY

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Query examples

The following queries are equivalent:

```
PUD = 2008
PUD = 2008*
PUD >= 2008/01/01 and PUD <= 2008/31/12
PUD [01-01-2008, 31-12-2008]
```

PUD [2000, 2010] and IPC = C01B23

Retrieves publications published in the range 2000-2010 in IPC technical field C01B23

```
(PRD or APD) [2000, 2010] and APP = ABCD
```

Retrieves publications filed in the range 2000-2010 for applicant ABCD.

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9.3. SEARCHING WITH CLASSIFICATIONS

If you identify any criteria relevant for your searches that are not described in this section, see the description of all EPAB criteria in Annex 1.

See <u>Query syntax</u> for information on essential query-building practices and more search examples.

There are multiple criteria available for detailed searches with international and national classifications.

Most common search criteria

IPC: All IPC editions

CPC: CPC invention and additional information

Data indexing rules

For the IPC B66D 5/14 the following terms appear in the IPC index:

B66 (sections are not indexed individually)

B66D

B66D0005 (main group on four digits)

B66D000514

Each individual term can be used in a query without right truncation.

Search filter

A filter enables you to enter classification symbols in multiple formats. For example, the following queries are equivalent:

IPC = A01B1/10 IPC = "A01B 1/10" IPC = A01B000110

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Query examples

$IPC = A^*$

Retrieves all publications under IPC section A; identical to IPC = A##

IPC = A

Returns 0 documents because sections are not indexed individually

IPC = B66D1

Retrieves all publications of the IPC group B66D1, meaning the main group B66B1/00 and all underlying subgroups

IPC = B01D 1/26

Does not retrieve the expected result due to the presence of white space between class and group, which is interpreted as a logical "or", assuming that the default operator between terms is set to "or" in your <u>User preferences/General</u>.

The correct query is IPC = B01D1/26. Also correct: IPC = "B01D 1/26".

№ Note:

The IPC and CPC hierarchies are not known in EPAB. You cannot, for example, indicate that you want to search for IPC A01B13/08 (one dot) and automatically include sub-levels A01B13/10 (2 dots) and A01B13/12 (three dots).

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9.4. SEARCHING WITH KEYWORDS

If you identify any criteria relevant for your searches that are not described in this section, see the description of all EPAB criteria in Annex 1.

See <u>Query syntax</u> for information on essential query-building practices and more search examples.

Most common search criteria

TIEN ABEN DEEN CLEN TIDE ABDE DEDE CLDE TIFR ABFR DEFR CLFR Titles, abstracts, descriptions and claims in English Titles, abstracts, descriptions and claims in German Titles, abstracts, descriptions and claims in French

WORD

Titles, abstracts, descriptions and claims in all available languages

Data indexing rules

All words of all titles, abstracts, descriptions and claims in all languages are indexed.

The WORD index may help you identify possible variants of a term.

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Query examples

WORD = argon and (reinigung or purification)

Retrieves documents related to the purification (or "Reinigung" in German) of argon, when these words are included in titles, abstracts, descriptions or claims.

WORD = "nano particles"

Retrieves documents containing this expression. Note that the search for an expression is transformed into a proximity search with the following operator:

WORD = nano /1w particles - meaning "nano" up to a maximum of one word apart from "particles", whatever the order.

The query WORD = nano /1w particle? would be more appropriate to retrieve the words "particle" and "particles".

№ Note:

- Wildcards cannot be placed between string delimiters (quotes). For example,
 WORD = "laser beam?" does not return the expected result (documents containing "laser beam" or "laser beams"). The correct query would be
 WORD = laser +1w beam?
- A significant number of documents include text where white space is missing between words. You might therefore decide to make more frequent use of right truncation in your terms. See also <u>Index box</u>.
- Searchable descriptions and claims come from EP and Euro-PCT applications published by the EPO and from Euro-PCT applications published by WIPO and not republished by the EPO.
 More information on the coverage is available in Database content.

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9.5. SEARCHING WITH NAMES

If you identify any criteria relevant for your searches that are not described in this section, see the description of all EPAB criteria in <u>Annex 1</u>.

See Query syntax for information on essential query-building practices.

Most common search criteria

INV: Inventor name

APP: Applicant/proprietor name REP: Representative name

CAPP: Applicant name of cited patent

Data indexing rules

Names are indexed by terms and expressions.

For example, the inventor "Fromont Gaëlle" appears in the INV index as follows:

fromont gaelle gaelle

The CAPP, INV, REP and APP <u>index</u> may help you to identify possible variants of a name.

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Query examples

INV = smith and john

Retrieves documents where the applicant names are for example "Kelly John" and "Smith Stephen".

INV = "john smith"

Retrieves documents where applicant names include the expression "john smith" or "smith john".

Note that the search for an expression is transformed into a proximity search with the following proximity operator:

INV = john /1w smith - meaning "john" one word apart from "smith", whatever the order.

Note: Wildcards cannot be placed between string delimiters (double quotes).

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9.6. SEARCHING WITH PATENT/NPL CITATIONS

If you identify any criteria relevant for your searches that are not described in this section, see the description of all EPAB criteria in Annex 1.

See Query syntax for information on essential query-building practices.

Most common search criteria

CCAT: Search categories of search reports, e.g. X, Y

CPAT: Patent citations whatever their origin

CNPL: Non-patent literature (NPL) citations whatever their origin

See also CAPP in Search with names to search for applicants of cited patents.

CPAT and CNPL include more accurate search criteria for searching the following patent/NPL citation types:

- applicant
- search report
- examination phase

Data indexing rules

Patent citations: same rules applied to all patent identifiers. See <u>Search with numbers</u>.

NPL citations: same rules applied to text.

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Query examples

CCAT = X Y

Retrieves documents containing the categories Y or X in their search reports.

CNPL = "GYNAECOLOGICAL ONCOLOGY"

Retrieves documents containing the searched expression in at least one of their NPL citation fields, e.g. "EUROPEAN JOURNAL OF GYNAECOLOGICAL ONCOLOGY" in a search report. This query is automatically converted into a query containing proximity operators: CNPL = GYNAECOLOGICAL /1w ONCOLOGY.

CPAT = EP1000000 AT327449

Retrieves documents containing one or more of the listed citations in at least one of their patent citation fields, e.g. search report and/or applicant citation fields.

Note: Wildcards cannot be placed between string delimiters (double quotes).

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9.7. REGULAR MONITORING SEARCHES

EPAB is a cumulative database updated every Wednesday at 14.00 hrs CET.

For regular monitoring searches you may use the following criteria:

 CWE, current week: Focuses your search on the documents of the current publication week. Example (assuming we are in 2019 week 16):
 CWE = YES and IPC = ... and APP = ...

At search time, "CWE = YES" will be automatically transformed into "CWE = 201916". CWE is particularly interesting as you can save a query and reuse it as is a week later.

PUD (publication date) or PUW (publication week). Example with PUW (with four-week monitoring, assuming we are in 2019 week 16):
 PUW = 201913 201914 201915 201916 and IPC = ... and APP = ...

In this case, a query cannot be re-used as is, i.e. the week numbers must be changed manually every time the query is re-used.

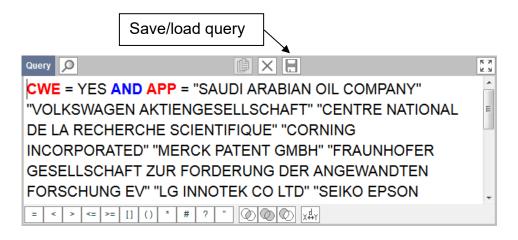
See also Database content.

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10. SAVE/LOAD QUERIES

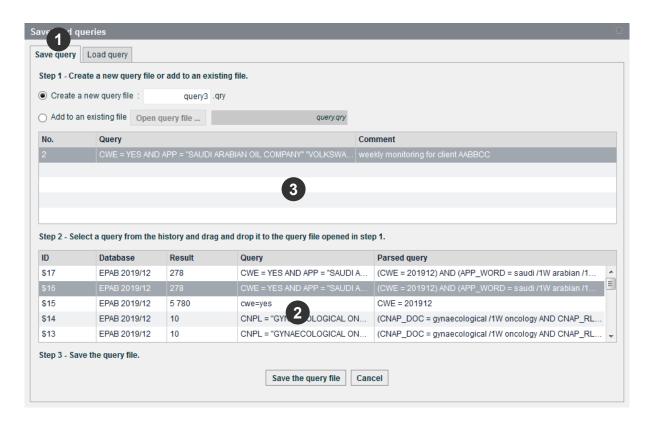
If you have a complex query that you may wish to re-use frequently, we recommend saving it locally and loading it as required. For more information, see Regular monitoring searches.

Queries can be saved/loaded using the **Save/load queries** button in the <u>Query box</u> of the <u>Search window</u> and the <u>Result window</u>:



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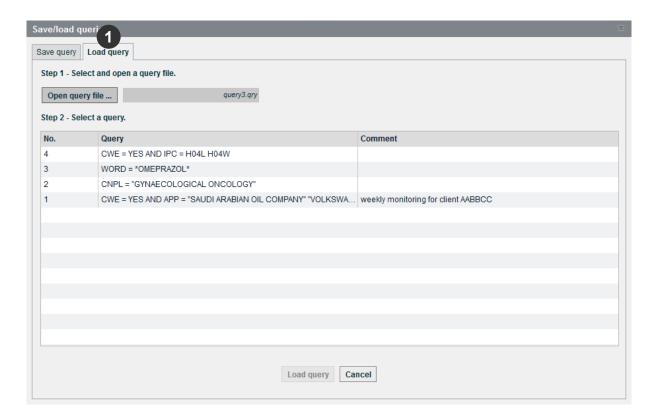
10.1. SAVE QUERIES



- The **Save query** tab lets you save history queries in a local file named query.QRY by default.
- 2 Search history (same content as the <u>History box</u> of the <u>Search window</u>).
- **3** Content of your query file showing queries that have been dragged and dropped from the search history. Saved queries may contain comments (see the context menu displayed when you right-click a query).

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10.2. LOAD QUERIES



• The **Load query** tab lets you open your query file and select the query to be loaded. When you click the **Load query** button, you can choose whether the selected query should overwrite the current one or whether it should be appended to the query in the query edit zone.

If it is appended, the default Boolean operator used for this function is the one you defined in <u>User preferences/General</u>.

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11. USER PREFERENCES

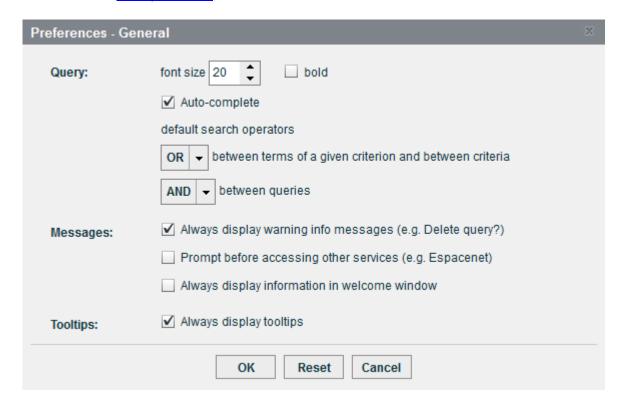
The user preferences feature allows for several different kinds of settings that will be stored locally for your convenience:

- 1. Layout of the user interface, e.g. width/height of the Criteria, Index, Query, History, Result list and Document boxes in the Search and Result windows.
- 2. Options selected when a function is executed, e.g. selected format for downloads, query file name used when saving/loading queries.
- 3. Settings defined in the user preferences available in the Preferences menu located in the <u>UI top toolbar</u>, e.g. for customising the result list and document contents these settings are covered in the following sections.

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11.1. GENERAL PREFERENCES

Located in the UI top toolbar, on the **Preferences** menu under **General**:



Auto-complete: As you gradually enter characters in the <u>Query box</u>, the UI displays a list of suggested terms for the search criterion you have entered. This list is built on the <u>index</u> content of the search criterion entered in your query.

A default operator between terms (set to "OR" by default) is used when terms of a query are separated by white space. If the query you enter in the Query box is for example:

WORD = argon purification

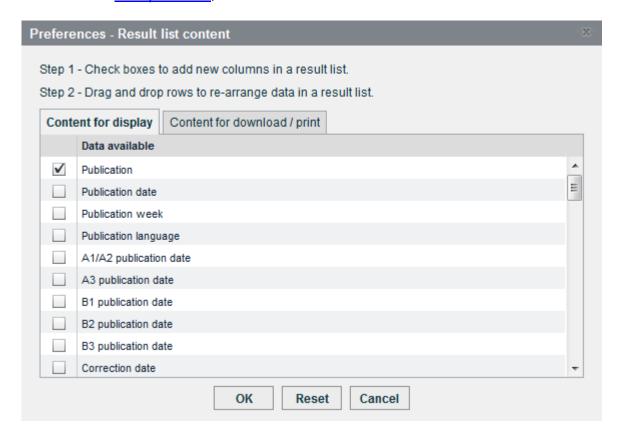
assuming that you changed the default value "OR" to "AND", the query will automatically be parsed at search time into

WORD = argon and purification

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11.2. RESULT LIST CONTENT CUSTOMISATION

Located in the <u>UI top toolbar</u>, on the **Preferences** menu under **Result list content**:



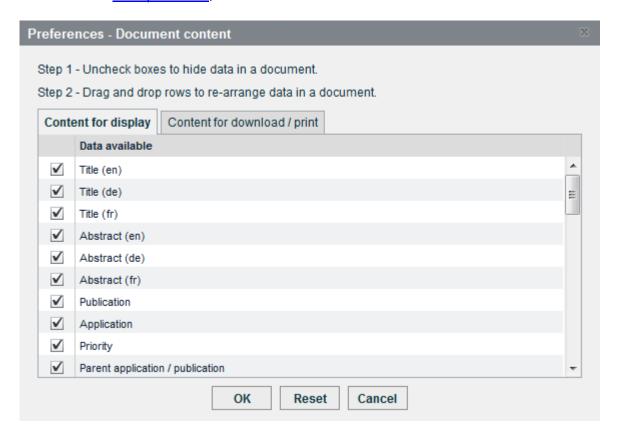
By default the result list contains a single Publication column. You may decide to add and re-order additional relevant columns.

Note: You can define one customised layout for displaying the result list and another one for downloads (see above, Content for display and Content for download/print tabs).

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11.3. DOCUMENT CONTENT CUSTOMISATION

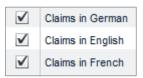
Located in the <u>UI top toolbar</u>, on the **Preferences** menu under **Document content**:



By default a document contains all the bibliographic data, but you may decide to remove non-relevant data and re-order the relevant items.

№ Note:

- You can define one customised layout for document display and another one for downloads (see above, Content for display and Content for download/print tabs).
- Most of the listed data are bibliographic data, except claims at the end of the list. Claims can be re-ordered, e.g. to show German claims first:



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12. DOWNLOAD AND PRINT

12.1. OVERVIEW

The download feature is accessible in the <u>UI top toolbar</u>. The current limit is set at 1 500 documents/result list entries.

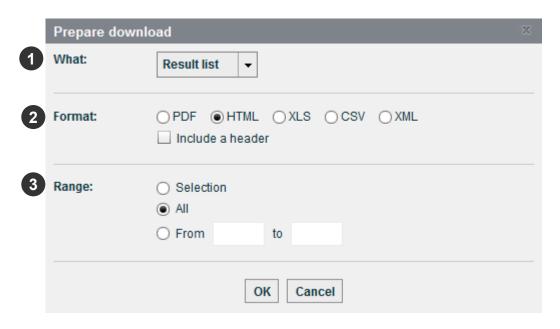
The download procedure starts with a data preparation process carried out on the server side. This process includes wrapping the data into a single zip file.

Once prepared, the data is available for a two-hour download procedure.

The Download menu contains two options:

- **Prepare download**: Opens a pop-up window where you define the data, data format and data range used by the preparation process.
- **Download manager**: Opens a pop-up window which includes the list of prepared data ready for the download process, or data being prepared.

12.2. PREPARATION PROCESS



Downloadable data

- History queries
- Result list
- Document
- Publication
- Chart

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2 Download formats

	PDF	RTF	XML	CSV	XLS	JSON	HTML
Search history	√			✓			
Result list	✓		✓	✓	✓		✓
Document	✓	✓	✓				
Publication	✓						
Charts	✓			✓		✓	

3 Download range definition

Note:

- XML files containing descriptions and claims provided by WIPO to the EPO are not downloadable.
- Original publications retrieved from OPS for Euro-PCT applications not republished by the EPO are not downloadable.
- Scanned pages retrieved from OPS (e.g. drawings, search reports) for Euro-PCT applications not republished by the EPO are not downloadable.

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12.3. DOWNLOAD PROCESS

During the preparation process, the following window pops up in the bottom right-hand corner of the UI:



Once the preparation process terminates, the data is ready for download and the following window pops up (items in bold grey are links):



Note: You can run multiple preparation processes first, and then download the corresponding files via the Download manager:

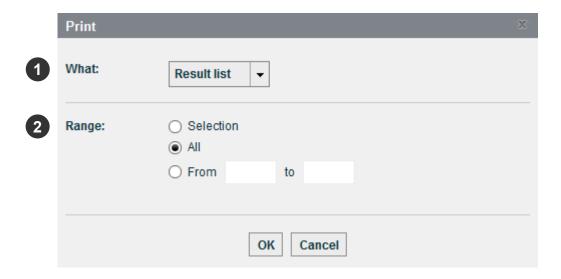


- Click to start the download process.
- 2 Click into delete an item from the list.
- **③** Click **⋘** to stop the preparation process.

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12.4. PRINT PROCESS

EPAB allows you to print up to fifty documents/result list entries.



- Printable data
 - History queries
 - Result list
 - Document
- 2 Print range definition

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13. DATABASE CONTENT

Similar to the EPS database, EPAB is a cumulative database updated every Wednesday at 14.00 hrs CET.

On Wednesday at 14.00 hrs CET:

- New European patent applications (A documents including Euro-PCT applications previously published by WIPO and republished by the EPO), and patent specifications (B documents) of that week are published. They are added to the database of documents published since 1978 and starting at EP 0000001 A1.
- The full-text (description and claims) of a Euro-PCT application previously published by WIPO and not republished by the EPO becomes available in the UI if the WO publication number can be combined with an EP publication number of that week.

₽ Note:

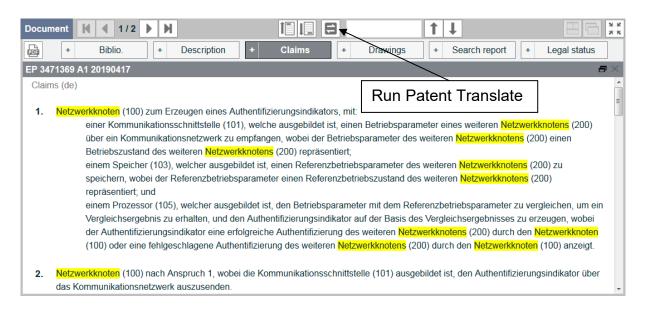
- The full-text of Euro-PCT applications published by WIPO and not republished by the EPO corresponds to international publications published by WIPO as of 2019 week 1. International publications published before 2019 week 1 will be included progressively.
- The full-text of a Euro-PCT application published by WIPO and not republished by the EPO becomes available in the UI once the international publication has been mentioned in the European Patent Bulletin.
- Scanned pages of Euro-PCT application published by WIPO and not republished by the EPO are available in the user interface for all international publications which were mentioned in European Patent Bulletins, whatever their publication dates. They are retrieved on-the-fly using the EPO web service OPS, i.e. scanned pages are not part of the database.

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14. TRANSLATING TEXT

You can use patentranslate to translate the title(s), abstract, description and claims of EP document.

Developed by the EPO and Google, patentians generates on-the-fly-translations. It is also used in Espacenet and the EPS.



When you click the **Translation** button, the data (title, abstract, description or claims) is relayed to Patent Translate.

In the example above, the German claims will be relayed to Patent Translate.

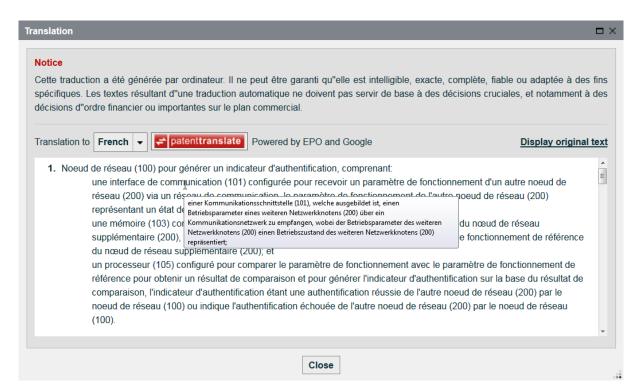
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Before translation

Select your target language from the list, and click the patentranslate button:



After translation



The original text shows up if you hover over the translated text.

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15. TROUBLESHOOTING

In some circumstances, e.g. when running searches or browsing your search results, you may see an error message. This may be due, for example, to issues related to the EPAB server or to low or no connectivity.

A typical error message:



If you get an error message, or if the UI does not operate as expected, we recommend the following:

- 1. Run your search again. If EPAB still does not operate properly, follow up with Step 2.
- Reload the UI, e.g. by pressing simultaneously Ctrl and F5 on your keyboard.
 If EPAB still does not operate properly, contact our support team at support@epo.org.

Note: You may have to repeat the login procedure if you are running searches or browsing results:

- During the EPAB database update on Wednesday at 12.00 hrs CET.
- During the update of other databases available in the UI on Friday at 12.00 hrs CET.

If you think some data are possibly incorrect, if you experience unexpected UI performance or if you wish to suggest any enhancements, please contact our support team at support@epo.org.

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16. GLOSSARY

Criterion (plural = criteria): Represents searchable data. A criterion is identified by a code used in a <u>Boolean query</u> and a name. For example, CCAT is the code for "Citation category (search report)". See <u>Criteria box</u> and <u>Query box</u> sections.

EP full-text search (EPAB in this document): One of the databases available in **Patent information services for experts**.

European Publication Server (EPS in this document): The sole legally authoritative publication medium for European A and B documents (since 1 April 2005), available here.

European Patent Register: The place to find procedural and legal status data on patent applications handled by the EPO, available <u>here</u>.

INPADOC extended family: See definitions here.

Index: Underlying data structure used at search time. There is one index per criterion. Index content can be displayed to check the presence, spelling and format of data. See Index box section.

Open Patent Services (OPS): One of the EPO's web services designed for automated access to bulk data sets extracted from the EPO's databases. For more information see here.

Patent information services for experts: Web application offering access to EPAB and several other databases, with search, download and visualisation functionalities via its UI, accessible here.

DOCDB simple family: Also known as an Espacenet patent family. Groups publications of similar technical content together on the basis of identical priority pictures. For more information see here.

UI: User interface of **Patent information services for experts**, accessible here.

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ANNEX 1

SEARCH CRITERIA DESCRIPTION

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Criterion code	Criterion name	Meaning/example
CATEGORY "APP	PLICATION AND PUBLICATION	N"
APN	Application number	The application number counts 8 digits (no check digit at the end).
		Example: APN = 10000265
APD	Application date	The application date corresponds to the filing date.
		Accepted date entry formats are YYYYMMDD and DDMMYYYY, with or without separator "/" or "-". Also accepted: YYYY, YYYYMM.
		Examples (different syntaxes having the same result): APD = 20120502 APD = 02-05-2012 APD = 02/05/2012
FFD	First filing date	The first filing date corresponds to the oldest priority date or in case of US priority to the filing date.
		Accepted date entry formats are YYYYMMDD and DDMMYYYY, with or without separator "/" or "-". Also accepted: YYYY, YYYYMM.
		Example: FFD = 19951129
PUN	Publication number	European publication number.
		Examples: PUN = 2525642 PUN = EP2525640 PUN = EP2525640B1

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PUD	Publication date	The EPO publishes every Wednesday at 14:00 CET. Euro-PCT published under Art. 158 EPC are published by WIPO on Thursday. Accepted date entry formats are YYYYMMDD and DDMMYYYY, with or without separator "/" or "-". Also accepted: YYYY, YYYYMM. Examples: PUD = 20110831 PUD = 201108 PUD = 2011 PUD >= 20120101 PUD [2000, 2010]
PUW	Publication week	Example: PUW = 201452
PUK	Publication kind	Example: PUK = B1 B2 B3
PUL	Publication language	Example: PUL = fr
IPUN	International publication number	The Euro-PCT number corresponds to the PCT publication number (format: WOYYYYnnnnnn and YYYYnnnnnn) Examples: IPUN = WO2010066545 IPUN = 2010066545
IAPN	International application number	The international application number is the number accorded by the receiving Office at the international date of filing. Examples: IAPN = US2002039990 IAPN = 2002039990

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IAPD	International application date	The international filing date of an application is the date on which the application is received at the receiving Office. Examples: IAPD = 20030708 IAPD = 200307 IAPD = 2003
IAPL	International application language	The language in which the application was filed. Example: IAPL = nl
PUA12	A1/A2 publication date	Examples: PUA12 = 19981111 PUA12 = 199811 PUA12 = 1998
PUA3	A3 publication date	Examples: PUA3 = 20120912 PUA3 = 201209 PUA3 = 2012
PUB1	B1 publication date	Examples: PUB1 = 20110817 PUB1 = 201108 PUB1 = 2011
PUB2	B2 publication date	Examples: PUB2 = 20110810 PUB2 = 201108 PUB2 = 2011
PUB3	B3 publication date	Examples: PUB3 = 20110831 PUB3 = 201108 PUB3 = 2011

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COD	Correction date	The correction date corresponds to the publication date of the corresponding A8, A9, B8 or B9.
		Examples: COD = 20110817 COD = 201108 COD = 2011
DCS	Designated contracting state	Example: DCS = ES and BE and IT
DXS	Designated extension state	Example: DXS = BA
DVS	Designated validation state	Example: DVS = MA

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PRN	Priority number	Priority number consists of the following information: • Filing office/state code: Paris Convention State or WTO member state where the priority application was filed
		 File number/priority number Priority numbers can be indexed in different ways. We therefore recommend to check them against the entries in the PRN index and to use the same format.
		Examples: PRN = "AT1072006 U" PRN = ZA201003605
PRD	Priority date	The priority date is the date when the priority application was filed in a Paris convention state WTO member state.
		Examples: PRD = 20111123 PRD = 201111 PRD = 2011
PAAP	Parent application	The application and the publication number can both be searched.
		Examples: PAAP = 00107789 PAAP = 2135385
DIAP	Divisional application	The application and the publication number can both be searched.
		Examples: DIAP = 02000790 DIAP = 2243433

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CATEGORY "P	ATEGORY "PARTIES"		
INV	Inventor	Inventor's name	
		Example: INV = veverka INV = "veverka karen"	
INVCI	Inventor (city)	Inventor's city	
		Example: INVCI = wien	
INVCO	Inventor (country)	Inventor's country	
		Example: INVCO = AE AM AN	
APP	Applicant/Proprietor	Applicant's name	
		Example: APP = 3m APP = "3m innovative"	
APPCI	Applicant/Proprietor city	City of the applicant/proprietor	
		Example: APPCI = montreal	
APPCO	Applicant/Proprietor (country)	Country of the applicant/proprietor	
		Example: APPCO = AR AT AU BB	

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REP	Representative	Representative's name
		Examples: REP = vossius
		REP = "vossius partner"
REPCI	Representative (city)	Representative's city
		Example: REPCI = istanbul
REPCO	Representative (country)	Representative's country
		Example: REPCO = TR SK SI SE RO

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CATEGORY "	CATEGORY "CLASSIFICATION"		
IPC	IPC (all)	IPC symbols for all editions (1 to current) Example of queries having the same meaning: IPC=C08K3/00 or C08L101/00 IPC="C08K 3/00" or "C08L 101/00" IPC=C08K000300 or C08L010100	
IC8	IPC8	IPC 8 symbols Example of queries having the same meaning: IC8=C08K3/00 or C08L101/00 IC8="C08K 3/00" or "C08L 101/00" IC8=C08K000300 or C08L010100	
ICFA	IPC full level (additional information)	IPC 8 symbols (full level – additional information) Example of queries having the same meaning: ICFA=C08K3/00 or C08L101/00 ICFA="C08K 3/00" or "C08L 101/00" ICFA=C08K000300 or C08L010100	
ICFI	IPC full level (invention information)	IPC 8 symbols (full level – invention information) Example of queries having the same meaning: ICFI=C08K3/00 or C08L101/00 ICFI="C08K 3/00" or "C08L 101/00" ICFI=C08K000300 or C08L010100	

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CPC	Cooperative Patent Classification	CPC symbols (invention and additional information) See IPC
CPCA	CPC (additional information)	See ICFA
CPCI	CPC (invention information)	See ICFI
CSET	C-Set	Combination set (a set being a list of CPC symbols) See IPC

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TEGORY "TEXT"		
WORD	All words in all languages	The WORD index cumulates words of all titles, abstracts, descriptions, and claims. Examples: WORD = laser* +2w beam* WORD = argon* /2w purif*
TIEN	Title (en)	Title in English language Example: TIEN= car and electro*
TIFR	Title (fr)	Title in French language Example: TIFR = baguette
TIDE	Title (de)	Title in German language Example: TIDE =auto*
ABEN	Abstract (en)	Abstract in English language Example: ABEN = solar* +2w cell*
ABFR	Abstract (fr)	Abstract in French language Example: ABFR = cellule* +2w solaire*
ABDE	Abstract (de)	Abstract in German language Example: ABDE = solarzelle*

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DEEN	Description (en)	Description in English language
		Example: See above
DEFR	Description (fr)	Description in French language
		Example: See above
DEDE	Description (de)	Description in German language
		Example: See above
CLEN	Claims (en)	Claims in English language
		Example: See above
CLFR	Claims (fr)	Claims in French language
		Example: See above
CLDE	Claims (de)	Claims in German language
		Example: See above

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CATEGORY "	ATEGORY "CITATION, SEARCH REPORT"		
CIT	Citation (patent and NPL)	Includes patent and NPL citations Example: CIT = zwiebel and us4376110	
CPAT	Patent citation (all types)	Example: CPAT = JP9018997A	
CNPL	NPL citation (all types)	Example: CNPL = "Molecular Cloning"	
CPAP	Patent citation (applicant)	Example: CPAP = WOU200101805	
CNAP	NPL citation (applicant)	Example: CNAP = "Organischen Chemie"	
CPEP	Patent citation (examination phase)	Example: CPEP = US4779979A	
CNEP	NPL citation (examination phase)	Example: CNEP = phytopathogenic +1w fungi	
CPSR	Patent citation (search report)	Only for European search report in text format (available as of 2012 week 27) Example: CPSR = US2010183862A1	
CPPD	Publication date of cited patent (search report)	Only for European search report in text format (available as of 2012 week 27) Example: CPPD = 1900	
CAPP	Applicant of cited patent (search report)	Only for European search report in text format (available as of 2012 week 27) Example: CAPP = "WATANABE KAZUO"	

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CNSR	NPL citation (search report)	Only for European search report in text format (available as of 2012 week 27)
		Example: CNSR = "World patent index" or WPI
CCAT	Citation category (search report)	Only for European search report in text format (available as of 2012 week 27) Example:
COSE	Date of completion of search	CAPP = X Y Only for European search report in text format (available as of 2012 week 27)
		Example: COSE = 201501
TSF	Technical search field	Only for European search report in text format (available as of 2012 week 27)
		Example: TSF = F02C
LUI	Lack of unity of invention (sheet B)	Only for European search report in text format (available as of 2012 week 27). Boolean criterion to search European search report where a lack of unity of invention is detected.
		Example: LUI = YES
DNOS	Declaration of no search	Only for European search report in text format (available as of 2012 week 27). Boolean criterion to search European search report where there is a declaration of no search. Example:
		DNOS = YES
PSR	Partial search report (Sheet C)	Only for European search report in text format (available as of 2012 week 27). Boolean criterion to search partial European search report.
		Example: PSR = YES

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CATEGORY "OTHER"		
EPO	Publication by the EPO	Boolean criterion to search EP publications and Euro-PCT republished by the EPO
		Example: EPO = YES
CWE	Current week	Boolean criterion to search only the documents of the current publication week, which starts every Wednesday at 14:00 Example:
		CWE = YES
PSL	Presence of sequence listing	Boolean criterion to search documents with sequence listings (in PDF or TXT format) Example: PSL = YES
PAD	Presence of additional data	Boolean criterion to search documents with additional data (e.g. reference tables in PDF, description in PDF), including sequence listings Example: PAD = YES

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ANNEX 2

RESULT LIST CONTENT DESCRIPTION

Note: Searchable data is rendered in HTML format for user convenience only. There is no guarantee that this view accurately reproduces the underlying XML data. Only the original PDF is an accurate replication of the original publication.

Most of the data that can be included in the result list is also displayed in EP documents, and already described in Annex 3 "Document content description".

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Column name	Column content
Publication	Corresponding search criteria: PUN, PUK, PUD
Publication date	Corresponding search criterion: PUD
Publication week	Corresponding search criterion: PUW
Publication language	Corresponding search criterion: PUL
A1/A2 publication date	Corresponding search criterion: PUA12
A3 publication date	Corresponding search criterion: PUA3
B1 publication date	Corresponding search criterion: PUB1
B2 publication date	Corresponding search criterion: PUB2
B3 publication date	Corresponding search criterion: PUB3
Correction date	Corresponding search criterion: COD
Application	Corresponding search criteria: APN, APD
Application date	Corresponding search criterion: APD
Parent application/Publication	Corresponding search criterion: PAAP
Divisional Application/Publication	Corresponding search criterion: DIAP
Priority	Corresponding search criteria: PRN and PRD
Priority date	Corresponding search criterion: PRD
First filing date	Corresponding search criterion: FFD

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International publication	Corresponding search criterion: IPUN
International application	Corresponding search criteria: IAPN, IAPD, IAPL
International application date	Corresponding search criterion: IAPD
International application language	Corresponding search criterion: IAPL
Designated contracting state	Corresponding search criterion: DCS
Designated extension state	Corresponding search criterion: DXS
Designated validation state	Corresponding search criterion: DVS
IPC1-7 further and additional	Corresponding search criterion: IC17F
IPC1-7 main	Corresponding search criterion: IC17M
IPC full level (additional information)	Corresponding search criterion: ICFA
IPC full level (invention information)	Corresponding search criterion: ICFI
CPC (additional information)	Corresponding search criterion: CPCA
CPC (invention information)	Corresponding search criterion: CPCI
C-Set	Corresponding search criterion: CSET
Inventor	Corresponding search criterion: INV
Inventor (city)	Corresponding search criterion: INVCI
Inventor (country)	Corresponding search criterion: INVCO
Applicant/Proprietor	Corresponding search criterion: APP
Applicant/Proprietor (city)	Corresponding search criterion: APPCI

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Applicant/Proprietor (country)	Corresponding search criterion: APPCO
Representative	Corresponding search criterion: REP
Representative (city)	Corresponding search criterion: REPCI
Representative (country)	Corresponding search criterion: REPCO
Title (en)	Corresponding search criterion: TIEN
Title (fr)	Corresponding search criterion: TIFR
Title (de)	Corresponding search criterion: TIDE
Abstract (en)	Corresponding search criterion: ABEN
Abstract (fr)	Corresponding search criterion: ABFR
Abstract (de)	Corresponding search criterion: ABDE
Patent citation (applicant)	Corresponding search criterion: CPAP
NPL citation (applicant)	Corresponding search criterion: CNAP
Patent citation (examination phase)	Corresponding search criterion: CPEP
NPL citation (examination phase)	Corresponding search criterion: CNEP
Patent citation (search report)	Corresponding search criterion: CPSR
Publication date of cited patent (search report)	Corresponding search criterion: CPPD
Applicant of cited patent (search report)	Corresponding search criterion: CAPP
NPL citation (search report)	Corresponding search criterion: CNSR
Citation category (search report)	Corresponding search criterion: CCAT

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Date of completion of search	Corresponding search criterion: COSE
Technical search field	Corresponding search criterion: TSF
Lack of unity of invention (sheet B)	Corresponding search criterion: LUI
Declaration of no search	Corresponding search criterion: DNOS
Partial search report (Sheet C)	Corresponding search criterion: PSR

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ANNEX 3

DOCUMENT CONTENT DESCRIPTION

Note: Searchable data is rendered in HTML format for user convenience only. There is no guarantee that this view accurately reproduces the underlying XML data. Only the original PDF is an accurate replication of the original publication.

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Biblio.	+ Description	+ Claims	+ Drawings	+ Search report	+ Legal events
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Note: Bibliographic data in text format described below is data generated by the EPO for all EP and Euro-PCT applications published or not published by the EPO. Bibliographic data in image format (scanned pages retrieved from OPS) is available only for Euro-PCT applications published by WIPO and not republished by the EPO.

Field name	Field content
Title (en)	Title in English language.
	Corresponding search criterion: TIEN.
	Available as column for the search result list.
Title (de)	Title in German language.
	Corresponding search criterion: TIDE.
	Available as column for the search result list.
Title (fr)	Title in French language.
	Corresponding search criterion: TIFR.
	Available as column for the search result list.
Abstract (en)	Abstract in English language.
	Corresponding search criterion: ABEN.
	Available as column for the search result list.

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Abstract (de)	Abstract in German language
	Corresponding search criterion: ABDE.
	Available as column for the search result list.
Abstract (fr)	Abstract in French language.
	Corresponding search criterion: ABFR.
	Available as column for the search result list.
Publication	Corresponding search criteria: PUN (publication number), PUK (publication kind) and PUD (publication date).
	Link to the European Publication Server.
	Example:
	EP 0466919 B1 19961120 [1996-47]
	Publication number and publication date are available as individual columns for the search result list.
Application	Corresponding search criteria: APN (application number), APD (application date)
	The application number consists of nine digits. The first two digits indicate the year of filing. The last digit is a check digit. The six digits in between are used to number consecutively the applications in the order in which they are received at the place of filing, starting from the lowest number within a specific range of six-digit numbers.
	Link to the European Patent Register.
	Example:
	EP 14174881.4 20140630
	Application number and date are available as individual columns for the search result list.

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Priority	Corresponding search criteria: PRN (priority number) and PRD (priority date)
	Priority number consists of the following information: • Filing office/state code: Paris Convention State or WTO member state where the priority application was filed • File number/priority number
	The priority date is the date when the priority application was filed in Paris Convention State or WTO member state.
	Example:
	AT 10462007 20070706
	Priority number and date are available as individual columns for the search result list.
Parent application/publication	Parent application/publication of the current application/publication
	Corresponding search criteria: PAAP
	Example:
	07812491 / 2035572
	Available as column for the search result list.
Divisional application/publication	Divisional application/publication of the current application/publication
	Corresponding search criteria: DIAP
	Example:
	10012752 / 2324839 11190844
	Available as column for the search result list.

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Designated contracting state	Corresponding search criteria: DCS
	Available as column for the search result list.
Designated extension state	Corresponding search criteria: DXS
	Available as column for the search result list.
Designated validation state	Corresponding search criteria: DVS
	Available as column for the search result list.
IPC 1-7 (main, further and additional classification))	Corresponding search criteria: IC17M IC17F IC17 IPC
Classification))	Link to WIPO International Patent Classification (IPC)
	Example:
	C07D 307/12; C07D 407/12; C07D 307/42; A01N 43/08
	Available as column for the search result list
IPC	Corresponding search criteria: IPC IC8 ICFA ICFI
	Example:
	A01N 25/32 (2006.01); A01N 37/46 (2006.01); A01N 39/02 (2006.01); A01N 43/18 (2006.01)
	Symbols are links to the WIPO IPC scheme (invention symbols in bold, additional symbols not in bold).
	Available as column for the search result list

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CPC	List of CPC symbols as of 2021 week 37 – corresponding search criteria: CPC CPCA CPCI
	Example:
	H05B 47/11 (2020.01); H05B 47/115 (2020.01); H05B 47/19 (2020.01); H04L 67/125 (2013.01)
	Symbols are links to the CPC scheme (invention symbols in bold, additional symbols not in bold).
	Available as column for the search result list
C-Set	List of combination sets as of 2021 week 37 (a set being a list of CPC symbols) – corresponding search criteria: CSET
	Example:
	1. C08L 75/08 + C08K 3/36 + C08K 5/549 + C08L 71/02 + C08L 83/04 2. C08L 71/02 + C08L 71/02 + C08L 83/04 3. C08L 75/08 + C08L 71/02 + C08L 83/04
	Symbols are links to the CPC scheme (invention symbols in bold, additional symbols not in bold).
	Available as column for the search result list
Applicant/Proprietor	Corresponding search criteria: APP (applicant/proprietor's name), APPCI (applicant/proprietor's city) and APPCO (applicant/proprietor's country)
	Example:
	Universidade de Aveiro Campus Universitário de Santiago 3810-193 Aveiro PT
	Applicant/proprietor's name, city and country are available as individual columns for the search result list

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Inventor	Corresponding search criteria: INV (inventor's name), INVCI (inventor's city) and INVCO (inventor's country) In the case that the inventor requested "not to be made known as inventor" or in the case designation of inventor has not been received before the publication of European Patent application, it is possible that inventor's data will not be present.
	Example: EGGENWEILER, Hans-Michael Kafkastrasse 4 64291 Darmstadt DE
	Inventor's name, city and country are available as individual columns for the search result list
Representative	Corresponding search criteria: REP (representative Name), REPCI (representative City) and REPCO (representative Country)
	In the case there are multiple representatives in addition to the main appointed representatives "et al." is appended next to the representative's name
	Example:
	Pearson, James Ginn, et al Abel & Imray 20 Red Lion Street, London WC1R 4PQ GB
	Representative name, city and country are available as individual columns for the search result list

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International publication	Corresponding search criterion: IPUN (international publication number)
	The publication date and week are those of the first international publication of the Euro-PCT application, i.e. it is not necessarily the publication date and week of the international publication used as the source for descriptions and claims. For example, the source can be a WO A9 and the publication date and week are the ones of the WO A1.
	Link to WIPO's PATENTSCOPE
	Example:
	WO2015003739 20150115 [2015-02]
	Available as column for the search result list
International application	Corresponding search criteria: IAPN (international application number), IAPD (international application filing date) and IAPL (international application language).
	Example:
	RU2007000438 20070809 (ru)
	Available as column for the search result list.
Patent citation (applicant)	Corresponding search criterion: CPAP
	Link to Espacenet, and to the citation in the description (paragraph number) for EP/Euro-PCT applications published by the EPO
	Example:
	US 6146421 A [0018]
	Available as column for the search result list

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NPL citation (applicant)	Corresponding search criterion: CNAP
	Link to the citation in the description (paragraph number) for EP/Euro-PCT applications published by the EPO
	Example:
	LEHNINGER, A. L. Biochemistry Worth Publishers 19750000 71 77 [0030]
	Available as column for the search result list
Patent citation (examination phase)	Corresponding search criterion: CPEP
	Link to Espacenet
	Example:
	US 6177151 B1
	Available as column for the search result list
NPL citation (examination phase)	Corresponding search criterion: CNEP
	Example:
	HITCHOCK AND GLASBERRY: "Binary image restoration at subpixel resolution", BIOMETRICS, no. 53, 31 December 1997 (1997-12-31), pages 1040-1053
	Available as column for the search result list
Correction date	Corresponding search criterion: COD
	Content consists of the correction date and the date on which the publication is mentioned in the EP Bulletin.
	Example:
	20121107 [2012-45]
	Available as column for the search result list.

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A1/A2 publication date	Corresponding search criterion: PUA12
	Content consists of the publication date and the date on which the application is mentioned in the EP bulletin.
	Example:
	19981111 [1998-46]
	Available as column for the search result list.
A3 publication date	Corresponding search criterion: PUA3
	Content consists of the publication date and the date on which the application is mentioned in the EP Bulletin.
	Example:
	19970611 [1997-24]
	Available as column for the search result list.
B1 publication date	Corresponding search criterion: PUB1
	Content consists of publication date and the date on which the publication is mentioned in the EP Bulletin.
	Example:
	20010919 [2001-38]
	Available as column for the search result list.
B2 publication date	Corresponding search criterion: PUB2
	Content consists of publication date and the date on which the publication is mentioned in the EP bulletin.
	Example:
	20121031 [2012-44]
	Available as column for the search result list.

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B3 publication date	Corresponding search criterion: PUB3
	Content consists of publication date and the date on which the publication is mentioned in the EP Bulletin.
	Example:
	20121017 [2012-42]
	Available as column for the search result list.
EPO simple family	Also known as DOCDB simple family. Data retrieved from OPS. Link to Espacenet.
	Example:
	US2007116376; US2010142848; EP1788523
INPADOC extended family	Data retrieved from OPS. Link to Espacenet.
	Example:
	EP 1788523 A1; EP 1788523 B1; EP 1788523 B8; US 2010142848 A1; US 8249381 B2

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Corresponding search criteria: CLEN, CLDE, CLFR, WORD.

Claims are in French, English or German for EP A documents and in French, English and German for EP B documents.

For B documents claims order is by default English / German / French and can be modified in the menu User preferences, option <u>Document content</u>.

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Corresponding search criteria: CPSR, CNSR, CPPD, CAPP, CCAT, COSE, TSF, PSR, LUI, DNOS.

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