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DOCX benefits

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- Increases application quality
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 - Eliminates the non-embedded font error, the most common error in uploading a PDF
- Saves time
 - Detects and splits specification, claims, abstract and drawings found in a single file (i.e., multi-section document) in Patent Center
 - Automated document code assignment
 - Eliminates requirement to convert DOCX into PDF for filing
 - Results in fewer non-compliant notices



Non-DOCX surcharge

 Starting January 1, 2023, a surcharge up to \$400 will apply when filing a new non-provisional utility application* in PDF format

* Applies to the specification, claims, and abstract when filed in PDF format. Please Visit the <u>Summary of Final</u> <u>Patent Fee Rules</u>

- Drawings are accepted in DOCX format but may still be submitted in PDF format with no surcharge.
- Surcharge does not apply to the following application types provisional, national stage, design, plant, and PCT applications



Auxiliary PDF

- Applicants have the option to submit a PDF document of their application along with their DOCX document in Patent Center.
 - Applies to utility non-provisional applications
 - Effective through December 31, 2022
- This initiative will allow more time for applicants to acclimate to DOCX filing and for the USPTO to receive any feedback on issues with the DOCX to PDF conversion process.
- Applicants will still rely on the DOCX version as the source or evidentiary copy.
 - May also rely on the auxiliary PDF to support a request to correct an error or discrepancy
- Applicants should contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) if they experience any issues with filing applications in DOCX format.
- Refer to the Federal Register Notice published on 4/28/2022 for further guidance.

Filing DOCX in Patent Center

Filing DOCX in Patent Center vs EFS-Web

DOCX filing is available in both Patent Center and EFS-Web with some key differences

Patent Center	EFS-Web
Expanded DOCX functionality	Limited DOCX functionality
Filers can file nonprovisional utility, provisional, and national stage application types; follow-ons on the same day	Filers can only file nonprovisional utility applications
File multi-section (specification, claims, abstract, drawings) in a single document for Patent Center to automatically detect and assign document codes	Filers must manually split documents into separate single-section documents prior to upload
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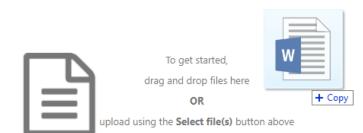
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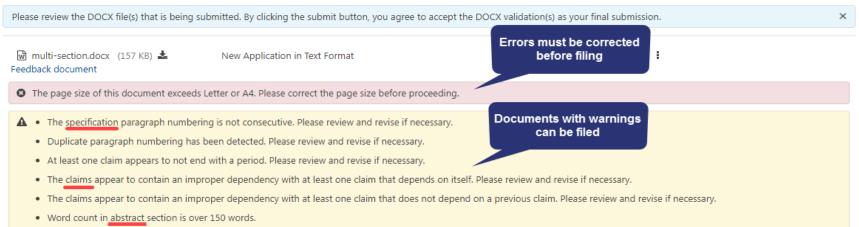
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Specification

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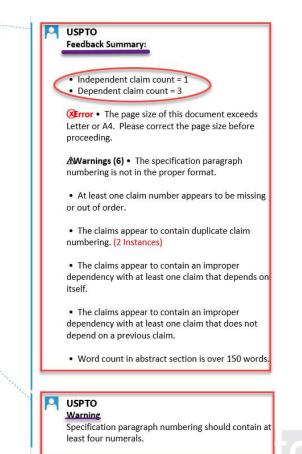
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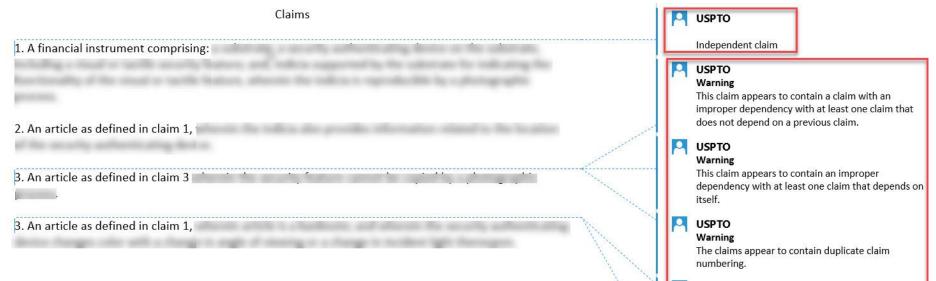
BACKGROUND OF THE INVENTION

[0002]

[0003]



Claims feedback



USPTO

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Warning

The claims appear to contain duplicate claim numbering.

USPTO

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This claim number appears to be missing or out of order.



Abstract feedback

Abstract

This is an example of an abstract of the invention. In this abstract example we will exceed 150 words. Since MPEP section 608.01(b) recommends that the number of words in the abstract be within the range of 50-100 words, this is a useful detection provided by our USPTO DOCX system. After detection of the abstract of the invention, the number of words are validated. Upon uploading the abstract, the user is immediately notified if they have exceeded this amount and a feedback document is provided to the user pre-submission. Upon opening the feedback document, a message indicated that the number of words in the abstract has been exceeded will be shown. The user may desire to delete, modify and upload the abstract again. The user will be able to easily identify where the number of words are exceeded since the system will indicate the exact location of the extra words. Here are the extra words.

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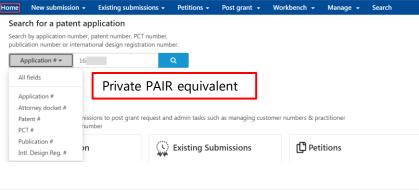
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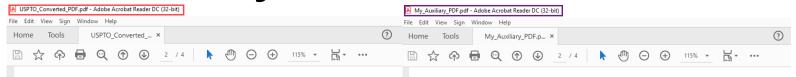
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CLAIMS

What is claimed is:

1. A method for developing results using a formula,

$$f(x) = a_0 + \sum_{n=1}^{\infty} \left(a_n \cos \frac{n\pi x}{L} + b_n \sin \frac{n\pi x}{L} \right)$$

to be used in controlling my device.

- 2. The method of claim 1, wherein the results comprise a number of desired outcomes.
- 3. The method of claim 1, wherein the results are placed in a table.
- 4. The method of claim 2, wherein the desired outcomes are output to the device.

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CLAIMS

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- 4. The method of claim 2, wherein the desired outcomes are output to the device.

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