

Artificial Intelligence and its Impact on Intellectual Property Ken Chia

April 2019





Artificial Intelligence



Artificial Intelligence

Al is big



Artificial Intelligence

External investment in Al-focused companies by technology category, 2016¹ \$ billion



1 Estimates consist of annual VC investment in Al-focused companies, PE investment in Al-related companies, and M&A by corporations. Includes only disclosed data available in databases, and assumes that all registered deals were completed within the year of transaction.

AI in Singapore

Singapore initiatives

AI.SG

AI Singapore was set up in May 2017 with an up to S\$150 million fund to catalyse, synergise and boost Singapore's AI capabilities

IMDA ARTIFICIAL INTELLIGENCE INDUSTRY INITIATIVES, 3 Nov 2017

"IMDA hopes to make AI adopted as pervasively and ubiquitously as smartphones. To do so, we will drive industry adoption by improving businesses' understanding of the value that AI solutions can have on their enterprise, introducing suitable solutions for their needs; and supporting collaborations to showcase demonstrative projects in key sectors."

AI in Singapore

Singapore initiatives

National Speech CorpusThe Enhanced Accreditation@SG Digital programme Guide to Data Sharing Regulatory sandbox Model AI Governance Framework (won WSIS Prize 2019)

> Decisions made by Al should be EXPLAINABLE, TRANSPARENT & FAIR

Al systems should be **HUMAN-CENTRIC**

Al in the consumer goods industry



AI is an enabler for individualized customer engagement

With the potential of AI, there's good news for leading consumer goods companies. AI will help enable consumer goods companies to embed their brands into their customers' everyday lives.

For high-engagement products, AI could open the door, through a conversational interface, to a much more personalized, interactive and trusted ongoing relationship between company and consumer.

For low-engagement products, AI offers the potential to eliminate the user interface altogether and drive individualized predictive replenishment on a huge scale.



OF CONSUMER GOODS EXECUTIVES ACKNOWLEDGE **AI'S GAME CHANGING** POTENTIAL FOR CUSTOMER INFORMATION AND INTERACTIONS.

Source : Accenture Technology Vision for Consumer Goods 2017

AI in Industry

Al in the consumer goods industry

"The threat is that there will be far fewer opportunities for consumer goods companies to get their brands in front of the consumer. Predictive replenishment removes the need for the consumer to make decisions about which product they'll choose on a daily, weekly or monthly basis. For example, a consumer might set up a subscription with Amazon to automatically select the best deal for laundry detergent. That would remove the need for the consumer to ever think again about that product. It also means Amazon becomes the face of the purchase decision, consigning manufacturers to a "fight to the death" promotional battle."

Source : Accenture Technology Vision for Consumer Goods 2017

AI in Industry

Al in the consumer goods industry

"As an example, one apparel manufacturer is developing a virtual personal shopping assistant that aims to act like an experienced in-store salesperson. The prototype app, Expert Personal Shopper, was developed by Fluid Inc. using IBM's Watson platform. Speech recognition enables customers to interact via voice with the app, which uses NLP [natural language processing] to understand customer questions so that it can make appropriate recommendations based on its analysis of product information. Machine learning is used to improve the quality of the app's recommendations over time."

Source : Prescouter, How AI Is Redefining the Consumer Goods Industry



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Intellectual Property in AI

Trade Marks Patents Trade secrets Copyright Data



AI and Trademarks

Time and cost savings are expected to be the biggest benefits of AI, which will also impact on trademark prosecution clearance searches, according to 93% of respondents to Hogan Lovells' Brand Benchmarking survey 2018

Also for enforcement, AI is expected to facilitate online infringements searches and the preparation of take down notices

But longer term issues such as whether current TM law are fit for purpose in AI enabled world are starting to be raised

- Can a shopping bot be confused ?
- Can a shopping bot be a secondary infringer if it suggests a counterfeit or similar product ?

AI & IP

Al and Trademarks

Cosmetic Warriors Ltd & Anor v amazon.co.uk Ltd & Anor [2014] EWHC 181 (Ch) (10 February 2014)

The second bullet

Lush Soap at Amazon.co.uk www.amazon.co.uk/lush+soap amazon.co.uk is rated ***** Low prices on Lush Soap Free UK Delivery on Amazon Orders.

Bomb Bath at Amazon.co.uk www.amazon.co.uk/bomb+bath amazon.co.uk is rated ***** Low prices on Bomb Bath Free UK Delivery on Amazon Orders.



£7.35 new (10 offers)

C8.60 new (10 offers)

Al and Patents



AI and Patents

Class G06N (computer systems based on specific computational models), consisting of sub-classes:

- 1.1. G06N 3/00 (computer systems based on biological models)
- 1.2. G06N 5/00 (computer systems utilizing knowledge based models)
- 1.3. G06N 7/00 (computer systems based on specific mathematical models)

1.4. G06N 99/00 (subject matter not provided for in other groups), further consisting of sub-classes:

- 1.4.1 G06N 99/002 (quantum computers)
- 1.4.2 G06N 99/005 (learning machines)
- 1.4.3 G06N 99/007 (molecular computers)

2. Sub-class G06F 17/27 (handling natural language data with automatic analysis, e.g. parsing)

3. Sub-class G06F 17/28 (handling natural language data with processing or translating of natural language)

AI and Patents

Consistent with the recent explosion in investments in AI, there has been an upswing in the number of AI patents granted in the U.S.—increasing from *2,855* U.S. patents issued between 1998 and 2007 to *12,756* U.S. patents issued between 2008 and 2017.

Even within the last ten years, the number of AI patents that were annually issued in the U.S. skyrocketed, for example, increasing from *512* in 2008 to *2,317* in 2017,7 reaffirming heightened investments and technological advancements in AI.

Al patents that constituted large percentages of patent activities in the 1998-2007 timeframe continued to see significant growth, such as patents relating to handling natural language data with automatic analysis (e.g., parsing) (G06F 17/27), which remained the leading type of patents granted.

The greatest diversification in the types of AI patents issued in the 2008-2017 timeframe came with the 8% increase in the "other groups" patents (G06N 99/00), signaling substantial growth in the AI fields of quantum computers (G06N 99/002), learning machines (G06N 99/005), and molecular computers (G06N 99/007), which is consistent with the recent advancements in machine learning.

Al and Patents

But:

- Software patents may not be patentable everywhere;
- patents have a limited life;
- patents do not protect data compilations, such as AI training sets or a programmer's particular expression of source code (which is protected by copyright), or other types of proprietary information (that constitute a trade secret).

Al and Patentability

COMMITTED TO DMPROVING THE STATE

White Paper

Artificial Intelligence Collides with Patent Law

Center for the Fourth Industrial Revolution								
April 2018								
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Patent law issues impacted by Al

- The patent subject-matter eligibility standard for AI
- Legal framework for the patentability of "AI patents
- Discussion points on the present legal standard
- Patentability and inventorship issues for AI generated inventions
- Legal considerations for patentability and inventorship for AI
- Discussion points on patentability
- Discussion points on inventorship
- Liability issues for patent infringement by AI
- Legal framework for patent infringement liability
- Discussion points on patent infringement liability
- Nonobviousness standard for AI
- Legal framework for nonobviousness
- Discussion points on how to defne a "person of ordinary skill in the art"

AI and Trade secrets

The decision to seek a patent may have unintended consequences— if a patent is sought but not obtained, or granted and then invalidated, the subject matter may have become public, rendering not only patent protection but also trade secret protection unavailable.

Many AI system elements are well-suited for trade secret protection, such as: neural networks, training sets, data output, software including underlying AI code and AI-generated code, and learning algorithms – i.e. what's in the "black box".

But need for robust organisational, electronic and physical protection measures to keep it "secret" may mean limiting it to the "crown jewels".

AI and Copyrights

Need for human author Who is the Al's employer ? Originality and compilations of facts Protection of expression vs idea / functionality Registration of "versions"

AI and Data

No 'ownership' of data?

No 'ownership' of personal data ?

Right to object to profiling and automated decision making

Repurposing of data without consent

Legitimate interest and alternative grounds of processing / exceptions Anonymisation and pseudo- anonymisation

Who is the 'organisation' / data controller ? Are there joint controllers ?



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