



Intellectual
Property
Office

Use of AI for examination of patent applications

SCP 31

Zac Stentiford, Senior Policy Advisor

Zac.Stentiford@ipo.gov.uk

Background

- Regulators Pioneer Fund – to help address barriers to innovation
- UK IPO using fund to explore AI solutions that could enhance and modernise the filing process for IP rights

Projects

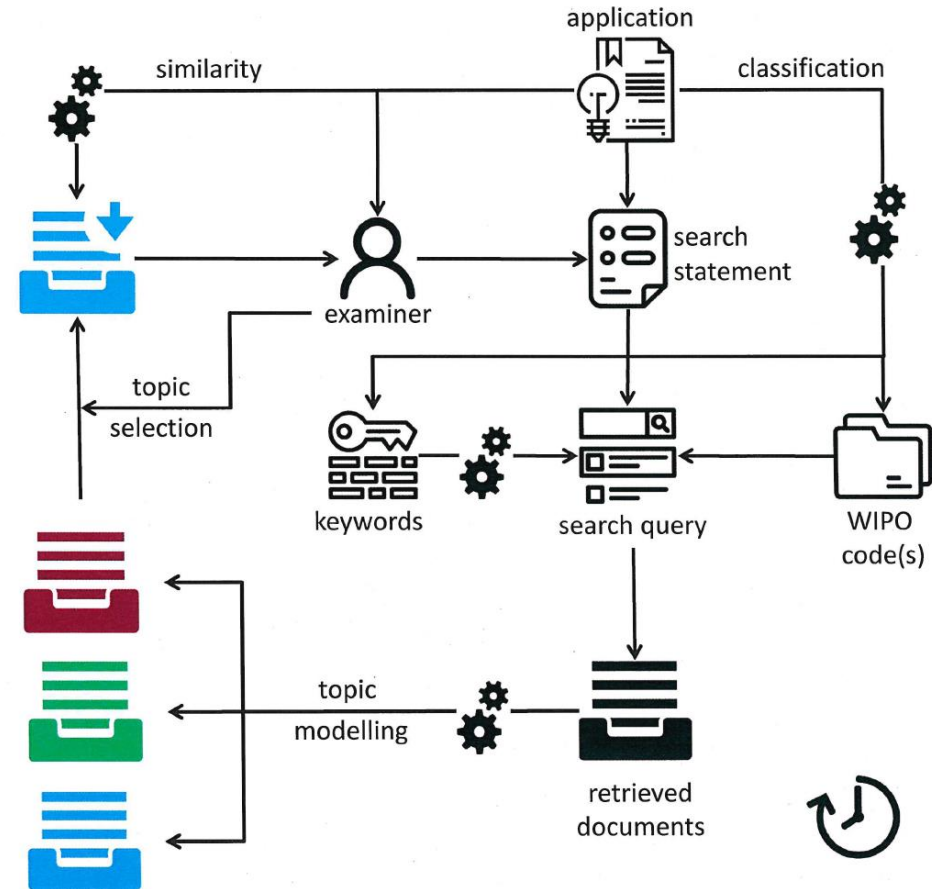
- AI assisted patent prior art searching
- AI for recognition of earlier trade marks and/or designs

AI assisted prior art searching

- Feasibility study being conducted by Cardiff University
- AI algorithm to:
 - Read application text
 - Scan patent databases
 - Determine top 50 most relevant documents

AI assisted prior art searching

- Algorithm keeps 'human-in-the-loop' to utilise expertise and experience of patent examiners
- 3 technology sectors based on highest search volumes
 - Computing
 - Civil engineering
 - Transport



AI assisted prior art searching

- Algorithm tested by examiners in October 2019
 - Quality of algorithm
 - Relevance of search results
- Results of testing will lead to research paper presented to UK IPO in December 2019

Thank you

- For further information or to share experiences, please contact:

Zac.Stentiford@ipo.gov.uk