OBVIOUSLY NOT

Patent Application Self-Check

Paste a draft application and get a list of places to reread: title and abstract length, section order, figures, claim references, claim words and reference numerals. Then work through 34 review questions.

Building It

B1

Which part or step could you not make from the text alone?

B2

For that part or step, what exactly would you have to ask the inventor?

B3

Where does the text name a part without saying how it relates to the parts beside it: what passes between them or how they are joined, or, for an element of a structure, where it sits and which other elements it depends on?

B4

For each part, is there a property it must have for the idea to work (a size, a type, a mode, how many of it) that the text leaves out? Quote where the part is named.

B5

For each step the text names, does it say how the step is carried out, or only name it? Quote the step.

B6

Where a step decides something, does the text say what the decision is based on: the rule and its values, or, if the decision is learned, the inputs it is made from, what the model was trained to predict, and any threshold applied to its output? Quote the decision.

B7

Where the idea computes or converts a value, does the text give the rule it uses, or, if the computation is learned, what produces it: the model's inputs and output, its form, and the data and objective it is trained with? Quote where the value appears.

B8

Where the text says the idea behaves differently in some cases, does it say which cases? Quote the passage.

B9

For each item of data passed between parts, does the text say what the item holds?

B10

For each item of data the idea keeps or sends, does the text say where it is kept or sent, or that the idea works the same wherever it is?

B11

Where the choice of hardware, software or service matters to how a part works, does the text name it? Quote the part.

B12

Which part of the description relies on something outside the text that it does not itself put in words: a link, a document or standard, a repository or code, a dataset, a trained model it starts from, or a named component's datasheet? Quote the reference.

Running It

R1

Once it is built, could you put it into use from what the text says: start and operate it, or, if the idea is a structure such as a format or a message, write a valid instance of it and read one back?

R2

Could you tell whether it is working as intended: from what it produces, or, if the idea is a structure, from whether an instance is valid and reads back as it was written?

R3

What would you have to ask before you could do either?

R4

At each point where a person acts, does the text say what they do?

R5

At each point where a person acts, does the text say what is shown to them?

R6

Where a step can fail or an input can be missing, does the text say what the idea does then?

One Complete Version

V1

Is at least one version described completely enough, from its first part to its last, that you could build it as written?

V2

Does the text follow at least one case from what goes in to what comes out?

The General Form

G1

Does the text say which parts have to stay for it to be the same idea?

G2

Does it say which parts could be swapped for something else?

G3

Where the text names a general kind of part, does it say what that part can be in practice?

G4

For each value the idea depends on, does the text give the range that still works?

G5

Where the text describes more than one way, does it say which one the inventor uses or would build first?

Why It Works

W1

For each difficulty the problem section names, does the text say which part of the idea deals with it?

W2

For the main effect the text claims, does it say why the mechanism produces it, or, if the behaviour is learned, what in the data, the training or the design is meant to produce it and what result shows that it does?

W3

Does the text say what the idea gives up compared with the way before?

W4

Does the short summary say what the idea does or how it is built (its steps, or its structure and rules), or only what it achieves? Quote it.

Drawings

F1

Which part or step that the text relies on would a reader follow more easily from a drawing, and does any figure number it?

F2

Is each part numbered on a figure described somewhere in the text?

Wording

T1

Where does the text say a part can work in only one way, while another section describes a different way or no reason is given?

T2

Which term does the text use before saying what it means? Name the term and where it first appears.

T3

Which term does the text use in more than one sense? Name the term and both places.

Scope. This self-check counts and matches text and lists places to read. It gives no score and no verdict, and an empty list does not mean a draft meets any rule.

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