

# Patent Public Search - Search results



## Quick Reference Guide 2025

Patent Public Search's Advanced Search interface offers a variety of options for displaying and managing search results.

### Search

1. In the **Search** pane, enter a search query. For this example, we searched for keywords in the abstract field (AB) and used Boolean search operators: **sensor.AB. AND (lidar OR radar).AB.**

### Search results columns

2. The **Search Results** will return a list ordered from newest to oldest. Search terms will appear above the results. Twenty-nine default column headings appear in a horizontal row above the search results list. Use the horizontal scroll bar below the results to see all columns. The default column headings are (from left to right):

Select | + | Result# | X | 1 | 2 | 3 | 4 | 5 | Document ID | Date Published | Family ID | Pages | Title | CPC | CPCA | Inventor | Assignee | Application Number | Filing Date | Primary Examiner | Assistant Examiner | OR | X Ref | Notes | Notes/Tagged | Relevancy | C

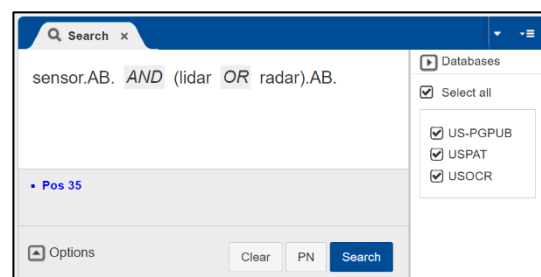


Figure 1. Search

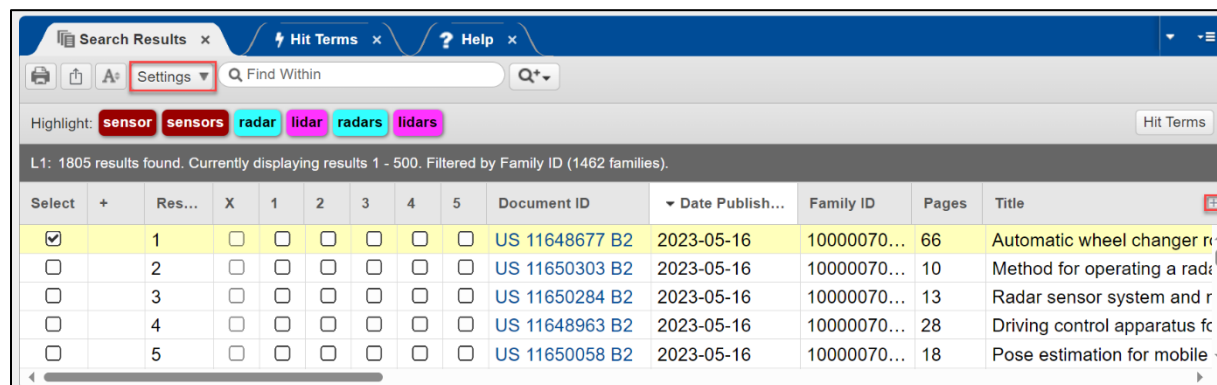


Figure 2. Search results and settings menu

3. **Select which columns to display:**

The Search Results "Settings" allow users to select which columns are displayed, including the number of tag columns (1-26) that are available to be shown or hidden; see **Figure 2**.

To reposition a column, click on its heading and drag to the left or right. The column headings will realign based on the new position of the column you moved.

4. **Selecting a document:** When you select a document in the Search Results list, the document will appear in the Document Viewer. Use the Text/Image View button to toggle from text view to image view; see Figure 3.

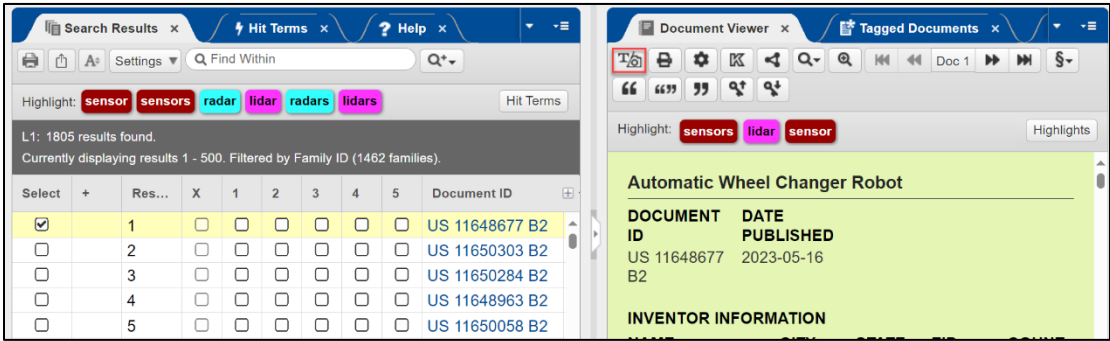


Figure 3. Selected results appear in the Document Viewer

5. **Plus “+” column:** If there is an entry in this column, it means that one or more related patent family documents are available. This would be indicated with a plus sign and a number (e.g. “+2”). Selecting the “plus number” button will insert the related patent family documents in the immediate row(s) below the document; see Figure 4.

Select	+	Res...	X	1	2	3	4	5	Document ID	Date Published	Family ID
<input type="checkbox"/>	+1	17	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	US 20210156963 A1	2021-05-27	75971421
<input type="checkbox"/>		18	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	US 20220289212 A1	2022-09-15	79169651
<input type="checkbox"/>	+2	19	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	US 20210081683 A1	2021-03-18	42665932
<input type="checkbox"/>	+1	20	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	US 20210286068 A1	2021-09-16	77664762
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	-2	21	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	US 11170299 B2	2021-11-09	71404728
<input type="checkbox"/>		22	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	US 20220019893 A1	2022-01-20	71404728
<input type="checkbox"/>		23	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	US 20220253706 A1	2022-08-11	71404728

Figure 4. Documents with a plus “+” number have patent family member(s) that can be displayed

6. **Tag columns:** Columns with headings numbered 1-5 are tag columns. You can attribute any characteristic to a particular tag column, then select the corresponding box for a document meeting that attribute. For example, if you want to attribute tag column “1” as “documents to review further,” then those documents receive your check mark. You may create your own list of attributes that each column number represents. The “Settings” menu shown in Figure 2 can be used to add additional columns. (See the [Quick Reference Guide](#) “Tagged documents” for additional features.)
7. **Order of documents in search results:** Each column of the Search Results can be sorted. Double-click on a column heading to sort documents in the column alphabetically or numerically.

Select	+	Res...	Document ID	▲ Date Published	Title
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>		1	US 3076189 A	1963-01-29	Multiple-sensor airborne reconnaissance systems
<input type="checkbox"/>		2	US 3093822 A	1963-06-11	Electronic visual cue generator
<input type="checkbox"/>		3	US 3095560 A	1963-06-25	Method and apparatus for determining collision courses
<input type="checkbox"/>		4	US 3115628 A	1963-12-24	Barometric-radar altitude indicating system
<input type="checkbox"/>		5	US 3117312 A	1964-01-07	Vertical scale condition indicator

Figure 5. Search Results are sorted by date published from oldest to newest

For example, selecting the “Date Published” column heading reverses the order of documents from oldest to newest; see **Figure 5**. Note the direction of the arrow beside the sorted column.

8. **Relevancy column:** To sort results using the “Relevancy” column, double-click the column heading to produce a down arrow. Double-click the arrow to sort documents from most relevant to least relevant; see **Figure 6**. Relevancy is determined by how many times search terms appear in a document based on an algorithm. Double-click the arrow again to reverse the sort order. See Frequently Asked Question (FAQ) [“How are documents in Advanced Search sorted by relevancy.”](#)

Document ID	▼ Relevancy	Title
US 20210263157 A1	54.571377	AUTOMATED LABELING SYSTEM FOR AUTONOMO...
US 20210064020 A1	39.302975	METHODS AND APPARATUS FOR VEHICLE CONTR...
US 20220242319 A1	38.237564	SELF-DRIVING TRUCK WITH MIRRORS TO EXTEN...
US 11092690 B1	37.721672	Predicting lidar data using machine learning
US 10969482 B2	35.387234	Radar and ultrasound sensor based real time tracking ...

Figure 6. Search Results reordered from most relevant to least relevant

## Print search results

Using the “Select” column, select one or more search results to print them in a chart. Select “Print” above the search results; see **Figure 7 and 8**. Columns in the print chart cannot be modified. To print an individual document in full, select “Print” above an individual document displayed in the Document Viewer.

Select	+	Res...	Document ID	Date Published	Title
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>		1	US 20210263157 A	2021-08-26	AUTOMATED LABELING SYSTEM FOR AUTONOM...
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>		2	US 20210064020 A	2021-03-04	METHODS AND APPARATUS FOR VEHICLE CONT
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>		3	US 20220242319 A	2022-08-04	SELF-DRIVING TRUCK WITH MIRRORS TO EXTEN
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>		4	US 11092690 B1	2021-08-17	Predicting lidar data using machine learning
<input type="checkbox"/>		5	US 10969482 B2	2021-04-06	Radar and ultrasound sensor based real time tracking
<input type="checkbox"/>		6	US 20210253048 A	2021-08-19	VEHICULAR SENSING SYSTEM WITH VARIABLE F

Figure 7. Selected documents in Search Results

List of Selected Search Result Documents				
#	Doc ID	Date Published	Title	Image Pages
1	US-20210064020-A1	2021-03-04	METHODS AND APPARATUS FOR VEHICLE CONTROL	16
2	US-20220242319-A1	2022-08-04	SELF-DRIVING TRUCK WITH MIRRORS TO EXTEND A FIELD OF VIEW	123
3	US-20210263157-A1	2021-08-26	AUTOMATED LABELING SYSTEM FOR AUTONOMOUS DRIVING VEHICLE LIDAR DATA	23
4	US-11092690-B1	2021-08-17	Predicting lidar data using machine learning	21

12/18/2024 07:00:24 PM

Figure 8. Printed list chart

## Export search results

Download the displayed search results as a .csv file by clicking the “Export documents” icon above your Search Results; see **Figure 9**. The file will be saved to your browser’s download location with a file name such as “SearchResultsYYYYMMDDHHMMSS.csv”. The file can hold up to 10,000 documents. If you have more than 500 results, scroll through all results to fetch remaining documents before exporting. Note: if any of your search results have a number in the plus “+” column, select the “plus number” to expand the document in order to show the family documents in the export file.

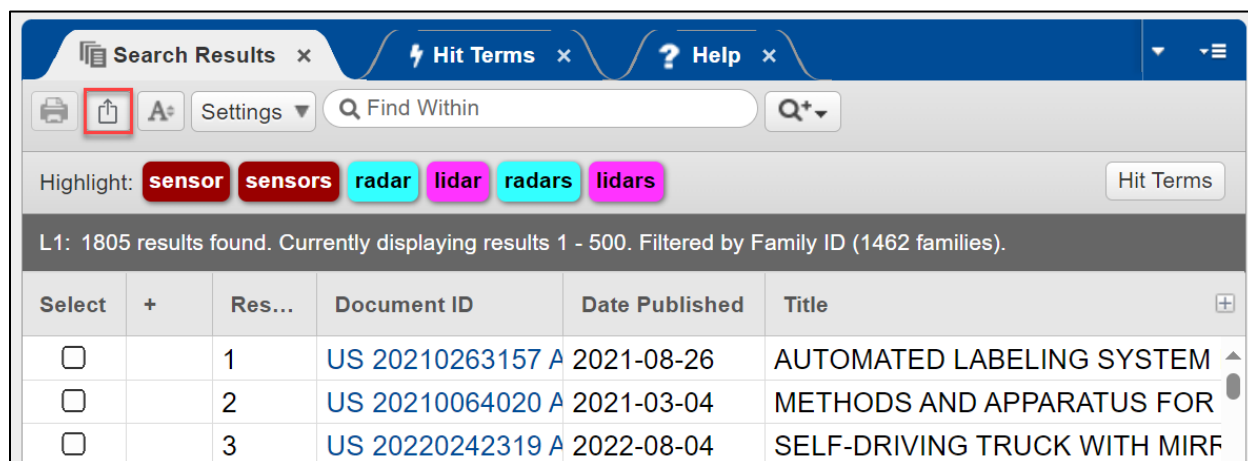


Figure 9. Export documents

## Search for patents from exported results

If you want to be able to search for patents from your exported results at a later time using Patent Public Search, ensure the patent number is captured in your export by opening the "Settings" menu above your Search Results and select the "Patent Number" column before exporting your results; see Figure 10.

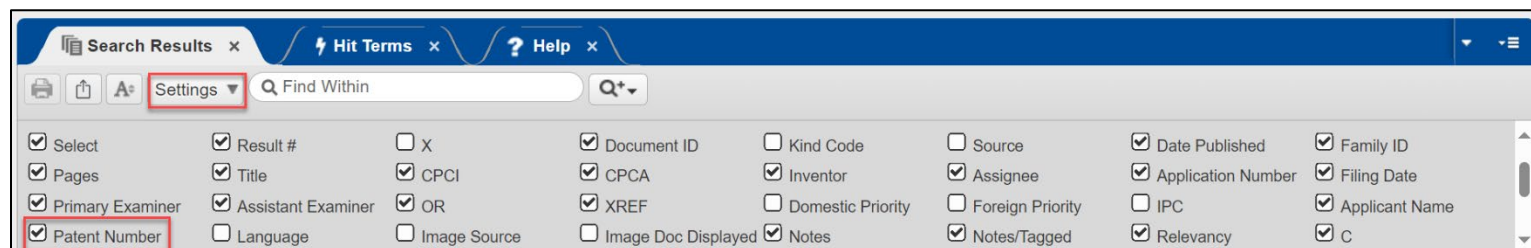


Figure 10. Search Results "Settings" menu

	A	B	C	D	E	F	G
1	+	Document ID	Date Published	Title	Relevancy	Family ID	Patent Number
2		US 20210263157 A1	8/26/2021	AUTOMATED LABELING SYSTEM FOR AUTONOMOUS	54.571377	77366917	20210263157
3		US 20210064020 A1	3/4/2021	METHODS AND APPARATUS FOR VEHICLE CONTROL	39.302975	74679487	20210064020
4		US 20220242319 A1	8/4/2022	SELF-DRIVING TRUCK WITH MIRRORS TO EXTEND A F	38.237564	82613357	20220242319
5		US 11092690 B1	8/17/2021	Predicting lidar data using machine learning	37.721672	77273972	11092690
6		US 10969482 B2	4/6/2021	Radar and ultrasound sensor based real time tracking	35.387234	65030985	10969482
7		US 20210253048 A1	8/19/2021	VEHICULAR SENSING SYSTEM WITH VARIABLE POWER	35.305283	77272375	20210253048
8	1	US 11194328 B2	12/7/2021	Operation-security system for an automated vehicle	35.167313	61069598	11194328
9		US 20210122369 A1	4/29/2021	EXTENSIVE AND ADAPTIVE LKA FOR ADAS AND AU	34.695694	68985071	20210122369

Figure 11. Example of exported .csv spreadsheet

Copy patent number cells from your spreadsheet (see **Figure 11**) and paste them into the “Search” box of Patent Public Search (**Figure 12**). Select the patent number “PN” button located next to the “Search” button (see **Figure 12**).

The screenshot shows the Patent Public Search interface. At the top, there is a search bar with a magnifying glass icon and the text "Search". Below the search bar, a list of patent numbers is displayed: 20210263157, 20210064020, 20220242319, 11092690, 10969482, 20210253048, 11194328, and 20210122369. To the right of the search bar, there is a "Databases" section with a "Select all" checkbox and three checked checkboxes: US-PGPUB, USPAT, and USOCR. Below the search bar, there is a "Pos 1" label. At the bottom of the interface, there are three buttons: "Options", "Clear", and "PN" (highlighted with a red box), and a "Search" button.

Figure 12. Example of a patent number search using patent numbers from a spreadsheet