

EUROPEAN PATENT OFFICE
U.S. PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

CPC NOTICE OF CHANGES 1679

DATE: JANUARY 1, 2025

PROJECT RP12338

The following classification changes will be effected by this Notice of Changes:

<u>Action</u>	<u>Subclass</u>	<u>Group(s)</u>
SCHEME:		
Symbols New:	G06F	16/33295
Titles Changed:	G06F	16/3329, 16/3331, 16/3332, 16/334, 16/3349, 16/34, 16/353, 16/355, 16/358
Warnings New:	G06F	16/3329, 16/33295, 16/34, 16/358
Notes Modified:	G06F	16/30
DEFINITIONS:		
Definitions New:	G06F	16/33, 16/332, 16/33295
Definitions Modified:	G06F	16/30, 16/3322, 16/3329, 16/3332, 16/334, 16/3344, 16/335, 16/34, 16/35, 16/358

No other subclasses/groups are impacted by this Notice of Changes.

This Notice of Changes includes the following:

1. CLASSIFICATION SCHEME CHANGES

- A. New, Modified or Deleted Group(s)
- B. New, Modified or Deleted Warning(s)
- C. New, Modified or Deleted Note(s)
- D. New, Modified or Deleted Guidance Heading(s)

2. DEFINITIONS

- A. New or Modified Definitions (Full definition template)
- B. Modified or Deleted Definitions (Definitions Quick Fix)

3. REVISION CONCORDANCE LIST (RCL)

4. CHANGES TO THE CPC-TO-IPC CONCORDANCE LIST (CICL)

5. CHANGES TO THE CROSS-REFERENCE LIST (CRL)

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1. CLASSIFICATION SCHEME CHANGES

A. New, Modified or Deleted Group(s)

SUBCLASS G06F - ELECTRIC DIGITAL DATA PROCESSING

<u>Type*</u>	<u>Symbol</u>	<u>Indent Level</u> <u>Number of</u> <u>dots (e.g.</u> <u>0, 1, 2)</u>	<u>Title</u> <u>“CPC only” text should normally be</u> <u>enclosed in {curly brackets}**</u>	<u>Transferred to#</u>
C	G06F 16/3329	4	Natural language query formulation	G06F 16/3329, G06F 16/33295
N	G06F 16/33295	5	{in dialogue systems}	
M	G06F 16/3331	3	Query processing	
M	G06F 16/3332	4	Query translation	
M	G06F 16/334	4	Query execution (filtering based on additional data G06F 16/335)	
M	G06F 16/3349	4	Reuse of stored results of previous queries	
C	G06F 16/34	2	Browsing; Visualisation therefor (browsing or visualisation for clustering or classification G06F 16/358)	G06F 16/34, G06F 16/358
M	G06F 16/353	3	into predefined classes	
M	G06F 16/355	3	Creation or modification of classes or clusters	
T	G06F 16/358	3	Browsing; Visualisation therefor	

*N = new entries where reclassification into entries is involved; C = entries with modified file scope where reclassification of documents from the entries is involved; Q = new entries which are firstly populated with documents via administrative transfers from deleted (D) entries. Afterwards, the transferred documents into the Q entry will either stay or be moved to more appropriate entries, as determined by intellectual reclassification; T = existing entries with enlarged file scope, which receive documents from C or D entries, e.g. when a limiting reference is removed from the entry title; M = entries with no change to the file scope (no reclassification); D = deleted entries; F = frozen entries will be deleted once reclassification of documents from the entries is completed; U = entries that are unchanged.

NOTES:

- **No {curly brackets} are used for titles in CPC only subclasses, e.g. C12Y, A23Y; 2000 series symbol titles of groups found at the end of schemes (orthogonal codes); or the Y section titles. The {curly brackets} are used for 2000 series symbol titles found interspersed throughout the main trunk schemes (breakdown codes).
- U groups: it is obligatory to display the required “anchor” symbol (U group), i.e. the entry immediately preceding a new group or an array of new groups to be created (in case new groups are not clearly subgroups of C-type groups). Always include the symbol, indent level and title of the U group in the table above.
- All entry types should be included in the scheme changes table above for better understanding of the overall scheme change picture. Symbol, indent level, and title are required for all types.
- “Transferred to” column must be completed for all C, D, F, and Q type entries. F groups will be deleted once reclassification is completed.
- When multiple symbols are included in the “Transferred to” column, avoid using ranges of symbols in order to be as precise as possible.
- For administrative transfer of documents, the following text should be used: “<administrative transfer to XX>”, “<administrative transfer to XX and YY simultaneously>”, or “<administrative transfer to XX, YY, ...and ZZ simultaneously>” when administrative transfer of the same documents is to more than one place.
- Administrative transfer to main trunk groups is assumed to be the source allocation type, unless otherwise indicated.
- Administrative transfer to 2000/Y series groups is assumed to be “additional information”.

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- If needed, instructions for allocation type should be indicated within the angle brackets using the abbreviations “ADD” or “INV”: <administrative transfer to XX ADD>, <administrative transfer to XX INV>, or <administrative transfer to XX ADD, YY INV, ... and ZZ ADD simultaneously>.
- In certain situations, the “D” entries of 2000-series or Y-series groups may not require a destination (“Transferred to”) symbol, however it is required to specify “<no transfer>” in the “Transferred to” column for such cases.
- For finalisation projects, the deleted “F” symbols should have <no transfer> in the “Transferred to” column.
- For more details about the types of scheme change, see CPC Guide.

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B. New, Modified or Deleted Warning(s)

SUBCLASS G06F - ELECTRIC DIGITAL DATA PROCESSING

<u>Type*</u>	<u>Location</u>	<u>Old Warning</u>	<u>New/Modified Warning</u>
N	G06F 16/3329		Group G06F 16/3329 is impacted by reclassification into group G06F 16/33295. Groups G06F 16/3329 and G06F 16/33295 should be considered in order to perform a complete search.
N	G06F 16/33295		Group G06F 16/33295 is incomplete pending reclassification of documents from group G06F 16/3329. Groups G06F 16/3329 and G06F 16/33295 should be considered in order to perform a complete search.
N	G06F 16/34		Group G06F 16/34 is impacted by reclassification into group G06F 16/358. Groups G06F 16/34 and G06F 16/358 should be considered in order to perform a complete search.
N	G06F 16/358		Group G06F 16/358 is incomplete pending reclassification of documents from group G06F 16/34. Groups G06F 16/34 and G06F 16/358 should be considered in order to perform a complete search.

*N = new warning, M = modified warning, D = deleted warning

NOTE: The "Location" column only requires the symbol PRIOR to the location of the warning. No further directions such as "before" or "after" are required.

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C. New, Modified or Deleted Note(s)

SUBCLASS G06F - ELECTRIC DIGITAL DATA PROCESSING

<u>Type*</u>	<u>Location</u>	<u>Old Note</u>	<u>New/Modified Note</u>
M	G06F 16/30	In groups G06F 16/30, G06F 16/31, G06F 16/313, G06F 16/316, G06F 16/319, G06F 16/322, G06F 16/325, G06F 16/328, G06F 16/33, G06F 16/332, G06F 16/3322, G06F 16/3323, G06F 16/3325, G06F 16/3326, G06F 16/3328, G06F 16/3329, G06F 16/3331, G06F 16/3332, G06F 16/3334, G06F 16/3335, G06F 16/3337, G06F 16/3338, G06F 16/334, G06F 16/3341, G06F 16/3343, G06F 16/3344, G06F 16/3346, G06F 16/3347, G06F 16/3349, G06F 16/335, G06F 16/337, G06F 16/338, G06F 16/34, G06F 16/345, G06F 16/35, G06F 16/353, G06F 16/355, G06F 16/358, G06F 16/36, G06F 16/367 and G06F 16/374, subject matter relevant to retrieval characterised by using metadata, when it is determined to be novel and non-obvious, must also be classified in groups G06F 16/38, G06F 16/381, G06F 16/382, G06F 16/383, and G06F 16/387.	In groups G06F 16/30, G06F 16/31, G06F 16/313, G06F 16/316, G06F 16/319, G06F 16/322, G06F 16/325, G06F 16/328, G06F 16/33, G06F 16/332, G06F 16/3322, G06F 16/3323, G06F 16/3325, G06F 16/3326, G06F 16/3328, G06F 16/3329, G06F 16/33295, G06F 16/3331, G06F 16/3332, G06F 16/3334, G06F 16/3335, G06F 16/3337, G06F 16/3338, G06F 16/334, G06F 16/3341, G06F 16/3343, G06F 16/3344, G06F 16/3346, G06F 16/3347, G06F 16/3349, G06F 16/335, G06F 16/337, G06F 16/338, G06F 16/34, G06F 16/345, G06F 16/35, G06F 16/353, G06F 16/355, G06F 16/358, G06F 16/36, G06F 16/367 and G06F 16/374, subject matter relevant to retrieval characterised by using metadata, when it is determined to be novel and non-obvious, must also be classified in groups G06F 16/38, G06F 16/381, G06F 16/382, G06F 16/383 and G06F 16/387.

*N = new note, M = modified note, D = deleted note

NOTE: The "Location" column only requires the symbol PRIOR to the location of the note. No further directions such as "before" or "after" are required.

2. A. DEFINITIONS (new)

Insert: The following new Definitions.

G06F16/33

Definition statement

This place covers:

Processing of retrieval requests for finding unstructured textual data matching a query.

G06F16/332

Definition statement

This place covers:

- Aspects of query formulation for the retrieval of unstructured or raw text data, such as query recommendation.
- User interfaces for query formulation (including help systems therefor).

G06F16/33295

Definition statement

This place covers:

- Formulation of queries in natural language for querying unstructured data in dialogue systems, e.g. Q&A systems.
- Using a dialogue between the system and the user to establish an executable query.
- Natural language question-answering systems and methods wherein prefabricated answers are retrieved.

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Relationships with other classification places

Q&A systems constructing an answer by mining knowledge from e.g. a text corpus are covered by [G06N5/00](#).

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2. A. DEFINITIONS (modified)

G06F16/30

Replace: The existing Informative references table with the following updated table.

References
Informative references

Image retrieval using shape and object relationship, including layout-based retrieval of text documents	G06F16/5854
Retrieval from the web, e.g. using search engines	G06F16/95
Text processing, parsing or translation of natural language	G06F40/00

G06F16/3322

Replace: The first row in the existing Informative references table with the following updated row, so that the new table appears as follows.

References
Informative references

Natural language query formulation in dialogue systems	G06F 16/33295
Automatic query expansion with no user interaction	G06F 16/3338
Reuse of stored results of previous queries	G06F 16/3349

G06F16/3329

Replace: The existing Definition statement with the following updated text.

Definition statement

Formulation of queries in natural language for querying unstructured data.

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Delete: The entire Relationships section.

G06F16/3332

Replace: The existing Definition statement with the following updated text.

Definition statement

Pre-processing the query to make it more suitable for query execution; it is typically done internally with no user interaction.

G06F16/334

Replace: The existing Definition statement with the following updated text.

Definition statement

Methods used to calculate the degree of similarity between two entities (typically documents) or an entity and a query. These methods normally are used to rank query results.

Example: Degree-of-similarity score is calculated and reorganised into heap form to select the highest score.

Replace: The existing Limiting references table with the following updated table.

References
Limiting references

Filtering based on additional data, e.g. user or group profiles	G06F16/335
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G06F16/3344

Replace: At the end of the first paragraph, the American spelling of “analyzed” with the British spelling “analysed” so that the updated Definition statement appears as follows.

Definition statement

Similarity that is estimated based on the semantic meaning of the query and the semantic meaning of every sentence in a document collection. For this purpose, the relation and associated sense of different parts of sentences (sub sentences, words or suffixes) to each other are analysed.

In some documents, the term "natural language query" that is often used for queries which are not really natural language based but a simple enumeration of query words connected by a logical AND (e.g. Google queries).

Facets:

Similarity that is calculated by creating and using a graph for every sentence where words are nodes and the relationship of the words is represented as links between the nodes.

Replace: The existing Informative references table with the following updated table.

References
Informative references

Q&A systems matching natural language queries to prefabricated answers	G06F16/33295
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G06F16/335

Replace: The first paragraph of the Definition statement with the following updated text. The second paragraph is unchanged.

Definition statement

Filtering or routing of textual data based on additional information, e.g. user profiles, preferences, learned set of abstract rules or an explicit query provided by the user.

Replace: The existing Limiting references table with the following updated table.

References

Limiting references

Search customisation based on user profiles and personalisation	G06F16/9535
Search customisation based on social or collaborative filtering	G06F16/9536

G06F16/34

Insert: The following new Limiting references section.

References

Limiting references

This place does not cover:

Browsing or visualisation for clustering or classification	G06F16/358
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Replace: The existing Informative references table with the following updated table.

Informative references

Document space visualisation for the purpose of query formulation	G06F16/3323
Visualisation of query results	G06F16/338
Document space presentation for browsing in web context	G06F16/954

G06F16/35

Replace: The existing Definition statement with the following updated text.

Definition statement

- Automatic content-based text classification or clustering.
- Management of classes or clusters (GUI or machine based).
- Overviews of different content-based clustering or classification methodologies.

Example: A GUI based system to create/modify the names of classes in an existing classification tree.

G06F16/358

Replace: The existing Informative references table with the following updated table.

References

Informative references

Visualisation of query results, including e.g. in ranked clusters	G06F16/338
Browsing or visualisation of unstructured textual data in general	G06F16/34

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3. REVISION CONCORDANCE LIST (RCL)

<u>Type*</u>	<u>From CPC Symbol (existing)</u>	<u>To CPC Symbol(s)</u>
C	G06F 16/3329	G06F 16/3329, G06F 16/33295
C	G06F 16/34	G06F 16/34, G06F 16/358

* C = entries with modified file scope where reclassification of documents from the entries is involved; Q = new entries which are firstly populated with documents via administrative transfers from deleted (D) entries. Afterwards, the transferred documents into the Q entry will either stay or be moved to more appropriate entries, as determined by intellectual reclassification; D = deleted entries; F = frozen entries will be deleted once reclassification of documents from the entries is completed.

NOTES:

- Only C, D, F, and Q type entries are included in the table above.
- When multiple symbols are included in the “To” column, do not use ranges of symbols.
- For administrative transfer of documents, the following text should be used: “<administrative transfer to XX>”, “<administrative transfer to XX and YY simultaneously>”, or “<administrative transfer to XX, YY, ...and ZZ simultaneously>” when administrative transfer of the same documents is to more than one place.
- Administrative transfer to main trunk groups is assumed to be the source allocation type, unless otherwise indicated.
- Administrative transfer to 2000/Y series groups is assumed to be “additional information”.
- If needed, instructions for allocation type should be indicated within the angle brackets using the abbreviations “ADD” or “INV”: <administrative transfer to XX ADD>, <administrative transfer to XX INV>, or <administrative transfer to XX ADD, YY INV, ... and ZZ ADD simultaneously>.
- In certain situations, the “D” entries of 2000-series or Y-series groups may not require a destination (“To”) symbol, however it is required to specify “<no transfer>” in the “To” column for such cases.
- RCL is not needed for finalisation projects.

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4. CHANGES TO THE CPC-TO-IPC CONCORDANCE LIST (CICL)

<u>CPC</u>	<u>IPC</u>	<u>Action*</u>
G06F 16/3329	G06F 16/3329	UPDATED
G06F 16/33295	G06F 16/3329	NEW
G06F 16/3331	G06F 16/3331	UPDATED
G06F 16/3332	G06F 16/3332	UPDATED
G06F 16/3334	G06F 16/3332	UPDATED
G06F 16/3335	G06F 16/3332	UPDATED
G06F 16/3337	G06F 16/3332	UPDATED
G06F 16/3338	G06F 16/3332	UPDATED
G06F 16/334	G06F 16/334	UPDATED
G06F 16/3341	G06F 16/334	UPDATED
G06F 16/3343	G06F 16/334	UPDATED
G06F 16/3344	G06F 16/334	UPDATED
G06F 16/3346	G06F 16/334	UPDATED
G06F 16/3347	G06F 16/334	UPDATED
G06F 16/3349	G06F 16/3349	UPDATED
G06F 16/353	G06F 16/353	UPDATED
G06F 16/355	G06F 16/355	UPDATED
G06F 16/358	G06F 16/358	UPDATED

* Action column:

- For an (N) or (Q) entry, provide an IPC symbol and complete the Action column with “NEW.”
- For an existing CPC main trunk entry or indexing entry where the existing IPC symbol needs to be changed, provide an updated IPC symbol and complete the Action column with “UPDATED.”
- For a (D) CPC entry or indexing entry complete the Action column with “DELETE.” IPC symbol does not need to be included in the IPC column.
- For an (N) 2000 series CPC entry which is positioned within the main trunk scheme (breakdown code) provide an IPC symbol and complete the action column with “NEW”.
- For an (N) 2000 series CPC entry positioned at the end of the CPC scheme (orthogonal code), with no IPC equivalent, complete the IPC column with “CPCONLY” and complete the action column with “NEW”.

NOTES:

- F symbols are not included in the CICL table above.
- T and M symbols are not included in the CICL table above unless a change to the existing IPC is desired.