

TREND REPORT



Patent family development trends

JUNE 2024

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Introduction

A group of patent documents linked by at least one common priority is called a patent family. This report analyzes the patent families of inventions in the past five years (Data as of June 30, 2024).

Part 1: General Information

According to the classification standards of the European Patent Office, 9,317,851 patent families were retrieved through search platforms, and their application trends are shown in [Figure 1](#). It can be seen that in recent years, the volume of patent families applied for each year has been around 2.3 million, and 2023 is relatively low mainly because many patent data has not been publicly disclosed, yet.

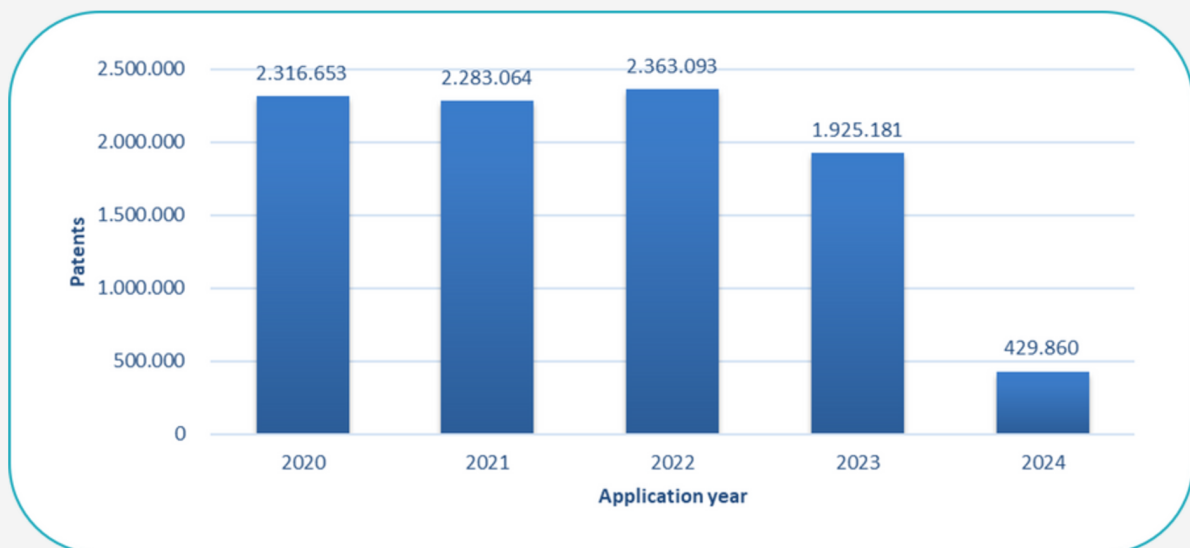


Figure 1 Patent types

From the perspective of legal status, half of the patents are pending, while 2,638,036 patents are in force, accounting for 28.31%, as shown in [Figure 2](#).

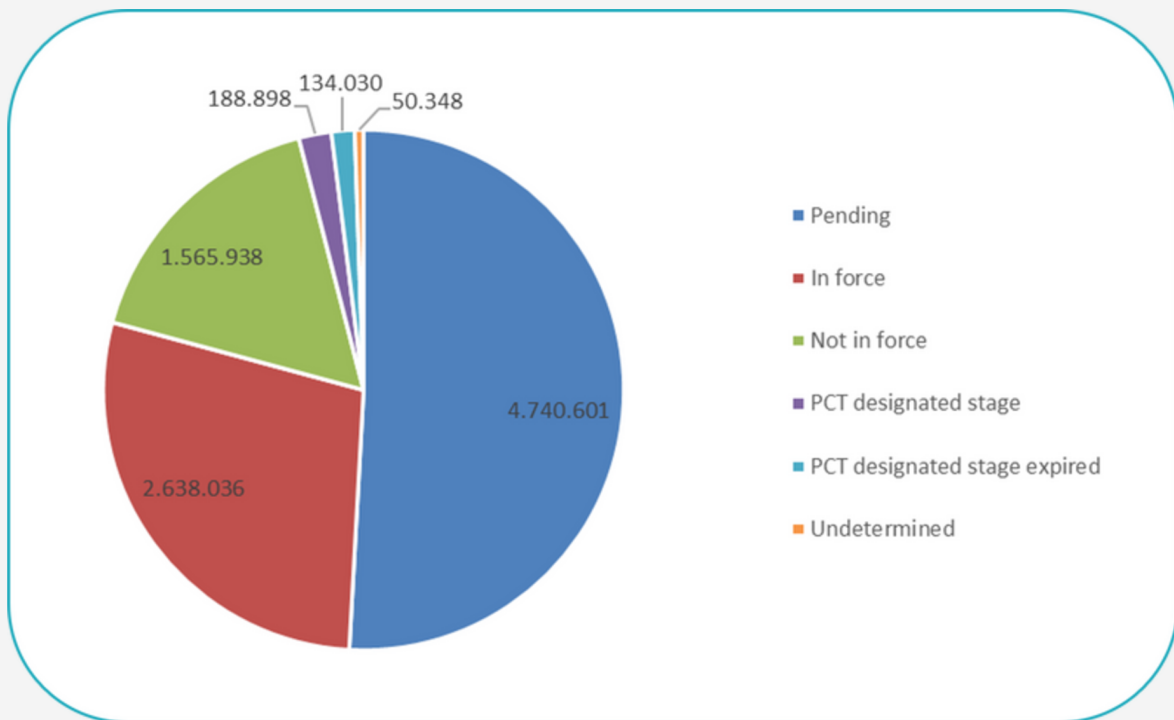


Figure 2 Legal status

Part 2: Geographic Territories

The analysis of the acceptance of patent families by patent offices is shown in [Figure 3](#). It can be seen that China has received the majority of the patent applications in the past five years, accounting for 65.86%, followed by the United States, Japan, and South Korea.

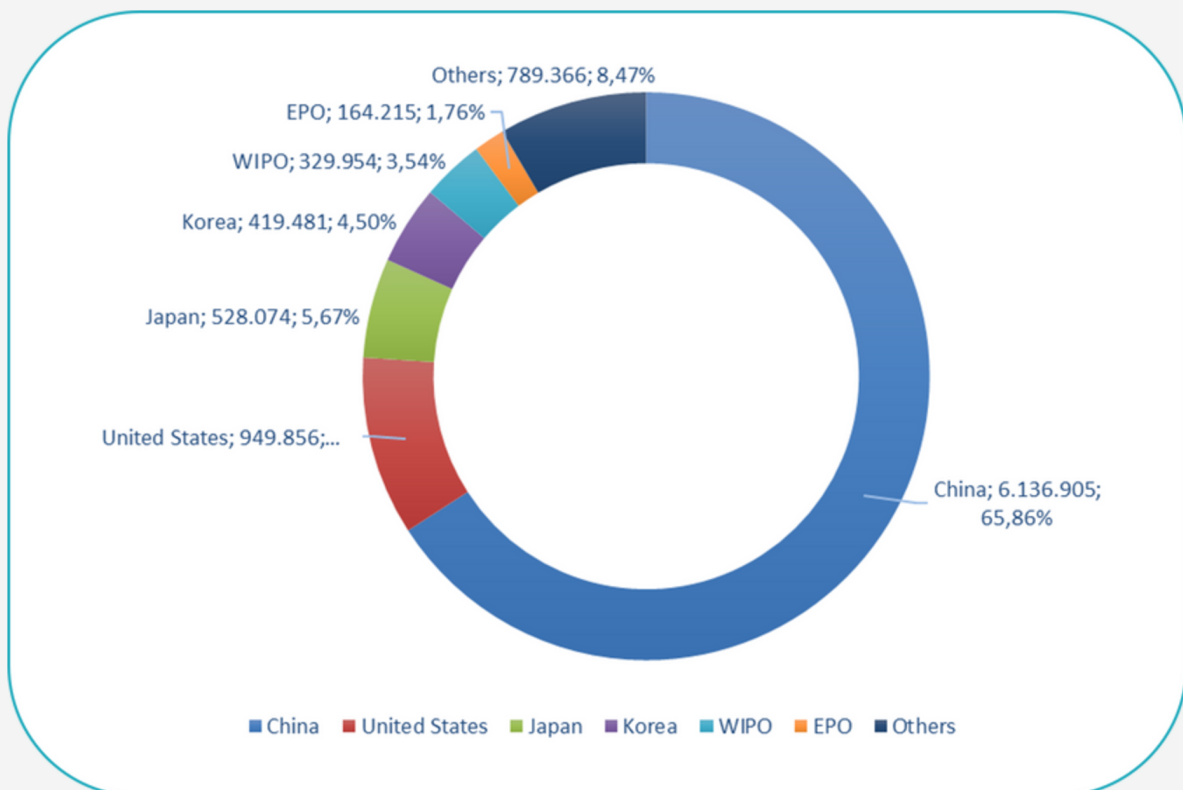


Figure 3 Top Authorities

Part 3: Key Technologies

Analyzing the technical fields of the patent families in the past five years, as shown in [Figure 4](#), it can be seen that IPC classification number G06F corresponds to most of the patents, indicating that Electronic digital data processing has received the highest attention. Meanwhile, the top ten technological fields are all focused on high-tech.

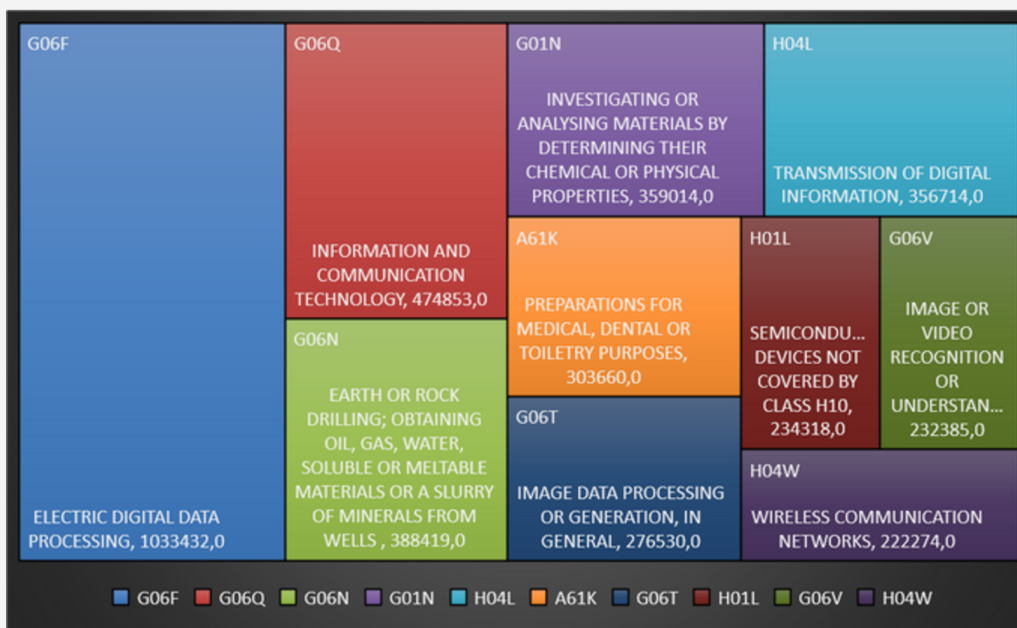


Figure 4 The top 10 IPC classification numbers

Part 4: Standardized Current Assignees

In terms of patent filers, the top ten in terms of application volume are nine companies and one university, as shown in [Figure 5](#). Huawei has applied for most of the patents, followed by State Grid and Samsung. Meanwhile, seven out of the top ten applicants are from China.

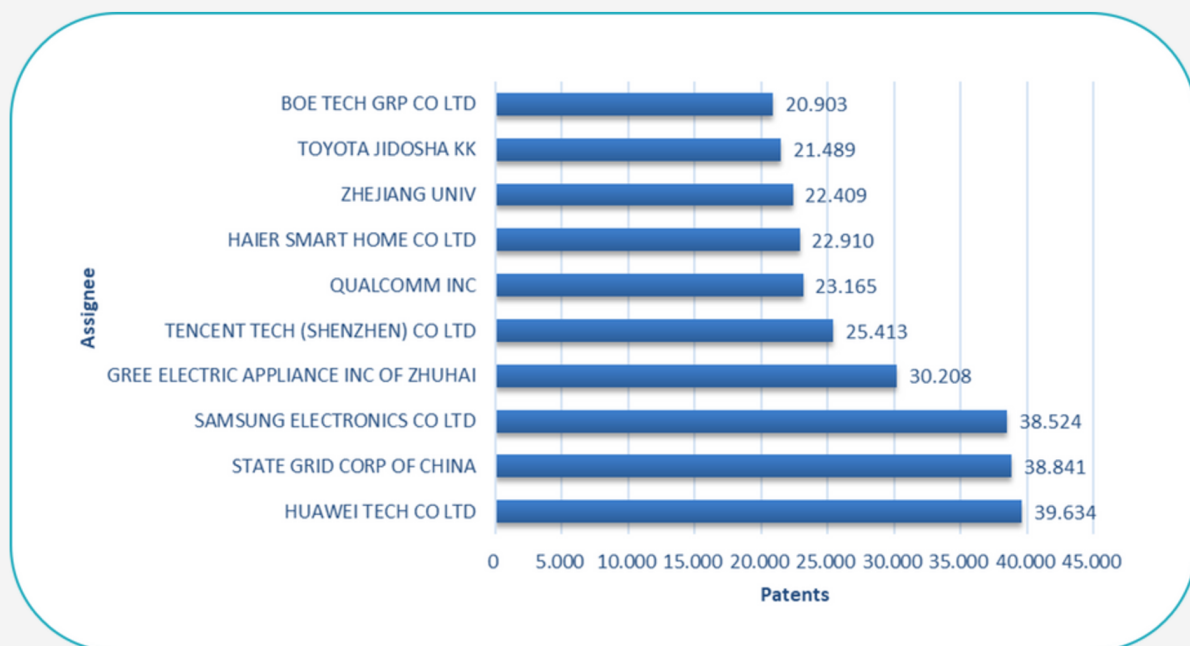


Figure 5 The top 10 standardized current assignees

Conclusion

In the past five years, a large number of patent families has been applied for, especially from large technology companies in China, the United States, Japan, and South Korea, which demonstrates a high level of technological innovation ability.

Note: All numbers used and statements made in this report are indicative and for information purposes only. No warranty or liability is given nor accepted for anything published in this report.

Tupolevlaan 81, 1119 PA Schiphol-Rijk
The Netherlands
Telephone +31 85 800 0024
info@lighthouseip.com

lighthouseip.com

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