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13/918,878 14 June 2013 (14.06.2013) US(71) Applicant: MICROSOFT CORPORATION [US/US];
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[Continued on next page]

(54) Title: SMART FILL

	A	B	C	D	E	F	G
1							
2		Obama	2009-present	240			
3		Bush	2001-2009				
4		Clinton	1993-2001	215			
5		Bush	1989-1993				
6	205	Reagan	1981-1989				
7		Carter	1977-1981				
8		Ford	1973-1977				
9		Nixon	1969-1973				
10		Johnson	1963-1969	220 225			
11		Kennedy	1961-1963				

FIG. 2D

(57) Abstract: A smart fill feature is provided, which may be utilized to provide suggestions to a user and to prepopulate fill results in a spreadsheet. Characteristics associated with a set of data may be recognized and used to help determine fill results. Suggestions may be determined from internal and/or external data sources, and may use contextual information in a data set to determine what a user may be trying to accomplish. External data sources may include one or more Internet data sources or internal corporate databases, providing a large amount of data from which to search for potential fill results. A split column command may be used to split a column into two or more columns. Data may be split between columns or combined by various methods, which may include, by example, by direct manipulation via tokens, or via a slider UI.



EE, ES, FI, FR, GB, GR, HR, HU, IE, IS, IT, LT, LU,
LV, MC, MK, MT, NL, NO, PL, PT, RO, RS, SE, SI, SK,
SM, TR), OAPI (BF, BJ, CF, CG, CI, CM, GA, GN, GQ,
GW, KM, ML, MR, NE, SN, TD, TG).

Published:

- *with international search report (Art. 21(3))*
- *before the expiration of the time limit for amending the claims and to be republished in the event of receipt of amendments (Rule 48.2(h))*

Declarations under Rule 4.17:

- *as to applicant's entitlement to apply for and be granted a patent (Rule 4.17(ii))*
- *as to the applicant's entitlement to claim the priority of the earlier application (Rule 4.17(iii))*

(88) Date of publication of the international search report:

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INTERNATIONAL SEARCH REPORT

International application No
PCT/US2014/040202

A. CLASSIFICATION OF SUBJECT MATTER
INV. G06F17/24
ADD.

According to International Patent Classification (IPC) or to both national classification and IPC

B. FIELDS SEARCHED

Minimum documentation searched (classification system followed by classification symbols)
G06F

Documentation searched other than minimum documentation to the extent that such documents are included in the fields searched

Electronic data base consulted during the international search (name of data base and, where practicable, search terms used)

EPO-Internal, WPI Data

C. DOCUMENTS CONSIDERED TO BE RELEVANT

Category*	Citation of document, with indication, where appropriate, of the relevant passages	Relevant to claim No.
X	Lowell Heddings: "How To Use AutoFill on a Google Docs Spreadsheet", How-To Geek, 28 April 2010 (2010-04-28), XP055164727, Retrieved from the Internet: URL: http://www.howtogeek.com/howto/15799/how-to-use-autofill-on-a-google-docs-spreadsheet-quick-tips/ [retrieved on 2015-01-26] the whole document page 2, last paragraph page 3, last paragraph	1,2,4-10
X	US 2009/319542 A1 (LE BRAZIDEC PIERRE JEAN [FR] ET AL) 24 December 2009 (2009-12-24) abstract paragraph [0032] figures 7-8,10-11 ----- -/-	1,2,4-10



Further documents are listed in the continuation of Box C.



See patent family annex.

* Special categories of cited documents :

"A" document defining the general state of the art which is not considered to be of particular relevance

"E" earlier application or patent but published on or after the international filing date

"L" document which may throw doubts on priority claim(s) or which is cited to establish the publication date of another citation or other special reason (as specified)

"O" document referring to an oral disclosure, use, exhibition or other means

"P" document published prior to the international filing date but later than the priority date claimed

"T" later document published after the international filing date or priority date and not in conflict with the application but cited to understand the principle or theory underlying the invention

"X" document of particular relevance; the claimed invention cannot be considered novel or cannot be considered to involve an inventive step when the document is taken alone

"Y" document of particular relevance; the claimed invention cannot be considered to involve an inventive step when the document is combined with one or more other such documents, such combination being obvious to a person skilled in the art

"&" document member of the same patent family

Date of the actual completion of the international search

20 May 2015

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29/05/2015

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INTERNATIONAL SEARCH REPORT

International application No
PCT/US2014/040202

C(Continuation). DOCUMENTS CONSIDERED TO BE RELEVANT		
Category*	Citation of document, with indication, where appropriate, of the relevant passages	Relevant to claim No.
A	EP 2 506 155 A1 (SIEMENS AG [DE]) 3 October 2012 (2012-10-03) abstract paragraph [0004] paragraphs [0010] - [0015] -----	1,4
X	CRAIG STINSON AND MARK DODGE ED - CRAIG STINSON AND MARK DODGE: "Microsoft Office Excel 2003 Inside Out, Chapter 29; Working with External Data", 1 January 2004 (2004-01-01), MICROSOFT OFFICE EXCEL 2003 INSIDE OUT, MICROSOFT PRESS, REDMOND, WASHINGTON, USA, PAGE(S) 757 - 763, XP002663769, ISBN: 0-7356-1511-X figures 29-1,29-2,29-3,29-4 page 757 - page 759 -----	3
A	Anonymous: "Combining and Splitting Data in Spreadsheets - Google Tech Tips", 7 November 2012 (2012-11-07), XP055190273, Retrieved from the Internet: URL:https://sites.google.com/a/slu.edu/tips/home/combiningandsplittingdatainspreadsh eets [retrieved on 2015-05-20] the whole document -----	3

INTERNATIONAL SEARCH REPORT

International application No.
PCT/US2014/040202

Box No. II Observations where certain claims were found unsearchable (Continuation of item 2 of first sheet)

This international search report has not been established in respect of certain claims under Article 17(2)(a) for the following reasons:

1. ☐ Claims Nos.:
because they relate to subject matter not required to be searched by this Authority, namely:
2. ☐ Claims Nos.:
because they relate to parts of the international application that do not comply with the prescribed requirements to such an extent that no meaningful international search can be carried out, specifically:
3. ☐ Claims Nos.:
because they are dependent claims and are not drafted in accordance with the second and third sentences of Rule 6.4(a).

Box No. III Observations where unity of invention is lacking (Continuation of item 3 of first sheet)

This International Searching Authority found multiple inventions in this international application, as follows:

see additional sheet

1. ☒ As all required additional search fees were timely paid by the applicant, this international search report covers all searchable claims.
2. ☐ As all searchable claims could be searched without effort justifying an additional fees, this Authority did not invite payment of additional fees.
3. ☐ As only some of the required additional search fees were timely paid by the applicant, this international search report covers only those claims for which fees were paid, specifically claims Nos.:
4. ☐ No required additional search fees were timely paid by the applicant. Consequently, this international search report is restricted to the invention first mentioned in the claims; it is covered by claims Nos.:

Remark on Protest

- ☐ The additional search fees were accompanied by the applicant's protest and, where applicable, the payment of a protest fee.
- ☐ The additional search fees were accompanied by the applicant's protest but the applicable protest fee was not paid within the time limit specified in the invitation.
- ☒ No protest accompanied the payment of additional search fees.

INTERNATIONAL SEARCH REPORT

Information on patent family members

International application No

PCT/US2014/040202

Patent document cited in search report	Publication date	Patent family member(s)	Publication date
US 2009319542	A1	24-12-2009	NONE
EP 2506155	A1	03-10-2012	NONE

FURTHER INFORMATION CONTINUED FROM PCT/ISA/ 210

This International Searching Authority found multiple (groups of) inventions in this international application, as follows:

1. claims: 1, 2, 4-10

method/system for providing a suggestion of autofill results

2. claim: 3

method for providing data splitting
