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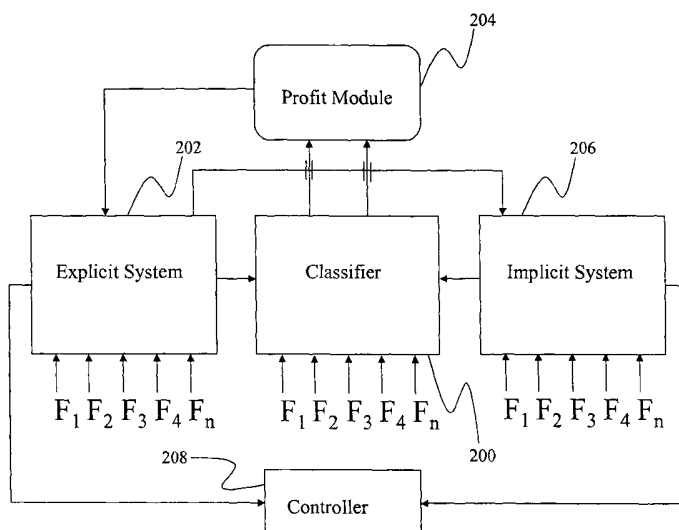
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(54) Title: METHOD AND APPARATUS FOR INCORPORATING DECISION MAKING INTO CLASSIFIERS



(57) Abstract: A method and a system are presented, which assist classifiers in gathering information in a cost-effective manner by determining which piece of information, if any, to gather next. The system includes an explicit system, an implicit system, a classifier, and a profit module. A feature set is inputted into the explicit system, which uses the feature set to determine tests to perform to gather information useful for classifying the system state. The relative profit of each test performed is determined by the profit module and the profit determined is used to determine which test or tests to select for a particular feature set. The results of the explicit system, which is generally an exhaustive or semi-exhaustive search algorithm, are used to train the implicit system. The implicit system is then able to process decisions much faster than the explicit system when circumstances require time-critical operation.



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**INTERNATIONAL SEARCH REPORT**

International Application No

PCT/US 01/31655

<b>A. CLASSIFICATION OF SUBJECT MATTER</b> IPC 7 G06N3/04 G06F19/00		
According to International Patent Classification (IPC) or to both national classification and IPC		
<b>B. FIELDS SEARCHED</b>		
Minimum documentation searched (classification system followed by classification symbols) IPC 7 G06F G06N		
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 practical, search terms used) EPO-Internal, WPI Data, PAJ, IBM-TDB, INSPEC		
<b>C. DOCUMENTS CONSIDERED TO BE RELEVANT</b>		
Category °	Citation of document, with indication, where appropriate, of the relevant passages	Relevant to claim No.
X	WO 97 29447 A (ADEZA BIOMEDICAL CORP ;DESIENO DUANE D (US); LAPOINTE JEROME (US)) 14 August 1997 (1997-08-14)	1-3, 8-12, 18-22, 27,28
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<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Further documents are listed in the continuation of box C.		
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Patent family members are listed in annex.		
° Special categories of cited documents :		
*A* document defining the general state of the art which is not considered to be of particular relevance	*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	
*E* earlier document but published on or after the international filing date	*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	
*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)	*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.	
*O* document referring to an oral disclosure, use, exhibition or other means	*&* document member of the same patent family	
*P* document published prior to the international filing date but later than the priority date claimed		
Date of the actual completion of the international search  <p align="center">16 June 2003</p>	Date of mailing of the international search report  <p align="center">24/06/2003</p>	
Name and mailing address of the ISA European Patent Office, P.B. 5818 Patentlaan 2 NL - 2280 HV Rijswijk Tel. (+31-70) 340-2040, Tx. 31 651 epo nl, Fax: (+31-70) 340-3016	Authorized officer  <p align="center">Schenkeis, P</p>	

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