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BEFORE THE PATENT TRIAL AND APPEAL BOARD

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*Ex parte* GARY D. CUDAK, LYDIA M. DO,  
CHRISTOPHER J. HARDEE, and ADAM ROBERTS

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Appeal 2019-001238  
Application 14/017,293  
Technology Center 3700

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Before EDWARD A. BROWN, JAMES P. CALVE, and  
BEVERLY M. BUNTING, *Administrative Patent Judges*.

BROWN, *Administrative Patent Judge*.

DECISION ON APPEAL

Pursuant to 35 U.S.C. § 134(a), Appellant<sup>1</sup> appeals from the Examiner's decision to reject claims 8, 10–14, and 16–20.<sup>2</sup> We have jurisdiction under 35 U.S.C. § 6(b).

We AFFIRM.

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<sup>1</sup> We use the word “Appellant” to refer to “applicant” as defined in 37 C.F.R. § 1.42. Appellant identifies the real party in interest as LENOVO ENTERPRISE SOLUTIONS (SINGAPORE) PTE. LTD. Appeal Br. 2.

<sup>2</sup> Claims 1–7, 9, and 15 are cancelled. Appeal Br. (Claims App.).

### CLAIMED SUBJECT MATTER

Claims 8 and 14 are independent claims. Claim 14 illustrates the claimed subject matter on appeal and is reproduced below with reference letters added in brackets.

14. A computer program product for managing player generated content, the computer program product comprising:

a computer readable storage medium having computer readable program code embodied therewith, the computer readable program code comprising:

[A] computer readable program code for recording player generated content for a game playing session into memory of a computer;

[B] computer readable program code for collecting game metrics for the game playing session during the game playing session comprising different accomplishments or milestones recorded in furtherance of a game goal;

[C] computer readable program code for comparing the game metrics to one or more pre-stored threshold values; and,

[D] computer readable program code for determining whether or not to discard the player generated content based upon the comparison and storing in fixed storage of the computer only player generated content determined based upon the comparison not to be discarded, [E] the computer readable program code further naming the player generated content in the fixed storage using at least a portion of the game metrics.

Appeal Br. 25–26 (Claims App.).

### THE REJECTIONS

Claims 8, 10–14, and 16–20 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 101 as directed to patent ineligible subject matter. Final Act. 2.

Claims 8, 10, 12–14, 16, 18, and 19 are rejected under

35 U.S.C. § 103 as unpatentable over Thompson (US 2004/0225386 A1, pub. Nov. 11, 2004) and Lim (US 2013/0288788 A1, pub. Oct. 31, 2013).  
Final Act. 6.

Claims 11 and 17 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 103 as unpatentable over Thompson, Lim, and Yabuki (US 2009/0093313 A1, pub. Apr. 9, 2009). Final Act. 8.

Claim 20 is rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 103 as unpatentable over Thompson, Lim, and McCaffrey (US 2013/0324261 A1, pub. Dec. 5, 2013).  
Final Act. 9.

## ANALYSIS

### *Patent Ineligibility of Claims 8, 10–14, and 16–20*

An invention is patent-eligible if it claims a “new and useful process, machine, manufacture, or composition of matter.” 35 U.S.C. § 101. However, the Supreme Court has long interpreted 35 U.S.C. § 101 to include implicit exceptions: “[l]aws of nature, natural phenomena, and abstract ideas” are not patentable. *E.g.*, *Alice Corp. v. CLS Bank Int’l*, 573 U.S. 208, 216 (2014).

In determining whether a claim falls within an excluded category, we are guided by the Supreme Court’s two-step framework, described in *Mayo* and *Alice*. *Id.* at 217–18 (citing *Mayo Collaborative Servs. v. Prometheus Labs., Inc.*, 566 U.S. 66, 75–77 (2012)). In accordance with that framework, we first determine what concept the claim is “directed to.” *See Alice*, 573 U.S. at 219.

Concepts that have been determined to be abstract ideas, and thus patent-ineligible, include certain methods of organizing human activity, such

as fundamental economic practices (*Alice*, 573 U.S. at 219–20; *Bilski v. Kappos*, 561 U.S. 593 (2010)); mathematical formulas (*Parker v. Flook*, 437 U.S. 584, 594–95 (1978)); and mental processes (*Gottschalk v. Benson*, 409 U.S. 63, 69 (1972)).

If the claim is “directed to” an abstract idea, we turn to the second step of the *Alice* and *Mayo* framework, where “we must examine the elements of the claim to determine whether it contains an ‘inventive concept’ sufficient to ‘transform’ the claimed abstract idea into a patent-eligible application.” *Alice*, 573 U.S. at 221 (quotation marks omitted). “A claim that recites an abstract idea must include ‘additional features’ to ensure ‘that the [claim] is more than a drafting effort designed to monopolize the [abstract idea].’” *Id.* (quoting *Mayo*, 566 U.S. at 77). “[M]erely requir[ing] generic computer implementation[] fail[s] to transform that abstract idea into a patent-eligible invention.” *Id.*

The PTO issued revised guidance on the application of § 101. *See 2019 Revised Patent Subject Matter Eligibility Guidance*, 84 Fed. Reg. 50 (Jan. 7, 2019) (hereinafter “2019 Guidance”). The 2019 Guidance includes steps 2A and 2B. Under Step 2A, Prong One, of the guidance, we first look to whether the claim recites any judicial exceptions, including certain groupings of abstract ideas (i.e., mathematical concepts, certain methods of organizing human activities such as a fundamental economic practice, or mental processes). *See id.* at 54.

If a claim recites a judicial exception, we proceed to Step 2A, Prong Two, and determine whether the claim recites additional elements that integrate the judicial exception into a practical application. *See id.*; *see also* MPEP § 2106.05(a)–(c), (e)–(h).

Only if a claim both recites a judicial exception and fails to integrate the judicial exception into a practical application, do we proceed to Step 2B of the guidance. At this step, we determine whether the claim adds a specific limitation beyond the judicial exception that is not “well-understood, routine, conventional” in the field (*see* MPEP § 2106.05(d)); or simply appends well-understood, routine, conventional activities previously known to the industry, specified at a high level of generality, to the judicial exception. *See* 84 Fed. Reg. 56.

### *Claim Grouping*

Appellant argues the patent eligibility of claims 8, 10–14, and 16–20 as a group. Appeal Br. 8–21. We select claim 14 as representative of the group, and claims 8, 10–13, and 16–20 stand or fall with claim 14. *See* 37 C.F.R. § 41.37(c)(1)(iv).

### *Step One – Statutory Category*

Claim 14 recites a computer program product, and, accordingly, is directed to one of the statutory classes of subject matter eligible for patenting under 35 U.S.C. § 101 (i.e., a manufacture).

### *Step 2A, Prong One – Recitation of Judicial Exception*

We look to whether claim 14 recites any judicial exception, including certain groupings of abstract ideas, that is, mathematical concepts, certain methods of organizing human activities such as a fundamental economic practice, or mental processes.

The Examiner determines that the claims recite an abstract idea; namely, they are directed to managing player generated content merely using generic computer functions in recording data, recognizing and collecting the data, and manipulating and organizing the data by a mathematical algorithm. Final Act. 3–4.

We agree with the Examiner that claim 14 recites an abstract idea. Claim 14 is directed to a computer program product for managing player generated content and recites limitations A–E referenced above. Limitation A recites “recording player generated content for a game playing session.” The claim does not specify what game it pertains to, or the player generated content. Under its broadest reasonable interpretation, limitation A involves recording information generated from a game playing session. Recording of player generated content for a game playing session can be performed through observation, evaluation, or judgment in the human mind or by a human on paper. Acts that can be performed in the human mind or on paper fall within the abstract idea exception grouping of mental processes identified in the 2019 Guidance. *See* 2019 Guidance at 52. Thus, limitation A recites a mental process, a judicial exception.

Limitation B of claim 14 recites “collecting game metrics for the game playing session during the game playing session comprising different accomplishments or milestones recorded in furtherance of a game goal.” Under its broadest reasonable interpretation, limitation B involves producing performance information (e.g., performance statistics) for a game playing end user during the game playing session and storing the performance information. *See, e.g.,* Spec. ¶ 15. The recited collecting can be performed through human observation, evaluation, or judgment in the human mind or

on paper. Acts that can be performed in the human mind fall within the abstract idea exception grouping of mental processes. *See id.* Thus, limitation B also recites a mental process, which is a judicial exception.

Limitation C of claim 14 recites “comparing the game metrics to one or more pre-stored threshold values.” Under its broadest reasonable interpretation, limitation C involves comparing the collected game metrics (e.g., performance statistics of the game playing end user) to corresponding pre-stored metric thresholds. *See, e.g.,* Spec. ¶ 16. Limitation C does not recite how the game metrics are compared to the pre-stored threshold values. The recited comparing can be performed through human observation, evaluation, or judgment in the human mind or on paper. Acts that can be performed in the human mind fall within the abstract idea exception grouping of mental processes. *See* 2019 Guidance at 52. Thus, limitation C also recites a mental process, which is a judicial exception.

Alternatively, we construe limitation C as involving comparing values. Paragraph 18 of the Specification, for example, describes that values of the game metrics for a game session can be compared to values of the pre-stored metric threshold. The game metrics can be individual values or summed values (i.e., numerical values). *See, e.g.,* Spec. ¶ 18. Comparing the value(s) of the game metrics to the value(s) of the pre-stored metric threshold reveals one or more relationships between the compared values. According to the 2019 Guidance, mathematical relationships, mathematical formulas or equations, or mathematical calculations fall within the abstract idea exception grouping of mathematical concepts. *See* 2019 Guidance at 52. Thus, limitation C also recites a mathematical concept, which is a judicial exception.

Limitation D of claim 14 recites “determining whether or not to discard the player generated content based upon the comparison and storing . . . only player generated content determined based upon the comparison not to be discarded.” Under its broadest reasonable interpretation, limitation D relates to responding to the comparison made in limitation C by making a judgment (i.e., a decision) whether or not to discard the player generated content based on the comparison, and retaining only player generated content that is judged not to be discarded. *See, e.g.*, Spec. ¶ 19. We find the determining and storing recited in limitation D to be concepts that can be performed through observation, evaluation, judgment, or opinion in the human mind or on paper. Acts that can be performed in the human mind fall within the abstract idea exception grouping of mental processes. *See* 2019 Guidance at 52. Thus, limitation D also recites a mental process, a judicial exception.

Lastly, limitation E of claim 14 recites “naming the player generated content . . . using at least a portion of the game metrics.” We understand limitation E relates to assigning a name to the player generated content stored in performing limitation D. This act can be performed through observation, evaluation, or judgment in the human mind or on paper, and thus, falls within the abstract idea exception subgrouping of mental processes. *See* 2019 Guidance at 52. Accordingly, limitation E also recites a mental process, which is a judicial exception.

Alternatively, we construe limitations A–E of claim 14 as relating to the concept of following rules or instructions in managing player generated content. Particularly, limitations A and B relate to following rules or instructions in recording player generated content for a game playing session

and collecting game metrics for the game playing session during the game playing session. Limitation C relates to following rules or instructions in comparing the collected game metrics to one or more pre-stored threshold values. Limitation D relates to following rules or instructions in determining whether or not to discard the player generated content based on the comparison of limitation C, and in retaining only player generated content that is judged not to be discarded. Lastly, limitation E relates to following rules or instructions in assigning a name to the player generated content that is stored in limitation D using at least a portion of the game metrics. Following rules or instructions is a form of managing personal behavior or relationships or interactions between people, which falls within the abstract idea exception subgrouping of certain methods of organizing human activity. *See* 2019 Guidance at 52. Thus, each of limitations A–E of claim 14 also recites a method of organizing human activity, which is another judicial exception.

We, therefore, determine that claim 14 recites the abstract ideas (judicial exceptions) of mathematical concepts, certain methods of organizing human activity, and mental processes, which are judicial exceptions to patent-eligible subject matter. We proceed to Prong Two to determine whether the claim is “directed to” the judicial exception.

*Step 2A, Prong Two – Integration of Practical Application of Exception*

We next determine whether claim 14 as a whole integrates the recited judicial exceptions into a practical application of exceptions by:

(a) identifying whether there are any additional elements recited in the claim

beyond the judicial exception; and (b) evaluating those additional elements individually and in combination to determine whether they integrate the exception into a practical application.

Appellant states that claim 14 requires the performance of the following combination of process steps:

(1) “[p]layer generated content for a game playing session is recorded into memory of a computer,”

(2) “[g]ame metrics are collected for the game playing session during the game playing session that include different accomplishments or milestones recorded in furtherance of a game goal,”

(3) “[t]he game metrics are compared to one or more pre-stored threshold values,” and

(4) [i]t is then determined whether or not to discard the player generated content based upon the comparison and only player generated content is stored in fixed storage of the computer as determined based upon the comparison not to be discarded, and the player generated content is stored in the fixed storage using at least a portion of the game metrics.

Appeal Br. 12–14 (quoting Spec. ¶¶ 17–20).

Process steps 1–4 closely correspond to limitations A–E discussed above for Prong One. Appellant’s position is that the evidence of record suggests that process steps 1–4 “describe a particular solution to a problem or a particular way to achieve a desired outcome defined by the claimed invention.” Appeal Br. 14. Appellant identifies this problem as the managing of recorded player generated content. *Id.* at 14–15 (quoting Spec. ¶ 6). Appellant contends that, in contrast, previous methodologies could not address this problem, as evidenced in the Specification. *Id.* at 15. Thus,

Appellant contends, claim 14 is directed to a process driven improvement to computer-related technology by providing a particular solution to a problem, or a particular way to achieve a desired outcome defined by the claimed invention. *Id.* (citing *Enfish, LLC v. Microsoft Corp.*, 822 F. 3d 1327 (Fed. Cir. 2016); *McRO, Inc. v. Bandai Namco Games America Inc.*, 837 F.3d 1299 (Fed. Cir. 2016); *Electric Power Group LLC v. Alstom S.A.*, 830 F.3d 1350 (Fed. Cir. 2016)).

According to the 2019 Guidance, an additional element or elements that reflect(s) an improvement in the functioning of a computer, or an improvement to other technology or technical field, is indicative that the additional element(s) may have integrated the exception into a practical application. *See* 2019 Guidance at 55. This improvement consideration is also referred to as a technological solution to a technological problem.

Appellant's Specification describes,

oftentimes, end user players prefer to record portions of player generated content for future review. In this regard, the player generated content can include performance metrics observed during the course of a game playing session, or the entirety of the game playing session as viewed by the end user player, or any combination thereof.

Spec. ¶ 5 (emphasis added). This passage discloses that it is known to record player generated content and that this content can include performance metrics observed during the course of a game playing session. Paragraph 6 of the Specification describes, “to the extent an end user plays many game playing sessions over a period of time, *the amount of content recorded can become substantial*. In consequence, managing the recorded player generated content can become an administrative challenge.”

(Emphasis added). Appellant appears to contend that process steps 1–4 describe a particular solution to this problem, or a particular way to achieve a desired outcome defined by the claimed invention.

We are not persuaded. First, the claimed “determining whether or not to discard the player generated content based upon the comparison” recited in limitation D appears to depend on the particular pre-stored threshold values that are used in the comparison. In other words, the particular pre-stored threshold values appear to affect the amount of player generated content that is discarded (and not stored).

Second, the language “determining *whether or not* to discard the player generated content based upon the comparison” does *not* positively require that *any* player generated content be discarded (and not be stored). If, however, no player generated content must be discarded, it is not apparent how performance of limitations A–E would reduce the amount of player generated content stored. And, to the extent reducing the amount of player generated content stored can be considered an improvement in the management of the recorded player generated content, no such improvement is required to result by performing limitations A–E. Accordingly, we are not persuaded that process steps 1–4 identified by Appellant reflect an actual improvement in the functioning of a computer, or an improvement to other technology or technical field.

Third, even assuming that performing limitations A–E of claim 14 would reduce the amount of player generated content stored, this reduction would seem to correspond to an improvement to the information stored in a storage of a computer, and only insofar as reducing the *amount* of information stored improves the stored information. Appellant’s contentions

do not persuade us that performing limitations A–E changes how information is stored in the computer. However, “an improvement to the information stored by a database is not equivalent to an improvement in the database’s functionality.” *See BSG Tech LLC v. Buyseasons, Inc.*, 899 F.3d 1281, 1288 (Fed. Cir. 2018). Here, reducing the amount of player generated content stored in fixed storage appears to be a result that flows from performing an abstract idea in conjunction with a generic database structure, rather than an improvement to functionality of the database itself, or an improvement in the functioning of the computer itself.

Applying the 2019 Guidance, in addition to the judicial exceptions identified above in Prong One, claim 14 further recites that the computer program product comprises “a computer readable storage medium having computer readable program code embodied therewith.” The computer readable storage medium is used with a computer having a “memory” and “fixed storage” for reading the program code corresponding to limitations A–E. The computer is not an element of the computer program product, but is used for executing the computer readable program code. We note that paragraphs 17, 18, and 28 of the Specification describe the gaming data processing system at a high level. Appellant has not shown that the recited additional elements in claim 14 are particular elements or machines and more than generic elements. Absent persuasive evidence to the contrary, we determine that claim 14 merely uses generic components as a tool to perform the recited abstract ideas. *See* MPEP § 2106.05(f).

Considered as a whole, claim 14, under its broadest reasonable interpretation, involves managing player generated content in a game following rules or instructions and recites processes and concepts that can be

performed in the human mind or by hand. These steps are similar to other processes that courts have determined are mental processes. *See, e.g., CyberSource Corp. v. Retail Decisions, Inc.*, 654 F.3d 1366, 1373 (Fed. Cir. 2011) (determining that a claim whose “steps can all be performed in the human mind” is directed to an unpatentable mental process). The recitation of computer components does not, by itself, establish that the claim does *not* recite mental steps. *See, e.g., Versata Dev. Grp. Inc. v. SAP Am., Inc.*, 793 F.3d 1306, 1335 (Fed. Cir. 2015) (“Courts have examined claims that required the use of a computer and still found that the underlying, patent-ineligible invention could be performed via pen and paper or in a person’s mind.”); *CyberSource*, 654 F.3d at 1375, 1372 (holding that the incidental use of a “computer” or “computer readable medium” does not make a claim otherwise directed to process that “can be performed in the human mind, or by a human using a pen and paper” patent eligible.) Also, “performance of a claim limitation using generic computer components does not necessarily preclude the claim limitation from being in the mathematical concepts grouping, *Benson*, 409 U.S. at 67, or the certain methods of organizing human activity grouping, *Alice*, 573 U.S. at 219–20.” *See* 2019 Guidance at 52 n. 14 (emphasis omitted). “If a claim, under its broadest reasonable interpretation, covers performance in the mind but for the recitation of generic computer components, then it is still in the mental processes category unless the claim cannot practically be performed in the mind.” *Id.*

Appellant also contends that the claimed “particular process” “definitively does not foreclose all possible methodologies for achieving the abstract concept of managing player generated content” (Appeal Br. 19) and the claims “are restricted as to how the innovative concept of ‘managing

player generated content’ is achieved without foreclosing other ways of solving the problem at hand while reciting a specific series of steps that result in a departure from the routine and conventional sequence of events” (*id.* at 21). Even if these contentions are correct, however, “preemption may signal patent ineligible subject matter, [but] the absence of complete preemption does not demonstrate patent eligibility.” *Ariosa Diagnostics, Inc. v. Sequenom, Inc.*, 788 F.3d 1371, 1379 (Fed. Cir. 2015). Accordingly, this argument is unpersuasive.

For these reasons, we determine that claim 14 does not recite an additional element, or a combination of additional elements, apart from the limitations reciting an abstract idea that applies, relies on, or uses the judicial exception in a manner that imposes a meaningful limit on the judicial exception, such that the claim is more than a drafting effort designed to monopolize the exception. Thus, the judicial exception is not integrated into a practical application, and the claim is “directed to” the judicial exceptions. *See* 2019 Guidance at 54. Accordingly, we proceed to determine whether claim 14 recites an “inventive concept.”

#### *Step 2B – Inventive Concept*

For Step 2B of the analysis, we determine whether the claim adds a specific limitation beyond the judicial exception that is not “well-understood, routine, conventional” in the field. *See* 2019 Guidance.

The Examiner concludes that claim 14 does not include any additional elements that are sufficient to amount to significantly more than the abstract idea itself. Final Act. 4–5.

Appellant contends that the Examiner has not conducted a proper analysis under *Berkheimer v. HP Inc.*, 881 F.3d 1360, 1369 (Fed. Cir. 2018). Reply Br. 5–6. Appellant disputes that the claim language merely reflects a technology that is well-understood, routine, and conventional. *Id.* at 6. Appellant contends that claim 14 recites certain claim elements (which, we note, correspond closely to limitations A–E discussed above for Step 2A (*id.* at 8–9)), but the Examiner has not compared these claim elements to any cited court decision (*id.* at 9).

Appellant’s contentions are not persuasive. Limitations A–E of claim 14 recite abstract ideas. Consequently, Appellant is relying on the application of the abstract ideas themselves as the alleged inventive concept. Appellant does not show persuasively that the claimed abstract ideas are applied using techniques that are *not* conventional and well-understood. However, a claim’s “use of the ineligible concept to which it is directed cannot supply the inventive concept that renders the invention ‘significantly more’ than that ineligible concept.” *Buyseasons*, 899 F.3d at 1290; *Synopsys, Inc. v. Mentor Graphics Corp.*, 839 F.3d 1138, 1151 (Fed. Cir. 2016) (“[A] claim for a *new* abstract idea is still an abstract idea.”).

We agree with the Examiner that the claimed subject matter merely uses generic computer components as a tool to perform the abstract ideas. *See, e.g.*, Spec. ¶¶ 17, 18, 28, 29. This does not transform the claim into a patent-eligible application of the abstract idea. *Alice*, 573 U.S. at 212.

For these reasons, we sustain the rejection of claim 14 under 35 U.S.C. § 101. Claims 8, 10–13, and 16–20 fall with claim 14.

*Obviousness of Claims 8, 10, 12–14, 16, 18, and 19 over Thompson and Lim*

Appellant contends that the combination of Thompson and Lim fails to teach the limitation of “naming of the player generated content in the fixed storage using at least a portion of the game metrics,” where the game metrics “include different accomplishments or milestones recorded in furtherance of the game goal,” as required by claims 8 and 14. Appeal Br. 4–5. Appellant contends that paragraphs 48 and 50 of Thompson relied on by the Examiner do not teach the “naming” limitation. *Id.* at 5. Appellant contends that paragraph 48 refers to an access token 402, which “provides ‘permission’ to a player (or game console user) to upload data to, for example, the storage server.” *Id.* at 6. Appellant contends that the access token cannot be “player generated content. *Id.* Appellant contends that paragraph 50 of Thompson refers to a “leaderboard” that identifies rankings for different players and corresponding performance data, but does not suggest that the leaderboard is named in fixed storage using at least a portion of a game metric. *Id.*

The Examiner responds that Thompson discloses that a server creates a leaderboard on which the player’s name, ranking, and additional “game metrics” are displayed. Ans. 11 (citing Thompson, Figs. 4, 5). The Examiner concedes that “Thompson does not explicitly disclose game metrics for milestones recorded in furtherance of a game goal.” *Id.* The Examiner finds that Lim teaches a gaming application that creates a leaderboard associated with the gameplay, and that “[v]arious game metrics that can be tracked by a leaderboard include scores (e.g. high score for a game or a level within a game), time (e.g., fastest overall time, fastest lap time), rank, milestone or objective reached (e.g., completion of a quest,

treasure collected, enemy vanquished).” *Id.* at 11–12. Appellant replies that the Examiner does not refer to any teaching in Lim of naming a file using this information. Reply Br. 4. Therefore, Appellant contends, the combination of Thompson and Lim does not suggest naming player generated content in fixed storage using at least a portion of the game metrics, as claimed. *Id.*

To the extent Appellant may be contending that claim 8 or 14 requires naming a “file” associated with the player generated content “using at least a portion of the game metrics,” claims 8 and 14 do not expressly recite such limitation. Nonetheless, we are persuaded that the Examiner has not explained adequately based on evidence how the combination of Thompson and Lim discloses or suggests naming player generated content in a fixed storage using at least a portion of the game metrics, as required by claims 8 and 14. Accordingly, we do not sustain the rejection of claims 8, 10, 12–14, 16, 18, and 19 as unpatentable over Thompson and Lim.

*Obviousness of Claims 11 and 17 over Thompson, Lim, and Yabuki*

*Obviousness of Claim 20 over Thompson, Lim, and McCaffrey*

The Examiner’s reliance on Yabuki in rejecting claims 11 and 17 (Final Act. 8–9) and McCaffrey in rejecting claim 20 (*id.* at 9–11) fails to cure the deficiency in the rejection of parent claims 8 or 14 over Thompson and Lim. Accordingly, we do not sustain the rejections of claims 11 and 17 as unpatentable over Thompson, Lim, and Yabuki, or claim 20 as unpatentable over Thompson, Lim, and McCaffrey.

CONCLUSION

In summary:

<b>Claims Rejected</b>	<b>Basis</b>	<b>Affirmed</b>	<b>Reversed</b>
8, 10–14, 16–20	§ 101	8, 10–14, 16–20	
8, 10, 12–14, 16, 18, 19	§ 103 Thompson, Lim		8, 10, 12–14, 16, 18, 19
11, 17	§ 103 Thompson, Lim, Yabuki		11, 17
20	§ 103 Thompson, Lim, McCaffrey		20
<b>Overall Outcome</b>		8, 10–14, 16–20	8, 10–14, 16–20

No time period for taking any subsequent action in connection with this appeal may be extended according to 37 C.F.R. § 1.136(a)(1)(iv).

AFFIRMED