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Journal Name:	British Journal of Applied Science & Technology
Manuscript Number:	2014_BJAST_14000
Title of the Manuscript:	Levelling the ground for innovation and regional development in developing countries through APA (Automatic Patent Analysis)
Type of the Article	Review Article

General guideline for Peer Review process:

This journal's peer review policy states that **NO** manuscript should be rejected only on the basis of '**lack of Novelty**', provided the manuscript is scientifically robust and technically sound.

To know the complete guideline for Peer Review process, reviewers are requested to visit this link:

(<http://www.sciencedomain.org/page.php?id=sdi-general-editorial-policy#Peer-Review-Guideline>)



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PART 1: Review Comments

	Reviewer's comment	Author's comment (if agreed with reviewer, correct the manuscript and highlight that part in the manuscript. It is mandatory that authors should write his/her feedback here)
Compulsory REVISION comments	The subject of this paper is very relevant and <u>strategic technological sector analysis</u> by means of patent information is not very often undertaken. Although the relevance of statistical patent analysis is unquestionable, the text of this paper should be fully rewritten. The text shows several English grammar mistakes and type misspellings. I guess that Automatic Patent Analysis (APA) should be taken carefully because many statistic errors always are included in the results and sometimes it can yield some critical mistakes. Due to a huge variety ways to write a patent application, frequently it is possible to find different spellings meaning the same things (e.g. univercity, university, BASF SE, BASF, BASF gmbh and so on). I don't know why Czechoslovakia was used instead of Czeach Republic and Slovakia also China and Taiwan. APA rarely offers efficient tools to avoid misspelling. Every graph and table was constructed based upon statistical means but no comments concerning confidence bars were explored.	Before performing the analysis, the software used allows to reformat inventors as well as applicant names. Some problems may occur when the applicant country is not indicated in the worldpatent database (from EPO). In this condition this is corrected by looking to the priority country of the patent which will indicate the country from which the patent origine. (useful to make country groups). The country names are those used in the woldpatent database. Because all the patents selected from the worldpatent database are analysed, there is



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	As I said before, APA should be taken carefully and additional analysis in depth must be more explored. A strong methodology of analysis must be created, explored and described; why and how keywords have been selected to the corresponding subject; treatment of raw results; selection of some specific patents; comparisons of statistical analysis with local industry production; possible government investments and technology development should be explored in depth. Some important actors in each result should be detailed. Above all, I guess that any software analysis can be used and more than just one patent databank should be used the same way. I strongly recommend the text should be revised by an English native speaker before submission.	no bias for the matrix and for the networks, we choose the classical propagation network. The APA system used, is made to facilitate the work of people experts in one domain. Then all groups built with specific words from titles or abstracts are choose by the experts. This allows the development of various aspects of the use of one substance or technology, according the need of the user. After the analysis of each group gives to the expert various information for his proper used. Done
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<u>Minor</u> REVISION comments	Some specific contents must be rethought, <i>i.e.</i> i) what is the difference between PCT and a WO application? ii) more than just EPO database must be used to get a trustable sector analysis using patent database; iii) table and graph results should be detailed and explored.	PCT (Patent Cooperative Treaty) is a procedure that you must follow to fill a world patent. At the end of this procedure your patent number will be on the form WOxxxxxx. After, the examination you will go back to the national procedures for each countries to be protected. This is different from the Paris convention, where you can simultaneously fill patents in various states. The confusion comes often from the formulation: Eg publication number WO2011095735 A2 Publication type: demand Demand number PCT/FR2011/050199
<u>Optional/General</u> comments	Ethical issues:-If there are any ethical issues please clarify.	No ethical issues