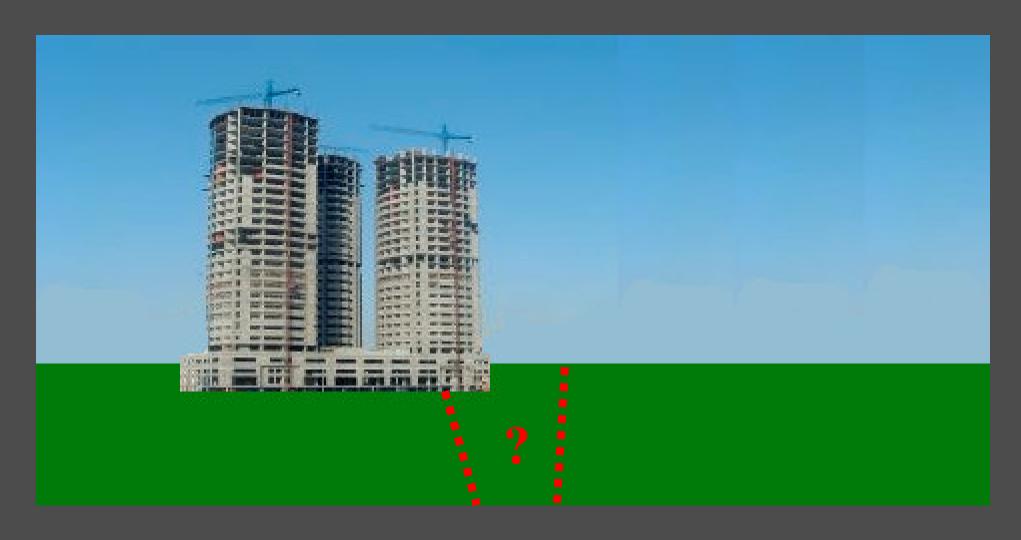
Limits of Property

James Bessen
(Boston University School of Law)

Land

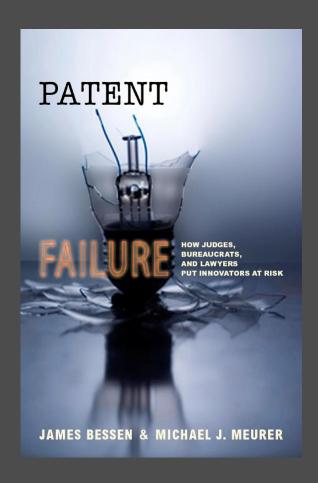
Land from the earth to the heavens

Land
oil & gas
water
migratory fowl
airplanes



"fuzzy" boundaries

Abstract Patent Claims



Abstract Patent Claims

Unidentified technologies

Karmarkar, Patent 4,744,028

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technology
+
law
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CLAIM: Software patents are no different

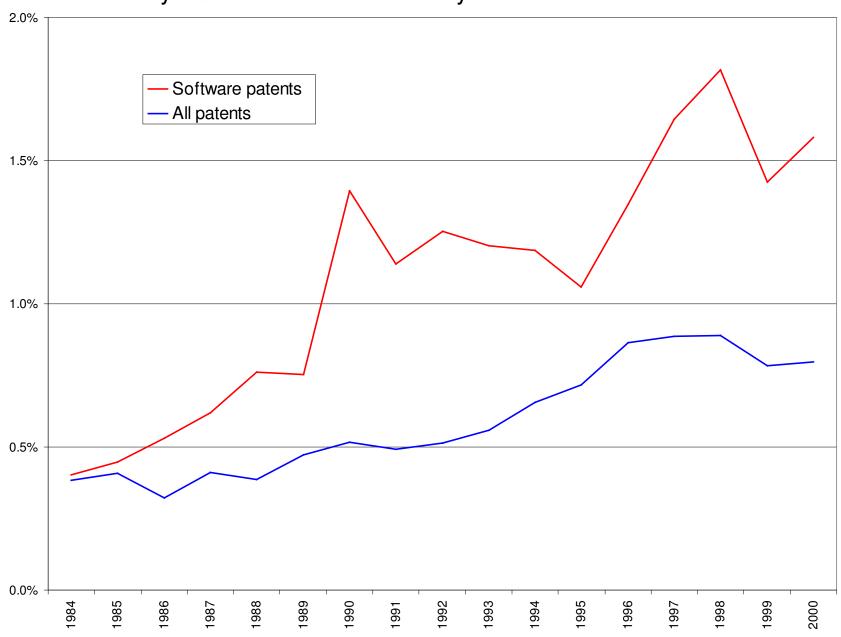
Technology	Probability	Percent of
	patent in	lawsuits
	suit	(2002)
Chemical	1.1%	13%
Complex	2.0%	34%
Other	2.2%	
Software	4.6%	26%
business methods	13.7%	4%
Biotechnology	3.2%	3%

Fuzzy boundaries

	Relative	
	frequency of	
	claim	
	construction	
	appeal	
ALL	1.0	
Chemical	0.8	
Complex	0.9	
Other	1.1	
Software	2.2	
business methods	6.7	
Biotechnology	2.4	

CLAIM: PTO needs to adapt

Probability Patent in Lawsuit within 4 years of issue



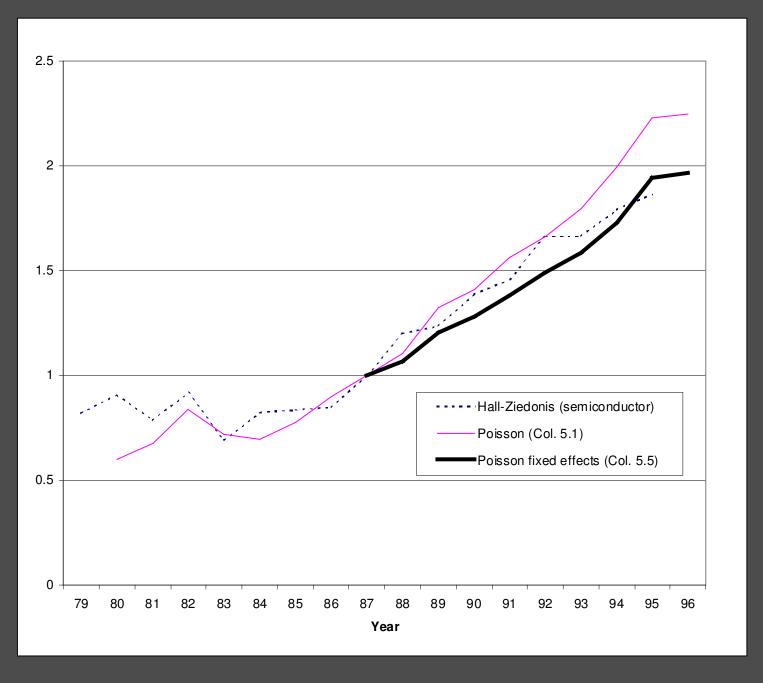
CLAIM: Technology distinctions will be evaded

Taxes?

Pharma compositions?

Medical activities (287c)?

Software Patent Propensity



CLAIM: Bilski solves all

"principles" of manufacture

Abstract patents
subject matter
enablement
functional claiming

belt + suspenders

