

A SCIENTIST'S VIEW OF THE TIMING OF APPLICATIONS FOR PATENTS.

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Aspects of the scientific discovery process include uncertainty, nonlinearity and a quest for elegance and perfection. From a scientist's point of view, these dynamics make it difficult to state with certainty: "Now is the time to apply for a patent." This talk will present two current examples of the emergence of precision from a less definite finding with respect to when a potentially patentable discovery is ready to be submitted as an invention. These examples include means for

- 1) optimizing deep brain stimulation for recovery of brain arousal following brain injury, and
- 2) measuring emotional responses of subjects who are viewing advertisements and films.

The talk will also illustrate differences in opinion over protocols for submission timing as regards the individual scientist and the personnel in corporations that help fund his work and/or his university.