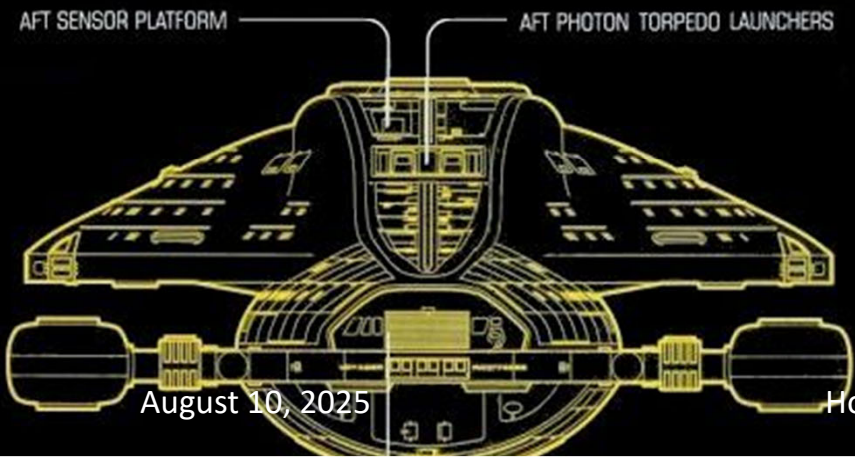
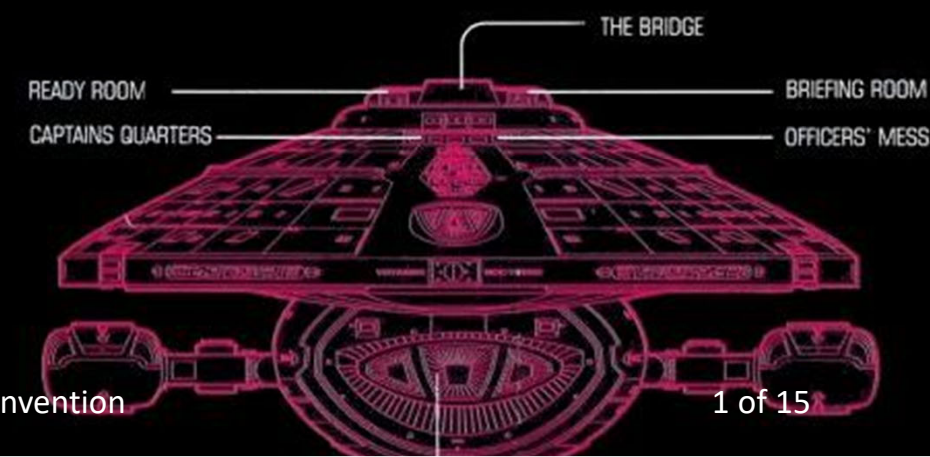


## **AFT VIEW**



## **FORE VIEW**



# BOB ZEIDMAN



Bob is the creator of the field of software forensics. He is the founder of Zeidman Consulting that offers engineering consulting to law firms regarding IP disputes and Software Analysis and Forensic Engineering Corporation, the leading provider of software IP analysis tools. He holds 28 patents.

Bob is the author of three award-winning screenplays, four award-winning novels, five textbooks, and one memoir. His latest venture is Good Beat Poker, an online poker site that incorporates patented audio and video technology.

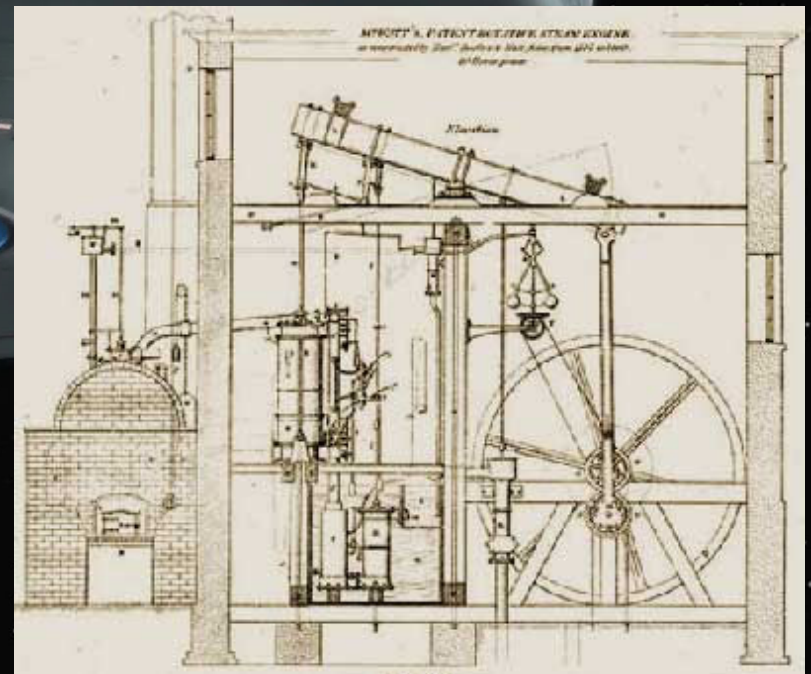
He is also the author of *How to Invent a Time Machine*.



# BRIEF HISTORY OF PATENTS

- England, 1449
- King Henry VI wanted stained glass for Eton College and King's College, Cambridge
- Sent John of Utynam a patent (letter)
- Granted a 20-year monopoly to produce and teach
- Statute of Monopolies, 1624
- Only the wealthy got patents
- Prior to independence, the king of England officially owned all American IP

James Watt's Steam Engine (1769)

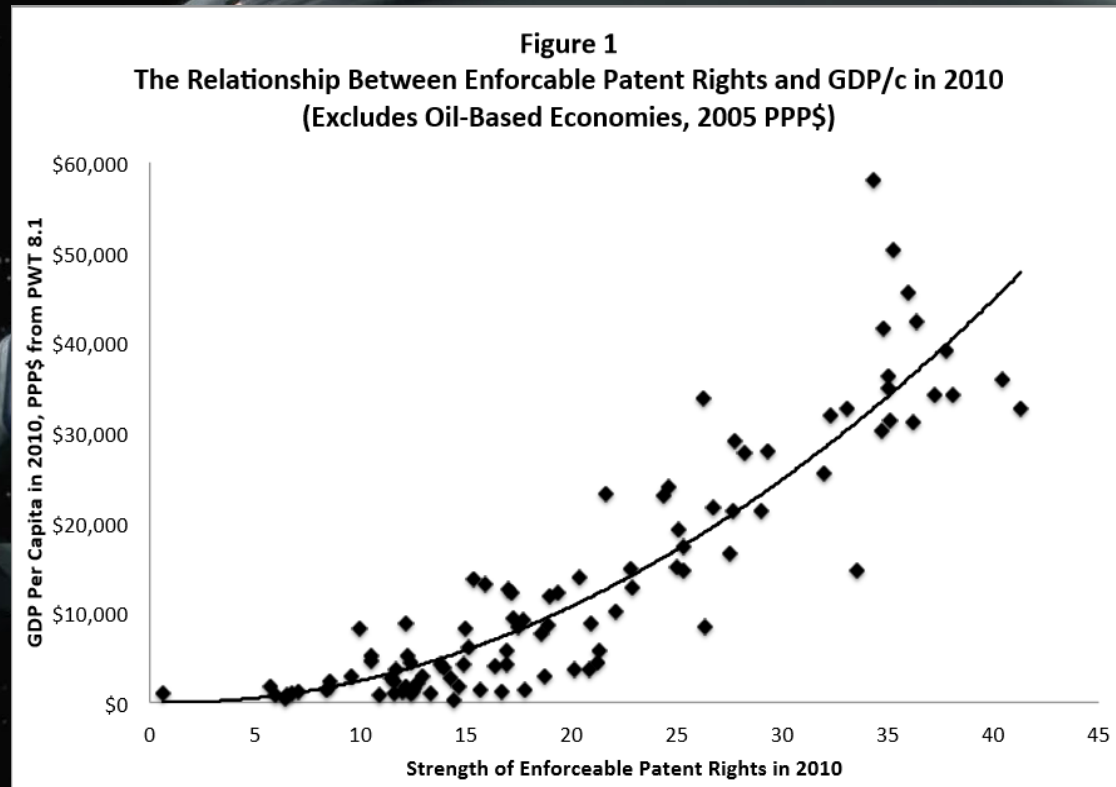


# U.S. PATENT LAW



- Article I, Section 8, Clause 8 of the United States Constitution  
“The Congress shall have Power . . . To Promote the Progress of Science and useful Arts, by securing for limited Times to Authors and Inventors the exclusive Right to their respective Writings and Discoveries.”
- First Patent Act of 1790 (before the Bill of Rights)
- Anyone could get a patent – no requirement to build it
- Patent markets for selling, licensing, and trading patent rights

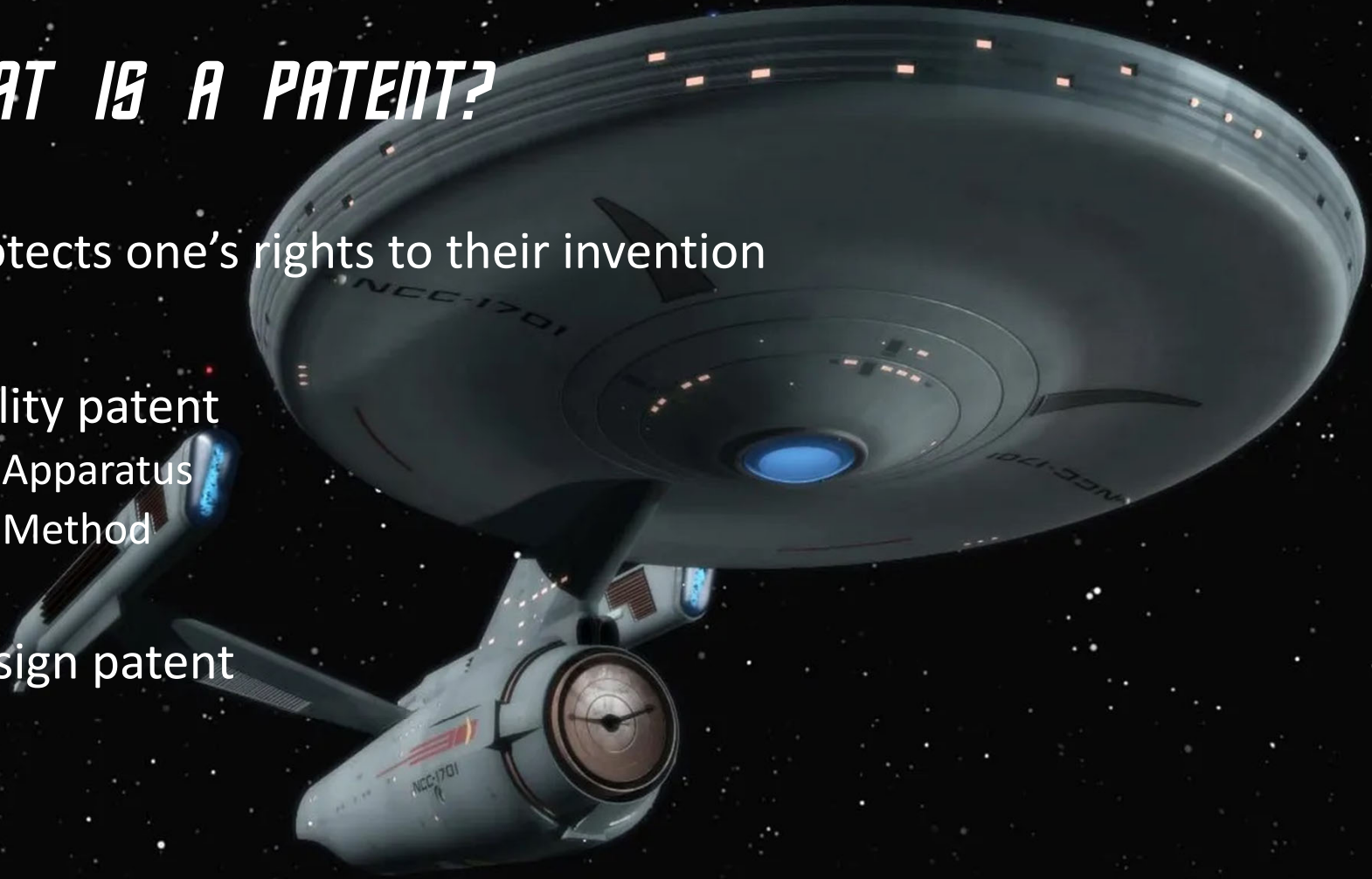
# PATENT RIGHTS AND GDP



Stephen Haber, "Patents and the Wealth of Nations," *George Mason Law Review*, vol. 23 (2016)

# *WHAT IS A PATENT?*

- Protects one's rights to their invention
- Utility patent
  - Apparatus
  - Method
- Design patent





# *WHAT DOES A PATENT PROTECT?*

- Exclusive use rights for a limited period of time
- A method:
  - Technical process (e.g., chemical process or software)
  - Business process (very hard since the Supreme Court's Alice case)
- An apparatus:
  - Physical components, how they interconnect
  - Mechanical
  - Electrical
  - Software

# *WHAT IS A PROVISIONAL PATENT?*

- A one year placeholder
- Cheaper than a nonprovisional patent
- Needs to cover all aspects of the invention
- Be careful not to reveal trade secrets
- Must be enabling
- By itself, provides no rights



# *REASONS TO FILE PATENTS*

- File at least one patent
- File it early (not a provisional)
- Use a patent attorney
- Defensive reasons
- Lasting value
- Offensive reasons



# *PATENT TROLLS OR PATENT WHITE KNIGHTS?*

August 10, 2025

How to Patent Your Invention

10 of 15



# PATENTS ENCOURAGE INNOVATION

Ron Popeil



August 10, 2025

How to Patent Your Invention

11 of 15



# PATENTS ENCOURAGE DISCLOSURE

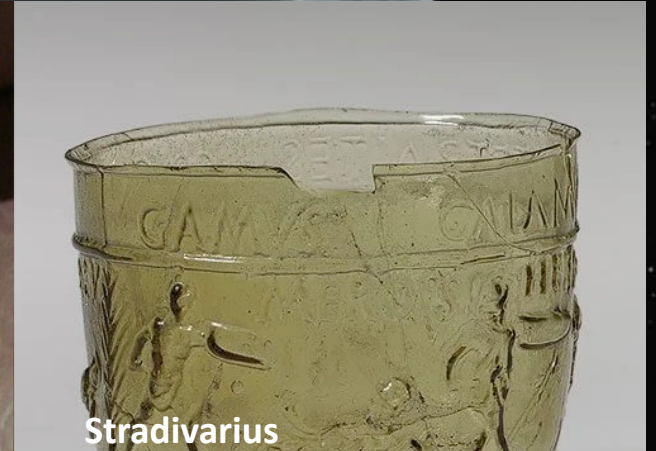
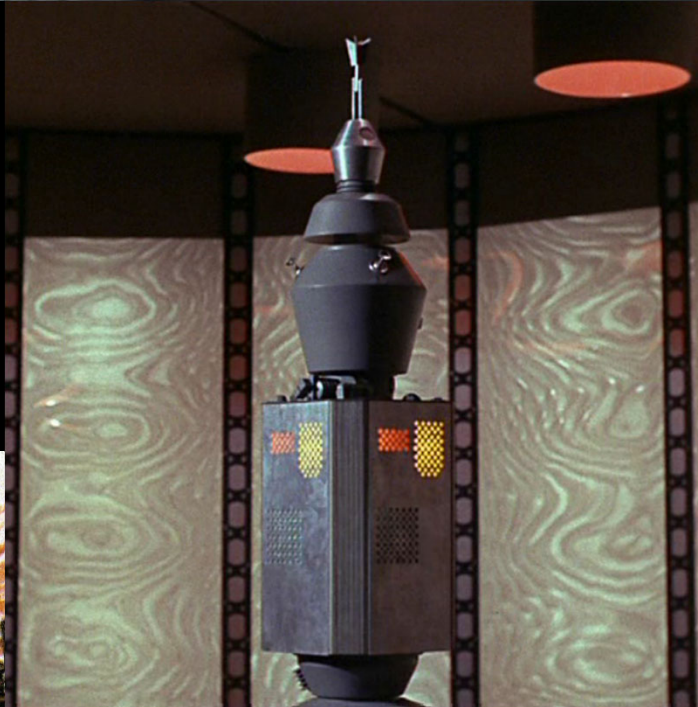
Antikythera Mechanism

NOMAD

Ancient Roman Flexible Glass



Ancient Greek Fire



Stradivarius



August 10, 2025

How to Patent Your Invention

12 of 15

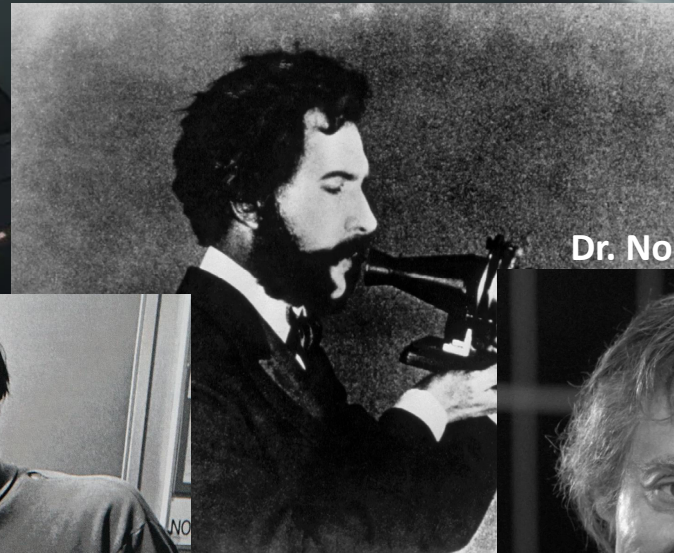


# PATENTS ENCOURAGE TECHNOLOGICAL ADVANCES

Thomas Edison



Alexander Graham Bell



Dr. Noonien Soong



Wozniak and Jobs

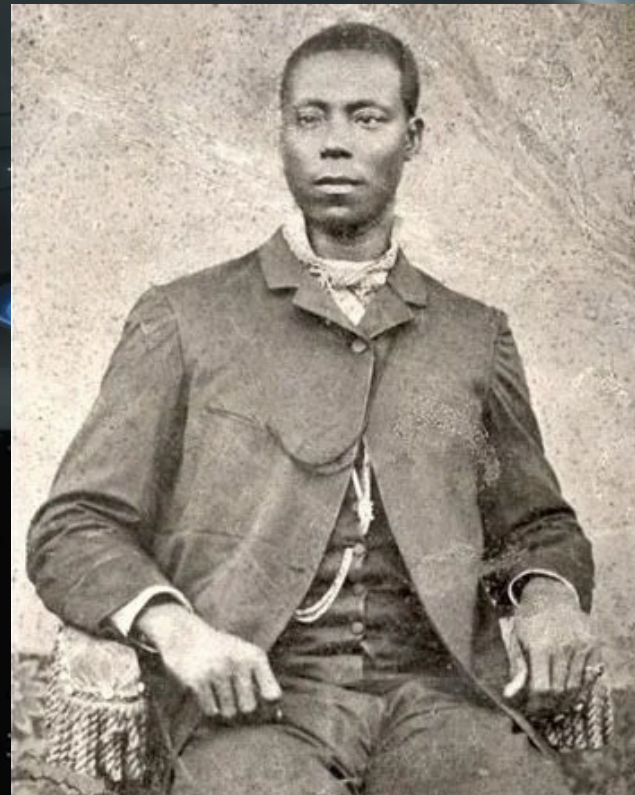


# ***PATENTS ENCOURAGE EQUALITY***

Mary Dixon Kies, 1809



Thomas L. Jennings, 1821





# *QUESTIONS AND ANSWERS*

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