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### **CS-202: Law For Computer Science Professionals**

## Class 5: Introduction To Copyrights

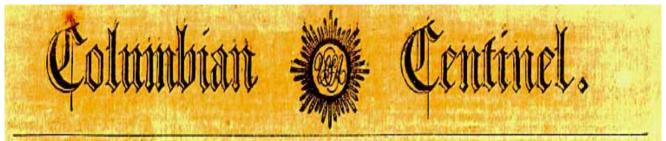
#### David W. Hansen, Instructor October 26, 2006

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### **Tidbit Of The Week**



# The First U.S. Copyright Law Signed in Script Type by George Washington Appearing in The Columbian Centinel of July 17, 1790

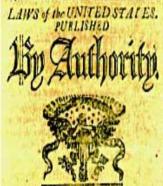


Printed and published, on WEDNESDAYS and SATURDAYS, by BENJAMIN RUSSELL, in State-Street, BOSTON, MASSACHUSETTS.

Whole No. 660 ]

SATURDAY, JULY 17, 1790.

No. 36-of YOL XIII.



CONGRESS of the UNITED STATES: AT THE SECOND (181108, Begun and held at the City of New-York, on Menday the 4th of January, 1790.

An ACT for the ENCOURAGEMENT of LIXANING, by fecuring the Copies of Maps, Charts and Beoks, to the Authors and Proprietors of flich Copies, during the Times therein mentioned. Beit emailed by the SENATE and House of REFERENTATIVES of the United States of America, in Congrifs affended, That from and after the palling of this aft, the author and after the palling of this aft, the author and after the palling of this aft, the author and after the palling of this aft, the author and after the palling of this aft, the author and authors of any map, chart, book or books already printed within the United States, being a citizen or citizens thereof, or relident within the fame, his or their execution, administrators or affigns, who hath or have no, transferred

to any other perion the copy-right of fuch

map, chart, book or books, flare or fhares

shereof ; and any other perion or perions,

being a citizen or citizens of their Uni-

ted States, or relident's therein, his or

their executors, administrators or alligns,

who hath or have purchased or legally

acquired the copy-right of any fuch map.

chart, book or books, in order to print,

reprint, pablish or vend the fame, fhall

have the fole right and liberty of print-

ing, reprinting, publishing and vending

very freet which thall be found in his or her polletion, either printed or printing, published, imported or expoted to fale, contrary to the true intent and maning of this Ad, the one moisty thereof to the author or proprietor of fuch map, chert, book or brooks, who shall fue for the fame, and the other moisty thereof to and for the ule of the United States, to be recovered by action of debt in any court of tectord in the United States, wherein the fame is cognizable : *Provide always*. That fuch action be commenced within one year after the caule of action shall arile, and not afterwards.

And be it further exclud, That no perfon fhall be entitled to the benefit of this Aft, in cales where any map, chart, book or books, hath or have been already printed and published, unleis he fhall fist depolit, and in all other cafes, unless he fhall before publication deposit a printed copy of the title of fuch map, chart, book or books, in the Clerk's office of the diftrict court where the author or proprietor fhall relide : And the cleak of fuch court is hereby directed and required to record the lame lorthwith, in abook to be kept by him for that purpofe, in the words following, (giving a copy thereof to the faid author or proprietor, under the feal of the court, if he fhall require the fame) to wit : Be if " Dignia of day of remembered, That on the year of in the

the independence of the United States of America, A. B. of the faid diffrict, bath depoited in this office the title of a map, chart, bool: or books, (as the cafe may be) the right whereof he claims as author or proprietor, (as the cafe may be) in the words following, to wit: [here infert the title] in conformity to the aft of the Con, grefs of the United States, initialed," An aft for the encouragement of learning, by G→ The ACT, initialed, "An Aft for finally adjuling and fatisfying the claims off rederick Win, deSteuken"—An Aft inticked, "An Aft for giving effection an Aft, initialed, "an Aft to effablish the Juricial Courts of the United States," within the Stare of North-Carolina"—and dr Aft, initialed, "an Aft Supplemental to the Aftfore-Rablishing the Islaries of the Executive Officers of Government, with their Affithants and Clerks"—were infirted in The Concession of June 10, 1790. According to their dates, they follow the above.

#### MISCELLANY.

OBSERVATIONS on the MAREFAC-TUMES and COMMERCE of the United States.

By W. BARTON, of Philadelphia. (CONTINUED FRONOUR LAST).

PAPER-HANGINGS, equal in quality and cheapnels to any imported, are manufa@ured in large quantities by Mr. William Poyntell, and Meffre. Le Collay and Chardon, at Philadelphia ; by Meffre. Mackay and Dixey, at Springfield, in New Jerfey; and other places in the Union<sup>\*</sup>.

A great progreis has been made in the manufacture of hohery, in this country ; and, with proper encouragement, much more may be accomplished in that branch, Mr. Burnaby, (in his travels through the middle feulements of North-America, in the years 1759 and 1760) notices the high effimation in which the Germantown flockings were then held ; and this genfleman mentions his having been credibly informed, that two years before that period, there were manufactured, in that town, fixty thousand dozen pair; the common retail price of which was a dollar per pair. This, however, is conceived to be a miltake-it is profable that fix thoufand doten pair was meant, as a reThe great and increasing confumption of window-glafs and bottles, in this coun, try, flould operate as a powerful motive for encouraging the glafs-manufactories already effablished in tome of thefe flates, and for promoting the fpeedy effablishment of familar works in other parts of theUnion.—Theglafs manufactory on the Patownack, it is faid, gives comployment to five hundred perfors.

The priming of calicocs, cottons, and linens, may be expected to increase in proportion as we extend the manufactures of thole articles : And the multins and white calicoes imported from India, will fixewife give employment to our calico printers. Mr. John Hewfon, and Mr. Robert Taylor, both in the neighbourhood of this city, are mafterly workmen in this branch : The former obtained a premium, from the manufactoring fociety for the bell specimens of prioted goods.

In the flite of Pennfylyania, there are twenty-one powder mills, capable of making fix hundred and twenty-five tons of powder, per annum. This is retailed at five dollars per quarter, of 25lbs; and is offered for fale in larger quantities under fixteen dollars per cwt. The Eng-lift price, after dedukting the bounty of 4/6, is 75% fterling ; or, about fixteen dollars and leventy-eight cents, per cwt. Independently of the imponance of this article, as a means of national defence, the manufatture of it in this flare is worth two hundred thousand dollars per annum. It is faid, that the largeft gunpowder works exitting any where, are thole at Frankford, near Philadelphianow the property of Mr. Jefeph J. Miller. The mill-work is constructed on the model of Mr. Rumfey's improvement of Barker's mill ; Mr. Miller having purchafed a licente i om the patenice. So much is done by the from refiner"An Act for the Encouragement of Learning, by securing the Copies of Maps, Charts and Books, to the Authors and Proprietors of such Copies, during the Times therein mentioned."

The first Copyright Act to protect books, maps and other original materials. Rights were granted only to citizens of the United States, a policy which continued until 1891. Passage was due mainly to Noah Webster who worked unceasingly on its behalf.

The Act provides that "the author and authors of any map, chart, book or books already printed within these United States, being a citizen or citizens thereof....shall have the sole right and liberty of printing, reprinting, publishing and vending such map, chart, book or books...."

The Act gave protection for a period of 14 years, with the right of renewal for another 14 years.

Violators of the new law "shall forfeit all and every copy....and all and every sheet....to the author or proprietor....who shall forthwith destroy the same."

Violators also required to "forfeit and pay the sum of fifty cents for every sheet which shall be found in his or her possession...."

The Act was signed by the Speaker and the President of the Senate on May 25, 1790. It was signed by George Washington on May 31, 1790, shown in this issue of The Centinel with his signature printed in script type.

# **Current Copyright Law**

# **Copyright Sources**

#### Article 1, section 8 of the U.S. 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 ...."

The Copyright Act:

The U.S. copyright laws were enacted by Congress pursuant to its Constitutional grant of authority to secure for "limited times" to "authors" the "exclusive right to their ... writings."

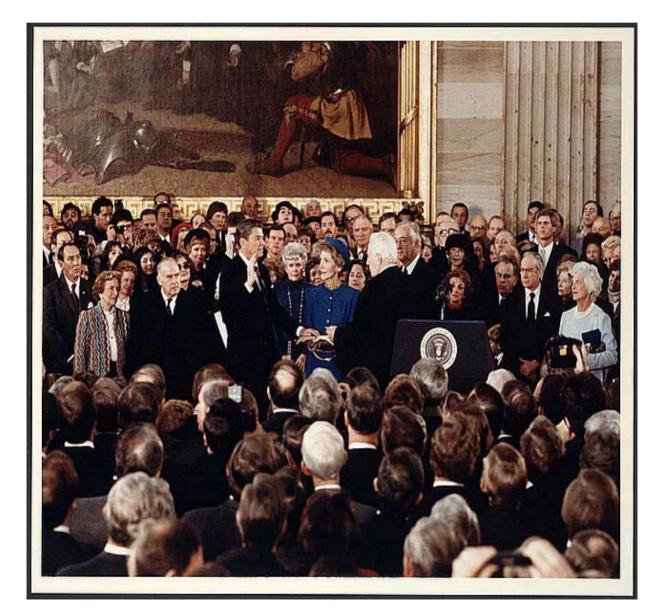
# **U.S. Copyright Law**

- Protection provided by Title 17 of the U.S. Code.
- Protects authors of "original works of authorship."
- Protects both published and unpublished works.
- Secures "a fair return for an author's creative labor" while seeking "to stimulate artistic creativity for the general public good." *Twentieth Century Music Corp. v. Aiken* (U.S. 1975).
- It is illegal for anyone to violate any of the rights provided by the copyright law to the owner of copyright.

# **Exclusive Rights**

- Copyright owners are given the exclusive right to do and to authorize others to do the following (section 106):
  - *Reproduce* the work in copies or phonorecords.
  - Prepare *derivative works* based upon the work
  - Distribute copies or phonorecords of the work to the public by sale or other transfer of ownership, or by rental, lease, or lending.
  - *Perform the work publicly* (literary, musical, dramatic, movies and other audiovisual works).
  - Display the copyrighted work publicly (including the individual images of a motion picture or other audiovisual work).
  - In the case of *sound recordings*, *perform the work publicly* by means of a *digital audio transmission*.

Permission has been granted by the Sergeant at Arms, U. S. Senate Office of the Sergeant at Arms, for the use of this photograph on this Web site, *"I Do Solemnly Swear . . . ": Presidential Inaugurations*, but one must seek permission from the Sergeant at Arms to obtain a copy of this photograph, reproduce it, or use it for any other purpose. Permission must be obtained from the Office of the Sergeant at Arms, U. S. Senate, Suite S-321, The Capitol, Washington, D. C., 20510-7200.



# **Protected Works**

- Copyright protects "original works of authorship" that are fixed in a "tangible" form of expression.
- Copyrightable works include the following categories:
  - literary works.
  - musical works, including any accompanying words.
  - dramatic works, including any accompanying music.
  - pantomimes and choreographic works.
  - pictorial, graphic, and sculptural works.
  - motion pictures and other audiovisual works.
  - sound recordings.
  - architectural works.
- The categories are interpreted broadly.

# **Computer Programs**

- Computer programs may be registered as "literary works."
- The Copyright Act defines a "computer program" as "a set of statements or instructions to be used directly or indirectly in a computer to bring about a certain result."
- Copyright protection extends to all of the copyrightable "expression" embodied in the computer program.
- Copyright protection is not available for ideas, program logic, algorithms, systems, methods, concepts or layouts.
- Protection is only available for the "particular expression" of the foregoing embodied in the program.

# What Is Not Protected

- The categories of material generally not eligible for federal copyright protection:
  - Ideas, procedures, methods, systems, processes, concepts, principles, discoveries, or devices (versus particular "expression").
  - Works that have *not* been fixed in a tangible form of expression (*e.g.*, choreographic works or speeches that are not recorded).
  - Titles, names, short phrases, and slogans; familiar symbols or designs; mere variations of typographic ornamentation, lettering, or coloring; mere listings of ingredients or contents.
  - Works consisting *entirely* of information that is common property and containing no original authorship (*e.g.*, standard calendars, tape measures and rulers, and lists or tables taken from public documents).

# **Derivative Works**

- Defined as a work that is derived from or based on one or more already existing works.
- Separately copyrightable if it includes an "original work of authorship."
- The copyright only covers the additions, changes or other new material.
- It does not extent to any preexisting material and does not imply a copyright in those materials.
- The owner of the original copyrighted materials has the exclusive right to create derivative works.
- Minor changes are not copyrightable.

# "Work Made For Hire"

### Defined in the Copyright Act as:

- (1) a work prepared by an employee within the scope of employment; or
- (2) a work specially ordered or commissioned for use as:
  - a contribution to a collective work
  - a part of a motion picture or other audiovisual work
  - a translation
  - a supplementary work
  - a compilation
  - an instructional text
  - a test
  - answer material for a test
  - an atlas

The parties can agree in writing that the work will be a WMFH.

# **Joint/Collective Works**

- A "joint work" is defined as a work prepared by 2 or more authors with intent to create a "unitary whole."
- A "collective work" is defined as a work that includes a number of separate and independent copyrightable works.
- The authors of a "joint work" are coowners of the copyright in the work, absent agreement to the contrary.
- The copyright in each separate contribution to a periodical or other "collective work" is distinct from the copyright in the "collective work" as a whole.
  - Ownership of each work vests initially with the author of the contribution.
  - Ownership in the "collective work" is separate.

# Infringement

- Infringement exists if a copy of a copyrighted work is made without the permission of the copyright owner.
- "Copyright infringement may occur by reason of a *substantial similarity* that involves only a small portion of the work."
  - "No plagiarist can excuse the wrong by showing how much of his work he did not pirate."
- Independent creation of a work is a *complete defense* to a copyright claim, even if the accused work is identical:
  - "if by some magic a man who had never known it were to compose anew Keats's Ode on a Grecian Urn, he would be an 'author."
- "Independent creation" is undercut by the rule that access can be inferentially proven by "striking similarity" even if there is no other proof of "access" to the copyrighted work.

# **Defenses To Infringement**

- "Fair use":
  - Preserves public access to the ideas and functional elements of copyrighted works (*e.g.*, reverse engineering of computer code).
- The "elusive boundary line" between "idea" and "expression":
  - The "merger" doctrine: only one/very few ways of expressing an idea; the "idea" and "expression" are deemed to have "merged."
  - The "scenes a faire" doctrine: the elements are dictated by "practical realities" (hardware/software standards, compatibility requirements)
- Compulsory license:
  - Streaming music royalty rates set by Copyright Arbitration Royalty Panel.
  - Copyright owner must license at this rate.

# Who Can Claim Copyright?

- Copyright protection exists from the moment a work is created in fixed form.
- The copyright in the work of authorship *immediately* becomes the property of the author who created the work.
- Only the author or those deriving their rights through the author (WMFH) can rightfully claim copyright.
- In the case of works made for hire, the employer and not the employee is considered to be the author.

# **Possession Not Ownership**

- Mere ownership of a book, manuscript, painting, or any other copy or record does not give the possessor ownership of the copyright.
- Transfer of ownership of any material object that embodies a protected work does not of itself convey any rights in the copyright.
- The copyright must separately be transferred.

# **National Origin**

- Copyright protection is available for all unpublished works, regardless of the nationality or domicile of the author.
- Published works are eligible for US copyright protection if:
  - On the date of first publication, one or more of the authors is a national or domiciliary of the United States, or
  - The work is first published in the United States (or a treaty party), or
  - The work is published in the United States (or a treaty party) within 30 days after publication in a foreign nation that is not a treaty party.

# **Securing A Copyright**

- No publication or registration or other action in the Copyright Office is required to secure a copyright.
- A copyright is secured *automatically* when the work is created (*i.e.*, when it is fixed in a copy or phonorecord for the first time).
  - "Copies": material objects from which a work can be read or visually perceived either directly or with the aid of a machine or device (*e.g.*, books, manuscripts, sheet music, film, videotape, microfilm).
  - "Phonorecords": material objects embodying fixations of sounds (*e.g.*, cassette tapes, CDs, or LPs.
- Songs (the "work") can be fixed in sheet music ("copies"), in records/CDs/DVDs ("phonorecords"), or both.

## Publication

- Before 1978, US copyright was secured generally by:
  - "publication" with notice of copyright.
  - Registration with the Copyright Office.
- The 1976 Copyright Act defines publication as follows:
  - Distribution of copies or phonorecords of a work to the public by sale or other transfer of ownership, or by rental, lease, or lending.
  - The offering to distribute copies or phonorecords to a group of persons for purposes of further distribution, public performance, or public display constitutes publication.
  - A public performance or display of a work does not of itself constitute publication (not in a "fixed" medium).

# **Publication Still Important**

- Publication must be to persons under no restrictions regarding disclosure.
- Importance of publication:
  - Works that are published in the United
    States are subject to mandatory deposit with
    the Library of Congress.
  - The year of publication may determine the duration of copyright protection for anonymous and pseudonymous works (when the author's identity is not revealed in the records of the Copyright Office) and for works made for hire.
  - When a work is published, it may bear a notice of copyright to identify the year of publication and the name of the copyright owner and to inform the public that the work is protected by copyright.

# **Notice Of Copyright**

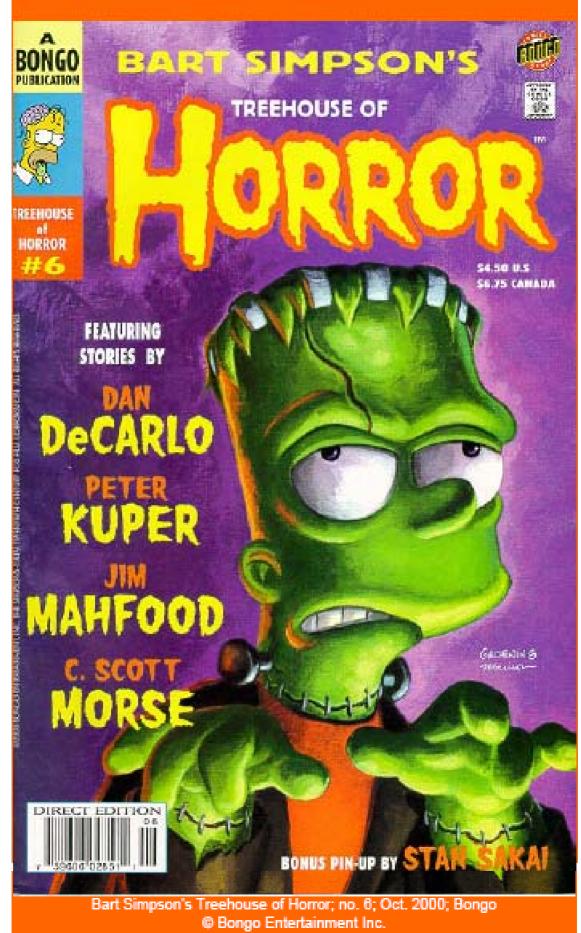
- The use of a copyright notice is no longer required under U.S. law, although it is often beneficial.
- The notice requirement was eliminated when the U.S. adhered to the Berne Convention, effective March 1, 1989.
- Notice may be important because it:
  - informs the public that the work is protected by copyright.
  - identifies the copyright owner.
  - shows the year of first publication.
  - In the event that a work is infringed, if a proper notice of copyright appears on the published copy or copies, no weight is given to infringer's defense of "innocent infringement" (the infringer claims that (s)he not realize that the work was protected).

# **Form Of Notice**

- 1. The symbol ©, the word "Copyright," or the abbreviation "Copr."
- 2. The year of first publication of the work.
  - In the case of compilations or derivative works incorporating previously published material, the date of first publication of the compilation or derivative work.
- 3. The name of the owner of copyright in the work, or an abbreviation by which the name can be recognized, or a generally known alternative designation of the owner.
- The form should "give reasonable notice of the claim of copyright."



#### ©2002 TWENTIETH CENTURY FOX



Twentieth Century Fox Film Corporation

## **Work Made For Hire**



#### ©Copyright Twendieth Century Fox

#### PAu-2-362-689 (COHM)

Title:	Pilot / written by Matt Groening, David S. Cohen.
Description:	48 p.
Series:	Futurama ; production no. 1ACV01
Note:	TV script.
	Add. ti.: Space pilot 3000.
Claimant:	acTwentieth Century Fox Film Corporation (employer for hire)
Created:	1998

# **Length Of Protection**

- A work that is created (fixed in tangible form for the first time) on or after January 1, 1978, is automatically protected from the moment of its creation.
- Works are ordinarily given a term enduring for the author's life plus an additional 70 years after the author's death.
- Joint works (not WMFH): 70 years after the last surviving author's death.
- WMFH: 95 years from publication or 120 years from creation, whichever is shorter.

# **Copyright Transfer**

- Any or all of the copyright owner's *exclusive* rights or any subdivision of those rights may be transferred.
- The transfer of exclusive rights is not valid unless:
  - The transfer is in writing, and
  - signed by the owner of the rights conveyed or the owner's duly authorized agent.
- Transfer of nonexclusive rights does not require a writing.
- May be transferred in a will.

# **International Protection**

- There is no such thing as an "international copyright" that will automatically protect an author's writings throughout the entire world.
- Protection in a particular country depends on the national laws of that country.
- Most countries offer protection to foreign works under certain conditions, which have been greatly simplified by international copyright treaties and conventions.

# Registration

- A legal formality intended to make a public record of the basic facts of a particular copyright.
- Not a condition of copyright protection.
- Advantages of registration:
  - Establishes a public record of the copyright.
  - Required for filing an infringement lawsuitt.
  - If within 5 years of publication, *prima facie* evidence of the validity of the copyright and of the facts stated in the certificate.
  - If within 3 months of publication or prior to an infringement of the work, statutory damages and attorney's fees are available to the copyright owner.
  - Allows the copyright owner to record the registration with the U. S. Customs Service for protection against the importation of infringing copies.

# **Software Registration**

- One visually perceptible copy in source code of the first 25 and last 25 pages of the program.
- For a program of fewer than 50 pages, a copy of the entire program.
- If the work is in a CD-ROM format, the CD-ROM, the operating software, and any manual(s) accompanying it must be registered.
- If registration is sought for the computer program on the CD-ROM, the deposit should also include a printout of the first 25 and last 25 pages of source code for the program.
- If object code, the registrant must certify that it contains copyrightable authorship.

# **Screen Displays**

- Copyright Office takes the position that a single registration protects the copyright in the program and all related screen displays, including videogames.
- A claim to the copyright in the screen displays can be made in the registration, in which case identifying materials for the screen displays must be deposited with the Copyright Office.

## **Registration Examples**

1. Registration Number:	PA-726-114
Title:	Microsoft Multimedia SchubertThe trout quintet.
Imprint:	[Redmond, WA] : Microsoft Corp., c1993.
Description:	CD-ROM package.
Note:	Add. ti.: Multimedia SchubertThe trout quintet.
Claimant:	caMicrosoft Corporation
Created:	1994
Published:	4Jan94
Registered:	22Apr94
Claim Limit:	NEW MATTER: additional programming & written texts, editorial revisions.
Miscellaneous:	C.O. corres.
Special Codes:	3/C/D

2. Registration Number:	PA-1-129-755
Title:	Links 2003 championship courses.
Imprint:	[Redmond, WA] : Microsoft, c2002.
Description:	CD-ROM.
Note:	Videogame.
Claimant:	[Author and claimant] Microsoft Corporation
Created:	2002
Published:	19Sep02
Registered:	25Nov02
Author on © Application:	audiovisual elements (excluding software program), documentation & text on product packaging: Microsoft Corporation, employer for hire.
Previous Related Version:	Appl. identifies some material as preexisting.
Special Codes:	3/C/D

# Patents v. Copyrights

- A copyright protects only particular expression:
  - "unoriginal" portions of a software program can freely be copied.
- A patent may protect an algorithm if it is used to produce a "useful, concrete and tangible result."
- A patent may also protect the "business method" implemented by the program.
- Patents are required to be new and nonobvious.
- Patent prosecution can take years.
- Costs of obtaining a patent are high.
- Copyright protection is automatic and relatively inexpensive.

# Patents v. Copyrights

- The life of patent is 20 years; copyright life is much longer.
- A preliminary injunction typically available in copyright cases; much harder to obtain in patent cases.
- Must show copying in a copyright case copyright does not protect "independent development."
- Copying/independent development irrelevant in patent cases.
- Because only part of the program is required to be registered, it is possible to maintain trade secrets.
- Trade secrets likely lost with patent ("best mode" must be disclosed).

# Patents v. Copyrights

- If a patentable process and its expression are "indistinguishable" or "inextricably intertwined," then "the process merges with the expression and precludes copyright protection." *Atari v. Nintendo* (Fed. Cir. 1992).
- Commentators dispute whether copyright and patent protection for computer software should be mutually exclusive.
- Some opponents of software patents argue that copyright protection should be expanded.
- Some argue that patent protection should not be available for software.