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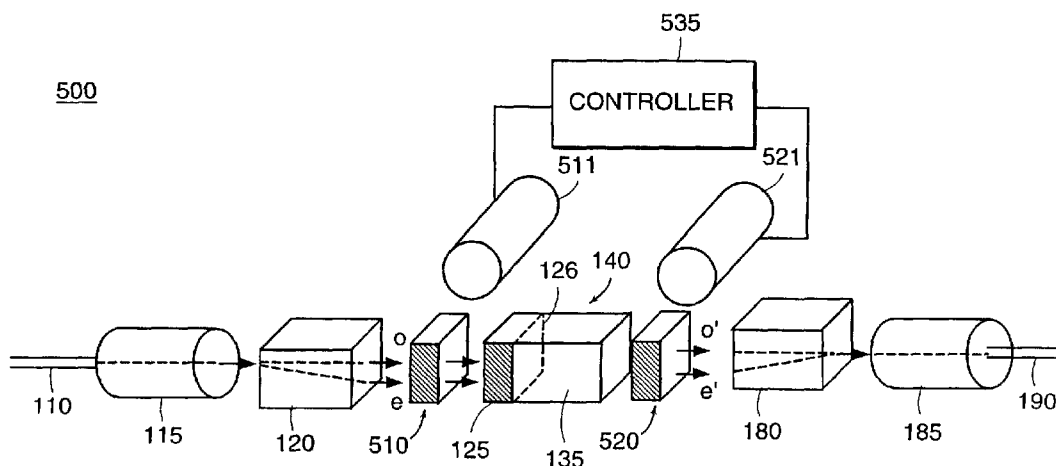
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For two-letter codes and other abbreviations, refer to the "Guidance Notes on Codes and Abbreviations" appearing at the beginning of each regular issue of the PCT Gazette.

(54) Title: DYNAMIC OPTICAL FILTER



(57) Abstract: An apparatus and method for filtering an optical input is disclosed. In an illustrative embodiment, an optical input is split into polarization components (o, e) along separate paths. (The polarization components are then fed into a first electro-optic device (140) that includes a set of electrodes (126) across which a voltage is applied to adjust a wavelength transmission characteristic of the device. A section of the first device positioned between the electrodes (126) preferably has a birefringence that is adjusted depending on the voltage applied across the electrodes (126). The adjusted components of the optical input are thereafter combined to produce an optical output. Accordingly, the optical input can be attenuated based on the voltage applied to electrodes of the first electro-optic device.

WO 2002/091067 A3

INTERNATIONAL SEARCH REPORT

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PCT/US02/13320

A. CLASSIFICATION OF SUBJECT MATTER

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US CL : 359/245, 246, 251, 252, 254, 256, 281, 279, 280, 315, 322, 323; 385/2, 3, 8

According to International Patent Classification (IPC) or to both national classification and IPC

B. FIELDS SEARCHED

Minimum documentation searched (classification system followed by classification symbols)
U.S. : Please See Continuation Sheet

Documentation searched other than minimum documentation to the extent that such documents are included in the fields searched
NONE

Electronic data base consulted during the international search (name of data base and, where practicable, search terms used)
NONE

C. DOCUMENTS CONSIDERED TO BE RELEVANT

Category *	Citation of document, with indication, where appropriate, of the relevant passages	Relevant to claim No.
X ---	WO 99/67679 A2 (Chen et al.) 29 December 1999 (29/12/1999) see entire reference.	1-3, 5, 7
Y		4
A	US 5,305,136 A (SMITH) 19 April 1994 (19/4/1994) see entire reference.	6, 8-10

Further documents are listed in the continuation of Box C. See patent family annex.

* Special categories of cited documents:		"T"	later document published after the international filing date or priority date and not in conflict with the application but cited to understand the principle or theory underlying the invention
"A"	document defining the general state of the art which is not considered to be of particular relevance	"X"	document of particular relevance; the claimed invention cannot be considered novel or cannot be considered to involve an inventive step when the document is taken alone
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"L"	document which may throw doubts on priority claim(s) or which is cited to establish the publication date of another citation or other special reason (as specified)	"&"	document member of the same patent family
"O"	document referring to an oral disclosure, use, exhibition or other means		
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Continuation of B. FIELDS SEARCHED Item 1:

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