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(54) Title: METHOD AND REAGENTS FOR INVESTIGATING FUNCTIONAL MOLECULAR INTERACTIONS

(57) Abstract: The present invention provides a multiplexed assay for analyzing complex molecular interactions. Thus, the invention relates to a method of identifying, in a single assay, the relative binding of two or more first members of a binding pair to one or more second members of a binding pair. The invention also relates to a method of identifying, in a single assay, the relative modulation, by a modulating agent, of binding between two or more binding pairs or between two or more binding complexes. Further provided are methods of screening, in a single assay, for an agent or agents with a selected binding profile or for an agent that modulates binding between two or more first members of a binding pair and one or more second members of a binding pair or the members of two or more binding complexes. The invention also relates to a set of microspheres coupled with a set of cofactors, wherein the microspheres are labeled with a label specific for each cofactor of the set.

INTERNATIONAL SEARCH REPORT

International Application No

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A. CLASSIFICATION OF SUBJECT MATTER
 IPC 7 G01N33/543 G01N33/58

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)
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Documentation searched other than minimum documentation to the extent that such documents are included in the fields searched

Electronic data base consulted during the international search (name of data base and, where practical, search terms used)

EPO-Internal, WPI Data, BIOSIS, PAJ

C. DOCUMENTS CONSIDERED TO BE RELEVANT

Category °	Citation of document, with indication, where appropriate, of the relevant passages	Relevant to claim No.
A	WO 99 36564 A (LUMINEX CORP) 22 July 1999 (1999-07-22) cited in the application claims 1-85	1-119
A	US 4 510 244 A (PARKS DAVID R ET AL) 9 April 1985 (1985-04-09) column 4, line 50 -column 5, line 20; claims 1-5	1-119
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Further documents are listed in the continuation of box C.

Patent family members are listed in annex.

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INTERNATIONAL SEARCH REPORT

International Application No

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C.(Continuation) DOCUMENTS CONSIDERED TO BE RELEVANT		
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A	EP 0 617 286 A (WALLAC OY) 28 September 1994 (1994-09-28) claims 1-7; example 1 -----	1-119
A	US 5 876 946 A (INGLESE JAMES ET AL) 2 March 1999 (1999-03-02) claim 15; examples 1-3 -----	1-119

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