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[Continued on next page]

(54) Title: METHOD AND DEVICE FOR DETERMINING THE AMOUNT OF MAGNETICALLY LABELED TARGET COMPONENTS

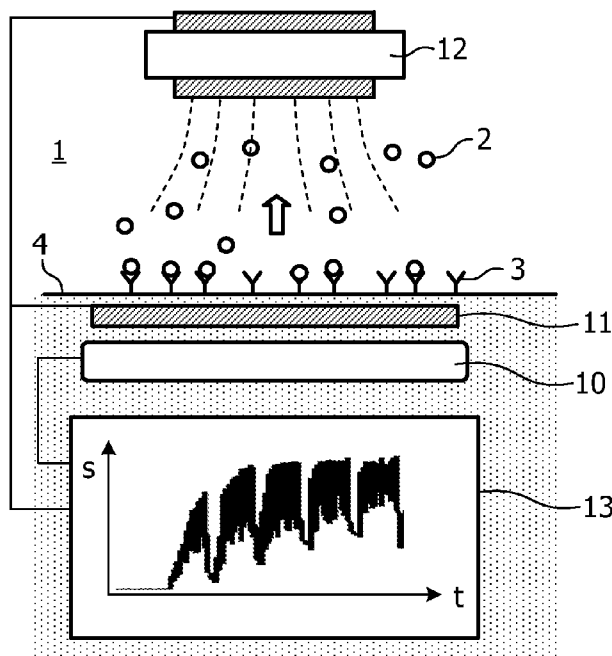


FIG. 5

(57) Abstract: The invention relates to a method and a device (100) for determining the amount of a target component (2) in a sample, wherein magnetic particles (2) can bind to a contact surface (4) with kinetics that depend on the sample-amount of the target component. The method comprises at least two washing steps during which magnetic particles (2) are magnetically moved away from the contact surface (4) and corresponding measurements of the remaining amount of magnetic particles (2) at the contact surface (4). The amount of target component in the sample is estimated from at least one of such measurement results. The measurement allows to determine also high concentrations of target component for which the sensor surface (4) is saturated in a steady-state.



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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)
 G01N G01R B01L

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, BIOSIS, EMBASE, WPI Data, INSPEC

C. DOCUMENTS CONSIDERED TO BE RELEVANT

Category*	Citation of document, with indication, where appropriate, of the relevant passages	Relevant to claim No.
X	WO 2008/102218 A1 (KONINKL PHILIPS ELECTRONICS NV [NL]; VAN LANKVELT PETRUS JOHANNES W [N] 28 August 2008 (2008-08-28))	1-7,9, 10,12-15
Y	the whole document claims; figures 3,4	8,11
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Y	the whole document page 10, lines 25-30 page 12, line 24 - line 30 figure 9	8,11
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Further documents are listed in the continuation of Box C. See patent family annex.

* Special categories of cited documents :

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Name and mailing address of the ISA/ European Patent Office, P.B. 5818 Patentlaan 2 NL - 2280 HV Rijswijk Tel. (+31-70) 340-2040, Fax: (+31-70) 340-3016	Authorized officer Stricker, J
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International application No

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