



(51) International Patent Classification:

C12Q 1/68 (2018.01) C12Q 1/00 (2006.01)

C12Q 1/6844 (2018.01)

(21) International Application Number:

PCT/US2019/014355

(22) International Filing Date:

18 January 2019 (18.01.2019)

(25) Filing Language:

English

(26) Publication Language:

English

(30) Priority Data:

62/620,390 22 January 2018 (22.01.2018) US

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(81) Designated States (unless otherwise indicated, for every
kind of national protection available): AE, AG, AL, AM,
AO, AT, AU, AZ, BA, BB, BG, BH, BN, BR, BW, BY, BZ,
CA, CH, CL, CN, CO, CR, CU, CZ, DE, DJ, DK, DM, DO,
DZ, EC, EE, EG, ES, FI, GB, GD, GE, GH, GM, GT, HN,
HR, HU, ID, IL, IN, IR, IS, JO, JP, KE, KG, KH, KN, KP,
KR, KW, KZ, LA, LC, LK, LR, LS, LU, LY, MA, MD, ME,

MG, MK, MN, MW, MX, MY, MZ, NA, NG, NI, NO, NZ,
OM, PA, PE, PG, PH, PL, PT, QA, RO, RS, RU, RW, SA,
SC, SD, SE, SG, SK, SL, SM, ST, SV, SY, TH, TJ, TM, TN,
TR, TT, TZ, UA, UG, US, UZ, VC, VN, ZA, ZM, ZW.

(84) Designated States (unless otherwise indicated, for every
kind of regional protection available): ARIPO (BW, GH,
GM, KE, LR, LS, MW, MZ, NA, RW, SD, SL, ST, SZ, TZ,
UG, ZM, ZW), Eurasian (AM, AZ, BY, KG, KZ, RU, TJ,
TM), European (AL, AT, BE, BG, CH, CY, CZ, DE, DK,
EE, ES, FI, FR, GB, GR, HR, HU, IE, IS, IT, LT, LU, LV,
MC, MK, MT, NL, NO, PL, PT, RO, RS, SE, SI, SK, SM,
TR), OAPI (BF, BJ, CF, CG, CI, CM, GA, GN, GQ, GW,
KM, ML, MR, NE, SN, TD, TG).

Declarations under Rule 4.17:

- as to applicant's entitlement to apply for and be granted a
patent (Rule 4.17(ii))
- as to the applicant's entitlement to claim the priority of the
earlier application (Rule 4.17(iii))

Published:

- with international search report (Art. 21(3))

(88) Date of publication of the international search report:

26 December 2019 (26.12.2019)

(54) Title: METHODS OF PERFORMING DIGITAL NUCLEIC ACID AMPLIFICATION USING POLYBUTENE

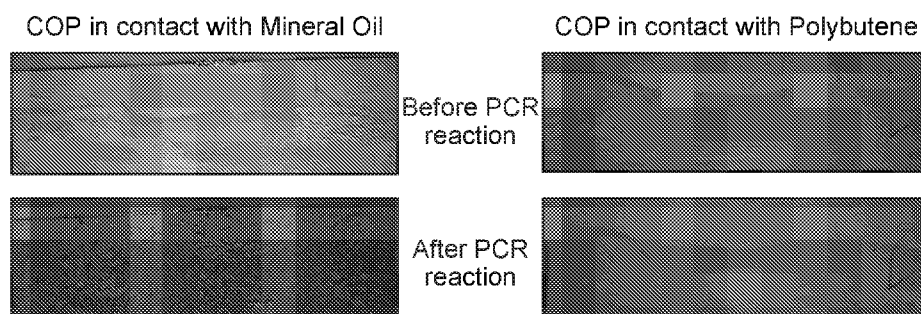


FIG. 3

(57) Abstract: Methods, devices, and systems for performing digital assays are provided. In certain aspects, the digital assays comprise compartmentalized volumes. In certain aspects, the methods, devices, and systems can be used for the amplification and detection of nucleic acids. In certain aspects, the methods, devices, and systems can be used for the recognition, detection, and sizing of droplets in a volume.



INTERNATIONAL SEARCH REPORT

International application No.

PCT/US19/14355

A. CLASSIFICATION OF SUBJECT MATTER

IPC - C12Q 1/68, 1/6844, 1/00 (2019.01)

CPC - C12Q 1/68, 1/6844, 1/00

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)

See Search History document

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

See Search History document

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

See Search History document

C. DOCUMENTS CONSIDERED TO BE RELEVANT

Category*	Citation of document, with indication, where appropriate, of the relevant passages	Relevant to claim No.
Y	US 9,803,237 B2 (CALIFORNIA INSTITUTE OF TECHNOLOGY, et al.) 31 October 2017; Abstract; Figures 8, 10A, 10B, 10C, 10D, 10E; Column 1, Lines 44-57; Column 4, Lines 19-26; Column 7, Lines 4-20; Column 7, Lines 26-31; Column 8, Lines 6-8; Column 10, Lines 49-55; Column 12, Lines 24-48; Column 13, Lines 46-64; Column 15, Line 5; Column 22, Lines 59-67; Column 23, Lines 1-10; Column 30, Lines 63-67; Column 34, Lines 28-30; Column 41, Lines 47-50; Column 42, Lines 33-60; Claims 1, 2, 31	1, 2, 3/1, 3/2, 49-51, 52/50, 52/51, 58-60, 61/59, 61/60
Y	SOROORI, S, et al. The Use of Polybutene for Controlling the Flow of Liquids in Centrifugal Microfluidic Systems. Microfluidics and Nanofluidics. 07 January 2016, Vol. 20, No. 26. DOI 10.1007/s10404-015-1677-y; Abstract.	1, 2, 3/1, 3/2, 49-51, 52/50, 52/51, 58-60, 61/59, 61/60
A	US 2017/0182492 A1 (LIFE TECHNOLOGIES CORPORATION) 29 June 2017; Abstract	1, 2, 3/1, 3/2, 49-51, 52/50, 52/51, 58-60, 61/59, 61/60

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

* Special categories of cited documents:

"A" document defining the general state of the art which is not considered to be of particular relevance

"E" earlier application or patent but published on or after the international filing date

"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)

"O" document referring to an oral disclosure, use, exhibition or other means

"P" document published prior to the international filing date but later than the priority date claimed

"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

"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

"Y" document of particular relevance; the claimed invention cannot be considered to involve an inventive step when the document is combined with one or more other such documents, such combination being obvious to a person skilled in the art

"&" document member of the same patent family

Date of the actual completion of the international search

08 March 2019 (08.03.2019)

Date of mailing of the international search report

23 APR 2019

Name and mailing address of the ISA/

Mail Stop PCT, Attn: ISA/US, Commissioner for Patents

P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, Virginia 22313-1450

Facsimile No. 571-273-8300

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PCT OSP: 571-272-7774

INTERNATIONAL SEARCH REPORT

International application No.

PCT/US19/14355

Box No. II Observations where certain claims were found unsearchable (Continuation of item 2 of first sheet)

This international search report has not been established in respect of certain claims under Article 17(2)(a) for the following reasons:

1. ☐ Claims Nos.:
because they relate to subject matter not required to be searched by this Authority, namely:

2. ☐ Claims Nos.:
because they relate to parts of the international application that do not comply with the prescribed requirements to such an extent that no meaningful international search can be carried out, specifically:

3. ☒ Claims Nos.: 4-48, 53-57, 62-72
because they are dependent claims and are not drafted in accordance with the second and third sentences of Rule 6.4(a).

Box No. III Observations where unity of invention is lacking (Continuation of item 3 of first sheet)

This International Searching Authority found multiple inventions in this international application, as follows:

1. ☐ As all required additional search fees were timely paid by the applicant, this international search report covers all searchable claims.
2. ☐ As all searchable claims could be searched without effort justifying additional fees, this Authority did not invite payment of additional fees.
3. ☐ As only some of the required additional search fees were timely paid by the applicant, this international search report covers only those claims for which fees were paid, specifically claims Nos.:

4. ☐ No required additional search fees were timely paid by the applicant. Consequently, this international search report is restricted to the invention first mentioned in the claims; it is covered by claims Nos.:

Remark on Protest

- ☐ The additional search fees were accompanied by the applicant's protest and, where applicable, the payment of a protest fee.
- ☐ The additional search fees were accompanied by the applicant's protest but the applicable protest fee was not paid within the time limit specified in the invitation.
- ☐ No protest accompanied the payment of additional search fees.