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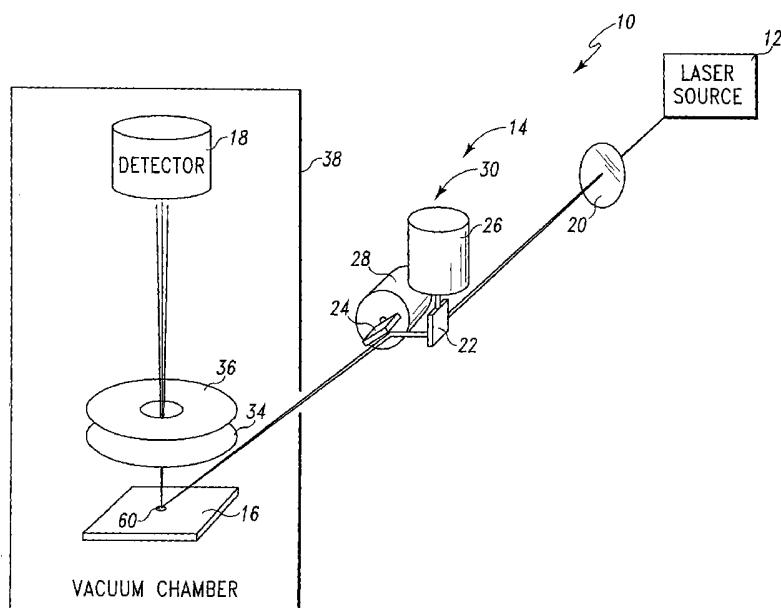
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[Continued on next page]

(54) Title: MALDI MASS SPECTROMETER HAVING A LASER STEERING ASSEMBLY AND METHOD OPERATING THE SAME



(57) Abstract: A MALDI mass spectrometer has a laser steering assembly operable to steer or otherwise direct movement of a laser focus over the MALDI sample being tested. Such a laser steering assembly may include a mirror array having a pair of independently controlled mirrors. The first of such a pair of mirrors is operable to move the laser focus along the X-axis of the MALDI sample, whereas the second of such a pair of mirrors is operable to move the laser focus along the Y-axis of the MALDI sample. A method of operating a MALDI mass spectrometer is also disclosed.



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INTERNATIONAL SEARCH REPORT

International application No.

PCT/US04/06649

A. CLASSIFICATION OF SUBJECT MATTER

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US CL : 250/288

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. : 250/288, 396R, 282, 423R

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)
Please See Continuation Sheet

C. DOCUMENTS CONSIDERED TO BE RELEVANT

Category *	Citation of document, with indication, where appropriate, of the relevant passages	Relevant to claim No.
X --- Y	US 2002/0148972 A1 (KRUTCHINSKY et al) 17 October 2002 (17.10.2002) see entire document.	1, 4, 9, 12 ----- 2, 3, 6, 8, 10, 11, 14, 16-19
Y	US 2002/0066857 A1 (HUGHEY et al) 06 June 2002 (06.06.2002) see entire document.	2, 3, 6, 8, 10, 11, 14, 16-19
A	US 6,558,902 B1 (HILLENKAMP) 06 May 2003 (06.05.2003) see entire document.	1-19
A, P	US 2002/0023410 A1 (STACEY) 05 February 2004 (05.02.2004) see entire document.	1-19

☐ Further documents are listed in the continuation of Box C.

☐ See patent family annex.

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"A" document defining the general state of the art which is not considered to be of particular relevance	"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
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"P" document published prior to the international filing date but later than the priority date claimed	

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Continuation of B. FIELDS SEARCHED Item 3:

EAST: USPAT; US-PGPUB; EPO; JPO; DERWENT; IBM_TDB; (maldi and laser near5 scan\$3) and (y-axis or y- axis), logarithmic adj
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