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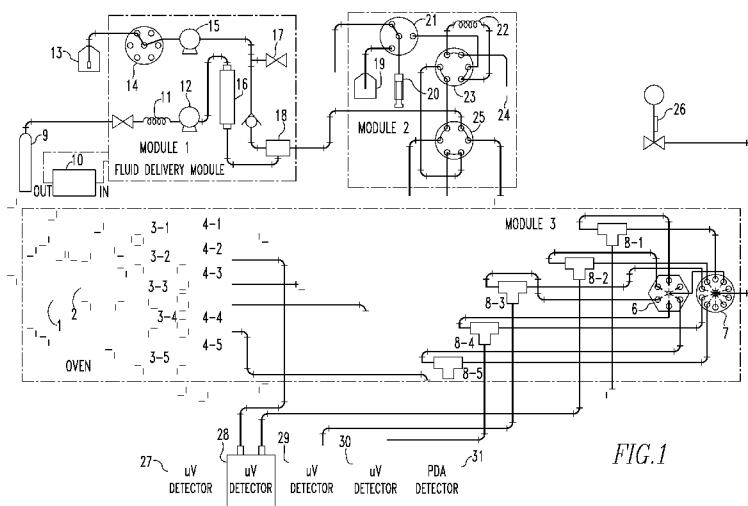


FIG.1

(57) Abstract: The invention provides an apparatus for supercritical fluid chromatography. The apparatus comprises a binary pump; an autosampler; a sampling valve; a first and second port switching valve; a first and second manifold; two or more channels, each having a check valve assembly, a separation column and one or more detectors operatively connected thereon; and a backpressure regulator. The apparatus also includes computer software and hardware to control distribution of fluid through the apparatus, including switching between a multi-channel mode or a single channel mode; 2) analyze data collected by the one or more detectors; and 3) optimize separation of analytes by controlling solvent combinations, concentration gradients, pressure and temperature. The apparatus excludes additional backpressure regulators or pumps on individual channels. Also provided is a method of screening a sample, using supercritical chromatography, using the above apparatus, where multiple samples can be screened simultaneously with parallel processing.

INTERNATIONAL SEARCH REPORT

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A. CLASSIFICATION OF SUBJECT MATTER

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ADD.

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 B01D

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

C. DOCUMENTS CONSIDERED TO BE RELEVANT

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Y	the whole document ----- -/--	1-7,9, 11-13

☒ 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

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International application No

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C(Continuation). DOCUMENTS CONSIDERED TO BE RELEVANT

Category*	Citation of document, with indication, where appropriate, of the relevant passages	Relevant to claim No.
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INTERNATIONAL SEARCH REPORT

Information on patent family members

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