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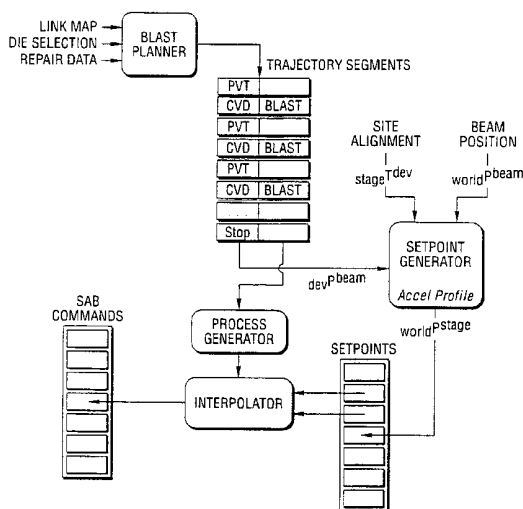
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(54) Title: METHOD AND SUBSYSTEM FOR DETERMINING A SEQUENCE IN WHICH MICROSTRUCTURES ARE TO BE PROCESSED



(57) Abstract: Method and subsystem are provided for determining a sequence in which microstructures are to be processed at a laser-processing site by taking into account microstructures located near travel limits of a motor-driven stage. The method includes receiving reference data which represent locations of microstructures to be processed at the site and coalescing adjacent groups of microstructures into clusters of microstructures including edge clusters which contain the microstructures located near the travel limits of the motor-driven stage which moves the microstructures relative to a laser beam at the site. The method also includes dividing a cluster fragment from each edge cluster. The cluster fragments contain the microstructures located near the travel limits. The method then includes sorting the clusters and cluster fragments to obtain data which represent a substantially optimum sequence in which the microstructures are to be processed to increase throughput at the site.



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**INTERNATIONAL SEARCH REPORT**

International Application No

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**A. CLASSIFICATION OF SUBJECT MATTER**  
 IPC 7 G05B13/02 B23K26/08

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)

IPC 7 H01L G05B

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

**C. DOCUMENTS CONSIDERED TO BE RELEVANT**

Category *	Citation of document, with indication, where appropriate, of the relevant passages	Relevant to claim No.
A	WO 00 17724 A (GEN SCANNING INC) 30 March 2000 (2000-03-30) cited in the application page 12, line 17 -page 14, line 10 ---	1,6
A	EP 0 862 089 A (NIPPON KOGAKU KK) 2 September 1998 (1998-09-02) claim 1 ---	1,6
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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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- \*&\* document member of the same patent family

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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.
A	<p>KOHNO Y: "PATH PLANNING IN WAFER TRANSFER SYSTEM WITH MOBILE ROBOT" PROCEEDINGS OF THE INTERNATIONAL CONFERENCE ON INDUSTRIAL ELECTRONICS, CONTROL AND INSTRUMENTATION. (IECON). INDUSTRIAL APPLICATIONS OF MINI, MICRO &amp; PERSONAL COMPUTERS. MILWAUKEE, SEPT. 29 - OCT. 3, 1986, NEW YORK, IEEE, US, vol. 2, 29 September 1986 (1986-09-29), pages 811-816, XP000044825 ----</p>	
A	<p>US 5 871 805 A (LEMELSON JEROME) 16 February 1999 (1999-02-16) figure 3 ----</p>	
A	<p>WO 99 28798 A (LACENT TECHNOLOGIES INC) 10 June 1999 (1999-06-10) claim 1 ----</p>	
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