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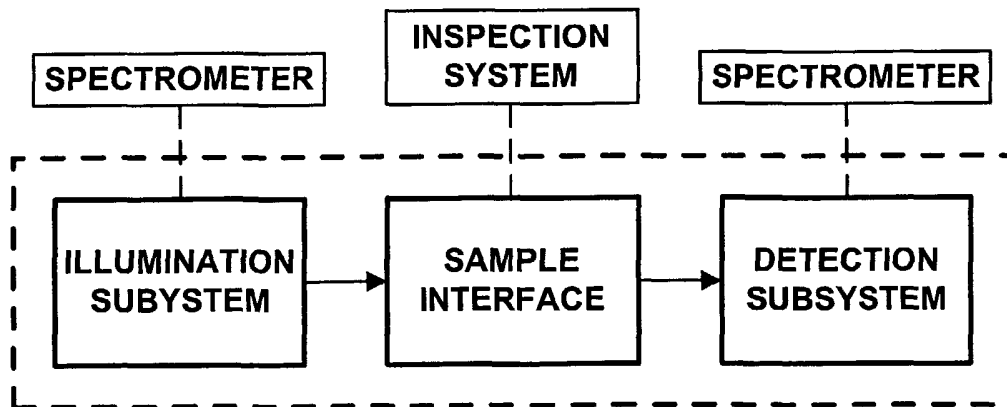
Declarations under Rule 4.17:

— as to applicant's entitlement to apply for and be granted a patent (Rule 4.17(ii)) for the following designations AE, AG, AL, AM, AT, AU, AZ, BA, BB, BG, BR, BY, BZ, CA, CH, CN, CO, CR, CU, CZ, DE, DK, DM, DZ, EC, EE, ES, FI, GB, GD, GE, GH, GM, HR, HU, ID, IL, IN, IS, JP, KE, KG, KP, KR, KZ, LC, LK, LR, LS, LT, LU, LV, MA, MD, MG, MK, MN, MW, MX, MZ, NO, NZ, OM, PH, PL, PT, RO, RU, SC, SD, SE, SG, SK, SL, TJ, TM, TN, TR, TT, TZ, UA, UG, UZ, VC, VN, YU, ZA, ZM, ZW, ARIPO patent (GH, GM, KE, LS, MW, MZ, SD, SL, SZ, TZ, UG, ZM, ZW), Eurasian patent (AM, AZ, BY, KG, KZ, MD, RU, TJ, TM), European patent (AT, BE, BG, CH, CY, CZ, DE, DK, EE, ES, FI, FR, GB, GR, HU, IE, IT, LU, MC, NL, PT, RO, SE, SI, SK, TR), OAPI patent (BF, BJ, CF, CG, CI, CM, GA, GN, GQ, GW, ML, MR, NE, SN, TD, TG)

— as to the applicant's entitlement to claim the priority of the earlier application (Rule 4.17(iii)) for the following designations AE, AG, AL, AM, AT, AU, AZ, BA, BB, BG, BR, BY, BZ, CA, CH, CN, CO, CR, CU, CZ, DE, DK, DM, DZ, EC, EE, ES, FI, GB, GD, GE, GH, GM, HR, HU, ID, IL, IN, IS, JP, KE, KG, KP, KR, KZ, LC, LK, LR, LS, LT, LU, LV, MA, MD, MG, MK, MN, MW, MX, MZ, NO, NZ, OM, PH, PL, PT, RO, RU, SC, SD, SE, SG, SK, SL, TJ, TM, TN, TR, TT, TZ, UA, UG, UZ, VC, VN, YU, ZA, ZM, ZW, ARIPO patent (GH, GM, KE, LS, MW, MZ, SD, SL, SZ, TZ, UG, ZM, ZW).

[Continued on next page]

(54) Title: SUBSYSTEM BASED OPTICAL INTERROGATION OF SAMPLE



(57) Abstract: An optical system with an illumination subsystem, a sample interface, and a detection subsystem.

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*Eurasian patent (AM, AZ, BY, KG, KZ, MD, RU, TJ, TM),
European patent (AT, BE, BG, CH, CY, CZ, DE, DK, EE,
ES, FI, FR, GB, GR, HU, IE, IT, LU, MC, NL, PT, RO, SE,
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- *before the expiration of the time limit for amending the claims and to be republished in the event of receipt of amendments*

INTERNATIONAL SEARCH REPORT

International application No.

PCT/US03/24640

A. CLASSIFICATION OF SUBJECT MATTER		
IPC(7) : G01N 21/17 US CL : 250/341.1		
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. : 250/341.1		
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 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	US 6,043,506 A (HEFFELFINGER et al.) 28 March 2000 (28.03.00), Figs. 1-3, column 3, lines 13-18, column 5, lines 4-10, column 6, lines 1-5.	1,9,10-12
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Y		2-8,13
Y	US 5,952,660 A (KIP et al.) 14 September 1999 (14.09.99) column 8, lines 1-19.	2,3,6
Y,P	US 2003/0007147 A1 (JOHNSON) 09 January 2003 (09.01.03) paragraphs 0098 and 0129.	4,5,13
Y	US 5,825,803 A (LA BRANCHE et al.) 20 October 1998 (20.10.98) column 4, lines 29-53.	7
Y	US 6,067,154 A (HOSSAIN et al.) 23 May 2000 (23.05.00) Fig. 7.	8
<input type="checkbox"/> Further documents are listed in the continuation of Box C. <input type="checkbox"/> See patent family annex.		
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"P" document published prior to the international filing date but later than the priority date claimed		
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Name and mailing address of the ISA/US Mail Stop PCT, Attn: ISA/US Commissioner for Patents P.O. Box 1450 Alexandria, Virginia 22313-1450 Facsimile No. (703) 305-3230	Authorized officer Constantine Hannaheer  Telephone No. (703) 308-0956	

INTERNATIONAL SEARCH REPORT

PCT/US03/24640

Continuation of Item 4 of the first sheet:

The title is not precise as no claim is directed to spectroscopy.

NEW TITLE

SUBSYSTEM BASED OPTICAL INTERROGATION OF SAMPLE

Continuation of B. FIELDS SEARCHED Item 3:

USPTO EAST BRS

search terms: mid ir infrared sampl\$1 homogen\$4 integrat\$3 sphere diffuser light pipe diverg\$3 orthogon\$3 multiple beam\$1 slice slit
astigmat\$3 sample holder mov\$4