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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))
- as to the applicant's entitlement to claim the priority of the earlier application (Rule 4.17(iii))

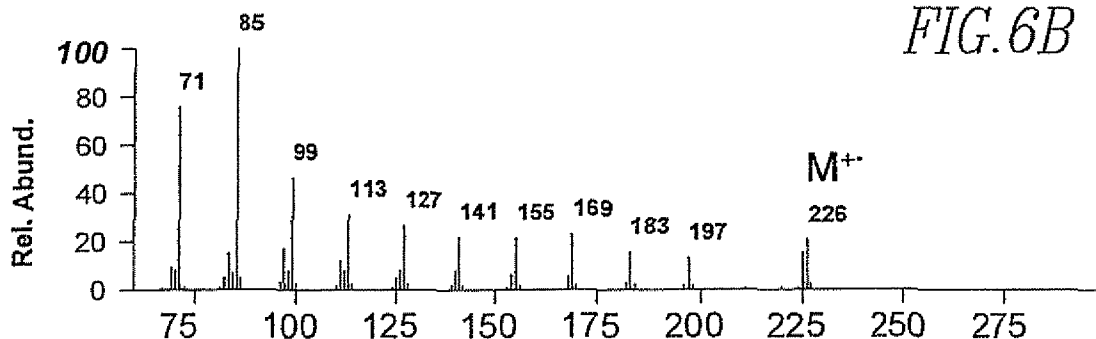
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12 March 2009

(54) Title: ATMOSPHERIC PRESSURE CHARGE-EXCHANGE ANALYTE IONIZATION



(57) Abstract: A non-radioactive atmospheric pressure method for ionization of analytes comprises creating an electrical discharge in a carrier gas thus creating metastable neutral excited-state species. The carrier gas is directed at the analytes and the analytes under conditions to suppress protonated water and water clusters.

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INTERNATIONAL SEARCH REPORT

International application No.

PCT/US 08/65496

A. CLASSIFICATION OF SUBJECT MATTER

IPC(8) - B01D 59/44 (2008.04)

USPC - 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)
USPC - 250/288Documentation searched other than minimum documentation to the extent that such documents are included in the fields searched
USPC - 250/28, 424, 432RElectronic data base consulted during the international search (name of data base and, where practicable, search terms used)
PubWEST(USPT,PGPB,EPAB,JPAB); DialogPRO(Engineering); Google, Google Scholar, Google Patent, INSPEC
Search Terms Used: mass, spectrography, atmospheric, pressure, metastable, neutral, fluorobenzene, halogen, anisole

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 2005/0196871 A1 (CODY et al.) 08 September 2005 (08.09.2005), para [0019], [0035], [0052], [0056], [0076], Fig. 1, 2.	1 - 9, 12, 13 ----- 10- 11, 14, 15
Y	US 6,156,393 A (POLANYI et al.) 5 December 2000 (05.12.2000), col 10 ln 35-60.	10, 14
Y	KAUPPILA et al., "Anisole, a new dopant for atmospheric pressure photoionization mass spectrometry of low photon affinity, low ionization energy compounds", Rapid Communications in Mass Spectrometry, vol 18, issue 7, pp 808-825, 2004, abstract	11
Y	US 5,086,254 A (WELLS) 04 February 1992 (04.02.1992), abstract	15

 Further documents are listed in the continuation of Box C.

* Special categories of cited documents:	"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
"A" document defining the general state of the art which is not considered to be of particular relevance	"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
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"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)	"&" document member of the same patent family
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Date of the actual completion of the international search

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