

(21) Application No: 2318250.4
 (22) Date of Filing: 29.11.2023
 (30) Priority Data:
 (31) 2022195237 (32) 06.12.2022 (33) JP

(51) INT CL:
 G01N 15/13 (2024.01) G01N 15/12 (2024.01)
 G01N 33/487 (2006.01)

(56) Documents Cited:
 EP 2473849 B1 EP 1708957 B1
 WO 2001/069202 A2 US 9121823 B2
 US 4835457 A US 20220314219 A1
 US 20220011231 A1 US 20110050200 A1

(71) Applicant(s):
Advantest Corporation
 (Incorporated in Japan)
 1-6-2 Marunouchi, Chiyoda-ku, Tokyo, Japan

(58) Field of Search:
 INT CL G01N
 Other: WPI, EPODOC, SEARCH-PATENT

(72) Inventor(s):
Kosuke Oinuma
Takeaki Takada
Nobuei Washizu

(74) Agent and/or Address for Service:
Reddie & Grose LLP
 The White Chapel Building,
 10 Whitechapel High Street, London, E1 8QS,
 United Kingdom

(54) Title of the Invention: **Pore chip and microparticle measurement system**
 Abstract Title: **A pore chip for particle measurement**

(57) A pore chip 400B comprises a membrane 410B having a pore 412. The diameter of the pore is d and the thickness of the membrane is t , and the chip is characterised by the relation $1 \leq t/d < 2$. The membrane may have supports 420 and may be a multilayer structure of different insulating materials 414, 416 with different Young's modulus. The pore may be used in a coulter counter or particle size measurement system based on measuring resistance change across the pore.

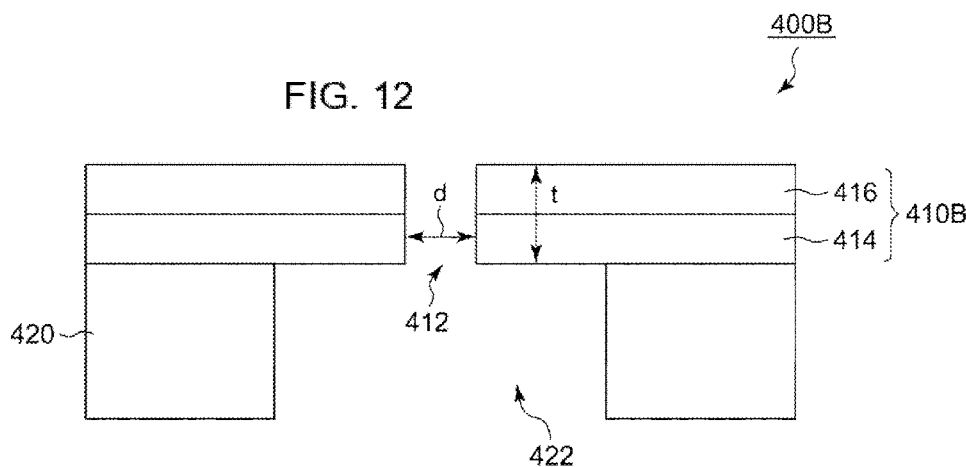


FIG. 1

1R

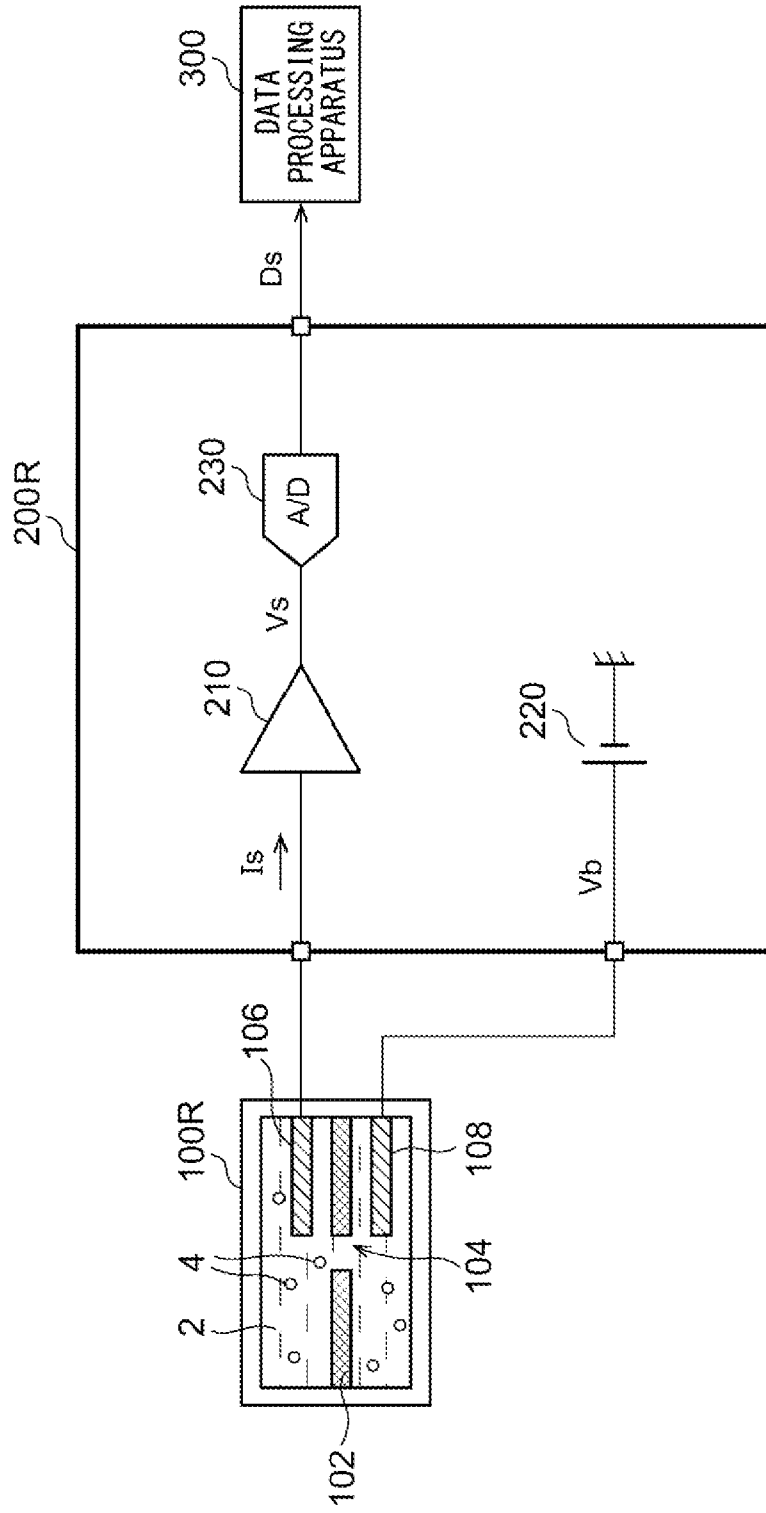


FIG. 2

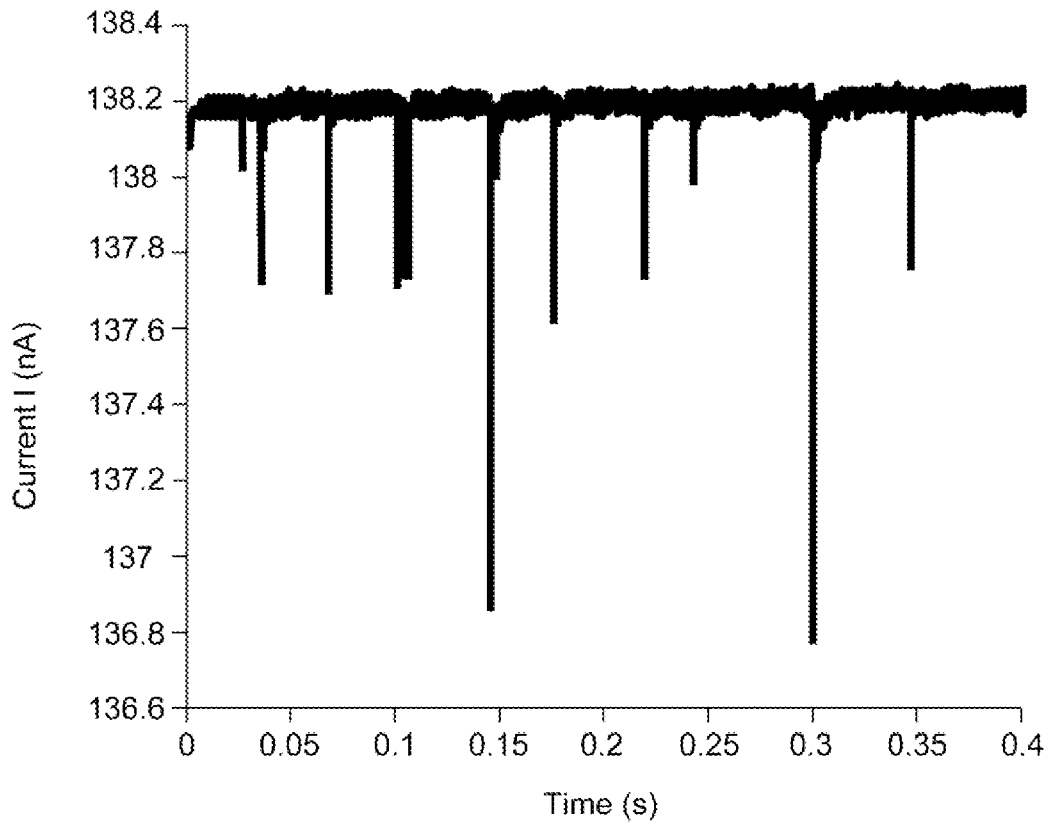


FIG. 3

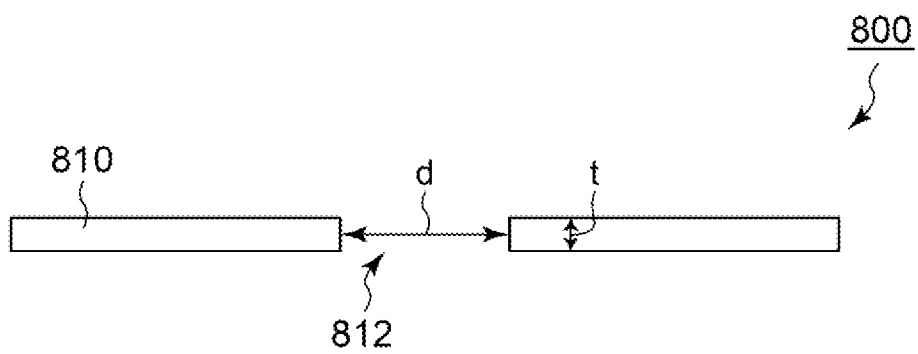
COMPARISON TECHNIQUE

FIG. 4

COMPARISON TECHNIQUE

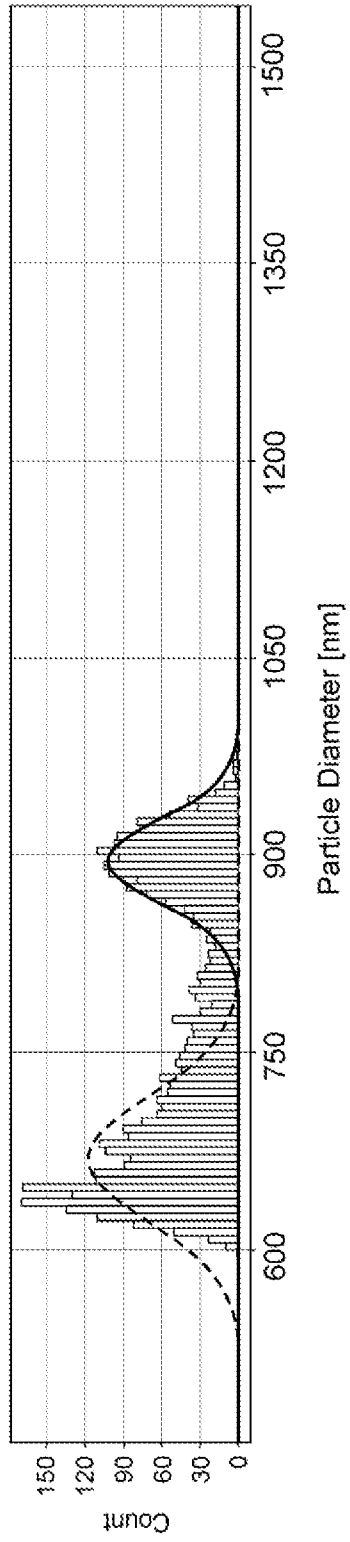


FIG. 5

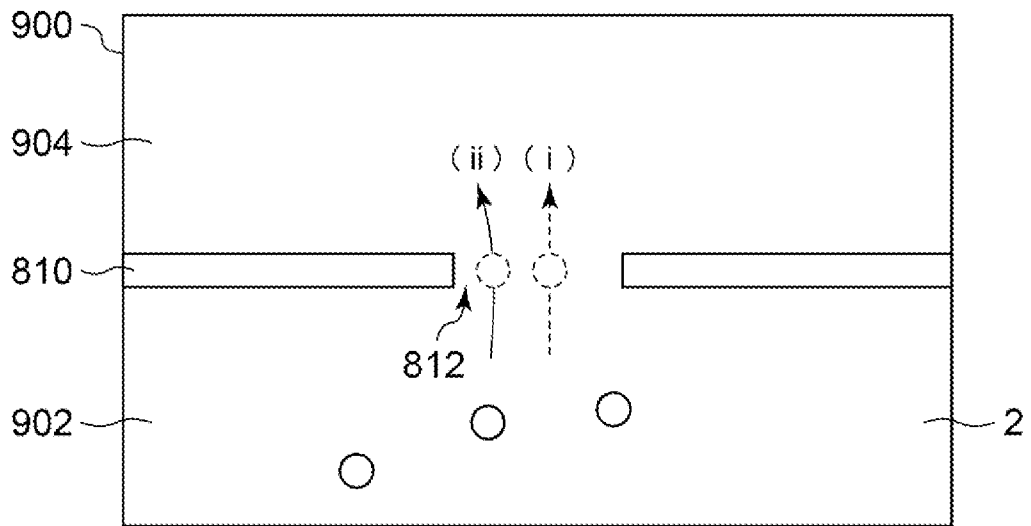
COMPARISON TECHNIQUE

FIG. 6

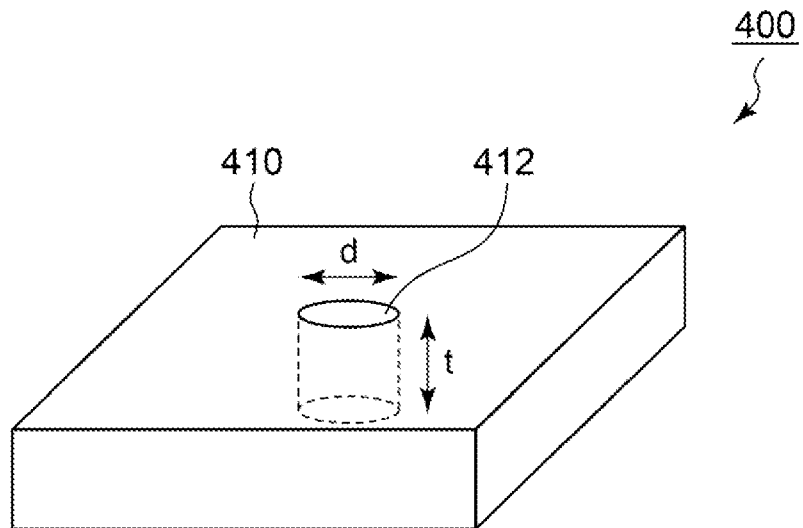


FIG. 7

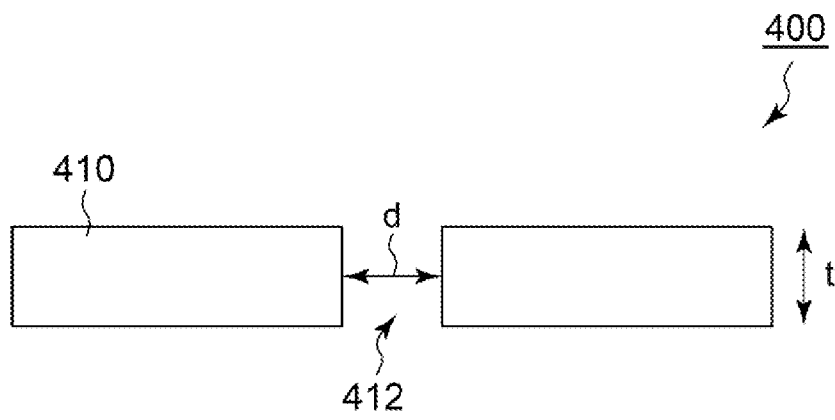


FIG. 8

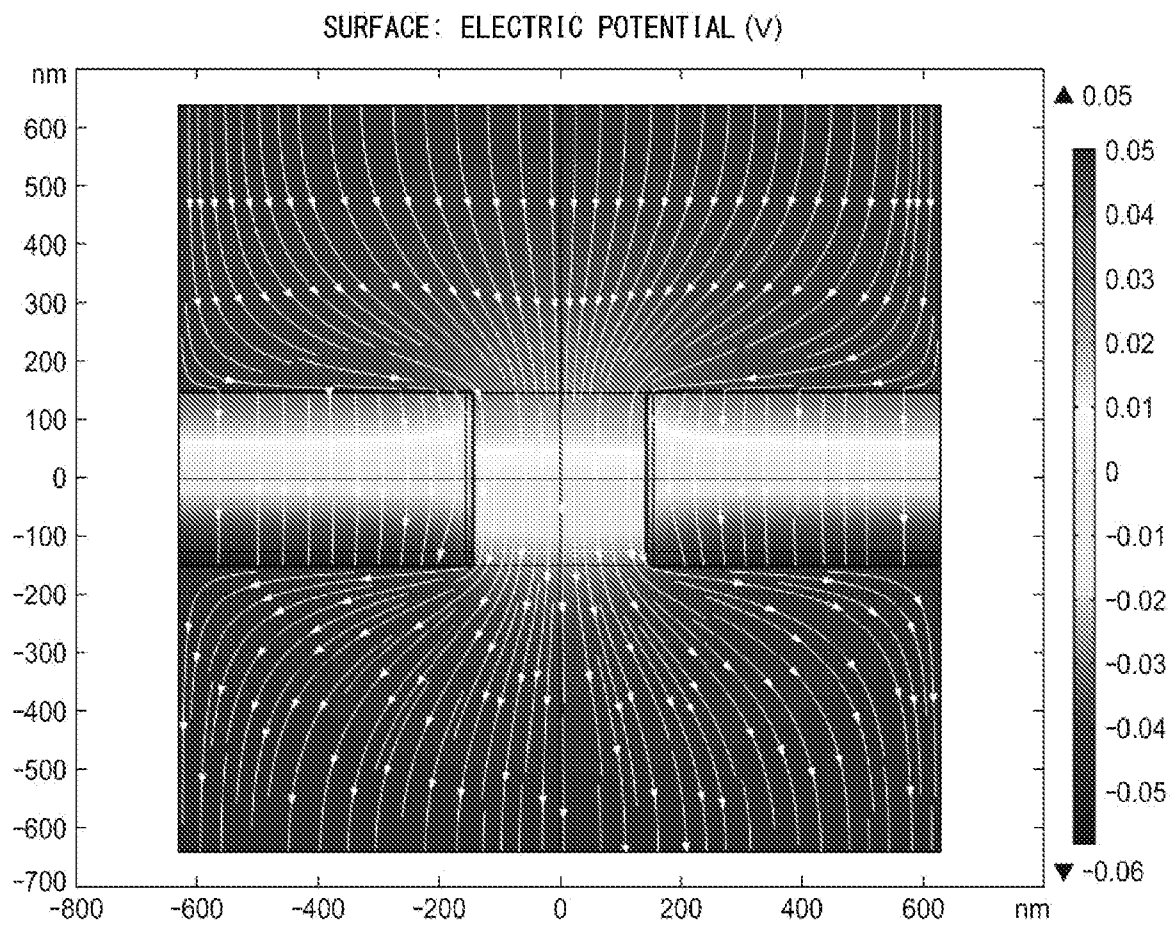


FIG. 9

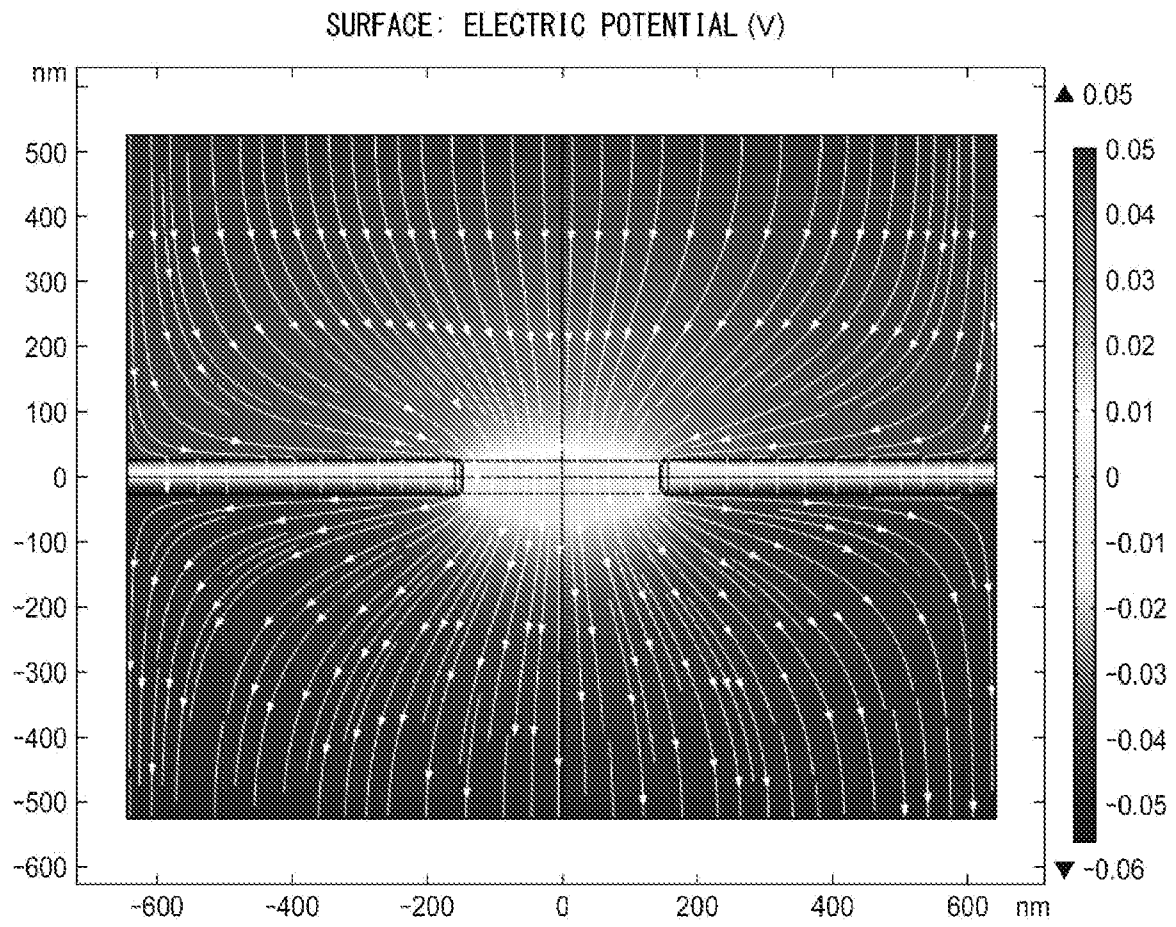


FIG. 11

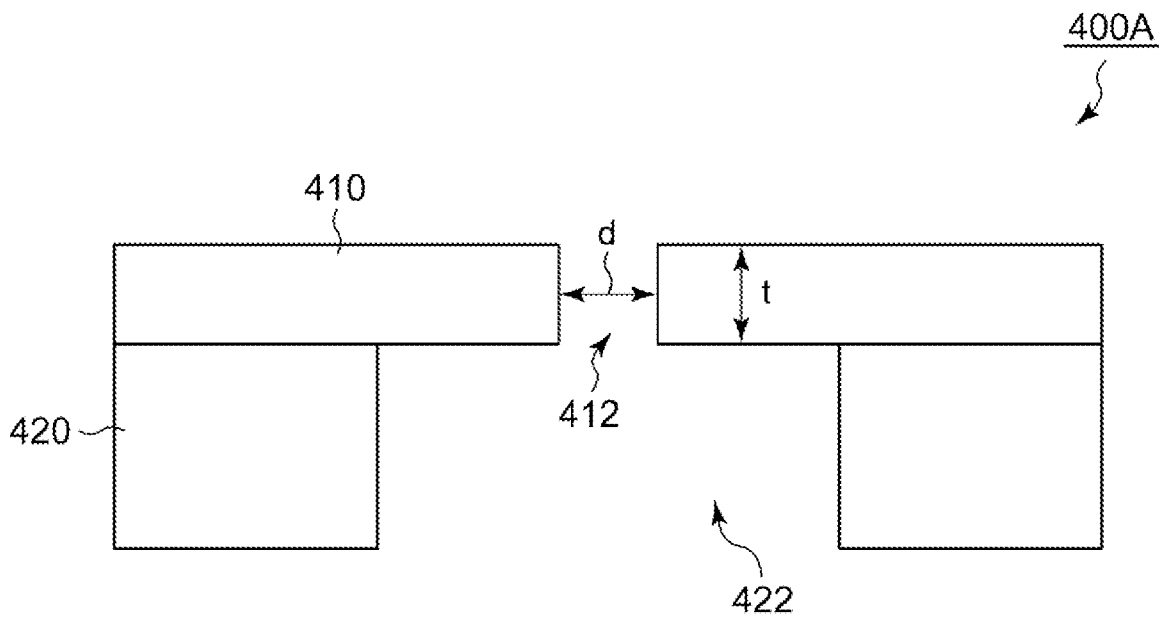
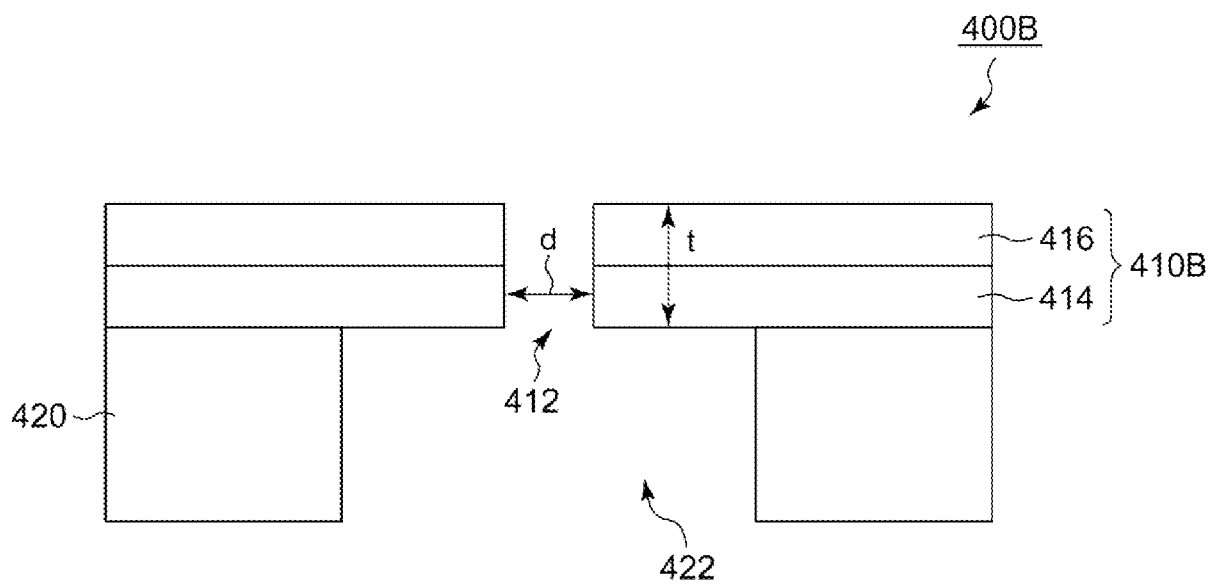


FIG. 12



PORE CHIP AND MICROPARTICLE MEASUREMENT SYSTEM

BACKGROUND

1. Technical Field

[0001] The present disclosure relates to a pore chip.

5

2. Description of the Related Art

[0002] A particle size distribution measurement method, which is referred to as the "electrical sensing zone method (the Coulter principle)", is known. With this measurement method, an electrolyte solution including particles is applied such that it passes through a pore that is referred to as a "nanopore". When a particle passes through such a pore, the amount of the electrolyte solution with which the pore is filled is reduced by an amount that corresponds to the volume of the particle, which raises the electrical resistance of the pore. Accordingly, by measuring the electrical resistance of the pore, this arrangement is capable of measuring the volume of the particle (i.e., particle diameter).

20 [0003] Fig. 1 is a block diagram showing a microparticle measurement system 1R employing the electrical sensing zone method. The microparticle measurement system 1R includes a pore device 100R, a measurement apparatus 200R, and a data processing apparatus 300.

25 [0004] The internal space of the pore device 100R is filled with an electrolyte solution 2 including particles 4

to be detected. The internal space of the pore device 100R is divided by a pore chip 102 so as to define two internal spaces. Electrodes 106 and 108 are provided to the two spaces. When an electric potential difference is generated
5 across the electrodes 106 and 108, this generates a flow of ion current across the electrodes. Furthermore, the particles 4 migrate by electrophoresis from a given space to the other space via the pore 104.

[0005] The measurement apparatus 200R generates the
10 electric potential difference across the electrode pair 106 and 108, and acquires information having a correlation with the resistance value R_p across the electrode pair. The measurement apparatus 200R includes a transimpedance amplifier 210, a voltage source 220, and a digitizer 230.
15 The voltage source 220 generates an electric potential difference V_b across the electrode pair 106 and 108. The electric potential difference V_b functions as a driving source of the electrophoresis, and is used as a bias signal for measuring the resistance value R_p .

20 [0006] A microscopic current I_s flows across the electrode pair 106 and 108 in inverse proportion to the resistance of the pore 104.

$$I_s = V_b/R_p \dots(1)$$

[0007] The transimpedance amplifier 210 converts the
25 microscopic current I_s into a voltage signal V_s . With the conversion gain as r , the following expression holds true.

$$V_s = -r \times I_s \dots(2)$$

By substituting Expression (1) into Expression (2), the following Expression (3) is obtained.

$$V_s = -V_b \times r/R_p \dots(3)$$

5 The digitizer 230 converts the voltage signal V_s into digital data D_s . As described above, the measurement apparatus 200R is capable of acquiring the voltage signal V_s in inverse proportion to the resistance value R_p of the pore 104.

10 **[0008]** Fig. 2 is a waveform diagram of an example of the microscopic current I_s measured by the measurement apparatus 200R. It should be noted that the vertical axis and the horizontal axis shown in the waveform diagrams and the time charts in the present specification are expanded or reduced
15 as appropriate for ease of understanding. Also, each waveform shown in the drawing is simplified or exaggerated for emphasis or ease of understanding.

[0009] During a short period of time in which a particle passes through the pore 104, the resistance value R_p of the
20 pore 104 becomes large. Accordingly, the current I_s drops in the form of a pulse every time a particle passes through the pore 104. The amplitudes of the individual pulse currents have a correlation with the particle diameter. The data processing apparatus 300 processes the digital data D_s so as
25 to analyze the number of the particles 4 contained in the electrolyte solution 2, the particle diameter distribution

thereof, or the like. A part of the data processing apparatus 300 may be configured as a server or cloud.

(Prior Art List)

Patent document 1: JP2017-016881A

5 Patent document 2: JP2014-219235A

Patent document 3: JP2018-054594A

Patent document 4: WO2002/084306A

[0010] Conventionally, pore devices having a sufficiently small thickness t ($t < d$) with respect to the pore diameter (opening diameter) d have been employed. As a result of investigating a pore device having such a low aspect ratio, the present inventors have recognized the following problems.

[0011] In a pore device having such a low aspect ratio, with respect to the electric field strength in the pore, there is a large dependence in the diameter direction. Accordingly, there is a difference in the measured signal between a case in which the particle passes through the center of the pore and a case in which the particle passes through the outer circumference of the pore. That is to say, this leads to degraded measurement accuracy.

SUMMARY

[0012] The present disclosure has been made in view of such a situation. Accordingly, it is an exemplary purpose of an embodiment of the present disclosure to provide a pore

device with improved measurement accuracy.

[0013] A pore chip according to an embodiment of the present disclosure includes a membrane having a pore. With the diameter of the pore as d , and the thickness of the membrane as t , the relation $1 \leq t/d < 2$ is satisfied.

[0014] It is to be noted that any arbitrary combination or rearrangement of the above-described structural components and so forth is effective as and encompassed by the present embodiments. Moreover, all of the features described in this summary are not necessarily required by embodiments so that the embodiment may also be a sub-combination of these described features. In addition, embodiments may have other features not described above.

15 BRIEF DESCRIPTION OF THE DRAWINGS

[0015] Embodiments will now be described, by way of example only, with reference to the accompanying drawings which are meant to be exemplary, not limiting, and wherein like elements are numbered alike in several Figures, in which:

20 [0016] Fig. 1 is a block diagram of a microparticle measurement system using the electrical sensing zone method;

[0017] Fig. 2 is a waveform diagram of an example of microscopic current I_s measured by a measurement apparatus;

[0018] Fig. 3 is a cross-sectional diagram of a conventional pore chip;

25 [0019] Fig. 4 is a diagram showing a histogram generated

in a case in which standard particles are measured using the conventional pore chip;

[0020] Fig. 5 is a schematic diagram for explaining a cause of splitting of the histogram obtained using the conventional technique;

[0021] Fig. 6 is a perspective diagram of a pore chip according to an embodiment;

[0022] Fig. 7 is a cross-sectional diagram of the pore chip shown in Fig. 6;

10 [0023] Fig. 8 is a diagram showing simulation results of the electric potential distribution of the pore chip according to the embodiment;

[0024] Fig. 9 is a diagram showing simulation results of the electric potential distribution of the pore chip according to the conventional technique;

[0025] Figs. 10A and 10B are diagrams each showing the simulation results of the electric field distribution in the diameter direction;

[0026] Fig. 11 is a cross-sectional diagram of a pore chip according to an example 1; and

[0027] Fig. 12 is a cross-sectional diagram of a pore chip according to an example 2.

DETAILED DESCRIPTION

25 [0028] A summary of several example embodiments of the disclosure follows. This summary is provided for the

convenience of the reader to provide a basic understanding of such embodiments and does not wholly define the breadth of the disclosure. This summary is not an extensive overview of all contemplated embodiments, and is intended to neither
5 identify key or critical elements of all embodiments nor to delineate the scope of any or all aspects. Its sole purpose is to present some concepts of one or more embodiments in a simplified form as a prelude to the more detailed description that is presented later.

10

OUTLINE OF EMBODIMENTS

[0029] Description will be made regarding the outline of several exemplary embodiments of the present disclosure. The outline is a simplified explanation regarding several concepts
15 of one or multiple embodiments as a preface to the detailed description described later in order to provide a basic understanding of the embodiments. That is to say, the outline described below is by no means intended to restrict the scope of the present invention and the present disclosure. The
20 outline is by no means a comprehensive outline of all possible embodiments. That is to say, the outline is by no means intended to identify the indispensable or essential elements of all the embodiments, and is by no means intended to define the scope of a part of or all the embodiments. For convenience,
25 in some cases, an "embodiment" as used in the present specification represents a single or multiple embodiments

(examples and modifications) disclosed in the present specification.

[0030] A pore chip according to one embodiment includes a membrane having a pore. With the diameter of the pore as d ,
5 and the thickness of the membrane as t , the relation $1 \leq t/d < 2$ is satisfied.

[0031] This arrangement allows a uniform electric field to be generated in the diameter direction in the pore. This allows a signal to be measured with the same intensity
10 regardless of the passage path when a given particle passes through the pore. This provides improved measurement accuracy.

[0032] The membrane may have a multi-layer structure. In order to measure a particle having a large particle diameter, it is necessary to provide the pore with a large pore diameter
15 d . In this case, the membrane is required to be formed with a large thickness t . In a case in which such a thick membrane has a single-layer structure of a single material, this has the potential to involve a problem of cracking or wrinkling in the membrane due to stress. In this case, by forming the
20 membrane having a multi-layer structure, this relaxes the stress, thereby suppressing cracking and wrinkling.

[0033] In one embodiment, the membrane may have a multi-layer structure of different insulating materials.

[0034] In one embodiment, the membrane may include a lower
25 SiN layer and an upper SiO₂ layer.

[0035] In one embodiment, the membrane may have the

layered structure including two layers, i.e., a first insulating layer structured as a lower layer and a second insulating layer structured as an upper layer. The first insulating layer may have a Young's modulus that is higher than that of the second insulating layer.

[0036] In one embodiment, the pore chip may further include a support member structured to support the membrane and having an opening in a region that corresponds to the pore.

[0037] A microparticle measurement system according to one embodiment includes: a pore device including the pore chip described above and a case having two chambers defined by the pore chip; and a measurement apparatus structured to apply an electronic signal to the pore device, and to measure an electrical signal that occurs in the pore device.

15

EMBODIMENTS

[0038] Description will be made below regarding the preferred embodiments with reference to the drawings. The same or similar components, members, and processes are denoted by the same reference numerals, and redundant description thereof will be omitted as appropriate. The embodiments have been described for exemplary purposes only, and are by no means intended to restrict the present disclosure or the present invention. Also, it is not necessarily essential for the present disclosure and the present invention that all the features or a combination thereof be provided as described in the embodiments.

[0039] In some cases, the sizes (thickness, length, width, and the like) of each component shown in the drawings are expanded or reduced as appropriate for ease of understanding. The size relation between multiple components in the drawings
5 does not necessarily match the actual size relation between them. That is to say, even in a case in which a given member A has a thickness that is larger than that of another member B in the drawings, in some cases, in actuality, the member A has a thickness that is smaller than that of the member B.

10 [0040] In the present specification, the state represented by the phrase "the member A is coupled to the member B" includes a state in which the member A is indirectly coupled to the member B via another member that does not substantially affect the electric connection between them, or
15 that does not damage the functions or effects of the connection between them, in addition to a state in which they are physically and directly coupled.

[0041] Similarly, the state represented by the phrase "the member C is provided between the member A and the member B"
20 includes a state in which the member A is indirectly coupled to the member C, or the member B is indirectly coupled to the member C via another member that does not substantially affect the electric connection between them, or that does not damage the functions or effects of the connection between them, in
25 addition to a state in which they are directly coupled.

[0042] In the present specification, the reference

symbols denoting electric signals such as a voltage signal, current signal, or the like, and the reference symbols denoting circuit elements such as a resistor, capacitor, inductor, or the like, also represent the corresponding voltage value, current value, or circuit constants (resistance value, capacitance value, inductance) as necessary.

[0043] Before description of a pore chip 400 according to an embodiment, description will be made regarding a conventional pore chip and a problem that occurs relating to the conventional pore chip.

[0044] Fig. 3 is a cross-sectional diagram of a conventional pore chip 800. The pore chip 800 includes a membrane 810. A pore (opening) 812 is formed in the membrane 810. In the conventional pore chip 800, a membrane 810 having a thickness t of several dozen nm is employed. This is because such a thin film thickness t provides advantages, i.e., (i) this allows a film to be formed with high crystallinity in a short period of time, (ii) this provides high procurability, i.e., such a thin film provides a low cost and a short delivery period, and (iii) this provides improved workability, i.e., improved workability for a subsequent process such as dry etching or the like.

[0045] As described above, in a case in which a membrane 810 having a film thickness t of several dozen nm is employed, the relation $d > t$ holds true between the diameter d of the pore 812 (which will be referred to as the "pore diameter")

and the thickness t of the membrane 810. With the aspect ratio of the pore as t/d , it can be said that the conventional pore chip 800 has a low aspect ratio.

[0046] Fig. 4 is a diagram showing a histogram that
5 represents the measurement results of standard particles made by the conventional pore chip 800. The pore chip 800 used in the experiment was formed with d of $3\ \mu\text{m}$ and an aspect ratio of 0.017 ($t = 0.050\ \mu\text{m}$). Each standard particle has a diameter of $0.9\ \mu\text{m}$. The horizontal axis of the histogram represents
10 the particle diameter estimated based on the current measured when the particle passes through the pore. The vertical axis thereof represents the number of the particles.

[0047] In this measurement, each standard particle has the same particle diameter, and thus, ideally, the histogram
15 should be unimodal. However, the histogram obtained as the measurement result is bimodal, i.e., exhibits two strong peaks. In a case in which the histogram has such bimodality, it is difficult to estimate the particle diameter, leading to degradation of the measurement accuracy.

20 [0048] As a reason for such bimodality in a case in which the conventional pore chip 800 is used, the present inventors focused their attention on the electric field strength in the pore 812.

[0049] Fig. 5 is a schematic diagram for explaining the
25 cause of such a split histogram in a case of using the

conventional technique. The pore chip 800 is housed in a case 900. The case 900 is divided into two chambers 902 and 904 by the pore chip 800. The internal spaces of the chambers 902 and 904 are each filled with an electrolyte solution 2 containing the particles 4. Each particle 4 can take a different path when it passes through the pore 812. Fig. 5 shows two typical paths (i) and (ii). In a case in which an electric field having a uniform electric field strength is generated in the pore 812, such an arrangement allows signals to be measured with the same intensity regardless of the passage paths of the particles. However, in a case in which an electric field having a non-uniform electric field strength is generated in the pore 812, signals having different intensities are measured depending on the paths, although the particles 4 have the same particle diameter. This leads to the occurrence of such a split histogram.

[0050] The above is a problem that occurs in the conventional technique. Description will be made below regarding a pore chip 400 according to an embodiment that is capable of solving this problem.

[0051] Fig. 6 is a perspective diagram of the pore chip 400 according to an embodiment. The pore chip 400 includes a membrane 410. The pore chip 400 can be mounted in the case 900 shown in Fig. 5 instead of the pore chip 800. The membrane 410 is provided with a pore (opening) 412 formed as a through hole.

[0052] Fig. 7 is a cross-sectional diagram of the pore chip 400 shown in Fig. 6. In the present embodiment, the aspect ratio t/d of the pore 412 satisfies the relation $1 \leq t/d < 2$.

5 [0053] Fig. 8 is a diagram showing the simulation results of the electric potential distribution of the pore chip 400 according to an embodiment. The shading gradations indicate electric potential, and the arrows represent electric field vectors. Simulation was conducted with $d = 300$ nm and $t = 300$ nm, i.e., an aspect ratio of $t/d = 1$. As the material of the
10 membrane 410, SiN was employed.

[0054] Fig. 9 is a diagram showing the simulation results of the electric potential distribution of the pore chip 800 according to a conventional technique. Simulation was
15 conducted with $d = 300$ nm and $t = 50$ nm, i.e., an aspect ratio of $t/d = 0.17$. As the material of the membrane 810, SiN was employed.

[0055] Making a comparison between Fig. 8 and Fig. 9, with the conventional technique employing a small aspect ratio (Fig.
20 9), this provides a large electric field vector component in the horizontal direction in the drawing (i.e., the diameter direction of the pore). In contrast, with such an arrangement according to the embodiment employing an aspect ratio that is close to 1 (Fig. 8), this provides a reduced electric field
25 vector component in the horizontal direction in the drawing (i.e., the diameter direction of the pore). Accordingly, it

can be understood that a uniform electric field is formed in the pore.

[0056] Figs. 10A and 10B are diagrams showing the simulation results of the electric field distribution of the electric field strength in the diameter direction. The horizontal axis represents the distance from the center, and the vertical axis represents the relative strength of the electric field.

[0057] In the simulation, the thickness t was changed from 50 nm to 120 nm, 240 nm, 300 nm, 360 nm, 450 nm, and 600 nm, with a fixed diameter $d = 300$ nm. Accordingly, the simulation was conducted with aspect ratios of 0.17, 0.4, 0.8, 1.1, 1.2, 1.5, and 2, respectively. Fig. 10B is an enlarged diagram showing the simulation results shown in Fig. 10A in a range of 90% to 100% along the vertical axis.

[0058] It can be understood based on the simulation results that, with an aspect ratio in a range of $1 \leq t/d < 2$, such an arrangement allows the pore in-plane variation of the electric field to be kept to within a range of 97.0% to 99.7%, thereby providing dramatically improved uniformity. In other words, the aspect ratio t/d may preferably be designed so as to provide uniformity of the electric field strength of 95% or more. More preferably, the aspect ratio t/d may preferably be designed so as to provide uniformity of the electric field strength of 97% or more.

[0059] With the present embodiment employing a large

aspect ratio t/d , this allows the electric field strength in the pore 812 to be made uniform. This allows signals to be measured with the same intensity regardless of the passage path of each particle. This prevents the histogram from splitting, thereby providing a histogram with high unimodality. As a result, this provides improved detection accuracy for the particle diameter and the kind of the particle.

[0060] Next, description will be made regarding a specific example configuration of the pore chip 400.

10 [0061] Fig. 11 is a cross-sectional diagram of a pore chip 400A according to an example 1. The pore chip 400A has a structure in which a membrane 410 and a support member 420 are layered. The support member 420 supports the membrane 410. The support member 420 has an opening 422 in a region that
15 corresponds to the pore 412. The membrane 410 is preferably formed of SiN. Also, AlO, SiO₂, or the like may be employed. The support member 420 is preferably formed of glass.

[0062] Fig. 12 is a cross-sectional diagram of a pore chip 400B according to an example 2. The pore chip 400B has a
20 structure in which a membrane 410B and a support member 420 are layered. The membrane 410B may have a layered structure of different insulating materials. In this example, the membrane 410 has a two-layer structure formed of a first insulating layer 414 configured as a lower layer and a second
25 insulating layer 416 configured as an upper layer.

[0063] In the pore chip 400B including the pore 412 having

a large diameter d , the membrane 410B has a thickness t that that increases according to an increase of the diameter d of the pore 412. With the structure shown in Fig. 11, it is difficult to grow a single-layer membrane 410 having a thickness t that exceeds several dozen μm using a semiconductor process. In this case, by employing such a multi-layer structure shown in Fig. 12, this allows the membrane 410B to be formed with a thickness t exceeding several dozen μm .

[0064] With this, by appropriately selecting a combination of materials for the first insulating layer 414 and the second insulating layer 416, this is capable of preventing the membrane 410B from distorting and wrinkling due to the difference in stress between the first insulating layer 414 and the second insulating layer 416.

[0065] For example, the first insulating layer 414 may have a Young's modulus that is larger than that of the second insulating layer 416. This is capable of preventing the occurrence of wrinkling and distortion in the first insulating layer 414 in a case in which the second insulating layer 416 is formed as an additional layer on a layered structure of the support member 420 and the first insulating layer 414. The lower layer 414 is configured as a SiN layer, and the second insulating layer 416 is configured as a SiO₂ layer, for example. The SiN layer has a Young's modulus of 300 GPa, and the SiO₂ layer has a Young's modulus of 4 to 10 GPa, which satisfies the relation described above.

[0066] Examples of other combinations of materials for the first insulating layer 414 and the second insulating layer 416 include a combination of AlO and SiN, a combination of AlO and SiO₂, etc.

5 [0067] Description has been made regarding the present invention with reference to the embodiments. However, the above-described embodiments show only an aspect of the mechanisms and applications of the present invention. Rather, various modifications and various changes in the
10 layout can be made without departing from the spirit and scope of the present invention defined in appended claims.

CLAIMS

1. A pore chip comprising a membrane having a pore,
wherein, with a diameter of the pore as d , and a
thickness of the membrane as t , a relation $1 \leq t/d < 2$ is
5 satisfied.
2. The pore chip according to claim 1, wherein the
membrane has a multi-layer structure.
- 10 3. The pore chip according to claim 2, wherein the
membrane has a multi-layer structure of different insulating
materials.
4. The pore chip according to claim 3, wherein the
15 membrane comprises a lower SiN layer and an upper SiO₂ layer.
5. The pore chip according to claim 3, wherein the
membrane has the layered structure comprising two layers, i.e.,
a first insulating layer structured as a lower layer and a
20 second insulating layer structured as an upper layer,
and wherein the first insulating layer has a Young's
modulus that is higher than that of the second insulating layer.
6. The pore chip according to any one of claims 1 through
25 5, further comprising a support member structured to support

the membrane and having an opening in a region that corresponds to the pore.

7. A microparticle measurement system comprising:

5 a pore device comprising the pore chip according to any one of claims 1 through 5 and a case having two chambers defined by the pore chip; and

a measurement apparatus structured to apply an electronic signal to the pore device, and to measure an electrical signal that occurs in the pore device.



Application No: GB2318250.4

Examiner: Simon Colcombe

Claims searched: 1-7

Date of search: 16 May 2024

Patents Act 1977: Search Report under Section 17

Documents considered to be relevant:

Category	Relevant to claims	Identity of document and passage or figure of particular relevance
X,Y	X:1, 6, 7; Y:2-5	EP2473849 B1 (UNIV DEGLI STUDI GENOVA) Paragraph 15; claims 1, 2
X,Y	X: 1, 6, 7; Y: 2-5	US2011/050200 A1 (TARTAGNI) Paragraph 53
X,Y	X: 1, 6, 7; Y: 2-5	US2022/314219 A1 (HAN) Paragraphs 15, 47 for example
X,Y	X: 1, 6, 7; Y: 2-5	US2022/011231 A1 (HAN) Paragraph 42 for example
X,Y	X: 1, 6, 7; Y: 2-5	WO01/69202 A2 (LARSEN) Page 3, line 22-page 4, line 19; claim 4
X,Y	X: 1, 6, 7; Y: 2-5	US9121823 B2 (DRNDIC) Column 14, lines 4-14 for example
X,Y	X: 1, 6; Y: 2-3	US4835457 A (HANSS) Claim 1
Y	2-5	EP1708957 B1 (HARVARD COLLEGE) Paragraphs 45, 52

Categories:

X	Document indicating lack of novelty or inventive step	A	Document indicating technological background and/or state of the art.
Y	Document indicating lack of inventive step if combined with one or more other documents of same category.	P	Document published on or after the declared priority date but before the filing date of this invention.
&	Member of the same patent family	E	Patent document published on or after, but with priority date earlier than, the filing date of this application.

Field of Search:

Search of GB, EP, WO & US patent documents classified in the following areas of the UKC^X :

--



Worldwide search of patent documents classified in the following areas of the IPC

G01N

The following online and other databases have been used in the preparation of this search report

WPI, EPODOC, SEARCH-PATENT

International Classification:

Subclass	Subgroup	Valid From
G01N	0015/13	01/01/2024
G01N	0015/12	01/01/2024
G01N	0033/487	01/01/2006