

CORRECTED VERSION

(19) World Intellectual Property Organization International Bureau



(10) International Publication Number WO 2013/142347 A8

(43) International Publication Date 26 September 2013 (26.09.2013)

- (51) International Patent Classification: C12Q 1/04 (2006.01) C12M 1/00 (2006.01)
(21) International Application Number: PCT/US2013/032210
(22) International Filing Date: 15 March 2013 (15.03.2013)
(25) Filing Language: English
(26) Publication Language: English
(30) Priority Data: 61/614,037 22 March 2012 (22.03.2012) US
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(81) Designated States (unless otherwise indicated, for every kind of national protection available): AE, AG, AL, AM, AO, AT, AU, AZ, BA, BB, BG, BH, BN, BR, BW, BY, BZ, CA, CH, CL, CN, CO, CR, CU, CZ, DE, DK, DM, DO, DZ, EC, EE, EG, ES, FI, GB, GD, GE, GH, GM, GT,

HN, HR, HU, ID, IL, IN, IS, JP, KE, KG, KM, KN, KP, KR, KZ, LA, LC, LK, LR, LS, LT, LU, LY, MA, MD, ME, MG, MK, MN, MW, MX, MY, MZ, NA, NG, NI, NO, NZ, OM, PA, PE, PG, PH, PL, PT, QA, RO, RS, RU, RW, SC, SD, SE, SG, SK, SL, SM, ST, SV, SY, TH, TJ, TM, TN, TR, TT, TZ, UA, UG, US, UZ, VC, VN, ZA, ZM, ZW.

(84) Designated States (unless otherwise indicated, for every kind of regional protection available): ARIPO (BW, GH, GM, KE, LR, LS, MW, MZ, NA, RW, SD, SL, SZ, TZ, UG, ZM, ZW), Eurasian (AM, AZ, BY, KG, KZ, RU, TJ, TM), European (AL, AT, BE, BG, CH, CY, CZ, DE, DK, EE, ES, FI, FR, GB, GR, HR, HU, IE, IS, IT, LT, LU, LV, MC, MK, MT, NL, NO, PL, PT, RO, RS, SE, SI, SK, SM, TR), OAPI (BF, BJ, CF, CG, CI, CM, GA, GN, GQ, GW, ML, MR, NE, SN, TD, TG).

Published: with international search report (Art. 21(3))
(48) Date of publication of this corrected version: 21 November 2013
(15) Information about Correction: see Notice of 21 November 2013

(54) Title: METHOD AND SYSTEM FOR DETECTION OF MICROBIAL GROWTH IN A SPECIMEN CONTAINER

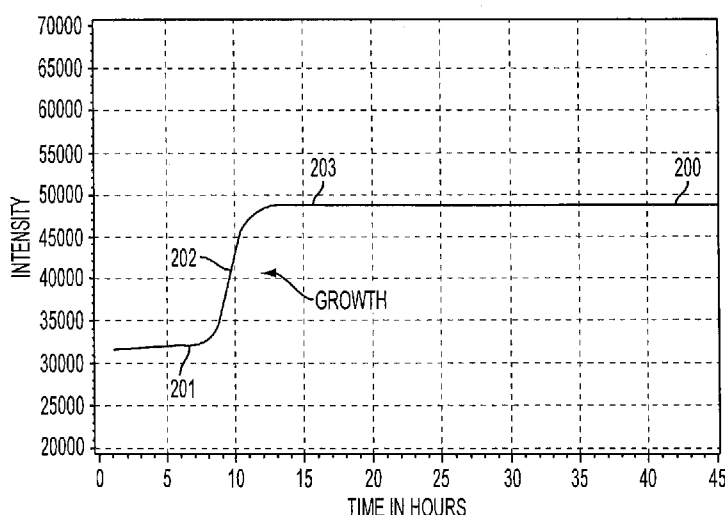


FIG. 2

(57) Abstract: A method for determining whether microbial growth is occurring within a specimen container includes steps of incubating the specimen container and obtaining a series of measurement data points while the specimen container is incubated and storing the data points in a machine-readable memory. The series of measurement data points represent a growth curve of microbial growth within the specimen container. The methods determine a positive condition of microbial growth within the container from the measurement data points.

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