(19) World Intellectual Property Organization International Bureau





(43) International Publication Date 31 May 2001 (31.05.2001)

PCT

(10) International Publication Number WO 01/039197 A3

- (51) International Patent Classification⁷: G21B 1/00, 1/02
- (21) International Application Number: PCT/US00/31341
- (22) International Filing Date:

15 November 2000 (15.11.2000)

(25) Filing Language:

English

English

(26) Publication Language:

(30) Priority Data: 09/448,402 24 November 1999 (24.11.1999) US

- (71) Applicant (for all designated States except US): IM-PULSE DEVICES, INC. [US/US]; 12731-A Loma Rica Drive, Grass Valley, CA 95945 (US).
- (72) Inventor; and
- (75) Inventor/Applicant (for US only): TESSIEN, Ross [US/US]; 12731-A Loma Rica Drive, Grass Valley, CA 95945 (US).
- (74) Agents: BECK, David et al.; McCutchen, Doyle, Brown & Enersen, LLP, Three Embarcadero Center, San Francisco, CA 94111-4067 (US).

- (81) Designated States (national): AE, AG, AL, AM, AT, AU, AZ, BA, BB, BG, BR, BY, BZ, CA, CH, CN, CR, CU, CZ, DE, DK, DM, DZ, 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, PL, PT, RO, RU, SD, SE, SG, SI, SK, SL, TJ, TM, TR, TT, TZ, UA, UG, US, UZ, VN, YU, ZA, ZW.
- (84) Designated States (regional): ARIPO patent (GH, GM, KE, LS, MW, MZ, SD, SL, SZ, TZ, UG, ZW), Eurasian patent (AM, AZ, BY, KG, KZ, MD, RU, TJ, TM), European patent (AT, BE, CH, CY, DE, DK, ES, FI, FR, GB, GR, IE, IT, LU, MC, NL, PT, SE, TR), OAPI patent (BF, BJ, CF, CG, CI, CM, GA, GN, GW, ML, MR, NE, SN, TD, TG).

Published:

with international search report

(88) Date of publication of the international search report: 20 February 2003

For two-letter codes and other abbreviations, refer to the "Guidance Notes on Codes and Abbreviations" appearing at the beginning of each regular issue of the PCT Gazette.



(54) Title: CAVITATION NUCLEAR REACTOR

(57) Abstract: A method and apparatus for driving nuclear reactions in a controlled manner within a cavitation nuclear reactor or CNR is provided. In general, the CNR is comprised of a solid material and, more particularly, comprised of a fuel material interspersed within a host material. The CNR can utilize any of a variety of different shapes. Energy, typically in the form of acoustic energy, is driven into the CNR with one or more drivers in order to create a pressure intensity pattern within the reactor. As a result of the pressure intensity pattern, at numerous locations within the reactor the energy is large enough to form small cavities or bubbles. Due to the phenomena of cavitation, the applied energy causes the newly formed bubbles to oscillate, undergoing a period of expansion followed by a period of bubble collapse. The velocity of the spherically converging material associated with the cavitation cycle, often times reaching supersonic velocities, is sufficient to achieve a density and temperature in excess of that required to drive a variety of different nuclear reactions including fusion, fission, spallation, and neutron stripping. If desired, an external heat source can be used to heat the material comprising the CNR, thereby promoting the desired nuclear reactions. In a specific embodiment, the CNR is driven at a frequency that either substantially matches a resonant frequency of the CNR or substantially matches an integer multiple of a resonant frequency.

WO 01/039197 A3

INTERNATIONAL SEARCH REPORT

International application No.

PCT/US00/31341

A. CLASSIFICATION OF SUBJECT MATTER IPC(7) : G21B 01/00, 01/02 US CL : 376/100-103, 146, 149 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.: 376/100-103, 146, 149					
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 CO	NSIDERED TO BE RELEVANT				
Category * Citation	of document, with indication, where ap	propriate, of the relevant passages	Relevant to claim No.		
	5 A (MILLS et al) 15 February 2000 (1 note figure 5 and columns 26+.	5.02.2000), see entire document.	1-5, 19, 20, 233-236, 240-242 and 249		
Y US 5,982,80	01 A (DEAK) 09 November 1999 (09.11	1.1999), see column 10.	1-5, 19, 20, 233-236, 240-242 and 249		
Y US 5,968,32	23 A (PLESS) 19 October 1999 (19.10.1	1999), see entire document.	1-5, 19, 20, 233-236, 240-242 and 249		
Y US 5,659,1° document.	US 5,659,173 A (PUTTERMAN et al) 19 August 1997 (19.08.1997), see entire		1-5, 19, 20, 233-236, 240-242 and 249		
Y US 5,525,0	41 A (DEAK) 11 June 1996 (11.06.1996	5), see entire document.	1-5, 19, 20, 233-236, 240-242 and 249		
X US 5,411,6	54 A (AHERN et al) 02 May 1995 (02.0	05.1995), see entire document.	1-5, 19, 20, 233-236, 240-242 and 249		
Further documents a	re listed in the continuation of Box C.	See patent family annex.			
	<u> </u>		mational filing date or priority		
"A" document defining the gene	date and not in conflict with the application but cited to under document defining the general state of the art which is not considered to be principle or theory underlying the invention		ation but cited to understand the		
"E" earlier application or patent published on or after the international filing date		"X" document of particular relevance; the considered novel or cannot be consider when the document is taken alone			
"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)		"Y" document of particular relevance; the claimed invention cannot be considered to involve an inventive step when the document is combined with one or more other such documents, such combination			
"O" document referring to an o	al disclosure, use, exhibition or other means	being obvious to a person skilled in the			
"P" document published prior to the international filing date but later than the "&" document member of the same patent family priority date claimed			amily		
Date of the actual complet	ion of the international search	Date of mailing of the international sear	rch report		
28 August 2002 (28.08.20			/		
Name and mailing address of the ISA/US Commissioner of Patents and Trademarks Box PCT Authorized officer JACK KEITH					
Washington, D.C. 20231 Facsimile No. (703)305-3230 Telephone No. (703) 308-1113					

Form PCT/ISA/210 (second sheet) (July 1998)

International application No.

PCT/US00/31341

INTERNATIONAL SEARCH REPORT

C. (Contin	uation) DOCUMENTS CONSIDERED TO BE RELEVANT	
Category *	Citation of document, with indication, where appropriate, of the relevant passages	Relevant to claim No.
Y	US 4,874,596 A (LEMELSON) 17 October 1989 (17.10.1989), see entire document.	1-5, 19, 20, 233-236,
Y	US 4,448,743 A (BASS) 15 MAY 1984 (15.05.1984), see entire document.	240-242 and 249 1-5, 19, 20, 233-236, 240-242 and 249
Y	US 4,968,395 A (PAVELLE et al) 06 November 1990 (06.11.1990), see entire document.	1-5, 19, 20, 233-236, 240-242 and 249
Y	US 4,367,130 A (LEMELSON) 04 January 1983 (04.01.1983), see entire document.	1-5, 19, 20, 233-236, 240-242 and 249
Y	US 4,344,911 A (MANISCALCO et al) 17 August 1982 (17.08.1982), see entire document.	1-5, 19, 20, 233-236, 240-242 and 249
X	US 4,333,796 A (FLYNN) 08 June 1982 (08.06.1982), see entire document.	1-5, 19, 20, 233-236, 240-242 and 249
Y	US 3,762,992 A (HEDSTROM) 02 October 1973 (02.10.1973), see entire document.	1-5, 19, 20, 233-236, 240-242 and 249
Y	US 3,624,239 A (FRAAS) 30 November 1971 (30.11.1971), see entire document.	1-5, 19, 20, 233-236, 240-242 and 249
Υ .	JP-06-018683 A (DOKE) 28 January 1994 (28.01.1994), see abstract.	1-5, 19, 20, 233-236, 240-242 and 249
Y	JP 03-067196 A (FUJIMURA) 22 March 1991 (22.03.1991), see abstract.	1-5, 19, 20, 233-236, 240-242 and 249
Y	JP 03-226694 A (MIYANAGA) 07 October 1991 (07.10.1991), see abstract.	1-5, 19, 20, 233-236, 240-242 and 249
Y	JP 03-053195 A (KASAHARA et al) 07 March 1991 (07.03.1991), see abstract.	1-5, 19, 20, 233-236, 240-242 and 249
Y .	DE 4,008,040 A1 (WERTZ) 31 October 1990 (31.10.1990), see abstract.	1-5, 19, 20, 233-236, 240-242 and 249
Y	GB 825,026 A (SCHMIDT) 09 December 1959 (09.12.1959), see entire document.	1-5, 19, 20, 233-236, 240-242 and 249
Y	GB 774,052 A (SCHMIDT) 01 May 1957 (01.05.1957), see abstract.	1-5, 19, 20, 233-236, 240-242 and 249
X	WO 95/20816 A1 (PAINTELLI) 03 August 1995 (03.08.1995), see entire document.	1-5, 19, 20, 233-236, 240-242 and 249
Y	WO 97/49274 A2 (LO) 31 December 1997 (31.12.1997), see entire document.	1-5, 19, 20, 233-236, 240-242 and 249
Y	WO 96/21230 A1 (EMBRECHTS et al) 11 July 1996 (11.07.1996), see entire document.	1-5, 19, 20, 233-236, 240-242 and 249
A	BROWNE, M.W. New Shot at Cold Fusion By Pumping Sound Waves Into Tiny Bubbles The New York Times - Science Times. 20 December 1994, C1 and C10.	1-5, 19, 20, 233-236, 240-242 and 249
A	FOLEY, D. Star in a Jar Popular Science. December 1998, pages 88-91	1-5, 19, 20, 233-236, 240-242 and 249
A	BARBER et al. Sensitivity of Sonoluminescence to Experimental Parameters Physical Review Letters. 28 February 1994, pages 1380-1383.	1-5, 19, 20, 233-236, 240-242 and 249
A .	MOSS et al. Calculated Pulse Widths and Spectra of a Single Sonoluminescing Bubble Science. 30 May 1997, Vol. 276, pages 1398-1401.	1-5, 19, 20, 233-236, 240-242 and 249
A	CRUM, L.A. Sonoluminescence Physics Today. September 1994, Pages 22-29.	1-5, 19, 20, 233-236, 240-242 and 249
A DOTAG	FUKUSHIMA. Is Sono-Fusion to be a Possible Mechanism for Cold Fusion? /210 (second sheet) (July 1998)	1-5, 19, 20, 233-236,

Form PCT/ISA/210 (second sheet) (July 1998)

International application No.

PCT/US00/31341

INTERNATIONAL SEARCH REPORT

Category *	Citation of document, with indication, where appropriate, of the relevant passages	Relevant to claim No.
	Frontiers of Cold Fusion. 1993, Pages 609-612.	240-242 and 249
A	BARBER et al. Observation of synchronous picosecond sonoluminescence Nature. 25 July 1991, Vol. 352, No. 6333, pages 318-320.	1-5, 19, 20, 233-236, 240-242 and 249
A	MARGULIS, M.A. Modern Views on the Nature of Acousto-chemical Reactions Russian Journal of Physical Chemistry. January 1976, pages 1-11.	1-5, 19, 20, 233-236, 240-242 and 249
Α ,	MOSS et al. Sonoluminescence and the prospects for table-top micro-thermonuclear fusion Physics Letters A. 16 November 1995, pages 69-74.	1-5, 19, 20, 233-236, 240-242 and 249
A	GAITAN et al. Sonoluminescence and bubble dynamics for a single, stable, cavitation bubble Journal of the Acoustical Society of America. June 1993, Vol. 91, No. 6, pages 3166-3183.	1-5, 19, 20, 233-236, 240-242 and 249
A	PREVENSLIK, T.V. Sonoluminescence, Cold Fusion, and Blue Water Lasers Cold Fusion Source Book - Proceedings of the International Symposium on Cold Fusion and Advanced Energy Sources. 24-26 May 1994, pages 1-4.	1-5, 19, 20, 233-236, 240-242 and 249
A	DINGEE, D.A. Fusion Power C&EN. 02 April 1979, Vol. 1, No. 2, Pages 32-47.	1-5, 19, 20, 233-236 240-242 and 249
A	WILSON, J. Hot Sounds WWW.Popular Mechanics.com. Accessed: 7/13/2001 Article date: February 1998, Pages 1-3.	1-5, 19, 20, 233-236 240-242 and 249
Y	US 3,378,446 A (WHITTLESEY) 16 April 1968 (16.04.1968), see entire document.	1-5, 19, 20, 233-236 240-242 and 249
Y	US 3,346,458 A (SCHMIDT) 10 October 1967 (10.10.1967), see entire document.	1-5, 19, 20, 233-236
Y	US 3,037,922 A (JOHNSON) 05 June 1962 (05.06.1962), see entire document.	240-242 and 249 1-5, 19, 20, 233-236 240-242 and 249

INTERNATIONAL SEARCH REPORT

International application No.

PCT/US00/31341

Continuation of Item 4 of the first sheet: Title is to long.		
New title: Cavitation Nuclear Reactor		
BOX II. OBSERVATIONS WHERE UNITY OF INVENTION IS LACKING		
See paper no. 7 dated 01 March 2002 (PCT/ISA/206).		
Continuation of B. FIELDS SEARCHED Item 3: East		
search terms: Sono (luminescence, fusion, cavitation), bubble		

Form PCT/ISA/210 (second sheet) (July 1998)

INTERNATIONAL SEARCH REPORT

International application No.

PCT/US00/31341

Box I Observations where certain claims were found unsearchable (Continuation of Item 1 of first sheet)			
This international report has not been established in respect of certain claims under Article 17(2)(a) for the following reasons:			
1. Claim Nos.: because they relate to subject matter not required to be searched by this Authority, namely:			
2. Claim Nos.: because they relate to parts of the international application that do not comply with the prescribed requirements to such an extent that no meaningful international search can be carried out, specifically:			
3. Claim Nos.: because they are dependent claims and are not drafted in accordance with the second and third sentences of Rule 6.4(a).			
Box II Observations where unity of invention is lacking (Continuation of Item 2 of first sheet)			
This International Searching Authority found multiple inventions in this international application, as follows: Please See Continuation Sheet			
1. As all required additional search fees were timely paid by the applicant, this international search report covers all searchable claims.			
2. As all searchable claims could be searched without effort justifying an additional fee, this Authority did not invite payment of any additional fee.			
3. As only some of the required additional search fees were timely paid by the applicant, this international search report covers only those claims for which fees were paid, specifically claims Nos.: 1-5, 19, 20, 233-236, 240-242 and 249.			
4. No required additional search fees were timely paid by the applicant. Consequently, this international search report is restricted to the invention first mentioned in the claims; it is covered by claims Nos.:			
Remark on Protest The additional search fees were accompanied by the applicant's protest. No protest accompanied the payment of additional search fees.			

Form PCT/ISA/210 (continuation of first sheet(1)) (July 1998)