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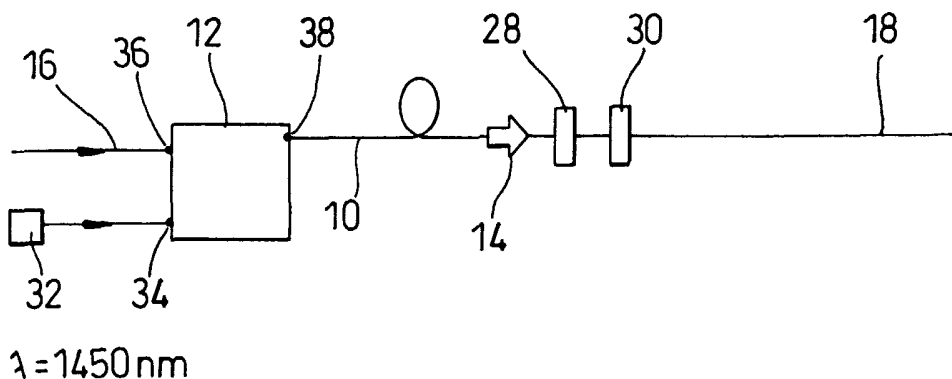
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(54) Title: OPTICAL AMPLIFIER METHOD AND APPARATUS



(57) Abstract: An L-band Er-doped optical amplifier has a 60m to 110m length of doped optical fiber. Pump light in the wavelength range from 1435nm to 1460nm is coupled into the fiber. Substantially no light in the range 1465nm to 1505 nm is coupled into the fiber. The gain of the amplifier is greater than when using pump light of 1480nm.

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INTERNATIONAL SEARCH REPORT

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A. CLASSIFICATION OF SUBJECT MATTER  
IPC 7 H01S3/067 H01S3/094

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)  
IPC 7 H01S

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 practical, search terms used)

EPO-Internal, WPI Data, PAJ, INSPEC

C. DOCUMENTS CONSIDERED TO BE RELEVANT

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X	US 6 122 298 A (MA XIAOBING ET AL) 19 September 2000 (2000-09-19)	1-6, 11-13
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X	US 5 731 892 A (DIGIOVANNI DAVID JOHN ET AL) 24 March 1998 (1998-03-24)	1-8, 10-13
Y	column 5, line 8-40; figure 6 ---	9
X	WO 00 31840 A (CORNING INC) 2 June 2000 (2000-06-02)	1,2,6,12
Y	page 4, line 6-15 ---	9
X	EP 0 883 217 A (PIRELLI CAVI E SISTEMI SPA) 9 December 1998 (1998-12-09)	1-6, 11-13
Y	column 6, line 35-41 ---	9
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Patent family members are listed in annex.

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C.(Continuation) DOCUMENTS CONSIDERED TO BE RELEVANT		
Category °	Citation of document, with indication, where appropriate, of the relevant passages	Relevant to claim No.
X	US 5 936 763 A (UNO TOMOAKI ET AL) 10 August 1999 (1999-08-10)	1-6, 12, 13
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