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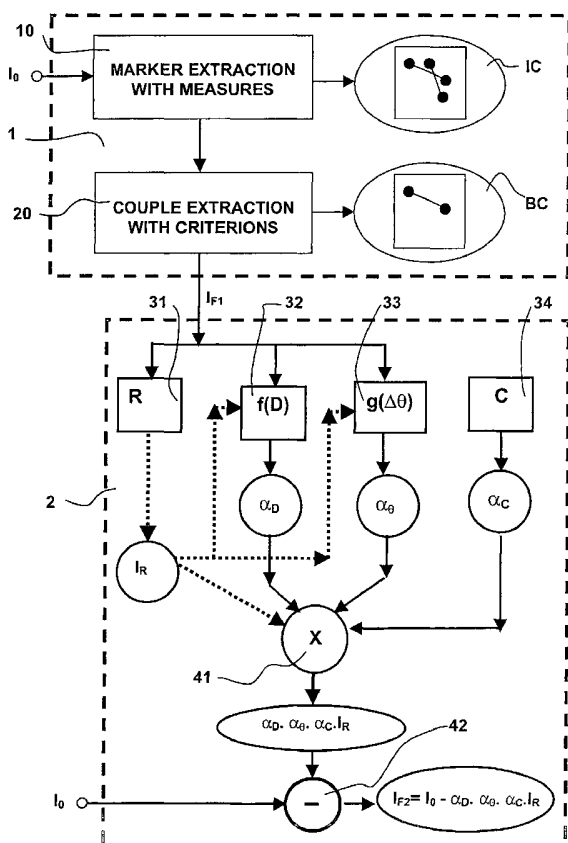
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[Continued on next page]

(54) Title: MEDICAL VIEWING SYSTEM AND METHOD FOR SPATIALLY ENHANCING STRUCTURES IN NOISY IMAGES



(57) Abstract: A viewing system and method for enhancing objects of interest represented on a moving background in a sequence of noisy images and for displaying the sequence of enhanced images, comprising extracting means (1) for extracting features related to an object of interest in images of the sequence; spatial enhancement means (2) that comprise a ridge filter modulated by factor means to enhance the object of interest to the exclusion of the objects of the background; and display means (54) for displaying the processed images (15, 45) of the enhanced registered object of interest on faded background.



TR), OAPI patent (BF, BJ, CF, CG, CI, CM, GA, GN, GQ, GW, ML, MR, NE, SN, TD, TG).

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# INTERNATIONAL SEARCH REPORT

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**A. CLASSIFICATION OF SUBJECT MATTER**  
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**B. FIELDS SEARCHED**

Minimum documentation searched (classification system followed by classification symbols)  
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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**

Category *	Citation of document, with indication, where appropriate, of the relevant passages	Relevant to claim No.
X A	WO 01 31583 A (KONINKL PHILIPS ELECTRONICS NV) 3 May 2001 (2001-05-03)  page 1, line 1-20 page 2, column 5 -column 18 page 3, line 13 -page 4, line 19 page 5, line 6 - line 23 page 6, line 24 - line 32 page 7, line 9 - line 23 figures 2A-2D  ---	1-5, 11  6-10, 12
X A	US 5 687 251 A (ERLER BRIAN S ET AL) 11 November 1997 (1997-11-11) figures 1,4-7  column 2, line 22 - line 50 column 6, line 42 - line 55 column 7, line 23 - line 28  ---	1, 3, 4  5-12
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☒ Patent family members are listed in annex.

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