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- before the expiration of the time limit for amending the claims and to be republished in the event of receipt of amendments (Rule 48.2(h))

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(54) Title: IRIS CONTROL SYSTEM FOR CONDUCTING THE IDENTIFICATION OF BACTERIA IN BIOLOGICAL SAMPLES

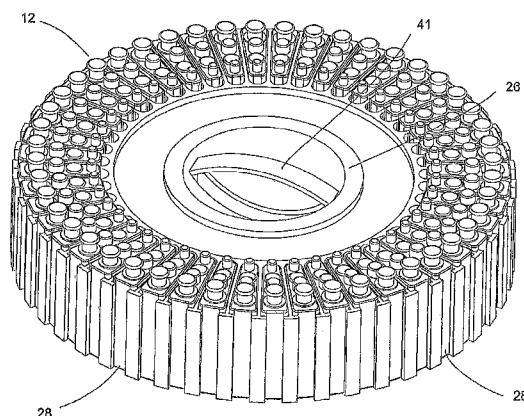


FIG. 1A

(57) Abstract: A system and a method for optimizing an iris setting, used in combination with a lamp, for each excitation wavelength for each carousel run in an apparatus for identifying and measuring bacteria in biological samples. The system includes a feedback control loop positioned between a filter wheel and an optical cup for measuring the intensity level of the excitation wavelength, and feeding this information to an iris having an iris setting control device such that the iris setting may be adjusted based upon the measured intensity level to control and optimize the level of light fed to the filter wheel from the lamp. The iris setting can be adjusted so that the level of light fed to the filter wheel remains constant during the lifetime of the lamp and to ensure that the level of light fed to the sample remains below the level at which photo-bleaching occurs.



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INTERNATIONAL SEARCH REPORT

International application No.
PCT/US2012/022488**A. CLASSIFICATION OF SUBJECT MATTER***C12M 1/34(2006.01)i, C12M 1/42(2006.01)i, C12M 1/12(2006.01)i, C12Q 1/04(2006.01)i*

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)

C12M 1/34; H04N 5/238; C12Q 1/04; G01J 1/32; G01N 33/49; H04N 5/30

Documentation searched other than minimum documentation to the extent that such documents are included in the fields searched

Korean utility models and applications for utility models

Japanese utility models and applications for utility models

Electronic data base consulted during the international search (name of data base and, where practicable, search terms used)

eKOMPASS(KIPO internal) & Keywords: iris, optimizing, filter wheel, optical cup, bacteria, etc.

C. DOCUMENTS CONSIDERED TO BE RELEVANT

Category*	Citation of document, with indication, where appropriate, of the relevant passages	Relevant to claim No.
A	US 5923372 A (HAN, DONG-JU) 13 July 1999 See abstract; claims 1,5.	1-5, 11, 12
A	US 4300167 A (MILLER, FREDERICK A. et al.) 10 November 1981 See claim 10.	1-5, 11, 12
A	WO 2009-049171 A2 (POCARED DIAGNOSTICS LTD. et al.) 16 April 2009 See abstract; claims 9,30,37,41,56.	10, 16-19
A	US 2010-0200728 A1 (INGBER, GAL) 12 August 2010 See claims 1,3 and figs. 1,2.	6-9, 13-15, 20

☐ Further documents are listed in the continuation of Box C.☒ See patent family annex.

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"&" document member of the same patent family

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INTERNATIONAL SEARCH REPORT

Information on patent family members

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PCT/US2012/022488

Patent document cited in search report	Publication date	Patent family member(s)	Publication date
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