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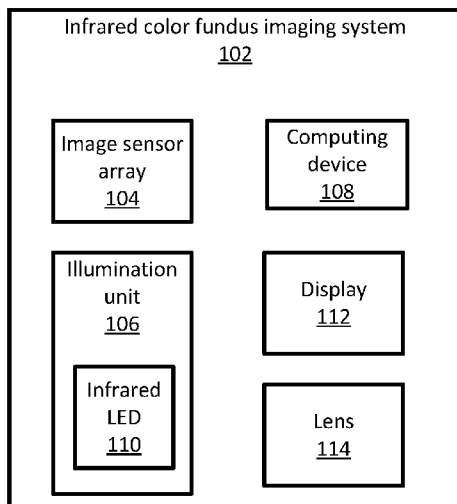
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[Continued on next page]

(54) Title: INFRARED FUNDUS IMAGING SYSTEM



(57) Abstract: A fundus imaging system is used to generate fundus images when a patient has not received mydriatic pharmaceuticals. The fundus imaging system includes a processor and memory, an infrared light source, and an image sensor array. The infrared light source illuminates the patient's fundus using only infrared light. The fundus imaging system uses one or more different near-infrared wavelengths to illuminate the patient's fundus, and the fundus imaging system captures images during infrared light illumination. Then the fundus imaging system generates a color image of the patient's eye fundus based on generated lightness maps of the infrared-illuminated images.

FIG. 2



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INFRARED FUNDUS IMAGING SYSTEM

CROSS REFERENCE TO RELATED APPLICATION

[0001] The present application is being filed as a PCT International application on 04 January 2017, and claims priority from U.S. Provisional Patent Application No. 62/275,880, filed on January 7, 2016, the disclosure of which is hereby incorporated by reference in its entirety.

BACKGROUND

[0002] Medical professionals use images of a patient's eye fundus to screen for and diagnose various diseases, such as diabetic retinopathy. Cameras produce images of the fundus while the patient has been administered pharmacological pupil dilation substances, known as mydriatic fundus imaging, or without pharmacological pupil dilation, known as non-mydriatic fundus imaging. Because pupil dilation is inversely related, in part, to the amount of ambient light, non-mydriatic fundus imaging usually occurs in low lighting environments. Medical professionals can also use fundus imaging apparatus to detect or monitor other diseases, such as hypertension, glaucoma, and papilledema.

SUMMARY

[0003] Embodiments of the present disclosure are directed to a fundus imaging system. In one aspect, a non-mydriatic fundus imaging apparatus includes a processor and a memory, an infrared light source operatively coupled to the processor, and an image sensor array operatively coupled to the processor. The memory stores instructions that, when executed by the processor, cause the apparatus to illuminate the infrared light source at a first wavelength, illuminate the infrared light source at a second wavelength, illuminate the infrared light source at a third wavelength, capture an image, and generate a color image of a fundus of a patient's eye based on a lightness map.

[0004] The details of one or more embodiments are set forth in the accompanying drawings and the description below. Other features, objects, and advantages of these embodiments will be apparent from the description, drawings, and claims.

DESCRIPTION OF THE DRAWINGS

[0005] The following drawing figures, which form a part of this application, are illustrative of described technology and are not meant to limit the scope of the disclosure as claimed in any manner, which scope shall be based on the claims appended hereto.

[0006] Figure 1 illustrates an example environment for an infrared fundus imaging system.

[0007] Figure 2 illustrates a block diagram of components included in an embodiment of an example infrared fundus imaging system.

[0008] Figure 3 illustrates an example method for generating a color fundus image.

[0009] Figure 4 illustrates an example method for image processing.

[0010] Figure 5 illustrates an example method for initiating image capture using passive eye tracking.

[0011] Figure 6 illustrates an example computing unit used in the example infrared fundus imaging system.

DETAILED DESCRIPTION

[0012] The present disclosure is directed to systems and methods for non-mydriatic infrared color eye fundus imaging. Non-mydriatic imaging involves a patient who has not been administered a pharmacological pupil dilation substance. Thus, the patient's eyes are not artificially dilated. The sensation of artificially dilated pupils can be uncomfortable or even painful for some patients. Moreover, most pharmacological pupil dilation substances do not act instantaneously.

[0013] Pupil dilation is somewhat inversely related to the amount of ambient light. However, low lighting conditions can affect image quality. One solution is to briefly flash a light during capturing an image of a patient's eye fundus. But a bright flash in a dimly-lit room can be uncomfortable and jarring for patients. Such light can also reduce pupil dilation.

[0014] Near-infrared light can be used as an illumination source in a low-light environment without patient discomfort because near-infrared light is undetectable by the human eye. However, infrared light can be detected by image sensor arrays. Images produced using solely infrared light are typically monochrome.

[0015] As used herein, "infrared" means near-infrared, from about 700 nm to about 2500 nm, unless otherwise noted.

[0016] FIG. 1 illustrates an embodiment of an example fundus imaging system 100. The example fundus imaging system 100 includes a patient P, a health professional HP, and an infrared fundus imaging system 102. The health professional HP operates the infrared fundus imaging system 102 to view images of the patient's P eye fundus. The infrared fundus imaging system 102 is typically used in a clinical environment. In embodiments, the infrared fundus imaging system 102 is used in a non-healthcare location. Other embodiments can include more or fewer people and components.

[0017] The infrared fundus imaging system 102 generates color, digital images of a patient's P eye fundus. As used herein, "fundus" refers to the eye fundus and includes the retina, optic nerve, macula, vitreous, choroid and posterior pole.

[0018] In embodiments, the health professional HP uses the infrared fundus imaging system 102 to screen for, diagnose, or monitor the patient P for an eye disease, diabetic retinopathy. The infrared fundus imaging system 102 can be used to screen for, monitor, or diagnose various other eye diseases.

[0019] The health professional HP operating the infrared fundus imaging system 102 may be different from the health professional HP that evaluates the fundus images. For example, a nurse operates the infrared fundus imaging system 102 and a physician views and evaluates the generated color fundus images.

[0020] Most known techniques for fundus imaging require mydriasis, which is the dilation of the patient's pupil. Example fundus imaging system 100 does not require a mydriatic drug to be administered to the patient P before imaging. However, the fundus imaging system 100 can be used if a mydriatic drug was administered to the patient P.

[0021] FIG. 2 is a block diagram of the components in an embodiment of the example infrared fundus imaging system 102. The example infrared fundus imaging system 102 includes an image sensor array 104, an illumination unit 106 with an infrared LED 110, a computing device 108, a display 112, and a lens 114. A housing supports the components of infrared fundus imaging system 102. Computing device 108 is in communication with all electrical components of infrared fundus imaging system 102. Other embodiments can include more or fewer components.

[0022] Image sensor array 104 receives light reflected by the patient's P fundus. Image sensor array 104 is either a complementary metal-oxide semiconductor (CMOS) or charge-coupled device (CCD) sensor array. In both the CMOS and CCD embodiments, image sensor array 104 is a monochrome sensor. The monochrome

sensor includes monochrome photodiodes with light-receiving surfaces and that have substantially uniform length and width.

[0023] Exposure of image sensor array 104 can be controlled as a global shutter. That is, substantially all of the photodiodes in image sensor array 104 are exposed simultaneously and for substantially identical lengths of time. The global exposure effectively integrates charge substantially evenly across the image sensor array 104 during the exposure time.

[0024] Image sensor array 104 captures digital images and processing of those images can be done in various formats, such as RAW, JPEG, BITMAP, TIFF, etc.

[0025] Many commercial image sensor arrays come with a hot mirror filter and/or a color filter array. Hot mirror filters effectively block infrared light from reaching the image sensor array but allow visible light to pass through and reach the image sensor array. Color filter arrays are positioned over the pixel sensors in an image sensor array and include an arrangement of colors, such as red, green, and blue filters. These filters filter the incident light by wavelength.

[0026] Because the patient's P fundus is illuminated using infrared light, however, a hot mirror filter and/or a color filter array would block most or all of the infrared light reflected by the patient's P eye fundus. Thus, example image sensor array 104 does not include a hot mirror filter and does not include a color filter array that blocks infrared light.

[0027] In embodiments, image sensor array 104 includes a cold mirror filter. Cold mirror filters reflect visible light but allow infrared light to pass through. Alternatively, an infrared filter can be mounted over the lens 114 that blocks all but the infrared light.

[0028] In other embodiments, the example image sensor array 104 does not include any filter, which can enhance the imaging quality without signal loss as compared to embodiments using some type of optical filter. The relatively improved image quality can be attributed, at least in part, to the fact that the fundus camera is usually operated in a dimly-lit environment.

[0029] Illumination unit 106 includes one or more infrared light sources that illuminate the patient's P eye fundus. The infrared light source can include one or more infrared light-emitting diodes (LEDs) 110. Illumination unit 106 includes three LEDs that emit light at wavelengths of 760 nanometers (nm), 850 nm, and 950 nm. Different wavelengths are used in other embodiments, such as, for example, 770 nm, 810 nm, 870 nm, 880 nm, and 940 nm.

[0030] In embodiments where more than one infrared LED 110 is used in illumination unit 106, the wavelengths of the LEDs are selected such that the wavelengths differ by at least about 20 nm, about 30 nm, about 40 nm, about 50 nm, about 60 nm, about 70 nm, about 80 nm, about 90 nm, or about 100 nm. The differences in wavelengths between the three infrared LEDs 110 can be equal or non-equal. For example, in the embodiment above the differences are non-equal: the difference between the first two wavelengths is 90 nm, and the difference between the second and the third wavelengths is 100 nm.

[0031] Computing device 108 causes illumination unit 106 to illuminate the infrared LEDs 110 in combination with the image sensor array 104 capturing images of the patient's P fundus. For example, three images are captured by image sensor array 104 during three separate illuminations of the three infrared LEDs 110. Alternatively, or in addition, all three infrared LEDs 110 are illuminated substantially simultaneously and the image sensor array 104 captures one or more images during the combined illumination of the patient's P fundus. Alternatively, or in addition, a first image is captured by the image sensor array 104 while one infrared LED 110 is illuminated, a second image is captured by the image sensor array 104 while two infrared LEDs 110 are illuminated, and a third image is captured by the image sensor array 104 while three infrared LEDs are illuminated.

[0032] As mentioned above, computing device 108 is in communication with, at least, image sensor array 104, illumination unit 106, and display 112. Computing device 108 includes mass storage device 814 that includes infrared imaging module 107, shown in FIG. 6. Infrared imaging module 107 includes instructions that, when executed by a central processing unit 802 (a processor), control the illumination unit 106 and image sensor array 104 during fundus image capture. Example components of computing device 108 are shown in FIG. 6 and described in more detail below.

[0033] Display 112 provides a graphical user interface that guides the healthcare professional HP during evaluation and displays the fundus images. Display 112 is, for example, a liquid crystal display (LCD) or active matrix organic light emitting display (AMOLED) supported by the housing of infrared fundus imaging system. Display 112 can show a live view from image sensor array 104, possibly in combination with on-screen directions, to aid the healthcare professional HP in positioning and/or focusing the infrared fundus imaging system.

[0034] In embodiments, computing device 108 is in communication with an external display, such as a computer monitor, and transmits the fundus images to the external display for evaluation by the healthcare professional HP. Transmission of the fundus images from computing device 108 to external display can be via wired or wireless connections.

[0035] The example infrared fundus imaging system 102 also includes a lens 114 supported by the housing. Some embodiments have more than one lens supported by the housing. For example, one lens is used to focus the light incident on the image sensor array 104, and another lens is used to focus the light from the illumination unit 106. Some embodiments use more than one lens to focus the incident light.

[0036] In embodiments, the lens has mechanical power and control connections coupled to the computing device 108. The computing device 108 may be configured to control the position of the lens or lenses to optimize lens positioning for auto focusing for the image sensor array 104 and illumination unit 106. In some embodiments, unique facial geometries require lens focusing even where there is a standard positioning guide adjacent to, or integral with, infrared fundus imaging system.

[0037] Infrared fundus imaging system 102 can also include reflective mirrors, not shown in FIG. 2. The optional one or more reflective mirrors are used to direct light to the image sensor array 104 and from illumination unit 106. The mirrors are supported by the housing and, in embodiments, can be adjusted and/or pivoted by computing device 108.

[0038] FIG. 3 illustrates an embodiment of an example method 300 for generating a color fundus image using the infrared fundus imaging system 102. The example method 300 includes executing a focal adjustment (operation 304), executing fundus imaging (operation 306), which includes illuminating one or more infrared LEDs (operation 308) and capturing an image (operation 310), determining whether all images have been captured (operation 312), processing the images (operation 314), and generating a color fundus image (operation 316). A healthcare professional HP initiates example method 300 in a dimly-lit environment. Other embodiments can include more or fewer operations.

[0039] The example method 300 begins with a focal adjustment (operation 304). At this point, patient P is positioned, either seated or standing. Positioning includes aligning the patient P such that one or more of the patient's P eyes are aligned with the aperture of the infrared fundus imaging system 102. In embodiments, display 112

provides a preview image to help guide the healthcare professional HP in positioning the patient P.

[0040] In embodiments, a positioning structure, such as a chin rest or head support structure, assists in positioning the patient P. The positioning structure can be adjusted by the healthcare professional HP to maneuver the patient P relative to the housing of the infrared fundus imaging system 102. The housing additionally can be adjustable relative to the patient P.

[0041] Focal adjustment (operation 304) can be done mechanically by the healthcare professional HP and/or automatically by computing device 108 using auto-focusing algorithms. In embodiments, infrared fundus imaging system 102 has one or more adjustable foci. The focus adjusts the position of the lens 114 through which the incident light passes. In embodiments, the focus also adjusts the lens through which the light from the illumination unit passes. The healthcare professional HP can initiate automatic focusing by pressing a button on the housing or selecting an icon on display 112. In embodiments, one or more infrared LEDs are illuminated during the focal adjustment (operation 304).

[0042] After the focus is adjusted (operation 304), the infrared fundus imaging system 102 executes fundus imaging (operation 306), which includes illuminating one or more infrared LEDs (operation 308) and capturing an image (operation 310).

[0043] While the infrared LED is illuminated (operation 308), the infrared fundus imaging system 102 captures an image of the patient's P fundus (operation 310). As discussed above, one, two or three infrared LEDs are illuminated at a given time, depending upon the embodiment. Computing device 108 records the wavelength of the infrared LED illuminated and tags the captured image or associates the captured image with the wavelength data, which can be used during image processing (operation 314).

[0044] Where two or more images are captured with different near-infrared illumination wavelengths, the two or more images are captured in quick succession. For example, three images are captured within 10 ms. Then, when the images are later combined to produce a color image, there is less likelihood that the pixels among the three images do not correspond to each other.

[0045] In embodiments, executing fundus imaging (operation 306) is initialized using passive eye tracking, and embodiment of which is shown in FIG. 5. Referring now to FIG. 5, execute fundus imaging (operation 306) proceeds to illuminate infrared

LEDs (operation 308) and capture image (operation 310) by monitoring the pupil/fovea orientation of the patient P.

[0046] First, the pupil, fovea, or both of the patient P is monitored (operation 303). Infrared fundus imaging system 102 captures images in a first image capture mode. In the first image capture mode, the infrared fundus imaging system 102 captures images at a higher frame rate. In embodiments, the first image capture mode is conducted at lower resolutions.

[0047] Next, the computing device 108 processes at least a portion of the captured images (operation 305). The computing device 108 processes the images to identify the location of the pupil or fovea or both of the patient P. Using the location of the pupil or fovea or both in one of the images, a vector corresponding to the pupil/fovea orientation is calculated. In embodiments, the pupil/fovea orientation is approximated based on the distance between the pupil and fovea in the image. In other embodiments, the pupil/fovea orientation is calculated by approximating the position of the fovea relative to the pupil in three dimensions using estimates of the distance to the pupil and the distance between the pupil and the fovea. In other embodiments, the pupil/fovea orientation is approximated from the position of the pupil alone. Still other methods of approximating the pupil/fovea orientation are possible.

[0048] Then the pupil/fovea orientation is compared to an optical axis of the infrared fundus imaging system 102 (operation 307). If the pupil/fovea orientation is substantially aligned with the optical axis of the infrared fundus imaging system 102, then the process proceeds to illuminate infrared LED (operation 308) and capture fundus image (operation 310). If not, the process returns to continue to monitor the pupil or fovea (operation 303). In embodiments, the pupil/fovea orientation is substantially aligned with the optical axis when the angle between them is less than two to fifteen degrees.

[0049] In embodiments, execute fundus imaging (operation 306) returns to monitor the pupil/fovea orientation (operation 303). Further information regarding passive eye tracking can be found in U.S. Patent Application 14/177,594, attorney docket number 10156.0082US01, titled Ophthalmoscope Device, which is hereby incorporated by reference in its entirety.

[0050] Returning now to FIG. 3, after capturing an image (operation 310), the infrared fundus imaging system 102 checks whether all images have been captured (operation 312). In embodiments, the color fundus image is generated from three

images captured when three different infrared LEDs were illuminated. In those embodiments, then, the system at operation 312 evaluates whether three images at three different wavelengths have been captured. If all images have not been captured, then method 300 returns to execute fundus imaging (operation 306). Otherwise, method 300 proceeds to process images (operation 314) and the healthcare professional HP can be notified via display 112 that all required images have been captured.

[0051] Operation 312 optionally includes an image focus analysis of the image. If the captured image is not properly focused, method 300 can return to execute focal adjustment (operation 304) and capture additional images until acceptable images are captured.

[0052] If the images have all been captured, then the infrared fundus imaging system 102 proceeds to process the images (operation 314). Infrared fundus imaging system 102 processes the RAW data files or a compressed image file, such as TIFF, JPEG, BITMAP, etc. Processing images (operation 314) is shown and described below in more detail with reference to FIG. 4.

[0053] One output of processing images (operation 314) is that one or more color fundus images are generated (operation 316). These color fundus images can be shown to a healthcare provider HP on display 112 or on an external display. Should the healthcare provider HP desire to view the images in black and white, monochrome images can also be generated by infrared fundus imaging system 102 and displayed to the healthcare provider HP.

[0054] FIG. 4 illustrates an embodiment of example image processing (operation 314). The example image processing includes receiving one or more images (operation 402), generating an infrared lightness map for each image (operation 404), correlating the one or more generated infrared lightness maps to red, green and blue (RGB) values (operation 406), combining the RGB values (operation 408), and generating a color fundus image (operation 316). Other embodiments can include more or fewer operations.

[0055] The example image processing begins by receiving one or more images (operation 402). The images are digital files, such as RAW data files or a compressed image file, such as TIFF, JPEG, BITMAP, etc. The images, or data associated with the images received in operation 402, can also include data about the lighting conditions when the images were captured.

[0056] Next, an infrared lightness map is generated each received image (operation 404). In embodiments, the infrared lightness map is generated by determining the radiance of each pixel at a given wavelength. For example, take an image captured when a 760 nm LED was illuminated. Each pixel on the image sensor array recorded a value and the lightness map is a value corresponding to the radiance of the recorded value. Each of those values corresponds to 760 nm. This operation can be repeated for every pixel in every image received.

[0057] Then the infrared lightness map for each received image is correlated to red-green-blue values (operation 406). Theoretically, there is a relationship between the detected radiance and the actual color present in the patient's P eye fundus. That relationship can be nonlinear depending upon the given wavelength. Here, a delta value (Δ) is determined between the lightness map and the corresponding RGB value. The delta value can also include a magnitude determination.

[0058] After correlating the lightness map to RGB values (operation 406), the RGB values are combined (operation 408). In embodiments where three images are captured at three different near-infrared illumination wavelengths, the delta values for each of the three images are combined to determine what color is actually present at that pixel, based on the radiance and magnitude of radiance at the different near-infrared wavelengths. The combined RGB values are then used to generate one or more color fundus images (operation 316).

[0059] FIG. 6 shows an embodiment of an example computing device 108 hosting the infrared imaging module 107. As illustrated, the example computing device 108 includes at least one central processing unit ("CPU") 802, a system memory 808, and a system bus 822 that couples the system memory 808 to the CPU 802. The system memory 808 includes a random access memory ("RAM") 810 and a read-only memory ("ROM") 812. A basic input/output system that contains the basic routines that help to transfer information between elements within the example computing device 108, such as during startup, is stored in the ROM 812. The example computing device 108 further includes a mass storage device 814. The mass storage device 814 is able to store software instructions and data.

[0060] The mass storage device 814 is connected to the CPU 802 through a mass storage controller (not shown) connected to the system bus 822. The mass storage device 814 and its associated computer-readable data storage media provide non-volatile, non-transitory storage for the example computing device 108. Although the

description of computer-readable data storage media contained herein refers to a mass storage device, such as a hard disk or solid state disk, it should be appreciated by those skilled in the art that computer-readable data storage media can be any available non-transitory, physical device or article of manufacture from which the central display station can read data and/or instructions.

[0061] Computer-readable data storage media include volatile and non-volatile, removable and non-removable media implemented in any method or technology for storage of information such as computer-readable software instructions, data structures, program modules or other data. Example types of computer-readable data storage media include, but are not limited to, RAM, ROM, EPROM, EEPROM, flash memory or other solid state memory technology, CD-ROMs, digital versatile discs (“DVDs”), other optical storage media, magnetic cassettes, magnetic tape, magnetic disk storage or other magnetic storage devices, or any other medium which can be used to store the desired information and which can be accessed by the example computing device108.

[0062] According to various embodiments of the inventions, the example computing device108 may operate in a networked environment using logical connections to remote network devices through the network 820, such as a wireless network, the Internet, or another type of network. The example computing device108 may connect to the network 820 through a network interface unit 804 connected to the system bus 822. It should be appreciated that the network interface unit 804 may also be utilized to connect to other types of networks and remote computing systems. The example computing device108 also includes an input/output controller 806 for receiving and processing input from a number of other devices, including a touch user interface display screen, or another type of input device. Similarly, the input/output controller 806 may provide output to a touch user interface display screen or other type of output device.

[0063] As mentioned briefly above, the mass storage device 814 and the RAM 810 of the example computing device108 can store software instructions and data. The software instructions include an operating system 818 suitable for controlling the operation of the example computing device108. The mass storage device 814 and/or the RAM 810 also store software instructions, that when executed by the CPU 802, cause the example computing device108 to provide the functionality of the example computing device108 discussed in this document. For example, the mass storage device 814 and/or the RAM 810 can store software instructions that, when executed by the

CPU 802, cause the example computing device 108 to display received data on the display screen of the example computing device 108.

[0064] The description and illustration of one or more embodiments provided in this application are not intended to limit or restrict the scope of the inventions as claimed in any way. The embodiments, examples, and details provided in this application are considered sufficient to convey possession and enable others to make and use the best mode of claimed inventions. The claimed inventions should not be construed as being limited to any embodiment, example, or detail provided in this application. Regardless whether shown and described in combination or separately, the various features (both structural and methodological) are intended to be selectively included or omitted to produce an embodiment with a particular set of features. Having been provided with the description and illustration of the present application, one skilled in the art may envision variations, modifications, and alternate embodiments falling within the spirit of the broader aspects of the claimed inventions and the general inventive concept embodied in this application that do not depart from the broader scope.

CLAIMS:

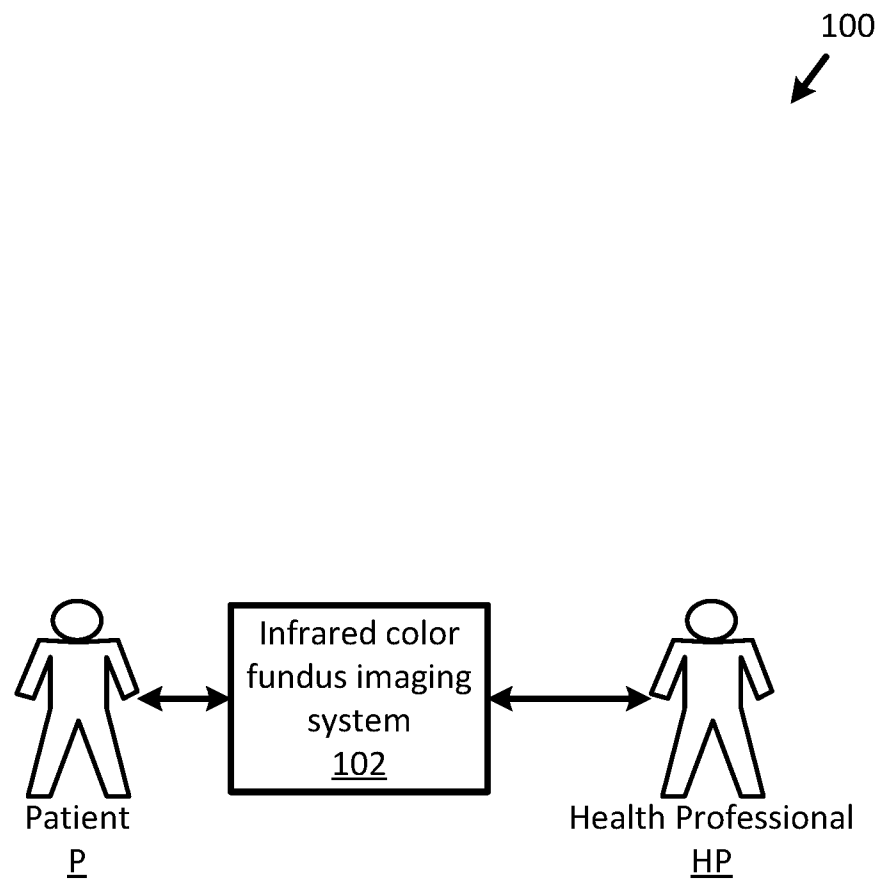
1. A non-mydriatic fundus imaging apparatus, comprising:
a processor and a memory;
an infrared light source operatively coupled to the processor; and
an image sensor array operatively coupled to the processor,
wherein the memory stores instructions that, when executed by the processor,
cause the non-mydriatic fundus imaging apparatus to:
illuminate the infrared light source at a first wavelength;
illuminate the infrared light source at a second wavelength;
illuminate the infrared light source at a third wavelength;
capture a first image during illumination of the infrared light source at
the first wavelength;
capture a second image during illumination of the infrared light source
at the second wavelength;
capture a third image during illumination of the infrared light source at
the third wavelength; and
generate a color image of a fundus of a patient's eye based on a lightness
map.
2. The apparatus according to claim 1, wherein the infrared light source includes a
first light-emitting diode at the first wavelength, a second light-emitting diode at the
second wavelength, and a third light-emitting diode at the third wavelength.
3. The apparatus according to claim 2, wherein a difference between the first
wavelength and the second wavelength is at least 50 nm, wherein a difference between
the second wavelength and the third wavelength is at least about 50 nm, and wherein a
difference between the first wavelength and the third wavelength is at least about 100
nm.
4. The apparatus according to claim 1, wherein a wavelength of the first light-
emitting diode is 760 nm.

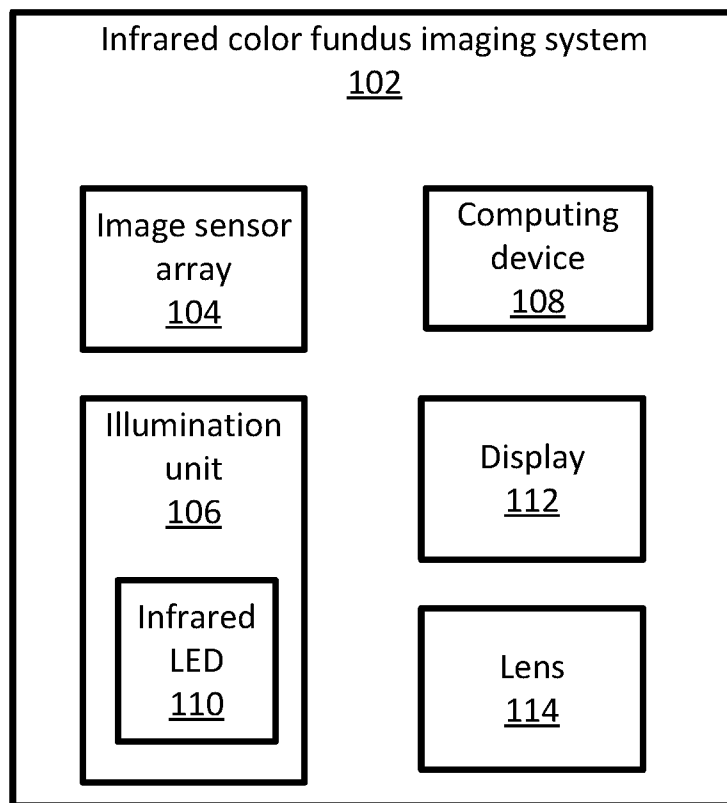
5. The apparatus according to claim 1, wherein a wavelength of the second light-emitting diode is 850 nm.
6. The apparatus according to claim 1, wherein a wavelength of the third light-emitting diode is 950 nm.
7. The apparatus of claim 1, wherein the memory further stores instructions that, when executed by the processor, cause the apparatus to:
 - generate a first lightness map for the first image,
 - generate a second lightness map for the second image, and
 - generate a third lightness map for the third image.
8. The apparatus of claim 1, wherein the memory further stores instructions that, when executed by the processor, cause the non-mydratic fundus imaging apparatus to:
 - illuminate simultaneously each of the first light-emitting diode, the second light-emitting diode, and the third light-emitting diode.
9. The apparatus of claim 1, wherein the image sensor array is configured to receive infrared light.
10. The apparatus of claim 9, wherein the image sensor array includes an infrared filter.
11. The apparatus of claim 9, wherein the image sensor array includes a cold mirror filter.
12. The apparatus of claim 1, wherein the image sensor array is configured to operate as a global shutter.
13. The apparatus of claim 1, wherein the image capture is initiated using passive eye tracking.

14. A non-mydratic fundus imaging system, comprising:
a processor and a memory;
an infrared light source operatively coupled to the processor; and
an image sensor array operatively coupled to the processor,
wherein the memory stores instructions that, when executed by the processor,
cause the non-mydratic fundus imaging system to:
illuminate the infrared light source at a first wavelength, a second
wavelength, and a third wavelength;
capture a first image when the infrared light source is illuminated at the
first wavelength;
capture a second image when the infrared light source is illuminated at
the second wavelength;
capture a third image when the infrared light source is illuminated at the
third wavelength
generate an infrared lightness map for each of the first image, the second
image, and the third image;
based on the infrared lightness map, generate a color fundus image.
15. The fundus imaging system according to claim 14, the memory further storing
instructions that, when executed by the processor, cause the non-mydratic fundus
imaging apparatus to:
correlate the infrared lightness map to red, green, and blue values; and
combine the red, green, and blue values.
16. The fundus imaging system according to claim 15, the memory further storing
instructions that, when executed by the processor, cause the non-mydratic fundus
imaging apparatus to:
operate the image sensor array as a global shutter when each of the first image,
the second image, and the third image are captured.
17. The fundus imaging system according to claim 15, wherein correlating the
infrared lightness map to red, green, and blue values includes:
determining a relationship between a detected radiance and an actual color.

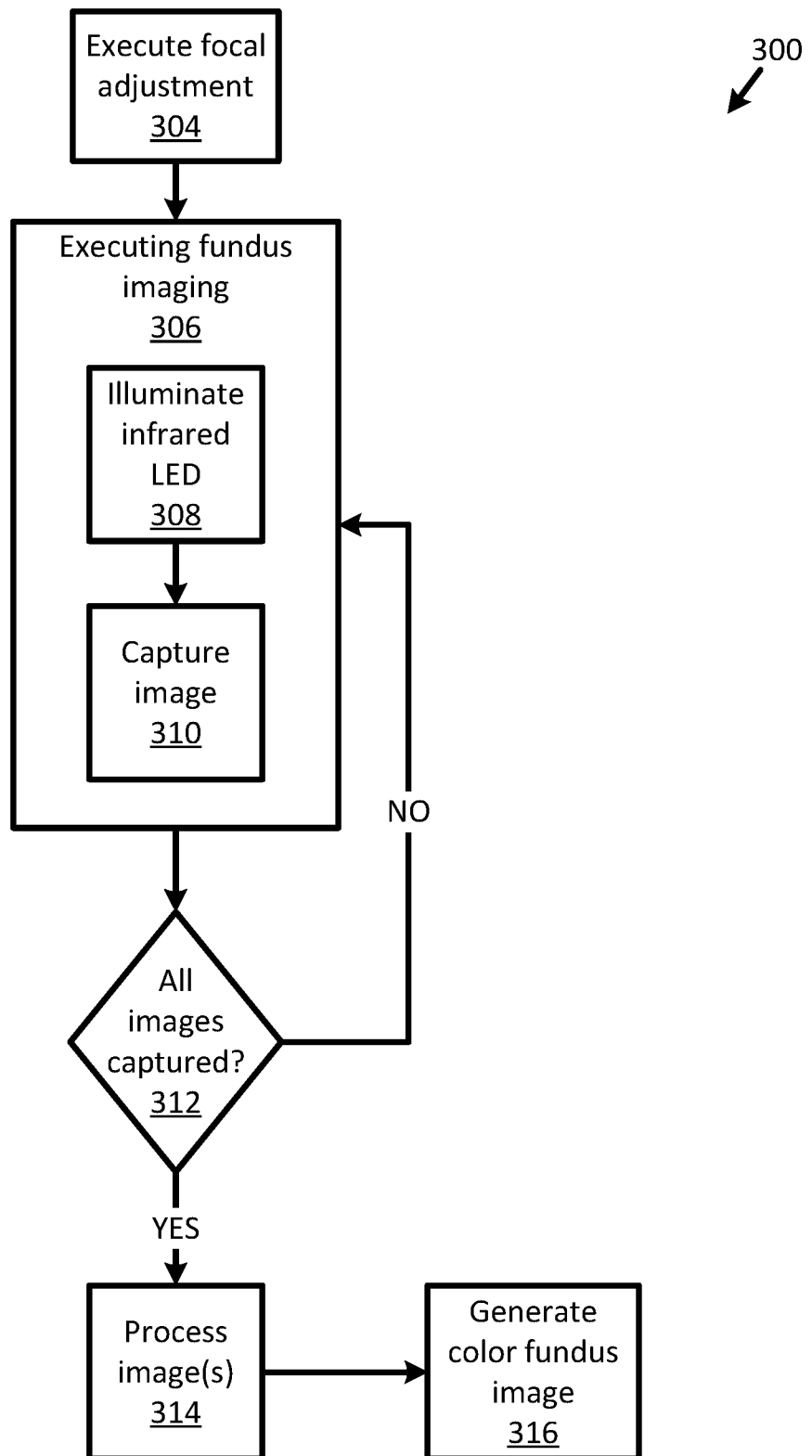
18. A method of non-mydratic fundus imaging, the method comprising:
illuminating an infrared light source at a first wavelength;
illuminating the infrared light source at a second wavelength;
illuminating the infrared light source at a third wavelength;
capturing an image of a fundus;
generating an infrared lightness map; and
generating a color image of a fundus of a patient's eye based on the infrared lightness map.
19. The method according to claim 18, further comprising:
capturing a first image while illuminating the infrared light source at the first wavelength;
capturing a second image while illuminating the infrared light source at the second wavelength;
capturing a third image while illuminating the infrared light source at the third wavelength; and
wherein generating the infrared lightness map includes:
generating a first lightness map for the first image,
generating a second lightness map for the second image, and
generating a third lightness map for the third image.
20. The method according to claim 18, further comprising:
adjusting a focal length prior to capturing the image of the fundus; and
initiating capturing the image of the fundus using passive eye tracking.

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**FIG. 1**

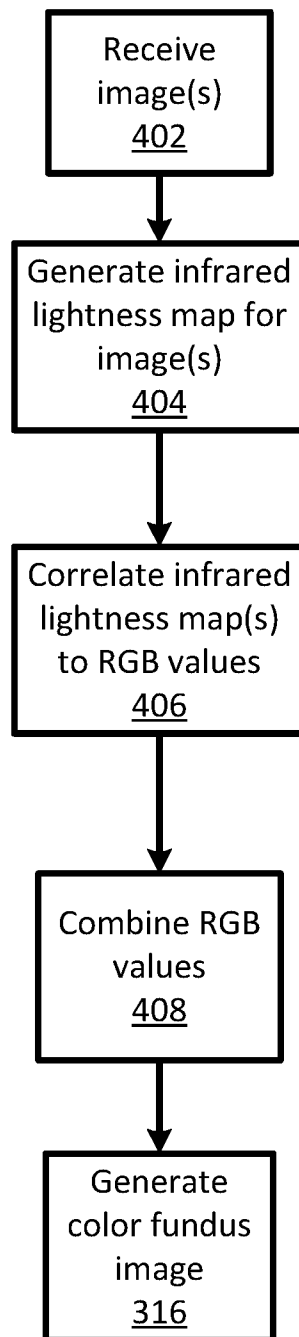
**FIG. 2**

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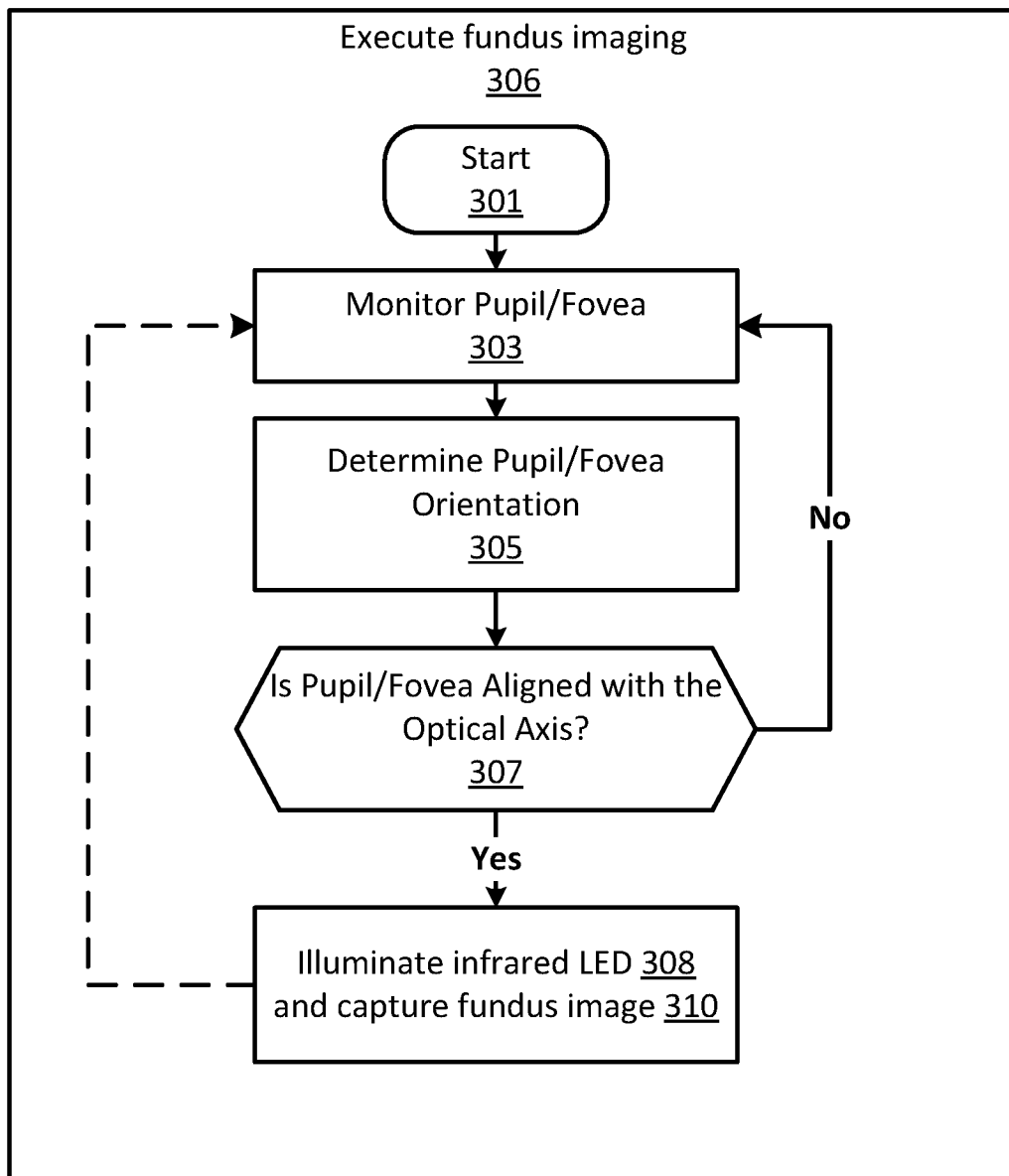
**FIG. 3**

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**FIG. 4**

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**FIG. 5**

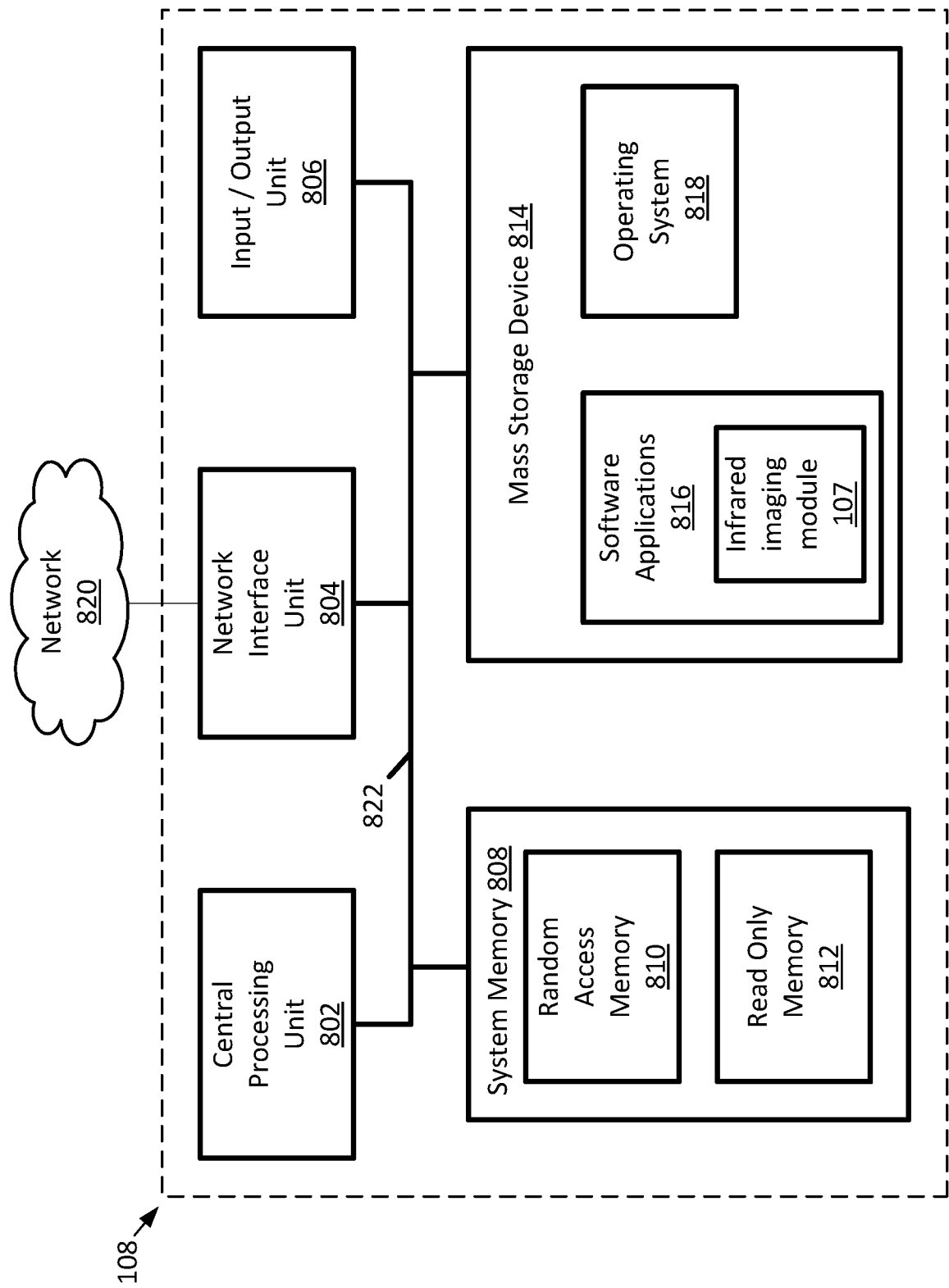


FIG. 6

A. CLASSIFICATION OF SUBJECT MATTER**A61B 3/14(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)

A61B 3/14; A61B 3/12; A61B 3/113; A61F 9/00; A61B 3/10

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: eye, fundus, mydriatic, infrared, light, wavelength, image

C. DOCUMENTS CONSIDERED TO BE RELEVANT

Category*	Citation of document, with indication, where appropriate, of the relevant passages	Relevant to claim No.
X	WO 2015-170947 A1 (LUTRONIC CORPORATION) 12 November 2015 See paragraphs [9]–[67], claims 5–7 and figure 3.	1–6, 9–12, 14–18
Y		7, 8, 13, 19, 20
Y	WO 2014-182769 A1 (THE JOHNS HOPKINS UNIVERSITY) 13 November 2014 See paragraph [19] and claim 11.	7, 8, 13, 19, 20
A	US 2012-0257163 A1 (DYER et al.) 11 October 2012 See claims 1–22 and figure 1.	1–20
A	WO 2010-115195 A1 (DYER HOLDINGS, LLC.) 07 October 2010 See claims 1–10 and figure 2.	1–20
A	US 8585203 B2 (AIKAWA et al.) 19 November 2013 See claims 1–24 and figure 1.	1–20



Further documents are listed in the continuation of Box C.



See patent family annex.

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"X" document of particular relevance; the claimed invention cannot be considered novel or cannot be considered to involve an inventive step when the document is taken alone

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"&" document member of the same patent family

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30 March 2017 (30.03.2017)

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INTERNATIONAL SEARCH REPORT

Information on patent family members

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PCT/US2017/012164

Patent document cited in search report	Publication date	Patent family member(s)	Publication date
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WO 2010-115195 A1	07/10/2010	None	
US 8585203 B2	19/11/2013	CN 102438504 A EP 2432376 A1 EP 2432376 A4 JP 2010-269015 A JP 5317830 B2 US 2012-0057128 A1 WO 2010-134318 A1	02/05/2012 28/03/2012 20/02/2013 02/12/2010 16/10/2013 08/03/2012 25/11/2010