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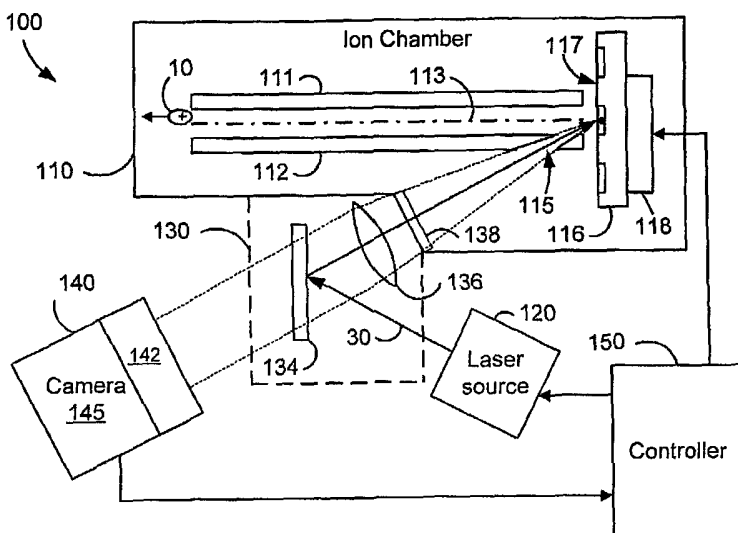
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ning of each regular issue of the PCT Gazette.

(54) Title: ROD ASSEMBLY IN ION SOURCE



(57) Abstract: Ion source assemblies for generating ions for laser desorption mass spectrometry. An ion source assembly (100) includes a target (117) for receiving analyte samples (20) and a plurality of rods (111, 112). The rods define an interior volume having an axis (113) extending away from a surface of the target for transporting ions. One or more of the rods include an aperture (115) defining an opening through a cross-section of the rod. The aperture is configured such that a laser beam can pass through the aperture to irradiate a location on the target surface to generate ions from an analyte sample deposited at the location.

# INTERNATIONAL SEARCH REPORT

International Application No  
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## A. CLASSIFICATION OF SUBJECT MATTER

IPC 7 H01J49/16

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 H01J

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, COMPENDEX

## C. DOCUMENTS CONSIDERED TO BE RELEVANT

| Category * | Citation of document, with indication, where appropriate, of the relevant passages                                                                                            | Relevant to claim No.                    |
|------------|-------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|------------------------------------------|
| X          | EP 1 267 387 A2 (BRUKER DALTONICS, INC)<br>18 December 2002 (2002-12-18)<br><br>paragraphs '0028!, '0038!, '0042!,<br>'0044!; figure 5a                                       | 1-6,<br>9-13,<br>18-21,23                |
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|            | -----<br>-/--                                                                                                                                                                 |                                          |

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| C.(Continuation) DOCUMENTS CONSIDERED TO BE RELEVANT |                                                                                                                                               |                       |
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Information on patent family members

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| Patent document<br>cited in search report |    | Publication<br>date | Patent family<br>member(s) | Publication<br>date |
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