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(54) Title of the Invention: **Auto-focus image system**  
Abstract Title: **Auto-focus image system**

(57) An auto focus image system that includes a pixel array coupled to a focus signal generator. The pixel array captures an image that has a plurality of edges. The generator generates a focus signal that is a function of a plurality of edge-sharpness measures, each one measured from one of the plurality of edges. The generator may determine to reduce a relative extent to which an edge contributes to the focus signal on basis of a pair of shape measures of the edge that are measured from a plurality of sample-pair differences, where each sample-pair difference is a difference between a pair of samples of image data within a predetermined neighborhood of the edge. One of the shape measures may be the edge-sharpness measure of the edge.

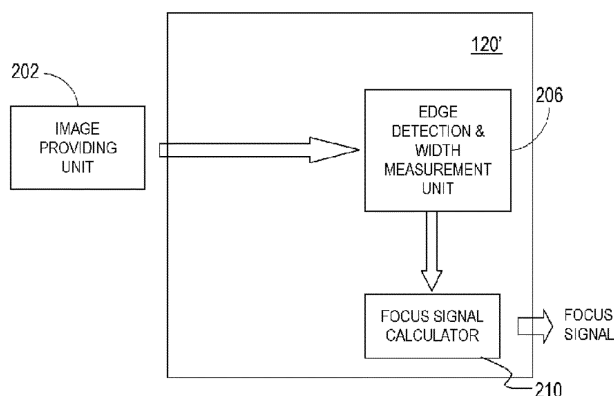


FIG. 30