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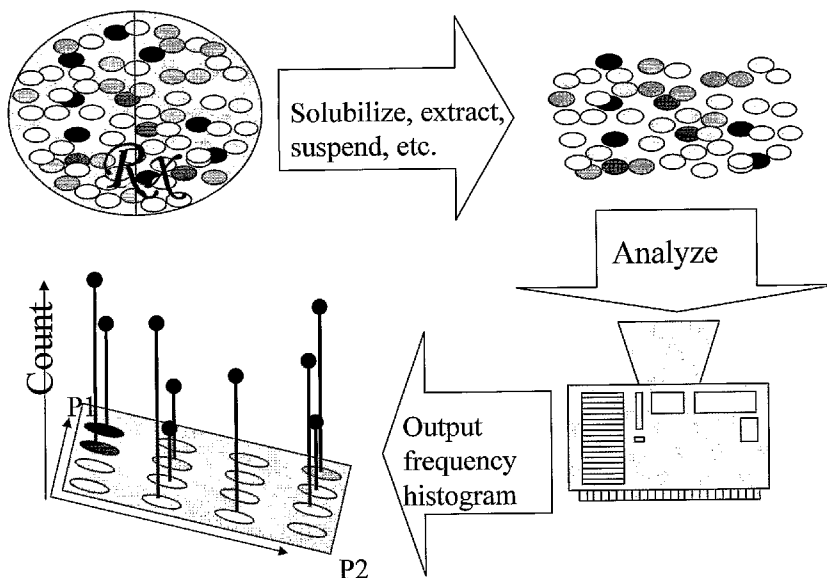
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(54) Title: PRODUCT AUTHENTICATION



(57) Abstract: The present invention provides methods, reagents, and apparatus for authenticating products. Methods of the invention are easy to implement but difficult to replicate, simulate, alter, transpose, or tamper with. In particular, the present invention relates to a product authentication code defined by a signature array of a population of entities, and its use thereof.

INTERNATIONAL SEARCH REPORT

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A. CLASSIFICATION OF SUBJECT MATTER IPC(8) - A61K 49/00 (2007.01) USPC - 424/10.1 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(8) - A61K 49/00 (2007.01) USPC - 424/10.1 Documentation searched other than minimum documentation to the extent that such documents are included in the fields searched USPC: 424/10.1; 427/7; 702/23, 26, 27, 28; 380/59; 424/489 Electronic data base consulted during the international search (name of data base and, where practicable, search terms used) Electronic data base: USPTO WEST (PGPB, USPT, EPAB, JPAB); DIALOG PRO (Engineering) Search Terms Used: authenticating or identifying product or good, healthcare or pharmaceutical industry or manufacturer, counterfeit or replicate or duplicate or tampered, microparticle or fluorescent or luminescent, codes or signatures etc.		
C. DOCUMENTS CONSIDERED TO BE RELEVANT		
Category*	Citation of document, with indication, where appropriate, of the relevant passages	Relevant to claim No.
X	US 6,458,595 B1 (Selinfreund) 01 October 2002 (01.10.2002) [See abstract, fig.2, col.1 (line 65) - col. 4 (line 65), and col. 8 (line 39) - col. 11 (line 56)]	1-47
A	US 2005/0108044 A1 (Koster) 19 May 2005 (19.05.2005)	1-47
A	US 2005/0097054 A1 (Dillon) 05 May 2005 (05.05.2005)	1-47
A	US 2004/0166063 A1 (Siegel) 26 August 2004 (26.08.2004)	1-47
A	US 2002/0048822 A1 (Rittenburg et al.) 25 April 2002 (25.04.2002)	1-47
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Name and mailing address of the ISA/US Mail Stop PCT, Attn: ISA/US, Commissioner for Patents P O Box 1450, Alexandria, Virginia 22313-1450 Facsimile No. 571-273-3201		Authorized officer: Lee W. Young PCT Helpdesk: 571-272-4300 PCT OSP: 571-272-7774