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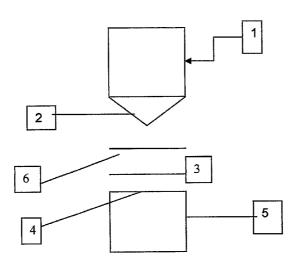
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(54) Title: METHOD OF DETERMINING THE PRESENCE AND/OR CONCENTRATION OF SUBSTANCES OF INTEREST IN FLUIDS



(57) Abstract: Magnetic particles coated with specific antibodies for substances of interest are introduced into a fluid sample. Over time and with agitation, the magnetic particles become attached to the substance of interest within the fluid. The fluid is then introduced to a magnetic field gradient provided between two magnets (1, 5), the resultant change to the magnetic filed between the magnets (1, 5) is determine by a Hall Effect device (3) or a plurality of Hall Effect devices (3). This enables the presence and/or concentration of the substance of interest in the sample to be determined.





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International application No

A. CLASSIFICATION OF SUBJECT MATTER G01N33/543 G01N G01N33/49 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) GO1N 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 C. DOCUMENTS CONSIDERED TO BE RELEVANT Belevant to claim No. Citation of document, with indication, where appropriate, of the relevant passages Category* "Monitoring blood 1 - 73PUCKETT L G ET AL: Α coaquiation with magnetoelastic sensors" BIOSENSORS & BIOELECTRONICS, ELSEVIER SCIENCE PUBLISHERS, BARKING, GB, vol. 18, no. 5-6, March 2003 (2003-03), pages 675-681, XP002295883 ISSN: 0956-5663 page 676 - page 678 US 5 841 023 A (PARKER ET AL) 1 - 73Υ 24 November 1998 (1998-11-24) abstract; claims 1 - 73US 6 136 271 A (LORINCZ ET AL) Α 24 October 2000 (2000-10-24) abstract; claims _/---X See patent family annex. Further documents are listed in the continuation of Box C. Special categories of cited documents: later document published after the international filing date or priority date and not in conflict with the application but cited to understand the principle or theory underlying the "A" document defining the general state of the art which is not considered to be of particular relevance invention "E" earlier document but published on or after the international "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 filing date 'L' document which may throw doubts on priority claim(s) or which is cited to establish the publication date of another citation or other special reason (as specified) "Y" document of particular relevance; the claimed invention connient or particular relevance; the claimed invention cannot be considered to involve an inventive step when the document is combined with one or more other such documents, such combination being obvious to a person skilled in the art. document referring to an oral disclosure, use, exhibition or other means "P" document published prior to the international filing date but later than the priority date claimed "&" document member of the same patent family Date of the actual completion of the international search Date of mailing of the international search report 24/02/2006 15 February 2006 Authorized officer Name and malling address of the ISA/ European Patent Office, P.B. 5818 Patentlaan 2 NL - 2280 HV Rijswijk Tel. (+31-70) 340-2040, Tx. 31 651 epo nl, GONCALVES MAUGER, M Fax: (+31-70) 340-3016

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