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For two-letter codes and other abbreviations, refer to the "Guid-
ance Notes on Codes and Abbreviations" appearing at the begin-
ning of each regular issue of the PCT Gazette.

(54) Title: METHODS AND COMPOSITIONS FOR IN VITRO AMPLIFICATION OF EXTRACHROMOSOMAL NUCLEIC
ACID

(57) Abstract: Compositions and methods are provided for the *in vitro* amplification of nucleic acid and, in particular, for the am-
plification of extrachromosomal nucleic acid molecules having a molecular weight of one kilobase or greater. The design and use
of primers, low ionic strength amplification buffer, low co-solvent containing buffer, and combined polymerization/ligation reaction
buffers are described in this regard.



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INTERNATIONAL SEARCH REPORT

International application No.

PCT/US04/39742

A. CLASSIFICATION OF SUBJECT MATTER
 IPC(7) : C12P 19/34; C12Q 1/68, C07H 21/04
 US CL : 435/91.2, 6: 536/24.33

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)
 U.S. : 435/91.2, 6: 536/24.33

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 practicable, search terms used)
 Please See Continuation Sheet

C. DOCUMENTS CONSIDERED TO BE RELEVANT

Category *	Citation of document, with indication, where appropriate, of the relevant passages	Relevant to claim No.
X --- Y	WO 99/35281 (CHEN et al.) 15 July 1999 (15.07.1999), page 10, line 18-30, page 11, line 1-10	1-2, 5, 7-9, 11 ----- 3-4, 6, 12-17, 19-30
X --- Y	US 5,384,242 (OAKES) 24 January 1995 (24.01.1995), col. 11, line 61-67, col. 12, line 1-14, col. 14, line 1-10	15, 19, 21, 24-25 ----- 3-4, 6, 10, 12-14, 16-17, 20, 26-30

Further documents are listed in the continuation of Box C.

See patent family annex.

* Special categories of cited documents:	
"A" document defining the general state of the art which is not considered to be of particular relevance	"T" 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 invention
"E" earlier application or patent published on or after the international filing date	"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
"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 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
"O" document referring to an oral disclosure, use, exhibition or other means	"&" document member of the same patent family
"P" document published prior to the international filing date but later than the priority date claimed	

Date of the actual completion of the international search

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INTERNATIONAL SEARCH REPORT

International application No.

PCT/US04/3974

Box No. II Observations where certain claims were found unsearchable (Continuation of item 2 of first sheet)

This international search report has not been established in respect of certain claims under Article 17(2)(a) for the following reasons:

1. Claims Nos.:
because they relate to subject matter not required to be searched by this Authority, namely:

2. Claims Nos.: 18
because they relate to parts of the international application that do not comply with the prescribed requirements to such an extent that no meaningful international search can be carried out, specifically:
Because the claim 18 is drawn to primers referring to table 7 of the specification and is not in a condition to make a reasonable search.

3. Claims Nos.:
because they are dependent claims and are not drafted in accordance with the second and third sentences of Rule 6.4(a).

Box No. III Observations where unity of invention is lacking (Continuation of item 3 of first sheet)

This International Searching Authority found multiple inventions in this international application, as follows:

1. As all required additional search fees were timely paid by the applicant, this international search report covers all searchable claims.
 2. As all searchable claims could be searched without effort justifying an additional fee, this Authority did not invite payment of any additional fee.
 3. As only some of the required additional search fees were timely paid by the applicant, this international search report covers only those claims for which fees were paid, specifically claims Nos.:

 4. No required additional search fees were timely paid by the applicant. Consequently, this international search report is restricted to the invention first mentioned in the claims; it is covered by claims Nos.:
- Remark on Protest The additional search fees were accompanied by the applicant's protest.
 No protest accompanied the payment of additional search fees.