(19) World Intellectual Property Organization

International Bureau



(43) International Publication Date 12 April 2007 (12.04.2007)

(10) International Publication Number WO 2007/041460 A3

(51) International Patent Classification: B23K 26/00 (2006.01) B23K 26/38 (2006.01) B23K 26/067 (2006.01)

(21) International Application Number:

PCT/US2006/038369

(22) International Filing Date: 2 October 2006 (02.10.2006)

(25) Filing Language: English

(26) Publication Language: English

(30) Priority Data:

60/723,382 3 October 2005 (03.10.2005) US

(71) Applicant (for all designated States except US): ARADIGM CORPORATION [US/US]; 3929 Point Eden Way, Hayward, California 94545 (US).

(72) Inventors; and

- (75) Inventors/Applicants (for US only): WILBANKS, Thor Miller [US/US]; 2701 Durant Avenue, Apt. 20, Berkeley, California 94704 (US). SCHUSTER, Jeffrey A. [US/US]; 7188 Sayre Drive, Oakland, California 94611 (US).
- (74) Agent: BOZICEVIC, Karl; Bozicevic, Field & Francis LLP, 1900 University Avenue, Suite 200, East Palo Alto, CA 94303 (US).
- (81) Designated States (unless otherwise indicated, for every kind of national protection available): AE, AG, AL, AM,

AT, AU, AZ, BA, BB, BG, BR, BW, BY, BZ, CA, CH, CN, CO, CR, CU, CZ, DE, DK, DM, DZ, EC, EE, EG, ES, FI, GB, GD, GE, GH, GM, HN, HR, HU, ID, IL, IN, IS, JP, KE, KG, KM, KN, KP, KR, KZ, LA, LC, LK, LR, LS, LT, LU, LV, LY, MA, MD, MG, MK, MN, MW, MX, MY, MZ, NA, NG, NI, NO, NZ, OM, PG, PH, PL, PT, RO, RS, RU, SC, SD, SE, SG, SK, SL, SM, SV, SY, TJ, TM, TN, TR, TT, TZ, UA, UG, US, UZ, VC, VN, ZA, ZM, ZW.

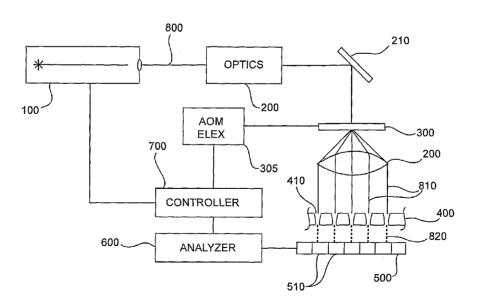
(84) Designated States (unless otherwise indicated, for every kind of regional protection available): ARIPO (BW, GH, GM, KE, LS, MW, MZ, NA, SD, SL, SZ, TZ, UG, ZM, ZW), Eurasian (AM, AZ, BY, KG, KZ, MD, RU, TJ, TM), European (AT, BE, BG, CH, CY, CZ, DE, DK, EE, ES, FI, FR, GB, GR, HU, IE, IS, IT, LT, LU, LV, MC, NL, PL, PT, RO, SE, SI, SK, TR), OAPI (BF, BJ, CF, CG, CI, CM, GA, GN, GQ, GW, ML, MR, NE, SN, TD, TG).

Published:

- with international search report
- before the expiration of the time limit for amending the claims and to be republished in the event of receipt of amendments
- (88) Date of publication of the international search report: 12 July 2007

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

(54) Title: METHOD AND SYSTEM FOR LASER MACHINING



(57) Abstract: The invention provides a method of rapidly machining multiple, often similar or nearly identical, features using a LASER machining system. During LASER machining, light of a wavelength and intensity that will modify the workpiece to be machined is directed at the workpiece and interacts to produce the desired change. If several features are to be machined, the processing speed can be increased by operating on a multiplicity of features at once. In one embodiment of the invention, this is achieved by separating the LASER beam into multiple beams and machining the desired features simultaneously.



INTERNATIONAL SEARCH REPORT

International application No. PCT/US 06/38369

A. CLASSIFICATION OF SUBJECT MATTER

IPC(8): B23K 26/00, B23K 26/067, B23K 26/38 (2007.01) USPC: 219/121.6, 219/121.7, 219/121.75, 219/121.76

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): B23K 26/00, B23K 26/067, B23K 26/38 (2007.01) USPC: 219/121/6, 219/121/7, 219/121/75, 219/121.76

Documentation searched other than minimum documentation to the extent that such documents are included in the fields searched IPC(8): B23K 26/00, B23K 26/067, B23K 26/38 (2007.01) USPC: 219/121/6, 219/121/7, 219/121/75, 219/121.76

Electronic data base consulted during the international search (name of data base and, where practicable, search terms used) PubWest (PGPB,USPT,USOC,EPAB,JPAB)

C. DOCUMENTS CONSIDERED TO BE RELEVANT

Category*	Citation of document, with indication, where appropriate, of the relevant passages	Relevant to claim No.
X Y	US 2001/0040151 A1 (Isaji et al.) 15 November 2001 (15.11.2001), entire document: abstract; summary; para [0199]-[0204], [0007]-[0009], [0097], [0311], [0036], [0027]	1-16, 27-28 17-26, 29-51
Y	US 2003/0116545 A (Kaji) 26 June 2003 (26.06.2003), para [0026], [0094]	17-26
Υ	US 2002/0139786 A1 (Amako et al.) 3 Oct 2002 (03.10.2002), para [0228]	29
Y	US 2001/0045419 A1 (Dunsky et al.) 29 November 2001 (29.11.2001), para [0062] and Fig [2] para [0088] and Fig [8]	30, 48-51
Υ	US.2003/0006220 A1 (Cummings et al.) 9 January 2003 (09.01.2003), para [0023]	31-39
Y	US 2003/0111447 A1 (Corkum et al.) 19 June 2003 (19.06.2003), para [0034]	40-42
Y	US 6,822,191 B2 (De Steur et al.) 23 November 2004 (23.11.2004), para [0003]	43-47
Υ	US 2002/0158051 A1 (Heitel et al.) 31 October 2002 (31.10.2002), para [0023], [0036]	37-39
X Y	US 6,857,365 B2 (Juffinger et al.) 22 February, 2005 (22.02.2005), para [0011], [0019]	1-3 4-11, 16

X	Further documents are listed in the continuation of Box C.	L		
	Special categories of cited documents:	"T"	later document published after the international filing date or priority	
"A"	document defining the general state of the art which is not considered to be of particular relevance	the principle of theory underlying the invention		
"E"	earlier application or patent but 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	
"L"	document which may throw doubts on priority claim(s) or which is		step when the document is taken alone	
	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	
"O"	document referring to an oral disclosure, use, exhibition or other means		combined with one or more other such documents, such combination being obvious to a person skilled in the art	
"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		
01 M	March 2007 (01.03.2007)		1 0 MAY 2007	
Name and mailing address of the ISA/US		Authorized officer:		
Mail S	Stop PCT, Attn: ISA/US, Commissioner for Patents Box 1450, Alexandria, Virginia 22313-1450	PCT H	Lee W. Young	
	imile No. 571-273-3201		ISP: 571-272-7774	

INTERNATIONAL SEARCH REPORT

International application No.
PCT/US 06/38369

C (Continuation). DOCUMENTS CONSIDERED TO BE RELEVANT						
Category*	Citation of document, with indication, where appropriate, of the relev	ant passages	Relevant to claim N			
Y	US 5,268,554 A (Ream) 7 December 1993 (07.12.1993), para [0012]		27			
P,Y	US 2003/0201578 A1 (Li et al.) 6 June, 2006 (06.06.2006), para [0006]. [002	7]	28, 49			
Y	US 4,924,321 (Miyagawa et al.) 8 May 1990 (08.05.1990), para [0009], figure	4				
1	US 2002/0148818 A1 (Satou et al.) 17 Oct 2002 (17.10.2002), para [0007]; fig	5-7				
′	US RE35446 E (Stone) 11 Feb 1997 (11.02.1997), para [0021], figure 13	8				
,	US 2002/0040893 A1 (Arai et al.) 11 April 2002 (11.04.2002), para [0070]; fig	9-11, 31-36				
′	US 2005/0045604 A1 (Talwar) 3 March, 2005 (03.03.2005), para [0060], para	[0069]	12, 25, 26, 27, 28			
<i>(</i>	US 5,705,788 A (Beyer et al.) 6 January, 1998 (6.01.1998), para [0017]		12, 17			
1	US 5,882,572 A (Lutze et al.) 16 March 16 1999 (16.03.1999), para [0008]		16			
	·					
	4					
	•	ļ				
j						
		1				
İ						
	~					

Form PCT/ISA/210 (continuation of second sheet) (April 2005)