## (12) INTERNATIONAL APPLICATION PUBLISHED UNDER THE PATENT COOPERATION TREATY (PCT)

## (19) World Intellectual Property Organization

International Bureau





(10) International Publication Number WO 2017/003909 A3

(43) International Publication Date 5 January 2017 (05.01.2017)

(51) International Patent Classification: C07B 57/00 (2006.01) C07C 231/20 (2006.01)

(21) International Application Number:

PCT/US2016/039505

(22) International Filing Date:

27 June 2016 (27.06.2016)

(25) Filing Language:

English

(26) Publication Language:

English

(30) Priority Data:

62/185,891

29 June 2015 (29.06.2015)

US

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- (81) Designated States (unless otherwise indicated, for every kind of national protection available): AE, AG, AL, AM, AO, AT, AU, AZ, BA, BB, BG, BH, BN, BR, BW, BY, BZ, CA, CH, CL, CN, CO, CR, CU, CZ, DE, DK, DM, DO, DZ, EC, EE, EG, ES, FI, GB, GD, GE, GH, GM, GT, HN, HR, HU, ID, IL, IN, IR, IS, JP, KE, KG, KN, KP, KR,

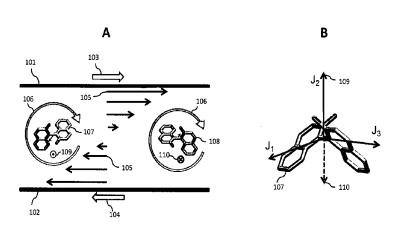
KZ, LA, LC, LK, LR, LS, LU, LY, MA, MD, ME, MG, MK, MN, MW, MX, MY, MZ, NA, NG, NI, NO, NZ, OM, PA, PE, PG, PH, PL, PT, QA, RO, RS, RU, RW, SA, SC, SD, SE, SG, SK, SL, SM, ST, SV, SY, TH, TJ, TM, TN, TR, TT, TZ, UA, UG, US, UZ, VC, VN, ZA, ZM, ZW.

(84) Designated States (unless otherwise indicated, for every kind of regional protection available): ARIPO (BW, GH, GM, KE, LR, LS, MW, MZ, NA, RW, SD, SL, ST, SZ, TZ, UG, ZM, ZW), Eurasian (AM, AZ, BY, KG, KZ, RU, TJ, TM), European (AL, AT, BE, BG, CH, CY, CZ, DE, DK, EE, ES, FI, FR, GB, GR, HR, HU, IE, IS, IT, LT, LU, LV, MC, MK, MT, NL, NO, PL, PT, RO, RS, SE, SI, SK, SM, TR), OAPI (BF, BJ, CF, CG, CI, CM, GA, GN, GQ, GW, KM, ML, MR, NE, SN, TD, TG).

### Published:

- with international search report (Art. 21(3))
- before the expiration of the time limit for amending the claims and to be republished in the event of receipt of amendments (Rule 48.2(h))
- (88) Date of publication of the international search report: 16 February 2017

(54) Title: CHIRAL SEPARATION AND ANALYSIS BY MOLECULAR PROPELLER EFFECT



(57) Abstract: A method and a device for separation and analysis of chiral molecules are described. The method relies on using a fluid shear to induce molecular rotation and the molecular propeller effect to transform rotational motion into translation motion of opposite direction for counterpart enantiomers. The direction of motion of each enantiomers is used to determine its absolute configuration by comparing the direction value with theoretically calculated one. The device uses multiple moving surfaces or pressure induced flows to induce shear flow condition in the solution to separate enantiomers.



Figure 1

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IPC(8) -	SSIFICATION OF SUBJECT MATTER C07B 57/00; C07C 231/20 (2016.01) C07B 57/00; C07C 231/20			
	o International Patent Classification (IPC) or to both n	ational classification and IPC	· · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · ·	
	DS SEARCHED			
Minimum documentation searched (classification system followed by classification symbols) IPC(8): C07B 57/00; C07C 231/20 (2016.01) CPC: C07B 57/00; C07 C231/20				
Documentation searched other than minimum documentation to the extent that such documents are included in the fields searched USPC: 137/808; 562/401				
Electronic data base consulted during the international search (name of data base and, where practicable, search terms used) Google Scholar, Google Patents, PatBase Enantiomer, optical isomer, chiral, separate, extract, rotate, cylinder, vessel, chamber, shear, flow, force, propel, propulsion				
C. DOCUI	MENTS CONSIDERED TO BE RELEVANT			
Category*	Citation of document, with indication, where ap	ppropriate, of the relevant passages	Relevant to claim No.	
×	JP 2005-145887 A (Japan Science and Technology Ac		1-2; 4-6; 13; 15-16, 20	
Υ	document, but especially: para [0001], para [0020], pai [0036]- para [0038], para [0043], para [0048], para [00		3; 14; 17	
Α			7-12	
V			18	
X 	US 2008/0274555 A1 (Kibar et al.) 06 November 2008	8 (06.11.2008); entire document, but [0037], para [0061], para [0070], para		
Y 	especially: para [0002], para [0009], para [0010], para [0071], para [0076], para [0144], para [0173]		3; 17; 19 	
Α			7-12	
γ -	Meinhardt et al. "Separation of Chiral Particles in Micro Review Letters, Vol 108 Issue 21 Article 214504 (23 M entire document, but especially: page 214504-1 col 2 p 214504-2 col 2 para 3	ay 2012): pages 214504-1 to 214504-5;	14	
Y	Hermans et al. "Vortex flows impart chirality-specific lift forces" Nature Communications, Vol 6 Article 5640 (12 January 2015): pages 1-8; entire document		19	
Α /	Schamel et al. "Chiral Colloidal Molecules And Observ Issue 33 (24 July 2013): pages 12353-12359; entire do para 1, page 12356 col 1 para 2	ation of The Propeller Effect" Vol 135 ocument but especially: page 12354 col 1	13	
Furthe	er documents are listed in the continuation of Box C.			
"A" document defining the general state of the art which is not considered		"T" later document published after the intern date and not in conflict with the applica	ation but cited to understand	
"E" earlier a	particular relevance pplication or after the international	the principle or theory underlying the invention "X" document of particular relevance; the claimed invention cannot be		
	are that which may throw doubts on priority claim(s) or which is the establish the publication date of another citation or other	considered novel or cannot be considered to involve an inventive step when the document is taken alone  "Y" document of particular relevance; the claimed invention cannot be		
special reason (as specified)  "O" document referring to an oral disclosure, use, exhibition or other means		considered to involve an inventive s	tep when the document is locuments, such combination	
"P" docume	nt published prior to the international filing date but later than rity 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		
5 January 2017		17 JAN 2017		
Name and mailing address of the ISA/US		Authorized officer:		
Mail Stop PCT, Attn: ISA/US, Commissioner for Patents P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, Virginia 22313-1450		Lee W. Young PCT Helpdesk: 571-272-4300		
Facsimile No. 571-273-8300 PCT OSP: 571-272-7774				

International application No.
PCT/US 16/39505

C (Continua	tion). DOCUMENTS CONSIDERED TO BE RELEVANT	
Category*	Citation of document, with indication, where appropriate, of the relevant passages	Relevant to claim No.
<b>A</b>	US 6,344,121 B1 (Stalcup et al.) 05 February 2002 (05.02.2002); col 2 lines 11-12, col 5 lines 57-61, col 6 lines 45-50, col 7 lines 3-4	
P, A	WO 2016/020532 A1 (University of Strasbourg) 11 February 2016 (11.02.2016); entire document	1-20

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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.:  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:			
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: This application contains the following inventions or groups of inventions which are not so linked as to form a single general inventive concept under PCT Rule 13.1. In order for all inventions to be examined, the appropriate additional examination fees must be paid.			
Group I: Claims 1-6, 13-17 and 20 directed to a device and method for separating counterpart enantiomers comprising rotatable inner and outer members and a method for separating and analyzing counterpart enantiomers comprising rotating the enantiomers.			
Group II: Claims 7-12 directed to a device for separating counterpart enantiomers comprising injection ports and a pump to drive flow.			
Group III: Claims 18-19 directed to a theoretical molecular analysis method to determine the absolute configuration of an enantiomer.			
see extra sheet			
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 additional fees, this Authority did not invite payment of additional fees.			
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 and, where applicable, the payment of a protest fee.  The additional search fees were accompanied by the applicant's protest but the applicable protest fee was not paid within the time limit specified in the invitation.  No protest accompanied the payment of additional search fees.			

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### Lack of Unity Invention

The inventions listed as Groups I-III do not relate to a single general inventive concept under PCT Rule 13.1 because, under PCT Rule 13.2, they lack the same or corresponding special technical features for the following reasons:

#### SPECIAL TECHNICAL FEATURES

The invention of Group I includes the special technical feature of a devise for separating counterpart enantiomers comprising a rotatable inner member, a rotatable outer member, and a method for separating counterpart enantiomers comprising rotating the enantiomers, not required by the claims of Groups II or III.

The invention of Group II includes the special technical feature of an injection port for injecting the solution of enantiomers, one or more injections ports for injecting solvents, a pump, and two or more ports for collecting the separated enantiomers, not required by the claims of Groups I or III.

The invention of Group III includes the special technical feature of performing molecular dynamics simulations on one or more of counterpart enantiomers to obtain molecular dynamics trajectories, not required by the claims of Groups I or II.

#### COMMON TECHNICAL FEATURES

Groups I and II share the common technical feature of a device for separating counterpart enantiomers from a mixture of a solution comprising a channel. However, this shared technical feature does not represent a contribution over prior at as being anticipated by JP 2005-145887 A to Japan Science and Technology Agency, which discloses of a device for separating counterpart enantiomers from a mixture of a solution comprising a channel (para [0021]: "Further, the separation device for enantiomers particles... forming the container from the annular flow path having a concentric inner and outer walls, it continues to flow the particles to separate into the annular channel"; para [0022]: "... the annular channel, by configuring the two cylinders which are arranged concentrically...").

Groups I and III share the common technical feature of propulsion of enantiomers due to a molecular propeller effect. However, this shared technical feature does not represent a contribution over prior art as being anticipated by US 2008/0274555 A1 to Kibar et al., who discloses that the propulsion of enantiomers is due to a molecular propeller effect (para [0070]: "...rotation of the external field causes a continuous torque to be applied to... enantiomers... during rotation their chiral features... will act as tiny propellers"; para [0071]: "Rotation of the tiny propellers by the field-applied torque is transformed into translational motion (i.e., linear motion) of the two enantiomers in opposite directions..."; i.e. the "tiny" propellers are molecular propellers).

As the common technical features were known in the art at the time of the invention, these cannot be considered special technical feature that would otherwise unify the groups.

Therefore, Groups I-III lack unity under PCT Rule 13 because they do not share a same or corresponding special technical feature.