

ABSTRACT

To accurately detect a polishing end point even if a change in a polishing frictional force is small. A polishing apparatus includes a polishing table for holding a polishing pad, a holder for holding a polishing target object such that the polishing target object faces the polishing pad, and an end point detector that detects, based on a signal indicating a state of polishing of the polishing target object by the polishing pad, a polishing end point indicating an end of the polishing. The end point detector is configured to remove noise of the signal, exponentiate the signal subjected to the noise removal with an exponent greater than 1, and detect the polishing end point based on the exponentiated signal.

Figure 3