

ABSTRACT

An ultrasonic inspection and imaging instrument for scanning an object (16) under examination, the object having an inspection plane at a predetermined depth, in the direction slanted to the depth (slant scanning), in such a way as to cause rectilinear scanning as viewed from the plane. Measured data on a peak value corresponding to each measurement point obtained from the slant scanning is displayed in the form of a picture on the screen of a display (12) relative to each measurement point. The image displayed at that time is most clearly demonstrated, provided an image portion in the vicinity of a test portion corresponding to a test surface is brought into focus in the depth direction. An operator is supposed to select the image portion clearly indicated out of the picture displayed on the display (12) and to input the position of the image thereon to an input unit, whereby an image processor (10) bases the positional information about the display data thus fed and the relevant information indicating the positional relationship in the depth direction on obtaining the position of the probe (3) in the depth direction when the measured value resulting from the image is collected. The image processor (10) positions the probe thereat, so that the probe (3) is automatically focused on the test surface.

(Fig. 1)

