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(54) **Title:** DETECTION CASCADES

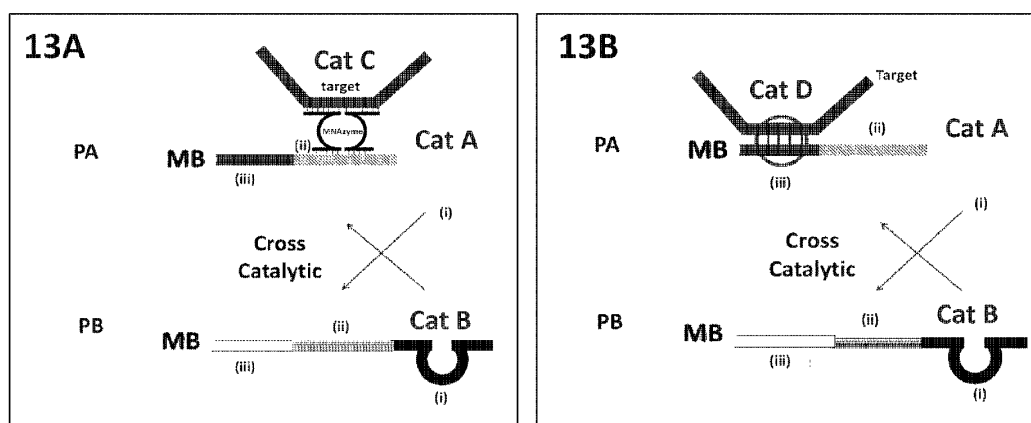


**Figure 13**

(57) **Abstract:** The present invention relates to compositions and methods for the detection of target molecules, and the amplification of detectable signals generated by detection assays. More specifically, the present invention relates to methods utilizing catalytic nucleic acid enzymes to generate and/or amplify a signal indicative of the presence of target molecules (e.g. nucleic acids and proteins), and compositions for use in the methods.

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