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(54) Title: PHOTONIC INTEGRATED CIRCUIT CONNECTOR WITH TEMPERATURE-INDEPENDENT MECHANICAL ALIGNMENT

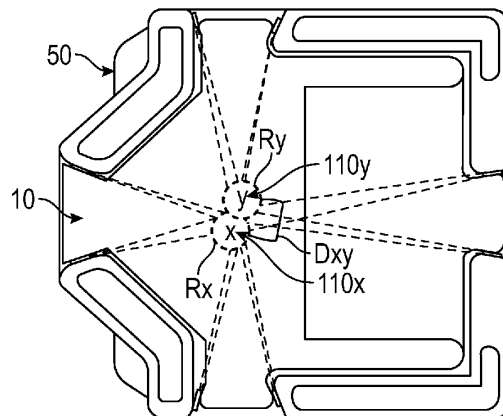


FIG. 12C

(57) Abstract: An optical assembly includes an optical ferrule configured to receive light from an optical waveguide and including at least four ferrule alignment features; and a cradle securing the optical ferrule therein and configured to align the optical ferrule to an optical component, the cradle including at least four cradle alignment features configured to make contact or near contact with the at least four ferrule alignment features in a one to one correspondence in at least four corresponding contact regions, such that as a temperature of at least one of the cradle and the optical ferrule changes sufficiently, the corresponding alignment features of the optical ferrule and the cradle slide relative to each other causing the corresponding alignment features of the optical ferrule and the cradle to move to define corresponding traversed regions, such that when extended, the traversed regions of the at least four ferrule alignment features and the at least four cradle alignment features pass within 20 microns of a same first point.

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