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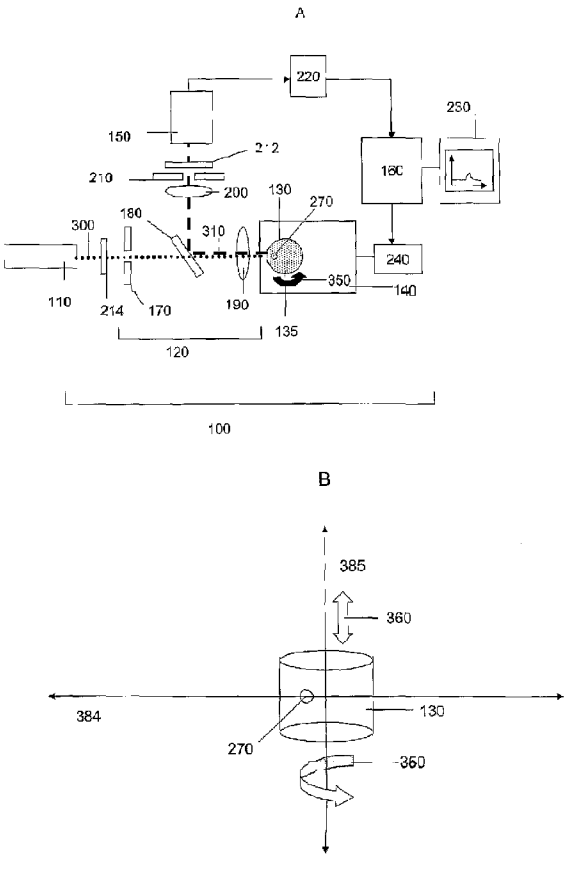
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(54) Title: METHODS AND DEVICES FOR CHARACTERIZING PARTICLES IN CLEAR AND TURBID MEDIA



(57) Abstract: The invention provides methods and devices for detecting, identifying, classifying and characterizing particles in a fluid sample. Optical analyzers are provided having a rotating and/or translating sample container for measuring the concentrations of fluorescent particles present in very low concentrations and for characterizing fluorescent particles on the basis of size, shape, diffusion constant and/or composition. Scanning optical analyzers are provided using pattern recognitions data analysis techniques and multichannel detection.

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