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(71) Applicant *(for all designated States except US)*: **MEDICAL OPTICAL IMAGING SYSTEMS LTD.** [IL/IL]; 10 Dubnov St., 64732 Tel Aviv (IL).

(72) Inventors; and

(75) Inventors/Applicants *(for US only)*: **DEKEL, Ben Zion** [IL/IL]; 11 Levitas St., 38494 Hadera (IL). **BLAUNSHTEIN, Nathan** [IL/IL]; 17/30 Alfassi St., 84751 Beer Sheva (IL). **YARKONI, Avraham** [IL/IL]; 19 Ehud St., 84234 Beer Sheba (IL). **ZILBERMAN, Arkadii** [IL/IL]; 36 Zalman Aranne, 84789 Beer Sheba (IL).

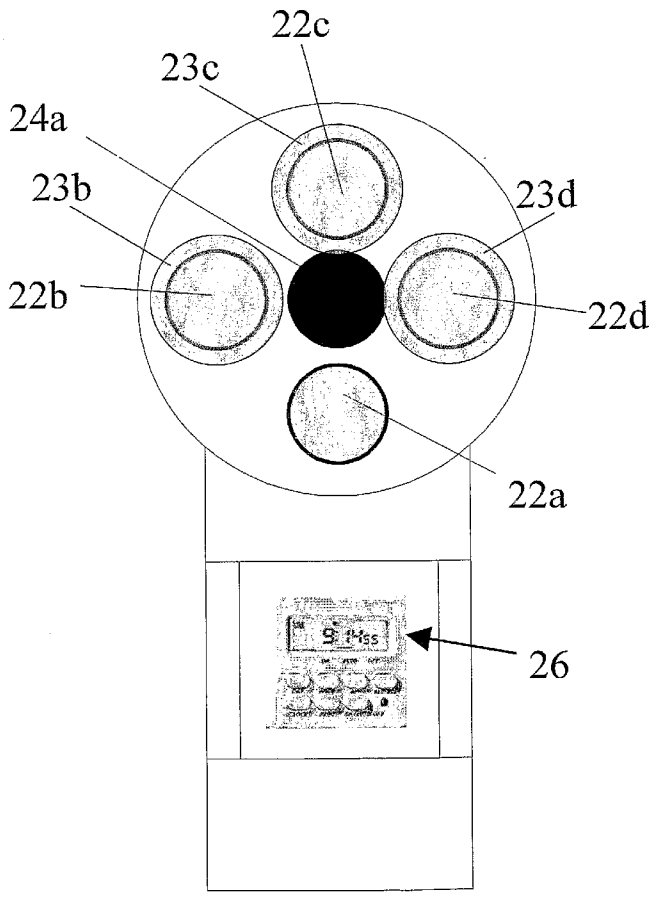
(74) Agent: **FRIEDMAN, Mark**; 7 Jabotinsky St., 52520 Ramat Gan (IL).

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(54) Title: A METHOD OF INFRARED TOMOGRAPHY, ACTIVE AND PASSIVE, FOR EARLIER DIAGNOSIS OF BREAST CANCER



(57) Abstract: A device and method are disclosed to non-invasively identify a lesion inside a region of living tissue. The region is exposed to medium infrared (MIR) radiation to preferentially heat the lesion. The region is then scanned for black body radiation in a medium infrared waveband. A lesion, being hotter than the surrounding tissue, is detected as domain of increased local emittance of MIR radiation. Further scanning or heating in a second waveband is used to identify a particular class of lesions. The invention is particularly useful for early identification of malignant breast cancer.

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