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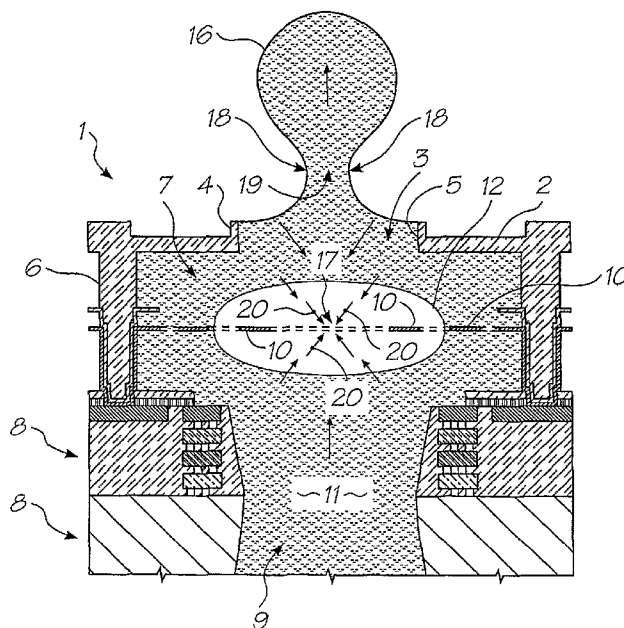
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(54) Title: THERMAL INK JET PRINthead WITH SUSPENDED BEAM HEATER



(57) Abstract: There is disclosed an ink jet printhead which comprises a plurality of nozzles (3) and one or more heater elements (10) corresponding to each nozzle. Each heater element is configured to heat a bubble (12) forming liquid in the printhead to a temperature above its boiling point to form a gas bubble therein. The generation of the bubble causes the ejection of a drop (16) of an ejectable liquid (such as ink) through respective corresponding nozzle, to effect printing. Each heater element is in the form of a beam suspended over at least a portion of the bubble forming liquid so as to be in thermal contact therewith. This configuration of printhead provides for a relatively high efficiency of operation.

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