

ABSTRACT

5 Bit map data stored in an image memory (41) is read for each
column by each M lines and is stores in a shift register (44)
of M bits by N bits. The data in the shift register is
differentiated in the direction of the column direction by
edge detectors (45, 46) and extracted as data representing
10 only a contour portion. This contour data is classified into
forms of discontinuous points with respect to the horizontal
direction and the vertical direction by classifying circuits.
As for the classified data, the size of a dot to be printed
and a printing position are converted by a determining
15 circuit (49) to a pulse width and a timing at which the dot
is to be generated, and the classified data is converted to a
pulse width by a pulse-width modulating circuit (50) and is
outputted to a laser beam modulating device. As a result, a
dot smaller than a normal dot is added in a vacant portion,
20 or a part of a normal dot is shaved, thereby printing a
smooth pattern.

This Sheet Has Been Replaced

