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(54) Title: DATA COLLECTION APPARATUS AND COMPUTER-IMPLEMENTED DATA COLLECTION METHOD USING SAME

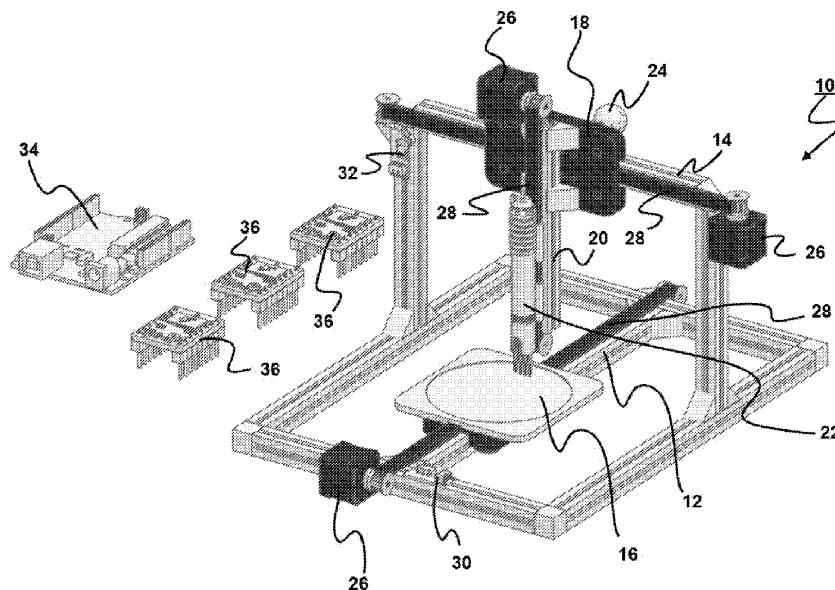


FIG. 1

(57) Abstract: A data collection apparatus (10) and a computer-implemented data collection method (50) using the same are provided. The data collection apparatus (10) includes a first linear stage (12) and a second linear stage (14). A sample carriage (16) is attached to the first linear stage (12), the first linear stage (12) being operable to move the sample carriage (16) along a first axis. A probe carriage (18) is attached to the second linear stage (14), the second linear stage (14) being operable to move the probe carriage (18) along a second axis. A third linear stage (20) is attached to the probe carriage (18). In use, the third linear stage (20) is operable to receive a detachable characterisation probe (22) and to move the characterisation probe (22) along a third axis. A camera (24) is attached to the probe carriage (18). In use, the camera (24) is configured to capture an image of one or more samples on the sample carriage (16).

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