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PCT/US2008/065581(74) Agent: **KATZ, Charles, B.**; Thermo Fisher Scientific Inc., 355 River Oaks Parkway, San Jose, CA 95134 (US).(22) International Filing Date:
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12/125,013 21 May 2008 (21.05.2008) US(71) Applicant (for all designated States except US): **THERMO FINNIGAN LLC** [US/US]; 355 River Oaks Parkway, San Jose, CA 95134 (US).

(72) Inventors; and

(75) Inventors/Applicants (for US only): **SENKO, Michael, W.** [US/US]; 994B La Mesa Terrace, Sunnyvale, CA 94086 (US). **KOVTOUN, Viatcheslav, V.** [RU/US]; 444 Saratoga Avenue, Apt. 13J, Santa Clara, CA 95050 (US). **ATHERTON, Paul, R.** [GB/US]; 5826 Cadiz Drive, San Jose, CA (US). **DUNYACH, Jean, Jacques** [FR/US]; 1898 Cleveland Avenue, San Jose, CA 95126 (US). **WOUTERS, Eloy, R.** [US/US]; 109 South Morrison Avenue, San Jose, CA 95126 (US). **SPLENDORE, Maurizio** [US/US]; 413 Kinross Drive, Walnut Creek, CA

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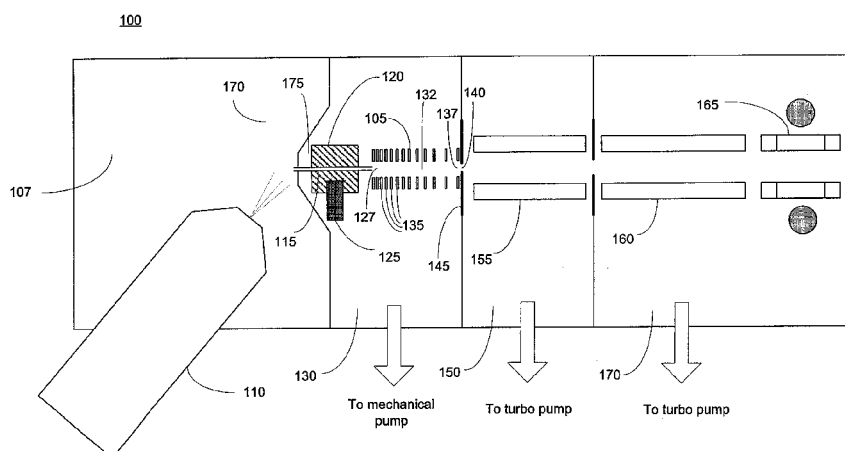
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(54) Title: ION TRANSPORT DEVICE AND MODES OF OPERATION THEREOF

FIG. 1



(57) Abstract: A device for transporting and focusing ions in a low vacuum or atmospheric-pressure region of a mass spectrometer is constructed from a plurality of longitudinally spaced apart electrodes to which oscillatory (e.g., radio-frequency) voltages are applied, in order to create a tapered field that focuses ions to a narrow beam near the device exit, the inter-electrode spacing or the oscillatory voltage amplitude is increased in the direction of ion travel.



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