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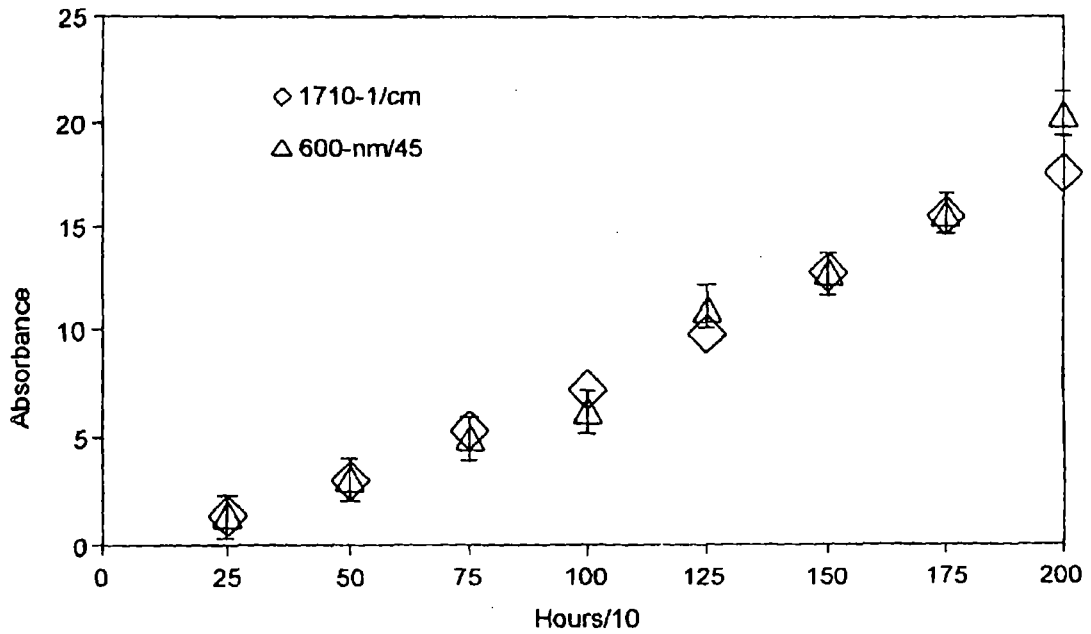
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[Continued on next page]

(54) Title: IMPROVED METHOD FOR ON-LINE MONITORING OF LUBRICATING OIL USING LIGHT IN THE VISIBLE AND NEAR IR SPECTRA



(57) Abstract: Oil aging and particulate building in a lubricant other than one exposed to combustion products is monitored by detecting light transmitted through the lubricant at least one, and preferably, two or more preselected wavelengths over a pathlength greater than about 0.5 cm wherein one wavelength is in the near infra-red spectrum and/or one wavelength is in the visible or near infra-red spectrum. The detected light when compared to predetermined values provides an indication of the condition of the lubricant.

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