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(54) Title: AUTHENTICATION OF SECURITY DOCUMENTS, IN PARTICULAR OF BANKNOTES

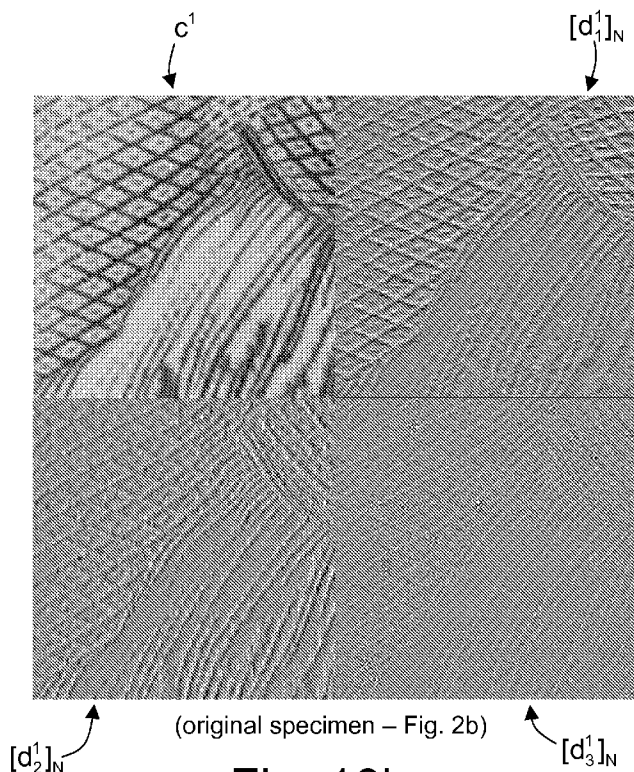


Fig. 10b

(57) Abstract: There is described a method for checking the authenticity of security documents, in particular banknotes, wherein authentic security documents comprise security features (41-49; 30; 10; 51, 52) printed, applied or otherwise provided on the security documents, which security features comprise characteristic visual features intrinsic to the processes used for producing the security documents. The method comprises the steps of (i) acquiring a sample image (c^0) of at least one region of interest (R.o.I.) of the surface of a candidate document to be authenticated, which region of interest encompasses at least part of the security features, (ii) digitally processing the sample image (c^0) by performing a decomposition of the sample image (c^0) into at least one scale sub-space containing high resolution details ($d^1_1, d^1_2, d^1_3, \dots$) of the sample image (c^0) and extracting classifying features ($\sigma^2, C, \dots$) from the scale sub-space, and (iii) deriving an authenticity rating of the candidate document based on the extracted classifying features ($\sigma^2, C, \dots$).



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