

(12) INTERNATIONAL APPLICATION PUBLISHED UNDER THE PATENT COOPERATION TREATY (PCT)

(19) World Intellectual Property  
Organization  
International Bureau

(43) International Publication Date  
12 August 2021 (12.08.2021)



(10) International Publication Number  
**WO 2021/158515 A1**

(51) International Patent Classification:

G02B 21/33 (2006.01) G02B 21/24 (2006.01)  
G02B 21/00 (2006.01) G02B 21/26 (2006.01)  
G02B 21/02 (2006.01)

(21) International Application Number:

PCT/US2021/016162

(22) International Filing Date:

02 February 2021 (02.02.2021)

(25) Filing Language:

English

(26) Publication Language:

English

(30) Priority Data:

62/969,809 04 February 2020 (04.02.2020) US

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(81) Designated States (unless otherwise indicated, for every  
kind of national protection available): AE, AG, AL, AM,  
AO, AT, AU, AZ, BA, BB, BG, BH, BN, BR, BW, BY, BZ,  
CA, CH, CL, CN, CO, CR, CU, CZ, DE, DJ, DK, DM, DO,  
DZ, EC, EE, EG, ES, FI, GB, GD, GE, GH, GM, GT, HN,  
HR, HU, ID, IL, IN, IR, IS, IT, JO, JP, KE, KG, KH, KN,  
KP, KR, KW, KZ, LA, LC, LK, LR, LS, LU, LY, MA, MD,  
ME, MG, MK, MN, MW, MX, MY, MZ, NA, NG, NI, NO,  
NZ, OM, PA, PE, PG, PH, PL, PT, QA, RO, RS, RU, RW,  
SA, SC, SD, SE, SG, SK, SL, ST, SV, SY, TH, TJ, TM, TN,  
TR, TT, TZ, UA, UG, US, UZ, VC, VN, WS, ZA, ZM, ZW.

(84) Designated States (unless otherwise indicated, for every  
kind of regional protection available): ARIPO (BW, GH,  
GM, KE, LR, LS, MW, MZ, NA, RW, SD, SL, ST, SZ, TZ,  
UG, ZM, ZW), Eurasian (AM, AZ, BY, KG, KZ, RU, TJ,  
TM), European (AL, AT, BE, BG, CH, CY, CZ, DE, DK,  
EE, ES, FI, FR, GB, GR, HR, HU, IE, IS, IT, LT, LU, LV,  
MC, MK, MT, NL, NO, PL, PT, RO, RS, SE, SI, SK, SM,

(54) Title: FLUID IMMERSION CONTROL FOR INVERTED MICROSCOPY

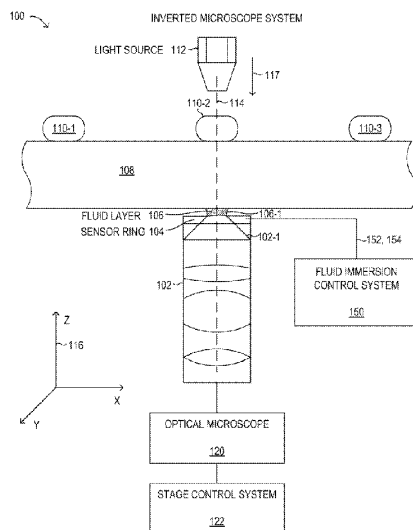


FIG. 1

(57) Abstract: A fluid immersion control system may use a common elec-  
trode along with a plurality of sensor electrodes at a planar surface asso-  
ciated with a distal end of an immersion microscope objective to monitor  
electrical resistance of a fluid as an indication of presence of a fluid lay-  
er having a meniscus greater than a diameter of an optical axis used for  
immersion microscopy. The fluid immersion control system may activate  
replenishment of the fluid when the resistance indicates that the diameter  
is not immersed in the fluid.

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[Continued on next page]

TR), OAPI (BF, BJ, CF, CG, CI, CM, GA, GN, GQ, GW,  
KM, ML, MR, NE, SN, TD, TG).

**Published:**

— *with international search report (Art. 21(3))*