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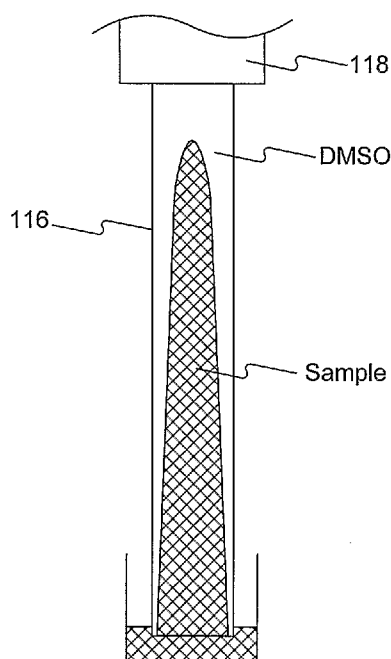
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(54) Title: METHOD AND APPARATUS FOR FORMING A DILUTION BY FLUID DISPERSION



(57) Abstract: According to one aspect of the invention, a method of creating a dilution series is provided. The method may include providing a first vessel including a sample, and aspirating at least a portion of the sample from the first vessel into a first conduit primed with solvent such that the sample disperses in the solvent. At least a portion of the dispersed sample is dispensed into a second vessel while, substantially simultaneously, a solvent is dispensed into the second vessel from a second conduit. Alternatively, the second vessel may already contain the solvent and the first conduit may dispense the dispersed sample into the second vessel containing the solvent. According to one aspect of the invention, a system for creating a dilution series is provided. The system may include a first conduit configured to aspirate and dispense a sample to be diluted and a second conduit configured to dispense a solvent. First and second pressure sources may be provided to move fluid through the respective first and second conduits. The system may also include a controller configured to instruct the first and second pressure sources to dispense an aspirated sample and solvent at substantially the same time.