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(54) Title: MODULAR CRYOGENIC COOLING SYSTEM

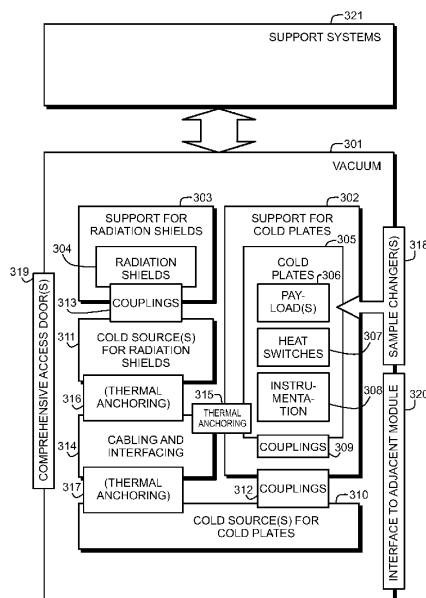


Fig. 3

(57) Abstract: A cryogenic cooling system comprises a vacuum chamber, a first support system for cold plates in said vacuum chamber, and a second support system for heat radiation shields in said vacuum chamber. Coupled to said first support system and supported thereby are a plurality of mutually parallel cold plates displaced from each other in a first direction. Said first direction is defined as the direction perpendicular to said cold plates. Coupled to said second support system and supported thereby are a plurality of at least partially nested heat radiation shields. Each of said heat radiation shields is configured to shield a respective sub-space adjacent to a corresponding one of said cold plates. At least a first cold plate of said cold plates is a modular cold plate comprising two or more sections adjacent to each other on the same level in said first direction, said sections being coupled to said first support system independently of each other.

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