ABSTRACT

A surface property judging method and a surface property judging system for a polishing pad capable of appropriately judging a surface property of the polishing pad are disclosed. The surface property judging method includes: rotating a polishing table together with a polishing pad which is supported by the polishing table; generating surface data by a surface data generator, the surface data containing a plurality of shape index values representing a surface property of the polishing pad; producing a histogram indicating a distribution of the plurality of shape index values based on the surface data; and judging the surface property of the polishing pad based on the histogram.

FIG. 16