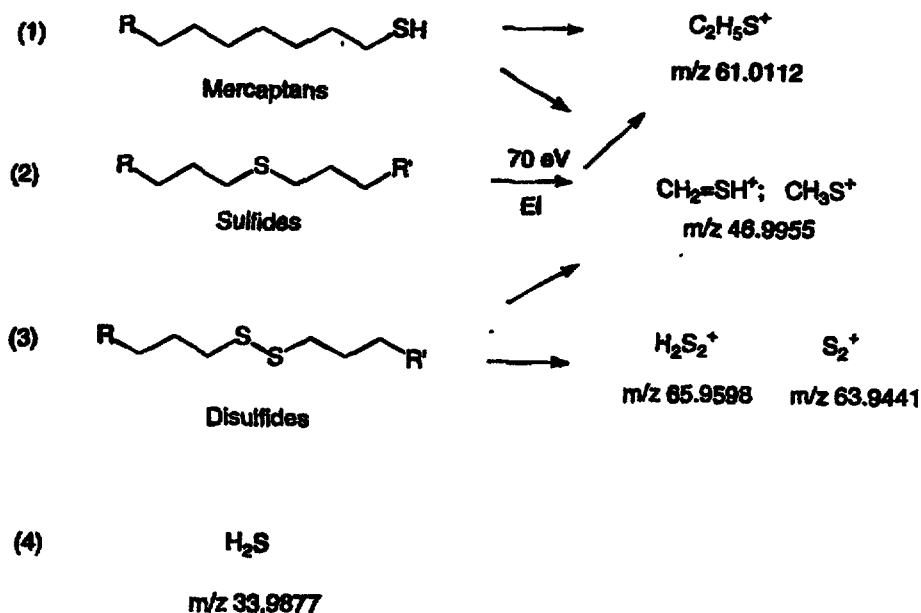


INTERNATIONAL APPLICATION PUBLISHED UNDER THE PATENT COOPERATION TREATY (PCT)

(51) International Patent Classification ⁶ : G01N 11/00, G01D 18/00		A1	(11) International Publication Number: WO 98/11419
			(43) International Publication Date: 19 March 1998 (19.03.98)
(21) International Application Number: PCT/US97/16782 (22) International Filing Date: 9 September 1997 (09.09.97) (30) Priority Data: 08/711,622 12 September 1996 (12.09.96) US (71) Applicant: EXXON RESEARCH AND ENGINEERING COMPANY [US/US]; 180 Park Avenue, P.O. Box 390, Florham Park, NJ 07932-0390 (US). (72) Inventors: ROUSSIS, Stilianos, George; 2886 Stoney Creek Drive, Brights Grove, Ontario N0N 1C0 (CA). FEDORA, James, W.; 839 Prestwick Crescent, Sarnia, Ontario N7S 4J6 (CA). CAMERON, Andrew, S.; 5119 126 Street, Edmonton, Alberta T6H 3W1 (CA). (74) Agents: TAKEMOTO, James, T. et al.; Exxon Research and Engineering Company, P.O. Box 390, Florham Park, NJ 07932-0390 (US).			(81) Designated States: AU, CA, JP, SG, European patent (AT, BE, CH, DE, DK, ES, FI, FR, GB, GR, IE, IT, LU, MC, NL, PT, SE). Published <i>With international search report. Before the expiration of the time limit for amending the claims and to be republished in the event of the receipt of amendments.</i>

(54) Title: METHOD FOR ANALYZING TOTAL REACTIVE SULFUR



(57) Abstract

The invention relates to a method for determining total reactive sulfur in a crude oil or fraction thereof using a mass spectrometer (Fig. 9) or gas chromatograph and mass spectrometer. Selecting fragment ions (1-4) characteristic of reactive sulfur species enables the quantitative determination of total reactive sulfur species (Fig. 5). The use of a low resolution mass spectrometer allows the rapid determination of total reactive sulfur in field or remote locations where more sophisticated instruments are not available.