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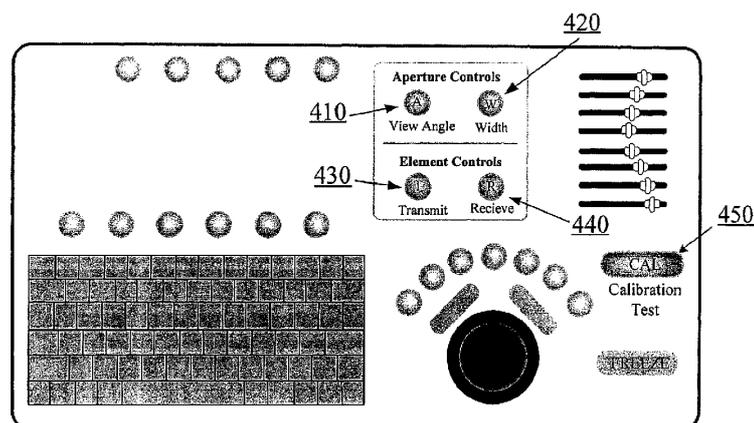
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(54) **CONCAVE ULTRASOUND TRANSDUCERS AND 3D ARRAYS**

(57) A Multiple Aperture Ultrasound Imaging (MAUI) probe or transducer is uniquely capable of simultaneous imaging of a region of interest from separate apertures of ultrasound arrays. Some embodiments provide systems and methods for designing, building and using ultrasound probes having continuous arrays of ultrasound transducers which may have a substantially continuous

concave curved shape in two or three dimensions (i.e. concave relative to an object to be imaged). Other embodiments herein provide systems and methods for designing, building and using ultrasound imaging probes having other unique configurations, such as adjustable probes and probes with variable configurations.

FIG. 1



EP 3 563 768 A3



EUROPEAN SEARCH REPORT

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Y	* abstract; figures 13, 14 * * column 1, line 5 - line 11 * * column 8, line 48 - line 66 * * column 9, line 14 - line 21 * * column 10, line 62 - column 12, line 1 * * claim 1 *	5-8	
A	----- US 2005/124883 A1 (HUNT THOMAS J [US]) 9 June 2005 (2005-06-09) * abstract * * paragraph [0041] *	1-9	
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Y	* abstract * * paragraphs [0019], [0035], [0037] * * paragraphs [0055], [0059], [0063] * -----	5-8	
The present search report has been drawn up for all claims			
Place of search Munich		Date of completion of the search 7 January 2020	Examiner Knoll, Bernhard
CATEGORY OF CITED DOCUMENTS X : particularly relevant if taken alone Y : particularly relevant if combined with another document of the same category A : technological background O : non-written disclosure P : intermediate document		T : theory or principle underlying the invention E : earlier patent document, but published on, or after the filing date D : document cited in the application L : document cited for other reasons & : member of the same patent family, corresponding document	

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**ANNEX TO THE EUROPEAN SEARCH REPORT
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EP 19 16 8875

5 This annex lists the patent family members relating to the patent documents cited in the above-mentioned European search report.
The members are as contained in the European Patent Office EDP file on
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For more details about this annex : see Official Journal of the European Patent Office, No. 12/82

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摘要(译)

多孔径超声成像 (MAUI) 探头或换能器独特地能够从超声阵列的单独孔中同时对感兴趣区域进行成像。一些实施例提供了用于设计, 构建和使用具有连续的超声换能器阵列的超声探头的系统和方法, 该超声换能器可以具有在二维或三维上 (即, 相对于要成像的物体凹入) 的基本上连续的凹形弯曲形状。本文的其他实施例提供了用于设计, 构建和使用具有其他独特构造的超声成像探针的系统和方法, 例如可调节探针和具有可变构造的探针。

FIG. 1

