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(54) **Ultrasonic apparatus for diagnosing bone diseases**

(57) An ultrasonic diagnostic apparatus according to the present invention comprises a plurality of transducer units which are two-dimensionally arranged to transmit/receive an ultrasonic wave (40) to/from hard tissue; a transceiver unit (12) which receives an echo signal for each transducer unit from the plurality of transducer units;

a surface point specifying unit which specifies a surface point corresponding to a surface of the hard tissue for each echo signal; and a form data generator unit which generates form data of hard tissue surface on the basis of a plurality of surface points obtained two-dimensionally from the echo signals of the plurality of transducer units.

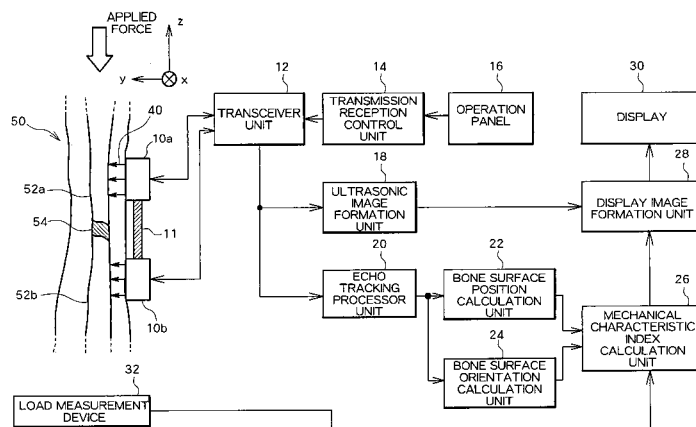


Fig. 1



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Office

EUROPEAN SEARCH REPORT

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Place of search Munich		Date of completion of the search 27 November 2006	Examiner Willig, Hendrik
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 06 00 6394

This annex lists the patent family members relating to the patent documents cited in the above-mentioned European search report.
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专利名称(译)	用于诊断骨疾病的超声波设备		
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其他公开文献	EP1707124B1 EP1707124A2		
外部链接	Espacenet		

摘要(译)

根据本发明的超声波诊断装置包括多个换能器单元，这些换能器单元二维地布置成向/从硬组织发送/接收超声波（40）；收发器单元（12），用于从多个换能器单元接收每个换能器单元的回波信号；表面点指定单元，用于为每个回波信号指定与硬组织的表面相对应的表面点；形状数据生成单元，基于从多个换能器单元的回波信号二维地获得的多个表面点，生成硬组织表面的形状数据。

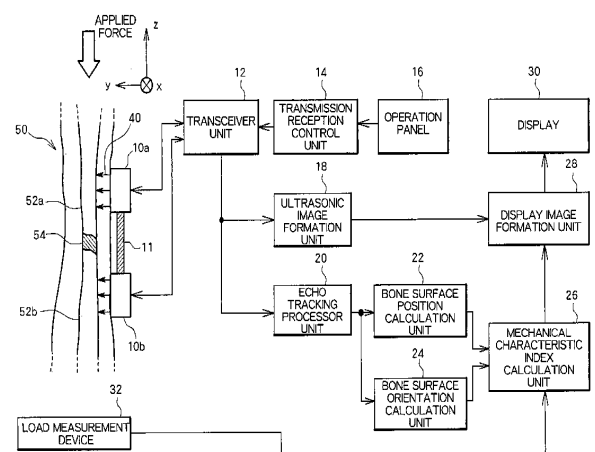


Fig. 1