

UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

BEFORE THE PATENT TRIAL AND APPEAL BOARD

BECTON, DICKINSON AND COMPANY,
Petitioner,

v.

ENZO LIFE SCIENCES, INC.,
Patent Owner.

Case IPR2017-00172
Patent 7,064,197 B1

Before MICHAEL J. FITZPATRICK, ZHENYU YANG, and
CHRISTOPHER G. PAULRAJ, *Administrative Patent Judges*.

FITZPATRICK, *Administrative Patent Judge*.

DECISION

Granting Joinder; Denying *Inter Partes* Review
37 C.F.R. §§ 42.108, 42.122

I. INTRODUCTION

Becton, Dickinson, and Company, (“Petitioner” or “Becton”) filed a Petition to institute an *inter partes* review of claims 1, 6, 8, 9, 12–16, 27, 31–34, 38, 41, 61–64, 68–70, 72–74, 78, 79, 100, 101, 191–195, 212, 213, 218, 219, 222, 225–227, 230, 233, and 236 of U.S. Patent No. 7,064,197 B1 (Ex. 1001, “the ’197 patent”) pursuant to 35 U.S.C. § 311(a). Paper 2 (“Pet.”). Petitioner also filed a Motion for Joinder (“Motion”) with *Hologic Inc. v. Enzo Life Sciences, Inc.*, IPR2016-00820 (the “Hologic IPR”). Paper 3 (“Mot.”).

Patent Owner, Enzo Life Sciences, Inc., filed a Preliminary Response pursuant to 35 U.S.C. § 313 (Paper 8, “Prelim. Resp.”) and a Response to Petitioner’s Motion for Joinder (Paper 7, “Joinder Resp.”).

For reasons explained below, we grant joinder, and deny the Petition.

A. Related Matters

Petitioner has filed an additional petition to institute an *inter partes* review of the ’197 patent in which it challenges other claims of the patent. *See* IPR2017-00181. Also, two *inter partes* reviews of claims of the ’197 patent are pending. *See* IPR2016-00820; IPR2016-00822.

The parties identify the following lawsuits as involving the ’197 patent: *Enzo Life Sciences, Inc. v. Hologic, Inc.*, No. 1:15-cv-271 (D. Del.); *Enzo Life Sciences, Inc. v. Siemens Healthcare Diagnostics, Inc.*, No. 1:12-cv-505 (D. Del.); *Enzo Life Sciences, Inc. v. Affymetrix, Inc.*, No. 1:12-cv-433 (D. Del.); *Enzo Life Sciences, Inc. v. Agilent Technologies Inc.*, No. 1:12-cv-434 (D. Del.); *Enzo Life Sciences, Inc. v. Illumina Inc.*, No. 1:12-cv-

435 (D. Del.); *Enzo Life Sciences, Inc. v. Abbott Laboratories et al.*, No. 1:12-cv-274 (D. Del.); *Enzo Life Sciences, Inc. v. Becton Dickinson and Company et al.*, No. 1:12-cv-275 (D. Del.); *Enzo Life Sciences, Inc. v. Life Technologies Corp.*, No. 1:12-cv-105 (D. Del.); and *Enzo Life Sciences, Inc. v. Roche Molecular Systems Inc. et al.*, No. 1:12-cv-106 (D. Del.). Pet. 2–3; Paper 6, 1–2.

B. The '197 Patent

The '197 patent relates generally to the detection of genetic material by polynucleotide probes. Ex. 1001, 1:23–24. The '197 patent refers to the material to be detected as an analyte. *Id.* at 1:37–39. An analyte may be present in a biological sample such as a clinical sample of blood, urine, saliva, etc. *Id.* at 5:47–50. If an analyte of interest is present in a biological sample, it is fixed, according to the invention of the '197 patent, in hybridizable form to a solid support. *Id.* at 5:58–60. The '197 patent states that it is preferred, and all of the challenged claims require, that the solid support be non-porous. *Id.* at 6:2–6; e.g., *id.* at 15:51–53 (claim 17 reciting a “non-porous solid support”).

Chemically-labeled probes are then brought into contact with the fixed single-stranded analytes under hybridizing conditions. The probe is characterized by having covalently attached to it a chemical label which consists of a signalling moiety capable of generating a soluble signal. Desirably, the polynucleotide or oligonucleotide probe provides sufficient number of nucleotides in its sequence, e.g., at least about 25, to allow stable hybridization with the complementary nucleotides of the analyte. The hybridization of the probe to the single-stranded analyte with the resulting formation

of a double-stranded or duplex hybrid is then detectable by means of the signalling moiety of the chemical label which is attached to the probe portion of the resulting hybrid. Generation of the soluble signal provides simple and rapid visual detection of the presence of the analyte and also provides a quantifiable report of the relative amount of analyte present, as measured by a spectrophotometer or the like.

Id. at 6:15–32.

C. The Challenged Claims

Petitioner challenges claims 1, 6, 8, 9, 12–16, 27, 31–34, 38, 41, 61–64, 68–70, 72–74, 78, 79, 100, 101, 191–195, 212, 213, 218, 219, 222, 225–227, 230, 233, and 236. Pet. 1. Of the challenged claims, claims 1, 6, 8, 9, 12–15, and 27 are independent. The remainder of the challenged claims all depend directly from at least one of the challenged independent claims, with several of them in multiple dependent form.

Claim 1 is illustrative and reproduced below.

1. A non-porous solid support comprising one or more amine(s), hydroxyl(s) or epoxide(s) thereon, wherein at least one single-stranded nucleic acid is fixed or immobilized in hybridizable form to said non-porous solid support via said one or more amine(s), hydroxyl(s) or epoxide(s).

D. Asserted Grounds of Unpatentability

Petitioner asserts the following grounds of unpatentability:

References	Basis ¹	Claims Challenged
Fish (Ex. 1006) ²	§ 102(b)	1, 6, 8, 9, 12–16, 27, 32–34, 41, 61–63, 69, 70, 72–74, 79, 100, 191, 193, 194, 212, 213, 219, 222, 225–227, 230, 233, and 236
Fish	§ 103(a)	31, 64, 68, 101, 192, and 195
Fish and Gilham (Ex. 1019) ³	§ 103(a)	38, 78, and 218
VPK (Ex. 1008) ⁴	§ 102(a) and (b)	1, 6, 8, 9, 12–15, 27, 31, 32, 34, 61–63, 68–70, 72, 74, 79, 100, 191–193, 194, 213, 219, 226, 227, and 236
VPK and Metzgar (Ex. 1009) ⁵	§ 103(a)	33, 41, 73, 212, 225, and 233

¹ The Leahy-Smith America Invents Act (“AIA”), Pub. L. No. 112-29, which was enacted September 16, 2011, made amendments to 35 U.S.C. §§ 102 and 103. AIA § 3(b)–(c). Those amendments became effective eighteen months later on March 16, 2013. *Id.* at § 3(n). Because the application from which the ’197 patent issued was filed before March 16, 2013, our citations to 35 U.S.C. §§ 102 and 103 are to their pre-AIA versions.

² Falk Fish, et al., “A Sensitive Solid Phase Microradioimmunoassay For Anti-Double Stranded DNA Antibodies,” *Arthritis and Rheumatism*, Vol. 24, No. 3, 534–43 (March 1981).

³ P. T. Gilham, “Immobilized Polynucleotides and Nucleic Acids,” *Immobilized Biochemicals and Affinity Chromatography*, 173–85 (1974).

⁴ A. C. Van Prooijen-Knegt, et al. “In Situ Hybridization of DNA Sequences in Human Metaphase Chromosomes Visualized by an Indirect Fluorescent Immunocytochemical Procedure,” *Experimental Cell Research*, Vol. 141, 397–407 (Oct. 1982).

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