

Title (en)  
Lathe apparatus and method

Title (de)  
Drehmaschine und Verfahren

Title (fr)  
Dispositif de tournage et procédé

Publication  
**EP 0872307 A1 19981021 (EN)**

Application  
**EP 98106802 A 19980415**

Priority  
US 83740797 A 19970417

Abstract (en)  
In one form, the disclosure describes a lathe apparatus and method for manufacturing a product with a non-axisymmetric shape from a workpiece, such as a toric contact lens, comprises a spindle for rotating the workpiece about an axis of rotation, a cutting tool, a two-axis bed for supporting the cutting tool and for moving the cutting tool along a predetermined path adjacent the workpiece as the spindle rotates the workpiece, and a mechanism for oscillating the cutting tool along an oscillating axis as the two-axis bed moves the cutting tool along the predetermined path, wherein the oscillation axis is oriented at a non-zero angle with respect to the axis of rotation. Preferably, the non-zero angle is about 45 DEG . In a second form, a lathe apparatus comprises a rotary bed for arcuately moving a cutting tool adjacent a workpiece and a mechanism for translationally reciprocating the cutting tool as the cutting tool is arcuately moved adjacent the workpiece. <IMAGE>

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