(11) **EP 1 308 281 A3** 

(12)

# **EUROPEAN PATENT APPLICATION**

- (88) Date of publication A3: 03.12.2003 Bulletin 2003/49
  - cation A3: (51) Int Cl.<sup>7</sup>: **B41J 2/05**, B41J 2/165, Bulletin 2003/49 B41J 11/00
- (43) Date of publication A2: **07.05.2003 Bulletin 2003/19**
- (21) Application number: 02024687.2
- (22) Date of filing: 05.11.2002
- (84) Designated Contracting States:

  AT BE BG CH CY CZ DE DK EE ES FI FR GB GR
  IE IT LI LU MC NL PT SE SK TR
  Designated Extension States:

  AL LT LV MK RO SI
- (30) Priority: 06.11.2001 JP 2001340912
- (71) Applicant: CANON KABUSHIKI KAISHA Ohta-ku, Tokyo (JP)
- (72) Inventors:
  - Koitabashi, Noribumi, c/o Canon Kabushiki Kaisha Tokyo (JP)

- Yashima, Masataka, c/o Canon Kabushiki Kaisha Tokyo (JP)
- Shibata, Tsuyoshi, c/o Canon Kabushiki Kaisha Tokyo (JP)
- (74) Representative:

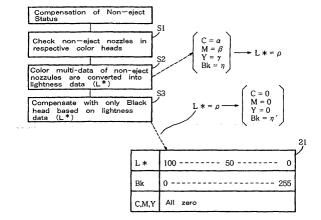
Leson, Thomas Johannes Alois, Dipl.-Ing. Tiedtke-Bühling-Kinne & Partner GbR, TBK-Patent, Bavariaring 4 80336 München (DE)

## (54) Recording apparatus and recording method and program

(57) A recording system comprising a recording apparatus, a recording method and a program to control the recording apparatus for recording a color image on a recording medium by utilizing a recording head on which a plurality of recording elements are arranged, is provided. The recording system further comprising, a plurality of compensation means having respective own compensation methods to compensate a position to be recorded by a recording element which does not exe-

cute a recording operation among said plurality of recording elements; a selection means to select an appropriate compensation means. Such recording system can dissolve nonuniformity in the recorded image such as white streaks and the like generated by non-eject dots and can make the nonuniformity be unrecognized by human eyes. In addition the recording system by the invention can suppress raising costs of the recording head and can raise recording rates much faster.

#### FIG. 2





# **EUROPEAN SEARCH REPORT**

Application Number

EP 02 02 4687

Category	Citation of document with in- of relevant passag	dication, where appropriate,	Relevant to claim	CLASSIFICATION OF THE APPLICATION (Int.CI.7)		
Х	EP 0 983 855 A (HEW 8 March 2000 (2000-	LETT PACKARD CO)	1-5,7-19			
A	US 2001/026293 A1 ( 4 October 2001 (200 * paragraph [0081] * figure 3 *		1-5,7-19			
A	EP 0 836 153 A (HEW 15 April 1998 (1998 * the whole documen	-04-15)	1,17,19			
A	US 5 124 720 A (SCH 23 June 1992 (1992- * the whole documen	06-23)	1,17,19			
A	US 6 010 205 A (BIL 4 January 2000 (2000 * the whole documen	0-01-04)	1,17,19	TECHNICAL FIELDS SEARCHED (Int.CI.7) B41J		
	The present search report has b	een drawn up for all claims  Date of completion of the search		Examiner		
	THE HAGUE	8 October 2003	Did	Didenot, B		
CATEGORY OF CITED DOCUMENTS  X: particularly relevant if taken alone Y: particularly relevant if combined with anoth document of the same category A: technological background O: non-written disclosure		E : earlier patent after the filing er ·	ciple underlying the in document, but publis date ed in the application d for other reasons	nvention		

## ANNEX TO THE EUROPEAN SEARCH REPORT ON EUROPEAN PATENT APPLICATION NO.

EP 02 02 4687

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 The European Patent Office is in no way liable for these particulars which are merely given for the purpose of information.

08-10-2003

	Patent document cited in search report		Publication date		Patent fam member(s		Publication date
ΕP	0983855	Α	08-03-2000	EP JP	0983855 2000071432		08-03-2000 07-03-2000
US	2001026293	Al	04-10-2001	JР	2001205874	Α	31-07-2001
EP	0836153	Α	15-04-1998	US EP JP	6039426 0836153 10076642	A2	21-03-2000 15-04-1998 24-03-1998
US	5124720	Α	23-06-1992	JP JP	3179526 4226772		25-06-2001 17-08-1992
US	6010205	Α	04-01-2000	WO	9840222	A1	17-09-1998

For more details about this annex : see Official Journal of the European Patent Office, No. 12/82