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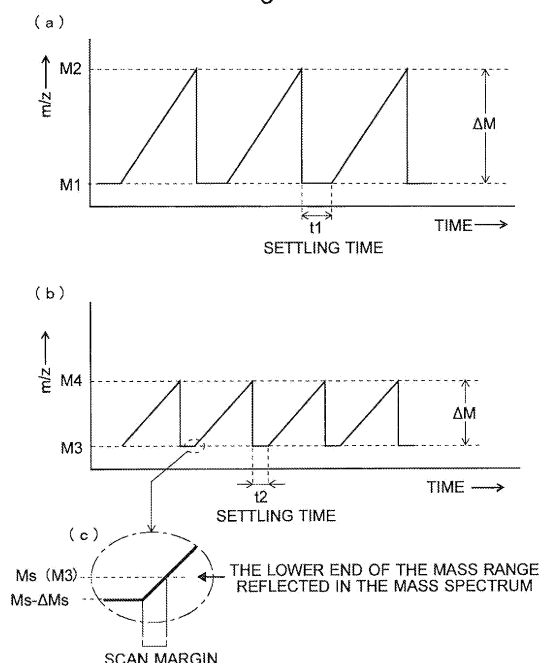
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(54) **Quadrupole mass spectrometer**

(57) In a scan measurement in which a mass scan is repeated across a predetermined mass range, when a voltage is returned from a termination voltage of one scan to an initiation voltage for the next scan, an undershoot or other drawbacks occur to destabilize the voltage value. Therefore, an appropriate waiting time is required. Conventionally, this waiting time has been set to be constant regardless of the analysis conditions. On the other hand, in the quadrupole mass spectrometer according to the present invention, the mass difference ΔM between the scan termination mass and the scan initiation mass is computed based on the specified mass range, and a different settling time is set in accordance with this mass difference. When the mass difference ΔM is small and hence requires only a short voltage stabilization time, a relatively short settling time is set. This shortens the cycle period of the mass scan, which increases the temporal resolution.

Fig. 2





EUROPEAN SEARCH REPORT

Application Number
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The present search report has been drawn up for all claims			
Place of search The Hague		Date of completion of the search 29 November 2011	Examiner Loiseleur, Pierre
<p>CATEGORY OF CITED DOCUMENTS</p> <p>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</p> <p>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</p>			

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