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(71) Applicant: **Boston Scientific Limited**

St. Michael (BB)

(72) Inventors:

- **Suorsa, Veijo T.**
Sunnyvale, CA 94087 (US)

- **Mendoza, Dennis**
Tracy, CA 95376 (US)
- **Bautista, Richard**
Palo Alto, CA 94306 (US)

(74) Representative: **Pfenning, Meinig & Partner GbR**

Patent- und Rechtsanwälte
Theresienhöhe 13
80339 München (DE)

Remarks:

This application was filed on 25 - 07 - 2006 as a
divisional application to the application mentioned
under INID code 62.

(54) **Focused ultrasound transducers and systems**

(57) The present invention provides ultrasound transducers, and imaging assemblies and catheters employing such transducers, that provide improved imaging capabilities. In one embodiment, an ultrasound imaging assembly (50) includes a housing having a distal end (56), a proximal end (57) and a longitudinal axis. A transducer element (54) is included having an outer face. The outer face has a first radius of curvature along a first axis and a second radius of curvature along a second axis. The transducer element is operably attached to the distal end to position the first axis to be generally parallel to the longitudinal axis to provide improved cross-plane resolution.

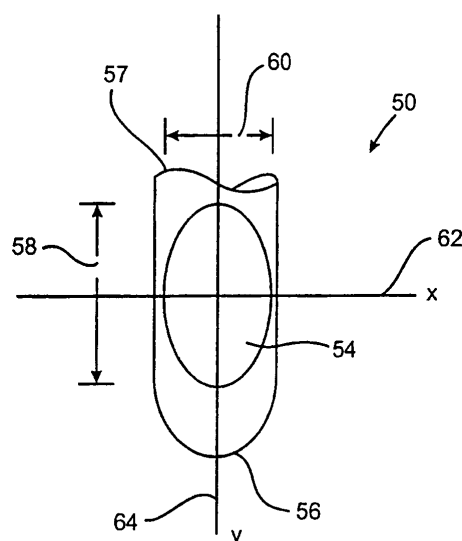


FIG. 3A

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专利名称(译)	聚焦超声换能器和系统		
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申请(专利权)人(译)	BOSTON SCIENTIFIC LIMITED		
当前申请(专利权)人(译)	BOSTON SCIENTIFIC LIMITED		
[标]发明人	SUORSA VEIJO T MENDOZA DENNIS BAUTISTA RICHARD		
发明人	SUORSA, VEIJO T. MENDOZA, DENNIS BAUTISTA, RICHARD		
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摘要(译)

本发明提供了超声换能器，以及采用这种换能器的成像组件和导管，其提供了改进的成像能力。在一个实施例中，超声成像组件（50）包括具有远端（56），近端（57）和纵向轴线的壳体。包括具有外表面的换能器元件（54）。外表面沿第一轴具有第一曲率半径，沿第二轴具有第二曲率半径。换能器元件可操作地连接到远端，以将第一轴线定位成大致平行于纵向轴线，以提供改善的跨平面分辨率。

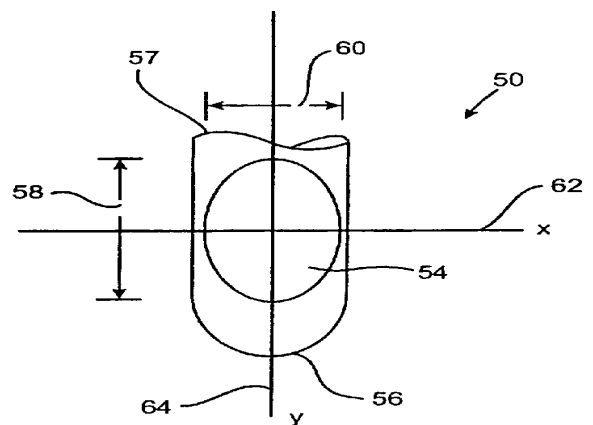


FIG. 3A