

US010852123B2

# (12) United States Patent

Stavis et al.

# (54) APPARATUS FOR CRITICAL-DIMENSION LOCALIZATION MICROSCOPY

(71) Applicant: Government of the United States of

America, as represented by the Secretary of Commerce, Gaithersburg,

MD (US)

(72) Inventors: Samuel Martin Stavis, Rockville, MD

(US); Craig Robert Copeland, Joppa,

MD (US)

(73) Assignee: GOVERNMENT OF THE UNITED

STATES OF AMERICA, AS REPRESENTED BY THE SECRETARY OF COMMERCE,

Gaithersburg, MD (US)

(\*) Notice: Subject to any disclaimer, the term of this

patent is extended or adjusted under 35

U.S.C. 154(b) by 0 days.

(21) Appl. No.: 16/663,959

(22) Filed: Oct. 25, 2019

(65) **Prior Publication Data** 

US 2020/0132437 A1 Apr. 30, 2020

## Related U.S. Application Data

- (60) Provisional application No. 62/750,372, filed on Oct. 25, 2018.
- (51) Int. Cl. *G01B 11/02* (2006.01) *G06T 7/62* (2017.01)
- (58) **Field of Classification Search**CPC ...... G01B 11/022; G01B 9/04; G01B 21/042;
  G01B 2210/56; G03F 9/7019; G06T
  2207/10056; G06T 7/62

(Continued)

(10) Patent No.: US 10,852,123 B2

(45) **Date of Patent: Dec. 1, 2020** 

#### (56) References Cited

#### U.S. PATENT DOCUMENTS

(Continued)

#### OTHER PUBLICATIONS

Copeland, C.R., et al., "Subnanometer localization accuracy in widefield optical microscopy" Light: Science and Applications, 2018, vol. 7.

#### (Continued)

Primary Examiner — Hoa Q Pham

(74) Attorney, Agent, or Firm — Office of Chief Counsel for National Institute of Standards and Technology

## (57) ABSTRACT

Performing critical-dimension localization microscopy includes: subjecting a first dimensional member and a second dimensional member of a reference artifact to criticaldimension metrology, the first and second dimensional members, in combination, including a critical dimension and each independently providing optical contrast; determining a primary length of the critical dimension to be traceable to International System of Units meter; imaging in a calibrant optical field, by optical microscopy, the first dimensional member and the second dimensional member, the calibrant optical field disposed in an ocular optical field; determining, from the optical microscopy of the first dimensional member and the second dimensional member, a secondary length and a secondary length uncertainty of the critical dimension subjected to the critical-dimension metrology; and calibrating the calibrant optical field and the secondary length, to the primary length to establish traceability of the secondary length to the International System of Units meter to perform critical-dimension localization microscopy.

#### 14 Claims, 38 Drawing Sheets

226 213 215 230 234 234 234 234

200