



US009447682B2

(12) **United States Patent**
Kanj et al.

(10) **Patent No.:** **US 9,447,682 B2**
(45) **Date of Patent:** **Sep. 20, 2016**

(54) **CARBON-BASED FLUORESCENT TRACERS
AS OIL RESERVOIR NANO-AGENTS**

(2013.01); *B82Y 20/00* (2013.01); *C09K
2211/10* (2013.01); *Y10S 977/774* (2013.01);
Y10S 977/95 (2013.01)

(71) Applicants: **SAUDI ARABIAN OIL COMPANY**,
Dhahran (SA); **CORNELL
UNIVERSITY**, Ithaca, NY (US)

(58) **Field of Classification Search**
None
See application file for complete search history.

(72) Inventors: **Mazen Y. Kanj**, Dhahran (SA);
Mohammad Harunar Rashid, Ithaca,
NY (US); **Emmanuel Giannelis**, Ithaca,
NY (US)

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(Continued)

(21) Appl. No.: **14/627,688**

(22) Filed: **Feb. 20, 2015**

(65) **Prior Publication Data**

US 2015/0233240 A1 Aug. 20, 2015

Related U.S. Application Data

(62) Division of application No. 13/469,459, filed on May 11, 2012.

(60) Provisional application No. 61/486,090, filed on May 13, 2011.

(51) **Int. Cl.**

E21B 49/00 (2006.01)

C09K 11/06 (2006.01)

C07C 235/74 (2006.01)

C09K 11/65 (2006.01)

B82Y 20/00 (2011.01)

(52) **U.S. Cl.**

CPC **E21B 49/008** (2013.01); **C07C 235/74**
(2013.01); **C09K 11/06** (2013.01); **C09K 11/65**

Primary Examiner — Jeffrey Washville

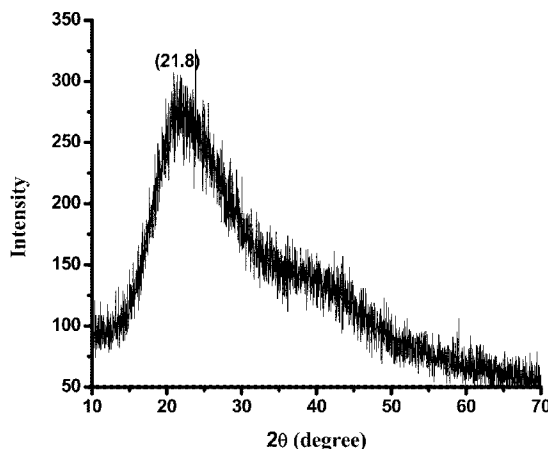
(74) *Attorney, Agent, or Firm* — Bracewell LLP; Constance G. Rhebergen; Brian H. Tompkins

(57)

ABSTRACT

The present invention relates to carbon-based fluorescent nano-agent tracers for analysis of oil reservoirs. The carbon-based fluorescent nano-agents may be used in the analysis of the porosity of a formation. The nanoagents are suitable for injection into a petroleum reservoir and may be recovered from the reservoir for the determination of hydrocarbon flow rates and retention times.

12 Claims, 13 Drawing Sheets





US009453159B2

(12) **United States Patent**
Kanj et al.

(10) **Patent No.:** **US 9,453,159 B2**
(45) **Date of Patent:** **Sep. 27, 2016**

(54) **CARBON-BASED FLUORESCENT TRACERS
AS OIL RESERVOIR NANO-AGENTS**

(56) **References Cited**

U.S. PATENT DOCUMENTS

- (71) Applicants: **SAUDI ARABIAN OIL COMPANY**,
Dhahran (SA); **CORNELL**
UNIVERSITY, Ithaca, NY (US)
- (72) Inventors: **Mazen Y. Kanj**, Dhahran (SA);
Mohammad Harunar Rashid, Ithaca,
NY (US); **Emmanuel Giannelis**, Ithaca,
NY (US)
- (73) Assignees: **Saudi Arabian Oil Company**, Dhahran
(SA); **Cornell University**, Ithaca, NY
(US)

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7,782,460	B2	8/2010	Difoggio et al.
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- (*) Notice: Subject to any disclaimer, the term of this
patent is extended or adjusted under 35
U.S.C. 154(b) by 0 days.

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Shelia N. Baker et al., "Luminescent Carbon Nanodots: Emergent
Nanolights", *Angewandte Chemie*, (2010), pp. 6726-6744, vol. 49,
Wiley-VCH Verlag GmbH & Co. KGaA, Weinheim, www.
angewandte.org.

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(21) Appl. No.: **14/627,522**

(22) Filed: **Feb. 20, 2015**

(65) **Prior Publication Data**

US 2015/0232747 A1 Aug. 20, 2015

Related U.S. Application Data

- (62) Division of application No. 13/469,459, filed on May
11, 2012.
- (60) Provisional application No. 61/486,090, filed on May
13, 2011.

(51) **Int. Cl.**
C09K 11/06 (2006.01)

(52) **U.S. Cl.**
CPC **C09K 11/06** (2013.01); **C09K 2211/10**
(2013.01)

(58) **Field of Classification Search**
None

See application file for complete search history.

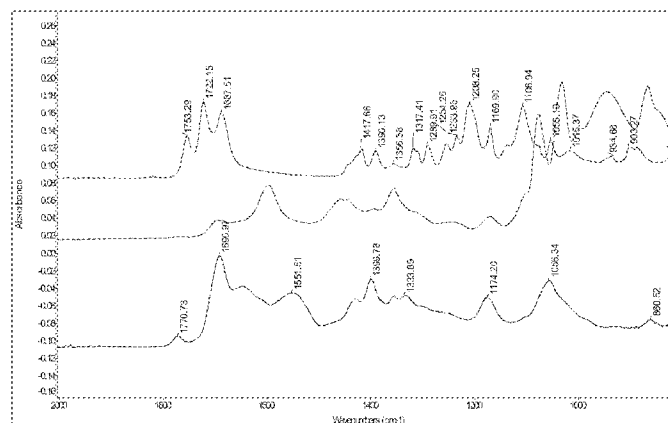
Primary Examiner — Jeffrey Washville

(74) *Attorney, Agent, or Firm* — Bracewell LLP; Constance
G. Rhebergen; Brian H. Tompkins

(57) **ABSTRACT**

The present invention relates to carbon-based fluorescent
nano-agent tracers for analysis of oil reservoirs. The carbon-
based fluorescent nano-agents may be used in the analysis of
the porosity of a formation. The nanoagents are suitable for
injection into a petroleum reservoir and may be recovered
from the reservoir for the determination of hydrocarbon flow
rates and retention times.

8 Claims, 13 Drawing Sheets





US009464034B2

(12) **United States Patent**
Kanj et al.

(10) **Patent No.:** **US 9,464,034 B2**
(45) **Date of Patent:** **Oct. 11, 2016**

(54) **CARBON-BASED FLUORESCENT TRACERS
AS OIL RESERVOIR NANO-AGENTS**

(56) **References Cited**

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(75) Inventors: **Mazen Y. Kanj**, Dhahran (SA);
Mohammad Harunar Rashid, Assam
(IN); **Emmanuel Giannelis**, Ithaca, NY
(US)

(73) Assignees: **Saudi Arabian Oil Company**, Dhahran
(SA); **Cornell University**, Ithaca, NY
(US)

(*) Notice: Subject to any disclaimer, the term of this
patent is extended or adjusted under 35
U.S.C. 154(b) by 965 days.

(21) Appl. No.: **13/469,459**

(22) Filed: **May 11, 2012**

(65) **Prior Publication Data**

US 2012/0318503 A1 Dec. 20, 2012

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Primary Examiner — Jeffrey Washville

(74) *Attorney, Agent, or Firm* — Bracewell LLP;
Constance G. Rhebergen; Brian H. Tompkins

(57) **ABSTRACT**

Carbon-based fluorescent nano-agent tracers for analysis of
oil reservoirs are provided. The carbon-based fluorescent
nano-agents being inexpensive means of analyzing, among
other properties, the porosity of a formation. The nanoagents
are suitable for injection into a petroleum reservoir and can
be subsequently recovered for determinations of flow rates
and retention times.

12 Claims, 13 Drawing Sheets

Related U.S. Application Data

(60) Provisional application No. 61/486,090, filed on May
13, 2011.

(51) **Int. Cl.**

C07C 233/00	(2006.01)
E21B 49/00	(2006.01)
C07C 231/00	(2006.01)
B82Y 35/00	(2011.01)
C07C 227/18	(2006.01)
C09K 9/02	(2006.01)

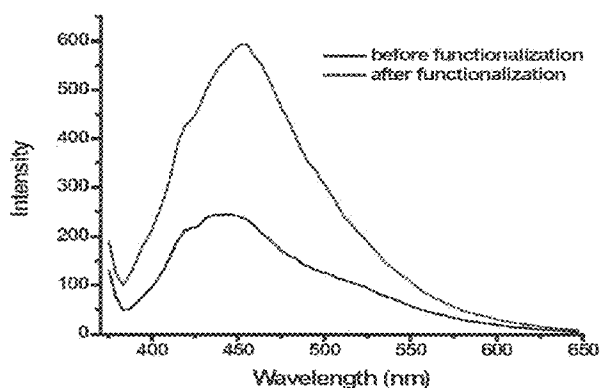
(52) **U.S. Cl.**

CPC **C07C 227/18** (2013.01); **C09K 9/02**
(2013.01); **C09K 2208/10** (2013.01); **Y10T**
428/2982 (2015.01)

(58) **Field of Classification Search**

None

See application file for complete search history.





US009469599B2

(12) **United States Patent**
Kanj et al.

(10) **Patent No.:** **US 9,469,599 B2**
(45) **Date of Patent:** **Oct. 18, 2016**

(54) **CARBON-BASED FLUORESCENT TRACERS
AS OIL RESERVOIR NANO-AGENTS**

(56) **References Cited**

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(71) Applicants: **SAUDI ARABIAN OIL COMPANY**,
Dhahran (SA); **CORNELL**
UNIVERSITY, Ithaca, NY (US)

(72) Inventors: **Mazen Y. Kanj**, Dhahran (SA);
Mohammad Harunar Rashid, Ithaca,
NY (US); **Emmanuel Giannelis**, Ithaca,
NY (US)

(73) Assignees: **Saudi Arabian Oil Company**, Dhahran
(SA); **Cornell University**, Ithaca, NY
(US)

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7,907,277 B2	3/2011	Csutak	
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(*) Notice: Subject to any disclaimer, the term of this
patent is extended or adjusted under 35
U.S.C. 154(b) by 0 days.

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(21) Appl. No.: **14/627,613**

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(22) Filed: **Feb. 20, 2015**

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Nanolights", *Angewandte Chemie*, (2010), pp. 6726-6744, vol. 49,
Wiley-VCH Verlag GmbH & Co. KGaA, Weinheim, www.
angewandte.org.

(65) **Prior Publication Data**

US 2015/0239826 A1 Aug. 27, 2015

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Related U.S. Application Data

(62) Division of application No. 13/469,459, filed on May
11, 2012.

(60) Provisional application No. 61/486,090, filed on May
13, 2011.

Primary Examiner — Jeffrey Washville

(74) *Attorney, Agent, or Firm* — Bracewell LLP;
Constance G. Rhebergen; Brian H. Tompkins

(51) **Int. Cl.**

C07C 227/18 (2006.01)

C09K 9/02 (2006.01)

(52) **U.S. Cl.**

CPC **C07C 227/18** (2013.01); **C09K 9/02**
(2013.01); **C09K 2208/10** (2013.01); **Y10T**
428/2982 (2015.01)

(57)

ABSTRACT

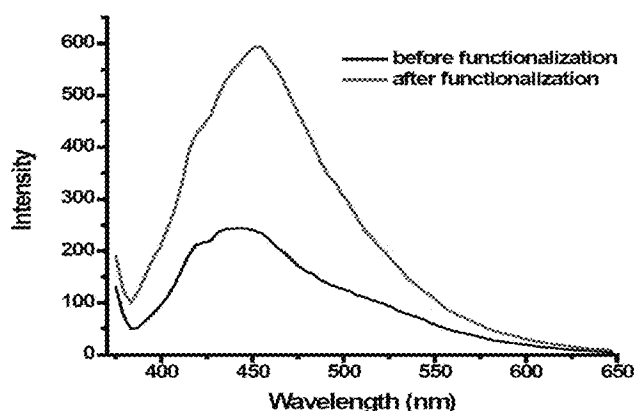
The present invention relates to carbon-based fluorescent
nano-agent tracers for analysis of oil reservoirs. The carbon-
based fluorescent nano-agents may be used in the analysis of
the porosity of a formation. The nanoagents are suitable for
injection into a petroleum reservoir and may be recovered
from the reservoir for the determination of hydrocarbon flow
rates and retention times.

(58) **Field of Classification Search**

None

See application file for complete search history.

9 Claims, 13 Drawing Sheets





US009493700B2

(12) **United States Patent**
Kanj et al.

(10) **Patent No.:** **US 9,493,700 B2**

(45) **Date of Patent:** **Nov. 15, 2016**

(54) **CARBON-BASED FLUORESCENT TRACERS AS OIL RESERVOIR NANO-AGENTS**

(71) Applicants: **SAUDI ARABIAN OIL COMPANY**, Dhahran (SA); **CORNELL UNIVERSITY**, Ithaca, NY (US)

(72) Inventors: **Mazen Y. Kanj**, Dhahran (SA); **Mohammad Harunar Rashid**, Ithaca, NY (US); **Emmanuel Giannelis**, Ithaca, NY (US)

(73) Assignees: **Saudi Arabian Oil Company**, Dhahran (SA); **Cornell University**, Ithaca, NY (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.: **14/627,776**

(22) Filed: **Feb. 20, 2015**

(65) **Prior Publication Data**

US 2015/0232748 A1 Aug. 20, 2015

Related U.S. Application Data

(62) Division of application No. 13/469,459, filed on May 11, 2012.

(60) Provisional application No. 61/486,090, filed on May 13, 2011.

(51) **Int. Cl.**

C07C 233/00 (2006.01)
E21B 49/00 (2006.01)
C07C 231/00 (2006.01)
B82Y 35/00 (2011.01)
C09K 11/06 (2006.01)
C09K 11/65 (2006.01)
C07H 15/04 (2006.01)
B82Y 20/00 (2011.01)

(52) **U.S. Cl.**

CPC **C09K 11/06** (2013.01); **C07H 15/04** (2013.01); **C09K 11/65** (2013.01); **E21B 49/00** (2013.01); **B82Y 20/00** (2013.01); **C09K 2211/10** (2013.01); **Y10S 977/774** (2013.01); **Y10S 977/95** (2013.01)

(58) **Field of Classification Search**

None

See application file for complete search history.

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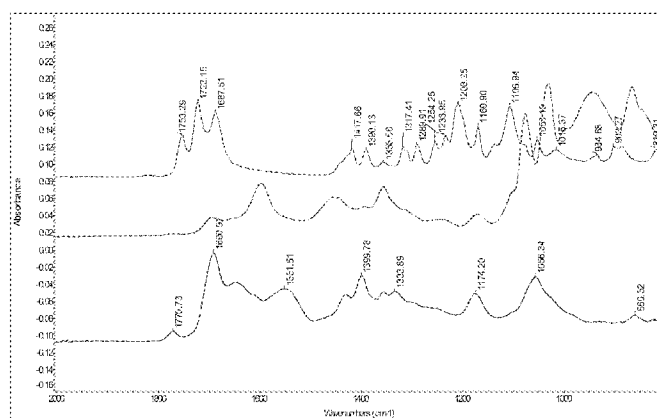
Primary Examiner — Jeffrey Washville

(74) *Attorney, Agent, or Firm* — Bracewell LLP;
Constance G. Rhebergen; Brian H. Tompkins

(57) **ABSTRACT**

The present invention relates to carbon-based fluorescent nano-agent tracers for analysis of oil reservoirs. The carbon-based fluorescent nano-agents may be used in the analysis of the porosity of a formation. The nanoagents are suitable for injection into a petroleum reservoir and may be recovered from the reservoir for the determination of hydrocarbon flow rates and retention times.

13 Claims, 13 Drawing Sheets





US009528045B2

(12) **United States Patent**
Kanj et al.

(10) **Patent No.:** **US 9,528,045 B2**
(45) **Date of Patent:** **Dec. 27, 2016**

(54) **CARBON-BASED FLUORESCENT TRACERS
AS OIL RESERVOIR NANO-AGENTS**

(2013.01); *C09K 2211/10* (2013.01); *Y10S*
977/774 (2013.01); *Y10S 977/95* (2013.01);
Y10T 428/2982 (2015.01)

(71) Applicants: **SAUDI ARABIAN OIL COMPANY**,
Dhahran (SA); **CORNELL**
UNIVERSITY, Ithaca, NY (US)

(58) **Field of Classification Search**
None
See application file for complete search history.

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(56) **References Cited**

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(*) Notice: Subject to any disclaimer, the term of this
patent is extended or adjusted under 35
U.S.C. 154(b) by 0 days.

FOREIGN PATENT DOCUMENTS

WO 2007050984 A2 5/2007

(21) Appl. No.: **14/627,404**

(22) Filed: **Feb. 20, 2015**

(65) **Prior Publication Data**

US 2015/0232750 A1 Aug. 20, 2015

Related U.S. Application Data

(62) Division of application No. 13/469,459, filed on May
11, 2012.

(60) Provisional application No. 61/486,090, filed on May
13, 2011.

(51) **Int. Cl.**

C09K 11/65 (2006.01)

C07C 215/08 (2006.01)

C09K 11/06 (2006.01)

B82Y 20/00 (2011.01)

(52) **U.S. Cl.**

CPC **C09K 11/65** (2013.01); **C07C 215/08**
(2013.01); **C09K 11/06** (2013.01); **B82Y 20/00**

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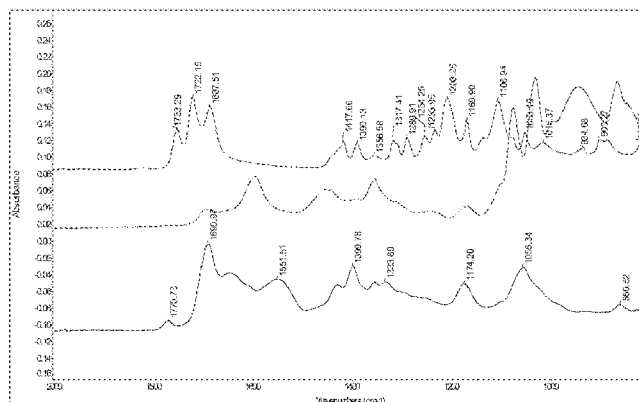
Primary Examiner — Jeffrey Washville

(74) *Attorney, Agent, or Firm* — Bracewell LLP;
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(57) **ABSTRACT**

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injection into a petroleum reservoir and may be recovered
from the reservoir for the determination of hydrocarbon flow
rates and retention times.

14 Claims, 13 Drawing Sheets





US010047283B2

(12) **United States Patent**
Kanj et al.

(10) **Patent No.:** **US 10,047,283 B2**
(45) **Date of Patent:** ***Aug. 14, 2018**

(54) **CARBON-BASED FLUORESCENT TRACERS
AS OIL RESERVOIR NANO-AGENTS**

(71) Applicants: **Saudi Arabian Oil Company**, Dhahran
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(73) Assignees: **Saudi Arabian Oil Company**, Dhahran
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(US)

(*) Notice: Subject to any disclaimer, the term of this
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U.S.C. 154(b) by 8 days.

This patent is subject to a terminal dis-
claimer.

(21) Appl. No.: **15/351,096**

(22) Filed: **Nov. 14, 2016**

(65) **Prior Publication Data**

US 2017/0058192 A1 Mar. 2, 2017

Related U.S. Application Data

(60) Continuation of application No. 14/627,404, filed on
Feb. 20, 2015, now Pat. No. 9,528,045, which is a
(Continued)

(51) **Int. Cl.**
C09K 11/06 (2006.01)
C07H 15/04 (2006.01)

(Continued)

(52) **U.S. Cl.**

CPC **C09K 11/06** (2013.01); **B82Y 20/00**
(2013.01); **C01B 32/15** (2017.08); **C07C**
215/08 (2013.01);

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(58) **Field of Classification Search**

None

See application file for complete search history.

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vol. 49, Wiley-VCH Verlag GmbH & Co. KGaA, Weinheim,
www.angewandte.org.

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Primary Examiner — Jeffrey Washville

(74) *Attorney, Agent, or Firm* — Bracewell LLP;
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14 Claims, 13 Drawing Sheets

