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Vincent

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(54) **SPATIAL REFERENCED PHOTOGRAPHIC SYSTEM WITH NAVIGATION ARRANGEMENT**

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(73) Assignee: **Transcenic, Inc.**, Lake Charles, LA (US)

(21) Appl. No.: **12/126,664**

(22) Filed: **May 23, 2008**

Related U.S. Patent Documents

Reissue of:

(64) Patent No.: **7,050,102**
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Filed: **Nov. 28, 2000**

U.S. Applications:

(63) Continuation of application No. 08/894,206, filed as application No. PCT/US96/01434 on Jan. 31, 1996, now Pat. No. 6,195,122.

(51) **Int. Cl.**
H04N 5/222 (2006.01)
H04N 5/228

(52) **U.S. Cl.** **348/333.02**; 348/141; 348/143; 348/208.2; 348/208.14

(58) **Field of Classification Search** 348/135, 348/141–143, 207.99, 207.1, 208.2, 208.12, 348/208.14, 222, 373–375
See application file for complete search history.

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(Continued)

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Assistant Examiner—Carramah J Quiett
(74) *Attorney, Agent, or Firm*—Fitch, Even, Tabin & Flannery

(57) **ABSTRACT**

An image system which captures, along with the images, information defining both the position and the orientation of the camera along with the distance to the subject. A video camera is attached to three accelerometers, two gyroscopes, and a rangefinder. Data gathered from these devices and defining the pitch, yaw, and roll of the camera, the camera's acceleration, and the distance to the subject is captured and recorded along with video images. The video images are later stored within a computer's data base along with data defining the position and orientation of the camera and the distance to the subject for each image, this latter data being computed from the captured data. The images may then be presented to the user in a three-dimensional display in which the user can navigate through the images using a joystick device, with the images located in positions corresponding to the positions in space of the objects that were imaged.

77 Claims, 30 Drawing Sheets

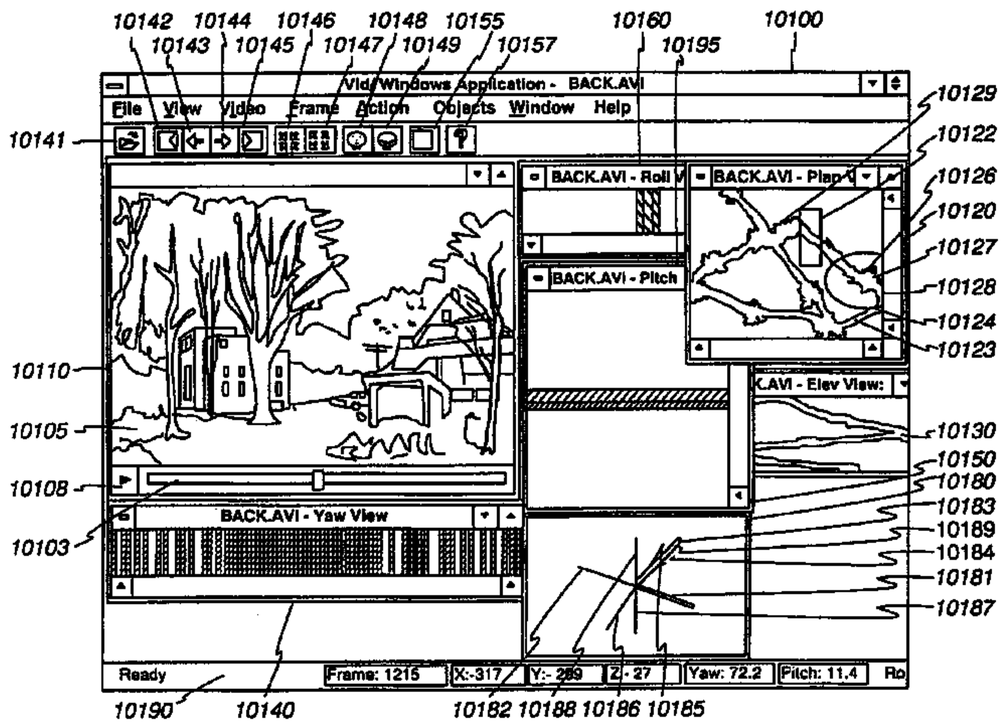

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Fig. 1

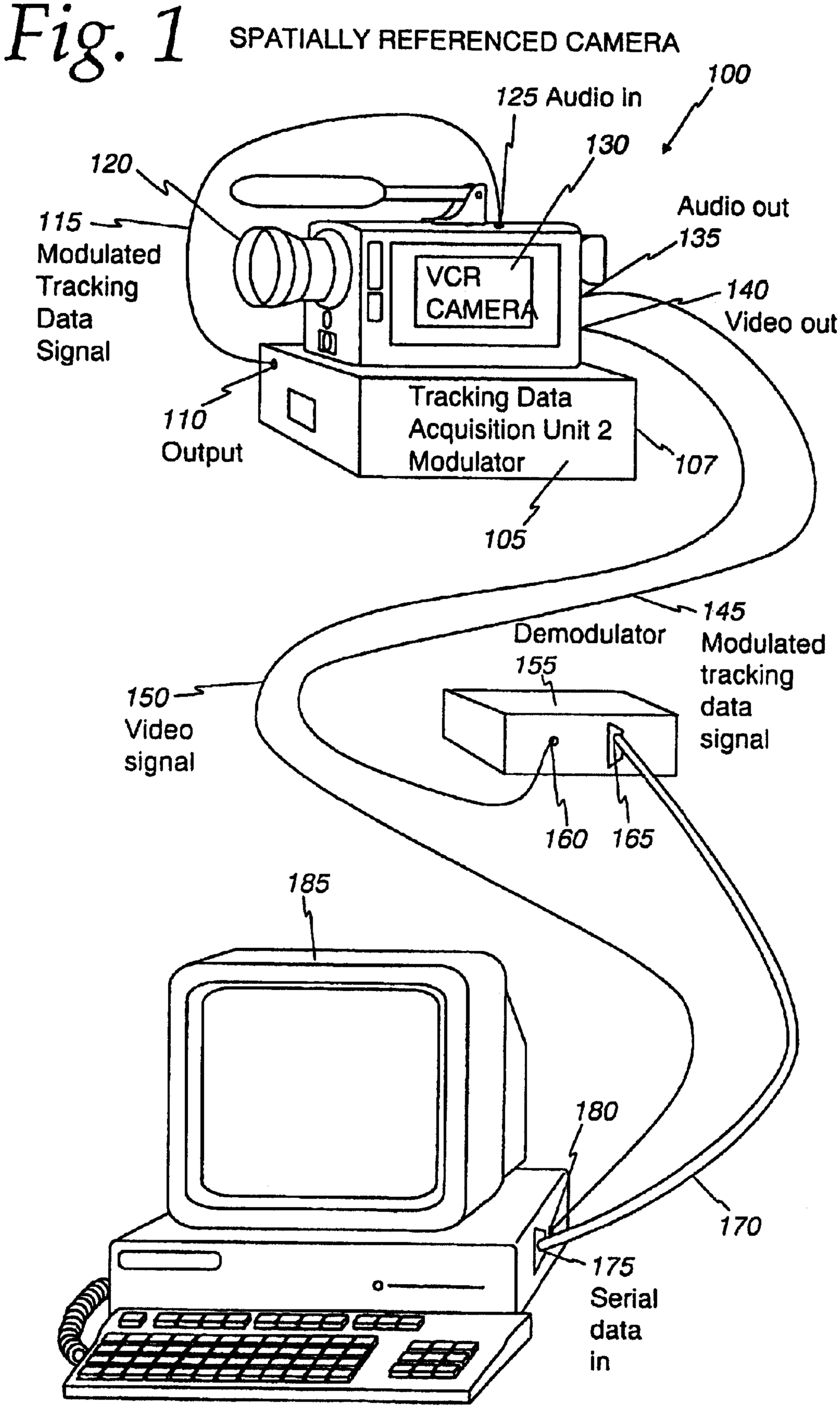

SPATIALLY REFERENCED CAMERA
100
125 Audio In
130
120
115
Modulated
Tracking
Data
Signal
Audio out
135
VCR
CAMERA
140
Video out
Tracking Data
Acquisition Unit 2
Modulator
110
Output
107
105
145
Modulated
tracking
data
signal
Demodulator
155
150
Video
signal
160
165
185
180
170
175
Serial
data
in

Fig. 2

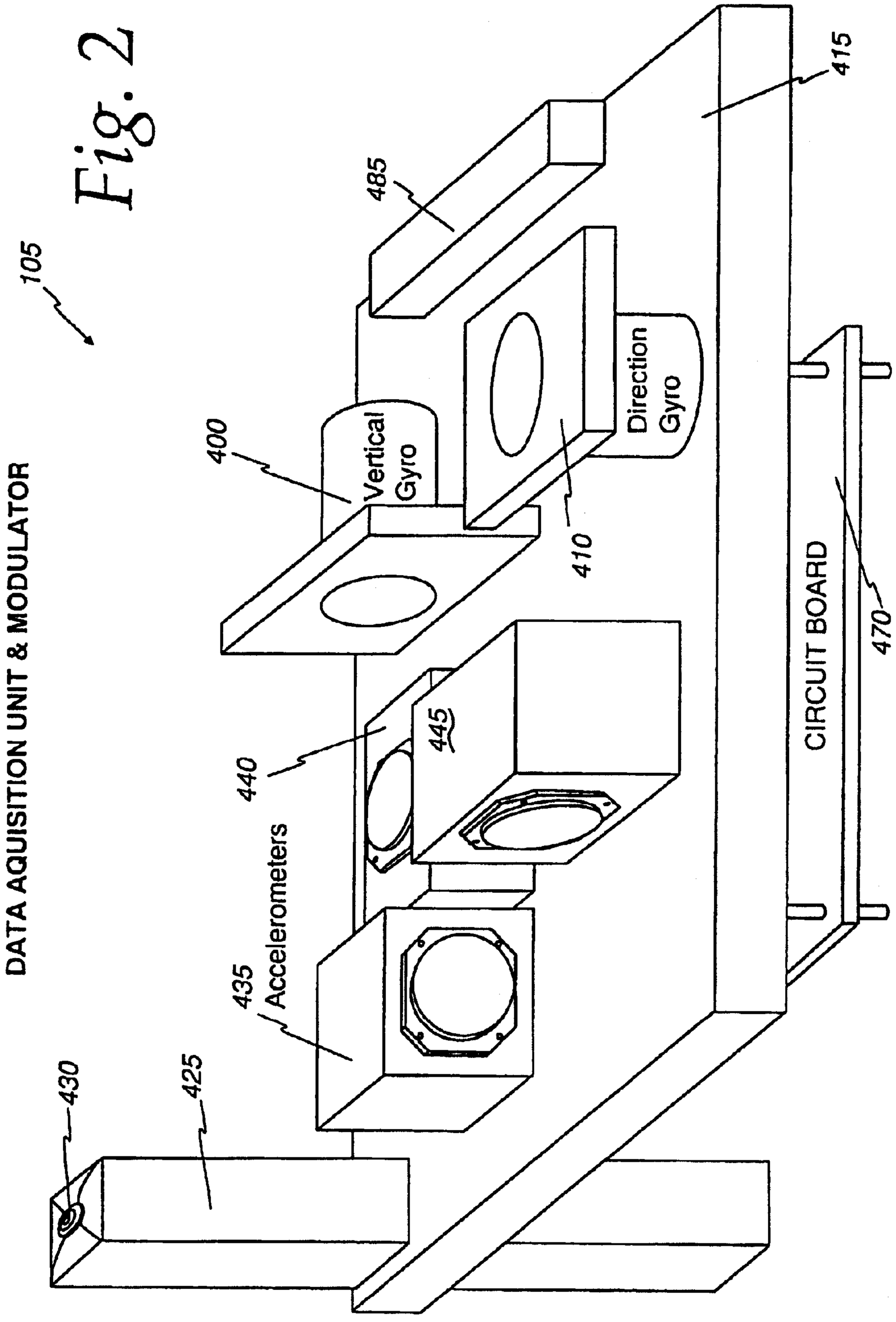

105
DATA AQUISITION UNIT & MODULATOR
485
415
400
Vertical Gyro
Direction Gyro
410
440
445
Accelerometers
435
430
425
CIRCUIT BOARD
470

Fig. 3

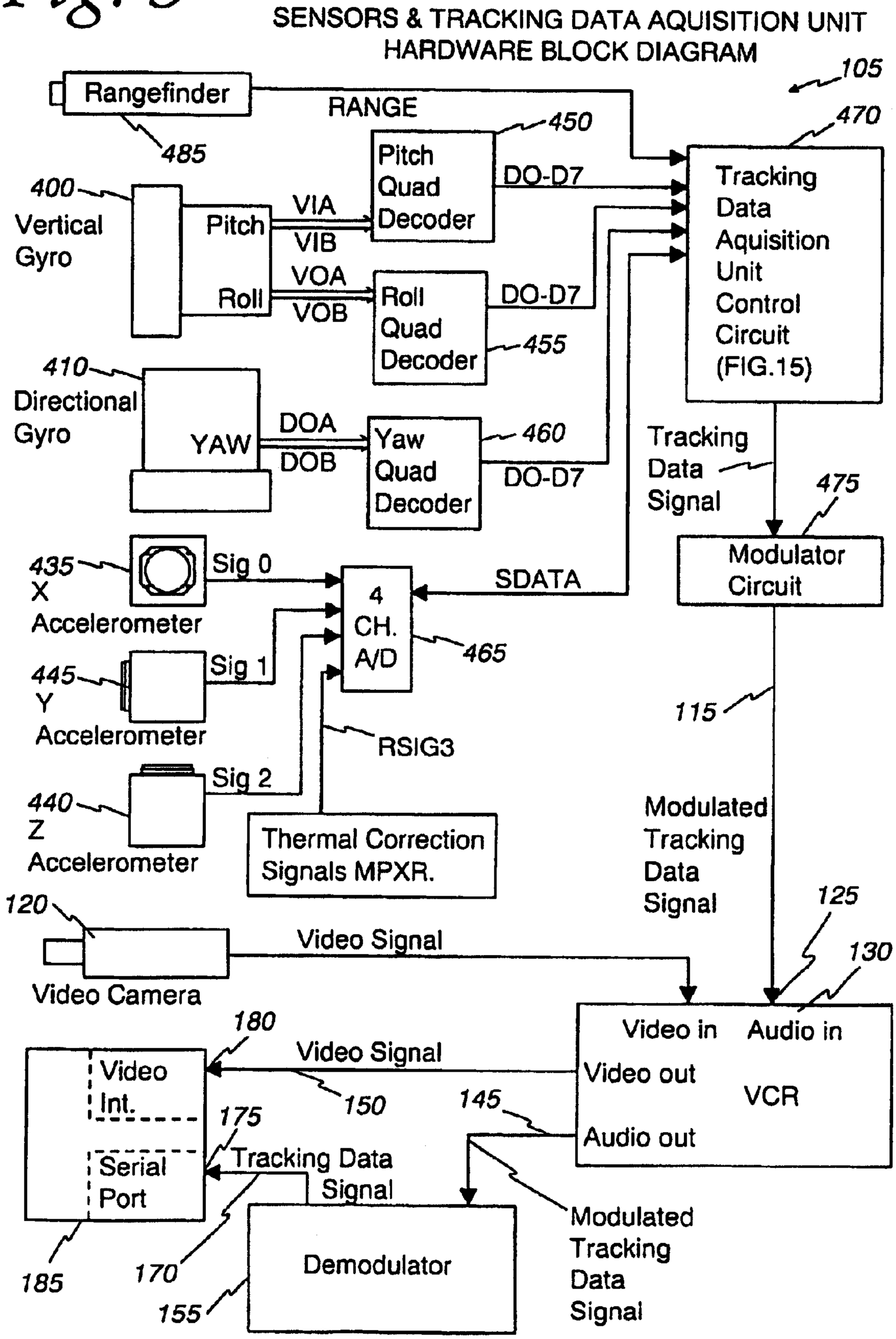

SENSORS & TRACKING DATA AQUISITION UNIT
HARDWARE BLOCK DIAGRAM
105
Rangefinder
485
RANGE
450
Pitch
Quad
Decoder
DO-D7
470
Tracking
Data
Aquisition
Unit
Control
Circuit
(FIG.15)
400
Vertical
Gyro
Pitch
Roll
VIA
VIB
VOA
VOB
Roll
Quad
Decoder
DO-D7
455
410
Directional
Gyro
YAW
DOA
DOB
Yaw
Quad
Decoder
460
DO-D7
Tracking
Data
Signal
475
Modulator
Circuit
435
X
Accelerometer
Sig 0
4
CH.
A/D
SDATA
465
445
Y
Accelerometer
Sig 1
RSIG3
115
440
Z
Accelerometer
Sig 2
Thermal Correction
Signals MPXR.
Modulated
Tracking
Data
Signal
120
125
Video Signal
Video Camera
130
180
Video Signal
Video in
Audio in
Video out
VCR
Audio out
Video
Int.
150
145
175
Tracking Data
Signal
Serial
Port
Modulated
Tracking
Data
Signal
185
170
Demodulator
155

Fig. 4

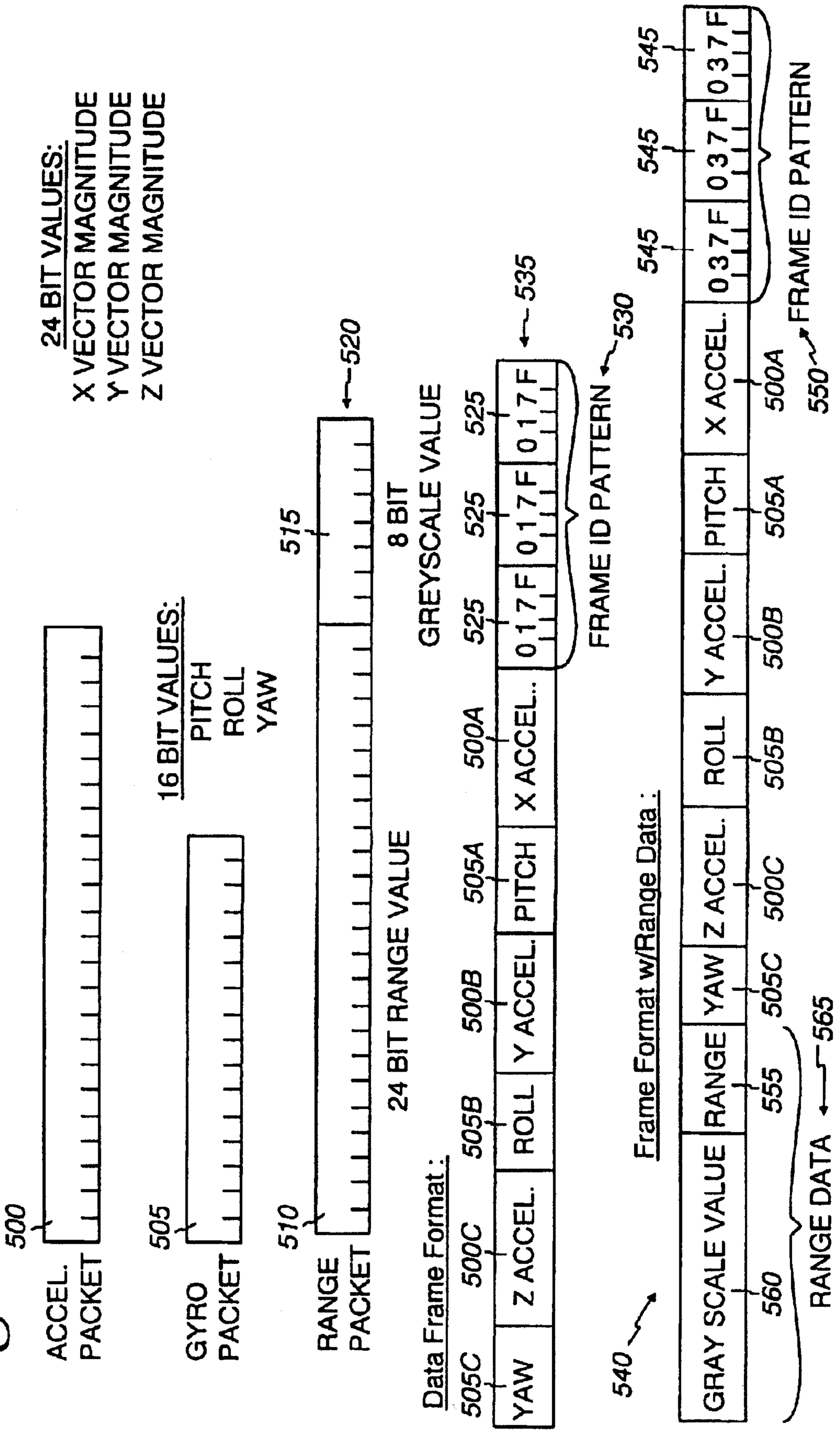

TRACKING DATA ACQUISITION UNIT - DATA FORMAT DIAGRAM
500
ACCEL. PACKET
505
GYRO PACKET
510
RANGE PACKET
24 BIT VALUES:
X VECTOR MAGNITUDE
Y VECTOR MAGNITUDE
Z VECTOR MAGNITUDE
16 BIT VALUES:
PITCH
ROLL
YAW
515
520
8 BIT GREYSCALE VALUE
24 BIT RANGE VALUE
Data Frame Format :
505C
500C
505B
500B
505A
500A
525
535
530
545
550
500A
FRAME ID PATTERN
YAW
Z ACCEL.
ROLL
Y ACCEL.
PITCH
X ACCEL..
0 1 7 F
0 3 7 F
FRAME ID PATTERN
Frame Format w/Range Data :
540
GRAY SCALE VALUE
RANGE
555
560
565
RANGE DATA

Fig. 5

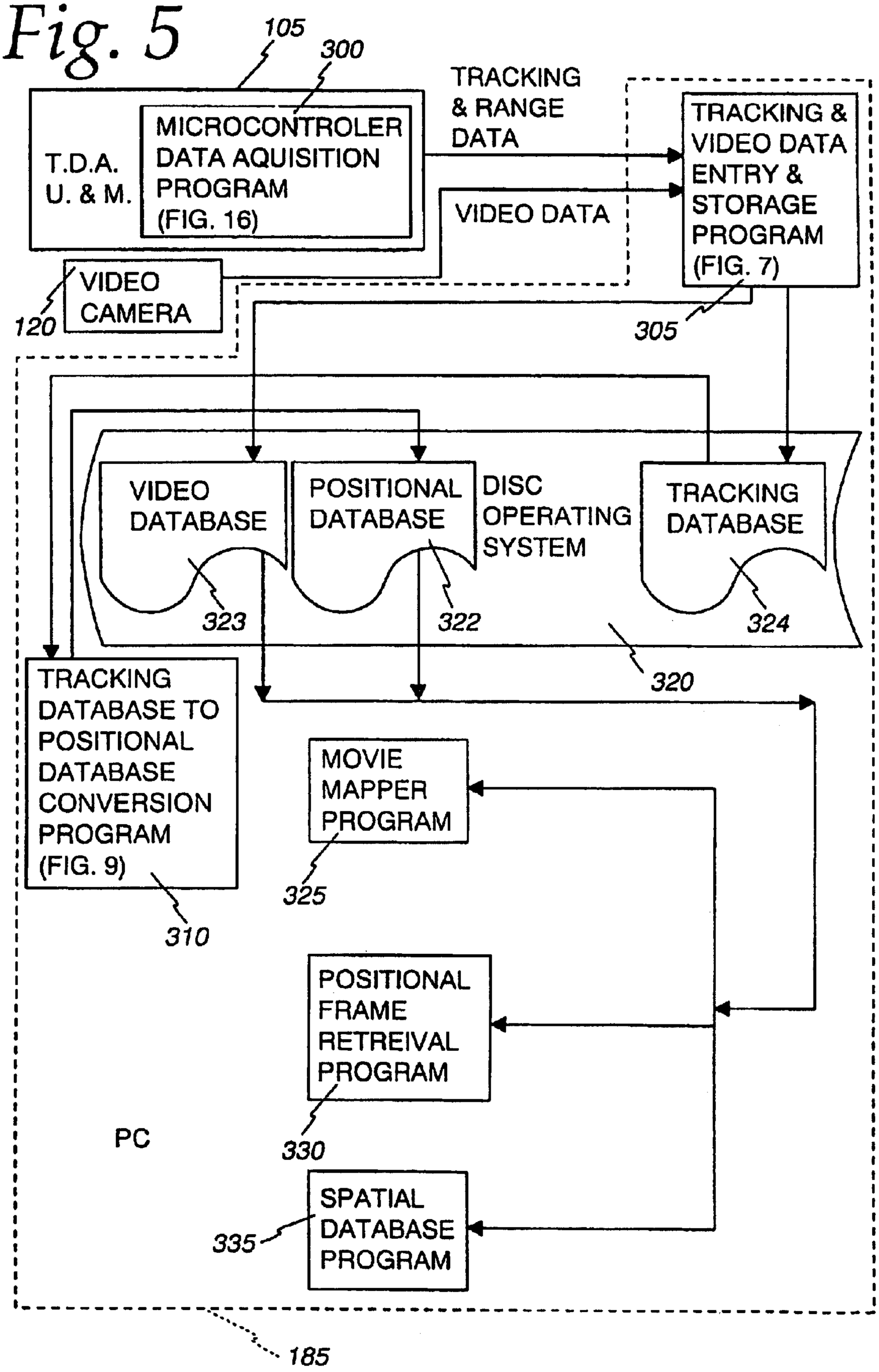

105
300
T.D.A.
U. & M.
MICROCONTROLER
DATA AQUISITION
PROGRAM
(FIG. 16)
TRACKING
& RANGE
DATA
VIDEO DATA
TRACKING &
VIDEO DATA
ENTRY &
STORAGE
PROGRAM
(FIG. 7)
120
VIDEO
CAMERA
305
VIDEO
DATABASE
POSITIONAL
DATABASE
DISC
OPERATING
SYSTEM
TRACKING
DATABASE
323
322
324
320
TRACKING
DATABASE TO
POSITIONAL
DATABASE
CONVERSION
PROGRAM
(FIG. 9)
310
MOVIE
MAPPER
PROGRAM
325
POSITIONAL
FRAME
RETREIVAL
PROGRAM
330
PC
SPATIAL
DATABASE
PROGRAM
335
185

Fig. 6

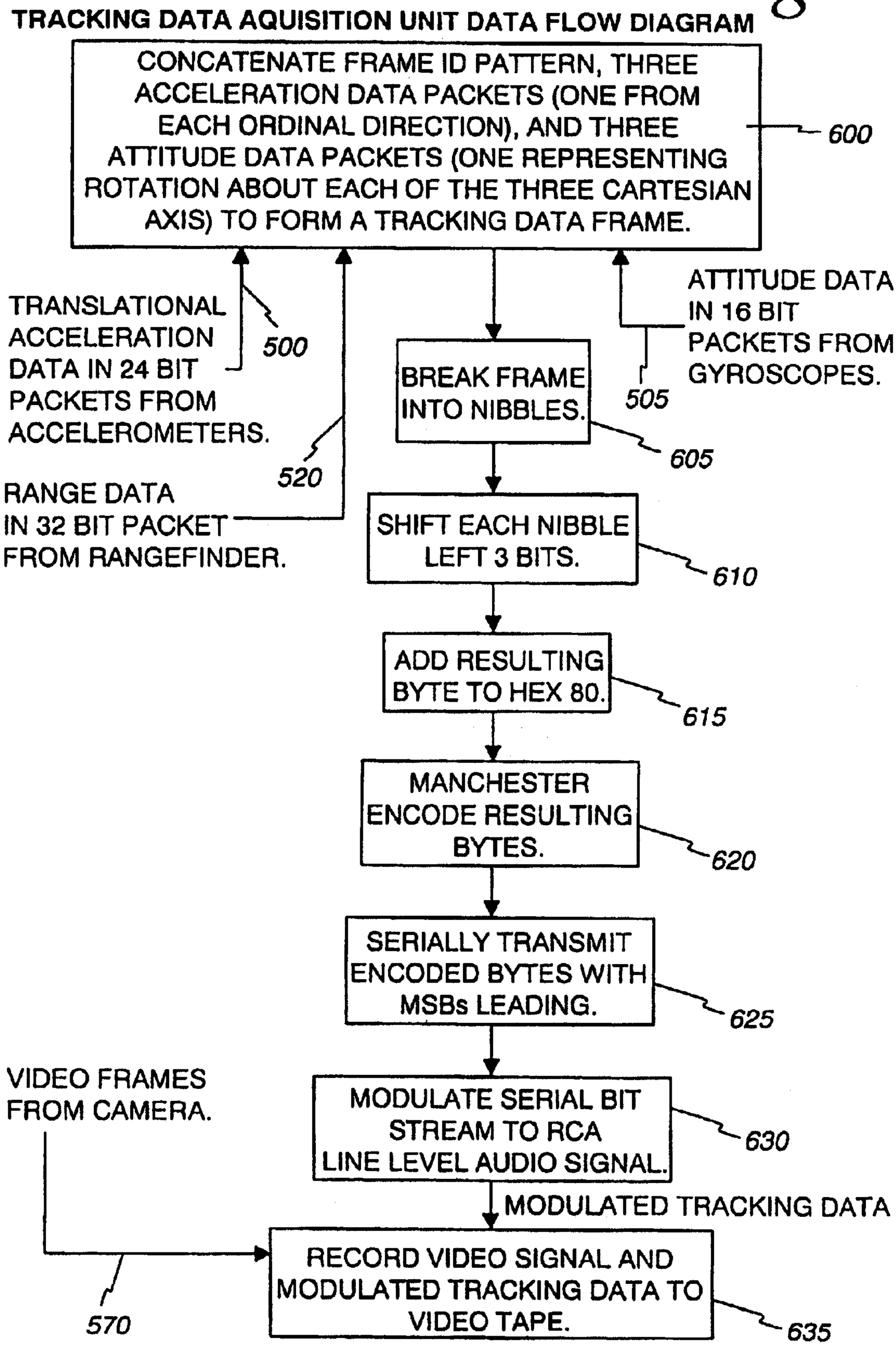

TRACKING DATA AQUISITION UNIT DATA FLOW DIAGRAM
CONCATENATE FRAME ID PATTERN, THREE ACCELERATION DATA PACKETS (ONE FROM EACH ORDINAL DIRECTION), AND THREE ATTITUDE DATA PACKETS (ONE REPRESENTING ROTATION ABOUT EACH OF THE THREE CARTESIAN AXIS) TO FORM A TRACKING DATA FRAME.
600
TRANSLATIONAL ACCELERATION DATA IN 24 BIT PACKETS FROM ACCELEROMETERS.
500
RANGE DATA IN 32 BIT PACKET FROM RANGEFINDER.
520
ATTITUDE DATA IN 16 BIT PACKETS FROM GYROSCOPES.
505
BREAK FRAME INTO NIBBLES.
605
SHIFT EACH NIBBLE LEFT 3 BITS.
610
ADD RESULTING BYTE TO HEX 80.
615
MANCHESTER ENCODE RESULTING BYTES.
620
SERIALLY TRANSMIT ENCODED BYTES WITH MSBs LEADING.
625
MODULATE SERIAL BIT STREAM TO RCA LINE LEVEL AUDIO SIGNAL.
630
MODULATED TRACKING DATA
VIDEO FRAMES FROM CAMERA.
570
RECORD VIDEO SIGNAL AND MODULATED TRACKING DATA TO VIDEO TAPE.
635

Fig. 7

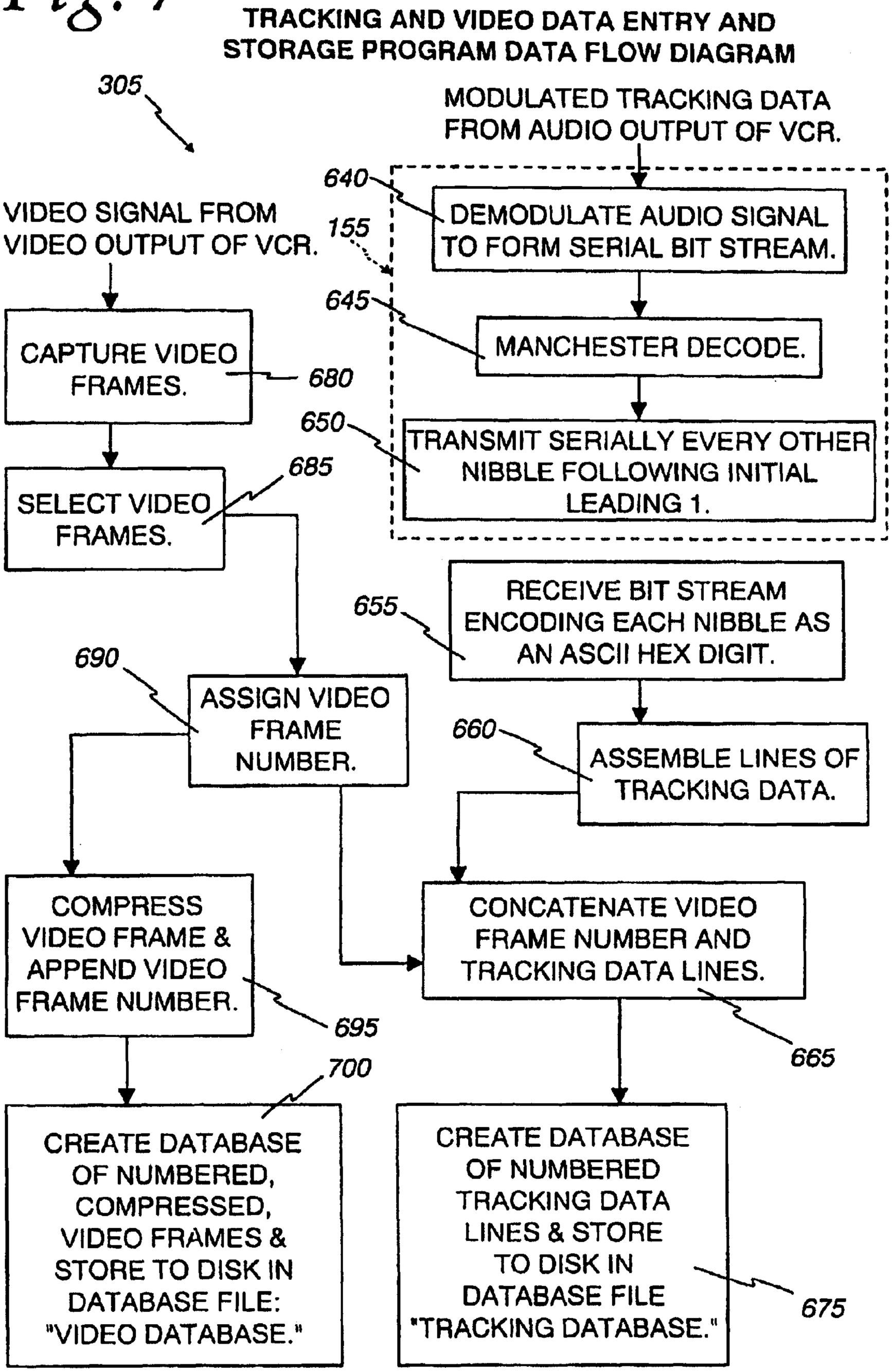
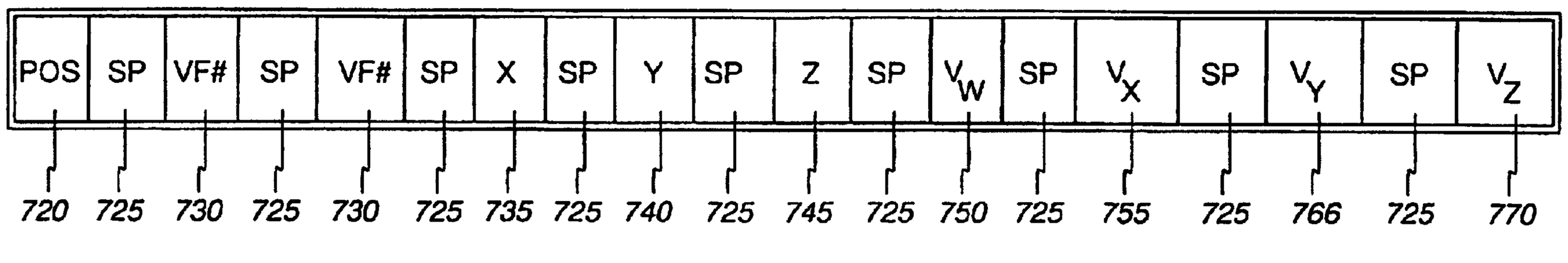

TRACKING AND VIDEO DATA ENTRY AND STORAGE PROGRAM DATA FLOW DIAGRAM
305
MODULATED TRACKING DATA FROM AUDIO OUTPUT OF VCR.
640
DEMODULATE AUDIO SIGNAL TO FORM SERIAL BIT STREAM.
155
VIDEO SIGNAL FROM VIDEO OUTPUT OF VCR.
645
MANCHESTER DECODE.
CAPTURE VIDEO FRAMES.
680
650
TRANSMIT SERIALLY EVERY OTHER NIBBLE FOLLOWING INITIAL LEADING 1.
685
SELECT VIDEO FRAMES.
655
RECEIVE BIT STREAM ENCODING EACH NIBBLE AS AN ASCII HEX DIGIT.
690
ASSIGN VIDEO FRAME NUMBER.
660
ASSEMBLE LINES OF TRACKING DATA.
COMPRESS VIDEO FRAME & APPEND VIDEO FRAME NUMBER.
CONCATENATE VIDEO FRAME NUMBER AND TRACKING DATA LINES.
695
665
700
CREATE DATABASE OF NUMBERED, COMPRESSED, VIDEO FRAMES & STORE TO DISK IN DATABASE FILE: "VIDEO DATABASE."
CREATE DATABASE OF NUMBERED TRACKING DATA LINES & STORE TO DISK IN DATABASE FILE "TRACKING DATABASE."
675

Fig. 8

POSITIONAL DATA RECORD FORMAT

715

QUATERNION POSITION NOTATION RECORD FORMAT



775

DIRECT ANGULAR NOTATION RECORD FORMAT

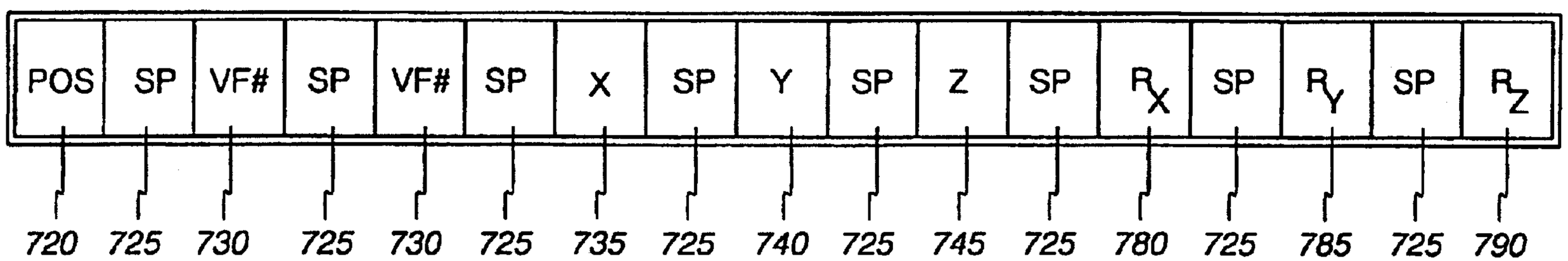


Fig. 9

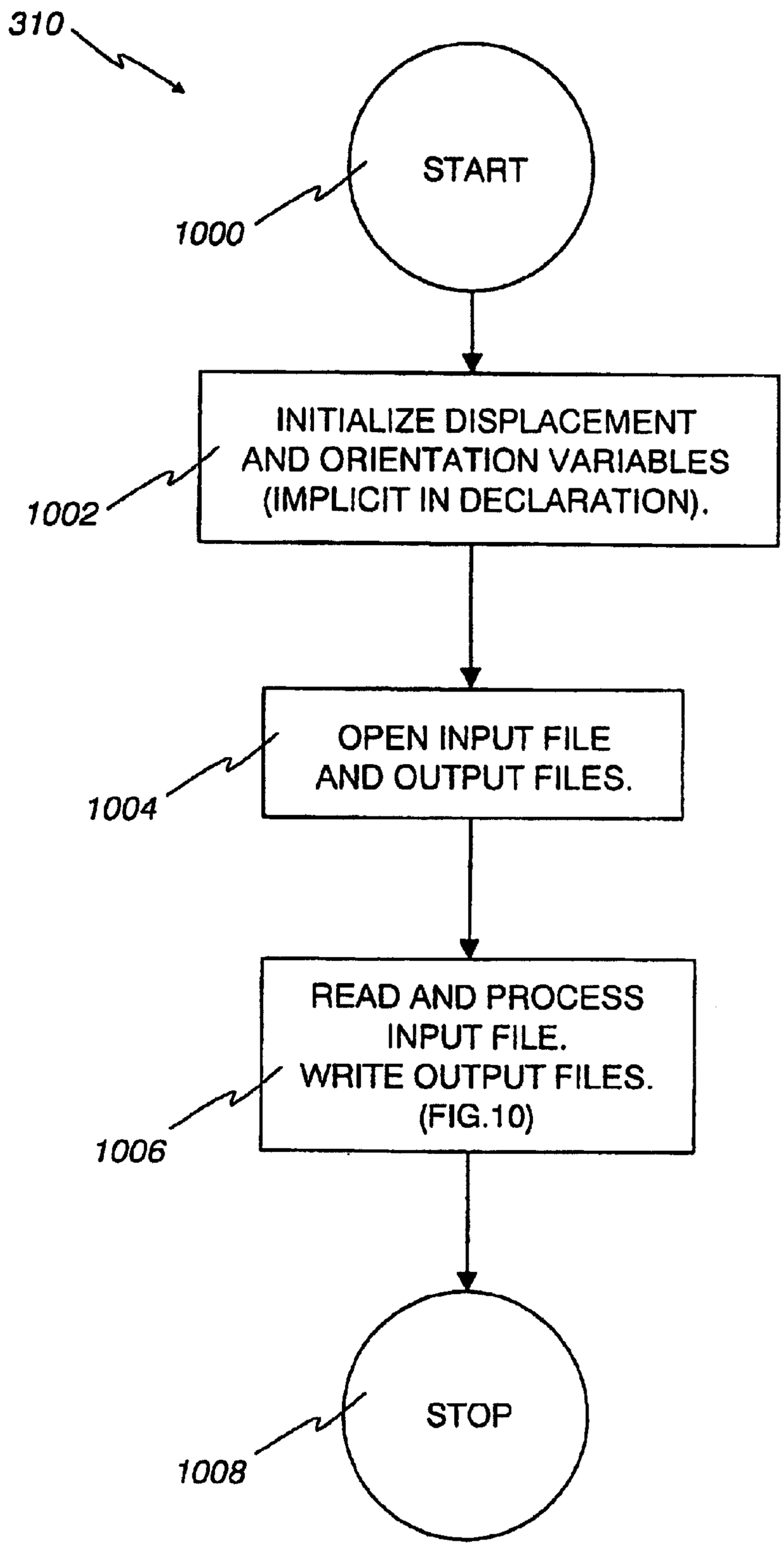

310
START
1000
INITIALIZE DISPLACEMENT AND ORIENTATION VARIABLES (IMPLICIT IN DECLARATION).
1002
OPEN INPUT FILE AND OUTPUT FILES.
1004
READ AND PROCESS INPUT FILE. WRITE OUTPUT FILES. (FIG.10)
1006
STOP
1008

Fig. 10

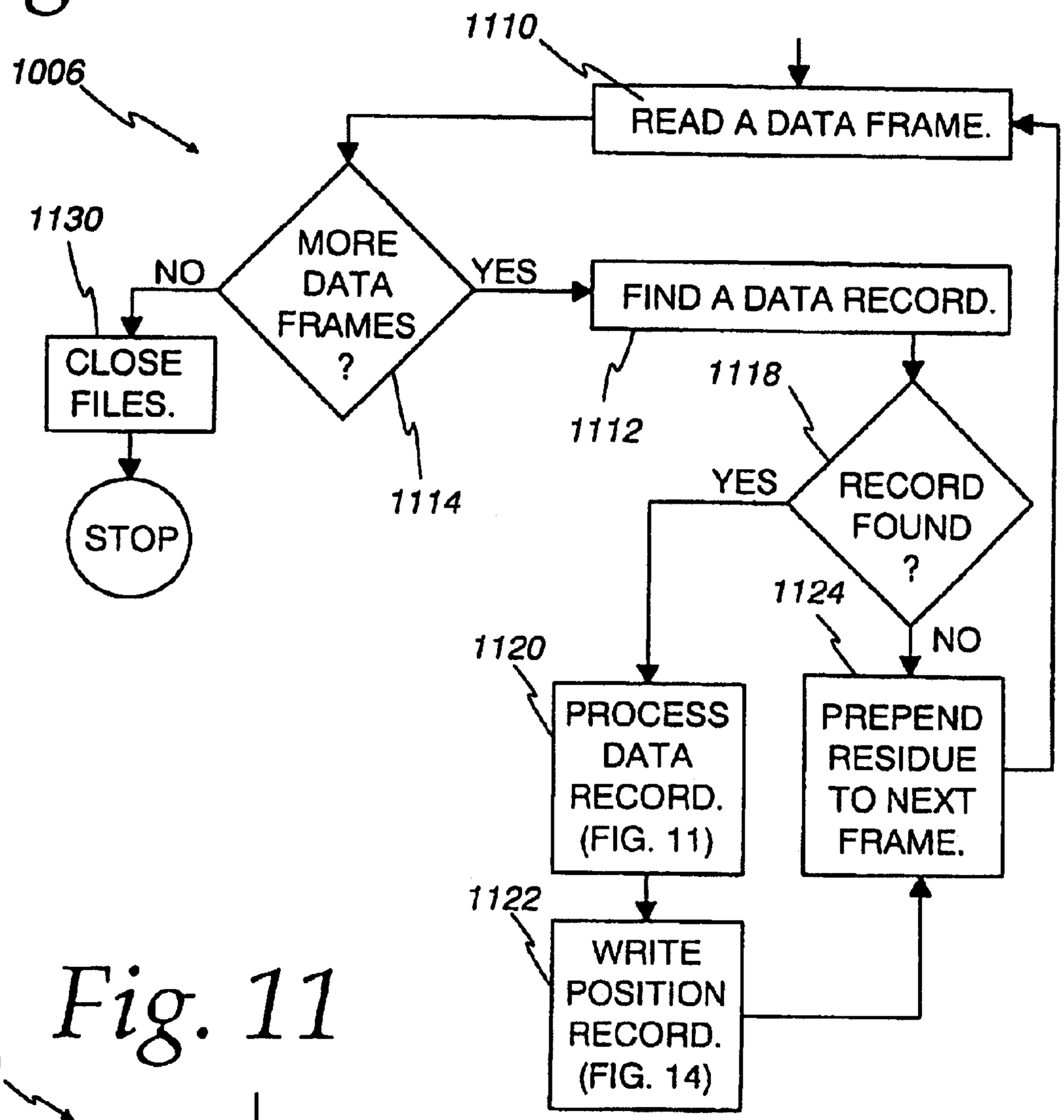

1006
1110
READ A DATA FRAME.
1130
NO
MORE DATA FRAMES ?
YES
CLOSE FILES.
FIND A DATA RECORD.
1112
1118
STOP
1114
YES
RECORD FOUND ?
1124
NO
1120
PROCESS DATA RECORD. (FIG. 11)
PREPEND RESIDUE TO NEXT FRAME.
1122
WRITE POSITION RECORD. (FIG. 14)

Fig. 11

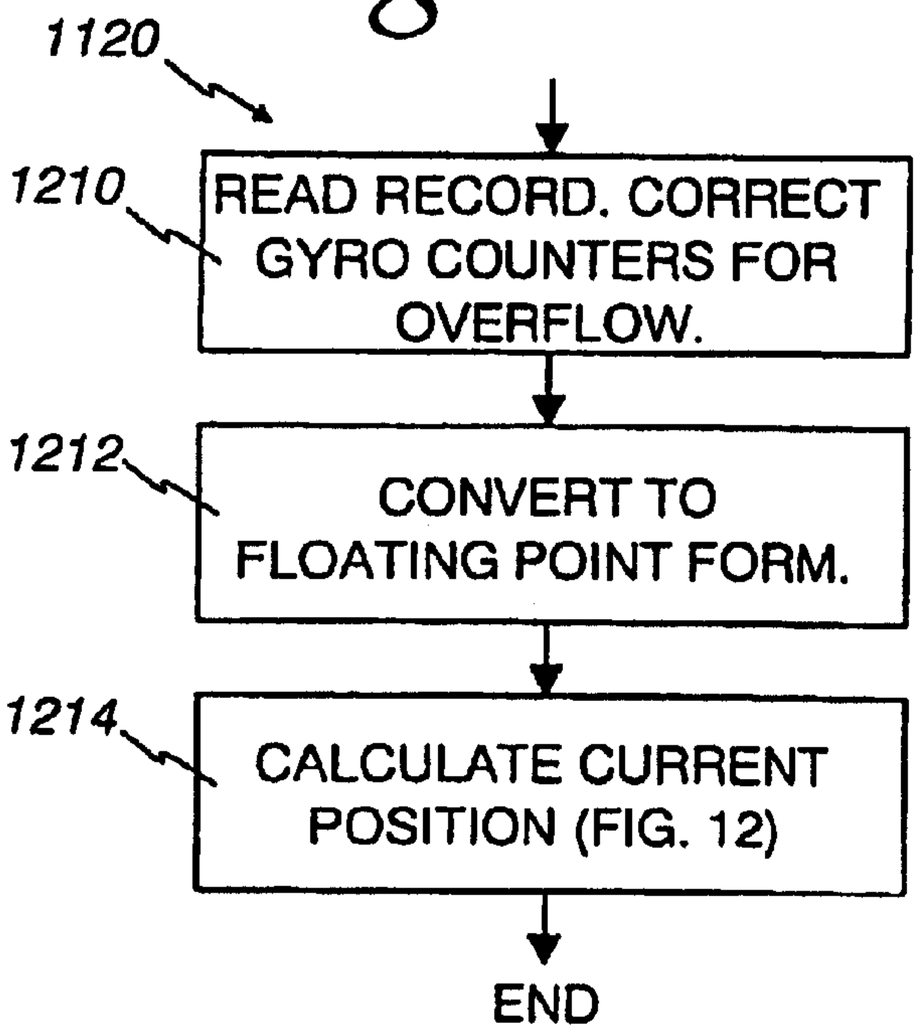

1120
1210
READ RECORD. CORRECT GYRO COUNTERS FOR OVERFLOW.
1212
CONVERT TO FLOATING POINT FORM.
1214
CALCULATE CURRENT POSITION (FIG. 12)
END

Fig. 12

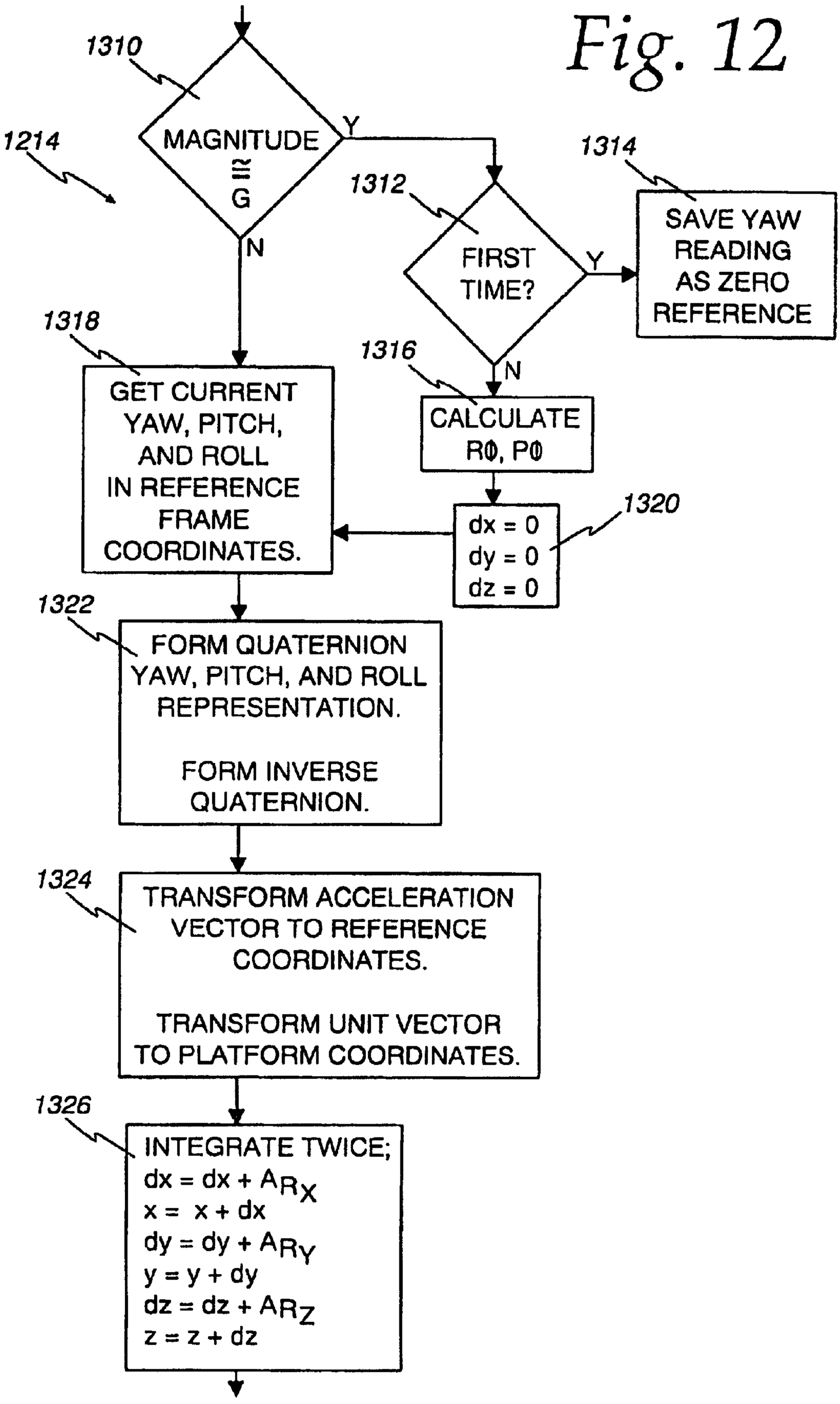

1310
MAGNITUDE ≅ G
Y
N
1214
1312
FIRST TIME?
Y
N
1314
SAVE YAW READING AS ZERO REFERENCE
1316
CALCULATE RØ, PØ
1320
dx = 0
dy = 0
dz = 0
1318
GET CURRENT YAW, PITCH, AND ROLL IN REFERENCE FRAME COORDINATES.
1322
FORM QUATERNION YAW, PITCH, AND ROLL REPRESENTATION.
FORM INVERSE QUATERNION.
1324
TRANSFORM ACCELERATION VECTOR TO REFERENCE COORDINATES.
TRANSFORM UNIT VECTOR TO PLATFORM COORDINATES.
1326
INTEGRATE TWICE;
dx = dx + A_RX
x = x + dx
dy = dy + A_RY
y = y + dy
dz = dz + A_RZ
z = z + dz

Fig. 13

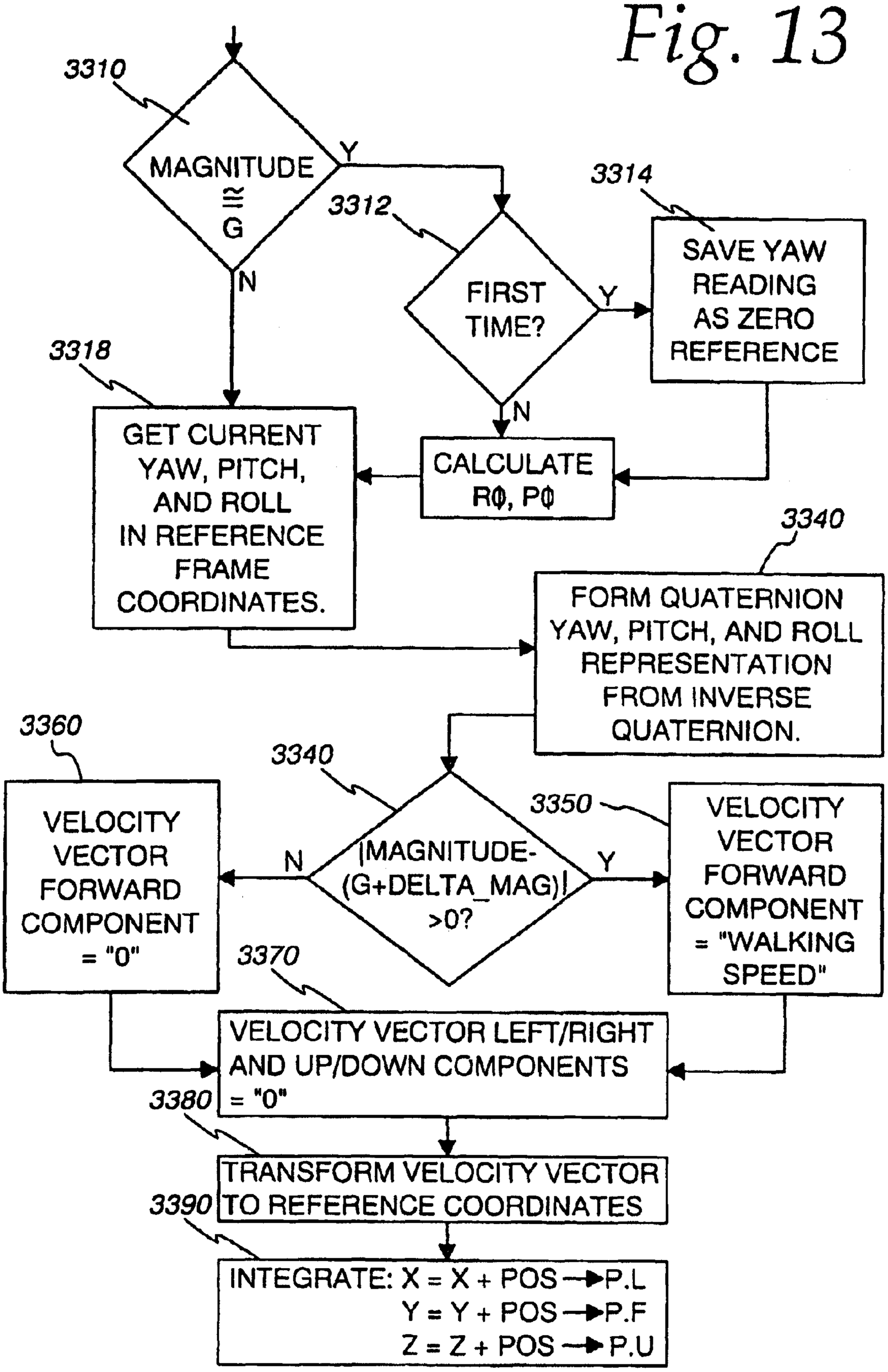

3310
MAGNITUDE ≅ G
Y
N
3312
FIRST TIME?
Y
N
3314
SAVE YAW READING AS ZERO REFERENCE
3318
GET CURRENT YAW, PITCH, AND ROLL IN REFERENCE FRAME COORDINATES.
CALCULATE RΦ, PΦ
3340
FORM QUATERNION YAW, PITCH, AND ROLL REPRESENTATION FROM INVERSE QUATERNION.
3360
VELOCITY VECTOR FORWARD COMPONENT = "0"
3340
|MAGNITUDE-(G+DELTA_MAG)| >0?
N
Y
3350
VELOCITY VECTOR FORWARD COMPONENT = "WALKING SPEED"
3370
VELOCITY VECTOR LEFT/RIGHT AND UP/DOWN COMPONENTS = "0"
3380
TRANSFORM VELOCITY VECTOR TO REFERENCE COORDINATES
3390
INTEGRATE: X = X + POS → P.L
Y = Y + POS → P.F
Z = Z + POS → P.U

Fig. 14

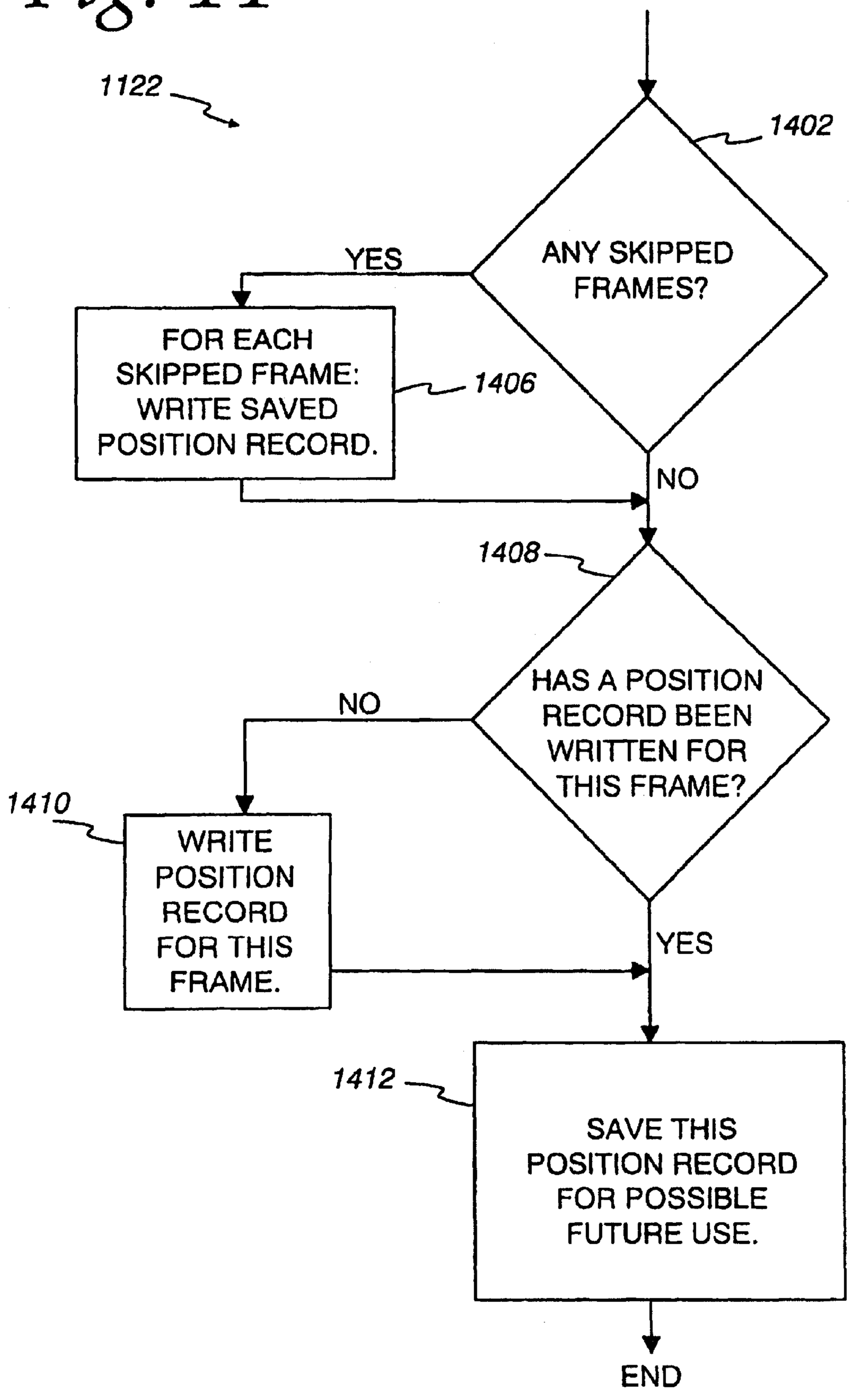

1122
1402
ANY SKIPPED FRAMES?
YES
FOR EACH SKIPPED FRAME: WRITE SAVED POSITION RECORD.
1406
NO
1408
HAS A POSITION RECORD BEEN WRITTEN FOR THIS FRAME?
NO
1410
WRITE POSITION RECORD FOR THIS FRAME.
YES
1412
SAVE THIS POSITION RECORD FOR POSSIBLE FUTURE USE.
END

Fig. 15A

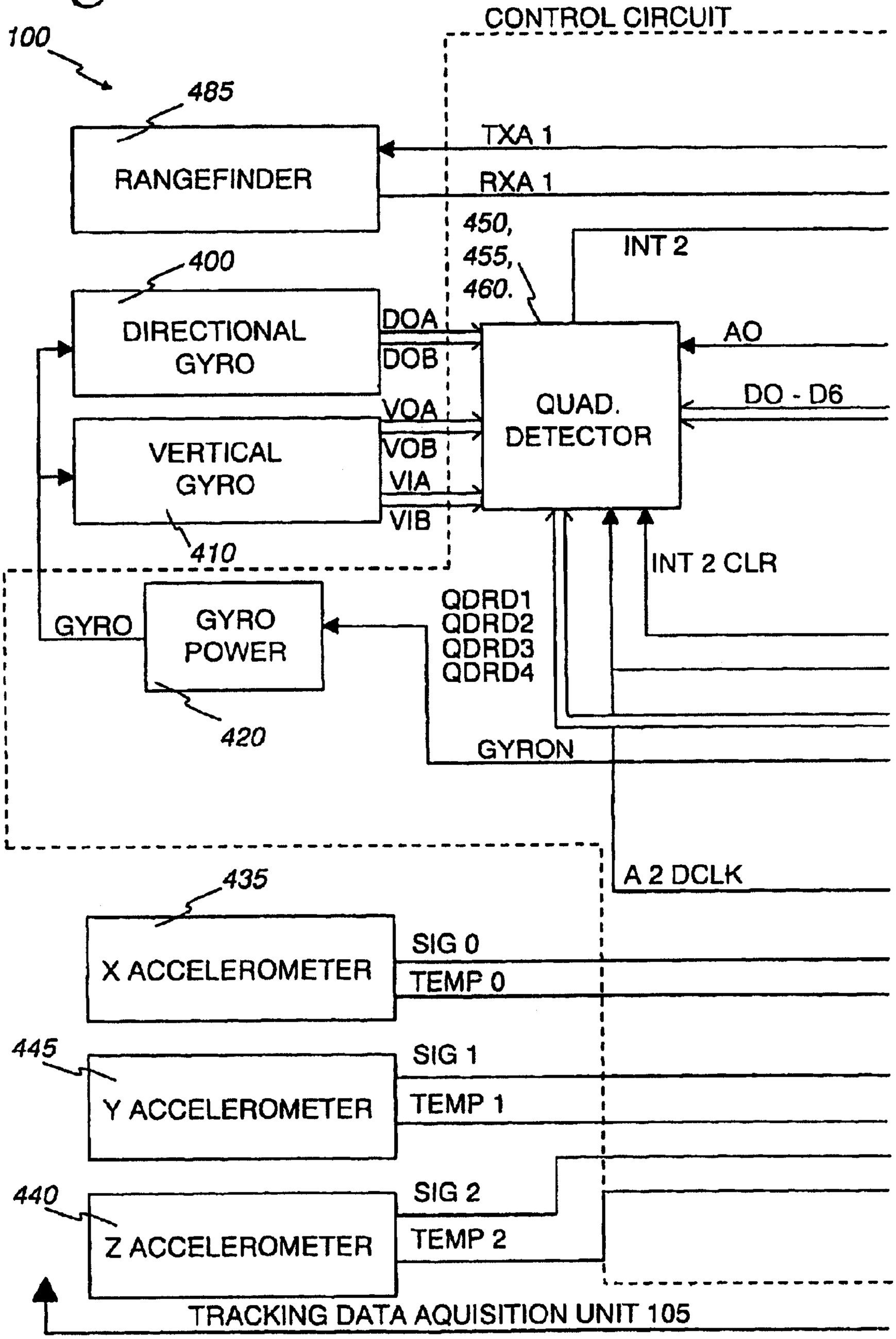

CONTROL CIRCUIT
100
485
RANGEFINDER
TXA 1
RXA 1
450,
455,
460.
INT 2
400
DIRECTIONAL GYRO
DOA
DOB
AO
DO - D6
QUAD. DETECTOR
VOA
VOB
VIA
VIB
VERTICAL GYRO
410
INT 2 CLR
GYRO
GYRO POWER
QDRD1
QDRD2
QDRD3
QDRD4
420
GYRON
A 2 DCLK
435
X ACCELEROMETER
SIG 0
TEMP 0
445
Y ACCELEROMETER
SIG 1
TEMP 1
440
Z ACCELEROMETER
SIG 2
TEMP 2
TRACKING DATA AQUISITION UNIT 105

Fig. 15B

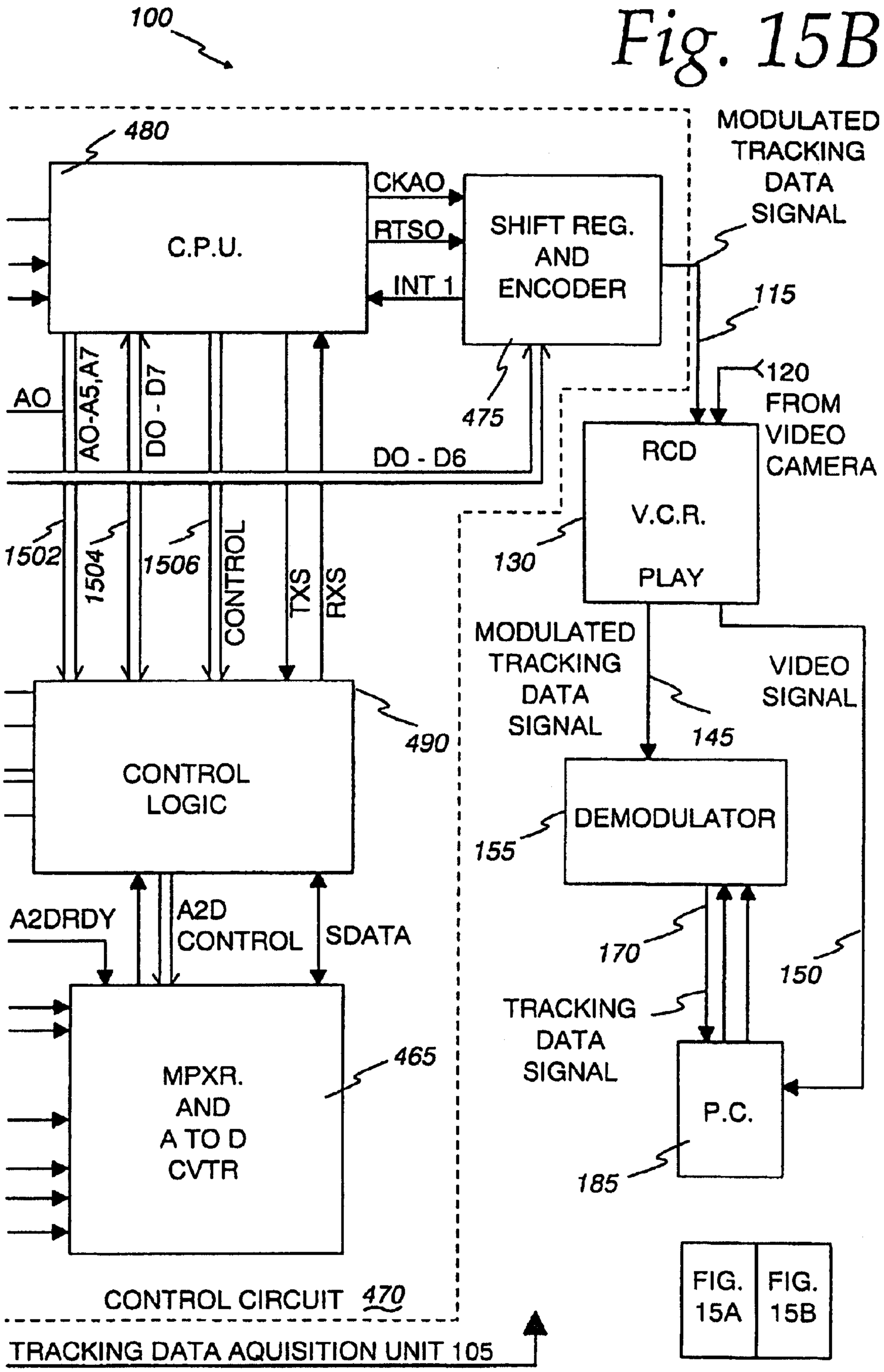

100
480
C.P.U.
CKAO
RTSO
INT 1
SHIFT REG. AND ENCODER
MODULATED TRACKING DATA SIGNAL
115
120 FROM VIDEO CAMERA
475
AO
AO-A5,A7
DO - D7
DO - D6
RCD V.C.R. PLAY
130
1502
1504
1506
CONTROL
TXS
RXS
MODULATED TRACKING DATA SIGNAL
VIDEO SIGNAL
145
490
CONTROL LOGIC
DEMODULATOR
155
A2DRDY
A2D CONTROL
SDATA
170
150
TRACKING DATA SIGNAL
465
MPXR. AND A TO D CVTR
P.C.
185
CONTROL CIRCUIT 470
TRACKING DATA AQUISITION UNIT 105
FIG. 15A
FIG. 15B

Fig. 16

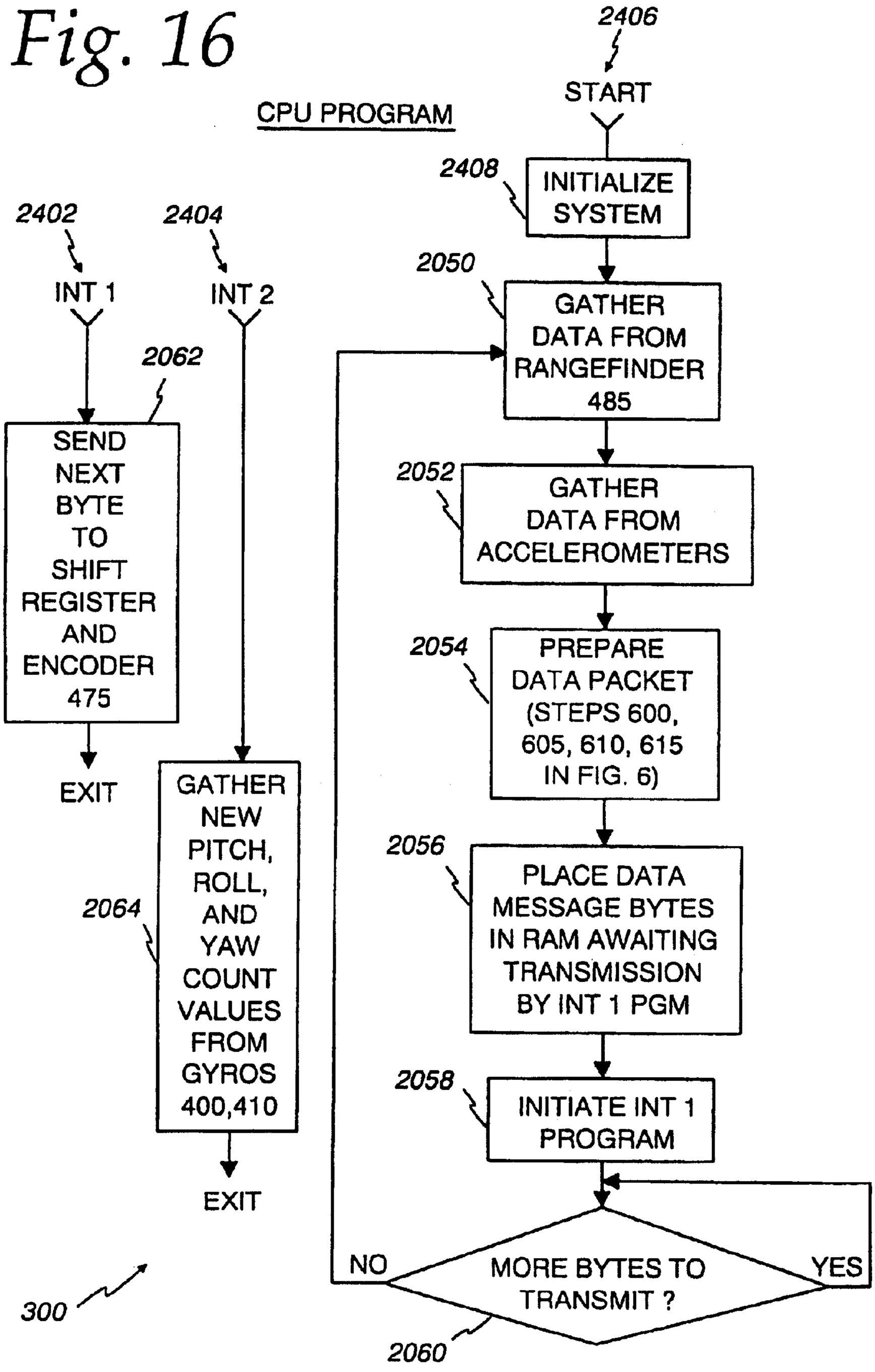

CPU PROGRAM
2406
START
2408
INITIALIZE SYSTEM
2050
GATHER DATA FROM RANGEFINDER 485
2052
GATHER DATA FROM ACCELEROMETERS
2054
PREPARE DATA PACKET (STEPS 600, 605, 610, 615 IN FIG. 6)
2056
PLACE DATA MESSAGE BYTES IN RAM AWAITING TRANSMISSION BY INT 1 PGM
2058
INITIATE INT 1 PROGRAM
MORE BYTES TO TRANSMIT ?
NO
YES
2060
2402
INT 1
2062
SEND NEXT BYTE TO SHIFT REGISTER AND ENCODER 475
EXIT
2404
INT 2
2064
GATHER NEW PITCH, ROLL, AND YAW COUNT VALUES FROM GYROS 400,410
EXIT
300

Fig. 17

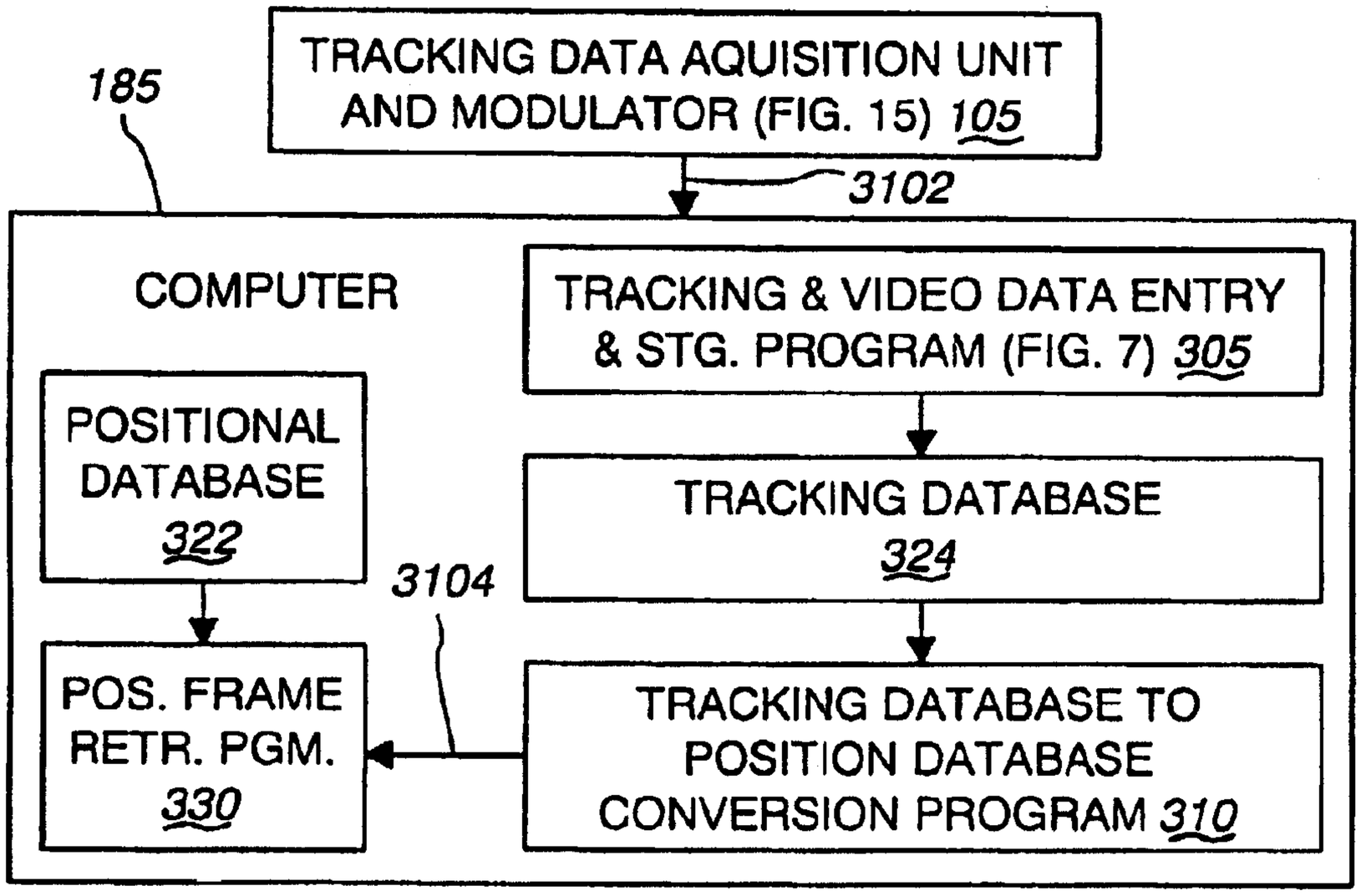

185
TRACKING DATA AQUISITION UNIT AND MODULATOR (FIG. 15) 105
3102
COMPUTER
TRACKING & VIDEO DATA ENTRY & STG. PROGRAM (FIG. 7) 305
POSITIONAL DATABASE 322
TRACKING DATABASE 324
3104
POS. FRAME RETR. PGM. 330
TRACKING DATABASE TO POSITION DATABASE CONVERSION PROGRAM 310

Fig. 18

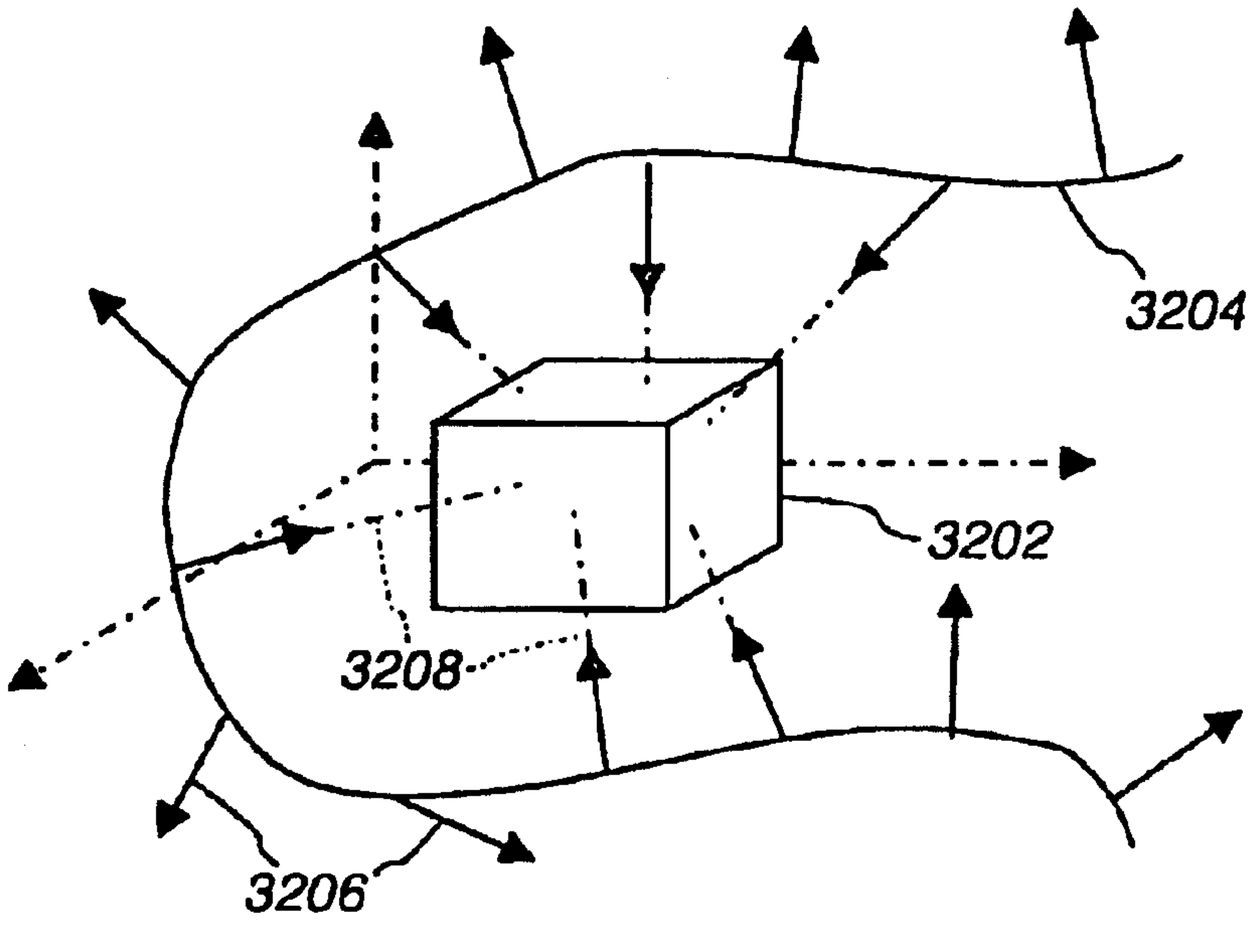
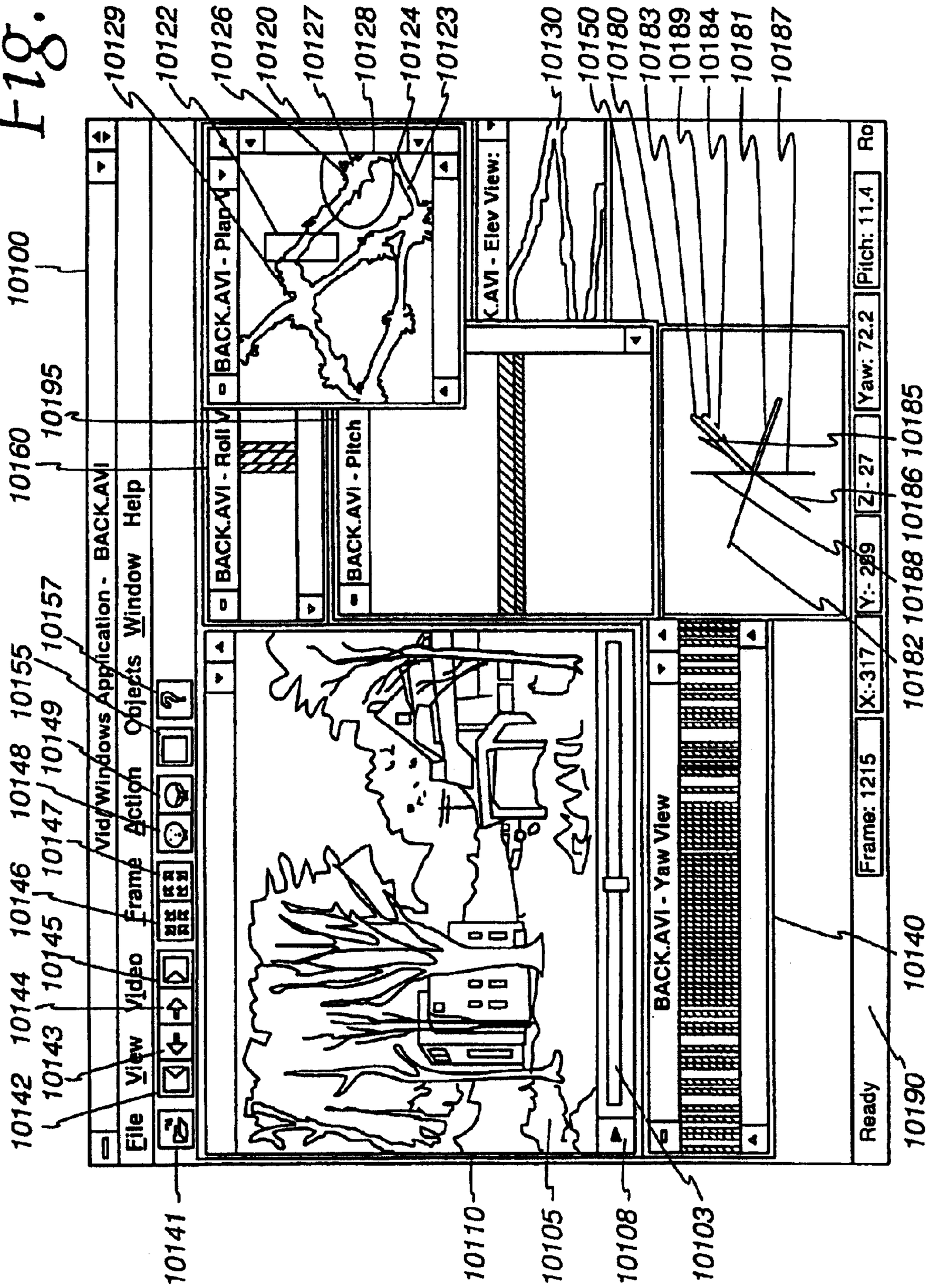

3204
3202
3208
3206

Fig. 19


10100
10129
10122
10126
10120
10127
10128
10124
10123
10130
10150
10180
10183
10189
10184
10181
10187
10160
10195
10148
10155
10157
10149
10147
10146
10145
10144
10143
10142
10141
10110
10105
10108
10103
10182
10188
10186
10185
10140
10190
File View Video Frame Action
Windows Application - BACK.AVI
Window Help
BACK.AVI - Roll
BACK.AVI - Pitch
BACK.AVI - Elev View:
BACK.AVI - Yaw View
Pitch: 11.4
Yaw: 72.2
Z: 27
Y:- 289
X:-317
Frame: 1215
Ready

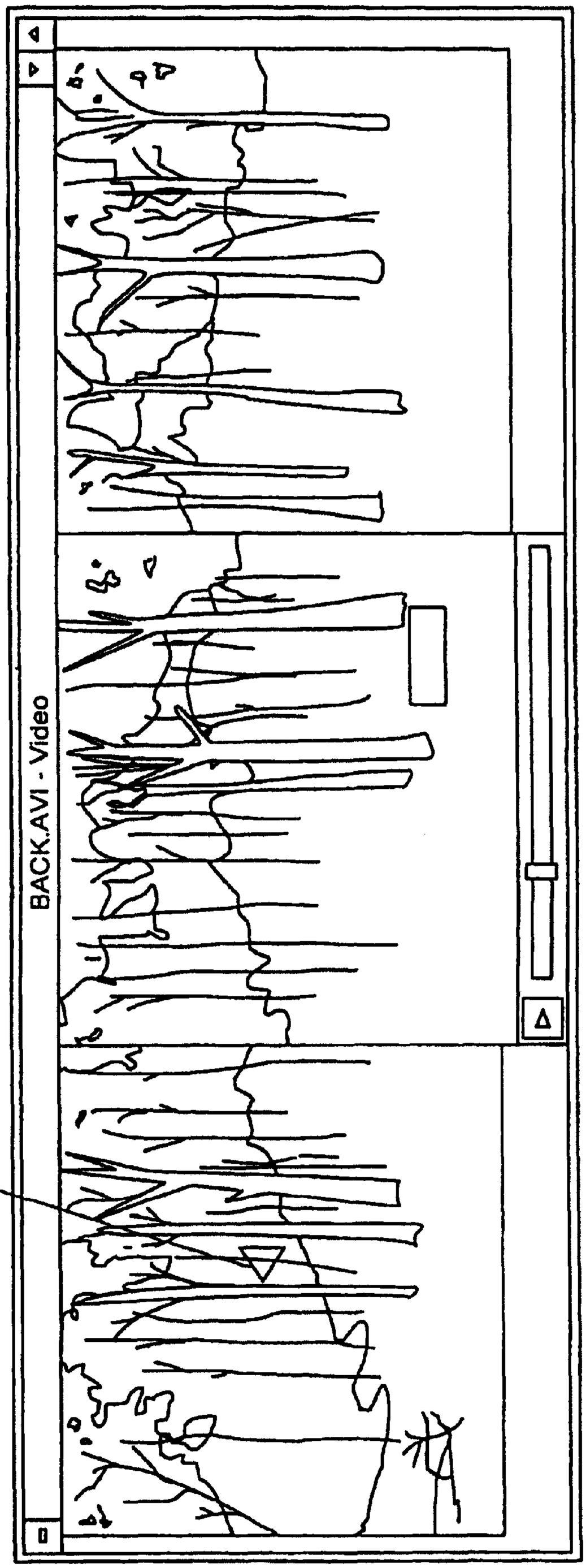


Fig. 20

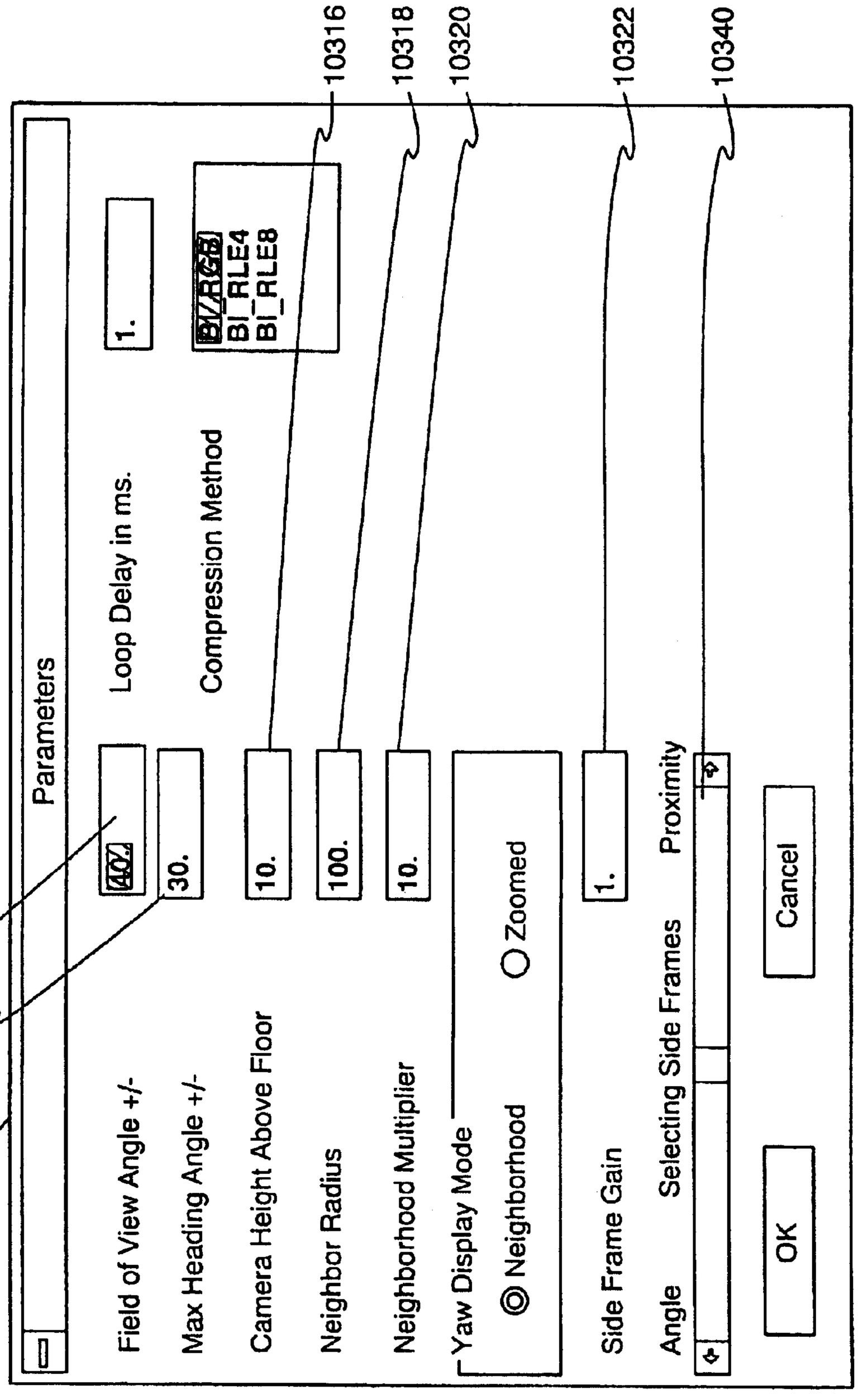
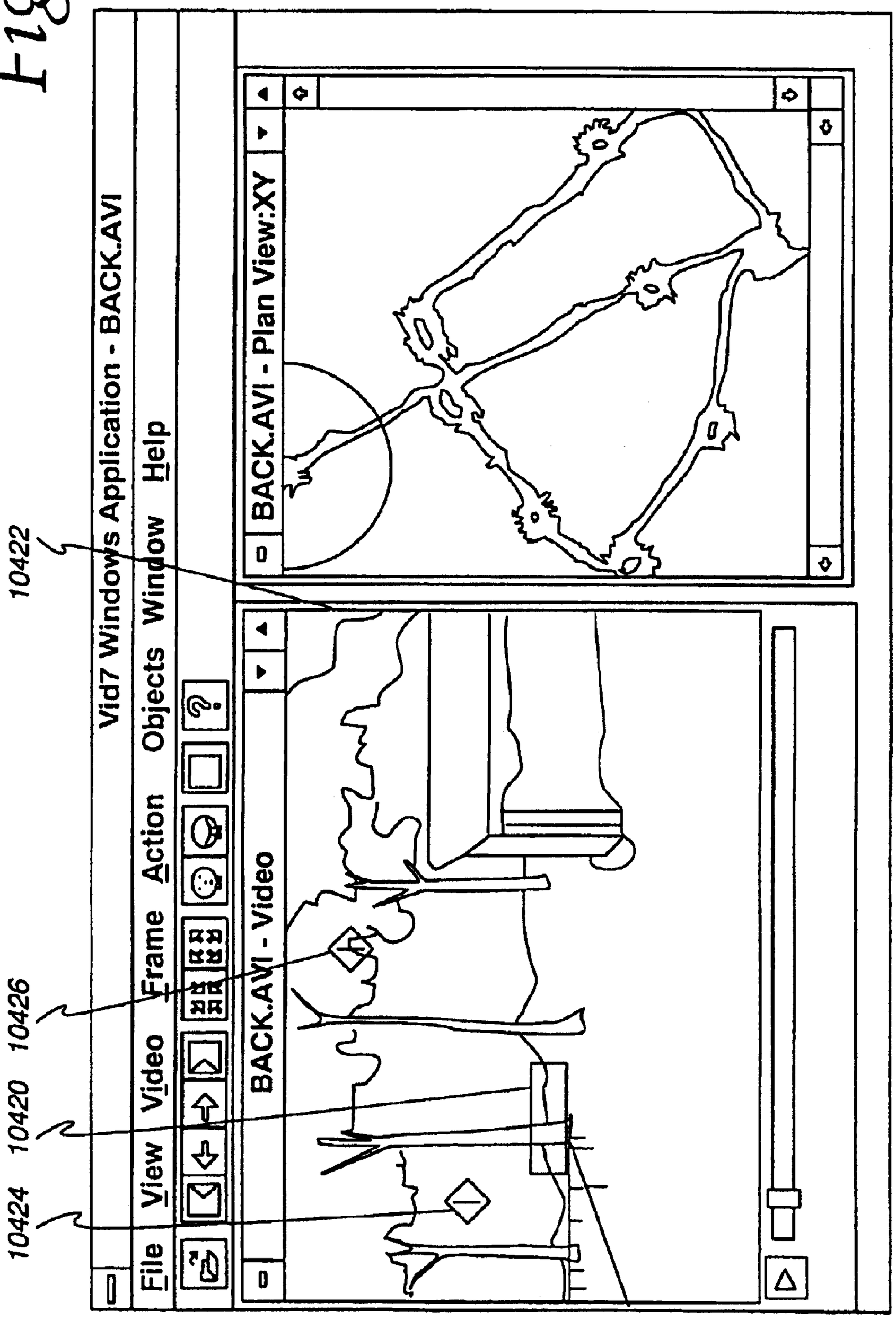

10316
10318
10320
10322
10340
10312
10310 10314
Parameters
Loop Delay in ms.
Compression Method
1.
BI_RLE4
BI_RLE8
40.
30.
10.
100.
10.
Zoomed
1.
Proximity
Cancel
Field of View Angle +/-
Max Heading Angle +/-
Camera Height Above Floor
Neighbor Radius
Neighborhood Multiplier
Yaw Display Mode
Neighborhood
Side Frame Gain
Angle
Selecting Side Frames
OK

Fig. 21

Fig. 22


10422
10424
10420
10426
Vid7 Windows Application - BACK.AVI
File View Video Frame Action Objects Window Help
BACK.AVI - Video
BACK.AVI - Plan View:XY

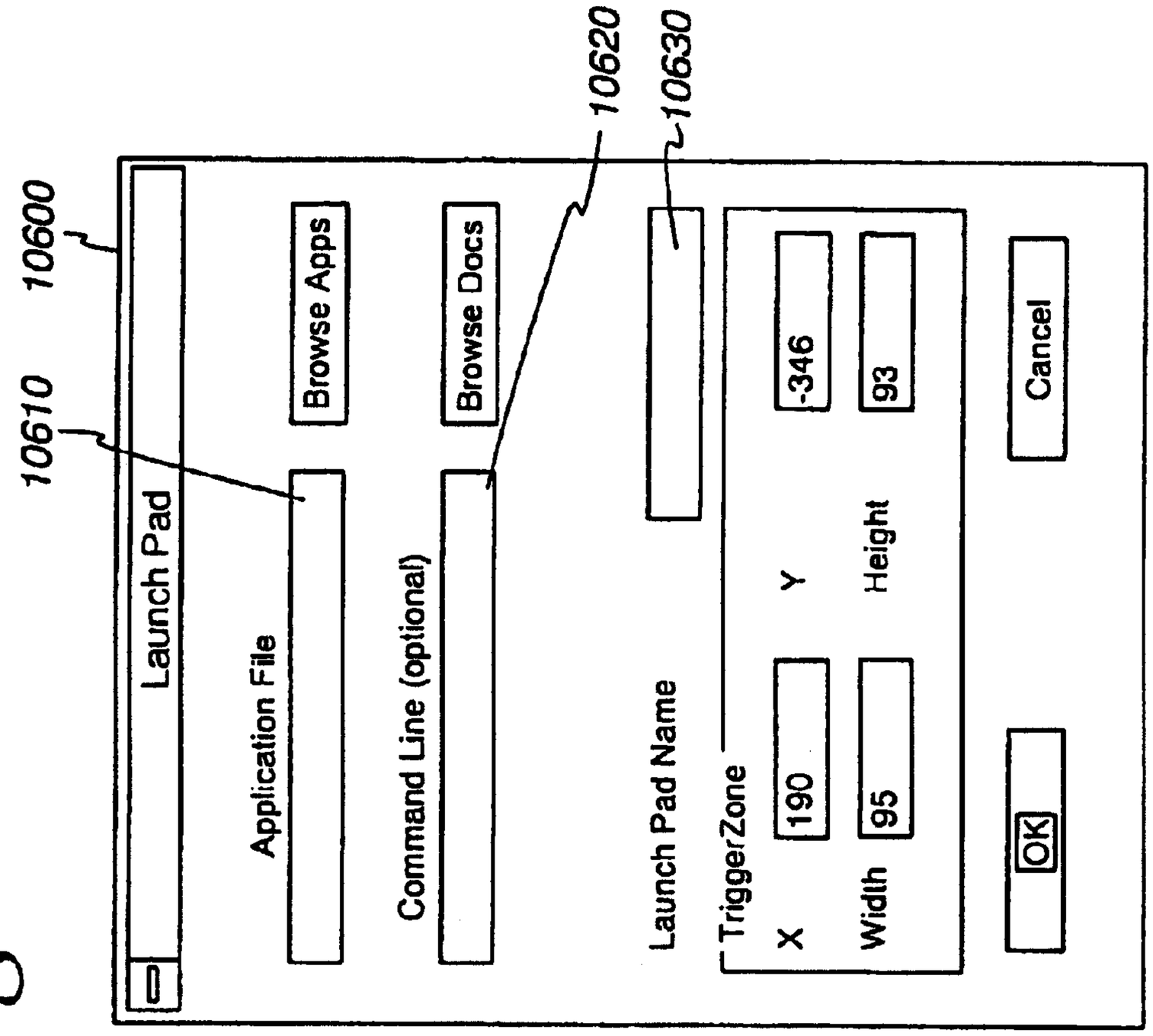

10600
10610
10620
10630
Launch Pad
Browse Apps
Browse Docs
Application File
Command Line (optional)
Launch Pad Name
TriggerZone
X
190
Y
-346
Width
95
Height
93
Cancel
OK

Fig. 24

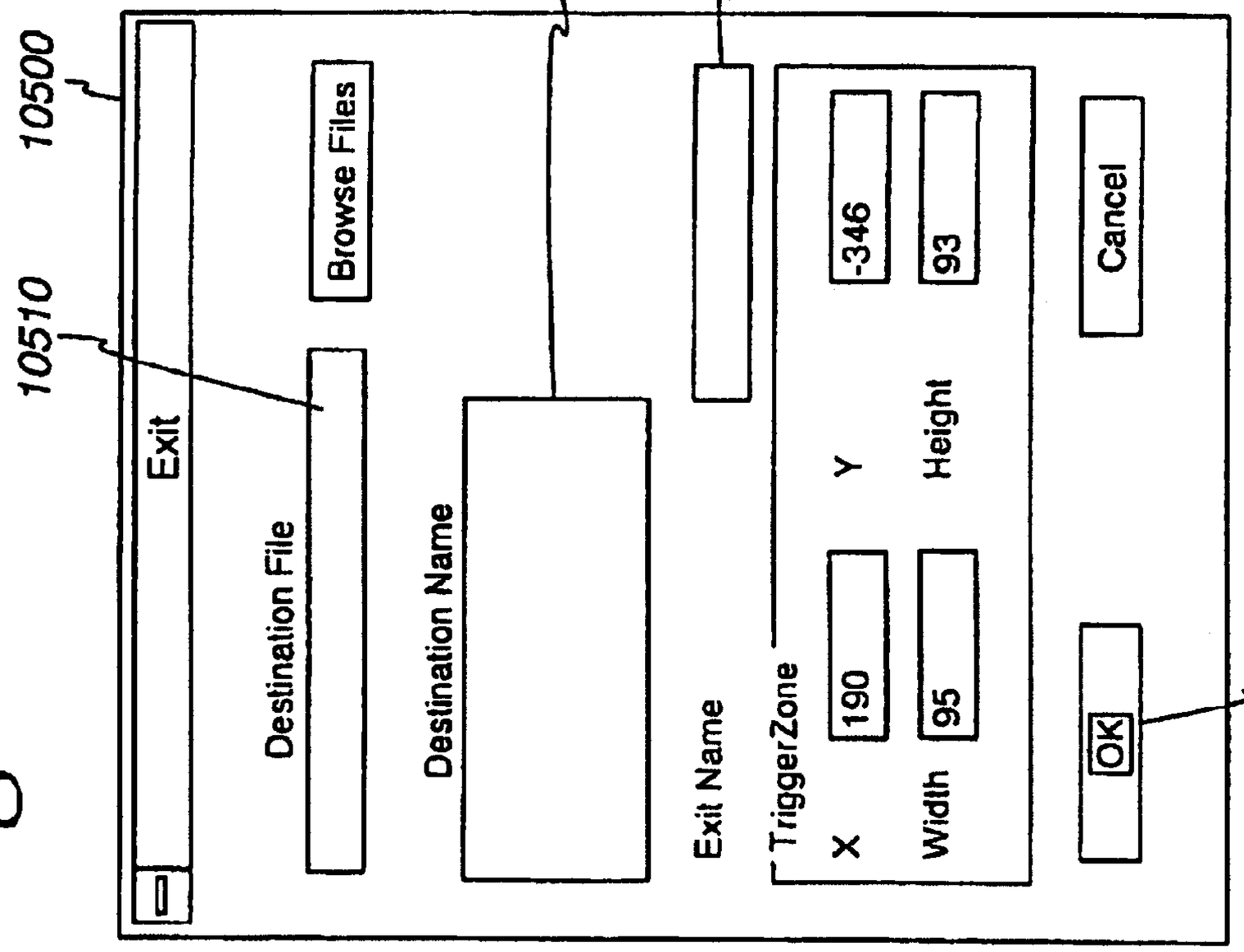

10500
10510
10520
10530
10580
Exit
Browse Files
Destination File
Destination Name
Exit Name
TriggerZone
X
190
Y
-346
Width
95
Height
93
Cancel
OK

Fig. 23

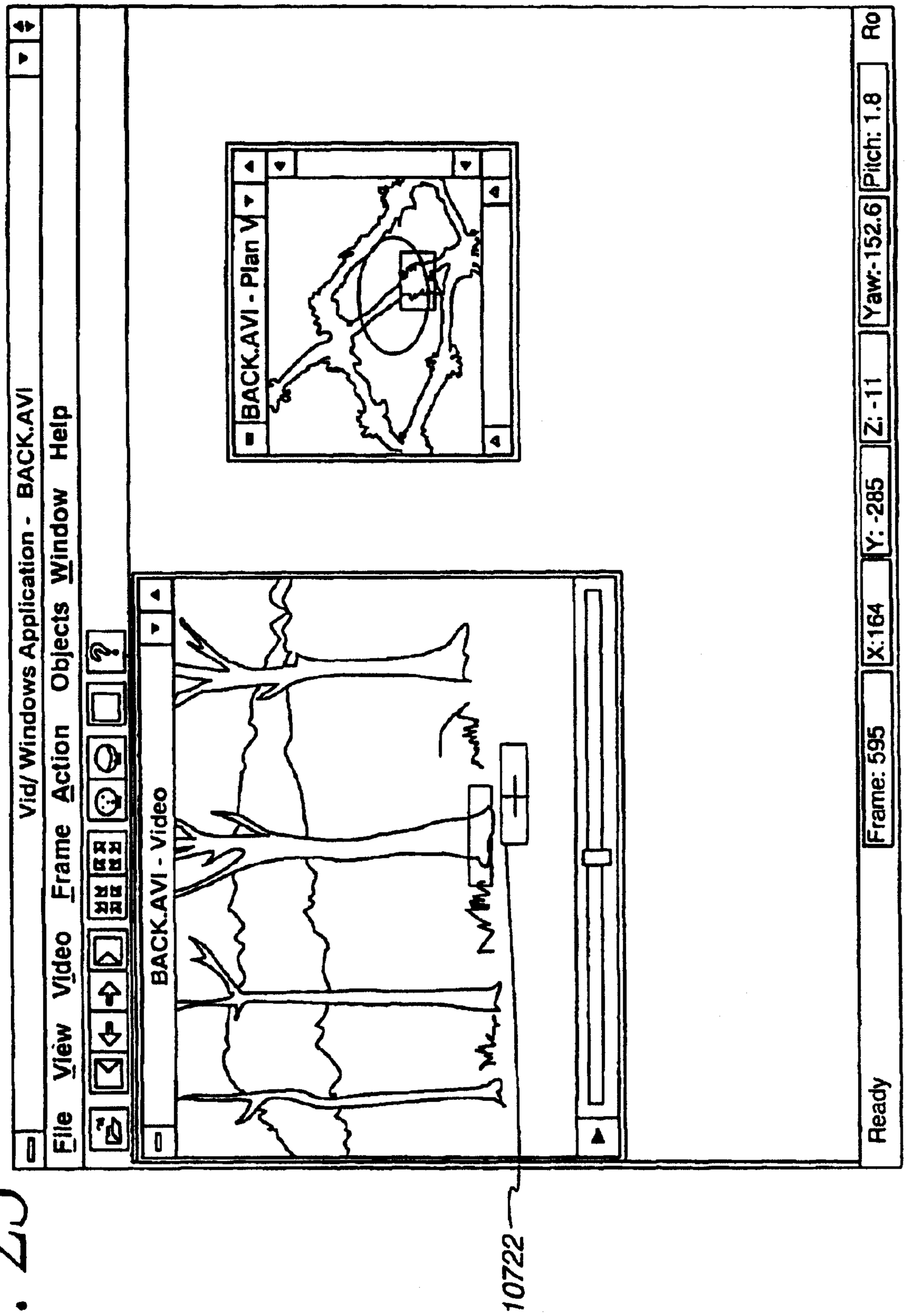

Vid/ Windows Application - BACK.AVI
File View Video Frame Action Objects Window Help
BACK.AVI - Video
BACK.AVI - Plan V
Frame: 595
X:164
Y: -285
Z: -11
Yaw:-152.6
Pitch: 1.8
Ro
Ready
10722

Fig. 25

Fig. 26

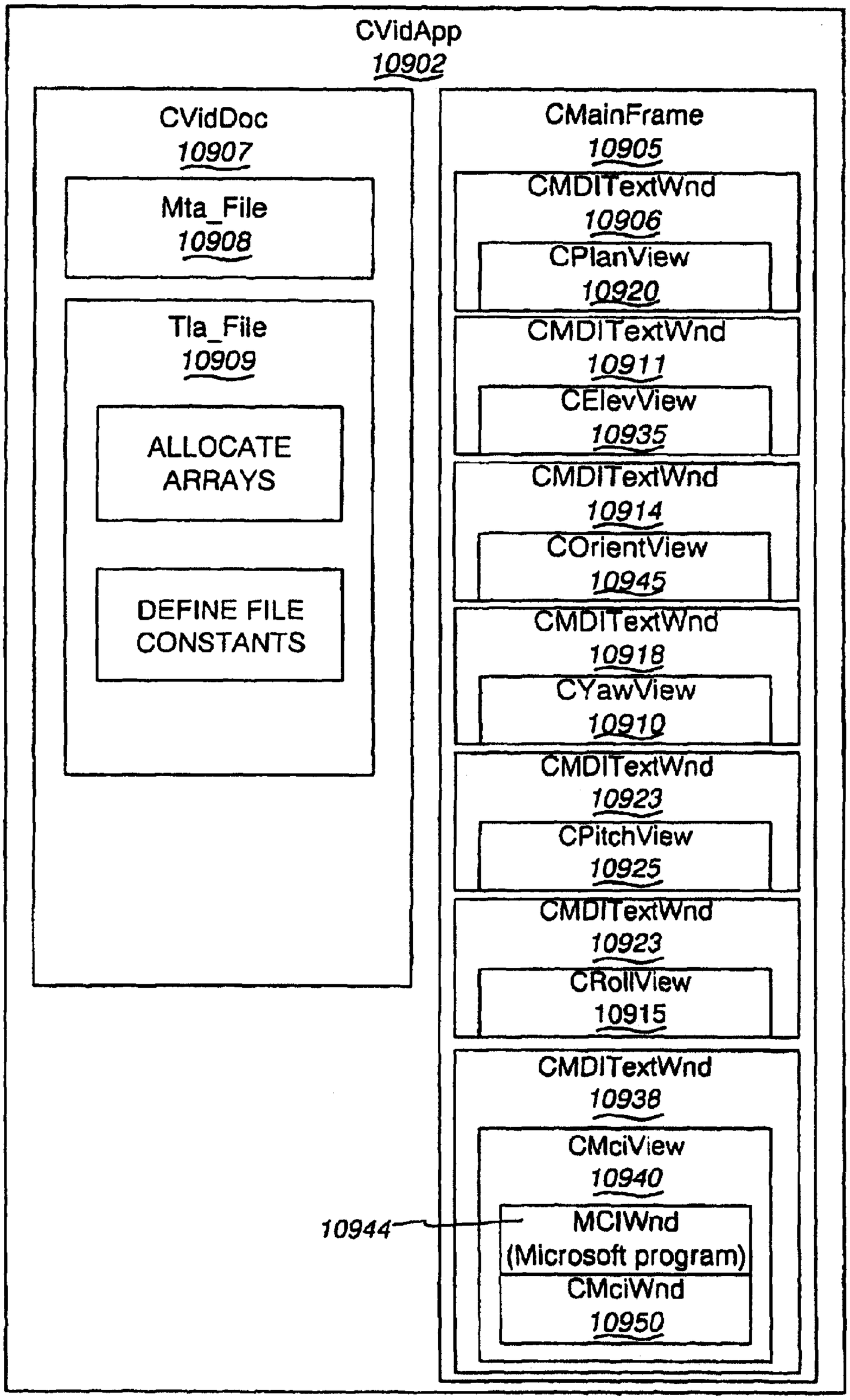
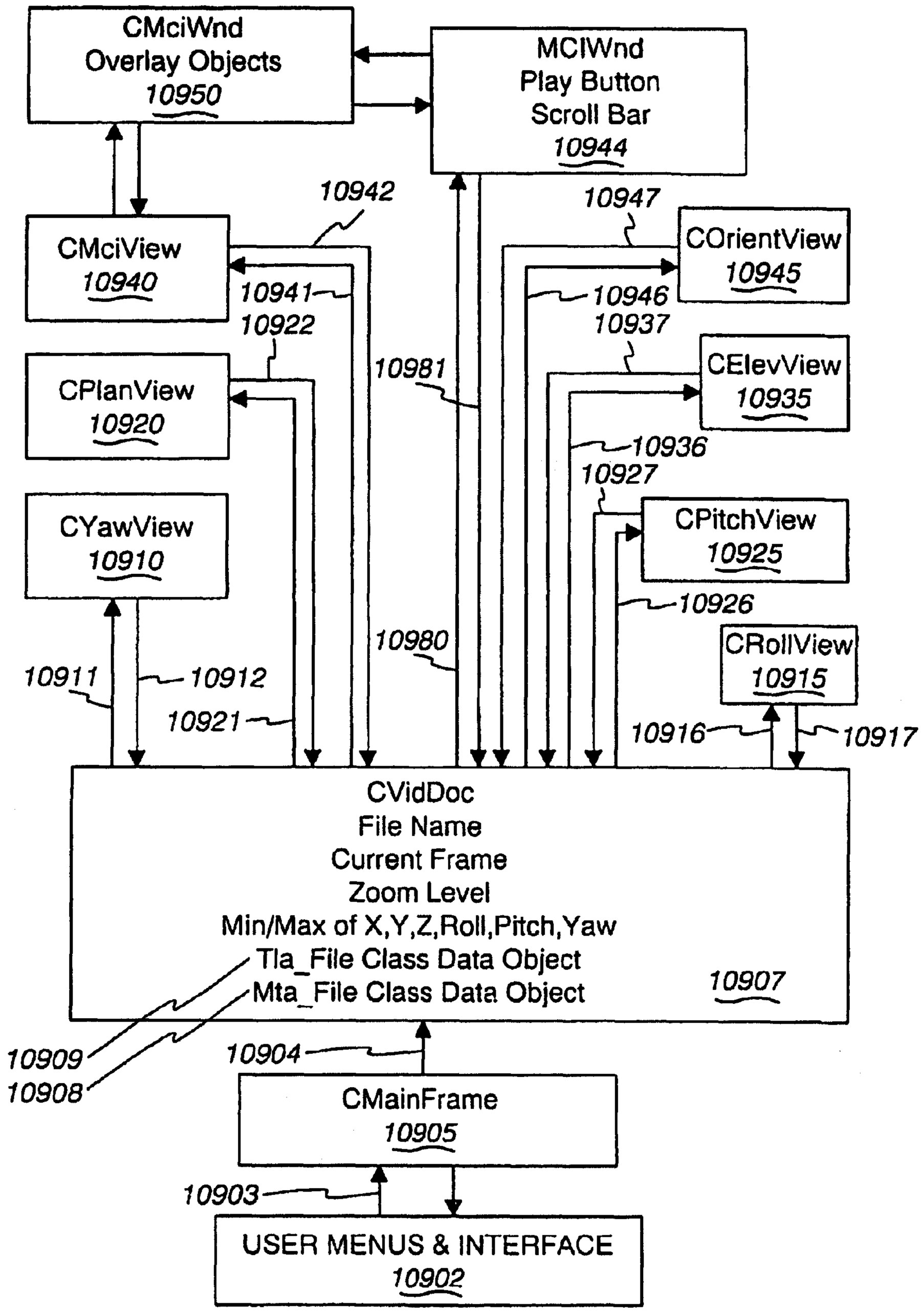

CVidApp
10902
CVidDoc
10907
Mta_File
10908
Tla_File
10909
ALLOCATE ARRAYS
DEFINE FILE CONSTANTS
CMainFrame
10905
CMDITextWnd
10906
CPlanView
10920
CMDITextWnd
10911
CElevView
10935
CMDITextWnd
10914
COrientView
10945
CMDITextWnd
10918
CYawView
10910
CMDITextWnd
10923
CPitchView
10925
CMDITextWnd
10923
CRollView
10915
CMDITextWnd
10938
CMciView
10940
10944
MCIWnd
(Microsoft program)
CMciWnd
10950

Fig. 27


CMciWnd
Overlay Objects
10950
MCIWnd
Play Button
Scroll Bar
10944
10942
10947
CMciView
10940
10941
10922
COrientView
10945
10946
10937
CPlanView
10920
10981
CElevView
10935
10936
10927
CYawView
10910
CPitchView
10925
10926
10980
CRollView
10915
10911
10912
10921
10916
10917
CVidDoc
File Name
Current Frame
Zoom Level
Min/Max of X,Y,Z,Roll,Pitch,Yaw
Tla_File Class Data Object
Mta_File Class Data Object
10907
10909
10908
10904
CMainFrame
10905
10903
USER MENUS & INTERFACE
10902

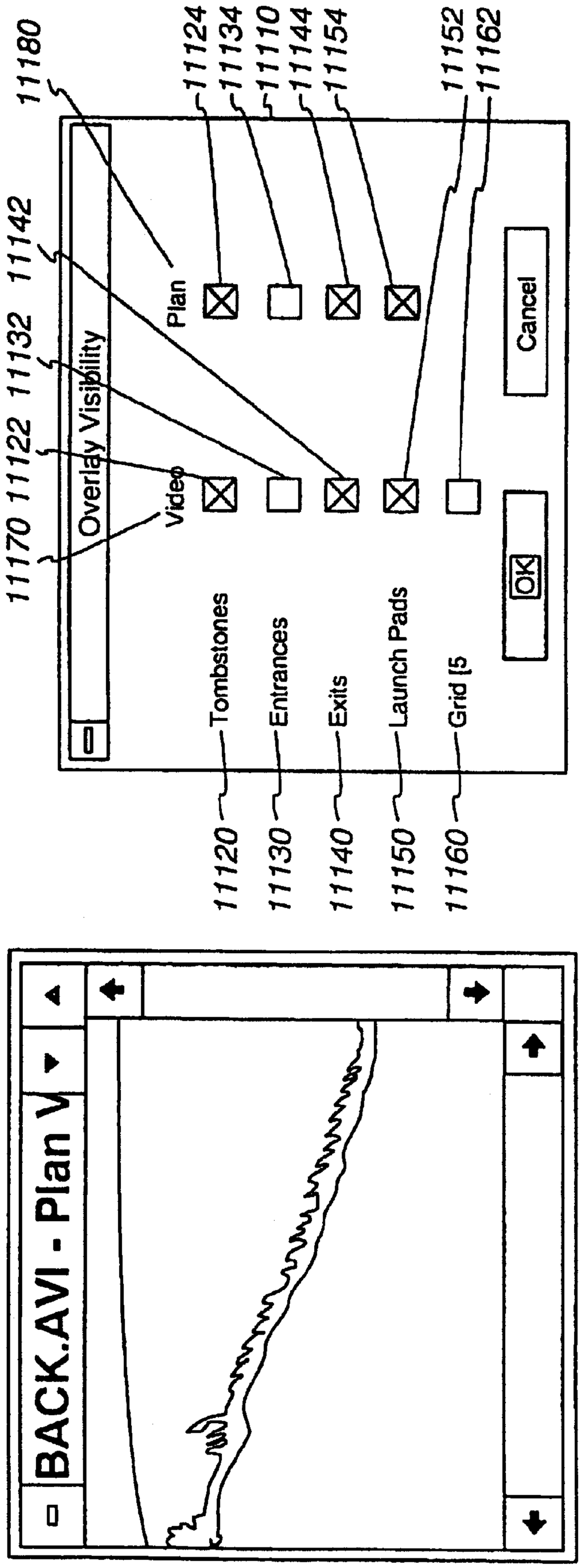

11180
11124
11134
11110
11144
11154
11152
11162
11142
11132
11122
11170
Overlay Visibility
Video
Plan
Cancel
OK
Tombstones
Entrances
Exits
Launch Pads
Grid [5
11120
11130
11140
11150
11160
BACK.AVI - Plan V

Fig. 29

Fig. 28

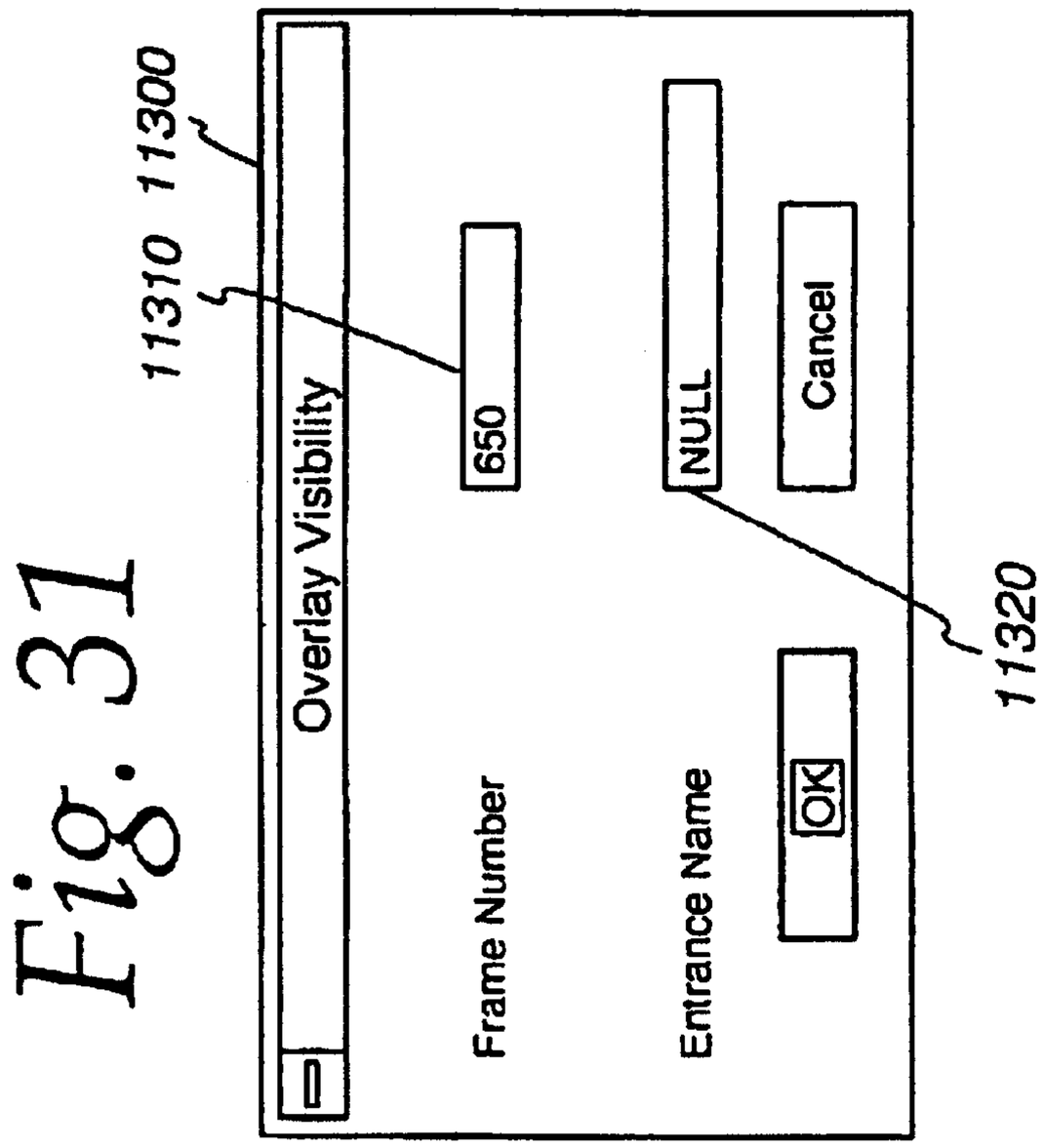

11310
11300
Overlay Visibility
650
NULL
Cancel
11320
Frame Number
Entrance Name
OK

Fig. 31

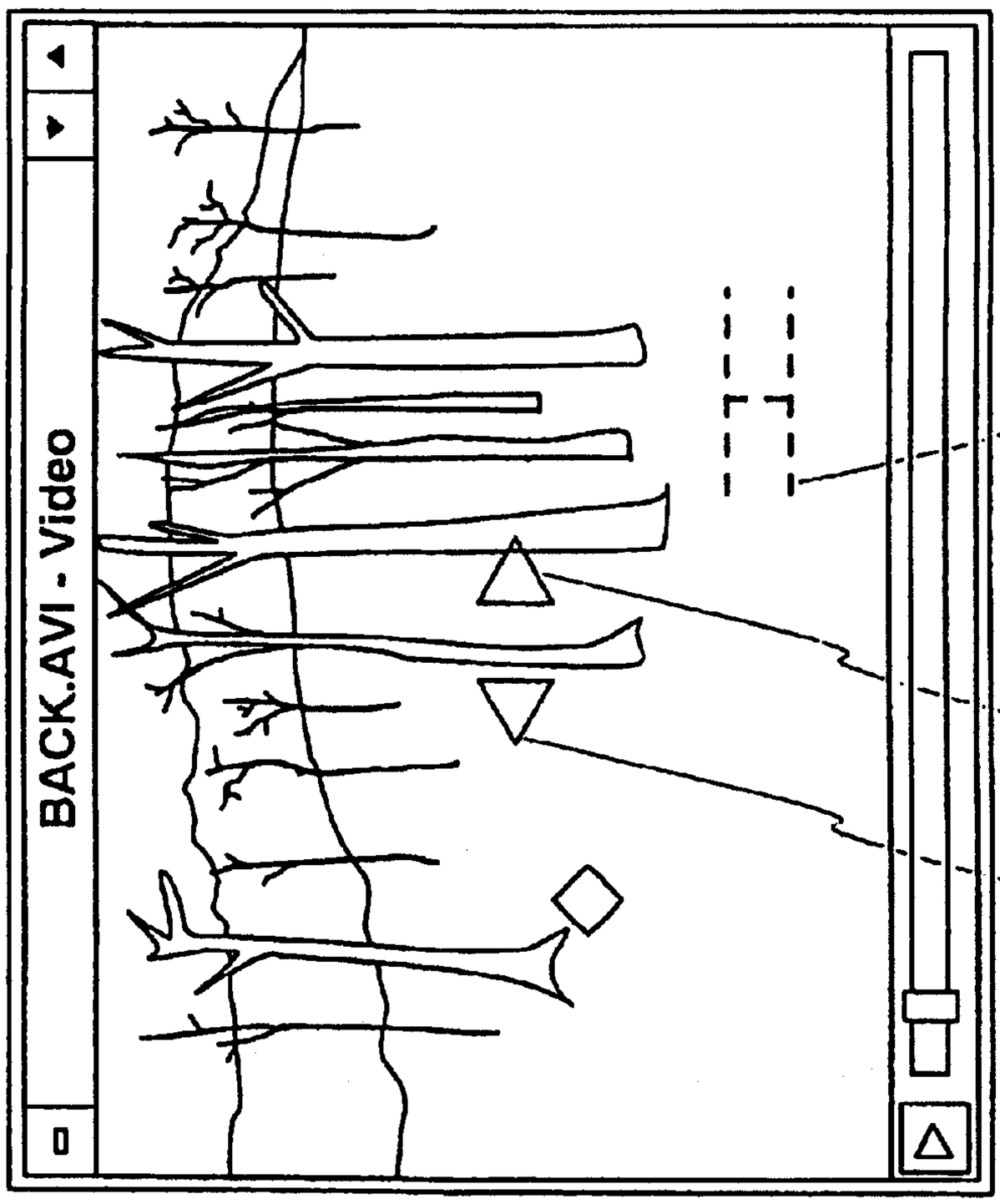

Video
BACK.AVI - Vi
11230
11210
11220

Fig. 30

Fig. 32

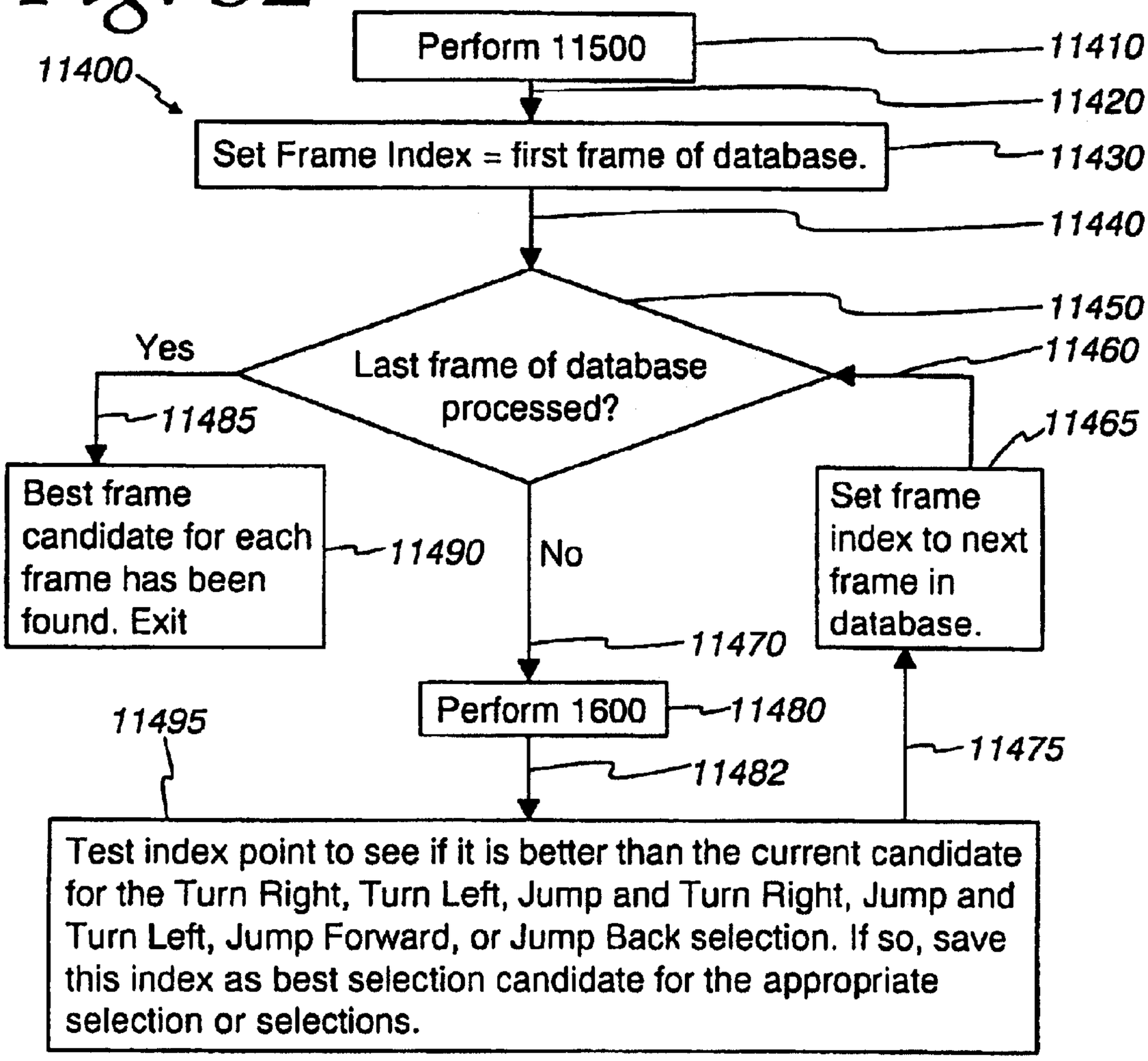

11400
Perform 11500
11410
11420
Set Frame Index = first frame of database.
11430
11440
11450
Yes
Last frame of database processed?
11460
11485
11465
Best frame candidate for each frame has been found. Exit
11490
No
Set frame index to next frame in database.
11470
Perform 1600
11480
11495
11475
11482
Test index point to see if it is better than the current candidate for the Turn Right, Turn Left, Jump and Turn Right, Jump and Turn Left, Jump Forward, or Jump Back selection. If so, save this index as best selection candidate for the appropriate selection or selections.

Fig. 33

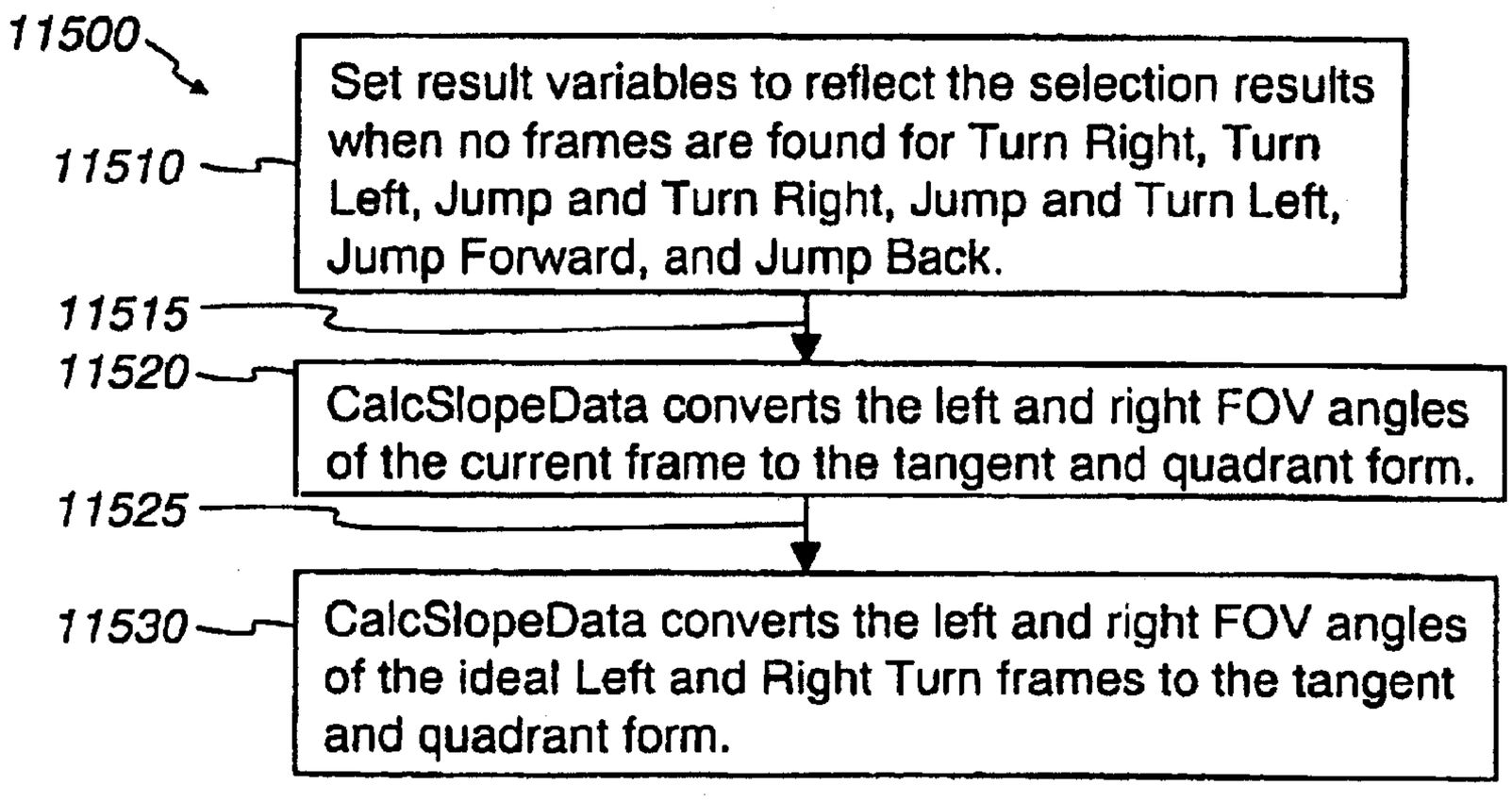

11500
11510
Set result variables to reflect the selection results when no frames are found for Turn Right, Turn Left, Jump and Turn Right, Jump and Turn Left, Jump Forward, and Jump Back.
11515
11520
CalcSlopeData converts the left and right FOV angles of the current frame to the tangent and quadrant form.
11525
11530
CalcSlopeData converts the left and right FOV angles of the ideal Left and Right Turn frames to the tangent and quadrant form.

Fig. 34

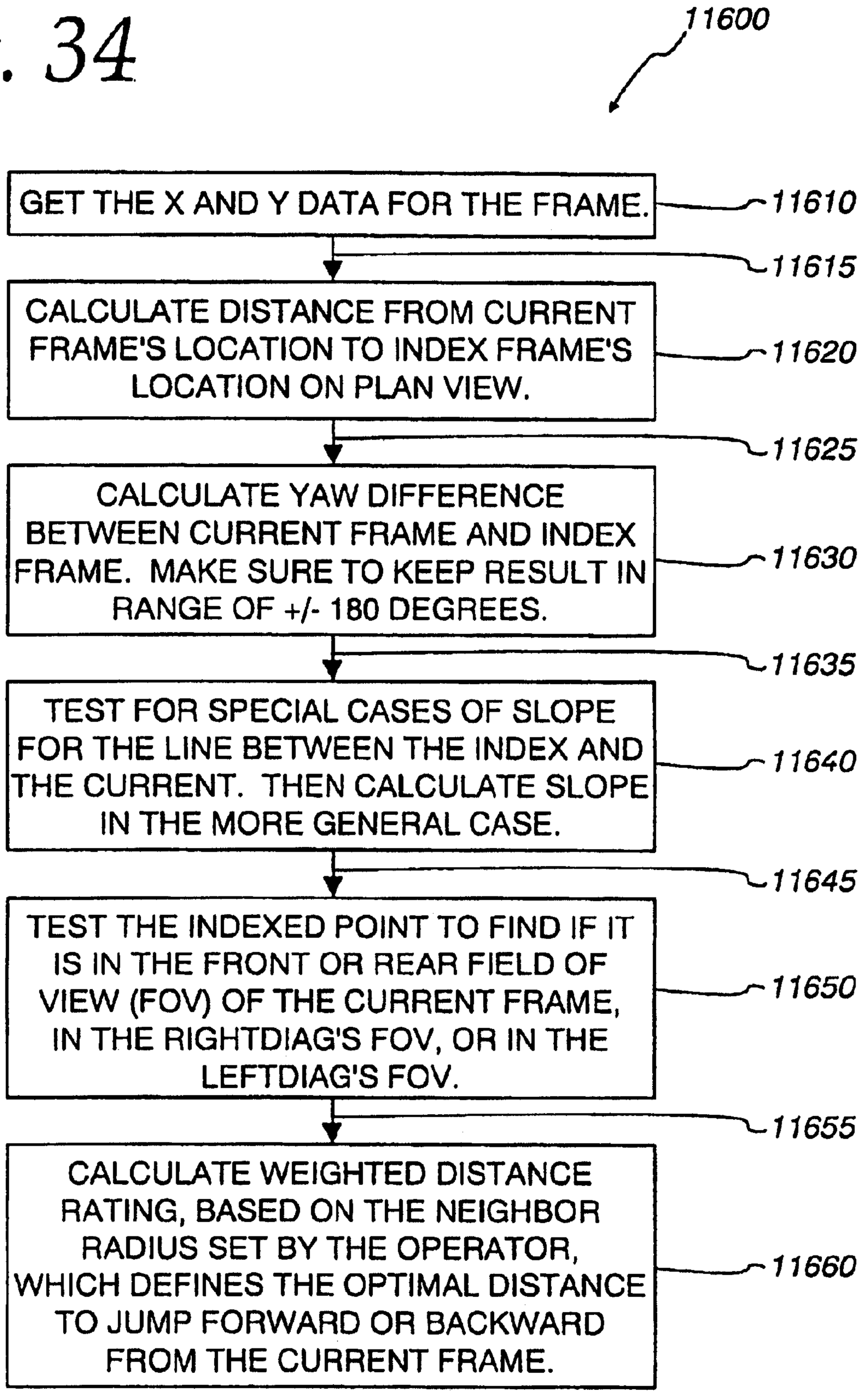
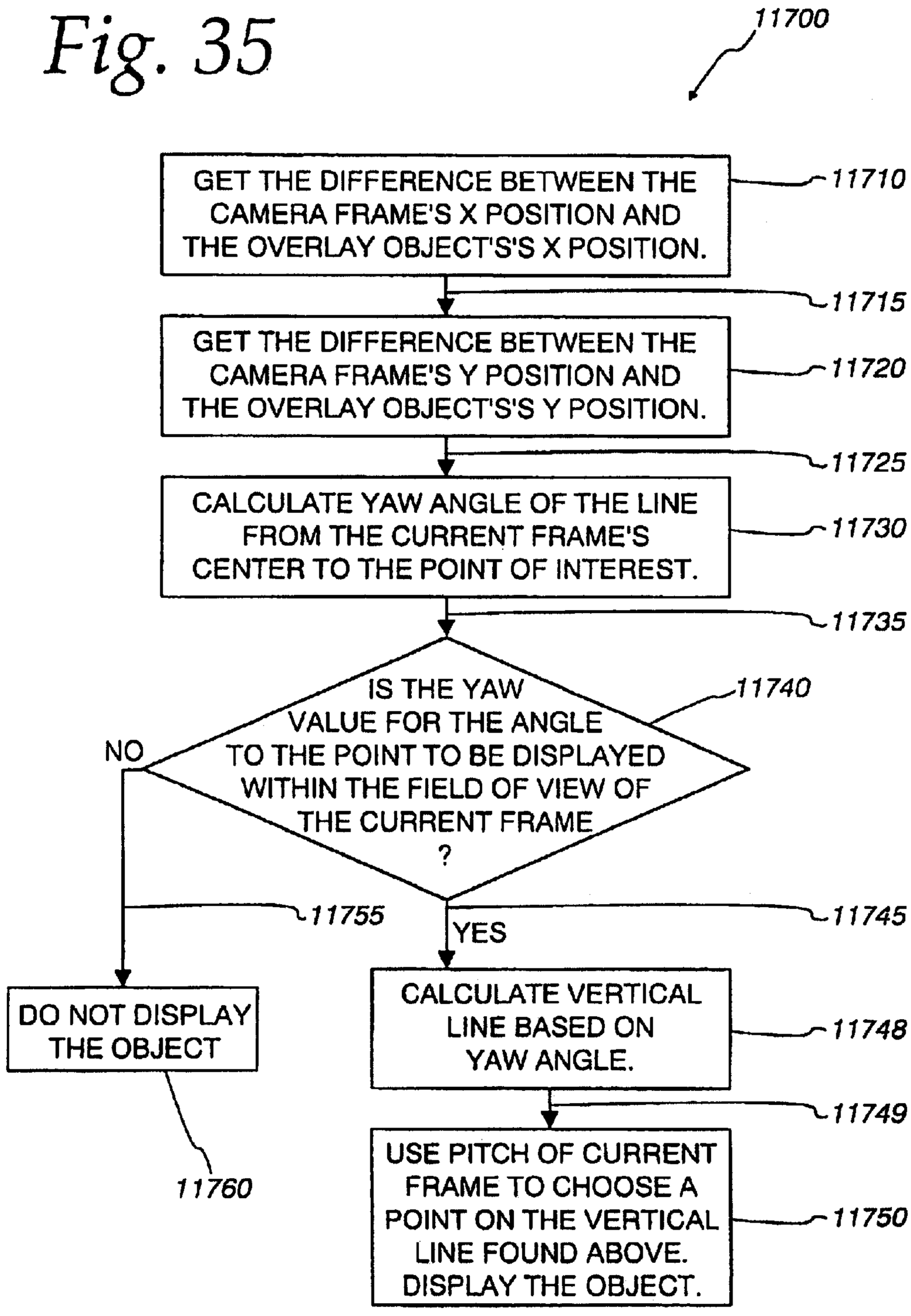

11600
GET THE X AND Y DATA FOR THE FRAME.
11610
11615
CALCULATE DISTANCE FROM CURRENT FRAME'S LOCATION TO INDEX FRAME'S LOCATION ON PLAN VIEW.
11620
11625
CALCULATE YAW DIFFERENCE BETWEEN CURRENT FRAME AND INDEX FRAME. MAKE SURE TO KEEP RESULT IN RANGE OF +/- 180 DEGREES.
11630
11635
TEST FOR SPECIAL CASES OF SLOPE FOR THE LINE BETWEEN THE INDEX AND THE CURRENT. THEN CALCULATE SLOPE IN THE MORE GENERAL CASE.
11640
11645
TEST THE INDEXED POINT TO FIND IF IT IS IN THE FRONT OR REAR FIELD OF VIEW (FOV) OF THE CURRENT FRAME, IN THE RIGHTDIAG'S FOV, OR IN THE LEFTDIAG'S FOV.
11650
11655
CALCULATE WEIGHTED DISTANCE RATING, BASED ON THE NEIGHBOR RADIUS SET BY THE OPERATOR, WHICH DEFINES THE OPTIMAL DISTANCE TO JUMP FORWARD OR BACKWARD FROM THE CURRENT FRAME.
11660

Fig. 35


11700
GET THE DIFFERENCE BETWEEN THE CAMERA FRAME'S X POSITION AND THE OVERLAY OBJECT'S'S X POSITION.
11710
11715
GET THE DIFFERENCE BETWEEN THE CAMERA FRAME'S Y POSITION AND THE OVERLAY OBJECT'S'S Y POSITION.
11720
11725
CALCULATE YAW ANGLE OF THE LINE FROM THE CURRENT FRAME'S CENTER TO THE POINT OF INTEREST.
11730
11735
IS THE YAW VALUE FOR THE ANGLE TO THE POINT TO BE DISPLAYED WITHIN THE FIELD OF VIEW OF THE CURRENT FRAME ?
11740
NO
11755
YES
11745
DO NOT DISPLAY THE OBJECT
11760
CALCULATE VERTICAL LINE BASED ON YAW ANGLE.
11748
11749
USE PITCH OF CURRENT FRAME TO CHOOSE A POINT ON THE VERTICAL LINE FOUND ABOVE. DISPLAY THE OBJECT.
11750

SPATIAL REFERENCED PHOTOGRAPHIC SYSTEM WITH NAVIGATION ARRANGEMENT

Matter enclosed in heavy brackets [ ] appears in the original patent but forms no part of this reissue specification; matter printed in italics indicates the additions made by reissue.

CROSS-REFERENCE TO RELATED APPLICATION

This application is a continuation application of application Ser. No. 08/894,206, filed Jul. 30, 1997, now U.S. Pat. No. 6,195,122, which is a 35 U.S.C. § 371 national stage U.S. application corresponding to Patent Cooperation Treaty application PCT/US96/01434, filed on Jan. 31, 1996, which is a continuation-in-part of U.S. patent application Ser. No. 08/383,471, filed on Jan. 31, 1995, which is hereby incorporated by reference. In particular, the '471 application contains a more detailed description of the tracking data acquisition unit control circuit 470 (in '471 application FIGS. 16 to 23 and the accompanying text) and exemplary program listings (presented in the Appendices of the '471 application) which may be of interest to those seeking a more detailed understanding of the present invention.

FIELD OF THE INVENTION

This invention relates to referencing, sorting, and displaying images in a three-dimensional system. More particularly, it relates to a system having an image capturing device that captures images of objects together with spatial reference information defining the absolute position of the image capturing device and the relative position of the object relative to that device. It also relates to image retrieval and display, where the spatial reference information associated with each image facilitates browsing through the images in an organized manner.

BACKGROUND OF THE INVENTION

The editing of films and video images, i.e., to rearrange action sequences, is well known. However, the movie and video cameras used to capture the images that are later edited do not store with those images any machine-understandable record of image and camera position. Accordingly, the edited films and videos permit one to view the images in only one predetermined order, determined by the editor. If some other ordering of the image presentation is desired, it must be achieved through a difficult manual editing process.

A computerized, interactive editing process is described in a doctoral thesis "Cognitive Space in the Interactive Movie Map: An Investigation of Spatial Learning in Virtual Environments", by Robert Mohl, 1981, submitted at MIT. In a demonstration carried out using images recorded at Aspen, Colo., the viewer is permitted to select film clips taken by a camera that is arranged to simulate driving down a street. At each intersection, the viewer chooses to turn left, turn right, or to proceed straight ahead. The viewer thereby simulates driving around streets in Aspen, Colo.

In other fields, it is known to gather, along with images, information concerning the position of the camera. Governmental and private agencies use satellites and airplanes to record images of positionally referenced data, such as land features or clouds. Each image frame contains positional references to the image tilt or plane of the camera. Present

methods commonly either constrain the orientation of the camera to a fixed position, i.e. up and down, or use features captured in the image frames to derive relative positions and orientations of successive images when combining the image frames to form a map or the like.

Devices are known which combine images by matching features common to each of two or more images, i.e. superimposing.

One aspect of the present invention is recording positional data along with images. A number of methods are known whereby one may locate an object and describe the position of an object relative to a positional reference. For example, a magnetic device is known which can determine its position and orientation within a known magnetic field. Satellite systems and radio signal triangulation can also be used to determine position precisely. Inertial position determination systems are also known and are widely used in inertial navigational systems.

An object of this invention is providing an image data gathering device which encodes positional and/or spatial information by capturing both camera position and camera orientation information along with image data. This information permits images to be joined or sequenced for viewing without the distortions that can result from attempting to match the edges of adjoining images together.

A further object of this invention is providing three-dimensional image reconstruction of objects using frames shot from different viewpoints and perspectives through the provision of a triangulation reference.

Still another object of this invention is providing a camera path map which allows images to be selected based upon the position and orientation of the camera from the map. For example, an operator cam learn the location of an object in a film clip, such as an escalator. Images of the escalator may then be quickly and automatically located by selecting other frames which point to that same escalator from different camera positions.

Another object of the invention is providing a compact and practical image and positional data recording system which uses commonly available equipment. A system having accelerometers mounted directly upon the recorder, eliminating the need for a restrained or gimballed platform, permits greater freedom of motion for the recording device as well as reduced cost and complexity.

Briefly described, the invention resides in a video camera that is integrated with a tracking data acquisition unit containing accelerometers and gimbal-mounted gyroscopes, and optionally a rangefinder. As the operator of the video camera moves about taking a motion picture of the environment, a microprocessor and logic associated with the accelerometers and gyroscopes senses all rotational motions of the camera by means of sensors associated with the gimbals and senses all translational motions of the camera by means of sensors associated with the accelerometers. And the rangefinder provides information to the microprocessor and logic concerning the distance from the camera to the subject being photographed.

From data presented by these sensors, the microprocessor and logic compute and generate a modulated audio signal that is encoded with a continuous record of acceleration in the X, Y and Z directions as well as with a continuous record of the pitch, roll, and yaw of the camera and of the distance to the subject. This audio tracking information data signal is recorded on the audio track of the same video tape upon which the video images are being recorded by the camera. In this manner, the video tape recording captures, along with

the sequence of images, the tracking data from which the precise position of the camera, its precise orientation, and the position of the subject may later be computed.

Later on, the recorded audio tracking information data and video data is played back into a computer. Images are selected from the sequence of images and are retained, in compressed form, in a database. Each image is then linked to computed positional information that defines, for each image, the location and orientation of the camera and, optionally, the distance to the subject and the subject location. This positional information is derived through computation from the tracking information retrieved from the video tape audio track, as will be explained below.

Next, special computer programs can aid an individual using the computer in navigating through the images, using the positional information to organize the images in ways that make it easy for the user to browse through the images presented on the graphics screen. Several such programs are described below, and a complete description is presented of a movie mapper program which presents the user with a plan view and elevational views of the camera path plotted as a graph alongside views of selected images, with the path marked to show the position and orientation of the camera. The user, by clicking at any point on this path with a computer mouse, may instantly retrieve and view an image captured at the chosen point. Additionally, by clicking upon diamonds and arrows and the like displayed as overlays superimposed upon an image, the user may command the program to search for and find the nearest image which gives a view rotated slightly to the left or right or which maintains the same view but advances forward in the direction of the view or backward. One may also jump forward and turn simultaneously. A wider field of view may be assembled by assembling automatically chosen images and aligning them into a panorama. The user is thus enabled to navigate through the images in the manner of navigating a boat to the extent permitted by the nature and variety of the images in the data base.

Further objects and advantages are apparent in the drawings and in the detailed description which follows.

BRIEF DESCRIPTION OF THE DRAWINGS

FIG. **1** is a rendering of the spatially referenced video camera **100**, which includes a tracking data acquisition unit and modulator **105**, a video camera **120** having a video cassette recorder **130**, a demodulation circuit **155**, and a personal computer **185**.

FIG. **2** is a perspective drawing of the tracking data acquisition unit and modulator **105**.

FIG. **3** is a block diagram showing the tracking sensors and the microprocessor based tracking data acquisition unit control circuit **470** according to the invention in the context of the spatially referenced video camera **100**.

FIG. **4** is a data format diagram showing the tracking data acquisition unit output packet format.

FIG. **5** is a block diagram of the program system modules that represent the major software components of the spatially referenced camera system.

FIG. **6** is a data flow diagram depicting the data flow through the tracking data acquisition unit and modulator **105**.

FIG. **7** is a data flow diagram depicting the tracking and video data flow from playback of the video cassette recorder **130**, through the demodulation circuit **155**, into the personal computer **185** under the control of the data entry and storage program **305**.

FIG. **8** is a data format diagram depicting alternative positional data record formats including the quaternion position notation record format **715** and the direct angular notation format **775**.

FIG. **9** is a block diagram of the tracking database to positional database conversion program **310**.

FIG. **10** is a more detailed block diagram of the step **10006** in FIG. **9**.

FIG. **11** is a more detailed block diagram of the step **1120** in FIG. **10**.

FIG. **12** is a more detailed block diagram of the calculate current position step **1214** in FIG. **11**.

FIG. **13** is a block diagram of an alternative method for converting tracking data to position data.

FIG. **14** is a more detailed block diagram of the write position record step **1122** in FIG. **10**.

FIG. **15** is a block diagram of the tracking data acquisition unit control circuit **470** illustrating in particular its electrical interconnections to the remaining elements of the spatially referenced video camera **100**.

FIG. **16** is a block diagram of the programs which control the central processing unit **480** in FIG. **15**.

FIG. **17** is an alternate embodiment of the invention illustrating use of the tracking data acquisition unit and modulator **105** as a pointing and image retrieval device.

FIG. **18** illustrates the operation of the positional frame retrieval program **330** in which range information is added so that all of the images viewing a selected object **3202** may be located and retrieved, as a group.

FIGS. **19** to **25** and **28** to **31** are computer screen snapshot views of the screens generated by the movie mapper program **325** in operation, including presentations of the captured images, of the path of the camera in plan and elevational views, and of various pop-down menus;

FIG. **26** is a block diagram illustrating the structure of program-generated objects in the movie mapper program **325** when it is in actual operation.

FIG. **27** is an information flow block diagram of the program-generated objects in the movie mapper program **325** illustrating how they communicate.

FIGS. **32** to **35** are flow chart representations of portions of the movie mapper program **325**.

DETAILED DESCRIPTION OF THE PREFERRED EMBODIMENT

Referring to the drawings and especially to FIG. **1**, a spatially referenced video camera is shown embodying the present invention and generally identified by the numeral **100**. The spatially referenced video camera **100** includes a tracking data acquisition unit **105** rigidly attached to a video camera **120** having a built-in video cassette recorder **130**. As the spatially referenced video camera **100** is operated, video data from the video camera **120** and tracking data from the tracking data acquisition unit **105** are recorded onto a video cassette within the recorder **130**. Once the desired recordings have been made, the information is transferred to a personal computer **185** for processing and display.

FIG. **3** presents a block diagram of the camera **100**, illustrating its individual hardware components and bow they are interconnected by signal paths. The tracking data acquisition unit control circuit **470** contains a data acquisition program **300** (FIG. **16**), and the personal computer **185** contains a number of computer programs. All of these programs, and their data flow relationships, are shown in FIG. **5** which illustrates the camera **100**'s software components in overview.

With reference to FIG. **5**, the video data gathered by the video camera **120** and the position and orientation data gathered by the tracking data acquisition unit and modulator **105** (under the control of the microcontroller data acquisition program **300**) are first stored on videotape. Later, they are fed into the personal computer **185**. The two data streams are captured by the tracking and video data entry and storage program **305** and are stored, respectively, in a tracking database **324** and in a video database **323**.

Once safely stored within the personal computer **185**, the tracking database **324** is reprocessed into a positional database **322** by a tracking database to positional database conversion program **310**. Now the image retrieval programs **325**, **330**, and **335** may be called upon to search through the positional database **322**, to retrieve images from the video database **323** based upon camera location, camera orientation, and even object location, and to display the images upon the face of the computer **185**.

Tracing the data flow through the system components at a more detailed level will explain the functionality of the preferred embodiment of the spatially referenced camera.

First, the video camera **120** (FIG. **1**) produces a standard video signal that is recorded on the video track of a video cassette by the camera's video cassette recorder **130**. Referring to FIG. **2**, the tracking data acquisition unit **105** contains three orthogonally positioned translational accelerometers **435**, **440**, and **445**; two orthogonally arranged gyroscopes **400** and **410**; and a laser rangefinder **485**. All six of these sensors are rigidly mounted to an inertial platform **415**. Referring to FIG. **3**, a control circuit **470** polls the output signals of these sensors and assembles tracking data frames **535** (FIG. **4**) which describe the instantaneous, real time orientation and translation acceleration experienced by the spatially referenced video camera **100**. A serial bit stream comprised of these tracking data frames is modulated to produce an audio line level modulated tracking data signal **115** which is fed into the audio input **125** of the video cassette recorder **130** and recorded on the audio track of the video cassette alongside the corresponding video information.

Second, the completed recording, stored on the video cassette, is played back to the personal computer **185** on any standard video cassette player or directly from the camera **120** (FIG. **1**). The tracking data is demodulated by a demodulator circuit **155** and is input to the personal computer **185** through a standard serial I/O serial port **175**. Simultaneously, the video data is input to the personal computer **185** via a video digitizer input **180**. Referring to FIG. **5**, a data entry and storage program **305** stores the tracking and video data on the personal computer's disk operating system **320** in a tracking database **324** and in a video database **323**. A second program **310** converts the tracking database **324** into a positional database **322**.

Third, the set of three display programs **325**, **330**, and **335** allow a user to view and select video frames based on the relative position or absolute orientation of the camera.

Tracing the data flow through the individual parts of the spatially referenced video camera **100** at the most detailed level discloses how to build the preferred embodiment of the invention.

Referring to FIG. **3**, the tracking data acquisition unit **105** continuously measures the translational acceleration and rotational orientation experienced by the spatially referenced video camera **100**. To achieve the most accurate measurement of translational acceleration, three accelerometers **435**, **440** and **445**, such as SUNDSTRAND Model QA-700, are positioned orthogonal to each other and are mounted on a stable inertial platform **415**. The accelerometers measure acceleration in each of three dimensions: accelerometer **435** measures acceleration in the X direction, accelerometer **445** measures acceleration in the Y direction, accelerometer **440** measures acceleration in the Z direction. Each accelerometer outputs a voltage signal with an amplitude proportional to the acceleration detected. A multi-channel analog to digital converter **465**, such as ANALOG DEVICES Model AD7716, receives each accelerometer's output and generates a 24-bit numerical representation of the acceleration experienced in each direction.

Two gyroscopes, such as GYRATION Model GE9100A, a vertical gyroscope **400** and a directional gyroscope **410** are also orthogonally mounted on the stable inertial platform **415** relative to each other. The vertical gyroscope **400**, aligned along the X or Y axis, measures yaw (rotation about the Z axis), while the directional gyroscope **410**, aligned along the Z axis, measures both roll (rotation about the Y axis) and pitch (rotation about the X axis). (The Y axis is assumed to point in the direction of the camera.) The gyroscopes are dual gimballed electronic components that generate a pair of square wave signals which are locked out of phase with respect to each other. The sequence of the rising and falling edges of the square waves relative to each other indicates the angular rotation about the gyroscope's measurement axis experienced by the spatially referenced camera **100**. Quadrature decoders **450**, **455**, **460**, such as HEWLETT PACKARD Model HCTL2020, receive the three paired square wave signal outputs of the gyroscopes **400**, **410**; and for each signal pair, they count the relative sequence of rising and falling edges between the two square wave signals to generate a 16-bit numerical representation of the rotation experienced about each axis. An interrupt is generated following any change in these signals. This interrupt causes a central processing unit **480** (FIG. **15**) within the tracking data acquisition unit **105** to capture the new status of the counts within the decoders **450**, **455**, and **460**.

The inertial platform **415** (FIG. **2**) is connected to a post **425** that is threaded at one end **430** such that the entire data acquisition unit **105** can be rigidly attached to the tripod mounting hardware of a standard camcorder **120**.

In addition to the accelerometers and the gyroscopes there is a control circuit **470** (FIGS. **2**, **3**, and **15**) mounted to the bottom of the inertial platform **415** (see FIG. **2**). This microcontroller based circuit (Z-WORLD SMARTBLOCK Model SB-DEV-32) polls the quadrature decoders **450**, **455**, **460** and the analog to digital converter **465** in sequence. Referring to FIGS. **4** and **6**, the respective data packets **500**, **505**, and **520** from each sensor and a frame identification pattern (**530** or **550**) are compiled to form the tracking data frame **535** (or **540**) as the first step **600** (FIG. **6**) in the data flow through the spatially referenced video camera **100**. In the next few steps, **605**, **610**, **615**, and **620**, the data frame resulting from the first step **600** is broken into 4-bit nibbles which are encased within message byte having a "1" start bit and three "0" stop bits, as in "1XXXX000" where "XXXX" is the 4 bits of data. The message bytes are then subjected to encoding (HARRIS Model HD-6409). The control circuit transmits a continuous stream of the tracking data frames to a modulator circuit **475** (FIGS. **3** and **15**) that modulates the data on to an audio line level signal. The inertial platform **415**, the circuitry **420**, the gyroscopes **400**, **410** and the accelerometers **435**, **440**, **445** are all contained within a case **107** (FIG. **1**). The single output **110** from the case **107** produces an audio signal **115** containing the encoded bit stream of acceleration and orientation data. The output of the tracking data acquisition control circuit **470** is thus recorded to

video tape alongside the corresponding video data signal from the video camera **120**.

The spatially referenced camera **100** can be configured and used with a laser rangefinder **485** (FIG. **2**), such as an Acuity Research Inc. ACCURANGE Model 3000 in addition to the video camera **120**. In this configuration, the instantaneous distance between the spatially referenced camera **100** and a pinpointed location on the surface of an object that is being recorded is also captured and stored as a binary numerical representation of distance along with tracking data from the other sensors. As shown in FIG. **4** at **540**, range data derived from the rangefinder **485** is appended to the data frame and recorded to video tape alongside the corresponding video data signal from the video camera **120**. (If the camera **120** is of an "autofocus" design, it may be possible to derive a range signal from the camera's autofocus mechanism.)

The rangefinder **485** (FIG. **2**) is rigidly mounted to the inertial platform **415** and generates a continuous serial data output signal containing two alternating values. The rangefinder **485** output signal RXA1 is directly input to the tracking data acquisition unit control circuit **470** as a serial data signal. The first value contained in the signal output by the rangefinder **485** is a 24 bit numerical representation of the distance between the precise spot on the surface of the object being recorded and the spatially referenced camera **100**. The second value is an 8 bit gray scale value that indicates the reflectivity of the object's surface at the measured location. In this configuration, the control circuit **470** is configured to be interrupted by a signal from the quadrature decoders **450**, **455**, & **460** whenever there is a change in the inertial platform's orientation detected by the gyroscopes **400** and **410**. Upon detecting an interrupt signal, the control circuit reads the range and reflectivity values presented serially by the rangefinder **485**. In this alternative configuration, a range data packet **520** (FIG. **4**) is compiled along with the accelerometer data packets **500** and the gyroscope data packets **505** to form the tracking data frame with range data as indicated at **540** in FIG. **4**.

Referring to FIG. **4**, the tracking data frame format **535** output by the tracking data acquisition unit **105** is essentially comprised of two or three different kinds of packets: acceleration packets **500**, gyroscopic packets **505** and optionally, range packets **510**. An acceleration packet **500** is a 24 bit value that represents the magnitude of an acceleration vector in the X, Y or Z direction. A gyroscopic packet **505** is a 16 bit value that represents degree of pitch, roil or yaw. A range packet **520** is a 24 bit value plus an eight bit value. The 24 bit value **510** represents a range distance and the eight bit number **515** represents relative surface reflectivity in terms of a gray scale value.

The format of a complete data frame **535** (without range information) is composed of a frame identification pattern **530**, which is formed from three repetitions of the 16 bit value 017F hex (at **525**). This is followed by data: a 24-bit acceleration value in the X direction **500**A, a 16-bit pitch value **505**A, a 24-bit acceleration value in the v direction **500**B, a 16-bit roll value **505**B, a 24-bit acceleration value in the Z direction **500**C, and a 16-bit yaw value **505**C. The tracking data frame format with range information included 540 starts with a frame identification pattern **550** composed of three repetitions of the value 037F hex (at **545**), followed by a 24-bit acceleration value in the X direction **500**A, an 8-bit delta (or incremental change) pitch value **505**A, a 24-bit acceleration value in the Y direction **500**B, an 8-bit delta roll value **505**B, a 24-bit acceleration value in the Z direction **500**C, an 8-bit delta yaw value **505**C, and finally the range data **555** and a gray scale reflectivity value **560**. The records **540** containing range information are generated whenever an interrupt from the decoders **450**, **455**, and **460** indicates that the camera orientation has changed.

Once the video tape is filled with modulated tracking and video data, it is played back. The video output is directly connected to a conventional video digitizer input **180**, such as the INTEL SMART VIDEO RECORDER, that is inserted into the ISA, EISA, VESA, PCI, or other accessory port or slot of the personal computer **185**. As the video cassette is played back on the video cassette player **130**, the video digitizer input **180** captures the video frames of the recorded images and passes digitized video frame data on to the tracking and video data entry and storage program **305** shown in FIG. **7**. The audio output of the video cassette recorder **135** is fed into a demodulator circuit **155** which converts the modulated tracking data signal back into a serial bit-stream of tracking data. The demodulation output **165** is connected to a conventional serial data input port **175** of the personal computer **185**. As the video cassette is played back on the video cassette recorder **130**, the demodulation circuit **155** converts the modulated tracking data signal into an RS-232 serial data signal which is read into the personal computer **185** by the tracking and video data entry and storage program **305** through the serial port **175**.

FIG. **7** shows the tracking and video data entry and storage program **305** data flow diagram. The modulated tracking data signal **145** from the audio output **135** of the video cassette recorder **130** or is fed into the demodulator **155**, where the audio signal is demodulated into a serial bit stream (step **640**). The output of this process flows into a manchester decoder (step **645**). Every other nibble following an initial leading one of the decoded bit stream is then serially transmitted by the demodulator circuit **155** to the personal computer's serial port **175** (step **650**). In the next step **655**, the personal computer receives the bit stream and encodes each nibble as a ASCII hex digit **655**. The ASCII digits are then assembled into lines of tracking data **660**.

Simultaneously, the video signal **150** from the video output **140** of the video cassette recorder **130** is captured (step **680**), and video frames are selected (step **685**). Frame numbers are assigned to the selected video frames (step **690**), and at step **665** these frame numbers are concatenated to the lines of tracking data to form tracking data lines. Finally, at step **675** a database of numbered tracking data lines is created and is stored on the disk in a database file called the tracking database **324**.

At step **695**, the video frame is fed into a video compression program, and the outputted compressed video frame is concatenated or otherwise linked to the same video frame number at **695**. Finally, at step **700**, a database of numbered and compressed video frames is created and is stored on the disk in a file that is called the video database **323**.

The tracking and video data entry and storage program **305**, residing on the personal computer **185**, essentially builds two related databases. The first is a tracking database **324** composed of enumerated records containing the orientation, the translational acceleration, and optionally the range data originally generated by the tracking data acquisition unit **105**. The second is a video database **323** composed of enumerated records containing digitized and compressed images of video frames captured from the video tape originally generated by the video camera **120**.

Once all of the recorded tracking and video data are stored, the personal computer **185** converts the tracking database **324** into a positional database **322** via a software

module called the tracking database to positional database conversion program **310** (FIGS. **5** and **9**).

In the preferred embodiment, an existing image capture computer program is adapted for use to capture, compress, and store selected images in the video database **323**, as indicated in steps **680**, **685**, **690**, **695**, and **700** of FIG. **7**. This is a conventional program for video capture that can capture and store a video image every ⅒th or 1/20th of a second or so (whatever the human user of the system specifies). This program is also capable of linking to and calling as a subroutine a separate program which performs the steps **655**, **660**, **665**, **670**, and **675** in FIG. **7** every ⅒th or 1/20th of a second, passing to this separate program the index value into the video database **323** that can later be used to find and retrieve the most recently captured image. This index value is stored in the tracking database **324** along with the associated tracking data extracted from the signal **170**.

To implement the step **655**, the computer **185** is equipped with a conventional, serial port interrupt driven program that is called upon automatically, whenever the serial input port **176** receives a serial byte of the tracking data signal **170**, to retrieve the byte from the serial port UART and to store the byte in some form of circular buffer in RAM from which the bytes may be readily retrieved.

Each time the step **660** is performed (every ⅒th or 1/20th of a second or so), all the bytes currently in this circular buffer are retrieved, combined with historical data, and separated from any partial data frame that is retained as historical data. In this manner, several data frames in the format illustrated at **535** or **540** in FIG. **4** are retrieved from the circular buffer, combined with the current image retrieval index supplied by the image capture computer program, and stored in the tracking database **324** (FIG. **5**). Note that even though not all of the video image frames are normally retained, every piece of tracking data information must be retained so that the position and orientation of the inertial platform can be computed by a "dead reckoning" process. Accordingly, the same video image number is typically combined with several sets of tracking data information.

FIG. **5** illustrates the creation of the positional database. Numbered tracking data frames from the tracking database **324** are input to the program **310** which, using well known principles of Newtonian mechanics, converts the tracking data lines into positional data records. The positional data records are stored to the disk in a database file called the positional database **322**. The format of the positional data records is dependent upon the method of conversion used in the conversion program **310**. As shown in FIG. **8**, there are two possible formats for the equivalent positional data. The quaternion position notation record format is composed of position number **720**, video frame number **730**, X displacement from the origin **735**, Y displacement from the origin **740**, Z displacement from the origin **745**, and a unit vector defined by an X component **755**, a Y component **760**, a Z component **770** and a twist component **750**. This data completely defines the position and orientation of the spatially referenced video camera **100** with respect to the point of origin. The other equivalent format is the direct angular notation representation. It is composed of the position number **720**, video frame number **730**, X displacement from the origin **735**, Y displacement from the origin **740**, Z displacement from the origin **745**, and angular coordinates Rx **780**, Ry **785** and Rz **790**. These numeric values are separated by space characters **725**, as shown.

The details of the tracking database to positional database conversion programs **310** are shown in FIG. **9**.

The program **310** begins at **1002** by initializing the variables. Then at **1004**, it opens the input tracking data file **324** (FIG. **5**), the output position file **322** (FIG. **5**), and an alterative output position file (not shown—this alternative file has the orientation represented in quaternion form, rather than as yaw, pitch, and roll values). At **1006**, the data is retrieved, processed, and placed in the output file.

The data processing steps **1006** are described in FIG. **10**.

The program steps **1006** control the reading of the input file and enforce the formatting of the output file. In particular, these steps buffer the position records in such a manner that each record processed is complete even though the input records may have been broken up, as described above. In this manner, the program generates one and only one output position record for each frame.

The program begins at **1110** by reading in a data frame. At **1114**, if there are no more frames, then at **1130** the files are closed and we are done. If a frame is found, a data record is retrieved from the frame at **1112**. At **1118**, if a record is found, it is processed at **1120** and written out to the positional database **322** at step **1122**. Whether or not a record is found, program control continues at step **1124** where any unprocessed residual data is prepared (or added to) the next frame. Program control then returns to **1110** where the next frame is read.

The data record processing routine **1120** is described in FIG. **11**. First at **1210**, a record is read and is corrected for gyro counter overflow. Since the pitch, roll, and yaw numbers are 16 -bit numbers that increase continuously if the camera rotates, they will occasionally overflow to zero. These numbers are thus converted into a 32 bit numeric format that never overflows.

Next, the acceleration values are converted into a floating point form at step **1212**. Gain and offset errors can be corrected in this step. This routine also computes the magnitude of the acceleration as the square root of the sum of the squares of the three components.

Step **1214** calculates the current position from the acceleration data. With reference to FIG. **12**, first we test the magnitude to see if it is close to the gravitational constant (step **1310**). If so, and if this is the first time that this condition has been met (step **1312**), then the current yaw reading is saved as the zero directional reference for the data. In any case, at **1316**, the gravity acceleration vector is used as a vertical reference for the purpose of determining how tilted the camera platform is. Valves of pitch and roll, P**0** and RV, are computed which, when applied to the camera's present pitch and roll, give a level reference platform. The program that performs this calculation is set forth below.

In the following short program, the values of acceleration are "ac->p.f" for the y value of acceleration and "ac->p.1" for the X value of acceleration (the z value is not needed). This program computes PØ and RØ, and it acquires the initial yaw value as WØ.

```
// acquire reference for pitch and roll gyros. Used to
// correct for G later
void GetRollPitchZero )PositionAttitudeRecord * ac,
                        long double magnitude)
{
        long double xmag, ymag, numAvg;
        xmag=ac—>p.f/magnitude;
        ymag=ac—>p.l/magnitude;
        numAvg=GO; // for backward average of all samples
```

-continued

```
    // numAvg=1; // for no averaging
        rref = −asinl (ymag);
        pref = asinl (xmag);
        // average over all samples, equal weights for all
        p0 = ((p0 * (numAvg−1)) + (deg(pref)+ac—>a.p))/numAvg;
        r0 = ((r0 * (numAvg−1)) + (deg(rref)+ac—>a.r))/numAvg;
        if (GO == 1) // this one is the first
        {
            w0 = ac—>a.w; // init to current yaw count
        }
}
```

Acquisition of rØ and pØ values allows the definition of a reference frame for integration in which the transformed X and Y acceleration components have no contribution from the gravitational force. X and Y in the reference frame are perpendicular to the direction of the gravity vector, while Z in the reference frame is parallel to the gravity vector.

GetRollPitchZero also averages PØ and RØ readings on all subsequent calls after the first call to achieve better and better estimates for these values.

At step **1320**, since the only acceleration is that of gravity, we assume that the camera is motionless, and we arbitrarily set the velocity values in all three directions to zero. This assumption holds because the camera is hand-held and is never stable when the human carrier is in motion. If the camera were mounted upon some conveyance that can move very smoothly at a uniform velocity, then this assumption would not hold, and some additional data indicating the velocity of the camera would have to be recorded. In an airplane or automobile, for example, the speedometer reading or ground speed reading could be recorded to assume that this algorithm functions properly.

Next, at step **1318**, the current pitch, yaw, and roll are transformed into coordinates that indicate these parameters relative to the newly-defined reference frame. This step **1318** is always performed regardless of whether the magnitude of the acceleration matches that of gravity.

To facilitate, the following computations, the yaw, pitch, and roll values, which are presently referenced to a horizontal plane, must be converted into what is called the quaternion form. This is a four dimensional vector with three imaginary components and one real component. This is done to facilitate the transformation of the acceleration values, which are presently referenced to the tilted camera plane, into valves referenced to the horizontal reference plane (just defined, preparatory to integrating the acceleration values to produce velocity and displacement values.

This calculation is performed by the following program. In this program, the input variable is a record "AttitudeRecord" which contains yaw "w", pitch "p", and roll "r". The returned quaternion values are "s", "i", "j", and "k", where "s" is the real value and the others are the imaginary values.

```
// convert yaw,pitch,roll to quaternion form
void AttitudeQuaternion (AttitudeRecord * p,
                QuaternionRecord * qcos)
{
    long double cw,cp,cr,sw,sp,sr; /* sine and cosine */
    long double rp, rw, rr;
    long double trace, c[3][3];
    rw=rad(p—>w);
```

-continued

```
    rp=rad(p—>p);
    rr=rad(p—>r);
    cw=cosl (rw);
    cp=cosl (rp);
    cr=cosl (rr);
    sw=sinl (rw);
    sp=sinl (rp);
    sr=sinl (rr);
// use cosine matrix form for calculation
    c[0][0]=cw*sp; c[0][1]=sw*cp; c[0][2]=−sp;
    c[1][0]=(−cr*sw) + (sr*sp*cw); c[1][1]=(cr*cw)*(sr*sp*sw);
        c[1][2]=sr*cp;
    c[2][0]=(sr*sw) + (cr*sp*cw); c[2][1]=(−sr*cw)+(cr*sp*sw);
        c[2][2]=cr*cp;
    trace=c[0][0] + c[1][1] + c[2][2];
    qcos—>s=sqrtl(1+trace)/2.;
    qcos—>i=(c[1][2] − c[2][1])/(4.* qcos—>s);
    qcos—>j=(c[2][0] − c[0][2])/(4.* qcos—>s);
    qcos—>k=(c[0][1] − c[1][0])/(4.* qcos—>s);
```

At step **1324**, the acceleration vector is transformed from the camera body coordinate frame into the stable reference frame.

```
//rotate accel vector to platform coordinates
//using inverse quaternion
posqInverse.q.s=posqFwd.q.s;
posqInverse.q.i=−posqFwd.q.i;
posqInverse.q.j=−posqFwd.q.j;
posqInverse.q.k=−posqFwd.q.k;
QuaternionRotate (&pos->p,&posqInverse.q,&prec);
```

In the above, the acceleration vector is represented by a three component vector "&pos->". The four element quaternion value (computed above) is "posqFwd.q.s", "-.i", "-.j", and "-.k". In the above routine, this quaternion value is first inverted, giving "posqInverse.q.s.", etc. Next, this inverted quaternion and the acceleration vector are passed to the "QuaternionRotate" routine which returns the transformed acceleration values in a vector "&prec".

At step **1326**, the integration of the transformed acceleration values is carried out as follows:

```
dx+=(prec.1)/G;
dz+=(prec.u)/G;
dy+=(prec.f)/G;
x+=dx;
y+=dy;
z+=dz.
```

In the above routine, "dx", "dy", and "dz" are the velocity values in the x, y, and z directions. "x", "y", and "z" are the distance values. The incoming acceleration values are "prec.1" for the "x" axis acceleration, "prec.f" for the "y" axis acceleration, and "prec.u" for the "z" axis acceleration. Note that the acceleration values are normalized with respect to the value of gravity.

The quaternion coordinate transformation process is carried out by using two cross multiplications, and is illustrated below:

```
//returns rotated vector in rp
void QuaternionRotate (positionRecord *v,
        QuaternionRecord *q,
        PositionRecord *rp)
{
    QuaternionRecord vq,qi,rq;
    // quaternion multiplication qi v q
    // from the book.
    // qi is −i −j −k...
```

-continued

```
vq.s=0; vq.i=v—>f; vq.j=v—>1; vq.k=v—>u;
qi.s=q—>s;
qi.i=−q—>i;
qi.j=−q—>j;
qi.k=−q—>k;
QuaternionMultiply (&qi, &vq, &rq);
QuaternionMultiply (&rq, q, &vq); //reissue vq
rp—>f=vq.i;
rp—>l=vq.j;
rp—>u=vq.k.
```

The incoming arguments to this function are a three-dimensional vector "v" that is to be rotated and a four-dimensional quaternion vector "q" that defines the rotation. The three-dimensional vector "v" is first transformed into a four-dimensional vector "vp" with the fourth component "vq.s" set to zero.

First, an inverse "qi" is formed of the quaternion "q". Next, the incoming vector "vp" is quaternion multiplied by the inverse quaternion vector "qi;". The result of this multiplication "rq" is then quaternion multiplied by the quaternion vector "qi" Three components of the resulting vector, which is returned as "vq", are transferred back into the vector "rp" which is returned as the transformed result.

The quaternion multiplication is defined by the following program: void QuaternionMultiply (QuaternionRecord *q,

QuaternionRecord *s,

QuaternionRecord *r)

```
{
  r—>s=(q—>s*s—>s)−(q—>i*s—>i)−(q—>j*s—>j)−(q—>k*s—>k);
  r—>i=(q—>s*s—>i)+(q—>i*s—>s)+(q—>j*s—>k)−(q—>k*s—>j);
  r—>j=(q—>s*s—>j)−(q—>i*s—>k)+(q—>j*s—>s)+(q—>k*s—>i);
  r—>k=(q—>s*s—>k)+(q—>i*s—>j)−(q—>j*s—>i)+(q—>k*s—>s).
}
```

The details of the step **1122** in FIG. **10** relating to the writing out of a record **775** (FIG. **8**) are set forth in FIG. **14**. At step **1402**, if any frame numbers were skipped, at step **1122** a position record is generated and saved for each such skipped frame. Since there are more acceleration records than there are video frames, step **1408** tests to see if the current frame number has already been written out as a position record. If not, then a new position record **775** is written out at step **1410** along with the frame number. In any case, at step **1412**, the position record is saved for possible future use if any frames were skipped (at step **1402** during a future iteration).

In addition to writing out the records **775** (FIG. **8**) into the positional database **322** having the file name extension "*.TLA", the preferred embodiment of the invention simultaneously writes out records of the type **715** (FIG. **8**) into a separate positional database (not shown) having the file name extension "*.TEL". In this manner, two positional databases are created, one specifying camera attitude using the direct angular notation format, and the other specifying camera attitude using the quaternion notation format.

An alternative method of position estimation using the inertial platform is now described. The accelerometer inputs described above as the vector "pos" in the program "acc2pos.c" is replaced by a vector of constant velocity as shown in this program fragment:

```
if (magnitude < G + DELTA_MAG//+DELTA
      && magnitude < G − DELTA_MAG//−DELTA
      )
{
// for velocity estimation method
// dx = dy = dz = 0;
pos—>p.f=0;
}
else
{
pos—>p.f=500; // assume motion is in direction
          // camera is pointing
}
pos—>p.l=0; pos—>p.u=0;
```

This sets the velocity vector to one of two values, depending upon the magnitude of instantaneous acceleration being experienced. The vector component "pos->p.f" is the component pointing in the direction of the camera.

If the magnitude is below the threshold G+ or -DELTA_MAG (the force of gravity plus or minus a small deviation, determined by empirical measurement), the camera is assumed to be at rest. If the magnitude is outside this range the velocity is set to be the average velocity of a person walking. The camera is pointed in the direction the operator is walking whenever the operator moves, and this velocity vector is transformed using, the same quaternion as the acceleration measurement above.

The velocity vector is rotated in the following code fragment:

QuaternionRotate(&pos->p.&posqInverse.q.&prec);

The position is then calculated by summing each resultant component:

x−=prec.1;
y+=prec.f;
z+=prec.u;

The full text of the alternative "acc2pos.c" file is given in Appendix F. This file is to be substituted for the "acc2pos.c" file listed in Appendix B.

FIG. **13** shows the flow diagram for the alternate position calculation method. FIG. **13** is to be substituted for FIG. **12** in the program flow described above. In particular, the box in FIG. **12** labeled **1324** is replaced by a box **3380**, and the box labeled **1326** is replaced by a box **3390**.

In FIG. **13** box **3340** the absolute value of acceleration magnitude is compared to that of gravity plus a constant value. If the absolute value of the difference of these quantities is greater than zero, movement is indicated. The forward velocity component pos->p.f is then set to a velocity value of "walking speed" in box **3350**. Otherwise forward component is set to 0 in box **3360**. In either case the left-right and up-down components are set to 0 in box **3370**.

The velocity estimate is then transformed from platform coordinates to reference coordinates in box **3380**. The resulting transformed velocity is summed component-wise to produce the position estimate in box **3390**.

These boxes in FIG. **13** are identical to their counterparts in FIG. **12**:

FIG. **13** box **3310** is identical to FIG. **12** box **1310**.
FIG. **13** box **3312** is identical to FIG. **12** box **1312**.
FIG. **13** box **3314** is identical to FIG. **12** box **1314**.
FIG. **13** box **3322** is identical to FIG. **12** box **1322**.

Referring now to FIG. **15**, the hardwire circuitry portions of the invention are shown in block diagram form. FIG. **15** sets forth all of the significant signal interconnections between the circuitry blocks.

As shown in FIG. **15**, the heart of the tracking data acquisition unit **105** is a control circuit **470** which contains a cen-

tral processing unit **480**. This central processing unit, in the preferred embodiment, is a Z-WORLD SMART BLOCK, Model SB-DEV-32, programmable computer.

In FIG. **15**, the central processing unit **480** provides addressing signals **1502**, data signals **1504**, and control signals **1506** to a control logic **490**. The control logic **490** contains two programmable logic units PALS which respond to the signal from the CPU by generating all of the various control signals that are needed to run the tracking data acquisition unit **105**.

The rangefinder **485** is shown connected to the CPU **480** by means of two serial communication lines, an outgoing serial communication line TXA**1** carrying commands from the CPU **480** to the rangefinder **485**, and a return serial communication line RXA**1** carrying serial information from the rangefinder **485** back to the CPU **480**. The rangefinder **485** returns gathered information periodically, at its own rate of speed. The CPU **480** formulates a range packet **520** (FIG. **4**) containing a 24 byte range value **510** and an 8 byte gray scale value **515**, and adds it to the telemetry stream of data.

The two gyroscopes, the directional gyroscope **400** and the vertical gyroscope **410**, are designed so that when they are deprived of power, they return to rest positions with the vertical gyroscope **410** having its axis vertically disposed and with the directional gyroscope **400** having axis horizontally disposed.

When the camera **100** is placed into operation, the central processing unit **480** causes the control logic **490** to generate a GYRON signal and to feed it to a gyroscope regulated power supply **420**. In response, the gyroscope power supply **420** generates a plus 10 volt, regulated +GYRO signal which feeds power to both of the gyroscopes **400** and **410**. In response, the gyroscope motors begin to spin so their axis are stabilized and so that the gimbals associated with the gyroscopes begin to generate pairs of quadrature modulated signals indicating the rotational motions of the tracking data acquisition unit **105**.

The directional gyroscope **400** generates two square wave signals in quadrature as the platform **415** is rotated about a vertical axis to the left or to the right. These quadrature signals, which may be called collectively the yaw signal, appear on the two wires DOA and DOB. These signals arise from sensors associated with the gimbals within the gyroscope **400** in response to rotation of the gimbals.

The vertical gyroscope **410** is similarly equipped with two sets of sensors associated with its gimbals to generate pitch and roll quadrature modulated signals. The pitch signal, which appears on the two wires V**1**A and V**1**B, indicates the rate at which the camera **100** is pointing more upwards towards the ceiling or more downwards towards the floor. The roll, signal which appears on two wires V**0**A and V**0**B, indicates the rate at which the camera is tilting to one side or to the other, away from or towards the vertical.

These quadrature modulated pairs of signals require brief explanation. Assume for the moment that the camera is being rotated horizontally from left to right. This will cause a yaw signal to appear on the two wires D**0**A and D**0**B. Each wire bears a square wave signal, and the square waves are at quadrature with each other. This means that a negative going transition of the first of the square wave signals is followed by a negative going transition of the second of the square wave signals. Likewise, a positive going transition of the first signal is always followed by a positive going transition of the second signal. The speed of these transitions indicates the speed with which the camera is being rotated from left to right. If the camera motion stops, then the signals remain stationary until camera motion proceeds once again.

If the direction of rotation is reversed, then again square wave signals are generated—but this time in the opposite phase of quadrature. Thus, if a left-to-right motion causes a first signal to make its transitions ahead of the second signal, then a right-to-left motion will cause the second signal to make its transitions ahead of the first signal. This is identical to the way in which the motion signals work in a mouse pointing device of the type commonly used with digital computers.

The pitch and roll signals, represented respectively by the V**1**A–V**1**B and by the V**0**A–V**0**B signal lines, operate in a manner identical to the yaw signal just described, with the information being conveyed by quadrature modulated square waves. The three pairs of quadrature modulated signals V**1**A, V**1**B, V**0**A, V**0**B, and D**0**A, D**1**B are fed into respective quadrature decoders **450**, **455** and **460**. The quadrature decoders **450**, **455** and **460** are conventional models, in this case Hewlett Packard Model No. HCTL 2020. The three accelerometers **435**, **440**, and **445** are shown each generating an analog accelerometer output signal SIG**0**, SIG**1**, and SIG**2** and also a temperature signal TEMP**0**, TEMP**1**, and TEMP**2**. These signals flow into the multiplexer and A-to-D converter **465**.

In the manner described above, the central processing unit **480** is enabled to obtain data indicating the distance of the subject from the rangefinder **485**; it is enabled to obtain pitch, roll, and yaw data values from the vertical and directional gyroscopes **400** and **410**: and it is enabled to obtain data defining the instantaneous acceleration of the tracking data acquisition unit **105** from the accelerometers **435**, **440** and **445** in all three coordinate directions. The CPU **480** continuously packages this information, as explained in steps **600** to **615** in FIG. **6**, into the frame data format that is illustrated at **535** or **550** in FIG. **4**. This frame data format information is presented in parallel, one byte at a time, over the data bus D**0**–D**6** to shift register and encoder **475**.

The shift register and encoder **475** converts the signal into a modulated serial tracking data signal which is presented over the audio data line **115** to the audio record input **125** of the VCR **130**.

To summarize the operation of the tracking data acquisition unit **105** as shown in FIG. **15**, the central processing until retrieves from the rangefinder **485** in serial form an 8 bit gray scale value **515** and a 24 bit range value **510**, as shown in **520** in FIG. **4**. It retrieves from the quadrature decoders **450**, **455**, and **460** associated with the directional and vertical gyroscopes **400** and **410** 16 bit data values representing the current pitch, roll, and yaw as stored within counters within the quadrature decoders **450**, **455** and **460**. It retrieves from the X, Y, and Z accelerometers **435**, **445**, and **440**, 24-bit values representing the current instantaneous acceleration to which the tracking and data acquisition unit **105** is being subjected.

It then combines all of this information into a packet, with each byte in the packet containing a "1" start bit, a nibble of data, and three trailing "0" stop bits, with a 3 byte header **530** and **550** such as those shown at **535** or **540** in FIG. **4**. Each packet thus begins with the frame ID pattern elements shown at **525** or **545** as three bytes of information. This is followed by the X acceleration data **500**A, the pitch data **505**A, the Y acceleration data **500**B, the roll data **505**B, the Z acceleration data **500**C, the yaw data **505**C, the range data **555**, and the gray scale data **560**, as shown in FIG. **4**. This information is sent through to the shift register and encoder **475** and appears as a modulated tracking data signal on the audio line **115** which is then recorded by the VCR **130** along with the images flowing from the video camera **120**.

Upon playback, the video signal **150** flows directly into the personal computer **185**. The modulated tracking data signal **145** flows to a demodulator **155**. Following demodulation, the unmodulated tracking data signal flows over a signal line **170** to the PC **185**.

FIG. **16** presents a block diagram view of the three programs that control the operation of the central processing unit **480** shown in FIG. **15**. Two of these programs **2402** and **2404** are interrupt driven, and the third program **2406** either runs continuously, or it is called into operation periodically by a timer triggered interrupt or other similar mechanism.

The program **2406** begins at **2408** by initializing the system. Initialization includes such steps as turning on the power supply **420** for the gyroscopes, programming and initializing the three quadrature decoders **450**, **455**, and **460**, and setting up the analog to digital converter (within the block **465** in FIG. **15**).

Next, at **2050**, data is gathered from the rangefinder **485**. At **2052**, the analog to digital converter is commanded to gather from the accelerometers **435**, **445**, and **440** the current acceleration of the tracking data acquisition unit **105**.

At step **2054**, the above data, together with previously stored values of yaw, roll, and pitch are combined into a data packet, with 4 bits of data per byte, as has been explained above (steps **600**, **605**, **610**, and **615** in FIG. **6**; and see the data formats presented in FIG. **4**).

At step **2056**, the resulting data packet is placed into RAM memory as a series of bytes to await transmission to the shift register and encoder **475**.

At step **2058**, the interrupt driven program **2402** is placed into service to transmit the bytes of data to the shift register and encoder **475**.

At step **2060**, the program **2406** tests to see if all of the data bytes have been transmitted. Alternatively, the program simply suspends itself until a fixed time interval has expired. In either case, after transmission is completed or after the expiration of the time interval, program control recommences with step **2050**.

The program **2406** thus continuously operates to assemble data packets and to transmit them to the shift register and encoder **475** where the data is modulated onto an audio signal suitable for recordation on the audio soundtrack of a VCR.

The program **2402** is an interrupt driven program placed into operation by the interrupt signal INT**1** every time the shift register and encoder **475** successfully transmits a byte of information. At **2062**, this program simply sends a data byte from RAM to the shift register and encoder **475** until there are no more data bytes that remain to be transmitted. This interrupt driven routine frees up the program **2406** from the time consuming task of continuously monitoring for when to transmit the next byte of data.

The program **2404** is also an interrupt driven program. It is placed into operation every time one of the three quadrature decoders receives a signal fluctuation from one of the gyroscopes. In response to INT**2**, this program gathers pitch, roll, and yaw values from the two gyroscopes and stores them in RAM for later transmission at step **2064**.

Three display programs are available for viewing the information stored in the positional database.

The spatial database program **335** (FIG. **5**) is controlled by a three-dimensional navigation tool, such as the SUN COM FLIGHT MAX JOY STICK, or any three-dimensional, commercially available game control device. Each frame is displayed, and the user is asked whether he wants to select it. A database of frames selected for display is created. For each frame, a two-dimensional rectangle of fixed size is drawn using the WORLD TOOL KIT in a perspective view of three-dimensional space. The rectangle is displayed in the simulation space in the orientation specified by the attitude of the camera positional frame record that corresponds to the video frame. The rectangle is then textured with the video frame so the frames appear to float in space before the user.

The movie mapper program **325** is described in detail below.

The positional frame retrieval program **330** allows the user to identify a region in space on the camera path using the WORLD TOOLKIT. The program defines a rectangular solid in space about each imaged object. The location of each item imaged is computed from the data in each record. All the image records where the location of the item image falls outside of the rectangular solid for an item are discarded, and all remaining records are displayed as a movie view of the item from different perspectives. In essence, all available frames showing the item or the volume indicated are displayed sequentially, giving all the views available of the desired item or volume.

The data tracking and acquisition unit and modulator **105** has illustratively been shown connected to a rangefinder, receiving therefrom a serial data signal which is conveyed to the central computer for possible use in a data retrieval system. The positional frame retrieval program **330** uses this range data to determine the position of imaged objects and to retrieve all images containing a designated object, as contrasted with the movie mapper program technique of retrieving images based upon camera position and orientation (described below).

For example, in FIG. **18**, an object **3202** is shown within a camera path **3204** along which the camera orientation at the moment of image capture is indicated by vectors **3206**. In FIG. **18**, the vectors shown connected by dotted lines **3208** to the object **3202** represent the capture of an image of the object **3202**. Range information is also captured indicating how far the object **3202** is from the camera at each of these points.

The range data is preserved in the positional database **322** for this embodiment of the invention. Accordingly, the retrieval program **330**, in response to a mouse click at the position of the object, may locate all records **775** which, from position, camera angle, and distance to subject, relate to images of that object. These may be grouped into an object database and displayed as a video movie, as described above.

In addition to a rangefinder, other devices may be attached to the serial data input of the tracking data acquisition unit and modulator **105**, and data may be captured from these other devices. For example, data may be captured from a gas chromatograph or from a chemical sniffer. Sound may be recorded from a microphone. Average light intensity may be recorded from a photo cell. Infrared records of motion in the vicinity may be recorded. Data may be gathered from stationary machinery or data collection devices, such as flow meters or temperature sensors. Any type of data that has a spatial reference may be gathered in this manner.

Another embodiment of the invention is shown in FIG. **17**. The computer **185** contains a positional database **322** established previously, in accordance with the teachings set forth above. The positional frame retrieval program **330** is actively retrieving images from the databases **322** and displaying them.

In this embodiment, the tracking data acquisition unit and modulator **105** is not attached to the camera, but is attached by a serial communicator tether **3102** (which could include a radio linkage) directly to the serial port of the computer **185**, such that the tracking and video data entry and storage program continuously accepts the data and stores it in the tracking database **324**. The tracking data acquisition unit is thus enabled to be used as a mouse pointing device for the positional frame retrieval program **330** to guide in the retrieval and display of images—an inertial joystick.

The tracking database **324** may be on the hard disk as previously, but preferably it is a RAM circular buffer that is shared by the tracking database to positional database conversion program **310**. Alternatively, the tracking data values may be sent as messages between the two programs running under Windows and subject to the standard Windows message dispatcher (not shown). Both of the programs **305** and **310** can be simplified, since neither is dealing with video or with frame numbers in this embodiment.

The tracking database to positional database conversion program operates continuously, receiving tracking data containing unnormalized acceleration and orientation data and converting it into normalized position and orientation data, and sending the resulting data directly to the positional frame retrieval program **330**, thereby causing the program **330** to update the display continuously in response to manual movement of the tracking data acquisition unit and modulator **105** through time and space.

As an alternative, two computers can be utilized. A first portable computer (not shown) can be attached to the tracking data acquisitional unit and modulator **105** can contain the program elements **305**, **324**, **310** and **330**, shown in FIG. **17**. This computer continuously computes the coordinates and position of itself in time and space and broadcasts this information by means of a radio LAN or serial port, for example, to a stationary computer that contains the positional database **322**. The stationary computer broadcasts back the database information to the portable computer, where it is displayed. In this manner, a virtual world can be created where the one carrying around the portable computer can view a universe that exists in virtual form on the disk and that was recorded earlier at this or some other location.

As a third alterative, the tracking data acquisition unit and modulator **105** in FIG. **17** can be equipped with a video monitor receiving video signals from the computer **185** (by television transmission over a radio link, for example). Then one may wander about with the television and tracking data acquisition unit viewing a virtual reality derived from the positional database **322**.

The arrangement illustrated in FIG. **17** can also be used as a three-dimensional pointing device for programs other than the positional frame retrieval program. Any kind of three-dimensional software program requiring the assistance of a navigation tool having either three or six degrees of freedom may be readily modified to accept the positional data records generated at **3104** by the tracking data acquisition unit and modulator **105**.

Another embodiment of the invention utilizes a movie mapper **325** (FIGS. **19** to **35**) to assist the user in retrieving and displaying the images. The program structure, defined by a series of nested objects, is depicted in overview in FIG. **26**. The dynamics of event message transmission between objects is depicted in FIG. **27**, and the most important data structures are in accordance with previously-described FIGS. **5** and **8**. The operation of the program, as seen by the user, the window dynamics, and the program resources are depicted in FIGS. **34** to **40** and **43** to **46**, which disclose a series of operating states and menus of the program.

The program **325** is written in Microsoft C++ to run under Microsoft Windows, Version 3.1. Some of the programs call upon routines contained within the Microsoft Video For

i Windows Development Kit, Version 1.1. All of the above may be obtained from Microsoft Corporation, 1 Microsoft Way, Redmond, Wash. 98052. The Media Control Interface "MCIWind" 10944 (FIG. **26**) from the Video For Windows package is used to control the scrolling through the playback of video images within the AVI (audio video interleave) video child window, MCIView **10940**, described below. Many of the array processing routines presented within the program file TLA_FILE, as well as the vector, array, and tensor allocation programs are taken from the book Numerical Recipes in C, 2nd Edition, by Press, Vetterling, Teukolsky, Flannery (Cambridge University Press. 1992) and from the program diskette that accompanies this book. (These routines have been placed in the public domain by the authors of the book).

With reference to FIGS. **19** to **26**, and beginning with FIG. **19**, when the user turns on the movie mapper **325**, a main frame window **10100** opens up. The user first actuates the File popdown menu and calls for the display of an AVI file (a Microsoft Audio Video Interleave file). These files, in the present version of the invention, have file names with the suffix ".AVI". In all respects, these files correspond to all of Microsoft's specifications.

The program **325** opens up the selected "*.AVI" file. It also looks for and attempts to open a telemetry file, containing the positional information, which has the same name and the file name suffix "*.TLA". The "*.TLA" file must be prepared for this program by adding to the beginning of the file a single line of text. The line is "HDR<tab ><last frame number>" where <tab> is the tab character, and <last frame number> is the first number on the last line of the file. If no "*.TLA" file is found, the system issues an error message but permits one to browse through the "*.AVI" file in the normal Microsoft manner. The program also looks for and attempts to open an "*.MTA" file for its own use in defining overlay characteristics. An empty "*.MTA" file should be supplied, since the program will issue an error message and quit if none is found. The File popdown menu contains the usual list of Microsoft options, including Open AVI, Print, Print Preview, Print Setup, Exit, and a numbered list of recently opened AVI files to facilitate recalling a file recently opened.

The figures illustrate what happens when an AVI file BACK.AVI and its corresponding telemetry file BACK.TLA were successfully opened. Upon opening this file, the program **325** causes a Video child window **10110** to be opened, displaying in this case a view of the back yard of a private home. This video window is labelled at the top with "BLACK.AVI—Video" to identify both the file and the fact that this is the child window. The child window **10110** provides controls that are standard Microsoft controls for scroll-

ing through a sequence of video images. These include a VCR-like control **10108**. Clicking on this control starts the video playback if it is stopped, and stops it if it is running. The control is marked with a square when the video is playing, and it is marked with a triangle (shown) when the video is stopped. The Video popdown menu contains selections for changing the size of the video window to the original size, half the original size, or double the original size. A mouse-actuated slider control **10103** (FIG. **19**) permits the user to position the video playback to any frame of the temporal video sequence. All of these functions are provided by Microsoft's utilities.

A View pulldown menu permits additional child windows to be opened that relate to the position information. The View menu provides the following options, which are described below:

Triple MCI
Plan
Elevation
Yaw
Pitch
Roll
Orientation
Overlay Visibility
Toolbar
Status

Actuating the Plan command causes a plan view: XY child window **10120** to open up, displaying the path **10123** over which the camera was moved during the process of recording the sequential images. This window is labeled: "BACK.AVI—Plan View: XY" to identify the file name as well as the nature of the view. While not clearly visible in FIG. **19**, a large red dot **10128** identifies the precise position along the path **10123** where the camera was positioned when it recorded the image shown in the view window **10110**. Smaller red dots **10126** and **10127** identify side frames which are shown to the left and right of the main frame when the "Triple Mci" View menu item is selected. Dark green dots show the field of view (fov) of the camera **10129**, giving an indication of the direction the camera is pointing. When the "Play" button **10108** is pushed to commence a sequential playback of images, a series of red dots (again not clearly shown in FIG. **19**) indicate the camera's track. These red dots are spaced apart to produce a dotted line effect following the path of the camera as it moves along the path in the X and Y directions. The color of the remaining points along the track is blue.

Activating the Elevation command causes an Elevational View: XZ child window **10130** to open up, displaying the camera path of movement as seen from the side, rather than from the top. The display in all other respects is identical to the plan view display just described.

Activating the Yaw command causes a Yaw View child window **10140** to open up, displaying the various yaw directions the camera assumed during the image recording process. Yaw may be thought of as compass direction.

Likewise, activating the Pitch command causes a Pitch View child window **10150** to open up, displaying pitch directions in a fashion analogous to the Yaw View above. Pitch is inclination of the camera in the vertical image plane, that is looking up and down. In this example, the images do not vary significantly in pitch.

Activating the Roll command opens a Roll View child window **10160**, displaying roll directions as above. Roll is the tilt of the image plane from side to side, or leaning.

By clicking twice upon a point on the camera path in any of the child windows **10120**, **10130**, **10140**, **10150**, or **10160**, the user may signal the program to switch to displaying the image closest to the point where the mouse pointer was clicked and having the desired position, angle, or orientation. This selection process provides a rapid method for retrieving and positioning the video for playback based upon the desired position of the camera when an image was captured.

Activating the Orientation View command causes a child window **10180** to open up, displaying the orientation of the camera (pitch, roll, and yaw) graphically. Unfortunately, the absence of colors in FIG. **19** makes the figure less than clear. The positive Y direction is indicated by the line **10181**, with the negative Y direction indicated by the line **10182**. Note that the line **10181** indicating positive Y is Bold, to serve as a reference line. The positive X direction is indicated by the line **10185**, and negative X is indicated by the line **10186**, the positive Z direction is indicated by the line **10188**, and the negative Z direction is indicated by the line **10187**.

The actual direction of the camera, when it captured the image shown in the child window **10110**, is indicated by the line **10183**, which appears half in red and half in blue in the actual program display (and does not match the bold black line **10189**). The dotted line **10184** is a projection of the camera direction line **10183** onto the X-Y plane. As a sequence of images is displayed in response to actuation of the play control **10108**, the red-blue line **10183** swings about, indicating the orientation of the camera, and the dotted line **10184** swings about below (or above) the line **10183** like a shadow at noontime on the equator.

Roll is represented by the ratio of blue and red portions of the line **10183**. If the roll value is zero, then the line is half red and half blue. Roll in a clockwise direction increases the blue, while roll in a counterclockwise direction increases the red. A positive roll gives more red.

A toolbar containing push button controls (**10141**, **10142**, etc.) appears in the window **10101** and may be selectively displayed or hidden by actuating the Toolbar command in the View pulldown menu. The push button **10141** is an alternate way to open a file. The push buttons **10142** and **10145** respectively wind to the first and the last frames, and the push buttons **10143** and **10144** respectively move back and forward by one frame at a time.

The push button **10146** zooms in, and the push button **10147** zooms out. These two push buttons control the portion of the video path that is displayed by the Plan View and Elevational View child windows **10120** and **10130**, and the orientations shown in the Yaw View, the Pitch View, and the Roll View. To zoom in, and with reference to FIG. **19**, the user uses the mouse to position the cursor and then, with the left mouse button held down, drags the cursor diagonally so that a mouse-defined rectangle **10122** is created within the child window **10120**. The user then clicks the zoom in push button **10146**. The Plan View: XY window's contents are then replaced by the contents of the marked rectangle, expanded out to fill the window (FIG. **28**). The Elev View: XZ window's X axis is simultaneously zoomed, while the Z

axis (vertical) is left as before. The points in the XY view which were outside the rectangle **10122** are excluded from the elevational view. Likewise, any angle not represented in the selected set of points is excluded from the Yaw View, the Pitch View, and the Roll View. This process may be repeated as often as desired, until only a few camera positions are shown individually in the display.

The user may also create a rectangle within the Elev: XZ window, if desired. When the zoom-in push button **10146** is actuated, the selected rectangle fills the XZ window, and the X axis of the XY window is zoomed in the X axis only. Points not within the XZ selection rectangle are then excluded from the elevational view.

The user may also create a rectangle in the Yaw View window **10140**, the Pitch View window **10150**, or the Roll View window **10160**, if desired. When the zoom-in push button **10146** is actuated, the selected rectangle fills the window, and the Yaw, Pitch, or Roll values displayed within the selected rectangle expand to fill the display. Points in the Plan View: XY window **10120** and the Yaw View window **10140** which do not have yaw, pitch, and roll values within the resulting displayed Yaw View. Pitch View, and Roll View windows are excluded from the Plan View window and Elev XZ window.

Actuation of the zoom-out push button **10147** causes the plan and elevational displays to return to their original appearance (as shown in FIG. **19**).

Actuating the Overlay Visibility . . . menu selection from the View menu causes the display of an Overlay Visibility dialog window **11110** (FIG. **29**). The Overlay Visibility dialog lists five overlay items:—"Tombstones" **11120**, "Entrances" **11130**, "Exits" **11140**, "Launch Pads" **11150**, and "Grid (**5**" **11160**—each of which may be selected for display in the Video windows or the Plan View window. A check box for each item is provided under the Video and Plan columns of the dialog **11122**, **11124**, **11132**, **11134**, **11142**, **11144**, **11152**, **11154**, **11162**. Check boxes under the Video column **11170** control display of items in the Video window **10110**, while those in the Plan column **11180** control display of items in the Plan View window **10120**. When the check box has an X in it, any overlay item of the corresponding type which may appropriately be displayed according to the current state of the program is displayed in the Video or Plan View window. Likewise, removing the X from the checkbox inhibits display of the corresponding line item.

The Overlay items listed above will be described later.

The final command in the View popdown menu is the Status command, which hides or displays a status line at the bottom of the window **10190** and which indicates such things as the frame number and the X, Y, Z, Yaw, Pitch, and Roll coordinates of the camera corresponding to the image that is being displayed.

The Frame pop down menu displays the following commands, all of which relate to simply positioning the video as if it were a continuous video tape recording:

Home

Back

Forward

End

Additionally, the Frame pop down menu displays the following commands which have a special meaning:

Loop Forward

Loop Backward

The Loop Forward and Loop Backward selections cause the Video display to update with the next frame of video (Loop Forward) or previous frame (Loop Backward) in temporal sequence, continuously. Upon reaching the end of the video sequence, the sequence continues playback with the frame at the other end of the sequence, as though the video were joined in a continuous loop of film. Frames not shown in the Plan View window are skipped in the playback. Also, after each frame is shown, the Overlay Items appropriate to the frame are rendered onto the video frame display. The Overlay Items are described below.

The Loop Forward function may alternatively be started and stopped by striking the space bar. Each strike toggles the Loop Forward function between the started and stopped state.

The Action Menu has functions corresponding to the Toolbar buttons Zoom In **10146** and Zoom Out **10147**. It also has functions corresponding to the Head Forward button **10148** and Head Back button **10149**. Finally the Adjust Parameters function brings up a dialog box **10310** (FIG. **21**) by which various parameters to be described later are adjusted.

The Head Forward **10148** and Head Back **10149** buttons and functions allow the user to move forward or back up from the currently displayed frame. The Head Forward frame and Head Back frame are shown as green dots **10123** and **10124** on the Plan View window, and as green rectangles **10420** and **10422** (FIG. **22**) superimposed on the Video window. The Head Forward rectangle **10420** is projected onto the Video window and is superimposed on a spot on the Video window which corresponds to its spatial location as determined by the database. The Head Backward rectangle **10422** encloses the entire video area of the Video window.

The Head Forward frame is chosen by the program such that when it is displayed the appearance to the user is that the user has moved forward. This frame is selected in the following manner. Search all the frames in the telemetry file (*.tla) and determine which are within the front field of view angle from the perspective of the current frame.

The front field of view is defined here. Define a ray with its origin at the current frame's x-y location and extending in the direction of the yaw angle, called the centerline of the frame. Define a pair of rays with the same origin, called left and right lines of the frame, which make an angle with the centerline specified by the user in the Action-Adjust Parameters dialog (FIG. **21**) Field of View Angle +/− item **10312**. Define a Field of View (fov) of the current frame between the left and right lines of the frame. All frame points which lie within the field of view are said to be frames within the current frame's field of view.

Of all the frames within the field of view (fov), determine which are within an operator specified radius (the Action-Adjust Parameters dialog Neighborhood Multiplier item **10320** (FIG. **21**) times the Action-Adjust Parameters dialog Neighbor Radius item **10318** (FIG. **21**) of the current frame location and have a yaw angle that is within a specified maximum angular difference from the yaw angle goal. Of these candidate frames, find the frame that has the lowest valued FovIndexRating, defined as the sum of:

1. the absolute angular difference between the yaw angles of the current frame and the candidate frame, and
2. a weighted rating based on the distance of the xy location of the candidate frame from any point on the neighborhood circle around the current frame.

The weight given this distance error is proportional to the value of the Action-Adjust Parameters dialog Selecting Side Angles scroll bar item **10340** (FIG. **21**). This allows the operator to adjust the importance of the minimization of yaw differences or distance from the circle.

Sometimes there is not an appropriate frame. In that case, none are selected and no corresponding overlay is displayed.

The Head Back frame is calculated in an similar manner to that used to the Head Forward frame with the exception that this frame must lie in the rear field of view. The rear field of view is a yaw angle range that can be found by reflecting the front field of view angle range to the back of the current frame. These fields of view are the same magnitude and face in opposite directions. For the case of jumping backward, the yaw angle goal is equal to the yaw angle of the current frame.

The keyboard Up-arrow-key and letter I key also execute the Head Forward function, the keyboard Down-arrow-key and letter K key also execute the Head Back function.

The View menu-Triple Mci function causes the MCIview window to expand to include three video windows (FIG. **20**). The one in the center is the same. The left and right windows contain frames of video selected from the data set on the basis of their proximity to the best theoretical frames to display both in x-y-z and in centerline. The frame on the left is chosen so that its centerline is close to twice the fov of the center frame. Likewise the frame on the right is chosen so that its centerline is close to twice the fov of the center frame, but in a direction to the right of the center frame's centerline. For example, if the fov is 30 degrees (meaning that the left line is 30 degrees less than the centerline and the right line is 30 degrees greater than the centerline on a compass), a left frame would be searched for in the database with a center line of approximately 60 degrees less than the centerline of the current frame.

If no frame is found that meets the criteria for selection, no frame is displayed. If a frame has been chosen for the left frame or the right frame, that frame is displayed within its own MCIwnd, located to the left or the right of the center frame.

The left and right frames are aligned with the center frames based on the fov and on the yaw and pitch values of the centerlines of the frames. The fov defines a "pixel per degree" displacement on the screen. For each degree the left or right frame's centerline disagrees with the predicted centerline (center frame's centerline plus or minus twice the fov) the frame is shifted a corresponding number of pixels. Likewise, the frame is shifted up or down by the pixel per degree amount by which the frame's pitch differs from the center frame's pitch.

The left arrow key and the J key on the keyboard select a new frame for viewing. Initially the frame selected is the displayed left frame described above. The 0 through 9 keys allow the selection of a frame (if one exists) which has a centerline less than twice the fov angle. Pressing the 1 key sets the goal centerline angle to the centerline angle of the current frame plus or minus 10 percent of twice the fov angle. The 2 key similarly sets the goal centerline angle to 20 percent of twice the fov angle. The 0 key sets the goal centerline angle to 100 percent of twice the fov angle. Note that this setting yields the frame which precisely abuts the center frame, since points on the edge of the center frame lie on a vertical plane extending from the current point of view which makes an angle of exactly "fov" degrees with the current frame centerline.

An overlay item represents a point or area of interest of the database as projected onto the current frame. Several overlay item types are defined by the movie mapper program. The overlay items which represent frames are the jump forward rectangle **10420** (FIG. **22**), the jump backward rectangle **10422** (FIG. **22**), the jump and turn left diamond **10424** (FIG. **22**), the jump and turn right diamond **10426** (FIG. **22**), the turn left triangle **11210** (FIG. **30**), and the turn right triangle **11220** (FIG. **30**). (See also **10220** in FIG. **20** where the left-turn triangle is shown in the panoramic view.)

Additionally, one or more frames may be defined as Entrance frames, marked on the Video Overlay window with an Entrance item **11230** (FIG. **30**). An Entrance frame is a frame which is displayed as a result of the operator causing the viewer program to access a frame indexed within an area of the database known as an Exit area. The Exit area is described below. Like the Jump Forward frame, for example, the Entrance frame replaces the current frame in the video display window. An entrance frame may be contained within the same database which is currently being viewed, or may be from a different database. An entrance frame may be identified by the operator at any time by invoking the Objects-Create Entrance dialog **11300** (FIG. **31**). The current frame is marked in the *.mta file associated with the currently open database with the operator supplied tag entered by the operator in the Entrance Name item **11320** (FIG. **31**) of the Objects-Create Entrance dialog **11300** (FIG. **31**). The Frame Number **11310** (FIG. **31**) is supplied by the program when the dialog is invoked.

Three overlay item types describe areas rather than points. An Exit item marks an area of the Plan View containing frames of the current database which when viewed will cause the display of an associated Entrance frame. A Launch Pad area item **10722** (FIG. **25**) causes the execution of an associated application program whenever a frame is displayed whose coordinates lie within the area defined for the Launch Pad area.

An Exit area is defined by the operator's actions:

The operator clicks on the Plan View window, holding the left mouse button down and moving the pointer to another point within the plan view window. This action creates a rectangle drawn on the Plan View **10122** (FIG. **19**). The operator then invokes the Objects-Create Exit dialog **10500** (FIG. **23**), and after filling in the dialog's entries, clicks the mouse on the OK button **10580** (FIG. **23**). The dialog's Destination File item **10510** (FIG. **23**) identifies the *.mta file associated with the database containing the desired Entrance, the named entrance which was defined by the procedure above. The Destination Name item **10520** (FIG. **23**) selects the tag for the desired Entrance frame which was previously identified using the procedure described above for defining Entrance frames. Finally, the operator identifies

the Exit area by entering an Exit name in the Exit Name item **10530** (FIG. **23**), and completes the dialog by clicking the mouse on the OK button **10580** (FIG. **23**).

A Launch Pad item is defined in a similar fashion. The operator clicks and drags on the Plan View window as above, and then invokes the Objects-Create Launch Pad dialog **10600** (FIG. **24**). The operator fills in the Application File item **10610** (FIG. **24**) with the name of an application to execute, the Command Line item **10620** (FIG. **24**) with command line information if any, and gives the Launch Pad a name in the Launch Pad Name item **10630** (FIG. **24**).

Each of these overlay items is projected onto the current video frame according to the overlay calculation code described above.

The Window pop down menu provides conventional Microsoft Windows window control functions that need not be described here. The Help popdown menu also needs no special explanation.

The object program structure of the movie mapper **325** is described in overview in FIG. **26**, and the message paths connecting these program object elements are shown in FIG. **27**. Taken together, and in conjunction with the preceding figures that illustrate the windows and program operation, FIGS. **19** to **35** present a full overview of the program **325**.

The operating program is composed of a number of objects each of which is an instance of some class of objects. These objects are represented by rectangles in FIGS. **26** and **27**. Objects sometimes create subsidiary objects. When this happens, the subsidiary objects are represented in FIG. **26** by smaller rectangles contained within the larger object rectangles that gave rise to them. Each object has properties which correspond to its particular class. Each object class has a name, and the properties of the class are defined by separate program listings for each class. To aid the reader in pursuing these programs, FIG. **26** presents the hierarchical arrangement of the objects that are present in the program **325** when it is actually operating. The class name of each object appears within the rectangle for the object.

When the program commences operating, it first appears as an object named CVidApp **10902** (FIG. **26**). This object then creates a frame window derived from the Microsoft class CMainFrame **10905**. This CMainFrame object appears on the screen as a large window frame **10100** (see FIG. **19**) that includes a menu bar, a tool bar, and a status line, as has been described.

This CMainFrame object next launches a child frame derived from Microsoft's CMDIChildWnd that is of the class CMDITextWnd **10938**. This object gives rise to a child window that is modified from the Microsoft original in that its title line (positioned above the window) may be dynamically altered while the program is in operation.

This first child object launches within itself an instance of the CMCIView **10940** object, which launches MCIWnd **10944** to display the sequence of video images.

The CMciView object **10944** also launches a CMCIWnd object **10950**. The CMCIWnd object **10950** attaches itself to the MCIWnd object **10944** so that Windows operating system events come to the CMCIWnd **10950** object instead of being sent directly to the MCIWnd object **10944**. In most cases the CMCIWnd **10950** object merely forwards the events to the MCIWnd object **10944**. The CMCIWnd object **10950** intercepts mouse events, so that it may sense operator clicks on the overlay objects. The CMCIWnd object **10950** also intercepts MCIWnd redraw requests, forwards these requests to MCIWnd **10944** for video refresh, and then redraws the overlay objects associated with the video frame being displayed.

The CMciView and MCIView objects are the lower-most of the seven objects shown in FIG. **26** within the CMainFrame object **10905**. Accordingly, the user sees upon the screen a large window **10100** (FIG. **19**) within which a small window **10110** appears having video playback control **10108**.

Six more windows may be opened by the user through activation of the View pop down menu, as has been described. Each of these windows corresponds to an additional pair of nested objects which appear within the CMainFrame object **10905** shown in FIG. **26**.

If the user opens the Plan View: XY window **10120** (FIG. **19**), then the object CMDITextWnd **10906** containing the object CPlanView **10920** is created within the CMainFrame object **10905**, and this pair of objects together create the child window shown at **10120** in FIG. **19**. If the user opens the Elev View:XZ window **10130**, then the object CMDITextWnd **10911** containing the object CElevView **10935** is created within the CMainFrame object **10905**, and this pair of objects together create the child window shown at **10130** in FIG. **19**. If the user opens the Orient View window **10180**, then the object CMDITextWnd **10914** containing the object COrientView **10945** is created within the CMainFrame object **10905**, and this pair of objects together create the child window shown at **10180** in FIG. **19**.

If the user opens the Yaw View window **10140**, then the object CMDITextWnd **10918** containing the object CYawView **10910** is created within the CMainFrame object **10905**, and this pair of objects together create the child window shown at **10140** in FIG. **19**.

If the user opens the Pitch View window **10195**, then the object CMDITextWnd **10923** containing the object CPitchView **10925** is created within the CMainFrame object **10905**, and this pair of objects together create the child window shown at **10195** in FIG. **19**.

If the user opens the Roll View window **10160**, then the object CMDITextWnd **10923** containing the object CRollView **10915** is created within the CMainFrame object, and this pair of objects together create the child window shown at **10160** in FIG. **19**.

As the user closes the windows, the corresponding pairs of objects are destroyed.

The objects, once created, send messages back and forth to each other over the paths illustrated in FIG. **27**. The following discussion does not consider messages directed to the window frames (to adjust the frame size, for example) and to the child window frame object instances CMDITextWnd, which are not shown to simplify FIG. **27**.

When the user "talks" to the program, using the keyboard or mouse, in general the user communicates with the active window (in the case of the keyboard) or the window that the mouse is in (in the case of the mouse), selecting a different active window by clicking within the window boundaries. The nine windows shown in FIG. **19** to which the user "talks" correspond to the ten objects numbered **10905**,

10910, **10915**, **10920**, **10925**, **10935**, **10940**, **10944**, **10945**, and **10950** in FIGS. **26** and **27**. So these ten objects receive messages from the user and must respond.

The central coordinating object is the document object, which is an instance of CVidDoc **10927** which is derived from the class Cdocument (a Microsoft class). This object contains the key system variables that determine the state of the system. Included, as illustrated in FIG. **27**, are the name of the file being processed, the number of the current frame being displayed, the current zoom level, the minimum and maximum values of coordinates that are used in the displays, and an object **10909** which is an instance of the class Tla_File, which stores and manipulates the positional data. (The minimum and maximum values of the coordinates are derived from the file data itself as the extreme values found within this object.)

If any window receives a message that calls for adjustment of one of the key system variables, that message is sent immediately to the document object CVidDoc **10907**. The value of the key variable is adjusted, and then the document object **10907** broadcasts an "Update All Views" message over the path **10980** to the MCIWnd child window object **10944**, over path **10911** to object **10910**, over path **10921** to object **10920**, over path **10926** to object **10925**, over path **10916** to object **10915**, over path **10936** to object **10935**, over path **10941** to object **10940**, and over path **10946** to object **10945**. Each responds accordingly. The "Update All Views" message contains a hint that says either:

1. Rewrite Everything, or
2. Just Do Current Frame.

The "rewrite everything" hint causes each window to be redrawn completely. The "just do current frame" hint causes, for example, just one point to be changed from blue to red.

The individual window objects next communicate with the document object **10907** over paths **10911**, **10916**, **10921**, **10926**, **10936**, **10941**, and **10946** and receive information via paths **10912**, **10917**, **10922**, **10927**, **10937**, **10942**, and **10947** to learn of the new state of the system and to retrieve from the document object **10907** whatever data they need to update their respective windows. For example, if the user at **10902** clicks upon the "zoom out" push button **10146** (FIG. **19**), this action is communicated to the object CMainFrame **10905** associated with the outer window frame. The object **10905** communicates this message over the path **10904** to the document object **10907**. The Zoom Level variable is updated within the object **10907**, and an "Update All Views—Rewrite Everything" message is broadcast over the paths **10911**, **10916**, **10921**, **10926**, **10936**, **10941**, **10946**, and **10980** to the remaining objects, except for the CMciWnd object **10950**. This object receives its update messages before they are sent to the MCIWnd object **10944**, and are re-routed by the operating system. Then each of the objects **10910**, **10915**, **10920**, **10925**, **10935**, **10940**, and **10945** must send messages to the document object **10907** requesting all of the positional information (from "Tla_File") so that they may repaint their plots of camera motion. They also request the current frame number so that they can color the plot of the current frame position red in color. The object **10944**, which simply needs to recompute and display the camera's orientation when capturing the current frame, simply requests the current frame number and the positional data relevant to that one frame. The object **10944**, after verifying that the current frame value has not changed, simply does nothing in this case.

Double clicking on the path in one of the windows **10110**, **10120**, **10130**, **10140**, **10150**, **10160**, and **10180** (FIG. **19**) causes one of the objects **10910**, **10915**, **10920**, **10925**, **10935**, **10940**, or **10945** to send a message to the document object **10907** reporting a new value for the current frame number. In response, the document object broadcasts over the paths **10912**, **10917**, **10922**, **10927**, **10937**, **10942**, **10947**, and **10981** the message "Update All Views—Rewrite Everything " to the objects **10910**, **10915**, **10920**, **10925**, **10935**, **10940**, **10944** and **10945**. In response, the objects **10910**, **10915**, **10920**, **10925**, **10935**, **10940**, and **10945** redraw their plots totally, requesting the necessary data from the document object **10907**. The CMCIView object **10940**, after determining, that the current frame had changed, would request the display of the designated new frame by the MCIWnd object from Microsoft **10944**. That request is intercepted by CMciWnd object **10950**, which refreshes the overlay after the MCIWnd object **10944** finishes its update. When the user clicks upon one of the positioning controls **10142**, **10143**, **10144**, or **10145** in the tool bar (FIG. **19**), these actions are communicated over the path **10903** to the CMainFrame object **10905** which, in a similar manner, sends a frame update message over the path **10904** to the document object **10907** and triggers a similar response to that just described.

When the user activates the video controls within the child window **10110** (FIG. **19**) that contains the video image, the user is communicating directly with the Microsoft MCIWind object **10944**. This object updates the display of the image as requested and sends a message indicating the new frame number to the object CMCIView **10940**. The object **10940** must then communicate this action to the document object **10907** over the path **10942**. In this case, if the MCIWind viewer is playing the video as an animated display, then the document object **10907** broadcasts a message over the paths **10912**, **10917**, **10922**, **10927**, **10937**, **10942**, **10947**, and **10980** "Update All Views—Just Do Current Frame." Accordingly, the objects **10910**, **10915**, **10920**, **10925**, **10935**, **10940**, and **10945** need simply to request information concerning the new current frame.

The program provides the facility of navigating through the video database by selecting frames of data from the database which represent translations and rotations from the position of the current frame's point of view. The program searches the database for frames which best meet the criteria, and the operator then selects one of these frames using the keys or mouse as described above. The following paragraphs describe the method the program uses to select the best frame for each of the possible operator choices (turn left, turn right, jump forward, jump backward, jump forward and simultaneously turn right, jump forward and simultaneously turn left).

First, the program initializes variables which are used to keep track of the best entry found for each of the selections above. Cw_slope is clockwise, and ccw_slope is counterclockwise. Fov is the slope data for the current frame. LeftDiag is the slope data for the frame to the left of the current frame, its centerline close to twice the fov counterclockwise of the current frame's centerline. RightDiag is the slope data for the frame to the right of the current frame, its centerline close to twice the fov clockwise of the current frame's centerline.

```
void Tla_File::select_field_of_view(unsigned short current_frame)
{
  unsigned short fov_subset_index = MIN_FRAME_COUNT;// index used w/ subset array
  unsigned short subset_index;                      // index used w/ data arrays
  .
  SlopeData   Fov;
  SlopeData   LeftDiag;
  SlopeData   RightDiag;

  float IndexCurrentSlope;

  int   current_x   = get_x_data(current_frame);    // get x coor for current frame
  int   current_y   = get_y_data(current_frame);    // get y coor for current frame
  int   index_x;    // x coor of point/frame under test of being in camera's field of view
  int   index_y;

  BOOL  same_location;   // true if indexed point and current point are same point or location
  BOOL  in_front_fov;    // true if indexed point is in the camera's field of view at current pt
  BOOL  in_rear_fov;     // true if indexed point is in the current pt camera's rear view
mirror's fov
  BOOL  in_left_diag;    // true if indexed point is in the left  diagonal's range as seen from
current pt
  BOOL  in_right_diag;   // true if indexed point is in the right diagonal's range as seen from
current pt

                  // time saving combination used in side frame selection tradeoff
                  // m_Selecting_Tradeoff is 1 to 17

  float DistanceGain  = (float)(NEUTRAL_DIST_GAIN * m_Selecting_Tradeoff /
DEFAULT_PRIORITY);              // ~1/8 to 2+

  // calc slope of line of clockwise field of view limit within the xy plan (plan view)
  Fov.cw_slope  = get_yaw_data(current_frame) - (m_HorzFieldOfViewAngle / 2);
  // calc slope of line of counterclockwise field of view limit within the xy plan (plan view)
  Fov.ccw_slope = get_yaw_data(current_frame) + (m_HorzFieldOfViewAngle / 2);
```

CalcSlopeData converts the cw_slope and ccw_slope angles of the current frame to the tangent of the angles, with quadrant. (FIG. 33, step 11520)

```
  CalcSlopeData(&Fov);    // calc variables used in testing slope limits. Means of testing if yaw
in bounds

                          // sets goal for side frame selection as fraction of
m_HorzFieldOfViewAngle
  float TurnAngleGoal = m_SideFrameGain * m_HorzFieldOfViewAngle;

                         // left  is ccw and TurnAngleGoal is added       to turn left
                         // right is  cw and TurnAngleGoal is subtracted to turn right
  if (TurnAngleGoal > m_MaxHeadingAngle)    // note this is a new use for
m_MaxHeadingAngle
    {
      // want right most limit of left diag range to be left of current yaw
    LeftDiag.cw_slope   = get_yaw_data(current_frame) + TurnAngleGoal -
m_MaxHeadingAngle;
      // want left most limit of right diag range to be right of current yaw
    RightDiag.ccw_slope = get_yaw_data(current_frame) - TurnAngleGoal +
m_MaxHeadingAngle;
    }
  else
    {
    LeftDiag.cw_slope   = get_yaw_data(current_frame);
    RightDiag.ccw_slope = get_yaw_data(current_frame);
    }
                                        // note this is a new use for m_MaxHeadingAngle
  LeftDiag.ccw_slope    = get_yaw_data(current_frame) + TurnAngleGoal +
m_MaxHeadingAngle;
  RightDiag.cw_slope    = get_yaw_data(current_frame) - TurnAngleGoal -
m_MaxHeadingAngle;
```

CalcSlopeData converts the cw_slope and ccw_slope angles of the LeftDiag and RightDiag to the tangent of the angles, with quadrant. (FIG. 33, step 11530)

```
  CalcSlopeData(&LeftDiag);  // calc variables used in testing slope limits. Means of testing if
yaw in bounds
  CalcSlopeData(&RightDiag); // calc variables used in testing slope limits. Means of testing if
yaw in bounds

  m_FovSubsetIndexMax   = NO_FRAMES;

  float CurrentPointYaw = get_yaw_data(current_frame); // use for finding most aligned fov pt
  float IndexPointYaw;

  float Cos_CurrentPointYaw = (float)cos(CurrentPointYaw * DEG_TO_RAD);
  float Sin_CurrentPointYaw = (float)sin(CurrentPointYaw * DEG_TO_RAD);
  float xCurrentMinusIndex;                    // diff in x between current  pt and index pt
  float yCurrentMinusIndex;                    // diff in y between  current pt and index pt

        // in these rating, smaller is better
        // used for selecting best frames to use for right and left mciwnds
  float  AdjIndexCurrentDistanceRating;        // rating by distance from current point adj
for angle
  float  WeightedRadiusDistanceRating;         // rating by distance from neighbor hood
radius
  float  LeftIndexRating;                      // measure of merit for indexed pt as left  pt
```

```
  float  RightIndexRating;                    // measure of merit for indexed pt as right pt
  float  FovIndexRating;                      // measure of merit for indexed pt as fwd  jump
pt

  float  FwdSmallestDisplayRating   = HIGH_VALUE_RATING; // best measure of merit for
fwd  jump pt so far
  float  RearSmallestDisplayRating  = HIGH_VALUE_RATING; // best measure of merit for
rear jump pt so far
  float  LeftSmallestDisplayRating  = HIGH_VALUE_RATING; // best measure of merit for
left  display pt so far
  float  RightSmallestDisplayRating = HIGH_VALUE_RATING; // best measure of merit for
right display pt so far
  float  LeftSmallestTurnRating     = HIGH_VALUE_RATING; // best measure of merit for
left  turn pt so far
  float  RightSmallestTurnRating    = HIGH_VALUE_RATING; // best measure of merit for
right turn pt so far
  float  LeftSmallestDiagRating     = HIGH_VALUE_RATING; // best measure of merit for
left  diag turn pt so far
  float  RightSmallestDiagRating    = HIGH_VALUE_RATING; // best measure of merit for
right diag turn pt so far

  float  DisplayYawAbsDiff;                   // abs diff in yaw of limit yaw + trial display
pts
  float  TurnYawAbsDiff;                      // abs diff in yaw of limit yaw + trial turn pts
  float  CurrentIndexYawAbsDiff;              // abs diff in yaw of current and index pts
  float  IndexCurrentYawDiff;                 // signed diff in yaw of current and index pts
  BOOL   IndexYawToLeftOfCurrentYaw;          // is candidate frame's yaw pointing to
left of current yaw

  float  DistanceSquared;                     // square of distance betw index and current pts.
  float  NeighborRadiusSquared      = m_NeighborRadius * m_NeighborRadius;
                sqr of neighborhood radius
  float  MultipliedNeighborRadiusSquared      // sqr of multiplied limit of neighborhood
radius
                = m_NeighborhoodMultiplier * m_NeighborhoodMultiplier *
NeighborRadiusSquared;
```

The result variables are set to reflect the selection results when no frames are found. (FIG. 33, step 11510)

```
  m_FovPtClosestInYaw    = NO_FRAMES;         // no closest point
  m_RearFovPtClosestInYaw= NO_FRAMES;         // no closest point

  m_PtLeftFOV            = current_frame;     // if find nothing better, show behind
current point
  m_PtRightFOV           = current_frame;     // if find nothing better, show behind
current point;
  m_PtLeftTurn           = current_frame;     // if find nothing better, show over  current
point;              // no closest point
  m_PtRightTurn          = current_frame;     // if find nothing better, show over  current
point;

  m_PtLeftDiag           = NO_FRAMES;
  m_PtRightDiag          = NO_FRAMES;
```

```
 float LeftFovPtYaw    = CurrentPointYaw +      m_HorzFieldOfViewAngle;    // don't
worry if >  180'
 float RightFovPtYaw   = CurrentPointYaw -      m_HorzFieldOfViewAngle;    // don't
worry if < -180'
 float Left2FovPtYaw   = CurrentPointYaw + (2 * m_HorzFieldOfViewAngle);   // don't
worry if >  180'
 float Right2FovPtYaw  = CurrentPointYaw - (2 * m_HorzFieldOfViewAngle);   // don't
worry if < -180'

 float LeftTurnPtYaw   = CurrentPointYaw +      TurnAngleGoal;             // don't worry if
>  180'
 float RightTurnPtYaw  = CurrentPointYaw -      TurnAngleGoal;             // don't worry if
<  180'
```

Now iterate through all frames in the database. (FIG. 32, Steps 11430, 11450, and 11465) The search may be limited to a subset of the all the frames in the database, if the operator has zoomed in on one of the data windows (Plan View, Elev. View, Yaw View, Pitch View, Roll View).

```
 unsigned short frame_index;
 if (m_zoom_subset_index_max != NO_FRAMES)        // If there are points in reg subset
  {
  for (subset_index   = MIN_FRAME_COUNT;
      subset_index  <= m_zoom_subset_index_max;  // do all pts in reg subset defined by
views
      subset_index++
     )
    {
    in_front_fov  = FALSE;
    in_rear_fov   = FALSE;
    in_left_diag  = FALSE;
    in_right_diag = FALSE;

    frame_index   = get_frame_from_zoom_subset(subset_index);
    IndexPointYaw = get_yaw_data(frame_index);
```

Get the X and Y data for the frame. (FIG. 34, step 11610) In this loop "index" is the index of the frame being tested. "Current" is the index of the currently displayed frame.

```
    index_x      = get_x_data(frame_index);
    index_y      = get_y_data(frame_index);

        // calc offset using normal x,y axes
    xCurrentMinusIndex = current_x - index_x;
    yCurrentMinusIndex = current_y - index_y;
```

Calculate distance from current frame's location to index frame's location on plan view. (FIG. 34, step 11620)

```
    DistanceSquared = (float)(xCurrentMinusIndex*xCurrentMinusIndex +
yCurrentMinusIndex*yCurrentMinusIndex);
```

```
        // calc slope of line from current point to point under test (subset_index point)
        // first prevent divide by zero
same_location   =  FALSE;
```

Calculate yaw difference between current frame and index frame. Make sure to keep result in range of +/- 180 degrees. (FIG. 34, step 11630)

```
    IndexCurrentYawDiff = IndexPointYaw - CurrentPointYaw;   // pos yaw is counter clockwise
    if (((IndexCurrentYawDiff >= 0)    // if candidate's yaw is closer to current pt's yaw in ccw dir
      && (IndexCurrentYawDiff <= 180)  // but no wrap around that makes far really close on other side
       )
     || ( IndexCurrentYawDiff < -180)    // appears to be clockwise
                                         // but does wrap around so makes big diff really close on other side
       )
      {
      IndexYawToLeftOfCurrentYaw = TRUE;
      }
    else
      {
      IndexYawToLeftOfCurrentYaw = FALSE;
      }

    CurrentIndexYawAbsDiff = (float)(fabs(CurrentPointYaw - IndexPointYaw));
        // Cant be further apart than 180
    if (CurrentIndexYawAbsDiff >= 180)
      {
      CurrentIndexYawAbsDiff    = 360 - CurrentIndexYawAbsDiff;
      }
```

Test for special cases of slope for the line between the index and the current. The math calculation causes an error if the slope is vertical. Then calculate slope in the more general case. (FIG. 34, step 11640)

```
        // you would think that checking index_x and index_y would catch this
        // but the math is sometimes inexact evidently so explicitly check if same point
if (current_frame == frame_index)
  {
        // two points are on exactly same spot. You cant see yourself in your field of view
  IndexCurrentSlope =  0;          // s/b undefined, really.
  same_location     =  TRUE;
  }
else
  {
  if (index_x == current_x)
    {
    if (index_y > current_y)
      {
      IndexCurrentSlope  =  MAX_SLOPE;
      }
    else if (index_y < current_y)
```

```
    {
    IndexCurrentSlope  = -MAX_SLOPE;
    }
  else
    {
     // two points are on exactly same spot. You cant see yourself in your field of view
    IndexCurrentSlope  =  0;          // s/b undefined, really.
    same_location      =  TRUE;
    }
  }
else  // ok tc calc slope. no divide by zero
  {
  IndexCurrentSlope    = ((float)index_y - current_y) / (index_x - current_x);
  }
}
```

Test the indexed point to find if it is in the front or rear field of view (fov) of the current frame, in the RightDiag's fov, or in the LeftDiag's fov. Jump and turn right's frame will be selected from the RightDiag fov. Jump and turn left's frame will be selected from the LeftDiag fov. (FIG. 34, step 11650)

```
// So, is the indexed point within the FRONT field of view of current point?
// Is it between the cw and ccw slope limits? If so, then in fov
// Note. Here x,y are data x,y, not display pixel x,y. First quadrant is pos x and pos y.
if ( index_y >= current_y)
  {
      if (index_x >= current_x)       // index_quadrant =  FIRST_QUADRANT;
        {                        // slopes in this quadrant are positive. pos x/ pos y
        if (( (Fov.cw_quadrant     == FIRST_QUADRANT)  // both same quadrant
          && (IndexCurrentSlope   >= Fov.cw_slope)    // proper relationship
           )
         || ( Fov.cw_quadrant     == FOURTH_QUADRANT) // (IndexCurrentSlope >=
cw_slope) is automatic here
          )
          {
          if (( (Fov.ccw_quadrant  == FIRST_QUADRANT)  // both same quadrant
            && (IndexCurrentSlope <= Fov.ccw_slope)   // proper relationship
             )
          || (Fov.ccw_quadrant  == SECOND_QUADRANT) // (IndexCurrentSlope <=
cw_slope) is automatic here
           )
           {
           in_front_fov = TRUE;
           } // ccw
         } // cw

            // see if in left diag yaw range
        if (( (LeftDiag.cw_quadrant     == FIRST_QUADRANT)  // both same quadrant
          && (IndexCurrentSlope          >= LeftDiag.cw_slope)// proper relationship
           )
         || ( LeftDiag.cw_quadrant     == FOURTH_QUADRANT) // (IndexCurrentSlope
>= cw_slope) is automatic here
          )
          {
          if (( (LeftDiag.ccw_quadrant  == FIRST_QUADRANT)  // both same quadrant
```

```
          && (IndexCurrentSlope      <= LeftDiag.ccw_slope) // proper relationship
           )
         ||   (LeftDiag.ccw_quadrant  == SECOND_QUADRANT) // (IndexCurrentSlope
<= cw_slope) is automatic here
           )
           {
           in_left_diag = TRUE;
           } // ccw
         }   // cw

           // see if in right diag yaw range
       if (( (RightDiag.cw_quadrant     == FIRST_QUADRANT)  // both same quadrant
         && (IndexCurrentSlope          >= RightDiag.cw_slope) // proper relationship
         )
        || ( RightDiag.cw_quadrant      == FOURTH_QUADRANT) // (IndexCurrentSlope
>= cw_slope) is automatic here
          )
          {
          if (( (RightDiag.ccw_quadrant  == FIRST_QUADRANT)  // both same quadrant
            && (IndexCurrentSlope        <= RightDiag.ccw_slope)// proper relationship
             )
           ||   (RightDiag.ccw_quadrant  == SECOND_QUADRANT) // (IndexCurrentSlope
<= cw_slope) is automatic here
           )
           {
           in_right_diag = TRUE;
           } // ccw
         }   // cw
       }     // if quadrant
      else    // (index_x < current_x)      index_quadrant =  SECOND_QUADRANT;
       {                          // slopes in this quadrant are negative. neg x/ pos y
       if (( (Fov.cw_quadrant     == SECOND_QUADRANT) // both same quadrant
         && (IndexCurrentSlope  >= Fov.cw_slope)    // greater than here means less
negative
          )
        || ( Fov.cw_quadrant     == FIRST_QUADRANT)  // must be ok so far
          )
          {
          if (( (Fov.ccw_quadrant == SECOND_QUADRANT) // both same quadrant
            && (IndexCurrentSlope<= Fov.ccw_slope)   // less than here means more
negative
           )
         ||   (Fov.ccw_quadrant == THIRD_QUADRANT)  // must be ok
           )
           {
           in_front_fov = TRUE;
           } // ccw
         }   // cw

           // see if in left diag yaw range
       if (( (LeftDiag.cw_quadrant     == SECOND_QUADRANT) // both same quadrant
         && (IndexCurrentSlope         >= LeftDiag.cw_slope)// greater than here means less
negative
          )
        || ( LeftDiag.cw_quadrant      == FIRST_QUADRANT)  // must be ok so far
          )
```

```
        {
        if (( (LeftDiag.ccw_quadrant == SECOND_QUADRANT) // both same quadrant
          && (IndexCurrentSlope     <= LeftDiag.ccw_slope)// less than here means more
negative
           )
         ||   (LeftDiag.ccw_quadrant == THIRD_QUADRANT)  // must be ok
          )
          {
          in_left_diag = TRUE;
          } // ccw
        }   // cw

           // see if in right diag yaw range
      if (( (RightDiag.cw_quadrant    == SECOND_QUADRANT) // both same quadrant
        && (IndexCurrentSlope         >= RightDiag.cw_slope) // greater than here means
less negative
           )
        || ( RightDiag.cw_quadrant    == FIRST_QUADRANT)  // must be ok so far
          )
          {
          if (( (RightDiag.ccw_quadrant == SECOND_QUADRANT) // both same quadrant
            && (IndexCurrentSlope  <= RightDiag.ccw_slope) // less than here means more
negative
             )
           ||   (RightDiag.ccw_quadrant == THIRD_QUADRANT)  // must be ok
            )
            {
            in_right_diag = TRUE;
            } // ccw
          }   // cw
        }     // else quadrant
      }
    else      // (index_y < current_y)
      {
      if (index_x >= current_x)       // index_quadrant =  FOURTH_QUADRANT;
        {                             // slopes in this quadrant are negative. pos x/ neg y
        if (( (Fov.cw_quadrant    == FOURTH_QUADRANT) // both same quadrant
          && (IndexCurrentSlope    >= Fov.cw_slope)       // greater than here means less
negative
           )
        ||   (Fov.cw_quadrant     == THIRD_QUADRANT)
         )
         {
         if (( (Fov.ccw_quadrant == FOURTH_QUADRANT) // both same quadrant
           && (IndexCurrentSlope  <= Fov.ccw_slope)       // less than here means more
negative
            )
          || ( Fov.ccw_quadrant == FIRST_QUADRANT)
           )
           {
           in_front_fov   = TRUE;
           } // ccw
         }   // cw

            // see if in left diag yaw range
       if (( (LeftDiag.cw_quadrant    == FOURTH_QUADRANT)    // both same quadrant
```

```
          && (IndexCurrentSlope       >= LeftDiag.cw_slope)  // greater than here means
less negative
           )
         ||   (LeftDiag.cw_quadrant    == THIRD_QUADRANT)
          )
          {
         if (( (LeftDiag.ccw_quadrant == FOURTH_QUADRANT)    // both same quadrant
           && (IndexCurrentSlope      <= LeftDiag.ccw_slope) // less than here means more
negative
            )
          || ( LeftDiag.ccw_quadrant == FIRST_QUADRANT)
           )
           {
          in_left_diag   = TRUE;
          } // ccw
        }  // cw

           // see if in right diag yaw range
       if (( (RightDiag.cw_quadrant    == FOURTH_QUADRANT)    // both same quadrant
         && (IndexCurrentSlope       >= RightDiag.cw_slope)  // greater than here means
less negative
          )
        ||   (RightDiag.cw_quadrant    == THIRD_QUADRANT)
         )
         {
        if (( (RightDiag.ccw_quadrant == FOURTH_QUADRANT)    // both same quadrant
          && (IndexCurrentSlope      <= RightDiag.ccw_slope) // less than here means
more negative
           )
         || ( RightDiag.ccw_quadrant == FIRST_QUADRANT)
          )
          {
         in_right_diag   = TRUE;
         } // ccw
       }  // cw
     }    // if quadrant
   else   // (index_x < current_x)     index_quadrant =  THIRD_QUADRANT;
    {                          // slopes in this quadrant are positive. neg x/ neg y
  if (( (Fov.cw_quadrant    == THIRD_QUADRANT)          // both same quadrant
    && (IndexCurrentSlope    >= Fov.cw_slope)          // proper relationship
     )
  || ( Fov.cw_quadrant     == SECOND_QUADRANT)
   )
   {
  if (( (Fov.ccw_quadrant == THIRD_QUADRANT)          // both same quadrant
    && (IndexCurrentSlope  <= Fov.ccw_slope)          // proper relationship
     )
   ||   (Fov.ccw_quadrant == FOURTH_QUADRANT)
    )
    {
   in_front_fov   = TRUE;
   } // ccw
  }  // cw

     // see if in left diag yaw range
if (( (LeftDiag.cw_quadrant    == THIRD_QUADRANT)       // both same quadrant
```

```
 && (IndexCurrentSlope      >= LeftDiag.cw_slope)    // proper relationship
  )
|| ( LeftDiag.cw_quadrant    == SECOND_QUADRANT)
 )
 {
if (( (LeftDiag.ccw_quadrant == THIRD_QUADRANT)      // both same quadrant
   && (IndexCurrentSlope     <= LeftDiag.ccw_slope)  // proper relationship
    )
 ||   (LeftDiag.ccw_quadrant == FOURTH_QUADRANT)
   )
  {
  in_left_diag   = TRUE;
  } // ccw
}   // cw
```

```
      // see if in right diag yaw range
   if (( (RightDiag.cw_quadrant    == THIRD_QUADRANT)      // both same quadrant
     && (IndexCurrentSlope         >= RightDiag.cw_slope)  // proper relationship
      )
    || ( RightDiag.cw_quadrant     == SECOND_QUADRANT)
     )
     {
     if (( (RightDiag.ccw_quadrant == THIRD_QUADRANT)      // both same quadrant
       && (IndexCurrentSlope       <= RightDiag.ccw_slope) // proper relationship
        )
      ||   (RightDiag.ccw_quadrant == FOURTH_QUADRANT)
       )
       {
      in_right_diag   = TRUE;
      } // ccw
    }   // cw
  }     // else quadrant
}
```

Calculate weighted distance rating, based on the neighbor radius set by the operator, which defines the optimal distance to jump forward or backward from the current frame. (FIG. 34, step 11660)

```
WeightedRadiusDistanceRating = (float)(fabs(NeighborRadiusSquared - DistanceSquared)
* DistanceGain);
```

Test index point to see if it is better than the current candidate for the jump forward or jump backward selection. (FIG. 32, step 11495)

```
if (!same_location)              // indexed and current points are not at same x,y
  {
  FovIndexRating = CurrentIndexYawAbsDiff + WeightedRadiusDistanceRating;

      // find 'green dot', jump forward point and find which pts are in forward
        //    field of view subset
  if (in_front_fov)              // if in field of view
    {
      // put this subset_index point in further subset of points in field of view
```

```
        *(m_pFovSubsetIndex + fov_subset_index) = *(m_pZoomSubsetIndex +
subset_index);
        fov_subset_index++;          // increment after using, get ready for loop
        m_FovSubsetIndexMax++;       // equal to highest index in this fov subset

        if (m_FovPtClosestInYaw == NO_FRAMES)     // if we don't have a current
champion
         {  // add criterion of keeping inside twice the neighborhood radius
         if ((MultipliedNeighborRadiusSquared  >= DistanceSquared)   // in the double hood
            // Use this point only if it is not too different from current point's heading
            // Note the first champ is closer to the current angle difference than max limit
          && (CurrentIndexYawAbsDiff < m_MaxHeadingAngle)
           )
           {
           m_FovPtClosestInYaw      = subset_index;
            FwdSmallestDisplayRating = FovIndexRating;          // save for next candidate
comparison
           }
         }
        else  // have a valid champ
         {
            // if this fov pt has smaller total rating than defending champ
         if ((FwdSmallestDisplayRating > FovIndexRating)
            // add criterion of keeping inside twice the neighborhood radius
          && (MultipliedNeighborRadiusSquared  >= DistanceSquared)   // in the hood
            // Use this point only if it is not too different from current point's heading
            // Note the first champ is closer to the current angle difference than max limit
          && (CurrentIndexYawAbsDiff < m_MaxHeadingAngle)
           )
           {
           m_FovPtClosestInYaw      = subset_index;          // save for next candidate
comparison
           FwdSmallestDisplayRating = FovIndexRating;
           } // end if new champ beats old champ
         }   // end else have a valid champ
        }    // end jump forward point
       else   // not in front fov
        {
            // So, is the indexed point within the REAR field of view of current point?
            // Is it between the reverse cw and ccw slope limits? If so, then in rear fov
            // Note. Here x,y are data x,y, not display pixel x,y. First quadrant is pos x and
pos y.
        if (  index_y >= current_y)
         {
         if (index_x >= current_x)      // index_quadrant =  FIRST_QUADRANT;
          {
          if (( (Fov.rear_cw_quadrant    == FIRST_QUADRANT)  // both same quadrant
            && (IndexCurrentSlope        >= Fov.cw_slope)       // proper relationship
             )
           || (  Fov.rear_cw_quadrant    == FOURTH_QUADRANT) // (-
IndexCurrentSlope >= rear_cw_slope) is automatic here
           )
           {
           if (( (Fov.rear_ccw_quadrant == FIRST_QUADRANT)  // both same quadrant
            && (IndexCurrentSlope       <= Fov.ccw_slope)       // proper relationship
             )
```

```
            ||   (Fov.rear_ccw_quadrant == SECOND_QUADRANT) // (-
IndexCurrentSlope <= rear_ccw_slope) is automatic here
             )
             {
             in_rear_fov = TRUE;
             } // ccw
           }   // cw
         }     // if quadrant
       else    // (index_x < current_x)      index_quadrant =  SECOND_QUADRANT;
        {
        if (( (Fov.rear_cw_quadrant    == SECOND_QUADRANT) // both same quadrant
          && (IndexCurrentSlope         >= Fov.cw_slope)       // proper relationship
           )
         || ( Fov.rear_cw_quadrant    == FIRST_QUADRANT)  // must be ok so far
           )
        {
        if (( (Fov.rear_ccw_quadrant == SECOND_QUADRANT) // both same quadrant
          && (IndexCurrentSlope        <= Fov.ccw_slope)       // proper relationship
           )
         ||   (Fov.rear_ccw_quadrant == THIRD_QUADRANT)  // must be ok
           )
        {
        in_rear_fov = TRUE;
        } // ccw
       }   // cw

     }     // else quadrant
   }
 else      // (index_y < current_y)
   {
   if (index_x >= current_x)       // index_quadrant =  FOURTH_QUADRANT;
     {
     if (( (Fov.rear_cw_quadrant    == FOURTH_QUADRANT) // both same quadrant
       && (IndexCurrentSlope         >= Fov.cw_slope)       // proper relationship
        )
      ||   (Fov.rear_cw_quadrant    == THIRD_QUADRANT)
        )
     {
     if (( (Fov.rear_ccw_quadrant == FOURTH_QUADRANT) // both same quadrant
       && (IndexCurrentSlope        <= Fov.ccw_slope)       // proper relationship
        )
      || ( Fov.rear_ccw_quadrant == FIRST_QUADRANT)
        )
     {
     in_rear_fov   = TRUE;
     } // ccw
    }   // cw
   }     // if quadrant
 else    // (index_x < current_x)     index_quadrant =  THIRD_QUADRANT;
  {
  if (( (Fov.rear_cw_quadrant    == THIRD_QUADRANT)  // both same quadrant
    && (IndexCurrentSlope         >= Fov.cw_slope)       // proper relationship
     )
   || ( Fov.rear_cw_quadrant    == SECOND_QUADRANT)
     )
   {
```

```
                if (( (Fov.rear_ccw_quadrant == THIRD_QUADRANT)  // both same quadrant
                  && (IndexCurrentSlope       <= Fov.ccw_slope)       // proper relationship
                   )
                 ||  (Fov.rear_ccw_quadrant == FOURTH_QUADRANT)
                  )
                  {
                  in_rear_fov   = TRUE;
                  } // ccw
                }  // cw
              }    // else quadrant
            }

                // see if have new champion, find rear fov pt most aligned in yaw to current
frame
              if (in_rear_fov)              // if in rear view field of view
                {
                if (m_RearFovPtClosestInYaw == NO_FRAMES)       // if we don't have a current
champion
                 {  // add criterion of keeping inside twice the neighborhood radius
                 if ((MultipliedNeighborRadiusSquared  >= DistanceSquared)   // in the double
hood
                    // Use this point only if it is not too different from current point's heading
                    // Note the first champ is closer to the current angle difference than max limit
                  && (CurrentIndexYawAbsDiff < m_MaxHeadingAngle)
                   )
                   {
                   m_RearFovPtClosestInYaw   = subset_index;
                   RearSmallestDisplayRating = FovIndexRating;          // save for next candidate
comparison
                   }
                 }
                else  // have a valid champ
                 {
                    // if this rear fov pt has smaller total rating than defending champ
                 if ((RearSmallestDisplayRating > FovIndexRating)
                    // add criterion of keeping inside twice the neighborhood radius
                  && (MultipliedNeighborRadiusSquared  >= DistanceSquared)   // in the hood
                    // Use this point only if it is not too different from current point's heading
                    // Note the first champ is closer to the current angle difference than max limit
                  && (CurrentIndexYawAbsDiff < m_MaxHeadingAngle)
                   )
                   {
                   m_RearFovPtClosestInYaw   = subset_index;
                   RearSmallestDisplayRating = FovIndexRating;          // save for next candidate
comparison
                   } // end if new champ beats old champ
                 }  // end else have a valid champ
               }    // end if in rear fov
             }      // end else not in front fov
           }        // end if not same location

        if m_FovPtClosestInYaw     == current_frame)   // s/b impossible but .....
          {
          AfxMessageBox("Tla_File::select_field_of_view()  m_FovPtClosestInYaw ==
current_frame");
          }
```

```
if (m_RearFovPtClosestInYaw == current_frame)   // s/b impossible but .....
  {
  AfxMessageBox("Tla_File::select_field_of_view() m_RearFovPtClose_stInYaw ==
current_frame");
  }
```

Test index point to see if it is better than the current candidate for the jump and turn right or jump and turn left selection. (FIG. 32, step 11495)

```
        // looking for side frame candidates
if ((NeighborRadiusSquared >= DistanceSquared)   // in the hood
 && (!same_location)              // and indexed and current points do not have identical x,y
location
      )
      {
          // the trig is there to forgive offset if the side frame is pointing in line w/ the offset
vector
          //    running from the current center point to the side frame. This is because offsets
are less
          //    noticeable if there are in the direction in which you are looking. Move your
head forward
          //    and back like a pigeon. Some movement of objects but not as much as when
you move
          //    your head left and right. Don't want to forgive completely so put in a
minimum.
      AdjIndexCurrentDistanceRating
          = (float)((fabs(xCurrentMinusIndex * (fabs_quick_cos(IndexPointYaw) + 0.2))
                + fabs(yCurrentMinusIndex * (fabs_quick_sin(IndexPointYaw) + 0.2))
                )
               * DistanceGain
               );

            // do left displayed frame
      if (IndexYawToLeftOfCurrentYaw == TRUE)
        {
        DisplayYawAbsDiff = (float)(fabs(LeftFovPtYaw - IndexPointYaw));
            // Cant be further apart than 180
      if (DisplayYawAbsDiff >= 360)
        {
        DisplayYawAbsDiff  -= 360;
        }
      else if (DisplayYawAbsDiff >= 180)
        {
        DisplayYawAbsDiff    = 360 - DisplayYawAbsDiff;
        }
            // within neighborhood, within constrained subset   m_MaxHeadingAngle
            // if this pt is closer in yaw and in distance to goal than defending champ
      LeftIndexRating = DisplayYawAbsDiff + AdjIndexCurrentDistanceRating;
      if (LeftSmallestDisplayRating  >  LeftIndexRating)
        {
                                  // if is actually pointing to the correct side but not too far
out
        if (Left2FovPtYaw <= 180)          // nothing weird
          {
```

```
if ((IndexPointYaw >  CurrentPointYaw)
 && (Left2FovPtYaw >= IndexPointYaw)
  )
  {
    // convert from subset index to frame
  m_PtLeftFOV              = frame_index;
  LeftSmallestDisplayRating = LeftIndexRating;// save it as benchmark
  }
 }
else                              // weird range split by +/-180 line
 {
 if ((IndexPointYaw >  CurrentPointYaw)
  || (Left2FovPtYaw >= IndexPointYaw + 360)
  )
  {
    // convert from subset index to frame
  m_PtLeftFOV              = frame_index;
  LeftSmallestDisplayRating = LeftIndexRating;// save it as benchmark
  }
 }
}
```

Test index point to see if it is better than the current candidate for turn left turn or right turn selection. (FIG. 32, step 11495)

```
  // now choose the left turn frame
TurnYawAbsDiff = (float)(fabs(LeftTurnPtYaw - IndexPointYaw));
      // Cant be further apart than 180
if (TurnYawAbsDiff >= 360)
 {
 TurnYawAbsDiff -=   360;
 }
else if (TurnYawAbsDiff >= 180)
 {
 TurnYawAbsDiff  =   360 - TurnYawAbsDiff;
 }
      // within neighborhood, within constrained subset   m_MaxHeadingAngle
      // if this pt is closer in yaw and in distance to goal than defending champ
LeftIndexRating = TurnYawAbsDiff + AdjIndexCurrentDistanceRating;
if (LeftSmallestTurnRating  >  LeftIndexRating)
 {
                              // if is actually pointing to the correct side but not too far
out
 if (Left2FovPtYaw <= 180)          // nothing weird
  {
  if ((IndexPointYaw >  CurrentPointYaw)
   && (Left2FovPtYaw >= IndexPointYaw)
    )
    {
     // convert from subset index to frame
    m_PtLeftTurn             = frame_index;
    LeftSmallestTurnRating = LeftIndexRating;// save it as benchmark
    }
  }
```

```
    else                              // weird range split by +/-180 line
     {
     if ((IndexPointYaw >  CurrentPointYaw)
      || (Left2FovPtYaw >= IndexPointYaw + 360)
       )
       {
        // convert from subset index to frame
       m_PtLeftTurn          = frame_index;
       LeftSmallestTurnRating = LeftIndexRating;// save it as benchmark
       }
     }
    }
  }      // end if IndexYawToLeftOfCurrentYaw
else     // on index yaw is to the right of the current yaw
 {
       // do right displayed frame
DisplayYawAbsDiff = (float)(fabs(RightFovPtYaw - IndexPointYaw));
       // Cant be further apart than 180
if (DisplayYawAbsDiff >= 360)
  {
  DisplayYawAbsDiff  -= 360;
  }
else if (DisplayYawAbsDiff >= 180)
  {
  DisplayYawAbsDiff   = 360 - DisplayYawAbsDiff;
  }

       // within neighborhood, within constrained subset   m_MaxHeadingAngle
       // if this pt is closer in yaw and in distance to goal than defending champ
RightIndexRating = DisplayYawAbsDiff + AdjIndexCurrentDistanceRating;
if (RightSmallestDisplayRating >  RightIndexRating)
  {
                        // if is actually pointing to the correct side but not too far out
  if (Right2FovPtYaw >= -180)       // nothing weird
    {
    if ((IndexPointYaw  <  CurrentPointYaw)
     && (Right2FovPtYaw <= IndexPointYaw)
      )
     {
      // convert from subset index to frame
     m_PtRightFOV          = frame_index;
     RightSmallestDisplayRating = RightIndexRating;// save it as benchmark
     }
   }
 else                             // weird range split by +/-180 line
  {
  if ((IndexPointYaw  <  CurrentPointYaw)
   || (Right2FovPtYaw <= IndexPointYaw - 360)
    )
    {
     // convert from subset index to frame
    m_PtRightFOV          = frame_index;
    RightSmallestDisplayRating = RightIndexRating;// save it as benchmark
    }
  }
}  // end if m_PtRightFOV
```

```
        // now choose the right turn frame
TurnYawAbsDiff = (float)(fabs(RightTurnPtYaw - IndexPointYaw));
        // Cant be further apart than 180
if (TurnYawAbsDiff >= 360)
  {
  TurnYawAbsDiff   -= 360;
  }
else if (TurnYawAbsDiff >= 180)
  {
  TurnYawAbsDiff    = 360 - TurnYawAbsDiff;
  }

        // within neighborhood, within constrained subset
        // if this pt is closer in yaw and in distance to goal than defending champ
RightIndexRating = TurnYawAbsDiff + AdjIndexCurrentDistanceRating;
if (RightSmallestTurnRating > RightIndexRating)
 {
                        // if is actually pointing to the correct side but not too far out
 if (Right2FovPtYaw >= -180)        // nothing weird
   {
   if ((IndexPointYaw  <  CurrentPointYaw)
    && (Right2FovPtYaw <= IndexPointYaw)
     )
     {
      // convert from subset index to frame
     m_PtRightTurn           = frame_index;
     RightSmallestTurnRating = RightIndexRating;// save it as benchmark
     }
   }
 else                              // weird range split by +/-180 line
   {
   if ((IndexPointYaw  <  CurrentPointYaw)
    || (Right2FovPtYaw <= IndexPointYaw - 360)
     )
     {
      // convert from subset index to frame
     m_PtRightTurn           = frame_index;
     RightSmallestTurnRating = RightIndexRating;// save it as benchmark
     }
   }
    }     // end if m_PtRightTurn
  }       // end if not IndexYawToLeftOfCurrentYaw
}         // end if within neighborhood radius
```

Test index point to see if it is better than the current candidate for turn left frame or right frame display in Triple Mci display mode. (FIG. 32, step 11495)

```
if (in_left_diag)              // if in range
  {
       // now choose the left diag frame
  TurnYawAbsDiff = (float)(fabs(LeftTurnPtYaw - IndexPointYaw));
         // Cant be further apart than 180
```

```
if (TurnYawAbsDiff >= 360)
  {
  TurnYawAbsDiff -=   360;
  }
else if (TurnYawAbsDiff >= 180)
  {
  TurnYawAbsDiff  =   360 - TurnYawAbsDiff;
  }
LeftIndexRating = TurnYawAbsDiff + WeightedRadiusDistanceRating;
if ((m_PtLeftDiag == NO_FRAMES)     // if we don't have a current champion
      // or if this pt is closer in yaw and in distance to goal than defending champ
 || (LeftSmallestDiagRating  >  LeftIndexRating)
  )
  {
     // the absolute standards
   if ((MultipliedNeighborRadiusSquared  >= DistanceSquared)   // in the double hood
      // Use this point only if it is not too different from turn point's heading
      // Note the first champ is closer to the current angle difference than max limit
    && (TurnYawAbsDiff < m_MaxHeadingAngle)
     )
     {
        // convert from subset index to frame
     m_PtLeftDiag          = frame_index;
     LeftSmallestDiagRating = LeftIndexRating; // save it as benchmark
     }
   }
  }    // end if in diag range

if (in_right_diag)              // if in range
  {
      // now choose the left diag frame
  TurnYawAbsDiff = (float)(fabs(RightTurnPtYaw - IndexPointYaw));
        // Cant be further apart than 180
  if (TurnYawAbsDiff >= 360)
    {
    TurnYawAbsDiff -=   360;
    }
  else if (TurnYawAbsDiff >= 180)
    {
    TurnYawAbsDiff  =   360 - TurnYawAbsDiff;
    }
RightIndexRating = TurnYawAbsDiff + WeightedRadiusDistanceRating;
if ((m_PtRightDiag == NO_FRAMES)     // if we don't have a current champion
      // or if this pt is closer in yaw and in distance to goal than defending champ
 || (RightSmallestDiagRating  >  RightIndexRating)
  ) .
  {
     // the absolute standards
  if ((MultipliedNeighborRadiusSquared  >= DistanceSquared)   // in the double hood
     // Use this point only if it is not too different from turn point's heading
     // Note the first champ is closer to the current angle difference than max limit
   && (TurnYawAbsDiff < m_MaxHeadingAngle)
    )
    {
       // convert from subset index to frame
    m_PtRightDiag          = frame_index;
```

```
        RightSmallestDiagRating = RightIndexRating; // save it as benchmark
        }
      }
    }    // end if in diag range


  }          // end for

if (m_PtLeftFOV == NO_FRAMES)
  {
  AfxMessageBox("Tla_File::select_field_of_view()  m_PtLeftFOV  == NO_FRAMES");
  }
if (m_PtRightFOV == NO_FRAMES)
  {
      AfxMessageBox("Tla_File::select_field_of_view()  m_PtRightFOV == NO_FRAMES");
      }

    if (m_FovPtClosestInYaw != NO_FRAMES)       // if picked a point
      {
      if (get_frame_from_zoom_subset(m_FovPtClosestInYaw) == current_frame)   // s/b
impossible but .....
        {
        AfxMessageBox("Tla_File::select_field_of_view()  m_FovPtClosestInYaw ==
current_frame");
        }
      }
    }       // end if not m_zoom_subset_index_max
  return;
}
```

The overlay window relates points and areas in the geometric space defined by the camera's movements to points and areas within a particular video frame. Geometric points and areas within the geometric space are projected to the camera's image plane using the following formula (In this code fragment the calculation is done for a Tombstone type overlay, but the calculation is the same for any overlay object.):

First, get the difference between the camera frame's x position and the overlay object's's x position. (FIG. 35, step 11710)

```
numerator    = -(m_pDoc->m_mta_file.m_Tombstone[index].XCtr
             - m_pDoc->m_tla_file.get_x_data(ThisWndsFrame)
              );
```

Next, get the difference between the camera frame's y position and the overlay object's y position. (FIG. 35, step 11720)

```
denominator =  (m_pDoc->m_mta_file.m_Tombstone[index].YCtr
             - m_pDoc->m_tla_file.get_y_data(ThisWndsFrame)
              );
```

Calculate yaw angle of the line from the current frame's center to the point of interest. (FIG. 35, step 11730)

```
        // calc angle of line from current point to this active tombstone
    if (denominator != 0)     // don't divide by zero
      {
      yawFrameToOverlay = (float)(RAD_TO_DEG * atan2(numerator, denominator));
      }
    else                      // denom is zero
      {
        // make ratio of num/denom big via a small denominator but avoid div by zero
      yawFrameToOverlay = (float)(RAD_TO_DEG * atan2(numerator,
SMALL_ARBITRARY_FLOAT));
      }
```

Test to see if the yaw value for the angle to the point to be displayed is within the field of view of the current frame. (FIG. 35, step 11740)

```
          // if in limits, calc differential yaw, scale and display bar
      if (((YawLimits == NORMAL_LIMITS)
        && ((yawFrameToOverlay >= yawMinFov) && (yawFrameToOverlay <=
yawMaxFov))     // note &&
          )
        || ((YawLimits == WRAPPED_LIMITS)
        && ((yawFrameToOverlay >= yawMinFov) || (yawFrameToOverlay <=
yawMaxFov))     // note ||
          )
        )
        {
```

If it is within the limits, calculate the offset from the middle pixel to the vertical line of pixels corresponding to the object's yaw angle relative to the current frame's yaw angle. (FIG. 35, step 11748)

```
      xPixel = (int)(xMidPixel + (xScale * tan(DEG_TO_RAD * (yawCurrentPt -
yawFrameToOverlay))));
```

Finally, the pitch of the current frame is used to choose a point on the vertical line determined above. The calculation for CalcOverlayMarkers is described below. (FIG. 35, step 11750)

```
pitchFrameToOverlay =
        CalcOverlayMarkers(&MarkerHalfWidth,
                           &MarkerHalfHeight,
                           m_pDoc->m_mta_file.m_Tombstone[index].XCtr,
                           m_pDoc->m_mta_file.m_Tombstone[index].YCtr,
                           ThisWndsFrame
                          );
```

This program segment calculates the point on the vertical line determined by yaw angle from the current frame's centerline at which to project an x,y coordinate onto the current video frame. It

presumes that the photographed space is planar and is not inclined with respect to the gravitational normal. It uses a CameraHeight setting, adjustable by the operator via the Action-Adjust Parameters dialog Camera Height Above Floor entry 10316 (FIG. 21).

```
// calculate angle between horizon and line from camera (at m_pDoc-
>m_tla_file.m_CameraHeight off flat floor)
// to a particular overlay marker. Flat floor assumes z doesn't change too much.
float CMciWnd::CalcOverlayMarkers(int *pHalfWidth, int *pHalfHeight, int xCtrZone, int
yCtrZone,
                    unsigned short  ThisWndsFrame)
{
  float   AngleHorizonToMarkerOnFloor;
  double  XYDistance;
        // d = x^2 + y^2
XYDistance = ( xCtrZone - (double)(m_pDoc->m_tla_file.get_x_data(ThisWndsFrame)))
          *( xCtrZone - (double)(m_pDoc->m_tla_file.get_x_data(ThisWndsFrame)))
         +
           ( yCtrZone - (double)(m_pDoc->m_tla_file.get_y_data(ThisWndsFrame)))
          *( yCtrZone - (double)(m_pDoc->m_tla_file.get_y_data(ThisWndsFrame)));


if (XYDistance <= 0)
  {
  TRACE("CMciWnd::CalcOverlayMarkers, bad XYDistance after sqrt()/n");
  AfxMessageBox("CMciWnd::CalcOverlayMarkers, bad XYDistance before sqrt()/n");
  return 0;
  }
else if (XYDistance == 0)
  {
  XYDistance = (double)SMALL_ARBITRARY_FLOAT;   // let's not divide by zero.
  }
else
  {
        // take square root
    XYDistance = sqrt(XYDistance);
    }

        // for this part of calc, ignore pitch of camera, assume level
        // calc angle between horizon and line from camera to center of dropped avi

  AngleHorizonToMarkerOnFloor
            = (float)(RAD_TO_DEG * atan2(m_pDoc->m_tla_file.m_CameraHeight,
XYDistance));

  float SizeAdj = (float)(10 * m_pDoc->m_tla_file.m_CameraHeight / XYDistance);

  *pHalfWidth   = (int)(MAX_MARKER_WIDTH  * SizeAdj);
  *pHalfHeight  = (int)(MAX_MARKER_HEIGHT * SizeAdj);

  if (*pHalfWidth < MIN_MARKER_WIDTH)
    {
    *pHalfWidth = MIN_MARKER_WIDTH;
```

```
  }
else if (*pHalfWidth > MAX_MARKER_WIDTH)
  {
  *pHalfWidth = MAX_MARKER_WIDTH;
  }

if (*pHalfHeight < MIN_MARKER_HEIGHT)
  {
  *pHalfHeight = MIN_MARKER_HEIGHT;
  }
else if (*pHalfHeight > MAX_MARKER_HEIGHT)
  {
  *pHalfHeight = MAX_MARKER_HEIGHT;
  }

  return AngleHorizonToMarkerOnFloor;
}
```

While the preferred embodiment of the invention has been described, it will be understood that numerous modifications and changes will occur to those skilled in the art. It is therefore intended by the appended claims to define the true scope of the invention.

What is claimed as new and desired to be secured by Letters Patent of the United States is:

1. A spatially referenced photographic system comprising:

a data base containing plural images of objects and also containing information corresponding to said images defining the position at which each image was originally viewed and the orientation of the image with respect to that position,

image presentation and navigation means for displaying the images to a user and for facilitating the user in navigating among said images by receiving spatial movement commands from the user, as indicated by said spatial movement commands;

wherein said image presentation and navigation means includes means for displaying, along with an image, a view of the camera path and an indication of the camera position and orientation when the image was recorded,

wherein camera position and orientation is indicated by a mark on the path oriented as the camera is oriented to point where the camera was pointing; and

wherein the view is a plan view and wherein the mark bears an indication thereon of the yaw angle of the camera.

2. A spatially referenced photographic system comprising:

a data base containing plural images of objects and also containing information corresponding to said images defining the position at which each image was originally viewed and the orientation of the image with respect to that position;

image presentation and navigation means for displaying the images to a user and for facilitating the user in navigating among said images by receiving spatial movement commands from the user, as indicated by said spatial movement commands;

wherein said image presentation and navigation means includes means for displaying, along with an image, a view of the camera path and an indication of the camera position and orientation when the image was recorded; and

wherein a mark appears in said image of a location associated with another image such that the user may signal a desire to navigate forward to view said another image in a simple manner.

3. A spatially referenced photographic system in accordance with claim **2** wherein the path also bears an indication of the location of said another image.

4. A spatially referenced photographic system comprising:

a data base containing plural images of objects and also containing information corresponding to said images defining the position at which each image was originally viewed and the orientation of the image with respect to that position;

image presentation and navigation means for displaying the images to a user and for facilitating the user in navigating among said images by receiving spatial movement commands from the user, as indicated by said spatial movement commands; and

wherein said image presentation and navigation means provides the user with navigation controls for moving backward, in response to the actuation of which controls said means selects an image captured at a generally backward camera position having an orientation similar to that of an image the user is currently viewing.

5. A spatially referenced photographic system comprising:

a data base containing plural images of objects and also containing information corresponding to said images defining the position at which each image was originally viewed and the orientation of the image with respect to that **[**positions**]** *position*;

image presentation and navigation means for displaying the images to a user and for facilitating the user in navigating among said images by receiving spatial movement commands from the user, as indicated by said spatial movement commands; and

wherein said image presentation and navigation means provides the user with navigation controls for rotating left or right, in response to the actuation of which controls said means selects an image captured at a generally left-rotated or right-rotated camera position having a position **[**fore-, aft-,**]** *forward, backward,* and side-to-side similar to that of an image the user is currently viewing.

6. A spatially referenced photographic system in accordance with claim **5** wherein the image which the user is currently viewing bears marks indicating left and right possible rotations which thereby indicate the general location of the viewpoint of said image captured at said generally left-rotated or right-rotated camera positions.

7. A spatially referenced photographic system in accordance with claim **6** wherein the user signals a desire to move generally left or right by mouse clicking on said indicating marks.

8. A spatially referenced photographic system comprising:

a data base containing plural images of objects and also containing information corresponding to said images defining the position at which each image was originally viewed and the orientation of the image with respect to that position;

image presentation and navigation means for displaying the images to a user and for facilitating the user in navigating among said images by receiving spatial movement commands from the user, as indicated by said spatial movement commands; and

wherein said image presentation and navigation means provides the user with navigation controls for moving forward and simultaneously rotating to the left or to the right, in response to the actuation of which controls said means selects an image captured at a generally forward camera position having an angular orientation rotated to the left or to the right of that of an image the user is currently viewing.

9. A spatially referenced photographic system comprising:

a data base containing plural images of objects and also containing information corresponding to said images defining the position at which each image was originally viewed and the orientation of the image with respect to that position;

image presentation and navigation means for displaying the images to a user and for facilitating the user in navigating among said images by receiving spatial

movement commands from the user, as indicated by said spatial movement commands;

said image presentation and navigation means providing the user with navigation controls, in response to the actuation of which controls said presentation and navigation means selects an image captured at a position generally shifted from that of an image the user is currently viewing, as indicated by the user actuation of said controls.

10. A spatially referenced photographic system comprising:

at least one data base containing images of objects and information corresponding to the images, the information defining a position at which a respective image was captured and at least a yaw orientation of the respective image with respect to the position, wherein the information is derived from camera position and orientation information automatically recorded substantially simultaneously with recording of the respective image;

a computing device in communication with the at least one data base, the computing device configured to provide images for display via an interface corresponding to the images of objects and to provide for display with the images for display via the interface a plan view of a camera path corresponding to the images and an indication of a position at which a displayed image was captured and a yaw orientation of the displayed image with respect to that position;

the computing device configured to receive spatial movement commands via the interface, the computing device configured to be in communication with a selection program operable to retrieve images from the at least one data base in response to the spatial movement commands and to provide the retrieved images, the plan view, the indication of the position at which a displayed image was captured, and the yaw orientation of the displayed image for display via the interface.

11. The spatially referenced photographic system of claim 10 wherein the indication comprises a designation on the plan view of the camera path.

12. The spatially referenced photographic system of claim 10 wherein the computing device is configured to provide designated positions for which corresponding images are available and to receive spatial movement commands including selection of a designated position via the interface in response to which the selection program is configured to retrieve an image from the data base captured at a position corresponding to a selected designated position for display via said interface.

13. The spatially referenced photographic system of claim 10 wherein the computing device is configured to provide navigation controls overlayed on the displayed image, wherein the computing device is configured to provide images in response to receiving spatial movement commands via the navigation controls, the images captured at one or more positions generally shifted from that of a prior displayed image portion as indicated by the spatial movement commands.

14. The spatially referenced photographic system of claim 10 wherein the computing device is configured to provide navigation controls overlayed on the displayed image, wherein the computing device is configured to provide images in response to receiving spatial movement commands via the navigation controls, the images captured at a same position as a prior displayed image and having a yaw orientation rotated left or right of the prior displayed image as indicated by the spatial movement commands.

15. The spatially referenced photographic system of claim 10 wherein the computing device is configured to provide navigation controls overlayed on the displayed image, wherein the computing device is configured to provide images in response to receiving spatial movement commands via the navigation controls, the images captured at a position generally shifted forward or backward from a prior displayed image and having a yaw orientation rotated left or right of the prior displayed image as indicated by the spatial movement commands.

16. The spatially referenced photographic system of claim 10 wherein the computing device is configured to provide navigation controls overlayed on the displayed image, wherein the computing device is configured to provide images in response to receiving spatial movement commands via the navigation controls, the images captured at a same position as a prior displayed image and having a pitch orientation rotated upward or downward of the prior displayed image as indicated by the spatial movement commands.

17. The spatially referenced photographic system of claim 10 wherein the computing device is configured to provide interactive zoom in and zoom out controls overlayed on the displayed image, wherein the computing device is configured to provide images in response to receiving zooming commands via the zoom in and zoom out controls via the interface, the images captured at a same position as a prior displayed image and depicting a closer or further away field of view than that of the prior displayed image as indicated by the zooming commands.

18. The spatially referenced photographic system of claim 10 wherein the computing device is configured to provide via the interface multiple images aligned in a panorama to provide a wider field of view.

19. The spatially referenced photographic system of claim 10 wherein the computing device is configured to provide one or more launch pad controls and to receive control signals in response to selection of at least one of the one or more launch pad controls, wherein the computing device is configured to execute an associated application program in response receiving the control signals.

20. The spatially referenced photographic system of claim 10 wherein the computing device is configured to provide an overlay item projected as a region onto the displayed image via the interface, the overlay item comprising an indication of a point or area of interest on the displayed image with respect to which one or more associated images are available, wherein the computing device is configured to provide a new image corresponding to the overlay item in response to receiving signals indicating selection of the region.

21. The spatially referenced photographic system of claim 10 wherein the computing device is configured to provide an overlay item projected onto the plan view, the overlay item comprising an indication of a point or area of interest with respect to which one or more associated images are available, wherein the computing device is configured to provide a new image corresponding to the overlay item in response to receiving signals indicating selection of the overlay item.

22. A spatially referenced photographic system comprising:

at least one data base containing images of objects and information corresponding to the images, the information defining a position at which a respective image was captured and at least a yaw orientation of the respective image with respect to the position, wherein the

information is derived from camera position and orientation information automatically recorded substantially simultaneously with recording of the respective image;

a computing device in communication with the data base, the computing device configured to receive spatial movement commands and provide the images in response to receiving the spatial movement commands;

wherein the computing device is configured to provide, along with a provided image, navigation controls at least for rotating left or right, the computing device configured to provide in response to receiving spatial movement commands via the navigation controls a selected image captured at a position generally shifted from that of the provided image, as indicated by the spatial movement commands,

wherein the computing device is configured to provide in response to actuation of the navigation controls for rotating left or right a selected image captured at a generally left-rotated or right-rotated camera position having a position forward, backward, and side-to-side similar to that of the provided image.

23. The spatially referenced photographic system of claim 22 wherein the computing device is configured to provide, along with the provided image, a view of the camera path and an indication of the position and yaw orientation of the provided image.

24. The spatially referenced photographic system of claim 22 wherein the computing device is configured to provide, along with the provided image, navigation controls for moving forward and simultaneously rotating to the left or to the right, the computing device configured to provide in response to actuation of the navigation controls a selected image captured at a generally forward camera position having an angular orientation rotated to the left or to the right of that of the provided image.

25. The spatially referenced photographic system of claim 22 wherein the computing device is configured to provide, along with the provided image, navigation controls for moving backward, the computing device configured to provide in response to actuation of the navigation controls a selected image captured at a generally backward camera position having an orientation similar to that of the provided image.

26. The spatially referenced photographic system of claim 22 wherein the provided image includes designations indicating left and right possible rotations corresponding to a general location of a viewpoint of an image captured at generally left-rotated or right-rotated camera positions.

27. The spatially referenced photographic system of claim 26 wherein the computing device is configured to provide the image captured at generally left-rotated or right-rotated camera positions in response to receiving signals indicating selection of one of the designations.

28. The spatially referenced photographic system of claim 22 wherein the computing device is configured to provide, along with the provided image, navigation controls for moving forward and simultaneously rotating to the left or to the right, the computing device configured to provide in response to the actuation of the navigation controls an image captured at a generally forward camera position having an angular orientation rotated to the left or to the right of the provided image.

29. The spatially referenced photographic system of claim 22 wherein the computing device is configured to provide multiple images for display via the interface aligned in a panorama to provide a wider field of view.

30. The spatially referenced photographic system of claim 22 wherein the computing device is configured to provide an overlay item projected as a region onto the provided image via the interface, the overlay item comprising an indication of a point or area of interest on the provided image with respect to which one or more associated images are available, wherein the computing device is configured to provide a new image corresponding to the overlay item in response to receiving signals indicating selection of the region.

31. The spatially referenced photographic system of claim 22 wherein the computing device is configured to provide an overlay item projected onto a plan view of a camera path, the overlay item comprising an indication of a point or area of interest with respect to which one or more associated images are available, wherein the computing device is configured to provide a new image corresponding to the overlay item in response to receiving signals indicating selection of the overlay item.

32. The spatially referenced photographic system of claim 22 wherein the computing device is configured to provide one or more launch pad controls and to receive control signals in response to selection of at least one of the one or more launch pad controls, wherein the computing device is configured to execute an associated application program in response receiving the control signals.

33. A spatially referenced photographic system comprising:

a data base containing images of objects and information corresponding to the images, the information defining a position at which a respective image was captured and at least a yaw orientation of the respective image with respect to the position;

a computing device in communication with the data base, the computing device configured to receive spatial movement commands and provide images for display corresponding to the images of objects in response to receiving the spatial movement commands;

wherein the computing device is configured to provide for display, in combination with a displayed image of the images for display, a plan view of a camera path corresponding to the displayed image and an indication on the plan view of a position and yaw orientation corresponding to the displayed image.

34. The spatially referenced photographic system of claim 33 wherein the computing device is configured to provide, along with the displayed image, navigation controls for moving forward and simultaneously rotating to the left or to the right, the computing device configured to provide in response to actuation of the navigation controls a selected image captured at a generally forward camera position having an angular orientation rotated to the left or to the right of that of the displayed image.

35. The spatially referenced photographic system of claim 34 wherein the computing device is configured to provide, along with the displayed image, navigation controls for moving backward, the computing device configured to provide in response to actuation of the navigation controls a selected image captured at a generally backward camera position having an orientation similar to that of the displayed image.

36. The spatially referenced photographic system of claim 35 wherein the computing device is configured to provide, along with the displayed image, navigation controls for rotating left or right, the computing device configured to provide in response to actuation of the navigation controls for rotating left or right an image captured at a generally left-rotated or right-rotated camera position having a position forward, backward, and side-to-side similar to that of the displayed image.

37. The spatially referenced photographic system of claim 36 wherein the displayed image includes designations indicating left and right possible rotations corresponding to a general location of a viewpoint of an image captured at generally left-rotated or right-rotated camera positions.

38. The spatially referenced photographic system of claim 37 wherein the computing device is configured to provide the image captured at generally left-rotated or right-rotated camera positions in response to receiving signals indicating selection of one of the designations.

39. The spatially referenced photographic system of claim 36 wherein the computing device is configured to provide, along with the displayed image, navigation controls for moving forward and simultaneously rotating to the left or to the right, the computing device configured to provide in response to the actuation of the navigation controls an image captured at a generally forward camera position having an angular orientation rotated to the left or to the right of the displayed image.

40. The spatially referenced photographic system of claim 39 wherein the computing device is configured to provide multiple images aligned in a panorama to provide a wider field of view.

41. The spatially referenced photographic system of claim 36 wherein the computing device is configured to provide an overlay item projected as a region onto the displayed image, the overlay item comprising an indication of a point or area of interest on the displayed image with respect to which one or more associated images are available, wherein the computing device is configured to provide a new image corresponding to the overlay item in response to receiving signals indicating selection of the region.

42. The spatially referenced photographic system of claim 41 wherein the computing device is configured to provide an overlay item projected onto the plan view, the overlay item comprising an indication of a point or area of interest with respect to which one or more associated images are available, wherein the computing device is configured to provide a new image corresponding to the overlay item in response to receiving signals indicating selection of the overlay item.

43. The spatially referenced photographic system of claim 33 wherein the computing device is configured to provide one or more launch pad controls and to receive control signals in response to selection of at least one of the one or more launch pad controls, wherein the computing device is configured to execute an associated application program in response receiving the control signals.

44. A spatially referenced photographic system comprising:

a data base containing images of objects and information corresponding to the images, the information defining a position at which a respective image was captured and at least a yaw orientation of the respective image with respect to the position, wherein the information is derived from camera position and orientation information automatically recorded substantially simultaneously with recording of the respective image;

a computing device in communication with the data base, the computing device configured to receive spatial movement commands and provide images for display corresponding to the images of objects in response to receiving the spatial movement commands via an interface;

wherein the computing device is configured to provide an overlay item projected onto a displayed image, the overlay item comprising a selectable indication of a point or area of interest for a displayed image of the images for display with respect to which one or more associated images are available for display in response to selection of the overlay item; and

wherein the computing device is configured to provide, along with the displayed image, navigation controls for rotating left or right, the computing device configured to provide in response to actuation of the navigation controls for rotating left or right an image captured at a generally left-rotated or right-rotated camera position having a position forward, backward, and side-to-side similar to that of the displayed image.

45. The spatially referenced photographic system of claim 44 wherein the overlay item comprises a frame, wherein the computing device is configured to provide a new image corresponding to the overlay item in response to receiving signals indicating selection of the frame.

46. The spatially referenced photographic system of claim 44 wherein the computing device is configured to provide a designation on at least one of the displayed image and the plan view of a position at which the displayed image was captured and a yaw orientation of the displayed image with respect to that position.

47. The spatially referenced photographic system of claim 44 wherein the computing device is configured to provide, along with the displayed image, navigation controls for moving forward and simultaneously rotating to the left or to the right, the computing device configured to provide in response to actuation of the navigation controls a selected image captured at a generally forward camera position having an angular orientation rotated to the left or to the right of that of the displayed image.

48. The spatially referenced photographic system of claim 44 wherein the computing device is configured to provide, along with the displayed image, navigation controls for moving backward, the computing device configured to provide in response to actuation of the navigation controls a selected image captured at a generally backward camera position having an orientation similar to that of the displayed image.

49. The spatially referenced photographic system of claim 44 wherein the displayed image includes designations indicating left and right possible rotations corresponding to a general location of a viewpoint of an image captured at generally left-rotated or right-rotated camera positions.

50. The spatially referenced photographic system of claim 49 wherein the computing device is configured to provide the image captured at generally left-rotated or right-rotated camera positions in response to receiving signals indicating selection of one of the designations.

51. The spatially referenced photographic system of claim 44 wherein the computing device is configured to provide, along with the displayed image, navigation controls for moving forward and simultaneously rotating to the left or to the right, the computing device configured to provide in response to the actuation of the navigation controls an image captured at a generally forward camera position having an angular orientation rotated to the left or to the right of the displayed image.

52. The spatially referenced photographic system of claim 44 wherein the computing device is configured to provide multiple images aligned in a panorama to provide a wider field of view.

53. The spatially referenced photographic system of claim 44 wherein the computing device is configured to provide a plan view overlay item projected as a region onto a plan view displayed in combination with the displayed images, the plan view overlay item comprising an indication of a

point or area of interest on the plan view with respect to which one or more associated images are available, wherein the computing device is configured to provide a new image corresponding to the plan view overlay item in response to receiving signals indicating selection of the region.

54. The spatially referenced photographic system of claim 44 wherein the computing device is configured to provide a new image corresponding to the overlay item in response to receiving signals indicating selection of the overlay item.

55. A method comprising:

capturing images of objects;

recording camera position and orientation information automatically and substantially simultaneously with capturing the images of objects;

storing in at least one data base the images of objects and information corresponding to the images, the information defining a position at which a respective image was captured and at least a yaw orientation of the respective image with respect to the position, wherein the information is derived from the camera position and orientation information substantially simultaneously with capturing the images of objects;

providing via an interface for simultaneous display images for display corresponding to the images of objects and a plan view of a camera path corresponding to the images for display from the data base with a computing device in communication with the database;

the computing device providing for display on at least one of a displayed image of the images for display or the plan view an indication of the position at which the displayed image was captured.

56. The method of claim 55, said computing device providing an indication of the yaw orientation of the displayed image.

57. The method of claim 55, the computing device providing designated portions of the plan view and retrieving and providing an image from the data base captured at a position corresponding to a selected designated position for display via said interface in response to receiving signals indicating selection of the selected designated position.

58. The method of claim 55, the computing device providing navigation controls overlayed on the displayed image and providing images in response to receiving spatial movement commands via the navigation controls, the images captured at a position generally shifted from that of a prior displayed image as indicated by the spatial movement commands.

59. The method of claim 55, the computing device providing navigation controls overlayed on the displayed image and providing images in response to receiving spatial movement commands via the navigation controls, the images captured at a position generally shifted from that of a prior displayed image portion as indicated by the spatial movement commands.

60. The method of claim 55, the computing device providing, along with the provided image, navigation controls for moving forward and simultaneously rotating to the left or to the right and providing in response to actuation of the navigation controls a selected image captured at a generally forward camera position having an angular orientation rotated to the left or to the right of that of the provided image.

61. The method of claim 55, the computing device providing, along with the provided image, navigation controls for moving backward and providing in response to actuation of the navigation controls a selected image captured at a generally backward camera position having an orientation similar to that of the provided image.

62. The method of claim 55, the computing device providing, along with the provided image, navigation controls for rotating left or right and providing in response to actuation of the navigation controls for rotating left or right an image captured at a generally left-rotated or right-rotated camera position having a position fore-, aft-, and side-to-side similar to that of the provided image.

63. The method of claim 55, the computing device providing on the displayed image designations indicating left and right possible rotations corresponding to a general location of a viewpoint of an image captured at generally left-rotated or right-rotated camera positions.

64. The method of claim 63, the computing device providing the image captured at generally left-rotated or right-rotated camera positions in response to receiving signals indicating selection of one of the designations.

65. The method of claim 55, the computing device providing, along with the provided image, navigation controls for moving forward and simultaneously rotating to the left or to the right and providing in response to the actuation of the navigation controls an image captured at a generally forward camera position having an angular orientation rotated to the left or to the right of the provided image.

66. The method of claim 55, the computing device providing multiple images aligned in a panorama to provide a wider field of view.

67. The method of claim 55, the computing device providing an overlay item projected as a region onto the provided image via the interface, the overlay item comprising an indication of a point or area of interest on the provided image with respect to which one or more associated images are available, and also providing a new image corresponding to the overlay item in response to receiving signals indicating selection of the region.

68. The method of claim 55, the computing device providing an overlay item projected onto the plan view, the overlay item comprising an indication of a point or area of interest with respect to which one or more associated images are available, and also providing a new image corresponding to the overlay item in response to receiving signals indicating selection of the overlay item.

69. A spatially referenced photographic system comprising:

a data base containing plural images of objects and also containing information corresponding to said images defining the position at which each image was originally captured and at least the yaw orientation of the image with respect to that position, wherein recorded information from which said position and yaw orientation information may be determined was automatically recorded substantially simultaneously with the recording of the image;

image presentation and navigation means for displaying the images to a user and for facilitating the user in navigating among said images by receiving spatial movement commands from the user, as indicated by said spatial movement commands;

wherein said image presentation and navigation means includes means for displaying, along with an image, a view of the camera path and an indication of the camera position and yaw orientation when the image was recorded;

wherein the view is a plan view and the camera position and yaw orientation is indicated by a mark on the path oriented as the camera was oriented to point where the camera was pointing when the image was recorded.

70. A spatially referenced photographic system comprising:

a data base containing plural images of objects and also containing information corresponding to said images defining the position at which each image was originally captured and at least the yaw orientation of the image with respect to that position, wherein recorded information from which said position and yaw orientation information may be determined was automatically recorded substantially simultaneously with the recording of the image;

image presentation and navigation means for displaying the images to a user and for facilitating the user in navigating among said images by receiving spatial movement commands from the user, as indicated by said spatial movement commands;

wherein said image presentation and navigation means includes means for displaying, along with an image, a view of the camera path and an indication of the camera position and yaw orientation when the image was recorded; and

wherein a mark appears in said image of a location associated with another image such that the user may signal a desire to navigate forward to view said another image in a simple manner.

71. A spatially referenced photographic system in accordance with claim 70 wherein the path also bears an indication of the location of said another image.

72. A spatially referenced photographic system comprising:

a data base containing plural images of objects and also containing information corresponding to said images defining the position at which each image was originally captured and at least the yaw orientation of the image with respect to that position, wherein recorded information from which said position and yaw orientation information may be determined was automatically recorded substantially simultaneously with the recording of the image;

image presentation and navigation means for displaying the images to a user and for facilitating the user in navigating among said images by receiving spatial movement commands from the user, as indicated by said spatial movement commands; and

wherein said image presentation and navigation means provides the user with navigation controls for moving backward, in response to the actuation of which controls said means

selects an image captured at a generally backward camera position having an orientation similar to that of an image the user is currently viewing.

73. A spatially referenced photographic system comprising:

a data base containing plural images of objects and also containing information corresponding to said images defining the position at which each image was originally captured and at least the yaw orientation of the image with respect to that position, wherein recorded information from which said position and yaw orientation information may be determined was automatically recorded substantially simultaneously with the recording of the image;

image presentation and navigation means for displaying the images to a user and for facilitating the user in navigating among said images by receiving spatial movement commands from the user, as indicated by said spatial movement commands; and

wherein said image presentation and navigation means provides the user with navigation controls for rotating left or right, in response to the actuation of which controls said means selects an image captured at a generally left-rotated or right-rotated camera orientation having a position forward, backward, and side-to-side similar to that of an image the user is currently viewing.

74. A spatially referenced photographic system in accordance with claim 73 wherein the image which the user is currently viewing bears marks indicating left and right possible rotations which thereby indicate the general location of the viewpoint of said image captured at said generally left-rotated or right-rotated camera positions.

75. A spatially referenced photographic system in accordance with claim 74 wherein said indicating marks permit the user to signal a desire to move generally left or right by mouse clicking on said indicating marks.

76. A spatially referenced photographic system comprising:

a data base containing plural images of objects and also containing information corresponding to said images defining the position at which each image was originally captured and at least the yaw orientation of the image with respect to that position, wherein recorded information from which said position and yaw orientation information may be determined was automatically recorded substantially simultaneously with the recording of the image;

image presentation and navigation means for displaying the images to a user and for facilitating the user in navigating among said images by receiving spatial movement commands from the user, as indicated by said spatial movement commands; and

wherein said image presentation and navigation means provides the user with navigation controls for moving forward and simultaneously rotating to the left or to the right, in response to the actuation of which controls said means selects an image captured at a generally forward camera position having an angular orientation rotated to the left or to the right of that of an image the user is currently viewing.

77. A method comprising:

providing for display from a computing device images from a data base containing plural images of objects and also containing information corresponding to the images defining a position at which individual images were originally captured and at least a yaw orientation of the individuals images with respect to that position, wherein recorded information from which the position and yaw orientation information can be determined was automatically recorded substantially simultaneously with recording of the image;

facilitating navigation among the images provided for display by providing for display with the images navigation controls at least for rotating left and right and receiving spatial movement commands via the navigation controls;

selecting an image captured at a position generally shifted from that of a previously provided image as indicated the spatial movement commands;

providing for display with the navigation controls the image captured at a position generally shifted from that of the previously provided image;

providing for display in response to receiving spatial movement commands for rotating left or right a selected image captured at a generally left-rotated or right-rotated camera position having a position forward, backward, and side-to-side similar to that of the previously provided image.

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UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

CERTIFICATE OF CORRECTION

PATENT NO. : RE42,289 E
APPLICATION NO. : 12/126664
DATED : April 12, 2011
INVENTOR(S) : Robert S. Vincent

It is certified that error appears in the above-identified patent and that said Letters Patent is hereby corrected as shown below:

IN THE CLAIMS

Claim 1, Column 75, Line 14, delete "position," and insert -- position; --;

Claim 1, Column 75, Line 24, delete "recorded," and insert -- recorded; --;

Claim 19, Column 78, Line 41, after "response" insert -- to --;

Claim 32, Column 80, Line 24, after "response" insert -- to --; and

Claim 43, Column 81, Line 48, after "response" insert -- to --.

Signed and Sealed this
Fourteenth Day of June, 2011

David J. Kappos
Director of the United States Patent and Trademark Office

US00RE42289C1

(12) **EX PARTE REEXAMINATION CERTIFICATE** (10670th)

United States Patent

Vincent

(10) **Number: US RE42,289 C1**

(45) **Certificate Issued: Jul. 27, 2015**

(54) **SPATIAL REFERENCED PHOTOGRAPHIC SYSTEM WITH NAVIGATION ARRANGEMENT**

(75) Inventor: **Robert Vincent**, Wakefield, MA (US)

(73) Assignee: **TRANSCENIC, INC.**, Lake Charles, LA (US)

Reexamination Request:
No. 90/013,368, Oct. 21, 2014

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Issued:	**Apr. 12, 2011**
Appl. No.:	**12/126,664**
Filed:	**May 23, 2008**

Certificate of Correction issued Jun. 14, 2011

Related U.S. Patent Documents

Reissue of:

(64)

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Filed:	**Nov. 28, 2000**

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(51) **Int. Cl.**

H04N 5/222	(2006.01)
H04N 5/228	(2006.01)
G01C 11/02	(2006.01)
G06F 17/30	(2006.01)
H04N 5/232	(2006.01)
H04N 5/262	(2006.01)
H04N 5/765	(2006.01)
H04N 5/225	(2006.01)
H04N 5/77	(2006.01)
H04N 5/92	(2006.01)
H04N 9/804	(2006.01)
H04N 9/82	(2006.01)
H04N 21/4143	(2011.01)
H04N 21/432	(2011.01)
H04N 21/84	(2011.01)
G01C 21/16	(2006.01)

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

CPC ***G01C 11/02*** (2013.01); ***G01C 21/16*** (2013.01); ***G06F 17/30265*** (2013.01); ***H04N 5/222*** (2013.01); ***H04N 5/2251*** (2013.01); ***H04N 5/232*** (2013.01); ***H04N 5/23293*** (2013.01); ***H04N 5/2625*** (2013.01); ***H04N 5/765*** (2013.01); ***H04N 5/772*** (2013.01); ***H04N 5/9201*** (2013.01); ***H04N 9/8042*** (2013.01); ***H04N 9/8205*** (2013.01); ***H04N 21/4143*** (2013.01); ***H04N 21/4325*** (2013.01); ***H04N 21/84*** (2013.01); *H04N 2201/3252* (2013.01); *H04N 2201/3253* (2013.01); *H04N 2201/3274* (2013.01)

(58) **Field of Classification Search**

None

See application file for complete search history.

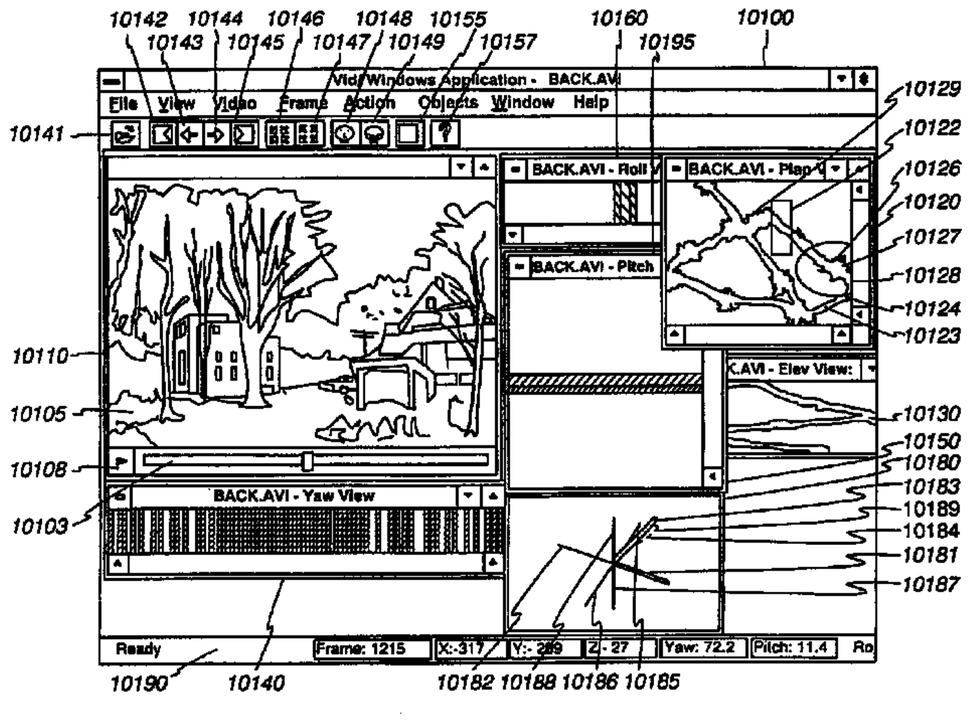
(56) **References Cited**

To view the complete listing of prior art documents cited during the proceeding for Reexamination Control Number 90/013,368, please refer to the USPTO's public Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system under the Display References tab.

Primary Examiner — John M Hotaling

(57) **ABSTRACT**

An image system which captures, along with the images, information defining both the position and the orientation of the camera along with the distance to the subject. A video camera is attached to three accelerometers, two gyroscopes, and a rangefinder. Data gathered from these devices and defining the pitch, yaw, and roll of the camera, the camera's acceleration, and the distance to the subject is captured and recorded along with video images. The video images are later stored within a computer's data base along with data defining the position and orientation of the camera and the distance to the subject for each image, this latter data being computed from the captured data. The images may then be presented to the user in a three-dimensional display in which the user can navigate through the images using a joystick device, with the images located in positions corresponding to the positions in space of the objects that were imaged.



EX PARTE REEXAMINATION CERTIFICATE

NO AMENDMENTS HAVE BEEN MADE TO THE PATENT

AS A RESULT OF REEXAMINATION, IT HAS BEEN DETERMINED THAT:

The patentability of claims **1**, **2**, **5**, **6**, **8**, **10**, **13**, **16**, **17**, **19**, **22**, **23**, **28**, **30**, **32**, **44** and **51** is confirmed.

Claims **3**, **4**, **7**, **9**, **11**, **12**, **14**, **15**, **18**, **20**, **21**, **24-27**, **29**, **31**, **33-43**, **45-50**, and **52-77** were not reexamined.

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