### United States Patent [19]

### Waldron

### [54] SINGLE-ELECTRODE CAPACITANCE TOUCHPAD SENSOR SYSTEMS

- [75] Inventor: Wesley K. Waldron, Scotia, N.Y.
- [73] Assignee: General Electric Company, Schenectady, N.Y.
- [21] Appl. No.: 952,705
- [22] Filed: Oct. 19, 1978
- [51] Int. Cl.<sup>3</sup> ..... H03K 3/26; G08B 13/26
- 307/308; 340/562 [58] Field of Search ...... 328/5; 307/308, 116;
- 331/65; 340/552, 365 C; 202/DIG. 1

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Primary Examiner-Stanley D. Miller, Jr.

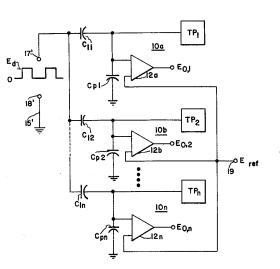
Assistant Examiner-B. P. Davis

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### [57] ABSTRACT

Each of an array of capacitive touchpad sensors has a single touchpad electrode fabricated upon a substrate and accessible to user personnel, with series coupling and shunt capacitance being provided respectively between a driving generator and the touchpad electrode, and the touchpad electrode and an array ground. Each capacitive touchpad sensor operates with a sense amplifier to provide a high density sensor array requiring relatively low driving voltage amplitudes and may be utilized with driven shields and a normalization network to provide reliable capacitance sensing with reduced sensitivity to contamination of the surface of the sensor array.

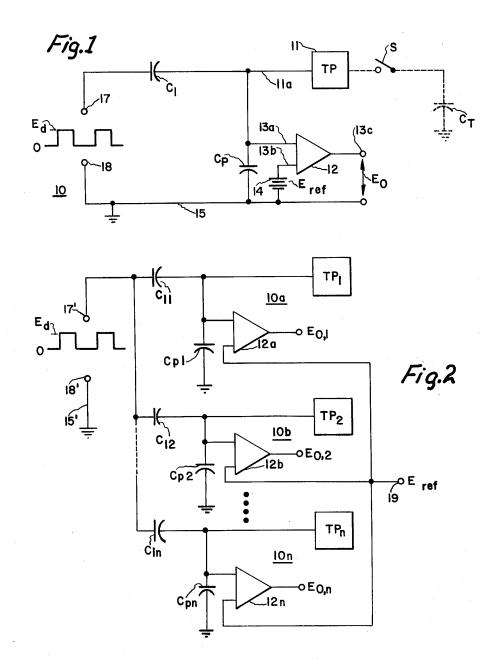
### 20 Claims, 8 Drawing Figures



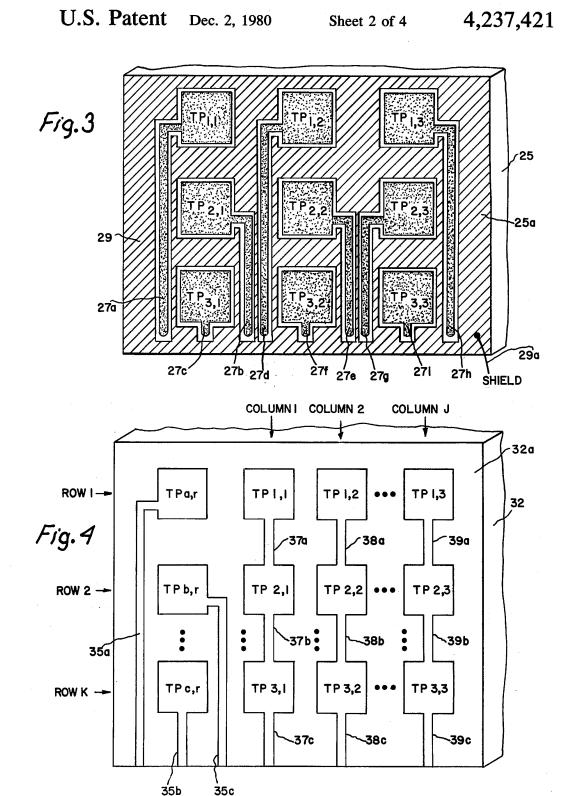
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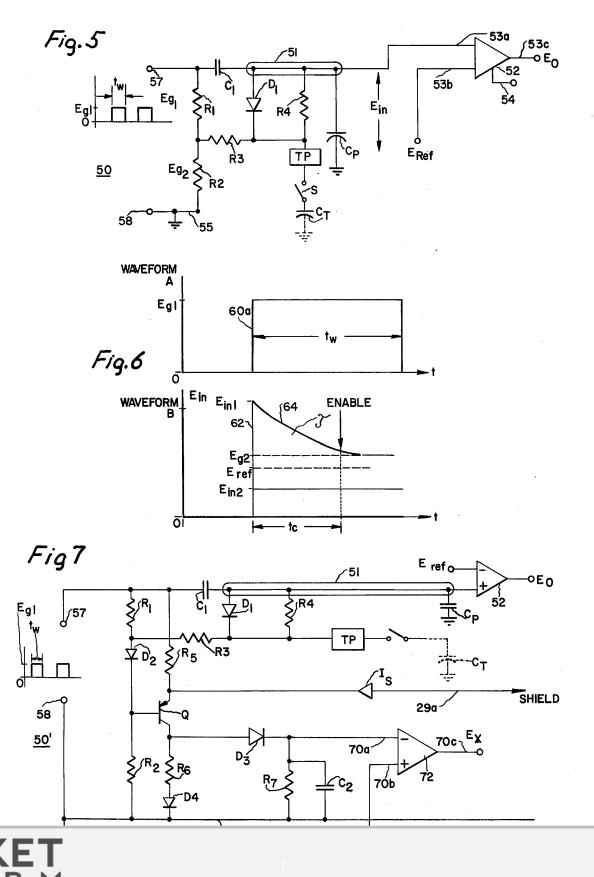
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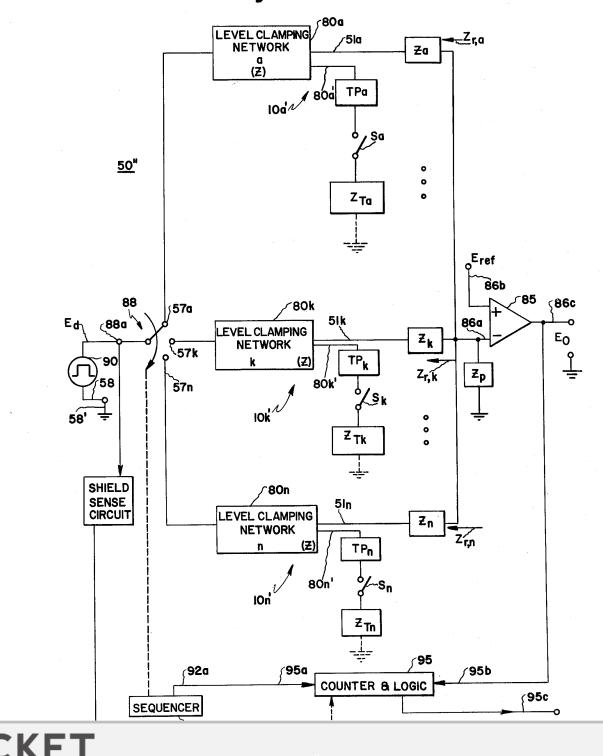
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