

### (12) United States Patent Hills et al.

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#### (54) WATERPROOF SCANNING OF A CAPACITIVE SENSE ARRAY

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

patent is extended or adjusted under 35

U.S.C. 154(b) by 392 days.

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#### Related U.S. Application Data

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(51)	Int. Cl.	
	G01R 27/26	(2006.01)
	G06F 3/041	(2006.01)
	G06F 3/045	(2006.01)
	G01N 27/22	(2006.01)
	G06F 3/0488	(2013.01)

(52)U.S. Cl. CPC ...... G01N 27/22 (2013.01); G06F 3/0488

(2013.01)USPC .......... 324/658; 324/662; 324/663; 345/173; 345/174

#### Field of Classification Search

USPC ...... 324/662, 663, 658; 345/173, 174 See application file for complete search history.

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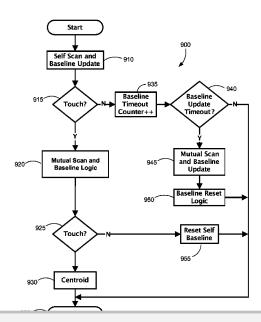
Primary Examiner — Amy He

#### (57)**ABSTRACT**

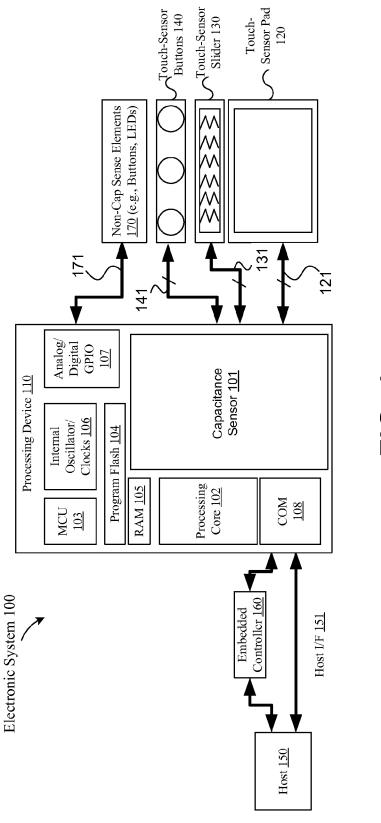
A water-resistant capacitance sensing apparatus comprising a plurality of capacitive sense elements and a capacitance sensing circuit configured to measure both the mutual capacitance and self-capacitance on the plurality of capacitive sense elements.

A method for water-resistant capacitance sensing, the method comprising performing a self-capacitance scan and a mutual capacitance scan, and detecting, by a processing device, a presence of an object with the plurality of sense elements. The method further determines whether the detected presence of the object is legitimate.

#### 18 Claims, 9 Drawing Sheets









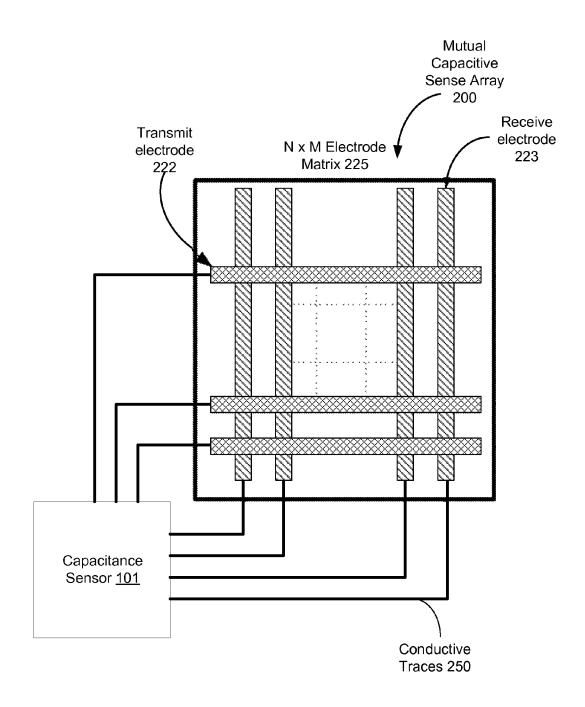


FIG. 2



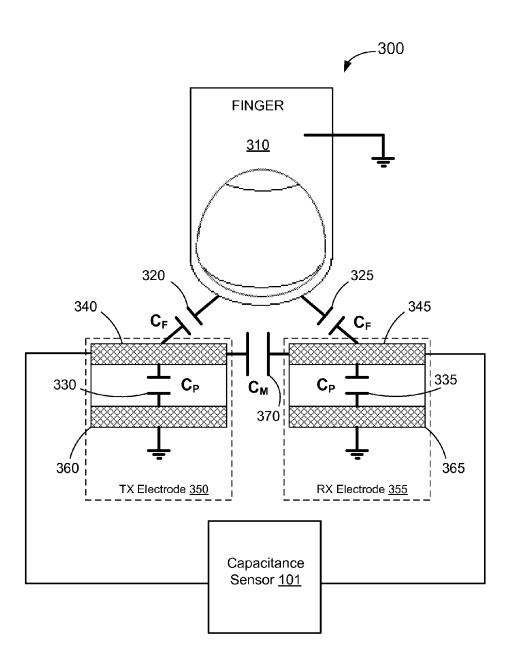
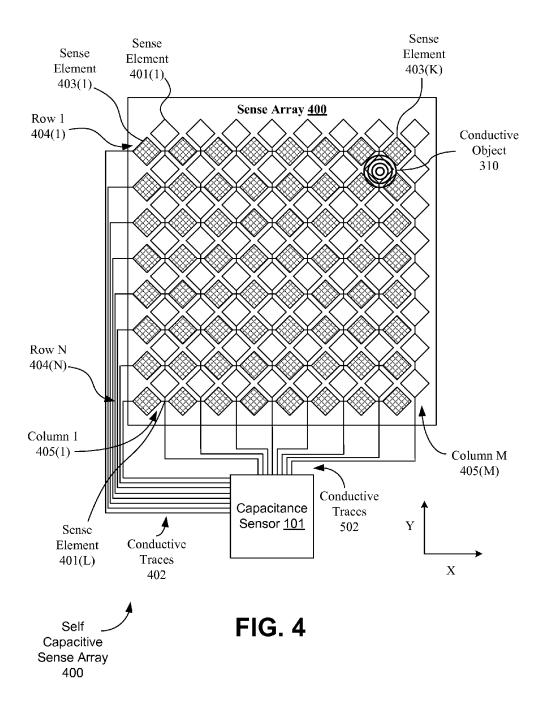


FIG. 3







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