

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

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- (54) **ISOLATING RING SENSOR DESIGN** 5,152,296 A 10/1992 Simons  
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(75) **Inventors:** Sokwoo Rhee, Cambridge; Boo-ho Yang, Boston; Haruhiko H. Asada, Lincoln, all of MA (US) 5,297,548 A 3/1994 Pologe  
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(73) **Assignee:** Massachusetts Institute of Technology, Cambridge, MA (US) 5,661,460 A 8/1997 Sallen et al.  
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(\*) **Notice:** Subject to any disclaimer, the term of this patent is extended or adjusted under 35 U.S.C. 154(b) by 0 days. 5,735,800 A \* 4/1998 Yasakawa et al. .... 600/503  
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(22) **Filed:** Apr. 18, 2000

**Related U.S. Application Data**

- (60) **Provisional application No. 60/130,774, filed on Apr. 23, 1999.**  
(51) **Int. Cl.<sup>7</sup>** ..... A61B 5/00  
(52) **U.S. Cl.** ..... 600/300; 600/485; 600/500; 600/508; 600/310; 600/549; 600/323; 128/903  
(58) **Field of Search** ..... 600/300, 301, 600/309-311, 316, 323, 324, 326, 328, 340, 344, 345-348, 355, 361-365, 481-510, 549, 587, 595; 128/897, 898, 903, 920

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(74) *Attorney, Agent, or Firm*—Bromberg & Sunstein LLP

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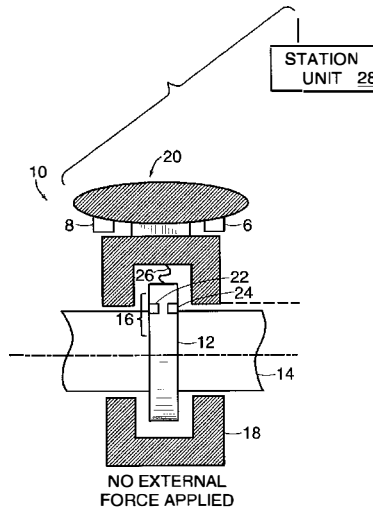
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(57) **ABSTRACT**

A monitoring system for monitoring the health status of a patient by performing measurements such as skin temperature, blood flow, blood constituent concentration, and pulse rate at the finger of the patient. The monitoring system has an inner ring proximate to the finger as well as an outer ring, mechanically decoupled from the inner ring, that shields the inner ring from external loads. Measurements are performed in accordance with a protocol that may be preprogrammed, or may be modified on the basis of real-time data or by command from a remotely located medical professional.

**20 Claims, 5 Drawing Sheets**



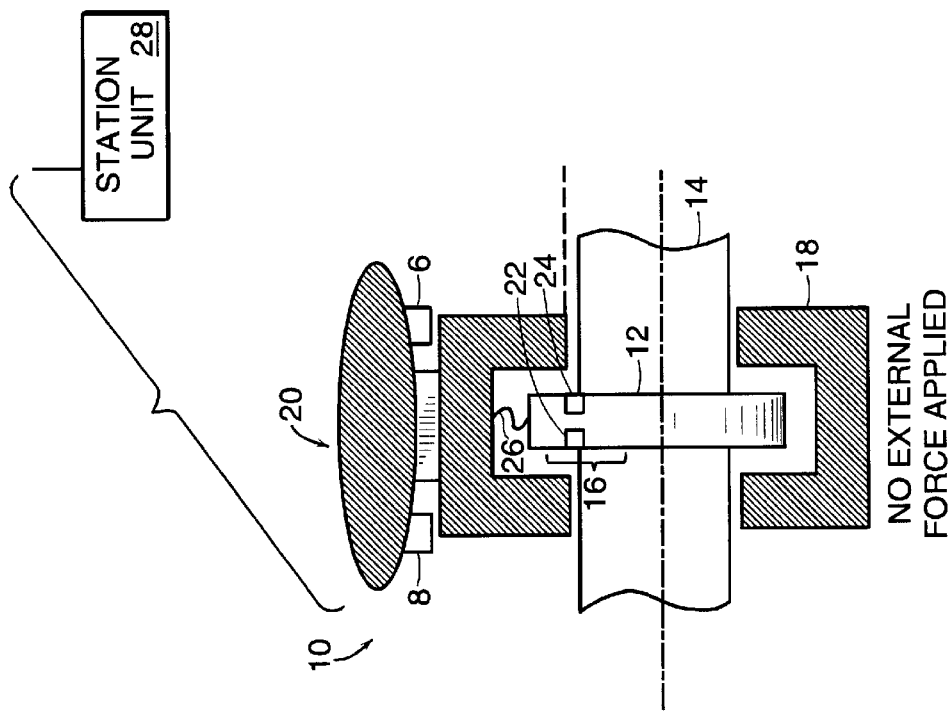


FIG. 1a

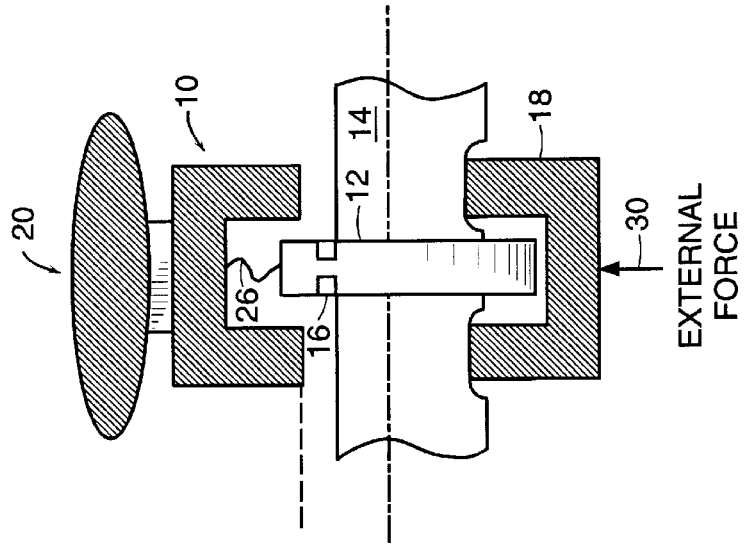


FIG. 1b

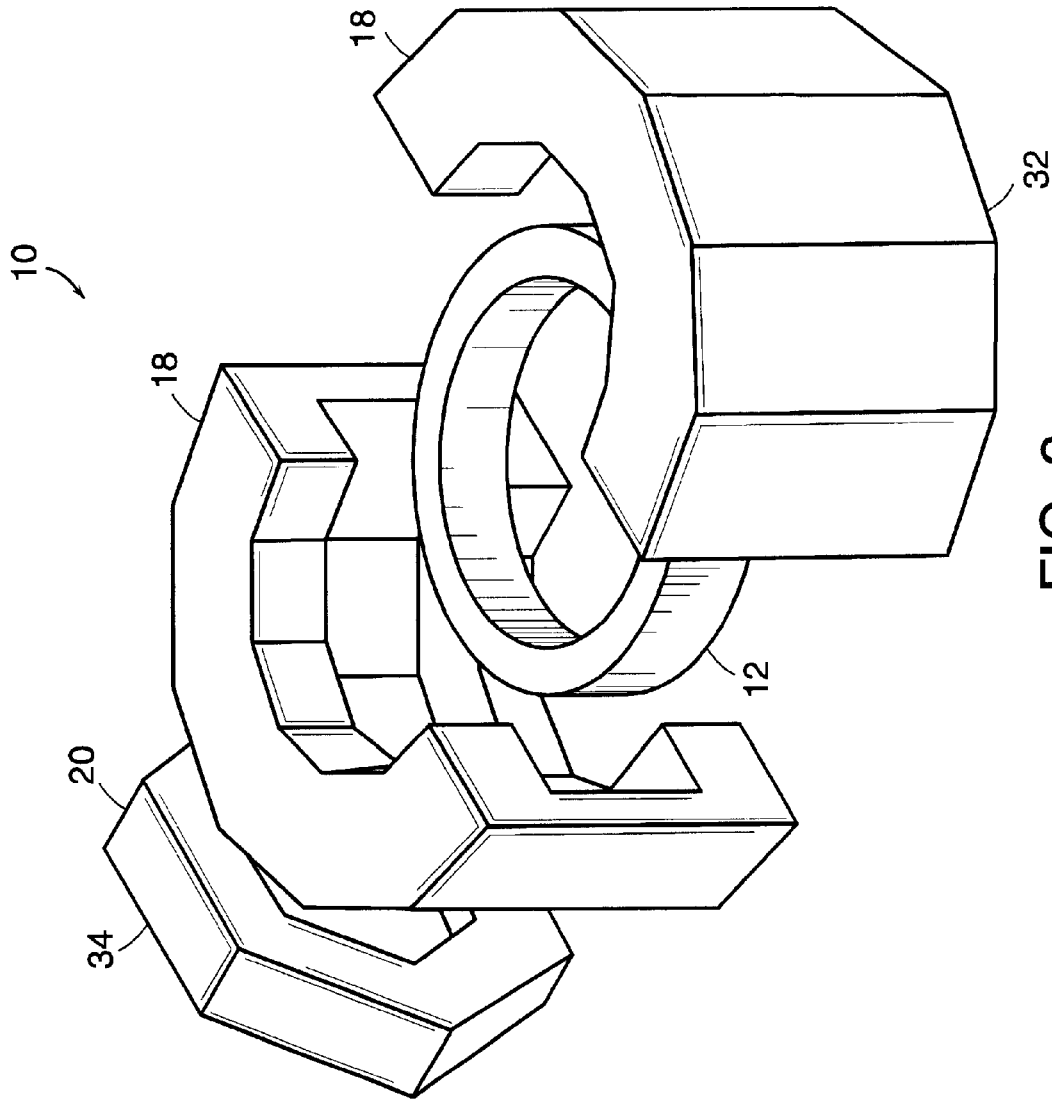
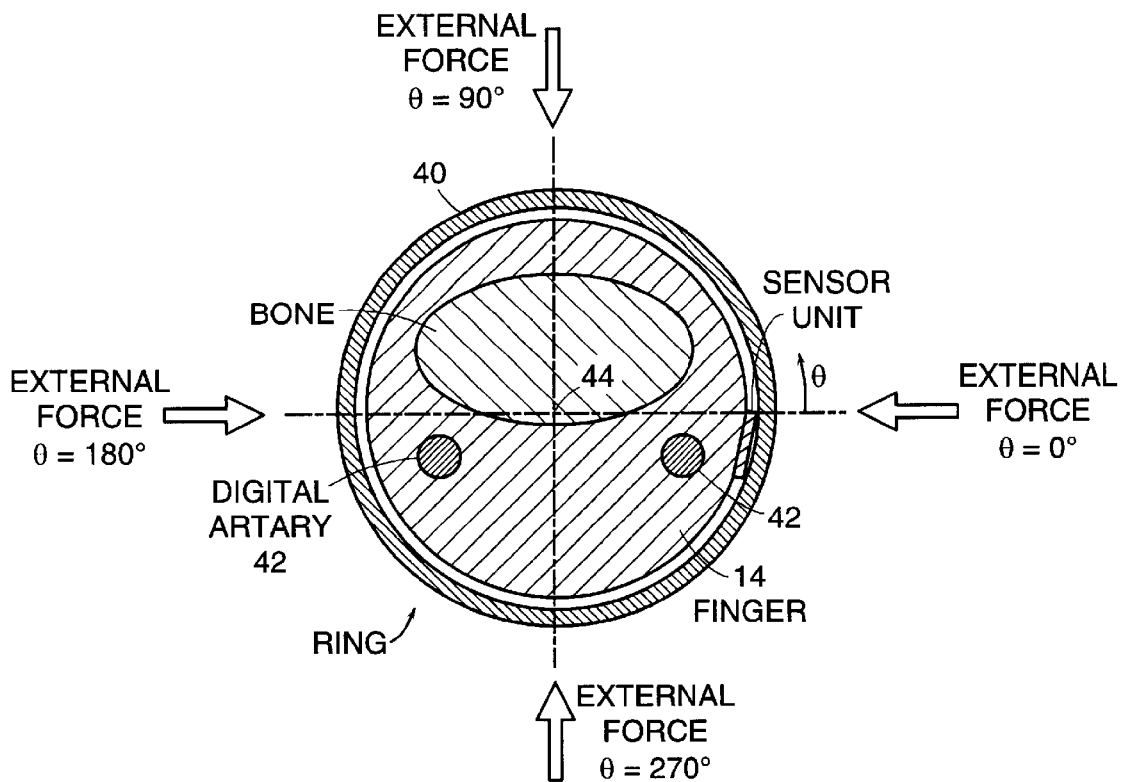


FIG. 2



EXPERIMENT CONFIGURATION

FIG. 3

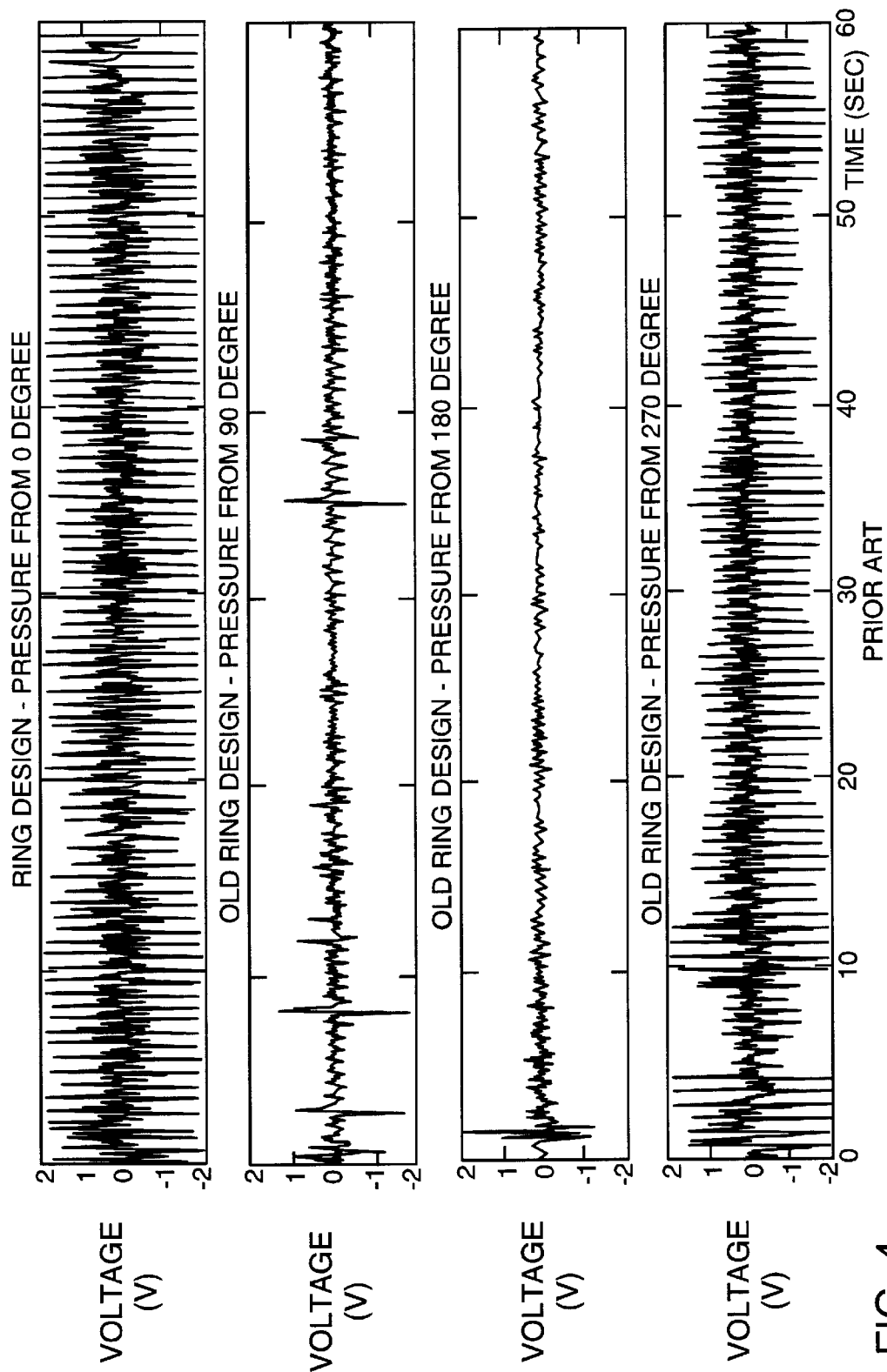


FIG. 4

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