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(54) NON-CONTACT SURFACE CHARACTERIZATION USING MODULATED ILLUMINATION

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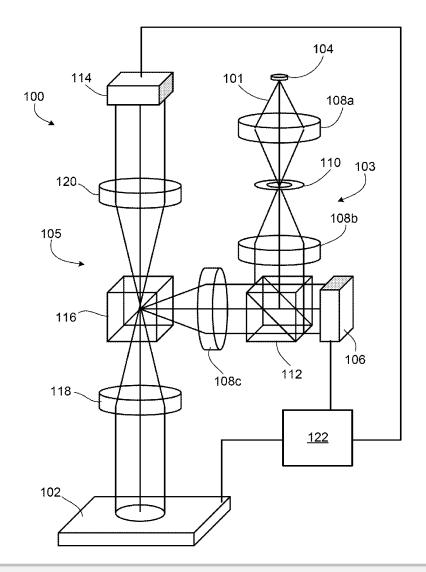
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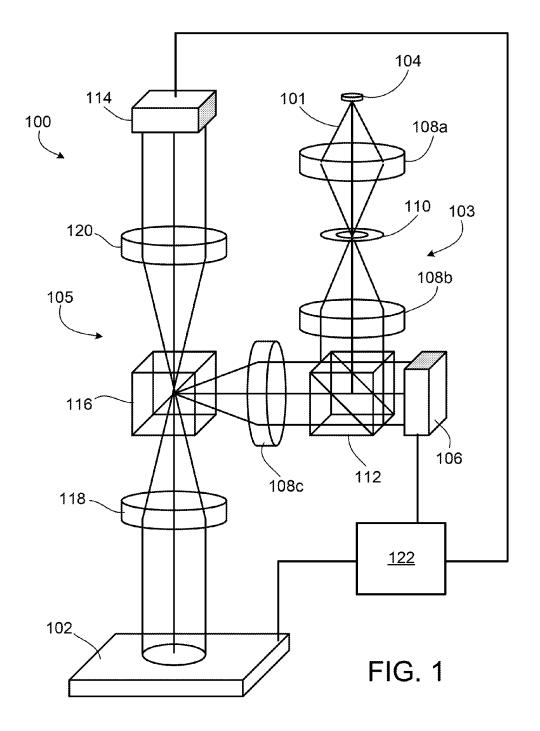
(57) ABSTRACT

Methods for forming a three-dimensional image of a test object include directing light to a surface of best-focus of an imaging optic, where the light has an intensity modulation in at least one direction in the surface of best-focus, scanning a test object relative to the imaging optic so that a surface of the measurement object passes through the surface of best-focus of the imaging optic as the test object is scanned, acquiring, for each of a series of positions of the test object during the scan, a single image of the measurement object using the imaging optic, in which the intensity modulation of the light in the surface of best-focus is different for successive images, and forming a three-dimensional image of the test object based on the acquired images.

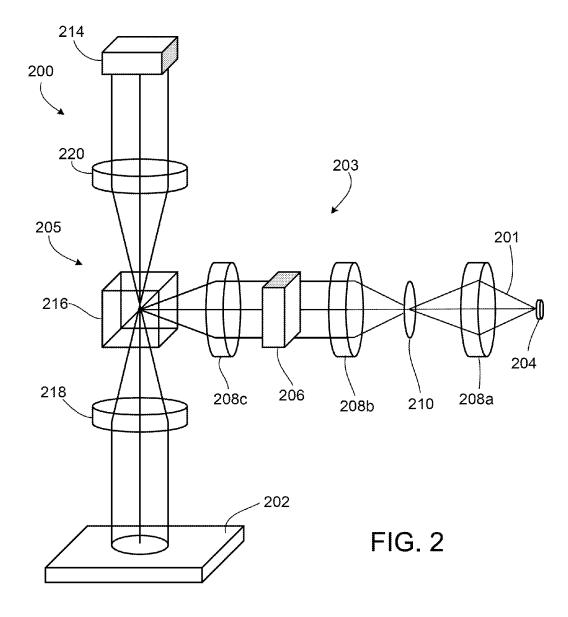












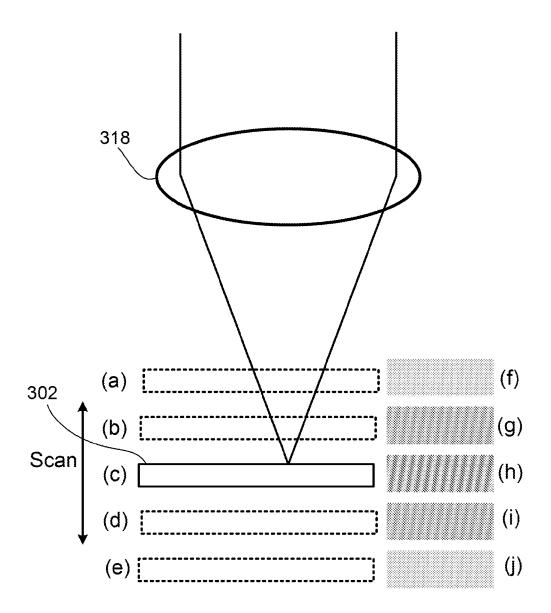
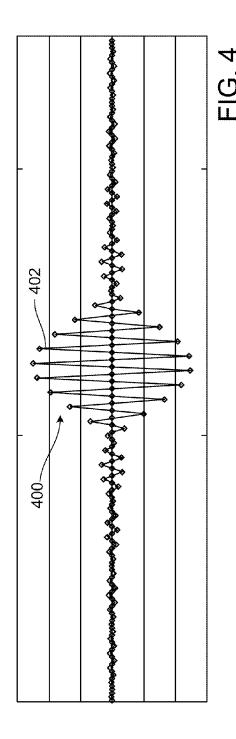
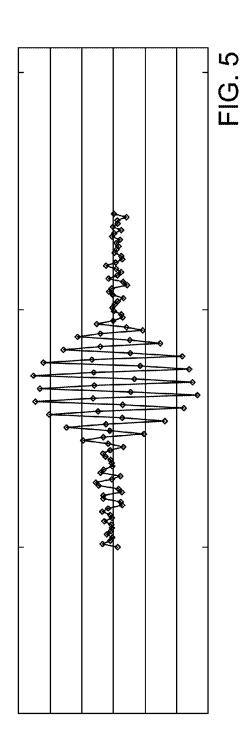


FIG. 3





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