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(54) **WEARABLE HEALTH MONITORING FABRIC**

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(57) **ABSTRACT**

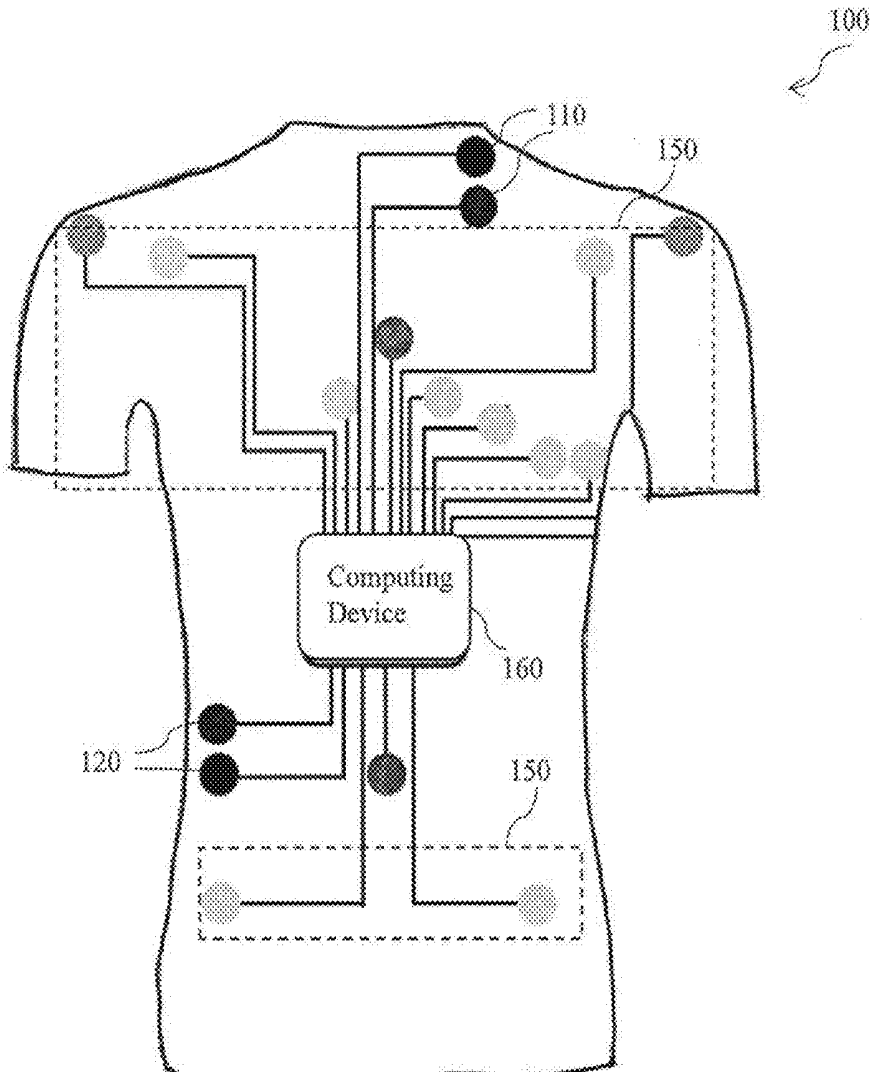
A wearable health monitoring fabric is provided. The wearable fabric includes a set of textrodes. The set of textrodes is configured to measure thoracic electrical bioimpedance (TEB) of a user's body. The set of textrodes include at least two first textrodes. The set of textrodes also include at least two second textrodes. The set of textrodes is fabricated on an upper part of the wearable fabric. Further, the wearable health monitoring fabric is more compatible and user friendly as the textrodes are non-invasive in nature.

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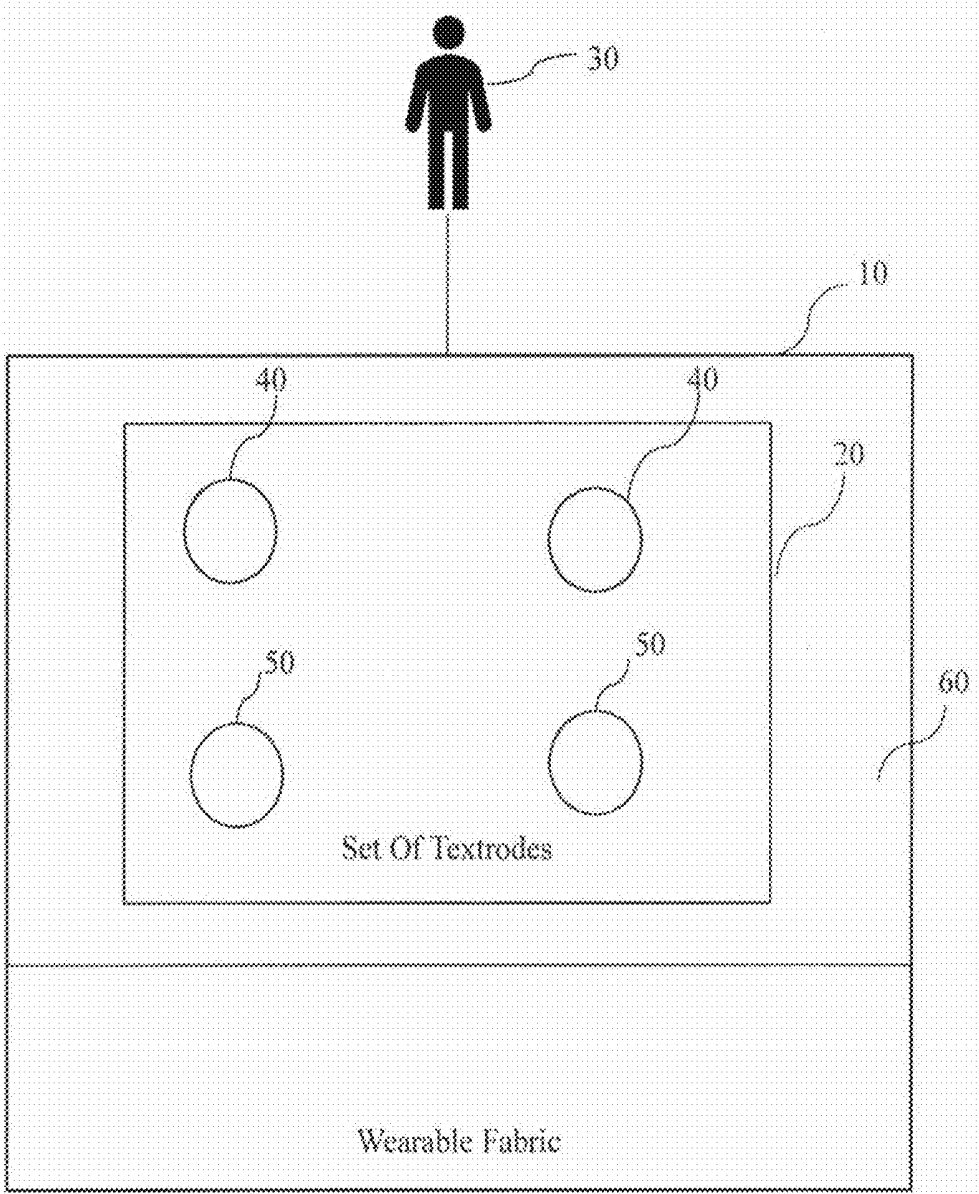


FIG.1

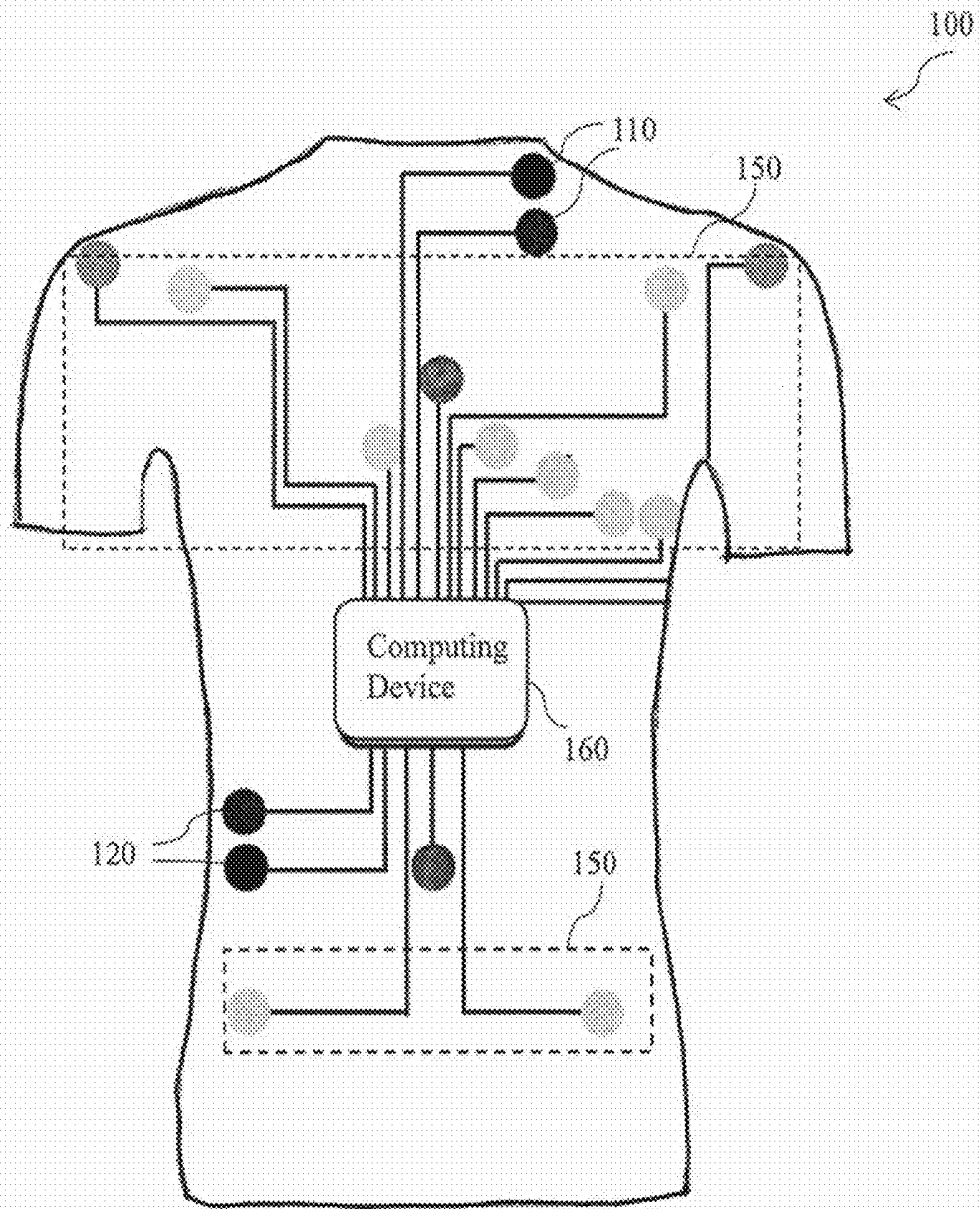
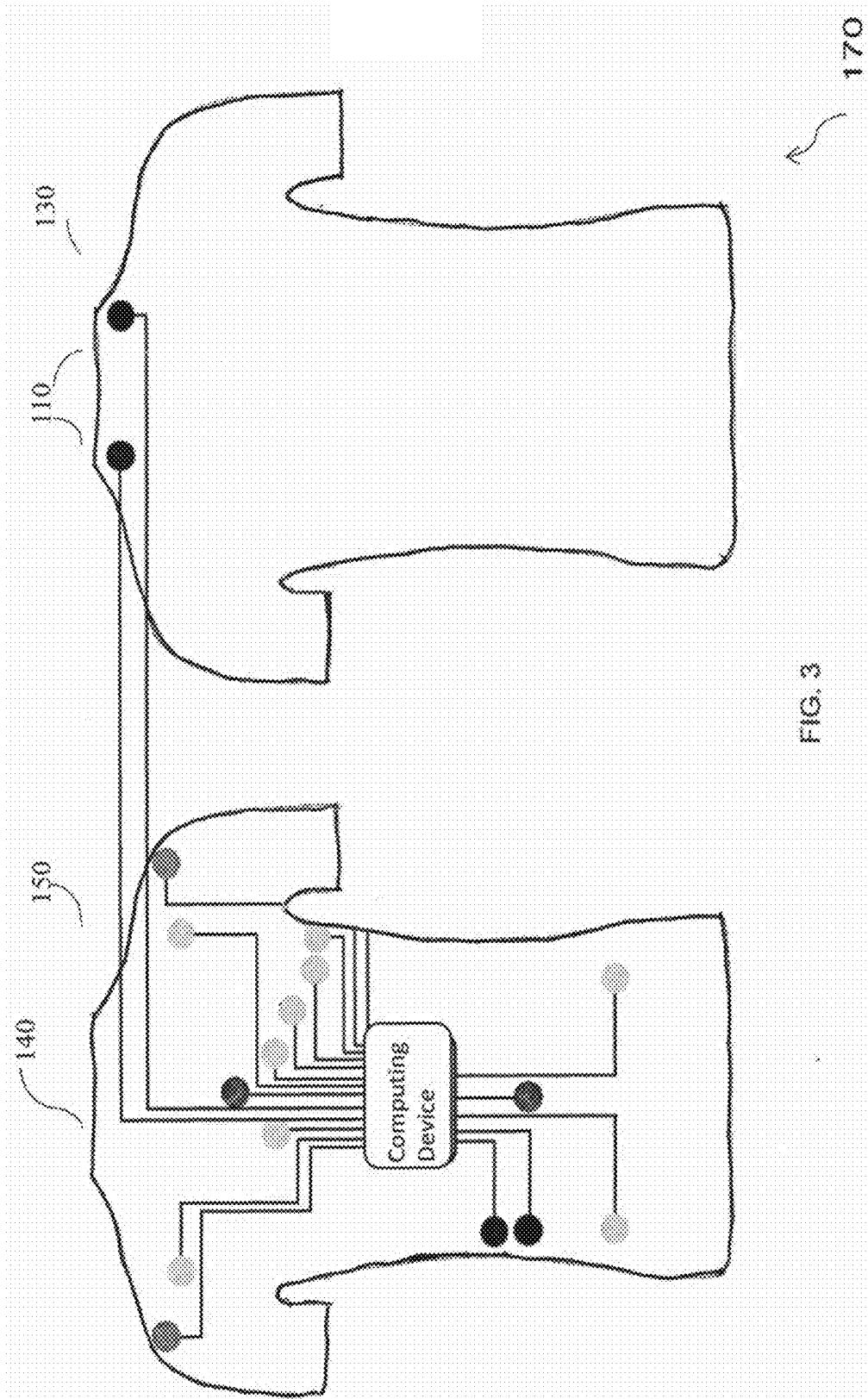


FIG.2



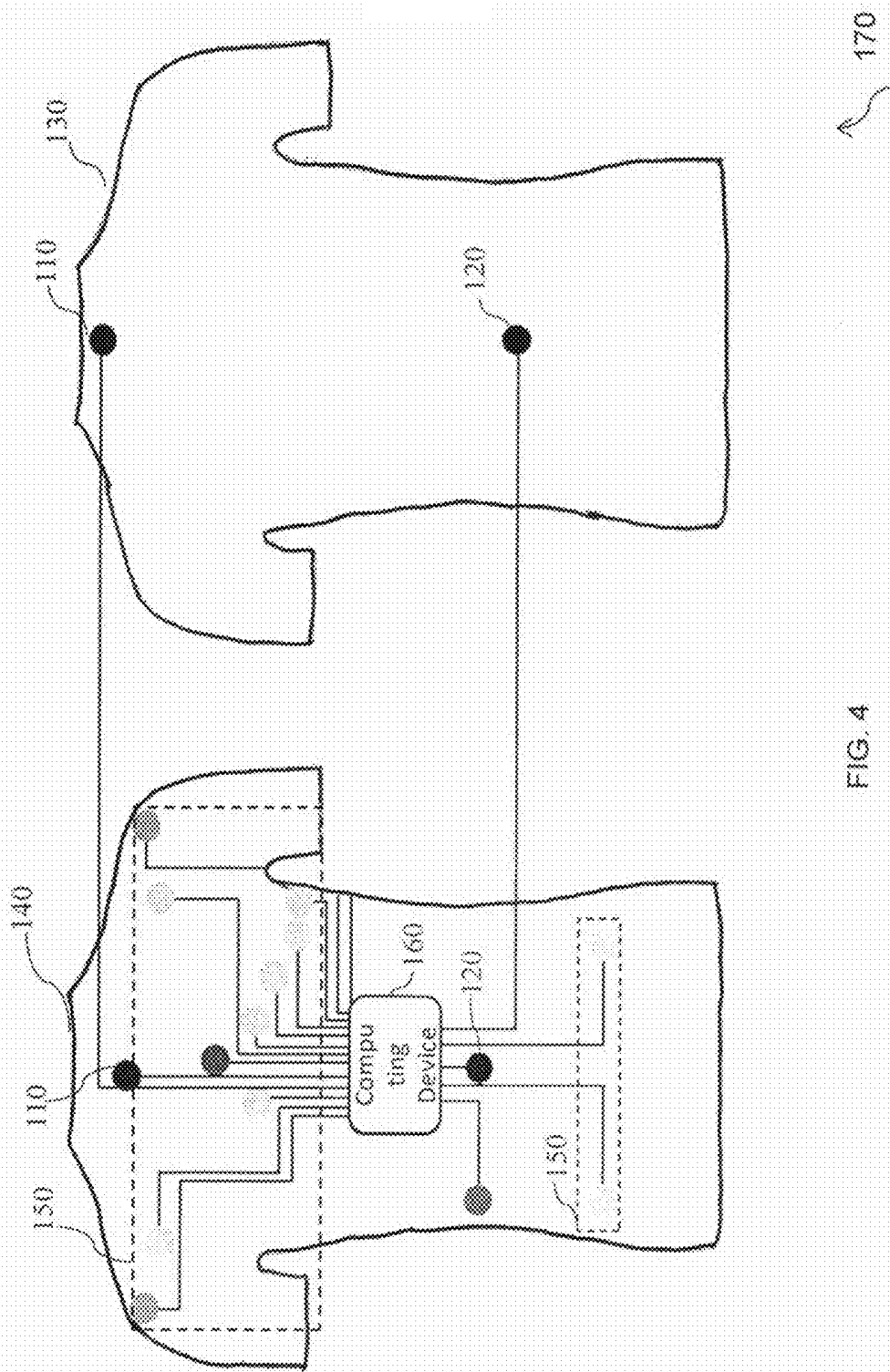


FIG. 4

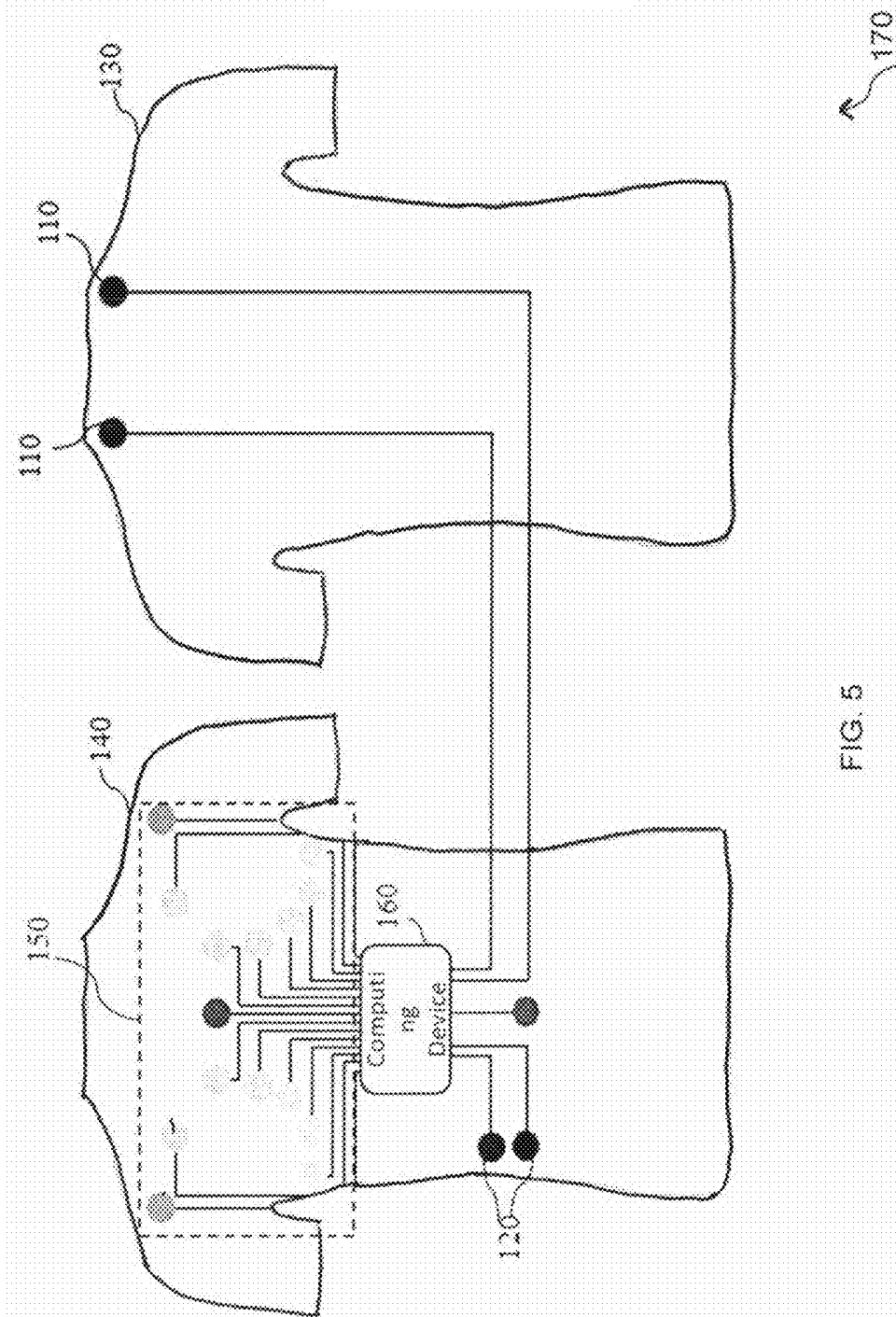


FIG. 5

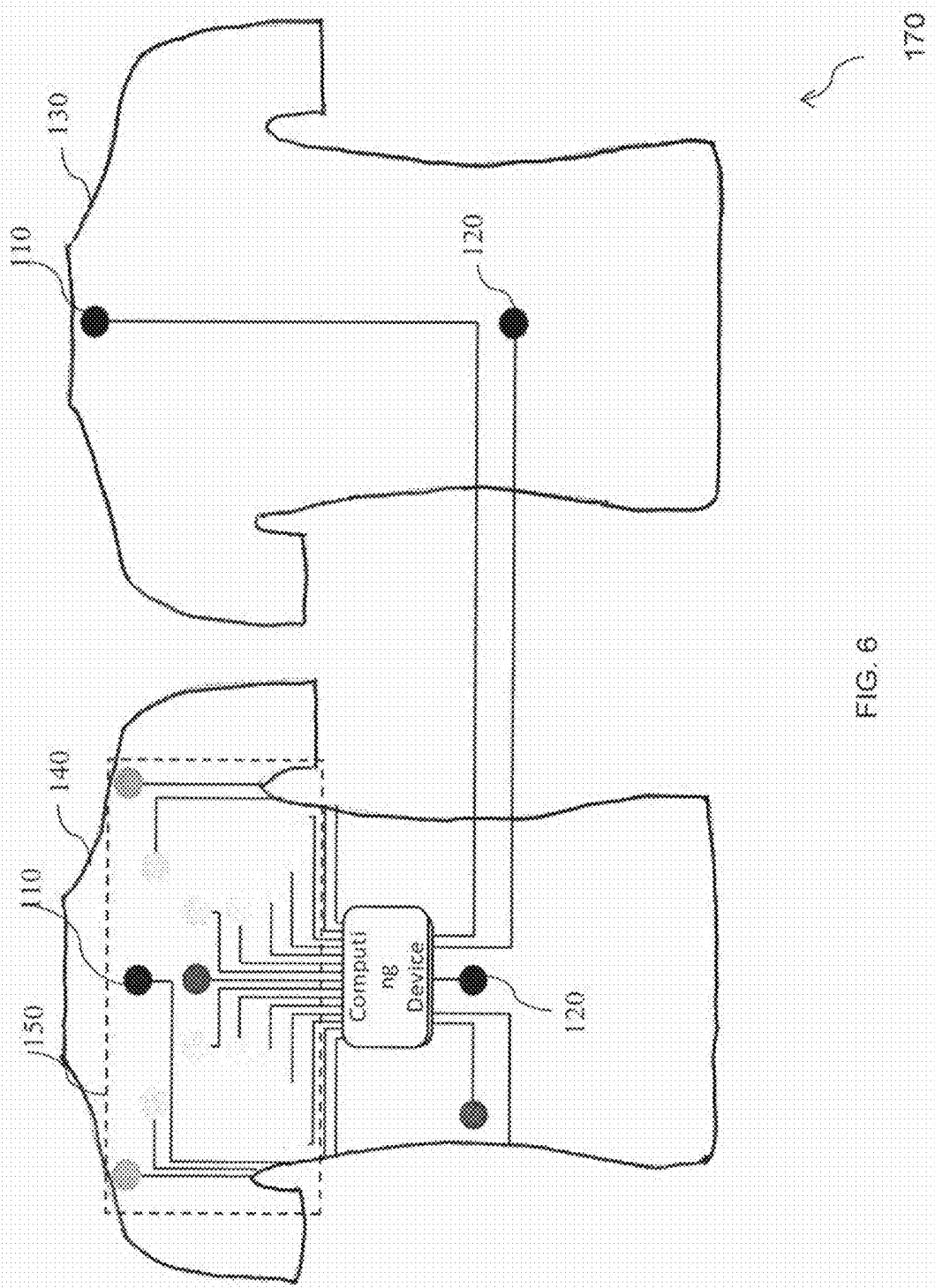


FIG. 6

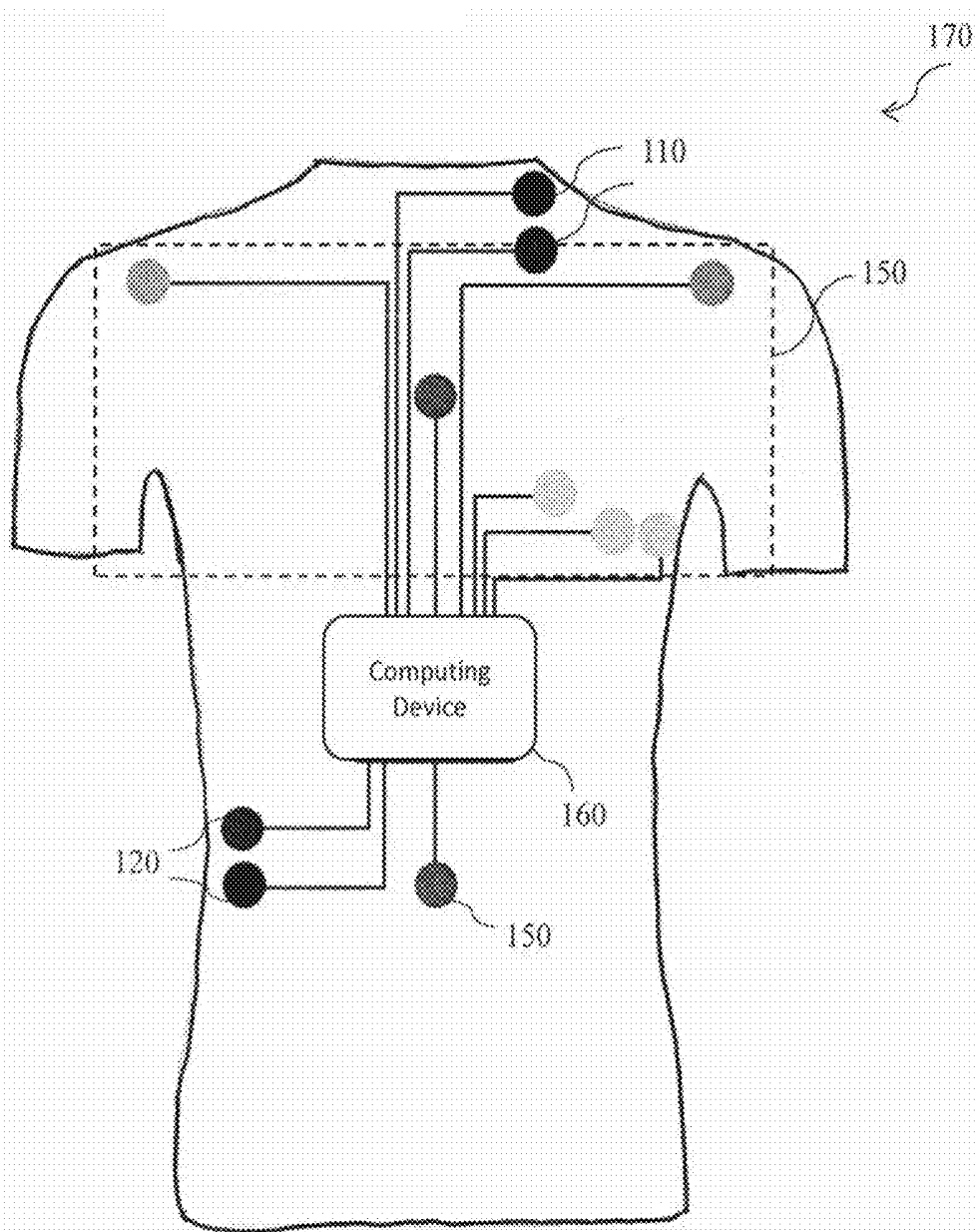


FIG. 7

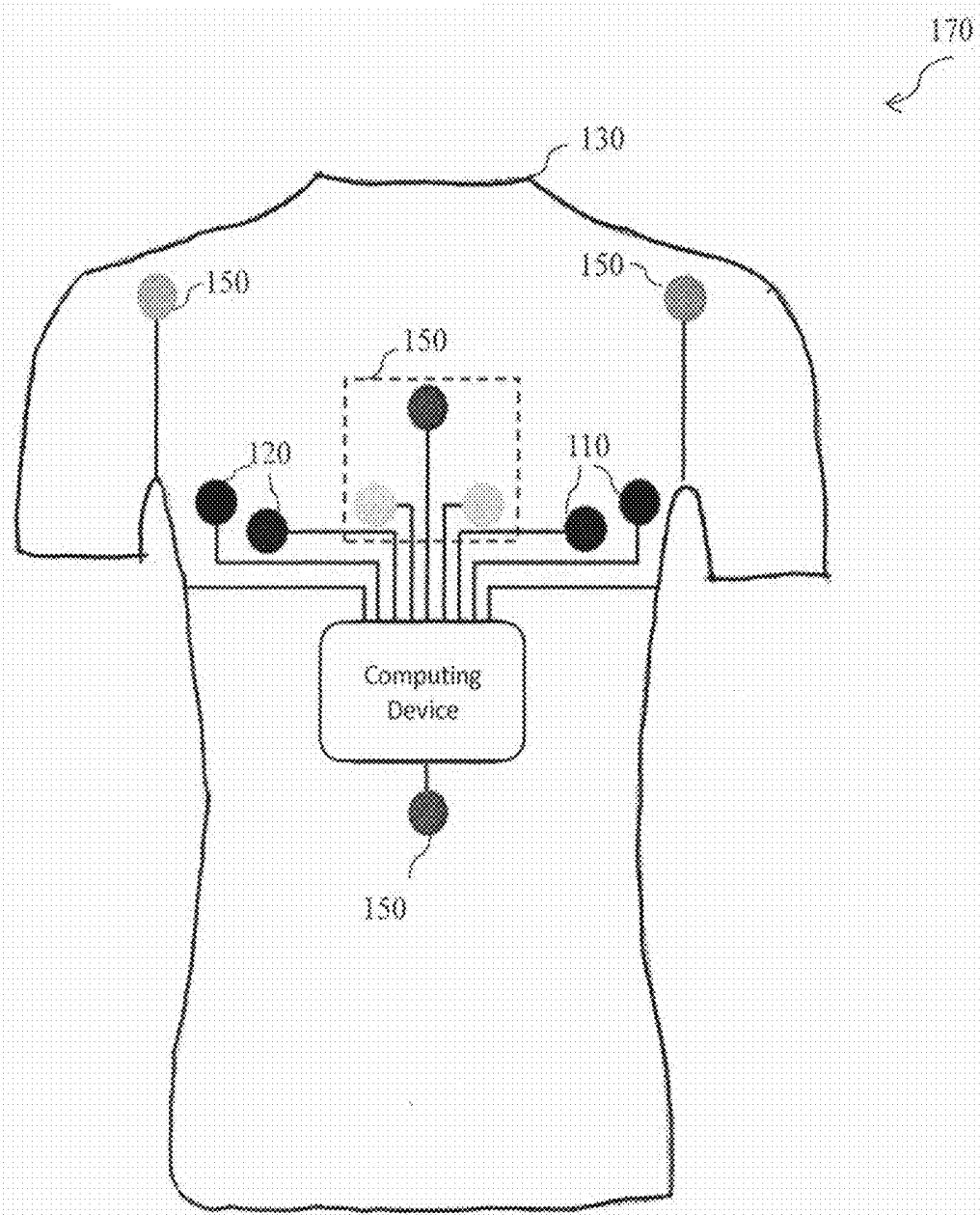


FIG. 8

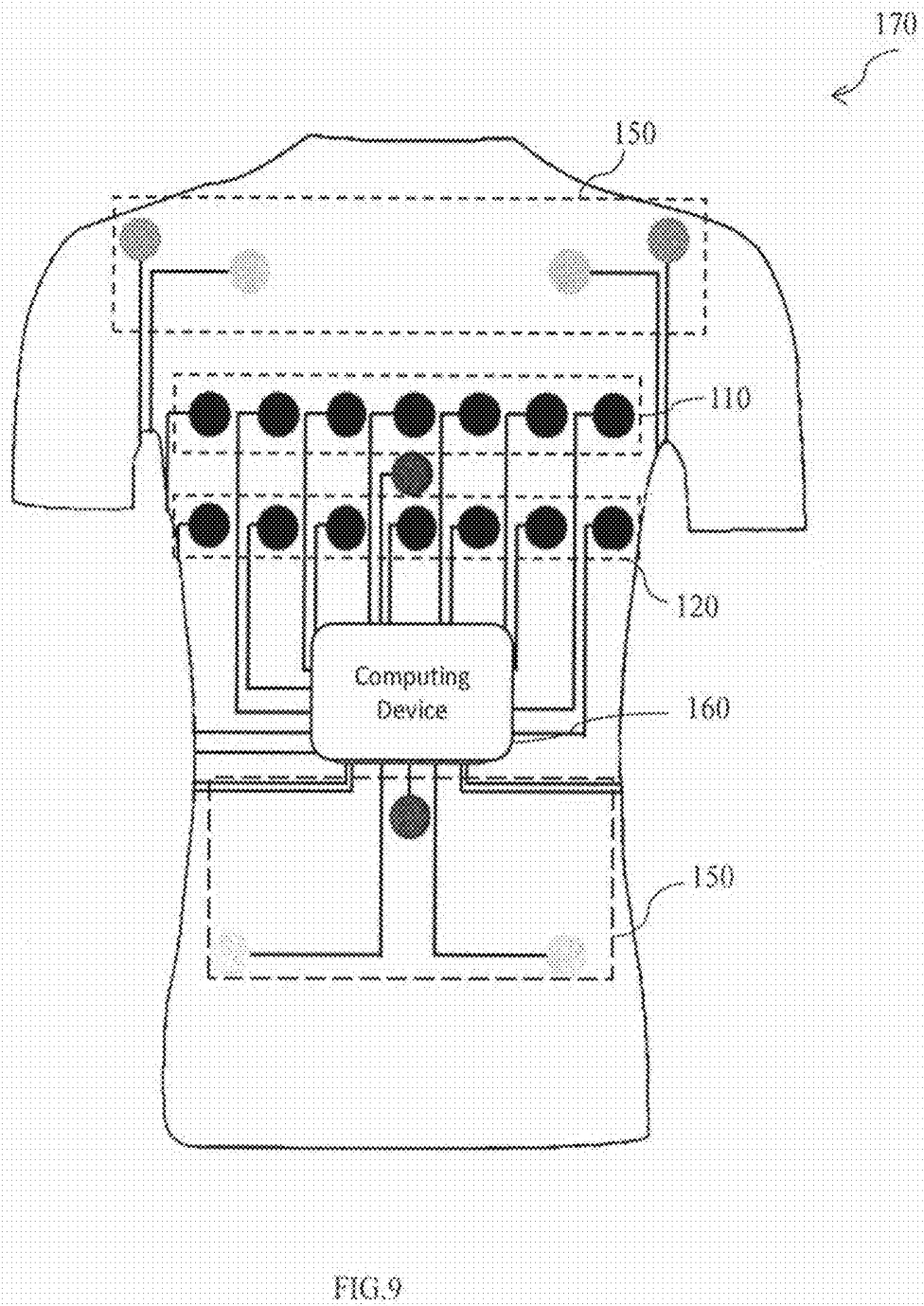


FIG. 9

WEARABLE HEALTH MONITORING FABRIC

FIELD OF INVENTION

[0001] Embodiments of the present disclosure relate to health monitoring of a user and more particularly to a wearable health monitoring fabric.

BACKGROUND

[0002] Chronic health failure and associated trauma are a major health concern worldwide. Heart failure, stroke, and high blood pressure are common cardiovascular and cardio-pulmonary problems which are increasing in both prevalence and incidence and associated with substantial morbidity and mortality. The impact of cardiovascular diseases (CVDs) is felt not only in reduced health, but also in lower productivity. The increasing number of premature deaths caused by CVDs is causing great loss to families. Thus, requires proper prediction of such diseases at early stages so that the diseases can be monitored and diagnosed correctly and thereby prevented.

[0003] One such type of health monitoring system for monitoring heart functioning of a user includes a wearable device, provided with various electrodes, which is placed on a user's body from where electrical pulses of the heart is to be measured. Further, the electrodes are invasive in nature. Hence, such invasive electrodes are painful and at times causes infection to the user's body if the electrodes are not well sterilized, thereby making the wearable device incompatible for the user. Also, such invasive electrodes are limited to measure various parameters of heart functioning. Henceforth several such wearable devices have to be coupled to the user's body to measure different parameters.

[0004] Another type of health monitoring system includes a wearable garment having several electrodes along with a plurality of sensors deployed along the wearable garment, where the electrodes are configured to measure several parameters of a user's body such as blood pressure, heart rate, blood sugar level, lactate level and oxygen saturation level or the like. Moreover, the electrodes along with the plurality of sensors are to be fastened to the user's body through some adhesives to measure the parameters from the user's body. Further, several users may develop an allergic nature towards such adhesives which leads to numerous other complications. Also, due to the involvement of the adhesives, the parameters to be measured are intervened by noise. Hence, the efficiency of the system is reduced.

[0005] Hence, there is a need for an improved wearable health monitoring fabric to address the aforementioned issues.

BRIEF DESCRIPTION

[0006] In accordance with one embodiment of the disclosure, a wearable health monitoring fabric is provided. The wearable fabric includes a set of textrodes configured to measure thoracic electrical bioimpedance (TEB) of a user's body. The set of textrodes include at least two first textrodes. The set of textrodes also includes at least two second textrodes. The set of textrodes is fabricated on an upper part of the wearable fabric.

[0007] In accordance with another embodiment of the disclosure, the wearable health monitoring fabric further includes a computing device operatively coupled to the

wearable fabric. The computing device is configured to obtain and process a measured thoracic electrical bioimpedance (TEB).

[0008] In accordance with another embodiment of the disclosure, the wearable health monitoring fabric further includes one or more sensors operatively coupled to one or more textrodes. The one or more sensors are configured to sense one or more physiological signals generated by the user's body.

[0009] In accordance with yet another embodiment of the disclosure, the wearable health monitoring fabric further includes a computing device operatively coupled to the wearable fabric. The computing device is configured to obtain and process the one or more physiological signals sensed by the corresponding one or more sensors.

[0010] To further clarify the advantages and features of the present disclosure, a more particular description of the disclosure will follow by reference to specific embodiments thereof, which are illustrated in the appended figures. It is to be appreciated that these figures depict only typical embodiments of the disclosure and are therefore not to be considered limiting in scope. The disclosure will be described and explained with additional specificity and detail with the appended figures.

BRIEF DESCRIPTION OF THE DRAWINGS

[0011] The disclosure will be described and explained with additional specificity and detail with the accompanying figures in which:

[0012] FIG. 1 is a block diagram representation of a wearable health monitoring fabric in accordance with an embodiment of the present disclosure;

[0013] FIG. 2 is a schematic representation of a wearable health monitoring fabric of FIG. 1 in accordance with an embodiment of the present disclosure;

[0014] FIG. 3 is a schematic representation of an exemplary embodiment of a wearable vest to determine a patient's health of FIG. 1 in accordance with an embodiment of the present disclosure;

[0015] FIG. 4 is a schematic representation of another exemplary embodiment of the wearable vest to determine the patient's health of FIG. 1 in accordance with an embodiment of the present disclosure;

[0016] FIG. 5 is a schematic representation of yet another exemplary embodiment of the wearable vest to determine the patient's health of FIG. 1 in accordance with an embodiment of the present disclosure;

[0017] FIG. 6 is a schematic representation of yet another exemplary embodiment of the wearable vest to determine the patient's health of FIG. 1 in accordance with an embodiment of the present disclosure;

[0018] FIG. 7 is a schematic representation of yet another exemplary embodiment of the wearable vest to determine the patient's health of FIG. 1 in accordance with an embodiment of the present disclosure;

[0019] FIG. 8 is a schematic representation of yet another exemplary embodiment of the wearable vest to determine the patient's health of FIG. 1 in accordance with an embodiment of the present disclosure; and

[0020] FIG. 9 is a schematic representation of yet another exemplary embodiment of the wearable vest to determine the patient's health of FIG. 1 in accordance with an embodiment of the present disclosure.

[0021] Further, those skilled in the art will appreciate that elements in the figures are illustrated for simplicity and may not have necessarily been drawn to scale. Furthermore, in terms of the construction of the device, one or more components of the device may have been represented in the figures by conventional symbols, and the figures may show only those specific details that are pertinent to understanding the embodiments of the present disclosure so as not to obscure the figures with details that will be readily apparent to those skilled in the art having the benefit of the description herein.

DETAILED DESCRIPTION

[0022] For the purpose of promoting an understanding of the principles of the disclosure, reference will now be made to the embodiment illustrated in the figures and specific language will be used to describe them. It will nevertheless be understood that no limitation of the scope of the disclosure is thereby intended. Such alterations and further modifications in the illustrated system, and such further applications of the principles of the disclosure as would normally occur to those skilled in the art are to be construed as being within the scope of the present disclosure.

[0023] The terms “comprises”, “comprising”, or any other variations thereof, are intended to cover a non-exclusive inclusion, such that a process or method that comprises a list of steps does not include only those steps but may include other steps not expressly listed or inherent to such a process or method. Similarly, one or more devices or sub-systems or elements or structures or components preceded by “comprises . . . a” does not, without more constraints, preclude the existence of other devices, sub-systems, elements, structures, components, additional devices, additional sub-systems, additional elements, additional structures or additional components. Appearances of the phrase “in an embodiment”, “in another embodiment” and similar language throughout this specification may, but not necessarily do, all refer to the same embodiment.

[0024] Unless otherwise defined, all technical and scientific terms used herein have the same meaning as commonly understood by those skilled in the art to which this disclosure belongs. The system, methods, and examples provided herein are only illustrative and not intended to be limiting.

[0025] In the following specification and the claims, reference will be made to a number of terms, which shall be defined to have the following meanings. The singular forms “a”, “an”, and “the” include plural references unless the context clearly dictates otherwise.

[0026] Embodiments of the present disclosure relate to a wearable health monitoring fabric is provided. The wearable fabric includes a set of textrodes. The set of textrodes is configured to measure thoracic electrical bioimpedance (TEB) of a user's body. The set of textrodes include at least two first textrodes. The set of textrodes also include at least two second textrodes. The set of textrodes is fabricated on an upper part of the wearable fabric.

[0027] FIG. 1 is a block diagram representation of a wearable health monitoring fabric in accordance with an embodiment of the present disclosure. The wearable fabric 10 includes a set of textrodes 20. As used herein, the wearable fabric 10 which is also referred as electronic textile, a smart garment, a smart clothing, a smart textile, or a smart fabric is defined as a type of fabric which enables one or more electrical and electronic components to be

embedded into the fabric. In one specific embodiment, the wearable fabric 10 may be composed of a polyester Lycra fabric. In another embodiment, the set of textrodes may be composed of a material consisting of conductive Shieldex®“P130+B”, a 2D stretchable, synthetic wrap-knitted silver coated fabric. “P130+B” is made of 78% polyamide, and 22% elastomer, and coated with 99% conductive silver particles with a surface resistivity $p < 2 \Omega/\text{sq}$.

[0028] In another embodiment, the wearable fabric 10 may be designed including, but not limited to, as a vest, a shirt, a T-shirt, a jacket, a bra or a top. In another embodiment, the wearable fabric 10 may be designed as a functional garment which may be used for physiological sensing in several disciplines such as sports, fire-fighting, military and medicine. In such embodiment, the wearable fabric 10 is worn by a user on an upper part of a user's body 30. The upper part 60 of the user's body 30 may correspond to an upper limb of the user's body 30. The user 30 may be a person who may or may not require a continuous medical assistance.

[0029] Furthermore, as used herein, a textrode is defined as a type of electrode which is fabricated along with the fabric during manufacture. The structure of textile electrodes can be fabricated by weaving, knitting, or embroidering the conductive yarn. In such embodiments, the set of textrodes 20 embedded in the garment may be used to monitor vital signs and other physiological parameters of the user's body 30.

[0030] Furthermore, the set of textrodes 20 are configured to measure thoracic electrical bioimpedance (TEB) of the user's body 30. As used herein, the thoracic electrical bioimpedance (TEB) is defined as a measure blood flow through aorta that is detected by the changes in thoracic impedance (Z), pulmonary artery diastolic pressure (PAD), cardiac output (CO) and stroke volume (SV) of the user's body 30.

[0031] In one specific embodiment, the thoracic electrical bioimpedance may be measured by the set of textrodes 20 in real-time. In another embodiment, based on the thoracic electrical bioimpedance of the user 30, a level of accumulation of fluids in lungs of the user may be measured in terms of PAD and Z. In yet another embodiment, the measurements of PAD and Z may typically demonstrate an inverse correlation, particularly in the 14 and 30 days before a heart failure event. Importantly, Z may remain relatively constant until PAD crossed a particular threshold at which point, presumably, compensatory mechanisms to regulate lung fluid accumulation maybe exhausted and Z began to fall. In such embodiment, these observations may highlight the primary role of increased cardiac filling pressures in the triggering episodes of acute decompensation of heart failure (ADHF) and suggest that multiple sensor strategies might be optimally employed by using a temporal sequence whereby hemodynamic or pressure-based sensors may be used for early monitoring or prevention and impedance-based sensors are used for early detection or treatment of the user. Moreover, the set of textrodes 20 may be operatively coupled to a foam layer which may be configured to make a contact with skin of the user's body 30, in order to adjust the textrode-skin impedance for optimal measurement of thoracic impedance.

[0032] Furthermore, the set of textrodes 20 includes at least two first textrodes 40. In one embodiment, the at least two first textrodes 40 may include a first voltage sensing

textrode and a first current injecting textrode. In such embodiment, the first voltage sensing textrode may be a positive voltage sensing textrode. The first current injecting textrode may be a positive current injecting textrode.

[0033] In addition, the set of textrodes **20** also includes at least two second textrodes **50**. In one embodiment, the at least two second textrodes **50** may include a second voltage sensing textrode and a second current injecting textrode. In such embodiment, the second voltage sensing textrode may be a negative voltage sensing textrode. The second current injecting textrode may be a negative current injecting textrode.

[0034] Furthermore, the set of textrodes **20** is lubricated on in tipper part **60** of the wearable fabric. In one embodiment, the upper part of the wearable fabric may correspond to a thoracic region of the user's body **30**. As used herein, the thoracic region is defined as a region of a human body located between a neck and an abdomen region of the human body.

[0035] Furthermore, the positive current injecting textrode and the negative current injecting textrode may be configured to inject a certain amount of current into the user's body **30** in order to determine one or more parameters from the user's body **30**. In such embodiment, the one or more parameters may include differential voltage across the thorax, and the impedance that is the derivative of injecting current with respect to differential voltage obtained during the TEB experiment which may be generated across user's thoracic region **60**.

[0036] In one exemplary embodiment, the positive current injecting textrode and the positive voltage sensing textrode may be fabricated on a back side of the upper part **60** of the wearable fabric **10**. In such embodiment, the back side of the upper part **60** of the wearable fabric **10** may correspond to a rear neck region of the user's body **30**. Further, the negative current injecting textrode and the negative voltage sensing textrode may be fabricated either on a lower right region or, on a lower left region of the lower part of the wearable fabric **10**. In such embodiment, the lower right region may correspond to a right abdominal region of the user's body **30** and the lower left region may correspond to a left abdominal region of the user's body **30**.

[0037] In another embodiment, the positive current injecting textrodes may be fabricated on the back side of the upper part **60** of the wearable fabric **10**, the positive voltage sensing textrode may be fabricated on a front side of the upper part **60** of the wearable fabric **10**. In such embodiment, the front side of the upper part **60** may correspond to a front neck region of the user's body **30**. Further, the negative current injecting textrode may be fabricated at a lower back region of the lower part of the wearable fabric **10** and the negative voltage sensing textrode may be fabricated on a lower front region of the lower part of the wearable fabric **10**. In such embodiment, the lower back region corresponds to a lower spinal region of the user's body **30** and the lower front region corresponds to a lower abdominal region of the user's body **30**.

[0038] In another embodiment, the wearable fabric **10** may further include one or more sensors (not shown in FIG. 1) which may be operatively coupled to one or more textrodes. The one or more sensors may be configured to sense one or more physiological signals from the wearer's body **30**. The one or more sensors may include a hemodynamic or, pressure sensor and a temperature sensor. The

hemodynamic/pressure sensor may include at least one of an electrocardiogram sensor, an inertial sensor, a photoplethysmogram sensor, and a thoracic bioimpedance sensor, further, the one or more physiological signals which may be sensed by the corresponding one or more sensors may include a heart muscle's electrophysiologic pattern, an inertial state of the user, a photoplethysmogram measurement, a respiratory rate, an oxygen saturation level, a blood pressure, a skin temperature, a skin impedance and a thoracic impedance. In one embodiment, the one or more physiological signals may be associated to at least one of a cardiovascular disease (CVD), a chronic obstructive pulmonary disease (COPD), a type 2 diabetes (T2D) and associated trauma disease of the wearer.

[0039] In one further embodiment, the wearable fabric **10** may further include a computing device operatively coupled to the wearable fabric **10**. The computing device is configured to obtain and process the one or more health signals sensed by the corresponding one or more sensors.

[0040] In another embodiment, more sophisticated sensor technologies may be included that are capable of detecting very early pathophysiologic changes and using them to target upstream therapy. One such embodiment may include the one or more textrodes that might significantly alter different biomarkers in both acute and chronic HF including blood chemistries such as electrolytes, glucose and pH, natriuretic peptides (i.e., B-type natriuretic peptide [BNP], N-terminal proBNP, atrial natriuretic peptide), inflammatory makers (i.e., tumor necrosis factor- α , interleukin-6, interleukin-1), oxidative stress markers (i.e., myeloperoxidase), and collagen turnover/extracellular matrix peptides (i.e., C-terminal propeptide of collagen type 1, matrix metalloproteinase, tissue inhibitor of matrix metalloproteinases). Additionally, using metabolomic technologies, novel pathways are being implicated in the pathophysiology of HF and may identify markers that are capable of detecting even more subtle alterations in CHF such as changes in myocardial signaling and energetics.

[0041] In yet another embodiment, the wearable fabric **10** may further include a computing device (not shown in FIG. 1) which may be operatively coupled to the wearable fabric **10**. The computing device may be configured to obtain and process a measured thoracic electrical bioimpedance (TEB) in order to monitor the fluid accumulation in lungs of the wearer in real-time. In another embodiment, the computing device may also be configured to obtain and process a sensed one or more signal which may be generated by the corresponding one or more sensors. In one specific embodiment, based on a processed inertial slate of the user **30**, a condition may be determined to know whether the user is awake or asleep.

[0042] FIG. 2 is a schematic representation of a wearable health monitoring fabric of FIG. 1 in accordance with an embodiment of the present disclosure. A wearable fabric **100** includes two first textrodes **110** and two second textrodes **120**. Furthermore, the two first textrodes **110** includes the positive voltage sensing textrode and the positive current injecting textrode which are fabricated on the upper region of the wearable fabric **100**. The two second textrodes **120** includes the negative voltage sensing textrode and the negative current injecting textrode are fabricated at the lower right region of the wearable fabric **100**. More specifically, the two first textrodes **110** are fabricated on a top left portion of the upper part of the wearable fabric **100** and the

two second textrodes **120** are fabricated on a bottom right portion of the wearable fabric **100** on the thoracic region of a user's body. Further, the two first textrodes **110** and two second textrodes **120** are configured to measure thoracic electrical bioimpedance (TEB) of the patient.

[0043] Furthermore, the wearable fabric **100** is operatively coupled with the plurality of sensors **150** which are operatively coupled to one or more textrodes (not shown). The plurality of sensors **150** are configured to measure the corresponding plurality of physiological parameters. The plurality of sensors **150** may include a ten lead ECG sensor configured to determine the heart muscle's electrophysiological pattern a two lead accelerometer or, inertia sensor configured to determine the physical state of the wearer (if the wearer is awake or, in sleep), a one lead chest photoplethysmography sensor configured to determine the oxygen saturation level of the heart muscles and a two lead skin temperature sensors embedded in the accelerometer or, inertia sensor. Also, the wearable fabric **100** is operatively coupled with the computing device **160** and configured to obtain and process the thoracic electrical bioimpedance and the plurality of physiological parameters obtained from the user. In one specific embodiment, the two first textrodes **110** and the two second textrodes **120** may include two voltage polarities and two current polarities and hence may be form a tetrapolar configuration. More specifically, the positive voltage sensing textrode, the negative voltage sensing textrode, the positive current injecting textrode and the negative current injecting textrode may together form a tetra polar configuration. Further, in one embodiment, the two first textrodes **110** and the two second textrodes **120** may be placed lateral spot electrode configuration. In another embodiment, the two first textrodes **110** and the two second textrodes **120** may be placed in a whole body approach.

[0044] Further, an alternating current with a frequency between 50 Hz up to 100 kHz may be injected to obtain the differential voltage in the experimental range of operation for the thoracic impedance measurement. Also, to facilitate an electrical connection between the first textrodes **110**, the second textrodes **120** and the computing device **160**, a conductive male snap button may be used.

[0045] In one preferred embodiment, polarity of the positive voltage sensing textrode and the negative voltage sensing textrode may be interchanged. Similarly, the polarity of the positive current injecting textrode and the negative current injecting textrode may be interchanged.

[0046] Furthermore, the two first textrodes **110** and the two second textrodes **120** are substantially similar to at least two first textrodes **40** and the at least two second textrode **50** of FIG. 1.

[0047] FIG. 3 is a schematic representation of an exemplary embodiment of a wearable vest to determine a patient's health of FIG. 1 in accordance with an embodiment of the present disclosure. Any person (not shown in FIG. 3) who is in need of a continuous real-time health monitoring is referred to wear the wearable vest **170** for continuous assistance of the patient. The positive voltage sensing textrode and the positive current injecting textrode of the two first textrodes **110** are fabricated on an upper back region **130** of a wearable vest **170**, wherein the wearable vest **170** is substantially similar to a wearable fabric **10** of FIG. 1 and wearable fabric **100** of FIG. 2. Further, the negative voltage sensing textrode and the negative current injecting textrode are fabricated at the lower right region of a front part **140** of

the wearable vest **170**. Further, the upper back region **130** and the lower right region of a front part **140** are located within the thoracic region of the patient's body.

[0048] Furthermore, the wearable vest **170** is operatively coupled to the plurality of sensors **150** and the computing device **160** which are configured to measure and process the plurality of health parameters which is obtained from the patient.

[0049] FIG. 4 is a schematic representation of another exemplary embodiment of the wearable vest to determine the patient's health of FIG. 1 in accordance with an embodiment of the present disclosure. The positive voltage sensing textrode of the two first textrodes **110** is fabricated on the upper region of the front side **140** of a wearable vest **170**, wherein the wearable vest **170** is substantially similar to the wearable fabric **10** of FIG. 1 and the wearable fabric **100** of FIG. 2. Further, the positive current injecting textrode of the two first textrodes **110** is fabricated on the upper region of the back side **130** of the wearable vest **170**.

[0050] Furthermore, the negative voltage sensing textrode of the second textrode **120** is fabricated on a mid-region of the lower part of the front side **140** and the negative current injecting textrode of the second textrode **120** is fabricated on the mid-region of the lower part of the back side **130** of the wearable vest **170**.

[0051] The upper region of the front side **140**, the upper region of the back side **130**, the mid-region of the lower part of the front side **140** and the mid-region of the lower part of the back side **130** are located within the thoracic region of the patient's body.

[0052] FIG. 5 is a schematic representation of yet another exemplary embodiment of the wearable vest to determine the patient's health of FIG. 1 in accordance with an embodiment of the present disclosure. The two first textrodes **110** includes a positive voltage sensing textrode and a positive current injecting textrode which are fabricated on an upper back region **130** of the wearable vest **170**. The two second textrodes **120** includes a negative voltage sensing textrode and a negative current injecting textrode which are fabricated at a lower right region of the front part **140** of the wearable vest **170**. Further, the two first textrodes **110** and two second textrodes **120** are configured to measure thoracic electrical bioimpedance (TEB) of the patient. Further, the upper back region **130** and the lower right region of the front part **140** are located within the thoracic region of the patient's body.

[0053] In addition, the wearable vest **170** is fabricated with a plurality of sensors **150** which are operatively coupled to the one or more textrodes configured to measure a corresponding plurality of health parameters.

[0054] FIG. 6 is a schematic representation of yet another exemplary embodiment of the wearable vest to determine the patient's health of FIG. 1 in accordance with an embodiment of the present disclosure. The positive voltage sensing textrode of the two first textrodes **110** is fabricated on the upper region of the front side **140** of a wearable vest **170**, wherein the wearable vest **170** is substantially similar to the wearable fabric **10** of FIG. 1 and the wearable vest **100** of FIG. 2. Further, the positive current injecting textrode of the two first textrodes **110** is fabricated on the upper region of the back side **130** of the wearable vest **170**.

[0055] Furthermore, the negative voltage sensing textrode of the second textrode **120** is fabricated on a mid-region of the lower part of the front side **140** and the negative current

injecting textrode of the second textrode **120** is fabricated on the mid-region of the lower part of the back side **130** of the wearable vest **170**. Further, the plurality of sensors **150** includes a twelve lead ECG sensor configured to determine the heart muscle's electrophysiologic pattern. The plurality of sensors **150** is also configured to measure the health parameters of the patient.

[0056] Further, the upper region of the front side **140**, the upper region of the back side **130**, the mid-region of the lower part of the front side **140** and the mid-region of the lower part of the back side **130** are located within the thoracic region of the patient's body.

[0057] FIG. 7 is a schematic representation of yet another exemplary embodiment of the wearable vest to determine the patient's health of FIG. 1 in accordance with an embodiment of the present disclosure. The two first textrodes **110** are fabricated on the upper left region of the wearable vest **170** and the two second textrodes **120** are fabricated on the lower right region of the wearable vest **170**. Further, the plurality of sensors may include a three-lead EGG sensors positioned in V3, V4 and V5 configurations, the IMU sensors and the PPG sensors operatively coupled to the one or more textrodes, wherein the one or more textrodes are fabricated within the wearable vest **170**. Further, the upper left region and the lower right region are located within the thoracic region of the patient's body.

[0058] Further, the plurality of sensors **150** are operatively coupled to the computing device **160**, and configured to measure the health parameters of the patient.

[0059] FIG. 8 is a schematic representation of yet another exemplary embodiment of the wearable veil to determine the patient's health of FIG. 1 in accordance with an embodiment of the present disclosure. The two first textrodes **110** and the two second textrodes **120** are fabricated on a lower right region and a lower left region of the upper part on the front side **130** of a wearable vest **170** respectively. The wearable vest **170** is substantially to a wearable fabric **10** of FIG. 1. Further the plurality of sensors **150** includes a single lead ECG sensor and the chest photoplethysmogram sensor to determine the heart muscle's electrophysiologic pattern and the oxygen saturation level of the patient.

[0060] FIG. 9 is a schematic representation of yet another exemplary embodiment of the wearable vest to determine the patient's health of FIG. 1 in accordance with an embodiment of the present disclosure. At least two first textrodes of the wearable vest **170** includes a plurality of first textrodes **110**. Further, the plurality of first textrodes **110** includes a plurality of positive voltage sensing textrodes and a plurality of positive current injecting textrodes. At least two second textrodes includes a plurality of second textrodes **120**. The plurality of second textrodes **120** includes a plurality of negative voltage sensing textrodes and a plurality of negative current injecting textrodes. Further, the plurality of first textrodes **110** and the plurality of second textrodes **120** are fabricated on the thoracic region of the patient, and is configured to measure thoracic electrical bioimpedance (TEB) of the patient.

[0061] Furthermore, the plurality of sensors **150** are **150** are operatively coupled to the computing device **160**, and configured to measure the health parameters of the patient.

[0062] Further the plurality of first textrodes **110** and the plurality of second textrodes **120** can be switched between a current injecting and a voltage measurement function. Each of the active textrode mas contains an electronic buffer

to pre-process the measured voltages. Further, voltage measurement circuit, the current source circuit and the skin contact impedance measurements circuits are located within the computing device. Consequently, the plurality of first textrodes **110** and the plurality of second textrodes **120** may be used for real time monitoring of lungs & heart for moving real time image of the patient.

[0063] Furthermore, skin contact impedances are measured at the positive injecting textrode and the negative current injecting textrode. The measured skin contact impedance includes the junction between the two first textrodes **110** and the two second textrodes **120** and skin, the skin impedance and part of the body tissue between the two positive injecting textrode and the negative current injecting textrode. In a specific embodiment, the wearable vest **170** [may include of a striped conductive textile cover and a 3D spacer fabric wrapped around a core made of a flexible PCB carrying 2n active textrodes (n=any integer). On average, two adjacent conductive stripes, separated by non-conductive polyester fabric are in electrical contact with the textrodes. This set-up may be used for real time monitoring of lungs & heart for moving real time images in the clinical setting; highly stable electrical contact between electrode and skin, placement of textrodes at anatomically predefined and known positions, easy and quick but highly reproducible application of the textrodes in the clinical setting, skin friendly breathable vest design, to allow continuous real time monitoring and non-ionic and non-conducting agent enhancing the electrical contact between the textrodes and the skin while catering for the needs of the latter.

[0064] Various embodiments of the wearable health monitoring fabric enable the wearable fabric to implement a non-invasive type of electrode to measure the health parameters of the user. Hence making the wearable fabric more compatible, user friendly and cost-effective. Also, the wearable device does not require any type of adhesive to fasten the textrodes to the user's body.

[0065] In addition, the textrodes used in the wearable fabric provide accurate measurements of the physiological parameters which makes the wearable fabric smart and efficient. Furthermore, the wearable fabric material acts as an insulator to the user's body and hence protects the user from unnecessary electrical signals which may be generated by one or more electronic components fabricated within the wearable fabric.

[0066] While specific language has been used to describe the disclosure, any limitations arising on account of the same are not intended. As would be apparent to a person skilled in the art, various working modifications may be made to the method in order to implement the inventive concept as taught herein.

[0067] The figures and the foregoing description give examples of embodiments. Those skilled in the art will appreciate that one or more of the described elements may well be combined into a single functional element. Alternatively, certain elements may be split into multiple functional elements. Elements from one embodiment may be added to another embodiment. For example, order of processes described herein may be changed and are not limited to the manner described herein. Moreover, the actions of any flow diagram need not be implemented in the order shown; nor do all of the acts need to be necessarily performed. Also, those acts that are not dependent on other acts may be performed

in parallel with the other acts. The scope of embodiments is by no means limited by these specific examples.

We claim:

1. A wearable fabric to monitor a user's health, comprising:

a set of textrodes, configured to measure thoracic electrical bioimpedance (TEB) of a user's body, comprises:
at least two first textrodes; and
at least two second textrodes,
wherein the set of textrodes is fabricated on an upper part of the wearable fabric.

2. The wearable fabric as claimed in claim 1, wherein the wearable fabric is designed as a vest, a shirt, a T-shirt, a jacket, a bra or a top.

3. The wearable fabric as claimed in claim 1, wherein the set of textrodes comprise at least one of a textile electrode, woven electrodes and an embroidered textile electrode.

4. The wearable fabric as claimed in claim 1, wherein the upper pan of the wearable fabric corresponds to a thoracic region of the user's body.

5. The wearable fabric as claimed in claim 1, wherein the at least two first textrodes comprises a first voltage sensing textrode and a first current injecting textrode and the at least two second textrodes comprises a second voltage sensing textrode and a second current injecting textrode.

6. The wearable fabric as claimed in claim 1, further comprising one or more sensors operatively coupled to one or more textrodes, and configured to sense one or more health signals generated by the user's body.

7. The wearable fabric as claimed in claim 6, wherein the one or more sensors comprises a hemodynamic sensor, wherein the hemodynamic sensors comprises at least one of an electrocardiogram sensor, an inertial sensor, a photoplethysmogram sensor, a temperature sensor and a thoracic impedance sensor.

8. The wearable fabric as claimed in claim 6, wherein the one or more health signals comprises at least one of a heart muscle's electrophysiologic pattern, a respiratory rate, an oxygen saturation level, a blood pressure, a skin temperature, a skin impedance and a thoracic impedance.

9. The wearable fabric as claimed in claim 6, further comprising a computing device operatively coupled to the wearable fabric, and configured to obtain and process the one or more physiological signals sensed by the corresponding one or more sensors.

10. The wearable fabric as claimed in claim 1, further comprising a computing device operatively coupled to the wearable fabric and configured to obtain and process a measured thoracic electrical bioimpedance (TEB).

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摘要(译)

提供了一种可穿戴的健康监测织物。所述可穿戴织物包括一组纺织棒。一组文本杆被配置为测量用户身体的胸部电生物阻抗 (TEB)。一组文本杆包括至少两个第一文本杆。一组文本杆还包括至少两个第二文本杆。一组织棒被制造在可穿戴织物的上部。此外,可穿戴式健康监测织物更加兼容和用户友好,因为所述织棒本质上是非侵入性的。

