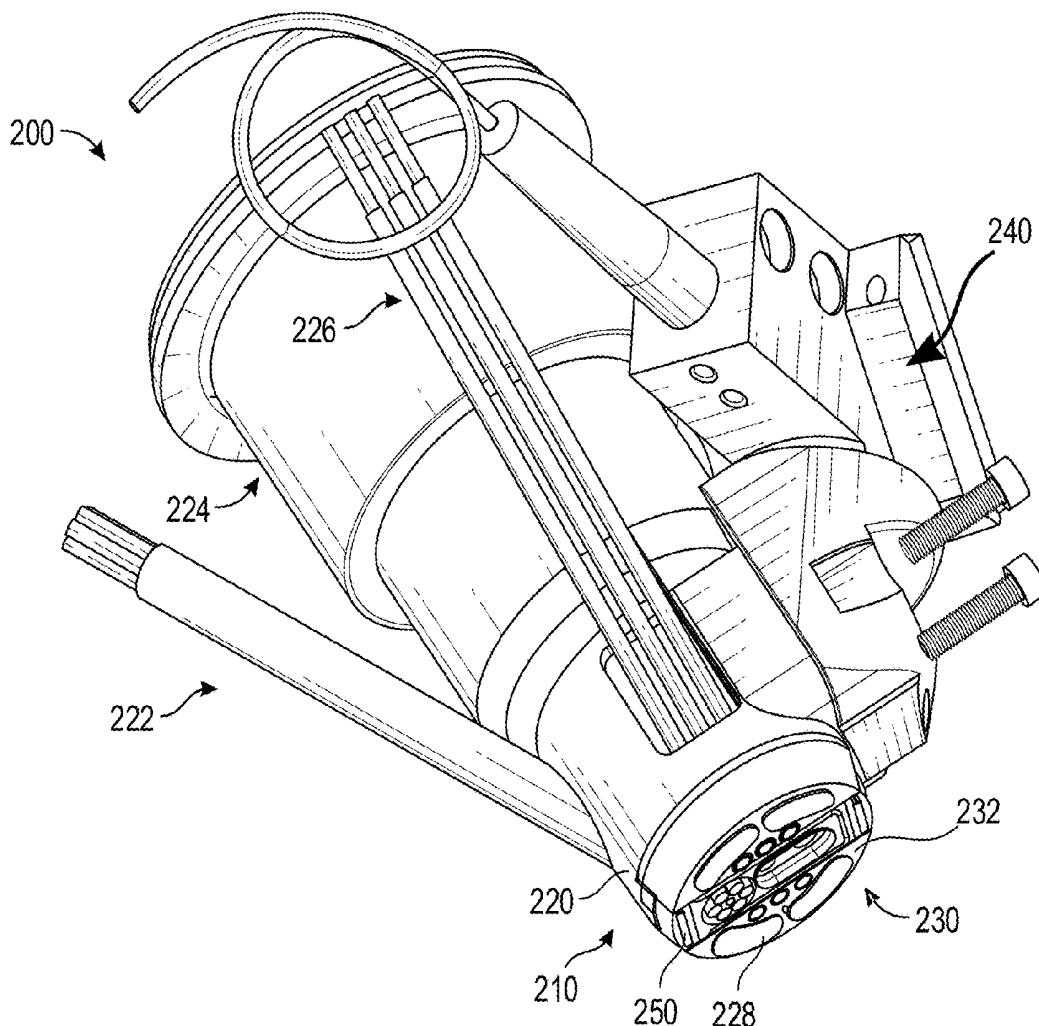




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Dalvi et al.(10) **Pub. No.: US 2020/0163597 A1**(43) **Pub. Date: May 28, 2020**(54) **ASSEMBLY FOR MEDICAL MONITORING
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5/0531 (2013.01); **A61B 5/01** (2013.01); **A61B**
5/0075 (2013.01)**ABSTRACT**

Systems, methods, and apparatuses for enabling a plurality of non-invasive, physiological sensors to obtain physiological measurements from the same tissue site. Each of a plurality of sensors can be integrated with or attached to a multi-sensor apparatus. The multi-sensor apparatus can orient the plurality of non-invasive, physiological sensors such that each of the plurality of non-invasive, physiological sensors obtains physiological data from the same or a similar location.



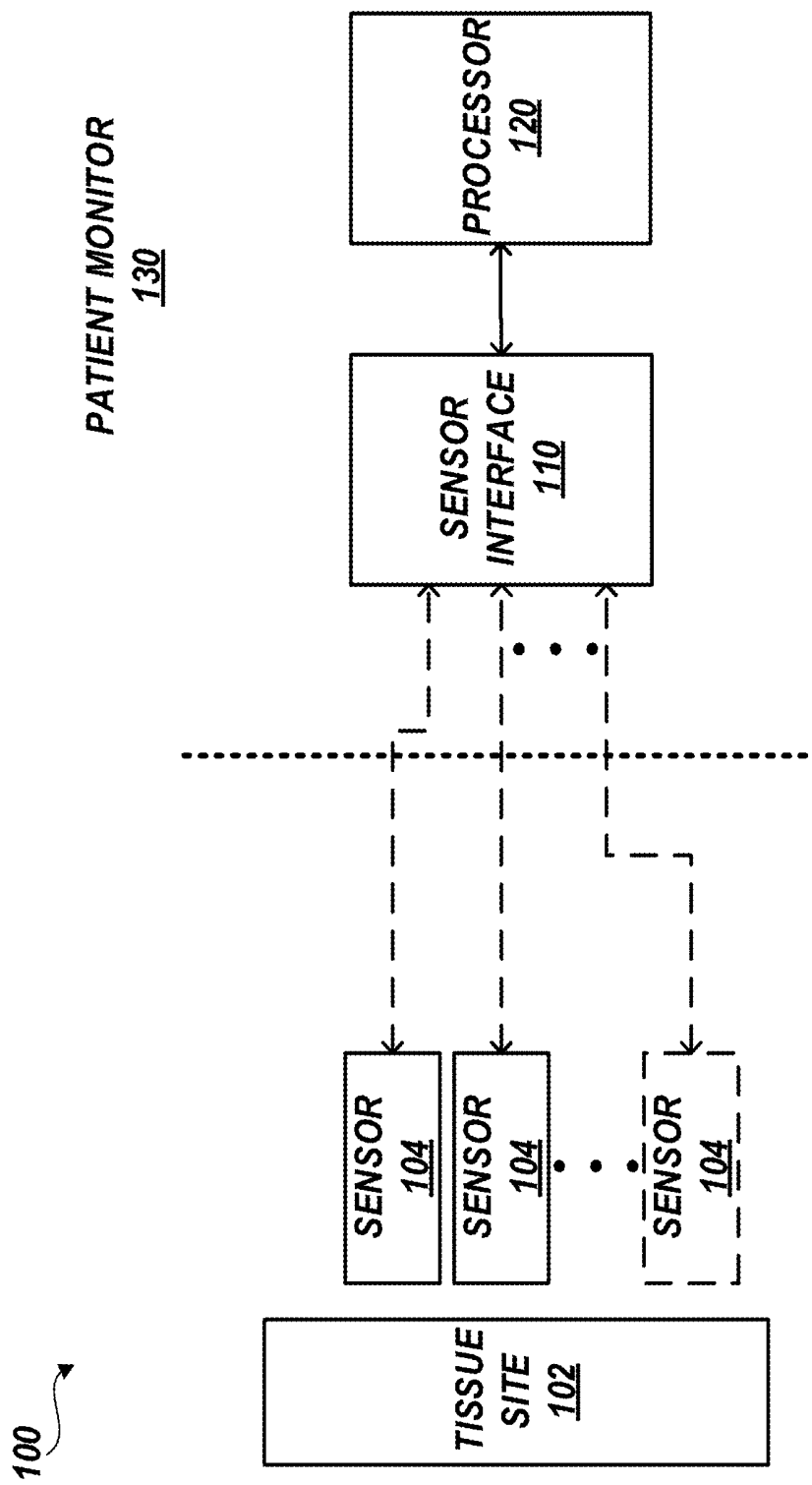


FIG. 1

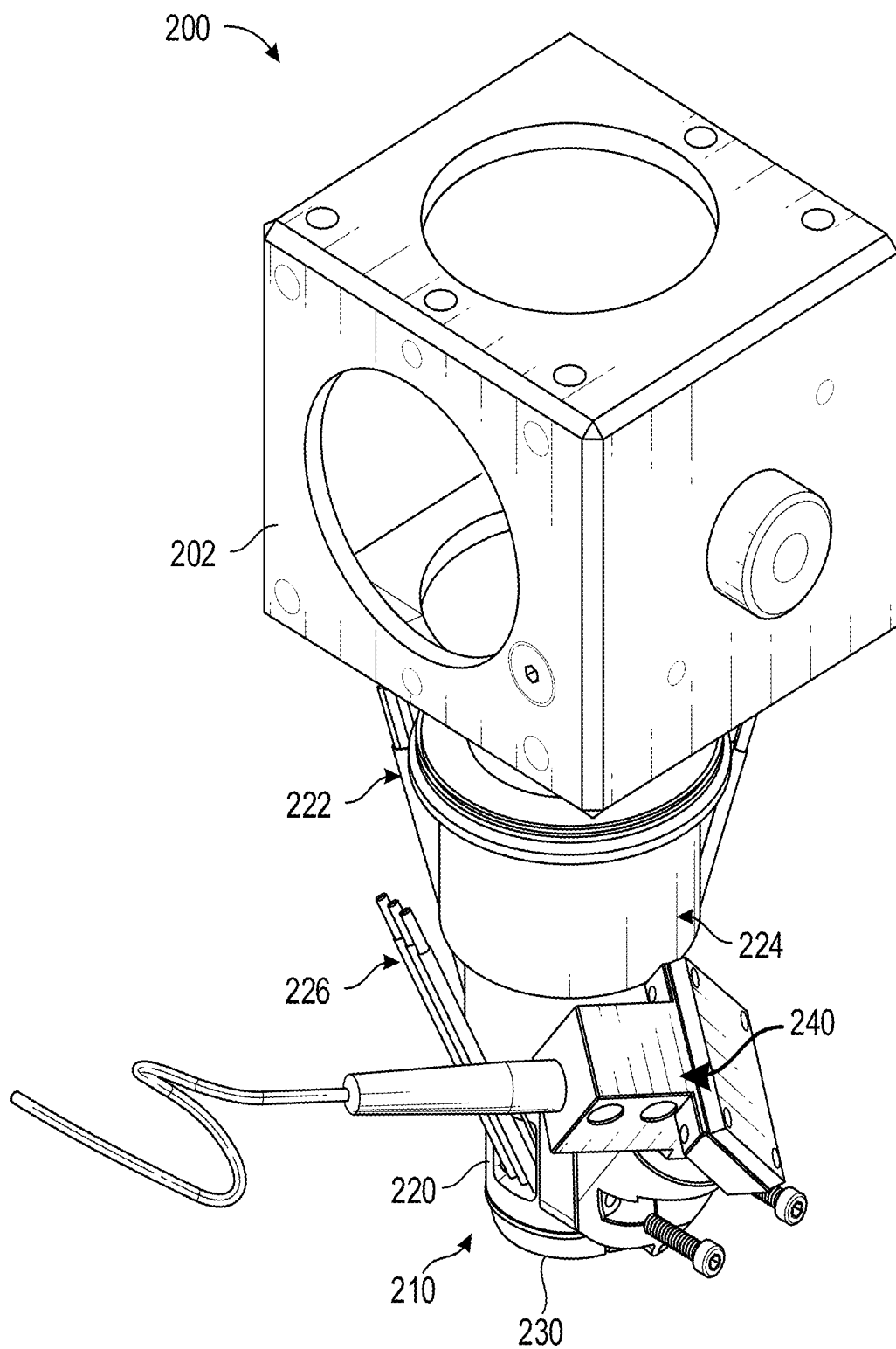


FIG. 2A

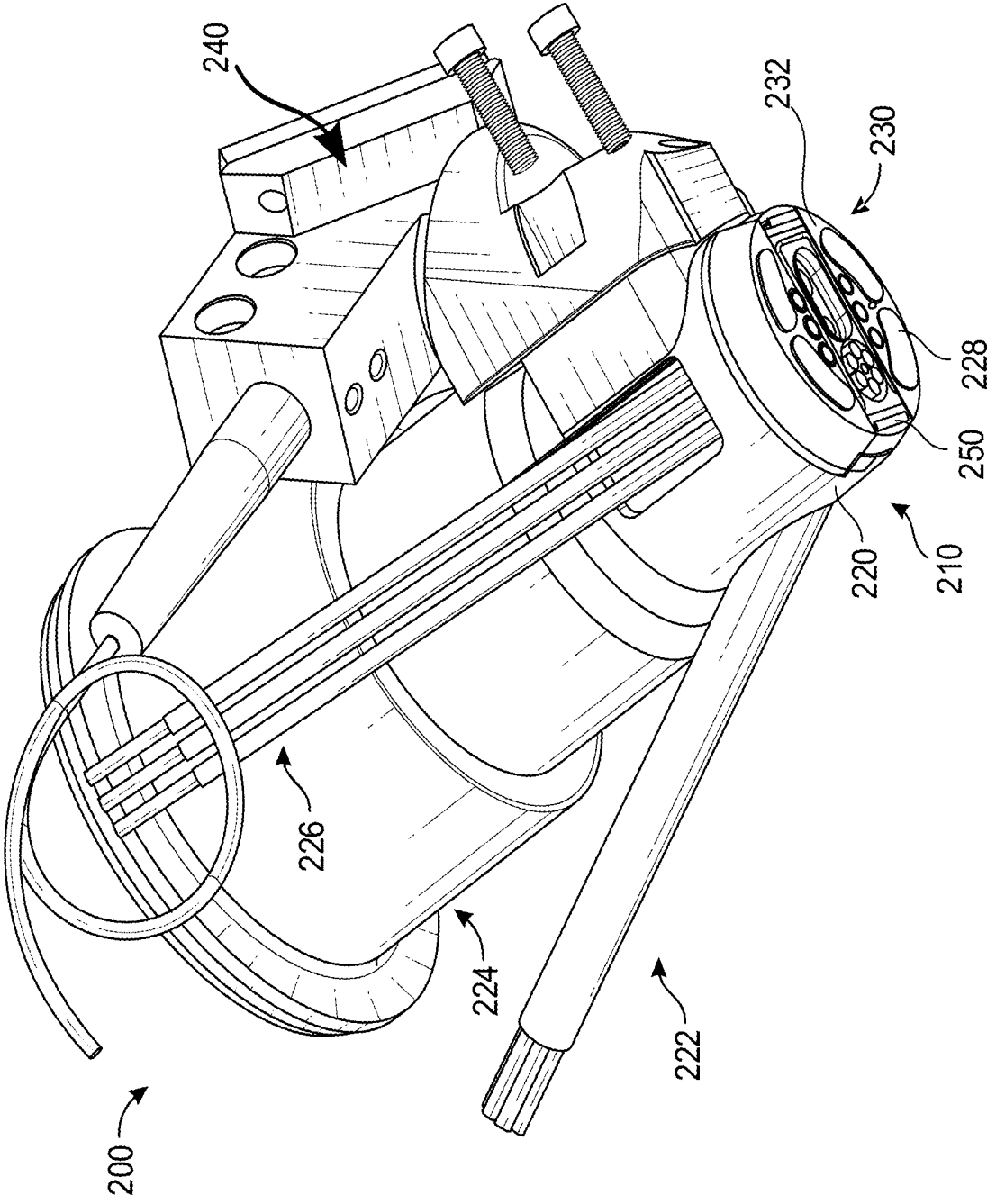


FIG. 2B

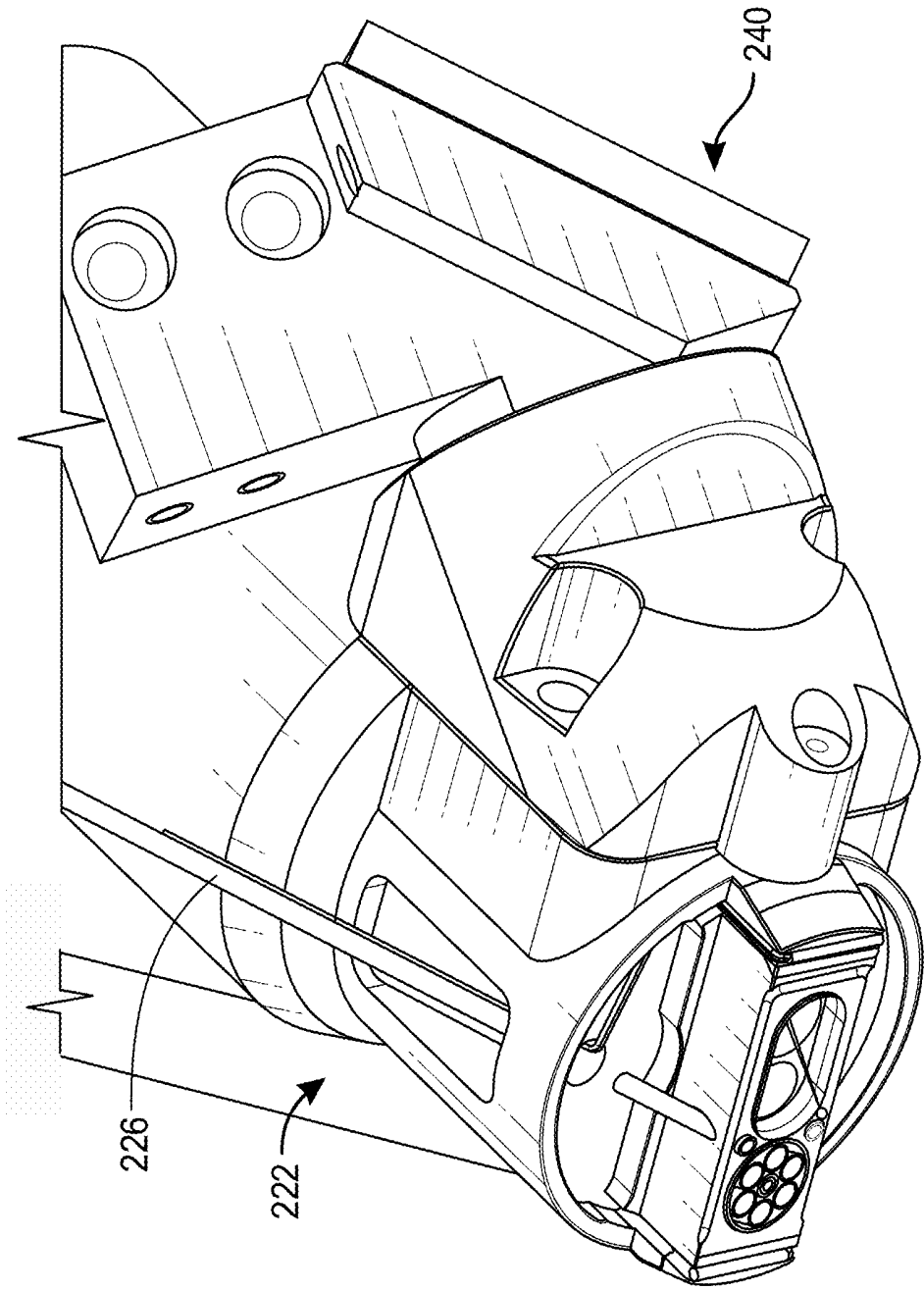


FIG. 3A

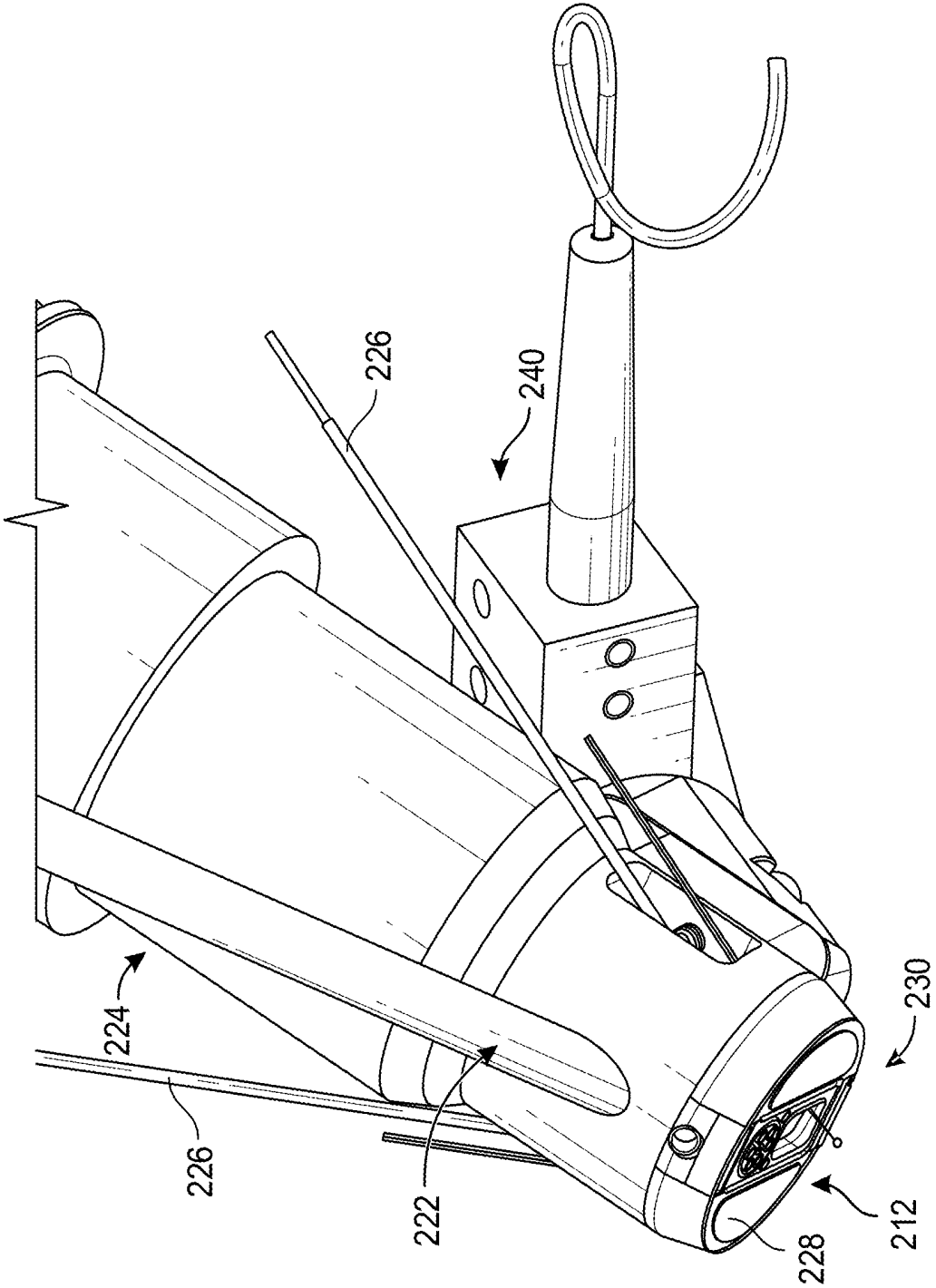


FIG. 3B

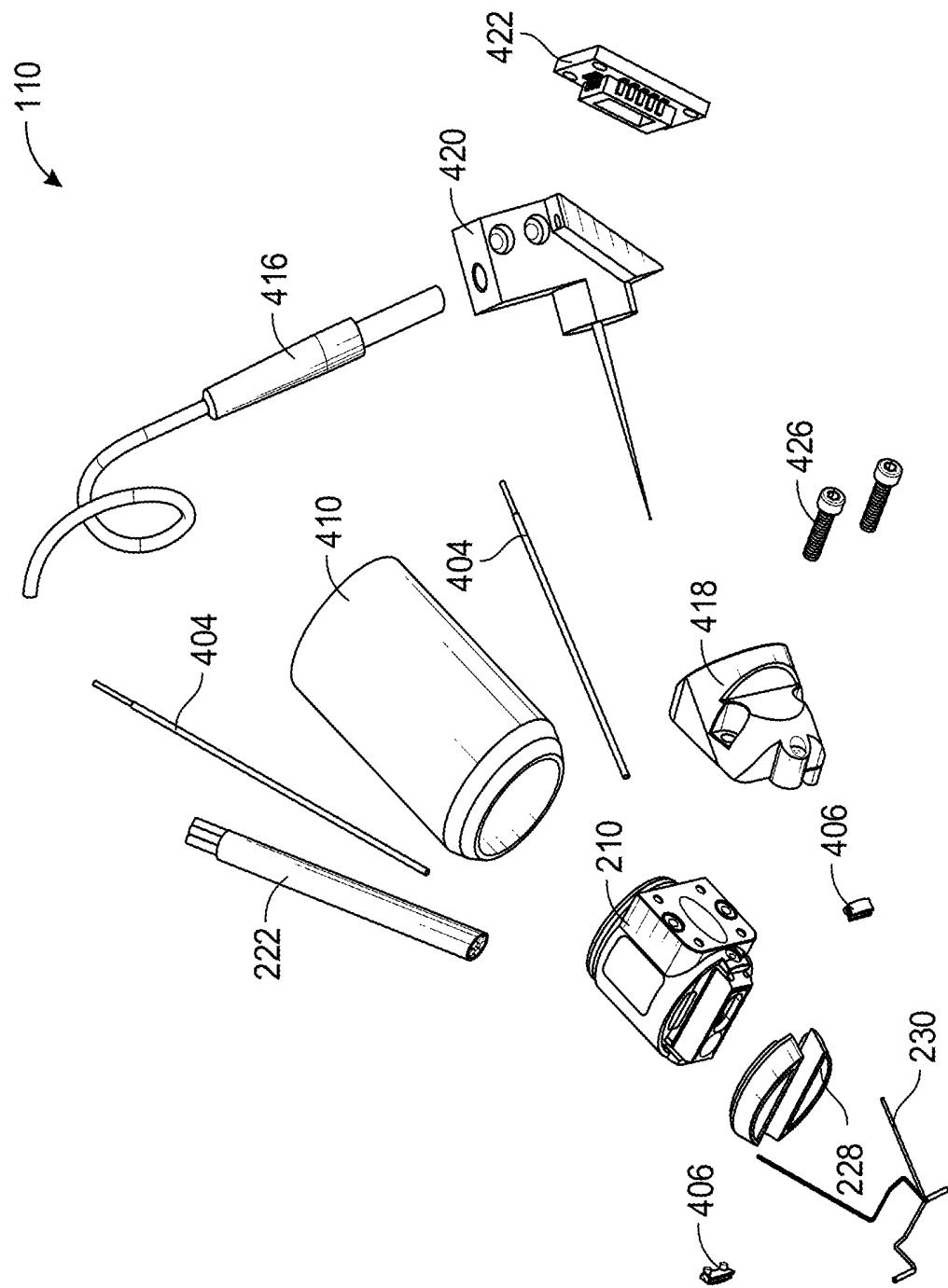


FIG. 4A

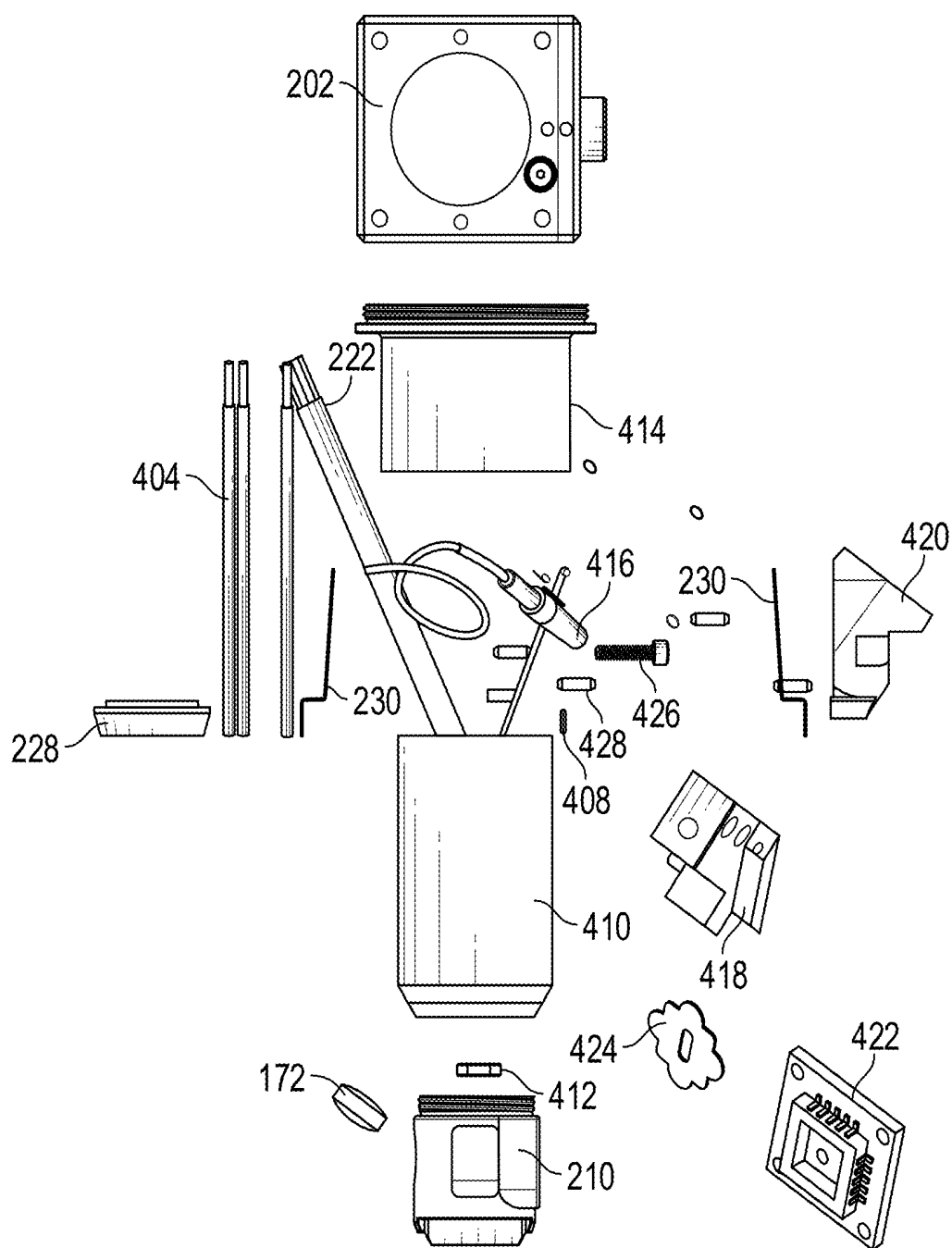


FIG. 4B

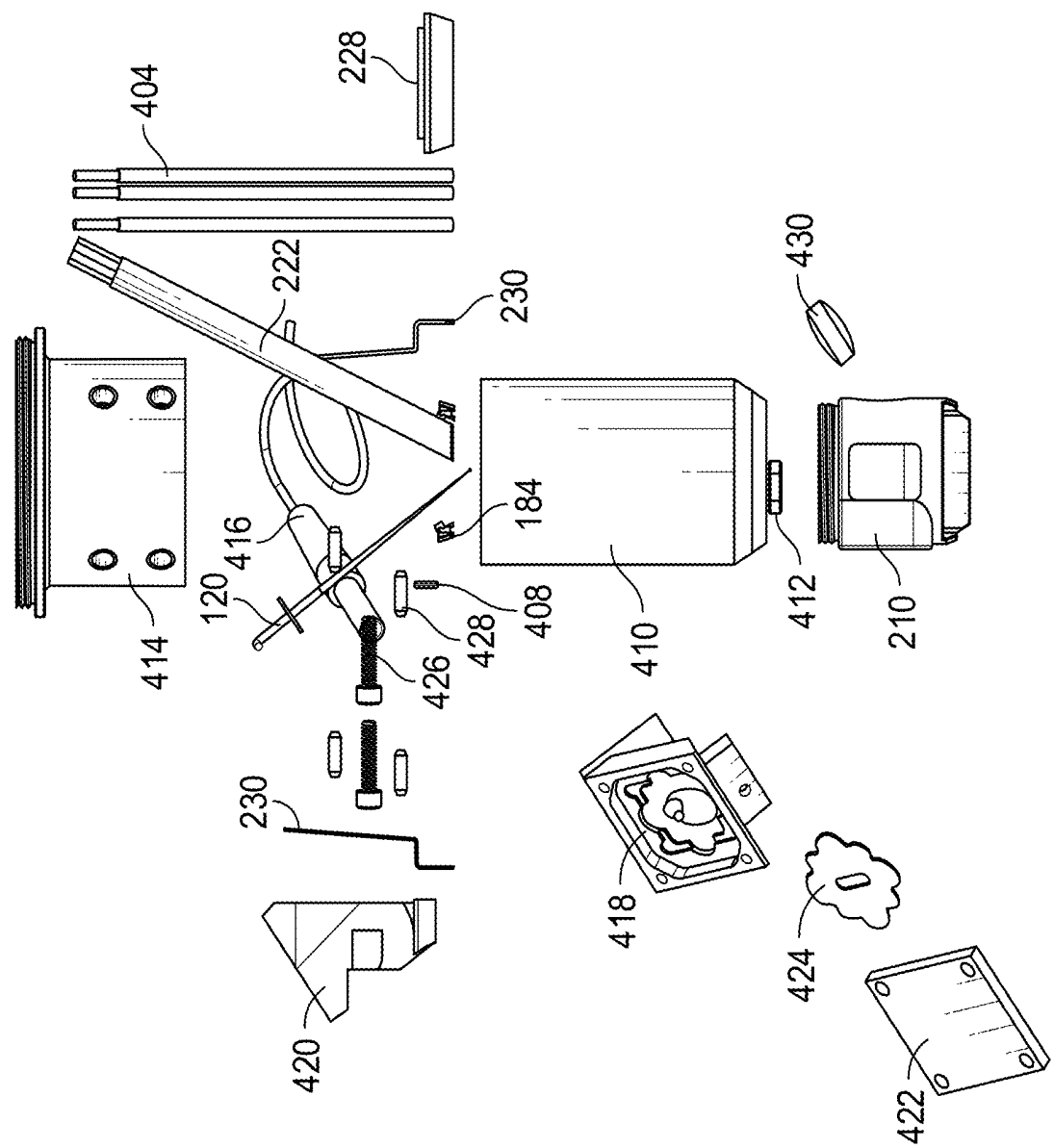


FIG. 4C

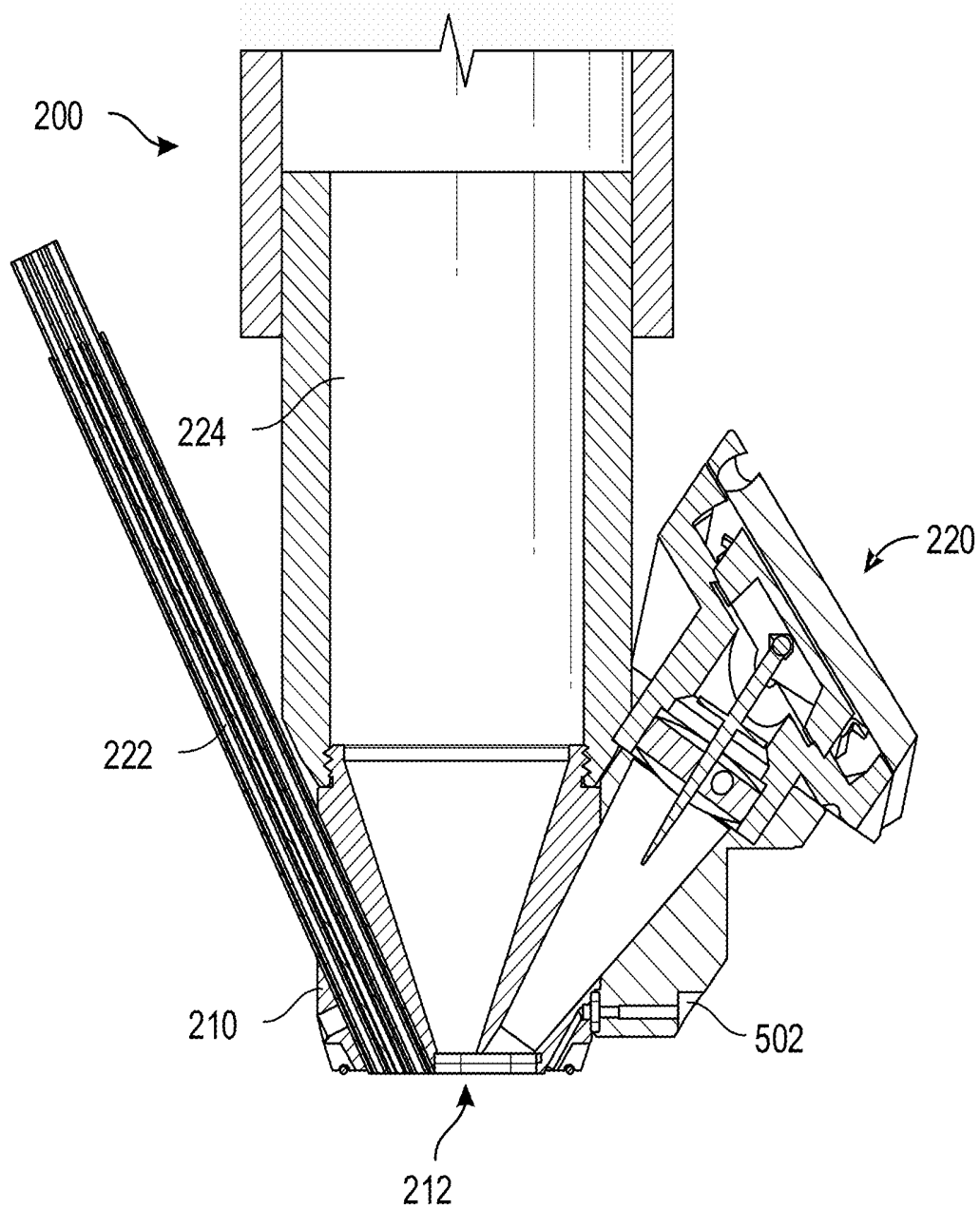


FIG. 5A

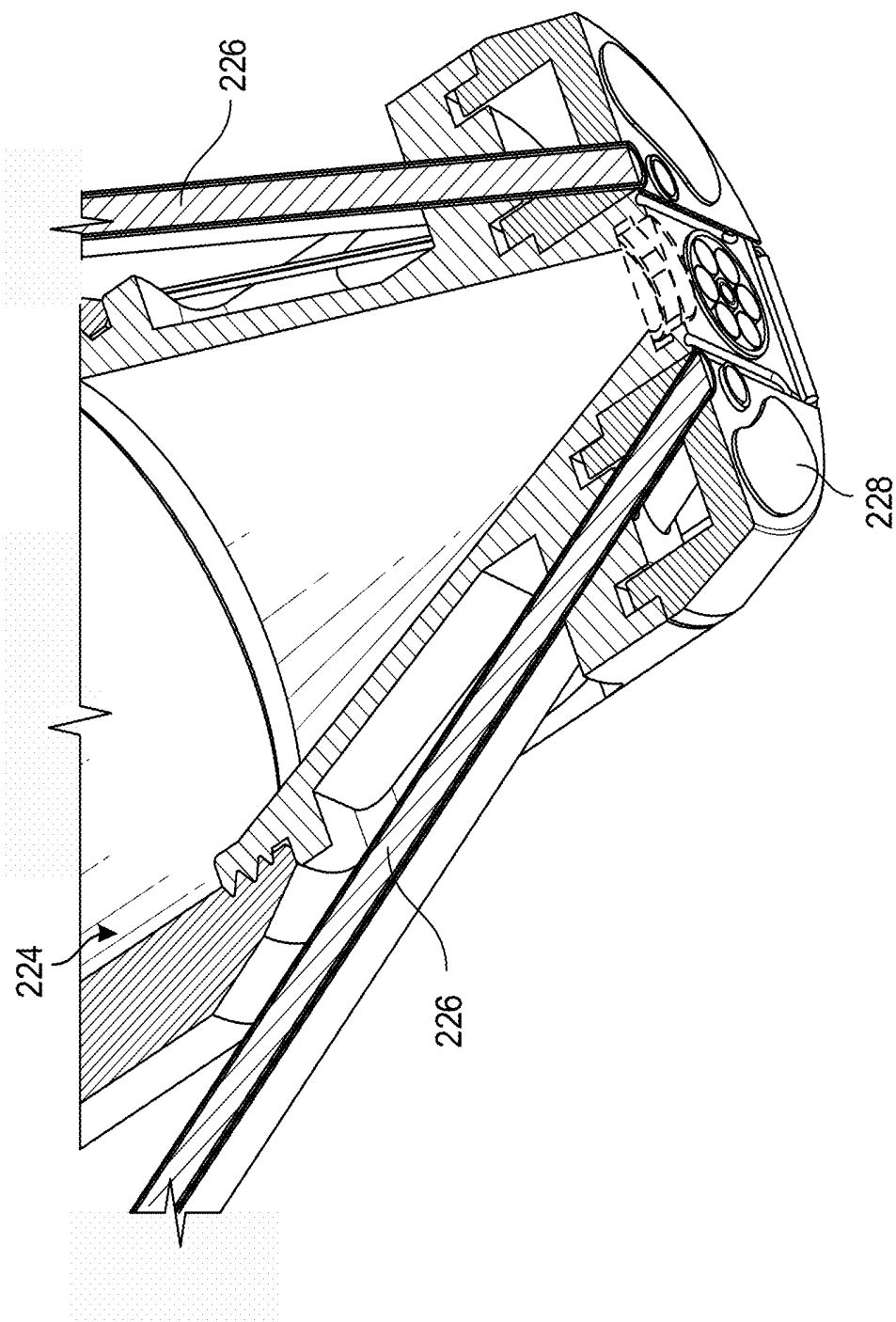


FIG. 5B

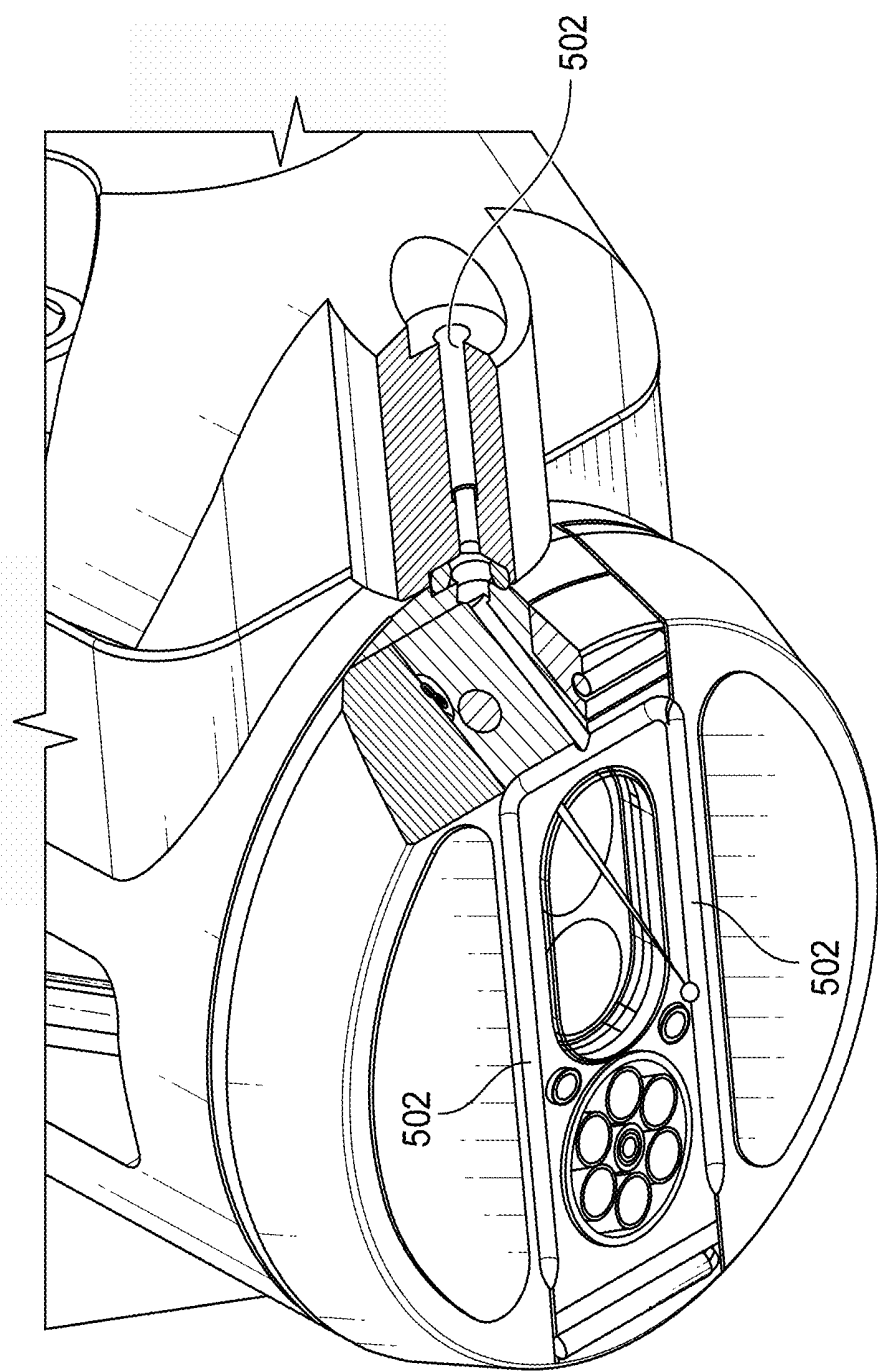


FIG. 5C

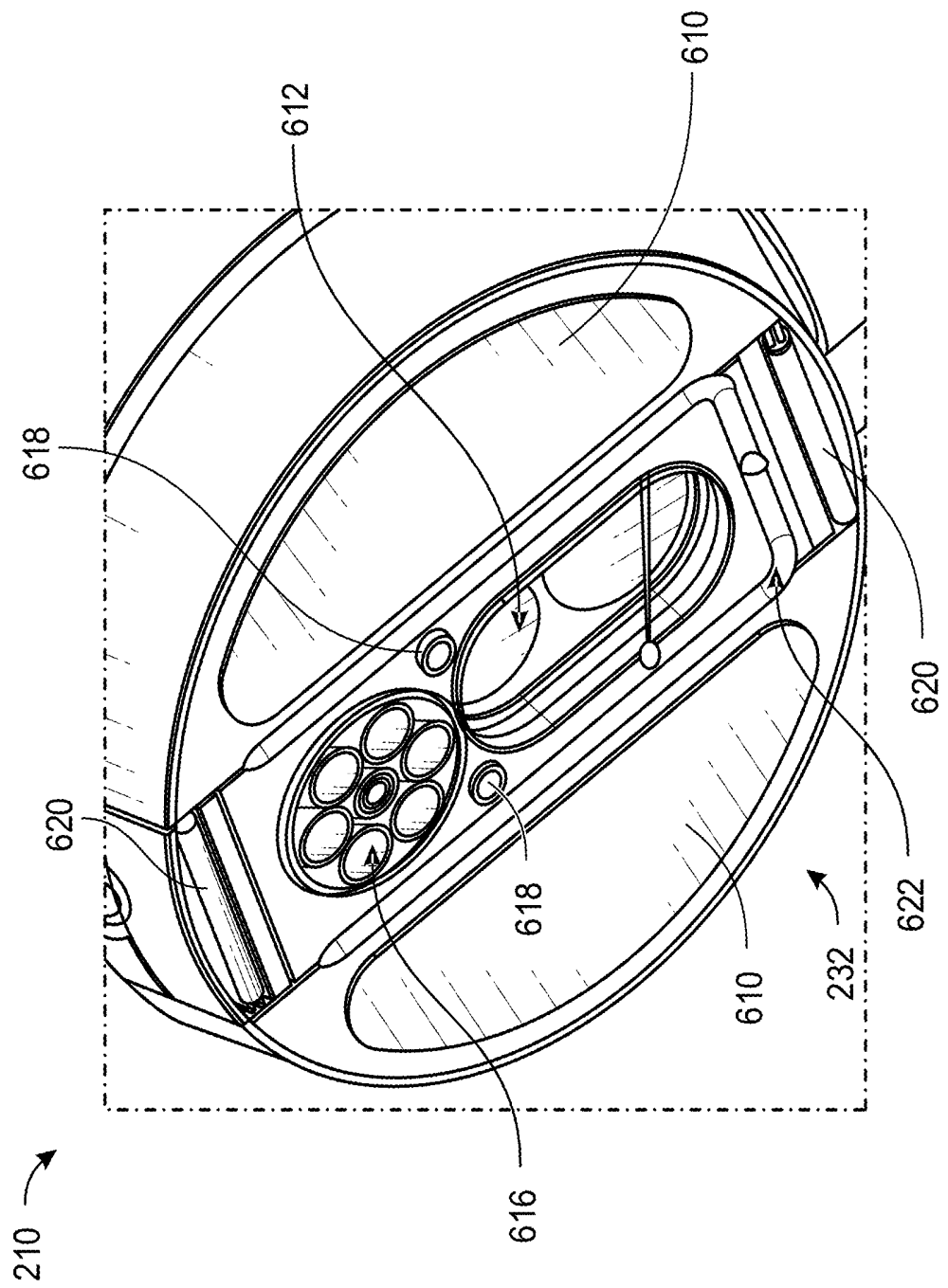


FIG. 6A

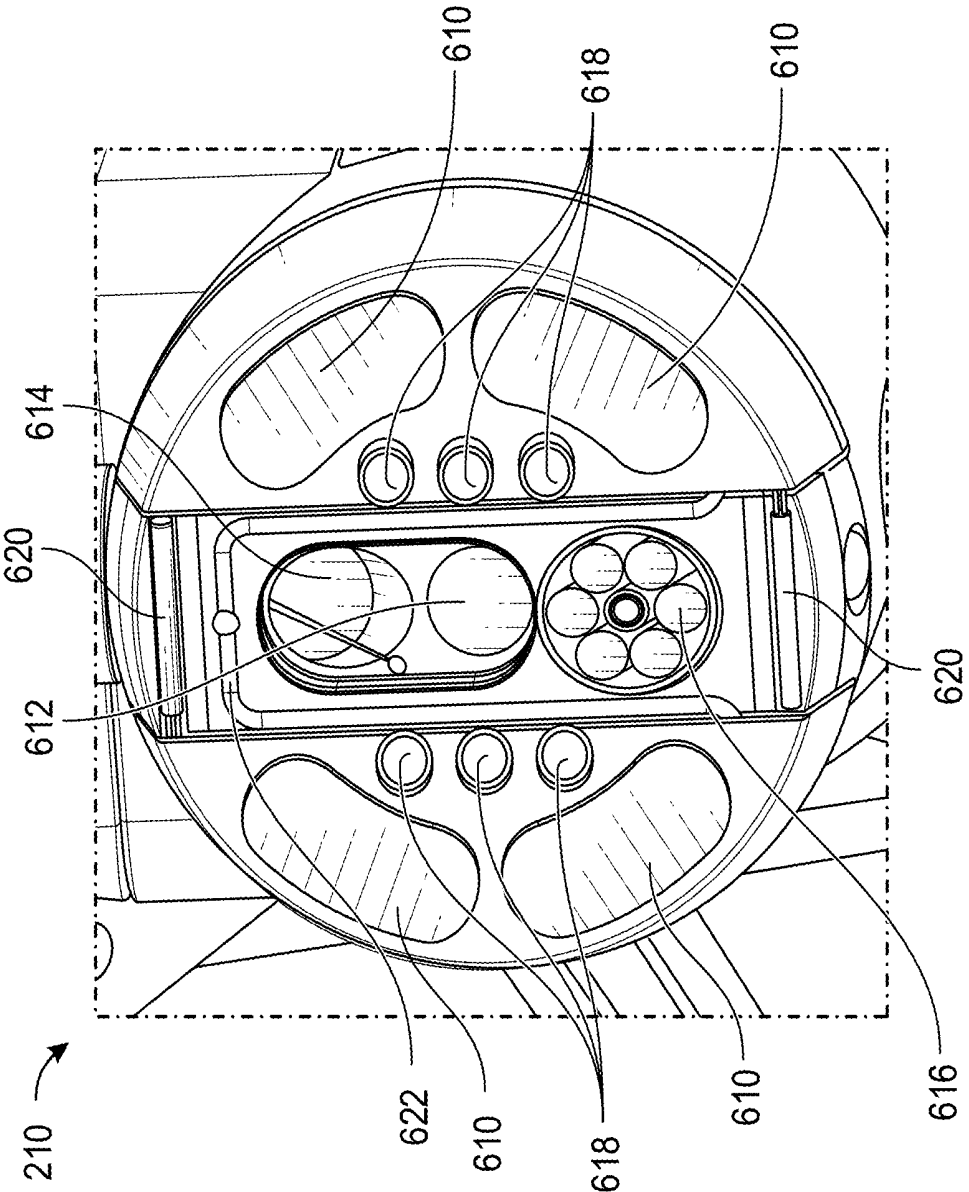


FIG. 6B

ASSEMBLY FOR MEDICAL MONITORING DEVICE WITH MULTIPLE PHYSIOLOGICAL SENSORS

CROSS-REFERENCE TO RELATED APPLICATIONS

[0001] The present application claims priority benefit to U.S. Provisional Application No. 62/771,818, entitled “Assembly For Medical Monitoring Device For Harmonizing Physiological Measurements,” filed Nov. 28, 2018, which is hereby incorporated herein by reference in its entirety.

TECHNICAL FIELD

[0002] The present disclosure relates to physiological monitoring. More specifically, this disclosure relates to systems, methods, and apparatuses for measuring physiological parameters from overlapping or proximate regions of tissue using a plurality of non-invasive physiological sensors.

BACKGROUND

[0003] Monitoring of blood glucose (blood sugar) concentration levels has long been critical to the treatment of diabetes in humans. Current blood glucose monitors involve a chemical reaction between blood serum and a test strip, requiring an invasive extraction of blood via a lancet or pinprick. Small handheld monitors have been developed to enable a patient to perform this procedure anywhere, at any time. But the inconvenience of this procedure—specifically the blood extraction and the use and disposition of test strips—has led to a low level of compliance. Such low compliance can lead to serious medical complications. While a non-invasive method of measuring glucose has long been sought, attempts to create such a device have universally failed due to the difficult nature of detecting small concentrations of glucose in the blood.

SUMMARY

[0004] The present disclosure describes example systems, methods, and apparatuses for enabling a plurality of non-invasive, physiological sensors to obtain physiological measurements from the same tissue site. Each of a plurality of sensors can be integrated with or attached to a multi-sensor apparatus and can be oriented such that each sensor obtains physiological data from the same or a similar location.

[0005] In some cases, a multi-sensor apparatus includes a plurality of non-invasive sensors and a sensor head. The plurality of non-invasive sensors can be configured to obtain physiological data associated with a patient. The sensor head can include a frame and a tissue interaction section. The frame can be configured to support some or all of the plurality of non-invasive sensors. The tissue interaction section can be configured to be positioned proximate a tissue site of the patient. Each of the plurality of non-invasive sensors can be configured to obtain physiological data associated with a patient at the tissue site.

[0006] The multi-sensor apparatus of any of the preceding paragraphs and/or any of the multi-sensor apparatuses disclosed herein may include any combination of the following features described in this paragraph, among other features described herein. The tissue interaction section can include a different sensing region for each of the plurality of

non-invasive sensors. A particular non-invasive sensor can obtain the physiological data via the particular sensing region. A distance between each of the sensing regions can satisfy a distance threshold. At least two of the plurality of noninvasive sensors can be configured to simultaneously obtain the physiological data. At least two of the plurality of noninvasive sensors can be configured to obtain the physiological data at non-overlapping time intervals. Each of the plurality non-invasive physiological sensors can obtain physiological data from of the same tissue site. The plurality non-invasive physiological sensors can obtain the physiological data from a plurality of regions of the tissue site. Each of the plurality of regions of the tissue site can be proximate to one of the plurality of regions of the tissue site.

[0007] The multi-sensor apparatus of any of the preceding paragraphs and/or any of the multi-sensor apparatuses disclosed herein may include any combination of the following features described in this paragraph, among other features described herein. The plurality of non-invasive sensors can include at least two of an optical coherence tomography (OCT) device, a Raman spectroscopy device, a near infrared (NIR) spectroscopy device, a bio-impedance-sensing device, a temperature-sensing device, or a pulse oximetry device. The plurality of non-invasive sensors can include an OCT device, a Raman spectroscopy device, a NIR spectroscopy device, a bio-impedance-sensing device, a temperature-sensing device, and/or a pulse oximetry device. The plurality of non-invasive sensors can include a Raman spectroscopy device, wherein the apparatus further comprises a Raman lens tube coupled to the sensor head. The tissue interaction region can be configured to contact the tissue site of the patient. The multi-sensor apparatus can include a processor. The processor can be configured to receive the physiological data from each of the plurality of noninvasive sensors; and determine a physiological parameter based at least in part on the physiological data. The physiological parameter can include a concentration of blood glucose.

[0008] In some cases, a system for measuring physiological parameters from a tissue site of a patient can include a multi-sensor apparatus and a processor. The multi-sensor apparatus can include a plurality of non-invasive sensors and a sensor head. The plurality of non-invasive sensors can be to obtain physiological data associated with a patient. The sensor head can include a frame and a tissue interaction section. The frame can be configured to support each of the plurality of non-invasive sensors. The tissue interaction section can be configured to be positioned proximate a tissue site of the patient. Each of the plurality of non-invasive sensors are configured to obtain physiological data from a same tissue site. The processor can be configured to receive the physiological data from each of the plurality of noninvasive sensors; and determine a physiological parameter based at least in part on the physiological data.

[0009] The system of any of the preceding paragraphs and/or any of the systems disclosed herein may include any combination of the following features described in this paragraph, among other features described herein. The tissue interaction section can include a plurality of sensing regions. Each of the plurality of sensing regions can correspond to one or more of the plurality of non-invasive sensors. A particular non-invasive sensor can obtain the physiological data via the particular sensing region. At least two of the plurality of noninvasive sensors can be configured to simul-

taneously obtain the physiological data. At least two of the plurality of noninvasive sensors can be configured to obtain the physiological data at non-overlapping time intervals. The plurality of non-invasive sensors can include at least two of an optical coherence tomography (OCT) device, a Raman spectroscopy device, a NIR spectroscopy device, a bio-impedance-sensing device, a temperature-sensing device, or a pulse oximetry device. The plurality of non-invasive sensors can include an OCT device, a Raman spectroscopy device, a NIR spectroscopy device, a bio-impedance-sensing device, a temperature-sensing device, and/or a pulse oximetry device. The physiological parameter can include a concentration of blood glucose.

[0010] The present disclosure describes example systems, methods, apparatuses, and medical devices for enabling a plurality of non-invasive, physiological sensors to obtain physiological measurements from the same or proximate regions of tissue of a patient. A multi-sensor apparatus can include a plurality of non-invasive, physiological sensors. The sensors can be integrated into or otherwise attached to multi-sensor apparatus and can be oriented and/or positioned on or within the multi-sensor apparatus such that each sensor is directed towards, or otherwise can obtain a measurement from, the same or a proximate measurement location corresponding to tissue of a patient.

[0011] The multi-sensor apparatus of any of the preceding paragraphs and/or any of the multi-sensor apparatuses disclosed herein may include any combination of the following features described in this paragraph, among other features described herein. The multi-sensor apparatus can include a frame configured to support at least a portion of each of the plurality of noninvasive sensors and can further include a sensor head having a surface for interacting with a tissue of the patient. The sensors can be oriented and/or positioned on or within the frame such that each of the sensors can obtain the physiological measurements from essentially the same, overlapping, or proximate regions of tissue of a patient. As a non-limiting example, in use, the sensor head can be placed in contact with patient's skin, and the sensors can obtain physiological measurements from tissue associated with the contact area, which can include an area defined by a perimeter of the surface of the sensor head. By enabling each of the plurality of sensors to obtain measurements from the overlapping or proximate tissue regions of tissue, the multi-sensor apparatus can advantageously facilitate the collection and/or correlation of sensor data received from the plurality of sensors. Furthermore, the multi-sensor apparatus can enable a determination, or a more accurate estimate, of one or more physiological parameters, such as those physiological parameters that are not readily determinable from sensor data from a single physiological sensor.

[0012] The multi-sensor apparatus of any of the preceding paragraphs and/or any of the multi-sensor apparatuses disclosed herein may include any combination of the following features described in this paragraph, among other features described herein. An example multi-sensor apparatus can include two or more of an optical coherence tomography (OCT) device, a Raman spectroscopy device, a NIR spectroscopy device, a bio-impedance-sensing device, a temperature-sensing device, a tissue dielectric constant sensor, or a pulse oximetry device. The sensors can be oriented or positioned such that they can obtain physiological data from overlapping, intersecting, touching, or proximate measurement sites. A processor can combine, collect and/or corre-

lating least some of the physiological data from the various sensors to improve or confirm measurements or to determine or estimate a physiological parameter. For example, a processor can determine or estimate a blood glucose concentration.

[0013] For purposes of summarizing the disclosure, certain aspects, advantages and novel features are discussed herein. It is to be understood that not necessarily all such aspects, advantages or features will be embodied in any particular embodiment of the invention and an artisan would recognize from the disclosure herein a myriad of combinations of such aspects, advantages or features.

BRIEF DESCRIPTION OF THE DRAWINGS

[0014] The following drawings and the associated descriptions are provided to illustrate embodiments of the present disclosure and do not limit the scope of the claims.

[0015] FIG. 1 is a block diagram illustrating an example patient monitoring system.

[0016] FIGS. 2A and 2B illustrate a perspective side views of an example multi-sensor apparatus.

[0017] FIG. 3A illustrates a scaled perspective view of the multi-sensor apparatus of FIGS. 2A and 2B with portions of the sensor head removed.

[0018] FIG. 3B illustrates scaled a perspective view of an example multi-sensor apparatus.

[0019] FIGS. 4A-4C are exploded view of various embodiments of a multi-sensor apparatus.

[0020] FIG. 5A is a cross-sectional view of an example multi-sensor apparatus.

[0021] FIG. 5B illustrates a scaled cross-sectional view of an example multi-sensor apparatus.

[0022] FIG. 5C illustrates a distribution channel of an example coupling agent of an example multi-sensor apparatus.

[0023] FIGS. 6A and 6B illustrate perspective and bottom views, respectively, of embodiments of a sensor head of a multi-sensor apparatus.

[0024] While the foregoing "Brief Description of the Drawings" references generally various embodiments of the disclosure, an artisan will recognize from the disclosure herein that such embodiments are not mutually exclusive. Rather, the artisan would recognize a myriad of combinations of some or all of such embodiments.

DETAILED DESCRIPTION

[0025] The present disclosure will now be described with reference to the accompanying figures, wherein like numerals refer to like elements throughout. The following description is merely illustrative in nature and is in no way intended to limit the disclosure, its application, or uses. It should be understood that steps within a method may be executed in different order without altering the principles of the present disclosure. Furthermore, examples disclosed herein can include several novel features, no single one of which is solely responsible for its desirable attributes or which is essential to practicing the systems, devices, and methods disclosed herein.

Overview

[0026] Many non-invasive techniques for determining blood glucose have significant shortcomings, such as low accuracy (for example, less accuracy than invasive home

monitors) and insufficient specificity of glucose concentration measurement. Accordingly, there is a need for an improved method to non-invasively monitor glucose. Systems and methods disclosed herein address various challenges related to non-invasively determining a patient's blood glucose level by combining and/or correlating data from multiple non-invasive sensors. Each of the non-invasive sensors can interrogate the same or a similar tissue site of a patient. In this way, physiological parameters or other variables identified using one or more sensors can be utilized to improve data from one or more other sensors. Using these data collecting and/or combining techniques, a glucose concentration measurement can be obtained.

[0027] In many instances, a single non-invasive sensor may lack the functionality to obtain sufficient physiological information for an accurate determination of an analyte concentration, such as a glucose concentration measurement. As a result, many physiological monitoring techniques include estimations, such as those based on common assumptions, to compensate for the lack of known data. However, due to the sensitivity of analyte measurements, these estimations can result in inaccurate or unreliable determinations.

[0028] For example, Beer's Law (also known as the Beer-Lambert Law) relates the attenuation of light to properties of a material. In particular, Beer's law states that absorbance of a material is proportional to the concentrations of the attenuating species in the material sample. The relationship between these parameters is expressed in Equation 1 below:

$$A = \epsilon * b * c \quad (\text{Equation 1})$$

where A is the absorbance of the material at a given wavelength of light, c is the molar absorptivity or extinction coefficient (L mol⁻¹ cm⁻¹), unique to each molecule and varying with wavelength, b is the length of the light path through the material (cm), and c is the concentration of an analyte of interest (mol L⁻¹).

[0029] In many cases, the length of the light path through the material (sometimes referred to as the path length) is estimated. For example, a generic finger may be associated with a first estimated path length value, while a generic nose may be associated with a second path length value. However, every person has a unique tissue geometry, which can include, but is not limited to, unique skin structure or skin thickness. Furthermore, because tissue is not uniform throughout a person's body, even tissue sites that are close in proximity, such as two different measurements sites on a patient's finger, can have a different tissue geometry and/or optical profiles.

[0030] As noted above, a specific tissue geometry of a particular tissue site can affect the path length value, among other physiological parameters or variables. To this end, multiple noninvasive sensors can be configured to obtain physiological parameters from the same tissue site. It can be difficult for a caregiver to manually position multiple sensors to obtain data from the same tissue site. Thus, in some cases, a system or apparatus can include a frame or housing that supports each of the plurality of non-invasive sensors and orients the non-invasive sensors to obtain physiological data associated with the same tissue site. In some cases, two tissue sites are considered the same tissue site if one or more portions of the tissue sites overlap and/or one or more portions of the tissue sites are within a threshold distance of each other.

[0031] As another example, a non-invasive physiological sensor can be configured to obtain skin geometry data, which can be utilized to calculate a path length associated with a tissue site. In some such cases, the skin geometry data can be utilized to calibrate one or more sensors (for example, select a focal depth of a Raman spectrometer), which can result in more accurate analyte measurements, such as a blood glucose concentration measurement.

[0032] To aid in the correlation of data between the sensors, it can be desirable for each of the sensors to obtain data relating to the same tissue site. However, it can be difficult to position different sensors on the same tissue site without anything more than the caregiver's visual assessments. Similarly, it can be difficult to re-position the same sensor on the same tissue site after it has been removed from the patient. To solve these and other problems, tissue geometry information can be utilized to determine whether successive measurements have occurred in the same or a different location. Furthermore, in some cases, tissue geometry information can be utilized to guide the placement of one or more sensors to a particular tissue site.

[0033] An optical coherence tomography, or OCT, sensor can be utilized to obtain tissue geometry information. OCT is an optical imaging technique using light waves that produce high-resolution imagery of biological tissue. OCT creates its images by interferometrically scanning in depth a linear succession of spots, and measuring backscattered light at different depths in each successive spot. The OCT data can be processed to present an image of the linear cross section. OCT data can be processed to determine tissue geometry information, such as skin geometry. For example, the OCT data can provide data regarding a thickness of one or more skin layers, such as the epidermis, the dermo-epidermal junction, or the dermis.

[0034] In some cases, OCT data can be utilized to determine whether successive OCT measurements have occurred in the same or a different location (e.g., the same or a different tissue site). For example, each tissue site can relate to a specific optical profile and a particular tissue site can retain its specific optical profile over time. Furthermore, the specific optical profile of a particular tissue site can be different from the specific optical profile of some or all other tissue sites. In some cases, OCT data can be utilized to determine whether multiple OCT measurements have occurred in the same or a different location. In some cases, OCT data can be utilized to determine whether multiple non-OCT measurements have occurred in the same or a different location. For example, the position and/or orientation of an OCT sensor can be registered with the position and/or orientation of one or more other sensors, and successive OCT measurements can be utilized to determine whether a sensor has been placed in the same (or a different) location as a previously placed sensor.

[0035] A bio-impedance or tissue dielectric constant sensor can be utilized to obtain tissue geometry information. For example, bio-impedance or tissue dielectric constant data can provide information relating to one or more skin layers, a hydration of one or more skin layers, or a cellular structure of the tissue. In some cases, similar to as described above with respect to OCT data, bio-impedance or tissue dielectric constant data can be utilized to determine whether successive measurements have occurred in the same or a different location.

[0036] Raman spectroscopy has exhibited promise with respect to blood glucose detection, for example, due to its capability to gain information about the molecular constitution non-invasively. For example, features such as peaks of the Raman spectra are considered the Raman “fingerprints” of analytes such as glucose. Accordingly, using an isolated or semi-isolated Raman signal, the system can identify physiological data, such as information regarding a patient’s blood glucose level.

[0037] For various reasons, it has been challenging to isolate a pure Raman signal from a signal obtained from a Raman spectrometer. For example, emission of fluorescence in tissue often overwhelms any signal collected from the Raman spectrometer, thereby hiding Raman features. In addition, attenuation of the signal due to absorption can further affect prediction of analytes using the collected signal. Furthermore, varying tissue geometries at tissue sites increases a difficulty in selecting a focal depth of the Raman spectrometer that will optimize a resolution of the Raman signal. Systems, devices, and methods herein can include variety of noninvasive physiological sensors, such as any of those described in greater detail in International Pat. App. No. PCT/US2018/042148, filed Jul. 13, 2018, entitled “Medical Monitoring Device For Harmonizing Physiological Measurements,” which is hereby incorporated herein by reference in its entirety.

[0038] Systems and methods disclosed herein can address one or more of these or other challenges by providing a multi-sensor apparatus that can utilize multiple sensors to obtain physiological data from the same tissue site. For example, the present disclosure addresses various challenges related to positioning and/or orienting multiple sensors to obtain physiological data from the same tissue site. In some instances, physiological data associated with the same tissue site can facilitate calibration or harmonization between sensors, or improve the accuracy of one or more other sensors.

Patient Monitoring System

[0039] FIG. 1 illustrates a block diagram of an example patient monitoring system 100. The patient monitoring system 100 includes a patient monitor 130 and a plurality of sensors (individually or collectively referred to as sensor 104 or sensors 104). The patient monitor 130 can include a sensor interface 110 and a processor 120. In some cases, each of the sensors 104 can obtain physiological measurements relating to the same tissue site 102. It will be understood that the patient monitoring system 100 can include fewer or more components as desired. For example, the patient monitoring system 100 can include fewer or more sensors 104 than illustrated in FIG. 1.

[0040] The plurality of sensors 104 can each be the same type of sensors, or one or more of the sensors 104 can be of a different type. For example, the plurality of sensors 104 can include, but are not limited to, an OCT sensor, a Raman spectrometry device, a pulse oximetry device, a bioimpedance sensor, a temperature sensor, an acoustic sensor, or a combination thereof.

[0041] As described herein, a particular tissue site can retain its specific optical profile over time, and that optical profile can be different from the optical profile of another tissue site. Accordingly, to aid in harmonizing data between the sensors 104, it can be advantageous for the sensors 104 to interrogate the same tissue site. Accordingly, two or more

of the sensors 104 can be configured to obtain physiological measurements from the same tissue site 102. In some cases, two tissue sites can be considered the same tissue site if one or more portions of the tissue sites overlap with one another. In some cases, two tissue sites can be considered the same tissue site if one or more portions of the tissue sites touch or connect. In some cases, two tissue sites can be considered the same tissue site if one or more portions of the respective tissue sites satisfy a distance threshold. The distance threshold can vary across embodiments. For example, in some cases, a distance threshold can be satisfied if a first tissue site (e.g., corresponding to a first sensor) is less than 4, 8, 12, or 16 mm (+/-a few mm) from a second tissue site (e.g., corresponding to a second sensor). As another example, the distance threshold can be satisfied if the distance between two tissue sites is less than or equal to 30, 50, 70, or 90 mm. the distance threshold can be satisfied if the distance between two tissue sites is less than or equal to 1, 2.5, or 4 cm. In some cases, For example, two tissue sites can be considered the same tissue site if they include the same region of the patient’s body (e.g., the same finger, thumb, thenar space, hand, wrist, forearm, nose, limb, head, ear, neck, upper body, or lower body). In some cases, one or more of the sensors 104 can be configured to obtain physiological measurements from the different tissue sites.

[0042] In some cases, one or more of the sensors 104 can be integrated into or coupled to an apparatus. In some cases, the apparatus, such as apparatus 200 of FIG. 2, is wearable by a user. For example, the apparatus can include a glove that when worn by a user allows the sensor 104 to interrogate the tissue site 102. As another example, the apparatus can include a sock, a shirt, a sleeve, a cuff, a bracelet, a headband, or the like. As described herein, in some cases, the apparatus includes a frame configured to support each of the sensors 104. The frame can orient the sensors 104 such that each of the sensors 104 can obtain physiological data associated with the same tissue site 102.

[0043] The patient monitor 130 can be configured to communicate (non-limiting example: via sensor interface 110) with one or more of the plurality of sensors 104 to receive sensor data, control the sensors 104, or the like. The sensor data can be utilized by the patient monitor 130 (non-limiting example: the processor 120) to determine one or more physiological parameters, patient vitals, or concentrations of one or more analytes associated with a patient. For example, based at least in part on sensor data from one or more of the sensors 104, the patient monitor 130 can determine an amount of light absorbed, transmitted through, or reflected at a tissue site, path length (for example, a distance that light travels through the tissue), concentration of an analyte, bioimpedance, tissue dielectric constant, pulse rate (PR), pulse pressure variation (PPV), pleth variability index (PVI®), stroke volume (SV), stroke volume variation (SVV), peripheral capillary oxygen saturation (SpO₂), mean arterial pressure (MAP), central venous pressure (CVP), pulse pressure (PP), perfusion index (PI), total hemoglobin (SpHb®), carboxyhemoglobin (SpCO®), methemoglobin (SpMet®), oxygen content (SpOC®), or acoustic respiration rate (RRa®), among other parameters. In some aspects, the patient monitor 130 can derive or use one or more relationships (for instance, a set of linear equations) from two or more of the determined parameters. The patient monitor 130 can utilize the one or more relationships to determine the

patient's blood glucose concentration, systemic vascular resistance (SVR), CO, or arterial blood pressure (BP), among other parameters.

[0044] In some cases, data from a single sensor **104** may not provide enough reliable information to determine certain physiological parameters. For example, a number of factors can affect an accuracy of sensor data including, but not limited to, patient movement, sensor placement, interference, the type of sensor being used, the expansion and contraction of the patient's vascular system, assumptions made during calculations, skin temperature, pressure, or the like. In addition or alternatively, the determination of some physiological parameters (for example, glucose concentration) may require more information than a single sensor can provide. To solve this or other problems, the patient monitor **102** (or one or more of the sensors) can harmonize or compare data from two or more sensors **104**, which can allow for a determination of more accurate or reliable data, or can allow for a determination of one or more additional physiological parameters, such as blood glucose concentration.

[0045] The patient monitor **130** can wirelessly, or using wires, receive a signal from one or more of the plurality of sensors **104**. The received signal may take various forms, such as a voltage, a current, or charge. An operational amplifier (op-amp) of the patient monitor **130** can increase the amplitude, as well as transform the signal, such as from a current to a voltage. An anti-aliasing filter (AAF) of the patient monitor **130** can then process of the output signal from the op-amp to restrict a bandwidth of the output signal from the op-amp to approximately or completely satisfy the sampling theorem over a band of interest. An analog-to-digital convertor (ADC) of the patient monitor **130** can convert the output signal from the AAF from analog to digital. The output signal from the ADC can then be sampled by a processor **120** of the patient monitor **130** at a relatively high speed. The result of the sampling can next be down-sampled before waveform analysis may be performed.

Multi-Sensor Apparatus

[0046] A multi-sensor apparatus can include a plurality non-invasive physiological sensors and can position and/or orient the sensors such that each of the sensors can obtain measurements from the same tissue site (sometimes referred to as a measurement site). In this way, each of the sensors obtain measurements corresponding to tissue having the same or similar properties, such as the same or similar optical profile, the same or similar tissue geometry, the same or similar analyte concentration, or the like. Sensor data from one or more of the sensors can be combined, correlated, or utilized to improve, calibrate, or corroborate data and/or calculations from or related to another sensor. Sensor data from one or more sensors can be combined and/or harmonized to determine or estimate a physiological parameter, such as blood glucose concentration.

[0047] FIGS. 2A and 2B illustrate perspective side views of an example multi-sensor apparatus **200**. As illustrated, the multi-sensor apparatus **200** includes a sensor head **210** (sometimes referred to as a fusion head), an optical mirror support **202**, and fiber bundle **222**, and fibers **226**. Further, the multi-sensor apparatus **200** includes a plurality of sensors. In the example of FIGS. 2A and 2B, the plurality of sensors includes an OCT device **240**, a Raman sensor **224**, a bioimpedance sensor **228**, and a temperature sensor **250**

(collectively or individually referred to as sensor **104** or sensors **104**). It will be understood that the multi-sensor apparatus **200** can include fewer, additional, or different components. For example, in some cases, the sensors **104** can include a tissue dielectric constant sensor, a NIR spectroscopy device, or a pulse oximetry sensor.

[0048] The sensor head **210** can include a frame **220** (sometimes referred to as a housing) and a tissue interaction section **230**. The frame **220** can support one or more of sensors **104**. For example, the frame **220** can be configured to receive, couple to, or integrate with one or more of the sensors **104**. In some cases, the frame **220** includes or defines one or more cavities of a size and shape capable of accepting one or more of the sensors **104**. In some cases, some or all of the sensors **104** are positioned and/or oriented on or within the frame **220** such that the sensors **104** can, in use, obtain measurements from the same, or essentially the same, tissue site. For example, as illustrated, each of the sensors **104** can be oriented within the frame **220** such that the sensors **104** point or are directed towards the tissue interaction section **230**.

[0049] The tissue interaction section **230** can include one or more openings through which the sensors **104** can emit light, receive lights, obtain measurements, etc. As described in more detail herein, the openings in the tissue interaction section **230** through which the sensors **104** emit light, receive lights, obtain measurements, etc. can be referred to an sensing region. The size, number, and location of the sensing regions in the tissue interaction section **230** can vary across embodiments. For instance, in the illustrated example of in FIG. 2B, the tissue interaction section **230** includes four sensing regions for the bioimpedance sensor **228**, two sensing regions for the temperature sensor **250**, a sensing region the fiber bundle **222** (e.g., a pulse oximetry sensor), six sensing regions for the fiber **226**, a sensing region for the OCT sensor **240**, and a sensing regions for the Raman sensor **224**. It will be understood that the position, number, size and/or shape of a sensing region can vary across embodiments. For example, a sensing region for the Raman sensor **224** can be large enough to include the spot size of an excitation source that may be part of the Raman sensor **224**. Additionally or alternatively, a sensing region for the OCT sensor **240** can be large enough to allow for the excitation source of the OCT sensor **240** to scan the tissue site or to account for movement of the excitation source during use or manufacture.

[0050] The tissue interaction section **230** can be a centralized location at which the sensors **104** obtain measurements. In some such cases, the tissue interaction section **230** can encompass or include each of the sensing regions of the sensors **104**. In this way, the sensors **104** can be oriented to obtain measurements from the same tissue site. In some cases, tissue sites can be considered the same tissue site if one or more portions of the tissue sites overlap with one another, if one or more portions of the tissue sites touch or connect, or if the tissue sites reside on the same region of the patient's body. As another example, in some cases, tissue sites can be considered the same tissue site if a distance between the tissue sites satisfies a distance threshold. For example, a distance threshold between sensing regions of two sensors can be satisfied if the sensing regions are less 4, 8, 12, or 16 mm (+/-a few mm) away from each other. As another example, the distance threshold between sensing regions of two sensors can be satisfied if the sensing regions

are less than 30, 50, 70, or 90 mm (+/-a few mm) away from each other. As another example, the distance threshold between sensing regions of two sensors can be satisfied if the sensing regions are less than 1, 2.5, or 4 cm (+/-a few cm) away from each other.

[0051] The shape of the lower surface **232** of the tissue interaction section **230** can vary across embodiments. For example, in some cases, the lower surface **232** can be relatively flat. As another example, in some cases, the lower surface **232** can include one or more curvatures or concavities. A curvature of the lower surface **232** can be of a similar curvature to that of the area of the measured tissue site. As an example, the tissue site may be a finger nail and the curvature of the lower surface **232** can follow the approximate curvature of the finger nail. In some examples, the curvature of the lower surface **232** can match a specific curvature of the tissue site of the user. For example, the lower surface **232** can be molded, formed, or otherwise shaped according to a shape of the tissue site. In some cases, the curvature or shape of the lower surface **232** can be generic to the approximate curvature of a tissue site of the user. For example, the lower surface **232** can be molded, formed, or otherwise shaped according to the approximate curvature of an adult human finger nail where the tissue site is a finger nail.

[0052] The shape of the tissue interaction section **230** and/or the bottom of the sensor head **210** can vary across embodiments. For example, as illustrated in FIG. 2B, the tissue interaction section **230** and/or the bottom of the sensor head can be relatively circular. Alternatively, the tissue interaction section **230** and/or the bottom of the sensor head can be relatively square, rectangular, oval, elliptical, triangular, or the like.

[0053] The size of the tissue interaction section **230** can vary across embodiments. In some cases, the tissue interaction section **230** can have a length, width, and/or diameter on the scale of a few millimeters, decimeters, or centimeters. For example, the tissue interaction section **230** can have a length, width, and/or diameter of between 5 mm and 30 mm or between 10 mm and 20 mm, such as about 12.7 mm (+/-a few mm). As another example, the tissue interaction section **230** can have a length, width, and/or diameter of between 0.5 cm and 5 cm or between 1 cm and 3 cm.

[0054] In use, the tissue interaction section **230** can be placed on or positioned proximate to a tissue site. For example, in some cases, the tissue interaction section **230** can be configured to contact the tissue site. As another example, in some cases, the tissue interaction section **230** can be configured to hover over the tissue site such that a gap exists between at least a portion of the tissue interaction section **230** and the tissue site.

[0055] The tissue interaction section **230** can be attached to the tissue site of a patient using a permanent or temporary adhesive, by permanent or temporary implantation, via a wearable device, or other suitable means of temporarily, semi-permanently, or permanently securing a component to a tissue site. In some examples, the tissue interaction section **230** may be secured to a tissue site of a patient via a semi-permanent adhesive capable of securing the attachment component for a day or more. For example, the tissue interaction section **230** may be secured to a tissue site with a medical adhesive, glue, tape, or other means of adhering components to a tissue site.

[0056] The size and/or shape of the multi-sensor apparatus **200** can vary across embodiments. For example, in some implementations, the multi-sensor apparatus **200** can be sized to fit in the palm of a user's hand or is otherwise a handheld apparatus. In some cases, it can be desired for the multi-sensor apparatus **200**, or at least the sensor head **210**, to be relatively small such that the measurement site is also relatively small, such as less than 5, 10, 15, or 20 millimeters in diameter. However, the size of the measurement site can vary across embodiments and can be based on a number of factors, including, but not limited to, a number of sensors integrated into the multi-sensor apparatus **200**.

[0057] In some cases, the multi-sensor apparatus **200** can be compatible with different sensor heads. For example, the different sensors heads can include various shapes and/or sizes, and a particular sensor head can be configured for use with a particular tissue site. That is, in some cases, a particular sensor head may be configured for use with a finger, while another sensor head may be configured for use with a toe, an ear, a forearm, or the like.

[0058] The sensor head **210** can be made of plastic or other lightweight material so as to reduce weight and/or cost. In some examples, the sensor head **210** can include brackets for securing components, such as sensors **104**, to the frame **220**.

[0059] In some implementations, the multi-sensor apparatus **200** can optionally include a battery (not shown). The battery can include various types of batteries, such as AA or AAA batteries. The battery can be configured to provide power to multi-sensor apparatus **200**, such as to one or more of the sensors **104**.

[0060] FIG. 3A illustrates a scaled perspective view of the multi-sensor apparatus **200** of FIGS. 2A and 2B with portions of the sensor head **210** removed. Specifically, FIG. 3A illustrates the assembly of the bioimpedance sensors **228** removed from the multi-sensor apparatus **200** of FIGS. 2A and 2B, thereby showing various channels of the frame **220** through which the sensors **104** reside.

[0061] FIG. 3B illustrates scaled a perspective view of an example multi-sensor apparatus **200**, which includes a different configuration of the tissue interaction section **230**, as compared to FIGS. 2A and 2B. In the illustrated example of in FIG. 3B, the tissue interaction section **230** includes two sensing regions for the bioimpedance sensor **228**, a sensing region for the fiber **222**, a sensing region for the OCT sensor **240**, and a sensing region for the Raman sensor **224**. It will be understood that the position and number of openings corresponding to each sensor can vary across embodiments.

Assembly of a Multi-Sensor Apparatus

[0062] FIGS. 4A-4C are exploded views of an example multi-sensor apparatus **200**. As shown, the multi-sensor apparatus **200** can include a pulse oximetry device (for example, including a fiber bundle **222** or multi-LED fibers **226**), a temperature sensor **250** (for example, a thermistor), a temperature sensor support **406**, a bioimpedance sensor **228**, an O ring **408**, a Raman sensing device, an OCT device, a sensor head **210**, or any combination thereof. The Raman sensing device can include a Raman lens tube **410**, a glass window **412**, or a cube adaptor **414**. The OCT device can include an OCT fiber **416**, a mirror block **418**, an OCT coupler **420**, a mirror **422**, and/or a baffle **424**. Further, the multi-sensor apparatus **200** can include one or more components to couple the components of the multi-sensor apparatus **200**, such as one or more screws **426**, bolts, or slotted

spring pins **428**, among other things. It will be understood that fewer, more, or different components can be used to implement the multi-sensor apparatus **200** or any of the sensors, as desired.

Pulse Oximetry Device

[0063] The multi-sensor apparatus **200** can include one or more components for pulse oximetry, such as one or more light sources for emitting light of one or more of a variety of wavelengths and one or more detectors for detecting the light after attenuation by tissue of a patient. The detected signal(s) can be communicated to a patient monitor **130**, where the patient monitor **130** can remove noise, preprocesses the signal(s), and/or determine one or more physiological parameters associated with the patient.

[0064] In the illustrated example exploded views of the multi-sensor apparatus **200** of FIGS. 4A-4C, the components for pulse oximetry can include one or more multi-LED fibers **226** or a fiber bundle **222**. For example, the one or more multi-LED fibers **226** or a fiber bundle **222** can include a light source and/or a detector. The light source can output one or more of a variety of wavelengths, including, but not limited to, near infrared (NIR), infrared (IR), or red wavelengths. The one or more detectors can detect the light after attenuation by tissue of a patient.

[0065] In some cases, the multi-LED fibers **226** or a fiber bundle **222** can be coupled to the sensor head **210**. The sensor head **210** can orient or position the multi-LED fibers **226** or the fiber bundle **222**. In use, the surface **212** of the sensor head **210** can be positioned on or proximate to a desired measurement site (for example, a portion of the patient's skin) and the multi-LED fibers **226** or the fiber bundle **222** can be utilized to obtain measurements from the measurement site on which the surface **212** is placed. It is understood that fewer, additional, or different light sources with fewer, additional, or different wavelengths can be utilized.

Optical Coherence Tomography (OCT)

[0066] The multi-sensor apparatus **200** can include one or more components for OCT. OCT is an optical imaging technique using light waves that produce high-resolution imagery of tissue. OCT creates its images by focusing a beam of light into a medium and interferometrically scanning the depth of a linear succession of spots and measuring the absorption and/or the scattering of the light at different depths in each successive spot. In some cases, the data can be processed to present an image of the linear cross section of the medium scanned.

[0067] In the illustrated example exploded views of the multi-sensor apparatus **200** of FIGS. 4A-4C, the components for OCT can include a light source **416** (non-limiting example: an optical fiber), an OCT scanner (e.g., a mirror block **418** and a mirror **422**), an OCT coupler **420**. In some cases, the mirror block **418** can couple to the light source **416**, the mirror **422**, and the OCT coupler **420**. In addition, the OCT coupler **420** can couple to the sensor head **210** via one or more screws **426**. Furthermore, the components for OCT can include a baffle **164** configured to fit within a portion of the mirror block and located between the light source **416** and the mirror **422**, a lens **430** located between the mirror **422** and the sensor head **210**, and/or a glass window **412** located within the sensor head **210**. It will be

noted, however, that the multi-sensor apparatus **200** can include fewer, additional, or different components for OCT. Additionally, the OCT device can be incorporated for Time Domain OCT or Fourier Domain OCT techniques. The choice among the OCT techniques can be defined, for example, by the specificity of the interested data.

[0068] The light source **416** can output a beam of light having a broad spectrum of wavelengths. In some cases, the beam of light can be collimated and pass a beam splitter such that a portion of the beam of light is directed towards the tissue and a portion of the beam of light is directed toward a reference arm, such as mirror **422**. The light can be either polarized or non-polarized. In some cases, a polarizer located on one edge of a beam splitter can polarize the light linearly, elliptically, or circularly, as desired. As a non-limiting example, the wavelength can be centered at, for example, 1310 nm with a 50 nm bandwidth. In other cases, the wavelength can be centered at 1060 nm with a 70 nm bandwidth. Still, in other cases, the light source can be selected to have a center wavelength anywhere between 400 nm and 1700 nm with a bandwidth of up to 150 nm. It is understood that different light sources with different bandwidths can be chosen to optimize penetration depth into the tissue and optimize the depth resolution of sensitivity to skin structures.

[0069] The mirror **422** can be translated or moved to raster scan a depth image of the tissue. In some cases, the mirror **422** can be translated or moved to fine-tune OCT measurements. In addition or alternatively, an angle of the mirror **422**, relative to one or more axes, can be adjusted. For example, multi-sensor apparatus **200** can be configured to move or shift the mirror **422**, such as by means of a stepper motor, a piezo-electric actuator, or the like.

[0070] The reflected light from the tissue can be collected using a converging lens, such as lens **430** (FIG. 4C), and be directed to a photodetector where it can be recombined with a portion of a reference arm beam to form an interference pattern. OCT can provide a non-invasive method for identifying one or more characteristics of a tissue's structure or geometry. For example, a processor can use the signals from the photodetector to render a three dimensional image of the tissue.

Bioelectrical Impedance

[0071] The multi-sensor apparatus **200** can include one or more components for bioelectrical impedance. Bioelectrical impedance can be characterized as the principle that tissues and/or fluids of a patient have different impedances, that is, opposition to the flow of the electric current, which in turn may be dependent on variables such as water and electrolyte content, to name a few. Analysis of bioelectrical impedance can be performed to examine electrical, capacitive, or resistive characteristics of tissue to provide information on a noninvasive basis, such as tissue geometry.

[0072] As illustrated in the example exploded views of the multi-sensor apparatus **200** of FIGS. 4A-4C, the components for bioelectrical impedance can include two bioimpedance sensors **228** coupled to the sensor head **210**. It will be noted, however, that the multi-sensor apparatus **200** can include fewer, additional, or different bioimpedance sensors **228**. In use, the bioimpedance sensors **228** can apply an electrical signal to tissue, such as the tissue associated with the region defined by the perimeter of the sensor head **210**.

Raman Spectroscopy

[0073] The multi-sensor apparatus 200 can include one or more components for Raman spectroscopy. As illustrated in the example exploded views of the multi-sensor apparatus 200 of FIGS. 4A-4C, the components for Raman spectroscopy can include a cube adaptor 414 and a Raman lens tube 410 and a dichroic mirror can be installed within the cube to guide the excitation and collection light beams. In addition, the Raman lens tube 410 can couple to (for example, screw together with) the sensor head 210. Furthermore, the components for Raman spectroscopy can include a Raman free space cone within the sensor head 210, a glass window 412, and/or a light source.

[0074] The components for Raman spectroscopy can include a light source. In some cases, the light source includes or produces a light, such as a laser beam. The characteristics of the light can vary across embodiments. For example, the light can have a tight bandwidth and/or stable spectrum. As another example, in some cases, the light can be centered between 600 nanometers and 900 nanometers, between 750 nanometers and 850 nanometers, centered at 785 nanometers, centered at 830 nanometers, or the like. Furthermore, the wavelength of the light can vary across embodiments. For example, in some cases, the light can have any wavelength(s) of a range of wavelengths varying from visible to NIR spectrum. In some cases, the light can be directed to the tissue by means of a dichroic mirror, focusing lens, and/or an optical window contacting the patient tissue. In some cases, the components for Raman spectroscopy are selected to avoid issues such as, but not limited to, reflections, fluorescence or scattering. In some cases, an optical window can be manufactured from quartz glass, coated with anti-reflecting material. It will be noted, however, that the multi-sensor apparatus 200 can include fewer, additional, or different components for Raman spectroscopy.

[0075] The Raman effect is a light-scattering phenomenon that can provide insight as to one or more characteristics of an analyte in a sample. When light irradiates a tissue, a fraction of the light is scattered, meaning it emerges in directions other than that of the incident (incoming) beam. Most of this scattered light (generally referred to as Rayleigh scattering) emerges at the original frequency (f_0) and wavelength of the incident beam. A small portion of the scattered light, however, emerges at some shifted frequency (f_s) that is different from, and usually lower than, the original frequency (f_0) and has wavelengths different from that of the incident light. Stokes shifted Raman can be at relatively longer wavelengths, and anti-stokes Raman can be at relatively shorter wavelengths. The process leading to this small portion of the scattered light is termed the Raman effect or Raman scattering.

[0076] Raman scattering can occur with a change in vibrational or rotational energy of a molecule. Accordingly, the Raman spectra can contain information about the specific chemical substance in the irradiated tissue. For example, Raman scattering yields a set of characteristic peaks in a spectrum, which is a “fingerprint” of a specific chemical substance. Raman spectroscopy has exhibited promise with respect to blood glucose detection, as well as the determination of other physiological data. Furthermore, Raman spectroscopy can be utilized with one or more other sensors to enhance or improve physiological data measurements or determinations. For example, data acquired from

one or more sensors can be utilized to remove or reduce an effect of the fluorescence, or tissue absorption, refraction, scattering, and/or reflection.

Multi-Sensor Apparatus

[0077] As described herein, each of the sensors 104 of a multi-sensor apparatus 200 can be oriented or positioned to obtain measurements associated with a sensing region location with the perimeter of the sensor head 210.

[0078] FIG. 5A is a cross-sectional view of an example multi-sensor apparatus 200, and FIG. 5B illustrates a scaled cross-sectional view of an example multi-sensor apparatus 200, and provides an illustrative example of some of the cavities of the multi-sensor apparatus 200. As illustrated, the fiber bundle 222, Raman spectrometry device 224, an OCT device 240, and a coupling agent port 502 are each oriented such that a sensing region of each the sensors is located within the region defined by the perimeter of the sensor head 210. That is, the frame of the multi-sensor apparatus 200 advantageously orients the sensors such that, in use, the sensors can obtain measurements from essentially the same, overlapping, or proximate regions of tissue. By orienting and/or positioning the sensors to interrogate or analyze essentially the same, overlapping, or proximate regions of tissue, the multi-sensor apparatus 200 can ensure that each of the sensors obtain measurements corresponding to tissue having the same or similar properties (non-limiting examples: the same or similar optical profile, the same or similar tissue geometry, the same or similar analyte concentration, or the like). As a result, in some cases, data from the one or more sensors can be utilized to improve, calibrate, or confirm data and/or calculations related to another sensor, thereby improving a determination or an accuracy of one or more physiological parameters. It will be understood that fewer, additional, or different sensors can be included in the multi-sensor apparatus 200.

Coupling Agent

[0079] FIG. 5C illustrates a distribution channel of an example coupling agent port 502 of an example multi-sensor apparatus 200. In some cases, the multi-sensor apparatus 200 can be configured to apply a coupling agent to the tissue, for example, by introducing the coupling agent to the tissue via the coupling agent port 502. Among other things, a coupling agent can reduce variations in surface reflection of the sample tissue, thereby improving accuracy of the non-invasive measurement of the sample tissue. In addition, optical properties and/or temperature of the sample tissue can be stabilized by application of the coupling agent. By way of non-limiting example, the coupling agent can include a perfluorinated liquid. One such perfluorinated liquid is known by the brand name Fluorinert™ FC-70 or FC-40, manufactured by 3M Company, of St. Paul, Minn. In some embodiments the coupling agent can also be suppressed, for example if the optical properties of the tissue are acceptable.

Sensor Head

[0080] FIGS. 6A and 6B illustrate perspective and bottom views, respectively, of embodiments of a sensor head 210 of a multi-sensor apparatus 200. As described herein, each of the sensors of a multi-sensor apparatus 200 can include a sensing region on the sensor head 210 such that the sensors

are each oriented or positioned to obtain measurements associated with the same tissue site.

[0081] The sensor head **210** can include a lower surface **232** for interacting with tissue of a patient. For example, in use, the lower surface **232** of the sensor head **210** can be positioned to contact or hover over the patient's skin. As illustrated in FIGS. 6A-6B, the lower surface **232** of the sensor head **210** can be relatively flat. Alternatively, the lower surface **232** of the sensor head **210** can include one or more contours. For example, the lower surface **232** of the sensor head **210** can be contoured or curved to align with a contour or curvature of the patient's tissue, such as the patient forearm, toe, or finger. The sensor head **210** can be various shapes depending on the embodiment.

[0082] For example, as illustrated in FIGS. 6A and 6B, the sensor head **210** can have a generally circular shape. In addition or alternatively, the sensor head **210** can have a generally square, rectangular, triangular, or elliptical shape or a combination thereof.

[0083] Portions of the lower surface **232** of the sensor head **210** can be partitioned into sensing areas of the plurality of non-invasive physiological sensors. For example, bio-impedance sensing area **610** can correspond to a sensing area for the bio-impedance sensors **228**, Raman sensing area **612** can correspond to a sensing area for a Raman spectrometry device **224**, OCT sensing area **614** can correspond to a sensing area for an OCT device **240**, sensing area **616** can correspond to a sensing area of fiber bundle **222**, sensing areas **618** can correspond to a sensing area of multi-LED fibers **226**, temperature sensing areas **620** can correspond to a sensing area of the temperature sensor **250**, and/or coupling agent sensing areas **622** can correspond to coupling agent port **502**.

[0084] The sensor head **210** and/or the lower surface **232** of the sensor head **210** can be sized to fit the sensing areas (non-limiting examples: sensing areas **610**, **612**, **614**, **616**, **618**, **620**, or **622**) corresponding to each of the non-invasive physiological sensors. Accordingly, the size of the sensor head **210** can vary, for example, depending on the number of physiological sensors, the size or orientation of the sensing areas **610**, **612**, **614**, **616**, **618**, **620**, or **622**, the distance between sensing areas **610**, **612**, **614**, **616**, **618**, **620**, or **622**, or a combination thereof. In general, the sensor head **210** is sized such that each of the physiological sensors of the multi-sensor apparatus **200** can obtain measurements associated with essentially the same, overlapping, or proximate regions of tissue.

[0085] To aid in ensuring that the sensors obtain measurements associated with essentially the same, overlapping, or proximate regions of tissue, the sensor head **210** can have a length, width, and/or diameter on the scale of a few millimeters, decimeters, or centimeters. For example, the sensor head **210** can have a length, width, and/or diameter of between 5 mm and 30 mm or between 10 mm and 20 mm, such as about 12.7 mm (+/-a few mm). As another example, the sensor head **210** can have a length, width, and/or diameter of between 0.5 cm and 5 cm or between 1 cm and 3 cm.

[0086] Each of the sensing regions **610**, **612**, **614**, **616**, **618**, **620**, or **622** can have various shapes or sizes. As an example, the bio-impedance sensing areas **610** can each have a length, width, and/or diameter of between 5 mm and 30 mm (+/-a few mm) or between 10 mm and 20 mm (+/-a few mm). As another example, the Raman sensing area **612**

can have a length, width, and/or diameter of between 1 mm and 10 mm (+/-a few mm) or between 2 mm and 4 mm (+/-a few mm), such as 2.25 mm. As another example, the OCT sensing area **614** can have a length, width, and/or diameter of between 1 mm and 10 mm (+/-a few mm) or between 2 mm and 4 mm (+/-a few mm), such as 2.5 mm. As another example, the sensing area **616** can have a length, width, and/or diameter of between 1 mm and 10 mm (+/-a few mm) or between 2 mm and 4 mm (+/-a few mm). As another example, the temperature sensing areas **620** can have a length, width, and/or diameter of between 1 mm and 5 mm (+/-a few mm) or between 3 mm and 4 mm (+/-a few mm). In some cases, the temperature sensing areas **620** are 3.5 mm by 0.4 mm (+/-a few 0.1 mm). As another example, the sensing areas **618** can have a length, width, and/or diameter of between 0.2 mm and 10 mm (+/-a few mm) or between 1 mm and 4 mm (+/-a few mm). As described above, the multi-LED fibers **226** can include one or more visible or NIR emitters and one or more detectors. In some cases, the emitters can be 1, 2, 3, 4, or 5 mm (+/-a few mm) from a detector. As another example, the coupling agent sensing areas **622** can have a length, width, and/or diameter of between 5 mm and 30 mm (+/-a few mm) or between 10 mm and 20 mm (+/-a few mm).

[0087] By enabling each of the plurality of sensors to obtain measurements from essentially the same, overlapping, or proximate regions of tissue, the multi-sensor apparatus **200** can advantageously facilitate the integration, correlation, and/or harmonization of sensor data received from the plurality of sensors. Furthermore, the multi-sensor apparatus **200** can enable a determination, or a more accurate estimate, of one or more physiological parameters, such as those physiological parameters that are not readily determinable from sensor data from a single physiological sensor.

Examples

[0088] Various example features can be found in the following clauses, which can be implemented together with any combination of the features described above:

[0089] Clause 1. A multi-sensor apparatus measuring physiological parameters from a tissue site of a patient, the apparatus comprising:

[0090] a plurality of non-invasive sensors configured to obtain physiological data associated with a patient; and

[0091] a sensor head comprising:

[0092] a frame configured to support each of the plurality of non-invasive sensors, and

[0093] a tissue interaction section configured to be proximate a tissue site of the patient, wherein each of the plurality of non-invasive sensors are configured to obtain physiological data associated with a patient at the tissue site.

[0094] Clause 2. The apparatus of Clause 1, wherein the tissue interaction section comprises a different sensing region for each of the plurality of non-invasive sensors, wherein a particular non-invasive sensor obtains the physiological data via the particular sensing region.

[0095] Clause 3. The apparatus of Clause 2, wherein a distance between each of the sensing regions satisfies a distance threshold.

[0096] Clause 4. The apparatus of any of the previous clauses, wherein at least two of the plurality of noninvasive sensors are configured to simultaneously obtain the physiological data.

[0097] Clause 5. The apparatus of any of the previous clauses, wherein at least two of the plurality of noninvasive sensors are configured to obtain the physiological data at non-overlapping time intervals.

[0098] Clause 6. The apparatus of any of the previous clauses, wherein each of the plurality non-invasive physiological sensors obtains physiological data from of the same tissue site.

[0099] Clause 7. The apparatus of any of the previous clauses, wherein the plurality non-invasive physiological sensors obtain the physiological data from a plurality of regions of the tissue site, wherein each of the plurality of regions of the tissue site is proximate to one of the plurality of regions of the tissue site.

[0100] Clause 8. The apparatus of any of the previous clauses, wherein the plurality of non-invasive sensors comprises at least two of an optical coherence tomography (OCT) device, a Raman spectroscopy device, a bio-impedance-sensing device, a temperature-sensing device, or a pulse oximetry device.

[0101] Clause 9. The apparatus of any of the previous clauses, wherein the plurality of non-invasive sensors comprises an OCT device, a Raman spectroscopy device, a bio-impedance-sensing device, a temperature-sensing device, and a pulse oximetry device.

[0102] Clause 10. The apparatus of any of the previous clauses, wherein the plurality of non-invasive sensors comprises a Raman spectroscopy device, wherein the apparatus further comprises a Raman lens tube coupled to the sensor head.

[0103] Clause 11. The apparatus of any of the previous clauses, wherein the tissue interaction region is configured to contact the tissue site of the patient.

[0104] Clause 12. The apparatus of any of the previous clauses, further comprising a processor configured to:

[0105] receive the physiological data from each of the plurality of noninvasive sensors; and

[0106] determine a physiological parameter based at least in part on the physiological data.

[0107] Clause 13. The apparatus of Clause 12, wherein the physiological parameter comprises a concentration of blood glucose.

[0108] Clause 14. A system for measuring physiological parameters from a tissue site of a patient, the system comprising:

[0109] a multi-sensor apparatus, the multi-sensor apparatus comprising:

[0110] a plurality of non-invasive sensors configured to obtain physiological data associated with a patient; and

[0111] a sensor head comprising:

[0112] a frame configured to support each of the plurality of non-invasive sensors, and

[0113] a tissue interaction section configured to be proximate a tissue site of the patient, wherein each of the plurality of non-invasive sensors are configured to obtain physiological data from a same tissue site; and

[0114] one or more processors in communication with the multi-sensor apparatus, the one or more processors configured to:

[0115] receive the physiological data from each of the plurality of noninvasive sensors; and

[0116] determine a physiological parameter based at least in part on the physiological data.

[0117] Clause 15. The system of Clause 14, wherein the tissue interaction section comprises a plurality of sensing regions, wherein each of the plurality of sensing regions corresponds to one or more of the plurality of non-invasive sensors, wherein a particular non-invasive sensor obtains the physiological data via the particular sensing region.

[0118] Clause 16. The system of any of Clauses 14 or 15, wherein at least two of the plurality of noninvasive sensors are configured to simultaneously obtain the physiological data.

[0119] Clause 17. The system of any of Clauses 14 to 16, wherein at least two of the plurality of noninvasive sensors are configured to obtain the physiological data at non-overlapping time intervals.

[0120] Clause 18. The system of any of Clauses 14 to 17, wherein the plurality of non-invasive sensors comprises at least two of an optical coherence tomography (OCT) device, a Raman spectroscopy device, a bio-impedance-sensing device, a temperature-sensing device, or a pulse oximetry device.

[0121] Clause 19. The system of any of Clauses 14 to 18, wherein the plurality of non-invasive sensors comprises an OCT device, a Raman spectroscopy device, a bio-impedance-sensing device, a temperature-sensing device, and a pulse oximetry device.

[0122] Clause 20. The system of any of Clauses 14 to 19, wherein the physiological parameter comprises a concentration of blood glucose.

[0123] Various example features can be found in the following clauses, which can be implemented together with any combination of the features described above:

[0124] Clause 1. An apparatus comprising:

[0125] a plurality of non-invasive sensors configured to obtain physiological data associated with a patient; and

[0126] a sensor head comprising:

[0127] a surface configured to contact a region of tissue of the patient, and

[0128] a frame configured to support at least a portion of each of the plurality of noninvasive sensors, wherein the plurality of noninvasive sensors are oriented and/or positioned on or within the frame such that each of the plurality of noninvasive sensors obtain the physiological data from tissue associated with the region of tissue in contact with the surface of the sensor head.

[0129] Clause 2. The apparatus of Clause 1, wherein the surface of the sensor head is less than 15 millimeters in diameter.

[0130] Clause 3. The apparatus of any of the previous clauses, wherein at least two of the plurality of noninvasive sensors are configured to simultaneously obtain the physiological data.

[0131] Clause 4. The apparatus of any of the previous clauses, wherein at least two of the plurality of noninvasive sensors are configured to obtain the physiological data at non-overlapping time intervals.

[0132] Clause 5. The apparatus of any of the previous clauses, wherein the plurality of non-invasive sensors comprises at least two of an optical coherence tomography (OCT) device, a Raman spectroscopy device, a bio-impedance-sensing device, a temperature-sensing device, a NIR spectrometer device or a pulse oximetry device.

[0133] Clause 6. The apparatus of any of the previous clauses, wherein the plurality of non-invasive sensors com-

prises a Raman spectroscopy device, wherein the apparatus further comprises a Raman lens tube coupled to the sensor head.

[0134] Clause 7. The apparatus of Clause 6, wherein a sensing region of the Raman spectroscopy device is less than 3 millimeters in diameter.

[0135] Clause 8. The apparatus of Clause 6, wherein a sensing region of the Raman spectroscopy device is between 2 and 5 millimeters in diameter.

[0136] Clause 9. The apparatus of Clause 6, wherein a sensing region of the Raman spectroscopy device is between 3 and 15 millimeters in diameter.

[0137] Clause 10. The apparatus of Clause 6, wherein a sensing region of the Raman spectroscopy device is between 10 and 25 millimeters in diameter.

[0138] Clause 11. The apparatus of Clause 6, wherein a sensing region of the Raman spectroscopy device is greater than 15 millimeters in diameter.

[0139] Clause 12. The apparatus of any of the previous clauses, wherein the plurality of non-invasive sensors comprises a NIR spectroscopy device, wherein the apparatus further comprises a NIR fiber bundle coupled to the sensor head.

[0140] Clause 13. The apparatus of Clause 12, wherein a sensing region of the NIR spectroscopy device is less than 3 millimeters in diameter.

[0141] Clause 14. The apparatus of Clause 12, wherein a sensing region of the NIR spectroscopy device is between 2 and 5 millimeters in diameter.

[0142] Clause 15. The apparatus of Clause 12, wherein a sensing region of the NIR spectroscopy device is between 3 and 15 millimeters in diameter.

[0143] Clause 16. The apparatus of Clause 12, wherein a sensing region of the NIR spectroscopy device is between 10 and 25 millimeters in diameter.

[0144] Clause 17. The apparatus of Clause 12, wherein a sensing region of the NIR spectroscopy device is greater than 15 millimeters in diameter.

[0145] Clause 18. The apparatus of any of the previous clauses, wherein the plurality of non-invasive sensors comprises a pulse oximetry device, wherein the apparatus further comprises a fiber bundle.

[0146] Clause 19. The apparatus of Clause 18, wherein a sensing region of the pulse oximetry device is less than or equal to 3 millimeters in diameter.

[0147] Clause 20. The apparatus of Clause 18, wherein a sensing region of the pulse oximetry device is between 2 and 5 millimeters in diameter.

[0148] Clause 21. The apparatus of Clause 18, wherein a sensing region of the pulse oximetry device is between 3 and 15 millimeters in diameter.

[0149] Clause 22. The apparatus of Clause 18, wherein a sensing region of the pulse oximetry device is between 10 and 25 millimeters in diameter.

[0150] Clause 23. The apparatus of Clause 18, wherein a sensing region of the pulse oximetry device is greater than 15 millimeters in diameter.

[0151] Clause 24. The apparatus of any of the previous clauses, wherein the plurality of non-invasive sensors comprises a pulse oximetry device, wherein the apparatus further comprises a plurality of optical fibers.

[0152] Clause 25. The apparatus of Clause 18, wherein the plurality of optical fibers comprises an emitter having an emitter sensing region and a detector having a detector

sensing region, wherein the emitter sensing region and the detector sensing region are spaced between 0.5 millimeters to 5 millimeters apart.

[0153] Clause 26. The apparatus of any of the previous clauses, wherein the plurality of non-invasive sensors comprises an OCT device, wherein the apparatus further comprises an optical fiber, an optical window and a mirror.

[0154] Clause 27. The apparatus of any of the previous clauses, wherein a processor is in communication with each of the plurality of noninvasive sensors, wherein the processor is configured to:

[0155] receive the physiological data from each of the plurality of noninvasive sensors; and

[0156] determine a physiological parameter based at least in part on the physiological data.

[0157] Clause 28. The apparatus of Clause 27, wherein the physiological parameter comprises a concentration of blood glucose.

[0158] Clause 29. The apparatus of any of the previous clauses, wherein each of the plurality non-invasive physiological sensors interrogate an overlapping portion of tissue.

[0159] Clause 30. The apparatus of any of the previous clauses, wherein each of the plurality non-invasive physiological sensors interrogate a portion of tissue within an area defined by the perimeter of the surface of the sensor head.

[0160] Clause 31. The apparatus of any of the previous clauses, wherein each of the plurality of noninvasive sensors obtain the physiological data from an identical tissue site.

[0161] Clause 32. The apparatus of any of the previous clauses, wherein each of the plurality of noninvasive sensors obtain the physiological data from a same tissue site.

[0162] Clause 33. The apparatus of Clause 32, wherein the same tissue site is a region less than 15 millimeters in diameter.

[0163] Clause 34. The apparatus of any of Clauses 32 or 33, wherein the same tissue site is a region between 8 millimeters and 13 millimeters in diameter.

[0164] Clause 35. The apparatus of Clause 32, wherein the same tissue site comprises a region greater than 15 millimeters in diameter.

[0165] Clause 36. The apparatus of any of the previous clauses, wherein each of the plurality of noninvasive sensors obtain the physiological data from proximate tissue sites.

[0166] Clause 37. The apparatus of any of the previous clauses, wherein proximate tissue sites comprises tissue sites within 5 millimeters of each other.

[0167] Clause 38. The apparatus of any of Clauses 32 or 33, wherein each of the plurality of noninvasive sensors obtain the physiological data from at least partially overlapping tissue sites.

[0168] Various example features can be found in the following clauses, which can be implemented together with any combination of the features described above:

[0169] Clause 1. A method comprising:

[0170] receiving a first data signal from a first noninvasive sensor, wherein the first data signal is associated with first physiological data obtained from a first tissue region of a patient by the first noninvasive sensor;

[0171] receiving a second data signal from a second noninvasive sensor, wherein the second data signal is associated with second physiological data obtained from a second tissue region of a patient by the second noninvasive sensor, wherein the first and second tissue regions are at least proximate to each other; and

[0172] determining a physiological parameter based at least in part on the first and second data signals.

[0173] Clause 2. The method of Clause 1, wherein the first and second noninvasive sensors are oriented and/or positioned on or within a frame of a sensor head.

[0174] Clause 3. The method of any of the previous clauses, wherein the sensor head comprises:

[0175] a surface configured to contact a third region tissue of the patient, and

[0176] a frame configured to support at least a portion of each of the first and second noninvasive sensors, wherein the third region of tissue comprises at least a portion of the first and second regions of tissue.

[0177] Clause 4. The method of Clause 3, wherein the surface of the sensor head is between 5 and 15 millimeters in diameter.

[0178] Clause 5. The method of any of Clauses 3 or 4, wherein the surface of the sensor head is less than 15 millimeters in diameter.

[0179] Clause 6. The method of any of Clauses 3 to 5, wherein the surface of the sensor head is less than 30 millimeters in diameter.

[0180] Clause 7. The method of any of the previous clauses, further comprising:

[0181] receiving a third data signal from a third noninvasive sensor, wherein the third data signal is associated with third physiological data obtained from a third tissue region of a patient by the third noninvasive sensor, wherein the first, second, and third tissue regions are at least proximate to each other.

[0182] Clause 8. The method of any of the previous clauses, wherein the first and second noninvasive sensors are configured to simultaneously obtain the first and second physiological data.

[0183] Clause 9. The method of any of the previous clauses, the first and second noninvasive sensors are configured to obtain the physiological data at non-overlapping time intervals.

[0184] Clause 10. The method of any of the previous clauses, wherein the first non-invasive sensor comprises at least one of an optical coherence tomography (OCT) device, a Raman spectroscopy device, a bio-impedance-sensing device, a temperature-sensing device, a NIR spectrometer device or a pulse oximetry device, wherein the second non-invasive sensor comprises a different one of the optical coherence tomography (OCT) device, the Raman spectroscopy device, the bio-impedance-sensing device, the temperature-sensing device, the NIR spectrometer device or the pulse oximetry device.

[0185] Clause 11. The method of any of the previous clauses, wherein the first non-invasive sensor comprises a Raman spectroscopy device, wherein the Raman spectroscopy device comprises a Raman lens tube coupled to the sensor head.

[0186] Clause 12. The method of Clause 11, wherein a sensing region of the Raman spectroscopy device is less than 3 millimeters in diameter.

[0187] Clause 13. The method of Clause 11, wherein a sensing region of the Raman spectroscopy device is between 2 and 5 millimeters in diameter.

[0188] Clause 14. The method of Clause 11, wherein a sensing region of the Raman spectroscopy device is between 3 and 15 millimeters in diameter.

[0189] Clause 15. The method of Clause 11, wherein a sensing region of the Raman spectroscopy device is between 10 and 25 millimeters in diameter.

[0190] Clause 16. The method of Clause 11, wherein a sensing region of the Raman spectroscopy device is greater than 15 millimeters in diameter.

[0191] Clause 17. The method of any of the previous clauses, wherein the first non-invasive sensor comprises a pulse oximetry device, wherein the pulse oximetry device comprises a fiber bundle.

[0192] Clause 18. The method of Clause 17, wherein a sensing region of the pulse oximetry device is less than or equal to 3 millimeters in diameter.

[0193] Clause 19. The method of Clause 17, wherein a sensing region of the pulse oximetry device is between 2 and 5 millimeters in diameter.

[0194] Clause 20. The method of Clause 17, wherein a sensing region of the pulse oximetry device is between 3 and 15 millimeters in diameter.

[0195] Clause 21. The method of Clause 17, wherein a sensing region of the pulse oximetry device is between 10 and 25 millimeters in diameter.

[0196] Clause 22. The method of Clause 17, wherein a sensing region of the pulse oximetry device is greater than 15 millimeters in diameter.

[0197] Clause 23. The method of any of the previous clauses, wherein the first non-invasive sensor comprises a pulse oximetry device, wherein the pulse oximetry device comprises a plurality of optical fibers.

[0198] Clause 24. The method of Clause 23, wherein the plurality of optical fibers comprises an emitter having an emitter sensing region and a detector having a detector sensing region.

[0199] Clause 25. The method of Clause 24, wherein the emitter sensing region and the detector sensing region are spaced 3 millimeters apart.

[0200] Clause 26. The method of Clause 24, wherein the emitter sensing region and the detector sensing region are spaced between 1.5 millimeters and 5 millimeters apart.

[0201] Clause 27. The method of any of the previous clauses, wherein the first non-invasive sensor comprises an OCT device, wherein the OCT device comprises an optical fiber and a mirror.

[0202] Clause 28. The method of any of the previous clauses, wherein the physiological parameter comprises a concentration of blood glucose.

[0203] Clause 29. The method of any of the previous clauses, the first and second regions of tissue are at least partially overlapping regions of tissue.

[0204] Clause 30. The method of any of the previous clauses, the first and second regions of tissue are within an area defined by a perimeter of the surface of the sensor head.

[0205] Clause 31. The method of any of the previous clauses, the first and second regions of tissue are identical tissue regions.

[0206] Clause 32. The method of any of the previous clauses, the first and second regions of tissue are a same tissue region.

[0207] Clause 33. The method of Clause 32, wherein the same tissue region is an area less than 15 millimeters in diameter.

[0208] Clause 34. The method of Clause 32, wherein the same tissue region is an area between 8 millimeters and 13 millimeters in diameter.

[0209] Clause 35. The method of Clause 32, wherein the same tissue region is an area greater than 15 millimeters in diameter.

[0210] Clause 36. The method of any of the previous clauses, wherein proximate tissue sites comprise tissue sites within 5 millimeters of each other.

Terminology

[0211] The term “and/or” herein has its broadest least limiting meaning which is the disclosure includes A alone, B alone, both A and B together, or A or B alternatively, but does not require both A and B or require one of A or one of B. As used herein, the phrase “at least one of” A, B, “and” C should be construed to mean a logical A or B or C, using a non-exclusive logical or.

[0212] The following description is merely illustrative in nature and is in no way intended to limit the disclosure, its application, or uses. For purposes of clarity, the same reference numbers will be used in the drawings to identify similar elements. It should be understood that steps within a method may be executed in different order without altering the principles of the present disclosure.

[0213] Features, materials, characteristics, or groups described in conjunction with a particular aspect, embodiment, or example are to be understood to be applicable to any other aspect, embodiment or example described herein unless incompatible therewith. All of the features disclosed in this specification (including any accompanying claims, abstract and drawings), or all of the steps of any method or process so disclosed, may be combined in any combination, except combinations where at least some of such features or steps are mutually exclusive. The protection is not restricted to the details of any foregoing embodiments. The protection extends to any novel one, or any novel combination, of the features disclosed in this specification (including any accompanying claims, abstract and drawings), or to any novel one, or any novel combination, of the steps of any method or process so disclosed.

[0214] While certain embodiments have been described, these embodiments have been presented by way of example only, and are not intended to limit the scope of protection. Indeed, the novel methods and systems described herein may be embodied in a variety of other forms. Furthermore, various omissions, substitutions and changes in the form of the methods and systems described herein may be made. Those skilled in the art will appreciate that in some embodiments, the actual steps taken in the processes illustrated or disclosed may differ from those shown in the figures. Depending on the embodiment, certain of the steps described above may be removed, others may be added. For example, the actual steps or order of steps taken in the disclosed processes may differ from those shown in the figures. Depending on the embodiment, certain of the steps described above may be removed, others may be added. For instance, the various components illustrated in the figures may be implemented as software or firmware on a processor, controller, ASIC, FPGA, or dedicated hardware. Hardware components, such as processors, ASICs, FPGAs, and the like, can include logic circuitry. Furthermore, the features and attributes of the specific embodiments disclosed above may be combined in different ways to form additional embodiments, all of which fall within the scope of the present disclosure.

[0215] User interface screens illustrated and described herein can include additional or alternative components. These components can include menus, lists, buttons, text boxes, labels, radio buttons, scroll bars, sliders, checkboxes, combo boxes, status bars, dialog boxes, windows, and the like. User interface screens can include additional or alternative information. Components can be arranged, grouped, displayed in any suitable order.

[0216] Although the present disclosure includes certain embodiments, examples and applications, it will be understood by those skilled in the art that the present disclosure extends beyond the specifically disclosed embodiments to other alternative embodiments or uses and obvious modifications and equivalents thereof, including embodiments which do not provide all of the features and advantages set forth herein. Accordingly, the scope of the present disclosure is not intended to be limited by the specific disclosures of preferred embodiments herein, and may be defined by claims as presented herein or as presented in the future.

[0217] Conditional language, such as “can,” “could,” “might,” or “may,” unless specifically stated otherwise, or otherwise understood within the context as used, is generally intended to convey that certain embodiments include, while other embodiments do not include, certain features, elements, or steps. Thus, such conditional language is not generally intended to imply that features, elements, or steps are in any way required for one or more embodiments or that one or more embodiments necessarily include logic for deciding, with or without user input or prompting, whether these features, elements, or steps are included or are to be performed in any particular embodiment. The terms “comprising,” “including,” “having,” and the like are synonymous and are used inclusively, in an open-ended fashion, and do not exclude additional elements, features, acts, operations, and so forth. Also, the term “or” is used in its inclusive sense (and not in its exclusive sense) so that when used, for example, to connect a list of elements, the term “or” means one, some, or all of the elements in the list. Further, the term “each,” as used herein, in addition to having its ordinary meaning, can mean any subset of a set of elements to which the term “each” is applied.

[0218] Conjunctive language such as the phrase “at least one of X, Y, and Z,” unless specifically stated otherwise, is otherwise understood with the context as used in general to convey that an item, term, etc. may be either X, Y, or Z. Thus, such conjunctive language is not generally intended to imply that certain embodiments require the presence of at least one of X, at least one of Y, and at least one of Z.

[0219] Language of degree used herein, such as the terms “approximately,” “about,” “generally,” and “substantially” as used herein represent a value, amount, or characteristic close to the stated value, amount, or characteristic that still performs a desired function or achieves a desired result. For example, the terms “approximately,” “about,” “generally,” and “substantially” may refer to an amount that is within less than 10% of, within less than 5% of, within less than 1% of, within less than 0.1% of, and within less than 0.01% of the stated amount. As another example, in certain embodiments, the terms “generally parallel” and “substantially parallel” refer to a value, amount, or characteristic that departs from exactly parallel by less than or equal to 15 degrees, 10 degrees, 5 degrees, 3 degrees, 1 degree, or 0.1 degree.

[0220] The scope of the present disclosure is not intended to be limited by the specific disclosures of preferred embodi-

ments in this section or elsewhere in this specification, and may be defined by claims as presented in this section or elsewhere in this specification or as presented in the future. The language of the claims is to be interpreted broadly based on the language employed in the claims and not limited to the examples described in the present specification or during the prosecution of the application, which examples are to be construed as non-exclusive.

What is claimed is:

1. A multi-sensor apparatus measuring physiological parameters from a tissue site of a patient, the apparatus comprising:

- a plurality of non-invasive sensors configured to obtain physiological data associated with a patient; and
- a sensor head comprising:
 - a frame configured to support each of the plurality of non-invasive sensors, and
 - a tissue interaction section configured to be proximate a tissue site of the patient, wherein each of the plurality of non-invasive sensors are configured to obtain physiological data associated with a patient at the tissue site.

2. The apparatus of claim 1, wherein the tissue interaction section comprises a different sensing region for each of the plurality of non-invasive sensors, wherein a particular non-invasive sensor obtains the physiological data via the particular sensing region.

3. The apparatus of claim 2, wherein a distance between each of the sensing regions satisfies a distance threshold.

4. The apparatus of claim 1, wherein at least two of the plurality of noninvasive sensors are configured to simultaneously obtain the physiological data.

5. The apparatus of claim 1, wherein at least two of the plurality of noninvasive sensors are configured to obtain the physiological data at non-overlapping time intervals.

6. The apparatus of claim 1, wherein each of the plurality non-invasive physiological sensors obtains physiological data from of the same tissue site.

7. The apparatus of claim 1, wherein the plurality non-invasive physiological sensors obtain the physiological data from a plurality of regions of the tissue site, wherein each of the plurality of regions of the tissue site is proximate to one of the plurality of regions of the tissue site.

8. The apparatus of claim 1, wherein the plurality of non-invasive sensors comprises at least two of an optical coherence tomography (OCT) device, a Raman spectroscopy device, a bio-impedance-sensing device, a temperature-sensing device, or a pulse oximetry device.

9. The apparatus of claim 1, wherein the plurality of non-invasive sensors comprises an OCT device, a Raman spectroscopy device, a bio-impedance-sensing device, a temperature-sensing device, and a pulse oximetry device.

10. The apparatus of claim 1, wherein the plurality of non-invasive sensors comprises a Raman spectroscopy device, wherein the apparatus further comprises a Raman lens tube coupled to the sensor head.

11. The apparatus of claim 1, wherein the tissue interaction region is configured to contact the tissue site of the patient.

12. The apparatus of claim 1, further comprising a processor configured to:

- receive the physiological data from each of the plurality of noninvasive sensors; and
- determine a physiological parameter based at least in part on the physiological data.

13. The apparatus of claim 12, wherein the physiological parameter comprises a concentration of blood glucose.

14. A system for measuring physiological parameters from a tissue site of a patient, the system comprising:

- a multi-sensor apparatus, the multi-sensor apparatus comprising:

- a plurality of non-invasive sensors configured to obtain physiological data associated with a patient; and
- a sensor head comprising:
 - a frame configured to support each of the plurality of non-invasive sensors, and
 - a tissue interaction section configured to be proximate a tissue site of the patient, wherein each of the plurality of non-invasive sensors are configured to obtain physiological data from a same tissue site; and

one or more processors in communication with the multi-sensor apparatus, the one or more processors configured to:

- receive the physiological data from each of the plurality of noninvasive sensors; and
- determine a physiological parameter based at least in part on the physiological data.

15. The system of claim 14, wherein the tissue interaction section comprises a plurality of sensing regions, wherein each of the plurality of sensing regions corresponds to one or more of the plurality of non-invasive sensors, wherein a particular non-invasive sensor obtains the physiological data via the particular sensing region.

16. The system of claim 14, wherein at least two of the plurality of noninvasive sensors are configured to simultaneously obtain the physiological data.

17. The system of claim 14, wherein at least two of the plurality of noninvasive sensors are configured to obtain the physiological data at non-overlapping time intervals.

18. The system of claim 14, wherein the plurality of non-invasive sensors comprises at least two of an optical coherence tomography (OCT) device, a Raman spectroscopy device, a bio-impedance-sensing device, a temperature-sensing device, or a pulse oximetry device.

19. The system of claim 14, wherein the plurality of non-invasive sensors comprises an OCT device, a Raman spectroscopy device, a bio-impedance-sensing device, a temperature-sensing device, and a pulse oximetry device.

20. The system of claim 14, wherein the physiological parameter comprises a concentration of blood glucose.

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专利名称(译)	具有多个生理传感器的医疗监控设备的组件		
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摘要(译)

用于使多个非侵入性生理传感器能够从同一组织部位获得生理测量的系统，方法和装置。多个传感器中的每一个可以与多传感器设备集成或附接到多传感器设备。多传感器设备可以使多个非侵入性生理传感器定向，使得多个非侵入性生理传感器中的每个从相同或相似位置获得生理数据。

