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Aragones et al.

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(54) **FITNESS TRAINING SYSTEM WITH ENERGY EXPENDITURE CALCULATION THAT USES MULTIPLE SENSOR INPUTS**

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G06F 19/00 (2011.01)
(Continued)

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See application file for complete search history.

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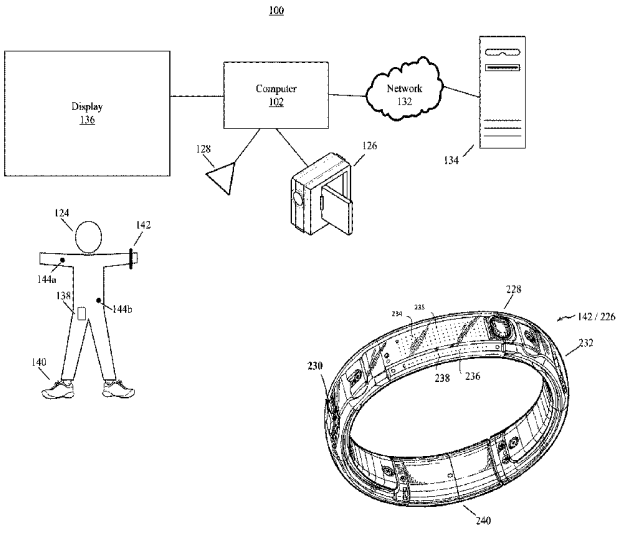
(57) **ABSTRACT**

Systems and methods for prompting a user to perform an exercise and monitoring the exercise are provided. Multiple independent sensors or sensor systems may be used to calculate energy expenditure. Various criteria may be used to manually or automatically select the independent sensor or sensor system or combination that will be used with the energy expenditure calculations.

10 Claims, 12 Drawing Sheets



(51) **Int. Cl.**

A61B 5/00	(2006.01)
G09B 19/00	(2006.01)
A61B 5/11	(2006.01)
A61B 5/01	(2006.01)
A61B 5/02	(2006.01)

(52) **U.S. Cl.**

CPC ***A61B 5/1121*** (2013.01); ***A61B 5/6807*** (2013.01); ***A61B 5/6824*** (2013.01); ***A61B 5/6829*** (2013.01); ***A61B 5/74*** (2013.01); ***G06F 19/3406*** (2013.01); ***G06F 19/3481*** (2013.01); ***G09B 19/0038*** (2013.01); *A61B 5/01* (2013.01); *A61B 5/02* (2013.01); *A61B 5/44* (2013.01); *A61B 2505/09* (2013.01)

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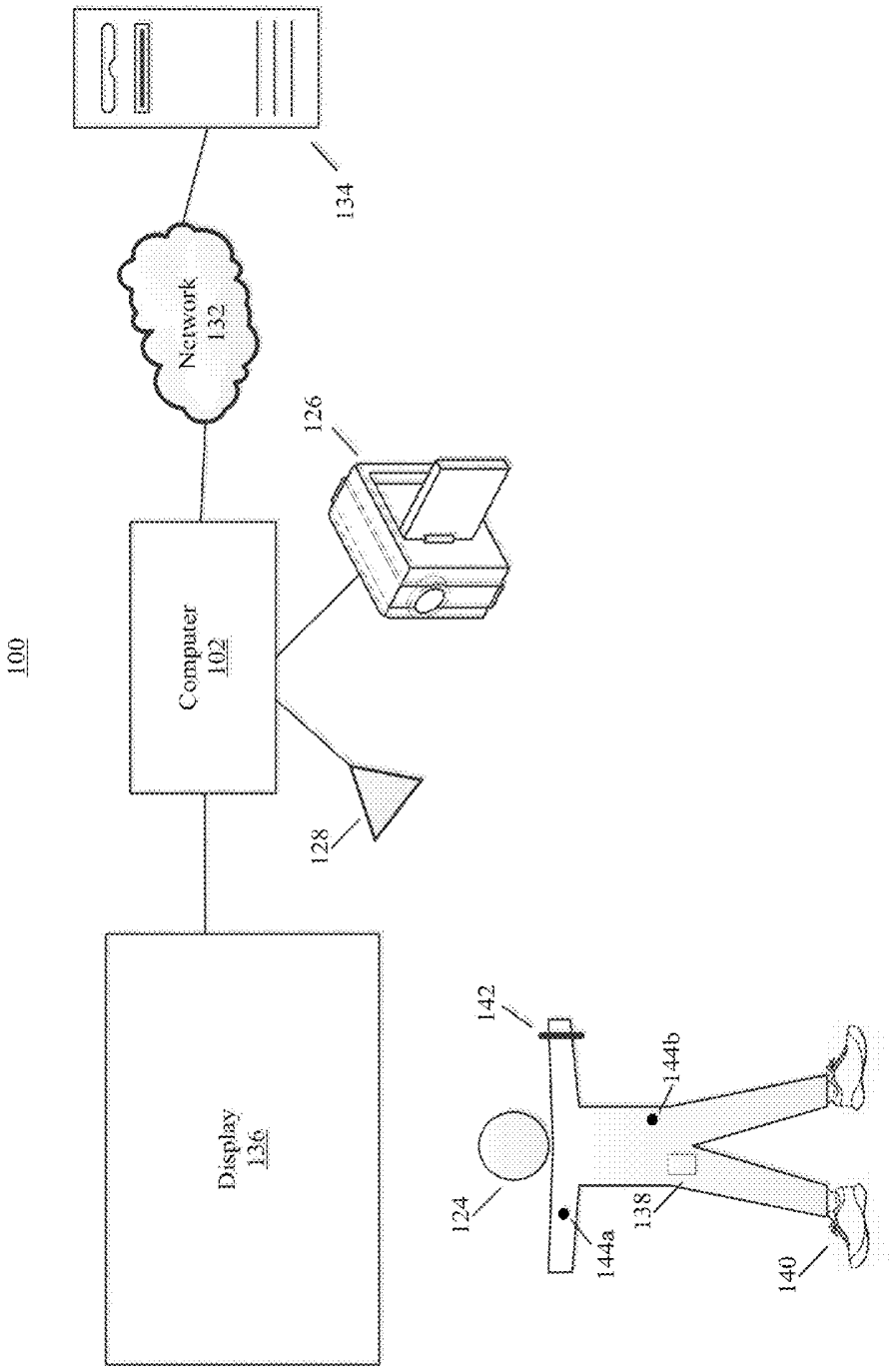

100
Computer
102
Network
132
134
126
128
Display
136
142
144b
144a
124
138
140

FIG. 1A

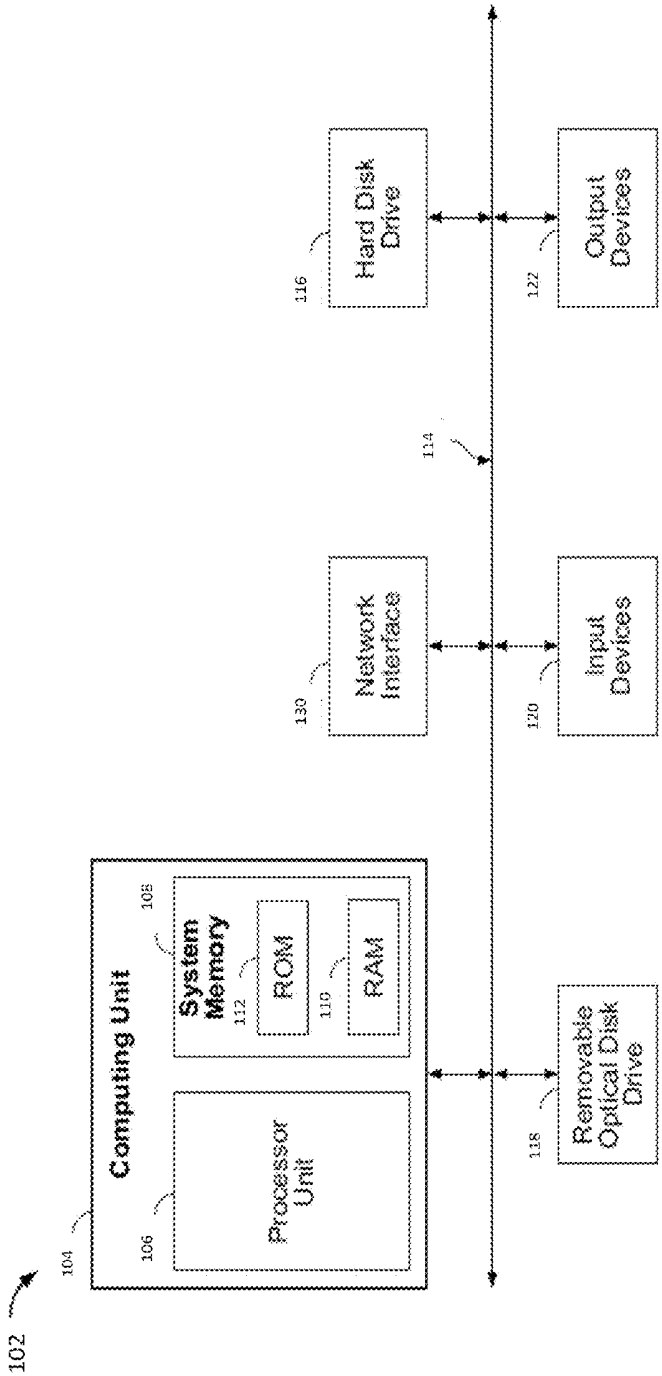
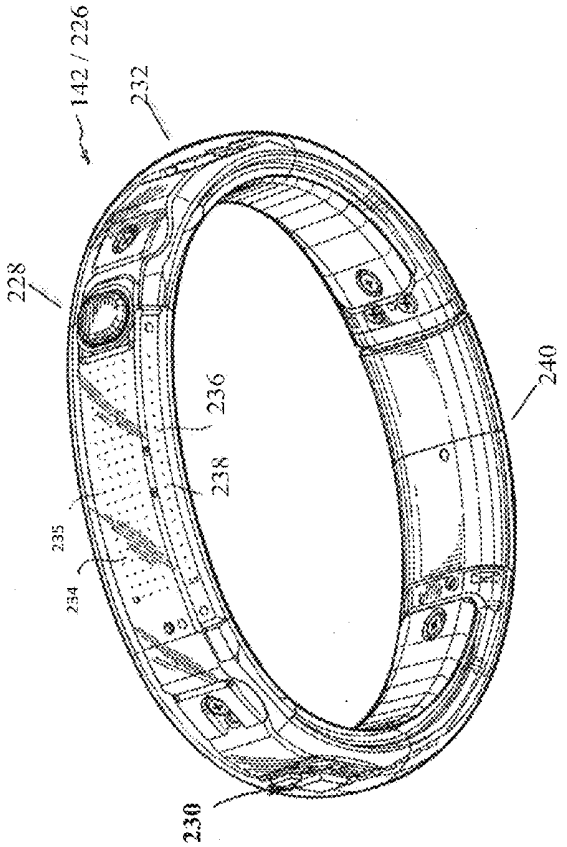

102
104
Computing Unit
106
Processor Unit
108
System Memory
112
ROM
110
RAM
114
116
Hard Disk Drive
118
Removable Optical Disk Drive
120
Input Devices
122
Output Devices
130
Network Interface

FIG. 1B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228
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238
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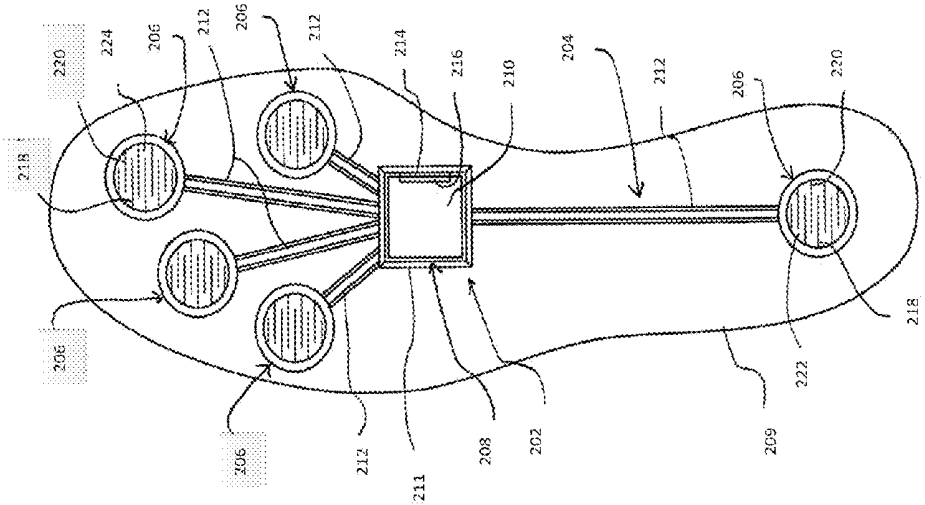
234
230

FIG. 2B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224
206
212
206
212
214
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220
218
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208
202
209
222
218

FIG. 2A

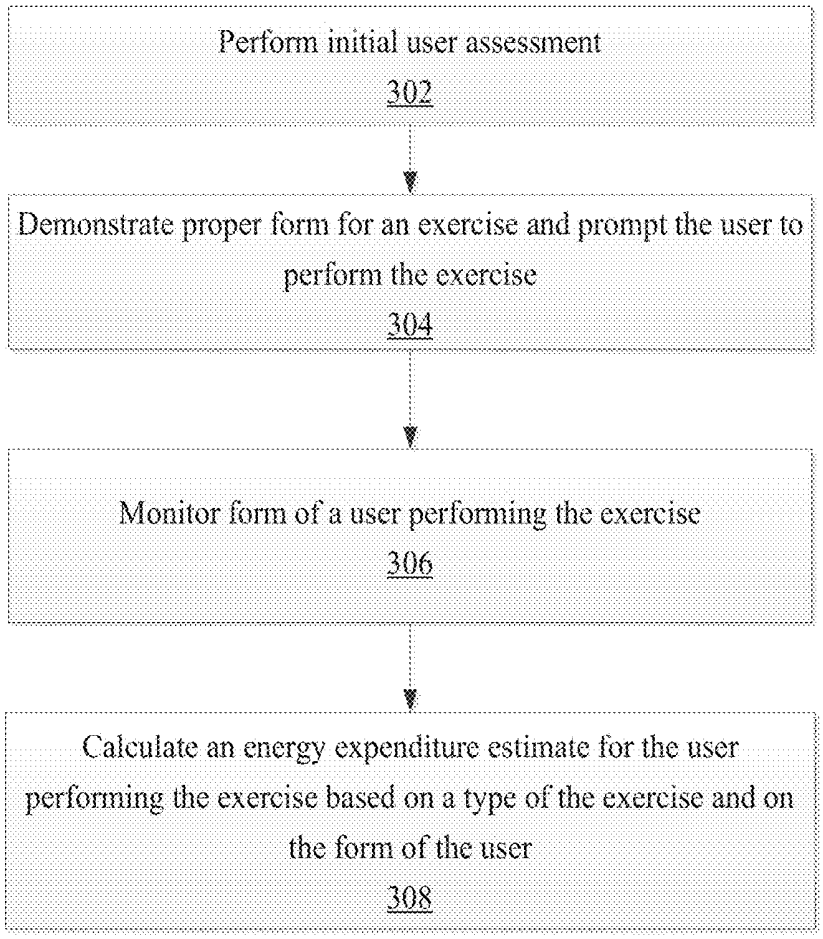
Perform initial user assessment
302
Demonstrate proper form for an exercise and prompt the user to perform the exercise
304
Monitor form of a user performing the exercise
306
Calculate an energy expenditure estimate for the user performing the exercise based on a type of the exercise and on the form of the user
308

FIG. 3

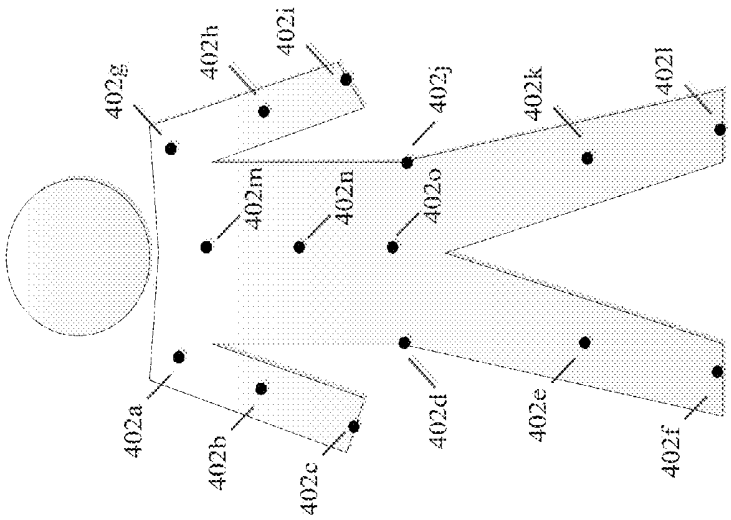
402g
402h
402i
402j
402k
402l
402m
402n
402o
402a
402b
402c
402d
402e
402f

FIG. 4

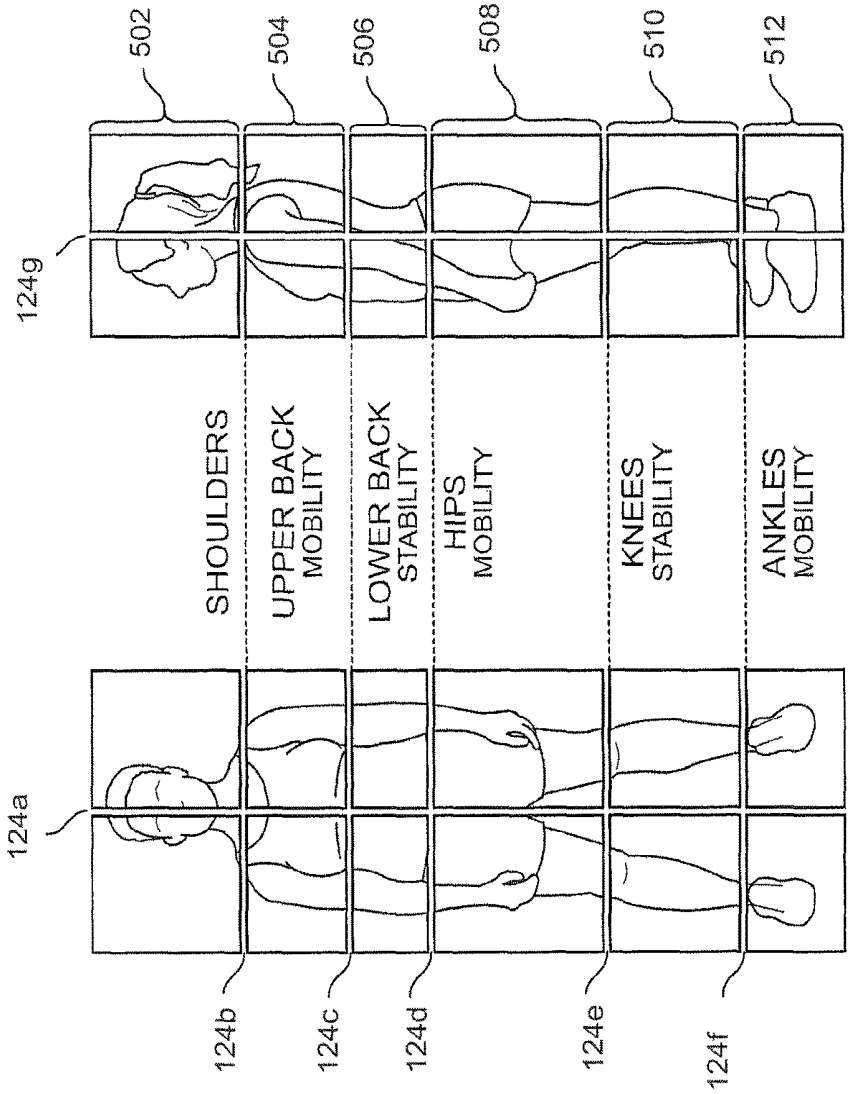
502
504
506
508
510
512
124g
SHOULDERS
UPPER BACK MOBILITY
LOWER BACK STABILITY
HIPS MOBILITY
KNEES STABILITY
ANKLES MOBILITY
124a
124b
124c
124d
124e
124f

FIG. 5

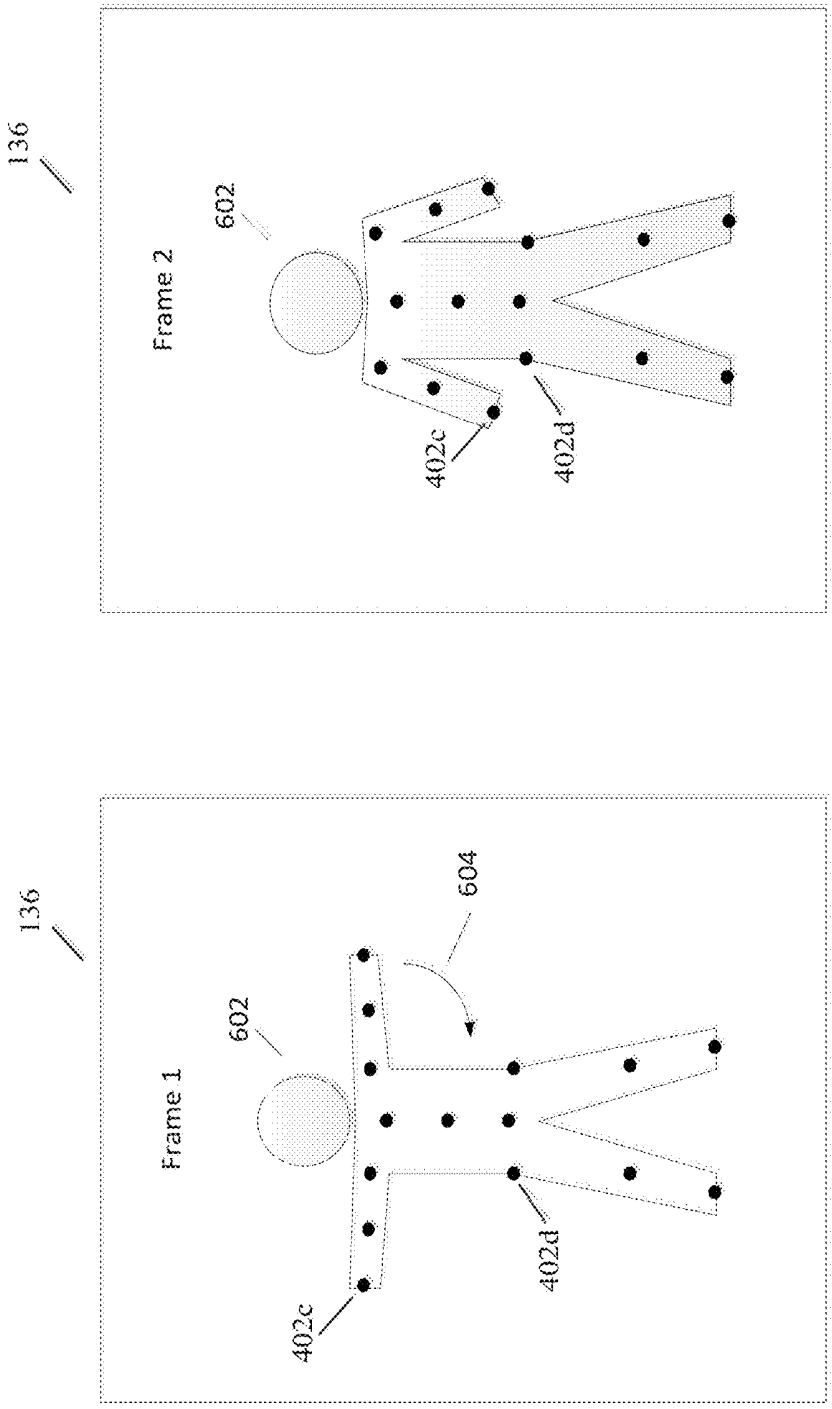

FIG. 6

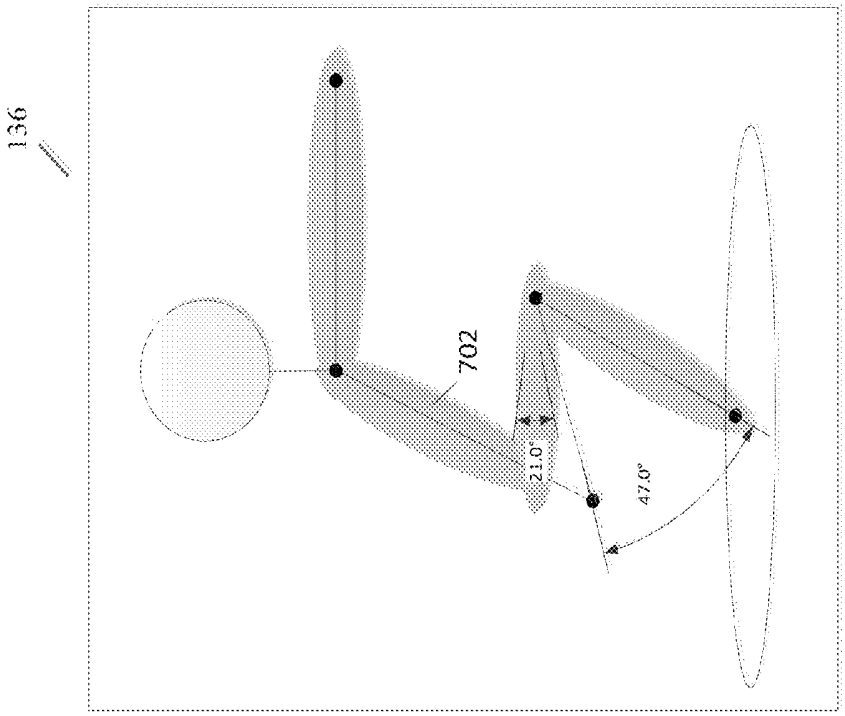

FIG. 7B

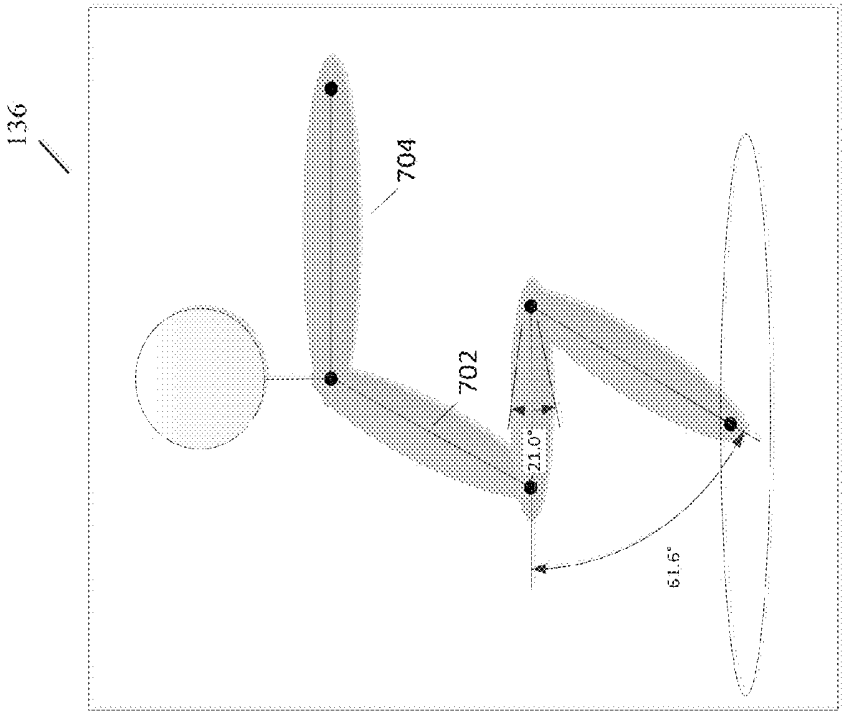

FIG. 7A

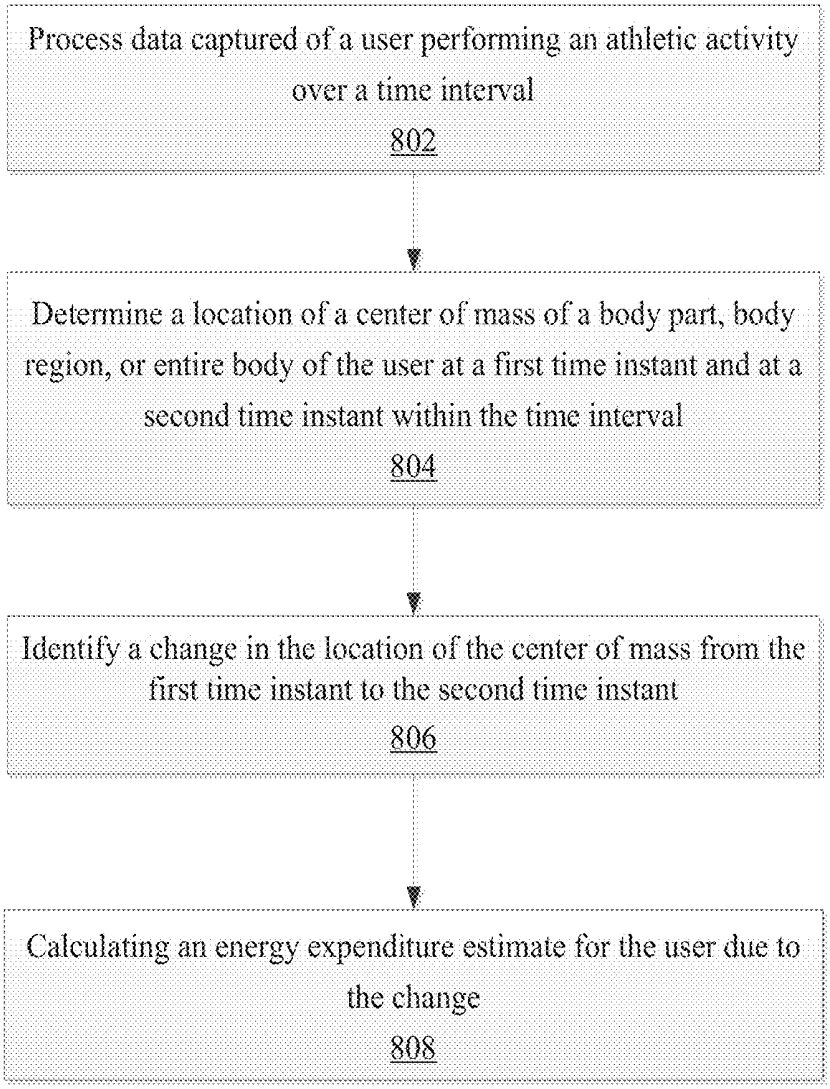
Process data captured of a user performing an athletic activity over a time interval
802
Determine a location of a center of mass of a body part, body region, or entire body of the user at a first time instant and at a second time instant within the time interval
804
Identify a change in the location of the center of mass from the first time instant to the second time instant
806
Calculating an energy expenditure estimate for the user due to the change
808

FIG. 8

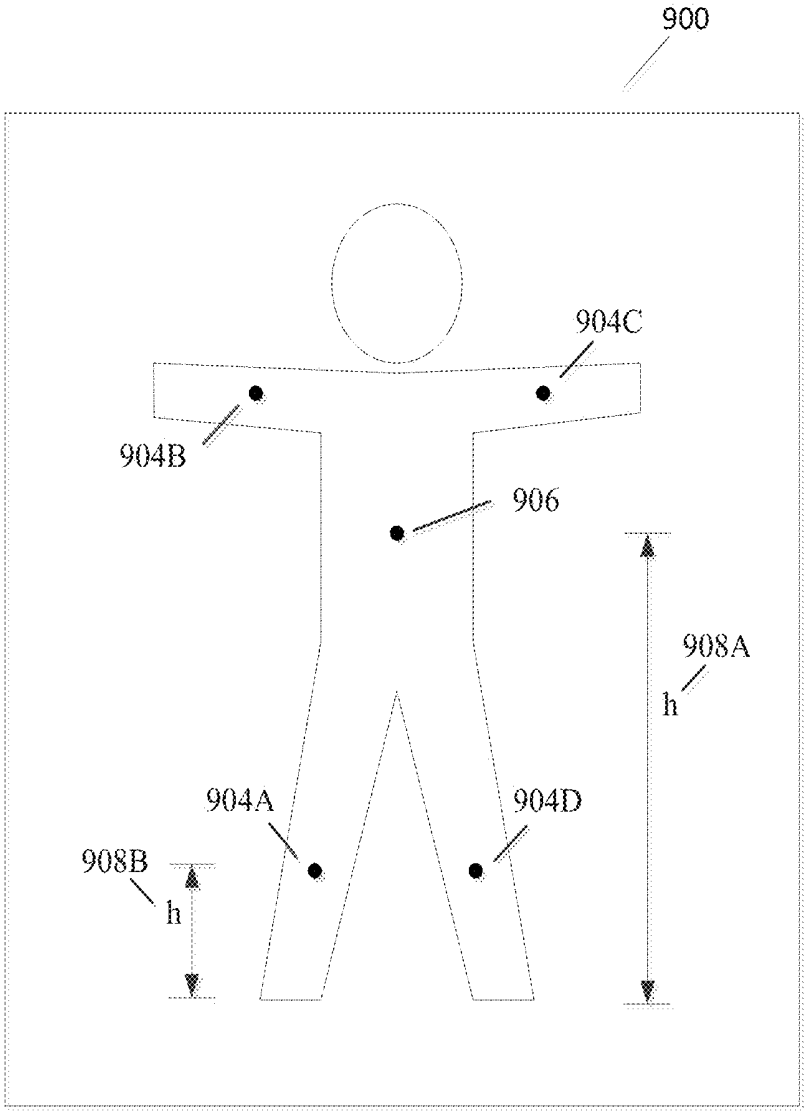

FIG. 9

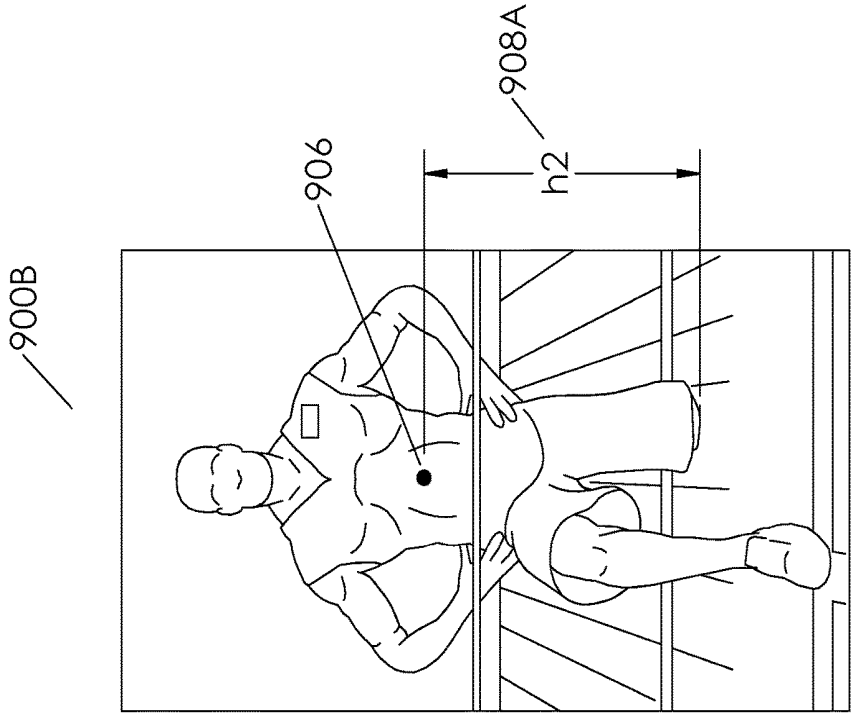

FIG. 10B

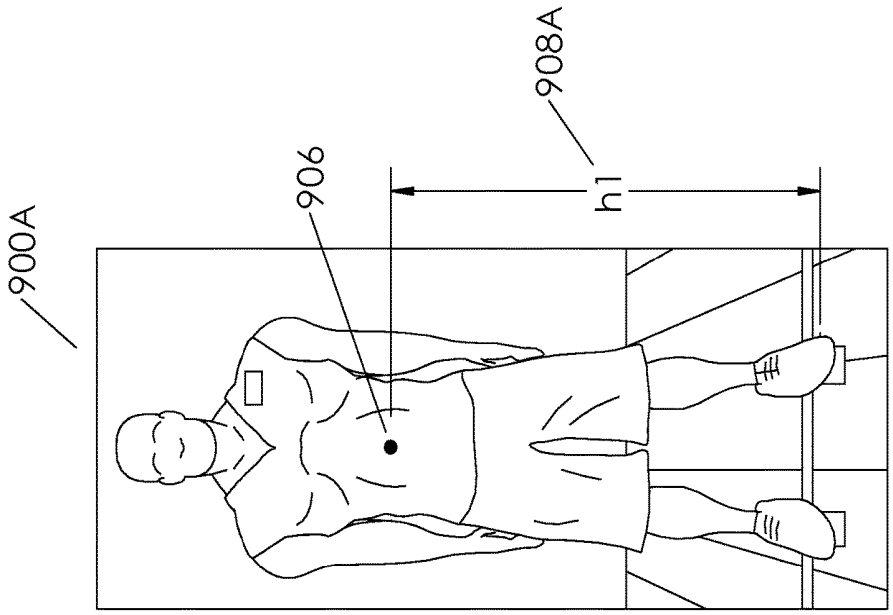

FIG. 10A

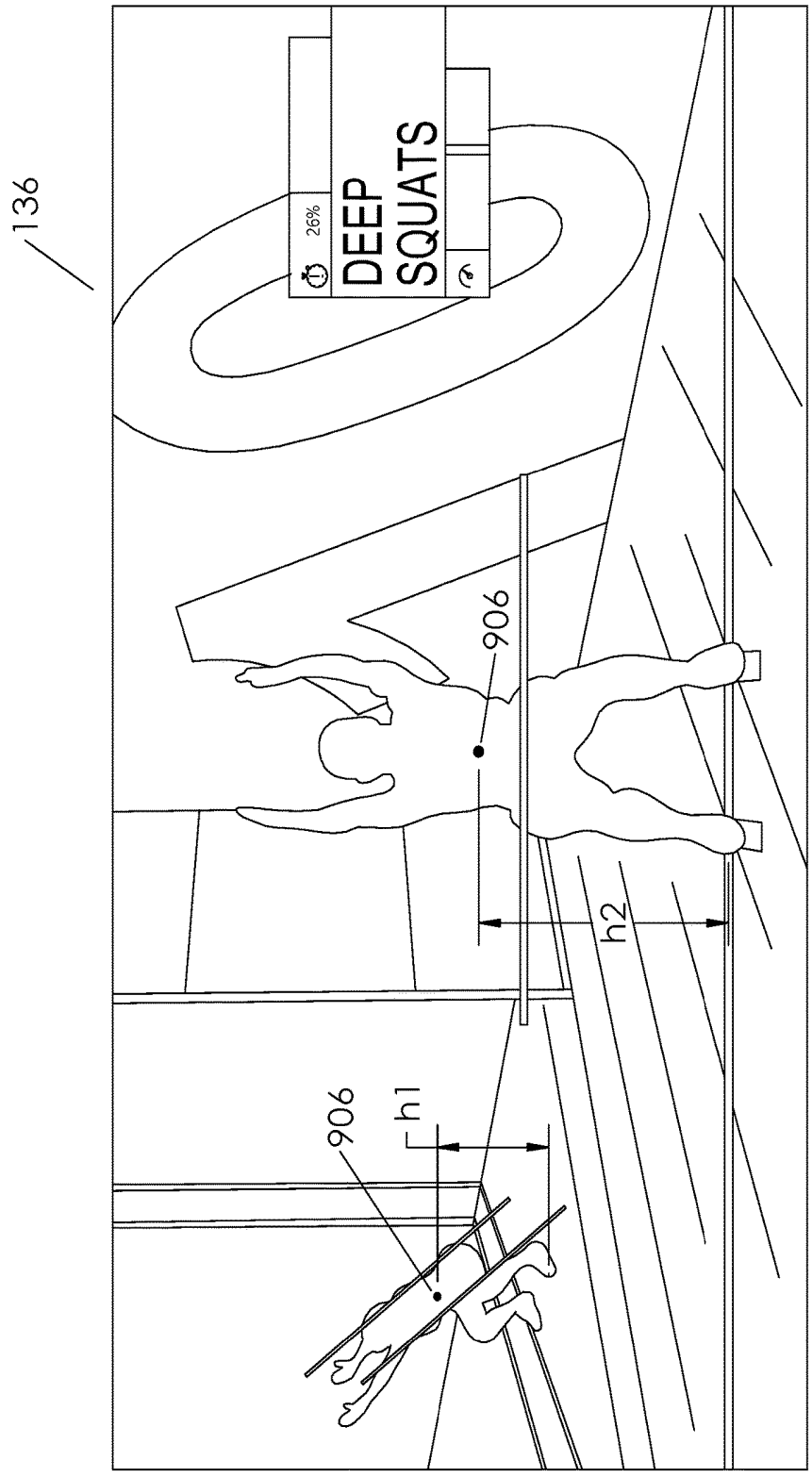

FIG. 11

FITNESS TRAINING SYSTEM WITH ENERGY EXPENDITURE CALCULATION THAT USES MULTIPLE SENSOR INPUTS

This application claims the benefit of, and priority to, U.S. Provisional Patent Application Ser. No. 61/655,170 filed Jun. 4, 2012, which is entitled "FITNESS TRAINING SYSTEM WITH ENERGY EXPENDITURE CALCULATION THAT USES MULTIPLE SENSOR INPUTS." The contents of the above-identified application are expressly incorporated herein by reference in its entirety for any and all non-limiting purposes.

BACKGROUND

While most people appreciate the importance of physical fitness, many have difficulty finding the motivation required to maintain a regular exercise program. Some people find it particularly difficult to maintain an exercise regimen that involves continuously repetitive motions, such as running, walking and bicycling.

Additionally, individuals may view exercise as work or a chore and thus, separate it from enjoyable aspects of their daily lives. Often, this clear separation between athletic activity and other activities reduces the amount of motivation that an individual might have toward exercising. Further, athletic activity services and systems directed toward encouraging individuals to engage in athletic activities might also be too focused on one or more particular activities while an individual's interest are ignored. This may further decrease a user's interest in participating in athletic activities or using the athletic activity services and systems.

Therefore, improved systems and methods to address these and other shortcomings in the art are desired.

BRIEF SUMMARY

The following presents a simplified summary in order to provide a basic understanding of some aspects of the disclosure. The summary is not an extensive overview of the disclosure. It is neither intended to identify key or critical elements of the disclosure nor to delineate the scope of the disclosure. The following summary merely presents some concepts of the disclosure in a simplified form as a prelude to the description below.

Aspects of this disclosure relate to processing of data taken while a user performs an athletic activity to determine an estimate of energy expenditure such as, for example, an amount of calories burned.

Example embodiments may relate to a system, method, apparatus, and computer readable media configured for prompting a user to perform an exercise, monitoring form of the user while performing the exercise, and calculating an energy expenditure estimate for the user performing the exercise based on a type of the exercise and on the form of the user. In other embodiments, expenditure estimate may be, or comprise, for example, an estimate of calories burned by the user. In certain embodiments, energy expenditure calculations comprise determinations relating to: effort, oxygen consumed, and/or oxygen kinetics of the user.

In various aspects, a system, method, apparatus, and/or computer readable media may be configured for processing data captured of a user performing an athletic activity over a time interval, and determining a location of a center of mass of a body part, body region, or entire body of the user at a first time instant and at a second time instant within the time interval. In further aspects, a system, method, apparatus, and/or computer readable media may be configured for identifying a change in the location of the center of mass from the first time instant to the second time instant, and calculating an energy expenditure estimate for the user due to the change.

These and other aspects of the embodiments are discussed in greater detail throughout this disclosure, including the accompanying drawings.

BRIEF DESCRIPTION OF THE DRAWINGS

The present disclosure is illustrated by way of example and not limited in the accompanying figures in which like reference numerals indicate similar elements and in which:

FIGS. **1**A-B illustrate an example of a system for providing personal training in accordance with example embodiments, wherein FIG. **1**A illustrates an example network configured to monitor athletic activity, and FIG. **1**B illustrates an example computing device in accordance with example embodiments.

FIGS. **2**A-B illustrate example sensor assemblies that may be worn by a user in accordance with example embodiments.

FIG. **3** illustrates an example flow diagram of a method for calculating an energy expenditure estimate for a user that accounts for a user's form while exercising as part of the estimate, in accordance with example embodiments.

FIG. **4** illustrates example points on a user's body for monitoring during exercising in accordance with example embodiments.

FIG. **5** illustrates an example posture assessment in accordance with example embodiments.

FIG. **6** illustrates example displays of a virtual avatar of a user performing an exercise in accordance with example embodiments.

FIGS. **7**A-B illustrate example displays of a virtual avatar of a user performing a squat in accordance with example embodiments.

FIG. **8** illustrates an example flow diagram of a method for calculating an energy expenditure estimate for a user while performing an athletic activity based on monitoring changes in potential energy, in accordance with example embodiments.

FIGS. **9**, **10**A-B, and **11** illustrate example locations of centers of mass for a virtual avatar of user, in accordance with example embodiments.

DETAILED DESCRIPTION

In the following description of the various embodiments, reference is made to the accompanying drawings, which form a part hereof, and in which is shown by way of illustration various embodiments in which the disclosure may be practiced. It is to be understood that other embodiments may be utilized and structural and functional modifications may be made without departing from the scope and spirit of the present disclosure. Further, headings within this disclosure should not be considered as limiting aspects of the disclosure. Those skilled in the art with the benefit of this disclosure will appreciate that the example embodiments are not limited to the example headings.

I. Example Personal Training System

A. Illustrative Computing Devices

FIG. **1**A illustrates an example of a personal training system **100** in accordance with example embodiments. Example system **100** may include one or more electronic devices, such as computer **102**. Computer **102** may comprise

a mobile terminal, such as a telephone, music player, tablet, netbook or any portable device. In other embodiments, computer **102** may comprise a set-top box (STB), desktop computer, digital video recorder(s) (DVR), computer server(s), and/or any other desired computing device. In certain configurations, computer **102** may comprise a gaming console, such as for example, a Microsoft® XBOX, Sony® Playstation, and/or a Nintendo® Wii gaming consoles. Those skilled in the art will appreciate that these are merely example consoles for descriptive purposes and this disclosure is not limited to any console or device.

Turning briefly to FIG. **1**B, computer **102** may include computing unit **104**, which may comprise at least one processing unit **106**. Processing unit **106** may be any type of processing device for executing software instructions, such as for example, a microprocessor device. Computer **102** may include a variety of non-transitory computer readable media, such as memory **108**. Memory **108** may include, but is not limited to, random access memory (RAM) such as RAM **110**, and/or read only memory (ROM), such as ROM **112**. Memory **108** may include any of: electronically erasable programmable read only memory (EEPROM), flash memory or other memory technology, CD-ROM, digital versatile disks (DVD) or other optical disk storage, magnetic storage devices, or any other medium that can be used to store the desired information and that can be accessed by computer **102**.

The processing unit **106** and the system memory **108** may be connected, either directly or indirectly, through a bus **114** or alternate communication structure to one or more peripheral devices. For example, the processing unit **106** or the system memory **108** may be directly or indirectly connected to additional memory storage, such as a hard disk drive **116**, a removable magnetic disk drive, an optical disk drive **118**, and a flash memory card. The processing unit **106** and the system memory **108** also may be directly or indirectly connected to one or more input devices **120** and one or more output devices **122**. The output devices **122** may include, for example, a display device **136**, television, printer, stereo, or speakers. In some embodiments one or more display devices may be incorporated into eyewear. The display devices incorporated into eyewear may provide feedback to users. Eyewear incorporating one or more display devices also provides for a portable display system. The input devices **120** may include, for example, a keyboard, touch screen, a remote control pad, a pointing device (such as a mouse, touchpad, stylus, trackball, or joystick), a scanner, a camera or a microphone. In this regard, input devices **120** may comprise one or more sensors configured to sense, detect, and/or measure athletic movement from a user, such as user **124**, shown in FIG. **1**A.

Looking again to FIG. **1**A, image-capturing device **126** and/or sensor **128** may be utilized in detecting and/or measuring athletic movements of user **124**. In one embodiment, data obtained from image-capturing device **126** or sensor **128** may directly detect athletic movements, such that the data obtained from image-capturing device **126** or sensor **128** is directly correlated to a motion parameter. For example, and with reference to FIG. **4**, image data from image-capturing device **126** may detect that the distance between sensor locations **402***g* and **402***i* has decreased and therefore, image-capturing device **126** alone may be configured to detect that user's **124** right arm has moved. Yet, in other embodiments, data from image-capturing device **126** and/or sensor **128** may be utilized in combination, either with each other or with other sensors to detect and/or measure movements. Thus, certain measurements may be determined from combining data obtained from two or more devices. Image-capturing device **126** and/or sensor **128** may include or be operatively connected to one or more sensors, including but not limited to: an accelerometer, a gyroscope, a location-determining device (e.g., GPS), light sensor, temperature sensor (including ambient temperature and/or body temperature), heart rate monitor, image-capturing sensor, moisture sensor and/or combinations thereof. Example uses of illustrative sensors **126**, **128** are provided below in Section I.C, entitled "Illustrative Sensors." Computer **102** may also use touch screens or image capturing device to determine where a user is pointing to make selections from a graphical user interface. One or more embodiments may utilize one or more wired and/or wireless technologies, alone or in combination, wherein examples of wireless technologies include Bluetooth® technologies, Bluetooth® low energy technologies, and/or ANT technologies.

B. Illustrative Network

Still further, computer **102**, computing unit **104**, and/or any other electronic devices may be directly or indirectly connected to one or more network interfaces, such as example interface **130** (shown in FIG. **1**B) for communicating with a network, such as network **132**. In the example of FIG. **1**B, network interface **130**, may comprise a network adapter or network interface card (NIC) configured to translate data and control signals from the computing unit **104** into network messages according to one or more communication protocols, such as the Transmission Control Protocol (TCP), the Internet Protocol (IP), and the User Datagram Protocol (UDP). These protocols are well known in the art, and thus will not be discussed here in more detail. An interface **130** may employ any suitable connection agent for connecting to a network, including, for example, a wireless transceiver, a power line adapter, a modern, or an Ethernet connection. Network **132**, however, may be any one or more information distribution network(s), of any type(s) or topology(s), alone or in combination(s), such as internet(s), intranet(s), cloud(s), LAN(s). Network **132** may be any one or more of cable, fiber, satellite, telephone, cellular, wireless, etc. Networks are well known in the art, and thus will not be discussed here in more detail. Network **132** may be variously configured such as having one or more wired or wireless communication channels to connect one or more locations (e.g., schools, businesses, homes, consumer dwellings, network resources, etc.), to one or more remote servers **134**, or to other computers, such as similar or identical to computer **102**. Indeed, system **100** may include more than one instance of each component (e.g., more than one computer **102**, more than one display **136**, etc.).

Regardless of whether computer **102** or other electronic device within network **132** is portable or at a fixed location, it should be appreciated that, in addition to the input, output and storage peripheral devices specifically listed above, the computing device may be connected, such as either directly, or through network **132** to a variety of other peripheral devices, including some that may perform input, output and storage functions, or some combination thereof. In certain embodiments, a single device may integrate one or more components shown in FIG. **1**A. For example, a single device may include computer **102**, image-capturing device **126**, sensor **128**, display **136** and/or additional components. In one embodiment, sensor device **138** may comprise a mobile terminal having a display **136**, image-capturing device **126**, and one or more sensors **128**. Yet, in another embodiment, image-capturing device **126**, and/or sensor **128** may be peripherals configured to be operatively connected to a media device, including for example, a gaming or media

system. Thus, it goes from the foregoing that this disclosure is not limited to stationary systems and methods. Rather, certain embodiments may be carried out by a user **124** in almost any location.

C. Illustrative Sensors

Computer **102** and/or other devices may comprise one or more sensors **126**, **128** configured to detect and/or monitor at least one fitness parameter of a user **124**. Sensors **126** and/or **128** may include, but are not limited to: an accelerometer, a gyroscope, a location-determining device (e.g., GPS), light sensor, temperature sensor (including ambient temperature and/or body temperature), sleep pattern sensors, heart rate monitor, image-capturing sensor, moisture sensor and/or combinations thereof. Network **132** and/or computer **102** may be in communication with one or more electronic devices of system **100**, including for example, display **136**, an image capturing device **126** (e.g., one or more video cameras), and sensor **128**, which may be an infrared (IR) device. In one embodiment sensor **128** may comprise an IR transceiver. For example, sensors **126**, and/or **128** may transmit waveforms into the environment, including towards the direction of user **124** and receive a "reflection" or otherwise detect alterations of those released waveforms. In yet another embodiment, image-capturing device **126** and/or sensor **128** may be configured to transmit and/or receive other wireless signals, such as radar, sonar, and/or audible information. Those skilled in the art will readily appreciate that signals corresponding to a multitude of different data spectrums may be utilized in accordance with various embodiments. In this regard, sensors **126** and/or **128** may detect waveforms emitted from external sources (e.g., not system **100**). For example, sensors **126** and/or **128** may detect heat being emitted from user **124** and/or the surrounding environment. Thus, image-capturing device **126** and/or sensor **128** may comprise one or more thermal imaging devices. In one embodiment, image-capturing device **126** and/or sensor **128** may comprise an IR device configured to perform range phenomenology. As a non-limited example, image-capturing devices configured to perform range phenomenology are commercially available from Flir Systems, Inc, of Portland, Oreg. Although image capturing device **126** and sensor **128** and display **136** are shown in direct (wirelessly or wired) communication with computer **102**, those skilled in the art will appreciate that any may directly communicate (wirelessly or wired) with network **132**.

1. Multi-Purpose Electronic Devices

User **124** may possess, carry, and/or wear any number of electronic devices, including sensory devices **138**, **140**, **142**, and/or **144**. In certain embodiments, one or more devices **138**, **140**, **142**, **144** may not be specially manufactured for fitness or athletic purposes. Indeed, aspects of this disclosure relate to utilizing data from a plurality of devices, some of which are not fitness devices, to collect, detect, and/or measure athletic data. In one embodiment, device **138** may comprise a portable electronic device, such as a telephone or digital music player, including an IPOD®, IPAD®, or iPhone®, brand devices available from Apple, Inc. of Cupertino, Calif. or Zune® or Microsoft® Windows devices available from Microsoft of Redmond, Wash. As known in the art, digital media players can serve as both an output device for a computer (e.g., outputting music from a sound file or pictures from an image file) and a storage device. In one embodiment, device **138** may be computer **102**, yet in other embodiments, computer **102** may be entirely distinct from device **138**. Regardless of whether device **138** is configured to provide certain output, it may serve as an input device for receiving sensory information. Devices **138**, **140**, **142**, and/or **144** may include one or more sensors, including but not limited to: an accelerometer, a gyroscope, a location-determining device (e.g., GPS), light sensor, temperature sensor (including ambient temperature and/or body temperature), heart rate monitor, image-capturing sensor, moisture sensor and/or combinations thereof. In certain embodiments, sensors may be passive, such as reflective materials that may be detected by image-capturing device **126** and/or sensor **128** (among others). In certain embodiments, sensors **144** may be integrated into apparel, such as athletic clothing. For instance, the user **124** may wear one or more on-body sensors **144***a-b*. Sensors **144** may be incorporated into the clothing of user **124** and/or placed at any desired location of the body of user **124**. Sensors **144** may communicate (e.g., wirelessly) with computer **102**, sensors **128**, **138**, **140**, and **142**, and/or camera **126**. Examples of interactive gaming apparel are described in U.S. patent application Ser. No. 10/286,396, filed Oct. 30, 2002, and published as U.S. Pat. Pub, No. 2004/0087366, the contents of which are incorporated herein by reference in its entirety for any and all non-limiting purposes. In certain embodiments, passive sensing surfaces may reflect waveforms, such as infrared light, emitted by image-capturing device **126** and/or sensor **128**. In one embodiment, passive sensors located on user's **124** apparel may comprise generally spherical structures made of glass or other transparent or translucent surfaces which may reflect waveforms. Different classes of apparel may be utilized in which a given class of apparel has specific sensors configured to be located proximate to a specific portion of the user's **124** body when properly worn. For example, golf apparel may include one or more sensors positioned on the apparel in a first configuration and yet soccer apparel may include one or more sensors positioned on apparel in a second configuration.

Devices **138-144** may communicate with each other, either directly or through a network, such as network **132**. Communication between one or more of devices **138-144** may communicate through computer **102**. For example, two or more of devices **138-144** may be peripherals operatively connected to bus **114** of computer **102**. In yet another embodiment, a first device, such as device **138** may communicate with a first computer, such as computer **102** as well as another device, such as device **142**, however, device **142** may not be configured to connect to computer **102** but may communicate with device **138**. Those skilled in the art will appreciate that other configurations are possible.

Some implementations of the example embodiments may alternately or additionally employ computing devices that are intended to be capable of a wide variety of functions, such as a desktop or laptop personal computer. These computing devices may have any combination of peripheral devices or additional components as desired. Also, the components shown in FIG. **1**B may be included in the server **134**, other computers, apparatuses, etc.

2. Illustrative Apparel/Accessory Sensors

In certain embodiments, sensory devices **138**, **140**, **142** and/or **144** may be formed within or otherwise associated with user's **124** clothing or accessories, including a watch, armband, wristband, necklace, shirt, shoe, or the like. Examples of shoe-mounted and wrist-worn devices (devices **140** and **142**, respectively) are described immediately below, however, these are merely example embodiments and this disclosure should not be limited to such.

i. Shoe-Mounted Device

In certain embodiments, sensory device **140** may comprise footwear which may include one or more sensors, including but not limited to: an accelerometer, location-

sensing components, such as GPS, and/or a force sensor system. FIG. **2**A illustrates one example embodiment of a sensor system **202**. In certain embodiments, system **202** may include a sensor assembly **204**. Assembly **204** may comprise one or more sensors, such as for example, an accelerometer, location-determining components, and/or force sensors. In the illustrated embodiment, assembly **204** incorporates a plurality of sensors, which may include force-sensitive resistor (FSR) sensors **206**. In yet other embodiments, other sensor(s) may be utilized. Port **208** may be positioned within a sole structure **209** of a shoe. Port **208** may optionally be provided to be in communication with an electronic module **210** (which may be in a housing **211**) and a plurality of leads **212** connecting the FSR sensors **206** to the port **208**. Module **210** may be contained within a well or cavity in a sole structure of a shoe. The port **208** and the module **210** include complementary interfaces **214**, **216** for connection and communication.

In certain embodiments, at least one force-sensitive resistor **206** shown in FIG. **2**A may contain first and second electrodes or electrical contacts **218**, **220** and a force-sensitive resistive material **222** disposed between the electrodes **218**, **220** to electrically connect the electrodes **218**, **220** together. When pressure is applied to the force-sensitive material **222**, the resistivity and/or conductivity of the force-sensitive material **222** changes, which changes the electrical potential between the electrodes **218**, **220**. The change in resistance can be detected by the sensor system **202** to detect the force applied on the sensor **216**. The force-sensitive resistive material **222** may change its resistance under pressure in a variety of ways. For example, the force-sensitive material **222** may have an internal resistance that decreases when the material is compressed, similar to the quantum tunneling composites described in greater detail below. Further compression of this material may further decrease the resistance, allowing quantitative measurements, as well as binary (on/off) measurements. In some circumstances, this type of force-sensitive resistive behavior may be described as "volume-based resistance," and materials exhibiting this behavior may be referred to as "smart materials." As another example, the material **222** may change the resistance by changing the degree of surface-to-surface contact. This can be achieved in several ways, such as by using microprojections on the surface that raise the surface resistance in an uncompressed condition, where the surface resistance decreases when the microprojections are compressed, or by using a flexible electrode that can be deformed to create increased surface-to-surface contact with another electrode. This surface resistance may be the resistance between the material **222** and the electrode **218**, **220** **222** and/or the surface resistance between a conducting layer (e.g., carbon/graphite) and a force-sensitive layer (e.g., a semiconductor) of a multi-layer material **222**. The greater the compression, the greater the surface-to-surface contact, resulting in lower resistance and enabling quantitative measurement. In some circumstances, this type of force-sensitive resistive behavior may be described as "contact-based resistance." It is understood that the force-sensitive resistive material **222**, as defined herein, may be or include a doped or non-doped semiconducting material.

The electrodes **218**, **220** of the FSR sensor **216** can be formed of any conductive material, including metals, carbon/graphite fibers or composites, other conductive composites, conductive polymers or polymers containing a conductive material, conductive ceramics, doped semiconductors, or any other conductive material. The leads **212** can be connected to the electrodes **218**, **220** by any suitable method, including welding, soldering, brazing, adhesively joining, fasteners, or any other integral or non-integral joining method. Alternately, the electrode **218**, **220** and associated lead **212** may be formed of a single piece of the same material.

ii. Wrist-Worn Device

As shown in FIG. **2**B, device **226** (which may resemble or be sensory device **142** shown in FIG. **1**A) may be configured to be worn by user **124**, such as around a wrist, arm, ankle or the like. Device **226** may monitor athletic movements of a user, including all-day activity of user **124**. In this regard, device assembly **226** may detect athletic movement during user's **124** interactions with computer **102** and/or operate independently of computer **102**. For example, in one embodiment, device **226** may be an-all day activity monitor that measures activity regardless of the user's proximity or interactions with computer **102**. Device **226** may communicate directly with network **132** and/or other devices, such as devices **138** and/or **140**. In other embodiments, athletic data obtained from device **226** may be utilized in determinations conducted by computer **102**, such as determinations relating to which exercise programs are presented to user **124**. In one embodiment, device **226** may also wirelessly interact with a mobile device, such as device **138** associated with user **124** or a remote website such as a site dedicated to fitness or health related subject matter. At some predetermined time, the user may wish to transfer data from the device **226** to another location.

As shown in FIG. **2**B, device **226** may include an input mechanism, such as a depressible input button **228** assist in operation of the device **226**. The input button **228** may be operably connected to a controller **230** and/or any other electronic components, such as one or more of the elements discussed in relation to computer **102** shown in FIG. **1**B. Controller **230** may be embedded or otherwise part of housing **232**. Housing **232** may be formed of one or more materials, including elastomeric components and comprise one or more displays, such as display **234**. The display may be considered an illuminable portion of the device **226**. The display **234** may include a series of individual lighting elements or light members such as LED lights **234** in an exemplary embodiment. The LED lights may be formed in an array and operably connected to the controller **230**. Device **226** may include an indicator system **236**, which may also be considered a portion or component of the overall display **234**. It is understood that the indicator system **236** can operate and illuminate in conjunction with the display **234** (which may have pixel member **235**) or completely separate from the display **234**. The indicator system **236** may also include a plurality of additional lighting elements or light members **238**, which may also take the form of LED lights in an exemplary embodiment. In certain embodiments, indicator system may provide a visual indication of goals, such as by illuminating a portion of lighting members **238** to represent accomplishment towards one or more goals.

A fastening mechanism **240** can be unlatched wherein the device **226** can be positioned around a wrist of the user **124** and the fastening mechanism **240** can be subsequently placed in a latched position. The user can wear the device **226** at all times if desired. In one embodiment, fastening mechanism **240** may comprise an interface, including but not limited to a USB port, for operative interaction with computer **102** and/or devices **138**, **140**.

In certain embodiments, device **226** may comprise a sensor assembly (not shown in FIG. **2**B). The sensor assembly may comprise a plurality of different sensors. In an example embodiment, the sensor assembly may comprise or

permit operative connection to an accelerometer (including in the form of a multi-axis accelerometer), heart rate sensor, location-determining sensor, such as a GPS sensor, and/or other sensors. Detected movements or parameters from device's **142** sensor(s), may include (or be used to form) a variety of different parameters, metrics or physiological characteristics including but not limited to speed, distance, steps taken, and energy expenditure such as calories, heart rate, sweat detection, effort, oxygen consumed, and/or oxygen kinetics. Such parameters may also be expressed in terms of activity points or currency earned by the user based on the activity of the user.

I. Illustrative Athletic Monitoring Methods

System **100** may prompt a user to perform one or more exercises, monitor user movement while performing the exercises, and provide the user with an energy expenditure estimate based on their movement. System **100** may analyze a user's form to determine if the user is making an exercise more or less difficult, and adjust the energy expenditure estimate accordingly, Energy expenditure estimates may be, or comprise, an estimate of calories burned by the user. In certain embodiments, energy expenditure determinations may be based on, and/or conveyed as a point system. In one embodiment, calories may be converted to a point system, yet in other embodiments, measurements may be directly obtained in one or more point systems. In one implementation, activity points may be based upon: form, body movements, and/or completion of certain activities. In further embodiments, energy expenditure calculations may comprise determinations relating to: effort, oxygen consumed, and/or oxygen kinetics of the user. In one embodiment, computer **102**, camera **126**, sensor **128**, and display **136** may be implemented within the confines of a user's residence, although other locations, including gyms and/or businesses are contemplated. Further, as discussed above, computer **102** may be a portable device, such as a cellular telephone, therefore, one or more aspects discussed herein may be conducted in almost any location. In this regard, the example embodiments of this disclosure are discussed in the context of being implemented with one or more of the example components of system **100**. Those skilled in the art will appreciate that reference(s) to a particular component, such as computer **102**, is not meant to be limiting, but rather to provide an illustrative example of one of many possible implementations. Thus, although certain components may be referenced, it is to be assumed that other components of system **100** may be utilized unless expressly disclaimed or physically impossible. Further, aspects disclosed herein are not limited to example system **100**.

A. Monitoring User Movements

While exercising, the system **100** may use one or more techniques to monitor user movement. FIG. **3** illustrates an example flow diagram of a method for calculating an energy expenditure estimate for a user that accounts for a user's form while exercising as part of the estimate, in accordance with example embodiments. The method may be implemented by a computer, such as, for example, computer **102**, device **138**, **140** and/or **142**, as well as or other apparatuses. The blocks shown in FIG. **3** may be rearranged, some blocks may be removed, additional blocks may be added, each block may be repeated one or more times, and the flow diagram may be repeated one or more times. The flow diagram may begin at block **302**.

1. Perform User Assessment

In block **302**, the method may include performing an initial assessment of the user. A user, such as user **124**, may be positioned in range of a sensor, such as in front of the image capturing device **126** and/or sensor **128**, which may comprise an infrared transceiver. Display **136** may present a representation of user **124** that may be a "mirror-image" or depict a virtual avatar, such as a user avatar, that moves to correspond with user movement. Computer **102** may prompt the user to move into a certain region relative to the image capturing device **126** and/or relative to the infrared transceiver **128** so that the user is within frame and/or range. When property positioned, system **100** may process movement of the user. Although the term "initial" has been utilized, this assessment may occur each time the user initiates system **100**, performs certain movements, upon passage of time, or for any other reason. Thus, references to assessments herein are not limited to a single assessment.

a. Identify Sensory Locations

System **100** may process sensory data to identify user movement data. In one embodiment, sensory locations on a user's body may be identified. With reference to FIG. **4**, sensory locations **402***a*-**402***o* may correspond to locations of interest on the user's **124** body (e.g., ankles, elbows, shoulders, etc.). For example, images of recorded video, such as from camera **126**, may be utilized in an identification of the sensory locations **402***a*-**402***o*. For example, the user may stand a certain distance, which may or may not be predefined, from the camera **126**, and system **100** may process the images to identify the user **124** within the video, for example, using disparity mapping techniques. In an example, image capturing device **126** may be a stereo camera having two or more lenses that are spatially offset from one another and that simultaneously capture two or more images of the user. System **100** may process the two or more images taken at a same time instant to generate a disparity map for determining a location of certain parts of the user's body in each image (or at least some of the images) in the video using a coordinate system (e.g., Cartesian coordinates). The disparity map may indicate a difference between an image taken by each of the offset lenses.

In a second example, one or more sensors may be located on or proximate to the user's **124** body at the sensory locations **402***a*-**402***o* or the user **124** may wear a suit having sensors situated at various locations. Yet, in other embodiments, sensor locations may be determined from other sensory devices, such as devices **138**, **140** and/or **142**. In this regard, sensors may be physical sensors located on a user's clothing, yet in other embodiments, sensor locations **402***a*-**402***o* may be based upon identification of relationships between two moving body parts. For example, sensor location **402***a* may be determined by identifying motions of user **124**. In this regard, the overall shape or portion of a user's body may permit identification of certain body parts. Regardless of whether a camera, such as camera **126**, is utilized and/or a physical sensor located on the user **124**, such as sensors within device(s) **138**, **140**, **142** are utilized, the sensors may sense a current location of a body part and/or track movement of the body part.

In certain embodiments, a time stamp may be added to the data collected (such as collected part of block **302** in FIG. **3**) indicating a specific time when a body part was at a certain location. Sensor data may be received at computer **102** (or other device) via wireless or wired transmission. A computer, such as computer **102** and/or devices **138**, **140**, **142**, may process the time stamps to deter nine the locations of the body parts using a coordinate system (e.g., Cartesian coordinates) within each (or at least some) of the images in the video. Data received from camera **126** may be corrected, modified, and/or combined with data received from one or more other devices **138**, **140**, and **142**.

In a third example, system **100** may use infrared pattern recognition to detect user movement and locations of body parts of the user **124**. For example, sensor **128** may include an infrared transceiver, which may be part of camera **126**, or another device, that may emit an infrared signal to illuminate the user's **124** body using infrared signals. The infrared transceiver **128** may capture a reflection of the infrared signal from the body of user **124**. Based on the reflection, the system **100** may identify a location of certain parts of the user's body using a coordinate system (e.g., Cartesian coordinates) at particular instances in time. Which and how body parts are identified may be predetermined based on a type or types of exercise a user is requested to perform.

As part of a workout routine, system **100** may make an initial postural assessment of the user **124** as part of the initial user assessment in block **302** of FIG. **3**. With reference to FIG. **5**, system **100** may analyze front and side images of a user **124** to determine a location of one or more of a user's shoulders, upper back, lower back, hips, knees, and ankles. On-body sensors and/or infrared techniques may also be used, either alone or in conjunction with camera **126**, to determine the locations of various body parts for the postural assessment. For example, system **100** may determine assessment lines **124***a-g* and/or regions **502-512** to determine the locations of a various points on a user's body, such as, for example, ankles, knees, hips, upper back, lower back, and shoulders.

b. Identify Sensory Regions

In further embodiments, system **100** may identify sensory regions (see, e.g., block **302**). In one embodiment, assessments lines **124***a-g* may be utilized to divide the user's body into regions. For example, lines **124***b-f* may be horizontal axes. For example, a "shoulders" region **502** may correlate to a body portion having a lower boundary around the user's shoulders (see line **124***b*), region **504** may correlate to the body portion between the shoulders (line **124***b*) and about half the distance to the hips (see line **124***c*) and thus be an "upper back" region, and region **506** may span the area between line **124***c* to the hips (see line **124***d*) to comprise a "lower back region." Similarly, region **508** may span the area between the "hips" (line **124***d*) and the "knees" (see line **124***e*), region **510** may span between lines **124***e* and **124***f* and region **512** (see "ankles") may have an upper boundary around line **124***f*. Regions **502-512** may be further divided, such as into quadrants, such as by using axes **124***a* and **124***g*. To aid in the identification of one or more sensory regions, system **100** may prompt the user to make one or more specific movements. For example, system **100** may prompt a user to move a specific body part or region (e.g., waive their right arm, or waive the left arm in a specific pattern) to aid the system **100** (e.g., computer algorithm processing information received from the infrared transceiver **128**) in determining which body part or region is in a specific location within a coordinate system.

c. Categorize Locations or Regions

In certain embodiments, body parts or regions that are not proximate to each other may nonetheless be categorized into the same movement category (see, e.g., block **302**). For example, as shown in FIG. **5**, the "upper back", "hips", and "ankles" regions **504**, **508**, **512** may be categorized as belonging to a "mobility" category. In another embodiment, the "lower back" and "knees" regions **506**, **510** may be categorized as belonging to a "stability" category. The categorizations are merely examples, and in other embodiments, a location or region may belong to multiple categories. For example, a "center of gravity" region may be formed from regions **504** and **506**. In one embodiment, a "center of gravity" may comprise portions of regions **504** and **506**. In another embodiment, a "center of moment" category may be provided, either independently, or alternatively, as comprising a portion of at least another category. In one embodiment, a single location may be weighted in two or more categories, such as being 10% weighted in a "stability" category and 90% weighted in a "mobility" category.

System **100** may also process the image to determine a color of clothing of the user or other distinguishing features to differentiate the user from their surroundings. After processing, system **100** may identify a location of multiple points on the user's body and track locations of those points, such as locations **402** in FIG. **4**. System **100** may also prompt the user to answer questions to supplement the postural assessment, such as, for example, age, weight, etc. Again, block **302** is optional and is not required in accordance with various embodiments.

2. Providing Form

With reference again to FIG. **3**, in block **304**, various embodiments may include demonstrating proper form for an exercise and prompting the user to perform the exercise. For example, after or in addition to the initial postural assessment, the system **100** (such as with computer **102**) may cause the display **136** to present a virtual trainer demonstrating an exercise to instruct the user on proper form and/or may present a depiction and/or an actual video of a real person demonstrating proper form for an exercise. System **100** may then prompt the user to begin performing the exercise.

With reference to FIG. **3**, in block **306**, various embodiments may include monitoring form of a user performing the exercise. As seen in FIG. **6**, system **100**, such as through computer **102**, may cause the display **136** to present a virtual avatar **602** of the user. The virtual avatar **602** may move in synchronism with the user **124**. Also, the display **136** may present video of the actual user, rather than avatar **602**. System **100** may process one or more frames in the video to determine at least some of the sensory locations **402**, or may receive data from sensors worn on-body by the user. As shown in FIG. **6**, sensory locations **402** may be displayed on the virtual avatar.

For proper form during many exercise routines, a user may proceed through multiple positions during a repetition of an exercise. Certain aspects disclosed herein relate to defining one or more measurement positions and/or desired locations for one or more sensory locations **402**. For example, a measurement position may refer to a particular relationship between various body parts during a repetition. For example, a measurement position may indicate a desired location for a user's body part (e.g., desired location of user's left elbow) and may indicate a desired relationship between multiple body parts (e.g., angle between a user's torso and thigh). For a movement or series of movements (such as an exercise routine), system **100** may define one or more measurement positions and/or desired locations for one or more of the sensory locations **402** for a measurement position. In various implementations, each repetition of an exercise can be broken down into one or more measurement positions.

System **100**, such as through computer **102**, may process video or sensor data of a user performing an exercise to determine when a user's body has reached a measurement position. For each measurement position, system **100** may compare the measured sensory locations to desired sensory locations to monitor the user's form while performing the exercise. For example, frame **1** of FIG. **6** may correspond to

a first measurement position and frame **2** may correspond to a second measurement position. System **100** may determine a distance between sensory locations **402***c* and **402***d* at each measurement position. Other relationships between sensory locations may be specified (e.g., certain angle, certain position, etc.)

With reference again to FIG. **3**, in block **308**, various embodiments may include calculating an energy expenditure estimate for the user. Calculations may be based on a type of the exercise and/or on the form of the user. The energy expenditure estimate may be, or comprise, for example, an estimate of calories burned by the user. In certain embodiments, energy expenditure calculations comprise determinations relating to: effort, oxygen consumed, and/or oxygen kinetics of the user. During a workout session or upon its completion, the system **100** may inform the user of energy expended. In one embodiment, system **100** may provide an indication of a quantity of calories they have burned. To provide a more accurate calories burned estimate, system **100** may account for a user's form while performing an exercise as well as the type of exercise that was performed. Further embodiments may utilize user attributes to more accurately identify a number of calories burned by a user. Example user attributes may be height, weight, age, etc. One or more sensors may determine the user attributes, or the user may input the user attributes via an interface to a computer, such as computer **102**.

System **100** may use information from sensory locations **402** detected at measurement positions of an exercise in combination with one or more known values to obtain a more accurate determination of calories burned. In one embodiment, a known value may comprise or be part of a Metabolic Equivalent of Task (MET) table. A MET table, for example, may be defined for a particular exercise (e.g., squat, lunge, etc.) and used to determine how many calories a user burned during a workout. System **100** may store or have access to multiple MET tables corresponding to different exercises (e.g., squat, lunge, jumping rope, push up, running, etc.). System **100** may process data from the video and/or sensors to determine a number of repetitions of an exercise that a user has performed or duration of an exercise, and may estimate a number of calories burned by the user based on the repetitions and/or duration information and the one or more known values, such as may be obtained from MET tables.

MET tables, however, are statistical averages and are not as accurate as they could be. Thus, conventional calorie measurement systems that rely on MET tables merely provide a user with a rough estimate of how many calories they burned during a workout. Although embodiments of this disclosure may utilize one or more values from a MET table, aspects of this disclosure are not limited by the deficiencies of prior measurements systems. For example, in one embodiment the user's form may be accounted for. System **100** may apply a scaling factor to a calories burned estimate based on detected sensory location information. The scaling factor may reflect how well a user has performed an exercise and in certain embodiments may consider attributes of the user. For example, the scaling factor may be a function of one or more of the sensory location information, a duration during which the user performed an exercise, information reported by the user (e.g., age, weight), a user's heart rate taken by a heart rate monitor, a pressure measurement, and/or other data. A pressure measurement may be obtained from pressure sensor **140** located in a shoe, for example, to determine how much force a user exerts during movement. For example, a user may be holding a weight in each hand and the pressure sensor **140** may monitor pressure at the shoe. The pressure sensor **140** may also indicate how quickly a user changes direction (e.g., how hard a user made a cut) or how much power was exerted when jumping.

To determine the scaling factor, system **100** may monitor for relationships between one or more body parts at one or more measurement positions during a repetition of an exercise. Modifications to these relationships may make an exercise easier or harder to perform. The scaling factor may consider factors indicative of whether a user is making the exercise more or less difficult to complete, and may adjust a calories burned estimate accordingly. In a squat, for example, relationships may be defined for a first angle between a user's torso and thighs, and a second angle between a user's thighs and shin while performing the squat. System **100** may process sensory location information to measure the first and second angle of the user over time for comparison with the desired first and second angle.

In an example, with reference to FIGS. **7**A-B, a virtual avatar **702** of a user is displayed performing a squat. Virtual avatar **702** is depicted as a stick figure, and proper technique for an exercise is shown as a shaded region **704**. At the lowest part of the squat (for example, as shown in FIG. **7**A), the desired form may specify a relationship between a user's thigh and shin, between a user's back and arms, and/or any other two parts or locations the user. In one embodiment, the desired form may specify a first predetermined angle between a location or part. For example, a user's upper leg and lower leg, and/or a second predetermined angle between a user's back and arms. System **100** may process the sensory location information to compare the user's form to the desired form. For example, system **100** may process the sensory location information to determine an angle between the user's thigh and shin, and an angle between the user's back and arms when performing a squat.

System **100** may define thresholds for the relationships between various body parts for adjusting the scaling factor. The thresholds may permit the user's form to differ by a certain amount from the desired form. For a preferred threshold, system **100** may determine that the user has good form that does not require any adjustment of the scaling factor (e.g., less than a 5% difference between angle between the user's upper leg and lower leg and desired angle). For an acceptable threshold, the system **100** may nominally adjust the scaling factor upward or downward to reflect increased or reduced effort by the user (e.g., 5-15% difference between angle between the user's upper leg and lower leg and desired angle). For an unacceptable threshold, the system **100** may determine that the user's form has reduced the amount of effort to perform the exercise and may downwardly adjust the scaling factor (e.g., greater than a 15% difference between angle between the user's upper leg and lower leg and desired angle).

System **100** may also adjust the scaling factor based on omissions or additions a user makes when performing an exercise. For example, a user may not be doing an arm movement in an exercise that requires movement of both arms and legs. Also, if the user is performing an additional movement beyond what is specified for an exercise, the system **100** may adjust the scaling factor to increase the calorie estimate.

Upon determining the scaling factor, the system **100** may determine an amount of calories burned as a function of the scaling factor(s) and the calorie estimate. The function may be a multiplication of the calorie estimate by the scaling factor, or via other relationships. For example, the scaling factor may be adjustments to a number of variables in a

mathematical equation for adjusting calories burned by one or more of multiplication, addition, and subtraction. In further embodiments, system **100** may cease determinations relating to caloric expenditure if the user deviates from a threshold. For example, a user may be interrupted during a workout routine and either forget or be too distracted to "pause" the determination, thus, certain embodiments may cease determining caloric expenditure upon detecting that a user is not performing an exercise. Further embodiments may cease or otherwise alter determinations of caloric expenditure if one or more variation thresholds are exceeded, such as for example, if a user is over-extending or under-extending a body region or part. In certain embodiments, if a user's movements are prone to cause injury, measurements and/or determinations relating to caloric expenditure may be stopped. In one implementation, system **100** may provide cues and/or instructions to correct the user's deficiencies or incorrect movements.

The following provides an example equation for calculating an amount of calories burned by a user during a workout.

Calories burned=BMR*(Activity modifier)*Completeness modifier). Equation (1):

In equation (1), BMR is an acronym for Basal Metabolic Rate. The system **100** may calculate the BMR using the Mifflin-St. Jeor Equation, BMR=(10*w)+(6.25*h)−(5.0*a)+(5 for men, −161 for women), where "*" is the multiplication symbol, "w"=weight in kilograms, "h"=height in centimeters, "a"=age in years. The system **100** may also use the Harris-Benedict equation instead of or, in addition to, the Mifflin-St. Jeor Equation.

The activity modifier may be an adjustment corresponding to a type of exercise being performed by a user. The activity modifier may be larger for more strenuous exercises, and smaller for less strenuous. System **100** may store a file containing activity modifiers, where each activity modifier may have a value for a particular exercise type. Two or more exercises may have activity modifiers with a same value, or certain exercise may have a unique value for the activity modifier. The activity modifier may have a default value. In one example embodiment, the default value may be 0:1. In a second embodiment, the default value may be 1.0. The default value may be any value, including 0.0. System **100** may update the default value to correspond to the activity modifier for an exercise currently being performed by the user. Over a duration of the workout, system **100** may use different ones of the activity modifiers to calculate calories burned using equation (1) corresponding to different exercises the user is prompted to perform. One or more factors may contribute to the activity modifier and/or adjustment of the modifier. Examples include, but are not limited to: pace, type of exercise, duration, and combinations thereof. Further, activity modifiers and/or variation of activity modifiers may be determined from predetermined values (such as a value assigned to an exercise or movement that a user is prompted to perform), the user's performance, information from a MET table on a particular exercise, and combinations thereof.

The completeness modifier may be used for adjusting the BMR based on how well a user's form corresponds to a desired form when performing an exercise. In an example, the completeness modifier may indicate what percentage of full movement was achieved for each repetition when performing an exercise (e.g., determine a percentage of a measured angle between the user's torso and thighs for a particular repetition of an exercise relative to a desired angle), or may be an average of the percentage of full movement for a predetermined number of repetitions (e.g., last three exercises, last five exercises, all exercises, etc.). The completeness modifier may have a default value. In one example embodiment, the default value may be 0.1. In a second embodiment, the default value may be 1.0. The default value may be any value, including 0.0. System **100** may update the completeness modifier over time based on how well the user's form conforms to a desired form. One or more factors may contribute to the activity modifier and/or adjustment of the modifier, Examples include, but are not limited to: pace, type of exercise, duration, and combinations thereof. Further, activity modifiers and/or variation of activity modifiers may be determined from predetermined values (such as a value assigned to an exercise or movement that a user is prompted to perform), the user's performance, and combinations thereof.

Equation (2), provided below, may be utilized in further embodiments.

Calories burned=BMR*(Activity modifier)*(Completeness modifier)*(Multiply Modifier)+(Addition Modifier) Equation (2):

Values for BMR, Activity Modifier, and/or Completeness Modifier of Equation (2) may be determined in accordance with one or more embodiments described above in reference to Equation (1). In one embodiment, the value of the Multiply Modifier may be defined for each type of exercise. In one example embodiment, the default value may be 0.1. In a second embodiment, the default value may be 1.0. The default value may be any value, including 0.0. System **100** may update the Multiply Modifier during a workout to correspond to a type of exercise the user is prompted to perform. In certain embodiments, the Activity Modifier may be obtained (either partially or entirely) from empirical data.

In certain embodiments, the value of the Addition Modifier may be defined for each type of exercise. In one example embodiment, the default value may be 0.1. In a second embodiment, the default value may be 1.0. The default value may be any value, including 0.0. System **100** may update the Addition Modifier during a workout to correspond to a type of exercise the user is prompted to perform. In certain embodiments, the Activity Modifier may be obtained (either partially or entirely) from empirical data.

System **100** may calculate the calories burned over a duration of a workout, which may incorporate the utilization of equations (1) or (2). System **100** may cause the display **136** to display a running total of calories burned. In certain embodiments, the total may be determined for one or more completed repetitions and one or more completed sets of each exercise. System **100** may also calculate and cause display of calories burned by type of exercise performed. Other information such as, for example, peak/minimum/average calorie burning rate by workout, by repetition, by set, or by exercise type may also be calculated and displayed. System **100** may periodically determine an amount of calories burned by the user while exercising using equation (1). System **100** may indicate a current amount of calories burned that is continually updated over a workout (e.g., a running total), or may update the calories burned amount at predetermined times (e.g., user completes a set of a first type of exercise and begins a set of second type of exercise, at the end of the workout session, etc.). System **100** may also inform the user how many calories were burned during each repetition as well as in each set of an exercise.

One or more of the inputs and/or variables used in the determination of caloric expenditure (such as with equation

(1)) may remain the same regardless of the type of exercise being performed by the user, yet others may vary. For example, the BMR may be the same over the entire workout as a user's weight, height, and age do not change appreciably over the course of a workout. Further, one or more of the Activity modifier, Completeness modifier, Multiply Modifier, and Addition Modifier may vary over the workout. The values (and/or variation) of the values may depend on the type exercise currently being performed by the user.

The Completeness modifier may vary from repetition to repetition. As noted above, system **100** may generate the Completeness modifier based on monitoring a user's form while they perform an exercise. Generally, an exercise includes a sequence of motions to perform one repetition, and a user typically performs a set that includes two or more repetitions. A user's form may vary from repetition to repetition, and so may the Completeness modifier.

System **100** may determine calories burned using equation (1) based on a Completeness modifier that varies from repetition to repetition, or based on a filtered version of the Completeness modifier. To filter the Completeness modifier, the system **100** may, for example, determine a Completeness modifier for one or more repetitions, may average some or all of the Completeness modifiers, and may use the average in equation (1). Also, system **100** may generate the Completeness modifier as a weighted average, where Completeness modifiers of some repetitions may be given greater weight than others. For example, system **100** may apply a decaying function where more recent Completeness modifiers are weighted more heavily than less recent when generating an average.

System **100** may also allow a user to make desired movements, and calculate an amount of calories burned for such movement. In one embodiment, all detected movements may be utilized in calculations. Yet in other embodiments, only certain (e.g., system supported and/or those prompted to be performed) movements may be considered. System **100** may process data from image capturing device **126** and/or from various sensors to attempt to classify a user's movement. For example, system **100** may compare the user's movement to other known movements for which a MET table has been defined. If a user's movement corresponds to a known movement for which a MET table has been defined, then system **100** may use the identified MET table for calculating an amount of calories burned.

If the user's movement does not match an exercise defined by a MET table, the system **100** may identify one or more exercises that include movements similar to the movement being performed by the user. For example, system **100** may determine that the user's lower body moves similar to a squat and upper body moves similar to a pushup. System **100** may calculate the number of calories the user would burn using the identified MET tables as if the users were doing a squat, and as if they were doing a pushup, as approximations for the amount of calories burned by the user. In further embodiments, a new entry may be created. In this regard, certain embodiments may permit the entry and later identification of new movements and/or exercises. In certain embodiments, the user may provide inputs regarding an approximate caloric expenditure for an unidentified movement/exercise. Yet in other embodiments, system **100** may calculate caloric expenditure, such as from one or more sensors as discussed herein. In still yet further embodiments, system **100** may utilize one or more sensor readings as well as an input from a user (and/or third-party) in determining attributes, such as caloric expenditure, for previously unknown movements or exercises. Examples of estimating caloric expenditure without MET tables, may include but are not limited to, determining changes in potential energy. Examples of using changes in potential energy are provided in the next section.

System **100** may be configured to transmit calories burned estimates to a social networking website. The users may be ranked based on their total number of calories burned for a desired time interval (e.g., rank by day, week, month, year, etc). With reference again to FIG. **3**, the method may end or may return to any of the preceding blocks.

i. Energy Expenditure Estimate based on Changes in Potential Energy

System **100** may also calculate an energy expenditure estimate of a user for physical activities not defined by a MET table. For example, system **100** may calculate an amount of calories burned by a user performing any desired combination of movements. During a workout, a user may be exposed to their own body weight and gravity. A location of a user's center of mass, or of a center of mass of a particular body part, may be utilized in estimating an amount of calories burned by the user performing an athletic activity.

FIG. **8** illustrates an example flow diagram of a method for calculating an energy expenditure estimate for a user while performing an athletic activity based on monitoring changes in potential energy, in accordance with example embodiments. The method may be implemented by a computer, such as, for example, computer **102**, device **138**, **140** and/or **142** as well as other apparatuses. The blocks shown in FIG. **8** may be rearranged, some blocks may be removed, additional blocks may be added, each block may be repeated one or more times, and the flow diagram may be repeated one or more times. The flow diagram may begin at block **802**.

In block **802**, various embodiments may involve processing data captured of a user performing an athletic activity over a time interval. In an example, system **100** may prompt a user to perform ten repetitions of a lunge and may process data captured of the user performing the lunge. The data may be video captured by the camera **126** or may be captured by the infrared transceiver **128**, and/or by the other device sensors **138**, **140**, and **142**.

In block **804**, various embodiments may involve determining a location of a center of mass of a body part, body region, or of an entire body of the user at a first time instant and at a second time instant within the time interval. Yet in other embodiments, a center of movement may be utilized. For simplicity purposes, however, a center of mass will be discussed. In an example, system **100** may instruct the user to place sensors at locations of corresponding to a center of mass for one or more body parts of the user. With reference to FIG. **9**, one or more of center of mass locations may be at example locations **904**A-D and **906**, or at other locations on the user's body. Any number of locations may be monitored. At least one sensor may wirelessly transmit sensor data indicating a time and a location of the sensor (or location of a body part as detected by the sensor). A location may be coordinates in a coordinate system (e.g., Cartesian coordinate system) and may be associated with a time stamp indicating when the sensor was at a particular coordinate. In certain embodiments, system **100** may process the sensor data to periodically determine locations **904**A-D and **906**. For example, system **100** may receive sensor data, such as from device sensors **138**, **140** and/or **142**. Computer **102** (or another component of system **100**) may process data as part of determining locations (such as locations **904**A-D and **906**). In one embodiment, data may be processed on a routine ongoing-basis, such as four times per second. In

another example, computer **102** (or another component of system **100**) may process data from image capturing device **126** to determine locations **904**A-D and/or **906**.

In block **806**, various embodiments may involve identifying a change in the location of the center of mass from the first time instant to a second time instant. As discussed above, system **100** may determine locations **904**A-D and **906** at one time and at a subsequent time. For example and with reference to FIGS. **10**A-B, a user is shown performing a lunge. FIG. **10**A corresponds to a first time instant and FIG. **10**B corresponds to a second time instant. In FIG. **10**A, a location **906** of a user's center of mass is at a height "h1" (designated by **908**A) off of the ground. In FIG. **10**B, a location **906** of a user's center of mass is at a height "h2" (designate by **908**A) off of the ground. One or more components of system **100** may determine a difference between height "h1" and "h2" to determine a change in a location **906** of the center of mass. System **100** may also calculate changes to locations **904**A-D of centers of mass for other body parts, or changes to other locations of body parts or body regions of the user. System **100** may also process video of a user taken from different angles, as shown in FIG. **11**, to determine locations **904**A-D and **906**. For example, system **100** may determine height "h1" for location **906** in a perspective view and height "h2" for location **906** in a front view of the user. System **100** may average the different height measurements, or may use one or the other.

With reference again to FIG. **8**, in block **808**, various embodiments may calculate an energy expenditure estimate for the user due to the change. In an example, the physics concept of potential energy may be used to estimate the amount of work done by the user, and to calculate calories burned based on work.

In an example, one or more components of system **100** may determine changes of a location **906** from one time instant to another to determine an amount of work performed by the user. Potential Energy (PE)=m*g*h, where m=mass of the user (or body part), g=the acceleration due to gravity, and h=height above ground. Work (W)=−ΔPE, where Δ is represents a change in potential energy. Substituting m*g*h, Work (W)=−m*g*Δh. Based on the above example in FIGS. **10**A-B, W=−m*g*(h1−h2). System **100** may determine an amount of calories burned as a function of work multiplied by physiology of human efficiency. System **100** may determine the amount of calories burned based on the amount of work and a physiology of human efficiency (PHE) scaling factor. The system **100** may determine the PHE scaling factor as a function of one or more of the user's heart rate, pressure sensor data, and other information input by the user (e.g., age, weight, etc.)

System **100** may keep and/or transmit a running total of calories burned between subsequent time instants and inform the user of a total amount of calories burned up to that point in an exercise session. For example, system **100** may determine a height h of location **906** at a certain frequency (e.g., 2 times per second), and may calculate calories burned based on a difference in calories burned between each determination of height h. The system **100** may also track a total number of calories burned over a predetermined time range covering one or more workouts. A time range may include a week, month, year, cumulative time since a user began working out, or other defined metrics. One or metrics may comprise default values, predefined values, user-selectable values, and/or user-defined values. For example, system **100** may inform the user of how many calories they have burned during a specified time period, such as a day, week, month, and/or year. System **100** may also maintain data on average number of calories burned per workout, average number of calories burned based on a type of workout, a greatest number of calories burned during a single workout or during a predetermined time interval (e.g., month where highest amount of calories were burned), or other types of data.

In another example, system **100** may determine calories burned by movement of a particular body part or by a collection of body parts. For instance, a user may desire to know how many calories were burned by movement of their right leg. Using the above relationship between work and potential energy, and with reference again to FIG. **9**, system **100** may monitor changes in the location **904**A of the center of mass of the user's right leg (e.g., height **908**B) from one time instant to a different time instant to calculate work. System **100** may estimate the mass of the user's right leg based on the user's weight and proportions. System **100** may then determine an amount of calories burned as a function of work multiplied by physiology of human efficiency, as described above. During an exercise session, system **100** may display, such as through display **136**, a running total of calories burned attributable to movement of the user's right leg. System **100** may similarly determine calories burned based on locations **904**B-D for the other limbs of the user. During an exercise session, system **100** may display a running total of calories burned by a user's entire body, as well by each limb.

System **100** may also permit a user to review an exercise session to determine how many calories were burned at certain times. For example, an exercise may involve performing repetitive motions (e.g., pushups). System **100** may identify each repetition within a set (e.g., each pushup within a set of 10), as well as a number of calories burned during each repetition. Over a set, one or more components of system **100** may identify the repetition where the user burned a highest number of calories as well as a lowest number of calories. In further embodiments, system **100** may estimate an average number of calories. These are merely exemplary statistics and those skilled in the art will readily appreciate that other analysis may be conducted without departing from the scope of this disclosure.

If an exercise session involves different types of exercises, system **100** may rank the exercise types based on the amount of calories burned by type. For example, an exercise session may involve 3 different types of exercises (e.g., pushups, sit-ups, squats). After completing the exercise session, system **100** may determine how many calories were burned by each exercise type (e.g., 10 calories for pushups, 13 calories for sit-ups, and 18 calories tier squats), and rank the exercise types based on the number of calories burned (e.g., first squats, second sit-ups, third pushups). In further embodiments, energy expenditure (e.g., a quantity of calories burned) may be ranked as percentage over an ideal value or range for an exercise or routine. For example, if perfectly performing an exercise would burn about 100 calories, a first user who burned 90 calories may be assigned a better ranking than second user who only burned 85 for the same exercise. The users could have different ideal values or ranges, thus the determinations may utilize the percentage of the detected and/or estimated values as a percentage for that user's ideal value. In further embodiments, a user who is closer to 100% of their ideal value may be ranked higher than users who have over 100% of the ideal quantity of calories burned. In this regard, a user who expends more energy than estimated or calculated tier an activity (e.g., exercise) may indicate improper movements, inefficiency, increased likelihood of injury, and/or combinations thereof.

In certain implementations, the method of FIG. **8** may then end, or may return to any of the preceding blocks and/or other processes.

System **100** may also determine calories expended from pre-recorded videos. For example, a user may upload video of a professional basketball player dunking a basketball to system **100**. One or more components of system **100** may process the video to determine locations of a center of mass of the player, or of particular body parts, at various points in time, and determine the amount of calories expended during the physical activity (e.g., by the player during the dunk) using the work-based calorie determination, described above.

In various embodiments of the invention energy expenditure may be calculated with multiple sensors. Some of the calculation may be independent of other calculations. For example, a user may perform an exercise while wearing a wrist worn sensor and while being observed by a camera based sensor system. The wrist worn sensor and the camera based system may independently calculate energy expenditure values. When two or more independent systems are utilized, different energy expenditure values may be calculated.

In some embodiments of the invention energy expenditure values are used to award points to users. When multiple sensors or systems of sensors are used to independently calculate energy expenditure, users may receive points for each sensor or system of sensors that calculates energy expenditure. Alternative, one energy expenditure value may be determined based on one of calculated values or some combination of the calculated values. For example, prior to beginning an exercise a user may select the sensor or sensor systems that will be used to calculate energy expenditure. Alternatively, a system may select the sensor or sensor system that will be used. The selection may be based on the accuracy in calculating energy expenditure for all of the available sensors or sensor systems. The selection and accuracy may be functions of the exercise that will be performed. For example, a first sensor may result in more accurate energy expenditure calculations while a user is running and a second sensor may result in more accurate energy expenditure calculations while a user is performing squats. Other embodiments may include using an average, a weighted average or a statistical solution to determine energy expenditure.

In addition to using multiple independent sensors and sensor systems for calculating energy expenditure, some embodiments of the invention may utilize multiple display devices for displaying energy expenditure or energy expenditure point values. When one sensor or sensor system is used to calculate energy expenditure, the display device associated with the sensor or sensor system that is not used may be disabled. Alternative, the display device associated with the sensor or sensor system that is not used may be driven by the sensor or sensor system that is used. For example, a wrist worn sensor system and a camera based system may both include displays for displaying energy expenditure. When both systems are available and the camera based system is selected to calculate energy expenditure, the camera based system may provide data to the wrist worn sensor system so that the display associated with the wrist worn sensor system displays the same values as the display associated with the camera based system. Similarly, when combinations of multiple independent sensor or sensor systems are used to calculate energy expenditure, the displays associated with each sensor or sensor system may be driven to display the same data.

CONCLUSION

Providing an activity environment having one or more of the features described herein may provide a user with an immersive experience that will encourage and motivate the user to engage in athletic activities and improve his or her fitness. Users may further communicate through social communities and challenge one another to reach various levels of fitness, and to view their fitness level and activity.

Aspects of the embodiments have been described in terms of illustrative embodiments thereof. Numerous other embodiments, modifications and variations within the scope and spirit of the appended claims will occur to persons of ordinary skill in the art from a review of this disclosure. For example, one of ordinary skill in the art will appreciate that the steps illustrated in the illustrative figures may be performed in other than the recited order, and that one or more steps illustrated may be optional in accordance with aspects of the embodiments.

What is claimed is:

1. A computer-implemented method for use with a user performing an exercise, comprising:

monitoring, with a first sensor, athletic activity of the user while performing the exercise;

monitoring, with a second sensor, the athletic activity of the user while performing the same exercise;

selecting, by a computer processor, one of the first sensor and the second sensor to calculate an energy expenditure estimate of the user corresponding to the exercise;

displaying, by a first display device associated with a selected sensor, from the first sensor and the second sensor, the energy expenditure estimate of the user; and

displaying, on a second display device associated with a non-selected sensor, from the first sensor and the second sensor, the same energy expenditure estimate of the user displayed-on the first display device associated with the selected sensor,

wherein the selecting of the one of the first sensor and the second sensor comprises selecting the first sensor for a first portion of the exercise and the second sensor for a second portion of the exercise.

2. The method of claim **1**, wherein the displaying, on the second display device associated with the non-selected sensor comprises:

receiving, by the second display device, monitored data from the non-selected sensor; and

disabling the second display device from displaying data received from the non-selected sensor.

3. The method of claim **1**, wherein the selecting is performed by the computer processor based on an accuracy of the first sensor for calculating a first energy expenditure estimate of the user and an accuracy of the second sensor for calculating a second energy expenditure estimate of the user.

4. The method of claim **3**, wherein the selecting is a function of the exercise performed.

5. The method of claim **1**, further comprising

calculating, by the computer processor using monitored data from the first sensor, a first energy expenditure estimate of the user corresponding to the first portion of the exercise, wherein the monitored data from the first sensor is more accurate than monitored data from the second sensor for calculation of first energy expenditure estimate during the first portion of the exercise; and

calculating, by the computer processor using monitored data from the second sensor, a second energy expenditure estimate of the user corresponding to the second

portion of the exercise, wherein the monitored data from the second sensor is more accurate than the monitored data from the first sensor for calculation of the second energy expenditure estimate during the second portion of the exercise;

wherein the energy expenditure estimate displayed on the first display is a function of the first energy expenditure estimate and the second energy expenditure estimate.

6. The method of claim **5**, wherein the function is a weighted average of the first energy expenditure estimate and the second energy expenditure estimate.

7. The method of claim **5**, wherein the first portion of the exercise comprises the user running, wherein the second portion of the exercise comprises the user performing squats, and wherein the energy expenditure estimate comprise an estimate of calories burned by the user.

8. The method of claim **5**, wherein the calculating of the first energy expenditure estimate is determined utilizing a metabolic equivalent of task (MET) table based on a type of the exercise.

9. The method of claim **5**, wherein the first energy expenditure estimate is based on a basal metabolic rate of the user and wherein the calculating of the first energy expenditure estimate applies the following equation:

Calories burned=BMR*(activity modifier)*(completeness modifier),

wherein BMR is the Basal Metabolic Rate of the user, the activity modifier is an adjustment corresponding to a type of the exercise, and the completeness modifier is an adjustment corresponding to how well a form of the user corresponds to a desired form for the exercise.

10. The method of claim **1**, wherein the first sensor comprises an image-capturing device coupled with at least one of: an IR device, an accelerometer, a gyroscope, a location-determining device, light sensor, temperature sensor, heart rate monitor, and moisture sensor.

* * * * *

专利名称(译)	使用多个传感器输入的能量消耗计算的健身训练系统		
公开(公告)号	US9545541	公开(公告)日	2017-01-17
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[标]申请(专利权)人(译)	NIKE，Inc.		
申请(专利权)人(译)	耐克公司.		
当前申请(专利权)人(译)	NIKE，INC.		
[标]发明人	ARAGONES TESA GUERRERO ADRIANA HOLMES STEVE SELF CHRISTINA S WEAST AARON B WINSPER PAUL BLAHNIK JAY C		
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代理机构(译)	BANNER＆WITCOFF有限公司		
审查员(译)	THOMSON，WILLIAM		
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优先权	61/655170 2012-06-04 US		
其他公开文献	US20130324368A1		
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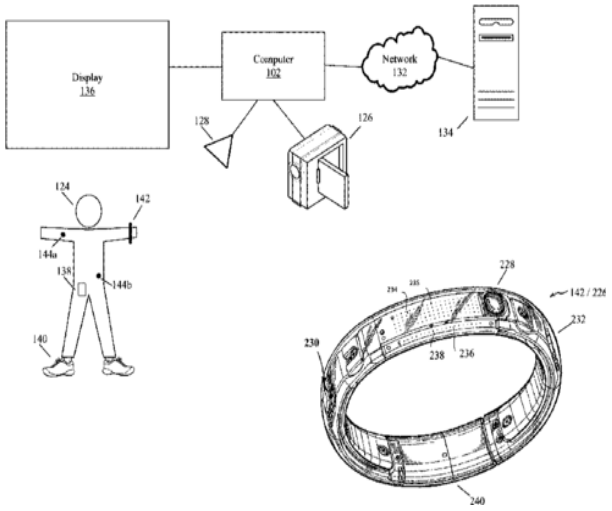
摘要(译)

提供了用于提示用户执行锻炼和监控锻炼的系统和方法。多个独立的传感器或传感器系统可以用于计算能量消耗。可以使用各种标准来手动或自动地选择将与能量消耗计算一起使用的独立传感器或传感器系统或组合。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