

computer network 70 through web browser 84. Each computer 82 includes one or more operator input device(s) 50 and one or more operator output device(s) 52 as previously described for subsystem 40, that are not shown to preserve clarity. Device(s) 50 and 52 at each site 80 selectively provide an operator input and output (I/O) capability via web browser 84. Computer 82 can be in the form of a personal computer, computer workstation, another computer server, Personal Digital Assistant (PDA), and/or a different configuration as would occur to those skilled in the art. While only two user sites 80 are illustrated to preserve clarity, it should be understood that more or fewer can be coupled to computer network 70.

Collectively, server 63, computer network 70, and sites 80 provide an arrangement to remotely access and/or control subsystem 40 or booth 30. The interconnection of these components can be hardwired, wireless, or a combination of both. In other embodiments, an interconnection technique other than the internet could be alternatively or additionally utilized with the connection interfaces of server 63 and/or sites 80 adapted accordingly. For example, sites 80 and server 63 could be coupled by a LAN, dedicated cabling, and the like. In one alternative embodiment, server 63 is an integral part of subsystem 40. For still other embodiments, server 63, network 70 and sites 80 are absent. Indeed, removable memory device 48 can be used to alternatively or additionally transfer data between subsystem 40 and other computing/processing devices.

Referring additionally to FIG. 3, one mode of operating system 20 is illustrated as procedure 120. Procedure 120 is performed to provide a three-dimensional topographical representation of Body B with system 20. Various body measurements can be determined from this representation with system 20. Procedure 120 begins with initialization operation 122 that sets interrogation index "I" to one ($I=1$). From operation 122, procedure 120 enters interrogation loop 124 beginning with interrogation subroutine 130. Interrogation subroutine 130 interrogates a portion of body B within a field of view of array 36 as body B rotates on platform 32. Index I is an integer index to the number of different interrogation subroutines 130 performed as part of procedure 120.

Referring to FIG. 4, interrogation subroutine 130 is further illustrated. Subroutine 130 begins with initialization operation 132 in which transmission index N is set to one ($N=1$). From operation 132, element sequencing loop 134 is entered, beginning with transmission/reception operation 136. Index N is an integer index to the number of transmission/reception operations 136 performed during subroutine 130.

In operation 136, a portion of the body in the field of view of a transmitting element number "N" of array 36 is irradiated with electromagnetic radiation and one or more corresponding reception elements collect the reflected electromagnetic radiation in response to the transmission. The transmitting and reception elements are selected by logic of transceiver 42 with switching tree 43 as previously described. From operation 136, subroutine 130 proceeds to conditional 138, which tests whether transmitting element number "N" is the last element needed to transmit ($N=LAST?$); where LAST is the total number of the transmitting elements to be activated by transceiver 42. In one form, for each execution of subroutine 130, transmitting element "N" sweeps through a selected frequency range twice, and the corresponding backscatter information for each of the two sweeps is received with a different reception element. The transmitting elements can be staggered relative

to the reception elements such that transmitting element N aligns with a point between the two reception elements along a common axis of the array. U.S. Pat. No. 5,557,283 (incorporated by reference) describes an example of this arrangement of transmitting and reception elements. In other forms, a different technique can be utilized involving more or fewer sweeps, different types of sweeps, and/or different transmitting/reception orientations and numbers.

If the test of conditional 138 is negative ($N<LAST$), then increment operation 142 is performed, incrementing N by one ($N=N+1$). Loop 134 returns from operation 142 to transmission/reception operation 136 for execution with the transmitting/receiving subset of elements 38 corresponding to the new, incremented value of N from operation 142. In this manner, elements 38 are activated in a vertical path along array 36 with transceiver 42 to provide data along a contiguous region of body B.

The resolution of interrogation information obtained with transceiver 42 can be enhanced by linearly sweeping through a selected ultrawide frequency range during each operation 136. In one preferred form, transceiver 42 sweeps through a range of at least 10 GHz for each execution of operation 136. This sweep can occur, for example, over a range of about 10 GHz to about 20 GHz. In a more preferred form, transceiver 42 and elements 38 are arranged for a sweep range of 16 GHz. This sweep can occur, for example, over a range of about 24 GHz to about 40 GHz. In one most preferred form, the ultrawide sweep range is selected such that the range resolution is generally the same as the lateral resolution. For these forms, elements 38 are selected to be of a type with a frequency response suitable for the selected sweep range, including, but not limited to the taper slot or end-fire antenna type. In another form, the transmitter can sweep through a given frequency range (such as 10 GHz to 20 GHz) in a pseudo-random order—sometimes known as frequency hopping.

Loop 134 is repeated LAST number of times, sequencing through the desired transmitting/receiving elements 38 of array 36 under the control of transceiver 42. When the test of conditional 138 is true, the affirmative branch proceeds to data operation 144. Data resulting from the execution of operation 136 is provided by transceiver 42 to processor(s) 44. In data operation 144, an interrogation data set is established for the information gathered through the repeated execution of operation 136 from $N=1$ through $N=LAST$. This data set corresponds to the current value of integer index I and the body portion illuminated during these executions. Initially, the interrogation data set can be accumulated and organized by transceiver 42, processor(s) 44 or both; and then stored in memory 46 for further processing by processor(s) 44 as described in connection with the remainder of procedure 120. From operation 144, subroutine 130 returns to the next stage of procedure 120.

Referring back to FIG. 3, procedure 120 continues with conditional 152 that tests whether the final value of index I has been reached ($I=TOTAL?$); where TOTAL is the total number of desired executions of loop 124 (and subroutine 130) for process 120. If the test of conditional 152 is negative ($I<TOTAL$), process 120 proceeds to increment operation 154 to increment index I by one ($I=I+1$). Loop 124 then returns to subroutine 130 for the next execution until I is incremented to be equal to TOTAL.

With the execution of loop 124 TOTAL number of times, TOTAL number of interrogation data sets are stored in memory 46. When the performance of subroutine 130 is relatively fast compared to the rotational speed of platform