

Another embodiment directed to a computer domain/virtual space application, includes: interrogating a number of objects to obtain a corresponding number of topographical representations and determining one or more relationships between the objects by analysis of the representations with a computer. One form of this embodiment includes: scanning several pieces of wreckage resulting from a vehicle accident, such as an aircraft accident, to provide a corresponding number of topographical representations; and arranging the representations relative to one another with a computer to analyze the accident. This form can include orienting the pieces in different spatial relationships relative to one another in a computer domain to at least partially reconstruct the vehicle; removing apparent deformities of one or more of the pieces in a computer domain to assist with reconstruction; visualizing one or more of the pieces with a computer; generating a record in a computer of the time and place of discovery of each of the pieces; and/or detecting metal fragments or other radar reflective material at least partially embedded in a radar transparent/translucent material. This embedded material can be indicative of an explosion. Such embodiments can be provided as a method, apparatus, system, and/or device. Yet other embodiments are directed to other applications as would occur to those skilled in the art.

In a further embodiment of the present invention, a topographic representation of an object is determined from electromagnetic radiation interrogation that combines two or more cylindrical segment data sets. This unique technique can provide topographical data defining one or more circumferences of an object about an axis with high resolution. In contrast, conventional cylindrical imaging schemes do not combine cylindrical segment data—instead being rather limited to the utilization of a much larger number of uncombined images to provide an animated presentation.

All publications and patent applications cited in this specification are herein incorporated by reference as if each individual publication or patent application were specifically and individually indicated to be incorporated by reference. Further, any theory, mechanism of operation, proof, or finding stated herein is meant to further enhance understanding of the present invention, and is not intended to limit the present invention in any way to such theory, mechanism of operation, proof, or finding. While the invention has been illustrated and described in detail in the drawings and foregoing description, the same is to be considered as illustrative and not restrictive in character, it being understood that only selected embodiments have been shown and described and that all equivalents, changes, and modifications that come within the spirit of the inventions as defined herein or by the following claims are desired to be protected.

What is claimed is:

1. A method, comprising:

interrogating a first object with electromagnetic radiation including one or more frequencies in a range of about 200 MHz to about 1 THz for each of a number of different views of the first object;

establishing a number of data sets each representative of a corresponding one of the different views; and

combining the data sets to generate a topographical representation of the first object corresponding to the different views.

2. The method of claim 1, wherein the object includes a person's body and further comprising adjusting a device to the person's body based on the topographical representation.

3. The method of claim 2, wherein information corresponding to the topographical representation is stored in a portable storage apparatus and the device includes vehicle equipment.

4. The method of claim 1, which includes comparing the topographical representation of the first object with a topographical representation of a second object stored in a database.

5. The method of claim 4, which includes controlling access to a restricted area based on said comparing.

6. The method of claim 1, which includes determining one or more dimensions of the first object from the topographical representation.

7. The method of claim 6, which includes determining packaging for the first object in accordance with the one or more dimensions.

8. The method of claim 6, which includes determining shipping cost for the first object in accordance with the one or more dimensions.

9. The method of claim 1, wherein the object includes a person and further comprising predicting a change in appearance of the person based on the topographical representation.

10. A method, comprising:

scanning an individual attempting to gain access to a restricted area with electromagnetic radiation including one or more frequencies in a range of about 200 MHz to about 1 THz;

determining a topographical representation of the individual from said scanning;

comparing one or more characteristics of the representation to corresponding data for each of a number of different persons; and

controlling access to the restricted area by the individual based at least in part on said comparing.

11. The method of claim 10, wherein said controlling includes selectively activating an access control device.

12. The method of claim 10, wherein the one or more characteristics include one or more relative body dimensions of the individual.

13. The method of claim 12, which includes comparing one or more features of the individual in addition to the one or more characteristics to further determine whether to allow access.

14. The method of claim 13, wherein the one or more features include at least one of a fingerprint, a palm print, a retina image, and a vocal pattern.

15. The method of claim 10, which includes updating the corresponding data with the one or more characteristics for each access permitted by said controlling.

16. The method of claim 10, wherein said controlling includes permitting access to the restricted area if the one or more characteristics have an acceptable degree of similarity relative to the corresponding data for one of the different persons.

17. The method of claim 10, wherein said controlling includes taking action to further screen access of the individual to the restricted area in response to said comparing.

18. A method, comprising:

scanning an individual with electromagnetic radiation including one or more frequencies in a range of about 200 MHz to about 1 THz;

determining a topographical representation of the individual from said scanning;

comparing one or more characteristics of the representation to corresponding information for each of a number of different parties; and

controlling access to an area by the individual based at least in part on said comparing.

19. The method of claim 18, wherein said controlling includes taking further action to screen access of the indi-