



(12) **DEMANDE DE BREVET CANADIEN**
CANADIAN PATENT APPLICATION

(13) **A1**

(86) Date de dépôt PCT/PCT Filing Date: 2020/04/06
(87) Date publication PCT/PCT Publication Date: 2020/10/15
(85) Entrée phase nationale/National Entry: 2021/10/04
(86) N° demande PCT/PCT Application No.: US 2020/026920
(87) N° publication PCT/PCT Publication No.: 2020/210168
(30) Priorités/Priorities: 2019/04/08 (US62/830,934);
2019/12/23 (US62/952,892)

(51) Cl.Int./Int.Cl. *A61B 1/05* (2006.01),
A61B 1/04 (2006.01), *G02B 27/10* (2006.01)
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(54) Titre : SYSTEMES ET PROCEDES D'IMAGERIE MEDICALE
(54) Title: SYSTEMS AND METHODS FOR MEDICAL IMAGING

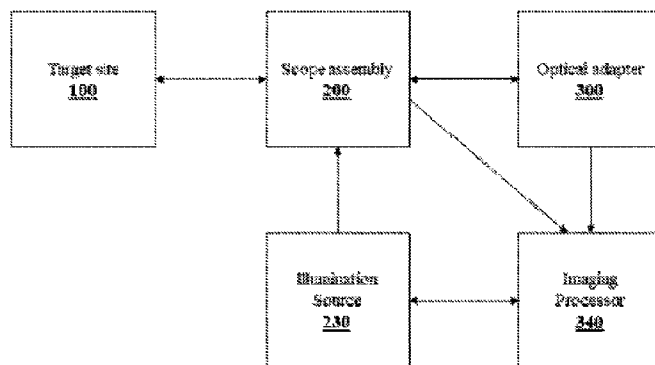


FIG. 1A

(57) **Abrégé/Abstract:**

The present disclosure provides systems and methods for medical imaging. The system may comprise an optical adapter. The optical adapter may comprise a housing that comprises (1) a first end configured to releasably couple to a scope and (2) a second end configured to releasably couple to a camera. The optical adapter may comprise an image sensor coupled to the housing. The optical adapter may comprise an optics assembly disposed in the housing. The optics assembly may be configured to (1) receive light signals that are reflected from a target site within a subject's body and transmitted through the scope, and (2) reflect a first portion of the light signals onto the image sensor while permitting a second portion of the light signals to pass through to the camera.

Date de soumission / Date Submitted: 2021/10/04

No de la demande can. / CA App. No.: 3132350

Abrégé:

La présente invention concerne des systèmes et des procédés d'imagerie médicale. Le système peut comprendre un adaptateur optique. L'adaptateur optique peut comprendre un logement qui comprend (1) une première extrémité conçue pour s'accoupler de manière amovible à un instrument d'examen et (2) une seconde extrémité conçue pour s'accoupler de manière amovible à une caméra. L'adaptateur optique peut comprendre un capteur d'image accouplé au logement. L'adaptateur optique peut comprendre un ensemble optique disposé dans le logement. L'ensemble optique peut être conçu pour (1) recevoir des signaux lumineux qui sont réfléchis par un site cible à l'intérieur du corps d'un sujet et transmis à travers l'instrument d'examen, et (2) réfléchir une première partie des signaux lumineux sur le capteur d'image tout en permettant à une seconde partie des signaux lumineux de passer à travers la caméra.

Abstract:

The present disclosure provides systems and methods for medical imaging. The system may comprise an optical adapter. The optical adapter may comprise a housing that comprises (1) a first end configured to releasably couple to a scope and (2) a second end configured to releasably couple to a camera. The optical adapter may comprise an image sensor coupled to the housing. The optical adapter may comprise an optics assembly disposed in the housing. The optics assembly may be configured to (1) receive light signals that are reflected from a target site within a subject's body and transmitted through the scope, and (2) reflect a first portion of the light signals onto the image sensor while permitting a second portion of the light signals to pass through to the camera.

SYSTEMS AND METHODS FOR MEDICAL IMAGING**CROSS-REFERENCE**

[0001] This application claims priority to U.S. Provisional Patent Application No. 62/830,934 filed on April 8, 2019, and U.S. Provisional Patent Application No. 62/952,892 filed on December 23, 2019, which applications are incorporated herein by reference in their entirety for all purposes.

BACKGROUND

[0002] Medical imaging technology (e.g., a scope assembly, such as an endoscope) may be used to capture images or video data of internal anatomical or physiological features of a subject or patient during medical or surgical procedures. The images or video data captured may be processed and manipulated to provide medical practitioners (e.g., surgeons, medical operators, technicians, etc.) with a visualization of internal structures or processes within a patient or subject.

[0003] Images or video data of internal anatomical or physiological features by an endoscope may be limited and often fail to provide complex anatomy or critical structures beneath the tissue surface. The images or video data may not show invisible features of the target site in real-time, e.g., blood perfusion, cardiac output, hepatic function, etc. As a result, incomplete or incorrect analysis of the target site may be dangerous and lead to unintended tissue damage during surgical procedures. In some cases, at least 2% of hysterectomies may result in surgical complications and unintended injuries, which may result in healthcare costs of at least \$1 billion annually in the U.S.

[0004] Additional diagnostic tools such as fluorescent dye-based angiography (e.g., indocyanine green (ICG) angiography) may be used in conjunction to provide visualization of some complex anatomy or critical structures. However, ICG angiography may be costly in resources and time (e.g., may require several minutes to 24 hours for the ICG dye to reach a target site), limited in accuracy (e.g., dyes may dissipate to off-target sites during surgical procedures), elicit allergic reactions in some patients, and/or lack real-time visualization capability. In addition, use of separate imaging tools for endoscopy and angiography may lead to further surgical complications, such as prolonged surgical time or chances of contamination.

SUMMARY

[0005] The present disclosure addresses at least the abovementioned shortcomings of conventional medical imaging systems. In one aspect, the present disclosure provides an optical adapter that is compatible with one or more medical imaging technologies (e.g., a scope

assembly). In some cases, the optical adapter may allow visualization of additional or multiple feature(s) of the target site without need for the use of the dye(s).

[0006] One aspect of the present disclosure provides an optical adapter comprising: a housing comprising (1) a first end configured to releasably couple to a scope and (2) a second end configured to releasably couple to a camera; an image sensor in the housing; and an optics assembly disposed in the housing, wherein the optics assembly is configured to (i) receive light signals that are reflected from a target site within a subject's body and transmitted through the scope, and (ii) reflect a first portion of the light signals onto one of the image sensor or the camera, while permitting a second portion of the light signals to pass through to the other of the image sensor or the camera.

[0007] In some embodiments, the image sensor is releasably coupled to the housing.

[0008] In some embodiments, the image sensor is configured to generate a first set of imaging data from the first portion of the light signals, and the camera is configured to generate a second set of imaging data from the second portion of the light signals. In some embodiments, the first set of imaging data comprises laser speckle patterns, and the second set of imaging data comprises photographic or video images.

[0009] In some embodiments, the image sensor is used for laser speckle imaging.

[0010] In some embodiments, the optics assembly comprises a beam splitter. In some embodiments, the beam splitter comprises a dichroic mirror.

[0011] In some embodiments, the optics assembly is configured to reflect the first portion of the light signals onto the image sensor, while permitting the second portion of the light signals to pass through to the camera. In some embodiments, the optics assembly comprises a shortpass dichroic mirror.

[0012] In some embodiments, the optics assembly is configured to reflect the first portion of the light signals onto the camera, while permitting the second portion of the light signals to pass through to the image sensor. In some embodiments, the optics assembly comprises a longpass dichroic mirror.

[0013] In some embodiments, the first portion of the light signals comprises backscattered light that is generated when the target site is illuminated with coherent laser light transmitted via the scope. In some embodiments, the coherent laser light is provided from a single laser source having substantially a single wavelength. In some embodiments, the coherent laser light is provided from a plurality of laser sources having a plurality of different wavelengths.

[0014] In some embodiments, the second portion of the light signals comprises reflected light that is generated when the target site is illuminated with white light transmitted via the scope. In some embodiments, the single wavelength lies in an invisible spectrum. In some embodiments,

the plurality of different wavelengths lies in an invisible spectrum. In some embodiments, the reflected light is in a visible spectrum.

[0015] In some embodiments, the first end of the housing is configured to releasably couple to the scope using a quick release mechanism. In some embodiments, the quick release mechanism is configured to releasably couple the optical adapter to various types of scopes having different sizes. In some embodiments, the quick release mechanism is configured to permit a user to releasably couple the first end of the housing to the scope without use of tools. In some embodiments, the quick release mechanism is configured to permit a user to releasably couple the first end of the housing to the scope in less than 30 seconds.

[0016] In some embodiments, the second end of the housing is configured to releasably couple to the camera using a quick release mechanism. In some embodiments, the quick release mechanism is configured to releasably couple the optical adapter to various types of cameras having different sizes. In some embodiments, the quick release mechanism is configured to permit a user to releasably couple the second end of the housing to the camera without use of tools. In some embodiments, the quick release mechanism is configured to permit a user to releasably couple the second end of the housing to the camera in less than 30 seconds.

[0017] In some embodiments, the optics assembly further comprises a focusing device for the image sensor.

[0018] In some embodiments, the optics assembly further comprises (i) a first focusing device for the image sensor and (ii) a second focusing device for the camera. In some embodiments, the first focusing device and the second focusing device are operably coupled to each other, such that focusing for the image sensor and for the camera can be performed concurrently. In some embodiments, the first focusing device and the second focusing device are operably coupled to each other via a gearing mechanism. In some embodiments, the first focusing device and the second focusing device are provided separately and configured to be used independently of each other.

[0019] In some embodiments, the scope is configured to (1) receive a combined light beam from an illumination source and (2) direct the combined light beam onto the target site within the subject's body.

[0020] In some embodiments, the first end and the second end share a common longitudinal axis. In some embodiments, the first end and the second end are provided on opposite sides of the housing.

[0021] In some embodiments, the first end and the second end do not share a common longitudinal axis. In some embodiments, the first end and the second end are provided on substantially orthogonal sides of the housing.

[0022] In some embodiments, the image sensor and the camera have different optical axes.

[0023] In some embodiments, an optical axis of the image sensor is orthogonal to an optical axis of the camera.

[0024] In some embodiments, the image sensor is configured to releasably couple to a surface of the housing, and wherein the surface is substantially orthogonal to the first end or the second end of the housing. In some embodiments, the image sensor comprises a casing that is configured to releasably couple to the surface of the housing.

[0025] In some embodiments, the image sensor is disposable and configured for single use in a medical imaging procedure.

[0026] In some embodiments, the image sensor is configured to be reusable for a plurality of medical imaging procedures.

[0027] Another aspect of the present disclosure provides an imaging kit comprising: any one of the subject optical adapters disclosed herein; and an illumination source configured to transmit a combined light beam to the scope for directing the combined light beam onto the target site within the subject's body.

[0028] Another aspect of the present disclosure provides a method comprising: (a) combining white light with coherent laser light to generate a combined light beam; (b) providing the combined light beam to a scope; (c) using the scope to direct the combined light beam onto a target site within a subject's body; (d) receiving, via the scope, light signals that are reflected from the target site; and (e) reflecting a first portion of the light signals onto one of (i) an image sensor in an optical adapter or (ii) a camera, while permitting a second portion of the light signals to pass through to the other of (i) the image sensor or (ii) the camera, wherein the optical adapter is configured to releasably couple to both the scope and the camera.

[0029] In some embodiments, the first portion of the light signals is reflected onto the image sensor, while the second portion of the light signals is permitted to pass through to the camera.

[0030] In some embodiments, the first portion of the light signals is reflected onto the camera, while the second portion of the light signals is permitted to pass through to the image sensor.

[0031] In some embodiments, the optical adapter is disposed between the scope and the camera when releasably coupled thereto.

[0032] In some embodiments, the scope and the camera are releasably coupled to orthogonal sides of the optical adapter.

[0033] Another aspect of the present disclosure provides a method comprising: (a) providing an optical adapter comprising a housing, wherein an image sensor is in the housing; (b) releasably coupling a first end of the housing to a scope; (c) releasably coupling a second end of

the housing to a camera; (d) providing a combined light beam to the scope, wherein the combined light beam comprises white light combined with coherent laser light; (e) using the scope to direct the combined light beam onto a target site within a subject's body; (f) receiving, via the scope, light signals that are reflected from the target site; (g) reflecting a first portion of the light signals onto one of the image sensor or the camera, while permitting a second portion of the light signals to pass through to the other of the image sensor or the camera; and (h) using the image sensor to generate a first set of imaging data from the first portion of the light signals, and using the camera to generate a second set of imaging data from the second portion of the light signals.

[0034] In some embodiments, the first portion of the light signals is reflected onto the image sensor, while the second portion of the light signals is permitted to pass through to the camera.

[0035] In some embodiments, the first portion of the light signals is reflected onto the camera, while the second portion of the light signals is permitted to pass through to the image sensor.

[0036] In some embodiments, the first set of imaging data comprises laser speckle patterns.

[0037] In some embodiments, the second set of imaging data comprises photographic or video images.

[0038] Another aspect of the present disclosure provides a non-transitory computer readable medium comprising machine executable code that, upon execution by one or more computer processors, implements any of the methods above or elsewhere herein.

[0039] Another aspect of the present disclosure provides a system comprising one or more computer processors and computer memory coupled thereto. The computer memory comprises machine executable code that, upon execution by the one or more computer processors, implements any of the methods above or elsewhere herein.

[0040] Additional aspects and advantages of the present disclosure will become readily apparent to those skilled in this art from the following detailed description, wherein only illustrative embodiments of the present disclosure are shown and described. As will be realized, the present disclosure is capable of other and different embodiments, and its several details are capable of modifications in various obvious respects, all without departing from the disclosure. Accordingly, the drawings and description are to be regarded as illustrative in nature, and not as restrictive.

INCORPORATION BY REFERENCE

[0041] All publications, patents, and patent applications mentioned in this specification are herein incorporated by reference to the same extent as if each individual publication, patent, or patent application was specifically and individually indicated to be incorporated by reference. To

the extent publications and patents or patent applications incorporated by reference contradict the disclosure contained in the specification, the specification is intended to supersede and/or take precedence over any such contradictory material.

BRIEF DESCRIPTION OF THE DRAWINGS

[0042] The novel features of the invention are set forth with particularity in the appended claims. A better understanding of the features and advantages of the present invention will be obtained by reference to the following detailed description that sets forth illustrative embodiments, in which the principles of the invention are utilized, and the accompanying drawings (also “Figure” and “FIG.” herein), of which:

[0043] **FIG. 1A** schematically illustrates a system for medical imaging, in accordance with some embodiments.

[0044] **FIG. 1B** schematically illustrates a scope assembly, in accordance with some embodiments.

[0045] **FIGs. 2A, 2B, 2C, and 2D** schematically illustrate examples of an optical adapter operatively coupled to a scope assembly, in accordance with some embodiments.

[0046] **FIGs. 3A, 3B, and 3C** schematically illustrate an example ecosystem of a subject optical adapter and a scope apparatus.

[0047] **FIG. 4** schematically illustrates an example flowchart of a method for medical imaging, in accordance with some embodiments.

[0048] **FIG. 5** schematically illustrates a different example flowchart of a method for medical imaging, in accordance with some embodiments.

[0049] **FIG. 6** schematically illustrates another different example flowchart of a method for medical imaging, in accordance with some embodiments.

[0050] **FIGs. 7A, 7B, 7C, and 7D** illustrate comparative images of a tissue site obtained by a subject system for medical imaging and an existing dye-based angiography apparatus, in accordance with some embodiments.

[0051] **FIGs. 8A, 8B, 8C, and 8D** illustrate comparative methods based on existing surgical procedures and a subject system for medical imaging, in accordance with some embodiments.

[0052] **FIGs. 9 and 10** schematically illustrate a machine learning algorithm that is operatively coupled to the subject system for medical imaging, in accordance with some embodiments.

[0053] **FIG. 11** schematically illustrates a computer system that is programmed or otherwise configured to implement methods provided herein.

[0054] **FIG. 12** illustrates an exemplary imaging system in accordance with one or more embodiments.

[0055] FIG. 13 illustrates a simplified block diagram of the imaging system of FIG. 12, in accordance with some embodiments.

[0056] FIGs. 14A, 14B, and 14C illustrate screenshots of an exemplary standard RGB surgical image, laser speckle contrast image, and laser speckle contrast image overlaid on the standard image, in accordance with some embodiments.

[0057] FIG. 15 illustrates a simplified block diagram of an exemplary camera for depth and laser speckle imaging, in accordance with some embodiments.

[0058] FIG. 16 illustrates a simplified block diagram of an exemplary camera for hyperspectral, depth, and laser speckle imaging, in accordance with some embodiments.

[0059] FIG. 17 illustrates a simplified block diagram of an exemplary computer node that can be used in connection with the medical imaging systems disclosed herein.

DETAILED DESCRIPTION

[0060] While various embodiments of the invention have been shown and described herein, it will be obvious to those skilled in the art that such embodiments are provided by way of example only. Numerous variations, changes, and substitutions may occur to those skilled in the art without departing from the invention. It should be understood that various alternatives to the embodiments of the invention described herein may be employed.

[0061] Whenever the term “at least,” “greater than” or “greater than or equal to” precedes the first numerical value in a series of two or more numerical values, the term “at least,” “greater than” or “greater than or equal to” applies to each of the numerical values in that series of numerical values. For example, greater than or equal to 1, 2, or 3 is equivalent to greater than or equal to 1, greater than or equal to 2, or greater than or equal to 3.

[0062] Whenever the term “no more than,” “less than,” or “less than or equal to” precedes the first numerical value in a series of two or more numerical values, the term “no more than,” “less than,” or “less than or equal to” applies to each of the numerical values in that series of numerical values. For example, less than or equal to 3, 2, or 1 is equivalent to less than or equal to 3, less than or equal to 2, or less than or equal to 1.

[0063] The term “perfusion,” as used herein, generally refers to passage of fluid through the circulatory system or lymphatic system to an organ or a tissue. In an example, perfusion may refer to the delivery of blood at the level of the arteries or capillaries, in which exchange of oxygen and/or nutrients between blood and tissue takes place. In some cases, perfusion may comprise flow rate of the fluid, volume of the fluid that is present or traversing across a target tissue site, a pattern of flow channels of the fluid at the target tissue site, or a combination thereof. In some cases, perfusion of the liquid of interest may be increasing, decreasing, or remaining substantially the same during one or more imaging processes. In some cases, any

change in flow rate or volume of the perfusing fluid may be indicative of (i) one or more biological events or (ii) one or more surgical events occurring upstream of, downstream of, or substantially at the target tissue site. When quantified, perfusion may be measured as the rate at which blood is delivered to tissue, or volume of blood per unit time (blood flow) per unit tissue mass, in units of cubic meter per second per kilogram ($\text{m}^3/\text{s}/\text{kg}$) or milliliters per minute per grams ($\text{mL}/\text{min}/\text{g}$). Degree of perfusion may be indicative of one or more health conditions, e.g., cardiovascular disease such as coronary artery disease, cerebrovascular disease, peripheral artery disease, etc.

[0064] The term “real time” or “real-time,” as used interchangeably herein, generally refers to an event (e.g., an operation, a process, a method, a technique, a computation, a calculation, an analysis, a visualization, an optimization, etc.) that is performed using recently obtained (e.g., collected or received) data. In some cases, a real time event may be performed almost immediately or within a short enough time span, such as within at least 0.0001 millisecond (ms), 0.0005 ms, 0.001 ms, 0.005 ms, 0.01 ms, 0.05 ms, 0.1 ms, 0.5 ms, 1 ms, 5 ms, 0.01 seconds, 0.05 seconds, 0.1 seconds, 0.5 seconds, 1 second, or more. In some cases, a real time event may be performed almost immediately or within a short enough time span, such as within at most 1 second, 0.5 seconds, 0.1 seconds, 0.05 seconds, 0.01 seconds, 5 ms, 1 ms, 0.5 ms, 0.1 ms, 0.05 ms, 0.01 ms, 0.005 ms, 0.001 ms, 0.0005 ms, 0.0001 ms, or less.

[0065] Recognized herein are various limitations with medical imaging systems currently available. Conventional medical imaging systems (e.g., a scope such as an endoscope) may use a single light signal (e.g., a white light) to visualize a target site (e.g., an internal portion) within a subject. Such visualization may be limited to two-dimensional representation of the surface of a target site (e.g., a tissue of interest). In some cases, conventional medical procedures may utilize an additional imaging technique or setup to visualize an additional feature of the target site, e.g., internal processes such as perfusion (e.g., blood flow). In an example, one or more dyes (e.g., ICG dyes) may be used in conjunction with endoscopy to visualize blood flow. In another example, a separate laser speckle imaging setup may be used to visualize additional features of the target site, such as the blood flow. However, the additional imaging technique or setup may (i) limit the time frame during which an operator may visualize changes in the additional feature and/or (ii) require additional personnel (e.g., technicians or medical practitioners) on site to manage the components and processes.

[0066] The optical adapter of the present disclosure may allow visualization of structures or features (e.g., blood flow) that are in a target site, near a target site, and/or beneath the surface of a target site, which structures or features would ordinarily be invisible to the human eye or other scope assemblies. The optical adapter of the present disclosure may allow visualization of one or

more anatomical structures and/or physiological features or functions. The optical adapter of the present disclosure may be used for physiologic, pathologic, morphologic, and/or anatomic visualizations of various structures, features, and/or functions within a subject's body. The optical adapter of the present disclosure may make the invisible, visible. The optical adapter of the present disclosure may help visualize the invisible. The optical adapter, as a single setup with an existing scope assembly (e.g., an endoscope with an off-the-shelf camera), may enable a plurality of different imaging modalities. For example, the optical adapter may provide speckle imaging capabilities as well as photographic images and/or video in a single setup. In such case, the optical adapter may allow users to switch between different visualization modes, e.g., (i) white-light based video only, (ii) laser speckle imaging only, and (iii) both white-light based video and laser speckle imaging.

[0067] The optical adapter of the present disclosure may allow visualization of perfusion (e.g., blood perfusion) at a tissue site of interest substantially in real-time, as compared to delayed visualization of perfusion data from dye-based angiography. In an example, a real-time event may comprise visualization of blood perfusion at a tissue site, in which a data set (e.g., one or more light signals) indicative of the blood perfusion is captured by a tool (e.g., an image sensor), and the data is transmitted to a display for visualization to a user. In another example, a real-time event may comprise combining two different data sets that are indicative of different features of the tissue site for a simultaneous visualization at the display.

[0068] By enhancing the flexibility and use of existing medical imaging equipment, the optical adapter of the present disclosure may not require or incur expensive capital equipment upgrades in healthcare environments. By replacing existing dye-based imaging systems, the optical adapter of the present disclosure may reduce operating room footprint.

[0069] The optical adapter of the present disclosure may be usable for a number of medical applications, e.g., general surgery, neurosurgical procedures, orthopedic procedures, and spinal procedures. The optical adapter of the present disclosure may be applicable to a wide variety of endoscopy-based procedures, including, but are not limited to, cholecystectomy (e.g., 1,200,000 procedures per year), hysterectomy (e.g., 575,000 procedures per year), thyroidectomy (e.g., 150,500 procedures per year), and gastrectomy (e.g., 225,000 procedures per year).

[0070] In an aspect, the present disclosure provides an optical adapter for medical imaging. The optical adapter may be configured to be operatively coupled to a scope assembly for medical imaging. The optical adapter may enhance one or more functions (e.g., imaging functions) of the scope assembly. The optical adapter may introduce one or more additional functions (e.g., imaging functions) to the scope assembly. The optical adapter may allow a user (e.g., a medical practitioner such as a physician, nurse practitioner, nurse, imaging specialist, etc.) to visualize

and/or analyze a target site of a subject, such as internal tissue of a patient, in one or more ways that any traditional scope assembly alone cannot.

[0071] The optical adapter (or at least a portion of the optical adapter) may be reused, and may be interchangeable with different scope assemblies. In some cases, the optical adapter may allow a scope from a first scope assembly to be operatively coupled to a camera of a different scope assembly, to thereby further diversifying imaging modalities of existing scope assemblies.

[0072] The scope assembly may be configured to visualize external and/or inner surface of a tissue (e.g., skin or internal organ) of a subject. The scope assembly may be used to (i) examine (e.g., visually examine) the tissue of the subject and (ii) diagnose and/or assist in a medical intervention (e.g., treatments, such as a surgery). In some cases, the scope assembly may be an endoscope. Examples of the endoscope may include, but are not limited to, a cystoscope (bladder), nephroscope (kidney), bronchoscope (bronchus), arthroscope (joints) and colonoscope (colon), and laparoscope (abdomen or pelvis).

[0073] The optical adapter may be configured to be operatively coupled to at least 1, 2, 3, 4, 5, or more scope assemblies. The optical adapter may be configured to be operatively coupled to at most 5, 4, 3, 2, or 1 scope assembly. The optical adapter may be disposable and configured for single use in a medical imaging procedure. Alternatively, the optical adapter may be configured to be reusable for a plurality of medical imaging procedures. The plurality of medical imaging procedures may be for the same subject (e.g., the same patient) or for a plurality of different subjects. The optical adapter may be reusable for at least 2, 3, 4, 5, 6, 7, 8, 9, 10, 20, 30, 40, 50, 60, 70, 80, 90, 100, 200, 300, 400, 500, 1,000, or more medical imaging procedures. The optical adapter may be reusable for at most 1,000, 500, 400, 300, 200, 100, 90, 80, 70, 60, 50, 40, 30, 20, 10, 9, 8, 7, 6, 5, 4, 3, or 2 medical imaging procedures. In some cases, the optical adapter may be autoclavable for a sterile subsequent use.

[0074] The optical adapter may be configured to receive one or more light signals from the target site of the subject. The optical adapter may be configured to receive at least 1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6, 7, 8, 9, 10, or more light signals from the target site. The optical adapter may be configured to receive at most 10, 9, 8, 7, 6, 5, 4, 3, 2, or 1 light signal from the target site. The one or more light signals may be reflected or emitted from the target site upon exposure or illumination of the target site to an optical beam. In some examples, a natural tissue of the target site or one or more dyes introduced to the target site may be responsible for reflecting or emitting the one or more light signals. Alternatively or in addition to, the one or more light signals may be emitted by the target site in absence of any exposure to an optical beam. In an example, the target site may emit at least a portion of the electromagnetic spectrum, such as infrared radiation.

[0075] Infrared radiation emission by the target site may range from the red edge of the visible spectrum at a wavelength of about 700 nanometers (nm) to about 1 millimeters (mm), which is approximately equivalent to a frequency of about 430 terahertz (THz) to about 300 gigahertz (GHz). Regions within the infrared spectrum may include, for example, near-infrared (NIR), short-wavelength infrared (SWIR), mid-wavelength infrared (MWIR), intermediate infrared (IIR), long-wavelength infrared (LWIR), and far-infrared (FIR). Near-infrared signal may range from about 0.7 micrometer (μm) to about 1.4 μm , which is approximately equivalent to a frequency of about 214 THz to about 400 THz. Long-wavelength infrared may range from about 8 μm to about 15 μm , which is approximately equivalent to a frequency of about 20 THz to about 37 THz.

[0076] The optical beam may comprise a single light beam from a single light source. Alternatively, the optical beam may be a combined light beam comprising a plurality of light beams. In some cases, the plurality of light beams may be directed to the target site from the same direction. Alternatively, the plurality of light beams may be directed to the target site from different directions. In some cases, the plurality of light beams may comprise (i) a white light and (ii) one or more laser beams. The plurality of light beams may be directed from a single optical source or a plurality of optical sources. The one or more laser beams may include at least 1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6, 7, 8, 9, 10, or more laser beams. The one or more laser beams may include at most 10, 9, 8, 7, 6, 5, 4, 3, 2, or 1 laser beam.

[0077] Laser beams of varying wavelengths may be selected based on a desired penetration depth of the tissue site. Alternatively or in addition to, laser beams of varying wavelengths may be selected based on a composition of interest (e.g., one or more molecules, compounds, or chemicals) present or expected to be present at the tissue site. In an example, a first laser beam having a first wavelength may be selected for detecting oxygenated blood, whereas a second laser beam having a second wavelength may be selected for detecting de-oxygenated blood. A user of the subject systems and methods provided herein may be able to select one or more laser wavelengths of interest depending on such parameters of the tissue site.

[0078] The scope assembly may comprise a scope and a camera. The scope and the camera may be operatively coupled to each other, e.g., electronically or mechanically. The scope and the camera may be releasably coupled to each other. The scope may be configured to (1) receive a light beam from an illumination source and (2) direct the light beam onto the target site of the subject's body. In some cases, the scope may be configured to (1) receive a combined light beam from the illumination source and (2) direct the combined light beam onto the target site within the subject's body.

[0079] The optical adapter may comprise a housing that comprises a first end and a second end. The first end may be configured to couple to a scope of the scope assembly. The second end may be configured to couple to the camera of the scope assembly. Any one of the subject couplings of the present disclosure may utilize one or more coupling mechanisms, such as, for example, magnets (e.g., electromagnet or permanent magnet), mechanical tethers (e.g., string or thread tethers), adhesives (e.g., solids, semi-solids, gels, viscous liquids, etc.), male-to-female fasteners (e.g., mating or interlocking fasteners, hooks and holes, hooks and loops such as Velcro™, a female nut threaded onto a male bolt, a male protrusion inserted into a female indentation in LEGO blocks, a male threaded pipe fitted into a female threaded elbow in plumbing, a male universal serial bus (USB) plug inserted into a female USB socket, etc.), screw-on coupling (e.g., with or without a coaxial connector), elastic coupling, gear coupling, hydrodynamic coupling, and other gasping mechanisms such as robotic arms that hold two or more components operatively relative to each other. In some cases, the coupling (i) between the first end of the housing and the scope and/or (ii) between the second end of the housing and the camera may be reversible or irreversible. In some examples, the coupling may be a releasable coupling.

[0080] In some cases, the first end of the housing may be configured to releasably couple to the scope using a quick release mechanism (e.g., snap-fit, latches, etc.). The quick release mechanism may be configured to releasably couple the optical adapter to various types of scopes having different sizes. In an example, the first end may comprise different sections with varied dimensions (e.g., different radial dimensions) configured to releasably coupled to different scopes having different sizes. In another example, the first end may comprise an adjustable aperture mechanism with adjustable aperture diameter to accommodate different scopes having different sizes. The quick release mechanism may be configured to quickly move between a lock position (i.e., a coupled position) and a release position (i.e., a non-coupled position) in response to one or more movements of the quick release mechanism, such as a single, non-repetitious movement (e.g., lateral or rotational) of the quick release mechanism. The quick release mechanism may be configured to quickly move between a lock and a release position in response to a user instruction via a switch, e.g., a mechanical switch disposed on the optical adapter or the scope.

[0081] The quick release mechanism may be configured to permit the user to releasably couple the first end of the housing to the scope without use of tools. Alternatively, the quick release mechanism may be configured to permit the user to releasably couple the first end of the housing to the scope with one or more tools, e.g., one or more keys to operatively coupled to the quick release mechanism to activate release of the quick release mechanism. The quick release

mechanism may be configured to permit the user to releasably couple the first end of the housing to the scope in less than 60 seconds. The quick release mechanism may be configured to permit the user to releasably couple the first end of the housing to the scope in less than 60 seconds, 55 seconds, 50 seconds, 45 seconds, 40 seconds, 35 seconds, 30 seconds, 25 seconds, 20 seconds, 15 seconds, 10 seconds, 5 seconds, or less.

[0082] In some cases, the coupling between the first end of the housing and the scope may not utilize a quick release mechanism. In some cases, the scope may be screwed on to the first end of the housing, thereby preventing a quick release of the scope from the first end of the housing. In an example, a coupling surface of the first end of the housing may substantially mimic the structure of a coupling surface of the camera, wherein the coupling surface of the camera is originally configured to couple to the scope.

[0083] In some cases, the second end of the housing may be configured to releasably couple to the camera of the scope assembly using a quick release mechanism (e.g., snap-fit, latches, etc.). The quick release mechanism may be configured to releasably couple the optical adapter to various types of cameras having different sizes. In an example, the second end may comprise different sections with varied dimensions (e.g., different radial dimensions) configured to releasably coupled to different cameras having different sizes. In another example, the second end may comprise an adjustable aperture mechanism with adjustable aperture diameter to accommodate different cameras having different sizes. The quick release mechanism may be configured to quickly move between a lock position (i.e., a coupled position) and a release position (i.e., a non-coupled position) in response to one or more movements of the quick release mechanism, such as a single, non-repetitious movement (e.g., lateral or rotational) of the quick release mechanism. The quick release mechanism may be configured to quickly move between a lock and a release position in response to a user instruction via a switch, e.g., a mechanical switch disposed on the optical adapter or the camera.

[0084] The quick release mechanism may allow for precise coupling of two members, such as (i) the first end of the housing and the scope or (ii) the second end of the housing and the camera. The precise coupling may provide an optimal optical path between the two members. The precise coupling may be achieved within an accuracy of less than about 20 μm . In some cases, the precise coupling may be achieved within an accuracy of at most about 100 μm , 90 μm , 80 μm , 70 μm , 60 μm , 50 μm , 40 μm , 30 μm , 20 μm , 10 μm , 9 μm , 8 μm , 7 μm , 6 μm , 5 μm , μm , 3 μm , 2 μm , 1 μm , 900 nm, 800 nm, 700 nm, 600 nm, 500 nm, 400 nm, 300 nm, 200 nm, 100 nm, 50 nm, or less.

[0085] The quick release mechanism may be configured to permit the user to releasably couple the second end of the housing to the camera without use of tools. Alternatively, the quick

release mechanism may be configured to permit the user to releasably couple the second end of the housing to the camera with one or more tools, e.g., one or more keys to operatively coupled to the quick release mechanism to activate release of the quick release mechanism. The quick release mechanism may be configured to permit the user to releasably couple the second end of the housing to the camera in less than 60 seconds. The quick release mechanism may be configured to permit the user to releasably couple the second end of the housing to the camera in less than 60 seconds, 55 seconds, 50 seconds, 45 seconds, 40 seconds, 35 seconds, 30 seconds, 25 seconds, 20 seconds, 15 seconds, 10 seconds, 5 seconds, or less.

[0086] In some cases, the coupling between the second end of the housing and the camera may not utilize a quick release mechanism. In some cases, the camera may be screwed on to the second end of the housing, thereby preventing a quick release of the camera from the second end of the housing. In an example, a coupling surface of the second end of the housing may substantially mimic the structure of a coupling surface of the scope, wherein the coupling surface of the scope is originally configured to couple to the camera.

[0087] The housing may include one or more biologically acceptable and/or compatible materials suitable for medical applications, depending on the particular application and/or preference of a medical practitioner. For example, components of the housing may include or be fabricated from materials such as polyvinyl chloride, polyvinylidene chloride, low density polyethylene, linear low density polyethylene, polyisobutene, poly(ethylene-vinylacetate) copolymer, lightweight aluminum foil and combinations thereof, stainless steel alloys, commercially pure titanium, titanium alloys, silver alloys, copper alloys, Grade 5 titanium, super-elastic titanium alloys, cobalt-chrome alloys, stainless steel alloys, superelastic metallic alloys (e.g., Nitinol, super elasto-plastic metals, such as GUM METAL® manufactured by Toyota Material Incorporated of Japan), ceramics and composites thereof such as calcium phosphate (e.g., SKELITE™ manufactured by Biologix Inc.), thermoplastics such as polyaryletherketone (PAEK) including polyetheretherketone (PEEK), polyetherketoneketone (PEKK) and polyetherketone (PEK), carbon-PEEK composites, PEEK-BaS04 polymeric rubbers, polyethylene terephthalate (PET), fabric, silicone, polyurethane, silicone-polyurethane copolymers, polymeric rubbers, polyolefin rubbers, hydrogels, semi-rigid and rigid materials, elastomers, rubbers, thermoplastic elastomers, thermoset elastomers, elastomeric composites, rigid polymers including polyphenylene, polyamide, polyimide, polyetherimide, polyethylene, epoxy, glass, and combinations thereof.

[0088] At least a portion of the housing may be opaque, semi-transparent, or transparent. In some cases, the housing may be opaque and configured to block any external light from (i) entering through the housing into one or more components within the housing and (ii) interfering

with the one or more light signals from the target site of the subject that is received by the optical adapter.

[0089] Pressure inside the housing of the optical adapter may be approximately the same as ambient pressure (e.g., atmospheric pressure). Alternatively, the pressure inside the housing may be controlled (or regulated, e.g., manually or automatically) such that the inner pressure of the housing is lower or higher than the ambient pressure. Temperature inside the housing of the optical adapter may be approximately the same as ambient temperature (e.g., room temperature). Alternatively, the temperature inside the housing may be controlled (or regulated, e.g., manually or automatically) such that the inner temperature of the housing is lower or higher than the ambient temperature. Humidity inside the housing of the optical adapter may be approximately the same as ambient humidity. Alternatively, the humidity inside the housing may be controlled (or regulated, e.g., manually or automatically) such that the inner humidity of the housing is lower or higher than the ambient humidity. In some examples, the pressure, temperature, and/or humidity of the optical adapter may be regulated for optimal function of the optical adapter.

[0090] The first end of the housing and the scope may be coupled directly to each other. Alternatively, the first end of the housing and the scope may be operatively coupled to each other via one or more couplers. The second end of the housing and the camera may be coupled directly to each other. Alternatively, the second end of the housing and the camera may be operatively coupled to each other via one or more couplers (e.g., a coupling ring). In some cases, a first end of a coupler may be configured to couple (e.g., releasably couple) to the scope, and a second end of the coupler may be configured to couple (e.g., releasably couple) to the first end of the housing. In some cases, a first end of a coupler may be configured to couple (e.g., releasably couple) to the camera, and a second end of the coupler may be configured to couple (e.g., releasably couple) to the second end of the housing.

[0091] The first end and the second end of the housing may share a common longitudinal axis. In some cases, the first end and the second end may be provided on opposite sides of the housing. In such cases, once the optical adapter is operatively coupled to the scope assembly, the scope and the camera of the scope assembly may be disposed on opposite sides of the housing of the optical adapter. Alternatively, the first end and the second end of the housing may not share a common longitudinal axis. In such case, the first end and the second end may be provided on orthogonal sides of the housing.

[0092] The optical adapter may comprise one or more sensors. The optical adapter may comprise at least 1, 2, 3, 4, 5, or more sensors. The optical sensor may comprise at most 5, 4, 3, 2, or 1 sensor. Examples of the one or more sensors may include, but are not limited to, pressure sensor, temperature sensor, optical sensor (e.g., image sensor), gas composition sensor,

membrane or diaphragm sensor, thin film sensor, resistive or capacitive sensor, or other type of sensing device. The one or more sensors may be permanently coupled to the optical adapter or, alternatively, removable from the optical adapter.

[0093] In some cases, the optical adapter may comprise an image sensor. The image sensor may be a part of the optical adapter. The image sensor may be permanently coupled to the optical adapter or, alternatively, removable from the optical adapter. In an example, the image sensor may be configured to releasably couple to the housing of the optical adapter. The image sensor may be configured to releasably couple to a surface of the housing, and the surface may be substantially orthogonal to the first end and/or the second end of the housing. In such a case, the image sensor may comprise a casing that is configured to releasably couple to the surface of the housing. Alternatively, the surface may not be substantially orthogonal to the first end and/or the second end of the housing. The image sensor may be coupled (e.g., releasably coupled) to the housing using one or more of the abovementioned coupling mechanisms.

[0094] The image sensor may be disposable and configured for single use in a medical imaging procedure. Alternatively, the image sensor may be configured to be reusable for a plurality of medical imaging procedures. The plurality of medical imaging procedures may be for the same subject (e.g., the same patient) or for a plurality of different subjects. The image sensor may be reusable for at least 2, 3, 4, 5, 6, 7, 8, 9, 10, 20, 30, 40, 50, 60, 70, 80, 90, 100, 200, 300, 400, 500, 1,000, or more medical imaging procedures. The image sensor may be reusable for at most 1,000, 500, 400, 300, 200, 100, 90, 80, 70, 60, 50, 40, 30, 20, 10, 9, 8, 7, 6, 5, 4, 3, or 2 medical imaging procedures. In some cases, the image sensor may be autoclavable for a sterile subsequent use.

[0095] The image sensor may be configured to receive a light signal from the target site of the subject for analysis and/or visualization of the target site of the subject. Such light signal may be reflected or emitted from the target site. The image sensor may be configured to detect the light signal from the target site and transform the detected light signal to generate an image indicative of the target tissue. The generated image may be one-dimensional or multi-dimensional (e.g., two-dimensional, three-dimensional, etc.). Alternatively, the image sensor may be operatively coupled to a processor. In such case, the image sensor may be configured to detect the light signal from the target site and convert the detected light signal into a digital signal. The image sensor may further be configured to transmit the digital signal to the processor that is capable of generating an image indicative of the target tissue.

[0096] Examples of the image sensor may include, but are not limited to, a charge coupled device (CCD), metal oxide semiconductor (MOS) (e.g., complementary MOS, i.e., CMOS), modifications thereof, functional variants thereof, and modifications thereof. The optical adapter

may comprise at least 1, 2, 3, 4, 5, or more image sensors. The optical adapter may comprise at most 5, 4, 3, 2, or 1 image sensor.

[0097] The casing of the image sensor may include one or more biologically acceptable and/or compatible materials suitable for medical applications, depending on the particular application and/or preference of a medical practitioner. For example, components of the casing may include or be fabricated from materials such as polyvinyl chloride, polyvinylidene chloride, low density polyethylene, linear low density polyethylene, polyisobutene, poly(ethylene-vinylacetate) copolymer, lightweight aluminum foil and combinations thereof, stainless steel alloys, commercially pure titanium, titanium alloys, silver alloys, copper alloys, Grade 5 titanium, super-elastic titanium alloys, cobalt-chrome alloys, stainless steel alloys, superelastic metallic alloys (e.g., Nitinol, super elasto-plastic metals, such as GUM METAL® manufactured by Toyota Material Incorporated of Japan), ceramics and composites thereof such as calcium phosphate (e.g., SKELITE™ manufactured by Biologix Inc.), thermoplastics such as polyaryletherketone (PAEK) including polyetheretherketone (PEEK), polyetherketoneketone (PEKK) and polyetherketone (PEK), carbon-PEEK composites, PEEK-BaSO₄ polymeric rubbers, polyethylene terephthalate (PET), fabric, silicone, polyurethane, silicone-polyurethane copolymers, polymeric rubbers, polyolefin rubbers, hydrogels, semi-rigid and rigid materials, elastomers, rubbers, thermoplastic elastomers, thermoset elastomers, elastomeric composites, rigid polymers including polyphenylene, polyamide, polyimide, polyetherimide, polyethylene, epoxy, glass, and combinations thereof. The housing of the optical adapter and the casing of the image sensor may be comprised of the same or different materials.

[0098] At least a portion of the casing may be opaque, semi-transparent, or transparent. In some cases, the casing may be opaque and configured to block any external light from (i) entering through the casing into one or more components within the casing (e.g., an imaging sensing mechanism of the image sensor such as CCD or CMOS) and (ii) interfering with the one or more light signals directed from the target site of the subject and toward the image sensor.

[0099] The image sensor and the camera may have different optical axes. An optical axis of the image sensor and an optical axis of the camera may intersect at an angle of at least 1 degree, 2 degrees, 3 degrees, 4 degrees, 5 degrees, 6 degrees, 7 degrees, 8 degrees, 9 degrees, 10 degrees, 20 degrees, 30 degrees, 40 degrees, 50 degrees, 60 degrees, 70 degrees, 80 degrees, 90 degrees, or more. The optical axis of the image sensor and the optical axis of the camera may intersect at an angle of at most 90 degrees, 80 degrees, 70 degrees, 60 degrees, 50 degrees, 40 degrees, 30 degrees, 20 degrees, 10 degrees, 9 degrees, 8 degrees, 7 degrees, 6 degrees, 5 degrees, 4 degrees, 3 degrees, 2 degrees, 1 degree, or less. In an example, the optical axis of the image sensor may

be orthogonal to the optical axis of the camera. Alternatively, the image sensor and the camera may have parallel but different longitudinal optical axes.

[00100] The optical adapter may comprise an optics assembly disposed in the housing. The optics assembly may be configured to receive light signals from the target site and transmitted through the scope. In an example, the light signals may be reflected from the target site within the subject's body. The optics assembly may further be configured to reflect a first portion of the light signals onto one of the image sensor and the camera, while permitting a second portion of the light signals to pass through to the other of the image sensor and the camera. In an example, the optics assembly (e.g., comprising a shortpass dichroic mirror) may be configured to reflect a first portion of the light signals onto the image sensor, while permitting a second portion of the light signals to pass through to the camera. In another example, the optics assembly (e.g., comprising a longpass dichroic mirror) may be configured to reflect a first portion of the light signals onto the camera, while permitting a second portion of the light signals to pass through to the image sensor.

[00101] The first portion of the light signals may comprise deflected light (e.g., backscattered light) that is generated when the target site is illuminated with laser light (e.g., coherent laser light). In some cases, the coherent laser light may be transmitted toward the target site via the scope of the scope assembly. The coherent laser light may be provided from a single laser source configured to emit a coherent laser light having a single wavelength. Non-limiting examples of the single laser source may include a single mode laser, a laser diode with a volume-holographic grating (VHG), or a laser with a laser clean-up filter (e.g., for narrow bandpass). The coherent laser light may be provided from a plurality of laser sources having a plurality of different wavelengths. The plurality of different wavelengths may lie in an invisible spectrum. The invisible spectrum may comprise wavelengths (i) greater than about 700 nm and/or (ii) less than about 400 nm. In some cases, the invisible spectrum may comprise wavelengths (i) greater than about 770 nm and/or (ii) less than about 390 nm. The second portion of the light signals may comprise reflected light that is generated when the target site is illuminated with a different light (e.g., white light). In some cases, the different light may be a white light comprising a plurality of wavelengths in the visible spectrum, comprising wavelengths between about 400 nm to about 700 nm. In some cases, the white light may be transmitted toward the target site via the scope. In some examples, the scope may comprise a plurality of optical paths to direct the coherent laser light and the white light separately from each other. In some examples, the scope may comprise a single optical path to direct a combined light that comprises both the coherent laser light and the white light.

[00102] In some cases, the optics assembly may comprise a beam splitter. The beam splitter may be configured to receive light signals from the target site and (i) reflect the first portion of the light signals that is in a first electromagnetic spectral range toward the image sensor, and (ii) permit the second portion of the light signals in a second electromagnetic spectral range to pass through toward the camera of the scope assembly. Alternatively, the beam splitter may be configured to receive light signals from the target site and (i) reflect the second portion of the light signals that is in the second electromagnetic spectral range toward the camera of the scope assembly, and (ii) permit the first portion of the light signals in the first electromagnetic spectral range to pass through toward the image sensor. Examples of the beam splitter may include, but are not limited to, a half mirror, a dichroic beam splitter (e.g., a shortpass or longpass dichroic mirror), or a multi-band beam splitter. In an example, the beam splitter may be a cube comprising two prisms (e.g., two triangular glass prisms) disposed adjacent to each other.

[00103] The first and second electromagnetic spectral ranges may be different. In some cases, the first portion of the light signals may comprise one or more wavelengths from an invisible electromagnetic spectrum. The invisible electromagnetic spectrum may comprise one or more wavelengths from about 700 nm (or 0.7 μm) to about 1 mm (or 1000 μm). Alternatively or in addition to, the invisible electromagnetic spectrum may comprise one or more wavelengths lower than 400 nm. In some cases, the second portion of the light signals may comprise one or more wavelengths from a visible electromagnetic spectrum, ranging from about 400 nm (or 0.4 μm) to about 700 nm (or 0.7 μm).

[00104] The first portion of the light signals may comprise one or more wavelengths from about 0.7 μm to about 1,000 μm . The first portion of the light signals may comprise one or more wavelengths from at least about 0.7 μm . The first portion of the light signals may comprise one or more wavelengths from at most about 1,000 μm . The first portion of the light signals may comprise one or more wavelengths from about 0.7 μm to about 1 μm , about 0.7 μm to about 5 μm , about 0.7 μm to about 10 μm , about 0.7 μm to about 50 μm , about 0.7 μm to about 100 μm , about 0.7 μm to about 500 μm , about 0.7 μm to about 1,000 μm , about 1 μm to about 5 μm , about 1 μm to about 10 μm , about 1 μm to about 50 μm , about 1 μm to about 100 μm , about 1 μm to about 500 μm , about 1 μm to about 1,000 μm , about 5 μm to about 10 μm , about 5 μm to about 50 μm , about 5 μm to about 100 μm , about 5 μm to about 500 μm , about 5 μm to about 1,000 μm , about 10 μm to about 50 μm , about 10 μm to about 100 μm , about 10 μm to about 500 μm , about 10 μm to about 1,000 μm , about 50 μm to about 100 μm , about 50 μm to about 500 μm , about 50 μm to about 1,000 μm , about 100 μm to about 500 μm , about 100 μm to about 1,000 μm , or about 500 μm to about 1,000 μm . The first portion of the light signals may

comprise one or more wavelengths from about 0.7 μm , about 1 μm , about 5 μm , about 10 μm , about 50 μm , about 100 μm , about 500 μm , or about 1,000 μm .

[00105] The second portion of the light signals may comprise one or more wavelengths from about 400 nm to about 700 nm. The second portion of the light signals may comprise one or more wavelengths from at least about 400 nm. The second portion of the light signals may comprise one or more wavelengths from at most about 700 nm. The second portion of the light signals may comprise one or more wavelengths from about 400 nm to about 450 nm, about 400 nm to about 500 nm, about 400 nm to about 550 nm, about 400 nm to about 600 nm, about 400 nm to about 650 nm, about 400 nm to about 700 nm, about 450 nm to about 500 nm, about 450 nm to about 550 nm, about 450 nm to about 600 nm, about 450 nm to about 650 nm, about 450 nm to about 700 nm, about 500 nm to about 550 nm, about 500 nm to about 600 nm, about 500 nm to about 650 nm, about 500 nm to about 700 nm, about 550 nm to about 600 nm, about 550 nm to about 650 nm, about 550 nm to about 700 nm, about 600 nm to about 650 nm, about 600 nm to about 700 nm, or about 650 nm to about 700 nm. The second portion of the light signals may comprise one or more wavelengths from about 400 nm, about 450 nm, about 500 nm, about 550 nm, about 600 nm, about 650 nm, or about 700 nm.

[00106] In some cases, the beam splitter may be a polarizing beam splitter, e.g., a Wollaston prism. The polarizing beam splitter may be configured to receive light signals from the target site and (i) reflect the first portion of the light signals that is in first polarization toward the image sensor, and (ii) permit the second portion of the light signals in second polarization to pass through toward the camera of the scope assembly.

[00107] The optics assembly may not comprise any focusing device (e.g., an optical aperture, such as an objective lens) ahead of the beam splitter (e.g., before the light signals reach the beam splitter). Alternatively, the optics assembly may comprise one or more focusing devices ahead of the beam splitter. The optics assembly may comprise at least 1, 2, 3, 4, 5, or more focusing devices disposed ahead of the beam splitter. The optics assembly may comprise at most 5, 4, 3, 2, or 1 focusing device disposed ahead of the beam splitter.

[00108] In some cases, the image sensor may be configured to generate a first set of imaging data from the first portion of the light signals, and the camera may be configured to generate a second set of imaging data from the second portion of the light signals. The first set of imaging data and the second set of imaging data may be the same. In an example, the first and second set of imaging data may be the same in order to confirm validity of the collected data. Alternatively, the first and second set of imaging data may be different, e.g., may represent different features of the target site. The first set of imaging data may complement the second set of imaging data. In an example, the image sensor of the optical adapter may be used for laser speckle imaging. In

such a case, the first set of imaging data may comprise one or more laser speckle patterns, and the second set of imaging data may comprise one or more photographic and/or video images. The first set of imaging data may comprise at least 1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6, 7, 8, 9, 10, or more laser speckle patterns. The first set of imaging data may comprise at most 10, 9, 8, 7, 6, 5, 4, 3, 2, or 1 laser speckle pattern.

[00109] Examples of features of the target site that may be detected by the image sensor and recorded in the first set of imaging data may include, but are not limited to, temperature, surface depth (i.e., tomography), blood flow rate, oxygen concentration (e.g., in the blood), calcium potential, electrical potential, magnetic field, presence of one or more markers of interest (e.g., immunological staining), etc.

[00110] A focusing device, as used herein in the present disclosure, may comprise any lens (e.g., fish-eye, elliptical, conical, etc.), reflector, optic, concentrator, or other device that is capable of reflecting or focusing light. In an example, the focusing device may be a relay lens. The optics assembly may comprise at least one focusing device (e.g., at least 1, 2, 3, 4, 5, or more focusing devices) for the image sensor. The at least one focusing device may be disposed between the beam splitter and the image sensor. The optics assembly may comprise at least one focusing device (e.g., at least 1, 2, 3, 4, 5, or more focusing devices) for the camera. The at least one focusing device may be disposed between the beam splitter and the camera. In some cases, the optics assembly may comprise at least one focusing device (e.g., at least 1, 2, 3, 4, 5, or more focusing devices) disposed in the optical path between the scope and the beam splitter.

[00111] In some cases, the optics assembly may comprise (i) a first focusing device for the image sensor and (ii) a second focusing device for the camera. The first focusing device may be operatively coupled to a first focusing knob to adjust degree of focusing of the first focusing device. The first focusing knob may be operatively coupled (e.g., electronically or mechanically coupled) to the first focusing device. In an example, the first focusing knob may be mechanically coupled to the first focusing device via a first gearing mechanism comprising one or more gears. The first focusing knob may be operable by the user to adjust focusing of the first focusing device. The second focusing device may be operatively coupled to a second focusing knob to adjust degree of focusing of the second focusing device. The second focusing knob may be operatively coupled (e.g., electronically or mechanically coupled) to the second focusing device. In an example, the second focusing knob may be mechanically coupled to the second focusing device via a second gearing mechanism comprising one or more gears. The second focusing knob may be operable by the user to adjust focusing of the second focusing device.

[00112] In some cases, the first focusing device and the second focusing device may be operably coupled to each other (e.g., electronically or mechanically), such that focusing for the

image sensor and for the camera can be performed concurrently. In an example, first and second focusing devices may be coupled to each other via a gearing mechanism comprising one or more gears. The first and second focusing devices may be coupled to a common focusing knob that is operable by the user. Alternatively, the first focusing device may be operatively coupled to a first focusing knob, the second focusing device may be operatively coupled to a second focusing knob, and the first and second focusing knobs may be operatively coupled to each other. In such case, (i) operating the first focusing knob may adjust degree of focusing of both the first and second focusing devices, and (ii) operating the second focusing knob may adjust degree of focusing of both the first and second focusing devices.

[00113] In some cases, the first focusing device and the second focusing device may not be operably coupled to each other. The first focusing device and the second focusing device may be provided separately and configured to be used independently of each other.

[00114] The at least one focusing device may be manually adjusted for focusing. In some cases, one or both of the first focusing device and the second focusing device may be manually adjusted for focusing. Alternatively, the at least one focusing device may be automatically adjusted for focusing. In some cases, the optics assembly may be capable of autofocusing the at least one focusing device. In some cases, one or both of the first focusing device and the second focusing device may be automatically adjusted for focusing. In an example, focusing the first focusing device (e.g., manually or automatically) may consequently autofocus the second focusing device, or vice versa. In another example, the first and second focusing devices may be autofocused simultaneously.

[00115] In some cases, the optics assembly of the housing may comprise at least one focusing device for the image sensor and no focusing device for the camera. In such case, the camera may have its own focusing device. The at least one focusing device of the optics assembly and the focusing device of the camera may or may not be operatively coupled to each other.

[00116] In some cases, a processor (or a computer) may be operatively linked to the image sensor and the camera. The processor may be configured to direct the image sensor to capture a first set of imaging data and direct the camera to capture a second set of imaging data. The processor may be configured to compare the first set and second set of imaging data. Based at least in part on the comparison, the processor may be configured to direct one or more focusing devices that are operatively coupled to the image sensor and/or the camera to adjust alignment of the image sensor with respect to the camera. Such calibration of the image sensor and/or the camera may improve alignment between an image of the first set of imaging data to another image of the second set of the imaging data. The calibration may be performed by the processor

(e.g., upon user instruction or automatically) (i) prior to use of the optical adapter for imaging the target site and/or (ii) in real time during the imaging of the target site.

[00117] In some cases, a perspective (i.e., field of view) of the image sensor and a perspective (i.e., field of view) of the camera may be aligned with respect to each other. The processor may be configured to direct the image sensor to capture a first set of imaging data (e.g., based on reflected infrared light or laser light from a target site) and direct the camera to capture a second set of imaging data (e.g., based on reflected white light from the target site). The processor may be further configured to spatially (and/or temporally) align the first set and the second set of imaging data. In an example, the processor may perform digital image processing on one or both of the first set and the second set of imaging data (e.g., affine transformation of one or more pixels of the first set and the second set of imaging data), such that the perspectives of the image sensor and the camera are aligned (or lined up) and spatially correspond to each other. Such alignment of the two imaging units may be useful when creating an overlay of the first set and the second set of imaging data, e.g., when generating an overlay of blood flow and perfusion (e.g., from the image sensor) on top of the standard white light surgical view (e.g., from the camera). In other examples, the processor may be configured to perform image registration. The processor may be configured to find one or more matching features in the first set and the second set of imaging data, then calculate a transformation of one or both of the first set and the second set of imaging data for their alignment. Non-limiting examples of such features include corners, lines, speeded up robust features (SURF), and scale-invariant feature transformation (SIFT) features.

[00118] FIG. 1A schematically illustrates an example ecosystem for medical imaging. The ecosystem may comprise a target site 100 of a subject (e.g., a tissue site of interest of a patient). The ecosystem may comprise a scope assembly 200. The ecosystem may comprise an illumination source 230 in optical communication with the scope assembly 200. The illumination source 230 may be configured to provide one or more light beams (e.g., a combined light beam) via the scope assembly 200 and toward the target site 100. The target site 100 may be in optical communication with the scope assembly 200, such that (i) the target site 100 may be illuminated by the one or more light beams from the scope assembly 200 and (ii) the scope assembly 200 may detect one or more light signals reflected or emitted by the target site 100 upon such illumination. The scope assembly 200 may be configured to capture at least one image or video of the target site based on at least a portion of the one or more light signals from the target site 100. The ecosystem may comprise an optical adapter 300 that is operatively coupled to one or more components of the scope assembly 200. The optical adapter 300 may be in optical communication with the scope assembly 200, such that (i) the optical adapter 300 may

receive one or more light signals from the scope assembly 200 and (ii) the scope assembly 200 may receive one or more light signals from the optical adapter 300. The optical adapter 300 may be configured to generate data (e.g., images, videos, lase speckle imaging, etc.) based on at least an additional portion of the one or more light signals from the target site 100. The generated data may encode different features of the target site than that of the at least one image or video captured by the scope assembly 200. The scope assembly 200 and the optical adapter 300 may be operatively coupled to an imaging processor 340. The imaging processor 340 may be configured to analyze or combine data, image(s), or video(s) generated by the scope assembly 200 and the optical adapter 300.

[00119] FIG. 1B schematically illustrates an example ecosystem of the scope assembly 200 in absence of the optical adapter 300. The scope assembly 200 comprises a scope 210 and a camera 220 that are operatively coupled to each other. The scope 210 and the camera 220 may be mechanically and optically in communication with each other. The scope 210 may be in optical communication with the illumination source 230 via an optical signal path 235 (e.g., an optical fiber). The illumination source 230 may direct one or more light beams via the optical signal path 235 and to the scope 210, and the scope 210 may direct the one or more light beams toward the target site 100. The scope 210 may also serve as an optical signal path for any light signals reflected or emitted by the target site 100 toward the camera 220. The camera 220 may be operatively coupled to the imaging processor 340 via a signal line 225 (e.g., electrical wire such as copper wire, optical fiber, etc.). In some cases, a focusing coupler may be disposed between the scope 210 and the camera 220. The focusing coupler may be permanently attached to the camera 220. The focusing coupler may comprise a focusing knob.

[00120] FIGs. 2A and 2B schematically illustrates an embodiment of the ecosystem shown in FIG. 1A, wherein the optical adapter 300 that is operatively coupled to the scope assembly 200. FIG. 2A schematically illustrates a side view of the optical adapter 300, while FIG. 2B schematically illustrates a cross-sectional view of the optical adapter 300. The optical adapter 300 may comprise a housing 305. The housing 305 may comprise a first end 350 configured to releasably couple to the scope 210. The housing 305 may comprise a second end 360 configured to releasably couple to the camera 220. The housing 305 may comprise an image sensor 310 within a casing 315. The image sensor 310 (e.g., the casing 315 comprising the image sensor 310) may be configured to releasably couple to the housing 305.

[00121] Referring to FIG. 2B, the housing 305 may comprise an optics assembly 330 disposed in the housing 305. The optics assembly 330 may be configured to (1) receive light signals that are reflected from a target site 100 within a subject's body and transmitted through the scope 210, and (2) reflect a first portion of the light signals onto the image sensor 310 while

permitting a second portion of the light signals to pass through and toward to the camera 220. The optics assembly 330 may comprise a beam splitter, such as, for example, a dichroic mirror. The housing 305 may comprise a first focusing device (e.g., lens) disposed between the optics assembly 330 and the image sensor 310, which first focusing device being configured to focus the first portion of the light signals traveling from the optics assembly 330 and toward the image sensor 310. The housing 305 may further comprise a first focusing knob 320 configured to adjust degree of focusing of the first focusing device. The housing 305 may comprise a second focusing device (e.g., lens) disposed between the optics assembly 330 and the camera 220, which second focusing device being configured to focus the second portion of the light signals traveling from the optics assembly 330 and toward the camera 220. The housing 305 may further comprise a second focusing knob 325 configured to adjust degree of focusing of the second focusing device. The first focusing knob 320 and the second focusing knob 325 may be operatively coupled to each other, thus operate in conjunction with each other. In an example, operating the first focusing knob 320 to focus the first focusing device may automatically direct the second focusing knob 325 to focus the second focusing device. In another example, operating the first focusing knob 320 to defocus the first focusing device may automatically direct the second focusing knob 325 to defocus the second focusing device. Alternatively, operating the first focusing knob 320 to focus the first focusing device may automatically direct the second focusing knob 325 to defocus the second focusing device, or vice versa. In some cases, the first focusing knob 320 and the second focusing knob 325 may operate independently from each other.

[00122] FIGs. 2C and 2D schematically illustrates an example of the ecosystem shown in FIGs. 2A and 2B. The first end 350 of the housing 305 and the scope 210 may be operatively coupled to each other via a coupler 340. The coupler 340 may be configured to releasably couple to the scope 210 and the first end 350 of the housing 305. The coupler 340 may be in optical communication with the scope 210 and the first end 350 of the housing 305.

[00123] FIGs. 3A-3B schematically illustrate an embodiment of the ecosystem for medical imaging. The ecosystem may comprise a scope assembly 200 comprising a scope 210 and a camera 220. The ecosystem further comprises a subject optical adapter 300 of the present disclosure. For example, the optical adapter 300 may be releasably coupled to the scope assembly 200 and comprise an image sensor and an optics assembly. The optics assembly may be configured to (1) receive light signals that are reflected from a tissue site within a subject's body and transmitted through the scope 210, and (2) reflect a first portion of the light signals onto the image sensor while permitting a second portion of the light signals to pass through to the camera 220.

[00124] Referring to **FIG. 3A**, the scope assembly 200 may be operatively coupled to a base module 250. The base module 250 may comprise a processor configured to analyze data obtained by the camera 220, a light source to provide light to the scope assembly 200, a display (e.g., a liquid crystal display (LCD) or light emitting diode (LED) screen) to visualize the data obtained by the camera. In some cases, the optical adapter 300 may also be operatively coupled to the base module 250. The base module 250 may be configured to provide a combined light (e.g., a white light and one or more laser beams) through the scope 210 and to the tissue site. The processor of the base module 250 may be configured to analyze and visualize a first data set from the image sensor and a second data set from the camera 220. Alternatively, the optical adapter 300 may be operatively coupled to an additional imaging module 370 comprising a light source configured to provide the combined light through the scope 210 and towards the tissue site. Such light source may be optically coupled to the light source (e.g., for white light) of the base module 250, as well as one or more additional light sources that are configured to provide the one or more laser beams. A processor of the additional imaging module 370 may be configured to analyze and visualize the first data set from the image sensor. In addition, the processor of the additional imaging module 370 may be operatively coupled to the processor of the base module 250 to generate a combined analysis and visualization of the first data and the second data set from the camera 220.

[00125] As shown in **FIG. 3B**, the additional imaging module 370 may comprise one or more of the following features: (i) one or more processors for imaging and/or video processing, (ii) database for local image/video storage, (iii) connections (e.g., wired or wireless) to healthcare database network, (iv) connections (e.g., wired or wireless) to the base module 250 of the scope 210, and (v) one or more light sources (e.g., high speed laser light source, hyperspectral light source, etc.).

[00126] **FIG. 3C** schematically illustrates multiple imaging modalities achieved by the subject optical adapter of the present disclosure. The base module 250 and/or the additional imaging module 370 may provide a combined light (e.g., a combination of white light and a plurality of laser beams) through the scope 210 and to the tissue site. Upon exposure to the combined light, the tissue site may reflect or emit light signals towards the optical adapter 300. Subsequently, an optics assembly of the optical adapter 300 may be configured to receive the light signals that are transmitted through the scope and reflect at least a portion of the light signals onto an image sensor of the optical adapter. Examples of the at least the portion of the light signals that may be detected and recorded by the image sensor may include, but are not limited to, (i) hyperspectral data 380 as unique fingerprint of the tissue site for identification of the tissue type, (ii) a first order measurement of reflections of laser light beams 382 for perfusion (e.g., blood flow)

underneath the tissue site, and (iii) reflection of NIR light 384 that may be indicative of structures of the tissue site that would otherwise be invisible to white light-based imaging. In some cases, the NIR light that is originally directed to the tissue site may be capable of penetrating the tissue site deeper than a white light, and thus reflection of such NIR light may reveal previously invisible structures of the tissue site.

[00127] Any subject optical adapter of the present disclosure can be incorporated as part of an imaging kit. In an aspect, the present disclosure provides an imaging kit comprising any of the subject optical adapter of the present disclosure and one or more illumination sources. The one or more illumination sources may be configured to transmit one or more light beams to the scope of the scope assembly for directing the one or more light beams via the scope and onto the target site of the subject's body. The kit may comprise at least 1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6, 7, 8, 9, 10, or more illumination sources. The kit may comprise at most 10, 9, 8, 7, 6, 5, 4, 3, 2, or 1 illumination source. In some cases, a single illumination source may be configured to transmit at least 1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6, 7, 8, 9, 10, or more light beams to the scope. The single illumination source may be configured to transmit at most 10, 9, 8, 7, 6, 5, 4, 3, 2, or 1 light beam to the scope. In some cases, a plurality of illumination sources may be configured to transmit at least 2, 3, 4, 5, 6, 7, 8, 9, 10, or more light beams to the scope. The plurality of illumination sources may be configured to transmit at most 10, 9, 8, 7, 6, 5, 4, 3, or 2 light beams to the scope. In an example, the illumination source may be configured to transmit a combined light beam to the scope for directing the combined light beam onto the target site within the subject's body.

[00128] Any subject optical adapter of the present disclosure can be used for medical imaging of a target site of a subject. In an aspect, the present disclosure provides a method of using an optical adapter for medical imaging. **FIG. 4** shows an example flow chart of the method of using the optical adapter for medical imaging. The method may comprise providing (i) an optical adapter and (ii) a scope assembly comprising a scope and a camera. The method may comprise combining a first light with a second light to generate a combined light beam. In some cases, the method may comprise combining white light with coherent laser light to generate a combined light beam (process 410). The method may further comprise providing the combined light beam to the scope (process 420). The method may further comprise using the scope to direct the combined light beam onto a target site within the subject's body (process 430). The method may further comprise receiving, via the scope, light signals that are reflected or emitted from the target site (process 440). Alternatively, the method may comprise receiving, via an additional optical path, the light signals that are reflected or emitted from the target site. The method may further comprise reflecting a first portion of the light signals onto an image sensor in the optical adapter while permitting a second portion of the light signals to pass through to the camera, the

optical adapter being configured to operatively couple (e.g., releasably couple) to both the scope and the camera (process 450). In some cases, the optical adapter may be disposed between the scope and the camera when releasably coupled thereto. The scope, the optical adapter, and the camera may share a common longitudinal axis.

[00129] FIG. 5 shows an additional example flow chart of the method of using the optical adapter for medical imaging. The method may comprise providing an optical adapter that comprises a housing, wherein an image sensor of the optical adapter may be operatively coupled to the housing (process 510). The image sensor may be permanently or releasably coupled to the housing. The method may further comprise providing a scope assembly comprising a scope and a camera. The method may further comprise operatively coupling (e.g., releasably coupling) a first end of the housing to the scope (process 520). The method may further comprise operatively coupling (e.g., releasably coupling) a second end of the housing to the camera (process 520). The method may further comprise providing a combined light beam to the scope, the combined light beam comprising a first light and a second light. In some cases, the method may comprise providing the combined light beam to the scope, the combined light beam comprising white light combined with coherent laser light (process 530). The method may further comprise using the scope to direct the combined light beam onto a target site within a subject's body (process 540). The method may further comprise receiving, via the scope, light signals that are reflected or emitted from the target site (process 550). Alternatively, the method may further comprise receiving, via an additional optical path, the light signals that are reflected or emitted from the target site. The method may further comprise reflecting a first portion of the light signals onto the image sensor while permitting a second portion of the light signals to pass through to the camera (process 560). The method may further comprise using the image sensor to generate a first set of imaging data from the first portion of the light signals, and using the camera to generate a second set of imaging data from the second portion of the light signals (process 570). In some cases, the first set of imaging data comprises laser speckle patterns. In some cases, the second set of imaging data comprises photographic or video images. Alternatively, the image sensor may not and need not be releasably coupled to the optical adapter, as described in FIG. 6. In such case, the optical adapter may comprise the image sensor, and the image sensor may be integrated within the adapter.

[00130] In some embodiments, the optical adapter of the present disclosure may allow a user (e.g., a medical practitioner) to visualize in both (i) an image or video of a target tissue site (e.g., captured by a camera of an existing scope) and (ii) perfusion of a fluid of interest (e.g., blood perfusion) underneath or within the target tissue site. In some cases, the optical adapter may allow the user to visualize (i) the image or video of the target tissue site and (ii) blood perfusion

substantially in real time. In some cases, changes in blood perfusion at the target tissue site may be indicative of one or more surgical complications (e.g., accidentally damaging a blood vessel) or an onset of potential surgical complications (e.g., stroke, seizure, allergic reactions of the subject, etc.). Thus, the optical adapter of the present disclosure may allow a user (e.g., a surgeon in an operating room) to (1) detect one or more procedural or patient-related issues early as compared to an existing scope apparatus alone, and (2) make an informed decision whether to proceed with or abort the remaining surgical procedure.

[00131] FIGs. 7A-7D illustrates comparative images of a tissue site (e.g., porcine small intestine) of a subject obtained by the optical adapter of the present disclosure or an existing ICG-based angiography. Referring to FIGs. 7A and 7B, some of the vessels in the mesentery were devascularized using electrocautery, and the tissue site was imaged in real-time by the ICG angiography (FIG. 7A) or the optical adapter that is operatively coupled to an endoscope (FIG. 7B). In FIG. 7A, dark regions 710 indicate no blood perfusion, while light regions 715 indicate presence of blood perfusion (e.g., full perfusion). In FIG. 7B, red regions 720 indicate no blood perfusion, while blue regions 725 indicate presence of blood perfusion. Both ICG angiography and the optical adapter can comparatively and accurately distinguish the ablation region (710 and 720, respectively) in the tissue site.

[00132] Referring to FIGs. 7C and 7D, devascularization was further extended at the tissue site shown in FIGs. 7A and 7B, and the tissue site was imaged in real-time by the ICG angiography (FIG. 7C) or the optical adapter that is operatively coupled to an endoscope (FIG. 7D). As shown in FIG. 7C, no significant change in the color of the extended ablation site 730 is apparent by the ICG angiography. Rather, the extended ablation site 730 appears to have blood perfusion (i.e., false positive) due to ICG dyes previously injected and still present in the tissue site. In contrast, as shown in FIG. 7D, the extended ablation site 740 clearly captured as a red region, confirming no blood perfusion at such site. Thus, the optical adapter can more accurately depict blood perfusion data than the ICG angiography.

[00133] FIGs. 8A-8D illustrates advantages of the optical adapter of the present disclosure in comparison to existing systems and methods for medical imaging. As shown in FIG. 8A, it may be necessary to obtain a survey (e.g., a pre-operation two-dimensional (2D) computerized tomography (CT) scan) of the tissue site prior to the surgery (e.g., 2 to 6 weeks prior to the surgery). In contrast, as shown in FIG. 8B, the optical adapter of the present disclosure, when operatively coupled to any existing endoscope system, may allow real-time visualization one or more features 810 of the tissue site that would not be captured or distinguished by the existing endoscope system alone. In addition, as shown in FIG. 8C, surgeons may often rely on a physical ruler to measure one or more dimensions (e.g., length, area, etc.) of the tissue site or

features thereof. In contrast, as shown in **FIG. 8D**, the optical adapter of the present disclosure may enable accurate measurements of such dimension(s) in real-time without the need for the physical ruler.

[00134] The optical adapter of the present disclosure may provide one or more advantages in comparison to existing ICG dye based systems for medical imaging. The ICG dye based systems has been traditionally used for blood perfusion data. In some cases, the ICG dye based systems may require different hardware equipment for different applications. Additionally, one ICG dye based system may not be compatible with all endoscopes. Thus, the ICG dye based systems may not be hardware agnostic. In some cases, instant update of hardware or software of the ICG dye based systems may not be possible. In some cases, because the ICG dye based systems rely on injection of dyes into the subject (e.g., the patient), the ICG dye is for a single-use only and may not be re-used even for the same subject. Additionally, the ICG dye (or any other dyes for dye angiography) may elicit allergic reaction to some subjects, thus may not be applicable with every patient. In some cases, the ICG dye may require time (e.g., several minutes to hours) to reach the target site. In addition, upon reaching the target site, the dye may not stay at the target site for long. Alternatively, the dye may stay at the target site for too long and provide false positive or false negative imaging data. Thus, the ICG dye based systems may not be a reliable method for real-time imaging of the tissue site. In contrast, the optical adapter of the present disclosure (i) may be hardware agnostic, (ii) may receive instant software updates, (iii) may be reused for the same subject or multiple subjects if needed, (iv) may not elicit allergic reactions, (v) may be used with every patient, (vi) may provide 100% real-time data, (vii) and may provide blood perfusion data that is invisible to traditional endoscope systems without any dye-based angiography.

[00135] The optical adapter of the present disclosure may provide additional advantages in comparison to existing dye based systems for medical imaging. The optical adapter may exhibit more of the following features than any of the existing dye based systems for medical imaging: (i) minimally invasive imaging capability, (ii) visualization of perfusion at the tissue site, (iii) optimized mucosal view, (iv) tissue identification, (v) quantified multi-dimensional (e.g., three-dimensional) reconstruction and sensing, (vi) dye-free imaging, and (vii) data-rich overlay of images obtained by the optical adapter to images obtained by a traditional endoscope camera.

[00136] In some embodiments, the optical adapter of the present disclosure may be operatively coupled to a processor (e.g., a computer) configured to analyze a light signal data set (e.g., light spectra, images, or videos) captured by the optical adapter and identify tissue type of the tissue site or one or more features thereof. In an example, the optical adapter may use hyperspectral imaging to identify the tissue type. The processor may be capable of employing one or more machine learning algorithms to analyze a database comprising a plurality of known

or previously collected data sets (e.g., light spectra, images, or videos) related to a plurality of tissue sites or features thereof. The one or more machine learning algorithms may be capable of analyzing the light signal data set from the image sensor of the optical adapter or an additional light signal data set from an endoscope camera. The one or more machine learning algorithms may comprise an artificial neural network. The artificial neural network may involve a network of simple processing elements (i.e., artificial neurons) which can exhibit complex global behavior, determined by the connections between the processing elements and element parameters. With or without a training set (e.g., database of previously identified tissue sites and features thereof, along with respective light signal data sets), the artificial neural network may enhance the analysis capability of the machine learning algorithms. As shown in **FIG. 9**, the one or more machine learning algorithms of the present disclosure may comprise: (i) an input 910 comprising image/video data that is collected from at least the optical adapter of the present disclosure, (ii) a machine learning module 920 for analysis of the input 910, and (iii) an output 930. As shown in **FIG. 10**, the artificial neural network of the one or more machine learning algorithms may comprise an input layer 1010, one or more hidden layers (e.g., at least two hidden layers 1020 and 1025), and an output layer 1030. The one or more hidden layers may take in input signals (e.g., the light signal data), analyze them, and convert them into an output (e.g., an identified tissue type). In some cases, the light signal data input may comprise at least wavelength (e.g., more than 3 wavelengths, up to 1000 wavelengths, etc.). In some cases, the output layer 1030 may comprise one or more members of the following: (i) tissue identification utilizing spectral fingerprint and/or perfusion data, (ii) spatial location (e.g., X, Y, Z Cartesian coordinates) of the tissue site or features thereof, (iii) quantified perfusion (e.g., blood flow), (iv) surgical decision support (e.g., proceed vs. abort), and (v) geofencing of critical structures within the tissue site of interest.

[00137] In some cases, the optical adapter of the present disclosure may collect surgical data that is multiple orders of magnitude denser or more detailed compared to data collected from an existing imaging system (e.g., endoscope or dye-based imaging systems). In an example, a stereoscopic measurement may not be capable of generating a three-dimensional (3D) reconstruction of the tissue site, while the optical adapter of the present disclosure may be capable of generating a quantitative depth map of the tissue site (e.g., with 0.5 millimeter or less depth error).

[00138] Any one of the subject optical adapters of the present disclosure can be used to visualize anatomy, morphology, one or more physiological features, and/or one or more pathological features of a target site within a subject's body. Examples of the physiological and/or pathological feature(s) can include, but are not limited to oxygenation, deoxygenation,

artery-vein (A-V) classification, flow rate and/or flow volume of a body fluid (e.g., blood, lymph, tissue fluid, milk, saliva, semen, bile, etc.) such as blood perfusion or infarction, angiogenesis, cell density, inflammation, tissue swelling (e.g., brain swelling), tissue death, tissue dimension (e.g., diameter, area, volume), viral infection, bacterial infection, tumor dimension (e.g., diameter, area, volume), tumor margin after a tumor dissection, metastatic growth, etc.

[00139] Examples of the target site within the subject's body can include, but are not limited to, thyroid gland, adrenal gland, mammary gland, prostate gland, testicle, trachea, superior vena cava, inferior vena cava, lung, liver, gallbladder, kidney, ureter, appendix, bladder, urethra, heart, esophagus, diaphragm, aorta, spleen, stomach, pancreas, small intestine, large intestine, rectum, vagina, ovary, bone, thymus, skin, adipose, eye, brain, fetus, arteries, veins, nerves, ureter, bile duct, healthy tissue, and diseased tissue.

[00140] In some cases, a diseased tissue may be affected by a tumor or cancer selected from the group consisting of: Acanthoma, Acinic cell carcinoma, Acoustic neuroma, Acral lentiginous melanoma, Acrospiroma, Acute eosinophilic leukemia, Acute lymphoblastic leukemia, Acute megakaryoblastic leukemia, Acute monocytic leukemia, Acute myeloblastic leukemia with maturation, Acute myeloid dendritic cell leukemia, Acute myeloid leukemia, Acute promyelocytic leukemia, Adamantinoma, Adenocarcinoma, Adenoid cystic carcinoma, Adenoma, Adenomatoid odontogenic tumor, Adrenocortical carcinoma, Adult T-cell leukemia, Aggressive NK-cell leukemia, AIDS-Related Cancers, AIDS-related lymphoma, Alveolar soft part sarcoma, Ameloblastic fibroma, Anal cancer, Anaplastic large cell lymphoma, Anaplastic thyroid cancer, Angioimmunoblastic T-cell lymphoma, Angiomyolipoma, Angiosarcoma, Appendix cancer, Astrocytoma, Atypical teratoid rhabdoid tumor, Basal cell carcinoma, Basal-like carcinoma, B-cell leukemia, B-cell lymphoma, Bellini duct carcinoma, Biliary tract cancer, Bladder cancer, Blastoma, Bone Cancer, Bone tumor, Brain Stem Glioma, Brain Tumor, Breast Cancer, Brenner tumor, Bronchial Tumor, Bronchioloalveolar carcinoma, Brown tumor, Burkitt's lymphoma, Cancer of Unknown Primary Site, Carcinoid Tumor, Carcinoma, Carcinoma in situ, Carcinoma of the penis, Carcinoma of Unknown Primary Site, Carcinosarcoma, Castleman's Disease, Central Nervous System Embryonal Tumor, Cerebellar Astrocytoma, Cerebral Astrocytoma, Cervical Cancer, Cholangiocarcinoma, Chondroma, Chondrosarcoma, Chordoma, Choriocarcinoma, Choroid plexus papilloma, Chronic Lymphocytic Leukemia, Chronic monocytic leukemia, Chronic myelogenous leukemia, Chronic Myeloproliferative Disorder, Chronic neutrophilic leukemia, Clear-cell tumor, Colon Cancer, Colorectal cancer, Craniopharyngioma, Cutaneous T-cell lymphoma, Degos disease, Dermatofibrosarcoma protuberans, Dermoid cyst, Desmoplastic small round cell tumor, Diffuse large B cell lymphoma, Dysembryoplastic neuroepithelial tumor, Embryonal carcinoma, Endodermal sinus tumor,

Endometrial cancer, Endometrial Uterine Cancer, Endometrioid tumor, Enteropathy-associated T-cell lymphoma, Ependymblastoma, Ependymoma, Epithelioid sarcoma, Erythroleukemia, Esophageal cancer, Esthesioneuroblastoma, Ewing Family of Tumor, Ewing Family Sarcoma, Ewing's sarcoma, Extracranial Germ Cell Tumor, Extragonadal Germ Cell Tumor, Extrahepatic Bile Duct Cancer, Extramammary Paget's disease, Fallopian tube cancer, Fetus in fetu, Fibroma, Fibrosarcoma, Follicular lymphoma, Follicular thyroid cancer, Gallbladder Cancer, Gallbladder cancer, Ganglioglioma, Ganglioneuroma, Gastric Cancer, Gastric lymphoma, Gastrointestinal cancer, Gastrointestinal Carcinoid Tumor, Gastrointestinal Stromal Tumor, Gastrointestinal stromal tumor, Germ cell tumor, Germinoma, Gestational choriocarcinoma, Gestational Trophoblastic Tumor, Giant cell tumor of bone, Glioblastoma multiforme, Glioma, Gliomatosis cerebri, Glomus tumor, Glucagonoma, Gonadoblastoma, Granulosa cell tumor, Hairy Cell Leukemia, Hairy cell leukemia, Head and Neck Cancer, Head and neck cancer, Heart cancer, Hemangioblastoma, Hemangiopericytoma, Hemangiosarcoma, Hematological malignancy, Hepatocellular carcinoma, Hepatosplenic T-cell lymphoma, Hereditary breast-ovarian cancer syndrome, Hodgkin Lymphoma, Hodgkin's lymphoma, Hypopharyngeal Cancer, Hypothalamic Glioma, Inflammatory breast cancer, Intraocular Melanoma, Islet cell carcinoma, Islet Cell Tumor, Juvenile myelomonocytic leukemia, Kaposi Sarcoma, Kaposi's sarcoma, Kidney Cancer, Klatskin tumor, Krukenberg tumor, Laryngeal Cancer, Laryngeal cancer, Lentigo maligna melanoma, Leukemia, Leukemia, Lip and Oral Cavity Cancer, Liposarcoma, Lung cancer, Luteoma, Lymphangioma, Lymphangiosarcoma, Lymphoepithelioma, Lymphoid leukemia, Lymphoma, Macroglobulinemia, Malignant Fibrous Histiocytoma, Malignant fibrous histiocytoma, Malignant Fibrous Histiocytoma of Bone, Malignant Glioma, Malignant Mesothelioma, Malignant peripheral nerve sheath tumor, Malignant rhabdoid tumor, Malignant triton tumor, MALT lymphoma, Mantle cell lymphoma, Mast cell leukemia, Mediastinal germ cell tumor, Mediastinal tumor, Medullary thyroid cancer, Medulloblastoma, Medulloblastoma, Medulloepithelioma, Melanoma, Melanoma, Meningioma, Merkel Cell Carcinoma, Mesothelioma, Mesothelioma, Metastatic Squamous Neck Cancer with Occult Primary, Metastatic urothelial carcinoma, Mixed Mullerian tumor, Monocytic leukemia, Mouth Cancer, Mucinous tumor, Multiple Endocrine Neoplasia Syndrome, Multiple Myeloma, Multiple myeloma, Mycosis Fungoides, Mycosis fungoides, Myelodysplastic Disease, Myelodysplastic Syndromes, Myeloid leukemia, Myeloid sarcoma, Myeloproliferative Disease, Myxoma, Nasal Cavity Cancer, Nasopharyngeal Cancer, Nasopharyngeal carcinoma, Neoplasm, Neurinoma, Neuroblastoma, Neuroblastoma, Neurofibroma, Neuroma, Nodular melanoma, Non-Hodgkin Lymphoma, Non-Hodgkin lymphoma, Nonmelanoma Skin Cancer, Non-Small Cell Lung Cancer, Ocular oncology, Oligoastrocytoma, Oligodendroglioma, Oncocytoma, Optic nerve

sheath meningioma, Oral Cancer, Oral cancer, Oropharyngeal Cancer, Osteosarcoma, Osteosarcoma, Ovarian Cancer, Ovarian cancer, Ovarian Epithelial Cancer, Ovarian Germ Cell Tumor, Ovarian Low Malignant Potential Tumor, Paget's disease of the breast, Pancoast tumor, Pancreatic Cancer, Pancreatic cancer, Papillary thyroid cancer, Papillomatosis, Paraganglioma, Paranasal Sinus Cancer, Parathyroid Cancer, Penile Cancer, Perivascular epithelioid cell tumor, Pharyngeal Cancer, Pheochromocytoma, Pineal Parenchymal Tumor of Intermediate Differentiation, Pineoblastoma, Pituitary adenoma, Pituitary tumor, Plasma Cell Neoplasm, Pleuropulmonary blastoma, Polyembryoma, Precursor T-lymphoblastic lymphoma, Primary central nervous system lymphoma, Primary effusion lymphoma, Primary Hepatocellular Cancer, Primary Liver Cancer, Primary peritoneal cancer, Primitive neuroectodermal tumor, Prostate cancer, Pseudomyxoma peritonei, Rectal Cancer, Renal cell carcinoma, Respiratory Tract Carcinoma Involving the NUT Gene on Chromosome 15, Retinoblastoma, Rhabdomyoma, Rhabdomyosarcoma, Richter's transformation, Sacrococcygeal teratoma, Salivary Gland Cancer, Sarcoma, Schwannomatosis, Sebaceous gland carcinoma, Secondary neoplasm, Seminoma, Serous tumor, Sertoli-Leydig cell tumor, Sex cord-stromal tumor, Sezary Syndrome, Signet ring cell carcinoma, Skin Cancer, Small blue round cell tumor, Small cell carcinoma, Small Cell Lung Cancer, Small cell lymphoma, Small intestine cancer, Soft tissue sarcoma, Somatostatinoma, Soot wart, Spinal Cord Tumor, Spinal tumor, Splenic marginal zone lymphoma, Squamous cell carcinoma, Stomach cancer, Superficial spreading melanoma, Supratentorial Primitive Neuroectodermal Tumor, Surface epithelial-stromal tumor, Synovial sarcoma, T-cell acute lymphoblastic leukemia, T-cell large granular lymphocyte leukemia, T-cell leukemia, T-cell lymphoma, T-cell prolymphocytic leukemia, Teratoma, Terminal lymphatic cancer, Testicular cancer, Thecoma, Throat Cancer, Thymic Carcinoma, Thymoma, Thyroid cancer, Transitional Cell Cancer of Renal Pelvis and Ureter, Transitional cell carcinoma, Urachal cancer, Urethral cancer, Urogenital neoplasm, Uterine sarcoma, Uveal melanoma, Vaginal Cancer, Verner Morrison syndrome, Verrucous carcinoma, Visual Pathway Glioma, Vulvar Cancer, Waldenstrom's macroglobulinemia, Warthin's tumor, Wilms' tumor, and combinations thereof.

Computer Systems

[00141] In an aspect, the present disclosure provides computer systems that are programmed or otherwise configured to implement methods of the disclosure, e.g., any of the subject methods for medical imaging. **FIG. 11** shows a computer system 1701 that is programmed or otherwise configured to implement a method for medical imaging. The computer system 1701 may be configured to, for example, (i) direct an illumination source to combine white light with coherent laser light to generate a combined light beam, (ii) direct the illumination source to provide the combined light beam to a scope of a scope assembly, and (iii) direct an image sensor of an

optical adapter to receive at least a portion of a light signal that is reflected or emitted by a target site of a subject upon illumination by the combined light beam. The computer system 1701 can be an electronic device of a user or a computer system that is remotely located with respect to the electronic device. The electronic device can be a mobile electronic device.

[00142] The computer system 1701 may include a central processing unit (CPU, also "processor" and "computer processor" herein) 1705, which can be a single core or multi core processor, or a plurality of processors for parallel processing. The computer system 1701 also includes memory or memory location 1710 (e.g., random-access memory, read-only memory, flash memory), electronic storage unit 1715 (e.g., hard disk), communication interface 1720 (e.g., network adapter) for communicating with one or more other systems, and peripheral devices 1725, such as cache, other memory, data storage and/or electronic display adapters. The memory 1710, storage unit 1715, interface 1720 and peripheral devices 1725 are in communication with the CPU 1705 through a communication bus (solid lines), such as a motherboard. The storage unit 1715 can be a data storage unit (or data repository) for storing data. The computer system 1701 can be operatively coupled to a computer network ("network") 1730 with the aid of the communication interface 1720. The network 1730 can be the Internet, an internet and/or extranet, or an intranet and/or extranet that is in communication with the Internet. The network 1730 in some cases is a telecommunication and/or data network. The network 1730 can include one or more computer servers, which can enable distributed computing, such as cloud computing. The network 1730, in some cases with the aid of the computer system 1701, can implement a peer-to-peer network, which may enable devices coupled to the computer system 1701 to behave as a client or a server.

[00143] The CPU 1705 can execute a sequence of machine-readable instructions, which can be embodied in a program or software. The instructions may be stored in a memory location, such as the memory 1710. The instructions can be directed to the CPU 1705, which can subsequently program or otherwise configure the CPU 1705 to implement methods of the present disclosure. Examples of operations performed by the CPU 1705 can include fetch, decode, execute, and writeback.

[00144] The CPU 1705 can be part of a circuit, such as an integrated circuit. One or more other components of the system 1701 can be included in the circuit. In some cases, the circuit is an application specific integrated circuit (ASIC).

[00145] The storage unit 1715 can store files, such as drivers, libraries and saved programs. The storage unit 1715 can store user data, e.g., user preferences and user programs. The computer system 1701 in some cases can include one or more additional data storage units that are located

external to the computer system 1701 (e.g., on a remote server that is in communication with the computer system 1701 through an intranet or the Internet).

[00146] The computer system 1701 can communicate with one or more remote computer systems through the network 1730. For instance, the computer system 1701 can communicate with a remote computer system of a user (e.g., a subject, an end user, a consumer, a healthcare provider, an imaging technician, etc.). Examples of remote computer systems include personal computers (e.g., portable PC), slate or tablet PC's (e.g., Apple® iPad, Samsung® Galaxy Tab), telephones, Smart phones (e.g., Apple® iPhone, Android-enabled device, Blackberry®), or personal digital assistants. The user can access the computer system 1701 via the network 1730.

[00147] Methods as described herein can be implemented by way of machine (e.g., computer processor) executable code stored on an electronic storage location of the computer system 1701, such as, for example, on the memory 1710 or electronic storage unit 1715. The machine executable or machine readable code can be provided in the form of software. During use, the code can be executed by the processor 1705. In some cases, the code can be retrieved from the storage unit 1715 and stored on the memory 1710 for ready access by the processor 1705. In some situations, the electronic storage unit 1715 can be precluded, and machine-executable instructions are stored on memory 1710.

[00148] The code can be pre-compiled and configured for use with a machine having a processor adapted to execute the code, or can be compiled during runtime. The code can be supplied in a programming language that can be selected to enable the code to execute in a pre-compiled or as-compiled fashion.

[00149] Aspects of the systems and methods provided herein, such as the computer system 1701, can be embodied in programming. Various aspects of the technology may be thought of as "products" or "articles of manufacture" typically in the form of machine (or processor) executable code and/or associated data that is carried on or embodied in a type of machine readable medium. Machine-executable code can be stored on an electronic storage unit, such as memory (e.g., read-only memory, random-access memory, flash memory) or a hard disk. "Storage" type media can include any or all of the tangible memory of the computers, processors or the like, or associated modules thereof, such as various semiconductor memories, tape drives, disk drives and the like, which may provide non-transitory storage at any time for the software programming. All or portions of the software may at times be communicated through the Internet or various other telecommunication networks. Such communications, for example, may enable loading of the software from one computer or processor into another, for example, from a management server or host computer into the computer platform of an application server. Thus, another type of media that may bear the software elements includes optical, electrical and

electromagnetic waves, such as used across physical interfaces between local devices, through wired and optical landline networks and over various air-links. The physical elements that carry such waves, such as wired or wireless links, optical links or the like, also may be considered as media bearing the software. As used herein, unless restricted to non-transitory, tangible "storage" media, terms such as computer or machine "readable medium" refer to any medium that participates in providing instructions to a processor for execution.

[00150] Hence, a machine readable medium, such as computer-executable code, may take many forms, including but not limited to, a tangible storage medium, a carrier wave medium or physical transmission medium. Non-volatile storage media including, for example, optical or magnetic disks, or any storage devices in any computer(s) or the like, may be used to implement the databases, etc. shown in the drawings. Volatile storage media include dynamic memory, such as main memory of such a computer platform. Tangible transmission media include coaxial cables; copper wire and fiber optics, including the wires that comprise a bus within a computer system. Carrier-wave transmission media may take the form of electric or electromagnetic signals, or acoustic or light waves such as those generated during radio frequency (RF) and infrared (IR) data communications. Common forms of computer-readable media therefore include for example: a floppy disk, a flexible disk, hard disk, magnetic tape, any other magnetic medium, a CD-ROM, DVD or DVD-ROM, any other optical medium, punch cards paper tape, any other physical storage medium with patterns of holes, a RAM, a ROM, a PROM and EPROM, a FLASH-EPROM, any other memory chip or cartridge, a carrier wave transporting data or instructions, cables or links transporting such a carrier wave, or any other medium from which a computer may read programming code and/or data. Many of these forms of computer readable media may be involved in carrying one or more sequences of one or more instructions to a processor for execution.

[00151] The computer system 1701 can include or be in communication with an electronic display 1735 that comprises a user interface (UI) 1740 for providing, for example, a portal for a healthcare provider or an imaging technician to monitor or track one or more features of the optical adapter (e.g., coupling to the scope, coupling to the camera, the image sensor, the optics assembly, etc.). The portal may be provided through an application programming interface (API). A user or entity can also interact with various elements in the portal via the UI. Examples of UI's include, without limitation, a graphical user interface (GUI) and web-based user interface.

[00152] Methods and systems of the present disclosure can be implemented by way of one or more algorithms. An algorithm can be implemented by way of software upon execution by the central processing unit 1705.

[00153] In another aspect, the present disclosure provides medical imaging methods and systems usable with an endoscopic device for overlaying a laser speckle contrast image on a standard RGB image of a surgical site. Endoscopic devices may be coupled to RGB video cameras to provide surgeons with high-quality images of anatomical structures or physiological features in a surgical site within a patient's body. Laser speckle contrast imaging may also be used to instantly visualize microcirculatory tissue blood perfusion in a patient's body.

[00154] The present disclosure provides methods and systems that can be used with commercially available endoscopic devices for displaying a laser speckle contrast image in addition to a standard image of a surgical site. The images may be displayed individually or together. For instance, the laser speckle contrast image may be overlaid on the standard image of the surgical site.

[00155] FIG. 12 illustrates an exemplary imaging system in accordance with one or more embodiments that can be used with any conventional endoscopic imaging system for displaying laser speckle contrast images in addition to standard images of surgical sites. The conventional endoscopic imaging system may comprise an endoscope 2100 (e.g., a laparoscope or stereoscope), which may be directly coupled to an RGB video camera 2102. An image processing system 2104 coupled to the camera 2102 may display standard RGB surgical images on a display 2106.

[00156] In some cases, the imaging system may comprise an adapter device 2108, which may be fitted between the endoscope 2100 and the video camera 2102. The imaging system may further comprise a light source and an image processing system 2110.

[00157] FIG. 13 is a simplified block diagram of an exemplary imaging system in accordance with one or more embodiments. The light source and image processing system 2110 may be configured to combine laser light and white light provided to a light input port 2112 of the endoscope 2100. A dichroic beam splitter 2114 may be configured to combine a laser light from an IR laser diode 2116 controlled by an IR laser controller 2118 with a white light from a white light LED 2120 controlled by a white light controller 2122.

[00158] Light from the light sources may be directed through the distal end of the endoscope 2100 and may be incident on the surgical site. Light returned or reflected from the surgical site may be transmitted through the endoscope to the adapter device 2108. A dichroic beam splitter 2124 in the adapter device 2108 may pass light having a wavelength greater than 800 nanometers (nm) to a monochrome near infrared (NIR) camera 2126. Light having a wavelength less than 800 nm may pass to the RGB color camera 2102. The NIR camera 2126 may generate sensor signals that are processed by an image processing system 2128. The RGB color camera 2102 may generate sensor signals that are processed by the camera video processor 2104, which may

use the processed sensor signals to generate a standard RGB video stream. The RGB video stream may be provided to the image processing system 2128.

[00159] The image processing system 2128 may be configured to perform laser speckle contrast imaging from the sensor signals received from the NIR camera 2126. The image processing system 2128 may be configured to combine the laser speckle contrast imaging with the standard RGB video stream output by the video processor 2104 to produce a video output that can be displayed on the display 2106.

[00160] The laser speckle contrast images and the standard RGB images of the surgical site may be displayed individually or together. For instance, the laser speckle contrast image may be overlaid on the standard image of the surgical site. **FIG. 14A** is an exemplary screenshot from a standard RGB surgical video shown on the display 2106. **FIG. 14B** shows the corresponding laser speckle contrast image shown on the display 2106. In this example, the highlighted portions in **FIG. 14B** may indicate one or more areas in the scene where there is blood flow. **FIG. 14C** shows the laser speckle contrast image of **FIG. 14B** overlaid on the standard image of **FIG. 14A**. A user may switch between each of the types of images displayed, as desired.

[00161] **FIG. 15** is a simplified block diagram illustrating a camera 2130 for performing both depth and laser speckle imaging in accordance with one or more embodiments. The camera 2130 may utilize a depth imaging processor 2128 to generate stereo depth data from two or more sensors 2132. Laser speckle contrast imaging may be performed using data from a third sensor 2134. The image processor 2138 may be configured to process the data from one or more sensors for video output.

[00162] **FIG. 16** illustrates a simplified block diagram of an alternate camera 2140 for performing hyperspectral, depth, and laser speckle imaging. Stereo depth imaging may be processed using a field programmable gate array (FPGA) 2142. The stereo depth imaging may be frame synced before being processed by the FPGA. In one or more embodiments, the device may acquire alternating white light and hyperspectral light at one or more sensors 2144 for every other frame (for effective 30 frames per second (FPS) video). 60 frames per second (FPS) video may be used when hyperspectral mode is not enabled. Laser-speckle data may be acquired simultaneously with a third sensor 2146.

[00163] Referring now to **FIG. 17**, a schematic of an exemplary computing node is shown that may be used with the medical imaging systems described herein. Computing node 3010 is only one example of a suitable computing node and is not intended to suggest any limitation as to the scope of use or functionality of embodiments described herein. Regardless, computing node 3010 may be capable of being implemented and/or performing any of the functionality set forth hereinabove.

[00164] In computing node 3010 there may be a computer system/server 3012, which is operational with numerous other general purpose or special purpose computing system environments or configurations. Examples of well-known computing systems, environments, and/or configurations that may be suitable for use with computer system/server 3012 include, but are not limited to, personal computer systems, server computer systems, thin clients, thick clients, handheld or laptop devices, multiprocessor systems, microprocessor-based systems, set top boxes, programmable consumer electronics, network PCs, minicomputer systems, mainframe computer systems, and distributed cloud computing environments that include any of the above systems or devices, and the like.

[00165] Computer system/server 3012 may be described in the general context of computer system-executable instructions, such as program modules, being executed by a computer system. Generally, program modules may include routines, programs, objects, components, logic, data structures, and so on that perform particular tasks or implement particular abstract data types. Computer system/server 3012 may be practiced in distributed cloud computing environments where tasks are performed by remote processing devices that are linked through a communications network. In a distributed cloud computing environment, program modules may be located in both local and remote computer system storage media including memory storage devices.

[00166] As illustrated in **FIG. 17**, computer system/server 3012 in computing node 3010 is shown in the form of a general-purpose computing device. The components of computer system/server 3012 may include, but are not limited to, one or more processors or processing units 3016, a system memory 3028, and a bus 3018 coupling various system components including system memory 3028 to processor 3016.

[00167] Bus 3018 may comprise one or more of any of several types of bus structures, including a memory bus or memory controller, a peripheral bus, an accelerated graphics port, and a processor or local bus using any of a variety of bus architectures. By way of example, and not limitation, such architectures include Industry Standard Architecture (ISA) bus, Micro Channel Architecture (MCA) bus, Enhanced ISA (EISA) bus, Video Electronics Standards Association (VESA) local bus, and Peripheral Component Interconnect (PCI) bus.

[00168] Computer system/server 3012 may include a variety of computer system readable media. Such media may be any available media that is accessible by computer system/server 3012, and may include both volatile and non-volatile media, removable and non-removable media.

[00169] System memory 3028 can include computer system readable media in the form of volatile memory, such as random access memory (RAM) 3030 and/or cache memory 3032.

Computer system/server 3012 may further include other removable/non-removable, volatile/non-volatile computer system storage media. By way of example only, storage system 3034 can be provided for reading from and writing to a non-removable, non-volatile magnetic media (not shown and typically called a "hard drive"). Although not shown, a magnetic disk drive for reading from and writing to a removable, non-volatile magnetic disk (e.g., a "floppy disk"), and an optical disk drive for reading from or writing to a removable, non-volatile optical disk such as a CD-ROM, DVD-ROM or other optical media can be provided. In such instances, each can be connected to bus 3018 by one or more data media interfaces. As will be further depicted and described below, memory 3028 may include at least one program product having a set (e.g., at least one) of program modules that are configured to carry out the functions of embodiments of the disclosure.

[00170] Program/utility 3040, having a set (at least one) of program modules 3042, may be stored in memory 3028 by way of example, and not limitation, as well as an operating system, one or more application programs, other program modules, and program data. Each of the operating system, one or more application programs, other program modules, and program data or some combination thereof, may include an implementation of a networking environment. Program modules 3042 generally carry out the functions and/or methodologies of embodiments described herein.

[00171] Computer system/server 3012 may also communicate with one or more external devices 3014 such as a keyboard, a pointing device, a display 3024, etc.; one or more devices that enable a user to interact with computer system/server 3012; and/or any devices (e.g., network card, modem, etc.) that enable computer system/server 3012 to communicate with one or more other computing devices. Such communication can occur via Input/Output (I/O) interfaces 3022. Still yet, computer system/server 3012 can communicate with one or more networks such as a local area network (LAN), a general wide area network (WAN), and/or a public network (e.g., the Internet) via network adapter 3020. As depicted, network adapter 3020 communicates with the other components of computer system/server 3012 via bus 3018. It should be understood that although not shown, other hardware and/or software components could be used in conjunction with computer system/server 3012. Examples, include, but are not limited to: microcode, device drivers, redundant processing units, external disk drive arrays, RAID systems, tape drives, and data archival storage systems, etc.

[00172] The present disclosure provides a system, a method, and/or a computer program product. The computer program product may include a computer readable storage medium (or media) having computer readable program instructions thereon for causing a processor to carry out aspects of the present disclosure.

[00173] The computer readable storage medium can be a tangible device that can retain and store instructions for use by an instruction execution device. The computer readable storage medium may be, for example, but is not limited to, an electronic storage device, a magnetic storage device, an optical storage device, an electromagnetic storage device, a semiconductor storage device, or any suitable combination of the foregoing. A non-exhaustive list of more specific examples of the computer readable storage medium includes the following: a portable computer diskette, a hard disk, a random access memory (RAM), a read-only memory (ROM), an erasable programmable read-only memory (EPROM or Flash memory), a static random access memory (SRAM), a portable compact disc read-only memory (CD-ROM), a digital versatile disk (DVD), a memory stick, a floppy disk, a mechanically encoded device such as punch-cards or raised structures in a groove having instructions recorded thereon, and any suitable combination of the foregoing. A computer readable storage medium, as used herein, is not to be construed as being transitory signals per se, such as radio waves or other freely propagating electromagnetic waves, electromagnetic waves propagating through a waveguide or other transmission media (e.g., light pulses passing through a fiber-optic cable), or electrical signals transmitted through a wire.

[00174] Computer readable program instructions described herein can be downloaded to respective computing/processing devices from a computer readable storage medium or to an external computer or external storage device via a network, for example, the Internet, a local area network, a wide area network and/or a wireless network. The network may comprise copper transmission cables, optical transmission fibers, wireless transmission, routers, firewalls, switches, gateway computers and/or edge servers. A network adapter card or network interface in each computing/processing device receives computer readable program instructions from the network and forwards the computer readable program instructions for storage in a computer readable storage medium within the respective computing/processing device.

[00175] Computer readable program instructions for carrying out operations of the present disclosure may be assembler instructions, instruction-set-architecture (ISA) instructions, machine instructions, machine dependent instructions, microcode, firmware instructions, state-setting data, or either source code or object code written in any combination of one or more programming languages, including an object oriented programming language such as Smalltalk, C++ or the like, and conventional procedural programming languages, such as the “C” programming language or similar programming languages. The computer readable program instructions may execute entirely on the user’s computer, partly on the user’s computer, as a stand-alone software package, partly on the user’s computer and partly on a remote computer or entirely on the remote computer or server. In the latter scenario, the remote computer may be

connected to the user's computer through any type of network, including a local area network (LAN) or a wide area network (WAN), or the connection may be made to an external computer (for example, through the Internet using an Internet Service Provider). In various embodiments, electronic circuitry including, for example, programmable logic circuitry, field-programmable gate arrays (FPGA), or programmable logic arrays (PLA) may execute the computer readable program instructions by utilizing state information of the computer readable program instructions to personalize the electronic circuitry, in order to perform aspects of the present disclosure.

[00176] Aspects of the present disclosure are described herein with reference to flowchart illustrations and/or block diagrams of methods, apparatus (systems), and computer program products according to embodiments of the disclosure. It will be understood that each block of the flowchart illustrations and/or block diagrams, and combinations of blocks in the flowchart illustrations and/or block diagrams, can be implemented by computer readable program instructions.

[00177] These computer readable program instructions may be provided to a processor of a general purpose computer, special purpose computer, or other programmable data processing apparatus to produce a machine, such that the instructions, which execute via the processor of the computer or other programmable data processing apparatus, create means for implementing the functions/acts specified in the flowchart and/or block diagram block or blocks. These computer readable program instructions may also be stored in a computer readable storage medium that can direct a computer, a programmable data processing apparatus, and/or other devices to function in a particular manner, such that the computer readable storage medium having instructions stored therein comprises an article of manufacture including instructions which implement aspects of the function/act specified in the flowchart and/or block diagram block or blocks.

[00178] The computer readable program instructions may also be loaded onto a computer, other programmable data processing apparatus, or other device to cause a series of operational steps to be performed on the computer, other programmable apparatus or other device to produce a computer implemented process, such that the instructions which execute on the computer, other programmable apparatus, or other device implement the functions/acts specified in the flowchart and/or block diagram block or blocks.

[00179] The flowchart and block diagrams in the figures illustrate the architecture, functionality, and operation of possible implementations of systems, methods, and computer program products according to various embodiments of the present disclosure. In this regard, each block in the flowchart or block diagrams may represent a module, segment, or portion of instructions, which comprises one or more executable instructions for implementing the specified logical function(s). In various alternative implementations, the functions noted in the block may

occur out of the order noted in the figures. For example, two blocks shown in succession may, in fact, be executed substantially concurrently, or the blocks may sometimes be executed in the reverse order, depending upon the functionality involved. It will also be noted that each block of the block diagrams and/or flowchart illustration, and combinations of blocks in the block diagrams and/or flowchart illustration, can be implemented by special purpose hardware-based systems that perform the specified functions or acts or carry out combinations of special purpose hardware and computer instructions.

[00180] The descriptions of the various embodiments of the present disclosure have been presented for purposes of illustration, but are not intended to be exhaustive or limited to the embodiments disclosed. Many modifications and variations will be apparent to those of ordinary skill in the art without departing from the scope and spirit of the described embodiments. The terminology used herein was chosen to best explain the principles of the embodiments, the practical application or technical improvement over technologies found in the marketplace, or to enable others of ordinary skill in the art to understand the embodiments disclosed herein.

[00181] While preferred embodiments of the present invention have been shown and described herein, it will be obvious to those skilled in the art that such embodiments are provided by way of example only. It is not intended that the invention be limited by the specific examples provided within the specification. While the invention has been described with reference to the aforementioned specification, the descriptions and illustrations of the embodiments herein are not meant to be construed in a limiting sense. Numerous variations, changes, and substitutions will now occur to those skilled in the art without departing from the invention. Furthermore, it shall be understood that all aspects of the invention are not limited to the specific depictions, configurations or relative proportions set forth herein which depend upon a variety of conditions and variables. It should be understood that various alternatives to the embodiments of the invention described herein may be employed in practicing the invention. It is therefore contemplated that the invention shall also cover any such alternatives, modifications, variations or equivalents. It is intended that the following claims define the scope of the invention and that methods and structures within the scope of these claims and their equivalents be covered thereby.

CLAIMS

WHAT IS CLAIMED IS:

1. An optical adapter comprising:
a housing comprising (1) a first end configured to releasably couple to a scope and (2) a second end configured to releasably couple to a camera;
an image sensor in the housing; and
an optics assembly disposed in the housing, wherein the optics assembly is configured to (i) receive light signals that are reflected from a target site within a subject's body and transmitted through the scope, and (ii) reflect a first portion of the light signals onto one of the image sensor or the camera, while permitting a second portion of the light signals to pass through to the other of the image sensor or the camera.
2. The optical adapter of claim 1, wherein the image sensor is releasably coupled to the housing.
3. The optical adapter of claim 1, wherein the image sensor is configured to generate a first set of imaging data from the first portion of the light signals, and the camera is configured to generate a second set of imaging data from the second portion of the light signals.
4. The optical adapter of claim 2, wherein the first set of imaging data comprises laser speckle patterns, and the second set of imaging data comprises photographic or video images.
5. The optical adapter of claim 1, wherein the image sensor is used for laser speckle imaging.
6. The optical adapter of claim 1, wherein the optics assembly comprises a beam splitter.
7. The optical adapter of claim 6, wherein the beam splitter comprises a dichroic mirror.
8. The optical adapter of claim 1, wherein the optics assembly is configured to reflect the first portion of the light signals onto the image sensor, while permitting the second portion of the light signals to pass through to the camera.
9. The optical adapter of claim 8, wherein the optics assembly comprises a shortpass dichroic mirror.
10. The optical adapter of claim 1, wherein the optics assembly is configured to reflect the first portion of the light signals onto the camera, while permitting the second portion of the light signals to pass through to the image sensor.
11. The optical adapter of claim 10, wherein the optics assembly comprises a longpass dichroic mirror.
12. The optical adapter of claim 1, wherein the first portion of the light signals comprises backscattered light that is generated when the target site is illuminated with coherent laser light transmitted via the scope.

13. The optical adapter of claim 12, wherein the coherent laser light is provided from a single laser source having substantially a single wavelength.
14. The optical adapter of claim 12, wherein the coherent laser light is provided from a plurality of laser sources having a plurality of different wavelengths.
15. The optical adapter of claim 1, wherein the second portion of the light signals comprises reflected light that is generated when the target site is illuminated with white light transmitted via the scope.
16. The optical adapter of claim 13, wherein the single wavelength lies in an invisible spectrum.
17. The optical adapter of claim 14, wherein the plurality of different wavelengths lies in an invisible spectrum.
18. The optical adapter of claim 15, wherein the reflected light is in a visible spectrum.
19. The optical adapter of claim 1, wherein the first end of the housing is configured to releasably couple to the scope using a quick release mechanism.
20. The optical adapter of claim 19, wherein the quick release mechanism is configured to releasably couple the optical adapter to various types of scopes having different sizes.
21. The optical adapter of claim 19, wherein the quick release mechanism is configured to permit a user to releasably couple the first end of the housing to the scope without use of tools.
22. The optical adapter of claim 19, wherein the quick release mechanism is configured to permit a user to releasably couple the first end of the housing to the scope in less than 30 seconds.
23. The optical adapter of claim 1, wherein the second end of the housing is configured to releasably couple to the camera using a quick release mechanism.
24. The optical adapter of claim 23, wherein the quick release mechanism is configured to releasably couple the optical adapter to various types of cameras having different sizes.
25. The optical adapter of claim 23, wherein the quick release mechanism is configured to permit a user to releasably couple the second end of the housing to the camera without use of tools.
26. The optical adapter of claim 23, wherein the quick release mechanism is configured to permit a user to releasably couple the second end of the housing to the camera in less than 30 seconds.
27. The optical adapter of claim 1, wherein the optics assembly further comprises a focusing device for the image sensor.
28. The optical adapter of claim 1, wherein the optics assembly further comprises (i) a first focusing device for the image sensor and (ii) a second focusing device for the camera.

29. The optical adapter of claim 28, wherein the first focusing device and the second focusing device are operably coupled to each other, such that focusing for the image sensor and for the camera can be performed concurrently.
30. The optical adapter of claim 28, wherein the first focusing device and the second focusing device are operably coupled to each other via a gearing mechanism.
31. The optical adapter of claim 28, wherein the first focusing device and the second focusing device are provided separately and configured to be used independently of each other.
32. The optical adapter of claim 1, wherein the scope is configured to (1) receive a combined light beam from an illumination source and (2) direct the combined light beam onto the target site within the subject's body.
33. The optical adapter of claim 1, wherein the first end and the second end share a common longitudinal axis.
34. The optical adapter of claim 33, wherein the first end and the second end are provided on opposite sides of the housing.
35. The optical adapter of claim 1, wherein the first end and the second end do not share a common longitudinal axis.
36. The optical adapter of claim 35, wherein the first end and the second end are provided on substantially orthogonal sides of the housing.
37. The optical adapter of claim 1, wherein the image sensor and the camera have different optical axes.
38. The optical adapter of claim 1, wherein an optical axis of the image sensor is orthogonal to an optical axis of the camera.
39. The optical adapter of claim 1, wherein the image sensor is configured to releasably couple to a surface of the housing, and wherein the surface is substantially orthogonal to the first end or the second end of the housing.
40. The optical adapter of claim 39, wherein the image sensor comprises a casing that is configured to releasably couple to the surface of the housing.
41. The optical adapter of claim 1, wherein the image sensor is disposable and configured for single use in a medical imaging procedure.
42. The optical adapter of claim 1, wherein the image sensor is configured to be reusable for a plurality of medical imaging procedures.
43. An imaging kit comprising:
the optical adapter of claim 1; and
an illumination source configured to transmit a combined light beam to the scope for directing the combined light beam onto the target site within the subject's body.

44. A method comprising:

combining white light with coherent laser light to generate a combined light beam;
providing the combined light beam to a scope;
using the scope to direct the combined light beam onto a target site within a subject's

body;

receiving, via the scope, light signals that are reflected from the target site; and

reflecting a first portion of the light signals onto one of (i) an image sensor in an optical adapter or (ii) a camera, while permitting a second portion of the light signals to pass through to the other of (i) the image sensor or (ii) the camera, wherein the optical adapter is configured to releasably couple to both the scope and the camera.

45. The method of claim 44, wherein the first portion of the light signals is reflected onto the image sensor, while the second portion of the light signals is permitted to pass through to the camera.

46. The method of claim 44, wherein the first portion of the light signals is reflected onto the camera, while the second portion of the light signals is permitted to pass through to the image sensor.

47. The method of claim 44, wherein the optical adapter is disposed between the scope and the camera when releasably coupled thereto.

48. The method of claim 44, wherein the scope and the camera are releasably coupled to orthogonal sides of the optical adapter.

49. A method comprising:

providing an optical adapter comprising a housing, wherein an image sensor is in the housing;

releasably coupling a first end of the housing to a scope;

releasably coupling a second end of the housing to a camera;

providing a combined light beam to the scope, wherein the combined light beam comprises white light combined with coherent laser light;

using the scope to direct the combined light beam onto a target site within a subject's body;

receiving, via the scope, light signals that are reflected from the target site;

reflecting a first portion of the light signals onto one of the image sensor or the camera, while permitting a second portion of the light signals to pass through to the other of the image sensor or the camera; and

using the image sensor to generate a first set of imaging data from the first portion of the light signals, and using the camera to generate a second set of imaging data from the second portion of the light signals.

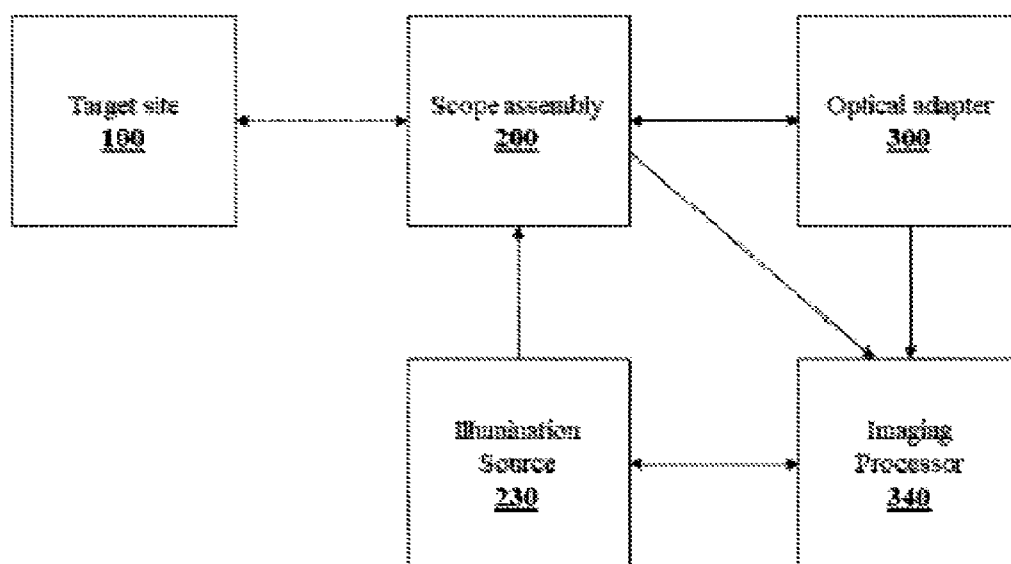
50. The method of claim 49, wherein the first portion of the light signals is reflected onto the image sensor, while the second portion of the light signals is permitted to pass through to the camera.

51. The method of claim 49, wherein the first portion of the light signals is reflected onto the camera, while the second portion of the light signals is permitted to pass through to the image sensor.

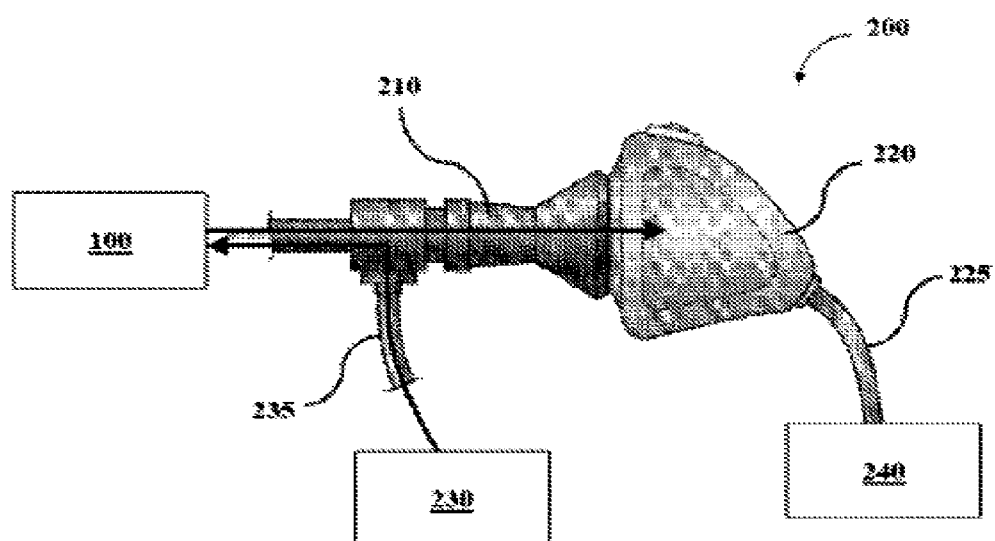
52. The method of claim 49, wherein the first set of imaging data comprises laser speckle patterns.

53. The method of claim 49, wherein the second set of imaging data comprises photographic or video images.

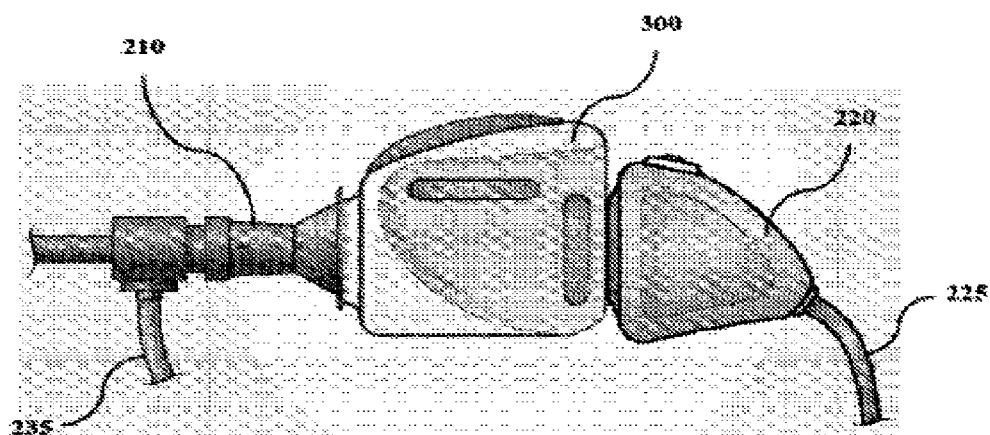
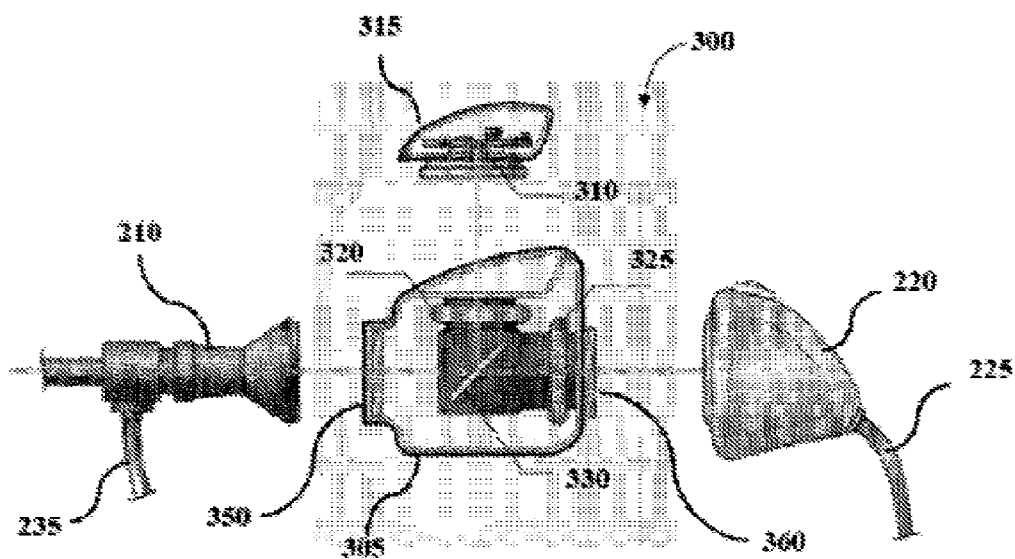
1/19

**FIG. 1A**

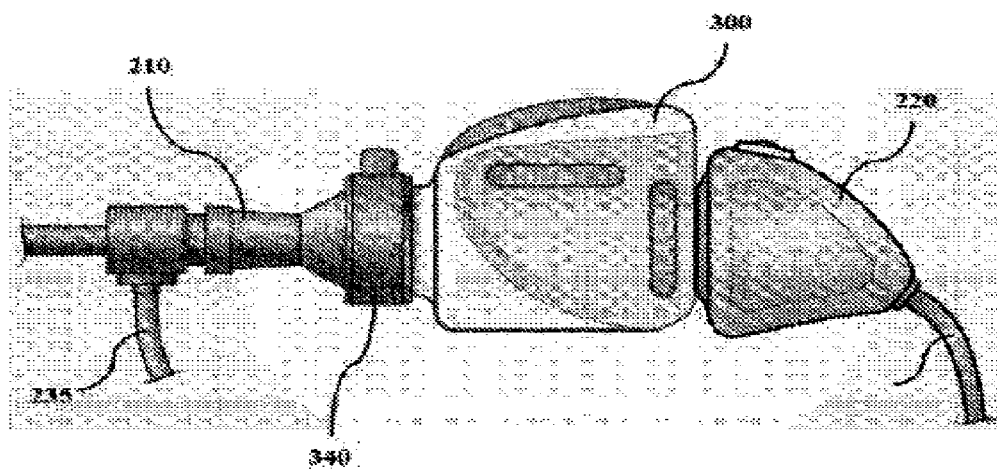
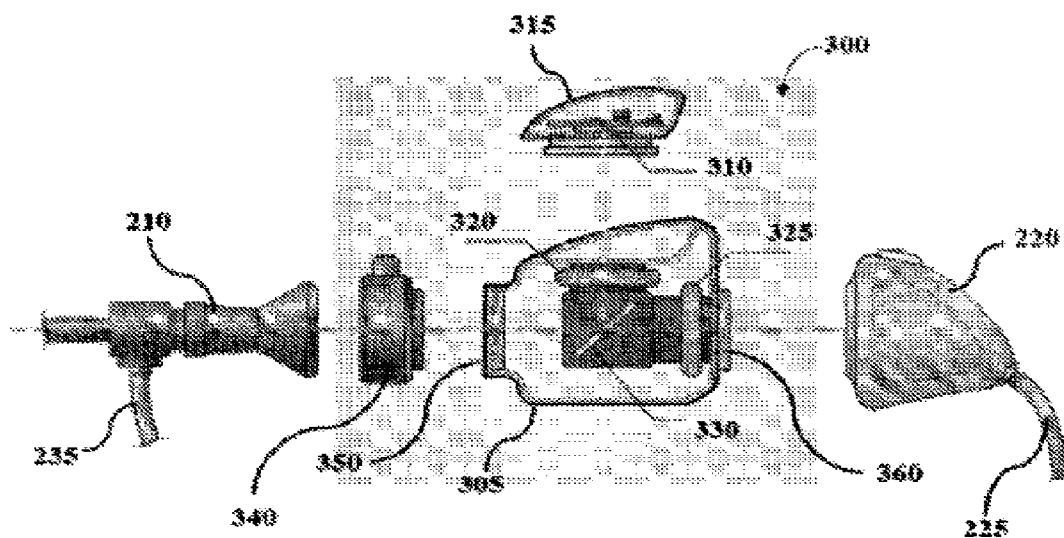
2/19

**FIG. 1B**

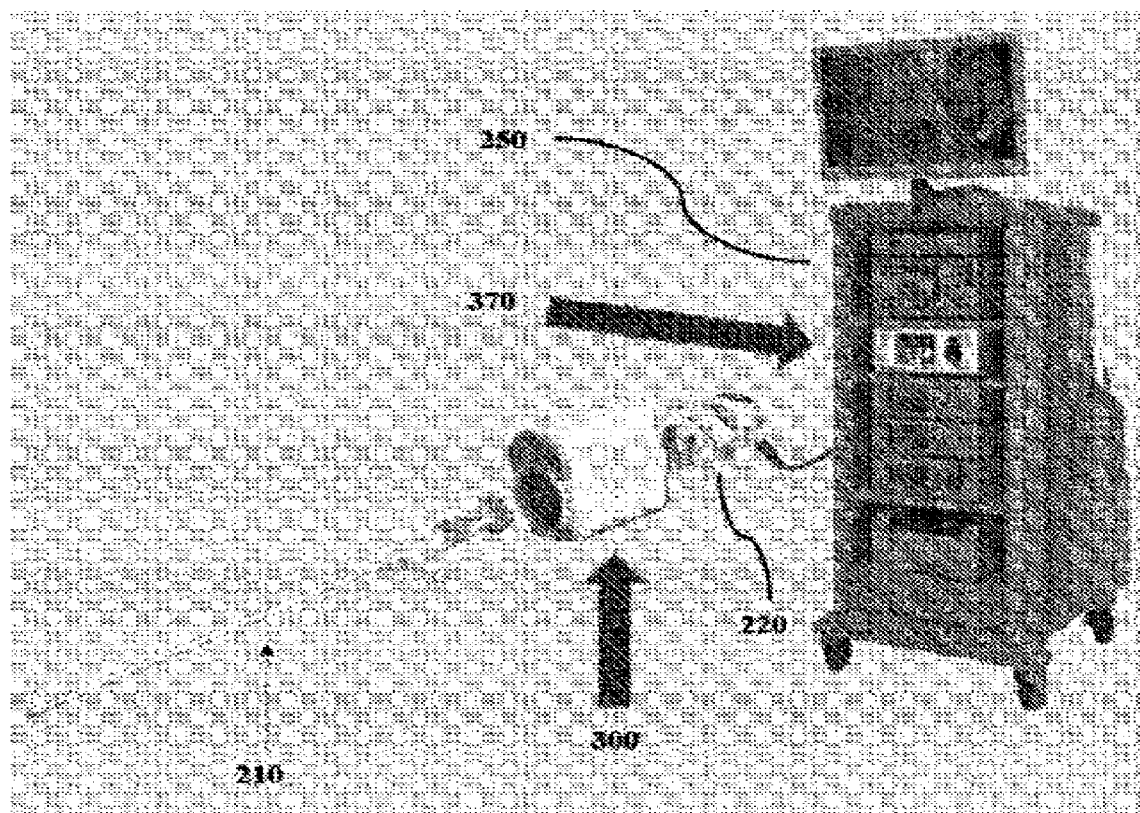
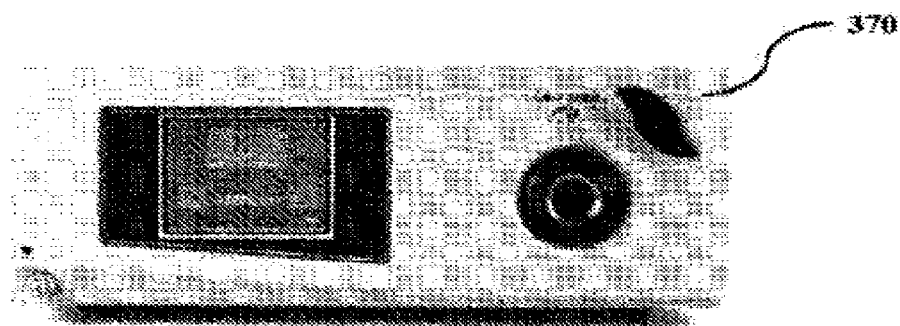
3/19

**FIG. 2A****FIG. 2B**

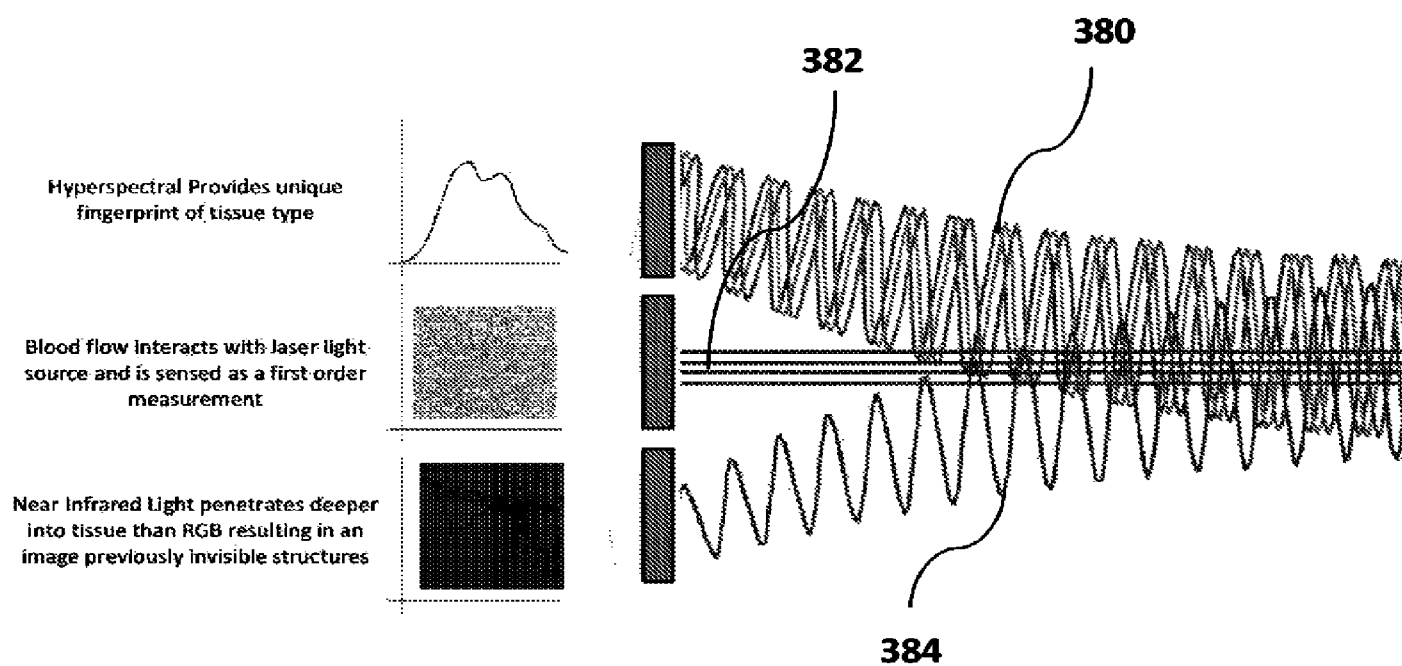
4/19

**FIG. 2C****FIG. 2D**

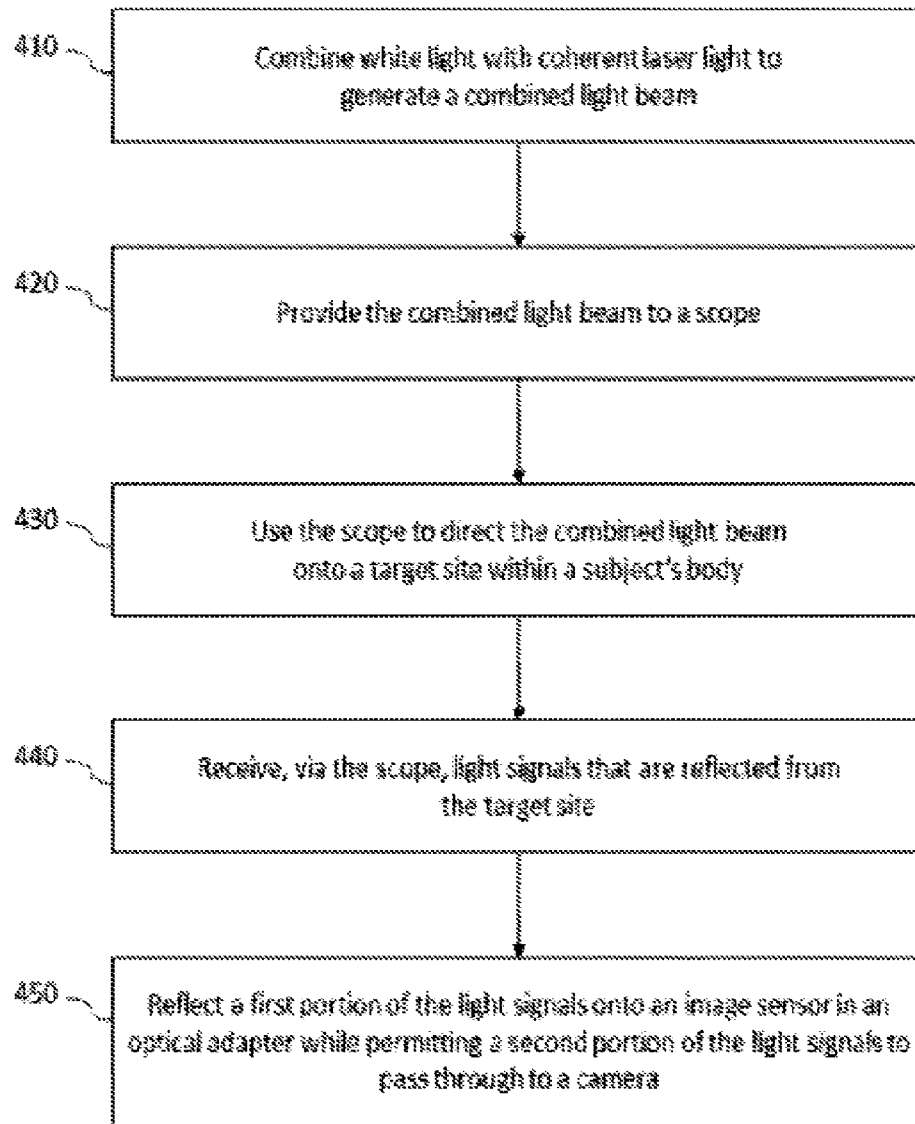
5/19

**FIG. 3A****FIG. 3B**

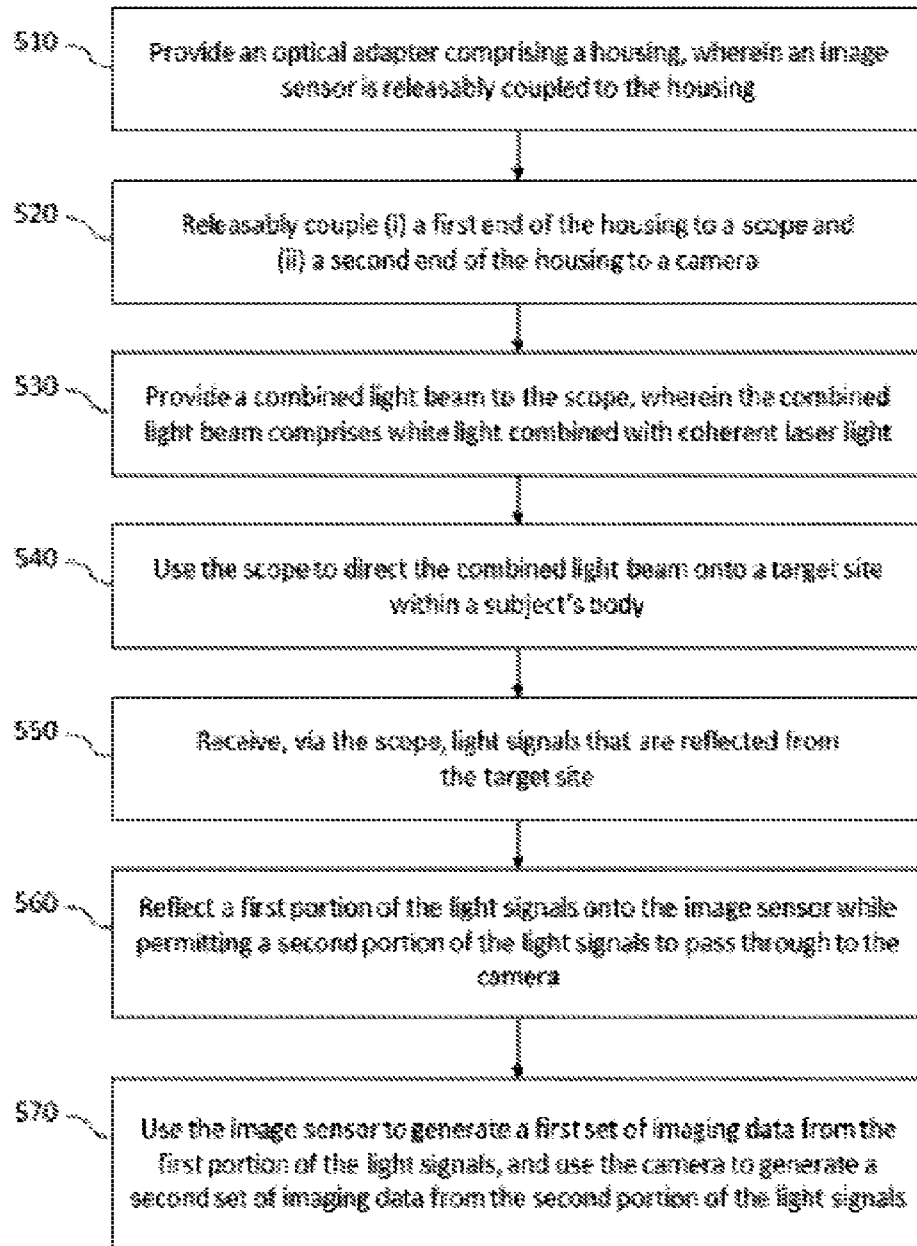
6/19

**FIG. 3C**

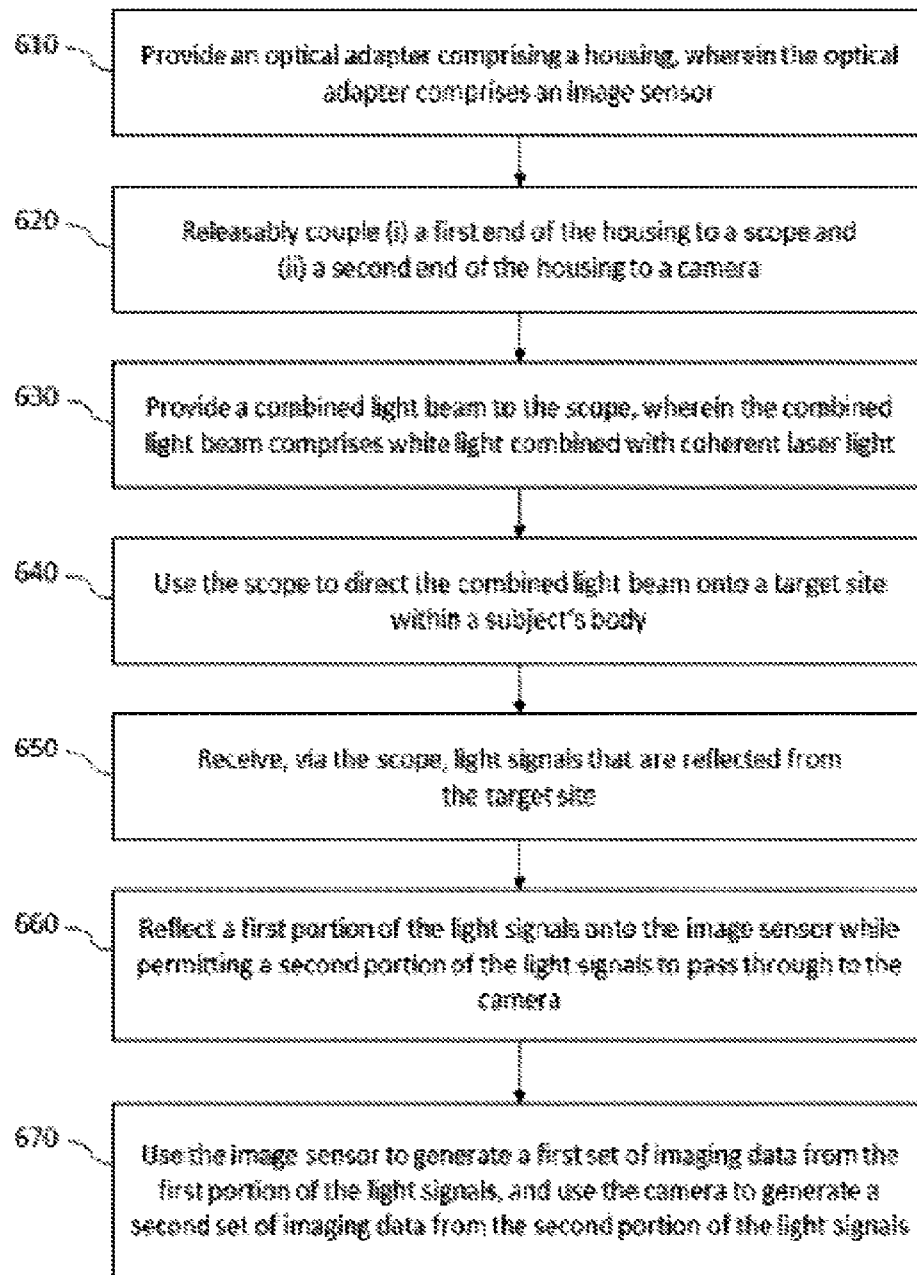
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**FIG. 4**

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**FIG. 5**

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**FIG. 6**

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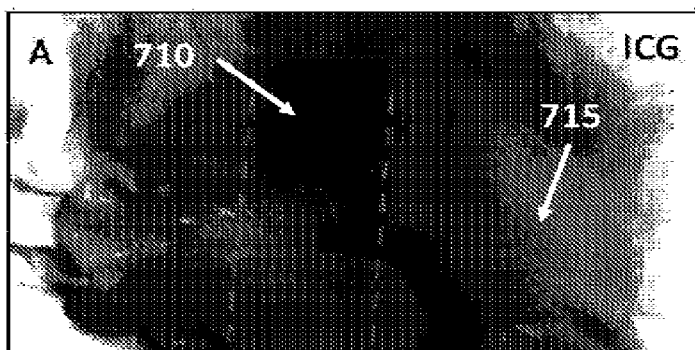


FIG. 7A



FIG. 7B

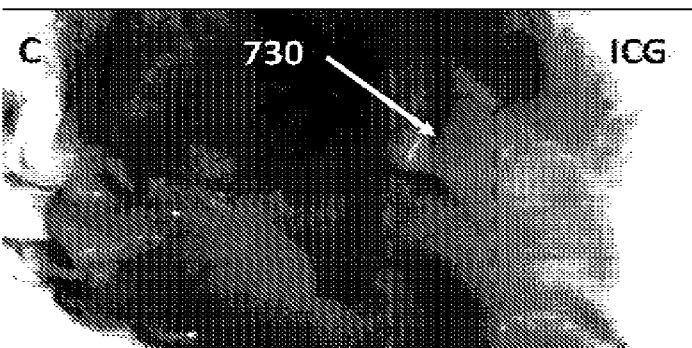


FIG. 7C

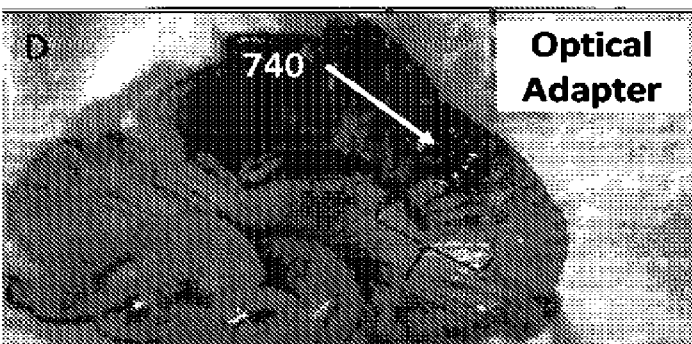


FIG. 7D

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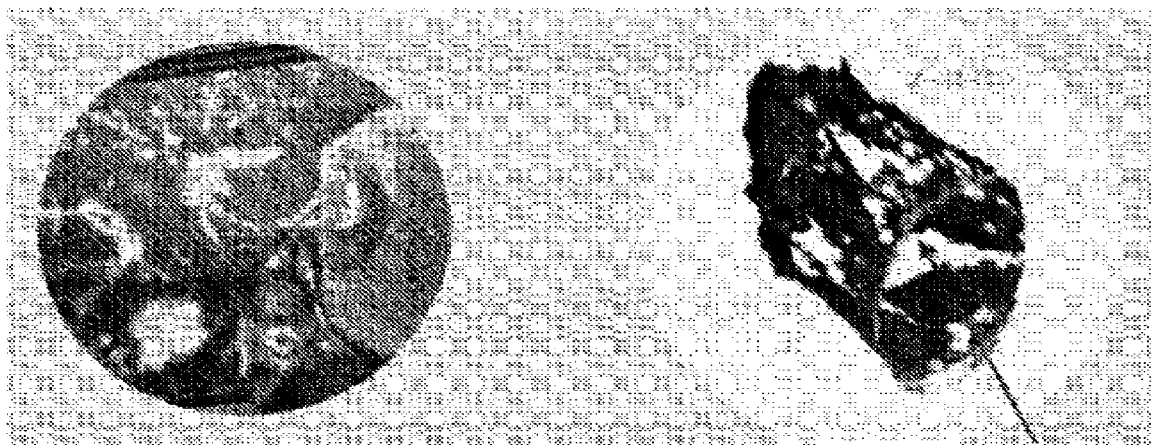


FIG. 8A

FIG. 8B

810

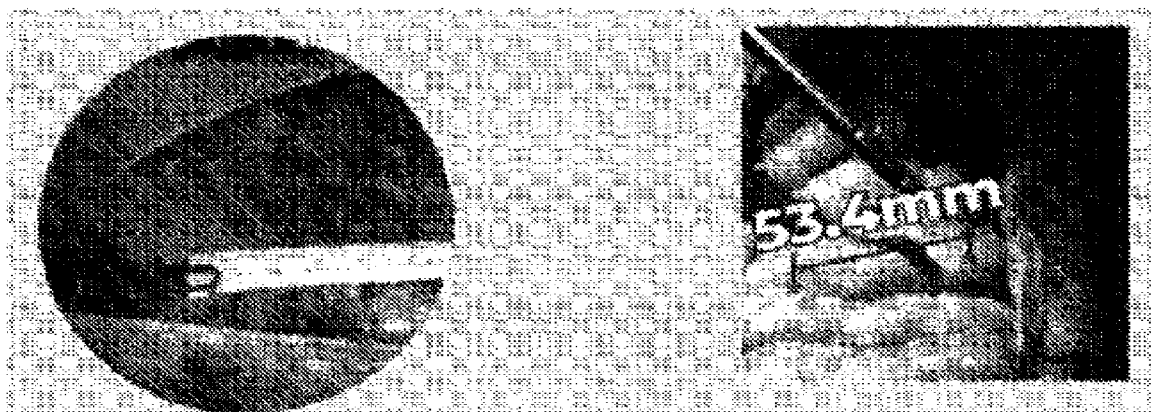
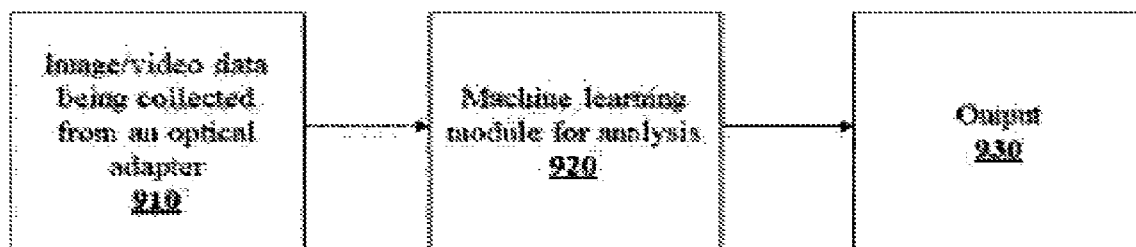
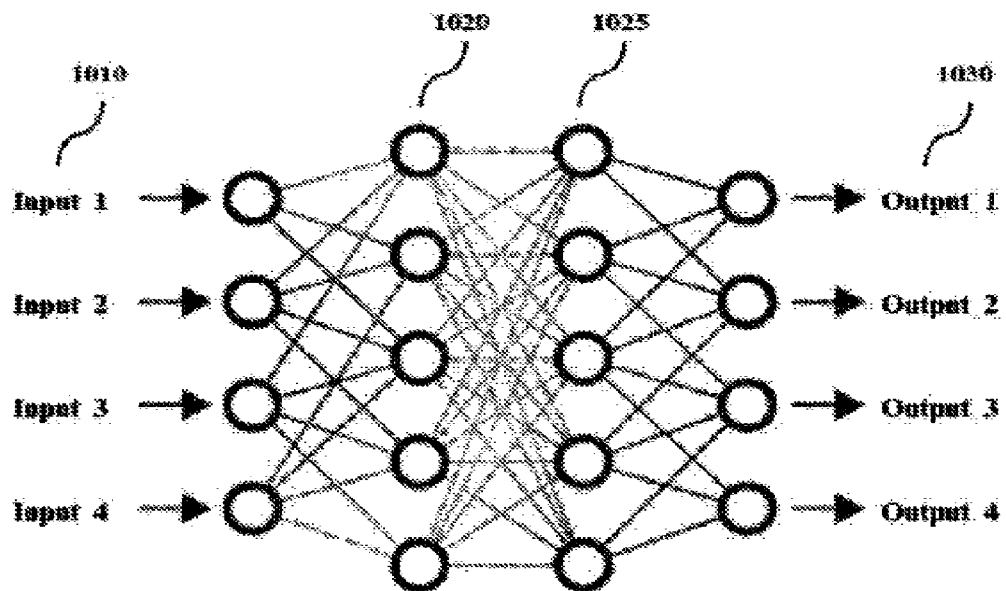


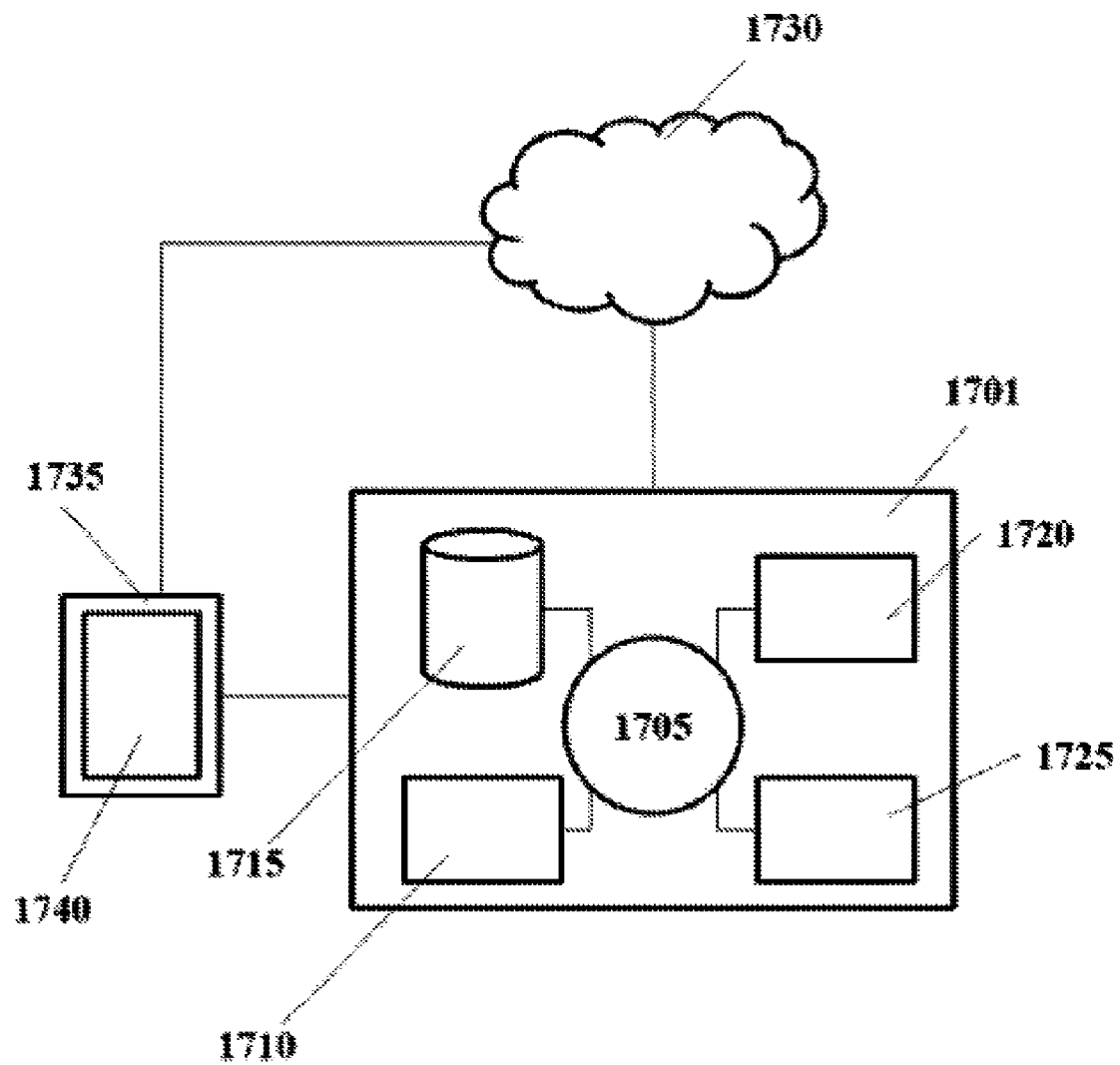
FIG. 8C

FIG. 8D

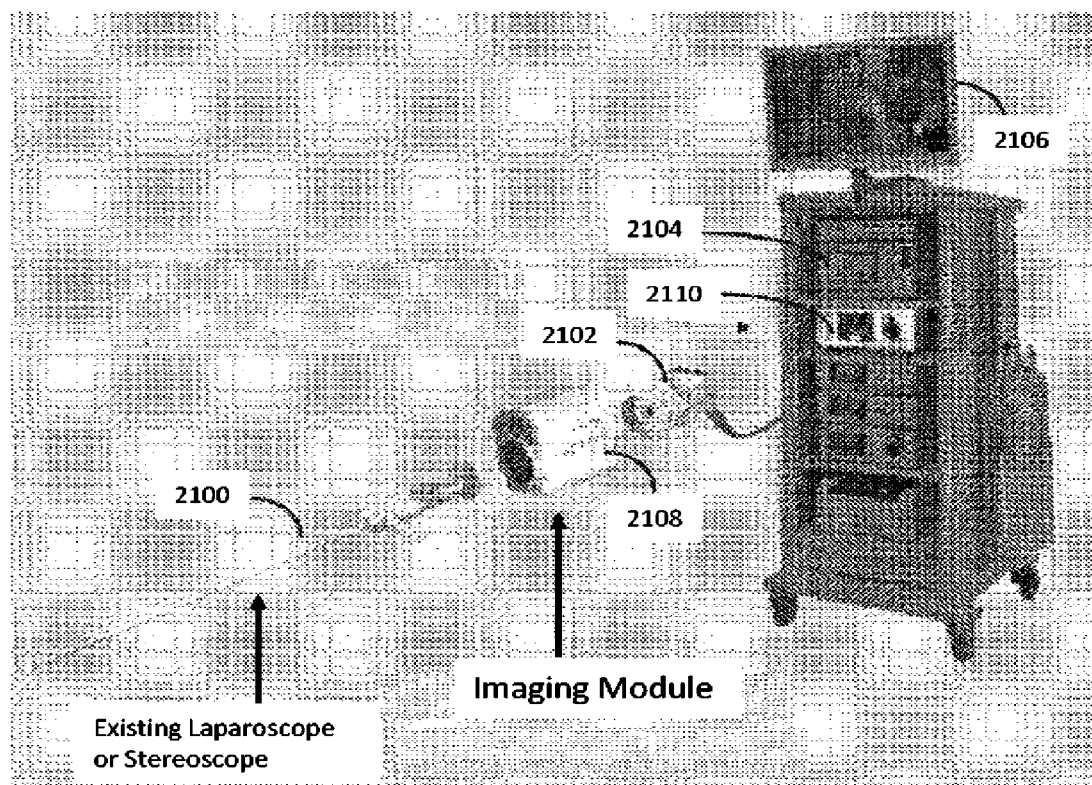
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**FIG. 9****FIG. 10**

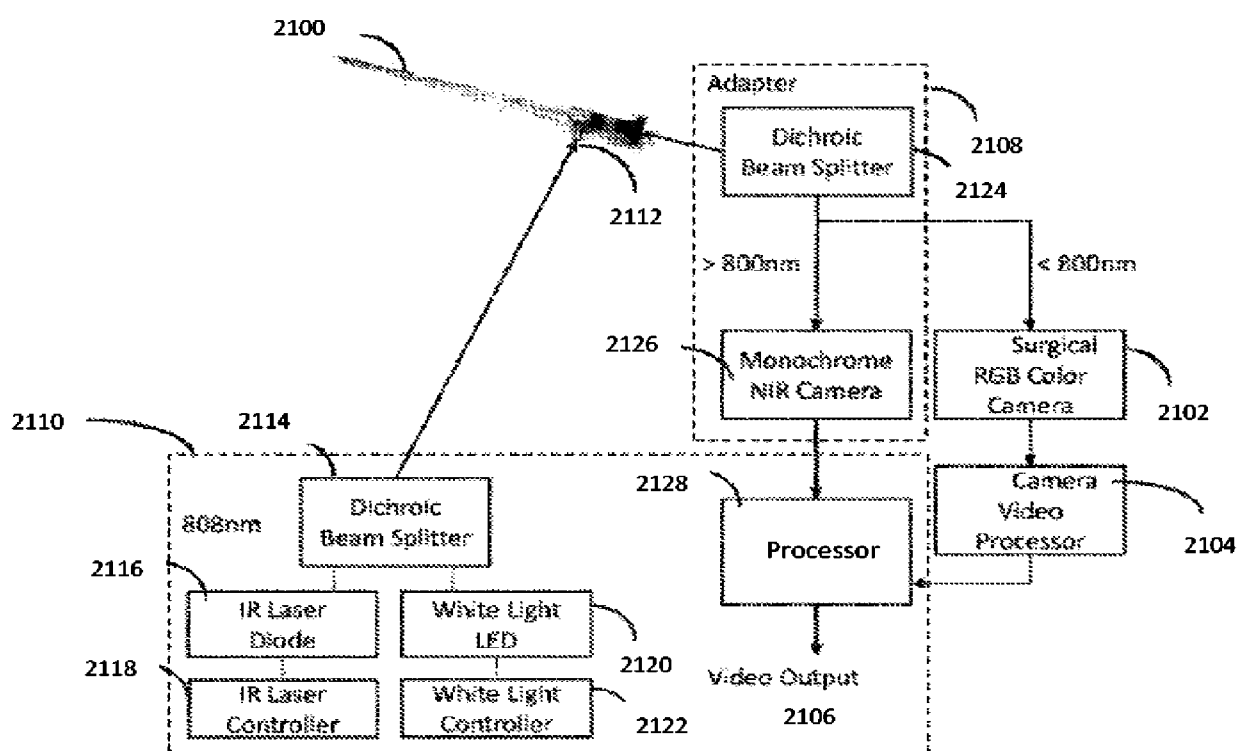
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**FIG. 11**

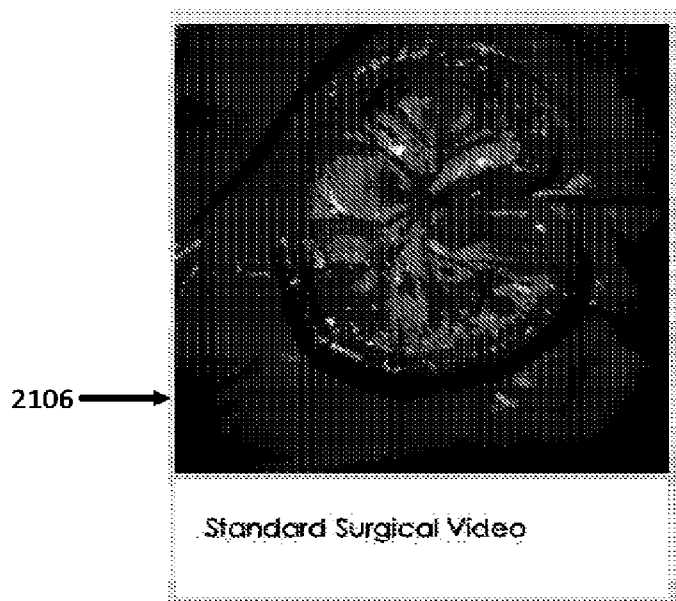
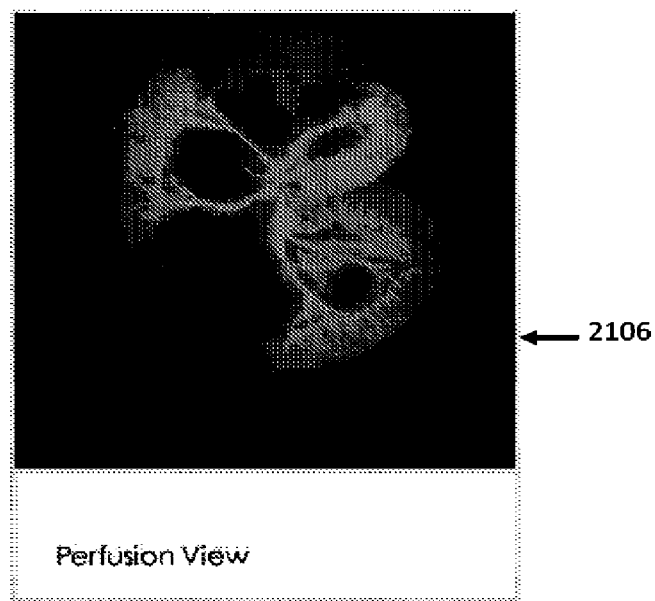
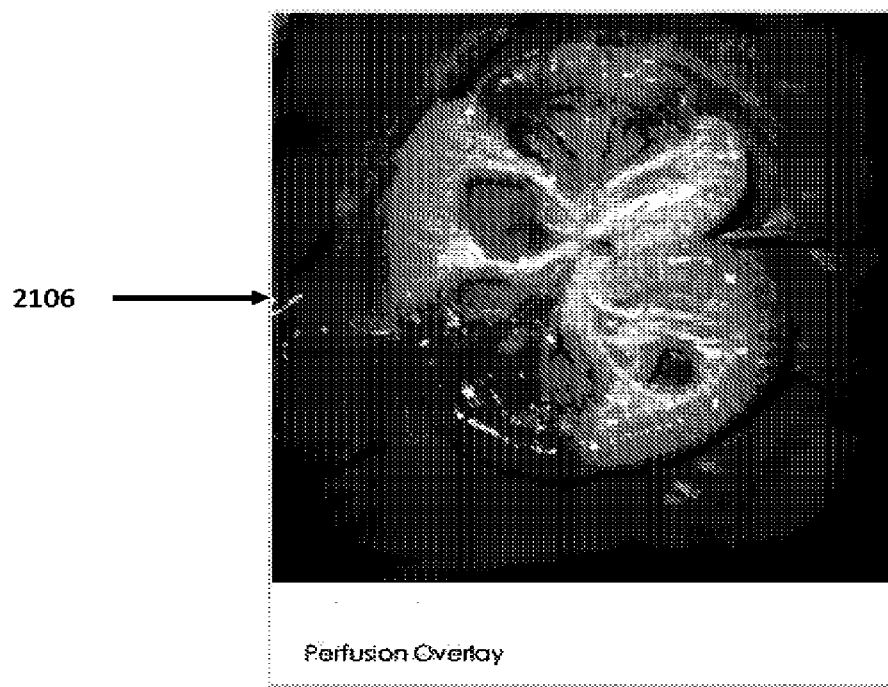
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**FIG. 12**

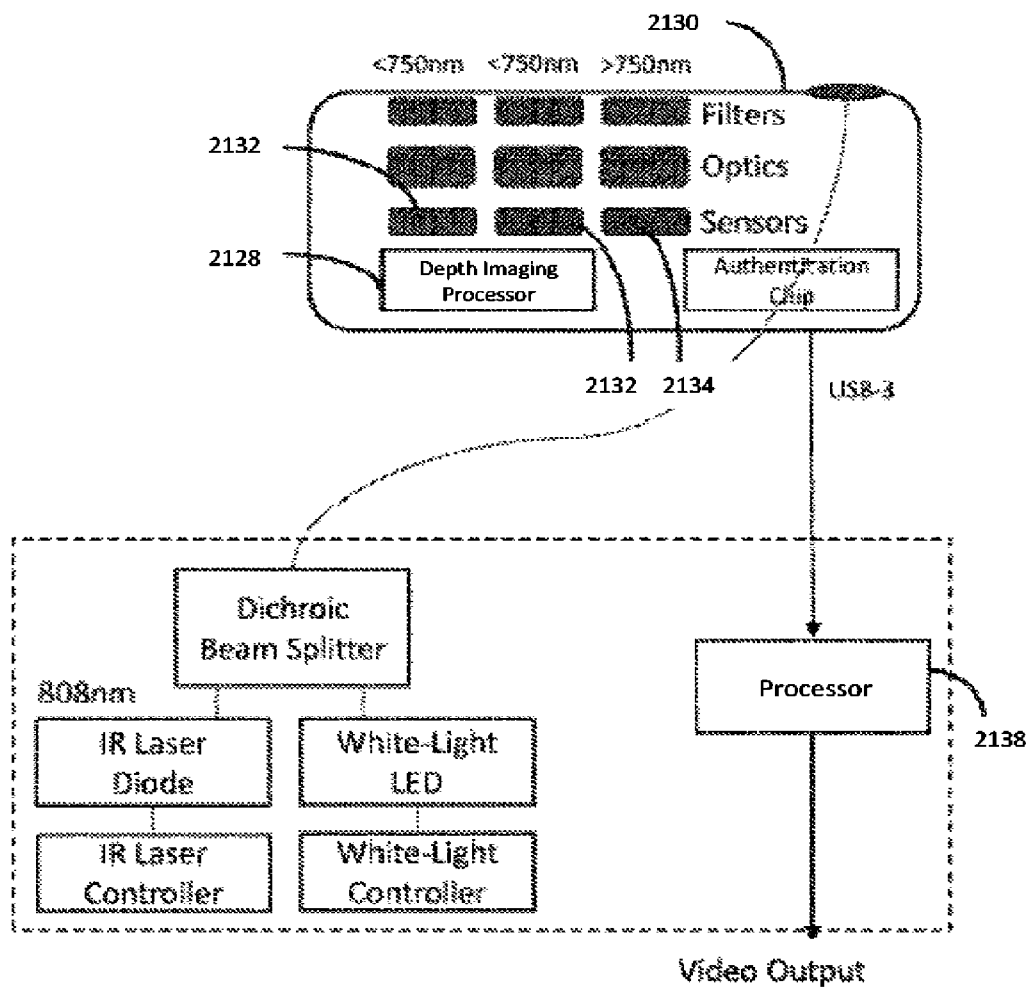
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**FIG. 13**

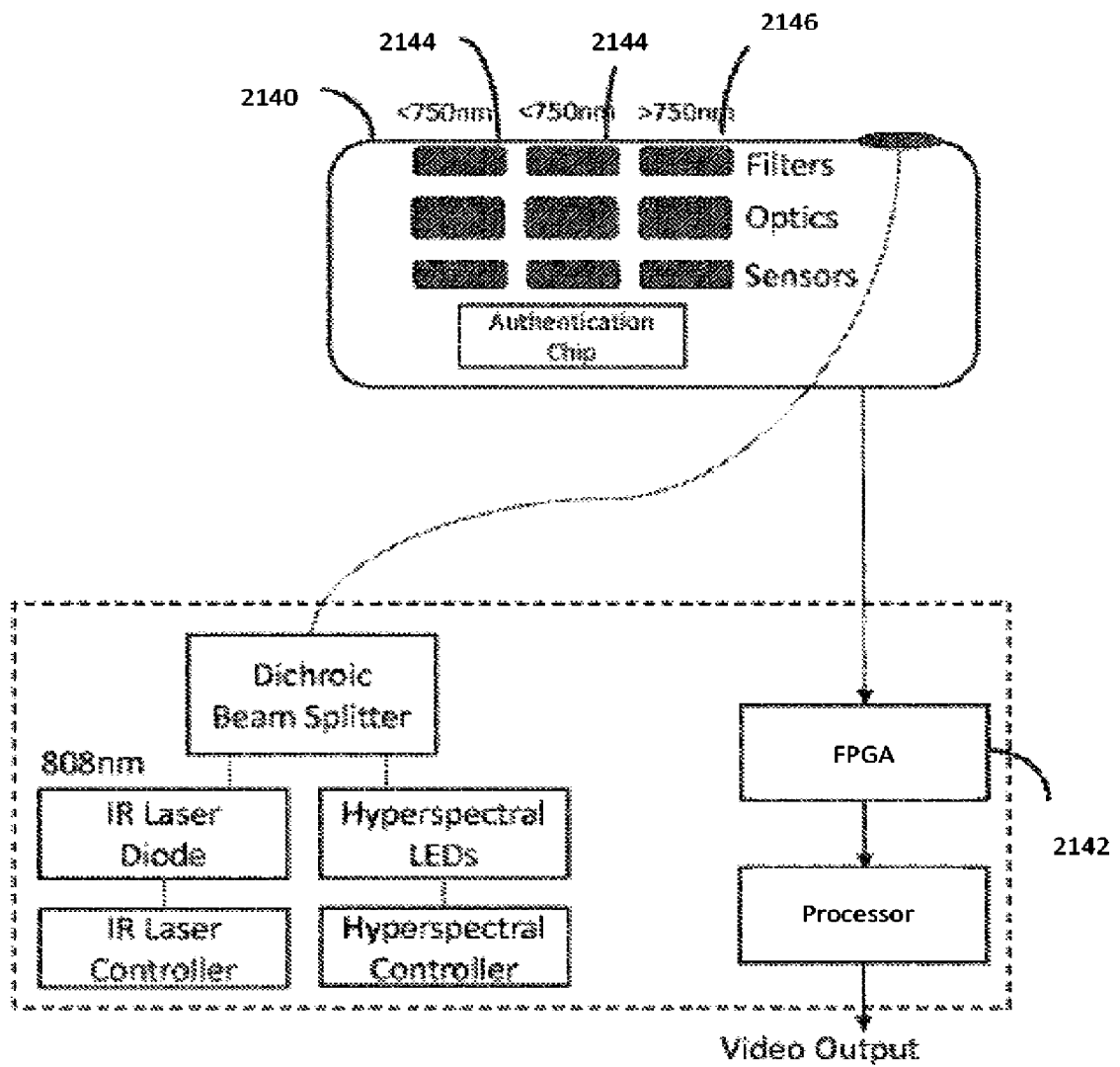
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**FIG. 14A****FIG. 14B****FIG. 14C**

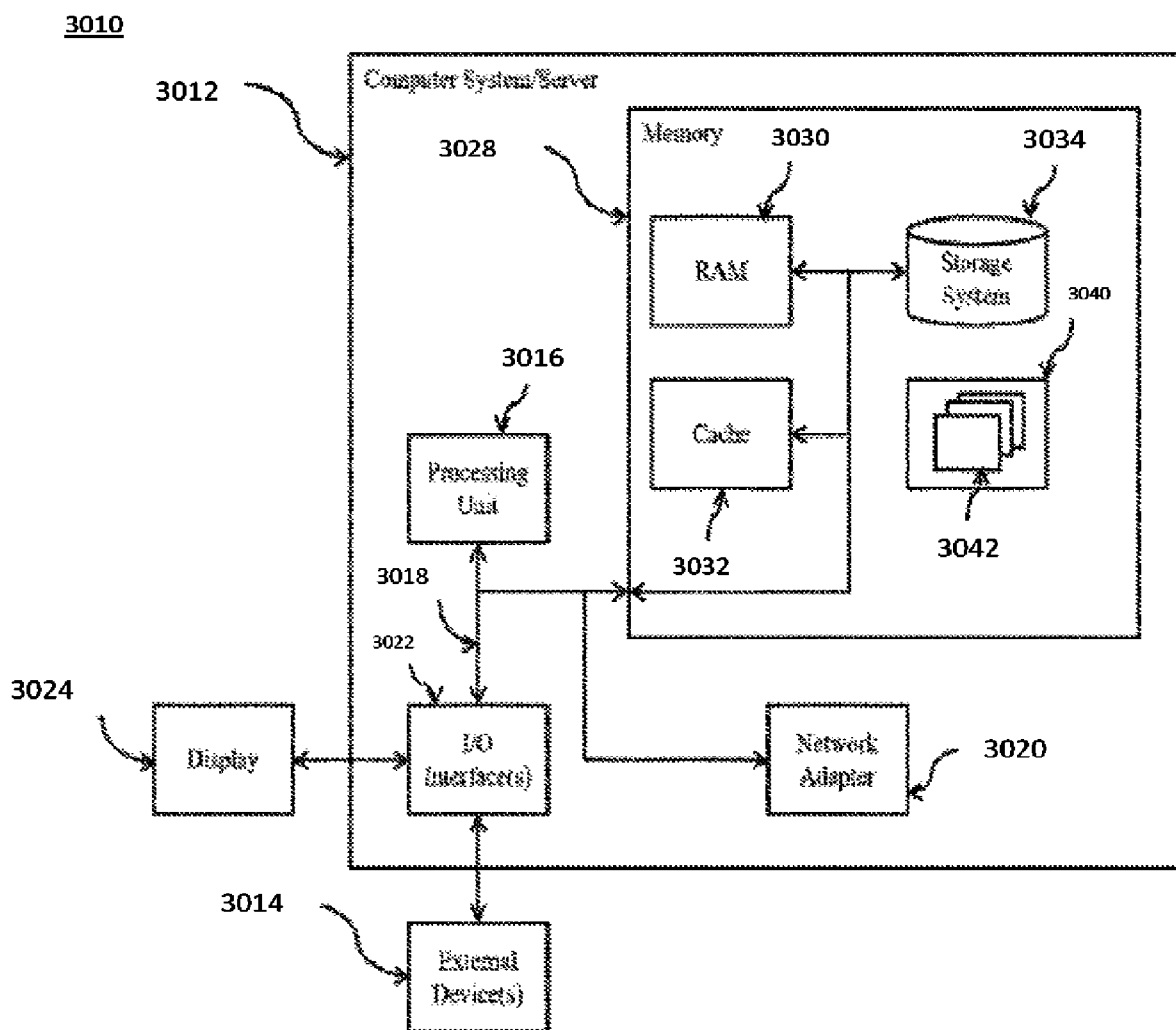
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**FIG. 15**

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**FIG. 16**

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**FIG. 17**

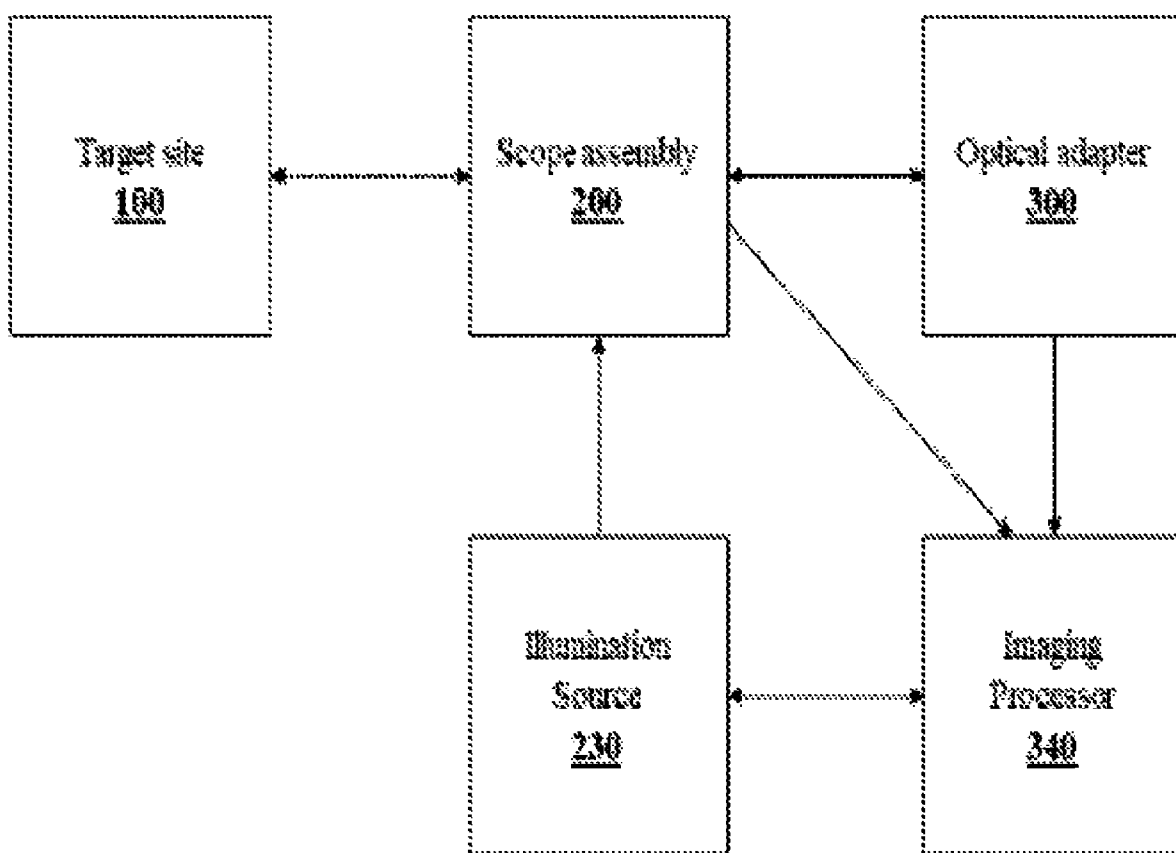


FIG. 1A