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(54) **SYSTEM AND METHOD FOR INTRUSION DETECTION USING A TIME DOMAIN RADAR ARRAY**

(52) **U.S. Cl.** ..... **342/28; 342/21; 342/22; 342/58; 342/59**

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(57) **ABSTRACT**

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A system and method for highly selective intrusion detection using a sparse array of time modulated ultra wideband (TM-UWB) radars. Two or more TM-UWB radars are arranged in a sparse array around the perimeter of a building. Each TM-UWB radar transmits ultra wideband pulses that illuminate the building and the surrounding area. Signal return data is processed to determine, among other things, whether an alarm condition has been triggered. High resolution radar images are formed that give an accurate picture of the inside of the building and the surrounding area. This image is used to detect motion in a highly selective manner and to track moving objects within the building and the surrounding area. Motion can be distinguished based on criteria appropriate to the environment in which the intrusion detection system operates.

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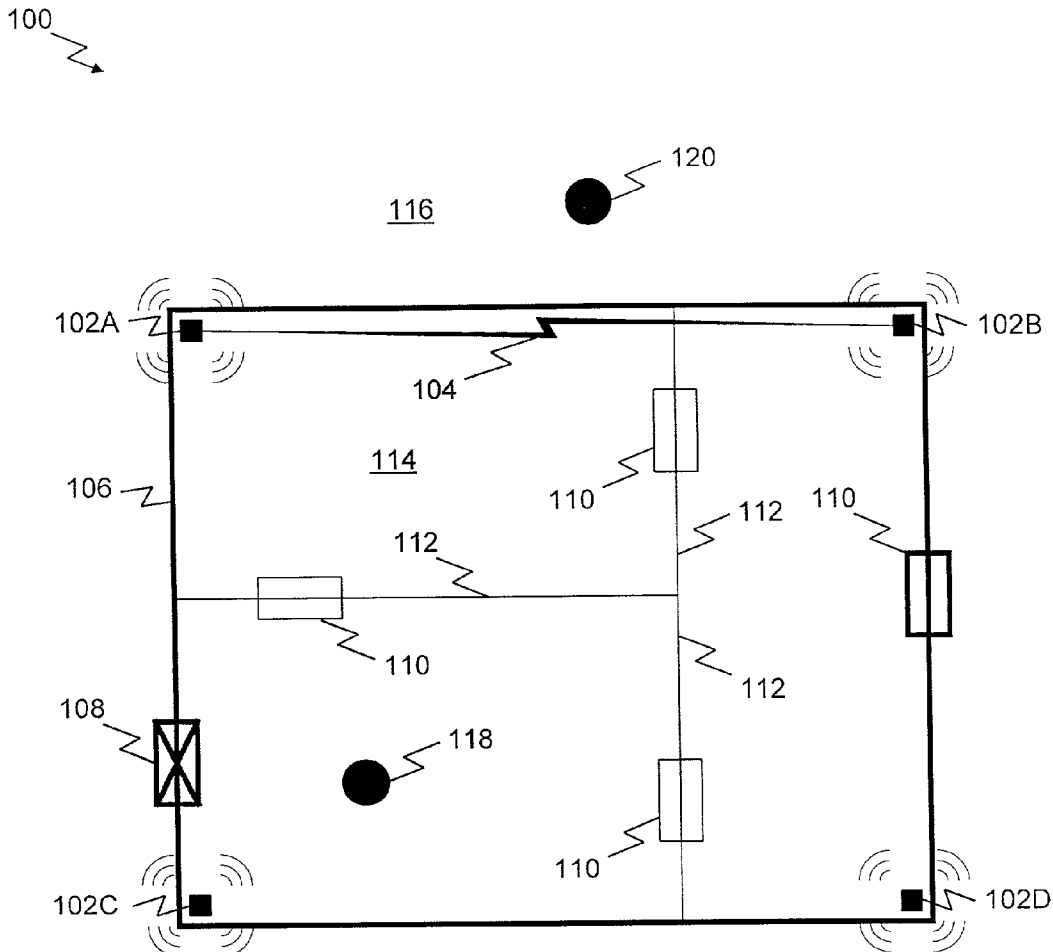
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**Publication Classification**

(51) **Int. Cl.<sup>7</sup>** ..... **G01S 13/62**



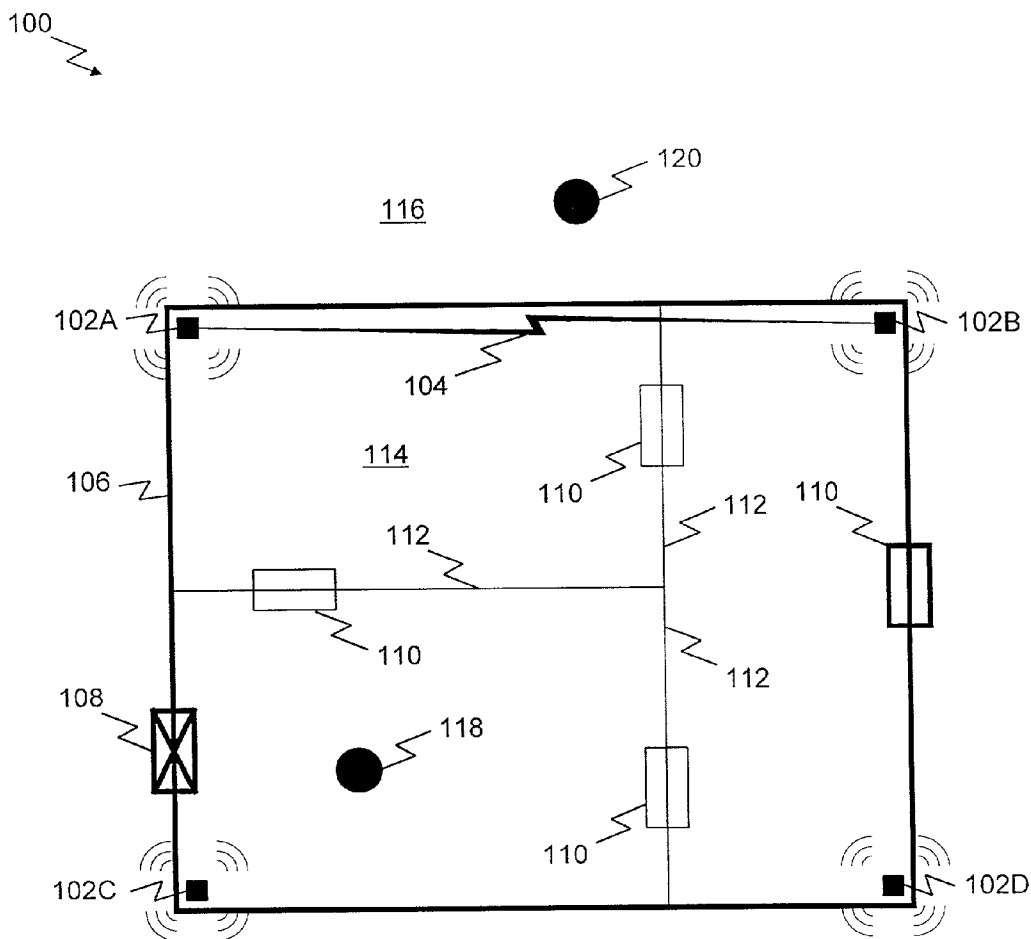


FIG. 1

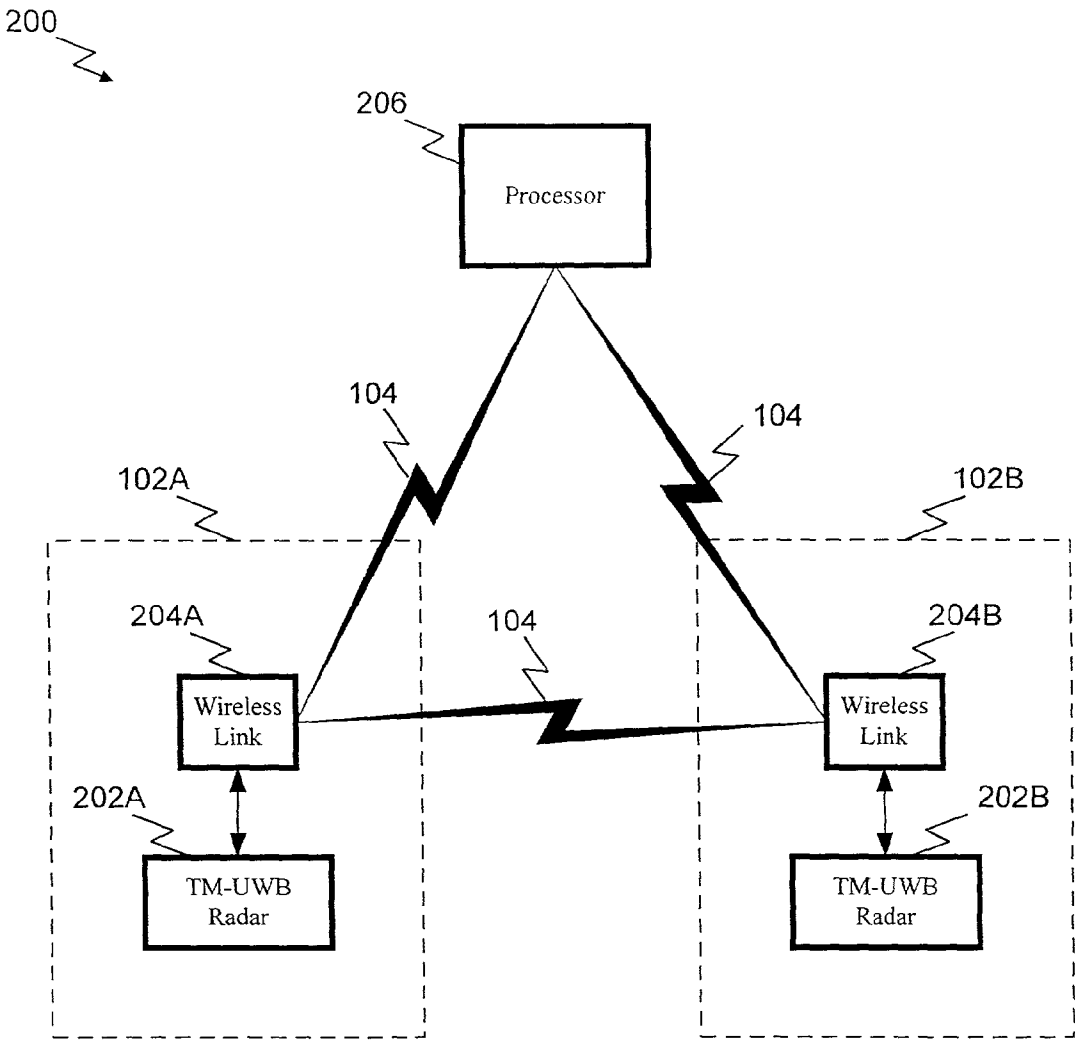


FIG. 2

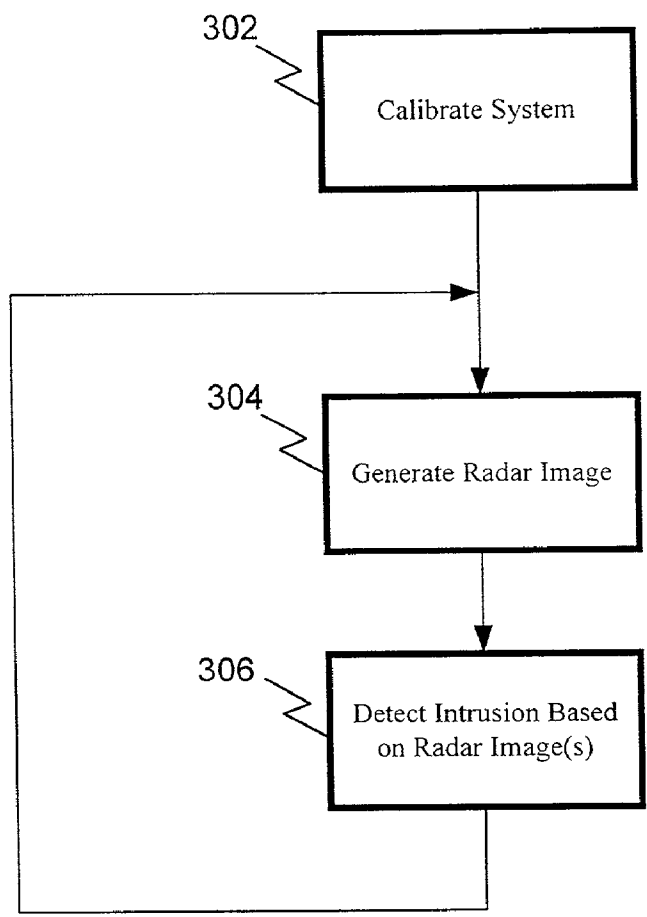


FIG. 3

304

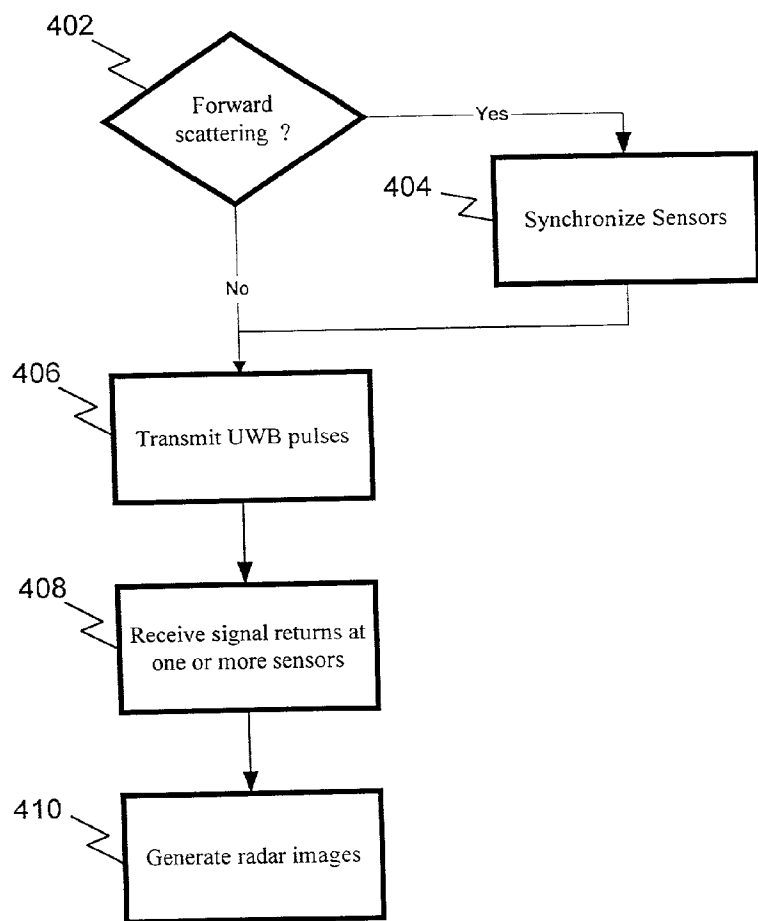


FIG. 4

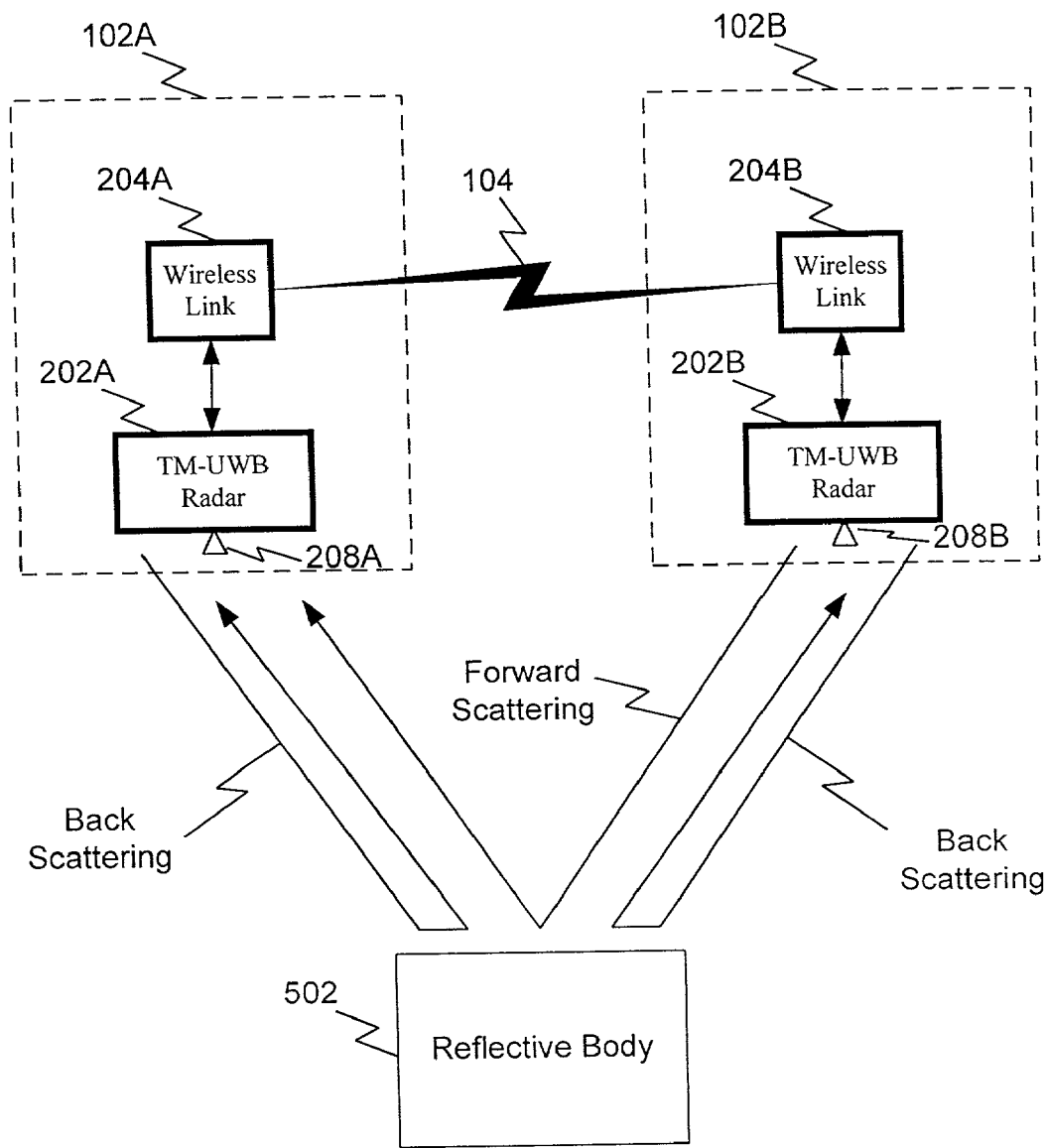


FIG. 5

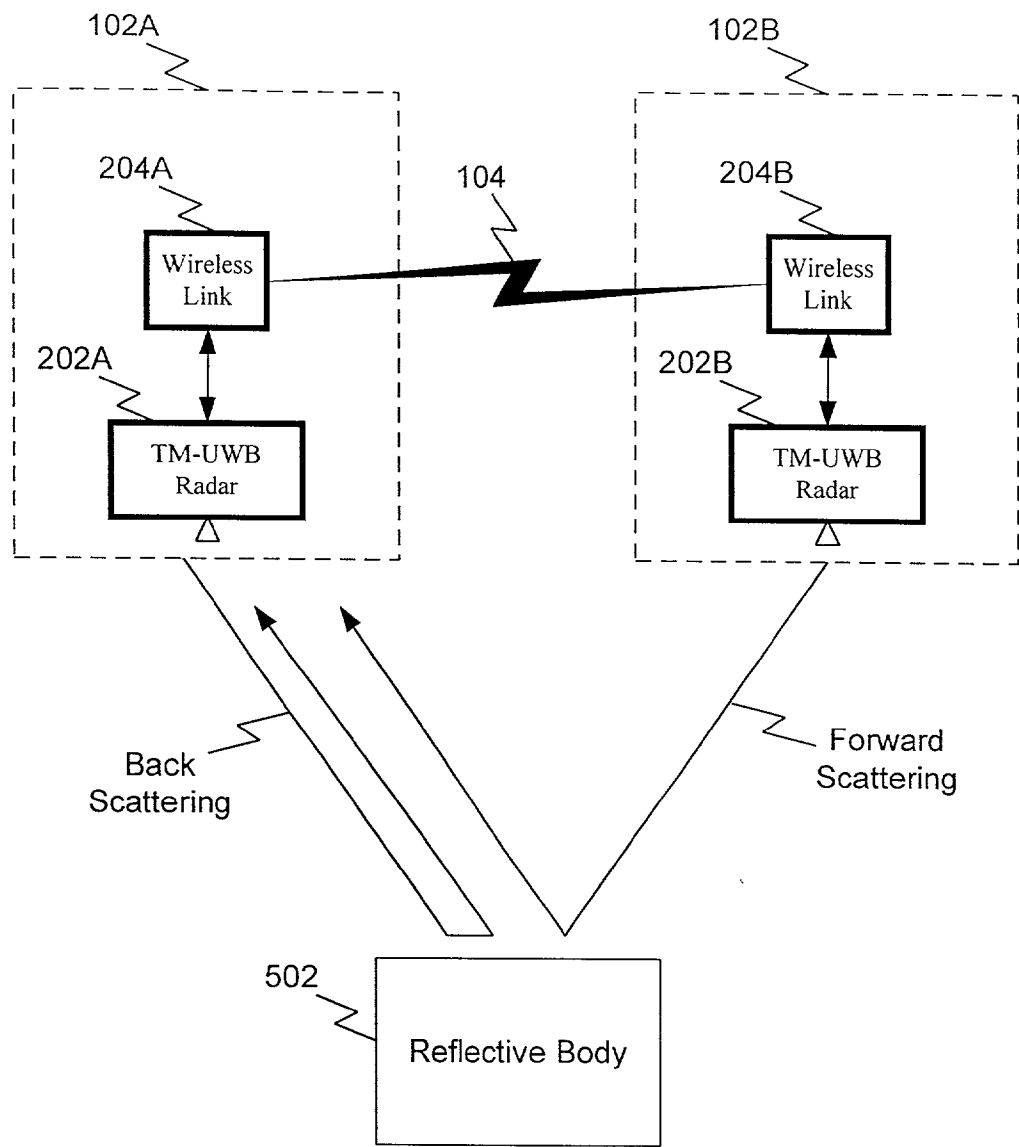


FIG. 6

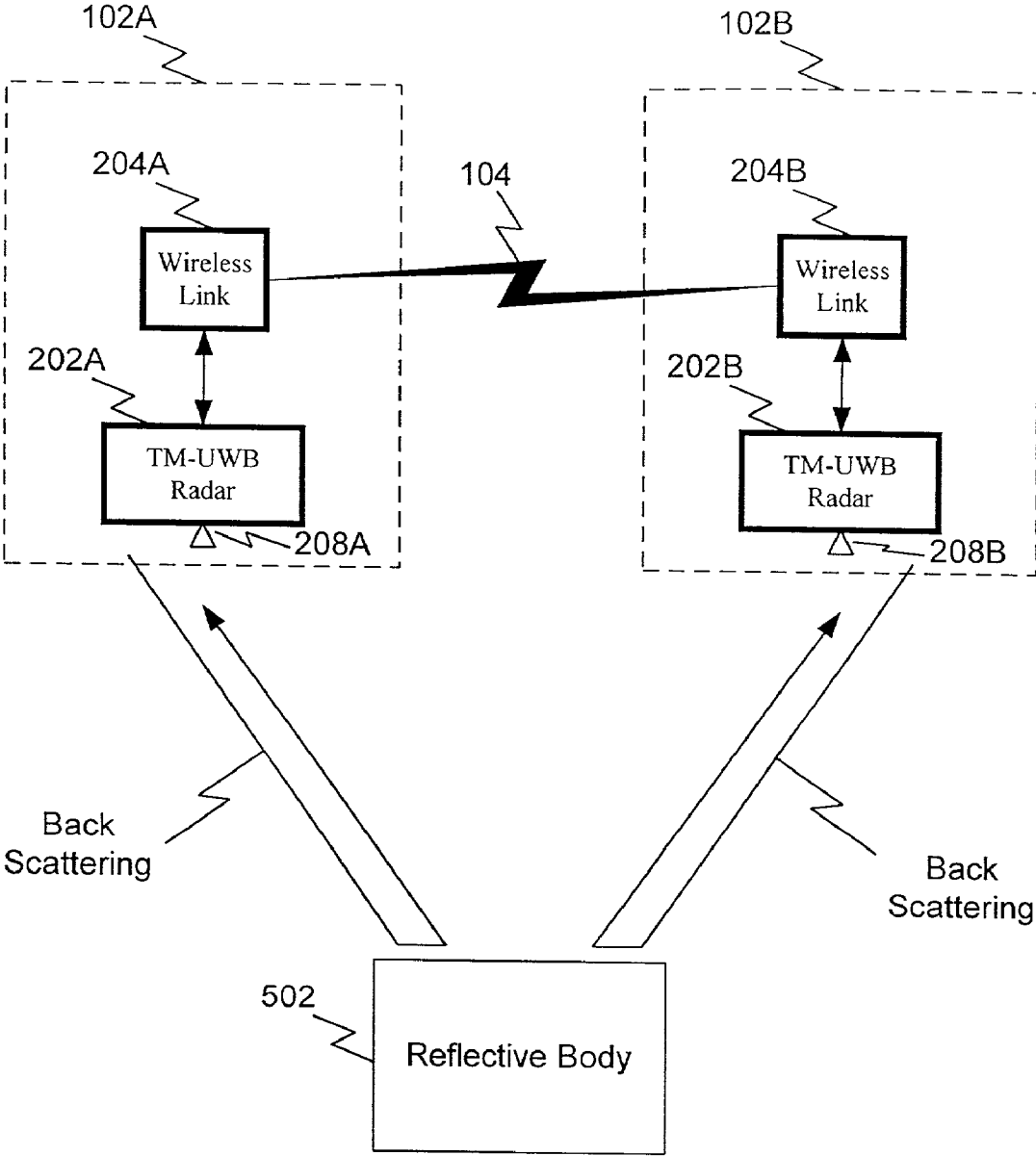


FIG. 7



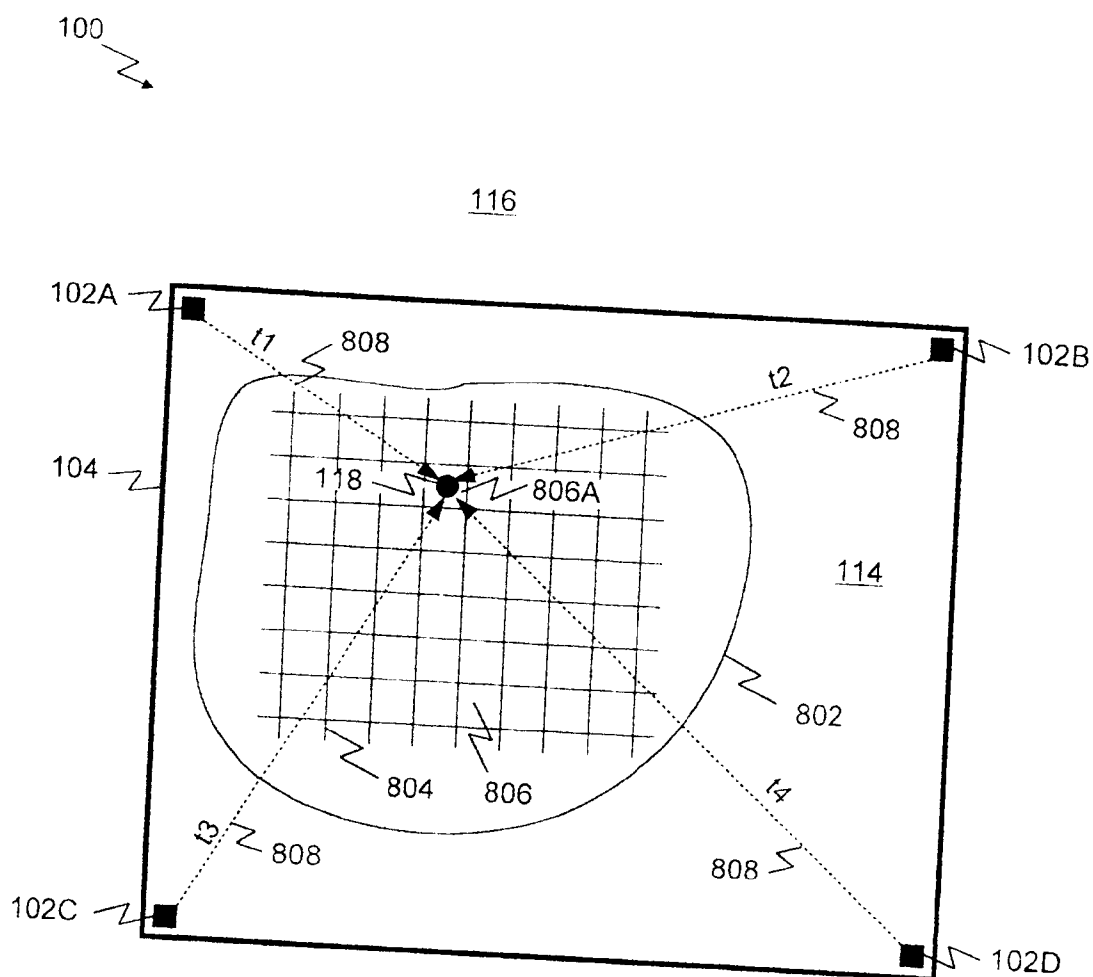


FIG. 8

410

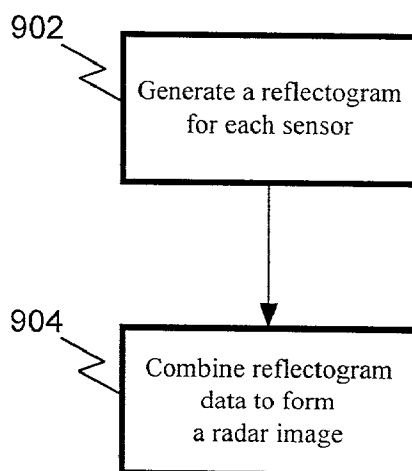


FIG. 9

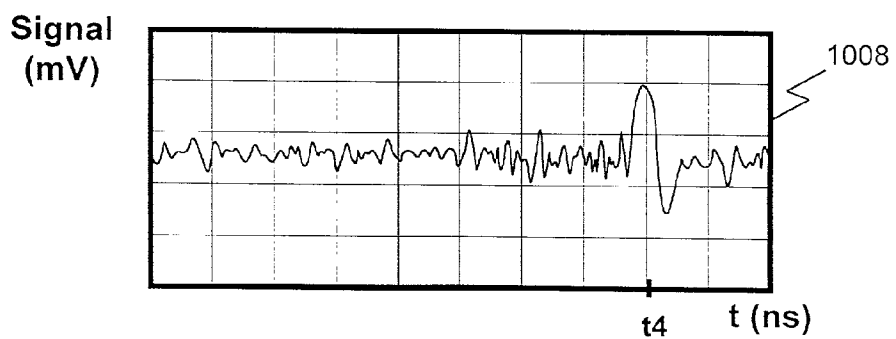
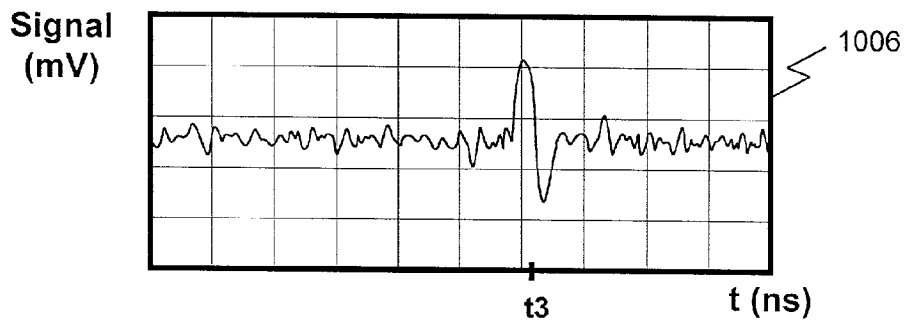
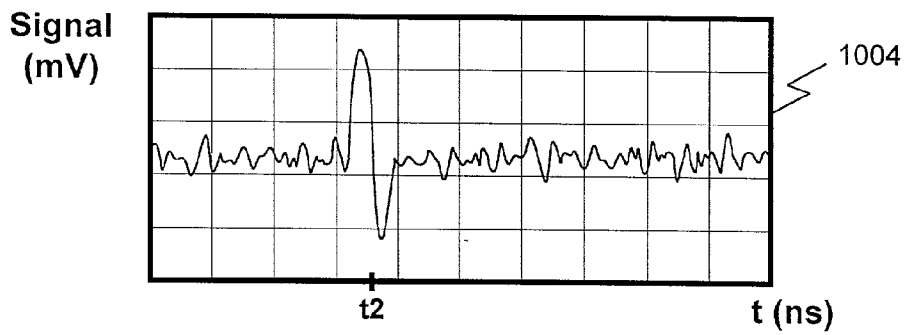
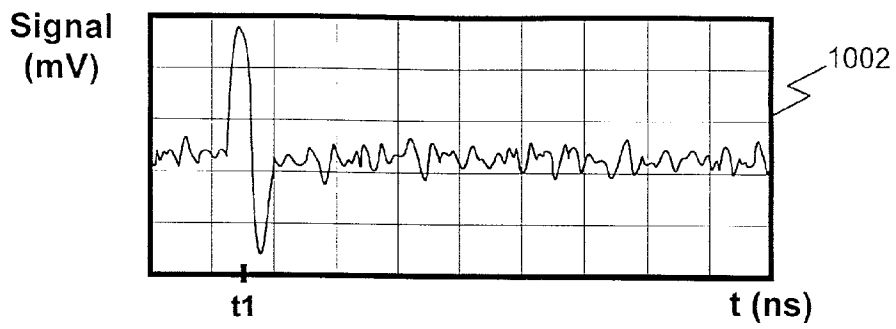


FIG. 10

306

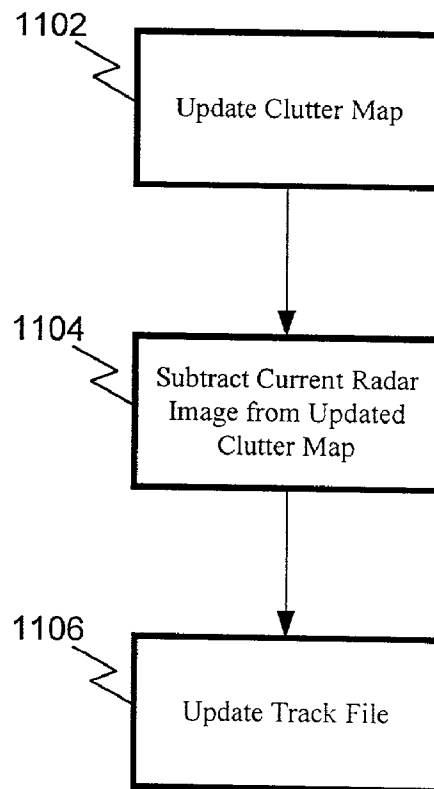


FIG. 11

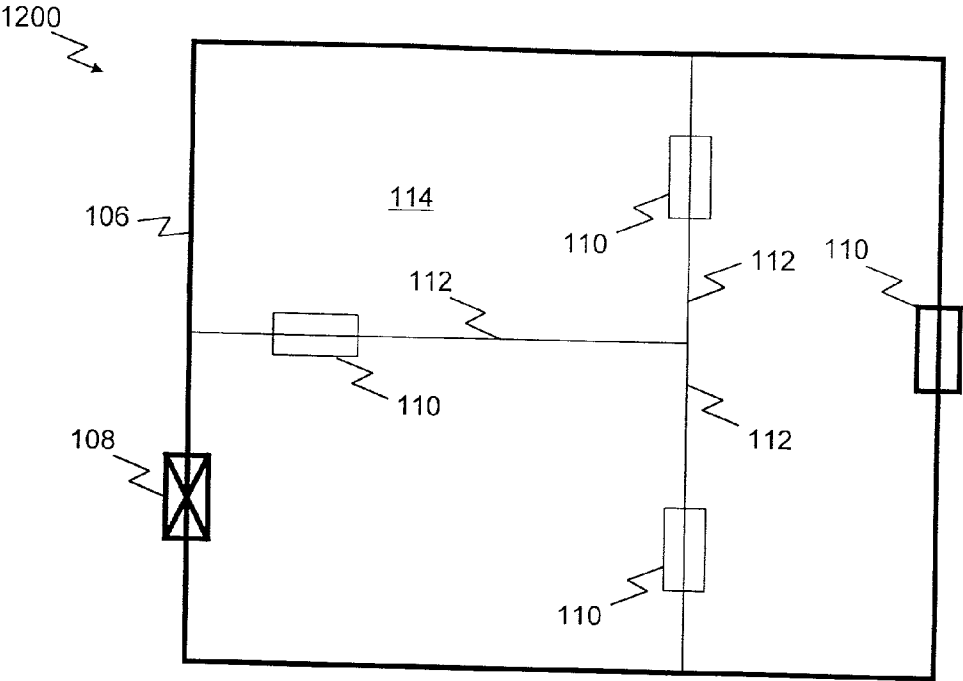


FIG. 12A

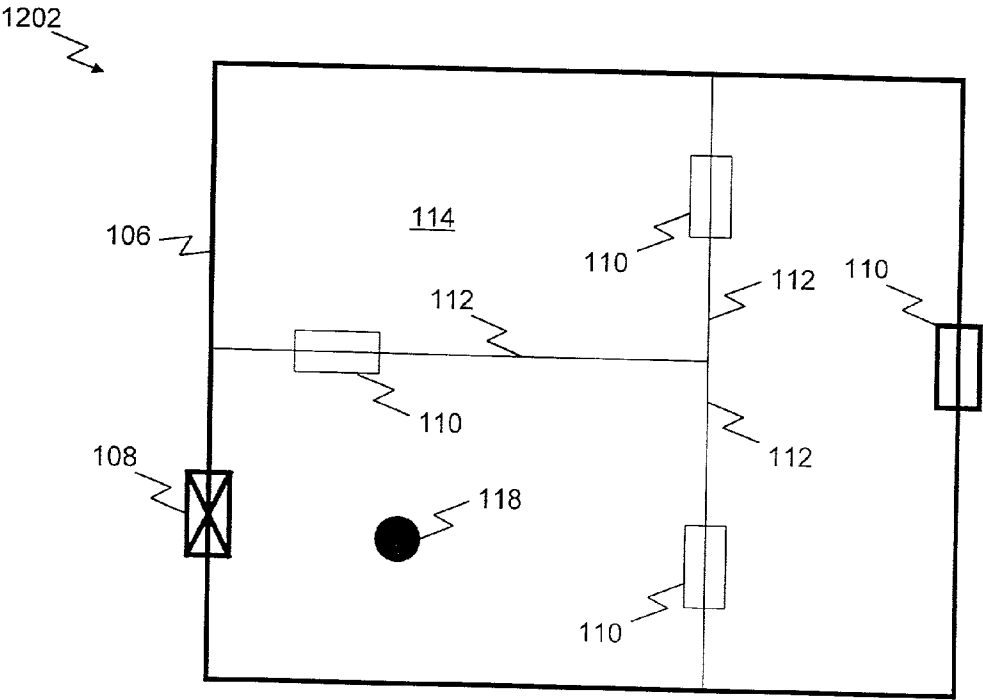


FIG. 12B

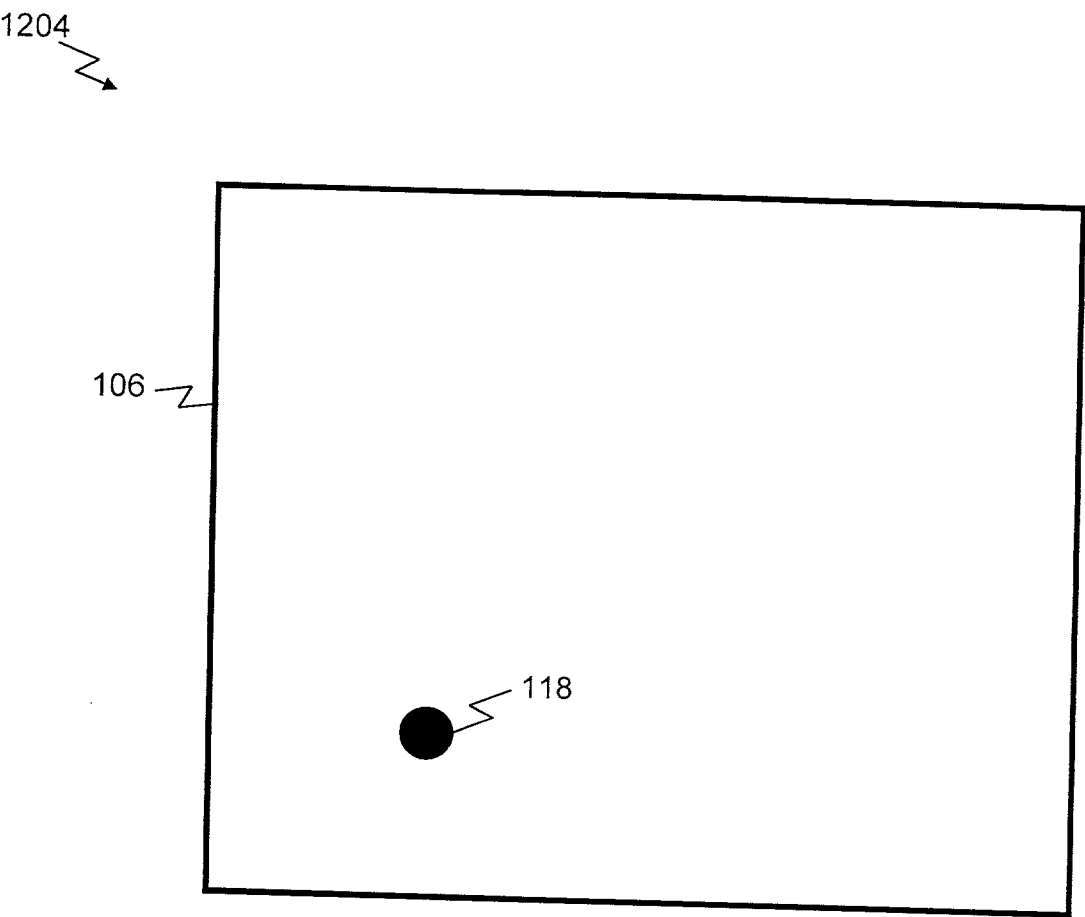


FIG. 12C

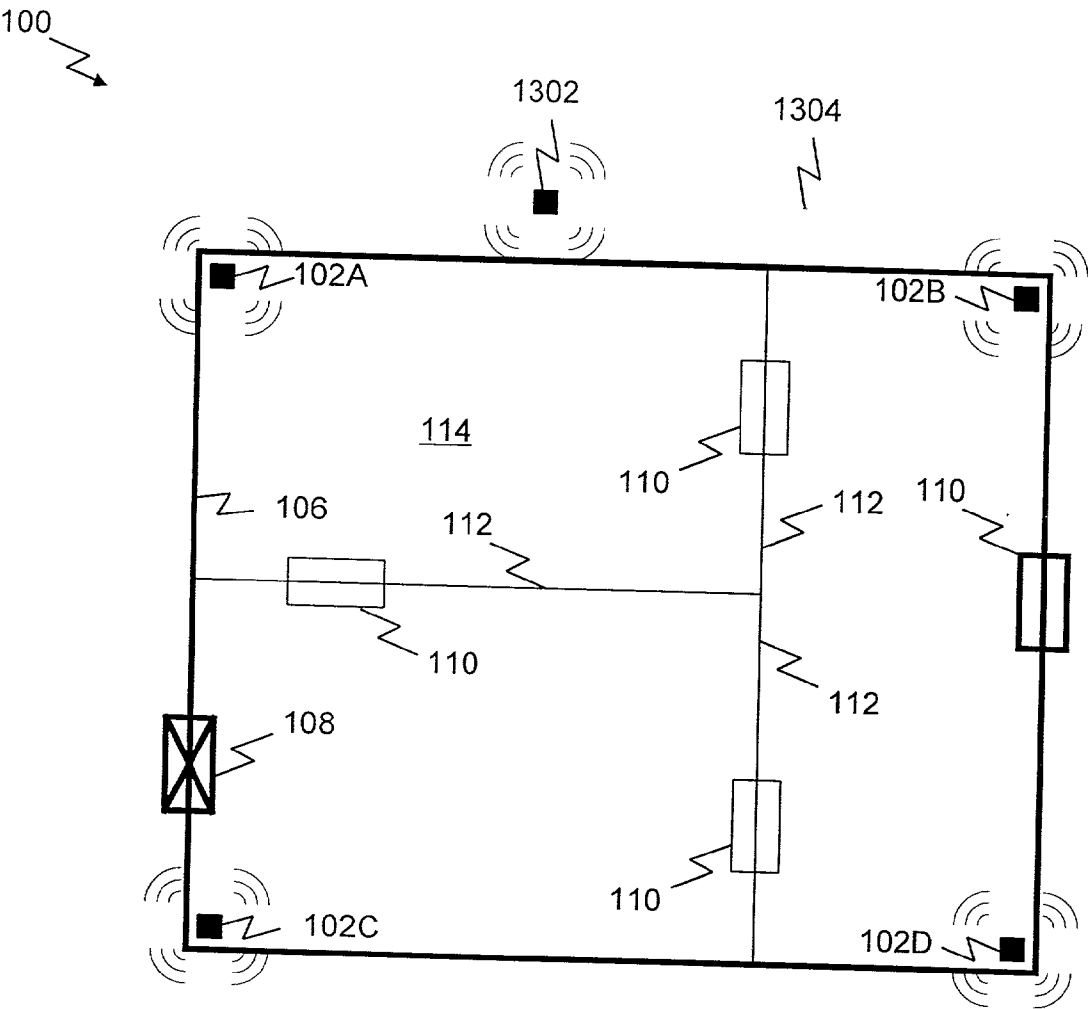


FIG. 13

## SYSTEM AND METHOD FOR INTRUSION DETECTION USING A TIME DOMAIN RADAR ARRAY

### RELATED APPLICATIONS

[0001] This application is related to U.S. Pat. application Ser. No. \_\_\_\_\_ (Attorney Docket No. 1659.0670000), filed the same day as this application, Jun. 14, 1999, entitled "Wide Area Time Domain Radar Array", which is incorporated herein by reference.

### BACKGROUND OF THE INVENTION

#### [0002] 1. Field of the Invention

[0003] The present invention relates generally to radar motion detection, and more particularly to using a sparse array of time modulated ultra wideband radars for highly selective intrusion detection.

#### [0004] 2. Related Art

[0005] Today, many homes and businesses employ surveillance systems for intrusion detection. Consumers have spent billions of dollars on home security systems over the last few years, and the number of homes with security systems has increased by almost half. These systems vary dramatically in sophistication and cost, but most include perimeter sensors on outside doors and windows, motion detectors in key inside areas, a control unit to interpret and respond to signals from the sensors, and a siren or other alert mechanism. Most are connected to a central monitoring station, which can notify the police in the event something triggers one of the sensors.

[0006] Conventional intrusion detection systems, particularly those in the cost range of the average home or small business owner, suffer from very high false alarm rates, often 90% and above. This imposes prohibitive costs on local police departments having to answer these false alarms. Many cities have responded by charging fines for answering these calls. This in turn provides incentive to home and business owners to deactivate the alarm system to avoid the false alarms. One study suggests that in burglarized homes with alarm systems, almost half of the alarms weren't even activated.

[0007] Conventional intrusion detection systems suffer a high rate of false alarms for many reasons. One reason is that these systems provide minimal selectivity. As used herein, selectivity refers to an intrusion detection system's ability to distinguish movement on some basis, such as where the movement is occurring, how fast an object is moving, or the path that an object is moving along. Obviously, detection systems that are more selective will likely suffer fewer false alarms because threatening movement can be more precisely defined and distinguished from movement defined as benign. What is defined as threatening and benign will vary by the particular environment in which the system operates. For instance, in a home environment, threatening movement could be defined as movement around the outside perimeter of the house, while movement inside the house is defined as benign. Therefore, an intruder approaching a door or window from the outside would trigger the alarm, whereas a child opening a bedroom door would not.

[0008] A need therefore exists for a highly selective intrusion detection system and method.

### Summary of the Invention

[0009] Briefly stated, the present invention is directed to a system and method for highly selective intrusion detection using a sparse array of time modulated ultra wideband (TM-UWB) radars. TM-UWB radars emit very short RF pulses of low duty cycle approaching Gaussian monocycle pulses with a tightly controlled pulse-to-pulse interval. Two or more of these TM-UWB radars are arranged in a sparse array (i.e., they are spaced at intervals of greater than one quarter wavelength), preferably around the perimeter of a building. Each TM-UWB radar transmits ultra wideband pulses that illuminate the building and the surrounding area. One or more of the radars receives signal returns, and the signal return data is processed to determine, among other things, whether an alarm condition has been triggered.

[0010] An advantage of the current invention is that ultra wideband (UWB) pulses are used. As used herein, UWB refers to very short RF pulses of low duty cycle ideally approaching a Gaussian Monocycle. Typically these pulses have a relative bandwidth (i.e., signal bandwidth/center frequency) which is greater than 25%. The ultra wideband nature of these pulses improves both angle and range resolution, which results in improved performance (e.g., greater selectivity, more sensitive motion detection). The term "wavelength", as used herein in conjunction with ultra wideband systems, refers to the wavelength corresponding to the center frequency of the ultra wideband pulse.

[0011] Another advantage of the current invention is that high resolution radar images are formed which give an accurate picture of the inside of the building and the surrounding area. The current invention uses this image to, among other things, detect motion in a highly selective manner and to track moving objects within the building and the surrounding area. High resolution radar images are possible because the TM-UWB radars positioned around the perimeter of the building form a sparse array capable of achieving high angular resolution. Angular resolution is a function of the width of the TM-UWB radar array, i.e., the wider the array, the greater the angular resolution. Conventional narrowband radars arranged in a sparse array suffer off-axis ambiguities, and are therefore not practical. However, the UWB pulses transmitted by the TM-UWB radars are sufficiently short in duration (with very few sidelobes) that the radars can be used in a sparse array configuration without off-axis ambiguities. Furthermore, range ambiguities are cured by time-encoding the sequence of transmitted TM-UWB pulses.

[0012] Another advantage of the current invention is that highly selective motion detection is possible. Using the high resolution radar images generated by the TM-UWB radar array, motion can be distinguished based on criteria appropriate to the environment in which the intrusion detection system operates. For example, home security systems according to the present invention can distinguish outside movement around doors and windows from movement inside the house. Alternatively, business security systems can distinguish movement in an unsecured portion of the building from movement in a secured portion. This selectivity can result in lower false alarm rates.

[0013] Another advantage of the current invention is that high angular resolution may be achieved at a low center frequency. Because the transmitted UWB pulses have a large



relative bandwidth, and because the radar array is wide, a lower center frequency can be maintained and still achieve a high angular resolution. Operating at a lower center frequency relaxes the timing requirements of the system, which makes it easier to achieve synchronization between the radars, and results in less complex, less expensive implementations. A low center frequency also results in UWB pulses that are able to better penetrate lossy materials and withstand weather effects.

**[0014]** Further features and advantages of the invention, as well as the structure and operation of various embodiments of the invention, are described in detail below with reference to the accompanying drawings. In the drawings, like reference numbers generally indicate identical, functionally similar, and/or structurally similar elements. The drawing in which an element first appears is indicated by the leftmost digit in the corresponding reference number.

#### BRIEF DESCRIPTION OF THE FIGURES

**[0015]** The present invention will be described with reference to the accompanying drawings, wherein:

**[0016]** **FIG. 1** illustrates an example building environment within which the present invention can be used;

**[0017]** **FIG. 2** depicts an intrusion detection system;

**[0018]** **FIG. 3** is a flowchart that describes the operation of the intrusion detection system;

**[0019]** **FIG. 4** is a flowchart that describes the generation of radar images;

**[0020]** **FIG. 5** depicts the intrusion detection system operating in a first mode including back scattering at each sensor and forward scattering;

**[0021]** **FIG. 6** depicts the intrusion detection system operating in a second mode including back scattering at one sensor and forward scattering;

**[0022]** **FIG. 7** depicts the intrusion detection system operating in a third mode including back scattering only;

**[0023]** **FIG. 8** depicts an imaging area within an example building environment;

**[0024]** **FIG. 9** is a flowchart that describes the generation of a radar image;

**[0025]** **FIG. 10** depicts example reflectograms for four sensors;

**[0026]** **FIG. 11** is a flowchart that describes processing the radar images to determine whether an alarm condition has been triggered;

**[0027]** **FIG. 12A** depicts an example clutter map;

**[0028]** **FIG. 12B** depicts an example radar image with a moving target;

**[0029]** **FIG. 12C** depicts an example differential map, calculated as the difference between the clutter map of **FIG. 12A** and the radar image of **FIG. 12B**; and

**[0030]** **FIG. 13** depicts a preferred calibration of the home intrusion system.

#### DETAILED DESCRIPTION OF THE PREFERRED EMBODIMENTS

##### **[0031]** Overview of the Invention

**[0032]** The present invention is directed to a system and method for highly selective intrusion detection using a sparse array of TM-UWB radars. TM-UWB (or impulse) radio and radar technology was first fully described in a series of patents, including U.S. Pat. Nos. 4,641,317 (issued Feb. 3, 1987), 4,743,906 (issued May 10, 1988), 4,813,057 (issued Mar. 14, 1989), 4,979,186 (issued Dec. 18, 1990) and 5,363,108 (issued Nov. 8, 1994) to Larry W. Fullerton. A second generation of TM-UWB patents include U.S. Pat. Nos. 5,677,927 (issued Oct. 14, 1997), 5,687,169 (issued Nov. 11, 1997) and 5,832,035 (issued Nov. 3, 1998) to Fullerton et. al. These patent documents are incorporated herein by reference.

**[0033]** **FIG. 1** illustrates a building environment **100** within which the present invention is used. The present invention includes two or more sensors **102**. In a preferred embodiment, four sensors **102(102A, 102B, 102C, and 102D)**, as shown in **FIG. 1**) are located around the perimeter of a building. Using more than four sensors **102** will further reduce the false alarm rate. The sensors **102** communicate with each other via a communication pathway **104**. Though only a single communication pathway **104** is shown, each sensor **102** can communicate with one or more of the other sensors **102**.

**[0034]** The example building depicted in **FIG. 1** includes perimeter (outside) walls **106**, inside walls **112**, doors **110**, and windows **108**. The areas in and around the building are conveniently divided into inside **114** and outside **116**. Those skilled in the art will recognize that the building shown in **FIG. 1** is only a simple example, and that the concepts described herein apply equally well to any arbitrarily shaped building, with any configuration of doors, windows, interior walls, and furnishings.

**[0035]** One of the primary objects of the present invention is to detect movement of objects in and around a perimeter, such as outside walls of a building. A perimeter may alternatively be defined as two boundaries to allow for noise and clutter variations. In a two boundary system, the perimeter may be defined as an inside and outside boundary separated by some distance (e.g. 2 ft). An object on the outside would have to cross the inside boundary to trigger an entry alarm; whereas, an object on the inside would have to cross the outside boundary to trigger an exit alarm.

**[0036]** The present invention will be described in an example embodiment where movement of object are detected in and around the building shown in **FIG. 1**. For convenience, both an inside target **118** and an outside target **120** are shown. The following discussion will refer to both collectively as targets.

**[0037]** **FIG. 2** depicts the components of the present invention in greater detail, referred to collectively as an intrusion detection system **200**. Each sensor **102** preferably includes a TM-UWB radar **202**, and a wireless link **204**. The sensors **102** communicate with a processor **206** that is responsible for processing the data received by the sensors and determining whether an alarm condition has been met. Note that, for purposes of clarity, only two sensors **102** (A

and B) are depicted in **FIG. 2**. As stated above, intrusion detection system **200** includes two or more sensors **102**.

**[0038]** TM-UWB radar **202** is preferably implemented as described in U.S. Pat. Nos. 4,743,906, and 5,363,108, incorporated by reference above. However, those skilled in the art will recognize that the concepts described herein apply equally well to other radars that transmit time modulated UWB pulses.

**[0039]** TM-UWB radars **202** transmit UWB pulses and at least one receives signal returns, depending on the particular mode of operation (described below). Each TM-UWB radar **202** can utilize a single antenna element **208** for both transmission and reception, separate antenna elements for transmission and reception, or even an array of antenna elements for transmission and reception, including phased arrays of antennas. Those skilled in the art will recognize that the number and type of antenna elements will vary based on the particular application and desired transmission characteristics.

**[0040]** TM-UWB radar **202** preferably operates with a center frequency between 1 GHz and 3 GHz, and a pulse repetition rate of 1.25 MHz. Other center frequencies are possible, though hydrometer effects introduce problems around 10 GHz and above. Similarly, the pulse repetition rate will vary based on the particular embodiment. Note that if the time modulation of the UWB pulses includes a random component, pseudo-random noise (rather than true noise) is used so that the noise sequence can be reproduced at the other radars. A good discussion of time modulation using pseudo-random noise codes for impulse systems is found in U.S. Pat. No. 5,677,927 (hereafter the '927 patent), incorporated by reference above.

**[0041]** Sensors **102** placed along the perimeter of a building will clearly be separated by more than a quarter wavelength at these center frequencies. The sensors therefore form a sparse array. Sparse arrays of TM-UWB radars are discussed in detail in commonly owned, co-pending U.S. Pat. application Ser. No. \_\_\_\_\_ (attorney docket 1659.0670000), filed the same day of the present application, Jun. 14, 1999, entitled "Wide Area Time Domain Radar Array," which has been incorporated by reference. Sensors **102** are preferably packaged for convenient installation in a conventional wall electrical socket, securely fastened such that it cannot easily be removed. Those skilled in the art will recognize that three-dimensional images may be obtained by ensuring that all the sensors **102** do not occupy the same horizontal plane, i.e., at least one sensor **102** occupies a horizontal plane different from the other sensors **102**.

**[0042]** Processor **206** can be implemented using many different configurations of computer hardware and software, as is well known to those skilled in the art. Each particular application will dictate the processing needs of the system, size requirements, memory requirements, and other implementational details. Processor **206** can be physically located at any convenient location. Processor **206** can be included in the same packaging with a sensor **102**, or close enough to a sensor such that data may be transferred between processor **206** and the nearby sensor via a cable. Alternatively, processor **206** can be physically distant from all sensor **102** and communicate with one or more of them wirelessly.

**[0043]** Communication pathway **104** represents a wire or wireless transmission medium. In a preferred embodiment,

sensors **102** communicate with each other via a wireless link, wherein communication pathway **104** represents electromagnetic waves propagating through the environment. Alternatively, communication pathway **104** can be implemented as a cable (e.g., coaxial cable, optical fibre) connecting the radars.

**[0044]** Wireless links **204** provide for wireless communication between sensors **102** via communication pathway **104**. Wireless links can be implemented as any number of conventional devices known to those skilled in the art, depending upon the bandwidth required by the particular application. However, wireless link **204** is preferably implemented as a TM-UWB radio, as described in many of the above cited patents and applications. In this preferred embodiment, data transfers are accomplished using subcarrier modulation as described in the '927 patent, incorporated by reference above. Alternatively, a single TM-UWB radar can be configured to perform the functions of wireless link **204** and TM-UWB radar **202**. In other words, a single TM-UWB radar is used at each sensor **102** to transmit UWB radar pulses and communicate wirelessly with other sensors **102**. Combining these functions into a single unit results in less expensive implementations. Further, in modes that include forward scattering, synchronization between the radars is achieved without requiring a separate synchronization signal. Note that wireless links **204** are unnecessary for those embodiments employing a cable as communication pathway **104**.

**[0045]** Wireless links **204** are responsible for, inter alia, transmitting scattering data received by their associated radars **202**, and exchanging synchronization information when forward scattering data is being taken. The bandwidth requirements for wireless links **204** depend upon the types of data analysis performed by processor **206**, the rate at which TM-UWB radar **202** transmits UWB pulses and various other factors. Wireless links **204** can also be either bidirectional or simplex, depending upon the requirements of the application. Those skilled in the art will recognize the cost to benefit tradeoff associated with conventional wireless implementations. Other implementations are discussed below.

**[0046]** Operation of the Current Invention

**[0047]** **FIG. 3** is a flowchart that describes the operation of the current invention. This section provides an overview of the operation. Each step is then described in detail in the following sections.

**[0048]** In step **302**, intrusion detection system **200** is calibrated. Calibration as used herein refers to, among other things, identifying the positions of the various sensors **102** and one or more security zones. A security zone, as described below, is an area in which certain movement could trigger an alarm condition. The calibration of step **302** is performed before intrusion detection system **200** begins monitoring building environment **100**. Further details regarding calibration are provided after detailed discussions of the next two steps.

**[0049]** In step **304**, a radar image is generated by the operation of intrusion detection system **200**. The sensors **102** transmit UWB pulses, preferably in an omnidirectional manner, and then receive the reflected energy, referred to herein as signal returns or signal return data. Processor **206** then creates a radar image based on the signal return data collected by all sensors **102**.

[0050] In step 306, processor 206 determines whether an alarm condition has been met. This determination is based on the current radar image, and in many cases, on past radar images as well. Intrusion detection system 200 triggers various alarms in the event that an alarm condition is met, such as lights, sirens, and calls to emergency personnel.

[0051] The following sections described each step in detail.

[0052] Generation of Radar Images

[0053] FIG. 4 is a flowchart that describes step 304 in greater detail. In step 402, flow proceeds to step 404 only for those embodiments that include forward scattering measurements. In step 404, radars 202 are synchronized, as described in detail below. Skilled artisans will recognize that this synchronization allows for useful analysis of the scattering data.

[0054] In step 406, each of the radars 202 transmits UWB pulses, preferably in an omnidirectional fashion, radiating the pulsed energy in all directions.

[0055] In step 408, signal returns are received by at least one radar 202, depending upon the mode of operation. Intrusion detection system 200 preferably operates in three different modes of operation. In all three modes, each TM-UWB radar 202 transmits UWB pulses. The different modes vary based on which radars 202 are configured to receive signal returns, and whether the radars are synchronized for forward scattering measurements.

[0056] FIG. 5 depicts intrusion detection system 200 operating in a first mode. Again, for purposes of clarity, only two sensors are depicted (102A and 102B) and a reflective body 502. Reflective body 502 represents any object, either inside 114 or outside 116, that reflects a portion of the transmitted pulse energy. As shown, both TM-UWB radars 202 transmit UWB pulses and receive the corresponding signal returns reflecting off reflective body 502. This process is known to those skilled in the art as back scattering, or mono-static operation. The back scattering data from each radar 202 is passed to processor 206 (not shown in FIG. 3) for analysis. As mentioned above, processor 206 can be located in close physical proximity or connected wirelessly to any one or more of sensors 102.

[0057] Sensors 102 also perform forward scattering (or bi-static) measurements, which refers to a TM-UWB radar 202 receiving signal returns corresponding to UWB pulses transmitted by another sensor 102. As shown in FIG. 5, radar 202A receives signal returns corresponding to UWB pulses transmitted by radar 202B. Radar 202B passes both back and forward scattering data on to processor 206. TM-UWB radars 202 must be synchronized in order to utilize the forward scattering data. This synchronization is preferably implemented across communication pathway 104.

[0058] Synchronizing radars 202 can be accomplished in at least two different ways. In a first embodiment, a synchronization signal is transmitted between radars 202 via wireless links 204. In this embodiment, wireless links 204 are chosen which have high temporal resolution, on the order of ten picoseconds. This resolution is necessary to achieve the desired synchronization.

[0059] In a second embodiment, each radar 202 receives UWB pulses transmitted by the radar 202B via two paths. As described above, radar 202A receives forward scattering signal returns that reflect off reflective body 502. However, radar 202A can also receive UWB pulses that travel directly from radar 202B to radar 202A. These UWB pulses can be used by radar 202A for synchronization, so long as the distance between the radars is known. Those skilled in the art will recognize that the antenna 208B associated with radar 202B must be chosen such that its beam pattern provides for sufficient transmission in the direction of radar 202A.

[0060] FIG. 6 depicts intrusion detection system 200 operating in a second mode. In this mode, certain of the radars 202 are used for forward scattering purposes only, i.e., they transmit UWB pulses which are received by other radars 202, but do not themselves receive any signal returns. For example, in FIG. 6, radar 202B transmits UWB pulses that are received by radar 202A, as indicated by the forward scattering propagation path. Radar 202A receives the forward scattering signal returns corresponding to UWB pulses transmitted by radar 202B, and also receives its own back scattering signal returns. If intrusion detection system 200 operates only in the second mode, radar 202B can be implemented in a more simple, inexpensive manner because it need only transmit, not receive.

[0061] Again, the radars must be synchronized, preferably across communication pathway 104, in order to utilize the forward scattering data. Note that in this mode, only the radar that receives signal returns passes data (both back and forward scattering data) to processor 206 (not shown in FIG. 6) for analysis. Furthermore, communication only needs to proceed in one direction between wireless links 204, i.e., from radar 202A to radar 202B. Therefore, for embodiments only operating in the second mode, wireless link 204B can be implemented as a receiver only.

[0062] FIG. 7 depicts intrusion detection system 200 operating in the third mode. In this mode, all of the radars 202 collect back scattering data only. As shown in FIG. 7, each radar 202 transmits UWB pulses and receives the corresponding signal returns. The back scattering data collected by each radar 202 is passed on to processor 206 (not shown in FIG. 7) for analysis. Note that in this mode, there is no requirement that the radars 202 be synchronized because forward scattering data is not being collected.

[0063] Returning to the flowchart of FIG. 4, in step 410, processor 206 generates a radar image based on the signal return data collected by sensors 102. FIG. 8 depicts building environment 100 for purposes of illustrating the analysis of back scattering data (and forward scattering, where available) to generate an image of inside target 118. FIG. 8 also depicts an imaging area 802 that defines an example area to be imaged. Imaging area 802 could, for example, represent a portion of the building inside 114, the entire inside 114, or the inside 114 and outside 116. The needs of each particular intrusion system will determine which areas require surveillance, i.e., radar imaging.

[0064] A grid 804 criss-crosses imaging area 802, defining one or more voxels 806 (a voxel is a minimum resolution portion of a three dimensional space, comparable to a pixel in two dimensional space). As described below, processor 206 calculates a value for each voxel 806 indicative of the

reflected energy measured in the portion of imaging area **802** defined by that voxel. The resulting grid **804** of voxels **806** forms a radar image of imaging area **802**. Grid **804** is maintained in processor **206**, and can vary in spacing to define voxels **806** having different resolution (grid **804** need not be orthogonal). Decreasing the grid spacing increases the resolution of the generated image. As shown in FIG. 8, inside target **118** occupies a single voxel **806A**. Though this simplifies the discussion, skilled artisans will recognize that in practice a higher resolution will often be desired.

[0065] FIG. 9 is a flowchart that depicts step **410** in greater detail according to a preferred time domain interferometry technique for calculating a value for each voxel **806** in imaging area **802**. In step **902**, a reflectogram is generated for each radar **202** in intrusion detection system **100**. FIG. 10 depicts four example reflectograms, **1002**, **1004**, **1006**, and **1008**, corresponding to sensors **102A**, **102B**, **102C**, and **102D**, respectively. Skilled artisans will recognize that a reflectogram describes reflected energy as a function of range (i.e., distance from the transmitting antenna). For example, reflectogram **1002** describes the reflected energy measured at sensor **102A**, whereas reflectogram **1004** describes the reflected energy measured at sensor **102B**. The x-axis represents range, while the y-axis represents reflected energy measured as voltage.

[0066] In a preferred embodiment, each radar **202** generates a reflectogram by sweeping through the ranges of interest, measuring reflected energy at discrete ranges. At each discrete range, radar **202** transmits ultra wideband pulses **808** and then looks for reflected energy after a time delay corresponding to the return time-of-flight. Further details regarding the operation of radar **202** are provided in U.S. Pat. Nos. 4,743,906, and 5,363,108, incorporated by reference above. Radar **202** receives and, where multiple pulses are transmitted for each discrete range step, accumulates reflected energy.

[0067] Those skilled in the art will recognize that more reflected energy will be measured per transmitted pulse for nearby targets, as compared to those targets positioned farther away. Compensating for this effect allows for more efficient use of the radar's dynamic range. In a preferred embodiment, radar **202** transmits and receives an increasing number of pulses per discrete range step as the range is increased. The reflected energy measured at longer ranges is therefore increased by receiving and integrating a greater number of pulses. The ranges of interest are preferably divided into multiple "range windows," where the same number of pulses is transmitted for each discrete range within a given window. Skilled artisans will recognize that this is only one example of how this compensation might be implemented.

[0068] Alternatively, the power of transmitted pulses can be varied according to range. In this embodiment, radar **202** increases the power of transmitted pulses as the range gets longer. This alternative compensation has a similar effect to varying the number of transmitted pulses, but will likely require more costly modifications to the basic radar **202** to implement. This, and other related concepts are described in commonly owned, co-pending U.S. Pat. application Ser. No. \_\_\_\_\_ (attorney docket 1659.0530000), filed the same date as the present application, Jun. 14, 1999, entitled "System and Method for Impulse Radio Power Control," which is incorporated herein by reference.

[0069] Returning again to FIG. 9, in step **904** an image is formed by selectively combining data from the reflectograms generated in step **902**. An image value is calculated for each voxel **806**, where the image value is indicative of the total amount of reflected energy measured over that portion of imaging area **802**. Processor **206** preferably calculates an image value for each voxel **806** by summing voltage values from the reflectogram associated with each sensor **102**, where the voltage values correspond to the return time-of-flight from the radar to the voxel being calculated. For example, referring to FIGS. 8 and 10, the image value for voxel **806A** is the sum of a voltage value from reflectograms **1002**, **1004**, **1006**, and **1008** corresponding to the return time-of-flight. As shown in reflectogram **1002**, the voltage value at time **t1** corresponds to the return time-of-flight from sensor **102A** to voxel **806A**, as shown in FIG. 8. Similarly, times **t2**, **t3**, and **t4** correspond to the return time-of-flight from sensors **102B**, **102C**, and **102D** to voxel **806A**, as shown in reflectograms **1004**, **1006**, and **1008**. The sum of these four values forms the image value for voxel **806A**.

[0070] In this manner the image value for each voxel **806** in image area **802** is calculated as the sum of a voltage from each reflectogram corresponding to the return time-of-flight.

[0071] Intrusion Detection

[0072] Returning to FIG. 3, in step **306**, processor **206** determines whether an alarm condition has been triggered indicating an intrusion. What is defined as an alarm condition depends upon the particular environment in which intrusion detection system is used. For example, in a home security environment, an alarm condition is triggered when a moving object approaches and penetrates a perimeter around the outside of the house or some other predetermined exterior boundary. Alternatively, in a building security environment, movement in a restricted area within the building triggers an alarm condition. Those skilled in the art will recognize that alarm conditions will vary, depending upon the exact environment in which intrusion detection system **200** is installed and the types of intrusion that are to be detected.

[0073] In a preferred embodiment, processor **206** uses the radar images generated in step **304** to detect motion and to track moving objects. In many instances, processor **206** need only detect movement in a given area. In the aforementioned building security environment, movement detected in a restricted area triggers an alarm condition. Other alarm conditions require additional processing to distinguish between different types of movement. For instance, movement in the vicinity of a window should trigger an alarm condition if the object approached the window from outside **116**, but not if the object approached from inside **114**. Processor **206** can distinguish between these two types of movement by tracking moving objects over time.

[0074] FIG. 11 is a flowchart that depicts step **306** in detail according to a preferred embodiment. In step **1102**, processor **206** updates a clutter map. The clutter map represents stationary and other "don't care" objects within imaging area **802**. For instance, a clutter map might include stationary objects such as furniture and walls within a building. The clutter map can also include moving objects that should not trigger an alarm condition, such as ceiling fans.

[0075] Those skilled in the art will recognize that the clutter map can be determined in different ways. In one

embodiment, the first radar image generated by intrusion detection system 200 is defined as the clutter map. This approach is easy to implement, but is not very robust. For instance, if a piece of furniture within imaging area 802 is moved after the clutter map is generated, it will thereafter appear as a moving object because it was not part of the clutter map. In this embodiment, processor 206 sets the clutter map equal to the first radar image generated in step 304, and does not change the clutter map based on subsequent radar images.

[0076] In a preferred embodiment, however, the clutter map is updated based on subsequent radar images by low-pass filtering the current radar image on a voxel by voxel basis, and adding the filtered image to the stored clutter map. In this way, the clutter map is slowly updated over time so that stationary objects not present initially will be incorporated into the clutter map. For example, if sensors 102 transmit UWB pulses with a center frequency of 2 GHz, and if the 3 dB knee of the lowpass filter is 0.1 Hz, then anything moving at a rate faster than  $\frac{3}{4}$  inches in 10 seconds will not be passed through the lowpass filter to the clutter map.

[0077] In step 1104, processor 206 subtracts the updated clutter map from the current radar image. The resulting image represents objects within imaging area 802 that were not present in past radar images. FIG. 12A depicts an example clutter map 1200 of building environment 100, including stationary objects such as doors 110, windows 108, interior walls 112 and exterior walls 106 (assume that everything shown in FIG. 12A is within imaging area 802). FIG. 12B depicts a radar image 1202 generated subsequent to clutter map 1200. As shown, inside target 118 has entered the building. FIG. 12C depicts a differential map 1204 calculated in step 1104 by subtracting clutter map 1200 from radar image 1202. Differential map 1204 therefore represents objects that have moved within imaging area 802. The appearance of inside target 118 will trigger an alarm condition for those intrusion detection systems that are configured to detect movement in that particular area.

[0078] In step 1106, a track file is updated based on differential map 1104 calculated in step 1104. The track file contains information on moving objects being tracked within imaging area 802. For example, a track file is a collection of historical information on identified objects to allow determination of object motion parameters, such as position, speed, velocity, and direction. In a preferred embodiment, objects that appear in differential map 1204 are compared against those objects currently being tracked in the track file. Each object in differential map 1204 is either associated with and used to update an existing object in the track file, or is added to the track file as a new object to track.

[0079] One method of generating a track file is to map an area using reflectogram data from several sensors, and then later, map the area again and subtract the first map data to derive a map of changes relating to motion in the area. The largest peaks are then identified as objects to be tracked and all energy within a radius (e.g., 1 foot) of each peak is considered part of the object. The object centroid is then found by determining the centroid of all of the "change" signal within the radius. This set of centroids is then compared with previous centroids from the track file. The nearest previous object would be considered the same object of the purposes if determining object motion, velocity, direction. These parameters may be determined from the history of the object centroid locations.

[0080] A track file may alternatively be maintained by determining an area within some range (e.g., 1 foot) of a

previous centroid location for an object, and then computing a new centroid based on this area to be associated with the object. In this way, an object may be incrementally tracked across a room and objects may be determined as entering or exiting a door or window.

[0081] Map threshold levels may be used to limit the number of objects to a reasonable level. Objects may disappear, or be dropped from the track file, if the total energy drops below a disappearance threshold for a period of time. Likewise objects may be generated based on a single peak threshold crossing, but may not achieve full "object" status until it maintains threshold for a period of time.

[0082] Tracking the movement of objects within imaging area 802 allows for more sophisticated alarm conditions to be defined. For instance, in the home security environment described above, an alarm condition might be triggered where outside target 120 approaches window 108, whereas inside target 118 approaching window 108 does not. Those skilled in the art will recognize the many ways that tracking could be used to define robust alarm conditions in a variety of environments.

[0083] Calibration

[0084] Returning to FIG. 3, intrusion detection system 200 is calibrated in step 302 prior to generating a radar image in step 304 and detecting intrusion in step 306. The processing described above with respect to steps 304 and 306 depends, in part, on having accurate knowledge of where the sensors are located with respect to one another. Calibrating intrusion detection system 200 refers to determining these relative positions.

[0085] FIG. 13 depicts a first alternative calibration system for intrusion detection system 200. A portable transmitter 1302 is moved along a calibration path 1304 around the area to be protected. For the example shown in FIG. 13, calibration path 1304 follows the outside walls 106 of the building. Those skilled in the art will recognize that calibration path 1304 will vary for different environments and alarm conditions. Portable transmitter 1302 transmits UWB pulses, such as a TM-UWB radar 202.

[0086] All of the sensors 102 lock their receivers to transmitter 1302 and track its movement around calibration path 1304. As the sensors 102 track transmitter 1302, datum marks are made periodically. This is preferably accomplished by the operator pressing a button that modulates transmitter 1302, sending a bit stream to each sensor 102 identifying the index number of the data point being sent. Alternatively, a real-time clock can be used to continually mark the data received by the sensors 102. In either case, after completion each sensor 102 sends the calibration data to processor 206 to determine the position of the sensors 102 in relation to each other and calibration path 1304.

[0087] In a second alternative embodiment, in step 302, the calibration is performed manually, by locating each sensor on a map, blueprint, survey, or by direct measurement. The calibration data is entered into processor 206 by conventional means familiar to those skilled in the art.

[0088] In a third alternative embodiment, in step 302, each sensor 102 locks on to UWB pulses transmitted by another sensor 102, one after another, until a range is determined between each pair of sensors 102. The sensors can be adapted to perform range finding as described in commonly owned, co-pending U.S. Pat. application Ser. No. 09/045,929, attorney docket no. 1659.0470000, filed Mar. 23, 1998,

entitled "System and Method For Position Determination By Impulse Radio," which is incorporated herein by reference. Another alternative embodiment for adapting the sensors to perform range finding is described in commonly owned, co-pending U.S. Pat. application Ser. No. 09/083,993, attorney docket no. 1659.0660000, filed May 26, 1998, entitled "System and Method For Distance Measurement by Inphase and Quadrature Signals In A Radio System," which is also incorporated herein by reference. Each sensor **102** sends the calibration data to processor **206** to determine the position of the sensors **102** in relation to each other.

**[0089]** Conclusion

**[0090]** While various embodiments of the present invention have been described above, it should be understood that they have been presented by way of example only, and not limitation. Thus, the breadth and scope of the present invention should not be limited by any of the above-described exemplary embodiments, but should be defined only in accordance with the following claims and their equivalents.

**[0091]** The previous description of the preferred embodiments is provided to enable any person skilled in the art to make or use the present invention. While the invention has been particularly shown and described with reference to preferred embodiments thereof, it will be understood by those skilled in the art that various changes in form and details may be made therein without departing from the spirit and scope of the invention.

1. An intrusion detection system comprising:

a first time modulated ultra wideband (TM-UWB) radar, wherein said first TM-UWB radar is adapted to transmit UWB pulses and receive signal returns, and wherein said UWB pulses have a wavelength corresponding to the center frequency of said UWB pulses;

a second TM-UWB radar, spaced a distance from said first TM-UWB radar, said distance being greater than  $\frac{3}{4}$  of said wavelength, wherein said second TM-UWB radar is adapted to transmit further UWB pulses, and wherein said further UWB pulses have said wavelength; and

a processor in communications with at least said first TM-UWB radar, wherein said processor detects intrusion based on said signal returns.

2. The system of claim 1, wherein said first TM-UWB radar receives signal returns that correspond to said UWB pulses transmitted by said first TM-UWB radar, and

wherein said processor detects intrusion based on at least said signal returns that correspond to said UWB pulses transmitted by said first TM-UWB radar.

3. The system of claim 1, wherein said first TM-UWB radar receives signal returns that correspond to said further UWB pulses transmitted by said second TM-UWB radar, and

wherein said processor detects intrusion based on at least said signal returns that correspond to said further UWB pulses transmitted by said second TM-UWB radar.

4. The system of claim 1, wherein said first TM-UWB radar receives signal returns that correspond to said UWB pulses transmitted by said first TM-UWB radar and signal returns that correspond to said further UWB pulses transmitted by said second TM-UWB radar, and

wherein said processor detects intrusion based on said signal returns that correspond to said UWB pulses

transmitted by said first TM-UWB radar and said signal returns that correspond to said further UWB pulses transmitted by said second TM-UWB radar.

5. The system of claim 1, wherein said processor detects intrusion by determining whether an alarm condition is met based on said signal returns.

6. The system of claim 1, wherein said processor detects intrusion by detecting movement of an object in a given area based on said signal returns.

7. The system of claim 6, wherein the object comprises one or more human beings positioned outside of a building and wherein said first and second TM-UWB radars are positioned inside the building.

8. The system of claim 6, wherein the given area includes a predetermined boundary, and wherein said processor triggers an alarm when said processor detects penetration of the boundary by the object.

9. The system of claim 8, wherein the boundary comprises a first side and a second side, and wherein said processor only triggers the alarm when said processor detects movement toward the first side of the boundary.

10. The system of claim 8, wherein the boundary is defined by a location of a window.

11. The system of claim 6, wherein the given area comprises a predetermined boundary, and wherein said processor triggers an alarm when said processor detects movement toward, and penetration of, the boundary by the object.

12. The system of claim 11, wherein the boundary includes a first side and a second side, and wherein said processor only triggers the alarm when said processor detects movement toward, and penetration of, the first side of the boundary.

13. The system of claim 11, wherein the boundary is defined by a location of a window.

14. The system of claim 11, wherein the first side of the boundary is outside a building, and wherein the second side of the boundary is inside the building.

15. The system of claim 1, wherein said processor generates an image based on said signal returns and detects intrusion based on said image.

16. The system of claim 15, wherein said processor generates a reflectogram based on said signal returns and generates said image based on said reflectograms.

17. The system of claim 1, wherein said processor generates an image based on said returns signals, subtracts said image from a clutter map to thereby create a differential map, and detects intrusion based on said differential map.

18. The system of claim 17, wherein said processor triggers an alarm when it detects intrusion, and wherein said clutter map represents objects that should not cause said processor to trigger the alarm.

19. The system of claim 17, wherein said processor updates a track file based on said differential map, tracks movement in a given area based on said track file, and detects intrusion based on the movement.

20. The system of claim 1, wherein said first and second TM-UWB radars are positioned along the perimeter of a building.

21. The system of claim 1, further comprising:

a first wireless link coupled to said processor; and

a second wireless link coupled to said second TM-UWB radar,

wherein said second wireless link communicates with said first wireless link,

wherein said second TM-UWB radar receives signal returns that correspond to UWB pulses transmitted by said second TM-UWB radar, and

wherein said processor detects intrusion based on said signal returns received by said first and second TM-UWB radars.

**22.** The system of claim 1, wherein said first TM-UWB radar receives signal returns that correspond to UWB pulses transmitted by said second TM-UWB radar, and wherein said first and second TM-UWB radars are synchronized.

**23.** The system of claim 1, wherein said second TM-UWB radar receives signal returns that correspond to UWB pulses transmitted by said second TM-UWB radar, wherein said first TM-UWB radar receives signal returns that correspond to UWB pulses transmitted by said second TM-UWB radar, wherein said first and second TM-UWB radars are synchronized, and wherein said processor detects intrusion based on said signal returns received by said first and second TM-UWB radars.

**24.** An intrusion detection system comprising:

a first time modulated ultra wideband (TM-UWB) radar, wherein said first TM-UWB radar is adapted to transmit UWB pulses in a given area and to receive signal returns, wherein said UWB pulses have a wavelength corresponding to the center frequency of said UWB pulses;

a second TM-UWB radar, spaced a distance from said first TM-UWB radar, said distance being greater than  $\frac{1}{4}$  of said wavelength, wherein said second TM-UWB radar is adapted to transmit further UWB pulses in said given area, wherein said further UWB pulses have said wavelength; and

a processor in communications with at least said first TM-UWB radar, wherein said processor detects motion within said given area based on said signal returns.

**25.** The system of claim 24, wherein said first TM-UWB radar receives signal returns that correspond to said UWB pulses transmitted by said first TM-UWB radar, and

wherein said processor detects intrusion based on at least said signal returns that correspond to said UWB pulses transmitted by said first TM-UWB radar.

**26.** The system of claim 24, wherein said first TM-UWB radar receives signal returns that correspond to said further UWB pulses transmitted by said second TM-UWB radar, and

wherein said processor detects intrusion based on at least said signal returns that correspond to said further UWB pulses transmitted by said second TM-UWB radar.

**27.** The system of claim 24, wherein said first TM-UWB radar receives signal returns that correspond to said UWB pulses transmitted by said first TM-UWB radar and signal returns that correspond to said further UWB pulses transmitted by said second TM-UWB radar, and

wherein said processor detects intrusion based on said signal returns that correspond to said UWB pulses transmitted by said first TM-UWB radar and said signal returns that correspond to said further UWB pulses transmitted by said second TM-UWB radar.

**28.** A method for detecting intrusion, comprising the steps of:

a. transmitting ultra wideband (UWB) pulses from a first location, wherein said UWB pulses have a wavelength corresponding to the center frequency of said UWB pulses;

b. transmitting further UWB pulses having said wavelength from a second location, wherein said second location is spaced a distance from said first location, said distance being greater than  $\frac{1}{4}$  of said wavelength;

c. receiving signal returns at at least said first location; and

d. detecting intrusion based on said signal returns.

**29.** The method of claim 28, wherein said step d. comprises the steps of:

i. generating an image based on said signal returns; and

ii. detecting intrusion based on said image.

**30.** The method of claim 28, wherein said step d. comprises the steps of:

i. generating reflectogram data based on said signal returns;

ii. generating an image based on said reflectogram data; and

iii. detecting intrusion based on said image.

**31.** The method of claim 30, wherein said step d.iii. comprises the steps of:

(1) subtracting said image from a clutter map to thereby create a differential map; and

(2) detecting intrusion based on said differential map.

**32.** The method of claim 31, wherein said step d.iii.(2) comprises the steps of:

(a) updating a track file based on said differential map;

(b) tracking movement of an object based on said track file; and

(c) triggering an alarm based on said movement.

**33.** The method of claim 28, further comprising the step of determining relative positions of said first location and said second location with respect to one another prior to said step d..

**34.** The method of claim 33, wherein said step of determining relative positions comprises the steps of:

i. receiving additional UWB pulses, at said first and second locations;

ii. generating calibration data based on said additional UWB pulses; and

iii. determining said relative positions based on said calibration data.

**35.** The method of claim 34, wherein said additional UWB pulses are generated by a transmitter moving along a calibration path.

**36.** The method of claim 28, wherein said step d. comprises the step of:

i. determining whether an alarm condition has been met based on said signal returns.

**37.** The method of claim 28, wherein step c. comprises the step of receiving signal returns at said first location and said second location, and wherein step d. comprises the step of detecting intrusion based on said signal returns received at said first location and said second location.

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