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(54) **UNMANNED DEVICE UTILIZATION METHODS AND SYSTEMS**

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B64C 39/02 (2006.01)

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(57) **ABSTRACT**

Structures and protocols are presented for configuring an unmanned aerial device to perform a task, alone or in combination with other entities, or for using data resulting from such a configuration or performance.

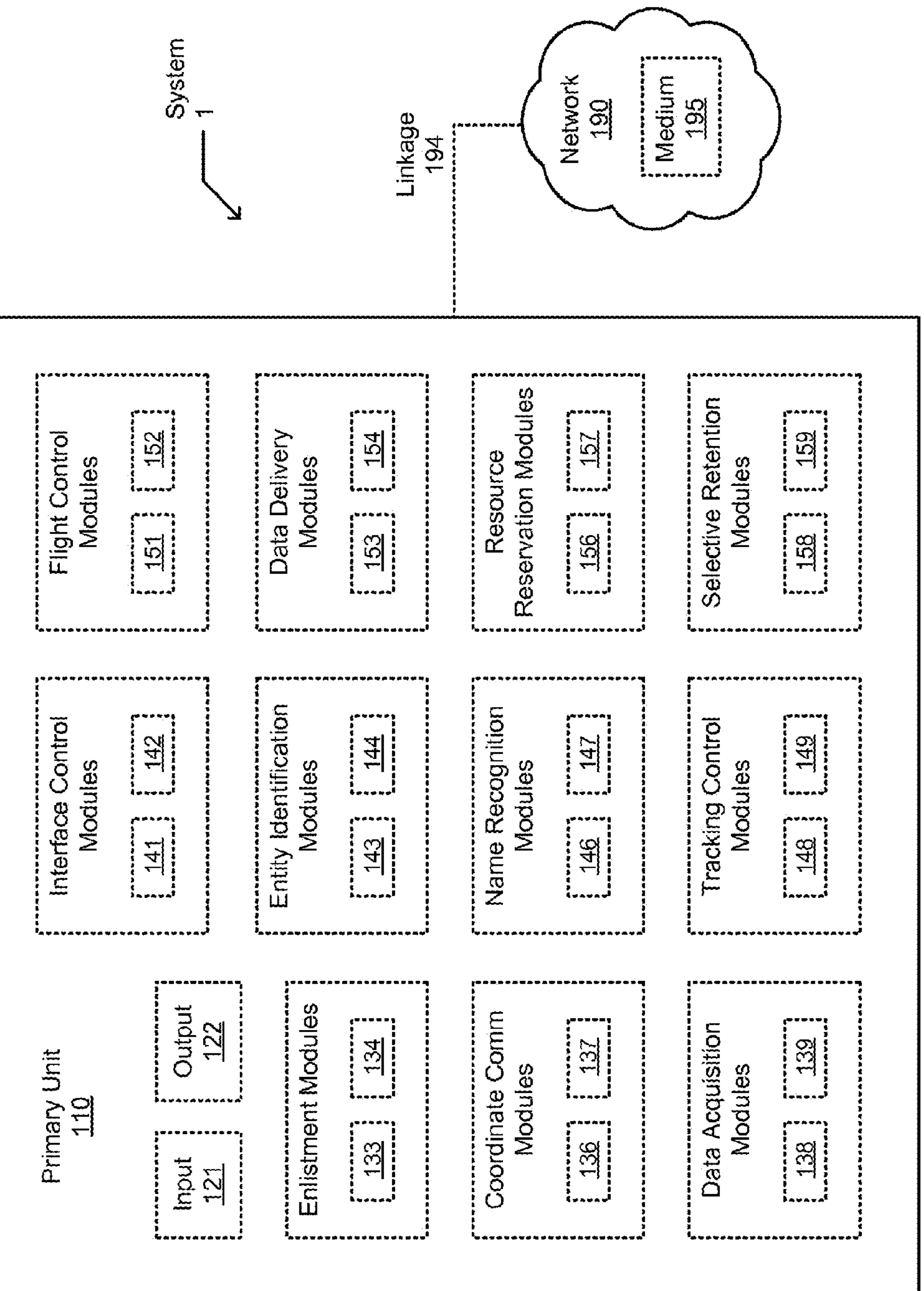

System 1
Linkage 194
Network 190
Medium 195
Primary Unit 110
Input 121
Output 122
Interface Control Modules
141
142
Flight Control Modules
151
152
Enlistment Modules
133
134
Entity Identification Modules
143
144
Data Delivery Modules
153
154
Coordinate Comm Modules
136
137
Name Recognition Modules
146
147
Resource Reservation Modules
156
157
Data Acquisition Modules
138
139
Tracking Control Modules
148
149
Selective Retention Modules
158
159

FIG. 1

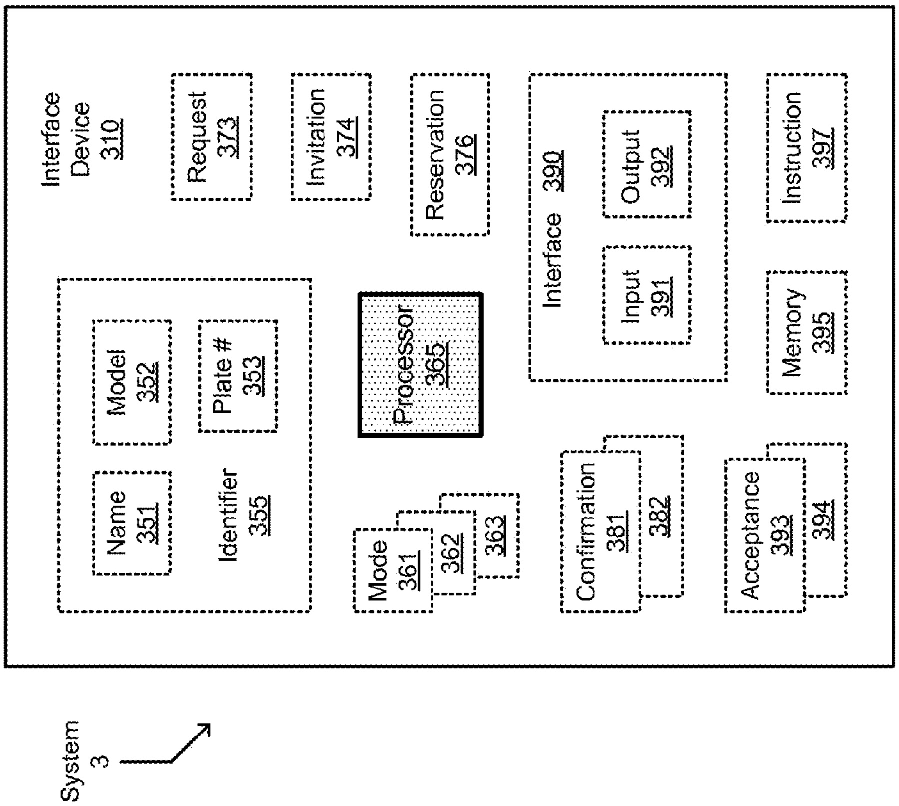

System
3
Interface
Device
310
Name
351
Model
352
Plate #
353
Identifier
355
Request
373
Invitation
374
Reservation
376
Mode
361
362
363
Processor
365
Confirmation
381
382
Interface 390
Input
391
Output
392
Acceptance
393
394
Memory
395
Instruction
397

FIG. 3

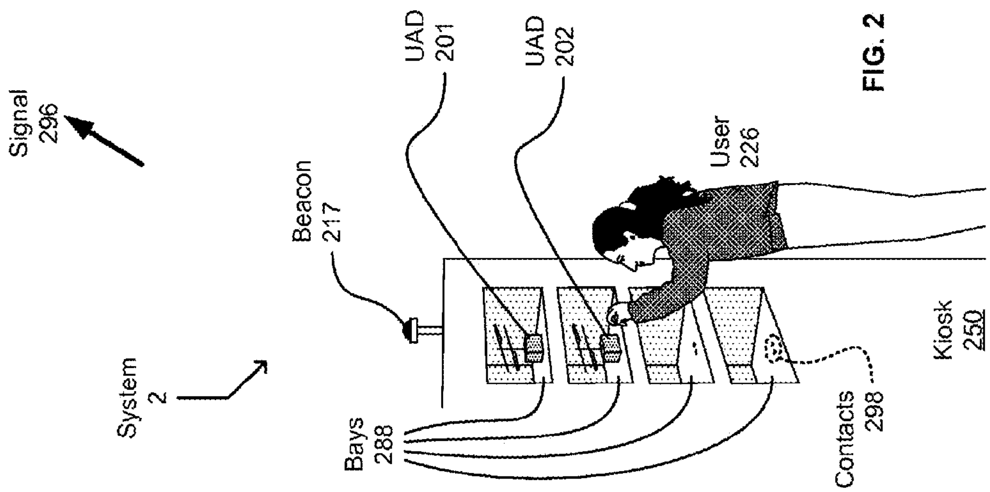

Signal
296
System
2
Beacon
217
UAD
201
UAD
202
User
226
Bays
288
Contacts
298
Kiosk
250

FIG. 2

FIG. 4

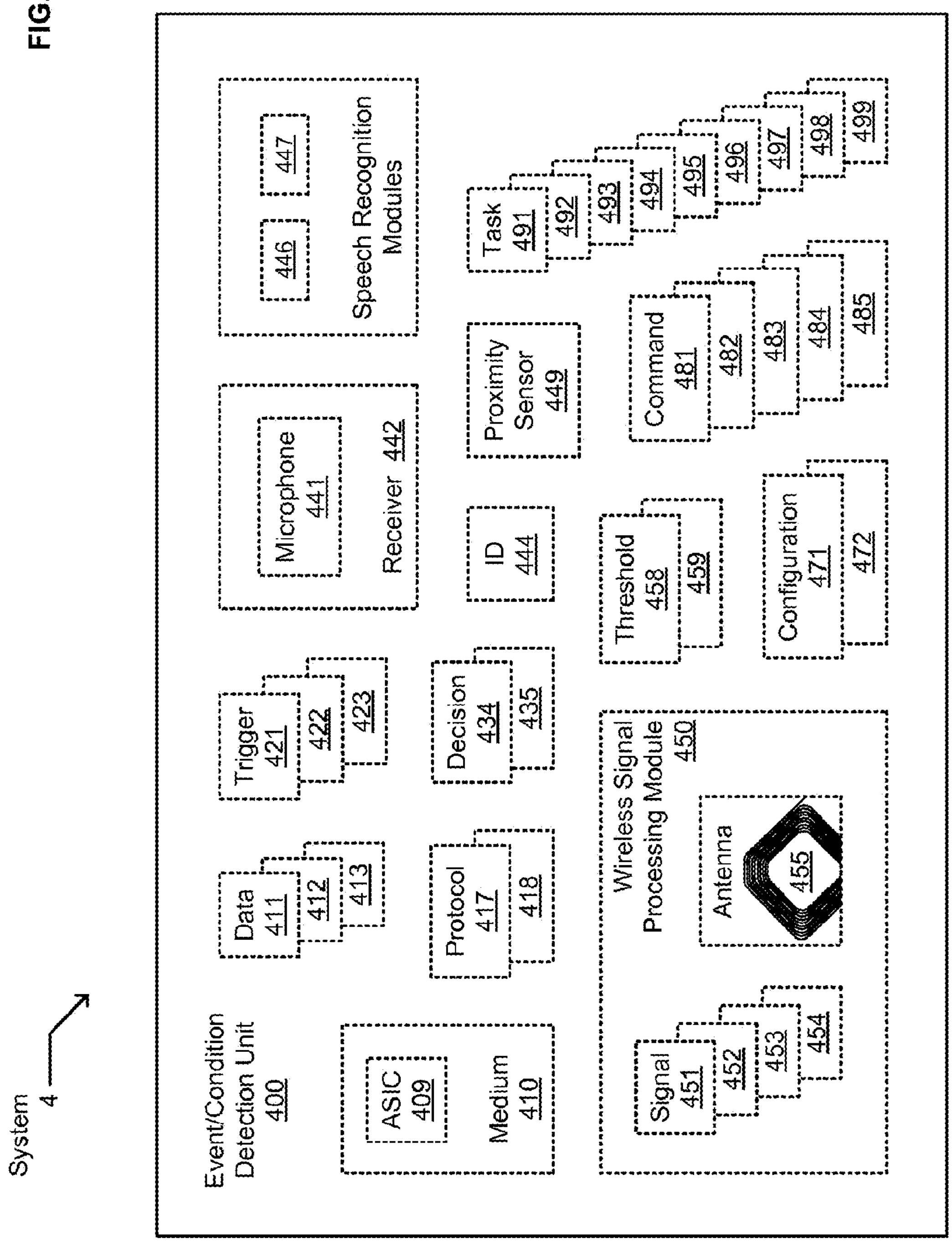

System
4
Event/Condition
Detection Unit
400
ASIC
409
Medium
410
Data
411
412
413
Trigger
421
422
423
Protocol
417
418
Decision
434
435
Microphone
441
Receiver 442
ID
444
Proximity
Sensor
449
Speech Recognition
Modules
446
447
Wireless Signal
Processing Module
450
Signal
451
452
453
454
Antenna
455
Threshold
458
459
Configuration
471
472
Command
481
482
483
484
485
Task
491
492
493
494
495
496
497
498
499

FIG. 5

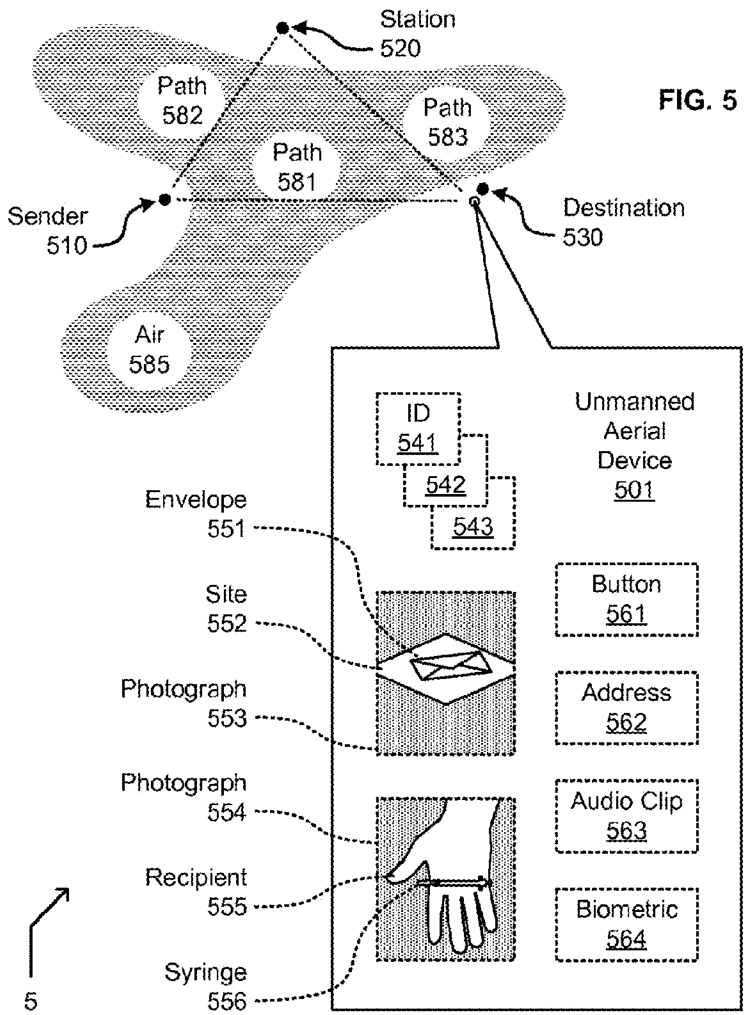

Station
520
Path
582
Path
583
Path
581
Sender
510
Destination
530
Air
585
ID
541
542
543
Unmanned
Aerial
Device
501
Envelope
551
Site
552
Photograph
553
Photograph
554
Recipient
555
Syringe
556
Button
561
Address
562
Audio Clip
563
Biometric
564
5

FIG. 15

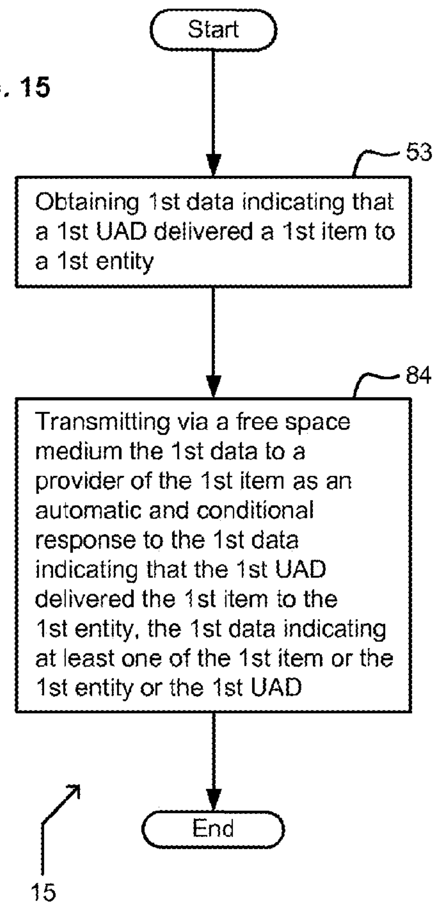
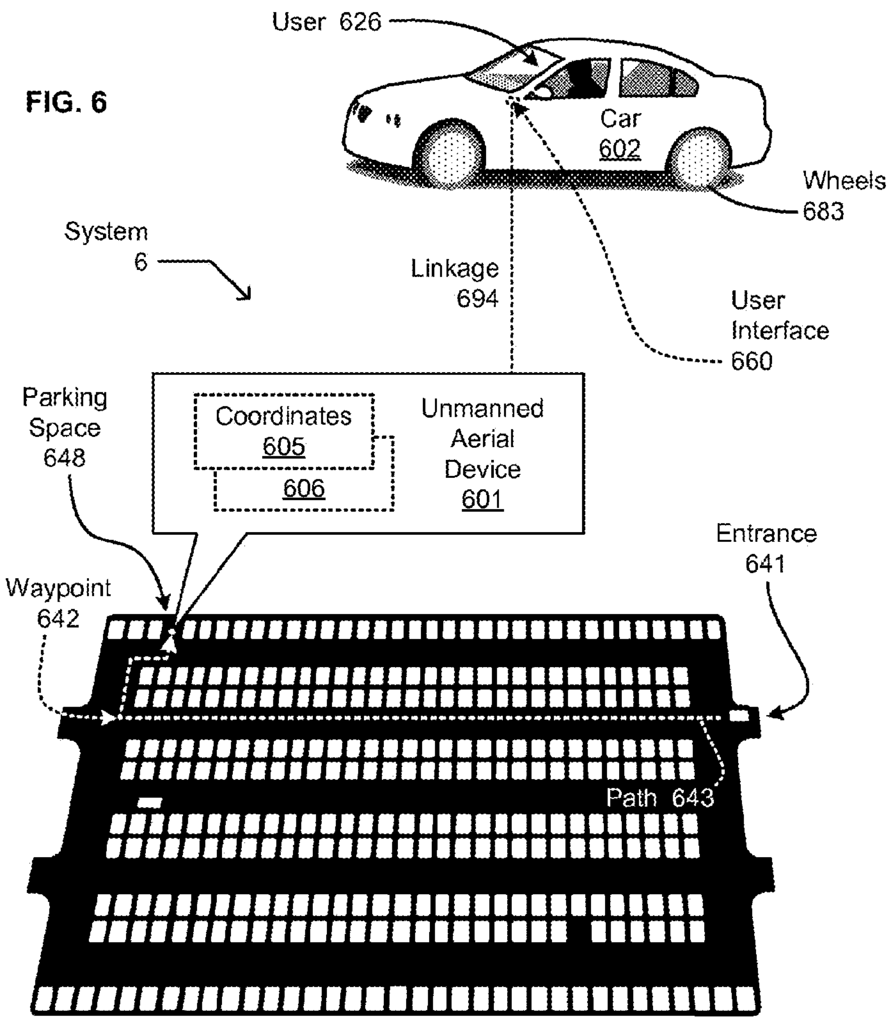

Start
53
Obtaining 1st data indicating that a 1st UAD delivered a 1st item to a 1st entity
84
Transmitting via a free space medium the 1st data to a provider of the 1st item as an automatic and conditional response to the 1st data indicating that the 1st UAD delivered the 1st item to the 1st entity, the 1st data indicating at least one of the 1st item or the 1st entity or the 1st UAD
End
15

FIG. 6


User 626
Car
602
Wheels
683
System
6
Linkage
694
User
Interface
660
Parking
Space
648
Coordinates
605
606
Unmanned
Aerial
Device
601
Waypoint
642
Entrance
641
Path 643

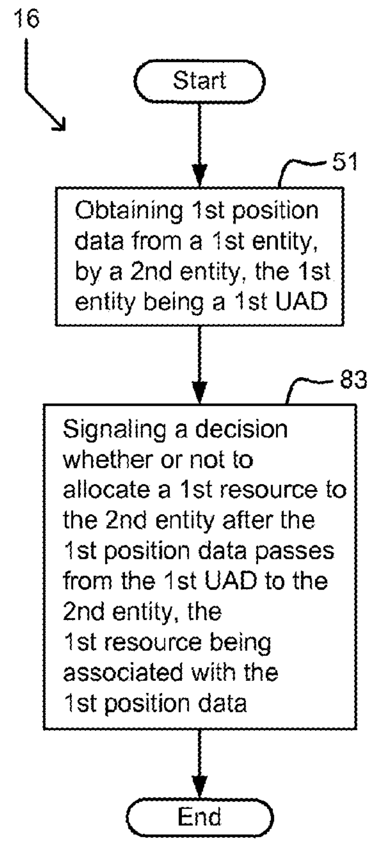

16
Start
51
Obtaining 1st position data from a 1st entity, by a 2nd entity, the 1st entity being a 1st UAD
83
Signaling a decision whether or not to allocate a 1st resource to the 2nd entity after the 1st position data passes from the 1st UAD to the 2nd entity, the 1st resource being associated with the 1st position data
End

FIG. 16

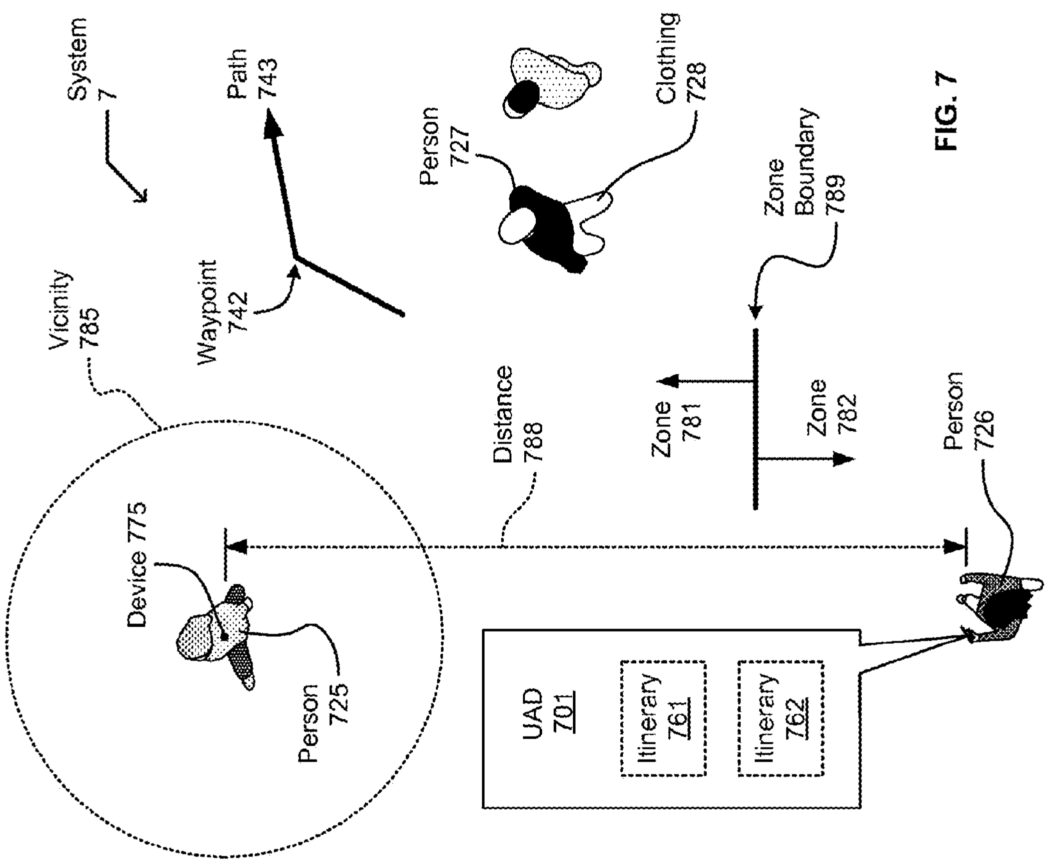

System
7
Vicinity
785
Device 775
Person
725
Waypoint
742
Path
743
Distance
788
Person
727
Clothing
728
Zone
781
Zone
782
Zone
Boundary
789
UAD
701
Itinerary
761
Itinerary
762
Person
726

FIG. 7

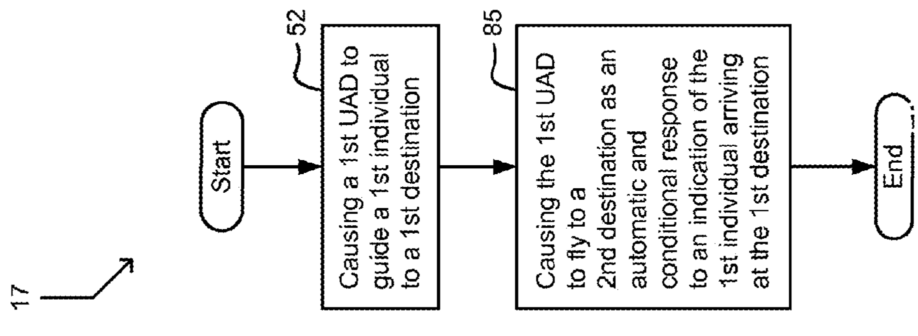

17
Start
52
Causing a 1st UAD to guide a 1st individual to a 1st destination
85
Causing the 1st UAD to fly to a 2nd destination as an automatic and conditional response to an indication of the 1st individual arriving at the 1st destination
End

FIG. 17

FIG. 8

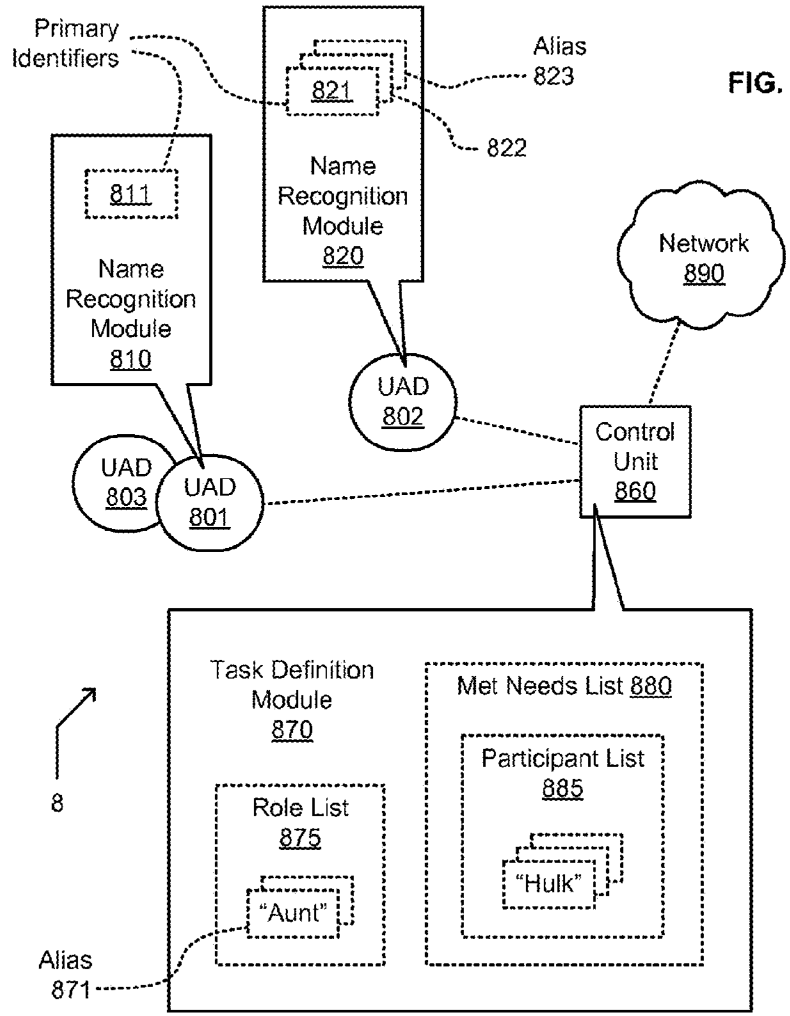
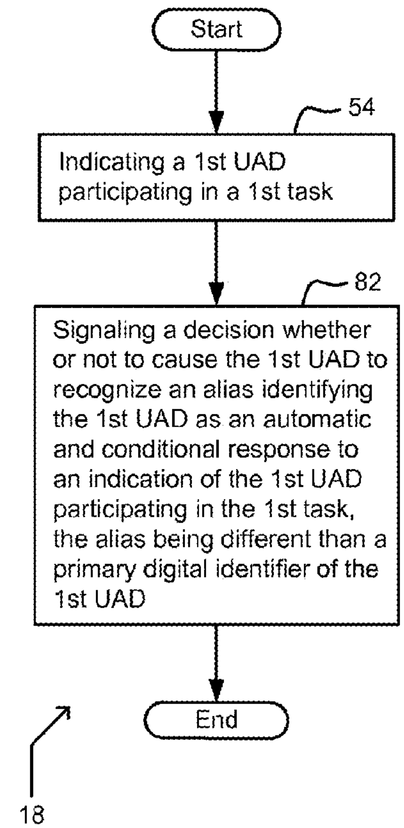

Primary Identifiers
811
Name Recognition Module 810
821
Alias 823
822
Name Recognition Module 820
UAD 803
UAD 801
UAD 802
Network 890
Control Unit 860
Task Definition Module 870
Role List 875
"Aunt"
Met Needs List 880
Participant List 885
"Hulk"
Alias 871
8

FIG. 18


Start
54
Indicating a 1st UAD participating in a 1st task
82
Signaling a decision whether or not to cause the 1st UAD to recognize an alias identifying the 1st UAD as an automatic and conditional response to an indication of the 1st UAD participating in the 1st task, the alias being different than a primary digital identifier of the 1st UAD
End
18

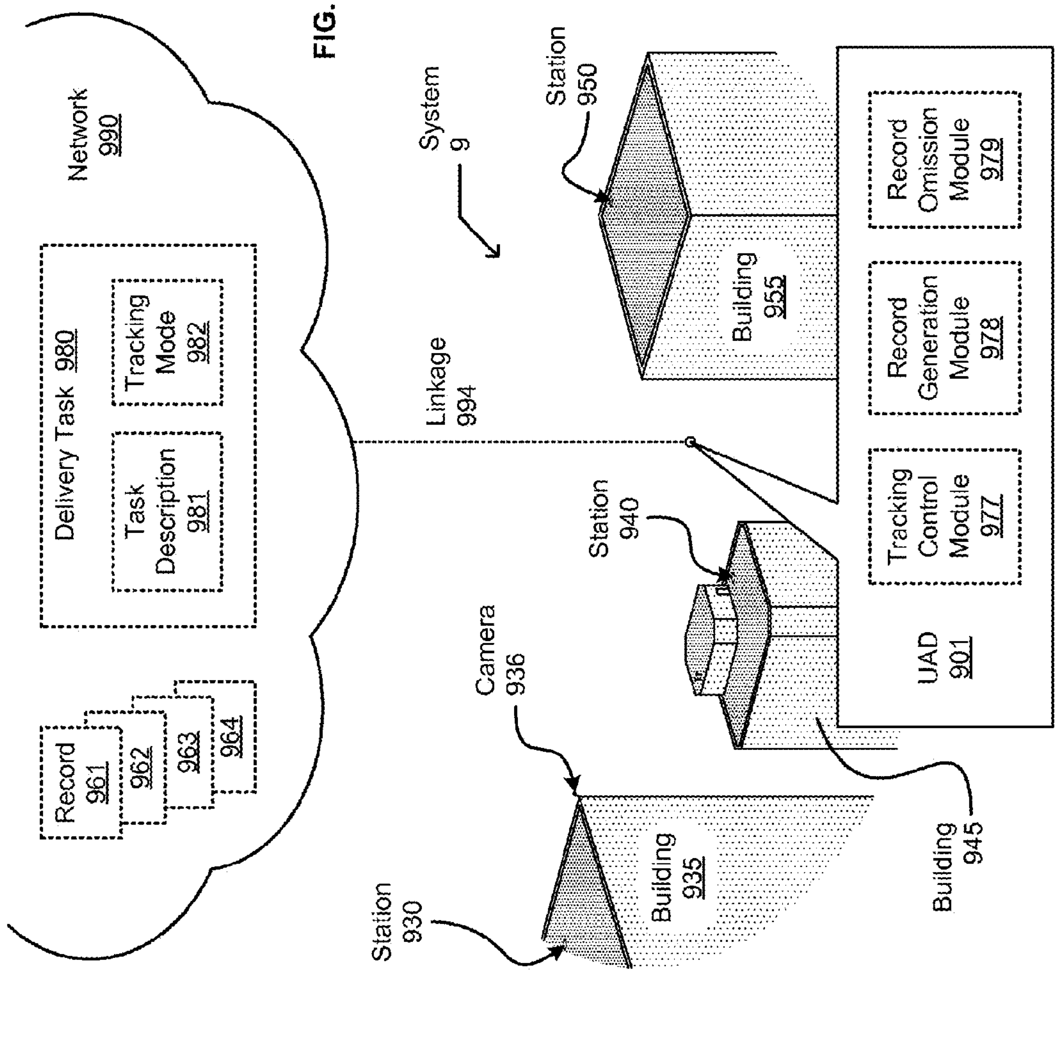

Network
990
Record
961
962
963
964
Delivery Task 980
Task
Description
981
Tracking
Mode
982
Linkage
994
System
9
Station
930
Building
935
Camera
936
Station
940
Building
945
Station
950
Building
955
UAD
901
Tracking
Control
Module
977
Record
Generation
Module
978
Record
Omission
Module
979

FIG. 9

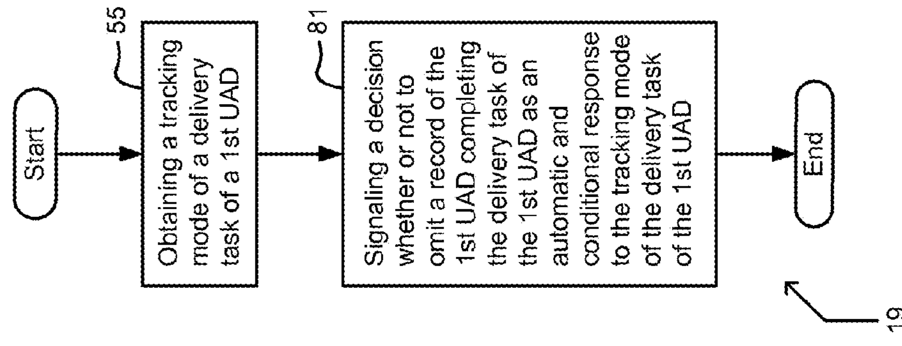
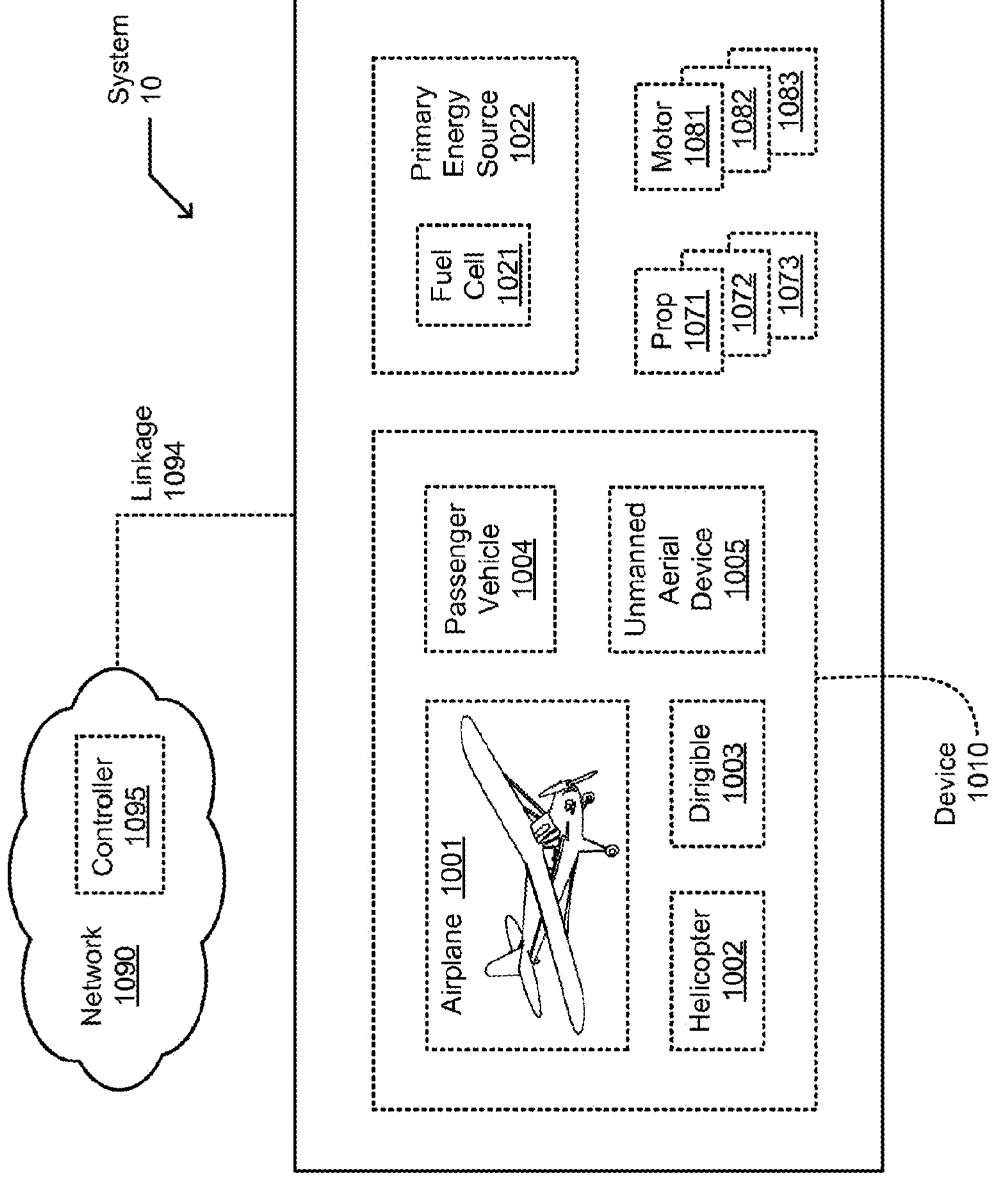

Start
55
Obtaining a tracking mode of a delivery task of a 1st UAD
81
Signaling a decision whether or not to omit a record of the 1st UAD completing the delivery task of the 1st UAD as an automatic and conditional response to the tracking mode of the delivery task of the 1st UAD
End
19

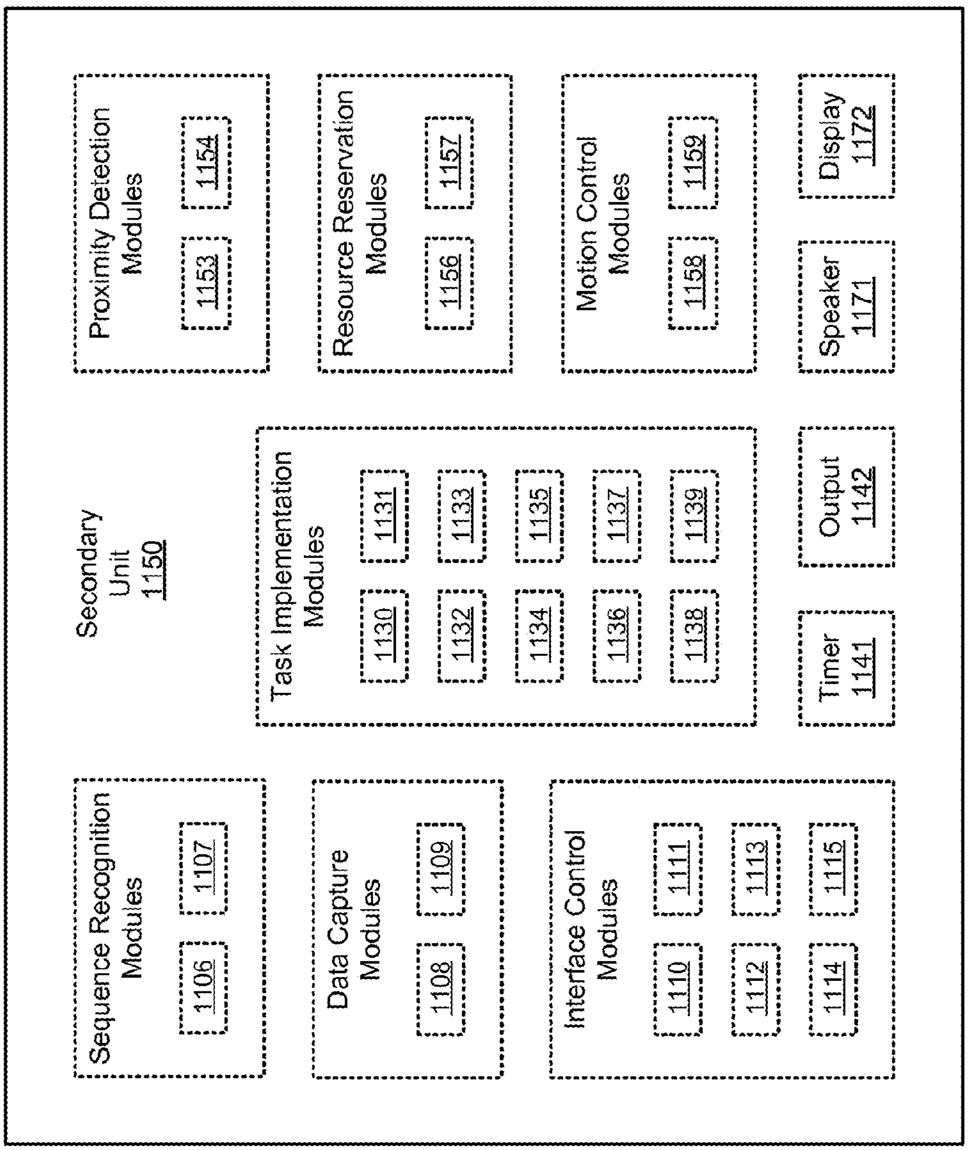
FIG. 19

FIG. 10



System 10
Network 1090
Controller 1095
Linkage 1094
Airplane 1001
Helicopter 1002
Dirigible 1003
Passenger Vehicle 1004
Unmanned Aerial Device 1005
Device 1010
Fuel Cell 1021
Primary Energy Source 1022
Prop 1071
1072
1073
Motor 1081
1082
1083
GPS 1063
Timer 1064
Controller 1085

FIG. 11


Secondary Unit 1150
Sequence Recognition Modules
1106
1107
Data Capture Modules
1108
1109
Interface Control Modules
1110
1111
1112
1113
1114
1115
Task Implementation Modules
1130
1131
1132
1133
1134
1135
1136
1137
1138
1139
Timer 1141
Output 1142
Proximity Detection Modules
1153
1154
Resource Reservation Modules
1156
1157
Motion Control Modules
1158
1159
Speaker 1171
Display 1172

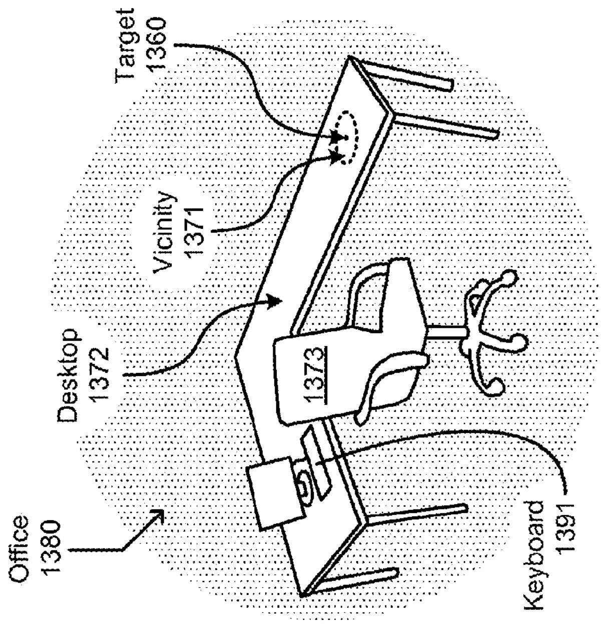

Target
1360
Vicinity
1371
Desktop
1372
1373
Office
1380
Keyboard
1391

FIG. 13

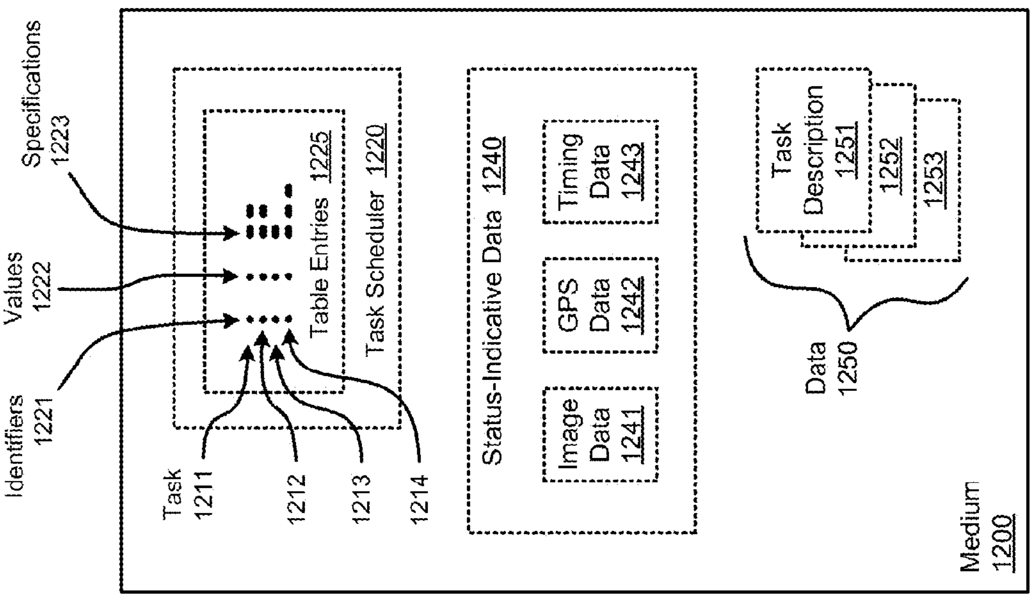

Identifiers
1221
Values
1222
Specifications
1223
Task
1211
1212
1213
1214
Table Entries 1225
Task Scheduler 1220
Status-Indicative Data 1240
Image
Data
1241
GPS
Data
1242
Timing
Data
1243
Task
Description
1251
1252
1253
Data
1250
Medium
1200

FIG. 12

FIG. 14

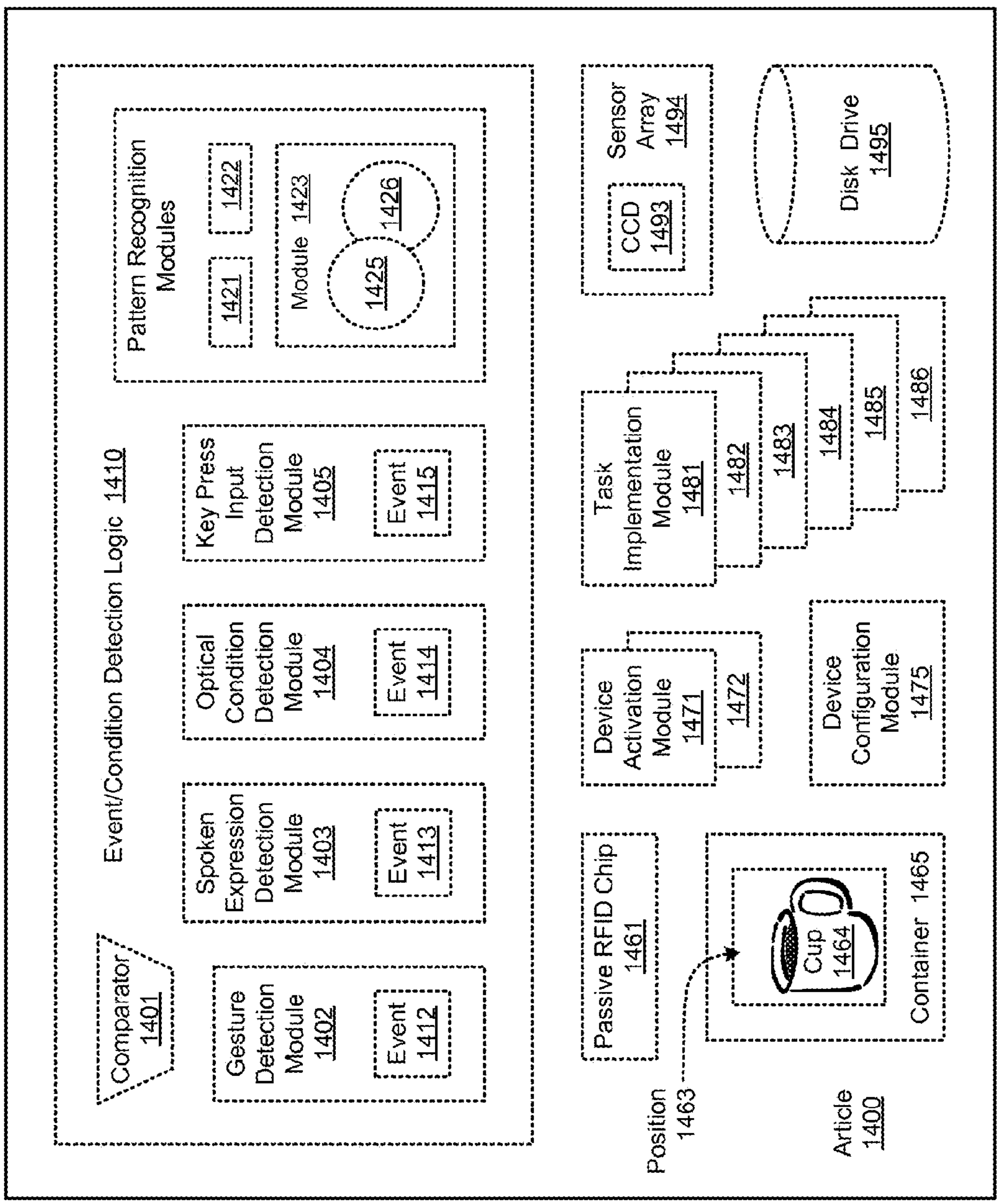
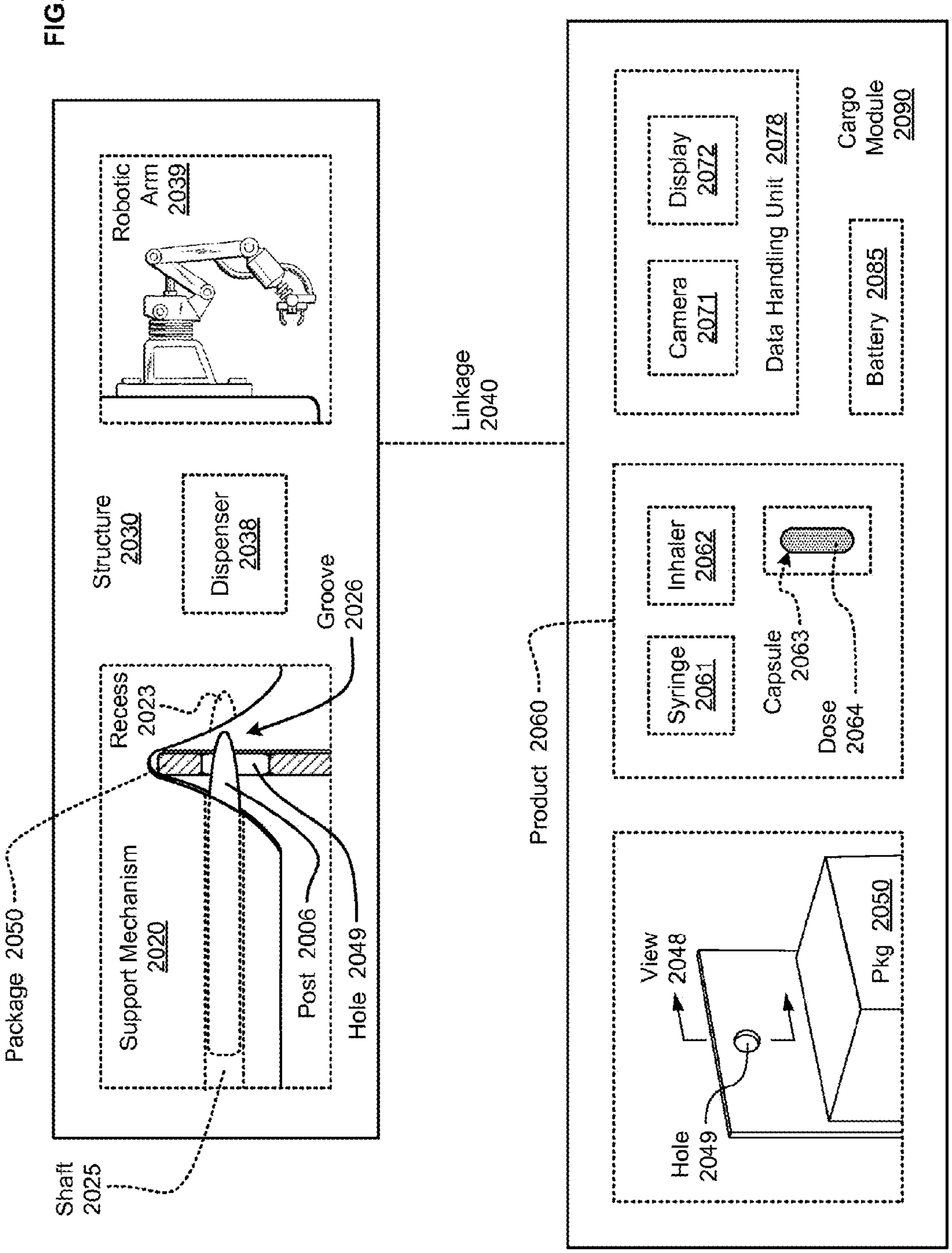

Event/Condition Detection Logic 1410
Comparator 1401
Gesture Detection Module 1402
Event 1412
Spoken Expression Detection Module 1403
Event 1413
Optical Condition Detection Module 1404
Event 1414
Key Press Input Detection Module 1405
Event 1415
Pattern Recognition Modules
1421
1422
Module 1423
1425
1426
Sensor Array 1494
CCD 1493
Disk Drive 1495
Task Implementation Module 1481
1482
1483
1484
1485
1486
Device Activation Module 1471
1472
Device Configuration Module 1475
Passive RFID Chip 1461
Cup 1464
Container 1465
Position 1463
Article 1400

FIG. 20


Package 2050
Shaft 2025
Support Mechanism 2020
Post 2006
Hole 2049
Recess 2023
Groove 2026
Structure 2030
Dispenser 2038
Robotic Arm 2039
Linkage 2040
Product 2060
Syringe 2061
Inhaler 2062
Capsule 2063
Dose 2064
Camera 2071
Display 2072
Data Handling Unit 2078
Battery 2085
Cargo Module 2090
Hole 2049
View 2048
Pkg 2050

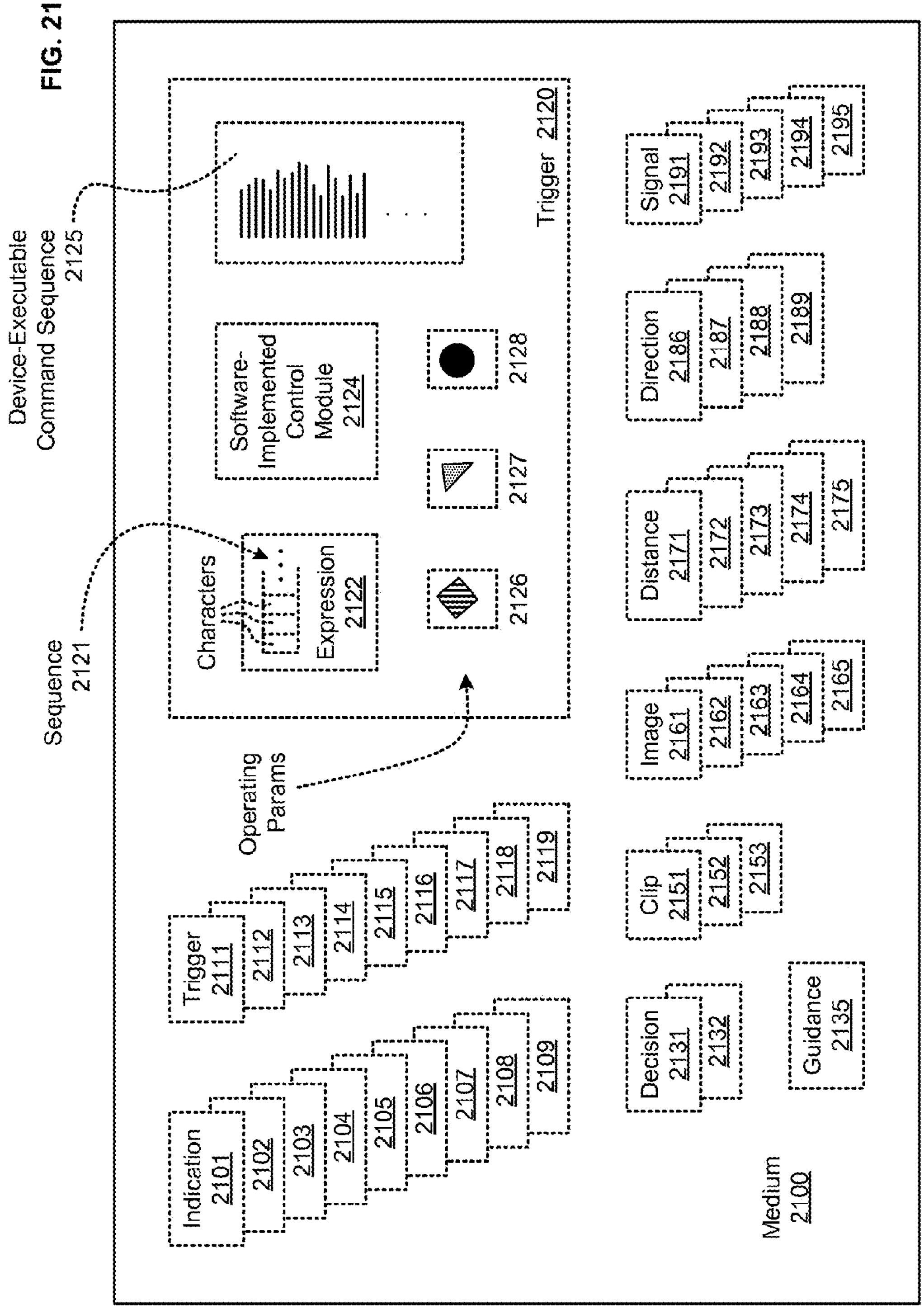
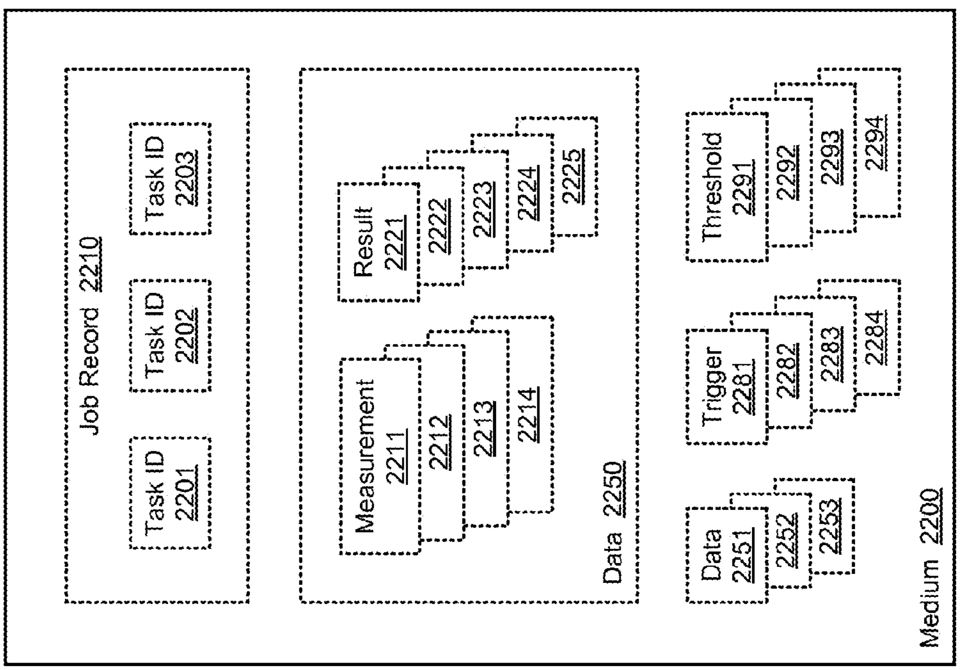

Device-Executable Command Sequence 2125
Sequence 2121
Characters
Expression 2122
Software-Implemented Control Module 2124
Trigger 2120
2126
2127
2128
Operating Params
Indication 2101
2102
2103
2104
2105
2106
2107
2108
2109
Trigger 2111
2112
2113
2114
2115
2116
2117
2118
2119
Decision 2131
2132
Guidance 2135
Clip 2151
2152
2153
Image 2161
2162
2163
2164
2165
Distance 2171
2172
2173
2174
2175
Direction 2186
2187
2188
2189
Signal 2191
2192
2193
2194
2195
Medium 2100

FIG. 21

FIG. 22


Job Record 2210
Task ID 2201
Task ID 2202
Task ID 2203
Measurement 2211
2212
2213
2214
Result 2221
2222
2223
2224
2225
Data 2250
Data 2251
2252
2253
Trigger 2281
2282
2283
2284
Threshold 2291
2292
2293
2294
Medium 2200

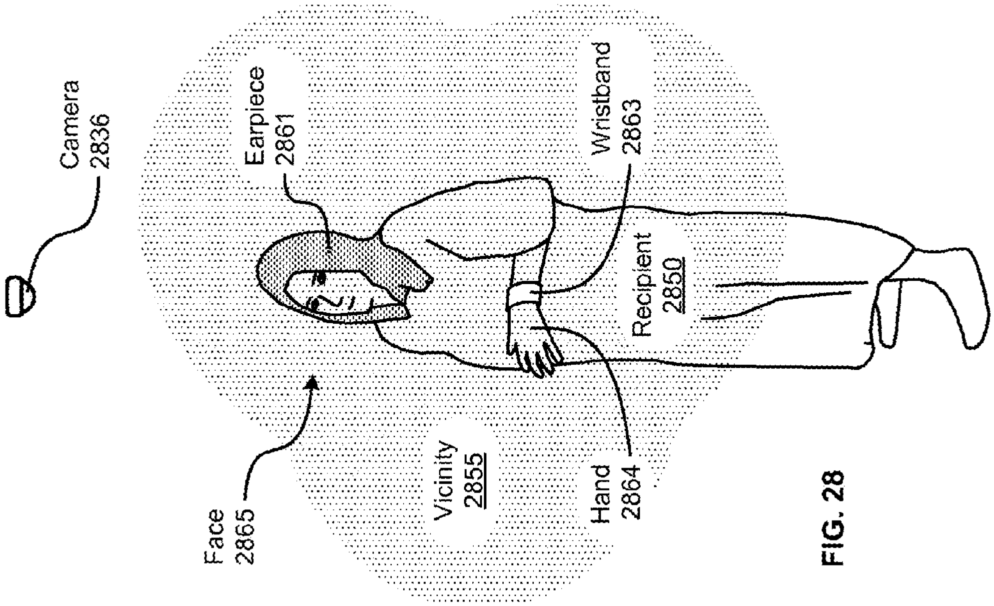

Camera 2836
Earpiece 2861
Wristband 2863
Recipient 2850
Face 2865
Vicinity 2855
Hand 2864

FIG. 28

FIG. 23

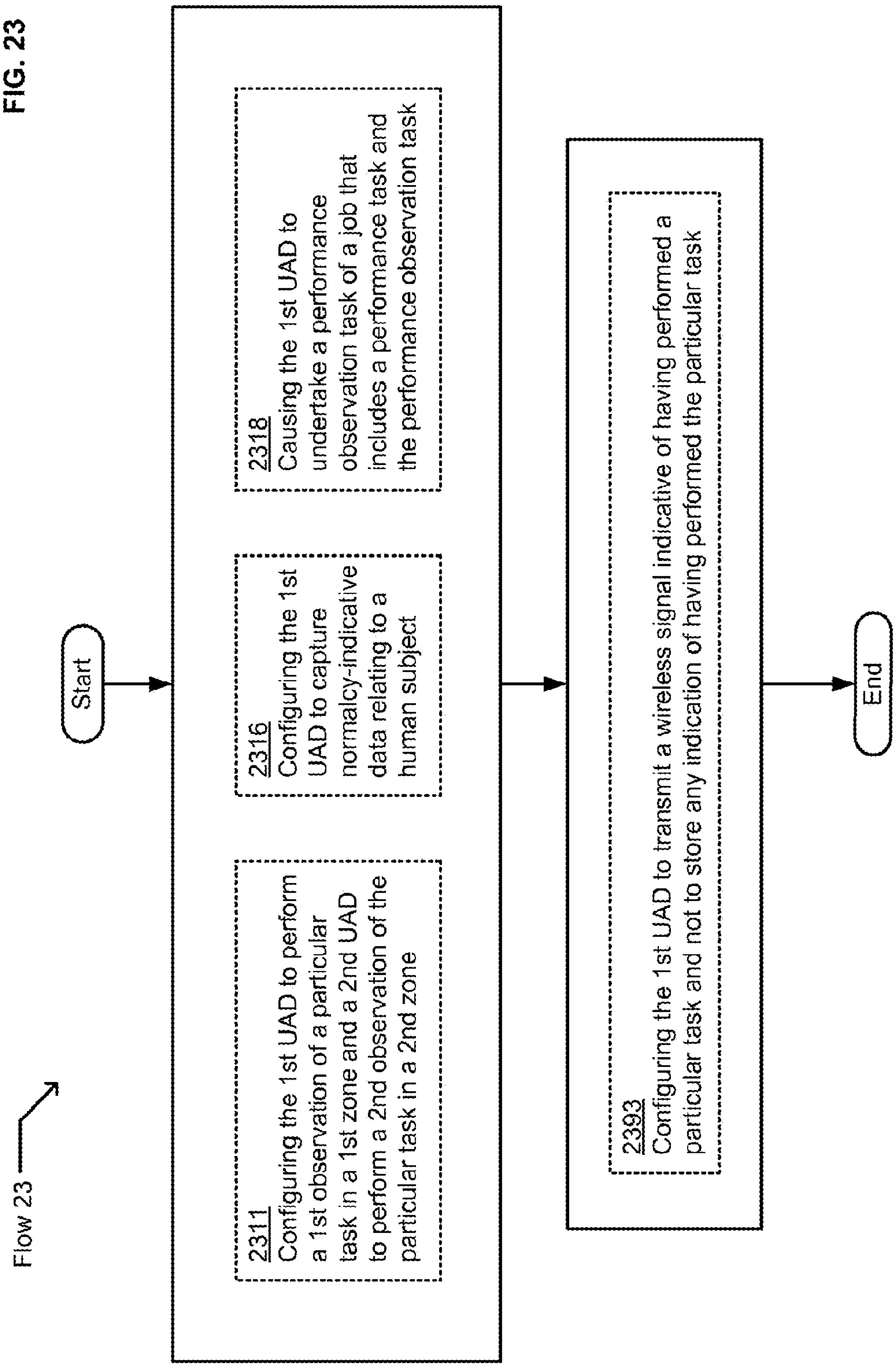
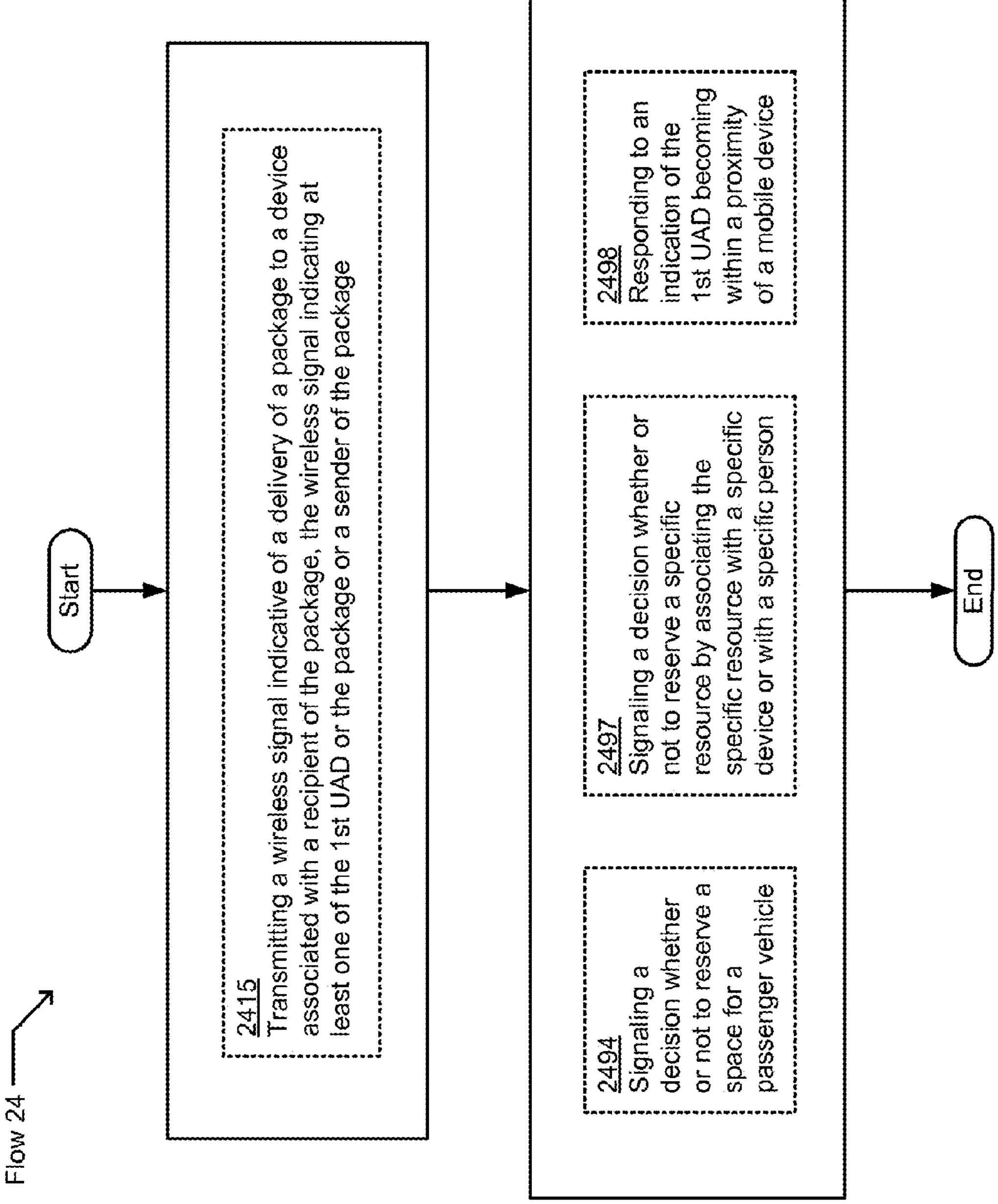
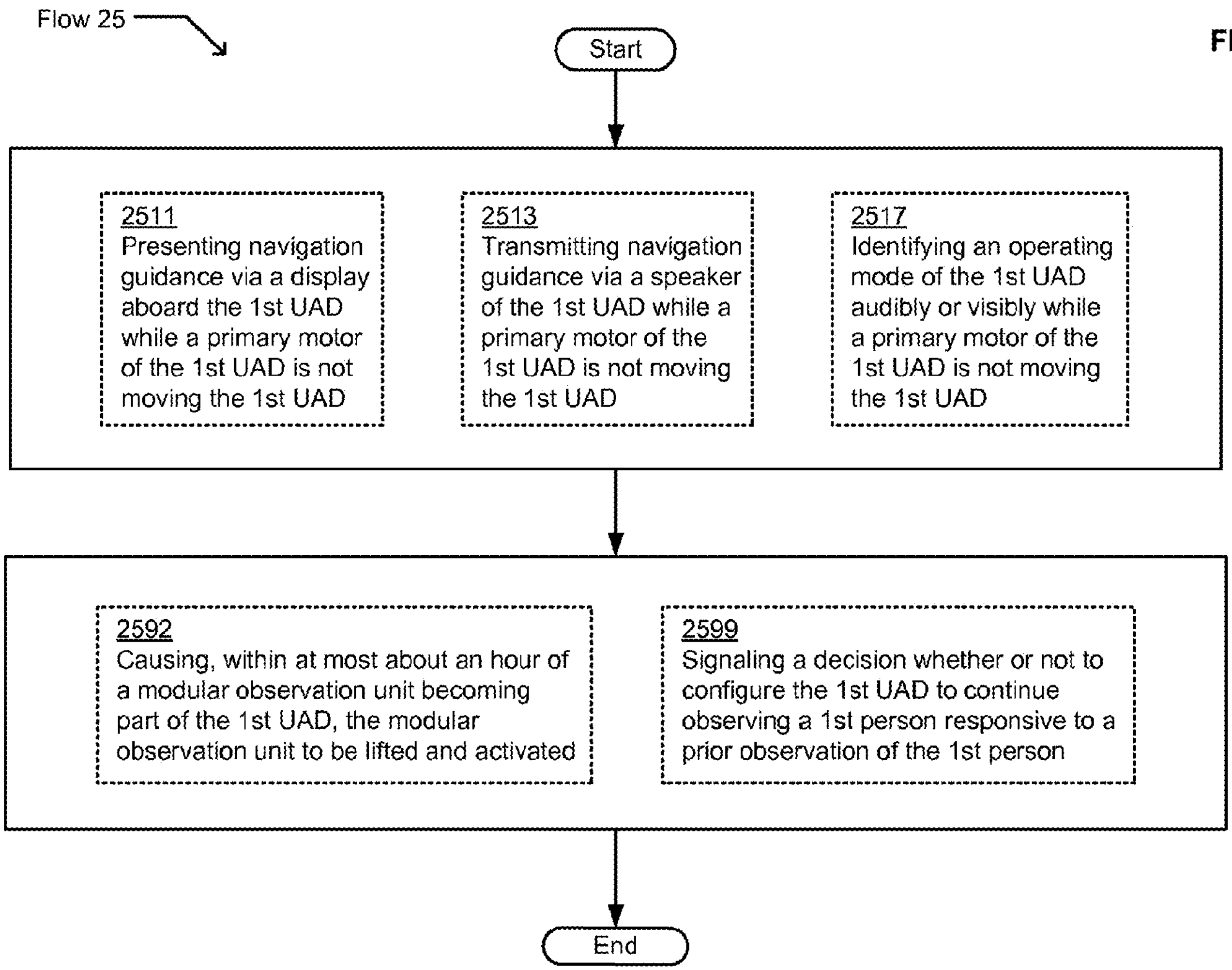

Flow 23
Start
2311
Configuring the 1st UAD to perform a 1st observation of a particular task in a 1st zone and a 2nd UAD to perform a 2nd observation of the particular task in a 2nd zone
2316
Configuring the 1st UAD to capture normalcy-indicative data relating to a human subject
2318
Causing the 1st UAD to undertake a performance observation task of a job that includes a performance task and the performance observation task
2393
Configuring the 1st UAD to transmit a wireless signal indicative of having performed a particular task and not to store any indication of having performed the particular task
End

FIG. 24



Flow 24
Start
2415
Transmitting a wireless signal indicative of a delivery of a package to a device associated with a recipient of the package, the wireless signal indicating at least one of the 1st UAD or the package or a sender of the package
2494
Signaling a decision whether or not to reserve a space for a passenger vehicle
2497
Signaling a decision whether or not to reserve a specific resource by associating the specific resource with a specific device or with a specific person
2498
Responding to an indication of the 1st UAD becoming within a proximity of a mobile device
End

FIG. 25


Flow 25
Start
2511
Presenting navigation guidance via a display aboard the 1st UAD while a primary motor of the 1st UAD is not moving the 1st UAD
2513
Transmitting navigation guidance via a speaker of the 1st UAD while a primary motor of the 1st UAD is not moving the 1st UAD
2517
Identifying an operating mode of the 1st UAD audibly or visibly while a primary motor of the 1st UAD is not moving the 1st UAD
2592
Causing, within at most about an hour of a modular observation unit becoming part of the 1st UAD, the modular observation unit to be lifted and activated
2599
Signaling a decision whether or not to configure the 1st UAD to continue observing a 1st person responsive to a prior observation of the 1st person
End

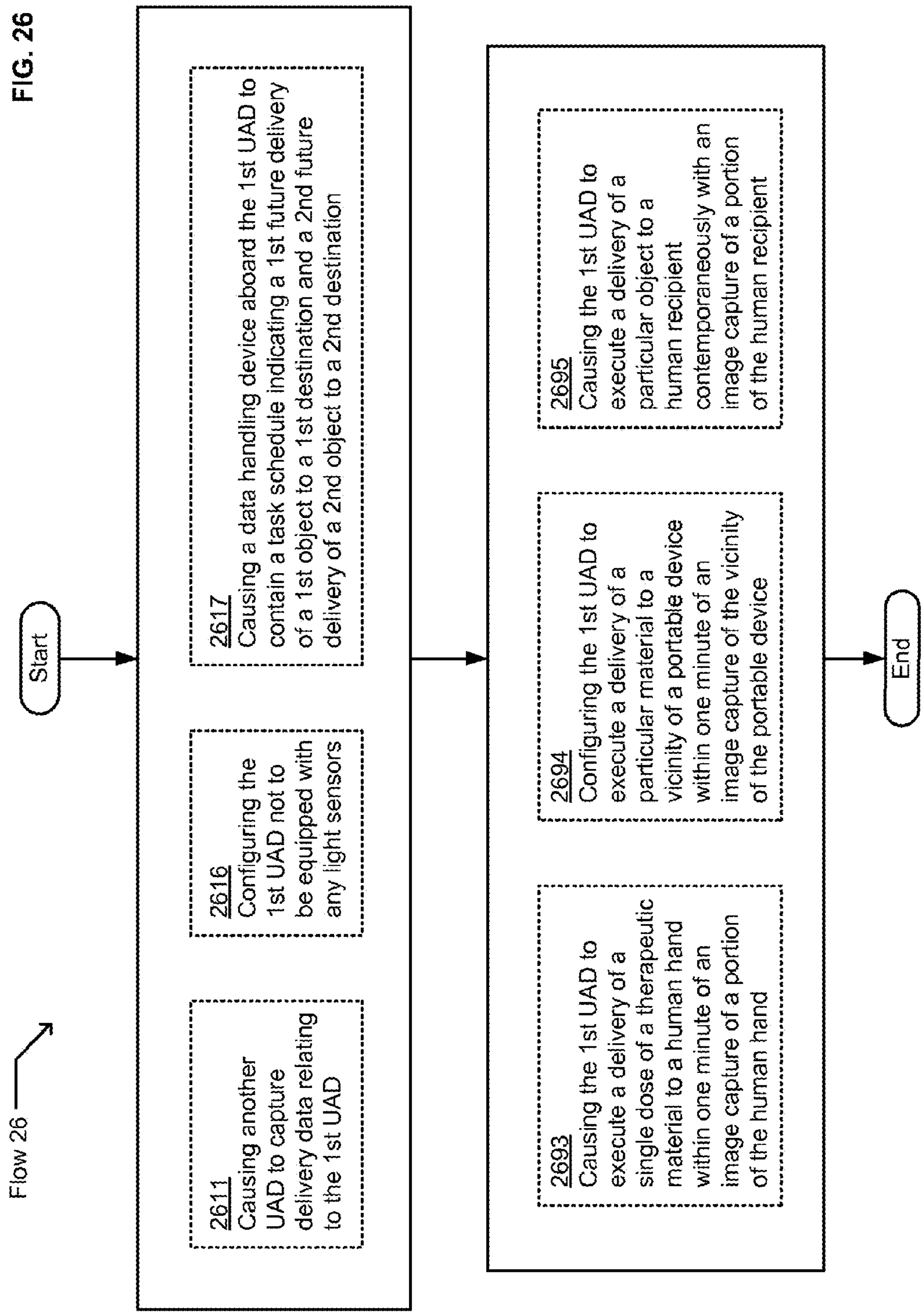
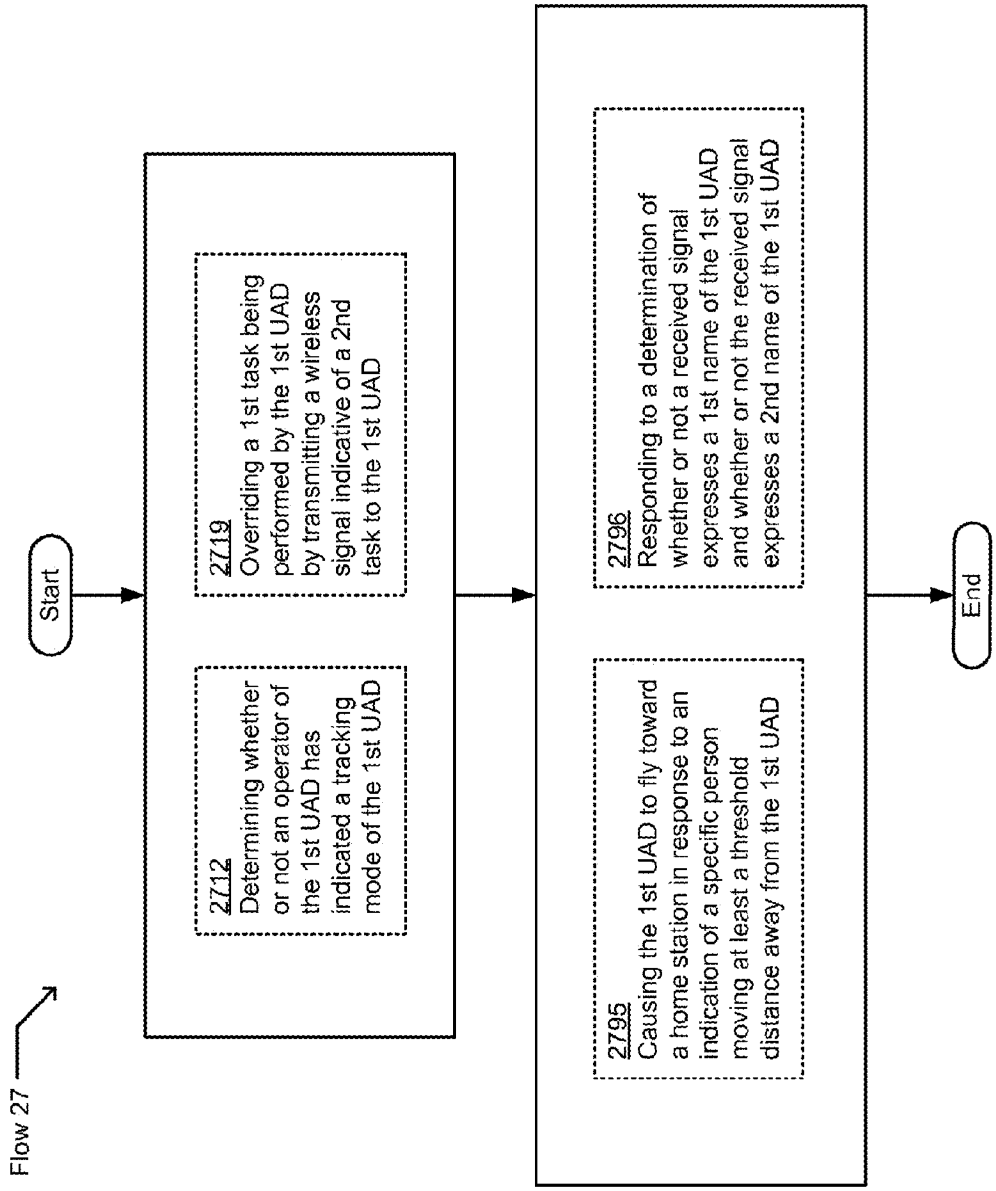

Flow 26
Start
2611 Causing another UAD to capture delivery data relating to the 1st UAD
2616 Configuring the 1st UAD not to be equipped with any light sensors
2617 Causing a data handling device aboard the 1st UAD to contain a task schedule indicating a 1st future delivery of a 1st object to a 1st destination and a 2nd future delivery of a 2nd object to a 2nd destination
2693 Causing the 1st UAD to execute a delivery of a single dose of a therapeutic material to a human hand within one minute of an image capture of a portion of the human hand
2694 Configuring the 1st UAD to execute a delivery of a particular material to a vicinity of a portable device within one minute of an image capture of the vicinity of the portable device
2695 Causing the 1st UAD to execute a delivery of a particular object to a human recipient contemporaneously with an image capture of a portion of the human recipient
End

FIG. 26

FIG. 27


Flow 27
Start
2712
Determining whether or not an operator of the 1st UAD has indicated a tracking mode of the 1st UAD
2719
Overriding a 1st task being performed by the 1st UAD by transmitting a wireless signal indicative of a 2nd task to the 1st UAD
2795
Causing the 1st UAD to fly toward a home station in response to an indication of a specific person moving at least a threshold distance away from the 1st UAD
2796
Responding to a determination of whether or not a received signal expresses a 1st name of the 1st UAD and whether or not the received signal expresses a 2nd name of the 1st UAD
End

UNMANNED DEVICE UTILIZATION METHODS AND SYSTEMS

CROSS-REFERENCE TO RELATED APPLICATIONS

[0001] The present application is related to and claims the benefit of the earliest available effective filing date(s) from the following listed application(s) (the "Related Applications") (e.g., claims earliest available priority dates for other than provisional patent applications or claims benefits under 35 USC §119(e) for provisional patent applications, for any and all parent, grandparent, great-grandparent, etc. applications of the Related Application(s)). All subject matter of the Related Applications and of any and all parent, grandparent, great-grandparent, etc. applications of the Related Applications, including any priority claims, is incorporated herein by reference to the extent such subject matter is not inconsistent herewith.

RELATED APPLICATIONS

[0002] For purposes of the USPTO extra-statutory requirements, the present application constitutes a continuation-in-part of {Attorney Docket Nos. 0212-035-001, 0212-035-002, 0212-035-003, 0212-035-005}, each entitled UNMANNED DEVICE UTILIZATION METHODS AND SYSTEMS, naming Royce A. Levien, Richard T. Lord, Robert W. Lord, Mark A. Malamud, John D. Rinaldo, Jr., and Lowell L. Wood, Jr., as inventors, filed on even date herewith, each of which is currently co-pending or is an application of which a currently co-pending application is entitled to the benefit of the filing date.

[0003] For purposes of the USPTO extra-statutory requirements, the present application claims benefit of priority of {Attorney Docket Nos. 0212-035-001, 0212-035-002, 0212-035-003, 0212-035-005}, each entitled UNMANNED DEVICE UTILIZATION METHODS AND SYSTEMS, naming Royce A. Levien, Richard T. Lord, Robert W. Lord, Mark A. Malamud, John D. Rinaldo, Jr., and Lowell L. Wood, Jr., as inventors, filed on even date herewith, each of which was filed within the twelve months preceding the filing date of the present application or is an application of which a currently co-pending application is entitled to the benefit of the filing date.

[0004] The United States Patent Office (USPTO) has published a notice to the effect that the USPTO's computer programs require that patent applicants reference both a serial number and indicate whether an application is a continuation, continuation-in-part, or divisional of a parent application. Stephen G. Kunin, Benefit of Prior-Filed Application, USPTO Official Gazette Mar. 18, 2003. The present Applicant Entity (hereinafter "Applicant") has provided above a specific reference to the application(s) from which priority is being claimed as recited by statute. Applicant understands that the statute is unambiguous in its specific reference language and does not require either a serial number or any characterization, such as "continuation" or "continuation-in-part," for claiming priority to U.S. patent applications. Notwithstanding the foregoing, Applicant understands that the USPTO's computer programs have certain data entry requirements, and hence Applicant has provided designation(s) of a relationship between the present application and its parent application(s) as set forth above, but expressly points out that such designation(s) are not to be construed in any way as any type of commentary and/or admission as to whether or not the present application contains any new matter in addition to the matter of its parent application(s).

BACKGROUND

[0005] The claims, description, and drawings of this application may describe one or more of the instant technologies in operational/functional language, for example as a set of operations to be performed by a computer. Such operational/functional description in most instances would be understood by one skilled the art as specifically-configured hardware (e.g., because a general purpose computer in effect becomes a special purpose computer once it is programmed to perform particular functions pursuant to instructions from program software).

[0006] Importantly, although the operational/functional descriptions described herein are understandable by the human mind, they are not abstract ideas of the operations/functions divorced from computational implementation of those operations/functions. Rather, the operations/functions represent a specification for the massively complex computational machines or other means. As discussed in detail below, the operational/functional language must be read in its proper technological context, i.e., as concrete specifications for physical implementations.

[0007] The logical operations/functions described herein are a distillation of machine specifications or other physical mechanisms specified by the operations/functions such that the otherwise inscrutable machine specifications may be comprehensible to the human mind. The distillation also allows one of skill in the art to adapt the operational/functional description of the technology across many different specific vendors' hardware configurations or platforms, without being limited to specific vendors' hardware configurations or platforms.

[0008] Some of the present technical description (e.g., detailed description, drawings, claims, etc.) may be set forth in terms of logical operations/functions. As described in more detail in the following paragraphs, these logical operations/functions are not representations of abstract ideas, but rather representative of static or sequenced specifications of various hardware elements. Differently stated, unless context dictates otherwise, the logical operations/functions will be understood by those of skill in the art to be representative of static or sequenced specifications of various hardware elements. This is true because tools available to one of skill in the art to implement technical disclosures set forth in operational/functional formats—tools in the form of a high-level programming language (e.g., C, java, visual basic), etc.), or tools in the form of Very high speed Hardware Description Language ("VHDL," which is a language that uses text to describe logic circuits)—are generators of static or sequenced specifications of various hardware configurations. This fact is sometimes obscured by the broad term "software," but, as shown by the following explanation, those skilled in the art understand that what is termed "software" is a shorthand for a massively complex interchaining/specification of ordered-matter elements. The term "ordered-matter elements" may refer to physical components of computation, such as assemblies of electronic logic gates, molecular computing logic constituents, quantum computing mechanisms, etc.

[0009] For example, a high-level programming language is a programming language with strong abstraction, e.g., multiple levels of abstraction, from the details of the sequential organizations, states, inputs, outputs, etc., of the machines that a high-level programming language actually specifies. See, e.g., Wikipedia, High-level programming language, http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/High-level_programming_language (as of Jun. 5, 2012, 21:00 GMT). In order to facilitate human comprehension, in many instances, high-level programming languages resemble or even share symbols with natural languages. See, e.g., Wikipedia, Natural language, http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Natural_language (as of Jun. 5, 2012, 21:00 GMT).

[0010] It has been argued that because high-level programming languages use strong abstraction (e.g., that they may resemble or share symbols with natural languages), they are therefore a "purely mental construct." (e.g., that "software"—a computer program or computer programming—is somehow an ineffable mental construct, because at a high level of abstraction, it can be conceived and understood in the human mind). This argument has been used to characterize technical description in the form of functions/operations as somehow "abstract ideas." In fact, in technological arts (e.g., the information and communication technologies) this is not true.

[0011] The fact that high-level programming languages use strong abstraction to facilitate human understanding should not be taken as an indication that what is expressed is an abstract idea. In fact, those skilled in the art understand that just the opposite is true. If a high-level programming language is the tool used to implement a technical disclosure in the form of functions/operations, those skilled in the art will recognize that, far from being abstract, imprecise, "fuzzy," or "mental" in any significant semantic sense, such a tool is instead a near incomprehensibly precise sequential specification of specific computational machines—the parts of which are built up by activating/selecting such parts from typically more general computational machines over time (e.g., clocked time). This fact is sometimes obscured by the superficial similarities between high-level programming languages and natural languages. These superficial similarities also may cause a glossing over of the fact that high-level programming language implementations ultimately perform valuable work by creating/controlling many different computational machines.

[0012] The many different computational machines that a high-level programming language specifies are almost unimaginably complex. At base, the hardware used in the computational machines typically consists of some type of ordered matter (e.g., traditional electronic devices (e.g., transistors), deoxyribonucleic acid (DNA), quantum devices, mechanical switches, optics, fluidics, pneumatics, optical devices (e.g., optical interference devices), molecules, etc.) that are arranged to form logic gates. Logic gates are typically physical devices that may be electrically, mechanically, chemically, or otherwise driven to change physical state in order to create a physical reality of Boolean logic.

[0013] Logic gates may be arranged to form logic circuits, which are typically physical devices that may be electrically, mechanically, chemically, or otherwise driven to create a physical reality of certain logical functions. Types of logic circuits include such devices as multiplexers, registers, arithmetic logic units (ALUs), computer memory, etc., each type of which may be combined to form yet other types of physical devices, such as a central processing unit (CPU)—the best known of which is the microprocessor. A modern microprocessor will often contain more than one hundred million logic gates in its many logic circuits (and often more than a billion transistors). See, e.g., Wikipedia, Logic gates, http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Logic_gates (as of Jun. 5, 2012, 21:03 GMT).

[0014] The logic circuits forming the microprocessor are arranged to provide a microarchitecture that will carry out the instructions defined by that microprocessor's defined Instruction Set Architecture. The Instruction Set Architecture is the part of the microprocessor architecture related to programming, including the native data types, instructions, registers, addressing modes, memory architecture, interrupt and exception handling, and external Input/Output. See, e.g., Wikipedia, Computer architecture, http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Computer_architecture (as of Jun. 5, 2012, 21:03 GMT).

[0015] The Instruction Set Architecture includes a specification of the machine language that can be used by programmers to use/control the microprocessor. Since the machine language instructions are such that they may be executed directly by the microprocessor, typically they consist of strings of binary digits, or bits. For example, a typical machine language instruction might be many bits long (e.g., 32, 64, or 128 bit strings are currently common). A typical machine language instruction might take the form "11110000101011110000111100111111" (a 32 bit instruction).

[0016] It is significant here that, although the machine language instructions are written as sequences of binary digits, in actuality those binary digits specify physical reality. For example, if certain semiconductors are used to make the operations of Boolean logic a physical reality, the apparently mathematical bits "1" and "0" in a machine language instruction actually constitute a shorthand that specifies the application of specific voltages to specific wires. For example, in some semiconductor technologies, the binary number "1" (e.g., logical "1") in a machine language instruction specifies around +5 volts applied to a specific "wire" (e.g., metallic traces on a printed circuit board) and the binary number "0" (e.g., logical "0") in a machine language instruction specifies around −5 volts applied to a specific "wire." In addition to specifying voltages of the machines' configuration, such machine language instructions also select out and activate specific groupings of logic gates from the millions of logic gates of the more general machine. Thus, far from abstract mathematical expressions, machine language instruction programs, even though written as a string of zeros and ones, specify many, many constructed physical machines or physical machine states.

[0017] Machine language is typically incomprehensible by most humans (e.g., the above example was just ONE instruction, and some personal computers execute more than two billion instructions every second). See, e.g., Wikipedia, Instructions per second, http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Instructions_per_second (as of Jun. 5, 2012, 21:04 GMT).

[0018] Thus, programs written in machine language—which may be tens of millions of machine language instructions long—are incomprehensible. In view of this, early assembly languages were developed that used mnemonic codes to refer to machine language instructions, rather than using the machine language instructions' numeric values directly (e.g., for performing a multiplication operation, programmers coded the abbreviation "mult," which represents the binary number "011000" in MIPS machine code). While assembly languages were initially a great aid to humans controlling the microprocessors to perform work, in time the complexity of the work that needed to be done by the humans outstripped the ability of humans to control the microprocessors using merely assembly languages.

[0019] At this point, it was noted that the same tasks needed to be done over and over, and the machine language necessary to do those repetitive tasks was the same. In view of this, compilers were created. A compiler is a device that takes a statement that is more comprehensible to a human than either machine or assembly language, such as "add 2+2 and output the result," and translates that human understandable statement into a complicated, tedious, and immense machine language code (e.g., millions of 32, 64, or 128 bit length strings). Compilers thus translate high-level programming language into machine language.

[0020] This compiled machine language, as described above, is then used as the technical specification which sequentially constructs and causes the interoperation of many different computational machines such that humanly useful, tangible, and concrete work is done. For example, as indicated above, such machine language—the compiled version of the higher-level language—functions as a technical specification which selects out hardware logic gates, specifies voltage levels, voltage transition timings, etc., such that the humanly useful work is accomplished by the hardware.

[0021] Thus, a functional/operational technical description, when viewed by one of skill in the art, is far from an abstract idea. Rather, such a functional/operational technical description, when understood through the tools available in the art such as those just described, is instead understood to be a humanly understandable representation of a hardware specification, the complexity and specificity of which far exceeds the comprehension of most any one human. With this in mind, those skilled in the art will understand that any such operational/functional technical descriptions—in view of the disclosures herein and the knowledge of those skilled in the art—may be understood as operations made into physical reality by (a) one or more interchained physical machines, (b) interchained logic gates configured to create one or more physical machine(s) representative of sequential/combinatorial logic(s), (c) interchained ordered matter making up logic gates (e.g., interchained electronic devices (e.g., transistors), DNA, quantum devices, mechanical switches, optics, fluidics, pneumatics, molecules, etc.) that create physical reality representative of logic(s), or (d) virtually any combination of the foregoing. Indeed, any physical object which has a stable, measurable, and changeable state may be used to construct a machine based on the above technical description. Charles Babbage, for example, constructed the first computer out of wood and powered by cranking a handle.

[0022] Thus, far from being understood as an abstract idea, those skilled in the art will recognize a functional/operational technical description as a humanly-understandable representation of one or more almost unimaginably complex and time sequenced hardware instantiations. The fact that functional/operational technical descriptions might lend themselves readily to high-level computing languages (or high-level block diagrams for that matter) that share some words, structures, phrases, etc. with natural language simply cannot be taken as an indication that such functional/operational technical descriptions are abstract ideas, or mere expressions of abstract ideas. In fact, as outlined herein, in the technological arts this is simply not true. When viewed through the tools available to those of skill in the art, such functional/operational technical descriptions are seen as specifying hardware configurations of almost unimaginable complexity.

[0023] As outlined above, the reason for the use of functional/operational technical descriptions is at least twofold. First, the use of functional/operational technical descriptions allows near-infinitely complex machines and machine operations arising from interchained hardware elements to be described in a manner that the human mind can process (e.g., by mimicking natural language and logical narrative flow). Second, the use of functional/operational technical descriptions assists the person of skill in the art in understanding the described subject matter by providing a description that is more or less independent of any specific vendor's piece(s) of hardware.

[0024] The use of functional/operational technical descriptions assists the person of skill in the art in understanding the described subject matter since, as is evident from the above discussion, one could easily, although not quickly, transcribe the technical descriptions set forth in this document as trillions of ones and zeroes, billions of single lines of assembly-level machine code, millions of logic gates, thousands of gate arrays, or any number of intermediate levels of abstractions. However, if any such low-level technical descriptions were to replace the present technical description, a person of skill in the art could encounter undue difficulty in implementing the disclosure, because such a low-level technical description would likely add complexity without a corresponding benefit (e.g., by describing the subject matter utilizing the conventions of one or more vendor-specific pieces of hardware). Thus, the use of functional/operational technical descriptions assists those of skill in the art by separating the technical descriptions from the conventions of any vendor-specific piece of hardware.

[0025] In view of the foregoing, the logical operations/functions set forth in the present technical description are representative of static or sequenced specifications of various ordered-matter elements, in order that such specifications may be comprehensible to the human mind and adaptable to create many various hardware configurations. The logical operations/functions disclosed herein should be treated as such, and should not be disparagingly characterized as abstract ideas merely because the specifications they represent are presented in a manner that one of skill in the art can readily understand and apply in a manner independent of a specific vendor's hardware implementation.

SUMMARY

[0026] An embodiment provides a method. In one implementation, the method includes but is not limited to indicating a first unmanned aerial device participating in a first task and signaling a decision whether or not to cause the first unmanned aerial device to recognize an alias identifying the first unmanned aerial device as an automatic and conditional response to an indication of the first unmanned aerial device participating in the first task, the alias being different than a primary digital identifier of the first unmanned aerial device. In addition to the foregoing, other method aspects are described in the claims, drawings, and text forming a part of the present disclosure.

[0027] In one or more various aspects, related machines, compositions of matter, or manufactures of systems may include virtually any combination permissible under 35 U.S.C. §101 of hardware, software, and/or firmware configured to effect the herein-referenced method aspects depending upon the design choices of the system designer.

[0028] An embodiment provides a system. In one implementation, the system includes but is not limited to circuitry for indicating a first unmanned aerial device participating in a first task and circuitry for signaling a decision whether or not to cause the first unmanned aerial device to recognize an alias identifying the first unmanned aerial device as an automatic and conditional response to an indication of the first unmanned aerial device participating in the first task, the alias being different than a primary digital identifier of the first unmanned aerial device. In addition to the foregoing, other system aspects are described in the claims, drawings, and text forming a part of the present disclosure.

[0029] An embodiment provides an article of manufacture including a computer program product. In one implementation, the article of manufacture includes but is not limited to a signal-bearing medium configured by one or more instructions related to indicating a first unmanned aerial device participating in a first task and signaling a decision whether or not to cause the first unmanned aerial device to recognize an alias identifying the first unmanned aerial device as an automatic and conditional response to an indication of the first unmanned aerial device participating in the first task, the alias being different than a primary digital identifier of the first unmanned aerial device. In addition to the foregoing, other computer program product aspects are described in the claims, drawings, and text forming a part of the present disclosure.

[0030] An embodiment provides a system. In one implementation, the system includes but is not limited to a computing device and instructions. The instructions when executed on the computing device configure the computing device for indicating a first unmanned aerial device participating in a first task and signaling a decision whether or not to cause the first unmanned aerial device to recognize an alias identifying the first unmanned aerial device as an automatic and conditional response to an indication of the first unmanned aerial device participating in the first task, the alias being different than a primary digital identifier of the first unmanned aerial device. In addition to the foregoing, other system aspects are described in the claims, drawings, and text forming a part of the present disclosure.

[0031] An embodiment provides a method. In one implementation, the method includes but is not limited to obtaining first data indicating that a first unmanned aerial device delivered a first item to a first entity and transmitting via a free space medium the first data to a provider of the first item as an automatic and conditional response to the first data indicating that the first unmanned aerial device delivered the first item to the first entity, the first data indicating at least one of the first item or the first entity or the first unmanned aerial device. In addition to the foregoing, other method aspects are described in the claims, drawings, and text forming a part of the present disclosure.

[0032] In one or more various aspects, related machines, compositions of matter, or manufactures of systems may include virtually any combination permissible under 35 U.S.C. §101 of hardware, software, and/or firmware configured to effect the herein-referenced method aspects depending upon the design choices of the system designer.

[0033] An embodiment provides a system. In one implementation, the system includes but is not limited to circuitry for obtaining first data indicating that a first unmanned aerial device delivered a first item to a first entity and circuitry for transmitting via a free space medium the first data to a provider of the first item as an automatic and conditional response to the first data indicating that the first unmanned aerial device delivered the first item to the first entity, the first data indicating at least one of the first item or the first entity or the first unmanned aerial device. In addition to the foregoing, other system aspects are described in the claims, drawings, and text forming a part of the present disclosure.

[0034] An embodiment provides an article of manufacture including a computer program product. In one implementation, the article of manufacture includes but is not limited to a signal-bearing medium configured by one or more instructions related to obtaining first data indicating that a first unmanned aerial device delivered a first item to a first entity and transmitting via a free space medium the first data to a provider of the first item as an automatic and conditional response to the first data indicating that the first unmanned aerial device delivered the first item to the first entity, the first data indicating at least one of the first item or the first entity or the first unmanned aerial device. In addition to the foregoing, other computer program product aspects are described in the claims, drawings, and text forming a part of the present disclosure.

[0035] An embodiment provides a system. In one implementation, the system includes but is not limited to a computing device and instructions. The instructions when executed on the computing device configure the computing device for obtaining first data indicating that a first unmanned aerial device delivered a first item to a first entity and transmitting via a free space medium the first data to a provider of the first item as an automatic and conditional response to the first data indicating that the first unmanned aerial device delivered the first item to the first entity, the first data indicating at least one of the first item or the first entity or the first unmanned aerial device. In addition to the foregoing, other system aspects are described in the claims, drawings, and text forming a part of the present disclosure.

[0036] An embodiment provides a method. In one implementation, the method includes but is not limited to obtaining first position data from a first entity, by a second entity, the first entity being a first unmanned aerial device and signaling a decision whether or not to allocate a first resource to the second entity after the first position data passes from the first unmanned aerial device to the second entity, the first resource being associated with the first position data. In addition to the foregoing, other method aspects are described in the claims, drawings, and text forming a part of the present disclosure.

[0037] In one or more various aspects, related machines, compositions of matter, or manufactures of systems may include virtually any combination permissible under 35 U.S.C. §101 of hardware, software, and/or firmware configured to effect the herein-referenced method aspects depending upon the design choices of the system designer.

[0038] An embodiment provides a system. In one implementation, the system includes but is not limited to circuitry for obtaining first position data from a first entity, by a second entity, the first entity being a first unmanned aerial device and circuitry for signaling a decision whether or not to allocate a first resource to the second entity after the first position data passes from the first unmanned aerial device to the second entity, the first resource being associated with the first position data. In addition to the foregoing, other system aspects are described in the claims, drawings, and text forming a part of the present disclosure.

[0039] An embodiment provides an article of manufacture including a computer program product. In one implementation, the article of manufacture includes but is not limited to a signal-bearing medium configured by one or more instructions related to obtaining first position data from a first entity, by a second entity, the first entity being a first unmanned aerial device and signaling a decision whether or not to allocate a first resource to the second entity after the first position data passes from the first unmanned aerial device to the second entity, the first resource being associated with the first position data. In addition to the foregoing, other computer program product aspects are described in the claims, drawings, and text forming a part of the present disclosure.

[0040] An embodiment provides a system. In one implementation, the system includes but is not limited to a computing device and instructions. The instructions when executed on the computing device configure the computing device for obtaining first position data from a first entity, by a second entity, the first entity being a first unmanned aerial device and signaling a decision whether or not to allocate a first resource to the second entity after the first position data passes from the first unmanned aerial device to the second entity, the first resource being associated with the first position data. In addition to the foregoing, other system aspects are described in the claims, drawings, and text forming a part of the present disclosure.

[0041] An embodiment provides a method. In one implementation, the method includes but is not limited to causing a first unmanned aerial device to guide a first individual to a first destination and causing the first unmanned aerial device to fly to a second destination as an automatic and conditional response to an indication of the first individual arriving at the first destination. In addition to the foregoing, other method aspects are described in the claims, drawings, and text forming a part of the present disclosure.

[0042] In one or more various aspects, related machines, compositions of matter, or manufactures of systems may include virtually any combination permissible under 35 U.S.C. §101 of hardware, software, and/or firmware configured to effect the herein-referenced method aspects depending upon the design choices of the system designer.

[0043] An embodiment provides a system. In one implementation, the system includes but is not limited to circuitry for causing a first unmanned aerial device to guide a first individual to a first destination and circuitry for causing the first unmanned aerial device to fly to a second destination as an automatic and conditional response to an indication of the first individual arriving at the first destination. In addition to the foregoing, other system aspects are described in the claims, drawings, and text forming a part of the present disclosure.

[0044] An embodiment provides an article of manufacture including a computer program product. In one implementation, the article of manufacture includes but is not limited to a signal-bearing medium configured by one or more instructions related to causing a first unmanned aerial device to guide a first individual to a first destination and causing the first unmanned aerial device to fly to a second destination as an automatic and conditional response to an indication of the first individual arriving at the first destination. In addition to the foregoing, other computer program product aspects are described in the claims, drawings, and text forming a part of the present disclosure.

[0045] An embodiment provides a system. In one implementation, the system includes but is not limited to a computing device and instructions. The instructions when executed on the computing device configure the computing device for causing a first unmanned aerial device to guide a first individual to a first destination and causing the first unmanned aerial device to fly to a second destination as an automatic and conditional response to an indication of the first individual arriving at the first destination. In addition to the foregoing, other system aspects are described in the claims, drawings, and text forming a part of the present disclosure.

[0046] An embodiment provides a method. In one implementation, the method includes but is not limited to obtaining a tracking mode of a delivery task of a first unmanned aerial device and signaling a decision whether or not to omit a record of the first unmanned aerial device completing the delivery task of the first unmanned aerial device as an automatic and conditional response to the tracking mode of the delivery task of the first unmanned aerial device. In addition to the foregoing, other method aspects are described in the claims, drawings, and text forming a part of the present disclosure.

[0047] In one or more various aspects, related machines, compositions of matter, or manufactures of systems may include virtually any combination permissible under 35 U.S.C. §101 of hardware, software, and/or firmware configured to effect the herein-referenced method aspects depending upon the design choices of the system designer.

[0048] An embodiment provides a system. In one implementation, the system includes but is not limited to circuitry for obtaining a tracking mode of a delivery task of a first unmanned aerial device and circuitry for signaling a decision whether or not to omit a record of the first unmanned aerial device completing the delivery task of the first unmanned aerial device as an automatic and conditional response to the tracking mode of the delivery task of the first unmanned aerial device. In addition to the foregoing, other system aspects are described in the claims, drawings, and text forming a part of the present disclosure.

[0049] An embodiment provides an article of manufacture including a computer program product. In one implementation, the article of manufacture includes but is not limited to a signal-bearing medium configured by one or more instructions related to obtaining a tracking mode of a delivery task of a first unmanned aerial device and signaling a decision whether or not to omit a record of the first unmanned aerial device completing the delivery task of the first unmanned aerial device as an automatic and conditional response to the tracking mode of the delivery task of the first unmanned aerial device. In addition to the foregoing, other computer program product aspects are described in the claims, drawings, and text forming a part of the present disclosure.

[0050] An embodiment provides a system. In one implementation, the system includes but is not limited to a computing device and instructions. The instructions when executed on the computing device configure the computing device for obtaining a tracking mode of a delivery task of a first unmanned aerial device and signaling a decision whether or not to omit a record of the first unmanned aerial device completing the delivery task of the first unmanned aerial device as an automatic and conditional response to the tracking mode of the delivery task of the first unmanned aerial device. In addition to the foregoing, other system aspects are described in the claims, drawings, and text forming a part of the present disclosure.

[0051] In addition to the foregoing, various other method and/or system and/or program product aspects are set forth and described in the teachings such as text (e.g., claims and/or detailed description) and/or drawings of the present disclosure. The foregoing is a summary and thus may contain simplifications, generalizations, inclusions, and/or omissions of detail; consequently, those skilled in the art will appreciate that the summary is illustrative only and is NOT intended to be in any way limiting. Other aspects, features, and advantages of the devices and/or processes and/or other subject matter described herein will become apparent in the teachings set forth below.

BRIEF DESCRIPTION OF THE FIGURES

[0052] FIG. **1** depicts an exemplary environment featuring a primary unit operably linked to a network.

[0053] FIG. **2** depicts an exemplary environment featuring a user-accessible kiosk having several bays in which unmanned aerial devices (UAD's) may reside.

[0054] FIG. **3** depicts an exemplary environment featuring an interface device having at least one processor.

[0055] FIG. **4** depicts an exemplary environment featuring an event/condition detection unit.

[0056] FIG. **5** depicts an exemplary environment featuring a UAD in a vicinity of a destination.

[0057] FIG. **6** depicts an exemplary environment featuring a UAD and another entity (a car or driver, e.g.) communicating about a resource (parking space, e.g.).

[0058] FIG. **7** depicts an exemplary environment featuring three pedestrians in one zone, one pedestrian in another zone, and at least one handheld UAD.

[0059] FIG. **8** depicts an exemplary environment featuring UAD's operably coupled with a network.

[0060] FIG. **9** depicts an exemplary environment featuring a UAD traveling among several stations.

[0061] FIG. **10** depicts an exemplary environment featuring a device (UAD, e.g.) operably coupled with a network via a communication linkage.

[0062] FIG. **11** depicts an exemplary environment featuring a secondary unit.

[0063] FIG. **12** depicts a physical medium residing in one or more of the above-described environments.

[0064] FIG. **13** depicts a chair, keyboard, and desktop in an office into which a UAD may enter.

[0065] FIG. **14** depicts an exemplary environment featuring an article of manufacture.

[0066] FIG. **15** depicts a high-level logic flow of an operational process described with reference to FIG. **5**.

[0067] FIG. **16** depicts a high-level logic flow of an operational process described with reference to FIG. **6**.

[0068] FIG. **17** depicts a high-level logic flow of an operational process described with reference to FIG. **7**.

[0069] FIG. **18** depicts a high-level logic flow of an operational process described with reference to FIG. **8**.

[0070] FIG. **19** depicts a high-level logic flow of an operational process described with reference to FIG. **9**.

[0071] FIG. **20** depicts an exemplary environment featuring a structural component of a UAD having at least a releasable mechanical linkage to a package or other cargo module.

[0072] FIGS. **21-22** depict physical media residing in one or more of the above-described environments.

[0073] FIGS. **23-27** each depict intensive and extensive operations that may be performed in conjunction with one or more high-level logic flows shown in FIGS. **15-19**.

[0074] FIG. **28** depicts an exemplary environment featuring a camera mounted on a building configured to observe a person.

DETAILED DESCRIPTION

[0075] In the following detailed description, reference is made to the accompanying drawings, which form a part hereof. In the drawings, similar symbols typically identify similar components, unless context dictates otherwise. The illustrative embodiments described in the detailed description, drawings, and claims are not meant to be limiting. Other embodiments may be utilized, and other changes may be made, without departing from the spirit or scope of the subject matter presented here.

[0076] Those having skill in the art will recognize that the state of the art has progressed to the point where there is little distinction left between hardware, software, and/or firmware implementations of aspects of systems; the use of hardware, software, and/or firmware is generally (but not always, in that in certain contexts the choice between hardware and software can become significant) a design choice representing cost vs. efficiency tradeoffs. Those having skill in the art will appreciate that there are various vehicles by which processes and/or systems and/or other technologies described herein can be effected (e.g., hardware, software, and/or firmware), and that the preferred vehicle will vary with the context in which the processes and/or systems and/or other technologies are deployed. For example, if an implementer determines that speed and accuracy are paramount, the implementer may opt for a mainly hardware and/or firmware vehicle; alternatively, if flexibility is paramount, the implementer may opt for a mainly software implementation; or, yet again alternatively, the implementer may opt for some combination of hardware, software, and/or firmware. Hence, there are several possible vehicles by which the processes and/or devices and/or other technologies described herein may be effected, none of which is inherently superior to the other in that any vehicle to be utilized is a choice dependent upon the context in which the vehicle will be deployed and the specific concerns (e.g., speed, flexibility, or predictability) of the implementer, any of which may vary. Those skilled in the art will recognize that optical aspects of implementations will typically employ optically-oriented hardware, software, and or firmware.

[0077] In some implementations described herein, logic and similar implementations may include software or other control structures suitable to operation. Electronic circuitry, for example, may manifest one or more paths of electrical current constructed and arranged to implement various logic functions as described herein. In some implementations, one or more media are configured to bear a device-detectable implementation if such media hold or transmit a special-purpose device instruction set operable to perform as described herein. In some variants, for example, this may manifest as an update or other modification of existing software or firmware, or of gate arrays or other programmable hardware, such as by performing a reception of or a transmission of one or more instructions in relation to one or more operations described herein. Alternatively or additionally, in some variants, an implementation may include special-purpose hardware, software, firmware components, and/or general-purpose components executing or otherwise invoking special-purpose components. Specifications or other implementations may be transmitted by one or more instances of tangible transmission media as described herein, optionally by packet transmission or otherwise by passing through distributed media at various times.

[0078] Alternatively or additionally, implementations may include executing a special-purpose instruction sequence or otherwise invoking circuitry for enabling, triggering, coordinating, requesting, or otherwise causing one or more occurrences of any functional operations described below. In some variants, operational or other logical descriptions herein may be expressed directly as source code and compiled or otherwise invoked as an executable instruction sequence. In some contexts, for example, C++ or other code sequences can be compiled directly or otherwise implemented in high-level descriptor languages (e.g., a logic-synthesizable language, a hardware description language, a hardware design simulation, and/or other such similar mode(s) of expression). Alternatively or additionally, some or all of the logical expression may be manifested as a Verilog-type hardware description or other circuitry model before physical implementation in hardware, especially for basic operations or timing-critical applications. Those skilled in the art will recognize how to obtain, configure, and optimize suitable transmission or computational elements, material supplies, actuators, or other common structures in light of these teachings.

[0079] In a general sense, those skilled in the art will recognize that the various embodiments described herein can be implemented, individually and/or collectively, by various types of electro-mechanical systems having a wide range of electrical components such as hardware, software, firmware, and/or virtually any combination thereof; and a wide range of components that may impart mechanical force or motion such as rigid bodies, spring or torsional bodies, hydraulics, electro-magnetically actuated devices, and/or virtually any combination thereof. Consequently, as used herein "electro-mechanical system" includes, but is not limited to, electrical circuitry operably coupled with a transducer (e.g., an actuator, a motor, a piezoelectric crystal, a Micro Electro Mechanical System (MEMS), etc.), electrical circuitry having at least one discrete electrical circuit, electrical circuitry having at least one integrated circuit, electrical circuitry having at least one application specific integrated circuit, electrical circuitry forming a general purpose computing device configured by a computer program (e.g., a general purpose computer configured by a computer program which at least partially carries out processes and/or devices described herein, or a microprocessor configured by a computer program which at least partially carries out processes and/or devices described herein), electrical circuitry forming a memory device (e.g., forms of memory (e.g., random access, flash, read only, etc.)), electrical circuitry forming a communications device (e.g., a modem, communications switch, optical-electrical equipment, etc.), and/or any non-electrical analog thereto, such as optical or other analogs. Those skilled in the art will also appreciate that examples of electro-mechanical systems include but are not limited to a variety of consumer electronics systems, medical devices, as well as other systems such as motorized transport systems, factory automation systems, security systems, and/or communication/computing systems. Those skilled in the art will recognize that electro-mechanical as used herein is not necessarily limited to a system that has both electrical and mechanical actuation except as context may dictate otherwise.

[0080] In a general sense, those skilled in the art will also recognize that the various aspects described herein which can be implemented, individually and/or collectively, by a wide range of hardware, software, firmware, and/or any combination thereof can be viewed as being composed of various types of "electrical circuitry." Consequently, as used herein "electrical circuitry" includes, but is not limited to, electrical circuitry having at least one discrete electrical circuit, electrical circuitry having at least one integrated circuit, electrical circuitry having at least one application specific integrated circuit, electrical circuitry forming a general purpose computing device configured by a computer program (e.g., a general purpose computer configured by a computer program which at least partially carries out processes and/or devices described herein, or a microprocessor configured by a computer program which at least partially carries out processes and/or devices described herein), electrical circuitry forming a memory device (e.g., forms of memory (e.g., random access, flash, read only, etc.)), and/or electrical circuitry forming a communications device (e.g., a modem, communications switch, optical-electrical equipment, etc.). Those having skill in the art will recognize that the subject matter described herein may be implemented in an analog or digital fashion or some combination thereof.

[0081] Those skilled in the art will further recognize that at least a portion of the devices and/or processes described herein can be integrated into an image processing system. A typical image processing system may generally include one or more of a system unit housing, a video display device, memory such as volatile or non-volatile memory, processors such as microprocessors or digital signal processors, computational entities such as operating systems, drivers, applications programs, one or more interaction devices (e.g., a touch pad, a touch screen, an antenna, etc.), control systems including feedback loops and control motors (e.g., feedback for sensing lens position and/or velocity; control motors for moving/distorting lenses to give desired focuses). An image processing system may be implemented utilizing suitable commercially available components, such as those typically found in digital still systems and/or digital motion systems.

[0082] Those skilled in the art will likewise recognize that at least some of the devices and/or processes described herein can be integrated into a data processing system. Those having skill in the art will recognize that a data processing system generally includes one or more of a system unit housing, a video display device, memory such as volatile or non-volatile memory, processors such as microprocessors or digital signal processors, computational entities such as operating systems, drivers, graphical user interfaces, and applications programs, one or more interaction devices (e.g., a touch pad, a touch screen, an antenna, etc.), and/or control systems including feedback loops and control motors (e.g., feedback for sensing position and/or velocity; control motors for moving and/or adjusting components and/or quantities). A data processing system may be implemented utilizing suitable commercially available components, such as those typically found in data computing/communication and/or network computing/communication systems.

[0083] FIG. **1** depicts a context in which one or more technologies may be implemented. System **1** comprises a primary unit **110** that may comprise one or more instances of inputs **121**; outputs **122**; enlistment modules **133**, **134**; coordinate communication modules **136**, **137**; data acquisition modules **138**, **139**; interface control modules **141**, **142**; entity identification modules **143**, **144**; name recognition modules **146**, **147**; tracking control modules **148**, **149**; flight control modules **151**, **152**; data delivery modules **153**, **154**; resource reservation modules **156**, **157**; or selective retention modules **158**, **159** as described in further detail below. In some contexts, primary unit **110** may be operably coupled to one or more networks **190** via one or more communication linkages **140**. Instances of storage or other data-handling media **195** operably coupled to one or more such modules may, moreover, reside in primary unit **110** or network **190**, as described below. As exemplified herein, a "module" may include special-purpose hardware, general-purpose hardware configured with special-purpose software, or other circuitry configured to perform one or more functions recited below. Also in some contexts such "modules" may be configured to establish or utilize an association (between two devices, e.g.) in response to common interactions (a backup from one device to the other, both logging into a password-access account, or sharing the same printer or router or other peripheral, e.g.). Moreover respective embodiments of primary unit **110** may implement substantially any combination thereof, as exemplified in protocols described below.

[0084] FIG. **2** depicts another context in which one or more technologies may be implemented. System **2** comprises a kiosk **250** having several bays **288** each large enough to receive a respective unmanned aerial device (UAD) **201**, **202** and accessible to one or more users **226**. In some variants kiosk **250** may also include one or more beacons **217** configured to emit an optical or other wireless homing signal **296** recognizable to one or more UAD's **201**, **202**. The signal **296** is distinctive enough to facilitate UAD's **201**, **202** finding beacon **217** several meters or more away from kiosk **250**. Moreover each of the bays **288** has protruding or recessed electrical contacts **298** therein to permit each UAD **201**, **202** to recharge after it is placed or lands within the bay.

[0085] FIG. **3** depicts another system **3** in which one or more technologies may be implemented, one in which one or more instances of a name **351**, model **352**, or other identifier **355** refer to and identify interface device **310**. In a context in which interface device **310** comprises a minivan or other passenger vehicle, for example, such identifier(s) **355** may comprise a plate number **353** of the vehicle. As explained below, interface device **310** may further include one or more instances (implemented in special-purpose circuitry or software executable by one or more processors **365**, e.g.) of modes **361**, **362**, **363**; requests **373**; invitations **374**; reservations **376**; confirmations **381**, **382**; touchscreens or other local interfaces **390** (comprising one or more inputs **391** or outputs **392** physically accessible to or observable by a user at interface device **310**, e.g.); acceptances **393**, **394**; memories **395**; or instructions **397**.

[0086] In light of teachings herein, numerous existing techniques may be applied for configuring special-purpose circuitry or other structures effective for conducting a context-specific structured dialog or other user interaction without undue experimentation or for configuring other decisions and devices as described herein. See, e.g., U.S. Pat. No. 8,024,329 ("Using inverted indexes for contextual personalized information retrieval"); U.S. Pat. No. 7,970,735 ("Cross varying dimension support for analysis services engine"); U.S. Pat. No. 7,920,678 ("Personal virtual assistant"); U.S. Pat. No. 7,870,117 ("Constructing a search query to execute a contextual personalized search of a knowledge base"); U.S. Pat. No. 7,761,480 ("Information access using ontologies"); U.S. Pat. No. 7,743,051 ("Methods, systems, and user interface for e-mail search and retrieval"); U.S. Pat. No. 7,593,982 ("Method, system, and computer program product for saving a search result within a global computer network"); U.S. Pat. No. 7,363,246 ("System and method for enhancing buyer and seller interaction during a group-buying sale"); U.S. Pat. No. 7,177,948 ("Method and apparatus for enhancing online searching sale"); U.S. Pat. No. 6,798,867 ("System and method for the creation and automatic deployment of personalized, dynamic and interactive voice services, with real-time database queries"); U.S. Pub. No. 2011/0081053 ("Methods and systems for occlusion tolerant face recognition"); U.S. Pub. No. 2008/0159622 ("Target object recognition in images and video").

[0087] Referring again to FIG. **1**, network **190** may serve as a context for introducing one or more processes, systems or other articles described below. In some instances network **190** may include one or more search engines, satellites, servers, processors, routers, or other devices. In some contexts, one or more interface devices owned or operated by user **226** may interact through network **190** (e.g. with one or more other interface devices or networks as described herein). One or more such associated interface devices **310** may be mobile devices, in some contexts, or may function in cooperation (as a network subsystem, e.g.) even when remote from one another. Alternatively or additionally, one or more other interface devices owned or operated by user **226** may likewise interact locally or remotely with or through one another or other interface devices (through network **190**, e.g.).

[0088] In some contexts, such interface devices (of FIG. **2**, e.g.) may include or otherwise communicate with one or more instances of primary unit **110** and may include one or more instances of data outputs or other implementations of machines, articles of manufacture, or compositions of matter that include circuitry or other logic as described below. In some contexts, such implementations may be held or transmitted by conduits, storage devices, memories, other holding devices, or other circuitry for handling data or software (in a satellite, server, or router, e.g.) as described herein. In various embodiments, one or more instances of implementation components or implementation output data may each be expressed within any aspect or combination of software, firmware, or hardware as signals, data, designs, logic, instructions, or other such special-purpose expression or implementation. Interface devices (such as that of FIG. **2**, e.g.) may likewise include one or more instances of lenses, transmitters, receivers, integrated circuits, antennas, output devices, reflectors, or input devices for handling data or communicating with local users or via linkage **140**, for example.

[0089] Those skilled in the art will recognize that some list items may also function as other list items. In the above-listed types of media, for example, some instances of interface devices may include conduits or may also function as storage devices that are also holding devices. One or more transmitters may likewise include input devices or bidirectional user interfaces, in many implementations of interface devices **310**. Each such listed term should not be narrowed by any implication from other terms in the same list but should instead be understood in its broadest reasonable interpretation as understood by those skilled in the art.

[0090] "Apparent," "automatic," "selective," "conditional," "indicative," "normal," "represented," "related," "partly," "responsive," "distilled," "local," "in a vicinity," "remote," "wireless," "periodic," "free," "aerial," "associated," "primary," "met," "passive," "implemented," "executable," "particular," "specific," "human," "performed," "mobile," "of," "prior," "activated," "future," "light," "contemporaneous," "portable," "toward," or other such descriptors herein are used in their normal yes-or-no sense, not as terms of degree, unless context dictates otherwise. In light of the present disclosure those skilled in the art will understand from context what is meant by "vicinity," by being "in" or "at" a detection region, by "remote," and by other such positional descriptors used herein. "For" is not used to articulate a mere intended purpose in phrases like "circuitry for" or "instruction for," moreover, but is used normally, in descriptively identifying special purpose circuitry or code.

[0091] Some descriptions herein refer to a "distillation" of data. Such distillations can include an average, estimate, range, or other computation at least partly distilling a set of data. They can likewise include an indexing, sorting, summarization, distributed sampling, or other process having a purpose or effect of showing some aspect of the data more concisely or effectively than a conventional display or archiving of the entire data. Selecting a last portion of a data set can constitute a distillation, for example, in a context in which the data's utility apparently increases (medians or other cumulative computations, e.g.). Removing duplicative data or indexing available data are useful ways of "distilling" data so that it becomes manageable even while retaining some of its meaning. Those skilled in the art will recognize many useful modes of distilling data in light of the state of the art and of teachings herein.

[0092] In some embodiments, "signaling" something can include identifying, contacting, requesting, selecting, or indicating the thing. In some cases a signaled thing is susceptible to fewer than all of these aspects, of course, such as a task definition that cannot be "contacted."

[0093] In some embodiments, "status indicative" data can reflect a trend or other time-dependent phenomenon (indicating some aspect of an entity's condition, e.g.). Alternatively or additionally, a status indicative data set can include portions that have no bearing upon such status. Although some types of distillations can require authority or substantial expertise (e.g. making a final decision upon a risky procedure or other course of action), many other types of distillations can readily be implemented without undue experimentation in light of teachings herein.

[0094] In some embodiments, one or more applicable "criteria" can include maxima or other comparison values applied to durations, counts, lengths, widths, frequencies, signal magnitudes or phases, digital values, or other aspects of data characterization. In some contexts, such criteria can be applied by determining when or how often a recognizable pattern can be found: a text string, a quantity, a sound, an arrhythmia, a visible dilation, a failure to respond, a non-change, an allergic response, a symptom relating to an apparent condition of the user, or the like.

[0095] In some embodiments, "causing" events can include triggering, producing or otherwise directly or indirectly bringing the events to pass. This can include causing the events remotely, concurrently, partially, or otherwise as a "cause in fact," whether or not a more immediate cause also exists.

[0096] Some descriptions herein refer to an "indication whether" an event has occurred. An indication is "positive" if it indicates that the event has occurred, irrespective of its numerical sign or lack thereof. Whether positive or negative, such indications may be weak (i.e. slightly probative), definitive, or many levels in between. In some cases the "indication" may include a portion that is indeterminate, such as an irrelevant portion of a useful photograph.

[0097] FIG. **4** depicts another system **4** in which one or more technologies may be implemented. Event/condition detection unit **400** comprises special-purpose circuitry implemented as one or more application-specific integrated circuits (ASICs) **409** or other such data-handling media **410**. Event/condition detection unit **400** may, in some variants, include one or more instances of data **411**, **412**, **413**; hard-wired or other special-purpose protocols **417**, **418**; triggers **421**, **422**, **423**; decisions **434**, **435**; microphones **441** or other receivers **442**; identifiers **444**; proximity sensors **449**; wireless signal processing modules **450** (operable to handle one or more signals **451**, **452**, **453**, **434** transmitted or received via antenna **455**, e.g.); thresholds **458**, **459**; configurations **471**, **472**; commands **481**, **482**, **483**, **484**, **485**; or tasks **491**, **492**, **493**, **494**, **495**, **496**, **497**, **498**, **499** (implemented in special-purpose circuitry or software executable by one or more processors **365**, e.g.). In some variants, such commands **481-485** or tasks **491-499** may be received (from user **226**, e.g.) via a microphone **441** and a speech recognition module **446**, **447** or other such configurations of inputs **391**. (In some embodiments, a "module" as described herein may include one or more of special-purpose circuitry or special-purpose device-executable code: code by which a processor **365** that is executing the code, for example, becomes a special-purpose machine.)

[0098] FIG. **5** depicts another system **5** in which one or more technologies may be implemented. An unmanned aerial device (UAD) **501** may travel among a sender **510** (of cargo to be delivered, e.g.), a station **520**, and a destination **530** (of the cargo, e.g.) along travel paths **581**, **582**, **583** through the air **585** as shown. One or more media **195**, **410** aboard UAD **501** may contain one or more identifiers **541** of cargo, identifiers **542** of destination **530**, or identifiers **543** of the UAD **501** tasked with delivery. Such media may likewise contain other indicia of various planned or completed delivery tasks **491-499**, such as a photograph **553** of an item of cargo (envelope **551**, e.g.) having been delivered to a delivery site **552** (at destination **530**, e.g.); a photograph **554** of a part of a recipient **555** or of an item of cargo (syringe **556**, e.g.) being delivered to a destination (recipient **555**, e.g.); addresses (of sender **510**, station **520**, or destination **530**, e.g.); audio clips **563** (of recipient **555** refusing or accepting delivery, e.g.); or biometrics **564** (of sender **510** or recipient **555**, e.g.). In some implementations, moreover, UAD **501** may implement or interact with one or more instances of interfaces **390** (having one or more buttons **561** thereon as inputs **391**, e.g.) as described below.

[0099] With reference now to FIG. **15**, shown is a high-level logic flow **15** of an operational process. Intensive operation **53** describes obtaining first data indicating that a first unmanned aerial device delivered a first item to a first entity (e.g. data acquisition module **138** receiving one or more addresses **562** or photographs **553** as data **411** indicating that one or more UAD's **501** delivered an envelope **551**, signature document, or other article to a placement site **552** or other destination **530**). This can occur, for example, in a context in which UAD **501** implements or interacts with primary unit **110**, UAD **201**, and event/condition detection unit **400** as described above. Alternatively or additionally, data **412** may include a biometric **564** (fingerprint, e.g.) or other manifestation of a recipient **555** receiving a medication (in a syringe

556 or capsule, e.g.) or other delivered material as described herein. Either such "first" data **411**, **412** may likewise include one or more of an identifier **541** of the "first" item (envelope **551** or syringe **556**, e.g.), an identifier **542** of the "first" entity (site **552** or recipient **555**, e.g.), an identifier **543** (serial number or alias, e.g.) of the "first" UAD **201**, **501** or other such indications signifying a successful delivery.

[0100] In light of teachings herein, numerous existing techniques may be applied for configuring special-purpose circuitry or other structures effective for dispatching a vehicle for making deliveries without undue experimentation or for configuring other decisions and devices as described herein. See, e.g., U.S. Pat. No. 8,140,592 ("Delivery operations information system with route adjustment feature and methods of use"); U.S. Pat. No. 8,041,649 ("Methods and systems for postcode-to-postcode delivery interval and routing calculation"); U.S. Pat. No. 7,947,916 ("Mail sorter system and method for moving trays of mail to dispatch in delivery order"); U.S. Pat. No. 7,868,264 ("System and process for reducing number of stops on delivery route by identification of standard class mail"); U.S. Pat. No. 7,739,202 ("Computer system for routing package deliveries"); U.S. Pat. No. 7,647,875 ("Seed hopper and routing structure for varying material delivery to row units"); U.S. Pat. No. 6,801,139 ("Method and system for delivering a time-efficient mobile vehicle route that encompasses multiple limited-duration events").

[0101] In light of teachings herein, numerous existing techniques may be applied for configuring special-purpose circuitry or other structures effective for data acquisition (relating to a delivery, e.g.) without undue experimentation or for configuring other decisions and devices as described herein. See, e.g., U.S. Pat. No. 8,111,819 ("Message server and method for notification of a user about the delivery of an electronic message"); U.S. Pat. No. 8,074,642 ("Visual indicator for an aerosol medication delivery apparatus and system"); U.S. Pat. No. 7,984,100 ("Email system automatically notifying sender status and routing information during delivery"); U.S. Pat. No. 7,713,229 ("Drug delivery pen with event notification means"); U.S. Pat. No. 7,559,456 ("Mail delivery indicator system"); U.S. Pat. No. 7,222,081 ("System and method for continuous delivery schedule including automated customer notification"); U.S. Pat. No. 6,902,109 ("Parcel delivery notice"); U.S. Pat. No. 6,859,722 ("Notification systems and methods with notifications based upon prior package delivery"); U.S. Pat. No. 6,535,585 ("System and method for notification upon successful message delivery"); U.S. Pat. No. 6,356,196 ("Verified receipt, notification, and theft deterrence of courier-delivered parcels").

[0102] In light of teachings herein, numerous existing techniques may be applied for configuring special-purpose circuitry or other structures effective for detecting and responding automatically to position data, optical data, auditory data, or other indications of a delivery without undue experimentation or for configuring other decisions and devices as described herein. See, e.g., U.S. Pat. No. 8,131,652 ("Residential delivery indicator"); U.S. Pat. No. 7,559,456 ("Mail delivery indicator system"); U.S. Pat. No. 7,483,721 ("Communication device providing diverse audio signals to indicate receipt of a call or message"); U.S. Pat. No. 7,346,662 ("Methods, systems, and products for indicating receipt of electronic mail"); U.S. Pat. No. 7,013,350 ("System setting flags based on address types in destination address field of a message to indicate different transports to deliver the message"); U.S. Pat. No. 7,006,013 ("System and method for visually indicating receipt of a radio communication directed to a uniquely identified vehicle").

[0103] In some embodiments described herein, a response (generating a decision, e.g.) to a stimulus is "conditional" if the stimulus can take on either a first possible value or a second possible value (or perhaps others) and in which the content (yes or no, e.g.) or occurrence of the response depends upon which of the possible stimuli are manifested. Likewise a response is "automatic" if it can occur (for at least one possible stimulus set, e.g.) without any human interaction.

[0104] Referring again to FIG. **15**, extensive operation **84** describes transmitting via a free space medium the first data to a provider of the first item as an automatic and conditional response to the first data indicating that the first unmanned aerial device delivered the first item to the first entity, the first data indicating at least one of the first item or the first entity or the first unmanned aerial device (e.g. data delivery module **153** transmitting a wireless signal **454** (radio frequency, e.g.) containing data **411**, **412** indicating a delivery of the first item to the sender **510** of the first item). This can occur, for example, in a context in which data delivery module **153** receives such first data from data acquisition module **138**; in which the first item comprises an envelope **551**, syringe **556**, material, or other such articles physically delivered by one or more UAD's **201**, **501** to destination **530**; in which such a UAD includes a data delivery module **153** configured to transmit such first data via a wireless signal path **581** (through air **585** or water vapor, e.g.); and in which sender **510** would otherwise be unwilling to entrust the item to be transferred via UAD **501**. Alternatively or additionally, such a data delivery module **153** may be configured to transmit such first data indirectly (via a wireless signal path **583** through air **585** and through a station **520** that relays signal **454** to sender **510**, e.g.). Alternatively or additionally, station **520** may include (an instance of) a data delivery module **153** configured to perform operation **84** by transmitting some or all such data **411**, **412** wirelessly via path **582** as an automatic and conditional response to a suitable trigger **421**. In respective embodiments, for example, a primary unit **110** may be configured to perform flow **15** such that trigger **421** comprises any of (1) UAD **501** delivering the first item to destination **530**; (2) UAD **501** arriving at station **520** after having delivered the first item to destination **530**; or (3) data delivery module **153** receiving an indication that UAD **201** delivered the first item to destination **530**.

[0105] In light of teachings herein, numerous existing techniques may be applied for configuring special-purpose circuitry or other structures effective for deciding whether or not to route data through a free space medium without undue experimentation or for configuring other decisions and devices as described herein. See, e.g., U.S. Pat. No. 8,175,025 ("Wireless communication apparatus for selecting suitable transfer route on wireless network"); U.S. Pat. No. 8,099,060 ("Wireless/wired mobile communication device with option to automatically block wireless communication when connected for wired communication"); U.S. Pat. No. 8,090,132 ("Wireless communication headset with wired and wireless modes"); U.S. Pat. No. 8,081,967 ("Method to manage medium access for a mixed wireless network"); U.S. Pat. No. 8,040,864 ("Map indicating quality of service for delivery of video data to wireless device"); U.S. Pat. No. 7,899,027 ("Automatic route configuration in hierarchical wireless mesh networks"); U.S. Pat. No. 7,869,444 ("Mixed wireless and cabled data acquisition network"); U.S. Pat. No. 7,865,186 ("Method for operating wired and wireless phone services interconnectively"); U.S. Pat. No. 7,315,548 ("Method and apparatus for determining a route between a source node and a destination node in a wireless multihopping communication network"); U.S. Pat. No. 6,578,085 ("System and method for route optimization in a wireless internet protocol network"); U.S. Pat. No. 6,058,312 ("Automatic selecting apparatus for an optimum wireless communication route").

[0106] In light of teachings herein, numerous existing techniques may be applied for configuring special-purpose circuitry or other structures effective for mobile data delivery (deciding when to transmit data from or via a mobile device, e.g.) without undue experimentation or for configuring other decisions and devices as described herein. See, e.g., U.S. Pat. No. 8,200,223 ("Base station and data transfer method for transferring data when a mobile station performs a handover"); U.S. Pat. No. 7,865,212 ("Methods and apparatus for use in transferring user data between two different mobile communication devices using a removable memory card"); U.S. Pat. No. 7,359,346 ("Apparatus for controlling data transmission/reception between main system and remote system of BTS in mobile communication system"); U.S. Pat. No. 7,240,075 ("Interactive generating query related to telestrator data designating at least a portion of the still image frame and data identifying a user is generated from the user designating a selected region on the display screen, transmitting the query to the remote information system"); U.S. Pat. No. 7,107,064 ("Mobile communication device and method for determining whether to transmit position data"); U.S. Pat. No. 6,742,037 ("Method and apparatus for dynamic information transfer from a mobile target to a fixed target that tracks their relative movement and synchronizes data between them"); U.S. Pat. No. 6,694,177 ("Control of data transmission between a remote monitoring unit and a central unit"); U.S. Pat. No. 6,604,038 ("Apparatus, method, and computer program product for establishing a remote data link with a vehicle with minimal data transmission delay"); U.S. Pat. No. 6,591,101 ("Method of subscriber data control in a mobile communication network where subscriber data is transferred from a home mobile switching center to a destination mobile switching center").

[0107] FIG. **6** depicts another system **6** in which one or more technologies may be implemented, one involving a passenger vehicle (car **602**, e.g.) with wheels **683**, pontoons, or other such support structures configured to facilitate transportation. As shown, car **602** is configured to bear at least one person (user **626**, e.g.) and to include a user interface **660** (navigation system, e.g.). In a context in which such a passenger vehicle approaches an entrance **641** of a parking lot, UAD **601** may be configured (in association with the vehicle or with a zone comprising the parking lot, e.g.) to transmit to the vehicle information of interest. Such information can include coordinates **605**, **606** (indicating an open parking space **648** or other location of interest, e.g.) or other positional information (indicating a recommended path **643** or waypoint **642** thereof, e.g.) transmitted via a wireless communication linkage **694**.

[0108] With reference now to FIG. **16**, shown is a high-level logic flow **16** of an operational process. Intensive operation **51** describes obtaining first position data from a first entity, by a second entity, the first entity being a first unmanned aerial device (e.g. a coordinate communication module **136** resident in car **602** receiving two or more coordinates **605** from UAD **601** indicating the position of UAD **601**). This can occur, for example, in a context in which UAD **601** implements one or more UAD's **201**, **501** as described above; in which an instance of primary unit **110** is resident in one or both of the "first" and "second" entities; in which the "second" entity (car **602** or user **626**, e.g.) has arrived at an entrance **641** of a crowded parking lot; in which UAD **601** has found and occupied a vacant parking space **648**; and in which UAD **601** transmits its location (to a user interface **660** of the "second" entity, e.g.) via a wireless linkage **694** to assist a device or user (in finding and occupying the parking space **648**, e.g.). In some contexts, the first UAD **601** may include an interface control module **141** configured to transmit turn-by-turn instructions, coordinates **605**, or other such guidance, for example. See FIG. **17**. Such guidance can, for example, lead a "second" device (UAD **202** or car **602**, e.g.) or user **226**, **626** thereof to a pickup or delivery site **552**, an article or other material there, a person in a crowd, or other such resources and destinations having locations known to primary unit **110**.

[0109] In light of teachings herein, numerous existing techniques may be applied for configuring special-purpose circuitry or other structures effective for coordinate communication (acquiring, transmitting, receiving, or using altitude or other positional coordinates, e.g.) without undue experimentation or for configuring other decisions and devices as described herein. See, e.g., U.S. Pat. No. 8,107,608 ("System and method for providing routing, mapping, and relative position information to users of a communication network"); U.S. Pat. No. 8,041,453 ("Method and apparatus for defining and utilizing product location in a vending machine"); U.S. Pat. No. 8,009,058 ("Tracking location and usage of a mechanical sub assembly (MSA) within an automated storage library utilizing a unique identifier associated with location coordinates of the MSA"); U.S. Pat. No. 7,819,315 ("Apparatus and method for providing product location information to customers in a store"); U.S. Pat. No. 7,705,714 ("Wheel position detecting device that performs dedicated local communication for each wheel and tire air pressure detecting device including the same"); U.S. Pat. No. 7,555,386 ("System and method for sharing position information using mobile communication system"); U.S. Pat. No. 6,609,317 ("Signs for display of store item location systems").

[0110] In light of teachings herein, numerous existing techniques may be applied for configuring special-purpose circuitry or other structures effective for locating particular individuals or other mobile targets without undue experimentation or for configuring other decisions and devices as described herein. See, e.g., U.S. Pat. No. 8,200,247 ("Confirming a venue of user location"); U.S. Pat. No. 8,106,746 ("Method, apparatus, and system for selecting and locating objects having radio frequency identification (RFID) tags"); U.S. Pat. No. 8,064,647 ("System for iris detection tracking and recognition at a distance"); U.S. Pat. No. 8,032,153 ("Multiple location estimators for wireless location"); U.S. Pat. No. 7,925,093 ("Image recognition apparatus"); U.S. Pat. No. 7,893,848 ("Apparatus and method for locating, identifying and tracking vehicles in a parking area"); U.S. Pat. No. 7,876,215 ("System and method for locating and notifying a mobile user of people having attributes or interests matching a stated preference"); U.S. Pat. No. 7,656,292 ("Flexible anti-theft pack for tracking and location"); U.S. Pat. No. 7,647,171 ("Learning, storing, analyzing, and reasoning about the loss of location-identifying signals"); U.S. Pat. No. 7,092,566 ("Object recognition system and process for identifying people and objects in an image of a scene"); U.S. Pat. No. 6,513,015 ("System and method for customer recognition using wireless identification and visual data transmission"); U.S. Pat. No. 6,219,639 ("Method and apparatus for recognizing identity of individuals employing synchronized biometrics").

[0111] In light of teachings herein, numerous existing techniques may be applied for configuring special-purpose circuitry or other structures effective for locating specific resources without undue experimentation or for configuring other decisions and devices as described herein. See, e.g., U.S. Pat. No. 8,194,975 ("Use of an intrinsic image in face recognition"); U.S. Pat. No. 7,659,835 ("Method and apparatus for recognizing parking slot by using bird's eye view and parking assist system using the same"); U.S. Pat. No. 7,480,394 ("Method and arrangement for recognizing objects in mail item images, their position and reading their postal information"); U.S. Pat. No. 6,592,033 ("Item recognition method and apparatus"); U.S. Pat. No. 6,373,982 ("Process and equipment for recognition of a pattern on an item presented"); U.S. Pat. No. 6,313,745 ("System and method for fitting room merchandise item recognition using wireless tag"); U.S. Pat. No. 6,121,916 ("Method and apparatus for recognizing stationary objects with a moving side-looking radar").

[0112] Referring again to FIG. **16**, extensive operation **83** describes signaling a decision whether or not to allocate a first resource to the second entity after the first position data passes from the first unmanned aerial device to the second entity, the first resource being associated with the first position data (e.g. resource reservation module **156** confirming a reservation **376** of parking space **648** after coordinates **605** thereof arrive at user interface **660**). This can occur, for example, in a context in which parking space **648** is the "first" resource; in which the "second" entity is identified as the driver (by name **351**, e.g.) or as the car (by model **352** or license plate number **353**, e.g.); in which UAD **601** and user interface **660** each contain an instance of primary unit **110**; in which UAD **601** receives and announces one or more such identifiers (via a speaker, projector, or other output **122** of UAD **601**, e.g.) to passersby; in which user **626** enters the decision by indicating whether or not to associate the "first" resource with an identifier **355** of the second entity via input **121** of user interface **660**; and in which user **626** would otherwise be unable to reserve the resource before happening across it. In other applications of flow **16**, such "first" resources may include a cashier or other living entity; a public table or other space; a power or network connection; an item for sale or other object; or other such resources that a device can deem available for allocation under conditions as described herein. Moreover such "second" entities may include UAD's or other devices or people as described herein (identified by entity identification module **143**, e.g.).

[0113] In light of teachings herein, numerous existing techniques may be applied for configuring special-purpose circuitry or other structures effective for entity identification (associating a specific identifier with a device, user, group, or other entity, e.g.) without undue experimentation or for configuring other decisions and devices as described herein. See, e.g., U.S. Pat. No. 8,176,156 ("Server identification assignment in a distributed switched storage environment"); U.S. Pat. No. 8,136,025 ("Assigning document identification tags"); U.S. Pat. No. 7,970,426 ("Method of assigning provisional identification to a subscriber unit and group"); U.S. Pat. No. 7,877,515 ("Identity assignment for software components"); U.S. Pat. No. 7,495,576 ("Modular electronic sign and method of assigning a unique identifier to common modules of said sign"); U.S. Pat. No. 7,383,174 ("Method for generating and assigning identifying tags to sound files"); U.S. Pat. No. 6,721,761 ("System for assigning digital identifiers to telephone numbers and IP numbers"); U.S. Pat. No. 6,430,182 ("Fabric system and method for assigning identifier for fabric apparatus therefor"); U.S. Pat. No. 6,283,227 ("Downhole activation system that assigns and retrieves identifiers"); U.S. Pat. No. 6,114,970 ("Method of assigning a device identification"); U.S. Pat. No. 6,091,738 ("Transmission-equipment and method for assigning transmission-equipment identification number in transmission system").

[0114] In light of teachings herein, numerous existing techniques may be applied for configuring special-purpose circuitry or other structures effective for resource reservation (associating an entity identifier with a living or other resource, e.g.) without undue experimentation or for configuring other decisions and devices as described herein. See, e.g., U.S. Pat. No. 8,166,484 ("System for confirming and cancelling tentative resource reservation within the valid time indicates period during which the tentative reservation request is valid"); U.S. Pat. No. 8,160,906 ("System and method for improved rental vehicle reservation management"); U.S. Pat. No. 8,150,403 ("Reservation of mobile station communication resources"); U.S. Pat. No. 8,117,051 ("Method for determining the number of available transport seats in a computerized reservation system"); U.S. Pat. No. 8,065,287 ("Method and system for searching availability of an entity for purchase or reservation"); U.S. Pat. No. 7,956,769 ("Method and system for reservation-based parking"); U.S. Pat. No. 7,818,190 ("Camping reservation system, method and program"); U.S. Pat. No. 7,783,530 ("Parking reservation systems and related methods"); U.S. Pat. No. 7,783,506 ("System and method for managing reservation requests for one or more inventory items"); U.S. Pat. No. 7,693,779 ("Method and system for requesting a reservation for a set of equity instruments to be offered"); U.S. Pat. No. 7,634,426 ("Golf reservation system"); U.S. Pat. No. 7,548,866 ("Individual seat selection ticketing and reservation system").

[0115] FIG. **7** depicts another system **7** in which one or more technologies may be implemented, depicting a view from above of several people **725**, **726**, **727** near a zone boundary **789** dividing two zones **781**, **782** (areas of land, e.g.). Person **726** is shown carrying an unmanned aerial device **701** containing itineraries **761**, **762** (in a memory **395** or other medium **195** thereof, e.g.) in one or more contexts further described below. In one context, person **726** is walking, and UAD **701** is traveling, toward a person **725** or device **775** that is currently a distance **788** away. In another, the destination **530** is defined as a vicinity **785** (a detection range of a proximity sensor **449**, e.g.) of such a device **775**. In another context, UAD **701** is guiding person **726** generally along a static or dynamic path **743** comprising a waypoint **742**. In yet another context, a subject (person **727**, e.g.) has one or more attributes (clothing **728** or voice or face or other biometric **564**, e.g.) susceptible of automatic recognition by one or more stationary event/condition detection units **400** or other recognition modules (aboard a UAD **701** or other portable device **775**, e.g.). See FIG. **14**.

[0116] With reference now to FIG. **17**, shown is a high-level logic flow **17** of an operational process. Intensive operation

52 describes causing a first unmanned aerial device to guide a first individual to a first destination (e.g. interface control module **141** causing a display, speaker, or other output **392** of unmanned aerial device **701** to provide navigational instruction **397** effective for guiding person **726** according to a first itinerary **761**). This can occur, for example, in a context in which the first destination is a vicinity **785** of a person **725** or of a portable device **775**; in which the first destination is also a non-stationary component of the first itinerary **761** (indicating such a person **725**, device **775**, or other destination, e.g.); in which person **726** is the "first" individual, who may be traveling through a zone **782** in which conventional GPS navigation devices cannot be used; and in which person **726** would otherwise have to find the "first" destination without any device assistance. On a cruise ship or tightly managed facility in which an owner (of zone **782**, e.g.) does not provide a public wireless connectivity (cell tower access, e.g.) or in which individuals are not permitted to bring their own wireless devices onsite, for example, the owner may lend such UAD's **701** to visitors for authorized uses (finding a stationary or other destination **530** within or across a controlled zone **782**, e.g.). Alternatively, in some variants, a flight control module **151** may perform operation **52** by flying ahead of the first individual (user **626**, e.g.) slow enough to be followed. This can occur, for example, in a context in which itinerary **761** defines the first destination (parking space **648**, e.g.) and in which flight control module **151** is configured to respond to a microphone, accelerometer, camera, or other input **391** of a "first" UAD signaling such flying guidance. For example, flight control module **151** may be configured to cause the first UAD to maintain a suitable lead distance (on the order of 1-3 meters, e.g.) of the first individual in some contexts, landing or otherwise slowing down as necessary if the individual follows slowly, moving laterally or backward if the individual moves orthogonally to or opposite to the first UAD's current or next direction of travel, giving up (and returning to a kiosk **250** or other "home" station, e.g.) if the individual stops following for a period of time exceeding a threshold (on the order of 1 or 60 seconds, e.g.).

[0117] Alternatively or additionally, an instance of flight control module **151** aboard UAD **701** may be configured (by including a microphone **441** operatively coupled to a speech recognition module **446**, e.g.) to recognize and conditionally follow one or more commands given by the first person ("stay with me" or "fly away" e.g.). In some variants, for example, such a command **482** of "stay with me" can conditionally cause an override or modification of a default configuration of flight control module **151** so that flight control module **152** is temporarily disabled or so that itinerary **762** is suspended until after speech recognition module **446** detects and signals the "fly away" command **483** (to one or more flight control modules **151**, **152**, e.g.). This can occur, for example, in a context in which the latter event defines an alternative trigger **422** causing the first UAD to fly to a "home" station (or a "second" destination, e.g.) defined by itinerary **762** under the control of flight control module **152**.

[0118] In light of teachings herein, numerous existing techniques may be applied for configuring special-purpose circuitry or other structures effective for interface control (remotely or locally controlling how an interface handles user input or output, e.g.) without undue experimentation or for configuring other decisions and devices as described herein. See, e.g., U.S. Pat. No. 8,201,143 ("Dynamic mating of a modified user interface with pre-modified user interface code library"); U.S. Pat. No. 8,198,568 ("Input sensitive user interface"); U.S. Pat. No. 8,185,483 ("System for design and use of decision models"); U.S. Pat. No. 8,184,070 ("Method and system for selecting a user interface for a wearable computing device"); U.S. Pat. No. 8,181,119 ("User interface with inline customization"); U.S. Pat. No. 8,171,460 ("System and method for user interface automation"); U.S. Pat. No. 8,171,394 ("Methods and systems for providing a customized user interface for viewing and editing meta-data"); U.S. Pat. No. 8,165,567 ("Method and system for customizing user interface by editing multimedia content"); U.S. Pat. No. 8,151,201 ("User interface manager and method for reacting to a change in system status"); U.S. Pat. No. 8,127,233 ("Remote user interface updates using difference and motion encoding"); U.S. Pat. No. 8,122,365 ("System and method for dynamic creation and customization of a user interface in a web service environment"); U.S. Pat. No. 7,908,221 ("System providing methods for dynamic customization and personalization of user interface").

[0119] Referring again to FIG. **17**, extensive operation **85** describes causing the first unmanned aerial device to fly to a second destination as an automatic and conditional response to an indication of the first individual arriving at the first destination (e.g. flight control module **152** causing a "first" UAD **701** to fly to a kiosk **250** or other station **520** as an implementation of an itinerary **762** triggered by the first UAD arriving at the first destination). This can occur, for example, in a context in which the first UAD implements one or more primary units **110** or interface devices **310**; in which the "second" destination comprises the kiosk **250** or other station **520**; in which a proximity sensor **449** or other such input **121** (operatively coupled to a flight control module **152** of device **775**, e.g.) detects that UAD **701** is in a vicinity **785** of device **775** (as the indication of the first individual arriving at the first destination, e.g.); and in which person **726** would otherwise have to instruct UAD **701** what to do after arriving. In some variants, for example, such an input **121** may include a wireless signal processing module **450** configured to transmit a first wireless signal **451** and receive a second wireless signal **452** (echo, e.g.) responsive thereto, the wireless signals **451**, **452** jointly manifesting a delay indicative of a distance **788** between the devices so that a signal **453** derived therefrom indicates the first UAD arriving "at" the first destination as the derived signal **453** crossing a threshold **458**, the flight control module **152** being operatively coupled to wireless signal processing module **450** and responsive to such crossing. Alternatively or additionally, network **190** may include an event/condition detection unit **400** implemented in UAD **701**. In some variants, moreover, one or more additional flight control modules **152** may be configured to perform one or more variants of operation **85** (causing the 1st UAD to fly to a 3nd destination as an automatic and conditional response to an indication of the first individual arriving at the 2nd destination or to some other indication of the first UAD arriving at the 2nd destination, e.g.).

[0120] In light of teachings herein, numerous existing techniques may be applied for configuring special-purpose circuitry or other structures effective for flight control (using one or more remote or on-board controllers to cause an aerial device to implement a user-specified or autonomously selected route or itinerary, e.g.) without undue experimentation or for configuring other decisions and devices as described herein. See, e.g., U.S. Pat. No. 8,186,589 ("UAV decision and control system"); U.S. Pat. No. 8,100,366 ("Automatic kite flight control system"); U.S. Pat. No. 8,074,941 ("Aircraft flight control"); U.S. Pat. No. 7,962,252 ("Self-contained avionics sensing and flight control system for small unmanned aerial vehicle"); U.S. Pat. No. 7,502,684 ("Method and system for the automatic piloting of an aircraft on the approach to an airdrop position"); U.S. Pat. No. 7,431,243 ("Guidance and control for an autonomous soaring UAV"); U.S. Pat. No. 7,130,741 ("Navigating a UAV with a remote control device"); U.S. Pat. No. 6,926,233 ("Automatic formation flight control system (AFFCS)—a system for automatic formation flight control of vehicles not limited to aircraft, helicopters, or space platforms"); U.S. Pat. No. 6,856,894 ("Navigating a UAV under remote control and manual control with three dimensional flight depiction"); U.S. Pat. No. 6,847,856 ("Method for determining juxtaposition of physical components with use of RFID tags"); U.S. Pat. No. 6,497,600 ("Automatic pilot system for model aircraft").

[0121] Another system **8** in which one or more technologies may be implemented is shown in FIG. **8**, depicting a view of several unmanned aerial devices (UAD's) **801**, **802**, **803** configured to communicate with a control unit **860** on a network **890**. Task definition module **870** (residing in control unit **860**, e.g.) may include one or more aliases **871** in a role list **875** (identifying one or more unmet needs of a task **491**-**499**, e.g.) and one or more aliases ("Hulk," e.g.) in a participant list **885** or other met needs list **880** of the task or job. UAD **801** comprises a name recognition module **810** configured to recognized a primary identifier **811** of UAD **801**. UAD **802** comprises a name recognition module **820** configured to recognized a primary identifier **821** of UAD **802** as well as one or more aliases **822**, **823** of UAD **802**. (In some embodiments, one or more aliases or other identifiers "of" a device may also refer to a specific circuit or virtual entity at least partly aboard the device.)

[0122] With reference now to FIG. **18**, shown is a high-level logic flow **18** of an operational process. Intensive operation **54** describes indicating a first unmanned aerial device participating in a first task (e.g. enlistment module **133** generating a confirmation **381** that UAD **801** will participate in a delivery task **491** being coordinated by control unit **860**). This can occur, for example, in a context in which one or more networks **190**, **890** comprise interface device **310**; in which control unit **860** and UAD's **801**, **802**, **803** may each contain (a respective instance of) primary unit **110**, each optionally including event/condition detection unit **400**; in which (an instance of) enlistment module **133** resides in control unit **840** and transmits an invitation **374** to UAD **801** to participate in one or more tasks **491**-**499**; and in which UAD **801** transmits a timely acceptance **393** of the invitation **374**. Alternatively or additionally, one or more enlistment modules **134** (resident in UAD **801**, e.g.) may be configured to identify tasks **491**, **492** suitable for UAD **801** to participate in and may transmit one or more requests **373** for such participation (to control unit **860**, e.g.). This can occur, for example, in which enlistment module **133** is configured to perform an instance of operation **54** by transmitting an acceptance **394** of request **373**. In some contexts, such requests **373** and invitations **374** (in an instance of network **190** that includes several UAD's **801**, **802**, **803** as described above, e.g.) may include a temporal threshold **459** expressing a deadline at or before which the request or invitation recipient must respond (as an expiration time of the request or invitation after which no acceptance of such request **373** or invitation **374** would be valid, e.g.). Alternatively or additionally, in the absence of such expression, one or more enlistment modules **133**, **134** may be configured to apply a default deadline (within 1-2 orders of magnitude of a millisecond or a second after such transmission, e.g.), after which such recruitment subtask may be deemed unsuccessful.

[0123] In light of teachings herein, numerous existing techniques may be applied for configuring special-purpose circuitry or other structures effective for device enlistment (enabling or otherwise causing one or more available devices to participate in one or more suitable tasks, e.g.) without undue experimentation or for configuring other decisions and devices as described herein. See, e.g., U.S. Pat. No. 8,151,272 ("Optimized usage of collector resources for performance data collection through even task assignment"); U.S. Pat. No. 8,128,484 ("Game system generating second game according to game result of a device and allowing other devices to participate in second game thus generated"); U.S. Pat. No. 8,051,764 ("Fluid control system having selective recruitable actuators"); U.S. Pat. No. 7,948,447 ("Mobile display"); U.S. Pat. No. 7,864,702 ("Control and recruitment of client peripherals from server-side software"); U.S. Pat. No. 7,406,515 ("System and method for automated and customizable agent availability and task assignment management"); U.S. Pat. No. 7,308,472 ("System allowing data input device to request management server to assign a data input job to itself"); U.S. Pat. No. 6,975,820 ("Device control using job ticket scoring"); U.S. Pat. No. 6,493,581 ("System and method for rapid recruitment of widely distributed easily operated automatic external defibrillators").

[0124] Referring again to FIG. **18**, extensive operation **82** describes signaling a decision whether or not to cause the first unmanned aerial device to recognize an alias identifying the first unmanned aerial device as an automatic and conditional response to an indication of the first unmanned aerial device participating in the first task, the alias being different than a primary digital identifier of the first unmanned aerial device (e.g. control unit **860** transmitting a command **481** that configures name recognition module **810** to respond to an alias **871** of "Aunt" as an automatic and conditional response to control unit **860** receiving an acceptance or confirmation **381** indicating that UAD **801** will participate in delivery task **491**). This can occur, for example, in a context in which "Aunt" is not a primary identifier **811** (serial number or Internet Protocol address, e.g.) that UAD **801** ordinarily responds to and in which name recognition module **810** was previously configured not to respond to "Aunt"; in which a name recognition module **820** of UAD **802** responds to an alias **822** of "Hulk" pursuant to the same delivery task **491**; in which a primary identifier **821** of UAD **802** is neither "Hulk" nor "Aunt"; in which enlistment module **133** also causes alias **871** to be transferred into a participant list **885** of the delivery task **491** (in a met needs list **880** thereof, e.g.) that grows with each successful recruitment; and in which the primary digital identifier would otherwise have to be used throughout the task in addressing UAD **801**. Alternatively or additionally, a primary unit **110** (residing in station **520**, e.g.) remotely controlling UAD **801** may include a name recognition module **146** configured to perform operation **84** (pursuant to a successful recruitment as described above, e.g.).

[0125] In light of teachings herein, numerous existing techniques may be applied for configuring special-purpose circuitry or other structures effective for name recognition (determining whether an incoming signal is addressing an entity by comparing a component of the incoming signal against one or more names of the entity, e.g.) without undue experimentation or for configuring other decisions and devices as described herein. See, e.g., U.S. Pat. No. 8,135,764 ("Configuration management server, name recognition method and name recognition program"); U.S. Pat. No. 7,865,356 ("Method and apparatus for providing proper or partial proper name recognition"); U.S. Pat. No. 7,822,988 ("Method and system for identity recognition"); U.S. Pat. No. 7,792,837 ("Entity name recognition"); U.S. Pat. No. 7,370,078 ("Determining a remote device name"); U.S. Pat. No. 6,052,682 ("Method of and apparatus for recognizing and labeling instances of name classes in textual environments").

[0126] Another system **9** in which one or more technologies may be implemented is shown in FIG. **9**, depicting UAD **901** (comprising primary unit **110**, e.g.) operably connected with one or more networks **190** (comprising network **990**, e.g.) via a wireless communication linkage **994**. Network **990** includes (a memory **395** or other data handling medium **195** containing) one or more records **961**, **962**, **963**, **964**, some of which may (optionally) include digitally represented delivery tasks **980** or other tasks **491-499**, each of which may (optionally) comprise one or more instances of task descriptions **981** or tracking modes **982** as shown. UAD **901** may (optionally) include one or more instances of tracking control modules **977**; record generation modules **978**, or record omission modules **979**. In some contexts, UAD **901** (implementing UAD **501**, e.g.) may be configured to fly (along respective paths **581**, **582**, **583**, e.g.) among two or more stations **930**, **940**, **950** (e.g. on respective buildings **935**, **945**, **955**), some or all of which may be observable by a stationary or pivotable camera **936** (in a configuration like systems **3-8** described above, e.g.).

[0127] With reference now to FIG. **19**, shown is a high-level logic flow **19** of an operational process. Intensive operation **55** describes obtaining a tracking mode of a delivery task of a first unmanned aerial device (e.g. tracking control module **977** receiving a tracking mode **982** of zero pertaining to a delivery task **980** that has been assigned to UAD **901**). This can occur, for example, in a context in which a task description **981** of delivery task **980** indicates a physical delivery of a "first" item (envelope **551**, e.g.) to station **940**; in which UAD **901** implements a primary unit **110** that includes data acquisition module **138**; in which one or more just-completed task **493** involved UAD **901** visiting station **950**; in which a tracking mode **982** of zero corresponds to a delivery protocol **417** by which the specific item is delivered in lieu of operation **53** (without notifying a provider of an item delivered, e.g.); and in which tracking control module **977** would otherwise trigger data acquisition module **138** to obtain at least some delivery-indicative data **411-413** in response to the item being delivered to station **940** (by performing operation **53**, e.g.). See FIG. **15**. In some variants, for example, task **493** may include one or more instances of delivery tasks **494**, pickup tasks **495**, recharge tasks **496**, reconfiguration tasks **497**, or data transfer tasks **498**. In some variants, for example, UAD **901** downloads each successive task in a resting state after completing the prior task. Alternatively or additionally, tracking control module **977** may be configured to implement a default tracking mode **361**—indicating at least one of the first item(s) or UAD(s), e.g.—for each task **494-499** except when that task specifies an alternative tracking mode (such as a brief mode **362** or user-defined mode **363**, e.g.).

[0128] In some variants, one or more instances of tracking control module **148** resident in network **990** may be configured to perform operation **55**. This can occur, for example, in a context in which the first UAD **901** does not have any on-board capability of performing operation **55** or is currently configured not to perform operation **55**; in which network **990** contains one or more instances of primary unit **110** (resident in a "second" UAD **202** or tower-based station **520**, e.g.); and in which tracking control module **148** receives tracking mode **982** as a component of a delivery task **980** assigned to the first UAD **901**.

[0129] In light of teachings herein, numerous existing techniques may be applied for configuring special-purpose circuitry or other structures effective for tracking control (identifying and updating how increments of task progress are documented, e.g.) without undue experimentation or for configuring other decisions and devices as described herein. See, e.g., U.S. Pat. No. 8,179,261 ("Identification and surveillance device, system and method for individual item level tracking"); U.S. Pat. No. 8,179,253 ("Location and tracking system, method and device using wireless technology"); U.S. Pat. No. 8,135,171 ("Multipoint tracking method and related device"); U.S. Pat. No. 8,115,625 ("Parental alert and child tracking device which determines if a child has deviated from a predicated travel route"); U.S. Pat. No. 8,014,917 ("Apparatus for tracking and recording vital signs and task-related information of a vehicle to identify operating patterns"); U.S. Pat. No. 7,978,065 ("Device, system and method for tracking mobile assets"); U.S. Pat. No. 7,951,046 ("Device, method and computer program product for tracking and monitoring an exercise regimen"); U.S. Pat. No. 7,451,445 ("Mechanism for tracking the execution progress of a parent task which spawns one or more concurrently executing child tasks"); U.S. Pat. No. 7,401,030 ("Method and system for tracking disposition status of an item to be delivered within an organization"); U.S. Pat. No. 6,604,124 ("Systems and methods for automatically managing work flow based on tracking job step completion status"); U.S. Pat. No. 6,463,420 ("Online tracking of delivery status information over a computer network").

[0130] Referring again to FIG. **19**, extensive operation **81** describes signaling a decision whether or not to omit a record of the first unmanned aerial device completing the delivery task of the first unmanned aerial device as an automatic and conditional response to the tracking mode of the delivery task of the first unmanned aerial device (e.g. selective retention module **158** implementing either a decision **434** to deactivate record generation module **978** temporarily or a decision **435** to cause record generation module **978** to generate a record **961** of "first" UAD **901** having made such a delivery by configuring record generation module **978** before UAD **901** approaches building **945**). This can occur, for example, in a context in which decision **435** is "implemented" by a selective retention module **158** (resident in network **990**, e.g.) transmitting (to record generation module **978**, e.g.) either (1) a Boolean expression ("yes," e.g.) indicating that a user has requested one or more records **961-963** of the delivery or (2) an identifier **444** of which tracking mode **361-363** to use in such acquisition. Alternatively or additionally, decision **435** may be implemented by causing record generation module **978** to be transmitted to or updated aboard UAD **901**. Likewise a decision **434** "to omit a record" may be "implemented" by selective retention module **158** causing a selective deletion of record **961** (of UAD **901** delivering the "first" item to station **940**, e.g.) before one or more similar records **962-964** (relating to other tasks, e.g.) are transmitted from UAD **901** to network **990** (in a batch transfer, e.g.). This can occur, for example, in a context in which a data acquisition module **139** residing in UAD **901** generates and holds at least one photograph **553**, **554** or other record **961-963** for each delivery aboard UAD **901** (in a memory **395** or other data-handling medium **195** thereof, e.g.); in which record omission module **979** selectively deletes a subset of such records **961-963** identified by selective retention module **158**; and in which a remainder (comprising record **962**, e.g.) of such records is later transmitted to network **990**. In other contexts a selective retention module **158** resident in network **990** can implement a decision to omit such a record **961** of the delivery task completion (from a data transmission to a station **520** outside network **990**, e.g.) by explicitly listing (a) one or more records **962-963** to be included in such transmission or (b) one or more records **961** to be excluded from such transmission. This can occur, for example, in a context in which UAD **901** implements primary unit **110** and one or more of the above-described UAD's and in which either (1) unwanted tracking of delivery task **980** would occur or (2) UAD **901** would be unable to track a completion of other potentially available tasks **491-499**.

[0131] In light of teachings herein, numerous existing techniques may be applied for configuring special-purpose circuitry or other structures effective for selective event tracking without undue experimentation or for configuring other decisions and devices as described herein. See, e.g., U.S. Pat. No. 8,219,572 ("System and method for searching enterprise application data"); U.S. Pat. No. 8,165,932 ("Enhancement of network accounting records"); U.S. Pat. No. 8,019,771 ("Method for dynamically finding relations between database tables"); U.S. Pat. No. 7,922,088 ("System and method to automatically discriminate between different data types"); U.S. Pat. No. 7,903,839 ("Method for canceling impact of physical property variability on image quality performance of digital imaging system"); U.S. Pat. No. 7,883,013 ("Mobile image capture and processing system"); U.S. Pat. No. 7,870,012 ("Method for managing a workflow process that assists users in procurement, sourcing, and decision-support for strategic sourcing"); U.S. Pat. No. 7,835,971 ("Method and system configured for facilitating management of international trade receivables transactions"); U.S. Pat. No. 7,792,808 ("More efficient search algorithm (MESA) using virtual search parameters"); U.S. Pat. No. 7,769,644 ("Bill of lading transmission and processing system for less than a load carriers"); U.S. Pat. No. 7,739,096 ("System for extraction of representative data for training of adaptive process monitoring equipment"); U.S. Pat. No. 7,733,223 ("Effectively documenting irregularities in a responsive user's environment"); U.S. Pat. No. 7,631,065 ("System, method and computer program product for merging data in a network-based filtering and aggregating platform"); U.S. Pat. No. 7,496,670 ("Digital asset monitoring system and method"); U.S. Pat. No. 7,467,122 ("System for aiding the design of product configuration"); U.S. Pat. No. 7,394,817 ("Distributed data caching in hybrid peer-to-peer systems"); U.S. Pat. No. 7,346,675 ("System, method and computer program product for contract-based aggregation"); U.S. Pat. No. 7,142,110 ("Automatic conditioning of data accumulated by sensors monitoring supply chain processes").

[0132] FIG. **10** depicts another context in which one or more of the above-described systems may be implemented. System **10** comprises one or more instances of participating mobile devices **1010** such as airplanes **1001**, helicopters **1002**, or dirigibles **1003**. Each such mobile device **1010** may, moreover, comprise a passenger vehicle **1004** (like a car **602** or passenger airplane, e.g.), a handheld device (like a cellular telephone or UAD **201**, UAD **202** of FIG. **2**, e.g.), or another unmanned aerial device **1005** (such as a glider, balloon, rocket, helicopter **1002**, dirigible **1003**, or other such device configured to be maneuvered in flight, e.g.). In some contexts, moreover, such a device may include one or more instances of fuel cells **1021** or batteries or other primary energy sources **1022** or secondary energy sources (a photovoltaic cell, e.g.); wireless communication linkages **1094** (operably coupled with one or more controllers **1095** in network **1090** and remote from device **1010**, e.g.); a global positioning system (GPS) **1063**; timers **1064**; or local controllers **1085** operable for controlling one, two, or several props **1071**, **1072**, **1073** or wheels **683** (via one or more motors **1081**, **1082**, **1083**, e.g.).

[0133] In light of teachings herein, numerous existing techniques may be applied for configuring special-purpose circuitry or other structures effective for remotely, autonomously, or otherwise controlling one or more devices in flight without undue experimentation or for configuring other decisions and devices as described herein. See, e.g., U.S. Pat. No. 8,090,525 ("Device and method for providing automatic assistance to air traffic controllers"); U.S. Pat. No. 8,078,395 ("Control system for automatic circle flight"); U.S. Pat. No. 7,890,221 ("Method and device for consolidation by software synchronisation in flight control computers"); U.S. Pat. No. 6,926,233 ("Automatic formation flight control system (AFFCS)—a system for automatic formation flight control of vehicles not limited to aircraft, helicopters, or space platforms"); U.S. Pat. No. 6,847,865 ("Miniature, unmanned aircraft with onboard stabilization and automated ground control of flight path"); U.S. Pat. No. 6,604,044 ("Method for generating conflict resolutions for air traffic control of free flight operations"); U.S. Pat. No. 6,552,669 ("Automated air-traffic advisory system and method"); U.S. Pat. No. 6,538,581 ("Apparatus for indicating air traffic and terrain collision threat to an aircraft"); U.S. Pat. No. 6,526,377 ("Virtual presence"); U.S. Pat. No. 6,133,867 ("Integrated air traffic management and collision avoidance system").

[0134] Another system in which one or more technologies may be implemented is shown in FIG. **11**. Secondary unit **1150** comprises one or more instances of sequence recognition modules **1106**, **1107**; data capture modules **1108**, **1109**; interface control modules **1110**, **1111**, **1112**, **1113**, **1114**, **1115**; task implementation modules **1130**, **1131**, **1132**, **1133**, **1134**, **1135**, **1136**, **1137**, **1138**, **1139**; timers **1141** or other delay elements; outputs **1142** (speakers **1171** or displays **1172** configured to present data to device user **226**, e.g.); proximity detection modules **1153**, **1154**; resource reservation modules **1156**, **1157**; or motion control modules **1158**, **1159**. In some variants, one or more instances of secondary unit **1150** may be operably coupled with event/condition detection unit or may reside in one or more networks **190**, **990**, **1090** described above.

[0135] Another system in which one or more technologies may be implemented is shown in FIG. **12**. A medium **1200** (of storage or transmission or display, e.g.) may include one or more instances of task scheduler **1220** containing or otherwise able to access table entries **1225** comprising one or more digitally represented tasks **1211**, **1212**, **1213**, **1214** (each shown as a row, e.g.), each of which may include one or more instances of task identifiers **1221**, values **1222**, or specifications **1223**. Medium **1200** may also include status-indicative data **1240** (comprising one or more of image data **1241**, GPS data **1242**, or timing data **1243**, e.g.); task descriptions **1251**, **1252**, **1253**; or other task-related data **1250** as described herein.

[0136] Another context in which one or more technologies may be implemented is shown in FIG. **13**, depicting a stationary computer (implementing interface device **310**, e.g.) having a keyboard **1391** (implementing input **391**, e.g.) and a user's chair **1373** in an office **1380**. Office **1380** further comprises a desktop **1372** that supports or comprises a target **1360** (an ASIC **409**, surface pattern, or other feature detectable by UAD **1005**, e.g.) within a vicinity **1371** of which a delivery or landing (by or of UAD **1005**, e.g.) may occur as described below.

[0137] Another context in which one or more technologies may be implemented is shown in FIG. **14**, depicting one or more instances of articles **1400** each comprising a comparator **1401** or other event/condition logic **1410** that may (optionally) implement target **1360** as well. Alternatively or additionally, article **1400** may comprise one or more instances of passive radio frequency identification (RFID) chips **1461**; a cup **1464** or other container **1465** above which is a position **1463** to which UAD **1005** may fly; device activations modules **1471**, **1472**; device configuration modules **1475**; task implementation modules **1481**, **1482**, **1483**, **1484**, **1485**, **1486**; device configuration modules **1475**; task implementation modules **1481**, **1482**, **1483**, **1484**, **1485**, **1486**; charge-coupled devices (CCD's) **1493** or other sensor arrays **1494**; or disk drives **1495**. In some contexts, as variously described herein, article **1400** (implementing UAD **1005**, e.g.) may include a sensor array **1494** (camera, e.g.) configured to depict (some or all of) a vicinity (chair **1373**, e.g.) of an object (target **1360**, e.g.) or a person **727** or of itself.

[0138] Another context in which one or more technologies may be implemented is shown in FIG. **20**, depicting various structures forming a part of UAD **1005** (on a bottom or side thereof, e.g.) having one or more mechanical linkages **2040** (adhesives or tethers or clamps or other such releasable support mechanisms **2020**, e.g.) that can physically engage or disengage one or more cargo modules **2090**. As shown, each such cargo module **2090** may include one or more instances of packages **2050** (having a hole **2049** therethrough, e.g.); syringes **2061**, inhalers **2062**, capsules **2063** (containing a dose **2064** of therapeutic material, e.g.), or other such products **2060** (in a dispenser **2038**, e.g.); data handling units **2078** (comprising a camera **2071**, display **2072**, or other device having a primary function of handling data, e.g.); or releasable UAD energy sources (battery **2085**, e.g.). In a variant of structure **2030** configured to engage package **2050**, for example, a cross-sectional view **2048** across hole **2049** is shown in a context in which package **2050** protrudes into a groove **2026** of UAD **1005**. Post **2006** may be moved (e.g. magnetically by a solenoid or mechanically by a spring, not shown) toward recess **2023** (to the right, as shown) to engage package **2050** or away from recess **2023** (to the left, as shown) to disengage package **2050**, as described below. Alternatively or additionally, UAD **1005** may include a robotic arm **2039** or similar structure **2030** for engaging or disengaging cargo module **2090** (pursuant to an engagement trigger or disengagement trigger from of one or more task implementation modules **1130-1139**, **1481-1486**, e.g.).

[0139] In some embodiments, a material is "therapeutic" if it includes a pharmaceutical (e.g. an antibiotic, pain reliever, or stimulant), a nutraceutical (e.g. a dietary supplement or other therapeutic food ingredient), a topically applied material (e.g. a liniment or lotion prescribed or used in a medical other health-related practice), or other product or components (e.g. propellants, inhalants, inoculants, or resorbable binders or coatings) intended primarily to maintain or improve a subject's health or performance. Some embodiments relate to a delivery of a "single dose" (±50%, e.g.) generally signifying a prescribed or recommended amount of a material ("two aspirin," e.g.) to be administered into or onto a subject's body either (1) periodically or (2) at one time.

[0140] In light of teachings herein, numerous existing techniques may be applied for configuring special-purpose circuitry or other structures effective for configuring devices to engage or disengage data handling units, medical products, energy sources, or other such modular cargo without undue experimentation or for configuring other decisions and devices as described herein. See, e.g., U.S. Pat. No. 8,192,698 ("Sampling probe, gripper and interface for laboratory sample management systems"); U.S. Pat. No. 8,179,496 ("Display casing capable of accommodating LCD panel modules of different sizes"); U.S. Pat. No. 8,167,236 ("Hybrid lift air vehicle"); U.S. Pat. No. 8,164,302 ("System for replenishing energy sources onboard different types of automatic vehicles"); U.S. Pat. No. 8,141,814 ("Lighter-than-air vertical load lifting system"); U.S. Pat. No. 8,128,026 ("Removable cargo pod with lifting mechanism and open top"); U.S. Pat. No. 8,122,982 ("Mobile robot systems and methods"); U.S. Pat. No. 8,101,434 ("Method for LED-module assembly"); U.S. Pat. No. 8,091,463 ("Machine gun ammunition holder incorporating center of gravity downward ejection-deflector"); U.S. Pat. No. 8,066,460 ("Apparatus and method for cargo loading system"); U.S. Pat. No. 8,037,839 ("Device for handling a load hoisted between two locations offset both vertically and horizontally"); U.S. Pat. No. 8,029,228 ("Cable hoisting apparatus"); U.S. Pat. No. 7,919,060 ("Dispenser for flattened articles"); U.S. Pat. No. 7,913,370 ("Method and apparatus for assembling exterior automotive vehicle body components onto an automotive vehicle body"); U.S. Pat. No. 7,750,778 ("System and method for attachment of objects"); U.S. Pat. No. 7,717,255 ("End of arm tool, apparatus, and method of engaging an article"); U.S. Pat. No. 7,648,513 ("Surgical manipulator for a telerobotic system"); U.S. Pat. No. 7,641,461 ("Robotic systems for automated construction"); U.S. Pat. No. 7,549,204 ("Methods for picking and placing workpieces into small form factor hard disk drives"); U.S. Pat. No. 7,474,212 ("Object tagged with RFID tag and device and method for processing it"); and U.S. Pat. No. 7,252,453 ("Robot arm coupling apparatus").

[0141] Another context in which one or more technologies may be implemented is shown in FIG. **21**. A medium **2100** (configured to implement storage or transmission or display, e.g.) may bear one or more instances of indications **2101**, **2102**, **2103**, **2104**, **2105**, **2106**, **2107**, **2108**, **2109**; triggers **2111**, **2112**, **2113**, **2114**, **2115**, **2116**, **2117**, **2118**, **2119**, **2120**; guidance **2130**; decisions **2131**, **2132**, **2133**, **2134**; clips **2151**, **2152**, **2153**; images **2161**, **2162**, **2163**, **2164**, **2165**; distances **2171**, **2172**, **2173**, **2174**, **2175**; directions **2186**, **2187**, **2188**, **2189**; or signals **2191**, **2192**, **2193**, **2194**, **2195**. Each of these items may (optionally) include two or more components. In various embodiments, for example, one or more of triggers **2110-2120** may comprise one or more instances of a character sequence **2121** or similar digital expression **2122** (expressing a scalar operating parameter **2127**, an alphanumeric identifier, or other such operating parameter **2128**, e.g.) to which a trigger recipient (an instance of task implementation module **1130** residing in UAD **1005** or another module depicted in FIGS. **1-20**, e.g.) is configured to respond. Each such trigger may likewise comprise one or more software-implemented control modules **2124** (comprising a device-implemented command sequence **2125**, e.g.) or operating parameters **2126**, **2127**, **2128**.

[0142] Several variants described herein refer to software or other device-detectable "implementations" such as one or more instances of computer-readable code, transistor or latch connectivity layouts or other geometric expressions of logical elements, firmware or software expressions of transfer functions implementing computational specifications, digital expressions of truth tables, or the like. Such instances can, in some implementations, include source code or other human-readable portions. Alternatively or additionally, functions of implementations described herein may constitute one or more device-detectable outputs such as decisions, manifestations, side effects, results, coding or other expressions, displayable images, data files, data associations, statistical correlations, streaming signals, intensity levels, frequencies or other measurable attributes, packets or other encoded expressions, or the like from invoking or monitoring the implementation as described herein.

[0143] In some embodiments, a "state" of a component may comprise "available" or some other such state-descriptive labels, an event count or other such memory values, a partial depletion or other such physical property of a supply device, a voltage, or any other such conditions or attributes that may change between two or more possible values irrespective of device location. Such states may be received directly as a measurement or other detection, in some variants, and/or may be inferred from a component's behavior over time. A distributed or other composite system may comprise vector-valued device states, moreover, which may affect dispensations or departures in various ways as exemplified herein.

[0144] Another context in which one or more technologies may be implemented is shown in FIG. **22**. A medium **2200** (configured to implement storage or transmission or display, e.g.) may bear one or more instances of job records **2210**; data **2250**, **2251**, **2252**, **2253** (comprising measurements **2211**, **2212**, **2213**, **2214** or images or other results **2221**, **2222**, **2223**, **2224**, **2225**, e.g.); triggers **2281**, **2282**, **2283**, **2284**; thresholds **2291**, **2292**, **2293**, **2294**; or components of other media **195**, **410**, **1200**, **2100** described above. In some variants, for example, a job record may include one or more task identifiers **2201**, **2202**, **2203** configured to identify, in respective embodiments, any of the other tasks indicated herein to be implemented in one or more devices.

[0145] Another context in which one or more technologies may be implemented is shown in FIG. **28**. A mounted camera **2836** (supported by a building or other stationary structure, e.g.) is configured to observe one or more instances of a particular person (a recipient **2850** of a delivery, e.g.) or a portion thereof (a hand **2864** or face **2865**, e.g.) or a wearable device (an earpiece **2861** or wristband **2863**, e.g.) or a partial or entire vicinity **2855** (room or other facility, e.g.) of one of these entities. Moreover in some contexts, as further described below, recipient **2850** may be a user of one or more of the above-described devices (in vicinity **2855**, e.g.).

[0146] With reference now to flow **23** of FIG. **23** and to other flows **15-19** described above, in some variants, one or more intensive operations **2311**, **2316**, **2318** described below may (optionally) be performed in conjunction with one or more intensive operations **51-55** described above. Alternatively or additionally, extensive operation **2393** described below may likewise comprise or be performed in conjunction with one or more extensive operations **81-85** described above.

[0147] Intensive operation **2311** describes configuring the first unmanned aerial device to perform a first observation of a particular task in a first zone and a second unmanned aerial device to perform a second observation of the particular task in a second zone (e.g. task implementation module **1138** transmitting a trigger **2282** causing UAD **801** to capture an audio or video clip **2151** of a person **726** carrying UAD **701** seeking device **775** in zone **781** and also transmitting a trigger **2283** instructing UAD **802** to capture an audio or video clip **2152** of the person **726** seeking device **775** in zone **782**). This can occur, for example, in a context in which one or more UAD's **701** or people **726** are performing the particular task **499** (monitoring person **726** seeking device **775**, e.g.) across one or more zone boundaries **789**; in which secondary unit **1150** includes event/condition detection unit **400** and media **2100**, **2200**; in which at least one UAD **801**, **802** contains or otherwise interacts with secondary unit **1150**; in which such UAD's **801**, **802** or people **726** have different UAD operating restrictions in respective zones **781**, **782** (UAD **801** lacking permission to move or transmit only within zone **782**, for example, or UAD **802** lacking permission to move or transmit only within zone **781**); and in which adequate surveillance of the entire task **499** would otherwise be prohibited (by the owners of the respective zones **781**, **782**, e.g.).

[0148] In light of teachings herein, numerous existing techniques may be applied for configuring special-purpose circuitry or other structures effective for coordinating surveillance among two or more observers without undue experimentation or for configuring other decisions and devices as described herein. See, e.g., U.S. Pat. No. 8,180,107 ("Active coordinated tracking for multi-camera systems"); U.S. Pat. No. 7,947,936 ("Apparatus and method for cooperative multi target tracking and interception"); U.S. Pat. No. 7,739,157 ("Method of tracking the real time location of shoppers, associates, managers and vendors through a communication multi-network within a store"); U.S. Pat. No. 7,647,232 ("Real-time team coordination system for reconnaissance and surveillance missions"); U.S. Pat. No. 7,295,106 ("Systems and methods for classifying objects within a monitored zone using multiple surveillance devices"); U.S. Pat. No. 6,999,876 ("Modular architecture for rapid deployment and coordination of emergency event field surveillance"); U.S. Pat. No. 6,963,279 ("System and method for transmitting surveillance signals from multiple units to a number of points"); U.S. Pat. No. 6,577,976 ("Method for dynamic autocalibration of a multi-sensor tracking system and apparatus incorporating it therein"); U.S. Pat. No. 6,333,718 ("Continuous multi-satellite tracking"); U.S. Pat. No. 6,084,827 ("Dual-head multibeam sonar apparatus and method for tracking objects underwater"); U.S. Pat. No. 6,055,523 ("Method and apparatus for multi-sensor, multi-target tracking using a genetic algorithm").

[0149] Intensive operation **2316** describes configuring the first unmanned aerial device to capture normalcy-indicative data relating to a human subject (e.g. task implementation module **1135** causing, by transmitting an appropriate trigger **2281**, a data capture module **1108** to record one or more scalar measurements **2211-2213** or other data **2250-2253** directly or indirectly indicative of whether or not an item recipient **555**, user **226**, **626** or other human subject meets one or more recognizable criteria indicative of the human subject being impaired or otherwise abnormal). This can occur, for example, in a context in which a primary unit **110** contains a data capture module **1108** of one secondary unit **1150** and receives the trigger **2281** from another secondary unit **1150**; in which data **2251** comprises a video clip of the human subject taking something (a purse, e.g.) previously carried by another and then running away (at a pace greater than 4 miles per hour within 5 seconds of the taking event, e.g.); and in which primary unit **110** also implements one or more media **2200** of a "first" UAD as described above. See, e.g., FIG. **2** or **5-10**. In some contexts, such optically detectable events **1414** or conditions may be recognizable (as negatively indicative of normalcy, e.g.) by a corresponding optical condition detection module **1404** or by security personnel remotely viewing such data **2250**. Alternatively or additionally, data **2252** may comprise (1) an infrared image indicating warmer-than-normal or cooler-than-normal regions of the human subject's skin; (2) one or more scalar measurements **2211**, **2212** of the subject's body temperature, exhaled gas analysis (detecting a ketone concentration or other indication of intoxication, e.g.), rates (of respiration, speech, movement, or heartbeats, e.g.), or other such biometric parameters. Such events **1415** or conditions may be device-detectable or humanly recognizable (as negatively indicative of normalcy, e.g.) by a corresponding optical condition detection module **1404**, by another pattern recognition module **1421**, or by a person remotely viewing such data **2251-2253** in real time. In some contexts, for example, pattern recognition module **1421** may comprise a comparator **1401** configured to generate one or more results **2221**, **2222** ("normal," e.g.) of comparing one or more performance or biometric measurements **2211-2213** of a user **226**, **626** each against one or more corresponding normalcy-indicative thresholds **2291-2293** (maxima, e.g.). Such recognition may, for example, trigger the "first" UAD to obtain additional images or measurements **2214** pertaining to the apparent normalcy of the human subject.

[0150] In light of teachings herein, numerous existing techniques may be applied for configuring special-purpose circuitry or other structures effective for obtaining measurements, comparison results, or other normalcy-indicative data without undue experimentation or for configuring other decisions and devices as described herein. See, e.g., U.S. Pat. No. 8,135,957 ("Access control system based on brain patterns"); U.S. Pat. No. 8,061,842 ("Method of eye aliveness testing and device for eye aliveness testing"); U.S. Pat. No. 7,809,163 ("Method for prohibiting a person with a facial mask to operate an automatic teller machine"); U.S. Pat. No. 7,840,346 ("Real time performance comparison"); U.S. Pat. No. 7,571, 101 ("Quantifying psychological stress levels using voice patterns"); U.S. Pat. No. 7,825,815 ("Apparatus, systems, and methods for gathering and processing biometric and biomechanical data"); U.S. Pat. No. 7,733,214 ("System and methods for the remote measurement of a person's biometric data in a controlled state by way of synchronized music, video and lyrics"); U.S. Pat. No. 8,094,009 ("Health-related signaling via wearable items"); U.S. Pat. No. 8,145,199 ("Controlling mobile device functions"); U.S. Pat. No. 8,211,035 ("System and method for monitoring health using exhaled breath"); U.S. Pat. No. 7,477,993 ("Multiple sensing system and device"); U.S. Pat. No. 8,172,459 ("Apparatus and method for measuring biologic parameters"); U.S. Pat. No. 8,108,083 ("Vehicular system which retrieves hospitality information promoting improvement of user's current energy value based on detected temporal change of biological condition"); U.S. Pat. No. 7,787,663 ("System and method for detecting thermal anomalies").

[0151] Intensive operation **2318** describes causing the first unmanned aerial device to undertake a performance observation task of a job that includes a performance task and the performance observation task (e.g. task implementation module **1137** transmitting to UAD **501**, as the "first" UAD, a task identifier **2201** corresponding to a task description **1251** calling for specific status-indicative data **1240** relating to another device **1010** undertaking to fulfill a performance task description **1252** corresponding to task identifier **2202**). This can occur, for example, in which secondary unit **1150** and media **1200**, **2200** reside aboard UAD **501**; in which the "performance" specified by task description **1252** comprises delivering an envelope **551**; in which task description **1251** relates to obtaining one or more of image data **1241** (including photograph **553**, e.g.), GPS data **1242** (of destination **530**, e.g.), or timing data **1243** documenting the delivery; and in which such observation and performance are respectively identified by task identifiers **2201**, **2202** of a single common job record **2210**. Alternatively or additionally, such task description **1251** and other task descriptions **1252**, **1253** may comprise job description data **1130** managed and delegated by a common task implementation module **1137**. Other such task identifiers or descriptions may (optionally) comprise a scalar or other operating parameter **2126** of one or more triggers **421-423**, **2111-2120** transmitted by task implementation modules **1130-1139**, for example, as described herein.

[0152] In light of teachings herein, numerous existing techniques may be applied for configuring special-purpose circuitry or other structures effective for assigning tasks to respective devices without undue experimentation or for configuring other decisions and devices as described herein. See, e.g., U.S. Pat. No. 7,945,470 ("Facilitating performance of submitted tasks by mobile task performers"); U.S. Pat. No. 8,127,300 ("Hardware based dynamic load balancing of message passing interface tasks"); U.S. Pat. No. 7,716,667 ("Migrating virtual machines among computer systems to balance load caused by virtual machines"); U.S. Pat. No. 8,200,084 ("Encoding for information needed for routing and wavelength assignment in wavelength switched optical networks"); U.S. Pat. No. 8,181,168 ("Memory access assignment for parallel processing architectures"); U.S. Pat. No. 7,665,092 ("Method and apparatus for distributed state-based load balancing between task queues"); U.S. Pat. No. 8,184, 860 ("Image processing device for controlling a plurality of tasks"); U.S. Pat. No. 7,996,893 ("Determining roles for automated tasks in a role-based access control environment"); U.S. Pat. No. 8,184,860 ("Image processing device for controlling a plurality of tasks").

[0153] Extensive operation **2393** describes configuring the first unmanned aerial device to transmit a wireless signal indicative of having performed a particular task and not to store any indication of having performed the particular task (e.g. task implementation module **1136** transmitting a trigger **2114** to which a component of UAD **1005** responds by transmitting one or more optical or other wireless signals **454** indicative of UAD **1005** having completed a particular task **491-499** without any component borne by UAD **1005** storing any indication of the particular task having been performed). This can occur, for example, in a context in which volatile memory **395** contains an indication **2108** of such completion that task implementation module **1136** includes in wireless signal **454** and in which task implementation module **1136** comprises event/condition detection unit **400**. Alternatively or additionally, task implementation module **1136** may be configured to generate an indication **2108** of such completion (in response to one or more of photographs **553**, **554** or GPS data **1242** or timing data **1243** documenting a completed delivery task, e.g.) for inclusion in wireless signal **454**.

[0154] With reference now to flow **24** of FIG. **24** and to other flows **15-19**, **23** described above, in some variants, intensive operation **2415** described below may (optionally) be performed in conjunction with one or more intensive operations described above. Alternatively or additionally, one or more extensive operations **2494**, **2497**, **2498** described below may likewise comprise or be performed in conjunction with one or more extensive operations described above.

[0155] Intensive operation **2415** describes transmitting a wireless signal indicative of a delivery of a package to a device associated with a recipient of the package, the wireless signal indicating at least one of the first unmanned aerial device or the package or a sender of the package (e.g. data delivery module **154** transmitting a wireless signal **451** indicative of a delivery of a package **2050** into a vicinity of an article **1400** associated with a purchaser of the package **2050**, the wireless signal **451** indicating at least one of the 1st UAD **1005** or the package **2050** or a sender **510** of the package **2050**). This can occur, for example, in a context in which primary unit **110** resides in the "first" UAD **1005** or in another device **1010** described herein; in which the "vicinity" comprises the room in which article **1400** is situated; in which task implementation module **1481** transmits various operating parameters **2126-2128** (specified by a UAD user **226** or package sender **510**, e.g.) relating to such delivery. One such sequence **2121**, for example, may (optionally) comprise an alias **823** or other expression **2122** facilitating an identification of article **1400**. Another such expression **2122** may comprise global positioning system (GPS) or other destination coordinates **605**, **606** (of the article **1400**, e.g. or of an alternative destination to be used if the "first" UAD **1005** cannot locate the article **1400**, e.g.). Other such parameters may comprise one or more distances **2171-2175**; directions **2186-2189**; protocol identifiers, or other such indications **2101-2109** described herein.

[0156] In light of teachings herein, numerous existing techniques may be applied for configuring special-purpose circuitry or other structures effective for specifying how a delivery is to be performed without undue experimentation or for configuring other decisions and devices as described herein. See, e.g., U.S. Pat. No. 8,156,542 ("Conditional data delivery to remote devices"); U.S. Pat. No. 8,112,475 ("Managing data delivery based on device state"); U.S. Pat. No. 8,090,826 ("Scheduling data delivery to manage device resources"); U.S. Pat. No. 7,647,230 ("Method and apparatus for tracking a special service delivery of a mail item created by an office worker"); U.S. Pat. No. 7,587,369 ("Trusted and secure techniques, systems and methods for item delivery and execution"); U.S. Pat. No. 7,401,030 ("Method and system for tracking disposition status of an item to be delivered within an organization"); U.S. Pat. No. 7,225,983 ("Intelligent parcel monitoring and controlling apparatus and method and terminal for executing real-time parcel pickup and delivery and operation method thereof"); U.S. Pat. No. 7,143,937 ("Systems and methods for utilizing a tracking label in an item delivery system"); U.S. Pat. No. 6,463,354 ("System and method for automatic notification of upcoming delivery of mail item").

[0157] Extensive operation **2494** describes signaling a decision whether or not to reserve a space for a passenger vehicle (e.g. resource reservation module **1156** transmitting a trigger **2118** that is effective to allocate parking space **648** for the use of car **602**). This can occur, for example, in a context in which the trigger **2118** includes an affirmative decision **2133** (to reserve parking space **648**, e.g.) that has been received from a person (user **626**, e.g.) aboard the passenger vehicle; in which secondary unit **1150** resides in UAD **601** or in a stationary unit (at station **520**, e.g.) operable to communicate with UAD **601** and in which resource reservation module **1156** maintains one or more records **964** indicating available and unavailable parking spaces (in the same parking lot, e.g.) monitored by UAD **601**. In some contexts, moreover, UAD **601** may (optionally) perform operation **2494** by hovering or landing in parking space **648** to notify passersby that the space is taken.

[0158] In light of teachings herein, numerous existing techniques may be applied for configuring special-purpose circuitry or other structures effective for associating a thing or person with another thing or person without undue experimentation or for configuring other decisions and devices as described herein. See, e.g., U.S. Pat. No. 8,196,809 ("System and method for associating an absorbent article with a user"); U.S. Pat. No. 8,180,827 ("Method and apparatus for associating graphic icon in internet virtual world with user's experience in real world"); U.S. Pat. No. 8,160,615 ("Method and system for generating associations between a user profile and wireless devices"); U.S. Pat. No. 8,131,745 ("Associating user identities with different unique identifiers"); U.S. Pat. No. 8,051,429 ("Method for associating data bearing objects with user interface objects"); U.S. Pat. No. 8,006,194 ("Associating an object with a relevant data source"); U.S. Pat. No. 7,979,585 ("System and method to associate a private user identity with a public user identity"); U.S. Pat. No. 7,941,505 ("System and method for associating a user with a user profile in a computer network environment"); U.S. Pat. No. 7,787,870 ("Method and system for associating a user profile to a caller identifier").

[0159] Extensive operation **2497** describes signaling a decision whether or not to reserve a specific resource by associating the specific resource with a specific device or with a specific person (e.g. resource reservation module **157** transmitting one or more triggers **2113**, **2120** effective for implementing or broadcasting an association of a sender **510** or device **775** with person **725**). This can occur, for example, in a context in which network **190** comprises one or more systems **4-9** and media **1200**, **2100**, **2200** as described herein; in which trigger **2113** includes one expression **2122** for the specific resource (sender **510** or device **775**, e.g.) and another expression **2122** for the specific entity (device or person, e.g.) with which the specific resource is or will be associated. Alternatively or additionally, in some implementations, resource reservation module **1157** may perform operation **2497** by transmitting an indication **2103** that a specific resource (a modular data handling unit **2078**, e.g.) not be reserved for a specific entity (UAD **201**, e.g.) by associating the specific resource with another specific entity (UAD **202**, e.g.). This can occur, for example, in a context in which the specific resource can only be associated with one such entity.

[0160] In light of teachings herein, numerous existing techniques may be applied for configuring special-purpose circuitry or other structures effective for allocating resources without undue experimentation or for configuring other decisions and devices as described herein. See, e.g., U.S. Pat. No. 8,204,770 ("Computer-implemented systems and methods for resource allocation"); U.S. Pat. No. 8,200,583 ("Method and system for leasing or purchasing domain names"); U.S. Pat. No. 8,099,339 ("Systems and methods for pharmacy inventory management"); U.S. Pat. No. 7,979,309 ("Method and system for automating inventory management of consumer items"); U.S. Pat. No. 7,956,769 ("Method and system for reservation-based parking"); U.S. Pat. No. 7,941,354 ("Method and system for lease of assets, such as trailers, storage devices and facilities"); U.S. Pat. No. 7,865,409 ("Vehicle inventory management system and method"); U.S. Pat. No. 7,839,526 ("Reservation of secondary printing devices in a substitute printing system"); U.S. Pat. No. 7,836,186 ("Automated adjustment of IP address lease time based on usage"); U.S. Pat. No. 7,797,077 ("System and method for managing vending inventory"); U.S. Pat. No. 7,680,691 ("Inventory management system using RFID"); U.S. Pat. No. 7,636,687 ("Method and system for completing a lease for real property in an on-line computing environment"); U.S. Pat. No. 7,636,669 ("Recreational outing reservation system").

[0161] Extensive operation **2498** describes responding to an indication of the first unmanned aerial device becoming within a proximity of a mobile device (e.g. proximity detection module **1153** determining whether UAD **1005** has come into a vicinity **2855** of an earpiece **2861**, wristband **2863**, or other article **1400** wearable by a person). This can occur, for example, in a context in which such an article **1400** (comprising device **775**, e.g.) is worn by a person **725** who is moving (toward or away from UAD **1005**, e.g.); in which proximity detection module **1153** resides within the (wearable or other mobile) device **775** or within the "first" UAD **1005**; in which one or more components of such device are thereby able to detect a proximity of the other device; and in which proximity detection module **1153** responds by invoking one or more task implementation modules **1130-1139**, **1481-1486** described herein.

[0162] A first device may "become within" a proximity of a second device by one or both such devices moving toward the other. Each proximity detection module **1153** may, in some instances, operate by having a sensor as a component of a first device that detects the other device becoming close enough to the sensor to be detected by the sensor, irrespective of which device(s) moved. Alternatively or additionally, some implementations of proximity detection module **1153** may reside remotely from both devices and may be configured to determine the devices' mutual proximity from their respective coordinates **605**, **606**. In some contexts, for example, a proximity of an object may comprise a room (of a patient in a hospital, e.g.) containing the object. In others, a proximity (of target **1360**, e.g.) may comprise only an immediate vicinity **1371** (within a few centimeters, e.g.) of the object or may comprise an entire surface (desktop **1372**, e.g.) on which such an object is positioned.

[0163] In light of teachings herein, numerous existing techniques may be applied for configuring special-purpose circuitry or other structures effective for computing a difference between locations without undue experimentation or for configuring other decisions and devices as described herein. See, e.g., U.S. Pat. No. 8,044,798 ("Passive microwave speed and intrusion detection system"); U.S. Pat. No. 8,026,850 ("Apparatus and method for computing location of a moving beacon using time difference of arrival and multi-frequencies"); U.S. Pat. No. 7,962,283 ("Deviation-correction system for positioning of moving objects and motion tracking method thereof"); U.S. Pat. No. 7,778,792 ("Systems and methods for location, motion, and contact detection and tracking in a networked audiovisual device"); U.S. Pat. No. 7,775,329 ("Method and detection system for monitoring the speed of an elevator car"); U.S. Pat. No. 7,671,795 ("Wireless communications device with global positioning based on received motion data and method for use therewith"); U.S. Pat. No. 7,647,049 ("Detection of high velocity movement in a telecommunication system"); U.S. Pat. No. 7,460,052 ("Multiple frequency through-the-wall motion detection and ranging using a difference-based estimation technique"); U.S. Pat. No. 7,242,462 ("Speed detection methods and devices"); U.S. Pat. No. 6,985,206 ("Baseball pitch speed measurement and strike zone detection devices"); U.S. Pat. No. 6,400,304 ("Integrated GPS radar speed detection system").

[0164] In light of teachings herein, numerous existing techniques may be applied for configuring special-purpose circuitry or other structures effective for detecting whether two devices are near one another without undue experimentation or for configuring other decisions and devices as described herein. See, e.g., U.S. Pat. No. 8,078,107 ("Automatic network and device configuration for handheld devices based on bluetooth device proximity"); U.S. Pat. No. 8,050,243 ("Method and system for evaluating proximity to a WLAN for a UMA/GAN compatible electronic device"); U.S. Pat. No. 8,019,283 ("Automatic data encryption and access control based on Bluetooth device proximity"); U.S. Pat. No. 7,769,984 ("Dual-issuance of microprocessor instructions using dual dependency matrices"); U.S. Pat. No. 7,574,077 ("Optical imaging device for optical proximity communication"); U.S. Pat. No. 7,289,184 ("Liquid crystal panel and equipment comprising said liquid crystal panel"); U.S. Pat. No. 7,010,098 ("Ultrasonic proximity detector for a telephone device"); U.S. Pat. No. 6,735,444 ("Method and system for locating a device using a local wireless link"); U.S. Pat. No. 6,114,950 ("Obstacle proximity warning device for vehicles").

[0165] With reference now to flow **25** of FIG. **25** and to other flows **15-19**, **23**, **24** described above, in some variants, one or more intensive operations **2511**, **2513**, **2517** described below may (optionally) be performed in conjunction with one or more intensive operations described above. Alternatively or additionally, one or more extensive operations **2592**, **2599** described below may likewise comprise or be performed in conjunction with one or more extensive operations described above.

[0166] Intensive operation **2511** describes presenting navigation guidance via a display aboard the first unmanned aerial device while a primary motor of the first unmanned aerial device is not moving the first unmanned aerial device (e.g. triggering interface control module **1111** to output navigation guidance **2130** via a touchscreen or other display **1172** borne by UAD **1005** after controller **1085** stops motor **1081**). This can occur, for example, in a context in which UAD **1005** includes a secondary unit **1150** that includes one or more media **2110** and in which controller **1085** switches motor **1081** off. Alternatively or additionally, task implementation module **1131** may perform operation **2511** by displaying guidance **2130** (arrows, words, or other turn-by-turn navigation instructions for a pedestrian or motor vehicle, e.g.). In some variants, for example, such guidance **2130** may be outputted locally (to a user **226** via a speaker **1171** or display **1172**, **2072** aboard UAD **1005**, e.g.) while UAD **1005** is stationary (tethered or hovering or landed, e.g.). Alternatively or additionally, in some variants, such task implementation modules **1131**, **1132** may be disabled selectively by a signal from controller **1085** (a control signal indicating that motor **1081** is active, e.g.).

[0167] In light of teachings herein, numerous existing techniques may be applied for configuring special-purpose circuitry or other structures effective for providing navigational guidance without undue experimentation or for configuring other decisions and devices as described herein. See, e.g., U.S. Pat. No. 8,179,287 ("Method and apparatus for communicating map and route guidance information for vehicle navigation"); U.S. Pat. No. 8,170,798 ("Navigation system and operation guidance display method for use in this navigation system"); U.S. Pat. No. 8,155,805 ("Flight guidance and navigation display for a helicopter"); U.S. Pat. No. 7,970,539 ("Method of direction-guidance using 3D sound and navigation system using the method"); U.S. Pat. No. 7,899,617 ("Navigation system providing route guidance in multi-lane road according to vehicle lane position"); U.S. Pat. No. 7,881,497 ("Vision based navigation and guidance system"); U.S. Pat. No. 7,805,306 ("Voice guidance device and navigation device with the same"); U.S. Pat. No. 6,901,330 ("Navigation system, method and device with voice guidance"); U.S. Pat. No. 6,459,935 ("Integrated filter feed-thru"); U.S. Pat. No. 6,374,182 ("Method and system for providing walking instructions with route guidance in a navigation program").

[0168] Intensive operation **2513** describes transmitting navigation guidance via a speaker of the first unmanned aerial device while a primary motor of the first unmanned aerial device is not moving the first unmanned aerial device (e.g. task implementation module **1132** triggering interface control module **1111** to output navigation guidance **2130** via a speaker **1171** borne by UAD **1005** after controller **1085** disengages motor **1081** from propeller **1071**). This can occur, for example, in a context in which UAD **1005** includes a secondary unit **1150** that includes one or more media **2110** and in which controller **1085** permits UAD **1005** to idle (drift or land, e.g.) by disengaging one or more primary motors **1081**, **1082** thereof from one or more props **1071**, **1072** to which it/they correspond (by mechanical coupling, e.g.). In some variants, for example, such task implementation modules **1131**, **1132** may be enabled (so that it is possible for the transmission to coincide with the condition recited in operation **2513**, e.g.) by a signal from a sensor array **1494** positioned adjacent one or more props **1071**, **1072** (indicating that they are stopped, e.g.).

[0169] Intensive operation **2517** describes identifying an operating mode of the first unmanned aerial device audibly or visibly while a primary motor of the first unmanned aerial device is not moving the first unmanned aerial device (e.g. task implementation module **1133** identifying one or more triggers **2111-2120** or operating parameters **2126-2128** relating to how UAD **701** is performing or will perform a current or scheduled task **491-499** so that a person **726** who is carrying UAD **701** can hear or see such information). This can occur, for example, in a context in which speaker **1171** can announce such information audibly (in response to a voice menu aboard UAD **701**, e.g.) or in which a display **1172**, **2072** aboard UAD **701** can present such information visibly, or both. This can occur, for example, in a context in which the operating mode(s) that currently apply to the UAD (silent or not, flight permitted or not, e.g.) can be a function of which of the proximate zones **781**, **782** currently contain UAD **701**.

[0170] In light of teachings herein, numerous existing techniques may be applied for configuring special-purpose circuitry or other structures effective for reporting current or scheduled operating parameters without undue experimentation or for configuring other decisions and devices as described herein. See, e.g., U.S. Pat. No. 8,203,426 ("Feed protocol used to report status and event information in physical access control system"); U.S. Pat. No. 8,171,318 ("Reporting flash memory operating voltages"); U.S. Pat. No. 8,121,083 ("Method and device for reporting request for uplink scheduling or emergency in wireless network"); U.S. Pat. No. 8,024,138 ("Power supply circuitry, collection and reporting of power supply parameter information"); U.S. Pat. No. 8,014,974 ("System and method for analyzing and reporting machine operating parameters"); U.S. Pat. No. 7,983,759 ("Advanced patient management for reporting multiple health-related parameters"); U.S. Pat. No. 7,756,822 ("Operational reporting architecture"); U.S. Pat. No. 7,245,702 ("Method and apparatus for determining and reporting the operational status of an integrated services hub").

[0171] Extensive operation **2592** describes causing a modular observation unit to be lifted and activated within at most about an hour of the modular observation unit becoming part of the first unmanned aerial device (e.g. an interface control module **1114**, motion control module **1158**, device activation module **1472**, and an engagement structure **2030** of UAD **1005** jointly picking up cargo module **2090** and then activating a data handling unit **2078** thereof). This can occur, for example, in a context in which engagement structure **2030** (one or more robotic arms **2039**, e.g.) comprise a mechanical linkage **2040** between cargo module **2090** and the remainder of UAD **1005**; in which interface control module **1114** transmits one trigger **2115** causing motion control module **1158** to engage one or more motors **1081**, **1082** to rotate props **1071**, **1072** so that UAD **1005** takes off; and in which interface control module **1114** transmits another trigger **2116** causing device activation module **1472** to acquire image data **1241** by activating a camera **2071** of data handling unit **2078**. In some variants, for example, trigger **2116** may be configured to actuate post **2006** (sliding it along shaft **2025** rightward, as shown, into recess **2023**, e.g.) so that post **2006** engages and supports a modular observation unit (a package **2050** containing a sensor array **1494**, e.g.). This can occur in a context in which motion control module **1158** positions UAD **1005** so that a topmost portion of package **2050** extends up into groove **2026**, for example. In other contexts, a user may (optionally) position structure **2030** (relative to package **2050**, e.g.) or may otherwise facilitate linkage **2040**. Alternatively or additionally, in some variants, the modular observation unit (a camera **2071** or GPS **1063** in cargo module **2090**, e.g.) may be lifted (by engagement structure **2030**, e.g.) responsive to an indication of the modular observation unit becoming part of the first unmanned aerial device (a control signal activating engagement structure **2030** or a sensor signal indicating an activation of engagement structure **2030**, e.g.) or to the modular observation unit being activated. In some variants, moreover, the modular observation unit may be activated (by device activation module **1472**, e.g.) responsive to an indication of the modular observation unit becoming part of the first unmanned aerial device (a control signal activating engagement structure **2030** or a sensor signal indicating an activation of engagement structure **2030**, e.g.) or to the modular observation unit being lifted. In a context in which UAD **1005** implements UAD **501**, moreover, such a user may generate one or more triggers **2111-2120** as described herein (trigger **2116** causing device activation module **1472** to acquire sensor data, e.g.) by pressing a button **561** (positioned on a cargo module **2090** of UAD **1005**, e.g.).

[0172] In light of teachings herein, numerous existing techniques may be applied for configuring special-purpose circuitry or other structures effective for aerial motion control without undue experimentation or for configuring other decisions and devices as described herein. See, e.g., U.S. Pat. No. 7,962,254 ("Method and system for assisting flight control of a low-flying aircraft"); U.S. Pat. No. 7,931,238 ("Automatic velocity control system for aircraft"); U.S. Pat. No. 7,837,143 ("Method and apparatus for disabling pilot control of a hijacked aircraft"); U.S. Pat. No. 7,806,371 ("Remote control model aircraft with laser tag shooting action"); U.S. Pat. No. 7,787,998 ("Method and device for assisting the lateral control of an aircraft running on a runway"); U.S. Pat. No. 7,669,805 ("Device for remotely controlling aircraft control surfaces"); U.S. Pat. No. 7,617,024 ("Automatic heading control system for tiltrotor aircraft and helicopters"); U.S. Pat. No. 7,262,730 ("Method and a station for assisting the control of an aircraft"); U.S. Pat. No. 6,991,304 ("Method and device for automatic control of an aircraft deceleration in running phase"); U.S. Pat. No. 6,917,863 ("System for assuming and maintaining secure remote control of an aircraft").

[0173] Extensive operation **2599** describes signaling a decision whether or not to configure the first unmanned aerial device to continue observing a first person responsive to a prior observation of the first person (e.g. task implementation module **1134** responding to a behavioral indication **2102** from pattern recognition module **1422** by generating a positive or negative decision **2132** about whether to transmit a trigger **2117** instructing UAD **801** to continue one or more tasks **492**, **493** that include observing person **727**). This can occur, for example, in a context in which a portable article **1400** (UAD **701**, e.g.) comprising secondary unit **1150** is positioned so that it can observe person **727** (sensing his speech or movements, e.g.); in which an initial task **492** comprises UAD **802** providing image data **1241** or other sensor data (comprising the prior observation, e.g.) to pattern recognition module **1422** for analysis; in which pattern recognition module **1422** comprises one or more of a gesture detection module **1402** or a spoken expression detection module **1403** or an optical condition detection module; and in which a positive behavioral indication **2102** results from one or more recognizable events **1412-1415** being detected. In some contexts, task implementation module **1134** may be configured so that decision **2132** will generally be negative (contraindicative of monitoring, e.g.) if the behavioral indication **2102** is normal (within expected bounds, e.g.), for example, and will otherwise generally be positive. In some variants, moreover, pattern recognition module **1422** may be configured to detect events (a key press input detection event **1415**, e.g.) relating to person **727** from other UAD's or systems described herein (a keyboard **1391** or other input **121** of a stationary primary unit **110**, e.g.). Alternatively or additionally, in some contexts, pattern recognition module **1422** may be configured to transmit a positive or negative behavioral indication **2102** resulting from some other event (a timer expiration, e.g.) occurring before any of such recognizable events (recognizable by whichever event/condition detection logic **1410** is active, e.g.) are detected.

[0174] Alternatively or additionally, task implementation module **1134** may be configured to perform operation **2599** by responding to one or more attribute indications **2101** (relating to identity, shape, preference, or other such static attributes, e.g.) of a subject of observation (an item recipient **2850** or other person described herein, e.g.). Task implementation module **1134** may thus be configured to implement a continued observation of such a subject via a "first" UAD **801** in response to any combination of (1) one or more indications **2104** that the subject's face **2865** or clothing **728** resembles that of a particular person of interest, (2) one or more indications **2105** that the subject has spoken or otherwise used particular terminology of interest (a threat or classified program name, e.g.), or (3) one or more indications **2106** that the subject has taken a recognizable action of interest (fired a gun or entered an office **1380**, e.g.). Such recognizable indications **2104-2106** may be based on the "prior observations" from the "first" UAD **801**, from another UAD **802**, from another device, or from some combination of these. In some contexts, for example, such indications **2104-2106** from two or more such devices may be correlated or otherwise aggregated (by selective retention module **159**, e.g.) according to status-indicative data (image data **1241**, GPS data **1242**, or timing data **1243** indicative of performance, e.g.) from each respective device.

[0175] In light of teachings herein, numerous existing techniques may be applied for configuring special-purpose circuitry or other structures effective for detecting a particular person or event without undue experimentation or for configuring other decisions and devices as described herein. See, e.g., U.S. Pat. No. 8,184,914 ("Method and system of person identification by facial image"); U.S. Pat. No. 8,170,532 ("Method and system for identification using a portable wireless communication device of a person"); U.S. Pat. No. 8,144,881 ("Audio gain control using specific-loudness-based auditory event detection"); U.S. Pat. No. 8,109,891 ("Device and method for detecting an epileptic event"); U.S. Pat. No. 8,040,245 ("Hand washing monitor for detecting the entry and identification of a person"); U.S. Pat. No. 8,036,891 ("Methods of identification using voice sound analysis"); U.S. Pat. No. 7,995,731 ("Tag interrogator and microphone array for identifying a person speaking in a room"); U.S. Pat. No. 7,774,719 ("System and method for conducting online visual identification of a person"); U.S. Pat. No. 7,653,697 ("System, method and apparatus for communicating via sound messages and personal sound identifiers"); U.S. Pat. No. 7,596,248 ("Method for identification of person by recognition of a digital fingerprint"); U.S. Pat. No. 7,596,241 ("System and method for automatic person counting and detection of specific events"); U.S. Pat. No. 7,492,926 ("Method for identifying a person from a detected eye image").

[0176] With reference now to flow **26** of FIG. **26** and to other flows **15-19**, **23-25** described above, in some variants, one or more intensive operations **2611**, **2616**, **2617** described below may (optionally) be performed in conjunction with one or more intensive operations described above. Alternatively or additionally, one or more extensive operations **2693**, **2694**,

2695 described below may likewise comprise or be performed in conjunction with one or more extensive operations described above.

[0177] Intensive operation **2611** describes causing another unmanned aerial device to capture delivery data relating to the first unmanned aerial device (e.g. device activation module **1471** transmitting one or more requests **373**, invitations **374**, or other triggers **2284** that result in UAD **803** acquiring observations of UAD **801** completing a delivery). Referring to FIG. **8**, for example, this can occur in a context in which a tracking control module **149** aboard UAD **803** receives a task description **1252** specifying what audio clips **563**, photographs **553**, **554** or other records may constitute acceptable delivery data **2253** and in which device activation module **1471** resides in UAD **801** (as the "first" UAD, e.g.) or in a stationary control unit **860** in wireless communication with UAD **803**. Alternatively or additionally, device activation module **1471** may perform operation **2611** by configuring another UAD (an instance of UAD **1005**, e.g.) to indicate an observed result **2223** (a location or other indicator of incremental success, e.g.) of one or more other tasks **491-499** (incorporating a delivery component, e.g.) being undertaken by a "first" UAD described herein.

[0178] In light of teachings herein, numerous existing techniques may be applied for configuring special-purpose circuitry or other structures effective for programmatic image capture or other event tracking without undue experimentation or for configuring other decisions and devices as described herein. See, e.g., U.S. Pat. No. 8,149,288 ("Image capture device that records image accordant with predetermined condition and storage medium that stores program"); U.S. Pat. No. 8,004,563 ("Method and system for effectively performing event detection using feature streams of image sequences"); U.S. Pat. No. 7,643,686 ("Multi-tiered image clustering by event"); U.S. Pat. No. 7,476,796 ("Image controlling apparatus capable of controlling reproduction of image data in accordance with event"); U.S. Pat. No. 6,721,640 ("Event based aircraft image and data recording system"); U.S. Pat. No. 6,167,186 ("Video recording device for retroactively reproducing a video image of an event, while also recording images in real time").

[0179] Intensive operation **2616** describes configuring the first unmanned aerial device not to be equipped with any light sensors (e.g. device configuration module **1475** transmitting a trigger **2119** that causes a robotic arm **2039** affixed to UAD **1005** to release an optical sensor aboard UAD **1005**). This can occur, for example, in a context in which cargo module **2090** implements an instance of article **1400** that includes a charge-coupled device **1493** or other sensor array **1494** comprising optical sensors; in which another instance of article **1400** transmits trigger **2119** to robotic arm **2039**; in which UAD **1005** implements at least one UAD **801-3** that is capable of navigating to a healthcare or item recipient **2850** or other destination **530** without any need for an onboard camera **2071** or CCD **1493**; and in which a user can readily discern which cargo module **2090** (if any) is being carried by UAD **1005**. In some contexts, for example, an inspection of UAD **1005** would not otherwise provide a user (recipient **2850**, e.g.) with an adequate assurance of privacy.

[0180] Alternatively or additionally, operation **2616** may be performed by an instance of device configuration module **1475** that manufactures UAD **1005** (at a factory, e.g.) as a "blind" device (i.e. lacking light sensors). This can occur, for example, in a context in which "first" UAD **1005** implements UAD **801** (of FIG. **8**) and in which device configuration module **1475** implements non-optical position sensing (sonar, e.g.) or optical position sensing via optical sensors not borne by UAD **1005** (in a stationary control unit **860** or aboard a second UAD **802**, e.g.).

[0181] Intensive operation **2617** describes causing a data handling device aboard the first unmanned aerial device to contain a task schedule indicating a first future delivery of a first object to a first destination and a second future delivery of a second object to a second destination (e.g. task implementation module **1134** causing a memory **395** or disk drive **1495** aboard the UAD **1005** to contain several tasks **491-494**, **1211-1214** comprising the first future delivery and the second future delivery). This can occur, for example, in a context in which task **491** associates (by inclusion in a single common table entry **1225**, e.g.) a task identifier **1221** with one or more of a description of the "first" destination (an immediate vicinity **1371** of target **1360**, e.g.) or a description of the "first" object (an inhaler **2062**, e.g.) or other specifications **1223** (tracking mode, e.g.) pertaining to the first future delivery; in which task **494** associates another task identifier **1221** with one or more of a description of the "second" destination **530** or a description of the "second" object (a rescued second UAD **202**, e.g.) or other specifications **1223** (aborting the delivery if anyone is present, e.g.) pertaining to the second future delivery.

[0182] In light of teachings herein, numerous existing techniques may be applied for configuring special-purpose circuitry or other structures effective for scheduling deliveries without undue experimentation or for configuring other decisions and devices as described herein. See, e.g., U.S. Pat. No. 8,090,826 ("Scheduling data delivery to manage device resources"); U.S. Pat. No. 7,929,559 ("Method of scheduling message delivery in a wireless communication system"); U.S. Pat. No. 7,516,082 ("Scheduling delivery of chemical products based on a predicted estimated time of exhaustion"); U.S. Pat. No. 7,437,305 ("Scheduling delivery of products via the internet"); U.S. Pat. No. 7,233,907 ("Parcel or service delivery with partially scheduled time windows"); U.S. Pat. No. 7,174,305 ("Method and system for scheduling online targeted content delivery"); U.S. Pat. No. 6,985,871 ("Systems and methods for scheduling reoccurring deliveries and pickups"); U.S. Pat. No. 6,826,534 ("Agent and method for dynamically scheduling publication in an automated document delivery system"); U.S. Pat. No. 6,238,290 ("System and method for scheduled delivery of a software program over a cable network"); U.S. Pat. No. 6,009,409 ("System and method for scheduling and controlling delivery of advertising in a communications network").

[0183] Extensive operation **2693** describes causing the first unmanned aerial device to execute a delivery of a single dose of a therapeutic material to a human hand within one minute of an image capture of a portion of the human hand (e.g. task implementation module **1484** causing UAD **501** to complete a delivery of a single syringe **556** directly into a hand **2864** of a healthcare recipient **2850** or caregiver). This can occur, for example in a context in which such delivery occurs within a minute before or after a camera **2836** captures one or more images (photograph **554**, e.g.) depicting a palm, finger, or other feature of the hand **2864** distinctive enough to prove the delivery recipient's identity; in which such image(s) also depict the syringe **2061** or other dose clearly enough to prove the delivery occurred; in which the "first" UAD carries at most one (nominal) dose of the therapeutic material at any given time; in which the therapeutic material is highly addictive and expensive; and in which an installed dispenser or other device configured to administer more than one dose would be vulnerable to break-ins or other abuse. Alternatively, in some contexts, the only bioactive material borne by UAD **1005** (implementing UAD **501**, e.g.) is the single dose **2064** in a capsule **2063**.

[0184] In some embodiments, a process step occurs "within" a time interval of an event if the event occurs before or after the process step by an amount of time that does not exceed the time interval. A device or other module that is configured to perform an action "within" a time interval may include a timer **1141** or other circuitry configured to ensure such performance. In fact a module may be "configured to" perform a brief action (of 1-2 seconds, e.g.) within a long interval (of 1-2 minutes, e.g.), even if the interval is not signaled, in some contexts (in which the performance occurs during a portion of the interval in which the process step is enabled, e.g.).

[0185] In some embodiments, a device is "configured to execute" a task if special-purpose hardware or software aboard the device enables the UAD to actually complete the task. Likewise a UAD is "configured to execute" a task if such components aboard the UAD will enable the UAD to complete the task autonomously provided that no overriding instructions ("abort," e.g.) or other intervening events or conditions (blockages, e.g.) prevent such completion. A component is "aboard" a UAD if it resides in or on the UAD or is mechanically supported by the UAD (hanging from the UAD by a tether or otherwise affixed to the UAD, e.g.).

[0186] In light of teachings herein, numerous existing techniques may be applied for configuring special-purpose circuitry or other structures effective for automatic positioning without undue experimentation or for configuring other decisions and devices as described herein. See, e.g., U.S. Pat. No. 8,108,091 ("Automatic position-based guide toy vehicle apparatus"); U.S. Pat. No. 8,027,761 ("Local positioning system for automated lawn mowers"); U.S. Pat. No. 7,869,562 ("Automatic patient positioning system"); U.S. Pat. No. 7,693,565 ("Method and apparatus for automatically positioning a structure within a field of view"); U.S. Pat. No. 7,502,684 ("Method and system for the automatic piloting of an aircraft on the approach to an airdrop position"); U.S. Pat. No. 6,942,369 ("Device for the automatic adjustment of the position of the headlights on a motor vehicle"); U.S. Pat. No. 6,931,596 ("Automatic positioning of display depending upon the viewer's location").

[0187] Extensive operation **2694** describes configuring the first unmanned aerial device to execute a delivery of a particular material to a vicinity of a portable device within one minute of an image capture of the vicinity of the portable device (e.g. task implementation module **1482** responding to a photographic image **2161** depicting a position **1463** right above a cup **1464** of coffee by transmitting a trigger **2112** to one or more dispensers **2038** of UAD **1005**, which respond by delivering cream or sugar into the cup **1464**). This can occur, for example, in a context in which task implementation module **1482** previously transmitted a trigger **2111** commanding one or more flight control modules **151**, **152** to guide UAD **1005** approximately to position **1463**; in which camera **2071** comprises a cargo module **2090** carried by a robotic arm **2039** or other support structure **2030** of UAD **1005**; and in which camera **2071** captures a video clip **2153** comprising a succession of images **2161**, **2162** depicting a top view of cup **1464** via which an optical condition detection module **1404** may effectively control the alignment of the one or more dispensers **2038** relative to cup **1464**. In some contexts, for example, other preparations (verifying a user preference, e.g.) may occur before the delivery is completed (during the "one minute," e.g.). Alternatively or additionally, in some variants, such an image **2161** (suitable for verifying alignment, e.g.) may be obtained via a charge-coupled device **1493** (aboard UAD **1005** or another UAD tasked with observation, e.g.) or via a stationary-mount surveillance camera **936** (mounted on a building **935** or other stationary object, e.g.).

[0188] In light of teachings herein, numerous existing techniques may be applied for configuring special-purpose circuitry or other structures effective for delivering an item to a vicinity of a device without undue experimentation or for configuring other decisions and devices as described herein. See, e.g., U.S. Pat. No. 8,167,786 ("Systems and methods for delivering a medical implant to an anatomical location in a patient"); U.S. Pat. No. 7,822,463 ("Method for delivering a device to a target location"); U.S. Pat. No. 7,735,631 ("Mail processing system and method of delivering articles to delivery locations therein"); U.S. Pat. No. 7,670,329 ("Systems and methods for delivering drugs to selected locations within the body"); U.S. Pat. No. 7,658,156 ("Apparatus and method for delivering beneficial agents to subterranean locations"); U.S. Pat. No. 7,361,183 ("Locator and delivery device and method of use"); U.S. Pat. No. 6,711,555 ("Method and apparatus for delivering mail items to non-postal route locations").

[0189] Extensive operation **2695** describes causing the first unmanned aerial device to execute a delivery of a particular object to a human recipient contemporaneously with an image capture of a portion of the human recipient (e.g. task implementation module **1483** transmitting one or more triggers **2110**, **2116** that configure UAD **1005** to deliver the object to recipient **2850** within about ten seconds of when a camera **2071**, **2836** captures an image **2164** of a hand **2864** or face **2865** of the recipient **2850**). This can occur, for example, in a context in which the object comprises a passive radio frequency identification (RFID) chip **1461**, an envelope **551** or other package **2050** (containing an inhaler **2062** or other therapeutic product **2060**, e.g.), a data handling unit **2078** (a memory **395** or other medium, e.g.), a battery **2085** or other power source, a wearable article (earpiece **2861** or wristband **2863**, e.g.), a "second" UAD, or similar physical objects. In some variants, for example, such image capture occurs in response to one or more triggers from task implementation module **1483**.

[0190] In light of teachings herein, numerous existing techniques may be applied for configuring special-purpose circuitry or other structures effective for determining how one or more portions of a person's body are positioned without undue experimentation or for configuring other decisions and devices as described herein. See, e.g., U.S. Pat. No. 7,978,084 ("Body position monitoring system"); U.S. Pat. No. 7,949, 089 ("Apparatus and method for tracking feature's position in human body"); U.S. Pat. No. 7,934,267 ("Articles of apparel providing enhanced body position feedback"); U.S. Pat. No. 7,916,066 ("Method and apparatus for a body position monitor and fall detector using radar"); U.S. Pat. No. 7,889,913 ("Automatic compositing of 3D objects in a still frame or series of frames"); U.S. Pat. No. 7,630,806 ("System and method for detecting and protecting pedestrians"); U.S. Pat. No. 7,029,031 ("Method and device for detecting the position and the posture of a human body"); U.S. Pat. No. 6,692,449 ("Methods and system for assessing limb position sense during movement").

[0191] With reference now to flow **27** of FIG. **27** and to other flows **15-19**, **23-26** described above, in some variants, one or more intensive operations **2712**, **2719** described below may (optionally) be performed in conjunction with one or more intensive operations described above. Alternatively or additionally, one or more extensive operations **2795**, **2796** described below may likewise comprise or be performed in conjunction with one or more extensive operations described above.

[0192] Intensive operation **2712** describes determining whether or not an operator of the first unmanned aerial device has indicated a tracking mode of the first unmanned aerial device (e.g. interface control module **1110** determining whether any specifications **1223** provided by a user **226** of UAD **1005** contain any indication **2109** of whether or how any ongoing or future task **491-499**, **1211-1214** assigned to UAD **1005** should be tracked). This can occur, for example, in a context in which user **226** indicates via input **391** (a mouse or keyboard **1391**, e.g.) a decision **2131** that a default tracking mode **361** for UAD **1005** (for use in tasks not specifying an exception, e.g.) should be "none" (not record any aspect of tasks performed by UAD **1005**, e.g.). Alternatively or additionally, such decisions **2131** or specifications **1223** may indicate "periodic" tracking (recording image data **1241**, GPS data **1242**, wind speed, or other status-indicative data **1240** relating to UAD **1005** periodically, e.g.) with operating parameter **2127** specifying the tracking period (how long to wait between successive recording events, e.g.) and operating parameter **2128** specifying the source of data to be recorded (event/condition detection logic **1410** or camera **2071**, e.g.).

[0193] In light of teachings herein, numerous existing techniques may be applied for configuring special-purpose circuitry or other structures effective for task performance monitoring without undue experimentation or for configuring other decisions and devices as described herein. See, e.g., U.S. Pat. No. 8,171,474 ("System and method for managing, scheduling, controlling and monitoring execution of jobs by a job scheduler utilizing a publish/subscription interface"); U.S. Pat. No. 8,164,461 ("Monitoring task performance"); U.S. Pat. No. 7,996,658 ("Processor system and method for monitoring performance of a selected task among a plurality of tasks"); U.S. Pat. No. 7,953,806 ("Task assignment and progress monitoring in an instant messaging session"); U.S. Pat. No. 7,784,946 ("Virtual microscope system for monitoring the progress of corneal ablative surgery and associated methods"); U.S. Pat. No. 7,764,179 ("Method of an apparatus for monitoring the processing cycle of a job and instructing workers to perform events or steps according to a standard"); U.S. Pat. No. 7,610,213 ("Apparatus and method for monitoring progress of customer generated trouble tickets"); U.S. Pat. No. 7,494,464 ("Monitoring system for monitoring the progress of neurological diseases"); U.S. Pat. No. 7,331,019 ("System and method for real-time configurable monitoring and management of task performance systems"); U.S. Pat. No. 6,669,653 ("Method and apparatus for monitoring the progress of labor"); U.S. Pat. No. 6,569,690 ("Monitoring system for determining progress in a fabrication activity"); U.S. Pat. No. 6,034,361 ("System for monitoring the progress of a chemical reaction in a microwave-assisted heating system"); U.S. Pat. No. 6,033,316 ("Golf course progress monitor to alleviate slow play").

[0194] Intensive operation **2719** describes overriding a first task being performed by the first unmanned aerial device by transmitting a wireless signal indicative of a second task to the first unmanned aerial device (e.g. task implementation module **1139** transmitting a wireless signal **2192** indicative of a pickup task **1213** and a delivery task **1214** to an interface control module **142** of a UAD **1005** that is performing a lower-priority task **1211**). This can occur, for example, in a context in which interface control module **142** includes a task scheduler **1220** indicating one or more ongoing, contingent, upcoming, or other tasks **1211-1214**; in which task scheduler **1220** earlier received (from one or more task implementation modules **1130-1139**, e.g.) another signal **2191** indicative of the lower-priority task **1211**; and in which scalar values **1222** control the respective rankings of the scheduled tasks **1211-1214** so that an intermediate-priority task **1212** (energy replenishment, e.g.) will be performed before "lower-priority" tasks and after "higher-priority" tasks. In other variants, however, task implementation module **1139** may be (a) configured to modify the scalar value **1222** of task **1212** (to indicate a higher priority, e.g.) responsive to an indication that one or more higher priority tasks **1213**, **1214** will not be completed (due to capacity limitations, e.g.) without first executing task **1212** or (b) configured to be performed contingently (with a highest priority, but only if a particular condition (running below a fuel/charge threshold **2294** or other such conditions set forth in the task specification **1223**, e.g.) is met.

[0195] In light of teachings herein, numerous existing techniques may be applied for configuring special-purpose circuitry or other structures effective for ranking tasks without undue experimentation or for configuring other decisions and devices as described herein. See, e.g., U.S. Pat. No. 8,200,491 ("Method and system for automatically detecting morphemes in a task classification system using lattices"); U.S. Pat. No. 8,185,536 ("Rank-order service providers based on desired service properties"); U.S. Pat. No. 8,135,708 ("Relevance ranked faceted metadata search engine"); U.S. Pat. No. 8,095,612 ("Ranking messages in an electronic messaging environment"); U.S. Pat. No. 8,087,019 ("Systems and methods for performing machine-implemented tasks"); U.S. Pat. No. 7,969,922 ("Apparatus and methods for providing configurable task management of a wireless device"); U.S. Pat. No. 7,945,470 ("Facilitating performance of submitted tasks by mobile task performers"); U.S. Pat. No. 7,885,222 ("Task scheduler responsive to connectivity prerequisites"); U.S. Pat. No. 8,127,300 ("Hardware based dynamic load balancing of message passing interface tasks"); U.S. Pat. No. 7,290,005 ("System for improving the performance of information retrieval-type tasks by identifying the relations of constituents").

[0196] Extensive operation **2795** describes causing the first unmanned aerial device to fly toward a home station in response to an indication of a specific person moving at least a threshold distance away from the first unmanned aerial device (e.g. sequence recognition module **1106** transmitting a trigger **423** to a controller **1085**, **1095** of the "first" UAD instructing the latter to fly home in response to an outcome of protocol **418** indicating that one or more device-identifiable people **725** have moved at least a minimum distance **2174** in a direction generally away from the 1st UAD). This can occur, for example, in a context in which (at least) the navigation of UAD **1005** is locally controlled (via on-board controller **1085**, e.g.); in which controller **1085** has access to protocol

418 (implemented therein as a software subroutine or in special-purpose circuitry, e.g.); in which the "first" UAD comprises a helicopter **1002** or other UAD **1005** of FIG. **10** (featuring one or more aspects of UAD's depicted above in systems **4-9**, e.g.); and in which one or more kiosks **250** or other stations **520**, **930** are qualifying "home stations" (identified by coordinates **606**, a distinctive auditory or optical signal from a beacon **217** near such station(s), or other such expressions **2122** (in trigger **423**, e.g.) useable by a flight control module **151**, **152**.

[0197] In one context, sequence recognition module **1106** (implementing one embodiment of protocol **418**, e.g.) has been notified that entity identification module **144** has detected person **725** being "near" the first UAD—close enough that facial recognition, proximity sensors **449**, or other suitable technologies described herein generate an output **1142** identifying person **725** as the "specific person" and explicitly or otherwise indicating a distance **2171** and direction **2186** of initial separation (in a 2- or 3-dimensional frame of reference, e.g.). Sequence recognition module **1106** responds to this notification by iteratively determining (each 0.1 or 1 second, e.g.) where person **725** is relative to her prior position (indicating her movement distance **2172** and direction **2187**, e.g.) and by accumulating the movements (as vector-valued or scalar-valued components, e.g.) and comparing a resultant vector magnitude or other scalar distance **2173** (for at least those iterations in which person **725** moved generally away from the first UAD, e.g.) against the threshold distance **2174**. (It should be noted that device **775** would be moving "generally away" from another UAD **701**, situated directly to the south as shown, by moving west-northwest or north or east-northeast.) In some contexts, sequence recognition module **1106** may be configured to transmit a heading or otherwise-expressed direction **2188** (comprising trigger **423**, e.g.) generally toward a (nearest or other) home station **520** relative to UAD **701**'s current location, whereby UAD **701** is caused to fly toward home station **520**.

[0198] Alternatively or additionally, protocol **418** (implemented in a sequence recognition module **1107** within a controller **1095** remote from a "first" UAD **1005** under its control, e.g.) may make a similar determination of a UAD user **226**, **626** (either being the "specific person") moving at least a threshold distance **2175** (of roughly 1 to 10 meters, within 1 or 2 orders of magnitude, e.g.) away from the first UAD as a manifestation of such user(s) being finished with or otherwise not in need of the first UAD. This can occur, for example, in a context in which "first" UAD **1005** has landed or started hovering in a locality in response to sequence recognition module **1107** receiving an indication of such user(s) being near the first UAD (from entity identification module **144** or proximity sensor **449**, e.g.).

[0199] In light of teachings herein, numerous existing techniques may be applied for configuring special-purpose circuitry or other structures effective for estimating a distance or movement (of one person or object relative to another, e.g.) without undue experimentation or for configuring other decisions and devices as described herein. See, e.g., U.S. Pat. No. 7,782,365 ("Enhanced video/still image correlation"); U.S. Pat. No. 8,219,312 ("Determining speed parameters in a geographic area"); U.S. Pat. No. 8,219,116 ("Wireless base station location estimation"); U.S. Pat. No. 8,207,869 ("Position estimation for navigation devices"); U.S. Pat. No. 8,138,976 ("Method for position estimation using generalized error distributions"); U.S. Pat. No. 7,592,945 ("Method of estimating target elevation utilizing radar data fusion"); U.S. Pat. No. 7,532,896 ("Wireless node location mechanism using antenna pattern diversity to enhance accuracy of location estimates"); U.S. Pat. No. 8,068,802 ("Estimating the location of a wireless terminal based on calibrated signal-strength measurements"); U.S. Pat. No. 7,895,013 ("Estimation of the speed of a mobile device"); U.S. Pat. No. 7,720,554 ("Methods and apparatus for position estimation using reflected light sources").

[0200] Extensive operation **2796** describes responding to a determination of whether or not a received signal expresses a first name of the first unmanned aerial device and whether or not the received signal expresses a second name of the first unmanned aerial device (e.g. pattern recognition module **1423** transmitting respective results **2224**, **2225** of searching a sequence **2121** of characters of an incoming signal **2194** for any instance of the "first" UAD name **1425** or any instance of the "second" UAD name **1426**). This can occur, for example, in a context in which such results **2224**, **2225** are each Boolean values ("positive" if found and otherwise "negative," e.g.); in which such names **1425**, **1426** are aliases **822**, **823** identifying UAD **802**; in which control unit **860** includes storage or transmission media **2100**, **2200**; and in which instances of article **1400** comprise control unit **860** and reside in network **890**. Alternatively or additionally, in some variants, pattern recognition module **1423** may respond to a positive search/comparison result (an indication that at least one of the UAD names was found among in signal **2194**, e.g.) by programmatically and conditionally invoking one or more device activation modules **1471**, **1472** or causing a transmission of one or more triggers **2111-2120** described herein.

[0201] In light of teachings herein, numerous existing techniques may be applied for configuring special-purpose circuitry or other structures effective for pattern matching without undue experimentation or for configuring other decisions and devices as described herein. See, e.g., U.S. Pat. No. 8,209,278 ("Computer editing system for common textual patterns in legal documents"); U.S. Pat. No. 8,209,171 ("Methods and apparatus relating to searching of spoken audio data"); U.S. Pat. No. 8,171,567 ("Authentication method and system"); U.S. Pat. No. 8,023,695 ("Methods for analyzing electronic media including video and audio"); U.S. Pat. No. 7,917,514 ("Visual and multi-dimensional search"); U.S. Pat. No. 8,131,540 ("Method and system for extending keyword searching to syntactically and semantically annotated data").

[0202] Referring again to the flow embodiments of FIGS. **15** and **23-27**, other variants of data acquisition module **138** may perform operation **53**—obtaining first data indicating that a first unmanned aerial device delivered a first item to a first entity—by asking for, receiving, and recording (via an interface **390** or other data handling unit **2078** in a vicinity **2855** of an item recipient **2850**, e.g.) a spoken confirmation **382** that the item was received. This can occur, for example, in a context in which UAD **1005** includes data handling unit **207**; in which an engagement structure **2030** of UAD **1005** (post **2006** or robotic arm **2039**, e.g.) releases cargo module **490** (a cell phone, e.g.) in a vicinity **2855** of recipient **2850**; and in which data acquisition module **138** triggers the data handling unit **2078** to ask for and cause a recordation of a spoken confirmation **382** (as audio clip **563**, for example, obtained by conducting an automated telephone call or similar verbal interchange via data handling unit **2078**, e.g.) from recipient **2850**. In the variants set forth above, for example, operation **53** and one or more others of the above-describe intensive operations may be initiated by processor **365** (executing a respective variant of high-level command **484**, e.g.) or by invoking special-purpose circuitry as described above.

[0203] Other variants of data delivery module **153** may likewise perform operation **84** of flow **15**—transmitting via a free space medium the first data to a provider of the first item as an automatic and conditional response to the first data indicating that the first unmanned aerial device delivered the first item to the first entity, the first data indicating at least one of the first item or the first entity or the first unmanned aerial device—by transmitting (to a sender **510** of cargo module **490**, e.g.) a wireless signal **2195** (via station **520** through air **585**, e.g.) containing the recorded spoken confirmation **382** or other data indicating the delivery within a few minutes after data acquisition module **138** obtains such confirmation. This can occur, for example, in a context in which one or more systems **5-9** described above implement primary unit **110**, in which UAD **1005** implements the "first" UAD, and in which sender **510** would otherwise be unwilling to send cargo module **490** via UAD **1005**. In the variants set forth above, for example, operation **84** and one or more others of the above-describe extensive operations may be initiated by processor **365** (executing a respective variant of high-level command **485**, e.g.) or by invoking special-purpose circuitry as described above.

[0204] Referring again to the flow variants of FIGS. **16** and **23-27**, other variants of coordinate communication module **136** may perform operation **51**—obtaining first position data from a first entity, by a second entity, the first entity being a first unmanned aerial device—by receiving an address **562** from UAD **501** indicating the position of sender **510**). This can occur, for example, in a context in which UAD **501** implements UAD **1005** as described above; in which sender **510** is or has the "first" resource (a data handling unit **2078** or other package **2050** or product **2060** described herein, e.g.); and in which such resource(s) may be allocated as described herein (purchased or temporarily reserved by the "second" entity, e.g.). This can occur, for example, in a context in which the second entity (recipient **2850**, e.g.) is remote from the location specified by the first position data (not within the same room or facility, e.g.). In the variants set forth above, for example, operation **51** and one or more others of the above-describe intensive operations may be initiated by processor **365** (executing a respective variant of high-level command **484**, e.g.) or by invoking special-purpose circuitry as described above.

[0205] Other variants of resource reservation module **156** may likewise perform operation **83** of flow **16**—signaling a decision whether or not to allocate a first resource to the second entity after the first position data passes from the first unmanned aerial device to the second entity, the first resource being associated with the first position data—by transmitting an indication **2107** that a request **373** for such a resource reservation **376** has been declined. This can occur in a context in which the first resource is offline or otherwise unavailable, for example, or in which no device is authorized to grant a reservation of the first resource. In some contexts, for example, resource reservation module **156** may be configured to manage other resources within a defined zone **781** or of a particular type (products **2060**, e.g.). Alternatively or additionally, in some variants, resource reservation module **156** may be configured to provide (automatically and conditionally, e.g.) one or more signals other than whether or not to allocate the first resource ("stand by while I contact an authorized agent for you," e.g.). In the variants set forth above, for example, operation **83** and one or more others of the above-describe extensive operations may be initiated by processor **365** (executing a respective variant of high-level command **485**, e.g.) or by invoking special-purpose circuitry as described above.

[0206] In light of teachings herein, numerous existing techniques may be applied for configuring special-purpose circuitry or other structures effective for associating a user or a device with another user or another device without undue experimentation or for configuring other decisions and devices as described herein. See, e.g., U.S. Pat. No. 8,023,485 ("Method, system and device for realizing user identity association"); U.S. Pat. No. 7,979,585 ("System and method to associate a private user identity with a public user identity"); U.S. Pat. No. 7,970,660 ("Identifying associations between items and email-address-based user communities"); U.S. Pat. No. 7,941,505 ("System and method for associating a user with a user profile in a computer network environment"); U.S. Pat. No. 7,894,812 ("Automatic over-the-air updating of a preferred roaming list (PRL) in a multi-mode device, based on an account association between the device and a wireless local area network (WLAN) access point"); U.S. Pat. No. 7,743,099 ("Associating multiple visibility profiles with a user of real-time communication system"); U.S. Pat. No. 7,716,378 ("System and method to associate a private user identity with a public user identity"); U.S. Pat. No. 7,703,691 ("Multiple device and/or user association"); U.S. Pat. No. 7,627,577 ("System and method for maintaining an association between a distribution device and a shared end user characteristic"); U.S. Pat. No. 6,473,824 ("Dynamic association of input/output device with application programs").

[0207] Referring again to the flow variants of FIGS. **17** and **23-27**, other variants of interface control module **141** may perform operation **52**—causing a first unmanned aerial device to guide a first individual to a first destination—by signaling via UAD **1005** a direction **2189** of one or more waypoints **642**, **742** relative to a current position of the "first" individual along a path to the first destination. In the context of FIG. **6**, for example, an interface control module **141** may be configured to perform operation **52** by prompting UAD **601** (implementing UAD **1005**, e.g.) to signal (via a wireless communication linkage **694**, e.g.) a direction of a waypoint **642** to guide a driver (by causing user interface **660** to display an upward arrow to user **626**, e.g.) along a path **643** to the first destination (parking space **648**, e.g.). Another implementation of interface control module **141** may be configured to perform operation **52** by configuring UAD **701** (implementing UAD **1005**, e.g.) to signal a direction of a waypoint **742** to guide a pedestrian (via a speaker **1171** or display **1172** aboard UAD **1005**, e.g.) along a path **743** (to "first" destination **530**, e.g.). In relation to these variants and others set forth above, operation **52** and one or more others of the above-describe intensive operations may (optionally) be initiated by processor **365** (executing a respective variant of high-level command **484**, e.g.) or by invoking special-purpose circuitry as described above.

[0208] Other variants of flight control module **152** may likewise perform operation **85** of flow **17**—causing the first unmanned aerial device to fly to a second destination as an automatic and conditional response to an indication of the first individual arriving at the first destination—by causing UAD **1005** to fly to the "second" destination after, and responsive to, the "first" individual apparently arriving at a parking space **648** or other "first" destination **530**). This can occur, for example, in a context in which the "second" destination relates to a task **491-499** to be performed next; in which one or more other conditions, events, or indications **2101-2109** described herein also occur (detected by event/condition detection logic **1410** or signaled by one or more triggers **2111-2120**, e.g.); and in which flight control module **152** implements such flight by triggering a task implementation module **1485** aboard UAD **1005** to activate one or more motors **1081-1083** aboard UAD **1005** controlling one or more props **1071-1073** aboard UAD **1005**. In the variants set forth above, for example, operation **85** and one or more others of the above-describe extensive operations may be initiated by processor **365** (executing a respective variant of high-level command **485**, e.g.) or by invoking special-purpose circuitry as described above.

[0209] Referring again to the flow variants of FIGS. **18** and **23-27**, other variants of enlistment module **133** may perform operation **54**—indicating a first unmanned aerial device participating in a first task—by notifying device operators (e.g. users **226**, **626**) or other persons **725**, **726** that a "first" task **491-499** (or component task thereof) as described herein has been begun by or accepted on behalf of "first" UAD **1005**. This can occur, for example, in a context in which network **190** contains UAD **1005** and in which primary unit **110** contains interface device **310** and event/condition detection unit **400**. In the variants set forth above, for example, operation **54** and one or more others of the above-describe intensive operations may be initiated by processor **365** (executing a respective variant of high-level command **484**, e.g.) or by invoking special-purpose circuitry as described above.

[0210] Other variants of control unit **860** may likewise perform operation **82** of flow **18**—signaling a decision whether or not to cause the first unmanned aerial device to recognize an alias identifying the first unmanned aerial device as an automatic and conditional response to an indication of the first unmanned aerial device participating in the first task, the alias being different than a primary digital identifier of the first unmanned aerial device—by configuring a name recognition module **147** of control unit **860** to recognize and use the primary identifier **821** of UAD **1005** (instead of an alias, e.g.) partly based on an indication of UAD **1005** participating in a "first" task **491-499** described herein and partly based on an indication that UAD **1005** has not accepted any aliases **822**, **823**. This can occur, for example, in a context in which the decision is negative (not to cause UAD **1005** to recognize any aliases, e.g.); in which control unit **860** makes the negative decision in response to UAD **1005** not responding to a configuration request within a prescribed interval; in which UAD **1005** implements UAD **802**; in which control unit **860** implements primary unit **110**; and in which control unit **860** addresses UAD **1005** during such task(s) using primary identifier **821**. Alternatively, in some contexts, UAD **1005** may generate such a negative decision. In the variants set forth above, for example, operation **82** and one or more others of the above-describe extensive operations may be initiated by processor **365** (executing a respective variant of high-level command **485**, e.g.) or by invoking special-purpose circuitry as described above.

[0211] Referring again to the flow variants of FIGS. **19** and **23-27**, other variants of tracking control module **977** may perform operation **55**—obtaining a tracking mode of a delivery task of a first unmanned aerial device—by receiving a device-executable command sequence **2125** implementing a user-defined mode **363** of tracking one or more delivery tasks **491**, **494** performed or being performed by UAD **1005**. This can occur, for example, in a context in which UAD **1005** implements interface device **310** and media **1200**, **2100**; in which processor **365** executes device-executable command sequence **2125** (e.g. capturing one or more of image data **1241**, GPS data **1242**, or timing data **1243**) periodically or in response to a trigger **2111-2120** described herein. Alternatively or additionally, a one or more user-specified expressions **2122** (expressing rules that incorporate OR, AND, or other logical operators, e.g.) may identify one or more device-detectable indications **2101-2109** that enable or disable such tracking (respectively as a prerequisite or exception, e.g.). In the variants set forth above, for example, operation **55** and one or more others of the above-describe intensive operations may be initiated by processor **365** (executing a respective variant of high-level command **484**, e.g.) or by invoking special-purpose circuitry as described above.

[0212] Other variants of selective retention module **158** may likewise perform operation **81** of flow **19**—signaling a decision whether or not to omit a record of the first unmanned aerial device completing the delivery task of the first unmanned aerial device as an automatic and conditional response to the tracking mode of the delivery task of the first unmanned aerial device—by transmitting a selection of records **961-964** that are recognized by one or more gesture detection modules **1402**, spoken expression detection modules **1403**, optical condition detection modules **1404**, or other pattern recognition modules **1421-1423** configured to detect one or more events **1412-1414** (a gesture or word or other expression of acknowledgment from a delivery recipient **2850**, e.g.) specified by the tracking mode (and detectable as visual or auditory phenomena in one or more records **961-964**, e.g.). This can occur, for example, in a context in which a sender **510** of an item delivered decides to specify what kind(s) of expression (saying "take my picture," e.g.) should trigger tracking; in which the sender **510** expresses such decision(s) as the tracking mode **982**; and in which the first UAD **1005** would not otherwise perform any tracking upon completion of one or more delivery tasks **491**, **494**. In the variants set forth above, for example, operation **81** and one or more others of the above-describe extensive operations may be initiated by processor **365** (executing a respective variant of high-level command **485**, e.g.) or by invoking special-purpose circuitry as described above.

[0213] Referring again to flows **15-19** and to variants thereof described with reference to FIGS. **23-27**, in some implementations, each of these flows may (optionally) be performed entirely within a "first" unmanned aerial device (in UAD **1005**, e.g.) or within another device described herein. In some implementations, for example, each of these flows may be performed entirely within a vehicle as described herein (car **602**, e.g.) or within a single handheld device (e.g. a cell phone or handheld UAD **202**, **701**) or in a wearable article (an earpiece **2861**, wristband **2863**, or similar chip-containing device, for example, or an article of clothing **728** having such a device affixed thereto). Alternatively or additionally, the first unmanned aerial device may include the second aerial device (as a cargo module **2090** thereof, e.g.). In some embodiments, moreover, each of these flows may be performed by a network **1090** of devices or otherwise shared among two or more such devices **1010**.

[0214] In a general sense, those skilled in the art will recognize that the various aspects described herein which can be implemented, individually and/or collectively, by a wide range of hardware, software, firmware, or any combination thereof can be viewed as being composed of various types of "electrical circuitry." Consequently, as used herein "electrical circuitry" includes, but is not limited to, electrical circuitry having at least one discrete electrical circuit, electrical circuitry having at least one integrated circuit, electrical circuitry having at least one application specific integrated circuit, electrical circuitry forming a general purpose computing device configured by a computer program (e.g., a general purpose computer configured by a computer program which at least partially carries out processes and/or devices described herein, or a microprocessor configured by a computer program which at least partially carries out processes and/or devices described herein), electrical circuitry forming a memory device (e.g., forms of random access memory), and/or electrical circuitry forming a communications device (e.g., a modem, communications switch, or optical-electrical equipment). Those having skill in the art will recognize that the subject matter described herein may be implemented in an analog or digital fashion or some combination thereof.

[0215] The foregoing detailed description has set forth various embodiments of the devices and/or processes via the use of block diagrams, flowcharts, and/or examples. Insofar as such block diagrams, flowcharts, and/or examples contain one or more functions and/or operations, it will be understood by those within the art that each function and/or operation within such block diagrams, flowcharts, or examples can be implemented, individually and/or collectively, by a wide range of hardware, software, firmware, or virtually any combination thereof. In one embodiment, several portions of the subject matter described herein may be implemented via Application Specific Integrated Circuits (ASICs), Field Programmable Gate Arrays (FPGAs), digital signal processors (DSPs), or other integrated formats. However, those skilled in the art will recognize that some aspects of the embodiments disclosed herein, in whole or in part, can be equivalently implemented in integrated circuits, as one or more computer programs running on one or more computers (e.g., as one or more programs running on one or more computer systems), as one or more programs running on one or more processors (e.g., as one or more programs running on one or more microprocessors), as firmware, or as virtually any combination thereof, and that designing the circuitry and/or writing the code for the software and or firmware would be well within the skill of one of skill in the art in light of this disclosure. In addition, those skilled in the art will appreciate that the mechanisms of the subject matter described herein are capable of being distributed as a program product in a variety of forms, and that an illustrative embodiment of the subject matter described herein applies regardless of the particular type of signal bearing medium used to actually carry out the distribution. Examples of a signal bearing medium include, but are not limited to, the following: a recordable type medium such as a floppy disk, a hard disk drive, a Compact Disc (CD), a Digital Video Disk (DVD), a digital tape, a computer memory, etc.; and a transmission type medium such as a digital and/or an analog communication medium (e.g., a fiber optic cable, a waveguide, a wired communications link, a wireless communication link (e.g., transmitter, receiver, transmission logic, reception logic, etc.), etc.).

[0216] One skilled in the art will recognize that the herein described components (e.g., operations), devices, objects, and the discussion accompanying them are used as examples for the sake of conceptual clarity and that various configuration modifications are contemplated. Consequently, as used herein, the specific exemplars set forth and the accompanying discussion are intended to be representative of their more general classes. In general, use of any specific exemplar is intended to be representative of its class, and the non-inclusion of specific components (e.g., operations), devices, and objects should not be taken limiting.

[0217] With respect to the use of substantially any plural and/or singular terms herein, those having skill in the art can translate from the plural to the singular and/or from the singular to the plural as is appropriate to the context and/or application. The various singular/plural permutations are not expressly set forth herein for sake of clarity.

[0218] The herein described subject matter sometimes illustrates different components contained within, or connected with, different other components. It is to be understood that such depicted architectures are merely exemplary, and that in fact many other architectures may be implemented which achieve the same functionality. In a conceptual sense, any arrangement of components to achieve the same functionality is effectively "associated" such that the desired functionality is achieved. Hence, any two components herein combined to achieve a particular functionality can be seen as "associated with" each other such that the desired functionality is achieved, irrespective of architectures or intermedial components. Likewise, any two components so associated can also be viewed as being "operably connected", or "operably coupled," to each other to achieve the desired functionality, and any two components capable of being so associated can also be viewed as being "operably couplable," to each other to achieve the desired functionality. Specific examples of operably couplable include but are not limited to physically mateable and/or physically interacting components, and/or wirelessly interactable, and/or wirelessly interacting components, and/or logically interacting, and/or logically interactable components.

[0219] In some instances, one or more components may be referred to herein as "configured to," "configurable to," "operable/operative to," "adapted/adaptable," "able to," "conformable/conformed to," etc. Those skilled in the art will recognize that "configured to" can generally encompass active-state components and/or inactive-state components and/or standby-state components, unless context requires otherwise.

[0220] While particular aspects of the present subject matter described herein have been shown and described, it will be apparent to those skilled in the art that, based upon the teachings herein, changes and modifications may be made without departing from the subject matter described herein and its broader aspects and, therefore, the appended claims are to encompass within their scope all such changes and modifications as are within the true spirit and scope of the subject matter described herein. It will be understood by those within the art that, in general, terms used herein, and especially in the appended claims (e.g., bodies of the appended claims) are generally intended as "open" terms (e.g., the term "including" should be interpreted as "including but not limited to," the term "having" should be interpreted as "having at least," the term "includes" should be interpreted as "includes but is not limited to," etc.). It will be further understood by those within the art that if a specific number of an introduced claim recitation is intended, such an intent will be explicitly recited in the claim, and in the absence of such recitation no such intent is present. For example, as an aid to understanding, the following appended claims may contain usage of the introductory phrases "at least one" and "one or more" to introduce claim recitations. However, the use of such phrases should not be construed to imply that the introduction of a claim recitation by the indefinite articles "a" or "an" limits any particular claim containing such introduced claim recitation to claims containing only one such recitation, even when the same claim includes the introductory phrases "one or more" or "at least one" and indefinite articles such as "a" or "an" (e.g., "a" and/or "an" should typically be interpreted to mean "at least one" or "one or more"); the same holds true for the use of definite articles used to introduce claim recitations. In addition, even if a specific number of an introduced claim recitation is explicitly recited, those skilled in the art will recognize that such recitation should typically be interpreted to mean at least the recited number (e.g., the bare recitation of "two recitations," without other modifiers, typically means at least two recitations, or two or more recitations). Furthermore, in those instances where a convention analogous to "at least one of A, B, and C, etc." is used, in general such a construction is intended in the sense one having skill in the art would understand the convention (e.g., "a system having at least one of A, B, and C" would include but not be limited to systems that have A alone, B alone, C alone, A and B together, A and C together, B and C together, and/or A, B, and C together, etc.). In those instances where a convention analogous to "at least one of A, B, or C, etc." is used, in general such a construction is intended in the sense one having skill in the art would understand the convention (e.g., "a system having at least one of A, B, or C" would include but not be limited to systems that have A alone, B alone, C alone, A and B together, A and C together, B and C together, and/or A, B, and C together, etc.). It will be further understood by those within the art that typically a disjunctive word and/or phrase presenting two or more alternative terms, whether in the description, claims, or drawings, should be understood to contemplate the possibilities of including one of the terms, either of the terms, or both terms unless context dictates otherwise. For example, the phrase "A or B" will be typically understood to include the possibilities of "A" or "B" or "A and B."

[0221] Those skilled in the art will recognize that it is common within the art to implement devices and/or processes and/or systems, and thereafter use engineering and/or other practices to integrate such implemented devices and/or processes and/or systems into more comprehensive devices and/or processes and/or systems. That is, at least a portion of the devices and/or processes and/or systems described herein can be integrated into other devices and/or processes and/or systems via a reasonable amount of experimentation. Those having skill in the art will recognize that examples of such other devices and/or processes and/or systems might include—as appropriate to context and application—all or part of devices and/or processes and/or systems of (a) an air conveyance (e.g., an airplane, rocket, helicopter, etc.), (b) a ground conveyance (e.g., a car, truck, locomotive, tank, armored personnel carrier, etc.), (c) a building (e.g., a home, warehouse, office, etc.), (d) an appliance (e.g., a refrigerator, a washing machine, a dryer, etc.), (e) a communications system (e.g., a networked system, a telephone system, a Voice over IP system, etc.), (f) a business entity (e.g., an Internet Service Provider (ISP) entity such as Comcast Cable, Qwest, Southwestern Bell, etc.), or (g) a wired/wireless services entity (e.g., Sprint, Cingular, Nextel, etc.), etc.

[0222] In certain cases, use of a system or method may occur in a territory even if components are located outside the territory. For example, in a distributed computing context, use of a distributed computing system may occur in a territory even though parts of the system may be located outside of the territory (e.g., relay, server, processor, signal-bearing medium, transmitting computer, receiving computer, etc. located outside the territory).

[0223] A sale of a system or method may likewise occur in a territory even if components of the system or method are located and/or used outside the territory. Further, implementation of at least part of a system for performing a method in one territory does not preclude use of the system in another territory.

[0224] With respect to the numbered clauses and claims expressed below, those skilled in the art will appreciate that recited operations therein may generally be performed in any order. Also, although various operational flows are presented in a sequence(s), it should be understood that the various operations may be performed in other orders than those which are illustrated, or may be performed concurrently. Examples of such alternate orderings may include overlapping, interleaved, interrupted, reordered, incremental, preparatory, supplemental, simultaneous, reverse, or other variant orderings, unless context dictates otherwise. Furthermore, terms like "responsive to," "related to," or other past-tense adjectives are generally not intended to exclude such variants, unless context dictates otherwise. Also in the numbered clauses below, specific combinations of aspects and embodiments are articulated in a shorthand form such that (1) according to respective embodiments, for each instance in which a "component" or other such identifiers appear to be introduced (with "a" or "an," e.g.) more than once in a given chain of clauses, such designations may either identify the same entity or distinct entities; and (2) what might be called "dependent" clauses below may or may not incorporate, in respective embodiments, the features of "independent" clauses to which they refer or other features described above.

1. A system comprising:

circuitry for receiving an indication of a first unmanned aerial device participating in a first task; and

circuitry for causing the first unmanned aerial device to recognize an alias identifying the first unmanned aerial device as an automatic and conditional response to an indication of the first unmanned aerial device participating in the first task, the alias being different than a primary digital identifier of the first unmanned aerial device.

2. The system of claim **1** further comprising:

circuitry for configuring the first unmanned aerial device to perform a first observation of a particular task in a first zone and a second unmanned aerial device to perform a second observation of the particular task in a second zone, the particular task being the first task.

3. The system of claim **1** further comprising:

circuitry for configuring the first unmanned aerial device to perform a first observation of a particular task in a first zone and a second unmanned aerial device to perform a second observation of the particular task in a second zone, the particular task being the first task, the first zone and the second zone sharing a common boundary.

4. The system of claim **1** further comprising: circuitry for configuring the first unmanned aerial device to capture data relating to a human subject as a component of the first task.

5. (canceled)

6. The system of claim **1** further comprising: circuitry for configuring the first unmanned aerial device to capture data relating to a human subject as a component of the first task, the data relating to a human subject being indicative of a biometric of the human subject.

7. The system of claim **1** further comprising: circuitry for configuring the first unmanned aerial device to capture data relating to a human subject as a component of the first task, the data relating to a human subject being indicative of at least one of speech or movement of the human subject.

8. (canceled)

9. The system of claim **1** further comprising: circuitry for transmitting a wireless signal indicative of a delivery of a package to a device associated with a recipient of the package, the wireless signal indicating at least one of the first unmanned aerial device or the package or a sender of the package, the first task including the delivery of the package to the recipient of the package.

10. The system of claim **1** further comprising: circuitry for presenting navigation guidance via a display aboard the first unmanned aerial device while a primary motor of the first unmanned aerial device is not moving the first unmanned aerial device.

11. The system of claim **1** further comprising: circuitry for transmitting navigation guidance via a speaker of the first unmanned aerial device while a primary motor of the first unmanned aerial device is not moving the first unmanned aerial device.

12. The system of claim **1** further comprising: circuitry for identifying an operating mode of the first unmanned aerial device audibly or visibly while a primary motor of the first unmanned aerial device is not moving the first unmanned aerial device.

13. The system of claim **1** further comprising: circuitry for causing another unmanned aerial device to capture delivery data relating to the first unmanned aerial device.

14. The system of claim **1** further comprising: circuitry for causing another unmanned aerial device to capture delivery data relating to the first unmanned aerial device, the delivery data relating to the first unmanned aerial device depicting at least one of the first unmanned aerial device or a vicinity of the first unmanned aerial device.

15. (canceled)

16. (canceled)

17. The system of claim **1** further comprising: circuitry for causing a data handling device aboard the first unmanned aerial device to contain a task schedule indicating a first future delivery of a first object to a first destination and a second future delivery of a second object to a second destination.

18. (canceled)

19. The system of claim **1** further comprising: circuitry for determining whether or not an operator of the first unmanned aerial device has indicated a tracking mode of the first unmanned aerial device.

20. The system of claim **1** further comprising: circuitry for overriding a first task being performed by the first unmanned aerial device by transmitting a wireless signal indicative of a second task to the first unmanned aerial device.

21. The system of claim **1** further comprising: circuitry for configuring the first unmanned aerial device to transmit a wireless signal indicative of having performed a particular task and not to store any indication of having performed the particular task, the particular task being the first task.

22. The system of claim **1** further comprising: circuitry for signaling a decision whether or not to reserve a space for a passenger vehicle.

23. The system of claim **1** further comprising: circuitry for signaling a decision whether or not to reserve a specific resource by associating the specific resource with the first unmanned aerial device or with a specific person.

24. (canceled)

25. The system of claim **1**, further comprising: circuitry for detecting a proximity of the first unmanned aerial device to a mobile device.

26. The system of claim **25**: wherein the detecting a proximity of the first unmanned aerial device to a mobile device includes: detecting a proximity of the first unmanned aerial device to a mobile device via a sensor of the unmanned aerial device.

27. The system of claim **1**: wherein the detecting a proximity of the first unmanned aerial device to a mobile device includes: detecting a proximity of the first unmanned aerial device to the mobile device by a sensor of the mobile device.

28. (canceled)

29. The system of claim **1**, further comprising: circuitry for signaling a decision whether or not to configure the first unmanned aerial device to continue observing a first person responsive to a prior observation of the first person.

30. The system of claim **1**, further comprising: circuitry for causing the first unmanned aerial device to execute a delivery of a therapeutic material to a human responsive to an image capture of the human, the first task including the delivery of the therapeutic material.

31. The system of claim **1**, further comprising: circuitry for configuring the first unmanned aerial device to execute a delivery of a particular material to a vicinity of a portable device responsive to an image capture of the vicinity of the portable device, the first task including the delivery of the particular material to the vicinity of the portable device.

32. The system of claim **1**, further comprising: circuitry for causing the first unmanned aerial device to execute a delivery of a particular object to a human recipient contemporaneously with an image capture of a portion of the human recipient, the first task including the delivery of the particular object to the human recipient.

33. The system of claim **1** further comprising: circuitry for causing the first unmanned aerial device to fly toward a home station in response to an indication of a specific person moving at least a threshold distance away from the first unmanned aerial device.

34. The system of claim **1** further comprising:
circuitry for responding to a determination of whether or not a received signal expresses a first name of the first unmanned aerial device and whether or not the received signal expresses a second name of the first unmanned aerial device, the first name of the unmanned aerial device being the primary digital identifier, the second name of the unmanned aerial device being the alias.

35. The system of claim **1**
wherein the first unmanned aerial device includes the circuitry for receiving an indication of a first unmanned aerial device participating in a first task and including the circuitry for causing the first unmanned aerial device to recognize an alias identifying the first unmanned aerial device as an automatic and conditional response to an indication of the first unmanned aerial device participating in the first task, the alias being different than a primary digital identifier of the first unmanned aerial device.

36. The system of claim **1**
wherein a second unmanned aerial device includes the circuitry for receiving an indication of a first unmanned aerial device participating in a first task and including the circuitry for causing the first unmanned aerial device to recognize an alias identifying the first unmanned aerial device as an automatic and conditional response to an indication of the first unmanned aerial device participating in the first task, the alias being different than a primary digital identifier of the first unmanned aerial device.

37. The system of claim **1**
wherein a handheld device includes the circuitry for receiving an indication of a first unmanned aerial device participating in a first task and including the circuitry for causing the first unmanned aerial device to recognize an alias identifying the first unmanned aerial device as an automatic and conditional response to an indication of the first unmanned aerial device participating in the first task, the alias being different than a primary digital identifier of the first unmanned aerial device.

38. The system of claim **1**
wherein a wearable device includes the circuitry for receiving an indication of a first unmanned aerial device participating in a first task and including the circuitry for causing the first unmanned aerial device to recognize an alias identifying the first unmanned aerial device as an automatic and conditional response to an indication of the first unmanned aerial device participating in the first task, the alias being different than a primary digital identifier of the first unmanned aerial device.

39. The system of claim **1**
wherein a vehicle having one or more wheels includes the circuitry for causing the first unmanned aerial device to recognize an alias identifying the first unmanned aerial device as an automatic and conditional response to an indication of the first unmanned aerial device participating in the first task, the alias being different than a primary digital identifier of the first unmanned aerial device.

40. A system comprising:
means for receiving an indication of a first unmanned aerial device participating in a first task; and
means for causing the first unmanned aerial device to recognize an alias identifying the first unmanned aerial device as an automatic and conditional response to an indication of the first unmanned aerial device participating in the first task, the alias being different than a primary digital identifier of the first unmanned aerial device.

41-68. (canceled)

69. A method comprising:
receiving an indication of a first unmanned aerial device participating in a first task; and
causing the first unmanned aerial device to recognize an alias identifying the first unmanned aerial device as an automatic and conditional response to an indication of the first unmanned aerial device participating in the first task, the alias being different than a primary digital identifier of the first unmanned aerial device.

70-109. (canceled)

110. One or more physical media configured to bear a device-detectable implementation of a method including at least
receiving an indication of a first unmanned aerial device participating in a first task; and
causing the first unmanned aerial device to recognize an alias identifying the first unmanned aerial device as an automatic and conditional response to an indication of the first unmanned aerial device participating in the first task, the alias being different than a primary digital identifier of the first unmanned aerial device.

111. (canceled)

112. (canceled)

113. (canceled)

114. The system of claim **1**, wherein the receiving an indication of a first unmanned aerial device participating in a first task includes:
receiving, from the first unmanned aerial device, an acceptance of an enlistment request for the first task previously transmitted to the first unmanned aerial device.

115. The system of claim **1**, wherein the receiving an indication of a first unmanned aerial device participating in a first task includes:
receiving, from the first unmanned aerial device, a request to participate in the first task.

116. The system of claim **1**, further comprising:
circuitry for identifying at least one task suitable for the first unmanned aerial device.

117. The system of claim **116**, further comprising:
circuitry for transmitting a request to the first unmanned aerial device to participate in the first task responsive to the identifying at least one task suitable for the first unmanned aerial device.

118. The system of claim **1**, further comprising: circuitry for transmitting a request to the first unmanned aerial device to participate in the first task.

119. The system of claim **118**, further comprising:
circuitry for comparing a time duration since the transmitting a request to the first unmanned aerial device to participate in the first task to a temporal threshold indicative of a deadline for a response to the request to the first unmanned aerial device to participate in the first task.

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