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(54) Title: ELECTROMAGNETIC RESONANT CIRCUIT SLEEVE FOR IMPLANTABLE MEDICAL DEVICE

(57) Abstract: A medical device enables effective magnetic resonance imaging inside a lumen of a medical device. The medical device includes a plurality of conductive traces formed on a substrate. The conductive traces form an inductive-capacitance circuit or a resistive-inductive-capacitance circuit. The inductive-capacitance circuit or resistive-inductive-capacitance circuit is tuned to a frequency associated with magnetic resonance imaging, an operating frequency associated with a magnetic resonance imaging scanner, a harmonic of an operating frequency associated with a magnetic resonance imaging scanner, or a sub-harmonic of an operating frequency associated with a magnetic resonance imaging scanner.



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ELECTROMAGNETIC RESONANT CIRCUIT SLEEVE FOR IMPLANTABLE MEDICAL DEVICE**TECHNICAL FIELD**

[0001] The present invention is directed to a stent sleeve. More particularly, the present invention is directed to a stent sleeve that is a resonator for magnetic resonance imaging inside the stent.

BACKGROUND ART

[0002] Stents have been implanted in vessels, ducts, or channels of the human body to act as a scaffolding to maintain the patency of the vessel, duct, or channel lumen. A drawback of stenting is the body's natural defensive reaction to the implant of a foreign object. In many patients, the reaction is characterized by a traumatic proliferation of tissue as intimal hyperplasia at the implant site, and, where the stent is implanted in a blood vessel such as a coronary artery, formation of thrombi which become attached to the stent.

[0003] Each of these adverse effects contributes to restenosis--a re-narrowing of the vessel lumen--to compromise the improvements that resulted from the initial re-opening of the lumen by implanting the stent. Consequently, a great number of stent implant patients must undergo another angiogram, on average about six months after the original implant procedure, to determine the status of tissue proliferation and thrombosis in the affected lumen. If re-narrowing has occurred, one or more additional procedures are required to stem or reverse its advancement.

[0004] Due to the drawbacks mentioned above, the patency of the vessel lumen and the extent of tissue growth within the lumen of the stent need to be examined and analyzed, and the blood flow therethrough needs to be measured, from time to time, as part of the patient's routine post-procedure examinations.

[0005] Current techniques employed magnetic resonance imaging (MRI) to visualize internal features of the body if there is no magnetic resonance distortion. However, using magnetic resonance imaging techniques to visualize implanted stents composed of ferromagnetic or electrically conductive materials is difficult because these materials cause sufficient distortion of the magnetic resonance field to preclude imaging the interior of the stent. This effect is attributable to their Faradaic physical properties in relation to the electromagnetic energy applied during the magnetic resonance imaging process.

[0006] One conventional solution to this problem is to design a stent that includes a mechanically supportive tubular structure composed primarily of metal having relatively low magnetic susceptibility, and one electrically conductive layer overlying a portion of the surface of the tubular structure to enhance properties of the stent for magnetic resonance imaging of the interior of the lumen of the stent when implanted in the body. An electrically insulative layer

resides between the surface of the tubular structure of the stent and the electrically conductive layer. The tubular structure with overlying electrically conductive layer and electrically insulative layer sandwiched therebetween are arranged in a composite relationship to form an LC circuit at the desired frequency of magnetic resonance. The electrically conductive layer has a geometric formation arranged on the tubular scaffolding of the stent to function as an electrical inductance element and an electrical capacitance element.

[0007] Although the proposed solution may provide a stent structure that enables imaging and visualization of the inner lumen of an implanted stent by means of a magnetic resonance imaging technique, the actual structure of the stent that provides the imaging and visualization of the inner lumen of an implanted stent is dependent upon the actual structure of the stent. Thus, the stent must be designed in a particular manner to interactive with the overlying layer to provide a stent structure that enables imaging and visualization of the inner lumen of an implanted stent.

[0008] Therefore, it is desirable to provide a device which enables imaging and visualization of the inner lumen of an implanted stent by means of a magnetic resonance imaging technique and which is independent of the stent structure.

[0009] It is also desirable to provide a device that enables the effective designing of a stent to provide scaffolding so as to maintain the patency of the vessel, duct or channel lumen without having to design features into the stent to enable imaging and visualization of the inner lumen of an implanted stent by means of an magnetic resonance imaging technique.

DISCLOSURE OF THE INVENTION

[0010] One aspect of the present invention is a device for enabling effective magnetic resonance imaging inside a lumen of a medical device. The device includes a substrate and a plurality of conductive traces formed on the substrate, the conductive traces forming an inductive-capacitance circuit, the inductive-capacitance circuit being tuned to a frequency associated with magnetic resonance imaging.

[0011] Another aspect of the present invention is an implantable medical device. The implantable medical device includes a stent; a substrate surrounding a portion of the stent; and a plurality of conductive traces formed on the substrate, the conductive traces forming an inductive-capacitance circuit, the inductive-capacitance circuit being tuned to a frequency such that an effective resonance frequency of the stent, inductive-capacitance circuit, and surrounding in vitro conditions is substantially equal to a frequency associated with magnetic resonance imaging.

[0012] Another aspect of the present invention is a device for enabling effective magnetic resonance imaging inside a lumen of a medical device having an expandable substantially cylindrical substrate having an axial closed end and an axial open end, the axial closed end being within the axial open end; a dielectric material formed on a portion of the expandable substantially cylindrical substrate; and a plurality of conductive traces formed on the dielectric

material and the expandable substantially cylindrical substrate, the conductive traces forming a variable inductive-capacitance circuit.

[0013] Another aspect of the present invention is a device for enabling effective magnetic resonance imaging inside a lumen of a medical device having a stent; an expandable substantially cylindrical substrate surrounding a portion of the stent, the expandable substantially cylindrical substrate having an axial closed end and an axial open end, the axial closed end being within the axial open end; a dielectric material formed on a portion of the substantially cylindrical substrate; and a plurality of conductive traces formed on the dielectric material and the expandable substantially cylindrical substrate, the conductive traces forming a variable inductive-capacitance circuit.

[0014] Another aspect of the present invention is a method for enabling effective magnetic resonance imaging inside a lumen of a medical device, the method wrapping a substrate around a portion of the medical device, the substrate having a plurality of conductive traces formed thereon, the conductive traces forming an inductive-capacitance circuit, the inductive-capacitance circuit being tuned to a frequency associated with magnetic resonance imaging; and crimping the substrate.

[0015] Another aspect of the present invention is a method for enabling effective magnetic resonance imaging inside a lumen of a medical device, the method placing a portion of the medical device in a substantially cylindrical substrate, the substantially cylindrical substrate having an axial closed end and an axial open end, the axial closed end being within the axial open end, the substantially cylindrical substrate having a dielectric material formed on a portion of thereof and a plurality of conductive traces formed on the dielectric material and the substantially cylindrical substrate, the conductive traces forming a variable inductive-capacitance circuit; and crimping the substrate.

[0016] Another aspect of the present invention is a method for enabling effective magnetic resonance imaging inside a lumen of a medical device, the method placing a portion of the medical device in an expandable substantially cylindrical substrate, the expandable substantially cylindrical substrate having an axial closed end and an axial open end, the axial closed end being within the axial open end, the expandable substantially cylindrical substrate having a dielectric material formed on a portion of thereof and a plurality of expandable conductive traces formed on the dielectric material and the substantially cylindrical substrate, the expandable conductive traces forming a variable inductive-capacitance circuit; and crimping the substrate.

[0017] Another aspect of the present invention is a device for enabling effective magnetic resonance imaging inside a lumen of a medical device having a substrate and a plurality of conductive traces formed on the substrate, a first portion of the conductive traces forming an inductive coil, a second portion of the conductive traces overlapping a third portion of the conductive traces with a dielectric material formed at the overlapping of and between the second portion of the conductive traces with the third portion of the conductive traces, the dielectric

material and overlapped portions of the conductive traces forming a capacitor; the inductive coil and the capacitor being tuned to a frequency associated with magnetic resonance imaging.

[0018] Another aspect of the present invention is an implantable medical device having a stent; a substrate surrounding a portion of the stent; and a plurality of conductive traces formed on the substrate, a first portion of the conductive traces forming an inductive coil, a second portion of the conductive traces overlapping a third portion of the conductive traces with a dielectric material formed at the overlapping of and between the second portion of the conductive traces with the third portion of the conductive traces, the dielectric material and overlapped portions of the conductive traces forming a capacitor; the inductive coil and the capacitor being tuned to a frequency associated with magnetic resonance imaging.

[0019] Another aspect of the present invention is a device for enabling effective magnetic resonance imaging inside a lumen of a medical device having a substrate and a plurality of conductive traces formed on the substrate; the plurality of conductive traces forming a plurality of loops to create a single spiraling coil, adjacent loops of the single spiraling coil having a non-conductive material therebetween; the single spiraling coil forming an inductive coil; the adjacent loops of the single spiraling coil having a non-conductive material therebetween forming a capacitor; the inductive coil and the capacitor being tuned to a frequency associated with magnetic resonance imaging.

[0020] Another aspect of the present invention is an implantable medical device having a stent; a substrate surrounding a portion of the stent; and a plurality of conductive traces formed on the substrate; the plurality of conductive traces forming a plurality of loops to create a single spiraling coil, adjacent loops of the single spiraling coil having a non-conductive material therebetween; the single spiraling coil forming an inductive coil; the adjacent loops of the single spiraling coil having a non-conductive material therebetween forming a capacitor; the inductive coil and the capacitor being tuned to a frequency associated with magnetic resonance imaging.

[0021] Another aspect of the present invention is a device for enabling effective magnetic resonance imaging inside a lumen of a medical device having a substantially cylindrical substrate; a first plurality of conductive traces formed on the substantially cylindrical substrate; and a second plurality of conductive traces formed on the substantially cylindrical substrate; the first plurality of conductive traces forming a first inductive coil having two overlapping ends with a non-conductive material therebetween, the two overlapping ends with a non-conductive material therebetween forming a first capacitor; the second plurality of conductive traces forming a second inductive coil having two overlapping ends with a non-conductive material therebetween, the two overlapping ends with a non-conductive material therebetween forming a second capacitor; the first inductive coil and the second inductive coil being approximately orthogonally oriented on the substantially cylindrical substrate; the first inductive coil and the first capacitor being tuned to a first frequency associated with magnetic resonance imaging; the

second inductive coil and the second capacitor being tuned to a first frequency associated with magnetic resonance imaging.

[0022] Another aspect of the present invention is an implantable medical device, comprising: a stent; a substantially cylindrical substrate surrounding a portion of the stent; a first plurality of conductive traces formed on the substantially cylindrical substrate; and a second plurality of conductive traces formed on the substantially cylindrical substrate; the first plurality of conductive traces forming a first inductive coil having two overlapping ends with a non-conductive material therebetween, the two overlapping ends with a non-conductive material therebetween forming a first capacitor; the second plurality of conductive traces forming a second inductive coil having two overlapping ends with a non-conductive material therebetween, the two overlapping ends with a non-conductive material therebetween forming a second capacitor; the first inductive coil and the second inductive coil being approximately orthogonally oriented on the substantially cylindrical substrate; the first inductive coil and the first capacitor being tuned to a first frequency associated with magnetic resonance imaging; the second inductive coil and the second capacitor being tuned to a first frequency associated with magnetic resonance imaging.

[0023] Another aspect of the present invention is a device for enabling effective magnetic resonance imaging inside a lumen of a medical device having a substantially cylindrical substrate; a first plurality of conductive traces formed on the substantially cylindrical substrate; and a second plurality of conductive traces formed on the substantially cylindrical substrate; the first plurality of conductive traces forming a first plurality of loops to create a first spiraling inductive coil having two overlapping ends with a non-conductive material therebetween, adjacent loops of the first spiraling coil having a non-conductive material therebetween, the two overlapping ends with a non-conductive material therebetween and adjacent loops of the first spiraling coil having a non-conductive material therebetween forming a first capacitor; the second plurality of conductive traces forming a second plurality of loops to create a second spiraling inductive coil having two overlapping ends with a non-conductive material therebetween, adjacent loops of the second spiraling coil having a non-conductive material therebetween, the two overlapping ends with a non-conductive material therebetween and adjacent loops of the second spiraling coil having a non-conductive material therebetween forming a second capacitor; the first spiraling inductive coil and the second spiraling inductive coil being approximately orthogonally oriented on the substantially cylindrical substrate; the first spiraling inductive coil and the first capacitor being tuned to a first frequency associated with magnetic resonance imaging; the second spiraling inductive coil and the second capacitor being tuned to a first frequency associated with magnetic resonance imaging.

[0024] Another aspect of the present invention is an implantable medical device having a stent; a substantially cylindrical substrate surrounding a portion of the stent; a first plurality of conductive traces formed on the substantially cylindrical substrate; and a second plurality of

conductive traces formed on the substantially cylindrical substrate; the first plurality of conductive traces forming a first plurality of loops to create a first spiraling inductive coil having two overlapping ends with a non-conductive material therebetween, adjacent loops of the first spiraling coil having a non-conductive material therebetween, the two overlapping ends with a non-conductive material therebetween and adjacent loops of the first spiraling coil having a non-conductive material therebetween forming a first capacitor; the second plurality of conductive traces forming a second plurality of loops to create a second spiraling inductive coil having two overlapping ends with a non-conductive material therebetween, adjacent loops of the second spiraling coil having a non-conductive material therebetween, the two overlapping ends with a non-conductive material therebetween and adjacent loops of the second spiraling coil having a non-conductive material therebetween forming a second capacitor; the first spiraling inductive coil and the second spiraling inductive coil being approximately orthogonally oriented on the substantially cylindrical substrate; the first spiraling inductive coil and the first capacitor being tuned to a first frequency associated with magnetic resonance imaging; the second spiraling inductive coil and the second capacitor being tuned to a first frequency associated with magnetic resonance imaging.

BRIEF DESCRIPTION OF THE DRAWINGS

[0025] The present invention may take form in various components and arrangements of components, and in various steps and arrangements of steps. The drawings are only for purposes of illustrating a preferred embodiment or embodiments and are not to be construed as limiting the present invention, wherein:

[0026] Figure 1 shows a sleeve substrate having a resonance coil formed thereon according to the concepts of the present invention;

[0027] Figure 2 shows the wrapping of the sleeve substrate of Figure 1 according to the concepts of the present invention;

[0028] Figure 3 shows the crimped sleeve substrate wrapped around a collapsed stent according to the concepts of the present invention;

[0029] Figure 4 illustrates a manufacturing web transporting a number of sleeve substrates according to the concepts of the present invention;

[0030] Figure 5 a sleeve substrate having a resonance coil formed using a folding routine according to the concepts of the present invention;

[0031] Figure 6 shows the sleeve substrate of Figure 5 prior to folding according to the concepts of the present invention;

[0032] Figure 7 shows a manufacturing device for forming the resonance coil upon a substrate;

[0033] Figure 8 shows another embodiment of a sleeve substrate having a resonance coil and variable capacitance formed thereon according to the concepts of the present invention;

[0034] Figure 9 shows the wrapping of the sleeve substrate of Figure 8 according to the concepts of the present invention;

[0035] Figure 10 shows another embodiment of a sleeve substrate having a resonance coil and variable capacitance formed thereon according to the concepts of the present invention;

[0036] Figure 11 shows the wrapping of the sleeve substrate of Figure 10 according to the concepts of the present invention;

[0037] Figure 12 shows another embodiment of a sleeve substrate having a resonance coil formed thereon according to the concepts of the present invention;

[0038] Figure 13 shows another embodiment of a sleeve substrate having a resonance coil and non-linear variable capacitance formed thereon according to the concepts of the present invention;

[0039] Figure 14 shows a sleeve substrate formed around a stent according to the concepts of the present invention;

[0040] Figure 15 shows another embodiment of a sleeve substrate having a resonance coil and non-linear variable capacitance formed thereon according to the concepts of the present invention;

[0041] Figure 16 is an expanded view of the traces showing the resonance coil construction;

[0042] Figure 17 shows a sleeve substrate having multiple resonance coils formed thereon according to the concepts of the present invention;

[0043] Figure 18 shows another embodiment of a sleeve substrate having multiple resonance coils and variable capacitance formed thereon according to the concepts of the present invention;

[0044] Figure 19 shows the wrapping of the sleeve substrate of Figure 18 according to the concepts of the present invention;

[0045] Figure 20 shows a sleeve substrate having a resonance coil with multiple (stacked) loops formed thereon according to the concepts of the present invention;

[0046] Figure 21 shows a side perspective of the sleeve substrate having a resonance coil with multiple (stacked) loops formed thereon illustrated by Figure 20 according to the concepts of the present invention;

[0047] Figure 22 illustrates a stent assembly according to the concepts of the present invention;

[0048] Figure 23 illustrates resonant circuits on a cylinder membrane according to the concepts of the present invention;

[0049] Figure 24 illustrates a stent sleeve assembly according to the concepts of the present invention;

[0050] Figure 25 illustrates circuits on a flat film membrane wrapped around a stent according to the concepts of the present invention;

[0051] Figure 26 illustrates forming circuits on a membrane according to the concepts of the present invention;

[0052] Figure 27 illustrates a side view of the stent circuit assembly according to the concepts of the present invention; and

[0053] Figure 28 illustrates a substrate having a resonance coil with multiple (non-stacked) loops formed thereon according to the concepts of the present invention.

BEST MODE FOR CARRYING OUT THE INVENTION

[0054] The present invention will be described in connection with preferred embodiments; however, it will be understood that there is no intent to limit the present invention to the embodiments described herein. On the contrary, the intent is to cover all alternatives, modifications, and equivalents as may be included within the spirit and scope of the present invention as defined by the appended claims.

[0055] For a general understanding of the present invention, reference is made to the drawings. In the drawings, like reference numbering has been used throughout to designate identical or equivalent elements. It is also noted that the various drawings illustrating the present invention may not have been drawn to scale and that certain regions may have been purposely drawn disproportionately so that the features and concepts of the present invention could be properly illustrated.

[0056] As noted above, the present invention is directed to a device which enables imaging and visualization of the inner lumen of an implanted stent by means of an magnetic resonance imaging technique and which is independent of the stent structure and/or a device that enables the effective designing of a stent to provide scaffolding so as to maintain the patency of the vessel, duct or channel lumen without having to design features into the stent to enable imaging and visualization of the inner lumen of an implanted stent by means of an magnetic resonance imaging technique.

[0057] As illustrated in Figure 1, a substrate **100** has formed thereon conductive traces **130**, composed of film coatings of metal or any thin pliable conductive material. The traces **130** are formed so as to create a resonance coil or coils **120** that will be used in forming a LC circuit that is tuned to the desired frequency of magnetic resonance imaging or other desired frequency. It is noted that the traces **130** may also be formed so as to create a resonance coil or coils **120** that will be used in forming a RLC circuit that is tuned to the desired frequency of magnetic resonance imaging or other desired frequency.

[0058] In this embodiment, the "resistor" is the "conductive" material or conductive traces **130**. The resistor value is controlled by the dimensions of the conductor as well as the material selected for the conductor. Also, the material for the conductor may vary along the length of the tracing forming the inductor, thereby providing a resistive parameter to the circuit.

[0059] The degree of resonance or 'Q' of either the formed LC or formed RLC circuit is a degree of resonance at the Lamar frequency of the magnetic resonance imaging system or the desired resonance frequency to permit clinically effective imaging inside the lumen of the stent. It is noted that this is the frequency of the system as deployed; e.g. in vitro;, not the frequency in air.

[0060] The substrate **100** may, optionally, include a nominal capacitor **110** to provide a minimum capacitance for the LC or RLC circuit that is tuned to desired frequency of magnetic resonance imaging or other desired frequency.

[0061] The substantial portion of the capacitance may be realized by the capacitance between the traces **130** in region **115** when the substrate **100** is wrapped into a substantially cylinder shape, as illustrated in Figure 2, to form a sleeve. The substrate **100** can be wrapped around a medical device as illustrated in Figure 3. When surrounding a medical device, the traces **130** are insulated by an insulative dielectric material (not shown) so that when the traces **130** in region **115** overlap, due to the wrapping of the substrate **100** as illustrated in Figure 2, the overlapped portions of the traces **130** form a capacitor. The capacitance of the trace formed capacitor in region **115** is variable as the wrapping of the substrate **100** becomes tighter (contracts) or is loosened (expands).

[0062] As noted above, the stent must enable imaging and visualization of the inner lumen of an implanted stent by means of a magnetic resonance imaging technique, thus the stent must have an associated resonance circuit that is tuned to the desired frequency of magnetic resonance. The substrate sleeve of Figure 1 provides the resonance circuit that may be tuned to the desired frequency of magnetic resonance or other desired frequency, independent of the stent.

[0063] To be in resonance, the resonance circuit of the substrate sleeve of Figure 1 must include an LC or RLC circuit that is tuned to the desired frequency of magnetic resonance or other desired frequency. In this embodiment, the traces **130** are formed to create the inductive properties and the overlapping of the traces, when the sleeve is wrapped, creates the capacitive properties. Again, it is noted that a resistive value related to the dimensions of the conductor as well as the material selected for the conductor may be included in the resonance circuit of the substrate sleeve.

[0064] It is noted that as the wrapping of the substrate **100** becomes tighter (contracts), the overall inductance of the resonance circuit of the substrate sleeve decreases, but the overall capacitance of the resonance circuit of the substrate sleeve increases because the area of the overlapping trace portions becomes greater, thereby substantially maintaining resonance with the desired frequency of magnetic resonance imaging or other desired frequency.

[0065] It is noted that the combination of the decreasing of the overall inductance of the resonance circuit of the substrate sleeve and the increasing of the overall capacitance of the resonance circuit of the substrate sleeve may also enable the maintaining of resonance within a

desired bandwidth, which may or may not be in resonance with the magnetic resonance imaging scanner.

[0066] It is also noted that as the wrapping of the substrate **100** becomes looser (expands), the overall inductance of the resonance circuit of the substrate sleeve increases, but the overall capacitance of the resonance circuit of the substrate sleeve decreases because the area of the overlapping trace portions becomes lesser, thereby substantially maintaining resonance with the desired frequency of magnetic resonance imaging or other desired frequency.

[0067] It is noted that the combination of the increasing of the overall inductance of the resonance circuit of the substrate sleeve and the decreasing of the overall capacitance of the resonance circuit of the substrate sleeve may also enable the maintaining of resonance within a desired bandwidth, which may or may not be in resonance with the magnetic resonance imaging scanner.

[0068] The substrate **100** may be a biodegradable substrate that essentially decomposes once the stent is positioned in the body. It is further noted that the substrate **100** may be thermally degradable, chemically degradable, and/or optically degradable. The substrate **100** may also include drugs or medical agents that are therapeutically released upon the decomposition of the substrate. Lastly, the substrate **100** and included resonance circuit are expandable without resulting in breakage. It is noted that the substrate or support web **100**, may be biodegradable and may have adhesive properties useful during manufacture and implantation; however, after biodegradation, the applied conductive traces **130** retain an electrically insulating coating or sheath that prevents unwanted shorting even under repeated flexing of the stent/circuit device in the body.

[0069] As discussed above, the substrate sleeve is wrapped, more particularly; the substrate sleeve is wrapped around a stent and crimped, as illustrated in Figure 3, to form a stent device with an independent resonance circuit. The resonance circuit can be designed to complement the resonance frequency of an implanted stent so that the combination of the resonance circuit, the implanted stent, and surrounding environmental conditions has an effective resonance frequency that is substantially equal to the operating frequency of the magnetic resonance imaging scanner. It is noted that the resonance circuit can be designed to complement the resonance frequency of any implanted device having a lumen to be imaged so that the combination of the resonance circuit, the implanted device, and surrounding environmental conditions has an effective resonance frequency that is substantially equal to the operating frequency of the magnetic resonance imaging scanner. Moreover, the resonance circuit need not be designed to interact with the conductive material of the stent to provide resonance, but merely needs to be designed to contemplate the degree of expansion of the stent so that the proper inductance can be generated with the coil formations and the proper capacitance can be generated with the trace overlap.

[0070] As illustrated in Figure 17, a substrate **100** has formed thereon conductive traces (**2000 2100, 2200, and 2300**) composed of film coatings of metal or any thin pliable conductive material. The traces are formed so as to create independent resonance coils tuned to different frequencies. It is noted that these frequencies may be harmonics. The coils are formed by the traces running on top of each other with an insulating material therebetween. It is noted that the insulating material may be a dielectric to provide capacitance.

[0071] The conductive traces (**2000 2100, 2200, and 2300**) are used in forming a LC circuit that is tuned to the desired frequency of magnetic resonance imaging or other desired frequency. It is noted that the traces may also be formed so as to create independent resonance coils that will be used in forming a RLC circuit that is tuned to the desired frequency of magnetic resonance imaging or other desired frequency.

[0072] In this embodiment, the "resistor" is the "conductive" material or conductive traces. The resistor value is controlled by the dimensions of the conductor as well as the material selected for the conductor. Also, the material for the conductor may vary along the length of the tracing forming the inductor, thereby providing a resistive parameter to the circuit.

[0073] The degree of resonance or 'Q' of either the formed LC or formed RLC circuit is a degree of resonance at the Lamar frequency of the magnetic resonance imaging system to permit clinically effective imaging inside the lumen of the stent.

[0074] As illustrated in Figure 8, a substrate **100** has formed thereon a conductive trace **1300**, composed of film coating of metal or any thin pliable conductive material. The trace **1300** is formed so as to create a single resonance coil that will be used in forming a LC circuit that is tuned to the desired frequency of magnetic resonance imaging or other desired frequency. It is noted that the trace **1300** can be formed so as to create a single resonance coil of a multi-loop inductor coil, as illustrated in Figure 28, wherein the multi-loop inductor coil will be used in forming a LC circuit that is tuned to the desired frequency of magnetic resonance imaging or other desired frequency. It is further noted that the traces **1300** may also be formed so as to create a resonance coil that will be used in forming a RLC circuit that is tuned to the desired frequency of magnetic resonance imaging or other desired frequency. Also, it is noted that the traces **1300** may also be formed so as to create a single resonance coil of a multi-loop inductor coil, as illustrated in Figure 28, wherein the multi-loop inductor coil will be used in forming a RLC circuit that is tuned to the desired frequency of magnetic resonance imaging or other desired frequency.

[0075] In this embodiment, the "resistor" is the "conductive" material or conductive traces **1300**. The resistor value is controlled by the dimensions of the conductor as well as the material selected for the conductor. Also, the material for the conductor may vary along the length of the tracing forming the inductor, thereby providing a resistive parameter to the circuit.

[0076] The degree of resonance or 'Q' of either the formed LC or formed RLC circuit is a degree of resonance at the Lamar frequency of the magnetic resonance imaging system to permit clinically effective imaging inside the lumen of the stent.

[0077] The capacitance is realized by the capacitance by the overlapping of the end portions of the trace **1300** in region **1350** when the substrate **100** is wrapped into a substantially cylinder shape, as illustrated in Figure 9, to form a sleeve. The trace **1300** is insulated by an insulative dielectric material (not shown) so that when the end portions of the trace **1300** in region **1350** overlap, due to the wrapping of the substrate **100** as illustrated in Figure 9, the overlapped portions of the trace **1300** form a capacitor. The capacitance of the trace formed capacitor in region **1350** is variable as the wrapping of the substrate **100** becomes tighter (contracts) or is loosened (expands).

[0078] As noted above, the stent must enable imaging and visualization of the inner lumen of an implanted stent by means of a magnetic resonance imaging technique, thus the stent must have an associated resonance circuit that is tuned to the desired frequency of magnetic resonance when deployed in the patient's body or deployed in vitro. The substrate sleeve of Figures 8 and 9 provides the resonance circuit that is tuned to the desired frequency of magnetic resonance independent of the stent. The resonance circuit of Figures 8 and 9 can also be designed to complement the resonance frequency of an implanted stent so that the combination of the resonance circuit, the implanted stent, and surrounding environmental conditions has an effective resonance frequency that is substantially equal to the operating frequency of the magnetic resonance imaging scanner. It is noted that the resonance circuit can be designed to complement the resonance frequency of any implanted device having a lumen to be imaged so that the combination of the resonance circuit, the implanted device, and surrounding environmental conditions has an effective resonance frequency that is substantially equal to the operating frequency of the magnetic resonance imaging scanner.

[0079] To be in resonance, the substrate sleeve of Figures 8 and 9 must include an LC or RLC circuit such that the entire implanted system is tuned to the desired frequency of magnetic resonance when deployed in a patient's body or other desired frequency.

[0080] In this embodiment, the traces **1300** are formed to create the inductive properties and the overlapping of the traces, when the sleeve is wrapped, creates the capacitive properties. Again, it is noted that a resistive value related to the dimensions of the conductor as well as the material selected for the conductor may be included in the resonance circuit of the substrate sleeve.

[0081] It is noted that as the wrapping of the substrate **100** becomes tighter (contracts), the overall inductance of the resonance circuit of the substrate sleeve decreases, but the overall capacitance of the resonance circuit of the substrate sleeve increases because the area of the overlapping trace portions becomes greater, thereby substantially maintaining resonance with the desired frequency of magnetic resonance imaging or other desired frequency.

[0082] It is noted that the combination of the decreasing of the overall inductance of the resonance circuit of the substrate sleeve and the increasing of the overall capacitance of the resonance circuit of the substrate sleeve may also enable the maintaining of resonance within a desired bandwidth, which may or may not be in resonance with the magnetic resonance imaging scanner.

[0083] It is also noted that as the wrapping of the substrate **100** becomes looser (expands), the overall inductance of the substrate sleeve increases, but the overall capacitance of the substrate sleeve decreases because the area of the overlapping trace portions becomes lesser, thereby substantially maintaining resonance with the desired frequency of magnetic resonance imaging or other desired frequency.

[0084] It is noted that the combination of the increasing of the overall inductance of the resonance circuit of the substrate sleeve and the decreasing of the overall capacitance of the resonance circuit of the substrate sleeve may also enable the maintaining of resonance within a desired bandwidth, which may or may not be in resonance with the magnetic resonance imaging scanner.

[0085] The substrate **100** may be a biodegradable substrate that essentially decomposes once the stent is positioned in the body. It is further noted that the substrate **100** may be thermally degradable, chemically degradable, and/or optically degradable. The substrate **100** may also include drugs or medical agents that are therapeutically released upon the decomposition of the substrate. Lastly, the substrate **100** and included resonance circuit are expandable without resulting in breakage. It is noted that the substrate or support web **100**, may be biodegradable and may have adhesive properties useful during manufacture and implantation; however, after biodegradation, the applied conductive traces **1300** retain an electrically insulating coating or sheath that prevents unwanted shorting even under repeated flexing of the stent/circuit device in the body.

[0086] The embodiment illustrated in Figure 8 is applicable to a resonance coil constructed of multiple or stacked loops, as illustrated in Figure 20. In Figure 20, a substrate **100** has formed thereon a conductive trace with stacked or multiple loops (**4000**, **4100**, **4200**, and **4300**), composed of film coating of metal or any thin pliable conductive material. The trace is formed so as to create a single resonance coil having stacked or multiple loops (**4000**, **4100**, **4200**, and **4300**) that will be used in forming a LC circuit that is tuned to the desired frequency of magnetic resonance imaging or other desired frequency. It is noted that the trace may also be formed so as to create a resonance coil that will be used in forming a RLC circuit that is tuned to the desired frequency of magnetic resonance imaging or other desired frequency.

[0087] In this embodiment, the "resistor" is the "conductive" material or conductive trace. The resistor value is controlled by the dimensions of the conductor as well as the material selected for the conductor. Also, the material for the conductor may vary along the length of the tracing forming the inductor, thereby providing a resistive parameter to the circuit.

[0088] The degree of resonance or 'Q' of either the formed LC or formed RLC circuit is a degree of resonance at the Lamar frequency of the magnetic resonance imaging system to permit clinically effective imaging inside the lumen of the stent.

[0089] The capacitance is realized by the capacitance by the overlapping of the end portions of the trace when the substrate **100** is wrapped into a substantially cylinder shape to form a sleeve. The trace is insulated by an insulative dielectric material (not shown) so that when the end portions of the trace overlap, due to the wrapping of the substrate **100**, the overlapped portions of the trace form a capacitor. The capacitance of the trace formed capacitor is variable as the wrapping of the substrate **100** becomes tighter (contracts) or is loosened (expands).

[0090] As noted above, the stent must enable imaging and visualization of the inner lumen of an implanted stent by means of a magnetic resonance imaging technique, thus the stent must have an associated resonance circuit that is tuned to the desired frequency of magnetic resonance. The substrate sleeve provides the resonance circuit that is tuned to the desired frequency of magnetic resonance independent of the stent. The resonance circuit can also be designed to complement the resonance frequency of an implanted stent so that the combination of the resonance circuit, the implanted stent, and surrounding environmental conditions has an effective resonance frequency that is substantially equal to the operating frequency of the magnetic resonance imaging scanner. It is noted that the resonance circuit can be designed to complement the resonance frequency of any implanted device having a lumen to be imaged so that the combination of the resonance circuit, the implanted device, and surrounding environmental conditions has an effective resonance frequency that is substantially equal to the operating frequency of the magnetic resonance imaging scanner.

[0091] To be in resonance, the substrate sleeve of Figure 20 must include an LC or RLC circuit that is tuned to the operating frequency of the magnetic resonance imaging scanner or other desired frequency.

[0092] In this embodiment, the trace has stacked or multiple loops (**4000**, **4100**, **4200**, and **4300**) to create the inductive properties and the overlapping of the trace, when the sleeve is wrapped, creates the capacitive properties. Again, it is noted that a resistive value related to the dimensions of the conductor as well as the material selected for the conductor may be included in the resonance circuit of the substrate sleeve.

[0093] It is noted that as the wrapping of the substrate **100** becomes tighter (contracts), the overall inductance of the resonance circuit of the substrate sleeve decreases, but the overall capacitance of the resonance circuit of the substrate sleeve increases because the area of the overlapping trace portions becomes greater, thereby substantially maintaining resonance with the desired frequency of magnetic resonance imaging or other desired frequency.

[0094] It is noted that the combination of the decreasing of the overall inductance of the resonance circuit of the substrate sleeve and the increasing of the overall capacitance of the

resonance circuit of the substrate sleeve may also enable the maintaining of resonance within a desired bandwidth, which may or may not be in resonance with the magnetic resonance imaging scanner.

[0095] It is also noted that as the wrapping of the substrate **100** becomes looser (expands), the overall inductance of the substrate sleeve increases, but the overall capacitance of the substrate sleeve decreases because the area of the overlapping trace portions becomes lesser, thereby substantially maintaining resonance with the desired frequency of magnetic resonance imaging or other desired frequency.

[0096] It is noted that the combination of the increasing of the overall inductance of the resonance circuit of the substrate sleeve and the decreasing of the overall capacitance of the resonance circuit of the substrate sleeve may also enable the maintaining of resonance within a desired bandwidth, which may or may not be in resonance with the magnetic resonance imaging scanner.

[0097] The substrate **100** may be a biodegradable substrate that essentially decomposes once the stent is positioned in the body. It is further noted that the substrate **100** may be thermally degradable, chemically degradable, and/or optically degradable. The substrate **100** may also include drugs or medical agents that are therapeutically released upon the decomposition of the substrate. Lastly, the substrate **100** and included resonance circuit are expandable without resulting in breakage. It is noted that the substrate or support web **100**, may be biodegradable and may have adhesive properties useful during manufacture and implantation; however, after biodegradation, the applied conductive traces **1300** retain an electrically insulating coating or sheath that prevents unwanted shorting even under repeated flexing of the stent/circuit device in the body.

[0098] As illustrated in Figure 20, end portions of the multiple or stacked loops (**4000**, **4100**, **4200**, and **4300**) may be aligned along dotted lines **5000** and **5100**. The multiple or stacked loops (**4000**, **4100**, **4200**, and **4300**) are electrically connected to each other by conductive trace portions (**4050**, **4150**, and **4250**). More specifically, loop **4000** may be electrically connected to loop **4100** through conductive trace portion **4050**; loop **4100** may be electrically connected to loop **4200** through conductive trace portion **4150**; and loop **4200** may be electrically connected to loop **4300** through conductive trace portion **4250**. By connecting the various loops in this fashion, an inductive coil is realized.

[0100] It is noted that the conductive trace portions may be replaced with a dielectric to provide a capacitive connection between the multiple or stacked loops. A better illustration of this construction is provided by Figure 21, which illustrates a side perspective of the multiple or stacked loops at cross-section **6000** of Figure 20.

[0101] In Figure 21, the multiple or stacked loops (**4000**, **4100**, **4200**, and **4300**) are formed on the substrate **100**. Between each loop, an insulating film or layer **4025** is provided.

[0102] As illustrated in Figure 21, loop **4000** is formed on substrate **100** and may be electrically connected to loop **4100** through conductive trace portion **4050** with an insulating film or layer **4025** between loop **4000** and loop **4100**; loop **4100** may be electrically connected to loop **4200** through conductive trace portion **4150** with an insulating film or layer **4025** between loop **4100** and loop **4200**; and loop **4200** may be electrically connected to loop **4300** through conductive trace portion **4250** with an insulating film or layer **4025** between loop **4200** and loop **4300**. Again, by connecting the various loops in this fashion, an inductive coil is realized.

[0103] It is noted that the conductive trace portions may be replaced with a dielectric to provide a capacitive connection between the multiple or stacked loops.

[0104] It is noted that the individual loops (**4000**, **4100**, **4200**, and **4300**) may be formed to have distinct shapes and areas.

[0105] As illustrated in Figure 10, a substrate **100** has formed thereon conductive traces **1300**, composed of film coatings of metal or any thin pliable conductive material. The traces **1300** are formed so as to create a single spiraling resonance coil that will be used in forming a LC circuit that is tuned to the desired frequency of magnetic resonance imaging or other desired frequency. It is noted that the traces **1300** may also be formed so as to create a single spiraling resonance coil that will be used in forming a RLC circuit that is tuned to the desired frequency of magnetic resonance imaging or other desired frequency.

[0106] In this embodiment, the "resistor" is the "conductive" material or conductive traces **1300**. The resistor value is controlled by the dimensions of the conductor as well as the material selected for the conductor. Also, the material for the conductor may vary along the length of the tracing forming the inductor, thereby providing a resistive parameter to the circuit.

[0107] The degree of resonance or 'Q' of either the formed LC or formed RLC circuit is a degree of resonance at the Lamar frequency of the magnetic resonance imaging system to permit clinically effective imaging inside the lumen of the stent.

[0108] The capacitance is realized by the capacitance by the overlapping of the end portions of the traces **1300** in region **1350** when the substrate **100** is wrapped into a substantially cylinder shape, as illustrated in Figure 11, to form a sleeve. The end portions of the traces **1300** are formed so that the end portions are aligned as illustrated by dashed box **1375**.

[0109] The traces **1300** are insulated by an insulative dielectric material (not shown) so that when the end portions of the traces **1300** in region **1350** overlap, due to the wrapping of the substrate **100** as illustrated in Figure 11, the overlapped portions of the traces **1300** form a capacitor. The capacitance of the trace formed capacitor in region **1350** is variable as the wrapping of the substrate **100** becomes tighter (contracts) or is loosened (expands).

[0110] As noted above, the stent must enable imaging and visualization of the inner lumen of an implanted stent by means of a magnetic resonance imaging technique, thus the stent must have an associated resonance circuit that is tuned to the desired frequency of magnetic

resonance. The substrate sleeve of Figures 10 and 11 provides the resonance circuit that is tuned to the desired frequency of magnetic resonance independent of the stent. The resonance circuit of Figures 10 and 11 can also be designed to complement the resonance frequency of an implanted stent so that the combination of the resonance circuit, the implanted stent, and surrounding environmental conditions has an effective resonance frequency that is substantially equal to the operating frequency of the magnetic resonance imaging scanner. It is noted that the resonance circuit can be designed to complement the resonance frequency of any implanted device having a lumen to be imaged so that the combination of the resonance circuit, the implanted device, and surrounding environmental conditions has an effective resonance frequency that is substantially equal to the operating frequency of the magnetic resonance imaging scanner. It is further noted that for all embodiments disclosed herein, the resonance circuits can also be designed to complement the resonance frequency of an implanted device so that the combination of the resonance circuit, the implanted device, and surrounding environmental conditions has an effective resonance frequency that is substantially equal to the operating frequency of the magnetic resonance imaging scanner. It is also noted that for all embodiments disclosed herein, the resonance circuits and the combination of the resonance circuit, the implanted device, and surrounding environmental conditions may be tuned to have an effective resonance frequency that is substantially equal to a harmonic or sub-harmonic frequency of the operating frequency of the magnetic resonance imaging scanner.

[0111] To be in resonance, the substrate sleeve of Figures 10 and 11 must include an LC or RLC circuit that is tuned to the desired frequency of magnetic resonance or other desired frequency.

[0112] In this embodiment, the traces **1300** are formed to create the inductive properties and the overlapping of the traces, when the sleeve is wrapped, creates the capacitive properties. Again, it is noted that a resistive value related to the dimensions of the conductor as well as the material selected for the conductor may be included in the resonance circuit of the substrate sleeve.

[0113] It is noted that the combination of the decreasing of the overall inductance of the resonance circuit of the substrate sleeve and the increasing of the overall capacitance of the resonance circuit of the substrate sleeve may also enable the maintaining of resonance within a desired bandwidth, which may or may not be in resonance with the magnetic resonance imaging scanner.

[0114] It is also noted that the combination of the increasing of the overall inductance of the resonance circuit of the substrate sleeve and the decreasing of the overall capacitance of the resonance circuit of the substrate sleeve may also enable the maintaining of resonance within a desired bandwidth, which may or may not be in resonance with the magnetic resonance imaging scanner.

[0115] The substrate 100 may be a biodegradable substrate that essentially decomposes once the stent is positioned in the body. It is further noted that the substrate 100 may be thermally degradable, chemically degradable, and/or optically degradable. The substrate 100 may also include drugs or medical agents that are therapeutically released upon the decomposition of the substrate. Lastly, the substrate 100 and included resonance circuit are expandable without resulting in breakage. It is noted that the substrate or support web 100, may be biodegradable and may have adhesive properties useful during manufacture and implantation; however, after biodegradation, the applied conductive traces 1300 retain an electrically insulating coating or sheath that prevents unwanted shorting even under repeated flexing of the stent/circuit device in the body.

[0116] As illustrated in Figure 18, a substrate 100 has formed thereon conductive traces (3000, 3100, 3200, and 3300) composed of film coatings of metal or any thin pliable conductive material. The traces are formed so as to create independent spiraling resonance coils tuned to different frequencies. It is noted that these frequencies may be harmonics. The spiraling coils are formed by the traces running on top of each other with an insulating material therebetween. It is noted that the insulating material may be a dielectric to provide capacitance.

[0117] The conductive traces (3000, 3100, 3200, and 3300) are used in forming a LC circuit that is tuned to the desired frequency of magnetic resonance imaging or other desired frequency. It is noted that the traces may also be formed so as to create independent resonance coils that will be used in forming a RLC circuit that is tuned to the desired frequency of magnetic resonance imaging or other desired frequency.

[0118] In this embodiment, the "resistor" is the "conductive" material or conductive traces. The resistor value is controlled by the dimensions of the conductor as well as the material selected for the conductor. Also, the material for the conductor may vary along the length of the tracing forming the inductor, thereby providing a resistive parameter to the circuit.

[0119] The degree of resonance or 'Q' of either the formed LC or formed RLC circuit is a degree of resonance at the Lamar frequency of the magnetic resonance imaging system to permit clinically effective imaging inside the lumen of the stent.

[0120] The capacitance is realized by the capacitance by the overlapping of the end portions of the traces when the substrate 100 is wrapped into a substantially cylinder shape, as illustrated in Figure 19, to form a sleeve. The end portions of the traces are formed so that the end portions are aligned.

[0121] The traces are insulated by an insulative dielectric material (not shown) so that when the end portions of the traces overlap, due to the wrapping of the substrate 100 as illustrated in Figure 19, the overlapped portions of the traces form a capacitor. The capacitance of the trace formed capacitor is variable as the wrapping of the substrate 100 becomes tighter (contracts) or is loosened (expands).

[0122] As noted above, the stent must enable imaging and visualization of the inner lumen of an implanted stent by means of a magnetic resonance imaging technique, thus the stent must have an associated resonance circuit that is tuned to the desired frequency of magnetic resonance. The substrate sleeve of Figures 18 and 19 provides the resonance circuit that is tuned to the desired frequency of magnetic resonance independent of the stent. The resonance circuit of Figures 18 and 19 can also be designed to complement the resonance frequency of an implanted stent so that the combination of the resonance circuit, the implanted stent, and surrounding environmental conditions has an effective resonance frequency that is substantially equal to the operating frequency of the magnetic resonance imaging scanner. It is noted that the resonance circuit can be designed to complement the resonance frequency of any implanted device having a lumen to be imaged so that the combination of the resonance circuit, the implanted device, and surrounding environmental conditions has an effective resonance frequency that is substantially equal to the operating frequency of the magnetic resonance imaging scanner.

[0123] To be in resonance, the substrate sleeve of Figures 18 and 19 must include an LC or RLC circuit that is tuned to the desired frequency of magnetic resonance or other desired frequency.

[0124] In this embodiment, the traces are formed to create the inductive properties and the overlapping of the traces, when the sleeve is wrapped, creates the capacitive properties. Again, it is noted that a resistive value related to the dimensions of the conductor as well as the material selected for the conductor may be included in the resonance circuit of the substrate sleeve.

[0125] It is noted that the combination of the decreasing of the overall inductance of the resonance circuit of the substrate sleeve and the increasing of the overall capacitance of the resonance circuit of the substrate sleeve may also enable the maintaining of resonance within a desired bandwidth, which may or may not be in resonance with the magnetic resonance imaging scanner.

[0126] It is also noted that the combination of the increasing of the overall inductance of the resonance circuit of the substrate sleeve and the decreasing of the overall capacitance of the resonance circuit of the substrate sleeve may also enable the maintaining of resonance within a desired bandwidth, which may or may not be in resonance with the magnetic resonance imaging scanner.

[0127] As illustrated in Figure 13, a substrate **100** has formed thereon conductive traces **1300**, composed of film coatings of metal or any thin pliable conductive material. The traces **1300** are formed so as to create a single spiraling resonance coil that will be used in forming a LC circuit that is tuned to the desired frequency of magnetic resonance imaging or other desired frequency. It is noted that the traces **1300** may also be formed so as to create a resonance coil

that will be used in forming a RLC circuit that is tuned to the desired frequency of magnetic resonance imaging or other desired frequency.

[0128] In this embodiment, the "resistor" is the "conductive" material or conductive traces **1300**. The resistor value is controlled by the dimensions of the conductor as well as the material selected for the conductor. Also, the material for the conductor may vary along the length of the tracing forming the inductor, thereby providing a resistive parameter to the circuit.

[0129] The degree of resonance or 'Q' of either the formed LC or formed RLC circuit is a degree of resonance at the Lamar frequency of the magnetic resonance imaging system to permit clinically effective imaging inside the lumen of the stent.

[0130] The capacitance is realized by the capacitance by the overlapping of the end portions of the traces **1300** in region **1350** when the substrate **100** is wrapped into a substantially cylinder shape to form a sleeve. The end portions of the traces **1300**, as illustrated in Figure 13, are formed so that the end portions are aligned as illustrated by dashed box **1375** and have a shape that enables a non-linear variability in the capacitance as the substrate **100** becomes tighter (contracts) or is loosened (expands).

[0131] The traces **1300** are insulated by an insulative dielectric material (not shown) so that when the end portions of the traces **1300** in region **1350** overlap, due to the wrapping of the substrate **100**, the overlapped portions of the traces **1300** form a capacitor. The capacitance of the trace formed capacitor in region **1350** is variable as the wrapping of the substrate **100** becomes tighter (contracts) or is loosened (expands).

[0132] As noted above, the stent must enable imaging and visualization of the inner lumen of an implanted stent by means of a magnetic resonance imaging technique, thus the stent must have an associated resonance circuit that is tuned to the desired frequency of magnetic resonance. The substrate sleeve of Figure 13 provides the resonance circuit that is tuned to the desired frequency of magnetic resonance independent of the stent.

[0133] To be in resonance, the substrate sleeve of Figure 13 must include an LC or RLC circuit that is tuned to the desired frequency of magnetic resonance or other desired frequency.

[0134] In this embodiment, the traces are formed to create the inductive properties and the overlapping of the traces, when the sleeve is wrapped, creates the capacitive properties. Again, it is noted that a resistive value related to the dimensions of the conductor as well as the material selected for the conductor may be included in the resonance circuit of the substrate sleeve.

[0135] It is noted that as the wrapping of the substrate **100** becomes tighter (contracts), the overall inductance of the resonance circuit of the substrate sleeve decreases, but the overall capacitance of the resonance circuit of the substrate sleeve non-linearly increases because the area of the overlapping trace portions becomes greater, thereby substantially maintaining resonance with the desired frequency of magnetic resonance imaging or other desired frequency.

[0136] It is noted that the combination of the decreasing of the overall inductance of the resonance circuit of the substrate sleeve and the increasing of the overall capacitance of the resonance circuit of the substrate sleeve may also enable the maintaining of resonance within a desired bandwidth, which may or may not be in resonance with the magnetic resonance imaging scanner.

[0137] It is also noted that as the wrapping of the substrate **100** becomes looser (expands), the overall inductance of the resonance circuit of the substrate sleeve increases, but the overall capacitance of the resonance circuit of the substrate sleeve non-linearly decreases because the area of the overlapping trace portions becomes lesser, thereby substantially maintaining resonance with the desired frequency of magnetic resonance imaging or other desired frequency.

[0138] It is noted that the combination of the increasing of the overall inductance of the resonance circuit of the substrate sleeve and the decreasing of the overall capacitance of the resonance circuit of the substrate sleeve may also enable the maintaining of resonance within a desired bandwidth, which may or may not be in resonance with the magnetic resonance imaging scanner.

[0139] The substrate **100** may be a biodegradable substrate that essentially decomposes once the stent is positioned in the body. It is further noted that the substrate **100** may be thermally degradable, chemically degradable, and/or optically degradable. The substrate **100** may also include drugs or medical agents that are therapeutically released upon the decomposition of the substrate. Lastly, the substrate **100** is expandable without resulting in breakage. It is noted that the substrate or support web **100**, may be biodegradable and may have adhesive properties useful during manufacture and implantation; however, after biodegradation, the applied conductive traces **1300** retain an electrically insulating coating or sheath that prevents unwanted shorting even under repeated flexing of the stent/circuit device in the body.

[0140] As illustrated in Figure 15, a substrate **100** has formed thereon conductive traces **1400**, composed of film coatings of metal or any thin pliable conductive material. The traces **1400** have zig-zag shape portion **1425** to prevent circuit breakage either during crimping or re-expansion.

[0141] The traces **1400** are formed so as to create a single spiraling resonance coil that will be used in forming a LC circuit that is tuned to the desired frequency of magnetic resonance imaging or other desired frequency. It is noted that the traces **1400** may also be formed so as to create a resonance coil that will be used in forming a RLC circuit that is tuned to the desired frequency of magnetic resonance imaging or other desired frequency.

[0142] In this embodiment, the "resistor" is the "conductive" material or conductive traces **1400**. The resistor value is controlled by the dimensions of the conductor as well as the material

selected for the conductor. Also, the material for the conductor may vary along the length of the tracing forming the inductor, thereby providing a resistive parameter to the circuit.

[0143] The degree of resonance or 'Q' of either the formed LC or formed RLC circuit is a degree of resonance at the Lamar frequency of the magnetic resonance imaging system to permit clinically effective imaging inside the lumen of the stent.

[0144] In an optional embodiment, as illustrated in Figure 16, the traces **1400** may be formed to create sub-coils **1450**. The sub-coils **1450** are formed by a finer meandering of the traces **1400** on the substrate **100**. These sub-coils **1450** may be formed in any of the various embodiments discussed above.

[0145] The capacitance is realized by the capacitance by the overlapping of the end portions of the traces **1400** in region **1350** when the substrate **100** is wrapped into a substantially cylinder shape to form a sleeve. The end portions of the traces **1400**, as illustrated in Figure 13, are formed so that the end portions are aligned as illustrated by dashed box **1375** and have a shape that enables a non-linear variability in the capacitance as the substrate **100** becomes tighter (contracts) or is loosened (expands).

[0146] The traces **1400** are insulated by an insulative dielectric material (not shown) so that when the end portions of the traces **1400** in region **1350** overlap, due to the wrapping of the substrate **100**, the overlapped portions of the traces **1400** form a capacitor. The capacitance of the trace formed capacitor in region **1350** is variable as the wrapping of the substrate **100** becomes tighter (contracts) or is loosened (expands).

[0147] As noted above, the stent must enable imaging and visualization of the inner lumen of an implanted stent by means of a magnetic resonance imaging technique, thus the stent must have an associated resonance circuit that is tuned to the desired frequency of magnetic resonance. The substrate sleeve of Figure 13 provides the resonance circuit that is tuned to the desired frequency of magnetic resonance independent of the stent. The resonance circuit of Figure 13 can also be designed to complement the resonance frequency of an implanted stent so that the combination of the resonance circuit, the implanted stent, and surrounding environmental conditions has an effective resonance frequency that is substantially equal to the operating frequency of the magnetic resonance imaging scanner. It is noted that the resonance circuit can be designed to complement the resonance frequency of any implanted device having a lumen to be imaged so that the combination of the resonance circuit, the implanted device, and surrounding environmental conditions has an effective resonance frequency that is substantially equal to the operating frequency of the magnetic resonance imaging scanner.

[0148] To be in resonance, the substrate sleeve of Figure 13 must include an LC or RLC circuit that is tuned to the desired frequency of magnetic resonance or other desired frequency.

[0149] In this embodiment, the traces are formed to create the inductive properties and the overlapping of the traces, when the sleeve is wrapped, creates the capacitive properties. Again, it is noted that a resistive value related to the dimensions of the conductor as well as the

material selected for the conductor may be included in the resonance circuit of the substrate sleeve.

[0150] It is noted that as the wrapping of the substrate **100** becomes tighter (contracts), the overall inductance of the resonance circuit of the substrate sleeve decreases, but the overall capacitance of the resonance circuit of the substrate sleeve non-linearly increases because the area of the overlapping trace portions becomes greater, thereby substantially maintaining resonance with the desired frequency of magnetic resonance imaging or other desired frequency.

[0151] It is noted that the combination of the decreasing of the overall inductance of the resonance circuit of the substrate sleeve and the increasing of the overall capacitance of the resonance circuit of the substrate sleeve may also enable the maintaining of resonance within a desired bandwidth, which may or may not be in resonance with the magnetic resonance imaging scanner.

[0152] It is also noted that as the wrapping of the substrate **100** becomes looser (expands), the overall inductance of the resonance circuit of the substrate sleeve increases, but the overall capacitance of the resonance circuit of the substrate sleeve non-linearly decreases because the area of the overlapping trace portions becomes lesser, thereby substantially maintaining resonance with the desired frequency of magnetic resonance imaging or other desired frequency.

[0153] It is noted that the combination of the decreasing of the overall inductance of the resonance circuit of the substrate sleeve and the increasing of the overall capacitance of the resonance circuit of the substrate sleeve may also enable the maintaining of resonance within a desired bandwidth, which may or may not be in resonance with the magnetic resonance imaging scanner.

[0154] The substrate **100** may be a biodegradable substrate that essentially decomposes once the stent is positioned in the body. It is further noted that the substrate **100** may be thermally degradable, chemically degradable, and/or optically degradable. The substrate **100** may also include drugs or medical agents that are therapeutically released upon the decomposition of the substrate. Lastly, the substrate **100** is expandable without resulting in breakage. It is noted that the substrate or support web **100**, may be biodegradable and may have adhesive properties useful during manufacture and implantation; however, after biodegradation, the applied conductive traces **1400** retain an electrically insulating coating or sheath that prevents unwanted shorting even under repeated flexing of the stent/circuit device in the body.

[0155] As illustrated in Figure 12, a substrate **1000** is formed such that it wraps back into itself. This substrate includes conductive traces composed of film coatings of metal or any thin pliable conductive material. The traces are formed so as to create a single spiraling resonance coil that will be used in forming a LC circuit that is tuned to magnetic resonance imaging

parameters. It is noted that the traces may also be formed so as to create a spiraling resonance coil that will be used in forming a RLC circuit that is tuned to magnetic resonance imaging parameters. The degree of resonance or 'Q' of either the formed LC or formed RLC circuit is a degree of resonance at the Lamar frequency of the magnetic resonance imaging system to permit clinically effective imaging inside the lumen of the stent.

[0156] The capacitance is realized by the capacitance by the overlapping of the end portions of the traces as the substrate **1000** is wrapped back into itself to form a sleeve. In other words, the substrate **1000** includes a closed end and an open end, wherein the closed end and open end are substantially parallel with the axis of the created sleeve. In this embodiment, the closed end is positioned within the open end of the substrate **1000**. It is noted that either the closed end, open end, or both ends may include members (not shown) to prevent the closed end from being positioned outside (or without) the confines of the open end and open end.

[0157] The traces are insulated by an insulative dielectric material (not shown) so that when the end portions of the traces overlap, due to the wrapping of the substrate **1000**, the overlapped portions of the traces form a capacitor. The capacitance of the trace formed capacitor is variable as the wrapping of the substrate **1000** becomes tighter (contracts) or is loosened (expands).

[0158] As noted above, the stent must enable imaging and visualization of the inner lumen of an implanted stent by means of a magnetic resonance imaging technique, thus the stent must have an associated resonance circuit that is tuned to the desired frequency of magnetic resonance. The substrate sleeve of Figure 12 provides the resonance circuit that is tuned to the desired frequency of magnetic resonance independent of the stent. The resonance circuit of Figure 12 can also be designed to complement the resonance frequency of an implanted stent so that the combination of the resonance circuit, the implanted stent, and surrounding environmental conditions has an effective resonance frequency that is substantially equal to the operating frequency of the magnetic resonance imaging scanner. It is noted that the resonance circuit can be designed to complement the resonance frequency of any implanted device having a lumen to be imaged so that the combination of the resonance circuit, the implanted device, and surrounding environmental conditions has an effective resonance frequency that is substantially equal to the operating frequency of the magnetic resonance imaging scanner.

[0159] To be in resonance, the substrate sleeve of Figure 12 must include an LC or RLC circuit that is tuned to the desired frequency of magnetic resonance or other desired frequency.

[0160] In this embodiment, the traces are formed to create the inductive properties and the overlapping of the traces, when the sleeve is wrapped, creates the capacitive properties. Again, it is noted that a resistive value related to the dimensions of the conductor as well as the material selected for the conductor may be included in the resonance circuit of the substrate sleeve.

[0161] It is noted that as the wrapping of the substrate **1000** becomes tighter (contracts), the overall inductance of the substrate sleeve decreases, but the overall capacitance of the substrate sleeve increases because the area of the overlapping trace portions becomes greater, thereby substantially maintaining resonance with the desired frequency of magnetic resonance imaging or other desired frequency.

[0162] It is noted that the combination of the decreasing of the overall inductance of the resonance circuit of the substrate sleeve and the increasing of the overall capacitance of the resonance circuit of the substrate sleeve may also enable the maintaining of resonance within a desired bandwidth, which may or may not be in resonance with the magnetic resonance imaging scanner.

[0163] It is also noted that as the wrapping of the substrate **1000** becomes looser (expands), the overall inductance of the substrate sleeve increases, but the overall capacitance of the substrate sleeve decreases because the area of the overlapping trace portions becomes lesser, thereby substantially maintaining resonance with the desired frequency of magnetic resonance imaging or other desired frequency.

[0164] It is noted that the combination of the decreasing of the overall inductance of the resonance circuit of the substrate sleeve and the increasing of the overall capacitance of the resonance circuit of the substrate sleeve may also enable the maintaining of resonance within a desired bandwidth, which may or may not be in resonance with the magnetic resonance imaging scanner.

[0165] The substrate **1000** may be a biodegradable substrate that essentially decomposes once the stent is positioned in the body. It is further noted that the substrate **1000** may be thermally degradable, chemically degradable, and/or optically degradable. The substrate **1000** may also include drugs or medical agents that are therapeutically released upon the decomposition of the substrate. Lastly, the substrate **1000** is expandable without resulting in breakage. It is noted that the substrate or support web **1000**, may be biodegradable and may have adhesive properties useful during manufacture and implantation; however, after biodegradation, the applied conductive traces retain an electrically insulating coating or sheath that prevents unwanted shorting even under repeated flexing of the stent/circuit device in the body.

[0166] Figure 14 illustrates a sleeve wrapped around a stent **2000**. The sleeve includes a substrate **3000** has formed thereon a LC circuit **4000** that is tuned to magnetic resonance imaging parameters.

[0167] As noted above, the stent must enable imaging and visualization of the inner lumen of an implanted stent by means of a magnetic resonance imaging technique, thus the stent must have an associated resonance circuit that is tuned to the desired frequency of magnetic resonance. The substrate sleeve of Figure 14 provides the resonance circuit that is tuned to the desired frequency of magnetic resonance independent of the stent. The resonance circuit of

Figure 14 can also be designed to complement the resonance frequency of an implanted stent so that the combination of the resonance circuit, the implanted stent, and surrounding environmental conditions has an effective resonance frequency that is substantially equal to the operating frequency of the magnetic resonance imaging scanner. It is noted that the resonance circuit can be designed to complement the resonance frequency of any implanted device having a lumen to be imaged so that the combination of the resonance circuit, the implanted device, and surrounding environmental conditions has an effective resonance frequency that is substantially equal to the operating frequency of the magnetic resonance imaging scanner.

[0168] To be in resonance, the substrate sleeve of Figure 14 must include an LC or RLC circuit **4000** that is tuned to the desired frequency of magnetic resonance or other desired frequency.

[0169] In this embodiment, the traces are formed to create the inductive properties and the overlapping of the traces, when the sleeve is wrapped, creates the capacitive properties. Again, it is noted that a resistive value related to the dimensions of the conductor as well as the material selected for the conductor may be included in the resonance circuit of the substrate sleeve.

[0170] It is noted that as the wrapping of the substrate **3000** becomes tighter (contracts), the overall inductance of the substrate sleeve decreases, but the overall capacitance of the substrate sleeve non-linearly increases because the area of the overlapping trace portions becomes greater, thereby substantially maintaining resonance with the desired frequency of magnetic resonance imaging or other desired frequency.

[0171] It is noted that the combination of the decreasing of the overall inductance of the resonance circuit of the substrate sleeve and the increasing of the overall capacitance of the resonance circuit of the substrate sleeve may also enable the maintaining of resonance within a desired bandwidth, which may or may not be in resonance with the magnetic resonance imaging scanner.

[0172] It is also noted that as the wrapping of the substrate **3000** becomes looser (expands), the overall inductance of the substrate sleeve increases, but the overall capacitance of the substrate sleeve non-linearly decreases because the area of the overlapping trace portions becomes lesser, thereby substantially maintaining resonance with the desired frequency of magnetic resonance imaging or other desired frequency.

[0173] It is noted that the combination of the decreasing of the overall inductance of the resonance circuit of the substrate sleeve and the increasing of the overall capacitance of the resonance circuit of the substrate sleeve may also enable the maintaining of resonance within a desired bandwidth, which may or may not be in resonance with the magnetic resonance imaging scanner.

[0174] The substrate **3000** may be a biodegradable substrate that essentially decomposes once the stent is positioned in the body. It is further noted that the substrate **3000** may be

thermally degradable, chemically degradable, and/or optically degradable. The substrate **3000** may also include drugs or medical agents that are therapeutically released upon the decomposition of the substrate. Lastly, the substrate **3000** is expandable without resulting in breakage.

[0175] Figures 5 and 6 illustrate a manufacturing process for creating the sleeve substrate of the present invention. As illustrated in Figure 6, an inductive resonance circuit is etched in foil to form traces **330**. The traces **330** are folded along lines **150** and **155** to create a substantially flat resonance inductive circuit, as illustrated in Figure 5. The folding of the etched foil enables efficient production of the traces without worry of shorting and allows the coil traces to cross over each other without short because the traces are coated in an insulative material before folding. The material may also be a dielectric, thereby providing some capacitance to the resonance circuit etched in the foil. The folding also enables the geometry of the resonance circuit topologically possible.

[0176] Figure 7 illustrates another approach of manufacture. The manufacture device **200** feeds an insulated thin wire conductor **230**, using drivers **210** to a substrate (not shown). The insulated thin wire conductor **230** is heated by heaters **220**. The heating of the insulated thin wire conductor **230** provides an adhesive property for bonding the insulated thin wire conductor **230** to the substrate. The bond is completed by the cool roller **250** which is attached to the tool **200** by ring **240**.

[0177] For any of the embodiments described above, the resonance circuits of Figure 4 (**100A**, **100B**, **100C**, **100D**, **100E**, **100F**....) may be placed upon a web **400** to provide transport. The web **400** may be a biodegradable substrate that essentially decomposes once the stent is positioned in the body. The web **400** may also include drugs or medical agents that are therapeutically released upon the decomposition of the substrate. Lastly, the web **400** is expandable without resulting in breakage. It is noted that the substrate or support web **400**, may be biodegradable and may have adhesive properties useful during manufacture and implantation; however, after biodegradation, the applied resonance circuits retain an electrically insulating coating or sheath that prevents unwanted shorting even under repeated flexing of the stent/circuit device in the body. It is further noted that the support web **400** may be thermally degradable, chemically degradable, and/or optically degradable.

[0178] It is noted that the end portions of the traces may have various shapes so as to provide the proper variability in the capacitance, whether it be linear variability, non-linear variability or gradual variability, etc.

[0179] It is also noted that the traces can be formed to provide variability in the inductance, whether it be linear variability, non-linear variability or gradual variability, etc.

[0180] In the various examples above, the present invention is directed to the attachment of a secondary formed structure (resonance circuit sleeve) to a primary formed structure (medical device and/or stent). This attachment of a secondary formed structure can provide imaging and

visualization of the inner lumen of the primary formed structure by means of a magnetic resonance imaging technique wherein the secondary formed structure is independent of the primary formed structure's architecture. The resonance circuit can also be designed to complement the resonance frequency of an implanted primary formed structure so that the combination of the resonance circuit, the implanted primary formed structure, and surrounding environmental conditions has an effective resonance frequency that is substantially equal to the operating frequency of the magnetic resonance imaging scanner. It is noted that the resonance circuit can be designed to complement the resonance frequency of any primary formed structure having a lumen to be imaged so that the combination of the resonance circuit, the implanted primary formed structure, and surrounding environmental conditions has an effective resonance frequency that is substantially equal to the operating frequency of the magnetic resonance imaging scanner.

[0181] Moreover, the resonance circuit sleeve of the present invention provides imaging and visualization of the inner lumen of the primary formed structure (medical device and/or stent) by means of a magnetic resonance imaging technique wherein the resonance circuit sleeve of the present invention is independent of the primary formed structure's architecture.

[0182] As noted above, the resonance circuit sleeve is to be realized over an expanded stent. Initially, the sleeve is placed around an expanded stent. The sleeve may then be shrink-wrapped around the stent so that the stent is reduced in size for proper insertion into the body. The sleeve may also be crimped with the stent therein. The traces are shaped in the crimped section so as to minimize stress during crimping, shrink-wrapping, and/or and expansion.

[0183] It is noted that the substrate onto which the coil/circuit patterns are placed may initially be a cylinder. After the patterns of materials are placed upon the cylinder substrate, the cylinder is cut/slit longitudinally. By starting with a cylinder rather than a flat substrate, the material need not require the same flexibility as material need to create the sleeve created as a flat surface.

[0184] It is also noted that although the various embodiments described above refer to the utilization of the resonance circuit sleeve with a stent, the concepts of the present invention are applicable to other situations. For example, the resonance circuit sleeve of the present invention may be utilized with other devices of similar construction that are implanted in the body, such as implantable devices having conductive structures that exhibit a Faraday Cage effect and that inhibit effective internal magnetic resonance imaging. Moreover, the resonance circuit sleeve of the present invention may be utilized with vena cava filters, heart valves, and any interventional surgical device that may exhibit a Faraday Cage effect and that inhibit effective internal magnetic resonance imaging

[0185] Furthermore, it is noted that the resonance circuit sleeve can be applied to the stent before the drug eluting coating is applied. The substrate web of the resonance circuit sleeve would be dissolved prior to the drug coating. For example, the resonance circuit sleeve may

have a dual insulation on the circuit; inner layer having a higher melt temperature and the outer acting as an adhesive when heated to a more modest temperature. In this example, any substrate web would be dissolved after adhesion of the resonance circuit to stent.

[0186] It is further noted that the resonance circuit may be created on a pre-formed tube rather than as a flat circuit that is wrapped to form a tube. In the various embodiments described above, adhesive may be used to help in manufacture and in retention during implantation.

[0187] More specifically, Figure 22 shows a stent assembly **5000** including a stent **5002** wholly or partially inserted into a cylinder membrane **5004**, which may be a stent graft. The cylinder membrane **5004** has formed thereon, a circuit having one or more conductive traces **5006** forming a rectangular (or other shaped) coil and a capacitor. The capacitor is formed by overlapping two ends of the conductive trace **5006** used to form the coil. The overlapped ends of the conductive trace **5006** are separated by a dielectric material.

[0188] As illustrated in Figure 22, the conductive traces **5006** form a rectangular shaped coil. The rectangular shaped coil has two end edges **5008** and **5010** which may have a zig-zag pattern to facilitate cylindrical radial expansion during the radial expansion of the stent **5002** and membrane **5004**.

[0189] The conductive traces **5006** may form a coil having one or more coil loops. The traces **5006** may be formed side-by-side with each other or may be formed on top of each other with an electrically insulative material interposed to prevent shorting of the coil's loops.

[0190] Figure 23 illustrates a stent assembly **6000** having two resonant circuits (**6006** & **6008**) on a cylinder membrane **6002** around a stent **6004**. The circuits (**6006** & **6008**) are oriented to be approximately 90 degrees to each other. At cross-over points (**6010** & **6020**) there is interposed an electrically insulative material.

[0191] Figure 24 illustrates a thin film substrate **6502** onto which two resonant circuits (**6504** & **6506**) are constructed. These circuits (**6504** & **6506**) each include a conductive trace to form a coil. Each coiled conductive trace has two ends (its start and stop ends). For each of the coils, overlapping the two ends of the coil trace with a dielectric interposed forms the capacitor of the circuit. The circuits (**6504** & **6506**) are tuned to resonate at or about the operating frequency of a magnetic resonance imaging scanner. More specifically, the circuits (**6504** & **6506**) are tuned so that when the circuits (**6504** & **6506**) are placed around a stent (or other medical device) and inserted into the body, the circuits (**6504** & **6506**) resonate at or near the operating frequency of the magnetic resonant imaging scanner's frequency.

[0192] As noted above, the two circuits (**6504** & **6506**) overlap each other (**6510** & **6512**). These circuits are electrically insulated from each other at these points (**6510** & **6512**) by placing an electrical insulative material between the conductive traces.

[0193] Figure 25 illustrates the two circuits (**6504** & **6506**) being so positioned on the film **6502** such that when the film **6502** is wrapped around a stent **6520** the two formed coil loops are orientated at or approximately at 90 degrees to each other.

[0194] Figure 26 illustrates the formation of a capacitor for a circuit wherein a stent circuit assembly **7000** includes a substrate **7002** onto which a conductive trace **7004** is formed. The conductive trace **7004** has a first end **7008** and a second end **7010**. The two ends (**7008** & **7010**) of the conductive trace **7004** overlap to form a capacitor **7006**.

[0195] Referring to Figure 27, which is a side view of the stent circuit assembly **7000** of Figure 26, the conductive trace **7004** is formed on the substrate **7002**. A capacitor **7006** is formed by the overlapping of the two ends (**7008** & **7010**) of the conductive trace **7004** with a dielectric material **7020** positioned between the two ends (**7008** & **7010**).

[0196] Figure 28 illustrates a substrate **100** having a resonance coil **8500** with multiple (non-stacked) loops formed thereon. More specifically, a trace **8000** is looped to form multiple (non-stacked) loops. An area **8100**, at a first end **8300** of the trace **8000** may form a capacitor when the first end **8300** of the trace **8000** overlaps a second end **8400** of the trace **8000**. It is further noted that at crossover points **8200**, an insulative material is interposed between the over and under traces to prevent an electrical short.

[0197] It is further noted that the resonance sleeve of the present invention may also be formed around a stent that has already been crimped into its smaller shape. It is further noted that the described substrates and/or web may be the covering material for a medical device. For example, the described substrates and/or web may be the covering material for a covered AAA-stent graft.

[0198] While the present invention has been particularly shown and described with references to preferred embodiments thereof, it will be understood by those skilled in the art that various changes in form and detail may be made herein without departing from the spirit and scope of the invention as defined by the appended claims.

CLAIMS:

1. A device for enabling effective magnetic resonance imaging inside a lumen of a medical device, comprising:
 - a substrate; and
 - a plurality of conductive traces formed on said substrate, said conductive traces forming an inductive-capacitance circuit, said inductive-capacitance circuit being tuned to a frequency associated with magnetic resonance imaging.
2. The device as claimed in claim 1, wherein said conductive traces form a resistive-inductive-capacitance circuit, said resistive-inductive-capacitance circuit being tuned to a frequency associated with magnetic resonance imaging.
3. The device as claimed in claim 1, wherein said inductive-capacitance circuit is tuned to an operating frequency associated with a magnetic resonance imaging scanner.
4. The device as claimed in claim 2, wherein said resistive-inductive-capacitance circuit is tuned to an operating frequency associated with a magnetic resonance imaging scanner.
5. The device as claimed in claim 1, wherein said inductive-capacitance circuit is tuned to a harmonic frequency of an operating frequency associated with a magnetic resonance imaging scanner.
6. The device as claimed in claim 2, wherein said resistive-inductive-capacitance circuit is tuned to a harmonic frequency of an operating frequency associated with a magnetic resonance imaging scanner.
7. The device as claimed in claim 1, wherein said inductive-capacitance circuit is tuned to a sub-harmonic frequency of an operating frequency associated with a magnetic resonance imaging scanner.
8. The device as claimed in claim 2, wherein said resistive-inductive-capacitance circuit is tuned to a sub-harmonic frequency of an operating frequency associated with a magnetic resonance imaging scanner.
9. The device as claimed in claim 1, wherein said inductive-capacitance circuit is tuned to a frequency that provides effective lumen visualization when using magnetic resonance imaging.
10. The device as claimed in claim 2, wherein said resistive-inductive-capacitance circuit is tuned to a frequency that provides effective lumen visualization when using magnetic resonance imaging.
11. The device as claimed in claim 1, further comprising a discrete capacitor operatively connected to said traces and attached to said substrate.
12. The device as claimed in claim 1, wherein said substrate is biodegradable.
13. The device as claimed in claim 1, wherein said substrate is thermally degradable.

14. The device as claimed in claim 1, wherein said substrate is chemically degradable.
15. The device as claimed in claim 1, wherein said substrate is optically degradable.
16. The device as claimed in claim 1, wherein said substrate is degradable.
17. The device as claimed in claim 1, wherein said conductive traces are expandable.
18. The device as claimed in claim 1, wherein said conductive traces are expandable without damage thereto.
19. The device as claimed in claim 1, wherein said conductive traces form a pattern.
20. The device as claimed in claim 16, wherein said pattern of conductive traces is expandable.
21. The device as claimed in claim 16, wherein said pattern of conductive traces is expandable without damage thereto.
22. The device as claimed in claim 1, wherein said conductive traces form a plurality of coils, each coil forming an inductive-capacitance circuit, said inductive-capacitance circuit being tuned to a distinct frequency.
23. The device as claimed in claim 1, wherein said conductive traces form a plurality of coils, each coil forming a resistive-inductive-capacitance circuit, said resistive-inductive-capacitance circuit being tuned to a distinct frequency.
24. The device as claimed in claim 1, wherein said conductive traces form a stack of coils, said stack of coils having an axis normal to a surface of said substrate.
25. The device as claimed in claim 1, wherein said conductive traces form a plurality of stacked coils, each stacked coil having an axis normal to a surface of said substrate, each stacked coil forming an inductive-capacitance circuit, said inductive-capacitance circuit.
26. The device as claimed in claim 1, wherein said conductive traces form a plurality of stacked coils, each stacked coil having an axis normal to a surface of said substrate, each stacked coil forming a resistive-inductive-capacitance circuit, said resistive-inductive-capacitance circuit.
27. The device as claimed in claim 1, wherein said conductive traces form a plurality of multi-loop coils, each multi-loop coil having an axis normal to a surface of said substrate, each multi-loop coil forming an inductive-capacitance circuit, said inductive-capacitance circuit.
28. The device as claimed in claim 1, wherein said conductive traces form a plurality of multi-loop coils, each multi-loop coil having an axis normal to a surface of said substrate, each multi-loop coil forming a resistive-inductive-capacitance circuit, said resistive-inductive-capacitance circuit.
29. An implantable medical device, comprising:
 - a stent;
 - a substrate surrounding a portion of said stent; and
 - a plurality of conductive traces formed on said substrate, said conductive traces forming an inductive-capacitance circuit, said inductive-capacitance circuit being tuned to a frequency

such that an effective resonance frequency of said stent, inductive-capacitance circuit, and surrounding in vitro conditions is substantially equal to a frequency associated with magnetic resonance imaging.

30. A device for enabling effective magnetic resonance imaging inside a lumen of a medical device, comprising:

an expandable substantially cylindrical substrate having an axial closed end and an axial open end, said axial closed end being within said axial open end;

a dielectric material formed on a portion of said expandable substantially cylindrical substrate; and

a plurality of conductive traces formed on said dielectric material and said expandable substantially cylindrical substrate, said conductive traces forming a variable inductive-capacitance circuit.

31. A device for enabling effective magnetic resonance imaging inside a lumen of a medical device, comprising:

a stent;

an expandable substantially cylindrical substrate surrounding a portion of said stent, said expandable substantially cylindrical substrate having an axial closed end and an axial open end, said axial closed end being within said axial open end;

a dielectric material formed on a portion of said substantially cylindrical substrate; and

a plurality of conductive traces formed on said dielectric material and said expandable substantially cylindrical substrate, said conductive traces forming a variable inductive-capacitance circuit.

32. A method for enabling effective magnetic resonance imaging inside a lumen of a medical device, comprising:

(a) wrapping a substrate around a portion of the medical device, the substrate having a plurality of conductive traces formed thereon, the conductive traces forming an inductive-capacitance circuit, the inductive-capacitance circuit being tuned to a frequency associated with magnetic resonance imaging; and

(b) crimping the substrate.

33. The method as claimed in claim 32, wherein the substrate is wrapped around a non-expanded stent.

34. The method as claimed in claim 32, wherein the conductive traces form a resistive-inductive-capacitance circuit, the resistive-inductive-capacitance circuit being tuned to a frequency substantially equal to a frequency associated with magnetic resonance imaging.

35. The method as claimed in claim 32, wherein the inductive-capacitance circuit is tuned to an operating frequency of a magnetic resonance imaging scanner.

36. The method as claimed in claim 34, wherein the resistive-inductive-capacitance circuit is tuned to an operating frequency of a magnetic resonance imaging scanner.

37. The method as claimed in claim 32, wherein the inductive-capacitance circuit is tuned to a harmonic frequency of an operating frequency associated with a magnetic resonance imaging scanner.

38. The method as claimed in claim 34, wherein the resistive-inductive-capacitance circuit is tuned to a harmonic frequency of an operating frequency associated with a magnetic resonance imaging scanner.

39. The method as claimed in claim 32, wherein the inductive-capacitance circuit is tuned to a sub-harmonic frequency of an operating frequency associated with a magnetic resonance imaging scanner.

40. The method as claimed in claim 34, wherein the resistive-inductive-capacitance circuit is tuned to a sub-harmonic frequency of an operating frequency associated with a magnetic resonance imaging scanner.

41. A method for enabling effective magnetic resonance imaging inside a lumen of a medical device, comprising:

(a) placing a portion of the medical device in a substantially cylindrical substrate, the substantially cylindrical substrate having an axial closed end and an axial open end, the axial closed end being within the axial open end, the substantially cylindrical substrate having a dielectric material formed on a portion of thereof and a plurality of conductive traces formed on the dielectric material and the substantially cylindrical substrate, the conductive traces forming a variable inductive-capacitance circuit; and

(b) crimping the substrate.

42. A method for enabling effective magnetic resonance imaging inside a lumen of a medical device, comprising:

(a) placing a portion of the medical device in an expandable substantially cylindrical substrate, the expandable substantially cylindrical substrate having an axial closed end and an axial open end, the axial closed end being within the axial open end, the expandable substantially cylindrical substrate having a dielectric material formed on a portion of thereof and a plurality of expandable conductive traces formed on the dielectric material and the substantially cylindrical substrate, the expandable conductive traces forming a variable inductive-capacitance circuit; and

(b) crimping the substrate.

43. A device for enabling effective magnetic resonance imaging inside a lumen of a medical device, comprising:

a substrate; and

a plurality of conductive traces formed on said substrate, a first portion of said conductive traces forming an inductive coil, a second portion of said conductive traces overlapping a third

portion of said conductive traces with a dielectric material formed at the overlapping of and between the second portion of said conductive traces with the third portion of said conductive traces, the dielectric material and overlapped portions of said conductive traces forming a capacitor;

said inductive coil and said capacitor being tuned to a frequency associated with magnetic resonance imaging.

44. An implantable medical device, comprising:

a stent;

a substrate surrounding a portion of said stent; and

a plurality of conductive traces formed on said substrate, a first portion of said conductive traces forming an inductive coil, a second portion of said conductive traces overlapping a third portion of said conductive traces with a dielectric material formed at the overlapping of and between the second portion of said conductive traces with the third portion of said conductive traces, the dielectric material and overlapped portions of said conductive traces forming a capacitor;

said inductive coil and said capacitor being tuned to a frequency associated with magnetic resonance imaging.

45. A device for enabling effective magnetic resonance imaging inside a lumen of a medical device, comprising:

a substrate; and

a plurality of conductive traces formed on said substrate;

said plurality of conductive traces forming a plurality of loops to create a single spiraling coil, adjacent loops of said single spiraling coil having a non-conductive material therebetween;

said single spiraling coil forming an inductive coil;

said adjacent loops of said single spiraling coil having a non-conductive material therebetween forming a capacitor;

said inductive coil and said capacitor being tuned to a frequency associated with magnetic resonance imaging.

46. An implantable medical device, comprising:

a stent;

a substrate surrounding a portion of said stent; and

a plurality of conductive traces formed on said substrate;

said plurality of conductive traces forming a plurality of loops to create a single spiraling coil, adjacent loops of said single spiraling coil having a non-conductive material therebetween;

said single spiraling coil forming an inductive coil;

said adjacent loops of said single spiraling coil having a non-conductive material therebetween forming a capacitor;

said inductive coil and said capacitor being tuned to a frequency associated with magnetic resonance imaging.

47. A device for enabling effective magnetic resonance imaging inside a lumen of a medical device, comprising:

a substantially cylindrical substrate;

a first plurality of conductive traces formed on said substantially cylindrical substrate; and

a second plurality of conductive traces formed on said substantially cylindrical substrate;

said first plurality of conductive traces forming a first inductive coil having two overlapping ends with a non-conductive material therebetween, the two overlapping ends with a non-conductive material therebetween forming a first capacitor;

said second plurality of conductive traces forming a second inductive coil having two overlapping ends with a non-conductive material therebetween, the two overlapping ends with a non-conductive material therebetween forming a second capacitor;

said first inductive coil and said second inductive coil being approximately orthogonally oriented on said substantially cylindrical substrate;

said first inductive coil and said first capacitor being tuned to a first frequency associated with magnetic resonance imaging;

said second inductive coil and said second capacitor being tuned to a first frequency associated with magnetic resonance imaging.

48. An implantable medical device, comprising:

a stent;

a substantially cylindrical substrate surrounding a portion of said stent;

a first plurality of conductive traces formed on said substantially cylindrical substrate; and

a second plurality of conductive traces formed on said substantially cylindrical substrate;

said first plurality of conductive traces forming a first inductive coil having two overlapping ends with a non-conductive material therebetween, the two overlapping ends with a non-conductive material therebetween forming a first capacitor;

said second plurality of conductive traces forming a second inductive coil having two overlapping ends with a non-conductive material therebetween, the two overlapping ends with a non-conductive material therebetween forming a second capacitor;

said first inductive coil and said second inductive coil being approximately orthogonally oriented on said substantially cylindrical substrate;

said first inductive coil and said first capacitor being tuned to a first frequency associated with magnetic resonance imaging;

said second inductive coil and said second capacitor being tuned to a first frequency associated with magnetic resonance imaging.

49. A device for enabling effective magnetic resonance imaging inside a lumen of a medical device, comprising:

a substantially cylindrical substrate;

a first plurality of conductive traces formed on said substantially cylindrical substrate; and

a second plurality of conductive traces formed on said substantially cylindrical substrate;

said first plurality of conductive traces forming a first plurality of loops to create a first spiraling inductive coil having two overlapping ends with a non-conductive material therebetween, adjacent loops of said first spiraling coil having a non-conductive material therebetween, the two overlapping ends with a non-conductive material therebetween and adjacent loops of said first spiraling coil having a non-conductive material therebetween forming a first capacitor;

said second plurality of conductive traces forming a second plurality of loops to create a second spiraling inductive coil having two overlapping ends with a non-conductive material therebetween, adjacent loops of said second spiraling coil having a non-conductive material therebetween, the two overlapping ends with a non-conductive material therebetween and adjacent loops of said second spiraling coil having a non-conductive material therebetween forming a second capacitor;

said first spiraling inductive coil and said second spiraling inductive coil being approximately orthogonally oriented on said substantially cylindrical substrate;

said first spiraling inductive coil and said first capacitor being tuned to a first frequency associated with magnetic resonance imaging;

said second spiraling inductive coil and said second capacitor being tuned to a first frequency associated with magnetic resonance imaging.

50. An implantable medical device, comprising:

a stent;

a substantially cylindrical substrate surrounding a portion of said stent;

a first plurality of conductive traces formed on said substantially cylindrical substrate; and

a second plurality of conductive traces formed on said substantially cylindrical substrate;

said first plurality of conductive traces forming a first plurality of loops to create a first spiraling inductive coil having two overlapping ends with a non-conductive material therebetween, adjacent loops of said first spiraling coil having a non-conductive material therebetween, the two overlapping ends with a non-conductive material therebetween and adjacent loops of said first spiraling coil having a non-conductive material therebetween forming a first capacitor;

said second plurality of conductive traces forming a second plurality of loops to create a second spiraling inductive coil having two overlapping ends with a non-conductive material therebetween, adjacent loops of said second spiraling coil having a non-conductive material therebetween, the two overlapping ends with a non-conductive material therebetween and

adjacent loops of said second spiraling coil having a non-conductive material therebetween forming a second capacitor;

said first spiraling inductive coil and said second spiraling inductive coil being approximately orthogonally oriented on said substantially cylindrical substrate;

said first spiraling inductive coil and said first capacitor being tuned to a first frequency associated with magnetic resonance imaging;

said second spiraling inductive coil and said second capacitor being tuned to a first frequency associated with magnetic resonance imaging.

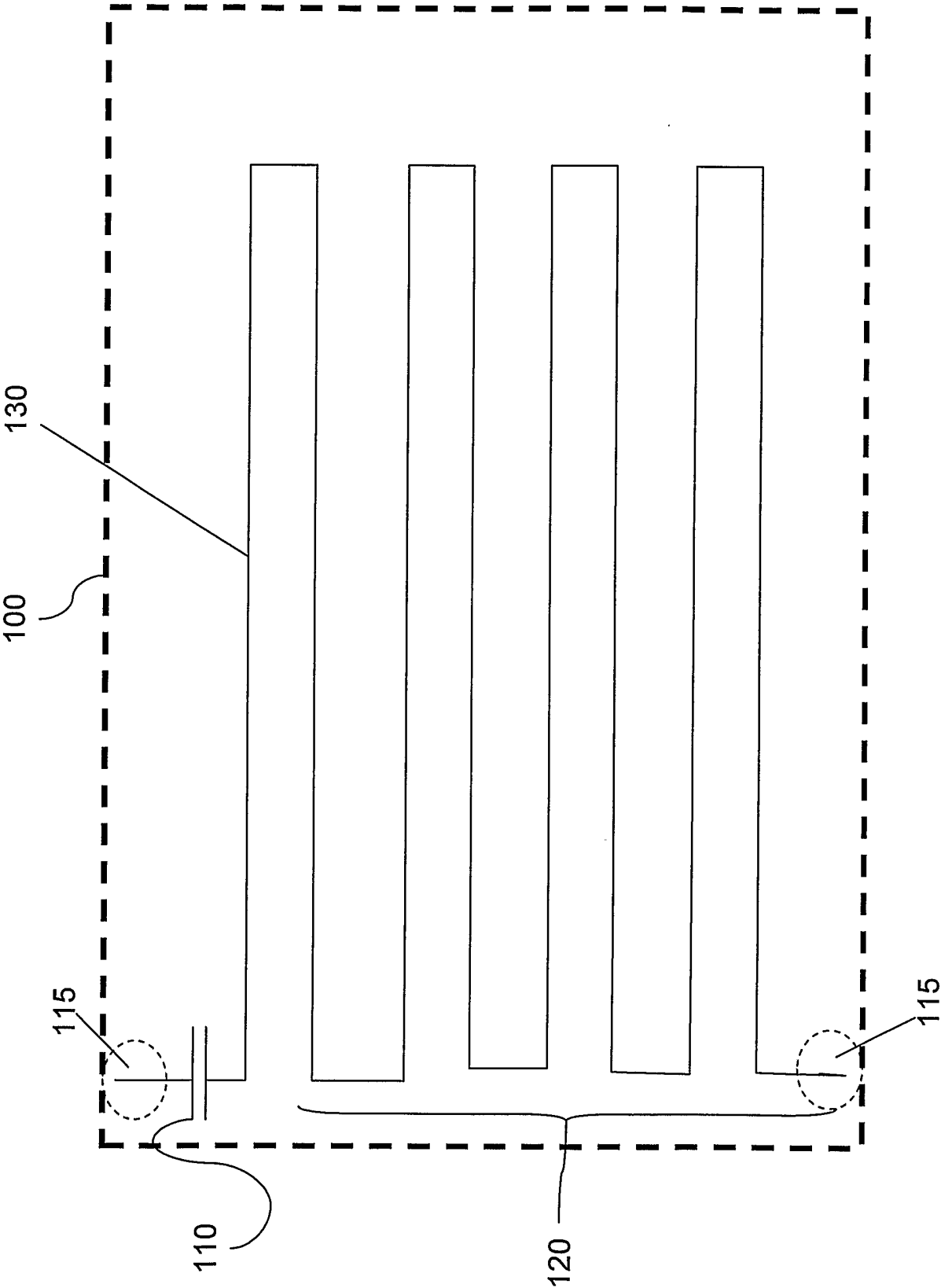


FIGURE 1

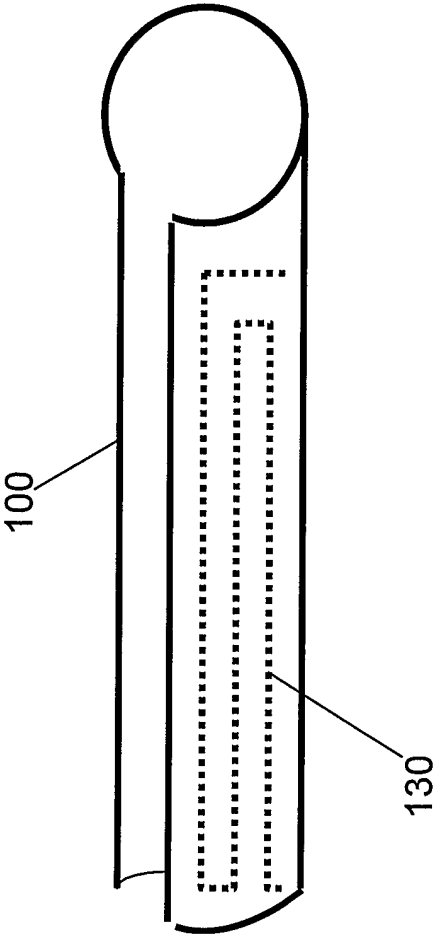


FIGURE 2

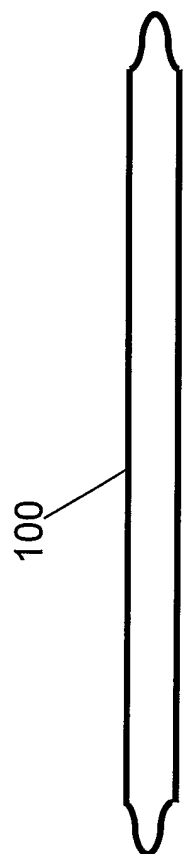


FIGURE 3

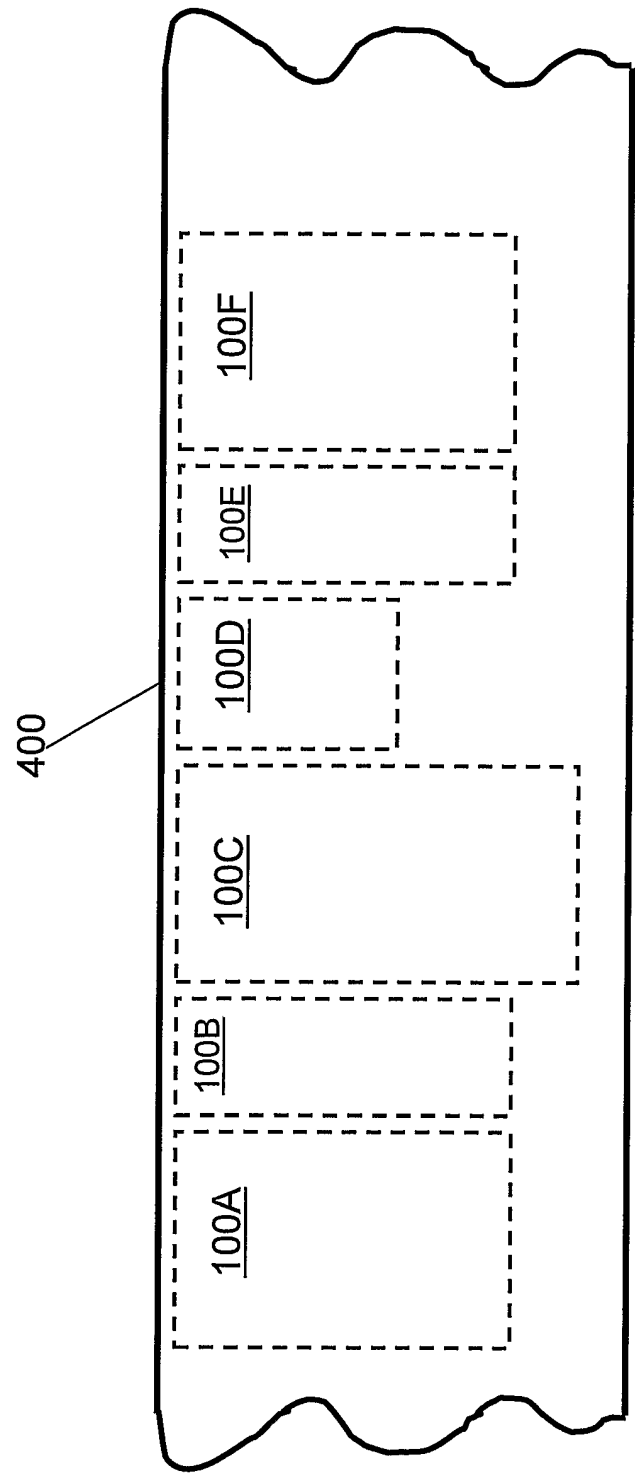


FIGURE 4

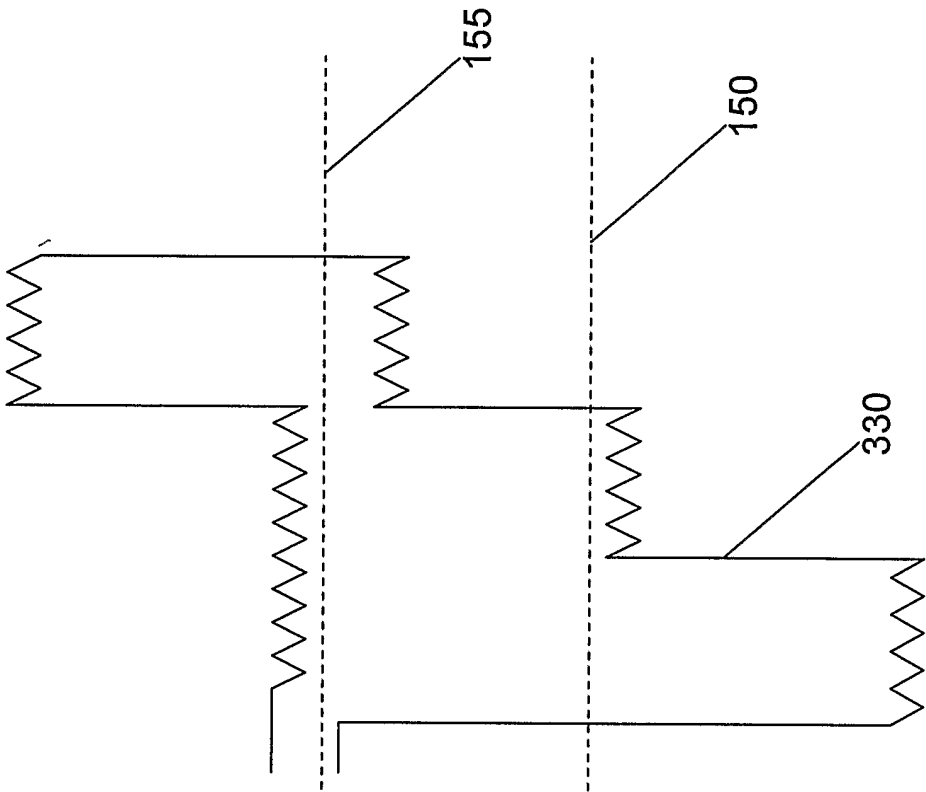


FIGURE 6

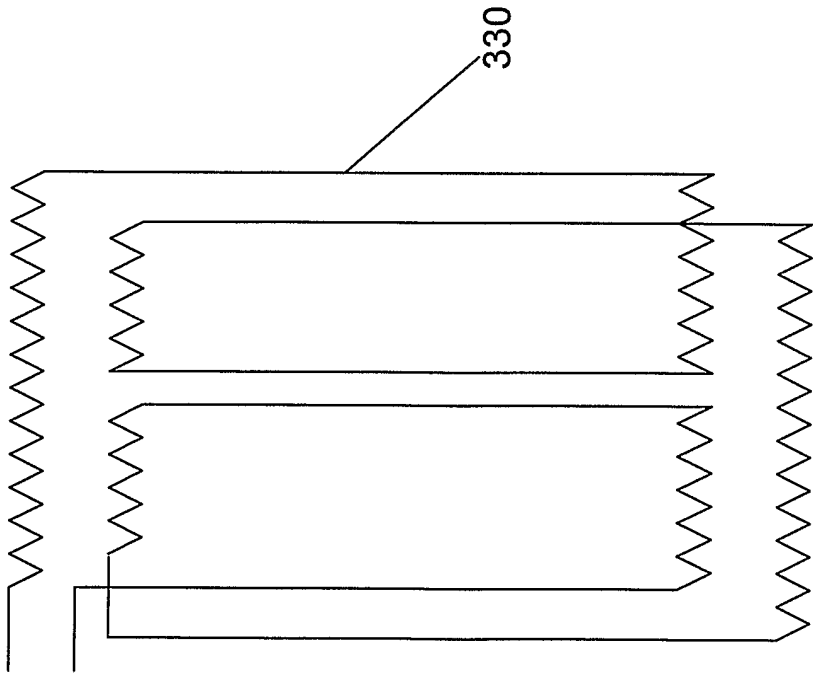


FIGURE 5

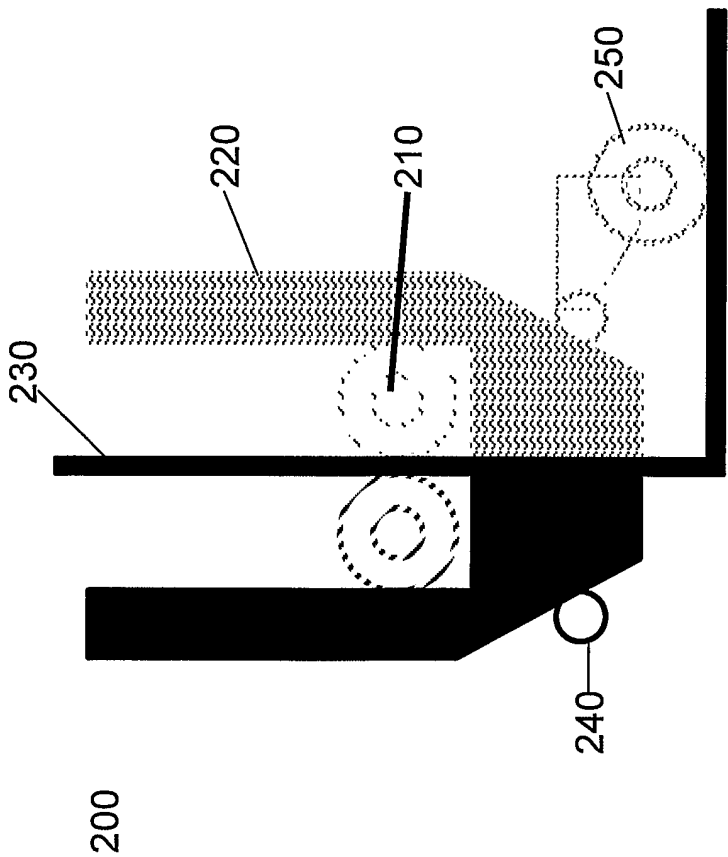


FIGURE 7

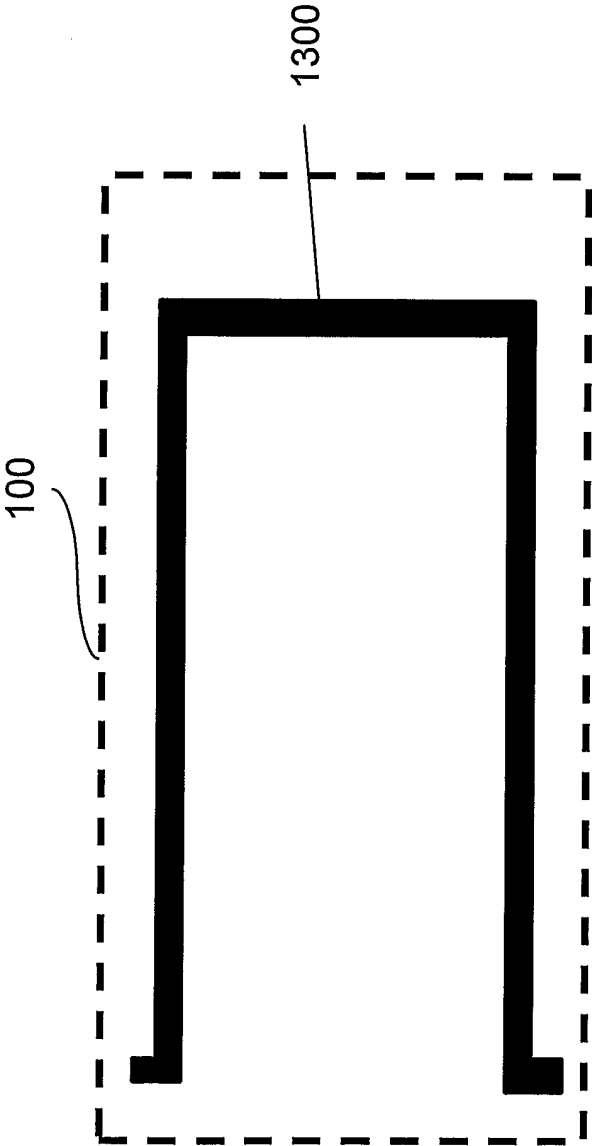


FIGURE 8

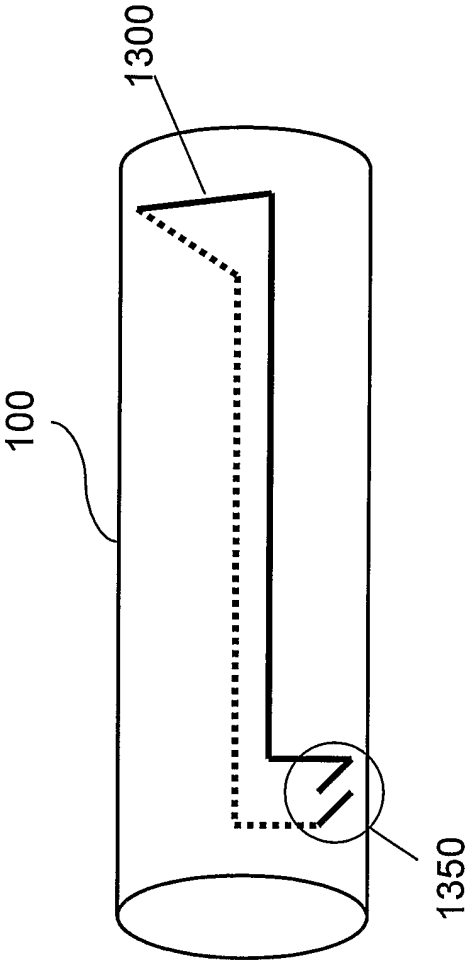
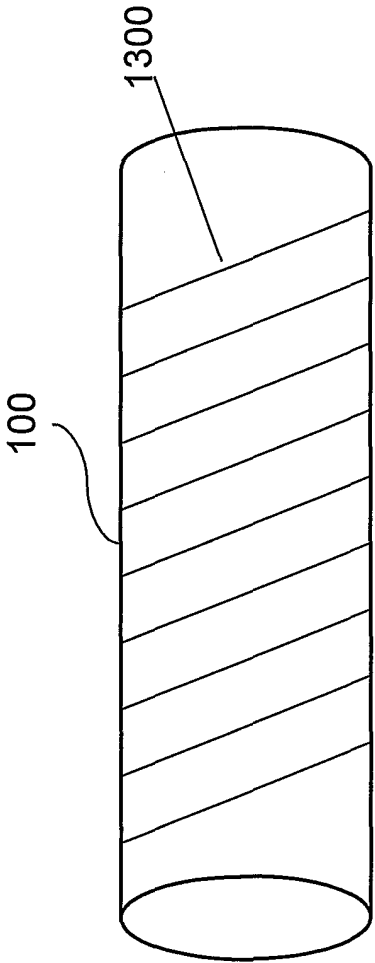
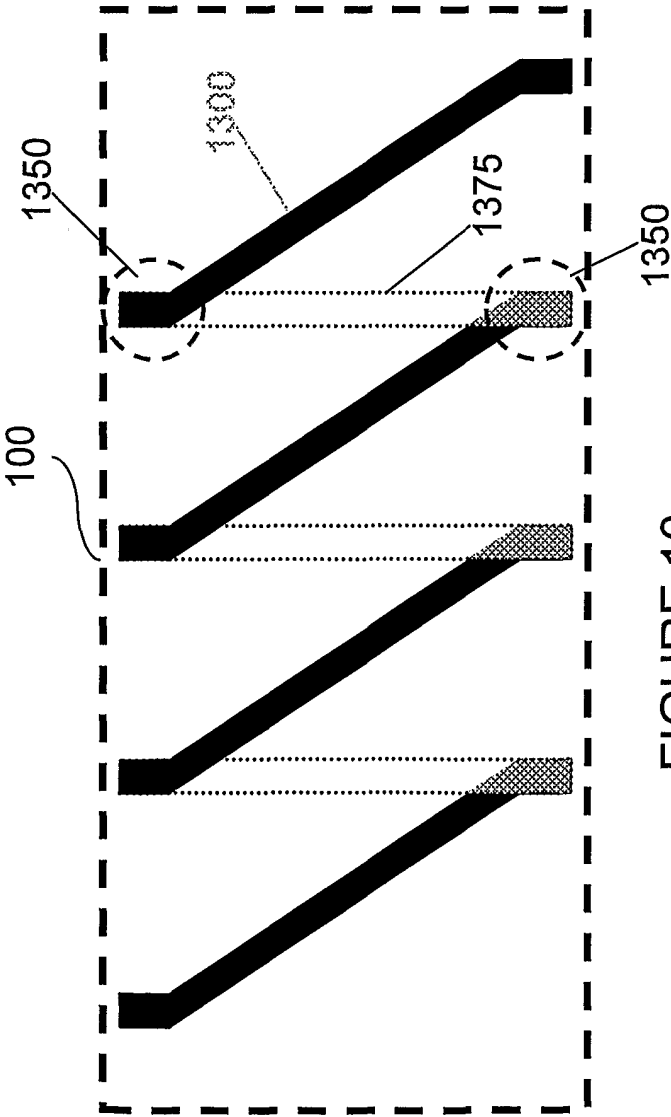


FIGURE 9



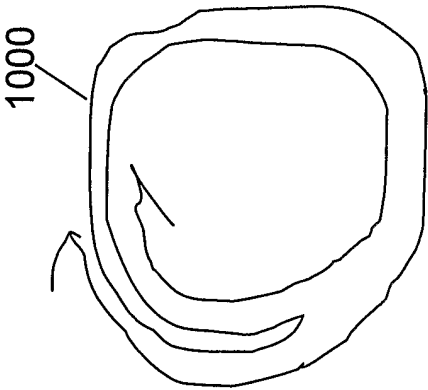


FIGURE 12

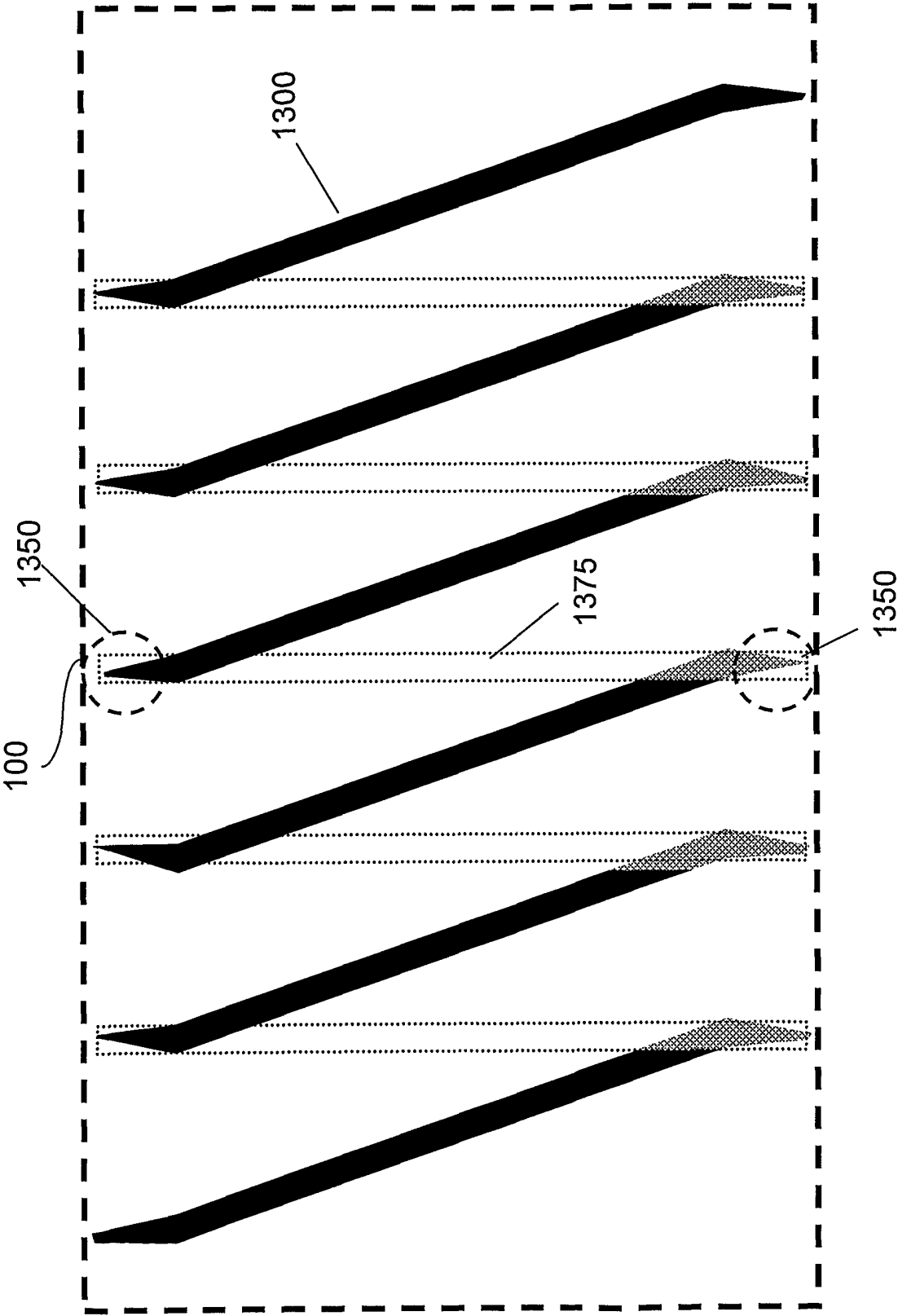


FIGURE 13

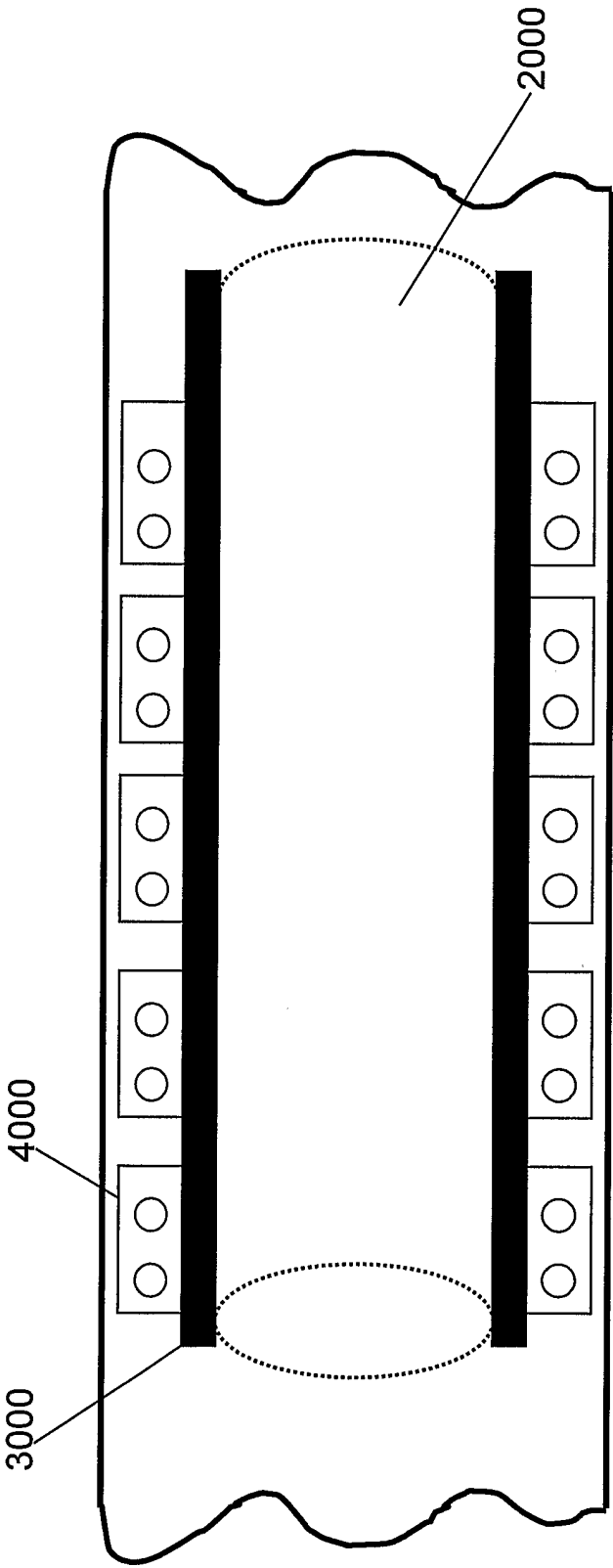


FIGURE 14

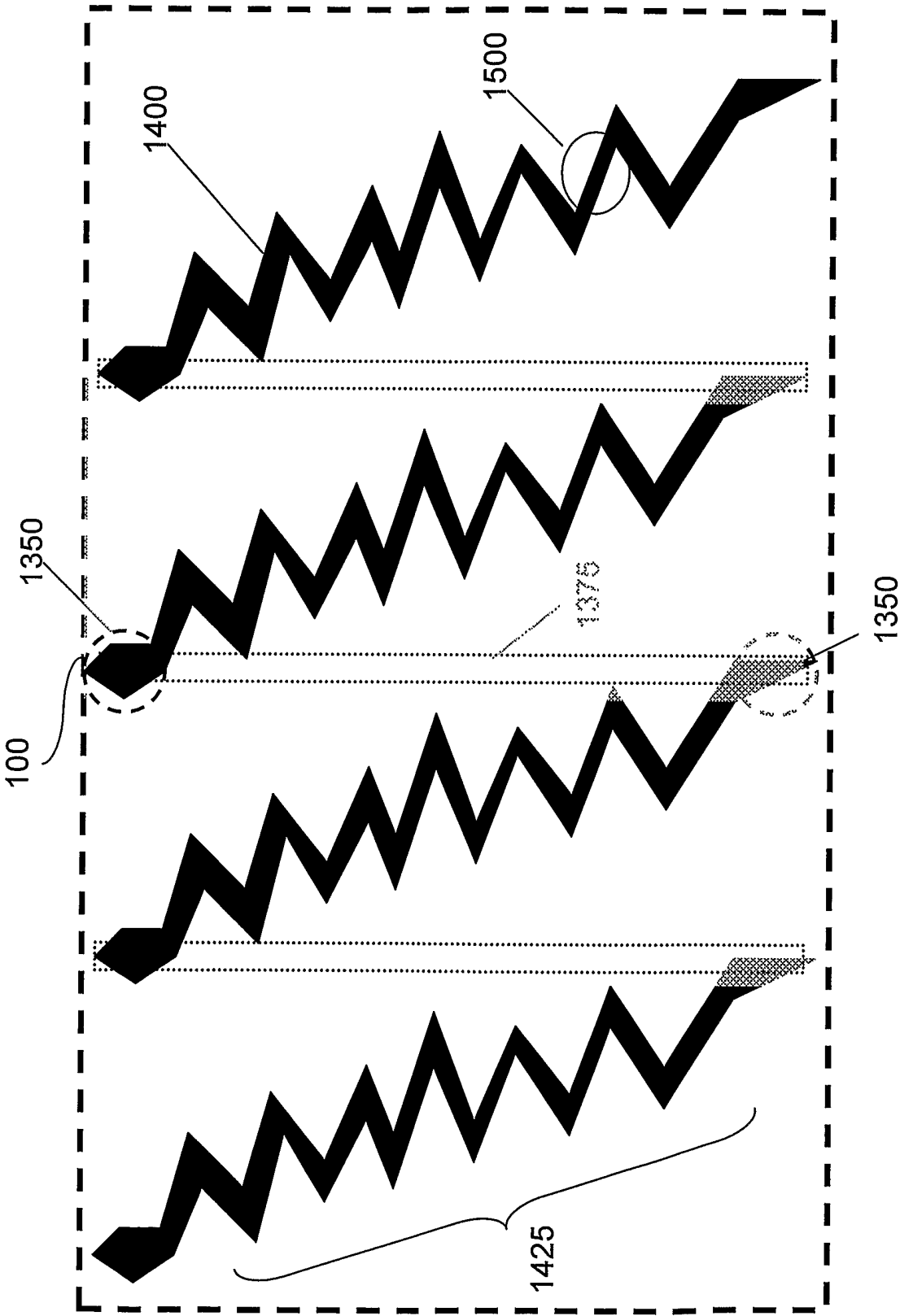


FIGURE 15

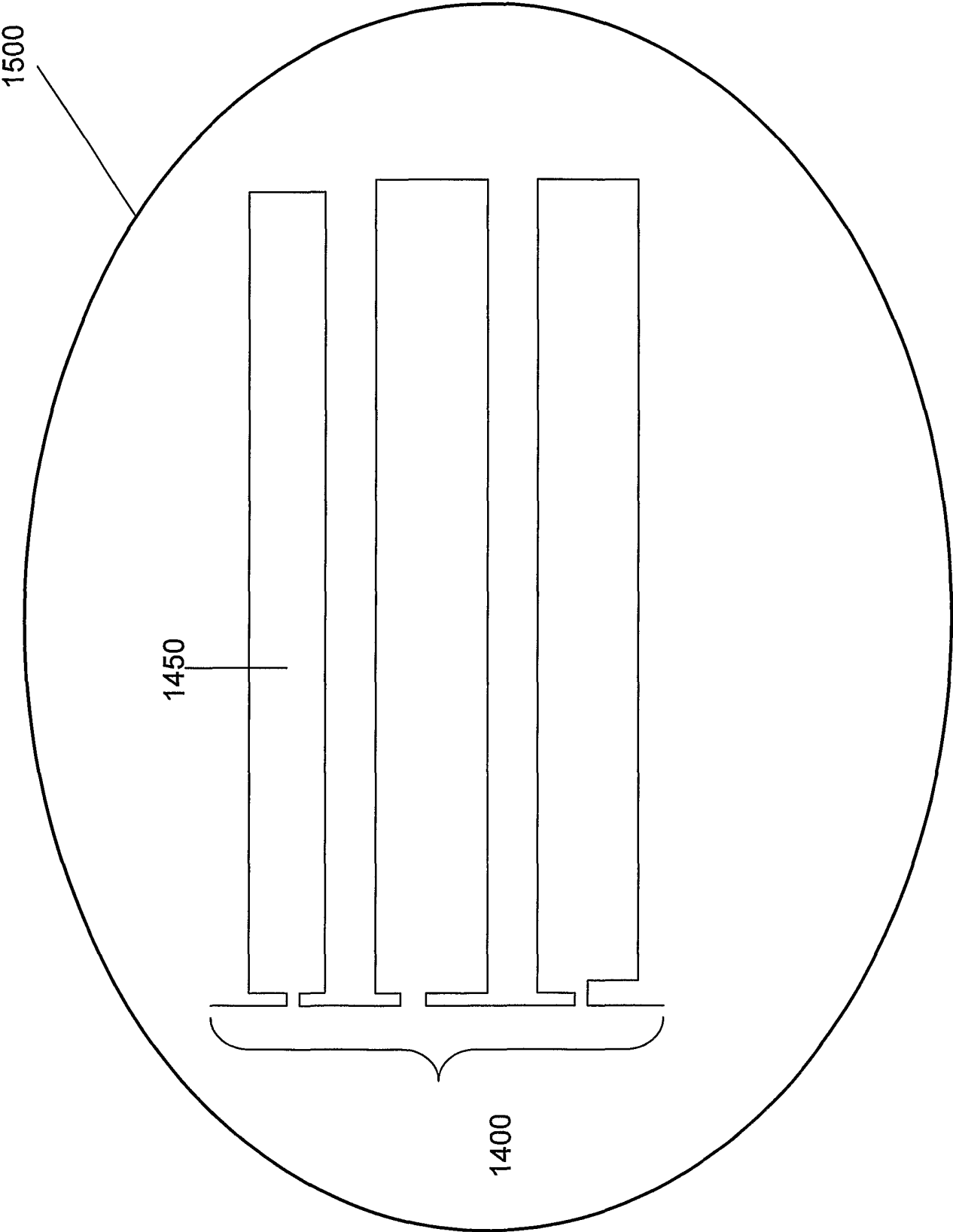


FIGURE 16

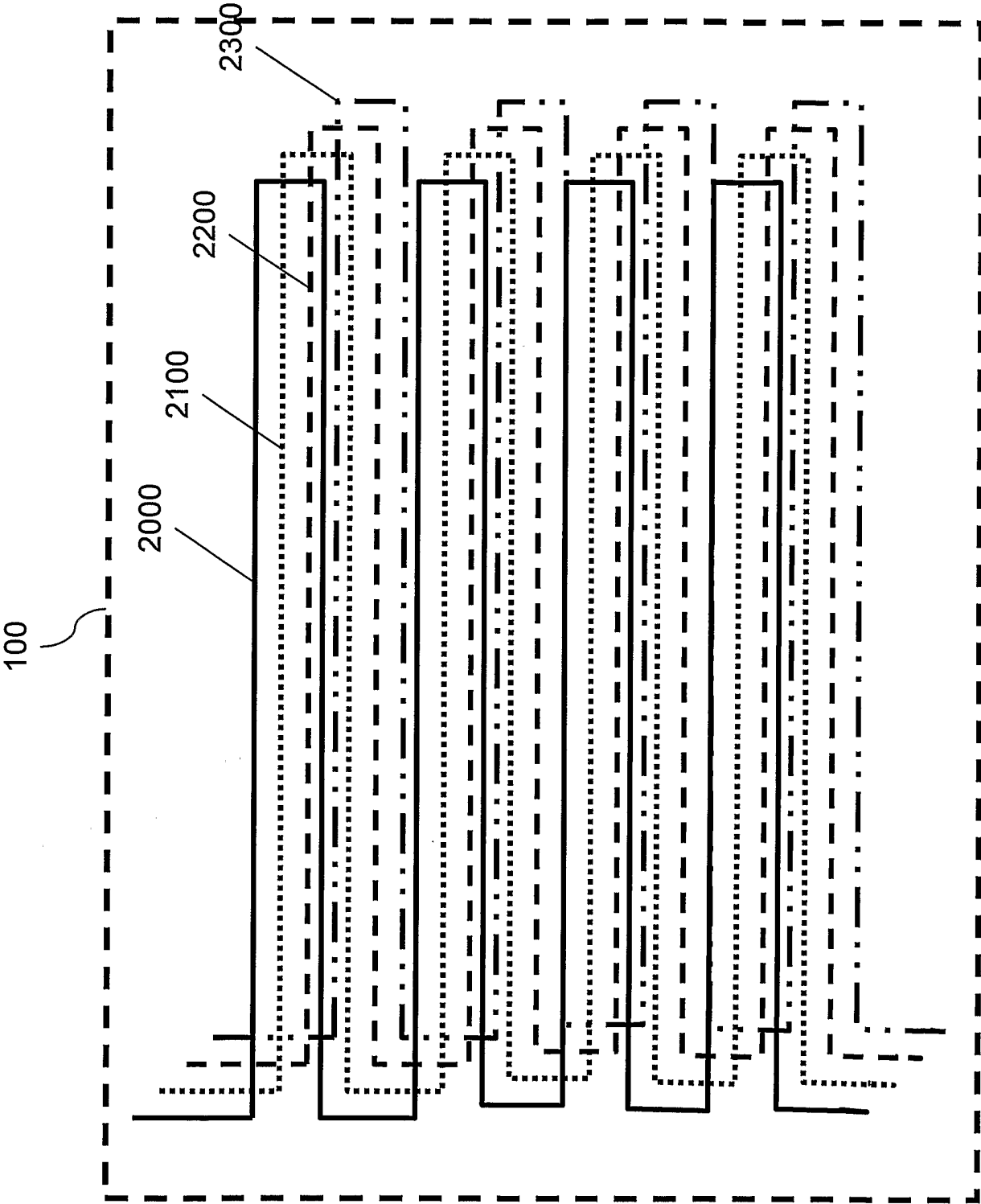


FIGURE 17

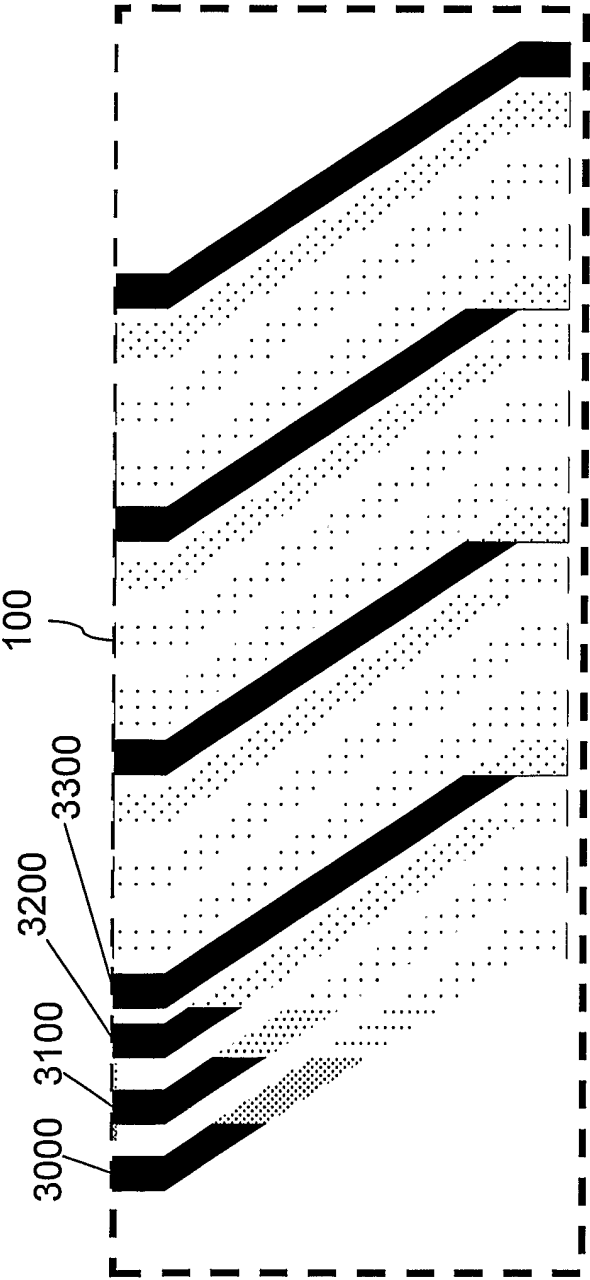


FIGURE 18

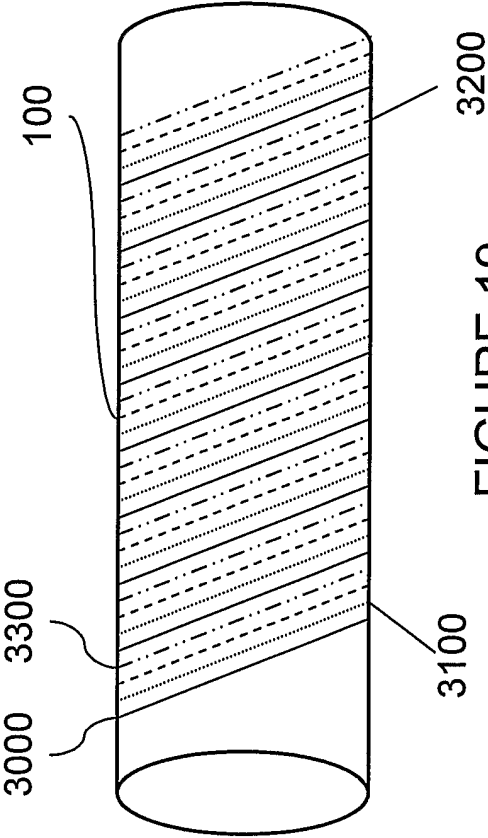


FIGURE 19

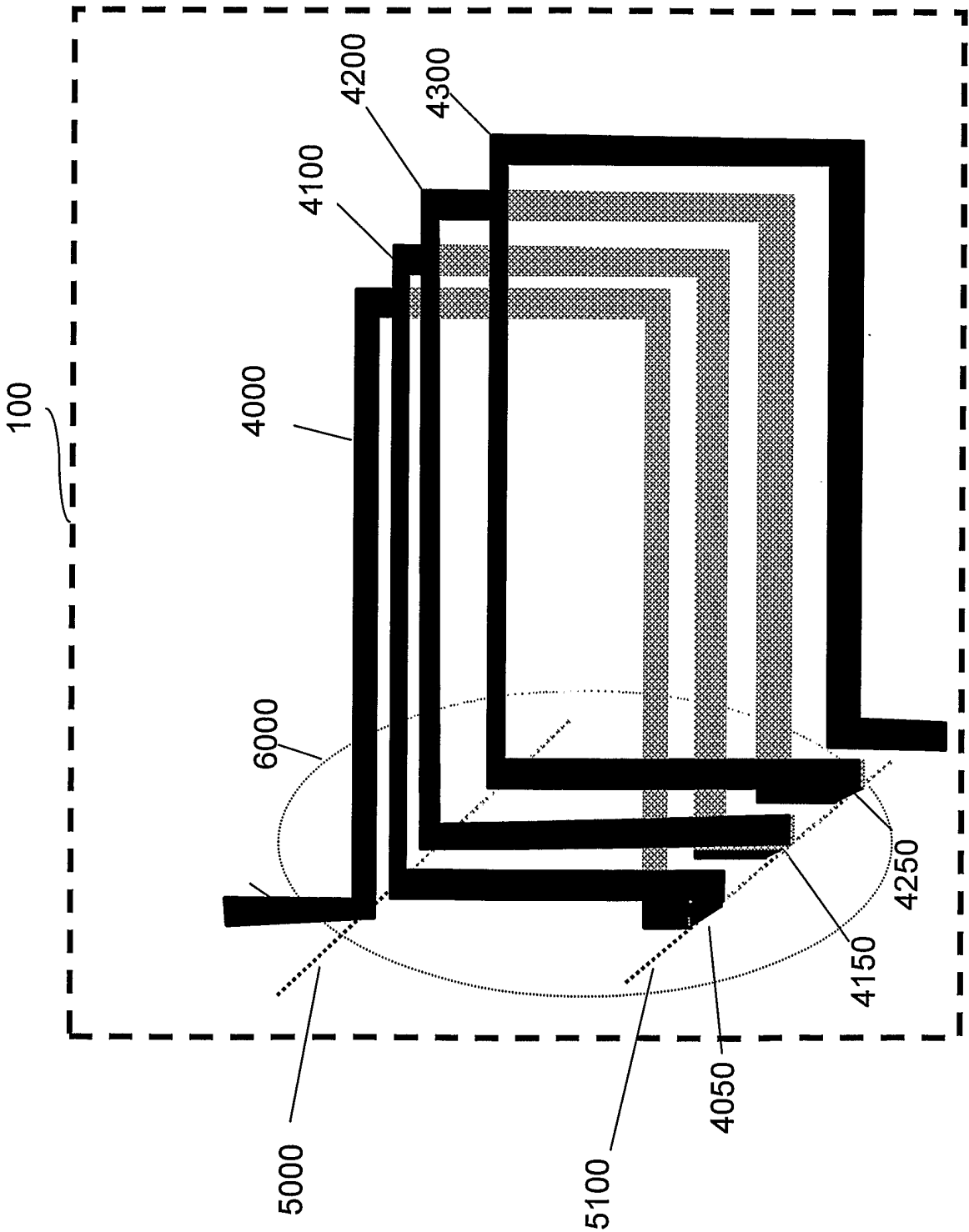


FIGURE 20

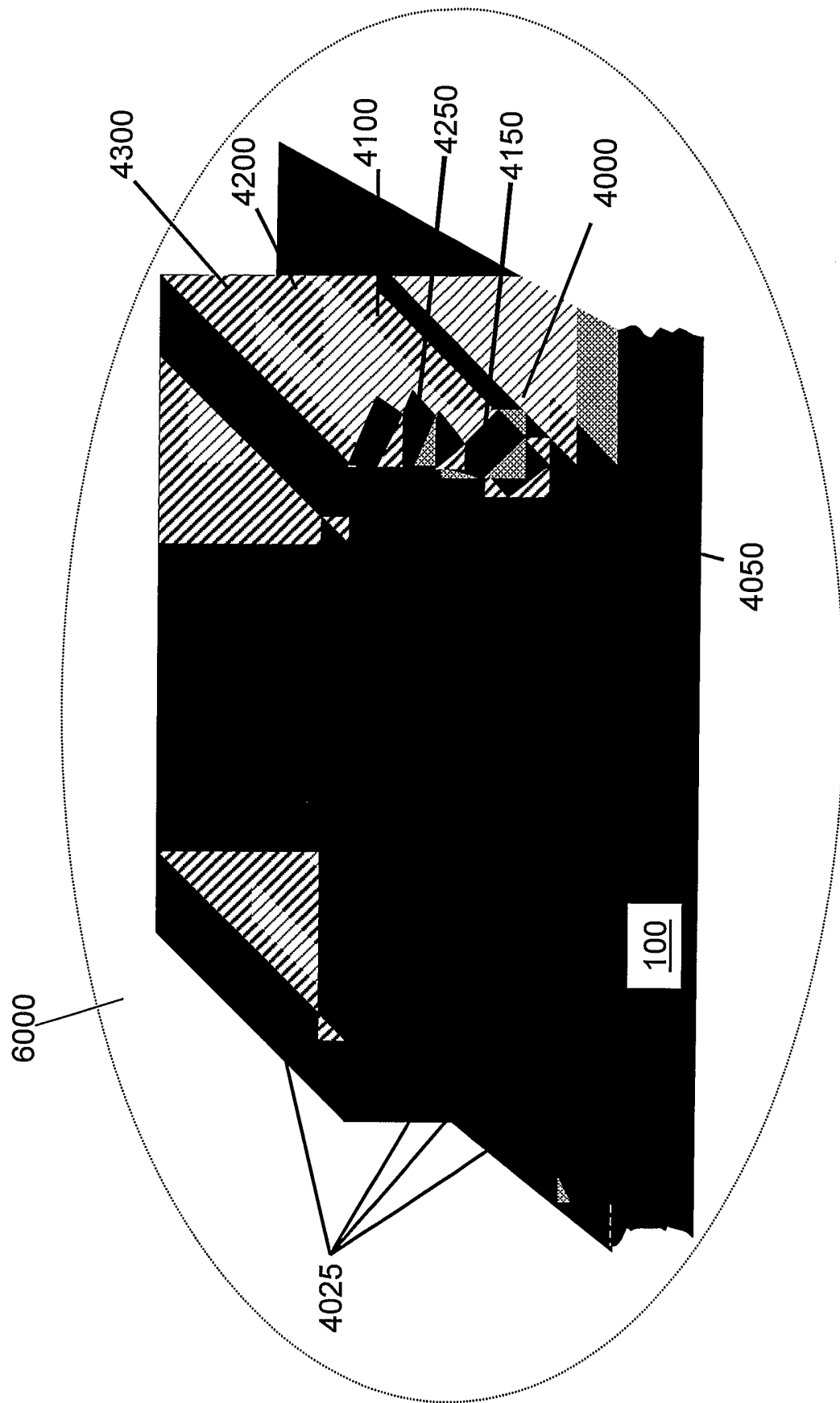


FIGURE 21

5000

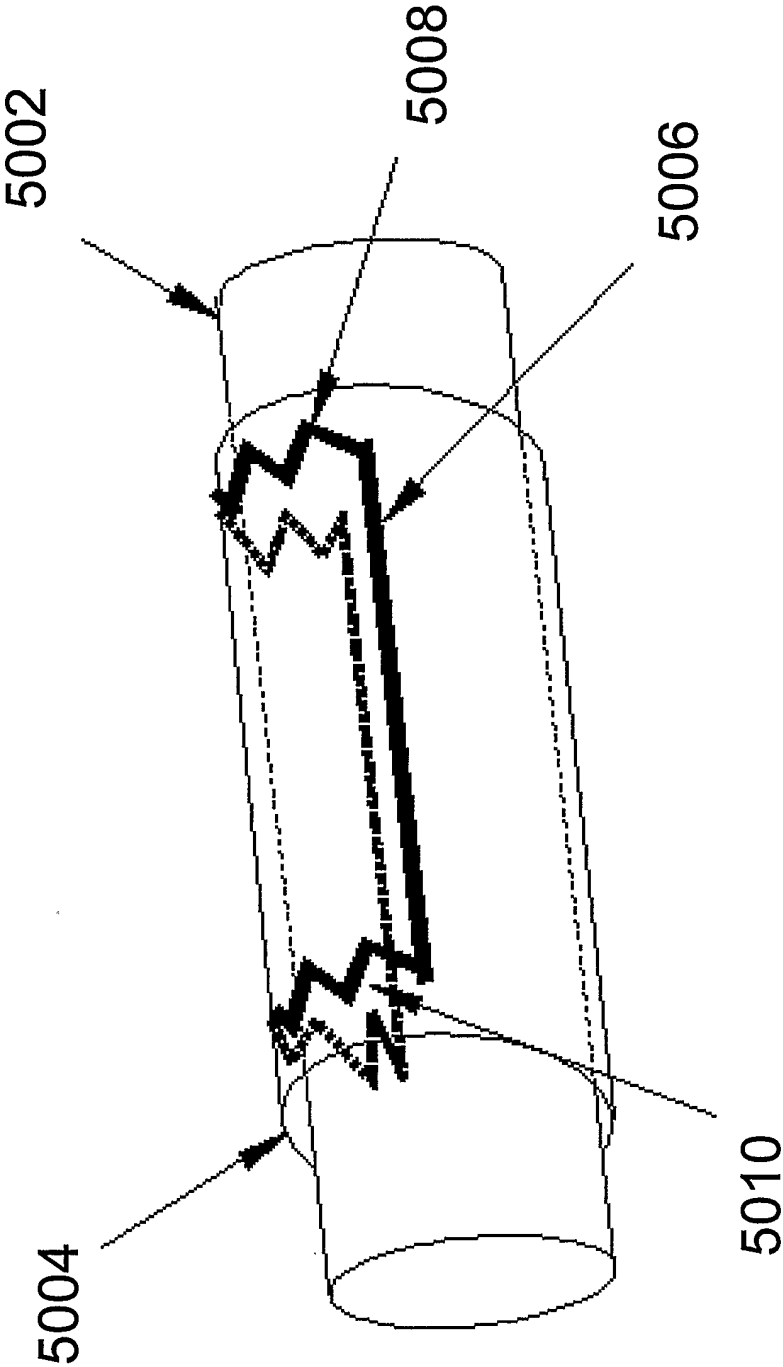


FIGURE 22

6000

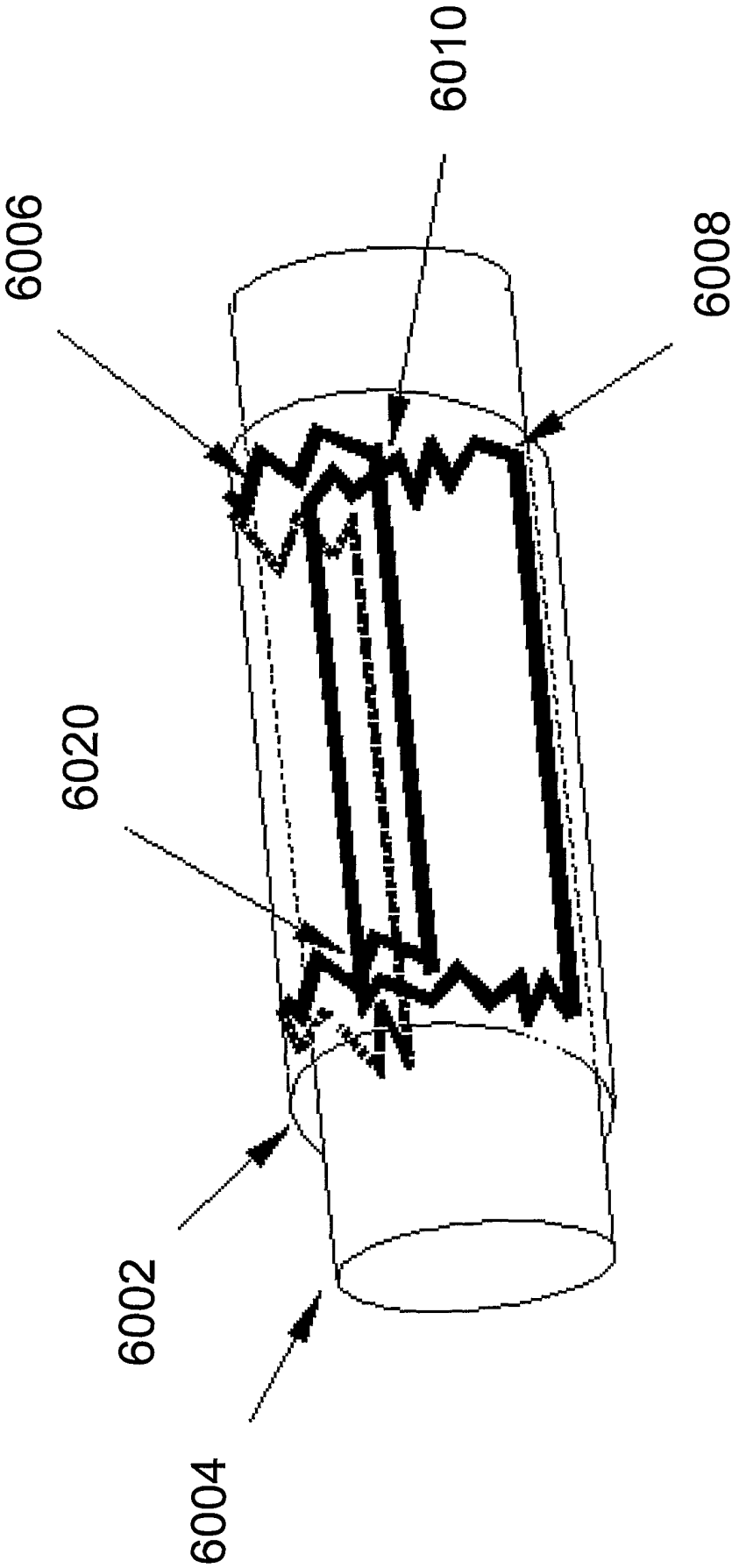


FIGURE 23

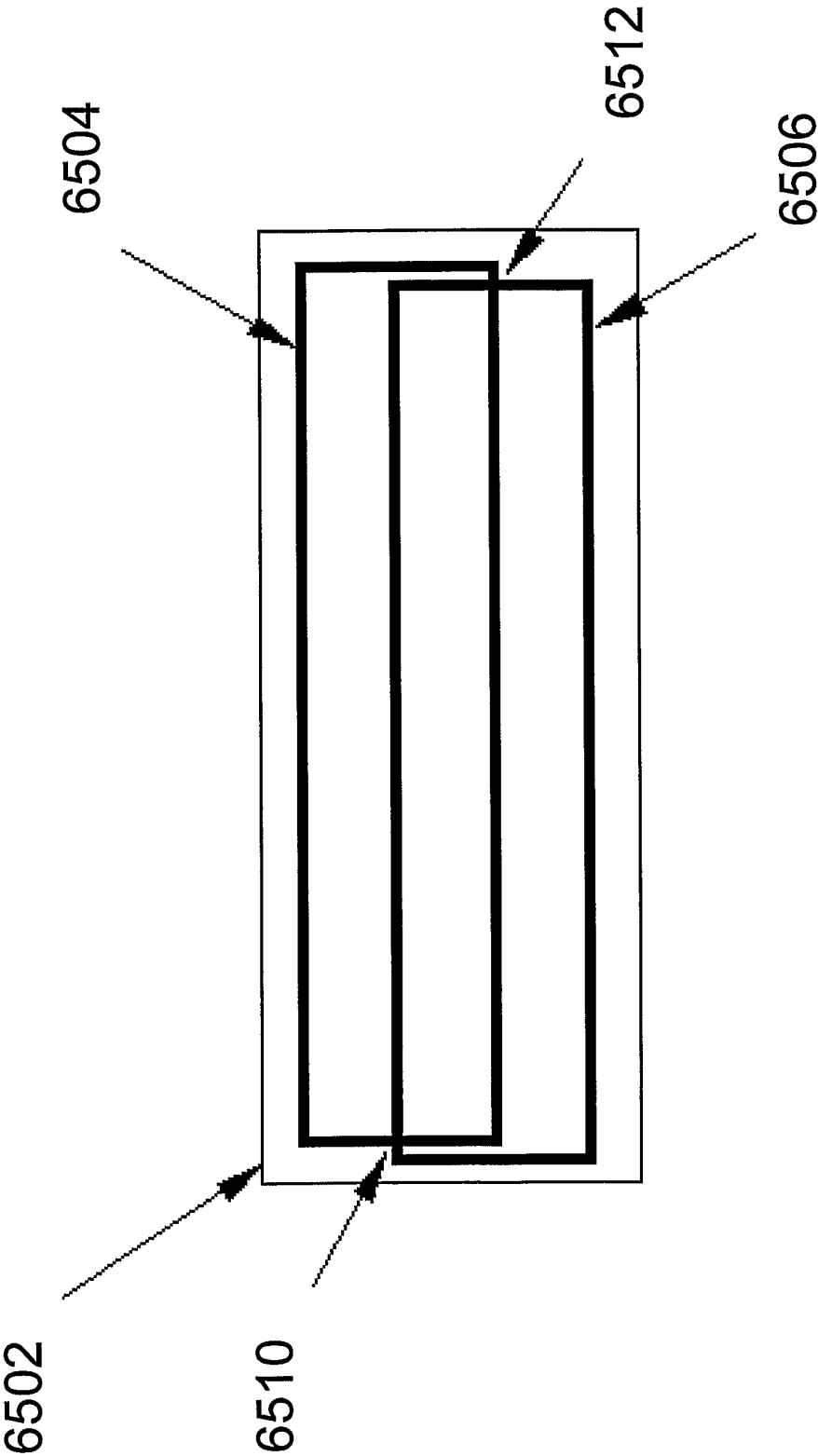


FIGURE 24

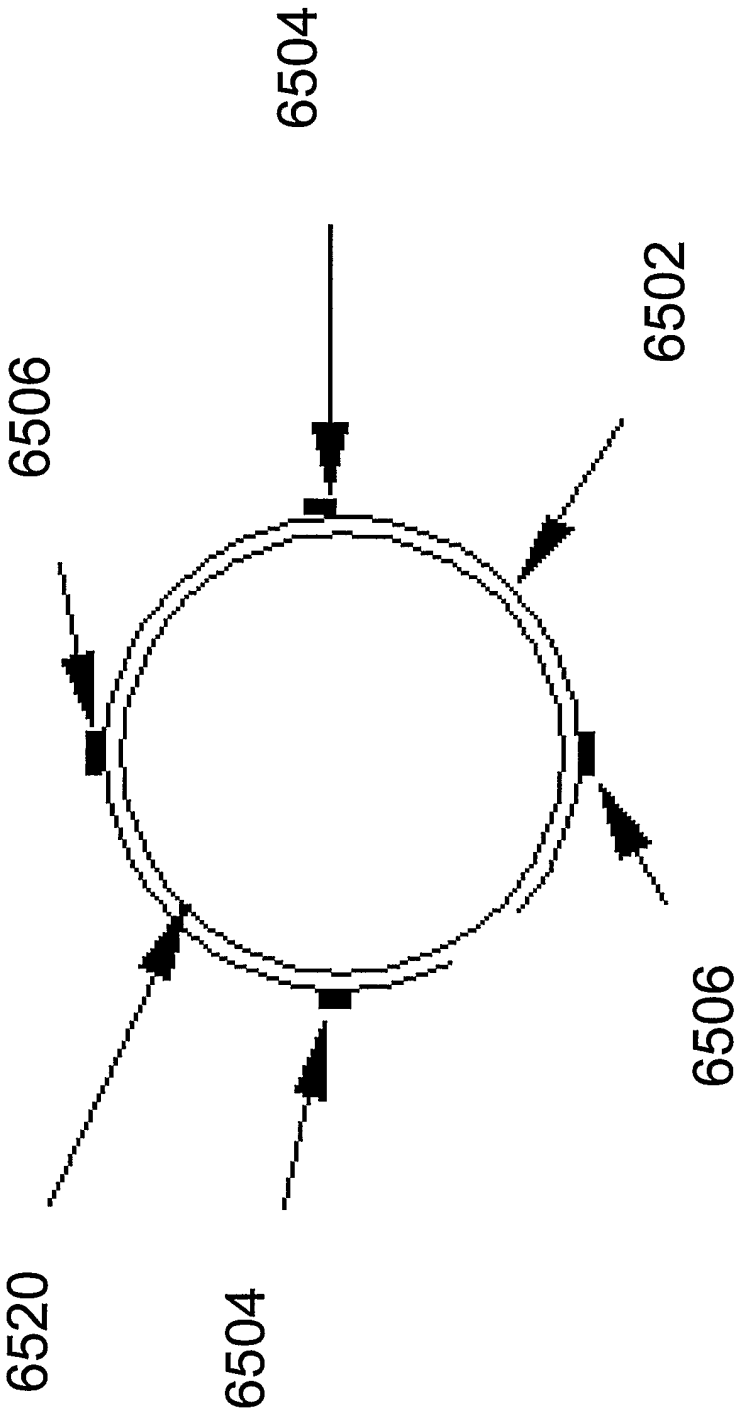
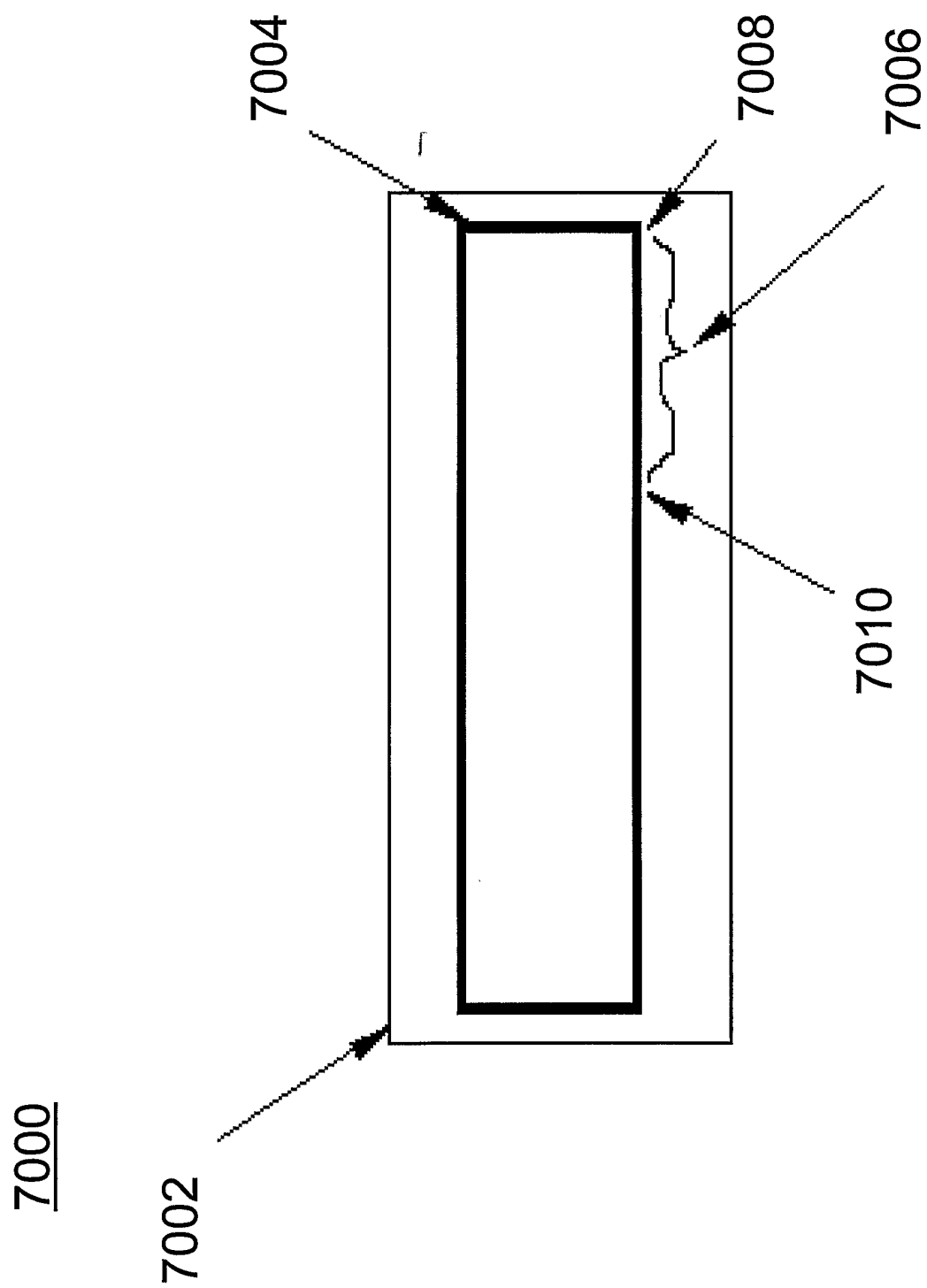


FIGURE 25



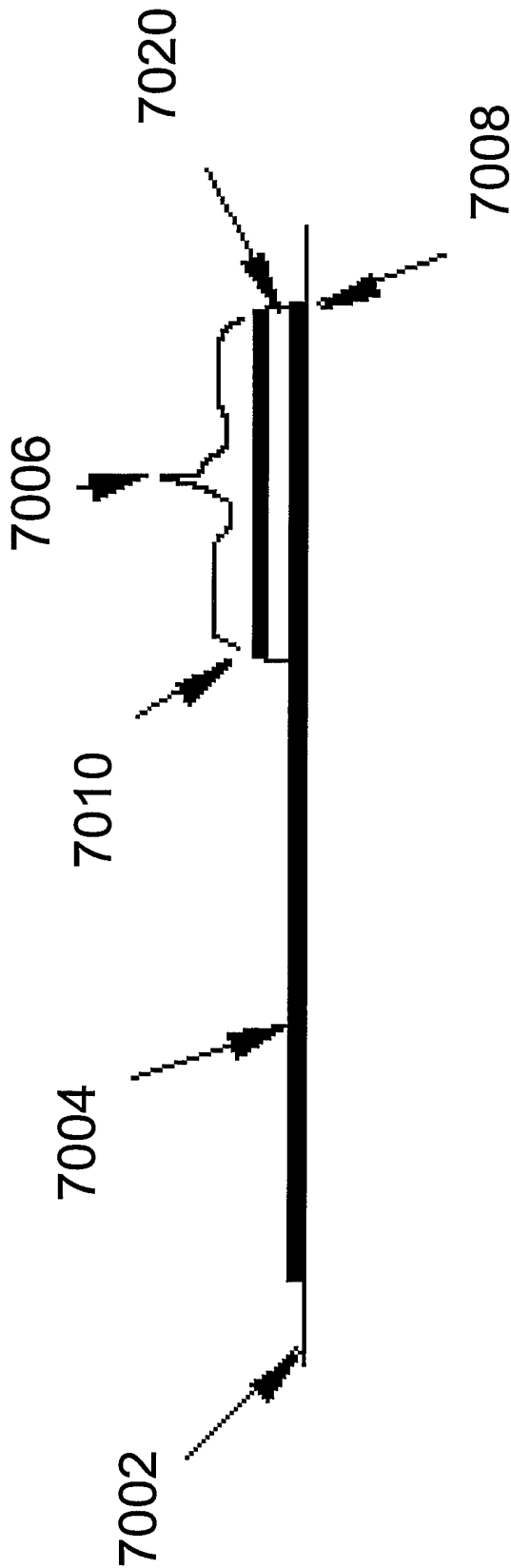


FIGURE 27

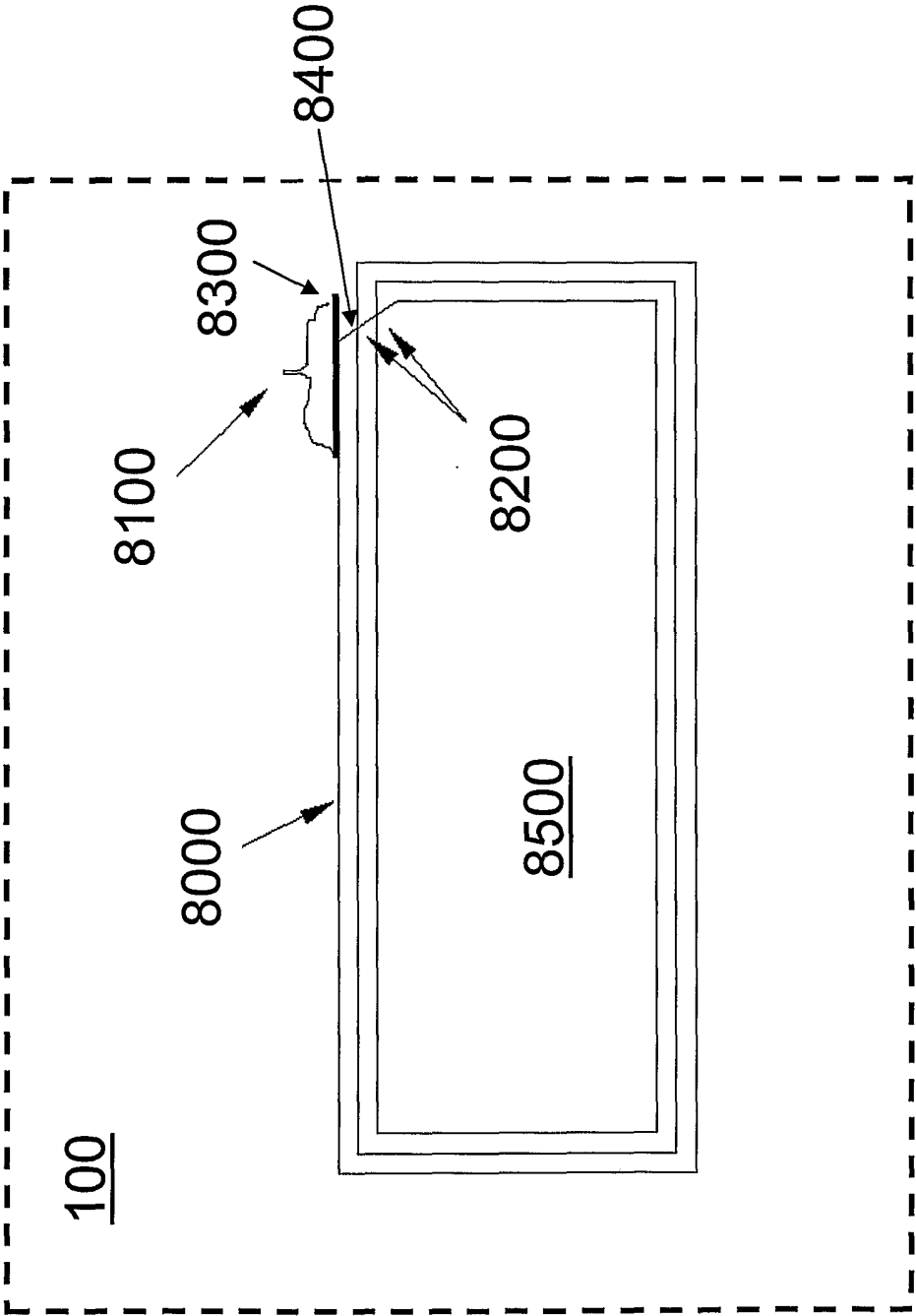


FIGURE 28