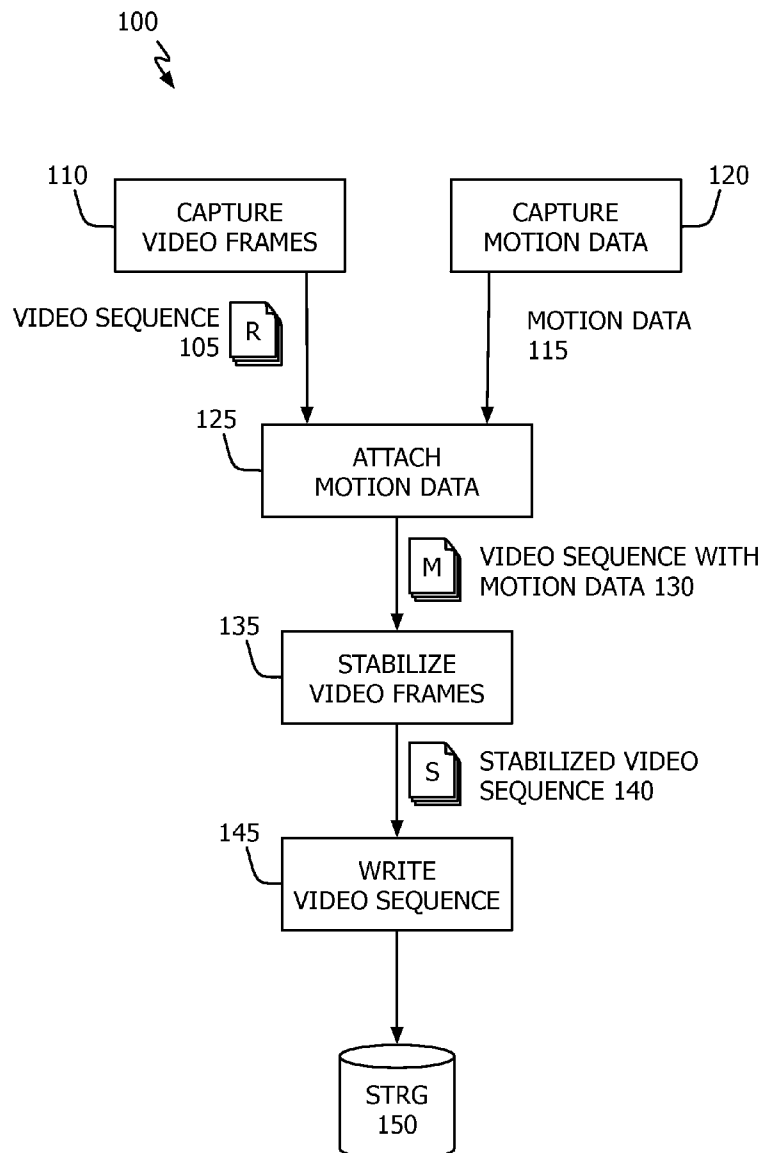




US 20130044228A1

(19) **United States**(12) **Patent Application Publication**
Corey et al.(10) **Pub. No.: US 2013/0044228 A1**(43) **Pub. Date: Feb. 21, 2013**(54) **MOTION-BASED VIDEO STABILIZATION**(52) **U.S. Cl. 348/208.2; 348/208.99; 348/E05.024**(75) Inventors: **Brandon Corey**, Palo Alto, CA (US);
George William, San Francisco, CA
(US); **Jianping Zhou**, Fremont, CA
(US)(57) **ABSTRACT**(73) Assignee: **Apple Inc.**, Cupertino, CA (US)(21) Appl. No.: **13/210,060**(22) Filed: **Aug. 15, 2011****Publication Classification**(51) **Int. Cl.**
H04N 5/228 (2006.01)

Systems, methods, and computer readable media for stabilizing video frames based on information from a motion sensor are described. In general, digital video stabilization techniques are disclosed for generating and applying image-specific transformations to individual frames (images) in a video sequence after, rather than before, the image has been captured. The transformations may be used to counter-balance or compensate for unwanted jitter occurring during video capture due to, for example, a person's hand shaking.



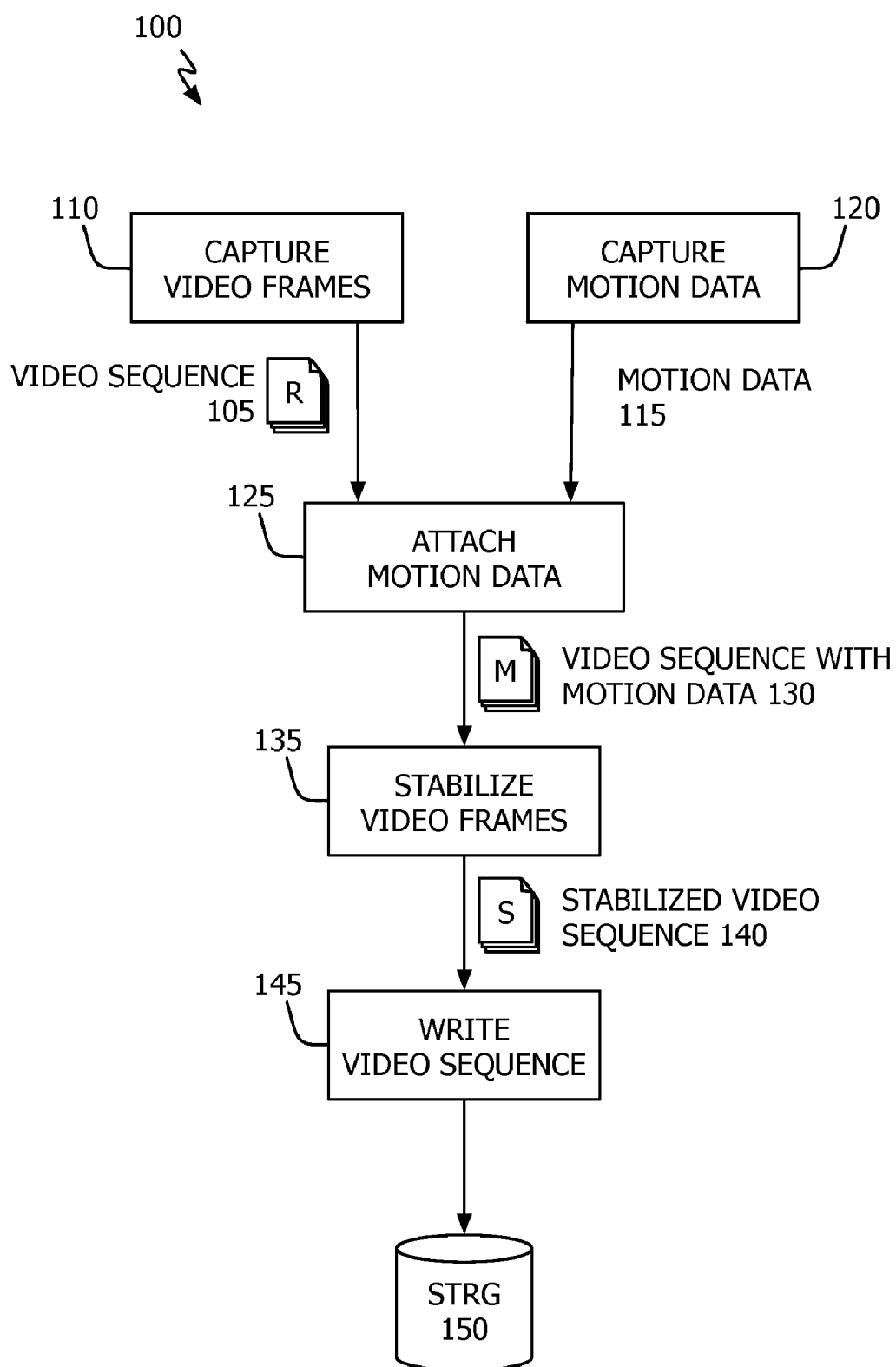


FIG. 1

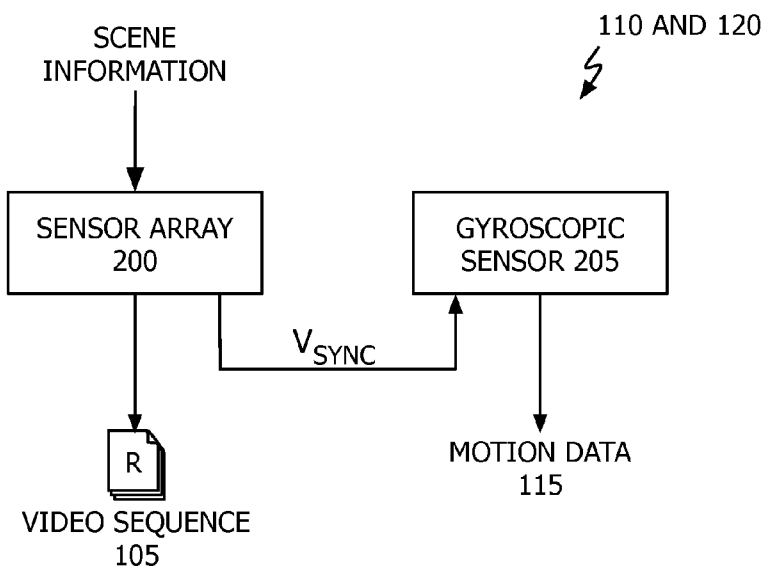


FIG. 2A

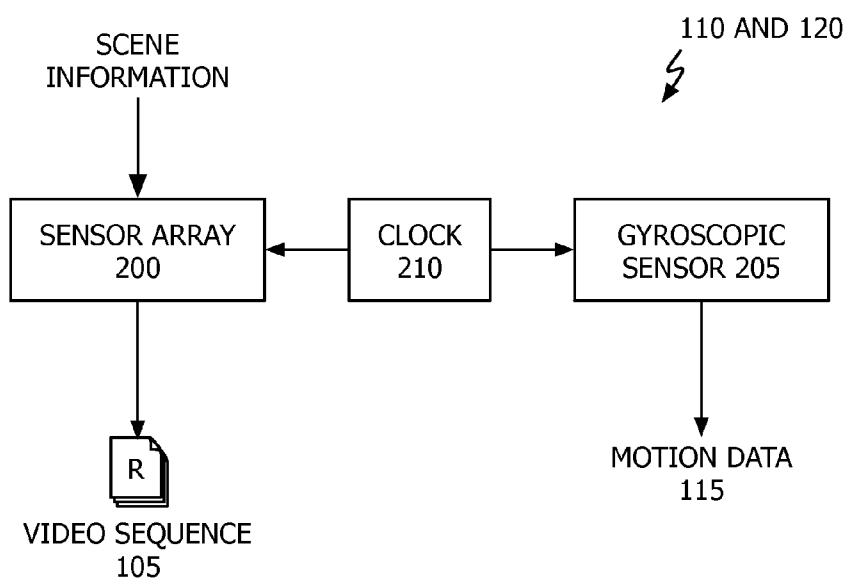


FIG. 2B

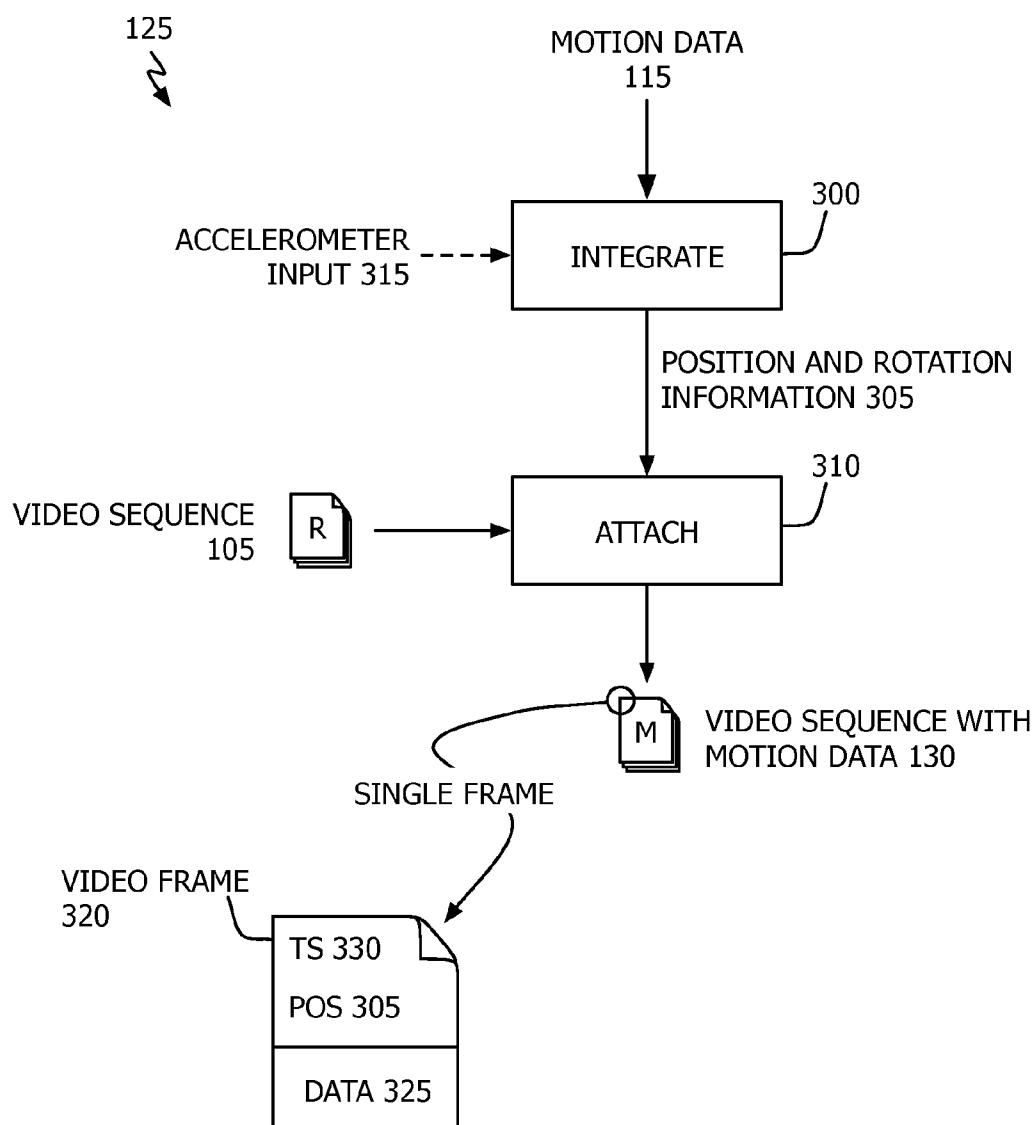
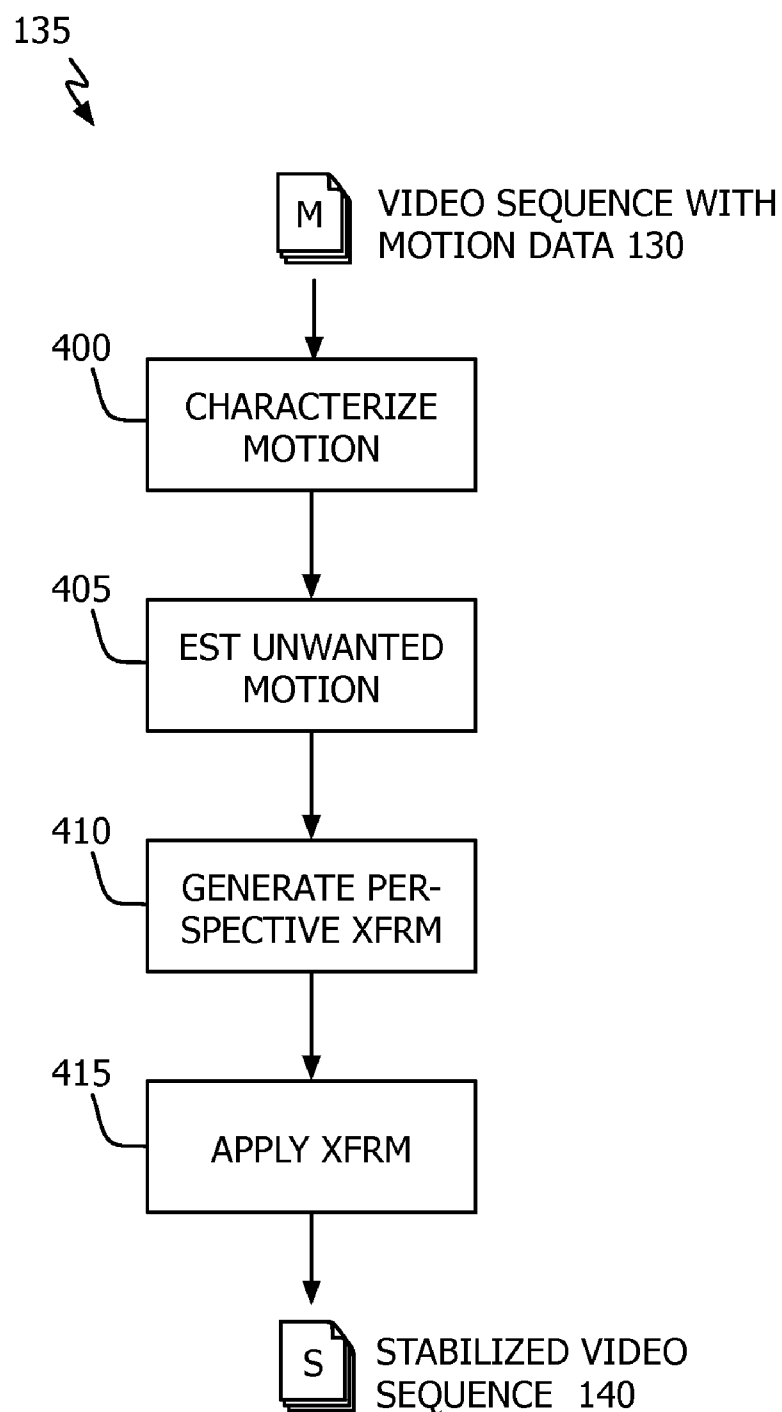


FIG. 3

**FIG. 4**

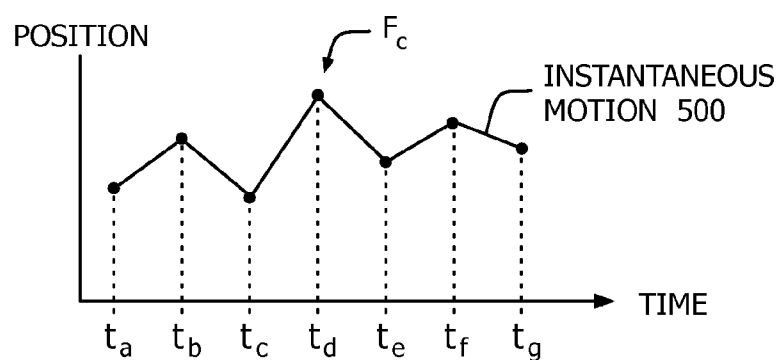


FIG. 5A

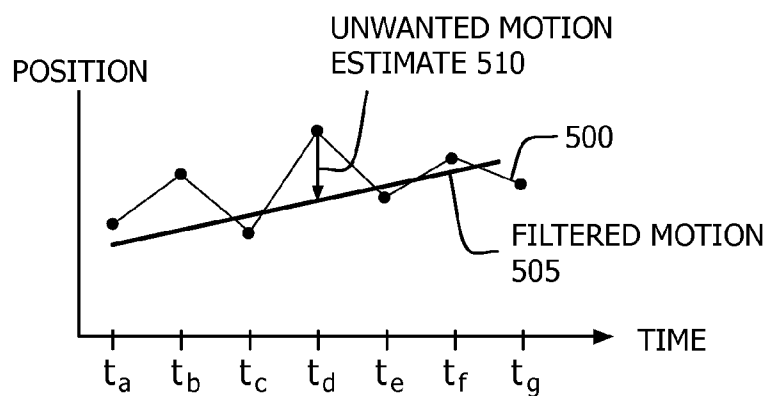


FIG. 5B

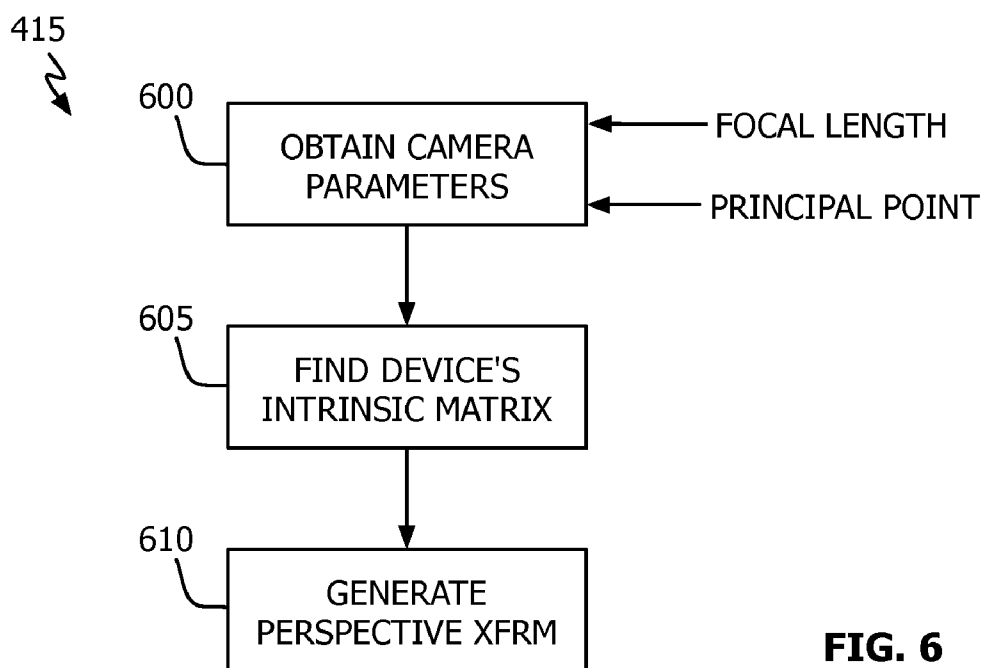


FIG. 6

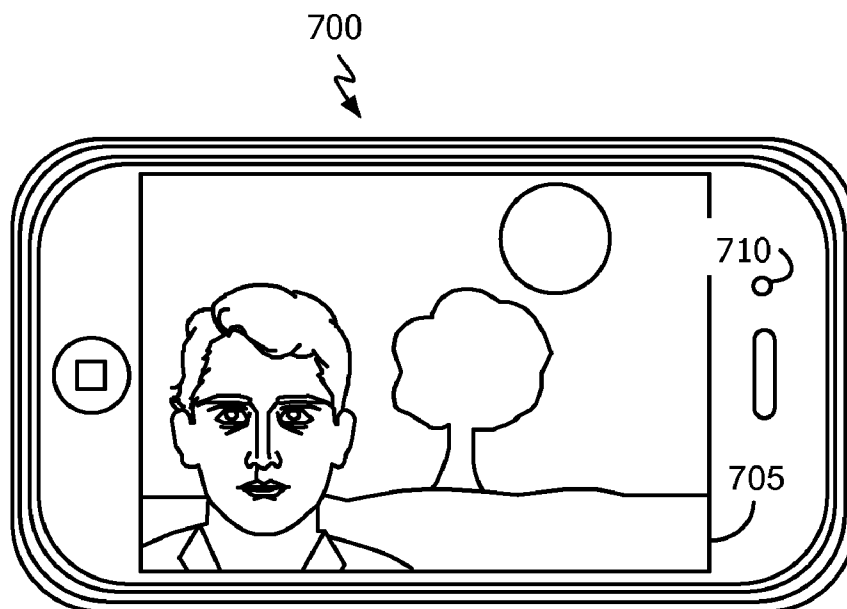


FIG. 7

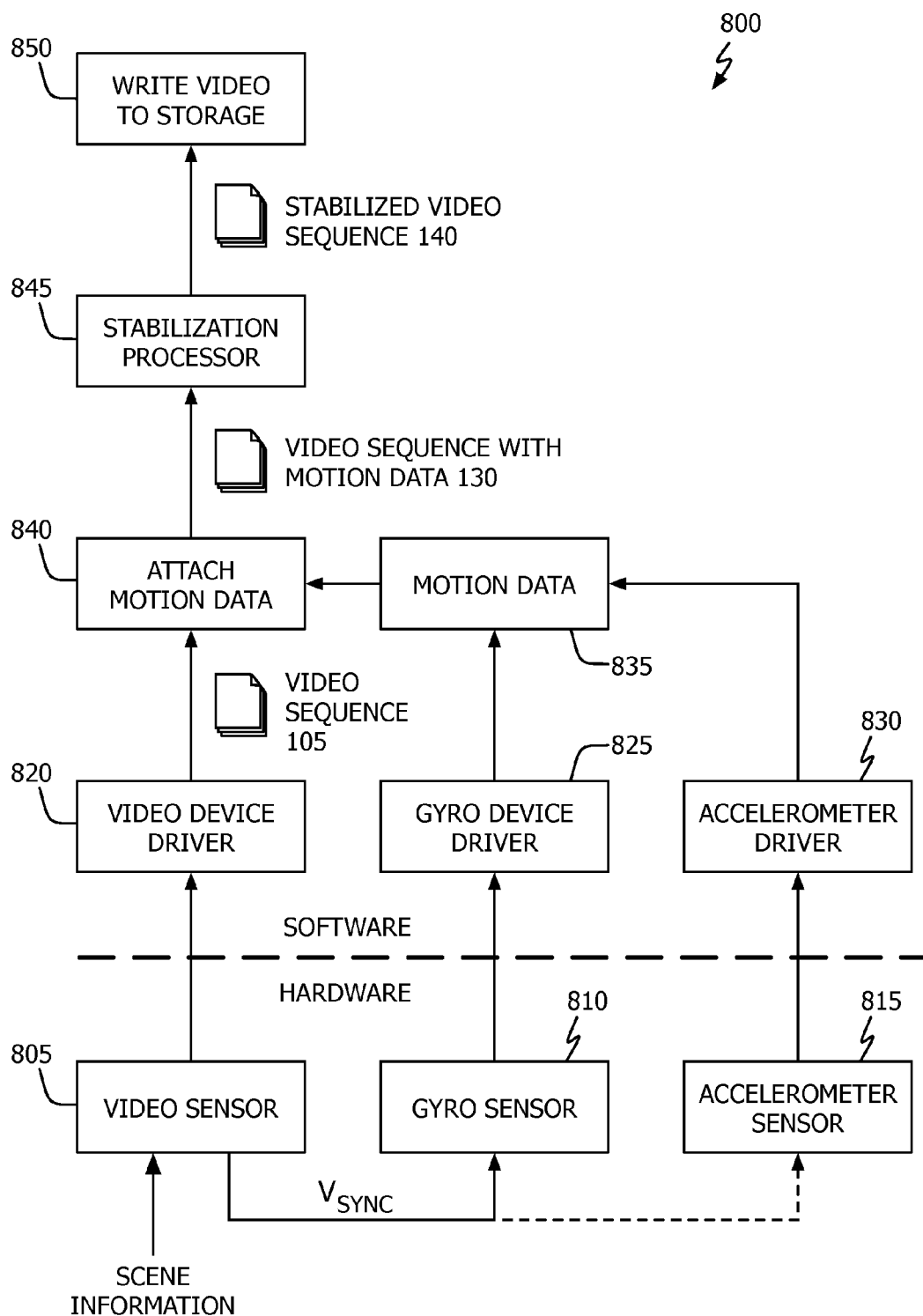


FIG. 8A

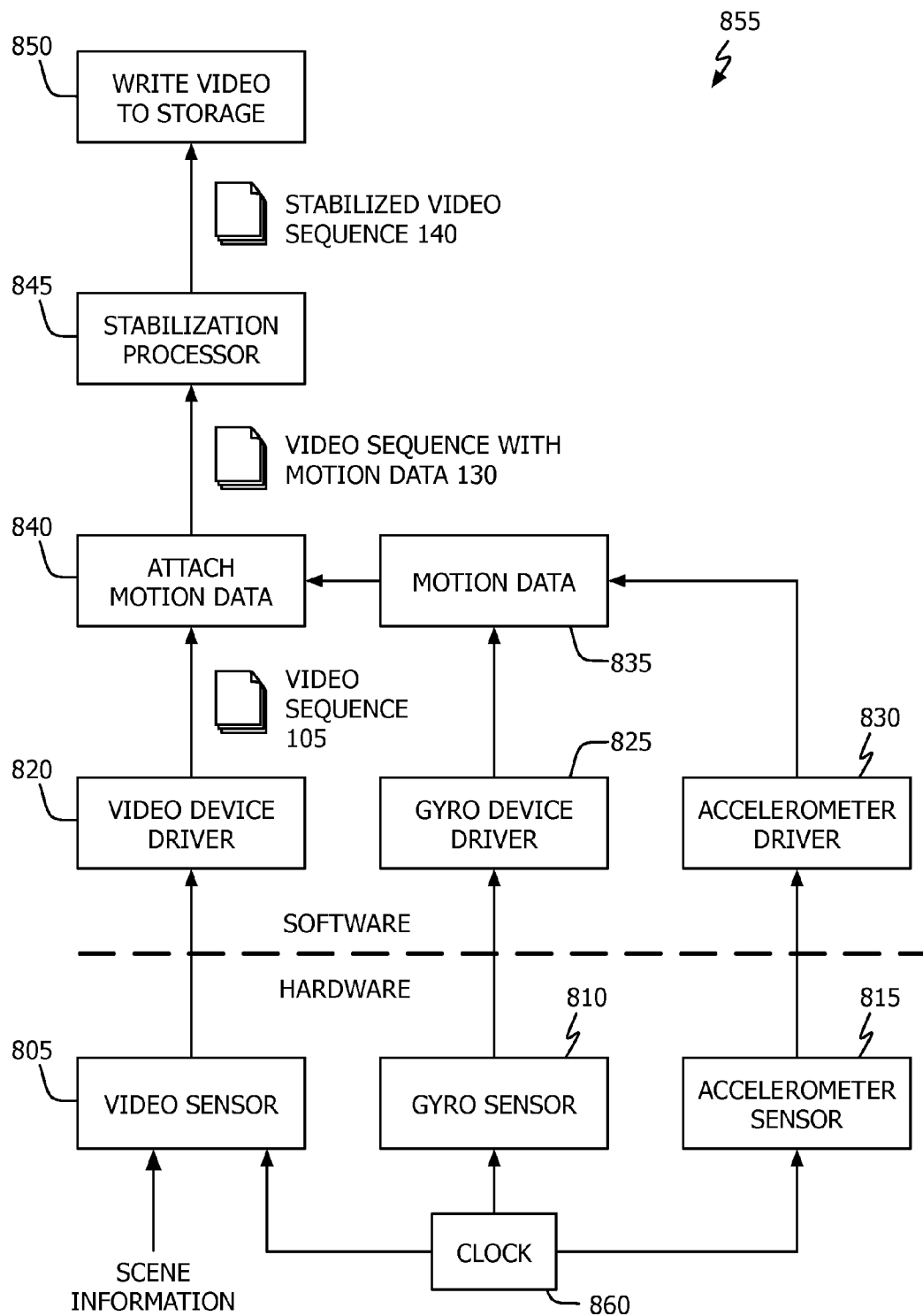


FIG. 8B

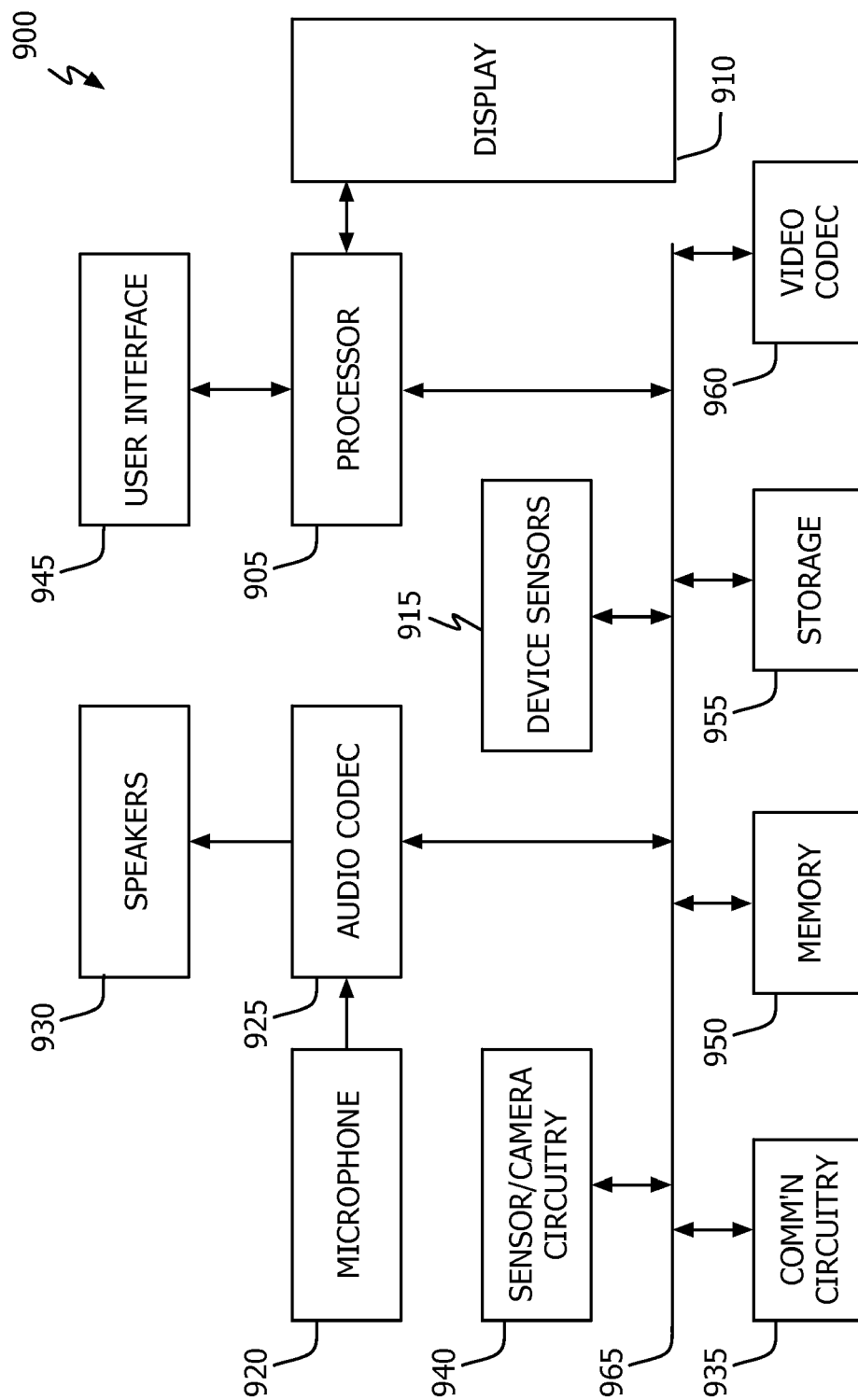


FIG. 9

MOTION-BASED VIDEO STABILIZATION

BACKGROUND

[0001] This disclosure relates generally to the field of image processing. More particularly, but not by way of limitation, this disclosure relates to compensating for unwanted motion experienced during video image capture operations.

[0002] Today, many personal electronic devices come equipped with digital cameras that are video capable. Example personal electronic devices of this sort include, but are not limited to, mobile telephones, personal digital assistants, portable music and video players and portable computer systems such as laptop, notebook and tablet computers. One common problem with video capture is unwanted motion of the camera. While some motion may be desired (e.g., the smooth pan of a camera across a scene), other motion is not (e.g., motion introduced by shaky hands or walking).

[0003] Many video capture devices include a gyroscopic sensor that may be used to assist various device functions. Some devices may use gyroscopic data to adjust the device's lens and/or sensor mechanism before an image or frame is captured. Once captured, however, the image is retained as part of the video sequence without substantial modification. This approach is not, however, feasible for many devices incorporating video capture capability. For example, at this time it is generally considered unfeasible to provide movable lens mechanisms and such in small form factor devices.

SUMMARY

[0004] In one embodiment the invention provides a method to stabilize a captured video sequence. The method includes obtaining a video sequence having a number of sequential images (each image associated with one or more image capture parameter values based on the video capture device) and associated motion data from the video capture device (e.g., accelerometer and/or gyroscopic data). Unwanted motion of the video capture device may then be estimated (based on the motion data and image capture parameters) and used to remove the estimated motion from the video sequence. The modified sequence of images may then be (compressed) stored in a memory. In another embodiment, a computer executable program to implement the method may be stored in any non-transitory media. In still another embodiment, a device capable of performing the described methods may be provided.

BRIEF DESCRIPTION OF THE DRAWINGS

[0005] FIG. 1 shows, in flowchart form, a video stabilization operation in accordance with one embodiment.

[0006] FIGS. 2A and 2B show, in block diagram form, two different embodiments for correlating image data with motion data.

[0007] FIG. 3 shows, in flowchart form, motion data being processed and attached to video data in accordance with one embodiment.

[0008] FIG. 4 shows, in flowchart form, a video stabilization operation in accordance with another embodiment.

[0009] FIGS. 5A and 5B illustrate specific aspects of a video stabilization operation in accordance with one embodiment.

[0010] FIG. 6 shows, in flowchart form, one technique to generate a perspective transform in accordance with this disclosure.

[0011] FIG. 7 shows an illustrative electronic device incorporating digital video capture capability in accordance with this disclosure.

[0012] FIGS. 8A and 8B show, in a functional block diagram, two illustrative devices capable of providing video stabilization capability in accordance with this disclosure.

[0013] FIG. 9 shows, in block diagram form, an electronic device in accordance with one embodiment.

DETAILED DESCRIPTION

[0014] This disclosure pertains to systems, methods, and computer readable media for stabilizing video frames based on information obtained from a motion sensor (e.g., gyroscopic and accelerometer sensors). In general, digital video stabilization techniques are described for generating and applying image-specific transforms to already captured frames (images) in a video sequence so as to counter or compensate for unwanted jitter that occurred during video capture operations. Such jitter may be due, for example, to a person's hand shaking. In contrast to the prior art, video stabilization techniques described herein may be applied to captured images rather than to the image capture device itself before image capture.

[0015] In the following description, for purposes of explanation, numerous specific details are set forth in order to provide a thorough understanding of the inventive concepts. As part of this description, some structures and devices may be shown in block diagram form in order to avoid obscuring the invention. Moreover, the language used in this disclosure has been principally selected for readability and instructional purposes, and may not have been selected to delineate or circumscribe the inventive subject matter, resort to the claims being necessary to determine such subject matter. Reference in the specification to "one embodiment" or "an embodiment" means that a particular feature, structure, or characteristic described in connection with the embodiment is included in at least one embodiment of the invention, and multiple references to "one embodiment" or "an embodiment" should not be understood as necessarily all referring to the same embodiment.

[0016] It will be appreciated that in the development of any actual implementation (as in any development project), numerous decisions must be made to achieve the developers' specific goals (e.g., compliance with system- and business-related constraints), and that these goals will vary from one implementation to another. It will also be appreciated that such development efforts might be complex and time-consuming, but would nevertheless be a routine undertaking for those of ordinary skill in the digital video capture and processing field having the benefit of this disclosure.

[0017] Referring to FIG. 1, video stabilization operation 100 in accordance with one embodiment begins by capturing a video sequence 105 (block 110) and corresponding motion data 115 (block 120). Motion information 115 may then be attached to individual frames within video sequence 105 (block 125) to produce video sequence 130. It can be advantageous to capture motion data for each frame in video sequence 105 so that each captured frame has corresponding motion datum. Multiple data per frame is possible. It can also be advantageous, and is common, for each frame in a video sequence such as video sequence 105, to have a timestamp

indicating when the particular frame was captured (e.g., during acts in accordance with block 110). Frames within video sequence 130 may then be stabilized with respect to a number of other frames in video sequence 130 (block 135). The result is stabilized video sequence 140 that may be compressed and written (block 145) to storage 150. Write operation in accordance with block 145 may also compress frames within video sequence 130.

[0018] Referring to FIG. 2A, in one embodiment video capture operation 110 may be preformed by sensor array 200 and motion data capture operation 120 may be performed by gyroscopic sensor (gyro) 205. Sensor array 200 may provide black and white or color images and use, for example, complementary metal-oxide semiconductor (CMOS) or charged-coupled device (CCD) technology. Gyro sensor 205 may be used to generate rate data in three dimensions (e.g., (x, y, z) or (pitch, roll, yaw) or in a quaternion system). Gyro sensor 205 may use any desired technology such as micro-electromechanical systems (MEMS) technology.

[0019] It will be understood that video captured in accordance with block 110 (e.g., by sensor array 200) and motion data captured in accordance with block 120 (e.g., by gyro sensor 205) should be correlated. It is important that an image captured at time t_0 be synchronized with motion data captured at approximately the same time. In the embodiment illustrated in FIG. 2A, image sensor 200 may signal gyro sensor 205 each time an image frame is captured through, for example, the V_{sync} signal. Gyro sensor 205, in turn, may tag each “next captured” motion datum each time a V_{sync} signal is received. This permits each frame in video sequence 105 to be correlated or associated with the proper motion data. Use of the phrase “next captured” reflects the possibility that motion sensor 205 may operate on a different clock signal than sensor array 200. That is, sensor array 200 and motion sensor 205 may operate asynchronously. Referring to FIG. 2B, in another embodiment a common clock 210 may be used to timestamp both image sensor data and motion sensor data. This arrangement facilitates the synchronization of asynchronously captured image and motion data by putting them on a common timeline.

[0020] Referring to FIG. 3, in one embodiment motion data 115 (e.g., accelerometer and/or gyro data) may be attached to video data (video sequence 105) through a process such as that illustrated in FIG. 3. In one embodiment motion data 115 includes accelerometer data. In another embodiment, motion data 115 gyro data. In yet another embodiment, motion data 115 includes both accelerometer and gyro data. For illustrative purposes, the example embodiment described herein will (for the most part) employ gyro data. It will be understood that when a gyro such as sensor 205 is used to provide motion data 115, what is actually produced is rate information: the rate at which the video capture device is being moved in, for example, each of 3 axis. Rate data may be integrated (block 300) to produce instantaneous position and rotation information 305 (also in each of 3 axis). Using image timestamp information and motion detector tags (which may also be timestamps), each frame in video sequence 105 may be associated with the appropriate position and rotation information 305 (block 310). In another embodiment, operation 125 may also use accelerometer input 315 to, for example, assist in calibrating gyro sensor 205's output or for motion data itself. Also shown in FIG. 3 is a high-level representation of a single image frame 320 from video sequence 130. As shown, video frame 320 includes data 325 representing the image itself and

timestamp 330 provided during acts in accordance with block 110. After attach operation 310, video frame 320 may also include position and rotation information 305 (aka, motion data).

[0021] Referring to FIG. 4, stabilization operation 135 as implemented in one embodiment may begin once images making up video sequence 130 begin to be received. Initially, the motion of a frame may be characterized with respect to a specified number of “neighbor” frames (block 400). Referring to FIG. 5A, in one embodiment the motion of a current frame (F_c) captured at time t_d may be characterized by M number of previously captured frames (in this example 3: captured at prior times t_a , t_b , and t_c) and N number of subsequently captured frames (in this example also 3: captured at later times t_e , t_f and t_g). FIG. 5A plots the instantaneous position of each of these frames over time (represented as instantaneous motion signal 500). The solid lines between successive points have been provided to illustrate the “jittery” nature of motion data 115. It should be understood that only a single axis of motion is represented in FIG. 5, but that in many practical applications motion in three dimensions may be considered. It should also be noted that the choice of 3 frames before and 3 frames after the current frame is a design choice and may vary from implementation to implementation depending on, for example, the image sensor (e.g., sensor array 200), the particular type of video capture unit being used (e.g., a professional stand-alone unit, a consumer stand-alone unit, or embedded in a consumer device such as a mobile telephone, portable music player or some other portable electronic device), and the rate of video frame capture.

[0022] Returning to FIG. 4, it is assumed that slow/smooth motion in a given direction is desired by the individual capturing the video sequence. For example, the video capture device may be smoothly panned to keep a specific target (e.g., a person) centered in the frame. It follows that any jerky or high-frequency motion (e.g., jitter) is unintended (e.g., due to the individual's hand shaking). With this as background, and the motion of a frame characterized in accordance with block 400, the unwanted aspects of the frame's motion may now be estimated (block 405). Referring to FIG. 5B, to estimate the unwanted motion components of the video capture device's movement, instantaneous motion signal 500 may be filtered to eliminate its high-frequency components (producing filtered motion signal 505). This may be accomplished, for example, by passing instantaneous motion signal 500 through a low-pass filter such as an infinite impulse response (IIR) or finite impulse response (FIR) filter. An estimate of the unwanted motion for current frame F_c (at time t_d) may then be given by the difference in the actual position of frame F_c (at time t_d) and filtered motion signal 505 (at time t_d) 510. The “negative” of the estimated unwanted motion along each axis (e.g., x, y, z) may then be collected into a single 3x3 unwanted motion matrix. Hereinafter, the estimated unwanted motion matrix for the current frame will be represented as rotation matrix $[R_{12}]$, where the subscript ‘2’ represents or identifies the current frame and the subscript ‘1’ represents or identifies a prior frame. In the example shown in FIG. 5A, the current frame would be F_c (captured at time t_d) and the prior frame is that frame captured at time t_c . This process may be repeated for the next “current” frame in a sliding-window fashion. For example, in FIG. 5A the next frame to become the “current” frame would be frame F_d (captured at time t_e). Continuing to use the 3 prior and 3 subsequent frame window introduced above, the prior frames upon which a new instantaneous

motion signal would be based are those frames captured at times t_a , t_c and t_b . The successive frames upon which the new instantaneous motion signal would be based are those frames captured at times t_f , t_g and t_h (not shown).

[0023] Returning again to FIG. 4, once an estimate of the unwanted motion for a frame has been determined in accordance with block 405, that information may be used to generate a perspective transformation (block 410). Each frame's perspective transformation may be applied to modify or compensate for the frame's estimated unwanted motion (block 415). The result is stabilized video sequence 140.

[0024] Referring to FIG. 6, perspective transformation determination in accordance with block 410 obtains various image capture device parameter values (block 600). Illustrative parameters include those related to the image capture device's field of view for the frame such as the focal length used to capture the frame and the device's principal point. It will be recognized that on image capture devices that provide the capability to move their lens and/or image sensor assemblies, the focal length may change from frame to frame. Based on the obtained parameters' values, the device's intrinsic matrix may be found or generated (block 605). A perspective transformation may then be determined for a particular frame using the image capture device's intrinsic matrix associated with that frame (i.e., the intrinsic matrix generated using device parameter values that were in place when the frame was captured) and the frame's rotation matrix identified above (610).

[0025] A perspective transformation for a given frame may be derived as follows. First, it will be recognized by those of skill in the art that the 2D projection of real-space (which is 3D) onto a sensor array (which is 2D) may be given as—

$$\begin{pmatrix} x \\ y \\ z \end{pmatrix} = \Pi \begin{pmatrix} X \\ Y \\ Z \end{pmatrix}, \quad \text{EQ. 1}$$

where

$$\begin{pmatrix} X \\ Y \\ Z \end{pmatrix}$$

represents a point in real-space, Π represents the image capture device's intrinsic matrix and

$$\begin{pmatrix} x \\ y \\ z \end{pmatrix}$$

represents the 2D projection of the real-space point onto the sensor array's plane. In essence, EQ. 1 represents a 3D-to-2D transformation.

[0026] A novel use of this known relationship was to recognize that—

$$\begin{pmatrix} X \\ Y \\ Z \end{pmatrix} = \Pi^{-1} \begin{pmatrix} x \\ y \\ z \end{pmatrix}, \quad \text{EQ. 2}$$

where

$$\begin{pmatrix} x \\ y \\ z \end{pmatrix}$$

represents a point in the sensor's 2D plane,

$$\begin{pmatrix} X \\ Y \\ Z \end{pmatrix}$$

represents an estimate of where that point is in real-space, and Π^{-1} represents the inverse of the image capture device's intrinsic matrix described above with respect to EQ. 1. Thus, EQ. 2 represents a 3D-to-2D transformation estimator.

[0027] Based on the discussion above regarding blocks 400, 405 and FIG. 5, it will be recognized that—

$$\begin{pmatrix} X'_1 \\ Y'_1 \\ Z'_1 \end{pmatrix} = [R_1] \begin{pmatrix} X_1 \\ Y_1 \\ Z_1 \end{pmatrix}, \quad \text{EQ. 3}$$

where

$$\begin{pmatrix} X_1 \\ Y_1 \\ Z_1 \end{pmatrix}$$

represents the real-space location of a point at time t_1 , $[R_1]$ the rotation matrix for frame-1 (derived from unwanted motion in frame F_1), and

$$\begin{pmatrix} X'_1 \\ Y'_1 \\ Z'_1 \end{pmatrix}$$

represents the location of the same point after the estimated unwanted motion has been removed.

[0028] From EQ. 2 we may obtain—

$$\begin{pmatrix} X_1 \\ Y_1 \\ Z_1 \end{pmatrix} = \Pi_1^{-1} \begin{pmatrix} x_1 \\ y_1 \\ z_1 \end{pmatrix}, \quad \text{EQ. 4}$$

where Π_1^{-1} represents the inverse of the image capture device's intrinsic matrix at time t_1 . Substituting EQ. 4 into EQ. 3 yields—

$$\begin{pmatrix} X'_1 \\ Y'_1 \\ Z'_1 \end{pmatrix} = [R_1] \Pi_1^{-1} \begin{pmatrix} x_1 \\ y_1 \\ z_1 \end{pmatrix}. \quad \text{EQ. 5}$$

[0029] From EQ. 2 we may obtain—

$$\begin{pmatrix} X'_1 \\ Y'_1 \\ Z'_1 \end{pmatrix} = \Pi_1^{-1} \begin{pmatrix} x'_1 \\ y'_1 \\ z'_1 \end{pmatrix}, \quad \text{EQ. 6}$$

Substituting EQ. 6 into EQ. 5 yields—

$$\Pi_1^{-1} \begin{pmatrix} x'_1 \\ y'_1 \\ z'_1 \end{pmatrix} = [R_1] \Pi_1^{-1} \begin{pmatrix} x_1 \\ y_1 \\ z_1 \end{pmatrix}. \quad \text{EQ. 7}$$

[0030] Multiplying EQ. 7 by Π_1 yields—

$$\Pi_1 \Pi_1^{-1} \begin{pmatrix} x'_1 \\ y'_1 \\ z'_1 \end{pmatrix} = \Pi_1 [R_1] \Pi_1^{-1} \begin{pmatrix} x_1 \\ y_1 \\ z_1 \end{pmatrix}, \quad \text{EQ. 8}$$

which may be rewritten as—

$$\begin{pmatrix} x'_1 \\ y'_1 \\ z'_1 \end{pmatrix} = \Pi_1 [R_1] \Pi_1^{-1} \begin{pmatrix} x_1 \\ y_1 \\ z_1 \end{pmatrix}. \quad \text{EQ. 9}$$

which may be rewritten as—

$$\begin{pmatrix} x'_1 \\ y'_1 \\ z'_1 \end{pmatrix} = [P_1] \begin{pmatrix} x_1 \\ y_1 \\ z_1 \end{pmatrix}, \quad \text{EQ. 10}$$

where $[P_1]$ represents the perspective transformation for time t_1 (and frame F_1). Equations 9 and 10 describe how remove unwanted motion from the image captured at time t_1 as reflected in rotation matrix $[R_1]$. (It is also noted $[P_1]$ incorporates the image capture device's parameters (e.g., focal length) at times t_0 and t_1 .) More particularly, perspective transformation $[P_1]$ is based solely on the image capture device's parameter values (e.g., focal length) and determination of the image's unwanted motion component. This information is available from motion sensor **205** (e.g., a gyro). It will be recognized that this information is computationally inexpensive to obtain and process, allowing video stabilization operations in accordance with this disclosure to be performed quickly and at low computational cost.

[0031] Referring to FIG. 7, one electronic device incorporating digital video stabilization capability in accordance with one embodiment is shown. In this particular example, device **700** represents a mobile telephone which provides preview display **705**. Mobile telephone **700** also includes microphone **710** and one or more speakers (not shown). It will be recognized that the disclosed video stabilization capability may be incorporated in many electronic devices. Examples include, but are not limited to, stand-alone video cameras, mobile music players, personal digital assistants (PDAs), and notebook, desktop and tablet computers.

[0032] Referring to FIG. 8A, a functional view of illustrative electronic device **800** in accordance with this disclosure includes video sensor **805**, gyro sensor **810**, and accelerometer **815**. Video sensor **805** provides video frames to video device driver **820**, gyro sensor **810** provides motion data (e.g., rate of movement) to gyro device driver **825**, and accelerometer **815** provides its data to accelerometer driver **830**. In the example of FIG. 8A, video frames and motion data are correlated through the use of a V_{sync} signal as discussed above with respect to FIG. 2A. It will be recognized that V_{sync} may also be used to correlate accelerometer data (this possibility is indicated in FIG. 8A by a dashed line.) Gyro and accelerometer data may be collected to generate motion data **835** which may then be attached **840** to individual frames within video sequence **105**. Once motion data has been attached, augmented video sequence **130** may be sent to stabilization processor **845** which transforms each frame in accordance with its particular perspective transformation to generate a stabilized video sequence **140** that may then be written to storage **850**. It will be recognized that stabilized video sequence **140** may often be compressed before being written to storage **850**.

[0033] Referring to FIG. 8B, another illustrative video capture device **855** is shown. In this embodiment, however, common clock **860** provides timing information to video **805**, gyro **810** and accelerometer **815** sensors. As noted above with respect to FIG. 2B, use of common clock **860** permits synchronization on a common timeline of asynchronously captured image and motion data.

[0034] Referring now to FIG. 9, a simplified functional block diagram of representative electronic device **900** incorporating digital video capture capability is shown according to one embodiment. Electronic device **900** may include processor **905**, display **910**, device sensors **915** (e.g., gyro, accelerometer, proximity, and ambient light sensors), microphone **920**, audio codec **925**, speaker **930**, communications circuitry **935**, image sensor with associated camera and video hardware **940**, user interface **945**, memory **950**, storage device **955**, video codec(s) **960** and communications bus **965**.

[0035] Processor **905** may be any suitable programmable control device or general or special purpose processor or integrated circuit and may execute instructions necessary to carry out or control the operation of many functions, such as the generation and/or processing of image metadata, as well as other functions performed by electronic device **900**. Processor **905** may for instance drive display **910** and may receive user input from user interface **945**. Processor **905** may also, for example, be a system-on-chip such as an application's processor such as those found in mobile devices or a dedicated graphics processing unit (GPU). Processor **905** may be based on reduced instruction-set computer (RISC) or complex instruction-set computer (CISC) architectures or any other suitable architecture and may include one or more processing cores.

[0036] Memory 950 may include one or more different types of storage media used by processor 905 to perform device functions. Memory 950 may include, for example, cache, read-only memory (ROM), and/or random access memory (RAM). Communications bus 960 may provide a data transfer path for transferring data to, from, or between at least storage device 955, memory 950, processor 905, and camera circuitry 940. User interface 945 may allow a user to interact with electronic device 900. For example, user interface 945 can take a variety of forms, such as a button, keypad, dial, a click wheel, or a touch screen.

[0037] Non-transitory storage device 955 may store media (e.g., image and video files), computer program instructions or software, preference information, device profile information, and any other suitable data. Storage device 955 may include one more storage mediums including, for example, magnetic disks (fixed, floppy, and removable) and tape, optical media such as CD-ROMs and digital video disks (DVDs), and semiconductor memory devices such as Electrically Programmable Read-Only Memory (EPROM), and Electrically Erasable Programmable Read-Only Memory (EEPROM).

[0038] Video codec 960 may be a hardware device, a software module or a combination of hardware and software that enables video compression and/or decompression of digital video. For example, video codec 960 may implement the H.264 video standard. Communications bus 965 may be any one or more communication paths and employ any technology or combination thereof that is appropriate for the particular implementation.

[0039] Software may be organized into one or more modules and be written in any suitable computer programming language (or more than one language). When executed by, for example, processor 905 such computer program code or software may implement one or more of the methods described herein.

[0040] Various changes in the materials, components, circuit elements, as well as in the details of the illustrated operational methods are possible without departing from the scope of the following claims. For instance, processor 905 may be implemented using two or more program control devices communicatively coupled. Each program control device may include the above-cited processors, special purpose processors or custom designed state machines that may be embodied in a hardware device such as an application specific integrated circuit (ASIC) or a field programmable gate array (FPGA). In addition, the techniques disclosed herein may be applied to previously captured video sequences, providing the necessary metadata has been captured for each video frame.

[0041] Finally, it is to be understood that the above description is intended to be illustrative, and not restrictive. For example, the above-described embodiments may be used in combination with each other. Many other embodiments will be apparent to those of skill in the art upon reviewing the above description. The scope of the invention therefore should be determined with reference to the appended claims, along with the full scope of equivalents to which such claims are entitled. In the appended claims, the terms “including” and “in which” are used as the plain-English equivalents of the respective terms “comprising” and “wherein.”

1. A motion sensor-based video stabilization method, comprising:

obtaining, by a video capture device, a video sequence having a plurality of sequential images, each of the plurality of sequential images associated with one or more

image capture parameter values, the image capture parameters based on the video capture device;
obtaining motion data from the video capture device for each of the plurality of sequential images;
estimating unwanted motion of the video capture device for each of the plurality of sequential images based on the motion data;
modifying each of the plurality of sequential images to remove the estimated unwanted motion based on the motion data and the image capture parameter values associated with each of the plurality of sequential images; and
storing each of the modified plurality of sequential images in a memory.

2. The method of claim 1, wherein the image capture parameters comprise one or more of a principal point and a focal length.

3. The method of claim 1, wherein the act of obtaining motion data for each of the plurality of sequential images comprises obtaining motion data for each of the plurality of sequential images at approximately the same time as each of the plurality of sequential images was obtained.

4. The method of claim 3, wherein the motion data for each of the each of the plurality of sequential images comprises information representing motion in more than one direction.

5. The method of claim 1, wherein the act of obtaining motion data comprises obtaining motion data from a gyroscopic sensor.

6. The method of claim 5, wherein the act of obtaining motion data further comprises obtaining acceleration data from an accelerometer sensor.

7. The method of claim 1, further comprising determining rotational information for each of the plurality of sequential images based on the motion data for one or more successive images in the plurality of sequential images.

8. The method of claim 1, wherein the act of estimating unwanted motion for a specified image from the plurality of sequential images, comprises:

identifying a motion of the video capture device based on a first specified number of images from the plurality of sequential images obtained before the specified image and a second specified number of images from the plurality of sequential images obtained after the specified image;

filtering the identified motion of the video capture device to generate a filtered motion, the filtered motion having a value corresponding to the specified image; and

determining the difference between the value of the filtered motion corresponding to the specified image and a location of the specified image based on the motion data.

9. The method of claim 8, wherein the act of filtering comprises low pass filtering.

10. The method of claim 1, wherein the image capture device comprises a portable electronic device.

11. A motion sensor-based video stabilization method, comprising:

capturing a plurality of sequential images by a video capture device, the video capture device having image capture parameters wherein each of the plurality of sequential images is associated with values corresponding to the image capture parameters at the time each of the images was captured;

obtaining motion information for each of the plurality of sequential images, wherein the motion data for each

image in the plurality of sequential images was obtained at approximately the same time as each image was captured;

estimating an unwanted motion for each of the plurality of sequential images based on each image's motion information;

applying a transform to each of the plurality of sequential images to substantially remove the estimated unwanted motion, wherein the transform applied to each of the plurality of sequential images is based on each image's image capture parameter values and motion information; and

storing each of the transformed plurality of sequential images in a memory.

12. A non-transitory storage device having instructions stored thereon for causing a programmable control device to perform the method of claim 1.

13. The non-transitory storage device of claim 12, wherein the image capture parameters comprise one or more of a principal point and a focal length.

14. The non-transitory storage device of claim 12, wherein the instructions for obtaining motion data for each of the plurality of sequential images comprise instructions for obtaining motion data for each of the plurality of sequential images at approximately the same time as each of the plurality of sequential images was obtained.

15. The non-transitory storage device of claim 3, wherein the motion data for each frame comprises information representing motion in more than one direction.

16. The non-transitory storage device of claim 12, wherein the instructions for obtaining motion data comprise instructions for obtaining motion data from a gyroscopic sensor.

17. The non-transitory storage device of claim 16, wherein the instructions for obtaining motion data further comprise instructions for obtaining acceleration data from an accelerometer sensor.

18. The non-transitory storage device of claim 12, further comprising instructions for determining rotational information for each of the plurality of sequential images based on the motion data for each pair of successive images in the plurality of sequential images.

19. The non-transitory storage device of claim 12, wherein the instructions for estimating unwanted motion for a specified image from the plurality of sequential images, comprise:

- instructions for identifying a motion of the video capture device based on a first specified number of images from the plurality of sequential images obtained before the specified image and a second specified number of images from the plurality of sequential images obtained after the specified image;
- instructions for filtering the identified motion of the video capture device to generate a filtered motion, the filtered motion having a value corresponding to the specified image; and
- instructions for determining the difference between the value of the filtered motion corresponding to the specified image and a location of the specified image based on the motion data.

20. An electronic device, comprising:

- a video capture sensor;
- a motion sensor;
- a programmable control device communicatively coupled to the memory; and
- a memory communicatively coupled to the video capture circuit, the motion sensor, and the programmable control device, the memory having computer program code stored therein for causing the programmable control device to—

- capture a plurality of sequential images from the video capture sensor, the electronic device having image capture parameters wherein each of the plurality of sequential images is associated with values corresponding to the image capture parameters at the time each of the images was captured;
- obtain motion information from the motion sensor for each of the plurality of sequential images, wherein the motion data for each image in the plurality of sequential images is obtained at approximately the same time as each image was captured;
- estimate an unwanted motion for each of the plurality of sequential images based on each image's motion information;
- applying a transform to each of the plurality of sequential images to substantially remove the estimated unwanted motion, wherein the transform applied to each of the plurality of sequential images is based on each image's image capture parameter values and motion information; and
- store each of the transformed plurality of sequential images in the memory.

21. The electronic device of claim 20, wherein the motion sensor comprises a gyroscopic sensor

22. The electronic device of claim 20, wherein the memory further comprises computer program code to determine rotational information for each of the plurality of sequential images based on the motion information for each pair of successive images in the plurality of sequential images.

23. The electronic device of claim 20, wherein the computer program code to estimate unwanted motion for a specified image from the plurality of sequential images, comprises:

- computer program code to identify a motion of the video capture device based on a first specified number of images from the plurality of sequential images obtained before the specified image and a second specified number of images from the plurality of sequential images obtained after the specified image;
- computer program code to filter the identified motion of the video capture device to generate a filtered motion, the filtered motion having a value corresponding to the specified image; and
- computer program code to determine the difference between the value of the filtered motion corresponding to the specified image and a location of the specified image based on the motion data.

* * * * *