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(54) **DYNAMIC ENVIRONMENT ADAPTATION**

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(2013.01)

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See application file for complete search history.

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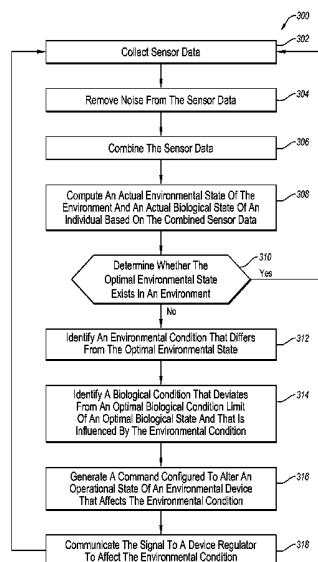
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(57) **ABSTRACT**

A method of dynamically adapting an environment may
include collecting sensor data from a biological sensor and
an environmental sensor. The method may also include,
based on the sensor data, determining whether an optimal
environmental state exists in an environment. The optimal
environmental state may be defined in a health and wellness
policy and may be configured to promote an optimal bio-
logical state of an individual in the environment. In response
to the optimal environmental state not existing in the envi-
ronment, the method may include identifying an environ-
mental condition that differs from the optimal environmental
state and generating a command configured to alter an
operational state of an environmental device that affects the
environmental condition.

16 Claims, 6 Drawing Sheets



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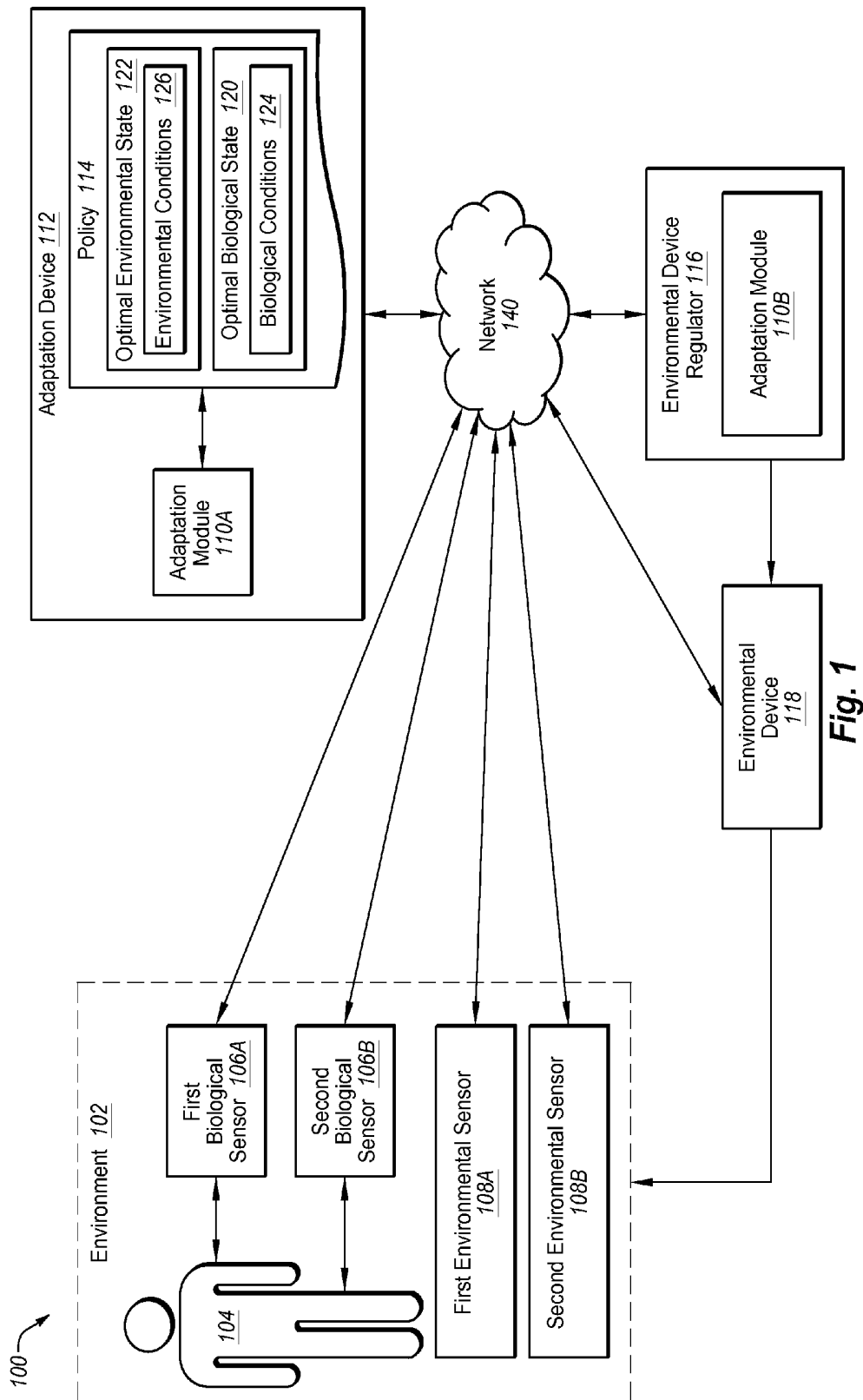


Fig. 1

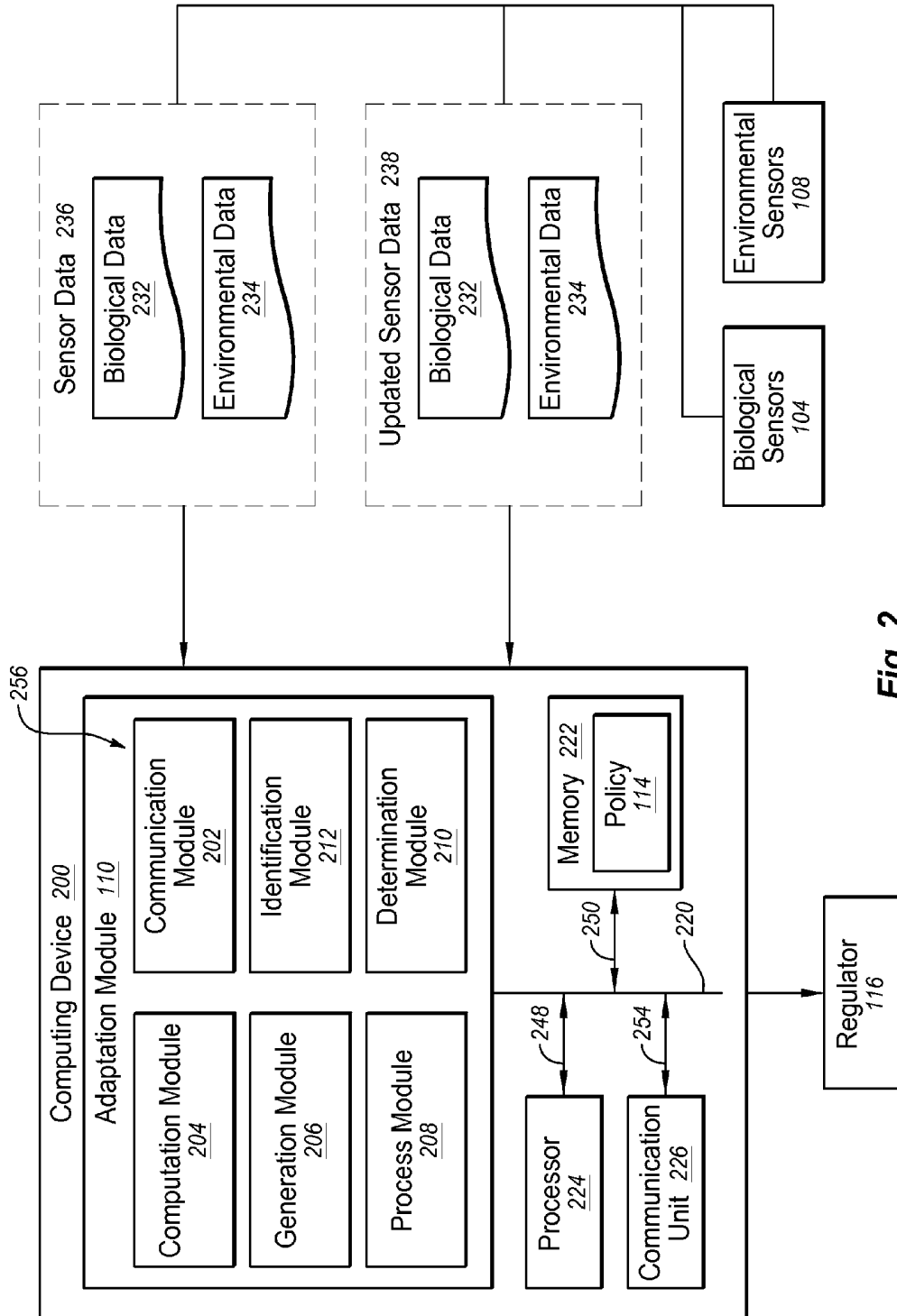
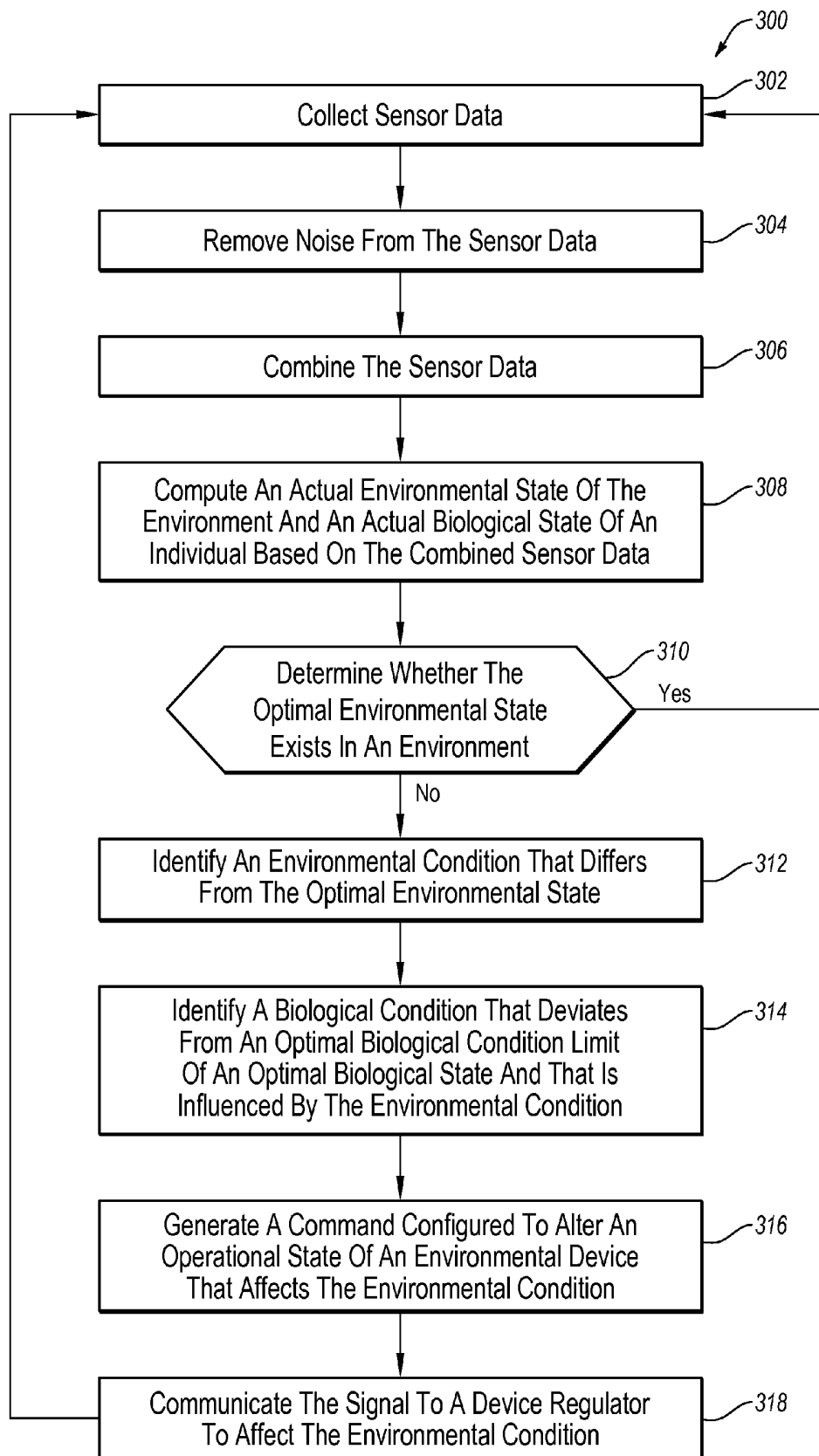


Fig. 2

**Fig. 3**

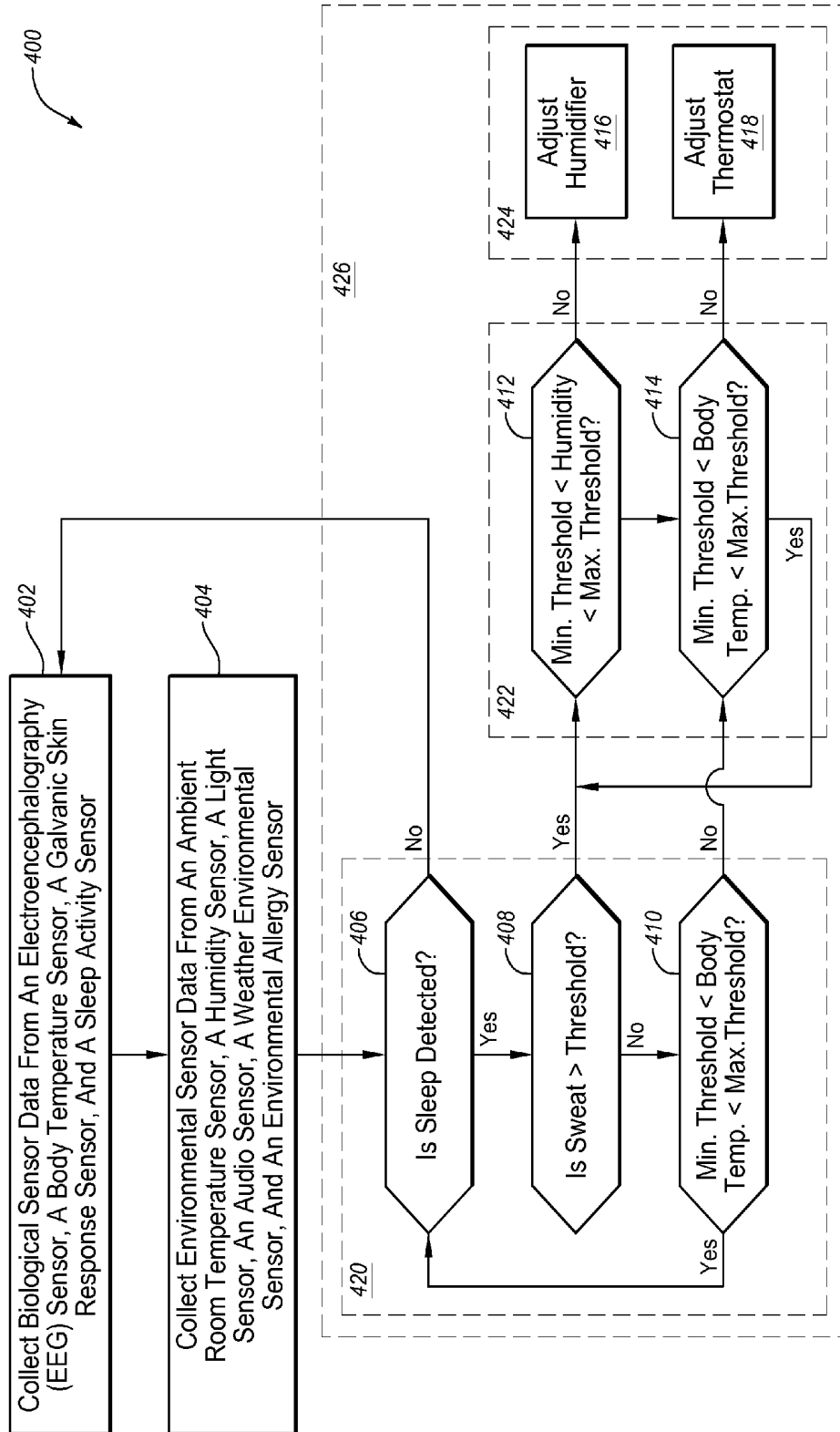


Fig. 4

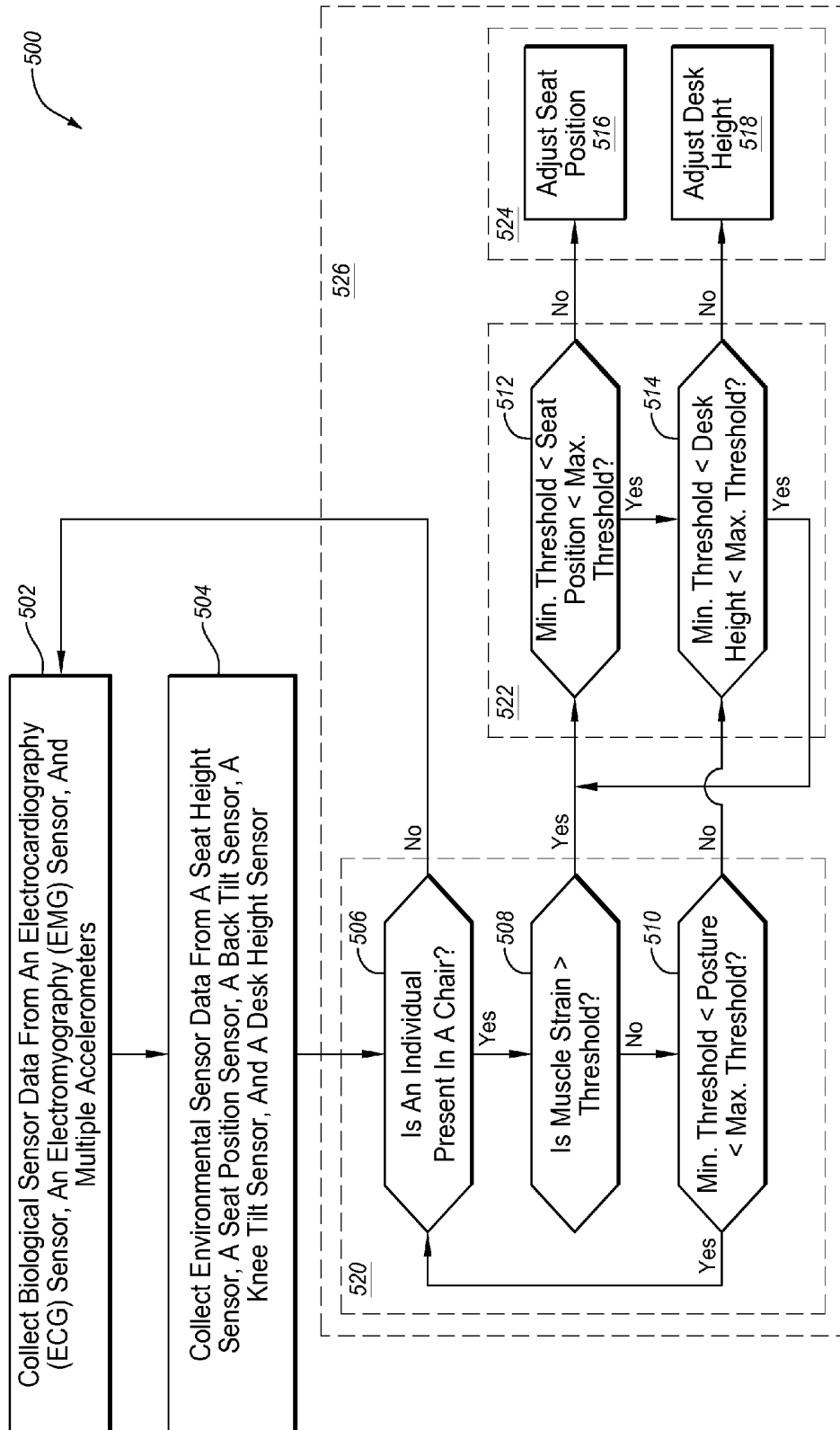


Fig. 5

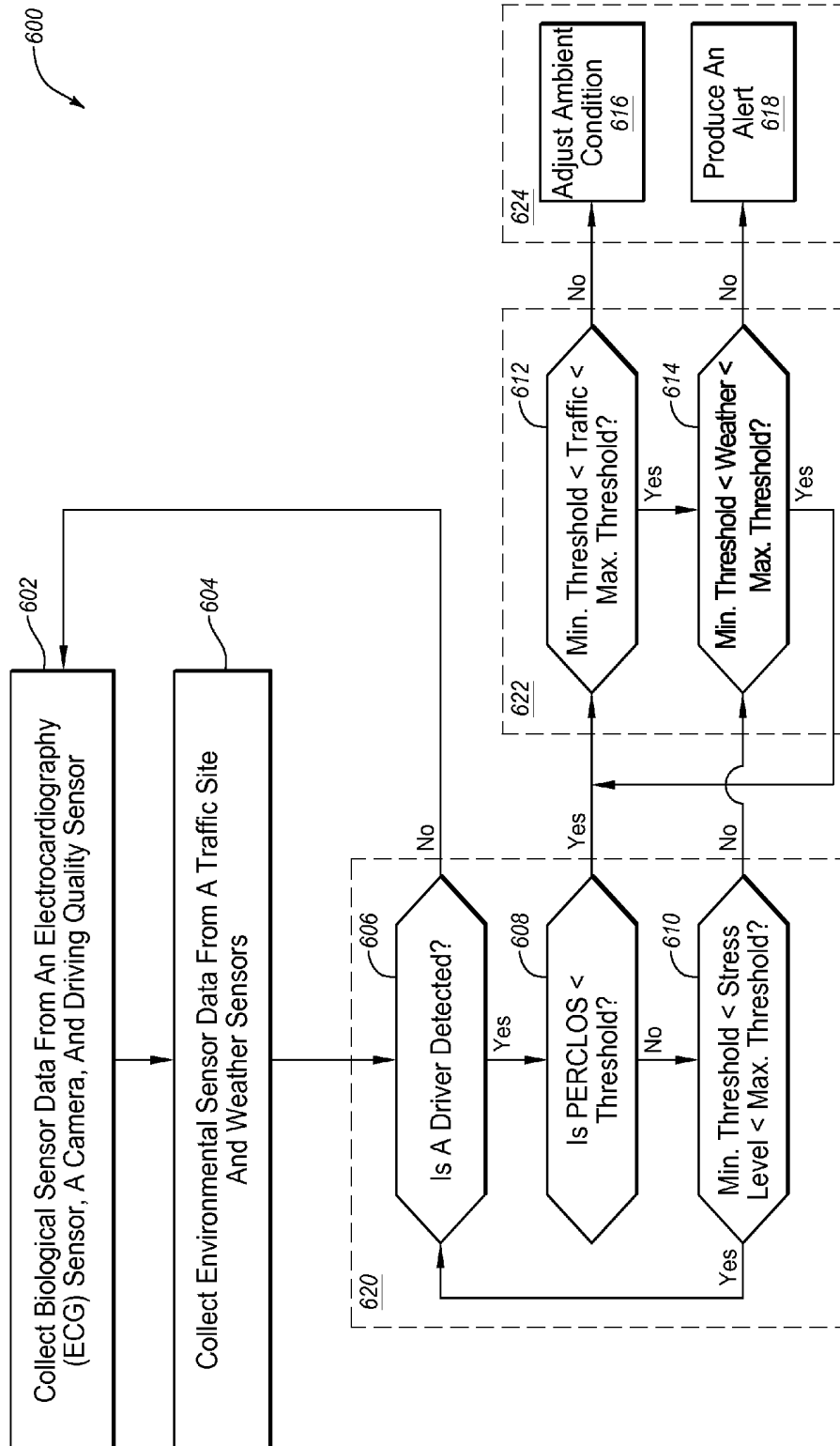


Fig. 6

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DYNAMIC ENVIRONMENT ADAPTATION

FIELD

The embodiments discussed herein are related to dynamic environment adaptation.

BACKGROUND

Environments play a significant role in the health and wellness of an individual. Accordingly, an individual may set conditions of the environments to attempt to create an optimal environment for an activity. For example, the environment in which the individual sleeps may affect the quality of rest of the individual. Thus, to best sleep in the environment, the individual may set an ambient temperature to a comfortable level and implement a noise machine to reduce disturbances caused by ambient noise. The ambient temperature and the noise machine may improve the quality of rest of the individual.

To set and/or to adjust a condition of the environments, some device regulators include automated adjustments. For instance, thermostats may sense an ambient temperature and compare the sensed ambient temperature to a set temperature. The thermostat may then adjust a duty cycle of a heating, ventilation, or air-conditioning (HVAC) component based on a difference between the sensed ambient temperature and the set temperature. Similarly, some "smart" thermostats may learn behaviors of the individual and may adjust the duty cycles of an HVAC component based on the learned behaviors. Device regulators having these and similar capabilities may assist in the setting and adjusting of the conditions of the environment. However, the adjustments may be based on a limited number of sensor inputs, may involve periodic action by the individual, and may fail to consider the individual.

The subject matter claimed herein is not limited to embodiments that solve any disadvantages or that operate only in environments such as those described above. Rather, this background is only provided to illustrate one example technology area where some embodiments described herein may be practiced.

SUMMARY

According to an aspect of an embodiment, a method of dynamically adapting an environment may include collecting sensor data from a biological sensor and an environmental sensor. The method may also include, based on the sensor data, determining whether an optimal environmental state exists in an environment. The optimal environmental state may be defined in a health and wellness policy and may be configured to promote an optimal biological state of an individual in the environment. In response to the optimal environmental state not existing in the environment, the method may include identifying an environmental condition that differs from the optimal environmental state and generating a command configured to alter an operational state of an environmental device that affects the environmental condition.

The object and advantages of the embodiments will be realized and achieved at least by the elements, features, and combinations particularly pointed out in the claims.

It is to be understood that both the foregoing general description and the following detailed description are exemplary and explanatory and are not restrictive of the invention, as claimed.

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BRIEF DESCRIPTION OF THE DRAWINGS

Example embodiments will be described and explained with additional specificity and detail through the use of the accompanying drawings in which:

FIG. 1 illustrates an example environmental adaptation system;

FIG. 2 illustrates an example computing device that may be implemented in the environmental adaptation system of FIG. 1;

FIG. 3 is a flow diagram of an example method of dynamic environment adaptation;

FIG. 4 is a flow diagram of an example method of sleep environment adaptation; and

FIG. 5 is a flow diagram of an example method of ergonomic environment adaptation,

FIG. 6 is a flow diagram of an example method of driving environment adaptation, all arranged in accordance with at least one embodiment described herein.

DESCRIPTION OF EMBODIMENTS

Some embodiments described herein relate to dynamic environment adaptation. Existing systems operate under a paradigm that an individual adjusts an environment to create an environmental state optimal for the individual. However, this paradigm fails to respond adequately to changing conditions of the environment and of the individual. The failure of this paradigm is especially evident in environments in which conditions change quickly or the individual is not actively aware of the change of conditions. Some embodiments discussed herein adhere to a new paradigm in which the environment dynamically adapts to the individual, thus improving the biological state of the individual. An example embodiment includes a method of dynamically adapting an environment. The method may include continuously collecting sensor data from multiple biological sensors and multiple environmental sensors. Based on the sensor data, the method includes determining whether an optimal environmental state exists in an environment. The optimal environmental state may be defined in a health and wellness policy and may be configured to promote an optimal biological state of an individual in the environment. In response to the optimal environmental state not existing in the environment, the method may include identifying an environmental condition that differs from the optimal environmental state. A command may be generated that is configured to alter an operational state of an environmental device that affects the environmental condition. Some example embodiments are described herein with reference to the accompanying drawings.

FIG. 1 illustrates an example environmental adaptation system (adaptation system) 100, arranged in accordance with at least one embodiment described herein. The adaptation system 100 may be configured to enable adaptation of an environment 102 to promote health and wellness of an individual 104 positioned or otherwise engaged in the environment 102. In some embodiments, the health and wellness of the individual 104 may include an optimal biological state 120 for the individual 104 while performing an activity in the environment 102. The optimal biological state 120 may include one or more biological conditions 124 within optimal ranges and/or in optimal combinations. For example, the biological conditions 124 may include, but are not limited to, a state of mental alertness, a physical position, a physical position of a body part, a level of stress, a heart rate, a blood

pressure, a breathing rate, a perspiration level, a body temperature level, and the like.

When the environment **102** is optimized for the health and wellness of the individual **104**, the optimal biological state **120** may exist in the environment **102**. The optimal biological state **120** may include multiple environmental conditions **126** within optimal ranges and/or in optimal combinations. The environmental conditions **126** may include, but are not limited to, an ambient condition such as temperature, humidity, barometric pressure, fluid motion, sound level, lighting level, a position or operating condition of a piece of equipment in the environment **102**, and the like. The optimal biological state **120** and/or the optimal environmental state **122** (collectively, optimal states **120/122**) may be defined in a health and wellness policy (policy) **114**. For example, one or more of the biological conditions **124**, the environmental conditions **126**, optimal ranges thereof, and optimal combinations thereof may be defined in the policy **114**.

In the adaptation system **100**, biological sensors **106A** and **106B** (generally, biological sensor **106** or biological sensors **106**) may be configured to measure one or more biological conditions of the individual **104**. In some instances, a single biological sensor **106** may measure multiple biological conditions of the individual **104**. Additionally, environmental sensors **108A** and **108B** (generally, environmental sensor **108** or environmental sensors **108**) may be configured to measure one or more environmental conditions of the environment **102**. In some instances, a single environmental sensor **108** may measure multiple environmental conditions of the individual **104**. To determine whether the optimal states **120/122** exist in the environment **102**, the sensor data collected from the biological sensors **106** and the environmental sensors **108** may be compared to the optimal states **120/122** defined in the policy **114**. The collection of the sensor data and comparison to the optimal states **120/122** may occur continuously and the environment **102** may be adapted based on the continuously collected sensor data. Accordingly, the environment **102** may dynamically adapt to the individual **104**.

As depicted in FIG. 1, the adaptation system **100** may include the environmental sensors **108**, the biological sensors **106**, an adaptation device **112**, an environmental device regulator (regulator) **116**, and a network **140**. In the adaptation system **100**, the environmental sensors **108**, the biological sensors **106**, the adaptation device **112**, and the regulator **116** may communicate via the network **140**. Additionally, in the adaptation system **100**, adaptation modules **110A-110B** (generally, adaptation module **110** or adaptation modules **110**) may be included in the regulator **116** and/or the adaptation device **112**. The adaptation modules **110** may be configured to determine whether to adapt the environment **102** and/or how to adapt or enable adaptation of the environment **102** based on sensor data from the environmental sensors **108** and/or the biological sensors **106**. Additionally, the adaptation modules **110** may be configured to enable communication of the sensor data from the biological sensors **106** and the environmental sensors **108** to the adaptation modules **110** via the network **140**.

The network **140** may be wired or wireless and may have numerous different configurations including, but not limited to, a star configuration, token ring configuration, or other configurations. Furthermore, the network **140** may include a local area network (LAN), a wide area network (WAN) (e.g., the Internet), and/or other interconnected data paths across which multiple devices may communicate. In some embodiments, the network **140** may be a peer-to-peer network. The network **140** may also be coupled to or include portions of

a telecommunications network that may enable communication of data in a variety of different communication protocols.

In some embodiments, the network **140** includes BLUETOOTH® communication networks and/or cellular communications networks for sending and receiving data including via short messaging service (SMS), multimedia messaging service (MMS), hypertext transfer protocol (HTTP), direct data connection, wireless application protocol (WAP), e-mail, etc. In some embodiments, the network **140** may enable communication, at least partially, of commands to an environmental device **118**. The commands may be formatted according to a standard-based protocol such as smart energy profile (SEP), Echonet Lite, OpenADR, or another suitable protocol (e.g., wireless fidelity (Wi-Fi), ZigBee, HomePlug Green, etc.).

The individual **104** may include a person to which the environment **102** may be adapted. The individual **104** may be positioned in or otherwise engaged with the environment **102**. The environment **102** may be adapted to an average person, which may be defined in the policy **114**, and/or may be at least partially adapted specifically to the individual **104**. For example, the individual **104** may have one or more specific preferences, circumstances, or conditions, which may be ascertained and factored into the adaptation of the environment **102**. For instance, the individual **104** may be afflicted with an illness, which may be ascertained by the adaptation module **110A** based on the sensor data from the biological sensors **106** and may be factored into adaptation of the environment **102**.

As depicted in FIG. 1, the adaptation system **100** may be configured to adapt the environment **102** to the individual **104**. In some embodiments, multiple individuals similar to and/or including the individual **104** may be positioned in or otherwise engaged with the environment **102**. In these and other embodiments, the environment **102** may be adapted for one of the individuals, may be adapted based on an average of one or more biological conditions of the individuals, may prioritize a subset of the individuals, or some combination thereof.

For instance, the environment **102** may be a dorm room shared by three individuals. A first individual may be sensitive to temperature, a second individual may be sensitive to humidity, and a third individual may be sensitive to noise. None of the three individuals may be particularly sensitive to light. During a period of time in which the three individuals are sleeping, the environment **102** may be adapted according to the temperature sensitivity of the first individual, the humidity sensitivity of the second individual, and the noise sensitivity of the third individual. Additionally, the environment **102** may be adapted according to an average light sensitivity of the three individuals. Additionally or alternatively, some embodiments may adapt the environment **102** to one or more pieces of equipment, one or more animals, one or more plants, or some combination thereof.

The environment **102** may include any setting in which the individual **104** may exist and/or perform an activity. Additionally, the environment **102** may include a sub-environment, which may be independently or conditionally adapted. Additionally or alternatively, the environment **102** may be the sub-environment of a larger environment that may be independently or conditionally adapted. For example, a first environment may include an office in which the individual **104** works. A second environment may include a chair in which the individual **104** sits in the office. The office may be adapted for the individual **104** (e.g., temperature, humidity, fluid flow, etc.) and the chair may be

adapted for the individual **104** (e.g., tilt, height, etc.). Some examples of the environment **102** may include, but are not limited to, a sleep environment, a residence, an office, an ergonomic environment, a driving environment (e.g., an automobile or a vehicle), a refrigerator, and an ergonomic environment.

The biological sensors **106** may include and/or may be communicatively coupled to a device that includes a memory, a processor, and network communication capabilities. Each of the biological sensors **106** may include any device configured to measure one or more biological conditions of the individual **104** or to measure a state of the individual **104** or an object that may be indicative of one or more biological conditions of the individual **104**. The biological sensors **106** may perform a measurement and may communicate a signal indicative of the measurement to the adaptation module **110A** of the adaptation device **112** via the network **140**. Additionally or alternatively, the biological sensors **106** may perform a measurement and may determine a biological condition of the individual **104**. The biological sensors **106** may then communicate a signal indicative of the biological condition to the adaptation module **110A**.

The biological sensors **106** may be associated with the individual **104** such that the biological sensors **106** may make measurements of the individual **104**. The biological sensors **106** may be mounted to and/or carried by the individual **104**. For instance, the biological sensors **106** may be included in a bracelet, an adhesive electrode, an ear clip, a finger clip, an armband, a necklace, a pocket-sized (or smaller) sensor, or other sensor that the individual **104** wears and/or carries. Additionally or alternatively, the biological sensors **106** may be mounted to an object that is associated with the individual **104**. For example, the biological sensors **106** may be affixed to a chair in which the individual **104** sits or may be positioned in a vehicle the individual **104** operates. Additionally or alternatively, the biological sensors **106** may observe an activity of the individual **104**. For example, the biological sensors **106** may include cameras that observe eye movement of the individual **104**. Some examples of the biological sensors **106** may include, but are not limited to, cameras, accelerometers, on-body temperature sensors, sleep activity sensors, galvanic skin response sensors, electroencephalography (EEG) sensors, blood pressure cuffs, heart rate monitors, electrocardiography (ECG) sensors, percentage of closure of the eyelid (PERCLOS) cameras, electromyography (EMG) sensors, blood glucose sensors, or other biosensors.

The environmental sensors **108** may include and/or may be communicatively coupled to a device that includes a memory, a processor, and network communication capabilities. Each of the environmental sensors **108** may include any device configured to measure one or more environmental conditions of the environment **102** or to measure a state of the environment **102** or an object that may be indicative of one or more environmental conditions of the environment **102**. The environmental sensors **108** may perform a measurement and may communicate a signal indicative of the measurement to the adaptation module **110A** via the network **140**. Additionally or alternatively, the environmental sensors **108** may perform a measurement and may determine an environmental condition of the environment **102**. The environmental sensors **108** may then communicate a signal indicative of the environmental condition to the adaptation module **110A**.

The environmental sensors **108** may be associated with the environment **102** such that the environmental sensors **108** may make measurements of the environment **102**. The

environmental sensors **108** may be mounted in the environment **102**. For example, the environmental sensors **108** may be introduced into and/or affixed to the environment **102**. Additionally or alternatively, the environmental sensors **108** may include and/or may be coupled to a subsystem of the environment **102**. For example, the environmental sensors **108** may include a steering subsystem of a vehicle. Additionally or alternatively, the environmental sensors **108** may receive information pertaining to the environment **102**. For example, the environmental sensors **108** may access traffic information pertaining to a vehicle. Additionally or alternatively, the environmental sensors **108** may observe an activity occurring in the environment **102**. For example, the environment **102** may include a refrigerator associated with the individual **104**. The environmental sensors **108** may include positional sensors affixed to foodstuffs that indicate whether the foodstuffs are present in the environment **102**. Some examples of the environmental sensors **108** may include, but are not limited to, cameras, accelerometers, thermometers, humidity sensors, light sensors, barometric sensors, air quality sensors, noise sensors, and positional sensors affixed to objects.

The environmental sensors **108** and/or the biological sensors **106** may perform measurements continuously, periodically, randomly, pseudo-randomly, or on-demand. Additionally, the environmental sensors **108** and/or the biological sensors **106** may communicate signals to the adaptation module **110A** continuously, periodically, randomly, pseudo-randomly, or on-demand. Accordingly, the adaptation module **110A** may have real-time or substantially real-time sensor data pertaining to the individual **104** and the environment **102**. As used herein the term “substantially real time” means without a material delay. Thus, the environment **102** may be dynamically adapted continuously, periodically, randomly, pseudo-randomly, or on-demand.

One or more environmental conditions of the environment **102** may be affected through operation of the environmental device **118**. Thus, operation of the environmental device **118** may enable adaptation of the environment **102**. The environmental device **118** may be positioned in or near the environment **102** or may be related to the environment **102** to affect one or more environmental conditions therein. Some examples of the environmental device **118** may include, but are not limited to, an HVAC component, a filtering mechanism, a humidifier, a light, a speaker, an actuator that controls a position of an object, an alarm, and a subsystem of a vehicle.

In some embodiments, the environmental device **118** may include and/or may be communicatively coupled to a device that includes a memory, a processor, and network communication capabilities. Accordingly, in these and other embodiments, the environmental device **118** may communicate information such as operational state, acknowledgement of received commands, and the like to the adaptation module **110A** and/or the adaptation module **110B**. Additionally, in embodiments including network communication capabilities, the environmental device **118** may communicate the information via the network **140**.

The operation of the environmental device **118** may be controlled by the regulator **116**. The regulator **116** may include any device that may affect and/or control operation of the environmental device **118**. The regulator **116** may include and/or may be communicatively coupled to a device that includes a memory, a processor, and network communication capabilities. The regulator **116** may include the adaptation module **110B**. The adaptation module **110B** may be configured to receive commands from the adaptation

module **110A** via the network **140**. The adaptation module **110B** may then communicate the commands to the environmental device **118**. In the depicted adaptation system **100**, the communication of the command may or may not be via the network **140**. Some examples of the regulator **116** may include a thermostat, a switch coupled to an actuator, a dimmer switch, and a humidifier setting switch.

In some embodiments, the regulator **116** and the environmental device **118** may be included in a single component. For example, the adaptation module **110B** that receives a command from the adaptation module **110A** may be incorporated in the environmental device **118**. The environmental device **118** may implement the command locally rather than perform an additional communication. Additionally or alternatively, the regulator **116** and/or the environmental device **118** may be located in the environment **102**.

The adaptation device **112** may include any device or server configured to collect sensor data from the biological sensors **106** and the environmental sensors **108**, process the sensor data, and generate a command configured to alter an operational state of the environmental device **118** based on the processed sensor data. In some embodiments, the adaptation device **112** may include a computing device that includes a processor, a memory, and network communication capabilities. Some specific examples of the adaptation device **112** may include a hardware server, a laptop computer, a desktop computer, a tablet computer, a mobile telephone, a smartphone, a personal digital assistant (PDA), a mobile e-mail device, a portable game player, a portable music player, a television with one or more processors embedded therein or coupled thereto, or other electronic device capable of processing data and accessing and communicating via the network **140**.

In some embodiments, the adaptation device **112** may include the adaptation module **110A**. The adaptation module **110A** may be configured to collect the sensor data from the biological sensors **106** and the environmental sensors **108** via the network **140**. In some embodiments, the sensor data may be transmitted by the biological sensors **106** and/or the environmental sensors **108**. Additionally or alternatively, the adaptation module **110A** may harvest the sensor data from the biological sensors **106** and/or the environmental sensors **108** via the network **140**.

The sensor data may be collected in data streams in some embodiments. For instance, the sensor data may be continuously collected. Thus, the sensor data may be formatted in one or more streams of data. Alternately or additionally, the sensor data may be batch transferred, which may include the sensor data formatted in batches, for instance.

The adaptation module **110A** may then process the sensor data. For example, the adaptation module **110A** may remove noise from the sensor data. Additionally or alternatively, the adaptation module **110A** may combine the sensor data. Based on the combined sensor data, the adaptation module **110A** may compute an actual environmental state of the environment **102** and/or an actual biological state of the individual **104**.

The adaptation module **110A** may then determine whether the optimal environmental state **122** exists in the environment **102** and/or whether an optimal biological state **120** of the individual **104** exists. The optimal states **120/122** may be defined in the policy **114**.

The optimal states **120/122** may be based on the type of the environment **102**, the individual **104**, an expected type of individual in the environment, a specific condition of the individual **104**, other factors, or any combination thereof. Additionally or alternatively, the optimal biological state

120 may be based on the actual biological state computed by the adaptation module **110A**. Likewise, the optimal biological state **120** may be based on the actual environmental state computed by the adaptation module **110A**. For example, the policy **114** may include multiple optimal environmental states that pertain to the environment **102** and may vary the optimal environmental states based on the actual biological state of the individual **104** and/or an activity being performed in the environment **102**. The policy **114** may further define an optimal biological state **120** that corresponds to the computed actual biological state of the individual **104**.

The policy **114** may be downloaded or otherwise accessed from a third party. The policy **114** may be statically defined or may change or learn dynamically as the individual **104** interacts in the environment **102**. In some embodiments, the policy **114** may be updatable. For instance, as biological conditions are determined to be important in the environment **102**, the policy **114** may be updated to reflect the determination. Additionally or alternatively, the policy **114** may be configured to interact with the biological sensor **106** and/or the environmental sensor **108** and then later updated to interact with other biological sensors and/or other environmental sensors.

The optimal states **120/122** may include sets of limits for the environmental conditions **126** and/or the biological conditions **124**. The limits may be configured to promote an optimal biological state **120** of the individual **104** or may be configured as an optimal biological state **120** of the individual **104**. The limits may include one or more of weighted thresholds, Boolean combinations of limits, optimal ranges including minimum and/or maximum thresholds for the environmental conditions **126**, and/or biological conditions **124**.

Based on the sensor data, the adaptation module **110A** may identify an environmental condition that differs from the optimal biological state **120**. The adaptation module **110A** may then identify a biological condition of the individual **104** that deviates from a limit of a biological condition **124** of an optimal biological state **120** and that is influenced by the identified environmental condition.

The adaptation module **110A** may then generate a command. The command may be configured to alter an operational state of the environmental device **118** that affects the environmental condition. The command may be communicated to the regulator **116**, which may then communicate the command to the environmental device **118**. The adaptation module **110A** may collect updated sensor data from the biological sensors **106** and the environmental sensors **108**. The adaptation module **110A** may then determine whether the command has placed or will place the environment **102** in the optimal biological state **120**. In response to the command not placing the environment **102** in the optimal biological state **120**, the adaptation module **110A** may identify an updated environmental condition that differs from the optimal biological state **120** and may generate an updated command configured to alter an operational state of the environmental device **118** or another environmental device (not shown) that affects the updated environmental condition.

Modifications, additions, or omissions may be made to the adaptation system **100** without departing from the scope of the present disclosure. Specifically, in embodiments depicted in FIG. 1 the adaptation system **100** may adapt one environment **102** to one individual **104**, based on sensor data from two biological sensors **106** and two environmental sensors **108**. The sensor data may be received by one environmental device **118**, and commands may be commu-

nicated to one regulator **116** to affect operation of one adaptation device **112**. However, the present disclosure applies to an adaptation system architecture that adapts one or more environments to one or more individuals based on sensor data one or more biological sensors (e.g., one biological sensor measuring multiple biological conditions) and one or more environmental sensors (e.g., one environmental sensor measuring multiple environmental conditions). The sensor data may be received by one or more adaptation devices that may communicate commands to one or more regulators to affect operation of one or more environmental devices.

Moreover, the separation of various components in the embodiments described herein is not meant to indicate that the separation occurs or exists in all embodiments. Moreover, it may be understood with the benefit of this disclosure that the described components and servers may be integrated together in a single component or server or implemented separately as multiple components or servers.

The adaptation modules **110** may include code and routines for adaptation of the environment **102**. In some embodiments, the adaptation modules **110** act in part as a thin-client application that may be stored on the adaptation device **112** and in part as components that may be stored on the regulator **116** of the adaptation system **100**. In some embodiments, the adaptation modules **110** may be implemented using hardware including a field-programmable gate array (FPGA) or an application-specific integrated circuit (ASIC). In some other instances, the adaptation modules **110** may be implemented using a combination of hardware and software. In some embodiments, the adaptation modules **110** may be stored in a combination of the adaptation device **112** and the regulator **116**.

In the adaptation system **100**, memory (e.g., memory included in one or more of the biological sensors **106**, the environmental sensors **108**, the environmental device **118**, the regulator **116**, and the adaptation device **112**) may include a non-transitory memory that stores data for providing the functionality described herein. The memory may be included in storage that may be a dynamic random access memory (DRAM) device, a static random access memory (SRAM) device, flash memory, or some other memory devices. In some embodiments, the storage also includes a non-volatile memory or similar permanent storage device and media including a hard disk drive, a floppy disk drive, a CD-ROM device, a DVD-ROM device, a DVD-RAM device, a DVD-RW device, a flash memory device, or some other mass storage device for storing information on a more permanent basis.

Referring now to FIG. 2, an example of the adaptation module **110** is shown in more detail. FIG. 2 is a block diagram of a computing device **200** that includes the adaptation module **110**, a processor **224**, a memory **222**, and a communication unit **226**. The components of the computing device **200** may be communicatively coupled by a bus **220**. In some embodiments, the computing device **200** may include the adaptation device **112** and/or the regulator **116** of the adaptation system **100** of FIG. 1.

With combined reference to FIGS. 1 and 2, the processor **224** may include an arithmetic logic unit (ALU), a micro-processor, a general-purpose controller, or some other processor array to perform computations and environment adaptation. The processor **224** may be coupled to the bus **220** via a signal line **248** for communication with the other components (e.g., **110**, **226**, and **222**). The processor **224** generally processes data signals and may include various computing architectures including a complex instruction set

computer (CISC) architecture, a reduced instruction set computer (RISC) architecture, or an architecture implementing a combination of instruction sets. Although FIG. 2 includes a single processor **224**, multiple processors may be included in the computing device **200**. Other processors, operating systems, and physical configurations may be possible.

The memory **222** may be configured to store instructions and/or data that may be executed by the processor **224**. The memory **222** may be coupled to the bus **220** via a signal line **250** for communication with the other components. The instructions and/or data may include code for performing the techniques or methods described herein. The memory **222** may be a DRAM device, an SRAM device, flash memory, or some other memory device. In some embodiments, the memory **222** also includes a non-volatile memory or similar permanent storage device and media including a hard disk drive, a floppy disk drive, a CD-ROM device, a DVD-ROM device, a DVD-RAM device, a DVD-RW device, a flash memory device, or some other mass storage device for storing information on a more permanent basis.

In the depicted embodiment, the memory **222** includes the policy **114**. The policy **114** may define optimal states **120/122**. The policy **114** may be configured to enable access to the optimal states **120/122** during the adaptation of the environment **102**. The policy **114** is depicted as part of the memory **222** of the computing device **200**. In some embodiments, the policy **114** or some portion of the policy **114** may be stored remotely and accessed remotely via the network **140**.

The communication unit **226** may be configured to transmit and receive data to and from at least one of the biological sensors **106**, the environmental sensors **108**, the environmental device **118**, the regulator **116**, and the adaptation device **112** depending upon where the adaptation module **110** is stored. The communication unit **226** may be coupled to the bus **220** via a signal line **254**. In some embodiments, the communication unit **226** includes a port for direct physical connection to the network **140** or to another communication channel. For example, the communication unit **226** may include a USB, SD, CAT-5, or similar port for wired communication with the components of the adaptation system **100**. In some embodiments, the communication unit **226** includes a wireless transceiver for exchanging data via communication channels using one or more wireless communication methods, including IEEE 802.11, IEEE 802.16, BLUETOOTH®, or another suitable wireless communication method.

In some embodiments, the communication unit **226** includes a cellular communications transceiver for sending and receiving data over a cellular communications network including via SMS, MMS, HTTP, direct data connection, WAP, e-mail, or another suitable type of electronic communication. In some embodiments, the communication unit **226** includes a wired port and a wireless transceiver. The communication unit **226** may also provide other conventional connections to the network **140** for distribution of files and/or media objects using standard network protocols including transmission control protocol/internet protocol (TCP/IP), HTTP, HTTP secure (HTTPS), and simple mail transfer protocol (SMTP), etc.

In the embodiment of FIG. 2, the adaptation module **110** may include a communication module **202**, a computation module **204**, a generation module **206**, a process module **208**, a determination module **210**, and an identification module **212**, which are collectively referred to in FIG. 2 as modules **256**. One or more of the modules **256** may be

implemented as software including one or more routines configured to perform one or more operations. The modules 256 may include a set of instructions executable by the processor 224 to provide the functionality described below. In some instances, the modules 256 may be stored in or at least temporarily loaded into the memory 222 of the computing device 200 and may be accessible and executable by the processor 224. One or more of the modules 256 may be adapted for cooperation and communication with the processor 224 and components of the computing device 200 via the bus 220.

The communication module 202 may be configured to handle communications between the adaptation module 110 and other components of the computing device 200 (e.g., 224, 222, and 226). The communication module 202 may be configured to send and receive data, via the communication unit 226, to and from one or more of the biological sensors 106, the environmental sensors 108, the environmental device 118, the regulator 116, and the adaptation device 112. In some instances, the communication module 202 may cooperate with the other modules (e.g., 204, 206, 208, 210, and 212) to receive and/or forward, via the communication unit 226, data from the components of the adaptation system 100.

In some embodiments, the communication module 202 may be configured to collect sensor data 236. The sensor data 236 may include biological data 232 collected from the biological sensors 106 and environmental data 234 collected from the environmental sensors 108. The sensor data 236 may be collected via the network 140 and the communication unit 226. The communication module 202 may communicate the sensor data 236 to the process module 208.

The process module 208 may be configured to process the sensor data 236. In some embodiments, the process module 208 receives the sensor data 236 and removes noise from the sensor data 236. For example, the noise may be due to distortion of a value or an addition of spurious values. One or more techniques from signal processing algorithms or image processing algorithms such as smoothing algorithms or filters may be used to reduce the noise. The noise with deterministic patterns or artifacts may be identified and handle appropriately.

The signal processing algorithms may be different based on the specific type of the environmental sensors 108 and/or the specific type of the biological sensors 106. For example, an ECG may have specific noise removal techniques that may include adaptive recurrent filtering, low-pass filtering with a cut-off frequency, adaptive filtering, notch filtering, or any combination thereof. In some embodiments, the environmental sensors 108 and/or the biological sensors 106 may process or partially process the sensor data 236 prior to communication to the computing device 200.

Additionally, in some embodiments, the quality of the data may be compromised with missing values during the measurements. One or more techniques may be implemented to detect missing values and correct them. For example, the process module 208 may interpolate the sensor data 236 to estimate a missing value.

Additionally or alternatively, the process module 208 may combine the sensor data 236. For example, the sensor data 236 may be received from multiple sensors. The sensor data 236 may be combined in a central hub and/or time synchronized. The process module 208 may communicate the combined sensor data 236 to the computation module 204. In some embodiments, the sensor data 236 may be combined at least partially as described in U.S. patent application Ser.

No. 13/107,697, which was filed May 13, 2011 and is incorporated herein by reference in its entirety.

The computation module 204 may be configured to compute an actual environmental state of the environment 102 and an actual biological state of the individual 104 (collectively, actual states) based on the combined sensor data. The actual states may include, for example, an activity of the individual 104 (e.g., the individual 104 is driving), a state of the individual 104 (e.g., the individual 104 is tired or sick), an activity of the environment 102 (e.g., the environment 102, which is a vehicle, is driving), or a state of the environment 102 (e.g., the environment 102, which is an office, is open or closed). The actual states may be computed from the sensor data 236. A signal indicating the actual states may be communicated to the determination module 210.

The determination module 210 may be configured to determine whether the optimal states 120/122 exist in the environment 102. The optimal states 120/122 may be defined according to the policy 114. The determination module 210 may communicate a signal indicating whether the optimal states 120/122 exist to the identification module 212.

The identification module 212 may be configured to identify conditions that differ from the optimal states 120/122. For example, in response to the optimal states 120/122 not existing in the environment 102, the identification module 212 may identify an environmental condition that differs from the optimal biological state 120. Additionally, the identification module 212 may identify a biological condition that deviates from a limit of a biological condition 124 defined in the optimal biological state 120 and is influenced by the environmental condition. The identification module 212 may communicate the environmental condition and/or the biological condition to the generation module 206.

The generation module 206 may generate a command. The command may be configured to alter an operational state of the environmental device 118 that affects the environmental condition. The generation module 206 may communicate the command to the communication module 202 that may communicate the command to the regulator 116 via the network 140 and/or the communication unit 226.

The communication module 202 may then collect updated sensor data 238. The updated sensor data 238 may include the biological data 232 and the environmental data 234. The determination module 210 may determine whether the command placed the environment 102 in the optimal biological state 120. In response to the command not having placed the environment in the optimal biological state 120, the identification module 212 may identify an updated environmental condition that differs from the optimal biological state 120. Additionally, the generation module 206 may generate an updated command configured to alter a second operational state of the environmental device 118 or another environmental device that affects the updated environmental condition.

FIG. 3 is a flow diagram of an example method 300 of adapting an environment, arranged in accordance with at least one embodiment described herein. The method 300 may be performed in an adaptation system such as the adaptation system 100 of FIG. 1 to control an environment. Some example environments that may be adapted according to the method 300 of FIG. 3 may include, but are not limited to, a vehicle environment, an office environment, an ergonomics environment, and a sleep environment.

The method 300 may be programmably performed in some embodiments by the computing device 200 described with reference to FIG. 2. Additionally or alternatively, the

method 300 may be programmably performed by the adaptation device 112. The adaptation device 112 and/or the computing device 200 may include or may be communicatively coupled to a non-transitory computer-readable medium (e.g., the memory 222 of FIG. 2) having stored thereon or encoded therein programming code or instructions that are executable by a processor to perform or cause performance of the method 300. Additionally or alternatively, the adaptation device 112 and/or the computing device 200 may include a processor (e.g., the processor 224 of FIG. 2) that is configured to execute computer instructions to cause or control performance of the method 300. Although illustrated as discrete blocks, various blocks may be divided into additional blocks, combined into fewer blocks, or eliminated, depending on the desired implementation.

At block 302, sensor data may be collected. The sensor data may be collected from one or more biological sensors and/or one or more environmental sensors. For example, with reference to FIG. 1, the adaptation module 110A may collect the sensor data from the biological sensors 106 and the environmental sensors 108.

At block 304, noise may be removed from the sensor data. At block 306, the sensor data may be combined. For example, with reference to FIG. 1, the sensor data may be collected by the adaptation module 110A. The adaptation module 110A may remove the noise from the sensor data and may combine the sensor data.

At block 308, an actual environmental state of the environment and an actual biological state of an individual may be computed. The actual environmental state and the actual biological state may be based on the combined sensor data. For example, with reference to FIG. 1, the adaptation module 110A may compute the actual environmental state of the environment 102 and the actual biological state of the individual 104 based on sensor data collected from the biological sensors 106 and the environmental sensors 108.

At block 310, it may be determined whether the optimal environmental state exists in the environment. The optimal environmental state may be defined in a policy. The optimal environmental state may include limits for one or more environmental conditions configured to promote an optimal biological state of the individual while performing an activity in the environment. The limits may include one or more of weighted thresholds, Boolean combinations of the limits, and optimal ranges such minimum and/or maximum thresholds for one or more environmental conditions. For example, with reference to FIG. 1, the adaptation module 110A may determine whether the optimal biological state 120 exists in the environment 102 by comparing measured environmental conditions to the environmental conditions 126 included in the optimal biological state 120 defined in the policy 114.

In response to the optimal environmental state existing ("Yes" at block 310), the method 300 may proceed to block 302. In response to the optimal environment state not existing ("No" at block 310), the method 300 may proceed to block 312.

At block 312, an environmental condition that differs from the optimal environmental state may be identified. At block 314, a biological condition may be identified. The biological condition may exceed a limit of an optimal biological condition of an optimal biological state and may be influenced by the environmental condition. The optimal biological state may be defined by the policy. For example, with reference to FIG. 1, the adaptation module 110A may identify the environmental condition that differs from the optimal environmental state 122 of the environment 102 and

the biological condition that differs from the optimal biological state 120 of the individual 104.

At block 316, a command may be generated. The command may be configured to alter an operational state of an environmental device that affects the environmental condition. For example, with reference to FIG. 1, the adaptation module 110A may generate a command configured to alter an operational state of the environmental device 118.

At block 318, the command may be communicated to a regulator to affect the environmental condition. For example, with reference to FIG. 1, the adaptation module 110A may communicate the command to the regulator 116 via the network 140. The method 300 may continue to block 302 in which updated sensor data may be collected. One or more of the operations or steps discussed with reference to blocks 304, 306, 308, 310, 312, 314, 316, and 318 may be repeated using the updated sensor data.

One skilled in the art will appreciate that, for this and other procedures and methods disclosed herein, the functions performed in the processes and methods may be implemented in differing order. Furthermore, the outlined steps and operations are only provided as examples, and some of the steps and operations may be optional, combined into fewer steps and operations, or expanded into additional steps and operations without detracting from the disclosed embodiments.

FIG. 4 is a flow diagram of an example method 400 for adapting a sleep environment, arranged in accordance with at least one embodiment described herein. The method 400 may be performed in an adaptation system such as the adaptation system 100 of FIG. 1.

The method 400 may be programmably performed in some embodiments by the computing device 200 described with reference to FIG. 2. Additionally or alternatively, the method 400 may be programmably performed by the adaptation device 112. The adaptation device 112 and/or the computing device 200 may include or may be communicatively coupled to a non-transitory computer-readable medium (e.g., the memory 222 of FIG. 2) having stored thereon or encoded therein programming code or instructions that are executable by a processor to perform or cause performance of the method 400. Additionally or alternatively, the adaptation device 112 and/or the computing device 200 may include a processor (e.g., the processor 224 of FIG. 2) that is configured to execute computer instructions to cause or control performance of the method 400. Although illustrated as discrete blocks, various blocks may be divided into additional blocks, combined into fewer blocks, or eliminated, depending on the desired implementation.

At block 402, biological sensor data may be collected. In some embodiments, the biological sensor data may be collected from one or more of an EEG sensor, a body temperature sensor, a galvanic skin response sensor, and a sleep activity sensor.

At block 404, environmental sensor data may be collected. In some embodiments, the environmental sensor data may be collected from one or more of an ambient room temperature sensor, a humidity sensor, a light sensor, an audio sensor, a weather environmental sensor, and an environmental allergy sensor.

At block 406, it may be determined whether sleep is detected. In response to sleep not being detected, ("No" at 406), the method 400 may proceed to block 402 and may repeat one or more of blocks 402, 404, and 406 until sleep is detected. In response to sleep being detected, ("Yes" at 406), the method 400 may proceed to block 408. At block

408, it may be determined whether a measured sweat level is above a threshold ("Is Sweat>Threshold?"). In response to the measured sweat level being above the threshold ("Yes" at 408), the method 400 may proceed to block 412. At block 412, it may be determined whether a measured humidity level is between a minimum threshold and a maximum threshold ("Min. Threshold<Humidity<Max. Threshold?"). In response to the measured humidity level not being between the minimum threshold and the maximum threshold ("No" at 412), the method 400 may proceed to block 416. At block 416, a command may be generated to adjust a humidifier ("Adjust Humidifier").

In response to the measured sweat level being below the threshold ("No" at 408), the method 400 may proceed to block 410. At block 410, it may be determined whether a measured body temperature is between a minimum threshold and a maximum threshold ("Min. Threshold<Body Temp.<Max.Threshold?").

In response to the measured body temperature not being between the minimum threshold and the maximum threshold ("No" at 410), the method 400 may proceed to block 414. At block 414, it may be determined whether a measured room temperature is between a minimum threshold and a maximum threshold ("Min. Threshold<Room Temp.<Max. Threshold?"). In response to the measure room temperature not being between the minimum threshold and the maximum threshold ("No" at 414), the method 400 may proceed to block 418. At block 418, a command to adjust a thermostat ("Adjust Thermostat") may be generated.

In response to the measure body temperature being between the minimum threshold and the maximum threshold ("Yes" at 410), the method 400 may proceed to block 406. In response to the measured humidity being between the minimum threshold and the maximum threshold ("Yes" at 412), the method 400 may proceed from block 412 to block 414. Additionally, in response to the measured room temperature being between the minimum threshold and the maximum threshold ("Yes" at 414), the method 400 may proceed from block 414 to block 412.

In FIG. 4, the blocks 406, 408, and 410 may be included in or defined in an optimal biological state 420. Additionally, block 412 and block 414 may be included in or defined in an optimal environmental state 422, and the blocks 416 and 418 may be commands 424. Additionally still, blocks 406, 408, 410, 412, 414, 416, and 418 may be included in or defined in a policy 426. In some embodiments, the optimal biological state 420 may include more blocks that may include more thresholds of other biological conditions. Additionally or alternatively, the optimal environmental state 422 may include more blocks that may include more thresholds of other environmental conditions. Additionally or alternatively, the commands 424 may include more blocks with more commands.

FIG. 5 is a flow diagram of an example method 500 for adapting an ergonomic environment, arranged in accordance with at least one embodiment described herein. The method 500 may be performed in an adaptation system such as the adaptation system 100 of FIG. 1.

The method 500 may be programmably performed in some embodiments by the computing device 200 described with reference to FIG. 2. Additionally or alternatively, the method 500 may be programmably performed by the adaptation device 112. The adaptation device 112 and/or the computing device 200 may include or may be communicatively coupled to a non-transitory computer-readable medium (e.g., the memory 222 of FIG. 2) having stored thereon or encoded therein programming code or instruc-

tions that are executable by a processor to perform or cause performance of the method 300. Additionally or alternatively, the adaptation device 112 and/or the computing device 200 may include a processor (e.g., the processor 224 of FIG. 2) that is configured to execute computer instructions to cause or control performance of the method 500. Although illustrated as discrete blocks, various blocks may be divided into additional blocks, combined into fewer blocks, or eliminated, depending on the desired implementation.

At block 502, biological sensor data may be collected. In some embodiments, the biological sensor data may be collected from one or more of an ECG sensor, an EMG sensor, and multiple accelerometers.

At block 504, environmental sensor data may be collected. In some embodiments, the environmental sensor data may be collected from one or more of a seat height sensor, a seat position sensor, a back tilt sensor, a knee tilt sensor, and a desk height sensor.

At block 506, it may be determined whether an individual is present in a chair. In response to the individual not being present in the chair, ("No" at 506), the method 500 may proceed to block 502 and may repeat one or more of blocks 502, 504, and 506 until the individual is present in the chair. In response to the individual being present in the chair, ("Yes" at 506), the method 500 may proceed to block 508. At block 508, it may be determined whether a measured muscle strain is above a threshold ("Is Muscle Strain>Threshold?"). In response to the measured muscle strain being above the threshold ("Yes" at 508), the method 500 may proceed to block 512. At block 512, it may be determined whether a measured seat position is between a minimum threshold and a maximum threshold ("Min. Threshold<Seat Position<Max. Threshold?"). In response to the measured seat position not being between the minimum threshold and the maximum threshold ("No" at 512), the method 500 may proceed to block 516. At block 516, a command may be generated to adjust a seat position ("Adjust Seat Position"). The command may be communicated to an actuator that adjusts a seat position.

In response to the measured muscle strain being below the threshold ("No" at 508), the method 500 may proceed to block 510. At block 510, it may be determined whether a posture is between a minimum threshold and a maximum threshold ("Min. Threshold<Posture<Max. Threshold?").

In response to the measured posture not being between the minimum threshold and the maximum threshold ("No" at 510), the method 500 may proceed to block 514. At block 514, it may be determined whether a measured desk height is between a minimum threshold and a maximum threshold ("Min. Threshold<Desk Height<Max. Threshold?"). In response to the measured desk height not being between the minimum threshold and the maximum threshold ("No" at 514), the method 500 may proceed to block 518. At block 518, a command to adjust a desk height ("Adjust Desk Height") may be generated. The command may be communicated to an actuator that adjusts a height of a desk.

In response to the measured posture being between the minimum threshold and the maximum threshold ("Yes" at 510), the method 500 may proceed to block 506. In response to the measured seat position being between the minimum threshold and the maximum threshold ("Yes" at 512), the method 500 may proceed from block 512 to block 514. Additionally, in response to the measured desk height being between the minimum threshold and the maximum threshold ("Yes" at 514), the method 500 may proceed from block 514 to block 512.

In FIG. 5, the blocks 506, 508, and 510 may be included in or defined in an optimal biological state 520. Additionally, block 512 and block 514 may be included in or defined in an optimal environmental state 522 and blocks 516 and 518 may be commands 524. Additionally still, blocks 506, 508, 510, 512, 514, 516, and 518 may be included in or defined by a policy 526. In some embodiments, the optimal biological state 520 may include more blocks that may include more thresholds of other biological conditions. Additionally or alternatively, the optimal environmental state 522 may include more blocks that may include more thresholds of other environmental conditions. Additionally or alternatively, the commands 524 may include more blocks with more commands.

FIG. 6 is a flow diagram of an example method 600 for adapting a driving environment, arranged in accordance with at least one embodiment described herein. The method 600 may be performed in an adaptation system such as the adaptation system 100 of FIG. 1.

The method 600 may be programmably performed in some embodiments by the computing device 200 described with reference to FIG. 2. Additionally or alternatively, the method 400 may be programmably performed by the adaptation device 112. The adaptation device 112 and/or the computing device 200 may include or may be communicatively coupled to a non-transitory computer-readable medium (e.g., the memory 222 of FIG. 2) having stored thereon or encoded therein programming code or instructions that are executable by a processor to perform or cause performance of the method 600. Additionally or alternatively, the adaptation device 112 and/or the computing device 200 may include a processor (e.g., the processor 224 of FIG. 2) that is configured to execute computer instructions to cause or control performance of the method 600. Although illustrated as discrete blocks, various blocks may be divided into additional blocks, combined into fewer blocks, or eliminated, depending on the desired implementation.

At block 602, biological sensor data may be collected. In some embodiments, the biological sensor data may be collected from one or more of an ECG sensor, a camera, and a driving quality sensor.

At block 604, environmental sensor data may be collected. In some embodiments, the environmental sensor data may be collected from one or more of traffic site and weather sensors.

At block 606, it may be determined whether a driver is detected. In response to the driver not being detected, ("No" at 606), the method 600 may proceed to block 602 and may repeat one or more of blocks 602, 604, and 606 until the driver is detected. In response to the driver being detected, ("Yes" at 606), the method 600 may proceed to block 608. At block 608, it may be determined whether a measured PERCLOS level is below a threshold ("Is PERCLOS<Threshold?"). In response to the PERCLOS level being below the threshold ("Yes" at 608), the method 600 may proceed to block 612. At block 612, it may be determined whether traffic conditions are between a minimum threshold and a maximum threshold ("Min. Threshold<Traffic<Max. Threshold?"). In response to the traffic conditions not being between the minimum threshold and the maximum threshold ("No" at 612), the method 600 may proceed to block 616. At block 616, a command may be generated to adjust an ambient condition of a vehicle ("Adjust Ambient Condition").

In response to the measured PERCLOS level being above the threshold ("No" at 608), the method 600 may proceed to

block 610. At block 610, it may be determined whether a measured stress level is between a minimum threshold and a maximum threshold ("Min. Threshold<Stress Level<Max. Threshold?").

In response to the measured stress level not being between the minimum threshold and the maximum threshold ("No" at 610), the method 600 may proceed to block 614. At block 614, it may be determined whether a weather condition is between a minimum threshold and a maximum threshold ("Min. Threshold<Weather<Max. Threshold?"). In response to the weather condition not being between the minimum threshold and the maximum threshold ("No" at 614), the method 600 may proceed to block 618. At block 618, a command to produce an alert ("Produce An Alert") may be generated.

In response to the measure stress level being between the minimum threshold and the maximum threshold ("Yes" at 610), the method 600 may proceed to block 606. In response to the traffic conditions being between the minimum threshold and the maximum threshold ("Yes" at 612), the method 600 may proceed from block 612 to block 614. Additionally, in response to the weather condition being between the minimum threshold and the maximum threshold ("Yes" at 614), the method 600 may proceed from block 614 to block 612.

In FIG. 6, the blocks 606, 608, and 610 may be included in or defined in an optimal biological state 620. Additionally, block 612 and block 614 may be included in or defined in an optimal environmental state 622, and the blocks 616 and 618 may be commands 624. Additionally still, blocks 606, 608, 610, 612, 614, 616, and 618 may be included in or defined in a policy 626. In some embodiments, the optimal biological state 620 may include more blocks that may include more thresholds of other biological conditions. Additionally or alternatively, the optimal environmental state 622 may include more blocks that may include more thresholds of other environmental conditions. Additionally or alternatively, the commands 624 may include more blocks with more commands.

The embodiments described herein may include the use of a special-purpose or general-purpose computer including various computer hardware or software modules, as discussed in greater detail below.

Embodiments described herein may be implemented using computer-readable media for carrying or having computer-executable instructions or data structures stored thereon. Such computer-readable media may be any available media that may be accessed by a general-purpose or special-purpose computer. By way of example, and not limitation, such computer-readable media may include tangible or non-transitory computer-readable storage media including RAM, ROM, EEPROM, CD-ROM or other optical disk storage, magnetic disk storage or other magnetic storage devices, or any other non-transitory storage medium which may be used to carry or store desired program code in the form of computer-executable instructions or data structures and which may be accessed by a general-purpose or special-purpose computer. Combinations of the above may also be included within the scope of computer-readable media.

Computer-executable instructions comprise, for example, instructions and data, which cause a general-purpose computer, special-purpose computer, or special-purpose processing device to perform a certain function or group of functions. Although the subject matter has been described in language specific to structural features and/or methodological acts, it is to be understood that the subject matter defined

in the appended claims is not necessarily limited to the specific features or acts described above. Rather, the specific features and acts described above are disclosed as example forms of implementing the claims.

As used herein, the term “module” or “component” may refer to software objects or routines that execute on the computing system. The different components, modules, engines, and services described herein may be implemented as objects or processes that execute on the computing system (e.g., as separate threads). While the system and methods described herein are preferably implemented in software, implementations in hardware or a combination of software and hardware are also possible and contemplated. In this description, a “computing entity” may be any computing system as previously defined herein, or any module or combination of modules running on a computing system.

All examples and conditional language recited herein are intended for pedagogical objects to aid the reader in understanding the invention and the concepts contributed by the inventor to furthering the art, and are to be construed as being without limitation to such specifically recited examples and conditions. Although embodiments of the present invention have been described in detail, it should be understood that the various changes, substitutions, and alterations could be made hereto without departing from the spirit and scope of the invention.

What is claimed is:

1. A method of dynamically adapting an environment, the method comprising:

collecting sensor data from one or more biological sensors and one or more environmental sensors;

removing noise from the sensor data;

combining the sensor data from the one or more biological sensors with the sensor data from the one or more environmental sensors;

based on the combined sensor data, computing an actual environmental state of an environment and an actual biological state of an individual in the environment;

based on the computed actual environmental state and the actual biological state, determining whether an optimal environmental state exists in the environment and an optimal biological state of the individual exists, the optimal environmental state and the optimal biological state being defined in a health and wellness policy; and in response to the optimal environmental state not existing in the environment:

identifying an environmental condition that differs from the optimal environmental state; and

generating a command configured to alter an operational state of an environmental device that affects the environmental condition; and

communicating the command to an environmental device regulator configured to control the environmental device.

2. The method of claim 1, further comprising:

collecting updated sensor data from the one or more biological sensors and the one or more environmental sensors;

determining whether the command placed the environment in the optimal environmental state; and

in response to the command not having placed the environment in the optimal environmental state:

identifying an updated environmental condition that differs from the optimal environmental state; and

generating an updated command configured to alter a second operational state of a second environmental device that affects the updated environmental condition.

3. The method of claim 1, further comprising identifying a biological condition that deviates from a limit of an optimal biological condition of the optimal biological state defined in the health and wellness policy and that is influenced by the environmental condition.

4. The method of claim 1, wherein:

the optimal environmental state includes limits for one or more environmental conditions configured to promote the optimal biological state of the individual while performing an activity in the environment; and

the limits include one or more of weighted thresholds, Boolean combinations of limits, and optimal ranges for one or more environmental conditions.

5. The method of claim 1, wherein one or more of the collecting, the determining, the identifying, and the generating occur continuously.

6. The method of claim 1, wherein:

the environment includes a sleep environment;

the one or more biological sensors include one or more of an electroencephalography (EEG) sensor, a body temperature sensor, a galvanic skin response sensor, and a sleep activity sensor;

the one or more environmental sensors include one or more of an ambient room temperature sensor, an ambient humidity sensor, an ambient light sensor, an ambient audio sensor, an ambient weather environmental sensor, and an ambient environmental allergy sensor; and

the environmental device includes one or more of a humidifier and a heater.

7. The method of claim 1, wherein:

the environment includes an ergonomic environment;

the one or more biological sensors include one or more of an electrocardiography (ECG) sensor, an electromyography (EMG) sensor, and multiple accelerometers;

the one or more environmental sensors includes one or more of a seat height sensor, a seat position sensor, a back tilt sensor, a knee tilt sensor, and a desk height sensor; and

the environmental device includes one or more of a desk height actuator and a seat position actuator.

8. The method of claim 1, wherein:

the environment includes a driving environment;

the one or more biological sensors include one or more of an electrocardiography (ECG) sensor, a camera, and a driving quality sensor;

the one or more environmental sensors includes one or more of a traffic site and weather sensors; and

the environmental device includes one or more of an alarm and a heating, ventilation, and air conditioning (HVAC) component.

9. A non-transitory computer-readable medium having encoded therein programming code executable by a processor to perform operations comprising:

collecting sensor data from one or more biological sensors and one or more environmental sensors;

removing noise from the sensor data;

combining the sensor data from the one or more biological sensors with the sensor data from the one or more environmental sensors;

based on the combined sensor data, computing an actual environmental state of an environment and an actual biological state of an individual in the environment;

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based on the computed actual environmental state and the actual biological state, determining whether an optimal environmental state exists in the environment and an optimal biological state of the individual exists, the optimal environmental state and the optimal biological state being defined in a health and wellness policy; and in response to the optimal environmental state not existing in the environment:

identifying an environmental condition that differs from the optimal environmental state; and

generating a command configured to alter an operational state of an environmental device that affects the environmental condition; and

communicating the command to an environmental device regulator configured to control the environmental device.

10. The non-transitory computer-readable medium of claim 9, wherein the operations further comprise:

collecting updated sensor data from the biological sensor and the environmental sensor;

determining whether the command placed the environment in the optimal environmental state; and

in response to the command not having placed the environment in the optimal environmental state:

identifying an updated environmental condition that differs from the optimal environmental state; and

generating an updated command configured to alter a second operational state of a second environmental device that affects the updated environmental condition.

11. The non-transitory computer-readable medium of claim 9, wherein the operations further comprise identifying a biological condition that deviates from a limit of an optimal biological condition of the optimal biological state defined in the health and wellness policy and that is influenced by the environmental condition.

12. The non-transitory computer-readable medium of claim 9, wherein:

the optimal environmental state includes limits for one or more environmental conditions configured to promote the optimal biological state of the individual while performing an activity in the environment; and

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the limits include one or more of weighted thresholds, Boolean combinations of limits, and optimal ranges for one or more environmental conditions.

13. The non-transitory computer-readable medium of claim 12, wherein one or more of the collecting, the determining, the identifying, and the generating occur continuously.

14. The non-transitory computer-readable medium of claim 9, wherein:

the environment includes a sleep environment;

the biological sensor includes one or more of an electroencephalography (EEG) sensor, a body temperature sensor, a galvanic skin response sensor, and a sleep activity sensor;

the environmental sensor includes one or more of an ambient room temperature sensor, a humidity sensor, a light sensor, an audio sensor, a weather environmental sensor, and an environmental allergy sensor; and

the environmental device includes one or more of a humidifier and a heater.

15. The non-transitory computer-readable medium of claim 9, wherein:

the environment includes an ergonomic environment;

the biological sensor includes one or more of an electrocardiography (ECG) sensor, an electromyography (EMG) sensor, and multiple accelerometers;

the environmental sensor includes one or more of a seat height sensor, a seat position sensor, a back tilt sensor, a knee tilt sensor, and a desk height sensor; and

the environmental device includes one or more of a desk height actuator and a seat position actuator.

16. The non-transitory computer-readable medium of claim 9, wherein:

the environment includes a driving environment;

the one or more biological sensors include one or more of an electrocardiography (ECG) sensor, a camera, and a driving quality sensor;

the one or more environmental sensors includes one or more of a traffic site and weather sensors; and

the environmental device includes one or more of an alarm and a heating, ventilation, and air conditioning (HVAC) component.

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专利名称(译)	动态环境适应		
公开(公告)号	US9501049	公开(公告)日	2016-11-22
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[标]申请(专利权)人(译)	富士通株式会社		
申请(专利权)人(译)	FUJITSU LIMITED		
当前申请(专利权)人(译)	FUJITSU LIMITED		
[标]发明人	BALAKRISHNAN RAJALAKSHMI CHANDER AJAY		
发明人	BALAKRISHNAN, RAJALAKSHMI CHANDER, AJAY		
IPC分类号	A61B5/00 G05B15/02 G05D23/19 B60N2/90		
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摘要(译)

动态适应环境的方法可以包括从生物传感器和环境传感器收集传感器数据。该方法还可以包括，基于传感器数据，确定环境中是否存在最佳环境状态。最佳环境状态可以在健康和保健政策中定义，并且可以被配置为促进环境中个体的最佳生物状态。响应于环境中不存在的最佳环境状态，该方法可以包括识别与最佳环境状态不同的环境条件，并且生成配置成改变影响环境条件的环境设备的操作状态的命令。

