



US005523690A

United States Patent [19]**Rowan**[11] **Patent Number:** **5,523,690**[45] **Date of Patent:** **Jun. 4, 1996**[54] **METAL DETECTOR WITH BIVARIATE
DISPLAY**[75] Inventor: **Mark D. Rowan**, Lebanon, Oreg.[73] Assignee: **White's Electronics, Inc.**, Portland,
Oreg.[21] Appl. No.: **918,075**[22] Filed: **Jul. 24, 1992**[51] Int. Cl.⁶ **G01N 27/72; G01V 3/11;
G01V 3/165; G01R 27/26**[52] U.S. Cl. **324/329; 324/233; 345/140**[58] Field of Search **324/326-329,
324/233, 228, 226, 262; 345/140**[56] **References Cited****U.S. PATENT DOCUMENTS**

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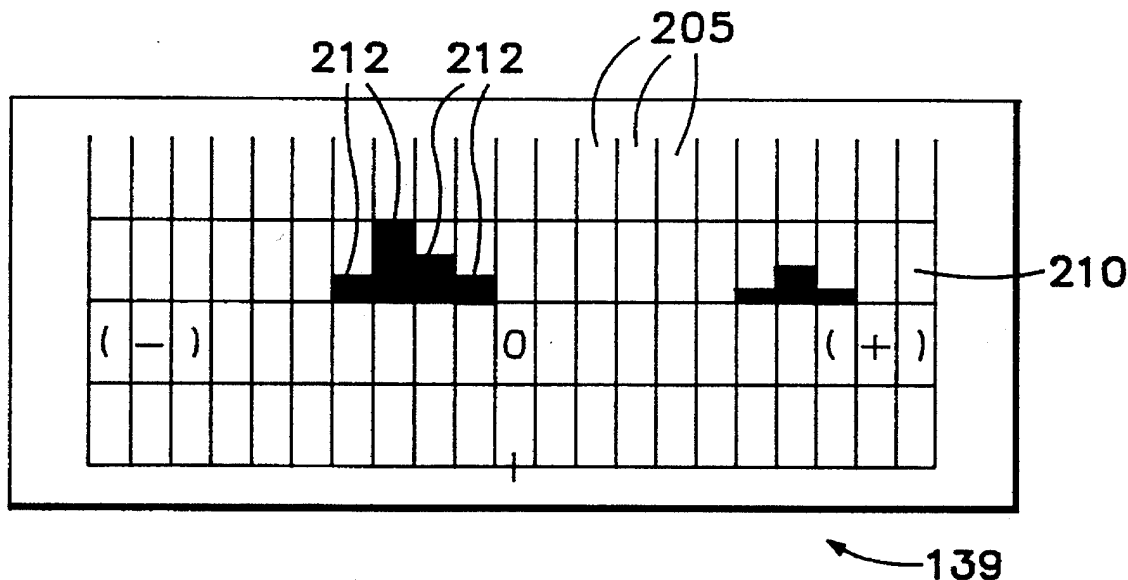
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3228447 2/1984 Germany .

Primary Examiner—Walter E. Snow*Attorney, Agent, or Firm*—Chernoff, Vilhauer, McClung &
Stenzel[57] **ABSTRACT**

A metal detector having a receive signal responsive to detected metal objects and having a display panel that can simultaneously display a plurality of phase angles associated with the receive signal. Additionally, the display panel can simultaneously display a second variable associated with the receive signal at each particular phase angle. The second variable is user selectable and can be either (1) a count of the number of times the signal amplitude exceeds a predetermined threshold level at a particular phase angle or (2) the signal amplitude when the signal is at a particular phase angle.

10 Claims, 6 Drawing Sheets

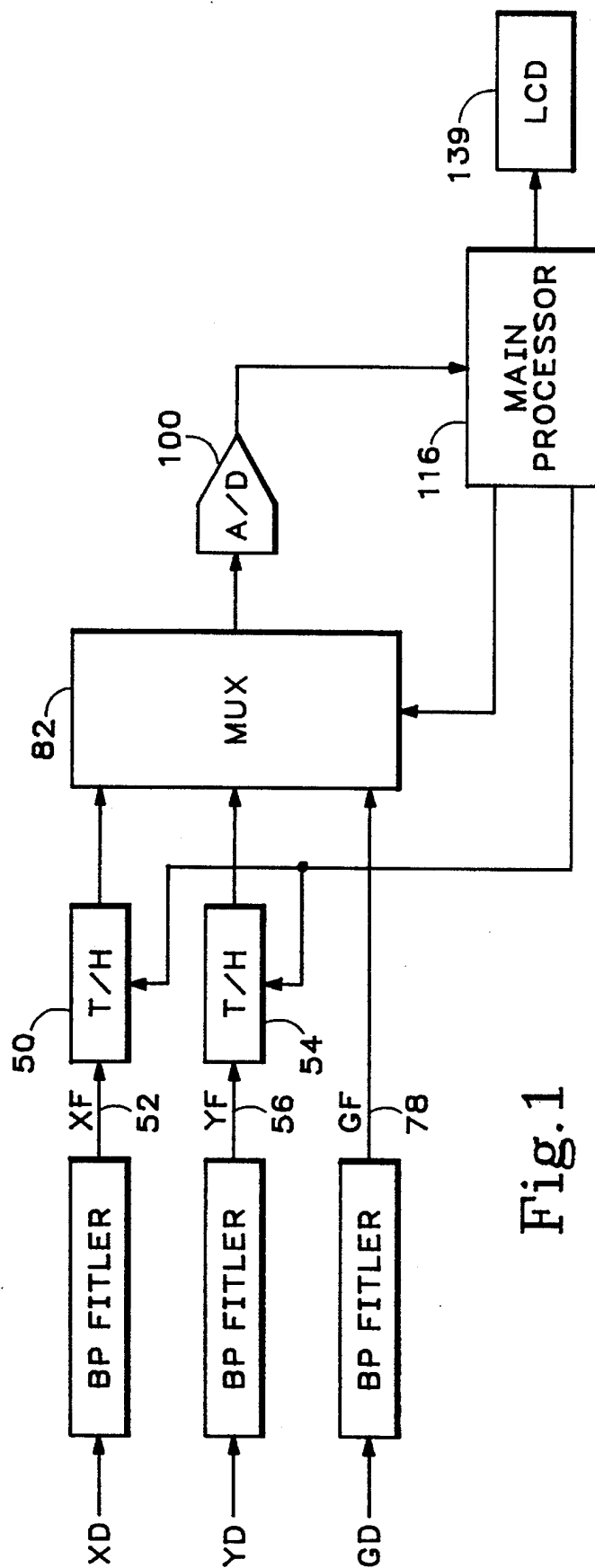


Fig. 1

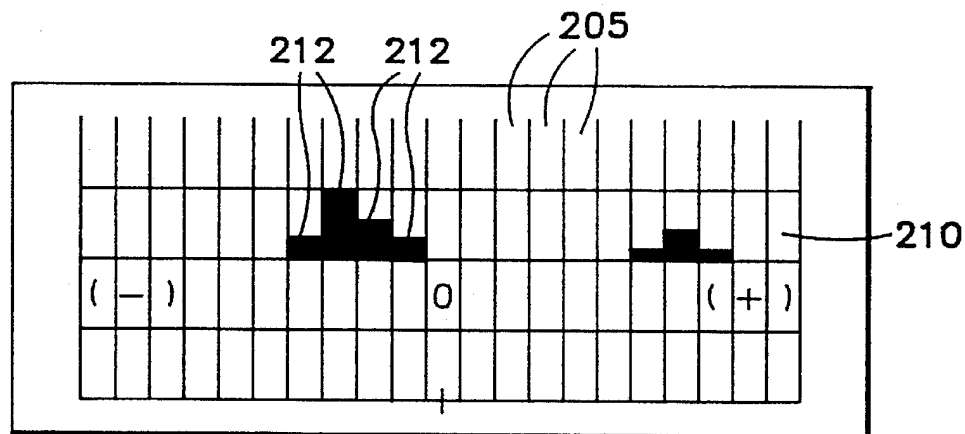
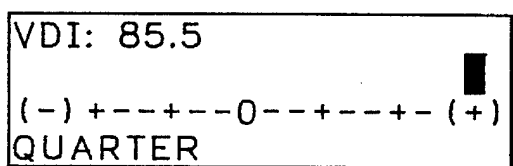
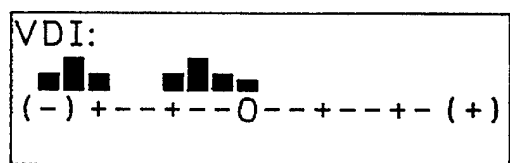


Fig. 2a



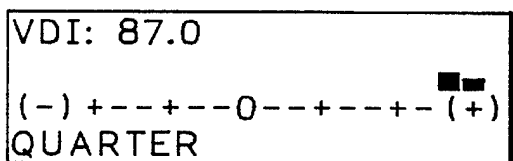
GOOD TARGET 220

Fig. 2b



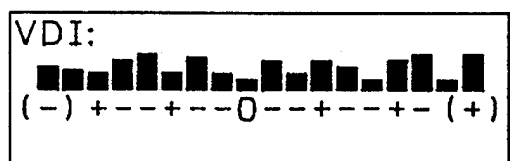
IRON 235

Fig. 2e



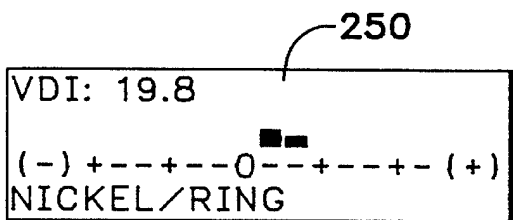
GOOD TARGET 225

Fig. 2c



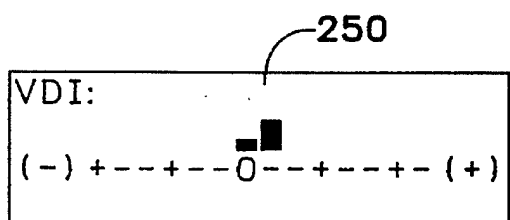
IRON ALLOY 240

Fig. 2f



GOOD TARGET 230

Fig. 2d



FOIL 245

Fig. 2g

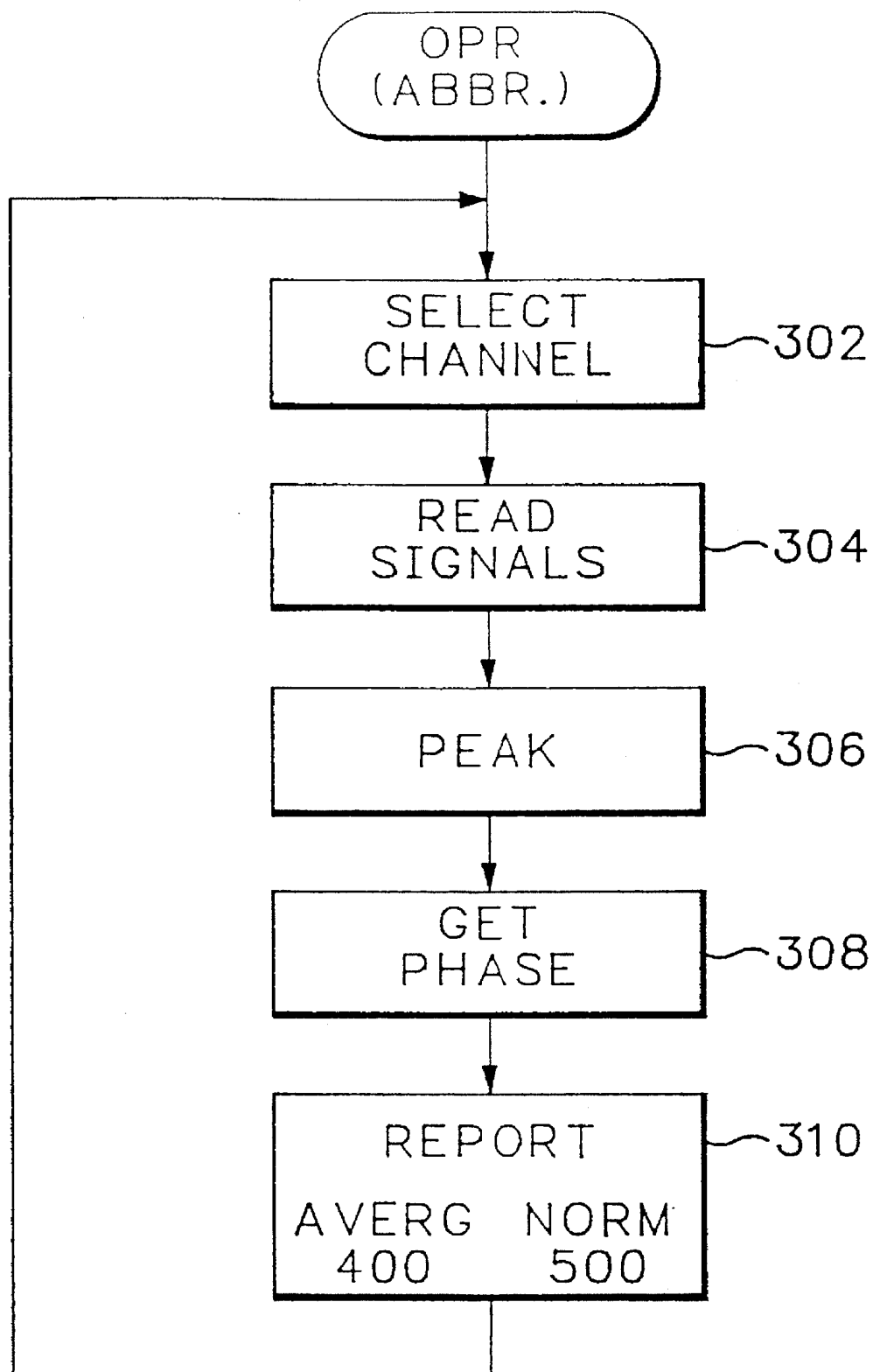
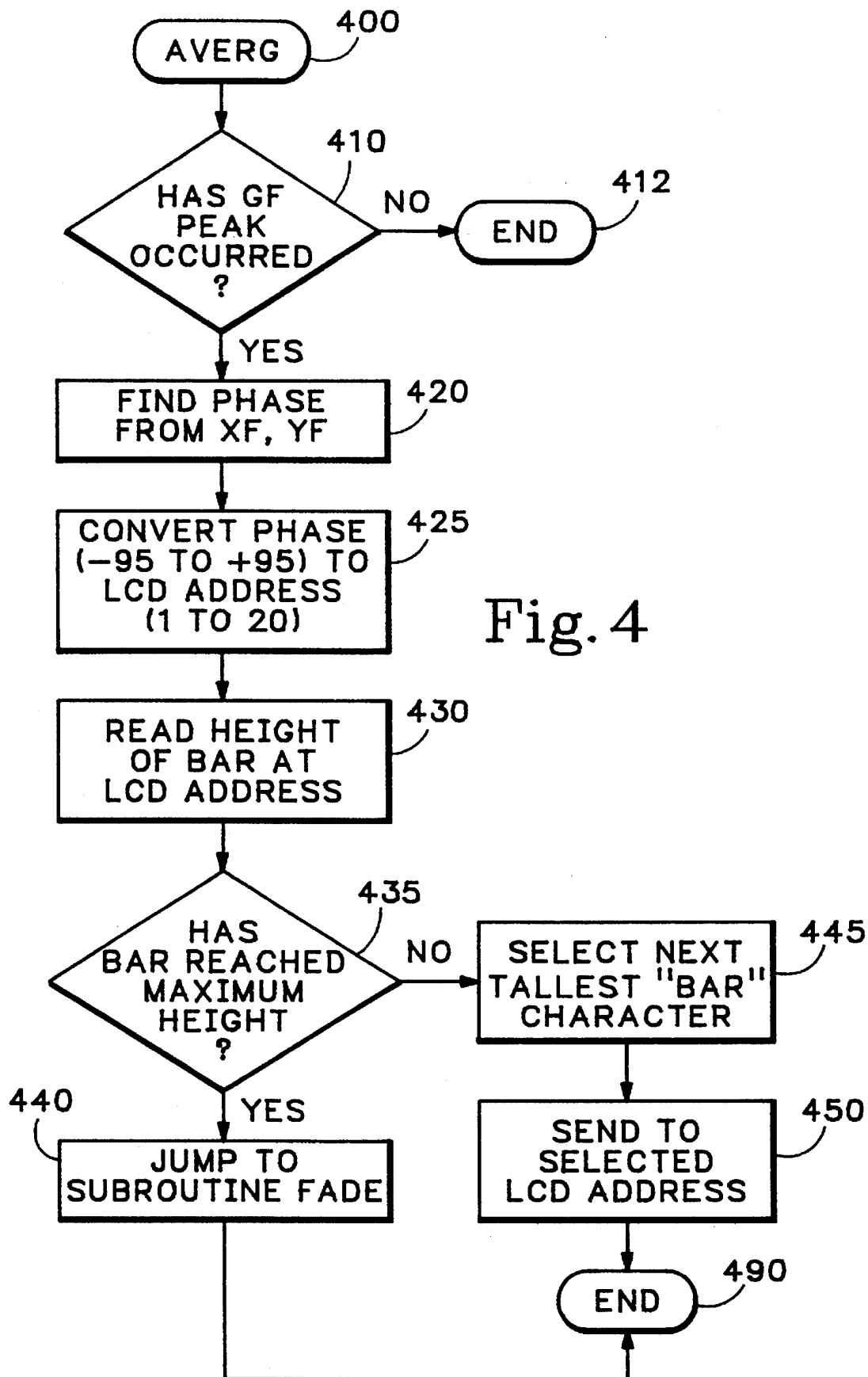


Fig. 3



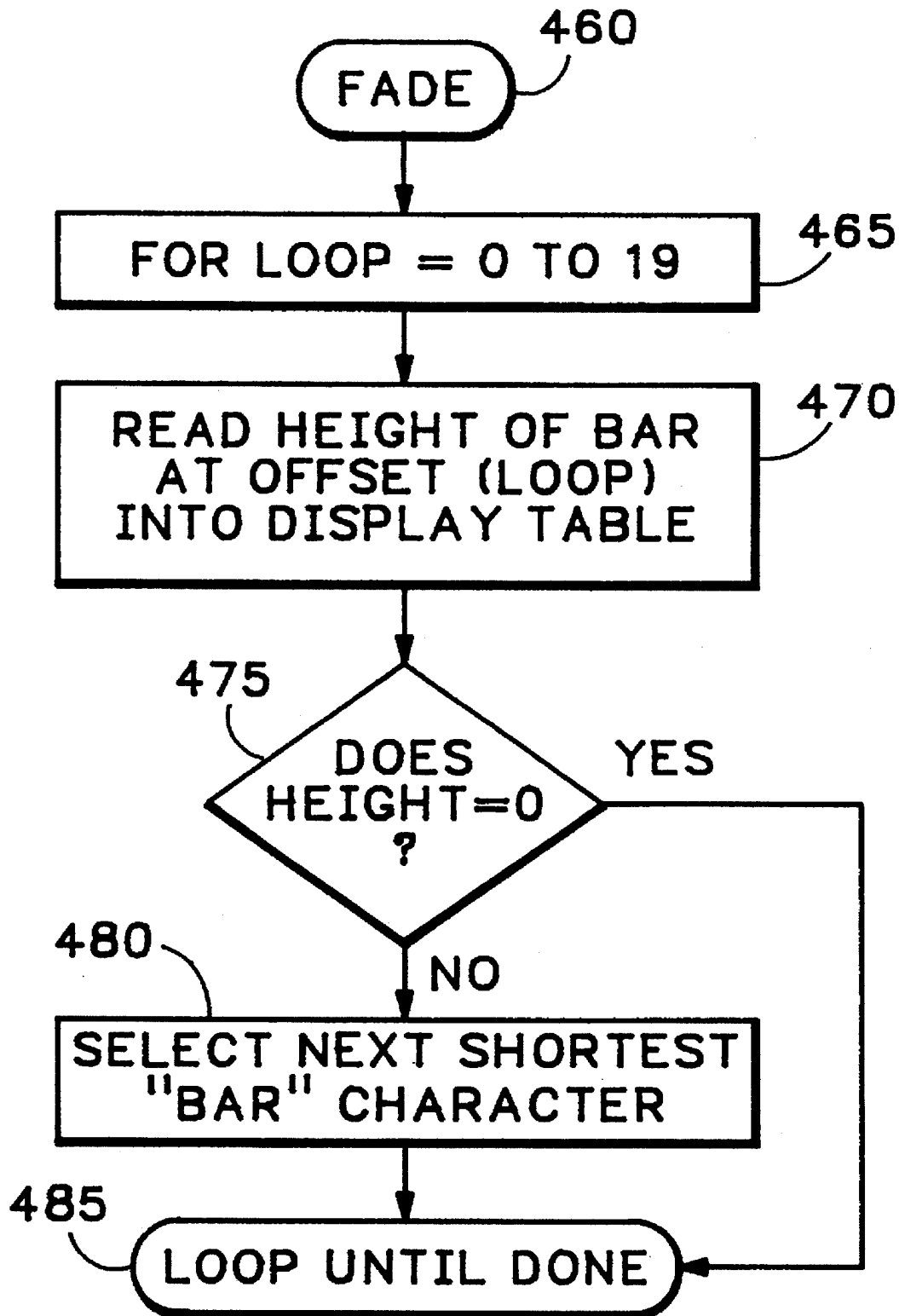
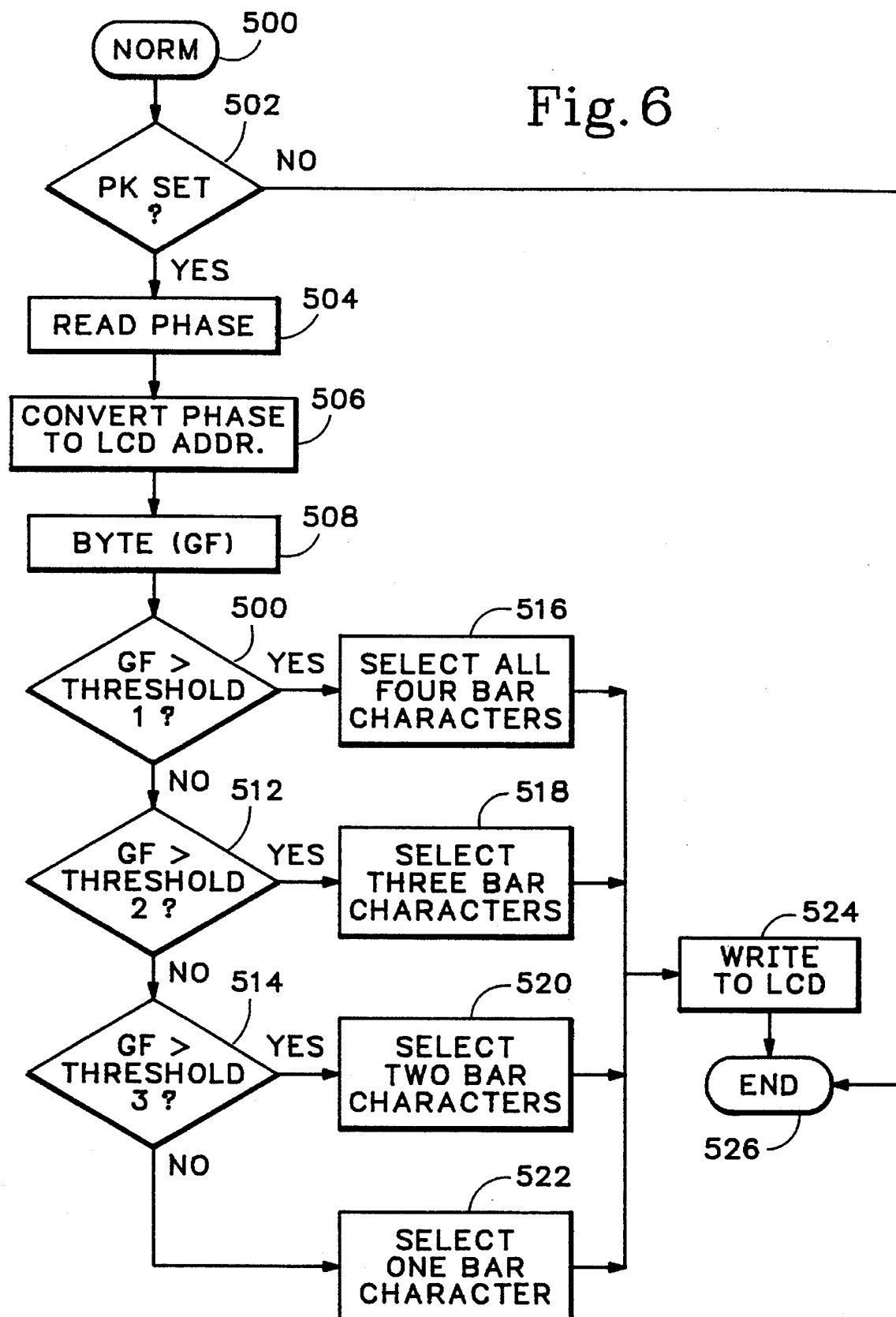


Fig. 5

Fig. 6



1

METAL DETECTOR WITH BIVARIATE DISPLAY

FIELD OF THE INVENTION

The present invention relates to the field of metal detectors, and more particularly to a means of graphically displaying bivariate signal information that reflects signal characteristics responsive to metal objects which pass beneath a search head of the metal detector.

BACKGROUND OF THE INVENTION

An induction balanced metal detector, of the type used to locate coins, rings and other treasure buried in soil within a few feet of the surface, has a search head that houses a transmit coil and receive coil. The metal detector has circuitry that transmits a periodic signal to the transmit coil as the search head is manually swept over a ground surface to detect buried metal objects. When the transmit coil passes over a metal object, a signal is generated in the receive coil due to perturbations in the magnetic field which cause the AC inductive coupling between the transmit and receive coils to become unbalanced. These receive coil signals are responsive to target characteristics such as size, depth below the ground surface, orientation with respect to the search head, and type of metal. In order to provide the user with information about the target's characteristics, (e.g., to distinguish coins from nails), some metal detectors measure the phase angle between the transmitted signal and the received signal. This phase angle is typically displayed to the user as a number on an output device such as an analog meter or a liquid crystal display (LCD). Under ideal conditions this phase angle can provide the user with accurate information regarding the target.

However, in actual practice the phase angle information is materially affected by ground mineralization and can also be affected by the target's orientation with respect to the search head. Under either of these conditions a single sweep of the search head can, with conventional displays, produce multiple phase angle readings and thereby result in an indecipherable output. In response to this problem some metal detector designers have also provided an audio output of the received signal where the tone's frequency corresponds to the phase angle of the signal and the tone's volume corresponds to the signal strength. An example of the prior art which uses a numeric LCD to display phase angle information and which also has an audio output is Maulding, U.S. Pat. No. 4,868,910, assigned to the assignee of this invention. This recent prior art approach provides the user with more complete information regarding phase angle and signal strength, but suffers in that the information cannot be latched for careful analysis and it also depends upon the user's audio memory and ability to discern frequencies in order to determine the target's characteristics.

SUMMARY OF THE INVENTION

The present invention solves the above problems by providing a bivariate visual display of two variables that are associated with a signal induced in the receive coil of a metal detector. The two variables are: (1) the receive signal's phase angle (with respect to the transmit signal) and (2) the choice of either (a) a count of the number of occurrences in which the signal amplitude exceeds a predetermined amplitude (hereinafter, the signal count) or (b) the signal amplitude. The bivariate information is displayed on a suitable

2

graphic device such as an LCD. This method permits the metal detector operator to readily make a visual discrimination between valid phase angle readings that represent good target information and those that are due to extraneous, non-target magnetic field perturbations.

The principal objective of the present invention is to provide a metal detector having a bivariate visual display of two signal characteristics that are representative of a target object.

It is a further objective of the present invention to provide an improved metal detector in which (a) the phase angle between the transmit and receive signals is determined only when the signal strength exceeds a predetermined level and (b) the number of times the signal amplitude exceeds the predetermined level at a predetermined range of phase angles is counted, and then simultaneously displaying both the phase angle and signal count on a visual display device.

It is a still further objective of the present invention to provide a metal detector that measures the phase angle between the transmit signal and receive signal when the signal strength exceeds a predetermined level by displaying the phase angle and received signal strength simultaneously on a visual display device.

The foregoing and other objectives, features and advantages of the present invention will be more readily understood upon consideration of the following detailed description of the invention taken in conjunction with the accompanying drawings.

BRIEF DESCRIPTION OF THE DRAWINGS

FIG. 1 is a block diagram of a portion of an exemplary metal detector circuit of the present invention.

FIGS. 2a-2g show exemplary embodiments of a bivariate graphic display of the present invention showing signal information associated with a metal detector.

FIG. 3 is an abridged flow diagram of an exemplary software routine for processing the signals associated with the metal detector.

FIG. 4 is a flow diagram of an exemplary software routine that writes phase angle and signal count to the graphic display of FIG. 2.

FIG. 5 is a flow diagram of an exemplary software subroutine that selects a shorter bar character associated with the graphic display device of FIG. 2.

FIG. 6 is a flow diagram of an exemplary software routine that writes phase angle and amplitude information to the graphic display device of FIG. 2.

Appendix A is a source code listing of the subroutine REPORT.

DESCRIPTION OF THE PREFERRED EMBODIMENT

This invention pertains to improvements in the display of signal information generated within induction balance type metal detectors. A metal detector of this type is fully described in Maulding, U.S. Pat. No. 4,868,910 which is incorporated herein by reference for purposes of providing a complete disclosure. Before proceeding to the preferred embodiment of the present invention, it is first necessary to generally describe the operation of an induction-balanced metal detector which will be done with reference to Maulding.

An induction-balanced metal detector generally has a search head with two AC coupled, electrically conductive coils: a transmit coil and a receive coil. Maulding describes a search head with three coils; transmit, receive and a feedback coil; however, the feedback coil is not relevant to the present disclosure. (See Maulding, FIG. 1, Nos. 22, 24 and 26.) To search for buried targets, a periodic signal is applied to the transmit coil as the search head is swept over an area of ground. Under ideal conditions, i.e. proper induction balance and no magnetic field perturbations, there is no signal in the receive coil. However, when the search head passes over a target it causes a disturbance in the transmit coil's magnetic field, thereby inducing a signal in the receive coil. The transmit and receive signals are then electronically processed and applied to various output devices in an effort to measure and communicate various target characteristics. As exemplified in Maulding, the signals are processed into six components; XD, XF, YD, YF, GD and GF. Only the filtered signals XF, YF and GF are relevant to the present application. XF and YF are DC phase quadrature components of the receive and transmit signals and GF is a filtered DC signal representation of the ground mineralization effects. (See Maulding, FIG. 1 where 52, 56 and 78 represent signals XF, YF and GF, respectively.) From the XF and YF components, a receive signal phase angle is measured which is representative of the target's characteristics. (Maulding, FIGS. 2, 3; Col. 9, lines 35-50; and Col. 21, lines 27-50.) This phase angle information discloses characteristics such as type of metal, size, orientation of a ferromagnetic object with respect to the search head, and ground mineralization.

FIG. 1 of this application shows the components of Maulding's circuit which are also in the present invention. (The reference numbers in FIG. 1 correspond to Maulding reference numbers for identical component blocks.) All the reference elements in FIG. 1 are also represented in Maulding with the important exception of LCD 139 which is materially distinct from Maulding's LCD 138.

With reference to FIG. 1, it can be seen that signals XF and YF emerge from respective band pass filters 42, 46 and are applied to respective track and hold circuits 50 and 54. Thereafter, signals XF and YF are applied to a multiplexor (MUX) 82. The signal GF emerges from a band pass filter 74 and is thereafter applied directly to MUX 82.

Reading a signal is a two-step process and fully described in Maulding (Col. 18, line 25 to Col. 19, line 3). In essence, the main processor 116 simultaneously commands track and hold circuits 50, 54 to hold the respective XF and YF signals so that the signals which are later sequentially input into the MUX represent XF and YF signals that are sampled at the same instant in time. The main processor 116 then directs MUX 82 to route selected signals to the MUX output in a predetermined sequence at a fixed sampling rate of approximately 7.5 milliseconds. The signals coming out of the MUX are applied to an analog-to-digital converter system 100 and then applied to the main processor 116. At this point the present system is different from Maulding in that the main processor then writes the information to LCD 139 in a suitable format using onboard software programming described hereinafter.

FIG. 2a represents a preferred embodiment of the bivariate graphical display of the present invention showing two variables of signal information displayed on LCD 139. There is a horizontal scale that is divided into a series of evenly-spaced divisions 205, each division represents a range of phase angles. A preferred embodiment of the present invention that is generally commercially available is

a LCD having a 4x20 character display, which means that the horizontal axis can display 20 characters and the vertical scale can display four characters, with each character representing a range of values.

In the preferred embodiment of the display shown in each of FIGS. 2a-2g, the horizontal scale represents the relative phase angle. Each division represents a range of phase angles: where the possible range of phase angles is 180° then each division along the horizontal scale of a 4x20 LCD would represent a 9° range of phase angles. The vertical scale 210 represents a second variable which is either (1) a signal count or (2) an amplitude of the receive signal.

The signal count is a running tabulation of the number of times that a signal having a particular phase angle exceeds a predetermined threshold amplitude (e.g., the number of times that a signal with a phase angle between +20 and +29 exceeds a signal strength of 0.08 volts). Either the user or the main processor 116 selects the threshold amplitude to filter out weak signals. Each time a signal amplitude exceeds the threshold amplitude the associated phase angle is measured and the signal count for that phase angle is incremented.

The alternate variable displayed on the vertical scale is the amplitude of the receive signal. Only information associated with phase angles whose amplitude exceeds the predetermined threshold level is displayed.

The individual characters 212 used to represent the bivariate information are user definable characters which are bit-mapped into a five by eight matrix within the main processor 116 and downloaded to the LCD. The standard configuration displays the signal information as a bar graph, with a bar at respective phase angle ranges and the height of the bar is proportional to the signal count or signal amplitude (the bar height is zero where no signals correspond to a given range of phase angles).

FIGS. 2b-2g are examples of the LCD display when the search head encounters various buried metals. FIGS. 2b-2d represent the display in response to "good targets," that is targets that the metal detector user may want to dig up. Good target displays are characterized by a tight grouping of bars within a narrow range of phase angles, or optimally at a single phase angle range as shown in FIG. 2b. Additionally, good targets are characterized by groupings in the positive portion of the graph; i.e., the area between the "0" and "(+)" symbols. The exemplary embodiments of FIGS. 2b-2d also show other information on the LCD such as the VDI, which is a numeric representation of the phase angle, and a textual estimate of the target, e.g., "quarter" in FIG. 2b.

FIGS. 2e-2g are exemplary embodiments of the display when the search head encounters undesirable (i.e., non-valuable) metal targets. These graphs display signal information having phase angles that are predominately in the negative portion of the graph (between "0" and "(-)") and which typically show a signal response at a wide range of phase angles rather than the tight grouping associated with goods targets. The bivariate display is particularly helpful in deciphering those signals that are spread across a wide range of phase angles, as is shown in FIG. 2f. If the display were monovariate (e.g., a numeric LCD), the user would not be able to distinguish good targets from bad because the numeric LCD would be as likely to show a phase angle associated with a good target as with a bad one. But the bivariate display of the present invention shows the signal information as a "smear" across the display, thereby clearly communicating to the user that the target is not desirable.

The advantage of the bivariate display is also apparent in a comparison of FIG. 2g with FIG. 2d. A monovariate

5

display would likely indicate the same phase angle for each of these targets, namely the phase angle associated with the division 250 to the immediate right of the center because the largest bar is at that location. However the bivariate display of the present invention shows information on multiple phase angles and the good target FIG. 2d has a bar to the positive side whereas the undesirable target FIG. 2g has a bar to the negative side of the largest bar. A user familiar with these displays will recognize the more positive phase angles as indicative of a good target.

FIG. 3 is an abridged software flow diagram representing the steps performed by the main processor during operation of the metal detector. A more complete flow diagram showing all steps necessary for operation of a metal detector is shown in Maulding, FIG. 11. Continuing with FIG. 3 of the present invention, steps 302 and 304 represent channel selection and signal reading wherein the main processor 116 instructs the MUX 82 to route a selected channel to the MUX output pin. After reading the signals 304, the next step calls software subroutine PEAK 306, which determines whether signal GF has reached a local maximum value. (Subroutine PEAK is exemplarily shown in Maulding FIG. 16.) A "local maximum" is one that occurs within a predetermined period of time. When the main processor determines that GF has reached a local maximum, a flag "PK" is set. The next step, subroutine GETPHASE 308, calculates the phase of the receive signal from XF and YF and stores the result in a memory register "PHASE." (GETPHASE is exemplarily shown in Maulding, FIG. 18.) After GETPHASE, the software calls subroutine REPORT 310 which checks the status of flag PK and writes the signal information to the LCD when flag PK is set. (The subroutine REPORT 310 is novel to this invention and has no equivalent in Maulding.) Software module REPORT utilizes one of two routines AVERG (FIGS. 4 and 5) or NORM (FIG. 6).

The REPORT subroutine checks a flag "MP" to determine whether the user has selected the display mode which shows the signal count or the signal amplitude. If the user selects the signal count display, then the subroutine REPORT will branch to a routine AVERG (FIG. 4). Alternatively, if the user selects the amplitude display, then REPORT will branch to the routine NORM (FIG. 6). AVERG and NORM could be subroutines, but in the preferred embodiment they are code within the subroutine REPORT.

FIG. 4 is an exemplary flow diagram of AVERG 400 which writes signal information to the LCD. This routine determines whether a local maximum in the signal amplitude has occurred at step 410 by testing whether flag PK has been set. If PK is not set then the routine exits at 412. If flag PK is set then the routine gets the phase angle in step 420 from the memory register PHASE. In step 425 the routine converts the phase angle into an LCD "write" address. As explained above, the preferred embodiment includes a 4x20 matrix LCD display device and the phase angle is represented along the 20-character axis. Therefore, the software program converts the phase angle into a "write" address

6

corresponding to the LCD axis by multiplying the phase angle by 20 and dividing the result by 180, effectively creating 20 ranges of phase angles of nine degrees each. The routine then reads the height of the bar at the LCD address corresponding to the "write" address at step 430 and in step 435 determines whether the bar has reached a maximum height. If the bar has not reached a maximum height then the routine writes the next taller bar character in step 445. Alternatively, if the bar is at a maximum height then the routine calls FADE at step 440.

FADE 460, FIG. 5, decrements the height of all bars that are at addresses other than the "write" address. FADE loops through 20 iterations, step 465, to read the height of the bar at each address, step 470. If the height of the bar is zero then the subroutine does nothing and loops to the next bar, step 485. If the height of the bar is not zero then the subroutine selects the next shortest bar character at step 480. The subroutine loops through all the bars until each bar other than the "write" address bar is decremented (or skipped, in the case of zero height bars) at step 485. After completing the 20 iterations the subroutine FADE returns control to AVERG which terminates at step 490.

FIG. 6 is an exemplary flow diagram representation of the routine NORM 500. Upon entering NORM, the program first determines whether a local maximum in the receive signal has occurred at step 502 by testing for the flag PK. If flag PK is not set, the routine terminates at step 526. If flag PK is set, the program gets, at step 504, the phase angle of the receive signal from the memory register and converts the phase angle to an LCD "write" address 1 to 20, step 506, in the same manner as described above for routine AVERG. In the next step, the program runs a subroutine BYTE(GF) to calculate a compressed eight-bit datum representing the GF level which correlates to the receive signal amplitude. (BYTE is exemplarily disclosed in Maulding, FIG. 14.) Thereafter, the routine, at steps 510, 512 and 514, respectively, tests the eight-bit representation of the GF level against three preset, respectively decreasing thresholds designated thresholds 1, 2, and 3. If the GF level is greater than the first threshold 510, then the routine selects all four segments of the bar at step 516. If the GF level is less than threshold 1 but greater than the next lowest threshold 2, step 512, then the routine selects three of the four bar characters at step 518. If the GF level is less than threshold 2 but greater than the lowest threshold 3, step 514, then the routine selects two bar characters at step 520. If the GF level is less than threshold 3 then the routine selects one bar character at step 522. The routine then writes the information to the "write" address at step 524 and exits the subroutine at step 526.

The terms and expressions which have been employed in the foregoing specification are used therein as terms of description and not of limitation, and there is no intention, in the use of such terms and expressions, of excluding equivalents of the features shown and described or portions thereof, it being recognized that the scope of the invention is defined and limited only by the claims which follow.

APPENDIX A

2500 A.D. 6805 CROSS ASSEMBLER - VERSION 3.01a

INPUT FILENAME : REPORT.ASM
OUTPUT FILENAME : REPORT.OBJ

```

1          NAM      REPORT  07 FEB 89/modified 7/28/89  MDR
2          ;;;;;;;;;;;;;;
3          !GOUT:TARGET DATA DISPLAYED IN AUDIO AND LCD.
4          !CRITERION FOR LEARN = PK
5          !CRITERION FOR AUDIO = GFLEV
6          ;;;;;;;;;;;;;;
7          PUBLIC REPORT
8          EXTERN AUDIO ;DOK & GOUT TO AUDW
9          EXTERN DISFLT ;DISCRIMINATE FILTER->DOK
10         EXTERN SET,CLR ;LEARN ROUTINES
11         EXTERN VDI,VDIAV,AVCOUNT,DISTABL,GDC,SCOUNT,IDTONE
12         EXTERN PAGE0 STATE,PAGE0 GHOT,PAGE0 DISPTR,PAGE0 KEY
13         EXTERN PAGE0 STAT ;7=LRHREJ,6=LRNACC      IN
14                     ;2=PK,3=TRIG,5=DISC      IN
15                     ;0=DOK                      OUT
16         EXTERN PAGE0 FLAGA ;3=DON:SET IF ACCEPT  OUT
17                     ;4=DOK:SET IF DISC ON      OUT
18                     ;2=ATH                      IN
19         EXTERN PAGE0 FLAGB ;6=ZGON              OUT
20                     ;4=SIGN BIT                INT
21                     ;5=ATIME RUNNING            INT
22         EXTERN PAGE0 FLAGP ;0=ac overload
23         EXTERN PAGE0 GFLEV ;DATA FROM PEAK      IN
24         EXTERN PAGE0 GFAMP ; abs(compressed(GF))
25         EXTERN PAGE0 DISLEV ;DISC. DATA TO AUDIO OUT
26         EXTERN PAGE0 ACSENS ;USED FOR SHIFTS    IN
27         EXTERN PAGE0 PHASE ;SB                  IN
28         EXTERN PAGE0 PHRAC
29         EXTERN PAGE0 TENA ;STASH                  INT
30         EXTERN PAGE0 OPTST ;RAW TEST ADDRESS    IN
31         EXTERN PAGE0 ATIME ;RECOVERY HOLD OFF   INT
32         EXTERN PAGE0 RECOV ;user adj. hold off
33         EXTERN PAGE0 VDISENS,PAGE0 FADERATE,PAGE0 FADECOUNT
34         EXTERN PAGE0 SCREJ
35         EXTERN PAGE0 SIGBAL
36         EXTERN PAGE0 STATTABL
37         EXTERN PAGE0 TFRES
38         EXTERN PAGE0 FLAG4
39         EXTERN DIVIDE
40         EXTERN CLRDATA,FADE,LABEL,CLAVDI
41         ;;;;;;;;;;;;;;
42 0000 07 00 7D      REPORT BRCLR 3,STAT,SEARCH #00 IF NO TRIGGER
43
44         ;;;;;;;;;;;;;;
45         ! TRIGGER PRESSED (PINPOINTING MODE)      !
46         ;;;;;;;;;;;;;;
47 0003 B6 00          LDA  DISPTR
48 0005 A1 1C          CMP  #28

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49	0007	26 69		BNE	JWR	
50	0009	B6 00		LDA	SIGBAL	
51	000B	44		LSRA		
52	000C	44		LSRA		
53	000D	40		NEGA		
54	000E	A8 14		ADD	#20	
55	0010	97		TAX		;x in range 17 -- 20
56	0011	B6 00		LDA	TFREQ	
57	0013	A0 04		SUB	#1	
58	0015	2A 02		BPL	SCALE2	
59	0017	40		NEGA		
60	0018	5C		INCX		
61	0019	27 04	SCALE2	BEG	SCALE3	
62	001B	5C		INCX		
63	001C	4A		DECA		
64	001D	20 FA		BRA	SCALE2	
65	001F	0A 07 03	SCALE3	BRSET	5,STATTABL+7,SCALE4	
66	0022	5C		INCX		
67	0023	5C		INCX		
68	0024	5C		INCX		
69	0025	B6 00	SCALE4	LDA	GHOT	
70	0027	2A 01		BPL	SCALE1T	
71	0029	4F		CLRA		
72	002A	A1 78	SCALE1T	CMP	#120	
73	002C	25 04		BLO	SCALIT2	
74	002E	A6 13		LDA	#19	
75	0030	20 0B		BRA	SHOWIT	
76	0032	42	SCALIT2	MUL		
77	0033	BF 00		STX	TEMA	
78	0035	AE 07		LDX	#7	
79	0037	34 00	SCLOOP	LSR	TEMA	
80	0039	46		RORA		
81	003A	5A		DECX		
82	003B	26 FA		BNE	SCLOOP	
83	003D	A1 13	SHOWIT	CMP	#19	
84	003F	23 02		BLS	INDEXOK	
85	0041	A6 13		LDA	#19	
86	0043	97	INDEXOK	TAX		
87	0044	A6 02		LDA	#2	
88	0046	D7 00 0F		STA	DISTABL+15,X	
89	0049	BF 00		STX	TEMA	
90	004B	5C	MRKRL00P	INCX		
91	004C	A3 14		CPX	#20	
92	004E	24 10		BHS	BARIT	
93	0050	D6 00 0F		LDA	DISTABL+15,X	
94	0053	A1 20		CMP	#32	
95	0055	27 09		BEG	BARIT	
96	0057	A6 A1		LDA	#A1H	
97	0059	D7 00 0F		STA	DISTABL+15,X	
98	005C	A3 13		CPX	#19	
99	005E	25 E8		BLO	MRKRL00P	
100	0060	5F	BARIT	CLAX		
101	0061	A6 02		LDA	#2	
102	0063	53 00	BARL00P	CPX	TEMA	
103	0065	27 06		BEG	DCPTST	
104	0067	D7 00 0F		STA	DISTABL+15,X	
105	006A	5C		INCX		

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106 0066 20 F6          BRA    BARLOOP
107 006D B6 00          DEPTST LDA    PHASE
108 006F 02 08 60          BRSET 1,STATTABL+8,SIGN?
109 0072 CC 01 EC          JWR    JMP    WRITE    ;UPDATE AUDIO & RTN
110 0075 A6 10          SETFADE LDA    #16
111 0077 B0 00          SUB    FADERATE ;1 (min) - 15 (max)
112 0079 48            LSLA
113 007A 48            LSLA
114 007B 48            LSLA
115 007C 48            LSLA
116 007D 57 00          STA    FADECOUNT
117 007F 81            RTS
118
119                      *****
120                      * TRIGGER RELEASED (SEARCH MODE) *
121                      *****
122 0080 01 00 0D          SEARCH BRCLR 0,STATE,NOFADE
123 0083 3D 00          TST    FADERATE
124 0085 27 09          BEQ    NOFADE
125 0087 3A 00          DEC    FADECOUNT
126 0089 26 05          BNE    NOFADE
127 008B AD E8          BSR    SETFADE
128 008D CD 00 00          JSR    FADE
129 0090 CD 00 00          NOFADE JSR    DISFLT ;UPDATE DOK
130
131 0093 05 00 05          ;check for valid time to do peak processes
132 0096 07 00 02          BRCLR 2,STAT,NOTPK ;60,NOT PEAK
133 0099 20 12          BRCLR 3,FLAG4,NOTPK ;60,NOT 000
134 009B CD 00 00          BRA    PEAK
135 009E C6 00 00          NOTPK JSR    LABEL
136 00A1 A1 64          LDA    VDI
137 00A3 24 05          CMP    #100 ;if overload or low bat showing
138 00A5 A6 66          BHS    JNP ;..don't defeat label update
139 00A7 C7 00 00          LDA    #102 ;"no label" code
140 00AA CC 01 70          STA    VDI
141                      JNP    JNP    NOTPK2
142                      *****
143                      * PEAK PROCESSES: DO AT PEAK OF EACH WAVE *
144                      *****
144 00AD 02 0A 08          PEAK   BRSET 1,STATTABL+10,NOCLEAR ;test single sweep/accum.
145 00B0 01 00 05          BRCLR 0,FLAG4,NOCLEAR
146 00B3 11 00          BCLR 0,FLAG4
147 00B5 CD 00 00          JSR    CLRDATA
148 00B8 AD BB          NOCLEAR BSR    SETFADE
149 00BA B6 00          LDA    PHASE
150 00BC C7 00 00          STA    VDI
151 00BF C7 00 00          STA    IOTONE
152 00C2 0B 08 0D          BRCLR 5,STATTABL+8,SIGN? ;skip test if vis. distr. off
153 00C5 00 00 0A          BRSET 0,STAT,SIGN? ;accept targ.?
154 00C8 CD 00 00          JSR    CLRVDI
155 00CB A6 67          LDA    #103
156 00CD C7 00 00          STA    VDI
157 00D0 20 37          BRA    SPECTN
158 00D2 2A 08          SIGN? BPL    POSVDI
159 00D4 40            NEGAB
160 00D5 AE 2D          LDX    #2DH
161 00D7 CF 00 01          STX    DISTABL+1
162 00DA 20 05          BRA    DOVNUM

```

163	008C	AE 20	POSVDI	LDX	#32	
164	009E	CF 00 01		STX	DISTABL+1	
165	00E1	AE 0A	DOVNUM	LDX	#10	
166	00E3	CD 00 00		JSR	DIVIDE	
167	00E6	AB 30		ADD	#30H	
168	00E8	C7 00 02		STA	DISTABL+2	
169	00E9	9F		TXA		
170	00EC	AB 30		ADD	#30H	
171	00EE	C7 00 03		STA	DISTABL+3	
172	00F1	A6 2E		LDA	#2EH	
173	00F3	C7 00 04		STA	DISTABL+4	
174	00F6	B6 00		LDA	PHRAC	
175	00F8	AB 30		ADD	#30H	
176	00FA	C7 00 05		STA	DISTABL+5	
177	00FD	A6 1C		LDA	#28	
178	00FF	B7 00		STA	DISPTR	
179	0101	1F 00		BCLR	7,FLAG4	
180	0103	07 00 03		BRCLR	3,STAT,SPECTM	
181	0106	CC 01 EC		JMP	WRITE	
182	0109	5F	SPECTM	CLRX		
183	010A	B6 00		LDA	PHASE	
184	010C	AB 60		ADD	#96	;normalize to -96 @ 0
185	010E	87 00		STA	TENA	
186	0110	4F		CLRA		
187	0111	AB 0A	VL30P	ADD	#10	
188	0113	B1 00		CMP	TEMA	
189	0115	24 03		BHS	DISBAR	
190	0117	5C		INCY		
191	0118	20 F7		BRA	VLOOP	
192	011A	04 0A 21	DISBAR	BRSET	2,STATTABL+10,AVERG	
193						
194						; "normal" mode -- scale bar height by gf amp.
195	011D	B6 00		LDA	GFAMP	
196	011F	2A 01		BPL	COMP64	
197	0121	40		NEGA		
198	0122	A1 6B	COMP64	CMP	#6BH	
199	0124	25 04		BLO	COMP40	
200	0126	A6 02		LDA	#2	
201	0128	20 35		BRA	STASH	
202	012A	A1 4B	COMP40	CMP	#4BH	
203	012C	25 04		BLO	COMP18	
204	012E	A6 03		LDA	#3	
205	0130	20 2D		BRA	STASH	
206	0132	A1 3B	COMP18	CMP	#3BH	
207	0134	25 04		BLO	SHORT	
208	0136	A6 04		LDA	#4	
209	0138	20 25		BRA	STASH	
210	013A	A6 5F	SHORT	LDA	#5FH	
211	013C	20 21		BRA	STASH	
212						
213						; "average" mode -- count hits and show distribution
214	013E	D6 00 0F	AVERG	LDA	DISTABL+15,X	
215	0141	A1 20		CMP	#20H	
216	0143	26 04		BNE	COMP5F	
217	0145	A6 5F		LDA	#5FH	
218	0147	20 16		BRA	STASH	
219	0149	A1 5F	COMP5F	CMP	#5FH	

```

220 014B 26 04      BNE    COMP2
221 014D A6 04      LDA    #4
222 014F 20 0E      BRA    STASH
223 0151 A1 02      COMP2 CMP    #2
224 0153 26 09      BNE    NEXTSES
225 0155 BF 00      STX    TEMA
226 0157 CD 00 00    JSR    FADE
227 015A BE 00      LDX    TEMA
228 015C A6 03      LDA    #3
229 015E 4A          NEXTSES DECA
230 015F D7 00 0F    STASH STA    DISTABL+15,X
231
232
233 0162 0D 0A 05    BRCLR  6,STATTABL+10,LRN1 ;GO NOT LRNREQ
234 0165 CD 00 00    JSR    SET
235 0168 20 06      BRA    LRNEND
236 016A 0B 0A 03    LRN1  BRCLR  5,STATTABL+10,LRNEND ;GO,NOT LRNACC
237 016D CD 00 00    JSR    CLR
238 0170
239
240 0170
241
242
243
244
245
246
247
248
249
250 0170 B6 00      LDA    GFLEV
251 0172 27 0A      BEZ    WGFEND ;STAY AT 0 IF 0
252 0174 BE 00      LDX    ACSENS
253 0176 A3 41      CPX    #45
254 0178 24 04      BHS    WGFEND
255 017A 44          LSRA
256 017B 26 01      BNE    WGFEND
257 017D 4C          INCA
258 017E B7 00      WGFEND STA    TEMA
259
260
261
262
263
264 0180 1B 00      BCLR  5,FLAGB ;ASSUME NO ATIME
265 0182 03 00 07    BRCLR  2,FLAGA,NOATH
266
267 0185 A6 32      ;if ath detected, reset atime with app. value
268 0187 E0 00      LDA    #50
269 0189 44          SUB    RECDV ; 40 (max) - 1 (min)
270 018A B7 00      LSRA    ;range: 5 - 24
271 018C 3D 00      STA    ATIME
272 018E 26 04      NOATH TST    ATIME ;CHECK IF RUNNING
273 0190 10 00      BNE    DECIT
274 0192 20 04      BSET  0,FLAG4
275 0194 3A 00      BRA    ATEND
276 0196 1A 00      DECIT DEC    ATIME ;SERVICE ATIME &
                     BSET  5,FLAGB ; SET FLAG

```

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277 0198
278
279
280
281
282
283 0198 0A 00 06
284 019B 37 00
285 019D 2A 02
286 019F 3C 00
287 01A1
288
289
290
291
292
293
294 01A1 0B 00 37
295
296 01A4 B6 00
297 01A6 AB 80
298 01AB 00 00 16
299
300 01AB 00 00 0E
301 01AE 0E 00 0B
302 01B1 97
303 01B2 B6 00
304 01B4 44
305 01B5 B1 00
306 01B7 25 02
307 01B9 B7 00
308 01BB 9F
309 01BC B0 00
310 01BE 24 17
311 01C0 4F
312
313 01C1 00 00 0D
314 01C4 97
315 01C5 A6 18
316 01C7 B0 00
317 01C9 48
318 01CA B1 00
319 01CC 22 02
320 01CE B7 00
321 01D0 9F
322 01D1 B8 00
323
324 01D3 24 02
325 01D5 A6 FF
326 01D7
327
328 01D7
329 01D7 A0 80
330 01D9 B7 00
331 01DB
332
333

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```

ATEND
*****
* DECREASE DISLEV UNLESS ATIME
*OUT:DISLEV=0 IF ATIME OVER
*****
;skip decrease if atime running
BRSET 3,FLAGB,DECEND ;GO IF ATIME
ASR DISLEV
BPL DECEMD
INC DISLEV ;FORCE NEG CONVERGENCE
DECEMD
*****
* ADD GFLEV TO DISLEV
* IN: DISLEV (SB)
* IN:TEMA=WEIGHTED, (DB)
*****
;skip add if not atime
BRCLR 5,FLAGB,ADDEND
;get ready, and branch to appropriate routine
ADDUP LDA DISLEV
ADD #80H ;A=DISLEV (DB)
BRSET 0,STAT,ACC ;GO IF ACCEPT
*reject target... A=dislev-adj gflev,clip @ 0
BRSET 0,FLAGB,SUBIT ;test ac overload
BRSET 7,PHASE,SUBIT ;don't bias pos. phase reponses
TAX ;x has dislev
LDA BCREJ ;1 (min) - 20 (max)
LSRA ;0 - 10
CMP TEMA ;clip?
BLO GFOK
STA TEMA ;clip above min. neg. excursion
GFOK TXA
SUBIT SUB TEMA ;A=DISLEV-ADJ GFLEV (DB)
BCC NOCLIP ;CLIP IF OVERFLOW
CLRA ;CLIP @ 0
*accept target... A=dislev+adj gflev
ACC BRSET 0,FLAGB,ADDIT ;test ac overload
TAX ;x has dislev
LDA #24 ;bcrej: 1 (min) - 20 (max)..
SUB BCREJ ;23 - 4
LSLA ;46 (min) - 8 (max)
CMP TEMA ;clip?
BHI GFOK2
STA TEMA ;clip below max. pos. excursion
GFOK2 TXA
ADDIT ADD TEMA
;clip at full scale
BCC NOFS ;CLIP IF OVERFLOW
LDA #OFFH
NOFS
*finish processing A into dislev....
NOCLIP
SUB #80H ;CONVERT SB
STA DISLEV ;POSSIBLY REDUNDANT
ADDEND
*****
* RIG UP DON AND DOD FROM DISLEV
*

```



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334      * IN:  DISLEV                                *
335      *OUT: DOD=1 IF (DISLEV)>VDISENS(DATA PRESENT)*
336      *OUT: DON=1 IF DISLEV >0 (ACCEPT)            *
337      *****
338      01DB  18 00      BSET   4,FLAGA  ;DON (SET IF ACCEPT)
339      01DD  17 00      BCLR   3,FLAGA  ;DOD (SET IF DISC ON)
340      01DF  2A 03      BPL     RPT1     ;GO IF PLUS
341      01E1  40         NEGA
342      01E2  19 00      BCLR   4,FLAGA  ;DON CLEAR=REJ
343      01E4  BB 00      RPT1  ADD     VDISENS ;vdi sens.: 1 (min) - 99 (max)
344      01E6  A1 64      CMP     #100
345      01EB  25 02      BLD     RPT2     ;GO IF <THRESHOLD
346      01EA  16 00      BSET   3,FLAGA  ;DOD: ENABLE DISCRIM.
347      01EC          RPT2
348      *****
349      * ALWAYS UPDATE AUDIO AND DISPLAY.          *
350      *****
351      01EC          WRITE
352      01EC  CD 00 00      JSR     AUDIO   ;DO AUDIO
353      01EF  B1          RTS           ;END OF REPORT
354      *****
355      01F0          END

```


MRKRL00P	004B	:	99																
NEXTSEG	019E	:	224																
NDATH	018C	:	263																
NOCLEAR	00BB	:	144	143															
NOCLIP	01D7	:	310																
NODFADE	0090	:	122	124	126														
NOFS	01D7	:	324																
NOTPK	009B	:	131	132															
NOTPK2	0170	:	140																
OPTST	EXTERN	:																	
PEAK	00AD	:	133																
PHASE	EXTERN	:	107	149	183	301													
PHRAC	EXTERN	:	174																
PDSVD1	00DC	:	158																
RECOV	EXTERN	:	268																
REPORT	0000	:	7																
RPT1	01E4	:	340																
RPT2	01EC	:	345																
SCALE2	0019	:	38	64															
SCALE3	001F	:	61																
SCALE4	0025	:	65																
SCALE1T	002A	:	70																
SCALE1T2	0032	:	73																
SCLOOP	0037	:	82																
SEARCH	0080	:	42																
BET	EXTERN	:	234																
SETFADE	0075	:	127	148															
SHORT	013A	:	207																
SHOWIT	003D	:	73																
SIGBAL	EXTERN	:	50																
SIGN?	00D2	:	108	152	153														
SPECTM	0109	:	157	180															
STASH	015F	:	201	203	209	211	218	222											
STAT	EXTERN	:	42	131	153	180	296												
STATE	EXTERN	:	122																
STATTABL	EXTERN	:	63	108	144	152	192	233	236										
SUBIT	01BC	:	300	301															
TEMA	EXTERN	:	77	79	89	102	185	188	225	227	258	305	307	309					
318																			
			320	322															
TFREQ	EXTERN	:	36																
VDI	EXTERN	:	133	139	150	156													
VDIAV	EXTERN	:																	
VDIGENS	EXTERN	:	343																
VLOOP	0111	:	191																
WBFEND	017E	:	251	254	256														
WRITE	01EC	:	109	181															

LINES ASSEMBLED : 355

ASSEMBLY ERRORS : 0

What is claimed is:

1. An apparatus for displaying signal information associated with a receive signal in a metal detector, comprising:
 - (a) means for receiving a phase angle associated with said receive signal;
 - (b) means for receiving a signal amplitude value associated with said receive signal;
 - (c) means for establishing a receive signal amplitude threshold;
 - (d) means for detecting and counting the number occurrences that the receive signal exceeds said receive signal amplitude threshold;
 - (e) first means for displaying simultaneously phase angle and signal amplitude information on a display unit;
 - (f) second means for displaying simultaneously phase angle and said number of occurrences on a display unit; and
 - (g) means for switching between said first and second display means.
2. The apparatus of claim 1, wherein said means for receiving said signal amplitude value only receives those receive signals that exceed a predetermined threshold.
3. The apparatus of claim 1 wherein said phase angle and amplitude information are displayed, one as a function of the other, on a two-axes graphical display device.
4. The apparatus of claim 1 wherein said phase angle and said number of occurrences are displayed, one as a function of the other, on a two-axes graphical display device.
5. A display for graphically displaying receive signal information associated with a metal detector, comprising:
 - (a) means for receiving a phase angle value associated with said receive signal;
 - (b) means for receiving a signal count of a number of times that the receive signal exceeds a predetermined amplitude threshold at a particular phase angle; and
 - (c) microprocessor means for causing said phase angle value and said signal count to appear simultaneously on said display.

6. In a metal detector which generates a receive signal responsive to local magnetic field perturbations, including means for detecting a phase angle value associated with said receive signal the improvement comprising:

- (a) means for detecting a signal count of a number of times that the receive signal exceeds a predetermined amplitude threshold at a particular phase angle; and
- (b) a visual display for simultaneously displaying said phase angle value and said signal count.

7. A display method for graphically displaying receive signal information associated with a metal detector, comprising the steps of:

- (a) displaying a plurality of phase angles simultaneously on a display; and
- (b) displaying on said display said plurality of phase angles simultaneously with a signal count of the number of times that the receive signal exceeds a predetermined amplitude threshold at a particular phase angle.

8. A method of displaying signal information associated with a metal detector, comprising the steps of:

- (a) establishing a receive signal amplitude threshold;
- (b) detecting each occurrence that the receive signal exceeds said threshold;
- (c) counting the number of said occurrences;
- (d) displaying said number of occurrences on a display unit; and
- (e) detecting a phase angle associated with said receive signal when said receive signal exceeds said threshold and simultaneously displaying said phase angle and said number of occurrences.

9. The method of claim 8 wherein said number of occurrences and said phase angle are displayed, one as a function of the other, on a two-axes visual display device.

10. The method of claim 8 wherein said number of occurrences is resolved into a correlative number of predetermined ranges of numbers corresponding to a number of display characters on said display unit.

* * * * *