



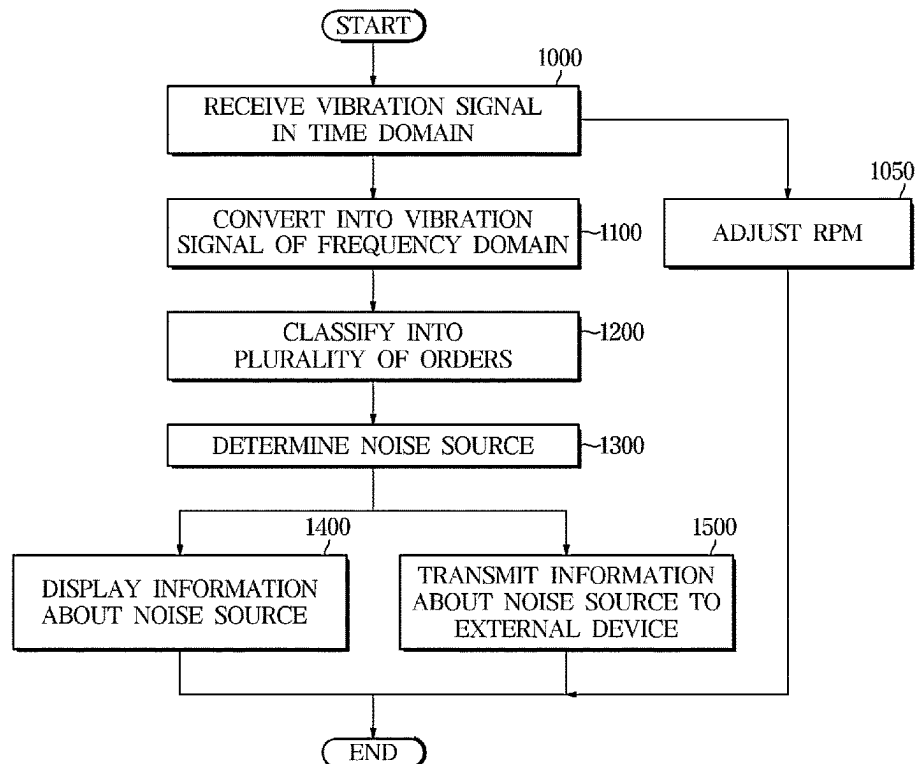
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**KIM et al.**(10) **Pub. No.: US 2025/0257510 A1**(43) **Pub. Date: Aug. 14, 2025**(54) **CLOTHES TREATMENT APPARATUS AND  
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LTD.**, Suwon-si (KR)(21) Appl. No.: **19/196,474**(22) Filed: **May 1, 2025****Related U.S. Application Data**(63) Continuation of application No. 17/953,922, filed on  
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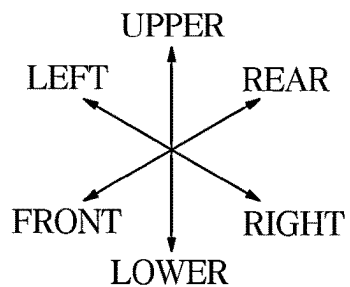
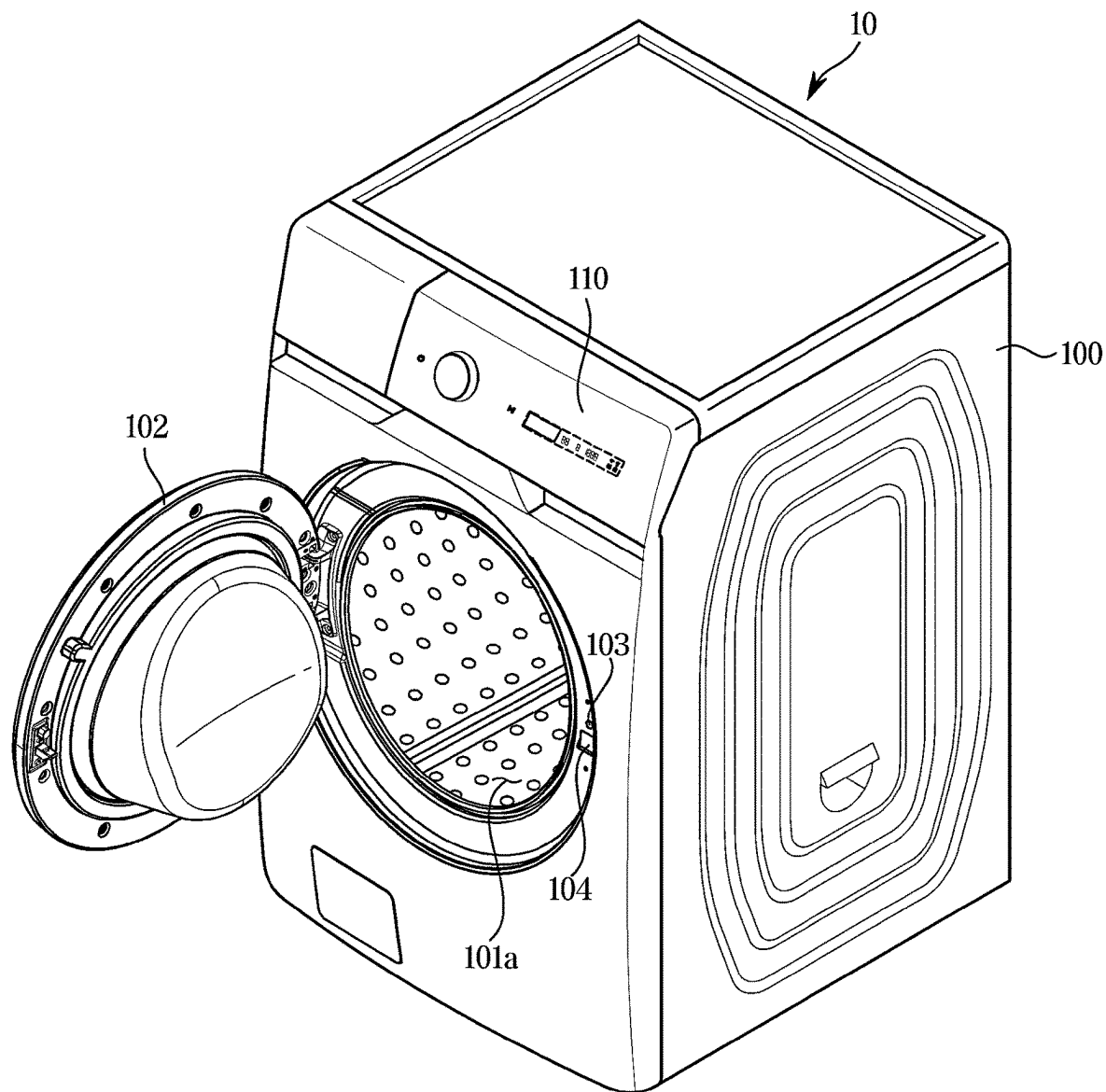
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**2105/48** (2020.02); **D06F 2105/58** (2020.02)**ABSTRACT**

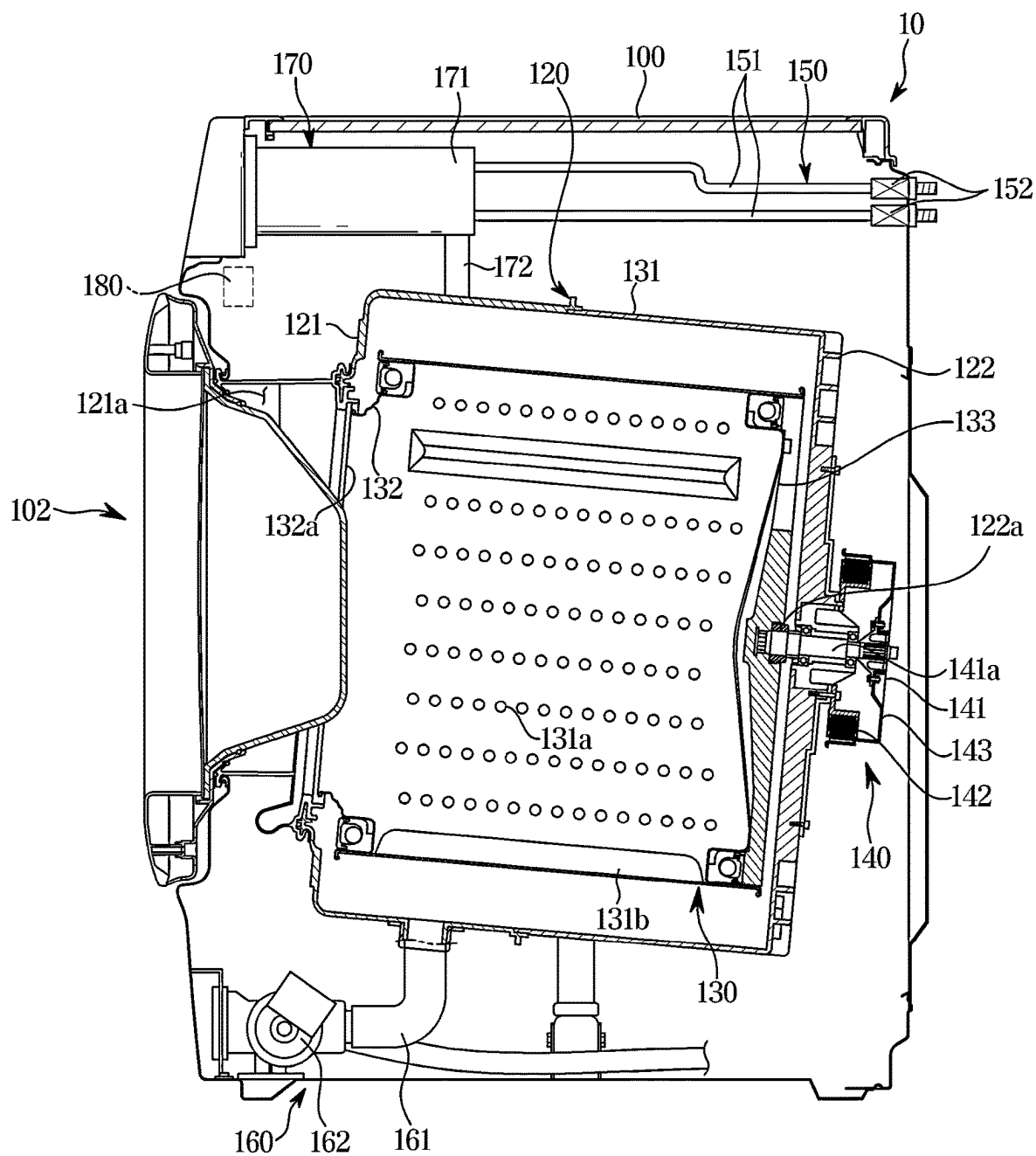
A clothes treatment apparatus for identifying a noise course in which abnormal noise occurs, the clothes treatment apparatus including: a frame forming a skeleton of a cabinet; a cover plate surrounding the frame to form an external appearance of the cabinet; a tub provided in the cabinet; a drum rotatably provided in the tub; a drum motor configured to rotate the drum; and a vibration sensor provided on the frame.



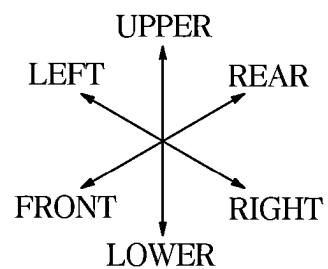
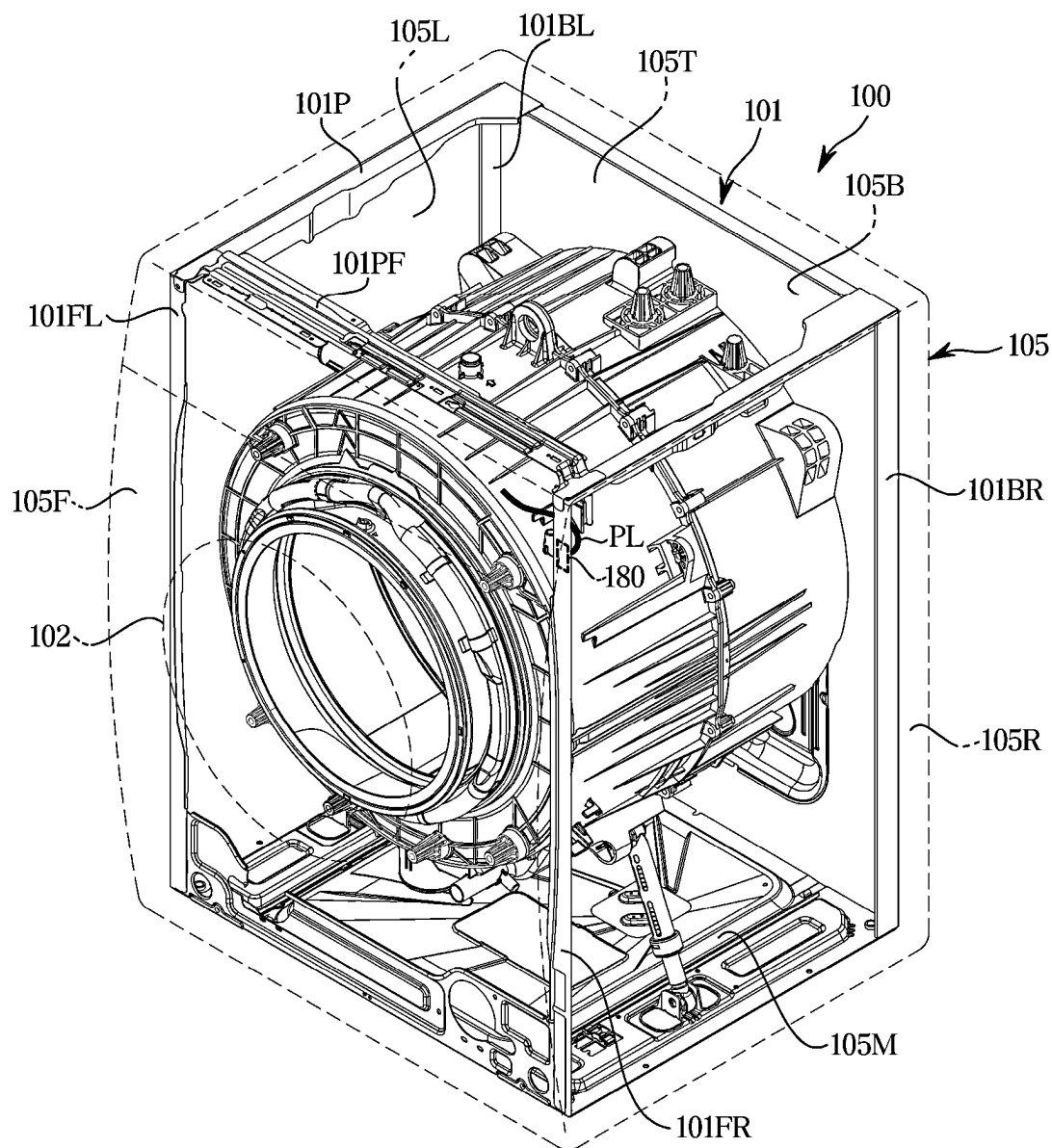
**FIG. 1**



**FIG. 2**



**FIG. 3A**



**FIG. 3B**

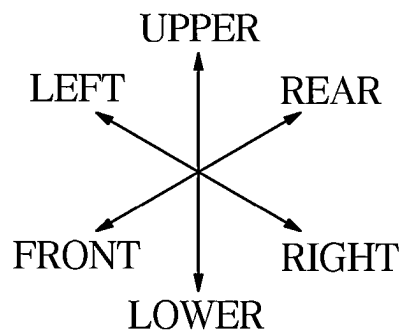
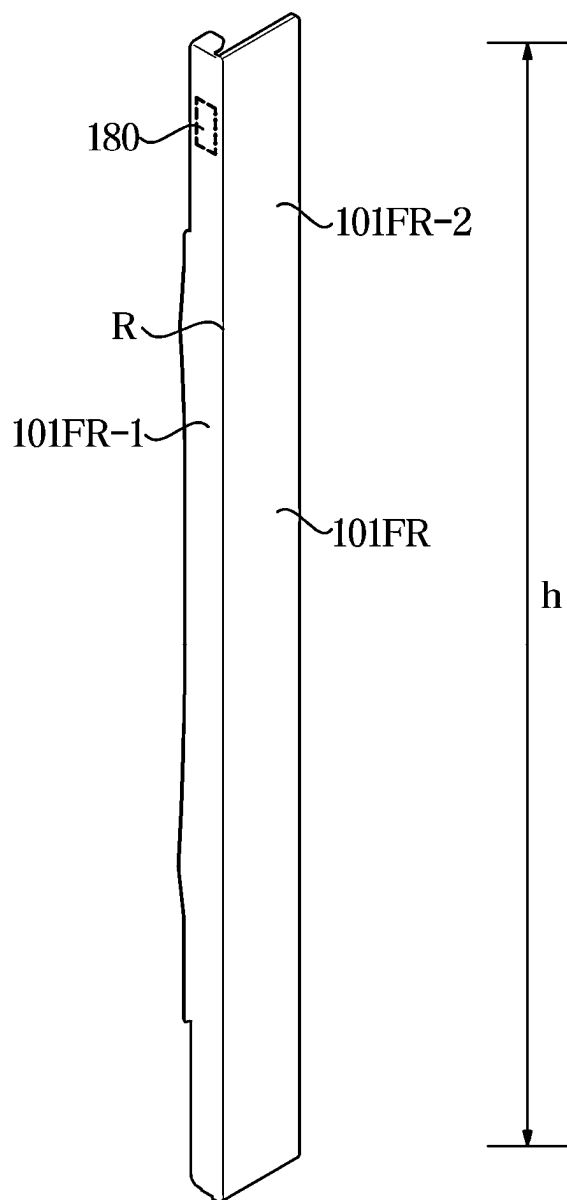
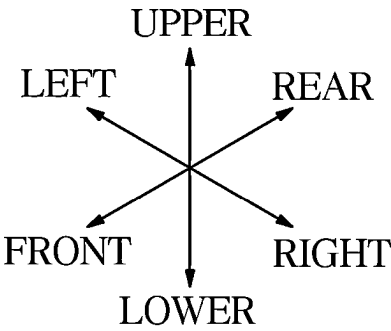
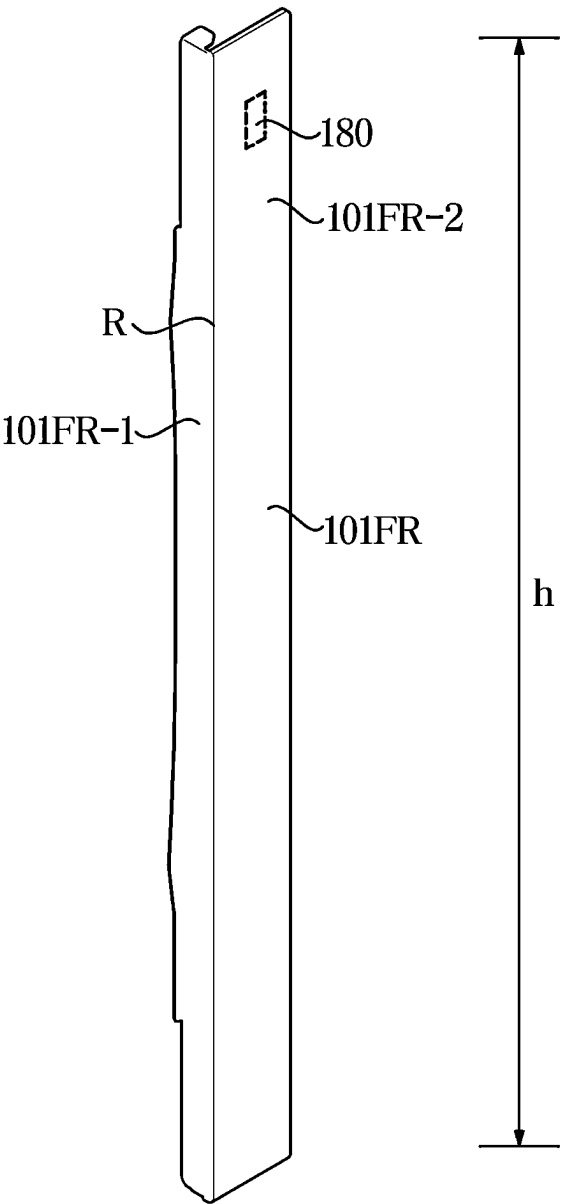
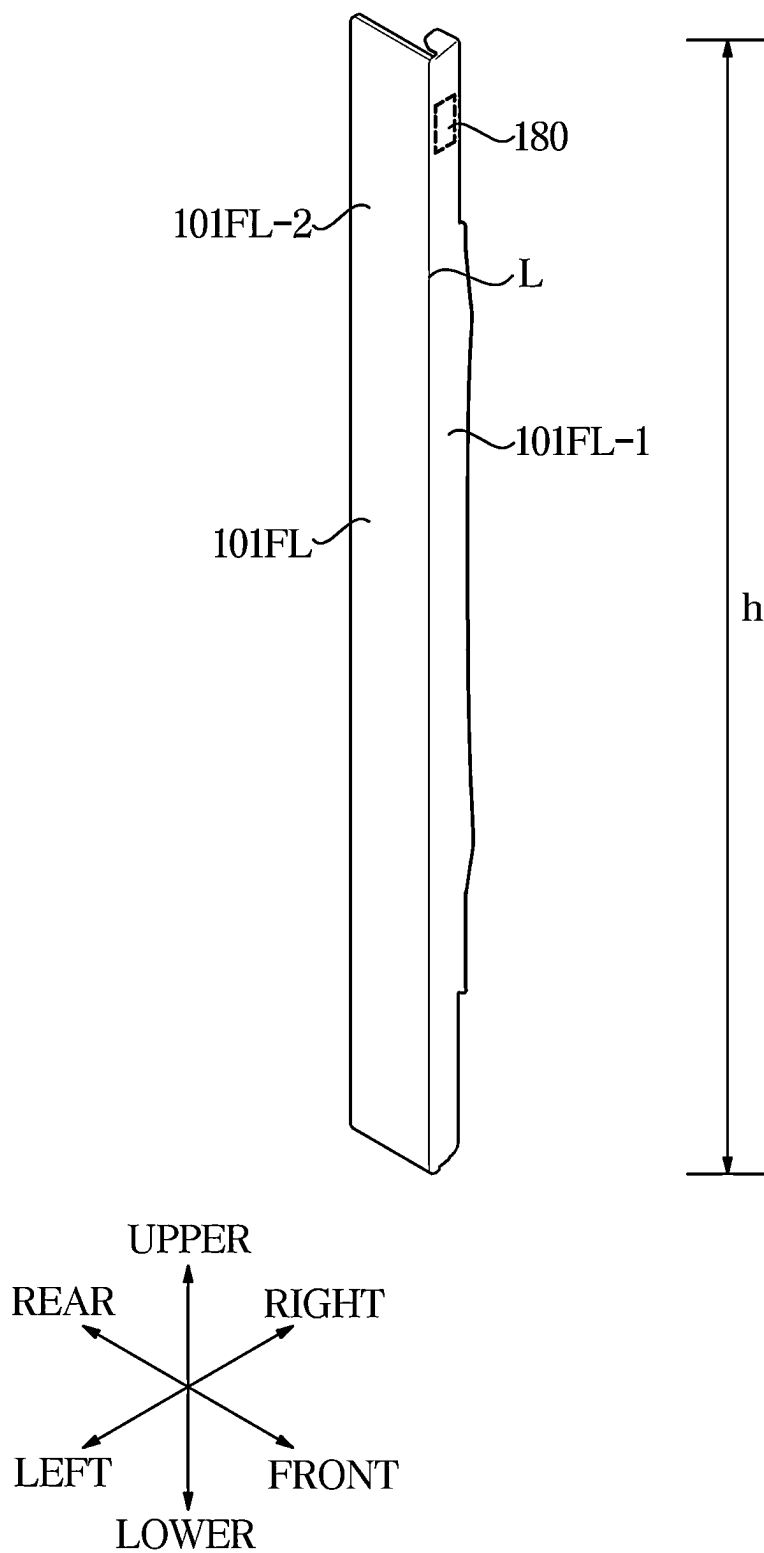


FIG. 3C



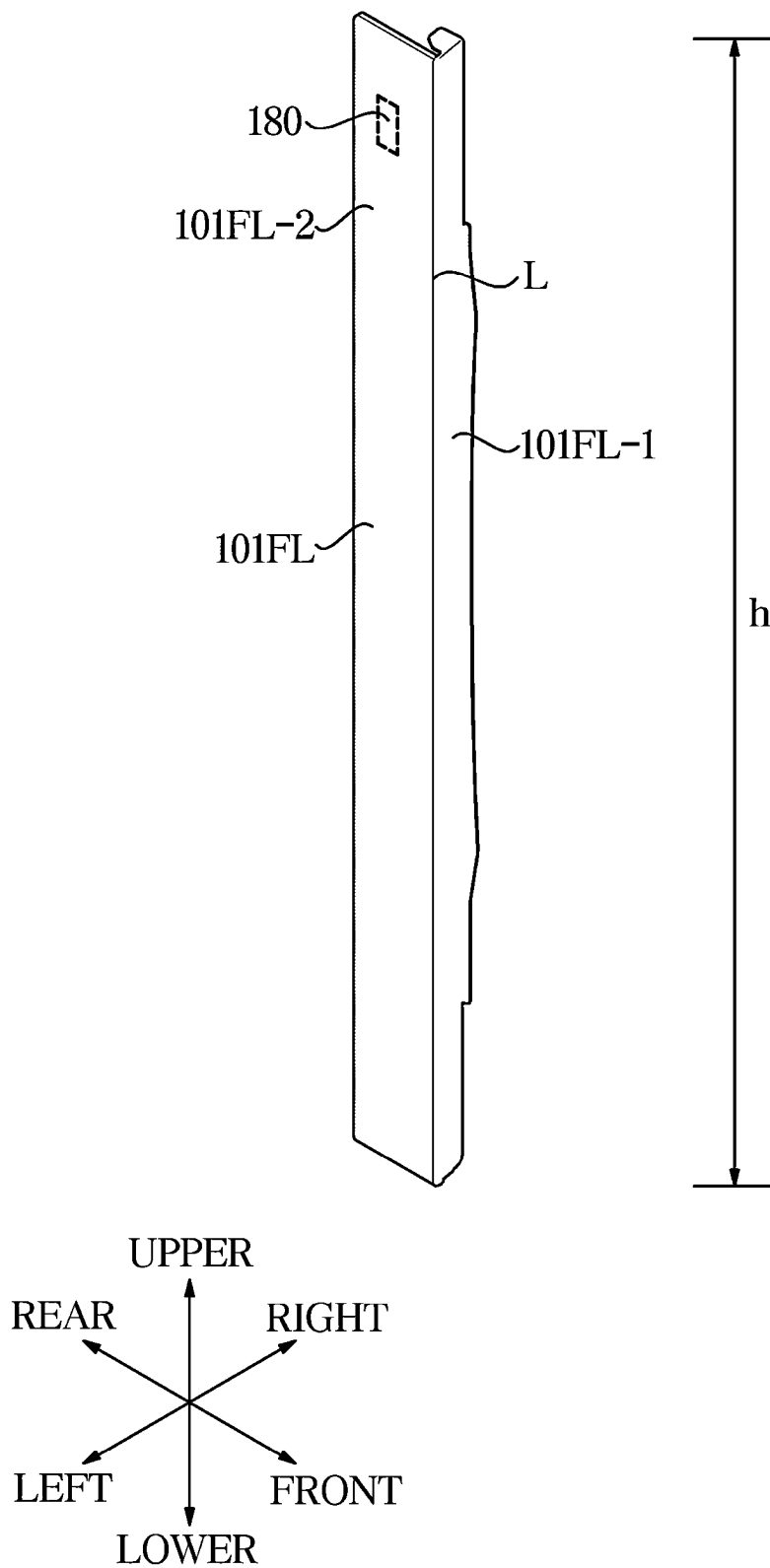


**FIG. 4B**



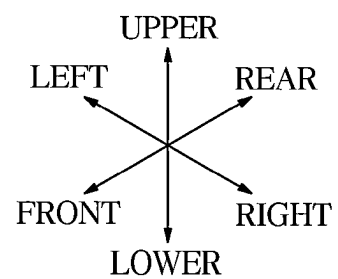
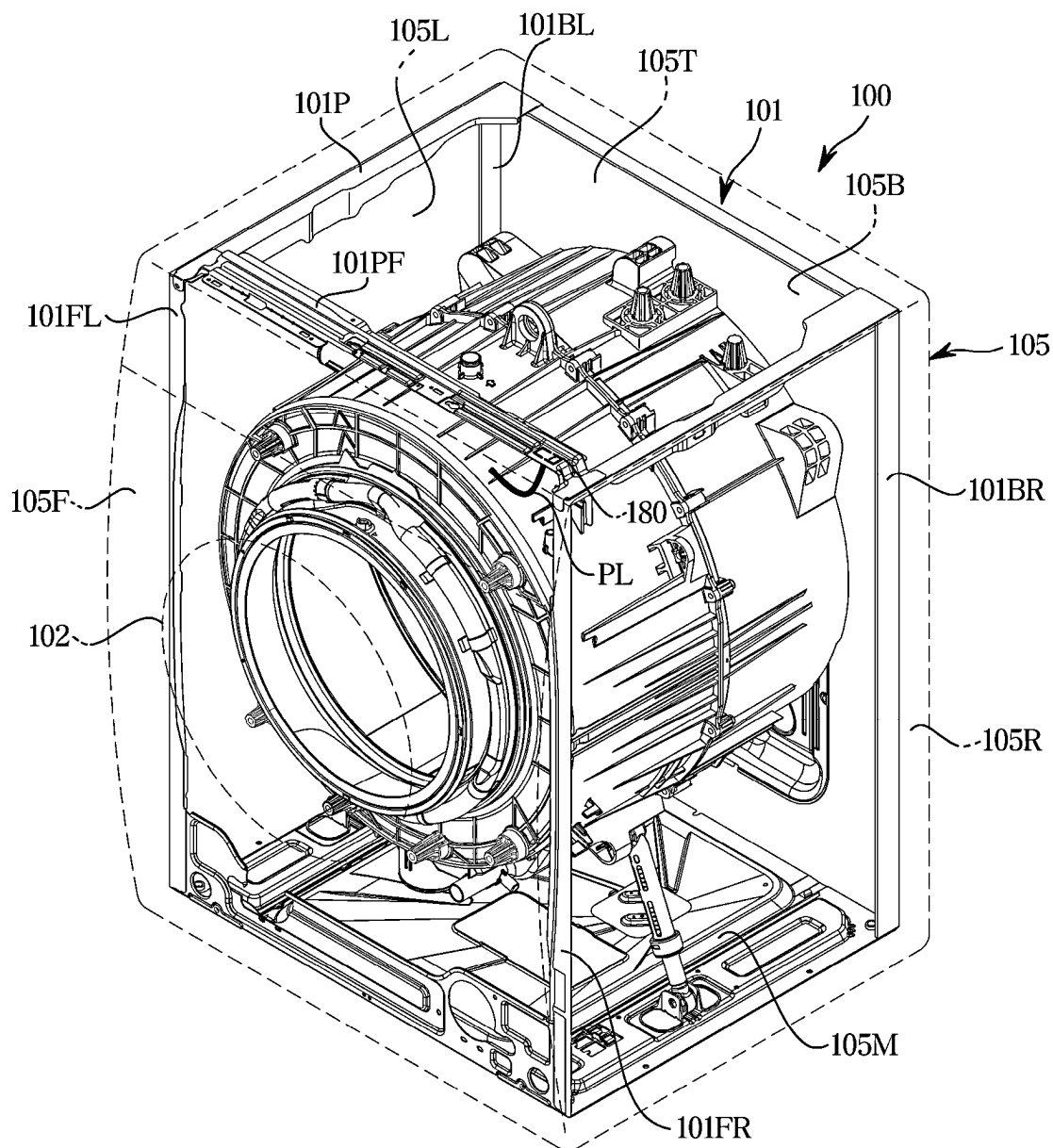


**FIG. 4C**

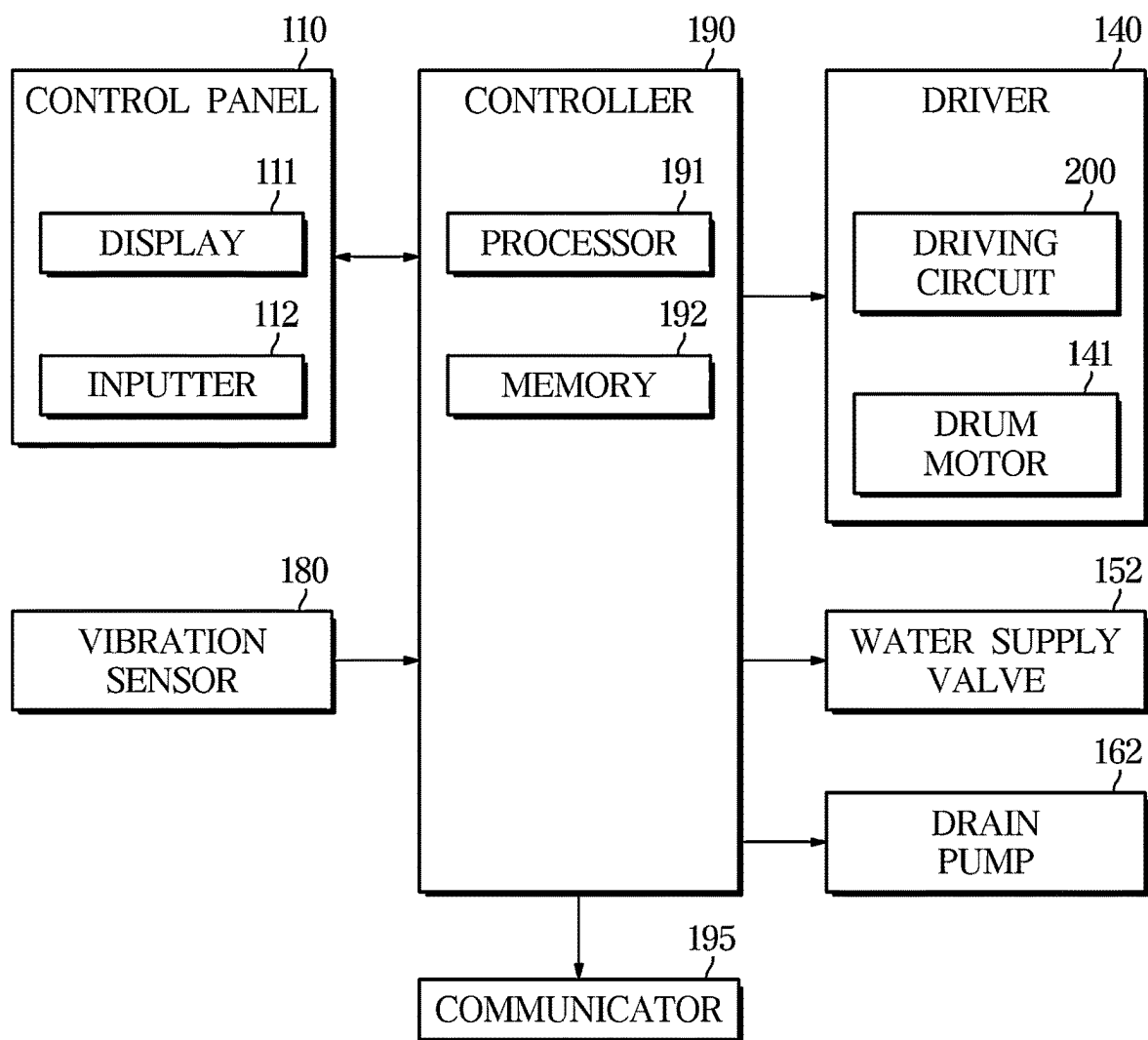




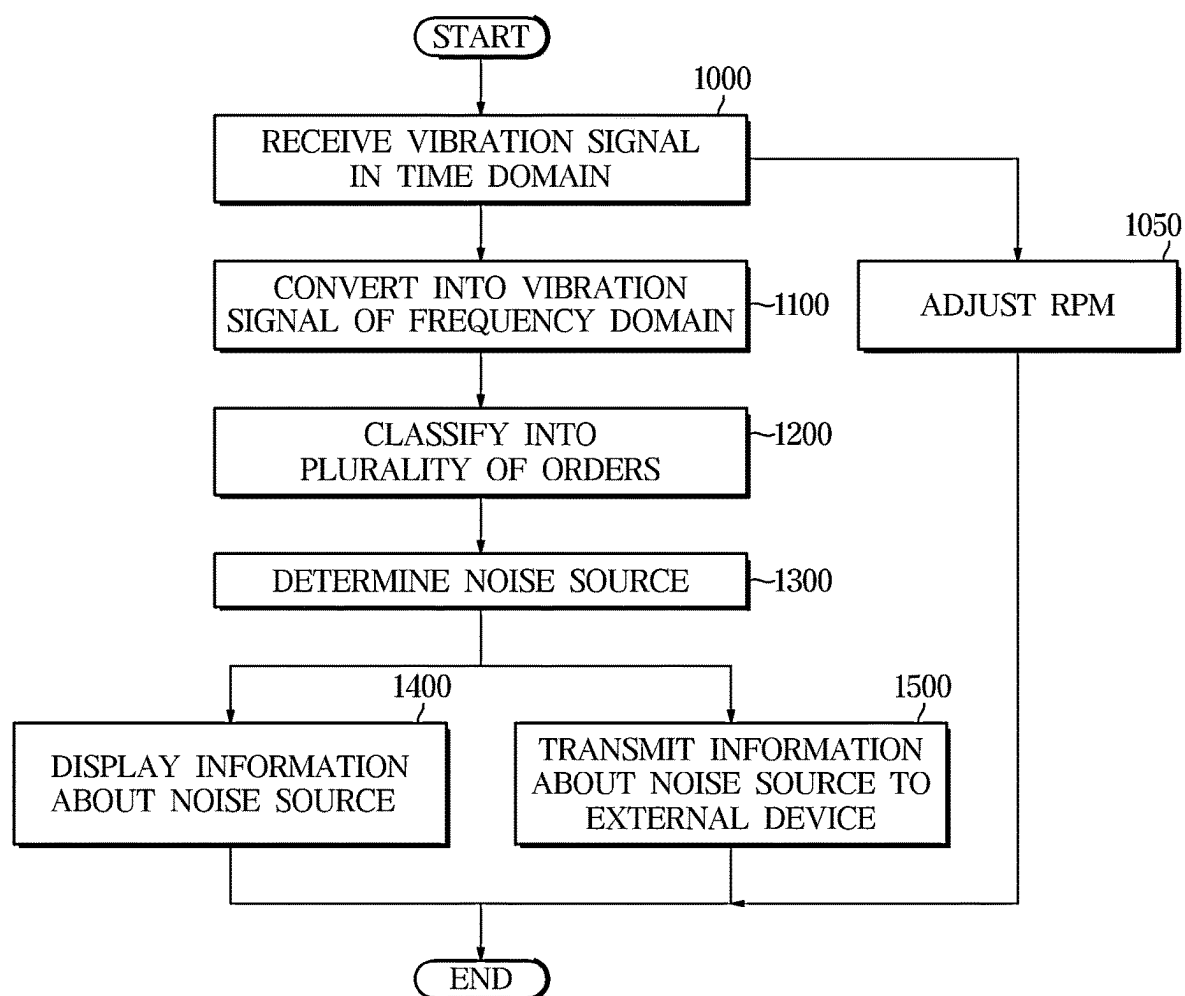
**FIG. 5B**



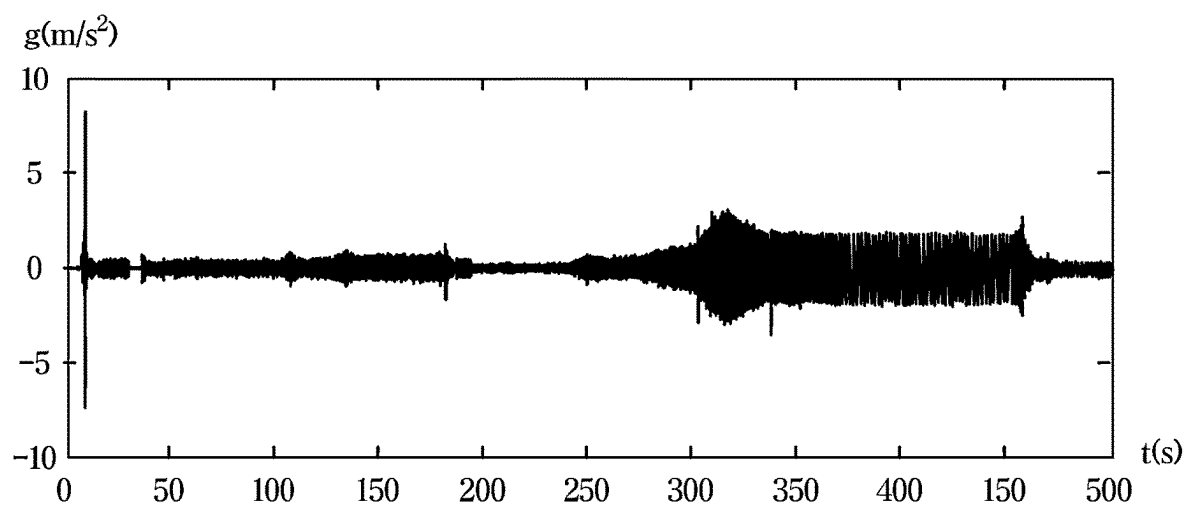
**FIG. 6**



**FIG. 7**



**FIG. 8**



**FIG. 9**

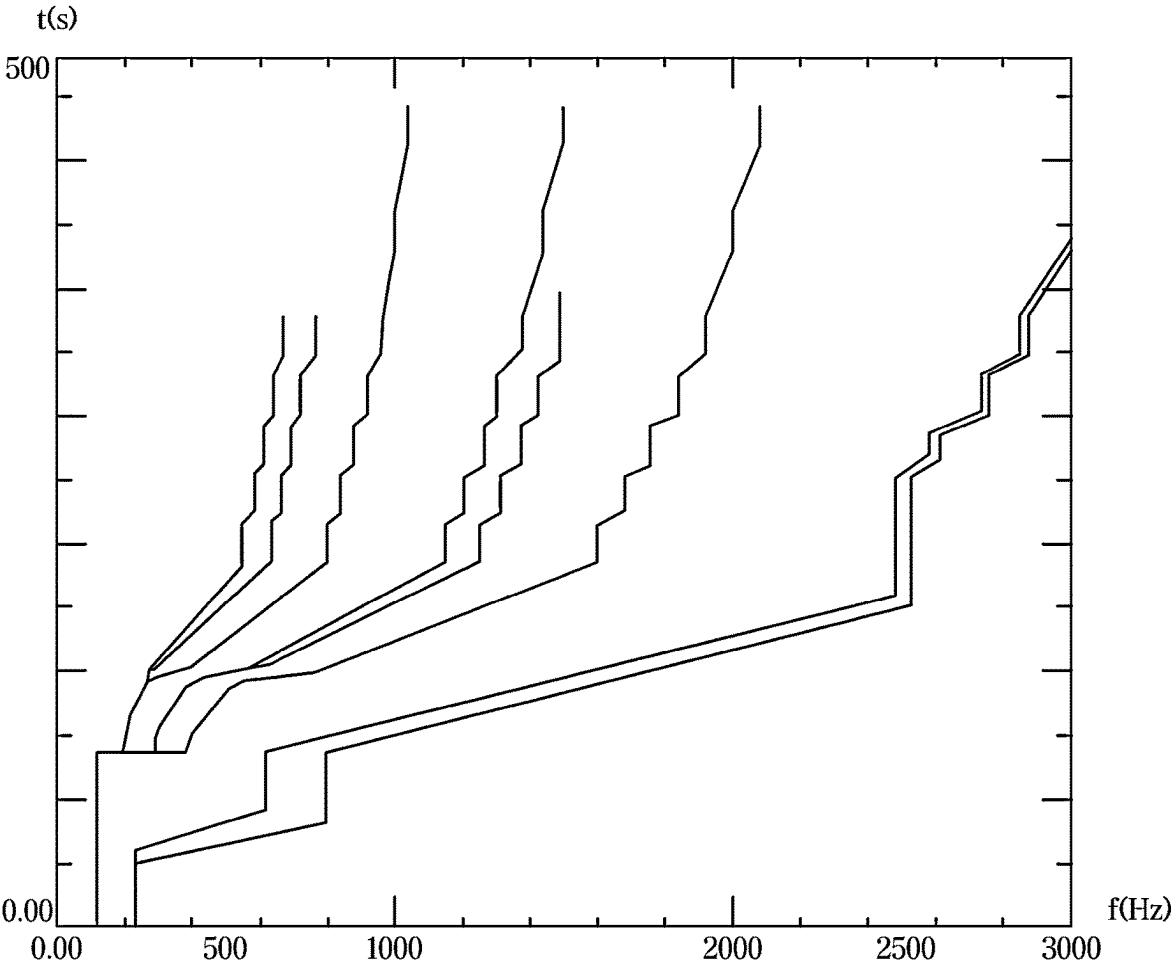
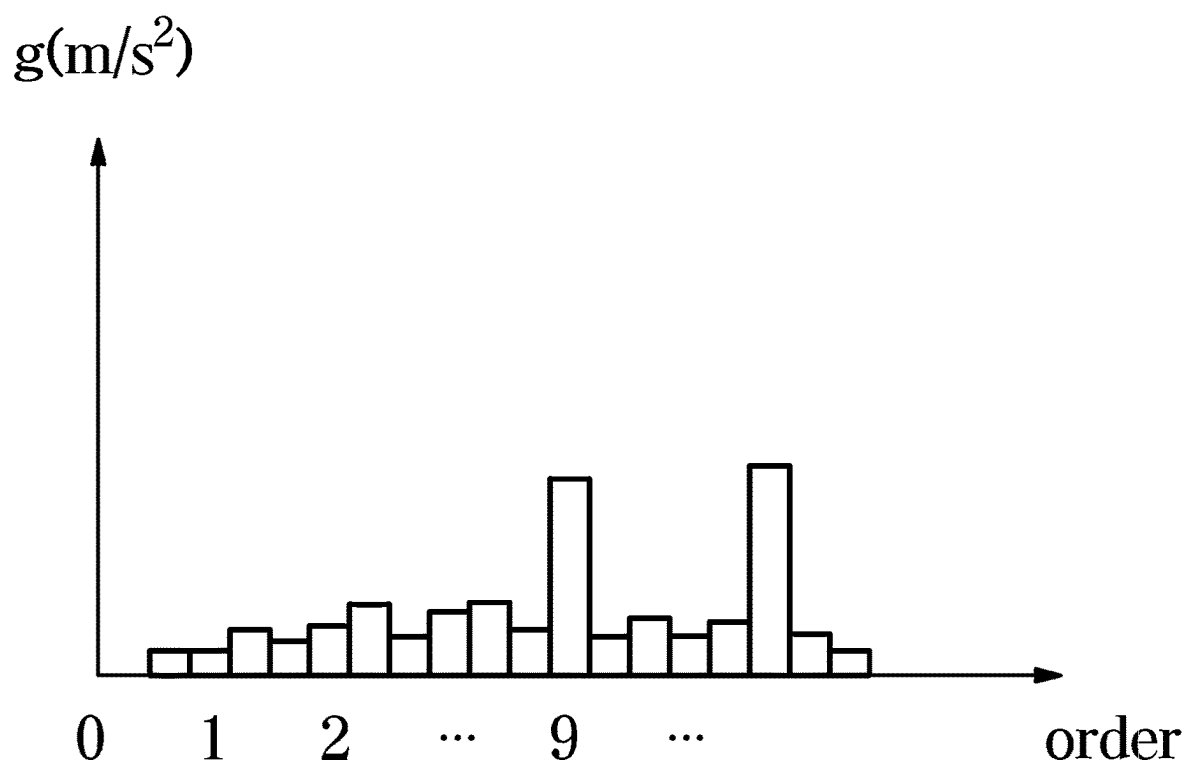


FIG. 10

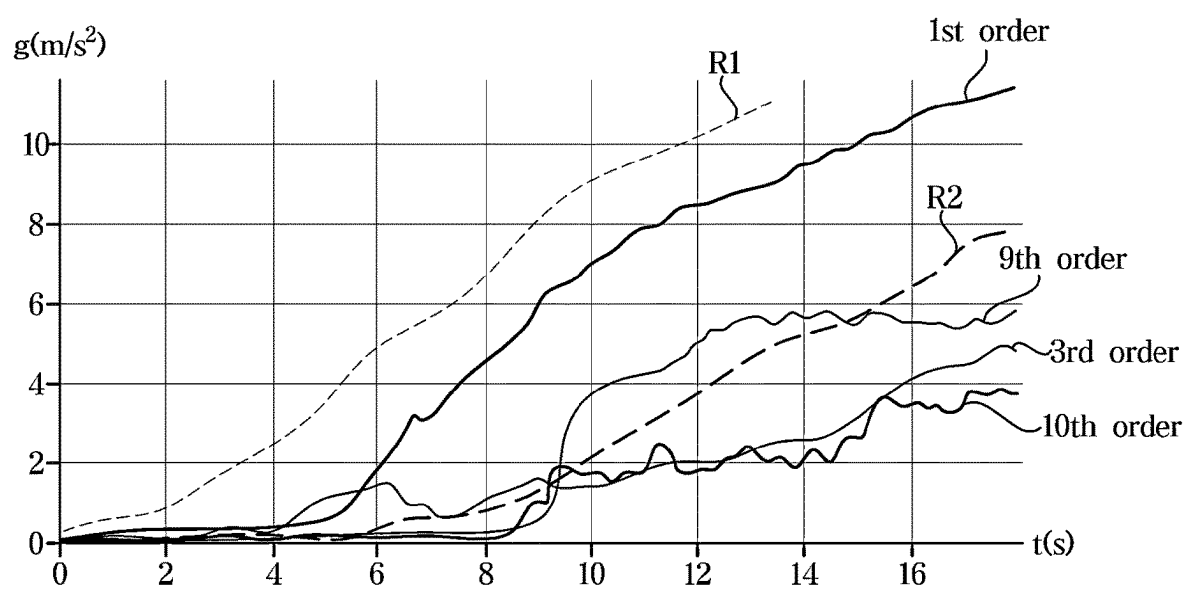
		ROTATION FREQUENCY(HZ)							
MAIN NOISE SOURCE		LAUNDRY ROTATING BODY (DRUM)	SHAFT Unbalance		ROTATING BODY (BEARING)	MOTOR BASIC (1X)	MOTOR HARMONICS (2X)	DRAIN PUMP	
Order		1st	2nd	...	9th	36th	72nd	AC	DC
ROTATION SPEED (RPM)	120	2	4		18	72	144	50/60	
	240	4	8		36	144	288		
	360	6	12		54	216	432		
	...								
	900	15	30		135	540	1080		
	1200	20	40		180	720	1440		



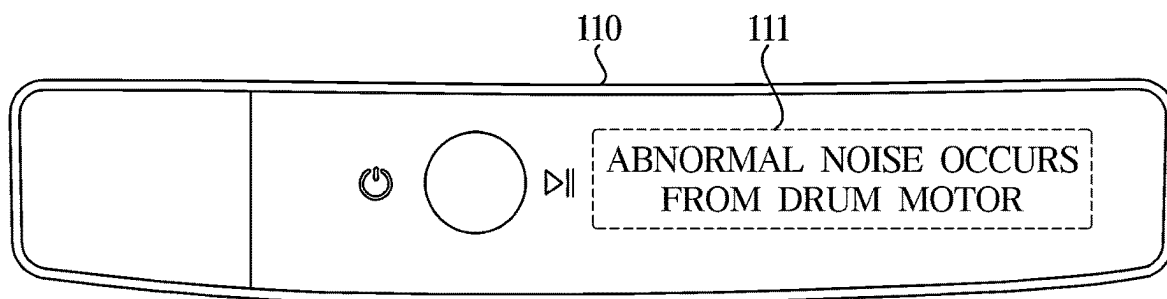
**FIG. 11**



**FIG. 12**



**FIG. 13**



**FIG. 14**

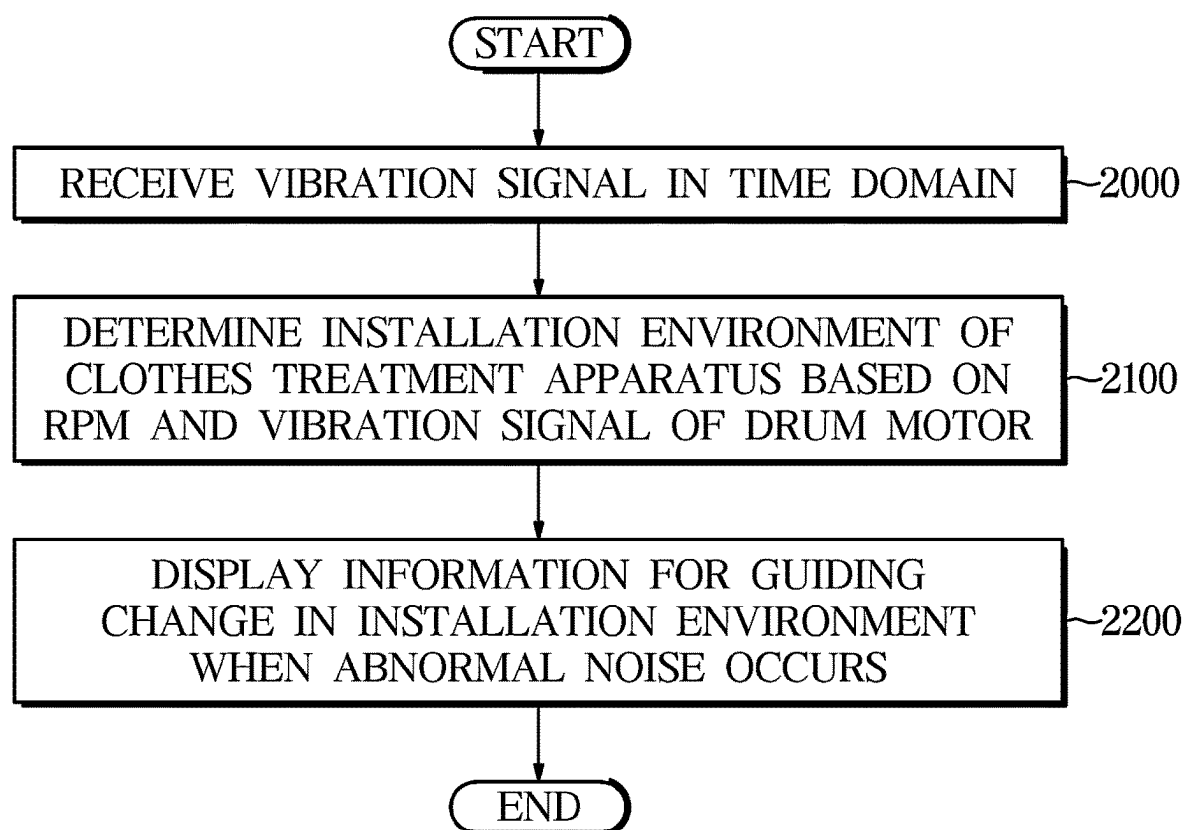
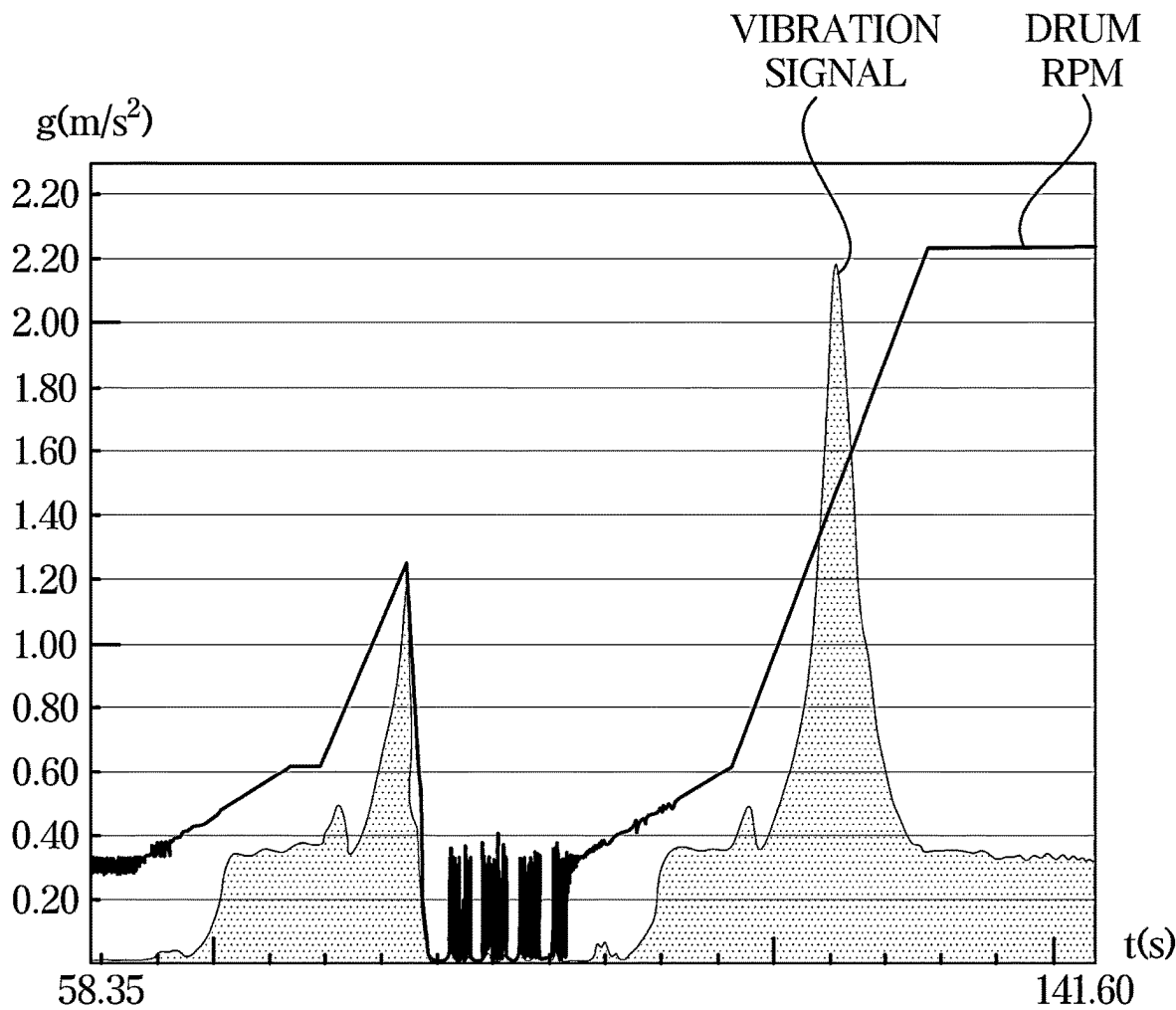
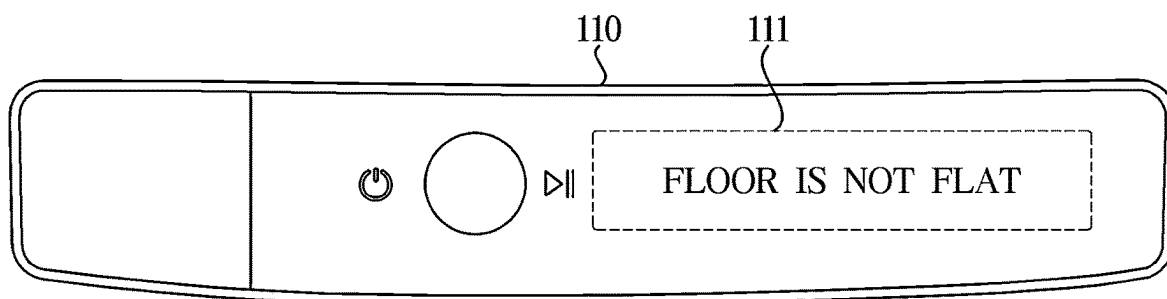


FIG. 15



**FIG. 16**



## CLOTHES TREATMENT APPARATUS AND METHOD OF CONTROLLING THE SAME

### CROSS-REFERENCE TO RELATED APPLICATION

[0001] This application is a continuation application of U.S. patent application Ser. No. 17/953,922, filed Sep. 27, 2022 which is a continuation application, under 35 USC § 111 (a), of International Application No. PCT/KR2022/013461, filed on Sep. 7, 2022, which claims priority to Korean Patent Application No. 10-2021-0180629, filed on Dec. 16, 2021, in the Korean Intellectual Property Office, the disclosure of which is incorporated by reference herein in its entirety.

### BACKGROUND

#### 1. Field

[0002] The disclosed relates to a clothes treatment apparatus and a method of controlling the same, and more specifically, to a clothes treatment apparatus capable of identifying a noise source and reducing noise and a method of controlling the same.

#### 2. Description of Related Art

[0003] In general, a clothes treatment apparatus may refer to a washing machine that washes a washing object by rotating a drum in which the washing object and wash water are contained, or a drying machine that dries a drying object by rotating a drum in which the drying object is contained and supplying hot air.

[0004] In the case of the clothes treatment apparatus, various types of noise may occur due to vibration generated as the drum rotates at a high speed during an operation cycle.

[0005] For example, when a washing object or a drying object is unevenly disposed inside the drum (occurrence of unbalance), eccentricity may occur in the rotating drum, increasing vibration of a tub, causing abnormal noise.

[0006] As another example, according to the installation environment of the clothes treatment apparatus, vibration of the tub may increase, causing abnormal noise.

[0007] As such, noise occurring during the operation cycle of the clothes treatment apparatus may cause inconvenience to the user.

### SUMMARY

[0008] According to an aspect of the disclosure, there is provided a clothes treatment apparatus including: a frame to from a skeleton of a cabinet; a cover plate surrounding the frame and forming an external surface of the cabinet; a tub to be positioned in the cabinet; a drum to be positioned in the tub and configured to be rotatable; a motor configured to rotate the drum; and a vibration sensor which is positioned on the frame to sense a vibration of the frame and output a vibration signal related to the vibration of the frame.

[0009] The clothes treatment apparatus may further include a processor configured to convert the vibration signal in a time domain into a vibration signal in a frequency domain, classify the vibration signal in the frequency domain into a plurality of orders based on a rotation speed of the motor, and determine a noise source of the clothes treatment apparatus based on amplitudes of the plurality of orders.

[0010] The processor may be configured to: compare the amplitude of each of the plurality of orders with a reference amplitude corresponding to a respective one of the plurality of orders; determine a defect order having an amplitude exceeding the reference amplitude from among the plurality of orders; and determine an object corresponding to the defect order as the noise source.

[0011] The clothes treatment apparatus may further include a communicator configured to communicate with an external device, wherein the processor may be configured to control the communicator to transmit information about the noise source of the clothes treatment apparatus to the external device.

[0012] The clothes treatment apparatus may further include a display, wherein the processor may be configured to control the display to display information about the noise source of the clothes treatment apparatus.

[0013] The processor may be configured to determine an installation environment of the clothes treatment apparatus based on the vibration signal in the time domain.

[0014] The processor may be configured to adjust the rotation speed of the drum motor based on the vibration signal in the time domain.

[0015] The cabinet further comprising a door at a front of the cabinet, the frame may include a plurality of post frames corresponding to edges along a longitudinal direction of the cabinet, and the vibration sensor may be attachable to a post frame on a front side of the cabinet among the plurality of post frames.

[0016] The post frame on the front side of the cabinet may include: a left side post frame including a first panel formed to extend rightward with respect to a left side longitudinal edge of the cabinet and a second panel formed to extend rearward with respect to the left side longitudinal edge of the cabinet, and a right side post frame including a third panel formed to extend leftward with respect to a right side longitudinal edge of the cabinet and a fourth panel formed to extend rearward with respect to the right side longitudinal edge of the cabinet, wherein the vibration sensor may be attachable to one of a rear surface of the first panel, a right surface of the second panel, a rear surface of the third panel, and a left surface of the fourth panel.

[0017] The vibration sensor may be attachable to an upper side of the post frame.

[0018] The frame may include a plurality of horizontal frames corresponding to edges in a traverse direction of the cabinet, and the vibration sensor may be attachable to an upper horizontal frame on a front side of the cabinet among the plurality of horizontal post frames.

[0019] The cover plate may include a front plate corresponding to the front of the cabinet, and the vibration sensor may be attachable to the upper horizontal frame without being in contact with the front plate.

[0020] According to another aspect of the disclosure, there is provided a method of controlling a clothes treatment apparatus, the method including: receiving a vibration signal in a time domain output from the vibration sensor attached to a frame forming a cabinet of the clothes treatment apparatus; converting the vibration signal in the time domain into a vibration signal in a frequency domain; classifying the vibration signal in the frequency domain into a plurality of orders based on a rotation speed of a drum motor; and determining a noise source of the clothes treatment apparatus based on amplitudes of the plurality of orders.

[0021] The determining of the noise source may include: comparing the amplitude of each of the plurality of orders with a reference amplitude corresponding to a respective one of the plurality of orders; determining a defect order having an amplitude exceeding the reference amplitude from among the plurality of orders; and determining an object corresponding to the defect order as the noise source.

[0022] The method may further include transmitting information about the noise source of the clothes treatment apparatus to an external device.

[0023] The method may further include displaying information about a noise source of the clothes treatment apparatus on a display.

[0024] The method may further include determining an installation environment of the clothes treatment apparatus based on a vibration signal in the time domain.

[0025] The method may further include adjusting a rotation speed of the drum motor based on the vibration signal in the time domain.

[0026] The adjusting of the rotation speed of the drum motor may include decelerating the rotation speed of the drum motor based on an amplitude of the vibration signal in the time domain being greater than or equal to a preset value.

[0027] The frame may include a plurality of post frames corresponding to longitudinal edges of the cabinet and a plurality of horizontal frames corresponding to traverse edges of the cabinet, and the vibration sensor may be attached to a post frame on a front side of the cabinet among the plurality of post frames or may be attached to an upper horizontal frame on a front side of the cabinet among the plurality of horizontal frames.

#### BRIEF DESCRIPTION OF THE DRAWINGS

[0028] The above and other aspects, features, and advantages of certain embodiments of the present disclosure will be more apparent from the following description taken in conjunction with the accompanying drawings, in which:

[0029] FIG. 1 is a view illustrating an external appearance of a clothes treatment apparatus according to an embodiment.

[0030] FIG. 2 is a side cross-sectional view illustrating a clothes treatment apparatus according to an embodiment.

[0031] FIG. 3A is a view for describing an installation position of a vibration sensor according to an embodiment.

[0032] FIG. 3B is a view for describing an installation position of a vibration sensor according to an embodiment.

[0033] FIG. 3C is a view for describing an installation position of a vibration sensor according to an embodiment.

[0034] FIG. 4A is a view for describing an installation position of a vibration sensor according to another embodiment.

[0035] FIG. 4B is a view for describing an installation position of a vibration sensor according to another embodiment.

[0036] FIG. 4C is a view for describing an installation position of a vibration sensor according to another embodiment.

[0037] FIG. 5A is a view for describing an installation position of a vibration sensor according to another embodiment.

[0038] FIG. 5B is a view for describing an installation position of a vibration sensor according to another embodiment.

[0039] FIG. 6 is a control block diagram illustrating a clothes treatment apparatus according to an embodiment.

[0040] FIG. 7 is a flowchart showing a method of controlling a clothes treatment apparatus according to an embodiment.

[0041] FIG. 8 is a view illustrating a vibration signal in a time domain obtained from a vibration sensor during an operation cycle of a clothes treatment apparatus according to an embodiment.

[0042] FIG. 9 is a graph showing a vibration signal in a frequency domain, which is converted from a vibration signal in a time domain obtained from a vibration sensor, according to an embodiment.

[0043] FIG. 10 is a view illustrating a plurality of orders corresponding to a plurality of noise sources of the clothes treatment apparatus according to an embodiment.

[0044] FIG. 11 is a view illustrating amplitudes of a plurality of orders corresponding to a plurality of noise sources of a clothes treatment apparatus according to an embodiment.

[0045] FIG. 12 is a graph in which vibration signals corresponding to a plurality of orders are classified in a time domain.

[0046] FIG. 13 is a view illustrating an example in which a clothes treatment apparatus according to an embodiment notifies a noise source.

[0047] FIG. 14 is a flowchart showing a method of controlling a clothes treatment apparatus according to another embodiment.

[0048] FIG. 15 is a graph showing a vibration signal according to a drum revolution per minute (RPM) of a clothes treatment apparatus according to an embodiment.

[0049] FIG. 16 is a view illustrating an example in which a clothes treatment apparatus according to an embodiment notifies an installation environment.

#### DETAILED DESCRIPTION

[0050] The embodiments described in the present specification and the configurations shown in the drawings are only examples of preferred embodiments of the disclosure, and various modifications may be made at the time of filing of the disclosure to replace the embodiments and drawings of the present specification.

[0051] The terms used herein are for the purpose of describing the embodiments and are not intended to restrict and/or to limit the disclosure.

[0052] For example, the singular expressions herein may include plural expressions, unless the context clearly dictates otherwise.

[0053] In addition, the terms “comprises” and “has” are intended to indicate that there are features, numbers, steps, operations, elements, parts, or combinations thereof described in the specification, and do not exclude the presence or addition of one or more other features, numbers, steps, operations, elements, parts, or combinations thereof.

[0054] It will be understood that, although the terms first, second, etc. may be used herein to describe various components, these components should not be limited by these terms. These terms are only used to distinguish one component from another.

[0055] The terms, such as “~part”, “~device”, “~block”, “~member”, “~module”, and the like may refer to a unit for processing at least one function or act. For example, the terms may refer to at least process processed by at least one



hardware, such as field-programmable gate array (FPGA)/application specific integrated circuit (ASIC), software stored in memories, or processors.

[0056] Hereinafter, an embodiment of the disclosure will be described in detail with reference to the accompanying drawings. Throughout the drawings, like reference numbers or signs represent parts or components that perform substantially the same functions.

[0057] Hereinafter, the principles and embodiments of the disclosure will be described with reference to the accompanying drawings.

[0058] According to one aspect of the disclosure, a noise source of abnormal noise can be accurately identified by installing a vibration sensor at an optimal position.

[0059] According to one aspect of the disclosure, user's complaints about abnormal noise can be reduced by identifying a noise source of abnormal noise occurring in the clothes processing apparatus and providing a user with information about the noise source.

[0060] According to an aspect of the disclosure, vibration and noise generated during the operation cycle of the clothes treatment apparatus can be reduced.

[0061] FIG. 1 is a view illustrating an external appearance of a clothes treatment apparatus according to an embodiment, and FIG. 2 is a side cross-sectional view illustrating a clothes treatment apparatus according to an embodiment.

[0062] In the disclosure, a clothes treatment apparatus 10 may refer to a washing machine for washing clothes or a drying machine for drying clothes. Hereinafter, for the sake of convenience of description, it is assumed that the clothes treatment apparatus 10 is a washing machine.

[0063] However, the clothes treatment apparatus 10 may also refer to a drying machine, and the drying machine may include components (e.g., a cabinet 100, a tub 120, a drum 130, a control panel 110, and a vibration sensor 180) that are common to a washing machine to be described below, and may further include additional components (e.g., a heat pump device, a hot air supply passage), and the like.

[0064] Referring to FIGS. 1 and 2, the clothes treatment apparatus 10 may include a cabinet 100 and a door 102 provided on a front side of the cabinet 100. The cabinet 100 may be provided at the center of the front with an inlet 101a for inputting or withdrawing laundry. The door 102 may be provided to open or close the inlet 101a. The door 102 may have one side rotatably mounted by a hinge. The closing of the inlet 101a by the door 102 may be detected by a door switch 103. When the inlet 101a is closed and the clothes treatment apparatus 10 operates, the door 102 may be locked by a door lock 104.

[0065] In addition, the clothes treatment apparatus 10 may include a control panel 110, a tub 120, a drum 130, a driver 140, a water supply 150, a drainer 160, a detergent supply 170, and a vibration sensor 180.

[0066] The cabinet 100 may be provided at a front upper side with the control panel 110 including an inputter 112 for obtaining a user input and a display for displaying operation information of the clothes treatment apparatus 10. The control panel 110 may provide a user interface for interaction between a user and the clothes treatment apparatus 10.

[0067] The tub 120 may be provided inside the cabinet 100 and accommodate water for washing and/or rinsing. The tub 120 may include a tub front part 121 having a front side with an opening 121a and a tub rear part 122 formed in a cylindrical shape and having a rear side closed. The tub front

part 121 may be provided with the opening 121a for inputting or withdrawing laundry into or from the drum 130. The tub rear part 122 may be provided at a rear wall thereof with a bearing 122a for rotatably fixing a drum motor 141.

[0068] The drum 130 may be rotatably provided inside the tub 120 and accommodate laundry. The drum 130 may include a drum body 131 having a cylindrical shape, a drum front part 132 provided on the front side of the drum body 131, and a drum rear part 133 provided on the rear side of the drum body 131. The tub 120 and the drum 130 may be disposed to be inclined with respect to the ground. However, the tub 120 and the drum 130 may be arranged horizontally with the ground.

[0069] The drum body 131 may be provided on an inner surface thereof with a through hole 131a connecting the inside of the drum 130 and the inside of the tub 120 to each other and a lifter 131b for lifting laundry to the upper side of the drum 130 during rotation of the drum 130. The drum front part 132 may be provided with an opening 132a for inputting or withdrawing laundry into or from the drum 130. The drum rear part 133 may be connected to a shaft 141a of the drum motor 141 that rotates the drum 130.

[0070] The drum motor 141 may rotate the drum 130. The drum motor 141 may be included in the driver 140. The drum motor 141 may be provided outside the tub rear part 122 and connected to the drum rear part 133 through the shaft 141a. The shaft 141a may pass through the tub rear part 122 and may be rotatably supported by the bearing 122a provided on the tub rear part 122.

[0071] The drum motor 141 may include a stator 142 fixed to the outside of the tub rear part 122 and a rotor 143 rotatably provided and connected to the shaft 141a. The rotor 143 may rotate by magnetic interaction with the stator 142, and the rotation of the rotor 143 may be transmitted to the drum 130 through the shaft 141a. Examples of the drum motor 141 may include a brushless direct current (BLDC) motor or a permanent magnet synchronous motor (PMSM) that facilitates control of the rotation speed.

[0072] According to various embodiments, the clothes treatment apparatus 10 may further include a pulsator (not shown) that rotates independently of the drum 130.

[0073] The pulsator may rotate independently of the drum 130 to form a water flow inside the drum 130.

[0074] In one embodiment, the pulsator may receive power from the drum motor 141, or may receive power by a pulsator motor provided separately from the drum motor 141.

[0075] When the pulsator receives power from the drum motor 141, the drum motor 141 may be implemented as a dual rotor motor having one stator and two rotors (e.g., an inner rotor and an outer rotor), and one of the two rotors may be connected to the drum 130, and the other may be connected to the pulsator.

[0076] The water supply 150 may supply water to the tub 120 and the drum 130. The water supply 150 may include a water supply pipe 151 connected to an external water supply source to supply water to the tub 120, and a water supply valve 152 provided in the water supply pipe 151. The water supply pipe 151 may be provided on the upper side of the tub 120, and may extend from the external water supply source to a detergent container 171. Water may flow into the tub 120 through the detergent container 171.

[0077] The water supply valve 152 may open or close the water supply pipe 151 in response to an electrical signal

from a controller 190. That is, the water supply valve 152 may allow or block the supply of water to the tub 120 from the external water supply source. The water supply valve 152 may include, for example, a solenoid valve that opens and closes in response to an electrical signal.

[0078] The drainer 160 may discharge the water contained in the tub 120 and/or the drum 130 to the outside. The drainer 160 may include a drain pipe 161 extending from a lower side of the tub 120 to the outside of the cabinet 100 and a drain pump 162 provided on the drain pipe 161. The drain pump 162 may pump water of the drain pipe 161 to the outside of the cabinet 100.

[0079] The detergent supply 170 may supply detergent to the tub 120 and/or the drum 130. The detergent supply 170 may include a detergent container 171 provided on the upper side of the tub 120 to store detergent, and a mixing pipe 172 connecting the detergent container 171 to the tub 120. The detergent container 171 may be connected to the water supply pipe 151, and water supplied through the water supply pipe 151 may be mixed with the detergent of the detergent container 171. A mixture of detergent and water may be supplied to the tub 120 through the mixing pipe 172.

[0080] FIGS. 3A to 3C are views for describing an installation position of a vibration sensor according to an embodiment. FIGS. 4A to 4C are views for describing an installation position of a vibration sensor according to another embodiment. FIGS. 5A to 5C are views for describing an installation position of a vibration sensor according to another embodiment.

[0081] The installation position of the vibration sensor 180 according to various embodiments will be described with reference to FIGS. 3A, 3B and 3C, FIGS. 4A, 4B and 4C, and FIGS. 5A and 5B.

[0082] Referring to FIG. 3A, the cabinet 100 of the clothes treatment apparatus 10 according to an embodiment may include a frame 101 constituting a skeleton of the cabinet 100 and a cover plate 105 surrounding the frame 101 to form the external appearance of the cabinet 100.

[0083] According to various embodiments, the frame 101 and the cover plate 105 may be integrally formed with each other or may be provided separately.

[0084] In one embodiment, the frame 101 forming the skeleton of the cabinet 100 may include horizontal frame 101P and post frames 101FL, 101FR, 101BL, and 101BR corresponding to each edge of the cabinet 100.

[0085] For example, the frame 101 may include a plurality of horizontal frames 101P corresponding to edges in the traverse direction and width direction of the cabinet 100 and a plurality of post frames 101FL, 101FR, 101BL, and 101BR corresponding to edges in the longitudinal direction of the cabinet 100.

[0086] The plurality of horizontal frames 101P may include a front upper horizontal frame 101PF provided on a front upper side of the cabinet 100.

[0087] The plurality of horizontal frames 101P and the plurality of post frames 101FL, 101FR, 101BL, and 101BR may have a varying angle and/or length with respect to the ground according to the shape of the cabinet 100.

[0088] For example, the upper horizontal frames among the plurality of horizontal frames 101P may be provided to form a predetermined angle with the ground. In this case, the plurality of post frames 101FL, 101FR, 101BL, and 101BR may have different heights from each other.

[0089] For example, the heights of the rear post frames 101BL and 101BR may be higher or lower than the heights of the front post frames 101FL and 101FR.

[0090] In one embodiment, the frame 101 may be formed of a metal (e.g., steel) to have a relatively high rigidity.

[0091] In one embodiment, the cover plate 105 forming the external appearance of the cabinet 100 may include a front plate 105F, both side plates 105L and 105R, a rear plate 105B, an upper plate 105T, and a lower plate 105M.

[0092] According to various embodiments, at least two (e.g., the front plate 105F and both side plates 105L and 105R) of the front plate 105F, the side plates 105L and 105R, the rear plate 105B, the upper plate 105T, and the lower plate 105M may be integrally formed with each other, or may be formed separately from each other.

[0093] The shape of the cabinet 100 may be variously changed according to the design of the clothes treatment apparatus 10, and accordingly, the shape of the frame 101 and the cover plate 105 may also be variously changed.

[0094] The conventional clothes treatment apparatus includes a vibration sensor installed on the tub 120 because vibration mainly occurs in the tub 120. However, when the vibration sensor is installed on the tub 120, a noise source (e.g., a drum motor, a drain pump, a drum, etc.), from which noise occurs, may not be accurately identified.

[0095] To solve the limitation, the clothes treatment apparatus 10 according to the embodiment may include the vibration sensor 180 installed on the cabinet 100.

[0096] More specifically, the vibration sensor 180 may be installed on the frame 101 which forms the skeleton of the cabinet 100 and has a relatively high rigidity.

[0097] Compared to when the vibration sensor 180 is installed on one side (e.g., the cover plate 105) of the cabinet 100, the vibration sensor 180 installed on the frame 101 may more accurately detect the level of vibration of inner parts of the clothes treatment apparatus 10 and the level of vibration of the clothes treatment apparatus 10 itself.

[0098] According to various embodiments, the vibration sensor 180 may be installed on one of the plurality of post frames 101FL, 101FR, 101BL, and 101BR.

[0099] Referring to FIGS. 3A, 3B and 3C or FIGS. 4A, 4B and 4C, the vibration sensor 180 may be attached to one of front post frames 101FL and 101FR of the cabinet 100.

[0100] Referring to FIGS. 3A, 3B and 3C or 4A, 4B and 4C, in one embodiment, a front left post frame 101FL (hereinafter, a 'first post frame') may include a first panel 101FL-1 extending rightward with respect to a left side longitudinal edge L of the cabinet 100 and a second panel 101FL-2 extending rearward with respect to the left side longitudinal edge L of the cabinet 100.

[0101] In addition, a front right post frame 101FR (hereinafter, a 'second post frame') may include a third panel 101FR-1 extending leftward with respect to a right side longitudinal edge R of the cabinet 100 and a fourth panel 101FR-2 extending rearward with respect to the right side longitudinal edge R of the cabinet 100.

[0102] According to various embodiments, the vibration sensor 180 may be attached to the first post frame 101FL, specifically, to a rear surface of the first panel 101FL-1 of the first post frame 101FL (see FIG. 4B), or may be attached to a right surface of the second panel 101FL-2 of the first post frame 101FL (see FIG. 4C). That is, the vibration sensor 180 may be attached to an inner side of the first post frame 101FL.

[0103] According to another embodiment, the vibration sensor **180** may be attached to the second post frame **101FR**, specifically, to a rear surface of the third panel **101FR-1** of the second post frame **101FR** (see FIG. 3B) or may be attached to a left surface of the fourth panel **101FR-2** of the second post frame **101FR** (see FIG. 3C). That is, the vibration sensor **180** may be attached to an inner side of the second post frame **101FR**.

[0104] As the vibration sensor **180** is attached to the first post frame **101FL** and/or the second post frame **101FR**, vibrations generated from various components of the clothes treatment apparatus **10** may be most efficiently detected, and thus according to the disclosure, the noise source of the clothes treatment apparatus **10** may be accurately identified.

[0105] In addition, since the vibration sensor **180** is attached to the inner side of the first post frame **101FL** and/or the second post frame **101FR**, the vibration sensor **180** may be maximally prevented from interfering with other components of the clothes treatment apparatus **10** and may be efficiently connected to the controller **190** for receiving vibration signals.

[0106] In addition, the vibration sensor **180** may be attached to an upper side of the first post frame **101FL** and/or the second post frame **101FR**.

[0107] For example, the vibration sensor **180** may be installed at a position higher than  $\frac{2}{3}$  of a height  $h$  of the first post frame **101FL**. In addition, the vibration sensor **180** may be installed at a position higher than  $\frac{2}{3}$  of a height  $h$  of the second post frame **101FR**.

[0108] When the vibration sensor **180** is installed at a lower side of the first post frame **101FL** or the second post frame **101FR**, a vibration signal obtained from the vibration sensor **180** may be greatly changed depending on the installation environment (e.g., whether the floor is flat) of the clothes treatment apparatus **10**. According to the disclosure, since the vibration sensor **180** is positioned at the upper side of the first post frame **101FL** and/or the second post frame **101FR**, a change in the vibration signal according to the installation environment of the clothes treatment apparatus **10** may be prevented, and accordingly, the installation environment of the clothes treatment apparatus **10** may be identified based on the vibration signal.

[0109] In one embodiment, the vibration sensor **180** may be installed in the vicinity of an area including a bend that provides the first post frame **101FL** and/or the second post frame **101FR** with local rigidity.

[0110] In addition, the vibration sensor **180** may be first assembled on the inner side of the first post frame **101FL** and/or the second post frame **101FR** and then firmly fixed to the inner side of the first post frame **101FL** and/or the second post frame **101FR** through a screw assembly method.

[0111] A wire PL connected to the vibration sensor **180** may include a power line for receiving power and/or a control line for transmitting a vibration signal to the controller **190**.

[0112] In one embodiment, when the vibration sensor **180** is installed on the first horizontal frame **101PF**, the wire PL connected to the vibration sensor **180** may be easily connected to a rear surface of the control panel **110** positioned on the front upper side of the cabinet **100**. That is, as the vibration sensor **180** is attached to the upper side of the first horizontal frame **101PF**, the vibration sensor **180** may be maximally prevented from interfering with other compo-

nents and efficiently connected to the controller **190** receiving the vibration signal using the short-length wire PL.

[0113] In the above description, the vibration sensor **180** has been illustrated as being installed on the first post frame **101FL** and/or the second post frame **101FR**, but the technical idea is not limited thereto, and the vibration sensor **180** may be located on the rear post frames **101BL** and **101BR** or the upper horizontal frames **101P**.

[0114] Referring to FIGS. 5A and 5B, the vibration sensor **180** may be attached to the front upper horizontal frame **101PF** (hereinafter, referred to as a first horizontal frame).

[0115] For example, the vibration sensor **180** may be attached to the center of the first horizontal frame **101PF** (see FIG. 5A), or may be attached to a side portion of the first horizontal frame **101PF** (see FIG. 5B).

[0116] In addition, the vibration sensor **180** may be attached to a rear side of the first horizontal frame **101PF**, and as the vibration sensor **180** is attached to the rear side of the first horizontal frame **101PF**, the vibration sensor **180** may most efficiently detect vibrations generated from various components of the clothes treatment apparatus **10**.

[0117] The rear side of the first horizontal frame **101PF** may refer to a surface opposite to a surface of the first horizontal frame **101PF** that comes in contact with the front plate **105F**.

[0118] That is, the vibration sensor **180** may be attached to the rear side of the first horizontal frame PF so as not to contact the front plate **105F**.

[0119] According to the disclosure, the vibration sensor **180** may efficiently detect only the vibration transmitted from the first horizontal frame PF without detecting the vibration transmitted from the front plate **105F**.

[0120] In addition, when the vibration sensor **180** is attached to the first horizontal frame **101PF**, which is a position that allows the user to optimally recognize the vibration, the vibration sensor **180** may accurately detect the level of vibration that the user may directly recognize.

[0121] In one embodiment, when the vibration sensor **180** is installed on the first horizontal frame **101F**, the wire PL connected to the vibration sensor **180** may be easily connected to a rear surface of the control panel **110** positioned on the front upper side of the cabinet **100**. . . . That is, as the vibration sensor **180** is attached to the upper side of the first horizontal frame **101F**, the vibration sensor **180** may be maximally prevented from interfering with other components and efficiently connected to the controller **190** receiving the vibration signal using the short-length wire PL.

[0122] According to the disclosure, the length of the wire PL connected to the vibration sensor **180** may be minimized, so that a damage to the wire PL due to the vibration of the tub **120** or an interference with other parts may be prevented.

[0123] In the above description, the vibration sensor **180** has been illustrated as being installed on the first horizontal frame **101PF**, but the technical idea is not limited thereto, and the vibration sensor **180** may also be installed on the lower horizontal frames **101P**.

[0124] The vibration sensor **180** according to the embodiment may detect vibration of the frame **101** constituting the cabinet **100**.

[0125] The vibration sensor **180** may include an acceleration sensor that measures the acceleration of the frame **101** in three axes (X-axis, Y-axis, and Z-axis). For example, the vibration sensor **180** may be provided as a piezoelectric type acceleration sensor, a strain gauge type acceleration sensor,

a piezo resistive type acceleration sensor, a capacitive type acceleration sensor, a servo type acceleration sensor, or an optical type acceleration sensor. In addition to the above, the vibration sensor **180** may be provided as various sensors (e.g., a gyroscope) capable of measuring the vibration of the frame **101**.

[0126] The vibration sensor **180** may output a sensing value (hereinafter, referred to as a “vibration signal”) regarding vibration of the frame **101**. For example, the vibration sensor **180** may output a constant value (hereinafter, a ‘vibration signal’) corresponding to the vibration of the frame **101**. The vibration sensor **180** may output a voltage value (hereinafter, a ‘vibration signal’) corresponding to the three-axis acceleration of the frame **101**.

[0127] That is, the vibration sensor **180** may output a vibration signal in the time domain.

[0128] The controller **190** of the clothes treatment apparatus **10** may determine a vibration displacement of the frame **101** corresponding to the vibration signal of the vibration sensor **180**, and adjust the rotation speed of the drum motor **141** based on the vibration displacement of the frame **101**.

[0129] The vibration sensor **180** may be provided as a micro electro mechanical system (MEMS) sensor. MEMS is a method developed according to the development of semiconductor technology, and a MEMS sensor may be manufactured through deposition, patterning through photolithography, and etching. The vibration sensor **180** may be formed of various materials, such as silicon, polymer, metal, or ceramic. The vibration sensor **180** manufactured in the MEMS method may have a size of a micrometer level.

[0130] FIG. 6 is a control block diagram illustrating a clothes treatment apparatus according to an embodiment.

[0131] Referring to FIG. 6, the clothes treatment apparatus **10** may include the control panel **110**, the driver **140**, the water supply valve **152**, the drain pump **162**, the vibration sensor **180**, the controller **190**, and/or the communicator **195**. The controller **190** may be electrically connected to the components of the clothes treatment apparatus **10** and may control the operation of each component.

[0132] The control panel **110** may include the display **111** for displaying washing setting and/or washing operation information in response to a user input, and an inputter **112** for obtaining a user input. The control panel **110** may provide a user interface for interaction between the user and the clothes treatment apparatus **10**. The inputter **112** may include, for example, a power button, an operation button, a course selection dial, such as a detailed setting button. In addition, the inputter **112** may be provided as a tact switch, a push switch, a slide switch, a toggle switch, a micro switch, or a touch switch.

[0133] The display **111** may include a screen for displaying various types of information and an indicator for displaying detailed settings selected by a setting button. The display **111** may include, for example, a liquid crystal display (LCD) panel and/or a light emitting diode (LED).

[0134] A washing courses of the clothes treatment apparatus **10** may include a washing setting (e.g., a washing temperature, a rinsing frequency, and a spin-drying strength) that are predetermined according to the type of laundry (e.g., shirt, pants, underwear, bedclothes), material (e.g., cotton, polyester, wool), and the amount of laundry. For example, a standard washing course may include a washing setting that is general to laundry. A bedclothes washing course may

include a washing setting optimized for washing bedclothes. The washing course may include various courses, such as a standard washing course, a strong washing course, a wool washing course, a bedclothes washing course, a baby clothes washing course, a towel washing course, a small amount washing course, a steam washing course, a power-saving washing course, an outdoor ware washing course, a rinse+ spin dry course, and a spin-dry course.

[0135] The driver **140** may include a drum motor **141** and a driving circuit **200**. The driving circuit **200** may supply the drum motor **141** with a driving current for driving the drum motor **141** in response to a driving signal (a motor control signal) of the controller **190**. The driving circuit **200** may rectify alternating current (AC) power of an external power source and convert the rectified AC power into direct current (DC) power, and convert the DC power into sinusoidal driving power. The driving circuit **200** may include an inverter that outputs the converted driving power to the drum motor **141**. The inverter may include a plurality of switching elements, and open (off) or close (on) the plurality of switches based on a driving signal of the controller **190**. A driving current may be supplied to the drum motor **141** according to the opening or closing of the switching elements. In addition, the driving circuit **200** may include a current sensor (not shown) capable of measuring the driving current output from the inverter.

[0136] The controller **190** may calculate the rotation speed of the drum motor **141** based on an electric angle of the rotor of the drum motor **141**. The rotor electric angle may be obtained from a position sensor (not shown) provided in the drum motor **141**. For example, the controller **190** may calculate the rotation speed of the drum motor **141** based on the amount of change in the rotor electric angle with respect to a sampling time interval. The position sensor (not shown) may be implemented as a hall sensor, encoder, or resolver capable of measuring the position of the rotor **143** of the drum motor **141**. In addition, the controller **190** may calculate the rotation speed of the drum motor **141** based on a driving current value measured by a current sensor (not shown).

[0137] The drum motor **141** may rotate the drum **130** under the control of the controller **190**. The controller **190** may drive the drum motor **141** to follow a target rotation speed.

[0138] The water supply valve **152** may be opened in response to a water supply signal from the controller **190**. In response to the water supply valve **152** being opened, water may be supplied through the water supply pipe **151** to the tub **120**.

[0139] The drain pump **162** may discharge water to the outside of the cabinet **100** through the drain pipe **161** in response to a drain signal from the controller **190**. According to the operation of the drain pump **162**, the water accommodated in the tub **120** may be discharged to the outside of the cabinet **100** through the drain pipe **161**.

[0140] The vibration sensor **180** may detect the vibration of the frame **101**. Specifically, the vibration sensor **180** may detect the vibration of the frame **101** generated by the rotation of the drum **130** during a washing course (e.g., a spin-drying cycle). Laundry unevenly disposed inside the drum **130** may cause an eccentricity of the drum **130**, and the eccentricity of the drum **130** may cause vibration of the tub **120**, and the vibration of the tub **120** may cause the frame **101** to vibrate. When the rotation speed of the drum motor

**141** increases in a state in which the laundry is unevenly disposed, the vibration of the tub **120** may also increase, and noise caused by the vibration of the tub **120** may also increase.

[0141] The vibration sensor **180** may output a vibration signal related to the vibration of the frame **101**. The controller **190** may receive the vibration signal output from the vibration sensor **180** and determine the rotation speed of the drum motor **141** based on the vibration signal.

[0142] The amplitude of the vibration signal may be defined as a magnitude (amplitude) of vibration when the frame **101** vibrates. The controller **190** may continuously receive the vibration signal output from the vibration sensor **180** until the course of the clothes treatment apparatus **10** is completed, and adjust the rotation speed of the drum motor **141** based on the vibration signal.

[0143] In an embodiment, the controller **190** may convert a vibration signal in the time domain output from the vibration sensor **180** into a vibration signal in the frequency domain, and process the vibration signal in the frequency domain.

[0144] The controller **190** may include a processor **191** that generates a control signal related to an operation of the clothes treatment apparatus **10**, and a memory **192** that stores programs, applications, instructions, and/or data for the operation of the clothes treatment apparatus **10**. The processor **191** and the memory **192** may be implemented as separate semiconductor devices or as a single semiconductor device. In addition, the controller **190** may include a plurality of processors or a plurality of memories. The controller **190** may be provided at various locations inside the clothes treatment apparatus **10**. For example, the controller **190** may be included in a printed circuit board provided inside the control panel **110**.

[0145] The processor **191** may include an arithmetic circuit, a memory circuit, and a control circuit. The processor **191** may include one chip or a plurality of chips. In addition, the processor **191** may include one core or a plurality of cores.

[0146] The memory **192** may store a program for performing a washing operation (or drying operation) according to a washing course (or drying course) and data including washing settings (or drying settings) according to the washing course (or drying course). In addition, the memory **192** may store a washing course (or drying course) and a washing setting (or drying setting) currently selected based on a user input.

[0147] In one embodiment, the memory **192** may store a program including an algorithm for converting a vibration signal in the time domain into a vibration signal in the frequency domain, an algorithm for classifying the vibration signal in the frequency domain into a plurality of orders, and the like, and may store data regarding a plurality of noise sources corresponding to amplitudes of the plurality of orders and data regarding reference amplitudes that are to be compared with the amplitudes of the plurality of orders.

[0148] The memory **192** may include a volatile memory, such as an S-RAM, a D-RAM, and the like, and a non-volatile memory, such as a flash memory, a read only memory (ROM), an erasable programmable read only memory (EPROM), and the like. The memory **192** may include one memory device or a plurality of memory devices.

[0149] The processor **191** may process data and/or signals using a program provided from the memory **192**, and may transmit a control signal to each component of the clothes treatment apparatus **10** based on a result of the processing. For example, the processor **191** may process a user input received through the control panel **110**. The processor **191** may output a control signal for controlling the display, the drum motor **141**, the water supply valve **152**, and the drain pump **162** in response to a user input.

[0150] As another example, the processor **191** may use a program provided from the memory **192** to convert a time domain vibration signal into a frequency domain vibration signal, classify the frequency domain vibration signal into a plurality of orders, and determine a noise source of the clothes treatment apparatus **10** based on the amplitudes of the plurality of orders.

[0151] The processor **191** may control the driver **140**, the water supply valve **152**, and the drain pump **162** to perform a washing cycle, a rinsing cycle, and a spin-drying cycle. In addition, the processor **191** may control the control panel **110** to display washing settings and washing operation information.

[0152] In addition, the processor **191** may control the communicator **195** to transmit predetermined information to an external device.

[0153] Although not shown in the drawings, the controller **190** may further include various components for processing the vibration signal. For example, the controller **190** may include various components, such as an amplifier for amplifying an analog vibration signal and an A/D converter for converting the amplified analog vibration signal into a digital vibration signal.

[0154] The communicator **195** may transmit data to or receive data from an external device based on the control of the controller **190**. For example, the communicator **195** may transmit/receive various types of data by communicating with a server and/or a user terminal device and/or a home appliance.

[0155] For this, the communicator **195** may support establishment of a direct (e.g., a wired) communication channel or a wireless communication channel between external electronic devices (e.g., a server, a user terminal device, and/or a home appliance), and communication execution through the established communication channel. According to an embodiment, the communicator **195** may include a wireless communication module (e.g., a cellular communication module, a short-range wireless communication module, or a global navigation satellite system (GNSS) communication module) or a wired communication module (e.g., a local area network (LAN) communication module, or a power line communication module). A communication module among the communication modules may communicate with an external electronic device through a first network (e.g., a short-range communication network, such as Bluetooth, wireless fidelity (WiFi) direct, or infrared data association (IrDA)) or a second network (e.g., a long-range communication network, such as a legacy cellular network, a 5G network, a next-generation communication network the Internet, or a computer network (e.g., LAN or WAN)). Such various types of communication modules may be integrated into one component (e.g., a single chip) or may be implemented as a plurality of components (e.g., multiple chips) separated from each other.

[0156] According to various embodiments, the communicator 195 may establish communication with a user terminal device through a server.

[0157] In various embodiments, the communicator 195 may include a Wi-Fi module, and may perform communication with an external server and/or user terminal device based on establishing communication with an access point (AP) in the house.

[0158] Although the configuration of the clothes treatment apparatus 10 has been described above, the clothes treatment apparatus 10 may further include various components within the general technical scope.

[0159] For example, when the clothes treatment apparatus 10 is a drying machine, the clothes treatment apparatus 10 may further include a heat pump device.

[0160] FIG. 7 is a flowchart showing a method of controlling a clothes treatment apparatus according to an embodiment, FIG. 8 is a view illustrating a vibration signal in a time domain obtained from a vibration sensor during an operation of a clothes treatment apparatus according to an embodiment, FIG. 9 is a graph showing a vibration signal in a frequency domain, which is converted from a vibration signal in a time domain obtained from a vibration sensor, according to an embodiment, FIG. 10 is a view illustrating a plurality of orders corresponding to a plurality of noise sources of the clothes treatment apparatus according to an embodiment, FIG. 11 is a view illustrating amplitudes of a plurality of orders corresponding to a plurality of noise sources of the clothes treatment apparatus according to an embodiment, FIG. 12 is a graph in which vibration signals corresponding to a plurality of orders are classified in a time domain, and FIG. 13 is a view illustrating an example in which a clothes treatment apparatus according to an embodiment notifies a noise source.

[0161] Referring to FIG. 7, the controller 190 may receive a vibration signal in the time domain from the vibration sensor 180 (1000).

[0162] According to various embodiments, the controller 190 may adjust a rotational speed (RPM) of the drum motor 141 based on the vibration signal in the time domain (1050).

[0163] Referring to FIG. 8, the vibration signal in the time domain may include information about a vibration amount  $g$  of the frame according to time  $t$ .

[0164] The controller 190 may be configured to, based on the amplitude  $g$  of the vibration signal in the time domain exceeding a preset value, reduce the RPM of the drum motor 141 to a predetermined RPM, and based on the RPM of the drum motor 141 being maintained at the predetermined RPM for a preset time, increase the RPM of the drum motor 141 again to a preset RPM value.

[0165] According to the disclosure, the RPM of the drum motor 141 may be adjusted based on the vibration signal in the time domain, so that noise generated by the rotation of the drum 130 may be reduced.

[0166] Referring again to FIG. 7, the controller 190 may convert a vibration signal in the time domain into a vibration signal in the frequency domain (1100).

[0167] Referring to FIG. 9, the controller 190 may convert a vibration signal in the time domain into a vibration signal in the frequency domain having a time axis  $t$  and a frequency axis  $f$ .

[0168] The converting of the vibration signal in the time domain into the vibration signal in the frequency domain having a time axis and a frequency axis may be performed by a conventional technique.

[0169] Referring again to FIG. 7, the controller 190 may classify the vibration signal in the frequency domain into a plurality of orders based on the rotation speed of the drum motor 141 (1200).

[0170] Specifically, the controller 190 may calculate the vibration signal in the frequency domain divided by the rotation speed of the drum motor 141 as orders, to obtain a frequency-order diagram.

[0171] The classifying of the vibration signal in the frequency domain into a plurality of orders based on the rotation speed of the drum motor 141 may be performed by a conventional technique.

[0172] The controller 190 may determine a noise source of the clothes treatment apparatus 10 based on the amplitudes of the plurality of orders (1300).

[0173] Referring to FIG. 10, a plurality of orders may respectively correspond to a plurality of noise sources.

[0174] For example, the noise source corresponding to the first order (the 1<sup>st</sup> order) may be the drum 130, the noise source corresponding to the second order (the 2<sup>nd</sup> order) may be the eccentricity of the drum 130, the noise source corresponding to the ninth order (the 9th order) may be the bearing 122a for rotatably fixing the drum motor 141, and the noise source corresponding to the thirty sixth order (the 36th order) and/or the seventy second order (the 72<sup>nd</sup> order) may be a fundamental noise of the drum motor 141 or a harmonic noise of the drum motor 141.

[0175] In addition, the noise sources respectively corresponding to the plurality of orders may include the drum 130, the unbalance of clothes inside the drum 130, the drum motor 141, the bearing 122a for rotatably fixing the drum motor 141, the shaft 141a of the drum motor 141, the tub 120, the frame 101, the drain pump 162, the pulsator and/or the pulsator motor, and other various configurations.

[0176] In addition, a vibration signal generated by a single component (e.g., the drain pump 162) that is not related to a main rotating body component may have a constant frequency, such as 50 Hz or 60 Hz, without a change in the frequency component even when the rotational speed of the drum motor 141 is changed.

[0177] According to the disclosure, the vibration sensor 180 may be attached to the frame 101, so that a vibration signal in the frequency domain may be classified into a plurality of orders, and the amplitude of each order is compared with a reference amplitude so that a noise source may be identified. When the vibration sensor is attached to the tub as in the conventional technology, only a direct vibration signal by the tub is detected, and it is difficult to detect a vibration signal caused by other components of the rotating body. In addition, when the vibration sensor is attached to the cover plate of the cabinet, it is difficult to accurately identify the noise source because the vibration signal caused by other rotating body components is insignificant.

[0178] In the embodiment, the controller 190 may compare the amplitude of each of the plurality of orders with a reference amplitude corresponding to a respective one of the plurality of orders, and determine a defect order having an amplitude exceeding the reference amplitude from among

the plurality of orders, and determine an object corresponding to the defect order as a noise source.

[0179] To this end, the memory 192 may store information about objects corresponding to the plurality of orders, respectively, and information about a reference amplitude corresponding to each of the plurality of orders.

[0180] That is, the respective reference amplitudes corresponding to the plurality of orders may be different from each other. For example, the reference amplitude corresponding to the first order (the 1<sup>st</sup> order) and the reference amplitude corresponding to the second order (the 2<sup>nd</sup> order) may be different from each other.

[0181] Referring to FIG. 11, the amplitudes of the plurality of orders may be checked, and referring to FIG. 12, the amplitudes of the plurality of orders may be checked in the time domain.

[0182] In FIG. 11, when the amplitude of the ninth order (the 9th order) is greater than the reference amplitude corresponding to the ninth order (the 9th order), the controller 190 may identify an object (e.g., the bearing 122a) corresponding to the ninth order (the 9th order) as a noise source.

[0183] In FIG. 12, a first line R1 may refer to a reference amplitude corresponding to the first order (the 1<sup>st</sup> order), and a second line R2 may refer to a reference amplitude corresponding to the third order (the 3<sup>rd</sup> order), the ninth order (the 9th order), and/or the tenth order (the 10th order).

[0184] The controller 190 may be configured to, based on the amplitude corresponding to a specific order being exceeding the reference amplitude for a preset time, determine the specific order as a defect order.

[0185] Referring to FIG. 12, the controller 190 may determine the ninth order (the 9th order) as a defect order based on the amplitude corresponding to the ninth order (the 9th order) exceeding the reference amplitude R2 for about 4 seconds (from 10s to 14s), and determine an object (e.g., the bearing 122a) corresponding to the defect order as a noise source of the clothes treatment apparatus 10.

[0186] According to the embodiment of the disclosure, since the vibration sensor 180 is attached to the frame of the cabinet 100, indirect vibration by the tub 120 may be detected so that the RPM of the drum motor 141 may be adjusted, and vibration signals may be detected from rotating body related parts through frequency analysis so that noise sources may be accurately identified.

[0187] Referring again to FIG. 7, the controller 190 may control the display 111 to display information about the noise source based on the determined noise source (1400).

[0188] In this case, the information about the noise source may include a name and/or identification number that enables identification of the noise source, and may include information indicating the degree to which the amplitude of the order corresponding to the noise source exceeds the reference amplitude.

[0189] Referring to FIG. 13, for example, the controller 190 may determine the noise source as the drum motor 141 based on the thirty sixth order (the 36<sup>th</sup> order) being determined as a defect order, and may control the display 111 to display information indicating that the drum motor 141 is determined as a noise source, to notify the user of a defect object (i.e., an object that generates noise).

[0190] According to various embodiments, the controller 190 may control the display 111 to display information about

the noise source based on receiving a user input for checking a noise source through the inputter 112.

[0191] According to the embodiment of the disclosure, a user who has checked the display 111 may intuitively identify a part of the clothes treatment apparatus 10 that causes noise, and may take appropriate measures according to the noise source.

[0192] Referring again to FIG. 7, the controller 190 may control the communicator 195 to transmit information about the noise source to an external device based on the noise source being determined (1500).

[0193] In this case, the external device may refer to a user terminal device interworking with the clothes treatment apparatus 10 or an external server interworking with the clothes treatment apparatus 10.

[0194] According to the embodiment of the disclosure, when the external server corresponds to a management server managing the clothes treatment apparatus 10, a seller of the clothes treatment apparatus 10 may be allowed to take an appropriate action for the clothes treatment apparatus 10 having noise so that user satisfaction may be improved.

[0195] In addition, a user who has received the defect information through the user terminal device may be allowed to take an appropriate action for the clothes treatment apparatus 10 so that the user's dissatisfaction may be reduced.

[0196] FIG. 14 is a flowchart showing a method of controlling a clothes treatment apparatus according to another embodiment. FIG. 15 is a graph showing a vibration signal according to a drum revolution per minute (RPM) of a clothes treatment apparatus according to an embodiment. FIG. 16 is a view illustrating an example in which a clothes treatment apparatus according to an embodiment notifies an installation environment.

[0197] Referring to FIG. 14, the controller 190 may receive a vibration signal in the time domain from the vibration sensor 180 (2000).

[0198] The controller 190 may determine an installation environment of the clothes treatment apparatus 10 based on the RPM and the vibration signal of the drum motor 141 (2100).

[0199] To this end, the memory 192 may store information about a normal waveform of the vibration signal corresponding to the RPM of the drum motor 141 and store information about an abnormal waveform of the vibration signal corresponding to the RPM of the drum motor 141.

[0200] The abnormal waveform of the vibration signal corresponding to the RPM of the drum motor 141 may include a plurality of waveforms, and the plurality of abnormal waveforms may correspond to different installation environments of the clothes treatment apparatus 10.

[0201] For example, when the vibration signal is similar to a first waveform, the controller 190 may determine that the clothes treatment apparatus 10 has an uneven installation condition, and when the vibration signal is similar to a second waveform, the controller 190 may determine that a part of the clothes treatment apparatus 10 is in contact with a specific object.

[0202] Referring to FIG. 15, a vibration signal corresponding to an RPM of the drum motor 141 may be checked.

[0203] Even in the same installation environment, a peak shown in FIG. 15 may not occur when the vibration sensor 180 is attached to the tub 120.

[0204] According to various embodiments, the controller 190 may determine the installation environment of the clothes treatment apparatus 10 based on a peak magnitude (e.g., about 2.2 m/s<sup>2</sup>) of the vibration signal according to the RPM of the drum motor 141.

[0205] For example, the controller 190 may be configured to, based on the peak of the vibration signal being in a first range, determine that the clothes treatment apparatus 10 is installed on an uneven surface, and based on the peak of the vibration signal being in a second range, determine that a part of the clothes treatment apparatus 10 is in contact with a specific object.

[0206] The controller 190 may be configured to, based on the amplitude of the vibration signal being greater than or equal to a preset value, identify that abnormal noise has occurred, and determine an installation environment, which causes the abnormal noise, according to the waveform of the vibration signal.

[0207] Accordingly, the controller 190 may control the display 111 to display information guiding a change in the installation environment when abnormal noise occurs (2200).

[0208] In addition, the controller 190 may control the communicator 195 to transmit information guiding a change in the installation environment to an external device when abnormal noise occurs.

[0209] Referring to FIG. 16, when the abnormal noise is caused by an installation environment (e.g., an uneven floor), the display 111 may notify the user that the floor is not flat, and the user may take appropriate corresponding measures so that the generation of noise may be prevented.

[0210] According to the embodiment of the disclosure, since the vibration sensor 180 is attached to the frame 101, in particular, to the inner side of the front post frames 101FL and 101FR, the vibration of the tub 120 may be indirectly detected so that the RPM of the drum motor 141 may be adjusted, and vibrations caused by rotating body related components other than the tub 120 may be detected so that an accurate noise source may be identified through frequency analysis, and abnormal noise generated according to the installation conditions of the clothes treatment apparatus 10 may also be determined.

[0211] Meanwhile, the disclosed embodiments may be embodied in the form of a recording medium storing instructions executable by a computer. The instructions may be stored in the form of program code and, when executed by a processor, may generate a program module to perform the operations of the disclosed embodiments. The recording medium may be embodied as a computer-readable recording medium.

[0212] The computer-readable recording medium includes all kinds of recording media in which instructions which may be decoded by a computer are stored, for example, a Read Only Memory (ROM), a Random Access Memory (RAM), a magnetic tape, a magnetic disk, a flash memory, an optical data storage device, and the like.

[0213] In addition, the computer readable storage medium may be provided in the form of a non-transitory storage medium. Here, when a storage medium is referred to as “non-transitory,” it may be understood that the storage medium is tangible and does not include a signal (e.g., an electromagnetic waves), but rather that data is semi-permanently or temporarily stored in the storage medium. For

example, the ‘non-transitory storage medium’ may include a buffer in which data is temporarily stored.

[0214] According to one embodiment, the methods according to the various embodiments disclosed herein may be provided in a computer program product. The computer program product may be traded between a seller and a buyer as a product. The computer program product may be distributed in the form of a machine-readable storage medium (e.g., compact disc read only memory (CD-ROM)), or may be distributed through an application store (e.g., Play Store™) online (e.g., download or upload). In the case of online distribution, at least a portion of the computer program product (e.g., a downloadable app) may be stored at least semi-permanently or may be temporarily generated in a storage medium, such as a memory of a server of a manufacturer, a server of an application store, or a relay server.

[0215] One aspect of the disclosure provides a clothes treatment apparatus capable of identifying a noise source in which abnormal noise occurs and providing a user with information about the noise source, and a method of controlling the same.

[0216] One aspect of the disclosure provides a clothes treatment apparatus capable of reducing generation of abnormal noise and a method of controlling the same.

[0217] Although embodiments of the disclosure have been described with reference to the accompanying drawings, a person having ordinary skill in the art will appreciate that other specific modifications may be easily made without departing from the technical spirit or essential features of the disclosure. Therefore, the foregoing embodiments should be regarded as illustrative rather than limiting in all aspects.

What is claimed is:

1. A clothes treatment apparatus comprising:

- a cabinet;
- a frame including a plurality of post frames corresponding to edges along a longitudinal direction of the cabinet;
- a tub in the cabinet;
- a drum in the tub and configured to be rotatable;
- a motor configured to rotate the drum; and
- a vibration sensor attachable installed to a post frame of the plurality of post frames at a position higher than two-thirds ( $\frac{2}{3}$ ) of a height of the post frame, and configured to sense a vibration of the frame and output a vibration signal related to the vibration of the frame,
- a processor configured to determine an installation environment of the clothes treatment apparatus based on the vibration signal and a rotational speed (RPM) of the motor

2. The clothes treatment apparatus of claim 1, wherein the processor is further configured to determine whether the clothes treatment apparatus is installed on an uneven surface.

3. The clothes treatment apparatus of claim 1, wherein the processor is further configured to determine the installation environment of the clothes treatment apparatus based on a peak magnitude of the vibration signal according to the RPM of the motor.

4. The clothes treatment apparatus of claim 3, wherein the processor is further configured to, based on the peak magnitude of the vibration signal being in a first range, determine that the clothes treatment apparatus is installed on an uneven surface.



5. The clothes treatment apparatus of claim 4, wherein the processor is further configured to, based on the peak magnitude of the vibration signal being in a second range, determine that a part of the clothes treatment apparatus is in contact with a specific object.

6. The clothes treatment apparatus of claim 2, further comprising:

a display,

wherein the processor is further configured to control the display to display information guiding a change in the installation environment when the clothes treatment apparatus is installed on the uneven surface.

7. The clothes treatment apparatus of claim 2, further comprising:

a communicator configured to communicate with an external device,

wherein the processor is further configured to control the communicator to transmit information guiding a change in the installation environment to the external device when the clothes treatment apparatus is installed on the uneven surface.

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