United States Patent [19]

Paal et al.

[54] **METHOD AND APPARATUS FOR CONTROLLING COMPUTER DISPLAYS BY USING A TWO DIMENSIONAL SCROLL PALETTE**

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Related U.S. Application Data

[63] Continuation of Ser. No. 426,872, Oct. 25, 1989, abandoned.

[51] Int. Cl.⁵ G06F 3/14
[52] U.S. Cl. 395/158; 395/157; 395/155
[58] Field of Search 395/155, 156, 157, 158, 395/706, 721, 724, 747, 750
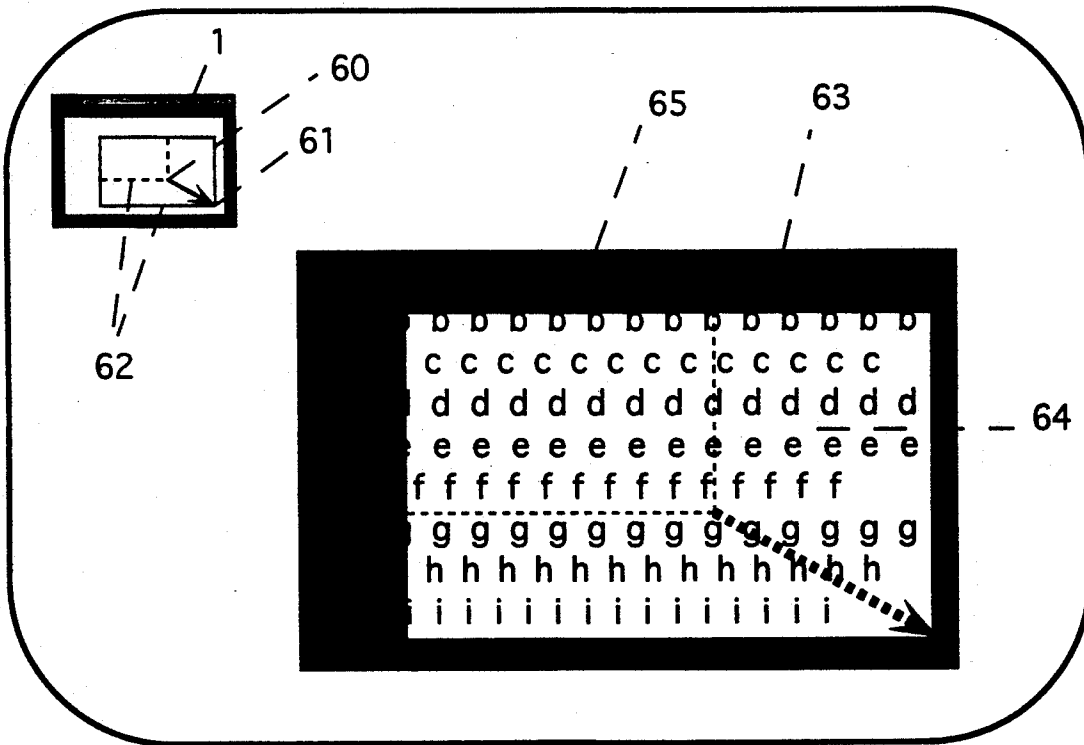
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[57] **ABSTRACT**

A computer program provides for the display of window regions on a display screen whereby the content and size of one window region is controllable in two dimensions using means provided in another window region. A cursor device and a signal generation means is used to select the two-dimensional scrolling or resizing of a window region. Controls are also provided to move and terminate window regions. Upon termination, the configuration of window regions is saved on a data storage means for use when the window regions are re-displayed. Cursor movement can be restricted to the horizontal or vertical directions only.
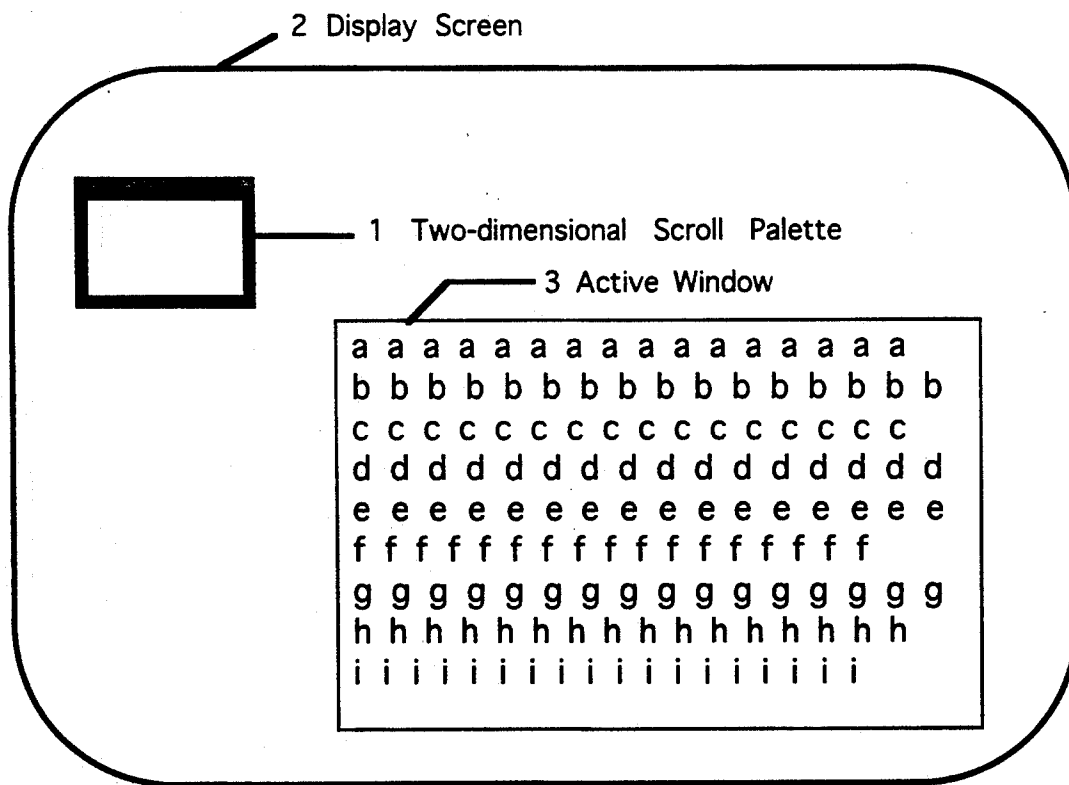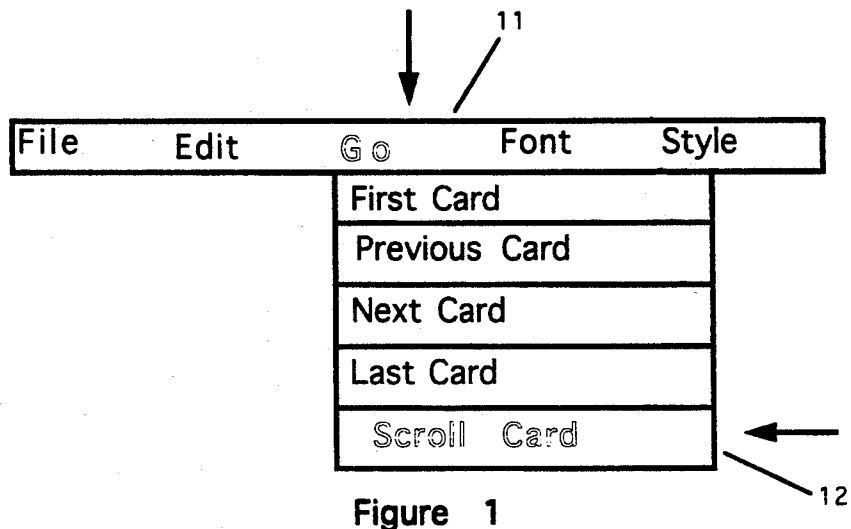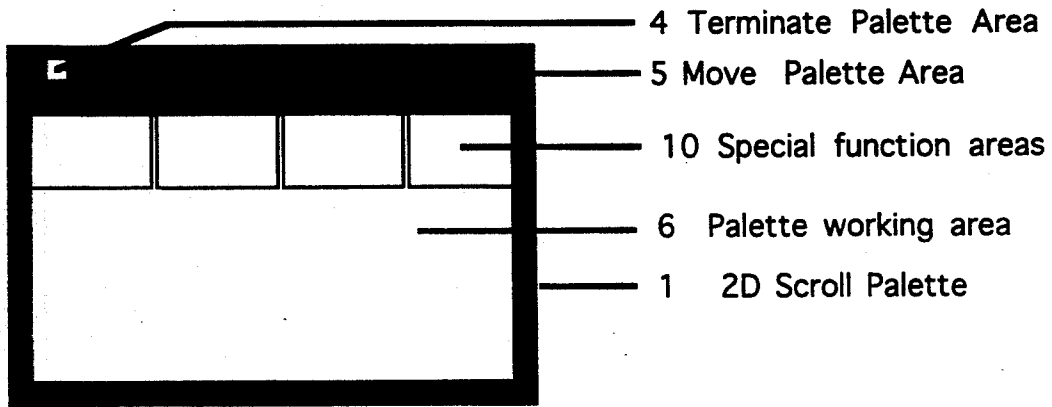
48 Claims, 9 Drawing Sheets

11

File	Edit	Go	Font	Style

| First Card |
| Previous Card |
| Next Card |
| Last Card |
| Scroll Card |

12

Figure 1

2 Display Screen

1 Two-dimensional Scroll Palette

3 Active Window

```
a a a a a a a a a a a a a a a a a
b b b b b b b b b b b b b b b b b
c c c c c c c c c c c c c c c c c
d d d d d d d d d d d d d d d d d
e e e e e e e e e e e e e e e e e
f f f f f f f f f f f f f f f f f
g g g g g g g g g g g g g g g g g
h h h h h h h h h h h h h h h h h
i i i i i i i i i i i i i i i i i
```

Figure 2

4 Terminate Palette Area

5 Move Palette Area

10 Special function areas

6 Palette working area

1 2D Scroll Palette

Figure 3

7 View Area

8 Scrolling Area

9 Corner regions

Figure 4

Figure 5

Figure 6

Figure 7

Start 2D Scroll Palette function. 701

Get Active Window and available information dimensions. Get Location and status of 2D Scroll Palette. Compute shape and configuration of palette. 702

Display 2D Scroll Palette at saved location. 703

A

E

Zoom window? 704

No 712

Yes 713

Zoom active window. 705

Move Palette? 706

Yes 714

Get Cursor position. 710

Move Palette. 711

No 715

F

Terminate Palette? 707

No 716

Special function selected? 718

No 720

Yes 717

Save location and status of 2D Scroll Palette. 708

Yes 719

Process special function. 721
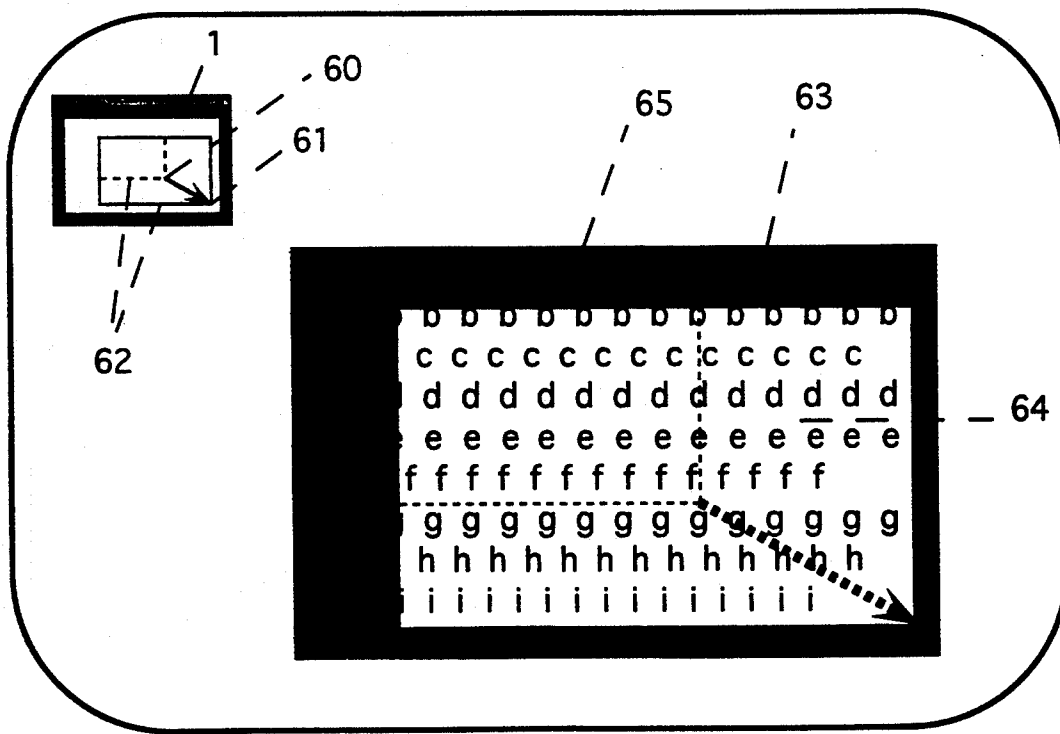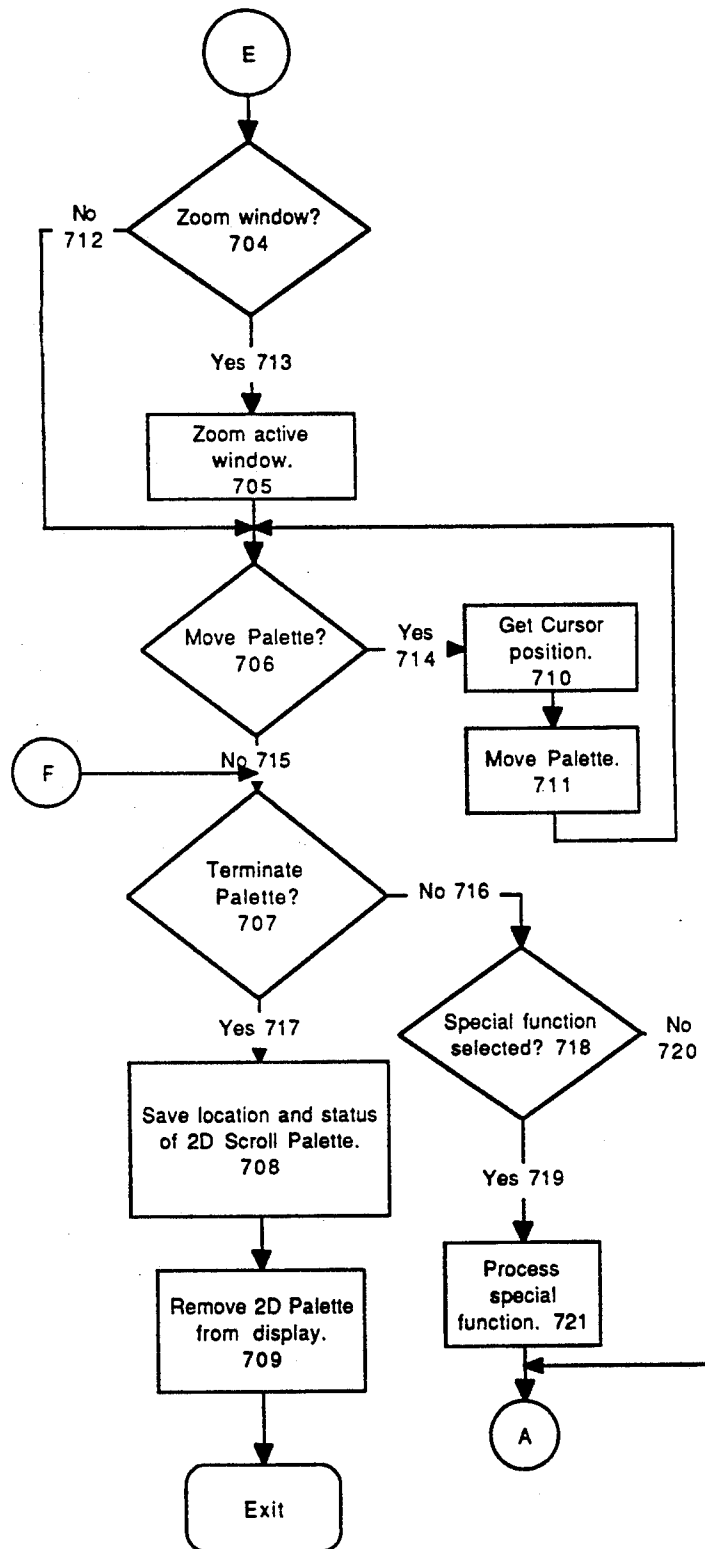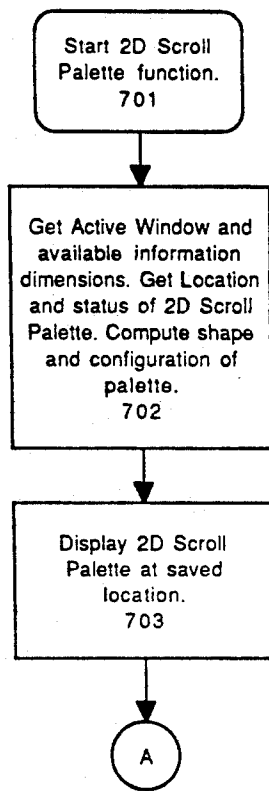
Remove 2D Palette from display. 709

A

Exit

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