

thus, it is intended by the appended claims to cover all such features and advantages of the invention. Further, since numerous modifications and changes will readily occur to those skilled in the art, it is not desired to limit the invention to the exact construction and operation as illustrated and described. Hence, all suitable modifications and equivalents may be resorted to as falling within the scope of the invention.

What is claimed is:

1. A method for scrolling through portions of a data set, said method comprising:

receiving a number of units associated with a rotational user input;

determining an acceleration factor pertaining to the rotational user input;

modifying the number of units by the acceleration factor;

determining a next portion of the data set based on the modified number of units; and

presenting the next portion of the data set.

2. A method as recited in claim 1, wherein the data set pertains to a list of items, and the portions of the data set include one or more of the items.

3. A method as recited in claim 1, wherein the data set pertains to a media file, and the portions of the data set pertain to one or more sections of the media file.

4. A method as recited in claim 3, wherein the media file is an audio file.

5. A method as recited in claim 1, wherein the rotational user input is provided via a rotational input device.

6. A method as recited in claim 5, wherein the rotational input device is a circular touch pad or a rotary dial.

7. A method as recited in claim 1, wherein the acceleration factor is dependent upon a rate of speed for the rotational user input.

8. A method as recited in claim 1, wherein the acceleration factor provides a range of acceleration.

9. A method as recited in claim 1, wherein the acceleration factor can successively increase to provided successively greater levels of acceleration.

10. A method as recited in claim 1, wherein said determining of the next data portion comprises:

converting the modified number of units into the next portion based on a predetermined value.

11. A method as recited in claim 1, wherein said determining of the next data portion comprises:

dividing the modified number of units by a chunking value.

12. A method as recited in claim 1, wherein said determining of the next data portion comprises:

adding a prior remainder value to the modified number of units; and

converting the modified number of units into the next portion.

13. In a handheld, electronics device, a method for scrolling through portions of a data set, said method comprising:

receiving a rotational user input;

determining an acceleration value pertaining to the rotational user input; and

scrolling to a next portion of the data set based on at least the acceleration value,

whereby the acceleration value specifies a degree of acceleration associated with the rate at which said scrolling through the portions of the data set is to be achieved.

14. A method as recited in claim 13, wherein said handheld, electronics device is a portable media player.

15. In a handheld, electronics device, a method for scrolling through portions of a data set, said method comprising:

receiving a rotational user input;

determining whether or not to provide acceleration with respect to the rotational user input; and

scrolling to a next portion of the data set in either an accelerated manner when said determining determines that acceleration is to be provided, or in an unaccelerated manner when said determining determines that acceleration is not to be provided.

16. A method as recited in claim 15, wherein the data set pertains to a list of items, and the portions of the data set include one or more of the items.

17. A method as recited in claim 15, wherein the data set pertains to a media file, and the portions of the data set pertain to one or more sections of the media file.

18. A method as recited in claim 17, wherein the media file is an audio file.

19. A method for scrolling through portions of a file, said method comprising:

(a) receiving a number of units from a rotational input device;

(b) determining a speed of rotation for the rotational input device;

(c) applying acceleration when the speed of rotation is greater than a speed threshold;

(d) removing any acceleration being applied when the speed of rotation is less than the speed threshold;

(e) modifying the number of units in accordance with the acceleration, if any;

(f) determining a next portion of the file based on the modified number of units; and

(g) presenting the next portion of the file.

20. A method as recited in claim 19, wherein said applying (c) of the acceleration successively increases an amount of acceleration being applied.

21. A method as recited in claim 20, wherein said applying (c) comprises:

(c1) obtaining a current acceleration amount being applied for a previous number of units from the rotational input device; and

(c2) determining an increased acceleration amount to be applied to a current number of units from the rotational input device.