

[0048] In a user interface according to an embodiment of the invention, the processor unit **205** is capable of controlling the electronic device to execute a pre-determined function as a response to a situation in which a pre-determined change is detected in direction of the resultant of the x-and y-components of the force directed to the sensor surface; e.g. when the resultant of the x-and y-components of the force is being rotated. It should be noted that the direction of the resultant can change irrespective whether or not strength (absolute value) of the resultant is changing.

[0049] In a user interface according to an embodiment of the invention, the processor unit **205** is capable of controlling the electronic device to execute a pre-determined function as a response to a situation in which a pre-determined change is detected in torque caused by combined effect of components of the force directed to the sensor surface.

[0050] In a user interface according to an embodiment of the invention, the force sensor equipment comprises a force detector **208** arranged to produce another force indicator **226** adapted to indicate a temporal change of a third force component directed to the sensor surface. The third force component is preferably the z-component of the force directed to the sensor surface. The processor unit is capable of controlling the electronic device on the basis of the location indicator, the force indicator (the x and y-directions), and the other force indicator (the z-direction). It is also possible to use a sensor element that is capable of producing a location indicator adapted to indicate locations of two or more spots of the sensor surface which are simultaneously touched by two or more external objects. In this case, the force indicator and the other force indicator indicate preferably x-, y- and z-components of a resultant of forces directed to the said two or more spots of the sensor surface.

[0051] In a user interface according to an embodiment of the invention, the processor unit **205** is capable of controlling the electronic device according to strength and direction of the resultant of the x-and y-components of the force directed to the sensor surface. Therefore, the sensor surface or a pre-determined area of the sensor surface can be used as a joystick. The force sensor equipment can be arranged to indicate also the z-component of the force directed to the sensor surface. In this case, the sensor surface or the pre-determined area of the sensor surface can be used as a three dimensional joystick (3D-joystick) for controlling the electronic device according to strength and direction of the resultant of the x-, y-, and z-components of the force directed to the sensor surface.

[0052] In a user interface according to an embodiment of the invention, the sensor surface **202** is a capacitive sensor surface and the processor unit **205** is arranged to highlight a symbol displayed on the sensor surface as a response to a situation in which the distance d between the external object **220** and the symbol is less than a pre-determined limit value. The symbol can be, for example, an icon **211**, a piece of text **212**, or some other kind of piece of visual information shown on the sensor surface.

[0053] In a user interface according to an embodiment of the invention, the processor unit **205** is arranged to select the symbol **211** and to modify visual information displayed on the sensor surface **202** around the symbol as a response to a situation in which the external object **220** is touching the sensor surface in a location in which the symbol **211** is being displayed.

[0054] In a user interface according to an embodiment of the invention, the processor unit **205** is arranged to change the symbol **211** displayed on the sensor surface from a non-selected state to a selected-to-move state and to move a position of the symbol on the sensor surface **202** as a response to a situation in which the external object **220** is touching the sensor surface in a location in which the symbol is being displayed and the external object directs to the sensor surface force that has a component parallel with the sensor surface and strength of the said component exceeds a predetermined limit. The symbol is moved towards direction of the above-mentioned component of the force. After moving, the symbol can be returned back to the non-selected state as a response to e.g. a situation in which the sensor surface is no more touched.

[0055] In a user interface according to an embodiment of the invention, the processor unit **205** is capable of controlling the electronic device to change colors displayed on a display screen according (a) temporal change(s) in at least one of the following: a) direction of force directed to the sensor surface, b) torque caused by combined effect of components of the force directed to the sensor surface, and c) strength of the force directed to the sensor surface.

[0056] In a user interface according to an embodiment of the invention, the processor unit **205** is capable of controlling the electronic device to scroll items displayed on the display screen according to (a) temporal change(s) in at least one of the following: a) direction of force directed to the sensor surface, b) torque caused by combined effect of components of the force directed to the sensor surface, and c) strength of the force directed to the sensor surface. For example, scrolling direction (forward/backward) can depend on the direction of the force and scrolling speed can depend on the strength of the force.

[0057] In a user interface according to an embodiment of the invention, the processor unit **205** is capable of controlling the electronic device to zoom items displayed on the display screen according to (a) temporal change(s) in at least one of the following: a) direction of force directed to the sensor surface, b) torque caused by combined effect of components of the force directed to the sensor surface, and c) strength of the force directed to the sensor surface. For example, zooming direction (zoom in/zoom out) can depend on the direction of the force and zooming speed can depend on the strength of the force.

[0058] In a user interface according to an embodiment of the invention, the processor unit **205** is capable of controlling the electronic device to rotate items displayed on the display screen according to (a) temporal change(s) in at least one of the following: a) direction of force directed to the sensor surface, b) torque caused by combined effect of components of the force directed to the sensor surface, and c) strength of the force directed to the sensor surface. For example, direction of rotation (clockwise/counterclockwise) can depend on the direction of the force and speed of the rotation can depend on the strength of the force.

[0059] In a user interface according to an embodiment of the invention, the processor unit **205** is capable of controlling the electronic device to select an action directed to an item displayed on the display screen according to (a) temporal change(s) in at least one of the following: a) direction of force directed to the sensor surface, b) torque caused by combined effect of components of the force directed to the sensor surface, and c) strength of the force directed to the sensor surface. For example, a minimum strength of the force can be