one embodiment, upon connection the external device sends a device identifier, which is a data packet indicating an identify of the external device. Electronic computing device **110** may compare the received device identifier with pre-stored identifiers. If there is a match, then electronic computing device **110** successfully identifies the external device. If there is no match, then electronic computing device **110** does not successfully identify the external device. In another embodiment, the external device may have unique characteristics, such as a unique pin arrangement, resistance, voltage response characteristic, etc. Electronic computing device **110** may store information associating such characteristics with device identifiers. Accordingly, upon connection, electronic computing device **110** may identify the external device by comparing any recognized characteristics with the pre-stored characteristics.

[0135] If electronic computing device **110** can not identify the external device, processing may continue with operation **1108**. In operation **1108**, electronic computing device **110** may issue a visual and/or audio error message indicating that it does not recognize the external device. If, on the other hand, electronic computing device **110** identifies the external device, processing may continue with operation **1110**. In some embodiments, processing continues with operation **1110** only if the external device identified is a removable user interface. For example, processing may continue only if the external device identified is the previously discussed removable user interface **150**.

[0136] In operation **1110**, electronic computing device **110** attempts to determine the orientation of the external device. Numerous techniques may be used for determining the orientation of the external device. In one embodiment, the orientation may be determined by the pin connections. For example, with reference to FIG. **7**A, the external device may only have pins on one surface of its connector. Accordingly, electronic computing device **110**, which also only has pins on one surface of its connector, may determine the orientation based on whether the pins of the external device contact the pins of electronic computing device **110**. For another example, with reference to FIG. **7**B, the external device may have pins on both surfaces of its connector, but the pins may be at different spacings with respect to one another such that the pins of the external device contact different pins of electronic computing device **110** based on the orientation of the connection. In another embodiment, the orientation may be determined based on variable characteristics of the external device. For example, with reference with FIG. **4**D, a resistance of removable user interface **150** may change based on an rotational position of rotatable element **403***b*. Electronic computing device **110** may determine the orientation by measuring the resistance of removable user interface **150**. Accordingly, electronic computing device **110** may determine the orientation by detecting a rotation of the external device relative to electronic computing device **110**.

[0137] If electronic computing device **110** cannot determine an orientation of the external device, processing may continue with operation **1112**. In operation **1112**, electronic computing device **110** enables remote control via the external device. That is, electronic computing device **110** may execute functionality in response to a user-interaction with the external device. In some embodiments, remote control is enabled only if the external device identified is a removable user interface.

[0138] If electronic computing device **110** determines an orientation of the external device, processing may continue with operation **1114**. In operation **1114**, electronic computing device **110** determines whether the external device covers at least a portion of an electronic display such as digital display **118**. Such a determination may be made based on the determined orientation. That is, each orientation may be pre-associated with information indicating whether the device covers at least a portion of digital display **118**. Accordingly, upon determining the orientation, electronic computing device **110** may read stored information associated with the orientation indicating whether the device covers at least a portion of digital display **118**.

[0139] If electronic computing device **110** determines that the external device does not cover any part of digital display **118**, processing may continue with operation **1112**. In operation **1112**, electronic computing device **110** enables remote control via the external device. That is, electronic computing device **110** may execute functionality in response to a user-interaction with the external device. In some embodiments, remote control is enabled only if the external device identified is a removable user interface.

[0140] If electronic computing device **110** determines that the external device covers at least a portion of digital display **118**, processing may continue with operation **1116**, as shown in FIG. **11**B. In operation **1116**, electronic computing device **110** displays icons at locations corresponding to tactile feedback elements of the external device. In one embodiment, electronic computing device **110** may store location information for each external device, where the location information indicates locations of tactile feedback elements relative to digital display **118**. Upon identifying the external device, electronic computing device **110** may read the stored location information to determine the locations of tactile feedback elements. Electronic computing device **110** may then display information such as icons at locations of digital display **118** that correspond to the tactile feedback elements. For example, the icons may be located below the tactile feedback elements. Accordingly, the icons may be visible to a user via the tactile feedback elements.

[0141] In operation **1118**, electronic computing device **110** detects user-engagement of a tactile feedback element. Such detection may be made as a result of a close proximity between the tactile feedback element and a touch-sensitive region. Any suitable technique for detecting the location of a user's touch may be used. For example, as previously discussed, techniques for capacitive touch pads, resistive touch pads, etc. may be used. In response to detecting user-engagement of a tactile feedback element, processing may continue with operation **1120**.

[0142] In operation **1120**, electronic computing device **110** executes functionality associated with the icon corresponding to the tactile feedback element engaged by the user. For example, the icon may show a 'play song' icon, and the icon may be visible via a tactile feedback element. Upon user-engagement with that tactile feedback element, electronic computing device **110** may execute functionality to play a song.

[0143] An example is now provided with reference to some of the previously discussed embodiments. With reference to FIG. **1**, while removable user interface **150** is not connected to electronic computing device **110**, electronic computing device **110** may continue to operate as normal, while simultaneously monitoring connector **122**. Upon connecting