

word processing application program **403** determines that a plurality of objects have set flags, it validates a position adjustment command (S1904). That is, the processing in FIG. 19A is to select one or a plurality of horizontally or vertically projected images which are drawn, and thereby select objects corresponding to the selected projected images.

[0099] As described above, the operator can select a figure from any of the main pane, horizontal projection pane, and vertical projection pane. When the operator selects a figure in the main pane, the word processing application program **403** displays the selection handles of corresponding figures even in the horizontal and vertical projection panes on the basis of figure IDs stored in the respective tables, and updates the information storage tables. Also when the operator selects a figure in the horizontal or vertical projection pane, the word processing application program **403** synchronously displays selection handles in all the panes and updates the information storage tables.

[0100] FIGS. 9A to 9C show examples of a main pane-information storage table **801**, horizontal projection pane-information storage table **802**, and vertical projection pane-information storage table **803** containing selected objects. The object "title 1" of page 1 and the object "title 3" of page 3 are selected in the respective pane-information storage tables, and the corresponding selection flags are set to "ON".

[0101] FIG. 10 is a table showing an example of a position adjustment command table representing whether the position adjustment command is valid or invalid. The position adjustment command is used to adjust the positions of a plurality of objects. The command is valid only when the operator selects a plurality of objects. The position adjustment command table holds information **1012** representing whether a command corresponding to an entry **1011** of the position adjustment command table is valid or invalid. When the position adjustment command is validated in step S1904 of FIG. 19A, information representing that the command is valid is written in an entry corresponding to the valid command. In the example of FIG. 10, when the operator selects a plurality of objects, two position adjustment commands "top alignment" and "bottom alignment" are validated. This also applies to other alignment commands such as "right alignment", "left alignment", "middle alignment in the horizontal direction", and "middle alignment in the vertical direction". When the position adjustment command is invalid, the command menu grays out the position adjustment command to inhibit the operator from selecting the position adjustment command.

[0102] FIG. 19B is a flowchart showing the procedures of the page selection processing. Page selection in the main pane is to switch the current page. The processing in FIG. 19B starts upon selecting one of selection tabs corresponding to pages in the main pane, horizontal projection pane, and vertical projection pane.

[0103] The word processing application program **403** saves the page number of a selected page in, e.g., an array variable Cn set in the RAM **202** (S1911). When the operator selects a plurality of pages, the word processing application program **403** saves all the selected page numbers by changing the array suffix n. The word processing application program **403** determines whether the operator selects a page in the main pane (S1912). If the word processing application

program **403** determines that the operator selects a page in the main pane (i.e., he selects a tab in the main pane), it draws the selected page as a new current page in the main pane. At this time, the word processing application program **403** draws a three-directional view on the basis of information of the current page in the main pane-information storage table by looking up the main pane-information storage table (if necessary, page data, too) (S1913).

[0104] <Object Position Adjustment Processing>

[0105] FIGS. 20A and 20B show processing (also called alignment processing) to simultaneously change and adjust the positions of figures in pages by using the three-directional view **600**. For position adjustment, the operator must select a plurality of objects. The operator can also select objects from any of the main pane, horizontal projection pane, and vertical projection pane. That is, the operator can select a plurality of objects contained in different pages by selecting the projected images of objects displayed in the horizontal or vertical projection pane. For example, the operator selects a position adjustment command while pointing the cursor to a reference object.

[0106] As a command to designate execution of position adjustment, the operator performs a predetermined operation such as an instruction from a main menu provided by the user interface or right clicking in the horizontal/vertical projection pane. The method of inputting the command can take various methods such as an instruction from a context menu displayed by the predetermined operation, and a short-cut key operation. The first embodiment will exemplify the context menu displayed by right clicking. FIG. 11 is a view showing a case of executing a position adjustment command in the horizontal projection pane. FIG. 12 is a view showing a case of executing a position adjustment command in the vertical projection pane. In either case, a command box **1110** in FIG. 11 or a command box **1210** in FIG. 12 is displayed by clicking the right button of the pointing device on (or near) a selected object. The operator selects a desired position adjustment command from the command box. The operator can select a top alignment command **1101** or bottom alignment command **1102** as the position adjustment command in the horizontal projection pane. The operator can select a left alignment command **1201** or right alignment command **1202** as the position adjustment command in the vertical projection pane. Since the type of executable position adjustment changes between the horizontal and vertical projection panes (vertical alignment in horizontal projection, and horizontal alignment in vertical projection), a menu reflecting the position adjustment type can be displayed. The processing in the flowchart of FIGS. 20A and 20B can start upon selecting any command in the state of FIG. 11 or 12.

[0107] In step S2001, the word processing application determines an object serving as a position adjustment reference. For example, the word processing application displays position adjustment commands when the operator moves the cursor position onto a desired object and executes a predetermined operation (e.g., right clicking) while selecting a plurality of objects. At this time, the word processing application determines the object at the cursor position as a reference object. The word processing application saves the figure ID of the determined object as a reference object ID in the RAM **202**. When the figure ID is unique in a page, the