

FIGS. 8A to 8C in accordance with movement of the selected object to the moving destination page.

[0130] If the word processing application program 403 determines in step S2201 that the moving source and destination of the selected figure are the same page, the flow branches to step S2202, and the word processing application program 403 calculates X- and Y-coordinate values changed by the moving amount of the selected/dragged figure of interest. The word processing application program 403 updates each pane-information storage table to the calculated coordinate values. For this purpose, the word processing application program 403 obtains, from the OS, the differences between a cursor position immediately before dragging and that upon completion of dragging in the X and Y directions. The word processing application program 403 adds the difference values in the X and Y directions to the X- and Y-coordinate values of the selected object in each pane-information storage table. However, the word processing application program 403 updates only the Y-coordinate value in the horizontal projection pane-information storage table, and only the X-coordinate value in the vertical projection pane-information storage table.

[0131] In step S2203, the word processing application program 403 updates page data in which the selected figure of interest is contained, in order to move the selected/dragged figure of interest by the designated moving amount. For the update processing, the word processing application program 403 changes the position of each object in page data to a position corresponding to the X- and Y-coordinate values in the main pane-information storage table.

[0132] In step S2204, the word processing application program 403 determines whether all selected objects have received attention. If not all selected objects have received attention, the word processing application program 403 pays attention to a new selected object, and the flow branches to step S2201. After processing all the objects, the flow branches to step S2205, and the word processing application program 403 draws the updated page on the basis of the pane-information storage tables (if necessary, page data). Thereafter, the flow waits for a new input.

[0133] By the above procedures, the operator can move a plurality of objects contained in a plurality of pages by the same moving amount in the same direction in the respective pages without switching between the pages.

[0134] <Copy Processing>

[0135] FIG. 17A is a view showing an example of copying a figure present in a given page to other pages by using the three-directional view 600. FIG. 17A assumes a case of copying a figure 1701 present in the first page to the same position in the second and third pages. In this case, the operator selects the figure 1701 in the main pane 601 (or horizontal projection pane 602). Then, the operator selects tabs 1703 and 1704 as copy destination pages in the horizontal pane 602. The operator right-clicks a horizontal pane tab area 1705 of the copy source page, and selects and executes a command 1706 to copy the selected figure to the designated pages. By the above processing, the word processing application program 403 copies the selected figure to a plurality of pages at once. In the first embodiment, the method of inputting the command 1706 to designate copying is a choice from a context menu displayed by right clicking,

but may take any method such as a choice from a main menu or a key operation. FIG. 17B shows the result of copying the figure 1701 in the first page to the same position in the second and third pages. The operator executes the processing shown in FIG. 17A to copy data of text 2 in the first page to the second and third pages. Using the processing in FIG. 17A makes it possible to copy a selected figure to a plurality of pages without switching between the pages. This processing allows the operator to perform copy processing to copy a plurality of objects selected in the user interface window to a plurality of pages selected in the user interface window in accordance with one copy processing instruction by the operator.

[0136] FIG. 21 is a flowchart showing the procedures of copy processing. As described above, the operator selects an object to be copied by the procedures in FIG. 19A. The operator also selects copy destination pages by the procedures in FIG. 19B. If the operator selects a copy command in this state, as shown in FIG. 17A, the processing in FIG. 21 starts.

[0137] In step S2101, the word processing application program 403 copies, by a designated page count (count indicated by the suffix n of the variable Cn), object information of a selected object of interest registered in each pane-information storage table. In the first embodiment, the position in the copy destination page changes in accordance with an intra-page moving operation of the object moved to the page. In copying between pages, the position in the copy destination page is identical to, e.g., that of the object of interest in the source page. The word processing application program 403 rewrites the page number of the copied object information to one selected as the copy destination. If the figure ID overlaps another one, the word processing application program 403 newly assigns a figure ID. The word processing application program 403 may sort the pane-information storage table by the page number.

[0138] In step S2102, the word processing application program 403 copies the selected object of interest contained in page data to the copy destination page.

[0139] In step S2103, the word processing application program 403 determines whether all selected objects have been copied. If not all selected objects have been copied, the word processing application program 403 pays attention to a new selected object, and the flow branches to step S2101. If all selected objects have been copied, the word processing application program 403 draws a three-directional view again on the basis of each pane-information storage table updated in step S2104. The display 207 displays the redrawn three-directional view.

[0140] In this manner, the operator can copy a selected object to selected pages by a copy command input by one operation by the operator without switching between the pages. The user interface requires an additional area of only the vertical and horizontal projection panes around a selected page, and can display a large preview.

[0141] The first embodiment has described a figure as an object to be edited. However, editing processing can be done by the same procedures as those in the first embodiment even when an object other than a figure, such as an image object, text, or text box, undergoes an editing operation including selection, movement, and copying. That is, an