

42. The method as recited in claim 41 wherein the one or more virtual buttons include at least a center button that is surrounded by the touch region.

43. The method as recited in claim 42 wherein the virtual scroll wheel is circular.

44. The method as recited in claim 33 wherein the step of determining if a touch event is performed relative to the touch region of the virtual scroll wheel comprises:

detecting the presence of at least one finger over the touch region;

setting an initial position of the finger; and

monitoring finger movement relative to the initial position.

45. The method as recited in claim 33 wherein the media items are a list of songs.

46. A method performed on a user operated electronic device having a display and a touch screen, the method comprising:

determining if a touch is detected;

monitoring and analyzing the current operating conditions when a touch is detected;

activating a first GUI element for a first set of operating conditions; and

activating a second GUI element for a second set of operating conditions.

47. A method performed on a computing device having a display and a touch sensing input device, the method comprising:

sensing touches;

displaying and enabling a GUI element when a touch is detected, the GUI element being based on at least one of the following:

(a) the application currently running on the computing device;

(b) the current state of the application;

(c) one or more characteristics of the touch, the characteristics including,

(i) touch location,

(ii) touch ID

(iii) number of touches,

(iv) touch motion

disabling and removing the GUI element from display when one of the following events occurs,

(a) the touch is no longer detected,

(b) a touch has not been detected for a preset amount of time,

(c) a certain amount of time has gone by since the step of displaying and enabling,

(d) a user selection.

48. A computing system, comprising:

a display device configured to display a graphical user interface;

a touch screen positioned over the display device, the touch screen being configured to detect touches that occur over the display device; and

a processor operatively coupled to the display device and the touch screen, the processor instructing the display device to display one or more GUI elements in response to a touch, and performing actions associated with the GUI element when touch events are detected relative to the displayed GUI elements.

49. The system as recited in claim 42 wherein the processor is configured to determine a user interface mode in response to the touch, the user interface mode having one or more GUI elements associated therewith that are capable of being displayed, the user interface modes being based on at least one of a current application, a state of the application and a touch characteristics associated with the touches.

50. A computing device, comprising:

a processor;

a touch screen capable of sensing touch events; and

a display configured to simultaneously display a plurality of media items and a virtual scroll wheel, the virtual scroll wheel providing a region where touch events are performed in order to implement a scrolling action, the scrolling action allowing a user to traverse through the plurality of media items.

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