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(54) **METHOD AND SYSTEM FOR ACCESSING INTERACTIVE MULTIMEDIA INFORMATION OR SERVICES FROM BRAILLE DOCUMENTS**

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(57) **ABSTRACT**

System and method to enable blind people to detect and access hyperlinks within Braille documents. A proximity sensing foil placed under a Braille page senses the position of a reader's fingertips and provides coordinates of the sensed position. A workstation computes the distance between the sensed position and the predefined positions hyperlinks the page is known to contain, which are initially stored in a hyperlink table. When the user's fingertips are positioned over a hyperlink, the computed distance is less than a threshold value, in which case an acoustic signal alerts the user that a hyperlink is present. The user may then access the hyperlink.

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