

S by the optical scanning-type touch panel of the present invention. FIG. 33 is a schematic diagram showing a state of implementing of the optical scanning-type touch panel. In FIG. 33, however, illustration of the constituent members other than the optical units 1a, 1b, recurrence reflection sheet 7 and display screen 10 is omitted. Incidentally, FIG. 33 shows an example in which a finger is used as the indicator S.

[0076] The MPU 5 controls the polygon controller 4 to rotate the respective polygon mirrors 15 in the optical units 1a and 1b, and thereby angularly scanning the laser light from the respective light emitting elements 11. As a result, the reflected light from the recurrence reflection sheet 7 enters the respective light receiving elements 13. The amounts of the received light that entered the respective light receiving elements 13 as mentioned above are obtained as the light receiving signals which are the outputs of light receiving signal detectors 3a and 3b.

[0077] Further, in FIG. 33, $\theta 00$ and $\phi 00$ represent the angles from a reference line connecting both of the optical units 1a and 1b to the respective light receiving elements, $\theta 0$ and $\phi 0$ represent the angles from the reference line connecting both of the optical units 1a and 1b to the ends of the recurrence reflection sheet 7, $\theta 1$ and $\phi 1$ represent the angles from the reference line to one end of the indicator S on the reference line side, and $\theta 2$ and $\phi 2$ represent the angles from the reference line to another end of the indicator S on the opposite side to the reference side, respectively.

[0078] When the indicator S is present in the optical path of the scanning light on the display screen 10, the light projected from the optical units 1a and 1b and then reflected from the indicator S does not enter the light receiving elements 13. Therefore, in a state as shown in FIG. 33, the reflected light does not enter the light receiving element 13 in the optical unit 1a when the scanning angle is in a range between 0° and $\theta 0$, the reflected light enters that light receiving element 13 when the scanning angle is in a range between $\theta 0$ and $\theta 1$, and the reflected light does not enter that light receiving element 13 when the scanning angle is in a range between $\theta 1$ and $\theta 2$. Similarly, the reflected light does not enter the light receiving element 13 in the optical unit 1b when the scanning angle is in a range between 0° and $\phi 0$, the reflected light enters that light receiving element 13 when the scanning angle is in a range between $\phi 0$ and $\phi 1$, and the reflected light does not enter that light receiving element 13 when the scanning angle is in a range between $\phi 1$ and $\phi 2$,

[0079] Next, the following description will explain a process of calculating a coordinate of a central position (indicated position) of the indicator S (a finger in this example) from the cut-off range calculated in the above-mentioned manner. First, the conversion of an angle into an orthogonal coordinate based on the triangulation will be explained. As shown in FIG. 34, the position of the optical unit 1a is set as an origin O, the right side and upper side of the display screen 10 are set as the X-axis and Y-axis, and the length of the reference line (the distance between the optical units 1a and 1b) is set as L. Moreover, the position of the optical unit 1b is set as B. When a central point P(P_x , P_y) on the display screen 10 indicated by the indicator S is positioned at angles of θ and ϕ with respect to the X-axis from the optical units 1a and 1b, the values of X coordinate P_x and Y coordinate

P_y of the point P can be calculated according to the principle of the triangulation as shown by equations (1) and (2) below, respectively.

$$P_x(\theta, \phi) = (\tan \phi) + (\tan \theta + \tan \phi) \times L \quad (1)$$

$$P_y(\theta, \phi) = (\tan \theta \cdot \tan \phi) + (\tan \theta + \tan \phi) \times L \quad (2)$$

[0080] By the way, since the indicator S (finger) has a dimension, when the detection angle at the timing of rise/fall of the detected light receiving signal is adopted, as shown in FIG. 35, four points (P1 through P4 in FIG. 35) on the edge of the indicator S (finger) are detected. These four points are all different from the indicated central point (Pc in FIG. 35). Thus, a coordinate (P_{cx} , P_{cy}) of the central point Pc is calculated as follows. P_{cx} and P_{cy} can be expressed as shown by the following equations (3) and (4), respectively.

$$P_{cx}(\theta, \phi) = P_{cx}(\theta 1 + d\theta/2, \phi 1 + d\phi/2) \quad (3)$$

$$P_{cy}(\theta, \phi) = P_{cy}(\theta 1 + d\theta/2, \phi 1 + d\phi/2) \quad (4)$$

[0081] Then, by substituting $\theta 1 + d\theta/2$ and $\phi 1 + d\phi/2$ expressed by equations (3) and (4) for θ and ϕ of equations (1) and (2) above, the coordinate of the indicated central point Pc can be obtained.

[0082] In the above-mentioned example, the average value of the angle is calculated first and then substituted into the triangulation converting equations (1) and (2) to calculate the coordinate of the central point Pc as the indicated position. However, it is also possible to calculate the coordinate of the central point Pc by first calculating the orthogonal coordinates of the four points P1 through P4 from the scanning angle according to the triangulation converting equations (1) and (2) and then calculating the average of the calculated coordinate values of the four points. Moreover, it is also possible to determine the coordinate of the central point Pc as the indicated position by considering parallax and easy viewing of the indicated position.

[0083] By the way, as mentioned above, since the angular velocity of the rotation of the respective polygon mirrors 15 is constant, the information about the scanning angle is obtainable by measuring the time. FIG. 36 is a timing chart showing the relationship between the light receiving signal from the light receiving signal detector 3a and the scanning angle θ and scanning time T of the polygon mirror 15 in the optical unit 1a. When the scanning angular velocity of the polygon mirror 15 is constant, if the scanning angular velocity is represented by ω , a proportional relationship as shown by equation (5) below is established between the scanning angle θ and the scanning time T.

$$\theta = \omega \times T \quad (5)$$

[0084] Therefore, the angles $\theta 1$ and $\theta 2$ at the time of the fall and rise of the light receiving signal establish the relationships shown by equations (6) and (7) below with the scanning time $t 1$ and $t 2$.

$$\theta 1 = \omega \times t 1 \quad (6)$$

$$\theta 2 = \omega \times t 2 \quad (7)$$

[0085] Thus, when the scanning angular velocity of the polygon mirrors 16a and 16b is constant, it is possible to measure the cut-off range and coordinate position of the indicator S (finger) by using the time information.

[0086] Moreover, in the optical scanning-type touch panel of the present invention, it is possible to calculate the size (the diameter of the cross section) of the indicator S (finger)