and **360**. If t**2**-t**1** is greater than the threshold tm then the cursor is moved to the position S**2** of the second tap—step **360**.

[**0032**] The position of the second tap is not taken into consideration in order to allow two different fingers to be used for the two taps. If the user chooses to actuate the device in this way, then the taps would be necessarily spatially separated.

[**0033**] The above represents relatively simple embodiment of the invention. It will be understood that many variations are possible. For instance, extra taps may be incorporated after the first tap in order to emulate for instance an mouse double click. Various types of visual feedback may be given to the user, for instance the cursor may change colour, brightness or form once its position has been fixed by the first tap. A longer time threshold may be introduced after which a second tap is ineffective regardless of where it takes place.

[**0034**] Whilst the invention is particularly useful in portable, handheld devices, it will be understood that technique may be applied to any kind of device, whether portable or not, that includes a tactile display, for instance printers, photocopiers, fax machines as well as industrial machinery.

[**0035**] Although a specific embodiment of the invention has been described, the invention is not to be limited to the specific arrangement so described. The invention is limited only by the claims. The claims themselves are intended to indicate the periphery of the claimed invention and are intended to be interpreted as broadly as the language itself allows, rather than being interpreted as claiming only the exemplary embodiment disclosed by the specification.

1. Apparatus having a touch sensitive display and circuitry responsive to the display to move a cursor according to movement of a finger thereon and effect input operations according to the position of a cursor in relation to a displayed image, the position of the cursor on the displayed image being displaced by a short distance from the point of contact of the finger with the display so that the position of the cursor when an input operation is effected is visible to the user, wherein the input operations comprise at least a first finger tap serving to define the position of the cursor and a second finger tap serving to confirm the position of the cursor as the point of effect desired by the user.

2. Apparatus as claimed in claim 1 wherein the input operations are associated with display elements that are smaller than a human finger.

3. Apparatus as claimed in claim 1 wherein the input operation is effected if the second finger tap is effected less than a predetermined time after the first finger tap.

4. Apparatus as claimed in claim 3 wherein the input operation is effected if the first finger tap is effected less than a predetermined distance from the contact point that determined the cursor position.

5. Apparatus as claimed in claim 1 wherein the display is arranged not to display active elements in an edge zone.

6. A touch sensitive display for use in apparatus as claimed in claim 5 in which in which the touch pad extends beyond the edge of the display surface to create the edge zone.

7. A touch sensitive display for use in apparatus as claimed in claim 5 in which the display surface extends beyond the edge of the touch pad at an edge opposite said edge zone.

8. Apparatus as claimed in claim 5 wherein user interface software is programmed not to display active elements in the edge zone.

9. Apparatus as claimed in claim 1 wherein the circuitry includes an operating system.

10. A method for operating a touch sensitive display including circuitry responsive to the display to move a cursor according to movement of a finger thereon and effect input operations according to the position of a cursor in relation to a displayed image, the method comprising:

displaying a cursor at a position displaced by a short distance from the point of contact of the finger with the display so that the position of the cursor when an input operation is effected is visible to the user;

responding to a first finger tap by defining the position of the cursor; and

responding to a second finger tap to confirm the position of the cursor as the point of effect desired by the user.

11. A computer program for controlling apparatus having a touch sensitive display, the program comprising program elements for responding to signals from the display to move a cursor in a displayed image according to movement of a finger thereon and program elements for effecting input operations according to the position of a cursor in relation to the displayed image, the position of the cursor on the displayed image being displaced by a short distance from the point of contact of the finger with the display so that the position of the cursor when an input operation is effected is visible to the user, wherein the input operations comprise at least a first finger tap serving to define the position of the cursor and a second finger tap serving to confirm the position of the cursor as the point of effect desired by the user.

12. Apparatus having a touch sensitive display and circuitry responsive to the display to move a cursor according to movement of a finger thereon and effect input operations according to the position of a cursor in relation to a displayed image, the position of the cursor on the displayed image being displaced by a short distance from the point of contact of the finger with the display so that the position of the cursor when an input operation is effected is visible to the user, wherein the input operations comprise at least a first finger tap serving to define the position of the cursor and a second finger tap serving to confirm the position of the cursor as the point of effect desired by the user, wherein the input operations are associated with display elements that are smaller than a human finger. and are effected if the second finger tap is effected less than a predetermined time after the first finger tap and if the first finger tap is effected less than a predetermined distance from the contact point that determined the cursor position.

13. Apparatus as claimed in claim 12 wherein the display is arranged not to display active elements in an edge zone.

14. A touch sensitive display in which a display surface extends beyond the edge of a touch pad at an edge.

* * * * *