



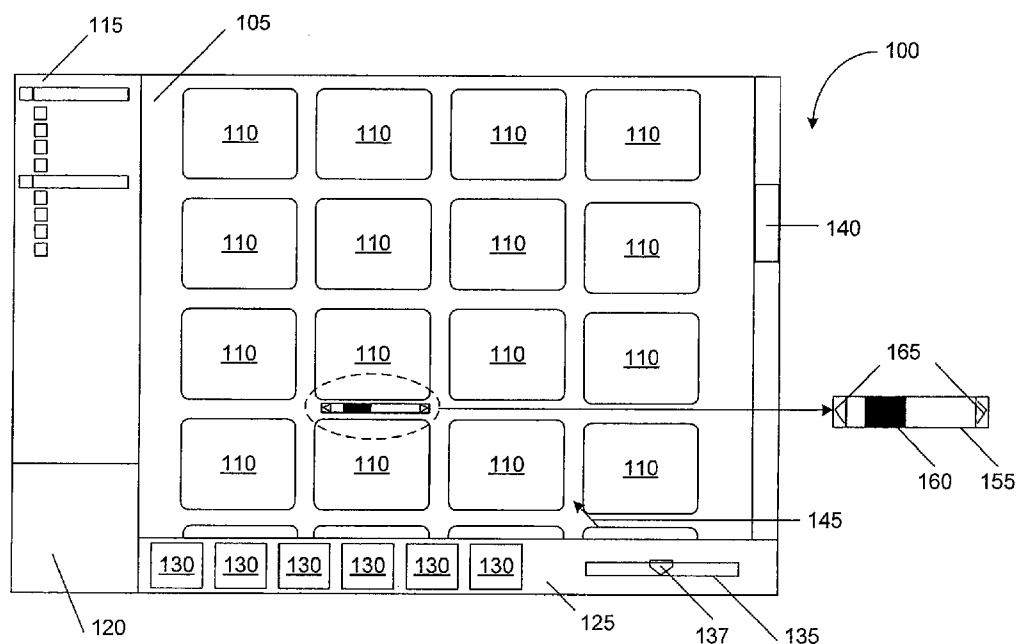
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(19) **United States**(12) **Patent Application Publication**
Fagans(10) **Pub. No.: US 2011/0145752 A1**(43) **Pub. Date: Jun. 16, 2011**(54) **INTERACTIVE IMAGE THUMBNAILS****Publication Classification**(75) Inventor: **Joshua Fagans**, Redwood City, CA (US)(51) **Int. Cl.**
G06F 3/048 (2006.01)(52) **U.S. Cl.** **715/781**(73) Assignee: **APPLE INC.**, Cupertino, CA (US)(57) **ABSTRACT**(21) Appl. No.: **13/030,733**(22) Filed: **Feb. 18, 2011**

A computer-implemented method displaying, within a user interface, a view pane having a vertical direction and a horizontal direction, displaying, within the view pane, a first frame represented by a bounded region, wherein the first frame represents a container that comprises one or more objects, upon detecting a positioning of a cursor at a position in the poster frame, displaying an object of the one or more objects in the frame, the displayed object varying based on the position of the cursor, upon detecting a selection of the first frame, displaying a second frame, represented by a second bounded region, adjacent to the second frame, and displaying the displayed object in the second frame.

Related U.S. Application Data

(63) Continuation of application No. 11/834,570, filed on Aug. 6, 2007, now Pat. No. 7,895,533, which is a continuation-in-part of application No. 11/685,672, filed on Mar. 13, 2007.



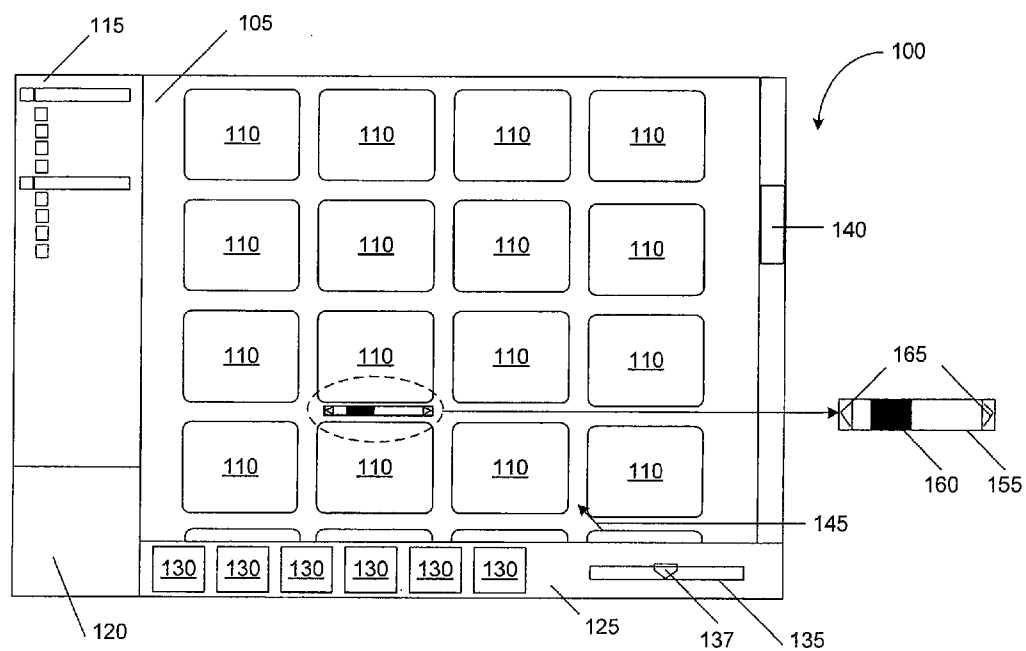


FIG. 1A

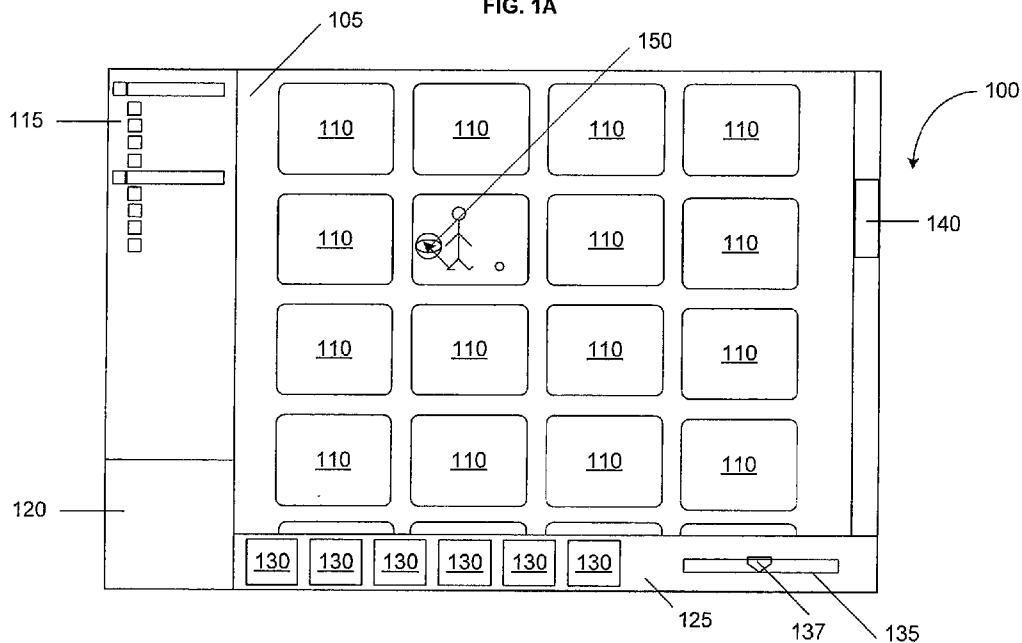


FIG. 1B

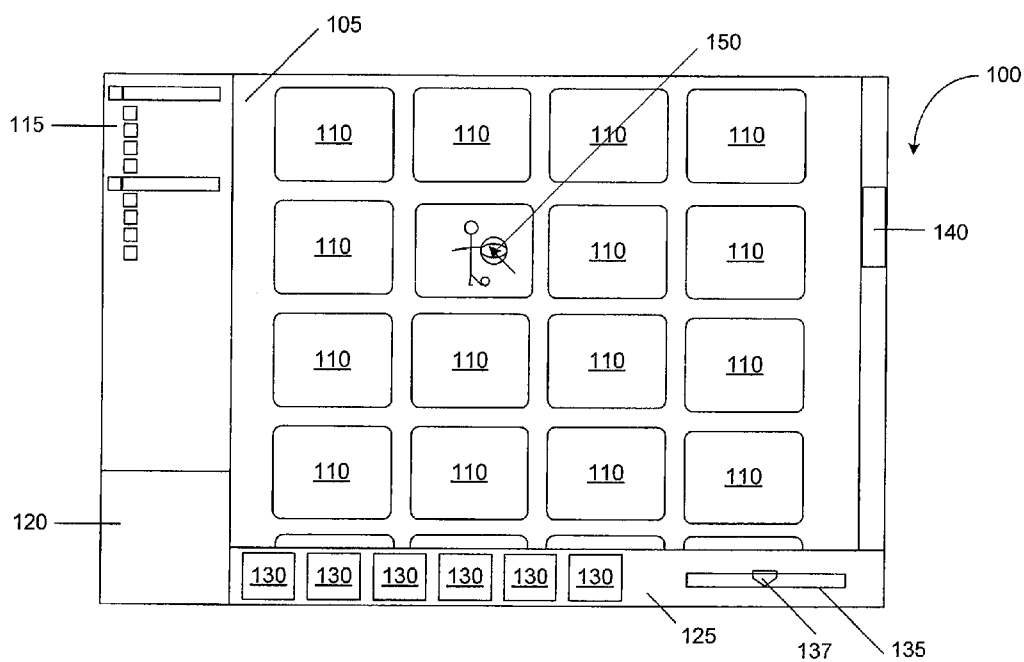


FIG. 1C

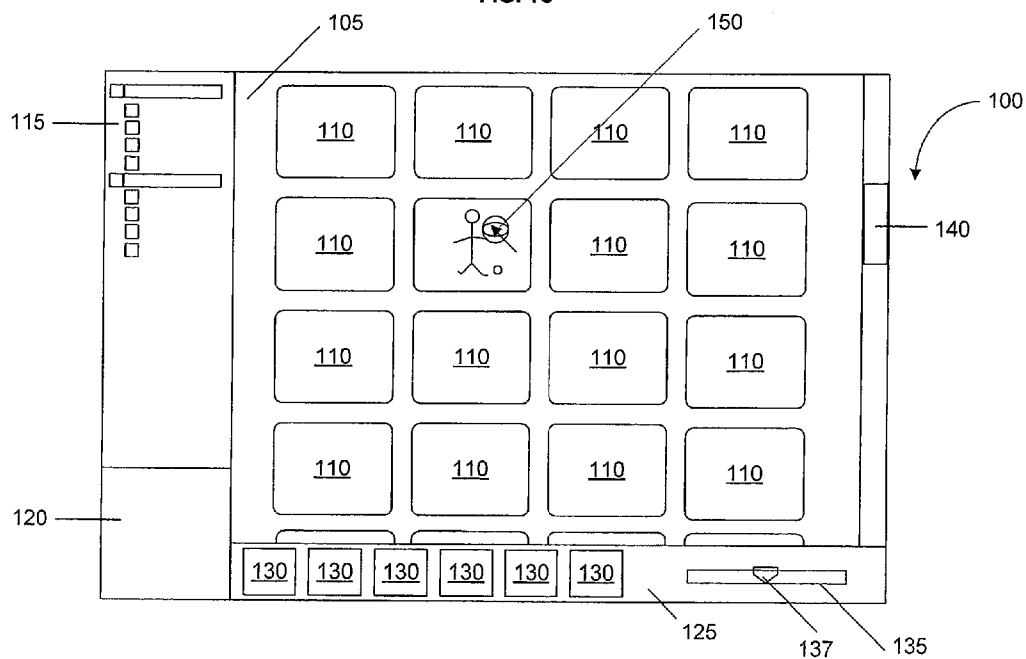


FIG. 1D

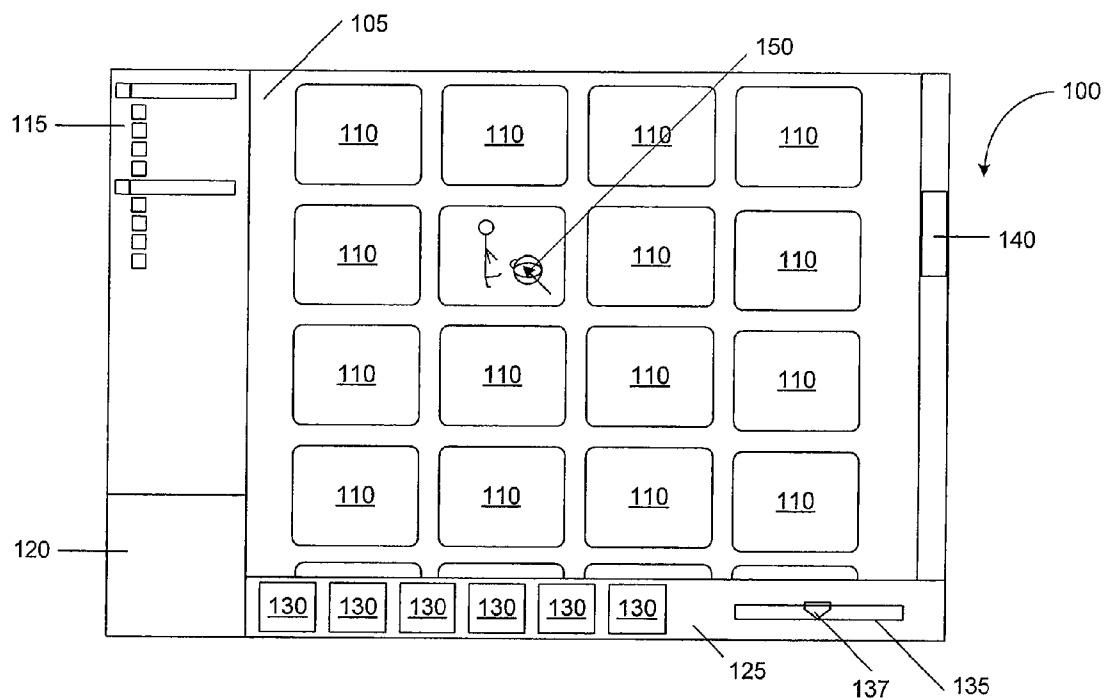


FIG. 1E

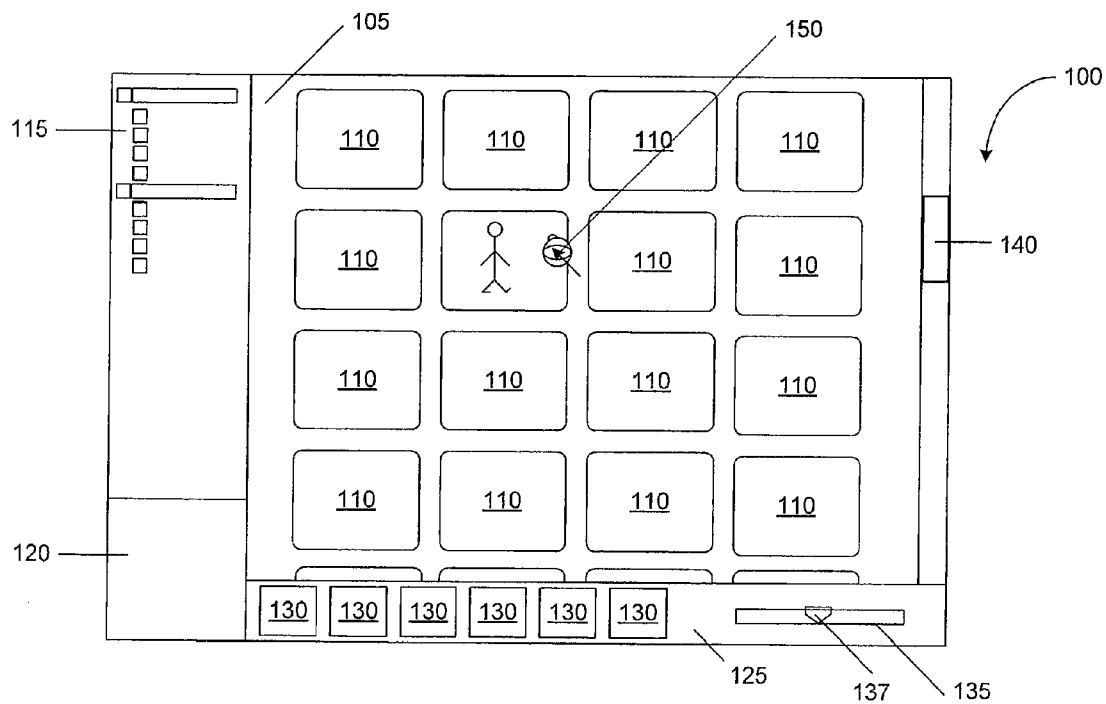


FIG. 1F

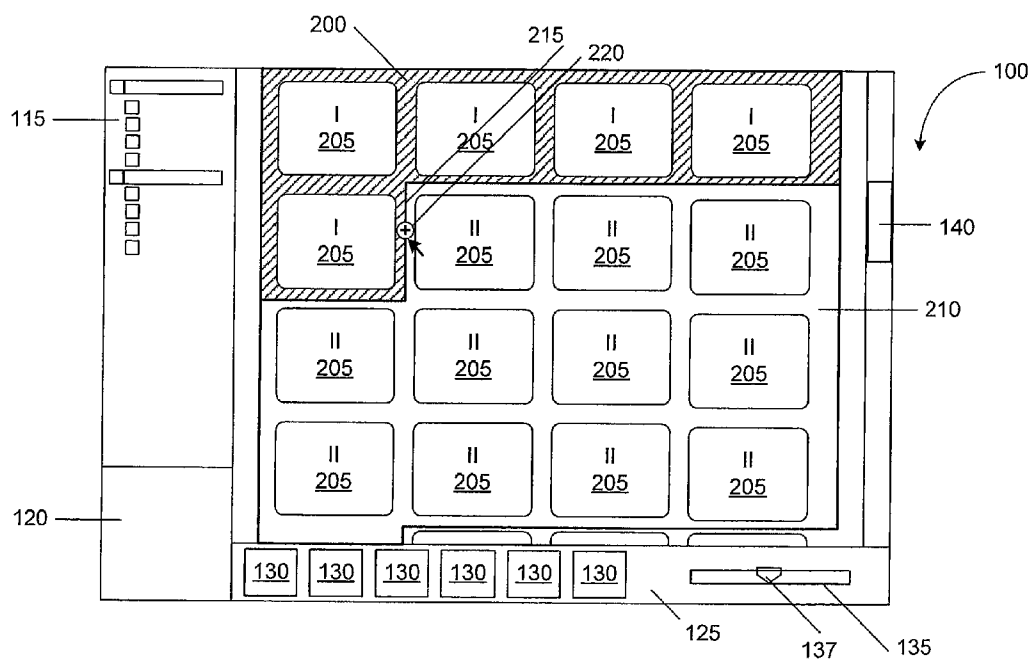


FIG. 2A

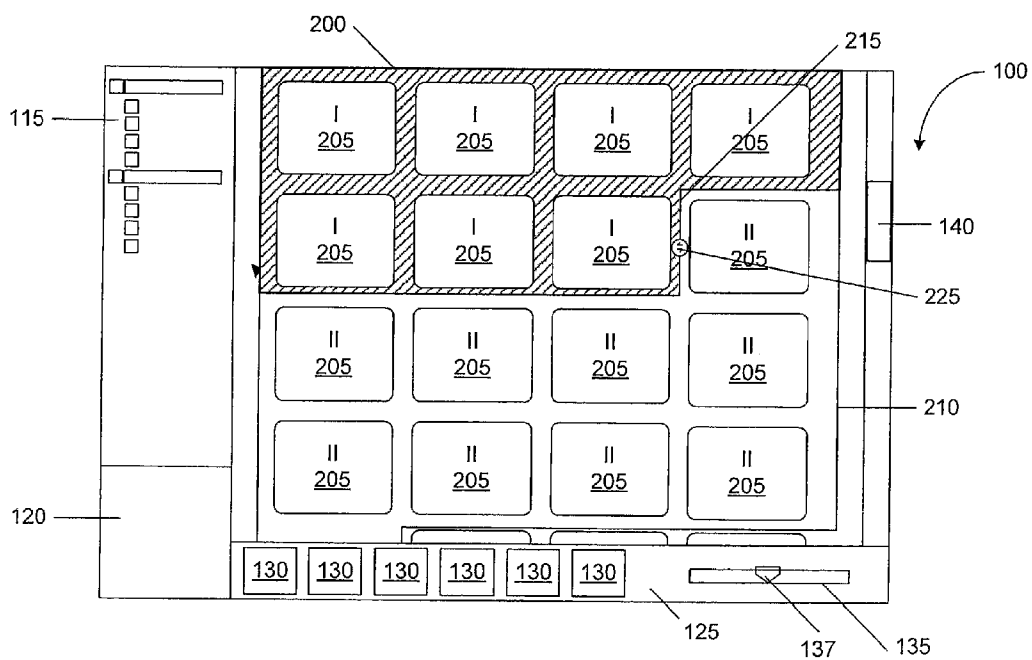


FIG. 2B

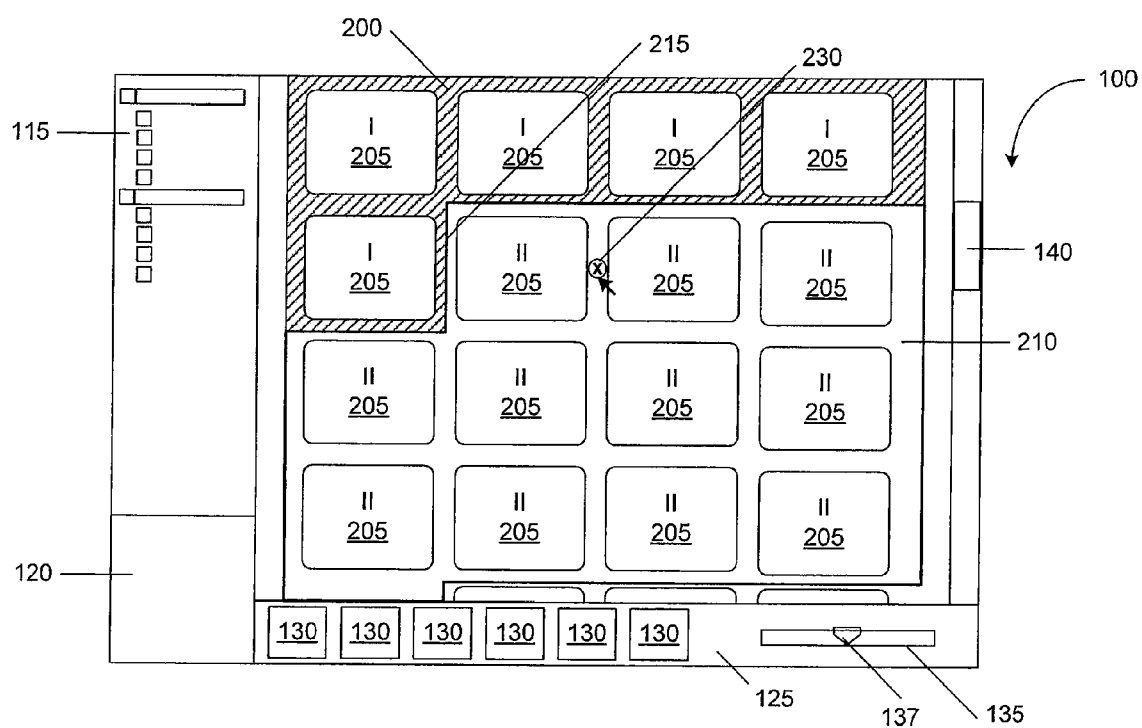


FIG. 2C

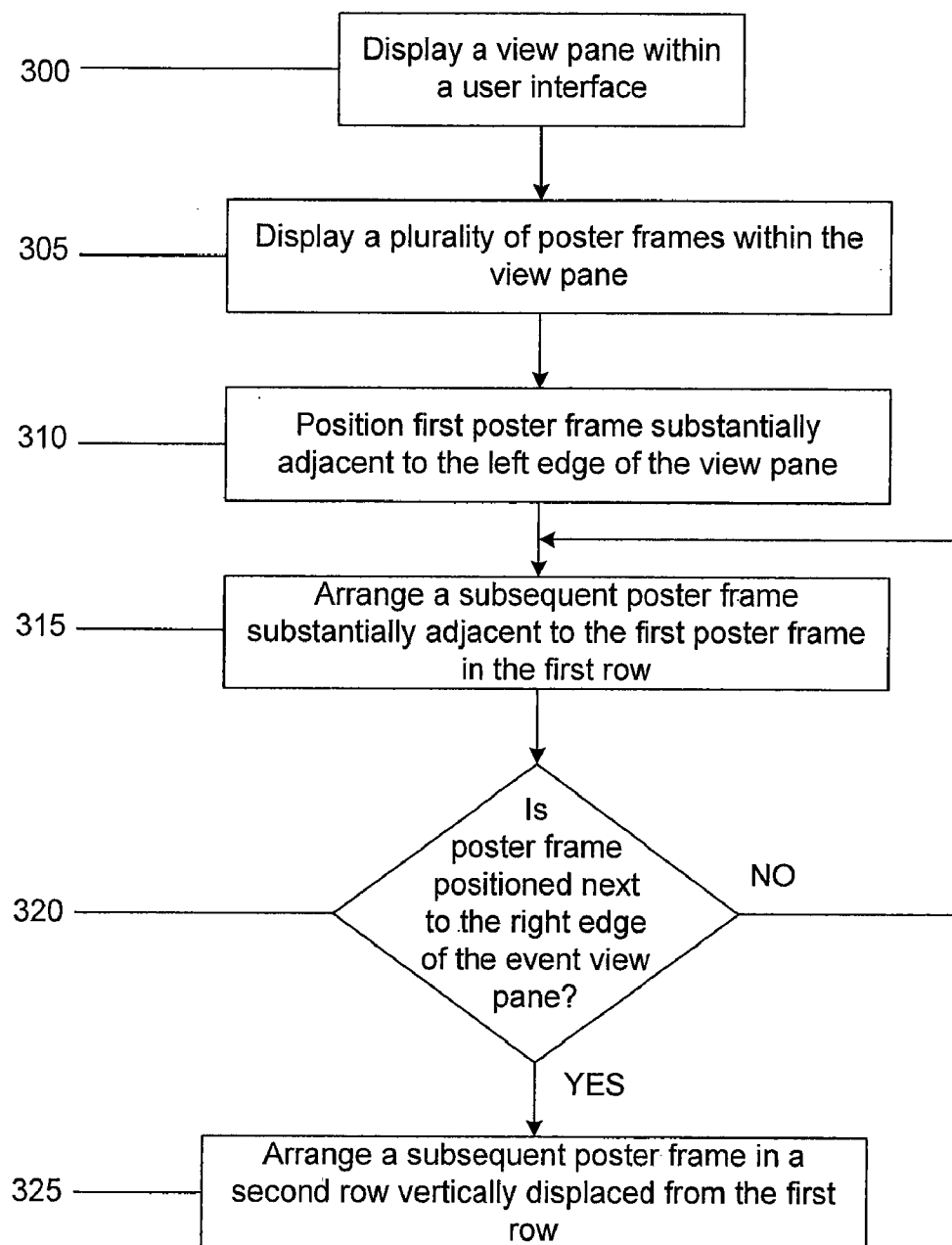


FIG. 3

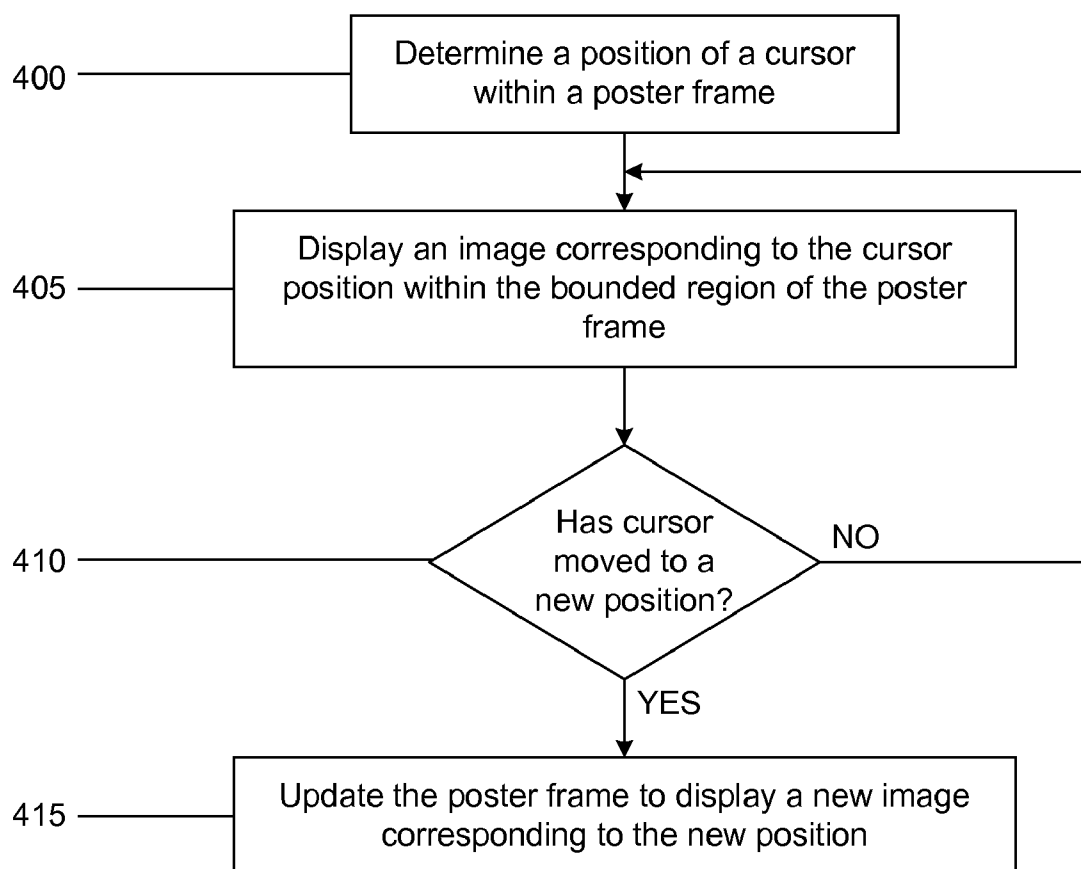


FIG. 4

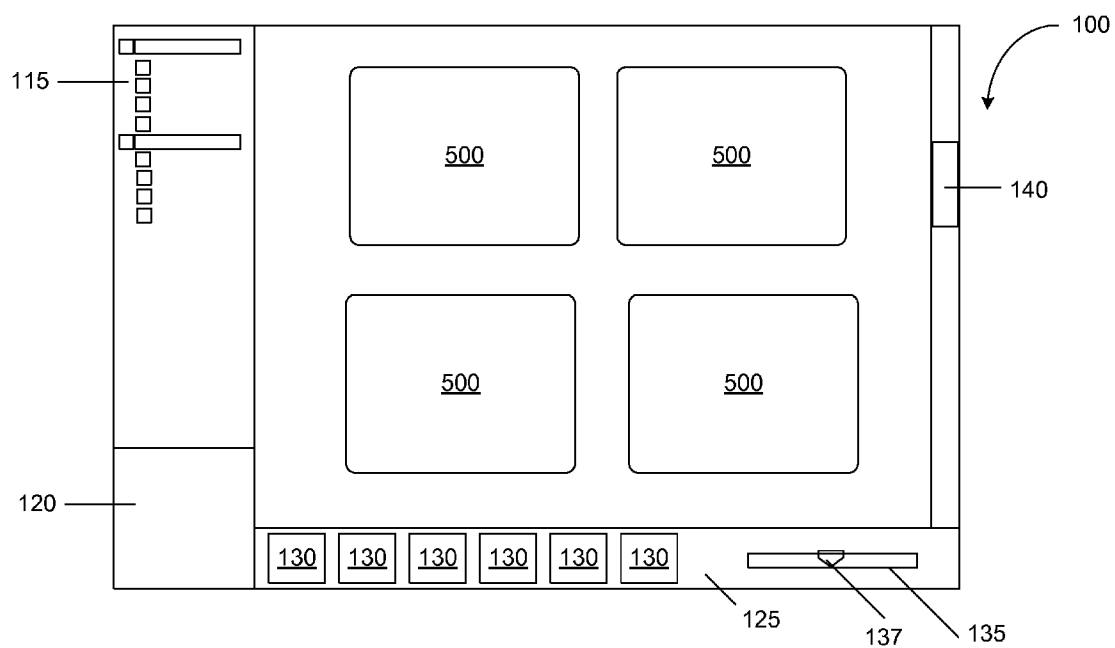
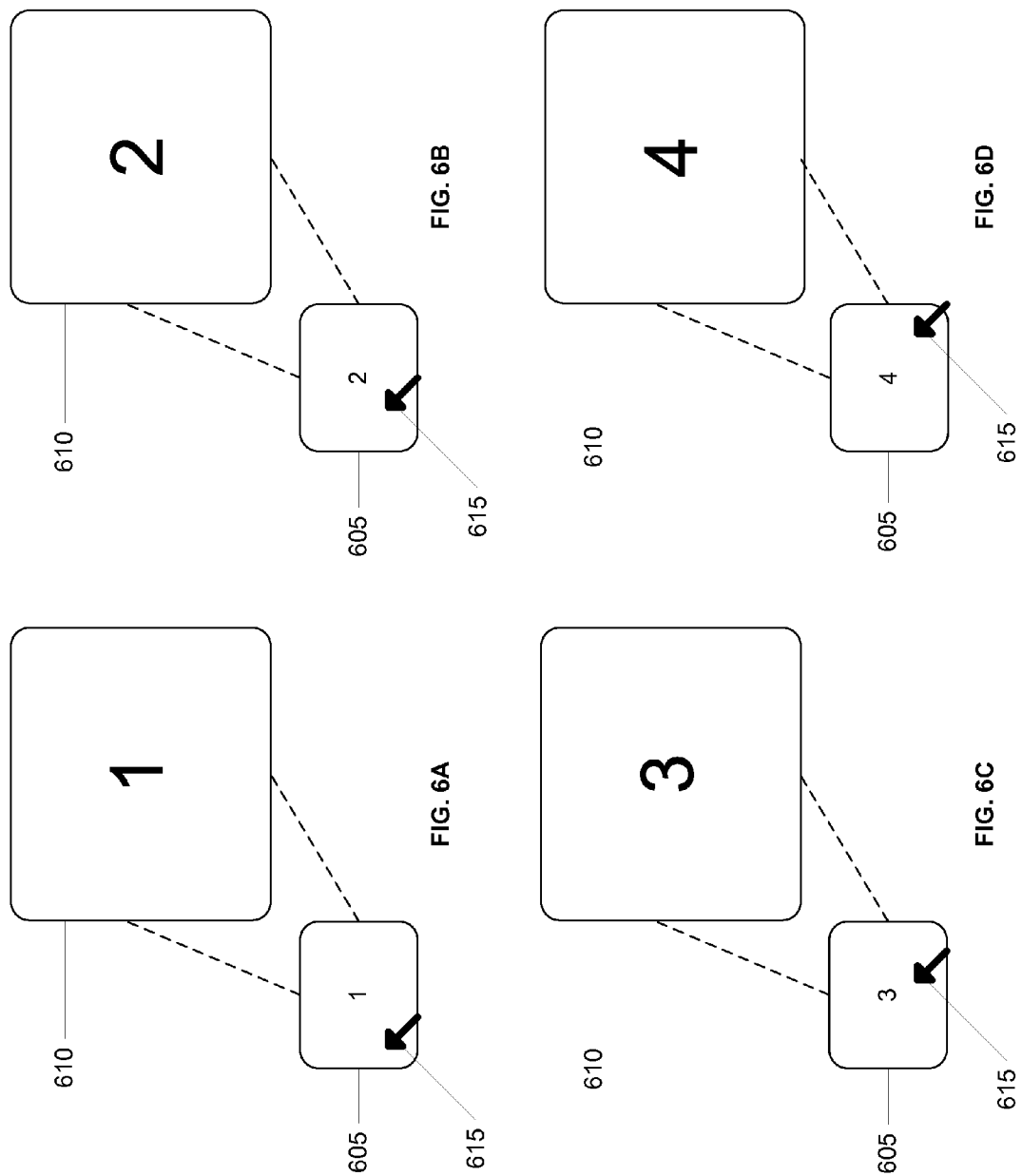


FIG. 5



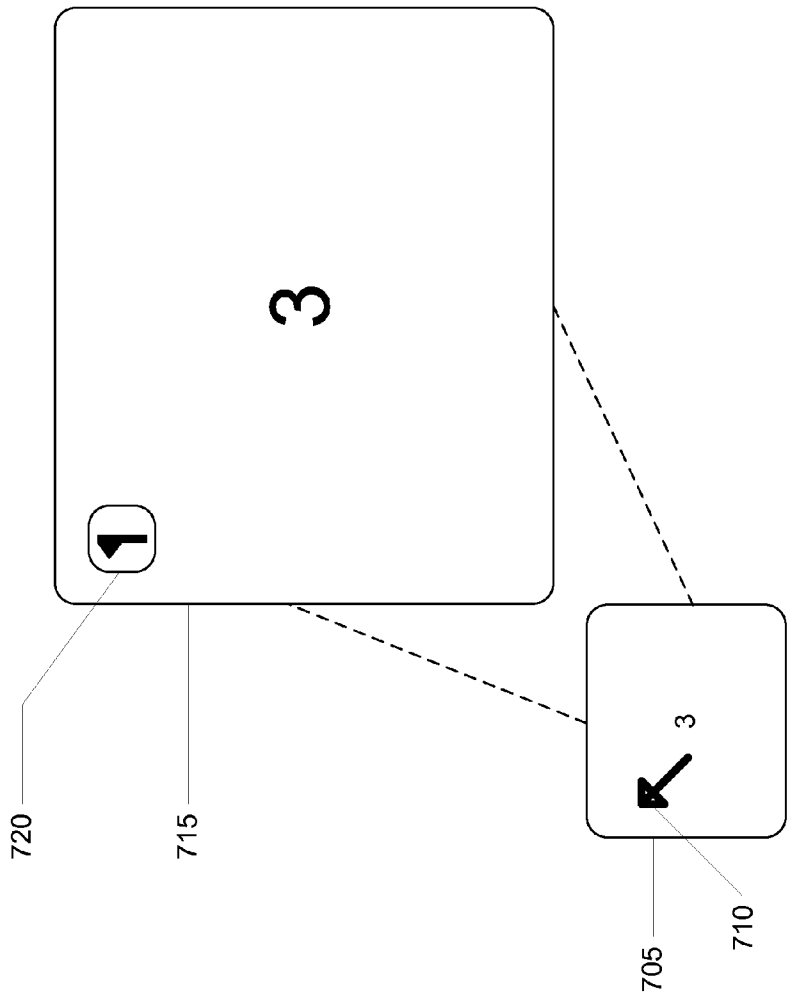
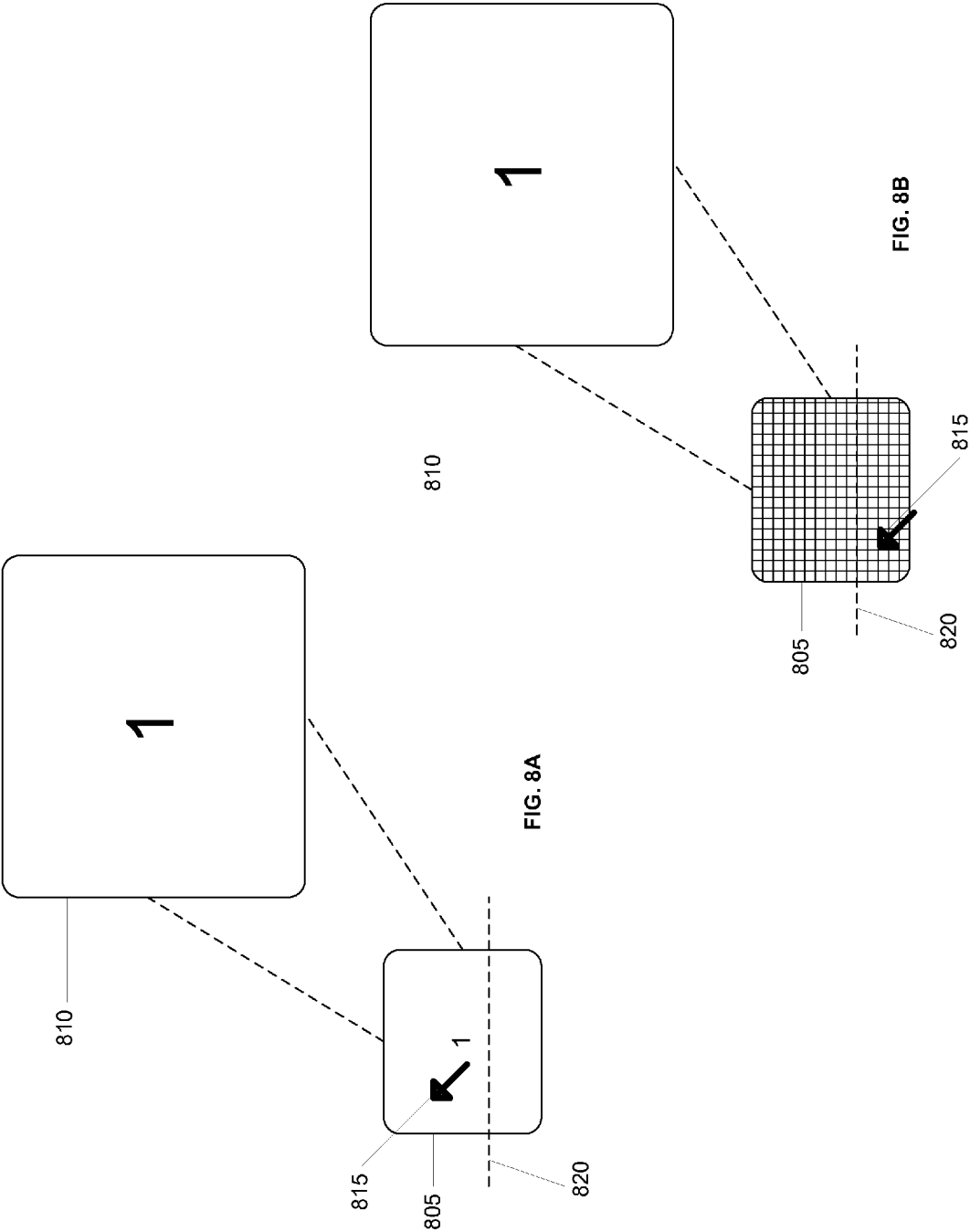
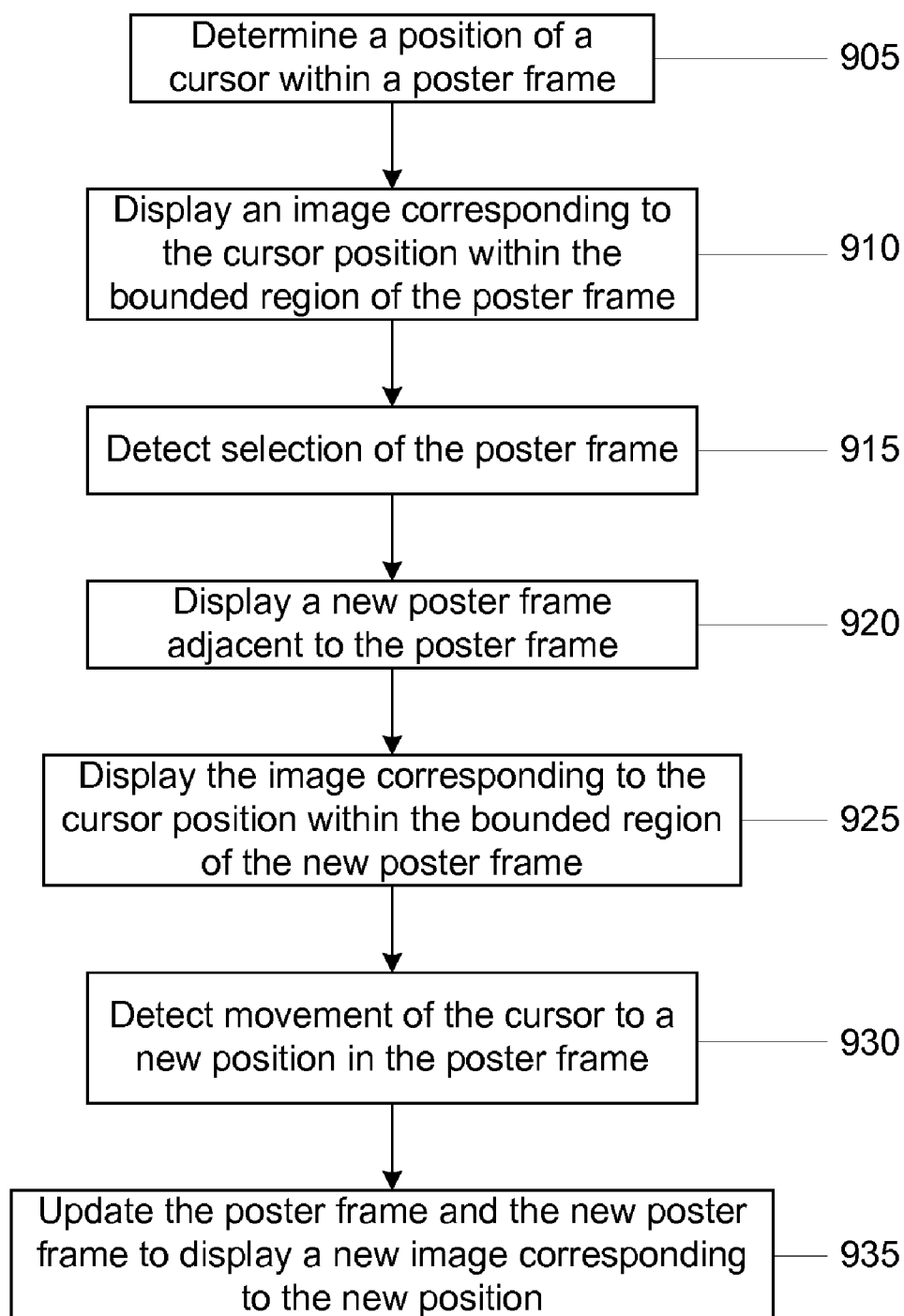
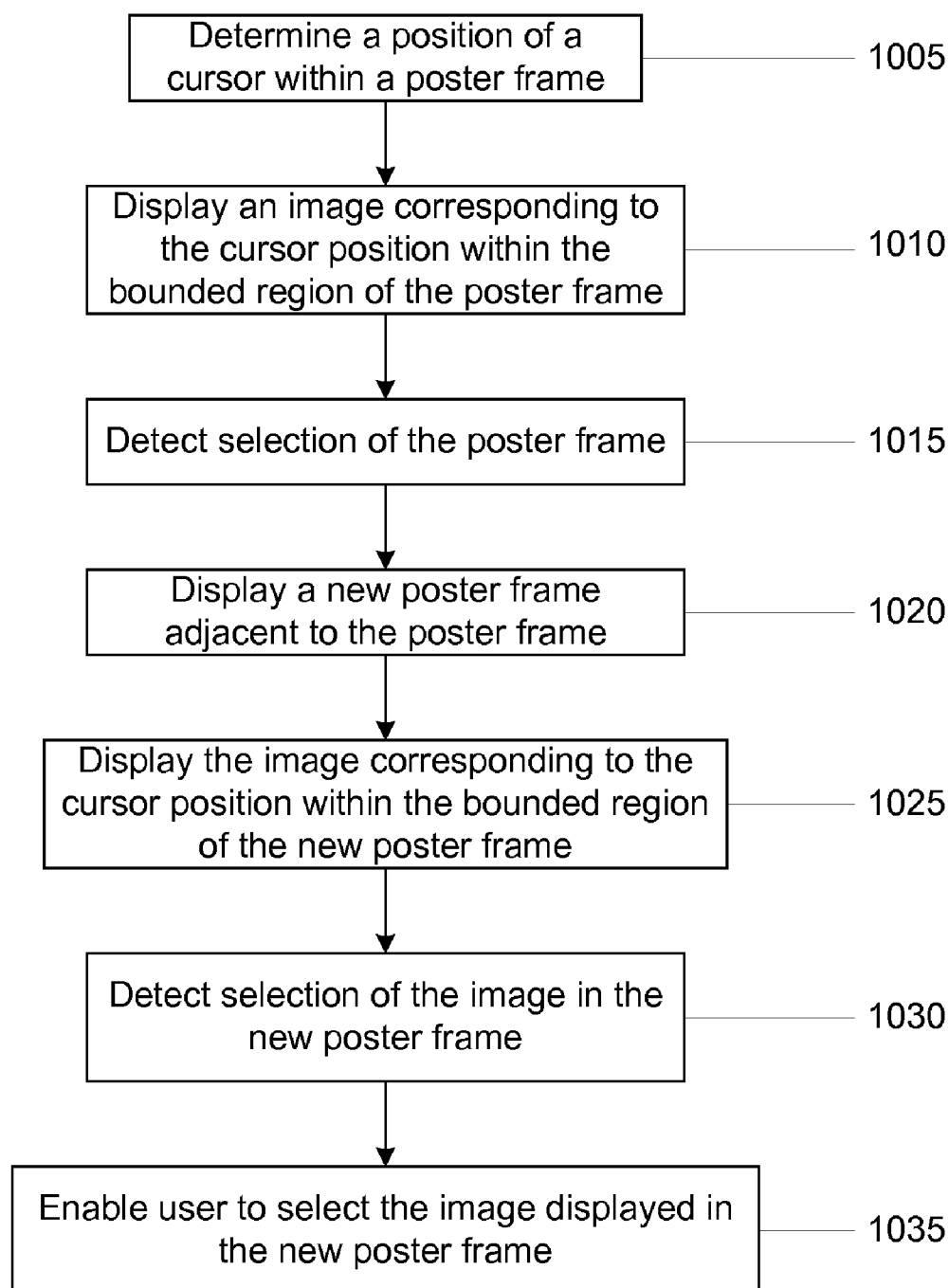


FIG. 7



**FIG. 9**

**FIG. 10**

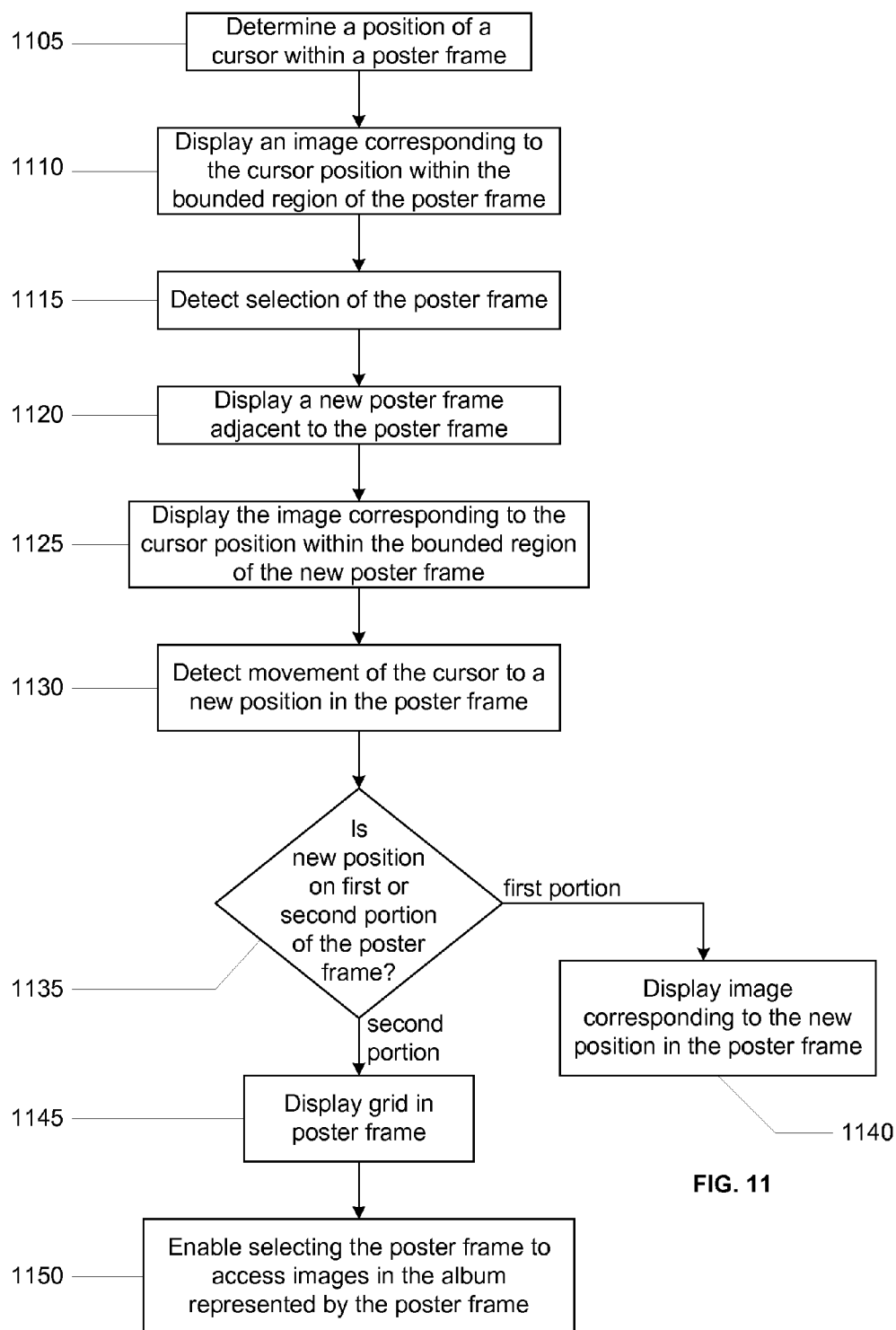


FIG. 11

INTERACTIVE IMAGE THUMBNAILS

CROSS REFERENCE TO RELATED APPLICATION

[0001] This application is a continuation of U.S. Pat. No. 7,895,533, which issued from U.S. Utility application Ser. No. 11/834,570, filed on Aug. 6, 2007, and entitled "Interactive Image Thumbnails," which is a continuation-in-part, and claims the benefit, of U.S. Utility application Ser. No. 11/685,672, filed on Mar. 13, 2007, and entitled "Interactive Image Thumbnails," the entire disclosure of which is incorporated herein by reference.

TECHNICAL FIELD

[0002] In general, this document describes systems and techniques for presenting electronic images such as digital or digitized photographs.

BACKGROUND

[0003] Digital photography has simplified taking, viewing, and printing photographs. Photographs can be taken either using high-end equipment such as digital single lens reflex (SLR) cameras, low resolution cameras including point-and-shoot cameras and cellular telephone instruments with suitable capabilities. Photographs can be transferred either individually as files or collectively as folders containing multiple files from the cameras to other media including computers, printers, and storage devices.

[0004] Software applications, such as iPhoto (manufactured by Apple Computer, Inc. of Cupertino, Calif.), can be used to arrange, display, and edit digital photographs obtained from a camera or any other electronic image in a digital format. Such software applications provide a user in possession of a large repository of photographs with the capabilities to organize, view, and edit the photographs. Users can organize photographs into albums and create slide shows to view the albums. Software manufacturers regularly add features to the software so that frequent operations, including transferring photographs from the device to a computer, and arranging and displaying the photographs, are relatively easy for an average user to perform.

SUMMARY

[0005] In one example, a system can upload multiple albums of images, display each album as a thumbnail in a user interface, represent each album by an image in the album, and allow a user to scan the images in the album by moving a cursor across the thumbnail representing the album. In addition, the system can display a window adjacent to the thumbnail representing the album, and display, in the window, images that are displayed in the thumbnail representing the album. The displayed window can be larger than the thumbnail, thereby serving as a magnifying window to view images in the album. Further, a user can select images displayed in the magnifying window, e.g., to mark the images for grouping.

[0006] In one aspect, a computer-implemented method is described. The method includes displaying, within a user interface, a view pane having a vertical direction and a horizontal direction, displaying, within the view pane, a first frame represented by a bounded region, wherein the first frame represents a container that comprises one or more objects, upon detecting a positioning of a cursor at a position in the poster frame, displaying an object of the one or more

objects in the frame, the displayed object varying based on the position of the cursor, upon detecting a selection of the first frame, displaying a second frame, represented by a second bounded region, and displaying the displayed object in the second frame.

[0007] This, and other aspects, can include one or more of the following features. The second frame can be displayed adjacent to the first frame. The first frame can include a poster frame. The dimensions of the second frame can be greater than dimensions of the first frame. The method can include, upon detecting a positioning of the cursor at a new position on the first frame, displaying a new displayed object of the one or more objects in the first frame, the new object corresponding to the new position of the cursor, and displaying the new displayed object in the second frame. The method can further include detecting the selection of the second frame. The method can further include displaying a tool within the second frame, the tool configured to enable a user to select the second frame. Detecting the selection of the second frame can include positioning the cursor over the tool, and selecting the tool. Selecting the second frame can enable including the displayed object in a group. The method can further include, upon displaying the second frame, dividing the first frame into a first portion and a second portion. The method can further include, upon determining the positioning of the cursor over the first portion, displaying an object corresponding to a position of the cursor over the first portion in the first frame and the second frame. The method can further include, upon determining the positioning of the cursor over the second portion, displaying a grid in the first frame, the grid serving as a visual cue indicating the accessibility of the one or more objects in the container represented by the first frame. The method can further include enabling the user to access the one or more objects in the container represented by the first frame when the user selects the first frame upon viewing the grid. The grid can be an array including a plurality of rectangular regions. An object in the container represented by the first frame can be displayed in a rectangular region of the plurality of rectangular regions. The dimensions of the first portion can be larger than dimensions of the second portion. The dimensions of the first portion can be two-thirds the dimensions of the first frame. Selecting the first frame can include clicking a pointing device configured to control the positioning of the cursor.

[0008] In another aspect, a medium bearing instructions to enable one or more machines to perform operations is described. The operations include displaying, within a user interface, a view pane having a vertical direction and a horizontal direction, displaying, within the view pane, a first frame represented by a bounded region, wherein the first frame represents a container that comprises one or more objects, upon detecting a positioning of a cursor at a position in the poster frame, displaying an object of the one or more objects in the frame, the displayed object varying based on the position of the cursor, upon detecting a selection of the first frame, displaying a second frame, represented by a second bounded region, and displaying the displayed object in the second frame.

[0009] This, and other aspects, can include one or more of the following features. The second frame can be displayed adjacent to the first frame. The first frame can include a poster frame. The dimensions of the second frame can be greater than dimensions of the first frame. The operations can include, upon detecting a positioning of the cursor at a new

position on the first frame, displaying a new displayed object of the one or more objects in the first frame, the new object corresponding to the new position of the cursor, and displaying the new displayed object in the second frame. The operations can further include detecting the selection of the second frame. The method can further include displaying a tool within the second frame, the tool configured to enable a user to select the second frame. Detecting the selection of the second frame can include positioning the cursor over the tool, and selecting the tool. Selecting the second frame can enable including the displayed object in a group. The operations can further include, upon displaying the second frame, dividing the first frame into a first portion and a second portion. The operations can further include, upon determining the positioning of the cursor over the first portion, displaying an object corresponding to a position of the cursor over the first portion in the first frame and the second frame. The operations can further include, upon determining the positioning of the cursor over the second portion, displaying a grid in the first frame, the grid serving as a visual cue indicating the accessibility of the one or more objects in the container represented by the first frame. The operations can further include enabling the user to access the one or more objects in the container represented by the first frame when the user selects the first frame upon viewing the grid. The grid can be an array including a plurality of rectangular regions. An object in the container represented by the first frame can be displayed in a rectangular region of the plurality of rectangular regions. The dimensions of the first portion can be larger than dimensions of the second portion. The dimensions of the first portion can be two-thirds the dimensions of the first frame. Selecting the first frame can include clicking a pointing device configured to control the positioning of the cursor.

[0010] The systems and techniques described here may provide one or more of the following advantages. Several images taken over a period of time can be grouped and collectively uploaded as albums. Each album can be a container represented by a poster frame on a user interface, where the poster frame is an image in the container. This can meaningfully represent a container containing images and allow users to identify the container based on the representative image depicting the container. Further, each container can be represented by a poster frame and the poster frames representing containers can be arranged within the user interface to indicate the chronological order in which the images were taken. The poster frames can be wrapped within the viewable area of the user interface to avoid horizontal scrolling within the user interface to access poster frames. In addition, the images within a poster frames can be viewed by placing a cursor on a display device operated by a pointing device, such as a mouse, at a desired position on a poster frames representing the container. Multiple images in a container can be scanned by moving the cursor across the poster frames representing the container. Furthermore, the management of large repositories of images can be simplified.

[0011] The details of one or more implementations are set forth in the accompanying drawings and the description below. Other features and advantages will be apparent from the description and drawings, and from the claims.

DESCRIPTION OF DRAWINGS

[0012] FIG. 1A is an example of a schematic of a user interface to display containers containing images.

[0013] FIG. 1B is an example of a schematic of a first image in a container corresponding to a first position of a cursor.

[0014] FIG. 1C is an example of a schematic of a second image in a container corresponding to a second position of a cursor.

[0015] FIG. 1D is an example of a schematic of a third image in a container corresponding to a third position of a cursor.

[0016] FIG. 1E is an example of a schematic of a fourth image in a container corresponding to a fourth position of a cursor.

[0017] FIG. 1F is an example of a schematic of a fifth image in a container corresponding to a fifth position of a cursor.

[0018] FIG. 2A is an example of a schematic of boundaries between containers.

[0019] FIG. 2B is an example of a schematic of boundaries between containers.

[0020] FIG. 2C is an example of a schematic of boundaries between containers.

[0021] FIG. 3 is a flow chart of an example of a method of arranging poster frames in a view pane.

[0022] FIG. 4 is a flow chart of an example of a method of previewing images in a container represented by a poster frame.

[0023] FIG. 5 is an example of contents of a container displayed in an overview mode.

[0024] FIGS. 6A-6D are examples of containers and corresponding magnifying frames.

[0025] FIG. 7 is an example of a magnifying frame displaying a selection tool.

[0026] FIGS. 8A and 8B are examples of displays of a container depending on cursor position on the poster frame representing the container.

[0027] FIG. 9 is a flow chart of an example of a method for displaying containers and corresponding magnifying frames.

[0028] FIG. 10 is a flow chart of an example of a method for enabling a user to select an image displayed in a magnifying frame.

[0029] FIG. 11 is a flow chart of an example of a method for altering the display of a container based on cursor position in the container.

[0030] Like reference symbols in the various drawings indicate like elements.

DETAILED DESCRIPTION

[0031] FIG. 1A depicts an example of a user interface **100** to display containers of images. An image can include digitized and/or digital photographs. In addition, an image can also include any electronic image regardless of how it was generated, e.g., a CAD drawing, a scanned hand drawing, and the like. The user interface **100** includes a view pane **105**. The view pane **105** includes one or more poster frames **110**, where each poster frame **110** represents a container containing one or more images. In some implementations, an view pane **105** serves as a background on which poster frames **110** can be positioned. The view pane **105** can be assigned a display parameter, e.g., a color. Alternatively, a user can alter the display parameter of the view pane **105**. A poster frame **110** has a horizontal dimension and a vertical dimension. All poster frames **110** can be displayed in a landscape orientation, namely with the horizontal dimension greater than the vertical dimension. In other implementations, all poster frames **110** can be displayed in a portrait orientation. In addition, a user can alter the orientation of the poster frames **110**, either

individually or collectively. In other implementations, a user can crop the poster frames so that the poster frames are square in shape. In some implementations, the user interface 100 can include a project pane 115. The project pane 115 can display metadata related to one or more of the poster frames 110 displayed in the view pane 105. For example, the project pane 115 can display a list of the latest containers that were accessed using the application. In some implementations, when a user creates a new container, an icon indicating the new container can be displayed in the project pane 115.

[0032] The user interface 100 can include an information pane 120. The information pane 120 can display metadata related to the most recently accessed poster frames 110. In some implementations, the information pane 120 can display metadata related to the poster frame 110 currently being accessed. For example, a poster frame 110 can display multiple images taken at several time instances. The information pane 120 can display information including the time stamps of the first and last images in the container represented by a poster frame 110, the number of images in the container, the size of the container (e.g., in gigabytes), and the like.

[0033] The user interface 100 can include a tool bar 125. The tool bar 125 can include one or more user control buttons 130. The user control buttons 130 can be configured to perform operations including rotate, scan, start slide show, and the like upon activation, e.g., clicking by a user. The tool bar 125 can also include a slider 135 configured to alter the dimensions of a poster frame based on input. In some implementations, the slider 135 can include a pointer 137 that can be moved. The position of a pointer 137 on the slider 135 can correspond to the dimensions of a poster frame 110. A user can alter the position of the pointer 137 using the cursor on the display device. In some implementations, the user can move the pointer 137 on the slider 135 by placing the cursor on the pointer 137, and dragging the pointer 137. In response to a change in the position of the pointer 137 on the slider 135, the dimensions of each poster frame 110 can be altered. A cursor can be represented by a conventional display 145 when positioned away from the poster frame 110. The conventional display can include an arrow.

[0034] In some implementations, a poster frame 110 can be represented by one of the images contained in the poster frame 110. When the container that the poster frame 110 represents is first uploaded for display on the view pane 105, the first image in the container can be assigned to represent the poster frame 110. Alternatively, any image in the container can be assigned to represent the poster frame 110. In some implementations, a user can rate the images in a container. The ratings of the images can be tracked and the poster frame 110 can be represented by the image with the highest rating. In other implementations, the user interactions with a container can be tracked. For example, a user may view one or more images in a container more often than other images in the container. An image viewed more often than the others can be used to represent the poster frame 110. In some implementations, a higher resolution image can be assigned to represent the container. In other implementations, a user can assign an image to represent a poster frame 110. The image representing a poster frame 110 can change over time due to one or more factors including addition of new images, deletion of old images, frequency of viewing, and the like.

[0035] The containers can be arranged in an order that can depend on factors including a name assigned to the container, a time stamp on the images in the container, and the like.

Names can be assigned to containers by the cameras using which the images in the containers were taken. In a default implementation, the containers can be uploaded under the same name as that assigned to the containers by the cameras. The containers can be displayed chronologically in the order in which the images in the containers were taken based on the time stamp on each time image and/or each container. Alternatively, the containers can be displayed alphabetically based on the container names.

[0036] In some implementations, the poster frames 110 can be arranged in an order beginning from a position substantially adjacent to the left vertical edge of the view pane 105. The first poster frame 110 can be displayed substantially adjacent to the top left hand corner of the view pane 105. A new poster frame 110 can be positioned to the right of a previously displayed poster frame 110 in the same row as the first poster frame 110. In this manner, the poster frame 110 can be arranged from left to right in a row. The default horizontal and vertical dimensions of all the poster frame 110 can be pre-determined and can be uniform. In a default implementation, the assigned horizontal and vertical dimensions may correspond to a central location of the pointer 137 on the slider 135. Two frames displayed on the same row can be separated by a pre-determined space.

[0037] In some implementations, as poster frames 110 are arranged in a row, each frame separated by a system assigned space, the sum of the horizontal dimensions of the poster frames 110 in a row and the spaces between the poster frames 110 in the row can exceed the available horizontal dimension of the view pane 105. Consequently, a poster frame 110 can be positioned substantially adjacent to the right vertical edge of the view pane 105. In such cases, the next poster frame 110 can be wrapped and displayed as the first poster frame 110 in a new row vertically displaced from the first row. The position of the first poster frame 110 in a new row can be substantially vertically aligned with that of the first poster frame 110 in the previous row. The space between rows can be pre-determined and uniform for all rows. Thus, multiple poster frames 110 can be arranged within the horizontal viewable region of a view pane 105. In this manner, the need to scroll horizontally to view poster frames 110 that are outside the viewing area of the view pane 105 can be avoided. In addition, the order of display of the poster frames 110 can correspond to an order in which the images in the corresponding containers were taken. The progression of time can correspond to the position of the poster frames 110 going from left to right in the horizontal direction and top to bottom in the vertical direction.

[0038] A user may wish to alter the order of display of poster frames 110 in the view pane 105. Such alterations can include adding a new poster frame 110, removing, repositioning, resizing a displayed poster frame 110, and the like. In a default implementation, containers can be detected and uploaded in the view pane 105. A file can be identified to be an image based on the file type, e.g., JPG, TIFF, GIF, DWG, and the like. All the detected containers can be displayed in the view pane 105. In other implementations, a user can select the containers that the user wishes to display in the view pane 105. In some implementations, uploading and displaying containers as poster frames 110 can be a combination of automatic detection and choices by a user.

[0039] A user may wish to remove one or more poster frames 110 displayed in the view pane 105. The 110 that the user wishes to remove may be adjacent to each other. Alternatively, the positions of the poster frames 110 may be non-

adjacent to each other on a same row or on different rows. The poster frames 110 can be selected individually or as a group. In some implementations, the user can remove the poster frames 110 by pressing the “Delete” key on a key board. In other implementations, the user may drag the selected poster frames 110 and drop them into a location outside the view pane 105 (e.g., Trash, Recycle Bin). When a poster frame 110 is deleted from display, the remaining poster frames 110 can be repositioned to occupy the void created by the deleted poster frame 110. For example, if two rows of poster frames 110, each row containing five poster frames 110, are displayed in a view pane and if a user deletes the fourth poster frame 110 in the first row, the fifth poster frame 110 can be repositioned in the first row to occupy the void created by the deleted frame. Further, the first poster frame 110 in the second row can be repositioned to the fifth poster frame 110 in the first row. In this manner, all poster frames 110 in a view pane 105 can be displayed as a continuous sequence.

[0040] In some implementations, a user can change the position of a poster frame 110 in the view pane 105. A user can select a poster frame 110, drag the poster frame 110 from a present position and insert the poster frame 110 in a new position. Further, the position of all the poster frames 110 can be shifted either to the right, to a new row, or as required so that all poster frames 110 in a view pane are displayed as a continuous sequence.

[0041] When the sum of the vertical dimensions of poster frames 110 in rows and the spaces between the rows exceeds the vertical dimension of the view pane 105, a vertical scroll bar 140 can be incorporated in the user interface 100 to permit vertical scrolling to view poster frames that lie outside the area of the view pane 105. In some implementations, the contents of the view pane 105 can be vertically scrolled by placing a cursor on the vertical scroll bar 140 and dragging the bar. Alternatively, or in addition, a key board can be used to vertically scroll the view pane 105. A user can vertically scroll one or more rows by pressing a single key (e.g., arrow key) or a combination of keys (e.g., “command”+“home”, “command”+“end”, and the like). In other implementations, the user can pan the view pane 105 by placing the cursor anywhere on the view pane 105 and dragging the pane in a vertical direction.

[0042] In some implementations, moving the slider 135 from left of the user interface 100 to the right of the user interface 100 can cause an increase in the dimensions of each poster frame 110 and vice versa. As the dimensions of poster frames 110 in a row are increased using the slider 135, the horizontal and vertical dimensions of each poster frame 110 can be uniformly increased. The space between frames in the same row and between rows can also be uniformly increased to maintain the aesthetics of display and simplify viewing. In other implementations, the space between frames may be constant. As the dimensions of poster frames 110 in a row increase, the horizontal dimension of the row also increases. The horizontal dimension of the view pane 105 may be insufficient to display the poster frames 110 of larger dimensions in the same row. In such cases, the poster frame 110 on the right extreme of a row can be wrapped to the next row. All frames in the view pane 105 can be repositioned to accommodate the displaced frame while maintaining the order in which the poster frames 110 are displayed.

[0043] In some implementations, metadata related to each poster frame 110 can be displayed adjacent to each poster frame 110, for example, in the space between two rows. The

metadata can include, the name of the poster frame 110 which can be either a system default name or a user-defined name, a time stamp, the number of photos in the poster frame, and the like. When a user deletes or repositions a poster frame 110, the metadata corresponding to the poster frame 110 can also be deleted or repositioned, respectively.

[0044] A poster frame 110 that corresponds to a container can include one or more images. In some implementations, the images in a container can be photographs that may have been taken over a period of time. The order in which cameras used to take photographs store the photographs can be chronological with the earliest taken photograph stored first. Alternatively, the order can be alphabetical, based on the file name assigned to each photograph. The photographs can be imported in an order same as the one in which the photographs are saved in the camera. Subsequently, the order in which the photographs are stored can be altered based on user input. Such alterations can include re-arranging the position of the photograph in the container, changing the name associated with a photograph and arranging the photographs alphabetically, and the like. In other implementations, the images in a container can be electronic images such as CAD drawings. The drawings can be assigned file names either automatically or based on user input. The drawings can be imported in an alphabetical order based on the assigned file name. Subsequently, the order can be altered by operations including altering the file name, re-arranging the position of the drawing, and the like. When the poster frames 110 are displayed in the view pane 105, previewing the images contained in each poster frame 110 can be enabled. In response to placing a cursor at a position on the poster frame 110, an image contained in the poster frame 110 can be displayed in place of the image assigned to represent the poster frame 110.

[0045] FIGS. 1B-1F depict examples of schematics of previewing images in poster frames 110. In some implementations, when the user places the cursor on a poster frame 110, an image contained in the poster frame 110 can be displayed in place of the image assigned to represent the poster frame 110 (FIG. 1B). Further, the display of the cursor can be altered from the conventional display 145 to a specific display 150. An order in which the images in a container are stored can be related to a position of the cursor on the poster frame 110 representing the container. In some implementations, the left edge of the poster frame 110 can correspond to the first image in the container. Similarly, the right edge of the poster frame 110 can correspond to the last image in the container. If the cursor is placed at the left edge of the poster frame 110, the first image in the container can be displayed in place of the image assigned to represent the poster frame 110. When the cursor is placed at the right edge of the poster frame 110, the last image can be displayed in the container in place of the image assigned to represent the poster frame 110. As the cursor is moved from the left edge to the right edge, the display of the poster frame 110 can be continuously updated with images from the beginning to the end of the container, such that the displayed image corresponds to the position of the cursor on the poster frame 110. In this manner, by scanning the cursor across the poster frame 110 from left to right, the user can preview, from beginning to finish, all the images in the container represented by the poster frame 110. Similarly, when the cursor is scanned from the right edge to the left edge of the poster frame 110, the images in the container represented by the poster frame 110 can be previewed from the finish to the beginning. In some implementations, the

images can be displayed within the bounded region of a poster frame such that the horizontal and vertical dimensions of the previewed image equal those of the poster frame **110** in place of which the image is displayed.

[0046] In some implementations, when the cursor is scanned across a poster frame **110** and moved away from the poster frame **110**, the display of the poster frame **110** can be restored to the image assigned to represent the poster frame **110**. In other implementations, the display of the poster frame **110** can be restored to the image assigned to represent the poster frame **110** depending on the position of the cursor on the poster frame. In other implementations, the user can be provided with an option to either preview images in a container represented by a poster frame by scanning over the poster frame or to only view the image assigned to represent the poster frame **110** when the cursor is scanned across the poster frame **110**. In other implementations, the most recent image in the poster frame **110** that was previewed by scanning can be displayed. In other implementations, a user can choose an image to represent a poster frame. The user may position the cursor at a location on the poster frame to preview the image in the poster frame. The user can set the previewed image to represent the poster frame by striking a key, e.g., "Command" key. Alternatively, the user can set the image to represent the poster frame using the pointing device to operate the cursor. A cursor can be operated using virtually any suitable pointing device (e.g., mouse, track ball, stylus, touch screen, touch pad). The images in the container can be previewed by a simply moving the cursor across the poster frame **110** using the pointing device without requiring additional operation, such as clicking a mouse at any position on the poster frame **110** representing the container.

[0047] In some implementations, as the user moves the cursor across a poster frame **110**, the display of the cursor can be altered from a conventional display (e.g., an arrow) to a specific display, e.g., an arrow including an image. Upon detecting that the cursor has been positioned over a poster frame **110**, the display of the cursor can be automatically changed from the conventional display to the specific display. This can indicate that a poster frame **110** is being previewed. In some implementations, the specific display can be defined by the system. In other implementations, the specific display can be altered by the user. For example, the user can have a database of displays. The user can use one of the displays as the specific display. In other implementations, the user can define a specific display for each poster frame. Alternatively, the user can define multiple displays for the same poster frame. The user can define a first specific display for a second group of poster frames and a second specific display for a second group of poster frames. In some implementations, a plurality of specific displays can be configured such that the specific display of the cursor is altered based on a relationship between the images being previewed. For example, the specific display, during preview, of images in a container that share a common attribute value, such as a date when the images were created, can be common. The relationship between images that share a common specific display can be pre-determined. Alternatively, the relationship can be specified by a user. In some implementations, the specific display and the conventional display can be simultaneously displayed when the cursor is positioned over a poster frame. When the cursor is moved away from the poster frame, only the conventional display can be displayed.

[0048] In addition FIG. 1A depicts a preview scroll bar. In some implementations, the preview scroll bar **155** can be incorporated into the poster frame **110**. In one example, the orientation of the preview scroll bar **155** can be horizontal. The horizontal preview scroll bar **155** can be positioned adjacent to the bottom edge of the poster frame **110**. The preview scroll bar **155** can be positioned within the bounded region of the poster frame **110**. Alternatively, the preview scroll bar can be positioned outside the bounded region of the poster frame **110**. In other implementations, the horizontal preview scroll bar can be positioned near the top edge either within or outside the bounded region of the poster frame **110**. Alternatively, the orientation of the preview scroll bar **155** can be vertical and the vertical scroll bar can be positioned either near the left edge or the right edge of the poster frame **110**, inside or outside the bounded region of the poster frame **110**, or combinations of the same. In some implementations, the preview scroll bar **155** can appear when the cursor is positioned over the poster frame **110**. When the cursor is moved away from the poster frame **110**, the preview scroll bar **155** can disappear. In other implementations, a preview scroll bar **155** can always be displayed. In other implementations, a preview scroll bar **155** can be displayed when the number of images in a container represented by the poster frame exceeds one.

[0049] The preview scroll bar **155** can include a preview pointer **160** within the bounded region of the preview scroll bar **155**. A user can alter the position of a preview pointer **160** in the preview scroll bar **155** using the cursor operated by the suitable pointing device. The position of the preview pointer **160** in the preview scroll bar **155** can correspond to an image in the container such that as the position of the preview pointer **160** in the preview scroll bar **155** is altered, the image displayed in the bounded region of the poster frame **110** is also altered. In some implementations, the size of the preview pointer **160** in the preview scroll bar **155** can correspond to the number of images in the container represented by the poster frame **110**. A user can move the preview pointer **160** using the pointing device, e.g., by positioning the cursor over the preview pointer **160**, clicking a mouse, and dragging the preview pointer **160**. As the preview pointer **160** is moved, an image in the container corresponding to the position of the preview pointer **160** can be displayed within the bounded region of the poster frame **110**. In this manner, the images in the container can be previewed. In other implementations, the scroll bar **155** can include advance tools **165** on the edges of the preview scroll bar **155**. The advance tools **165** on the edges of the preview scroll bar **155** can be configured to advance the images in the container. For example, if the orientation of the scroll bar is horizontal, by clicking on the advance tool on the left edge of the scroll bar using the pointing device, the user can step through each image in the container until the user views the first image in the container. Similarly, by clicking on the advance tool on the right edge of the scroll bar using the pointing device, the user can step through each image in the container until the user views the last image in the container. In this manner, the scroll bar can be further configured to enable a user to step through the images in the container one at a time.

[0050] The number of images that each poster frame **110** can contain is limited only by available storage space. The dimensions of a poster frame **110** can remain constant regardless of the number of images in the container represented by the poster frame **110**. In a poster frame **110** displayed on a

display device, a physical space (e.g., one or more pixels) in the horizontal dimension of the poster frame 110 can represent an image. The physical space representing an image in a container containing few images may be larger when compared to that representing an image in a container containing several images. If the resolution of the cursor is less than the physical space representing an image, then the same image can be previewed by placing the cursor at multiple adjacent positions on the poster frame 110. For example, if a container contains only two images, the first image can be previewed if the cursor is placed at any location on the left half of the poster frame 110 representing the container. Similarly, the second image can be previewed if the cursor is placed at any location on the right half of the poster frame 110 representing the container. Conversely, if a poster frame 110 represents several images, the smallest unit of physical space of the display device may be greater than the physical space required to represent an image. In such cases, if the resolution of the cursor is greater than the physical space representing an image, the physical space occupied by a cursor may span more than one image. Consequently, it may not be possible to preview all the images in the container when the cursor is scanned horizontally across the poster frame 110 representing the container.

[0051] In some implementations, while previewing a container, certain images in a container can be skipped if the resolution of the cursor is greater than the physical space representing each image in the container. In some implementations, one or more images can be skipped based on the order in which the images are stored. For example, when the cursor is moved by a distance equal to the resolution of the cursor (e.g., 1 pixel), two images may be skipped. In this example, as the cursor is moved from the left edge to the right edge of the poster frame 110, the first, fourth, seventh image, and so on, may be displayed in place of the image assigned to represent the poster frame 110. In some implementations, the size of the images can be used to skip images during previews. For example, high resolution images are generally files of larger sizes. All the high resolution images in a container may be displayed during a preview. Low resolution images may be excluded from the preview. In some implementations, the previewed images can be those images that have a higher rating than other images in the container. In some implementations, a rounding algorithm can be used to choose photos that can either be included or excluded from the preview.

[0052] In some implementations, the tool bar can include a zoom control button. When the resolution of the cursor is greater than the physical space representing each image in a container, the zoom control button can be used to increase the granularity of the poster frame. For example, the zoom control button can be used to enlarge the poster frame. The physical space representing each image can be kept constant. In this manner, the physical space representing each image can be increased to either equal or be greater than the resolution of the cursor. In such implementations, upon zooming the poster frame, more images in the container represented by the poster frame can be previewed by moving the cursor across the poster frame. In some implementations, the zoom control button can be activated by positioning the cursor over the zoom control button and clicking the mouse or other pointing device used to operate the cursor. Alternatively, the zoom control button can be activated by a key stroke on a key board.

[0053] In some implementations, the speed at which a cursor is scanned across a poster frame 110 can be higher than the

speed at which the display of images in a poster frames 110 can be updated. If the speed at which the cursor is scanned across a poster frame 110 is greater than a threshold, certain images can be displayed for a preview while other images can be skipped. The images chosen for display can be based on factors including a position of the image in the order of storage, size of the image, ratings of the image, and the like. In some implementations, if the speed at which the cursor is scanned is high, then no image in a container can be previewed.

[0054] In some implementations, an image in a container can be chosen by placing the cursor over the poster frame representing the container and clicking the mouse. Alternatively, or in addition, an image can be chosen by placing the cursor over the poster frame representing the container and selecting a key on a keyboard, e.g., the "Enter" key. Additionally, when an image in a container in a poster frame 110 is previewed, successive images can subsequently be previewed using the keys on the key board. For example, the user can place a cursor on a poster frame 110. In response, an image in the container can be displayed corresponding to the location of the cursor in the poster frame 110. Subsequently, the user can use keys on a key board (e.g., arrow keys) to preview successive images stored in the container. In some implementations, by pressing the right arrow key, the user can scan from the beginning of the container to the end of the container. Conversely, the user can scan from the end to the beginning of the container using the left arrow key. In other implementations, any combination of keys can be used to scan successive photos in the container. In addition, keys and/or key sequences can be used to jump to the beginning or end of a container from anywhere in the container. Such keys can include the "Home" key, the "End" key, and the like. In addition, keys and key sequences can also be used to jump from one container to another, e.g., "Command"+"Home" key to jump to the first container, "Command"+"End" key to jump to the last container, tab key to jump from one container to the next, and the like.

[0055] In some implementations, a user can split a container into multiple containers using a key stroke. For example, a user previewing the images in a container can place the cursor at any position on the container. Subsequently, the user can strike a key, e.g., "Command" key. In response, the container can be split into two containers, where each container can be represented by a poster frame. When a container represented by a poster frame 110 is split into two containers, each container represented by a respective poster frame 110, the poster frames 110 in the view pane 105 can be re-positioned to accommodate the new poster frame 110. Such re-positioning can include moving poster frames in the same row, moving a poster frame to a different row, creating a new row containing one or more poster frames, and the like. In this manner, the sequence in which the poster frames 110 are displayed can be retained. A new container can further be divided into two more containers. In some implementations, the number of containers into which one container can be divided can be specified by a user. In some implementations, the cursor can be positioned at a location on a first poster frame. An image corresponding to the location of the cursor can be displayed within the bounded region of the first poster frame. When a user strikes a key to split the first poster frame representing a container, the first of the two split poster frames representing the first split container can include all the images from the start of the first container to the image that

was being previewed. The second of the two containers can include the remainder of the photographs in the first container. In some implementations, when a first container is split, each of the split containers can contain half the number of images of the first poster frame. In other implementations, when a first container is divided into a number of containers specified by the user, each split containers can contain the same number of images. In other implementations, the number of images in each split container can be specified by the user.

[0056] In some implementations, key words can be associated with poster frames 110. For example, all poster frames that represent containers containing photographs that were taken during a time frame (e.g., the same week) can be associated with common key words. The poster frames can be identified based on the key words and poster frames 110 associated with the same key words can be manipulated as a group, e.g., displayed on an view pane, deleted, merged, and the like. Alternatively, a user can provide key words to poster frames 110. For example, a user may take photographs at an event that occurs at regular intervals of time, e.g., every week. A user may associate a name to the photographs taken during the event. Subsequently, the user can identify all containers represented by 110 using the name. In another example, the images may correspond to CAD drawings where groups of drawings represent different parts of a machine. A user may assign key words denoting a part of the machine to the images corresponding to the part.

[0057] FIG. 2A is an example of images 205 in a poster frame 110 displayed on the view pane 105. In some implementations, a user can view the images 205 in a container on the user interface 100. For example, the user can access the images 205 in a container by placing the cursor on a poster frame 110 representing the container and clicking the mouse used to control the cursor. Alternatively, the user can open the container by choosing the poster frame 110 representing the container and pressing keys on the key board, e.g., the "Enter" key. In some implementations, when the user clicks on a poster frame 110 of the view pane 105, the images 205 contained in the poster frame 110 can be displayed in the view pane 105. The images 205 in a poster frame 110 can be arranged such that the first image 205 in the container is positioned substantially adjacent to the top left corner of the view pane 105. The second image 205 in the same row can be positioned to the right of the first image 205 with a system assigned space separating the two images 205. Subsequent images 205 can be positioned in a similar manner. Each image 205 can be assigned a horizontal and a vertical dimension. When the sum of the horizontal dimensions of the images 205 in a row and the spaces between the images 205 exceeds the horizontal dimension of the view pane 105, the next image 205 in the container can be positioned as a first image 205 in a row vertically displaced from the first row, such that the first image 205 in the new row is substantially aligned with the first image 205 in the first row. In this manner, all the images 205 in a container can be arranged in one or more rows, such that the order in which the images 205 are stored in the container corresponds to an order of display beginning from left to right and top to bottom. In some implementations, the order in which images 205 are stored in a container can be based on a chronological order in which the images 205 were taken. In other implementations, the order can be based on an alphabetical arrangement based on the file name assigned to each image 205. In some implementations, a magnifying window

can be positioned over the user interface such that when a user positions a cursor over an image, the image can be displayed in the magnifying window. In this manner, the user can preview the images in a container.

[0058] The orientation of the images 205 depends on the orientation of the camera used to take the photographs 205 (e.g., landscape or portrait). In a default implementation, the horizontal and vertical dimensions of an image 205 in landscape orientation can equal the horizontal and vertical dimensions of a poster frame 110 displayed in a landscape orientation in the view pane 105. The horizontal and vertical dimensions of an image 205 in portrait orientation can equal the vertical and horizontal dimensions of a poster frame 110, respectively, displayed in the view pane 105. The space separating two adjacent images 205 can equal the space separating two adjacent poster frames 110. The space separating two rows of images 205 can equal the space separating two rows of poster frames 110. Images 205 displayed in a row can be in either landscape orientation or portrait orientation. In some implementations, the bottom edges of all the images 205 in a row can be aligned. In such implementations, the top edge of the images 205 in the row may or may not be aligned depending upon the orientations of the images 205 positioned in that row. Alternatively, in some implementations, the top edges of all the images 205 in a row can be aligned.

[0059] In some implementations, the number of images 205 in a container displayed across one or more rows may exceed the vertical dimension of the view pane 105. In such implementations, a vertical scroll bar can be incorporated in the user interface 100 so the user can scroll the view pane 105 to access images 205 that are positioned outside the viewing area of the view pane 105. A user can use either the pointing device (e.g., mouse, track ball, stylus, touch pad, touch screen, near contact screen) that controls the cursor, a key board, or a combination of both to operate the vertical scroll bar and scroll the view pane 105.

[0060] In some implementations, when a user clicks on a poster frame 110, the images 205 contained in the poster frame 110 can be displayed in the order in which they are stored. The order can be based on the time when each image 205 was taken. In some implementations, one or more images 205 in a container can be compared and boundaries 215 within a container can be recommended. In some implementations, the chronological order in which the images 205 in the container were taken can be compared. For example, a user may have taken a group of photographs 205 on a first day. Subsequently, the user may have taken a second group of photographs 205 on a second day. The user may upload both groups of photographs 205 simultaneously. Initially, both groups of photographs 205 may be displayed as belonging to the same container. The time stamp on the photographs 205 may be compared and a recommendation may be presented to split the container into two groups, the first group containing the photographs 205 taken on the first day and the second group containing the photographs 205 taken on the second day.

[0061] In another example, the images 205 in a container may be compared based on the content of the images 205. A container may contain a first group of images 205 containing a blue background and a second group of images 205 containing a green background. The backgrounds of the images 205 can be compared, the images 205 of the common content (e.g., background) can be grouped, and a recommendation may be presented that the images 205 in the two groups may

belong to separate containers. In some implementations, one or more combinations of content of images 205 and metadata associated with the images 205 can be used in making comparisons.

[0062] In some implementations, the recommendation to split a container into two groups can be presented by altering a display of the portion of the view pane 105 on which the thumbnails, representing the images 205 identified as belonging to the same group, are positioned. FIG. 2A depicts an example where, upon comparing the images 205 in a container displayed on the view pane 105, a first group of images 205 (depicted by “I,” in FIG. 2A) and a second group of images 205 (depicted by “II,” in FIG. 2A) are identified. In a default implementation, the display of the portion of the view pane 105 on which the images 205 of group I are positioned can be changed to a background 200. Similarly, the display of the portion of the view pane 105 on which the images 205 of group II are positioned can be changed to a background 210. In addition, the two groups can be separated by a boundary 215.

[0063] In some implementations, it may be determined that images 205 in a container can belong to multiple groups. In such cases, the display of the view pane 105 can be changed such that images 205 identified as belonging to the same group have a common background, regardless of the number of groups. Images 205 identified as belonging to the same group can be adjacently positioned in the same row or separately on the same or different rows.

[0064] In some implementations, in addition to providing a recommendation to split a container into two or more containers based on view pane 105 display, a user can be provided with mechanisms to accept or reject the recommendations or, alternatively, make user-modifications to the groups in a container. In some implementations, an “OK” button can be displayed at the boundary. A user can accept the boundary by positioning the cursor on the “OK” button and clicking the mouse configured to operate the cursor. In some implementations, when a user positions a cursor on an boundary 215, a merge icon 220 (e.g., a “+” sign) can be displayed at the boundary 215. If a user clicks on the merge icon 220, the two groups separated by the boundary 215 can be merged into the same group. Upon merging, the background display of the view pane 105 for the two groups can be changed to be uniform.

[0065] FIG. 2B is an example of images 205 in a poster frame 110 displayed on the view pane 105. In some implementations, when a user positions the cursor at the boundary 215 between two groups of images 205, a change boundary icon 225 can be presented. An boundary 215 can be positioned between a last image 205 of a first group and a first image 205 of the last group. A user can drag the change boundary icon 225 from a current position between two images 205 to a new position between any two images 205. The new position of the change boundary icon 225 can be either on the same row as or a different row from that of the current position. The two images 205 between which the boundary 215 is positioned can either be positioned adjacent to each other on the same row or be the last image 205 of a first row and the first image 205 of a subsequent, vertically displaced row. Subsequent to moving a change boundary icon 225 to a desired position, a user can split a container into two groups of images 205.

[0066] FIG. 2C is an example of images 205 in a poster frame 110 displayed on the view pane 105. In some imple-

mentations, the user can choose an boundary 215 within a container or within a group in a container. In such implementations, when the user positions the cursor between two images 205 in a container or within a group, a split icon 230 (e.g., a “x” sign) can be displayed. The two images 205 can either be positioned adjacent to each other in the same row or be the last image 205 in a first row and the first image 205 in a subsequent, vertically displaced row. When the user clicks on the split icon 230, a boundary 215 can be created between the two images 205 where the split icon 230 was positioned.

[0067] In implementations with no boundaries in a container, when a user identifies a boundary 215 between a first and a second image 205 in the container, the images 205 from the beginning of the container to the first image 205 can be grouped to create a first container. Similarly, the images 205 from the second image 205 to the end of the container can be grouped to create a second container. Subsequently, when a view pane 105 displaying poster frames 110 representing containers is displayed, what was originally one poster frame 110 can be displayed as two poster frames 110, each poster frame 110 representing a container containing images 205 of the first and second groups, respectively.

[0068] In some implementations, one or more boundaries 215 may already be identified in a container. In such implementations, the user can specify a boundary 215 between two images 205 in a group by positioning and clicking the split icon 230 between two images 205 in the group. A first group including the images 205 beginning from the first image 205 of the group to the first of the two images 205 between which the user specified a boundary 215 can be created. A second group including the images 205 beginning from the second of the two images 205 between which the user specified boundary 215 to the last image 205 of the group can be created. In other implementations, a user can drag an image 205 from one group and include the image 205 in another group. The user can drag the images 205 across boundaries 215 by operations including drag and drop using the pointing device used to operate the cursor, cut and paste using the key board, or combinations of the pointing device and the keyboard. In this manner, a user can split images 205 in a container into one or more containers.

[0069] Subsequent to grouping images 205 into containers, when the poster frames 110 representing containers are displayed on the view pane 105, each group that was created in a container can be displayed by a new poster frame 110. The new poster frame 110 for each group can be positioned at and adjacent to the same location as the poster frame 110 for the container. The remaining poster frames 110 in the view pane 105 can be repositioned such that the order of display of poster frames 110, which can represent the time line in which the images 205 in each container were taken is maintained.

[0070] FIG. 3 is a flow chart showing an example of a method for arranging poster frames 110 in a view pane 105. A view pane 105 can be displayed in a user interface 100 at 300. A plurality of poster frames 110 can be displayed within the view pane 105 at 305. The poster frames 110 can represent containers that include images. The first poster frame 110 can be positioned substantially adjacent to the left edge of the view pane at 310. In some implementations, the position of the first poster frame 110 can be substantially adjacent to the corner of the left and top edges of the view pane 105. A subsequent poster frame 110 can be arranged substantially adjacent to the first poster frame in the first row at 315. In some implementations, the subsequent frame 110 can be

positioned to the right of the first poster frame 110 in the first row and can be separated from the first poster frame 110 by a pre-defined space. As subsequent frames 110 are arranged in the first row, it can be checked if a poster frame 110 is positioned next to the right edge of the view pane 105 at 320. If the poster frame 110 is not positioned substantially adjacent to the right edge of the view pane 105, then the poster frames 110 can continue to be arranged in the first row of the view pane 105. Otherwise, a subsequent poster frame 110 can be arranged in a second row vertically displaced from the first row at 325. The poster frame 110 in the second row can be positioned substantially vertically aligned with the first poster frame 110 in the first row. In this manner, poster frames 110 can be arranged for display in the view pane 110.

[0071] FIG. 4 is a flow chart depicting an example of a method for previewing images in a container. A container can be represented by a poster frame 110 displayed in a view pane 105. A cursor, operated on a display device on which the view pane 105 is displayed, can be positioned on the poster frame 110. The position of the cursor within the poster frame 110 can be determined at 400. An image corresponding to the cursor position within the poster frame can be displayed in the bounded region of the poster frame 110 at 405. In some implementations, the images can be arranged such that either a horizontal motion, a horizontal component of motion, or both, of a cursor cause the images in the container to be updated. In such implementations, a vertical motion does not cause the images to be updated. Further, the cursor can be positioned at any location on the poster frame 110 for an image to be displayed in the bounded region of the poster frame 110. Subsequently, the position of the cursor may be altered. If it is determined that a cursor has moved to a new position (410), the poster frame can be updated to display a new image corresponding to the new position at 415. Otherwise, the image corresponding to the current position of the cursor can continue to be displayed in the bounded region of the poster frame 110.

[0072] FIG. 5 depicts an example of images in a container displayed in an overview mode. In some implementations, when a user accesses the images in a container, the view pane can display an overview of the images in the container. The overview mode can display one or more images 500 in the container, but not all the photographs in the container. The images 500 displayed in the overview mode can be chosen based on factors including one or more of the size of the image, the ratings of the image, user specification, and the like. For example, the overview mode can display one, more, or all the high resolution images in the container. In addition, the overview mode can display a photo display tool. The user can view all the images in the container by clicking on the photo display tool. In some implementations, the photo display tool can be positioned over one of the images in the overview mode. In other implementations, the photo display tool can be positioned away from the images in the overview mode.

[0073] FIGS. 6A-6D depict examples of images in a container displayed in a magnifying frame, where the magnifying frame is displayed adjacent to the poster frame representing the container. In some implementations, the container including images can be represented by a poster frame 605 displayed within a view pane. When a user selects the container, e.g., by clicking the mouse on the poster frame 605 representing the container, a magnifying frame 610 can be displayed adjacent to the container. The dimensions of the magnifying

frame 610 can be larger than those of the poster frame 605 representing the container. When the user positions a cursor 615 over the poster frame 605, an image in the container, corresponding to the position of the cursor can be displayed in the poster frame 605. In addition, the image displayed in the poster frame 605 can also be displayed in the magnifying frame 610. For example, the container represented by poster frame 605 can include images 1-4. When the cursor 615 is positioned at a first position on the poster frame 605, as illustrated in FIG. 6A, image 1 can be displayed in poster frame 605 and in the magnifying frame 610. When the cursor 615 is re-positioned to a second position on the poster frame 605, as illustrated in FIG. 6B, image 2 can be displayed in poster frame 605 and in the magnifying frame 610. Similarly, when the cursor is re-positioned to other positions on the poster frame 605, e.g., position 3 in FIG. 6C and position 4 in FIG. 6D, images 3 and 4 can be displayed in the poster frame 605 and in the magnifying frame 610, respectively. Because the dimensions of the magnifying frame 610 are larger than those of the corresponding poster frame 605, the magnifying frame 610 can enable the user to preview a physically larger image than can be previewed in the poster frame 605. In some implementations, the magnifying frame 610 can be displayed in response to a user clicking the mouse after positioning the cursor 615 over the poster frame 605.

[0074] In some implementations, the user can cause the magnifying frame 610 to be hidden from display and preview the images only in the poster frame 605. In implementations where several containers are displayed in a user interface, when the user re-positions the cursor from over a first poster frame to over a second poster frame, the magnifying frame corresponding to the first poster frame can be hidden. When the user selects the second poster frame, a magnifying frame corresponding to the second poster frame can be displayed adjacent to the second poster frame. When the user re-positions the cursor over the first poster frame, the magnifying frame corresponding to the first poster frame can be displayed without requiring the user to select the first poster frame again. Alternatively, the user can cause a magnifying frame corresponding to the first poster frame to be displayed and move the cursor away from the first poster frame. This movement of the cursor away from the first poster frame can cause the corresponding magnifying frame to be hidden from display. Subsequently, to display the magnifying frame corresponding to the first poster frame, the user can select the first poster frame, e.g., click the mouse upon positioning the cursor over the first poster frame, to cause the corresponding magnifying frame to be displayed.

[0075] FIG. 7 depicts an example of a magnifying frame displaying a selection tool to enable a user to select an image displayed in the magnifying frame. In some implementations, the container including images can be represented by a poster frame 705. The user can position a cursor 710 over the poster frame 705 and select the poster frame 705 causing a magnifying frame 715 to be displayed adjacent to the poster frame 705. When the user positions a cursor 710 over the poster frame 705, an image in the container, corresponding to the position of the cursor, can be displayed in the poster frame 705. In addition, the image displayed in the poster frame 705 can also be displayed in the magnifying frame 715. When the user moves the cursor 710 to a new position over the poster frame 705, a new image corresponding to the new position of the cursor 710 can be displayed both in the poster frame 705 and in the magnifying frame 715. Further, a selection tool 720

can be displayed within the region bounded by the magnifying frame 720. The selection tool 720 can be configured such that when a user selects the selection tool 720, e.g., by positioning the cursor over and clicking on the selection tool 720, the image displayed in the magnifying frame 715 can be selected, e.g., marked. Subsequently, the user can move the cursor 710 to different positions on the poster frame 705 representing the container, preview images corresponding to each of the different positions, and mark one or more of the previewed images by selecting the selection tool 720. In this manner, the user can mark several images. Subsequently, the user can filter the images in the container to group only the images marked using the selection tool 720. Alternatively, the user can filter the images to group those images not marked using the selection tool 720.

[0076] In some implementations, the selection tool 720 can be positioned adjacent to the magnifying frame 715. In other implementations, a menu can be displayed adjacent to the cursor 710 in response to user input, e.g., click of a mouse button. The menu can include a "Select" option. When the user clicks on the "Select" option, the image in the magnifying frame 715 can be selected. Subsequently, the user can move the cursor 710 to a second position, display the menu and select another image. In this manner, the user can select one or more images using the "Select" option on a menu displayed adjacent to the cursor 710 over a poster frame 705. In some implementations, the selection tool 720 can be displayed when the magnifying frame 715 is displayed. Alternatively, the selection tool 720 can be displayed in response to a user invoking the selection tool 720. For example, the magnifying frame 715 can be configured such that when the magnifying frame 715 is selected, e.g., by positioning the cursor 710 over the magnifying frame and clicking the pointing device controlling the cursor 710, the selection tool 720 can be displayed.

[0077] FIGS. 8A and 8B depict schematics of examples of poster frames depending on cursor position on the poster frame. In some implementations, a poster frame 805 representing a container including images can be displayed in a user interface on a display device. A magnifying frame 810 corresponding to a poster frame 805 can be displayed on the display device when the user positions the cursor 815 over the poster frame 805 and selects the poster frame 805, e.g., clicks the pointing device, such as a mouse, used to control the cursor 815. In addition, the user can also use the pointing device controlling the cursor 815 to access the images in the container represented by the poster frame 805. In some implementations, the user can select the poster frame 805, e.g., by positioning the cursor 815 over the poster frame 805 and clicking the pointing device controlling the cursor 815.

[0078] The poster frame can be divided into two portions and each portion can be associated with a selection operation. In order to enable a user to display a magnifying frame 810 corresponding to a poster frame 805 with a first poster frame selection operation, and to enable the user to access the images in the container represented by the poster frame 805 with a second poster frame selection operation, the poster frame 805 can be divided into two portions by a horizontal demarcation line 820. In some implementations, the division of the poster frame 805 into two portions can occur when the user selects the poster frame 805 to display the corresponding magnifying frame 810. The demarcation line 820 can divide the poster frame 805 such that the portion above the demarcation line 820 constitutes a larger portion of the poster frame

805 relative to the portion below the demarcation line 820. For example, the portion above the demarcation line 820 can constitute two-thirds of the area of the region bounded by the poster frame 805. Alternatively, the demarcation line 820 can divide the poster frame 805 into halves. In some implementations, the demarcation line 820 can be invisible to a user. In other implementations, the demarcation line 820 can be displayed over the poster frame 805.

[0079] When the cursor 815 is positioned in the portion of the poster frame 805 over the demarcation line 820, an image corresponding to the position of the cursor 815 can be displayed in, both, the poster frame 805 and the magnifying frame 810. When the user moves the cursor 815 to a new position on the portion of the poster frame 805 above the demarcation line 820, the image in the poster frame 805 and in the magnifying frame 810 can be updated to display a new image corresponding to the new position of the cursor 815. In this manner, the portion of the poster frame 805 above the demarcation line 820 can be designated for previewing images in the container represented by the poster frame 805.

[0080] When the cursor is positioned in the portion of the poster frame 805 below the demarcation line 820, a grid can be displayed in the entire region bounded by the poster frame 805. The display of the grid can be a visual cue indicating that a selection of the poster frame 805, using the pointing device controlling the cursor 815, will enable access to the images in the container represented by the poster frame 805. Subsequently, when the user selects the poster frame 805, e.g., clicks the pointing device controlling the cursor 815, the user can access the images in the container represented by the poster frame 805. For example, when the user clicks the poster frame 805, the images in the container can be displayed on the display device. In some implementations, the grid can include several rectangular regions, where each rectangular region displays an image in the container. In some implementations, the grid can be generated such that the number of rectangular regions equals the number of images in the container. Alternatively, the number of rectangular regions can be fixed and one or more rectangular regions can be empty if the number of images in the container is less than the number of rectangular regions in the grid. In some implementations, if the number of rectangular regions is less than the number of images in the container, not all images in the container can be displayed in the grid. In this manner, the user can position the cursor 815 over a portion of the poster frame 805 to preview the images in the container represented by the poster frame 805. The user can alter the position of the cursor 805 to a second portion of the poster frame 805 causing a grid to be displayed indicating that the user can select the poster frame 805 to access the images in the container.

[0081] In some implementations, the poster frame can be configured such that moving the cursor in a vertical direction can cause an updating of the images in the region occupied by the poster frame. In such implementations, the demarcation line 820 can be vertical such that positioning the cursor to the left of the demarcation line 820 can enable previewing the images in the container in the poster frame and the magnifying frame, while positioning the cursor to the right of the demarcation line can cause a grid to be displayed in the poster frame, indicating to the user that the poster frame can be selected to access the images in the container.

[0082] FIG. 9 depicts a flow chart of an example of a method for displaying a magnifying frame corresponding to a poster frame representing a container including images. In

some implementations, the poster frame can be displayed in a user interface which, in turn, can be displayed in a display device. A cursor, controlled by a pointing device, e.g., a mouse, can be displayed in the display device. A user can position the cursor over the poster frame. The position of the cursor within a poster frame can be determined at 905. An image corresponding to the cursor position can be displayed within the region bounded by the poster frame at 910. A user can position the cursor over a poster frame and select the poster frame, e.g., by clicking the mouse controlling the cursor. The selection of the poster frame can be detected at 915. In response to the selection, a new poster frame, representing a magnifying frame, can be displayed adjacent to the poster frame at 920. The image, corresponding to the cursor position, displayed in the poster frame can be displayed within the bounded region of the new poster frame at 925. A user can move the cursor to a new position in the poster frame. The movement of the cursor to a new position in the poster frame can be detected at 930. A new image, corresponding to the new position of the cursor, can be displayed in the region bounded by the poster frame. In addition, the new image can be displayed within the region bounded by the new poster frame at 935. In this manner, as the position of the cursor in the poster frame is changed, the images displayed in the poster frame and the new poster frame are also updated, thereby enabling a user to preview the images in the container represented by the poster frame. The dimensions of the new poster frame can be larger than those of the poster frame, thereby providing a magnified view of each previewed image.

[0083] FIG. 10 depicts a flow chart of an example of a method for enabling a user to select an image displayed in a new frame, e.g., a magnifying frame. In some implementations, the poster frame can be displayed in a user interface which, in turn, can be displayed in a display device. A cursor, controlled by a pointing device, e.g., a mouse, can be displayed in the display device. A user can position the cursor over the poster frame. The position of the cursor within a poster frame can be determined at 1005. An image corresponding to the cursor position can be displayed within the region bounded by the poster frame at 1010. A user can position the cursor over a poster frame and select the poster frame, e.g., by clicking the mouse controlling the cursor. The selection of the poster frame can be detected at 1015. In response to the selection, a new poster frame, representing a magnifying frame, can be displayed adjacent to the poster frame at 1020. The image, corresponding to the cursor position, displayed in the poster frame can be displayed within the bounded region of the new poster frame at 1025. In some implementations, the image displayed within the new poster frame can be selected. For example, the new poster frame can be the magnifying frame and a selection tool can be positioned within the magnifying frame. The user can select the selection tool, e.g., by positioning the cursor over the selection tool and clicking the pointing device. The selection of the selection tool can cause the image displayed in the magnifying frame to be selected. In this manner, an image displayed in the magnifying frame can be marked. The selection of the image displayed in the new poster frame can be detected at 1030. Subsequently, the user can move the cursor to a new position on the poster frame. This change in position can cause a new image to be displayed in, both, the poster frame and in the new poster frame. Further, the user can select the new image in the new poster frame by, e.g., selecting the selection tool. In this manner, the user can select one or more

images displayed in the new poster frame and mark the one or more images. The user can be enabled to select the image displayed in the new poster frame at 1035. The user can group the marked images and perform operations on the group such as filtering the container to display only the images in the group, filtering the container to display images other than the images in the group, transfer the grouped images to a location, edit the grouped images, and the like.

[0084] FIG. 11 depicts a flow chart of an example of a method for altering the display of a container based on cursor position on a portion of a poster frame representing the container. In some implementations, the poster frame can be displayed in a user interface which, in turn, can be displayed in a display device. A cursor, controlled by a pointing device, e.g., a mouse, can be displayed in the display device. A user can position the cursor over the poster frame. The position of the cursor within a poster frame can be determined at 1105. An image corresponding to the cursor position can be displayed within the region bounded by the poster frame at 1110. A user can position the cursor over a poster frame and select the poster frame, e.g., by clicking the mouse controlling the cursor. The selection of the poster frame can be detected at 1115. In response to the selection, a new poster frame, representing a magnifying frame, can be displayed adjacent to the poster frame at 1120. The image, corresponding to the cursor position, displayed in the poster frame can be displayed within the bounded region of the new poster frame at 1125. In some implementations, the user can select the poster frame to display the new poster frame by positioning the cursor on the poster frame and clicking the mouse. In addition, the user can select the poster frame to access the images in the container represented by the poster frame. For example, the user can position the cursor on the poster frame and select the poster frame, causing the images in the poster frame to be displayed in the display device. However, the clicking of the mouse is configured to cause the display of the new poster frame to enable previewing the images in the poster frame and in the new poster frame. In order to enable a user to preview images in a container and to access the images in the container represented by the poster frame, the poster frame can be divided into two portions. In some implementations, the two portions can be divided by a demarcation line which may or may not be displayed on the poster frame. The two portions can be of the same size or of different sizes. For example, the first portion of the poster frame that is configured to enable previewing the images in the poster frame and the new poster frame can be two-thirds the size of the poster frame while the second portion configured to enable accessing the images in the container can be one-thirds the size of the poster frame.

[0085] The user can position the cursor over one of the two portions into which the poster frame is divided. A check can be performed to determine if the new position of the cursor is on the first or the second portion at 1135. If the new position is on the first portion, then an image corresponding to the new position can be displayed in the poster frame at 1140. In addition, the image corresponding to the new position can be displayed in the new poster frame. If the new position is on the second portion of the poster frame, then a grid can be displayed in the poster frame at 1145. The display of the grid can be a visual cue that accessing the images in the container represented by the poster frame is possible. Subsequently, selecting the poster frame to access images in the album represented by the poster frame can be enabled at 1150. For example, upon viewing the display of the grid in the poster

frame, a user can click the mouse causing the images in the container to be displayed on the display device. In some implementations, the grid displayed in the poster frame can be divided into a number of rectangular regions equal to the number of images in the container. Alternatively, the grid can be divided into a fixed number of rectangular regions and the images in the container can be displayed in all or fewer than all the rectangular regions in the grid.

[0086] Implementations of the subject matter and the functional operations described in this specification can be implemented in digital electronic circuitry, or in computer software, firmware, or hardware, including the structures disclosed in this specification and their structural equivalents, or in combinations of one or more of them. Implementations of the subject matter described in this specification can be implemented as one or more computer program products, i.e., one or more modules of computer program instructions encoded on a computer-readable medium for execution by, or to control the operation of, data processing apparatus. The computer-readable medium can be a machine-readable storage device, a machine-readable storage substrate, a memory device, or a combination of one or more of them. The term “data processing apparatus” encompasses all apparatus, devices, and machines for processing data, including by way of example a programmable processor, a computer, or multiple processors or computers. The apparatus can include, in addition to hardware, code that creates an execution environment for the computer program in question, e.g., code that constitutes processor firmware, a protocol stack, a database management system, an operating system, or a combination of one or more of them. A propagated signal is an artificially generated signal, e.g., a machine-generated electrical, optical, or electromagnetic signal, that is generated to encode information for transmission to suitable receiver apparatus.

[0087] A computer program (also known as a program, software, software application, script, or code) can be written in any form of programming language, including compiled or interpreted languages, and it can be deployed in any form, including as a stand-alone program or as a module, component, subroutine, or other unit suitable for use in a computing environment. A computer program does not necessarily correspond to a file in a file system. A program can be stored in a portion of a file that holds other programs or data (e.g., one or more scripts stored in a markup language document), in a single file dedicated to the program in question, or in multiple coordinated files (e.g., files that store one or more modules, sub-programs, or portions of code). A computer program can be deployed to be executed on one computer or on multiple computers that are located at one site or distributed across multiple sites and interconnected by a communication network.

[0088] The processes and logic flows described in this specification can be performed by one or more programmable processors executing one or more computer programs to perform functions by operating on input data and generating output. The processes and logic flows can also be performed by, and apparatus can also be implemented as, special purpose logic circuitry, e.g., an FPGA (field programmable gate array) or an ASIC (application-specific integrated circuit).

[0089] Processors suitable for the execution of a computer program include, by way of example, both general and special purpose microprocessors, and any one or more processors of any kind of digital computer. Generally, a processor will receive instructions and data from a read-only memory or a

random access memory or both. The essential elements of a computer are a processor for performing instructions and one or more memory devices for storing instructions and data. Generally, a computer will also include, or be operatively coupled to receive data from or transfer data to, or both, one or more mass storage devices for storing data, e.g., magnetic, magneto-optical disks, or optical disks. However, a computer need not have such devices. Moreover, a computer can be embedded in another device, e.g., a mobile telephone, a personal digital assistant (PDA), a mobile audio player, a Global Positioning System (GPS) receiver, to name just a few. Computer-readable media suitable for storing computer program instructions and data include all forms of non-volatile memory, media and memory devices, including by way of example semiconductor memory devices, e.g., EPROM, EEPROM, and flash memory devices; magnetic disks, e.g., internal hard disks or removable disks; magneto-optical disks; and CD-ROM and DVD-ROM disks. The processor and the memory can be supplemented by, or incorporated in, special purpose logic circuitry.

[0090] To provide for interaction with a user, implementations of the subject matter described in this specification can be implemented on a computer having a display device, e.g., a CRT (cathode ray tube) or LCD (liquid crystal display) monitor, for displaying information to the user and a keyboard and a pointing device, e.g., a mouse or a trackball, by which the user can provide input to the computer. Other kinds of devices can be used to provide for interaction with a user as well; for example, feedback provided to the user can be any form of sensory feedback, e.g., visual feedback, auditory feedback, or tactile feedback; and input from the user can be received in any form, including acoustic, speech, near-touch input, or tactile input.

[0091] Implementations of the subject matter described in this specification can be implemented in a computing system that includes a back-end component, e.g., as a data server, or that includes a middleware component, e.g., an application server, or that includes a front-end component, e.g., a client computer having a graphical user interface or a Web browser through which a user can interact with an implementation of the subject matter described in this specification, or any combination of one or more such back-end, middleware, or front-end components. The components of the system can be interconnected by any form or medium of digital data communication, e.g., a communication network. Examples of communication networks include a local area network (“LAN”) and a wide area network (“WAN”), e.g., the Internet.

[0092] The computing system can include clients and servers. A client and server are generally remote from each other and typically interact through a communication network. The relationship of client and server arises by virtue of computer programs running on the respective computers and having a client-server relationship to each other.

[0093] While this specification contains many specifics, these should not be construed as limitations on the scope of the disclosure or of what may be claimed, but rather as descriptions of features specific to particular implementations of the disclosure. Certain features that are described in this specification in the context of separate implementations can also be implemented in combination in a single implementation. Conversely, various features that are described in the context of a single implementation can also be implemented in multiple implementations separately or in any suit-

able subcombination. Moreover, although features may be described above as acting in certain combinations and even initially claimed as such, one or more features from a claimed combination can in some cases be excised from the combination, and the claimed combination may be directed to a subcombination or variation of a subcombination.

[0094] Similarly, while operations are depicted in the drawings in a particular order, this should not be understood as requiring that such operations be performed in the particular order shown or in sequential order, or that all illustrated operations be performed, to achieve desirable results. In certain circumstances, multitasking and parallel processing may be advantageous. Moreover, the separation of various system components in the implementations described above should not be understood as requiring such separation in all implementations, and it should be understood that the described program components and systems can generally be integrated together in a single software product or packaged into multiple software products.

[0095] A number of implementations have been described. Nevertheless, it will be understood that various modifications may be made without departing from the spirit and scope of the subject matter. For example, as the slider 135 on the user interface 100 is operated to reduce the size of the thumbnails representing frames (e.g., poster frames 110, thumbnails representing images 205), the horizontal dimension of a row of thumbnails can be decreased. In some implementations, thumbnails from one row can be repositioned to another row so that the horizontal dimension of the rows equals the horizontal dimension of the view pane 105. In other implementations, even if the horizontal dimension of the row decreases due to decrease in thumbnail dimensions, each thumbnail can be retained in the same position on the row.

[0096] In some implementations, moving the pointer 137 on the slider 135 to the right can cause an increase in the dimensions of the thumbnails. In such implementations, when the pointer 137 on the slider 135 is positioned at the right extreme of the slider 135, each thumbnail (e.g., poster frame, thumbnail representing an image 205) in the view pane 105 can occupy the entire view pane 105. In such implementations, a navigation mechanism may be incorporated into the tool bar 125 so that a user may navigate to access the thumbnails on the view pane 105.

[0097] In some implementations, the user can view each image 205 in a container in the view pane 105 by choosing the image 205. When a user views one of the images 205 in the container, the remainder of the images 205 in the container can be displayed as thumbnails in an additional pane above the view pane 105. In such implementations, the user can choose the next image 205 that the user wishes to view from the additional pane displayed above the view pane 105.

[0098] In some implementations, the two dimensional time line may correspond to a vertical positioning of thumbnails. For example, the poster frames 110 can be arranged vertically in columns. When the sum of the vertical dimensions of the poster frames 110 and the spaces between the frames exceeds the vertical dimension of the view pane 105, subsequent poster frames can be positioned in a new, horizontally displaced column. The first poster frame 110 of the new column can be substantially vertically aligned with the first poster frame 110 of the previous column. In this manner, vertical scrolling to access poster frames outside the viewing area of the view pane 105 can be avoided. When the space occupied by the columns exceeds the horizontal dimension of the view

pane 105, a horizontal scroll bar can be incorporated in the user interface 100 to allow the user to navigate to access columns of thumbnails 110 that may lie outside the viewing area of the view pane 105.

[0099] In some implementations, thumbnails representing images 205 can also be displayed in columns. In other implementations, the horizontal or vertical display of poster frames and/or images 205 can be based on user input.

[0100] In some implementations, two or more poster frames 110 displayed on the view pane 105 can be merged. In other implementations, when a user scans a mouse across a poster frame 110, two images 205 positioned consecutively in the container represented by the poster frame 110 can be displayed on the frame such that the first of the two images 205 is displayed on the left half of the poster frame 110 and the second image 205 is displayed on the right half. Based on the display, the user can create boundaries 215 between the two images 205. In such implementations, a container can be split into two containers, such that the first split container contains images 205 beginning from the start of the container to the first image 205, while the second split container contains images 205 from the second image 205 to the end of the container. Subsequently, each split container can be represented by a separate poster frame 110.

[0101] In some implementations, each container can be represented by more than one frame. A second slider 135 may be incorporated in the tool bar 125 and operatively coupled to change the number of poster frames 110 used to represent a container. For example, a user may position the slider 135 such that a poster frame 110 is represented by two frames. In such cases, when the user positions the cursor over one of the two frames 110, a first image 205 corresponding to the position of the cursor on the poster frame 110 can be displayed on the first poster frame 110. An image 205 adjacent to the displayed image 205 can be displayed on the second poster frame 110. Based on the display, the user can create boundaries 215 between two images 205.

[0102] In some implementations, a user can create a new container while previewing a container by scanning the cursor across the poster frame 110. When a user creates a new container, an icon representing a new container can be displayed on the project pane 115. When the user positions the cursor on the poster frame 110, an image 205 corresponding to the position of the cursor on the poster frame 110 can be displayed. The user can include the image 205 in the new container by operations including drag and drop using the pointing device, copy and paste using the keyboard, or combinations of pointing device and keyboard operations. In this manner, the user can create one or more containers of images 205 chosen from different containers represented by poster frames 110 on the view pane 105.

[0103] The dimensions of the user interface 100 can be altered based on user input using a pointing device to operate a cursor, a keyboard, or both. In some implementations, altering the dimensions of the user interface 100 causes the dimensions of the thumbnails in the view pane 105 in the user interface 100 to be changed. In other implementations, despite a change in the dimensions of the user interface 100, the dimensions of the thumbnails remains unaltered.

[0104] In some implementations, a view pane 105 may represent folders containing files. As a user scrolls across the poster frame 110, metadata associated with the document in the folder (e.g., file name, date of creation, last date of editing, and the like) can be displayed on the poster frame 110. In

other implementations, each poster frame **110** can represent a document, e.g., a text document. As the user scrolls across the poster frame **110**, each page in the document can be displayed on the poster frame **110**. In this manner, a user may be able to preview the contents of the text document. In other implementations, the file can be a Adobe PDF file and each page on the PDF file can be displayed on the poster frame, the file can be a Microsoft Power Point file and each slide in the Power Point file can be displayed on the poster frame, the file can be a Microsoft Excel file and each spreadsheet in the Excel file can be displayed on the poster frame, and the like.

[0105] In some implementations, the user interface including the view pane and the poster frames representing containers of images can be viewed on virtually any suitable display device connected to the storage device on which the images are stored. The display device can include a computer monitor, an LCD screen, a projection screen, and the like. Alternatively, or in addition, the user interface and the images can be transmitted over a network (e.g., wired, wireless, internet, and the like) for display on a remote display device. In some implementations, the images to be viewed can be stored locally and can be viewed from a remote location. A system in the remote location can be operatively coupled to the local system to communicate over a network, e.g., the internet. The local system can be a server where the images can be stored and the user interface and other features of the user interface can be installed. The remote system can be a computer connected to the internet. A user at the remote system can enter a uniform resource locator (URL) pointing to the server in a web browser. In response, the local system can present the remote system with the user interface. Using the user interface, a user in the remote location can preview images. In some implementations, the images may reside on the local system. A user at the remote system can preview the images in the local system. In other implementations, the user at the remote system can preview images stored in the remote system using the user interface transmitted to the remote system from the local system over the network. In some implementations, a first user at a first remote location can perform operations including previewing images in the local or first remote system, creating containers of images, and the like, and subsequently transmit the containers with images to the local system. Subsequently, a second user wishing to view the images created by the first user can establish a connection with the local system. The local system can transmit the user interface to the second user. In this manner, the second user at the second remote location can view the contents of the containers created by the first user. In other implementations, the first user can transmit the containers containing images to the second user. The second user can access the user interface in the local system to view the images in the containers stored in the second user's remote system. Alternatively, the second user can access the images stored in the first user's system and preview the images using the user interface transmitted to the second user from the local system. In this manner, images stored in one location can be viewed and manipulated at a different location.

[0106] In some implementations, the magnifying frame can be positioned over the poster frame representing the container including images. For example, when the user positions a cursor over a poster frame representing a container and selects the poster frame, the magnifying frame can be displayed over the poster frame. This can enable a user to preview the images in the container in the magnifying frame. In

addition, the magnifying frame can be configured such that a portion of the magnifying frame can correspond to one of more images in the container. When the user positions the cursor over a portion of the magnifying frame, the image corresponding to the portion of the magnifying frame over which the cursor is positioned can be displayed in the magnifying frame. In addition, the magnifying frame can be configured to enable a user to perform operations on the image displayed in the magnifying frame, such as printing, transmitting via e-mail, hiding, selecting, and the like.

[0107] In other implementations, as the user is moving the cursor across the poster frame representing a container including images, the user can preview the images in the poster frame. When the user views an image of interest, the user can select the poster frame displaying the image. This selection can cause a magnifying frame to be displayed either adjacent to the poster frame or over the poster frame. The magnifying frame can display the image that the user selected. The user can preview the image in the magnifying frame and/or perform operations including printing, hiding, selecting, transmitting via e-mail, and the like. Subsequently, the user can cause the magnifying frame to be hidden and continue previewing other images in the container. Accordingly, other implementations are within the scope of the following claims.

What is claimed is:

1. A computer-implemented method, comprising: displaying, within a user interface, a first frame represented by a first bounded region, wherein the first frame represents a container that comprises a plurality of digital media items; detecting a selection of a position in the first frame; in response to detecting the selection, displaying a digital media item in the first frame such that the displayed digital media item occupies substantially all of the first bounded region; detecting another selection of the first frame; in response to detecting the other selection, displaying, within the user interface, a second frame represented by a second bounded region, wherein the second frame is larger than the first frame; and concurrently displaying in the second frame the same digital media item being displayed in the first frame.
2. The method of claim 1, wherein the second frame is displayed adjacent to the first frame.
3. The method of claim 1, wherein detecting a selection of a position in the first frame comprises detecting a positioning of a position indicator at the position in the frame.
4. The method of claim 1, wherein the position indicator includes a cursor.
5. The method of claim 1 further comprising: detecting a selection of another position in the first frame; in response to detecting the selection of the other position in the first frame, displaying another digital media item in the first frame, wherein the other digital media item corresponds to the other position in the first frame; and concurrently displaying the other digital media item in the second frame.
6. The method of claim 1, wherein the digital media items are displayed sequentially in the first frame as positions in the frame are sequentially selected.
7. A computer-readable medium storing computer software instructions executable by data processing apparatus to perform operations comprising:

displaying, within a user interface, a first frame collectively represented by a first bounded region and a second bounded region adjacent the first bounded region, wherein the first frame represents a container that comprises a plurality of digital media items;

in response to detecting a selection of a position in the first bounded region, displaying a visual indicator within the first bounded region and the second bounded region, the visual indicator indicating that a selection of the first frame accesses the plurality of digital media items; and

in response to detecting a selection of the first frame subsequent to displaying the visual indicator, displaying, within the user interface, a plurality of bounded regions, each corresponding to a digital media item of the plurality of digital media items.

8. The medium of claim 7, wherein the operations further comprise:

in response to detecting a selection of a position in the second bounded region instead of the position in the first bounded region, displaying a digital media item in the first frame such that the displayed digital media item occupies substantially all of the first bounded region and the second bounded region; and

in response to detecting another selection of the first frame: displaying, within the user interface, a second frame represented by a corresponding bounded region, and concurrently displaying in the second frame the same digital media item being displayed in the first frame.

9. The medium of claim 8, wherein the second frame is larger than the first frame.

10. The medium of claim 7, wherein the operations further comprise displaying the first bounded region and the second bounded region as a rectangular region.

11. The medium of claim 7, wherein the operations further comprise displaying the first bounded region above the second bounded region.

12. The medium of claim 7, wherein detecting the selection of the position in the first bounded region comprises detecting a positioning of a position indicator at the position.

13. The medium of claim 12, wherein the position indicator includes a cursor.

14. The medium of claim 7, wherein displaying the visual indicator comprises displaying a grid that occupies substantially all of the first bounded region and the second bounded region.

15. A system comprising:

data processing apparatus; and

a computer-readable medium storing computer software instructions executable by the data processing apparatus to perform operations comprising:

displaying, within a user interface, a first frame represented by a first bounded region, wherein the first frame represents a container that comprises a plurality of digital media items,

detecting a selection of a position in the first frame,

in response to detecting the selection, displaying a digital media item in the first frame such that the displayed digital media item occupies substantially all of the first bounded region,

detecting another selection of the first frame,

in response to detecting the other selection, displaying, within the user interface, a second frame represented by a second bounded region, wherein the second frame is larger than the first frame, and

concurrently displaying in the second frame the same digital media item being displayed in the first frame.

16. The system of claim 15, wherein the second frame is displayed adjacent to the first frame.

17. The system of claim 15, wherein detecting a selection of a position in the first frame comprises detecting a positioning of a position indicator at the position in the frame.

18. The system of claim 15, wherein the position indicator includes a cursor.

19. The system of claim 15, the operations further comprising:

detecting a selection of another position in the first frame;

in response to detecting the selection of the other position in the first frame, displaying another digital media item in the first frame, wherein the other digital media item corresponds to the other position in the first frame; and concurrently displaying the other digital media item in the second frame.

20. The system of claim 15, wherein the digital media items are displayed sequentially in the first frame as positions in the frame are sequentially selected.

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