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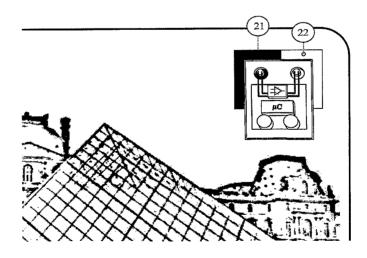
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example of apparatus positioning

(57) Abstract: A communication method, system, and apparatus are provided that transmits supplementary communications combined with standard television or other visual media (e.g., cable, satellite, video, pre-recorded video, IPTV, Internet, print media) to a viewer/reader. The invention permits a standard television system or other visual media system to transmit supplementary digital data to the viewers along with the normal visual image to provide interactivity. The invention includes an electronic device that optically receives the transmitted supplementary digital data sent along with the visual image. Using the method described, a transmitting facility is able to transmit supplementary data to the device without interfering with its regular programming. The supplementary data can provide a means for added interactivity (e.g., by providing supplemental data for marketing, promotions games, entertainment, education, coupons, and the like).



## INTERNATIONAL SEARCH REPORT

International application No
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A. CLASSIFICATION OF SUBJECT MATTER INV. H04N7/025									
According to International Patent Classification (IPC) or to both national classification and IPC									
B. FIELDS SEARCHED									
Minimum do HO4N	ocumentation searched (classification system followed by classif	ication symbols)							
Documenta	tion searched other than minimum documentation to the extent to	hat such documents are included in the fields se	arched						
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C. DOCUM	ENTS CONSIDERED TO BE RELEVANT								
Category*	Citation of document, with indication, where appropriate, of th	e relevant passages	Relevant to claim No.						
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X Furti	her documents are listed in the continuation of Box C.	X See patent family annex.							
* Special of	categories of cited documents:	"T" later document published after the inter							
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which citation	ent which may throw doubts on priority claim(s) or is cited to establish the publication date of another n or other special reason (as specified)	"Y" document of particular relevance; the cl cannot be considered to involve an involve and involve an	aimed invention rentive step when the						
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later th	han the priority date claimed	*&* document member of the same patent f  Date of mailing of the international sear	*&* document member of the same patent family  Date of mailing of the international search report						
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#### **INTERNATIONAL SEARCH REPORT**

Information on patent family members

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