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Han(10) **Pub. No.: US 2007/0147783 A1**(43) **Pub. Date: Jun. 28, 2007**(54) **COMBINATION SYSTEM AND COPY
ERROR PREVENTING METHOD THEREOF**(30) **Foreign Application Priority Data**

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LTD.**, Suwon-si (KR)(57) **ABSTRACT**(21) Appl. No.: **11/708,572**(22) Filed: **Feb. 21, 2007****Related U.S. Application Data**(63) Continuation of application No. 10/145,027, filed on
May 15, 2002.

A combo system and method having a play unit to play a signal recorded on a first recording medium and a recording unit to record the signal played by the play unit on a second recording medium. A detector detects whether a predetermined copy preventing signal exists within the signal played by the play unit. A controller controls the recording unit to stop a recording operation of the recording unit when the copy preventing signal is detected by the detector.

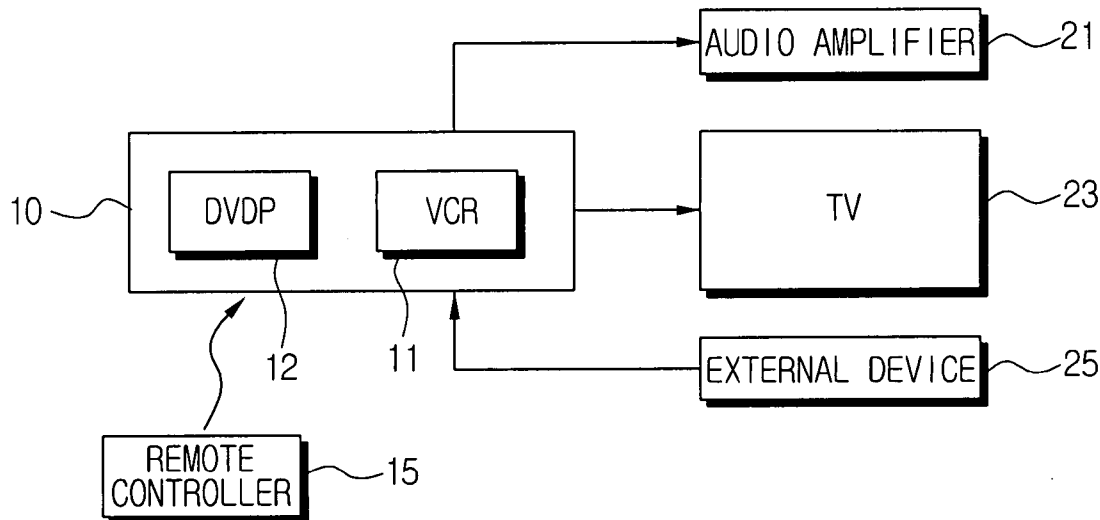


FIG. 1

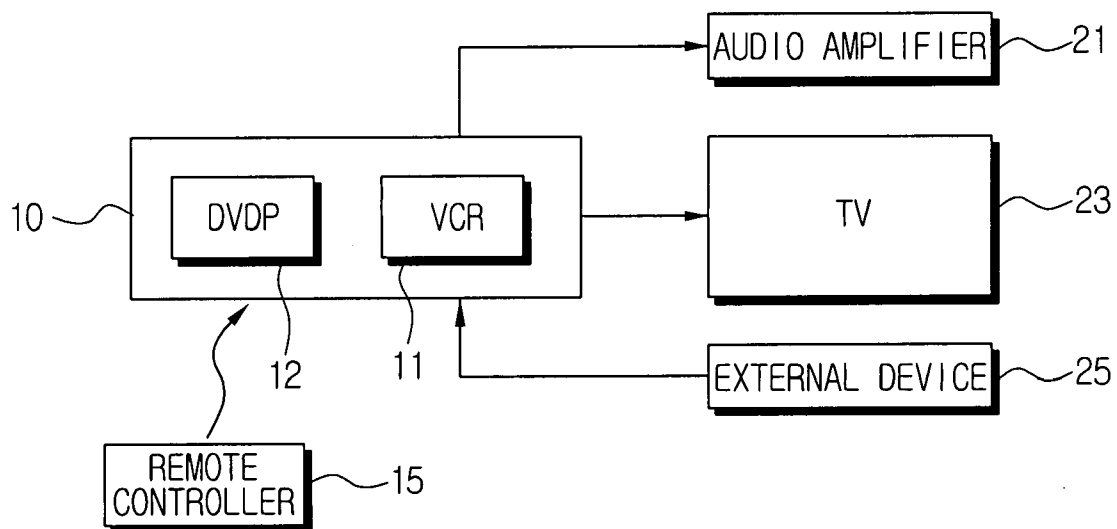


FIG. 2

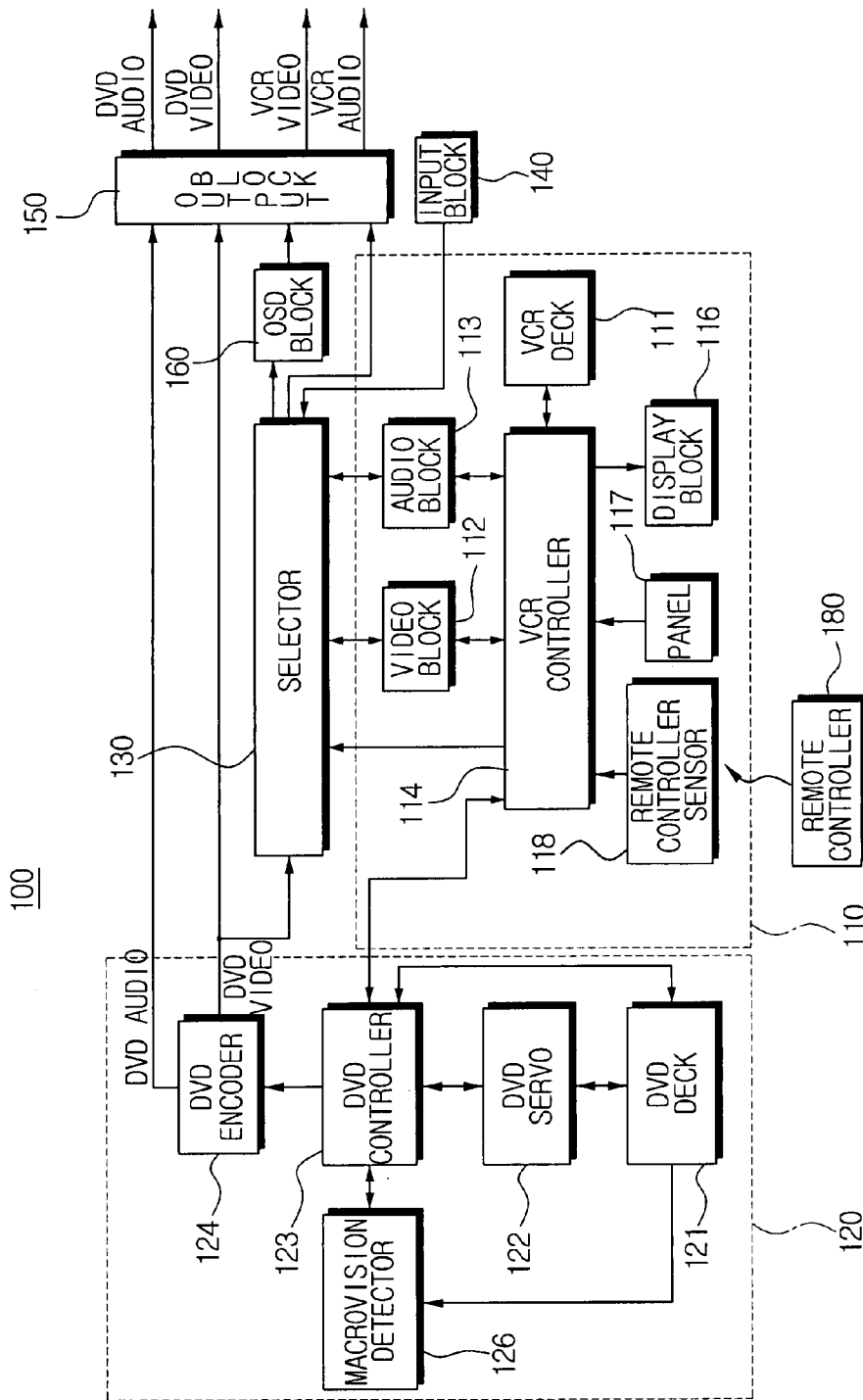


FIG.3

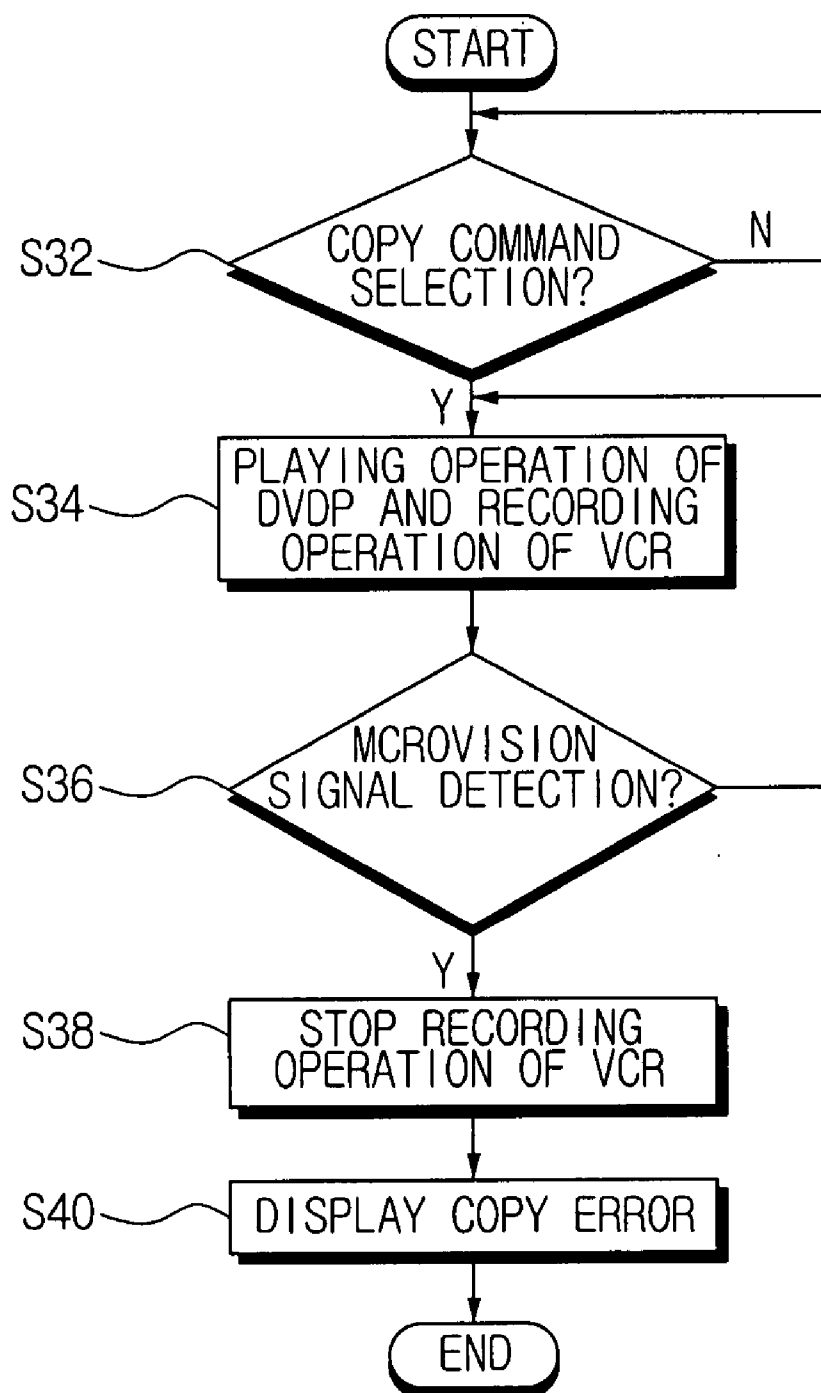
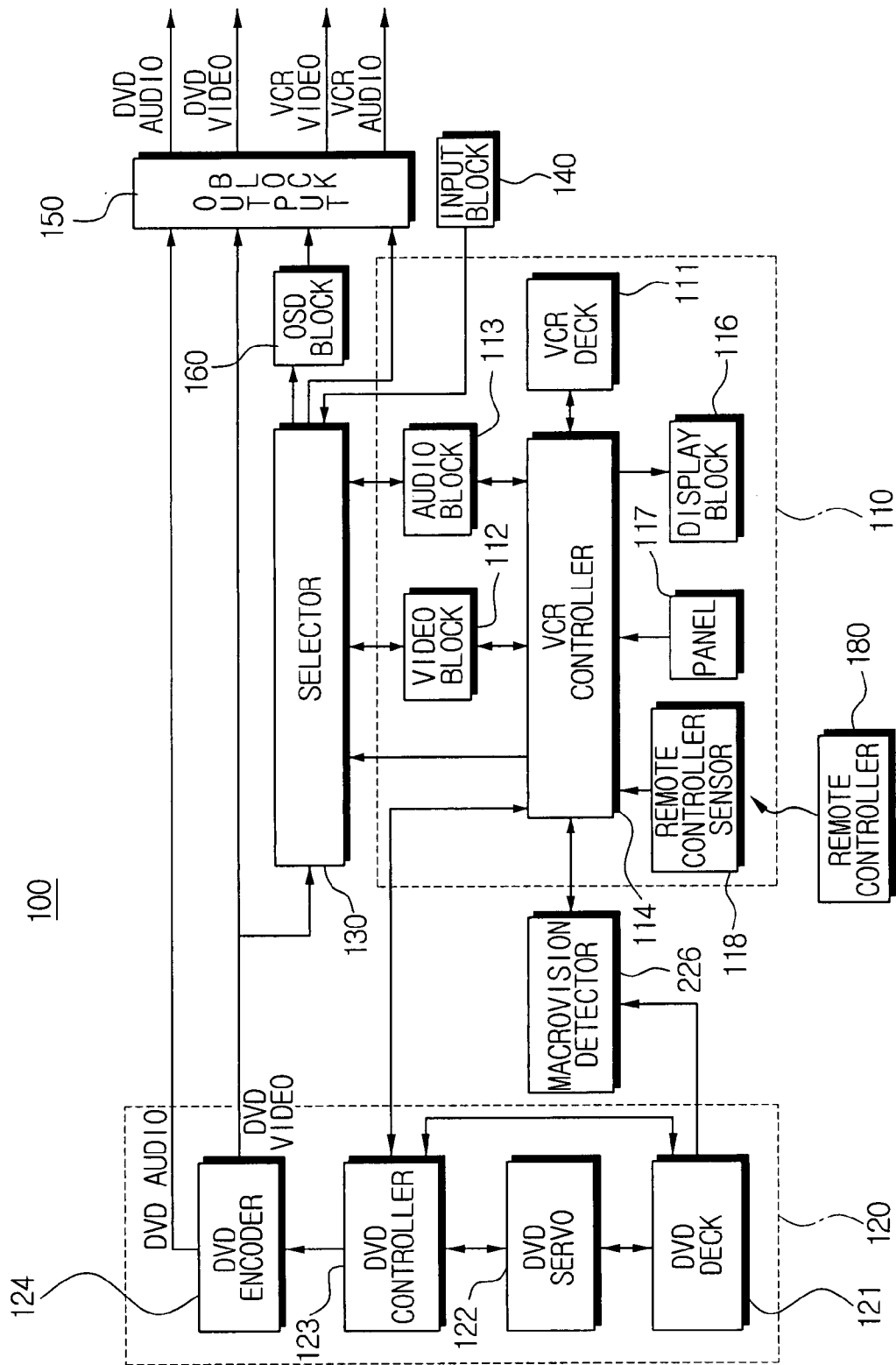


FIG. 4



COMBINATION SYSTEM AND COPY ERROR PREVENTING METHOD THEREOF

CROSS-REFERENCE TO RELATED APPLICATIONS

[0001] This application is a Continuation of copending U.S. patent application Ser. No. 10/145,027, filed May 15, 2002, the disclosure of which is herein incorporated by reference. This application claims the benefit of U.S. patent application Ser. No. 10/145,027, filed May 15, 2002. This application claims the benefit of Korean Application No. 2001-27273, filed May 18, 2001, in the Korean Patent Office, the disclosure of which is incorporated herein by reference.

BACKGROUND OF THE INVENTION

[0002] 1. Field of the Invention

[0003] The present invention relates to a combination system and a copy error preventing method thereof, and more particularly, to a combination system and a copy error preventing method thereof in which a copy preventing signal is added to a copy signal so that a copy error can be prevented from occurring.

[0004] 2. Description of the Related Art

[0005] A combination system or combo system is defined as two or more different units incorporated into a combined system. As an example of the combo system, there is provided a DVDP/VCR combo system developed to complementarily perform a function of a DVDP and a function of a VCR.

[0006] FIG. 1 is a block diagram illustrating a conventional DVDP/VCR combo system 10 and peripheral devices connected to the DVDP/VCR combo system. The DVDP/VCR combo system 10 includes a VCR 11 and a DVDP 12. The VCR 11 performs a general VCR function that plays video and audio signals recorded on a magnetic tape and records externally received signals on the magnetic tape. The DVDP 12 performs a general DVDP function that plays video and audio signals recorded on a DVD. In addition to essential functions of the VCR 11 and the DVDP 12, the DVDP/VCR combo system 10 has an advantage in that the DVDP/VCR combo system 10 can perform a composite function that records video and audio signals played by the DVDP 12 on the magnetic tape through the VCR 11.

[0007] ATV 23 is connected to the DVDP/VCR combo system 10 as a peripheral device that outputs video and audio signals played by the DVDP 12 or the VCR 11. Also, an audio amplifier 21 is connected to the DVDP/VCR combo system 10 as a peripheral device that outputs audio signals played by the DVDP 12. Furthermore, an external device 25 such as a camcorder can be connected to the DVDP/VCR combo system 10. The DVDP/VCR combo system 10 serves to record/play video and audio signals from the external device 25.

[0008] The VCR 11 and the DVDP 12 in the DVDP/VCR combo system 10 are provided as one system in appearance. A user can switch a mode between the VCR 11 and the DVDP 12 through either a separate input unit such as a remote controller 15 or a panel (not shown) provided on a front surface of the DVDP/VCR combo system 10 and can

manipulate individual functions of the respective devices 11 and 12 using the separate input unit. As described above, the DVDP/VCR combo system 10 has an advantage in that the system can perform various functions without the peripheral devices.

[0009] However, in a case where video and audio signals played by the DVDP 12 are recorded on the magnetic tape through the VCR 11, a problem arises in that desired video and audio signals cannot be recorded. The reason for the problem is because DVD data has a copy preventing mechanism such as a macrovision protection (hereinafter, referred to as "macrovision signal"). The macrovision protection is an analog protection system. The VCR 11 adds a vertical blanking signal AGC pulse and a color bar to a composite video signal and s-video signal. In this case, a synchronizing and automatic recording level circuit in the VCR 11 may be disordered or there may be something wrong with a line doubler. In other words, in a case where the DVD data having a macrovision protection is recorded or copied, phenomena such as a color bar, distortion, rolling, blackening, and brightness circulation may occur. Accordingly, in the case where the data recorded on the DVD having the macrovision protection is recorded or copied on the magnetic tape using the DVDP/VCR combo system 10, a problem arises in that the data cannot be normally recorded or copied on the magnetic tape due to the macrovision protection of the DVD.

[0010] Furthermore, in the case where the magnetic tape is played in which the data is not normally recorded or copied, the user cannot view a desired video image. In this case, the user may incorrectly believe that there is something wrong with the recording function of the DVDP/VCR combo system.

SUMMARY OF THE INVENTION

[0011] Accordingly, it is an object of the present invention to provide a combination system and an error preventing method thereof, in which whether a macrovision protection has been applied to DVD data is detected, so that a copy error can be prevented from occurring.

[0012] To achieve the above and other objects, the present invention may be accomplished by providing a combination system and an error preventing method thereof, in which a user can recognize that a macrovision protection is applied to DVD data to be copied, so that performance of the combination system can be improved.

[0013] In order to achieve the above-described object and other objects of the present invention, there is provided a combo system provided having a play unit to play a signal recorded on a first recording medium and a recording unit to record the signal played by the play unit on a second recording medium, including: a detector to detect whether a predetermined copy preventing signal exists within the signal played by the play unit; and a controller to control the recording unit to stop a recording operation of the recording unit when the copy preventing signal is detected by the detector.

[0014] Here, the combination system further includes a display block to externally display a signal indicative of whether the copy preventing signal has been detected.

[0015] To achieve the above and other objects, the present invention may be accomplished by providing a copy error

preventing method of a combo system provided with a play unit and a recording unit, including: playing a signal recorded on a first recording medium using the play unit; recording the signal onto a second recording medium using the recording unit; detecting whether a predetermined copy preventing signal exists within the signal played by the play unit; and stopping a recording operation of the recording unit when the copy preventing signal is detected within the played signal.

[0016] To achieve the above and other objects, the present invention may be accomplished by providing a copy error preventing method between a play unit and a recording unit, including: playing a signal recorded on a first recording medium using the play unit; recording the signal onto a second recording medium using the recording unit; detecting whether a predetermined copy preventing signal exists within the signal played by the play unit; and stopping a recording operation of the recording unit when the copy preventing signal is detected within the played signal.

[0017] To achieve the above and other objects, the present invention may be accomplished by providing a combo system, including: a play unit playing video and/or audio signals recorded on a first recording medium; a recording unit recording the video and/or audio signals on a second recording medium; a detector detecting a copy preventing signal from the video and/or audio signals played by the play unit, wherein the detector outputs the detected copy preventing signal to the recording unit to stop the recording unit from recording the video and/or audio signals on the second recording medium; and an OSD block adding an OSD function to the video signals of the recording unit and a detected copy preventing error message.

[0018] To achieve the above and other objects, the present invention may be accomplished by providing a copy error preventing method of a combo system having a play unit and a recording unit, including: detecting a copy command by the recording unit; outputting a copy mode setting signal from the recording unit to the play unit; playing data recorded on a first recording medium using the play unit in response to the copy mode setting signal; recording the data onto a second recording medium using the recording unit; determining whether a copy preventing signal exists in the data recorded on the first recording medium; outputting the copy preventing signal to the recording unit; and stopping the recording unit from recording in response to the copy preventing signal without discontinuing playing the data recorded on the first recording medium.

[0019] These together with other objects and advantages, which will be subsequently apparent, reside in the details of construction and operation as more fully hereinafter described and claimed, reference being had to the accompanying drawings forming a part hereof, wherein like numerals refer to like parts throughout.

BRIEF DESCRIPTION OF THE DRAWINGS

[0020] A more complete appreciation of the invention, and many of the attendant advantages thereof, will be readily apparent as the same becomes better understood by reference to the following detailed description when considered in conjunction with the accompanying drawings in which like reference symbols indicate the same or similar components, wherein:

[0021] FIG. 1 is a block diagram illustrating a conventional DVDP/VCR combination system;

[0022] FIG. 2 is a block diagram illustrating a DVDP/VCR combination system in accordance with a first embodiment of the present invention;

[0023] FIG. 3 is a flow chart illustrating a copy error preventing method performed by the system shown in FIG. 2; and

[0024] FIG. 4 is a block diagram illustrating a DVDP/VCR combination system in accordance with a second embodiment of the present invention.

DETAILED DESCRIPTION OF THE PREFERRED EMBODIMENTS

[0025] A combination system and a copy error preventing method thereof, in accordance with exemplary embodiments of the present invention, will now be described in detail with reference to the accompanying drawings.

[0026] FIG. 2 is a detailed block diagram illustrating a combo system in accordance with a first embodiment of the present invention, particularly a DVDP/VCR combo system 100 that can perform DVDP and VCR functions. The DVDP/VCR combo system 100 includes a VCR 110 to perform a general VCR function, a DVDP 120 to perform a general DVDP function, a selector 130 to select signals output from the VCR 110 and the DVDP 120, and an input block 140 to transmit signals input from an external device, such as a camcorder to the selector 130. An output block 150 transmits the signals output from the VCR 110 and the DVDP 120 to peripheral devices such as a TV and an amplifier. An on screen display (OSD) block 160 in the DVDP/VCR combo system 100 adds an OSD function to video signals output from the VCR 110 and the DVDP 120.

[0027] The VCR 110 includes a VCR deck 111 for recording a signal on a magnetic tape or playing the signal recorded on the magnetic tape. Video and audio blocks 112 and 113 in the VCR 110 transmit and receive video and audio signals to be recorded or played to and from the VCR deck 111, and a VCR controller 114 controls an operation of the VCR deck 111, the video block 112, and the audio block 113. The VCR 110 further includes a display block 116 to externally display the status of the VCR 110 such as operational, control, and setting modes, a panel 117 to input various commands from a user, and a remote controller sensor 118 to input a command from the user through a remote controller 180.

[0028] The DVDP 120 includes a DVD deck 121, a DVD servo 122, a DVD controller 123, and a DVD encoder 124. The DVD deck 121 reads data recorded on a DVD to perform a play mode of the DVD. The DVD servo 122 receives the data read by the DVD deck 121 through the DVD controller 123, and outputs DVD video data and DVD audio data. The DVD controller 123 controls the operation of the DVD deck 121, the DVD servo 122, and the DVD encoder 124. The DVDP 120 further includes a macrovision detector 126 for detecting a macrovision signal. The macrovision detector 126 detects the macrovision signal from the data read by the DVD deck 121 if the DVD has a macrovision protection and is played or copied. The macrovision detector 126 outputs the detected macrovision

signal to the DVD controller **123**. Then, the DVD controller **123** transmits the detected macrovision signal to the VCR controller **114**.

[0029] The DVD controller **123** and the VCR controller **114**, as will be described later in detail, are linked to each other in accordance with the detected macrovision signal, so that signals for controlling the DVDP **120** and the VCR **110** are generated. In the exemplary embodiment of the present invention, the VCR controller **114** and the DVD controller **123** may be separately provided and the VCR controller **114** may be used as a main controller of the combo system **100**. However, the present invention is not limited to this embodiment. That is, the DVD controller **123** may be the main controller of the DVDP/VCR combo system **100** or a menu controller having both the functions of the VCR controller **114** and the DVD controller **123** may be used.

[0030] An output of the DVD encoder **124**, outputs of the video and audio blocks **112** and **113**, and the signals from the input block **140** are input as input signals to a selector **130**. The VCR controller **114** and the DVD controller **123** control the selector **130** to select input signals. An output signal from the selector **130** is input to the OSD block **160** and the output block **150**. The OSD block **160** adds the OSD function to the signal input from the selector **130** and generates video images. Accordingly, the video images generated by the OSD block **160** are added to video images output to a TV screen, such as a menu for controlling the operation of the DVDP **120** and the VCR **110** and a macrovision error message.

[0031] The output block **150** receives the output signals from the DVD encoder **124**, the selector **130**, and the OSD block **160** and outputs DVD video signals, DVD audio signals, VCR video signals, and VCR audio signals. The peripheral devices such as the TV or audio devices are connected to the output block **150** and, thus, video and audio images are output from the peripheral devices.

[0032] The input block **140** is connected to the selector **130**, and transmits an externally input signal to the selector **130**. A signal output terminal of the external device, such as a camcorder, is connectable to the input block **140**. Accordingly, the signal recorded on the external device can be transmitted to the combo system **100** through the input block **140**, and also can be recorded on the magnetic tape using the VCR **110** or can be played through the TV or a monitor.

[0033] FIG. 3 is a flow chart illustrating a copy error preventing method performed by the DVDP/VCR combo system **100**. In more detail, FIG. 3 is a flow chart illustrating the copy error preventing method in which the user copies data recorded on the DVD to the magnetic tape.

[0034] If a power source is applied to the combo system **100**, the OSD block **160** outputs a data processing menu and displays the same on the TV screen. If the user selects a copy mode from the data processing menu displayed on the TV screen by manipulating the remote controller **180**, a copy mode setting signal is transmitted to the VCR controller **114** through the remote controller sensor **118**. At operation S32, the VCR controller **123** detects whether a copy command has been input.

[0035] Once the copy command is input, the VCR controller **114** outputs the copy mode setting signal to the DVD controller **123**. At operation S34, the DVD controller **123**

operates the DVD deck **121** in accordance with the copy mode setting signal to play the data recorded on the DVD and at the same time operates the macrovision detector **126**. Also, the VCR controller **114** drives the VCR deck **111** so as to record the signal played by the DVDP **120** on the magnetic tape.

[0036] In the above copy mode, at operation S36, the macrovision detector **126** determines whether a macrovision signal exists in the data recorded on the DVD. If it is determined that there is a macrovision signal in the data recorded on the DVD, the DVD controller **123** outputs the macrovision signal to the VCR controller **114**.

[0037] At operation S38, the VCR controller **114** stops driving of the VCR deck **111** in accordance with the macrovision signal. At this time, the DVDP **120** continues to play the data recorded on the DVD. Generally, the data recorded on the DVD is copied to the magnetic tape when the data recorded on the DVD is played. Accordingly, once a copy prevention signal, such as a macrovision signal is detected, an unnecessary copy operation can be avoided by stopping the VCR deck **111** from recording data on the magnetic tape. The playing operation by the DVDP **120** continues to be performed, thereby providing the user with convenience.

[0038] At operation S40, the VCR controller **114** displays a copy error. The copy error may be output from audio output terminals of the output block **150** through the audio block **113**. Also, the copy error may be output as character or video signals generated in the OSD block **160** and then displayed on the TV screen. Also, the copy error may be output as characters or signs displayed through the display block **116**. Further, if there is no macrovision signal, a normal copy operation is performed.

[0039] Additionally, in the case where the data is recorded on the magnetic tape according to the user's request while the data is played from the DVD, all the operations to detect the macrovision signal are performed in a same manner as if the copy mode is selected. However, the operation to detect the macrovision signal is different from the operation of the copy mode in that the DVD deck **121** is continuously driven to perform the playing operation even if the macrovision signal is detected.

[0040] FIG. 4 is a block diagram illustrating a DVDP/VCR combo system in accordance with a second embodiment of the present invention. In the second embodiment of the present invention, like reference symbols indicate the same or similar components shown in FIG. 2 and their detailed description will be omitted.

[0041] Unlike the first embodiment of FIG. 2 in which a macrovision detecting signal is transmitted to the VCR controller **114** through the DVD controller **123**, in the second embodiment of the present invention, the DVDP/VCR combo system **100** is provided with a macrovision detector **226** directly connected between the VCR controller **114** and the DVD deck **121**. Therefore, the macrovision signal detected by the macrovision detector **226** is directly transmitted to the VCR controller **114**. As a result, unlike the first embodiment shown in FIG. 2, one controller, controls the playing operation and the recording operation. In FIG. 2, the playing operation is controlled by the DVD controller **123** and the recording operation is controlled by the VCR controller **114**.

[0042] Furthermore, as another embodiment of the present invention, in addition to the combo system, a protocol established between a player, such as the DVDP, and a recorder, such as the VCR, is set using a cable to perform communication, so that a copy error between the player and the recorder can be prevented from occurring. That is, in a state where the protocol is set to mutually exchange the data and the control signals between the DVDP, to play the data recorded on the DVD, and the VCR, to record data on the magnetic tape, or to play the data recorded on the magnetic tape, a method of copying signals recorded on the DVD to the magnetic tape will be described below.

[0043] Generally, the DVDP includes the components of the DVDP 120 shown in FIG. 2. Specifically, the DVD controller 123 in the DVDP controls the operation of the DVDP and exchanges control signals and data with the VCR, the DVD deck 121 plays the data recorded on the DVD under the control of the DVD controller 123, and the macrovision detector 126 detects a macrovision signal included in the played signal.

[0044] Also, a general VCR includes the components of the VCR 110 shown in FIG. 2. Specifically, the VCR controller 114 in the VCR controls the operation of the VCR and exchanges control signals and data with the DVDP, and the VCR deck 111 plays the data recorded on the magnetic tape or records predetermined data on the magnetic tape under the control of the VCR controller 114. The VCR further includes the display block 116 to externally display the status of the VCR such as operational, control, and setting modes, the panel 117 to input various commands from the user, and the remote controller sensor 118 to input the commands from the user through a remote controller 180.

[0045] Therefore, if it is intended to copy the data recorded on the DVD on the magnetic tape using the individual DVDP and the individual VCR, the DVDP plays the data recorded on the DVD and detects the macrovision signal from the played signal. Then, the DVDP performs the playing operation while the VCR stops the recording operation. Thus, a copy error can be prevented from occurring by implementing the copy error preventing method of the combo system shown in FIG. 3. As described above, the combo system and the copy error preventing method thereof according to the present invention have, for instance, the following advantage: if the data recorded on the DVD having a copy preventing signal, such as a macrovision signal is copied onto the magnetic tape, unnecessary copying operation can be avoided and reliability in the operation of the combo system can be improved.

[0046] While the present invention has been described and illustrated herein with reference to the preferred embodiments thereof, it will be apparent to those skilled in the art that various modifications and variations can be made therein without departing from the spirit and scope of the invention. Thus, it is intended that the present invention covers the modifications and variations of this invention that come within the scope of the appended claims and their equivalents.

What is claimed is:

1. An apparatus for a system comprising a playback unit to read data recorded on a first recording medium and a

recording unit to record the data from the playback unit on a second recording medium, the apparatus comprising:

a detector to detect whether a predetermined copy preventing mechanism is provided for the data read by the playback unit; and

a controller to control the recording unit to stop a recording operation of the recording unit in response to the copy preventing mechanism being detected by the detector.

2. The apparatus according to claim 1, wherein the recording unit is a VCR unit to record the data on a magnetic tape.

3. The apparatus according to claim 1, wherein the playback unit is a DVD playback unit to reproduce the data recorded on a DVD.

4. The apparatus according to claim 1, further comprising a signal generator to generate a warning signal indicating the detection of the copy preventing mechanism.

5. The apparatus according to claim 4, wherein the warning signal is an audio signal.

6. The apparatus according to claim 4, wherein the signal generator comprises an on-screen display unit and the warning signal is output as a character, sign, text, or video signal for a display.

7. The apparatus according to claim 1, wherein the copy preventing mechanism is a macrovision signal and the detector detects the macrovision signal from the data read by the playback unit.

8. The apparatus according to claim 1, wherein the system is a combo system comprising the playback unit and the recording unit integrated into the combo system.

9. The apparatus according to claim 8, wherein the combo system further comprises a display unit to display a signal indicating the detection of the copy preventing mechanism.

10. The apparatus according to claim 1, wherein:

the playback unit is an external device with respect to a device comprising the recording unit and the apparatus, or

the recording unit is an external device with respect to a device comprising the playback unit and the apparatus.

11. The apparatus according to claim 10, wherein a protocol is established between the playback unit and the recording unit using a cable to perform communication.

12. The apparatus according to claim 1, wherein reproduction of the data by the playback unit is uninterrupted by the stopping of the recording operation.

13. The apparatus according to claim 1, wherein the data is a video and/or audio data.

14. An apparatus for a system comprising a playback unit to read video and/or audio data recorded on a first recording medium and a recording unit to record the video and/or audio data from the playback unit on a second recording medium, the apparatus comprising:

a detector to detect whether a predetermined copy preventing mechanism is provided for the video and/or audio data read by the playback unit; and

a signal generator to generate a warning signal indicating the detection of the copy preventing mechanism in response to a command requesting the recording unit to record the video and/or audio data on the second recording medium.

15. The apparatus according to claim 14, further comprising a controller to control the recording unit to stop a recording operation of the recording unit in response to the copy preventing mechanism being detected by the detector.

16. The apparatus according to claim 15, wherein the copy preventing mechanism is a macrovision signal and the detector detects the macrovision signal from the video and/or audio data read by the playback unit.

17. The apparatus according to claim 16, wherein the warning signal is an audio signal, and/or a character, sign, text, or video signal for a display.

18. An apparatus for a combo system comprising or receiving a first recording medium having a video and/or audio data recorded thereon and a second recording medium to record the video and/or audio data from the first recording medium, the apparatus comprising:

- a detector to detect whether a predetermined copy preventing mechanism is provided for the video and/or audio data from the first recording medium of the combo system; and

- a controller to stop a recording operation to record the video and/or audio data on the second recording medium of the combo system in response to the copy preventing mechanism being detected by the detector.

19. The apparatus according to claim 18, further comprising a signal generator to generate a warning signal indicating the detection of the copy preventing mechanism for the video and/or audio data.

20. The apparatus according to claim 19, wherein the copy preventing mechanism is a macrovision signal and the detector detects the macrovision signal from the video and/or audio data.

21. The apparatus according to claim 19, wherein the warning signal is an audio signal, and/or a character, sign, text, or video signal for a display.

22. The apparatus according to claim 19, wherein the first recording medium is an optical recording medium.

23. An apparatus for a combo system comprising or receiving a first recording medium having a video and/or audio data recorded thereon and a second recording medium to record the video and/or audio data from the first recording medium, the apparatus comprising:

- a detector to detect whether a predetermined copy preventing mechanism is provided for the video and/or audio data from the first recording medium of the combo system; and

- a signal generator to generate a warning signal indicating the detection of the copy preventing mechanism in response to a command requesting the video and/or audio data be recorded on the second recording medium.

24. The apparatus according to claim 23, wherein the copy preventing mechanism is a macrovision signal and the detector detects the macrovision signal from the video and/or audio data.

25. A system comprising:

- a playback unit to read video and/or audio data recorded on a first recording medium;

- a recording unit to record the video and/or audio data from the first recording medium on a second recording medium;

- a detector to detect whether a predetermined copy preventing mechanism is provided for the video and/or audio data read by the playback unit; and

- a controller to control the recording unit to stop a recording operation of the recording unit in response to the copy preventing mechanism being detected.

26. The system according to claim 25, further comprising a signal generator to generate a warning signal indicating the detection of the copy preventing mechanism.

27. The system according to claim 26, wherein the warning signal is an audio signal.

28. The system according to claim 26, wherein the signal generator comprises an on-screen display unit and the warning signal is output as a character, sign, text, or video signal for a display.

29. The system according to claim 28, wherein reproduction of the video and/or audio data for the display by the playback unit is uninterrupted by the stopping of the recording operation, and the warning signal is added to the video and/or audio data output to the display.

30. The system according to claim 26, further comprising a display unit to display the warning signal.

31. The system according to claim 25, wherein the copy preventing mechanism is a macrovision signal and the detector detects the macrovision signal from the video and/or audio data read by the playback unit.

32. The system according to claim 25, wherein:

- the playback unit is an external device with respect to a device comprising the recording unit, the detector, and the controller, or

- the recording unit is an external device with respect to a device comprising the playback unit, the detector, and the controller.

33. The system according to claim 32, wherein a protocol is established between the playback unit and the recording unit using a cable to perform communication.

34. The system according to claim 25, wherein the system is a combo system comprising the playback unit, recording unit, detector, and controller integrated into the combo system.

35. The system according to claim 34, further comprising an input unit to receive a video and/or audio data from an external device, wherein:

- the detector detects whether a corresponding copy preventing mechanism is provided for the video and/or audio data received from the external device, and

- the controller controls the recording unit to stop a recording to record the video and/or audio data of the external device on the second recording medium in response to the corresponding copy preventing mechanism being detected.

36. The system according to claim 34, wherein:

- the controller comprises a playback unit controller to control the playback unit and a recording unit controller to control the recording unit, and one of the playback and recording unit controllers is used as a main controller of the combo system.

37. The system according to claim 36, wherein the detector is connected between the playback unit and the recording unit controller, and one of the playback and recording unit controllers controls the reproduction and recording of the video and/or audio data.

38. The system according to claim 37, wherein the copy preventing mechanism is a macrovision signal and the macrovision signal from the detector is transmitted to the recording unit controller.

39. The system according to claim 36, wherein the playback unit comprises the detector, the playback unit controller controls the reproduction of the video and/or audio data, and the recording unit controller controls the recording of the video and/or audio data.

40. The system according to claim 25, wherein the playback unit is an optical recording medium playback unit.

41. The system according to claim 25, wherein the recording unit reproduces video and/or audio data recorded on the second recording medium in response to a playback command.

42. The system according to claim 25, wherein the detector is enabled when video and/or audio data recorded on the second recording medium is reproduced.

43. A system comprising:

a playback unit to read video and/or audio data recorded on a first recording medium;

a recording unit to record the video and/or audio data from the playback unit on a second recording medium;

a detector to detect whether a predetermined copy preventing mechanism is provided for the video and/or audio data read by the playback unit; and

a signal generator to generate a warning signal indicating the detection of the copy preventing mechanism in response to a command requesting the recording unit to record the video and/or audio data on the second recording medium.

44. The system according to claim 43, further comprising a controller to control the recording unit to stop a recording operation of the recording unit in response to the copy preventing mechanism being detected by the detector.

45. The system according to claim 44, wherein the copy preventing mechanism is a macrovision signal and the detector detects the macrovision signal from the video and/or audio data read by the playback unit.

46. The system according to claim 45, wherein the warning signal is an audio signal, and/or a character, sign, text, or video signal for a display.

47. A combo system comprising:

a detector to detect whether a predetermined copy preventing mechanism is provided for video and/or audio data from a first recording medium; and

a controller to stop a recording operation to record the video and/or audio data on a second recording medium in response to the copy preventing mechanism being detected by the detector, wherein the combo system receiving or further comprising:

the first recording medium having the video and/or audio data recorded thereon, and

the second recording medium to record the video and/or audio data from the first recording medium.

48. The combo system according to claim 47, further comprising a signal generator to generate a warning signal indicating the detection of the copy preventing mechanism for the video and/or audio data.

49. The combo system according to claim 48, wherein the copy preventing mechanism is a macrovision signal and the detector detects the macrovision signal from the video and/or audio data.

50. The combo system according to claim 48, wherein the warning signal is an audio signal, and/or a character, sign, text, or video signal for a display.

51. The combo system according to claim 48, wherein the first recording medium is an optical recording medium.

52. A combo system comprising:

a detector to detect whether a predetermined copy preventing mechanism is provided for video and/or audio data from a first recording medium; and

a signal generator to generate a warning signal indicating the detection of the copy preventing mechanism in response to a command requesting the video and/or audio data be recorded on a second recording medium, wherein the combo system receiving or further comprising:

the first recording medium having the video and/or audio data recorded thereon, and

the second recording medium to record the video and/or audio data from the first recording medium.

53. The combo system according to claim 52, wherein the copy preventing mechanism is a macrovision signal and the detector detects the macrovision signal from the video and/or audio data.

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