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(54) Title: METHOD AND SYSTEM FOR IDENTIFYING DEPTH DATA ASSOCIATED WITH AN OBJECT

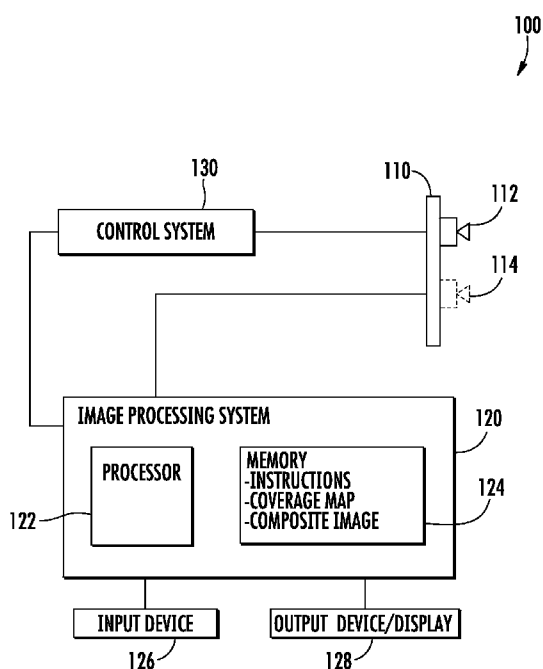


FIG. 1

(57) Abstract: Methods and systems for identifying depth data associated with an object are disclosed. The method includes capturing, with an image capturing device, a plurality of source images of the object. The image capturing device has a sensor that is tilted at a known angle with respect to an object plane of the object such that the image capturing device has a depth of field associated with each source image, the depth of field defining a plane that is angled with respect to the object plane. An image processor analyzes the plurality of source images to identify segments of the source images that satisfy an image quality metric. Position data is assigned to the identified segments of the source images, the position data including depth positions based on the plane defined by the depth of field.



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INTERNATIONAL SEARCH REPORT

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A. CLASSIFICATION OF SUBJECT MATTER

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USPC - 348/42, 47, 50; 382/154

According to International Patent Classification (IPC) or to both national classification and IPC

B. FIELDS SEARCHED

Minimum documentation searched (classification system followed by classification symbols)

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Documentation searched other than minimum documentation to the extent that such documents are included in the fields searched

Electronic data base consulted during the international search (name of data base and, where practicable, search terms used)

MicroPatent (US-G, US-A, EP-A, EP-B, WO, JP-bib, DE-C,B, DE-A, DE-T, DE-U, GB-A, FR-A); DialogPRO; IEEE; Google/Google Scholar; identifying*, depth*, object*, capturing*, image*, sensor*, tilted*, angle*, plane*, depth*, processor*, quality*, metric*, position*, field*

C. DOCUMENTS CONSIDERED TO BE RELEVANT

Category*	Citation of document, with indication, where appropriate, of the relevant passages	Relevant to claim No.
X ----- Y	US 2001/0019664 A1 (PILU, M) September 6, 2001, paragraphs [0006], [0007], [0040], [0041], [0042], [0044], [0047], [0059], [0060],	1, 6, 17, 18, 22 ----- 2-5, 7-16, 19-21
Y	US 7170559 B2 (TAKADA, K) January 30, 2007, Abstract	2, 19
Y	US 4053934 A (KORNREICH, PG et al.) October 11, 1977, Abstract, column 4, lines 3-7	3, 4, 20, 21
Y	US 5293415 A (HARTLEY, RI et al.) March 8, 1994, Abstract, Figure 5C	4, 21
Y	US 2009/0003698 A1 (MILWARD, T et al.) January 1, 2009, paragraph [0015]	5
Y	US 2003/0179418 A1 (WENGENDER, TG et al.) September 25, 2003, paragraph [0052]	7, 8
Y	US 2010/0245684 A1 (XIAO, J et al.) September 30, 2010, paragraph [0038]	10-12
Y	US 2010/0034457 A1 (BERLINER, T et al.) February 11, 2011, Abstract, paragraph [0039], claim 1	9-16
Y	US 2010/0085383 A1 (COHEN, M et al.) April 8, 2010, paragraphs [0013] and [0018]	13, 14 16
A	US 2011/0134224 A1 (McCLATCHIE, IR) June 9, 2011, entire document	1-22

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