Title: REPOSITIONING WINDOWS IN THE POP-UP WINDOW

Abstract: A dual-screen user device and methods for revealing a combination of desktops on single and multiple screens are disclosed. Selected desktops and/or running applications are displayed on dual screen displays. Desktops and applications can be shifted between screens by user gestures, and/or moved off of the screens and therefore hidden. Hidden desktops and screens can be re-displayed by yet other gestures. The desktops and applications are arranged in a window stack that represents a logical order of the desktops and applications providing a user with an intuitive ability to manage multiple applications-desktops running simultaneously. One user gesture launches an applications management window that provides visual indications of all of the applications and desktops running at the time, applications/desktops displayed on the screens. Other gestures can rearrange the order of all of the applications and desktops in the window stack.

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REPOSITIONING WINDOWS IN THE POP-UP WINDOW
CROSS REFERENCE TO RELATED APPLICATION

[0001] The present application claims the benefits of and priority, under 35 U.S.C. § 119(e), to U.S. Provisional Application Serial Nos. 61/389,000, filed October 1, 2010, entitled "DUAL DISPLAY WINDOWING SYSTEM;" 61/389,117, filed October 1, 2010, entitled "MULTI-OPERATING SYSTEM PORTABLE DOCKETING DEVICE;" 61/389,087, filed October 1, 2010, entitled "TABLET COMPUTING USER INTERFACE;" 61/458,150, filed November 17, 2010, entitled "Dual Screen Email Client;" 61/539,884, filed September 27, 2011, entitled "MOBILE DEVICE." Each of the aforementioned documents is incorporated herein by this reference in their entirety for all that they teach and for all purposes.

BACKGROUND

[0002] A substantial number of handheld computing devices, such as cellular phones, tablets, and E-Readers, make use of a touch screen display not only to deliver display information to the user but also to receive inputs from user interface commands. While touch screen displays may increase the configurability of the handheld device and provide a wide variety of user interface options, this flexibility typically comes at a price. The dual use of the touch screen to provide content and receive user commands, while flexible for the user, may obfuscate the display and cause visual clutter, thereby leading to user frustration and loss of productivity.

[0003] The small form factor of handheld computing devices requires a careful balancing between the displayed graphics and the area provided for receiving inputs. On the one hand, the small display constrains the display space, which may increase the difficulty of interpreting actions or results. On the other, a virtual keypad or other user interface scheme is superimposed on or positioned adjacent to an executing application, requiring the application to be squeezed into an even smaller portion of the display.

[0004] This balancing act is particularly difficult for single display touch screen devices. Single display touch screen devices are crippled by their limited screen space. When users are entering information into the device, through the single display, the ability to interpret information in the display can be severely hampered, particularly when a complex interaction between display and interface is required.
SUMMARY

[0005] There is a need for a dual multi-display handheld computing device that provides for enhanced power and/or versatility compared to conventional single display handheld computing devices. These and other needs are addressed by the various aspects, embodiments, and/or configurations of the present disclosure. Also, while the disclosure is presented in terms of exemplary embodiments, it should be appreciated that individual aspects of the disclosure can be separately claimed.

[0006] In one aspect of the invention according to one or more embodiments, it can be described as a method of displaying a plurality of desktops and/or applications, each having at least one window, on a multi-screen device, comprising: (i) receiving a first input that represents an instruction to reveal one of a desktop or application on a first screen of the multi-screen device; (ii) selecting a first desktop or application to display on the first screen; (iii) receiving a second input that represents an instruction to reveal one of a desktop or application on a second screen of the multi-screen device; (iv) selecting a second desktop or application to display on the second screen; (v) displaying the selected first and second desktops or applications on the first and second screens; (vi) receiving a third input that represents an instruction to launch an application manager feature; (vii) displaying the applications or desktops on the first and second screens, and displaying a management window showing all other applications or desktops currently running; (viii) determining a desired order for a window stack comprising the first and second applications or desktops, and said other applications or desktops; (ix) receiving a fourth input that represents an instruction to selectively move one of said first and second applications or desktops, or said other applications or desktops, within the window stack to a different position; and (x) displaying the window stack in a new order in response to said fourth input.

[0007] In another aspect of the invention according to one or more embodiments, it can be described as a non-transitory computer-readable medium having stored thereon instructions that cause a computing system to execute a method, the instructions comprising: (i) instructions configured to receive a first predetermined input that represents an instruction to determine and reveal a first desktop or application on a first screen of the multi-screen device; (ii) instructions configured to receive a second predetermined input that represents an instruction to determine and reveal a second
desktop or application on a second screen of the multi-screen device; (iii) instructions configured to respond to the first and second predetermined inputs with outputs that cause the first desktop or application to be displayed on the first screen and cause the second desktop or application to be displayed on the second screen; (iv) instructions configured to receive a third predetermined input that represents an instruction to launch an application manager feature; (v) instructions configured to respond to the third predetermined input that causes a display of a management window showing all other applications or desktops currently running; (vi) instructions configured to receive a fourth predetermined input that represents an instruction to selectively move one of said first and second applications or desktops, or said other applications or desktops, within the window stack to a different position; and (vii) instructions configured to respond to the fourth predetermined input that causes displaying of the window stack in a new order.

[0008] In yet another aspect of the invention according to one or more embodiments, it can be described as a multi-screen user device, comprising: (i) a first screen including a first display area; (ii) a second screen including a second display area; (iii) a first user input gesture area of the first screen; (iv) a second user input gesture area of the second screen, wherein the first and second user input gesture areas are configured to accept input from a user; (v) a computer-readable medium having instructions stored thereon that include: (1) a first set of instructions configured to determine a number and identity of desktops or applications selected to be run by a user; (2) a second set of instructions configured to determine, based on the number and identity of the desktops or applications running, a window stack comprising a logical representation of the desktops and applications within an ordered group whereby a user can selectively move a selected desktop or application to either a visible position on another screen or a non-visible position; (3) a third set of instructions responsive to a gesture made by the user that represents an instruction to launch an application manager feature, wherein the applications or desktops are displayed on the first and second screens, and a management window is displayed showing all other applications or desktops currently running; (4) a fourth set of instructions responsive to one or more gestures made by the user that represent an instruction to selectively move one of said first and second applications or desktops, or said other applications or desktops, within the window stack to a different position, and wherein the window stack is displayed in a new order in response to said fourth set of instructions.
The present disclosure can provide a number of advantages depending on the particular aspect, embodiment, and/or configuration. Currently, the consumer electronics industry is dominated by single-screen devices. Unfortunately, these devices are limited in the manner in which they can efficiently display information and receive user input. Specifically, multiple applications and desktops cannot be adequately shown on a single screen and require the user to constantly switch between displayed pages to access content from more than one application. Additionally, user input devices such as keyboards, touch-sensitive or capacitive displays, and hardware interface buttons are usually reduced in size to fit onto a single-screen device. Manipulating this type of device, and being forced to switch between multiple applications that only use one screen results in user fatigue, frustration, and in some cases repetitive motion injuries.

Recently, dual-screen devices have been made available to consumers of electronic devices. However, the currently available dual-screen devices have failed to adequately address the needs of the consumer. Although the devices include two screens in their design, they tend to incorporate the negative limitations of their single-screen counterparts. In particular, the typical dual-screen device limits the user interface to a particular screen, in some cases only providing a keyboard, or touch-sensitive/capacitive display, on one of the screens. Moreover, the management of the device's applications and desktops is limited to the traditional concepts of single-screen content switching. The present disclosure addresses the limitations of the traditional single/dual-screen devices and provides advantages in display, input, and content management.

At least one embodiment of the present disclosure describes a multi-screen device and methods for managing the display of content that allows the user a greater degree of creative latitude when operating the device. In particular, when a device is running an application or group of applications, the device is capable of detecting a user gesture input that can reveal a desktop on multiple screens of the device. This desktop can show a representation of different applications that the user can select. From this desktop, a user is able to launch applications or navigate between multiple desktop pages, including those that are displayed and those that are not. A user, or the device itself, may choose how and when to initiate the reveal desktop expansion, which may be determined by, but not limited to, a specific input detected, an output from another process, program or
hardware logic, software control, or combination thereof. The management of the displayed desktops may be directed by the device or the user. These and other advantages will be apparent from the disclosure. One particular feature of managing the display includes an application manager feature that may be launched by a user input gesture. As described more fully below, a user may manipulate the order of running desktops and applications so that the user can more easily display desired applications and desktops on the screens, and hiding others from view with the ability to easily re-display selected hidden applications and desktops that are still running.

[0012] The present disclosure can provide a number of advantages depending on the particular aspect, embodiment, and/or configuration. These and other advantages will be apparent from the disclosure.

[0013] The phrases "at least one", "one or more", and "and/or" are open-ended expressions that are both conjunctive and disjunctive in operation. For example, each of the expressions "at least one of A, B and C", "at least one of A, B, or C", "one or more of A, B, and C", "one or more of A, B, or C" and "A, B, and/or C" means A alone, B alone, C alone, A and B together, A and C together, B and C together, or A, B and C together.

[0014] The term "a" or "an" entity refers to one or more of that entity. As such, the terms "a" (or "an"), "one or more" and "at least one" can be used interchangeably herein. It is also to be noted that the terms "comprising", "including", and "having" can be used interchangeably.

[0015] The term "automatic" and variations thereof, as used herein, refers to any process or operation done without material human input when the process or operation is performed. However, a process or operation can be automatic, even though performance of the process or operation uses material or immaterial human input, if the input is received before performance of the process or operation. Human input is deemed to be material if such input influences how the process or operation will be performed. Human input that consents to the performance of the process or operation is not deemed to be "material".

[0016] The term "computer-readable medium" as used herein refers to any tangible storage and/or transmission medium that participate in providing instructions to a processor for execution. Such a medium may take many forms, including but not limited to, non-volatile media, volatile media, and transmission media. Non-volatile media
includes, for example, NVRAM, or magnetic or optical disks. Volatile media includes
dynamic memory, such as main memory. Common forms of computer-readable media
include, for example, a floppy disk, a flexible disk, hard disk, magnetic tape, or any other
magnetic medium, magneto-optical medium, a CD-ROM, any other optical medium,
punch cards, paper tape, any other physical medium with patterns of holes, a RAM, a
PROM, and EPROM, a FLASH-EPROM, a solid state medium like a memory card, any
other memory chip or cartridge, a carrier wave as described hereinafter, or any other
medium from which a computer can read. A digital file attachment to e-mail or other self-
contained information archive or set of archives is considered a distribution medium
equivalent to a tangible storage medium. When the computer-readable media is
configured as a database, it is to be understood that the database may be any type of
database, such as relational, hierarchical, object-oriented, and/or the like. Accordingly, the
disclosure is considered to include a tangible storage medium or distribution medium and
prior art-recognized equivalents and successor media, in which the software
implementations of the present disclosure are stored.

[0017] The term "desktop" refers to a metaphor used to portray systems. A desktop is
generally considered a "surface" that typically includes pictures, called icons, widgets,
folders, etc. that can activate show applications, windows, cabinets, files, folders,
documents, and other graphical items. The icons are generally selectable to initiate a task
through user interface interaction to allow a user to execute applications or conduct other
operations.

[0018] The term "screen," "touch screen," or "touchscreen" refers to a physical structure
that includes one or more hardware components that provide the device with the ability to
render a user interface and/or receive user input. A screen can encompass any combination
of gesture capture region, a touch sensitive display, and/or a configurable area. The device
can have one or more physical screens embedded in the hardware. However, a screen may
also include an external peripheral device that may be attached and detached from the
device. In embodiments, multiple external devices may be attached to the device. Thus,
in embodiments, the screen can enable the user to interact with the device by touching
areas on the screen and provides information to a user through a display. The touch screen
may sense user contact in a number of different ways, such as by a change in an electrical
parameter (e.g., resistance or capacitance), acoustic wave variations, infrared radiation
proximity detection, light variation detection, and the like. In a resistive touch screen, for example, normally separated conductive and resistive metallic layers in the screen pass an electrical current. When a user touches the screen, the two layers make contact in the contacted location, whereby a change in electrical field is noted and the coordinates of the contacted location calculated. In a capacitive touch screen, a capacitive layer stores electrical charge, which is discharged to the user upon contact with the touch screen, causing a decrease in the charge of the capacitive layer. The decrease is measured, and the contacted location coordinates determined. In a surface acoustic wave touch screen, an acoustic wave is transmitted through the screen, and the acoustic wave is disturbed by user contact. A receiving transducer detects the user contact instance and determines the contacted location coordinates.

[0019] The term "display" refers to a portion of one or more screens used to display the output of a computer to a user. A display may be a single-screen display or a multi-screen display, referred to as a composite display. A composite display can encompass the touch sensitive display of one or more screens. A single physical screen can include multiple displays that are managed as separate logical displays. Thus, different content can be displayed on the separate displays although part of the same physical screen.

[0020] The term "displayed image" refers to an image produced on the display. A typical displayed image is a window or desktop. The displayed image may occupy all or a portion of the display.

[0021] The term "display orientation" refers to the way in which a rectangular display is oriented by a user for viewing. The two most common types of display orientation are portrait and landscape. In landscape mode, the display is oriented such that the width of the display is greater than the height of the display (such as a 4:3 ratio, which is 4 units wide and 3 units tall, or a 16:9 ratio, which is 16 units wide and 9 units tall). Stated differently, the longer dimension of the display is oriented substantially horizontal in landscape mode while the shorter dimension of the display is oriented substantially vertical. In the portrait mode, by contrast, the display is oriented such that the width of the display is less than the height of the display. Stated differently, the shorter dimension of the display is oriented substantially horizontal in the portrait mode while the longer dimension of the display is oriented substantially vertical.
The term "composited display" refers to a logical structure that defines a display that can encompass one or more screens. A multi-screen display can be associated with a composite display that encompasses all the screens. The composite display can have different display characteristics based on the various orientations of the device.

The term "gesture" refers to a user action that expresses an intended idea, action, meaning, result, and/or outcome. The user action can include manipulating a device (e.g., opening or closing a device, changing a device orientation, moving a trackball or wheel, etc.), movement of a body part in relation to the device, movement of an implement or tool in relation to the device, audio inputs, etc. A gesture may be made on a device (such as on the screen) or with the device to interact with the device.

The term "module" as used herein refers to any known or later developed hardware, software, firmware, artificial intelligence, fuzzy logic, or combination of hardware and software that is capable of performing the functionality associated with that element.

The term "gesture capture" refers to a sense or otherwise a detection of an instance and/or type of user gesture. The gesture capture can occur in one or more areas of the screen. A gesture region can be on the display, where it may be referred to as a touch sensitive display or off the display where it may be referred to as a gesture capture area.

A "multi-screen application" refers to an application that is capable of multiple modes. The multi-screen application mode can include, but is not limited to, a single screen mode (where the application is displayed on a single screen) or a composite display mode (where the application is displayed on two or more screens). A multi-screen application can have different layouts optimized for the mode. Thus, the multi-screen application can have different layouts for a single screen or for a composite display that can encompass two or more screens. The different layouts may have different screen/display dimensions and/or configurations on which the user interfaces of the multi-screen applications can be rendered. The different layouts allow the application to optimize the application's user interface for the type of display, e.g., single screen or multiple screens. In single screen mode, the multi-screen application may present one window pane of information. In a composite display mode, the multi-screen application may present multiple window panes of information or may provide a larger and a richer
presentation because there is more space for the display contents. The multi-screen applications may be designed to adapt dynamically to changes in the device and the mode depending on which display (single or composite) the system assigns to the multi-screen application. In alternative embodiments, the user can use a gesture to request the application transition to a different mode, and, if a display is available for the requested mode, the device can allow the application to move to that display and transition modes.

[0027] A "single-screen application" refers to an application that is capable of single screen mode. Thus, the single-screen application can produce only one window and may not be capable of different modes or different display dimensions. A single-screen application is incapable of the several modes discussed with the multi-screen application.

[0028] The term "window" refers to a, typically rectangular, displayed image on at least part of a display that contains or provides content different from the rest of the screen. The window may obscure the desktop.

[0029] The terms "determine", "calculate" and "compute," and variations thereof, as used herein, are used interchangeably and include any type of methodology, process, mathematical operation or technique.

[0030] It shall be understood that the term "means" as used herein shall be given its broadest possible interpretation in accordance with 35 U.S.C., Section 112, Paragraph 6. Accordingly, a claim incorporating the term "means" shall cover all structures, materials, or acts set forth herein, and all of the equivalents thereof. Further, the structures, materials or acts and the equivalents thereof shall include all those described in the summary of the invention, brief description of the drawings, detailed description, abstract, and claims themselves.

[0031] The preceding is a simplified summary of the disclosure to provide an understanding of some aspects of the disclosure. This summary is neither an extensive nor exhaustive overview of the disclosure and its various aspects, embodiments, and/or configurations. It is intended neither to identify key or critical elements of the disclosure nor to delineate the scope of the disclosure but to present selected concepts of the disclosure in a simplified form as an introduction to the more detailed description presented below. As will be appreciated, other aspects, embodiments, and/or configurations of the disclosure are possible utilizing, alone or in combination, one or more of the features set forth above or described in detail below.
BRIEF DESCRIPTION OF THE DRAWINGS

[0032] FIG. 1A includes a first view of an embodiment of a multi-screen user device;

[0033] FIG. 1B includes a second view of an embodiment of a multi-screen user device;

[0034] FIG. 1C includes a third view of an embodiment of a multi-screen user device;

[0035] FIG. 1D includes a fourth view of an embodiment of a multi-screen user device;

[0036] FIG. 1E includes a fifth view of an embodiment of a multi-screen user device;

[0037] FIG. 1F includes a sixth view of an embodiment of a multi-screen user device;

[0038] FIG. 1G includes a seventh view of an embodiment of a multi-screen user device;

[0039] FIG. 1H includes an eighth view of an embodiment of a multi-screen user device;

[0040] FIG. 1I includes a ninth view of an embodiment of a multi-screen user device;

[0041] FIG. 1J includes a tenth view of an embodiment of a multi-screen user device;

[0042] FIG. 2 is a block diagram of an embodiment of the hardware of the device;

[0043] FIG. 3A is a block diagram of an embodiment of the state model for the device based on the device's orientation and/or configuration;

[0044] FIG. 3B is a table of an embodiment of the state model for the device based on the device's orientation and/or configuration;

[0045] FIG. 4A is a first representation of an embodiment of user gesture received at a device;

[0046] FIG. 4B is a second representation of an embodiment of user gesture received at a device;

[0047] FIG. 4C is a third representation of an embodiment of user gesture received at a device;

[0048] FIG. 4D is a fourth representation of an embodiment of user gesture received at a device;

[0049] FIG. 4E is a fifth representation of an embodiment of user gesture received at a device;

[0050] FIG. 4F is a sixth representation of an embodiment of user gesture received at a device;

[0051] FIG. 4G is a seventh representation of an embodiment of user gesture received at a device;
FIG. 4H is an eighth representation of an embodiment of user gesture received at a device;
FIG. 5A is a block diagram of an embodiment of the device software and/or firmware;
FIG. 5B is a second block diagram of an embodiment of the device software and/or firmware;
FIG. 6A is a first representation of an embodiment of a device configuration generated in response to the device state;
FIG. 6B is a second representation of an embodiment of a device configuration generated in response to the device state;
FIG. 6C is a third representation of an embodiment of a device configuration generated in response to the device state;
FIG. 6D is a fourth representation of an embodiment of a device configuration generated in response to the device state;
FIG. 6E is a fifth representation of an embodiment of a device configuration generated in response to the device state;
FIG. 6F is a sixth representation of an embodiment of a device configuration generated in response to the device state;
FIG. 6G is a seventh representation of an embodiment of a device configuration generated in response to the device state;
FIG. 6H is an eighth representation of an embodiment of a device configuration generated in response to the device state;
FIG. 6I is a ninth representation of an embodiment of a device configuration generated in response to the device state;
FIG. 6J is a tenth representation of an embodiment of a device configuration generated in response to the device state;
FIG. 7A is representation of a logical window stack;
FIG. 7B is another representation of an embodiment of a logical window stack;
FIG. 7C is another representation of an embodiment of a logical window stack;
FIG. 7D is another representation of an embodiment of a logical window stack;
FIG. 7E is another representation of an embodiment of a logical window stack;
FIG. 8 is block diagram of an embodiment of a logical data structure for a window stack;
FIG. 9 is a flow chart of an embodiment of a method for creating a window stack;
FIG. 10A depicts a first display state of an open device with a depiction of executing a spread gesture to launch an application manager;
FIG. 10B depicts a second display state of an open device with the application manager launched in the form of a separate window or tray that depicts the non-displayed applications and/or desktops running on the device, and also depicting the stack arrangement of the non-displayed applications and/or desktops; this Figure 10B also displays execution of a user gesture to rearrange the order of the window stack by a gesture executed on the primary screen;
FIG. 10C depicts a third display state of an open device after execution of the gesture in FIG. 10B, and also another spread gesture to re-launch the application manager;
FIG. 10D shows a fourth display state of the open device in which the application manager is launched and the non-displayed applications and/or desktops running on the device are shown in the manager window or tray in a new order based on the user gesture executed in FIG. 10B;
FIG. 10E depicts a first display state of an open device in another embodiment with a depiction of executing a spread gesture to launch an application manager;
FIG. 10F depicts a second display state of the open device of FIG. 10E with the application manager launched showing the manager window or tray that depicts the non-displayed applications and/or desktops running on the device, and also showing the stack arrangement of the non-displayed applications and/or desktops; this Figure 10F also displays execution of a user gesture to rearrange the order of the window stack by a gesture executed within the application manager to move a non-displayed application or desktop onto the primary screen;
FIG. 10G depicts a third display state of the open device of FIG. 10E after execution of the gesture in FIG 10F, and also another spread gesture to re-launch the application manager;
FIG. 10H shows a fourth display state of the open device of FIG 10E in which the application manager is launched and the non-displayed applications and/or desktops running on the device are shown in a new order based on the user gesture executed in FIG. 10F;

Figure 10I displays a first display state of an open device in yet another embodiment with the application manager launched showing the manager window or tray with multiple applications/desktops, and showing execution of a user gesture in the form of a drag gesture to rearrange the order of the window stack;

FIG 10J displays a second display state of the open device of Figure 10I with the application manager launched showing the manager window or tray with the multiple applications/desktops, and showing execution of another user gesture in the form of a drag gesture to further rearrange the order of the window stack;

FIG 10K displays a third display state of the open device of Figure 10I with the application manager launched showing the manager window or tray with the multiple applications/desktops, and showing execution of yet another user gesture in the form of a tap gesture to further rearrange the order of the window stack in which the gesture opens the corresponding application/desktop in a predetermined screen;

FIG 10L displays a fourth display state of the open device of Figure 10I showing the new application displayed in the primary screen and the application manager closed; this Figure further depicts execution of another spread gesture to re-launch the application manager;

FIG. 10M displays a fifth display state of the open device of Figure 10I in which the manager window or tray shows the new window stack order responsive to the previous user gestures that rearranged the window stack; and

FIG. 11 shows a flow diagram depicting logic for executing rearrangement of a selected window stack.

In the appended figures, similar components and/or features may have the same reference label. Further, various components of the same type may be distinguished by following the reference label by a letter that distinguishes among the similar components. If only the first reference label is used in the specification, the description is applicable to any one of the similar components having the same first reference label irrespective of the second reference label.
DETAILED DESCRIPTION

[0087] Presented herein are embodiments of a device. The device can be a communications device, such as a cellular telephone, or other smart device. The device can include two screens that are oriented to provide several unique display configurations. Further, the device can receive user input in unique ways. The overall design and functionality of the device provides for an enhanced user experience making the device more useful and more efficient.

[0088] Mechanical Features:

[0089] Figs. 1A-1J illustrate a device 100 in accordance with embodiments of the present disclosure. As described in greater detail below, device 100 can be positioned in a number of different ways each of which provides different functionality to a user. The device 100 is a multi-screen device that includes a primary screen 104 and a secondary screen 108, both of which are touch sensitive. In embodiments, the entire front surface of screens 104 and 108 may be touch sensitive and capable of receiving input by a user touching the front surface of the screens 104 and 108. Primary screen 104 includes touch sensitive display 110, which, in addition to being touch sensitive, also displays information to a user. Secondary screen 108 includes touch sensitive display 114, which also displays information to a user. In other embodiments, screens 104 and 108 may include more than one display area.

[0090] Primary screen 104 also includes a configurable area 112 that has been configured for specific inputs when the user touches portions of the configurable area 112. Secondary screen 108 also includes a configurable area 116 that has been configured for specific inputs. Areas 112a and 116a have been configured to receive a "back" input indicating that a user would like to view information previously displayed. Areas 112b and 116b have been configured to receive a "menu" input indicating that the user would like to view options from a menu. Areas 112c and 116c have been configured to receive a "home" input indicating that the user would like to view information associated with a "home" view. In other embodiments, areas 112a-c and 116a-c may be configured, in addition to the configurations described above, for other types of specific inputs including controlling features of device 100, some non-limiting examples including adjusting overall system power, adjusting the volume, adjusting the brightness, adjusting the vibration, selecting of displayed items (on either of screen 104 or 108), operating a camera,
operating a microphone, and initiating/terminating of telephone calls. Also, in some embodiments, areas 112a-C and 116a-C may be configured for specific inputs depending upon the application running on device 100 and/or information displayed on touch sensitive displays 110 and/or 114.

[0091] In addition to touch sensing, primary screen 104 and secondary screen 108 may also include areas that receive input from a user without requiring the user to touch the display area of the screen. For example, primary screen 104 includes gesture capture area 120, and secondary screen 108 includes gesture capture area 124. These areas are able to receive input by recognizing gestures made by a user without the need for the user to actually touch the surface of the display area. In comparison to touch sensitive displays 110 and 114, the gesture capture areas 120 and 124 are commonly not capable of rendering a displayed image.

[0092] The two screens 104 and 108 are connected together with a hinge 128, shown clearly in Fig. 1C (illustrating a back view of device 100). Hinge 128, in the embodiment shown in Figs. 1A-1J, is a center hinge that connects screens 104 and 108 so that when the hinge is closed, screens 104 and 108 are juxtaposed (i.e., side-by-side) as shown in Fig. 1B (illustrating a front view of device 100). Hinge 128 can be opened to position the two screens 104 and 108 in different relative positions to each other. As described in greater detail below, the device 100 may have different functionalities depending on the relative positions of screens 104 and 108.

[0093] Fig. 1D illustrates the right side of device 100. As shown in Fig. 1D, secondary screen 108 also includes a card slot 132 and a port 136 on its side. Card slot 132 in embodiments, accommodates different types of cards including a subscriber identity module (SIM). Port 136 in embodiments is an input/output port (I/O port) that allows device 100 to be connected to other peripheral devices, such as a display, keyboard, or printing device. As can be appreciated, these are merely some examples and in other embodiments device 100 may include other slots and ports such as slots and ports for accommodating additional memory devices and/or for connecting other peripheral devices. Also shown in Fig. 1D is an audio jack 140 that accommodates a tip, ring, sleeve (TRS) connector for example to allow a user to utilize headphones or a headset.

[0094] Device 100 also includes a number of buttons 158. For example, Fig. 1E illustrates the left side of device 100. As shown in Fig. 1E, the side of primary screen 104
includes three buttons 144, 148, and 152, which can be configured for specific inputs. For example, buttons 144, 148, and 152 may be configured to, in combination or alone, control a number of aspects of device 100. Some non-limiting examples include overall system power, volume, brightness, vibration, selection of displayed items (on either of screen 104 or 108), a camera, a microphone, and initiation/termination of telephone calls. In some embodiments, instead of separate buttons two buttons may be combined into a rocker button. This arrangement is useful in situations where the buttons are configured to control features such as volume or brightness. In addition to buttons 144, 148, and 152, device 100 also includes a button 156, shown in Fig. IF, which illustrates the top of device 100. In one embodiment, button 156 is configured as an on/off button used to control overall system power to device 100. In other embodiments, button 156 is configured to, in addition to or in lieu of controlling system power, control other aspects of device 100. In some embodiments, one or more of the buttons 144, 148, 152, and 156 are capable of supporting different user commands. By way of example, a normal press has a duration commonly of less than about 1 second and resembles a quick tap. A medium press has a duration commonly of 1 second or more but less than about 12 seconds. A long press has a duration commonly of about 12 seconds or more. The function of the buttons is normally specific to the application that is currently in focus on the respective display 110 and 114. In a telephone application for instance and depending on the particular button, a normal, medium, or long press can mean end call, increase in call volume, decrease in call volume, and toggle microphone mute. In a camera or video application for instance and depending on the particular button, a normal, medium, or long press can mean increase zoom, decrease zoom, and take photograph or record video.

[0095] There are also a number of hardware components within device 100. As illustrated in Fig. 1C, device 100 includes a speaker 160 and a microphone 164. Device 100 also includes a camera 168 (Fig. 1B). Additionally, device 100 includes two position sensors 172A and 172B, which are used to determine the relative positions of screens 104 and 108. In one embodiment, position sensors 172A and 172B are Hall effect sensors. However, in other embodiments other sensors can be used in addition to or in lieu of the Hall effect sensors. An accelerometer 176 may also be included as part of device 100 to determine the orientation of the device 100 and/or the orientation of screens 104 and 108.
Additional internal hardware components that may be included in device 100 are described below with respect to Fig. 2.

[0096] The overall design of device 100 allows it to provide additional functionality not available in other communication devices. Some of the functionality is based on the various positions and orientations that device 100 can have. As shown in Figs. 1B-1G, device 100 can be operated in an "open" position where screens 104 and 108 are juxtaposed. This position allows a large display area for displaying information to a user. When position sensors 172A and 172B determine that device 100 is in the open position, they can generate a signal that can be used to trigger different events such as displaying information on both screens 104 and 108. Additional events may be triggered if accelerometer 176 determines that device 100 is in a portrait position (Fig. 1B) as opposed to a landscape position (not shown).

[0097] In addition to the open position, device 100 may also have a "closed" position illustrated in Fig. 1H. Again, position sensors 172A and 172B can generate a signal indicating that device 100 is in the "closed" position. This can trigger an event that results in a change of displayed information on screen 104 and/or 108. For example, device 100 may be programmed to stop displaying information on one of the screens, e.g., screen 108, since a user can only view one screen at a time when device 100 is in the "closed" position. In other embodiments, the signal generated by position sensors 172A and 172B, indicating that the device 100 is in the "closed" position, can trigger device 100 to answer an incoming telephone call. The "closed" position can also be a preferred position for utilizing the device 100 as a mobile phone.

[0098] Device 100 can also be used in an "easel" position which is illustrated in Fig. II. In the "easel" position, screens 104 and 108 are angled with respect to each other and facing outward with the edges of screens 104 and 108 substantially horizontal. In this position, device 100 can be configured to display information on both screens 104 and 108 to allow two users to simultaneously interact with device 100. When device 100 is in the "easel" position, sensors 172A and 172B generate a signal indicating that the screens 104 and 108 are positioned at an angle to each other, and the accelerometer 176 can generate a signal indicating that device 100 has been placed so that the edge of screens 104 and 108 are substantially horizontal. The signals can then be used in combination to generate events that trigger changes in the display of information on screens 104 and 108.
Fig. 1J illustrates device 100 in a "modified easel" position. In the "modified easel" position, one of screens 104 or 108 is used as a stand and is faced down on the surface of an object such as a table. This position provides a convenient way for information to be displayed to a user in landscape orientation. Similar to the easel position, when device 100 is in the "modified easel" position, position sensors 172A and 172B generate a signal indicating that the screens 104 and 108 are positioned at an angle to each other. The accelerometer 176 would generate a signal indicating that device 100 has been positioned so that one of screens 104 and 108 is faced downwardly and is substantially horizontal. The signals can then be used to generate events that trigger changes in the display of information of screens 104 and 108. For example, information may not be displayed on the screen that is face down since a user cannot see the screen. Transitional states are also possible. When the position sensors 172A and B and/or accelerometer indicate that the screens are being closed or folded (from open), a closing transitional state is recognized. Conversely when the position sensors 172A and B indicate that the screens are being opened or folded (from closed), an opening transitional state is recognized. The closing and opening transitional states are typically time-based, or have a maximum time duration from a sensed starting point. Normally, no user input is possible when one of the closing and opening states is in effect. In this manner, incidental user contact with a screen during the closing or opening function is not misinterpreted as user input. In embodiments, another transitional state is possible when the device 100 is closed. This additional transitional state allows the display to switch from one screen 104 to the second screen 108 when the device 100 is closed based on some user input, e.g., a double tap on the screen 110,114.

As can be appreciated, the description of device 100 is made for illustrative purposes only, and the embodiments are not limited to the specific mechanical features shown in Figs. 1A-1J and described above. In other embodiments, device 100 may include additional features, including one or more additional buttons, slots, display areas, hinges, and/or locking mechanisms. Additionally, in embodiments, the features described above may be located in different parts of device 100 and still provide similar functionality. Therefore, Figs. 1A-1J and the description provided above are nonlimiting.

Hardware Features:
[00103] Fig. 2 illustrates components of a device 100 in accordance with embodiments of the present disclosure. In general, the device 100 includes a primary screen 104 and a secondary screen 108. While the primary screen 104 and its components are normally enabled in both the opened and closed positions or states, the secondary screen 108 and its components are normally enabled in the opened state but disabled in the closed state. However, even when in the closed state a user or application triggered interrupt (such as in response to a phone application or camera application operation) can flip the active screen, or disable the primary screen 104 and enable the secondary screen 108, by a suitable command. Each screen 104, 108 can be touch sensitive and can include different operative areas. For example, a first operative area, within each touch sensitive screen 104 and 108, may comprise a touch sensitive display 110, 114. In general, the touch sensitive display 110, 114 may comprise a full color, touch sensitive display. A second area within each touch sensitive screen 104 and 108 may comprise a gesture capture region 120, 124. The gesture capture region 120, 124 may comprise an area or region that is outside of the touch sensitive display 110, 114 area, and that is capable of receiving input, for example in the form of gestures provided by a user. However, the gesture capture region 120, 124 does not include pixels that can perform a display function or capability.

[00104] A third region of the touch sensitive screens 104 and 108 may comprise a configurable area 112, 116. The configurable area 112, 116 is capable of receiving input and has display or limited display capabilities. In embodiments, the configurable area 112, 116 may present different input options to the user. For example, the configurable area 112, 116 may display buttons or other relatable items. Moreover, the identity of displayed buttons, or whether any buttons are displayed at all within the configurable area 112, 116 of a touch sensitive screen 104 or 108, may be determined from the context in which the device 100 is used and/or operated. In an exemplary embodiment, the touch sensitive screens 104 and 108 comprise liquid crystal display devices extending across at least those regions of the touch sensitive screens 104 and 108 that are capable of providing visual output to a user, and a capacitive input matrix over those regions of the touch sensitive screens 104 and 108 that are capable of receiving input from the user.

[00105] One or more display controllers 216a, 216b may be provided for controlling the operation of the touch sensitive screens 104 and 108, including input (touch sensing) and output (display) functions. In the exemplary embodiment illustrated in Fig. 2, a separate
touch screen controller 216a or 216b is provided for each touch screen 104 and 108. In accordance with alternate embodiments, a common or shared touch screen controller 216 may be used to control each of the included touch sensitive screens 104 and 108. In accordance with still other embodiments, the functions of a touch screen controller 216 may be incorporated into other components, such as a processor 204.

[00106] The processor 204 may comprise a general purpose programmable processor or controller for executing application programming or instructions. In accordance with at least some embodiments, the processor 204 may include multiple processor cores, and/or implement multiple virtual processors. In accordance with still other embodiments, the processor 204 may include multiple physical processors. As a particular example, the processor 204 may comprise a specially configured application specific integrated circuit (ASIC) or other integrated circuit, a digital signal processor, a controller, a hardwired electronic or logic circuit, a programmable logic device or gate array, a special purpose computer, or the like. The processor 204 generally functions to run programming code or instructions implementing various functions of the device 100.

[00107] A communication device 100 may also include memory 208 for use in connection with the execution of application programming or instructions by the processor 204, and for the temporary or long term storage of program instructions and/or data. As examples, the memory 208 may comprise RAM, DRAM, SDRAM, or other solid state memory. Alternatively or in addition, data storage 212 may be provided. Like the memory 208, the data storage 212 may comprise a solid state memory device or devices. Alternatively or in addition, the data storage 212 may comprise a hard disk drive or other random access memory.

[00108] In support of communications functions or capabilities, the device 100 can include a cellular telephony module 228. As examples, the cellular telephony module 228 can comprise a GSM, CDMA, FDMA and/or analog cellular telephony transceiver capable of supporting voice, multimedia and/or data transfers over a cellular network. Alternatively or in addition, the device 100 can include an additional or other wireless communications module 232. As examples, the other wireless communications module 232 can comprise a Wi-Fi, BLUETOOTH TM, WiMax, infrared, or other wireless communications link. The cellular telephony module 228 and the other wireless
communications module 232 can each be associated with a shared or a dedicated antenna 224.

A port interface 252 may be included. The port interface 252 may include proprietary or universal ports to support the interconnection of the device 100 to other devices or components, such as a dock, which may or may not include additional or different capabilities from those integral to the device 100. In addition to supporting an exchange of communication signals between the device 100 and another device or component, the docking port 136 and/or port interface 252 can support the supply of power to or from the device 100. The port interface 252 also comprises an intelligent element that comprises a docking module for controlling communications or other interactions between the device 100 and a connected device or component.

An input/output module 248 and associated ports may be included to support communications over wired networks or links, for example with other communication devices, server devices, and/or peripheral devices. Examples of an input/output module 248 include an Ethernet port, a Universal Serial Bus (USB) port, Institute of Electrical and Electronics Engineers (IEEE) 1394, or other interface.

An audio input/output interface/device(s) 244 can be included to provide analog audio to an interconnected speaker or other device, and to receive analog audio input from a connected microphone or other device. As an example, the audio input/output interface/device(s) 244 may comprise an associated amplifier and analog to digital converter. Alternatively or in addition, the device 100 can include an integrated audio input/output device 256 and/or an audio jack for interconnecting an external speaker or microphone. For example, an integrated speaker and an integrated microphone can be provided, to support near talk or speaker phone operations.

Hardware buttons 158 can be included for example for use in connection with certain control operations. Examples include a master power switch, volume control, etc., as described in conjunction with Figs. 1A through 1J. One or more image capture interfaces/devices 240, such as a camera, can be included for capturing still and/or video images. Alternatively or in addition, an image capture interface/device 240 can include a scanner or code reader. An image capture interface/device 240 can include or be associated with additional elements, such as a flash or other light source.
[00113] The device 100 can also include a global positioning system (GPS) receiver 236. In accordance with embodiments of the present invention, the GPS receiver 236 may further comprise a GPS module that is capable of providing absolute location information to other components of the device 100. An accelerometer(s) 176 may also be included. For example, in connection with the display of information to a user and/or other functions, a signal from the accelerometer 176 can be used to determine an orientation and/or format in which to display that information to the user.

[00114] Embodiments of the present invention can also include one or more position sensor(s) 172. The position sensor 172 can provide a signal indicating the position of the touch sensitive screens 104 and 108 relative to one another. This information can be provided as an input, for example to a user interface application, to determine an operating mode, characteristics of the touch sensitive displays 110, 114, and/or other device 100 operations. As examples, a screen position sensor 172 can comprise a series of Hall effect sensors, a multiple position switch, an optical switch, a Wheatstone bridge, a potentiometer, or other arrangement capable of providing a signal indicating of multiple relative positions the touch screens are in.

[00115] Communications between various components of the device 100 can be carried by one or more buses 222. In addition, power can be supplied to the components of the device 100 from a power source and/or power control module 260. The power control module 260 can, for example, include a battery, an AC to DC converter, power control logic, and/or ports for interconnecting the device 100 to an external source of power.

[00116] Device State:

[00117] Figs. 3A and 3B represent illustrative states of device 100. While a number of illustrative states are shown, and transitions from a first state to a second state, it is to be appreciated that the illustrative state diagram may not encompass all possible states and/or all possible transitions from a first state to a second state. As illustrated in Fig. 3, the various arrows between the states (illustrated by the state represented in the circle) represent a physical change that occurs to the device 100, that is detected by one or more of hardware and software, the detection triggering one or more of a hardware and/or software interrupt that is used to control and/or manage one or more functions of device 100.
[00118] As illustrated in Fig. 3A, there are twelve exemplary “physical” states: closed 304, transition 308 (or opening transitional state), easel 312, modified easel 316, open 320, inbound/outbound call or communication 324, image/video capture 328, transition 332 (or closing transitional state), landscape 340, docked 336, docked 344 and landscape 348. Next to each illustrative state is a representation of the physical state of the device 100 with the exception of states 324 and 328, where the state is generally symbolized by the international icon for a telephone and the icon for a camera, respectfully.

[00119] In state 304, the device is in a closed state with the device 100 generally oriented in the portrait direction with the primary screen 104 and the secondary screen 108 back-to-back in different planes (see Fig. 1H). From the closed state, the device 100 can enter, for example, docked state 336, where the device 100 is coupled with a docking station, docking cable, or in general docked or associated with one or more other devices or peripherals, or the landscape state 340, where the device 100 is generally oriented with the primary screen 104 facing the user, and the primary screen 104 and the secondary screen 108 being back-to-back.

[00120] In the closed state, the device can also move to a transitional state where the device remains closed but the display is moved from one screen 104 to another screen 108 based on a user input, e.g., a double tap on the screen 110, 114. Still another embodiment includes a bilateral state. In the bilateral state, the device remains closed, but a single application displays at least one window on both the first display 110 and the second display 114. The windows shown on the first and second display 110, 114 may be the same or different based on the application and the state of that application. For example, while acquiring an image with a camera, the device may display the view finder on the first display 110 and displays a preview for the photo subjects (full screen and mirrored left-to-right) on the second display 114.

[00121] In state 308, a transition state from the closed state 304 to the semi-open state or easel state 312, the device 100 is shown opening with the primary screen 104 and the secondary screen 108 being rotated around a point of axis coincidence with the hinge. Upon entering the easel state 312, the primary screen 104 and the secondary screen 108 are separated from one another such that, for example, the device 100 can sit in an easel-like configuration on a surface.
In state 316, known as the modified easel position, the device 100 has the primary screen 104 and the secondary screen 108 in a similar relative relationship to one another as in the easel state 312, with the difference being one of the primary screen 104 or the secondary screen 108 are placed on a surface as shown.

State 320 is the open state where the primary screen 104 and the secondary screen 108 are generally on the same plane. From the open state, the device 100 can transition to the docked state 344 or the open landscape state 348. In the open state 320, the primary screen 104 and the secondary screen 108 are generally in the portrait-like orientation while in landscaped state 348 the primary screen 104 and the secondary screen 108 are generally in a landscape-like orientation.

State 324 is illustrative of a communication state, such as when an inbound or outbound call is being received or placed, respectively, by the device 100. While not illustrated for clarity, it should be appreciated the device 100 can transition to the inbound/outbound call state 324 from any state illustrated in Fig. 3. In a similar manner, the image/video capture state 328 can be entered into from any other state in Fig. 3, with the image/video capture state 328 allowing the device 100 to take one or more images via a camera and/or videos with a video capture device 240.

Transition state 322 illustratively shows primary screen 104 and the secondary screen 108 being closed upon one another for entry into, for example, the closed state 304.

Fig. 3B illustrates, with reference to the key, the inputs that are received to detect a transition from a first state to a second state. In Fig. 3B, various combinations of states are shown with in general, a portion of the columns being directed toward a portrait state 352, a landscape state 356, and a portion of the rows being directed to portrait state 360 and landscape state 364.

In Fig. 3B, the Key indicates that "H" represents an input from one or more Hall Effect sensors, "A" represents an input from one or more accelerometers, "T" represents an input from a timer, "P" represents a communications trigger input and "I" represents an image and/or video capture request input. Thus, in the center portion 376 of the chart, an input, or combination of inputs, are shown that represent how the device 100 detects a transition from a first physical state to a second physical state.

As discussed, in the center portion of the chart 376, the inputs that are received enable the detection of a transition from, for example, a portrait open state to a landscape
easel state - shown in bold - "HAT." For this exemplary transition from the portrait open to the landscape easel state, a Hall Effect sensor ("H"), an accelerometer ("A") and a timer ("T") input may be needed. The timer input can be derived from, for example, a clock associated with the processor.

[0107] In addition to the portrait and landscape states, a docked state 368 is also shown that is triggered based on the receipt of a docking signal 372. As discussed above and in relation to Fig. 3, the docking signal can be triggered by the association of the device 100 with one or more other device 100s, accessories, peripherals, smart docks, or the like.

[0108] User Interaction:

[0109] Figs. 4A through 4H depict various graphical representations of gesture inputs that may be recognized by the screens 104, 108. The gestures may be performed not only by a user's body part, such as a digit, but also by other devices, such as a stylus, that may be sensed by the contact sensing portion(s) of a screen 104, 108. In general, gestures are interpreted differently, based on where the gestures are performed (either directly on the display 110, 114 or in the gesture capture region 120, 124). For example, gestures in the display 110,114 may be directed to a desktop or application, and gestures in the gesture capture region 120, 124 may be interpreted as for the system.

[0110] With reference to Figs. 4A-4H, a first type of gesture, a touch gesture 420, is substantially stationary on the screen 104,108 for a selected length of time. A circle 428 represents a touch or other contact type received at a particular location of a contact sensing portion of the screen. The circle 428 may include a border 432, the thickness of which indicates a length of time that the contact is held substantially stationary at the contact location. For instance, a tap 420 (or short press) has a thinner border 432a than the border 432b for a long press 424 (or for a normal press). The long press 424 may involve a contact that remains substantially stationary on the screen for a longer time period than that of a tap 420. As will be appreciated, differently defined gestures may be registered depending upon the length of time that the touch remains stationary prior to contact cessation or movement on the screen.

[0111] With reference to Fig. 4C, a drag gesture 400 on the screen 104,108 is an initial contact (represented by circle 428) with contact movement 436 in a selected direction. The initial contact 428 may remain stationary on the screen 104,108 for a certain amount of time represented by the border 432. The drag gesture typically requires the user to contact
an icon, window, or other displayed image at a first location followed by movement of the contact in a drag direction to a new second location desired for the selected displayed image. The contact movement need not be in a straight line but have any path of movement so long as the contact is substantially continuous from the first to the second locations.

[0112] With reference to Fig. 4D, a flick gesture 404 on the screen 104,108 is an initial contact (represented by circle 428) with truncated contact movement 436 (relative to a drag gesture) in a selected direction. In embodiments, a flick has a higher exit velocity for the last movement in the gesture compared to the drag gesture. The flick gesture can, for instance, be a finger snap following initial contact. Compared to a drag gesture, a flick gesture generally does not require continual contact with the screen 104,108 from the first location of a displayed image to a predetermined second location. The contacted displayed image is moved by the flick gesture in the direction of the flick gesture to the predetermined second location. Although both gestures commonly can move a displayed image from a first location to a second location, the temporal duration and distance of travel of the contact on the screen is generally less for a flick than for a drag gesture.

[0113] With reference to Fig. 4E, a pinch gesture 408 on the screen 104,108 is depicted. The pinch gesture 408 may be initiated by a first contact 428 to the screen 104,108 by, for example, a first digit and a second contact 428b to the screen 104,108 by, for example, a second digit. The first and second contacts 428a,b may be detected by a common contact sensing portion of a common screen 104,108, by different contact sensing portions of a common screen 104 or 108, or by different contact sensing portions of different screens. The first contact 428a is held for a first amount of time, as represented by the border 432a, and the second contact 428b is held for a second amount of time, as represented by the border 432b. The first and second amounts of time are generally substantially the same, and the first and second contacts 428 a, b generally occur substantially simultaneously. The first and second contacts 428 a, b generally also include corresponding first and second contact movements 436 a, b, respectively. The first and second contact movements 436 a, b are generally in opposing directions. Stated another way, the first contact movement 436a is towards the second contact 436b, and the second contact movement 436b is towards the first contact 436a. More simply stated, the pinch gesture 408 may be accomplished by a user's digits touching the screen 104,108 in a pinching motion.
With reference to Fig. 4F, a spread gesture 410 on the screen 104,108 is depicted. The spread gesture 410 may be initiated by a first contact 428a to the screen 104,108 by, for example, a first digit and a second contact 428b to the screen 104,108 by, for example, a second digit. The first and second contacts 428a,b may be detected by a common contact sensing portion of a common screen 104,108, by different contact sensing portions of a common screen 104,108, or by different contact sensing portions of different screens. The first contact 428a is held for a first amount of time, as represented by the border 432a, and the second contact 428b is held for a second amount of time, as represented by the border 432b. The first and second amounts of time are generally substantially the same, and the first and second contacts 428 a, b generally occur substantially simultaneously. The first and second contacts 428 a, b generally also include corresponding first and second contact movements 436a, b, respectively. The first and second contact movements 436 a, b are generally in a common direction. Stated another way, the first and second contact movements 436 a, b are away from the first and second contacts 428a, b. More simply stated, the spread gesture 410 may be accomplished by a user's digits touching the screen 104,108 in a spreading motion.

The above gestures may be combined in any manner, such as those shown by Figs. 4G and 4H, to produce a determined functional result. For example, in Fig. 4G a tap gesture 420 is combined with a drag or flick gesture 412 in a direction away from the tap gesture 420. In Fig. 4H, a tap gesture 420 is combined with a drag or flick gesture 412 in a direction towards the tap gesture 420.

The functional result of receiving a gesture can vary depending on a number of factors, including a state of the device 100, display 110, 114, or screen 104, 108, a context associated with the gesture, or sensed location of the gesture. The state of the device commonly refers to one or more of a configuration of the device 100, a display orientation, and user and other inputs received by the device 100. Context commonly refers to one or more of the particular application(s) selected by the gesture and the portion(s) of the application currently executing, whether the application is a single- or multi-screen application, and whether the application is a multi-screen application displaying one or more windows in one or more screens or in one or more stacks. Sensed location of the gesture commonly refers to whether the sensed set(s) of gesture location coordinates are on a touch sensitive display 110, 114 or a gesture capture region 120, 124, whether the
sensed set(s) of gesture location coordinates are associated with a common or different
display or screen 104,108, and/or what portion of the gesture capture region contains the
sensed set(s) of gesture location coordinates.

[0117] A tap, when received by an a touch sensitive display 110, 114, can be used, for instance, to select an icon to initiate or terminate execution of a corresponding application, to maximize or minimize a window, to reorder windows in a stack, and to provide user input such as by keyboard display or other displayed image. A drag, when received by a touch sensitive display 110, 114, can be used, for instance, to relocate an icon or window to a desired location within a display, to reorder a stack on a display, or to span both displays (such that the selected window occupies a portion of each display simultaneously). A flick, when received by a touch sensitive display 110, 114 or a gesture capture region 120, 124, can be used to relocate a window from a first display to a second display or to span both displays (such that the selected window occupies a portion of each display simultaneously). Unlike the drag gesture, however, the flick gesture is generally not used to move the displayed image to a specific user-selected location but to a default location that is not configurable by the user.

[0118] The pinch gesture, when received by a touch sensitive display 110, 114 or a gesture capture region 120, 124, can be used to minimize or otherwise increase the displayed area or size of a window (typically when received entirely by a common display), to switch windows displayed at the top of the stack on each display to the top of the stack of the other display (typically when received by different displays or screens), or to display an application manager (a "pop-up window" that displays the windows in the stack). The spread gesture, when received by a touch sensitive display 110, 114 or a gesture capture region 120, 124, can be used to maximize or otherwise decrease the displayed area or size of a window, to switch windows displayed at the top of the stack on each display to the top of the stack of the other display (typically when received by different displays or screens), or to display an application manager (typically when received by an off-screen gesture capture region on the same or different screens).

[0119] The combined gestures of Fig. 4G, when received by a common display capture region in a common display or screen 104,108, can be used to hold a first window stack location in a first stack constant for a display receiving the gesture while reordering a second window stack location in a second window stack to include a window in the
display receiving the gesture. The combined gestures of Fig. 4H, when received by
different display capture regions in a common display or screen 104,108 or in different
displays or screens, can be used to hold a first window stack location in a first window
stack constant for a display receiving the tap part of the gesture while reordering a second
window stack location in a second window stack to include a window in the display
receiving the flick or drag gesture. Although specific gestures and gesture capture regions
in the preceding examples have been associated with corresponding sets of functional
results, it is to be appreciated that these associations can be redefined in any manner to
produce differing associations between gestures and/or gesture capture regions and/or
functional results.

[0120] Firmware and Software:
[0121] The memory 508 may store and the processor 504 may execute one or more
software components. These components can include at least one operating system (OS)
516, an application manager 562, a desktop 566, and/or one or more applications 564a
and/or 564b from an application store 560. The OS 516 can include a framework 520, one
or more frame buffers 548, one or more drivers 512, previously described in conjunction
with Fig. 2, and/or a kernel 518. The OS 516 can be any software, consisting of programs
and data, which manages computer hardware resources and provides common services for
the execution of various applications 564. The OS 516 can be any operating system and,
at least in some embodiments, dedicated to mobile devices, including, but not limited to,
Linux, ANDROID TM, iPhone OS (IOS TM), WINDOWS PHONE 7 TM, etc. The OS
516 is operable to provide functionality to the phone by executing one or more operations,
as described herein.

[0122] The applications 564 can be any higher level software that executes particular
functionality for the user. Applications 564 can include programs such as email clients,
web browsers, texting applications, games, media players, office suites, etc. The
applications 564 can be stored in an application store 560, which may represent any
memory or data storage, and the management software associated therewith, for storing
the applications 564. Once executed, the applications 564 may be run in a different area
of memory 508.

[0123] The framework 520 may be any software or data that allows the multiple tasks
running on the device to interact. In embodiments, at least portions of the framework 520
and the discrete components described hereinafter may be considered part of the OS 516 or an application 564. However, these portions will be described as part of the framework 520, but those components are not so limited. The framework 520 can include, but is not limited to, a Multi-Display Management (MDM) module 524, a Surface Cache module 528, a Window Management module 532, an Input Management module 536, a Task Management module 540, an Application Model Manager 542, a Display Controller, one or more frame buffers 548, a task stack 552, one or more window stacks 550 (which is a logical arrangement of windows and/or desktops in a display area), and/or an event buffer 556.

[0124] The MDM module 524 includes one or more modules that are operable to manage the display of applications or other data on the screens of the device. An embodiment of the MDM module 524 is described in conjunction with Fig. 5B. In embodiments, the MDM module 524 receives inputs from the other OS 516 components, such as, the drivers 512, and from the applications 564 to determine continually the state of the device 100. The inputs assist the MDM module 524 in determining how to configure and allocate the displays according to the application's preferences and requirements, and the user's actions. Once a determination for display configurations is made, the MDM module 524 can bind the applications 564 to a display. The configuration may then be provided to one or more other components to generate a window with a display.

[0125] The Surface Cache module 528 includes any memory or storage and the software associated therewith to store or cache one or more images of windows. A series of active and/or non-active windows (or other display objects, such as, a desktop display) can be associated with each display. An active window (or other display object) is currently displayed. A non-active windows (or other display objects) were opened and, at some time, displayed but are now not displayed. To enhance the user experience, before a window transitions from an active state to an inactive state, a "screen shot" of a last generated image of the window (or other display object) can be stored. The Surface Cache module 528 may be operable to store a bitmap of the last active image of a window (or other display object) not currently displayed. Thus, the Surface Cache module 528 stores the images of non-active windows (or other display objects) in a data store.
In embodiments, the Window Management module 532 is operable to manage the windows (or other display objects) that are active or not active on each of the displays. The Window Management module 532, based on information from the MDM module 524, the OS 516, or other components, determines when a window (or other display object) is visible or not active. The Window Management module 532 may then put a non-visible window (or other display object) in a "not active state" and, in conjunction with the Task Management module Task Management 540 suspends the application's operation. Further, the Window Management module 532 may assign, through collaborative interaction with the MDM module 524, a display identifier to the window (or other display object) or manage one or more other items of data associated with the window (or other display object). The Window Management module 532 may also provide the stored information to the application 564, the Task Management module 540, or other components interacting with or associated with the window (or other display object). The Window Management module 532 can also associate an input task with a window based on window focus and display coordinates within the motion space.

The Input Management module 536 is operable to manage events that occur with the device. An event is any input into the window environment, for example, a user interface interactions with a user. The Input Management module 536 receives the events and logically stores the events in an event buffer 556. Events can include such user interface interactions as a "down event," which occurs when a screen 104, 108 receives a touch signal from a user, a "move event," which occurs when the screen 104, 108 determines that a user's finger is moving across a screen(s), an "up event, which occurs when the screen 104, 108 determines that the user has stopped touching the screen 104, 108, etc. These events are received, stored, and forwarded to other modules by the Input Management module 536. The Input Management module 536 may also map screen inputs to a motion space which is the culmination of all physical and virtual display available on the device.

The motion space is a virtualized space that includes all touch sensitive displays 110, 114 "tiled" together to mimic the physical dimensions of the device 100. For example, when the device 100 is unfolded, the motion space size may be 960x800, which may be the number of pixels in the combined display area for both touch sensitive displays 110, 114. If a user touches on a first touch sensitive display 110 on location (40, 40), a full
screen window can receive touch event with location (40, 40). If a user touches on a second touch sensitive display 114, with location (40, 40), the full screen window can receive touch event with location (520, 40), because the second touch sensitive display 114 is on the right side of the first touch sensitive display 110, so the device 100 can offset the touch by the first touch sensitive display's 110 width, which is 480 pixels. When a hardware event occurs with location info from a driver 512, the framework 520 can up-scale the physical location to the motion space because the location of the event may be different based on the device orientation and state. The motion space may be as described in U.S. Patent Application No. 13/187,026, filed July 20, 2011, entitled "Systems and Methods for Receiving Gesture Inputs Spanning Multiple Input Devices," which is hereby incorporated by reference in its entirety for all that it teaches and for all purposes.

[0129] A task can be an application and a sub-task can be an application component that provides a window with which users can interact to do something, such as dial the phone, take a photo, send an email, or view a map. Each task may be given a window in which to draw a user interface. The window typically fills a display (for example, touch sensitive display 110,114), but may be smaller than the display 110,114 and float on top of other windows. An application usually consists of multiple sub-tasks that are loosely bound to each other. Typically, one task in an application is specified as the "main" task, which is presented to the user when launching the application for the first time. Each task can then start another task or sub-task to perform different actions.

[0130] The Task Management module 540 is operable to manage the operation of one or more applications 564 that may be executed by the device. Thus, the Task Management module 540 can receive signals to launch, suspend, terminate, etc. an application or application sub-tasks stored in the application store 560. The Task Management module 540 may then instantiate one or more tasks or sub-tasks of the application 564 to begin operation of the application 564. Further, the Task Management Module 540 may launch, suspend, or terminate a task or sub-task as a result of user input or as a result of a signal from a collaborating framework 520 component. The Task Management Module 540 is responsible for managing the lifecycle of applications (tasks and sub-task) from when the application is launched to when the application is terminated.

[0131] The processing of the Task Management Module 540 is facilitated by a task stack 552, which is a logical structure associated with the Task Management Module 540.
The task stack 552 maintains the state of all tasks and sub-tasks on the device 100. When some component of the operating system 516 requires a task or sub-task to transition in its lifecycle, the OS 516 component can notify the Task Management Module 540. The Task Management Module 540 may then locate the task or sub-task, using identification information, in the task stack 552, and send a signal to the task or sub-task indicating what kind of lifecycle transition the task needs to execute. Informing the task or sub-task of the transition allows the task or sub-task to prepare for the lifecycle state transition. The Task Management Module 540 can then execute the state transition for the task or sub-task. In embodiments, the state transition may entail triggering the OS kernel 518 to terminate the task when termination is required.

Further, the Task Management module 540 may suspend the application 564 based on information from the Window Management Module 532. Suspending the application 564 may maintain application data in memory but may limit or stop the application 564 from rendering a window or user interface. Once the application becomes active again, the Task Management module 540 can again trigger the application to render its user interface. In embodiments, if a task is suspended, the task may save the task's state in case the task is terminated. In the suspended state, the application task may not receive input because the application window is not visible to the user.

The frame buffer 548 is a logical structure(s) used to render the user interface. The frame buffer 548 can be created and destroyed by the OS kernel 518. However, the Display Controller 544 can write the image data, for the visible windows, into the frame buffer 548. A frame buffer 548 can be associated with one screen or multiple screens. The association of a frame buffer 548 with a screen can be controlled dynamically by interaction with the OS kernel 518. A composite display may be created by associating multiple screens with a single frame buffer 548. Graphical data used to render an application's window user interface may then be written to the single frame buffer 548, for the composite display, which is output to the multiple screens 104,108. The Display Controller 544 can direct an application's user interface to a portion of the frame buffer 548 that is mapped to a particular display 110,114, thus, displaying the user interface on only one screen 104 or 108. The Display Controller 544 can extend the control over user interfaces to multiple applications, controlling the user interfaces for as many displays as are associated with a frame buffer 548 or a portion thereof. This approach compensates
for the multiple physical screens 104,108 that are in use by the software component above the Display Controller 544.

[0134] The Application Manager 562 is an application that provides a presentation layer for the window environment. Thus, the Application Manager 562 provides the graphical model for rendering by the Task Management Module 540. Likewise, the Desktop 566 provides the presentation layer for the Application Store 560. Thus, the desktop provides a graphical model of a surface having selectable application icons for the Applications 564 in the Application Store 560 that can be provided to the Window Management Module 556 for rendering.

[0135] Further, the framework can include an Application Model Manager (AMM) 542. The Application Manager 562 may interface with the AMM 542. In embodiments, the AMM 542 receives state change information from the device 100 regarding the state of applications (which are running or suspended). The AMM 542 can associate bit map images from the Surface Cache Module 528 to the tasks that are alive (running or suspended). Further, the AMM 542 can convert the logical window stack maintained in the Task Manager Module 540 to a linear ("film strip" or "deck of cards") organization that the user perceives when the using the off gesture capture area 120 to sort through the windows. Further, the AMM 542 may provide a list of executing applications to the Application Manager 562.

[0136] An embodiment of the MDM module 524 is shown in Fig. 5B. The MDM module 524 is operable to determine the state of the environment for the device, including, but not limited to, the orientation of the device, whether the device 100 is opened or closed, what applications 564 are executing, how the applications 564 are to be displayed, what actions the user is conducting, the tasks being displayed, etc. To configure the display, the MDM module 524 interprets these environmental factors and determines a display configuration, as described in conjunction with Figs. 6A-6J. Then, the MDM module 524 can bind the applications 564 or other device components to the displays. The configuration may then be sent to the Display Controller 544 and/or the other components within the OS 516 to generate the display. The MDM module 524 can include one or more of, but is not limited to, a Display Configuration Module 568, a Preferences Module 572, a Device State Module 574, a Gesture Module 576, a Requirements Module 580, an Event Module 584, and/or a Binding Module 588.
The Display Configuration Module 568 determines the layout for the display. In embodiments, the Display Configuration Module 568 can determine the environmental factors. The environmental factors may be received from one or more other MDM modules 524 or from other sources. The Display Configuration Module 568 can then determine from the list of factors the best configuration for the display. Some embodiments of the possible configurations and the factors associated therewith are described in conjunction with Figs. 6A-6F.

The Preferences Module 572 is operable to determine display preferences for an application 564 or other component. For example, an application can have a preference for Single or Dual displays. The Preferences Module 572 can determine an application's display preference (e.g., by inspecting the application's preference settings) and may allow the application 564 to change to a mode (e.g., single screen, dual screen, max, etc.) if the device 100 is in a state that can accommodate the preferred mode. However, some user interface policies may disallow a mode even if the mode is available. As the configuration of the device changes, the preferences may be reviewed to determine if a better display configuration can be achieved for an application 564.

The Device State Module 574 is operable to determine or receive the state of the device. The state of the device can be as described in conjunction with Figs. 3A and 3B. The state of the device can be used by the Display Configuration Module 568 to determine the configuration for the display. As such, the Device State Module 574 may receive inputs and interpret the state of the device. The state information is then provided to the Display Configuration Module 568.

The Gesture Module 576 is shown as part of the MDM module 524, but, in embodiments, the Gesture module 576 may be a separate Framework 520 component that is separate from the MDM module 524. In embodiments, the Gesture Module 576 is operable to determine if the user is conducting any actions on any part of the user interface. In alternative embodiments, the Gesture Module 576 receives user interface actions from the configurable area 112,1 16 only. The Gesture Module 576 can receive touch events that occur on the configurable area 112,1 16 (or possibly other user interface areas) by way of the Input Management Module 536 and may interpret the touch events (using direction, speed, distance, duration, and various other parameters) to determine what kind of gesture the user is performing. When a gesture is interpreted, the Gesture
Module 576 can initiate the processing of the gesture and, by collaborating with other Framework 520 components, can manage the required window animation. The Gesture Module 576 collaborates with the Application Model Manager 542 to collect state information with respect to which applications are running (active or paused) and the order in which applications must appear when a user gesture is performed. The Gesture Module 576 may also receive references to bitmaps (from the Surface Cache Module 528) and live windows so that when a gesture occurs it can instruct the Display Controller 544 how to move the window(s) across the display 110,14. Thus, suspended applications may appear to be running when those windows are moved across the display 110,14.

Further, the Gesture Module 576 can receive task information either from the Task Management Module 540 or the Input Management module 536. The gestures may be as defined in conjunction with Figs. 4A through 4H. For example, moving a window causes the display to render a series of display frames that illustrate the window moving. The gesture associated with such user interface interaction can be received and interpreted by the Gesture Module 576. The information about the user gesture is then sent to the Task Management Module 540 to modify the display binding of the task.

The Requirements Module 580, similar to the Preferences Module 572, is operable to determine display requirements for an application 564 or other component. An application can have a set display requirement that must be observed. Some applications require a particular display orientation. For example, the application "Angry Birds" can only be displayed in landscape orientation. This type of display requirement can be determined or received, by the Requirements Module 580. As the orientation of the device changes, the Requirements Module 580 can reassert the display requirements for the application 564. The Display Configuration Module 568 can generate a display configuration that is in accordance with the application display requirements, as provided by the Requirements Module 580.

The Event Module 584, similar to the Gesture Module 576, is operable to determine one or more events occurring with an application or other component that can affect the user interface. Thus, the Event Module 584 can receive event information either from the event buffer 556 or the Task Management module 540. These events can change how the tasks are bound to the displays. The Event Module 584 can collect state change information from other Framework 520 components and act upon that state change
information. In an example, when the phone is opened or closed or when an orientation change has occurred, a new message may be rendered in a secondary screen. The state change based on the event can be received and interpreted by the Event Module 584. The information about the events then may be sent to the Display Configuration Module 568 to modify the configuration of the display.

[0144] The Binding Module 588 is operable to bind the applications 564 or the other components to the configuration determined by the Display Configuration Module 568. A binding associates, in memory, the display configuration for each application with the display and mode of the application. Thus, the Binding Module 588 can associate an application with a display configuration for the application (e.g. landscape, portrait, multiscreen, etc.). Then, the Binding Module 588 may assign a display identifier to the display. The display identifier associated the application with a particular display of the device 100. This binding is then stored and provided to the Display Controller 544, the other components of the OS 516, or other components to properly render the display. The binding is dynamic and can change or be updated based on configuration changes associated with events, gestures, state changes, application preferences or requirements, etc.

[0145] User Interface Configurations:

[0146] With reference now to Figs. 6A-J, various types of output configurations made possible by the device 100 will be described hereinafter.

[0147] Figs. 6A and 6B depict two different output configurations of the device 100 being in a first state. Specifically, Fig. 6A depicts the device 100 being in a closed portrait state 304 where the data is displayed on the primary screen 104. In this example, the device 100 displays data via the touch sensitive display 110 in a first portrait configuration 604. As can be appreciated, the first portrait configuration 604 may only display a desktop or operating system home screen. Alternatively, one or more windows may be presented in a portrait orientation while the device 100 is displaying data in the first portrait configuration 604.

[0148] Fig. 6B depicts the device 100 still being in the closed portrait state 304, but instead data is displayed on the secondary screen 108. In this example, the device 100 displays data via the touch sensitive display 114 in a second portrait configuration 608.
It may be possible to display similar or different data in either the first or second portrait configuration 604, 608. It may also be possible to transition between the first portrait configuration 604 and second portrait configuration 608 by providing the device 100 a user gesture (e.g., a double tap gesture), a menu selection, or other means. Other suitable gestures may also be employed to transition between configurations. Furthermore, it may also be possible to transition the device 100 from the first or second portrait configuration 604, 608 to any other configuration described herein depending upon which state the device 100 is moved.

An alternative output configuration may be accommodated by the device 100 being in a second state. Specifically, Fig. 6C depicts a third portrait configuration where data is displayed simultaneously on both the primary screen 104 and the secondary screen 108. The third portrait configuration may be referred to as a Dual-Portrait (PD) output configuration. In the PD output configuration, the touch sensitive display 110 of the primary screen 104 depicts data in the first portrait configuration 604 while the touch sensitive display 114 of the secondary screen 108 depicts data in the second portrait configuration 608. The simultaneous presentation of the first portrait configuration 604 and the second portrait configuration 608 may occur when the device 100 is in an open portrait state 320. In this configuration, the device 100 may display one application window in one display 110 or 114, two application windows (one in each display 110 and 114), one application window and one desktop, or one desktop. Other configurations may be possible. It should be appreciated that it may also be possible to transition the device 100 from the simultaneous display of configurations 604, 608 to any other configuration described herein depending upon which state the device 100 is moved. Furthermore, while in this state, an application's display preference may place the device into bilateral mode, in which both displays are active to display different windows in the same application. For example, a Camera application may display a viewfinder and controls on one side, while the other side displays a mirrored preview that can be seen by the photo subjects. Games involving simultaneous play by two players may also take advantage of bilateral mode.

Figs. 6D and 6E depicts two further output configurations of the device 100 being in a third state. Specifically, Fig. 6D depicts the device 100 being in a closed landscape state 340 where the data is displayed on the primary screen 104. In this
example, the device 100 displays data via the touch sensitive display 110 in a first landscape configuration 612. Much like the other configurations described herein, the first landscape configuration 612 may display a desktop, a home screen, one or more windows displaying application data, or the like.

[0152] Fig. 6E depicts the device 100 still being in the closed landscape state 340, but instead data is displayed on the secondary screen 108. In this example, the device 100 displays data via the touch sensitive display 114 in a second landscape configuration 616. It may be possible to display similar or different data in either the first or second portrait configuration 612, 616. It may also be possible to transition between the first landscape configuration 612 and second landscape configuration 616 by providing the device 100 with one or both of a twist and tap gesture or a flip and slide gesture. Other suitable gestures may also be employed to transition between configurations. Furthermore, it may also be possible to transition the device 100 from the first or second landscape configuration 612, 616 to any other configuration described herein depending upon which state the device 100 is moved.

[0153] Fig. 6F depicts a third landscape configuration where data is displayed simultaneously on both the primary screen 104 and the secondary screen 108. The third landscape configuration may be referred to as a Dual-Landscape (LD) output configuration. In the LD output configuration, the touch sensitive display 110 of the primary screen 104 depicts data in the first landscape configuration 612 while the touch sensitive display 114 of the secondary screen 108 depicts data in the second landscape configuration 616. The simultaneous presentation of the first landscape configuration 612 and the second landscape configuration 616 may occur when the device 100 is in an open landscape state 340. It should be appreciated that it may also be possible to transition the device 100 from the simultaneous display of configurations 612, 616 to any other configuration described herein depending upon which state the device 100 is moved.

[0154] Figs. 6G and 6H depict two views of a device 100 being in yet another state. Specifically, the device 100 is depicted as being in an easel state 312. Fig. 6G shows that a first easel output configuration 618 may be displayed on the touch sensitive display 110. Fig. 6H shows that a second easel output configuration 620 may be displayed on the touch sensitive display 114. The device 100 may be configured to depict either the first easel output configuration 618 or the second easel output configuration 620 individually.
Alternatively, both the easel output configurations 618, 620 may be presented simultaneously. In some embodiments, the easel output configurations 618, 620 may be similar or identical to the landscape output configurations 612, 616. The device 100 may also be configured to display one or both of the easel output configurations 618, 620 while in a modified easel state 316. It should be appreciated that simultaneous utilization of the easel output configurations 618, 620 may facilitate two-person games (e.g., Battleship®, chess, checkers, etc.), multi-user conferences where two or more users share the same device 100, and other applications. As can be appreciated, it may also be possible to transition the device 100 from the display of one or both configurations 618, 620 to any other configuration described herein depending upon which state the device 100 is moved.

[0155] Fig. 61 depicts yet another output configuration that may be accommodated while the device 100 is in an open portrait state 320. Specifically, the device 100 may be configured to present a single continuous image across both touch sensitive displays 110, 114 in a portrait configuration referred to herein as a Portrait-Max (PMAX) configuration 624. In this configuration, data (e.g., a single image, application, window, icon, video, etc.) may be split and displayed partially on one of the touch sensitive displays while the other portion of the data is displayed on the other touch sensitive display. The PMAX configuration 624 may facilitate a larger display and/or better resolution for displaying a particular image on the device 100. Similar to other output configurations, it may be possible to transition the device 100 from the PMAX configuration 624 to any other output configuration described herein depending upon which state the device 100 is moved.

[0156] Fig. 6J depicts still another output configuration that may be accommodated while the device 100 is in an open landscape state 348. Specifically, the device 100 may be configured to present a single continuous image across both touch sensitive displays 110, 114 in a landscape configuration referred to herein as a Landscape-Max (LMAX) configuration 628. In this configuration, data (e.g., a single image, application, window, icon, video, etc.) may be split and displayed partially on one of the touch sensitive displays while the other portion of the data is displayed on the other touch sensitive display. The LMAX configuration 628 may facilitate a larger display and/or better resolution for displaying a particular image on the device 100. Similar to other output configurations, it may be possible to transition the device 100 from the LMAX
configuration 628 to any other output configuration described herein depending upon which state the device 100 is moved.

[0157] The device 100 manages desktops and/or windows with at least one window stack 700, 728, as shown in Figs. 7A and 7B. A window stack 700, 728 is a logical arrangement of active and/or inactive windows for a multi-screen device. For example, the window stack 700, 728 may be logically similar to a deck of cards, where one or more windows or desktops are arranged in order, as shown in Figs. 7A and 7B. An active window is a window that is currently being displayed on at least one of the touch sensitive displays 110, 114. For example, windows 104 and 108 are active windows and are displayed on touch sensitive displays 110 and 114. An inactive window is a window that was opened and displayed but is now "behind" an active window and not being displayed. In embodiments, an inactive window may be for an application that is suspended, and thus, the window is not displaying active content. For example, windows 712, 716, 720, and 724 are inactive windows.

[0158] A window stack 700, 728 may have various arrangements or organizational structures. In the embodiment shown in Fig. 7A, the device 100 includes a first stack 760 associated with a first touch sensitive display 110 and a second stack associated with a second touch sensitive display 114. Thus, each touch sensitive display 110, 114 can have an associated window stack 760, 764. These two window stacks 760, 764 may have different numbers of windows arranged in the respective stacks 760, 764. Further, the two window stacks 760, 764 can also be identified differently and managed separately. Thus, the first window stack 760 can be arranged in order from a first window 704 to a next window 720 to a last window 724 and finally to a desktop 722, which, in embodiments, is at the "bottom" of the window stack 760. In embodiments, the desktop 722 is not always at the "bottom" as application windows can be arranged in the window stack below the desktop 722, and the desktop 722 can be brought to the "top" of a stack over other windows during a desktop reveal. Likewise, the second stack 764 can be arranged from a first window 708 to a next window 712 to a last window 716, and finally to a desktop 718, which, in embodiments, is a single desktop area, with desktop 722, under all the windows in both window stack 760 and window stack 764. A logical data structure for managing the two window stacks 760, 764 may be as described in conjunction with Fig. 8.
Another arrangement for a window stack 728 is shown in Fig. 7B. In this embodiment, there is a single window stack 728 for both touch sensitive displays 110, 114. Thus, the window stack 728 is arranged from a desktop 758 to a first window 744 to a last window 756. A window can be arranged in a position among all windows without an association to a specific touch sensitive display 110, 114. In this embodiment, a window is in the order of windows. Further, at least one window is identified as being active. For example, a single window may be rendered in two portions 732 and 736 that are displayed on the first touch sensitive screen 110 and the second touch sensitive screen 114. The single window may only occupy a single position in the window stack 728 although it is displayed on both displays 110, 114.

Yet another arrangement of a window stack 760 is shown in Figs. 7C through 7E. The window stack 760 is shown in three "elevation" views. In Fig. 7C, the top of the window stack 760 is shown. Two sides of the window stack 760 are shown in Figs. 7D and 7E. In this embodiment, the window stack 760 resembles a stack of bricks. The windows are stacked on each other. Looking from the top of the window stack 760 in Fig, 7C, only the top most windows in the window stack 760 are seen in different portions of the composite display 764. The composite display 764 represents a logical model for the entire display area of the device 100, which can include touch sensitive display 110 and touch sensitive display 114. A desktop 786 or a window can occupy part or all of the composite display 764.

In the embodiment shown, the desktop 786 is the lowest display or "brick" in the window stack 760. Thereupon, window 1 782, window 2 782, window 3 768, and window 4 770 are layered. Window 1 782, window 3 768, window 2 782, and window 4 770 only occupy a portion of the composite display 764. Thus, another part of the stack 760 includes window 8 774 and windows 5 through 7 shown in section 790. Only the top window in any portion of the composite display 764 is actually rendered and displayed. Thus, as shown in the top view in Fig. 7C, window 4 770, window 8 774, and window 3 768 are displayed as being at the top of the display in different portions of the window stack 760. A window can be dimensioned to occupy only a portion of the composite display 760 to "reveal" windows lower in the window stack 760. For example, window 3 768 is lower in the stack than both window 4 770 and window 8 774 but is still displayed.
A logical data structure to manage the window stack can be as described in conjunction with Fig. 8.

[0162] When a new window is opened, the newly activated window is generally positioned at the top of the stack. However, where and how the window is positioned within the stack can be a function of the orientation of the device 100, the context of what programs, functions, software, etc. are being executed on the device 100, how the stack is positioned when the new window is opened, etc. To insert the window in the stack, the position in the stack for the window is determined and the touch sensitive display 110, 114 to which the window is associated may also be determined. With this information, a logical data structure for the window can be created and stored. When user interface or other events or tasks change the arrangement of windows, the window stack(s) can be changed to reflect the change in arrangement. It should be noted that these same concepts described above can be used to manage the one or more desktops for the device 100.

[0163] A logical data structure 800 for managing the arrangement of windows or desktops in a window stack is shown in Fig. 8. The logical data structure 800 can be any data structure used to store data whether an object, record, file, etc. The logical data structure 800 can be stored in any type of database or data storage system, regardless of protocol or standard. In embodiments, the logical data structure 800 includes one or more portions, fields, attributes, etc. that store data in a logical arrangement that allows for easy storage and retrieval of the information. Hereinafter, these one or more portions, fields, attributes, etc. shall be described simply as fields. The fields can store data for a window identifier 804, dimensions 808, a stack position identifier 812, a display identifier 816, and/or an active indicator 820. Each window in a window stack can have an associated logical data structure 800. While only a single logical data structure 800 is shown in Fig. 8, there may be more or fewer logical data structures 800 used with a window stack (based on the number of windows or desktops in the stack), as represented by ellipses 824. Further, there may be more or fewer fields than those shown in Fig. 8, as represented by ellipses 828.

[0164] A window identifier 804 can include any identifier (ID) that uniquely identifies the associated window in relation to other windows in the window stack. The window identifier 804 can be a globally unique identifier (GUID), a numeric ID, an alphanumeric ID, or other type of identifier. In embodiments, the window identifier 804 can be one,
two, or any number of digits based on the number of windows that can be opened. In alternative embodiments, the size of the window identifier 804 may change based on the number of windows opened. While the window is open, the window identifier 804 may be static and remain unchanged.

[0165] Dimensions 808 can include dimensions for a window in the composite display 760. For example, the dimensions 808 can include coordinates for two or more corners of the window or may include one coordinate and dimensions for the width and height of the window. These dimensions 808 can delineate what portion of the composite display 760 the window may occupy, which may the entire composite display 760 or only part of composite display 760. For example, window 4 770 may have dimensions 880 that indicate that the window 770 will occupy only part of the display area for composite display 760, as shown in Figs. 7c through 7E. As windows are moved or inserted in the window stack, the dimensions 808 may change.

[0166] A stack position identifier 812 can be any identifier that can identify the position in the stack for the window or may be inferred from the window's control record within a data structure, such as a list or a stack. The stack position identifier 812 can be a GUID, a numeric ID, an alphanumeric ID, or other type of identifier. Each window or desktop can include a stack position identifier 812. For example, as shown in Fig. 7A, window 1 704 in stack 1 760 can have a stack position identifier 812 of 1 identifying that window 704 is the first window in the stack 760 and the active window. Similarly, window 6 724 can have a stack position identifier 812 of 3 representing that window 724 is the third window in the stack 760. Window 2 708 can also have a stack position identifier 812 of 1 representing that window 708 is the first window in the second stack 764. As shown in Fig. 7B, window 1 744 can have a stack position identifier 812 of 1, window 3, rendered in portions 732 and 736, can have a stack position identifier 812 of 3, and window 6 756 can have a stack position identifier 812 of 6. Thus, depending on the type of stack, the stack position identifier 812 can represent a window's location in the stack.

[0167] A display identifier 816 can identify that the window or desktop is associated with a particular display, such as the first display 110 or the second display 114, or the composite display 760 composed of both displays. While this display identifier 816 may not be needed for a multi-stack system, as shown in Fig. 7A, the display identifier 816 can indicate whether a window in the serial stack of Fig. 7B is displayed on a particular
Thus, window 3 may have two portions 732 and 736 in Fig. 7B. The first portion 732 may have a display identifier 816 for the first display while the second portion 736 may have a display identifier 816 for the second display 114. However, in alternative embodiments, the window may have two display identifier 816 that represent that the window is displayed on both of the displays 110, 114, or a display identifier 816 identifying the composite display. In another alternate embodiment, the window may have a single display identifier 816 to represent that the window is displayed on both of the displays 110, 114.

[0168] Similar to the display identifier 816, an active indicator 820 may not be needed with the dual stack system of Fig. 7A, as the window in stack position 1 is active and displayed. In the system of Fig. 7B, the active indicator 820 can indicate which window(s) in the stack is being displayed. Thus, window 3 may have two portions 732 and 736 in Fig. 7. The first portion 732 may have an active indicator 820 while the second portion 736 may also have an active indicator 820. However, in alternative embodiments, window 3 may have a single active indicator 820. The active indicator 820 can be a simple flag or bit that represents that the window is active or displayed.

[0169] An embodiment of a method 900 for creating a window stack is shown in Fig. 9. While a general order for the steps of the method 900 is shown in Fig. 9. Generally, the method 900 starts with a start operation 904 and ends with an end operation 928. The method 900 can include more or fewer steps or can arrange the order of the steps differently than those shown in Fig. 9. The method 900 can be executed as a set of computer-executable instructions executed by a computer system and encoded or stored on a computer readable medium. Hereinafter, the method 900 shall be explained with reference to the systems, components, modules, software, data structures, user interfaces, etc. described in conjunction with Figs. 1-8.

[0170] A multi-screen device 100 can receive activation of a window, in step 908. In embodiments, the multi-screen device 100 can receive activation of a window by receiving an input from the touch sensitive display 110 or 114, the configurable area 112 or 116, a gesture capture region 120 or 124, or some other hardware sensor operable to receive user interface inputs. The processor may execute the Task Management Module 540 may receive the input. The Task Management Module 540 can interpret the input as requesting an application task to be executed that will open a window in the window stack.
In embodiments, the Task Management Module 540 places the user interface interaction in the task stack 552 to be acted upon by the Display Configuration Module 568 of the Multi-Display Management Module 524. Further, the Task Management Module 540 waits for information from the Multi-Display Management Module 524 to send instructions to the Window Management Module 532 to create the window in the window stack.

The Multi-Display Management Module 524, upon receiving instruction from the Task Management Module 540, determines to which touch portion of the composite display 760, the newly activated window should be associated, in step 912. For example, window 4 770 is associated with the portion of the composite display 764. In embodiments, the device state module 574 of the Multi-Display Management Module 524 may determine how the device is oriented or in what state the device is in, e.g., open, closed, portrait, etc. Further, the preferences module 572 and/or requirements module 580 may determine how the window is to be displayed. The gesture module 576 may determine the user's intentions about how the window is to be opened based on the type of gesture and the location of where the gesture is made.

The Display Configuration Module 568 may use the input from these modules and evaluate the current window stack 760 to determine the best place and the best dimensions, based on a visibility algorithm, to open the window. Thus, the Display Configuration Module 568 determines the best place to put the window at the top of the window stack 760, in step 916. The visibility algorithm, in embodiments, determines for all portions of the composite display, which windows are at the top of the stack. For example, the visibility algorithm determines that window 3 768, window 4 770, and window 8 774 are at the top of the stack 760 as viewed in Figs. 7C through 7E. Upon determining where to open the window, the Display Configuration Module 568 can assign a display identifier 816 and possibly dimensions 808 to the window. The display identifier 816 and dimensions 808 can then be sent back to the Task Management Module 540. The Task Management Module 540 may then assign the window a stack position identifier 812 indicating the windows position at the top of the window stack.

In embodiments, the Task Management Module 540 sends the window stack information and instructions to render the window to the Window Management Module 532. The Window Management Module 532 and the Task Management Module 540 can
create the logical data structure 800, in step 924. Both the Task Management Module 540 and the Window Management Module 532 may create and manage copies of the window stack. These copies of the window stack can be synchronized or kept similar through communications between the Window Management Module 532 and the Task Management Module 540. Thus, the Window Management Module 532 and the Task Management Module 540, based on the information determined by the Multi-Display Management Module 524, can assign dimensions 808, a stack position identifier 812 (e.g., window 1 782, window 4 770, etc.), a display identifier 816 (e.g., touch sensitive display 1 110, touch sensitive display 2 114, composite display identifier, etc.), and an active indicator 820, which is generally always set when the window is at the "top" of the stack. The logical data structure 800 may then be stored by both the Window Management Module 532 and the Task Management Module 540. Further, the Window Management Module 532 and the Task Management Module 540 may thereafter manage the window stack and the logical data structure(s) 800.

[0175] As noted above, the graphical representations of the desktops and running applications in the pages can conceptually be thought of as one or more combinations of virtual "stacks" comprising separate viewable windows that run respective desktops or applications. These stacks of pages can be created, deleted, shuffled, and/or moved by a user or by an output from the MDM class 524, similar to a user manipulating the virtual playing cards of a deck stack.

[0176] The concept of stacks disclosed herein may also be applied to desktops available on the device 100. In other words, a desktop virtual stack may be used for the desktops which can be displayed by the device 100 and an application virtual stack may be used for the applications which can be displayed by the device 100. Specifically, when a desktop is revealed it may be divided into multiple pages for display on multiple screens of the device 100. These pages may be manipulated in their own desktop virtual stack, or stacks, separate from the application virtual stacks and/or other virtual stacks. This separation of stacks allows for greater user flexibility in navigating through different applications or desktops by creating an intuitive interface dependent on the data displayed to the screens 104, 108. However, it is also anticipated that these stacks could be combined to form a single virtual stack. Further, pages in each stack may move together as if the pages in a
stack are virtually connected. Therefore, a single position move of a page in one stack correspondingly moves all of the pages in that stack by one position.

[0177] Figure 10A depicts graphical representations of embodiments of a device 100 in an open portrait state where the primary screen is also visible as indicated by a solid line. The primary screen 104 shows a first page 1004 running a single page application (A5), and the secondary display 108 shows a first page 1006 running another single page application (A6). Fig. 10A also shows a user input gesture 1002, namely, a spread gesture which is executed in order to launch the application manager window. Referring to Figure 10B, the device 100 is shown after the spread gesture 1002 is executed from Figure 10A thereby revealing the application manager "pop up" window or tray 1008. Within this window 1008, depictions are shown for all of the other applications and desktops that are running at the time, but are not displayed on the primary or secondary screens. These depictions of each of the applications/desktops are shown by the icons 1010, each icon representing a separate application or desktop. The application manager window or tray 1008 also illustrates each of the other running applications/desktops in their respective order within the window stacks.

[0178] One convention that is contemplated in the preferred embodiment of the present invention for displaying an order of a window stack when the window 1008 is activated is to depict each of the other applications/desktops with their respective icons 1010 placed next to one another in a linear format from left to right, and in which the right-most icon 1010 represents an application/desktop which is the top or lead application/desktop within the management window 1008, and the left-most icon 1010 represents an application/desktop which is the lowest or bottom application/desktop in the window stack. The icons representing the application/windows between the left and right-most icons are depicted in their respective orders as compared to the top and bottom application/desktops. Therefore, in the example of Fig. 10B, application A1 is the bottom application, A2 is the next to the bottom application, application A3 is the next application in the stack above application A2, and application A4 represents the top or lead application in the group of applications illustrated in the window 1008. Fig. 10B also illustrates the manager window 1008 as being separated by line 1014. This line represents a division of the manager window 1008 and accordingly that both the primary and secondary screens have their own separate window stack. The application/desktops
displayed on the primary and secondary screens are above or on top of the right-most applications/desktops displayed in the manager's window 1008. Therefore, applications A5 and A6 are the top applications in their respective window stacks. It is also contemplated that the manager window 1008 could represent a single stack common to both the primary and secondary screens. Thus, applications A5 and A6 would still be considered as applications residing above all of the others, but that one of the applications A5 or A6 would be the leading or very top application, and the other being the next application in the stack. Either application could be designated the leading or very top application in the single window stack according to the present invention. To designate a manager window with just one window stack for both screens, the line 1014 could be removed in accordance with yet another embodiment of the invention.

[0179] The shapes, sizes, and arrangements of the icons 1010 can be modified in order to provide the most convenient user interface enabling the user to view all of the running applications and desktops. In the example of Fig. 10B, the particular arrangement and size of the icons 1010 only allow three to be shown per screen. However, it is contemplated that the icons shown in Fig. 10B could be smaller or of different shapes enabling additional icons to be displayed if other applications were running. In the event there are more than three additional applications/desktops running on any of the screens, the bottommost non-displayed application/desktop would appear in the manager window if a user rearranged the window stack, and another application/desktop would become non-displayed.

[0180] Fig. 10B also illustrates another user gesture 1012, in the form of a drag gesture that allows the user to move the position of the selected application to the screen where the drag gesture is directed. Therefore referring to Fig. IOC, the state of the device 100 is shown after execution of the drag gesture 1012, and the application A5 is moved from the primary screen 104 to the secondary screen 108. Additionally, since the application A3 was the right-most application in the group of non-displayed applications/desktops within the manager window 1008, this results in display of the application A3 on the primary screen 104. Accordingly the drag gesture, executed in Fig. 10B results in the display of the application A3 and movement of the application A5 from the primary screen to the secondary screen. The execution of the gesture 1012 causes the manager window 1008 to close.
Fig. IOC also illustrates another spread gesture 1002 that is executed to re-launch the application manager 1008. Accordingly, Fig. 10D illustrates the revised order for the application/desktops within the application manager 1008. More specifically, Fig. 10D shows application A3 on page 1016, application A5 is shown on page 1004, application A1 is shown on the window stack for the primary screen 104 as well as application A2, and applications A6 and A4 are shown on the window stack for the secondary screen 108. It is further noted with respect to Fig. 10D that the previously displayed application A6, after being "moved off" the secondary screen 108 by the movement of the application A5, now becomes the bottommost application in the window stack for the secondary screen 108.

While specific conventions are shown with respect to how the applications/desktops are arranged in an order within a particular window stack, it shall be understood that other conventions could be applied to include other methods of illustrating the particular order of each of the applications/desktops within a window stacks. For example, instead of the right to left order within the window 1008 depicting a top to bottom arrangement of the applications or desktops, a left to right convention could be used indicating a top to bottom arrangement of the window/application. Further for example, the icons 1010 could appear in a manager window or tray that was oriented vertically on one of the screens, and the icons 1010 could appear in a column arrangement with the top or uppermost applications/desktop indicating the top applications/desktop in the stack.

Figures 10E-10H illustrate yet another embodiment of the present invention showing other ways in which a window stack may be manipulated by use of the application manager module/tool. Referring first to Fig. 10E, the device 100 in a first state shows page 1016 with application A3 and page 1006 with application A6. A spread gesture 1002 is executed. Now referring to Fig. 10F, the application manager window or tray 1008 is displayed and the user has executed yet another user gesture, such as a tap gesture 1020 on a selected application/desktop. Tapping of one of the icons 1010 in this manner results in that particular application/desktop appearing on the screen from which the gesture was executed. Fig. 10F also illustrates the application A3 in the manager window 1008 in dotted lines to indicate that that application will be moved from the primary screen 104 to a non-displayed application within the manager window 1008.
Referring now to Fig. 10G, the tap gesture 1020 causes the manager window 1008 to close and the application A1 to appear on the primary screen 104 within another window 1022. Fig. 10G also illustrates the user executing another spread gesture 1002 in order to re-launch the application manager window. Therefore, referring to Fig. 10H a new order is illustrated for the window stack in which application A3 has been returned to the bottom of the window stack of the primary screen, and applications A4 and A5 still remain within the window stack of the secondary screen in the same order.

Fig. 101-10M illustrate yet another preferred embodiment of the present invention. Referring first to Fig. 101, the device 100 is shown after the user has launched the application manager, thereby displaying the window 1008 and the respective icons 1010. In the example of Fig. 101, the user executes a drag gesture within the window 1008 in order to move the position of the selected application A5. More specifically, the user in Fig. 101 wishes to move the application A5 as the last application in the window stack for the secondary screen to the window stack for the primary screen 104.

Referring to Fig. 10J, it illustrates the application A5 as being moved to the stack within the primary screen and Fig. 10J also illustrates yet another drag gesture 1020 in which the user moves the application A4 into the window stack for the primary screen 104.

Now referring to Fig. 10K, this Figure illustrates no applications/desktops in the manager window for the secondary screen. For the primary screen, the applications A2, A5 and A6 are shown in the manager window 1008, but not the application A1. The application A1 is not illustrated because the particular size of the icons only allows a total of three applications/desktops to be displayed in the manager window per screen. Therefore, the application A1 is still running, but is simply not displayed in the manager window 1008. As mentioned above, if it were desired to also illustrate the application A1, the size, shape, or arrangement of the icons 1010 could be adjusted in order that all running applications/desktops could be illustrated within the application manager window 1008. Finally, Fig. 10K also illustrates the user executing a tap gesture 1020, which is the command to move the application A5 in a displayed position on the primary screen 104.

Now referring to Fig. 10L, the tap gesture 1020 closes the application manager window 1008, the application A5 is displayed on page 1004 on the primary screen 104, and application A6 in window 1006 remains displayed on the secondary screen 1008.
[0188] Fig. 10L also illustrates yet another spread gesture 1002, and in response as shown in Fig. 10M, the application manager window 1008 is again displayed, along with each of the icons 1010 illustrating the updated order of the window stack. Accordingly, applications A5 and A6 are displayed on the primary and secondary screens, respectively, no applications appear in the window stack for the secondary screen, and applications A1, A3, and A4 are illustrated in the manager window 1008 of the primary screen.

[0189] Now referring to Fig. 11, a simplified flow chart 1050 is provided to explain a basic sequence of events when a user launches the application manager in order to change the window stack(s) order. At the start 1052, the user determines the desired application/desktops to run, and then launches the applications, shown at block 1054. The user then must determine whether the apps are in the desired stack order, shown at block 1056. If the user believes the applications are in the desired stack order, the analysis is complete, shown at end block 1070. If the applications are not in the desired order, the user then executes a gesture to initiate the app manager, shown at block 1058. The user then views the applications as they are represented by the icons 1010 within the manager window 1008, and the user also determines a desired order, shown at block 1060. The user then executes the appropriate gesture to move a first selected application to a new position, shown at block 1062. In response to the executed gesture, the stack order changes, shown at block 1064. As discussed above with reference to Figs. 10A-10M, a user can execute a number of different gestures to move the applications into the desired order, such as a drag gesture on the screens 104 and 108, or tap or drag gestures within the application manager window 1008. At block 1068, The user then re-evaluates the applications in the stack and determines whether they are in the desired stack order after execution of the first move gesture, shown at block 1068. If the applications are now in the desired stack order, then the analysis is complete. If the applications are not yet in the desired stack order, the user then executes a second gesture to move another application to another location within the stack. The gestures are repeated until the user is satisfied with the desired window stack(s) order(s).

[0190] Based on the description of Figs. 10A-10M, it is evident that the display of windows in a window stack can be selectively changed by simple gesture interactions, thereby making desktops and multiple applications available to the user with minimum effort. Each screen has a logical representation of the windows that have been opened and
displayed on the screen. The logical representation is the stack that is made up of one or
more windows that is arranged in an order that can be selected and changed by the user.
By opening of the window manager tool, the windows can be indexed or shifted to place
the window stack in a desired order as well as to move windows between separate window
stacks, such as separate window stacks that may be present on both the primary and
secondary screens. The ordered arrangement of the stack maintains the logical
construction of the stack intact when the user navigates the window stack(s). The user can
open the manager window 1008 repeatedly in order to continue to change the order of the
window stack(s), and each subsequent gesture executed is based on the present order of
the window stack(s) prior to executing the subsequent gesture(s). Therefore, a logical
order is maintained for each window stack at all times. The use of the icons 1010 within
the window manager provides a very convenient visual representation of the running
applications/desktops. Therefore the device operates in a very intuitive way for the user to
easily manage multiple desktops and applications within a dual screen environment.

[0191] The exemplary systems and methods of this disclosure have been described in
relation to various preferred embodiments. However, to avoid unnecessarily obscuring the
present disclosure, the preceding description omits a number of known structures and
devices. This omission is not to be construed as a limitation of the scopes of the claims.
Specific details are set forth to provide an understanding of the present disclosure. It
should however be appreciated that the present disclosure may be practiced in a variety
of ways beyond the specific detail set forth herein.

[0192] Furthermore, while the exemplary aspects, embodiments, and/or configurations
illustrated herein show the various components of the system collocated, certain
components of the system can be located remotely, at distant portions of a distributed
network, such as a LAN and/or the Internet, or within a dedicated system. Thus, it should
be appreciated, that the components of the system can be combined in to one or more
devices, or collocated on a particular node of a distributed network, such as an analog
and/or digital telecommunications network, a packet-switch network, or a circuit-switched
network. It will be appreciated from the preceding description, and for reasons of
computational efficiency, that the components of the system can be arranged at any
location within a distributed network of components without affecting the operation of the
system. For example, the various components can be located in a switch such as a PBX
and media server, gateway, in one or more communications devices, at one or more users' premises, or some combination thereof. Similarly, one or more functional portions of the system could be distributed between a telecommunications device(s) and an associated computing device.

Furthermore, it should be appreciated that the various links connecting the elements can be wired or wireless links, or any combination thereof, or any other known or later developed element(s) that is capable of supplying and/or communicating data to and from the connected elements. These wired or wireless links can also be secure links and may be capable of communicating encrypted information. Transmission media used as links, for example, can be any suitable carrier for electrical signals, including coaxial cables, copper wire and fiber optics, and may take the form of acoustic or light waves, such as those generated during radio-wave and infra-red data communications.

Also, while the flowcharts have been discussed and illustrated in relation to a particular sequence of events, it should be appreciated that changes, additions, and omissions to this sequence can occur without materially affecting the operation of the disclosed embodiments, configuration, and aspects.

A number of variations and modifications of the disclosure can be used. It would be possible to provide for some features of the disclosure without providing others.

In yet another embodiment, the systems and methods of this disclosure can be implemented in conjunction with a special purpose computer, a programmed microprocessor or microcontroller and peripheral integrated circuit element(s), an ASIC or other integrated circuit, a digital signal processor, a hard-wired electronic or logic circuit such as discrete element circuit, a programmable logic device or gate array such as PLD, PLA, FPGA, PAL, special purpose computer, any comparable means, or the like. In general, any device(s) or means capable of implementing the methodology illustrated herein can be used to implement the various aspects of this disclosure. Exemplary hardware that can be used for the disclosed embodiments, configurations and aspects includes computers, handheld devices, telephones (e.g., cellular, Internet enabled, digital, analog, hybrids, and others), and other hardware known in the art. Some of these devices include processors (e.g., a single or multiple microprocessors), memory, nonvolatile storage, input devices, and output devices. Furthermore, alternative software implementations including, but not limited to, distributed processing or component/object
distributed processing, parallel processing, or virtual machine processing can also be
constructed to implement the methods described herein.

[0197] In yet another embodiment, the disclosed methods may be readily implemented
in conjunction with software using object or object-oriented software development
environments that provide portable source code that can be used on a variety of computer
or workstation platforms. Alternatively, the disclosed system may be implemented
partially or fully in hardware using standard logic circuits or VLSI design. Whether
software or hardware is used to implement the systems in accordance with this disclosure
is dependent on the speed and/or efficiency requirements of the system, the particular
function, and the particular software or hardware systems or microprocessor or
microcomputer systems being utilized.

[0198] In yet another embodiment, the disclosed methods may be partially implemented
in software that can be stored on a storage medium, executed on programmed general-
purpose computer with the cooperation of a controller and memory, a special purpose
computer, a microprocessor, or the like. In these instances, the systems and methods of
this disclosure can be implemented as program embedded on personal computer such as an
applet, JAVA® or CGI script, as a resource residing on a server or computer workstation,
as a routine embedded in a dedicated measurement system, system component, or the like.
The system can also be implemented by physically incorporating the system and/or
method into a software and/or hardware system.

[0199] Although the present disclosure describes components and functions
implemented in the aspects, embodiments, and/or configurations with reference to
particular standards and protocols, the aspects, embodiments, and/or configurations are not
limited to such standards and protocols. Other similar standards and protocols not
mentioned herein are in existence and are considered to be included in the present
disclosure. Moreover, the standards and protocols mentioned herein and other similar
standards and protocols not mentioned herein are periodically superseded by faster or
more effective equivalents having essentially the same functions. Such replacement
standards and protocols having the same functions are considered equivalents included in
the present disclosure.

[0200] The present disclosure, in various aspects, embodiments, and/or configurations,
includes components, methods, processes, systems and/or apparatus substantially as
depicted and described herein, including various aspects, embodiments, configurations, embodiments, subcombinations, and/or subsets thereof. Those of skill in the art will understand how to make and use the disclosed aspects, embodiments, and/or configurations after understanding the present disclosure. The present disclosure, in various aspects, embodiments, and/or configurations, includes providing devices and processes in the absence of items not depicted and/or described herein or in various aspects, embodiments, and/or configurations hereof, including in the absence of such items as may have been used in previous devices or processes, e.g., for improving performance, achieving ease and/or reducing cost of implementation.

[0201] The foregoing discussion has been presented for purposes of illustration and description. The foregoing is not intended to limit the disclosure to the form or forms disclosed herein. In the foregoing Detailed Description for example, various features of the disclosure are grouped together in one or more aspects, embodiments, and/or configurations for the purpose of streamlining the disclosure. The features of the aspects, embodiments, and/or configurations of the disclosure may be combined in alternate aspects, embodiments, and/or configurations other than those discussed above. This method of disclosure is not to be interpreted as reflecting an intention that the claims require more features than are expressly recited in each claim. Rather, as the following claims reflect, inventive aspects lie in less than all features of a single foregoing disclosed aspect, embodiment, and/or configuration. Thus, the following claims are hereby incorporated into this Detailed Description, with each claim standing on its own as a separate preferred embodiment of the disclosure.

[0202] Moreover, though the description has included description of one or more aspects, embodiments, and/or configurations and certain variations and modifications, other variations, combinations, and modifications are within the scope of the disclosure, e.g., as may be within the skill and knowledge of those in the art, after understanding the present disclosure. It is intended to obtain rights which include alternative aspects, embodiments, and/or configurations to the extent permitted, including alternate, interchangeable and/or equivalent structures, functions, ranges or steps to those claimed, whether or not such alternate, interchangeable and/or equivalent structures, functions, ranges or steps are disclosed herein, and without intending to publicly dedicate any patentable subject matter.
What is claimed is:

1. A method of displaying a plurality of desktops and/or applications, each having at least one window, on a multi-screen device, comprising:
   receiving, by a processor, a first input that represents an instruction to reveal one of a desktop or application on a first display of the multi-screen device;
   selecting, by a processor, a first desktop or application to display on the first display;
   receiving, by a processor, a second input that represents an instruction to reveal one of a desktop or application on a second display of the multi-screen device;
   selecting, by a processor, a second desktop or application to display on the second display;
   displaying, by a processor, the selected first and second desktops or applications on the first and second displays;
   receiving, by a processor, a third input that represents an instruction to launch an application manager feature;
   displaying, by a processor, the applications or desktops on the first and second displays, and displaying a management window showing all other applications or desktops currently running on the device;
   determining, by a processor, a desired order for a window stack comprising the first and second applications or desktops, and said other applications or desktops;
   receiving, by a processor, a fourth input that represents an instruction to selectively move one of said first and second applications or desktops, or said other applications or desktops, within the window stack to a different position; and
   displaying, by a processor, the window stack in a new order in response to said fourth input.

2. The method of claim 1, wherein the fourth input is a user gesture comprising at least one of a flick, tap, long hold, or drag gesture.

3. The method of claim 1, wherein the third input is a user gesture comprising a spread gesture, and wherein the spread gesture is executed on off-screen areas of said first and seconds displays with one finger of a user placed on one screen, and another finger of the user placed on the other screen.
4. The method of claim 1, wherein said receiving a fourth input step is executed a number of times until the window stack is displayed in the desired order.

5. The method of claim 1, wherein at least one management window appears on said first and second displays, and the other applications or desktops are arranged linearly within the management window from left to right, and the left to right order of the other applications or desktops corresponds to an order of the other applications or desktops within the window stack.

6. The method of claim 5, wherein the rightmost appearing one of the other applications or desktops is the top application or desktop in the group of the other applications or desktops, and the leftmost appearing one of the other applications or desktops is the bottom application or desktop in the group of the other applications or desktops.

7. The method of claim 1, wherein the first or second applications or desktops are the first two applications or desktops within the window stack.

8. The method of claim 1, wherein an order of the first or second applications or desktops within the window stack can be changed by executing a user input gesture, comprising at least one of a flick or drag gesture, on the first and second displays.

9. The method of claim 5, wherein an order of the other applications or desktops within the window stack can be changed by executing a user input gesture, comprising at least one of a flick or drag gesture executed on a selected one of the other applications or desktops within the management window to thereby move the selected one to another position within the window stack.

10. The method of claim 9, wherein a flick or drag gesture executed in a left direction causes the selected one to move down in the stack a predetermined number of positions, and a flick or drag gesture executed in a right direction causes the selected one to move up in the stack a predetermined number of positions.

11. The method of claim 5, wherein separate management windows appear on said first and second displays denoting a first window stack for the first display and a second window stack for the second display, and wherein the other applications or
desktops are arranged linearly within each management window from left to right, and the left to right order of the other applications or desktops correspond to an order of the other applications or desktops within the window stack for each corresponding display.

12. The method of claim 5, wherein a selected one of the other applications or desktops is moved to a new position displayed on the first or second displays by executing another user input gesture on the selected one, the another user input gesture comprising at least one of a tap or long hold gesture.

13. A non-transitory computer-readable medium having stored thereon instructions that cause a computing system to execute a method, the instructions comprising:

   instructions configured to receive a first predetermined input that represents an instruction to determine and reveal a first desktop or application on a first display of the multi-screen device;
   instructions configured to receive a second predetermined input that represents an instruction to determine and reveal a second desktop or application on a second display of the multi-screen device;
   instructions configured to respond to the first and second predetermined inputs with outputs that cause the first desktop or application to be displayed on the first display and cause the second desktop or application to be displayed on the second display;
   instructions configured to receive a third predetermined input that represents an instruction to launch an application manager feature;
   instructions configured to respond to the third predetermined input that causes a display of a management window showing all other applications or desktops currently running;
   instructions configured to receive a fourth predetermined input that represents an instruction to selectively move one of said first and second applications or desktops, or said other applications or desktops, within the window stack to a different position;
   instructions configured to respond to the fourth predetermined input that causes displaying of the window stack in a new order.
14. The computer-readable medium of claim 13, wherein said fourth predetermined input step is executed a number of times by a user until the window stack is displayed in the desired order.

15. The computer-readable medium of claim 13 wherein said management window appears on said first and second displays, and the other applications or desktops are arranged linearly within the management window from left to right, and the left to right order of the other applications or desktops corresponds to an order of the other applications or desktops within the window stack.

16. The computer-readable medium of claim 13 wherein the first or second applications or desktops are the first two applications or desktops within the window stack, and an order of the first or second applications or desktops within the window stack can be changed by executing a user input gesture, comprising at least one of a flick or drag gesture, on the first and second displays.

17. A multi-screen user device, comprising:
   a first display including a first display area;
   a second display including a second display area;
   a first user input gesture area of the first display;
   a second user input gesture area of the second display, wherein the first and second user input gesture areas are configured to accept input from a user.

   a computer-readable medium having instructions stored thereon that include:
   a first set of instructions configured to determine a number and identity of desktops or applications selected to be run by a user;
   a second set of instructions configured to determine, based on the number and identity of the desktops or applications running, a window stack comprising a logical representation of the desktops and applications within an ordered group whereby a user can selectively move a selected desktop or application to either a visible position on another display or a non-visible position; and
   a third set of instructions responsive to a gesture made by the user that represents an instruction to launch an application manager feature, wherein the applications or desktops are displayed on the first and second displays, and a management window is displayed showing all other applications or desktops currently running;
a fourth set of instructions responsive to one or more gestures made by the user that represent an instruction to selectively move one of said first and second applications or desktops, or said other applications or desktops, within the window stack to a different position, and

wherein the window stack is displayed in a new order in response to said fourth set of instructions.

18. The device of claim 17, wherein said fourth set of instructions are executed a number of times until the window stack is displayed in the desired order.

19. The device of claim 17, wherein at least one management window appears on said first and second displays, and the other applications or desktops are arranged linearly within the management window from left to right, and the left to right order of the other applications or desktops corresponds to an order of the other applications or desktops within the window stack

20. The device of claim 19, wherein separate management windows appear on said first and second displays denoting a first window stack for the first display and a second window stack for the second display, and wherein the other applications or desktops are arranged linearly within each management window from left to right, and the left to right order of the other applications or desktops correspond to an order of the other applications or desktops within the window stack for each corresponding display.
### Key:
- **H** - Hall Effect Sensor(s)
- **a** - accelerometer(s)
- **T** - Timer
- **P** - communications Trigger
- **I** - Image / Video capture Request

### FIG. 3B

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<th>Modified Easel</th>
<th>Phone</th>
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</table>

**DOCKING SIGNAL**
FIG. 4A
Tap
428a
432a
420

FIG. 4B
Long Press
428b
432b
424

FIG. 4C
Drag
428b
432
436
400

FIG. 4D
Flick
428b
432
436
404

FIG. 4E
Pinch
428a
432a
436a
436b
432b
428b
408

FIG. 4F
Spread
428a
436a
432a
436b
432b
428b
410
FIG. 5B
FIG. 8

Window Identifier | Dimensions | Stack Position Identifier | Display Identifier | Active Indicator
Start

Receive activation of a window

Determine associated display

Determine position in stack

Generate logic structure

End

FIG. 9
START

Determine Apps to Run and Launch Apps

Are Apps in Desired Stack Order?

yes

END

no

Execute Gesture to Initiate App Manager

View Apps and Determine Desired Order

Execute Gesture to Move App

Stack Order Changes Based on Gesture

Are Apps in Desired Stack Order?

yes

no

FIG. 11
**INTERNATIONAL SEARCH REPORT**

**International application No.**
PCT/US 1/53963

A. **CLASSIFICATION OF SUBJECT MATTER**

**IPC(8):** G06F 3/048 (2012.01)

**USPC - 715/799**

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)

**IPC(8):** G06F 3/048 (2012.01)

**USPC: 715/799**

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

**USPC: 715863,764-769,792-794**

**IPC(8):**

C. **DOCUMENTS CONSIDERED TO BE RELEVANT**

<table>
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<tr>
<th>Category*</th>
<th>Citation of document, with indication, where appropriate, of the relevant passages</th>
<th>Relevant to claim No.</th>
</tr>
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<td><strong>Y</strong></td>
<td>US 2010/0064536 A1 (CASKEY et al.) 18 March 2010 (18.03.2010) entire document, especially Abstract: para [0005], [0076], [0089], [0126], [0131], [0132], [0133], [0135], [0140], [0142], [0150]</td>
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<td><strong>Y</strong></td>
<td>US 2009/0143141 A1 (WELLS et al.) 04 June 2009 (04.06.2009) entire document, especially Abstract: para [0016], [0716], [0831], [0866], [0965]</td>
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</tbody>
</table>

* Special categories of cited documents:

  * "A" document defining the general state of the art which is not considered to be of particular relevance
  * "E" earlier application or patent but published on or after the international filing date
  * "L" document which may throw doubts on priority claim(s) or which is cited to establish the publication date of another citation or other special reason (as specified)
  * "O" document referring to an oral disclosure, use, exhibition or other means
  * "P" document published prior to the international filing date but later than the priority date claimed

  "T" later document published after the international filing date or priority date and not in conflict with the application but cited to understand the principle or theory underlying the invention

  "X" document of particular relevance; the claimed invention cannot be considered novel or cannot be considered to involve an inventive step when the document is taken alone

  "Y" document of particular relevance; the claimed invention cannot be considered to involve an inventive step when the document is combined with one or more other such documents, such combination being obvious to a person skilled in the art

  "&" document member of the same patent family

**Date of the actual completion of the international search**

13 February 2012 (13.02.2012)

**Date of mailing of the international search report**

22 FEB 2012

**Name and mailing address of the ISA/US**

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Facsimile No. 571-273-3204

**Authorized officer:** Lee W. Young

PCT Helpdesk: 571-272-4300
PCT GSP: 571-272-7774

Form PCT/ISA/2 10 (second sheet) (July 2009)