ABSTRACT

A METHOD FOR MAGNIFYING A COMPUTER GENERATED IMAGE
AND A GRAPHIC USER INTERFACE INCORPORATING SAID METHOD

A method and graphic user interfacc incorporating the method for magnifying a portion of a computer generated image 14 displayed on a screen 10. The method involves generating an image of a panel 12 that is movable over or within the image 14. The panel 12 is sectioned into a central magnifying region 16 and a peripheral compression region 18. An area 20 of the image 14 underlying or within the footprint 22 of panel 12 is mapped into the central and peripheral regions 16,18 in the following manner. A portion 24 of the area of the image 20 is mapped with a degree of magnification into the central region 16. A margin or portion 26 of the area 20 of image 14 that lies outside the portion 24 but within the footprint 22 is mapped into the peripheral region 18 in a compressed and/or otherwise translated manner. The mapping of the area 20 of image 14 into panel 12 is performed so that the magnified image appearing in the central region 16 is continuous with the compressed image appearing in the peripheral region 18 which in turn is continuous with the remainder of the image 14 outside the footprint 22.

Figure 1 of the Drawings is to accompany the Abstract when published.