

CLAIMS

1. A retrieval device comprising:

5 a searching unit configured to search a memory unit,
which is configured to store object data in which specific
information identifying an object is held in a
corresponding manner with attribute information indicating
at least one of timing and position, for first object data
containing specific information identical or similar to
10 specified specific information;

an obtaining unit configured to obtain, from the
memory unit, one or more sets of second object data which
contains attribute information identical or similar to the
attribute information included in the first object data and
15 which contains specific information different than specific
information included in the first object data;

a selecting unit configured to select one of the sets
of second object data, wherein and

a classifying unit configured to classify the obtained
20 sets of second object data into groups each of which
includes the sets of second object data having
identicalness or similarity in the attribute information,
wherein

the obtaining unit is further configured to obtain the
25 sets of second object data included in a group that is
selected based on number of the sets of second object data
classified therein, and

the searching unit is further configured to search for
the first object data with the specific information
30 included in the selected second object data serving as

specified specific information.

2. The retrieval device according to claim 1, wherein
the specific information represents identification
5 information identifying the object, and
the searching unit is configured to search for first
object data containing identification information identical
to specified identification information.
- 10 3. The retrieval device according to claim 1, wherein
the specific information represents feature
information indicating feature of the object, and
the searching unit is configured to search for first
object data containing feature information identical or
15 similar to specified feature information.
4. The retrieval device according to claim 1, wherein the
obtaining unit is configured to obtain the sets of second
object data included in a group having a higher number of
20 the sets of second object data classified therein as
compared to other groups.
5. The retrieval device according to claim 4, wherein the
obtaining unit is configured to obtain the sets of second
25 object data either included in a group having a higher
number of the sets of second object data classified therein
than a threshold value or included in a predetermined
number of groups in descending order of number of the sets
of second object data classified therein.

30

6. The retrieval device according to claim 1, wherein
the specific information represents identification
information identifying the object, and
the classifying unit is configured to classify the
5 obtained sets of second object data into groups each of
which includes the sets of second object data having
identicalness in the identification information.
7. The retrieval device according to claim 1, wherein
10 the specific information represents feature
information indicating feature of the object, and
the classifying unit is configured to classify the
obtained sets of second object data into groups each of
which includes the sets of second object data having
15 identicalness or similarity in the feature information.
8. The retrieval device according to claim 1, further
comprising:
a generating unit configured to
20 generate information indicating a first object
identified by the specific information included in the
first object data,
generate information indicating a second object
identified by specific information included in the second
25 object data, and
generate information in which the first object
and the second object are associated; and
a display control unit configured to display the
generated information on a display unit.
30

9. The retrieval device according to claim 8, wherein
the specific information represents identification
information identifying the object,
the information indicating the first object represents
5 identification information of the first object, and
the information indicating the second object
represents identification information of the second object.

10. The retrieval device according to claim 8, wherein
10 the specific information represents feature
information indicating feature of the object,
the information indicating the first object represents
information serving as basis for generating feature
information of the first object, and
15 the information indicating the second object
represents information serving as basis for generating
feature information of the second object.

11. The retrieval device according to claim 1, wherein
20 the attribute information contains position of an
object, and
the retrieval device further includes a display
control unit configured to
display, on a map corresponding to the position
25 included in the first object data, information indicating a
first object identified by the specific information
included in the first object data, and
display, on a map corresponding to the position
included in the second object data, information indicating
30 a second object identified by the specific information

included in the second object data.

12. The retrieval device according to claim 1, wherein the specific information is generated from an image in which
5 the object is captured.

13. The retrieval device according to claim 1, wherein the selecting unit selects specified second object data among the sets of second object data.

10

14. A retrieval method comprising:

searching a memory unit, which is configured to store object data in which specific information identifying an object is held in a corresponding manner with attribute
15 information indicating at least one of timing and position, for first object data containing specific information identical or similar to specified specific information;

obtaining, from the memory unit, one or more sets of second object data which contains attribute information
20 identical or similar to the attribute information included in the first object data and which contains specific information different than specific information included in the first object data;

selecting one of the sets of second object data;
25 classifying the obtained sets of second object data into groups each of which includes the sets of second object data having identicalness or similarity in the attribute information,

obtaining the sets of second object data included in a
30 group that is selected based on number of the sets of

second object data classified therein, and searching for the first object data with the specific information included in the selected second object data serving as specified specific information.

5

15. A retrieval system comprising:

an information processing device; and

a retrieval device, wherein

the information processing device includes a transmitting unit configured to transmit object data in which specific information identifying an object is held in a corresponding manner with attribute information indicating at least one of timing and position,

the retrieval device includes

a searching unit configured to search a memory unit, which is configured to store the object data, for first object data containing specific information identical or similar to specified specific information,

an obtaining unit configured to obtain, from the memory unit, one or more sets of second object data which contains attribute information identical or similar to the attribute information included in the first object data and which contains specific information different than specific information included in the first object data,

a selecting unit configured to select one of the sets of second object data, and

a classifying unit configured to classify the obtained sets of second object data into groups each of which includes the sets of second object data having identicalness or similarity in the attribute information,

the obtaining unit is further configured to obtain the sets of second object data included in a group that is selected based on number of the sets of second object data classified therein, and

- 5 the searching unit is further configured to search for the first object data with the specific information included in the selected second object data serving as specified specific information.