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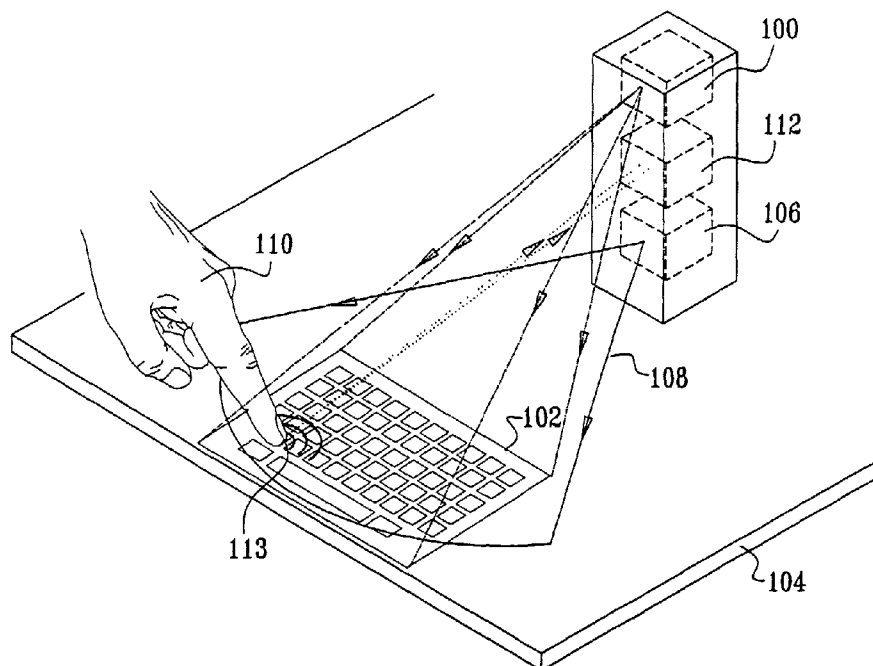
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(54) Title: A DATA INPUT DEVICE



(57) Abstract: A data input device and method including an illuminator (106) operative to illuminate at least one engagement plane (102) by directing light along the at least one engagement plane, a two-dimensional imaging sensor (112) viewing the at least one engagement plane from a location outside the at least one engagement plane for sensing light from the illuminator (106) scattered by engagement of a data entry object (110) with the at least one engagement plane and a data entry processor receiving an output from the two-dimensional imaging sensor (112) and providing a data input to utilization circuitry.



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