

ized thereby making it darkened in order to make the area more noticeable to the user. For this configuration, the image displayed on display device layer 202 is rendered to adjust for the darkened area.

FIG. 2b is a diagram of an elevated or texturized display device. Layer 218 lays in proximity to display device layer 220 with layer 219 providing separation. Although a single layer is shown, layers 218, 219, and 220 may be composed of a plurality of sublayers. Display device layer 220 is configured as a flexible display device, such as flexible OLED. Layer 218 may be comprised of the same composition or materials explained above for layer 204 such as EAPs, piezoelectric materials, or organic transistors.

In FIG. 2b, portions of surface 231 are selectively elevated or texturized with one or more substantially cubicle segment 222₁ controlling segment 222₂, dot or dimple segment 224₁ controlling segment 224₂, substantially cylindrical segment 226₁ controlling segment 226₂, or bulge segment 228₁ controlling segment 228₂. Segments 222₂, 224₂, 226₂, and 228₂ are controlled at least by displays controller 120 and/or controller 121 that adjust the height, orientation, direction, or gyration individually or collectively for each segment. Display(s) elevation, indenting, or texturizing controller 121 may comprise of analog or digital driving circuits (not shown) for driving the segments. Since layer 218 is oriented below or behind display device layer 220, there is little interference with the resolution or clarity of images to be displayed on display device layer 220. Also, in certain applications images may not be displayed on surface 231 in an area that is elevated, indented, or texturized thereby making it darkened in order to make the area more noticeable to the user. For this configuration, the image displayed on display device layer 220 is rendered to adjust for the darkened area.

FIG. 2c is a diagram of an elevated, indented, or texturized display device. Display pixels 232₁ to 232_n lay adjacent, on the same level, or on the same layer to elevation, indenting, or texturizing cells 234₁ to 234_n. The display array or matrix 233 also comprises of display pixels 236₁ to 236_n adjacent to elevation, indenting, or texturizing cells 238₁ to 238_n that are adjacent to display pixels 240₁ to 240_n. The elevation, indenting, or texturizing cells may be comprised of the same composition or materials explained above for layer 204 or 218 such as EAPs, piezoelectric material, or organic transistors. Cells 234₁ to 234_n and 238₁ to 238_n are controlled at least by displays controller 120 and/or controller 121 that adjust the height, orientation, direction, or gyration individually or collectively for each cell. Display(s) elevation, indenting, or texturizing controller 121 may comprise of analog or digital driving circuits (not shown) for driving the cells. In this embodiment, cells 234₁ to 234_n and 238₁ to 238_n may be illuminated based on the configuration of surrounding pixels to blend in with any images being displayed.

FIG. 2d shows an embodiment of a display device array or matrix 235 from a top view where elevation, indenting, or texturizing cells 239 are placed selectively within a small area footprint so that the surface of display device array or matrix 235 is mostly comprised of display pixels 237. Having texturizing cells 239 sparsely placed in display device array or matrix 235 ensures minimal interference with a displayed image. In this embodiment the elevation, indented, or texturized cells may be unnoticeable to the human eye but detectable by touch or feeling of display device array or matrix 235.

FIG. 2e is a diagram of an elevated, indented, or texturized display device. In FIG. 2e, display pixels 242 are in the

same layer or level but separate from elevation, indenting, or texturizing cells and display pixels areas 244 and 246. FIG. 2e provides a hybrid layout with display pixels 242 operating with selectively placed elevation, indenting, or texturizing cells and display pixels 244 and 246. In FIG. 2e, area 244 can provide scrolling functions while area 246 can be configured as a keyboard, dialpad, keypad, or any other interface.

FIG. 3 is a diagram of an elevated or texturized display device. A matrix of pockets or cells 304₁ to 304_x lays on top of a display device 302. Matrix of pockets or cells 304₁ to 304_x may be full of compressed air or low heat activated gel that becomes elevated or texturized by heating elements 127 as a result of thermal expansion, as understood by one of ordinary skill in the art. Matrix of pockets or cells 304₁ to 304_x can be tapered but flat and seamless when unexpanded. Moreover, heating elements 127 can be used to provide different tactile sensations in combination with pockets or cells 304₁ to 304_x so that a user is provided varying temperatures, such as hot or cold information, relating to a displayed image.

FIG. 4 is a diagram illustrating processes for an electronic device having a display device 402 with elevated, indented, or texturized display portions. Display device 402 can be assembled with at least some of the components described in device 100. For elevated, indented, or texturized applications, display device 402 may be configured with the devices described in FIG. 2a, 2c, or 2d, as desired. For elevated or certain texturized applications, display device 402 may be configured with the devices described in FIG. 2b or 3, as desired. For illustrative purposes, in FIG. 4 a darkened or black portion represents an indented portion, a white portion represents an elevated portion, and a checkered pattern represents a texturized portion.

For inputting data or triggering a request action, a “click here” displayed link is provided with a combination of an indented portion 404₁ and elevated portion 404₂. Moreover, part of a virtual or simulated keyboard displayed on display device 402 provides the letter “E” key with a partially displayed portion 406, an elevated circular portion 414 and an elevated square portion 408. Although part of a virtual or simulated keyboard is shown, display device 402 can be configured to show a whole QWERTY keyboard, a numbered keypad for dialing, or a combination of a whole QWERTY keyboard and a numbered keypad, as desired. The letter “S” key is provided by a partially displayed portion and an elevated circular portion 410. The letter “Q” key is completely elevated by portion 412. The virtual or simulated keyboard can also be programmed to replicate Braille lettering, as desired.

In addition to key inputs, portions 414, 408, 410, or 412 can detect different pressure forces when pushed down, pushed sideways, or pulled sideways providing another metric or advantage for the man machine interface. For instance, a pull in one direction may indicate a capital letter input while a push in another direction may indicate sub-scripting of the letter. These different pressure forces are detected by pressure sensors 123 in combination with touch detectors 124 and/or display(s) elevation, indenting, or texturizing controller 121 by measuring gradient, force, or potential difference values. Moreover, in response to a detected force by pressure sensors 123 and touch detectors 124, haptic feedback, force feedback or tactile feedback in the form of a played sound, gyration, or vibration can be provided via I/O controller 116.

Still referring to the virtual or simulated keyboard on display device 402, instructions in software 108 can be used