Title (en)
METHOD AND SYSTEM FOR SELECTING AND DISPLAYING A PORTION OF AN IMAGE OF A BODY

Title (de)
VERFAHREN UND SYSTEM ZUR AUSWAHL UND DARSTELLUNG VON EINEM BILD EINES KÖRPERTEILS

Title (fr)
PROCEDE ET SYSTEME DE SELECTION ET D'AFFICHAGE D'UNE PORTION D'UNE IMAGE D'UN CORPS

Publication
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Application
EP 01908094 A 20010227

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Abstract (en)
[origin: WO0165490A2] A method and system for displaying an image volume of a body such as the body of a surgical patient. The system of the present invention includes a memory for storing the image volume, a monitor for displaying the image volume, a pointer for selecting portions of the image volume to display with reference to the body, a mechanism for determining the position and orientation of the pointer, and a processor for overall control. The image volume is registered with the body. A portion, such as a slice, of the image volume is defined by a viewpoint that is in turn defined by positioning and orienting the pointer relative to the body. For example, the viewpoint may be defined by a target point on the body and by the orientation of the pointer. The tip of the pointer is pointed at the target point, or is placed in contact with the target point, and the pointer is pivoted. A slice of the image volume is displayed in accordance with this viewpoint. Registration of the image volume with the body is facilitated by using the pointer to sample the coordinates of points on the surface of the body. Alternatively, a suitably equipped pointer is used to sample the coordinates of points within the body, for example by ultrasound echolocation. Preferably, the pointer also is used for overall processor control.

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