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(54) **INFORMATION INTEGRATING DEVICE AND INFORMATION INTEGRATING METHOD WHICH INTEGRATES STEREOSCOPIC VIDEO INFORMATION USING MAIN INFORMATION AND COMPLEMENTARY INFORMATION**

(58) **Field of Classification Search**
CPC H04N 13/0055; H04N 13/0059; H04N 13/0048; H04N 13/0003; H04N 13/0007; H04N 13/0029; H04N 13/004; H04N 13/026; H04N 13/0285
See application file for complete search history.

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(*) Notice: Subject to any disclaimer, the term of this patent is extended or adjusted under 35 U.S.C. 154(b) by 288 days.

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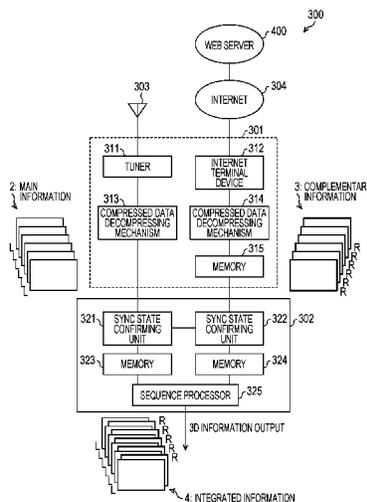
(57) **ABSTRACT**

(51) **Int. Cl.**
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H04N 13/02 (2006.01)
H04N 13/04 (2006.01)

A receiver (101) that receives main information (2) including 2D video content and complementary information (3) for converting the 2D video content to 3D, and an integrating unit (102) that integrates the main information (2) and the complementary information (3), received by the receiver (101), as integrated information (4) by using the main information (2) and the complementary information (3) are provided. Accordingly, 3D video can be viewed without changing the broadcasting format of the current 2D broadcasting or without degrading the image quality.

(52) **U.S. Cl.**
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6 Claims, 8 Drawing Sheets



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FIG. 1

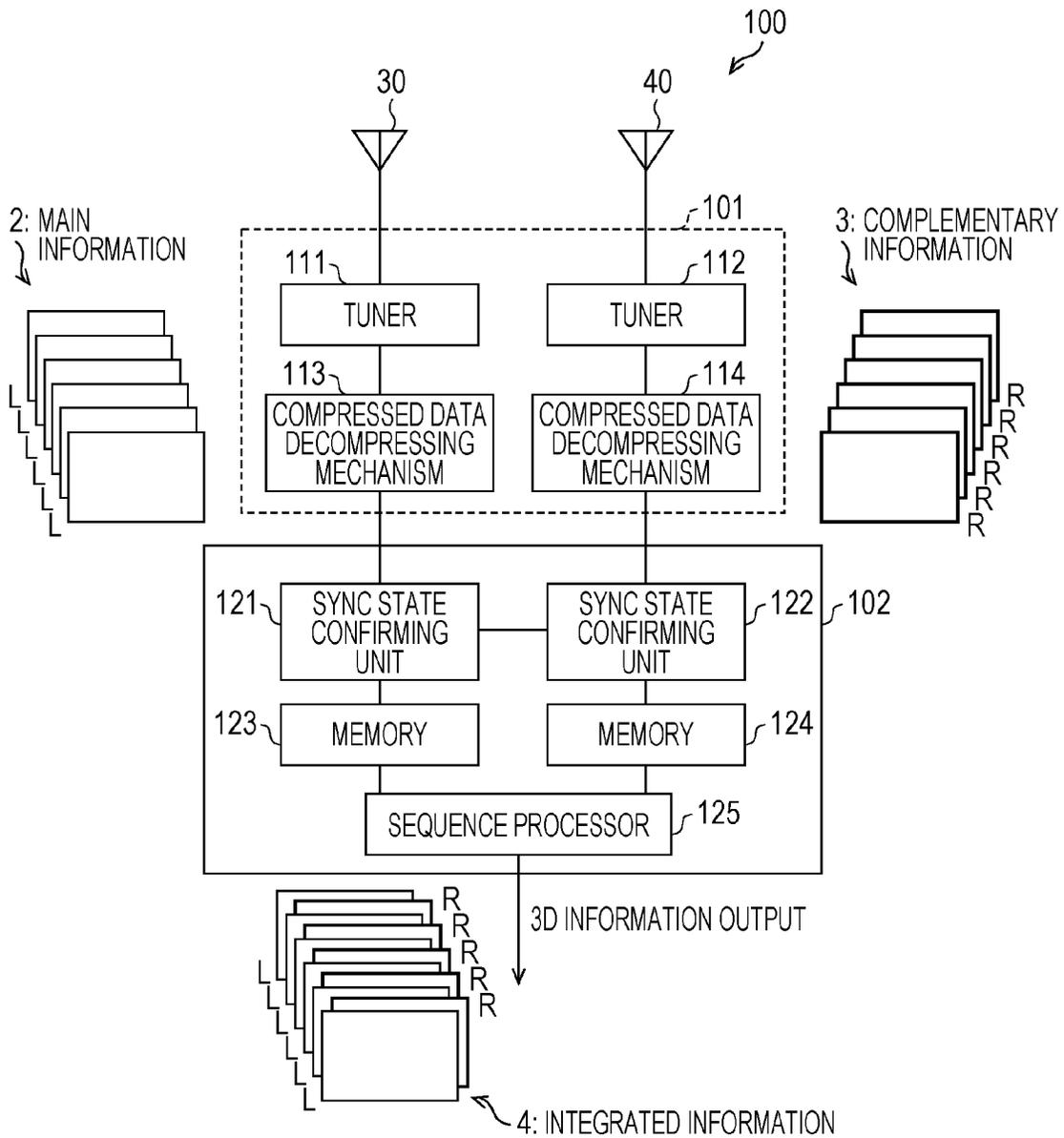


FIG. 3

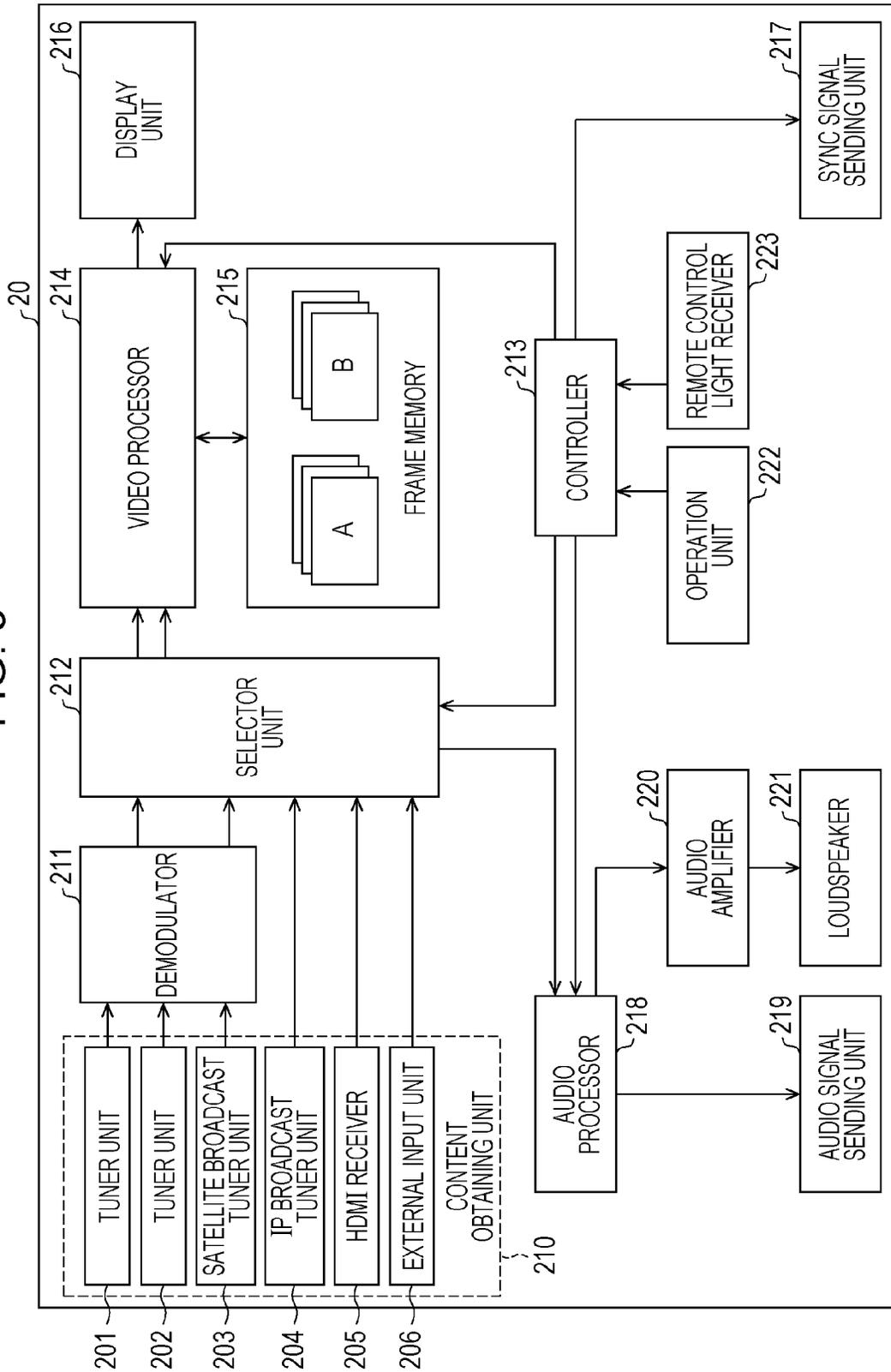


FIG. 4

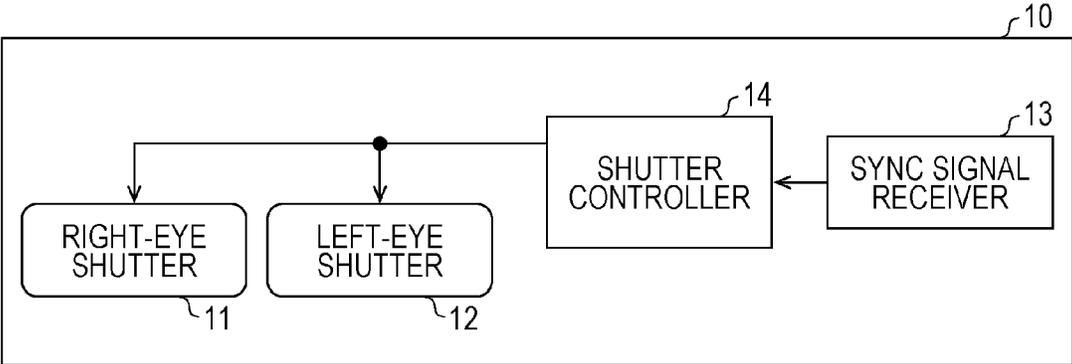


FIG. 5

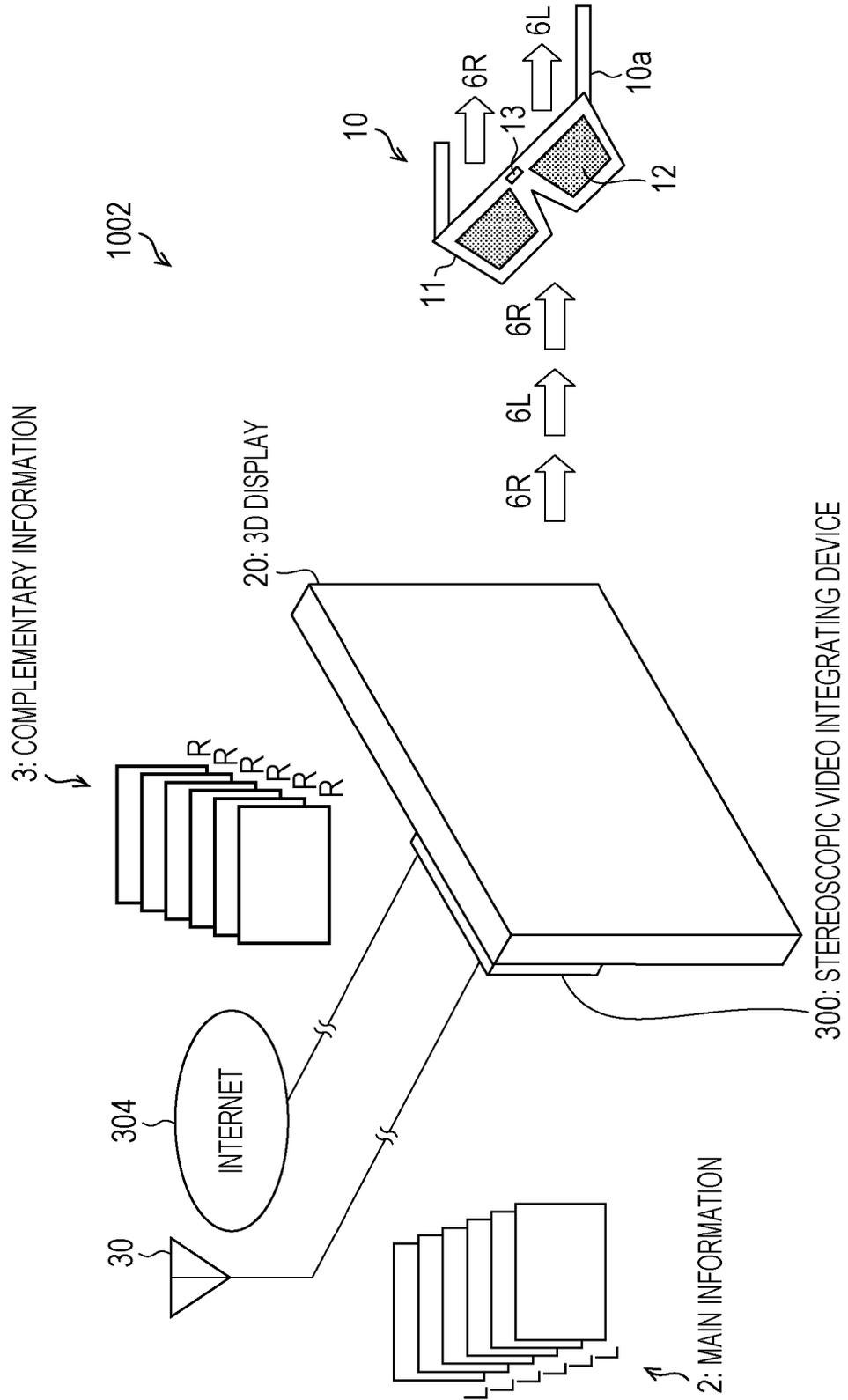


FIG. 6

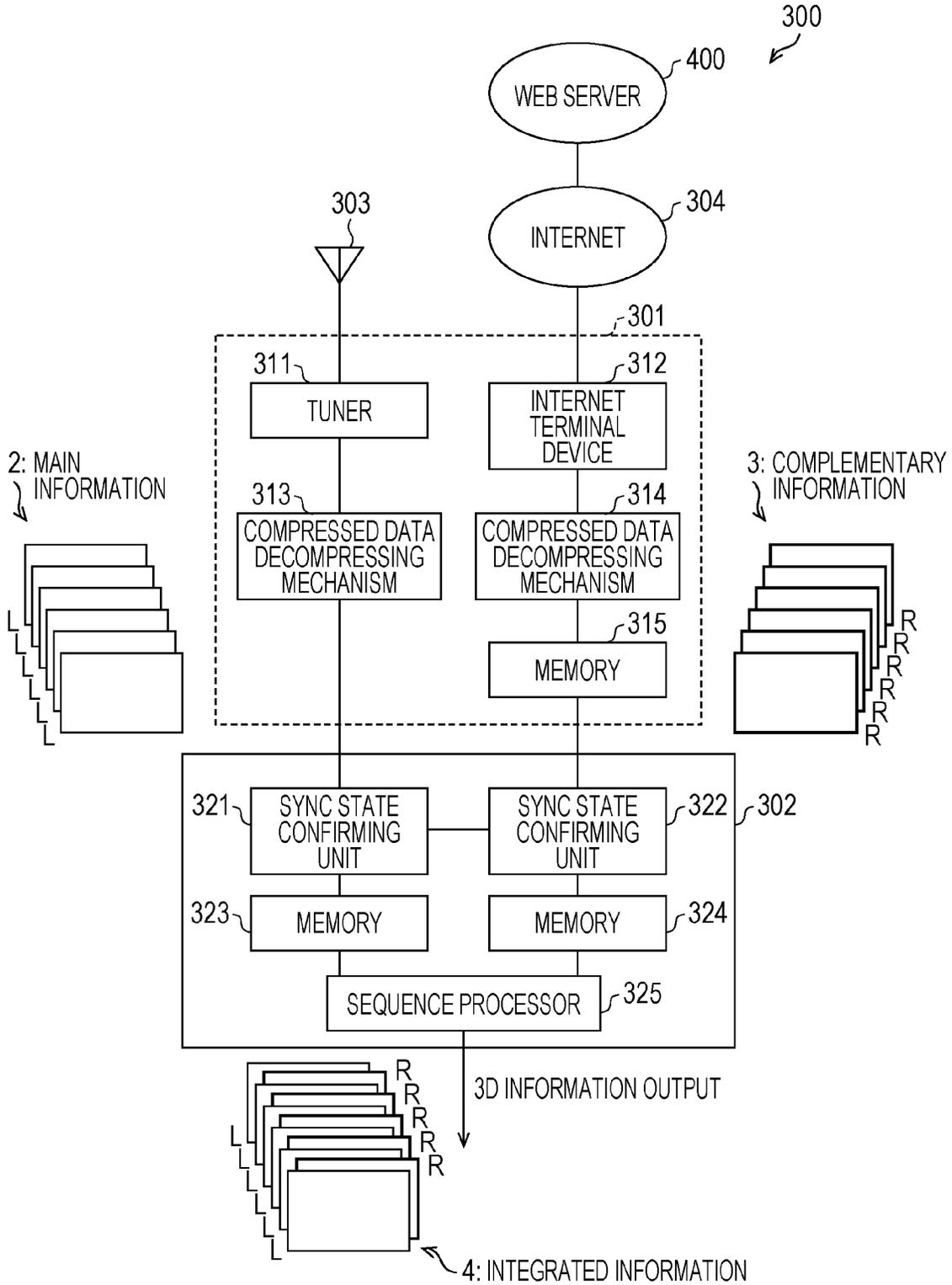


FIG. 7

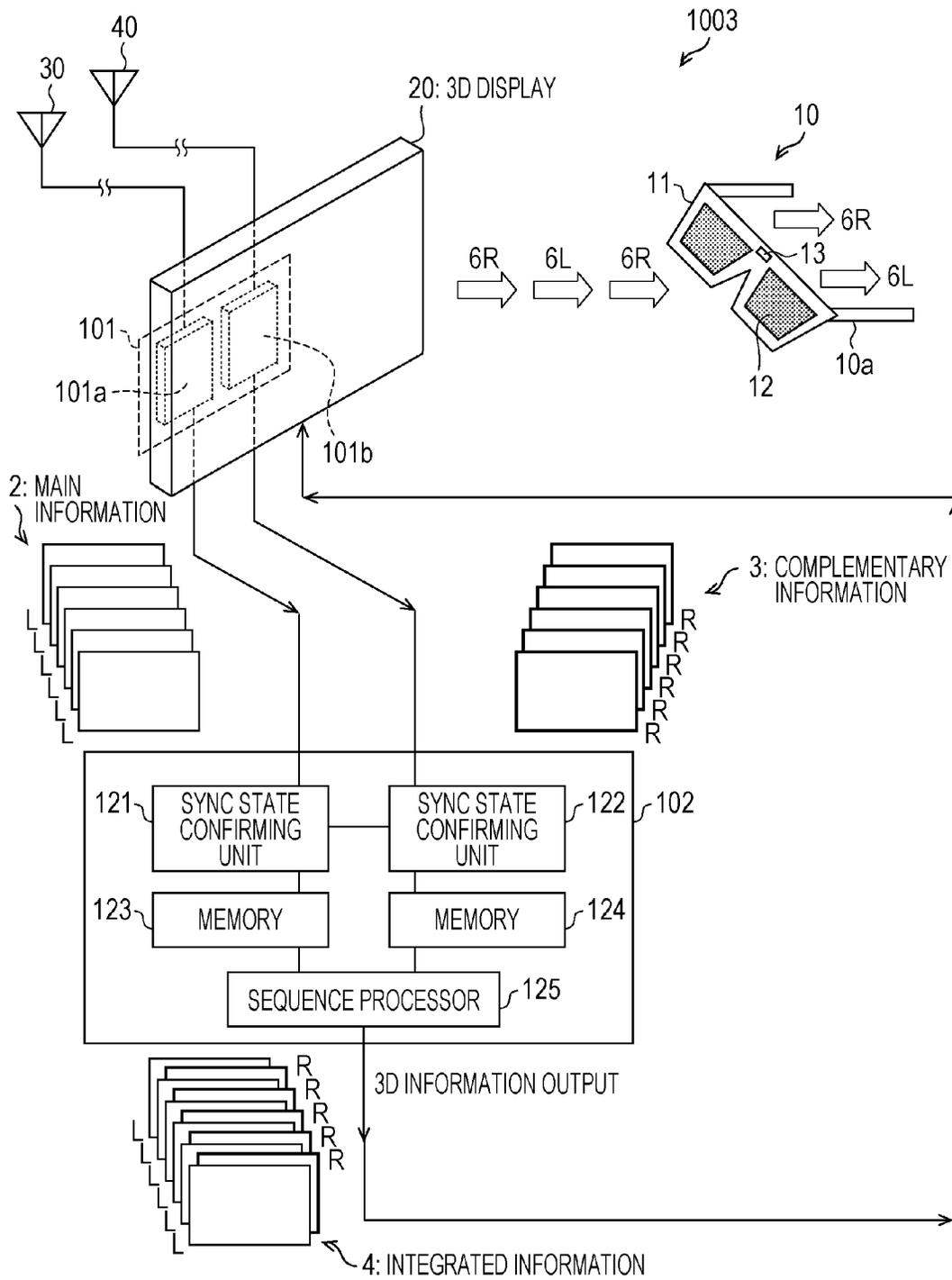
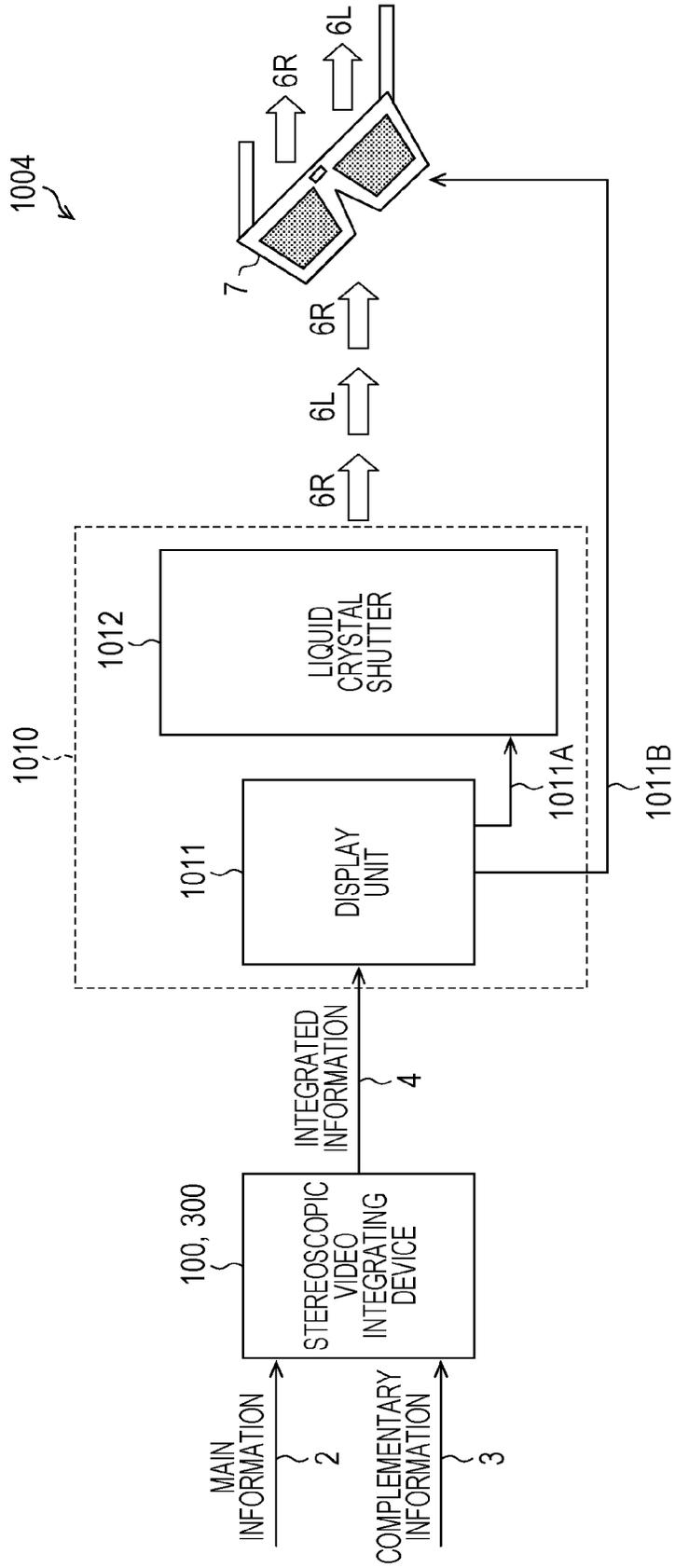


FIG. 8



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**INFORMATION INTEGRATING DEVICE AND
INFORMATION INTEGRATING METHOD
WHICH INTEGRATES STEREOSCOPIC
VIDEO INFORMATION USING MAIN
INFORMATION AND COMPLEMENTARY
INFORMATION**

TECHNICAL FIELD

The present invention relates to an information integrating device or the like that makes it possible to view stereoscopic video (3D video) generated by converting 2-dimensional (D) video content to 3D.

BACKGROUND ART

As stereoscopic video display devices (3D displays) for viewing stereoscopic video have been developed in recent years, various 3D video transmission systems have also been developed.

For example, PTL 1 discloses a transmission system that makes it possible to transmit 3D video utilizing a 2D broadcast transmission system by transmitting main video information as before and compressing complementary information necessary for 3D video display to minimum and sending the information using a frequency band gap.

Also, PTL 2 discloses a 3D video transmission system that realizes 3D broadcasting corresponding to a DFD system (Depth-Fused 3-D: 3D display system using no glasses) or the like by adding depth information to RGB information in the current broadcasting system.

CITATION LIST

Patent Literature

PTL 1: Japanese Unexamined Patent Application Publication No. 63-256091 (published on Oct. 24, 1988)

PTL 2: Japanese Unexamined Patent Application Publication No. 2004-274642 (published on Sep. 30, 2004)

SUMMARY OF INVENTION

Technical Problem

By the way, in the current broadcasting system, the TV broadcasting system is standardized for 2D video; it is thus difficult to broadcast 3D video while the current 2D video image quality is maintained.

For example, when 2D video is converted to 3D video while the image quality is kept, an information amount of about +30% is necessary. However, the transfer rate of the current broadcasting format (terrestrial digital broadcasting format) is 17 Mbps at maximum. The transfer rate of this broadcasting is about 15 Mbps, and data broadcasting is broadcast at 2 Mbps. Thus, 3D video at the current 2D video broadcasting level (image quality) cannot be broadcast unless the maximum transfer rate is increased.

Therefore, the technology described in PTL 1 and 2 and the like, which transfer 3D video by utilizing the current broadcasting format, has a problem that 3D video broadcasting at the current 2D video broadcasting level cannot be realized.

In view of the above-described problem of the background art, it is an object of the present invention to provide an information integrating device or the like that makes it pos-

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sible to view 3D video without changing the current broadcasting format or without degrading the image quality.

Solution to Problem

In order to solve the above-described problem, an information integrating device of the present invention includes a main information receiver that receives main information including two-dimensional video content; a complementary information receiver that receives complementary information for converting the two-dimensional video content to stereoscopic video; and an integrating unit that integrates the main information, received by the main information receiver, and the complementary information, received by the complementary information receiver, as stereoscopic video information by using the main information and the complementary information.

In order to solve the above-described problem, an information integrating method of the present invention is an information integrating method executed by an information integrating device that integrates main information including two-dimensional video content and complementary information for converting the two-dimensional video content to stereoscopic video as stereoscopic video information, including: a main information receiving step of receiving the main information; a complementary information receiving step of receiving the complementary information; and an integrating step of integrating the main information, received in the main information receiving step, and the complementary information, received in the complementary information receiving step, as stereoscopic video information by using the main information and the complementary information.

Here, of the main information and the complementary information, the main information at least including two-dimensional video content (hereinafter referred to as 2D video content) can be transmitted by using the current broadcasting format which transmits 2D video content.

Therefore, according to the above-described configuration or method, stereoscopic video information can be obtained by integrating the main information received by the main information receiver (main information receiving step) and the complementary information received by the complementary information receiver (complementary information receiving step). Thus, what needs to be transmitted to the information integrating device simply include the main information and the complementary information, and it is unnecessary to directly transmit the stereoscopic video information itself.

Accordingly, the transmission system of the current 2D broadcasting format can be used as it is.

Further, because the stereoscopic video information can be obtained by complementing the main information including the 2D video content with the complementary information, the stereoscopic video information becomes information capable of displaying stereoscopic video while keeping the image quality of the 2D video content. In short, using this stereoscopic video information, 3D video can be viewed with the same image quality as that in 2D broadcasting.

From the above description, 3D video can be viewed without changing the broadcasting format of the current 2D broadcasting or without degrading the image quality.

Here, examples of the "2D video content" include, besides moving images (including music, audio data, text data such as subtitles, and the like), still images such as frame-by-frame advancing images and the like.

Also, examples of the "complementary information" include pseudo 2D-3D conversion information for converting 2D video content to pseudo three-dimensional video (3D),

left-eye video or right-eye video in the case where 2D video content serves as the right-eye video or the left-eye video, and the like.

That is, the “complementary information” for realizing 2D-3D conversion is not necessary the actual video data, and may be differential information with respect to the 2D video content (right-eye video or right-eye video). In the first place, the “complementary information” may not relate to video data and may only necessary be complementary information for realizing 2D-3D video conversion.

Advantageous Effects of Invention

As described above, an information integrating device of the present invention includes a main information receiver that receives main information including two-dimensional video content; a complementary information receiver that receives complementary information for converting the two-dimensional video content to stereoscopic video; and an integrating unit that integrates the main information, received by the main information receiver, and the complementary information, received by the complementary information receiver, as stereoscopic video information by using the main information and the complementary information.

As described above, an information integrating method of the present invention is an information integrating method executed by an information integrating device that integrates main information including two-dimensional video content and complementary information for converting the two-dimensional video content to stereoscopic video as stereoscopic video information, including: a main information receiving step of receiving the main information; a complementary information receiving step of receiving the complementary information; and an integrating step of integrating the main information, received in the main information receiving step, and the complementary information, received in the complementary information receiving step, as stereoscopic video information by using the main information and the complementary information.

Therefore, there is an advantage that 3D video can be viewed without changing the broadcasting format of the current 2D broadcasting or without degrading the image quality.

Other objects, features, and excellent points of the present invention will be fully understood from the following description. Also, advantages of the present invention will become apparent from the following description with reference to the attached drawings.

BRIEF DESCRIPTION OF DRAWINGS

FIG. 1 is a block diagram illustrating the configuration of a stereoscopic video integrating device according to an embodiment of the present invention.

FIG. 2 is a block diagram illustrating the configuration of a stereoscopic video display system with the above-described stereoscopic video integrating device.

FIG. 3 is a block diagram illustrating the configuration of a 3D display included in the above-described stereoscopic video display system.

FIG. 4 is a block diagram illustrating the configuration of 3D glasses included in the above-described stereoscopic video display system.

FIG. 5 is a block diagram illustrating the configuration of a stereoscopic video display system according to another embodiment of the present invention.

FIG. 6 is a block diagram illustrating the configuration of a stereoscopic video integrating device provided in the above-described stereoscopic video display system.

FIG. 7 is a block diagram illustrating the configuration of a stereoscopic video display system according to yet another embodiment of the present invention.

FIG. 8 is a block diagram illustrating the configuration of a stereoscopic video display system according to yet another embodiment of the present invention.

DESCRIPTION OF EMBODIMENTS

Embodiments of the present invention will be described with reference to FIGS. 1 to 8 as below. Although a description of a configuration other than that described in the following particular embodiments may be omitted as needed, when that configuration is described in another embodiment, the configuration is the same as that configuration. Also, to simplify the description, members with the same functions as those discussed in each of the embodiments may be given the same reference numerals, and descriptions thereof will be appropriately omitted.

[First Embodiment]

(Configuration of Stereoscopic Video Display System **1001**)

Firstly, the overall configuration of a stereoscopic video display system (information display device, information recording device) **1001** according to an embodiment of the present invention will be described on the basis of FIG. 2, and then the configuration of a stereoscopic video integrating device (information integrating device) **100** provided in the stereoscopic video display system **1001** will be described on the basis of FIG. 1.

FIG. 2 is a block diagram illustrating the configuration of the stereoscopic video display system **1001**. As illustrated in FIG. 2, the stereoscopic video display system **1001** includes 3D glasses **10**, a 3D display (information display device, information recording device) **20**, and the stereoscopic video integrating device **100**.

A first antenna **30** for receiving main information **2** at least including 2D video content (two-dimensional video content) and a second antenna **40** for receiving complementary information **3** for converting the main information **2** to stereoscopic video (3D) are connected to the stereoscopic video integrating device **100**.

Also, the 2D video content included in the main information **2** includes multiple pieces of left-eye video information L (main frames), and the complementary information **3** includes multiple pieces of right-eye video information R (complementary frames).

Here, examples of the “2D video content” include, besides moving images (including music, audio data, text data such as subtitles, and the like), still images such as frame-by-frame advancing images and the like.

Examples of the data format of the “2D video content” include Flash (Web animation creating software sold by Macromedia) relating to video, JPEG (Joint Photographic Experts Group) systems relating to compression of still images, and MPEG (Moving Picture Experts Group) systems relating to compression of moving images.

Note that the MPEG systems are standards for compressing/expanding moving images and audio, which are proposed as the standard technology by ITU-T (International Telecommunication Union Telecommunication Standardization Sector) and ISO (International Organization for Standardization). The current MPEG systems include MPEG 1 used in media such as video CDs, MPEG 2 used in DVDs (Digital

versatile discs) and broadcasting media, MPEG 4 for network distribution and mobile terminals, and the like.

Further, examples of the distribution method of the “2D video content” include distribution using wired or wireless communication, such as Bluetooth (registered trademark), Felica, PLC (power line communication), Wireless LAN (WLAN), IrDA (infrared wireless), IrSS (infrared wireless), TransferJet, WCDMA (communication network), and the like.

Also, examples of “broadcast content” included in the “2D video content” include broadcasting programs such as TV broadcasting by the NTSC (national television system committee) system, PAL (phase alternation by line) system, SECAM (sequential couleur a memoire system) system, HD-MAC (high definition-multiple analogue component) system, and ATV (advanced television) system, dual audio multiplex broadcasting, stereophonic audio multiplex broadcasting, satellite broadcasting using radio waves from a broadcasting satellite (BS) or communication satellite (CS), cable television (CATV), extended definition television (EDTV), high definition television (HDTV), MUSE system, 1 eg, 3 seg, terrestrial digital broadcasting, and the like.

Other examples of the “complementary information 3” include pseudo 2D-3D conversion information for converting 2D video content to pseudo 3D, left-eye video information L or right-eye video information R in the case where 2D video content serves as the right-eye video information R or the left-eye video information L, and the like.

That is, the “complementary information 3” for realizing 2D-3D conversion is not necessary the actual video data, and may be differential information with respect to the 2D video content (right-eye video information R or left-eye video information L). In the first place, the “complementary information 3” may not relate to video data and may only necessary be complementary information for realizing 2D-3D video conversion.

In the stereoscopic video display system 1001, the stereoscopic video integrating device 100 generates integrated information 4 (stereoscopic video information) by integrating the main information 2 received by the first antenna 30 and the complementary information 3 received by the second antenna 40, and outputs the stereoscopic video information as 3D video to the 3D display 20. The integrated information 4 is obtained by alternately arranging, on a frame-by-frame basis, multiple pieces of left-eye video information L and multiple pieces of right-eye video information R and synchronizing the left-eye video information L and the right-eye video information R.

The 3D display 20 alternately displays, on a frame-by-frame basis, left-eye video 6L (main frames) corresponding to the left-eye video information L and right-eye video 6R (complementary frames) corresponding to the right-eye video information R, which are output from the input integrated information 4.

The 3D glasses 10 are active shutter glasses. That is, the 3D glasses 10 show 3D video by utilizing the parallax of a viewer by alternately opening a right-eye shutter 11 and a left-eye shutter 12 corresponding to the right-eye video 6R and the left-eye video 6L alternately displayed on the 3D display 20.

When the right-eye video 6R is displayed on the 3D display 20, control is performed to open the right-eye shutter 11 of the 3D glasses 10 and to close the left-eye shutter 12. When the left-eye video 6L is displayed on the 3D display 20, the left-eye shutter 12 of the 3D glasses 10 opens, and the right-eye shutter 11 closes. Synchronization of the shutter opening/closing at this time is performed by receiving, at a sync signal receiver 13 provided on the 3D glasses 10, a sync signal for

shutter opening/closing sent from the 3D display 20. Also, the shutter opening/closing control is performed by a shutter controller 14 (FIG. 4) described later.

The 3D video display system described above is a time sequential system. However, the 3D video display system is not limited to this system. Other examples include a polarization system, a lenticular system, and a parallax barrier system.

In the polarization system, a polarizing element is stacked as a phase difference film on a display panel (such as a liquid crystal display) of the 3D display 20, and the left-eye video 6L and the right-eye video 6R are displayed with polarization orthogonal to each other on a line (horizontal scanning line)-by-line basis. Videos of lines with different polarization directions are separated by polarized glasses on a line-by-line basis to obtain stereoscopic video.

In the lenticular system, a lenticular lens, which is a special lens, is placed on pixels of a display panel of the 3D display 20, and different videos are displayed at different viewing angles. The lenticular lens is an array of numerous convex D-shaped lenses, each of which has a size corresponding to a few pixels. On the display panel, the left-eye video 6L and the right-eye video 6R are split on a pixel-by-pixel basis, and then the pixels are rearranged (rendered) on the 3D display 20. When this is viewed with both eyes, 3D video is viewed since the right eye and the left eye have different viewing angles. A characteristic of this system is that 3D video can be viewed with naked eyes without wearing special glasses.

Next, in the parallax barrier system, a barrier with an opening is placed in front of a display panel (such as a liquid crystal display) of the 3D display 20. Because both eyes have lines of sight that pass the opening at different angles, 3D video is obtained by utilizing a line-of-sight separation phenomenon based on this parallax. Also with this method, 3D video can be viewed with naked eyes without wearing special glasses.

(Configuration of Stereoscopic Video Integrating Device 100)

FIG. 1 is a block diagram illustrating the configuration of the stereoscopic video integrating device 100. The stereoscopic video integrating device 100 includes, as illustrated in FIG. 1, a receiver 101 that receives the main information 2 and the complementary information 3, and an integrating unit 102 that outputs the integrated information 4 serving as stereoscopic video information from the received main information 2 and complementary information 3.

The receiver 101 includes a tuner 111 connected to the first antenna 30, a tuner 112 connected to the second antenna 40, a compressed data decompressing mechanism 113 connected to the tuner 111, and a compressed data decompressing mechanism 114 connected to the tuner 112.

The tuner 111 connected to the first antenna 30, and the compressed data decompressing mechanism 113 constitute a main information receiver for receiving a TV broadcast (left-eye video information L) of 2D video content serving as the main information 2. The tuner 112 connected to the second antenna 40, and the compressed data decompressing mechanism 114 constitute a complementary information receiver for receiving complementary information (right-eye video information R) for converting 2D video content serving as the complementary information 3 to 3D.

That is, the tuner 111 receives the left-eye video information L, which is the main information 2, via the first antenna 30. Also, the tuner 112 receives the right-eye video information R, which is the complementary information 3, via the second antenna 40.

Note that the tuner 111 and the tuner 112 are separately provided. The tuner 112 is configured to receive the comple-

mentary information 3 from a channel different from a channel used for the tuner 111 to receive the main information 2.

Since information (left-eye video information L and right-eye video information R) received at the receiver 101 has been compressed in a certain format, the information is decompressed (expanded) by the compressed data decompressing mechanisms 113 and 114 at a subsequent stage, and then output to the integrating unit 102.

That is, the compressed data decompressing mechanism 113 outputs the left-eye video information L, which is decompressed in accordance with the compression format of the received main information 2, to a sync state confirming unit 121 of the integrating unit 102 at a subsequent stage. At the same time, the compressed data decompressing mechanism 114 outputs the right-eye video information R, which is decompressed in accordance with the compression format of the received complementary information 3, to a sync state confirming unit 122 of the integrating unit 102 at a subsequent stage.

The integrating unit 102 includes the sync state confirming unit 121 connected to the compressed data decompressing mechanism 113, the sync state confirming unit 122 connected to the compressed data decompressing mechanism 114, a memory 123 connected to the sync state confirming unit 121, a memory 124 connected to the sync state confirming unit 122, and a sequence processor 125 connected to the memory 123 and the memory 124.

The sync state confirming units 121 and 122 confirm sync information attached to pieces of information obtained by the sync state confirming units 121 and 122, confirm the order of sequence on the basis of the sync information, and temporarily store the left-eye video information L and the right-eye video information R in the memory 123 and the memory 124, respectively.

Examples of the "sync information" include (1) a sync signal for notifying the receiver side of a signal receiving timing for surely detecting transmitted information "bits"; (2) two signals indicating, when 3D video (left-eye video 6L or right-eye video 6R) is displayed on the 3D display 20, the timing to display a scanning line, and the timing to start displaying the next screen after displaying the scanning line up to the bottom end of the screen and then returning to the top of the screen. Alternatively, the sync information may include information such as the total number of frames constituting 2D video content, and the total number of complementary frames included in the complementary information.

Also, a "synchronous communications method" that provides, besides a channel for transmitting the main information 2, a channel for transmitting the complementary information 3, and that includes sync information in one of the main information 2 and the complementary information 3 and sends the information may be adopted as a sync information communicating method, as in this embodiment. Alternatively, a "non-synchronous communications method" that adds, for each set of signals transmitting the main information 2 or the complementary information 3 (e.g., for each frame), a sync signal of a particular pattern representing the start and end of a signal and that sends the information may be adopted.

Here, for example, as a method of specifying, by the sync state confirming unit 121, the order of sequence of the left-eye video information L to be temporarily recorded in the memory 123, the following is conceivable. That is, the total number of frames of the left-eye video information L is confirmed from the sync information, the left-eye video information L corresponding to the total number of frames is stored in the memory 123 in the order of reception, and the recording position of the first frame or the last frame of the left-eye

video information L is specified. Accordingly, the order of sequence up to the first frame or the last frame of the left-eye video information L can be specified. The sequence processor 125 knows in which order the sequence processor 125 should read the left-eye video information L from the memory 123. The sequence of the right-eye video information R to be temporarily recorded in the memory 124 can be similarly specified. Note that reception of one frame can be realized by, for example, including information indicating the beginning and end of that frame in each frame.

The sequence processor 125 alternately arranges the left-eye video information L stored in the memory 123 and the right-eye video information R stored in the memory 124 on a frame-by-frame basis, from the first frame to the last frame, in accordance with the order of sequence of the left-eye video information L from the specified first frame to the specified last frame, and the order of sequence of the right-eye video information R from the specified first frame to the specified last frame, and outputs 3D video as the integrated information 4.

That is, in the sequence processor 125, synchronization between the input left-eye video information L and right-eye video information R is achieved on the basis of the temporary recording (storage in the memory 123 and the memory 124), and, when sync information (assuming that sync information is attached to data broadcasting as frame 1-R or the like) is attached, on the basis of the sync information. The left-eye video information L (main frames) and the right-eye video information R (complementary frames) are alternately arranged on a frame-by-frame basis, and the result is output as 3D video (stereoscopic video) to the 3D display 20.

As described above, the integrating unit 102 may perform time adjustment for alternately arranging, on a frame-by-frame basis, multiple pieces of left-eye video information L constituting 2D video content included in the main information 2 and multiple pieces of right-eye video information R that are included in the complementary information 3 and that individually correspond to the multiple pieces of left-eye video information L, thereby synchronizing the left-eye video information L and the right-eye video information R, which corresponds to the left-eye video information L.

At this time, it is necessary to perform time adjustment for alternately arranging, on a frame-by-frame basis, the pieces of left-eye video information L and the pieces of right-eye video information R corresponding to the pieces of left-eye video information L, by taking into consideration the timing to receive the main information 2 (left-eye video information L) by the tuner (main information receiver) 111, the timing to receive the complementary information 3 (right-eye video information R) by the tuner (complementary information receiver) 112, the transmission rates of the main information 2 and the complementary information 3, times involved in decompressing (expanding) the main information 2 and the complementary information 3 when the main information 2 and the complementary information 3 are compressed information, and the like.

Here, as described above, the integrating unit 102 may perform time adjustment for alternately arranging, on a frame-by-frame basis, the left-eye video information L and the right-eye video information R corresponding to the left-eye video information L by using the sync information. Accordingly, more detailed time adjustment, such as adjustment of minute time intervals between frames, can be performed using the sync information.

As described above, the integrating unit 102 may perform time adjustment for alternately arranging, on a frame-by-frame basis, the left-eye video information L and the right-

eye video information R corresponding to the left-eye video information L by recording at least one of the left-eye video information L and the right-eye video information R corresponding to the left-eye video information L in the memory (temporary recording unit) **123** or **124**.

Accordingly, the timing to input the left-eye video information L and the right-eye video information R corresponding to the left-eye video information L to the sequence processor **125** can be adjusted by temporarily recording at least one of the left-eye video information L and the right-eye video information R corresponding to the left-eye video information L in the memory **123** or **124**. Thus, the above-described sync information is unnecessary.

Accordingly, processing using the sync information becomes unnecessary. Thus, it becomes unnecessary to provide a processor for performing such processing in the stereoscopic video integrating device **100**, and the device can be simplified. Also, the amount of transmission of information can be saved for the amount of sync information.

(Configuration of 3D Display **20**)

FIG. 3 is a block diagram illustrating the configuration of the 3D display **20**. The 3D display **20** includes, as illustrated in FIG. 3, a content obtaining unit **210**, a demodulator **211**, a selector unit **212**, a controller **213**, a video processor (display controller, recording controller) **214**, a frame memory (recording unit) **215**, a display unit **216**, a sync signal sending unit **217**, an audio processor **218**, an audio signal sending unit **219**, an audio amplifier **220**, a loudspeaker **221**, an operation unit **222**, and a remote control light receiver **223**.

The content obtaining unit **210** is means for obtaining content data, such as video and audio supplied from the outside. The content obtaining unit **210** includes tuner units **201** and **202**, a satellite broadcast tuner unit **203**, an IP broadcast tuner unit **204**, an HDMI receiver **205**, and an external input unit **206**. Note that HDMI is an acronym for High Definition Multimedia Interface.

The tuner units **201** and **202** obtain content of analog broadcast signals and terrestrial digital broadcast signals. The tuner units **201** and **202** supply video signals and audio signals of the obtained content to the demodulator **211**.

The satellite broadcast tuner unit **203** obtains content of satellite broadcast signals, and supplies video signals and audio signals of the obtained content to the demodulator **211**.

The IP broadcast tuner unit **204** obtains content from a device (such as a server device) connected via a network, and supplies video and audio of the obtained content to the selector unit **212**. Note that the network is not particularly limited. For example, a network using telephone lines, LAN, or the like can be used.

The HDMI receiver **205** obtains content via an HDMI cable, and supplies video and audio of the obtained content to the selector unit **212**.

The external input unit **206** obtains content supplied from an external device connected to the 3D display **20**, and supplies video and audio of the obtained content to the selector unit **212**. The external device may be an HDD (Hard Disk Drive), an external memory, a BD (Blu-ray (registered trademark) Disc) player, a DVD (Digital Versatile Disk) player, a CD (Compact Disc) player, a game machine, or the like.

Note that the above-described stereoscopic video integrating device **100** is connected to the above-described HDMI receiver **205**. Accordingly, an operation performed with a remote controller or the like at the 3D display **20** side can be operatively associated with the stereoscopic video integrating device **100**. This linking operation of the stereoscopic video integrating device **100** will be described later.

The demodulator **211** demodulates video signals and audio signals supplied from the tuner units **201** and **202** and the satellite broadcast tuner unit **203**, and supplies the demodulated video and audio to the selector unit **212**.

On the basis of an instruction from the controller **213**, the selector unit **212** selects video and audio to be reproduced from among the supplied videos and audios, supplies the selected video to the video processor **214**, and supplies the selected audio to the audio processor **218**.

On the basis of a user instruction, the controller **213** determines, as a target to be reproduced, which video to display and which audio to output, from among videos and audios obtained by the content obtaining unit **210** described later, and gives an instruction to the selector unit **212** which video and audio are to be reproduced.

When different videos are selected as targets to be reproduced, the controller **213** supplies, to the video processor **214**, a switching timing signal indicating the switching timing to sequentially display the different videos on the display unit **216**.

Also, in order to enable the 3D glasses **10** to distinguish different videos (left-eye video **6L**, right-eye video **6R**) displayed on the display unit **216**, the controller **213** instructs the sync signal sending unit **217** to send a shutter opening/closing sync signal (video distinguishing signal) synchronized with the timing to switch video displayed on the display unit **216**.

Further, the controller **213** instructs the audio processor **218** whether to output audio from the audio signal sending unit **219** or the loudspeaker **221**.

The controller **213** collectively controls the individual configurations included in the 3D display **20**. Functions of the controller **213** can be realized by, for example, a CPU (central processing unit) reading a program stored in a storage device (not illustrated), which is realized by a ROM (read only memory) or the like, out to a RAM (random access memory) or the like (not illustrated) and executing the program.

The video processor **214** stores video supplied from the selector unit **212** in the frame memory **215** on a frame-by-frame basis. When different videos are supplied from the selector unit **212**, the video processor **214** stores these videos in different regions of the frame memory **215**. On the basis of a switching timing signal supplied from the controller **213**, the video processor **214** reads these videos from the frame memory on a frame-by-frame basis, and supplies the videos to the display unit **216**. The display unit **216** displays the videos on a frame-by-frame basis, which are supplied from the video processor **214**.

On the basis of an instruction from the controller **213**, the sync signal sending unit **217** sends a shutter opening/closing sync signal to the sync signal receiver **13** of the 3D glasses **10**. Although the sync signal sending unit **217** adopts a configuration that sends a sync signal by performing wireless communication in this embodiment, the configuration is not limited to this case. A sync signal may be sent using a LAN or a communication cable such as HDMI. Wireless communication performed by the sync signal sending unit **217** can be realized by, for example, infrared communication or TransferJet.

On the basis of an instruction from the controller **213**, the audio processor **218** supplies audio supplied from the selector unit **212** to the audio signal sending unit **219** or the audio amplifier **220**.

The audio amplifier **220** supplies audio supplied from the audio processor **218** to the loudspeaker **221**, and drives the loudspeaker **221** to output the supplied audio. Accordingly, the loudspeaker **221** outputs the audio supplied from the audio amplifier **220**.

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Also, the operation unit **222** accepts a user instruction given by operating the operation unit **222**, and supplies the accepted user instruction to the controller **213**. The remote control light receiver **223** obtains a user instruction given by operating a remote controller (not illustrated), and supplies the obtained user instruction to the controller **213**. Note that the user instruction may be a selection instruction of selecting which video is to be displayed on the display unit **216**, out of videos obtained by the content obtaining unit **210**.

Note that, in the 3D display **20** in this embodiment, the video processor **214** illustrated in FIG. **3** corresponds to a recording controller, and the frame memory **215** corresponds to a recording unit. Thus, the 3D display **20** has a feature as an embodiment of an information recording device of the present invention. However, the information recording device of the present invention is not limited to an embodiment including the function of an information display device and the function of an information recording device, and may be a separate unit from the 3D display **20**.

(Configuration of 3D Glasses **10**)

FIG. **4** is a block diagram illustrating the configuration of the 3D glasses **10**. The 3D glasses **10** are, as described above, active shutter glasses, and include the right-eye shutter **11**, the left-eye shutter **12**, the sync signal receiver **13**, and the shutter controller **14**.

The sync signal receiver **13** receives a shutter opening/closing sync signal sent from the sync signal sending unit **217** of the 3D display **20**, and supplies the received sync signal to the shutter controller **14**.

On the basis of the supplied sync signal, the shutter controller **14** alternately opens/closes the right-eye shutter **11** and the left-eye shutter **12**. Specifically, for example, when the sync signal is a signal that takes two values, namely, high level (H level) and low level (L level), the shutter controller **14** opens the right-eye shutter **11** and closes the left-eye shutter **12** when the supplied sync signal is at H level, and performs control so that video passes only the right-eye shutter **11**. In contrast, when the sync signal is at L level, the shutter controller **14** closes the right-eye shutter **11** and opens the left-eye shutter **12**, thereby performing control so that video passes only the left-eye shutter **12**.

That is, a user who is viewing the 3D display **20** can view the right-eye video **6R** displayed on the 3D display **20** with the right eye when the right-eye shutter **11** of the 3D glasses **10** is open, and can view the left-eye video **6L** displayed on the 3D display **20** with the left eye when the left-eye shutter **12** is open.

At this time, the user integrates the left and right videos based on the parallax of the left and right eyes and recognizes the integrated video as 3D video.

(Description of Basic Operation of Stereoscopic Video Display System **1001**)

The basic operation of the stereoscopic video display system **1001** with the above-described configuration will be described below with reference to FIGS. **1** to **4**.

Firstly, when the user adjusts a TV channel to a TV station performing 3D broadcasting by using a remote controller of the 3D display **20** or the like, the tuner **111** of the stereoscopic video integrating device **100** connected to the 3D display **20** operates in an associative manner and receives a 2D broadcast (2D video content) of the TV station selected by the user as main information **2**.

In association with the receiving operation of the tuner **111**, the tuner **112** operates in an associative manner so as to adjust to a channel that simultaneously broadcasts complementary information **3** specified by the above-described TV station,

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and the tuner **112** receives complementary information **3** for converting the 2D broadcast received by the tuner **111** to 3D.

The received signals are decompressed (expanded) by the compressed data decompressing mechanisms **113** and **114** in accordance with their compression formats to generate left-eye video information L and right-eye video information R, which are then input to the integrating unit **102**.

With the sync state confirming units **121** and **122**, the integrating unit **102** checks the sync state between the left-eye video information L and the right-eye video information R on the basis of distributed sync information attached to at least one of the main information **2** and the complementary information **3**, and, from the sync information, records video information to be delayed in the memory **123** or **124** so as to synchronize the left-eye video **6L** and the right-eye video **6R**. After synchronization is achieved, the sequence processor **125** arranges the left-eye video **6L** and the right-eye video **6R** so as to be alternately arranged, and outputs the arranged left-eye video **6L** and the right-eye video **6R** as 3D video to the display unit **216** via the HDMI receiver **205** of the 3D display **20**.

Here, when synchronization is achieved so that the left-eye video information L and the right-eye video information R are alternately arranged on a frame-by-frame basis, the left-eye video **6L** obtained from the left-eye video information L and the right-eye video **6R** obtained from the right-eye video information R are alternately displayed on the 3D display **20** on a frame-by-frame basis. Using the above-described 3D glasses **10**, the user views the right-eye video **6R** only with the right eye when the right-eye video **6R** is displayed, and views the left-eye video **6L** only with the left eye when the left-eye video **6L** is displayed, thereby recognizing the video as stereoscopic video.

Note that, in the integrating unit **102**, on the basis of distributed sync information attached to at least one of the main information **2** and the complementary information **3**, the main information **2** and the complementary information **3** are synchronized, and the main information **2** and the complementary information **3** are arranged and integrated as integrated information **4**. However, the manner of achieving synchronization is not limited to this case.

For example, at a timing at which the left-eye video information L and the right-eye video information R are input to the integrating unit **102**, the left-eye video information L included in the main information **2** and the right-eye video information R included in the complementary information **3** may be synchronized, and the left-eye video information L and the right-eye video information R may be alternately arranged on a frame-by-frame basis and integrated as integrated information **4**.

In this case, it is unnecessary to attach sync information to the main information **2** and the complementary information **3** and distribute the sync information. Thus, it becomes unnecessary to additionally provide a circuit or the like for performing processing using sync information, and, as a result, the circuit configuration of the device can be simplified.

As in this embodiment, when the complementary information **3** is distributed as well as the main information **2** in TV broadcasting, a sync signal for synchronizing the main information **2** and the complementary information **3** can be recorded using a region for data broadcasting. Thus, when a broadcasting station sends the main information **2** and the complementary information **3**, detailed synchronization becomes unnecessary.

In the first embodiment, as described above, the example in which the complementary information **3** is transmitted in the same transmission format (format in which the complemen-

tary information 3 is transmitted on TV broadcasting waves) as the main information 2 has been described. However, transmission of the complementary information 3 is not necessary to be in the same transmission format as the main information 2, and the complementary information 3 may be transmitted via the Internet. In the following embodiment, an example in which transmission of the complementary information 3 is performed via the Internet will be described.

[Second Embodiment]

(Configuration of Stereoscopic Video Display System 1002)

FIG. 5 is a block diagram illustrating the configuration of a stereoscopic video display system (information display device, information recording device) 1002 according to this embodiment.

As illustrated in FIG. 5, the stereoscopic video display system 1002 is different from the stereoscopic video display system 1001 in the above-described first embodiment in the point that the stereoscopic video display system 1002 has a stereoscopic video integrating device 300 instead of the stereoscopic video integrating device 100. Because the other elements are not different between the stereoscopic video display system 1002 and the stereoscopic video display system 1001, detailed descriptions thereof will be omitted.

(Configuration of Stereoscopic Video Integrating Device 300)

FIG. 6 is a block diagram illustrating the configuration of the stereoscopic video integrating device 300. The stereoscopic video integrating device 300 includes, as illustrated in FIG. 6, a receiver (main information receiver, complementary information receiver) 301 that receives main information 2 and complementary information 3, and an integrating unit 302 that outputs integrated information 4 serving as stereoscopic video information from the received main information 2 and complementary information 3.

The receiver 301 includes a tuner (main information receiver) 311 connected to a first antenna 303, an Internet terminal device (complementary information receiver) 312 connected to a web server 400 via the Internet 304, a compressed data decompressing mechanism 313, a compressed data decompressing mechanism 314, and a memory (temporary recording unit) 315.

The tuner 311 connected to the first antenna 303, and the compressed data decompressing mechanism 313 constitute a main information receiver for receiving a TV broadcast (left-eye video information L) of 2D video content serving as the main information 2. This point is the same as the stereoscopic video integrating device 100 in the above-described first embodiment. What is different is the configuration of a complementary information receiver for obtaining the complementary information 3.

That is, the complementary information receiver includes the Internet terminal device 312 connected to the web server 400 via the Internet 304, the compressed data decompressing mechanism 314, and the memory 315.

In the receiver 301 with the above-described configuration, as in the above-described first embodiment, the tuner 311 receives, as content, left-eye video information L which is the main information 2 via the first antenna 303.

In contrast, in the complementary information receiver, right-eye video information R which is the complementary information 3 is received by the Internet terminal device 312 via the Internet, unlike in the above-described first embodiment.

Since information (left-eye video information L and right-eye video information R) received at the receiver 301 has been compressed in a certain format, the information is

decompressed (expanded) by the compressed data decompressing mechanisms 313 and 314 at a subsequent stage. After that, the compressed data decompressing mechanism 313 on the main information 2 side outputs the decompressed information as it is to the integrating unit 302, and the compressed data decompressing mechanism 314 on the complementary information 3 side temporarily stores the decompressed information in the memory 315, and then outputs the information to the integrating unit 302 at a certain timing.

That is, the compressed data decompressing mechanism 313 outputs the left-eye video information L, which is decompressed in accordance with the compression format of the received main information 2, to a sync state confirming unit 321 of the integrating unit 302 at a subsequent stage.

At the same time, the compressed data decompressing mechanism 314 temporarily stores the right-eye video information R, which is decompressed in accordance with the compression format of the received complementary information 3, in the memory 315, and outputs the information to a sync state confirming unit 322 of the integrating unit 302 at a subsequent stage.

As described above, the complementary information 3 is temporarily stored in the memory 315 in order to avoid the following circumstances.

That is, when the complementary information 3 is distributed via the Internet, if the complementary information receiver records the complementary information 3 received via the Internet in the memory 315 before the broadcast, the circumstances in which Internet connection becomes congested and it becomes too late for the broadcast can be avoided.

The integrating unit 302 includes the sync state confirming unit 321 connected to the compressed data decompressing mechanism 313, the sync state confirming unit 322 connected via the memory 315 to the compressed data decompressing mechanism 314, a memory 323 connected to the sync state confirming unit 321, a memory 324 connected to the sync state confirming unit 322, and a sequence processor 325 connected to the memory 323 and the memory 324.

Since the integrating unit 302 has the same configuration as the integrating unit 102 of the stereoscopic video integrating device 100 in the above-described first embodiment, details thereof will be omitted.

In the sequence processor 325, synchronization between the input left-eye video information L and right-eye video information R is achieved on the basis of the temporary recording (storage in the memory 323 and the memory 324), and, when sync information (assuming that sync information is attached to data broadcasting as frame 1-R or the like) is attached, on the basis of the sync information. The left-eye video information L (main frames) and the right-eye video information R (complementary frames) are alternately arranged on a frame-by-frame basis to generate integrated information 4, and the integrated information 4 is output as 3D video (stereoscopic video information) to the 3D display 20.

As in the stereoscopic video display system 1002 with the above-described configuration, means for obtaining the complementary information 3 has the same or similar advantages as in the above-described first embodiment by utilizing distribution from the web server 400 via the Internet 304, instead of using 2D broadcasting waves.

That is, even with the stereoscopic video integrating device 300 with the above-described configuration, 3D video can be viewed without changing the current broadcasting format or without degrading the image quality.

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Also, obtaining of the complementary information **3** may be performed via a cable that sends television signals in CATV, instead of via the Internet. In this case, the Internet terminal device **312** of the stereoscopic video integrating device **300** is simply replaced by a set-top box for CATV.

As described above, according to the stereoscopic video integrating devices **100** and **300** of the first and second embodiments, because the receivers **101** and **301** for receiving main information and complementary information and the integrating units **102** and **302** are provided in both the stereoscopic video integrating devices **100** and **300**, 3D video in a state where the current 2D image quality is maintained can be viewed by broadcasting the main information **2** (main broadcast) in a normal 2D broadcasting format and sending the complementary information **3** via a different channel or the Internet. Therefore, the TV station's risk is reduced, and hence, there is an advantage that the viewer can easily obtain 3D video.

Also, the examples in which the stereoscopic video integrating devices **100** and **300** described in the first and second embodiments include the receivers **101** and **301** directly connected to the antennas and the integrating units **102** and **302** have been described. Alternatively, the receivers **101** and **301** may be included in the 3D display **20**, and the integrating units **102** and **302** may be externally attached to the 3D display **20**.

In the following third embodiment, an example in which the receiver **101** of the stereoscopic video integrating device **100** of the above-described first embodiment is provided in the 3D display **20** will be described.

[Third Embodiment]

(Configuration of Stereoscopic Video Display System **1003**)

FIG. **7** is a block diagram illustrating the configuration of a stereoscopic video display system (information display device, information recording device) **1003** according to this embodiment. As illustrated in FIG. **7**, the stereoscopic video display system **1003** has substantially the same configuration as the stereoscopic video display system **1001** illustrated in FIG. **2** in the above-described first embodiment, and the stereoscopic video display system **1003** is different from the stereoscopic video display system **1001** in the point that the receiver **101** in the stereoscopic video integrating device **100** is included in the 3D display **20**.

The receiver (main information receiver, complementary information receiver) **101** includes a first receiver (main information receiver) **101a** connected to the first antenna **30**, and a second receiver (complementary information receiver) **101b** connected to the second antenna **40**.

The first receiver **101a** constitutes a main information input unit including the tuner **111** and the compressed data decompressing mechanism **113** (not illustrated).

The second receiver **101b** constitutes a complementary information input unit including the tuner **112** and the compressed data decompressing mechanism **114** (not illustrated).

Note that, as described above, when the receiver **101** is included in the 3D display **20**, only the tuners **111** and **112** may be included in the 3D display **20**, and the compressed data decompressing mechanisms **113** and **114** may be provided on the integrating unit **102** side.

Also, tuners originally included in the 3D display **20** may be used as the above-described tuners **111** and **112**.

Even in the stereoscopic video display system **1003** with the above-described configuration, as in the stereoscopic video display system **1001** described in the other embodiment, left-eye video information **L** included in main information **2** received by the receiver **101** and right-eye video infor-

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mation **R** included in complementary information **3** are integrated by the integrating unit **104** to generate integrated information **4**, and the integrated information **4** is output as 3D video to the 3D display **20**.

The stereoscopic video display system **1003** with the above-described configuration has the same or similar advantages as in the first and second embodiments. That is, 3D video can be viewed without changing the current broadcasting format or without degrading the image quality.

In the first to third embodiments as described above, the examples in which the frame sequential 3D display **20** and the active shutter 3D glasses **10** are used are described as the 3D display system. However, the 3D display system is not limited to this system. Alternatively, a shutter may be provided on the 3D display **20** side, instead of the 3D glasses **10** side.

In the following fourth embodiment, an example of the 3D display system in which a shutter for switching between the left and right videos is provided on the 3D display side will be described.

[Fourth Embodiment]

(Configuration of Stereoscopic Video Display System **1004**)

FIG. **8** is a block diagram illustrating the configuration of a stereoscopic video display system **1004** according to this embodiment. The stereoscopic video display system (information display device, information recording device) **1004** includes, as illustrated in FIG. **8**, the stereoscopic video integrating device **100** or the stereoscopic video integrating device **300**, a 3D display (information display device) **1010**, and polarized glasses **7**. The stereoscopic video integrating devices **100** and **300** are stereoscopic video integrating devices (information integrating devices) described in the first and second embodiments, respectively.

The 3D display **1010** is constituted of a display unit **1011** and a liquid crystal shutter **1012**. The display unit **1011** and the liquid crystal shutter **1012** are connected by a line **1011A**, and the display unit **1011** and the polarized glasses **7** are connected by a line **1011B**.

Stereoscopic video information serving as integrated information **4** generated by the stereoscopic video integrating device **100** or **300** is input to the display unit **1011**, and the display unit **1011** is configured to display 3D video. Note that the display unit **1011** is constituted of a TV, a projector, or the like.

The liquid crystal shutter **1012** is constituted of liquid crystal or the like and is configured to switch between two transmission deflection light beams.

The polarized glasses **7** are constituted of left and right liquid crystal shutters (or deflection plates different for the left and right) for viewing left-eye video information **L** and right-eye video information **R** including frames in a certain order via the liquid crystal shutter **1012**.

Therefore, in the stereoscopic video display system **1004**, using the human eye parallax, pieces of video information of left-eye video **6L** and right-eye video **6R** are projected to the left and right, and the polarized glasses **7** enable the viewer to view the video information as 3D video.

Also, as illustrated in FIG. **8**, the liquid crystal shutter **1012**, which is constituted of liquid crystal or the like and which is capable of switching between two transmission deflection light beams, is controlled to, for example, vertically deflect the transmitted right-eye video **6R** and to horizontally deflect the left-eye video **6L**, thereby changing the angle of deflection of light on a field-by-field basis.

In this case, the polarized glasses **7** are only necessary to include deflection plates different for the left and right (vertical deflection and horizontal deflection) that are attached to

each other. The line **1011B** for supplying, from the display unit **1011**, a field sync signal corresponding to the timing to control the liquid crystal shutter **1012** by the display unit **1011** via the line **1011A** to the polarized glasses **7** becomes unnecessary.

In contrast, when the liquid crystal shutter **1012** is not used, it is necessary to provide a liquid crystal shutter on the polarized glasses **7**, and the line **1011B** for a field sync signal becomes necessary.

As in the stereoscopic video display system **1004** according to this embodiment, even when the 3D display **1010** using another system as the 3D display system is used, the same or similar advantages as those in the first to third embodiments can be achieved.

(Conclusion)

As described above, the information integrating device of the present invention is not limited to the stereoscopic video integrating devices described in the first to fourth embodiments, and the information integrating device of the present invention can have any configuration as long as the device at least has the following configuration.

(1) As a main information input unit capable of obtaining a TV broadcast (left-eye video information L) of 2D video content, a tuner with a terminal connectable to an antenna is provided.

(2) As a complementary information input unit capable of obtaining complementary information (right-eye video information R) for converting the 2D video content to 3D, another tuner for obtaining information from a channel different from the above is provided.

(3) An integrating unit is provided, which achieves synchronization between the input left-eye video information L and right-eye video information R on the basis of temporary recording, and, when a sync signal (assuming that a sync signal accompanies a data broadcasting unit as frame 1-R or the like) is attached, on the basis of the sync signal, and which alternately arranges main frames and complementary frames on a frame-by-frame basis and outputs the result.

Further, the main information **2** described in the above-described first to fourth embodiments may be 2D video content (for example, left-eye video information L), which is not limited to distribution via TV broadcasting waves, and which may be distribution of CATV via cable, or distribution via an external network such as the Internet.

Also, the complementary information **3** may be information necessary for converting 2D video content (such as right-eye video information R) or the main information **2** to 3D, which is not limited to distribution via TV broadcasting waves, and which may be distribution of CATV via cable, or distribution via an external network such as the Internet.

Also, a method of attaching a sync signal for synchronizing the main information **2** and the complementary information **3** may be a method of attaching data such as "frame 1 left" on a frame-by-frame basis in a data broadcasting region of terrestrial digital broadcasting, or a method of recording a sync signal in a format to be actually displayed in the corner of a screen (as in a time signal).

Although examples of the 3D display **20** and the 3D display **1010** in which the viewer cannot view 3D video broadcasting unless the viewer uses the 3D glasses **10** or the polarized glasses **7** have been described in the above-described first to fourth embodiments, the first to fourth embodiments are not limited to these examples. The invention of the present application is applicable to examples where a 3D display without using the 3D glasses **10** or the polarized glasses **7** is used.

In this case, for example, it is only necessary to further provide, for example, in the integrating unit **102**, a video

creating unit that automatically creates multi-viewpoint video information on the basis of the main information **2** and the complementary information **3**.

Note that the technology disclosed in PTL 1 described above is a 3D video transmission method of performing both 2D broadcasting and 3D broadcasting by transmitting a main video signal (similar to main information) as before, and compressing a sub-video signal (similar to complementary information) to minimum and sending the signals using a frequency band gap. Also, the technology disclosed in PTL 2 described above is a 3D video transmission method that realizes 3D broadcasting which handles DFD (3D display system without using glasses) or the like in the current broadcasting system, which is a transmission method that realizes 3D broadcasting by adding depth information to RGB information.

However, the technology in these documents has difficulty in performing 3D broadcasting at full HD (full high definition) while adapting to the current broadcasting system. Further, these documents lack description of a specific configuration necessary for actually receiving information. In contrast, the information integrating device of the present invention performs, by adopting the above-described configuration, both 2D broadcasting and 3D broadcasting without changing the current broadcasting format, which is thus capable of performing 3D broadcasting without degrading the image quality. There is an advantage that the user can easily obtain stereoscopic video of high image quality.

Finally, the individual blocks of the stereoscopic video integrating devices **100** and **300**, particularly the receivers **101** and **301** and the integrating units **102** and **302**, may be realized in terms of hardware by using logic circuits formed on an integrated circuit (IC chip), or may be realized in terms of software using a CPU (Central Processing Unit).

In the latter case, the stereoscopic video integrating devices **100** and **300** each include a CPU (Central Processing Unit) that executes commands of a program for realizing the individual functions, a ROM (Read Only Memory) that stores the program, a RAM (Random Access Memory) that expands the program, a storage device (recording medium) such as a memory that stores the program and various types of data, and the like.

An object of the present invention can be achieved by supplying a computer-readable recording medium having recorded thereon program code (executable program, intermediate code program, or source program) of a control program (information integrating program or the like) of the stereoscopic video integrating devices **100** and **300**, which is software for realizing the above-described functions, to the stereoscopic video integrating devices **100** and **300**, and reading and executing the program code recorded on the recording medium by using a computer (or CPU or MPU (Micro Processor Unit)) of the stereoscopic video integrating devices **100** and **300**.

As the recording medium, for example, tapes such as magnetic tapes and a cassette tape, disks including magnetic disks such as floppy (registered trademark) disks and hard disks and optical disks such as CD-ROM, MO, MD, DVD, and CD-R, cards such as IC cards (including memory cards)/optical cards, semiconductor memories such as mask ROM, EPROM, EEPROM, and flash ROM, logic circuits such as PLD (Programmable logic device) and FPGA (Field Programmable Gate Array), or the like can be used.

Alternatively, the stereoscopic video integrating devices **100** and **300** may be configured to be connectable to a communication network, and the program code may be supplied via the communication network.

The communication network is only necessary to be capable of transmitting the program code and is not particularly limited. For example, the Internet, an intranet, extranet, LAN, ISDN, VAN, CATV communication network, virtual private network, telephone network, mobile communication network, satellite communication network, or the like can be used.

Also, a transmission medium constituting the communication network is only necessary to be a medium capable of transmitting the program code, and is not limited to a medium with a particular configuration or of a particular type. For example, wired transmission media such as IEEE 1394, USB, power-line carriers, cable TV lines, telephone lines, and ADSL (Asymmetric Digital Subscriber Line) lines, or wireless transmission media such as infrared rays such as IrDA and a remote controller, TransferJet, Bluetooth (registered trademark), IEEE 802.11 wireless, HDR (High Data Rate), NFC (Near Field Communication), DLNA (Digital Living Network Alliance), mobile phone network, satellite links, and terrestrial digital networks can be used.

Note that the present invention can be realized as an encoded computer program in a computer-readable medium, in which, when the information integrating device has the readable medium and when the computer program is executed by a computer, the computer program realizes functions of the individual means of the information integrating device.

Also, the present invention can be represented as follows.

That is, the information integrating device of the present invention may perform time adjustment for alternately arranging, on a frame-by-frame basis, main frames constituting two-dimensional video content included in the main information and complementary frames that are included in the complementary information and that individually correspond to the main frames, thereby synchronizing the main frames and the complementary frames, which correspond to the main frames.

According to the above-described configuration, the integrating unit synchronizes the main frames and the complementary frames, which correspond to the main frames. More specifically, synchronization is achieved by alternately arranging, on a frame-by-frame basis, the main frames constituting 2D video content and the complementary frames corresponding to the main frames.

At this time, it is necessary to perform time adjustment for alternately arranging, on a frame-by-frame basis, the main frames and the complementary frames corresponding to the main frames, by taking into consideration the timing to receive the main information (main frames) by the main information receiver, the timing to receive the complementary information (complementary frames) by the complementary information receiver, the transmission rates of the main information and the complementary information, times involved in decompressing (expanding) the main information and the complementary information when the main information and the complementary information are compressed information, and the like. Thus, according to the above-described configuration, synchronization between the main frames and the complementary frames, which correspond to the main frames, can be appropriately achieved by performing the above time adjustment.

Also, in the information integrating device of the present invention, at least one of the main information and the complementary information includes sync information for synchronizing the main frames and the complementary frames, which correspond to the main frames, and the integrating unit may perform time adjustment for alternately

arranging the main frames and the complementary frames, which correspond to the main frames, on a frame-by-frame basis by using the sync information.

According to the above-described configuration, more detailed time adjustment, such as adjustment of minute time intervals between frames, can be performed using the sync information.

Examples of the sync information include a sync signal sent from the sender side to the receiver side for reporting the timing to receive 2D video content when the 2D video content is transmitted, a signal indicating the timing to display a scanning line when stereoscopic video (main frame or complementary frame) is displayed on a certain display screen, and a signal indicating the timing to start displaying the next screen after displaying the scanning line up to the bottom end of the screen and then returning to the top of the screen.

Also, in the information integrating device of the present invention, the integrating unit may perform time adjustment for alternately arranging, on a frame-by-frame basis, the main frames and the complementary information (complementary frames) corresponding to the main information in a certain temporary recording unit, the timing to input the main frames and the complementary frames, which correspond to the main frames, in a certain temporary recording unit.

According to the above-described configuration, by temporarily recording at least one of main information (main frames) and complementary information (complementary frames) corresponding to the main information in a certain temporary recording unit, the timing to input the main frames and the complementary frames, which correspond to the main frames, to the integrating unit can be adjusted. Therefore, the above-described sync information is unnecessary.

Accordingly, processing using the sync information becomes unnecessary. Thus, it becomes unnecessary to provide a processor for performing such processing in the information integrating device, and the device can be simplified. Also, the amount of transmission of information can be saved for the amount of sync information.

Also, the display control device of the present invention may include a display controller that performs processing to display stereoscopic video information integrated by the above-described information integrating device.

According to the above-described configuration, the display control device displays stereoscopic video information integrated by using the above-described information integrating device. It thus becomes possible to view 3D video without changing the broadcasting format of the current 2D broadcasting or without degrading the image quality.

Also, the information recording device of the present invention may include a recording controller that performs processing to record stereoscopic video information, integrated by the above-described information integrating device, in a certain recording unit.

According to the above-described configuration, the information recording device records stereoscopic video information, integrated by using the above-described information integrating device, in a certain recording unit. It thus becomes possible to quickly view desired stereoscopic video in accordance with the user's convenience.

Processes performed by the units of the information integrating device and steps of an information integrating method may be realized using a computer. In this case, an information integrating program for realizing, with a computer, the information integrating device and information integrating method by causing the computer to execute processes performed by the units or steps, and a computer-readable record-

ing medium having recorded thereon the information integrating program also fall within the scope of the present invention.

(Appendix)

The present invention is not limited to the above-described embodiments, and various changes can be made within the scope of the claims. An embodiment achieved by appropriately combining technical means disclosed in different embodiments is also included in the technical scope of the present invention.

Industrial Applicability

The present invention is applicable to a receiving device of the current 2D broadcast or the current 2D video content distributed via the Internet, an information display device including the receiving device, an information recording device including the receiving device, or the like.

REFERENCE SIGNS LIST

- 2 main information
- 3 complementary information
- 4 integrated information (stereoscopic video information)
- 6L left-eye video (main frames)
- 6R right-eye video (complementary frames)
- 20 3D display (information display device, information recording device)
- 100 stereoscopic video integrating device (information integrating device)
- 101 receiver (main information receiver, complementary information receiver)
- 101a first receiver (main information receiver)
- 101b second receiver (complementary information receiver)
- 102 integrating unit
- 111 tuner (main information receiver)
- 112 tuner (complementary information receiver)
- 123 memory (temporary recording unit)
- 124 memory (temporary recording unit)
- 214 video processor (display controller, recording controller)
- 215 frame memory (recording unit)
- 300 stereoscopic video integrating device (information integrating device)
- 301 receiver (main information receiver, complementary information receiver)
- 302 integrating unit
- 311 tuner (main information receiver)
- 312 Internet terminal device (complementary information receiver)
- 315 memory (temporary recording unit)
- 323 memory (temporary recording unit)
- 324 memory (temporary recording unit)
- 1001 stereoscopic video display system (information display device, information recording device)
- 1002 stereoscopic video display system (information display device, information recording device)
- 1003 stereoscopic video display system (information display device, information recording device)
- 1004 stereoscopic video display system (information display device, information recording device)
- 1010 3D display (information display device)
- L left-eye video information (main frames)
- 6L left-eye video (main frames)
- R right-eye video information (complementary frames)
- 6R right-eye video (complementary frames)

The invention claimed is:

1. An information integrating device comprising:
 - a main information receiver that receives main information including two-dimensional video content;
 - a complementary information receiver that receives complementary information for converting the two-dimensional video content to stereoscopic video; and
 - an integrating processor that integrates the main information, received by the main information receiver, and the complementary information, received by the complementary information receiver, as stereoscopic video information by using the main information and the complementary information; wherein
 - the main information and the complementary information are received via respective paths,
 - sync information used in synchronizing the main information and the complementary information is received,
 - the integrating processor performs time adjustment to alternately arrange, based on the sync information on a frame-by-frame basis, a plurality of main frames constituting the two-dimensional video content included in the main information and a plurality of complementary frames that are included in the complementary information and that individually correspond to the plurality of main frames to synchronize the main frames and the complementary frames corresponding to the main frames, so that the main frames and the complementary frames are alternately arranged and outputted.
2. The information integrating device according to claim 1, wherein the integrating processor performs time adjustment to alternately arrange, on a frame-by-frame basis, the main frames and the complementary frames, which correspond to the main frames, by recording at least one of the main frames and the complementary frames, which correspond to the main frames, in a temporary memory.
3. An information display device comprising a display controller that performs processing to display stereoscopic video information integrated by the information integrating device according to claim 1.
4. An information recording device comprising a recording controller that performs processing to record stereoscopic video information integrated by the information integrating device according to claim 1 in a memory.
5. An information integrating method executed by an information integrating device that integrates main information including two-dimensional video content and complementary information for converting the two-dimensional video content to stereoscopic video as stereoscopic video information, comprising:
 - a main information receiving step of receiving the main information;
 - a complementary information receiving step of receiving the complementary information; and
 - an integrating step of integrating the main information, received in the main information receiving step, and the complementary information, received in the complementary information receiving step, as stereoscopic video information by using the main information and the complementary information; wherein
 - the main information and the complementary information are received via respective paths,
 - sync information used in synchronizing the main information and the complementary information is received,
 - the integrating step includes performing time adjustment to alternately arrange, based on the sync information on a frame-by-frame basis, a plurality of main frames constituting the two-dimensional video content included in the main information and a plurality of complementary

frames that are included in the complementary information and that individually correspond to the plurality of main frames to synchronize the main frames and the complementary frames corresponding to the main frames, so that the main frames and the complementary frames are alternately arranged and outputted. 5

6. A non-transitory computer-readable recording medium having recorded thereon an information integrating program causing a computer to execute the steps of the information integrating method according to claim 5. 10

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